VISIONS
In-Depth Articles on The Science of the Cards Astrology and Spirituality
VOLUME I

Robert Lee Camp
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The Two Wings of Spiritual Success - Effort and Grace

Robert Camp

December 30, 1991

My master, Yogi Desai, taught us that to be successful in our spiritual practices requires that we have two dynamics working in harmony - Effort and Grace. He said they are like the two wings of a bird. If one is missing the bird cannot fly. If one is not in balance with the other, the bird will not be able to fly straight or to reach its desired destination. My master is a Libra and he is naturally big on balance. I have come to see this principle in my life and to appreciate its application. I have also come to see how it applies to other areas of life, typically not labeled as spiritual.

When my master was speaking of effort and grace he was referring to our personal efforts and the grace of the Guru. Guru's grace is another subject all to itself but loosely defined it means allowing the Guru to take care of his part of the work. The key word here is allow. Grace, in this context, means acceptance, allowing, and surrender to the higher forces in one's life. It means letting of effort. Now that's a paradox if I ever did see one. How can I put forth effort and at the same time let go of effort? Well, it's a good question and one that has an answer.

As I have learned to reach success in other areas of my life, I have seen the same dynamic in play. To see this more clearly, I will make a list of other words that may be substituted for effort and grace:

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<th>Effort</th>
<th>Grace</th>
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<td>Being willing to work</td>
<td>Being willing to accept what is</td>
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<td>do something</td>
<td>feel something</td>
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<td>take action to create more</td>
<td>appreciate what you have</td>
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<td>God helps those who help themselves</td>
<td>Let go and let God</td>
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Visions, Volume I

My master used to teach us about a state called "desirelessness" and doing things without being attached to the fruits of our efforts. This balance must be maintained in all our affairs in order to attain the success that we desire.

For example, most of us have a little too much effort and not enough Grace, especially men. If I work all day long to make money and never take the time to appreciate what I have earned and to enjoy the things I have accumulated, I will eventually create a situation of poverty in my life. This is because I would always be focusing on what I don't have. In order to be financially successful, I have to be willing to work hard if necessary while at the same time, feeling overwhelming appreciation for the things in my life that I already have. This combination of action and appreciation is extremely powerful and can reap rewards very fast.

If there is an area of life where you are not having success, an I do mean any area, you will find that you are out of balance in either effort or grace. One or the other will be lacking or in excess. Take a look and you will see. If you are a workaholic, you are missing the grace part. Those of us who are workaholics frantically do this and do that to remedy our problems and to create a better life for ourselves and yet we rarely ask ourselves if we are enjoying what we are doing or appreciating what we are doing. I guarantee you that if you do not enjoy the process as well as the outcome, you will eventually meet with failure and defeat. For most of us, failure has become the rule of the day and success the sought after dream that never seems to materialize.

The other extreme is when we lack the effort. When I first moved into my master's school, the ashram, I had neither grace nor effort. I was depressed about my life and also unwilling to do anything about it. I actually told myself that it was hopeless and was considering suicide from time to time. I believe this is a state of mind that many people in our world are at. It is dangerous because it looks so real and happiness seems so distant that it seems impossible. You have to experience this state to know what I am talking about. As bad as I felt, I believed what my master said and was willing to trust him. He said my life would improve if I would follow his guidance. His guidance was mainly to work hard and do the yogic practices that we did every morning and evening as a community. It was extremely difficult for me those first few years as I battled against years of accumulated laziness, but eventually I learned to enjoy working. I had finally got the effort part going successfully. Now, I love work.

My master used to say that his path was the path of renunciation. "The first thing we must renounce is our laziness" he used to say. "Later, when you have renounced laziness and have learned to love your work, then you will be ready to renounce the fruits of your labors." We cannot attain grace until we have made the effort first. Many seekers fail to see this important point and delude themselves that they are being spiritual while really they are just being lazy. When they don't get any results they say its because they haven't found the right teacher or the right book or the right technique and they leave and move on. This can become a repeating pattern until they realize how they have been deceiving themselves and make a decision to get working. If you see this pattern in yourself, realize that almost any technique will work if the effort is applied.
We can find this same situation in any area of our lives. Where is that we are unwilling to make the effort to achieve our goals? What is our excuse for not making the effort? A favorite excuse is that 'I don't know what I want to do'. This one little belief or philosophy can waste years of life. God has promised that if we knock, the door will be opened and if we ask, it shall be given. There is no real excuse for not having the things we want in life, and I do mean anything that we want.

I know that it is difficult to get beyond laziness and lethargy. I personally used my inner reserves of anger and some elements of competition to get myself moving. My master had no problems allowing us to use our egos to get us motivated. He knew that when the time was right that our egos would be sacrificed on the altar of grace. I am sharing this so that you do not use the excuse that being egotistical is wrong and therefore I should not work to feel good about it. If you are in a state of lethargy, know that you only need to get moving, no matter what technique you use. It is not the time to practice grace when you know you are just being lazy. In that state, grace can be an excuse for not doing the work that is required. Learn to love work. Learn to love the act of using your body and mind to serve others. Later, you will need to develop your grace.

If you are already a workaholic, ask yourself why you are working so hard. How much do you enjoy your life? Do you feel wealthy or poor? Realize that working without appreciation and love is fueling the concept of unhappiness. Many suicides have resulted from working so hard to attain a goal and then arriving to discover that it didn't feel the way you thought it would. Some people spend their whole lives pursuing goals in a hurried, stressed out fury. When they get old, if they live that long, they realize that their entire life was spent in stress and dissatisfaction. They never enjoyed even one day. They were always waiting for that final goal before they would allow themselves to feel satisfied. The trouble was that that day never came.

This is the part that I have been working on the past five years. Now that I enjoy working, can I enjoy each moment of the day as I go through it? Can I enjoy the process of creating things and serving others while keeping long term goals in sight? I am getting better and better at it each day as I get my wings of effort and grace in balance.
The Decision Reading
Robert Camp

The Decision Reading is one that you can use whenever a situation comes up where you are presented with more than one option and must make a decision. The cards can tell you more about each of the options so that you can make a more informed decision about which to choose.

Many times in our lives we are faced with making a decision. And in many of these cases neither one of the options is necessarily bad. For example, suppose you are faced with deciding upon two different jobs. One may pay more while the other may bring you greater freedom or opportunities for self-expression. Its not that either one is better than the other, it is only that you have to decide which is most important to you. Often the decision is difficult because we haven't thought the whole thing through and seen what each of the options has to offer. The cards can illuminate not only the darkness about what each choice has to offer, but also can reveal some aspects about the future possibilities of each choice that you are not now aware of. For this reason, it is a good idea to throw a decision reading before making final choices of importance. Here's how it is done.

Do a Decision Reading

1. Light a candle and prepare to do this reading in a quiet place where there is no interference or disturbing noises. You should be alone if possible.

2. Shuffle the deck of cards as you think about this decision that you must make and its importance in your life. When you feel ready to begin, lay the cards face down on the table or desk in front of you and cut the deck three times with your left hand. Put the cards back together.

3. Announce each of the choices available to you and as you do so, lay down three cards, face down, for each choice. For example, you might say, "These cards are for job number one, these cards are for job number two..." and so forth until you have three cards, face down, for each of the possible choices available to you.

4. Turn over the three cards for your first choice. These three cards, both individually and combined, will tell you what you need to know about that choice.
EXAMPLE

Lets say, for example, that I was deciding upon which job to take out of two possible jobs and the cards for job number one were the K, 7, and the 2. How would you interpret these cards? I would say that this job offered the possibility of being in a leadership position where I could share love with others (K). Financially, this job would probably be challenging (7). I would probably need to be doing it for the love of it rather than the money. Lastly, there is the possibility of meeting a new love partner or of making a new close friend on this job (2). Now, if money was not the most important thing in my life at this time and relationships were high on my list of priorities, I may select this job over another that promised greater financial security.

5. Now, do the same thing for the other possible choices you have by turning over the next three cards for the next choice and reading them in the same way.

As you can see, once you are familiar with the meanings of the cards, you can do many types of readings with benefit. The Decision Reading is only one example of the many uses of this amazing system of knowledge. I sincerely hope that you derive great benefit from this type of reading and all the others that you do using the *Cards of Your Destiny*. 
The Mystery of the 8♣ Woman
November 10, 1992
Robert Camp

This week, for no apparent reason, I was called by three different 8♣ women to do personal readings. It was unusual enough that they all called within a few days of each other and that they were the same card. But what was very unusual was that they each came to me with highly similar situations, situations so similar in fact, that I am leaning towards the thought that ALL 8♣ women have similar situations at a certain point in their life. Interesting again, because another 8♣ woman I read for a year earlier, who was about the same age, also had a very similar situation in her life. Here's the gist of it:

Each of these women had fallen in love with a younger man. In fact, in these three cases, the man was considerably younger. One was 17 years younger and the other two around 15 years younger. One of the women was married. The younger man in her case constituted a secret love affair for her, after 26 years of faithful marriage. The other two were single. Each of the women were in their late forties or early fifties, in their eight, seven-year cycle of the Cards of Your Destiny.

In each case, the younger man had came along at a time when each of the women had sort of given up hopes of having anything but drudgery and unhappiness in their love department. In each case, the younger man had awakened a new dimension in the 8♣ woman. In most cases, there was a spiritual awakening that was either sparked by the younger man's presence in their lives, or just happened at the same time as his appearance. In each case, the 8♣ woman fell madly in love with the younger man. There was no similarity in the cards of the younger men, except that they were all diamonds. One was a 6♦, one was a 2♦ and one was a 3♦.

In each case, the younger men did not want to be in a committed relationship with the 8♣ woman. They stayed in it for a while. There was sexual contact. But each of the younger men was clear that they did not want the relationship and had no intentions of committing themselves to it. In each case the 8♣ women had a very difficult time in letting go of the relationship. In one case it took five years and there were still unsettled feelings about the other person. All of these similarities occurred in the fourth example I cited earlier as well.

A question that each of them asked me was "How can I let go of this relationship?". I could see just how much pain there was in each of their eyes. The one woman had been through five years of humiliation and pain before finally letting go of what was obviously a bad relationship. Each of the women knew that the relationship would not work and yet, they held onto some glimmer
of hope that perhaps the younger man or the situation would change and they would be able to have this relationship that they wanted so badly.

I helped each of the ladies first see just how important their relationship with these younger men was to them. Not many of us would go through five years of hell or break up a 26 year good marriage for nothing. I helped them see that there must be something very special about the relationship that was so important to them that they would go through so much with so little given in return. 8♣ people are fixed. Once they fix themselves upon something, it is very difficult for them to change their directions or let go. They are used to sticking to it and working things out. However, in each of these situations, this fixed quality was misdirected by false assumptions on their part. They were attaching themselves to men who had no intentions of reciprocating their love and commitment. However, there was still something very important for them in each of these relationships. There was something for them to learn about themselves that was what I consider vital to the rest of their lives.

One of the women stated that her marriage of 26 years was a good one and that she had never been attracted to another man the entire 26 years. She still felt that she had a good marriage and couldn't understand why she was so addicted to being with this younger man who literally treated her like dirt. In each case, there wasn't much given in the way of personal attention by the younger man, at least not after the first couple of months.

As we got into the sessions, the ladies began to see that there was something very important that they were getting out of the relationships. In some cases it was that feeling of being spiritually or mystically "connected" with someone you love. There were also times of wonderful attention given to them. In each case there were times when the younger man gave them undivided attention and for them, this was overwhelmingly wonderful. However, those times were rare. But the real hook for each of them was how the men had awakened something within them. This awakening, which led them into a whole new way of being and looking at themselves, was the starting point of the rest of their lives. They each made positive changes as a result of the relationship. These changes were changes that were irreversible and powerful. Often, they were reminded of their own power and their commission to use it to help the world. Being with these younger men somehow made them feel that they were in the right place at the right time, following their higher guidance. This feeling and the association with the younger men made it very difficult to let go of the relationships in spite of the fact that in many ways that are crucial to a successful relationship, these relationships fell way short of the mark.

The seven-year Pluto and Result cards for the 8♣ in the eight cycle are the 7♥ and the 5♦. Under the Q♣ they are the 5♣ and the 3♠. All of these cards speak of great internal and external changes. The 7♥ tells of letting go of relationships that are not good for us, knowing that we are protected and loved by the powers
that be. The 7♥ means letting go of personal attachments and following a higher truth. The 5♦ Result speaks of an entirely new value system evolving out of this experience. Remember that these are seven-year influences. These are issues that are dealt with over an extended period of time. the 5♠ and 3♠ speak of new experiences emotionally for the 8♣ woman. They are spiritual cards of experimentation and change. Because they are found under the spread of the Queen, they relate to the personal and romantic life of the 8♣.

Florence Campbell warns all 8♣ not to follow the path of their personality cards if they are to retain their power. It is interesting that in each of the cases described above, the women felt as though they had lost most or all of their power. Two of them quit their jobs just to avoid having to see or run into the younger man. This is an example of an 8♣ giving up their life’s commission or work for their personality. They always lose their power in this case. I told each of these women to go back to their life’s work and rekindle their love of work and discover what their life’s work is to be. Once they are firmly rooted in their mission, any relationship that comes along would have to fit into their work or be discarded. In this manner they would never give up their work for love again. The love they would attract would serve to strengthen them instead of rob them.
What is Astrology?
January 19, 1992
Robert Camp

In the story of the birth of Jesus, it was the three wise men, the Magi, who found the location of the Christ child. They were led to his exact birth place by a magic star, you might call it the Star of the Magi, which, by the way, is represented by the Star, 17th Major Arcana Tarot Card. These Magi, as they were known were called the 'three wise men' or the 'three kings' from afar. In those days Magi were men of secret orders, magicians of a sort, who possessed uncommon knowledge. They were consulted by kings and leaders for their knowledge of the future and their knowingness of the causes of the current situations. Many of them were astrologers and some of them prophets. Our three Magi from the bible had been told of the coming of Christ and had journeyed far to be at his auspicious birth. How do you think they knew of his birth? The answer is simple, they were astrologers and were aware of the changing of the ages that was taking place. They had predicted the date of the birth of the one who would usher in the Age of Pisces, symbolized by the fish, God's direct representative, whose wisdoms and teachings would rule the earth for the next 2,000 years.

Each of us is searching for the 'Christ within us', that connection to our divine heritage that makes us god-like in our expression and life. We each long for the birth of that Christ child within and each year at Christmas we celebrate and pay homage to that very concept. Would it not be logical to assume that just as the three Magi found the Christ child by the use of astrology that each of us could be assisted in our search for the Christ within by the same ancient and highly revered science?

Astrology can be used in many different ways. It can be used to tell someone about their personality traits, their strengths and weaknesses. It can be used to predict the future and to understand the past. It can be used for success in business in many ways. Like any other tool, it can be used profanely or divinely. But its highest potential lies in its ability to point one in the direction of their inner search for truth and self understanding. It is here that astrology takes on a divine role. In the hands of an enlightened spiritually based reader, astrology can be used to raise one's consciousness in many areas. The 'map' that an astrology chart is can show you your exact karmic pattern. It helps make you supremely aware of your words, actions and thoughts. When we become
so aware of ourselves and are no longer hiding from the truth about our lives, we become conscious. We are no longer among the 'dead that bury the dead' as Christ referred to them.

For most of us, this awakening into higher consciousness is exhilarating and then frightening. A powerful astrology reading can upset the balance of your life by showing you so much that you have never been aware of. There can be an inner rebellion against this new found truth. King Herod sent out soldiers to kill the Christ child in any way they could. In much the same way, our ego, not wanting to change or give up its power in our lives, rebels. This is a common occurrence in all spiritual paths as any seeker will tell you. But once the awakening has happened, there can never be a turning back to the old. Once we have tasted the magnificence of the truth and our potential as spiritual beings, we can never again delude ourselves that we are happy and successful leading our lives of conflict and misery. The birth of the Christ within is inevitable and now we are on the road to find him. And this is what astrology is really about - the awakening of souls to their highest potential. And that is why I call it one of the *sacred sciences*.
The Mystical Qualities of the Sevens and Nines  
Robert Camp  
April 1, 1992

The seven and nine cards in the deck have long been considered to be the most problematic and difficult influences in the deck. When they appear in readings, they invariably signal times when things do not go as planned, when there are hardships, losses, disappointments, and challenges of numerous kinds. And yet, Olney Richmond, the Grand Master of the Order of the Magi, and the one who wrote the first known book on the cards claims that these are also "spiritual victory" cards. What do we care that these cards are spiritual victories if our lives are thrown upside down and all of our plans and hopes are vanquished by them? We need some better understanding of these two numbers if we are to access any sort of victorious feelings about them.

I have studied these two numbers carefully, mostly by watching what happens in my life when cards of either of these two numbers appear and seeing my reactions, my related beliefs and attitudes, the outcomes of the experiences and what I learned from them. This study continues to reveal more and more about myself and the true nature of the seven and nine cards. Now, I am at the point where I feel I have an understanding of these two cards that allows me to access their success side consistently. I want to share this with you so that you can also experience the positive sides of these cards, which is quite powerful and significant.

We are neither totally spiritual beings nor totally material. We are at essence, spiritual. We have a soul, a mind, inspiration, psychic impressions, feelings, ideas, and dreams. None of these are tangible. None of these can be held in the hand. And yet, we exist in a world of things, food, money, shelter, people, earth, water, fire, air and in this world we play out the drama that is our life. At any point in our lives we can choose to focus on the spiritual parts of ourselves or the material sides of our lives. What determines which things we focus on and make important is our values. Our values are nothing more than what things or experiences we have decided are most important to us. Is money the most important thing? How about job security? How about love? How about home and family life? Spiritual life? If we honestly ask ourselves what is most important to us we will arrive at some sort of picture of our value system as it is called. Our value system determines what we decide to do, who we hang out with, what we read, and what we spend the most time doing and what we avoid. Now, here come the catch with sevens and nines.
Though we have our own value system, the things that are highest on our list are not always good for us. For example, you may love to drink and party but these can affect your health and well being adversely. A better and more common example is that you may be totally attached to someone, telling yourself that you love them more than the world, when actually you are giving away your power and becoming a slave to your fears of abandonment. Though you have convinced yourself that it is your love for the other that motivates you, it is actually your fears of abandonment that are driving you to give your power and your dignity in pursuit of this other person.

What would a loving parent do for a child who was addicted to candy or getting ready to put a bobby pin in an electrical socket. Well, the parent would stop the child from hurting himself or herself. At the moment the parent stopped the child, the child would probably feel a lot of pain, rejection and discomfort. The child may get angry at the parent, blame the parent for all of his or her problems, or get depressed and unhappy about the situation. This is exactly how we as adults act when sevens and nines come up in our spreads. We feel cheated, victimized and hurt by the situation or by the people involved in the situation. Our plans have been upset or we are having to face the loss of something we were attached to. What we often fail to see is that this situation has a divine intelligence behind it and that it is being perfectly orchestrated to help us let go of something that is not good for us. Like the loving parent, God, or the Universal Will, has arranged circumstances so that we are being helped into letting go of something that was not really good for us in the first place. All of our pain and disappointment comes from our addiction and attachment to that thing or person.

My master, Amrit Desai, used to say that pain exists only in the mind, in our resistance to what is. If we can change our minds, we can eliminate pain from our lives. In a real sense, pain is the signal that we have a misconception in our minds on some level. The occurrence of a seven or nine in our spreads is actually a blessing from the higher powers, an supportive and loving influence that is prompting us how and where to find more fulfillment and happiness in our lives. I have managed several times to adopt this new attitude about the situations and circumstances that arise in my life with the occurrence of sevens and nines. Now I have found that if I look carefully at the situation and consider that perhaps there is a higher intelligence at work that is actually trying to help me, that I can accept and learn from the apparent obstacle in my path and actually see it as a gift and blessing. When I accomplish this change in attitude, I immediately see the beauty of the situation. All of a sudden I feel supported, loved, blessed and taken care of by God and the Universal Forces. All of a sudden I have
expanded my view of the world and have learned something new and refreshing about life. Now I experience the possibility hidden within every seven and nine - an experience of connectedness with the universe. It is a high experience, one that broadens my view of the world and fills me with inspiration and the joy of living.

With sevens we are always being prompted to change our attitudes or beliefs or approaches to the things we are doing in life. The $7 \subset$ means we are attached to someone and think that this person is what we really need to be happy. The higher forces are trying to help us see that there is someone better for us, or that there is a better attitude to take in that relationship that will foster more happiness and joy - the things that we really want. All we need to do is to change our perspective about that person and the whole situation changes.

With a $7 \supset$, we find ourselves with attitudes, beliefs, philosophies, and ways of communicating that are detrimental to our well being. Often, we are harboring some negative attitudes about life or some particular topic that is magnetizing negative experiences into our lives. We are being challenged to change our minds and start thinking more positive thoughts in this area. We will see immediate good results as soon as we change our thinking patterns.

With a $7 \not\subset$, we have become fearful about money and resources. We have become selfish, contracted and overly cautious in our spending. We are not allowing resources to flow in and out of our lives. When we stop the flow, we stop abundance from manifesting in our lives. We are being challenged to think in terms of abundance and to act in terms of abundance in spite of our bank account balance. Fear of poverty has nothing to do with how much money we have. We can feel prosperous or fearful with any amount of money. If we are feeling fearful about money it has more to do with our values and our concepts of abundance than with our current account balance. A change in our thinking about money will attract more money to us faster than any plans we can create to make more.

With a $7 \subseteq$, we have challenges in the areas of work or health, or in just our management of our lives in a basic and important way. Spades are the strongest of the suits so that in many ways, the $7 \subseteq$ is the seven of sevens. It can affect all areas of our lives, including all the areas represented by the other sevens. Spades are also the spiritual suit so that the potential for high spiritual experiences is greater with the $7 \subseteq$ than with any other. If we have negative health habits, work habits, or ways of being, a $7 \subseteq$ will show them to us, often in a dramatic way. We will be clearly confronted with our own negative patterns and given the opportunity to make immediate changes.
If we do not change, we will have more problems. The changes that we can make under the influence of a $7_{\subseteq}$ can have a much more positive effect on our lives than any of the other sevens. The depth of the spiritual experience can likewise be more profound and life changing.

With nines, we are being asked to let go and complete some aspect of our lives that is either not doing us any good any more or is really over but we are refusing to let go of it. Nines are the numbers of completion and of giving away. Usually they preclude a new chapter in our lives in some way but we have to let go of the old to make room for the new. When we do finally let go, we feel lighter and more alive and ready for something better to come into our lives. Usually this something becomes immediately apparent once we let go. Once we stop fighting what the universe is trying to bring to us, we realize that it is the love of God and the universe manifesting in our lives that is helping and guiding us to more love and fulfillment in the areas of love and friendships.

With a $9_{\subseteq}$, there are one or more relationships in our lives that are needing to be terminated. For whatever reason, these relationships have fulfilled their purpose in our lives and are ready to be let go of. Once we let go of these relationships, or of our concepts of how they should be, we actualize the "wish card" influence of the $9_{\subseteq}$. Often our true wishes for love or friendship are fulfilled as soon as we let go.

With a $9_{\supset}$ there are ideas, plans, beliefs, mentally oriented projects, or ways of communicating that are ready to die in our life. For whatever reason, these things are no longer serving our best interests. Our level of pain and disappointment in letting go of these will be directly proportional to how attached we are to them and how blind we are to the fact that they are not doing us any good any more. Once we let go of them, our perspective is immediately broadened and we have the opportunity to experience universal understanding and knowledge. This can be experienced as a very high feeling of freedom from the limitations of our mind patterns. The $9_{\supset}$ can signal the giving of spiritual knowledge to groups of people. It is a very freeing and enlightening influence.

With a $9_{\not\subset}$ we are going to have to let go of some money or plans to make money. This is always felt as a loss on one hand. Money is going out and there is no way to stop it. However, money going out can be viewed in many different ways. It can be a long term investment of some kind. It could be money that is a gift to someone less fortunate. In any case, money needs to go out just as much as it needs to come in. If we resist money going out, which it always does with a $9_{\not\subset}$, we make ourselves miserable as well as stop the money from coming in, which it will always do immediately after a $9_{\not\subset}$ if
we see it all as part of the universal flow and cycles of energy. The $9_\infty$ can also signal the ending and completion of a certain idea or plan to make money. It can be time to move on to greener pastures. Always look for the greener pastures when you see a $9_\infty$. They are just around the corner.

With a $9_\leq$ we are usually completing an important chapter in our lives. It can be the ending of a certain line of work, a certain way of taking care of our health and well being, or of any important area of our life. Since the $9_\leq$ is the nine of nines, it can and usually does affect our entire lives in important ways. Under a $9_\leq$ we can feel the very worst, or the very best. To access this high spiritual experience all we need to do is to be willing to let go and complete some area of our life. See it as an ending and a new beginning that will be much better than what you have now. See the new life, new job, or new lifestyle that awaits you and feel blessed that the universal forces are helping you make this transition that you probably have been wanting for a long time. Now is the time to make the change. Let go and let God. Be free and see the bright future that is on the horizon.
About The Atlantean Oracle and The Cards of Your Destiny

March 16, 1992
Robert Camp

The Atlantean Oracle is an ancient system and science of self-understanding and forecasting that can be used effectively and profitably on many different levels. It is a system that is easy to learn and remarkable in the depth of information that it can offer the individual. It is truly a tool for the Aquarian Age, a tool of practical as well as spiritual value. The Cards of Your Destiny is the first book to fully reveal the methods of forecasting and relationship comparison that are an integral part of this amazing system.

Though centered around our common playing cards, the Atlantean Oracle does not require the random shuffling of cards into layouts as with Tarot and other forms of divination. Within the pages of the Oracle each person will find all the cards of his or her destiny already cast and present, determined by their birthday. One has only to look up the cards for any year and month of life and translate them into their meanings. Every card found will represent someone the subject knows or something that will occur in his or her life. In this way, the Oracle is likened to a book of destiny, for one’s life is seemingly predetermined, just as in astrology, by the date of their birth. The information that comes from the translation of the card symbols is both uncanny in its accuracy and practical in its application. The technique of learning and using this system is one of the easiest to learn. It can be learned in about 3 hours and it can be learned by anyone. For this reason, this system is usable by anyone wishing to obtain valuable and accurate information about their life’s karmic path and personal destiny. It is also fun and fascinating to learn.

A Personal Guide for Making Life Decisions

It is a system that on a very practical level allows one to make better life choices by showing the influences that are present and those that are coming in the future and how these might affect one's goals and directions. In this regard it can be helpful in making decisions about relationships, work, travel, health and finances. It accurately predicts the occurrence of many different kinds of events including marriage, divorce, love affairs, business success, the outcome of legal matters, travel, health difficulties and recovery, financial gains and losses, birth of children, and the success or failure of many different types of business and professional endeavors. These predictions are given with specific time frames and people that are
involved are named specifically by their date of birth. This information alone can be invaluable in making many important life decisions.

It is in the area of relationships, that the Oracle really offers practical and valuable information. Very detailed information is available to give one a clear understanding of the nature of all one's relationships. Relationships are looked at from the life-long perspective to see how any two people relate and are karmically tied together, and then on a year by year basis and finally on a month by month basis. Another aspect of the Oracle tells the timing of new relationships, love affairs, divorce, love triangles and hidden love involvements. The birth of children is also covered in some detail. All this information is available through the knowledge of the cards.

The Oracle as a Spiritual Guide

The Oracle can also be used for increased self understanding and self awareness. As the cards of our destiny unfold, they reflect back to us the underlying causes of the manifestations that make up the events and experiences of our life. With increased understanding of how and why we are creating our life to be the way it is, we are able to take more responsibility for our lives. Then, if we decide to make changes in our lives, they are from a place of deeper understanding and power and consequently bring more consistent results.

Though our lives seem to be destined from the standpoint that all the cards for our life are already drawn, within each card are possibilities for many different manifestations. Once we are aware of the possible dynamics of each card, we can consciously choose to manifest its highest and most positive energies. This is a method that challenges the individual to turn every event and experience in his or her life into growth and expansion.

Using and mastering the system of the Atlantean Oracle provides a structure and a methodology for self transformation. Many of the cards that are found in one's yearly or weekly spread contain the possibility for mystical and religious experience, mental illumination and transcendence of the normal difficulties that our lives are. Interestingly, the cards that represent the most difficulties on a material and mundane level are the very ones that promise inner growth, experiences of high consciousness and transcendence of the very problems they point to. Within the meanings of the cards found in The Cards of Your Destiny are found the keys to accessing these higher experiences. In this way, an individual can learn to transcend the usual things that he or she gets hung up on and experience the freedom and joy of spiritual illumination and non
attachment. The actual process of self transformation is accelerated due to the mirror that the cards provide the individual for seeing himself or herself. With increased self-awareness comes increased self-responsibility and increased self-transformation. Though the experience of seeing ourselves is not always pleasant, the end result of taking responsibility for our lives is that of true personal freedom and power to shape one’s destiny.

Each person has inherent in their card-pattern a possibility for highest attainment. By whatever means, of which the Atlantean Oracle is but one, we get a true and clear picture of ourselves and begin the process of reclaiming our power to shape our destiny, we come closer to the attainment of those latent possibilities in our card. The soon to be released book, *Where Are You in the Fifty Two?* elaborates on the total karmic picture for each of the 52 card personalities of the Atlantean Oracle. It tells the lowest and highest manifestations for each card. Reading this, the individual gets an immediate reflection of where he or she is at. The individual discovers how much or how little of their full potential they are actualizing and sees why they are where they are and how to make changes if they want to. Signposts are given for directions of greater fulfillment so that the old question of "What should I be doing with my life?" is given some direction.

Just as with astrology, the Atlantean Oracle provides a mirror of where we are at on our spiritual journey. This mirror serves many purposes that heighten our awareness of our words and actions and accelerate our self understanding and spiritual development. Self awareness is one of the necessities for self understanding. Astrology and the Atlantean Oracle provides this self awareness through symbols that reflect what's happening in our lives and giving various perspectives with which to look at them. There are techniques taught in the books by which one can have three cards each day to reflect the goings on in one's life. Combine these three cards per day with the other two to six cards that one has for every 52-day period and another group of 4 cards that describe the challenges and long range influences for each year and you have a mirror of your life to any degree of detail that you desire. These cards tell the story of your life in symbols, the ups and downs, the relationships, the challenges and the victories.

In closing, all are invited to take a look in this *Atlantean Book of Destiny* to see what it has to say about them, their personalities, their relationships, and their past, present and future. The best place to find out about this system and to learn how to use it is in the book, *The Cards of Your Destiny.*
New forms of Relationships In the Coming Age of Aquarius
September 29, 1992
Robert Camp

The call now is for all of us to become aware of and heal our inner fears of abandonment and betrayal and learn to trust in the God within for all our needs and answers. Many today are part of one or more generations of those seeking their soul mates. Hidden within the desire to find one’s soulmate is a secret yearning to find another who will be everything to us, someone who will never hurt us, betray us, or lead us to anger or fear. However, no matter who we find on this path, and no matter if the other attempts to make us feel loved, appreciated, nurtured, safe, and wholesome, we will still find much fault with them as our inner fears come up. Our other half may actually be completely faultless in their love for us and we will still find reason to blame, be hurt, get angry and afraid. This is because we, not they, are the source of all our fears and hurts. Within each of us are fear and hurt patterns created in our childhood when our parents, often unknowingly, let us down, disapproved of us, hurt us or got angry with us. As children our parents are God and we take everything they say and do to heart. As adults we must make God our parents and take everything to Him for healing and re-interpretation. He is the way to healing our wounds that make us over sensitive whenever we are with a beloved.

Once we begin to heal ourselves, our current relationships take on a different glow. A light of understanding and compassion dawns on us, along with a new sense of freedom. No longer do we need our partner's approval or physical presence to feel okay about ourselves.

It is a long path for most of us to get to the point of total freedom and joy in relationships. At each step of the way, our fears and insecurities are revealed where they were hidden before. Often we get angry at our beloved thinking "they are not growing" or "I deserve someone better". An honest evaluation of ourselves will always reveal a hidden fear that is masking itself as self-righteousness or anger. At each step in the process another fear is revealed and healed, like peeling away the skin of an onion. As each one is recognized and dealt with in a manner of self responsibility, our ability to love ourselves and our partners increases. We notice more wonderful things about our partners and are able to receive the love that they are more readily. At the same time, the fears of being rejected or abandoned are lessened. We are able to relate more freely, have less of a need to control our partner, are able to make better decisions about ourselves so that we are taking better care of ourselves within the context of the relationships. Some think that this sort of freedom and lack of fear would separate couples but in fact it draws them together in more and more beautiful ways than they ever imagined possible. Few people today have been able to experience this kind of relationship but all desire it. Many are becoming aware of
the need to face themselves honestly and admit to their hidden fears that have, in the past, drove them to try to control and dominate their partner. Once the fears have been brought into the light of our awareness, we can heal them with our God-power. We are the manifestation of God and He is one with us. Actual techniques for healing these inner wounds will be discussed in another article.

As more and more couples become less fearful and more full of their God selves, new forms of relationships will evolve. When two God selves unite, they are together in love, not fear. They are in the relationship because they enjoy each other and not out of any need for security, or because they are lacking or needy in some way. Romance under these conditions takes on a entirely new quality since much of our romance today is focused on how much the other is going to make us feel better and meet all of our needs. We must look to role models from other times if we are to even imagine what relationships can be like under such new and unlimited conditions.

In ancient India, at the time when Lord Krishna walked the face of the earth, there existed a period of our history when the entire earth was in a state of higher consciousness. It was not the highest of the ages in terms of personal and social consciousness, but it was much higher than our current age which is considered to be Kali Yuga, the lowest point on the cosmic wheel of the Grand Ages.

During that age, love and romance abounded but there were not the restrictions placed on relationships that we see now. Usually a man and woman would marry and spend anywhere from 6 months to 2 years on their honeymoon. They would wander in the forest or other romantic settings and make love and "sport" with each other to their heart’s content. In those days the earth and her forests were all truly beautiful and there was little to fear in the forests. Once this period was over, there was usually the birth of a child. The father would go about his business, perhaps living with his wife, or not. They usually had separate quarters and often the father would be away for extended periods of time. Sometimes the father would take another wife and repeat the honeymoon ritual. This would only occur with the consent and approval of his first wife. Some women had more than one husband as well. Their were codes of honor and ethics and nothing happened if not in a loving and truthful way. For instance, when a father met another woman and fell in love, the new love interest would go to his wife and serve her for a period of time. If her service was greatly appreciated, the wife would offer the new woman a "boon" or request. Then the new woman would request to marry her husband. In this manner, there was love and consideration for all concerned. It was a natural and beautiful process.

Relationships during that period of history were based not so much on the fear of abandonment or on the need to control the partner as they were on true love. True love is not exclusive. It can exist for many people at the same time. Removing fear as the basis for monogamy and commitment leaves us with more
freedom to pursue love with anyone that we feel it for without the fear that we will either abandon our lover or be rejected by them.

In the next century we will see more relationships where two people are together for reasons other than fear. There will be even less restrictions around sexual and romantic expression as we will feel less bound by tradition and more free to follow our impulses. If we are with one person and desire to be with another, we will simply go and be with the other for whatever time we desire. There will be occurrences of multiple partner relationships such as three or four or more people living together sharing sexual and other forms of intimacy without restriction. Actually these forms of relationships have been experienced throughout our history on a minor scale. In the coming Age of Aquarius, however, they will, for the first time, be an accepted part of our culture. There are those even now who are feeling the urge to expand into these new areas and many have had limited experiences of the same nature. However, before we will truly experience the freedom of expression that is implied in these new forms of relationships, we will have to become aware of and acknowledge all the fears of abandonment and of not getting enough love that come up when these sorts of thoughts and ideas are expressed. We have a lot of work to do, each of us at our particular place in this evolution of consciousness. But many of us are very far along the way to total freedom in our expression of love and affection for the many people in our lives that we feel these feelings for.

Keep in mind that the nature of Aquarius is bi-sexual, seeing the world as one family and never discriminating against anyone because of their skin color, religious beliefs, or sexual preferences. "The world is one family" about sums it up. Aquarian love sees you as another being first. The love is given to you for who you are while the other aspects of your life, such as what gender you are, are secondary. As we come to the realization that we have been both male and female many times in past lives, we will more freely give our love to others that we share deep connections, regardless of their present life gender. Many of those of the birth sign of Aquarius already exemplify this characteristic. Prepare yourself for radical changes in our culture at many levels. It will be interesting and always moving towards progressiveness and individual freedom of expression.
Looking at an astrology chart, you will notice that many of the planets form aspects to each other while others do not. When planets do form aspects to each other, they are karmically bond, for better or worse, to interact with each other. This interaction will manifest itself in the chart owner's life either positively or negatively depending upon the aspect. I use the term positively and negatively loosely because this will depend of course on each individual's interpretation. However, stressful aspects such as the square and the opposition invariably require adjustments to the natural way the planets' energies would normally express themselves. This 'adjustment' is usually a painful process since one must stop the normal expression, re-evaluate it in light of the other afflicting planet's influence and then try to find a harmonious solution to meeting the needs of the two energies.

This is another way of looking at karma. I call the astrology chart a 'map of one's personal karma'. It can tell you exactly what types of experiences to expect and how you are likely to react to them. Planets that are in harmonious aspects are usually the result of past actions that helped others, good deeds as it were. Planets in stressful aspects result from unconsciously or consciously hurting others or interfering with their spiritual growth. In the current life, harmonious aspects will be experienced as gifts - ways of expression that are powerful and that have a likely chance of success. The two planets involved combine their energies harmoniously and add to each other's power. The result is an expression of combined energies that does not cause repercussions in others because there is no internal stress. In the personality, this would equivocate to two or more desires or needs that were in harmony with each other. Accomplishing one of these desires or needs fits in well with accomplishing the other.

In the case of stressful aspects, we have a different story. Take the case of Sun Square Moon, a common and powerful stressful aspect that represents a basic inner conflict with one's male and female sides that requires conscious awareness to resolve. Externally this aspect coincides with someone who has difficulties with the opposite sex (represented by the conflict of the male (sun) and female(moon) planets). The person with with aspect also has difficulty fulfilling his or her inner need for security. The male side, which is usually where the person loves to express energy strongly and often in a masculine fashion, is in conflict with the same person's security needs and receptiveness. In males, it usually comes down to having a neglected emotional and needy side of the personality that has been totally rejected by the stronger, masculine side. The male and female sides are like two very different people who do not like each other's company. The trouble is that in the case of a square aspect, they are always both present. These two planets are bound for life by that square aspect.
First one side takes the lead strongly and is fully expressed until the pendulum swings and the other side steps into the driver's seat of the personality and takes over just as completely. Regardless of which side is in control, the opposing side is not being able to express itself and is just gathering energy to "push" its way back into the driver's seat.

The person with this sort of planetary arrangement can have a profoundly sensitive side, an inner child that is overly needy, just like an actual child that is desperately seeking love and attention who has been neglected for a long time. There can be very large emotional swings as one part of the personality takes over from the other. These emotional swings leave others baffled and confused as the person seems to be a "Jekyl and Hyde". For this reason this aspect leads to difficulties in personal relationships.

From a karmic point of view, square aspects such as the one mentioned are the actual result of doing harm to others in some past life. Taking our previous example of the Sun square Moon, we can imagine that this person, in some past incarnation, had been very dominating and "masculine" with certain people who had, as a result of their words and actions, been made to feel very insecure and fearful, even threatened by their presence. Now, in this life, the other person has become them. They still retain the dominant masculine side of the personality but now they have, permanently installed within them, the traits of the other that they refused to acknowledge in the past incarnation. They literally "carry around with them" this fearful, insecure, whining, afraid personality that they ignored in the past. These square aspects teach us the value of sensitivity to others and how what we say and do affects those around us. This is an example of "bearing a cross", and often this cross is born for life.

The solution to this aspect, as well as all other stressful ones is always to first become aware of the dynamics at play and then to make adjustments in behavior, always being aware of the two opposing points of view. Both planets must be able to express themselves and both must make concessions to the other in order to get its needs met.

Any square aspect in one's natal chart will represent some past life of ignorance of some quality to the exclusion of others which will now need adjustment. Squares between inner planets (Sun through Mars) are ones that will usually be in effect for life. These aspects will always influence a person. However, as one becomes aware of the workings of these aspects and sensitizes oneself to the opposing factions within, one becomes able to harmonize and make the necessary adjustments to the point that these aspects no longer present a problem in one's life. If I am very identified with my masculine side and I have a Sun square Moon in my natal chart, then much of this process of adjustment is just the process of accepting and nourishing my female and sensitive side. In this case, the person usually enters the life with an actual fear-based hatred of weakness in others, which of course is now a part of themselves.
A careful analysis of the squares in your natal chart will reveal valuable information about where you will have to "make the peace" between two sides of yourself that are naturally at war.

From this example, one can get the true nature of astrological aspects and their connection to one’s personal karma.

Our Bond of Commitment
September 28, 1992
Robert Camp

The time is now to verbalize and actualize our commitments. To make conscious that which we are actually now doing is the way that we strengthen our nervous system and gather our personal power. We use our speech to embed our inner direction upon the steel plate of our mind. Our souls now yearn to come forth and make themselves known more consciously. Within our souls lies unlimited power, grace, beauty and infinitely unfolding joy, pleasure and bliss. As our conscious minds keep turning within to the inner voice, the little ego is clothed in King's attire and made mighty and holy. We experience profound freedom and fulfillment.

Speak your commitment to truth and love. Speak your commitment to your closest relationships. Speak your commitment to your work. Inform everyone you know of your intentions, directions and goals. Let them know that you love them and invite their participation in your life and work. Place in their minds the seeds of who you have become and you multiply your progress and guarantee your success.

Your commitments are for no one but yourself. Though they do have an uplifting effect upon those around you which will often astound you, your commitments are made from your place of inner truth. If you are not clear about any of your commitments and see how they will be the best for you and all concerned, stop until you have taken the time to think it through completely and thoroughly. Let it be your truth that guides you along your path. Own totally what you do and why you do it so that your entire being resonates when you speak.
and act. If there is any inner conflict, other than the fear of failure, root it out and look at it.

Fear not your desires, whatever they may be. If they are not for your best interest and the best interest of all concerned, they will not manifest. Our father takes care of that for us. Simply ask that whatever you desire to manifest be for your highest good and the highest good of all concerned and then release any concern for the end results. The father will show you the truth.

Remember that the very act of commitment draws to you myriad of possibilities that otherwise would never occur. Your very perception of reality becomes attuned to a different frequency that distinguishes, specifies and ultimately creates the object of your commitment. The law is unchangeable. What you commit yourself to must become yours and manifest before your eyes. Manifestation is no more than a change of frequency of perception. Commitment is your tool to manifest anything. Use it attract to you the life that you deserve and would enjoy the most - total inner freedom and peace.

Many are now making the commitment to bring the sacred knowledge of the cards to the world. This is a genuine system of spiritual origin that leads individuals back to their inner power. It aids one in returning to their true place of inner power, where they are the ultimate creators of their destiny and are responsible for everything that happens in their life. This system does not pretend to give a magic solution. True progress always depends upon the individual. Knowledge of this system gives a road map and a mirror. The map leads back to ourselves as the creators of our destiny and the mirror shows us where we are at.

As you share this knowledge with others, never pretend to know who will be interested and who will not. There are thousands that will make this their life work to one extent or another and millions that will benefit from the knowledge gained therein. They will come to you in all shapes, sizes, and forms. They will come to you from all backgrounds, religions and beliefs. They will come to you at all hours of the day and night.
You need never worry about who will attend a talk or seminar or who will ask for a reading. It will always be those who are ready for this awakening to the extent that they have asked for its power in their life. Give this information to others as if you were the wealthiest person on the earth feeding the poor. You are connected to an unlimited supply of love and knowledge. Millions thirst for inner peace. The love in your heart is not for you, it is for others to drink. Let them drink freely from your cup of love and truth.

There will always be exchange of like value for your work. Though, in your commitment to truth, you must always be clear about financial arrangements, you need not ever worry about your financial future. Use your energies up in enjoyment and giving. The needed resources will always be there in abundance greater than your need.

You are destined to experience the highest satisfaction and utter bliss that is possible. Greater than any conqueror of the world will be your feeling of satisfaction and reward. Greater than the most famous person on the face of the earth will be your inner peace. You are returning to the God source, that unlimited wellspring of bliss, creativity, love and joy. Welcome home.
You are going to die. That's a fact. As a professional astrologer who gets paid to make predictions for people that is one prediction that I make with utmost confidence. The time and place of your death are not known at this time, at least not by me, but you are surely going to die someday. And when you do, you are going to look back over your life and ask yourself one question, "Did I make it?"

Just before your spirit departs from your body you will get the opportunity to look back over your life and do a quick evaluation. You will recount your life, seeing all the deeds you have done, the times and places where you have loved and helped others and the places where you did good things to uplift your fellow man. At that point you will have a definite idea about what you accomplished in this life that was of real value. When you know you are dying, money and property and other worldly attainments seem to lose all their value. What is left that is of value are acts and speech that came from your inner desire to help and love others. All your efforts a self-improvement will seem very important inasmuch as they have created openings in yourself for more loving and giving to your fellow man.

Knowing that this death is going to be your fate, because it is the fate of every person who has ever been born on this plane, helps to put the things you are doing right now in perspective. Are you doing anything today that might be remembered at that auspicious time of your transition? Or are you worrying, fussing, complaining, straining and working on things that are going to have little if any meaning at that time? Are you going to look back over your life and think 'look how much time I wasted on meaningless activity'? Or will you look back and say 'I lived a glorious life and I'm totally satisfied with everything that I have done'?

Even before you die, it is likely that you will begin this evaluation of your life. My father is 58 years old and he has already began to mull over his life to this point, mostly to condemn himself for all the mistakes he has made. This is a common theme in older people. They get into a 'blame themselves' accompanied by depression over the mistakes they have made, the years they wasted, the relationships they ruined or ignored, and so forth and so on. It becomes an endless loop cassette of self-rejection, pity, and depression.

So, here you are. You are still young. You are pursuing your life's goals, whatever they may be. How are you going to feel about your life when you are 80? If your honest answer is 'not so good', what are you going to do about it? What does 'making it' mean to you right now? What will it mean on your death bed? How do these two relate? I think it is very healthy to ask one's self these kinds of questions. Let's get the long view on our life for a minute and use that as
guide to make decisions in the here and now. This is an ages-old technique that has been used by many mystics and leaders. Why not get the benefits of their wisdom today?

The big question I have for myself and for you is, "Am I making it right now?" To rephrase it in other ways, "Am I happy right now, or am I waiting for something to happen before I will be able to be happy? or "Am I enjoying every single moment of the day?" or "Am I doing what I want to be doing?". These are all valid questions that put into the present moment, which, by the way, is where 'making it' actually lives and exists. If you are making it, you are making it right now, not at some future time when such and such has occurred. You are either enjoying your life and making your own decisions about your life or you're not.

Another technique I use to put myself into the present moment is asking myself this question: "If were assured that I was going to die in 6 months, what would I do in that six months?" How about if you were going to die in one month. Would that change your decision? How about 3 days from now? What would you do in three days if you only had that long to live? When I answer these questions truthfully, it has a profound effect on my consciousness. Now you may be able to understand why Yogi's and mystics of all kinds say that death is your friend. Used properly, your own death can be a great tool for raising your awareness out of the sleep state where we actually live our lives like we are going to live forever, and like we have all the time in the world.

So, my question for you now is not 'are you going to make it?' but instead, 'Are you making it right now?' The eternal now is the only place where we can make anything. Let us appreciate the preciousness of this moment and get the most out of it. It is really all we have.
Each of us in our own way is searching for the same thing. What we want, as the result of whatever we are doing, is peace of mind and the feeling of being satisfied and happy. I don't care what kind of work you do or what kind of relationships you think you need, the end result will be the same. This, of course, is what you think you will get from your actions, words, and thoughts. We each try so hard to arrange our lives in order to have this sense of fulfillment. We try one job after another or try very hard at one job to promote ourselves into a position of stability and higher income. We try one relationship after another or work at one relationship, trying to make it work. It doesn't matter if you are spiritual or materialistic, ignorant or enlightened. What you and all the rest of us are up to is to feel fulfilled.

This fulfillment can take as many forms as the forms in the universe. Your particular form, the one that you think will do it for you, is particular to you and you alone. Some people say our particular form is determined by our early conditioning while others say it is dependent upon our past-life karma. Whatever is the case, it is certain that you have a specific picture of what it is going to take to make you happy and at this very moment you are in the process of creating that picture, or at least trying to.

Whether you want some 'thing' or some 'body' depends upon what your values are and it is valuable to look at our values at times to see just what this picture is for each of us. It is valuable because it makes us more conscious of what we are doing and why we are doing it. We can be driven by our desires without knowing it or while being consciously aware of it. As they say, there are those who don't know and those who know that they don't know. It is preferable to know that you don't know. After all, we are beings of reason are we not?

Our society usually classifies people into two basic groups - those who are successful at getting the things and people that they want and those that are not successful. On television and radio we are exposed to people who have unfortunately become the role models of our society. They are the rich and famous, the beautiful people of our world, the top 5% that we all aspire to be. Every woman wants to be Cinderella and be discovered by her handsome prince. Every man wants to be king and find his lady in waiting. The media projects an image of the successful life that is
associated with having 'made it' financially or in a marriage. And yet, the glaring truth is that many who have made it are supremely unhappy and feel very unsuccessful in spite of all the money they have accumulated and the beautiful and famous lovers and married partners they have had. Many of them have already had everything imaginable that would make the average person feel as though they had gone to heaven and if you look at their lives you will see that they are still searching. Many go from one relationship to the next or one adventure to the next and each relationship or adventure is the ultimate that one could possibly imagine. And yet, nothing seems to satisfy them.

So, what's missing? If I gave you a piece of paper and told you to write down the things that you would need to be happy and satisfied, what would your list look like? Now if I told you to write down the most far out things you could imagine that would fulfill your most far out dreams, what would your list look like? Do you think it might look like the list of things that one of our celebrity friends has done in the past year or so?

So, you can see that among the two basic groups mentioned above, their are likely to be equal shares of unhappy people. Just because our society and our media says that money, successful jobs and relationships will make us happy just doesn't mean that it is so. It doesn't work that way. If we redefine success based upon my first definition, that is achieving a sense of peace and fulfillment, you will see that the role models given us by our parents and society do not work. If you hate yourself on a deep level, no amount of money or power or beautiful lovers is going to change that. In the end you will be still sitting there unhappy with yourself, attracting more evidence to support your belief. If I think I am not good enough deep inside, no amount of success will be enough for me. No amount of proof that I am good enough will change that deeply held inner belief that I hold inside.

The million dollar word here is inside. In the long term and short term it is what's inside of us that determines our state of fulfillment or lack of. To try and change your life by changing jobs or relationships without changing your deepest inner feelings about yourself is like trying to get a computer that's been programmed to analyze stocks to do word processing. The only way you are going to change the program is to re-program it or switch to a new program. A computer can only do what it is programmed to do and a computer program is only as good as its programmer or creator. Similarly, your inner program determines your success or failure in life, not how much you do with the program you currently already have. If your life
is unsatisfactory, your current program is limited. Maybe you need to re-
program yourself.

The great master, Jesus Christ, made some very interesting statements. First of all he said, "The kingdom of heaven is within." If the kingdom of
heaven represents everything that is fulfilling in our lives, which I think it
does for most of us, then we must look within for it. Looking within
necessarily precludes looking without, the place where most of us
habitually look. This statement seems to support our theory that we must
go within to find the source of our problems as well as the source of our
happiness. Christ did not say the kingdom of heaven is in your job, your
relationships, or even in your church. He said it lies within you.

Another statement he made was "Seek ye first the kingdom of heaven and
all else shall be added unto you." When he used the expression, all else,
what do you think he was referring to? From what I can tell, he was
referring to everything else that one could possibly imagine or want in life.
This would include money, fame, relationships, power, happiness, security,
and anything else that you may come up with to equal happiness. In a nut
shell, Jesus was telling us that if we make an honest effort to know our
true selves and get to the truth that lies inside of us, that everything else
that we need and want will be provided to us by the Lord, our Father.
These statements and many others made by Christ support the basic
tenants of many spiritual disciplines. Any and all successful spiritual
practices, even those who profess to be merely means to achieving more
material things, all use the same basic principals. They lead the individual
to the true source of power and fulfillment - the kingdom of heaven within.

This short article is not meant to provide a path for anyone to achieve that
inner fulfillment, but is merely a reminder of the true direction in which
fulfillment is found. Your pathway to fulfillment and happiness will be
uniquely your own. There are many tools and techniques available. Find
one that suits your lifestyle and disposition and practice it. If it leads you to
more inner understanding, more knowledge of your deeper motives and
values, then it has worth and merit. If it merely entertains you with
descriptions of the life here after or tells you that you are God while not
making you responsible for your growth then it is suspect. There are many
false teachers in these last days of Pisces just as there are many more
opportunities to grow and develop. The end result should always be the
same - you delving within yourself and finding the answers you seek. As
Sting says in one of his songs on the "Soul Cages" album:
"Men go crazy in congregation, they only get better one by one."

Seek ye your kingdom of heaven and find your inner source of wealth, happiness and fulfillment. I wish you the best on your personal path.

Your Astrological Destiny
Robert Camp
January 6, 1992

If you look hard enough, you can always find something wonderful in your chart to look forward to. Of course, I am referring to the transits, progressions, and such that signal the events that are upcoming. I have seen time and time again that we determine what the planets say as much as they do. To put this in another way, if you decide that today is going to be a great day or that this week is going to be a great week, then you will be able to find corroboration from the planets. This applies even if your major transits are bad or difficult for the time period you are in. For example, you might have Saturn, that old planet of karma and misfortune, aspecting your sun. This would signal a time when you would likely feel the weight of the world on your shoulders and be burdened by many kinds of responsibilities and problems. You may not even feel that you want to get out of bed in the morning. You know astrology and you know that you are under a bad aspect. Why even try? Then, you decide that you are going to change this. You don't even need a reason, you just get tired of being depressed and under the weight of difficulties. So you make up your mind to get excited about your life and look at your chart a little closer. What's in there to get excited about? Looking closer you notice that Jupiter, the planet of good fortune and abundance is aspecting your progressed Sun. Hey, this could be very good. You decide that it is and that's what you create, both in your mind's eye and then in your life.

What we focus on is what we are and become. We have the power to change our lives at every moment and the planets will even seem to 'change' for you if that is what is needed. You can look at your chart closer and notice all sorts of good things that you never did before. Its just that easy.
The use of the word karma has become commonplace these days. First introduced to our country on a national level in the sixties with the coming of LSD and the gurus of India, it has become familiar to every household and is used on television, radio, newspapers and the movies.

Everybody knows what karma means, right? Well, I used to think I knew what it meant. Let's see if your definition matches mine. Karma is the law of cause and effect. If you help someone, you will get repaid in a good way. If you hurt someone, you will likewise get hurt in a similar way. John Lennon made the expression "Instant Karma" famous in his song of the same name. This means getting repaid instantly for some deed or action. "Instant Karma's gonna get you." his song warns and perhaps as a result, when most people think of karma, they think of it as bad karma, to the point that the word karma is associated with something terrible that happened to someone.

Karma is also used as a catch-all reason for anything that happens to somebody that is bad or disagreeable. If something bad happens to someone to which we can see no apparent reason, we will say, "Well, it was his karma" and that seems to provide an explanation that is at least fashionable and has to be true on some level, or so we hope.

Having been introduced to the concept of karma by the media and books by Ram Das, my understanding of it was basically the same as I have depicted above. Then I lived in a Yoga Ashram, or spiritual home, for ten years. While there I came to understand the law of karma on an experiential level, by living through some of the negative karma that I had collected in some prior existence in a conscious manner. There, under the guidance of a realized master, I became very aware of my own personal karma, both good and bad, and the possibility of having a master 'relieve' one of one's negative karmic debts. This is an interesting concept which I may discuss at length in a future article. For now, I want to share a new realization about
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karma that resulted from my contact with The Order of the Magi, my new spiritual family.

My vision of the world and my spiritual knowledge has grown significantly since my introduction to the Magi. My concepts of who we are as beings and what our process of growth is and where it is leading have been altered and expanded to where I have more understanding and acceptance of myself and the world. One realization I had was about karma and its purpose in our lives.

Karma is the sacred law of God. He created this law and put it into effect the moment he created the world and the physical universe. The law can be understood on many different levels. The more I increase my awareness and become peaceful inside, the more I understand karma and see the beauty in its creation. It was only recently that I was able to see another level of meaning for it other than the basic cause and effect model.

We are evolving beings with an unquenchable desire for experience. You might say that we want to experience everything this world has to offer. We want to feel everything and know everything. This thirst for being and our desire to expand and evolve, both as individuals and as a race of beings, is what drives the basic evolutionary forces within us. It has been said by many wise men that we will keep returning to this earthly existence until we no longer have the desire to return. This would seem to indicate that it is our own desire to be here that keeps us returning.

In this process of evolution we are in a singular body, surrounded by millions of other beings in singular bodies. In our own body we have a certain point of view that is limited by our personality and our chosen personal path in this lifetime. I believe we all choose our destinies before incarnating. This choice naturally excludes some possibilities as it includes others. For example, I have chosen to be born in America and thus have excluded the rest of the world as a birth place.

To reach the highest point in our human evolution means on one level to be able to fully understand the impact of our words and actions on the world around us and the other beings in it. This means
having a larger view of the world than our personal desires and ambitions. If we see that our actions may hurt or hinder another person, we then can make a choice about whether or not to do it. Many of us today are so caught up in our personal needs, desires, ambitions, problems, and goals that we rarely, if ever, think about how our words or actions are affecting those around us. We rarely give consideration to others, seeing how what we do has affected them. This is precisely where the sacred law comes in. "Do unto others as you would have others do unto you. Treat thy neighbor as thyself"

The sacred law of God insures us that if we do or say something without full knowledge of how it will affect others, then we will be put into a similar situation so that we can get the full experience of that action. It is not enough that we know the effects of a certain action from our point of view. No, we must know the entire effect of whatever we do or say and that means knowing the other half of the equation - how what we do or say affects others. As Rose from the Magi told me, "Everything you do must be for the good of all, not yourself only." So, when we are paying off negative karma, we must realize that we are now experiencing a new dimension of life, one that we probably excluded or ignored before.

When we are hasty, or full of fear or lust, we are usually single mindedly excluding looking at the situation from others point of view. This is when we are most susceptible to creating more negative karma. When we are truly loving ourselves, we are naturally being aware of the needs of those around us and naturally doing and saying things that are not only for our benefit, but for their benefit as well. This is when we are creating positive karma, karma that will likewise return to us someday.

God wants for us the same thing that we truly want for ourselves. He wants us to be happy and enlightened. His law was not put here to punish us but to love us by expanding our realm of understanding and experience. If we can step back from our personal struggle just a bit and examine the sorts of experiences that we label as negative, painful, or bad, we will see those areas where we have refused to expand or have become ignorantly attached to seeing our own point of view while hurting others or holding them back. Our pain is our
teacher and though it hurts, the end result is more love, ease, flexibility, and acceptance. We are truly at our best when we are relaxed, open and feeling loved and this is the end result of consciously going through negative karma. When I think about karma I am reminded about American Indian philosophy which describes the crow as having the medicine of sacred law. Now, when I see a crow, and I see them all the time, I am reminded that what I am experiencing is the sacred law in action. The next step is to associate the pain that I may be feeling with the understanding presented here and God's love. Then I have truly transformed my relationship to pain and karma.

The H.I.V. Blessing
Robert Camp
January 1, 1992

"In every grey cloud there is a silver lining"

"Look on the sunny side of life"         "As a man thinketh, so he is"

What could one possibly find positive about A.I.D.S? H.I.V is a virus that could eventually claim millions of lives on our planet. How could one find something good in it? If we are to believe that everything is by God's will and there is nothing except by God's will, then we must look close at things such as A.I.D.S and see the bigger picture in terms of what it is doing, or to be more exact, what it is putting back into balance. On a surface level one might say that A.I.D.S is reducing the population of an overcrowded planet. But this explanation is too general. It could be attributed to any natural disaster. To find the silver lining in this cloud one only needs to look at the tremendous change in consciousness that this virus is creating all over the world.

At the rate it is going it will not be long before everyone in our country personally knows someone that has died of A.I.D.S.. Many of us will have had to live with someone who was struggling with the disease and will get to see first hand the kind of death that it fosters. These types of experiences, along with the media's coverage of famous people who are infected or who die is creating a profound change in our sexual behavior. I know that for myself, the thought of having sex with someone new immediately brings with it many cautionary notes. Casual sex is very quickly becoming a thing of the past. Even using condoms has been proven to be no guarantee against this deadly virus. They have a 14% failure rate. What kind of protection is that?

Among my circle of single friends, a new philosophy is emerging. Its not really new, its actually much of the traditional philosophy of a monogamous sexual
relationship with a married partner, or at the least a deeply committed relationship. The key here is monogamous. Anything outside of this monogamy threatens the lives of both partners. Any casual sex before this committed monogamy is extremely dangerous.

I am seeing the beginnings of an entirely different approach to male-female relationships being created before my very eyes. This approach looks just like the marriage approaches of 40 years ago. You date and get to know the other and abstain from sex until you get married or make a formal commitment. This is a far cry from what I have experienced most of my life. That has been to have sex as soon as possible in a relationship. If the sex is good and if the attraction is there, then go for the relationship. Now, I am not saying that everyone is like this, but it is safe to say that the majority of those born from 1950 to the present will have some minor variation on this theme of ‘sex is great, have it as much as you want and can’. I think we are going to see a major return to the old, accepted, traditional form of dating without sex, finding someone you truly want to spend the rest of your life with, and then getting married and doing just that. It might take a few years to catch on in a national and international way, but it seems inevitable unless we find a sure cure for A.I.D.S..

I think that is what most people are hoping for. We don’t want to change our sexual behavior and give up the fun of casual sex. Let science take care of us. I do believe that science will eventually find a cure for A.I.D.S.. But that cure will come later, after this virus has done its work of teaching us the responsibilities related to our creative sexual expression. Don't forget that the planet of sex and death, Pluto, is now in its own astrological sign of Scorpio, an event that only happens every 300 years or so. Transformation of our sexual values is at hand and I don't see any way around it. Look at the disease cancer. Now, there are people healing themselves, ‘Cancer Winners’ they are sometimes called. Science still doesn't have a sure cure for cancer. The ones that are getting cured are those that are facing themselves to see why and how they created this within their bodies. More and more, we are discovering that we have the power to change everything in our lives, just as we, on some level, created our lives just the way they are right now.

So there are several real advantages to the presence of our A.I.D.S. virus. The first is that we are now becoming very aware of the responsibility of our sexual expression and how it relates to our choice of partners. The expression of our vital sexual energy will, from now on, occur with more conscious awareness on our parts. As with the expression of any form of energy, this will make us more effective creators. Traditional forms of courtship are emerging that will make for happier, better adjusted marriages and families. There will be fewer broken homes and single mothers. There will be less rape and other forms of sexual abuse. Married partners will be chosen for reasons that will make for longer, more successful marriages.
The other benefit is similar to the benefits incurred when one gets cancer. One is put into a position where one's very survival depends upon looking within the deepest parts of one's psyche to uncover one's deepest feelings, thoughts, beliefs and motivations regarding sex, life and death. One's consciousness is expanded. One's life and view of the world is radically altered. One has to realize one's personal power in a big way. Those who have overcome cancer or A.I.D.S. are transformed, empowered individuals who have truly realized their God-given power of creation. They have to practically become mystics to tap into the source of power that can heal them in these situations.

On one level, it may be possible that many who contract one of these diseases are placing themselves in these situations to force consciousness. It is quite possible that there is a deep, subconscious, or soul urge to find the power inside of one's self and to see it manifested in a dramatic way. I am certain that it will vary from individual to individual. Each of us has our own stories to tell and our own reasons for doing what we do. Just ask yourself why you get the flu when you do and you may understand more of how all disease works.

The last great benefit of the H.I.V. plague is that it will show mankind once and for all that we are the creators of our life and that all the science in the world will not help us if, on a deep level, we are working against it. Eventually, I think that we will realize, as a race of beings, that we are able to create anything we so desire and that nothing that happens in our life without our permission. Intuitively, I have always known this. In the past ten years, I have endeavor to make this truth a reality in my own life. I am learning the mechanics of writing my own script for my life and of making it a dream come true. I hope that every so called 'negative' thing such as A.I.D.S. and all other victimizing manifestations eventually get categorized under things that we can create if we choose to and not as something that is outside of our power to change or altar. This, we must and will do. It is our destiny as we enter the new age of Aquarius and our race-consciousness expands.
By observing the specific planetary positions and their relative angles to each other we can attain a deeper meaning of current events. A knowledge of astrology can often reveal hidden meanings to the world-wide changes that are occurring at any moment as well as give us valuable clues to those things that are to come.

In the past hundred years we have seen some dramatic changes in our society and world. Many of the conditions present today have been prophesied in many ancient texts. Many would say we are in the "last days" spoken of in the bible, or the "Kali Yuga" spoken of in many ancient eastern Indian texts. Others who have studied the works of Nostradamus are assured that we are fast approaching the day of reckoning when vast destruction will take place to cleanse the planet of hatred and greed.

Just in the past two years we have seen a dramatic wave of the media being used to reveal the evils and injustices of our governments, businesses, and personal family lives. Everything from child molestation to secret government plots to start wars for money have become commonplace on our televisions and radios. An interesting perspective on all of this is the fact that much of what we see is reflected by the union of two powerful planets, Saturn and Neptune. Neptune indicates what is hidden and Saturn what is real. This conjunction which just ended this summer showed us, however painful, just the condition of our government, businesses and homes. Having done their duty, the planets have moved on the next phase in our progression to the "New Age".

Well, what is this "New Age"? To begin with, we have all heard of the "Age of Aquarius". Having heard the song over 15 years ago one might wonder what is the Age of Aquarius, has it begun, and if not, when will it begin. Well, it just so happens that the Age of Aquarius is an actual, dated event that has a precise beginning and ending based upon the movements of the planets and other heavenly bodies. It would take a long time to explain the way it is calculated but it is important to know that we as a race of beings go through these "grand ages" as they have been called. Each age marks the beginning of a new type of spirituality and is often ushered in by a new leader who personifies the qualities of that age.

Currently we are just ending the Age of Pisces which began around 100 BC and was ushered in by Jesus Christ. This is why Christ is known as the Fish and this is the same symbol used for the sign of Pisces. The sign of Pisces is characteristic of this age, with much sacrifice and delusion. Christ asked us to believe in him and be saved. "I believe" is the key word for Pisces. Spirituality during this age is one of faith and sacrifice. Don’t ask questions, just do as your told.

The Aquarian Age begins officially in 2060 AD, about 69 years from now, and will mark a dramatic change in our approach to God or spirit. The key word for
Aquarius is "I know". No longer will you have to have faith to access the higher self or God or whatever. There will be scientific proof for all phenomena and everyone will "know" the truth on an experiential level. A closer look at the sign of Aquarius will reveal many details about the upcoming age but first one should be aware that as we approach a new age, we are in a transitional time where the new age is not yet fully begun and the old age has not fully died away. For the next 70 years we are likely to see more of the worst sides of the Piscean Age - people being mislead by spiritual masters and prophets, alcohol and drug abuse, proliferation of escapist activities such as movies and video games. Gradually in these final days of Pisces, the Aquarian energies will grow stronger and stronger until truth has dispelled all the doubt and hypocrisy of these final days.

Television, radio, bi-sexuality, computers, astrology, and extra-terrestrials are all part and parcel of the Aquarian energies that we already see gaining strength in these final days. I am not saying that everyone will be bi-sexual in the new age, but you must understand that the Aquarian philosophy sees no racial, idealistic, or sexual distinctions among men and women. No longer will anyone be judged by their race, color, creed, sex, or philosophic beliefs. "Brotherhood of Man" is one of the key phrases that describes this philosophy. And this goes for aliens as well. Since Aquarius rules all things progressive and futuristic, contact with extra-terrestrials who bring us huge advances in our sciences is inevitable.

Uranus, is the planet that rules the sign of Aquarius. In April of 1995 Uranus will enter its natural sign of Aquarius. Soon after that, the planet Neptune will also enter Aquarius, followed by Pluto in 2023. These planets are the ones that largely signal changes in the society and world as a whole. Though they are the most distant, they are said to have the most power. With their visits to the sign of Aquarius, each will bring a surge of the Aquarian energy and heighten the already growing Aquarian phenomena. Sightings of ET’s will flourish and it would not be surprising if direct and solid irrefutable contact is made before the year 2000.

Pluto, the planet of destruction and transformation is currently in its natural sign of Scorpio for the first time in 300 years. Saturn is currently in its natural sign of Capricorn as well. With all these heavy hitters going through such powerful placements it is no wonder why we as a race have been confronted with much of our addictions and fear-based behaviors. Astrologically, the ultimate purpose for life is to elevate the soul to a spiritual plane of consciousness where there are higher laws governing the day to day life and where the presence of spirit is acknowledged in all that we do. Planets in their natural signs focus and concentrate energies so that the evolutionary process is heightened. As we have seen so much of a quantum leap in technology, we have also seen, but perhaps have chosen to ignore, a similar quantum leap in spiritual evolution.

Spiritual evolution happens largely through experiences that heighten our awareness of our own motives and modes of operation. When we as a race ignore our own inner motives and continually go about our lives pursuing goals such as more money and power from inner fears of inadequacy and insecurity, we invite disastrous circumstances that cause us to suddenly become aware of these motives. These disasters often happen collectively to large groups of people such as the Jews that were destroyed during the holocaust of Adolph Hitler, and these large-scale events are easily recognized in the heavens by reading the patterns of the planets.
With our planet moving headlong into a new age, the push is on to become self aware and self responsible. This Age of Aquarius will not tolerate ignorance of the divine law. So now, in these last years of Pisces, we are experiencing a cleansing of the spirit and it has been predicted by many that there will be large scale death and destruction. If this is the case, it will be for the purposes of elevating our consciousness, as it has always been. One need not fear this new age, or the drastic changes at hand, as long as one is being self-aware. If we all just take a look inside, we will acknowledge that there is just as much of an inner crisis going on today as there is a world crisis. What we are about to discover is that there is nothing outside of us that can really hurt us. If we have conquered the crisis within, our world becomes a place of beauty and perfection, even in the midst of what others may call disaster.

As far as a spiritual leader for this new age, the "second coming of Christ" we may be surprised to find that there is no leader or person to personify this age. In Aquarius, all are exalted. There is no need for a savior since all are saved. All are God and God is all. If we do have a leader he or she or "it" will probably not put any special importance on pledging allegiance to him, her or it, as this would be contrary to the underlying vibration of that age. The world will be more of a community of people, all respecting the beauty and talents of each other and not placing any special importance on anything that would seek to exalt one to the detriment of others. Perhaps this is why we have not made sustainable direct contact with the ETs. We are not quite ready to view them as our brothers and sisters - complete equals in a universe of sentient, spiritual beings.
VISIONS
In-Depth Articles on
The Science of the Cards
Astrology and Spirituality
Volume II

Robert Lee Camp
Grand Master Order of the Magi
Visions
by Robert Camp

Volume Two
May 1994
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Section One

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Further Studies on
The Cards of Your
Destiny
&
Astrology
The Little Book of the Seven Thunders

"And when the Seven Thunders had uttered their voices I was about to write; but I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, 'Seal up those things uttered by the Seven Thunders and write them not.'"

"And I took the little book out of the Angel's hand and devoured it; and to my taste it was sweet as honey; but as soon as I had devoured it, it became bitter unto my inside."

"And he said unto me, 'You must prophesy again before many peoples and nations and tongues and kings.'"

Book of Revelations Chapter Ten, Verses 4,10, and 11

With these words was the invocation given to those members of The Order of the Magi to take the knowledge of the planets (seven thunders) and their corresponding book, our deck of cards, and keep it secret until the time was right and the people of the earth were ready to receive it. The Order of the Magi, formed over 20,000 years ago has been responsible for keeping alive the most sacred knowledge of numbers, astrology and other scientific information since the days of Atlantis. These seers of old knew well of the secrets of the "little book" and so made sure that these cards were kept in tact and unchanged all this time.

Historically, no one really knows where our deck of cards originate. The oldest known deck rests in The Royal Asiatic Museum. It is said to be 1100 years old. Again, every ancient civilization claims to have invented them. The Persians, Romans, Chinese and several other nations lay claim to their origination. However, a book written in 1893 laid to rest all the mystery surrounding our little book and revealed for the first time in history their profound mystical significance. This book is entitled "The Mystic Test Book" and was written by Olney H. Richmond, who, at that time, was the Grand Master of The Order of the Magi on Terra, the same order for which the verses in the Book of Revelations were written for.

Born in 1844, Olney Richmond did not grow up thinking that his life held any special significance or meaning. But while serving during the Civil War in 1866 he was approached one night by a gentlemen who told him of his destiny and invited Olney to pay him a visit. Intrigued by the things the man had said, Olney went to the appointed meeting place the next night. There, Olney claims that the man "initiated" him with the "word", telling Olney that he was destined to rebuild the Temple of the Magi. Olney's only reply was that they had chosen the wrong man since he could not imagine that he would survive the war. The mysterious man replied that he would survive the war, that it was all meant to be and that he would go on to build the temple. Skeptical, Olney returned to his post and for the duration of the war he narrowly missed being killed on 4 or 5 occasions, each time seemingly guided by some unforeseen force or knowing. He still did not understand the information he had been given and had no way of furthering his understanding until 6 years later when he came upon a book that began his education into the sciences of number and symbols. Approximately twenty years later he founded The Temple of the Magi in Grand Rapids Michigan. It had taken him that long to learn and understand what he had been given.

Olney quickly developed a reputation for doing supposed miracles with the cards and other phenomena. There are numerous accounts from reporters who came to interview him at the Temple and who were given live demonstrations of the mathematical basis of mystical and occult phenomena using the little book. His reputation grew and eventually he moved to Chicago where he established a larger Temple and where he remained until his death. His only published
work is The Mystic Test Book. But contained in that one little book is knowledge that has never been revealed before.

Olney claims that the cards were around in Egypt and Atlantis, where they were used exclusively by the priests of the temples. These cards were made of ivory and were always held in highest esteem. After the fall of Egypt, the cards made their way into the hands of the Gypsies and others and were used for games and other amusements. Even so, Richmond claims that the cards have not changed significantly. The faces on our cards today are essentially the ones used in Egypt and Atlantis as well.

When we look at our deck of cards we see a mystical system of time and symbols. Everything about our deck of cards has significance and their true knowledge reveals much about many spiritual truths. First of all, our deck of cards fits our calendar exactly. The four suits equal the four seasons and also the four kingdoms of Atlantis, which was a vast continent divided into four kingdoms by four great rivers. The two colors of the deck represent day (red) and night (black). The 52 cards represent our weeks in a year and the days in a week if we reduce it down to a 7. 5+2=7, the number of days in a week and the number of visible planets for which our weekdays are named. There are 12 court cards representing the months in a year and the 12 signs of the zodiac. Finally, if we add up all the "spots" on the cards, where the Ace = 1, Jack = 11, Queen = 12 and Kings are 13, we get 364. Add to that the value of the Joker (5/4), we get exactly the number of days in our year. The Joker is the four suits plus himself making five quarters or 1 1/4. The calendar we use is the very same used in Egypt and Atlantis, from which it originated. The Romans were going to change it but Cleopatra convinced Julius Caesar of the value of the ancient calendar and so he adopted it. None of this is by accident.

The Ace of Spades is always made larger than the other aces in the deck and if you ask a manufacturer of cards why they will tell you that it is because they always did it that way. The real reason, as Olney Richmond points out in his book, is that the Ace of Spades is the one card that symbolizes The Order of the Magi. It was actually used by many of the ancient mystery schools as their symbol. It represents the knowledge that lies hidden behind what we see and perceive. It is the card of "secrets" and the card of "transformation" of the soul.

So we see that our common little book holds much more significance than we imagine at first glance. There is a lot more to the story than this. For within the knowledge of the cards, your birth date associates you as one of the 53 cards (52 plus the Joker). From this card one can predict your life with amazing accuracy and depth. Like your astrological sign, but much more in depth, your birth card reveals many secrets about your personal destiny, relationships and life lessons. To date, there have only been five books published on this amazing science, and only three remain in publication. My book, The Cards of Your Destiny, reveals the method used by Olney Richmond and others for doing predictions. With it you can accurately predict the events of any month and year of life. I invite you to explore this ancient tool, which has just now been made available to the public at large and is meant to be used by everyone with a desire for knowledge, truth and understanding.
Planetary Aspects

Looking at an astrology chart, you will notice that many of the planets form aspects to each other while others do not. When planets do form aspects to each other, they are karmically bound, for better or worse, to interact with each other. This interaction will manifest itself in the chart owner's life either positively or negatively depending upon the aspect. I use the term positively and negatively loosely because this will depend of course on each individual's interpretation. However, stressful aspects such as the square and the opposition invariably require adjustments to the natural way the planets' energies would normally express themselves. This 'adjustment' is usually a painful process since one must stop the normal expression, re-evaluate it in light of the other afflicting planet's influence and then try to find a harmonious solution to meeting the needs of the two energies.

This is another way of looking at karma. I call the astrology chart a 'map of one's personal karma'. It can tell you exactly what types of experiences to expect and how you are likely to react to them. Planets that are in harmonious aspects are usually the result of past actions that helped others, good deeds as it were. Planets in stressful aspects result from unconsciously or consciously hurting others or interfering with their spiritual growth. In the current life, harmonious aspects will be experienced as gifts - ways of expression that are powerful and that have a likely chance of success. The two planets involved combine their energies harmoniously and add to each other's power. The result is an expression of combined energies that does not cause repercussions in others because there is no internal stress. In the personality, this would equivocate to two or more desires or needs that were in harmony with each other. Accomplishing one of these desires or needs fits in well with accomplishing the other.

In the case of stressful aspects, we have a different story. Take the case of Sun Square Moon, a common and powerful stressful aspect that represents a basic inner conflict with one's male and female sides that requires conscious awareness to resolve. Externally this aspect coincides with someone who has difficulties with the opposite sex (represented by the conflict of the male (sun) and female (moon) planets). The person with with aspect also has difficulty fulfilling his or her inner need for security. The male side, which is usually where the person loves to express energy strongly and often in a masculine fashion, is in conflict with the same person's security needs and receptiveness. In males, it usually comes down to having a neglected emotional and needy side of the personality that has been totally rejected by the stronger, masculine side. The male and female sides are like two very different people who do not like each other's company. The trouble is that in the case of a square aspect, they are both present at the same time. These two planets are bound for life by that square aspect. First one side takes the lead strongly and is fully expressed until the pendulum swings and the other side steps into the driver's seat of the personality and takes over just as completely. Regardless of which side is in control, the opposing side is not being able to express itself and is just gathering energy to "push" its way back into the driver's seat.

The person with this sort of planetary arrangement can have a profoundly sensitive side, an inner child that is overly needy, just like an actual child that is desperately seeking love and attention who has been neglected for a long time. There can be very large emotional swings as one part of the personality takes over from the other. These emotional swings leave others baffled and confused as the person seems to be a "Jekyl and Hyde". For this reason this aspect leads to difficulties in personal relationships.

From a karmic point of view, square aspects such as the one mentioned are the actual result of doing harm to others in some past life. Taking our previous example of the Sun square Moon, we can imagine that this person, in some past incarnation, had been very dominating and
"masculine" with certain people who had, as a result of their words and actions, been made to feel very insecure and fearful, even threatened by their presence. Now, in this life, the other person has become them. They still retain the dominant masculine side of the personality but now they have, permanently installed within them, the traits of the other that they refused to acknowledge in the past incarnation. They literally "carry around with them" this fearful, insecure, whining, afraid personality that they ignored in the past. These square aspects teach us the value of sensitivity to others and how what we say and do affects those around us. This is an example of "bearing a cross", and often this cross is born for life. The solution to this aspect, as well as all other stressful ones is always to first become aware of the dynamics at play and then to make adjustments in behavior, always being aware of the two opposing points of view. Both planets must be able to express themselves and both must make concessions to the other in order to get its needs met.

Any square aspect in one's natal chart will represent some past life of ignorance of some quality to the exclusion of others which will now need adjustment. Squares between inner planets (Sun through Mars) are ones that will usually be in effect for life. These aspects will always influence a person. However, as one becomes aware of the workings of these aspects and sensitizes oneself to the opposing factions within, one becomes able to harmonize and make the necessary adjustments to the point that these aspects no longer present a problem in one's life. If I am very identified with my masculine side and I have a Sun square Moon in my natal chart, then much of this process of adjustment is just the process of accepting and nourishing my female and sensitive side. In this case, the person usually enters the life with an actual fear-based hatred of weakness in others, which of course is now a part of themselves. A careful analysis of the squares in your natal chart will reveal valuable information about where you will have to "make the peace" between two sides of yourself that are naturally at war. From this example, one can get the true nature of astrological aspects and their connection to one's personal karma.

The Card Suits - The Evolution of the Soul & Personality

I have discovered something very interesting about the card personalities lately. As you know, hearts rule love and relationships and also rule the first period of our life. Florence Campbell gives this "hearts period" about 13 years. Clubs rule our thinking and communications processes and our second period of life, which goes until approximately age 39. Diamonds rule our values and finances and our third period of life which extends from age 39 to approximately age 60. Here we enter the spades period of life, which focuses on our health and most importantly, our spirituality.

I have noticed that those born under the hearts suit have a child-like quality about them. They tend to relate to the child within us more than the adult. I have especially noticed that the 8 ♥, J ♥, Q ♥ and the K♥ cards, all power cards in the areas of relationships, can only wield power as applied to the child within us. Follow closely what I am saying here. If I have unresolved childhood issues, and who doesn't, a heart person may be able to control me (control is big for Kings and eights, especially eights) much like a parent controls a child. Favorite tactics of parent/child control is the withholding of love and affection, saying one thing while doing another, putting the child down and making them feel unworthy or shameful. Of course, this is the negative use of love power and many of these hearts birthdays do not use these tactics. But
then again, many others do. Also, those who have these powerful heart cards in their life spread, such as the 9♣, who has the K♥ in Venus, can resort to these tactics at times.

However, if we can apply our reason, which originates in our Clubs period, to someone trying to control us, their tactics are ineffective and powerless against us. Reason and logic conquer emotional manipulation. This is evidenced in the way most children rebel against their parents when they reach their teen years. They begin to fight back with their developing minds. If you personally have trouble with feeling rejected and manipulated by those in authority or those you love, you are probably stuck in some unresolved situation with a parent who used emotional/affectional control tactics on you. Use your reason and logic to overcome this.

Similarly, values, the keynote of the diamonds, can overcome and overpower logic and reason. After all, our logic and reason always supports the things we want. Once, my master told me "You can't trust the mind, it will always give you good reasons for what you want, even if that thing is not good for you."

You might say that the progression to the next suit represents a step up in evolution of consciousness, just as the change from one season to the next represents a new phase in the evolution of our earth and environment life cycle. In just the same way that a hearts person can manipulate us with fear of personal rejection, a clubs person may try to overpower us with their own "truth" or ideas.

A well aligned and strong sense of values is protection against anyone's ideas, philosophies, beliefs and their manipulations. Take a 4♦ person as an example. Their values are strong, fixed as well. No matter what your logic, how high your truth, you will not be able to sway them unless you appeal to their sense of values and learn what they are. A diamonds person may try to manipulate you through your values. They are the salespeople of the deck and communicate on the level of values. Since our country is a J♦ (July 4th) and we are the strongest of the superpowers, you can see that practically our entire world has been indoctrinated into our value system. Our media is filled with direct attacks aimed at manipulating what we buy and where we buy. This is a powerful form of control. The only protection from these assaults is spiritual awareness and will power, properties of the spades suit, which is the most powerful suit in the deck. Here we seek contact with our higher self and spirits on other planes of existence for guidance and direction. This inner direction can guide us through any assault and give us protection and blessings. Our will and determination, backed by this inner awareness, is complete protection from control by any outside forces. Look at any evolved spiritual master for proof of this.

Spades are the last suit on the earthly level. The K♠, the last card in the deck, represents complete mastery. It is a wonder that so many spades people are unaware of their spiritual power. Instead, they focus on their work and watching their wonderful and powerful will create things in the world.
More on Solar Values & Relationships

Earlier I published an article about the solar values of the cards and how you can add the values of two cards together to arrive at a card for the relationship. I want to clarify this and add a new dimension to this understanding.

The Solar Value of the Cards

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To refresh your memory, we get the card for a relationship by adding the solar values of the two cards. If the result is more than 52, we subtract 52 from it to get the solar value of the card of the relationship. For example, my card, the Q♥, has a solar value of 38. Katherine's card, the K♣, has a solar value of 26. Adding these together we get 64. Since this is more that 52, we subtract 52 from 64 to get 12. 12 is the solar value of the Q♥ in this case, the card of Katherine and my relationship. This card, the Q♥ in this case, represents what we might do together and how the world might see us together. To understand this, you would have to read up on the Life Spread of a Q♥ person and know more about the Q♥ card. I won't go into this here except to say that this is one of the marriage cards.

The next step is to find out what this relationship means to me and then to Katherine. To find out what this relationship is to me, and what I might be getting out of it, we add my card again, 38, to the 12 of the relationship. This gives us 50, which is the solar value of the J♠. For me, then, you might say that this relationship represents an initiation into spiritual life and understanding, the high side of the J♠. The low side of the J♠ may also be present but that depends upon the people involved.

For Katherine, the relationship added to her card yields a 38, the solar value of the Q♦, my card. So what she is getting out of the relationship could be termed me, first of all, and secondly, mastery of finances, business and marketing, some of the high side qualities of the Q♦. This slightly new perspective can be very useful in readings as it lends a new slant to two people operating together and what their inner motives might be for being in the relationship.
Accessing the Highest Potential of Our Birth Card

It is sometimes amazing to me to note that among a group of people who all have the same birth card that there is such a diverse range of how much they are enjoying their life and how much of their potential they are realizing. Take for example the 8♣. As one of the three fixed cards having probably the best life path cards of any in the deck, you would naturally expect all 8♣ people to be very successful, creative, powerful and wealthy. I know some 8♣ people that are among some of the most successful in the world. Their lives are truly magical in most respects and they are very happy and contented with the successful nature of their life. On the other hand, there are many 8♣ that are struggling to get by, struggling with relationship issues, caught up in materiality and who are very unhappy and even poor in some cases. Something important is at work here, something that does not reveal itself upon casual observation. Much of a person's success in life seems to depend upon what they are doing with the inherent potential in their birth card. Wanting to derive some deeper understanding of the issues at work, I asked myself, 'how can I access the highest potential of my birth card?' and 'how can others do the same?'. Also, 'what are the underlying forces at play when a person is not living up to the potential inherent in their birth card?'.

In *Sacred Symbols of the Ancients*, which is one of the best texts to date on the lives and characteristics of the various birth card personalities, it states that many people lose the power inherent in their birth card when they choose to operate as one of their personality cards. This I have seen to be true for many people and just this awareness alone can help a person change his or her focus and regain their success potential. In most cases, it is not recommended that someone follow the path of their personality cards. But in some cases it is. For example, if you are a Diamonds female, it is not recommended that you operate out of your Queen. Women are operating as their queen when they are romantically involved, or as Florence Campbell puts it, "Depending upon their feminine charms to get by". Whenever we choose to operate as one of our personality cards we also inherit the potential negative traits associated with that card. To make an accurate and useful determination of whether or not you would benefit from acting as one of your personality cards, you must study the descriptions of those cards to note their pros and cons.

In other cases, Florence Campbell notes that to act out of one's personality card would be a step down in life potential. For example, K♠, 8♥, 10♦, and K♣ people would all be taking a step down to operate as the Jack or Queen of their suit because these cards have such high potential in themselves. The people born under one of these birth cards should find their life's work and avoid the careless frivolity of the Jack or the feminine charm of the Queen. This does not mean that they cannot have relationships, as in the case of the Diamond females, but that their life's purpose should never play second fiddle to their romantic or immature sides. I have seen more than one K♠ male whose life is going nowhere because they got so enthralled with the romantic pursuits and preoccupation of the infamous J♠, the actor's card.

Remember that you were born under a certain birth card which has within itself a powerful potential. Study your own life path cards in *Sacred Symbols* to understand your strengths and highest potentials. It is here that you find the real secrets to a successful, productive and satisfying life. You chose to arrive on this planet on a certain day for a certain reason. Though we all have the ability to shift into our personality cards at any time, we sometimes miss the gifts that are inherent in our birth cards, gifts which, if activated, will give us more satisfaction than we thought possible.
The Planetary Ruling Card in Your Life Spread

In Florence Campbell's book, Sacred Symbols of the Ancients, you will find a thorough and often surprisingly accurate description of your birth card. At the end of each description, she gives a mini-description for each of the individual birth dates that have the same birth card. Often, these descriptions are quite accurate and I always wondered where she derived this information. Was it just from her years of experience as a reader and teacher of the cards? Was it from the numerology of the birth date? I have found that it came from both of these sources but another source is also involved, one that is perhaps the most important of all - the Planetary Ruling Card. Let's find out what is your ruling card and then discuss its significance.

First of all, if you don't have Florence's book, you must know that your Life Spread is the same as your Age 90 Spread. For purposes of this article, all you need to know is what are the direct cards in your Life Spread as they correspond to the various planets. The only ones we are concerned with are Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto.

The direct cards (the top cards in the Age 90 Spread) under each of these headings are the most important cards in your Life Spread and are used by Florence to synthesize her interpretation of your life and your personality traits. She uses other things as well, but these give most of the information. Take a look at your Age 90 Spread and see which are your direct cards under the headings as they appear in the book.

Now, take your sun Sign and match it up with the appropriate planet from the list below:

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<th>If you are a(n):</th>
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Now, look in your Age 90 Spread to see which of your cards falls under your ruling planet. For example, if you are a Taurus, you would look at your Venus card. If you are a Cancer or Leo, there is a special exception. My teacher, Arne Lein, said that the ruling card for all Leos is the 8♦ and the ruling card for all Cancers is the 10♣. I don't particularly agree with his theory, but it is worth looking into as I have noted that many Leos act like the 8♦ in terms of being proud and powerful.

Being a Cancer myself and a teacher, I can relate to the 10♣ as a ruling card. However, it does not fall in my Life Spread and I know many Cancers that are not teachers so I question this way of looking at things.
The Moon ♒ Card

I have a new theory as it relates to those of us ruled by the Sun (Leos) and Moon (Cancers). That is that the "Sun" card is the same as our birth card and the "Moon" card is the one just behind it or before it in the Grand Solar Spread, sort of the opposite of our Mercury card. This is the same card that I defined as a South Nodal Card in a previous article. Since writing that article I have seen a deeper connection with this card, both in my life and in the life of others. Likewise I believe that our birth card is our strongest card if we are a Leo, since that is the most important card, the one that denotes our true soul (Sun) position for this life.

How do you find this card? If you don't have The Advanced Oracle Workbook, you will have to look through the Age 90 Spreads of every card in the deck to see which card has your birth card as its direct Mercury card. For example if your birth card is the Q♣, you will find that the Q♣ is the Age 90 Mercury card for the A♣. Therefore, your Moon card would be the A♣. If you happened to be a Cancer Q♣, born on July 16th, your planetary ruling card would be the A♣. For all of us, the Moon card defines what makes us feel secure or safe. I have found that many people marry their Moon card because that person helps them feel safe and secure. In the above example, the Q♣ would tend to feel safer and more secure when they are studying and learning new things, acquiring knowledge (A♣) and being with an A♣ person would give them a feeling of safety and foundation. The moon is closely related to home and family and thus when we think of settling down and creating stability in our lives, we will often choose our Moon card as a mate. Look at your Moon card and ask yourself how the qualities of that card somehow reflect what helps you feel safer, more secure and gives you the feeling of having more foundation in your life.

Just to review then, your Planetary Ruling Card will be the one card in your life spread that corresponds to the planet that rules your sun sign. If I am a Virgo 9♠, my Planetary ruling card would be the 9♠ since that is the Mercury card in my Life Spread and Virgo is ruled by the planet Mercury.

Look at your Planetary Ruling Card and see what special significance it holds for you. My research has shown that our Planetary Ruling Card best describes our occupation and how we show up to the world. It might be considered to correspond to the Midheaven, or possibly Ascendant in astrology, though I hesitate to make conclusions like that without proof. However, we can look at it as the card in our Life Spread through which we express ourselves the most. It can be like a mask that we wear or indicate which of our Life Spread cards that we most express ourselves through. For further study I suggest you read Sacred Symbols of the Ancients and see what she says about your particular birth date at the end of the chapter on your birth card. Then you will see how she generated an interpretation and see the connection, in most cases, to the Planetary Ruling Card.
The Grand Law of Karma

Many people believe that God, or some higher power, is constantly overseeing our actions and giving us immediate retribution as we go about life. When they talk about this, I get the picture of some magnificent being who is very, very busy. Can you imagine any being who had to keep track of 4 billion people's lives and make sure that each was getting his or her just rewards. Once, my master, Yogi Amrit Desai, was asked about this. He said that God just made the Law and the Law takes care of the details. That one universal Law is the Law of Karma. Gurudev said that God does not have to reward or punish people for their deeds, the Law of Karma does that for Him. There was a funny song released on a tape by the disciples of Yogi Bhagan called "Captain Karma" that told how Captain Karma was the Lord's own right hand man, taking care of the nasty business of delivering just rewards and punishments to all of us mortals.

Our first exposure to the Law of Karma comes from physics class in high school. "Every action creates and equal and opposite reaction" so the Law of Cause and Effect is stated. Scientists have proven this law again and again, and upon it rests much of what we now call modern science. It is an immutable law. It cannot be changed or altered and is always, and has always been, in effect. It is a wonder then that so many of our present day scientists doubt the theory of reincarnation. The Law of Cause and Effect and the theory of reincarnation go hand in hand. Another way of stating this law that is often used in physics is that "for every effect, there must be a cause". For example, if I see a ball rolling across the floor, an effect, I know that something must have set it into motion, the cause. I remember having to solve many physics problems that started with an effect looking for a cause.

Now, the same law applies in our lives, and yet, for some reason, our scientists have failed to extend the law beyond the boundaries of molecular physics or rubber balls rolling around in the laboratories. Little do they know that every area of our life is directly affected by this law. How often does the average person question the things that happen during the day and ask, "What is the cause of this?"? There are so many people today who instead believe that they are the victims of the world, that something bad may happen to them at any minute, that there is such a thing as "luck", both good and bad.

Mesha Rose, the main channel for the Order of the Magi, and a woman that I consider to be my teacher, once told me, "Never forget this - there are no coincidents, and there is no such thing as luck!. Everything has a cause and a reason." I have found that the more I choose to view the things that happen in my life as having been created by me, the more sense everything makes and the more powerful I feel. I now see that my thoughts have power. Most everything that happens in my life is the result of a thought or desire taking shape before my eyes. Sometimes it gets kind of spooky how things show up. I now believe that we get EVERYTHING we want, sooner or later.

There is no luck, folks, and there never was. To believe in luck is to relinquish your power. This also applies to coincidences. See every event in your life as bringing you something you thought of or desired and you will begin to realize that you are powerful! Every thought, word and action that you create is a CAUSE that must have an EFFECT. You are the Creator and your word is your magic wand that is constantly creating your Destiny.
Your Life-Path Cards & The Law of Karma

Knowing that every cause has an effect and that every effect has a cause, we now can look at the cards in our life with a different slant. If it is at all true that these cards reflect what is going to happen in your life, then they must be somehow connected to your personal karma. Since these cards were determined the moment you were born, it also stands to reason that these events, or EFFECTS that these cards represent have CAUSES that occurred somewhere else, at some other time. This has to have been in a previous incarnation, nothing else explains it. For the advanced student of metaphysics, this information seems like "Spirituality 101" but a thorough discussion of this basic and vital subject is necessary for many who are just being introduced to a concept as "out there" as the Cards of Your Destiny.

So then, our Life Path cards are simply a "map" of our personal karma. They show us, by reflection, what sorts of things we have done in our past lives for which we are now collecting rewards or paying debts. The Venus and Jupiter cards, cards that are in Jupiter Lines or Columns of the Grand Solar Spreads*, and the occurrences of Fours, Eights, Tens, Jacks, Queens and Kings primarily show us areas where we have accumulated good fortune by helping others and developing talents within ourselves that were used to help others or to benefit them in some way. Our Saturn card and Pluto card, Life Path cards that are in the Saturn Lines and Columns, as well as the occurrences of Sevens and Nines show us the areas where we have abused power, developed negative habits, or hurt others in the past and for which we are now encountering the results of our actions. These same cards show us where, in the present life, we will experience "instant karma" or immediate payback for unconscious acts in the present life. Look at the cards in your Life Spread (or Life Path, they are the same thing) and see which represent your earned "gifts" and which represent your earned "liabilities". Here is an example to show how it works better:

In a past life, let's say that you were very powerful, maybe a K♦. Let us say, for example, that you were a political figure who had the power to either hurt many people or to hurt others and let us say that because of a fear of poverty, you never allowed yourself to experience or feel, that you did everything in your power to accumulate as much wealth as you could. In that life you excused yourself for hurting others and taking away their property by telling yourself that 'we each get what we deserve. Perhaps you played God with others' lives and fortunes and many were put into situations of poverty and fear by your actions. Let us say, also, that you never realized what you were doing in that life and you never had any experiences that would indicate that you paid off the karma you created then.

Now, in the current life, you are born as a Q♣. This card has more fear about money than almost any other card in the deck. The power is there along with the habit of appearing "high up" in a social sense. But the fear often drags them down. All but one of the Life Path cards is in the Saturn Line. In this life you face the results of your past life at every turn. As you grow up it seems that you are unfairly punished for things that you do. You grow up in a family where there is not enough to eat. You unconsciously sense that you should be in a family of high standing, your past life memories, but now you are in a family of desperation. You feel punished by God and the universe and you feel guilty for something that you can't remember you did. You begin to believe that there is something inherently wrong about you and that you don't deserve to be happy or prosperous. You grow up worrying about money all the time. In this life you cannot ignore this deep set fear of poverty that seems to steal away your peace of mind at every step of the way.
This is the story for many Q♦. You can ask them and they will tell you. Of course not all are exactly like this, but many are. Every card's life path can manifest itself in many different ways because each card can be accessed on higher or lower levels by the individual. If a person is spiritually aware, he or she will always get better results out of a seemingly difficult life path. How else could four of the Grand Masters of the Order of the Magi since 1890, including Olney Richmond, be the 3♦ birth card, another of the most difficult cards in the deck? However, being spiritual does not relieve us of our karmic burden. All of us, no matter who we are, must bear the responsibility for what we have done in the past. This includes those things that we are doing today as well. As I mentioned earlier, we are the creators. We now create the causes of the effects coming in our future.

A little aside is that Tiara, a being that is channeled by Valina Rockford, one of our teachers, once said that in this age of great transition and accelerated growth of the entire planet, we can no longer put karma aside for future incarnations. She said that we all must pay our debts now, in this current incarnation, because of the forces at work at this critical juncture in history. This put everything into a new perspective for me and gave me cause to reflect about my actions in the current time of my life.

**Further Explorations into the Mysteries of the Karma Cards**

Little information is given in *The Cards of Your Destiny* about the Karma Cards. The information given is meant as an introduction to what is a vast subject. In fact the karma cards have many important uses and deserve more explanation so that they can be used effectively. In Florence Campbell's, book, *Sacred Symbols of the Ancients*, which I highly recommend, she calls these cards "displacement cards", derived from the fact that our Karma Cards displace us in the Age 89 and 90 Spreads. She will often talk about an individual's personality more in reference to their displacement card than their Birth Card. This is easier to illustrate if you look at the Mundane (Age 90) and Natural (Age 89) Spreads laid out in the Grand Solar array, copies of which are found in the previous newsletter, Florence's book, The Advanced Oracle Workbook and The Card Reader's Mini-Book. As you compare the "position", by line and column, of your Birth Card in each spread and see which card is found in the same position in the other spread, you will see your Karma Cards there. This is where they come from but there is more to their story.

Your Karma cards represent other facets, often hidden, to your own personality. If you are a 3♦, for example, your 6♥ Karma Card, tells us that you also have some karmic love debts to pay, like the 6 of Hearts. Along with these debts comes the notion of "Christ love" and "destined mission for love", other possible ways of manifesting the 6♥ pattern in your life. Look at your Karma cards and see if their life paths match yours in many ways and if you possess some of their qualities.

Our Karma cards are mirrors of ourselves, often the mirrors that we don't want to see. Sometimes when we meet someone who is our Karma card, we immediately like them and then dislike them as we discover what they are like. Just remember the powerful truth that we can only see in others what is inside of ourselves. If we don't love ourselves, we will not love our Karma Card friends and lovers either. This is why relationships with Karma Cards can be some of the most difficult AND long lasting. Some of us need a strong mirror held in front of us to see what we are like. However, not all Karma Card relationships are difficult. Some are very pleasant and very intimate. The connections are deep with these people.
Now here are some new things you can do with Karma Cards that most of you have never done or heard of. I have known about these for a while but was wanting to test them out before I talked about them. I have seen in my own life their relevance so I now make these known.

First of all, you can read your Karma Cards' Yearly and Life spreads as your own, and in many cases, these spreads are more significant than your personality card spreads. So, if your birthday card is a 10♦, you can read the yearly spreads for the Q♣ and the Q♠, your two Karma Cards. These spreads often reveal in depth information about your life. I have found the spread for the first Karma Card is more significant, but others have told me that their second Karma Card's spread is the more significant. Perhaps it depends upon the individual's personal bent as to which card they manifest the most.

Next, you can look for the Karma Cards of your friends, associates, family and lovers in your spreads for relationship comparisons. This is especially important, as anyone who is studying the Advanced Workbook will tell you. Often the Birth Card to Karma Card or Karma Card to Karma Card connection between two people is the most significant they have. No relationship comparison is complete without them.

For example, one of my wife's Karma Cards is the 8♠. In the Age 90 spread for the 8♠ you will find my birth card, the Q♦, in the direct Mars position. This is a strong influence. Likewise, one of my Karma Cards is the 9♦ and in its Age 90 spread, you will find Katherine's K♣ birth card in Mars. This gives us a double Mars connection, which indeed describes our relationship. This is important in many relationship comparisons because in cases such as ours, there is no direct connection between the birth cards. In other words, you will not find the Q♦ in the K♣ Age 89 and 90 spreads and vice versa.

I invite you to start reading the Yearly Spreads for your Karma cards. However, this does not apply if you are one of the three fixed cards, the K♠, J♥ and 8♣. These three cards have chosen to have no direct karmic cousins and are not displaced by any other cards. The four semi-fixed cards, the A♣, 2♥, 7♦ and 9♥, should only look at the spreads for their singular karma card as listed in the book.

How to Get the Most out of Your Weekly Readings

The weekly readings taught in my workshops and in the Card of Your Destiny fulfill a vital purpose, both for beginners and for the advanced student of the cards. For beginners, they are able to get cards every day and every week that can be compared with the experiences and relationships in their lives so that they learn the meanings of the cards by experience. This is vital as the true meanings of the cards only reveal themselves to those who are sincerely interested in using this system for themselves. Once we have experienced what happens in our lives and have compared that to the cards we see in our weekly reading, we learn in a way that sinks in and becomes a part of our understanding. Later, when we share this understanding with others, whether we are giving them a reading or simply telling them about this system, we speak with power and conviction.

Once the language of the cards becomes part of our vocabulary, the weekly readings serve as a useful guide that reflect back to us what we are doing, saying and thinking. It becomes almost like a friend that reflects different parts of ourselves, often challenging us to rise up to higher standards of behavior and relating. This week, for example, I have a 3♣ as my Long Range card. Sometimes I look at this card and tell myself, 'Oh great, another week of worry and indecision.' But this week I consciously chose to look at it and tell myself, 'Oh great, now I will have all the creativity I need to get some writing done!' Well, here I am writing, and it is flowing
very well. I have programmed myself in the past 6 months to think "creativity" whenever the 3♣ appears. In a way, I have created a positive association with that card that always inspires me to write. This is what each of us can do with the weekly readings. But there is more. I want to share with you exactly how I do a weekly reading, how I look at it and what I think about it so that I get the most results possible for my life and use it as a tool to bring me more happiness and fulfillment.

First of all, I always light a candle and say a prayer just before I cut the cards for my weekly reading. I pray to my spirit guides and masters to teach me and ask them to use these cards to give me messages that will lead me to the light. Then I drop any desire for the cards to turn out in any certain way and promise that I will be open to what the cards are for the week and that I will learn from them. This, in itself, increases the chances that I will get positive results from these cards. Keep in mind that I want to use this reading to lift myself up to a higher level. It has become a ritual for me that keeps me connected to my spiritual path.

After I have laid the cards out, I first look for all the signs of success, power, and good fortune. First I look for the obvious. I look at the Jupiter card in the first row as representing what or whom will be a major source of blessings for me this week. Remember that every card manifests positively under Jupiter's influence. Next, I look for power, satisfaction and accomplishment cards. These are the Fours, Eights, Tens and the Face Cards in either the first row or the top row (Long Range, Pluto, Result and Environment). All of these cards represent success and satisfaction in one or more areas. Just having one of these cards in my reading is enough to give me a happy expectation of the week ahead and to feel safe and prosperous. Last week I had some pretty tough cards. As I laid them out, there were none of the "good" cards anywhere in the top row or the Long Range, Pluto or Result. Then I turned the deck over to see the Environment card for the week and it was an 8♠. I sighed a relief and knew that nothing negative could possibly happen to me that week.

The next thing I do is look at the top row of cards (numbers 1-7) and see what the week has in store. I look at them like this:

- **Mercury Card** - tells me what I will be thinking about this week.
- **Venus Card** - tells me who I will be having affection for or what I will love this week.
- **Mars Card** - tells me what will inspire me to action or what will anger me this week.
- **Jupiter Card** - tells me where my biggest source of blessings are for the week.
- **Saturn Card** - tells me what this week's biggest lessons will be about.
- **Uranus Card** - tells me what will surprise me this week or what spiritual things will be occurring.
- **Neptune Card** - tells me what I will be dreaming about this week. Who or what is in my dreams, hopes, secret desires, etc.

Of course, there are other meanings for the cards but these are the general ones that I attach to the first seven cards.

The last thing I do is look for cards that I don't understand at all. I watch carefully as the week progresses for signs that would indicate the true meaning of the cards. There is usually a secret message hidden for me in these cards. I keep an open mind and let the events of the week be my teacher. I am still learning new things about the cards every week and I hope you are too.
More about the Weekly Reading

Since I published *The Cards of Your Destiny*, I have implemented two important additions to the weekly reading that I really haven't written about until now. The first involves using a watch to time the shuffle of the cards and to perform cuts of the deck at specified times. The second addition involves a new card in the reading called the Environment Card, that gives some important and additional information about the week. Let's first talk about the timing and the cuts.

**Timing the Shuffle and Cutting the Deck**

Olney Richmond placed a lot of importance on the timing of things while doing card readings. In his book, *The Mystic Test Book*, he describes a complete card reading that involves many specific and precise shuffles and cuts of the deck as preparation for the reading. After doing much experimentation, I have come up with a method of incorporating some of his techniques into our weekly reading and I have found that the results are more accurate. Here is how you do it:

Get a watch that has a second hand and wait till the second hand gets to the '12' on an even minute and begin shuffling. This means that the minute hand will be on an even numbered minute when the second hand gets to the '12'. Now, shuffle the deck, any way you choose for exactly one minute, or until the second hand returns to the '12' again. Put the cards down and wait exactly 20 seconds, until the second hand gets to the '4'. When this happens, cut the deck one time. A cut consists of removing a portion of the deck from the top, laying it aside and then placing the bottom portion upon the part you laid aside. Now wait another 20 seconds and cut again. The second hand should be on the '8' for this second cut. Wait 20 more seconds and perform the third and final cut. The second hand should now have returned to the '12'. Once you have performed this one-minute shuffle and the 3, 20-second cuts, your deck of cards has been duly prepared and now you are ready to lay out your weekly reading as outlined in the book.

**The Environment Card for the Week**

Go ahead and lay out your cards exactly as described in *The Cards of Your Destiny*. However, when you are finished laying out the last card, which should be the Result Card for the Week, turn the deck over and see what card is on the bottom of the deck. This card is called the Environment Card for the week. Place this card directly above the Pluto Card in the layout. It should appear to be at 'the top of the pyramid', sort of overshadowing all the other cards in your weekly reading.

The Environment Card can be interpreted by reading the Basic Meaning of the Card in *The Cards of Your Destiny*. However, certain rules apply. First and foremost, the Environment Card is always interpreted as a helpful, protective influence for the week. Regardless of what card it is, you must interpret it in its most positive light. It acts as a protection card. For example, you might have a 9♠ as the Environment Card for this week. How would you interpret that as a helpful, protective influence? I would say that during that week there would be some completions of things, either work wise or health wise, that would be blessings to you in some important way. Even if you got ill that week, it would probably turn out to be something that was very good for you in some ways.

If the Environment Card is the Birth Card or Personality Card of someone you know, it means that this person would be helping you in some important ways for that week. We can always look at the environment card as a positive ray of light in our weekly reading. It is always one of the first cards I look at as I generate a positive attitude for my week ahead.
Learning to Speak
"The Language of the Cards"

One of the hardest parts of learning to read the cards is to develop a full comprehension of the meaning of each card and how it can be interpreted in a variety of situations. In The Cards of Your Destiny I have attempted to give the most basic and fundamental meaning of each card in each possible position but even so, there are many cases in which the specific meaning of a card's appearance in your yearly or weekly spread lies outside of what I have specifically written. In these cases you must strive to know the essence of that card and see how that essence can manifest itself in many different patterns and forms.

Whether you are a student of this system or are in the process of doing readings for others, it soon becomes apparent that you do not understand the meaning of every card that you see. It is the mark of an experienced reader of the cards to be able to generate meaningful interpretations of any combination of cards in almost any situation. I invite you, as a fellow student of this science, to explore some fundamental issues that have an impact on your ability to learn and use this amazing system, qualities that will enhance your understanding to the point that there is nothing you cannot know.

First of all there is the matter of your interest. I have several students, who, perhaps like yourself, found this system to be totally fascinating. Some of these students have even surpassed me in their knowledge of certain aspects of this system. Like me, they did not need much coaching. They had a sincere interest and the determination to learn as much as they could about the cards. Even without talking to me or anyone else, they made some of the same discoveries about the cards that I have made in the past two years. Some of their discoveries surprised me and taught me new things that I greatly appreciated. What opened up the doors of understanding for them was their interest. If you find you have a deep connection to this system and that you really want to know as much as you can about it, the knowledge will flow to you in the wink of an eye. This knowledge is available only to those who appreciate it and desire it.

The second quality that is essential to learning the language of the cards is practice. Without actual practice there is no learning ground in which this knowledge can make itself known. The absolute best form of practice is that of doing readings for others. When we give to others, we receive back multiplied. Whether you are experienced or not, you can greatly increase your understanding of this system right away by giving readings to others. Whether you charge them for these readings or not is not important. The important thing is that you are involved in the act of giving this knowledge away. The vacuum you create will attract more knowledge to you. You will have time to study their spreads before they arrive for their readings. The need to understand what their cards are about so that you can give them a good reading will encourage you to understand the meaning of the cards in deeper ways. When you engage in the "conversation of the reading" with them, the gates of knowledge and understanding open up to you and you become a revealer of truth as expressed in this language of the cards.

Olney Richmond was able to make remarkable predictions about almost anything by using this system. His book only hints at the power available to one who fully comprehends the language of the cards. Though it seems apparent that much of his knowledge was lost when the Order of the Magi disbanded during the Second World War, there is still much to learn in his book, The Mystic Test Book. It may be true that all of the knowledge we seek is actually contained in that book. The more I read it, the more I realize the incredible precision of every word, the intent behind the choice of words, the placement of the pages, how the knowledge is arranged in the book and why the organization of the book seems so confusing at first glance. I am alternately confused and then amazed at what is contained in his book. Therefore, the third
quality that we need to develop in ourselves if we are to fully understand this system is study. Consistent study will reveal more to you as time passes. Each time I sit down and read Olney's book, I see something that I had not seen earlier. I am able to understand passages that did not make any sense before. It seems to reveal knowledge to me when I am ready to receive it. If you do not have a copy of his book, get one. Spend some time each week just reading what the master said about this system.

With the three tools of interest, practice and study there is nothing that you cannot achieve or realize. I hope that many of you will share what you are discovering about the meanings of the cards with the rest of us. If you have made a discovery and would like to submit it for publication in this newsletter, simply send it to me. As a fellow student, I am sure that your discoveries will be valuable to the rest of us as well.

The Ace of Spades is the symbol for this knowledge. It is secret knowledge, knowledge that can only be accessed by applying the three qualities described in this article. The fact that you are reading this article qualifies you to receive this wisdom. You are a part of this ancient fellowship of truth. These three qualities become the key that opens the door. If you want in, I am certain that you will not be denied. Just put these three magical qualities into action and see what happens.

The K♠ - The Card of Mastery and Power

As many of you know the K♠ is the last card in the deck. On many levels he represents the wisdom and mastery that is attained by having experienced all that life has to offer. He has completed the wheel of experience represented by the pathway from the A♥ through the 52 cards and now he stands at the pinnacle of wisdom. He is fixed, like the J♥ and 8♣ and yet his fixed nature is based upon a total understanding of the relationships between all things. The K♠ has two eyes showing, seeing things with balance and perspective and weighing things carefully before acting. When he works, he does everything carefully and executes each step in the process completely before going to the next. When he completes a project, it is done nearly as perfect as our world will allow. He is the master in all ways.

Very few of us have the privilege of begin born as a K♠ but most of us will, at one time or another, have the K♠ in our cards for the year or the week. When we do, we are blessed with the qualities mentioned above. Is it any wonder then, that during those same times we enjoy much more success and prosperity?

From one point of view, I think the cards are meant to show us all the many possibilities of life. At any given moment in time, we are influenced by several "card energies". We have our Long Range Card's influence, along with the Pluto and Result. Then we have the cards ruling the planetary period we are in. This combination of influences is taken from the energies of each individual card. In effect, we are getting to experience life from many different angles and points of view. Perhaps one of the purposes of life as we know it is to acquire a broad range of experience. If so, wouldn't it be natural to want to know what it means and feels like to be every card in the deck?

When the K♠ is in our cards, we are given the opportunity to know what it is like to be masterful. It is as though we rise up to meet every challenge and situation before us and meet them with a new awareness. The K♠ brings calmness, sensibility and patience. There is the quality of "lordship" present. We look down on our problems, not in a condescending way, but in a God way, a mature way that sees all things in their proper place. We have less fear and more
understanding, along with a willingness to face the truth about the issues at hand. We know that through the "application of wisdom", all things have to work out for the best.

On a mundane level, this level of consciousness spells nothing short of success. Therefore the K♠️ is usually associated with success in all areas. There can be success in matters of love, work, finance, health or wherever it is sought. Having the K♠️ in your cards is like having a special "wish card" that will magically bring you everything you want. However, there is one important "if" to this equation. That "if" is "if you are willing to work for it". Remember that spades are the worker suit. Unless actualized by action, the K♠️ card could pass you by. So, as in all the cards, there is some responsibility on our part and no card is as strong as our inner God-force.

The position of the K♠️ in your spread(s) will determine where you are likely to apply this wisdom to achieve the success you want, and will tell you which area of your life is particularly blessed this year. Before I talk more about this I would like to point out that all cards are stronger if they are the "direct" card in the Birthday Card spread. This means the top card of any pair in any period. When you get a K♠️ as, let's say, your direct Jupiter card in the spread of your Birthday Card, you can rest assured that financial success in great measure will be yours. In this example, it would also cast a highly favorable glow on your finances and business dealings for the entire year, since our Jupiter cards rule that area of life. Likewise, a K♠️ in Venus would give us mastery and success in our love life, family life and in any work pertaining to women, the arts, or beauty products. In Mars, the K♠️ would bring success with men and legal matters and in anything that we pursue aggressively. In Saturn, the K♠️ would bring success in health matters and in overcoming any problems, of whatever nature, for that year. In Mercury, of course, he would bring success in all the communications fields or in study, school, teaching, publishing, and general peace of mind. In Uranus, success could be directed into real estate, corporations, labor matters, co-workers, and high technology. In Neptune, his power is taken within where meditation, prayer, and visualization will bring much success and satisfaction. Of course, in Neptune there could also be success in foreign matters or in travel overseas. As the Pluto card, the K♠️ says that we are challenged to develop his peace of mind and clear headedness. It's no guarantee that we will achieve this transformation, but it is a sign of where to direct our energies if we are to achieve the Result card that goes with it. As the Result card, the K♠️ says that we will achieve his mastery by year's end. The Pluto card that goes with it may define what area of our life the mastery is desired or needed.

A good friend of mine had the K♠️ as his Long Range card last year. Every time I called him, he had another incredible story of how something wonderful had happened to him or how he overcame some problem and it all turned out in his favor. His company quadrupled in business and he expanded into new areas. He ended up the year by getting married for the first time, probably a goal that he had for a long time. That is one example of someone taking full advantage of the cards dealt him. Let's hope that we all will choose to take full advantage of the K♠️ next time he shows up in our reading. He is a gift to us, especially when we know just what the gift is.
The Queens &
Their Four Priceless Gifts

In the Mundane Spread, there are two "blessed spots" or positions. One is occupied by the 8♦ and the other by the 10♦. A quick glance at the Mundane Spread reveals that the 8♦ sits in the topmost center spot in the spread, called the "Sun Position". From this highest point, light and energy and blessing rain down on all the other cards in the deck. It is a position of leadership and recognition for achievement. Many 8♦ people achieve fame and notoriety in their lives, or at the very least, have aspirations in that direction. Since this is the Mundane Spread, also called "Man's Plan", we could say that, in the eyes of the world, this is the most prominent and cherished position of recognition and acclaim - that powerful 8♦ money card in the position of fame. This shows us the basic value system of our world of duality, that we cherish that fame and financial power above everything else.

Likewise, the 10♦ sits in another important spot. You will notice that it sits in the Jupiter row and Jupiter column position in the Mundane Spread. Since Jupiter is known as the planet of protection and blessings and good fortune, it is reasonable to assume that this would be the most blessed place in the Mundane Spread. Again, it is a money card, perhaps the highest of them. So, we might also say that, in the eyes of the world, the most fortunate thing to have or be is 10♦ - wealth. It is no secret that most of us yearn for that blessing. To win the lotto or to somehow inherit or marry into wealth is a favorite fantasy that many of us entertain. Indeed, our society teaches us that these two are the most important and sought after gifts and goals. To these ends, have many wars been fought and have many people been brutalized. However, anyone who makes either one of these goals their primary motivation are destined to suffering and misery. History has proven over and over again what the mystics have been saying all along - that happiness is not found in money or fame or power, the lure represented by the 8♦ & 10♦.

This is the nature of our world and it is unlikely that the world at large will change in that regard. However, as individuals, we may find deeper meaning in our lives and align ourselves with a higher level of truth that will bring us more inner peace, joy and bliss. Even if we do not totally understand the truth, if we live by it, our lives will definitely improve in many ways. A simple and effective clue to the truth can be found by looking in these same "blessed spots" in the Natural, or Soul Spread, to see what, in God's eyes, are the two most blessed gifts and accomplishments. Instead of an 8♦ in the Sun position of fame, we find the Q♠ and instead of the 10♦ in the position of the most blessed, we find the Q♣. Based upon these two bits of information, I propose the following:

1. **Self Mastery** (Q♠) is the Highest Accomplishment
2. **Intuition** (Q♣) is the Highest Gift

Extending this further, to include the other two Queens, I also add -

3. **Giving** (Q♦) is the Highest Work
4. **Self-Love** (Q♥) is the Highest Power

It is interesting to note that both cards in the blessed spots are Queens in the Soul Spread, while they are diamonds in the Mundane Spread. Queens represent service and the patient mother who nurtures others. They represent mastery, but not so much in a masculine, outward, demanding recognition way, but in a feminine, receiving, internal way. These four Queens give us much if we heed their call and recognize their priceless gifts. I invite you to study these four cards and their significance as they appear in your spreads.
New Meanings for the Sixes

The interpretations in *The Cards of Your Destiny* aim to encompass a general cross section of the population. For this reason, much of the spiritual aspects of the cards is not brought out in great detail. Here I will present the more indepth meanings associated with the sixes that will be important for those of you who are on the spiritual path and seeking deeper self-understanding. This will also be very helpful for those of you who are doing readings professionally.

The sixes are very important cards in the spiritual sense, perhaps some of the most important in some ways. As I have stated earlier, sixes often represent *fated* events that will occur in our lives. Far from being the cards of stagnation and lack of change, the occurrence of a six in our reading can indicate the dawning of an awareness of our having a **special purpose or mission** in our life. For example, Florence Campbell calls the 6♣ the "John the Baptist Card" or the "Messenger's Card". Some 6♣ do have a special life purpose of bringing many souls in contact with knowledge and understanding that is enlightened. Similarly, if you or I get a 6♣ in our reading, we may also become aware of such a special purpose for ourselves. This sort of realization may change our life.

Whether or not we take up the opportunity that is presented by a Six in our reading is entirely up to us. However, I have found that many people are searching for a deeper meaning to their life and the work they are doing. In this respect, the occurrence of a Six can be the answer to a prayer. Let's take a look at each of the Sixes alone and discuss its significance as a card of your personal destiny.

The 6♥ has been called the "Christ Love Card". Though it can also represent having a karmic love relationship, it can also signal a time when we become aware that we have a special mission or purpose that involves loving or healing others with love. It can be called a "Peace Maker's Card" and in this light can signal a time when we take on the mission of helping others resolve differences or simply that we set an example of unconditional love for our brothers and sisters. When you have the 6♥ in an important position in your Yearly Spread, see if you don't get a special message from within that encourages you to follow a special purpose. If you follow that message, you will be aligning yourself with your inner self and nothing but success and satisfaction can come from it.

As mentioned earlier, the 6♦ is the Messenger's Card. Here, the special purpose is not so much of sharing love with others, but of giving them **knowledge and understanding** of a higher nature. This could mean becoming a teacher or writing a book, but in some way there will be communication about the **truth**. When the 6♦ shows up in a prominent place, such as the Result card or Long Range Card, you can bet that your life will take on a special meaning if you are ready to take it and run.

Diamonds represent values. For this reason, the purpose that may be revealed to us when the 6♦ occurs will somehow relate to sharing with others **knowledge or experience of higher values**. This may involve being an example of someone who is not caught up in the materialistic trend that dominates our society, but instead being an example of someone who keeps money and possessions at a lower priority than other aspects of life such as truth, love and following one's life purpose. Of course, this may mean somehow becoming a teacher about values. For example, you may decide that you want to share with those around you how you were able to overcome your poverty mentality and achieve financial independence by practicing prosperity consciousness. On the other hand, the 6♦ may signal a time when you give to a charity or act as a peacekeeper among those who are vying over some money related problem or situation. 6♦ means being fair and following one's higher guidance when it comes to money but on a deeper
level it may involve your actually taking an active role in helping others to realize these possibilities within themselves.

Being the strongest of the Sixes, the 6♦ can bring into our lives the realization that we are here to be healers of the world and to take part in helping others transform their living and working situations to a higher level. This can relate to health and prevention so this card's occurrence could lead you into a role of being either a healer or a teacher about health. However, it is not limited by health issues. You may, for example, realize that you are going to offer work methods or employment possibilities to others that are spiritually based or related. Or you may end up supporting an entire lifestyle that is patterned after higher principles. The work that you do will certainly have a huge impact on others. It will likely change the very way they live their lives and what they do on a daily basis, teaching them to be responsible to their bodies and to the world they live in.

The A♥ and the Search for Self

The A♥ card is the first card in the deck, if we count from the Natural or Spiritual Spread. It represents, more than any other card, the coming out into the world of our soul and personality. As a one, it is a masculine and creative force. It represents the first stepping out from the unmanifested potential of the 0 (zero). As such it represents the word (one) of God being made manifest, sort of like an instruction to go forth and create something.

As in all the odd numbered cards, those who are the Ace of Hearts are never truly at rest. They are always seeking, inventing or creating something new. However, the A♥ is more concerned with a discovery of their self identity than anything else. The A♥ is somewhat synonymous to the first house of the zodiac which is ruled by Aries. A♥ people can be very self-centered and in many cases, selfish. There is only one birth date that corresponds to the A♥ and that is December 30th. Sitting so close to the Joker and the K♠ makes these people somewhat independent and materialistic. But these are the children of the deck and their actions are more attributed to their quest for self identity than to the accumulation of possessions or power. Though on the outside they may appear to be very ambitious and materialistic, know that inwardly this is just their way of searching for who they are.

Since the A♥ can be defined as 'the desire for affection', we find that many A♥ people have an inner conflict between their need to love themselves and their need to be acknowledged by others. Because of their 3♥ Karma Card they could be worried about not achieving enough affection from others. This same card could also account for a promiscuous nature or a certain amount of restlessness in their love life. They tend to have a somewhat intellectual approach to love - many concepts and ideas that need real experience to validate. They will try on certain beliefs about love and see if they work and then try out something else, mostly in their head about it. They will spend this life gaining this experience and usually through trial and error they will gradually come into the wisdom about love that they seek. When it is all said and done, their wisdom tells them that the answers to all their questions and problems lie within themselves. On the highest level, the A♥ means 'love of the self'. If we first can love ourselves, we can then find love everywhere we go.

The A♥ card is a reminder to all of us that the wonderful things that we see and admire in other people are found within ourselves first. When the A♥ card appears in our reading we are receiving a message from deep within ourselves about an area in ourselves that is yearning for self expression. Something is stirring within our soul, a voice is crying out for us to broaden our love for ourselves. Is it a coincidence that we usually find someone else that personifies those
qualities when the A♥ appears? We meet someone, fall in love with the way they are and start a relationship, all the while believing that the magic we feel is because of our partner.

We must remember that Aces are loners. They represent one person and that person is you or I. It is love of self that brings the truest satisfaction but how can we apply this to our real life relationship situations?

First of all we can realize that all the love we feel for another person and all the wonderful qualities that we see in them are actually within our self. It will not be the end of our world if we lose them. They may have been the catalyst that helped us to see those parts of ourselves but in truth these qualities and feelings belong to us alone. They may or may not share those feelings and if they do, it is not important from our point of view. When we meet someone and see the world in them, this is a divine opportunity for us to tap into really loving our self. We can transfer that love we feel back to ourselves and really own who we are and just how special we are. Then we can love our partners without being afraid that they will somehow run away and take all this love we feel with them. This is the challenge for every A♥ person and the challenge for the rest of us when we have the A♥ in our spreads.

If we fully acknowledged this wonderful law of love we would be much less afraid of falling in love or of entering into relationships. I say follow love whenever it beckons us. Let us allow those feelings of joy fill our hearts and allow ourselves to let go completely in the fire and rapture of love. But keep our eyes open in the process and let us be observant of what is really going on in our hearts. If we pay attention to those wonderful feelings we will discover a magical path leading us back to our true home - the Kingdom of Heaven within.

**Scanning a Reading for Certain Types of Information**

People often wonder how I can do a radio show and amaze people by telling them what is going on in their life using the cards. People will call in on the show and ask about their love life, their finances or their health and I will come up with a quick answer, one that often hits the nail right on the head. Here are a few pointers to help you have the same kind of success.

1. Understand the Rulerships of the Periods. On pages 54 and 55 of *The Cards of Your Destiny* is a list of the areas of life that are governed by each of the Planetary Periods. I use these Rulerships to get quick information. If you simply get familiar with these areas you will greatly benefit in doing your readings. You would know, for example, to look under Uranus to find out what is going on in with real estate matters.

Since most people ask me about love, money and career, here is a quick list to look up for these:

**LOVE** - look for Heart cards and the cards in Venus and Mars (if it is a woman, often the man she is attracted to will be in Mars). Remember that the cards that represent new relationships are the Ace, 2,3 and 4 of Hearts. Also, if it is a woman, be sure to look at the cards in her Queen's spread and if it is a man, look under his Jack. These personality cards often have more of the personal events listed under them.

**MONEY** - I first look for Diamond Cards and then the cards under Jupiter. Even number Diamond Cards are the best for money. Face Cards are also very positive indicators. For both sexes, look under the King if they have their own business or are the head of a department.
CAREER - Spades and Clubs are the career cards, Spades being the stronger of the two, but we must consider the occupation of the person because Clubs rule those in the mental or communication fields (writers, teachers, programmers, technicians, TV and Radio). Of course someone whose job brings them before the public would look at Heart cards for signs of success. A 10♥ is a great card for an artist or radio personality. There is no definite career period of the year. Venus period would be artistic fields or those related to beauty products or women, while Mars would be male-ruled professions, legal matters, etc. Jupiter is financial businesses, Saturn is the healing trades and Uranus is real estate.

2. Always look first at their Long Range, Pluto and Result Cards. No matter what question is on the mind of the person, these cards will often reveal what is really going on for them this year. Remember that these are the only cards that are truly "Year-Long" influences. Thus they assume great importance in the spread. Sometimes, a person will ask me one question, let's say about their careers, and after I look at these cards I will ask them something like "Isn't relationship the real issue for you this year?" Sure enough, they will confirm what I saw in their Long Range card.

With these tips you may have better success in your next reading. Good luck!

OUR PLUTO AND RESULT CARDS

Each year and week we have a Pluto and Result Card. These two cards are very significant in terms of what they reveal about what is going on in our lives on a deep, internal level. When I first learned about these two cards, Arne Lein, my teacher, told me they were called the Challenge and Result Cards. This word challenge was a good place to start but after I studied the cards for a while and did a couple of hundred readings I realized that the word 'challenge' was somewhat limiting in its definition and that most people had a negative reaction to it. Because this Challenge Card is the card that follows the Neptune card in the Grand Solar Spreads and because Pluto is the planet that follows Neptune in the heavens, I changed the name of the Challenge Card to the Pluto Card.

My knowledge of astrology immediately kicked in and there before me was a much more comprehensive definition for the Challenge Card, one that covered many more possibilities and gave a much deeper meaning. It is also very possible that a different name will come up for the Result Card because it is the card that follows the Pluto Card in the Grand Solar Spreads. However, since there is no official planet following Pluto yet, I will wait until it becomes available.

Pluto is the god of Death and transformation. When we look at our Pluto and Result Cards, we are looking at elements in our lives that are in the process of great change. In many cases it is fair to say that we are making a transformation from our Pluto Card to our Result Card. Knowing this is very helpful when we are doing our yearly reading or our weekly reading. If you look at those two cards in that light, I am sure that you will come up with some deeper insight regarding their meaning in your life. Keep in mind that the Result is something or someone that we end up with by the end of the week or year, depending upon which reading we are talking about. Whatever or whoever you end up with is really what you have transformed into.

A client of mine is a 5♦ and one week he had a J♦ Pluto and K♥ Result Card. He was having some difficulties in his relationship, mostly centering around his desire to play around. This 'playing around' part of him is represented by his J♦ Pluto Card. Remember that a man's
Jack represents his youthful, creative, romantic and immature sides. Jacks can be too much into play and they can be dishonest at times. My client's K♥ Result Card indicated that as the week progressed, he would make a major transformation from that Jack to the 'King of Love'. The K♥ is someone who is emotionally mature and fair with his affections. These two cards together told me that he was going through a process of shedding the skin of his Jack of Diamonds and becoming the responsible and mature K♥. Now we must remember that this is what is going on for him on the inside. These cards represent the personal struggle and changes that he is making that week. The actual result of the week and what would happen between him and his girlfriend are a little harder to determine. The K♥ could mean he becomes a single bachelor, because K♥ men often make better lovers than husbands. They have a lot of charm and enjoy the attention of women. On the other hand, with all the maturity that comes with that King, he may just as well decide to stay with his current relationship, but approach it with more maturity and responsibility. Whatever the external outcome, we can say with assurance that this man will undergo an internal transformation from being somewhat irresponsible to being more mature and responsible, both emotionally and with respect to his current relationship.

This same example illustrates another way to look at the Pluto and Result Cards in any given reading. That is, that they represent two options that one is faced with. Often the Pluto and Result Cards appear as two ways that we can go, each different. We are faced with a choice and these two cards are the options that are available to us. In our previous example, we can see that this man had to choose between his Jack side and the King of Hearts way of expressing himself. What actually happens is that we always end up with the Result Card on some level, so that even though it appears as a choice at the outset and we may fret and fuss until we make that choice, we always end up making that transformation to the Result Card, either by the end of the week or the end of the year depending upon which reading we are doing.

In my own personal life, this understanding of these two cards has brought much more significance into the readings I do for myself. The Pluto and Result Cards represent things that others may not even be aware of that are extremely important in our lives. They are personal to us alone and they have a special message about the deepest issues that we are facing within the context of the current weekly or yearly cycle that we are in.

Our Sun ♌ & Moon ♒ Cards

I have a new theory as it relates to those of us ruled by the Sun (Leos) and Moon (Cancers). That is that the "Sun" card is the same as our birth card and the "Moon" card is the one just behind it or before it in the Grand Solar Spread, sort of the opposite of our Mercury card. This is the same card that I defined as a South Nodal Card in a previous article. Since writing that I have seen a deeper connection with this card, both in my life and the life of others. Likewise I believe that our birth card is our strongest card if we are a Leo, since that is the most important card, the one that denotes our true soul (Sun) position for this life.

How do you find this card? If you don't have The Advanced Oracle Workbook, you will have to look through the Age 90 Spreads of every card in the deck to see which card has your birth card as its direct Mercury card. For example if your birth card is the Q♣, you will find that the Q♣ is the Age 90 Mercury card for the A♣. Therefore, your Moon card would be the A♣. If you happened to be a Cancer Q♣, born on July 16th, your planetary ruling card would be the A♣. For all of us, the Moon card defines what makes us feel secure or safe. I have found that many people marry their Moon card because that person helps them feel safe and secure. In the above example, the Q♣ would tend to feel safer and more secure when they are studying and learning new things, acquiring knowledge (A♣) and being with and A♣ person would give them a feeling of safety and foundation. The moon is closely related to home and family and thus when we
think of settling down and creating stability in our lives, we will often choose our Moon card as a mate. Look at your Moon card and ask yourself how the qualities of that card somehow reflect what helps you feel safer, more secure and gives you the feeling of having more foundation in your life.

Just to review then, your Planetary Ruling Card will be the one card in your life spread that corresponds to the planet that rules your sun sign. If I am a Virgo ♏, my Planetary ruling card would be the 9♠ since that is the Mercury card in my Life Spread and Virgo is ruled by the planet Mercury.

Look at your Planetary Ruling Card and see what special significance it holds for you. My research has shown that our Planetary Ruling Card best describes our occupation and how we show up to the world. It might be considered to correspond to the Mid heaven, or possibly Ascendant in astrology, though I hesitate to make conclusions like that without proof. However, we can look at it as the card in our Life Spread through which we express ourselves the most prominently. It can be like a mask that we wear or indicate through which of our Life Spread cards that we most express ourselves. For further study I suggest you read Sacred Symbols of the Ancients and see what she says about your particular birth date at the end of the chapter on your birth card. Then you will see how she generated an interpretation and see the connection, in most cases, to the Planetary Ruling Card.

を集める - The Saturn/Pluto Crucifixion

Having decided to receive the daily newspaper for two months, I have been alarmed at just how much violence we are seeing in the world today. Just yesterday I heard about three boys bursting into a classroom in a High School in Massachusetts and stabbing another student to death right in front of everybody. It is hard to imagine the amount of intense hatred and anger that must have accompanied that act of senseless violence and yet these acts are becoming the norm in our society and world where such atrocities seem to be alarmingly commonplace.

I am reminded about the many predictions that have been made about the ending of this century which also ends the grand age of Pisces. Never before have we seen such alignment of planets. In the past four years we have seen a Saturn/Neptune conjunction, a Uranus/Neptune conjunction, Pluto moving through its natural sign (Scorpio), and now Pluto and Saturn squaring each other, both from powerful placements. Saturn is in Aquarius, one of the signs that it rules and Pluto is in its home sign of Scorpio. These two energies can combine to create some of the most dramatic negative effects imaginable. The intense willfulness of Pluto crossed by the karmic balancing effects of Saturn make for a heightened intensity of effects on each of personally. Since both of these planets stand around 25-26 degrees of their signs, this is where they will bring their stressful energies to bear upon our lives.

Many astrologers write about the "mass effects" of the outer planets. They will say, for example, that Uranus in any particular sign doesn't have much of an influence on an individual but more or less affects the environment that he or she grew up in. If we looked at this aspect between Pluto and Saturn from this point of view, I think we will miss out on what's really happening.

If you have any natal planets in Scorpio, Leo, Aquarius, or Taurus and if any of them are from 25 - 29 degrees of one of those signs, you will be affected by this transiting aspect. Now let's say that you don't have any planets at these degrees but your spouse does. He or she will be directly affected and you will be secondarily affected. In addition, we are all affected if and when we read the news about the intense things that are happening around the world. This, in my opinion, is how the outer planets, Saturn - Pluto, affect us personally and as a society or race.
So what does this square between Saturn and Pluto relate to? Take the hardship of Saturn and combine it with the "I am going to get my way, no matter what" willfulness of Pluto and you can get some idea. Pluto brings out our power urges. If we have unresolved issues around forcing others or things in our life, a transit of Pluto will bring them to the surface as we seem more likely to push things beyond what is reasonable. This same willfulness can be used constructively to better ourselves and indeed, when Pluto makes a conjunction or favorable aspect to one of our birth planets, we can see very positive transformation happening. We remake ourselves with this newfound energy at our disposal. However, when Pluto makes oppositions or squares you can bet that there will be tests put in front of you - tests to determine how much you feel you can push things and get away with it. We are all tempted by power. Remember the old saying, "Power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely". What we are witnessing as Saturn, the Lord of Justice and the Keeper of Divine Law, squares Pluto, is many of us paying our debts from misuse of our will power and an uncovering of latent tendencies to bully others or otherwise use our will to avoid our fears.

The ways this can manifest can be quite dramatic as can be seen in our daily news. A person could go berserk or another get violently murdered. If someone has these two planets squaring or opposing in their natal chart, they are often the victims of abuse at the hands of others. This abuse is usually physical and violent.

Transiting Pluto is sitting in my third house right now, opposing my Venus. Of course, Saturn is also squaring my ninth house Venus from the 6th house. I have been shocked twice in the past month to get almost violent responses from certain individuals about something I did or wrote. I can see that Pluto in the 3rd would bring up oppositions about Mercury (3rd house) things. This, of course, rules writing and speaking, and all forms of communications. I don't think that Pluto alone could have manifested these sorts of experiences. It had to be Saturn's additional square from the 6th that made these interactions all the more difficult. In the chart of one of the individuals who came back at me so angrily, he has natal Sun and Mercury in Aquarius around 26 degrees. Here we see the perfect play of the energies. The Saturn/Pluto energies prompted him to lose all self control and vent his anger, almost as if he were crusading for truth. I am certain that many wars have been started in just this manner.

With such a powerful configuration of planets, we would all do well to examine our natal charts and those of our loved ones to see if and where we might be affected. The house positions will give clues as to how you may be "crucified" in the next 8 -10 months. This square makes its final aspect in January of 1994. The good news is that after this square has passed, Jupiter will make a healing conjunction to Pluto in November of 1994. This will likely bring much healing and understanding to the tearing apart energies that many of us face in the year ahead.
Neptune - The God of Highest Intentions and Greatest Fantasy

The planet Neptune is one of the least understood and yet, is responsible for so many important aspects of our life. It would be true to say that the misuse of Neptunian energy accounts for much of the misery and confusion of the world today. It would also be true to say that the proper use of this same energy in our lives could lead us to a sense of deep fulfillment and instill in us a sense of purpose and connectedness with all other living things. At the present time in history we see more examples of misused Neptune energies than perhaps any other time in the past. Perhaps that is because this is the end of Neptune's Age, the Age of Pisces. Perhaps we are in the 'gutter' of the Piscean Age where we see the very worst of its manifestations just as we leave that Age and move on into the Age of Aquarius. Or, perhaps this entire Piscean Age has been this bad and we are just now becoming aware of just how bad it has been. The Piscean Age was ushered in about 2,000 years ago with the birth of Jesus Christ, who represents its leader and symbol. As we enter into Aquarius, there is the likelihood that we will have another leader or symbol person to be a model of what this Age of Aquarius is all about, but that is not the focus of this article.

Astrologically, Neptune rules over dreams, fantasy, spiritualism, psychic ability, drugs, escapism, sacrifices, movies and acting, travel over the oceans and cosmic or universal love. Neptune also covers the victim/savior consciousness. Its keywords are "I believe". Christ said, "Believe in me and ye shall be saved". And don't forget that he was symbolized by the fish, which also happens to be the symbol for Pisces.

We can see Neptune's influence in our lives each time we have a fantasy about something or someone. We misuse Neptune's energies when we fool ourselves or others into thinking we are doing something for a higher cause, when in fact we are doing it to avoid dealing with our inner fears. It is a sad thing to see someone lying to themselves. The Negative use of Neptune's energies can lead to a 'dead life' so to speak. The person is alive, but devoid of all feelings, good or bad, about anything. This is because Neptune can lead us on a departure from reality that excludes our own feelings and our identity.

Who is most susceptible to Neptune's influence? Well, for the most part, that would be the cards in the Neptune row and column. For those unfamiliar with the Advanced Oracle Workbook, these cards are the A♠, 2♥, 8♣, A♦, 5♦, J♦, Q♥, 6♠, 6♣, 8♥, 2♠, 4♦ and 4♥. In addition to these cards, anyone who has one of these as their first Karma Card are also very susceptible to the Neptune manifestations. Finally, every card in the deck has one or two cards in their Neptune position so no one is completely free of Neptune's energies. However, the cards first listed are the ones that seem to have the most dealings with Neptune.

There are basically two ways the Neptune energy can manifest. It can either lead us towards a great purpose that involves selfless giving, perhaps to help the world, or to deluding ourselves in some way. With conscious awareness we can learn to tell the difference and actually use Neptune instead of being used by Neptune.

Neptune can create a fantasy about some aspect of our life. That fantasy can be a dream that we are actualizing, a grand scheme that we see for our lives. It can lead us towards doing a good work for the benefit of mankind or to make great sacrifices in the name of love or higher truth. Neptune has given men and women great visions of how the world can be better, and many of these people have made tremendous accomplishments and contributions to the world, all guided by these visions. Mikhail Gorbachev is a Piscean himself and thus was guided by his vision of a new Russia. But Pisces aren't big on details. Sometimes they overlook practical
considerations while pursuing those elusive dreams of theirs. Much of the criticism of
Gorbachev revolves around those issues.

Neptune reaches out to us in dreams. I remember having a dream when I was only 6
years old about a girl in my first grade class. I had never been in love before, but after that dream
I had a secret crush on that girl that I still remember to this day. We are all susceptible to
Neptune's dreams. We seem to love that mystical quality and our dreams carry more weight with
us than we would dare admit to others or ourselves.

So Neptune bestows a high ideal. It shows us what is possible, both for ourselves and for
others. However, it is a common and devastating mistake to enter into a relationship seeing the
highest possibilities of our partner and overlooking their life as it really is. All of those in the
Neptune line tend to see their partners in this light. When they look at you, they are not seeing
you as you are, but instead as what you could possibly become. It feels good when someone is
looking at our highest potential but it can become tiresome for someone to expect us to play out
some role that we are not really interested in.

Truthfully, few of us actually achieve our highest potential or the possibilities that a
Neptune person sees in us. We each have 100% control over our lives and no one is going to
make us be or become anything or anyone that we are not interested in being or becoming. We
are slow to change also. Most of us avoid change at all costs. When a Neptune-oriented person
looks at us with those dreamy eyes they are setting themselves up for a lot of pain. Not because
we don't love them, but because we just don't intend to become the thing or person they see in us.
So many marriages are based upon this sort of 'hoping they will someday change' basis. You
would be surprised, I think, to see the numbers. In 99% of these cases there is great pain and
suffering. These relationships are typically co-dependent and often abusive. It often takes years
of pain and self denial to shake loose the fantasies that we are born with. In the end though, the
pain will teach us and we will see the truth.

That truth is: No matter how much we love someone and see the highest in them, they
will only do the things that they want to when they want to. That truth may also include that few
people actually change and that even fewer reach their highest potential.

A Neptune-bound person stuck in one of these kinds of relationships will often suffer
years of abuse and torment. They tolerate behavior from their partners that would embarass most
of us just to hear about. Their partners have affairs, become alcoholics and drug addicts, cause
them to undergo humiliation and yet they still hang in there hoping that they will change. If you
were to ask them and they were to be totally truthful with you they would probably tell you that
they were doing this from a high love place or because they were learning so much through this
relationship. From my experience, however, I find that in all of these cases, the person is hiding
from their fear of being alone or of being rejected. This is how Neptune can delude us.

For example, let's say that we have this woman, let's say an Ace of Diamonds, who has
some fears of being rejected in a love relationship. But, at the same time, this same person has a
huge heart and loves to care for other people. ♦ can really get into the caring mode. So this
woman meets a man who is basically undecided about making a commitment. He might even tell
her right up front that he doesn't want a commitment and she may agree saying she doesn't want
one either and doesn't care. Truthfully though, she is like most of us who are afraid of being
abandoned. We need someone who can be there for us.

Within a few weeks these two people get very intimate and soon become somewhat
dependent upon each other. The man gets afraid of being dependent on the ♦ and wants to split
because that is what he does when he gets afraid. He starts to want to be with other women. The
♦ womans sees him wanting to have affairs and tells herself that she can handle it. "I'm not
afraid", she says. "I really love him and I know he will come back". She might even say to
herself "these experiences are good for me and will help me to grow spiritually". This is another
typical Neptune statement.
She may be totally denying her own feelings in the process. She puts her best intentions into this man who cannot make a commitment and denies just how afraid she really is inside. As a matter of fact, this woman would probably deny that she feels any fear at all, that is the extent of just how out of touch we can get when we start believing in our Neptune fantasies. In addition, she will tend to idealize her man and see him as this "God" and her as this "Goddess". However, she will also turn a blind eye to what this man is really like. To see him as he truly is would be too painful, too far away from the rose colored dream that she has of him. The end result is inevitable. Sooner or later, the dream meets head on with reality and reality always wins.

How can we make sure that we don't fall prey to these negative manifestations of Neptune? Well, first of all, it helps to be familiar with our feelings and our needs. Those who are most susceptible are those who deny that they have needs. The Neptune person is prone to getting into the sacrifice and martyr mode. They use this mode to avoid admitting that they have needs of their own. Everyone has needs. Whenever I meet someone who acts like they don't, an alarm goes off. This is a Neptune person with hidden agendas and motives. I take a lot of care in communications with this kind of person because they are the ones that will come back to you later, mad because you didn't do something that they expected you to do for them, all the while never telling you what they wanted you to do in the first place. They expect you to second guess their needs, just as they second guess yours.

About the Elements

There has been considerable debate about which elements the suits are associated with and even among the progenitors of The Cards of Your Destiny system, there is disagreement. I do want to state however, that whatever suit represents each element doesn't affect this system at all and has little to do with the interpretations. Even among those who disagree about the elements, all agree on the interpretations of the cards.

I am a Tarot reader myself with 8 years experience and I associate the suits as follows:

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<tr>
<td>Wands</td>
<td>Fire</td>
<td>Winter</td>
<td>Spades</td>
<td>Wisdom, Spirituality</td>
<td>Old Age</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

One would naturally assume that our suit of "Clubs" would be the same as "Wands" since they seem to say the same word. However, the Clubs symbol, the clover leaf with three leaves, has more to do with the 3 - essence of our mind (air) than the Spade.

Since Wands represent the growth principal with the new leaves sprouting all over them I have connected them with the Spades which represent endings and beginnings.

I also make associations of Fire = Will and spiritual development. These are, in my mind, the qualities of the Spades suit, which are the strongest cards in the deck and the most spiritual. Again, I want to emphasize that whatever suit goes with each element does not really effect the meanings of the cards. I hold to the associations that I have sensed intuitively until I find complete proof otherwise.
Section Two

♣

Reflections on Relationship
Why we are Attracted to Certain people

For most of us, the process of making choices in our relationship is unconscious. Because it is unconscious, we are likely to feel powerless about our love life to some extent. As a matter of fact, many of my clients tell me things like "I just seem to attract the wrong kind of men" or "I don't have any luck when it comes to love". You may feel this way yourself as I certainly have at different points in my life.

The process of spiritual evolution requires us to do only one thing - become aware. The more we look at ourselves honestly, the more we regain our power and see how we have a deliberate hand in everything that happens to us. This is how it works. Success in love does not come from changing relationships or trying different techniques. It comes from becoming conscious of ourselves to the point where we see the hand of God operating in our lives and can rejoice as we take part in the divine comedy and drama of it all.

It is a wonderful and interesting study to examine our attractions. Whether you are single right now or in a relationship, you will still feel certain attractions for different kinds of people. Your current relationships and all of your past relationships were based upon these mysterious 'attractions'. Often when I am talking with a client and ask them why they didn't choose a certain person who was, in my opinion, a much better choice for a relationship, the answer is always the same "I don't feel anything for him" or "I am not attracted to him". Apparently our attractions are of major importance in our choices of relationships. Isn't it interesting that we have made that feeling of 'attraction' almost the number one priority for our choices in relationships? Other cultures place other things higher on the list and in some countries it is common to betroth a person at birth or shortly thereafter. Their parents make the decision about marriage after careful consideration of many factors, including the astrological birth charts of the two children. How would you like your parents and an astrologer to make your relationship decisions for you?

So, what are these attractions that we feel when we see or meet certain people? Why are we drawn more to certain people and not others? What is it about certain people that makes us feel that rush of sexual passion or that natural friendship feeling? And which of the many feelings that we feel for the people we know and meet are the most important to us personally? Ultimately our decisions about who we are going to get the closest to will depend on that last question. I have found that each of us is attracted to certain mixtures of qualities at certain times in our life and that these qualities point directly to ourselves and what's going on for us individually at those times.

MAJOR LIFE ISSUES BEING WORKED OUT

Most of the intense, important and the longest lasting relationships in our life will connect with us on a personal issue basis. That is, each of those relationships will have certain qualities that cause us to face some of the unclear issues in our life and to deal with them. If, for example, I have a deep fear of being rejected by another, I may attract one or more partners that do things that seem to reject me a lot. By being continually confronted with my greatest fears, I will come to terms with those fears and eventually overcome their power in my life. Remember that the process of raising conscious awareness is the key to spiritual growth. These kinds of relationships help us to raise our consciousness about ourselves. Though we resist them and fight with them and get angry at our partners, these relationships help us to grow faster than anything else we could do.
LOOKING FOR THOSE QUALITIES IN OURSELVES

Next, we are attracted to people that exemplify qualities that we want to strengthen in ourselves and make more evident. I remember when I was 17 and I had a girlfriend who was a singer in a rock band. I was a guitar player and besides all the great sex we enjoyed together, she helped me to become a good singer in my own right. In many of our relationships we find some, certain qualities that we really enjoy and love in our partners. When this is the case, it is wise to remember the truth that we see in others is the truth within ourselves. Everything that I see in you that I love, is a part of me that I love and vice versa, which brings us to the next reason for our attractions.

BEING CONFRONTED WITH QUALITIES THAT WE DON'T ACCEPT IN OURSELVES

Every card in the deck has a high side and a low side. Many of us don't like the low side of our card. We may believe, at a deep level, that if we were to manifest some of those negative qualities, that much harm would come to us or that we would be rejected by others. Thus, we will spend a lot of energy repressing or avoiding certain parts of our self to keep one or more of these bad things from happening. Then, we fall helplessly in love with someone who is acting out all those bad qualities right before our eyes. The attraction in these kinds of relationships is often great indeed, and so is the difficulty later. Here the golden rule of relationships applies again, that is 'I can only see in you what is a part of myself'. If I don't like what I see in you, it is something in me that I am either repressing, avoiding, or just haven't come to terms with.

Now I am not suggesting that you stay in an abusive relationship just to work on yourself. We must learn to distinguish a relationship that is a positive matrix for working on ourselves from one that is destroying our precious self worth and dignity. It is always wise to look closely at our list of things that we do not like about our partner and see how many of them are parts of ourselves that we have never made peace with.

THOSE THAT HELP US HIDE FROM OURSELVES

Sometimes we will choose to be in a relationship where we are the savior and the other person is the one who needs us to save them. In 99% of these types of relationships, the savior is avoiding their issues of insecurity in the name of doing good things for others. If you find yourself attracted to drug addicts, convicted criminals, alcoholics and other types of dead-beats, you may fall into this category. It is safe to be with someone who has more problems than we do. However, we have to pay a tall price for that safety.

There are other reasons for our attractions, but this covers some of the most basic and important. As I said earlier, this is an extremely interesting and rewarding area of personal study. I hope you enjoy getting to know yourself through this avenue.
The Indicators of Marriage

In *The Cards of Your Destiny* I only mention the Q♥ and 4♥ as marriage cards. However, I have made some discoveries about this issue that illuminates deeper understanding and offers new cards to consider for the purposes of predicting marriage - the 10♥, 2♥ and K♥.

What I have discovered is that when a person is married, the cards that show up for him or her are the ones that indicate what that marriage means to them. For example, if my main concern in getting married is to establish a family and home base, I will probably have the 4♥ as my marriage card. If my interest is more in finding the woman of my dreams and I am a man, it might instead be the Q♥, which represents the woman all men dream about. Look and see what cards were there when you got married and you will discover more about your own motives and concerns about getting married. I will now discuss the particular cards and what they would mean for a man and woman.

The 2♥ could indicate a marriage if the person was mostly interested in having a lover or close friend. This wouldn't rule out the other interests but would tell something about that person's priorities as far as the union was concerned. This is the "Love Affair" card and as such may not be the best card for marriage as a long term commitment, however it is a good indicator of love and friendship which are important parts of a successful marriage.

The 4♥ means a "foundation of love". This is the family card and as mentioned earlier would appear in someone's spread whose interest is in establishing a home and family. It can represent a father, mother and two children, four hearts that make up the basic family unit. This is a good sign for marriage and also indicates stability.

When I got married in January 1993, I noticed that my wife had a 10♥ in Venus, which is when we got married. As we approached the marriage I realized that for her, the marriage was more about her family gathering together than about her and I joining together. This doesn't mean that she doesn't love me but I could see how much personal growth was initiated by having her family all show up here for our wedding. The 10♥ is the card of the "Gathering of Hearts" and usually predicts a marriage that will be focused around a group coming together. As it turned out, our wedding was a wonderful experience where many old family wounds were healed and where we celebrated our union as a group. Along these same lines, it may also prove out that an 8♥ could also indicate a marriage.

As I mentioned earlier, for a man the Q♥ represents the woman of his dreams. Therefore, when a man has this card around his marriage, it may very well be that he feels that he is having his dreams come true in the areas of love and romance. For a woman, however, the Q♥ is the card of becoming a mother, and so it can represent starting a family. We might expect to see this card in the case where the woman is pregnant at the time of the marriage or where being a mother is one of her personal goals.

For the woman, the K♥ can be a marriage card when she feels she is joining with the man of her dreams, just the way the Q♥ card is for the man. The K♥ is also the "Father Card" and so it can be an indicator of marriage for a male if the union also brings him into fatherhood or if fatherhood is one of his main goals in getting married.
The Marriage-ability of the Cards

As far as love and marriage are concerned, some cards in the deck are basically unsuccessful. I say unsuccessful because it is likely that they will never have a sustained happy intimate relationship in their lifetime. I don't want to sound like gloom and doom, but it is just a fact of life and an aspect of our human nature.

This doesn't mean that they cannot have a successful marriage or long-term relationship. Actually anyone can do that, if they take the proper approach to it. It's just that with some cards there is a combination of influences present that usually manifests as a string of short-lived marriages or love affairs. But who are these people and why does this happen?

Keep in mind as I discuss this that there are exceptions. for every card I mention, you could probably find someone who has made a success of their romantic or marriage life. These are the ones who have learned to deal with their Birth Card's energies and have made a successful relationship important enough to do something about it. However, these rules do apply in a great majority of the cases.

All cards who are threes and fives, the Q♣ and Q♦, K♦ and K♠, and most high Club cards (10 through King) are basically unmarriageable. In addition to these, cards who have a three or five of any suit in their Venus or Mars position of the Age 90 Spread are also tend to be unmarriageable. This includes the 10♠, 8♦, A♦, 7♥, 8♥ and K♥ are also pretty unmarriageable, all for different reasons.

What is it that makes these cards, and others, bad marriage material? Just this morning I was doing a radio show in Alabama and a woman called who asked about the future of her relationship. When I looked up both their cards I found out that she was a Q♣ and her boyfriend was a 10♣. I told her that the both of them have a great connection together (past-life Venus for one) that makes them very compatible. However, I also told her that even though they were very compatible, neither one of them could make up their mind about making a commitment. So I told her that they didn't have much of a future together. She agreed with me, even though I could hear the sadness in her voice. Both the 10♣ and the Q♣ have a 3 in Mars (Age 90 Spread). In addition, the 10♣ has a 3♦ in Pluto and the Q♣ has a 5♣ in Venus. Both these cards are notorious for not being able to make long term commitments in relationship so even though they are somewhat compatible, the chances of them staying together are slim at best.

Every card in the deck has fears that come up. Intimate relationships have a way of bringing out our deepest fears, the ones that can make us really mad. There is nothing wrong with having fear but many of the cards in the deck have peculiar ways of dealing with the fears when they come up. It is these ways of dealing with their fears that causes unmarriageability to occur in the various cards. I will explain this further, but any card can have a happy successful marriage if they adopt a better way of dealing with these fears when they come up. Let's take a close look.

Suppose you are a Jack, Queen or King of any suit. What do you do when let's say the fear of abandonment comes up? Most of the face cards have a certain egotistical nature about them. Inside they feel that they are somewhat better than others around them. They feel that they are the royalty and as we all know, it is not cool to be afraid when you are the person who everyone looks up to. So, if you are a Jack, Queen or King and you get afraid, you probably will not let yourself express the fear when it comes up. Instead, you would probably get angry. It's okay for someone of the royal family to get mad, but never afraid. This works fine if you are the leader of a military force but it doesn't do much for personal relationships. Anger is a force that eventually destroys intimacy and relationships of all kinds. Then again, a Jack, Queen or King may also feel that instead of having to lower themselves and say that they are afraid, that it is just as easy to go out and get somebody new, someone who won't make them so angry. Many cards
have a certain amount of charm. They know that they can have a relationship when they want one. So, it is just as easy for them to just end their current relationship and start another one as it is to be with and express the fears they have of being abandoned or used by others. It really isn't that easy because if we love someone, we always feel the loss of them when we break up. But as Anthony Robbins says in his Unlimited Power series, we will do more to avoid pain than to pursue pleasure. This is a fact. So, if being rejected is our greatest fear, which it is for most of us, we will break up our relationships ourselves so that our partner doesn't do it to us first. Kind of funny isn't it? We create that which we don't want to happen.

All the threes and fives and some of the Queens have a change-able love nature. They are always looking around for someone else to jump in bed with in case their current partner rejects them or even hints at rejecting them. This also applies to the 10♣, Q♣ and the other cards who have threes or fives in the Venus or Mars position. These are the ones that tend to have 'surfacy' relationships. They never get too close to someone because if they did, the other person would have the power to really hurt them.

For all of these unmarriageable types, happiness in love will only come if and when they learn to deal with their fears. As a Q♦, for years and years I believed that what would make me happy would be to have two or more women in my life all the time. As much as I wanted to have a deep, intimate relationship, I also felt attractions to many women and believed that I would be destined to going from one relationship to the next, because I believed that THAT WAS MY NATURE. After two unsuccessful marriages and being unable to be happy as a single person dating many women, I began to realize that this problem of mine went much deeper than I suspected. As a Q♦ I have the charm to start new relationships but not the ability to make them last. It wasn't until this year, when I have the 9♠ and 7♥ Pluto and Result cards that I really got a handle on it. What I have learned about myself is that all those yearnings for other women were always based in a fear of being alone or abandoned. I have seen that I really don't want multiple relationships, that was just my way of creating enough 'abundance' of love partners in my life so that I would never feel afraid. Now that I am dealing with my fears directly, I am having a more profound experience of being married. I don't get those urges to have other partners very often any more because when those feelings come up I have learned how to deal with the inner fear that is at the core of the matter. What I have discovered is that I am not a person who wants multiple relationships. I was just a scared person who was trying to arrange his life so that it wouldn't be so scary. The trouble was that I couldn't do that by constantly starting new relationships.

The trouble with love is that it has its own undeniable truths that none of us can avoid. Kahlil Gibran describes it perfectly in his book, The Prophet when he tells us to basically stay away from love unless we are ready to be intensely thrashed and transformed. Of course, he also reminds us that those of us who do not enter love's thrashing floor live in a world that is both colorless and feelingless. Indeed, that is the state of most of the people on my list of unmarriageables. They go through life never tasting the joy of having their heart opened and being truly close to another human being. Love always wants more of itself. When we get close to another it is our own human nature that leads us towards wanting to feel more of that joy and pleasure that we feel in their presence. It is only by opening our hearts that we are able to experience the depths of joy and intimacy that a relationship can bring. Of course, when we do, we immediately become vulnerable and come face to face with all the fears that are the reason for keeping others away from us in the first place. This is the dilemma of love and the task that lies ahead for all of us. This is why I say that relationships are the final frontier.
Fear -
The Hidden Destroyer of Relationships

Unrecognized fear is the major destroyer of our relationships, especially marriages and intimate relationships. As an Astrological Counselor, I have had the privilege of seeing almost every kind of relationship problem you can imagine. It has been a consistent fact that any couple in which one or more of the partners has fear that is unrecognized or unacknowledged is basically doomed to fail usually within a short period of time. I can now safely bet that if one or both of the partners in a relationship is experiencing anger, blame or avoidance behavior, that this is due to an unrecognized fear. I have seen this in my own life time and time again and I have been fortunate to have learned this lesson well enough to now have a good relationship. Until recently I was no more capable of sustaining a relationship than anyone else. I had fear, lots of it, but I wasn't always in touch with it, or refused to look at it.

In a typical relationship, one of the two partners seems more afraid than the other. This is usually the woman but it can just as easily be the man, especially when the woman is one of the high court cards, such as a Jack, Queen or King or when the woman's personality is such that they have trouble with commitment or loss of freedom. In any event, one of the partners will seem more independent, self-assertive and less needy than the other. This apparent "stronger" of the two can also be dominating to a certain degree. In some relationships, this stronger partner will often be seen correcting the other, complaining about their behavior, acting excessively jealous, and in some cases being abusive to the other.

Some of us attract abusive partners because we don't like ourselves and we need someone outside of ourselves to reflect that back to us. Likewise, those of us who are apparently stronger and less needy, often attract needy, imperfect partners to reflect back to us just how insecure we really are at heart. In any case, the answer to the problems that come up always lie within us and not in changing our partner. Does it ever amaze you how certain people will stay in an abusive relationship? You know they could leave at any time and yet they never leave. How about those who constantly complain about their partner or suspect them of having affairs? Have you ever wondered why they choose someone that they apparently cannot trust and don't even like in the first place? These types of relationships are very common. From my experience they are the rule, rather than the exception. We keep hoping that we will find the person of our dreams and yet those that we choose and those that are in our life today oftentimes don't even come close to those dreams. This is because we attract what and who we need to grow and that's all.

Relationships are the best place to discover just how fearful we are - which in my opinion is a lot! I believe that all of us here on the planet have lots of fears. This leaves us with two categories of people - those who know and can admit they are afraid and those that cannot or will not admit it. To the second category of folks go all the "strong" people I spoke of earlier. They are just as fearful as their partners but are afraid or unwilling to admit it. Plus, they usually have something going on for them that says "Well, if this relationship doesn't work out, I can always get another one". These are the folks that play the game of love better than most and the ones that "split" when things get tough. I know this part very well. As a Queen of Diamonds I have always split when things didn't work out the right way. I was always able to find someone else but it was very painful each time I split up and it left a trail of karma and unfinished relationships that took a long time to clean up.

If we are ever to have a good relationship, we have to be willing and able to admit that we are needy and afraid. No matter who we are, all of us yearn for a deep, intimate connection
with another. Even those who say they have "sworn off" relationships still yearn for it. Sometimes they are the ones that yearn for it the most. When we get into a relationship we either feel so much fear that we cannot stand it or we attract someone who acts out those fearful feelings and thoughts. But in every case, in each new relationship, we have a new opportunity to look at ourselves honestly and face those parts of being with another that scare us to death.

For example, I used to be very afraid of my partner's leaving me. Sometimes I was obsessively jealous and controlling. Other times I would leave the relationship as soon as I discovered that I might be hurt by the other because they apparently were "untrustworthy". Do you know what I discovered? I found out that "I" am the one that is untrustworthy and likely to leave the relationship at any moment. There's an old saying that "When a pick-pocket meets a saint, all he sees are pockets". Another saying is that "A liar cannot believe anyone and trusts no one". These sayings refer to one of the most significant and important rules of life that exists in the area of relationship. This law or rule as I call it is so important that it wouldn't hurt us to have it written down and put in our pockets where we could read it a hundred times a day. That immutable law is that we can only see in others what is in ourselves. In my own life I attribute the fact that I now have a successful relationship and life to learning and practicing this most important of the spiritual truths.

Whenever I see a man jealous of his wife, I now know that he is the one that is thinking about leaving. Whenever I see someone in a relationship yelling at their partner about all the things they need to change, I now know that it is that partner that is deathly afraid of facing some part of themselves and trying desperately to avoid it by blaming their partner for their problems. I see the hidden fear and secret motivations that torment couples because I have lived through all of them. Once we have been through this, there is really nothing new out there. All relationship problems are based on some unrecognized fears. There are only so many patterns that those fears can manifest in.

The good news is that if we can admit our fears to ourselves and our partner, even if they are fears that we might leave the relationship, we can come to a peaceful understanding that leaves us totally empowered to change and enjoy our life. We are so afraid of fear, but once it is acknowledged it has no reason to stay and haunt us. We can then get our needs met, realizing that we are not so powerful all the time and that we can appreciate the help that our partner and others offer us in our life. The truth is that we can have everything that we want and need and more. We merely have to stop believing that we have to hide and avoid what is a truly integral part of ourselves - our fears and needs.

New forms of Relationships
In the Coming Age of Aquarius

The call now is for all of us to become aware of and heal our inner fears of abandonment and betrayal and learn to trust in the God within for all our needs and answers. Many today are part of one or more generations of those seeking their soul mates. Hidden within the desire to find one's soulmate is a secret yearning to find another who will be everything to us, someone who will never hurt us, betray us, or lead us to anger or fear. However, no matter who we find on this path, and no matter if the other attempts to make us feel loved, appreciated, nurtured, safe, and wholesome, we will still find much fault with them as our inner fears come up. Our other half may actually be completely faultless in their love for us and we will still find reason to blame, be hurt, get angry and afraid. This is because we, not they, are the source of all our fears and hurts. Within each of us are fear and hurt patterns created in our childhood when our parents, often unknowingly, let us down, disapproved of us, hurt us or got angry with us. As children our
parents are God and we take everything they say and do to heart. As adults we must make God our parents and take everything to Him for healing and re-interpretation. He is the way to healing the wounds that make us over-sensitive whenever we are with a loved one. Once we begin to heal ourselves, our current relationships take on a different glow. A light of understanding and compassion dawns on us, along with a new sense of freedom. No longer do we need our partner's approval or physical presence to feel okay about ourselves.

It is a long path for most of us to get to the point of total freedom and joy in relationships. At each step of the way, our fears and insecurities are revealed where they were hidden before. Often we get angry at our beloved thinking "they are not growing" or "I deserve someone better". An honest evaluation of ourselves will always reveal a hidden fear that is masking itself as self-righteousness or anger. At each step in the process another fear is revealed and healed, like peeling away the skin of an onion. As each one is recognized and dealt with in a manner of self-responsibility, our ability to love ourselves and our partners increases. We notice more wonderful things about our partners and are able to receive the love that they give more readily. At the same time, the fears of being rejected or abandoned are lessened. We are able to relate more freely, have less of a need to control our partner, are able to make better decisions about ourselves so that we are taking better care of ourselves within the context of the relationship. Some think that this sort of freedom and lack of fear would separate couples but in fact it draws them together in more and more beautiful ways than they ever imagined possible. Few people today have been able to experience this kind of relationship but all desire it. Many are becoming aware of the need to face themselves honestly and admit to their hidden fears that have, in the past, drove them to try to control and dominate their partner. Once the fears have been brought into the light of our awareness, we can heal them with our God-power. We are the manifestation of God and He is one with us. Actual techniques for healing these inner wounds will be discussed in another article.

As more and more couples become less fearful and more full of their God selves, new forms of relationships will evolve. When two God selves unite, they are together in love, not fear. They are in the relationship because they enjoy each other and not out of any need for security, or because they are lacking or needy in some way. Romance under these conditions takes on an entirely new quality since much of our romance today is focused on how much the other is going to make us feel better and meet all of our needs. We must look to role models from other times if we are to even imagine what relationships can be like under such new and unlimited conditions.

In ancient India, at the time when Lord Krishna walked the face of the earth, there existed a period of our history when the entire earth was in a state of higher consciousness. It was not the highest of the ages in terms of personal and social consciousness, but it was much higher than our current age which is considered to be Kali Yuga, the lowest point on the cosmic wheel of the Grand Ages.

During that age, love and romance abounded but there were not the restrictions placed on relationships that we see now. Usually a man and woman would marry and spend anywhere from 6 months to 2 years on their honeymoon. They would wander in the forest or other romantic settings and make love and "sport" with each other to their heart's content. In those days the earth and her forests were all truly beautiful and there was little to fear in the forests. Once this period was over, there was usually the birth of a child. The father would go about his business, perhaps living with his wife, or not. They usually had separate quarters and often the father would be away for extended periods of time. Sometimes the father would take another wife and repeat the honeymoon ritual. This would only occur with the consent and approval of his first wife. Some women had more than one husband as well. Their were codes of honor and ethics and nothing happened if not in a loving and truthful way. For instance, when a husband met another woman and fell in love, the new love interest would go to his wife and serve her for a period of time. If
her service was greatly appreciated, the wife would offer the new woman a "boon" or request. Then the new woman would request to marry her husband. In this manner, there was love and consideration for all concerned. It was a natural and beautiful process.

Relationships during that period of history were based not so much on the fear of abandonment or on the need to control the partner as they were on true love. True love is not exclusive. It can exist for many people at the same time. Removing fear as the basis for monogamy and commitment leaves us with more freedom to pursue love with anyone that we feel it for without the fear that we will either abandon our lover or be rejected by them.

In the next century we will see more relationships where two people are together for reasons other than fear. There will be even less restrictions around sexual and romantic expression as we will feel less bound by tradition and more free to follow our impulses. If we are with one person and desire to be with another, we will simply go and be with the other for whatever time we desire. There will be occurrences of multiple partner relationships such as three or four or more people living together sharing sexual and other forms of intimacy without restriction. Actually these forms of relationships have been experienced throughout our history on a minor scale. In the coming Age of Aquarius, however, they will, for the first time, be an accepted part of our culture. There are those even now who are feeling the urge to expand into these new areas and many have had limited experiences of the same nature. However, before we will truly experience the freedom of expression that is implied in these new forms of relationships, we will have to become aware of and acknowledge all the fears of abandonment and of not getting enough love that come up when these sorts of thoughts and ideas are expressed. We have a lot of work to do, each of us at our particular place in this evolution of consciousness. But many people are very far along the way to total freedom in our expression of love and affection for the many people in our lives that we feel these feelings for.

Keep in mind that the nature of Aquarius is bi-sexual, seeing the world as one family and never discriminating against anyone because of their skin color, religious belief, or sexual preference. "The world is one family" about sums it up. Aquarian love sees you as another being first. The love is given to you for who you are while the other aspects of your life, such as what gender you are, are secondary. As we come to the realization that we have been both male and female many times in past lives, we will more freely give our love to others that we share deep connections with, regardless of their present life gender. Many of those of the birth sign of Aquarius already exemplify this characteristic. Prepare yourself for radical changes in our culture at many levels. It will be interesting and always moving towards progressiveness and individual freedom of expression.

**Relationships in the New Age**

I like to call relationships the "final frontier" of our spiritual development. You can have lots of high energy and be able to meditate at the drop of a hat, but until you have a successful relationship you haven't really faced yourself and learned to love yourself. I hate to be so smug about it but I have to say its true because my experience has proven it time and time again. To be able to love another person in a deep, committed manner is just the hardest thing there is and the most powerful way of learning to love ourselves.

I have tremendous respect for those that I see married, especially those that are happily married. I know what that takes. I know that it takes everything you got. When I see two people loving each other, I see two people that are loving themselves. The age-old rules apply to relationships more than in any other area of our lives. The first is that we can only see in others what we have inside of ourselves. Good or bad, what we see in them is ourself and whatever we like and don't like about them is exactly the same things that we like and dislike about ourselves.
This one truth is so powerful that if we practiced it day after day each time we dislike something in someone else, we would be transformed instantly! Transformation is the realization of the truth. And the truth, though painful to see at first, is what sets us FREE. When I see that all the blame that I have been putting on someone else is really coming from something inside myself, I immediately stop playing the "victim" role. I immediately regain my power to do something about the situation. I always feel better knowing that I have a choice about how things are in my life. It is then that I can see others as they are and begin loving them again.

The next thing about relationships that is challenging is that much of what we need to learn lies within our feelings. Remember feelings? - those things that bother us at times, that we try to repress and keep away from us, but always come out at the most inopportune times? I am frequently surprised when I discover how many people are so out of touch with their feelings. I meet people who are terrifically successful and powerful, who have the most amazing gifts and talents. Over and over again I discover that inside each of them is this little 4-year old that never felt loved by his or her parents, that is always afraid of being abandoned, and who has been almost totally neglected by the "parent" within - that part of us that directs our professional ambitions. When most people get into a relationship what comes to the surface is this exasperated 4-year old.

So we see a huge dicotomy with people. People are mature, brilliant and responsible in their professional life and are 4-year olds in their love life. It's kind of funny to imagine everyone in the world as 4-year olds but that is very close to the truth when you see how we act in relationships. We get angry, throw tantrums, play keep away and take back, pout, run away, hit each other and a host of other things that 4-year olds are known for. If only we could be as open to our feelings as 4-year olds. Then we might be able to understand our needs better and have more success in getting them fulfilled in our relationships.

So, you can feel a little better if you feel that you are like a 4-year old in relationships. Most of us are. And if you feel that relationships are very difficult, so do the rest of us. And if you are not doing so good at it, you can feel okay about that too, since a good 90% of us aren't doing much good at it either. On the other hand, you could decide that being successful in a relationship is a major goal that you want to attain and start taking positive steps towards its fulfillment. As I have seen from many of my clients, it is this one area that is standing between them and the rest of their life. The good news is that as soon as we make it a priority, we attract people and sources of information that help us make a success of it. It only takes a conscious decision to do it - which, by the way, is a decision to really face, and love, ourselves.
Section Three

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Personal Growth and Development
How to Eliminate 80% of Your Personal Problems

If you were to do readings for a hundred people I believe that you would begin to see a pattern emerging. Because we live in this country and because of our cultural heritage, I believe you would see a commonality between people and their issues in life. One of the commonalities that I have noticed among the people I have read for is that most of them are caught up in petty personal problems. I do not mean to demean our personal problems by calling them petty, but if we stand back for a moment and compare our problems to those of someone living in Bosnia right now, we get a new perspective. We are one of the most prosperous and technologically advanced cultures in the world and have so much to be grateful for. From one point of view, none of us really have any reason to be unhappy.

However, the truth is that most of us have many unhappy moments in the course of a day. Perhaps we don't have enough money and are worried about paying our bills. Or perhaps our relationships are a source of stress and tension in our lives. Many of us are yearning for more completeness, more love, more money, less struggle. Most of our attention is focused on our problems, both big and small and our life becomes an endless struggle to attain the basic necessities. I have noticed that many people just stay obsessed on one area of their life, such as their family, or their lack of prosperity, or their fear of failure. They obsess on this one area for years and years. After a while, this struggle is the accepted standard in their life. To them, life is a struggle and they stop even imagining that it could be better. I think all of us have experienced this at one time or another and many of us are experiencing it right now.

What really amazes me is that many of these people who are so fixated on their personal woes have tremendous talents and abilities. Many of these people that I know have much more talent that I do in many areas and I know that they could be very happy if they realized how much they have. But I also know that they are not seeing this great potential inside themselves and they may pass their entire life without enjoying having it. I can see that in my case, I have less talent than many of these people, and yet, I have harnessed what I have and created a really happy and wonderful life for myself out of it. Then I began to ask myself what is the difference between myself and other happy people that I know, and unhappy people? I came up with one answer that has transformed my life. The truth is that my life was a continuous struggle for over 30 years. It was only the discovery of this one principle that made the difference, and what a difference it is! This is a tool that you or anyone can use to improve the quality of your life beyond what you can imagine right now. That tool is called purpose.

Having a clearly defined purpose in my life has eliminated 80% of my personal problems and freed up tremendous energy for me to use in my work and play. It has eliminated many of the nagging decisions about relationships, what to do, where to live and also has totally eliminated my poverty consciousness problem that I had most of my life. All of my life I knew I had a lot of talent and I thought I may have some special purpose in my life but as I got older I noticed that my life wasn't getting any better. I noticed that I was becoming more and more consumed by the day to day problems of love and money and that I was happy less and less of the time. I was getting to the point where I could see my life ending up a big waste. I realized in that moment, which occurred about 7 years ago, that I may not have many more chances for happiness in my life. How many more times could I fall in love and later have it fall apart? How many more times could I start a new enterprise, work it for 3-5 years and then abandon it? How many more years would I spend being worried about money and feeling like I deserve to have more but somehow couldn't manifest it? I could forsee my own future based on the patterns that made up my past and the future I saw in that moment was dark and gloomy. And yet, I knew that
this was the truth. If I didn't change my course in a real way, this would be my destiny. I would end up like so many people that I knew - old and feeling like a miserable failure, a big wasted potential and someone whose life experience convinced them that life was some sort of cruel joke and that they were doomed from birth to an entire lifetime of struggle and unhappiness. I think if you look around you will see that this is indeed the fate of many, if not most of the people on this planet.

So, I made a decision in that moment. I knew that I had some talents and I had some experiences in my past of success and happiness. I knew what turned me on the most, and I don't mean in a sexual way. I decided in that moment to take on a life purpose of making a positive contribution to the world and to dedicate everything that I had to that purpose. Read these words carefully. It is important to note that this purpose didn't come down and get me. I wasn't approached by some mysterious man, like Olney Richmond, and told that I would do some great work in my lifetime. I didn't have any visions or dreams or contact from ET's that told me I had this great purpose in the world. No, instead, I just made it up. I created a life purpose for myself right then and there. Something inside me knew that having a purpose was going to make a big difference in my life and I simply DID it.

Later I formalized that purpose into a purpose statement. A purpose statement is a distillation of your life's purpose into one sentence. Mine went something like this:
"My purpose is to better the lives of those around me by sharing ancient knowledge with them that can transform their life." The reason that I chose ancient knowledge is that I have always trusted knowledge that came from ages past where the general consciousness was higher than today. Today we are in the middle of a fairly dark and ignorant period in time, spiritually speaking. In the past there have been many ages of light and much of the knowledge that attracts me the most comes from those past ages. At any rate, I took this purpose, and decided to begin with The Cards of Your Destiny system. I made a commitment to bring this system to the world so that all had the opportunity to use and benefit from it. Now, this was no wishy-washy commitment. I really meant it. My commitment was that first, everyone in the United States hear about this system and next, that everyone in the world hear about it. I made this commitment and in that moment, 80% of my problems disappeared.

For example, I no longer had any personal concern about money. I certainly needed money to achieve my purpose, but my commitment was to keep going no matter how much money I had. So now, money became a secondary issue. What a feeling of freedom and power that brought! Now, I could move ahead and use the resources available to accomplish this purpose of helping the world. I lost all of my fear about asking for money. Any money that came my way was slated to help me accomplish my purpose and I believed in my purpose and my commitment to it. For example, I had to borrow $6,000 to publish the first edition of The Cards of Your Destiny. The money showed up as if by magic and I had the loan paid off 6 months ahead of schedule.

Relationship issues also suddenly cleared up. For the first time in my life I had some means of judging the value of any relationship in my life. If the relationship helped me to achieve my purpose, I nurtured it and maintained it. If the relationship distracted me from my purpose, or made it harder to achieve my purpose, I let it go. Amazing how that cleared up the entire matter! Relationships were no longer about fulfilling my emotional needs - they were now about helping me to attain my goal of helping others. This caused about a 3 year transition time in which I basically said goodbye to most everyone in my life. I even met someone and fell in love but eventually abandoned that relationship because she was not going where I was. Then, I met Katherine, a woman who fit perfectly with me and who actually added to my ability to achieve my purpose. By the time I met Katherine I had become very clear about the matter. I was looking for a life partner but each time I met a potential mate, I would let them know right up front what I was looking for and that I would not accept anything less than I specified.
amazing again how we get exactly what we ask for. I want to mention here that I don't believe that Katherine and I coming together was destiny or fate. We are not 'soul-mates'. It never would have happened if I wasn't perfectly clear about my commitment to my life's purpose. And I created that purpose intentionally and consciously. This is a very important point since so many of us live in this dream world about relationships.

Well, I got everything I asked for and more. My life transformed in every area. By making this commitment to a purpose greater than my personal problems, my entire life was totally transformed. You could get a feeling for this by imagining how you would feel right now if you had no relationship or money problems in your life at all. What if you had all the love and all the money and things that you could possibly want? Well, that's how my life is right now. It is no longer a struggle to get the basic necessities. I have choices each day. I can work, or I can play. I can teach, write, program my computer or whatever, but it is always my decision and I don't have to do anything. I am doing exactly what I want. The biggest challenge is to appreciate all the wonderful things I have in my life. I could spend the entire day just appreciating.

I am only saying these things to let you know that there is a new life awaiting you if you decide to choose it. I am certain beyond doubt that you have many talents and special abilities that others would benefit from. If you take all that you are and give it a direction with love, you will experience more joy and happiness than you ever imagined. By giving love, you will receive love and more. I know it sounds oversimplified and too good to be true but these basic principles are sound. They work. If you do "X", you are guaranteed to achieve "Y". The "X" that will bring you everything you ever wanted is purpose.

I invite you to try an experiment. Just make a commitment to a purpose for a period of time and see what happens. For example, you could commit to a purpose for three months or six months. The time is not important, but the strength of your commitment is. You might say, 'I commit to sharing this Science of the Cards with 50 people in the next 3 months'. Just try something like this and see what happens. Then you will know from your own experience something that no one could teach you. Whatever you decide, remember that it is YOU that makes all your life decisions. Ultimately you will be able to accept all the responsibility and receive all the credit for your life and you will discover that it was you, all along, that created every single experience in your life.

So, what is it going to be? Is your life purpose going to be the fulfillment of your basic necessities and personal desires? If so, that is what your life is going to be about, and it will be a struggle, as it has always been. Or, will you choose to broaden the scope of your efforts and take on something much greater than your personal problems? I, for one, am very interested in finding out which one you will choose. Are you?
Personal Power

It seems that all of us are looking for personal power. We want to have more in our lives - more money, more love, more satisfaction, more pleasure and fun. I know for myself, I love that feeling of being just where I am supposed to be - that feeling that I am doing what is best for me - the feeling of being myself and of being powerful within myself. It's like knowing that I am in the right place at the right time, in sync with the universal energies and watching magic happen before my eyes. Its also a knowing that I have the power to make my destiny, for better or worse and that I can make choices at any time to do something else if I choose. I call this freedom and I call it personal power. Having personal power means that I have no reason to complain about anything. How could I? I made it this way and I can change it anytime I like. Actually, having personal power means that I am very pleased with things just the way they are because I created them for a specific purpose that has been achieved successfully. I did it for me and I like it. If I didn't like it, I would change it. Sounds simple doesn't it?

A sure sign of someone who is not feeling powerful is when you see someone complaining about their life. Complaining means something is happening that I didn't make and I don't like it and cannot change it so I complain about it. I am the victim of something more powerful than me and I am unhappy about this situation. If you ever find yourself in this situation, you have a good reason to be unhappy - you don't have any power! Whenever you or I say something like "he did this to me" or "she did this to me" we are playing the role of the powerless victim. Doesn't sound too appealing does it? And yet, we all do this to some extent. Each of us has areas of our life where we blame others for our unhappiness. Some people make it a life-long occupation because they find that they get some results from it. "The squeaky wheel gets the grease" is an old axiom that applies in this case. If I complain loud enough and long enough, somebody will come along and make things better. Yes, this works, but at the same time, when we use this method of getting our needs met, we buy in to a belief structure that says that we are not powerful except through complaining and unhappiness. Thus it prolongs and sustains our unhappiness. We grow old with lines and wrinkles of pain on our face from years of putting those pained looks on our faces to get our needs met. What's more, when we habitually use this method to get our needs met, we fall prey to the many false and self-limiting beliefs that go along with it. We start believing in things like "the economy", "recessions", "the AIDS crisis" and a multitude of other things that prove that we are at the mercy of forces outside of ourselves.

A far better way, in my opinion, would be to stand up and take the helm and change our lives to be the way we want it to be. Every one of us has the God-given ability to shape our destiny. Each of us has the God-force within us in the same degree. However, each of us is totally responsible for how we use it. It is so powerful that we can use it to make ourselves powerless, if that's what we choose. If that's what you choose, I say more power to you. I would just like to say that YOU are doing it, not the government, your parents or your spouse. Each of us is making our own choices, even if we are aware and conscious of these choices. My dear friends, the time is near when we all have to admit what we are up to. We can no longer blame others for the life we have carefully created. There is nothing we cannot have so what reason do we have to complain? In the true spirit of the coming Age of Aquarius we are all having to get off the old unhappiness thing and get into the swing of the new energies present which allow us to know the truth and live it.

Personal power begins by saying that we are absolutely 100% responsible for everything in our lives. That's a tough one to swallow for most people so don't feel guilty if you have a hard time with it. I am 100% responsible for my life. If I look carefully at any particular situation in my life I can always see how and why I have set it up that way, even situations that I may proclaim that I do not like. I have seen after years of study that there is nothing that happens in
my life without my permission. The only area that I do not have any control over is other people, their feelings and their decisions. I cannot, for example, make someone like me or accept me. That is not within my jurisdiction. The only things I can change are the things within my "circle of influence". I cannot change others or really "help" others unless they have decided to help or change themselves. I can be a catalyst, but only for those who have already decided that they need a catalyst.

Some may think that this is unfortunate, that we cannot really help others and that we are the only ones who can help ourselves or change our life, but we cannot escape the truth. We can use this truth though. We can use it to get our power back and to start having fun in our lives. We can start having joy and laughter, the kind of laughter that comes from simple things like love and beauty. We can rekindle that joy for life, that appreciation of every breath and sight that is part of this world we live in. In this consciousness we are feeling blessed all day instead of cursed and downtrodden.

You are not the slave of anything but yourself. You are not the victim of anything or anyone. No one is keeping you from your happiness but yourself. No one is denying you what you want but yourself. The sooner you get things right with yourself, the sooner you will start having fun.

**HAVE FUN OR DIE?**

I have come up with this new slogan that I think exemplifies the next 20 to 30 years of man's evolution here on the planet. I believe that each of us is being confronted with one primary question and that we each will have to make a personal decision as to whether we are going to "have fun or die". We are either going to start enjoying our life and the immensity of God's abundance and love, or we are going to check out and throw in the towel. The way the energies are building, I can see a schism being formed and later I think there will be two distinct groups of people - those that have dropped their fears and are living in joy and inner peace knowing that their power is within them and those who are still trying to manipulate the outside world, change others and compromise their inner integrity to get their needs met. The second group will be those who will stop at nothing to get what they want or need. If there is going to be a "great cleansing of the planet", it will be all of those people who are committed to fear killing each other in their frenzy to survive within a belief structure where they have no power.
The Dynamics of Power

I often admire people who have a lot of personal power, people who have accomplished a great deal in their lives and as a result of their accomplishments are now able to wield considerable power in their life and work. I have known times when I felt very powerful and I truly enjoy that feeling. So, I want to make that feeling happen more often if I can. As a Queen of Diamonds, I also enjoy variety and having multiple things to do. The ♦️ is displaced by the 3 ♦️ in the Soul Spread and has two threes in the Life Path or Life Spread. This contributes to us ♦️ being somewhat scattered and very much into self expression. We usually need two jobs at the least to keep us happy since we can get bored with one if we stay with it too long. As you know by now, every card and energy has a good side and a down side. For the ♦️, the down side of so much "three" energy is that we can feel that we haven't accomplished anything. We can feel powerless to some extent because we haven't done one thing long enough to get any satisfaction or reward out of it.

One of the keys to having lots of power is Focus. Power is really the ability to focus a certain amount of energy into one direction. The truth is that all of us have the same "power potential". In other words, we have the juice to make things happen. It is just that many of us never harness enough of it together into one direction to see how much power we can yield. This has certainly been a lesson for me. Though I have a lot of three energy in me, including strong planets in Gemini, and Mercury ruling my Ascendant, I also have a strong need to see things get accomplished in my life. I enjoy seeing the development of power in my life and having the power to make things happen when I want to. Recently, I had to face the fact that I was not feeling powerful and it actually took me about two weeks to see what I was doing that was creating that feeling and what I could do to remedy it. The remedy for me, believe it or not, was to cut back on some of my activities and put that energy into the areas where I want to see more results. This meant actually letting go of some things I was doing, at least temporarily, and putting them aside. Now, I have more time to focus on the things that I truly want to accomplish. I feel more powerful because I am again making progress towards the goals that contribute to my life's purpose in a meaningful way. Learning about focus was a major gift in my life and I truly appreciate it.

On the other hand, many of us have issues around power that we need to heal or become aware of in order to tap into our source of creativity and expression to the fullest. As a professional astrologer I find it common for a person to have a "power complex" of one sort or another. Some are afraid of expressing their power. Usually these people had a significant past life where they were given considerable power and used it to hurt others. In their current life they are often victimized by certain individuals, whether it be their spouse, their boss, or other associate. These people on the one hand fear being powerful and on the other desperately want to have more power to overcome some of the difficulties in their lives. Have you ever watched television and wondered how some of the people in the news could live in an abusive relationship for such a long time and never do anything about it? Just last night they were interviewing Tina Turner and she was apparently abused by Ike Turner for over ten years before she finally had had enough and left him. She could have left him all along but it took over ten years. What is the dynamic behind that? We must look at all things as karmic on one level, but there is a lesson to be learned about power there too.
The Use and Abuse of Power

Many people in this world are in positions of power seemingly by accident. Tony Robbins, the author of *Unlimited Power*, and a 9♣, is one of those people who created himself as a powerful person. He was not always the dynamic, successful guy that he is now. His own personal story reveals that he was an overweight failure before he decided to make something of his life. But others seem to have been given the power inadvertently, almost as if they are children who are given a new toy as an experiment to help them learn about it. "Power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely". This old axiom tells the story of those who have power but who have not yet learned how much responsibility goes with that power. Many people are given gifts. David Koresh, another 9♠ for example, had many divine gifts. He had a divine charisma that he discovered about 15 years ago when he first began his ascent to leadership. Before then he was a shy, nerdy type that all the women were turned off by. But he discovered his power and as soon as he did, he began using it to fulfill all his Q♥ displacement fantasies. He had the gift and it obviously was a gift that he held in abundance, but he had no experience using it. The law of life says that we learn by making mistakes. His life was a tragic mistake though I doubt that he realized it, even up to his death. However, the karma he generated in this life will surely result in many future lifetimes of being in the same position as his followers. The law of karma assures us that we will experience what we cause others to experience anytime we are unaware of just how much we are affecting others by our actions. Undoubtedly Koresh will return to be mislead and abused by others many times until he sees what it is like to be at the mercy of another who is drunk on their power and avoiding the truth. The events of Koresh's life have been and are still being repeated thousands of times in different ways on our planet. It's a classic case of a powerful gift being given to an individual who did not possess the self-understanding and self-awareness to know when he or she was misleading themself.

All of us are given power at different times in our lives. Those of us who are born under an eight card have an entire lifetime of power issues to deal with. Some of the sevens as well, such as the 7♥, 7♠, and the 7♣ who have eights as karma cards, also have power issues to deal with in some form in their life. For the rest of us, we will have times when an eight shows up in our spreads and will get a taste for having excess power to deal with in our lives. Eights are traditionally seen as success cards and are greatly desired because of that. However, an eight card can cause you more trouble in your life and can be a power that leads to your own destruction if not handled carefully and with discernment. The reason for this is that we, as humans, often use power to avoid our deepest fears. If, for example, I am basically an insecure, fearful person, but I have this great knack for getting others to do what I want them to do, I will never have to face this inner fear of being rejected while I keep control over others. This is exactly what David Koresh did and anyone else in history who abused power. It can be readily seen in their natal astrological chart and in their cards. I have often noted in my astrological studies that those who have the strongest need to be in control and to be the boss are those who have the most fears to hide from others.

The abuse of power can be easily spotted in almost every relationship. Men, as a rule, have more power in a relationship than women. This is not a judgement on either sex, just a statement of fact. Men are usually physically stronger and are expected by society to be steering the helm, so to speak, in the relationship. Therefore, we see this power complex emerging in almost every marriage to some extent and there can be abuse along with it. Many books talk about the "power struggle" phase of marriage and relationships, the phase that immediately follows the "romance" or "honeymoon" phase of courtship. Those men who are the most abusive are those who are the most fearful and whose need to control their spouse and dominate them is masking their deepest fears. They are the ones who refuse to face the fears that they have and...
instead blame their spouse for every little thing that goes wrong. All of us men have the potential
to do this if we have not learned to admit we have fears, which our society has not supported to a
large extent. However, it is not society's fault if a man is abusing his wife or lover. Each of us as
individuals is 100% responsible for our actions, even if those actions seem in line with what's the
prevailing trend.

So, we can see eights in a more balanced perspective when we take note of how easily
power can be abused. Perhaps we will cease to envy those in power and cease to yearn for eights
in our readings when we note the true significance and responsibility that comes with having
power in our lives. I think some of us would just rather not have to deal with that if we had the
choice. However, in our evolution as beings headed for the light, we will all have to deal with
power sooner or later, and learn to align our power and will with the divine power. You and I
both will have eights, almost every year of our life and we will be given opportunities to see how
well we can handle having some power. Along the way, we will experience having it, abusing it
and being abused by it until we can see it for what it truly is and learn to hold it in the light of
truth and use it for purposes that support our highest intentions. There is no judgement in the
abuse of power. Ultimately whatever broadens our experience of life and teaches us is of highest
value, even if in the process of learning we make what seem to be devastating mistakes. Power
then, is just another lesson to be learned, another of God's wonderful qualities to be experienced.
As Ram Das would say, it's just "more grist for the mill".

Staying in The Cosmic Flow

As I grow older and wiser I learn more and more about the true meaning of happiness and
success in life. It's actually a wonderful feeling to notice that I am getting wiser as I get older. I
guess that's one of the payoffs for having gone through so much hell earlier in my life. It seems
like I have always been the one to learn things the hard way. Maybe most of us are. Pain is
indeed the greatest teacher of all.

Lately I have been getting in touch with what it really takes for me to be happy. Earlier in
my life I always thought that happiness would come to me if I achieved a certain goal, made a
certain amount of money, found the right relationship, bought the right car and other things. I
tried very hard and achieved all of these goals at one point or another in my life. I learned that
happiness wasn't found in getting those things. Sure, I felt the joy of having achieved the goal for
a moment or two. But it wasn't long before I was right back in my unhappiness again, wanting
something else to make me feel good. I guess if any of us try that enough times we eventually
figure out that those things don't really make us happy at all. A person can be just as miserable
with a million dollars as he or she can with a hundred dollars.

This led me to a search for the key to happiness. Still, I thought it was something outside
myself. Until now, I was looking for some teaching, philosophy, and lifestyle that would make
me happy. I lived in a Yoga Ashram for ten years, became a vegetarian and lived a so called
spiritual lifestyle. I did learn a lot about getting healthy and how to live a productive life in that
experience but still did not find the key to inner peace. I even began to believe that happiness
was something that was really unattainable by the average human and that God or some other
divine being had to come down and give it to us if we are ever to really have it.

Recently I have been spending a lot of time feeling my feelings and praying for direction.
I have found that my feelings are a key for me. They give me the information I need to know
what my inner self is needing and asking for. I live a very busy lifestyle and I have a very active
mind. It is very easy for me to ignore my feelings in favor of all the concerns and things that I
have to think about. I have found that this always leads me to feeling disconnected with myself
and unhappiness. By feeling my feelings I have discovered that I am a complex person in some ways and a simple person in others. I am complex in that I am so multifaceted. There are many levels to my being that have been revealed by just simply paying attention to myself. On the other hand, I have discovered that my basic needs are very simple. I need love, food, exercise, and a little money to feel good and safe. Now that I know what my needs are, I am better able to provide these needs for myself. I have found that by paying attention to those basic needs, I am a much happier person in general.

However, above and beyond those basic needs, I can still be very unhappy, even when those basic needs are provided if I don't spend some time disciplining my thoughts and mind. I have a somewhat pessimistic and negative mind that is critical and fault-finding. However, I have discovered that I can direct my thoughts intentionally onto the good things in my life and it really makes a difference. For me, the last key to happiness is doing some gratitude each day and giving thanks for all the wonderful things in my life.

I have talked about this before in past newsletters but I am continually amazed at just how powerful being grateful is. I now know that gratitude is the real key to happiness. Without it, we can have everything we desire and still be miserable. Remember that the word miserable comes from the word miser. A miser is someone who doesn't have enough. When we are miserable we are in the state of consciousness that says 'I don't have enough. I am lacking'. This is the true definition of unhappiness. You can take a person who has everything they need to be happy but if you plant one thought in their mind of something that they don't have, that one thing can make them miserable. Misery can only be fought with gratitude.

You may not have ever realized just how powerful gratitude is. I certainly wouldn't have understood its power until I had witnessed it for myself. I have found it to be a magical potion that causes all sorts of good things to be attracted to me. My entire world magically transforms when I am in that state of appreciation for the things in my life. I have been so overwhelmed with its power that now I give thanks all throughout the day and it just keeps on working and working.

So, the key that I have discovered is that happiness does not just happen to us by accident. It is something that we can create and control by using our thoughts, awareness and will power. It is like a muscle that can be exercised and made stronger each day. With a plan of regular maintenance, we can develop a deep abiding happiness for our life that is magical beyond imagination. I hope that you too, will someday discover this for yourself. The world can use more happy people in it.
Free Energy

People love the idea of getting something for nothing. Somehow, we all feel entitled to get things free, probably a throw-back from our childhood, when, for most of us, we had all of our needs carefully monitored and fulfilled by our loving parents. Somehow, I think that all of us yearn for that experience of being cared for and provided for. Therefore, when we see a sign saying "FREE" we are immediately interested. At heart I think most of us really believe that we deserve to have things without paying for them.

Did you perhaps feel bummed out when you graduated from high school and found out that now you had to go out and 'make it on your own'. I know I did. I felt like I was being thrust out into a hostile environment and expected to give up my lifestyle of being provided for and somehow come up with a job and a lifestyle of my own. That was a big transition for me. The whole experience led me to take on new beliefs about life. After that I bought into the struggle mentality that more or less dominates our culture. I learned that you don't get something for nothing and the things that you do get come from hard work and dealing with a host of problems called adulthood.

I've come a long way since those days in my late teens. Twenty four years later I have managed to collect some wisdom about life that gives me a lot more freedom and joy in my life. I've discovered that there are many things in life that are free and chief among them is energy - the energy to live and the energy to feel alive and happy.

This energy I speak of is the very basis of life itself and is absolutely necessary for not only survival, but all feelings of health and well being. This energy can be harnessed by you or I and put to any one of a thousand uses. It can be used to create a new project or idea. It can be used to experience peace and tranquility, which are some of its highest expressions. It can be used to make a lot of money, to make love to your partner, to help out a friend in need or to beautify your house. It can be used to contribute meaningfully at work or to play a sport. Finally, this energy can be used to heal emotional wounds or to confront our deepest fears and overcome their choke hold on our lives.

Knowing that we have this energy readily available can drastically alter our perception of life. If you knew that you had all the energy that you needed, on demand, your entire approach to life could be very different. For one thing, you may drop all concerns about not having enough food, money, love, or things and people to play with. Since this energy can easily be translated into any of these areas and used to manifest anything you need or desire, you would really have little to be concerned with.

The truth is that this energy is free and freely available all times. It is in every breath we take. Have you ever stopped to realize just how important your breath is and how much energy you get from breathing? Air is free and it accounts for much more of our bodily energy than most of us realize. But beyond our breath, each of us has an inner well-spring of vital life force that we can connect with and draw upon at any time. Its source lies just at the center of our hearts, tucked away deep within our feelings. We can reach inside and touch that energy anytime just by turning our attention within and feeling the core of our being. Christ said, "The Kingdom of Heaven is within." and when he said that he was referring to that source. It is there at all times, available. In addition to energy, that source bestows wisdom to all that will listen to its voice.

Now, I am not talking about some hocus pocus stuff here. This force is real and actually easy to contact and use. If you do not have the experience of contacting and using that energy, it is probably because you don't spend much time with your feelings and the inner you. That is a prerequisite, you know. We have to turn our attention within in order to use that force. Let me give you an example.
As one who was born under the Sign of Cancer, I have many fears and concerns that come up in the course of a day. We Cancers tend to be overly concerned about the common necessities of life - food, money and affection. But we have some of the other fears as well. Yesterday a deep fear came up just at the mention of someone's name. The fear itself seems to stem from a desire to be approved of by others, especially those who seem to be in authority positions. For me, this is a deep and powerful fear, one that basically ruins my day and my happiness. However, this time, I just contacted that source of energy within myself. Without judging the fear or trying to change the fear, I simply allowed that source of energy to give to that fear anything that it wanted. It's kind of like letting them get together. The fear was soon satisfied by getting its fill of the energy and it just went away. It was really that simple and the entire process took less than a minute. Now, this was a fear that ordinarily would cause me discomfort for an entire day or more. To have gotten rid of it so easily and quickly was sort of a miracle, one that taught me a great deal. Now, I use this unlimited source of energy to take care of any concerns that I may have as they come up in the course of a day.

Now, of course, to utilize this energy, one has to first be aware that they have concerns. Many of us go through life without even realizing just how much fear runs our life. We cannot heal our inner fears if we don't even know that we have them. We can't get the energy we need, if we do not realize that it is energy that we need. So, as it turns out, much of this depends upon the consciousness level of the person. But I know for a fact that if someone wants to utilize this energy, they can. It is readily available and it is free. And this is the kind of energy that really makes the difference between happiness and unhappiness.

The Power of Attention

Spirituality is not complicated. This little article demonstrates one of the simplest of the laws of life.

Most of us seldom stop to think about how much power there is in our attention. Scientists realize it and so do professional advertisers and marketers. Large companies pay millions of dollars to capture our attention for a few seconds on television. Billboards lined up on road sides are constantly begging for it and yet we, who are the owners of this precious commodity, rarely consider its value or learn how to use it for our own purposes. In this article I would like to discuss some ways that we can use our attention to bring more happiness, joy and love into our lives.

"What we think about is what we become". This old axiom sums it up in a nutshell. If we could only learn how to direct our attention onto things that are positive, we could truly create a life that is fantastic. There are no boundaries to how much happiness we could experience. It is only limited by our imagination.

In our Life Spread, Age 90, and in our yearly and weekly spreads, there are cards in Saturn. Our Saturn cards each year or week tell us where we will be learning to develop more maturity and wisdom. For most of us, our Saturn cards tell us what are going to be the most difficult and problemsome areas of our life. Many of us have developed a habit of looking at them and feeling afraid and powerless in their presence. The truth is that we will be learning lessons with Saturn and it may actually be very difficult for us while we are going through that period. However, the way in which we view those Saturn cards is totally in our control. The way we language those cards is in our control and these two factors - our thinking and speaking, have a great impact on how we actually experience those Saturn lessons each year and week.

Similarly, we all have Jupiter cards each week and year, and in our Life Spreads. These Jupiter cards tell us where we have the most blessings. In some ways, they denote where we are collecting karma from helping others in the past, just as the Saturn cards often represent areas in
which we are collecting the karma of hurting others in the past. So our Jupiter cards are like a point of radiance of good things in our yearly, weekly or life reading. The question is this, "How many of us choose to focus on all the good coming from these Jupiter cards?" or "How many of us focus on the bad coming from the Saturn cards?" This is a bit of a simplification of the situation but it does illustrate what many of us do. We simply spend our time and attention on the worst things that could happen to us and rarely stop to count our blessings.

In our words and thoughts we have habits that have formed throughout our life. Some of these are healthy habits and some are not. If I told you that your speech was helping you create a life of sadness and victimization, would you think I was crazy? And yet, how many of us habitually make statements like "I can't do that" when asked about certain topics in our lives? Every time one of us says "I can't do this" or "I can't do that", we perpetuate our helplessness and the belief and reality that we are helpless pawns in a world we never made. The truth is that we have made choices. We CAN do anything. It is more true to say "I choose not to do that" or simply "I won't do that". Take a look each time you say that and see if that isn't the case for you too.

I invite you to look at your speech patterns. If you can't see them yourself, ask one of your close friends to point them out to you. Are you talking about how great your year has been and how your Jupiter cards are bringing so many blessings into your life or are you complaining about how hard your life has been because of your Saturn cards? Small awarenesses like these actually contribute a great deal to our general state of mind and they determine, more than anything else, what we attract to ourselves.

How often do we count our blessings? How often do we give thanks for all that we have? How often do we just look around us and feel gratitude for the God-power within us that manifested all the people and things in our life that we love. In each moment we have the capacity to focus on something good, something positive and something loving and beautiful. The truth is that we are loved immeasurably by the universe. Our lives prove it. But no one can make us see that or make us believe it. It is up to each of us to harness the power of our attention by focusing it on what truly blessed lives we lead. This, in turn, brings back to us even more until our lives assume a truly magical quality. It is then that we are living as our Father intended it to be - sovereigns of all we survey, captains of our fate, and totally protected in His loving hands.

Consciously Choosing our Work

I have found that as soon as a person begins on the spiritual path, they will invariably be drawn to work that somehow supports their highest intentions. Whether we recognize it or not, the work we do day in and day out is one of the truest reflections of our most sincere motivations. Even those who proclaim they are on the spiritual path are not truly making it a priority until they choose to integrate it into the fabric of their life in a meaningful way. Though one does not have to do spiritual work, one will have to devote considerable time and energy to their spiritual self improvement if they expect to make any progress in that area. Doing work that is more on a spiritual level, creates a vehicle for our own personal transformation.

My teacher, Amrit Desai, used to tell us to "give to others in your work exactly what you feel and think you need most". His theory was that if you need help in the area of relationships, give help in the area of relationships. If you need less fear about money and resources, teach others how to have less fear and more abundance and so on. Taking this aspect of our lives on such a conscious level can be a lot of fun. I have certainly had a lot of fun with this. I realized several years ago that I needed to do work that would "force me" so to speak to confront myself, my fears and misconceptions about life. If I teach a class and make powerful statements about
life, relationships, fear, etc., these same truths will invariably be forced back into my face again and again until I find a way to see the truth behind my fears and limitations.

So, I choose to speak the truth to others. In readings and in classes I am committed to
telling others the truth in a loving way. By doing so, I encourage them to be truthful with me. I
take risks by saying things that I know they may not like to hear and by doing so I give them
permission to tell me things that they normally wouldn't - things about myself that I may be
avoiding, areas where I need improvement - things that are often noticed by others but usually
left unsaid. I want others to give me their feedback because I need their awareness to help me see
myself more clearly. If I can get to the point to where I can listen to whatever they have to say
and not get upset or afraid, then it has to be because I am so familiar with myself and have
already addressed those issues within. This is why I do the work I do.

If you feel yourself being drawn to seek a profession where you can counsel or teach
others, this is a very good sign. It is a sign that your own desire to grow is increasing, your thirst
for more personal freedom and happiness is growing. It is a sign that you are loving yourself and
that you will soon experience much more freedom and joy in your life. The road may be rocky
for a while. It always seems more difficult in the beginning as so much garbage comes up that
we didn't even know we had. Slowly but surely, you will see the light at the end of the tunnel
getting brighter and brighter until the darkness is as small as the brightness is now.

The Struggle Factor

If I told you that most, if not all, of your problems are self-created, you probably wouldn't
believe me. It is hard for us to imagine that we have 100% control over our lives and that we
could have our lives be anyway that we chose. This is a premise that I have held to for a long
time in my life, but it has only been recently that I have really come to
know
these truths as my
own. Before that, they were concepts that I believed in, but ones that I had no direct experience
with.

Over 20 years ago I had read some books that put forth an interesting proposition. They
said that if I wanted to have 100% control over my life, I would have to take 100% responsibility
for the way it is. What a concept! Me, being the total cause of every little thing in my life? I
couldn't say it was my truth then, because my experience up until that point in my life was that I
was the victim of a cruel world. My life up until the age of 18 had been devastatingly difficult. I
was searching for answers, almost desperately. With all the 'bad luck' that I had in my life up to
that point, I couldn't believe that I had any part in creating it.

But I really wanted my life to be different. Within me there was a voice that kept telling
me that I could have a happy and highly successful life. That voice told me that I was here for a
special purpose and that there was a way to find that "key to happiness". So, as I read this book, I
adopted this belief. I put it on like someone puts on a shirt. I kept telling myself, I am the creator
of my destiny and I am 100% responsible for my life being the way that it is. I still didn't totally
understand what I was doing, but something inside told me that this was the real truth about life.
I have held onto this belief and it has saved me countless times over these past 20 years. Not
only that, but as my understanding of the nature of how we create our lives has grown, I have
helped thousands of people by employing the same belief. It is just that now, my understanding
of this has grown. Now, I have inner experience to back up the belief statements that I adopted
back then. Now, these beliefs are mine.

Lately I have been seeing how much I am addicted to struggle. I say addicted because it
is a part of me that I have had little awareness of in the past. All these years it has been operating
silently in the background, shaping everything I do and say, existing at the very root of many of
the conflicts in my life. There must be a part of me that really believes that struggle is the way
life is. I seem to create struggle where there isn't any and where there really doesn't need to be any. I see that all of us are in this same predicament to a greater or lesser extent. The people with whom it does the greatest amount of damage are those who don't know that they are addicted to struggle.

The past year has been a very successful and prosperous one for me and now I can say that my life is truly peaceful. Compared to any time in my life in the past, I have reached a place where my life has tranquility and simplicity like never before. Still, I can see how much I resist the very happiness I seek. I can see now that success in life is really a function of how much we can just 'let it be okay'.

Success is not a function of how much we do or achieve - that is the struggle talking to us. Success and happiness are a state of being. Can you just be happy and just be successful? How long can you exist in those states before you get nervous and have to go back to struggle? How much do you have to do in order to allow yourself to have these states of mind? This may be a very advanced state of mind, beyond the conception of most of the people in this country, but ultimately I think that we all will come to this realization someday. We must just go ahead and be happy, prosperous and successful. There is no reason to wait, nothing to do to get there, no goal to achieve that will bestow those qualities upon us. We are either being happy and peaceful or we are being unhappy, afraid and struggling.

I find that I am less and less attracted to people who are caught up in the struggle mentality. I am also somewhat turned off by those who are committed to poverty mentality as well. I just don't have time for those beliefs anymore and I have noticed that more and more, I don't seem to attract those kinds of people in my life. There is nothing wrong with poverty or struggle mentality in any sense. They represent a state of mind that anyone has a right to hang out in. It's just that I am choosing to go in a different direction these days. By making one choice, I automatically eliminate interest in the opposite.

So, I find that Katherine and I spend a lot of time talking about how wonderful our life is and we affirm the little things each day that make our life so wonderful, little things like the good food we cook and eat, the daily exercise that keeps our cheeks rosy and our eyes bright, the beautiful weather we have here in California, and all the many 'things' that we possess like our car, computers, etc. Finally, we are grateful for this wonderful work that we are doing and all the wonderful people that we get to hang out with as a result of it. I can now see that it is these many little 'thank yous' each day and the practice of affirming the things we love that has brought a magical quality to our lives and that decreases our 'struggle factor' a little bit each day.
Anger, Bad Medicine

With the transit of Saturn Square Pluto in our heavens, many of us have experienced anger, either from within ourselves or from others this past year. Oftentimes this anger seems disproportionate to the events that catalyzed it. Though this terrific astrological event may have been the catalyst for much of the violence and anger related crimes of the past year, the truth is that this anger was already there waiting to explode in one direction or another. I have run into several people this year who have 'blown up' on me and I can see that these are people who already have significant anger within themselves. I just happened to cross their path at the right time and became the catalyst for their destructive emotional purging.

Anger is one of the most destructive of the emotions. One minute of intense anger can use up a whole day's worth of energy, leaving us tired and without any enthusiasm for our life or work. Anger is responsible for more deaths and homicides each year than probably any other thing. If we could get back all the energy that we loose through being angry, we would have enough energy to do anything we want. The question is how do we do this?

First let's define anger and get right to the root of it. If I am angry at someone, I have to be thinking that they have done something deliberate to hurt me. That is just the nature of anger. I happen to have quite a bit of anger and as I have examined it, I can see that this is always true for me. Anger then, is a defensive response to a perceived injustice or hurt on the part of someone else in our life. I have found that I have been able to eliminate much of my anger just by asking myself one question: "Did that other person deliberately try to hurt me?". 99 times out of 100, the answer is no.

The next thing to know about anger is that it is always based upon some fear. My teacher used to say that "All anger is fear in disguise". I have found that if I take a moment to check inside myself when I am angry, I can always feel the fear that lies below that anger. My heart is racing, my breath is short and choppy - in other words, I have all the same symptoms that I feel when I am afraid. In truth, all anger is fear, but anger is fear that causes us to respond in a defensive, retaliatory way. When we are angry we have the urge to lash out and give back to someone else just what we perceived that they gave to us. We want to pay them back AND we feel very justified in doing it. Most of the time we are not aware that we are afraid. However, if we take the time to check in with our feelings and become aware of our fear, we can find other ways to make ourselves feel safe and protected, which is why we get angry to start with. Inwardly, we secretly think that by getting angry we will get our needs met. This is another soul pattern in most cases, just like poverty consciousness, and one that will need to be corrected if we are going to be happy in this abundantly loving world.

Many of us have brought anger issues with us into this life and are working on anger stuff in this life. If you have Mars squaring something in your natal chart, such as Mars square Sun or Mars square Moon, you can bet that anger is a major part of your life - you basically carry it around with you. On a deeper level though, these aspects tell us that you came into this life with many habitual ways of reacting to events around you - reactions that are based in the belief that others are trying to hurt you. People who are angry walk around with an attitude that others in the world are trying to do something bad to them - and they are always prepared to defend themselves. Unfortunately, anger always destroys the good things in our life. So then, angry people basically believe that others are trying to hurt them or that others are out to get them. The only difference between an angry person and a fearful person is that the angry person acts upon this mistaken belief. The truth is that the universe is a loving place and that very few if any people are deliberately out to get us. But when we act upon the mistaken belief that others are out to get us, we perpetuate that belief and reinforce its power in our lives. The fact is that very few people can take someone else blowing up their anger on them without reacting back
with anger or defensiveness. Only a Saint could do that, and few of us are Saints. So, when an angry person gets mad and yells or says bad things or physically hurts another, the person who is the target of that anger is likely to respond with anger or some other defensive posture. This, in turn, tends to validate the belief of the angry person that he or she is right about the world being full of others who are out to get them. Thus, anger can be self perpetuating.

Anger is not real. Anger does not really exist on a true basis. It is a mistaken belief that others are out to get us. It is not suprising that the people who take guns and go out on a killing rampage usually take their own life at the end. Have you ever wondered about that? Recently, here is San Francisco, a man took automatic weapons and opened fire on a bunch of people in a real estate investing firm. After he killed several people, he killed himself. This taking of his own life is usually the norm in these killing spree cases. It is obvious why they do this. When they begin the killing spree they feel totally justified in doing it - the person doing the killing truly believes that his or her victims were out to get him or her or that they had done great harm to him or her deliberately. Remember that word, 'deliberate'. It is always a part of anger. As soon as the killer had taken a few lives and his or her anger had been vented, he realized the truth - that no one had really done anything to hurt him. We always see the truth after the fact when we are angry. We realize the truth after we have done the damage. Then, seeing how much wrong he or she had done by killing the others, their sense of justice kicks in and they take their own life to help pay for their mistake.

Have you noticed that after you have blown up on someone, you always see that what you were angry about did not have any basis in truth? Usually the damage has been done and often there are feelings of guilt and remorse.

The most dangerous people as far as anger is concerned are those who do not realize that they are angry. Many of those who have strong planets in Libra have difficulty admitting that they are angry. Anger is considered a negative thing to them, something to be avoided at all costs to the Libra way of looking at things. Yet, many of those who are like this are the ones with the most anger. They are the ones that hold back their anger until it blows up like a volcano on someone in their lives. There are others who are truly unaware of their own feelings. These are the most dangerous. They are acting out of anger most of the time and are totally unaware of their feelings. All they are conscious of is their righteousness in being angry and how they have a mission to fight with others who are out to hurt them.

Anger is a major force in this world, one that always causes destruction. All that we can truly do about anger in this world is to take responsibility for our anger and learn how to get our power back from it. When we begin to realize the truth about it and begin to ask questions such as "Are others truly out to hurt me?", we can take the charge out of our anger and have all that extra energy to have fun with. This takes getting in touch with our feelings and self honesty, but with practice, it can be done. If you want to help the world in a significant way, this is a good place to start.
No one gets out of here alive!

The majority of us never think about death. Most people would consider thinking about death to be a negative thing, something only negative or crazy people would do. Most of us also live our lives as if we are going to live forever, as if the things we do here and now don't really matter much. The fact is that you and I are going to die. If you are over 35 years of age, you have probably lived half your life already and I am sure that you have probably heard that the second half goes a lot quicker than the first. Ask any older person and they will tell you. Not only that, but in the second half of life we don't have as much energy or good health. But why would I choose to bring this up to talk about today?

In my search for personal development and higher consciousness I have found that for me, thinking about my death is a very powerful and effective way to raise my awareness level. Sometimes I wake up in the morning thinking about how short my life really is and how important it is for me to live each moment with truth and love and to give each moment the proper consideration and appreciation. "What if I should die tomorrow? What would I do right now if I was going to die tomorrow?" These sorts of questions put my life in perspective and help me to appreciate the NOW.

Every time I think about my death I imagine that just before I die I will look back over my life and ask myself one question. "When did I truly love another person?" I imagine reliving each moment of my life in those last moments and noticing and taking stock of each time that I helped another person and set aside my fears and personal considerations. I truly believe that in those last moments we take account of all the good things we have done, for in those moments we are devoid of our usual considerations and difficulties that usually fill our waking moments. I believe we leave this life with feeling of goodness for those times we have helped others and we proceed into the next existence with those thoughts fresh in our minds and hearts. I believe that death is a loving experience and that we go on to new and expanding experiences in a loving atmosphere of support. However, I also believe that our time down here is of the utmost importance and that none of it need be wasted by living without the awareness of just how fortunate we are. So, in each breath we take let us be thankful for this wonderful thing we call life and let us fill this day with love and sharing and truth as though it may be our last. In truth, it very well could be!

The Secret of Timing

Timing is one of those mysteries that is so important that it can make us or break us. When our timing is good, everything seems to happen like magic. Success is effortless and we seem to be guided by some divine force that is constantly clearing the way for us at each step. On the other hand, when our timing is off, everything we do seems to be a struggle. We seem to meet opposition and delays at every step of the way. Frustration builds in us and we can feel like we are being especially singled out for trouble by the universe. Understanding the timing of things can bring us a lot more success and happiness. We can actually learn to stay in the 'river of the cosmic flow', where we are effortlessly flowing through our lives as if by magic. This is not some mystical hocus pocus but something that we all have experienced and can cultivate until we are experts.
"To everything, turn turn, turn, there is a season, turn, turn, turn, and a time for everything under God's heaven." Nothing could be more true than those words, but few have really understood their meaning. I'll illustrate with a short parable.

A young man passed under a plum tree. Looking up he saw the branches full of plums, ripening under the summer sun. His mouth watering, he began pulling plums off the tree. These plums were difficult for him to pull from the tree and as he did so, they broke in two and their juices spilled out onto his hands and the ground. This angered him, but what angered him even more was that when he tasted one of these broken plums he discovered that they were sour. "Terrible!" he said as he spat out the sour plum from his mouth. Looking up again, he noticed that at the top of the tree there were some much riper looking plums. He spotted one in particular that was simply stunning. He tried to climb the tree but couldn't get out to the limb where that one plum was. Next, he tried to find a long stick in which to knock the plum down to him. He spent almost a half an hour trying different ways to obtain that plum before giving up exhausted. Dismayed, he sat down to rest when a gentle breeze came along a cooled him off. As we was enjoying the breeze a sudden gust of wind came up and whooshed by him. At that moment he felt something hit him in his lap. Looking down he saw that huge ripe plum that was at the top of the tree sitting in his lap. When he ate it, it was the sweetest and most delicious thing he had ever tasted.

This story illustrates the law of timing very well. The example of the fruit ripening in the tree is good to show us how effortless success is when we are timing our actions with the natural cycles of life. Have you ever been driving around town and have one of those days when you seem to make every traffic light and get to your destination in record time? We know that we are in the natural flow when things seem to happen without our efforting them. So, what can we do when we are in traffic and all the lights seem to be against us or when life seems to be stopping us at every turn? What can we do to get back in sync with the natural timing of life where everything is magical and effortless? The answer is so simple you probably never thought of it. When we realize that we are out of sync with the timing of the universe all we have to do to get back into sync is to slow down. We probably got out of sync by trying to hurry things too much, by pushing things to go faster than their natural flow. This creates stress in us and all of those around us. It can cause fights too. So, all we have to do is slow down until we notice that everything is happening smoothly around us. It usually doesn't take too long before we are back in that magical place where life is again a joy and pleasure, as it should be.

Taking out the Trash

Each of us, in our own way, are looking for peace, happiness, and contentedness in our lives. There is an eternal truth that "the kingdom of heaven is within". It is relatively easy to say those words and to have some intellectual understanding of their meaning and import. However, to live those words is an entirely different matter, for how many of us are ready to see the depths of our pain and the extent of our internal damage in order to find the truth within? My master used to say that cleaning up our lives is like taking out the garbage. When we open the lid to the garbage can to take out the trash, we have to endure that very unpleasant and often disgusting smell of the garbage that we are removing. So, for a time we are uncomfortable, perhaps in pain and disgust, as we see the mess we have gotten ourselves into. Even the bravest among us can be reluctant to admit to all the fears and mis-placed good intentions that have been woven into the fabric of our belief systems and our primal motivations.

I have recently been exposed to some of my garbage in a major way. I have been able to avoid looking at these things for a long time, thinking it would be better somehow to not face the
"unfaceable" truth. I have come from a family of broken people. My father, an alcoholic and accused child molester, has never been a support for me and my work. And yet, all these years I have been wishing and waiting for him to change, to somehow be that father that I have always wanted and yearned for. Even though, in my very earliest years I realized that he was no good, I somehow wanted desperately to change him, my mother and their parents. Somewhere I hoped to find a glimmer of love and support from a parental blood line of losers. I even looked back to my grandparents, hoping that there I would find something to be proud of, and to gain support from. No luck. Now my grandfather is accused of molesting his own children and some of my sisters. Finally, in anguish I realized that I will never be able to claim that kind of support or pride from my natural family. They are all truly doing their best, but their best is nowhere near the level of truth and supporting self-love that I demand for my life. Though my love and concern for them has not changed in the least, I am no longer holding that expectation of them changing themselves to be my ideal parents. Now, the responsibility is with me to make a life for myself that is supportive and nurturing the truth that I am committed to living. Now, I can drop that expectation, and along with it, the disappointment and anger that have been constant themes in my relationship with them. I am now free and my power is back in my hands, where it belongs. However, to get here I had to look and face what I was afraid to face before - the fact that my parents are just as "bad" as I always thought they were. This is the smell of the garbage that I was afraid to face and I have discovered how in not facing that painful truth, my entire life has been a play enacted to fulfill that fantasy again and again, always seeking that support from those who were unable to give it.

This realization and transformation has made a profound change in the way I approach my life. The awareness gained will translate into more success and happiness as I discontinue these "lost causes" in my life and focus on those people and things that truly support the commitments I have made to myself and to my work in the world. I am eternally grateful for the gift of this awareness, which I consider the highest gift of all because it is the gift that has led me back to my own power. It has shown me where I had the power in a situation that I once thought, felt and acted as though I had none. My commitment to bringing this sort of knowledge to others has resulted in this priceless gift being brought to me. And so the story continues.

The Laws of Prosperity - Part I

If there is one thing that most people in this world need more than anything these days, it is to have more prosperity in their lives. Being a Cancer ♓, I have probably some of the worst money karma you can imagine and have had to really work on this issue in order to elevate my position financially. For this reason, achieving prosperity has been one of my top priorities this past 15 years and I have read and researched this subject extensively. I have now achieved prosperity and I wish to share with others the things I have learned. If there is one thing I have learned about money and prosperity it is that no one need to be poor. It is not God's wish that we be poor and it is not the nature of the universe for its inhabitants to live in poverty. So, without further adieu, I present to you The Golden Keys to Wealth.

In the fall of 1991 I made a cross country trip in my car from one coast to the other and back. When I left I had $4,000 that I had saved and figured that it would be just enough for the two-month trip to visit clients and friends. That was during the heart of the recession of 1991 and everywhere I went there was concern about money. Sponsors of my workshops feared that I was asking too much for the seminars and that no one would come. They also expressed that "no one
was spending money these days" and blamed everything on the recession. So, as I departed for
my trip, I was prepared for the possibility that I would make little or no money as I journeyed
and taught.

However, everywhere I went my workshops were a smashing success. The sponsors were
amazed at how many people came and how many signed up for readings. In one spot where I
stayed for a week, I did 25 readings in a week's time. I was a very busy guy and when I returned
from the trip I had $1,000 more dollars than I left with, which was after paying for all my
traveling expenses including payments on my car and insurance. I had a secret "power" that
followed me wherever I went that no one knew about but me. It is a power that I gained one year
while having a 7♦ as my Long Range card. That was the year I had a major breakthrough in my
knowledge of money and wealth, which I am going to share with you in detail.

My birth card, the Q♦, is considered to be one of the hardest in the entire deck, especially for money. My natal astrology chart has Saturn afflicted in the 2nd house. This also
indicates incredible fear and problems surrounding money and finances. I grew up in a family of
poverty where we often didn't know from one day to the next if we were going to have enough to
eat. As long as I can remember I have never trusted that there would be enough for me and I
have always worried about money a great deal. I am just telling all this to let you know that what
I have learned about wealth and money can work for anyone and everyone. I now have all the
money I want and consider myself to be a wealthy person.

**CREATING "SOUL PATTERNS" OF PROSPERITY**

Each of us has a unique relationship with money and prosperity and this relationship has
little to do with our environment or childhood. Each of us is born into this world with an
"already there" relationship with prosperity that was accumulated in past lives. Some of us arrive
here on the planet fearful of poverty and lack of resources while others arrive here with the belief
and expectation that life will always provide them with everything they need and want. A study
of our natal astrological chart and birth card will reveal the exact nature of our "karmic" pattern
in relation to prosperity and where we stand in that area. Poverty consciousness consists of "soul
patterns" that have been set in former lives by heightened emotional experiences connected with
evidence that we are either victims of the world or with evidence that we will not have or do not
deserve to have more. Poverty consciousness is a self fulfilling prophecy. At a deep, soul level
we believe that there is not enough and so we continually create evidence to support that belief.
We habitually react to situations revolving around money with the expectation that we will not
get our needs met. However bad this may seem, the most important thing to realize in all of this
is that these soul patterns can be changed. Though the soul changes much slower than our mind,
its patterns can be altered with conscious effort, just as surely as the patterns that we now
possess were created in past incarnations.

Astrologically the soul is represented by the Sun. The Sun has for ages been the symbol
of the soul and of God, who is constantly giving to us, irrespective of who or what we are. The
sun shines on everybody, regardless of race, color or philosophical creed. All one needs to do is
go outside to take advantage of the Sun's warming and healing energies. Similarly, our soul only
wants to give to us. It truly is the Magic Lamp of Aladdin. As a matter of fact, our Sun sign
signifies an incredible gift of the soul in each of us, a gift that is so powerful that it wants to be
expressed totally and unrestrained. For example, the soul's gift as expressed through the Sun sign
of Taurus is love. Taurus is the sign of love and they are the best of gift givers in the zodiac. The
love they give is real and solid and abundant.

So, our soul just wants to give to us. It has the power to create anything that we can
imagine. One book I read said "What the mind of man can conceive and believe, it can achieve".
In that book, they called it the 'subconscious mind'. This is the very same thing that I am calling
the soul. Thus our soul is extremely powerful. There is nothing that it cannot do. However, it
does not discriminate and make judgments about the things that we request of it. It is fortunate
that we have a "veil" between our conscious and subconscious mind otherwise we would surely
die the first time we had a frightening daydream or fantasy. But we are protected by this veil so
that the only signals that get to our soul for creation are those that are repeated a lot or those that
are delivered with intensity of emotion.

The soul takes whatever we say to ourselves on a regular basis and creates it. We must
understand that our soul is completely loving and giving. It is an expression of God himself. It
has no discrimination. It does not condemn us or judge us and say "well, you deserve this,
however, you do not deserve that..". No, the soul gives us everything we ask for. It is only we
that judge ourselves and determine what we deserve or need. So, the soul is listening in on our
thoughts. It hears us say often, "I don't have enough money" and it says, "Okay, I'll create that
you don't have enough money. What else do you want me to create?". It hears us say to ourselves
"I need more money" and it responds with "Okay, I create it that you will need more money.
What else do you want me to create?". When we realize that to our soul nothing is bad or good,
positive or negative, we begin to see the importance of how we program it and just how powerful
it is. The soul doesn't know that you really want to create more money if you keep telling it to
create that you don't have enough money. It doesn't question you and say, "Are you sure you
want me to create it that you don't have any money?". Its only purpose is to give to us anything
that we imagine and think about. It has no inherent judgment about having money or not - to the
soul either one is just as good. It only wants us to tell it what to create next.

So, when I look at a person's cards or astrological chart and I see the fear of poverty
there, I know that they have at some point programmed their soul to create more poverty for
them. The question is how do we reprogram the soul with prosperity? This question leads us into
the rest of this subject and it has many facets that will be touched upon in further installments.
However, the first and most important thing we can do, the first thing we can practice and see
immediate results is Gratitude. I have talked about this before and you may think this is
insignificant but it is of vital importance. Prosperity does not come from what we do, but from
what we think (tell our soul, so to speak). Prosperity is one of the easiest things to practice and it
gains immediate results. All one has to do is make a list of 10 things that they are grateful for and
read that list before going to bed at night and just after awakening in the morning. As you read
this list, feel the gratitude you have and take a moment to dwell upon just how fortunate you are
to have so many blessings in your life. This is a message to your soul that has powerful results.
In effect you are telling your soul "I am happy and I am prosperous" and your soul responds with
"Okay, I'll create it that you are happy and prosperous. What else can I create for you?". Now, we
are harnessing the unlimited power of our soul and getting the results that we truly want. As I go
through my day, I am more and more astounded at just how fortunate I am. The more I let my
thoughts dwell on how wonderful my life is, on how I have everything I need and more, the
more good things happen to me. It is not by accident and I am not lucky. There is no luck. There
is only what we create with our thoughts and feelings. At one point in my life I read a series of
affirmations to myself each morning to do some serious "soul programming". Here is the one I
created for myself for prosperity. I suggest you write your own and do some programming for
yourself.
I am in the Heart of God - An Affirmation

"I am living in the lap of luxury in the Heart of God. He surrounds me and supplies my every need. I look around and realize that I am living like a King, so abundant are the resources at my disposal. I am grateful for all the wonderful things He has given me. In each moment, the things I need are moving towards me. I inhale abundance in every breath (As you breathe in, look around your room at all the wonderful things you have in your possession). I exhale fear and anxiousness as tranquillity and divine peace fill my every moment. I have no concern for the future knowing that I am always provided for and nurtured by the abundance of God's creation and love. I am happy and joyous living in the Heart of God."

AMEN

The Laws of Prosperity, Part II - Self Worth

The next consideration in terms of having abundance in our lives is self-worth. You will not even be able to do the exercises in the previous chapter if you do not truly believe that you deserve to have prosperity.

When I used to live at a yoga ashram, or school, I used to study people to try and find out what separated those that were successful and powerful from those who weren't. I observed within that organization to see who occupied the positions of greatest power and greatest freedom and watched how they acted and responded to situations. Then I observed people in the business world, those who were successful and watched how they acted and responded to situations. I was looking at the small things that these people did, the day to day little decisions that they made, and the way they talked and interacted with other people in their life.

I made a very interesting discovery. Among all those who had more and who were more successful was a common element. All of them insisted on having things go their way. You might say they were selfish or self-centered, but what I noticed is that they just would not tolerate getting less than they wanted from their jobs and their life on all levels. I was, at that time, aspiring to be more powerful and successful myself and I tried an experiment to see if it would work. I tried acting like I really cared about myself. I basically copied what I had seen. I acted more selfish and concerned about things turning out better for me. I put myself first instead of 2nd, 3rd or 4th in situations that came up.

An amazing thing happened after that. I got promoted to better and better positions and got all the things that I had wanted. "WOW!" I thought, "Is it really this easy?". Well it turns out that it was just that easy and now, after working with this principle in all areas of my life I can see that if there is any area of my life where I am not experiencing total success and abundance, it is an area where I don't believe that I deserve to have that kind of prosperity and I am settling for second best. Prosperity comes in many forms. Money, of course, is prosperity, but for some, is having good friends or a happy social life, being respected by their peers, or being in a great relationship. All of these things and more represent prosperity to someone. Whatever is your specific formula for prosperity is uniquely yours. But the bottom line is that you will have to demand to have it. No one else really cares if you are successful or not. The sad truth is that losers get treated like losers. If you want to start getting the winner's treatment, you are going to have to start to act like one.
So, what is going to be your specific technique for deserving to have more prosperity? How are you going to create it that you deserve? I did it by simply acting like I deserved that first time. At other times I found that having a heart to heart talk with myself was what I needed to do. I have found that usually, just having the clear awareness of what I am doing is enough to effect a significant change within me. If I can become clearly aware of just how much I don't think I deserve to have more, I can then create the space to have that change. Spiritual growth is really not that hard. As my teacher used to tell us, "To remove the darkness in your life, simply turn on the light." Our awareness is the light that we need to turn on. We really need to SEE ourselves clearly and be honest about what we see. Once we see it clearly, the changes happen all by themselves. That is the magic of enlightenment. So, what can we do to accelerate our seeing our inner state of deserving?

I found some very good exercises for doing just that in the book *Money Love* by Jerry Gilles. I don't have the book anymore because I gave it to a friend after I read it but I distinctly remember that his book had some affirmations about money and prosperity that were very powerful. The most interesting thing in doing those affirmations, though, was that when I did them, I immediately became aware of how far away from my reality they were. In other words, by doing those affirmations, I realized just how far away I was from the reality where they would be true. That distance between those affirmations and my resistance to them was my degree of not deserving. This is one method that I suggest you try, one that works quite well.

I cannot overemphasize the importance of loving our self. Having money and the freedom and nice things that it brings is not the highest form of love, but it is a form of love, and one that many people do not have in their life. If you do not have as much prosperity in your life as you want, then on some level you are denying it to yourself. Your inner level of deserving may be the thing that is holding you back. So, how much do you deserve? How much are you worth? How much is your time worth? I see a day when my time will be worth $1,000 an hour or more. How about you? It may seem materialistic to place a price on your head, but truthfully, we have all already done that. You already have a price on your head. The question is, how much is it? Having more in our life is often just as simple as saying to our self, 'I am worth more'.

Try and experiment for a couple of weeks and see what happens. Whenever anyone asks you how much you charge for your time, tell them "$100 an hour". Now, this may seem like too much for some of you, or perhaps not enough for some others. Some of you may already be making $100 an hour. Those folks should move up to $200 an hour or more. Select a figure that makes you feel uncomfortable, but one that some people are charging for the same services you offer. Just stick with it, no matter what happens and watch what happens. You may find that the only difference between what you charge and what others charge is how much you decided it is going to be. And don't forget to charge for your time. If your time is really worth anything, you will not be afraid to ask others to pay you for it. Stop giving yourself away every day to people. You have something unique and valuable to share with the world and being paid is the way the universe acknowledges this to you.
Gratitude

"Thoughts are things". This statement seems to be received as truth by all serious students of personal development. Most self improvement programs are aimed at changing the contents of our daily, repetitious thoughts. Some use Positive Mental Attitude affirmations (PMA). Others, such as Anthony Robbins, use Associative Conditioning. Whatever technique we use to improve our lives, it will have to result in thinking better thoughts or it will not have any impact on our lives.

As I look around myself, I see everything I have created. My apartment is full of things that I have wanted and received. In fact, I notice that there is nothing in my life at present that I did not think about having first. Could it be that my thoughts are so powerful to create all this? According to every spiritual teacher, yes. According to Andrew Carnegie, Anthony Robbins and Norman Vincent Peale, yes. The trick is, how do we get our thoughts to think better things? How do we get out of our depressions, fears and worries and think positive? Many books lead us to believe that we can just start thinking positive and watch miracles happen. Anyone who has tried this knows that isn't enough. Our habits of thought are much stronger than we realize.

Lately I have been practicing the art of being grateful and saying that I am grateful for the many things in my life. We live in a society where everything must happen instantly in order for us to be happy. "Instant gratification" has made millions of dollars for many people because we are willing to pay dearly to not have to wait. Even though we usually sacrifice content and quality to get something right away, we don't seem to mind. However, this same habitual way of perceiving the world tends to make us very ungrateful and unkind. We have increasing difficulty in seeing the perfection in the things that happen around us and have become increasingly more demanding that everything happen as we want it to. This inevitably leads to a lot of pain and suffering as our concepts meet head on with reality, which doesn't always conform to our wishes. Reality has its own timing, God's timing as I call it.

As I said, I am practicing being grateful. Every time something happens that I like or when I see that I am being loved, I say "Thank you Father". I have noticed that a lot of good things happen that I miss saying thanks for. The more I say thanks, the more I see I have to be grateful for. I have noticed that as I do this, it creates an energy of gratitude and openness to receive good from everything around me. I can also see that my thoughts are dwelling less and less on my old patterns of self pity and worry and are more and more occupied with the splendor and wonder of life and the blessings that surround me. For me this is working better than all the affirmations or repetitions I ever did and I can see that my inherent faith in life and love are increasing day by day.

I suggest that you give this a try if you haven't ever done it. Start with whatever you can think of to be grateful for and make a point to thank God or your spirits or guides each time something or someone blesses you. Watch how abundance seems to follow you around in spite of the economy and watch how your happiness level grows and grows. Have fun and many blessings to you!
The Power of Love

Did you ever have one of those days when all sorts of wonderful things happened to you? I have been having a lot of those days lately; days when things that I have been wanting for a long time have come to pass, days when unexpected good things happened to me, and days when I seemed to just attract good luck at every turn. I have been making a careful study of my life and watching carefully as I have these sorts of days and then watching some more when I have days that are not so good. I still have days when I feel frustrated, confused about what I am doing in my life, doubtful that I will be able to accomplish my goals, and doubtful that I will have everything I need when I need it. As a Q♦ it is a ongoing internal struggle, one that only me and my wife Katherine really know about.

I have more of those magical days when amazing streaks of good luck seem to be operating in my life. To be honest, I don't believe in luck at all and that is one of the main focuses of this article. As I examine the kinds of days I have and watch myself as I have them, I have discovered what I think is one of the keys to life. It is certainly one of the keys to prosperity and one that I have talked about often over the past two years in my newsletter. I have discovered that love is the most powerful thing in the universe. Now I know that you have heard this statement before, but I would like to put this statement forth with a deeper understanding so that you may have the same appreciation for it as I have. With this deeper understanding, an entirely new world of possibilities opens up for us, one in which we can have true prosperity, peace and the fulfillment of all our dreams. And, with this new understanding we will discover that there is something that we can do about it. There are actions that we can take to increase the frequency of those magical days in our lives. I believe that with practice we can have those beautiful and joyous days every day of the year.

THE STRUGGLE

Most of us are locked into a pattern of struggle in our lives. From our childhood and perhaps even before, we have learned that anything good in life must be obtained through hardship and by fighting our way through all the failures and problems that life really consists of. I remember when I was 25 years old and after reading part of The Nature of Personal Reality by Jane Roberts, I made a list of some of my core beliefs about life. Among them were things like "My life will always be a struggle and I will have to fight for everything good in my life" and "My life will never be easy, I will have to struggle and struggle and in the end, I will lose the battle and not get what I really want". At that time I saw clearly that I had some deep-set beliefs that were operating in my life, beliefs that would need to change if I was ever to experience any happiness in my life. Reading that Seth book, I really believed that I had the power to create any reality that I wanted, but I still didn't know just how to do it. I was still locked into those beliefs, becoming aware of how much they ran my life for the very first time.

Struggle consciousness tells us that we must be wary for bad things that may happen to us at any moment. It keeps us focused on the bad things that are around us. It literally keeps our minds and hearts full of negative thoughts and emotions. We walk around seeing mostly the bad in everything. It is like a pair of glasses that are colored 'negative and gloomy'. Wherever we look, we see problems. The sad part is that we have become so accustomed to this way of looking at the world that it has become an unconscious habit. It takes a lot of awareness, combined with compassion, to break through that unconsciousness and see ourselves in the light of truth and compassion. But that is exactly the prescription that is needed for this disease of the mind and heart.
Struggle mentality is usually based in a deep, unconscious hate of ourselves. When I made that list of core beliefs I also realized that I didn't love myself very much. I realized then that I felt that I deserved bad things to happen to me. I felt guilty and yet I didn't know what I was guilty of.

Now, 15 years later, I can still see how I retain some of those "struggle mentality" attitudes. Now, they don't have the power over me that they did then, but I have found that it takes constant awareness to diffuse them and to allow a greater power to be expressed through me and my life. 15 years ago I realized my predicament. At that time I also realized that what I wanted most was to live in a world where I could trust that everything that I would need would be provided and where I was truly loved for myself. It has been my commitment all these years to create this in my life and I am starting to have some spectacular success in this important area.

I believe that all of us are babies at heart. All we really want is to be loved, feel included and part of our families and circle of friends, and to have our basic needs provided. I was very tempted to join the army when I was 18 because I saw that as a way to get most of those basic needs met. I was looking for security then and I still am 22 years later. Now, however, I realize that the security I am looking for lies within myself. I have found that I can actually 'create' magical and lucky days in my life by merely practicing a few simple things.

We all sit on an incredible power and most of us never even realize that we have it. Because of our life-long habit of struggle, we rarely catch a glimpse of it. This is because struggle is its antithesis, its polar opposite. But even though we are fairly programmed towards struggle, that power does not leave us for a moment and we can access it anytime and take advantage of it. The blessings it brings are far beyond anything you can imagine in terms of satisfaction and enjoyment of life.

GRACE

I awoke this morning with the word 'grace' on my mind. Those days that I have described earlier are really days when I am feeling and acting graceful and gracious. Our dictionary gives many meanings of grace but at the root of the word is the Latin word, gratia which means 'favor'. To be graced means to be favored but it is interesting that many of the definitions of grace relate to how one acts when one is favored. "An attractive quality, feature or manner. Beauty or charm of form, expression of elegance with appropriate dignity". All of these definitions bring to mind pictures of one who is confident, happy, in rhythm with themselves. Isn't this how you see yourself on those 'lucky days'?

Grace is what activates this power in our lives, this power to have such incredible days. I have realized that these kinds of days don't just happen randomly. Actually they happen when I am already enjoying myself. If I can wake up in the morning and find something to enjoy that morning, something interesting to do or read, or find something that I love and am grateful for, I will invariably have one of those incredible days. Yesterday morning I was working on my new book about relationships. At one point, while I was writing, I realized that I was really enjoying the process. I was really having fun writing this book. It felt like I was truly expressing myself in those words and pages and I got this warm feeling inside. Just then the phone rang and a woman called from the "Good Morning America" show to talk about being on an upcoming segment. Well, to me at this point in my work and my life, being on that show would be just about the best thing that could happen to me. I saw the immediate connection between how I was feeling prior to her call and then the call happening. The truth is that I was already in that state of mind when the phone rang. It wasn't the phone call from the Good Morning America show that made me feel so good. I had already created that state of mind and was already receiving the benefits when I was called. Many other things happened yesterday after that. It was just another one of those
magical days. Now I am really on to something because I remember just what I did to get into that state of mind. It is the same thing I have done each time I have had those great days.

What I did was take the time to be grateful for my life, my work, my wife, and the myriad of small things that I have been blessed to have. I approached my work that day with love of the work itself instead of just wanting the end result. I was in a state of consciousness whereby I was appreciating whatever was happening in the moment instead of being totally goal-driven and striving to get the work over and behind me. And most importantly, I was loving being who I am. Lately I have been reminding myself of the wonderful work that I am doing and how I am so committed to helping the world, to living and sharing the truth that I know inside. I have also been reminding myself of what a wonderful person I am and how much I deserve to have all the success and happiness that I can imagine. These are the things that create magic in my life. This is how I create the love that is so powerful that it makes miracles happen on a day to day basis and this is how I stay excited and happy about my life.

It is my wish that you be able to create this for yourself too. I can't do it for you but I can remind you that it is there. You will have to do it for yourself but I will remind you again and again that you are the only thing that can hold you back or bring you incredible success and happiness. Whatever is your current state of affairs and life, it is all to your credit and you are the one to blame. There is no such thing as luck and there never will be. If there is, it is something that we have total control over and that we can change whenever we want to. You have this amazing love power within you that you can start using right now. Find something to love, something to appreciate and start giving thanks. With a little practice you'll find that your luck is changing in a major way AND you are the one who is doing it.
Section Four

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Reflections on Current Events
Community or Communism?

It is very important for each of us to keep a clear awareness of our lives on all levels. By knowing the truth, we are able to make good decisions about our lives and to keep our whole world in perspective. To that end, I present this article, which I hope will reveal some of the underlying principles that make our lives the way it is now and the way that it will become. I welcome any responses about this important area of our life.

I have spent years studying the political and social structures of our world today and I think it is vital for each of us to understand the essence of these structures. They have an impact on our lives every day and we enjoy in this country a beautiful freedom that may not be here for long if we don't keep our minds clear on this subject. It starts with our basic choice of lifestyle but extends as far up as the governments of this planet.

What is essential in understanding the social or political parties or factions on any level is "What is the ultimate dream or plan of each faction and what will be the results of such a plan when put into action?". You see, much of what we call the governments of today were at one time just the ideas and dreams of passionate and aggressive politically minded people. Stalin, Lenin, and the founding fathers of the United States were visionaries whose ideas eventually became the structures under which millions of people live. These ideas are based upon possibilities that these people saw. Some of them were based on inconsistent half-truths and had very bad results, while others were based in higher truths and have had good results. Right now, in our country there is a war between these same two opposing sides and whoever comes out on top may well determine your future and that of your children.

A commune is a collective of people, all sharing in the community responsibilities and contributing something equal to the community's welfare to sustain the community that in turn provides some stability, security and sense of identity to each person in the community. On a deep level, this system of thought goes back to Jesus and his disciples. Jesus was the community in a sense. He was the savior and all could be saved by following his direction and not asking any questions. Jesus ushered in our current astrological Age of Pisces, whose symbol is the fish and whose keywords are "I believe". To be saved, one only needed to believe in Jesus and never question his words or deeds. Many churches, communes and governments have been created around this idea, whether they realize it or not. We all wear the same clothing or raise the same flag to confirm our identity with something larger than ourselves to which we pay homage. Whenever you see people all together, wearing the same clothing or uniform, you have evidence of a commune-type structure at work.

THE ABUSE OF THE PISCEN PHILOSOPHY

With this type of structure comes necessary evils. If the people, for example, who are at the top of the structure, have less than pure motives, then it will be easy for them to use the devotion of all the members to the structure to subjugate those who are in the mainstream of the system. Countless governments, churches, cults, ashrams, and other organizations have had this happen. I believe that in today's day in age, it happens every time. I believe this is because none of us are totally purely intentioned. We all have unresolved fears and would probably prefer to use any power made available to us to avoid those fears in the name of some holier than thou commune-like structure. The old adage, 'Power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely' applies in most of these cases. These structures actually encourage this type of abuse by placing an inordinate amount of trust in the leader, when it should stay balanced with individual responsibility of all the members.
The results of nearly all of these structures is too much dependence upon the structure by the participants. All those who are working within the structure lose any sort of responsibility for their lives and place unrealistic expectations upon the leaders and the structure itself to meet all their needs. Combine this with the not so pure motives of the people in power and you get a classic co-dependent relationship that encourages the leader to lie or do anything to keep the members placated while he or she goes about getting all their goodies and avoiding the truth. The real truth is that all of them are avoiding is that we are the ones who are responsible for our lives. We have seen the end result, time after time and that is a slave state of people who are non-identities with little if any hope of personal freedom or expression. Personal initiative is kept to a very low level by the structure to preserve the structure. Basically man becomes subservient to other men who are in political power. This is neither right, truthful or loving and millions have suffered each and every time this has been created in our world.

**OUR DEMOCRATIC PARTY IS ESSENTIALLY PISCEN**

When we see our president making plans to create a government-run health plan, to raise our taxes beyond the ceiling, to establish gun control and in general require governmental approval and involvement with almost every affair in our lives, we see the communistic structures being put into place. Each thing our current Democratic party does is subtly going in the same direction. That direction is the abolition of personal initiative and freedom. And all of this is in the name of helping us. They will say they are taking away our guns to protect us from violence. What is next? A police state where only the government has guns? They say they will provide each person in the country with health care. That means that you or I no longer have to watch our diet or exercise. They will take care of us. But what will be the price? If you personally decide to create a successful enterprise that may benefits thousands or millions of people, you will have a much more difficult time doing it because now, you will have to pay 20 - 70% of what you earn to the government for their health protection.

**DO WE NEED SOMEONE TO TAKE CARE OF US?**

The real key here for all of us is that this whole communistic structure is based on the same premise that Jesus instituted when he arrived on the planet. That is, that you and I do not have the ability to take care of ourselves. We need a savior. Unfortunately for all of these structures, this is the end of the Pisces Age. We are now making the transition into Aquarius Age, the age of Brotherhood of Man and of the "I know" keywords. No longer do we need a savior or faith. We now have the truth in which to base our life and our identity and people. In this Age, we are already saved and we each have everything we need inside to accomplish our goals and to achieve happiness and prosperity. The energy of this Age goes directly against the communistic structures of the world. That is why, in the past ten years, there have been so many revealed abusers of these systems. Even now, in our own government, the struggle continues as truth battles against fantasy. The real truth, the one that we must continually adhere to in this age and the one that will help us separate bullshit from gold is whether or not what is being said or proposed will give us back our responsibility for our lives.

**WHO WANTS TO BE RESPONSIBLE?**

Even today, the notion of being responsible for our lives is not so popular. Few of us really want to admit that we are the creators of our lives, especially those whose lives are so painful and full of fear and poverty. All of those who do not want to take responsibility for their lives are the first to vote for the Democrats and their plans because they promise first to agree
with us that we are not responsible and secondly they tell us that they are going to take care of us. This is just what a victim of the world is looking for. Be very careful when you think about these plans they have for us. Ask yourself if you are looking for big brother to take care of you. Ultimately they will not come through on their promises, just as they haven't yet. They will just do anything it takes to stay in power. They will say anything, lie, steal or perhaps even murder. That's just human nature if you take our population as a norm. We all have tremendous fears and will do almost anything for money and power.

I want to stress that I am not a political activist in any way. However, I do feel a certain responsibility to the truth. I must speak the truth and encourage others to do the same. I implore you to consider what is going on today in our world, not that you should get out and demonstrate, but that you should keep the truth in your mind at all times and never be deceived by what you see and hear on the television. Look at the deeper meanings to what people are saying and doing. See the ramifications in light of personal responsibility and judge the results by that truth. Then, once you know the truth, stand by it and pronounce it to everyone who brings it up, not in a hurtful, hateful or defensive way, but from a position of strength of inner knowing. As messengers of the light, this light is one of the most important to be turned on in our minds and the minds of those we love.

Secrets of David Koresh

I want to begin this by saying that I have not done any research into Koresh's life or history. I didn't even see the TV mini-series about him. What I am giving here is only what his astrology chart, cards and my intuition tell me. Some of this may disagree with what others say but I must report what I see and that is my purpose. I believe that Koresh represents for all of us a secret part of ourselves. I believe that all of us have a secret desire to have the kind of power that he had. Power was a key word for him. How he used it and why he used it the way he did is what I think is the real key to this individual. In my study of charts, and I have done personal readings for many people in high places, I have noticed that when the "power aspects" are present, the person is always tempted to use this power to mask or hide a sense of inadequacy or insecurity. Sure enough, when I studied Koresh's chart, it was right there. Many people in our world have such aspects. However, it is only those who become drunk with their own power and continually avoid their true feelings that do harm to themselves and others. "Power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely" is an axiom that is invariably true. Not because it is absolutely true of itself, but because, in this world of ours, there are few people who can withstand the temptation to abuse their power and avoid the truth when given the opportunity. Koresh is, then, a study of power gone awry in a dramatic way, a lesson for all of us to observe.

David Koresh fascinated me from the very beginning. Having done hundreds of readings for people all over the world and having seen all the ways that people can go about creating their different lifestyles based on their charts, I was anxious to discover what aspects in David's chart led him to be who he was and do the things he did. Employing the ancient sciences of Astrology and The Cards of Your Destiny, we see immediately the pattern that created the man he was, the pattern that led him to his ultimate destruction.

According to the chart drawn for the birth data given by his mother, David Koresh was a Virgo and a 9♣ card. We will discuss each of these one at a time - his astrology chart and his birth card. Both hold much significance.
Natal Chart Analysis

With Libra Rising and Venus, the lord of Libra, setting prominently in the 11th house, Koresh was destined to be part of a spiritual group. Venus is mostly well-aspected so we see that his life held much success and recognition from his point of view. One thing I keep getting from studying him is that he was happy and satisfied with the way things turned out. His dreams had come true on most levels.

Being the ruler of his Ascendant, or rising sign, Venus assumes great importance in his chart. So, we will study it in great detail as it explains many of the traits that we knew him to exhibit. First of all it is conjunct or together with Pluto, the planet of death, passion and obsessions. Venus and Pluto together always creates some sort of sexual obsessive nature, except in rare cases of a highly evolved person with whom this aspect creates great healing energy. However, I do not see Koresh as a highly evolved person, so his sexual obsessions were a very real part of his life.

Next, this same Venus makes good aspects to Neptune and Saturn. The connection with Neptune gave him a certain amount of charisma. His Neptune sits in his first house making him a somewhat mysterious and alluring person. He was very psychic as well. The Neptune in the 1st house gave him the ability to read others' thoughts and feelings. With women, he had a way of knowing what to say to them to get what he wanted. All of this again represents power. This power could have been used for the good of his followers and I am certain that sometimes it was. But for the most part, he used this power to fulfill his sexual fantasies and hide from his inner sense of insecurity and over sensitivity.

This inner insecurity is revealed by his 5th house moon that directly opposes his Venus and Pluto, which sit together in the 11th house. The moon represents our security needs and our mother. Moon in the 5th tells us that he needed a lot of attention and a tendency to have multiple lovers or at the least, many changes in the romantic department of his life. For the most part, fulfilling his needs was not a problem. The good aspects from Saturn and Neptune helped him get the attention he needed by his public speaking, where he had a definite way with words. However, having the respect and attention of his congregation did nothing to satisfy his sexual cravings. He needed more. And he needed a way to make it "okay" to get as much as he wanted.

The square from Jupiter to his Venus further aggravates the obsessive quality of his sexual nature. Venus Jupiter squares makes one very fond of sensual pleasure. In most cases, it contributes to overweight problems, but in each person, whatever problem is expressed, is because of overindulgence of the senses. I would say that Koresh was a very self-indulgent person as most ♣ are.

I would say that Koresh began his career as a nobody in his church. He was probably a very insecure person who had experienced many failures with women because of an oversensitivity to them. In truth, they held the power over him. Yet, his overwhelming passions kept him wanting more. His Moon-Pluto opposition probably created a powerful love-hate relationship with both his mother and with women, who I'm sure he regarded as being unpredictable (11th house Venus). I would say that he looked upon his mother, and at women in general, as controllers, or manipulators. And thus, every relationship with women was always a battle to see who would maintain control and domination. His passions could change to violent anger unexpectedly. I think he actually had the good sense to not let his passions rule him. But he chose not to. It appears that at some point in his life he discovered his power of speaking. He realized that he could get all the women he wanted by speaking the gospel. So, instead of facing his insecurities and using his gift to help his congregation, he chose to use this power to create enough women in his life so that he would never have to face the feelings of rejection that would inevitably come up if he had only one. He found verses in the Bible to support his need for
multiple lovers. He created himself to be another Solomon or David and gave himself permission to do whatever he chose. This is where I think he departed from the path of truth.

He was basically accepted by those in power at his church. However, his Mars in the 12th house squares his Saturn. From this I would tend to think that he had secret enemies, or at the least, he thought he had secret enemies. The 12th house represents our immediate past life. Koresh's Mars in the 12th square Saturn indicates that his immediate former life was very difficult. It was likely that he was severely punished in that lifetime by someone in authority. For this reason, I believe that Koresh held secret hatred for certain people and an unshakable feeling that his life was doomed.

The square from Jupiter to Pluto is usually associated with someone who pushes their beliefs and opinions down other people's throats. They usually have a "holier than thou" attitude which carried to extremes, can be dangerous. His Jupiter being in Scorpio in the 2nd house was a good karma. He was given many things by his followers. Jupiter in Scorpio give two gifts from helping others in past lives. The first is a gift of money that is not earned. The second is the gift of great sexual energy. These two he had in abundance.

Bill and Hillary Clinton Exposed

Much has been publicized about the exploits of Bill Clinton and his wife Hillary and I think a further look into their lives as seen through the cards may prove interesting. I have been watching the media carefully and taking note of their words and actions and I believe it is important for us to see them as they are.

First let's take a look at their Birth Cards to gather some insight into their natures and character. Bill is a Leo ♣ and Hillary is a Scorpio 9♥. Relative to each other, they are extremely compatible and a perfect match in many ways. I wrote a small article that appears on page 104 of Love Cards that goes into some detail on just how compatible they are.

Essentially, Bill is someone who professes a higher philosophy (♣) but secretly is overwhelmingly desirous of power, fame and adulation (his 8♦ Karma Card). ♣ people are often successful but can be extremely worrisome and pessimistic at times. They tend to go from one extreme, that of being joyous and happy go lucky, to the other, which is worried and afraid. With such a strong desire to be special and to be in a position of fame and glory, it is difficult to believe that he means all that he says. Like most politicians, he will generally say whatever it takes to stay in office. I don't really believe that he has a true philosophy of his own at all. If he had one, I think it would be "anything to keep me in the lime-light" or something like that.

Hillary, on the other hand, has a mission to her life and she is totally dedicated to it. Being a semi-fixed 9♥, we know she isn't going to change her basic nature any time soon. She is as committed to her health plan as anyone could possibly be and I believe that she really believes in what she is doing. When I have seen her on the TV lately, I have been impressed at the level of her commitment and the diligence in which she is pursuing her goals of 'health care for everybody'. If anything, I would say that Bill is more or less a figure-head with no real policies of his own and that Hillary is the one who is there to really accomplish something. I have been impressed by her power and concerned at the same time.

You see, Hillary is a 9♥. All the nines in the deck are highly susceptible to the Piscean philosophies. The number nine is basically a Piscean number. It implies releasing all personal concerns and merging with the universe. It's like the river pouring into the ocean at the end of its journey. The trouble with the Piscean philosophy is that it sees all people as being powerless to shape their own destinies. Hillary sees us as poor, somewhat downtrodden masses that illness can strike at any minute without warning. She is convinced that we need protecting from the
myriad of uncontrollable and unforeseen calamities that await us in the course of our lives. In her universal love, she wants to take care of us and be our savior.

She wants to have us pay for being saved, however, and in the process give up most or all of our personal freedom to the government. I don't think she is actually aware of the harm that she is causing in her belief in our powerlessness. It is much like a mother who keeps her children at home to protect them and at the same time denies them the life experiences that will teach them and make them strong.

On a deep level, when we protect others, often we are doing it as an affirmation that they are unable to take care of themselves. Our thoughts are powerful. If we take actions based upon the belief that someone is powerless to alter their destiny, we reinforce that powerlessness in them. We do this while at the same time telling ourselves that we are doing it to help them. Isn't this a paradox? We want to help others but in our trying to help we are actually stunting their personal growth and reinforcing the belief that they are unable to provide for and take care of themselves.

This is an extremely important issue in our society today. It lies at the very root of most of our social and political problems today and we now have in office a powerful woman who appears to be completely committed to our helplessness. This scares me when I think about it, but deep inside I know that truth will eventually prevail.

In our society today, though, most of us want to be taken care of. Most of us do not want to have to be responsible for our lives. This is why people like Bill and Hillary have been elected into office. Since our society is basically ruled by whoever is most popular at any given time, this is what we get. So, we see that Bill and Hillary are for the most part a reflection of the status of our country. And let's take a look at that reflection because sometimes it gets pretty ugly.

Bill is someone who has never held a real job in his entire life. He is an accused womanizer and is connected to a lot of illegal doings. I read in the paper today that they are setting up a two million dollar defense fund just to help pay for all the legal bills he is amassing to defend himself.

Ever since the stories broke last December about his involvements with other women and the Arkansas state troopers helping recruit young women for sexual favors, I have been studying his cards. Take a look at 7♣, Age 47 and you will see the 6♠ in Mars that was in effect then. This 6♠ means that whatever was happening was a direct payback from some previous actions of his. In other words, he is probably guilty of what he was charged with. Unfortunately for him, he also has a 6♣ in Saturn and is still going through many challenges as his past actions are catching up with him. I also expect additional problems next year because again he has a six in Saturn. It is time for him to pay for his past behavior.

Based on the cards, I don't think he will be re-elected. Look at the Age 49 cards and you will note the 9♠ in Saturn followed by the 9♥ in Uranus. These are pretty strong indicators that he will be moving out of the White House sometime that year.

If we don't personally begin to take more responsibility in our lives, we are likely to re-elect someone just like Bill again in the future. It is good that there is a growing faction of society that wants to be self-responsible and empowered. They are the ones that can see through the 'poor you' philosophy preached by the Piscean leaders of today, such as 'Slick Willy' and his wife.
VISIONS
In-Depth Articles on
The Science of the Cards
Astrology and Spirituality
VOLUME III

Robert Lee Camp
Grand Master Order of the Magi
Visions Volume III

Articles by Robert Camp and others from The Voice of the Seven Thunders Newsletter and other unpublished articles by Robert Camp

Compiled February, 1996
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Articles From the May, 1994 Newsletter

The 2♠ - The Card of the Aquarian Age

I talk a lot about the 2♠ card when I do workshops and lectures but have somehow overlooked writing about it in the newsletter until now. In fact, this is one of the most important cards of our current Age in history, extremely significant because it, more than any other card, helps define what this upcoming Age of Aquarius is going to be all about. Knowing that, we can begin to align ourselves with its energies now and keep ahead of the changes that are already taking place on a global level.

The 2♠ is the Aquarian Card. In The Mystic Test Book, Olney Richmond displays a special layout of cards whereby there is one card in each of the 12 astrological houses. In the 11th house of Aquarius lies the 2♠. Its fascinating that when we hit the year 2000, our world also enters into a Grand Cycle of the number 2, a cycle of 1000 years of learning how to cooperate with each other while learning to recognize and acknowledge our individual differences. This will be a great age of communications and scientific discovery, both keywords for Aquarius and the 2♠ card. Astrologically we are now in the twilight zone between the Grand Age of Pisces and that of Aquarius. Jesus ushered in the Age of Pisces just as Moses ushered in the Age of Aries 2,000 years earlier.

Now, as we approach this New Age, many are looking for a figurehead, some sort of spiritual leader who will light the path for the next 2,000 years. However, there is a strong likelihood that this New Age will not have a singular leader in the traditional sense. This is because this New Age is one where everyone is acknowledged for their unique contribution to the world's success. Thus the Age of Aquarius may instead be a sort of global happening, a sort of hundredth monkey thing that arises out of communities being networked together to share ideas, information and resources.

One thing is certain: the Age of Pisces, with all its co-dependent behavior patterns, is on its way out. We now see a great schism forming between those whose natures are on either side of the spectrum. The gap between those who are still clinging to the old victim/savior mentality and those who are finding their source of power within themselves is growing wider each year. All of the "uncovering of things hidden" that has been happening in the media these past 5 - 7 years is a result of the light of truth shining brighter and brighter each year, revealing more corruption and misplaced motives by those in power all over the world. We can expect to see more of this until a crisis point is reached and dealt with.

When we observe 2♠ people, we see embodiments of this New Age. By observing them, we can learn more about what is to come. Notable 2♠ people include Merle Haggard, actresses Marilu Henner, Cyd Charisse, and Audrey Hepburn, Raul Julia, Bobbie Fisher and my personal favorite, Rush Limbaugh. Like them or not, these people adhere to high standards of excellence in their work. These are people of logical prowess. Nothing slips by them that is not carefully examined for its truthful content. The 2♠ person is like a remedy or antidote for any Pisces-born illusions. As I stated in my last newsletter, our current government is mostly Pisces-ruled. The 2♠ person will fearlessly challenge any untruths and they have the will power to back up that challenge in a serious way. This is partly because of
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their two Karma cards, the K♣ and the 6♠. It is useless to try and sway these people, except and unless you have some new information that is valid to offer them.

They are nice people and they love to be with others and to do things with their many friends and associates. Florence Campbell calls the 2♠ one of the "fear cards" and indeed many of them would feel lost without having some close companionship in their life. This doesn't have to be a sexual relationship however, they only need the company of close friends.

What sets the 2♠ apart from the rest of us, and especially those of us who are subjugated to the Piscean philosophy, is that they require proof of things before believing them. Theirs is the domain of facts and figures. Its not even what you say that's important to them, its what you do. It is an Aquarian quality that we know things by experience and not by faith. In the Age of Aquarius we will not need beliefs in order to heal us or to change our lives. There will be adequate technologies available to effect any change in our lives, whether in our environment or our personal lives.

Ultimately, it will be the help of people like these 2♠ that transforms our society into one of peace and harmonious relationships. In the 2♠ Age of Aquarius we are all networked together while retaining complete freedom and, at the same time, total responsibility for our lives. All issues of life will be judged on the basis of fact and figure, not on some way-out ideals or dreams that we often project on our mundane lives to avoid our pain. If a man or woman is unhappy in the Aquarian Age, it will be recognized that these individuals are doing so totally by their own choice, as there will be ample tools and techniques available for anyone to make whatever personal or professional changes they desire.

When the 2♠ appears in your reading, whether on a yearly or weekly basis, know that you are under the influence of this powerful card of logic and truth. You may be tested to see just how well you stand in this light. You may discover what it takes to maintain harmonious relationships while also maintaining total self individuality and responsibility. If you happen to run into a 2♠ person during that time you will have the opportunity to interact with one of those who is pointing the way towards this New Age of Truth.

Ultimately each of us will have to decide whether or not we truly want the truth in our lives. The great schism that I spoke of earlier is really a natural parting of the ways of those who want this truth from those who don't. In the Age of Aquarius, only the truth will survive. Those who continue to live from their fears will attract to them what they fear most. You see, we are all being given tremendously more power at this turning of the ages. Our God-power is returning along with the opportunity to create a world more beautiful than we ever imagined in this upcoming Age of Enlightenment.
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Articles from the July, 1994 Newsletter

The Saga of O.J. Simpson

I was a bit perplexed when I first looked at O.J. Simpson's cards last week. Nothing seemed to make sense. First of all, I have his birthday to be July 9, 1947 making him a 6♦, 46 years old, turning 47 in a couple of weeks. Of course, he is in Neptune right now and when we look at his cards we see that he has an A♭ under his Birth Card spread. Well, to me, that doesn't quite describe what is going on in his life right now. Then we look under his J♣ and he has an 8♥. Still, not a card that I would use to describe him being arrested for the vicious murder of his wife. Even the 5♦ under his King seems to fail to describe his current situation. Then I looked at his Result Cards for the year. Remember the Result Card can tell what we end up with by the end of our current year. Surely, I thought, this would indicate some sort of major problems in his life. Wrong again, I discovered that his result card under his Birth Card is the 8♣ and under his Jack, it is the 8♠. These are both cards of success and power to accomplish goals and overcome obstacles.

Then, I began to think about it. What if O.J. is guilty of his crimes and what if he had been planning this for some time? Wouldn't these cards then be saying that he had accomplished his goals? This is a good possibility. If you have been following the process at all you will also remember that his attorney scored a big victory for him two days ago (June 24th, 1994) when he got the Grand Jury thrown out. If, and I say, IF O.J. is guilty, then he would probably be in a pretty good position right now, as indicated by those two, powerful Eights that he has as Result Cards. The K♥ Result under his King may also indicate that he has regained custody of his children as a result of what has happened. I don't know if that was an issue, but it is plausible. Sat Bachan Khalsa, one of our teachers in Los Angeles, pointed out that the 8ª card can mean the use of force. I can see this as a distinct possibility.

I think that any man who beats up on women is a coward. We know that O.J. has been violent with his wife before. If we ignore the facts, we may be deluded about what happened. Don't forget that his wife was nearly decapitated, so severe were the wounds inflicted. This was one of the most savage and violent crimes in recent history.

So, what about O.J.'s future? Well, if we look ahead to next year, which begins in about two weeks for O.J., we see that he has a 6♥ as his Pluto Card and the 9♦ as his Result. His Birth Card is sitting in a favorable position in the Grand Solar Spread, right on top of the Q♥. It is favorable because the cards in the yearly spread lead up to the Crown Line where he will have the K♠ as his Mars card. This is a very good card for legal affairs.

One thing is for certain, with cards in the Crown Line, this trial will bring him a lot of publicity. Whether he gets acquitted or not, his place in the world history is assured. He has a 10♦ in Jupiter this year too. Perhaps there are some financial benefits to be derived from this entire fiasco. But the 6♥ and 9♦ Pluto and Result do guarantee that he will have to pay for whatever crimes he is guilty of. Never underestimate the power of a Six, especially when it is the Pluto Card. I am not saying that he is guilty. But if he is, I don't believe that he will get away with it.

From another point of view, the 6♥ means that he will have to pay for his past
actions. In a way, this trial and being put in jail, could be seen as some form of payment for his behavior with his wife in the past, regardless of whether or not he is guilty of murdering her. The 9♦ says that this payment will include a tremendous financial outlay.

It is the karma of 6♦ people that their financial condition often goes to extremes and remains that way for extended periods of time. Just as O.J. has been extremely wealthy for some time now he may have to go through a long period of financial restrictions.

**Five-The Number of Man**

Five is a very special number, as numbers go, and one in which you may not have realized its special significance. To begin with take a look at either of your hands and you will see five appendages called fingers. Same thing goes for your feet. Stepping back a moment and look at your body and you will again see five appendages (head, two arms and two legs). In many ways our hands and feet are microcosms of our body. All of these revolve around the number five, also known as the number of man. Looking up in the heavens we notice that there are five visible planets at night. Usually we count the Sun and Moon for seven, but there are actually only five visible planets. Again, the number of man shines forth. Perhaps the largest man-made object on the face of the earth, the Great Pyramid of Giza, has five points, one at each of the four corners and one at the top. Again, we see the number of man, and who knows, perhaps, the Egyptians, knowing that there would be visitors from other planets, made the pyramids as markers to other races that our planet is ruled by a race of beings whose numeric basis is the five. Clearly any space craft would be able to see these great monuments and decipher their significance.

Five is the number of experience and if we humans are anything at all, we are cravers of experiences. We are constantly seeking new adventures, new knowledge, new ways of communicating and living. We are never quite satisfied with our world as it is. This quality of ours is so much a part of us that most of us take it for granted. We cannot even conceive of another way of being. But is it possible that another race exists somewhere in the galaxy that has only four fingers and toes, and who are simply content to be where they are? How about a three-based race of beings or a two-based race? All things are possible and probably do exist somewhere in the vast expanse of our universe.

Getting back to our number five again we see that it is the last of the 'personal' numbers. If one studies in depth the meanings of the numbers from one to ten, one realizes that the meanings of one through five are quite simple and basic but when we move from five to six we step into an entirely new dimension of understanding. It is hard to apply the simple rules of meaning that we have for the first five numbers to the numbers six through ten. Five, being the last of the simple and personal numbers is our stepping off place. It is the number where we reach a sort of culmination of evolution. All the numbers evolve out of each preceding number but the five stands as the end of a certain cycle of evolution that began with the number one. At the number six, we step off the material plane into a higher dimension. Isn't it curious that our highest number on this physical plane is a five then? And isn't it curious that this number should represent constant evolution?

You see, the number five represents the essence of progress and evolution. At the same time it represents the gathering of experience. Perhaps these qualities, more than any
other, are what distinguishes our race.

When we meet a five person, we are meeting the embodiment of progress and change. These people are the natural travelers, adventurers and those of broad experience. On some level, they are always seeking new experiences and new adventures. They are open to new ideas, new things to do, new people to meet, and new places to go. This yearning for change and freedom brings them a wealth of life experiences, but at the same time can be the cause for their greatest problems in life. Often there is a great resistance to settling down or staying focused on one job, relationship, or location for very long. Moving from place to place can cause a lack of true progress or success in any one area. Thus many of them feel that they haven't accomplished much in their lives.

To understand five people better, it is helpful to see the five as an evolution from the four. The number four represents security, stability, satisfaction and contentment. It is the number that represents the home and all sorts of stabilizing influences. The five person is one who has had those kinds of experiences in the past and who has now reached the next level in evolution. They do not want to return to the security of the past. Where the four person will relish in creating a stable living situation, the five person will see it as a restriction on their freedom. Often, freedom is the one thing that is most important above all others. To a five person, a four will seem tied down and boring. But to the four person, the five will seem dissatisfied and always unhappy. The four person would much rather have his or her security and settledness than the wandering and exciting life of the five. In truth, there is no real right or wrong about any number. All merely represent a state of being. We humans of the 'Five Race of Beings' will tend to cherish our freedom and the process of evolution, and these things always contribute to a happy life.

The Five of Hearts

The 5♥ person tends to be emotionally restless, but they can also be restless about their choice of living location as well since Hearts also rules the home and family situation. I have seen 5♥ people get married but many are not and many get married once, then divorced and never marry again. There is a yearning to have more experience socially and romantically that can preclude any long-term commitments. There is that word, 'experience', again. It's an important word when it comes to Fives.

When you or I get a 5♥ in our reading, we can expect either a change of heart about someone in our life, a change in the family situation, or a change of residence. Of course, the 5♥ can also represent travel, either with a loved one or away from a loved one. It is one of the traditional divorce cards but more often than not it means other kinds of changes. I remember in one reading, however, that a couple was breaking up. I looked in the cards of the woman and didn't see any divorce cards in her reading for that time. However, I saw a 5♥ in her Venus period, which had occurred 6 months earlier that year. I asked her about it and she told me that indeed, it was at that time that the relationship really ended for her. It just took six more months to go through the movements to make it happen. She had really left him emotionally during that Venus period and it took six months for the effects of that to manifest on the physical plane.

Don't forget that the 5♥ can mean just a change of residence. This is often the case,
especially if it occurs in Venus or Uranus. Also keep in mind that any of the five cards
appearing in the Venus period will have a 5♥ effect. This is because Venus rules the same
things as the suit of Hearts. Put any five in Venus and you have a 5♥ influence just like any
five in Jupiter would tend to act like a 5♦.

**The Five of Clubs**

The 5♣ person is perhaps the strongest of the Fives in many ways because the first
Karma Card of the 5♣ is the 5♥, another five! These people are both mentally restless
(Clubs) and emotionally restless (Hearts). Most of their trials will be in the realms of
relationships. Another strike against them is that they have the 5♠ as their lifetime Saturn
card. They are very restless and yet when they have to move to a new location (5), it is very
difficult and has many responsibilities associated with it (Saturn). The 5♣ can be one of the
worst skeptics. All Fives are skeptical to a degree and it is easy to understand why.

If I am a five, I am not going to want anyone to put me in a box (4 energy,
remember?). I remain skeptical about things because this maintains my personal freedom to
try out new things. Heaven forbid I should make a commitment to any one ideology. That
would mean prison to me! Get the picture? So, the 5♣, being the most mentally-based of the
Fives, is the one who tends to be the most skeptical. They will readily listen to your ideas and
enjoy learning new things. But don't expect them to agree with you. To agree with you may,
in their minds, constitute a limitation upon their most valuable commodity - freedom.

When you or I get a 5♣ in our reading, we can expect changes in plans, changes in
philosophies and ideologies, and opportunities to broaden our perceptions of the world and
the way we communicate. These opportunities may include some travel as well. Katherine
and I haven't done much traveling in the past two years and now that I have a 5♣ Long
Range starting next month, we already have four trips planned in the first three months of the
year. This just goes to show you how strong a five can be as the Long Range Card for the
year.

**The Five of Diamonds**

My best friend Mark, is a 5♦. Being a Taurus as well, he really yearns to have his
own property and house and to accumulate some savings. However, his 5♦ nature is much
stronger than his Taurean nature. Like me, he is now 41 years old and to date he has not ever
saved much money or bought himself a piece of real estate. This is hard for him and he is
waging an inner war with himself over these two opposing sides. If you talk to them, you will
find that many five people have this inner conflict. On the positive side, the 5♦ is one of the
best of the 'salespeople' cards. Somehow, that broad experience of life that they possess and
the willingness to see things from many points of view gives them natural sales ability. They
are friendly and gregarious and very giving, due to their 9º Karma Card. But their values are
almost always in a state of flux. This can result in going from job to job, relationship to
relationship, or in purchasing things that they lose interest in soon after.
That reminds me of a 5♦ guy we met last year in Carmel, CA. We were in his leather goods store and I asked him what his birthday was. He told me and then I proceeded to tell him all about his personality of being a five and all. He immediately said, "I don't like systems. I feel like they put me in a box." I then replied, "Don't you see? That's exactly how a five is! And that's who you are." It's a good thing I have good connections with 5♦ because we were just having fun and he actually liked the little reading I gave him. But his reaction is typical for a five person. Don't try to pin them down in an argument either. They are much like liquid Mercury. As soon as you think you have got them cornered, they will slip out of your hands.

When we get a 5♦ in our reading, we naturally expect some changes in our values. Those things that used to satisfy us are no longer enough. Now we are seeking new experiences. This can result in a change of work, a new relationship, or moving to a new home or location. Of course it also represents travel, but usually the travel will have some money associated with it, such as a trip for business. All of these experiences can happen in the space of one year if you have the 5♦ as the Long Range or Pluto Card. The changes are really coming from within but they effect our external situations as well.

The Five of Spades

Finally we get to the granddaddy of the Fives, the 5♠. Spades represent our will power, our work, our lifestyle and our health. With the 5♠ we will find some changes in these areas. I have met 5♠ that do extensive traveling all throughout their life. One that I met even owned two homes just so she could travel back and forth to them every three to six weeks. Another 5♠ guy I met told me that he moves to a new house every six months like clockwork. Not every 5♠ will be this outwardly changeable, but the restless and desire for progress and evolution will be there in all of them. Travel is a welcome thing for all Fives, but I think the 5♠ is the most suited for extensive travel. I talked to a 5♠ man last week who is about 35 years old. He told me that he has been to 60 countries! I may never see 20 countries in my life, but so it goes for the 5♠.

When we get a 5♠ in our reading we are looking for changes that will affect our basic lifestyle. A move to a new home, a new job, a change in our health situation, or an extended

The Five-Pointed Star has long been known as the symbol for man, and especially man working in conjunction with higher laws and forces. It is the upside down five-pointed star that is a symbol for the Devil and for 'standing man upon his head'. Remember that our flag has fifty of these upright stars on it.
trip to a foreign country will all qualify for a 5♣ experience. Besides the 5♣ Long Range that I mentioned earlier, I also have a 5♥ in Venus. My wife Katherine and I are planning a trip to Hong Kong at that time. We were initially convinced that, with all these Fives this year, we were going to move. The 5♥ in Venus, especially, can indicate a move of the home. However, the way things are shaping up, it looks like overwhelming travel. Oh well. We just go with the flow.

I hope this article on Fives has been helpful. Once we understand the basic essences of the numbers, all the cards that go with them begin to make more sense. I hope that you too, are increasing in your understanding of the sacred sciences of numerology and the cards. I recommend that you get a copy of my new tape, entitled, The Science of Numbers. If you enjoyed this article, you will really enjoy learning the same kinds of things for all the numbers, from zero to thirteen!

Life is an Experience

Are you alive or dead? Are you sure? Have you checked lately? Or are you a part of the 'living dead'? When we close off our feeling side, we literally 'kill-off' our experience of life. Many of us do it. All of us do it at one time or another. Some of us have been dead for so long that we have actually forgotten that we are dead. Those are the ones that live in a body but never spend much time in their bodies.

We each yearn so much to live a happy, fun, and prosperous life. It is sad for me to see how many of us whose lives are getting worse each year instead of better. Even among the ones that I know that have pretty good lives, many of them are still dead inside to some extent. This article is about putting some life back into our lives. In order to find how we can become more alive, we must first become very aware of how dead we are and how we got there.

I was out hiking with some friends of mine just yesterday. It was so beautiful out in the woods as we sat next to a clear mountain stream. We had just hiked in and I was real hot so I decided to jump in the water and cool off. I jumped in and the water was ice cold. It was wonderful like waking up in a new energy and light. It was so invigorating. But as I sat in the sun afterwards I was reflecting on some feelings I was having about another area of my life, feelings that were bothering me. I realized in that moment that jumping into a wild mountain river with no clothes on didn't do anything to change my inner state. Because I had unresolved emotional issues, I was still basically unhappy. I realized at that moment that we can dress up in fine clothes, eat at the most expensive restaurants, be married to the perfect partner, do the most extraordinary things in our life and still be miserable if we do not deal with ourselves on a basic, emotional level.

It's painful sometimes to be with what we are feeling. Everything in us tells us to avoid those feelings at all costs. To feel panicked and afraid can be dangerous, we tell ourselves. We can easily get into survival mode and go numb to all that we feel. We have all sorts of reasonable explanations why we shouldn't feel certain feelings and why we should avoid the people and things that bring these feelings up.

The trouble with feelings is that if we shut ourselves off to one particular feeling, we also shut ourselves off to all our other feelings as well. We cannot make ourselves stop
feeling anger and still feel love and pleasure and beauty. As we shut off our feelings in order to avoid the discomfort of them, we also are less able to feel the wonderfulness and mystery of life. We lose that captivating feeling for life. We can no longer feel that excitement and pleasure of walking outside on a beautiful summer's day and just taking in a deep breath of the natural beauty of the world around us.

Another problem is that when we create structures in our lives to avoid unpleasant feelings and situations that stimulate them, we create barriers in our world. We make it smaller. As we do this, our life seems to get smaller and smaller, more and more limited and insulated from others. We have less and less friends and associates and become more and more convinced that the world is out to get us. This is probably one of the best definitions of misery.

Two feelings that most of us avoid are anger and fear. It is not important where we learned to shut down these two feelings or why we do it. What is important is that when we shut these down, we become a little more dead. All of us are angry and afraid at different times. What we do, both internally and externally, when we are feeling those feelings will tell us how alive or dead we are.

I recently became aware of just how afraid a person I really am. I need a lot of security around me in order to feel safe and happy. I have spent a lot of my life in conflict with that part of myself. There is another part of me that says that I shouldn't feel that way and that doesn't want to be or admit to being that fearful. No, I want to be strong and never need anybody else. I should be independent and fearless. But guess what? I'm not.... I have been fighting with myself for a long time on this one. Lately I have been letting myself feel all this fear and insecurity. I am amazed at how scared I can get. But I'll tell you something - hanging out with this vast amount of fear that I have has made me much more alive than I can remember for a long time. Maybe now, I can be with who I really am and not with who I think I should be. I feel excited about the present and the future now. Though the future is more uncertain and unpredictable, it is also more exciting. Sort of a paradox.

When Christ said, "Let the dead bury the dead", he was probably referring to all those people in the world who have forsaken their true feelings and who live in some colorless world where their minds and not their hearts are the directing factor. Today, millions of people are caught up in lives that are nothing more than mental games. They live, and some of them are wealthy and successful by most standards. But I would never exchange my life for theirs. Being alive is more valuable than all the money in the world.

So many of us have incredible minds that can make great evaluations of circumstances and events. However, no matter how great our mind is, its evaluations are only as good as the facts and other data that we put into it. The old saying, Garbage IN - Garbage OUT describes it perfectly. So, here's the catch: If I am out of touch with my feelings, I am not getting accurate data in which to base my evaluations of my life. Our feelings provide us with the facts about our life that can help us make honest and accurate assessments of our situation. Without them, we feel lost and confused. Our minds try in desperation to figure out what to do, but we know instinctively that we are making mistakes.

Within the realms of our feelings lie the answers to all of the secrets of the universe. Within each of our hearts is all the knowledge, wisdom and understanding of our race. Without our feelings, our minds are empty shells with no foundation upon which to build our
lives. We build our house of cards with our minds when we have no feelings to substantiate our thoughts. The first time the wind of truth blows on us, our house collapses.

The truly successful person has a happy, functioning mind that is balanced by the information that comes only from his or her feeling side. This is called the balancing of the left and right sides of the brain, the whole and balanced human.

**Age 52 - the Critical Year**

I recently made an important discovery related to our life and our yearly spreads. This discovery occurred during a Teacher Training in Michigan. Afterwards I wasn't surprised that our Age 52 would be an important year. After all, there are 52 cards in the deck. So, we might think that something special may happen when we turn 52 and so it does. What brought it to my attention was the fact that the cards that we have for our Age 52 Spread are the same cards, essentially, that we have for the seven-year period that begins at Age 49.

To understand this you need to be familiar with the Advanced material in The Advanced Oracle Workbook. Our 7-year spreads act like our yearly spreads but they cover a period of 7 years instead of one. Remember that Seven is the most important number in the deck of cards. First of all the number 7 card in any suit is the very center card of the suit. There are seven days in a week and 7, 52-day planetary periods in a year. 52 reduces to a seven and so forth and so on. The significance of the number seven is undisputed.

At Age 49 we begin our 7th, seven-year cycle. That, in itself is significant. At Age 45, we have our Rebirth Year and exactly 7 years later, we are in the Jupiter year (4th year) of our 7th, seven-year cycle. I hope I am not confusing you too much. I just wanted to reveal that the number 7 is very significant in this system and so is the Jupiter influence. All of these powerful influences converge at Age 52. Well, what does it all mean?

Based upon what I have seen, I believe that at Age 52 we each face a critical point in our soul's evolution during this lifetime. During that year I believe that each of us makes an important decision. On some level, we decide how the rest of our life is going to be. The decision we have to make is related to our spirituality. Some will decide to can their spirituality for the duration of the current lifetime and others will decide to enter into their spirituality full-time, so to speak. One thing I sense is that this decision is made for the duration of our life. Whatever we decide that year sticks with us. As Florence Campbell puts it, when we reach a certain age, we either turn towards our spirituality or we stagnate. On one level it is like a decision to live or die since stagnation is really death. So, check our your Age 52 Spread and see what it holds for you. Next issue, I will reveal more details of the importance of that year and one special card that tells something important about our entire lives.
Articles from the September, 1994 Newsletter

When will You Reach Your "Pinnacle Years"? - Part One

All but seven of the cards in the deck move about the Grand Solar Spreads from year to year. If you have Love Cards or The Advanced Oracle Workbook, you can look at the formation called The Grand Solar Spread. The spot occupied by the 8♦ at the top center is called the 'Sun Position'. This is a very auspicious position that represents many things. Traditionally the Sun position was known as the position of fame and recognition. This may be why many 8♦ people have a desire to be famous. This also applies to the 10♣ who sits right next to the 8♦. The ♣ is also there, but their story is different (see page 232 in Love Cards).

45 of the cards in the deck will move to the Sun position once or twice in their lifetime. The cards that do not are the Fixed (♣, 8♣ and ♦) and Semi-fixed (♣, ♦, ♧, ♧, ♧) cards. If you are one of these cards and are not a Leo sun sign, you can use your Planetary Ruling Card (see Love Cards) to trace Pinnacle Years for yourself. When our Birth Card or Planetary Ruling Card reaches the Sun position, I call this the Pinnacle Year and it has proven to be one of the most significant years of our life, often a year in which we make a major transition to a new level in our life.

Some people achieve a high position in their work during their Pinnacle Year. Bill Clinton was elected during his Pinnacle Year. A good friend of mine, who is a ♣, had his business reach an outstanding peak during his Pinnacle Year. His catering company catered the Academy Awards dinner in Los Angeles, a sit-down dinner for 2,000 celebrities. During my Pinnacle Year, at Age 21, I was playing lead guitar for the most well known soul group in the state of Florida. We didn't play bars, dances or regular gigs, we played concerts. That year represented the culmination of years of struggling to reach a high place in my musical career. But, I was also very unhappy at that time of my life, perhaps the most unhappy that I have ever been.

This just goes to show that success does not make us happy. The Pinnacle Year always represents a culmination point in our life, but sometimes it really represents the last year we will do a certain thing and the beginning of a new direction in our life. It definitely can be a 'stepping-off' point in our lives. Did you know that George Bush was also in his Pinnacle Year when he lost to Bill Clinton? Just this example demonstrates that the pinnacle for one person may be achieving a high status while for another it can represent departing from a position of high status. Perhaps George Bush knew that he didn't want to be president anymore. That would explain his poor campaign that year. But lets investigate further.

I was shocked at first when I realized that both Nicole Simpson and Ron Goldman were both in their Pinnacle Years when they were brutally murdered. Can you imagine? This led me to further investigate this phenomena and to come up with some interesting discoveries. We must look deeper into this Pinnacle Year to understand its true meaning in our life. The 8♦ person is the true owner of that Sun position and if we look at their Life Path Cards we see that they have an A♣ as their lifetime Pluto Card (see their Age 90 Spread). The A♣, besides being one of the death cards, is a symbol of great transformation and change. When any of our Birth Cards or Planetary Ruling Cards occupies the 8♦ Sun.
position, we will inherit some of that transformative energy that year. So, we see that being in the Sun position is not always fun and games. However, it does represent reaching a completion or fulfillment of sorts. Is it possible that for Ron Goldman, a $\text{K\Diamond}$, and Nicole Simpson, a $\text{K\Pentagon}$, that their deaths represented that their work on this earth plane was completed? Surely they have stepped off in a manner of speaking. Perhaps they had fulfilled what they came here to do. Nicole was known to have told many people that she thought she would be killed by her husband.

In the final analysis, moving to the Sun position will have a unique meaning for all of us depending on our circumstances, our goals, dreams and level of consciousness. I was personally so unhappy during my Pinnacle Year that I was thinking of killing myself. However, I had achieved the goals that I had set for myself.

Another example is that Katherine and I met during her Pinnacle Year (Age 35 $\text{K\Pentagon}$). I can see that our meeting, and later getting married, definitely meant the completion of an entire chapter of her life and the beginning of a new one. I believe that during our Pinnacle Year, we will reach an important completion of some area of our life. Usually it is work related but it can be on other levels as well.

Most of us will experience a Pinnacle Year at least once in our life and some of us will have them twice. By studying the Pinnacle Years of people, we can learn more about the cycles of life and better understand the will of God as it manifests in our life.

### Ages that Each Birth Card reaches the Pinnacle Position

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* These Cards do not move to the Sun Position. If you are one of these Birth Cards, check for the Pinnacle Years for your Planetary Ruling Card instead.
Visions, Volume III

**My Personal Experience of the 5♣ Long Range Card**

At Age 41, we are in the last year of our 6th, 7-year cycle. This year is ruled by Neptune since it is the 7th year of that cycle. Advanced Students know that each year of life is ruled by a planet just as each period of the year is ruled by a planet. And, as you know, Neptune often has to do with foreign travel, illusions and dreams, fantasy, etc.

Looking at the 5♣ Long Range and the fact that I also have a 5♣ as the Environment Card for the year, I figured that Katherine and I would probably do some travel this year, and likely move at some point. I really thought we would move because I also have the 5♠ in Venus. I also reasoned that having the 5♣ Long Range would cause a lot of last minute changes in plans, but that was about as far as I had imagined what the year would be like.

As I approached this year, I realized that with the 5♣ Long Range that I would probably be doing some travel during this year. But I was surprised when, by my birthday I already had four trips planned, and two of them were across the oceans (Neptune rules the oceans). Out of nowhere all these requests for workshops came up from other locations. I am still in my Mercury Period and already there are two more trips planned.

On my first trip I taught two workshops in Sedona, Arizona sponsored by Christine Bryson. Her boyfriend, Robert, allowed me to ride and use one of his motorcycles during my week-long stay there. Riding that motorcycle felt so good. In Arizona helmets are not required and I experienced this feeling of freedom and adventure while riding that bike around town and up the canyon to go swimming. I felt that joy and the urge for adventure. I just wanted to keep riding that motorcycle all over the United States! I could somehow sense that there were new experiences coming my way and I was opening myself up to them. This, I thought, must be the meaning of the 5♣. I could sense that my views on the world and myself were undergoing an expansion, that I was broadening my perceptions and the scope of my vision. I thought I had the 5♣ all figured out.

After returning from Sedona, I realized that I felt somewhat dissatisfied with my life the way it had been. After going through a 4♠ Long Range last year where I was basically satisfied with everything, this was definitely a change of mind. The entire previous year was mostly a routine of work, exercise and entertainment in the evenings and I liked it. Now, I wanted something more, something different. I looked at what I had been working on and it didn't seem as interesting or as important to me now. It was a little disconcerting but I decided to just flow with the feelings. I also realized that this dissatisfaction didn't have to get out of hand or build up to the point that I just wanted to split. I have seen that I can use this dissatisfaction constructively to help me progress into new areas while not totally abandoning all the work and effort that went into building my life up to the way it is now. I can imagine what it must be like to be a 5♣ person and to have this kind of feeling and process all the time. I don't think I would like that all the time.

After returning from doing a couple of workshops in Hawaii two weeks ago, I got another hit on the 5♣ Long Range. I could tell that many of my long-held concepts about life and myself are undergoing a change. On one hand, I feel that I am experiencing new things: new ideas, philosophies and beliefs. I can see that I am opening up mentally in new areas. On the other hand I can tell that my basic beliefs and self concepts are being challenged and changed. Once again some of these changes are a little scary to my security side. But I find
that I can control the process somewhat so that I can retain my sense of inner balance while
the changes take place and continually find a new footing for myself.
Since I am still only in Mercury, I can't imagine what else will happen this year. Katherine
and I both are feeling a strong urge to purchase a house but we still don't know where we
would like to move to. I suppose the upcoming trips will bring new realizations about where
we should go. And after my wonderful trip to Sedona I want to buy a motorcycle.

From Watergate to Whitewater

Last night they finished the five part series on Watergate on the Discovery Channel. I
watched every single episode, often with wonder and disbelief, and at other times with
horror. I learned a great deal about our government through watching that program and it
gave me a new perspective on how I fit into our society and how I should hold our society
and government in my mind. If you haven't seen these programs, I strongly urge you to do
so. If you do, you will see, beyond a shadow of a doubt, just what power can do to people
and it gives a lot of insight into our current administration and how things are being handled.

Maybe its because our country is a Jack of Diamonds, which as we know can be a
dishonest card, or maybe all countries are run by power, greed, and lust. But whatever the
cause, it is certain that our government is mostly run by people who have no sense of justice
or integrity. I say run as in the present tense because I don't think much has changed since
Watergate. Men are still men and power and greed are still some of the highest motivators in
the world.

In the Watergate show there were interviews with all the key players in the entire
affair, from president Nixon right on down. Some of the players are still around and are still
playing right now in the current situation. One thing that struck me as I watched each person
speak about what happened was how none of them ever mentioned that they were doing
anything wrong. There was never any consideration by anyone about how what they were
doing was illegal, immoral, or lacking integrity. In other words, there was not one player that
I could see who had any personal integrity at all. I don't believe that Nixon, even up to his
death, ever thought about the rightness of what he was doing. His basic philosophy seemed
to be that 'since I am the president, whatever I do is okay.' And his reasoning also included
the belief that his primary motive was to 'help the country'. This is the old 'the ends justify
the means' theory that people in power acquire to justify their actions.

As each person talked about their actions in the Watergate affair, and I am talking
about Haldeman, Dean, Ehrlichman, and all the others, it was easy to see that THE ONLY
REASON ANY OF THEM CAME FORTH AND SPILLED THE BEANS WAS THE FEAR
OF GETTING CAUGHT AND PUNISHED. Never once did any of them think "I shouldn't
do this because it is dishonest and wrong." That's what shocked me the most. Nixon was able
to delay, stall and postpone the judicial process for over a year just by skillfully manipulating
the key players with fear and greed tactics. Everyone played along. He almost got away with
it. Truthfully, there were times when it seemed that he would. This series is such a lesson in
reality. I am so grateful that it was played.

Another thing I realized is that our government is more run by public opinion than by
anything else. Because all of us tend to believe that it is wrong to lie, kill or steal, the people
in the government have to at least appear to be following the law in order to be liked by us.
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Much of what happened in Watergate was Nixon planning how to say everything, how to lie to the public and to Congress about what he was doing. He lied and lied and lied and it worked. Don't forget that his re-election, which came in the heart of the Watergate case, was the largest margin win by any president in history.

So the only reason anyone in government has any motivation to do the right thing is to not get caught or to lose public favor. Anyone who reads the newspaper today will realize that it is the public 'polls' that determine what politicians will say. If a new poll came out that said that 55% of Americans favor a president that eats cow dung for breakfast, we would see Clinton on television having a cow dung banquet and his entire administration happily eating it.

Watch carefully and you will realize that this is how our political system is running today. Whenever someone is running for office, they study the polls, trying to figure out which face they should wear to get the most votes. They don't have any true feelings or commitment one way or the other about the issues. Their only concern is how to get into office. Once in office, they continually monitor the polls and change what they say when needed, to keep their popularity ratings up. However, in very few cases we find someone in office that truly stands for anything other than getting as much power and money as they can. Personally, I am still looking for someone like that.

Indeed, it was only after the members of Congress saw that Nixon was really 'going down' that they decided to vote against him. They only wanted to be on the side that is winning and staying in office. It really didn't matter to them what he had done, as long as he stayed in power and kept them in power.

Today, Clinton is having difficulty getting members of his own party to support him and his efforts. Because of all the negative publicity he has gotten over Whitewater and the sex scandals, many democrats are 'distancing' themselves from him. This is inevitable because each member of Congress, no matter what side they are on, just wants to keep their job. If Clinton's popularity drops, they will change sides to be on the winning side, especially when it gets close to election time, as it is now. Many democrats are up for re-election bids this November and are having a hard time deciding where to stand on the issues because their ring leader is on the outs with public opinion.

I am elaborating on this subject to bring some awareness into this area. I feel that too many of us are blinded by what we read and hear in the press. We just go about our business while living in a country where lying, cheating and other abuses of power are the order of the day in the governing body. I don't know where all this will end or how it got this way. I do think our current president is a crook of high magnitude, using many of the same tricks as Nixon. Maybe people with integrity don't have an interest in politics and that's why our government is so full of crooks. Perhaps this is my awakening to the truth of our world and society. I do believe in integrity and honesty. I do believe that truth is the best and highest path to freedom and I am committed to it in my life. But I can't ignore the truth that most of our world does not have any regard for these beliefs.

Age 52 - The Critical Year, Part II
Visions, Volume III

Last issue I discussed the importance of the year that we are 52 years old. That is actually our 53rd year of life but Age 52 is very significant. It is the year that we make an important decision about our life. To make a long story short, we decide whether or not we are going to give into our fears and die (figuratively) or live a life of personal freedom and spiritual victory. I have actually heard of some stories of people who decided to physically die at that age, but on some level we all make a choice whether to continue our negative patterns of giving into our fears or to find a higher expression. This decision will carry us all the way to our death so you can see just how important it is.

When I meet someone older than 52 and watch them, I can tell pretty soon what decision they made and if their decision was to give in and give up, I can see that unmistakable look of resignation on their face. It is sad and yet it is a fact of life that I must accept. Since life is, on one level, just a series of personal choices, I can see nothing inherently wrong with that choice. It is, after all, just another of the myriad of experiences that we have to choose from.

Well, there is a card in our Age 52 Spread that can give us more insight into the lifetime challenge that we make this important decision in relation to. I am calling this the Lifetime Challenge Card and it is not to be confused with our Pluto Card in the Age 90 Spread, which has very similar connotations. No, I see this card as being of a more personal challenge, an internal conflict that we must resolve within ourselves.

Below, I will list each of the Birth Cards and their respective Lifetime Challenge Cards. You will notice that the fixed and semi-fixed cards do not have one. This is because they do not move or allow other cards to occupy their home position. If you are one of these cards and you are not a Leo sun sign, check the Lifetime Challenge Card for your Planetary Ruling Card. It's listed in Love Cards or you can call us and we'll tell you what it is. It is sometimes difficult to understand the meaning of this Challenge Card but if you study it, I am sure it will shed some light on your personal path.

**Moon Card Friendships**
by Katherine Camp

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Since my Birth Card is the ♠️, my Moon Card in the Life Spread is the 2♣️. I have a friend Jamie whose birthday is August 24th, a 2♣️. We met six years ago and immediately became buddies. It was rather an intense friendship. Sometimes we would talk non-stop for hours always feeling energized after spending an afternoon doing simple things, like walks or picnic lunches in the park. Sometimes it felt like we were in our own little bubble of enthusiasm, constantly having new awarenesses about ourselves and our relationships. She usually initiated our meetings and she seemed to look forward to the times we spent together.

It has been four years since I have spent any time with Jamie. I don't remember any significant ending to our friendship. Actually, I feel like our friendship was a catalyst for healthy changes for both of us and those changes created new people in our lives and different needs for both of us. But there is a quality to our friendship that I remember as a feeling of support and encouragement for who I am (the Moon Card Influence). Her incredible amount of energy and creative abilities inspired me to challenge my complacency and her child-like innocence touched the too-serious child inside of me that longed to play and be silly and break from the quest for perfection.

Last week Jamie moved into our apartment building and I immediately took a mental inventory of my life...Am I taking care of myself? Do I like what I am doing on a daily basis? Am I enjoying my life? Her presence reminds me to appreciate my own energy and enthusiasm and sparks my creativity and a genuine interest in just being myself. I am experiencing that familiar supportive feeling again, and we have barely spent half an hour in conversation since she arrived. When Jamie told her sister that she had moved next door to me, her sister's comment was, "Isn't it a blessing that you two live so close". There is definitely something uplifting about the Moon connection.

I have another friend, Stephanie, who is a ♠️ by birth. One of her Karma Cards is the 2♣️, my Moon Card. We occasionally get together for dinner and we always have lots to share with one another and it is so enjoyable to be with her. I feel the same sense of positive support and encouragement and appreciation from her that I feel with Jamie, and I feel free to be myself, expressing all my thoughts and feelings without fear of judgment or insensitivity. It feels safe to be with them. And isn't that the best foundation for a true friendship? Who are Your Moon Cards?
Articles from the November, 1994 Newsletter

The Pinnacle Years, Part Two - The Six-Year Cycle

Last issue we discussed the significance of a certain cycle that is represented in the cards, a year that I call the Pinnacle Year because our Birth Card moves to the very top center position of the Grand Solar Spread. To understand this you must be somewhat familiar with the 90 Quadrations of the Grand Solar Spreads as taught in The Advanced Oracle Workbook or Sacred Symbols of the Ancients, a book by Florence Campbell and Edith Randall. This Pinnacle Year assumes great importance and for many of us, indicates a turning point or stepping off point in our lives.

The rest of the story is that our Pinnacle Year is actually part of a 6-year cycle of great significance. I think if you study this cycle in your own life and the lives of others, you will see that it can be one of the most important times of our lives. Lookup when your Birth Card reaches the Pinnacle on the table on page 14. Keep in mind that seven of the cards in the deck, the Fixed (K♠, 8♣, and J♥) and Semi-fixed (A♣, 2♥, 7♦, 9♥), do not have a Pinnacle Year because these cards choose not to move about the Grand Solar Spread as the other 45 cards do. However, if you or someone you know is one of these cards, you can check their Planetary Ruling Cards instead. The Planetary Ruling Cards are listed in our book, Love Cards.

The cycle I am referring to begins three years before the Pinnacle Year and ends two years after it. Three years before, our Birth Card is located in the Crown Line, again at the top of the Grand Solar Spread, but this time it is sitting in the position of the 10♣. This year often marks the beginning of our rise to the top of our profession, or of our rise to the summit of our lives as we had known it. We see, in that year, indications of what is to be three years later. For those who are career and achievement-oriented, this first year of the cycle can be a time when they start to see their dreams coming true. They notice that they are being more successful and achieving more recognition for their efforts. They could get a promotion that year or somehow have their work recognized. For those who are not so career-oriented, this year can be seen as more or less a premonition of things to come. At the Pinnacle Year, there will be a great change in the person or in his or her life. This year will exemplify in some way the qualities that will be let go of or completed in the Pinnacle Year that will follow three years later.

We have to keep in mind that the Pinnacle Year is when we reach the place of completion for an important phase of our life. This can be like reaching the peak of a tall mountain after days of climbing. In this example, the year that is three years before the Pinnacle Year could be synonymous to having reached about half way up the mountain. At this point, we get a taste of what it will be like at the top. Having reached half-way is an accomplishment in itself so there can be recognition at this point in the journey as well.

The Pinnacle Year

Then we reach the Pinnacle Year in the 4th year of the cycle. On some level we undergo an important transformation. Whether or not we are aware of it, we arrive at a peak
point in our life that year. This may be a personal peak or a professional peak, or a combination of both. In any case, we say goodbye to a life we have lived for at least the previous 7 years and proceed on to a new life in some fashion.

**The Most Blessed Spot**

Then, two years later comes the final, and probably the most significant year of the entire cycle. In this 6th year our Birth Card moves to what I call "The Most Blessed Spot" in the Jupiter/Jupiter position of the Grand Solar Spread, occupied by the 10♦ in the Life Spread. This spot is considered to be the most fortunate in the entire spread because of the double Jupiter influence. In that year, we often receive a priceless gift. As a matter of fact, I often say that in that year, we will absolutely receive the thing that we want most in our life on the deepest levels. This is primarily a spiritual blessing. But it has been known to be very good for material blessings as well. In my case, it was this year, at Age 23, that I met my first teacher and master and moved into his ashram where I lived for ten years. The appearance of my master came after years of praying for someone to help me improve my life.

I have talked to many people about what happened to them in this six-year cycle. I have seen in many cases there was great suffering and personal growth during that entire cycle. That certainly was the case for me. However, I admit that I was in need of great learning and I wouldn't trade those experiences for anything. In other cases, I have seen people achieve great success in their work and careers. In the final year of the cycle, I have seen great spiritual awakenings and turnarounds in people's lives that help them start over again.

In some cases, I meet people who do not relate to this information very strongly. In these cases, I see that those people don't tend to place much importance on what's going on in their inner life. In order to make use of this information, you must have some degree of self-awareness. Those who are more or less unaware of their intentions, directions, etc. may not relate to this information at all. But for those on the path, this information can give priceless guidance at a critical juncture in their life.

**The 9♥ and 7♦ - Inseparable Partners**

These two cards, inseparably linked, offer a unique look at some of the deeper mysteries found in the Science of the Cards, which in turn reveals mysteries of life itself. It doesn't matter if you are a 9♥ or 7♦ by birth, because at some time you will be influenced by one or both of them. For those who are the 9♥ or 7♦ Birth Card, there is little doubt that their life is both unique and fascinating, and a demonstration of the polarities of good and bad.

First of all, it should be noted that these two cards are Karma Cards to each other and each is one side of a peculiar coin. On one side is a double influence from Venus, the planet of values, pleasures and love. This side belongs most strongly to the 7♦. On the 9♥ side of the coin we have a double influence from Saturn, what might be considered the antipode or opposite of Venus. Saturn rules hardships, loss, adversity, and the payment of negative karma. For the 9♥, life is seldom a bowl of cherries.
The 7♦ and 9♥ "own" these two locations on the Grand Solar Spread (Venus-Venus and Saturn-Saturn) and no other cards may ever occupy their places. Each new year, these two cards switch places going back and forth to the two positions which in many ways are opposite ends on the scale of experience.

Being members of the special family of three fixed and four semi-fixed cards, none of the other 45 cards may ever know just what it is like to live under such extreme opposites. However, at certain times, every person will have some experience of these two cards when they appear in our spreads. When this happens, we receive a taste of the dual nature of their life.

For example, my card, the Q♦, has the 9♥ in Jupiter in its Life Spread (Age 90). Through this card I have learned that the greatest benefits (Jupiter) come through giving (9♥) and that losses (9♥) can always bring gains (Jupiter). Likewise, my 7♦ son has taught me much and helped me to actualize true prosperity consciousness (7♦ in Jupiter which displaces my 9♥ is often called 'The Millionaire's Card'). It was during a year when I had a 7♦ Long Range that I made the greatest breakthrough in my struggle with my own poverty consciousness. There are no accidents in life. Our associations with these two cards always teach us important lessons.

Sevens and nines are generally the most feared cards in the deck and this is not surprising. Their appearance in our spreads is usually accompanied by some sort of physical or mundane adversity, the kinds of adversity that most of us go out of our way to avoid. One look at the life of a 7♦ or 9♥ and you will see the mark of Saturn there. In most cases a close inspection will reveal experiences that most of us would call tragic. Sexual molestation in childhood, deaths in the family, loss of loved ones and other forms of separation are generally the rule of thumb for these people. When we look at their lives, we would tend to think, "How unfortunate for them." Indeed, some 9♥ and 7♦ people do succumb to these interpretations of others and begin seeing themselves as poor unfortunates. However, this is not really the truth at all. These two cards are equipped with almost superhuman strength of will and possess a direct connection with higher planes of consciousness. This special equipment gives them the ability to endure and rise above the very worst that life can dish out, and to go forth as if nothing had happened.

These are no ordinary people. Even those who occupy the highest places in terms of our society bear the scars of many losses. But many bear it effortlessly and with smiling faces. If it is true that God never gives us more than we can handle, then these cards have an enormous capacity to handle the extremes of life.

We find these people in all walks of life, at all levels of prosperity, recognition and social status. But what is common for all of them is this inner strength along with a deep understanding of life that can only come through direct experience. This understanding leads many of them to take on important commissions of spiritual work. They can become profound healers, teachers and counselors. Their connection to higher planes gives them more than average psychic ability. Many become channels for knowledge or healing energy. Whatever their profession, one thing is certain: they cannot be dissuaded in the least from their chosen path. Their powerful will is unshakable and their path unchangeable. Through their influence we can know that the harshest extremes that life has to offer are always accompanied by the profound spiritual understanding and strength that will allow life to go
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When we find one of these cards appearing in our spreads, be it a weekly or yearly spread, we will be given a choice as to a frame of mind and point of view. We can either adopt a fear of the possible adversity that will appear or prepare ourselves for a profound spiritual expansion of consciousness. These cards can help us to rise above the duality of life to that place where duality becomes oneness. In this place of tranquillity, nothing is either good or bad. Everything just IS.

Under the influence of either of these two cards, and they often appear at the same time, we will either experience our spiritual power or give in to the belief that we are victims of a world that is unloving and out to get us. It may be compared with getting into a elevator with two buttons. The top button says 'heaven' and the bottom button says 'hell'. Which will you choose when these cards come to pay you a visit?

Are you in a Spiritual or Material Cycle right now?

At any given time in our life we are in either a spiritual or a material cycle. These cycles last anywhere from 1 to 7 years in length and will go back and forth over the course of our lives. If we understand the benefits of each cycle, we can know how to best take advantage of them and the gifts they bring us. Every cycle has something to offer us, if we know where to look.

During a Material cycle, we will have more prosperity and success in our work. Things will come easier to us and we will witness ourselves growing in relationships, finances, popularity, and recognition. Many of our wishes will come true. During a Material cycle we will go along for a while and gather up a certain amount of success.

However, a great material cycle may not enhance our spirituality at all. As a matter of fact, it could decrease our spirituality and our awareness of ourselves. We could take all the good fortune we have for granted and begin to expect that life should be such and such a way. If we are inwardly afraid of certain things, we could use the money and power we gain to avoid facing the truth about ourselves. This happens a lot to those of us who experience great success and ease of life in our younger years. We begin to place demands and expectations on life that are based upon avoiding some of our deepest fears. When this happens, we become ripe for a "pruning" time. We reach a plateau in our life and must enter a Spiritual Cycle to progress on in our lives. At this point, we often feel dead in a sense. We often have lost the ability to really enjoy our life and have lost touch with who we really are.

A friend of mine did a dramatic shift from a material to a spiritual cycle. She had received a lot of money through a legal matter that turned out in her favor. This money gave her about a year of time in which she did not have to work and in which she didn't have to look closely at how or where she was spending her money. She had just gotten divorced from a ten-year marriage as well and had never really had to learn to budget or even how to earn her own money. As a result, she spent her money quickly and foolishly. However, at the time she thought that she was in the midst of a very prosperous period of her life.

Then, about a year later, the money ran out and reality set in. Without money she had to work and she discovered that work wasn't something that she had ever learned how to do or to enjoy. She had to stop eating out a restaurants and stop spending money on her credit card.
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cards. The illusion of wealth took almost six months to wear off but eventually she realized that she was in big trouble and had to do something about it. This realization marked her initiation into her spiritual cycle.

When a spiritual cycle comes along, material concerns will be problemsome and difficult. Finances could be a major problem. Relationships could be extremely difficult and we could have other challenges such as health or work concerns. We will have problems in the areas that we need the most growth. People or things that we are attached to are pulled right out from under us. Actually, we experience the greatest difficulty in those areas where we have erected big attachments and have little self awareness. The pain we suffer during these times serves to wake us up to our own truth and shake us up to what really living is about. However, at the time, we usually complain bitterly about our experiences and go through the whole process of anger and blame until we arrive at the truth, which can take many years in some cases. The harder we resist what is happening and try to avoid the pain we are feeling, the worse it gets.

When I was 21 years old, I was at such a place in my life. I had accomplished what I wanted and yet, I was most unhappy. I had many lovers, success in music and financial success, but I found that I was miserable inside. I was even thinking about suicide because I could see no other option that could help me. After two years of much prayer, I met my first real spiritual teacher and moved in to his ashram to study yoga. This was the beginning of a major spiritual cycle in my life.

My first years at my master's ashram were some of the most difficult of my life. It was only knowing that I had no alternatives and believing that I could improve myself by being there that kept me going. It was so difficult that I had to make one-day commitments to be there. I would wake up and just tell myself, "I'll stay here one more day and see if I can handle it". I hated it. And yet I trusted that if I just kept doing the things I hated, my life would improve.

Spiritual cycles are the ones that we think of as being the most difficult and yet, they are the ones in which we mature and develop true wisdom in. The spiritual cycle is the one that brings us in touch with our inner self. This is the time that we really develop inner wisdom and self-acceptance. For example, in a material cycle, we can go along having success even though we hate ourselves on the inside. During the Spiritual cycle, this inner self hate will come to the surface and will have to be dealt with. Without the wisdom that we gain in the Spiritual cycle, we would not be able to go forth into the next Material cycle.

If we think of a child as an example, we can see the cycles at work more clearly. A child is basically happy in the arms of his or her mother, but as it grows it must face the challenges of learning to walk, express its needs and integrate into society with all of the rules that make up living in our world. There are many trying times for a child as it grows and encounters new situations to which it must adjust and learn. The challenges are synonymous to the Spiritual Cycles that adults go through, just on simpler terms. Some cards in the deck, such as the sevens and nines and my own, the Queen of Diamonds, will have many spiritual cycles early on in their life. The early life will seem to be full of trials and great tragedy in some cases. For us, the material cycles seem to be few and far between. However, these same cards develop a lot of wisdom early on in life as a result of all the hardships. Thus, when they reach their 30's and 40's they usually have a lot of life experience that helps them to have good fortune as an adult and even more as they get older. The classic
Horatio Alger story is an example of this dynamic at work. It can be seen from this that adversity in life usually breeds strength and determination. This goes contrary to the belief held by many parents that they should do everything in their power to protect their children from the hardships of life.

People who do not experience spiritual cycles in their early life will usually do so later. These are the ones that rise up to great heights early in life but seem to fall down to tremendous lows as an adult. Going to a 20-year high school reunion should convince you of this as you will notice that many of the people who were the most popular and successful as high school students ended up having tragic lives as adults.

We tend to avoid spiritual cycles at all cost, but in truth, it is the hardships and challenges of life that bring us the precious gift of wisdom. This wisdom in turn, reduces the number and frequency of the spiritual cycles in our adult life. Once we have learned the lessons of the spiritual cycles, we have no need to experience the pain and suffering that goes with being so out of line with our inner self. I have found that spiritual awareness is something that, once developed, continues to be my guide and friend regardless of which cycle I am a part of. Less and less do I feel the great difference between a spiritual and a mundane cycle. Spiritual challenges seem to be more or less constant now, as do material successes.

A person who has reached a point in their life where they have discontinued any self exploration and self-analysis, will live a life that is at the mercy of things called "luck" and "fate". Those are the ones with the "Shit Happens" bumper stickers. For these people, there will always be a nagging feeling in the back of their minds that something bad could happen any moment. They know that those spiritual cycles, which they consider to be bad luck cycles, are bound to occur at any time.

I do believe that all of us have the ability, through our spiritual and personal development, to reach a point where we have basically an unending flow of material success, along with daily, weekly, and yearly spiritual challenges to go with it. I don't believe that anyone ever grows beyond any challenges, but that we progress into more subtle and less gross-material challenges as our spiritual development unfolds. However, as the challenges become more subtle, we also are enjoying our life more in general and tasting experiences that we have never had before. Life becomes a true adventure with more wonder unfolding every day. We become 'wonder-full', full of wonder at the mystery and beauty of life.
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Articles from the January, 1995 Newsletter

What is Astrology?

Your astrological natal chart is essentially a map of the planets in our solar system at the moment of your birth, taken from the perspective of your position on the earth. This map tells you where each of the planets were at that moment, along with the name of the constellation that appeared on the eastern horizon (your ascendant). The map of the sky includes those planets that were overhead as well as those that were visible only from the other side of the earth from where you were born.

This map also tells us what sign and house each of these planets occupied at the moment of our birth as well as their respective angles between themselves, called aspects. All of this information is significant and each little detail of the chart carries a meaning as it relates to our personality or our life.

The natal chart is essentially a map of our personal karma. A trained astrologer can look at our chart and tell us many things that we would consider impossible to know. Though many astrologers use a chart to tell us about our personality traits and such, its real intended use is to reveal the inner workings of our personal karma. By knowing how to interpret the information of the natal chart, we can know the underlying reasons for our traits and see into the very core of our being. This can be a powerful experience, one that liberates us from inner conflicts and helps us accept ourselves as we are.

So, as we discuss the different aspects of the natal chart, we will be talking about it from this angle. We want this information to reveal the most meaningful reasons for our habits, beliefs, points of view and other patterns. I believe that the truth will set us free. If we are willing to look at ourselves truthfully and lovingly, we will discover that we are love and in this discovery begin to love ourselves much more consciously. Remember that truth is not real truth unless it is shared with love or shared for loving reasons. The more that I have learned about the sacred sciences, the more I realize that it is all about helping us to accept and love ourselves.

We may resist seeing certain aspects of ourselves. There may be things that we discover that seem alien or unfamiliar. Still, other things may provoke a negative response in us. Any of these reactions speak more about our relationship with ourselves than they do about astrology. Each of us is on a personal path to the truth. If astrology helps you along the way, it is your tool and you must own the consequences of using it.

So, this is just to let you know that we will begin this new series in our next issue and to prepare yourself by getting a copy of your chart and, if you like, the two books I have mentioned. Next issue we will proceed straight into some of the most significant aspects of our natal chart with many other chapters to follow. This may actually become a regular part of the newsletter.
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The Way of Saturn

After learning of Saturn from my friends when I approached my 28th birthday, I was very fearful of what might happen during my first ‘Saturn Return’. The Saturn Return happens to all of us around age 28 as that is how long it takes transiting Saturn to make one complete rotation around our birth chart. My Saturn Return was very difficult. It wasn’t the most difficult time of my life but it certainly was a challenging time. After that, I had respect for Saturn though I still didn’t quite understand what he might be trying to teach me. Now, at Age 41 I think I am beginning to understand how he operates and how to best handle his influence in my life.

As a Queen of Diamonds, my entire life is governed by Saturn. All but one of my Life Path Cards are in the Saturn row and my Birth Card sits in the Saturn Row and the Mercury column. Because of this position, Florence Campbell called the Queen of Diamonds the hardest card in the deck to be. However true this may be, there is a good side to Saturn that can be discovered if one is truly interested. Having found this good side, I am using it to propel my life to the place where I want it to be.

Saturn is definitely about discipline and following rules. It is about being responsible, adult-like, and concerned with one’s reputation. Since our reputation is really what other people are saying or writing about us, Saturn has a lot to do with our relationships with others, especially those who may have something to do with our work or careers. It is no accident that Saturn is exalted in Libra, the sign of relationships, balance and fairness. Saturn teaches us that success in life only comes through honoring those around us and treating them fairly and consistently.

If we listen to Saturn’s call, we will remove our attention from childish things and begin to have more appreciation and respect for acting as an adult. We will let go of some of our fantasies in favor of practical plans that will work. Most importantly, we will make sure that the things that we do and say give proper consideration to those around us. Saturn teaches us that what we do has a great impact on those around us. Before we make important decisions, we consider how those decisions will affect everyone in our life. If we are keeping them in mind, then our decisions, and the actions that follow them, will always serve to better our reputation and will attract more success into our lives. On the other hand, if we disregard those around us and how our words and actions will affect them, we create negative karma which will inevitably catch up with us. We may rise to great heights but are actually making an appointment with Saturn to be taught some difficult lessons of life at some time in the future.

Saturn likes success to come slow and easy. He doesn’t go for things that happen overnight. He likes long-lasting things that have a strong foundation. He showers the most success on people and enterprises that start out with a good plan and that are carried out step by step over a period of time. Saturn will teach us that plans and actions made hastily will often end in failure and defeat. Saturn is especially important to those who desire to achieve some measure of success, fame, notoriety or importance. His rules and ways will not be so important to others who may want to spend their life playing, traveling or just living a simple existence. Still, all of us are influenced by him at some time or another, usually mostly in our early life.
As we get older, we usually get more Saturn-like in our own ways. Thus, it appears that Saturn doesn’t punish us as much. Most people note that their second Saturn return, which occurs around age 56, isn’t usually that difficult. In many cases it brings more recognition and success. It has been said by many astrologers that the karma associated with our natal chart dissipates in our late 30’s to early 40’s and that life gets easier then. I have noted that this is usually true, but there are exceptions. Anyone who has spent their life avoiding the lessons of responsibility and fairness can still have great difficulty in their later years. It all depends upon the individual and his or her degree of awareness and willingness to assume responsibility for their life.

Once Saturn is on our side, and that means that we are well educated with his rules and are structuring our life with them in mind, he becomes an invaluable ally. It is strange to say but once we are living within the boundaries implied by Saturn, we are protected from harm by any of the influences that in earlier years may have caused us great harm. It is like a man going to court for something he didn’t do. Knowing that he has lived his life correctly gives him a certain power. Knowing that he is innocent gives him freedom from fear and the courage to stand up for the truth. Walking in the truth, we are protected from harm. Living the path of Saturn also guarantees our success in our work. Living with an awareness of, and obeying his laws we are slowly lifted higher and higher to greater levels of success and prosperity.

If we observe our Saturn Card in our Life Spread, we will see one area of our life where we must be diligent and consistently disciplined. This Saturn Card in our Life Path represents an area of life in which we disobeyed Saturn’s laws to a great extent in past incarnations, and an area in which we must put in a lot of effort in order to correct this habitual way of being that is so out of line regarding fairness, responsibility and consideration for others. We can learn a lot about our Saturn card and about other cards that fall in a Saturn row or column in our Life Spread. Just in case you don’t understand which cards I am talking about, here is a list of all the cards that fall in a Saturn row or column. If you have any of these in your Life Spread (Age 90), you could have some lessons to learn in the areas suggested by the meanings of the cards:

K♠ 5♠ 9♠ 2♦ 8♠ 9♥ 2♣ 
6♦ Q♦ 5♥ 3♠ 3♦ 7♠ 5♦

**The Ace of Spades & the Hidden Truth - Part 1**  
“Let those with eyes see.”

The Ace of Spades is a direct symbol of some of the deepest of spiritual truths. As many of you know, this card has many meanings. First of all, it is one of the most ancient symbols for death and transformation. The appearance of an A♣ has always instilled fear in the hearts of men for ages, especially those of us who are afraid of change. Next, the A♣ is the most ancient symbol for The Order of the Magi, the fellowship of esoteric scientists, sages, astrologers and teachers that is responsible for the preservation and dissemination of this valuable system of self understanding. One must ask, ‘Why would the Order of the Magi choose the A♣ as their symbol?’ and ‘What is the true meaning of this powerful card and its implications for our life?’
The A♠ on a very basic level means ‘secrets’. The appearance of an A♠ in your reading could indicate a secret of some kind in your life. It also is the most powerful of the Aces and Aces mean ‘desire’ and ‘passion’. Aces are beginnings and as such the A can mean a new beginning in our life on a profound level. Every new beginning in our life happens just after a death of some kind. Thus, the association of the A♠ with death.

But on a deeper level, the A♠ has a much more profound and valuable message for us. The A♠ is that one card in the deck that represents the hidden truth that lies behind the veil of illusion in the world. To understand this, we must see first of all that there is a difference between what we perceive and what is the truth.

Take, for example, the act of reading a newspaper. We sit and read a certain story, an article, which is essentially some person’s report of something that has happened. So, we have this report and in this report certain conclusions are drawn about what happened, the motives of the people involved, the reason why it happened and the outcome of the action. So, basically we have an evaluation of what has occurred and now comes the test. Are we going to believe what that article has told us? Do we take that article to be the truth? What is the real truth of that situation?

Look at the O.J. Simpson case as a perfect example of this dynamic. Do you really know the truth about this case or are you drawing conclusions based on what you have heard and read? We must be honest with ourselves and admit that we do not know. In this example, even the facts of the case seem to be questionable. We really don’t know who to believe.

The true master of life is the person who can see through the veil of illusion into the heart of each matter that crosses their path. When we look at a certain person and see them doing the things they do in their life, is there any way for us to know their true reasons for doing what they are doing? Is there any way we can know if what they are doing is making them happy or not? I say that most of us draw quick conclusions about other people and other things in life but that in the majority of cases we are wrong, and in some cases, seriously wrong.

As an example, let’s say that you notice a person who has achieved great financial wealth in their life. This person is admired by others and you look at him or her and you say to yourself, ‘Wow, I would love to be that person! He (or she) must be very happy!’. This is a very common thing that most of us do most every day in some fashion. However, do you have any idea WHY that person worked so hard to achieve that accumulation of financial power and do you have any idea of what that person went through to get it? If we believe what the media tells us, we might fall into the classic Horatio Alger story of the young person who grows up in a home of poverty and who strikes out to make it on their own, the classical American success story. However, it is entirely possible that this person’s entire motivation for being successful is a deep-seated belief that he or she is not worthy of love. In this person’s rise to fame or financial success, he or she could have committed many injustices to his or her family and friends. Many could have been hurt in the process and that person could be one of the most miserable people you have ever met, constantly having to protect themselves against imagined attackers on all sides.

Only someone who knows their own weaknesses can see the weaknesses of others. Only someone who is courageous enough to look at their own faults, errors and mistakes can see those of others without judgment. And this is just what it takes to see through the veil of
illusion. What is really going on around us is in reality much different than most of us perceive. Many of the dreams and fantasies that we hold about life were based on false evidence presented to us by the media, books, magazines and people of low consciousness and integrity. And that is the reason that those dreams never come true. That is the reason for so many suicides and other deaths among those that we hold in such high esteem.

We are going to examine this ‘Truth Behind the Veil’ more in upcoming articles. If we can begin to see the world as it really is, we can discover and tap into our unlimited power. Once we see the hidden truth behind our own actions, we will understand the actions of others more completely and will not be fooled by anyone or anything. Let’s end this first article by simply saying, ‘Begin to distrust what you know’. It is not what we don’t know that harms us. It is what we don’t know that we don’t know. Begin to distrust what you think is the truth and be open to seeing things differently. Create some mental and perceptive flexibility. It could lead to some profound discoveries and revelations.

**Articles from the March, 1995 Newsletter**

**Random Acts of Kindness**

If you have ever read any of books about people who have died and then come back to life, such as Life After Life, you find that most of the people had the same experience. One of the things they all experienced was what they called a ‘panoramic review’ of their entire life in which they relived their entire life in a matter of moments. The other interesting thing they reported was that the things about their life that stood out the most were not the great things that they had done or accomplished, but small, seemingly unimportant acts of love and kindness to others that they never would have normally remembered or thought of as being of any significance. These small acts, they all said, became the most meaningful of their entire life, when all was said and done. Another interesting thing was that all of them, when they returned, had major changes in their life and many of them ended up in some sort of service organization where they could tend and minister to others. I believe their experiences to be very significant in the grand scheme of things. Sometimes, when I look at my life and try to determine just what it is that I am doing that is really worth anything, I come up with a simple answer. It is really the love I give to others that means anything in my life. It’s not the books I write, the software I create or how much money I make. It is just being a gentle human being, considerate of others, tolerant and yet committed to my personal truth. This may be all that life is really about. So, let’s start living our life as though this was our last day on the planet and begin dispensing random acts of kindness for no reason.
Lessons in Astrology - Part One

As promised, this issue we begin our lessons in Astrology. Of course, we have to start at the beginning and assume that you don’t know a lot about it, but I am assuming that you know how to understand the symbols and diagrams on a Birth Chart. We begin this issue with a discussion of the most important of all the planets in our chart, The Sun.

The Sun

Throughout history in most cultures our sun has been regarded as the first and foremost symbol of our soul. Just as our soul is constantly giving us anything we think about, without judging or analyzing what we think about, so does the sun shine down on everyone, regardless of their race, creed, color, or belief systems. Because the sun sits higher in the heavens than anything else we can imagine, it has always been associated with royalty and leadership. A good king is supposed to act like the sun by giving to his subjects and caring for them while he leads them.

For each of us, our sun’s sign and house position point to a wonderful gift that we have. If we truly understand the law of Karma, we know that any such gift has to be the result of having done some good deeds in some former incarnation. Therefore, our sun is one of the things in our chart that represents good karma and that will tend to bring good effects in this lifetime.

In each of us the power of our sun shines forth with great brilliance. It is a gift that comes forth so strong that in many cases, it can be overdone. In some cases, it must be controlled so as not to cause harm to others inadvertently. It’s true nature is just to be expressed with love however. It is only in our ignorance of its power that we mistakenly abuse it.

Most of the sun sign’s interpretations are straightforward but there are a few, such as Virgo, Scorpio and Pisces, that manifest in a different way. As you read the interpretations that follow, see if you can get in touch with the essence of each of the gifts.

Aries

The Aries has the gift of Bravery. Aries people can be brave to a fault sometimes because in their zealousness to display their bravery, they fail to look before they leap. This courage of theirs comes from a former incarnation in which their bravery actually saved or helped some other people. In that lifetime, their courageous acts had an uplifting effect on those around them. Now, in this lifetime, they have an abundance of this quality, which they must now learn to express with patience and wisdom, which doesn’t always come easily to the Aries individual who would rather just express their instincts without having to think twice about it or worry about the consequences.

Taurus

The Taurus individual has the gift of Love. Because of a past life of having given true love to others, they are blessed with the natural desire to give. They are the best of gift givers and if you are smart, you will exchange gifts with a Taurus at Christmas. The Taurus likes to
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give gifts of the Earth, beautiful things or sensual things. When the Taurus is unable to give
to others, either because of their own emotional problems or because there is no one around,
this great love they have will be turned on themselves. When this happens, they go buy
themselves something, get a massage, or eat. The overweight Taurus with a house full of
beautiful objects is probably the one with the greatest blocks in the emotional arena. Love
demands an object or person to be given to.

Gemini

The Gemini person is the one who in a previous incarnation both developed and used
his or her mind in such a way that others were greatly benefited. Now, in this life, they have
the gift of this incredible mental power in abundance. Theirs is the mind that is quick to
analyze and make distinctions. However, with this gift comes the problems associated with
so much of a soul-identify with a quickly changing part of our makeup such as the mind. For
the Gemini, this manifests as being of short attention span and of being argumentative.
Gemini rules the 3rd house in Astrology, which is also associated with siblings. Like children
in Kindergarten, Geminis can tend towards a lack of concentration and quibbling with others.
This is the test for them.

Cancer

Cancers, regardless of sex, are mothers and have the gift of nurturing. This gift,
which is pronounced, came from having helped others to grow and develop in a previous
lifetime, perhaps even making a sacrifice to do so at that time. Now, in this lifetime, they
really know how to nurture. The problem comes when those they nurture grow up and
become self-sufficient. At that time, the Cancer person feels that they are no longer needed or
valued. Cancer women are notorious for being the mother that keeps her children home and
over protects them. Cancer men will hold onto their lovers with the same ferocity. Their
challenge is to be able to let go of those they have loved and nurtured and to not try to hold
onto them. This applies to all their relationships, personal and professional.

Leo

The Leo person is someone who voluntarily took on a position of leadership in a
former lifetime in such a way that their leadership helped others in a very beneficial way. In
this lifetime, they have this gift of leadership that is constantly wanting to be expressed. If
there are other aspects of the Leo person’s personality that have not been developed to that
point, he or she will misuse this leadership ability by being bossy and domineering and
generally looking down on other people as though they are some sort of peasants. The
challenge for many Leos is to express this leadership while not alienating others in the
process. If they begin to believe, as many do, that because of this leadership ability, they are
better than others, then this message will be received by those around them and they will
inevitably make enemies.

Virgo

The gifts that the Virgo person has are actually the result of having not done a whole
lot in a former incarnation in the areas of personal development. Because of a lifetime of lack
of achievement, the Virgo person is given the gift of a strong mental structure related to the
perfection of themselves. This gift gives them the knowing of what is good, bad, perfect and imperfect to a marked degree. They are masters of detail. However, this gift is not one that they themselves have made a part of their own soul’s learning yet, it is only instilled in the mind of the Virgo person. Therefore, this perfectionist way of thinking is a gift that allows the Virgo person to develop a quantitative method of measuring their development in this lifetime. When the Virgo person is meeting up to this internal measure of perfection, they are relatively happy. When they are not, they often project their own perfection-related needs on others around them and expect others to be perfect to make them feel better. Their lesson is to not project their own desire for perfection onto others, but instead keep turning it back onto themselves so that they can find the fulfillment they seek at a soul level.

Libra

The Libra person is one who really knows the art of relationship and how a perfect relationship should be. This gift comes from a previous incarnation when they took a very difficult relationship and then turned it around with hard work. This work they did had a tremendous uplifting and beneficial effect on their partner in that lifetime and from this, they inherit this good karma. The Libran is aware on some level that there is another soul out there, the same one they loved so much before. They often waste a lot of time searching for this perfect relationship when they could be working at a new relationship right now. Their challenge is to let go of the fantasy of the soul mate and put their love to work as they did in the previous lifetime.

Scorpio

All Scorpios had a previous lifetime in which they did something so terrible, in their own minds, that they decided to take their life to repay the debt. Having taken their life in that manner gives them a deep understanding of the laws of death and rebirth and sex, all of which are closely related. Many of them still carry around with them some guilt and darkness from the deeds of that past incarnation. It seems that for some of them, taking their life was not enough to pay off what they had done. It is this quality of transforming from a lower-natured individual to a higher-natured individual that is the main gift of the Scorpio person. It is their challenge to exemplify this ability to consciously die and be reborn, as many times as it takes to reach the heights they desire.

Sagittarius

Sagittarians have the gift of honesty and integrity. This gift came as a reward from having practiced honesty and integrity in a former life to such a degree that it influenced others around them in a very positive manner. The challenge for them in this lifetime is to temper this overwhelming urge to be blunt and honest with a consideration for how their words may effect others around them. Like the Aries person, they are very instinctual and must learn to think before they act or speak.

Capricorn
The Capricorn person is someone who accumulated good karma in a past life for some deed they had done on the mundane level. For example, a person who builds a hospital, or creates a huge organization to help the poor. This person may or may not have had any spiritual or inner awareness. The deed they did was more on the earthly or practical plane. This gives them a natural ability to achieve things on the physical plane and a desire to achieve something of importance again. However, it is their challenge to not let their material aspirations become an obsession and to learn to look at the other, inner and spiritual sides of life to find their fulfillment. It would be much more difficult, and a much greater accomplishment, for the Capricorn person to master his or her soul than to erect some tall building or accumulate a large sum of money.

Aquarius

The Aquarian is one who made a mark on others in a former incarnation by helping them achieve a unity where there was once warring or competition. This deed of theirs helped others see the beauty of harmonious relations and the benefits of accepting each others’ differences and unique qualities. In this lifetime, the Aquarian has a natural gift for accepting others as they are and for knowing how to create loving and harmonious relations between those of different religious or philosophical origins. However, in all their work with groups, many of them fail to see the importance of one to one relationships and shy away from any true intimacy. Their challenge is to learn how to love people one at a time first. By doing this, they will gradually create a circle of friends with whom they have close relations and eventually create the ideal community or network that they dream of.

Pisces

Like Scorpios, Pisces people had taken their own life in some previous incarnation connected to this one. However, they did it to escape from some very difficult and unbearable situation and not as a compensation for some deed they had done. Because they had taken their life as an escape mechanism, they come into this life with escapist tendencies. I like to say that all Pisces have something that they use to escape from reality with. Whether it be drugs and alcohol, or some movie or romantic novel, they all have some place to go when life seems too hard. They come into this life with a sort of sad feeling about life, that life is hard and that we are victims of some force much greater than ourselves over which we have no control. The gift that is given to the Pisces person is that of sensitivity to the needs and feelings of others. It is hoped, by the soul and its guides, that with this sensitivity, the Pisces person will turn his or her attention onto the problems of others. In doing so they forget about their own problems and develop a healthier attitude about life in general that corrects the depression related tendencies that they arrive with.

NOTE:
Much of the information I presented here was introduced to me by the book Astrology Plus by Hilarion. Since then, I have proven its accuracy over and over again in the hundreds of personal readings I have performed. I highly recommend this book to all students of Astrology as it presents much of the more hidden meanings of the planets and houses. This book, more than any other, transformed my understanding of Astrology and its real purpose here on the planet.
The Ace of Spades & the Hidden Truth Part 2

This installment we examine more of the common misconceptions about life and discover how to look life in the eye, as the Ace of Spades suggests we do.

When we look at someone who is held in high esteem in the eyes of the world, what do we see? When you see a famous actor or actress, someone who has risen to the very heights of fame and fortune, do you think they are a wonderful, evolved person who must be full of goodness and good qualities? Does it seem that God must love them because they have achieved such success? In other words, are successful people happy, adjusted and loving people? Or, on the other hand, are they so successful because they have such tremendous needs for approval that they would stop at nothing to avoid facing their inner self-rejection? Perhaps these people that we hold in such high regard are actually those whose emotional problems are so great that even the approval and admiration of a million people does nothing to help them feel good about themselves.

When we see a man or woman in office, such as a senator or a president, do we see a man who has the public’s interest at heart, someone dedicated to helping those that he or she has been elected to govern? Or is it that this elected official is only interested in power and fame at all costs and that they would stop at nothing, even murder, to stay in power, as long as they didn’t get caught? Perhaps many of those whom we have elected have deep emotional problems, problems that began in childhood, like you and I, problems that have never been addressed to any extent at all. So, in this light, I would like to present some other situations for you to ponder on.

1. Is the person who falls madly in love an example of the beauty of love OR are they an example of someone who hates their self so much that they need someone else to make their life okay?
2. Is a rich person rich because they have such a healthy sense of prosperity OR because their fear of poverty is so great that it completely dominates their life? In other words is the rich person rich because it takes a million dollars to make them feel safe and okay?
3. Is that woman a loving and caring mother OR is she a woman who will do anything to keep her kids from leaving her because she is afraid of finding out that she is nothing without someone to sacrifice herself for?
4. Is that man or woman ‘the world’s greatest lover’ because they have a gift from God in the sexual sense OR are they hopelessly addicted to sex and have made it the most important thing in their life because deep down inside they hate who they are?
5. Is television a great source of information and entertainment OR is it a vehicle for some of the richest corporations in this country to use subtle psychological manipulation on the masses in order to increase their profits?
6. Is that man or woman a great spiritual teacher OR are they using their God-given charisma and spiritual power to use their followers for money and sex?
7. Is insurance (life, health, car, house, etc.) a wonderful institution that helps us in time of need OR is it a calculated gamble that we use in order to not have to take financial
responsibility for our actions? From the insurance company’s point of view, is it them betting against us that they can collect more money than they pay out (and usually winning)?

8. Is that story we read in the newspaper or see on television a true account of what happened OR is it the story that was fabricated and fed to the press in order to achieve some other goal, such as free publicity to sell some product or service? In another sense is the story a true account OR is it an account that is tremendously biased by the beliefs and emotional problems of the reporter who wrote it?

These are just a few of the misconceptions that occur commonly in today’s society. I am not saying that all of them are true all the time, but I think that most of us would be surprised if we knew the truth. If we pay close attention however, we can know the truth, but only when we have developed the habit of being truthful with ourselves first.

**Life is Not Perfect and Truth is Relative**

This world we live in is never really perfect. Perfection itself implies something that is static and dead, so life is only perfect in its imperfection and in its never-ending capacity to challenge our concepts and fixed ideas about it. There are always higher levels of truth to discover once we have been honest about the levels that are right in front of our face. It is facing our own real motivations and fears that gives us the ability to see through the illusion created by the media and society. If I am avoiding my own feelings and blaming others for my problems, I will be happy to read articles and see things on television that support my belief in my helplessness.

However, one truth about life that we really cannot change is that we are the creators of our reality. The sooner we realize this essential truth, the sooner we align ourselves with the divine plan and truly begin to live. God made us in His image, so the Bible says. This means, that like God, we have the power to create. He created the Earth in seven days and we must create our lives under the governing energies of the seven planets that rule those seven days.

So, if we are unhappy with our life as it is, where do we look to find out how to change it? What must we do to create a life that is loving, wonderful, and prosperous in all areas? Well, there is only one place that we can look for these answers and that is within ourselves. We will not find our own truth anywhere else than within us. If, our life has many problems, struggles, wrong-doings, heartaches and pain, this is telling us that inside of us we have all these things in relation to our true self. If I hate myself, then I attract and create hate in my world. If I truly believe in struggle and pain as a way of life, then my life will be filled with struggle and pain. If I believe that I must not tell the truth if I am to survive and get what I want, then I create a world of liars where no one can be trusted.

Can you see the divine hand of our creator reflected in your life? Can you see that everything in your life is something that you have created out of the infinite possibilities that exist? The power we have to create has no mind or judgmental function of its own. Our soul, like the sun in the sky, shines on everyone, irrespective of their beliefs, actions or intentions. What molds our creating and determines what shows up in our lives is our own thoughts, beliefs, ideas, points of view, and most importantly, how we feel about ourselves.
Therefore, the highest work that we can do in the here and now is to monitor our thoughts, feelings, speech and actions and use our external life as a mirror to our soul. By observing the things we do and what happens in our life as a result of that, we can make some accurate evaluations of what is going on inside of us, what our beliefs are and what points of view we hold to be dearest. The goal here is to get in touch with how we are already creating our life, by tracing our thoughts and feelings back to their source.

**What is Responsibility?**

We are only really responsible to ourselves. But that is a great responsibility indeed. Each of us needs to take complete, 100% responsibility for everything in our life, including our choice of birthdays and parents. That seems absurd, doesn’t it? To say that you and I chose the time and place of our birth and that we chose our parents, etc.? That seems to be way out in left field. But there are two good reasons why we must choose to believe that we made these choices and that we are the ones ultimately responsible for everything in our lives.

The first reason is that this point of view is the only one that really gets results and helps our lives improve. It doesn’t matter if you believe in reincarnation or anything, but if you want to be happy, you will have to assume some sort of belief system that makes you the person responsible for your life. We can only change those things that we believe we created, because that implies that we can create differently if we want to.

The second reason that these truths must be adopted is that these represent the areas that we can change. Here we are, standing or sitting in 1995 with our lives revolving around us. Here we are, with our belief systems, fears, ideas, and points of views along with all the experiences that happen because of them. We CAN CHANGE these things. We can change our beliefs as simply and putting on a new set of clothes. We can change our point of view and we can overcome our fears. Because we can do these things, we can no longer blame them on our childhood, birthday or our parents.

True responsibility means changing the things that we can. If we make the necessary changes, it will not be important if our problems came from a past life or from our childhood. They will be OVER and that is all that is important. This is the only area that any of us have any true responsibility. Any other form of responsibility is either socially or personally imposed on us and will not make our lives any better or worse in any way.

Let’s be honest with ourselves. We are each guilty of so much more than we think and at the same time, we are each much more innocent than we think. In facing the truth of who we are, we learn to look destiny in the face. This is often very painful at first, but the end result is healing and life-expanding. And isn’t it true that many of the painful things we avoid are the best medicine for our souls? If we ever expect to experience something more than fear and confusion in this lifetime, we have no choice but to face the life we have created. What lies ahead for those who do is more beautiful than they ever imagined. I can say this from experience because I am doing this as I speak.
Lessons In Astrology - Part Two
The Importance of the Moon

The Moon is probably the most important planet as far as spiritual development goes today. Though we couldn’t do anything without the power of our Sun sign, it is the Moon that gives most of us the worst problems in life. The Moon represents our feminine, receptive self. But for many of us it represents our weak side. Many of us are at war with our feminine side and this causes many problems in the area of relationships.

Our Moon’s sign and position tells us many things. First of all, it tells us about our early childhood, what it was like from our point of view. Next it often accurately describes our mother, again from our own personal point of view. In many cases, it also tells us how we get along with women in general throughout our life. Finally, our Moon’s sign and position tells us about how we are emotionally and how easy or hard it is for us to get our needs met. The Moon represents needs.

A planet is said to be afflicted if it has a stressful aspect to some other planet that is stronger than itself. Strength is usually measured by its distance from the Earth. Therefore, the Moon is the weakest of all the planets, afflicts no planets and is always afflicted by any other planet that is in a square or opposition to it. That means if you have Moon square Venus for example, that your Moon, or emotions and needs for security, are being hampered by your Venus (desires, relationships, and pleasures).

Most of us have an afflicted Moon. Even those who don’t, often have a Moon that is in a bad position to start. A bad position is one that is for some reason not good for either expression of feelings or for dealing with emotions. The basically ‘bad’ positions of the Moon are when it is in the signs of Scorpio and Capricorn and in the 8th and 10th houses though there are others. The 8th house is the same as the Scorpio influence and the 10th is the same as a Capricorn influence. What else in a chart might give the same kinds of influences? Well, what about Moon conjunct Saturn? Since Saturn is the ruler of Capricorn, Moon together (conjunct) with Saturn is the same as Moon in Capricorn, for the purpose of interpretation. The same would apply with Moon conjunct Pluto, since Pluto is the ruler of Scorpio. But why, do you ask. are Capricorn and Scorpio bad for the Moon?

Moon in Capricorn means that you had a very short childhood, one marked by extreme discipline or harshness, an overbearing or authoritarian parent, and one in which you had to grow up early and assume some sort of responsibility. It usually represents an unhappy childhood. When someone has Moon in Capricorn, or with any negative aspect from Saturn, the harshness of childhood has left its mark on them. They are often sort of cold emotionally and are unwilling to open up to others. They have a hard time trusting people. As a result, they usually have a lot of problems in their personal relationships where intimacy is a requirement. The Moon in Capricorn person is not big on openness and trust. They have been hurt too many times to just open up to others. They can be very stern with their children and anyone who is living with them, just as their parents were to them. The Moon in Capricorn person is the wounded child, desperate for love but afraid to ask for it.
Visions, Volume III

Moon in Scorpio is similar in its effect but with a different twist. The Moon in Scorpio person had a mother or father that was an emotional manipulator. This was a parent that played emotional and need games with their children in order to keep them in line. The use of fear tactics and rejection, along with guilt and shame is often prominent in the childhood. The Moon in Scorpio person cannot trust anyone either, but usually women mostly. Their deepest fear is that of being manipulated by others, being used. They often create situations of emotional manipulation in their lives because that is what they tend to think everyone is up to. There can be sexual abuse as well because of the sexual connection of Scorpio, but this is not the rule. With the Moon in Scorpio person, their emotions are just tools to get what they want from others while keeping others from manipulating them.

There are other positions for the Moon that are challenging in their own way and most of us have at least one of them. I have met some people who have a strong and well aspected Moon, but it is the exception rather than the rule. In most cases, we are all struggling to get our needs met.

The eleventh house, or Aquarian Moon is also adverse to intimacy. They like to have lots of friends, but don’t want them to get too close. The fear of this Moon person is that if they get too close, they will lose their individuality. This is a very deep fear, but we can see it manifested in their life. We would get the same effect from the Moon in stressful or conjunct aspect to Uranus. The Aquarian Moon person also tends to intellectualize their feelings instead of just feeling them and for this reason it is considered to be a bad placement for the Moon.

How about Virgo, sixth house Moon? This is where the emotions are shrouded by a lot of mental analysis. The Virgo Moon person had a mother or father who was a neat freak. They made them feel that they must have everything clean and orderly or they were not safe. This is what the Virgo Moon needs to feel safe - to have their living environment neat and clean and to be told that they are a good boy or girl. Virgo is not considered to be a great placement for the Moon because it is so mental. The Virgo Moon person tends to think about their feelings and not feel them. This tendency to ‘not feel’ puts them somewhat out of touch with themselves in relationships.

What about the other positions of the Moon? What do they reflect and what are their qualities? Let’s start with mine, Moon in Aries, or Moon in the first house. This position gives a volatile emotional nature that is fairly self-centered. Emotions are intense and hard to control. Emotions are felt vividly, often painfully, and then are soon over and done with. The Moon in Aries person often has a weakened self image that he or she is trying to correct in this lifetime, usually the result of having had a dominating personality that made others feel ‘less than’ in some former incarnation. Moon in Aries often have a lot of aggression in their childhood, lots of fighting or shouting between family members. Their mothers are often aggressive or in some cases, violent.

Moon in Taurus or second house is in its highest position, termed ‘exalted’. In this position a person is loving, open, and very giving. It is the best position of the Moon and brings many blessings. However, even the blessings of this position can be altered by a stressful aspect from Venus, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune or Pluto. One must check all these factors before making a complete judgment about any given planet. But even afflicted, the Moon in Taurus provides a good foundation from which a lot of healing may happen. Regardless of what other aspects may be, this person has a basically strong love for
other people and open-heartedness that they can contact if they look inside of themselves. The Moon in Taurus person feels safest when their basic needs, especially money, are well provided. They need to make their own money.

Moon in Gemini or third house is a talker and a family communications center. This is the person you call if you want to know what is happening to anyone else in your family. As a child this person was encouraged to be smart and they usually are. They often have a twin set of parents, such as a grandparent that acts as a second mother or other situations similar to this. Like Moon in Virgo and Aquarius, they tend to intellectualize their feelings and this can make it harder for them to actually make contact with their inner needs. Talking makes them feel safe and secure and helps overcome this problem.

Moon in Cancer or fourth house is a very good sign for the Moon. Here is a person who has no trouble feeling, even in bad aspect. Affliction may cause problems in expressing or getting in touch with their feelings, but the feelings are definitely there and are very strong. There is usually a very close bond with the mother and with their early childhood. Many women with this are exactly like their mothers. The men with this position always have important relationships with their mother. The Moon in Cancer person was effected by his or her childhood to a greater extent than any other Moon sign. Whatever their childhood was, it was and is important to them. It is through studying their childhood and their relationship with their mother that they come to know themselves and raise their consciousness.

Moon in Leo, or fifth house, is someone who likes and needs a lot of attention. These are usually people who were adored as children and grow up expecting and needing a lot of attention and affection from those around them. It is a good sign emotionally and has a special gift, the power of forgiveness, which can be used to right almost any wrong in their life. They must take the kingly (Leo) approach in their personal relationships and emotions and rise above pettiness.

Moon in Libra, or seventh house, is someone whose basic needs revolve around having a partner and being accepted by their partner. This produces a very caring person, but also one who often places too much emphasis on what their partner says or does. They tend to feel insecure without having a partner and will often create relationships that are not so good just to have someone there to help them feel safe. These people often feel others needs as strongly as their own since they are so attuned to their partners and others in their life. This makes them good counselors and diplomats. It can also make them very afraid of losing their partner.

Moon in Sagittarius, or ninth house, is a person who had some sort of strong religious or philosophical influence in their life as a child. There was a strong ‘right and wrong’ ethic present and for this reason they tend to not feel their feelings, but instead rationalize them according to their philosophies. Instead of saying “I need you and want you to stay with me”, when their partner is leaving them, they will say, “It is wrong to leave your partner”. Get the picture? However, because of Jupiter’s benefic influence, this produces a genuinely giving person who will have some good karma in the areas of travel throughout their life.

Moon in Pisces, or twelfth house, is a very giving and soft-hearted person who is psychically attuned to everyone in their space. They often fancy themselves saviors as they go about second-guessing everyone’s needs and helping small furry animals and such. They are always caring for everyone else but themselves. They don’t have any needs of their own
and this is the main problem. As a child they learned to totally ignore their own needs and to
instead always take care of everyone else. Their mothers were either escapists or addicts of
one sort or another and this escapist tendency was passed on to them. This is one of the most
psychic of all the placements, but can create a host of problems in personal relationships
where expressing one’s needs and feelings is paramount to success.

The Ace of Spades & the Hidden Truth - Part 3

One of the most important things I have learned about truth is that it is relative. The
other important thing I have learned about truth is that truth without love is untruth. No
matter how much we know or understand about life, this knowledge will be useless to us if it
is not used with love and compassion. Truth can be used like a hammer to hit someone in the
head with or like a healing massage to help someone in time of need. Just how we use the
truth we have will determine whether or not it is real truth or truth being turned around to
meet our purposes.

Today, our media is exploding in its impact on our society. We see people in power
using this as a tool to attempt to shape our beliefs and opinions. If I am a lazy person, which
most people are, I might grow to depend upon the media or some certain television show to
provide me with the things that I believe. If I give all of my beliefs over to anyone outside of
myself, I am opening myself up to be very wrong about certain aspects of life. More and
more I see the need for me to take the initiative and explore things for myself and not believe
what I read or hear without making it true for myself.

I now believe that everything is essentially good from some point of view. I see life
as a grand evolutionary play of energy and each of us a being somewhere in this vast cosmic
soup of evolution. Each of us is heading up stream like the salmon at breeding time, striving
to improve our lives in every way we can.

At some points we think that we need more money to be happy and we strive like
crazy to make more. Is this wrong? Someone who has already tried it and found that money
did not bring them happiness may tell you that striving for money is wrong or bad. But when
they say this, they are not considering who they are talking to. They themselves needed to
make money an obsession for a while in order to learn about it.

You may say that the Jehova’s Witnesses are a bunch of looneys or that the Hare
Krishnas are out of their minds. Did you know that I was a Jehova’s Witness for a year and
lived in an ashram chanting Hare Krishna for ten years? Is it bad or wrong to do these things?
Or are they steps on a particular path to the highest truth?

Lately when I have counseled people I have come to realize that some of the truths
that I may have in me from my years of experience may not be appropriate for certain people
at a certain stage in their development. They may need to make mistakes and go through
certain painful experience, just as I did. Pain has been my greatest teacher in my entire life.
Who am I to deprive others of getting the valuable lessons that I myself have gotten? Do I
think I can help them by shielding them from the pain?

In keeping with the new age of Aquarius, I must allow each individual the freedom to
pursue whatever path they choose, unless their actions prove harmful to others in some way.
I must allow them to get the lessons they are learning from whatever position of truth they
are at. I must believe that they are doing what they are doing because that is the best thing for them at their current stage of development. This applies not only to their religious beliefs, but also to their choices of lifestyle, music, relationships and other areas. This is the Aquarian Age where everyone is to be allowed their own unique expression.

Today, we are more aware of the diverseness of this world than at any other time in history. Because of the tremendous growth and development of communications, ruled by Aquarius, we are now in touch with everything in this world as if it were in our own back yards. We now see and feel what is going on everywhere and are forced to decide what we make of it all and how we fit into all of it. It is frightening at times as we are constantly bombarded with so many cultures, beliefs and points of view. Everything is being intensified, especially our fears and judgments of others. It is now, more than ever that we must be aware of the relative quality of truth and not use our own truth to try and force others to conform to our personal place in the evolutionary stream.

Otherwise we may kill each other in the name of our own personal beliefs, as we have for so many centuries. There have been more wars and wrongful deaths done in the name of God than anything else. Killing, for any reason other than pure survival or defense, is still killing. No philosophy, religion or reason will make it okay, or protect you from the Law of Karma which will cause you to reap what you sew.

So let’s begin to see everyone in our world as doing the best they can. Whatever their goals and dreams, beliefs and ideas, let’s see them as finding their own highest expression among the diversity of life. In this way, we will allow ourselves to be less than perfect and to fully explore all that this life has to offer.

The Evolution of the Soul as Seen in the Cards

Consider the table above as we discuss the qualities of the suits and how they apply to our lives. The four suits can be seen as an evolutionary process that we go through in the course of the development of our soul and personality. We have the four seasons of life in which we have these four predominating influences for certain periods. If we examine the lives of 10,000 people, we will see a pattern emerging that fits these suit-phases exactly. I believe that these phases are also a part of our spiritual and personal growth, whether it takes one lifetime or a thousand. I have listed these suits in reverse order just to illustrate the powers of the suits - that the higher the suit is, the more power it has.
Hearts are the first and least powerful of the suits. This is not to imply that any suit is better than any other. In fact we need mastery of all four suits if we are to achieve complete mastery of the self and of our external lives. Hearts is childhood, home and family, love, relationships, feelings and emotions. It is during our childhood that we develop our self-esteem. Our feeling and emotional habits are formed and set through the influence of our parents and our life at home. Our childhood influences us, for better or worse, for the rest of our life. It can take years of therapy and self analysis to change those feeling patterns that we created then. Many of us try and try to change the way we feel about life and the way in which we respond emotionally to situations. Just think of yourself. How many emotional habits such as fear or anger have you been working on? How successful have you been in changing these patterns? The task is enormous.

One of the keys that psychologists and others have discovered is that our emotions come from our beliefs about ourselves. Negative emotional patterns can always be traced to a deep seated belief. For example, if I believe that I am basically unlovable, every time someone says something that I think is unloving, I may respond in anger or in shame. It may not be true that they actually were being unloving or even expressing disapproval of me. If I believe that they were, I am already responding emotionally to what they said before my mind has a chance to intervene. These underlying beliefs are where the Clubs come in. If we can alter our beliefs about life and ourselves, we can watch our emotional patterns change instantly. If you have a specific emotional problem, you can bet that it is because on some level you have a negative belief about yourself. The trick is that in order to find and identify that negative belief, one must be willing to feel the negative feelings that arise out of it. A good exercise is to just allow yourself to really feel some negative feeling. It will eventually lead you to the thought, belief or idea that it sprang from. Ultimately truth will overcome any and all negative emotional patterns. There is an ultimate truth that most Clubs are searching for. It would be a truth that encompasses all things and situations. One of those truths is that the universe is a loving universe. If we could adopt just this one truth in our lives, it has the potential to heal countless emotional wounds. Many people believe the world to be a basically unloving world that is out to get them.

So beliefs are very powerful things. They influence our lives in countless ways, especially our feelings. They act like filters through which we see life. We interpret most every incoming signal, whether it is something we see, hear, taste, touch or smell, through our beliefs before deciding what it means to us. But did you know that our beliefs are also very transitory things? Beliefs are influenced to a great extent by our values. To put it simply, what we want is more powerful than what we believe.

When we want something, we can create reasons for having it, we can justify it. This process of justification is belief-making in action. When someone asks us why, we can tell them our reason and it all sounds very clean and proper. The real and only reason though is that we wanted it. This is often a hard concept to grasp. Do you really know why you like the things that you like? Really?

Take a closer look and I think that you will discover as I did that I like them because I like them. We often acquire beliefs that will go along with the things we are creating in our life. If I want to smoke cigarettes, I can believe that cigarettes are okay and I can cite many examples of people who have lived to a hundred while smoking a pack a day to prove my point. Then, when I am quitting smoking, I can prove that cigarettes are not good for me and
believe that cigarettes are the worse thing. So, what is true and what changed? This is the
thing about beliefs. They are tools of a sort that we use to accomplish things that we desire.
They are like suits of clothing that we wear for different occasions. When we are done with a
certain occasion, we just take them off and put on something different.

Now, let’s get back to those desires of yours. Where do they come from? Are they
immutable and fixed or do they change from time to time? If they change, who or what
changes them? There is this thing call the ‘Will of God’ that must be reckoned with in this
equation of ours. You see, no matter what we feel, think or want, in the end it will meet with
conflict and problems if it is out of sync with universal will. We might call this will the Tao,
or as a guy on my pool team calls it, “the zone”. When we are in the zone, we are flowing
with things and everything proceeds smoothly and successfully. When we are out of the
zone, we have one failure after another, in spite of our best efforts. This is where the Spades
come in.

Spades may not necessarily be masters of will, but as a rule they are more
preoccupied with it than the other suits. They know, from experience, how the Will of God is
flowing. Many of their personal battles occur with others and themselves in the area of their
will, which usually translates to work. They appreciate others who have experience in
something more than those who just have a feeling or desire about something. Experience is
a key word for Spades. Wisdom is too, and wisdom comes to us only through experience. It
is by trial and error that we learn about the Will of God. It is by going through our mistakes
and feeling the pain and paying the prices for them that we really learn about life on its
deepest levels. We may have dreams, desires, feelings and ideas about things, but if they are
out of sync with reality, they will not manifest. It is when we have become totally aligned
with the Universal Will that we find peace and enlightenment. This may be the stepping off
place, or the beginning of an entirely new cycle in a new existence. All that we know is that,
in our current reality, these are the cycles that we know.

So, our path on the road to life begins with the Hearts and ends with the Spades.
Along the way, we learn many important lessons from each of these suits as we experience
the many levels of experience that each has to offer.
Articles from July, 1995 Newsletter

Newt Gingrich, K♣

Newt Gingrich is in the news almost every day of the year. He has always been known to be an outspoken idealist and of course, he is a known conservative Speaker of the House of Representatives. He just celebrated his Age 52 birthday on June 17th of this year. That puts his birth year at 1943 if my calculations are correct. I was a bit surprised and then not surprised when I found out he is a K♣. It did reinforce my respect for him but I can also see how many people react unfavorably to his outspoken views and his vision. Recently he appeared on television with President Clinton in a mild mannered debate. I was amazed at how well he handled Clinton, who, in my opinion, was completely defensive and of course, trying to steal the show as usual. Newt was polite and his ego didn’t get in the way of his cheerful attitude about the future of our country.

Newt reminds me a lot of another famous K♣, John Lennon. He has a vision and a dream - a free and healthy America. And he is not going to back down from his ‘knowing’ just to please others. He stands in direct contrast to our current president, who will say anything to get a better position in the polls and then change his position the next day if that seems to get more votes.

If you check out Newt’s cards for this year, I think you will see that it will have it’s share of challenges for him. The 9♠/7♠ Pluto and Result Cards will bring some sort of major challenges in his life. These of course, could be work or health related. Whatever the specifics, we know that they will be difficult. However they could represent personal challenges that you or I may not even be aware of while watching him in the media. As I have written about earlier, the Age 52 is the Critical Year, the year in which many of us decide whether or not we will truly live our life or die. I think Newt has already decided to live, but even so, his work is not complete. It will be interesting to see what, if anything, happens to him during the course of this year.

Lessons in Astrology - Part Three

Mercury and our Mind Potential

Being the very closest planet to the Sun, Mercury is extremely important in our natal charts. It acts like our ‘communications gateway’ to the rest of the planets in our chart. Mercury represents how we think and how we communicate with the world we live in. A well positioned and well aspected Mercury gives us the ability to make logical and rational assessments of things that we perceive along with the ability to communicate these things to others. Some positions and aspects to Mercury create genius. Other positions may create a lot of subjectivity, which is an energy that is contrary to good communications. If you are a Gemini or Virgo rising, Mercury assumes even greater importance in your charts, since it becomes the ruler or Lord of the Ascendant. In this case, everything about Mercury is doubled in importance to you since it so greatly affects your life. Everyone’s Mercury in
their natal charts tells a story about them. Let’s talk about some of these positions and aspects so that we can more fully understand it’s significance in our charts.

Mercury is situated best in one of its own signs, Virgo and Gemini, or in one of the houses ruled by those signs, the 3rd and 6th houses. These positions guarantee a clear and logical mind that is capable of making objective assessments of facts and situations. Mercury is exalted in Aquarius or in the 11th house. This is what we call the genius aspect. This can also occur if your Mercury is conjunct, sextile or trine the planet Uranus, which is the ruler of Aquarius. These positions give someone the ability to know the answers to things without having to logically figure them out. These are the straight A students who don’t have to study that much. Mercury being conjunct, sextile or trine Jupiter is also a good aspect. It confers a broad minded nature on the individual and success in getting one’s ideas published. Many successful writers have one of these aspects. People with these aspects can also readily comprehend most any concept, no matter how far out it may seem.

I have noticed that watching the Star Trek, The Next Generation series is a real exercise in broad mindedness. I love this show as my mind can keep up with its fast-paced concepts quite readily. But I have noticed how other people just don’t get some of the concepts or they will require a lot of explanation in order to understand them. This is directly related to the position of their Mercury. The futuristic aspects of this show are usually more appealing to those with the Aquarius influences on their Mercury since Uranus is the planet of the future and the unusual.

You can almost predict how Mercury will be in any of the houses and signs once you know the basic planetary rulerships of each. The houses are each associated with one of the signs as depicted on this page.

Once we understand how each of the signs or planets operate, we can begin to apply these meanings to not only Mercury in the signs and houses, but also to all the other planets as well. I hope that by this third edition of our Astrology series, that you are beginning to see the patterns that are emerging.

Put Mercury in the 1st house for example, and we have a Mars/Aries influence. If you have studied anything about Astrology, you can probably generate your own interpretation. Mars and Aries will, for example make a person aggressive in their communications. Mercury in Aries or in the 1st house, will do this and will also make the person somewhat self-centered in their communications. I have noticed that this often produces people who talk incessantly, are fond of debate (or arguments!) and tend to see things their own way only.

The 2nd house or Taurus Mercury person will be very practical and will think about money a great deal. They will use their minds to make money and look upon their

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minds as a viable source of income. They will often be slow to make decisions but will stick with them once they make them. The Venus influence often gives them beautiful voices and many become singers or professional speakers with great success.

The 3rd house or Gemini Mercury is versatile, keen minded and good at details. Unless this Mercury is badly aspected by some other planet, these people are logical and objective. Their minds will always lead them to good things and they can be trusted. These are talkers too and they have the ability to ferret out all your faults if they choose to. Because Gemini represents the youthful twins, this position can be associated with a person that is argumentative, like children are.

Put Mercury in Cancer or the 4th house and you have a very subjective person, which is not a good thing for Mercury. Basically, this person’s objectivity is greatly influenced by their emotions. The same thing can happen if Mercury is conjunct, opposite or square the natal Moon. Many K ♦ people have one of these aspects or positions. Emotional matters will ruin the objectivity of this person. Therefore, they have a responsibility to make sure that their emotions are well cared for. When they make decisions from them, they always bring bad results since they are not objective or rational.

Mercury in Leo or the 5th house resides in people who are proud of their expression and somewhat stubborn about it as well. Being opposite Aquarius, this is not the best position for Mercury. These people tend to overlook the details and go for the main point. However, they are very romantic (Leo) and can become the champion of some belief or cause. They need to work on getting all the details so that their arguments will hold water. They hate to be wrong or to be embarrassed by what they say. I have Mercury in Leo. Thank goodness it is in the 11th house and has a good aspect from Jupiter.

Mercury in Virgo or the 6th house is logical and practical. These people make the best organizers and are often good workers as well. As mentioned earlier, this is one of the best placements for Mercury, unless Mercury is afflicted by other planets.

Mercury in Libra or the 7th house tends to focus a lot of the attention upon relationships. This can be good or bad. It is a fairly good sign for Mercury in general because it is an air sign. These people also make the best negotiators and diplomats as they are able to see things from both points of view and make others feel comfortable and listened to. Their only fault is that they may spend too much energy dreaming about love and the perfect partner.

Put Mercury in Scorpio or the 8th house and you have someone who is good at managing other people’s money. Many accountants and tax professionals have this position. They also can think about sex a lot and would love to be talked to while making love. As with the other fixed signs, these people can be mentally stubborn. They are not necessarily the most brilliant people but will defend their point of view fiercely when challenged. They are the best people to tell your secrets to as they will never tell anyone. This position also produces those with a detective type mind which is capable of ferreting out others secrets.

Mercury in Sagittarius has it’s good and bad points. The bad part is that, like Mercury in Scorpio, they tend to gloss over the important details of things while focusing on the philosophy of it. They are concerned with what is right and wrong and how the subject at hand interconnects with their philosophy of life and the world. The good side is that they are very broad minded and tend to be non-judgmental. Little you could say or do would surprise
them or seem weird. These people can also be honest to a fault, blurting out things that in some cases are better left unsaid.

Mercury in Capricorn or the 10th house produces those with a serious bent to their thinking. Some of these people have incredible mental powers that can penetrate the deepest and most complicated subjects. Jose Arguelles, the author the The Mayan Factor, has Mercury in Capricorn. If you read his book, you will see what I mean. Most people cannot even understand it, it is so complex. These people see their minds as a tool to bring them status and fame and usually provide a good education for themselves. If the Mercury is afflicted, they can be morose or depressed mentally, or have trouble getting a good education in childhood.

Mercury in the 11th house or in Aquarius is the position of genius, as I have previously mentioned. These people know things and do not have to figure them out like most of us do. They are very stubborn about their ideas because they absolutely know they are right. Most people with this position are straight A students. School is easy. They are also progressive and interested in Astrology and futuristic technologies.

Mercury in Pisces or the 12th house is a person who has some psychic ability, but they are also prone to their feelings clouding their objectivity. They are like psychic sponges and tend to be greatly influenced by the people they are in a room with. All the impressions they receive can make it difficult for them to know what is true and real and what is just someone else’s thoughts or fears. Unless their Mercury has some good aspects from other planets, most of their evaluations are biased and based upon unclear motives. However, they have great imaginations and make great musicians and artists.

The planet Mercury is never too far away from the Sun. For this reason, a good percentage of our population has Sun conjunct Mercury in their natal chart. You probably do yourself, so it is good to check it out. This conjunction has both good and bad effects. The good side is that the Sun empowers Mercury to bring more energy into the mind. The net effect of this is that the person will be able to manifest their thoughts into things more quickly than people who do not have this aspect. It is our thoughts that create our world so this makes your thoughts and speech more like a magic wand. The negative effect of this conjunction is that it becomes very difficult to separate ourselves from our thoughts, ideas and beliefs. We tend to think that we ‘are’ our thoughts and ideas. When someone else criticizes our ideas, we would then become very defensive since we would think that they are really attacking us personally. Therefore these people can be very defensive about sharing their ideas. This would be especially true if the Sun/Mercury conjunction was afflicted by other planets.

Look for aspects between two people’s Mercuries to see how well they communicate with each other. However, even in the case of when their respective natal Mercuries square each other, there is a benefit. When we hang out with someone whose Mercury squares ours, we have an opportunity to broaden our perspective and to learn different points of view. It is one of life’s little lessons.

Why Are We So Afraid of Nines?
It happens every time I teach a class. At least one student will spend the whole class trying to find when they will have a Nine and then complain and express a lot of fear and concern about it. Some students actually try to figure out when they will die with this method. My sister called me one day and said, “Robert, I am only going to live another 5 years”. “What do you mean by that?” I asked her. Then she explained about these two Nines that she saw in her Yearly Spreads five years from now. She was serious about this, but I couldn’t help but laugh a little bit. Nines are scary to most people most of the time. It seems that we are all afraid of things and relationships in our life coming to an end. One of these days our life on Earth as we know it will come to an end. Perhaps it is death that is the scariest ending of all and the one that all other endings are connected to.

It is the nature of our minds to not want changes to happen in our life. We develop habits and get things just the way we want them and for the most part do not want anything to upset our carefully created balance and harmony. Along comes a Nine that threatens to actually take away some part of that nice environment we have created. This can make us feel afraid and worried. What will our life be without such and such? Most of us live our life as if it will go on forever anyway. We don’t even want to be reminded that ‘no one gets out of here alive’.

If we truly understood Nines, though, we would be much less afraid of them. They are truly a blessing in disguise and if we focus our attention on the blessings they bring us, we can actually look forward to their coming with joy and happy anticipation.

First of all, the average person will experience hundreds of nines during the course of their life. Life is a process of continual death and rebirth. Every new change in our life is the death of something that has gone before. Each time you, let’s say, buy a new CD to listen to, you also die to the listening of your last favorite CD. So, death and rebirth is an integral part of life. Without the death, we would grow stagnant and lifeless anyway. Birth, growth, harvest, decay and death is a natural evolutionary cycle just as natural as the numbers from 1 to 9. We can see this evolution expressed in the cards and each number is a certain stage in that evolutionary cycle. No one stage is any better or more important than the other.

When a Nine comes along, we can bet that we have already gone through the Ace, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 to get to that point. This thing (♦), idea (♣), job (♠), lifestyle (♠) or relationship (♥) that is ending began sometime in the past as an Ace. It had a beginning and as that thing or whatever progressed through the evolutionary cycle, it grew, multiplied, and reached the level of fullest power (8). Now, it has reached the point of completion, the time of dissolution and destruction. But as you proceed in your life into the next cycle, you carry with you all the lessons you learned and all the experiences you gathered as a result of having gone up the evolutionary ladder.

Remember the 10? It follows the Nine and is another Ace (1) with the added Zero (0). That Zero represents all that we have learned from the past cycle that accompanies us into the next cycle. Nothing was truly lost from that last cycle. It comes with us as wisdom and experience.

So a Nine arrives at a time in our lives when we have already progressed to the point to where we are ready to graduate. It is only our fearful mind that tells us that this a bad thing for us. It is actually a time of rejoicing and celebration. It is our personal responsibility to
adopt the attitude that will make each Nine in our life a victory for us. This takes great energy and awareness to accomplish. But isn’t that why we are learning the cards in the first place?

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I am a King of Clubs born on November 7, 1956. Last year I had an Ace of Hearts in Neptune and an Ace of Hearts as my Environment Card for my seven year cycle, and Robert had a King of Hearts Environment Card as well. I really felt like it was my time to get pregnant. And Robert and I wanted to start a family. It turned out that on the very last day of my 37th year, I conceived for the first time. For six weeks I was feeling so happy, even elated at times about the prospect of becoming a parent. It felt like a miracle had happened in my life. Then suddenly everything changed. I had what I believed to be the usual morning sickness that happened to last all day. But after a week of 24 hour nausea and absolutely no relief from it, I knew that there was something wrong. I was suffering terribly and I was becoming very depressed. It was at that time that I had a very clear vision where I saw lots of blood and Robert rushing me to the hospital emergency ward.

I wasn’t sure what to do. I kept my first scheduled appointment with the midwife and she suggested that I try acupuncture and herbs. I had an hour session with the acupuncturist which allowed me to relax enough to be able to sit quietly in a meditative state for a short time. During that time, it became very clear to me that I had a decision to make - do I ask a doctor to terminate the pregnancy or do I wait for my vision of the hospital emergency to occur? Meanwhile, a lot of people, including some close friends, members of our family and my midwife, tried to convince me that I was just having a bad case of morning sickness and that it was normal. They each offered a different remedy, none of which helped at all. They all made suggestions based on their own experience of pregnancy and none of them even considered terminating the pregnancy as an option.

I felt an enormous weight on my shoulders. Such a critical decision to make. I discussed it with my husband Robert and we decided that if I did not feel some improvement by the next morning, then we would find a doctor. I prayed to God for guidance and then I waited for a response to our decision.

The next morning I woke up feeling worse than ever. I lay there quietly and I heard a little voice whisper in my ear, "It’s OK Katherine. You do not need to suffer like this any longer. There is no baby." At that same time Robert leaned over and whispered in my ear, "I miss you". I was overcome with emotion and I wept. I had received confirmation that my intuition was correct and we had made the right choice. I decided to terminate the pregnancy.

We found a wonderful (King of Clubs) doctor in the yellow pages and he was able to see us that same day. I told him that I felt like there was something wrong and he performed a D & C. When he finished, he looked up at me in amazement and said, "Within two days you would have been in the emergency room in the hospital having an emergency D & C. There is no fetus. You already lost the baby. How did you know?"

When I heard him say that I felt immediately relieved that I had trusted my intuition and I felt so grateful that I had a loving and supportive partner right with me during this whole traumatic experience. I said to the doctor, "All I can say is I felt life in my body, and
then one day I didn’t feel life. I just knew." If I had listened to everyone else, I would have ended up in an emergency room having a major operation.

This was a painful experience in my life. I had lost my first child and I grieved that loss. But I also received valuable gifts. I believe that that little soul came into our life for a short period of time for good reasons. In many ways, Robert and I felt like we had been blessed. As a result of this experience, our relationship was strengthened and we felt greater love and respect for one another. When we celebrated our second anniversary a month later, it felt like we were newlyweds on our honeymoon. I also learned how important it is to listen to my inner voice and trust myself. I learned that I am the only one who knows how I really feel and what I really need to take care of myself. And I found out that if I trust myself, I will always make the right decision.

In the Weekly reading for the week described above I had the Two of Hearts as my Pluto Card, and the Nine of Diamonds as my Result Card. I also had the Nine of Spades in Venus and the Nine of Clubs in Saturn.

Five months passed and I conceived again during my Jupiter period. Soon after I entered my Saturn period (Nine of Spades and Four of Hearts under my Queen) I began to feel the same foreboding nausea and a hardness in my belly. Within 5 days I sunk into serious illness and I miscarried for the second time. Interesting to note that the first D&C I had was performed during my Mercury period and everything went as smoothly as it possibly could. This time everything was extremely difficult. My pain was more acute, my doctor was on vacation, we got lost on the way to the clinic after finally finding a facility that could take me right away. I ended up in a production-line abortion clinic with an indifferent doctor. The D & C was excruciatingly painful. In short it was my very worst nightmare. In the Weekly Reading for the week that I went to the clinic, I had the Nine of Hearts as my Pluto Card and the Nine Clubs and Queen of Hearts in Mars.

I have yet to pass through the stages of grief. I know that time brings change and healing and I trust that in time I will see the blessing in all of this and realize why I suffered another loss. But the important thing is that I am learning to trust my own feelings and intuitions. I discovered that there are times when I have to trust myself even though everyone else in my life is opposing what I know to be true. Each time I come through one of these episodes, I feel stronger and clearer and more connected to my higher self.
Articles from the September, 1996 Newsletter

Legal Eagles - the Attorneys in the O.J. Simpson Trial
by Ninah Kessler, ACSW

I decided to write about lawyers when I was visiting the Arkansas town where I had lived for six months, and encountered a King of Spades attorney. When I mentioned this to a friend, she said she didn't want anything to do with him, since he had represented her ex-husband in their divorce proceedings. I knew she didn't come out well in the courtroom - who would want to be opposed by the most powerful card in the deck? To make matters worse, she is a 6 of Clubs, so the King of Spades is her Saturn card. Gayle wound up losing custody of her child and getting no money, an especially harsh settlement for a woman in a southern state.

Thinking about attorneys, I focused on the trial of the century, that marathon in LA with O.J. Simpson. Robert has already noted that O.J. is a 6 of Diamonds who had a King of Spades as his Mars card when he was 47, but this year has the 9 of Spades and the Ace of Spades in Mars.

This position is associated with legal affairs, so O.J. is likely to have a harder time this year. Since the defense began their arguments the day after his birthday (7/9/47), they are likely to have difficulty proving O.J.'s innocence. The 9 of Spades can bring problems with lawsuits and the Ace of Spades can indicate death, or at least the major transformation of this superstar's lifestyle.

Additionally the Ace of Spades is the card of Christopher Darden (4/7/56), a prosecuting attorney. Another obstacle is represented by the Jack of Diamonds, O.J.'s challenge card this year. This just happens to be Judge Lance Ito's card (8/2/50).

O.J. is surrounded by an all diamond legal "dream team". Robert Shapiro (9/2/42) is a 9 of Diamonds, Alan Dershowitz (9/1/38) is a 10 of Diamonds, and F. Lee Bailey (6/10/33) and Johnny Cochran (10/2/37) are both 7 of Diamonds. O.J.'s Jupiter card in the Life Spread is a 10 of Diamonds, so if anyone can help him, these guys should be able to, especially Alan Dershowitz. And in this diamond studded realm, the price of success will not come cheap. As 7 of Diamonds, Johnny Cochran and F. Lee Bailey have 9 of Clubs as their Mars cards in the Life Spread. Arne Lien says, "Some of the necessary antagonism which you might encounter in this life may arise from a tendency to gloss over details and the feelings of others. This same impatience may encourage you to try all sorts of short cuts and devious means to gain your ends." These skills have been evidenced in court. While I can't put my finger on any major wrong doing, there does seem to be some manipulating going on.

7 of Diamonds have King of Diamonds as their Neptune Cards. Lien refers to this as success in gaining power, recognition, and material security. All these things are likely to come to Bailey and Cochran from the O.J. trial. King of Diamonds also represents Ronald Goldman (7/2/68), the sacrificial lamb (Neptune) in this case.

The 9 of Diamonds Robert Shapiro has the King of Clubs as his Mars card, suggesting his intelligence and executive ability in the legal field. The King of Clubs also represents Nicole Brown Simpson (5/19/59). The Jack of Diamonds is his Jupiter card, and he has made his fortune representing Hollywood's rich and famous. It also gives him an in
with Judge Ito. The Nine of Diamonds is the Mars card in the Uranus line in the Life Spread, suggesting a natural predisposition for law, particularly for taking unusual cases. Ten of Diamonds Alan Dershowitz, the top material card, has the Ace of Diamonds as his Mars card, indicating the motivation necessary for courtroom success. His vertical Mars card is the 10 of Spades, enhancing his relationships with the largely male legal profession (at least it was when he went to school) and promoting legal achievements.

8 of Hearts, Marcia Clark (8/31/53), has the Ten of Clubs in the Jupiter position in the Life Spread, bringing success. No wonder she was picked to lead the prosecution. Her Mars cards are the Queen of Hearts and Ten of Diamonds, giving her the charm and the drive for forensic distinction. The Ten of Diamonds could put her in conflict with Alan Dershowitz. Her 8 of Diamonds Saturn card provides money through hard work, and her King of Spades Uranus shows that she gravitates towards positions of authority. She is the Saturn card for King of Clubs Nicole Brown Simpson, and the Jupiter card for Jack of Diamonds Lance Ito, suggesting that she will extract retribution for her deceased client.

The other attorneys for the prosecution are Ace of Spades Christopher Darden (4/7/56) and 4 of Clubs William Hodgman (12/14/52). Darden's Mars cards are the 5 of Spades and the 5 of Diamonds, suggesting that his cases could have unusual twists. His 7 of Diamonds Venus card connects him with Bailey and Cochran, and his vertical Jack of Diamonds Venus ties him to Ito. He could reach an compromise (plea bargain?) with the defense. William Hodgman has the 8 of Clubs and 8 of Diamonds in Mars, indicating success in legal matters. The 6 of Diamonds as his Jupiter card in the Life Spread suggests that he will make his fortune from the case. The 10 of Diamonds as Neptune could indicate that he will be outmaneuvered by Dershowitz. The 4 of Clubs is the Venus card for King of Diamonds Ronald Goldman, suggesting some posthumous benefits to the deceased.

The study of the cards reveals incredible legal talent. Although O.J. has assembled an excellent defense team, the prosecution is unusually strong and has the best case. Will justice be served? Stay tuned to the trial in L.A.

NINAH KESSLER, L.C.S.W., an astrologer, was introduced to the card system on New Year's Eve, 1982. She is published in Llewellyn's Sun Sign Book, The Galactic Calendar, and Healing Currents. Ninah can be reached at P.O. BOX 50385, Eugene, Oregon, 97405 or nkessler@AOL.COM.
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Note from Robert:
Thank you Ninah for such a well written and insightful article. I hope you submit more in the future.

Here are some more attorney birth dates:
- Robert Kardashian 2/22/44 3 of Diamonds
- Gerald Oldman 10/8/40 Ace of Diamonds
- Barry Scheck 9/19/49 Five of Clubs

One other thing I think is noteworthy is that O.J. is the Moon Card for both Johnny Cochran and F. Lee Bailey. In this regard, each of them is benefiting more from the trial than O.J. is. This is the same dynamic that occurred between Tonya Harding, an 8 of Clubs and Nancy Kerrigan, a 9 of Clubs. Everything Tonya did only helped and enhanced Nancy’s career, even though her intentions were just the opposite.

The Cards for Moves and Transitions

We usually think that Fives are the only cards that represent changes and moves but this is not the case. There are other cards that are just as significant and some that might surprise you. Sometimes these Fives show up in other places as well. We have to be careful in our interpretations. Cards that may indicate death in one person’s yearly spreads could have a much different interpretation in another person’s. I make it a habit to take a broad-minded approach when it comes to making predictions. I look carefully at the circumstances of the person I am reading for and I look for other indications of the same thing before I will commit myself to a single prediction of significance. This article also demonstrates just how ‘subjective’ the cards are in our yearly spreads. Whatever cards show up for us tell us what our situations in life are to us personally, not objectively. What is a move to me might be a loss of relationship to you and vice versa.

A 5♣ can mean ‘Falling off a Bike’

A Five always means a change of some kind. But that change can be accomplished in many ways. For example, a 5♣ means a change of mind, opinions, beliefs or attitudes. Many situations could account for such an experience. It could happen as the result of a trip, taking a new class, reading a book, or having a car accident. If you see a 5♣, you would normally think that maybe you would be reading a new book or falling off of your bike, but if that is what it takes to change the way you think, then that is what will happen.

Changes of Residence

Let’s talk about changes of residence for a moment. The most common indicators of our moving to a new house or apartment would be a 5♠, especially if it fell in Uranus or Venus. Why Venus? Venus governs the home and family matters. Katherine and I are moving to a new home during my Venus period and her Uranus period. But here I am
moving to a new home and I haven’t a 5♠ anywhere in my cards. What do I have? A 5♥ and 9♥ in Venus. Now, when I saw this coming, I did have a momentary fear. "Does this mean I am getting divorced next year?" I thought to myself. But almost as immediately I realized that leaving here would be a divorce of sorts - from all the people that we know in this 32-unit apartment building. Now, I look forward to the move, much like a person who is getting divorced and knows that it is the best thing for all concerned.

At this same time, Katherine has no Fives in her Birth Card spread for the year. However, she has a 5♥ in Uranus and a 4♥ Long Range in her Q♣ Spread. The Queen Personality Card spread is significant for women when it comes to home, family and relationship matters.

But, you might ask, how could a 4♥ Long Range Card signify a move to a new home? Well, a 4♥ Long Range makes having a nice home more of a priority. The 4♥ means having satisfaction in your home and family life. If that satisfaction comes from moving to a new home, then so be it. Being a Scorpio King of Clubs, one of Katherine’s Planetary Ruling Cards is the Queen of Hearts. It is interesting that her Queen of Hearts is sitting right on the 5♠ this year (by displacement). Her other Planetary Ruling Card is the 4♦ and under that yearly spread she has a 4♠ Long Range, a 9♣ in Uranus and a 9♣ Environment and 9♣ Displacement Card. The 4♠ is much like the 4♥ Long Range, signaling a lot of attention upon settling down and establishing a home base. Keep in mind that the 4♠ and 4♥ are Karma Cards to each other. They essentially signify the same things. All those Nines in Katherine’s 4♦ Spread signify this move, which for her, is very significant. She has lived in this same apartment for over seven years. This is also the first time either of us have owned our own home.

A look into the Spread of my Planetary Ruling Card, the Ace of Diamonds, revealed a 5♠ in Venus and a 4♥ Result for the year. It is interesting to note just how many places this move showed up for us.

A Nine in Venus or Uranus could signal a move to a new location. Because Nines represent completions or endings, it could indicate that your ‘time is up’ in the place you are living now. What else could indicate a move? How about an A♠ in Venus or Uranus? Certainly this could be the case. Since the A♠ often has a similar meaning to a Nine, an ending and new beginning, finding one in Venus or Uranus, which governs real estate matters, could be an indicator of the move.

Travel

I had a 5♣ as both my Long Range and Environment Card last year. In the first six months of the year I took nine trips, one of them overseas to Thailand. I also had a 5♠ in Venus in the spread of my Birth Card. I had thought I would travel a lot but nine trips surprised even me. Those 5♣ can be pretty powerful.

Travel is not likely to be indicated by a Nine or an Ace. Travel is invariably indicated by a Five. The only time this would be different is perhaps if the reasons for your travel showed up more prominently than a travel card itself. You may not see a Five for example, when the reason for the trip was to start a new job. Perhaps you would see an A♦ or A♠
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instead. How about a trip to a wedding? That may be indicated by a 10♥ or 8♥, which represents large groups of people gathering together.

In regards travel or moves, I would also pay attention when the cards in your yearly spread are sitting on the 5♠ or 5♥ position in the Life Spread. For example, if you are a 4♣ person who is 35 years old, your Venus Card is the 4♠. But this 4♠ is displacing the 5♠, which is the card that sits in the same location in the Life Spread. This is something you will not be aware of until you have studied the Advanced Oracle Workbook. Those cards that our cards displace I have called ‘Underlying Cards’. If one of your Underlying Cards is the 5♠ or 5♥, you could experience a move or a trip. This would be especially true if it was during the Venus or Uranus periods. Using the previous example we see that the 4♣ Birth Card itself is sitting on or displacing the 7♥ that year. I would venture to guess that anyone whose Birth Card is displacing the 7♥ will experience a move or long trip that year of their life. Because the 7 of Hearts has the 5 of Spades in Venus in it’s Life Spread, anyone displacing it would receive some of that energy during the course of the year.

In conclusion, we would like to see at least two or more indicators of moves or transitions before we make a solid prediction about it. But we must also keep in mind that these cards all have other meanings that could apply. Also, be sure to look at the cards in the yearly spreads of their Planetary Ruling Card or Cards. These often reveal supporting information that can verify our hunches.

Using the Cards to Make Common Relationship Choices

Consciously or unconsciously, we attract and choose people to be in our life that help us achieve certain kinds of results. By becoming more conscious of this process, we empower ourselves and make one more step towards realizing our divinity and Godliness. Unconscious is okay as long as it is working. But I think that conscious is better in all respects. If we examine the Birth, Karma and Planetary Ruling Cards of the various people in our life we can see, by reflection, who we are attracting and why. If you don't know about the Planetary Ruling Cards, they are described in my book, Love Cards. Let's examine some of these common connections and then see how we can empower ourselves with this information.

Katherine has a 9 of Diamonds woman as her counselor that she has been seeing for at least three years now. The 9 of Diamonds is a fairly good choice by itself because Nines make good counselors and therapists. They enjoy giving and are compassionate and understanding.

Katherine is a Scorpio King of Clubs and her therapist is the Aquarian 9 of Diamonds. This is interesting because they both have the same Planetary Ruling Card, the Four of Diamonds. This is interesting further because Katherine's mother is the 4 of Diamonds. Most of the work that Katherine is doing with her therapist centers around her mother. There are many implications just by knowing these Birth Cards. First of all, you might say that her therapist gets to play the mother that Katherine never had. Katherine is able to get the nurturing and understanding that she didn't receive from her mother, from a woman who is much like her mother because she has a Planetary Ruling Card the same as her mother's Birth Card. Another way of looking at it would be that her 9 of Diamonds
therapist is helping her speak up for her 4 of Diamonds Planetary Ruler self. Therapists often help us to express and accept parts of ourselves that we may be out of touch with. Katherine is becoming more aware of her 4 of Diamonds persona through the influence of her therapist.

Along these same lines, we may choose someone whose Birth Card, Karma Card or Planetary Ruling Card is our Moon Card for therapy, nutritional counseling, or massage and body work. The nurturing influence of a Moon Card person can be very healing and helpful at a certain stage in our development. As a Queen of Diamonds, for example, I may choose an Ace of Diamonds or Jack of Diamonds to fulfill one of these roles. However, I could also choose either a 2 of Diamonds or a 3 of Spades since those cards have Karma Cards that are one of my Moon Cards. I would probably choose a Moon Card person if what I needed or wanted was some form of nurturing or emotional support. The 3 of Spades may not be the best overall because it is also a strong Mars influence to me, which may block the Moon's influence somewhat.

As a reader and counselor myself, I often see people who come to me for help with whom I have strong connections. I have read for many 8 of Clubs for example. I am the lifetime Pluto Card to the 8 of Clubs and when they come to me they are usually ready to make a big change in their life. We would choose a Pluto person when we really wanted some part of ourselves to die or end. A Pluto person could confront us with the truth, which, if taken properly, could have a beneficial and transformative effect on us. Everyone needs to have some deaths in their life at certain points, just to renew themselves and to clear out all the old stuff that is holding them back. The Pluto person will assist in this process and we will attract them when necessary.

A person who is a strong Mars energy to us could help us get off our butts and get active in our life. They would encourage us to get physically or sexually active and to do things, instead of just talk or think about them. In personal relationships, Mars people also provide us with a suitable relationship in which we can work out many of our anger issues. If your current relationship has one or more strong Mars connections, you can be sure you are working on some unresolved anger issues. Another thing that is common is to pick someone who is our Mars Card to be our attorney in a legal matter.

Robert Shapiro, a 9 of Diamonds, was an excellent choice for O.J. Simpson. First of all because Shapiro is his Mars Card in the Spiritual Spread and secondly because the 9 of Diamonds is a good card for attorneys because they themselves have the King of Clubs in their Mars position.

We often choose Saturn people to be our teachers. They will fulfill this role very well, if we let them. If you or I want to really learn something, even something as common as how to play golf, a Saturn person would be one, if not the, best choice for a teacher. However, many times when we choose a Saturn relationship of any kind, we do it because we have some form of self-rejection that we are working on. The Saturn person will remind us of our shortcomings, thus stimulating our own inner rejection. They help us get in touch with how much we judge ourselves. Since self-rejection is the greatest of all sins, Saturn relationships have always been considered the most valuable by spiritual teachers of all kinds. The 'Petty Tyrant' that Don Juan speaks of so highly in many of the Carlos Castaneda books, is pure Saturn, often with a large dose of Mars added to it.

This gives a small sampling of the most common choices we make and how, through examination, we can use this information. The best way to begin using this knowledge is to
examine the Birth, Karma and Planetary Ruling Cards of everyone in your life and see how they relate to your Birth Card. This will tell you who you have chosen and why. Next, you can make better choices in the future or at least get some confirmation for the choices you are making by looking into these connections. It is an interesting study that reveals a lot about us and what is really going on in our lives.

**Consciously Creating Your Next Year on Your Birthday**

I often do readings for people just prior to their birthdays. This is a very good idea because it helps prepare us for the next year, giving us an opportunity to help create this new year the way we would like it. Here is some information that can help you become a conscious co-creator of your next year when your birthday approaches.

Astrologically speaking, we have what is called a Solar Return Chart. The Solar Return Chart can tell us many things. First of all, it can tell us exactly when our birthday begins. Essentially it is a chart drawn for the exact moment that the sun reaches the exact degree and sign that it was at the moment of our birth. We would naturally assume that this occurs on our birthday but in fact it can vary by as much as a day on certain years. Astrologers who read the Solar Return Chart will tell you that it is what occurs in the first 24 hours of a person's birthday that determines, to some extent, how the remainder of the year will progress.

Secondly, in reading a Solar Return Chart, we are looking at a 'snap-shot' of the entire year, even though it is actually only a chart for the moment of the beginning of the birthday. This follows the same principle as our natal birth chart being a snap-shot for our entire life. Therefore, the Solar Return Chart can give us some indications of how our year will go for us. So, how can we use this information to our advantage?

Well, what I recommend to my clients is this: First of all, find out exactly when your birthday begins by getting a Solar Return Chart done for the year. Once you know the time your actual birthday begins, you will know when to start the next step. The basic idea here is to fill up the 24-hour period of your birthday with all the activities that you would like to have happen more of during the course of the year. It's like a 'Designer Birthday' where you design what that day and the rest of your year will be like by what you choose to actually do during that first 24-hour period of that year. For example, if you wanted to get into a better physical condition, perhaps you would spend an hour that day hiking or exercising. If you wanted to have more fun socially, you would plan a wonderful birthday party for yourself, inviting as many people as you could think of. If you wanted to strengthen one or more of your personal relationships, you would plan some activities with those special people in your life. Get the picture? It's really easy and fun.

There are some things that I always do on my birthday. I always go for a hike or run, for at least a half an hour. This represents my commitment to my health. I have a good breakfast and then I spend some time alone, pondering over the significance of my Yearly Spreads and Solar Return Chart for the upcoming year. I don't always plan a party, like I did this year, but when I want more of that, I do. I just put out what I want and I usually get it, thanks to Katherine's love and support. I spend some time with Katherine alone too, representing my commitment to our relationship and I usually spend some time working and
writing. Basically, I fill up that day with the things that I want to increase or continue in my life for the next year.

Be very conscious of what you do on your next birthday and you will indeed be rewarded with a happy and successful year. And it won’t be by accident!

**Articles from the November, 1995 Newsletter**

**Women Who Would Be Kings**

Being married to a King of Clubs and having many other King females as friends and associates, I have learned a lot about the interesting life we have when our Birth Card is somewhat opposite our sex. I am a male Queen myself and have found that many of the things apply to the males who have Queens as Birth Cards as well. The female King is in an interesting position. On one hand they are living in a female body with all of its hormones and cycles. On the other hand, they have a well-defined male side as well, usually displayed through an aggressive and masculine mind. This same situation applies to women who are Jacks and Eights because they too have masculine or aggressive characters in some part of their personalities.

So here is a woman who can be competitive and forceful when she wants to. This is good in many situations because she will be less prone to being dominated or abused by the men in her life. When someone tries to overpower her, she will fight back instead of just giving in or cowering in fear. She will be less likely to give in to other's coercion in many situations. She will stand up for herself and ask for what she wants. These same characteristics can help her become successful in her work and career. Many women who rise to positions of authority and responsibility are Kings, Jacks, Eights, or in some cases, Tens. The same can apply to those women who have Kings or Eights as Karma Cards. The King especially, will tend to end up in positions of some leadership. They are natural leaders.

Even as a child, female Kings will exert their power in their family. A child who is a King will not easily take direction, unless that direction meets up to their standards. We have to understand that we are born with these traits. They are not developed in our childhood. We arrive here already knowing who we are. We only tend to attract experiences that reinforce that during the course of our childhood. The child who is a King will set high standards and will demand that they be met. This can be a problem for some parents, especially when the parent feels that they should be able to teach their children. If you have a King as a child, it is you who will be taught by the child, like it or not. So, for many Kings, the childhood is not easy. They assert their authority at an early age and it is not always met with the approval of their parents. Thus, some of them develop complexes, believing that something is wrong with them because of the way their parents reacted to their kingly natures. However, the King who is treated like a King and given freedom and responsibility as a child, will quickly develop a trust in themselves that will help them the rest of their life. I love to tell children who are Kings that they are. I will say, "You are a King, you know" and they will usually say, "Yes, I knew that".
At any rate, the female King may have some residual effects of their childhood to contend with and many of them do not fully trust the power that is at their disposal. Again, their personal relationships are challenging because of who they are and again they can get into doubting themselves.

The masculine and often aggressive nature of the female King can put many men on guard or alienate them completely. Even without doing anything in particular, the female King can become a threat to a man in her life. Some men will just shy away from them while others may get abusive. In both cases, the men are afraid of the female King because he realizes that she has much more power than he does. Unless the man is well grounded in himself, he will run or fight with his King girlfriend. It is sad to see female Kings abused by their mates, but it is partially their fault for staying in the bad relationship to begin with. Look at Nicole Simpson and Jackie Kennedy (Onassis). They were both Kings and displayed their power. Nicole was abused for it. I am certain that she was a threat to O.J., who could never be as powerful as she was. Jackie must have known about John's infidelities but she stayed in there, probably because of her children. King of Hearts are always more devoted to their children than to their mates.

So, for a female King to find happiness in her relationships, she must first find someone who is strong enough within himself to not get defensive when she asserts her power. This takes a strong man and honestly there are not that many of them around. Perhaps this is why many female Kings end up settling for less than they really need in this area. They are partially to blame as well. They are often unable to play the role of the female in their relationships. Many female Kings hide behind their masculine masks and never take a chance and become vulnerable in their personal relationships. After they have been hurt a few times, they may give up on the idea of happiness in love and just focus on their careers, and sometimes their children, for their satisfaction in life. Most of them make very competent and devoted parents and they provide well for their children. Because they are Kings, they can easily play the role of father as well as mother. Perhaps this is why we find so many Kings being single moms.

The ideal balance for a female King may be the relationship in which they can express their masculine and aggressive sides as well as their female, vulnerable sides. I personally don't believe the female King will ever be completely happy until she is able to fully express her female side too. This may mean having children or being able to be defenseless and vulnerable with the one she loves. She is stuck in a female body, for better or worse, and along with that comes some characteristics that can not be changed or completely avoided. Through her masculine side, she is able to get much of what she wants in the world: success, money, and perhaps recognition. But she will never find happiness in her most important intimate relationships until she can lay aside her crown of authority and become the 'receiver' of joy, love and affection.

To receive is a feminine quality and this is what many of them have some trouble with. Some female Kings have trouble achieving orgasm for the simple reason that they have not learned how to receive. This same sexual characteristic can be seen in other areas of their life as well - fights with their mates over money and power, not appreciating what is given to them, and attracting mates who are irresponsible or spineless. It all comes back to them. To receive and appreciate is inherently feminine. When this is blocked, the female King is missing out on much of her God-given power as a woman. This may be one of the hardest
Visions, Volume III

lessons for the female King, but it is within their grasp to handle it. They, more than most of
the cards in the deck, have the ability to do great things, the greatest of which are to be
examples of those who have mastered their life from the inside out.

The Joker - Karma Chameleon

We don't talk about the Joker much. He's the one card in the deck that doesn't have
any Yearly Spreads or definite relationship connections. We cannot even imagine what it is
like to be a Joker since that card is not associated with any number or suit as we know it. But
as a card, he is worthy of discussion and of pondering over for the simple reason that he
exists and is a part of the Grand Plan.

Look at your own Birth Card for a moment and first realize that you have some sort
of identity with it. For example, Queens tend to identify with their Birth Card and think they
are mothers. They constantly see themselves as mothering others and often feel very worried
when there is no one there to be their 'babies'. We can see that having a Queen as a Birth
Card has it's own set of characteristics that can be expressed in either a positive or negative
way. A Queen may have the gift of nurturing but may also hold onto people in their life
much longer than is good for them. A Four may be a great organizer and homemaker but can
also be a control freak and amazingly stubborn and unable to see the forest for the trees.
Something like this can be said about every single card in the deck. By identifying with our
Birth Card, we express our soul urge through it. It gives us great power and becomes a
description of the way we give to others in a most natural and powerful way. Without even
knowing it, we hold the qualities of our Birth Card as ourselves. In the final analysis it is the
inability to separate ourselves from those qualities that is in some respects responsible for the
negative manifestations of our Birth Card. When the natural, positive expression is blocked
for any reason, we express it negatively instead of letting go of this identity.

But what kind of identity does the Joker have? This is what must be a most unique
experience. And doesn't it seem logical in a way that since there are so many possibilities for
expression, as symbolized by the 52 cards, that there would be one card that would be no
card and yet all cards? The Solar Value of the Joker is zero. Solar implies the soul and thus
we have a soul identity that is not tied to any one expression as is the case with all of the
other Birth Cards, whose Solar Values range from 1 to 52. Zero represents really the first
number, but in itself is no number at all, since it personifies nothing. Every other number has
a value that, if added to another number will produce a different number. Add a zero to any
number and you get that number unchanged. Thus, out of all of the numbers, the zero stands
apart as being unique from all the others. And yet, the zero is often referred to as the limitless
possibilities of the universe. It is also the primordial essence from which every thing in our
universe is created from. In other words, without the zero, nothing else would be possible
because it is the essence from which all creations are derived, creations being all the other
numbers, or cards in this case.

I wonder how many people can conceptualize this. It may help to picture a scale for
weighing. On one side is the Joker and on the other, all the rest of the cards in the deck. The
scale is perfectly balanced because these two are equal, the Joker being no card in itself but
having the capacity to manifest as all of the other 52. In our world of duality it just had to be
that there would be some card that was all cards since all of the rest of them are identified with just one.

So, I wonder what it is like to be a Joker, who has no one strong personal identity. This is the real point of this article. Can you or I imagine, given that we spend our entire life identified to our one Birth Card, a state of being in which we have no definite identity? Would it not be frightening to have no place to call home, so to speak? And yet, wouldn't this be, in many ways, a superior state of being? Wouldn't this allow for more forms of expression, more possibilities? And wouldn't this create the space for compassion and understanding of our fellow men, who we could look upon as having such single-minded but perhaps limited, views of themselves.

In the Tarot deck, the Joker is the same as the Fool. That card's appearance in a spread always signified a time in which we were at a crossroads where many choices were open to us at once. However, it also represents the presence of the God energy in our life and protection in whatever choice we would ultimately make. It is like a blank check that we could fill in with any amount we like, its amount only being limited by our own imagination and personal limitations. Perhaps we can learn much about ourselves by pondering on the life of the Joker. And if we are fortunate, perhaps we will have the opportunity to study one in real life. In doing so, perhaps we can make contact with the unlimited nature of our being, which lies behind the personal identity of our Birth Card, which we usually hold so near and dear.

Our Personal Daily and Weekly Cards -
An Advanced Article

Over the past three or four years, many people have discussed the possibility of Daily Cards that are not randomly drawn as in the Weekly Reading. Several theories have come forth and I have experimented with these to see if they proved to be accurate. I also just examined the theory itself to see if it seemed sound or had a basis in the Science of the Cards as it was taught by Olney Richmond. Of the ideas presented to me by others, none have really proved themselves to be accurate or meaningful to me personally. However, they did give me the desire to find such a personal day card for myself and some ideas on just how it could be done so I am grateful to those who have shared their ideas with me and the many discussions we had on the topic.

Recently it came to me that, because of our Birth Card, we are somewhat limited as to the kinds of personal experiences we will have over the course of our life. Not that our Birth Card is in itself a limitation, but that when we make any choice, it naturally precludes other choices. We live in one body and thus cannot be in two places at the same time (though we would often want to). If we examine the Yearly Spreads and the 7-Year Spreads, from which our Long Range Cards come from, we will see that these Spreads are the essence of our life pattern. A person who is a Jack of Spades, for example, will only have his or her Yearly Spreads, and not the Yearly Spreads of anyone else. Though the Jack of Spades may actually have every single card in the deck in his or her Yearly Spread at one time or another, no other card will have the very same cards in any given year. It is a pattern that is defined by
the Grand Solar Spreads, which is from where the Yearly Spreads and 7-Year Spreads are derived.

Our 7-Year Spreads and Yearly Spreads are the same on one level. For example, the Spread that governs the first year of our life and the Spread that governs the first seven years of our life are identical in every way. Every card is the same. If you look at your Long Range Card for Age 2, which is the 3rd year of your life, you will see that it is the same as the Mars Card in your Life Spread (Age 90). This is because the Mars Card is the 3rd Card and because our Age 90 Spread is also the Spread for the very first year of our life. Taking all of this into account, I figured that our Personal Daily Cards must also come from the same Spreads, since they would most likely be arranged in groups of seven just like the Yearly and 7-Year Spreads. When this came to me, it all fell into place and I believe I have arrived at one accurate method for determining Personal Daily Cards. That discovery lead me to realizing that there must also be Personal Weekly Cards because they fit together just like the Yearly and 7-Year Spreads. If you can follow it, the rest of this article will explain how you can calculate these for yourself. I have also incorporated this into my latest software program, The Book of Destiny Professional for Windows. So, if this is too much math for you, your computer can do it all, without error, in a split second. I will describe that program more later.

To get the concept first, look at your Age 90 or Life Spread. This is where we begin because these are the cards that extend directly from your Birth Card, which is the card that governed the day you were born. Each of those cards, from the Mercury Card through the Neptune Card, govern a period of 13 years (or approximately 1/7th) of your life. The Venus Card, for example governed your life from approximately Age 12 through Age 25. Likewise, each of these planetary cards governed one year of your life. The Mercury Card was the Long Range Card for your first year and the Venus Card the second and so on. You will notice that the Venus Card in your Life Spread is also your Long Range Card for your Age 1 Spread. Age 1 implies the second year of your life. Now, imagine that these seven cards in your Life Spread also governed days and weeks. In other words, your Mercury Card also governed the first day of your life and the first week of your life. So there are the Personal Daily Cards for your first week and the Personal Weekly Cards for your first seven weeks, right there in your Life Spread. The question is ‘where do I go after that first spread? And the answer is, to the next year’s spread. After the first seven days, you progress to the next spread, which in this case is the Age 1 Spread. Therefore, the Age 1 Spread governed the second week of your life, each card governing one day and the Age 2 Spread would be the third week of your life and so on. Likewise, the Age 1 Spread governed the second, 7-Week cycle of your life where each of the planetary cards governed one week of that 7-Week cycle. Though this may sound complicated, if you give it a little time, read this again slowly, take out your book and count, you will have an invaluable tool for doing daily and weekly projections.

The trick to using this method is to be accurate in your counting. You really need to know how many days and weeks have elapsed since your birth in order to do these Daily and Weekly layouts. For example, when you were 90 weeks old, or around 22 1/2 months, you would have had to recycle back to the Life Spread (Age 90) to determine what cards you had for that week. This is just what happens if we live to be older than 90, we start back at the beginning again. So, the first step in doing these Daily and Weekly Cards is to know how
many days and weeks have elapsed since the day of our birth. The only easy way I know to
do this personally is to have the computer do it. There probably is an easy way and if you
know one, I would be happy to share it with our readers. Since a 40 year old person has lived
something like 14,600 days, and we need to be exact, it can be a little challenging,
considering Leap Year.

Once we know how many days we have lived, we can divide it by seven and get how
many weeks we have lived and how far we are in that week. Each new week in this method
always begins on the same day of the week that we were born. Since I was born on a Friday,
my weeks always begin on Friday. Friday becomes my personal Mercury Day each week.
This makes my Saturn day Tuesday and I can tell you that there are many experiences in my
life that confirm Tuesdays as being Saturn to me.

I realize that this may be more trouble than it is worth to you, but I assure you, it is
certainly a subject worth exploring. It will increase your knowledge of this system greatly if
you take the time to figure these Daily and Weekly Cards for yourself. Our new computer
program provides these for you at the click of a mouse button. It also gives you Long Range,
Pluto, Result, Environment and Displacement Cards for each week and each 7-Week period
of your life. That’s a lot of cards to keep track of but it is also a lot of fun.

Articles from the January 1996 Newsletter

Following Jupiter’s Path to Prosperity and Success

The planet Jupiter is much more important than we may think. It offers an unlimited
wealth of good things if we only become aware of it and allow ourselves to take it in. This
article will show you a new way to take in more abundance in your life through an awareness
of where Jupiter is in respect to your natal astrological chart. All you need to know is your
rising sign.

I have found that if we 'follow' Jupiter, we can always have experiences of joy,
prosperity and happiness. All we have to do is put our energy into the areas that he is
currently influencing. By harmonizing ourselves accordingly, we insure that we are always in
the lap of prosperity and abundance, which are some of the keywords for Jupiter, the planet
of truth and wisdom, the great benefic, and the spiritual teacher.

Since becoming aware of the importance of this information, I have used Jupiter’s
movement to plan my success and it has proven to work very well indeed. I have used it to
time my decisions and actions ever since I began writing The Cards of Your Destiny book. I
have guaranteed my success by harmonizing my life with his influences. Of course, there are
other planets doing other things in my chart, but Jupiter is still always present and always
casting his favorable light on some area of my life that I can focus on to become more
successful. You can also take this information and plan your future success. Just look and see
where Jupiter is going to be and where the greatest gifts will lie at what times. Then, plan
your actions in accordance to these influences and viola!, your success is assured.

On January 1st of 1996, Jupiter will be just entering the sign of Capricorn, where it
will reside for approximately one year. But where is it in your natal chart?
Where is Jupiter in Your Natal Chart Right Now?

Take your rising sign in the chart below and you will see the house that Jupiter will be affecting you in for the next year. However, you must keep in mind that this may not be exact because the degree of your rising sign may influence this. For example, if you are a Capricorn rising, then Jupiter would affect your first house. However, if your rising sign was 15 degrees of Capricorn, Jupiter would not actually enter your first house for about six months from now. Therefore, to be precise it would be important to know the exact degree of the sign your Ascendant is in. Each sign is 30 degrees total and it takes Jupiter about one year to travel the entire 30 degrees. Thus, it travels about 2 1/2 degrees per month in general and you could use this to measure the approximate time that Jupiter will begin to influence the house I have listed in the chart below. It will influence that house for about one year after that time. Before that time, it will be in the house previous to the one listed below, which is also good. If you want to be precise, you need to get and learn how to read an Astrological Ephemeris, which are available in most metaphysical bookstores, or get a computer program that tells you your transits.

### Jupiter’s Position for 1996 relative to your Rising Sign

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Jupiter Transiting the First House (crossing the Ascendant)

This is considered one of the most blessed transits of Jupiter, one of the so-called transits of Great Enjoyment (the other being Jupiter in the 5th house). Jupiter's crossing our Ascendant marks the beginning of a new cycle of prosperity and happiness. You will have a lot of fun during this transit and realize that your life can be better than you thought. This is also one of the two best Jupiter positions for getting married (the other being Jupiter in the 7th house). Your popularity will increase and your self confidence will be lifted up to a new level that causes you to attract better people in your life. Jupiter crossing the Ascendant is the perfect time to launch a new business or advertising campaign because it guarantees instant acceptance by the public. I released The Cards of Your Destiny the very day Jupiter crossed my Ascendant and I got married to Katherine while Jupiter was in my first house. Both of these have proved to be very successful. The only negative aspect of Jupiter in the first house is that some men and women report that they put on weight.

Take advantage of this transit by planning to bring any products or services you offer to the attention of the public by advertising or other means. Also, have a new image to put forth to the public. Create a package of what and who you are and be ready to share it with the world the day Jupiter crosses your ascendant. Your success is guaranteed. Also, if you are
romantically involved, plan your marriage to occur while Jupiter is in your 1st house, preferably when it conjuncts or opposes some other planet in your natal chart.

Jupiter Transiting the Second House
This is, of course, the money house. So, naturally your finances will improve considerably during this transit. Actually, you will be lifted up to a new level of prosperity consciousness if you pay attention. In doing so, you guarantee yourself prosperity for the rest of your life. The things that you begin while Jupiter was in your first house will now begin to pay off, especially if you have created things that can pay off in a big way. Think big and you will reap big results.

Take advantage of this transit by planning your business actions to expand your operations before and during this transit. The more opportunities that others have to give you money, the more money you will make. Expect major financial success when Jupiter conjuncts or opposes planets in your 2nd or 8th houses.

Jupiter Transiting the Third House
The third house governs education, publishing, contracts and relations with brothers and sisters. It also governs automobiles. This is the time when you will probably purchase a new car and it will not be a lemon. As a matter of fact, the car you purchase during this transit will be better than you thought you deserved. All forms of educational pursuits will improve and any work that you do in terms of writing or publishing will flourish. Contracts will be signed that are favorable to you in many ways. And last but not least, you will find that you are clearing up relationships with your siblings in a very positive way. This is a good time for new books and other forms of information to come your way. You might even get a new computer or connect to new sources of information that help you in many ways.

Take advantage of this transit by planning to make business contracts, publish books, newsletters, or other forms of information during this time. Also, plan any further educational pursuits at this time, such as going back to school or taking classes that will further your success.

Jupiter Transiting the Fourth House
This is the time when you really get to appreciate the nurturing aspects of life. You may purchase a new home or add things to your existing home that make it just so enjoyable and comfortable. It is the time to enjoy being at home, cooking for yourself and it is also very good for married life or for those who are living together in the same house. Relationships with women, in general, will be very good. You will receive things from key women that really make a difference in your life. The relationship with your own mother will also be good and you should see your mother's situation improve in some ways. Jupiter is now in my 4th house and I cannot tell you just how great it feels. I am loving being in my home so much and enjoying fixing it up with those little things that make a house a home. Katherine and I both are amazed at just how much a difference we feel about it.

Take advantage of this transit by purchasing a new home or adding to your existing home during or just prior to this transit. Planning a marriage during this transit would also be a blessed experience. Enjoy this transit!
Jupiter Transiting the Fifth House

   This is the other transit of Great Enjoyment (the other being Jupiter in the first). Isn't it nice that we have two of them within a twelve year period? The fifth house may actually be the better of the two because the fifth house is a house of pleasure to begin with. This is creative, romantic and sexual pleasure at its best. Many people begin a new creative project or enterprise while Jupiter is in the fifth. Others get pregnant or give birth. Births that happen during this transit, and that includes the births of projects too, are unusually blessed. Anyone who has children will experience the real blessings and joy that having children can bring. Single people enjoy this as a period of happy love affairs and relationships. You can actually meet a better quality of lover with Jupiter in the 5th. You may even meet someone that you will later marry (perhaps when Jupiter enters your 7th house two years later). People in the acting professions or entertainers usually get good jobs during this transit or have unusually good success. It has also been known to be good for gambling and speculation, though I would be careful to see that other planetary transits don’t conflict before I would venture any sizable amount of money.

   Take advantage of this transit by letting your creative juices flow. If you have a good idea for something, do it! If you want to give birth to a child, business, plan or whatever, go for it. Actors and actresses and performing artists of all kinds should go out and look for new opportunities - they will be there. And single people will enjoy better love affairs and more sexual/romantic enjoyment. Look for prominent events when Jupiter conjuncts or opposes natal planets in your 5th or 11th houses.

Jupiter Transiting the Sixth House

   This is one of the best times for work and health. Your own job situation should improve dramatically. You may get a raise or promotion and your relationships with people at work will begin to seem like a major blessing in your life. You will appreciate the work you do and the opportunity you have to serve others. This is also a time for healing and better health. If you have had any health problems, they will probably clear up during this time. You may find yourself coming into contact with good remedies, vitamins and supplements that augment your health and well being. You can basically trust that the health things you discover now are good for you, including doctors and healers that you come into contact with. You may begin some new health disciplines or exercise now and should be open to these and anything else that will increase your overall vitality.

   Take advantage of this transit by planning a job change, if you are currently not satisfied with your current position. Look for a new job, or a change within your current company. You may even decide to start a new profession now, such as becoming a healer or counselor of some kind. Also look for any and all ways to improve upon your basic health status. All you find will be a blessing.

Jupiter Transiting the Seventh House

   Jupiter in the 7th house brings good partnerships of all kinds, both personal and professional. Though partnerships in business are generally frowned upon, this is an exception to that rule. Partnerships that you begin now are slated for financial success. Likewise, this is the best time for marriage. You will become aware of just how important a
role others play in your life during this time and will come to really appreciate and feel blessed by all of the ‘partners’ that you have.

Take advantage of this transit by looking for others who want to participate in your success who can contribute in a substantial way. Think big here. And keep in mind that any sort of business arrangement is considered partnerships. For example, someone sponsoring you to do a class, or someone agreeing to sell your products are both examples of partnerships. If you have found someone you feel compatible with, this is also the best time to get married. The marriage will be a blessing to you.

Jupiter Transiting the Eighth House

Jupiter in the 8th is a lot like Jupiter in the 2nd. It is another very good influence for money. However, in the 8th, the money is more likely to come from partnerships and from others. The money may actually be given to you, you could marry into it or it could come from a legal, tax, or estate settlement. Jupiter in your 8th house is a guarantee that your partners’ finances will be doing very well. If their finances are doing well, then they will give your more and therefore, your finances will be doing well. Jupiter in the 8th also gives you a lot of sexual energy. This could be especially good for middle aged men whose sexual energy has been off lately. They will feel a definite boost and renewal. Everyone will enjoy sex during this transit and appreciate its role in their lives.

If you have created good financial connections as indicated by Jupiter in the 7th, then you will see huge financial gains from them during this transit. If you haven’t yet created partnerships like this, do so as soon as possible. The more ways that you create for others to give your money, the more you will receive. Scorpio, the sign of the 8th house, is feminine. It likes to receive. Be open to receiving and it will come to you in abundance. This would also be a good time to enter into legal battles or estate dealings where money is a factor since they are more likely to turn out in your favor.

Jupiter Transiting the Ninth House

This transit has benefits that are more spiritual than mundane but are just as important in the overall scheme of one’s life. Jupiter governs the 9th house. This is its natural home in the zodiac. So now you know where all of these wonderful blessings of all the other transits originate from! When Jupiter is in its home house, it gets down to its most important function - enriching your soul. If we pay attention to what we experience and learn at this time, our entire life will be put on a course that is the real us and thus we will walk ahead with complete assurance and confidence.

Jupiter in the 9th will bring a lot of spiritual guidance and direction into your life. Expect to find new books, classes, spiritual systems and philosophies, all of which will open up new avenues to self understanding. You could have an important spiritual revelation and will probably realize the importance of your spiritual studies and/or disciplines during this transit. You could meet one or more spiritual teachers, either in person or through other means. You could also travel to foreign countries and find much wisdom in the things you experience.

We take best advantage of this transit simply by being thankful for Jupiter’s blessings in our life and being open to new ways of understanding our life and the world we live in.
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Jupiter Transiting the Tenth House

The 10th house begins at what is called the Midheaven and this relates to our role in the world or our reputation. What it really boils down to is knowing what kind of job or profession we are best suited for. Jupiter in the 10th will bring this knowledge to us, if we don’t already possess it. If, when we enter this transit, we already know our right place in our work, this transit can bring promotions to higher levels and recognition for our work and deeds. In any event, this transit causes others to think about us in a most favorable light. I can remember that during my last 10th house Jupiter transit, I realized that my work was going to be with the Science of the Cards. It was then that I made a commitment to this system. The 9th house transit that proceeded it was when I actually was given much of the information but during the 10th house transit, I made it my role in the world. Probably the next time Jupiter goes through my 10th house, I will be recognized to a greater extent for my contribution to this work. The 10th house can bring fame as well.

So, if you are one of those who is still searching for what kind of work you should be doing, get ready to find out. Sometime during this year, Jupiter will bring you that gift. This will have special impact if you have utilized Jupiter’s transit through your 9th house and have gotten more in touch with yourself so that now you really know what fits you best.

Jupiter Transiting the Eleventh house

The 11th house is the house governing organizations, associations, spiritual orders and groups, as well as Astrology, the Science of the Cards and Numerology. During this transit blessings will come from all of these areas. Friendships in general are a source of many blessings and expect some key friendships to play a helpful role in your life. Those employed in large organizations will find this to be a time when you enjoy working in this environment a great deal and will find that those in higher positions are willing to lend you a helping hand. You may receive blessings or favors of some kind from someone important or in a high position in his or her respective organization. I actually discovered The Order of the Magi during my 11th house transit and was initiated as a Grand Master shortly thereafter. The 11th house is also called the house of Wishes. It is very likely that during this transit you will receive something that you want in your heart of hearts. This would be especially true if you have one or more planets in the 11th house natally. Work with the metaphysical sciences listed above will bring greater success and you may find you get more involved in these subjects during this time. Also you may get a computer now and that may revolutionize your work.

To take advantage of this transit, reach out to those in positions of power and authority. They are likely to recognize you now and may have valuable things to offer you. Purchase a computer and do readings if you have any skill in the sciences listed above. Enjoy your friendships and the company of co-workers.

Jupiter Transiting the Twelfth House

The 12th house is a very spiritual house but much different than the 9th. It is the house that governs our immediate previous life and all things psychic and unseen. I remember that during my transit of the 12th house, I had more really great psychic readings than ever. One of them in particular was with a world-renowned psychic in New York City that changed my life. If you currently have Jupiter in the 12th, call me and I will give you his
number. Expect good things to come from the psychic side of life and expect to discover more about yourself from such readings and explorations. This is probably the best time of all to do a past-life regression because Jupiter’s influence protects us and promises that healing will occur in relation to those experiences.

This transit is a time of inner healing and silent preparation. Meditation and inner reflection are the best occupations as you prepare yourself for your ‘coming out’ when Jupiter crosses your Ascendant at the end of this transit. You should be preparing yourself for this coming out, get everything ready behind the scenes for your grand opening. Get your presentation together on all levels. Make decisions about how you will present yourself, both personally and professionally to the world. Read the description of Jupiter in the First House so that you understand what is coming and prepare yourself to take full advantage of it. If you use this time wisely, you will initiate a new cycle of success and prosperity for yourself that will continue for the rest of your life.

**Struggle and Success**

One of the problems of being human is that we are creatures of habit and association. We are governed a lot by our past experiences and the inferences we made as a result of them. We tend to form beliefs about life based upon our experiences, when often the truth is much different than we think and a much more loving belief is possible. If I have a negative experience with a certain person, I will begin to believe that every time I am with this person I will have a bad experience. For this reason, I will probably avoid this person, even though it may be entirely possible that being with this person could offer me a lot of good things that I am now unaware of. This is human, but wouldn't it be nice if we had more conscious control over our lives than to be molded so much by our past? Did you know that there is another way?

A good example of this is our struggle mentality. I look around and see so many people struggling. Some are struggling financially. They never seem to have enough money that they feel at ease or that they can do the things they want to do. Another area where I see a lot of struggling going on is relationships. I see many people struggling to find happiness in a relationship, trying to find someone with whom they can have a happy love life. We can always tell if someone is struggling because when they talk about what they are doing they will use the word "try" a lot. If someone is trying to do something, what they are really saying is that they are not actually doing that thing. They are struggling to do it. They often feel defeated in that area of their life or have reached their wits end about it. Most of us struggle in some areas of our life. If we ask ourselves what are we trying to do lately, we will know where we are struggling.

In the next column are some common expressions that many of us use that show us that we are working with a struggle mentality.

**Struggle Consciousness Expressions:**

Shit happens.
Life is a bitch and then you are dead.
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Thank God it’s Friday. (and Wednesday is hump day.)
Another day older and deeper in debt.
You work hard, pay taxes, and then you die.
Nothing good comes easily.
If life is a bowl of cherries, why am I in the pits?
The Harder I work, the Behinder I get.

In my experience I see that struggle is more or less a habitual state of mind, one that has become so habitual that we have forgotten that we are doing it. If I am walking around believing that a certain area of my life is 'always going to be a struggle', then I am doing two things.

First of all, I am interpreting whatever experiences I am currently having through that belief filter. I will actually see struggle where it doesn't even exist and I will probably not believe it if something came to me easily and effortlessly. Secondly, I will tend to attract and create struggle experiences in my life because of my thoughts, which are ultimately governed to a great deal by my beliefs. Struggle becomes a self-fulfilling prophecy for most of us and it often seems like a vicious cycle of defeat and humiliation. Struggle can become the way we see life and it can become so habitual that we actually forget that there is such a possibility as happiness, abundance, ease, comfort and prosperity in life.

The good news is that we can rise above much of the problems created by struggle mentality just by seeing it clearly and by being willing to simply imagine new possibilities for ourselves. Let's begin by trying on a new belief. Take whatever area of your life that you are currently struggling in and apply this belief to it and see how you feel when you do. Here is the belief:

Life is supremely abundant. God intended our life to be one of ease and excessive prosperity in every meaningful area. The natural state of the universe is excessive prosperity.

I could elaborate on this further by saying that it takes a lot of effort and determination for us to keep prosperity away from us. When I use the words prosperity and abundance, you must realize that these could apply to any area of our life. Love or romantic prosperity might mean a happy marriage. At any rate, if you could take on this belief, it could actually set you free. Not because you would be fooling yourself into believing it, but because this belief is truer than the belief in struggle. It actually represents a truth on a higher level than any belief in struggle or poverty and thus, if we adopt it, it will lift us up to that level.

Eliminating struggle from our lives can be a little frightening. Struggle becomes so familiar that we may be frightened to let go of it. It's sort of like losing an old friend. Though we may not necessarily like that old friend, it was better than having no friend at all. But we have to let go of struggle if we are to ever know the possibilities that lie beyond the experiences we have had so far. I can distinctly remember the day when I let go of my struggle concerning money. On one hand it was an exhilarating experience to know that I would never need worry about finances again. On the other hand, there was this definite sense of loss. I would never again be able to be that person who was always concerned about finances. This may not seem so important, but I assure you that it is. It is often this loss of our identity that we fear the most when it comes to letting go of our struggle mentality. If I
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have come to think of myself as a person who struggles for everything, I may just be afraid of losing my basic identity if I gave up that way of thinking.

An entire book could be written on this subject and I may write one myself someday. For now, it is a good idea to keep tabs on just how much we are struggling and to realize that the truth is that struggle is unnecessary. It is a manufactured belief system that keeps us stuck at a certain level - a level we may decide we don't want any more. We can undo this belief much quicker than we think if we are willing to look at it, see it for what it is, and then embark on a new course. Just imagine a life where everything you want just flows to you effortlessly, where everything that happened to you seems like a fortunate coincidence, like all the cards falling in your direction without your having to struggle at it to make it work. Well, that is the natural order of the universe. If we decide to harmonize our beliefs to that universal truth, we will begin to feel that connected feeling and experience the prosperity that is our birthright.

Uncovering Common Mis-Beliefs about Our Life

Here we are, beginning a new year and I thought this would be a good time to write an article about some of the many beliefs that hold us back in life in the hopes that by seeing them, we can set ourselves free of their influence. I have personally performed thousands of personal readings so far and now I am getting pretty good at spotting these mis-beliefs and seeing how much they affect our lives. I am not sure if we really understand just how much our core beliefs about life affect what happens to us. Our beliefs are the filters through which all of our experiences are interpreted by our minds. If our filters are in need of cleaning, what comes through is not pure and good for us.

We can absolutely change the quality of our life with higher consciousness. As a matter of fact, the very moment that we become more aware of how we are the cause of our how our life has become the way it is, it begins to change. The longer we place this cause outside of ourselves, the longer we spend wondering why our life seems to follow the same patterns year after year after year.

Let’s start out this year looking at our current beliefs with an eye towards understanding their importance in our life. If any of them are not serving us well, let’s replace them with a new set of beliefs about ourselves and life that will give us more joy, prosperity, power, love and success. Here are a few that I find are so common these days along with some ways to change them.

Number One: I can’t do it.

When we say we can’t do something, we are not telling it like it really is. This is, in fact, an affirmation of our powerlessness and anyone who uses this expression a lot is certainly someone who is feeling like a victim in his or her life. Even though it is not true that we cannot do things, if we repeat it often enough to ourselves, it creates a general feeling of powerlessness and fatalism about our life. We really like to use this expression a lot when we are making up an excuse for not doing something that we don’t want to do, but we still want the people who are involved to like us. Heaven forbid if we should tell them the truth
that we just don’t want to, or that we choose to do something else! They might reject us, which is one of the biggest fears of our modern age.

The truth is that we are constantly making choices about what is most important to us and sometimes we prefer to do one thing over another. It is ten times more powerful to say “I choose not to do that” or “I would rather do something else” than to say “I can’t do that.” Just changing that one little language habit could change your life.

Number Two: I don’t have the time.

This is very much like number one and is often used in the same way as a lame excuse for our decisions in the hopes that others will not reject us. We have as much time as we need for anything that is important. If we say that we don’t have the time for one thing, what we are really saying is that we would rather use our time doing something else that is more important to us. This is another language habit that can drag us down if not checked. What do you think your life will be like if you keep telling yourself that you don’t have enough time? How will your soul create your life in order to fulfill that request?

Number Three: I had no choice (or, I have no choice)

This one is pretty obvious but you may be surprised to find out just how much people use this expression. Is it disempowering? Yes, of course it is! It is another of those expressions used by those who are victim/savior oriented. We always have a choice. Perhaps in the present moment, situations that present themselves are the result of our past choices and that may make it appear that we now have no choice. But everything in our life is a choice of some kind. To use words like “I have no choice” is to tear ourselves down and take away that which we have given ourselves. Sometimes we use this one again when we want to make up an excuse for our choices but not take any responsibility for them so that others will take pity on us or not reject us for what we have done.

Number Four: They (He, She, etc.) made me do it.

As human beings, we are extremely picky and specific about almost everything in our life. Out of the millions of combinations and possibilities that exist, we make detailed choices about everything from the color of our walls to who we spend time with. It’s funny then, how we then claim that we have no knowledge of those choices. This is a good example. When we say that someone made us do something, what we are really saying is that we made a choice to do what they wanted instead of some other ideas we had for some important reason. We may have done what they wanted to avoid rejection or to get something in return from them, but rest assured, we always have a reason and there is always something in it for ourselves. People just don’t do anything unless they are going to get something out of it and it is really a lie and a crime to ourselves to repeat lines like this one. No one makes us do anything. Think about it.

Number Five: I can’t afford it.

This is an affirmation used by people with a very limited concept of money, abundance and prosperity. There just isn’t any such thing as “I can’t afford it” and the more we use that expression, the more we condemn ourselves to living in that reality, which is limited, contracted and fearful. The truth is that we make choices each day about what we
want to purchase and how we spend our money. If we want something strongly enough, we can always get the money somehow. The money is there, always, and there is always a way to get it when we want it bad enough. To prove this, just look at how many things you already have that you made it a point to get. Did your financial depravity stop you from getting them?

We also make choices about how much we give to others which mysteriously is the same thing as how much we get back for our work. “I can’t afford it.” can also be a smoke screen for “I don’t feel worthy of anything so nice” or “I am currently rejecting myself for something bad that I have done and refuse to love myself by buying that item because I am mad at myself.” Our relationship with prosperity, or the lack of it, can reveal a lot of our deepest core beliefs about ourselves and our life.

Number Six: *I did it because I didn’t want to hurt them.* (him, her, etc.)

Many people tell themselves and others that much of their reasons for doing what they do is to not see others suffer. Some of them even believe their own words. These are often the same people that feel as though others are constantly taking advantage of their kindness and who feel that they are being used by others or not receiving as much in return as they are giving out. This goes along with the mother who says “I did everything for you kids and look what you gave me in return.” Both these statements point to a subtle and clever disguise of motivations.

Everyone that I have met so far who uses these statements is secretly wanting a great deal from their actions but refuse to tell others up front what they want in exchange for what they are prepared to give. They often will just go ahead and give things to you without even asking if you want it or if you are willing to give them what they want in return. One of the reasons some of them don’t ask for what they want up front is that they are afraid that others will say no, which is exactly what would happen in many of those cases. Sometimes these individuals learned from their parents that it is not okay to have needs and that this sort of disguised motivation is the best way to get your needs met while you appear on the surface to not have any at all.

I could write a book about relationships and how we really cannot hurt anyone other than ourselves. This is the time in history for us to clear this one up once and for all because it strikes at the core of the prevailing illusions that keep so many of us enslaved to pain and suffering.

Number Seven: *I am trying to do it.*

There is an old expression that reveals a lot about what we are really up to in our life. The expression, “Trying is Lying”, tells us that when we say we are trying to do something, we are actually saying that we want to look like we are doing something when we actually are not doing it. If we examine this closely, we will see that saying that we are trying to do something is the same as saying that we are not actually doing it. In reality, we are either doing something or not. Trying implies that part of us wants to do something but that another part of us doesn’t. Not only that, but the part that doesn’t want to do it is stronger than the part that does want to do it. Therefore, trying to do something is, in reality, *not doing it.*

When you see yourself using this expression, ask yourself what parts of you do not want to do whatever it is. What reasons might you have for being unsuccessful at
accomplishing it? What parts of your life may be affected in adverse ways if you were successful? Questions like these can help you uncover your own inner conflicts and get you back in touch with the fact that you can do anything.

This is the real truth about life - that we can do and have anything, anytime. Isn’t it amazing? If we can root out some of these speaking and thinking habits, we can begin to experience this as part of our daily reality. This process is really not as hard as it seems. From one point of view it is as easy as turning on a light in a dark room. The darkness leaves us in doubt about what is there and leaves the imagination a lot of room to imagine the worst. Once we turn the light on, all of those imaginations are gone and we can see the truth of what is really there. This may sound too simple, but try it and see for yourself. You have nothing to lose but your misery.

Other Unpublished Articles

The Battles of Life and the Way of the Warrior
Robert Camp
10/28/94

Each of us has a personal battle that we wage each and every day of our life. Some days we are more victorious and on other days we feel as though we are beaten and must surrender. Actually, successful battles in life require us to know when to fight and when to surrender. Sometimes we must use all of our might to change our world and at other times we must learn the art of surrendering to things as they are. It can be a bewildering struggle at times.

All the battles that we fight are really about one thing. If we examine each and every struggle that we engage in, we will realize that all of our struggles are based upon our lack of self-love and our need to love, acknowledge and accept ourselves. Of course, most people in this world are not aware that their struggles are about something so personally theirs, but it is true just the same. When we are most convinced that there is something outside of us that needs to change, a little warning light should go off in our heads to tell us, "Hey, what is it in your self that needs changing or fixing?".

There are certain battles that we have fought over and over again since childhood. We look back over our life so far and we can see a pattern of struggle and problems in certain areas. In some of these areas, we are completely convinced that the problem is not our fault but instead is the fault of the world or of someone in our world. This habitual way of looking at our battles as being the fault of things outside of ourselves is one of the elements of karma.

We actually come into this life with certain interpretations of events already programmed in from some previous life or lives. Even as a baby, we will tend to interpret certain actions or words as being hateful or out to get us. Scientists think that our personality is developed in childhood by the circumstances and environment we grow up in. However, this explanation does not explain why five or six children in the same family with the same parents have such completely different personalities. If you were to question each one of the children after they are grown, you will notice that each of them has a different story of what happened during childhood. In many cases, the stories disagree strongly. Why is this? Is it
because each child actually lived in a different environment? Yes, that is true in the most important sense of the word. Each of us is always living life through the filters of our karmic patterns. Though me and one of my brothers or sisters may both be present during a more or less traumatic experience as a child, each of us will take different meaning from the experience based upon the filters that we brought with us into this life. These filters determine how we interpret everything and ultimately are the very things that we must work with.

Eventually, each of us must become aware of and own our filters. This is what spiritual work is really about. The true spiritual warrior is he or she who examines their life and takes responsibility for their actions and words and for their interpretations of events and experiences. If we continue down the spiritual path for long, we ultimately will be fighting our battles only with ourselves.

In the Hindu system of understanding, there are four castes that make up the caste system. Though at first glance this seems to be a method for segregating people in their society, its actual purpose and meaning have a much more spiritual foundation than most people realize. The four castes actually represent four steps on the spiritual path to final liberation. The third of these castes is the Kshatriya, or warrior, caste. Each caste has identifying characteristics that set it apart from the others. The warrior class of person had the following traits: He or she was able to withstand great pain without showing it. He or she would always protect the weak and innocent, and finally, they would follow strict rules of conduct when they went into battle. For example, a warrior would never fight someone who was of a lower skill level than himself or who had decided not to fight for any reason. Furthermore it was always considered a great honor to die upon the field of battle. These warriors of old were always thrilled when one of their opponents showed great skill in one of the battle arts. They would actually pay sincere compliments to their enemies at times during the battle itself.

If we are to become true warriors we must enter into the battle joyously and be willing to fight to the death if that is what is required of us. And what do we have to lose except our self-limiting beliefs about ourselves and life. It is those filters that will die during battle because what we are inside, the real us, can never truly die.

Choosing the Best Occupation
Robert Camp
3/18/95

Almost every week I get something in the mail advertising some way to make a lot of money. Years ago, I would respond to many of these ads and attend mini-seminars on easy ways to make money. I found out, by trying some of these, that many of them work very well. Many of these kinds of systems actually work quite well and can make someone a lot of money. There is a big consideration to make before going into one of these kinds of businesses and that is whether or not this is the kind of work that you would enjoy doing for an extended period of time.

Even though we can force ourselves to do certain kinds of work for short periods of time, it goes against our nature to do work that is not fulfilling for any length of time. Only
those who are truly dead to their feelings can endure a hopelessly boring and uninteresting kind of job for very long. What your special occupation is and how you can find it is the subject of this article.

From my own experience I can tell that there are many levels to work. These levels tell us what parts of ourselves are fulfilled by doing any certain job. The ones I recognize are:

1. **Basic security** - Does this job fulfill my basic requirements for food, shelter and safety? If these basic needs are not met, I have no possibility of achieving any of the other levels.

2. **Enjoyment** - Do I actually enjoy the 'doing' that this work involves? If I am a farmer, for example, do I enjoy driving a tractor, working with animals, etc.? I actually enjoy writing, creating software and giving personal readings, which is what my current job consists of at this moment.

3. **Prosperity** - Does this job promise to bring me genuine prosperity - that is, does it promise to create enough wealth that I always feel that I have more than I need?

4. **Fulfillment** - Does this job fulfill other parts of me that are important? For spiritual people, this may mean giving them the opportunity to help others while they do the job.

At different times in our lives these various levels will become more important. However, the number one level must be fulfilled before we can fulfill any of the others. Some people I have seen have remained in jobs that merely fulfill number one, while neglecting the other levels. It is interesting to me that many people whose Birth Cards are fours are like that. It doesn't seem to bother them very much that they don't get levels 2 - 4. This is probably because the number four is directly associated with security.

Most of us will, however, need some or all of the other levels to be fulfilled if we are to be truly happy and fulfilled in our work. Personally, I go for all of them and get them. A lot of clients and other people I have met have asked me what sort of job they should go for. After my own personal experiences, I know that no one will be completely fulfilled until their work has some of all four of these elements in them. I also know that each of us is in a certain place in time and that to be focused exclusively on one or two levels is the way that we operate sometimes. Let's talk a little about levels 2 - 4.

When you imagine yourself doing a certain job or profession, day in and day out, do you see yourself enjoying what you are doing? If you really do not enjoy typing and answering the phone, why would you pick a job as a secretary? Is it because you are only shooting for level number one at the present time? Keep in mind that you can have all of these levels if you wish. It's only a matter of choice. At one point in my life I had read books on how to become a millionaire by buying real estate with no money down. I understood the books and went out and purchased ten buildings in the space of one year. I was well on my way to becoming a real estate tycoon. However, I really did not enjoy doing the job of a landlord and maintenance man for over 50 apartment units. I was getting calls at 3:00 in the morning in the middle of January to come and fix plumbing problems and having to deal with tenants who were on welfare and couldn't afford to pay the rent. Eventually I got out of that business completely. It did make me a lot of money, but I did not enjoy the work. The only part I liked was the buying and selling. But that was only a small percentage of the total time I spent keeping those buildings and tenants happy. When considering whether or not you would like to go into a certain direction, try to visualize what you would be doing each day in that job. This one exercise could save you years of suffering.
Is this job you are choosing going to get you out of the financial rut? Will it take you to a place called 'beyond lack forever'? If it doesn't maybe its because you believe that you must live in the world of 'not enough' for the rest of your life. No one says you have to live in 'not enough'. I say you can have more money than you would ever need. This is what I believe is the natural order of the universe. If you want this in your life, pick a job or profession that has an unlimited upside potential to it. This means that there is no limit to how much you could make doing this work. Pick a job that has made millions for many people. Why not? It is your choice. If you pick a job that can at most make you $30,000 a year, then that is your way of saying $30,000 a year is the most I need or want to make. Remove the financial glass ceiling from your future. Its as simple as making a simple decision.

True fulfillment is a hard one for many people. They just don't know what kind of job is really going to make them happy (Ask any Ten of Clubs!). This is a common ailment and one that plagues many of us when we know we have a choice about what profession or job to choose. I guess we have to define true fulfillment first. It does have many levels of meaning. I say that true fulfillment comes to those who know they are utilizing many or all of their natural gifts and in return are seeing good things come from their work. I believe our work has to have some element of loving others in it for us to really enjoy it and to feel fulfilled by it. For me, this means knowing that my work has in some way helped other people to improve the quality of their lives. When I do a personal reading or complete a book like The Cards of Your Destiny, I know that I have created something that will add something real, good and of true value to the lives of some other people. If my work is only about fulfilling my own personal desires, it will not actually make me feel fulfilled when I achieve my personal goals, unless those goals include helping others. Love is meant to be given, not taken. It is the flowing of love from us to others that brings that inner feeling of rightness and fulfillment.

I always advise people to develop a purpose statement before deciding what work to pursue. The purpose statement sums up what their true purpose is here on the planet. I often ask them to visualize themselves just before the moment of their death. Just before we die, we will recount our life and ask ourselves "What have I done that has any true worth?". From that perspective many people are better able to get in touch with those things that will bring them real fulfillment. If I look back at that moment and see that my life has been a never-ending chase for money and carnal desires, I am not going to leave this life with the kind of happy contentedness that I would otherwise. Keep this in mind as you think about your work. Remember that no one gets out of here alive and that for many of us, our life is already half over. What will you do in your remaining days and year? I figured out recently that I probably have about 13,000 days left to live. That seems like a lot from one perspective and not so many from another.

**Fear - The Healer**
Robert Camp
3/25/94

Fear is such a fundamental part of our lives that it is extremely important to develop an understanding of how it works in our lives. Most of us have a habit of avoiding our fears
at any cost. Indeed, we are afraid of our fear. This is the reason that so few people have learned to deal with and benefit from their fears. We spend so much energy running away from our fears that we rarely stop and hang out with it long enough to get the precious messages that it is sending us. Then, when we notice that we are feeling bored and lifeless, we will go out and spend our money on things that scare us, like scary movies and amusement park rides. We are funny creatures aren't we?

Our lack of awareness and habitual patterns of avoiding our own feelings and fears are the causes of some of our worst problems in life. Not knowing what is going on inside of us leaves us always feeling victimized by the events around us. Anyone who feels that they are the victim of another person or a situation is someone who has a very low level of awareness, both awareness of themselves and of the world around them. By hanging out with our fears we can learn all about which areas of our life that we have negative self beliefs. If we just look at those things and people and situations that scare us the most, the very act will cause a dawning of consciousness and we automatically open ourselves up to see the truth. Though you may not believe it, the truth is always a loving teacher and always has loving intents. When we see the truth deeply, love fills us and we are able to heal those parts of ourselves that are emotionally or psychically wounded.

What fear really does is put us in touch with our false beliefs about ourselves and life. False beliefs about our self will in turn manifest itself as an avoidance of situations that seem to indicate that those beliefs are true. For example, if I believe on the inside that I am an unworthy person, I will avoid any and all situations that remind me of just how unworthy I am. If there is a person in my life who treats me as unworthy, I will avoid them. Or, I may get angry at them and try to hurt them. After all, all anger comes from some hidden fear. If I am angry at a person, I am actually fearful underneath and if I can trace that fear, it will lead me back to a mistaken belief about myself, a belief that makes me less than what I want to be and less than what I truly am.

The truth is that everyone alive on this planet has fears. Some of the people who you regard as being the most successful and the most 'together' are likely the ones who have tremendous fears in their life. If you knew what their inner state was, you would never even think of wanting to be in their shoes. Those who have the least fears in life are those who know themselves. No one is just born knowing themselves. It takes experience and conscious intention to develop that rare and extremely valuable quality.

The best place to start with dealing with your fear is to develop your ability to feel your feelings. All it takes is for you to personally acknowledge what your feeling when you are feeling it. This means that you actually become aware of your feelings and sort of say it out loud in your mind just what they are. Or, you can tell someone you love what you are feeling. The point is that you have to let your conscious rational mind become aware of them. This requires thinking or speaking what you feel. You might start with your anger because it is easier to get in touch with anger than with fear, which is one layer deeper away from our conscious minds. If you can become aware that you are angry and let yourself feel what that feels like, then you can begin asking yourself "What am I afraid of right now?" and "What is the fear that lies behind this anger I am feeling?". In this manner, you will gradually develop your level of self-awareness and begin to see and understand the many core-level beliefs that are ruling your life and for the most part, destroying your happiness. Self awareness is a commodity that is more valuable than gold or diamonds. With it, all the things in your life
that you ever wanted will come to without your trying. Without it, your life will just get worse and worst or at best, stay the same. After you have had some mini-successes with being with and understanding your fears you will come to realize just what a precious gift they really are.

**Facing Fears**
Katherine Camp
6/17/93

I thought I would write a little bit about my experience with the Sevens and Nines when they show up in my yearly readings. Fear is a typical reaction to the appearance of these two numbers, and I know I have grimaced a few times at the sight of them, especially when they were in the spade suit or when they showed up during the Saturn period for the year. And that is precisely what I experienced last year. I had a 7♠ and a 9♠ in Saturn. It was a challenging year to say the least. In retrospect, I can see that everything that happened on a physical and emotional level was a step toward unveiling my deepest fears, forging through my resistance to feeling the fear, finding out that I live through it and seeing how my fears have directed my life in ways that contributed to my unhappiness. As a result of facing fears I am now better able to distinguish between what is really happening and what looks like a childhood experience in which I felt powerless and afraid and reacted by denying my true feelings, shutting down a part of myself as a defense.

Last year, over the course of 7 months, I developed 7 boils (painful and disgusting skin eruptions). By the third one I began to realize that there was something my body was trying to tell me. I felt afraid that they would continue to pop out all over my body and I wouldn't be able to stop it. I read Louise Hay's book *You Can Heal Your Body*, which shed some light on my condition and motivated me to search inside myself for the source of my physical problems. She talks about boils as an indication that there is anger, something coming to a head, something seething inside. At first it made sense to me on an intellectual level. Yes, I was sure that I had some anger. But what was the anger about? And what do I do about it? I wanted to get rid of it as soon as possible. I felt afraid.

At some point I decided to listen to what I was saying to myself about having this awful skin condition. That is, "oh, no, please go away. I am afraid that I will not be OK, that I will never get better. I am afraid that terrible things will happen like, I will have unsightly scars and I will not be attractive anymore. Or my husband may not love me anymore. He might leave me if I am sick too long. I cannot take care of myself and I feel powerless to do anything to help myself."

At first, it was hard for me to believe that I was really saying all of those fearful things to myself. However, realizing that my fears were self-created, was the first indication that my health was improving. I felt encouraged to challenge my fears, asking all the questions that I was afraid to ask and listening to the answers that showed me the truth about myself.

This 7♠ experience, really marked the beginning of an end (9♠) for me on an emotional level. I had faced my fears, accepted myself with all my fears and experienced a new way of loving myself. I accomplished this by listening and responding to my inner
voice that knows the truth and knows that I can take care of myself in a loving and more expedient manner. I have less of a need to create rejecting and negative thoughts as a means of avoiding my fears, because now I know how to be with them.

The Seven Stages of Life
Robert Camp
2/26/96

Each of us have seven main cards in our Life Spread or Life Path. These cards are essentially the Direct cards in our Age 90 Spread. Though there is also a Pluto and Result Card, only the first seven are rulers of stages of our life. These seven stages are each 13 years long, beginning with birth. So, the first 13 years of our life, from Ages 0 to 12 will be governed by our Direct Mercury card in our Life Spread or Life Path. Ages 13 - 25 will be governed by our Venus Card and so forth. Arne Lein told me that the length of these periods varies from 12 - 15 years and that they start and end at slightly different times for each person. For example, according to Arne, one might enter the Jupiter stage of life anywhere from Ages 36 - 45. In my own experience, I find that it is closer to the actual 13 years. Remember that 13 is one of the sacred numbers. There are 13 cards in each suit and 13 weeks in each season and 13 lunar months each year. It makes more sense to me that there would be exactly 13 years in each of our seven stages of life. In this case, the final stage would end on Age 90, which is where we begin a new life cycle if we live that long.

In a manner of speaking, we are experiencing the influence of the card that is ruling the particular stage of life that we are currently in. We are influenced not only by the card found in each of these stages but also by the planet that rules each stage and the displacement cards of the card in each stage. The displacement card is the card that is found in the same relative Grand Solar position in the Natural or Perfect Spread. Those who have The Advanced Oracle Workbook, Sacred Symbols of the Ancients, or Love Cards, also have The Grand Solar Spreads for the Mundane and Natural Spreads. If you examine your seven Life Path Cards in the Mundane Spread and look at their corresponding displacement cards in the Natural Spread, you have the whole story. For those who only have The Cards of Your Destiny, you can find the displacement cards as the first Karma Card of each of your Age 90 Direct Cards. For example, if you are a Q♣ person, your Direct Mercury card in the Age 90 Spread is the 10♠. If you look up its Karma Cards on page 38 you will see that the first one is the 4♥. Thus the card ruling the first 13 years of life would be the 10♠ with a 4♥ displacement.

In Sacred Symbols of the Ancients, we find descriptions of each of the seven Life Path cards. In many cases, the descriptions will refer to various stages or times in one's life and in some cases, they will also mention the displacement card's influence. It is from these descriptions that we can infer the importance of these seven stages, their cards and the displacement cards associated with them.

As we continue this discussion, it would be wise for you to have your Life Path cards in front of you and have looked up the displacement cards as well. Also take a moment to calculate which of the stages you are currently in so that you can make a meaningful reference to the cards that are governing your current stage.
The Mercury Stage - Ages 0 - 12

Our Direct Mercury card is probably the most important of all of our seven Life Path cards. Why, you ask? Well, scientific research has proven that our personality is 95% developed by Age 7. You might say that whatever we are going to be has been determined by that age in our life. Since one card governs that entire time period and more, it would be safe to assume that our Mercury card has more to say about our personality, thinking and emotional patterns, than any other card in our Life Path. The Mercury Card and its corresponding displacement card, tell us something about these first 13 years of life. For example, the 7♦, Q♦, 10♠ and 7♣ all have a five as their Mercury card. In addition to this, the 4♥, 6♥, and 5♥ have Fives as displacements to their Mercury card. It would be reasonable to assume from this that most people who are these Birth Cards would experience a lot of either changes or moves in their childhood. And this is true. I am a Q♦ and my son is a 7♦. I must have attended over 10 schools before I graduated from high school. My father was in the service and we seemed to move almost every year from one Air Force Base to another. My son is only 5 years old and already he has seen more travel than many adults I know. He has already been to Costa Rica twice, traveled across the country twice and had lived in four different homes.

The displacement card also comes into play here. The displacement card under my 5♥ Mercury card is the 4♦. Though we traveled a great deal and moved from town to town, our family had a good supply of money those first years of my life. Things were good in that respect for the most part. In my son's case, his Mercury card is the 5♠ and he has a 10♥ displacing it. First of all, he has had a lot of social interaction so far. His mother, being an Aquarian, has always been involved in group activities of one sort or another and he has been there. Secondly he has been immensely popular everywhere he goes and is accepted and approved of by everyone he meets. Everybody just loves him and thinks he is very special. These statements coincide perfectly with the 10♥ card.

The next step is to take our Mercury card and make inferences for our life in broader perspective. All of the cards mentioned earlier who have Fives in Mercury for example, will have a propensity towards changes and travel their entire life. Their minds (Mercury) will often be filled with thoughts of travel (5) or changes (5) and they will tend to be dissatisfied (5), mentally (Mercury). This has been especially true in my case and since my Mercury card is a 5♥, the dissatisfaction extends into the emotional areas as well.

Many cards have a Jack, Queen or King as their Mercury card in their Life Path. In most of these cases, their early life somewhat revolved around a family member that was probably seen as powerful and in some cases, dominating. Keep in mind that royal cards, i.e. Jacks, Queens and Kings, are cards of power and authority. The Queens and Kings especially, represent people who are powerful. The Jacks would more likely refer to associations with disreputable or immature, but still powerful, people. My wife Katherine, a K♣, has a J♦ as her Mercury card. Two of her three brothers are Diamonds and one in particular played the role of a dominant figure in her childhood. However, since it was the Jack, his role had more to do with the dishonest or disreputable aspects of power.
A ♦ people have a Q♦ as their Mercury card and you will usually find that they had a powerful mother figure in childhood. Often, the mother is a business woman (♦) as well. The same holds true for the A♣ person who has a Q♣ as the Mercury card. However, in this case the mother is not going to be a business woman since she is a Club.

When we have a royal card as our Mercury card in our Life Path, we always find this powerful figure in the childhood. However, we don't know if it was a good influence or a negative one. That is determined by the particular karma of the individual. In some cases we will find abuse in the hands of the parent, brother, sister, or other family member. In other cases we find that the influence was very good and strengthening to the child and provided a good role model. In all cases, this powerful figure in their childhood helped shape their self image and they way the individual thinks (Mercury) throughout their life. Many times, the person will pattern themselves after the parent or other dominating figure and become just like them. This again demonstrates the powerful influence of our Direct Mercury card.

Since Mercury rules our minds, thoughts and the ways that we communicate, our Mercury card can reveal much about us on these levels. People who have a nine as a Mercury card, for example, often have tragedy in the early years and thus they can also have a tragic way of looking at life. The strongest example of this is the 9♠ person who happens to have a 9♣ as the Direct Mercury card in their Life Path. It is not uncommon for 9♣ people to have experienced the loss of a family member or some other great tragedy in their childhood. It is also common for a 9♠ person to have a pessimistic or worrisome attitude about life. Often, the smallest details of life can annoy them or upset them when another person would just shrug them off. Birth Cards that have a seven as their Direct Mercury card have similar karma to deal with. I think that the nine is probably stronger than the seven but both bring some challenges in the childhood that reflect later in their life in a major way. I have met several 7♥ people, for example, that have careers in financial areas. Money seems to absorb them, or so it seems. This puzzled me because they don't have a Diamond as a Karma Card and their Birth Card is a Heart. I would have thought that relationships would be the major issue. However, their Direct Mercury card is the 7♦. In some cases, I have noted that their early years were ones of poverty. Now, as adults, they strive harder than ever to achieve freedom from financial woes.

The Venus Stage - Ages 13 - 25

From the Mercury stage, where we spent most of our time learning how to communicate with the world and learning our ABC's in school, we progress into our Venus stage. It is at this stage that most of us deal with romantic relationships for the first time. We reach puberty and discover the power of our hormones. We find an attraction for the opposite sex and explore our sexuality. Though we may still be in school, for most of us the Venus stage is dominated by relationship and pleasure issues. Venus is the planet of love but also the planet of sexuality and pleasures of all kinds. We don't typically have a great desire for work in that stage. As we can see with high school students, much of their time and energy is devoted to having fun and pursuing romantic encounters. This is the stage of life where we discover, and to a certain extent, develop our sense of pleasure and style. It is here that we decide what kind of love, sex, pleasure, clothing, movies, and items of beauty that we like
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best. It is here that our basic nature in relationships is developed and it is our Venus card in our Life Path that best describes our love and romantic natures. The Venus card defines how we are romantically and also what kinds of people we are most attracted to. It also defines how we relate to women in a more general way since Venus is the female planet of planets.

So, from Age 13 to 25 we are under the influence of our Venus card and at the same time, dealing with and developing those sides of our personality. It is safe to say that for many people, they spend a lot of time focusing on romantic areas during that period and the card found in Venus will describe who they are attracted to or what they do in the romantic department.

Those who have powerful Club cards in Venus, for example, are most attracted to people who are smart or witty. The 6♣ has a 10♠ in Venus, the 5♦ has a J♣ in Venus and the 7♠ has a K♣ in Venus. These folks tend to be attracted to those with well developed minds, whereas those who have powerful Diamond cards in Venus, like the 4♠, Q♥, 2♣ and 2♥, will be attracted more to those of financial means. Those with threes or Fives in Venus will tend to be attracted to creative and restless types of mate. They go for the ones who are 'exciting' and 'adventurous' or 'interesting'. These folks will avoid a boring mate or lover at any cost. But the same attractions also means that they have less of a chance of being in one relationship for any extended period of time. What we are attracted to is a direct reflection of how we are internally. Therefore, if I am attracted to those who are restless and changeable, then I too must be restless and changeable in my romantic relationships.

So, the Venus card reveals our inner romantic and relationship nature. It is not the only indicator, however. We must not ignore our Birth Card, which in itself may reveal much about our romantic nature. For example, a 3♣ person has a 9♥ in Venus with a 7♣ displacing it. This doesn't explain why so many 3♣ have difficulty in making a commitment but their Birth Card does. 3♣ people are basically creative and indecisive and this quality will extend to every department of their life to some extent. They will tend to lose interest in a lover or be undecided about making a commitment until they deal with their basic natures and discover the inner fears that stimulates them to change tracks so often.

The 7♦ person has a J♥ in Venus. For these people, their Venus card reveals that they have a deep and fixed spiritual love nature and that they would be inclined to do almost anything for those they love. This extends to the making of sacrifices and I think if you talk to almost any 7♦, you will see this operating clearly in their love life and their family relationships. You see, the Venus card also can tell us about our relationships with family members as well.

I'm not going to go through every card in the deck here, but I hope the examples given will clue you in to the importance and significance of our Direct Venus card.

The Mars Stage - Ages 26 to 38

When we reach the Mars stage, most of us have exhausted our obsession with relationships and pleasure seeking. At this stage, most of us realize that it is time to get to work and that we will have to work in order to achieve anything worthwhile. This tends to get us motivated. Its not that we haven't worked before this stage, but it at this stage that we
usually get more serious and focused about it. Relationships are still important in our lives and many of us are still far from resolving our emotional conflicts and having a truly successful relationship, but now, for the first time, we have other priorities that are placing demands upon our time and energy. Many people abandon relationship issues altogether during the Mars stage or they just get married and get on with it. They discover that they love to work. Take this love and satisfaction that comes through their work and combine that with all the failures that they may have had in romantic relationships and you can see why some people throw in the towel when it comes to love and just get engrossed in their jobs or other passions.

Our Mars card will define what this period is like for us. It may also tell us what kind or kinds of work we get involved in during that period. It is the male card of cards and so also describes our relationships with men on a general basis for our life and for women it often describes the kind of men that excite or stimulate her the most.

When we leave the pursuit of pleasure and begin working, we also come face to face with our anger, another thing ruled by Mars. Our Mars card tells us both what or whom we are most passionate about and what or whom makes us mad. On a deeper level, our Mars card reveals what it is about ourselves that makes us angry. Here is some invaluable information of a high degree. Take those who have a six of any suit in Mars. This would include the 4♦, 2♠, 2♥ and 2♦. These folks would tend to be angered by those who are stubborn and stuck in a rut (6). They would also be attracted to these kinds of people. On a deeper level, they would be angry at themselves for getting into a rut and of not having the energy to 'get themselves going' when needed. They would also tend to get into one position and stay there, especially during the Mars stage of their life.

The Q♣ and Q♦ on the other hand, both have threes as their Mars cards. During that stage of life you will find these people doing all sorts of different jobs or professions. The only exception to this would be if one of them settled in on a creative (3) career, such as a professional artist, musician or writer. The Q♦ has a 3♠ in Mars and during my Mars stage I must have tried over 10 different jobs. Among them were briefs periods where I was a jewelry maker (3♠ is the Artist Card), a professional musician, a writer of computer books, a masseur, and others. Often I had two jobs at the same time (3). I think any Q♣ would give you a similar story. On a deeper level, having a three in Mars reveals that what makes me angry about others and myself is indecisiveness. It is interesting that I have Saturn in Libra. During my Saturn Return, which occurs for all us around age 28, I went through an intense period of overwhelming indecisiveness (a typical Libra and 3 energy manifestation). I was miserable for almost two years. I completed my Saturn Return and immediately started out aggressively pursuing my career and as I mentioned earlier, they were many.

In this respect the Mars card can tell us how we like to work. I have always enjoyed having two or three jobs going at the same time.

In the Mars period we get going. If we have cards of success like an 8 or a 10, we can expect great success and progress in our careers. Spiritual cards however, such as sevens or nines, in Mars will bring challenges and success will only come through application of spiritual principles, which are the opposite of materialistic principles. A 7 or 9 in Mars will only bring success by going within and taking full responsibility for our inner fears and beliefs that are at the heart of the external manifestations in our life. However, a 7 or 9 in
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Mars can indicate that the Mars stage is where a certain person will turn towards a more spiritual approach to life. In general it takes repeated failure, frustration and disappointment for a person to become interested in their spirituality. It is only after exhausting all the traditional approaches to their problems that a person decides to look into spiritual sources for help. Spiritual subjects are seen as 'weird' or 'strange' by the average, materially minded person. But when that person is subjected to repeated failures and disappointments when applying all their mundane approaches to life to their problems, they inevitably turn to the more esoteric approaches. So, though sevens and nines will indicate misfortune in one's life, the real message is that this would be a stage when they went from being a more superficial person and discovered deeper aspects of life and themselves.

Mars is the planet of lust and war, so in many cases the Mar stage of life seems like a struggle. As we zealously pursue the things we lust after, we entrain ourselves in the struggle mentality. We tend to see ourselves as being in a world where there are many competitors and adversaries. Somewhere towards the end of that stage, we begin to tire of the struggle and competition. It is at this stage that we are opening ourselves up to the stage of receiving blessings, the stage of Jupiter.

**The Jupiter Stage - Ages 39 - 51**

If we have worked earnestly during our Mars period and have arrived at a 'no competition state of consciousness, we will be most prepared for the blessings the Jupiter stage has to offer us. Regardless of what our state of mind or beliefs, we will receive much benefit in our Jupiter stage, but for those who are conscious, its value can be multiplied tremendously. Jupiter is more than good luck and more prosperity. It is an opportunity to literally move into a different way of life, a different universe as it were, where struggle and competition simply do not exist and where there is more than enough prosperity for each of us to have everything we want. Not everyone will make this transition and completely release all their beliefs about struggle, poverty and competition, but all have the opportunity to.

Jupiter is associated with wealth and it is the Jupiter stage that also coincides with the beginning our Diamonds period of life where we amass our fortunes. Have you ever noticed that it is people over 40 that for the most part own houses and drive the nice cars? Though they may not have the energy or even the health that they once had in their earlier years, those in the Jupiter and Saturn stages do tend to have the resources and comforts that seem to be missing in the earlier years. Of course, these are generalities and there are always exceptions, but they apply in most cases because they represent natural cycles of life. These are cycles that we can harmonize with and benefit from. Whatever your Jupiter card is, that card tells you where some of your greatest financial blessings can be found. During your Jupiter stage you will likely spend some time pursuing the qualities associated with that card as well.

We must keep in mind that some cards have such powerful cards in Venus and Mars that they may indeed have their success earlier than the cycles just mentioned. the 10♥, for example, has an 8♠ in Venus. Many 10♥, Michael Jackson as a case in point, have the kind of success normally found in Jupiter happening in Venus. The 10♥ also has a 10♦
in Mercury and it is no secret that Michael was quite wealthy by Age 12. It can be true that some cards have all their successes earlier in life and end up their life as miserable failures. That is the exception, rather than the rule however.

For most of us, harmonizing ourselves with our Life Path cards and the stages that each govern can bring us more success and satisfaction in our lives. For example, if I had known that I would not be settling on any one career all during my Mars stage, because of the $3\spadesuit$, I could have stopped struggling to find that one perfect career and could have just flowed with the energies present easier. I would have known that it would not be until my Jupiter stage, where I have a $9\heartsuit$, that I would find my life's purpose. Now that I am 40 years old, I realize that my purpose has a lot to do with bringing love to the world and spreading higher knowledge but I wasn't ready for that understanding until just recently. It is amazing to me, however, how I no longer am searching for my life's purpose. I searched so long that I was beginning to believe that I would never find it (thanks to the $3\spadesuit$ Mars stage).

Jupiter is the time to attain financial prosperity and to elevate one's living conditions to a higher level. It is also the time to practice higher integrity. The success that comes in Jupiter is usually associated with our becoming more mature, responsible, consistent, and committed to an important purpose.

The Saturn Stage - Ages 52 - 64

For many of us, the Saturn stage brings our first major involvements with health issues. Not that we don't have health issues before that. Actually, nowadays people begin having health problems in their late 30's. But in Saturn, it becomes a more predominant issue. We learn that good health takes responsible action. We develop daily routines to maintain our health, if we haven't already. We may even feel forced into these routines. For many, it will be that we must create a health lifestyle or die. Those who have ignored their health for whatever reasons will find that they will have to pay for this karma of not loving their bodies. Often this can come as quite a shock as the body that they took for granted all their life, and who they have used and abused in various ways, now stops working to the extent that they now have to divert money, time and other resources into it if they are to have any enjoyment of life at all. If the abuse of their bodies has been too great up until this time, death could be the result, as Saturn represents payment of karma.

However, for those who already have a health lifestyle, the Saturn period can be that time when they reach a pinnacle of success in their life's work. Most people who know a little about Saturn would guess that the Saturn stage of life would be the most difficult one of all. After all, isn't Saturn the most challenging planet and isn't it the planet of misfortune and negative karma? Well, yes it is. But the truth is that by the time we have arrived at Saturn, we have usually exhausted the bulk of our negative karma. Saturn does have a good side and it deals with our role in the world, our career and what we stand for. In the natural course of things, the Saturn stage is the one where we receive recognition of our life's work. When you see these big celebrations and ceremonies such as the Academy awards and others, there are always those "lifetime achievement awards" or something like that. These awards are usually given to those in their Saturn stage. People retire towards the end of their Saturn stage and along with retirement often comes some sort of recognition.
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This doesn't necessarily mean that one should retire in their Saturn stage. Actually, those who follow the natural course of things will reach a pinnacle in their life's work during Saturn that will be followed by a transition into more spiritual and global matters in Uranus. A little known fact about our Saturn card is that it has something to do with our life's purpose or work. Look at your Saturn card and you may discover that it represents what your true role is, the hat you wear in the world, and the thing that others recognize you for.

The K♣, for example, has an 8♥ in Saturn in the Life Spread. For K♣, their life's work will involve healing (8♥) others through love in some way. They will use their power (8) and be known as powerful people. During their Saturn period they can expect much success with the public (8♥), a rising up in popularity. They might become well known. At the same time, some of them will become emotionally independent (8♥ is the Playboy card) during that period and enjoy having many love interests, in spite of their age. This might be one of the most fun stages of their life.

So, in truth, the Saturn stage is not one to be feared but one to be appreciated because it will bring aspects of life that are part of the natural cycle of things. Our Saturn card, will, however, define the things that we are challenged with a lot in our earlier years. It does represent an area of life where we have much maturing or spiritual work to do as well as the area where we have neglected being responsible in past lives. However, by the time we reach the Saturn stage of life, we have dealt with these areas appropriately and are ready to receive the benefits of Saturn, the recognition of our life's work and the authority to be a teacher to others who are younger.

The Uranus and Neptune Periods - Ages 65 - Death

As these two periods are the last of our life, it is difficult to determine just when one ends and the other begins, or just how long they will last. Sure, if we live to Age 90, we could say that the Uranus Period extends until Age 77 and that the Neptune Period goes from Age 78 to 90. However, many of us will not live to Age 90 and I am not sure how these two periods will be divided up because I believe that even those who only live to Age 75 may have a Neptune Period. So, I sort of lump these two together, knowing that they each have some unique qualities and that they share some qualities as well.

It is interesting that Uranus and Neptune are both 'psychic planets'. By that I mean that it is these two planets that are associated with our communication on an unseen level. Uranus is connected to the intuitive knowing and the 'super mind' while Neptune is associated with the ability to perceive hidden thoughts and feelings, as well as the ability to penetrate into the past lives of a person. Neptune also brings communication with those on the astral levels and the ability to 'channel'. It is during these periods that many of us have profound awakenings of these abilities. These are necessary in a way, because we are preparing ourselves for our death and the afterlife that follows.

The Uranus Period often sees us joining some group, usually religious in nature, with which we can identify with. This will be a group that has beliefs about death and the afterlife that we can relate to. On one level you might say that we shop for an afterlife, checking out what beliefs different groups have about it and picking the one that is the closest match to our own personal beliefs. This represents part of our creating our own afterlife. Of course, if
you do not believe in an afterlife, this will not happen. But most people find themselves joining churches or religious fellowships that hold the promise of some kind of salvation that matches what they would like to experience at their death.

Also during Uranus, we often globalize our work efforts. If we have decided to continue working, we often do so as part of an effort to help the world on a global level. Our concerns move from the personal to the more universal and we often desire to make a contribution in this arena before we pass on. Once we pass Saturn, worldly concerns often take on a much smaller level of importance as we begin to identify ourselves as being part of a greater community. Many individuals get involved with politics, community service and other forms of networking during this period. This can be a very productive and happy period, but in all cases, this happiness will be predicated upon the individual’s approach to life having more of a spiritual focus. As Florence Campbell put it, those whose interests do not turn to spiritual matters at this stage of life become stagnant. Nursing homes are full of those who ceased to grow and develop, whose life had little purpose once they reached this stage.

Neptune is the final stage, just as the 12th house in Astrology is the final house and is ruled by Neptune. It is the transition stage, the Nine stage, the end of this life and of our personal identification as ourselves as separate beings. It is sort of like the river, who for thousands of miles, has had a unique identity as the river, but now who merges into the ocean, losing its personal identity, but in merging with the ocean, takes on a much greater identity. Our ‘oneness’ becomes ‘universalness’. It is at death that we merge with the infinite and discover that we are and important part of a much greater reality than we ever experienced before. During the Neptune Period we will let go of all of our worldly matters, giving away our possessions and preparing for our journey into the afterlife. It is a time of saying goodbye to all that we have held so dear and of preparing for the next journey. Many find themselves reading and studying spiritual matters, contemplating about their life, meditating, talking to God and doing other inner work, but not really doing much in terms of any worldly contribution. Final retirement usually occurs at this stage as an integral part of letting go of everything that connects us to this earthly plane. We usually fade out of the public eye altogether. Have you ever noticed that you stop hearing anything about certain celebrities some time before their death. You may stop and ask, what ever happened to such and such? And then, one day, they announce that they died. They literally disappeared from the public eye During their Neptune stage.

Health, of course, remains an issue for all during these last stages. As a natural part of our evolution, we lose capacities that we have enjoyed for most of our life, or those that we spent a lot of time and energy developing. Our eyesight goes, our hearing, our stamina. We can have digestive and other problems and we have a much more limited capacity for physical things of all kinds. It is usually at the beginning of the Neptune period, or about 13 years before our death, that we lose our sex. A great Yogi once stated that it takes about 13 years to become sexually mature in the beginning of life and once we lose our sex, we die about 13 years later. This is just one of the many ways that we revert back to our childhood. We become more and more childlike as we let go of our worldly responsibilities and concerns. Once we let go a little, we are free to just enjoy each day.

Our Uranus and Neptune Cards will tell us what these final two periods are like. Some Birth Cards, such as the 2♦, have the 10♦ and 8♠ in Uranus and Neptune. This is a
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fortunate combination that usually represents a long life with good health and ample finances. But what if you have a Seven or Nine or Three in these stages? The 3♦ person has a 9♣ in Uranus and the 9♠ in Neptune. What do these cards represent? Well, those of us who have such odd-numbered and usually difficult, influences governing the last years of our life can actually experience great heights of spiritual revelation, more so than the cards whose Uranus and Neptune cards are more mundane, as in the case of the 2♦ person. Sevens and Nines are especially strong spiritual numbers. Seven is actually a Uranian influence and Nine is actually a Neptune influence. Therefore, having these cards in these positions is a very good indicator of spiritual advancement and mastery during those stages. Of course, if one does not have an interest in such matters, these cards will bring much worry, problems, losses and difficulties of all kinds.

Our Uranus and Neptune Cards are an integral part of our Life Path and just like the rest of our cards represent potentials that we must activate. We can only get from these cards that which our values and life habits dictate. Thus we find a wide variety of experience in the later years that is determined more on how we are approaching our life. These two periods are more self reflective and geared towards inner exploration. If we have habitually externalized our perception of life, we can spend the last years of life in great fear and trepidation. We all will die and so far there has never been anyone to dispute this fact. If we have lived our lives in a more conscious manner, we will naturally be ready for our death and be doing the best things to prepare for it. We will have less fear about it and will be able to accept it as we have any other important event of our life.

In reflection, it is funny how our life is such a short span. Our life can almost be put on a graph with a bell curve. We start with a small beginning, rising up to a peak in Jupiter and Saturn, and then slowly fall down back to practically nothing at the end. When I look at my life from this perspective, it helps me understand both how important it is for me to be grateful for each day I have here while at the same time realizing that the time is not that long that I should become very attached to what I do or who I am during my visit here. We are blessed to have this life, are we not? And yet, when it is all over, it doesn’t really add up to much. We die and must give it all away, making way for the evolution of the new energies that are constantly transforming our world.

Of Real and Lasting Value
Robert Camp
5/14/95

I recently attended a computer and electronic trade show where I was demonstrating the new Atlantean Book of Destiny to one of the attendees. He had as a Long Range Card the 5 of Diamonds and I was explaining to him that this could cause changes in most every area of his life. As I was sharing this with him, I could see that he was seeing just how valid the interpretation was for him. Later, I reflected on the power of our values and how it affects our lives in such a profound way.

It is really what we think is important to us that defines much of what our life will be. I’ll never forget the time, when I was 20 years old and I had my first transcendental experience using LSD. After hours of walking around my neighborhood and reflecting on the
condition of the world, I returned to my home and walked into my room. There on my walls were posters of rock bands and symbols of the things that were most important to me. It shocked me to see so clearly how much I had modeled myself after that particular set of values. The posters on the wall were of people like David Bowie and Mott the Hoople and other groups that I adored. I wanted to be just like them - that was my value system. Taking LSD allowed me to look at myself more clearly and see more objectively what I was doing. It was after that experience that I began including more spiritual things in my life. I had a 5♦ experience right there because soon after that I was taking yoga and meditation classes, searching for deeper meaning in my life. I saw very clearly why I had identified myself with the rock band culture, what I was really wanting from it (happiness) and that there were more direct and better ways to achieve it.

I remember as a kid that I would hear people say that many things in life have no lasting value. This really didn't mean to much to me at the time. All I cared about was the things that I wanted right now. It didn't matter to me if the pleasure or satisfaction they gave me would last for a minute or for a lifetime. All I knew was that I wanted them so I set about getting them as any little Diamond boy would do. I did realize early on, though, how after Christmas, all the things I wanted so much, didn’t keep me happy for long. But it really hasn't been until now, at the age of 41, that I can see that some things have a greater value to me because they are more permanent in nature. I guess this is just a function of growing older and wiser.

Personally I welcome this change. I am a little tired of having a life that is in constant flux and I am enjoying seeing the accumulation of things valued in my life. Among the most important to me are my marriage and my work. It is by staying with these two things and putting value into them that I can now enjoy the great bounty that they bring into my life.

I think it is a good idea every so often to take a little time to get some perspective on our life and evaluate just what our values are. I like to take two or three days and go camping - somewhere where I can be alone and not influenced by the usual day to day distractions of my work and other responsibilities. From this place I can take a look at my life, as if it were the life of someone else, and see if the choices I am making are in my highest interests. These short times of reflection help keep me aligned with values that are meaningful and up to date to where I have progressed in my path towards the truth.

As humans there are a certain number of qualities that we share, things that all of us need some of in order to feel happy and safe. We each need food, clothing and shelter to be sure. And beyond those basic survival needs, there are others that are uniquely human that are required if we are to experience a happy and fulfilled existence. Among these are the feelings of being loved, of being needed and included and feeling that we have something worth sharing with others.

Pleasure is not such a big part of being happy, even though I used to think it was one of the most important. After having made it my highest priority and having experienced all that it has to offer, pleasure now has assumed a lesser importance in my life. As a matter of fact, I have discovered that pleasure is a relative thing. It's kind of like hunger and appetite. The hungrier I am, the better my appetite and the more I enjoy the food I eat. Pleasure just might be the reward we get from treating our bodies the right way. But it can be abused as well. I still enjoy the pleasure I get from things a lot. But since I now know that pleasure is
relative, I can maintain control over the pleasure factor in my life and not be controlled by it. I accomplish this mostly by practicing gratitude and moderation.

These are attitudes that were impossible for me earlier in my life. And as a result, those years were the most tumultuous and full of confusion and pain. Now that I have adopted more stable values and have consistently held on to what is important to me, I have began to accumulate more value in my life and have more security and abundance. So, it has proven itself to me that my state of abundance and security are directly related to my values. Values in flux bring inconsistent results, and often uncertainty. Solid values bring consistent results. We can learn a lot from ♦ people. Theirs is the card of solid values. They show us how to practice that which is necessary to have security and abundance. This is not necessarily the most important thing in life. But it does provide a necessary foundation upon which the rest of our life can be built. Without it, we may never really achieve anything.

So, what are your current values? Are the things that you desire right now and are attracting into your life going to bring you momentary or lasting happiness? Are you telling yourself, “I will be happy when ….”? Or are you creating happiness each day by what you do, think and say? These are important questions that can raise our awareness of ourselves so that we can make better choices in our lives.

The Truth is What is Happening
Robert Camp
11/10/95

If we examine the experiences in our life that have taught us the most, we see that they were often very painful experiences. One might deduce from this that pain is a very effective teacher. This is true in many respects because it was the pain that we felt that caused us to take a good look at ourselves to see what we were thinking, doing or saying that was out of harmony with the rest of our world. I define pain as the conflict or gap between what we perceive or think life should be and what it actually is. When that which we imagine or think about constantly meets with rebuttal in the physical world, it causes pain. Pain is not getting what we want or what we think we deserve. Pain is people or things not living up to our expectations. Pain is things going differently than we planned. In short, pain is the measured by the distance between what we are thinking and what is actually happening.

The converse of this, pleasure, occurs when our thinking is exactly in line with reality. We feel pleasure when things are going our way. We say it is luck or that we are lucky today, externalizing our power, literally affirming that life comes our way one day and doesn't the next and we have no power over it. We never stop to think that perhaps we could experience more pleasure if we adjusted our thoughts to be closer to the reality of life. Those most valuable lessons that I mentioned earlier are those that brought our thinking and expectations back in line with reality. It is the peace and joy that we now feel that is the result of such an adjustment in point of view.

We can learn so much from this, that it is difficult for me to put into words. The old saying, "The Truth will set you free" is profound in its depth. It is our acceptance of the truth that has been responsible for all of the personal and professional breakthroughs in our lives. So what is this truth? The truth is what is happening!
I have found that my life has been transformed by making one profound assumption. I now assume that whatever IS HAPPENING is the truth, that it is God's will, and that it will have good consequences in the end because it has a loving reason for its existence. This applies to wars, seeming injustices in our society, personal relationships, everything. Just looking around my world and watching what is happening, assuming that it is all for the good, has broadened my understanding of life and expanded my personal possibilities for expression. It has brought me much peace where there was once much conflict and tension. And it has taught me more about the Science of the Cards than anything else.

I truly believe in the validity of this system of cards that we use. But I use reality to teach me about the cards, not the other way around. If there is ever a conflict between what I see in the cards and what I am experiencing in my life, I always try to broaden my understanding of the cards by first assuming that what is actually happening is the truth and then seeing how the cards could possibly fit in with that truth. I always find the connection sooner or later. I recommend this to all of my students. Watch what happens and then compare that with what is in the cards. This is the way to real wisdom.

At the same time, my personal growth is enhanced by this same point of view. I didn't like it that O.J. Simpson got off and I still think he is guilty as hell. But I learned a lot from that entire sequence of events as I traced the months by referring to his cards. I am not too happy with the way a lot of things are, in our government, in my neighborhood, etc. But I continue to learn from these things because they are what is happening right now. The truth for me is always what is real, not what I want it to be or wish it would be. This realization has led me to be very grateful for that which God places before me and has given me the 'joy of knowing'. I hope you experience this joy too.

The Three of Hearts Uncertainty
Robert Camp
2/23/96

The 3 of Hearts is the first card in the Deck when we look at the Life Spread in the Grand Solar Spread formation. It occupies the upper right hand corner, which is the first card that is counted. In the Spiritual Spread, the first card is the Ace of Hearts, which of course, is the first Karma Card to the 3 of Hearts. So, when we look at either one of these cards, we must consider first, that they occupy this ‘first’ position, and secondly that they are closely related. I have written about the Ace of Hearts before, how it is the 'search for love' and the 'search for self' card. Now, lets delve into the meaning of the 3 of Hearts, which has many unique properties, some of which you may not be aware of. We also want to examine a few of the Birth Cards that are strongly connected to the 3 of Hearts, because some of them are influenced greatly by its presence in their Life Spread or by a connection to it in other ways.

We know that the 3 of Hearts means ‘uncertainty in love’. It also means ‘variety in love’, ‘indecision in love’ and relates to self expression. It can bestow artistic or musical talent to people who have it in their Life Spread somehow. The 8 of Diamonds has the 3 of Hearts in Venus. This is another factor in why so many of them gravitate towards careers or hobbies as musicians, artists, songwriters and performers of various kinds. This same 3 of Hearts brings them many uncertainties about their love life, marriage partners and the entire subject of marriage and relationship. Three is essentially a Gemini-influence. It instills a lot
of mental energy into whatever area it is found. Put mental energy into the love life (because it is a heart) and you get a mind that is overworking on romantic, marriage, and sexual issues. The mind analyzes, interprets and tries to figure out what something is all about. However, the usual result of putting so much mental energy into the romantic department is that one cannot ever be at peace about relationships on some level.

Any card with strong connections to the 3 of Hearts, and I will list them later, has a possibility of being fickle and easily bored with their relationships to some extent. This is one of the natural expressions of a Three energy in the suit of Hearts. This can produce people who never make commitments because they know that sooner or later they will become bored with the one they have. Any Three card in the Venus position of the Life Spread will do this. For example, the Queen of Diamonds has a 3 of Clubs in Venus. The 10 of Spades has a 3 of Diamonds in Venus, and so on. You can look up all the cards that have a Three in Venus and see a pattern emerging.

The 3 of Hearts can also mean unclarity about our basic sexual role. J. Edgar Hoover, a King of Spades, was a cross-dresser. Many 3 of Hearts, Ace of Hearts and other cards mentioned later are bisexual or homosexual. Though these are not the only cards who can be sexually different, these are some of the most common. I would venture to say that in most of these cases, a close examination of the person would reveal some uncertainty in the sexual area that was at the root of the bisexuality or homosexuality. This is different than cards like the Jack of Clubs and King of Clubs, whose bisexual natures stem from a strong Aquarian influence.

Another common manifestation of the 3 of Hearts is the uncertainty factor. This can be an extreme worry influence, and this worry is directed towards the romantic and relationship areas of life. It appears as an endless stream of questions about love such as “Should I really get married?” “With all the bad marriages today, isn’t it better to be single?” “Will I ever find happiness?” and “Is it possible to find someone that I am compatible with?” These questions are just the beginning. With a strong 3 of Hearts influence there is a worrisome attitude about most relationships. Even in the midst of a good relationship, there is doubt and confusion.

When there is too much mental energy, we always find doubt and fear. Because the energy of the person does not focus itself on one path of affection for too long, they never get to experience what it is like to gain some ‘equity’ in any particular relationship. They never know what it feels like to just stay with one person for a long time, continuing to put good energy into the relationship until it pays off in the depth of intimacy that comes with commitment. Thus, the person with a strong 3 of Hearts energy will tend to feel as though they are not getting enough love or at the least, be afraid that they will not get enough in the future. Often it is our own desire for variety that undermines the security and certainty that we seek in our personal relationships.

After all is said and done, we end up with exactly what we have put into our relationships, no more and no less. The 3 of Hearts person is here to learn that lesson, and so are the 10 of Clubs, King of Spades, 8 of Diamonds, Queen of Clubs, Ace of Hearts, 6 of Spades and 2 of Spades. These are the Birth Cards that are most affected by the 3 of Hearts because of their connections. These are the cards with the uncertainty, both in love and sexual preferences, the cards that tend to get bored easily with relationships and seek variety,
and those who often feel the most lack of love in their life because they don’t focus their affections in any particular direction for an extended period of time.

The 10 of Clubs person has the 3 of Hearts in Mars. Since Mars rules the passions, this card can create individuals that aggressively pursue variety in their love life. This also makes for great artists and performers who aggressively pursue their careers (look at Madonna and Shirley McClaine), but those who also feel a great lack of satisfaction in their love life.

The King of Spades has that 3 of Hearts in Mercury. Though we may not think that is such a strong influence, it turns out that it does show up that way, probably because this same 3 of Hearts is their Mars Card in the Spiritual Spread.

The 8 of Diamonds has the 3 of Hearts in Venus and this is a very strong influence for them. It also appears as their Saturn Card in the Spiritual Spread and for this reason, it creates more problems. Many 8 of Diamonds are very worried about their love life and fearful that they will never be loved the way they want. Examine their thoughts on the matter and you will find an inordinate amount of conflicting beliefs and ideas about love that can prevent them from having a stable and wholesome relationship. Once again, we also find a good amount of bisexual people of these Birth Cards as well. This really applies to all the cards mentioned here.

The Queen of Clubs has a double dose of the Three energy, plus some other influences that can make their love lives a disaster. The 3 of Heart is their first Karma Card. It does represent a strong, but often hidden quality of theirs. Many times, they would not like to admit just how much indecision they have internally about their love life. But the 3 of Diamonds in Mars is also there and there is no denying it. Though they may profess to want commitment, there is much in their makeup that flies in the face of long term happiness.

The Ace of Hearts is the other card that has the 3 of Hearts as a Karma Card. They are also the first card in the deck in the Spiritual Spread. They are those who are here to learn about love through experimentation. Thus, they will often need to go from one relationship to the next or try different sexual experiences in order to gather the experience they need to gain wisdom in this area.

The 6 of Spades and 2 of Spades are connected. They are Karma Cards to each other and both are connected to the 3 of Hearts in a meaningful way. Thus, they both share some of each other’s influences. The 2 of Spades has the 3 of Hearts as their Pluto Card. The 6 of Spades has the 3 of Hearts in Saturn. Either one of these cards would represent some of the negative manifestations of the 3 of Hearts at some point in the life. The degree of the manifestation will depend upon the individual but it is always there to some extent. The 2 of Spades actually has some good marriage karma with the Queen of Hearts in Jupiter, but sometimes getting to the altar is going to take some doing. With their strong mental character, they often try to figure out what love and marriage and love are about and neglect their feelings and needs. This puts them on the mental treadmill of endless questions with no answers, much in the same way as the other cards mentioned here. The 6 of Spades person has deeper emotional wounds to tend to and a tendency to ignore their feelings, but for different reasons than the 2 of Spades. In their case, the Six energy tends to look upon emotions as being a bad thing and thus they fail to get in touch with the source of their relationship unhappiness.
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Any card, regardless of what it is, can find happiness in a personal relationship. The card pattern is not meant to be a limitation, but more of a symbol that represents the ways we can expect it to manifest itself in individuals, both positively and negatively. The information in this article was meant to just provide an outline of the common manifestations of the cards as we see them in our society. Also, any person can consciously choose to manifest the more positive expressions of the 3 of Hearts, which are the creative and self-expressive qualities of the card. They are the successful performers, actresses, musicians and artists in our society. And in many cases, the people of these cards find some happiness having two or more relationships in their life at the same time, but doing so in a conscious, honest way.

 QUESTIONS ANSWERED

**Question:** As a student of metaphysics, especially astrology, for over 25 years, I have come to accept that each individual is unique and has a distinct destiny. I am having a bit of a problem understanding how every person ever born on a particular day in any calendar year will have the very same YEARLY SPREADS and how these can be neatly mapped out for the duration of the lifetime.

**Robert:** This is a good question and one that perplexed me a great deal when I was first introduced to this system. What I have come to realize is that our birth date is indeed a 'pattern-setter' for the rest of our lives. Even in astrology, our birth chart is a mere 'snap shot' of the planets at the moment of birth. In this system, our Birth Card is more or less the same thing. The cards in the spread for the first year of our life (listed as Age 90 in *The Cards of Your Destiny*) are also the cards for the first 7 days of our life and the first seven years of our life. This may not make sense to you until you study our Advanced Workshops. However, included in our Birth Card's meaning and description are also the Yearly Spreads that will make up our entire life. If you are born on a 5♣ day, you have been born under the entire pattern of Yearly Spreads that go with that 5♣ card.

I have seen twins, born on the same day with the same Birth Cards, and yet their lives turn out differently. This brings us to the second half of the answer to this question. Namely, that for each card in our spreads, be they Life, Yearly, or Weekly Spreads, we can access them on different levels. Just because two people are the same card does not mean that they arrived here with exactly the same karma. However, within the bounds of their Birth Card will lie all the potentials for many kinds of experiences. Though the two people will have the same yearly spreads, one will actively relate to those energies with their own personal karma and point of view. In this way an untold number of variations is possible given the same spreads.
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The Highly Principled 8♣ - 5/96

Being born under one of the 8♣ birthdays means that you come into this lifetime with a strong and highly fixed set of principles by which you will live your life. Probably the strongest birthday in this regard is the Sagittarian birthday, December 10th, because principle is a Sagittarian quality. Robert Redford is born on that day and many of the characters he portrays in his movies have centered around following some important principle. Recently I saw his movie Brubaker, in which he plays a part adapted from a true story about a warden who is hired to reform a very corrupt prison. His character makes a lot of enemies and even a woman who appears to love him asks him why he doesn’t compromise with all the other people in the story who want to keep things status quo. His response is classic for an 8♣, "I will compromise on implementation, but never on principle." This response was one of his last lines in the movie and was, in my opinion, one of the most important messages the film makers wanted to convey through the movie.

Not all 8♣ people have such lofty principles, but you can bet that they are standing by them, through thick and thin, whatever they are. Just try to convince an 8♣ to change the principles they live by and you will see for yourself just how powerful and fixed they are. But an 8♣ can also be swayed off the path of truth by their own stubborn adherence to a fixed mental set about something in their life. Charles Manson is another 8♣ who stood by his principles. However, in his case his principles didn’t take into account any of the rights of others. His particular set of principles were so strong that they were, to him, more important than the lives of others in the world. To this day I wonder if he has any remorse for the murders he committed.

The 8♣ mind set is very strong and unless it is guided by some consciousness of how one’s actions can and do effect others, the 8♣ has the power to do more harm than other cards in the deck. Eights are power numbers. People with power can do good work or they can do bad work. What makes the difference is whether or not the person with the power is truly aware of the effects of his or her power on those around them.

Saturn is the great teacher that makes sure that we eventually will know what it is like to be on the receiving end of our actions, words and deeds. And all of the Eight Birth Cards are known to pick up karma which will later have to met in order to heighten their awareness in these areas. The law of cause and effect, or karma, guarantees that we all will eventually get to experience exactly what we create, from the point of view of someone on the receiving end. It is a beautiful plan, isn’t it? It is one that guarantees that all of us will eventually develop an appreciation for each other and evolve from a self-centered lifestyle to one that includes consideration for those around us. It is no wonder that Saturn is exalted in the sign of Libra. Libra means partnership and the consideration of the needs of those in our lives.

Using our Planetary Ruling Cards for Relationship Readings -7/96

As I am developing the new Love Cards software program, I am integrating the Planetary Ruling (PR) Cards with the Birth Cards into the Compatibility Reports. I am making some amazing discoveries that I think will be helpful to all students of the cards who are in the process
of using the Love Cards book for relationship comparisons. Read carefully and I believe your relationship readings will be greatly benefited by the information I am about to share.

The first thing I want to say is that we must consider the PR Cards to be nearly as important as the Birth Card. They are not exactly the same, but my experience has shown me that we identify with the PR Card just as much as we do with our Birth Cards. For this reason, these cards have a great impact on our personal relationships. If I think I ‘am’ my PR Card, as I often do, then it stands to reason that how that card interacts with your Birth Card and PR Card can be very significant. I believe that we all identify with our PR Cards, just as we do with our Birth Card. Therefore, we have to include them when we do relationship comparisons.

So, where do we begin when we are doing a relationship reading? And, how do we include the PR Cards in that reading? Here is my suggestions for implementing them into your readings and some examples to help clarify the process.

We still must begin any relationship reading comparing the Birth Cards of the two individuals with each other. I call this the Birth Card to Birth Card reading. I always begin by checking if the two people I am reading for have the same Birth Card (SBC) in the Love Cards book) or if they are Karma Cards (KRMa) to each other. Once I have done that though, the reading process takes a different direction than what is presently in Love Cards. Ordinarily, I would begin looking for connections between the Birth Cards in the Life and Spiritual Spreads. However, I have noted that a common connection found in married couples is when one person’s Birth Card is the same as the other person’s PR Card. You may be surprised when you begin studying people you know to find out how common this is. I call this new connection the Birth Card/Planetary Ruling Card Match and it can happen in a variety of ways. If my Birth Card is the same as your PR Card, we have a match. The opposite is also true - if your Birth Card is the same as my PR Card. As you read this, keep in mind that Scorpios have two PR Cards, one for Mars and the other for Pluto. So, with Scorpios, you have a greater chance of a Birth Card/PR Card Match. The Birth Card/PR Card Match seems to draw people together in a very harmonious manner. It engenders a feeling of closeness and ‘rightness’ about being together. It also seems to encourage you and your partner to help each other achieve your goals. It is as though your Birth Card strengthens their PR Card and vice-versa. So, in short, it is a helpful, positive influence that seems to encourage and support long term commitments.

Katherine’s mother is a ♦ 4 and one of Katherine’s two PR Cards is a ♦ 4. When we discovered this, it made so much sense. They are both sort of hard working, organized people. They are both practical, conservative and good at saving and managing money. And wouldn’t you expect the oldest (of three) daughters to be like her mom?

That’s all fine and dandy, but what happens when my PR Card and your PR Card are identical, sort of like the ‘Same Birth Card’ connection? Well, this has to be another separate connection to look out for. It is not as common as the Match, but it does occur fairly often. I haven’t come up with a name for this connection yet, but you can imagine that it has a similar impact as the Birth Card/PR Card Match. Maybe I’ll call it the PR Card Match. When this connection is found you have two people that share a lot of the same personality traits. Of course the traits they share will be indicated by the PR Card itself, just as in the previous example of Katherine and her mother. This connection can make two people feel unified and as though they have met their exact match, much as in the case of Same Birth Card relationships. Anytime we have some connection that seems to unify a couple, we know that this could be a powerful force that could lead them to staying together. Isn’t this what we are all looking for on some level? To feel at one with another is something that satisfies a deep desire in all of us. It may not happen in our marriage. It may happen with a good friend or family member. But it is always a good feeling for those involved. The PR Card Match is another of the connections that can make us feel this way.

Okay, now we have covered some ground and we are ready to proceed with our reading. We have checked for Same Birth Cards, Karma Cards, Birth Card/PR Card Matches and PR Card
Matches. The next step is to go back to the outline in Love Cards and look up the connections between the Birth Cards. It is actually quite easy for any student who has studied the Advanced Oracle Workbook. We basically just take the two Birth Cards as located in the Life and Spiritual Spreads and see if there are any connections between them. Often there are none, or one. In some cases, there may be two or more. I’ll illustrate briefly.

Take the 10♠ and 7♦ cards. First, in the Life Spread we see that the 7♦ is Saturn to the 10♠. Saturn would be the first connection we find. Then we would check in the Spiritual Spread where we find that the 10♠ and 7♦ share a diagonal Venus connection, which I am now calling a Mutual Venus connection. As an aside, I have determined that diagonal connections are experienced equally by both partners, whereas the direct and vertical connections have a directional influence.

In this example in the Life Spread, the 7♦ is Saturn to the 10♠ and not vice-versa. The 10♠ receives Saturn energy from the 7♦, but the 7♦ does not receive Saturn influence from the 10♠. In a Mutual connection, both receive the same energy equally.

Another example illustrates that not all cards have connections Birth Card to Birth Card. Consider the 2♠ and 4♣ for a moment. They are not Karma Cards and neither has any connection with the other in the Life or Spiritual Spread. This is not to say they don’t have connections between Karma Cards or Planetary Ruling Cards. I am sure that they do. But in the step that we are now in we do not find any connections and we proceed to the next step, which again, is a departure from what is in the Love Cards book.

Ordinarily we would begin looking for connections between the Karma Cards of one person and the Birth Cards of the other. However, I think, that considering the importance of the PR Cards, we should search for connections between the Birth Cards of one person and the PR Card(s) of the other and then reverse the process using the PR Card(s) of the first person against the Birth Card of the other. So, try this step next and be prepared to be amazed at what you find. I just completed the part of the new Love Cards software program that does this step. As I have looked through my connections with people from my past and present, I can see that this is a much more accurate representation of what our relationship is or was about. It’s not that the method in Love Cards is inaccurate. It’s just that this new method seems to hone in the real essence of the relationship much more specifically and accurately. It’s sort of like a quantum leap in distinctions as far as relationship readings are concerned. I am sure that all of you will be amazed when you read the reports this new program will create.

A very important marriage connection to look out for is the Moon connection. You probably already know just how important this is when one person’s Birth Card is the Moon Card of the other. This occurs very often in the cards of successful marriages. But also look for one person’s PR Card to be the Moon Card to the other’s Birth Card. This may actually occur more often than the Moon connection between Birth Cards and it has the same impact on the relationship. The Moon connection is one of the strongest of the marriage influences. It engenders the natural male/female pairing urges in a couple. The same thing occurs when the Moon Card is the PR Card of the partner too. I have seen numerous examples of where I see two people together and it doesn’t seem to make much sense, just looking at the Birth Card connections. Then, I notice that one of their PR Cards is the Moon Card to the other. Bingo! There it is, the reason why they seem so naturally good for each other. Never underestimate the power of the Moon connection. And now, be on the alert for these connections between the Birth and PR Cards and even between the two people’s PR Cards themselves. I have found that by the end of this step in the process I have usually uncovered four to seven connections. This is one reason that I have decided to use at least seven connections in the new Love Cards software instead of the five that are used in the Lover’s Profile software and Love Cards book. I am actually allowing the program to find up to fourteen connections, because
in many cases there are more than that, especially when you take into consideration the connections between the Karma Cards and Birth Cards.

There will still be some examples where you will not have Seven connections even after doing all the Karma Card connections. Take the Leo 8♣, who has no PR Card and compare that person with a Leo 7♦. You may not even get a set of seven connections in this case. But rest assured that in over 90% of the cases, you will. Basically, using the PR Cards is transforming my entire process of doing relationship readings. I believe that if you explore this just a little bit, it will also revolutionize your readings and understanding of relationships using the cards. I am delighted to have made this discovery and equally delighted to share it with you.

Our Sphere of Influence -7/96

I sometimes get angry or upset when I hear or read the news. Things that are going on in the world, in our government, in my state and other places just aren’t good. I can see so many people missing good opportunities and doing bad things out of ignorance, I just want to shout at them, “Pull your head out of your a__!” Then I realize that these are things that I have no control over. These are things, that for the most part, are beyond the sphere of my influence. There is not really much I can do about what Bob Dole or President Clinton does or says. There isn’t much I can do about our media’s sway towards blatant liberalism, the injustice in our judicial system, and a thousand other abuses of power and injustices. These things are just out of my reach. Yes, if I were the president, or even if I had ten million dollars, I might be able to do something to influence these things, but right now I am not the president and I don’t know if I even care enough about all of these injustices to raise ten million dollars to change them. So, I am stuck with the things in my life that I can do something about, and one of them is my own anger, indignation and self-righteousness.

The truth is that if I am going to waste my energy getting upset about all of the bad things in the world, I am doing greater harm to myself than they are. I am tempted, by my own anger, to participate in that great war between good and evil, bad and good, black and white, democrat and republican, or whatever the two sides might be. But these wars have never accomplished anything but destruction and more wars. If I am to truly change the world I live in, it has to start here with me. I am the one sitting here mad. This anger is my problem, not the problem in the world outside of myself. And this is where my real sphere of influence lies. God is taking care of all of those other things in the world. I cannot stop people from murdering each other, lying, cheating, stealing and all the rest, but I can change the lying, cheating, stealing and murdering that goes on within me.

It all comes back to me. If I am upset, about anything really, then there is something for me to look at. Ultimately I am the one responsible for my feelings and the things I do. There may be times when anger and vengeance may be justified. But even then, I must realize that there is a lesson for me to learn about what I am afraid of.

Many of us get very caught up in the ‘trying to change the world’ thing. We get involved in some sort of political movement, or social work, or volunteer work for some cause. We tell ourselves that this is a way for us to make a difference. What I am going to say here may sound cruel, but I tell you that most of the people who involve themselves in activities of this kind are using it to escape from the problems they are having in their personal lives. Instead of facing the things within their own sphere of influence, they are escaping from those things, all the while proclaiming how concerned they are for the state of the world. We never judge them for doing what they do, even if they die trying. We proclaim them martyrs and hold them up as models for the rest of us to follow. This is all nonsense!
I am, on the other hand, an eternal optimist. I do believe that we are all going to have the opportunity to reach God-hood someday. I believe that all of our desires and dreams will one day be fulfilled. I believe that someday, our entire world will live on a higher level of consciousness and that poverty and fear will be largely a thing of the past. I don’t think it will all happen in the span of one lifetime, but I do believe that this is a loving reality that we live in and that everything has a good purpose. So, even in my own anger and upset-ness, I think there is good to be found and experienced. I can learn about life from how I am, and in the process I can refine my personal experiences and my expression to the world outside of me. It seems that the more I admit and accept just how imperfect I am, the more blessings are poured down upon me from some magical force of universal love and wonder.

It is a wonderful thing to just keep my energy centered within the sphere of my personal influence. Because it is here that I have the power and it is here that I can bear witness to the perfection of the universe. It is a funny thing how my perception of the world can be transformed from a place where all I see is bad and wrong things to a world where everything is exactly where it needs to be. Magically, the world around me is transformed into everything that I wanted it to be in the first place.

Our Personal Planetary Days -7/96

Our new Windows software program computes daily cards that are quite amazing and accurate. I have been studying them for quite some time and have discovered a few things that could be useful to those involved in the metaphysical sciences. To begin with, the day of the week in which we were born is very significant. There are systems of thought about that and some people offer some information about us based upon which day of the week we were born. What I want to talk about here is different. The day of the week that we were born determines which days of the week are governed by our personal planets. For example, if I am born on Wednesday, that becomes my personal Mercury Day. Thursday becomes my personal Venus Day, Friday my Mars Day and so forth. I have found that these personal days are very significant and later in this article I will give an interpretation of each of those personal days. But first we must discover which day of the week we were born.

If you have our software program it is easy because it tells you. But how else can you find this out?

You can either go to a library and find a calendar with your year of birth on it, or you can do some calculations using the tables on the next page. Take your date of birth and follow the instructions carefully. First, take the month you were born and find the numeric value that corresponds to it in the table below. For example, if you were born December, you would get the number 1. Next, do the same thing for the Day of the Month and the Year of your birth. This will give you three numbers from the tables below. Add these three numbers together and you come up with a Total Number that you can use with the table on the next page to determine which day of the week you were born.

IMPORTANT NOTE: If your birth year is not found in the year chart, just add zero (0).

For example, if your birthday is 2/17/47, you would add a 3 for February, plus 1 for being born on the 17th, to a 2 for 1947 which would add up to a 6, which equates to Monday.

The day of the week that you were born is always your personal Mercury Day. The next will be Venus, then Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune. Your personal Jupiter Day may not fall on Thursday but it will be the day you have a Jupiter influence. I have been watching this for a while and I am seeing some patterns here that I would like to share with you.
Personal Mercury Day:

This is usually a day of a lot of communications, phone calls, letters and often some short trips in the car or otherwise. Naturally communications are highlighted, and often with siblings or other family members. Things do tend to happen quickly on these days and not have a very lasting effect. This is the day to catch up on your phone calls, email and letter writing. Also the day to communicate your ideas and other things of importance to those around you. Friday is my Mercury Day and I do make a lot of phone calls that day. However, since a lot of people get off early on Friday, I have learned to make these calls early. I have also noticed that because it is Friday, people are usually not as friendly. I think many of them just want to go home and relax and can’t wait to get off of work.

Personal Venus Day:

This is a day for beautification and indulging in luxuries or sensual pleasures. You may get your hair done or cut, purchase something special that you have wanted, eat some special food or otherwise indulge yourself in some way. There may or may not be relationship issues to deal with but home and family are often the focal point as are things to do with the arts or beauty. A good day to go out and buy that CD that you have been wanting to hear.

Personal Mars Day:

As you can imagine this is your passion day and maybe your day of irritability and impatience with situations and people around you. Dealings with legal matters or men may come to the forefront. You could have a lot of energy to get things done. Mars energy can help us initiate new projects or activities. It can also be the day that we feel the most sexual, though Venus can also do this. Try to avoid arguments on this day, you are more likely to blame others for your own problems now than usual.

Personal Jupiter Day:

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<th>Your Birth Month</th>
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<td>September, December</td>
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<td>June, August</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>February, March, November</td>
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<td>May</td>
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<td>January, October</td>
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<td>April, July</td>
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<td>7, 14, 21, 28</td>
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<td>6, 13, 20</td>
<td>Monday</td>
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This is your money day, and in general will probably be the day of the week when you experience the most prosperity. You will usually feel more expansive and have good ideas on how to increase whatever it is you are doing. Be careful not to overdo things on this day. But in general, this is probably one of the days you enjoy the most. My Jupiter Day falls on Monday, and because most of our income arrives in the mail, we always get a large pile of mail on Mondays laden with orders. This is definitely Jupiter for me.

Personal Saturn Day:
As you may well imagine, often the hardest day of the week in some ways. Katherine usually feels lonely that day, for no apparent reason. I noticed that in my pool league that meets on my personal Saturn Day each week, it is always a struggle and often I am really disappointed in what happens. It always seems to be an effort. Other days, I shoot like a pro but on Tuesdays, I have a very hard time. I think all of us have different issues that we address on our Saturn Day, but we usually do address them. Good day to keep a low profile. Try not to plan any important events on Saturn days, unless its a trip to a doctor or dentist. It is funny how many of my dental appointments end up on my Saturn Day. Saturn rules the bones and teeth and other health matters.

Personal Uranus Day:
This is a day when you could have an experience of inner freedom and the joy that brings. It’s sort of like being released from prison after Saturn. It is often an expansive day and one that could bring some spiritual revelations. However, just when you least expect it, something can happen that threatens your security or upsets your plans. Unexpected events often occur on Uranus Days, as if Uranus was trying to show us places where we were attached and didn’t know it. But, does Uranus have to be so sudden about it? I guess that is just his or her role in our life - to unexpectedly pull the carpet out from under us.

Personal Neptune Day:
Neptune is fantasy and escape day. Don’t trust what you think you see on this day, because it is probably heavily laden with your own unfulfilled desires and dreams. You may find, as I do that this is a day that I often choose to go to a movie. Past-life events, dealing with drugs, alcohol and music, being by the ocean, meditation or seances. These all fall under the category of Neptune stuff so you may have some or all of these on your personal Neptune Day. Things that happen may help you feel connected to the universe on a broad scale, or may just be a fantasy that you pursue with no tangible results. Watch this day carefully and see what happens. You can learn a lot about your own hidden dreams and desires.

I think that you will learn a lot about the cards and astrology if you just pay attention to what happens to you on your personal days of the week. It is a fascinating study. Next, you can begin examining the personal cards that you have each week (I published an article about how to calculate these in the October, 1995 issue) and see how the planetary energies affect their interpretations. I have always maintained that the best and fastest way to learn about the cards is to compare one’s personal experiences with the cards in your spreads. Here is another tool to accelerate this process.

What's in a name? Plenty! - 9/96
The names we have are not usually scrutinized for any significance, but in fact are very important symbols of our personality and life, much like our Birth Cards are. What is really important are the names that we choose to call ourselves by and the reasons behind them, most of
which are unconscious. Though I can’t say something about every name there is, here are some guidelines that I think you will find interesting. After reading this, you might just decide to call yourself or someone you know by a different name.

First of all, let’s make one distinction here. There are the names we are born with and the names we call ourselves, or that our close friends and family members call us. Often, these two are very different. For example, look at the people running for president this year. We have Bill Clinton, whose birth name is William. We have Bob Dole, whose birth name is Robert. We have Jack Kemp, who, I don’t know for sure, but I would bet his birth name is John. And let’s not forget Al Gore, whose name is probably Allan or Albert. What does it mean when we choose one of these ‘familiar’ names to call ourselves. What all of these familiar names have in common for the individuals above is that they are Jack names. When I say Jack, I mean men acting as their Jack Personality Card. Nearly every male name has a Jack version. Jonathan becomes Jon or Jack, Harold become Harry, Richard becomes Rick or Ricky, Peter becomes Pete and so forth. Men take on these Jack versions of their names when they are playing the Jack role. And you can bet that when a man is playing his Jack role, he is being creative, and often dishonest. Go to your local car dealer and see what the car salesmen call themselves. Invariably it will be a Jack version of their birth name. Isn’t it interesting that the prominent men in our political system right now are using their Jack names? This tells us that politicking requires more sales ability than anything else and secondly that responsibility and trust may not be words that go along with those positions.

However, some men are born with a Jack version of their name. In this case they are sort of making a decision to be a Jack their entire life. Just know that any man using a Jack name is playing a Jack role. A man who wants to become more responsible and trustworthy will use the more powerful Kingly name which is often the name they were born with.

This same principle holds true for women as well. Most women’s names have a familiar or Jack version of the name. For example, Katherine gives you Kate or Kathy. Elizabeth gives you Liz or Beth. Sandra gives you Sandy and Alexandra gives you Alex or Alexa. I believe that when women choose their familiar name instead of their formal name, they are choosing to play a more Jack-like role in their life, often loosing a lot of their power in the process. It is sort of a throwback to childhood. If we grow up being called some familiar version of our name with our friends, we don’t want to put them off by making them call us our adult name. But in many cases that is exactly what would make our life better and give us more power.

Just remember that Jacks often avoid the responsibility that would bring them greater success in their life. Regardless of what Birth Card you are, you will be more powerful using your given name than some familiar derivation of it. In some cases, our given name is a Jack name, such as Jack, Bob, Dan, Phil, Bill, Jill, Fran, Cindy, etc. In these cases, it is a lot like being born with a Jack Birth Card. We essentially play that Jack role for most of our life. However, with awareness, we can change that. A change of name can be useful in many situations. You may find that people who are born with a Jack name often are a Jack Birth Card or have a Jack as a Planetary Ruler or Karma Card. I have often found this to often be true.

Now I’ll give some information about certain names, though just a little. I have found that most women whose names begin with a ‘K’ are a power card, either a Jack, Queen or King or an eight. Look at Planetary Ruling Cards and Karma Cards too and I think you will see what I mean. The ‘K’ sound is one that is associated with power and authority. People who have names that begin with a ‘D’ are often loners of a sort. This includes David and Dianes. The name Lee is also a loner’s name (that is my middle name). The women’s names that end with a ‘y’ or ‘ie’ are usually familiar or Jack names. Sandy, Suzy, Ellie, and Peggy are examples but not Mary. Women whose name is Elizabeth are usually a royal card as well ( King, Queen, etc.).

People often change their birth names and sometimes they come up with some pretty exotic names to call themselves by. But I always want to know what a person’s birth name was. Though we may change our name for whatever reason, the birth name tells us a lot about who we
are and our path in life. I don’t think we can completely escape our karmic destiny by changing our name. But names do have an impact on our consciousness and using them with awareness can be a valuable tool for spiritual or self development.

The Sun-Moon Connection and Marriage - 9/96

I taught a small workshop recently and was surprised when four couples showed up. Usually my workshops will only have the women show up, or single people. The husbands usually do not attend. But what really amazed me was that every couple there had significant Sun-Moon connections between them. As I do readings for people and study people in the news, I see over and over again how the Sun-Moon connection is found among nearly all married couples. There is something about it that makes us feel that our partner is someone with whom we could get married, have children, or both. I now think that this is the number one marriage connection above all others. I think that when you start to investigate, you will probably feel the same way. It is getting to the point where I find very few married couples who don't have this connection, now that I know where to look for it.

For those of you who don't know, the Sun-Moon connection occurs between two cards that sit adjacent to each other in either the Life (Mundane) or Spiritual (Natural) Spread. For example, the 10♦ and 10♥ are adjacent to each other in the Life Spread, the 10♥ being the Moon Card to the 10♦. The 9♠ and 8♠ in the Spiritual Spread would be another example.

But, to really see how prevalent this connection is, we have to look for it not only using our Birth Cards, but also our Planetary Ruling Cards and Karma Cards. The Birth Card to Birth Card connections are easy to see and indeed many married couples have them. But when you don't see a Sun-Moon connection with the Birth Cards look a little further. There is a good chance you will find it with the other cards. Let's take a few examples just to illustrate this point.

Kim Basinger is a 10♣ and her husband, Alec Baldwin is a 5♠. We don't see any Sun-Moon connection between those Birth Cards in either spread. However the second Karma Card for the 10♣ is a 4♠ and of course we see the 4♠ sitting right behind the 5♠ in the Spiritual Spread. This makes Kim an ideal wife for Alec, and he her ideal husband.

Here's another example. My ex-wife is an 8♦ Aquarian, making her Planetary Ruling Card the 5♣. That 5♣ sits right behind my Karma Card, the 3♦ in the Life Spread. This is an example where her Planetary Ruling Card is Moon to my first Karma Card. In this same relationship, my second Karma Card is a 9♦. Her Birth Card, the 8♦ is the Moon Card to the 9♦ in the Spiritual Spread. In this case, there are two Moon connections, which is not uncommon.

With Katherine, my wife, it is easier to see. My Ruling Card, the A♦ is the Sun Card to her Birth Card, the K♣ in the Spiritual Spread (My birthday is July 3rd). Sun-Moon connections involving the Birth Cards and Planetary Ruling Cards are the strongest.

Sometimes a couple will have a double Moon connection, going both ways. One partner will be Moon to the other and vice versa. An example of this is a couple who came to the workshop I mentioned earlier. The woman is a J♣, Pisces, born 2/27. Her husband is a K♣ born 9/11. Her Ruling Card is the 4♦ and his is the J♣. Her 4♦ is the Moon Card to his first Karma Card, the 2♠. Likewise, his Birth Card, the K♣, is Moon to her J♣ Karma Card. Actually these two had so many connections it is almost confusing since her Karma Card, the J♣, is the same as his Ruling Card. At any rate, when each partner is both Sun and Moon, they have to sort of take turns being the leader of the relationship. Katherine and I have that because in addition to the Moon connection I mentioned earlier, my Karma Card, the 3♦ is Moon to her Ruling Card the
We can each nurture each other and both need to be the boss in certain areas of our life together.

The Sun person is usually the boss or leader of the relationship. If the Sun person doesn't have a clear direction or is non-committal about the relationship it will not help to have this great marriage connection and the relationship will fail. The Sun-Moon connection works best when the Sun person knows where he or she is going. And it is not always the male in the relationship who plays the Sun role.

Another couple at the workshop I gave was a female Libra who was married to a Scorpio. So immediately we see that he is her Moon Card in the Spiritual Spread. However, did you also notice that his first Karma Card, the Q is her Moon Card in the Life Spread. I told her that she had found a good wife. He said that he would be very happy staying home and watching the kids, if they ever had any. It is just a very unique thing. We know that most women are strongly career oriented. For them, a man makes a good husband who would readily assume the domestic responsibilities. This is especially true since the person is such a devoted parent with their Karma Card. Many of them would enjoy that role.

So now you see the many permutations of the Sun-Moon connection and know how to find it. I believe that if you examine couples carefully, you will find this important connection in nearly all of the married couples you take a look at.

What it Really Takes for Us to Change, Transform and Evolve -

I may seem a little presumptuous to say that I know how we, as humans, evolve in our consciousness. But, I cannot help but report on the things that I personally experience that I get that ‘knowing’ about. I trust my inner knowing very much. In trusting it, I have always been lead to a deeper and deeper understanding of life. It is the one gift of mine that I value above all others. So, here goes with another realization that came to me recently.

In our society, we place a great deal of emphasis on using our mind. We have made mind development and control one of the most sought after goals in life. In truth, there is value in developing our mind. Many good things can come from having a good memory and being able to logically assess the endless flow of input that is coming into our lives each moment. However, our mind can only take us so far in life. After all, a real experience is much more potent than a mere concept. But with our conditioning and the influence of our western society, we tend to believe that concepts are the most powerful force in our life. They are not.

The kind of evolution I am talking about here is the kind that results in a real difference in our life. One may read a book and get some good ideas about what to do to improve one’s life. But until we put these ideas into practice, they are truly worthless. The world is full of great ideas. But it is the people who are practicing their beliefs, testing their ideas and seeing how they work in the real world who gain the wisdom that only comes from experience. Remember those words, they are very significant. Wisdom and experience. They go hand in hand. Knowledge is entirely a different matter.

Knowledge is important, of course, but without experience, it cannot help us much. What good is it to know the ingredients in ice cream if you have never tasted it? This illustrates the basic difference between knowledge and wisdom. Wisdom is only gained by doing things, not by reading books. Until we test the things that some author says, we have no way of knowing if it is true or not.

So, what does this have to do with our personal evolution? Plenty, actually. Many wise men have told us that all of our problems exist only in our minds. What they mean when they say...
that is that it is the resistance we have to what is actually happening in our life that is the cause of our pain. Pain can be defined as the difference between what we conceive and what we perceive. We conceive ideas, plans, beliefs, desires and so forth. We create mental structures of what we want to happen in our life, oftentimes even though we are consciously unaware of why we want things to be a certain way. We tell ourselves that we will be happy ‘when’ or ‘if’ something happens a certain way. Our conceiving is quite elaborate and in most people’s lives today, it has actually gotten out of hand. This is evidenced by all the pain and suffering that exists in the world. What is actually happening, or our perception, is much different than what we planned or intended. Life has a way of laying waste to the best of plans.

Our perception of the world has even become tainted by our conception. Most of us look at life through the glasses labeled ‘I want things to turn out this way’. Since we are constantly expecting something, and since we often have a great emotional attachment to that something, it is no wonder that we are spending a lot of time ‘bumping’ into reality. And because we have such an attachment to certain things, those bumps can be very painful. People kill others and themselves over such painful things. So, as we go running around, seeing the world with such expectations, it is inevitable that we will meet with disappointment. One important reason for this is that because we are so caught up in our own personal drama and expectations, we hardly pay attention to what is really happening in our life. When we don’t pay attention, we increase our likelihood of making mistakes or in misjudging the input that is coming at us. The fact is that most of us perceive very little of what is really going on around us. We are usually caught up in a constant dialogue with our mind, which is usually trying as hard as it can to get things to turn out the way it wants.

But every so often, we have a run-in with reality that is so painful and intense that we really cannot ignore what is really going on. These are just the ones that our mind dreads and tries to avoid at all costs. We will do most anything to keep our expectations and dreams alive, much like a drug addict who will do anything to get his or her drug. But these big bumps, as we might call them, usually happen to us unexpectedly. Even though we may plan to avoid them, they happen just the same, and when we least expect them. These are the real humdingers that make us feel depressed.

I had one of these happen to me recently. I have been playing pool a lot the past two years and have stopped playing about two months ago. Then I decided to go to a local tournament and compete, a tournament that I have won several times in the past. I figured (conceived) that even though I have not been playing that much lately, I could still win it, or at least take second or third. Well, I lost about half way through the tournament. I wasn’t disappointed with the way I was playing, but the other guys were obviously much more serious about the game than I was. I was very disappointed because I lost so soon. But what really happened was that in that moment of disappointment, my perception opened up and for a few minutes I saw just how much I place my happiness in external things. I saw that I have some sort of hate for myself and that I am trying to feel good about myself by winning pool tournaments. I just really got a good look at my inner self-rejection and my desperate attempts to regain my self love through achieving things. I saw how this approach had cost me all of my love of the game of pool. How could I enjoy something when I so desperately needed it to turn out a certain way? I was depressed. I left the pool hall so depressed that I didn’t want to go home. But I just drove home slowly and by the time I got there, I was ready to go in.

At first I was bewildered. With this new awareness of how much I hate and reject myself, my mind kicked in and wanted to know, ‘what am I going to do?’ I even started to make plans to just go away somewhere and die, or just live by myself in some remote area of the world. But I have seen these thought patterns before and I know they would pass. So I just watched and waited.

Then, later, I began to feel better for no apparent reason. Here I had gone through this shocking and depressing experience and now I was feeling better than I did before it happened.
And then it all dawned on me. This is how evolution of consciousness works. What had happened to me was that I got a big dose of reality and truth. It was painful and depressing because it conflicted so heavily with my concepts of what my life was like. Now that I had really seen what my life is really like, my energy was flowing better than ever. I was feeling better because now I was closer to being in harmony with the world around me, and not stuck in some expectation or plan.

I realized how much we are afraid of reality and how we try, with as much care as we can, to avoid facing it. None of us likes to feel pain. And yet, it is pain that is part of every great change in our life. I went through a small death that day, a mini-transformation. And now I am living in a world where it is okay for me to be someone who has some deep hatred for themselves and to not know where it came from. Now, I am fighting myself a little less and the next time I play pool, I know that I am going to enjoy it a little more because now I know that I have this tendency to do it for the wrong reasons. Sounds strange, but that’s how life works.

From Life to Life - 9/96

I have been asked many times questions that go something like this: "Since I am a 4♣ now, will I come back in my next life as a 5♣?" or "I am a 9♠. Is this my last lifetime?" and finally "Is there a way to determine what card I will be in my next life or the card I was in my past life?" These are all interesting questions and they point to the process we go through as we incarnate again and again on this earth plane. I have to admit that I personally do not have any direct experience to validate what I am about to say. I have read many books, attended lectures and have been advised by many knowledgeable people about this, including members of The Order of the Magi. I also have a knowing about it all, an intuitive gut feeling that has been validated by my experience in doing readings for others. Here is what I have come up with.

In each lifetime, we are presented with both karmic, destined events as well as many events over which we have complete free choice. Some of our life experiences are completely destined - otherwise, how would this system of card reading work so well? However, we always have free choice about how we handle the experiences of our life. Life is essentially about the evolution of consciousness. The more aware we become, the more refined our behavior gets. This causes greater and greater personal freedom and fulfillment. When we arrive at the state where we have no more strong desires or fears, we no longer have to come down to the earth. We may choose to come down to perform some act for a higher purpose, but we no longer are bound to by our karma. When we reach that state of desirelessness we literally step off of the wheel of karma that binds us to life after life. Essentially, our karma is exhausted enough that we don’t have to come down to Earth to work it out.

However, don’t mistake this desirelessness that I speak of for apathy. Some people think that this is their last life because they feel no desire. In all the cases I have seen so far, these people are in some form of apathy or denial. True desirelessness is a very high spiritual state that is attained only by those who have made efforts to realize just how many desires, fears and other negative emotions they truly have. Sometimes we get completely fed up and frustrated with a certain thing in our life and in those moments we experience a taste of this high state. But it takes many lifetimes until we reach a state of overall ‘dispassion’.

The Magi teach that before we come into each life, we have a meeting of sorts on the astral plane with our spiritual guides and well-wishers. There, with complete memory of all our past lives and with the intent of furthering the advancement of our consciousness, we choose just the ideal circumstances for our life. We select our parents, our country, our sex, and many attributes of our physical body. Much of this choice can be interpreted from our Birth Card and natal Astrological chart.
Everything we choose has one purpose - to help us resolve negative soul-patterns that we would work on during this lifetime. All of this culminates in our Birth Card.

But there is no formula for which Birth Card we will move to in each successive life. This is because before selecting a Birth Card, we must have this meeting to evaluate what we learned and how we handled things in the previous life before coming up with a plan for the next. In other words, the card that you are this lifetime is a perfect fit for you in regards all the unfinished lessons that you have to learn. If you don’t learn the lessons, or if the lessons were very difficult, you may actually come back as the very same Birth Card again.

What card you or I will be in the next lifetime depends a lot on what we do with the card we have this lifetime. If we make choices for more love, truth and understanding, we will move right into a high manifestation of whatever Birth Card we are in the next lifetime. Remember that any card can be expressed in a high manner.

There are some card patterns that we can see, however. For example, many people who are Sevens this lifetime were certainly Eights in former lifetimes who abused their power. The 7♥ is a classic example, but so is the 7♠ and 7♣. The 7♥ person will come into this lifetime with soul patterns of trying to control others - this comes from a previous lifetime, though it is not necessarily the immediate previous lifetime. One could say that most 7♥ people have come into this lifetime to work off the karma of having had power struggles with their mates in a former lifetime. In this lifetime they often attract powerful mates that hurt them in the same way. If, during the previous lifetime, when the 7♥ was probably an 8♥, the 7♥ had used this power consciously to heal others and was conscious not to misuse it or hurt others, there would be no need to come back as a 7♥ and experience the other side.

Here again, consciousness is the key to everything. With it, we evolve into more peace and freedom. Without it, we bind ourselves to more lifetimes of negative experiences, the likes of which we perpetrated on others unconsciously.

We may be able to guess someone’s Birth Card for a previous lifetime by examining their karma in this lifetime and seeing what issues they are working on that they had created in past lives. However, we will never know for sure if that karma came from the immediate previous lifetime or one that was several incarnations ago. Likewise, without the knowledge of all of our previous lifetimes, which is withheld from us until we die, we have no way of determining which Birth Card we will be in the next lifetime. Especially since so much of it depends upon what we do with this one.

Secrets of the Mystic Triangle - 11/96

The illustration on the next page, taken from page 284 of The Mystic Test Book by Olney Richmond, holds many secrets. Olney considered it to be one example of absolute proof of the importance and authenticity of the deck of cards. In his book, Olney points out that the solar values of the cards in the three sides of this divine 'right triangle' form a perfect relationship to each other. In a right triangle, the sums of the squares of the base and the perpendicular will equal the square of the hypotenuse. In the basic right triangle, these three elements must be divisible by 3, 4 and 5 respectively. Therefore in a 3,4,5 right triangle we get \((3*3) + (4*4) = (5*5)\) or \(9 + 16 = 25\). If we take the solar values of the cards illustrated here, they also give a perfect right triangle in numbers giving us \(81 + 144 = 225\). Remember that the solar values of the cards are their number in the deck from A♥ (1) to the K♠ (52) in natural order. Therefore the A♥ has a solar value of 40 and the 3♦ of 29, etc.

In his book, Olney goes on to illustrate how not only the solar values add up perfectly, but also the spirit values and what he calls negative spirit values. These values are derived by computations that I will not go into here but may publish in the future for those who are
interested. Suffice it to say that these values do add up perfectly, which is quite extraordinary since these values bear no resemblance to the easily found solar values. All of this just goes to prove to me that the cards found in this mystic right triangle are fixed. No other cards could have occupied those 12 positions and have worked out perfectly the way these 12 do.

The Mystic Triangle of the Magi

A♥ - First House - Aries
The A♥ is the first card in the deck and Aries the first sign that is the natural ruler of the first house in astrology. It would seem natural that this would be the card to represent the beginning and the sign of Aries. Both Aries and the A♥ card are concerned with exploring the self. Understanding who they are. Both are often considered selfish or self-centered (as are most of the Aces for that matter) but the real message in each case is the search for self-understanding.

2♦ - Second House - Taurus
I would have been surprised if the card for Taurus was NOT a Diamond. I have noted that most Diamond people I have met have a strong Taurus or second house influence in their astrological natal charts. This number is a Two, which of course is what follows One. Those who have read my book, The Science of Numbers, understand the natural progression of the numbers and how the passion and seeking of the One finds fulfillment in the Two. Now we know that the 2♦ is the card symbol for the sign of the Earth and material prosperity. Isn't it interesting that the 2♦ has one of the best Life Paths for financial success in the entire deck?

3♠ - Third House - Gemini
I would have guessed 3♠ on this one, but after all, isn't the Spade of each number the strongest of all the other suits? As far as creativity is concerned, there is no other quite as strong.
And with that comes a strong romantic drive. I suppose it is the 3♦ above all other cards who divide their life up into separate pieces so that they will never be bored or lose interest.

4♠ - Fourth House - Cancer

This one makes a lot of sense to me. I see all the Fours as Cancers in some fashion and most Fours have some prominent Cancer or fourth house influence in their charts. But it is the 4♠ above all others that focuses so much energy on security. Keep in mind that the 4♠ has the 4♥ as a Karma Card, giving it a double Four influence. And also realize that the A♠ in the Saturn position of their Life Path makes the drive for financial security a constant theme in their life. This quality alone makes them very much like the Cancer person, whose primary concerns are food, money and affection.

5♣ - Fifth House - Leo

This one surprised me at first and then made so much sense as I thought about it. Who else could personify the eternal romantic of the Leo but the 5♣, the most emotionally restless card in the deck? Also remember that the 5♣ has the A♠ in Venus - the propensity towards secret love affairs. Though I haven't checked, I bet we will find Leo / fifth house influences predominating in most 5♣ birth charts.

6♣ - Sixth House - Virgo

I can't say a lot about this one. But I do see the 'service' quality of the Virgo sign manifesting in many 6♣. I am reminded that 6♣ are often the 'missionaries of light' in this world and that Virgos are striving for internal perfection, just like the 6♣, and I see the connection between them. I am certain more will come out of this later as this is such an important card in the spiritual sense.

A♠ - Seventh House - Libra

I must confess that I have little understanding of this particular card's connections with its house and sign. However, I recall Olney Richmond mentioning somewhere that Libra and Seventh House were the symbols for the Order of the Magi and I sense that there is great importance in this particular symbolism. Libra is the sign of partnership. Perhaps on a more divine level, the A♠ symbolizes the perfect spiritual partner. The A♠ is highly influenced by Neptune and Pisces. Because Venus, the planet of Love and Marriage, is exalted in Pisces, this may also indicate some reasons for this important connection.

3♦ - Eighth House - Scorpio

This one also perplexed me at first. But after I thought about it for a while, I see some of the connections. One thing I thought of is how most of the Grand Masters of the Order of the Magi have been 3♦ Birth Cards. The A♠ is the Mercury Card for 3♦ people and the A♠ represents the mysteries of life. What better card for the sign of Scorpio than the 3♦ that represents the person who is on a constant quest for the answers to life's most subtle mysteries?

5♣ - Ninth House - Sagittarius

For me, this was easy. I have always sensed that Sagittarian energy is a Five so I figured the Sag card would be some Five. Having grown up with a 5♣ best friend I definitely see the connection. 5♣ are adventurers of the highest order. Freedom is the most important word in their vocabulary and from their travels and explorations, they learn a great deal about life on this planet.
7♣ - Tenth House - Capricorn
   I suppose if we see the tenth house as the desire for fame and prominence we can
associate that with the 7♣ which have the 8♦ and their first Karma card. 7♣ are also known to be
somewhat critical in their minds, which can also be associated with Capricorn which is governed
by Saturn, the planet of limitation.

2♠ - Eleventh House - Aquarius
   This one I have known about for a long time. First of all the 2♠ sits in the Uranus/Uranus
spot in the Spiritual Spread (Uranus rules Aquarius). And, as most of you probably know, it is the
card of friendship and the brotherhood of man, which are classic Aquarian qualities. I have
always considered it to be the most Aquarian card in the entire deck.

9♠ - Twelfth House - Pisces
   This one was also a given for me. I see all the Nines as Pisces / Neptune in one way or
another. The 9♠, being the strongest of the ending cards would be a natural representative for the
last sign in the zodiac. Pisces represents the last years of our life, the time when we let go of all
our connections to the physical plane and begin merging with the universe. We become universal
as opposed to individual. This is also a perfect description of the 9♠ card and person.

I hope you have found this to be as interesting as I have. I also see possibilities for
combining our Birth Card with the card for our Sun Sign to open up doors of understanding about
ourselves. Some interesting research and discoveries await us.

Clinton and Gore - Wolves in Sheep's Clothing - 11/96

   I would call myself a ‘spiritual person’. I have lived in a yoga ashram for 10 years,
practiced meditation and have taken my share of mind expanding drugs. I used to play in rock and
roll and country western bands. I personally objected  to the Viet Nam war and just missed being
drafted into it. If I had been chosen by the lottery system they were using at the time, I am certain
that I would not have gone to fight. From all of these descriptions most people would classify me
as a liberal. So it may come as a surprise to many people just how conservative Katherine and I
are politically.

   Most of my adult life I didn’t really care about politics or who was running for office. I
never knew enough about the candidates to really make an informed decision anyway. I just
wasn’t interested. If someone would ask me who was I going to vote for, I would just make up an
answer and tell them. When I did think about it, I would just pick someone based upon how their
name sounded or what I had read in the news about them that stood out in my mind. I never cared
much about taxes and laws. They just took money out of my check and I just accepted it as one of
life’s necessary evils.

   But over the past 10 years I have become much more aware of what is going on in the
world. At the same time I have received information that indicates that I will play some sort of
role in confronting the deceptions and ignorance that is the cause of great suffering on our
beautiful planet. I find myself becoming more interested in what is going on at the highest levels
of government and questioning what I read and hear from the different forms of media.

   A few years back I was running a Teacher Training course in Sedona, AZ. A woman who
attended was an incredible psychic channel ( a Q♣ - what else! ) and she did several channeling
sessions about the work we were doing and the world around us. In one such session she
described Clinton and Gore as wolves in sheep clothing. She described a great vision that came to
her of these two leading thousands of people into a great arena. Once everyone was in, the doors
were locked and off came the Clinton and Gore masks to reveal the ravenous beasts that they are.
All around the great arena were chopping blocks where people were lining up to be killed. On each was a sign. One was labeled ‘Health Care’, another was labeled ‘Welfare’, one ‘Abortion’ and another ‘Save the Trees’. Though this illustration seemed quite dramatic, for me it drove home the point and it got me to really thinking about what is going on around us.

After carefully examining this issue and reading the news carefully for the past four years, I have no doubt about the validity of her vision. These two truly are the greatest deceivers that I have witnessed in my lifetime. They are slick, hip and cool and yet they stand for nothing except their own continued presence in the seat of power. Clinton will do anything I believe, to keep his office. As a matter of fact, if you read the news and see what he does each day, you will see that it is completely geared up to try and get more votes. He personally does not stand for anything and would change his stance instantly or say anything if he thought it would get him more votes. He never had and doesn’t have an ounce of integrity in any form and simply has no morals of any kind. He didn’t get the nickname ‘Slick Willy’ for nothing.

I am not saying that the Republicans are angels. Honestly there are few politicians that I would trust. I feel that many of them would sell their mothers to stay in office. But I have to look at the basic philosophies of the different parties and I feel strongly that the victim/savior mentality of our current Democratic party is poison to all that it touches (except the leaders, of course, who will find ways to make themselves immune to their own policies). Just look at how more than half of Clinton’s top cabinet members and associates have been forced to resign because of improprieties. Do you really believe that Clinton, their boss, had nothing to do with all the scandals that have been constant since his election?

Much like Hitler, Clinton has made effective use of misinformation and the media to mislead the country. He portrays his opponents as those who would take away the security and well being of old people and helpless children. Many people in our country trust what they read in the paper and hear on the news, not knowing just how much what they hear is just a play to manipulate them.

The Democrats believe: We are helpless victims of a world that is fraught with danger at all sides. That we lack the intelligence to make important decisions about our life. That the government’s role is to step in and take care of us and make our important decisions for us. That we need the government’s protection, even if it means a loss of personal freedom. That the money we make belongs to the government and that we should be grateful for all it provides instead of complaining about higher taxes.

The Democrats want you to believe: That cutting taxes and making people more responsible for their lives is cruel and heartless. That you deserve the government’s help and protection (though the price of it is slavery to the government). That ending social programs (which have never be proven to do any good or actually work) will deprive children of food, education and care. That making a lot of money is a sin. That those who make a lot of money should give it all back to those who don’t (sounds a lot like Communism, doesn’t it?). That the government will take care of you so that you won’t have to worry about anything.

The Republicans believe: That people can make their own decisions for themselves. That our right to choose is important. That government’s role should be closely monitored and not be allowed to meddle in areas where individuals can take responsibility for their lives. That higher taxation ruins the personal initiative of individuals. That successful individuals who make a lot of money are inspirational and a symbol of the American dream that our founding fathers engendered when this country was born. That all of the social programs, engendered by the Democratic presidents beginning with Lyndon Johnson have done nothing but hurt this country and its people.

I know this is a volatile subject and that some of you will not like what I have written here today. I wouldn’t write about it if I didn’t feel it was important. It really doesn’t matter who
wins the presidency. What is important is that each of us begin seeing what is going on in the world - to be aware of the ‘intentions’ behind the actions of those who have a great influence over our lives. My intention is to get us thinking and questioning more.

I hope each of you makes a sincere exploration of the truth on the national political level. Not that you get ‘involved’ politically, but that you learn the art of reading the truth behind what is given to us in the media. In the upcoming years there is likely to be some great transformations of our world and some of it will probably be devastating in nature. If we know the truth about what is going on around us, we will be guided to the right path and will always be protected. Above all else I hope that none of you end up in that arena of death that I described earlier.

The Ace of Diamonds Paradox - 11/96

There are 12 birthdays for the A♦, making it one of the most common cards found. So, most people will know at least one. Because of my Birth Card’s special connection with them, I know a great deal of them. I was even married to one. In fact, my Planetary Ruling Card is the A♦, so I share many of their characteristics. The A♦ has a great deal of both Jupiter and Neptune energy within it. In the Life Spread it is the Jupiter / Neptune card and it is Jupiter / Uranus in the Spiritual Spread. So, in the A♦ person we see exaggerated (Jupiter) expressions of optimism, idealism, escapism and codependency (Neptune). We have an abundance of Neptune energy and a somewhat idealistic expression of Jupiter’s bounty in this card which can produce some unusual individuals.

One interesting paradox is that the A♦ Birth Card is also such a loner and individual, but at the same time so involved with people around them. They have such a long list of things that they want to do and have for themselves, and at the same time they get so involved in helping other people and dedicating themselves to service and compassionate enterprises. They spend time by themselves a lot but also are constantly communicating with others.

Along the same lines there is the paradox of their selfishness verses their selflessness. They are very selfish and self-engrossed at heart. Their second Karma Card is the A♥. Aces are like Aries in astrology - very concerned with themselves and how the world around them affects THEM. They are self-absorbed and in many cases, self-centered and selfish. Most A♦ have a prominent Mars/Aries or 1st house influence in their natal charts. And yet they see themselves as the saviors of the world. In most conversations with A♦ the focus will be on what they are doing for others. They rarely mention their own motives or the things that they are trying to get from the situations they are involved in. In my own experience they are rarely even aware of what they are trying to get from other people. They have completely convinced themselves that they are doing everything to help (or save) others. Many of them have the Moon in Pisces or Moon in strong aspect to Neptune or the 12th house. They see themselves as little angels or saviors of others. In talking with them you would never suspect they had other than honorable intentions.

But when they don’t get what they want, watch out! That's when their Aries/Ace nature shows itself. Even though they never said what they wanted, they expect others to give them what they wanted and can become very upset when they don’t get it. Either that, or they feel ‘used’ by others or that others do not appreciate all they are doing. But will they ever come out and say what they want? Rarely, if at all. The abundance of Neptune energy is both a blessing and a curse.
The blessing is that they manage a positive attitude about life in spite of the difficulties they go through (every one of their Life Path Cards is in the Saturn line). The curse of Neptune is that they deceive themselves and cannot see their own selfishness - which is considerable.

Don’t get me wrong, I don’t think A♦ are bad people. As a matter of fact most of them are just brimming over with compassion and positive feelings about life. They usually bring a little light and good feelings to those they associate with and most of them do a lot of good work in helping others. The things I am pointing to happen more in their intimate relationships, where they have some interesting paradoxes that confuse their life and the lives of those they live with.

A♦ are the consummate business people of the deck. The self-interests of A♦ usually revolve around their careers and making money. Though they have some interest in romantic or love fulfillment, the career seems to take the top priority in most cases, especially after a few unsuccessful attempts at marriage or love. Most A♦ have artistic abilities that can cause them to get involved in some sort of crafts or artistic expression as part of their business. But they are equally well endowed with a sharp mind that can lend itself to any sort of communications work. So, we find them in many different professions and since the middle years of their life, from ages 26 to 52 are governed by the 3♣ and 3♠, they often try many different careers during that time or at least have two or more occupations going at the same time.

When they do fall in love, the A♦ often chooses a partner who either travels a lot or who lives somewhere far away from where they live. Often they are the ones that do the traveling and they see their loved one when they can. It has to be their inner conflict about their own personal needs and desires verses the needs of a marriage or commitment that creates these kinds of ‘distant’ relationships. A relationship with someone who is often not with us gives us lots of time to do what we want without the interference of a partner. Many A♦ have to learn that you need to be WITH someone physically to create a real relationship. A satisfying marriage is possible for A♦, and most of the successful ones I have seen are where the two partners take regular vacations and trips together. This traveling with the partner seems to satisfy the A♦ needs in some way.

Arne Lein, my first teacher of the cards, once remarked that A♦ men should never get married. After knowing and hearing about so many A♦ men, I agree with this statement. Among the thousands of women that I have as clients, there have been more secret affairs, non-committal love affairs and love affairs that ended badly with A♦ men. The married ones seem to invariably have love affairs. The single ones have a lover in each state (or city). I honestly haven’t met or heard of a happily married A♦ man yet. I am sure they exist, but are just a little hard to find. As soon as one of my clients tells me she is dating an A♦ man, I know what the result of that relationship will be, and it is never marriage.

I know what it is like to be an A♦ because that is my Planetary Ruling Card. I know how it feels to want to help others, especially those who are really down in the dumps or down on their luck. I know the passion for life that they feel, the driving passion to accomplish many good things in this lifetime. I know the impatience they feel when obstacles block the path to fulfillment. And I also know how easy it is to be deceived by my own good intentions and how I can be using others to get what I want, all the while telling myself that I am doing it for them, not me. It is all part of the same beautiful expression of God energy that they are. Each Birth Card has these sorts of mysteries and paradoxes if we take the time to uncover them. All in all, I like the A♦ part of myself. And I like all of those A♦ that I have met. They show us the good and bad of passion inspired by a high ideal. Remember that Hitler was an A♦ and so is Paul Newman. Do you see any similarities between them?
The illustration below shows all 45 of the cards in the deck that are karmically connected. Together, these cards form a 'wheel of energy' and from it we can learn a great deal about our life and the direction of our spiritual life and work in this lifetime. This article will add some insight into these cards and the important information they have to tell us. These cards are all the ones except the Fixed and Semi-Fixed Cards. Those seven cards fall into an entirely different category and are not bound by the same rules as the 45 we are discussing here.

First of all, in order to understand this illustration you must find your Birth Card (or someone's Birth Card that you know) on the circle. Now imagine that this circle is actually 45 people standing together and holding hands, all facing the big A♠ in the center of the circle. From this perspective each person is holding the hands of their two Karma Cards. The circle is actually a conduit of energy that flows around and around in a counterclockwise direction. This means that the card on your left is sending energy to you while you are sending energy to the card on your right.

This is an easy way to find your Karma Cards and find out who owes who. But what I want to discuss here goes way beyond that basic concept of the Karma Cards. What I want you to do here is look at the cards on your immediate left and right as cards that represent your personal karma that you are experiencing here and now in this lifetime. The card on your left is your good karma and the card on your right is your bad karma. I really don't like the words good and bad because they don't adequately describe what these two cards represent. Let's go into it a bit further.
The Card on Your Left - Receiving Blessings

This card represents some qualities that come easy to you in this lifetime because it symbolizes things that you gave to others in a previous lifetime, or actions that you took that helped others in that lifetime that in turn bring you some rewards in this lifetime. We could call this the karmic gift card. In some cases it represents qualities that you have mastery over in this lifetime - areas where things come easily to you. Knowing this, you can better appreciate these gifts that you have, and utilize them for greater success in your life. No matter what this card is, look at it's highest meaning and you will see some of the gifts you receive from good deeds you have performed before this lifetime. For example, the K♣ has an 8♠ as their first Karma Card. This tells them that they already know the value of hard work and are not lazy. This also tells them that they know how to use power and not abuse it at the same time. K♣ are the least likely to abuse their power of all the Kings in the deck.

This is an easy way to find your Karma Cards and find out who owes who. But what I want to discuss here goes way beyond that basic concept of the Karma Cards. What I want you to do here is look at the cards on your immediate left and right as cards that represent your personal karma that you are experiencing here and now in this lifetime. The card on your left is your good karma and the card on your right is your bad karma. I really don't like the words good and bad because they don't adequately describe what these two cards represent. Let's go into it a bit further.

The Card on Your Right - Negative Patterns

In this card we see the areas where you came into this lifetime with some negative habits, weaknesses, misconceptions, or limitations and blocks. This is where you will have to do some work on yourself lest you be dragged down by the lower aspects of this card's nature, which you yourself have made real from your past actions. All negative karma is nothing more than a habit based upon a misconception. It is a habitual way of perceiving the world that is either based upon fear, anger or some other negative emotion. As you look at this Karma Card, look at the lower manifestation of it and see the darker side of yourself that must be brought into the light and cleansed with the truth.

For example, the Seven of Clubs has an Eight of Diamonds to their right. This tells us that they have abused power in previous lifetimes and that their quest for fame and power often has less than pure motives. In other cases, the Seven of Clubs must learn how to manifest their power in their life. Sometimes there is an internal block about being powerful - they hold themselves back from their fullest expression because of some fear associated with having power or abusing it.

Taking it a Step Further

Many of you are familiar with what is called your Karma Cousins. These cards are one step over from your Karma Cards on the circle. For example the Karma Cousins for the A♥, pictured at the bottom of the circle are the K♥ on the left and the 8♥ on the right. Here again, we know which way the energy is flowing.

The Karma Cousin on your left represents energy coming your way - blessings and good karma from the past. The one on your right represents other areas where there is some work to be done. We could even take this several more steps over, taking the next card and the next to the right and left and derive more meaning about some of our gifts and liabilities from the past. I believe these cards are all meaningful, but that we get farther away from our Birth Card, their significance is less and less.

When I look at my own Karma Cards, Karma Cousins and beyond (Karma Second Cousins?) I do see relevance as to lessons I have been working on in this lifetime. I also sense
that there is much more significance to be uncovered using this circle illustration. For example, since there are 45 cards, there may be some significance to the 5th or 9th card away from our Birth Card. The points on the five pointed star illustrated may serve as some sort of boundaries for special families of card that share similar qualities. There may be significance to the two cards that oppose your Birth Card on the wheel (since there is an odd number of cards there is no one card that is directly opposite). I will leave this further research and exploration to you. But I think you can see that there is much to understand in this system.

Our Dharma Cards - 1/97

In Ancient India there was a saying that represented the path to liberation that is still pertinent today. That saying is: "Dharma - Artha - Kama - Moksha". Dharma means right action, Artha means wealth, Kama means sensual pleasures and Moksha means liberation from the cycle of birth and death and God-consciousness. What these four words actually mean when translated together is that if we follow our Dharma we will first achieve great wealth. If we keep following it, we will achieve the gratification of all of our worldly, sensual and other desires. Finally, if we continue to follow our Dharma we will achieve spiritual liberation. It is implied in these four words and their order that Dharma always comes first. And it tells us that wealth comes before fulfillment of all desires and that fulfillment of all desires comes before liberation. This way of looking at the spiritual path fits my experiences perfectly. But what do we know about Dharma? What is it and how can be sure that we are following it?

Our Dharma can be understood through two cards in our Life Path, Saturn and the Cosmic Lesson. These are the fifth and tenth cards respectively. Five is an important number in this world that we live in. We each have five fingers on each hand, there are five visible planets, our face has five openings and so forth. The symbol for Saturn even looks like a five. Saturn is usually associated with the most difficult karma in our life, but it is much more than this. The first five planets are what I call the 'earthly' planets. They tell us about our personal lives, our personality traits, emotional patterns, and the way we communicate. As a whole they deal with our relationship to earthly matters. When we get to Saturn, though we approach the what I call the gateway to the cosmos. Saturn, being the last of the visible planets is the gate that we must pass through in order to access the higher levels of experience that come through the outer planets. Saturn is also the guardian of this gate. No one passes through his gate without meeting with his tests.

Saturn is the first of our Dharma Cards. He tells us the specific ways that we need to be fair and aware in this current lifetime. Our Saturn Card is the symbol of our own personal Dharma - those things that we must do in order to be a responsible person who deserves to pass through Saturn's gate to the higher frequencies of the outer planets.

So, on one level, our Saturn Card can tell us the areas where we specifically need to practice more thoughtfulness, patience and higher understanding. It can be interpreted that this is the area in which we need the most maturity in this lifetime. But Saturn is much more than this. It also represents our work and reputation in the world. For many of us, our Saturn Card represents the work that is the 'right action' implied by our personal Dharma. Those who are trying to figure out what kind of work they should do might want to study their Saturn Card closely. Even if it doesn't exactly describe the work we do, it certainly describes what we are really doing in that work or what we are learning through it. Our Saturn Card is a symbol of our work here on the planet and how others see us in that role. Whether we can access the high side of that card and gain Saturn's blessings is entirely up to us and our personal initiative. If we walk in the highest expression of that card then we are fulfilling our earthly responsibility and can pass through
Saturn's gate. It is by doing this that we gain wealth (Artha) and fulfillment of all worldly desires (Kama). One interesting aside is that in the ancient Hindu tradition, Kama, or the fulfillment of all worldly, sensual, sexual and other pleasures, was not considered to be a bad thing. It is considered to be a gift that is given to us in the natural course of our evolution. Of course those who pursue Artha or Kama without practicing Dharma will attract innumerable problems and walk further and further away from the truth and the possibility of liberation.

When we move beyond Saturn we enter the cosmic realm. Uranus, Neptune, Pluto, Cosmic Reward and Cosmic Lesson are all higher octaves of Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn. Thus we have a second Dharma Card in our Cosmic Lesson Card. But when we think of the Cosmic Lesson Card, we must look at it in more universal terms. Whereas with Saturn we find our earthly responsibility, to the people we live with and work with, with the Cosmic Lesson we must look at our responsibility on a much broader level. Questions like 'How are my actions affecting the world as a whole?' and 'What role will help me fulfill my responsibility on a spiritual level?' come into play. The Cosmic Lesson Card can also represent what we do, but this time it is not just how those who we come in contact with at work see us, but perhaps how we are viewed from beings on the astral plane or how our work is affecting the world on the spiritual and unseen planes of existence. We might call it our card of spiritual responsibility while our Saturn Card is our card of earthly responsibility.

It is interesting to note just how often the Saturn and Cosmic Lesson Card are the same number among the many Birth Cards. Study the Life Paths of the Birth Cards and you will see that this is very common. For just a few examples, check out the 9♠, 9♣, K♦, Q♦, A♦, K♠ and K♣. There are also some other interesting peculiarities among the Birth Cards and their Dharma Cards. Look at the J♣. It's Saturn Card, the J♦, is also its first Karma Card. Does this tell us that the J♣ has a harder time dealing with the J♦ energy which is a part of themselves? The 9♠ has a 6♦ for the Cosmic Lesson Card, which is also its second Karma Card. Since the second Karma Card indicates areas where things come easily to us, could this tell us that the 9♠ has an easier time manifesting their spiritual responsibility? There are many variations, and each speaks specifically to the personal Karma of that Card.

The two Dharma Cards together show us the way to our personal path. They are the gateways to our own personal and spiritual fulfillment though many of us see them as problems and negative events in our lives. I say that if we are having problems with them it is probably because we are not living in our own Dharma. There is always a 'right action' that we can follow that, though sometimes painful, brings us long term happiness and success. Our Dharma Cards give us indications of just what that right action might be.

Our Decanate Ruling Cards - 1/97

Most of us are familiar with our Planetary Ruling Cards by now and as I have stated many times, the Planetary Ruling Card of an individual is the second most important symbol of their personality after the Birth Card. I do readings for my Planetary Ruling Card just as I do for my Birth Card and I always include these in relationship readings where they often make a big difference.

Arne Lein, one of my teachers, emphasized the importance of the Planetary Ruling Card in his book, What's Your Card?, which is currently out of print. But Arne took it one step further and also used what is call the Decanate Ruler. This article will attempt to explain what that is and how you can use this for yourself.
Astrologically, each sign of the zodiac is broken into three equal pieces called decanates. Since each sign governs a period of roughly 30 days, each decanate governs a 10-day period of that sign's rulership. However, each decanate has its own planetary ruler just as each sun sign is ruled by a planet. We might consider these decanate rulers to be sort of 'sub-rulers' of the signs.

For example, from December 22nd until January 19th, the sun is in the sign of Capricorn. Capricorn is ruled by Saturn so anyone born in that time period will have a Planetary Ruling Card that is the Saturn Card in their Life Spread. Someone born on January 8th would be a 6♠ Birth Card with an A♣ Planetary Ruling Card since the A♣ is the Saturn Card in the 6♠ Life Spread. But January 8th falls into the second decanate of Capricorn which governs the time period of January 1st to January 10th. This particular decanate is governed by the planet Venus giving the January 8th 6♠ person a Decanate Ruler of the 10♣, their Venus Card in their Life Spread. So, we might say that those born on January 8th have a 6♠ Birth Card, an A♣ Planetary Ruling Card and a 10♣ Decanate Ruling Card.

I have read many of Arne Lein's descriptions of people where he incorporates all three cards of a person into his description of their life and personality. So far, I have seen a lot of truth in using these decanates. They add another dimension to a person's personality that helps explain some behavior patterns more clearly. For instance, in the example above, January 8th is the birthday of both Elvis Presley and David Bowie. Perhaps it is that Decanate Ruling Card, the 10♣, that accounts for the high success that both of them have achieved. The A♣ Planetary Ruling Card and 6♠ Birth Card do not necessarily bring that sort of drive for fame, but the 10♣ does. I invite you to look up your Decanate Ruling Card

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Birthday Range</th>
<th>Sun Sign / Ruling Planet</th>
<th>Decanate Ruling Planet</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 1 - 10</td>
<td>Capricorn - Saturn</td>
<td>Venus</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 11 - 19</td>
<td>Capricorn - Saturn</td>
<td>Mercury</td>
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<td>January 20 - 29</td>
<td>Aquarius - Uranus</td>
<td>Venus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 30 - Feb 8</td>
<td>Aquarius - Uranus</td>
<td>Mercury</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 9 - 18</td>
<td>Aquarius - Uranus</td>
<td>Venus</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 19 - 29</td>
<td>Pisces - Neptune</td>
<td>Neptune</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 1 - 10</td>
<td>Pisces - Neptune</td>
<td>Moon</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 11 - 20</td>
<td>Pisces - Neptune</td>
<td>Pluto / Mars</td>
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<td>March 21 - 30</td>
<td>Aries - Mars</td>
<td>Mars</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 31 - April 9</td>
<td>Aries - Mars</td>
<td>Sun</td>
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<td>April 10 - 19</td>
<td>Aries - Mars</td>
<td>Jupiter</td>
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<td>April 20 - 29</td>
<td>Taurus - Venus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr 30 - May 9</td>
<td>Taurus - Venus</td>
<td>Mercury</td>
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<td>May 10 - 20</td>
<td>Taurus - Venus</td>
<td>Saturn</td>
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<td>May 21 - 30</td>
<td>Gemini - Mercury</td>
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<td>May 31 - June 9</td>
<td>Gemini - Mercury</td>
<td>Venus</td>
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<td>June 10 - 20</td>
<td>Gemini - Mercury</td>
<td>Uranus</td>
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<td>June 21 - 30</td>
<td>Cancer - Moon</td>
<td>Moon</td>
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<td>July 1 - 11</td>
<td>Cancer - Moon</td>
<td>Pluto / Mars</td>
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<td>July 12 - 22</td>
<td>Cancer - Moon</td>
<td>Neptune</td>
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<td>July 23 - Aug 1</td>
<td>Leo - Sun</td>
<td>Sun</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 2 - 11</td>
<td>Leo - Sun</td>
<td>Jupiter</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 12 - 22</td>
<td>Leo - Sun</td>
<td>Mars</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 23 - Sep 1</td>
<td>Virgo - Mercury</td>
<td>Mercury</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 2 - 11</td>
<td>Virgo - Mercury</td>
<td>Saturn</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 12 - 22</td>
<td>Virgo - Mercury</td>
<td>Venus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sep 23 - Oct 2</td>
<td>Libra - Venus</td>
<td>Venus</td>
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<td>October 3 - 12</td>
<td>Libra - Venus</td>
<td>Uranus</td>
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<td>October 13 - 22</td>
<td>Libra - Venus</td>
<td>Mercury</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 23 - Nov 1</td>
<td>Scorpio - Pluto/Mars</td>
<td>Pluto / Mars</td>
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<td>November 2 - 11</td>
<td>Scorpio - Pluto/Mars</td>
<td>Neptune</td>
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<td>November 12 - 21</td>
<td>Scorpio - Pluto/Mars</td>
<td>Moon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 22 - Dec 1</td>
<td>Sagittarius - Jupiter</td>
<td>Jupiter</td>
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<td>December 2 - 11</td>
<td>Sagittarius - Jupiter</td>
<td>Mars</td>
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<td>December 12 - 21</td>
<td>Sagittarius - Jupiter</td>
<td>Sun</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 22 - 31</td>
<td>Capricorn - Saturn</td>
<td>Saturn</td>
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using the following table and see if it doesn't have something new to tell you about yourself, or
point to an aspect of your personality that you have emphasized more than others at certain points
in your life.

How to Use the Decanate Rulers

Well, one of the first things you may notice when you read the table for the Decanate
Rulers is that the first decanate of each sign is ruled by the same planet that rules the Sun Sign.
So, for people born in the first Decanate of their sign, there is no separate ruler to consider in their
analysis of their personality traits. However, even in these cases, it would be wise to consider just
how important and even more emphasized is their Planetary Ruling Card, which now has a sort of
doubled influence.

If we extend that one step further with Leos, we find that the Leo birthdays within the
first Decanate will only have their Birth Card to consider. These people, born from July 23 -31,
are a triple influence of their Birth Card. These special birth dates should examine their lives to
see how they have less diversity than most other people. They are probably less complicated in
some ways, and probably a 'super version' of their Birth Card in every respect. I have met many
people in this range and I can see that they are very dramatic about the qualities of their Birth
Card.

But most of us will have a separate Birth Card, Planetary Ruling Card and Decanate
Planetary Ruling Card to consider. For us, we must look at all three cards to determine how their
meanings are identities that we use or have used throughout our life. As an example, a client of
mine is married to a man who was born on December 9th. This makes him a 9♣ with a K♦
Planetary Ruling Card and a K♥ Decanate Ruling Card. This man is a professional actor and it is
his Decanate Ruler, the K♥, that is an important indicator of this. In this regard, the Decanate
Ruler often pertains to our choice of occupation. How about someone born on October 16th? This
would be a 6♣ with a Q♥ Planetary Ruler (for Venus) and a 3♥ Decanate Ruler (the Uranus Card
in the Life Spread). With this 3♥, wouldn't you imagine that perhaps people born on this day
would have artistic ability? I know three people with this birthday that all worked as professional
artists or designers at some point in their life. The Q♥ could be an indicator of this as well, but
that is more of a mothering influence usually. The 3♥ though is a strong creative urge that often
manifests itself artistically in the careers of people. I invite you to look up your Decanate Ruler
and that of people you know and see if you don't see some correlation with that card and their
personalities and choice of work.

One important word about those born on the cusps. The dates given in the table are the
average starting points of particular astrological signs but there are many times when a sun sign
will begin a day or more earlier or later than the date listed. If you are born on or close to the
beginning of any astrological sign, you must first make a positive determination of what your sun
sign actually is before you determine your Planetary Ruling Card or Decanate Ruling Card. For
example, if you were born on July 21, you may be a Cancer or a Leo. You are technically only
one of these even though you may share some of both qualities. You will need to run an
astrological chart that uses your time and place of birth to determine which you are. Then you can
determine your Ruling Cards as described here.

NOTE: I got several letters and phone calls from readers about this article on the Decanate Ruling
Cards. I would like to clarify something so that those of you who are studying these are not
getting confused.

The Decanate Ruling Cards are an additional ruling card. They are not the same as our
Planetary Ruling Cards but are sort of a sub-division of them. So, when we look at all of the cards
that symbolize us, we first look at our Birth Cards, then our Planetary Ruling Cards (as shown in
Love Cards), and finally our Decanate Ruling Cards. So, in many cases you will have three cards to consider as you analyze someone's personal characteristics. I have found these Decanate Ruling Cards to be significant and I do suggest that you start to use them when they are appropriate.

Another question asked of me was "Do I then do a yearly reading using the spreads under my Decanate Ruling Card?" My answer to this at this time is "I don't know." I personally have not investigated this nor am I doing this for myself. If anyone plays around with this and wants to report on what they find, let me know.

William Gates - the Richest Man in America - 1/97

An article in the San Francisco Chronicle published on December 26th, 1996 said that Bill Gates, the President of Microsoft, has shares in Microsoft that are now worth 23.6 billion dollars. His net worth has nearly doubled in just the last 12 months and soon he may very well be the richest man on the planet. I recently discovered his birthday. He was born on October 28, 1955, the same day as Julia Roberts, Dennis Franz of N.Y.P.D. Blue and Bruce Jenner. I also know several people born on that date. But what is it about that birthday that could inspire one to become as financially successful as Bill Gates has?

Well, let's look at his cards for a moment. First we see that he is a $7\heartsuit$. He has double Planetary and Decanate Rulers - the $J\heartsuit$ for his Mars Card and the $K\diamondsuit$ for his Pluto Card. Even before I knew his birthday I had speculated that he might be a $K\diamondsuit$. He exhibits many of the $K\diamondsuit$ traits in his business dealings, which many people consider to be somewhat ruthless. But there is more than this to his personality.

A recent interview with Mr. Gates in a small business magazine depicts an entirely different aspect to his personality. When asked, by a young adult (15 years old) if he ever dreamed he would be so successful, Bill replied "It wasn't even a dream (of mine). It's a much bigger thrill to lead a team of thousands of talented, bright people than it is to have a big bank account." He goes on to say "I am a steward of a share of society's resources. Eventually I'll return most of it as contributions to causes I believe in, such as education and population stability." Here we see the $J\heartsuit$, 'save the world', aspect of his personality. In his heart, the work he is doing has a higher purpose and he is doing it for that reason, not to make the money. The title of the article said it all "The Dream: not getting rich but making a difference".

Well, in that regard he has been very effective. The Windows operating system has been the most important innovation in computers to happen in the last 10 years, making the benefits of computing there for everyone to take advantage of. But this is a powerful person as well who maintains strict control on everything in his life. The words power and control are associated both with his Scorpio sun sign, but also with the $7\heartsuit$ Birth Card, which has an $8\heartsuit$ first Karma Card, and with both of his Planetary Ruling Cards. If you talk with anyone in the computer industry you soon realize that Bill Gates is trying to 'take over the world' with his operating systems and programs. He is known to stomp out his competitors and at this very moment is engaged in a heated battle with a company called Netscape for dominance of the internet. Not everyone sees his vision as being the best for everyone and many are opposed to his plans. But based on his track record, he may very well be successful.

The Powerful Three of Hearts - 1/97
The 3♥ is the first card in the Deck when we look at the Life Spread in the Grand Solar Spread formation. It occupies the upper right hand corner, which is the first card that is counted. In the Spiritual Spread, the first card is the A♥, which of course, is the first Karma Card to the 3♥. So, when we look at either one of these cards, we must consider first, that they occupy this ‘first’ position, and secondly that they are closely related. I have written about the A♥ before, how it is the ‘search for love’ and the ‘search for self’ card. Now, let’s delve into the meaning of the 3♥, which has many unique properties, some of which you may not be aware of. We also want to examine a few of the Birth Cards that are strongly connected to the 3♥, because some of them are influenced greatly by its presence in their Life Spread or by a connection to it in other ways.

We know that the 3♥ means ‘uncertainty in love’. It also means ‘variety in love’, ‘indecision in love’ and relates to self expression. It can bestow artistic or musical talent to people who have it in their Life Spread somehow. The 8♦ has the 3♥ in Venus. This is another factor in why so many of them gravitate towards careers or hobbies as musicians, artists, songwriters and performers of various kinds. This same 3♥ brings them many uncertainties about their love life, marriage partners and the entire subject of marriage and relationship. Three is essentially a Gemini-influence. It instills a lot of mental energy into whatever area it is found. Put mental energy into the love life (because it is a heart) and you get a mind that is overworking on romantic, marriage, and sexual issues. The mind analyzes, interprets and tries to figure out what something is all about. However, the usual result of putting so much mental energy into the romantic department is that one cannot ever be at peace about relationships on some level.

Any card with strong connections to the 3♥, and I will list them later, has a possibility of being fickle and easily bored with their relationships to some extent. This is one of the natural expressions of a Three energy in the suit of Hearts. This can produce people who never make commitments because they know that sooner or later they will become bored with the one they have. Any Three card in the Venus position of the Life Spread will do this. For example, the Q♦ has a 3♣ in Venus. The 10♠ has a 3♦ in Venus, and so on. You can look up all the cards that have a Three in Venus and see a pattern emerging.

The 3♥ can also mean unclarity about our basic sexual role. J. Edgar Hoover, a K♠, was a cross-dresser. Many 3♥, A♥ and other cards mentioned later are often bisexual or homosexual. Though these are not the only cards who can be sexually different, these are some of the most common. I would venture to say that in most of these cases, a close examination of the person would reveal some uncertainty in the sexual area that was at the root of the bisexuality or homosexuality. This is different than cards like the J♣ and K♣, whose bisexual natures stem from a strong Aquarian influence.

Another common manifestation of the 3♥ is the uncertainty factor. This can be an extreme worry influence, and this worry is directed towards the romantic and relationship areas of life. It appears as an endless stream of questions about love such as "Should I really get married?", "With all the bad marriages today, isn’t it better to be single?", "Will I ever find happiness?" and "Is it possible to find someone that I am compatible with?". These questions are just the beginning. With a strong 3♥ influence there is a worrisome attitude about most relationships. Even in the midst of a good relationship, there is doubt and confusion.
When there is too much mental energy, we always find doubt and fear. Because the energy of the person does not focus itself on one path of affection for too long, they never get to experience what it is like to gain some ‘equity’ in any particular relationship. They never know what it feels like to just stay with one person for a long time, continuing to put good energy into the relationship until it pays off in the depth of intimacy that comes with commitment. Thus, the person with a strong 3♥ energy will tend to feel as though they are not getting enough love or at the least, be afraid that they will not get enough in the future. Often it is our own desire for variety that undermines the security and certainty that we seek in our personal relationships.

After all is said and done, we end up with exactly what we have put into our relationships, no more and no less. The 3♥ person is here to learn that lesson, and so are the 10♣, K♠, 8♦, Q♣, A♥, 6♠ and 2♠. These are the Birth Cards that are most affected by the 3♥ because of their connections. These are the cards with the uncertainty, both in love and sexual preferences, the cards that tend to get bored easily with relationships and seek variety, and those who often feel the most lack of love in their life because they don’t focus their affections in any particular direction for an extended period of time.

The 10♣ person has the 3♥ in Mars. Since Mars rules the passions, this card can create individuals that aggressively pursue variety in their love life. This also makes for great artists and performers who aggressively pursue their careers (look at Madonna and Shirley McClaine), but those who also feel a great lack of satisfaction in their love life.

The K♠ has that 3♥ in Mercury. Though we may not think that is such a strong influence, it turns out that it does show up that way, probably because this same 3♥ is their Mars Card in the Spiritual Spread.

The 8♦ has the 3♥ in Venus and this is a very strong influence for them. It also appears as their Saturn Card in the Spiritual Spread and for this reason, it creates more problems. Many 8♦ are very worried about their love life and fearful that they will never be loved the way they want. Examine their thoughts on the matter and you will find an inordinate amount of conflicting beliefs and ideas about love that can prevent them from having a stable and wholesome relationship. Once again, we also find a good amount of bisexual people of these Birth Cards as well. This really applies to all the cards mentioned here.

The Q♣ has a double dose of the Three energy, plus some other influences that can make their love lives a disaster. The 3♥ is their first Karma Card. It does represent a strong, but often hidden quality of theirs. Many times, they would not like to admit just how much indecision they have internally about their love life. But the 3♦ in Mars is also there and there is no denying it. Though they may profess to want commitment, there is much in their makeup that flies in the face of long term happiness.

The A♥ is the other card that has the 3♥ as a Karma Card. They are also the first card in the deck in the Spiritual Spread. They are those who are here to learn about love through experimentation. Thus, they will often need to go from one relationship to the next or try different sexual experiences in order to gather the experience they need to gain wisdom in this area.

The 6♠ and 2♠ are connected. They are Karma Cards to each other and both are connected to the 3♥ in a meaningful way. Thus, they both share some of each other’s influences. The 2♠ has the 3♥ as their Pluto Card. The 6♠ has the 3♥ in Saturn. Either one of these cards would represent some of the negative manifestations of the 3♥ at some point in life. The degree of the manifestation will depend upon the individual but it is always there to some extent. The 2♠ actually has some good marriage karma with the Q♥ in Jupiter, but sometimes getting to the altar is going to take some doing. With their strong mental character, they often try to figure out what love and marriage and love are about and they neglect their feelings and needs. This puts them on the mental treadmill of endless questions with no answers, much in the same way as the other cards mentioned here. The 6♠ person has deeper emotional wounds to tend to and a tendency to
ignore their feelings, but for different reasons than the 2♣. In their case, the Six energy tends to look upon emotions as being a bad thing and thus they fail to get in touch with the source of their relationship unhappiness.

Any card, regardless of what it is, can find happiness in a personal relationship. The card pattern is not meant to be a limitation, but more of a symbol that represents the ways we can expect it to manifest itself in individuals, both positively and negatively. The information in this article was meant to just provide an outline of the common manifestations of the cards as we see them in our society. Also, any person can consciously choose to manifest the more positive expressions of the 3♥, which are the creative and self-expressive qualities of the card. They are the successful performers, actresses, musicians and artists in our society. And in many cases, the people of these cards find some happiness having two or more relationships in their life at the same time, but doing so in a conscious, honest way.

The 3♥ symbolizes many things and it plays a unique role in the lives of each person it makes contact with. An in-depth understanding of all that it does and could represent can help us understand ourselves and reveal inner ways of looking at the world that create the fabric of the experiences that we attract to ourselves.

The Powerful Nine of Spades - 3/97

The 9♠ is one of the most powerful cards in the deck in terms of how much it can affect our lives. Studying this card and its effects on us brings a lot of information that can better our lives. All of us will have the 9♠ in our Yearly Spreads at one time or another. And some of us have the 9♠ as our Birth Card or Planetary Ruling Card. Or perhaps we know someone that does. In any case, the 9♠ affects us all in one way or another and this card can teach us a lot about life and the cycles that govern it. Many people have a big fear of Nines in general and the 9♠ in particular and perhaps this article may serve to replace that fear with a deeper understanding of life.

Those familiar with my writings will know by now that the number Nine represents the ending of a cycle. To understand this more fully we first have to realize that everything in our life has a cycle. Everything has a beginning and everything has an ending. Let’s say you get a new idea today for a new way to improve your health. This idea stage is the first stage of the cycle. You begin a new diet or exercise that helps improve your health. You go out and find and purchase the right equipment or resources needed and initiate the new plan. You follow the plan for a while and watch to see what happens. Each of these steps are steps of the life cycle of that plan which began with the original idea. The original idea can be thought of as the Ace in this cycle. The acquisition of necessary materials might be the Two stage. The Three stage might be reading books about it or talking to others about your new phase. We continue on in this cycle until we reach the Eight stage, the stage of fullness and power. When we reach the Eight stage in our life in regards to anything, whether it be a new health regime or a relationship, we are reaping the rewards of that thing to its fullest potential. It is important to stop for a moment here and really understand the importance of the Eight stage in order to fully understand and appreciate the Nine stage. At the stage of the Eight, this thing or person or idea or way of
communicating, whatever, is at it’s very peak for us. You may liken it to the fruit on the tree that has reached its peak ripeness. When it is picked at this moment, it will be the sweetest and have the most flavor. Any earlier than this and it will not be as sweet or flavorful. Any later than this and it may be too sweet or have a flavor that is undesirable. It could even begin to decompose after this. So at the Eight stage, we harvest the very best and the most from whatever it is that we are doing.

Following the Eight comes the Nine which says, "Okay, it’s over now. Time to clean up and prepare for the next cycle." So, one of the most important things to understand first about the Nine is that whatever is coming to an end right now is something that we have had for a considerable length of time and it is something from which we have already harvested all of the good it had for us. Whatever that thing is, the good it held for us has come and gone and anyone who has consciously gone through a Nine experience will agree with this. If everyone who had a Nine in their Yearly Spreads would just stop and think about this for a moment, much of their fear and trepidation about what they may lose would disappear. It is only our lack of awareness about the true nature of what is going on that makes us afraid. Many people see a Nine coming and immediately think "Something bad is going to happen to me." This is exactly the opposite of what is really true but because they are not looking closer at their life and what is going on, this is the best they can come up with. The Nine is actually a very important blessing. It is the cleanup and get rid of stage that prepares us to receive the next blessing that is about to come into our lives. "Only an empty cup can be filled". How can we expect anything new and good to come into our life when we are clutching on to things in our past? Not only do we cling to things in our past, but these are the things that are not doing us any good at all. But this is exactly what we do when, in our ignorance, we do not see that this thing that is ending is something that has already served us to its fullest capacity.

So the Nine can be seen as a liberating experience or as a tragic loss. It is actually neither of these. It is just the last stage in the life cycle of something in our life. The liberation and tragic loss labels are creations of our point of view. The only question that remains about Nines is which of these points of view will you choose? One way that you and I can use Nines is that when we see one or more coming in our spreads, we can let them remind us to stop and examine the situation for a moment and ask ourselves some questions. We can ask ourselves first of all, "Am I afraid of this Nine?" If so, then ask "What am I afraid of losing?" followed by "Is this thing that I am afraid of losing already lost (or over)?" The point is to identify exactly what is coming to an end and then take a closer look at it and see if it is not actually over already.

Many times what is over is not over the way we imagine it. For example a 9♥ can indicate a divorce or ending of a significant relationship, but it can also merely indicate that the relationship, in its present form, ends. The two people could actually stay together but sort of restart their relationship based upon new realizations that they have come to in their quest to perfect their being together. The same could apply to a 9♠ work situation. You may not actually lose your job, but instead get transferred or even promoted into a different position where what you do would be drastically different. So here we have another reason to stop and think before we get really scared about the coming of a Nine.

With all this in mind we come to the Spade version of the Nine, the 9♠, which is the most potent of all the Nines and is one of the three classic ‘death cards’. One week ago, from the date I am writing this article, O.J. Simpson received a guilty verdict in his civil trial. On that date, February 4, 1997, he was just two days into his Saturn cycle. What cards did he have in his Saturn period? : the 6♣ and 9♠. Did he die? No, as of this date he is still alive. Was there an ending in his life? Yes, that stage of his civil trial ended on that date. Did he like the ending? Probably not since the verdict went against what he was working for and may end up costing him most of his wealth. In this version of the 9♠, it fell in his Saturn period. The 9♠ occurring in Saturn is usually going to be a difficult ending for us, one that we would generally describe as a loss. It is
often a karmic ending as well. The 6♣ in O.J.’s cards was an indication that his ending had karmic implications, but Saturn is a karmic influence as well. This would make his ending a double-karmic one, which means that the events that transpired were a result of his words and deeds from the past more than they were from his actions at the immediate time of the current events. The 9♠ in Saturn is often, though not always, perceived as a tragic loss by the individual. But again, this would only be the case when this person is completely unaware of their own role in the events that transpired.

A 9♠ in Jupiter could bring a very beneficial ending or even one that is financially lucrative. It still may scare you, but there will be some obvious benefits from it. One client of mine was looking at a 9♠ coming in her Jupiter period. She confided in me that she was very afraid that she would lose her job. There had been many layoffs lately and she feared that she would be next. Sure enough, she was laid off during her Jupiter period. However, the Jupiter part of it was that she was given an entire year’s pay as a send off bonus. Because this was a very well paying job she had, it turned out to be quite a nice sum of money.

What the 9♠ is essentially is the ‘ending of a lifestyle’. Spades represent the things that we actually spend time doing in our life each day. When a 9♠ appears, the ending that it signifies will alter our lifestyle or schedule in some meaningful way. Now that O.J.’s civil trial is over, he will not have to spend as much time in court. This represents a change in his doing. I imagine he will initiate appeals to the verdict, but it is likely that he will not have to appear in court often to do this - that can be handled by his lawyers. Other examples of a 9♠ experience could be someone who quits smoking, who takes up jogging, changes professions, has a child, becomes crippled, loses his or her eyesight, starts a new job - really anything that causes what we were spending our time doing each day to come to an end. The 9♠ itself is neither positive or negative. It merely signifies that something we have been doing for some time has now reached that stage where, for us, it is over and no longer can bring us any good. If we acknowledge it and release it, we can remain happy and prepare for the new cycle that is about to begin. If we fight it or are simply unaware of the ending that is taking place, we can suffer more under the 9♠ than with most any other card. It can, in some cases, represent the ending of our life. In Saturn, it is a near certainty that the 9♠ ending will not come easily to us. It is probably an area that we have avoided for a long time or refused to acknowledge for some reason. But even there, the blow can be greatly lessened by a spiritual approach to the situation, keeping an open mind and so forth.

So this pretty well describes the 9♠ as a card found in our Yearly, Weekly, 7-Year or whatever spreads for some time period. By taking the position of any 9♠ that shows up and keeping in mind the cards that are found with it, one can derive a better interpretation for its meaning using the information that I have presented here. The last thing to talk about are people who have the 9♠ as a Birth Card or Planetary Ruling Card. In this case, we have a 9♠ experience that is in some ways destined to last an entire lifetime. That is a fairly hard concept for most people to grasp. How could an ending take an entire lifetime to complete? What kind of person would require an entire lifetime to finish up some aspect of their life? To understand this we have to take a broader approach to the interpretation of the 9♠ and expand our view of it to include some new concepts. Every 9♠ person is different but all have one thing in common. Something about their life or lifestyle is in need of completion. But here we are talking about things that are much more deeply engrained and often harder for the individual to see. Earlier I talked about how we suffer with an ending when we are unaware of how that something in our life had already run its course and brought us everything that it had to bring us. This same principle applies to people whose Birth Card or Planetary Ruling Card is the 9♠. Usually this person has, for whatever reasons, chosen to ignore the need for this ending and has perpetuated the thing or pattern much longer than the average person.

Perhaps in a past life, many 9♠ people were Eights who abused their power and reinforced this negative behavior with years of experiences of doing just that. Remember that the
Nine follows the Eight and that the Eight represents power. It could stand to reason that some 9♠ people are Eights that abused power before, especially when one looks at their current patterns. The 9♠ has a K♥ first Karma Card. Keeping in mind that the first Karma Card represents negative traits carried over from previous lives and that Kings represent power and authority, it is easy to imagine that many 9♠ people have issues around control or power. Another possibility is that a 9♠ person had some other habitual way of approaching life that had become so engrained in a previous lifetime that it now takes an entire lifetime to undo it. There are other possibilities as well but if you study the 9♠ people you meet carefully, you will sooner or later discover a negative pattern (Nine), often one connected to their health, use of will power, or their work (all governed by Spades), that has been an issue for them as long as they can remember. In some cases it is prominent and easy to spot while in others it is kept secret from others and is only known by those who are closest to them. I know one 9♠ person who lost his entire family, through various tragedies, before he was sixteen. He has had an ongoing struggle with his belief that he will fail at anything he does. Another 9♠ woman has had an ongoing struggle with a tendency to overeat and overindulge in other sensual pleasures. The variations are as endless as the personalities of different people but carry a common underlying theme.

On the positive side all 9♠ people have many opportunities in life to experience things that are usually denied the average person. These experiences will be of the spiritual kind. In their struggle to make the completions that are their destiny, they will have moments of revelation and clarity of understanding, in some cases experiences of what is called ‘universal consciousness’. At these moments, their understanding of their life and the lives of others will become crystal clear. They get the chance to glimpse the divine plan for all people and see their individual roles from this universal point of view. These moments become the inspiration for many of them to become involved in work that is of a spiritual nature - helping others and becoming someone that is available to others for compassionate support during times of need. These moments also give them the much needed understanding that helps them continue on their quest for freedom through what are surely to be difficult experiences at times. And, in some cases, these experiences become the catalyst for them to finally let go of the major negative pattern that they are working on in this lifetime. 9♠ people are not fated to have an entire lifetime of pain and suffering and struggle. Their destined transformation may occur at any age. When it does, their lives are generally transformed to ones of great happiness and contentment. As Nines they are all naturally givers to others but they become even greater givers once they have given away that which was hardest to give. Here I am referring to that particular pattern that is the main one they are here to let go of in this lifetime. The joy they experience is liken to a person who has just completed college and is on the stage to receive their diploma. There is a sense of accomplishment and freedom from the old that comes with a conscious completion in this manner. The transformed 9♠ may dedicate his or her life to giving something important to the world. Then they no longer are concerned with their own personal losses as they focus on the needs of others and how they can make a valuable contribution.

Beyond the Earth-bound Numbers - The Sixes through Tens - 3/97

The numbers One through Five in the cards correspond to the five fingers on our right hand (left brain) and the five planets that are visible to our naked eye. Five is the number of man and these five numbers represent our characteristics, talents and relationships with the things of the Earth. We might call these the mundane numbers or the Earth-bound numbers for this reason. Anyone who studies Astrology can relate to these first five numbers in the same way they relate to the first five houses in the chart.

When we step beyond the five we enter the unseen realms. In these realms there are unseen forces behind what is manifested. The next five numbers are the fingers on our left hand
(and right brain), the intuitive and spiritual side of our bodies. Though we have only discovered four planets beyond Saturn, it is likely that the Tenth planet will become common knowledge in the next century. The people whose Birth Cards are Six, Seven, Eight, Nine or Ten often seem to be directed by this unseen force and it is these five spiritual numbers that I talk about here today. It is these people collectively that remind us that our life as a human has elements that are superhuman at times and that our actions here on the Earth are often influenced by things beyond the Earth plane.

The first step out from the Earth-bound number is the Six. The restless quality and eternal search that is characteristic of the Five person finally finds the answer it is looking for in the Six. The Six, among other things, represents a communion with a higher intelligence that directs our actions into a particular line of work or activity that satisfies our deepest yearnings. Sixes have always been known as some of the most psychic people in the deck and all of them have available to them this inner voice that can direct them to the right path at any given moment. This divine connection that they have is mostly what distinguishes them from the other numbers in the deck and they are the first cards in the deck to possess it. The happy and fulfilled Six is the one that is guided by an unseen force and who is guiding others into a higher direction as well. They have been called the Bringers of Light, the Way-showers and the Gates to the Truth. Many of them are the Gurus, teachers, ministers, writers and counselors that either set an example for us to follow or create a path that we may walk in for more fulfillment. They are symbolized by the Six-pointed Star of David, which in its highest meaning stands for the age-old axiom, ‘As above, so below’.

People who are Sevens are demonstrating another unique and beautiful divine gift. Often the manifestation of that gift is quite spectacular. Look at Robin Williams, a famous 7♣. He has a unique ability to tap into a place, mentally, that is beyond this Earth plane, where there are infinite ideas of a comical nature. Many 7♣ possess some outstanding mental gift that they can access more or less at different times. With Robin we see a person who taps into that place every day.

But every Seven person can tap into a divine source of inspiration as dictated by their suit. It becomes possible for them when they release their earthly fears and concerns. They literally have one foot here and one somewhere else. That somewhere else is a place where there is limitless abundance and good fortune. Many Sevens demonstrate genius abilities of one sort or another, again usually connected to the expression of their birth suit. The Sevens symbolize for the rest of us that when we practice Faith, all the heavens open up to us and we are showered with blessings. The Seven person operating on this level is carefree and spreading this abundance wherever they go and to all they come in contact with. In the deck of cards used by the ancient Magi, the A♠ was centered in a pyramid. In the sky above were seven stars symbolizing the importance of this powerful spiritual number.

At first glance the Eight and people whose Birth Cards are Eight seem to be of the more mundane quality. If we picture an Eight as being two Fours, we can see just how they would have the appearance of earthiness that is associated with the Fours. Indeed, many Eight people even have that squarish, well-grounded appearance that we also find in the Fours. But the magical ‘power’ that these people exhibit is strongly connected to the will of God. Oftentimes God seems to make his will known through the actions, words and deeds of Eight people. When an Eight person aligns his or her self with the divine will, there is nothing they cannot accomplish. Eight is associated with the planet Pluto, the sign of Scorpio and the astrological eighth house. There is a strong element of transformation at work in their personalities - the process of death and rebirth, which is another divine characteristic. With the Eight person we often find that the will of God is for us to die only to be reborn anew. And it is the Eights more than other cards in the deck that often have more of the courage and tenacity that is required to make these self transformations. The Phoenix, long a symbol for the Scorpio, is very appropriate for the Eight person. Let’s not forget that this bird also has great power before, during and after its self-immolation.
Nine is the universal number. Universal implies having no boundaries and being connected to all things. In many ways it is the opposite of the Ace which has such a strong self identity. The Nine person tends to see themselves more as the whole than the individual within it. Their concerns and thoughts are just as often on the needs of others and the things they can do to help the world as they are on their own personal needs, which usually take the back seat. The Nine person is a paradox of sorts - an individual who identifies with all individuals. The Nine person making his or her highest expression will be compassionate, selfless, and dedicated to doing something that will better mankind. In return the Nine person is a open receiver for understanding about the true nature of the universe. Nines get insight into life that can fill them with great peace. We might picture them like a jet airplane that flies high above the Earth. Looking down from that perspective one can see all of the little dramas that all individuals are going through and have infinite compassion and understanding for their plight, while at the same time remaining calm knowing that all things are happening for a special divine purpose. The Nine is fearless because they have already given up everything there is to let go of. They are unattached and unfettered by anything on this Earth-plane. Their sustenance comes from a high spiritual source that is again, unseen by the Earth-bound person.

Finally we come to the Ten, which in many ways is liken to the Eight. But with the Ten we have two Fives joined together. If Five represents experience then the Ten represents what one can do with infinite experience. The Ten is like a ‘super Ace’. They have the ambition of the Aces along with an unseen wealth of wisdom and experience that gives their actions much more substance and generally greater and faster success than the Aces. The Ten may be considered to the most Capricorn, tenth-house number in the deck. They have this drive to excel, to create something lasting on this Earth plane, where all things are temporary and changing. Like the Eights, they often exhibit super-human powers in their work or deeds. They illustrate just what a person can do when they focus a lot of themselves upon a goal or direction. The Ten is usually a super worker of some kind. They have all the experience of the numbers below them and a desire to put that experience into a practical expression. Most of them have a desire for recognition as well, to be looked up to or at least looked upon as a good person. Saturn is exalted in the sign of Libra, where the considerations of others plays a prominent role. The Ten is a very Saturn card in its own way, but it goes well beyond Saturn in its desire for accomplishment.

It's a beautiful world that we live in. Here on both our hands are symbols that are reflected in our solar system and in the natural play of personalities and human dramas. The five spiritual numbers remind us that we are more than meets the eye and that some of the most beautiful expressions are inspired by things that are beyond the perceptions of our five senses.

My Techniques For Quick Relationship Readings - 5/97

I was noticing just how quickly I come up with connections for couples the other day and thought it would be useful to share how I do this. Though it is by no means a complete relationship reading, it definitely covers a good 80-90% of what is significant in any couple's life together. It's a good technique for those doing a lot of short readings as well, such as a radio show, psychic fair, or 900-line work. Some of you are probably doing something similar.

All you need are the charts of the Life and Spiritual Spreads, found on pages 318 and 319 of the old Love Cards book, on pages 342 and 343 of the new Love Cards book and in many other books on the cards as well. You also need to fully understand how to find out what any person's Birth Card, Planetary Ruling Cards and Karma Cards are. It is not very hard to learn this and if you haven't by now, get to it. Anyone using the card system should be able to tell you anyone's Birth Card, Planetary Ruling Card and Karma Cards just knowing the day they were born. If you don't, read up in either version of Love Cards to get it down. These cards are the
essence of the system in many ways. They are the personal significators, the cards that represent us and the cards that are used in a host of different kinds of readings.

That, actually is the first step I perform in doing a relationship comparison. Just make a mental list of each person's personal significators. This gives me a list of the cards I will be using to find connections between the couple. There are a couple of things to keep in mind in this step though, and that has to do with the Fixed and Semi-Fixed Cards. For those who don't know, there are three Fixed Cards, the K♠, J♥ and 8♣. For these three I would not use any of their Karma Cards because in the truest sense of the word, their Karma Cards are not their personal significators. The only thing these three have in common personality-wise is that they are fixed. They cannot be used as symbols for each other. Then we have the four Semi-Fixed Cards. They are actually two pairs of cards, the A♣ and 2♥, and the 7♦ paired up with the 9♥. Each card in either of the pairs is a wonderful mirror of the other, but not any of the other cards in the deck. So, if one of the people in our couple is, let's say, an A♣, we would use the 2♥ as a personal significator, but not any other of the Karma Cards listed in the Love Cards book. Similarly the 7♦ and 9♥ are personal significators of each other but of no other cards in the deck. These exceptional seven cards aside, the remaining 45 cards each have two Karma Cards, both of which are definitely personal significators of that card. What we want before going to step two is just to know exactly which cards each person has as significators. And one last note is that I do NOT use Personality Cards in this method.

Sometimes just doing this first step reveals something right away. For example, what if one person's Birth Card was a 9♦ and the other person's Planetary Ruling Card turned out to be the 8♦. Bingo! Right away I know that these two share a Moon Card connection, which is one of the most significant in marriages that I have found. That's because the 8 and 9 are right next to each other in the Spiritual Spread. If you recall, the cards in the Spiritual Spread are always in their perfect order from the A♥ to the 2♥ and so on till the last two, the Q♠ and K♠. Any two

![Image of The Spiritual Spread and The Life Spread](image-url)
cards that sit next to each other, whether it be in the Life or Spiritual Spread, enjoy a Moon connection. It’s just easier to find them in the Spiritual Spread because they always follow the natural order of the numbers and suits (Ace through King and Hearts, Clubs, Diamonds and Spades). So, if we find any personal significator of one person that sits right next to the personal significator of the other, we have a Moon Card connection.

And that's just what I do in the second step. I look for what I call the 'easy connections'. These are the connections that are easy to spot as in the previous example. For instance if one person has a significator that is a 3♠ and the other person has one that is a 9♠, I can easily subtract 3 from 9 and know that these two cards are six spaces apart in the Spiritual Spread. Six spaces apart is a Uranus connection. You see, all the connections in our Love Cards book are derived from how many spaces apart the cards are from each other, in any direction. To review, here is the number of spaces between cards and what the connection is based upon that.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spaces Apart (Any Direction)</th>
<th>Connection</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Moon Connection</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Venus Connection</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Mars Connection</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Jupiter Connection</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Saturn Connection</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Uranus Connection</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Neptune Connection</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Pluto Connection</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Cosmic Reward Connection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Cosmic Lesson Connection</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This spacing is easy to memorize and it will help you to know it by heart. From Moon to Uranus, you can go in any direction in the Life or Spiritual Spread. This means direct (from right to left), vertical (up and down), and diagonal. Look at the illustration on the previous page of the Life Spread. Find your Birth Card in that spread and go two spaces in any direction and you have all of the cards that share a Venus Connection with you. Just to clarify, let’s take an example. Follow this closely and you will see exactly how this works. Let’s say your Birth Card is the J♠. The Venus Cards for the J♠ in the Life Spread are as follows:

Direct: 6♦
Vertical: 3♦, 7♣
Diagonal: 10♠, 3♠

If you locate these Venus cards in the Life Spread illustration you will see how this space counting works. You have to understand how this works or you will not have the freedom to do these quick lookups for relationships. The same principle applies to the Spiritual Spread, but your Birth Card will probably be located in a different position.

Back to our second step, other easy connections would be things like when you find that one of the first person's significators is a Karma Card to one of the other person's significators. For example, let’s say your first person is born on July 7th and your other person is born on March 6th. This gives us the following information:

Person One - 7/7 8♦ Birth Card, 10♣ Planetary Ruling Card, Q♠ and 7♠ Karma Cards
Person Two - 3/6 4♦ Birth Card, 5♥ Planetary Ruling Card, 10♠ and 4♥ Karma Cards.

In this example, Person One's Planetary Ruling Card is the same as Person Two's first Karma Card. Even though the Birth Cards are not Karma Cards to each other, we get a sort of
Karma Card / directional transfer of energy through the Planetary Ruling Card of Person One. You may recall that in most Karma Card relationships, one person 'owes' the other. This is just another way of saying that one person will usually have to give more to that person. In this example, we would probably find Person Two giving a lot to Person One because the 4♠ 'owes' the 10♣.

The final step involves going into both the Life and Spiritual Spreads and looking for the connections between all of the significators of each person. I look direct, vertical, and diagonal. Keep in mind that the first connections you find are usually the most significant ones and that you don't have to find more than about 5 to get the whole picture. When I do this with someone, the entire process takes about a minute at the most. I quickly recognize their Birth, Planetary Ruling and Karma Cards and then look for the connections. Usually some major ones jump out at me right away just by seeing all of their significators. Then I proceed looking for connections until I have found 3-5. I always begin with the Birth and Planetary Ruling Cards when looking for connections. The Karma Cards, if I use them, come later and only if I haven't found enough connections already. Sometimes, you are dealing with a situation where one or both of the people involved are Leos, who have no Planetary Ruling Cards. When this is the case, you can expect that you will probably have to use the Karma Cards to find enough connections.

I carry a set of our wallet-sized cards with the Life and Spiritual Spreads on them in my wallet. That way, wherever I go, I can look up someone, and do either a life or a relationship reading. With a little practice anyone can master this quick technique and have the freedom to be a sort of 'traveling reader'.

Notes Along The Spiritual Path - 5/97

The Lotus Water Lily is a symbol that is often used to describe one who is on the mystic path. To be 'in the world, but not of the world' is very much like the lotus blossom that is sitting in the water, but is not touched by it. This implies a certain detachment from the drama that our life is and the drama that our world perpetuates. I was reminded of this one morning when I read the morning newspaper after a long and peaceful meditation. Here were all these terrible things being reported - news about the lives of people we call celebrities, countries fighting with each other, hundreds of thousands of people being killed every day, murder, rape, corruption, drive-by shootings and a host of other catastrophic problems that exist in the place we call our planet. One could easily spend an entire lifetime just lamenting over how much is wrong with our world today. Perhaps these are the days that have been forecasted by so many ancient texts, the last days preceding some great Armageddon. And yet, here I was, full of peace and contentment from having made my connection with my inner source and all of these events seemed so meaningless and distant. I saw, in that moment, how my past interests in politics and world affairs was just something that I created to pass the time while waiting for enlightenment. I saw that everything is happening in good time, under the direction of a master force and according to some divine plan. I saw all the greed, fear, violence and corruption as the individual dramas of certain people, all on their way to more understanding and peace. And in that moment I realized that none of that has to touch me or be an element of concern in my life. It is all being taken care of.

So, what should be my concerns in the here and now, I asked? What, if anything, is there for me to do? The answer came quickly, 'Just do the next thing and do it with as much conscious awareness as you have'. I had lost interest in the newspaper so I just put it away and finished my breakfast. Then I went to my desk to begin filling the day's orders, answering the phone when it rang and just being with whatever the day presented. As I did I felt a great relief come over me, a deep sense of tranquillity. No longer was I solely responsible for so much. God was taking care of it. It reminded my of a story my teacher once told to a group of us at the ashram where I lived for ten years.
The story goes that one man, walking along the road was met by another man riding on a horse. The man on the horse was peculiar in that he had balanced on the top of his head a large basket. It was obvious by the strain on his face that the basket was quite heavy. The man who was walking spoke up as he saw this strange sight, "Hey there, you with the basket on your head. Why do you carry such a heavy load on your head? Why don't you get off the horse and place the basket in the saddle?" The horseman, looking somewhat perturbed spoke up, "I don't want my poor horse to have to saddle such a heavy load, that is why I carry this basket upon my head." My teacher then explained that most people in the world are like the man on the horse. We don't want to burden God with our problems and take on many struggles in life, never realizing that God is already taking care of everything for us.

This, I now know, is the truth. We struggle so much and get so involved in our day to day dramas that we forget the master's plan is ceaselessly working on its own. To return to this knowing and being able to let go of my struggles, is a great relief and revitalizer. I experience the freedom of the Lotus flower and feel unburdened by the many dramas that surround me. Sure, there are times when I must act or make a decision as well. But for the most part, the story of my life is being directed by a much higher and much wiser force than that found in the space between my ears. And for this I am grateful.

George Carlin - Seven of Diamonds - 5/97

I recently ‘discovered’ the profound works of comedian George Carlin. I have heard of him my whole life, but never even listened to him once until about a month ago. On an HBO special I really got to hear his humor for the first time. I was amazed at how he could talk about everything from his dogs to politics and religion and he never seemed caught up in it all. Many comedians talk about political things but you can tell they have a definite personal point of view.

A book of mine has George’s birthday as 5/12/37, a 7♦. Of this, I am not surprised. 7♦ are known to be extremely creative. Many of you may remember that I have written how 7♦ are from some other planet. Well, here is a quote from George Carlin himself from his latest book, Brain Droppings.

“I have always viewed (the decay of our culture) from a safe distance, knowing I don’t belong; it doesn’t include me, and it never has. I do not identify with the local group. Planet, species, race, nation, state, religion, party, union, club, association, etc; I have no interest in any of it.”

I highly recommend George Carlin and his works. He has a few CD’s and his new book is just great. In his humor, he shows us just how screwed up we really are, without getting judgmental about it.

Exploring Your Seven-Year Spreads - - 7/97

You may not have gathered this yet from reading various books about the science of the cards, but your Long Range Card each year is part of a seven-year cycle. These seven-year cycles begin the day you are born. Your Long Range Card for the first year of life is also the same as your Mercury Card in that first year and, of course, the same as the Mercury Card in your Life Spread. If you haven’t realized it yet, that age 90 spread has a lot of significance. In essence that spread is all of the following and more:

1. The spread for the first year of your life
2. The spread for your entire life
3. The spreads for ages 45 and 90 (with some variations)
4. The spread for the first 7 years of your life
5. The spread for the first 7 weeks of your life*
6. The spread for the first 7 days of your life*

*Based upon some new research I am experimenting with

Wow, that is a lot of spreads! To understand all of that significance is one of the most advanced areas of this science but as you begin studying your Yearly Spreads, much of this will become apparent to you.

I invite you now to compare your Long Range Cards for let’s say the first forty nine years of your life with the Planetary Period Cards for the first seven years of your life. You will find that they are identical. For example, the Long Range Card for age19 is the same as your Uranus period card in the third year of your life (age 2 spread) and the Long Range Card for age 20 is the Neptune card in age 2 spread that follows the Uranus one.

What this can reveal to you is that the Long Range Cards are part of a seven-year cycle in the same way as the seven Planetary Period Cards are part of a yearly cycle. But here is where the subject gets more interesting.

Each seven years has a Long Range, Pluto, and Result Card too. Now this is some important information that those of you with an interest in this system can explore to derive even more information for each year. Before I explain how you can find these, in case you haven’t already figured it out, let me tell you more about these seven-year cycles.

Just as you have cards that govern each 52-day period of the year and other cards that govern each year, you have cards that govern each seven-year period of your life as well. These influences are broader to be sure. You have to think in longer terms in order to understand their meanings. For example, if you have a seven-year Long Range Card of the 5♣, you will probably find that for the entire seven years that you are experiencing a lot of changes and a general sense of dissatisfaction that causes you to travel and make important changes. Over the course of that seven years you may move three or four times, perhaps even get divorced or otherwise change relationships once or more. The seven-year Long Range Card doesn’t tell you specifically which year you will have these changes anymore than the Long Range Card each year tells you which period you can expect its influences to be more predominant. But it does foretell the changes themselves as being a dominant theme of that period in time. So, when you think about the seven-year influence cards, think in broader terms as you interpret them. You can use the same interpretations given in The Cards of Your Destiny book to get you started, just lengthen the time of their influence to match the appropriate time period just as you shortened them for the Weekly Reading.

We can use the Yearly Spreads in the book to derive our seven-year spreads and some of you have already figured out how to do this. In essence the spread for the first year of your life is also the spread for the first seven years and the spread for age 1 (the second year) is the seven-year spread for the next seven years. Just to clarify this I am providing you with the table below to use to make sure you have the correct years matched up with the seven-year cycle.

In our advanced level classes I teach how to do a complete reading which includes these seven-year cards. Often the information from these spreads can answer questions about events that occur over a longer period than one year. One particular thing to look out for is the seven-year Result Card for each cycle. What is significant about that card is that it represents a person

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<tr>
<th>Yearly Spread for Age</th>
<th>Governs 7 Years for Ages</th>
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<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>0 - 6</td>
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<td>7 - 13</td>
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<td>91 - 97</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>98 - 104</td>
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or experience that you will definitely have as you end that cycle. Using that information I was able to predict the birth of my second son, even though my yearly readings had no indication of his birth. My seven-year Result Card was the K♥, the father card. Just as I ended that cycle, my wife became pregnant with a son who was born later that same year.

I have found that the 7-year influence cards to be quite meaningful. These include the Long Range, Pluto and Result Cards. Advanced students can also derive the 7-year Environment and Displacement Cards by using the Grand Solar Spreads. But when we look at these cards that influence an entire 7-year period of time, we often get a very accurate assessment of how our life will be over a longer period of time. I pay special attention to all of these 7-year cards to locate trends in my life.

Remember to study the 7-year cards for both your Birth and Planetary Ruling Cards. Both will have an impact on your life and will reveal certain cycles that are occurring at any given time.

Another interesting thing you can derive when you look at these Yearly Spreads as also being 7-year spreads is that your Long Range Card each year is actually only half of a pair of cards. What we call the Long Range Card is the direct card of that period (which is a one-year period instead of 52-days). This reveals that there is also a vertical card as well. If you are using the Yearly Spreads to locate these 7-year spreads, notice which vertical card sits beneath your Long Range Card for any particular year. Just as in the Yearly Spreads, this vertical card will give additional information about the year in question. With this ‘second’ Long Range Card, you can derive more meaning for the long-range influences for any year of your life. The last part of this that also comes into play is that each Long Range Card is influenced by the planetary period it falls in. At birth we are in our Mercury year, Age 1 is the Venus year and so forth until we get to age 7 when we begin a new 7-year cycle and start with Mercury again. In effect, each year of our life has an overshadowing influence of the seven planets. For example, everyone at 23 is in a Mars year while everyone at age 47 is in a Uranus year. Sometimes this planetary influence can alter the meaning of our Long Range Card. For example, if you had an A♥ Long Range at age 46, you would in effect have an A♥ in Saturn as the yearlong influence. We must take all of these things into account if we are to really get into these 7-year spreads fully.

Don’t get these seven-year cycles confused with the 13-year influence of the Life Path Cards. In that cycle, each one of our Life Path or Life Spread cards governs a 13-year period of time. For example, the Venus Card in your Life Spread governs you roughly during the ages of 13 - 25. Those influences are in effect at the same time as the 7-year cards, but the 7-year cards change much more rapidly and are a bit more complicated to keep track of. That is one reason why these are advanced subjects. It can become a bit confusing to work with so many cards and cycles coming at you at the same time. One must find a way to keep them all distinguished from each other and keep a clear record of what they are.

Now, if you have this down pat, I offer you one further suggestion to peak your interest. What if that first Yearly Spread also governed the first seven weeks of your life and the first seven days of your life? Well, they do and you can use this same principal to come up with seven-week, weekly and daily cards. In our professional software programs you will find that feature is already there. And, you can visit our web site to get a daily card reading based upon the same principle.

The Unique Ability of Nines - 7/97

Just recently I found myself running into many people whose Birth Cards are Nines. This seemed unusual to me, as if there was some reason why I kept running into them. After about a week of this I began to think there was something about them that I had never acknowledged.
And that is that each of them has some unique gift or ability that is quite developed and powerful. I had noticed how many of the 9♠ people I know are gifted musicians, artists and performers. Then I began to notice the same thing with other Nines. Then it dawned on me. The Nine is the number that follows the Eight, which is the number of power and accomplishment. This means that people who are Nines in this life have just come from a lifetime in which they had a lot of Eight power and accomplishment in some areas of their life.

We are not always in a certain stage of development in every area of life. We might be just beginning a cycle (1-9) with respect to some areas of our life while in others we may be transitioning from any place in that cycle to the next step. For the Nine person it is apparent that they are here to do the final stage in some important area - and that along with it they bring with them the power and success that they had enjoyed in that area in past lives. This does not mean that a Nine person is accomplished in every area but I think that if you study them carefully you will find that they all have some area of their own in which they have a lot of mastery and power.

Three of the four Nines have royal cards as their first Karma Cards. The 9♣ has the Q♥, the 9♦ has the Q♦ and the 9♠ has the K♥. This implies a common theme among the Nines and that is the probability that they each misused their power in a past life for which they must work off some karma for in this lifetime. Remember that our first Karma Card is the one that represents an area where we have to develop more maturity and learn to access its energy on a more positive level. A royal card in the negative sense is often one who uses their power to get what they want while ignoring how their actions hurt others. That isn't the only message of any royal card, but it is one that they may all share in this sense. Each of those first Karma Cards has other messages as well. For example the Q♥ that is connected to the 9♣ Birth Card could also represent past lives where they overindulged in sensuality and that in this lifetime they have a tendency to do the same and it drags them down a bit. All of these little clues point to the things that each Nine must let go of in this final stage of evolution of a certain aspect of their personality and soul development.

The 9♥ is different than the other Nines because it is one of the Semi-Fixed Cards that has different karmic relationships than the larger group of 45 Birth Cards. Though the 9♥ has the 7♦ as its Karma Card, it is not implied by this that the 9♥ has the negative aspects of the 7♦ to contend with. The four Semi-Fixed and three Fixed Cards don't have two Karma Cards in the way that the remaining 45 cards do and so they fall outside of the normal interpretation. However, the 9♥ is still a Nine and they too have something important to release, having come here to complete a long cycle just as the other Nines do. And they too have some special gift, usually associated with working with people.

It’s interesting that the 9♣ and the 9♠ sit right next to each other in the Grand Solar Spread and that their first Karma Cards are the Q♥ and K♥. Hearts govern, among other things, the arts and music. It’s also interesting to see just how many people with these two Birth Cards have some unique ability in this area. But the main difference comes in their personal relationships. The 9♣ can be very dreamy and sensuous while the 9♠ with the K♥ Karma Card is often very strong-willed and independent.

I invite you to study all of the people you know who are Nine Birth Cards and find for yourself what their special ability is. Once I began to recognize this, I developed a lot more appreciation for them and for that last stage of development that we all pass through from time to time in our lives.

Pain and Unhappiness - the Inside Story - 7/97

If we examine the events and experiences of our lives closely we will discover sooner or later that all of our pain and suffering is the result of our mind's inability to perceive reality. It is
quite natural for us to use our mind to make plans and imagine our present and future life. But when these mental concepts conflict with what is really happening in life we experience pain. The extent of our pain will be exactly the extent of how much emotional attachment we had to the concept to begin with.

For example, let's say I am planning my own birthday party and I want everyone I know to be there. So I make a plan for let's say, 30 people coming to my party. I want them all to bring gifts and generally am expecting a great time where I am the center of everyone's attention. Well, what happens if only 10 people show up? If I was expecting 30 and only 10 showed, I could easily become unhappy realizing that only 1/3 of the people I planned for actually showed up. Just what I experience the moment I realize that only 10 people are coming will depend upon how much hope and expectation I placed on the number 30 to begin with. If I am the sort of person who equivocates my own sense of self worth with how many people come to my birthday party, this event could be devastating. Having only 1/3 of the invited guests show up could very easily be, for me, an indicator that I am only worth about 33% of what I imagined myself to be. I could easily say to myself, 'I am only 33 out of a hundred on the scale of desirability to others'.

There actually could be many reasons why a person could get upset if only 1/3 of the invited guests show up. Perhaps there was actually only one particular person that I was hoping, with all my heart, to show up. If only that one person didn't show, that would be enough to bring me a lot of pain and unhappiness. Even if all 29 others came, I could be miserable all evening because I placed so much attachment on that one person coming.

The key in all situations is not actually the plan that was made, but instead it is the attachment and expectation that is placed on the ideas or plans that are created. It is the nature of our mind to constantly make plans and bring us ideas and new visions for the future. But when we become emotionally or otherwise attached to any particular plan or idea, we immediately set ourselves up for a painful experience.

Not every plan we make with attachment fails. Sometimes we can get very attached and make things turn out the way we want anyway. Oftentimes, though, we hurt others in the process. A person who has become emotionally attached to a certain outcome is a person who is driven by fear. That person is usually unaware or unconcerned about anyone else's needs or plans except their own. In their desperate quest to get things to turn out according to their plans, they hurt others, often without even being aware of it. We become blind to a certain extent when we become strongly attached to anything. We lose our ability to see clearly as well. Some of people's biggest mistakes in life are made while they are aggressively trying to achieve something to which they are personally attached. They hurt others as well as themselves while in this state of mind. They can actually become very dangerous at times.

So what causes us to become so attached to certain ideas, plans, people, and objects? What is that compelling emotional drive that motivates us to act so irrationally at times? The internal attachment always comes when we imagine or believe that we are less than what we could be. To put it a little more bluntly, it is when we hate ourselves on some level that we reach out for something that will help us feel better about ourselves. If I feel that I am truly lacking a certain quality that I need to feel good about myself, and then if I find something, be it an idea, plan, person or thing that seems to be a remedy for my problem, I am very likely to become extremely attached to it. It is actually very simple but most people don't see it because they don't take the time to examine their own motives.

Self-hate is the most rampant disease in our world today. It is the cause of most of the crimes and physical diseases that afflict our planet. Though the scientists, psychologists and physicians of our world may suggest this or that as the cause of our problems, anyone with the 'eyes to see' can perceive the truth that lies behind the actions of men and women. At some point during the Aquarian Age, science will merge with spirituality and all of this will be part of the 'known'. But for now the world is steeped in ignorance so that only those who have done some inner study really know the truth about what is going on. Guilt and self-hate are the most
powerful negative force in this world we live and they lie at the root of nearly all of the other negative manifestations that we see in our world today.

Self-hate is the notion that we are not enough, that we don't have enough, and that there is something bad about us because of who we are. It often creates a drive in a person whereby they must 'prove' somehow that they are worthy. Anyone who is trying to prove their worth, by any means, is telling you that they don't feel or believe in their own worth. And it is so common for a man or woman to spend their entire life being driven by an urge for success or recognition, all because inside they feel worthless or unworthy.

What motivates our actions is much more significant than the actions themselves. As a society we tend to look up to people who make great accomplishments. What we don't do is look at these people a little closer and ask ourselves why they did the things they did. In all too many cases, people who achieved great things did so at the expense of other people because their entire motivation was a sense of self-lack. Would anyone really look up to someone whose entire life was an effort to disguise how much they hated themselves? Not likely, but because we only see the surface of things we fail to see that this is quite often the case. Self-hate is the most rampant disease on our planet and it is found nearly everywhere and affects most every aspect of life that one can imagine.

Looking beneath the surface of things and getting to the ‘truth behind the veil’ is what the spiritual sciences are all about. If astrology and the science of the cards have any real value, it is in their ability to help us perceive our inner motivations, fears, attitudes and other factors that are the real cause of the world we live in. We are, after all, made in the image of the divine. We have been given this power to create our lives to whatever extent we are willing to take responsibility for. Ultimately we must surrender our will to that of the creator and we will merge into him to become truly everything. Along the way, an in-depth study of our pain and suffering can reveal many important realizations.

The Six of Diamonds Missionary - 9/97

Nine months ago I had the very good fortune of receiving a phone call from a very uniquely interesting man. Through a student of the cards named Chava Golden, I got a call from a Bishop of an Episcopal Church in New York City. What was so unusual about this Bishop was that he is a mystic and a psychic. The Bishop Bernard Jordan and his wife, known as Prophetess, together lead a congregation of very forward thinking metaphysical followers and priests. Let's face it, you would have to be very progressive to even acknowledge psychic phenomena but the Bishop was very interested in the Science of the Cards and wanted to learn more about it. Then, about three months ago I received another call from the Bishop with whom I had kept in contact with by occasional phone calls. This time, without knowing anything about our personal plans he asked me about why we hadn't moved yet. My wife and I had been thinking of moving for a couple of years but didn't know when would be the right time. The Bishop told me that it was time to get going, now. As he said this, something within me knew that this was the sign we had been waiting for and that now was the time to make our plans to leave California. We didn't know where we were to move yet, but we both knew finally that the time had come.

As I write this article I am returning from a journey to New York where I taught a select group of the Bishop's priests and priestesses about the Science of the Cards. And, as a result of his word that came at that timely point in my life, we are moving to Tennessee in three weeks to start a new life in a new area of the country. I mention all of this just to illustrate the 'power of prophecy' as the Bishop calls it. His is a ministry of prophecy and New Age mysticism and he is doing some incredible good and important work.
Our Bishop Jordon is a Gemini 6♦. He is the first 6♦ that I have personally met who is actualizing the highest potential of his Birth Card. All Sixes have the inner potential to take upon themselves an important mission in life to raise the hearts and minds of people in the world. I have personally known many 6♣ who have fulfilled this mission, including my own master, Yogi Amrit Desai, with whom I spent ten years of my life. But each of the Sixes will perform their work in an area designated by the suit of their Birth Card. In the case of Bishop Jordan, his work is in the realm of values, governed by the Diamonds in his Birth Card. I had the good fortune to attend his Sunday service at their church, the Zoe Ministries in Manhattan today and to see his brand of teaching. It was pure 6♦ on the high side and I would like to explain more about that. It is instrumental to all of us who are studying the cards to watch people and learn from them.

I would like to begin by showing you an illustration of the 6 of Pentacles Tarot card, taken from the Ryder-Waite deck. This is the card that corresponds to the 6♦ in our deck. The illustration on that card is one that I never quite understood completely until I met the Bishop. On this card you will find a picture of a man, holding a set of scales in one hand, distributing money to the poor with the other. It is as though he is weighing each person's soul or personality before deciding how much to give them. From this illustration we might say that "To each shall be given what their inner value will allow." In other words the real amount that he gives to each is determined not by some external measure such as how one dresses, speaks or acts, but instead by their own inner state, what we might call self-worth. And, as I watched Bishop Jordan's sermon today I realized that this is one of his main messages.

The topic of his sermon was centered around our Kingdom of Heaven being within ourselves. But one of his main vehicles for helping those in his fold realize their inner kingdom is their relationship with money and value. Bishop Jordan has no trouble admitting that he is fabulously wealthy. His entire presentation, both personally and professionally is one of wealth and opulence. He rides in nothing but the finest cars, has murals of himself, wife and children painted in the rooms of his spacious and opulent residence, and does literally everything in a grand style. At the beginning of his own sermon he starts off with the offering where members of the congregation have the opportunity to make a donation to the church. He begins this by saying, "Everyone stand up who want to make a thousand dollar donation today". Seeing this, I am sure that some people could think that he is a scam artist, using his followers for his own benefit. But the person drawing that conclusion couldn't be further from the truth. By his display of wealth and asking for what some would consider huge donations without hesitation, the Bishop is setting the true example of prosperity for his followers.

The Bishop is also a very giving person - something I also observed in the three days I spent with him. He obviously receives a great deal in his work at the church but I witnessed him giving just as freely over and over again. This is the mark of a person with true prosperity consciousness, something we all could learn from and benefit from by emulating. I feel especially fortunate to have been brought into contact with the Bishop and though I was there to teach him...
and his followers something of the mystic sciences, I learned a great deal about giving, receiving, and the redistribution of wealth that are key traits represented by his Birth Card. I also saw, by comparison how I could further expand my own personal relationship to money and value to make room for increased prosperity and good fortune. If you have the opportunity to be in New York some Sunday, I suggest you drop by the church and take part in the daily miracles of love and truth that are a part of that thriving community of spiritual aspirants. If you need more information about how to find them, don't hesitate to call or write.

The Cards Verses Our Personal Power - 9/97

After doing literally thousands of readings I have seen practically everything that we humans get into. In each reading I do I strive to give my client information that will really make a difference in their life. The cards often provide such information as does astrology but I know for certain that without the personal efforts of my client nothing will change in their life.

Just recently I was doing a reading for a client and in the middle of the reading he stopped me with a disappointed look on his face. I asked him what was going on. He told me that he was a little disappointed in my reading. I asked him why, but sensing what he was thinking I asked him to elaborate on what his expectations were of the reading. I said to him, "If this reading could be just exactly the best reading you ever had, what would it look like?" He responded by asking, "In a perfect world?" I said, "Yes, if this reading could be everything you would like it to be, how would it be?" He then said "Well, you would look into my future and tell me exactly what I would do and my life would be better. You would say something like I would read the paper, see this incredible job offer, and then go and apply. I would make millions of dollars and live happily ever after." I really appreciated him describing this for me and I told him so. Then I told him that I would never give him a reading like that. I told him that I knew that even if I did tell him exactly what to do that would really work and make him happy that he wouldn't do it. What good would it be if I were to tell him what would be the best thing to do if he had no interest in doing it? Then I told him that if I were to make an honest prediction about his future that I would be willing to bet that his life would be pretty much the same from now on, but getting a little worse each year. Now that's a shocking thing to tell a client! Your life is going to stay the same but worse for now on. But anyone who sincerely looks at people's lives and their patterns will tell you that this is the norm of our society.

After I let that statement sink in for a few moments I began to explain how he could have a better life and just what it would take for this to happen. It is never my intention to just give my clients bad news. In fact I really believe in my heart that all of us are going to 'make it' someday. It's just that for some of us it's going to take a long time. We have to go through tremendous pain before we are usually willing to let go of the patterns that we have that are in conflict with reality.

So, in any reading I do, I first get to know my client a little. I know what all the cards and all of the astrological transits and planets mean. But how these will actually show up in someone's life is completely dependent upon their personal intention and the ways they are currently using their personal power. One of my teachers, Arne Lein, once told me how people's attitudes can completely change their destinies. He mentioned several of his clients who had the greatest cards and transits but whose negative attitude blocked any good fortune they may have experienced. Contrast this to someone who, let's say, becomes a millionaire one year when they have the 10♣ in Jupiter.

I often appear as a guest on radio shows around the country where people call in for a mini-reading. It always intrigues me when I get calls from people in their seventies who are on fixed incomes and who are asking me about their finances. I know what is going to happen to them - essentially their financial fortunes are fixed. It will not matter what their cards or astrology
transits are, their finances are just not going to change that much. Every card in the deck has many meanings. Our cards always reflect what is going on in our lives but we cannot pick a meaning for a card that we want if we are unwilling or unable in some cases to do what it takes to take advantage of that influence.

This leads me to the main point of this article and that is just what the cards and astrology are and what they are not. Everyone likes the cards a lot, especially when they look into their past and see just how accurately their cards describe what happened to them. But it is when we begin playing with the future that most people get it all wrong. Essentially people tend to do two things that are wrong. First they really worry about the bad cards they see in their future. They get all upset when they see a 9♠ or an A♠ in their future. I remember when my oldest sister called me up one day shortly after learning how to read her destiny. She said, "Robert I am going to die." "What?" I said. "Well I looked into my cards and in seven years I have the death card." I then went on to explain how the cards have several meanings and how death cards come up frequently in life. Only one of those many death cards will actually represent our physical death. Anyway, this is a common mistake that people make using the cards in reference to their future.

The other mistake is that they get all worked up about good cards, thinking that the good cards will do for them what they refuse to do for themselves. I have many single, female clients who just cannot seem to get a relationship going. They are attractive and successful but just can't seem to find a man. I have gotten calls from them that go something like this: "Robert, I had this great card for a love affair this year and nothing happened." The implication is that the cards are all wrong and undependable. But I can tell you that the cards are 100% accurate. So, what is going on here? In each individual case, these women are internally blocking the possibility of love coming into their life. Though they profess wanting a relationship badly, none of them are actually doing the things that people who really want a relationship do. This is evidence of a powerful struggle going on inside of them. Part of them really wants to have a relationship while another, more powerful part of them doesn't. Unfortunately, in these cases the part that doesn't want the relationship is far stronger than the part that does, even though these women are largely unconscious of that other part. This particular pattern is fairly commonplace these days and is found in a lot of career women's lives.

So, how are we supposed to use our cards in relationship to our future? If we are to access them in the highest way possible, what must we do? This information is so important that I hope everyone using the cards will read this and understand it. The cards, and astrology for that matter, are guideposts for us. Each year there are challenging influences and beneficial influences. A person who is conscious of their internal state can always get the very best from every card they have. All that it takes is self-awareness. I use my cards to plan my future, knowing my own limitations and being aware of my own inner conflicts at the same time. I know now that nothing will manifest itself in my life if part of me is rejecting it. I continually strive to pay attention to my feelings, my fears in particular. It is these fears by in large that represent the often subconscious elements that affect my destiny. If one does not know their own fears and internal conflicts, little is possible in terms of having the power to shape their destiny.

Many of you have read my articles on following the planet Jupiter's transits for continual success. I have personally used this for the past seven years with great success and plan to keep on using it for the rest of my life. But I have also seen areas in my own life where my own internal struggles have blocked what Jupiter may have brought me. The same goes for the cards. There are really great cards each and every year of our life. The Jupiter, Result and Environment Cards are always good. But do we have an opening within our consciousness to allow these good things to come in? That is real question. The question is not 'How good are my cards this year?' but 'How much good can I allow to manifest in my life this year?' Once we become aware of how powerful we really are we will be able to use the cards to write our own success story. What's first in your script of the future? Only you hold that key.
The Cards of Moves and Changes - 9/97

It is most appropriate that I write this article now since our family is moving across the country within a month. This being such a big move for us would surely prove to be helpful in showing what cards may be present during such a change. Typically we associate Fives with moves and travel but when it comes to actually leaving one's home and moving to another, many other factors come into play, all of which can show up in the cards in many ways. We are actually moving from one end of the country to the other so this qualifies as being a move of major significance for all of us.

As in all other cases, the cards that do show up during a person's life at the time of a major event will tell you what that event is to them, not necessarily what it appears to be on the external level. For example, at the time of the murder of Nicole Simpson and Ron Goldman, O.J. Simpson had no cards indicating a personal tragedy or loss. Instead he had cards of success and accomplishment, which indicated to me the successful completion of a plot to get back at Nicole for the supposed injustices she had inflicted on him. Another example is when someone dies. Whatever cards you find at that time will tell you what that death was to them - not what you or I might imagine death to be. For some death may be a 9♥ - the ending of key relationships while for others it may be a 9♦ - loss of personal possessions. And in some cases a death may appear as a Five indicating that for that person it is just a new adventure and experience. So, I wasn't surprised when I discovered that Katherine and my son Michael all had such different cards for the time of our big move.

Before we had a definite date for the move I guessed when the move would take place by looking at my cards. This particular year I had an A♠ in Venus and a 5♠ in Uranus. I figured it would happen in one of these periods. Venus rules the home and family and Uranus rules real estate in general. The A♠ in Venus would mean a rebirth in the home, which could possibly translate as a move to a new home. The 5♠ in Uranus is a classic move card, probably one of the strongest, though it does have other possible meanings as well. the 5♠ is the strongest of all the Fives and generally indicates a long trip or a complete change of job or lifestyle. In Uranus it generally indicates property changing hands or a move. It turns out that this move is occurring during my Venus period where I have the A♠. Knowing this now, I can predict that this move will have a profound effect on me because the A♠ is such a card of transformation.

For my wife Katherine this move occurs in her Uranus period, which as I have said is the period generally associated with changes of real estate. But the card she has for this period in her Birth Card's yearly spread is the 9♥. For her this move is more about all of the relationships that are ending. It is a major thing for her to let go of nearly every relationship she has cultivated here and start over again. Even though the move is a month away she has already cried a couple of times realizing how some of her key relationships are ending. In her Planetary Ruling Card spread she has an 8♦ which displaces the 4♥ in the Life Spread this year. The 8♦ in Uranus is an indicator of the purchase of a house or real estate. This move has quite a lot of financial details and does involve the largest purchase we have ever made. It is interesting that Katherine's Long Range Card in her Birth Card spread is the 9♠. She and I both felt that it was time to leave California, though we don't have any particular reason for it. The 9♠ as the Long Range Card always indicates that some significant chapter of life is coming to a close. Though I don't have a Nine Long Range this year, I am displacing the 9♠ which is just as potent. This just feels like a Nine year for our whole family, which is a year of major endings and completions.

My 15-month old son, Michael will have the move in his Mars period where he has a J♠. The J♠ can always indicate a change of lifestyle and usually a change for the better. Though you wouldn't normally associate it with a move we have to consider the fact that Michael is only a
year old. Whatever changes he perceives will in some way represent a new lifestyle for him, hopefully a better one.

Venus represents our home and family and any card in that period could represent some change or events occurring in relation to our home or house. That is why any Nine in Venus could represent a move to a new home. The A♠ carries much the same meaning as a Nine. And of course any Five in Venus could represent a change of residence.

For all students of the cards it is a good idea to learn about them from the cards that people have. There are essentially two approaches to learning them. The first is to memorize their meanings and then try to make predictions based on that. The second is to simply see what happens in someone’s life and see what cards correspond to those periods of time. I always use the second technique. It has taught me more about the cards than anything else I can think of.

**Occupational Cards - 9/97**

This article will help those who are searching for the right career and those who are seeking to place people within their company into the right positions. I will be discussing individual cards and their qualities in relationship to work and career. As you read this, be sure that you are thinking of both the Birth Card and Planetary Ruling Card of whatever person you are considering. Both will combine to give us the whole story about any individual. In the case of those who are of the sign of Leo we have a doubled influence of their Birth Card, which serves to make them a more dramatic example of their Birth Card. Scorpios have two Planetary Ruling Cards to consider, though often the two are related. Still it would be a good idea to look at both of them for particular qualities that would effect their work or career.

There are many factors to consider when looking at any one individual to see the kind of work they might choose or need. First of all, our work can be something that we choose because it comes easily to us or something that we choose because we need to do that work to improve ourselves and develop parts of our personality that are weak. Not everyone chooses work that is ideal for them. So, one of the first things to get in touch with for any individual is what are their personal issues as related to their work. For example, many cards have a need for recognition, which would cause them to gravitate towards occupations that bring this recognition from others. But how many of them have this need because of an inner belief in their own worthlessness or because of some insecurity that only great recognition will make them feel better? Always seek to know yourself or if you are using this information to help others, seek to understand what issues are associated with their work or career.

Here are some of the factors for each Birth Card that affect their career and work:

1. Their Birth Card - this is the soul's expression in this lifetime. This is a gift that each of us has along with a strong identity that will always make itself known in our work. Not just the choice of jobs will be affected, but the reasons why we are doing it are found here. For example, all Queens are mothers on some level. Whatever work they are doing, it is their way of nurturing others along in their growth and development.

2. Their Planetary Ruling (PR) Card - because of our identity with this card we often integrate this into our work as well. Our occupations must satisfy the needs of this card as well as our Birth Card. In many cases the PR Card determines what career we choose while the Birth Card chooses why we do it.

3. Our first Karma Card - represents past life traits we have brought into this life which require some improvement from us. It is often a symbol of personality traits that we abused in a former life and now must deal with to learn how to use them correctly. For example, the 7♠, 8♠ and 9♠ all have Kings as their first Karma Cards. In each of these examples these people have past lives of abuse of power in some way and in this life must learn to use their power with more
awareness. For this reason, these people may gravitate towards a profession that allows them to work out this karma and improve themselves in this area. Always be aware of the first Karma Card as it can be the reason a certain profession is chosen or not.

4. Our second Karma Card - is the opposite of the first, representing past life good karma or traits and abilities that come easily to us in this life because we used them for good purposes previously. This card can represent our career when we are going for a career that comes easily and naturally to us. Many people who have "ideal jobs" are doing work represented by their second Karma Card. In all cases our second Karma Card are qualities that can be integrated into our work with good effect, bringing ease and success. The Jupiter Card has a similar role.

Note: Keep in mind that the Fixed and Semi Fixed Cards don't have first and second Karma Cards so these last two sections do not apply to them.

5. The Jupiter Card in our Life Spread - This card often reveals areas where money and financial success come easiest to us. If we study this card and its meaning, along with its Karma Cards, we can find ways to have more financial success with less effort. Many of us choose work represented by this card because that is the way we make our living the easiest. We can always fall back on it when we need to. For example, anyone who has a Five in Jupiter can make money at sales.

6. The Saturn and Cosmic Lesson Cards in our Life Spread - both ruled by Saturn which is intimately connected to the concept of career, ruling the career house (10th) in astrology. These cards often represent how our work is perceived by others in our life or how our work contributes to others. In many cases our Saturn Card is what we are known for or how others see us. The Cosmic Lesson Card has a similar role, though it will represent our work seen on a more universal level - such as what contribution we are making to the world at large instead of to the individuals we come into contact with personally. We are inevitably drawn towards these two cards in our work.

So all of these factors must be examined in the light of whatever person you are studying. Look at their past occupations as indicators of what issues and needs are prominent in relationship to their work. This will clue you in to what choices they will make in the future and give you some ideas of alternative ways that they could meet their inner needs, perhaps with more success.

Here are some keywords for the numbers that can help get you started.
Aces - ambitious, self-gratifying, passionate, impatient, goal oriented.
Twos - organized, people-oriented, communicators, detail oriented
Threes - creative, artistic, needing self-expression, scattered and worried.
Fours - organized, hard workers, system and structure oriented, home-makers, foundation, maintaining stability
Fives - restless, sales, people-oriented, seeking new experiences
Sixes - peace-seeking, good workers, mediators, missionaries
Sevens - gifted and creative, seeking internal freedom from worry and fear, wanting to exemplify living in the light
Eights - power oriented, good workers, sometimes bossy or pushy
Nines - the givers and counselors
Tens - ambitious and self-oriented, drawn to groups, very goal oriented
Jacks - creative and playful, youthful, desires recognition
Queens - motherly leadership, high-strung egos
Kings - responsibility and leadership, high-strung egos

Now, I will just give some general parameters for all the cards in the deck. This is not meant to be a complete treatment but just some notes of interest for each card. To be complete
you must take one individual and explore all the factors previously mentioned. To begin with I would separate people into groups of like qualities as such:

1. Those who are workers and organizers
2. Creative and sales types
3. Leaders

In general the even numbered cards are best for just getting the job done while the odd numbered cards are best for creative ideas and sales. Cards with the best leadership potential are the Queens, Kings, Tens and those in the Crown Line (8♦, 10♣ and K♠).

Aces and Tens are generally the most ambitious and driven but any of the Spade cards can be workaholics. You wouldn't want to put a person such as a Three, Five or Ace or Jack in a position that was tedious and repetitious. Their natural diversity and creativity would find them figuring out ways to avoid that kind of work. Similarly you wouldn't usually choose a worker type such as a two, four or six to do your sales work.

If you are a two, four, six or eight, it is likely that you do well at organizing and keeping things running smoothly at your job. You are generally a worker type and not necessarily a leader, though through your hard work you may be promoted into a leadership role. Companies often promote the best workers into positions of responsibility, which isn't always the best idea since the best workers don't always make the best leaders. This is called the Peter Principle, being promoted into a role in which you are not so competent. However, many people with these Birth Cards have Planetary Ruling Cards of leadership, which would fit them. The Gemini and Virgo 2♣ (5/30 and 8/24) for example, both have the K♣ as their Planetary Ruling Card which would give them leadership potential along with their great knack for detail and organization. They would often end up as team leaders or bosses. The reverse would hold true as well such as the Aries K♣ (3/23) who would have a 4♦ Planetary Ruling Card. This person would have both qualities and could do both equally well.

Aces and Tens are very ambitious in general. Their motives are more personal and self-oriented than other cards. They want to achieve a lot and often seek the recognition for their accomplishments. Some of them will take a leadership role because that is the means to their achieving their goals, not necessarily because they enjoy it or are well suited for it. But some of the Tens have more leadership potential because the ten often represents groups of people. This is certainly true of the 10♥ and the 10♠, both of whom often end up in front of groups in some way. If I were placing an Ace in a company, I would do so in a position that would allow them to really work hard and get a lot of recognition for it. For the A♦, that recognition would be represented by how much money they make. The A♠ would be more concerned with how much they are learning and the A♣ would just want to see how much work they can get done. The A♥ is very ambitious and personal about their work seeking fulfillment on more personal levels through their expression.

The Twos are usually very good at talking and speaking. Many of them also have a knack for organization and are good with computers. Their job would be best if it involves working with others frequently. They make great editors, programmers, analyzers, quality control, research people and other roles that require attention to detail. Aces tend to not place much attention on detail because they are often more interested in just getting the job done than in the details of how it gets done. The A♠ would be an exception to this as Spades tend to place a lot of value on the quality of what they do. Back to the twos, their fine minds are good at making distinctions. You would want them in a position where they could locate errors and deviations in work that others may not be as interested. The 2♣ usually ends up in business for themselves but if you have the good fortune to hire one they are great with talking on the phone and setting up business deals, keeping the office organized. The 2♠ usually excels at most any work requiring logic and detail.
Some of them have the greatest minds around but the Planetary Ruling Card may often determine just how they use that mind or where they decide to place themselves work-wise. Many of the Capricorn (1/12) 2♠ get involved with work that puts them in front of the media because of the 10♠ Planetary Ruling Card. Take Howard Stern and Rush Limbaugh for example. The 2♥ has very good organizational skills though the heart quality of their Birth Card may inspire them to find the right person to work with more than the right job. All 2♥ have a 2♦ Planetary Ruling Card so they often do end up in business and love partnerships combined.

Threes of course are the creative ones in the deck. Jacks are as well but the threes brand of creativity also gives them a short attention span and a need for variety on the job. They are generally great talkers and are good at promotions, selling and other creative financial enterprises. The creative urge is so strong in them that many start businesses producing and selling their own art or whatever it is that they create from their own ideas. Some of them can be quite detailed though this isn't their natural inclination. Every three needs a place to express themselves. And most of them need a variety of ways to express themselves. Two jobs are common or at least two roles at the same job. Be sure you have a position that has some variety to it for any three you are hiring. A little travel thrown in would also entice many of them. The 3♥ has executive ability because of their 10♠ in Mars. But many of them are very artistic as well. The 3♠ can make fortunes talking on the phone or writing. And they love making good money. Expect to pay a lot for their services and to get a lot for it. They make good promoters as well. The 3♦ is likewise talented on the phone. But they are also financially creative and come up with some good ideas. If they get an opportunity to speak to groups they can project a powerful presence and are generally well received. The 3♣ usually ends up in some hands on work of a creative nature. But these folks also have great sales and promotional ability due to the J♦ second karma card.

Fours again are the organizers. They are interested in security and stability and will promote that in whatever position they are in. They will help maintain the foundation of your business in good order. They are good at systems and procedures, following the rules and keeping things running. They are all destined to be workers. Some become leaders but they still have to work hard at what they do. Fours excel as office managers making a great contribution to any business or enterprise by keeping things in order. They are not known for their great ideas or broadmindedness though they do have a progressive side that brings in some new things from time to time. The 4♥ is more interested in the people they are with but some of the birthdays, such as the Scorpio (10/31) get involved in big business with ease. The 4♦ is the Virgo card of Virgo cards having all the detail orientation one would desire. Their Planetary Ruling Card might show you what occupation their detail is expressed in. The 4♣ is usually very good with money handling and accounting. They bring a sound sense about money into whatever occupation they choose. The Pisces 4♠ (3/19) for example may get into acting or stage work because of the 8♣ Planetary Ruling Card. But even so, they will do that job in a detail and organized manner. And in their personal lives they will keep their finances on a short reign. The 4♠ is mostly a homemaker. However they have a great mind (10♣ first karma card) and can excel at any organizational task. They are usually workaholics or devoted family people.

Our Five friends usually need a certain amount of freedom in their work. Either that or it should entail travel and changes on a more or less regular basis. They are all great promoters of things, often ending up in sales positions. But their broad experience of life helps them relate to people on all levels so they just do well wherever there is people contact. They usually do not want to feel confined or limited by any role they play. They may rebel against authority as a means of preserving their freedom as well. Their restless nature will require changes from time to time so they may not be counted on for years of service in any one capacity. Sometimes the Fives have some outstanding mental gifts. They all have the ability to understand even the most foreign concepts. But they are generally not suited for routine sort of work or work that seems to limit their freedom.
Sixes can be very responsible or irresponsible but usually the former. The 6♥ and 6♠ are both worker cards, having strong fours in their Life Path that give them the strong work ethic. All sixes are competitive as well and many end up in professional sports as a result of this tendencies. They must watch out for becoming too political or involved in ‘righting the wrongs’ of the world. Their sense of justice could become exaggerated to the point that they become crusaders. The 6♣ and 6♦ both have great potential because their Life Path moves into the Crown Line. Many of these people end up in high positions or receive great recognition for their work later in life. All sixes are happiest when they are working some job that contributes to helping others. Many of them become spiritual teachers or leaders. When they find their mission in life, they proceed along with great success. Their natural psychic ability can also be cultivated to be a part of their work.

Sevens all have some unique gifts, just as the nines do. Most of the sevens are associated with power cards such as eights or kings. They often wield a lot of power in whatever work they do. But on the other hand they have a side to their personality that makes them very amiable and understanding of others. Some end up as counselors as a result. The 7♥ has power with people along with a fine analytical mind that gets them involved in creative financial positions. But their greatest gifts lie in the areas of helping others, perhaps in a counseling role. The 7♠ generally wants to be noticed (8♦ first karma card). They have some unique mental gift but also a tendency to worry at times and to be overly critical. They can apply this critical mind to doing detail and tedious mental work when they choose. And some gravitate towards spiritual knowledge as part of their work. The 7♦ is a creative financial genius when the person is happy. They are artistic as well and can translate their ideas into money. They can be irresponsible at times and are very fixed in their natures. They will tend to have major changes in job or residence on a regular basis. They do often excel in sales and promotions. The 7♣ has business acumen and leadership ability. Though they may have strong spiritual inclinations, they usually express their work talents in the business arena.

The eights are the power cards of the deck. They can accomplish a great deal but often others get bowled over in the process. With all of the power at their disposal sometimes they are unaware of how their words and deeds affect others and thus will cause friction among fellow workers. Some of them become bullies. But they will get the job done and if that is the most important thing, they can be just the right person for the job. The power expressed in an eight person either exalts them or brings them down and each person may express it differently. The 8♥ is a charmer and will be most effective in positions working with people where their influence can be effective. However, many of them have great minds and are attracted to teaching or one of the mental fields. All of them enjoy being part of a group and are in some way the leader of some group they are a part of.

The 8♣ is the mental giant whose ability can be expressed in a variety of occupations. From teacher to rocket scientist these people are fit to tackle any work that involves great concentration of mind. They are one of the more unusually successful of all the cards in the deck and will add to most any business unless their card is a negative influence on some of the people they work with. For example, the 8♣ is Saturn to the K♦ so a K♦ person would be criticized a lot when with them. The 8♦ wants to make money so they can spend it. But they also want to achieve some measure of recognition in the process. The Planetary Ruling Card may decide what exact profession they choose but their Birth Card will add the desire for reward and recognition. These people are very good with money (except their own which they spend too freely) and have a lot of leadership ability. The 8♠ is a driven type of person when it comes to work, sort of a super worker. They drive themselves hard and anyone who works with them or under them. With a K♣ first Karma Card, many of them gravitate to responsible positions. They can do physical work well but are not generally that good with people. Their forceful natures can cause friction with co-workers.
Nines as a group are counselors, healers and teachers. However, most of them have some court card as their karma card bringing the desire for recognition. All nines are psychic to a degree and have a strong desire to be of service to humanity in a big way. The broader the applications of this desire, i.e. the more people they help, the greater their internal satisfaction. They are the givers. The 9♥ is a real people person. Regardless of what their role is, they are usually doing it for the opportunity to help others in some way. However, many of them do well in finance and business because of their 7♦ alter-ego card. The 9♣ find the greatest satisfaction giving knowledge and information to others that will improve their lives. However as with all nines they may be found in some profession that allows them to 'save' others. Many are drawn to a career in the arts, either in acting or some other expression of beauty. The 9♠ has natural sales and promotion ability that exceeds most other cards and in truth they can make the most money this way. But they also have an interest in technical information and usually become a leader in their chosen field. They can excel in most any field where a good mind is important. But even so, they bring their nine desire to help and save others into their work in some way. 9♦ have a very strong artistic or musical side that must find some expression in their work. They also have some business ability if they find one that allows expression of their other traits (art and helping others). Female 9♠ are very strong willed and can assume responsible positions easily.

The Tens are ambitious and accomplished, usually very successful in whatever they attempt. They are some of the most self-centered cards in the deck. Because of their number they will usually be found in front of groups. Pure personal gain or greed in some cases motivates their actions. All of them need recognition in a big way. The 10♥ is people or children oriented and generally creates some group of people around them. This often occurs in their job where they can end up as schoolteachers, performers or other occupations where they get exposure to large number of people on a regular basis. They are quite intelligent and creative as well. The 10♣ will usually want to rise up as quickly as possible in their company. Either that or they will create their own. These people behave much like a King. They are usually strong willed and determined. However there is a large group of 10♣ people who are searching for their direction in life. Until they get moving towards some goal, they don't amount to much. This is a teacher's card and in some way their work must reflect this. The 10♠ has natural business ability and many of them have artistic ability as well. All of them should check into doing their own business at some point in their life. They may be missing out on a perfect career. However, being in the exact center of the Grand Solar Spread, they also have a desire to be the center of attention in some way so this must usually be a part of their chosen profession as well. Whatever will get them the attention and recognition they desire will be good for them. The 10♦ is a workaholic and just enjoys whatever sort of work that will allow them to pour their tremendous energy into and see some results. They enjoy the mastering of whatever they do for the doing of it. They are super workers and usually get promoted into managers for this reason.

Note: I would like to mention that the 10♥ and 10♣ both have Jacks as first Karma Cards. If you are hiring one of these be aware that some of them have a problem with honesty and integrity. Though this is not true in all cases, it is something to be aware of.

The Jacks are a curious group with a range of expression. All are creative, playful and youthful but their occupational choices can be varied quite a bit. The J♥ is much like a Nine. They are very people oriented and usually out to help or save others in some way. They can end up in any sort of profession but underneath it is this mission consciousness. The J♣ has mental capacity to succeed in many areas. They also have entrepreneur abilities and can succeed in business very well. They are drawn towards information that is progressive or transformative but this may or may not be reflected in their work. They are also fun loving and many of the men never get far because they play around too much. The J♦ has sales ability higher than most other cards but also a desire to help others. However their own freedom issues and playful natures can keep them from really putting themselves into a profession and making a success of it. They are
very creative and often have an artistic gift. The ♠ is dramatic and creative. This is the Jack of
Jacks and they have great potential for success. Success with groups and the public come easily
and so they are often drawn towards some work that puts them in the limelight or in front of the
media. They can be artists, musicians, actors and actresses.

The Queens are the mothers of the deck but their mothering also demands a certain
amount of respect. They usually end up in charge of others, whom they are helping along in some
way. They are all talented and accomplished at what they do. The ♣ is called the mother card
but they also have great potential for success and recognition in their work. Regardless of their
sex, they can do very well in male-ruled institutions and occupations. They like jobs where they
can learn new things and where they can express some of their natural creativity. The ♠ is often
a businesswoman with a lot going on. Two jobs are common for this card as for the ♠ with
whom they have a lot in common. The ♠ will be drawn towards information businesses or
occupations where their quick and powerful minds can find both interesting and challenging
work. They make demanding bosses or co-workers, maintaining high standards for themselves
and those around them. The ♠ has money issues so their work must pay well for them to be
fully satisfied. Like other Diamonds they equate how much they make with their own value as a
person. This card has a lot of artistic and creative ability along with a critical mind capable of
understanding complex and tedious subjects when they want to. In whatever work they are doing,
they are mothering others in some way. The ♠ is a worker - the mother of work, we might call
her. He or she will find a way to be of service to the world or their families and there will be a
need for recognition as well. They usually end up being leaders in some area of information due
to the fact that all of them have the ♠ as their PR Card.

The Kings are the natural rulers, bosses and team leaders of the deck. Not all of them
become bosses but they all have the potential which if chosen, usually fits them like a glove.
They can be bossy of course, but usually they are thinking of the well being of all of their
'followers' in their decision making. Some just choose to become 'the authority' in their chosen
field and avoid having to be responsible for others. The ♥ has a natural analytical mind in
addition to well-developed people skills. They can make most anyone feel at ease while not
missing any of the important details that are important to the subject at hand. Many become
scientists or doctors. The ♥ usually ends up in charge of things but often that means having
their own business. The "master of distinctions" will make a positive contribution to any business
they are a part of. They are usually very good with people and only in rare cases do their strong
egos cause friction with others. The ♥, of course, is well suited for a financial or business career
where their keen sense of value can be used effectively. They may not always end up as bosses
but they do take a responsible position in whatever capacity they are engaged. These people can
accomplish most anything with their powerful minds and wills. The ♠ is interested in the
perfection of his or her work. They do have great leadership potential but the ♠ PR Card often
draws them away from responsibility into an area that allows them more freedom. When they do
put themselves into a certain direction, they master it. Their strong wills are very fixed which can
cause friction with others in certain situations.

A few notes about mixing people together at a job or workplace:

Using my book, Love Cards, one can easily determine the connections between people
who may be working together. Be aware of the following situations if you are in a position to
place others together in the workplace.

**Moon** - When one person is the Moon Card to another keep in mind that the Moon
person will usually end up as a support and helper person to the other. You would choose a
person who is your Moon Card to be your secretary but not the other way around. Make sure the
Moon person is placed in a supportive role to the other person or conflict and inefficiency will be the result.

**Venus** - of course is good for all working relationships.

**Mars** - connections can be very energetic and create a healthy competition between two people. In general Mars connections are ideal for people working together. However, if two people with a lot of Mars also have Saturn this energy could turn to great hostility. Look for other harmonious connections such as Moon and Venus for people who also have Mars and avoid the Mars / Saturn combination.

**Jupiter** - connections between people working together encourage making lots of money and having overall prosperity. This is considered one of the best working relationship connections, especially when it is mutual. The Jupiter person wants to give to the other and in the business world, this translates to money.

**Saturn** - can be good for situations where one person is teaching the other. The Saturn person is the teacher, not the other way around unless it is mutual. However, the Saturn person must be aware of not being too critical of the other in which case his or her comments and actions will serve to hinder the progress of the other. Just the presence of a Saturn person is enough to remind the other of his or her faults and weaknesses. This is not considered a good connection in general but should be used when you want one person to learn from the other. After the learning takes place, separate them so the one who learned can go on and apply what they have been taught without a judgmental person constantly looking over their shoulder. Cosmic Lesson connections can have a similar effect but it is usually not as strong.

**Uranus** and **Neptune** - not much effect in the workplace one way or the other.

**Pluto** - can cause undue friction between two people in many cases and should be watched carefully. The Pluto person will have a way of being a great challenge to the other. Great anger can result in some situations. However, the Pluto person will encourage growth and development in the other and could be a positive influence for someone who wants to change his or her life to a better condition. **Cosmic Reward** connections often have the same effect as Pluto unless one or both of the partners is more mature and experienced.

The **Cosmic Lesson** connection will have much as the same effect of Saturn. It can be constructive or destructive depending upon how aware the two people are of what is going on between them.

Using all of this information one can be effective in both finding their own occupation but also in helping place others in fruitful situations. Ultimately we each choose our occupations to fulfill inner needs that may not be obvious on the surface. To be complete about any analysis one should strive to understand the person on a deeper level before making any suggestions as to which way to go.

**The Lonely Princess -11/97**

It is very helpful to look at celebrities as real people, especially when using them to learn more about the cards and astrology. In truth all of them have a public life and a private life. It is the private life that I am most interested in. I always seek to know what the real person is like, not the persona that is projected to me by the media. Princess Diana, who met an untimely fate recently, is a classic example. Here we have a woman who had the dream life of dream lives, and yet was possibly more unhappy than anyone you know.

Born July 1, 1961 makes Princess Diana an **A♣** Birth Card with a **3 ♦** Planetary Ruling Card. Either one of these cards is considered most difficult on a personal level. Both are highly
spiritual cards that only bring happiness to those who walk the spiritual path and integrate inner wisdom into their lives. Princess Diana’s life began with the plan to be a great success in the eyes of the world - what woman wouldn’t want to be a Queen? But the spiritual nature of her cards told the real story. That story is that there would be great pain and suffering if she tried to have material success in the normal fashion. People whose Birth Cards have a lot of spiritual influences associated with them cannot just go out, get married, make money and live happily ever after. As a matter of fact most every time they try to get things for themselves in the normal sense, they run into immense difficulties and challenges. The A♠ and 3♦ both have a great deal of negative karma to deal with in the area of relationships. So, it is easy to predict that anyone who has a personal significator of either of these two cards will have major challenges in their love and personal life. At the same time the spiritual aspects of Diana’s cards steered her towards more and more philanthropic activities and causes. Though her personal life was in constant turmoil, she nonetheless found time to help many charities.

The A♠ has the 7♥ as its first Karma Card. This card often stands for fear of abandonment and betrayal. As the first Karma Card, it tells us that all A♠ people have this inner fear that plays an important role in determining the outcome of their love life. Though blessed with most everything a woman could desire, Diana suffered enormous emotional difficulties. She was anorexic and bulimic. I would say that she was a very scared, overly sensitive and shy person. Her Planetary Ruling Card, the 3♦ fares no better than her Birth Card. Uncertainty in the area of values coupled with a very difficult Life Spread makes this card one of the most difficult to be of the entire deck.

The A♠ Birth Card often produces individuals who are strongly materialistic. Not necessarily that they are after money or fame, but individuals who tend to focus most of their attention on achievements of all kinds and external accomplishments. The A♠ is a very strong Capricorn or 10th house influence in this regard. It is the card that is a paradox of influences. On one hand it is this highly externalized energy focused on what can be created and accomplished or accumulated on the material level. On the other hand, it is the most potent symbol of all the secret spiritual orders that have existed the past 20,000 years. As the symbol for the Order of the Magi and others it is considered to be the most spiritual card in the deck. We find then, in the individuals of this Birth Card, a curious mixture of extreme polarities. They embody both the spiritual and material to some extent and each person we meet with this card will have experiences of both. Some will be more spiritually oriented, living their life in convents and monasteries while others will be workers, builders and otherwise success-seeking people in the ordinary sense. We find these same elements in Diana though I don’t think she had a very intimate relationship with her spirituality beyond involving herself in work that benefited the poor and downtrodden of society.

Diana died on August 31st, 1997 during her Venus Period of her Age 36 year. With an 8♣ and 9♣ she doesn’t have what appears to be any of the ordinary death cards at that time. But when we see someone die, regardless of their cards and what we think they are supposed to mean, we have a great opportunity to learn more about the cards. In this case we find that the 8♣ can have the meaning of a violent action of some kind. The number eight implies power, and in some cases, great force. As many of you may have noticed by now, people who have eight Birth Cards are capable of using great force, even violence, to achieve their ends. But how many of you knew that an eight can represent a violent physical situation? An eight in the suit of Clubs can mean a
car accident because Clubs are ruled by Mercury which is the ruler, card-wise, of short trips, especially trips in an automobile. Contrast that to Neptune which governs long trips and vacations, especially those that take us over water or to foreign countries. The 8♣ by itself would not necessarily mean a violent death but the 9♣ with it did. Just like the eight, the nine in the suit of Clubs represents an ending in relation to some short trip. It may seem trivial to derive such an interpretation from cards that do not normally deal with death, especially in such a dramatic case as this. However, these cards are very relative to what happened if we take the time to examine them carefully.

But another story, perhaps the real story occurs in her 3♦ Planetary Ruling Card spread for this Age 36 year. What is interesting at first is that this 3♦ is sitting in her A♠ Birth Card’s spot (A♠ Displacement Card for that year). Anytime we displace the A♠, and most of us will once or twice in our life, we have a very strong cautionary influence. The A♠ is, after all, one of the most potent of the death cards. But in addition to this powerful influence she also has the 9♠ as her Long Range Card and the 9♦ as her Pluto Card. With so many powerful possible death cards present as year-long influences any reader of the cards would be advised as to the potential for some very difficult circumstances. I wonder how many 3♦ people die sometime during the Age 36 year? It would be interesting to get some statistics on this. I also think I will start asking every 3♦ or those whose Planetary Ruling Card is the 3♦ about what happened to them at age 36, if anything. It is this kind of research that teaches us about the particular karmic paths of individual Birth and Planetary Ruling Cards. I have already asked a few of them and so far all have reported some dramatic life changes during that year, often related to health or physical problems.

It is interesting that the world, or at least the media, remembers Diana the most for her work with charities. Millions of dollars were donated to her favorite ones immediately following her death. In my mind she is a dramatic example of how external success or situations do not mean internal happiness. That may actually be her greatest gift to us all if we choose to look at her life closely.

How we decided when and where to move - 11/97

Many people have asked Katherine and I about our move. They want to know why we decided to move and especially how we came up with Chattanooga, TN as our place to move to. One person, after hearing the story, suggested that this would be a great article for our newsletter because it encompasses many of our personal philosophies in a way that most find very interesting. So, here is our story.

One of the dreams that Katherine and I have shared since we first met is to live in a natural, pleasing environment. We pictured a house in the country with a wrap-around front porch. Katherine wants to someday run a Bed and Breakfast from such a house as this. As I want to have a teaching center we have dreamed of combining the two together. We realized that this was a more long-term goal but as a first step it has been our plan for the past 3 years to move to a more desirable place to live in a more beautiful setting. We also both felt that we wanted to get out of California. Though California, and especially the northern part, has some very beautiful places, we also considered the pace of the state and other things and decided that we had both had enough of the California mentality. We loved our place in Walnut Creek but after having a son we no longer had enough room for all of us. So we knew the time had come to leave but we didn’t know exactly when to do it or where to move to.

A call from Bishop Bernard Jordan was the catalyst for our move. Without knowing anything of our personal life he told me “You are supposed to be moving. What is holding you up?” When I heard that I knew that was the signal we had been waiting for. That phone call
occurred sometime in May or June of this year. I did want the Bishop’s take on which direction we would be moving. “Would it be east of California or west?” I asked him, trying to determine whether or not he saw us moving to Hawaii. “Definitely not west” he said, “It will be to the east, probably farther than you think.” At this point in time Katherine and I had been thinking of places like Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado as well as the northeast such as New York and Massachusetts.

With that in mind I did what I considered was the only logical thing that I could do to help narrow down the choices. I had been exposed to Astro-cartography years back and had come to realize just how accurate it is. Astro-cartography is essentially a map of the world with your personal astrological birth chart transposed upon it using some advanced techniques of astrology. What you end up with is a map of the world with lines designating planetary influences. It can tell you where your best influences are for different kinds of occupations and directions you may choose to go into. It can also tell you, in most cases, what are the existing influences where you live now or may choose to live. This had been very accurate for me personally. Every important place that I had lived had just the influences I would expect based upon my experiences.

First I hired a good friend of ours who did relocation astrology, as they call it, to do a work-up for our family. She checked Hawaii and several other locations and told us that Hawaii was the number one best place for everyone in our family. However, we had already determined that we didn’t want to move there. Something about being that far away from everything didn’t seem to fit what we were looking for. So, I got a computer program that does some of the relocational methods and did a little research on my own. That was more fun in a way because I could take my time and look up any place I desired. With three charts to consider it was difficult to find a place where all of us had great influences. I would find a place that was good for our son, Michael, but it wouldn’t be good for Katherine and I. However, I did come up with three areas that were essentially good for all of us. The first was South Dakota. I went on the Internet and did some research about Rapid City, SD. At first it seemed like a really good place. But as we got to know more about it we discovered that they had a really high tax rate there. Local and state government was thriving and growing. That was a bad sign in our opinion as we know the results of more government. So, South Dakota was removed from our options. The next area we checked was Chattanooga, TN. It had to be the Chattanooga area and not just anywhere in Tennessee because of some particularly fortunate lines that run only through that part of the state. Again I went on the Internet and did some research. The Internet is fast becoming my first choice for any kind of research. It is truly amazing what you can find there. Within minutes of logging on Katherine and I were looking at pictures of houses that were for sale there. One thing that struck us immediately was how nearly all of the houses we looked at were just the kind of house we had pictured ourselves living in. They were two-story homes with modern and yet traditional styling with porches. I wanted a home with a basement. Most of them had a basement. They were big houses and the prices were very reasonable. We also discovered that Tennessee has no state income tax and that the property and other taxes are very low. Then we realized how central it is to our family and relatives. More and more it seemed to make sense.

I immediately made plans to visit Chattanooga. I needed to go there in person and find out what it felt like there. I had many questions that could only be answered by a personal visit. One of the first things that struck me when I made that first trip was just how much I love the green countryside of the east coast. Some people really like the dry, desert climate of California. But to me it is just so many dead, brown hills. This green land with lakes, rivers and lots of rainfall was what I really missed. As I drove into Chattanooga I turned on the radio and immediately found a radio station that was playing music that I liked. The entire time I was in California I never found even one radio station that I liked. I cannot relate to any of the music that they like there and music has always been an important part of my life. Hearing all of these songs that I liked, one after another, was another good sign. The third sign, and one that took me
completely by surprise, was that as I drove around the Chattanooga area looking at houses, a lot of people waved at me.

My real estate agent, who had moved there from Philadelphia a couple of years ago explained, “Oh yeah,” she said, “I forgot to mention that everyone waves at you here. They all say hi and are really friendly.” And indeed that was just what it is really like there. I would just be driving down the street looking at a house for sale. If anyone was out taking a walk they would wave as if they knew me. Comparing that to California where people would think you were up to something bad if you waved, it was a big difference. I discovered that Chattanooga in particular is a very religious area. The Seventh Day Adventist have a big university and center there (they are vegetarians by the way). There are a lot of Baptist churches as well of course. A large percentage of the population here is practicing members of some faith. It really felt like a refreshing change, just to be around people who were on some level in the habit of practicing a mode of a higher lifestyle. I hope this doesn’t come off sounding like a put-down to California. That is not at all how I feel personally. California has a lot of great things and being there the past 7 years has brought me many important and positive developments. For example, I would have never even pursued my study or work with the cards had I not met Arne Lein in Los Angeles. It was fate that I met him even though Los Angeles would be the last place I would choose to live at this point in my life.

After reporting all of these findings about Tennessee to Katherine it became our choice to move here. Once that decision was made we actually made the move less than 3 months later, surprisingly fast by most standards. But anyone who knows for certain what they must do, will do it much faster than others may imagine. At each step in the process Katherine and I both would ask ourselves, “Does this feel right?” and “Does this feel good on all levels?” Each time we said “Yes” and that is what brought us here.

Now that we are here we keep getting little affirmations or signs from the powers that be that this was the best choice for us. Everything has fallen into place, all the little details that pertain to our lifestyle and work. There are some areas where we still haven’t worked out the details but by and large it has been amazing how everything we have needed and wanted has come to us. Just the way we found our house and bought it is another story in itself - one of the power of fate and being clear about what we want.

I really feel a difference living here from how I felt in Walnut Creek. It’s not that my inner state has changed. But the environment surrounding me is very noticeable and I can perceive its positive effects on our family and me clearly. Moving to a new environment is not going to eliminate my inner problems or issues. However, the environment does stimulate certain kinds of motivations and directions and I find this very important. Environments either encourage or discourage certain activities. That’s just the way it is. While California stimulated my inner transformation (the entire state is a Pluto line for me) and Walnut Creek has a Saturn line that stimulated accomplishment and career objectives, Tennessee has strong Jupiter and Venus lines which encourage ease and prosperity.

The things I love about Chattanooga have more to do with what our family needs at this point in our lives. Chattanooga represents, on one hand, more pleasure taken in the living environment. It represents more ease and enjoyment of life whereas California represented hard work and accomplishment. This is a conscious choice that we have made to live here. And, I am honest when I say that there is very little that I miss about California and that I haven’t had one single regret about our move.

For those of you who are considering a move to a new state or location, I have decided to offer help in this area. Employing the same tools I used I will help you find a location that will lead you to your next step in life, whatever that may be. This involves not only determining what influences are found for you but also what is your next step and what influences in your environment will best support this step. Then, you can choose a new place to live. You may have several places that fit the bill. For individuals there are usually many places to choose from. If
you have a family it may limit the number of choices to find a place that suits everyone positively. But I know that all of us have some place that is best for a certain chapter of life. Call if you would like to discuss this service.

Age 44, The Solar Nine Year - 1/98

Last July I turned 44 years of age while at the same time entered a numerological nine year. For those unfamiliar with numerology, we find out which year we are in by adding together the numbers of our birth month and day and then add that to the numbers of the current year. In my case, my birthday of July 3rd gives a 7 + 3 = 10, which gets added to 1 + 9 + 9 + 7 = 26 which reduces to an 8 (2+6). So 10 + 8 = 18 which further reduces to a 9 (1+8). Every year calculated in this way will give us a number from one to nine. So this puts me in a nine year which translates much like having a 9 of any suit as your Long Range Card for the year. However, regardless of what your birthday and month are, if you are 44 years of age, you are in a numerological Solar 9 year. The Solar year is taken from how many years you have been alive. To find it, just take your age, add one to it and reduce that to its numerological base. Age 44 plays out to 4 + 4 +1 = 9. From this perspective everyone who is age 44 is in a nine year. This makes perfect sense when we consider our first year of life to be a one year and we count from there. Then again when we remember that age 44 is the PreBirth year, proceeding the ReBirth year in the cards, we can see an even stronger correlation since ReBirth implies a new beginning, that number one again.

I was looking forward to this year to gain a more complete understanding of nine manifestations and energies and even though my personal year is less than half over, I have already gained many new and valuable perspectives. I would like to share some of these with you since these perspectives pertain not just to the PreBirth year, but also to any time we have a nine card in a position that affects an entire year.

To be under a nine influence for an entire year implies the completion of a fairly important phase of life. When we consider a nine-year period of time and see what a large percentage this is of our entire life, we can immediately sense this importance. Nine is the last number, the one that represents the ending of whatever cycle it is associated with. It implies completions and endings but don't let these words satisfy your curiosity about it. Strive for the deeper understanding of these nine energies. Sooner or later you or someone close to you will go through a significant nine year and this understanding may help you go through it in the highest possible way.

Seeing my nine year approaching I began asking myself, 'what things in my life are coming to an end right now? I wanted to be as aware as possible seeking to not interfere with the natural cycle of completion that I was about to begin. I also looked back over the 8 years to scope out what I had achieved, what things had occurred that were important to me and to just see what sorts of energies I had invested. I knew that some important aspect of my life would be ending but I did not know what this would be or who it may involve. I was open to whatever may happen but I admit to having a little concern at times. Nines have a nasty reputation for taking away things from us, often resulting in disappointment and suffering. However I was determined to make the best of this nine year by harmonizing my mental attitudes with the cycle.

Inwardly I was already feeling somewhat disinterested in certain aspects of my work and life. This was a clue for me that I took due note of. But since I did not know yet just what would take the place of what I am doing now I felt a little concerned. I resolved to just keep an open mind and be an observer of events as much as possible.

Well it wasn't two months after my birthday that we left California and moved to Tennessee. That was a major ending for me. It feels like leaving California is like leaving behind
a long chapter of my life. All of my work with the cards began there and I had lived there ever since. But I didn't leave my work with the cards. I left behind some relationships and some identity with California. Soon after getting settled in Tennessee I realized that my work with the cards, or at least my planned work with the cards, was not yet complete. There is a lot of promoting that remains to be done, and there is a need to pass on much of what I have learned to others who will carry this work into the next cycle in new and better ways. All of this showed me that a nine year is a lot about completing things that were begun previously, but not yet finished. I realized in that moment that doing a nine year in the best possible way means to come through on all my promises and finish all the projects I had set out to do earlier.

Though this may sound morbid to some of you, a part of me feels as though I must approach this year very much like a person who knows that they only have 12 months to live. In those 12 months I would want to do and say all the things that were left undone and unsaid. I would want to complete any unfinished things that anyone else was waiting for me to complete. I would want to get my entire life in order so that when I die, I would go with no leftover baggage. This approach has been very powerful and has given me the energy to go on and do things even though a large part of me is feeling unmotivated and lost. It reminds me of the last 3-4 weeks of high school when you have already taken all of your tests. You are there but you don't really have any reason to be there. But you have to go through the motions until it ends. You can't just leave. If you do you will mess up your grades or attendance record and leave there with a blemished past. You have to just hang in there and find some meaning in what you are doing even though it is only cleaning up and finishing up what began so long ago. A nine year can be a lot like that.

A nine year is also a year of giving things away. It's like when you move and you have a yard sale to sell off your possessions. You get a fraction of what you paid for them and many things you just give away to the right person. You hope you will find homes for your stuff where it would be appreciated in the same way you did, but you really have no control over that. Sometimes you get looted or harassed by scavengers. Scavengers do show up at your door and you really have no power to resist their requests. It is the time to release and let go, not the time to accumulate, hang on to anything, or keep track of what you have in stock.

This giving can take many, many forms and for you it will take whatever form is appropriate to your past and present. I have found that I am not getting as good a deal on purchases that I used to now. I am spending a lot more money than I have in the past and it seems from one point of view that everything is just going out, out, out. But I don't have anything to worry about, it is just a feeling that comes during this nine cycle. I am seeing opportunities to pass on more and more of my work. For the first time there are more people in my life who are sharing my work with me. To achieve this I must give up some of the profit I used to keep for myself alone. This sharing creates an opening for more work to get done.

I am finding that relationships are finding conclusions in my life this year as well. There are some people who have resurfaced with whom I have had the opportunity to make a completion of sorts. It's like we don't have any more reasons to mingle or associate, our business together is complete. In the course of a year there could be many endings of this sort. Already I have experienced quite a few. And I can remember that in my last nine year cycle I got divorced. That isn't happening in this cycle but even within my family there are endings and beginnings.

A nine year can bring up situations that will necessitate some emotional grieving as relationships or things we have been doing for a long time come to an end. Any ending can be sad. There is nothing wrong with that, it is just a part of life. I give myself full permission to feel sad if it comes up. As I feel and release those emotions, I am cleansed and made new.

One side of the nine that is rarely mentioned is that of fulfillment. A nine year can signal a time when cherished goals and dreams are realized. This may seem strange to someone accustomed to thinking about nines as disappointments and losses. But, in many cases this is true. Just as some people who graduate from high school feel like they have attained a personal goal of importance and celebrate, so can the nine year bring rewards of many kinds from all the activities
of the past eight years. Don't be surprised if you get some of your cherished wishes fulfilled during the course of a nine year or a year in which you have a nine card as your Long Range, Environment or Result Card. This is less likely with a nine in the Pluto or Displacement position since these positions inherently indicate areas of challenge during a year.

Like a person whose Birth Card is a nine, we bring into our nine year all the accomplishments and skills we have developed previous to that year. We are in an unusual situation in a way because here we are with all this power to do what we have been doing the past eight years so well. But now, the doing of those things no longer holds the fulfillment it did before. We still do them but the thrill is gone from the doing. Because the nine year implies an entire year of endings, we often find ourselves having to use these skills again and again, all the while thinking there must be something more, but not knowing what it is. At the nine stage we have all the power we experienced in the eight year. But now, it seems to be power wasted or spoiled by passage of time. We often feel out of sync with what we are doing, even though we can do it quite well. It is here that we often give a lot of our self without any concern for what we get in return. We have such an overabundance of power that we desire to share it with others. As we are in a 'leaving' stage, we often give what we have learned away, especially to those who value it. And often we do it for practically nothing.

Being in the age 44, PreBirth Year has its own set of influences as well. Think about it. Here you are, actually living the card spread that represents your past-life karma brought forward into this life. These influences came from a time that was before this lifetime began. You are living your yearly spread in the Spiritual Spread. Wow! What could all of that be about? I am beginning to see that this year is a lot about hanging out with my past-life karma. I have always sensed that the Spiritual Spread is about the influences that we brought with us from past lives, soul patterns if you will. If we look at the cards in our age 44 spread and interpret them in this light, they reveal many things. For example, what if the card of someone you know is in that age 44 spread? One could imagine that during this year you get an opportunity to experience just what sort of past-life karma you have with them. In addition, by their reflection you could see what patterns of behavior that you have that they reflect in you.

In this way, the PreBirth Year brings us back in touch with our past in order to give us the opportunity to create a new and better future. If we really use this year to get in touch with our tendencies, emotional and mental habits, strengths and weaknesses then we can better prepare ourselves for the ReBirth year that follows. The PreBirth Year may be considered to be the past-life influences that we brought with us that helped create the personality that we have in this lifetime that is represented by our Life Spread, which is in most cases identical to our ReBirth Year's spreads.

I am currently in Mars period right now with a 2♠ and 4♣. It is amazing how many of my 2♠ associates have checked in during this period. As I write this I am on a trip to visit one of them. I am getting a chance during this period to get in touch with something that I brought with me into this life, namely a powerful, argumentative nature (2♠ in Mars, get it?). Work partnership issues are also coming up a lot right now where I can see how aggressive (Mars energy) I tend to be with them. This year is just such a wonderful opportunity to see myself and learn. It is a lot like God is just handing me experiences that show me everything I have asked to learn.

This PreBirth year must be a more special nine year than the rest of them. It is the ending of the fifth, nine-year cycle and many of you by now have realized that five is also a very significant number. After age 44 we begin the second half of our life. And the second half is more connected with our relationship with the world at large than our personal issues. After the five visible planets come the five invisible planets, the ones associated with the outer and more universal levels of expression. This is reflected in the five fingers on each hand. So before age 45 we have five cycles of nine that are mainly us dealing with our personalities, personal relationships and personal goals and ambitions. After that age our next five cycles of nine take us
into broader areas of concern. We may become more interested in politics or in doing humanitarian work. Our identity shifts from a personal to a more universal viewpoint.

During the PreBirth year, we displace our second Karma Card. This is true, of course, unless your Birth Card is one of the family of seven Fixed and Semi-Fixed Cards (8♣, J♥, K♠, A♣, 2♥, 7♦, 9♥). For most people age 44 finds your Birth Card sitting in the spot normally occupied by your second Karma Card. This is significant for several reasons. First of all the second Karma Card is the one that represents some of our good karma from past lives. It represents things that come easily to us or an area where we are gifted in some way. But to be displacing any card means just the opposite. It generally means that we must experience that card as a problem or challenge of some sort that requires additional energy on our part to rectify throughout the year. So, it is like a paradox. Essentially we find challenges in the areas that things usually come naturally and easily.

I have found that this is very interesting. In my case, my second Karma Card and Displacement Card this year is the 9♦. Despite all of the Q♦ worries about finances, we do have the ability to give to others unselfishly and to let go of material possessions when we want to. I have found repeated experiences this year where I was faced with situations where I was losing money or having to pay out much more than usual. Faced with these situations I had to draw upon my 9♦ side to just let go and not allow myself to become disturbed or attached by external challenges. Each time I do this, everything works out. But this year it seems that I have to draw upon this ability to let go of any attachment more often than usual.

The cards in our age 44 Yearly Spread follow the natural order of the cards, with the exception of the Semi-Fixed Cards, which have traded places with each other. For example, if you have the 9♥ in your age 89 spread, you will have the 7♠ there at age 44 instead. Your cards will go in natural order with these exceptions. If your Birth Card is the Q♣, your Mercury Card will be the K♣, followed by the A♦ in Venus, 2♦ in Mars and so forth. Having these cards in their spiritual order has been known to produce a sort of confusion in many people during that year. I believe this is especially true of those who are more or less materially oriented.

So, we can see that the age 44 year really has a lot of different aspects to it, all of which contribute to a powerful experience with many lessons. It is appropriate then, that we take stock of our life and reflect on what we have accomplished in all the important areas of life during this year. Then, at age 45 we can embark on a new beginning with a perspective imbued with the wisdom we have garnered to this point in life. Then, if we use all of this and empower our age 45 year with it, we can set the stage for even more accomplishment and fulfillment, carrying with us all the benefits of this wisdom into our golden years.

Who is Helping Who? Making our Relationships on Purpose - 1/98

Once someone knows more about the various cards and becomes familiar with the connections between their Birth Card and other people's Birth Cards, they can use this information very effectively to choose certain relationships for certain things in their life. It is very helpful to know which cards and people are going to be able to help you in certain ways. It is also helpful to know which cards you will help. You see, some cards are naturally going to be giving something to you while other cards are actually going to be receiving from you. It is very important to know which cards you give to and which cards give to you. There will be times when you are in a relationship with someone and all of the energy is going from you to them when, in your mind, you have chosen this person to be a help to you. The way the energies interact among the cards, you'll find some birthdays who'll be very helpful to you for certain things. I am going to talk about some of these connections between cards to explain this further.
As you read this information keep in mind that you can use not only the Birth Cards of people, but also their Planetary Ruling Card and Karma Cards.

Most of the connections between cards have a direction to them. That is, the energy from one card to the next moves primarily in one direction. For example, if your Birth Card is my Mars card, I receive Mars energy from you but not vice versa. When we follow the cards from the beginning to the end of the Life Spread, there is a certain order and direction. The Life Spread begins with the 3♥ and ends with the K♠. If we begin with the 3♥ and count forward, the Mars card, or what it is the third card from the 3♥, is the 10♠. The 3♥ essentially looks forward to the 10♠ but when the 10♠ looks forward, it does not see the 3♥. This is the basic principle of direction that we use to determine who receives what from who.

So, which connections are those that give to you? Primarily those that give are the Jupiter and Moon. Each of these give something different to us. Someone who's card is Jupiter to us will be primarily a financial benefit to us. Someone who is the Moon Card to us will give many kinds of support, all of which will be very helpful. So, if you wanted to go into business with somebody who would bring prosperity into your life, you would choose a Jupiter person. For example, if your Birth Card were the 10♦, the Q♦ would be your Jupiter card in the Life Spread. All Q♦ people, whether male or female, would be a source of financial benefit to you. But there are many people who are Jupiter to your Birth Card, Planetary Ruling Card, and Karma Cards, all of which we use to determine the quality of relationships. And don't forget to look in the Spiritual Spread as well. One of the best combinations for business partners is when both people are Jupiter to each other. This happens for example between the 6♠ and the 2♠. By moving vertically from either card to the other you get a Jupiter connection. And, there are some combinations of cards that have what we call a mutual Jupiter connection. Look at the A♠ and 3♣ or the 7♦ and K♣. There are many of these combinations in the deck and almost everyone has somebody with whom they share this mutual Jupiter connection. Any of these would be especially good for a mutually prosperous business partnership, if other connections between them didn't subtract in some way.

But what if you are in a relationship with somebody and your Jupiter to them what they are not Jupiter to you? Do you think this relationship with help your prosperity? Probably not, and this is good for you to keep in mind. I make a habit of always being aware of what sort of energy interchange is occurring between myself and those that I work with. Don't get me wrong, there's nothing wrong with helping someone else. But sometimes we really want to find someone to help us and there's nothing wrong with using this card knowledge to your benefit.

I find the moon connection to be the most significant in this regard. Someone is moon to us when their card sits right behind our card, in either the Life or Spiritual Spread. As I have said before this is one of the most common connections in marriage, and it is a good sign for the success of the marriage. But, there are many other uses, many of them very practical and important, for the Moon Card connection. So much so, in fact, that I suggest you always be aware of it. Essentially the person who is the Moon Card to someone else will provide support, nurturing, and help in many forms. And if there is competition between someone and someone who is their Moon Card, usually the Moon Card person will lose. The Moon Card person does receive good things from what I call the Sun person, and these are not to be overlooked. But when we're looking for support of some kind, it is good to find a moon person. For example, a moon person would be a very good choice for someone who is to be our doctor, counselor, massage therapist, or any health practitioner. These are the best choices for somebody who's going to take care of you in some essential way. But Moon Card connections are also great for business and work as long as you keep in mind who is receiving what from whom. If you are running a business you probably need lots of support of different kinds. Choose Moon Card people for this support. Usually someone who is your Moon Card will enjoy being with you
because they receive a lot of inspiration and new ideas and direction from being with you. So, it is a mutual exchange.

You would not choose someone to whom you are the Moon Card if you were looking for support. You will receive good ideas from them and enjoy their company but much of the benefit will go to them. This becomes especially important in any sort of competitive interactions. My research between people has revealed that in most cases where two people are engaged competitively and there exists a Moon Card connection, the Sun person will win or come out ahead. I have many examples of this, including Tonya Harding and Nancy Kerrigan (8♣ and 9♣ respectively) and Bill Clinton verses Bob Dole (7♣ verses 6♣). In each of the examples that I have noted, everything that the Moon Card person does seems to help the Sun person even more, even though the Moon Card person is trying their best to help themselves. Unfortunately, competition does arise in business and finance on a regular basis so it is good to know who is your Moon Card and vice versa so you can take advantage of the energies for your continued success. In my own dealings, I always feel fortunate when I discover that someone who is integral to success of my business turns out to be one of my Moon Cards. And, I am very aware of those people to whom I am the Moon Card. I always want to know which way the energy is flowing in all of my relationships. That way, I have some choice about it.

The other planetary connections between cards are also significant in their own way, but none of them are as significant as the ones mentioned above. It is good to be aware of the strongest connections between you and everyone who is important in your life. You can learn a tremendous amount about the cards just by studying your relationships closely. Who are the people in your life that can make you the most angry? These are probably your Mars cards. Those who are your Uranus card are probably those that you have a hard time depending on and they always seem to do something that you least expect them to do. You wouldn't want one of these types of people in a position in your life where you were depending upon them, or where something important in your life hinged upon them being somewhere at a certain time. A Mars person could be good for a business relationship because Mars energy stimulates us to work very hard and keep active. But you wouldn't want someone with whom you had three or four Mars connections because that could be too much Mars energy and could cause undue friction between the two of you. You might spend all of your time working out disagreements instead of getting any work done. Also keep in mind who you are Mars to, because you may inadvertently make them mad and not be aware of it. An attorney would be a wise choice for a Mars person. Since attorneys are essentially hired fighters, it makes sense to hire someone who represents your passion and anger for this role. Just be sure that your attorney also has some supportive energies in your direction. There is probably little worse than hiring an attorney whose main concern is his or her own well being and not yours. Venus connections are generally just good connections and they don't have much impact upon what either person is getting from the relationship.

Saturn, of course, is notorious for difficulties and limitations. But recently I have discovered that a Saturn connection in the Spiritual Spread is very good. I recently met someone who is Saturn to me twice in the Spiritual Spread. Seeing this I initially thought that this would be a very difficult relationship. As it turned out it was actually very helpful relationship, one that acted as a role model for my own continued success. And I have noted this with many other people as well, that this Saturn connection in the Spiritual Spread has a much more positive effect than the Saturn connection in the Life Spread. Saturn is not always bad though it can be. It usually depends upon the people involved and what they need to learn or what they are doing at this point in their life. The way that I approach Saturn relationships is to pick and choose them carefully. If I have any choice in the matter I will only have Saturn people in my life if and when I am ready to learn something. Of course, life has a way of choosing for me at times and when this is the case it is usually because I need to learn something. I am also aware of those people to whom I am Saturn. If I am to be their teacher I would prefer to be one in such a way that many positive changes would occur in them.
I also suggest that you be very careful with people who share a Pluto connection with you. Pluto can be very good if we're consciously seeking to make some important fundamental changes in our life. But the intensity of these relationships can be counterproductive for other types of activities such as business, marriage, or any kind of working relationship. You may not choose to be with someone who is constantly in your face as a business partner. Then again, you may choose this person if they had some qualities that you wanted for yourself but had not yet been able to attain on your own.

It may sound shallow to say that we use people and that they use us. But, from one point of view, that's exactly what is happening each and every day. Life is a flow of energy. By using the cards and the knowledge of their connections together, one can be aware of this flow on a much higher level and be more of an active participant in this interchange of energies.

What is Free? - 1/98

In today's society we are surrounded by advertisements of many kinds announcing that something or another is free. Free this and free that is all we hear from these many companies who desperately want our money. Interesting isn't it? Here they are offering something for free but really wanting us to give them some money. I used to pay a lot of attention to these ads, seeing if I really could get something for nothing. One thing I discovered early on was that most of these offers were bogus. If I just took the time to read the fine print I usually discovered that there was a clause somewhere in the offer that invalidated it. Things that seemed to be free were not. One good example is the record and book clubs. If you like music, these offers of seven or more CDs for a dollar or less are quite irresistible. When you read the fine print you discover that you are joining a club. But what you are really doing is making an agreement for this company to send you any CD they choose once a month and you must take an active role in refusing that CD or be charged for it.

I tried this once, thinking I could be diligent about this and get away with getting seven CDs or 8 or 9 for practically nothing. What a deal! It turned out to be a nightmare. I don't know to this day if they were doing it intentionally but try as I might to return what I didn't want, I still seemed to get charged and asked to pay. After a while I realized that many people who would find themselves in a similar situation would probably just give up and pay the company just to get them off of their back. I am certain now that they are counting on just that kind of situation. It got so confusing and frustrating. I also realized just how much of my time and energy it took to get these free CDs, and I realized that it just wasn't worth it. One hour of my time was worth more than three or four of those CDs. So why was I wasting so much time trying to get something for nothing? After I got out of it I resolved to never join a book or record club again.

Still, I would be tempted with other free offers from time to time. Some of them turned out to be genuine. The companies involved gave something away with the hope that I would in turn purchase something else. But as I have grown in my own prosperity thinking, I am less and less interested in these free offers. Now I realize that offers for something free are directed at a certain portion of our society. And this portion are those people who are living in a strong poverty consciousness. People who do not think that they have enough money are always looking for something for free. I know, I have been there. Perhaps they are hoping for some handout from the universe to help them in their situation. In any case I observe that prosperous people just don't have much interest in these free offers.

People who are afraid of not having enough are often desperate and their thinking is not so clear. When they read an offer for something free they don't take the time to read the fine print. They only see what the company is hoping they will see. Under the duress of poverty, we miss many of the details about life and rarely think things through clearly.
The company wants them to believe they are getting something for free so that they can reach around and take money out of their wallet or purse without them knowing it. These companies and their advertisements are directed at people who do not read the fine print. And, it is the fine print that matters most. It's sort of like the magician doing sleight of hand. He redirects your attention as his technique to keep you from seeing what he is actually doing. The fact that so many of these companies stay in business tells us that there are many, many people who just don't have the consciousness to read the fine print. These may be the same people who don't read the ingredients of the food they buy. Our society promotes everything quick and snappy. Fast food, fast service, and instant gratification is what sells in this country. Companies have one goal in mind. Guess what that is? To make money! They are selling only what people are buying. So, it is up to each of us to read the fine print and the ingredients on everything we buy.

The prosperous person really enjoys paying for things. The exchange of value begets very good feelings that in turn attract even more prosperity. That is why many books on prosperity suggest that we write thank you notes on our checks when we pay our bills. This is something that many prosperous people do and no one ever told them to do this. It is just a natural extension of how they feel about the goods and services they received. People who more poverty oriented will have to practice this technique as a method of developing prosperity and it does not come naturally until it becomes a real part of their inner feeling.

Getting things for free is very close to stealing. The basic attitude is the same. It's just a matter of degree. And if you find that you're highly attracted to all these free offers, you might want to ask yourself if you can solve your money problems in a more direct and meaningful way. The universe is indeed a place of unlimited bounty. But as 'walking Gods', each of us has the power to make our world one of abundance or lack. Along these lines, our relationship to the free thing can be an instrumental reminder to us of just how prosperous we are feeling inside.

The Evolution of Numbers - Odds and Evens - 3/98

Essential to the understanding of the meanings of all the cards is the basic difference between the even and odd numbers. Here we are talking specifically about the numbers from one to nine because after nine, the even and odd distinctions do not apply in the usual sense. But since we are nearly always under the influence of one of these nine numbers, we can apply this information with great success in most readings we do, whether for ourselves or others.

First of all we must recognize that numbers follow an evolutionary path. To understand this concept more fully, think of the life cycle of a kernel of corn. As this seed passes through each stage of its growth, it is also passing through the first nine numbers as symbols of these stages. The Ace would be when the seed first sprouts, the Two when it makes contact with the soil and begins receiving sustenance from it. The Three may symbolize the sprouting of the first leaf while the Four may symbolize the plant with several leaves, looking much like an adult plant, but in miniature form. The Eight would symbolize the corn plant, bearing ears of corn, ready to be harvested while the Nine would symbolize the after-harvest condition of the plant as it is dying away.

What is essential about numbers is the way they evolve from one to the next. When we make the transition from a One state to a Two state, we have evolved. Evolution is one of the constants of the universe we live in. All things are evolving, each and every day of our lives. Some cycles, like the life cycle of the corn plant, make take months to go from the Ace to the Nine. Other cycles make take only hours, like a football game, while others may take years or even centuries. Evolution never stops. Nothing in our universe is standing still. Everything is moving ahead from whatever state it is in to the next state. And what is very important to
understand is that each ‘next state’ that we will arrive at in our evolution will be personified by our current state with the addition of a one to it. If we are in a Two state, our next state will be a Three. If we are in a Six state, our next state will be a Seven, and so forth.

When we examine the numbers of the cards in our Yearly Spread or Daily Spread we are not just looking at random experiences. We are looking at symbols of states of evolution. If you have a 7♦ in your Venus period this year, it means that at that time you will move into the Seven state in regards values (Diamonds) and something to do with your home, family or personal relationships (Venus). This also tells us that you have just come from a Six state in one of these areas. It may seem out of place to just have this 7♦ sitting there as a symbol of an evolutionary jump in a certain area of life. We usually don't know when we arrived at the Six state that preceded it. Where is the 6♦ in Venus that we are evolving out of? Nonetheless, it is implied in the 7♦ that we are leaving the previous stage of the 6♦. And in each case, the evolutionary step was a step by the addition of a One.

Some people think they can just leap forward from whatever state they are in to the final resolution of the matter but that is not true. We can only evolve one number at a time. A bud on a tree cannot just turn into a ripened piece of fruit overnight. It must pay tribute to its own life cycle. By choosing to be born as a human, we elect to follow certain cycles and having made that choice we are bound by those cycles.

So, back to the even and odd numbers. The essential difference between them is that the even numbers represent times of rest and stability while the odd numbers represent times of unrest and instability. This is certainly reflected in the personalities of people with odd and even Birth Cards. Whenever we are under the influence of an odd number, there is a certain feeling of dissatisfaction with things as they are. In whatever department of our life the odd number is influencing, we will feel an irritation. Something has been upset, changed, or otherwise impelled into a state where we are no longer at rest about that topic or area. This is what all of the odd numbers have in common. And what is interesting about them is to stand back for a moment and look at each odd number as the even number that precedes it with the addition of a One.

If we look at the Three, for example, as a Two with the addition of a One, we get more insight into that particular manifestation of the odd-numbered force. The Two represents the happy or fulfilled union - a pair of people content with having found each other and discovered the importance of being together. All is well and good with a Two but add that pesky Ace (One) to it and the apple cart is upset. Now, there ceases to be any satisfaction in the union of the Two. Now, we are reaching out for something beyond the Two. And in the process we are creating. All of the odd numbers are creative in nature in that there is this desire for something that lies unfulfilled at that stage in the cycle.

What all of this means to you and I is that when we are under the influence of an odd number, we will be experiencing one of these states of dissatisfaction and irritation. During these times, we feel incomplete or out of balance to the extent that we must do something about it. It may be that external circumstances have changed or that we have changed inside. In either case, it is we that are not where we need to be. We are then motivated into action, which is just what is intended by the masculine, creative force of all the odd numbers. Creativity is a masculine characteristic and all odd numbers are masculine in that respect. The Ace is the primary masculine number and all odd numbers share something in common with that original one. With every odd number we are placed into creative mode. We must create something that wasn’t there before in order to resolve the tension created by that number. The Ace creates the Two, the Three creates the Four, the Five creates the Six and so forth. It is through the addition of a One that all odd numbers find their resolution in another even number, the number that follows them.

Understanding this evolutionary process is one of the great mystic keys of life. If we begin to see how everything in our life follows this cycle from birth till death, we will be able to combine our cards with our experiences to pinpoint just where we are in those cycles for every
important area of our life. Imagine having a map of every important issue in your life and a little place marker showing you exactly where you are in the cycle right now with respect to each issue. You would then understand all of your past experiences with those issues and also know exactly what will come in the future. That is the power of this system and its application to the real world. When you are feeling out of balance, irritable or generally dissatisfied with your life, know that you are currently at a place in the cycle governed by one of the odd numbers. Look further, using your yearly spreads as guides, and you will discover just what is really going on and what will come in the future.

Scorpio Secrets that can teach us all - 3/98

This article is mostly about Scorpios, but if you read carefully you'll find some information here that will pertain to all birth cards. Each of the 12 signs of the zodiac have something unique to teach us. Scorpios as a whole, teach us all about personal transformation, the process of death in rebirth that elevates us to a higher stage of existence. All signs and all people go through this process in life but Scorpios dramatize this process and for them this is one of most important aspects of life. Scorpios are the only sign in the zodiac that have two ruling planets. Therefore Scorpios have two planetary ruling cards. And this sets them apart from all the other signs in a most unique way. The two ruling planets for Scorpios are Mars and Pluto. Those of you who have been following our advanced material understand that Pluto is a higher octave of Mars, just as Uranus is a higher octave of Mercury, Neptune is a higher octave of Venus, and so forth. This is a very interesting dynamic that is found among the cards and is well worth further study.

Look at the table below to see how planets or cards that are five spaces apart are connected. The second planet, or the one that is five spaces beyond the first one, will be the higher octave of the first. This is an extremely important facet of this science that can reveal many secrets, not only about Scorpios, but about all the signs. But let’s look at Scorpios for a moment to see how this works. If you are a Scorpio, you may look at your own cards. If not, observe someone you know who is a Scorpio as I discuss this principle.

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<tr>
<th>Mundane</th>
<th>Mercury</th>
<th>Venus</th>
<th>Mars</th>
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<td>Universal</td>
<td>Uranus</td>
<td>Neptune</td>
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There is a distinction between the two Planetary Ruling Cards of Scorpios. The Mars card represents the mundane expression of Scorpios energy, while the Pluto card represents the higher, or spiritual expression. Most of us are familiar with the two symbols of Scorpio, the Scorpion and the Eagle. In this case the scorpion would represent the Mars card of a Scorpio and the Eagle the Pluto card. For Scorpio people, their Pluto card is a symbol of their personal area of transformation. And when they complete their transformation they will display the higher qualities of their Pluto card. Until then, that Pluto card represents the work they need to accomplish on themselves. Their Mars card represents the fundamental expression of their energies when they entered this lifetime and it is through the purification of their Mars energy and Mars expression that they are able to access the higher qualities of their Pluto card.

We are all familiar with Saturn as being the great teacher. And most of us look upon Saturn as the planet of problems, limitations, and hardships. But Saturn is much more than that. It is no accident that Saturn is the fifth planet. Five is the number of man, the number of fingers on each hand, the number of visible planets, and the number of spaces between the Mars card and the Pluto card. Therefore Pluto is Saturn to Mars. Interesting isn't it? From this we can see that it is a Saturn energy that transforms the Scorpio person from their Mars expression to their Pluto.
Saturn is the vehicle through which we reach the higher planes of expression. This is so important that I want to repeat it. Saturn is the vehicle through which we reach the higher planes of expression. Thus it is in our best interest to learn more about Saturn. And you probably never thought that Scorpios and Saturn had anything in common.

So now, when you look at Scorpios, observe carefully to see whether or not they are expressing their Mars or Pluto cards. They may be, and probably are, somewhere between the two while they work on their personal death and rebirth. They will be seen as going back and forth between the two, manifesting the positive and negative of both sides. Generally speaking, Scorpios make progress in their spiritual path by working diligently, in the spirit of service, through their Mars card. By being of service to others utilizing all the energy of their Mars card, they begin to manifest the higher qualities of their Pluto card. The keyword here is service. That word is connected to Saturn in the sense of having your work do some good for others. Just working hard is not enough. It must have the right intention behind it for it to work its magic.

So that is a message for all Scorpios. It isn't the end of the story by any means but it is a good place to start and a foundation for future development of their personalities and characters. Once they become fully immersed in their Mars service, they can have the freedom to explore the Pluto expression of their birth card. Those Scorpios who go for the Pluto expression without having learned Saturn's lesson through their Mars card will inevitably cause harm to themselves and others. These are the ones who have helped all Scorpios to gain their not so great reputation. But there are many Scorpios who are the Eagles, the ones who personify the death of the low side of their natures and the birth of their higher spirit.

One small note here is to notice when Scorpios go through these personal transformations. I believe you'll find that most of these occur during Mars cycles, whether that be the Mars year in a seven-year cycle or the Mars fifty two day period of the year. Also take note that from ages 14 - 20 Scorpios are in a Mars 7-year cycle, and that during ages 26-39 they are likewise under the rulership of their Mars card in their Life Spread. These periods often mark times when Scorpios undergo major transformations.

So there is something to learn that can benefit all of us when we observe the Saturn principle that I just discussed. And that is, that any card in our life spread has a Saturn card that represents its higher expression. In particular, if you take your planetary ruling card and see which card is its Saturn card, you have a key to your own personal transformation. If you don't know which card is the Saturn card to your planetary ruling card, just look up your planetary ruling card in the love cards book as if it were your birth card and see what card is its Saturn card. For example, if your planetary ruling card is the 2♦, the Saturn card to the 2♦ is the 10♥. There will be something about the 10♥ that is very important to the 2♦, that in some way represents a higher manifestation of 2♦ energy. They will be related in a spiritual sense as a lower and higher manifestation of some expression.

Of course, this relates to our birth card and our Saturn card in the life spread as well. Your Saturn card, which is usually regarded as a symbol of all your problems, is actually a symbol of the higher expression of your birth card. Wow! Who would've guessed? Each of us can learn a great deal by studying not only our life spread Saturn card but also the Saturn card to every card in our life spread, paying special attention to our planetary ruling card and its Saturn card. All of this deserves more attention and more research. There is so much we can learn from the system and everything we need is right in front of us.

There are more secrets that I could reveal about Scorpios. But in the name of fairness I will leave a few of these covered up for those to find who really want to know. Let's just say that there is a great deal that they can teach us and leave it at that.
The Q♠ sits in the highest position in the Spiritual Spread, a symbol for all who will open their eyes, to the goal that all spiritual seekers aspire. It is literally the Sun Card in the 'spread of the soul' and has much to teach us when we are ready for its lessons. On our path to enlightenment we constantly refine ourselves. We begin by including spiritual things in our lives - eating more consciously, practicing specific disciplines, meditating, etc. By directing our doing into areas that are considered more spiritual in nature, we hope to attain higher states of consciousness and more happiness and contentment. And so we begin our journey along the path, externalizing certain aspects of our growth into activities that will help us.

Eventually we are confronted with the many problems in our life - the areas in which our conscious mind is creating conflict. We may have financial problems or difficulties in our personal relationships. We may feel dissatisfied with our job or our lifestyle and desire a change of significance. At this point we again ask ourselves, 'What should I do about this?' or 'What do I need to change to have the better life that I desire?' These questions usually precipitate another change in our doing. We will change jobs, relationships or lifestyle in some way to again bring ourselves closer to the ideal life that we envision from our dream of spiritual harmony and bliss. Constantly we seek to get closer to that pure life of joy and fulfillment.

After repeating this cycle many times we will eventually become aware of how our doing may be getting in the way of our happiness and goals. Our constant effort in the material world seems to drag us deeper into that world, taking us further away from the very thing we seek. We are becoming spiritual materialists. It is precisely at this moment of awareness that we begin our real journey into the spiritual realms. At this point we realize that our problems are not solved externally. We also see that our problems are not even found externally. Everything that we perceive externally is merely a reflection of what is within us. My struggle for money in the external world is a struggle within for my own sense of value. My dissatisfaction with my relationships is really just a symbol of my internal struggle with opposing parts of myself that want entirely different things from a relationship.

From this exalted point of view, many things in our life become clear. Everything has a perspective that is based on the real truth. Our thoughts have much more power and we find ourselves experiencing real power - the kind of power that cannot be taken away. The 8♦ represents the Sun Card in the eyes of the world. It represents power and glory in the material sense. It represents those qualities and people that our society applauds for their accomplishments. Its power is the power to change external circumstances by force of will and value awareness. But this power, for all its apparent greatness, is just a shadow of the real power, that represented by the Q♠. The power of the Q♠ cannot be affected in any way by external circumstances. It is our rightful good. It represents the wealth that is accumulated in heaven, where moth and rust do not corrupt.
Once we begin applying our desire to change to an inward direction, we begin making real progress. Why? For the same reason that all of our external efforts failed. The problem never was outside of ourselves. We just mistakenly thought that it was. In any problem-solving situation we find the solution when we get to the heart of the matter. Our society as a whole is symptom-oriented. Instead of getting to the cause of something, we usually choose to just deal with the symptoms. Most people would rather take an aspirin than address the underlying tension or other cause of their headache. And that’s just the way it is for the most part. This approach will accomplish nothing on the path to enlightenment except to waste away valuable time. But once we start seeing ourselves as the origin of everything, we begin to regain our God-given power to create. To be like God means to demonstrate His ability to create. Any problem that we are experiencing now can be summed up to one basic fact - that we are in conflict in our creating. Part of us wants to create one thing while another part of us doesn't. That is the definition of conflict and all conflict resides within us first and then is manifested by our creating an external situation in order to reflect it so that we may see it better.

If we take any apparent external conflict situation, we can trace it back to ourselves and find our inner power. But what are some of the signposts we can look for to lead us back to where it is all happening? We can begin with anger, which is a common way that we throw away our power. Beneath all anger lies fear. If you are not aware of this from your own experience then you probably are not paying much attention to your feelings when you are angry. Anger is a heightened state of fear where we are taking action against another in defense of a perceived hurt, injury or insult. If I am angry, I am the one who is feeling afraid. Taking it a step further, if I am afraid, is it really someone else's fault? Who has the power to make me feel better, me or them? Finally, who has the power to make me afraid? Did they make me afraid or was I already afraid and they just reminded me of it by something they said or did?

All anger can be effectively traced back to its source if one can face the responsibility that this implies. Anger itself is a denial of responsibility so we find this a most difficult thing for most people to accomplish. Only the most determined spiritual seekers can take responsibility for their own anger. But in fact, this is what anger really is and any action taken in anger without this knowingness will result in negative consequences and further conflict, problems, etc. However, action taken with full awareness of anger and its true source will result in the removal of anger, more harmony and the return of love and inner peace. This all sounds simple but we must keep in mind that many people spend an entire lifetime without learning this valuable lesson. Some people who are currently incarcerated for crimes committed under the influence of anger will take 20 years or more before they make this basic realization about the true origin of responsibility.

Anger is a common problem that exemplifies how most people have little true power in their lives. But there are many other areas of life where an inner approach would work veritable miracles. Money, health, career, education and many other areas all depend upon our level of self-awareness and responsibility to achieve positive results. The Q♠ has no need to go out and change the world. She looks within and sees the source of all external manifestations within herself. The world that she perceives around her is nothing more than a reflection of her inner state of mind. As she alters her inner perspective, she watches as her external world magically changes to match. This gives her great power, actually the greatest power there is. She can literally change the world without leaving her house.

You and I are the rightful heirs to this same power. As soon as we stop looking outside of ourselves for our answers we will begin to see it manifested in our lives. So let us discard all of our blame and anger. Let's take back our power from all of those that we have held responsible for our misery. Let's become as God again by wearing the crown of the Q♠ and achieve the highest accomplishment there is - self-mastery.
At this juncture in history it just might be true that beliefs are the cause of many of our most important problems. When I look around and see people arguing and competing I can see that many of these arguments are based upon opposing beliefs. We have the Christians arguing with the Jews. We have the blacks arguing with the whites. We have the Democrats arguing with the Republicans. You name it, there are just tons of people finding things to argue about, things are they just can't agree on. In many cases this boils down to one basic believe against another.

Take for example the affirmative action debate. People with black skin and other minorities believe that they deserve preferential treatment when it comes to job and school placements. They believe that without such help they will never find work or get ahead because our society is prejudiced against them. While it is true that there are prejudiced people in our country, it is also true that many of these people who support affirmative action are perpetuating the very thing they want to eliminate. They themselves have become prejudiced and have embodied the very thing they are trying to eliminate. There is an overriding belief in this prejudice which attracts it to them. Though it still may be harder to succeed in some areas if you are a member of a certain minority, it has never stopped anyone from becoming as successful as they wanted. It just creates more conflict and gives unsuccessful people justification for their lack of motivation or whatever. We are all members of some minority.

One interesting facet of beliefs is that once we have them we rarely question them. In other words, we just go about living that belief and never stop to ask ourselves whether or not that belief has anything to do with reality. And this is the heart of the problem. In many ways a belief is like a habit. It just keeps going without any conscious intervention on our part. This can be a very good thing if this belief is based upon the truth. But if this belief was created from misinformation, it will do nothing other than create negative situations in our life. And this is exactly what happens over and over and over again in our society everyday. People fight each other while never asking the real important questions. And they never, never, question their beliefs. So, instead of questioning their beliefs, they would rather kill someone or blow up a building. They would prefer to just find a lot of other people who have the same belief as their own and rally together in numbers. If so many people have the same belief, then this must be a good belief, they think to themselves. Still, they never question that belief. This is called mob consciousness. And as one of my favorite songs by Sting goes,

"Men go crazy in congregations, they only get better one by one."

Another, more insidious manifestation of beliefs is that of using the beliefs as tools to accomplish personal gain and power. This occurs everyday in many of the political and social reform groups that we hear about so much in the news. What is not known by most people is how much the media, in concert with various reform groups, is being used to further the personal greed of many individuals. What is presented to us are apparently good causes asking us for support and rallying us together to fight against the bad guys. In many these cases the bad guys are the ones creating the rally. Their true intentions are not humanitarian at all.

We must always be on the alert for beliefs that surround us, that we're presented with, and others try to sell us. We must always question every belief and ask ourselves, is this belief based upon the truth? Then, we must make an effort to discover what the real truth is in regard to that belief. Personally I guard my mind as if it were my most precious possession. In fact, I know that it is. I stand constant vigil at the gateway of my beliefs to insure that no false concepts shall enter. I know that my mind is the thing that creates my entire world. And I want to stay in constant contact with the truth, life as it really is, not someone's interpretation of it.
Back to our example of affirmative action, I personally am not biased toward people based upon their skin color. And I know many other people who are not either. If I were looking to hire someone for a position I would not be influenced by their skin color. I would be influenced by their speech, the way they dress, and the way they present themselves. And I know that giving people things without their having earned it is another way of telling people they are failures. So in my mind, affirmative action is an insult. Preferential treatment never stopped anyone from being successful. We must accept the situation we are in right now and then make the best of it. Anyone can have as much success and happiness has a desire, regardless of where they were born or the color of their skin. So, from where I am standing I see many of these racial activists as perpetuating an illusion. And I ask myself, why do they want to keep creating separateness and prejudice?

I now live in an area that is conservative, for the most part, Southern Baptist. I could very easily get into all sorts of arguments with the people where I live about religion, astrology, cults, Devil worship, and paganism. My beliefs about life are very different from the people around me. But there are two things that keep this from happening. First of all, I feel very clear about what I know to be true. I don't just believe in my work, astrology, the cards, and the science of numbers. It goes beyond belief. After having tested these systems for years in years I know they are connected to the truth. So, I don't get defensive if someone questions what am doing. I have no need to defend my beliefs. If someone came up to me and said "You are practicing devil's work!" I would not get excited about it or feel the need to defend myself. I know what I am doing. People get angry and fight only when someone reminds them of their own inner conflict or perceived lack. The real fight is always within ourselves.

The second thing that keeps me out of arguments is that I respect the beliefs of the 'bible thumpers' in my area. I don't agree with all of them and if I am put to test I will say what I know to be true. But I see that these beliefs fostered here in the Southern Baptist tradition are helping many people. No, I don't believe theirs is the highest belief or that they have all the answers. But I see good things coming out of their beliefs. I see people doing good things as a result of these beliefs, being good neighbors, practicing honesty, etc. And as it is written in the Bible, 'It is not what goes into a man that defiles him, but what comes out of him'. These folks' beliefs are having good consequences overall. And this is what I see here in the Bible Belt. But I do admit that there are some here who are fanatics, just as there are fanatics in most every area of life. But it would be incorrect for anyone to say that all the Southern Baptist bible thumpers are fanatics. It would even be incorrect to say that most of them are. The truth is that fanatics are nearly always a very small percentage of the group and every group has them.

I personally believe in reincarnation. I don't have any basis for the belief that can be proved or examined scientifically. I just know it's true. But, I don't feel so adamant about it that I would get into an argument with someone over the concept. It just isn't worth it. There are things that I do believe and know that I think are so important that I would never allow them to go unheard should the subject come up in conversation. But even in those situations I always keep in mind that others must make their choices for themselves. I never attempt to deprive them of this power.

Even with my work with the cards, I never insist that others believe in them. I tell them, try this system out for yourself and see whether or not it is accurate or meaningful for you. It is proved itself to me a long time ago. I no longer question it.

When we do get to the truth about something, we no longer have a need for a belief. Once we know what is really true, belief becomes unnecessary. One of the best examples of this, and one which marks the beginning of the Aquarian age, is computers. We don't have to believe in computers to use them. Belief has no place in computers. It matters not whether you believe in computers or not. They work. And if there's something wrong with your computer, all the belief in the world won't help you fix it. You'll have to find out what actually is wrong within the computer to fix it. And that will require a thorough examination and analysis of the facts.
surrounding the problem. It is really good in a way that we have this computer. I see that computers are helping many of us to get our heads out of the clouds and down to the practical details of life where facts are more important than our dreams.

So, if you are going to get mad about something, get mad about the beliefs you harbor that keep you in conflict with the world around you. Get rid of all of those beliefs that are not doing you any good anymore. Some may have been helpful for a certain period of your life. But do they continue to support what you are doing? If not, let them go. Guard the gates to your treasure of beliefs as you would your most valuable possession. Indeed it is one of the most valuable because it shapes the way you perceive your life. Be extremely picky when it comes to adopting any new beliefs and better yet, abandon them in favor of what you know to be true. If you are connected with the truth, you will never be wrong or have to suffer the consequences of having your beliefs clash with reality. The truth will always keep you in harmony with the world around you and give you the freedom and peace of mind to really enjoy yourself.

Using the Love Cards book to do Business Relationship Readings - 5/98

Many of us have significant business relationships and would like to know more about them and be able to use the wonderful information available in the Love Cards book to understand them better. This article will help you do just that. Follow carefully because I am going to share some of my secrets that I use in doing business relationship readings on a professional level.

First of all, it is important to know that the connections listed between Birth Cards in the Love Cards book can pertain to any sort of relationship. All those connections are simply the energetic forces that are in operation between any two cards in the deck. Therefore, they would apply to any kind of relationship. And, the more the two people you are looking at interact with each other, the more accurately these connections will describe what is going on between them. This means that any two people who spend a lot of time together, regardless of the nature of their relationship, can have their interactions described by the connections found in the Love Cards book. However, the interpretations in the Love Cards book are written for people in intimate relationships. The text of these interpretations will talk about sex, love at first sight, and other things that would not apply in business or other relationships. But once you understand the meanings of these connections, you will begin to see how to apply them to any sort of relationship. For example, if you and your spouse have a Mars connection, you will have a lot of sexual energy between you, and the propensity to argue along with a stimulation to go out and do things. But this same connection with someone you work with will probably not have the sexual connotation, but you will have the competitive aspects, perhaps some of the fighting aspects and certainly be stimulated into action. So the same connection in different kinds of relationships always behaves pretty much the same way, with some exclusions. But I will go through them anyway because there are certain little aspects that can be important in helping you make business partner decisions.

The Moon Connection in Business Relationships

The connection will make the two people feel very at ease with each other and help their communication tremendously. In general, this connection will help them make an instant, good connection and usually these two will get along very well. However, we must keep in mind the directional quality of the Moon connection because in any Moon connection relationship one person is more or less the leader and the other the supporter/follower. Usually for this connection
to work best, the person who is the Moon card to the other must be in a lower position, a supportive role while the other person, the one I call the Sun person, must be the decision maker and leader. If I am your Moon card, and I really don't want to be your support person or if I insist on being the leader, then this connection will not manifest all of it's great qualities. Keep this in mind. Some Birth Cards are not that well suited to be in supportive roles. These are generally the Kings, Aces and Tens because these cards are usually found in positions of leaders or decision-makers. So they would not want to play the support role for someone else. This is not always the case, of course, but it is a good general rule that holds true in most cases.

**The Venus Connection in Business Relationships**

Venus connections are good in any relationship and always increase the chances that these two people will be able to coexist harmoniously and happily. Venus, which rules the sign of Taurus, is also connected to money. People with Venus connections often have the same or similar values. This makes working together go easier because they are often doing it for the same reasons. The Mutual Venus connections are always the best because they are multidirectional. Both parties receive the Venus energy at the same time.

**The Mars Connection in Business Relationships**

The Mars connection is one to watch carefully. Sometimes it can be very good and at other times, very bad. The problem with the Mars connection is that as humans, we tend to blame people who are our Mars card for things we don't like. It's just the nature of Mars, the God of War, to go make war with others. War always implies retribution, which implies some form of blame. And being less than perfect humans, we fall into blaming our Mars cards for a host of things. But people with Mars connections don't always go around fighting. Mars stimulates them to work and to work hard. If the two people are working for a common goal, Mars energy can be put to good use without the negative side effects. So, the rule I use is this: If there are two or less Mars connections between the two people involved, it probably will not become a problem. If there are three or more Mars connections then there is a much greater chance of some altercation between them. This can become even more exaggerated if there are also some Saturn connections between them. The combination of Mars and Saturn can be quite dangerous. Its like nitroglycerin. Nothing much happens until you shake it too much. I will talk about Saturn later but just keep in mind that some combinations of Mars and Saturn connections can result in very challenging situations. In personal relationships alone, Mars/Saturn combinations can produce all forms of abuse. I have seen business partners who have three Mars connections and three Saturn connections. This is like a time bomb. Someday it will go off.

The last thing about Mars connections is that when relationships with a lot of Mars energy end, they often end badly. This is once again because of our tendency to place all the blame on our Mars cards. Since nearly all relationships end sooner or later, it is wise to consider this. Anger and blame are probably the most prevalent negative energies in our world today.

I suppose I should say some good things about Mars too, because there are good aspects to it, not to mention the fact that most relationships have one or more Mars connections. Mars can be the most productive of all the connections. People with Mars connections are stimulated to produce more, to do more. This is very important in working relationships where your success may depend upon how much you can get done. Just make sure that you find some constructive, positive outlets for Mars energy with whomever you have these connections with and it can reward you with a very productive company.

**The Jupiter and Cosmic Reward Connections in Business Relationships**
The Jupiter connection is to business relationships what the Moon connection is to marriages. That is, since the very purpose of business is to make money, Jupiter is the best connection to have for those kinds of relationships. With Jupiter, there is a natural propensity towards prosperity. Any two people with a lot of Jupiter connections are going to make more money just by being together. There is a directional quality to Jupiter connections, just as there are for most of the connections. And the one who is receiving the Jupiter energy is likely to receive the most. For this reason the best partners in business are those who have either mutual Jupiter connections or who have more than one Jupiter connection, going in both directions. Jupiter connections never do any harm to any relationship. A Jupiter connection in the Spiritual Spread can indicate a deep connection on a philosophical level. This can be very meaningful in a business relationship where there is a strong sense of purpose to their work together.

The Cosmic Reward connection is very much like the Jupiter connection when it comes to business or working partners. It does offer the same prosperity type influences and in some ways it is more important if the relationship has any sort of spiritual purpose to it. Cosmic Reward benefits tend to manifest more over time and thus are ideal for relationships that are intended to be long term.

The Saturn and Cosmic Lesson Connections in Business Relationships

Among business partners or relationships, Saturn is very important. Someone who is our Saturn or Cosmic Lesson card may very well be a reminder to us of what our work should or will be. Saturn governs the 10th house in astrology, which represents our career and our role in life. Saturn is the teacher, the father, the taskmaster and the authority figure. For these reasons it works well in business when the boss or supervisor is Saturn to someone working under them, but not usually vice versa. If you are working for someone who is your Saturn card, they will see all your faults and know what you need to improve what you do. If you respect them as an authority and someone to learn from, this can be a very positive interaction. Constructive criticism and helpful suggestions are what they have to offer you. However, if you don't respect them or if you think you don't need any suggestions, a Saturn relationship can be destructive and cause a lot of conflict.

If you are a boss or manager yourself, it is good to have others that work for you or with you be somewhat under your control. In these cases, it is good for you to be Saturn to them. With your being Saturn to them, you will be able to see them as they really are and make honest assessments of their work. Being someone's Saturn card gives you a special advantage in that way. Because you will be seeing them as they truly are, you will be able to deal with them that much more effectively.

If there are three or more Saturn connections, it could also be destructive. Generally, the only time that any two people are attracted to work together who have three or more Saturn connections between them is when one or both of them have a self-worth or self-image deficiency. People who do not accept themselves and inwardly think that something is wrong with them attract Saturn relationships like a magnet. They do this because they want to see their own self-rejection clearer. They use the person that is their Saturn card to reflect their own self-criticism so that they can become more aware of it and eventually come to love themselves. But in the process of learning these lessons, there can be a great deal of conflict and sometimes-destructive behavior. This would not be wise, in a business sense, to create this sort of interaction with yourself and someone else that you work with or for. While it may serve a useful spiritual purpose, it will do little to further the success of whatever business you are in.

Again, watch out for Saturn/Mars combinations in relationships. These can be the most destructive of all, making mortal enemies out of the parties involved.
Saturn connections in the Spiritual Spread are less likely to exhibit the negative aspects. The lessons are still learned, but usually on a more subconscious level. Just the presence of a person who is our Saturn card in the Spiritual Spread will be a reminder to us of ways that we can become more successful. They usually will not outwardly tell us what we are doing wrong, etc.

**Cosmic Lesson** connections act much like Saturn connections but the person who is our Cosmic Lesson card usually does not feel compelled to criticize us as the Saturn person does. This is a lot like the Spiritual Spread Saturn connection. But the Cosmic Lesson card is someone who is a symbol of what we can become in our life to fulfill our obligation to the world at large. They provide us with a glimpse of what we can become that will help those around us on a much broader scale.

**The Uranus Connection in Business Relationships**

Overall the Uranus connection is fine for business relationships and doesn't have much of an impact with one important exception. Whoever is your Uranus card will generally behave, from your point of view, in an erratic and unpredictable manner. Remember that this is only from your point of view since they are your Uranus card. When you need them to be somewhere at a certain time, it is likely that they will not show up. When you least expect it, they do something that both surprises you and upsets your plans and the timing of things you had planned. This is not intentional on their part and no matter how hard you try you will probably end up with some Uranus people in your life anyway. But for business interactions where your success definitely depends on someone else being at a certain place and time, it is better to avoid those who are your Uranus card. You can learn a lot spiritually from such a relationship, such as how to not have expectations of others, but it will not help you make more money. Other than this, Uranus relationships are great friendships.

**The Neptune Connection in Business Relationships**

Neptune connections are ones to watch out for in business relationships and really in all business dealings. The reason for such caution is the deceptive possibilities in the Neptune energy. In many of the classic cases of deception there was a strong Neptune connection involved. One of my clients was jilted out of ten million dollars by a ♦ man who was his Neptune card. The problem with a Neptune person is that they have the ability to tell us what we want to hear and to appeal to our subconscious. It works much the same way as personal relationships but in business there is the added incentive of financial gain to consider. The fact is that all people in business are in it to make money. Regardless of what you may think of their motives, they are there to make some money. When you meet someone who is your Neptune card you are going to be more gullible. You are much more likely to believe what they tell you and to accept their verbal promises in lieu of actual results. Secretly you want something from them too but when Neptune is involved you will be inclined to believe that you are helping them out, all the while they could be ripping you off. Of course these relationships always end badly when the deception is revealed. Not all Neptune relationships end this way but you should be especially wary of them when the person you are dealing with is one that is more prone to dishonesty as in the case of my client. Beware of Jacks, Fives and Threes and some others if they are your Neptune card. They will immediately sense this power they have over you and they are more likely than other cards to act to take advantage of it.

**The Pluto Connection in Business Relationships**

Pluto is very much like a Mars connection, but can be much more intense. With Mars you get mad at someone. With Pluto you can become so upset or feel so personally threatened that
you may want to kill them. It is not that anyone who is our Pluto card will deliberately try to upset us. But energetically they have a way of stimulating our deepest urges of both self-destruction and self-loathing. Now, this represents what can happen in a Pluto relationship to the negative extreme but it is something to become aware of. This would be especially true if there were also some Saturn and Mars connections in the relationship. It works like this: Saturn equals criticism. Mars equals blame. Pluto equals revenge. Get it? These combinations can be dangerous and are something to generally avoid.

But on a positive note, we may choose to work with someone who is our Pluto card because we really like how they are and want to be more like them. This person will act as a role model for that which we want to achieve. This is an example of a positive expression of Pluto's energy in a relationship.

**Karma Card, Same Birth Card and other Connections in a Business Relationship**

Same Birth Card and Karma Card connections both have a strong mirror effect to them. In other words the two people involved will see aspects of their personality reflected in the other person. The trouble is that most of the time two people are involved in these sorts of relationships, one or both of them have pushed away some aspects of their personality. They have negated it. For example I have seen numerous examples of married 3♣ men who are extremely possessive and controlling. They live by the creed that the marriage vow means everything. But the truth is that these men are the ones who have the strongest desire to play around. But for whatever reason, they have pushed that part of their personality down and completely ignored it. Perhaps they had a father who played around on their mother and they want to be everything that he wasn't. Whatever the case, these are examples of a certain card who is completely denying the expression of certain inherent qualities of their card. They are the ones who are most likely to attract a mirror. Perhaps they will attract a 5♦ girlfriend (their first Karma Card). In any event, the way the universe works is that we always attract what we love most and what we avoid most and this is usually the reason we find people who are the same Birth Card or who are Karma Cards together.

This is not a great problem but it wouldn't be my first choice for working relationships because it creates too much intensity. There can be too much turmoil and drama and can run counter productive to success in business. In Karma Card relationships this intensity can be doubled or tripled. This is because of the karmic debt aspect of the relationship. At first it may seem like a good idea to hire someone who is your second Karma Card to work with you. After all, this is the card that owes you, right? But if you look further, you will see that you are their first Karma Card and this means that you may remind them of qualities within them that they don't care much for. This increases the chances of them getting mad at you. A second Karma Card may be a good idea in some cases, but I would check for other Mars connections too. For example, my second Karma Card is the 9♦. My Q♦ Birth Card happens to be the Mars card to the 9♦ in the Spiritual Spread. So, I have found that I can make 9♦ people mad without even trying and even if I try not to. This generally would be a combination that I would avoid for any relationship where we would be interacting on a regular basis.

Karma Cousin connections are not a problem at all because there is no mirroring going on.

So, now you have some tools with which to make more informed choices in your businesses. The last thing to say is that there will be many times in which you will not have much say over who you work with. You may be employed by a company and they are the ones who decide who you work with. But to whatever extent you do have some control in this area, this information will make a big difference.
The Law of Intention

The law of intention states that what happens to us in life is created not by what we do, but by why we are doing it. If there is one truth about life that makes all the difference in our success and failure, and in our happiness and unhappiness, it is the understanding of this one principle. One could say that the $A\spadesuit$, the card that is the symbol of the Order of the Magi and of all the ancient mystic traditions, is also the symbol for the understanding of this truth. This is because the $A\spadesuit$ represents the truth that lies behind the Maya (illusion) that we see in life. Intention is very much like this. It is the truth that lies behind our actions, thought, and words. It is the motivator and if we examine the process of creation carefully, we see that intention is the determining factor in the results we achieve, not the acts themselves which is what is commonly held to be true.

Recently I read a book that described a process where each day a person is to review their goals in life. But instead of just having us make a list of our goals, this author took the process a step further. He said to make a list of goals and then review each goal on the list and ask myself, 'what is it that I really want from the achieving of that goal?' 'What is it that I am seeking that this goal will serve to fulfill in me?' This is a powerful and challenging thing to do. It is challenging because it causes me to look within myself for the deeper meanings to my actions, etc. This is something that most people have never done and if you haven't done it before, you will find that it requires more concentration and self-awareness than you might expect. Also, looking at our goals in this way reveals very intimate details of our life, some of which we may have been wanting to avoid or keep secret. However, once it has been done, it is also much more powerful than just making a to-do list. What I found out was that many of the things on my list of goals had common intentions. Without getting too personal here, I will say that I discovered that many of my goals had the ultimate intention of fulfilling parts of myself that I felt unfulfilled about. And these unfulfilled parts were old friends of mine, things that I have been working with, off and on, for my whole life. What a revelation that was!

We really don't want to talk about what we are really up to, what our real intentions are. We want everyone to believe that we are doing things for such and such a reason and leave it at that. However, for each person the real intention behind their work, actions, etc. is usually something much more personal and self-oriented. Sure, others may benefit by their achieving their goals. But ultimately it was done for their own, personal reasons.

In the past few months I have learned how to fly an airplane. It is something that I always wanted to do and something that I was afraid I would never learn how to do. So, I went out and found an instructor and began taking lessons. A person usually does their first 'solo' flight about ten hours into their instruction. And I was approaching that point but for some reason I couldn't master landing the aircraft. I would just get real afraid and over control the plane during the landing. At that point I thought I would never get beyond that point. My instructor was wise enough to know what to do and he helped me get over my fears and just 'fly the airplane' as he would say. From then on, I have had no fear of flying whatsoever. This gave me such a feeling of accomplishment that I was high for two or three weeks. Even now, months later, I get quite a rush out of going flying. What I realize about this is that my true intention in learning to fly was to feel that sense of accomplishment. It helped me to take some pride in myself and to give myself credit for something that I valued. Therein lies my hidden motivation. What I was seeking was more self-respect and self-confidence. That was my true intention. And having these two, self-respect and self-confidence, has been one of the long-term themes of my life. Here is was again, now in a different form, but still the same thing occurring on an inner level. Wouldn't it be nice if I could just give myself all the respect and confidence that I desire without having to achieve anything to
deserve it? Sure it would! And that is the kind of realization that comes from taking a closer look at our inner intentions.

I don't know exactly how it happened or why I do it, but I have developed a habit of always asking myself what others' true intentions are, and of not looking at what they are doing on the external level. Things that people do rarely impress me anymore. When I see some great sports figure or really any person of fame I am not impressed until I discover what their true intentions are. I know too well that most people who achieve great things are doing it because of a huge inner lack that they feel. Sure, I may tell myself that I wouldn't mind having all the perks that they have, the things that come with accomplishing what they have. But even those things would not interest me if I had to also feel the great sense of inner poverty that some of these folks experience on a daily basis. The people that really do impress me are the one who just love what they are doing. Those are the ones that I search for when I need a service done. Wouldn't it be nice, for example, to have someone care for your lawn who truly loves lawn care, landscaping, etc.?

It isn't that hard to see if someone's intentions are love-based or fear-based. People whose primary motivation is some perceived lack are unhappy. They strain at what they do, they struggle. They are interested in the reward found at the end of what they are doing and not in the doing itself. They don't enjoy the process of getting to their goals, only the goals themselves. Because of this, they generally make more mistakes and do a sloppy job. They are often angry and they may bitch and complain a lot about their working conditions. They whine. And their condition generally gets worse as time passes.

Some people devote an entire lifetime of work and effort to prove that they are something. For example, many people perceive themselves as having been rejected by their father. From then on, all their actions, all their striving to be perfect or successful, are all motivated by their wanting their father to accept them. There are people who have attained the heights of fame and fortune who were motivated by this one basic thing. But what happens to someone in this frame of mind? Usually the result of such a life is that after all their struggles they still feel empty inside and unfulfilled. The lucky ones realize at some point along the way that they cannot keep waiting for their father's approval, but instead must give it to themselves.

But this brings us to a very important point about intention. If you get this clearly in your mind you may never need exhaust yourself trying to be anything again. And here it is: All the time we spend doing things to try and prove that we are something or someone simply reinforces that which we are trying NOT to be. Let's say that I think that I am unattractive. So, I go out and buy nice clothes, get makeup, maybe some plastic surgery, workout and lose weight, etc. All these actions, on the surface seem to be remedies for my condition (unattractiveness). But all the while I am doing these things, inside I am reinforcing my belief in my unattractiveness. It actually has the opposite effect of what I think I am doing. Action is a powerful thing. It tends to create and recreate things in our life. If any action is based on the belief that you are lacking in some area, it's powerful energy goes towards making more of that very lack we perceive. Even if I were successful in making myself attractive, my inner state would have actually increased more into the belief that I am unattractive since my intentions were based in that lack. This is why we find rich people who never have enough money, beautiful people who have low self esteem and choose abusive relationships, and others who drive themselves nearly to death to prove that they are okay.

Finding out our own intention and those of others around us puts us in touch with a higher level of truth. When we do this we have less surprises. For ourselves, personally, this can save us decades of effort and struggle. It's never the thing or person that we are really interested in, it's what having that thing or person makes us feel about ourselves. Why not go directly to the source and just give ourselves what we really want? In dealing with others, knowing their true intentions tells us what to expect of them and how to deal with them effectively. It may help us create a circle of acquaintances that are better for us - ones that support the good things we want
for ourselves. All in all, being aware of everyone at this deeper level can make us walking mystics.

The Credit Deception - 5/98

Most people are unaware of just how much they are being tricked into continual poverty by the misuse of credit cards. It is one of the eternal truths that the rich get richer and the poor get poorer and this little article about credit cards explains just one small, but important facet of that truth.

When we use credit cards, we often don't even realize that we have spent any money, especially on a subconscious level. I remember how I used to think about credit card purchases in the years just prior to my declaring bankruptcy, whenever I would buy something with my credit card, I would think, 'Let's see, that's only going to cost me $30 a month for five years. I can afford that.' It is really unbelievable. In my mind I was only spending $30 dollars, but in reality I might have been spending $600 or much more as I will show you later.

Anyone who uses credit cards to buy something that they don't have the money for is making a big mistake. Credit cards were not created to allow you to buy something that you cannot afford, unless of course you really want to become a slave of the credit card companies. If you take your money to a bank right now and put it in a savings account, you might be able to get 2% or 3% interest on your money. But the credit cards are making 15-20% interest on your money, much more than you could ever make. If you cannot afford to buy something, don't buy it. Or, better yet, save up your money and buy it when you have it.

Let's look at an example here. Let's say I want to buy a new washer and dryer for my house. Together they cost $1,000. I go out and spend a lot of time and energy to find the best ones for my money. I decide upon a set that costs $1,000 and I am very proud of myself because I found them on sale and saved $150 off the regular price. Then, I turn right around and pay for them with my Sears credit card, which costs me 18% interest. How much am I really paying for that washer and dryer? Would you believe $1500? There is a free loan calculator on the web at: http://ussfcu.org/loancalc-ns.htm. Go there to calculate the real cost of things you are buying with a credit card. So, by using a credit card I am paying, in this case, 50% more for the item than I need to. Is it any wonder that the poor get poorer?

People who have the cash to just go out and buy something always save money, often in a big way. Many merchants will give you a better price if you have the cash on hand. You can haggle with them, as you flash your money in front of them. So, by using cash you have more purchasing power all around.

Now, there are times when you will have to use credit. Not many people can, for example, afford to buy their home or even a new car with cash. But whenever you can, get rid of your credit. Even buying a home on credit is a really bad idea when you think of how much more you are paying for it than the actual sales price. It is probably the single, most expensive thing you will ever buy. And add another 50% to the sales price and you will see just how many more years you will have to work to pay for it.

Smart people know how to use credit cards to their advantage. They never pay interest on anything. They use their cards as a convenience to get things by mail and otherwise that would be more difficult to do with cash. Then, they pay off the entire balance at the end of the month, having paid zero interest. We have at least five credit cards. We have used them extensively for the past five years and have paid no interest on any of them. Neither have we paid any yearly fees for the privilege of having them. What a crock! Credit card companies asking you to pay a yearly fee for the privilege of using their card. We have always been able to find plenty of cards that charge us no yearly fees and give us a low rate. And, on top of all of that, if you pay yours off
each month like we do, they increase your credit limit again and again, year after year, even without your asking for it. You can even get mileage on major airlines and other goodies without having ever paid any interest.

Want to be part of the rich that are getting richer? Start using your credit cards instead of allowing them to use you.

Amazing Books - 7/98

My life has been a series of great books, each of which has changed my life in some significant way. I have this knack for finding books that have information that really works. I have decided to share some of these books that I have put into practice with those reading our newsletter.

The book this month is one I read and put into practice this past March. Since then it has caused a transformation in the quality of my life. I have not done much physical exercise in the past 2 years, having slowly wound down my physical activities in favor of work in front of my computer. I had been feeling very tired and old and been noticing more signs of aging than ever before in my body. I am 45 years old and I suppose I should expect it. But I was feeling tired and pretty rotten overall. Then one day I was surfing the internet when I chanced upon a web page which talked about the Five Tibetan Rites of Rejuvenation. Interesting to me in particular because I had learned these five rites about 15 years ago when I was living in a yoga ashram. I had forgotten them however. Well, on the web page I was looking at they mentioned that someone had written a book about them so I went over to Amazon.com and ordered it. Sure enough I got it a week later and read it from cover to cover. It is a small book and anyone can read the entire thing in an afternoon.

The next day I began doing the five rites just as described in the book and within a couple of days I began to feel the effects of these powerful but little known exercises. After 3 months now I have noticed many wonderful changes. Actually I have seen some signs of aging actually reverse themselves! Could you believe gray hair turning back to its original color? These five rites are not an exercise in the traditional sense of the word. They are not designed to tone and strengthen the body, though they do that to some extent. What they are actually designed to do is get the seven chakras, or energy centers of the body, to spin as they do in a person in their early twenties. Though the entire set of exercises takes only 20 minutes or less to complete, many people have reported remarkable changes in their bodies and energy levels as a result of doing them.

This book is called Ancient Secrets of the Fountain of Youth by Peter Kelder and Bernie S. Siegel and costs less than $10 at Amazon.com. If you would like to see some remarkable changes in your energy level and health in general, this could be the information you are seeking. Doing these exercises has also had the side benefit of causing me to have an increased interest in health and other forms of exercises in general. One final word is that this book will do nothing for you if you do not put it into practice. But I guarantee if you do these consistently for just one week you will notice some wonderful changes in your physical state of being.

The Card Patterns of our Life - 7/98

Our Birth Card and the cards in our Yearly Spreads reveal certain important facets of our life and tell us which issues we will have to contend with over and over again throughout our life. Our life is more or less a series of repeated experiences designed to teach us important things about life itself. But each of us will have his or her own unique experiences that are based upon
our past karma and that which is up next for us in our own personal path. Most of us are aware that we seem to keep having the same kinds of experiences over and over again. A close examination of our time cycle cards will also bear this out and reveal some interesting patterns.

As they say, all of our destinations are the same. We will each inevitably reach the same place of total understanding, what is also called cosmic consciousness or universal knowledge. But each of us will choose an individual path to get to that destination. For this particular lifetime, our cards can provide a clear reflection of our chosen path and the particular aspects of life that we want to develop and learn more about.

I say we each choose our time and place of birth and that there are no accidents. This means several things. For one, we choose our sun sign and our Birth and Planetary Ruling Cards. This also means that we preclude other cards and experiences that they may offer us. Every choice we make is by definition a decision to preclude other things from our life. When we choose one thing we un-choose others, sometimes many others.

Among the Birth Cards there are many that have many things in common. For example, all the cards of any given number share some essential qualities. The same holds true for any two cards of a given suit. But there are other cards that share even more in common than just their number or suit. Take the Q♦ and Q♣ for example. These two cards have so many cards that are very similar in their life spreads. They each have a Three as the first Karma Card, a Three in Mars, a Seven in Saturn, a Jack as a Pluto Card and a Nine as a Result Card. That is a striking example of how some cards share many sorts of karmic patterns. Is it any surprise, given the above example, that my mother is a Q♣ and that I am a Q♦?

But some cards have very distinctive life paths and have little in common with other cards. Take the K♠ for example. None of the other Kings have anything close to resembling their life spread. The point here is that our particular choice in this lifetime has several implications. Sometimes we choose to be a card, like the K♠, with whom very few people have anything in common. In other lifetimes we may choose a card like a 5♣ who can usually relate to most anyone and shares a commonality with most other cards in the deck. So, the particulars of our choice go much deeper than just the suit and number of our Birth Card.

You may feel that you are very much like someone else you know whose Birth Card is different from yours. But your personal issues will probably be much different and uniquely yours.

There are essentially 45 different yearly patterns of experience, reflected in the first 45 quadrations of the Grand Solar Spreads from which our Yearly Spreads are derived. What this means is that no matter how long you live, you will not have cards in certain positions. For example, most of us will never have the J♥ in Venus. That only occurs in the Yearly Spreads of the 7♣ and 9♥.

If you take a minute to look through the first 45 of your yearly spreads you may notice many cards that you will never have in a certain position. I just quickly went through the yearly spreads of the 6♣ Birth Card. I found no instances of the 2♥ in the Mercury position and no instances of the 4♥ in the Venus position (except once as a vertical card at age 4). Now, either one of these is not that significant. But if I were to go through each and every card in the deck and see which ones the 6♣ person has and doesn't have in their yearly spreads, I would be able to begin to draw a picture of their karmic pattern for this lifetime. The cards that we have are just as important as the ones we will not have - both combine to tell us more about our destiny and the issues we must face in life. Also note which cards occur more frequently than others. For example, I noticed while looking through my yearly spreads that I have the 8♠ in Venus four times. That is quite a lot when you consider that some cards will never have that card in Venus.

Our seven-year spreads are taken from the very same spreads that make up our yearly spreads. Our seven-week, and 7-day cards are also taken from these spreads. What is important about this is to realize that when we are born we choose to have a certain number of patterns of
experience, many of which are repeated over and over again. Being a Q♦ means that I will not have any of the yearly spreads of any other card. I may have similar yearly spreads, but never the exact same. And mine are a reflection of the personal and other issues that I must face during the course of this one lifetime.

The seven Fixed and Semi-Fixed cards display some of their uniqueness in their yearly spreads. For example the K♠ person will never have a J♥ or 8♣ anywhere in any of their yearly spreads or otherwise. Likewise the 8♠ and J♥ will never have the K♠, while all of the other 45 cards will have the K♠ several times during their life.

I enjoy studying the yearly and seven-year spreads for the individual Birth Cards to see some of these patterns. The seven-year spreads are particularly interesting to me because they are influences that last such a long time in our life. Each seven-year period has a Long Range, Pluto, Result, Environment and Displacement that all influence the entire period. Imagine if you had some really great card as a Long Range card for seven years. My Destiny Cards book does not display the seven-year spreads per se. But if you read the section beginning on page 109 you can determine for yourself what your seven-year influence cards are. Some people have great fortune in these seven-year spreads, which add to the meaning of their Birth Card’s unique path in life.

For just one example, look at the 4♥ card, who displaces the 8♦ for the seven-year period from ages 35-41. The 8♦ spot is called the Sun Position and can bring fame and reward. Can you imagine having that good fortune for seven years in a row? There are other cards that will have this seven year Sun card displacement, but only a handful. Most of us will never have that experience. And this is just another example of how each of us has unique experiences that contribute to helping us learn whatever lessons we have to learn in this life of ours.

Chapter Eight of Destiny cards opens the door for more study of these particular patterns in life. It is by no means a complete treatment as one would have to do a careful study of each Birth Card and go through each of the first 45 yearly spreads to determine all of the unique patterns displayed by the various cards. But each of us here can take a closer look at our own spreads and discover more about our patterns in this life.

Another important point in all of this is when we realize that these spreads, whether yearly, life, weekly or whatever, represent particular processes that we go through. Your weekly spread right now is one of your yearly spreads. You have probably been through this sequence of cards before and will probably go through it again, either in a seven-year, year, a seven-week period or a week's time. What do we learn from these ordered series of life events? For example, why would someone have a really great money card in Jupiter followed by a really difficult one in Saturn like the Q♦ has at age 60 (10♣ in Jupiter followed by a 7♠ in Saturn)? Or what about the 4♣ person at age 44 (8♦ in Jupiter followed by a 9♦ in Saturn)? Also check out the 4♣, age 35 for another example of this pattern. These and many other patterns present themselves to us, often repeating in various forms over and over again throughout our life - and NOT THE OTHERS. We only get the ones for our Birth and Planetary Ruling Cards and there are so many other combinations and series of experiences that we will never have.

So, we each have these unique set of experiences, many of which repeat themselves over and over again throughout our life. And as you probably know by now each card has many levels of meaning. This means that we all have the opportunity to elevate these patterns to higher and higher levels over the course of our life until we can have nothing but positive experiences. I invite you to take a closer look at your own life patterns and see what is and isn't there. It could provide another useful mirror of your personal path, one that accelerates your ability to embrace your life as it is.
Behind Every Card is a Person - 7/98

Many of you will, whether by choice or by happenstance, end up using your knowledge of the cards to help those around you. When that time comes you will have an opportunity to put what you know into real practice. This is where knowledge meets experience and you will get an opportunity to discover whether the things you have learned about the cards has any real value in the real world. I often do radio shows to promote my book. These radio show hosts are primarily interested in one thing - more excitement and interest in their show. My primary interest in for more people to purchase my book. What sells books and gets people excited about the radio show is when I am able to astound someone on the air by telling them something about their life that was a secret. These people want predictions. The people calling in for free readings want to know if their life is going to turn out right, if there is some more money or love in their future. Unfortunately I have done enough readings to know that these cards are not going to change someone's life. I know now that what is more relevant in terms of being accurate in my predictions is what kind of person I am talking to, what are their most important motivations and where have they put their priorities in the past. In short, I know that it is the person behind the card that makes the card, and not vice versa. And it is that person that I want to address, to speak to whenever I am in the position of counseling because my real desire is to help others, not just to give them some entertainment without purpose.

So as we look at people around us and those that we come into contact with we will find out what their card is. Their Birth Card and Planetary Ruling Cards will act as signposts, but not as the bottom line. Each card represents a collection of personality traits. But that card doesn't always tell you the underlying cause of those traits. You could collect 50 people, all born on the same birthday and would come up with 50 different lives that evolved from 50 different childhoods that took on different meanings. But all 50 will have many traits in common. When you examine people whose Birth or Ruling Card is the 8♠ you will find they all may be somewhat addicted to their work. But you will have to look deeper to discover why each one exhibits that behavior pattern. And if you decide that you want to help either of these 8♠ you will have to find the person behind the card in order to do so.

Along these lines I am more interested lately in seeing the patterns of causality with various cards than just knowing the outwardly manifested pattern of behavior. Much of my study has been of the numbers of cards because I find that numbers often reveal the inner state that creates the expressions we see in people. Take the Four, for example. In the Four person we invariably see a strong sense of security. Astrologically that translates as 4th house and the sign of Cancer. These traits will often be prevalent in the natal chart of people whose Birth or Ruling Card is a Four. This drive for security is the hidden motivator that is responsible for much of a Four person's behavior, but it isn't the entire story because that security can take many forms and the need for it, being so outstanding, can have many deeper causes. The 4♠ for example is a hard working person, very family and security oriented as a rule. What is often missed about this card is that they have the A♦ in Saturn. This Ace in Saturn speaks of an unfulfilled desire for money. Any Ace in Saturn can manifest as a yearning for something that is difficult to achieve. Imagine the 6♦ person who has an A♥ there. So again, the cards reveal something about the 4♠, a deeper level of understanding. We have this hard-working, family-oriented person who is often driven by an inner sense of financial lack. This understanding gives me more to go on when I talk to any 4♠. But still, if I were to counsel them I would want to know the person even more. I would want to know what sorts of childhood experiences contributed to this apparent sense of lack. I would want to know what internal conflicts this person had that prevents this flow of prosperity in their life. And finally I would want to show this person their conflicts so that they regain their power to have any sort of life they chose.
You see, we are all limited by our cards until we understand how we created our life to be as it is. And along with this statement comes the obvious conclusion - we can transcend our card and all of its influences if we embrace it and seek to have this deep level of understanding about it. Most people in this world live their lives as victims - victims of some huge cosmic joke that is being perpetrated upon them. They just don't see any connection between what happens to them and their internal state. Most are really not that aware of their inner state at all to begin with. It is a sad statement of the condition of our current place in time but it is very true. So, whenever someone asks me, "Robert, is it possible for someone to transcend their Birth Card?" I feel compelled to reply in an overly cautious manner that yes, it is, but few have actually done it. The people who ask this question are on to something but they usually have no idea of the mechanics of transcending. To most people transcending really means 'escaping from'. These people are still stuck in their victim consciousness, hoping that something or someone will scoop them up and relieve them of the mundane and not so fun problems that compose the real substance of their life. Very few people are interested in seeing their inner conflicts that are the true cause of all their limitations.

I recently watched a biography of the Nelson family, Ozzie and Harriet and the rest. What really struck me was Ricky Nelson. I never really knew much about him but I used to really love his music when I was a kid. It turns out that Ricky spent most of his life trying to prove that he was a real musician. He wanted desperately to be approved of by his peers in the music business and to be regarded as an equal by the rock n roll legends of his time. His most famous song, Garden Party, states this quest in the best words possible: "You see you can't please everyone, so you just have to please yourself". Alas, he was never able to actualize these words for himself. He never realized that his need for approval came from an inner lack. He kept looking outside himself for this approval, all the while denying it to himself. He died a drug addict and alone after being on the road performing for over ten years, trying to find this vital element that he perceived he lacked. Ricky Nelson was a Taurus ♉ by the way. The trick here for you and I is to discover how we could have seen and understood some of these deep inner conflicts by knowing his cards better. How could we have predicted this conflict knowing his birthday? And what would you tell someone you were counseling whom you saw this same set of personality traits being manifested? Would you look in the cards and try to find indications of approval from his peers coming in his future? Would you say to him, "Oh yes, I see in your future a time when everyone will hail you as the greatest rock legend of all times"? Or would you try to help him become more aware of his inner conflict? That's what I would do. And I would do that because I would wish for him some real relief for his condition, not just some fantasy escape that would make him feel good for a few moments in time.

Your Significant Other - 7/98

Who is your significant other? Among all the relationships that you maintain in your life, which is of primary importance to you? Which is the one that is most dear to you, the one to whom you pay the most allegiance? I say this would be you. Your relationship with yourself is your most important relationship. But, I also know that it is one thing to hear this statement and another thing altogether to truly see its significance for ourselves. I have heard this said for years, read it in many books and have told this to many people myself. But it is difficult to convey the full meaning of this simple truth. And that is what this article is about. If we can really understand this relationship with ourselves, we may have the key to the door of our personal happiness.

In most of the readings I do for others, personal relationships are the most important topic. People want to understand their partners and lovers, often wanting to know what their partners or lovers will do in the future. "Will he come back to me?", "Will she ever divorce him?"
and "Will he ever divorce me?" are standard questions that come up a lot. And here I am doing a reading for this person and all they want to know is what their partner or lover will do. Something never feels right about that to me. I know that the real answers they are looking for are not found in their partners but in themselves. So a lot of my work is just to get them to see their own roles in the relationship and take the focus off of what their partners may or may not do.

Relationships are a powerful force in our lives and it is one of the most challenging things to get some true perspective on what is going on. And there is a good reason for that. Our relationships are mirrors of ourselves.

See if you can get this picture for a moment. I am doing a reading for a woman and I ask her to describe her partner. "Tell me", I say, "the things you like and dislike about your partner." As she answers my question I am looking at her natal astrological chart, reflecting on her inner issues. Invariably whenever I ask this question of anyone in a reading, the description I get is an exact description of how this person feels about themselves. It is amazing. You see, a person's astrological natal chart reveals our own inner conflicts very clearly to the person who understands how to read it. A chart shows how some parts of someone's personality are competing with other parts. Once you can see these conflicts within a person, as revealed by their chart, you will be amazed at how their choice of partners reflect these conflicts. Here is a common scenario:

"My partner is weak and needy. She clings onto me too much. She gets afraid every time I want to do something and I never get to do the things I want to do because of her." These comments would come from a man (or woman) whose chart revealed a conflict between their dominant, masculine side and their feminine side. Essentially, within this guy there is a conflict between the part of him that needs and is sensitive and the side that is outgoing, aggressive and competitive. His masculine side just doesn't like his needy side. However, his needy side is strong in its own way. So strong, in fact, that he chose a partner that personified those characteristics rather than the dominant aggressive side of his personality. And this brings us to the real point of this article.

We always choose a partner that will reflect to us some parts of our personality that we have difficulty seeing or being with. Read that statement again. It is just so important to understand. After all of the years of doing readings and counseling people I would say that this is THE primary reason for relationship in the first place. Relationships help us resolve inner conflicts by creating a strong reflection of ourselves. They help us to see who we are in a way that nothing else can. This simple fact explains a lot of aberrant relationship behavior patterns. Actually, it explains ALL relationship behaviors. But look at a few examples to see how this works.

Take first the person who stays out of relationship for long periods of time. They have a lot of 'close calls' but very few relationships of any length or depth. Often this is because of fear. Fear of what? Fear of what they will have to go through if they get too close to someone. And just what is this 'stuff' they will have to go through? It takes many forms but mostly it is just the fear of getting hurt or abandoned and all the manipulating and arranging they have to do to keep this from happening. It is a lot of work. This person wants love desperately. So desperately in fact that if they were to be in a situation that even 'appeared' like they were being rejected, they would be devastated. Their needs for love are extreme and they have been extremely denied this love by their efforts to protect themselves from hurt. All of this comes from within the person. It has nothing to do with who they are with. No matter who they choose they will be very afraid. But invariably, this person will be attracted to someone with very similar traits, someone who will help them see that which they cannot see for themselves. And because both are so afraid of being hurt, their relationship will be this little dance of getting closer, followed by the fear of being hurt, and then pushing each other away again. This sort of pattern occurs frequently in people whose Birth Card is the Q♣, 3♦, 6♦, and A♠, all of which tend to have tremendous fears of abandonment or betrayal.
Another very common scenario is the person who attracts a partner who is abusive towards them in some way. This abuse can take many forms, from a little verbal haranguing at times to dangerous physical abuse. Each is just a matter of degrees but what they all have in common is that one partner is highly critical and down on the other. We all like to take great pity on the poor woman who is physically beaten by her husband for years and years, but what is really going on here? Everything about abusive relationships becomes crystal clear when we get back to the mirror principle. The only people who end up in abusive relationships are those who already abuse themselves and are down on themselves. This is what society and the media fail to recognize and probably never will. The person being abused in an abusive relationship already hates them self. However, they are rarely aware of this fact. And that is precisely why they need someone in their life to abuse them. It may sound cruel but if we cannot recognize our own self-hate, we inevitably must have a hateful partner to help us see this. These people are already down on themselves and believe they deserve some terrible treatment, to be punished. The reasons why they feel they need punishment are varied and unique in each case but they all have this guilt and self-loathing in common. And that is the real crime, their self-hate. I don't blame the abusing partners in these relationships because I know where the abuse began and who perpetrated it and set it all up. Again it is their relationship with themselves, their significant other, that is really calling the shots. And, interestingly enough, when this person who harbors so much self-hate discovers their own feelings about themselves, they often quickly let go of that abusive relationship.

So, if we just take a moment to create a description of our partner in life, we will arrive at a pretty accurate description of how we feel about ourselves. Consciousness is so badly needed in today's society that very few people ever get the opportunity to find out what relationships can mean beyond serving as a mirror of their hidden feelings about themselves. Until any of us can acknowledge who our partner is to us in this regard, we cannot go forward into some of the other meanings that relationships may have in our life. But developing this sort of awareness is a huge step in the right direction.

Anyone that you are attracted to can show you something about yourself. And the more attraction there is, the bigger the gap between what you know and don't know about yourself. If you take the single most addictive or powerful relationship of your life you will have a capsulated mirror of your relationship with yourself, dramatized to the max. A healthy and positive attitude to have towards relationships in general is that they are tools for learning more about ourselves. If we use every relationship in our life to learn from, some of the usual concerns will cease to be important, such as whether or not you are married. From the spiritual point of view relationships are just great vehicles for personal growth, and that's it.

The Age of Light - 7/98

Many of the most ancient texts available today speak of the grand cycles of time that our earth goes through. Some of the wisest men in the ancient past have put forth a concept that our planet goes through long cycles of either light or darkness. For example, many are familiar with the term 'the dark ages' which refers to that time in history after the death of Jesus Christ. But beyond the Christian terminology and chronology there is much more. Indeed it is folly to assume that civilized man has existed for a mere 10,000 years or less.

Some of the most well preserved ancient texts are found in India where records of civilizations dating back millions of years are to be found. There are many recorded stories of peoples who lived thousands and hundreds of thousands of years ago and some of these are quite interesting. They are most interesting because they speak of times in which the cultural norms were very different than today and in many ways much better.
Both the Bible and the ancient Indian texts do agree on one thing and that is that this current age in history is one of the darkest to be found. As I reflect on the condition of our society and world today I have to agree. It is nearly unbelievable just how far we have departed from any standard of truth and love in our current world. I am not one to predict doom and gloom and I don't. But I do see what is around me. I am aware of current conditions, popularly held beliefs, the average intelligence and consciousness of people in our world today. And what I see is low consciousness, ignorance and confusion as the norm of our world today.

The appalling things we see happening in the world today have all been foretold by different books and prophets. Events transpire now that would have been unthinkable in other times. We are continually shocked in our society, but not by the great things that people do. We are continually shocked, and at the same time entertained, by just how low someone can go - how brutal, heartless, uncaring, murderous, vile, cutthroat, mercenary, materialistic and unforgiving they can be. We are almost to the point where there is little that can get our attention. Having already had every bastion of morality twisted and perverted and put on the news, it takes a lot nowadays to make headlines. Children killing each other with guns in schools, racist crimes of all sorts, leaders of nations unworthy of any admiration, the selling of sex predominating our media and advertising, the abomination of all established religious organizations by individuals who abuse their power, people killing each other in the name of some God or spiritual belief, abuse of children in all forms, people without any sort of morality or consciousness of how their actions affect others, and governments intent on making slaves of their subjects. These are not the signs of an enlightened age in our history. To the contrary, these are signs of the lowest stage of man. These are the actions of men and women without morals or consciousness.

From our limited point of view it can seem that the world has always been this way. At no time in our recorded history are there examples of civilizations that were not governed by greed, lust and power. But those times do exist and have occurred. However this was a long time ago. For example, in the Indian system of time cycles of the earth they have what are called Yugas, which are cycles of many years. According to their calendar, we entered the Kali Yuga, our current age, about 8,000 years ago. The Kali Yuga is one of complete darkness and amorality. But the age before that was one of greater light and consciousness. It was not the highest age of light but just one step higher from our current age. But even in that age many people had powers that we would consider miraculous now. Some possessed magical items that could accomplish amazing feats while others merely had the power that whatever they spoke of would eventually come true. Truly righteous kings ruled many countries and as such, righteousness was the standard that was the norm. Crimes were few, not because of harsh punishment but because it just didn't occur to most people. All of this was just one step up from our current age. Just imagine what the highest age, the Age of Light (Satya Yuga), would be like. That age is four steps higher than ours.

In our current age, the righteous people are the minority and are in danger of being completely exterminated. Just look at the Salem witch trials and the Spanish Inquisition for examples of this. Even the Order of the Magi and the science of the cards had to go underground for several centuries just to protect the knowledge they held.

I think it is important to bear all of this in mind and to keep a broad perspective on what is going on around us. Many think that with the dawning of the age of Aquarius that many wonderful and positive changes would occur, that we would be moving into an age of light. But if the ancient texts are correct, this age of darkness will last many thousands of years beyond now, perhaps even hundreds of thousands of years. It always brings us back to the same place though, doesn't it? It is up to each of us individually to bring up the standards by which we live our lives. No changing of the ages is going to do it for us any more than a change in the weather or our government. As Sting says in one of his songs:

"Men go crazy in congregations, they only get better one by one."
More Amazing Books - 9/98

While living a monastic life in my early twenties, I did a tremendous amount of reading on books about self-development and spiritual truths. One such book that really made a big impression on me was called *The Nature of Personal Reality* by Jane Roberts. This is one of the Seth books, the most well known of which is called Seth Speaks. Seth was a disembodied being who channeled through Jane Roberts a number of books about life, the cosmos, and the structure of many dimensions of experience beyond the earth plane. The Nature of Personal Reality is probably the most practical of the series in that it explores our lives here on the planet and just how we each create on a moment by moment basis the experience that we call our life.

Reading this book caused a huge transformation in the way that I viewed my world. I began taking much more responsibility for the things that happened to me because I was now able to see and understand the dynamics behind the manifestations that I was being confronted with on a daily basis. This book even has some exercises that help one to trace particular experiences back to their root causes, which is also unusual for a Seth book. There were several people I knew at that time in my life who were all benefited by this incredible book, and all of us agreed that this was one of a few books that had so much spiritual value. I have a small library of books that I will never sell. This book is one of them.

A New Take On Card Meanings - 9/98

This is not a new idea by any means but you have probably had a similar experience where something you already had thought about in the past suddenly takes on an entirely new meaning. This is what happened to me a couple of weeks ago as I was pondering over the meaning of my Long Range Card for this year, the A♦. I was comparing what I have already experienced this year to that card to see what connections I could find when I realized that being under any particular card's influence is essentially the same as becoming that Birth Card. In other words, I become like the A♦ person this year because that is my Long Range Card. I believe this occurs for everyone and not just with the Long Range Card. I see this occurring for the Planetary Period cards as well.

Take a look at your Long Range Card this year and then look up that card in Love Cards. Get familiar with the specific karma of a person who has that Birth Card. Chances are that you will be acting much like that person this year, or at least living in their shoes to some extent. The same will hold true for your current Planetary Period card, but in this case, only use the direct card from your Birth Card's Spread. In either case you may find some additional and valuable information about what is in store for you by going this further step.

We can learn a great deal about what we will experience when we study the Birth Cards that match the cards that we are being influenced by. For example, if your Long Range Card this year is the 5♣, besides feeling very restless and dissatisfied with things in your life, you may also be tempted to enter into a secret affair, which is another of the 5♣ traits (denoted by their A♠ in Venus). Another outstanding 5♣ trait is that they have the 7♦ in Jupiter which often brings windfalls of money with little or no effort. Many Birth Cards have specific character traits and karmic patterns that may ascribe themselves to you while you are under their influence. I would suggest that you study your Long Range and Planetary Period cards in this manner to see these effects in action.
When we first discover this remarkable card system we are often searching for some answers in our life. As we begin to study we are comparing our experiences with what the books have to say to validate its meaning for us. Then, once we are satisfied that this system has some meaning or value for us, we begin looking in our present and future for the things that we want from life. We begin searching as we ask questions such as 'Do I have a marriage card coming?' and 'Do I have a good money year coming ahead?' We are then looking at the cards from the perspective of our individual needs, desires, expectations, unfulfilled dreams as well as our hopes and fears. This is a natural process that nearly all go through when first exposed to this system and many of us will keep looking ahead for the good things to come. At the same time, however, we often develop a dread of the cards that we want to avoid more than anything else. The ones with the worst reputations are the 7♠, 9♠, 6♠ and A♠. And of course, the Saturn period, which tends to bring out the worst in any card that is found there. Any six, seven or nine in Saturn can be very challenging. We often go back in time to see what cards we had when some terrible event occurred. Usually we find one of these 'bad cards' there.

So, along with the good things we are hoping and looking for we also develop this aversion to certain cards, just as we like to avoid certain kinds of experiences and people in our lives. As Anthony Robbins states in his book, Unlimited Power, we will do much more to avoid unpleasant experiences than we will to pursue pleasant ones. It becomes a natural human tendency to start focusing our attention on the cards that we want to avoid more than anything else.

The only problem with this approach is that we have ceased the learning process and externalized our power. Now, we are giving our power away to the cards, looking to them to make our lives better. And we are now also at their mercy. These bad cards always show up sooner or later and so we are doomed to be their victim at some point.

The cards were never intended for this sort of use and I never support anyone using them in this manner. I teach a Decision Reading in my workshops where the cards are used to help us make a decision. Nearly every time I lead this exercise a few people in the class want the cards to answer Yes or No questions for them. They will ask something like 'Should I end this relationship?' or 'Should I quit my job? This is a very powerless place to be. What I recommend asking is 'If I decide to end this relationship, please show me what is in store for me. Also show me what is in store if I stay in this relationship or show me what I need to learn at this time to get to the next step in my development.' This approach encourages empowerment.

I have as many bad cards as anyone else. In fact, my Birth Card is considered to one of the worst in terms of hard luck and challenges. But when taken from the position of learning and growing into more self-understanding, all of my cards are great. I don't shrink away from challenging cards because I realize now that my biggest advancements in self-understanding came through the most difficult experiences in my life. I may get down, depressed and miserable for a period of time. But my intention is to learn. I know, and I really mean know, that any challenges in my life are ones that I have created somehow. I have had to face many very unpleasant realizations about my life through the challenges that have come to me. But there has never been any that didn't leave me more enlightened in the aftermath.

Having essentially lost my fear of bad cards and bad experiences, I am much more available to enjoy all the bounty of life and the great cards that are always present in my life. A shift in my personal perspective has made a profound difference.
Your Vertical Long Range Card - 9/98

Yes, you actually have two Long Range Cards. I'll begin by saying that just to get this out of the way. This vertical Long Range Card is also very useful. It gives you a more full and complete description of your Long Range influence for the year, often revealing another dimension to the year that you could not see with just the Long Range Card alone. Read carefully and I will tell you more about it and how to find yours.

The Long Range Card itself is actually very similar to a card found in one of our Planetary Periods. It is part of a series of seven cards that governs a particular span of time. The only difference is that the Long Range Card governs a one year period as opposed to a 52-day period. And there is a vertical Long Range Card, just as there are Direct and Vertical Cards for the Planetary Periods. The card that is listed in Destiny Cards as the Long Range Card is actually the Direct Card for that period (of one year). On page 109 you will find a section on the Seven Year Cycles. Read this section carefully and you will have the tools to look up your vertical Long Range Card. Follow this example to see just how it works:

Suppose you are a 10♣ and you are 37 years old. You will find all of your Long Range Cards, from ages 35 - 41 in the Age 5 Yearly Spread. You would take a look at your Yearly Spreads, on page 270. If you compare all the Long Range Cards in the spreads from ages 35 to 41 with the direct cards in your Age 5 Spread, you will see that they are identical. While looking at the Age 5 Spread you can also see the vertical Long Range Cards as well. So, if you are 37, your Long Range Card is the Q♠ and your vertical Long Range card is the J♦ (the one under the Q♠ in the Age 5 Spread. This may seem complicated but once you have gone through this a couple of times, it is quite easy.

This vertical Long Range Card can give a lot more meaning to your Long Range Card. In the above example, we might say that this person is developing self-mastery (Q♠) for the year, but in relationship to learning how to be more creative financially (J♦). They might be working as a salesman or learning how to promote themselves better on some level. The J♦ could also point to a certain Diamond male who is playing a prominent role in this 10♣ person's life this year.

This is really all there is to it but often this additional information can make quite a difference in the meaning of what a particular year has in store for us. I suggest that you use this technique for yourself to explore its value.

Reality and Faith - 9/98

Those acts and events that we perceive as unfortunate are in fact divinely guided and orchestrated. It is only our inability to perceive the underlying cause of things that prevents us from understanding that life is always and ultimately an experience of love. Because we cannot always understand the love behind the events in our lives, we take a diminished view of life and begin to believe that life is a terrible thing or that we have been singled out for some sort of malicious punishment. This can further expand into a sense of self-rejection, thinking there must be something essentially 'wrong' with us for having such bad things occur for no apparent reason.

However, as our perception expands we see more and more that life is, and has always been, guided by a loving hand. Ultimately we find ourselves completely surrounded by a loving God and His creation. We live in a world where there is nothing that is not God Himself. And God is love.
Perception expands. Though it may take many lives, its expansion is inevitable. Pain and suffering are the main causes of increased consciousness. They show us when we are out of sync with the truth, which is also called reality. By the gradual realization of pain's message to us, we can search for the truth when we have lost it. The act of searching for the truth attracts that to us, thus relieving our suffering. Ultimately, our suffering will be a thing long past and our lives will reach higher and higher levels of joy, fulfillment, peace and happiness.

One powerful way to attain higher consciousness is the use of faith. If, whenever we are experiencing unpleasant or otherwise unfortunate events or acts, we make the leap of faith to know that even these acts have a loving source and reason, we will be shown this same truth much quicker. In other words, when we look for love, we find it. Faith is the bridge that crosses the rivers of pain, suffering and ignorance. But faith is not the only way; nor is it one that all will choose. There are many paths to the truth and each will choose their own. None are better than others in the eyes of God. However, faith is the fastest. Faith can transcend time and end the wait.

If, during a period of supposed misfortune, one chooses to look for the loving reasons for such events, they will be found and that one's faith will be strengthened. Faith involves the surrender of the mind and it is for this reason that it will be most difficult for some. The act of bowing down to a religious figure, placing one's head upon the feet of a spiritual master, these are symbols of surrender of the mind to a higher force. Surrender of the mind and its eternal ranting, attempts to find solutions and fearful imagery is not something that comes naturally for those brought up in this mentally dominated culture. It goes against tradition and our cultural conditioning. However, it can be achieved by anyone and will offer immediate relief since most of our pain resides in the mind in the first place.

To walk the spiritual path means to constantly create and re-create your world as a loving, magical and wonderful place where there are increasing numbers of desirable possibilities. Connect with your God within, whatever you choose to call Him, and your ignorance will be replaced by an increasing understanding of your ability to live a life full of love beyond measure. That path begins here and now.

Energy - the Heart of the Matter - 9/98

Life is really more about energy and energy management than most people realize. It all boils down to whether you have energy or not. If you have it, you are having a good time, in spite of circumstances. If you don't, you are having a hard time, also regardless of what is going on around you. Those days that you feel good are the days that your energy is flowing good and that your source of energy is functioning on a high level. So, it is in your best interest to learn everything that you can about your personal energy so that you can have it consistently and abundantly. There is a lot to know and many techniques available that can help you harness it, tap into it, and retain that continuous flow that is characteristic of successful, happy people.

Lack of energy doesn't really exist. What I mean is that there is limitless energy available to all of us, all the time. No matter how bad or down you may feel at any moment in time, there is always plenty of energy available to bring you up and out of it. But don't get me wrong. There are no quick fixes available when someone has spent many years developing negative energy losing habits. These habits must be addressed, one at a time, in order for us to experience what it is like to be a high-energy person. But there are some really amazing techniques that don't take long to get dramatic results from. These will give you more energy to play with if you actually do them as described. And beyond them, each time you bring more awareness into your life in respect to how you use your energy and more specifically how you lose your energy, you will
find that your energy lasts longer and brings you more and more positive experiences on a consistent basis.

It may surprise you to hear this but low energy might just be the only real problem you have in life. I think after you read on you will come to agree with this. Each state of energy has corresponding emotional states and behavior patterns. But beyond this, each level of energy has specific patterns of perception that color the life we live. When we move from one energy state to the next we actually move from one reality to another. In each reality there are conditions that are true only for that energy state. In low states of energy, for example, there is lots of fear, competition and conflict. There are corresponding beliefs and habitual perceptions that go with this state. Things like "It's a dog eat dog world" and "Life's a bitch and then you die" are all part of the low energy reality world that many people live in. Beliefs such as those like 'other people are out to get you' and that 'life is a struggle' are also part of this low energy reality. Those realities do not exist in a high-energy state.

You can take a person who is firmly rooted in this negative reality because of years and years of being low energy, give that person a boost of energy and instantly they will no longer believe any of those things or attract those kinds of experiences in their life. The change in reality occurs instantly when our energy level changes, either up or down. The down energy state is much like the hell that we imagine bad people go to when they die. There is eternal damnation and suffering. The high-energy state is likewise just like the heaven spoken of by some religious sources - a place where blessings abound and love is the order of the day. The point here is that when you change your energy state, you completely depart from the reality you were in. So, to stay in heaven all you have to do is learn to keep yourself in a high-energy state. It's not really that simple because the way that we keep our energy down is multifaceted and often complex. But just knowing that all you have to do is get into a high-energy state to change your life can actually change your life by itself.

So where do we begin when it comes to getting back to a high-energy place? Are there any shortcuts or tips that can help us get there sooner? Well the first thing we can do is to stop doing some of the things that habitually keep our energy low. We do many of these without realizing that we are doing it. Actually, many of us are afraid of having high energy. It is much like women who keep themselves in a perpetual very overweight condition. Often they do this because they are very afraid of the consequences of being attractive to the opposite sex. There are many personal reasons why one would choose to remain low energy. But often when we make that choice, it is not something that we do after thinking about it and reviewing all of our available options. We usually do this as an internal reaction to a very unpleasant situation, but without really thinking about it and making the process conscious. These things channel our energy in such a way that there is very little left over for enjoyment of life. So, review the short list below. These are the most common ways that we keep our energy down. See if you are doing any of these and if you find that you are, ask yourself what you might be getting out of staying low energy.

1. lack of exercise, a sedentary lifestyle
2. overeating or very bad diet choices
3. too much sex
4. anger, blame and hostility towards others
5. doing work that we don't enjoy
6. sleeping a lot
7. substance abuse
8. poor health or lingering health problems

There are probably others but this is a good place to start. Each of these can decimate your God-given energy and it only takes one or two to keep you locked into a world where things
are not so great. If you can eliminate these, your natural energy will come forward and you will feel better, even without actually doing something energetic. Essentially you are just removing the energy drains and things that block it or siphon it off into unproductive activities.

Then, once you eliminate some of these you can tap into some techniques for actually raising your energy level. There are many products on the market that claim to raise your energy levels. But if you don't first eliminate the drains, and whatever associated reason you had for keeping yourself in a low energy state, none of these will work. Actually, when you address your own personal reasons for being low energy you may not even need any techniques or products to get your energy up. After all, you do have just as much as everyone else. Its just a matter of where it is going.

In my last newsletter I spoke about a series of exercises called the Five Rites of Rejuvenation, also called the Five Tibetan Rites or simply the Five Tibetans. I have found these to be one of the most powerful techniques to restoring a high energy state that I have ever found. Actually I would have to say they are simply amazing. And they only take 20 minutes a day. Results are nearly immediate and there are continued benefits as you keep doing them consistently. If you are interested in learning more about these, call me or read our last (July, 1998) newsletter.

However, if internally you are committed to staying low energy, you will not have any interest in these or any other things that could help you. I am always amazed when some people completely ignore things that are so good for them. But I have learned that we all have a timing to what we do and when. As they say, 'when the student is ready, the master appears'. So it is with all good things. It is only when we are fed up with some negative pattern in our life that we even have an interest in something that could greatly help us.

Another powerful method that brought dramatic results for me in the past was the macrobiotic diet. It was a hard diet to maintain, for sure. When I did it I gave up all sweets, dairy products, wheat products (including pasta) and refined products. I ate mostly brown rice, cooked vegetables, miso soup and seaweed. It was a very boring diet. But I experienced a dramatic transformation in my energy level after 2 months that I will never forget, along with the disappearance of many small, annoying physical ailments. If you ever consider doing this diet, make sure that you first get a complete education on it. There are many good books and classes that one can utilize to become fully informed.

As far as supplements and diets are concerned I just want to say a few things. Many of the supplements that come and go promise to give you things that you want. They speak of deficiencies within our bodies that can be corrected by taking these things internally. Well I am aware that many of them do work, though usually a lot less than advertised. But wouldn't it be better to have a method of achieving good health and high energy that didn't require you to become a distributor in a multi-level marketing product? And wouldn't it be better to have a method that didn't require anything external? I certainly prefer this over taking some supplement. And there are many other reasons why some supplements should be closely considered before signing up. The body is a complex organism and usually these supplements try an isolated attempt to correct something without regarding the whole picture.

An entire book could be written about energy and its management. This article was just to get you thinking about it and to increase your awareness in this important area. I hope you will experiment a bit and find a way to get to a higher and happier level in your own life. I think that once you start looking at your life from the point of view of personal energy your new perspective will grow into a gradual refining of your thoughts, words and actions that will result in an ever-increasing energy level. You will truly say goodbye to your problems and move into a new world full of wonder and joy. Inwardly we all know that this wonder-full world exists. We have tasted it at one time or another and know that it exists. However, our society, much like the popular X-Files series, believes that the truth is 'out there' somewhere. That is truly far away from what is true. The real truth, beauty, love and high-energy is all found within ourselves. When you
begin to realize this you will cease everything that has never worked for you and start doing things that do work. Then, your world will change.

The Law of Attraction - 9/98

In this world there exist a myriad of possible realities that we can live in. Our world is all the more interesting because of the many choices of lifestyle, location, prosperity level, occupation, and relationships. Some of these choices may be commonly regarded as highly desirable while others would be those that most of us would choose to avoid at all costs. But to God and our soul, as well as to the enlightened man or woman, all possible experiences have the same value - they are only experiences and nothing more. As they say in India, "to the enlightened man, a lump of clay has the same value as a piece of gold". But in our minds we have an entire host of experiences that we would rather avoid and an entire list of others that we would love to have in our lives. Regardless of what we may think, it is the law of attraction that is responsible for the experiences that we do have, day in and day out. And if we observe this phenomena closely we can see the act of creation at work. This law of attraction of which I speak is none other than "Like attracts like".

I was driving down the interstate the other day, going about ten miles an hour over the speed limit, when I saw a state trooper in the median strip just after I came around the curve. His car was moving slowly and as soon as I passed by him, I saw him get on the freeway and turn his flashing lights on. My immediate thought was, 'Well, here I go getting a speeding ticket again'. But instead of getting upset about it, I just hung out with myself as I watched him in my rear view mirror, getting closer and closer. I began to slow down as as he got near I pulled over into the right lane, preparing to be escorted off of the roadway as I have been before. However, this time he just sped past me, apparently having clocked someone else before me that was going much faster. I was very relieved to discover that I wasn't going to get a ticket but it caused me to reflect on what I am attracting into my life. I asked myself, 'Is there some reason that I need a ticket? Some reason, perhaps subconsciously, that I am wanting one?' That experience caused me to reflect on what thought and feeling forms I was projecting about driving and about my relationship to the posted speed limits. In the past I have attracted speeding tickets. But this time I was sure that I didn't want or need them. Throughout that day, which ended up being a 650-mile road trip, I had many close encounters with the police as I was consistently speeding. But in each case I was never pulled over. I realized that I had stumbled upon something important here.

I recently had a client who was seemingly surrounded by people who had been murdered. Her father had been murdered, her best friend's brother and an ex boyfriend had been murdered. Now it is very rare for me to meet anyone who even knows of someone who has been murdered. So when I meet someone like this I immediately become very suspicious about why they would need such experiences in their life. It is like they are playing with fire. And it is only a matter of
time until they get burnt, or in this case, hurt or killed. Her current boyfriend, who was the reason she wanted a reading, was apparently carrying a gun and perhaps dealing drugs. I immediately sensed that this woman had some internal death wish or otherwise thought that she deserved to die or come close to it.

These extreme examples illustrate how the law of attraction works. Most of us are unaware of this process going on but it is there just the same, silently working behind the scenes to make sure that we get the things that we really need on a soul level. The things that we say yes to in life are those that we in some way think or feel we need. You may tell me that you really don't want to live a life of poverty but I say that if you are, your actions speak louder than your words. You may say that you don't enjoy being in a nowhere relationship with no intimacy or affection but if you are in one, then your words are meaningless. What we do attract reveals what we feel and think at a deep soul level. You cannot separate the external from the internal. We can only attract exactly what we are inside, no more or no less.

This can be a very hard concept to grasp. Many would look at the things in their life and say, 'No way did I create all of this!'. And yet, when you do begin looking at the things and experiences in your life as reflections of what is going on inside, everything begins to make perfect sense. Along with that comes a feeling of renewed power as you connect what is inside you with your life.

So, bearing all of this in mind, does it make sense to keep pounding away at external circumstances in order to effect a change in your life? Certainly not. If you want to see some real changes, get to the true source of the manifestations. Get down with yourself, do what the Bible says, 'Seek ye the Kingdom of heaven within'. It is much harder to do this than anything else you will ever do. And that is why the rewards are so great too.

There is a saying that holds very true in this area of life. It goes, "You don't get what you deserve in life (or love for that matter), you get what you settle for." If you are unclear of what you have settled for, just take a quick look at your life and you will find it there in living color. And this applies to every single area of your life, not just your job, money or relationships. Using our external life as a mirror shows us exactly what we think we deserve, not what we imagine we deserve or even that which we have proclaimed to others that we deserve.

We take reality as truth and always work it backward to find out what is inside. This is a very powerful technique that I use in the readings that I do. I find the external areas of conflict first. These are easy to find because they are always the parts of a person's life that are not working. Whenever I hear someone say, 'I just don't have as much _____ as I want', I know we are talking about some internal conflict. Life is really a very magical place. The very moment we get clear about what we want, it will appear. The lack of anything is always an indication of a conflict inside. Part of us wants it while another part doesn't. We can only attract a conflicting external manifestation because of our internal conflict.

So, how do you begin to eliminate the things in your life that you don't really want anymore? Just say no. You don't have to shout it out but you do have to be absolutely resolute about it. I have a second sense about people who have violent potential, for example. I can tell within minutes if a person has that kind of personality that could explode in anger and violence. Whenever I detect that in someone I immediately put distance between myself and them. I really don't need that in my life. I don't talk to them, I don't do or say anything that would attract them to me. And they immediately begin to fade out of my life. It's really about the power of choice, used with awareness. The fact that my client, which I mentioned earlier who had all the murders around her, hadn't picked up and left that scene tells me that she had some internal need to be face to face with her own death. There could be many reasons for this but the result is that she is attracting murderous people in her life, 'dangerous people' to use her words. Maybe she just wanted some entertainment or something to scare her out of her complacency. Whatever it is, I know for certain that she is doing it by some design. It isn't just 'happening' to her as many people will try to get you to believe.
For this same reason I have little pity for those who end up in tragic situations. If one would take the time to investigate their history and tendencies, you would usually see a pattern. This person attracted that tragedy just as you and I attract the things in our life. We all operate under the same God-given power. There is no one on this planet that God said "Sorry, I am not giving you the power to create." No, he gave each and every one of us that power. We are made in His image and likeness. The esoteric meaning of this statement is that like Him, we are given the power to alter our destinies by making choices. No one is a victim here so let's get with the program and begin harnessing this power and using it for fun, love, peace, happiness and prosperity.

The Ambiguous Six of Clubs

*The peaceful Six of Clubs*

They really must confess
they will not always do
the things that they profess

Lying is a funny thing. And yet it is something that we should understand as much as possible because it occurs in our life on a pretty much regular basis. I have written many times about how the most creative cards, the Jacks and Threes, can be liars. Creativity seems to bring with it a gift of story telling and a responsibility to use that power responsibly, which these cards often have some trouble with. But there is another reason that some cards tell lies. In this other case the reason is generally karmic in nature. In other words it is a predisposed tendency to say things that will make us feel safe instead of following the truth that we know. This comes from a past-life pattern and to some extent, all of the Sixes are prone to this tendency. It's about responsibility, and in the case of the 6♣, it is the most powerful issue because it represents responsibility to the spoken word.

We all lie at times. And even those who profess to be honest will lie when something very dear to their hearts is threatened. Ancient texts even cite examples of situations where it is okay to lie, where no bad karma will result from it, such as in the case of a situation where your life is threatened. So one must examine the areas that we lie and be clear about our reasons if one is to get a handle on the power of our word.

Our words are powerful. In the process of creation there are three stages: thinking, speaking and doing. The speaking stage is where we communicate that which we wish to create. That communication is a vital part of the process. It is the announcement on the material plane of that which we intend to manifest. In many cases, that announcement is all that is required to effect a change. Clubs know this more than anyone. They know instinctively that the word is as good as the thing. Generally they choose their words carefully and look at words in the same way a Diamond person looks at things in their life. Some are better than others. But in truth, our word is our wand - it manifests, it creates.

A person who is consistent in their speech and action develops a lot of power in their speech. To those around them, their word is as good as the thing itself. Nothing comes out of their mouth unless their entire being is behind it. Others sense this power. These people are believed easily. If they were to make a threat, for example, the other person would sense that this is more than words. A person who consistently follows through with actions is a person of their word. In
ancient India there were sages and rishis, men who did austerities and practiced meditation. These men were physically frail and weak. But the power of their spiritual disciplines made them the most feared and respected of all. With a single sentence they could curse or bless anyone. Their words always came true. They never spoke an untruth.

Trust with other people can be lost with only one lie. When we are found out to have told a lie to someone else, regardless of how small that lie is, our word has become powerless with them. From that point on, whatever we say to them is taken in light of our past inconsistencies. Like the little boy who cried wolf too many times, we are no longer taken for face value. I have known many people that I just cannot believe any more. If they say "I'll be there to meet you at 7:00 p.m., I know it will be more like 7:30 or 8:00". These sorts of lies range from the harmless to the inconvenient to the destructive. The more important the information that is being falsified, the greater the damage that can be caused and the greater the payback that is exacted when caught.

The 6♣ is a card that holds a priceless key. They are the ones who are given information that most are not privy to. This information comes directly from God and can effect powerful changes in their lives and the lives of those they touch. Those who recognize their great gift become profits and seers, guiding many to the light and fulfilling a great spiritual purpose. But isn't it interesting that so many, if not all of them, end up getting caught in a great lie that becomes literally their downfall? This is because of the importance of the information they carry. If it were just small lies, there would be little consequence. But in their lies they often betray the very God-given gift that was meant to elevate them to great heights. They hurt themselves and others in the process. This is why the price paid is often so great.

My first spiritual teacher, Yogi Amrit Desai, is a Libra 6♣. He was and is a truly powerful teacher and had a charismatic aura about him that people could feel for literally miles around him. He created a large community where I lived for 10 years. It was a monastic lifestyle in the sense that it was very disciplined and was service oriented. Above all else, he preached the value of celibacy while on the spiritual path. He discouraged marriage until the time was right and it was not allowed for us to date or have sex outside of marriage. I spent 10 years of my life there, which I would not trade for anything. But about 3 years after I left, charges were filed against him for having sex with several of the female disciples. He was eventually sued for large sums of money, thrown out of the community. He lost nearly everything. And I know that he lost that which was most important to him - the trust that others place in him and nearly all of his followers. What everyone was most upset about was the fact that he was a hypocrite. He preached
one thing and did something quite different. He is now barely believable and barely getting by. Contrast that to the multimillion-dollar thriving community of 400 disciples that he had before. That doesn't include the other 2,000 or more disciples that lived and worked outside of the ashram where he taught. He had everything. And now he has nothing in comparison to that. For me personally, it didn't invalidate my experiences or all the good that I received there. But now I cannot really trust him. I tend to suspect him of ulterior motives and the like. That is the price of his having betrayed his own word.

Six is the card of Karma. Saturn is its lord. Six people need to learn true responsibility, which in its most basic essence means being aware of how their thoughts and actions are affecting others. Saturn plays a heavy role in their life. Some of them are scared to make a mistake while others are trying to avoid looking at their thoughtlessness and the carelessness they exhibit with their words. But when you are a Six, you literally are under Saturn's constant watchful eye. You will not get away with inconsistencies.

The 6♣ sits in the Saturn column in both the Spiritual and Life Spreads. Saturn is upon them more because of the value of what they have to give, as well as the fact that they, more than others, have a tendency to misuse their gifts. In the end it will be their personal choices that tell the story of their lives. Whether they end their life with crowning success or in shame and humiliation will be decided by their choices alone.

The End of an Age

2,000 years ago or so, it was commonplace for people to be supremely selfish, hostile and warlike. It was the age of Aries then and 2,000 years before Moses was the Ram that lead his people out of captivity as he ushered in that age. It was an act of both courage and independence, two qualities associated with the sign of Aries. But as that age approached its end, all of the negative qualities of Aries became the most commonplace expression. Selfishness and violence, are two of the more prominent ones. Ignorance too. This ignorance stems mostly from the point of view of looking at the whole world as our own manifestation, as if we were the center of the universe instead of God.

Then Jesus appeared, the symbol of all that Aries was not. He was selfless, kind, compassionate and prone to making sacrifices for others, all qualities of Pisces, symbolized by the fish. He stood up in the face of all that negative Aries energy that was commonplace then and ushered in a new age, that of Pisces. In the Piscean Age there are saviors and victims. And we need a savior in order to save our souls. As Jesus said, "None come unto the father except by (or through) me." Jesus said "As ye believe, so shall it be." All of these manifestations - believing, praying, surrendering of the ego, bowing at the feet of a master, faith, and faith miracles are all under the jurisdiction of Neptune, the ruler of Pisces. And for 2,000 years he has reigned over our earth.

Now, we again find ourselves at the turning of an age, this time to the age of Aquarius. As can be expected, each new age is the remedy for all of the evils of the previous one. And at these turnings of the new ages we inevitably see the worst of the dying age as the new age moves into being. Thus, today we see all of the worst of Pisces - spiritual leaders misleading and abusing their followers, misuse of faith, alcohol and drug abuse, co-dependence and deception in many forms, communistic style governments and communities where the individual is suppressed in favor of the whole, and many others. Aquarius, on the other hand symbolizes the recognition of the beauty of each of our individual qualities, independence, self-reliance, and the brotherhood of man. However, in this brotherhood there is no savior. All are equals and praised for their unique contributions and qualities. Communication is enhanced to the max, as we can see in the internet
and high technologies of today, all Aquarian forms. Yet, in Pisces we are told not to ask questions, just have faith.

Well the time of Pisces is short-lived. It is fading out like a candle at the end of its wick. Its light dims more each day as the new day dawns with the ever-growing power of Uranus, the ruler of Aquarius. Some of us are already living the Aquarian ideals while others cling to the nearly useless ideals of the Piscean Age. This turning process is causing a bit of a separation between the people on the planet. I am not here to say, "Get on our side before it is too late". That is a Pisces expression and not how Aquarius would do it anyway. Aquarian people will respect the Piscean people for their uniqueness, even if that uniqueness is modeled after some outworn ideas. This reminds me of what I think when I see young kids today dressing up like they are living in the 60's. Some people just don't want to let go of that colorful era and that unique lifestyle epitomized by the Woodstock music festival.

But many of the Piscean oriented folks are having a hard time and they need someone to blame. So it will not be a surprise to see many of these co-dependent followers causing violence to others who no longer follow their beliefs. Expect this and be prepared. It is already happening. It is amazing how many people have died the past 2,000 years over religious disputes. Aquarius will have nothing to do with religious persecution. Whatever you choose to believe is your business.

It is interesting that the card for Aquarius is the 2♠ and that as we enter the Aquarian age it is the year 2,000. Two represents cooperation. Two represents the realization that we are all connected and that we are interdependent, but not co-dependent. We can love and enjoy each other without needing each other as each of us has his or her own direct channel to the source of all good things. Just imagine a world without lack for a moment. Imagine that someone invented a device that cost $5.00 to make that would provide anyone with unlimited energy for the rest of his or her life. Energy to fuel their car, heat their house, drive their computers. No one would have much to fight about or kill each other over. Anything that one could imagine could be manufactured from this energy. If you can imagine the implications of this concept, you are starting to catch on to the great potential of the Aquarian Age. High technology will just go out of this world. Everything we ever imagined will likely come to pass. Of course, 2,000 years from now we will have had enough of this Aquarian uniqueness and individualization. But that is another story.

Finding the Perfect Love

As we grow on the spiritual path it is common for us to learn new truths, understand them and accept them, and usually much later to take these truths in and add them to our own personal wisdom. Wisdom is the highest form of knowledge in that it is information that is backed up by personal experience. So, when we learn a new spiritual concept or idea we generally will accept it, go around doing what I call 'mouthing it' for a period of time and finally we will really get it because we have our own personal experience that instills its importance in us. I am not surprised, therefore, when I tell one of my clients that they have to love themselves before they can truly love another when they come back with a "Yeah, I know." But I can tell by their response and by what they are going through that they really haven't gotten it yet. It's there on an intellectual level, but it hasn't yet sunken in. When they do finally really get this one important truth, their lives will be changed forever.

We can tell when a truth has become wisdom in a person because now they live that truth, not just talk it up. It is one thing, for example, to say that the universe is an abundant place and quite another to actually live an abundant life. This is something that is particularly hard for Clubs people since they have such a strong tendency to believe that the concept is the same as the thing itself. With that in mind let's talk about the perfect love for a moment.
I once had a powerful 'waking dream' in which I met two beautiful people who told me they were my mother and father. Now when they said mother and father, they obviously were not talking about my mother and father on this earth plane. This was an astral plane experience. There was nothing remarkable about how they looked, except perhaps the fact that they both appeared to be in their early twenties. But when I looked into their eyes, I was overwhelmed with the love I saw there. So overwhelmed in fact that I broke down crying in the realization of just how powerful unconditional love can be. This wasn't my first exposure to truly unconditional love, but it was the most powerful. I awoke from my experience in a puddle of tears and cried off and on for several days as I took in all of the importance of that experience.

One of the things that flashed in my mind as this was happening was a realization that indeed there is real love for me. But it was much more than that. I realized that there was this place, in this case, two people on the astral plane, who have complete and truly unconditional love for me. And this love knows no bounds, it is infinite. I also realized that I don't allow myself to feel this love in my day to day life. I have made my life to be a search and struggle to find that love, but as I found out, it was and is there all along. It is still there. And I realized that it was only my own self-limitations that kept me from experiencing this love all the time. In effect, I am the one who is holding it back, keeping it out. I set the conditions by which I will allow myself to be loved, the standards I have to meet in order to be worthy of just a small portion of this infinite love. And finally, I realized just how little of this love I have been letting into my life.

And when I think of all the personal relationships, in this case, all of the women I have loved in my life, and the love we shared, they pale by comparison to this love that I experienced for but a brief moment. But it put everything into perspective for me in a new way. I could now see that all of my relationships were merely attempts to get back to this love, to have it in my life. But each time I was 'externalizing' it. This means I was expecting this love to come from someone else. And I would taste a small fragment of this love from each one that I was with. But overall, I was still a beggar at the banquet.

It only takes one experience of this kind to change a person's life forever. I am still involved in relationships. But truthfully I can never again believe or act like my happiness will be found in someone else. I have seen over and over again that it is my own self-love that is the critical factor in all my relationships. Without it, I am again the pauper. If I have decided, for any reason, that I don't deserve love, then no one's love outside of me can affect me. Though they may try to console me or tell me how wonderful I am, it is I that must open that door by myself.

The perfect love then, the true soul-mate, is ourselves. This universe is a cornucopia of love, peace, and prosperity. But we have the power to block it all out or to decide when and where we will let any of this love into our hearts. Sadly, most of us only let small drops of love fall onto our thirsty and withering flowers of life. We set up the most stringent conditions and models of perfection that we will never meet up to as our requirements for the least amount of self-approval. We are guilt-ridden for things we cannot even remember.

Each of us, no matter how advanced or enlightened we may appear, has his or her own struggle in this area. From one point of view, this is all that we are really doing on this earth that really matters - learning how to let more love in. The first step is simply to recognize just how love-poor we really are. That is what my experience showed me loud and clear. From there we can proceed onto the quest for self-love. Whether that quest begins by trying to find the perfect relationship, still externalizing, or from an awareness that the problem is within, this is really what we are doing over the course of our life.

It is my wish that we all get our love cups filled to overflowing. But I am under no illusions about this. I know you will not get love from someone else until you allow it. And once you allow it, it won't matter to you whether others love you or not, since you will already be filled. It is a paradox, like many of those in the Bible. "He that is last will be first and he that is first will be last." "The kingdom of heaven is within." But it all follows the simple principle of like attracts like. Love attracts love. So go and fill your own cup. Put yourself in a special place in
your heart. Give yourself permission to have it all, to be happy, to be wealthy and free. Discover your guilts and withholds and eradicate them. This is all there is to do, so hey, why not get with it? There really is no time to waste.

Finally, once one can let love in, many miraculous things can occur. Then, it becomes possible to find one's true soulmate - the mirror of the perfect love we hold inside. So this is our path - to stop seeking the soulmate or perfect love outside of us. Unblock all those things that keep love from us. And then, and I can make a guarantee here, the mirror of your perfect love will appear.

The Cards and Astrology

Many people who begin studying the cards in earnest suspect that there is a direct link between the cards and astrology. Some have even tried to come up with some ways to find direct links. For example, one person I met a few years back proclaimed a direct link between the sign and degree of one's ascendant and the Planetary Ruling Card. Their theory was that the card that governed the day of the year that the sun was in the same degree and sign as your Ascendant or Rising Sign in your birth chart would be your Planetary Ruling Card. This actually worked in some cases that we experimented with, but not all, and therefore I discarded it. There may actually be some direct formula connections between the two but as of this date I have not seen them. However, after using both systems for so long I have found some interesting patterns that come to light. Though not direct connections in the sense described earlier, they are nonetheless very powerful and quite accurate.

Much of what these connections are come from two influences. First, the number of one's Birth Card or Planetary Ruling Card may indicate a strong astrological influence in one's birth (natal) chart. Secondly, some Birth or Planetary Ruling Cards by virtue of their position in either the Life or Spiritual Spread will show strong astrological influences. This may be more due to the row and column position than any other factor. For example, the K♣ sits in the Uranus/Uranus position in the Life Spread (Uranus row and column). I believe it is for this reason that we always find a strong Uranus influence in the Birth Charts of K♣. This will often manifest as Uranus conjunct or square Sun, or Uranus square the ruler of the Ascendant.

As you explore these connections I have found, always look at the Planetary Ruling Card along with the Birth Cards of the people you study. In the natal charts, always note what the Sun Sign and house are, and the position and sign of the planet ruling the Ascendant. For example, I am a Cancer Sun in the 10th house. But my Ascendant (rising sign) is Virgo, ruled by Mercury. My Mercury sits in my 11th house in the sign of Leo. These are predominantly the most important elements in the natal charts of individuals in terms of distinctive personality traits.

So, here is a list of the connections that I have discovered.

Suits

Hearts - Well this is generally a Libra, Venus or 7th house thing. But there is another important element in the makeup of most Heart cards. Since the Heart birthdays generally fall at the end of the months, we usually have people whose sun signs are in early degrees (0-10) of that sign. This is where the Hearts get that child-like quality they are famous for. Either the Sun or the ruler of the Ascendant will be in early degrees of their sign. This indicates a certain amount of immaturity and a tendency to dramatize the mistakes of that sign or house placement.
Clubs - It's definitely a Mercury, Gemini or 3rd house influence in itself. So these will show a prominent influence in the natal chart. You are also likely to find Mercury conjunct the Sun too. This is found in many birth charts, even those of other suits but it dominates the charts♣ people.

Diamonds - are money, values and this is usually a strong Venus, Taurus and 2nd house influence in the charts. It's uncanny. Check it out.

Spades - Gee, who knows? Somebody tell me. I don't see a definite connection yet but I haven't really looked.

Numbers

Aces - People whose Birth Card or Planetary Ruling Card is an Ace will generally have a strong Mars or Aries/1st house influence in their natal chart. Just as the Ace is the first card, Aries is the first sign and there is a direct correlation here. For example, I have an A♣ Planetary Ruling Card. I have Mars conjunct Sun, Sun in Cancer with the Moon (my sun's ruler) in Aries. This would not be at all apparent from my Birth Card (Q♦) but matches perfectly with my A♣ Planetary Ruling Card. Some Ace people go on to the 10th house as well. So with some Aces you will find Capricorn, Saturn and the 10th house influenced heavily.

Twos - will usually be accompanied by a strong Venus, Libra or 7th house influence in the natal chart. Two, being the number of 'the other' corresponds to the Libra way of making their partners the most important thing in their lives. This is what makes people whose Birth Cards are Twos so caring and considerate as a whole. The 2♠ will have a strong Aquarian, Uranus or 11th house influence in their charts because they are the card that represents the Aquarian energies more than any other.

Threes - Three is the Gemini number, corresponding to the 3rd house, astrologically. We will often find a strong Gemini, Mercury or 3rd house influence in the birth charts of Three people. You could find Venus in Gemini or Venus in the 3rd house frequently with 3♣ people since they are often romantically very creative. 3♣ will likely have a strong 5th house or Leo influence at work in their charts for the same reason.

Fours - Four is definitely a Cancer number, representing security. All Fours, regardless of their Sun Sign, will have a strong Cancer, Moon or 4th house influence in their natal charts, except for the 4♠, which is Virgo in nature. They will usually behave much like a Cancer too. However the 4♠ is a strong Virgo number. This is an organizer, especially when the 4♠ is the Planetary Ruling Card. In this case you can expect to find a strong Virgo or 6th house influence in the charts of these people.

Fives - Five is essentially a Sagittarian number, a number of travel and restlessness. And Jupiter, Sagittarius and the 9th house will generally be a strong influence in the natal charts of Five people. In addition to this, the 5♣ has a strong Leo connection as well. This would correspond to the 5th house in astrology so we often find strong Leo, 5th house influences in the charts of these people.

Sixes - The Six is essentially a Libra number from the standpoint of their wanting to appear peaceful and balanced, but not necessarily as partnership oriented as the Two person. This will show up as a Libra, Venus or 7th house influence being dominant in the birth chart. People with
Six Birth Cards will generally show signs of a blocked emotional nature, or at the least a cold one. This can be represented by a poorly aspected Moon or the Moon in a bad sign (Scorpio or Virgo) or house (8th house, 6th house). There may also be a strong competitive nature, which would be represented by a strong Mars in the natal chart.

Sevens - I haven't seen a lot about Sevens to this point but because most of the Sevens have 'abuse of power' karma to deal with, we would expect to find Pluto in strong (but adverse) aspect to some of the important natal planets.

Eights - definitely have a strong Pluto, Scorpio or 8th house influence to work with. I have seen a lot of Pluto squares or conjunctions in these natal charts. The power thing is almost always found in their charts. For example, I know an 8♥ woman who is Libra Rising (ruled by Venus) with Venus squaring Pluto in her natal chart. Another woman, a Virgo 10♣ with an 8♦ Planetary Ruling Card has Pluto conjunct her Ascendant. The 8♦ is a decidedly Leo influence (the Sun Card, you know), but also Saturn, Capricorn, 10th house. Expect an 8♣ person to have Mercury in a fixed sign (Leo, Scorpio, Taurus or Aquarius) or a fixed house (2nd, 5th, 8th, and 11th). It makes sense, doesn't it?

Nines - Look out for Neptune, Pisces and 12th house influences here. You will always find it. With the 9♥ expect Venus to be involved since Hearts are Venus essentially. So you might find Venus conjunct, square or opposite Neptune, or Venus in Pisces or the 12th house. But all Nines have this strong Neptune influence somewhere in their charts. It's that victim/savior thing again.

Tens - Well, 10th house is a natural for these people which is also associated with Capricorn and Saturn. But some Tens, especially the 10♥ and 10♦, will generally have some strong Aries, 1st house, Mars influence as well. This comes from the two Aces in their Life Path cards. The 10♣ could have a strong Pluto influence as these people have powerful wills. Also check for North Node in the 9th house or in Sagittarius for them.

Jacks - I really don't know much about Jacks but this is what I do know. The J♥ will have a strong Neptune, Pisces or 12th house influence. They are much like the Nines, and we could expect this with two Nines in their Life Path. The J♦ likewise will have similar influences, with an added Uranus, Aquarius or 11th house influence being pronounced as well. The J♣ will usually have a strong Uranus, Aquarius or 11th house influence, regardless of their Sun Sign. J♠? Who knows?

Queens - All the Queens will have some Leo or 10th house influence denoting their stature and pride. Q♥, a double Pisces influence, perhaps the most Neptunian card in the entire deck. This translates as heavy Neptune, Pisces or 12th house influences in the natal birth chart. The Q♦ will have some aspects that indicate the psychic ability such as Neptune conjunct, trine or sextile the Ascendant or Mercury. The Q♠? Expect some Venus-variable influence like Venus in Gemini, 3rd house or conjunct Mercury. But not always. There will be a strong Saturn influence in the chart somewhere too, like Sun square Saturn or the like. I don't know much about the Q♣.

Kings - Leo, of course, or 5th house will figure somewhat in the chart to some extent. Could be 10th house stuff too. K♥ - power with love could be indicated by Venus/Pluto connections or Venus/Mars. These folks often have a great mental thing too. Mercury usually in a good sign (Gemini or Virgo) or house (3rd or 6th). K♦ invariably have strong Uranus/Sun connections in the natal chart but I have also seen Pluto/Sun too. Another common aspect is Moon in Capricorn or aspected to Saturn. K♣ often have a Moon/Mercury connection (conjunction or square) or
Mercury in Cancer or 4th house along with the usual Taurus/2nd house stuff. All ♠️ have the 5♣️ as their Planetary Ruling Card, so expect some of the 5♣️ elements in their birth charts as well as a strong Pluto somewhere that makes them so fixed.

That's about it. But I am sure that some of you have discovered some of these too. If you write or email them to me, I will put them in a future newsletter. Actually, any insights from astrologers about the connections to the cards would be more than welcome.
VISIONS

In-Depth Articles on
The Science of the Cards
Astrology and Spirituality

VOLUME V

ROBERT LEE CAMP
GRAND MASTER ORDER OF THE MAGI
Visions
Volume V

A Collection of 54 Articles from The Voice of the Seven Thunders Newsletter

by Robert Lee Camp and Seven Thunders Publishing and friends
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From the January, 1999 Newsletter

Diamonds = Values = Prosperity

Being a person for whom every single significator (Birth Card, Planetary Ruling Card and Karma Cards) is a Diamond, I have indeed come to appreciate prosperity and what it takes to maintain it. The various Diamond cards really do tell us a whole lot about our relationship with money. Whether they show up as one of our personal significators, or in a yearly spread, we can use them as a barometer of where we are in relationship to the abundance of the universe. This awareness, in turn, can help us make whatever corrections necessary to increase our current prosperity level. Consider the following table for a minute.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Suits</th>
<th>Meanings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hearts</td>
<td>feelings</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>I perceive relationships</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clubs</td>
<td>thoughts</td>
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<td></td>
<td>I think mental distinctions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Diamonds</td>
<td>desires</td>
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<td></td>
<td>I want values</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spades</td>
<td>actions</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>I do, the will to act</td>
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We can learn a great deal about the other suits as we discuss some of these Diamond characteristics. Just translate it over to the other suit. Let me begin by asking you a question. Have you ever noticed how people in transition from one life to another, such as those changing jobs or getting divorced, usually have a lot of financial worries at the same time? It is a common phenomena and there is a reason behind it. When we are in a situation of transition, from one lifestyle state to another, often our values are either undecided or unclear. Perhaps we just don't know what we want yet. We may know what we don't want but haven't yet figured out where we are going. Whenever anyone is in such a state as this, their values (wants) are unclear. Its sort of like God is sitting there saying, "What do you want?" and we keep telling him, 'Give me a minute, I haven't figured it out yet'. This comical analogy is a good illustration of how it really works. I think this will become even clearer as we discuss the various cards in the Diamond suit.

Let's start with the A♦, which in essence means the birth or beginning of a new value - a cute little baby value so to speak. With the A♦ we have the origination of something that we want to create. It can come as a thought or a feeling but is usually both, a desire. Where the A♦ sits can determine the surroundings at its birth. For example, in the Saturn period, an A♦ could mean a desperate need for money, even an unfulfilled desire for money, one that is a hardship in some way. Or it could mean a desire for money for a health condition or a health condition that precipitates a need for more money. What all A♦s have in common is that we will now want something that we didn't before. Something is there to be desired that was not there previously. Most everything we now own or possess began this way, with an original desire. If we watch carefully we can see how things that we desired long ago often show up on our doorstep, as if by magic. And, it will usually be the exact thing. Just this week I purchased a CD of music that I had wanted long ago. As I was listening to it last night I remembered that I had wanted it and now, here it is. The more aware we are of our thoughts, and in this case, our desires, the more magical we will perceive our life because at each moment things we have desired are moving towards us.

The 2♦ brings satisfaction in sharing of value. It also likes to mix money with friendship. There is little that a 2♦ person likes more than to be making money or doing business with friends or family. The 2♦ can be considered a fortunate card to have in one's yearly reading. Though in itself it is not a power money card, it is an even number and suggests that finances are
settled to some extent. In some cases, it can mean a lot of money, such as when we find it in the Jupiter period.

Now we get to the 3♦ and this is one of the problem money cards in the deck. Itself is not a problem but people generally express it in its negative side which is worry and indecision about their values. With the 3♦ we just have too many options to choose from and cannot seem to decide on which we like or want the most. Because of this unclarity of our inner values, the external situation follows suit and we find ourselves lacking in some way. I have done many readings on radio shows and invariably a 3♦ person will call in and of course one of their primary questions will be about money. I usually tell them, "Listen, you worry about your money no matter if you have it or not, so what difference is it going to make if I tell you that you will have money in the future?"

This may seem a bit cruel to some but I think it is much more constructive to direct their attention onto the overall state of their mind than to give them some prediction that will not really make a difference. I also suggest to them to get involved in creative projects and forms of self-expression. This is the remedy for 3♦ people and for the rest of us when we are under the influence of the 3♦ card - get creative and actively involved in self-expression. But don't expect that you will be clear about what you want under this influence. It is not a time to be clear at all. It is a time of exploration of new possibilities and of branching out in new directions. One or more of the great ideas you have now will likely make you a lot of money in the future if it is something that you find you have a lot of enjoyment and satisfaction from.

The 4♦ is very clear about some of the basic values in life. It represents a drive for stability and security along financial lines. With a 4♦ present you will likely be very focused on having the essentials in life, so much so that you are willing to work hard for them and you get them. Contrast this with the state of mind associated with the 3♦ card and you see precisely why the 4♦ card usually indicates a period of good, if not excellent resources. Its not an expansive sort of prosperity though. The 4♦ means attention to the fundamentals of value. Beyond those basic needs and necessities, the 4♦ may never wander. But in any case it is a good omen for financial stability, which to some would be a great relief. 4♦ people are very money-security oriented. They generally have to work very hard for everything. Did I mention that the number four is often associated with struggle? If we can fault the 4♦ at all, it would be for never seeing above their self-created mire. They generally do not have a big picture of life as they are so embattled in their struggle for security that they miss a lot of what the world has to offer them. But there is truly no fault in any card, especially when we make the right comparison.

The 5♦ is a very interesting card. On the positive side it represents the 4♦ person who has had enough of the struggle and just decides to take off. 'No more prison for me" they shout. It represents a deep dissatisfaction on the value level. When this card appears in your cards for the year you will experience this dissatisfaction first hand. It could have a dramatic effect in some cases. Just imagine a 5♦ Long Range card. Potentially everything that you had built up (4♦) for yourself you would now find distasteful and meaningless. This would also be accompanied by a desire to travel, move or just leave. Of course it could also indicate the fortuitous combination of 'making money while traveling'. Especially in Jupiter the 5♦ could bring abundance through traveling for business. But one must realize that like the 3♦, the 5♦ represents a state of unsettled values, or values in transition, as it were. Thus we often experience financial lack during that period of its influence. Many 5♦ people go through nearly their entire lives under a sort of curse of lack. But every card can be turned into gain if one understands the key to it. The key to the 5♦ is to mix money making with these five-like traits: expansion, change, or travel.

The 6♦, being another even number, indicates a settled state of values. Thus, it could indicate a relatively peaceful time of financial stability. But it has, of course many other
meanings. It is the first card beyond the five, earth-bound value cards. As such it represents a stepping away from the material plane into a higher frequency of experience, the unseen area of life. Under a 6♦, the theory of karma is expressed. We become concerned, either consciously or through circumstances that confront us, with what we owe others and what they owe us. The settling of accounts, past and present becomes a theme. Under the 6♦ our own personal financial situation can take a back seat to our concerns about our relationship with others in a financial way. We are now concerned with the settlement of debts rather than our own financial condition, though of course our own financial condition may be greatly affected by what happens. One must first see that in the Six and in most of the cards that follow, that the concern is taken off of one's personal financial situation. We are now concerned with how we connect with others, the inner parts of ourselves, and the universe that surrounds us. Under the magic of this Six influence we could either lose or receive a large amount of money due to debts incurred long ago, perhaps even in a former lifetime. Fate is in operation and what is fate but karma working its way out? What we sow, we shall reap, both positive and negatively. Under a Six influences, the accounts will be settled.

The 7♦ represents a state of 'challenged values'. Whatever we wanted or desired is somehow out of sync with what is really good for us or for the world around us. Or, our general state of value is in disrepair and needs to be fixed up. Seven is the number of Faith. A Seven is magic itself. It has no material basis. It is based entirely in our relationship to the unseen world. Our state of mind is one of the unseen realms that we live in every day. Under the influence of a Seven it will be our state of mind that has more to do with our financial condition than any external events or circumstances. This is magic, if one can see it. For now, under this magical Seven influence, you can make money appear out of literally nothing. All that is needed is the right frame of mind and the wealth of the universe is at your disposal. But don't expect external circumstances to support you in this. Your support has to come from inside. That is what the Seven represents - external challenges that demand internal changes to experience success. All that one has learned about making money in the world will be of no use under this influence. Any manipulation of the external events will only cause more problems and more worries. Changing jobs will not work. Working harder will not work either. All avenues will seem to be blocked. However, if we just change internally all the blocks will disappear. The internal change that has to be made is primarily to a state of gratitude. Usually the problem with a 7♦ is not what we don't have, but that we are ignoring what we do have. Its all in our point of view. Then, of course, the 7♦ becomes the millionaire's card. The true millionaire is that person who lives in the state of mind of a millionaire, regardless of external circumstances.

The 8♦ is a power of values card. It is one of the strongest cards, financially, there is. When we have it, we usually are very clear and intent on making a major purchase of some kind, or of making a very large amount of money. Just how much money are we talking about here? Well, it varies among individuals since for each of us our definition of a lot is relative to what we have been earning lately. But its always experienced pretty much the same for each person. Its the power to purchase, the ability to experience the power of having a lot of money. Its like the feeling of going into a store and realizing that you can easily afford anything that is offered there. You can have anything. This is much more value power than the 4♦. With the Eight you can actually do something dramatic or extravagant in some way, whereas with the Four you may have had a little extra but not enough to spend the way you can now with the Eight. All 8♦ people get a rush out of making large purchases. In some cases it can be like an addiction. That explains why many of them are broke and their credit cards over the limit. They have used that high they get from spending to make them feel better instead of dealing with the problems that their lives present on a day to day basis in another, more constructive way. But the wise
8♦ uses their spending as a reward, a sort of treat to themselves. They first make the money, and
they are good earners. Then they spend it without endangering their sense of security. 8♦ people
know what everything is worth. The power they express through value extends into every little
aspect of spending and trading that they involve themselves in.

The 9♦ is that card which represents the death of some value or something valued. It is
the last card in the cycle from 1 to 9. It represents a value that has now run its course and must be
discarded in preparation for new values to come. Of course a 9♦ can indicate a time of financial
problems. Since we are literally letting go of something of value, it could. But it certainly doesn't
have to. If we are conscious of the cycles of things in our life we will already know that this
particular thing, job or possession has run its course. Its time has run out. We will already be
feeling the uselessness of it in our lives and will be ready to let it go. We will not fight this
natural cycle but instead will harmonize ourselves with it and let go, knowing that something
new will soon come to replace it. When we speak of something valued we must also include
ways of earning money and relationships. Because many of us see relationships as possessions,
they are often included in this. So the 9♦ could indicate the ending of a job, relationship, or other
way of making money, such as an investment.

On the more happy side, sometimes a 9♦ can represent the ending of a quest for
something that began long ago. In this case the thing or value that we have been wanting comes
to us. Isn't that interesting? Under a Nine influence we may be fulfilled. It all comes through the
understanding of the numbers in full. The 9♦ in Jupiter, like the Seven, can indicate a
millionaire's situation where some huge financial gains are conceivable.

Finally we come to the 10♦, the largest of all the money cards. In itself the 10♦
represents the largest sum of money that we can conceive of ourselves having. Jim Carey, the
comedian/actor, who is a 10♦ Birth Card, once wrote himself a check for ten million dollars. This
was years before he made it to the big time. But he wrote himself this check and told himself that
he would be able to cash it in five years. Just about five years later he was given a ten million
dollar check to do the sequel to his hit movie, The Mask. To Jim Carey, ten million dollars was
what that 10♦ meant. It was the symbol of the greatest amount of money he could conceive
himself having. I am sure that now his vision of that has increased. But at the time it was what
was true for him. Now if I asked you how much a 10♦ meant to you, what would you say? You
may say ten million dollars yourself. But would that really be true? You see, we have to examine
our value system a little more carefully to really get that answer. You may easily say that you
could receive ten million dollars but most people cannot. They demonstrate in their day to day
lives that they are not open to even a fraction of that amount. I remember the year I had the
10♦ in Jupiter. I knew how much money I wanted to make and I made it. It amounted to about
$15,000 in one month. For me at that time, that was millionaire status. That was all that I could
imagine or allow into my life.

And this is what prosperity is all about, how much can we really handle? If we can learn
anything from the Diamond cards about money and wealth it is that our inner state is the final
word on what can and cannot come to us. It is the state of our inner value that determines what
the external world can do. We are at the helm of our destiny, our world around us is conceived
from our inner choices and state of mind. If we do as Jesus Christ said we will definitely become
millionaires in this life. "Seek ye first the kingdom of heaven within, and all else shall be added
unto you." He didn't say go out and make a million bucks. But he said that 'all else', meaning
literally everything we ever wanted, will be given to those who turn their attention within to
where the real creating is done.
The Open Heart

It is the experience of an open heart that we are all truly looking for in life. Most of us are unaware of this at all, we have become so distanced from that which truly makes us feel happy and alive. But that doesn't change the fact that it is true. It is love we crave more than anything in this world. And truly, all of our actions, words and deeds are just our way of trying to get back to that love, that original love, that we have known at some time in our existence. The heart that is open is the heart that is experiencing the joy of being alive. It doesn't need an object to satisfy it or make it come alive. It already is alive and feeling life fully.

Children have open hearts. At least they do for a time. This is one reason we fall in love with babies so easily. Their heart is completely open to the receiving and giving of love. They have no judgements, requirements, or limitations on their love. If they look at you and you do not scare them, they will share that open heart with you. Children, but especially babies, remind us of how we were at one time. And in sharing our love with them we get to again taste that love which we have forsaken so long ago.

Having an open heart is what Christ was describing when he talked about entering the Kingdom of Heaven. When our heart is completely open, we are in heaven. It doesn't matter really what is going on, where we are or who we are with - we are in a state of continual bliss and wonder. The word wonderful comes from the state of being in wonder at the awe and beauty of life. If you want to become a wonder woman or a wonder man, you will have to get your heart back open. And as Christ said, "Lest ye become as children, ye shall not enter the kingdom of heaven."

When we fall in love with someone we get a taste of that love that we crave so dearly. And this explains some of the desperate measures we will take when we are in this fallen state of love. Our desperation only reflects just how important this feeling of being loved is to us. When we meet just the right person who seems or actually does accept a part of ourselves that we have kept love away from for a long time, we can become maddeningly addicted to them in a very short period of time.

There is nothing wrong with having fallen in love with someone, I personally recommend it highly. That can show us more about our heart and about the love that we deny ourselves in normal life than anything else. Not to mention how much fun it can be with all the drama and pathos that goes with it. We take ourselves much too seriously, but that is entertaining too. But though we may have some delusions while in this maddening state, at least our hearts open up a bit and we get a chance to remember that we can feel more and more beautiful things than we thought we could. After falling in love everything looks brighter, happier, funnier, more vibrant and alive. That life-giving love is flowing in our hearts. Thousands of songs have been written and continue to be written just about how good someone can 'make us feel' and they describe that state so perfectly. But guess what?

Did you ever stop to think that you could feel that way without having someone there? That you could feel in love with your life, with your self, all by your self? Wow, what a concept! True love does not depend upon some object for its existence. The heart that has been purified of misconceptions can remain open continually.

There are many paths to enlightenment. But all of the ancient texts agree that the fastest path to enlightenment by a landslide is the path of love. No other path even comes close. And there are many, many different ways to get to God. The path of love has been called Bhakti Yoga or the yoga of devotion. Essentially we just become completely enamored with God and the countless ways that he loves us each and every day.

If anyone closely examines their life they will see that really, they don't have a lot to do with its success or failure. I have a saying that I like to use that states "If you were in charge of
your heart beating, you would be dead before lunch time." Think about it. What if you really had to be the one who kept your heart beating. You'd already be dead, plain and simple. And truthfully, if we look at other aspects of our lives, we will find that we don't really have that much power. If I give a talk to promote my book, I can do my best to deliver the information. But is it me that makes these people come up and buy my book? Hey, I am not that dumb that I would think that I had that kind of power. And the more I look at my life the more I see just how little power I have. But I do have the power to do one thing, give my thanks for all the wonderful things that happen to me each day. And that is all that the path of love is all about. It is a growing relationship with the forces of the universe, call them God or whatever, that do have the power to make things happen in our life. It is the practice of true gratitude along with the subtle awareness of who really does have the power. It is powerful, believe me. And it is the Rolls Royce of spiritual disciplines or practices.

This path of love leads to things like frequent feelings of euphoria connected with very trivial events, appreciation for simplicity, harmony and peacefulness. Gentleness for others, compassion, patience, better health, you name it, the list goes on and on. And all of these are the symptoms of the open heart. You can have this experience by falling in love too. Its just that sooner or later you are going to get hurt in a big way when the expectations that your open heart are based upon get thwarted. It will not take much to shatter that euphoric state when your open heart is based on what someone else will do or not do. And you will close your heart right back up and go back to your previously miserable state. Some people become 'chain romancers'. That is sort of like a chain smoker except the person is addicted to the open-heart experience of falling in love. So, they go from one person to the next, desperately trying to keep that heart open. Well, its not the worst addiction. And it sure makes good material for movies, songs and romance novels. But oh, how tiring!

But its a path just like all others and sooner or later the person doing this path will realize why its not working enough. Or they will just decide that they need a more constant source of love. Anyone at this point is going to start looking within. That's the only place they haven't looked yet so they may as well try.

And if your karma is just a certain way, you might have the good fortune to fall in love with someone who is spiritually advanced and who can help lead you out of your confusion. They won't play games with you but will instead be honest with you. They won't fall into your 'love traps' or fall for your subtle manipulations but will instead encourage you to be free of all this fluff. They will encourage you to go for real and unconditional love. They may not 'need' you but they will still love you. Their love will be true and real though you may not recognize it as such at first since you are in unfamiliar territory. Your concepts will be blown and you will feel lost and afraid. But you may just start to love yourself and the God that keeps your heart beating every second of your days and nights. And your heart may open up to a new world and a new love. New, because you have only dreamed it was possible. Are we getting close here? Can you feel or sense the possibilities?

It's all very exciting. And it is part of our future - a planet full of openhearted people. They are already here, believe me. And maybe you will be the next to join them.

How the Daily and Weekly Cards are Computed

Over the past three or four years, many people have discussed the possibility of Daily Cards that are not randomly drawn as in the Weekly Reading. Several theories have come forth and I have experimented with these to see if they proved to be accurate. I also just examined the theory itself to see if it seemed sound or had a basis in the Science of the Cards as it was taught by Olney Richmond. Of the ideas presented to me by others, none have really proved...
themselves to be accurate or meaningful to me personally. However, they did give me the desire to find such a personal day card for myself and some ideas on just how it could be done so I am grateful to those who have shared their ideas with me and the many discussions we had on the topic.

Recently it came to me that, because of our Birth Card, we are somewhat limited as to the kinds of personal experiences we will have over the course of our life. Not that our Birth Card is in itself a limitation, but that when we make any choice, it naturally precludes other choices. We live in one body and thus cannot be in two places at the same time (though we would often want to). If we examine the Yearly Spreads and the 7-Year Spreads, from which our Long Range Cards come from, we will see that these Spreads are the essence of our life pattern. A person who is a Jack of Spades, for example, will only have his or her Yearly Spreads, and not the Yearly Spreads of anyone else. Though the Jack of Spades may actually have every single card in the deck in his or her Yearly Spread at one time or another, no other card will have the very same sequence of cards in any given year. It is a pattern that is defined by the Grand Solar Spreads, which is from where the Yearly Spreads and 7-Year Spreads are derived.

Our 7-Year Spreads and Yearly Spreads are the same on one level. For example, the Spread that governs the first year of our life and the Spread that governs the first seven years of our life are identical in every way. Every card is the same. If you look at your Long Range Card for Age 2, which is the 3rd year of your life, you will see that it is the same as the Mars Card in your Life Spread (Age 0 or Age 90). This is because the Mars Card is the 3rd Card and because our Age 90 Spread is also the Spread for the very first year of our life. Taking all of this into account, I figured that our Personal Daily Cards must also come from the same Spreads, since they would most likely be arranged in groups of seven just like the Yearly and 7-Year Spreads. When this came to me, it all fell into place and I believe I have arrived at one accurate method for determining Personal Daily Cards. That discovery lead me to realizing that there must also be Personal Weekly Cards because they fit together just like the Yearly and 7-Year Spreads. If you can follow it, the rest of this article will explain how you can calculate these for yourself. I have also incorporated this into my latest software programs, The Book of Destiny Professional for Windows, the Path of Destiny and it is on our website in the form of a Java applet. So, if this is too much math for you, your computer can do it all, without error, in a split second. I will describe those programs more later.

To get the concept first, look at your Age 0 (or 90) or the Life Spread. This is where we begin because these are the cards that extend directly from your Birth Card, which is the card that governed the day you were born. Each of those cards, from the Mercury Card through the Neptune Card, govern a period of 13 years (or approximately 1/7th) of your life. The Venus Card, for example governed your life from approximately Age 12 through Age 25. Likewise, each of these planetary cards governed one year of your life. The Mercury Card was the Long Range Card for your first year and the Venus Card the Long Range for the second year and so on. You will notice that the Venus Card in your Life Spread is also your Long Range Card for your Age 1 Spread. Age 1 implies the second year of your life. Now, imagine that these seven cards in your Life Spread also governed days and weeks. In other words, your Mercury Card also governed the first day of your life and the first week of your life. So there, in a nutshell, are the Personal Daily Cards for your first week and the Personal Weekly Cards for your first seven weeks, right in your Life Spread. The question is 'where do I go after that first seven days or seven weeks?' And the answer is, to the next year's spread. After the first seven days, you progress to the next spread, which in this case is the Age 1 Spread. Therefore, the Age 1 Spread governed the second week of your life, each card governing one day and the Age 2 Spread would be the third week of your life and so on. Likewise, the Age 1 Spread governed the second, 7-Week cycle of your life where each of the planetary cards governed one week of that
7-Week cycle. Though this may sound complicated, if you give it a little time, read this again slowly, take out your book and count, you will have an invaluable tool for doing daily and weekly projections.

The trick to using this method is to be accurate in your counting. You really need to know how many days and weeks have elapsed since your birth in order to do these Daily and Weekly layouts for the present time cycle. If you are 30 years old, you have already lived approximately 10,950 days or 1564 weeks. When you were 90 weeks old, or around 22 1/2 months, you would have had to recycle back to the Life Spread (Age 0) to determine what cards you had for that week. This is just what happens if we live to be older than 90, we start back at the beginning again. So, the first step in doing these Daily and Weekly Cards is to know how many days and weeks have elapsed since the day of our birth. The only easy way I know to do this personally is to have the computer do it. There probably is an easy way and if you know one, I would be happy to share it with our readers. Since a 40 year old person has lived something like 14,600 days, and we need to be exact, it can be a little challenging, considering Leap Year.

Once we know how many days we have lived, we can divide it by seven and get how many weeks we have lived and how far we are in that week. Each new week in this method always begins on the same day of the week that we were born. Since I was born on a Friday, my weeks always begin on Friday. Friday becomes my personal Mercury Day each week. This makes my Saturn day Tuesday and I can tell you that there are many experiences in my life that confirm Tuesdays as being Saturn to me.

I realize that this may be more trouble than it is worth to you, but I assure you, it is certainly a subject worth exploring. It will increase your knowledge of this system greatly if you take the time to figure these Daily and Weekly Cards for yourself. The Book of Destiny Professional for Windows provides these for you at the click of a mouse button. It also gives you Long Range, Pluto, Result, Environment and Displacement Cards for each week and each 7-Week period of your life. That's a lot of cards to keep track of but it is also a lot of fun and provides some interesting and valuable information.

New Year's Astrological Update

Here we are, beginning a New Year again, but this time the last of our current century. Sort of exciting isn't it? And particularly so because it also corresponds to our transition into the Aquarian Age. The number 2000 is what we might call the 'big two'. And two is the number for Aquarius and the New Age. It is the 2♠ card that is the symbol of this New Age, the brotherhood of man. Maybe this will bring some good news to all of our wonderful 2♠ friends. I certainly hope so.

Interestingly, all the planets are now going direct, no more retrogrades for a while. It was only a few months ago that we had four or five retrograde planets. Nothing seemed to be going anywhere. Now, everything is progressing along nicely. Saturn was the last to go and he just started moving forward a couple of days before the New Year. What this means is that we can all get our projects moving forward, if you haven't already. Speaking of Saturn, he is entering the sign of Taurus. He was actually already there, but only for a short while and only for a few degrees. But now he will make the full run of Taurus, which will be a challenge for all of our Leo, Aquarius and Scorpio planets. Especially if you are one of these Sun Signs, you can expect some challenges. Saturn always brings a need for hard work and self-discipline in order to combat his effects. But he can also bring rewards in the form of recognition and the attainment of lofty goals. Saturn is squaring Neptune presently and will be till the end of April. This will cause many of us to examine our dreams and fantasies as to their real validity. I predict a clearing out
of all dreams that just don't hold water, figuratively speaking. Then in July, Saturn and Uranus will be fighting each other in a square aspect. This will cause many of us to be challenged around our freedom verses responsibility issues. Outworn structures will be torn down while ill-timed bursts of individuality will be scrutinized for their authenticity. That will continue until the middle of May 2000.

Jupiter will be in Aries for nearly the entire year. Look for Aries planets in your natal chart and of course, the houses you have Aries in for some good fortune. But what is really interesting is that Jupiter will actually catch up with Saturn around May 24th of the year 2000 at right around 21 degrees of Taurus. Then they will remain together till the middle of June. This doesn’t happen too often because of the differences of their speeds. Jupiter and Saturn together will lessen Saturn's troublesome nature and cause Jupiter's blessings to exact a price of hard work and determination.

From the March, 1999 Newsletter

Age 45 - The Divine Mirror Year

Most of us studying and using the cards rarely spend time studying the cards in our Life Spread. And yet, these are probably the single most important spread of our life, far outweighing the importance of any of the yearly or seven-year spreads. One reason for this is that no one has written extensively about all the individual elements of the Life Spread, bringing any depth of meaning into them. The most complete work to date is Sacred Symbols of the Ancients by Florence Campbell and Edith Randall. In that book, these two women share some of their many years of experience in using the cards as they detail some of the possible meanings of each of the seven planetary cards found in the Life Spread. The book was written in the 1940's but still stands as one of the better works on the cards. But so much more is missing from what they have written and this subject bears a great deal more research and work.

The Fixed and Semi-Fixed Cards

But each of us has the opportunity to learn about our own Life Spread at age 45. For in that year, we find our yearly spread cards to match those in our Life Spread nearly exactly. The only exception to this is with the two of the Fixed and all of the Semi-Fixed cards. Because the two pair of Semi-Fixed cards exchange positions with one another every year, at age 45 we find them in their opposite corner, so to speak. And for the J♥ and K♠, who have one or more of these Semi-Fixed cards in their Life Spread, we will find these cards reversed. And this also occurs for any other card which has one of the two Semi-Fixed cards in their Life Spread. For example, the K♦ has the A♣ as their vertical Venus card in their Life Spread. At age 45, however, we will find the cosmic twin of the A♣, the 2♥, there instead. The same principle will apply to any card which has either the 7♦ or 9♥ in their Life Spread, since these are the other two cosmic twins that exchange their positions every year. So, if you compare your age 45 year to your Life Spread and find differences, these pesky Semi-Fixed cards will be at the root of it.

However, it is my contention that even though you have one of these Semi-Fixed cards in your Life Spread that you are still experiencing the same energy and should get the same meaning. In other words if I have a 7♦ in my reading then I will also be experiencing the 9♥. This may sound far-fetched to some but if one sees how intimately linked these two pairs of cards are and then judges the experiences they have under their influence, I think all will come to the same conclusion. This is not meant to be an article on the Semi-Fixed cards but it bears
looking into for all but the 8♣ because every one else will have one of these two cards in their yearly spreads at least twice in a 90 year period, and often much more often.

But even above and beyond that, if you are one of these Semi-Fixed Birth Cards, I suggest here that your age 45 cards are still your Life Spread. Though the 7♦ has moved into the 9♥ spot at age 45 and has only the 9♥ Life Spread cards there, I am suggesting that these cards carry the same meaning and weight for the 7♦, essentially giving them two Life Spreads. I say these two pairs are replaceable with each other, literally and in any other sense or use. This, in spite of the fact that their numbers and suits are different. The bottom line here is that at age 45 we all go through our Life Spread cards again, regardless of whether or not the cards there match up exactly.

The other outstanding difference between our Life Spread and our age 45 year will be the Long Range card. The Long Range card at age 45 is identical to the Jupiter card found in the age 6 spread because the Long Range cards are derived from our yearly spreads. If you are not aware of how this works, read the article on page 109 of Destiny Cards about the seven-year cycles. So, the Long Range card in the Rebirth Year (age 45) will be different. And that difference is an interesting point in itself which we will discuss later in this article.

**The Rebirth year is a spiritual mirror**

During our age 45 year, our Rebirth Year as I call it, we get a divine opportunity to deepen our understanding of the elements that make up our life. As we move through that year, we get to experience directly what all the cards in our Life Spread actually mean. This is the most important mirror year of our life. If we can stay aware during that year we will learn more about ourselves than in any other. It is like we are continually facing our strongest life-long issues, as if God were throwing them in our face. The cards in our Life Spread really do mirror our life-long issues and during the Rebirth year we get to experience that on a day to day basis. I am currently in the Saturn period of my Rebirth Year and the realizations I have come to about my life have been tremendous, to say the least.

I have often written about how our rebirth year is our opportunity to remake ourselves with a higher consciousness. However, the real and more profound purpose of the rebirth year is the opportunity for self-examination. This is the year when we truly get to see ourselves, all of our good and bad qualities. Then, from that assessment of ourselves, we can remake our lives, perhaps dedicating our life to a higher purpose or goal. But the true value comes from what we get to see about ourselves and the impact this looking has on our choices from that point forward.

In the seven-year cycle, the age 45 year is a Jupiter year. For this reason it always carries some blessings with it. It is a year with a certain amount of protection, and often the individual has some financial freedom at that time that relieves normal concerns. Important dreams could be realized or achieved as well. And in many ways, during that year, we get what we want. However to the average person these blessings may not be obvious or acknowledged. The reason for this is that the very nature of getting an eyeful of ourselves during that year can be so intense that we lose some perspective on what otherwise might be considered a blessed year. The very act of confronting ourselves can be very dramatic indeed. This experience could be likened to starting a relationship with someone who is our same Birth Card. The mirror factor will cause that relationship to become very intense at times. But even so, it is a Jupiter year and if anyone looks they will see that many good things come into their life during that year.

**The mid-life crisis year**
It is hard to describe what this is really like to someone who hasn't experienced it yet. Furthermore, it will be different for each person, depending upon their Life Spread. But I suppose I could say that it will be much harder during that year to avoid seeing yourself. Any internal conflicts that haven't been resolved are going to be played out in a larger than life manner. It is as though all of our internal stuff gets thrust out into our external world and broadcast there in living color, 3D stereo sound. Age 45 is considered from some respects to be the mid-point of life, especially if you consider the 90 quadrations of the Grand Solar Spreads to be the indication of an average life span. Therefore, wouldn't it be logical to assume that the old term 'mid-life crisis' could be associated with this year and the year before it (age 44)? I don't have any statistics on this but I am certain there is a strong correlation. Normally we get more or less small doses of spiritual awareness spread out over time. But in the Rebirth year it is condensed and concentrated. On a spiritual level this could be the most valuable year of the entire life. This is much more the case because at age 45 we are usually more mature and ready to handle what we are shown. If there ever was a year in which the right information about ourselves could make a huge difference, age 45 is it. We are in just the right place to receive what the universe has to show us. And what is show us is who we really are this lifetime.

The Manifestation of Internal Conflicts and Desires

Some cards are considered to be more fortunate than others. Some have all or mostly even numbered cards in their Life Spread. Cards such as the 2♦, 8♣, J♠, 6♣, 2♣, K♣, and others have a generally fortunate life in which some if not many material blessings are a given. Does that make these people any happier than the other cards in the deck? Of course not. Happiness does not depend upon material circumstances. No one walking this planet is free from internal conflicts, fears and all the coping mechanisms that they use to circumvent as much negative expressions as they can. But at age 45, these internal mismatches will externalize themselves. For example, a person who has had a long time internal conflict around the concept of marriage could be faced with an interesting set of circumstances. If this person is someone who has never married to this point, Jupiter will likely bring them someone who would appear to be the perfect marriage partner for that person. So, this person who had perhaps given up on the idea of marriage will find themselves facing the embodiment of all of their unfulfilled dreams. This could be seen as an extremely fortunate set of affairs, almost magic. But then, as soon as this person meets their dream mate, all of the other parts of themselves which have for so long been in control, will begin to rebel. The difference is that now, the part that was formerly inside this person is now outside for the first time. Having other people involved with us makes our actions and decisions regarding the issues they represent just that more important. The net effect is an intensification of what was already going on inside. And just the reverse could have happened to someone who was always married but never wanted to be. In some way their dream life of being single could have opened up and manifested itself. So, exactly how this is going to play out will depend a lot up the individual, their internal conflicts and they way they habitually deal with these conflicts. The cards in the Life Spread are helpful in understanding these. They can point to particular issues or traits that still remain unresolved by age 45.

How the Prebirth year fits into this scheme

Age 44 might be considered the 'getting ready to look at yourself year'. As we move through the cards in our own Spiritual Spread, we are looking at ourselves in a manner similar to the age 45 year. The difference is that at age 44 we are experiencing some of our soul traits that we carried with us from previous lives. These are often of a more hidden nature, not so obvious on
the surface. We may or may not be aware of them and they do not play themselves out like they
do at age 45. But just the same it begins a process of self-reflection that is intensified the
following year.

**The Elements of the Rebirth Year**

Each individual element of the age 45 year is significant in that it contributes to some
element of our personality and the choices we make that have formed the fabric of our lives.

Here are all the elements of the age 45 year that can be studied:

1. The direct and vertical cards in each of the seven periods
2. The Displacement Cards for each of the seven direct planetary period cards (see below)
3. The Karma Cards of your Birth Card (except for the Fixed cards, the 8♣, J♥ and K♠)
4. The Pluto and Result Cards

Do not make the mistake of discounting the importance of the cards in the seven periods and
their vertical cards. These point to such important aspects of our personality. Consider the Venus
and Mars cards for example. Our Life Spread or age 45 Venus cards tell us all about our choices
in relationships and how we experience relationships and marriage. They point to romantic
tendencies and what sorts of people we are attracted to. The Venus cards also tell us about our
values, what things we like. Our Mars cards on the other hand, can show us those things that we
do not like about ourselves, things about our own personality that make us upset or mad. Of
course our Mars cards also show us how our aggressive energies are expressed or manifested in
our life, but often in the Rebirth year we are confronted with our own anger and its roots within
ourselves.

Remember to look at the vertical card along with the direct card in those periods. Often it
takes both cards to give the complete meaning of that issue or tendency within us. For example,
the 5♦ Birth Card has the J♣ direct and 8♣ vertical as their Venus cards. Both the J♣ and 8♣
have a fixed mentality to them. Wouldn't it be reasonable to assume that 5♦ people hold to some
fixed and perhaps immature (J♣) concepts about love, relationships, and marriage? Ask one and
find out for yourself.

Finally, with the period cards, find out what the displacement card is for each of the direct
cards. How to do this? Well, find an illustration of the Life and Spiritual Spreads such as the one
in Love Cards on pages 342 and 343. Locate your direct card for any given period, such as the
J♣ in Venus that the 5♦ person has and then find the card that sits in the same location in the
Spiritual Spread. In this case it turns out to be the J♦. These underlying cards or displacement
cards as I call them often reveal an undertone to that period, such as what is going on behind the
scenes, and also give more meaning to the direct cards they displace. Here's another example in
case you didn't get how to do it yet. The 4♠ person has the 8♠ in Mars. If we find the 8♠ in the
Life Spread and then go to the Spiritual Spread we see the K♣ sitting there, which is the
displacement card for the 8♠. Another quick way to find the displacement cards is just to look up
the first Karma Card of whatever card you are looking at in your age 45 spread. The first Karma
Card is the same thing as the displacement card for the purposes we are discussing here.

Speaking of Karma Cards, the age 45 year is a time in which the meanings of these two
cards become intensified just like the rest of the meanings. And often we will meet individuals of
those Birth Cards or Planetary Ruling Cards during our Rebirth year. Remember that our first
Karma Card represents an issue that we have had to work on quite a bit over the course of our
life, a weakness in character if you may. For example, the first Karma Card of the $7\spadesuit$, $8\spadesuit$ and $9\spadesuit$ are all Kings. An interesting pattern in itself but one that illustrates that all three of these Birth Cards have some past-life karma of abuse of power or lack of acknowledgement of their own power and authority.

The second Karma Card represents a gift brought into this life from good deeds performed before. It is qualities that come easily to us and which we easily manifest the highest and most positive meaning. Taking our previous example and reversing it, the $2\spadesuit$, $2\clubsuit$ and $3\clubsuit$ each have a King as their second Karma Card. This tells us that these individuals are naturally endowed with a certain amount of leadership potential and tend to use their power and authority wisely.

Last, but certainly not least, our Pluto and Result cards at age 45 show us a vital part of our spiritual growth for this lifetime. Whatever your Pluto Card is in your Life Spread, you can be you will be dealing with that on a large scale during your Rebirth year. It will be a strong mirror of something that truly needs to experience a rebirth in your life. In this sense a rebirth implies first a death of the old followed by the birth of the new. Since age 45 is more or less a blessed year, it is likely that we will be handed these issues on a silver platter so to speak. You see, life has several ways of making us grow. One is to beset us with hardships and the other is to give us what we want. Each teaches us something and each can be effective at the right time. During the Rebirth year it is more likely that we will get what we want and learn the importance of choices rather than be denied and frustrated. It could be likened to a kid in a candy store who can buy anything but buys nothing because he or she cannot make up their mind. So don't think that your Pluto card at age 45 is going to kill you or torture you into spiritual submission. It is more likely to give you what you have always wanted and let you see the true meaning of that.

**The Long Range card at age 45**

The Long Range card during our rebirth year is, as I mentioned earlier, the only card that truly differs from our age 0 or Life Spread cards. And I think this is unique and important. We might consider this card to be a symbol of our progression to that point in our life, signifying what we have learned and what we bring into our Rebirth year from what we have learned to this point in life. So, while we are being faced with so much of what we are born with, we are also reminded by the Long Range card that we have progressed and are progressing. And as mentioned earlier, this card is the Jupiter card in our 7th, seven-year cycle of our life. From that point of view we may consider this to be a very blessed indication for our Rebirth year, pointing to some good things that will transpire or be brought into our life at that time.

**The most important seven-year cycle of life**

Age 45, in its own way, is the beginning of an important seven-year cycle that culminates at age 52, which I call the critical year. On a personal level, the things we see about ourselves and the decisions we make about those things will carry forward for the next seven years until age 52. At age 52 we are again in a Jupiter year, but also in a Jupiter seven-year cycle. In many ways, age 52 may be considered the most fortunate year of life for all Birth Cards. The Long Range Card for age 52 will always be the same card as the Jupiter Card that year. Age 52 is also the last year of our Jupiter 13-year cycle that begins at age 39. The question that will be answered at age 52 is 'how much of the abundance of the universe will you allow to come in?' The answer to that question is something that only we can answer for ourselves. It is a deeply personal thing that involves our relationship to happiness on all levels and the areas where we habitually think we do not deserve. So, age 45 begins this cycle by showing us that we can have anything we want.
Once we get it, do we still want it? And does having it really give us what is most important to our personal happiness? And finally, how much good can we really allow in our lives before we say 'stop'. One thing is for sure. The look we get of ourselves at age 45 will help us see whatever internal parts of ourselves are blocking this good that surrounds us. If we pay attention we can make some choices that truly set us free.

The Jupiter Period of Life - Age 39 to 52

In the card system of looking at life, we divide our life up into many cycles. There are the 52-day cycles each year, the yearly cycles, the 7-year cycles and also a 13-year cycle. In the 13-year cycle we get to experience the cards of our Life Spread, one at a time for 13 years each. There are cases when the transition from one cycle to the next could be quite dramatic. Take the A♦ for example, the first 13 years are ruled by the Q♦ indicating a powerful mother figure in those formative years. But going into the Venus or second period they have a 5♥. This 5♥ will bring many changes of residence and travel, much more than in the first 13 years of life.

The Jupiter period begins at age 39 and continues until age 52 when we enter the Saturn, 13-year period of our life. In many ways this is the most blessed period of our life.

The Jupiter period stands out for two reasons. First because it initiates us into the Diamonds period of our life. If we take each of the four suits as representing a period of life we start in Hearts, our early childhood and then go into Clubs, our educational period onto Diamonds, the resource making and gathering segment of life. The accumulation of wealth period. Not that we cannot accumulate wealth in other times of life but during Jupiter that is made all the more prominent. Jupiter, in the cards, has a lot to do with money, finances and 'pecuniary interests' as Olney Richmond would have put it. It is more than this but we must acknowledge this as one of its main forces in our life.

The second important thing about the Jupiter period is it is usually that time of life that we really begin to work our vision of our life. During Jupiter we have the greatest possibility of finding the work that is our best work, where success comes easily and naturally. So, putting these two together and we see that we have the opportunity to be happily employed doing something that really comes naturally to us, and can make a lot of money doing it and begin to experience the prosperity that is a natural part of our existence.

Your Jupiter Card in your Life Spread will be a powerful symbol of what this work and prosperity will be associated with for you. It is wise to study that card closely to derive the most understanding possible. One of the most powerful aspects of working with the cards is learn how to harmonize oneself with them. I have found continual success in my life since I began working with the cards because I plan my life with those influences. Becoming aware of our Jupiter Card can prepare us for the Jupiter period so that we can take full advantage of it. Also, if you are already in the Jupiter period it is not too late to adjust your course to take in these benefits to a greater degree.

It is also instrumental to use the vertical Jupiter card as you do this analysis. The vertical Jupiter card does not show up in the listings of the Life Spread in Love Cards or Destiny Cards. It does appear, however, if you look at the Age 0 or Age 90 spread in Destiny Cards. For example if you are a 5♠ Birth Card, your Jupiter cards would be both the 2♥ and the 9♦. Both of these cards will be in effect and they don't necessarily relate to each other or limit each other. What I mean by that is that, in our example here, the 2♥ would be an important influence throughout the entire Jupiter cycle. This would naturally mean a lot of attention placed on
intimate and other very close relationships, love affairs, babies, etc. But the 9♦ would also speak of money going out a lot and perhaps some financial disappointments throughout that time.

Other examples:

The Q♣ has the A♠ and 3♣ in Jupiter. The A♠ is quite a departure from the previous 13 years which were governed by the 3♦. Where there was uncertainty and probably a variety of occupations, now they get real directed and focused on specific goals. For many Q♣ this may also be a time where their work gets centered on some spiritually-based system of understanding, such as the cards or astrology. The A♠, being the card of the Magi, will often portend some involvement in the spiritual sciences. The 3♣ brings in an element of writing, public speaking and other forms of self-expression through communications. Some Q♣ get published during this phase of life.

The 4♠ person has an interesting transition at age 39 because they go from the 8♠ to the A♥. Up until age 39 the 4♠ person has experienced some great influences, mostly successful in nature, but also mostly outwardly directed. The 10♥ in Mercury, 10♦ in Venus and 8♠ in Mars are achievement cards and cards of recognition by others. Then they go into Jupiter with an A♥. The A♥ is one of the most inwardly directed cards in the deck. It is a card of introspection and self-discovery. For many 4♠ this marks a period of inner discovery and re-evaluation of their priorities. Up until that point everything seemed laid out for them but now they must choose what is most important in their life. Many will have a child during that period or embark on a quest for the perfect love relationship. The A♥ can mean a love affair but it really means to search for what makes us happy inside. Work during this period could involve raising the child or somehow doing work to help others more or less selflessly. The A♥ in Jupiter is often translated as a wish to help those in need, especially financially.

The other card for the 4♠ person in Jupiter is the 4♦. This tells us that their finances will go very well during that period, the 4♦ being a card of financial protection. This card could also indicate work as a financial planner or advisor.

The 3♣ has an interesting change also at age 39 as they move from the 7♣ to the 5♦. What makes this more interesting is the fact that the 5♦ is their first Karma Card. There is only one other card that has its first Karma Card as its Jupiter card. Can you find out what that card is? This presents a special circumstance, a sort of karmic relief as it were. Because the first karma card is more of a negative influence, representing our past-life negative karma that we must deal with, you might expect the Jupiter period for the 3♣ and K♣ (the other Birth Card with the same configuration) to have a lousy Jupiter phase of life. In fact it is usually quite the opposite. What usually occurs is that these two cards get really involved in the energy of that card during the Jupiter cycle and realize great benefits from it. In general the 3♣ person is worried about their finances because of that 5♦ first Karma Card. But during the Jupiter cycle they can actually make a lot of money traveling and doing sales and promotions, which represent the positive attributes of the 5♦. This could be a wonderful opportunity for the 3♣ person to turn their attitude around and enjoy their life more. This period will obviously be marked by a lot of travel and perhaps changes, in both locations and perhaps personal relationships as well. The 3♣ isn't that marriageable to begin with so the relationship changes shouldn't be too much of a departure from their usual life in most cases.

My own transition to Jupiter was a dramatic shift. Being a Q♦ I had lived through 26 years of being under the influence of Threes. First the 3♣ and then the 3♣. I probably had over 20 or more different occupations during that time. I was a seeker, looking for that work that would
engage me fully. Moving into Jupiter I have the 9♥, one of the semi-fixed cards. The 9♥ speaks of helping others, giving out love, and also of losing a lot of time, energy and money on love or friendship matters. Being a more or less steady influence it was a welcome relief to have ‘found' my path after the uncertainty of those Threes. My life settled into a unified direction with a spiritual purpose. The 3♥ is also there and my emotional uncertainty is still an issue that I must contend with. But in Jupiter it is less of a problem and more of an ability to express myself that is coming to the forefront. But that 9♥ has also been called the Wish Card (see the 9 of Cups in the Tarot for example). Many of my wishes have come true and since I am half-way through it, I expect many more. The biggest change for me though was finding my life's purpose and getting to work on my own work.

I invite each of you to explore your Life Path Jupiter cards. Whether you are in Jupiter, already through it or see it approaching, there is much you can learn by studying the meanings of these cards for your own life.

Our Inner Worth

Today, in this country, the United States, there is increasing importance placed upon the worth of people. After all the U.S. is a Jack of Diamonds country. We are the most openly materialistic country in the world. And yet, we also proclaim ourselves the most spiritual. Quite a paradox, indeed, but one in keeping with the Jack of Diamonds persona. But like it or not our country is all about money. And those who have the most money are usually valued higher than those who have less. Money has become the symbol for success. Those who acquire the most are those most worthy of our emulation and adoration.

In some ways there is truth in this perspective. This is true because there are many people in this country who are living in poverty precisely because there is a problem with their sense of self-worth. Though they are largely unconscious of this, they are actually refusing to allow themselves to become prosperous because of some perceived inner deficiency. And it is also true that many people who have a lot of money have done so by providing many other people with helpful and important goods or services. And many of these same wealthy people do have a good sense of their own worth.

But in spiritual terms, and really in what I would call the only terms that matter, the worth of a person is hardly about how much money they have. The true worth of a person is about their sense of integrity. It is about their tendencies to do the right thing or the wrong thing in any given situation. When I say right and wrong I do not mean necessarily that we are following some rules. Who made up those rules anyway? Even the Bible is suspect in this regard. How many of the Ten Commandments really apply in today's world? And even more important, what is the truth behind all of the Ten Commandments that is the thing we must really focus on?

The answer comes partially from Saturn and his lessons. He is the Lord of Karma, exalted in the sign of Libra, and usually considered one of the most fearful influences to have active in one's chart or yearly spread. Saturn teaches us that we must be aware of others in all of our doings. We must know, when we speak or act, just how we are being experienced by those who are affected by what we do or say. We create negative karma any time we speak or act unconsciously in a way that hurts others. The key word here is unconsciously. This means that we do not really know, or are not aware, of just how the other is taking all of this in. When we hurt others unconsciously we make an appointment to someday experience what they have experienced at our hands. There is no bending these cosmic rules. The law of cause and effect (karma) is one of the few constants in our changing world.
Sometimes we have to do things that we know will hurt others. Though we know it is the right thing, that it is based upon love and truth, it is going to cause pain and suffering for someone. But if we are aware of this, and if we can identify ourselves with those who will be in pain in a compassionate way, there is no negative karma incurred. It is much like the doctor who must cut us open to remove the cancer. The operation will indeed violate our body and be painful in many ways. But the intention is good - to heal us and rid us of some disease.

So, part of a person's inner worth is their consciousness in dealing with others. Are they aware of the effects of their actions on others or lost in their own world? Most of the sins described in the Bible and other ancient texts are things that typically can cause us to completely forget the needs or feelings of others to get what we want. Greed, lust, anger - these are the states of mind that create negative karma since in every case there is the absence of this awareness. But there is also this matter of integrity too, of being our word, that is equally important.

Parents who have to tell their children something three times or more to get them to respond have lost the power of their word with their children. The children know that mom or dad doesn't really mean it until they say it about four times. So, they do not respond until the very last moment. They aren't consciously plotting against their parents about this - it is just something they have discovered over time. This is just one example of how our word gets watered down or lost over time.

I am sure everyone knows at least one person that just doesn't follow through with what they say. I used to have a good friend who would never show up on time. If he said he'd be somewhere by 7:30, I knew it would probably be 8:00 or 8:30 before he would show up. After letting this go for a time, I brought it to his attention. I explained how much I valued my own time, as well as my time with him. I also showed him just how inconsistent his behavior and speech were in this area. I pointed out how all of his buddies, including me, never believe him when he says he is going to show up somewhere. When I clearly spelled it out to him and he saw the impact of his inconsistencies on all of us, he made a conscious effort to change that behavior.

But this world is full of people whose words mean nothing. Most sales people and politicians are hard to trust, perhaps because they are being the Jacks of their suits. But even in every day life, you meet many people whose words are completely worthless. They just talk and talk but their words have no impact on others because no one really takes them seriously.

The last element in those who have a lot of inner worth is just how much they like themselves. And this is a very important one. People who do not like themselves are always trying to get others to like them. They are trying to get some validation from outside themselves for their own worth without having to love themselves. They don't like themselves very much and just want someone else to like them so they won't have to do it. They are a lot like a salesperson who wants you to buy something that they themselves would never purchase. Most of us are repelled by such people. We back away from them. They can actually scare us because their fear of rejection mirrors our own.

In life, there are often periods of dramatic change, in which the established social order is thrown up in the air. Heads fall. People who were on top get demoted while others rise up. In spite of these sorts of turbulent times, the one of true inner worth has nothing to fear. His or her adherence to higher principles insures them that they will always end up in a good place, and one which can never be taken away.
From the May, 1999 Newsletter

Doing Great Readings, or The Nature of Card Interpretations

If you never learned the mechanics of the Book of Destiny system, and instead just focused your attention on what the cards mean, you could become a truly great reader. As an astrologer I have given many readings that absolutely changed my client's lives. And yet, I never learned the mechanics of casting a chart and many other intricacies of the technical aspects of astrology. I chose instead to devote all my time to the understanding of how to interpret a chart and how the information in a chart could be used to help others in a significant way. I think it was that focus of mine that helped me to weed out a couple of books on astrology from the many thousands that held the knowledge that really meant something. I have always had a computer to handle doing the charts for me and as long as I enter the data correctly I am assured of having an accurate chart on which to base my interpretations.

So it is with the cards as well. But the difference with the cards is that the system itself is a lot less complicated, and therefore easier to learn. But still, it is easy to get carried away with all the technical aspects of this system and to forget what we are learning it for. These statements of mine speak to our very intention in using this system. And our intentions vary, just as those who wield knives and guns have different intentions. One may be protecting the peace or using a knife to heal while another is intending to cause harm with them. This system is a tool, just like others. It is a good idea to ask ourselves from time to time, 'What am I using this system for?' and 'What is the result I seek in doing readings for others?' These questions may help us get clear because our intention is what determines the end result and whether or not we are successful, not the act itself.

I believe that this system, along with astrology and some others, was created with the intention of helping us become more conscious of ourselves as spiritual beings. I call the Book of Destiny system a branch of spiritual knowledge. What is spiritual knowledge? My definition would be 'that information that leads us back to the self, that increases self awareness'. When we speak of the self, there is a lot more there than appears on the surface. That word is full of import. In this definition I have constructed, becoming spiritual means becoming aware of our connection to the God within us in a way that has us becoming more powerful as individuals. Self-awareness helps us to see our own hand in creating the fabric of what we call our lives. This implies becoming more powerful and able to change our world consciously instead of being a victim of it. And this is a paradox of sorts. Why? Because when one first finds this system and realizes that the cards accurately reflect their past, they immediately think the cards hold some sort of power over their lives. However this is not the way this system was originally intended to be used.

If you are doing readings for others in order to make predictions about their future, you are going to fail. It may happen sooner or a bit later but you will inevitably fail. The cards will always accurately reflect what happened to someone in hindsight but when we look at the future using the cards we must be very careful. The reason you will fail is because your intention is out of line with that for which this system was created in the first place. However, if you use this system as a tool to bring people back to their power, to show them how their choices have shaped their destinies and to give them a guide to create a better future, you will do readings that will transform people like no simple prediction could ever do. With this intention in mind, we need to look at the interpretations in the Destiny Cards book in a slightly different manner.
1. Every card can be a positive or negative. There is no one card in the deck that is all good or all bad. All have a place in the realm of human experience. And who can say which human experiences are good or bad? Any card, and I do mean to say ANY, can be bad. And any card may be good too. Bad and good are merely labels we put on things as we look at them from a certain point of view. A rainy cloudy day is bad for getting a tan but great for bringing much needed water to the plants, trees and crops. Is rain bad or good? Whatever your answer, it will depend on your point of view. Even what is normally considered a great card on the material plane, such as the 10♦, can be a bad influence in your life. With a 10♦ you could become so wrapped up in money that you ignore others and become lost in your selfishness. It’s all going to depend upon what you do with it, or how you use it. So, the bottom line here is, it's not the number or the suit or position of the card that is important, it is how you use it.

2. When presenting these cards to a client it is wise to show them both sides of the cards and let them choose the point of view that will give them what they are ready to receive from them. If you step in and try and give them your point of view what good is that doing? Did they come to you to adopt your point of view? If you honor them as powerful, God-like individuals, you will allow them the freedom to create their own destinies. Give them both possible outcomes of a certain influence. Point out, from your experience and from the known circumstances of their lives what factors may tend to cause those cards to go a certain way. But always let them know that the final outcome rests in their hands.

3. Use the example of their life the way it is now to show your clients how they have chosen to create their life up until this point in time. The cards are a wonderful tool to show us what our choices have been and what these choices have done for us. They can help us get in touch with our own intentions and our power to create. We may not be happy at present with what we have created. But once we see what we have done, there is always happiness in knowing that we have the power to change it. Looking back on some of my most life-changing and powerful readings I can say that these were the readings in which the client really got in touch with their personal power and left the reading feeling that they had the ability to shape their destiny in a positive way. Part of the process of getting our power back is to see that we had it all along. Even though many situations in our lives may seem awry, if we examine them closely, using the cards as a guide, we can see that it was our personal choices at each step that caused these situations to develop the way they did.

4. Don't be afraid to point out the potentially negative influences of some cards. As long as you are impartial in your assessment of the card meanings, and as long as you know without a doubt that it is the person that makes the cards, not the cards that make the person, you will not hesitate to show both sides of every card to a person. If you yourself believe in good and bad cards, then it will be difficult for you to show anyone what you have labeled as the bad cards. The important thing here is to think about what these cards are to you. Do they govern your life or do you use them as a tool and guide? Are the cards more powerful than you? Your answers to these questions will determine your effectiveness in doing readings.

5. Let your clients know that they are powerful and can do anything they choose. If you want to see someone's life change, give them a strong hit of their own power and just watch them go. However, the opposite of this is also true. If you see others as victims in a world they didn't create, your image of them can help hold them back. Are you protecting your clients from the harshness of life or allowing them to choose at each and every moment? This points to your own beliefs about life. Do people need protecting? I could write an entire book on this subject alone, and I may someday. But the bottom line is this: we cannot give anyone anything that we do not possess. If I believe that my life is out of my control, then I cannot hope to show others their power. And this is another beautiful aspect of this system. In sharing these cards with others we are brought into closer touch with our lives and what we
are doing. Our own personal and spiritual growth is heightened by doing readings for others because we see our lives reflected in theirs.

Ultimately no one truly knows everything about life and the future. We cannot say why some people suffer some horrific tragedies while others live a carefree life of pleasure. But our understanding increases each day when we approach life from the right point of view. And with understanding comes freedom and peace of mind. May your readings bring this understanding, freedom and peace of mind to all who come to you for help.

Separating the Truth from Fiction

If there is one important distinction between people who are more conscious and those who are not, it would be their ability to distinguish between what is real and what is not. And it is a very small minority of people in this world who have an awareness of truth and whose lives are much simpler and more effective as a result of that awareness. Finding truth is not an easy thing. It cannot be found in books or by attending classes or workshops. It cannot be found in this article. It must be 'realized'. It must come from an inner search, from our core passion to live and be happy. Because most of the world is literally lost in illusion, those who live in the truth are mostly loners. As Sting says in one of his songs, "Men go crazy in congregations, they only get better one by one." Having the truth makes you part of a very small minority and can cause some distance between you and the rest of the world. However, it doesn't have to keep one from connecting with people. It’s just that we lose our desire for meaningless or shallow experiences. The art of a true master is to be able to make a true and sincere connection with almost anyone they meet, even though the other is lost in illusion. Miracles can and do happen when these meetings occur.

In my own quest for the truth I have gone through many stages. At first I was nearly completely lost in illusion. Layer by layer I have removed misconceptions about life and aligned my life with the things that are real. I am still removing layers and realize that this will probably be a never-ending process. Perhaps there are an infinite number of levels of truth. It seems that way. One technique that used to really work for me was what I describe as 'holding on' to a truth once I had found it. How that worked was like this: I would have a realization, either by reading or a personal experience, about some truth in my life. This realization would free up a lot of my energy and make me feel happy. Then, later, I would fall back into my illusion. At that time, I would keep that truth with me. I would repeat it to myself and not allow myself to believe in the illusion. I would just stubbornly hold on to that truth, in spite of external conditions that wanted to drag me into a feeling of powerlessness or some other illusion. So, some value did come from books and sources of truth that I encountered along the way. But only the ones that I made my own and used to drag myself out of the illusion with. So, in that vein, I present some of the truths that have changed my life and that even to this day sustain my peace of mind. These are presented in no particular order. Perhaps one or more of these will help you move into a world of more clarity and freedom.

1. Beneath all anger is fear. We cannot be angry unless something has scared us. And when acting in anger, we are in truth acting out of our fear and the beliefs associated with that fear. Anger generally points to an area within us where we hold a false belief about life. If we can trace it back to its source we can remove it completely. But it does take time and a commitment of intention to do this. Most people who get angry a lot are those with an anger 'issue' as I call it. They have a habitual way of reacting to certain events or people in which they feel victimized or intentionally hurt by others. They find bad things where they do not
even exist. If any of these people are going to experience a change in their life, they will have to trace their anger back to its roots. The first step back in this direction is to realize that when they are angry, they are also feeling great fear. Once they recognize their fear, there is some hope for further growth. Until that time, there is not.

2. What happens is always the truth, and that truth is a loving truth. Here we have all these people in the world who believe that God is the most powerful being in the world. And they believe that nothing happens except by God's will. And yet these same people cause harm to others to protest something in the world, the same world that their God created. Many religious people are dangerous for this very reason. Even though on one hand they think their God is all powerful, they themselves do harm to others for being the way they are. I am sure you have heard the expression that more wars have been fought over God than any other thing. Either everything is created by God or it is not. And either God is a loving being, or he is not. These double standards are obvious illusions that grasp many, many people. I have learned that what happens is always the will of God and that though I may not see the love and beauty in it all the time, inevitably I do if it is important to me. I call this 'surrender to what is' and it is a big part of my spirituality. I am a person who loves to create things and I completely live in the belief that I can and do create much of my life. But when my creating is thwarted for any reason, or when things in the world around me are not the way I think they should be, I pause to look for God's hand in that situation. If I have done my best I surrender the rest and look for God's love there. I always find it, sooner or later. "God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference".

3. If I am experiencing anger or some other negative emotion, it is my responsibility and my fault. This one is a very hard one to get, but one that truly separates those who are conscious from those who are not. The reason it is so hard is that anger itself is a blaming of someone else for our problems. In the moment of anger, we are in a state of complete powerlessness, even though by expressing our anger and acting it out, we may think we are being powerful. An angry person is a victim. But the truth is that if I am angry, it is for my own personal reasons, based on some way I think life should be. It is caused by things in my external life not matching up with the way I have construed life ought to be. Since I do have the power to change my concepts about life, and not so much power to change the world around me, it stands to reason that my anger is my responsibility, my creation. As I mentioned in number one, admitting that I am afraid usually diffuses my anger. This also applies to other negative emotions, such as depression, jealousy, greed and fear. The causes of all of these are within the realm of things that I can change. Every moment spent blaming others for my problems is another moment lost in illusion, wasted really. Personally I don't feel like I can waste that much time. I certainly do not want to.

4. Happiness only comes from inside, not from changing the world around me or getting what I want. This truth goes directly against what we are taught in this society, especially in this Jack of Diamonds country, the United States. All the media focuses us on achieving and acquiring more stuff, status, fame, money, relationships, and a host of other things the media has deemed valuable. And I am not the first person who has achieved all of those things and discovered that they didn't make me happy. Happiness is not an external achievement, it is a state of mind. Being a state of mind, it is something that we actually have some power over, much like the negative states discusses in the previous truth. The difference between a happy person and an unhappy one is merely a point of view. One sees the glass half-empty and the other half-full. Life presents us each with a half-empty glass. How will you see it?

5. Pain and suffering are our greatest teachers and without them, few people would change or grow. People often recite this truth but do not live it, or truly understand it. It is one thing to
tell someone that pain is the greatest teacher and then turn around and try and rescue someone you love from a painful experience, telling yourself all the while that you are loving them. This is another area where you cannot have it both ways. Either you believe in what life brings us, both painful and pleasurable, as being what's best for us, or you don't. If you are rescuing your children or other loved ones from potentially painful experiences, you have to ask yourself why are you doing it? It certainly isn't for them. They need this pain, the pain that comes to anyone when what we do or create conflicts with reality, to discover the truth that will set them free. And yet, so many would deprive them of this, hoping to shelter them from the consequences of their own actions, in the name of love. This is an insidious lie and one that pervades our society. This does not mean that it is wrong to extend a helping hand at times, especially when it is requested by others. But how is one going to learn about life without experiencing the direct consequences of their actions? And again, why do we avoid pain so much? Most of our dishonesty in life is merely our way of avoiding facing a potentially painful situation. So, we lie instead, reinforcing our illusion and sending true happiness away in the process.

6. The truth will set us free. Though we avoid the truth when it may cause us discomfort or great pain, we are actually relieved of pain once we face it squarely. In my work as a counselor I repeatedly see people stuck in a very miserable condition, and I use the word miserable intentionally here, and looking for a way out, an escape. I myself have been in this place a few times. In each case, I was afraid of facing the truth and instead chose some devious and creative way of avoiding this truth about myself. Some of the unhappiest periods of my life were spent in this avoidance place. I felt dead, completely dead. And yet when I finally faced that ugly truth about myself, I was liberated and renewed. I found out that God loves me anyway. And when the truth finally came out, everything seemed to work out perfectly. Not just for me, but for everyone else involved in my life as well. I have seen repeatedly how bringing out the truth causes a healthy clearing of everything and everyone around a person.

Often those who are faced with many choices and who seem unable to make up their minds are really facing a choice about whether or not to tell the truth about themselves to others. I have counseled so many women who are having affairs and who cannot decide what to do. This indecision is only the result of having created an untruthful situation. In each case the solution is to bring the truth to light, whether that truth is their real unhappiness in their marriage or the fact that they had the affair. If they reveal the truth, everything takes care of itself. There are no decisions to make anymore. Everyone in their life will take their proper place, and will move ahead in a positive fashion. Some will go and others will stay, all according to their proper relationship with this person as they truly are. There are just so many benefits to being truthful that it is difficult to describe them all. But the main one has to be that when we are truthful, others are relating to the real us, and not some created personality that we use to garner their affections. Once we put out who we really are, we find out who in our life is really there for us. Our chances for happiness increase a thousand percent.
Finding the Long Range Cards for your Weekly Spreads
By John Mitchell [mitchell@cc.wwu.edu]

As Robert Camp has explained in his recent newsletter, our Weekly Spreads can be derived in the same fashion that our first week’s spread is derived. In reading our Destiny Cards Book, we know that the Age 0 Spread not only represents the first year of life, but also the first seven days and the first seven years of life. Following this same logic, we can then assume that the Age 1 Spread is for our second week of life, as well as the second year and the second 7 year cycle (7-14). In order to find the Yearly Spread that would represent the current week, we must first determine how many weeks one has been alive. The following method is a quick way of determining this number and deriving the appropriate card for your and week and day.

This method requires that you have a copy of the Destiny Cards by Robert Camp, a calculator (especially for those as mathematically challenged as I am) and access to the internet (specifically to the “Card of Your Destiny” applet at Robert Camp’s web site http://www.7thunders.com). Robert has provided the means to find out the number of days you have been alive simply by accessing this site and punching in a particular date and clicking the “Today” button. In the upper right hand corner of the applet there will appear a message saying “you have been alive for _______days”. Take this number and divide by 7 to find the total weeks you have been alive. Next, divide this number by 45, which is the total number of Yearly Spreads for your life (not including, of course, the Long Range Card which we will be discussing).

At this point, I will give you an example of my own week. I have been alive for 10915 days, which divided by 7 is 1559.285714 weeks. Divided by 45, I have found that I have repeated 34.6507 times the 45 possible Yearly Spreads for my life. We are interested in how far we are into the next 45 Yearly Spreads, which in my case would be 0.6507 or 65.07% of 45. This leads us to our next step. Subtract the whole number and then multiply by 45. So, I would subtract 34 from 34.6507 giving us 0.6507. Multiply this decimal by 45 in order to get the total number of weeks into the 45 possible Yearly Spreads. My total would then be 29.285.

So, Age 29 is my current week. If you again subtract the whole number, which in my case would be 29, and multiply the decimal (0.285) by the number of Planetary Periods (which is 7), you will have derived how far you are into this current week. In my case, this number is 1.999 or 2. It gets a little tricky here. You will need to add 1 to any whole number who’s decimal is 0.0 through 0.9888…(such as 2.2857 for a total of 3) or add 2 to any whole number who’s decimal is 0.999…(such as 1.9999991, for a total of 3). So, I have determined that I am 3 Planetary Periods (my Mars Period) into my Age 29 Spread, which is the Two of Hearts. You can check your results against the applet on Robert’s web page to see if you got it right. Once you have ascertained what your daily and weekly cards are, you are now able to look up your future or past weeks simply by counting forward or backwards in your Destiny Cards book. You now have all the Planetary Period Cards and the Prominent Cards for the Week…except for the Long Range Card.

The Long Range Cards are also derived from the Yearly Spreads, but do not repeat themselves for 7 cycles through the 90 Yearly Spreads, or 630 Yearly Spreads. Each Planetary Period can be seen as representing the Long Range Card for 1 week of your life. For example, your first week of life is represented by the Age 0 Spread. The Long Range Card for this Spread is the same as the Mercury Direct Card. If you follow this down the Yearly Spreads, you will notice that it continues; the Venus Direct Card of Age 0 Spread is also the Long Range Card for Age 1 Spread (or your second week of life) and so on. So, once again, we need to determine how many weeks we have been alive, which we can take from our previous calculations.
The difference now is that you divide the total number of weeks by the 630, which is a total cycle of the possible Long Range Cards for your life. In my case, I would divide 1559.285714 by 630, for a total of 2.47505. Again, this number represents how many times I have cycled through the all the possible Planetary Periods (representing Long Range Cards), and we are only interested in how far we are into the last cycle. In my case it is 0.47505. So, we again subtract the whole number and multiply the decimal by 630. I am then 299.2857 Planetary Periods into the last cycle. Now, once again this number is a little tricky. You will need to add 1 to any whole number who’s decimal is 0.0 through 0.9888…(such as 299.2857 for a total of 300) or add 2 to any whole number who’s decimal is 0.999…(such as 298.9999991, for a total of 300). Count from Age 0 all the Planetary Periods until you reach your total. In my case, I end up in the Uranus Period of the Age 42 Yearly Spread, or the King of Clubs. You can also divide further to lessen the count (especially if you are quite far into the next cycle), but I have found some complications in reducing this number further…and it must be exact for determining the Long Range Card.

So there you have it - you know your cards for your current day (both the Direct and Vertical), and all the Planetary Periods, Long Range, Pluto/Result, Environment and Displacement Cards for your current week. Happy counting.

**Saturn's Beautiful Gift**

Most of us tend to look upon Saturn like we look upon Nines and Sevens in our Yearly Spreads, as a 'bad' influence. Saturn's influence is generally associated with hard times, problems, negative karma and a host of other things that we would usually prefer to avoid. But to think of Saturn in this way is to miss entirely its wonderful role in our lives and to miss one of the beautiful processes in life itself. Those who are 'materially oriented' will always dread Saturn, regardless of what anyone tells them about it. These are the people who cannot see any purpose in life other than gratification of their senses and the collecting of material and sense objects. Believe it or not the great majority of the people on this planet fall into that category. They live in a world of bad luck and good luck, a world where there fate is not in their own hands, and a world where they must survive by taking what they can when they can and trying to avoid all unpleasantness when at all possible. For them, life has no real purpose or deeper meaning. And their life is often spent continually trying to avoid pain, which follows them around like the tail on a dog. And some of the most painful experiences come while under Saturn's influence.

Yet, even some of these people will begin searching for answers when the pain becomes too great. After they have exhausted all the normal means of relieving their painful problems, they will begin to look in places where few look - within. Their pain serves a beautiful role in this regard. Once they have tried everything that society has taught them to become happy, they will be forced to keep looking when all those methods fail to hit the mark. Material success has never been a way to happiness. So, in our world we have an increasing number of people who are searching for deeper answers and meaning to their life and as it says in the Bible, "Seek and ye shall find."

An earnest search within will eventually begin to reveal inner defects in attitudes, beliefs and lifestyle that are the cause of our unhappiness. And this, in turn, leads us to some inner changes that remove these erroneous set ways within us which have been causing us great pain. Gradually we become happier as a matter of course, simply because we recognize those parts of ourselves which are at the root of these inner inconsistencies. With awareness comes freedom of choice. Our God-given power to choose is restored and we can choose happiness and love.

After making this sort of inner quest, a person may find himself or herself on a spiritual path, a journey of personal enlightenment. Life's purpose changes for these individuals. It is no
longer about getting as many things as you can but a quest for self-understanding and inner peace. At this point we begin to see the value of painful experiences. We see that situations which are painful for us are some of our greatest opportunities for spiritual growth. And this is where Saturn comes in.

Saturn's role is not to punish us, though it can certainly seem that way because of the intensity of some of the lessons we must learn. True, Saturn is the 'Lord of Karma' and does see to it that the scales of justice remain balanced. But even this is not meant to be a punishment or hateful experience. Saturn's greatest role is simply to show us the defects that we already have, to bring them to our awareness to whatever extent it takes for us to really experience them and to learn about them. The truth is we all have inner defects of one sort or another. All of us are here on Terra (Earth) learning and undergoing a refining process, most of which is in the area of our thoughts. A real waste would be someone who lives an entire lifetime on Earth and did not learn anything or grow. However, Saturn guarantees that this will never happen.

One reason that we often regard Saturn as the punisher is that when we are young, we are largely unaware of ourselves. We hardly know what we are like inside. We don't know what makes us do the things we do. And for many, Saturn's lessons before the age of 30 seem to be so harsh and undeserved. They seem to come out of the blue and we see no justification or reasons behind such bad luck. But with time and inner searching, this misconception will be cleared up. Our Saturn return, which for all of us occurs between the ages of 28 and 30, is our first major maturing cycle, coinciding to Saturn's completion of his 28 year cycle around the circumference of our birth chart. But Saturn's lessons come even more often in the form of our yearly spreads and transits to other planets in our birth charts. A particular Saturn influence can last from one month to three years, and even longer if we have two separate Saturn influences stacked back to back. It is different for each person. But the most beautiful thing about Saturn's cycles is that it will only influence us to the extent that we hold misconceptions about life. Saturn will not affect any person who has learned his lessons and cleared up the conflicts in thinking, speaking or acting that were out of line with reality.

So, if I am under a painful Saturn cycle, I know now that the seeds of this pain have always been within me. If I did not have this inner inconsistency I would not be experiencing the difficulties. Saturn's position in my birth chart can help me distinguish exactly what this inconsistency is. And in turn that awareness may help me gain the proper understanding that will eventually lead to my removing it. So, now I see Saturn as this wonderful helper. He helps me to weed my inner garden by showing me those beliefs, attitudes, and areas of my life where my habitual way is out of line with the love and will of God. I no longer have to be afraid of Saturn, his transits or cycles. Any of these will only bring me to see that which I already possess. The tension he puts upon my life will only serve to illuminate these dark areas so that I may at last see the full extent of my folly and ignorance. And who could put a price on such a valuable gift as this?

The Mirror
By Katherine Ranft

A few years back, I lived in a quiet and well - managed apartment complex. My back patio, however, faced a 4-plex that housed some really scary people - drug users, alcoholics and verbally abusive types. Initially, I contacted the landlord of that building and he didn't want to take any responsibility for his tenant's disturbing behavior. Next I started calling the police but the effect was temporary at best. As soon as the police left, the chaos would start up again. It was very frustrating and I felt helpless.
One evening a police officer came to investigate and he actually suggested that I move out. That did it. I felt a surge of anger and I wanted to start screaming in his face. Instead, I told him that I had no intention of going anywhere until I wanted to move. I simply would not accept his premise that nothing could be done about this problem.

I think it was at that moment that I realized I had to take a stand. Having exhausted all legal avenues of assistance, I was left with the choice of either giving up and moving out or finding another solution. Something told me that I needed to keep searching for the truth.

There was something important for me to learn. I could feel it in my guts. I began to ask myself, "Why is this happening to me? Why isn't anyone helping me? I am a good tenant. I shouldn't have to be subjected to this abuse. Why don't the police just march over there and tell those people to straighten up or get out? What are they waiting for? Why are they holding back? Why are they afraid to speak directly? Why am I feeling like I am the problem? Are they listening to me?"

Just when I thought I would go crazy living next door to these impossible people, a friend suggested that I place a mirror that faced out my back window. The purpose was to reflect back all the negative energy that charged out of that apartment building on a daily basis. Considering the fact that I had run out of reasonable ideas, it sounded sensible to me.

I installed the mirror and then began praying that it would drive those people away. A few days later, I was awakened by a very loud and disgusting conversation between two of the tenants next door. Instead of becoming instantly angry, frustrated and then feeling helpless, I felt calm and I knew exactly what I needed to do. I had what Oprah Winfrey calls “a light bulb moment.”

A little nervous, I walked out on my patio and said, "Knock it off right now. Find a way to live your lives without disturbing everyone else around you." They looked stunned. But I can't remember what they said. It didn't even matter if they heard me. I heard me. Confronting them with the truth was enough.

Two weeks later, my neighbors were evicted from their apartment. This year long ordeal taught me that what I believe to be true is reflected in my life experiences. Now, when I think, "Why is this happening to me?" I know that I have encountered yet another mirror of myself and I have an opportunity to uncover a layer of beliefs that have kept me from being free to express the truth.

From the July, 1999 Newsletter

The Life and Trials of the 4♦

Without taking a closer look, one would easily assume that a 4♦ person would have a generally good and easy life. After all, doesn't a Four represent foundation, good supply and satisfaction? Well yes it does but for any Four person it also means hard work and a tendency to view life as an ongoing struggle. I recently had the opportunity to do readings for two 4♦ women. Though they had different birth days and years, there astrological charts were very similar. And I think you will find most of these same patterns repeated in the charts of any 4♦ person you may choose to study.

Four itself is not a number of struggle. Five is. Five represents conflict, within and without. So where does the 4♦ get this struggle mentality? Probably from their two Karma Cards, the 5♠ and 5♥. There is a strong degree of restlessness in the makeup of the 4♦ person, one that is not immediately apparent. But they love travel and are restless internally. Restlessness
itself is not a problem. But the inner conflicts that are usually accompanying any Five can prevent real movement in any definite direction. Also, there can result a negative attitude towards those in authority, another characteristic of the number Five person. Whatever the reason, we find that ♦️ people often perpetuate their struggle in one way or another through their personal choices. Most of them are not aware of how their choices keep them in the grind of life but they are not hard to see. We had a neighbor who was a ♦️ a few years back, for example. She got married to a man who didn't make much money and then proceeded to get pregnant and have two children with him. Those decisions pretty much sealed her fate. He was a very nice guy and those two were in love. But hardship was the rule of thumb in their household.

The number Four does hold a measure of protection within it that is available to all Four people. But in most cases that protection only comes through a certain amount of hard work. In the case of the ♦️, that hard work often seems like too high a price to pay. The ♦️ card sits in the Venus column and Neptune row of the Life Spread. This Venus/Neptune combination makes them somewhat idealistic, especially about love, much in the same way as the ♥️, which sits in the Neptune column and Venus row. But the position of the ♦️ in the Spiritual Spread is Venus/Saturn. Not only that, but the Saturn card in the Life Spread of the ♦️ person is the ♥️, who is the epitome of the Venusian energies. The ♥️ is the card of pleasure. She is often self-indulgent and an escapist. After all, she holds the distinction of being the Neptune / Neptune card. But when this card of unbridled pleasure and self-indulgence falls into Saturn, you have a karmic debt in this area. Usually it means that this person has a weakness in this area. And so, it is no surprise that in both of my ♦️ clients I found a Venus / Jupiter conjunction or trine. For those unfamiliar with astrology, Venus and Jupiter are the two 'benefic' planets, both bringing good things into one's life. However, when these two get together it is usually too much of a good thing and the usual interpretation of this particular aspect is laziness. And so it is not surprising that we find so many ♦️ that have a certain amount of laziness in their personalities.

But laziness does not sit well with those under Saturn's influence and for the poor ♦️, any actions or decisions based on self-indulging or self-pleasuring are usually met with harsh consequences. As Florence Campbell and Edith Randall put it in Sacred Symbols of the Ancients, even when they marry into money, their life is just a lot of work - nothing comes without a heavy price for them.

What I also found in both my clients' astrological charts was, of course, a heavy dose of Saturn. I think you will find this in all ♦️ charts. It will be something like Saturn square Sun or square Venus or Jupiter. It can also be Venus in Capricorn or Venus conjunct Saturn, almost always some combination of Saturn and Venus. But it will always be prominent. And Saturn in these configurations indicates a life of struggle on some level. However, it is important to point out that this struggle comes from the inside out. The ♦️ person's greatest challenge in this lifetime is often to learn that life can be easy. They seem to expect problems and disappointment at every turn and therefore perpetuate the harshness of their life. This is a karmic influence and all ♦️ would do very well to understand Saturn and its role in their lives. What most people don't know about Saturn is that it bestows more blessings upon us as we grow older.

For the ♦️ this usually means the promise of a much better second half of their life than the first. And for many of them the latter years of their life are the best. They have more money and the freedom to travel, something they all really enjoy. But it doesn't mean that they all have to wait until they get older to enjoy this ease and freedom. No, if they get Saturn's lesson earlier, they can begin to enjoy its rewards earlier too. For ♦️ the initial lesson is to give up their laziness and learn to work hard. Many never learn that first lesson and are very unhappy, having never realized the joy they can find in their work. However, once they have mastered this first step, the next lesson is equally important. That lesson is that life does not have to be a struggle
all the time and that much in life can be realized just by dropping our struggle mentality. At this point in their development they see that much of their misery is self-created and they begin to work on the internal level to release their expectations of trouble at every step.

It is interesting to view the age 52 spread for the 4 ♦. I have found that the age 52 spread for all of us is a key indicator of our biggest lifelong lessons. In that year the 4 ♦ has a 9 ♥ Long Range (also in Jupiter that year too), a 9 ♦ Environment and a 9 ♠ Displacement card. There is also a 9 ♥ in Saturn. That's all the Nines, most of them in very powerful places, all in the same year. This illustrates just how much of the 4 ♦ lifelong issues revolve around letting go of what they know about life and the way they have been approaching it. It is their concepts (9 ♣), values (9 ♦) and habitual life patterns (9 ♠) that must be examined and released if they are ever to know peace and contentment.

But don't let this become a trap for the younger 4 ♦. Those who have not yet learned the importance of hard work will want to bypass this step and go directly for the release of struggle before having learned the importance of renouncing their laziness. This will not work but will instead lengthen the time they spend in misery. It is first through hard work and later through the release of struggle that the 4 ♦ reaches emancipation. My teacher used to tell us that before we can renounce our egos and give them up to God, that first we must develop a strong and healthy ego. Otherwise, he would say, you have nothing much to give up. The same principle applies to the work ethic for 4 ♦. They can renounce their struggle but only after having developed a strong work ethic and learning just how good hard work is for them.

This dynamic can create a lot of anger in 4 ♦ people. And we will often find some pretty strong Mars squares in their chart indicating it. Part of the struggle mentality can be a subtle anger directed at others who lives seem to be so easy. This doesn't happen in every case but is common.

It is the magic of Neptune and Venus that keeps the 4 ♦ person searching for a happier better life. That dream is hard to give up and if they continue to heed its call, they will eventually find the life they seek. It’s a spiritual quest that will lead them to their very own salvation.

Avoidance = Perpetuating Embracing the Divine Uncertainty

Avoidance is a major factor in our lives. What are we avoiding? Answer: All things and people that we find distasteful, fearful or revolting. And it is a known fact that humans will do more to avoid unpleasant things than they will to pursue happiness. Perhaps this is why the world is populated by so many 'living dead'. The living dead are those who are physically alive but who are living their lives in fear. And for them, avoiding is a big part of their life. But when we are avoiding things unpleasant, what does avoiding really do? If we examine it carefully we can see what is really going on behind the scenes.

Avoiding is a creative force

All avoidance is based in some fear. And fear is a creative force. Like it or not, we attract not just the things we love into our lives, but also those that we fear the most. Are we really surprised when the things we fear the most show up in our life, time and time again? I say not really. We know we were thinking about them, investing our creative force into creating them with our minds. We are often shocked when the very thing we were afraid of shows up exactly as we pictured it, but this should show us something very important. Our fear is a creative force,
part of the same creative force that we use to create all the good things in our life. Just look at it for a moment. Complete this sentence: "Out of my fear comes ....." See all the things that your fear creates and you will begin to realize the power that it has to shape your world.

Afraid of Fear?

"We have nothing to fear but fear itself" These words, spoken by Winston Churchill during the second world war really tell much about fear and our relationship to it. If we are afraid to even face our fears, we are another step removed from reality. Okay, I am afraid. But am I also afraid to be with my own fear? For most people the answer is yes. And this state represents a higher level of fear, one step farther away from seeing. And what are we missing out in not seeing? In avoiding a painful or fearful situation? Let’s take a closer look.

What is fear?

All fear is rooted in one basic fear, that which I call the 'divine uncertainty'. No matter how hard we try as humans to control our life, we will never feel protected from the divine uncertainty. The divine uncertainty is the mystery of life, that which makes life wonderful when we are courageous enough to look at it. To live in the presence of divine uncertainty is like surfing on the edge of a 30 foot wave, exhilarating and frightening at the same time. We avoid fearful situations at all costs, all the while depriving ourselves of the very thing that brings us life and that feeling of aliveness. This is to live in the realization that your life could end at any moment. This is where the mystery and wonder of life are found - on this edge of experience. You won't find the mystery and wonder you are looking for in a novel or movie. If we want to get back to a state of truly living, we only have to embrace this divine uncertainty. How do we do that? Simple, actually. We just face our fears. So, if each of us just sees these things we are avoiding as opportunities to get back into the flow of life, we might be able to re-enter the life experience fully. And each of us has everything we need to do this because we know what our fears are. We can begin facing them at any moment. We can start immediately.

Facing Them

People always experience great relief when they finally face the things that they are most afraid of. The only thing bad about it is how long they wait to do this. So many hours, days, weeks, months and years of anxiety could be spared by just meeting up with these personal fears head on. "How do we meet our fears?" you may ask. We only need to allow ourselves to truly experience them - to feel them. To sit and feel your heart beating rapidly and noticing your shallowness of breath and to be in that state long enough to get to know what you are afraid of and how much - this is the task. But no one ever trained us how to feel. For many this is difficult, but it is something that can be learned and developed, much like any other skill. But when you do this exercise, remind yourself of this one thing - that in this state of fear, you are much more in touch with reality than when you are avoiding it. You are living on the edge of truth.

Back to the Mystery

The mystery and beauty of life are all contained in our fears. Are you ashamed or afraid to admit "I am afraid"? Don't be. We all are afraid, everyone. Anyone who says otherwise is either out of touch or not being honest. We are all subject to the divine uncertainty - a life that will
inevitably end in death. That alone is enough to scare anyone, much less all the other myriad of things that life presents to us on a day to day basis for us to look at. Am I afraid? Certainly! And of many things. But that’s just a part of the mystery of life and a part that I cherish. Remember that in front of the awesome-ness of God's creation, we all may feel somewhat dwarfed by its immensity and cower in fear. That doesn't make us any less divine.

Pisces is Dead! Long Live Aquarius!

A good friend of mine went to visit a friend recently who was dying of bone cancer. This 51-year old woman had always lived her life for those around her - her husband, her kids, family and friends. She had never really lived for herself. And now, as a result of this approach to life, she was dying. What is it about the cancer disease and others that it afflicts certain people and not others? Is it genetic or do these people have other things in common? Has anyone asked these people if they really want to live? Maybe most of them don't, at least they don't want what a real life is about. Perhaps on some deep level they just are not that interested in having a living, breathing experience of being on the earth right now. More and more it becomes revealed by science that it is our mind that controls our bodies, even to create illness or radiant health. We must assume that many of the people afflicted with life-threatening diseases have an issue with life.

2,000 years ago, making a sacrifice was cool. Jesus did it. The very nature of Pisces is to make a sacrifice. Jesus was the symbol for this age, which began 2,000 years ago at his birth. He was the great martyr who made the biggest sacrifice for mankind. This occurred to counteract the age of Aries, which came before the Pisces Age that Jesus ushered in. In that Aries Age, began by Moses 2,000 years earlier, everyone cared only for themselves. It took bravery and many wars to survive in that age. But by the time Jesus was born, it had gone way too far, just as the Piscean qualities have gone too far today.

Pisces are the caretakers of the zodiac and so was Jesus, the icon of this age that we now see coming to a close. He told us that all must come through him to be saved. This is the classic victim/savior role that personifies the Piscean Age as a whole. And haven't we seen a lot of that these past 2,000 years? So many leaders here to save their followers, all in the name of God. And yet lately at least most of these leaders are full of corruption, lust and greed. On a more individual level, acting as Jesus did and making sacrifices will no longer bring the fruits it once did. With Pisces fading and Aquarius rising, Piscean behavior will only result in self-destruction.

The message here? Start living for yourself. Let go of your codependent behavior with friends, family and lovers and start realizing that you deserve to live whether or not you help all these people or not. You deserve to live just because you are here. We don't need a good reason to be loved by God. And we don't have to belong to any particular religion to accept his boundless love for us.

If you still think you will be rewarded here on earth and in heaven for being a martyr, think again. Times have changed. We have a new awareness now, that of the self and of personal individuality. We no longer have to follow behind some great leader, dressed in some look-alike garb that masks our individuality. You are the leader. You are the God you hope to become. Each of us must find our own personal way in this twilight time between grand ages. Each of us must find within ourselves our own reasons for being here. That is where the love and light and laughter exist. If we are truly happy, there is no way any disease can even get close to us. We will return to a world of love, wonder and graciousness that we once knew but have forgotten.

Along with all the other qualities of Aquarius, comes that of self-responsibility. Each of us must find our own way alone. This doesn't mean that we have to be alone, but we must consider our own path and life to be of the highest priority. Anything less may not be even
enough to justify breathing air or taking up space here. It is okay to have things. It is okay to have a lot of things, money, people or whatever. It is okay to ask for everything that will truly bring joy into your heart, even if that doesn't make sense to anyone else. It is okay to be selfish, especially if that selfishness will bring you more in tune with your inner self. It is those who are happy from the inside out that truly have something of value to share with the world. We have to drop all the 'shoulds' that we put on ourselves and start over. Just ask yourself, "what do I really enjoy spending my time doing?" Sounds simple. And it is. As it should be.

It sounds like Aquarius is the sign of selfishness, but it is not. However, it is the sign of self-actualization and self-acknowledgement. And each of us bears the responsibility for our self-enlightenment in this new age of technology and truth. And so, none of us can afford to continue with the martyr or self-immolation stuff. It just isn't going to produce good results. So, the best question to ask each day is "Am I doing the things I really enjoy and love to do?" and "Am I living for me? Do I love me? Am I standing up for me?" All of these questions point in the right direction for this new age that has already begun.

What Happens After We Survive Y2K?

Has anyone besides myself noticed that every time there is some significant astrological event, such as a conjunction of 4 planets (4 planets in the same position at the same time) that someone starts a rumor that 'the end is near'? What is it with these people who continually make some sort of prediction for every occasion that arises? I think in the last five years I have heard at least 10 such predictions ranging from the birth of the new savior to Armageddon. I figure it must be these same folks who are passing around all these rumors about the year 2,000. I used to be a Jehovah's Witness for a couple of years in my teens. Did you know that they have predicted the end of the world over 4 times and it never happened? And it is my best guess that nothing will happen. Not one of the other things I have heard predicted has ever come to pass and neither will this one. Some people, such as a guy named Gordon Michael Scallion, make a living doing this. Why is it that no one notices that he is wrong 80-90% of the time?

So, my question is this: what are these folks going to do after Y2K passes and nothing happens? Will they stop making these predictions or just explain it away and wait for the next reason to predict our doom to come along? Wouldn't it be a responsible thing if these folks would get out of the predicting business after they were dead wrong? I think so. But will they stop doing this? I doubt it.

This isn't to say that we won't see a small panic at the turn of the century. The Y2K thing has gotten much greater press coverage than any other scare in recent years. People are already panicking. And this is something to be mildly concerned about. In our local paper a couple of weeks ago there was a huge feature story about a guy who moved out of the city because of Y2K. He bought a farm and is now growing his own food, getting horses and buggies together, just so he and his family will be prepared for the coming holocaust. Several people I have spoken to recently have begun to stockpile things such as water and canned goods. And I am sure that a lot of people will cash in their stocks and buy gold this coming December. These are the people that I am concerned about - the ones that are in a panic. And so should you. People are bad enough in regular life. Just imagine how some folks will be when they imagine that their survival is at stake.

But you see, I am a computer programmer and a business person myself and I know exactly what the Y2K bug is and what it isn't. It took me about an hour to make my software 'Y2K compliant'. Ok, maybe two hours. But seriously, it isn't that big of a deal. And do you really think that all of these major corporations who are run by computers are going to risk losing even one minute of down time when that would mean losing money? Heck no! These people
have already protected themselves from that possibility. They were the first to realize the potential problem. The credit card companies were already hit with this problem about 12 months ago. Many of you may remember how some of your credit cards wouldn't work for a week or so then. If the card's expiration date said 00 or 01, some credit card software interpreted that as 1900 or 1901. But did that cause any major problems? Did anyone die as a result or even suffer any major inconvenience? No in both cases. And how long did it take them to fix it? It might have taken all the card companies about a week or two total. And believe me, they have massive computers. But all the other major companies have had more time and preparation to correct any Y2K bugs.

If you have an old computer yourself, there is a good chance that some of your older programs will not work right after the year 2,000. It's a problem in the computers BIOS which is sort of the very heart of the computer. Of course if these programs are not date-related or dependent, there will be no problem. It's only the ones with the year stuff that will be affected.

What's going to happen to you on New Year's day, 2000? If I wanted to find out, I would just look in my cards or in my astrological chart.

Growing a Business
Katherine A. Ranft

Growing a Business. I love that title. I read this book once many years ago. I remember enjoying it very much, but I did not fully understand the concept until I owned and "grew" my own business with Robert. The process really is like planting a garden. You decide what you want to plant, you determine the size of the bed, where you would like everything placed, prepare the soil with all the necessary nutrients, hopefully choose healthy seeds, plant them, provide the appropriate amount of sun and water, preferably taking time for all the steps along the way.

Then when the seedlings begin to push through the soil, some will be stronger than others, some may die. You may feel a little disheartened having put all that time and energy into planting that seed. Then you realize that you need to plant a new one in its place. And you repeat the process of feeding, watering and caring for the plants and you hope that they survive. Pretty soon there are many healthy seedlings and you are so happy that they have gotten to that stage of their development. They still need lots of maintenance, but there is tangible evidence of your nurturing and care. You feel the possibility of realizing your dream of a beautiful garden, and that encourages you to keep up your attentive care. Then the flowers start to bloom, one after the other and everyday the garden is more lovely than the day before. You feel like you have accomplished a miracle. You are a proud and accomplished gardener. Those flower "faces" with all their unique expressions reflect back appreciation, a wonderful thank you for taking all the necessary and not always enjoyable steps along the way to their ultimate creation.

That is how I feel about the development of our business. When Robert was introduced to this card science, he knew that it was something that he wanted to bring to the world. He had a very large vision. He knew what he wanted to plant and he had a pretty clear idea what the scope of the business would be. (the size of his garden) Initially, he had a loose organization of people that were trying to work together in some way to promote his book The Cards of Your Destiny. (promotional seeds).

Then I came along and at first, we discussed possible ways that I could also promote his work in California. Another seed. Then it became clear that we needed to spend more time on preparing the soil, creating a solid foundation from which to produce an array of books, tapes and software. Talking about promotion was jumping ahead, skipping the necessary steps to a
successful business. Like expecting people to appreciate the potential beauty of a garden that has not bloomed yet. What is there to promote?

So, my first assignment was to complete the editing of The Cards of Your Destiny. Then we needed to get it published. Robert and I established a partnership and we borrowed money from my mother to get us on our feet. Gradually, the initial group of promoters faded out and Seven Thunders Publishing emerged as our own business. Robert's vision and creative abilities combined with my organizational skills were like the nutrients in the soil. Within two years we published Love Cards along with many other books, tapes and software packages. We paid off all our debts. Robert was interviewed on hundreds of radio shows and he traveled and taught classes and did readings as well. Then just when we decided it was time to find a publisher, a friend of mine, who was helping me around the house after the birth of our son, casually mentioned that her daughter worked for a publishing company in SF. Within a month we signed a contract with our publisher, Sourcebooks. And the story continues from there.

It has been seven years now. This process of developing a business has been a gradual one. I think that it takes time and a measure of courage and determination and just plain old hard work. For me, the flowers in my garden are all the wonderful people that I have met along the way. All of you, who have touched my life in one way or another and made me feel like we are making a difference in your life. Perhaps, you will be inspired to plant your own garden, and grow your own business, as a unique expression of you.

The Pluto and Result Cards in depth - Either / Or

Our Pluto and Result Card, for our Yearly Spread, Seven-Year Spread and Life Spread are often representing a choice that we must make. We can learn a lot about ourselves, and about what is going on during any of these cycles by looking at the Pluto and Result Cards from this new perspective. A classic example might be the Life Spread of the 2♦ person. In that spread, their Pluto Card is the Ace of Hearts and the Result Card, the A♦, which in their case is also the Karma Card that owes them. For 2♦ people, the choice is often between love (A♥) and career (A♦), much like their A♦ Karma Cards. The desire for affection, represented by the Ace of Hearts is often a lifetime occupation of sorts. It often represents inner conflicts that result in conflicts in their personal relationships. So, it often does not come easy for a 2♦ person to be loved in the way that they want. The desire is definitely there and it is strong. But emotional considerations and fears of abandonment often interfere with its natural expression and fulfillment. But, competing with that desire for love is another desire, in this case, the desire for money and a career. The A♦ is a career card. Money, business and success financially are all important in this domain. The trick is, can the 2♦ person have both at the same time? This is often the choice faced by these people.

The Pluto Card is connected to Mars and the Result Card is connected to Jupiter, both being higher octaves of a sort of their counterparts. Our Pluto Card often represents an intense passion we have. We can find ourselves desiring the thing (or person) represented by our Pluto Card much like a Scorpio person desires money and sex. Remember that the sign of Scorpio is ruled by Pluto and Mars. When we think of Pluto, we can think passion and desire. So, we may have a lot of our passionate nature tied up into our Pluto Card, whatever it may represent. But Mars and Pluto energy are also self-destructive and just plain destructive in nature altogether. However, the Result Card, being a Jupiterian influence, is where things just flow to us or from us easily and with spiritual harmony. It is funny how we must literally pass through our passion (Pluto) to get to the ease and harmony represented by the Result Card. So, in its own way, our Pluto and Result Cards represent a choice between passion, or materiality and spirituality.
My own Life Spread, that of the Q♦, is one where I see this same principle in operation. My J♣ Pluto card represents all the Jack parts of my nature. Yes, it is creative and youthful in many ways. But it is also calculating, mentally stubborn and immature at times. I have also been known to be dishonest in certain situations. My Result Card, the 9♦ represents another, more spiritual side of my nature. It is one that is unattached to material concerns, giving and philanthropic in many ways. These two often compete within me for dominance in my personality. What parts of your personality are in competition with each other, as represented by your Pluto and Result Cards? Take a look at your yearly spread too for information about a competition that is occurring this year. What do these two cards tell you about what you desire (Pluto) and want to become spiritually (Result)? These cards become very interesting when looked at from this perspective. We can also look at the seven-year Pluto and Result and the Weekly ones too.

Inner conflict always results in external conflict. And no matter where we go or how we try to change our external situation in our life, we always take these inner conflicts with us. The Pluto and Result Cards provide us with a powerful glimpse of what is going on inside, one that can help us to make the choice that will take us to where we truly want to go.

**Astrological Update**

Jupiter has just entered the sign of Taurus. Aries people just got a big lift the past 6 months with Jupiter there and they are all off in a new direction with renewed energy and blessings. Now it is the time for Taureans to reap similar benefits. Of course, this also helps anyone with planets in Taurus. Saturn has been in Taurus for a while now, wreaking havoc on Leos, Aquarians and Scorpios and anyone with significant planets in those signs in their natal chart. The ruler of my chart, Mercury, is in Leo and I went through an 18-month trial and tribulation period during Saturn's transit of that planet. But now, Jupiter comes behind Saturn, turning dark to light, like going from famine to feast overnight. Those who are Taurus Rising will really find a great change in the coming months for the better.

As a matter of fact, Jupiter will ultimately catch Saturn, though not until May of 2000. With Jupiter and Saturn together, success does come, but with the price of hard work and patience. Hard work will be rewarded for Taureans and those with important planets in Taurus.

Uranus remains in its home sign of Aquarius for a while now, causing great changes and explosions for Aquarian people and those with important planets in Aquarius. Those born around the 4th through the 8th of February are the Aquarians that are being transformed at the present. This is a very positive experience that is unique to our time in history. All Aquarians have been or will be affected by this powerful transit that gives them all the power to find their true purpose and individual self-expression. Neptune is still in early degrees of Aquarius and will also touch the lives of all Aquarians in the coming years. Neptune will open up their psychic gifts to a great degree and for many, show them their dreams. The transits of Uranus, Neptune and Pluto are all once in a lifetime experiences and are, as such, extremely important. Along these lines, Pluto is in the sign of Sagittarius and is transforming the lives of many of them. It finished with Scorpios over the past 15 years and now Sagittarians are being blessed with this atomic bomb of personal transformation. Expect great changes in your life soon, especially if you are born around December 1st - 3rd.
From the September, 1999 Newsletter

Displacement Card Relationships

I have noticed a particular pattern lately that I think will apply to all cards and explain certain phenomena that we experience from year to year. It has to do with the yearly Displacement Card and our relationships. This theory explains why we seem to attract certain cards during a certain year and how that changes from year to year.

What I call our yearly Displacement Card is actually a position that our Birth Card occupies in the Life Spread, Grand Solar array. This is illustrated on page 48 of Destiny Cards. Our Displacement Card for the current year is that card, in this illustration that our Birth Card displaces, or sits on top of. So, for example, if your Displacement Card this year is the 4 of Clubs, your Birth Card would be sitting in that 4♣ position, which if you look on page 48, is the Mars row and the Jupiter column of the Life Spread (each row and column are labeled as per their influence by planet).

So, essentially, you would be replacing the 4♣ during this particular year. Take a moment to look up your Displacement Card for this year before continuing this article. And keep in mind that the 3 Fixed and 4 Semi-Fixed Cards do not have Displacement Cards. If you are a 2♥, A♠, 8♣, 7♦, 9♥, J♥ or K♠, you can use the Displacement Card of your Planetary Ruling Card, if you are not a Leo sun sign. (For more information about this, read on page 15 of Destiny Cards about the Environment and Displacement Cards)

Now, here's the story: When we displace a certain card, it is, in effect, as if we have become that card in some ways for this particular year. In general, the Displacement Card is a negative influence in that we have to give something to that card during the year and the interpretations of those cards given in the Destiny Cards book reflect this. However, when we sit in a particular location for a year we may also find ourselves attracting people into our lives that we do not normally attract, who would normally be attracted to the card we are displacing. For example, if you were displacing this 4♣ one year, you might find yourself meeting or getting involved with 2♦ and 6♥ people because these cards sit on either side of the 4♣ and both share a Moon connection with it. Now, your Birth Card may not have significant connections with either the 2♦ or 6♥ but because you are sitting in the 4♣ place this year, you may find fairly important relationships developing with these cards. The same may apply to the Venus Card of the 4♣, the J♠. Because it is the Venus Card of the 4♣, you may develop a Venus relationship with someone whose Birth Card or Planetary Ruling Card is the J♠.

This theory may explain the transitory nature of some relationships - how they come in with great importance and then fade out in a year or two. I invite you to check out your Displacement Cards for the last couple of years and see if any of your relationships during that time have had significant contacts with those cards.
A New Look at the Cosmic Reward Card, Karma, and the Kennedys
By Jenna Jackson

Several months ago, as I was beginning my first in-depth exploration of the Science of the Cards, I looked into the life spreads of various people I knew, in order to learn more about how the cards worked. In some of those I studied, this included examining the patterns that occurred during the years they passed away. I remembered that during a workshop last year Robert informed us that, in the year of someone's passing, certain cards almost always appear in their yearly spread - namely the A♠, 6♠ or 9♠, or the other 9's. This seemed especially true when one of these cards was a signifier for the entire yearly cycle, such as the Long Range card or the Result card, but could also correlate with planetary periods such as the Saturn cycle.

Indeed I found these card connections borne out in the spreads of many people I knew or knew about. However, when I explored further, I came across several spreads wherein none of the cards mentioned above appeared during the year of death - either in the Birth Card's spread or that of the Planetary Ruling Card. I thought there must be another, additional indicator.

So I continued to explore, to see if there was any other key card connected to this passage. By now I'd bought the computer programs, so I was able to look into other time frames as well, such as the 7-week spreads (correlating to the different planetary periods) throughout any given year. Ultimately, after examining many yearly spreads and 7-week spreads, I discovered an interesting finding - the Cosmic Reward Card nearly always occurs in a significant placement during the period of someone's passing. Once I found this, I continued to check out even more spreads of people I knew and celebrities I knew about. Again, I found the Cosmic Reward Card (CRC) consistently present. Usually it appeared as either the Result card, Long Range card, Saturn card, Displacement card, or in relationship to Pluto, in either the Yearly spread or the 7-week spread corresponding to the person's time of death. It most often occurred in the Birth Card spreads, but also frequently in the Planetary Ruling Card spreads. (These were the only spreads I considered of major significance for this situation.)

I particularly considered the CRC's prominence most relevant and noteworthy in those spreads where none of the three Spade cards nor any of the 9's appeared. But even when any of those other cards was present, the CRC was invariably there too. In those cases, I thought, this combination could be viewed as reinforcing the probabilities. One of the first I looked into was the yearly spread of a close family member who had passed away, and there it was - her CRC, in this case not only the Result and the Displacement Card in her Birth Card's yearly spread, but also prominent in her Planetary Ruling Card's spread as well. Yet none of the 9's nor any of the indicative Spade cards occurred then.

The fact that it is called the Cosmic Reward Card (CRC) did not escape my attention, nor my sense of irony, for we've often heard of someone's passing referred to as their "going to their final reward," but I didn't realize it was so literally "in the cards." In some charts it appeared as the Jupiter card of the spread at hand. I began to wonder what the various placements could mean: For instance, in Jupiter could it indicate that this passing was a kind of particular blessing? - going to one's "final reward" during the Jupiter cycle?

After several dozen such findings of the CRC at these pertinent periods, I called Robert and divulged my findings to him. He suggested I continue to explore this, and as I did, he asked me to write up my discovery in an article for this newsletter. I was hesitant at first, because I feel I am still quite the novice in Card Science, but he urged me again. Therefore it is presented here for your consideration.

This discovery became relevant again recently, during the terrible deaths of John F. Kennedy, Jr., his wife Carolyn and her sister Lauren. I looked again for the CRC -- and there it was. I didn't have the birth date of Lauren Bessette, so I couldn't check her chart; but I checked
the charts for John and Carolyn, and then also the charts for his father and mother, President John and Jackie Kennedy. The results again confirmed my discovery, and are as follows:

John F. Kennedy, Jr.: His Cosmic Reward Card, the Queen of Clubs, was the Result Card for the 7-week period coinciding with the time of his death. Also, a further placement may be connected; his Pluto card, the A♣, had moved into the Cosmic Reward spot for his year -- his Result Card for the year of his passing.

Carolyn Bessette-Kennedy: Her CRC, the 8♥, which also happened to be her husband John's Birth Card and one of her Karma Cards as well, was her Result Card for this year - quite a powerful intersection of card connections.

President John F. Kennedy: His CRC, the 2♣, was the significator of the 7-week period corresponding with the time of his death (his Jupiter cycle that year). No A♠, 6♠ or 9♠ was present in his Birth Card spread for that year, though the 9♣ was in his Saturn period.

Jackie Kennedy: Her CRC, the 10♠, was her Environment card the year she died.

A few of the many other examples I discovered of the CRC's placement at this pivotal time are as follows (unless otherwise indicated, they relate to the Birth Card's spread):

Mickey Mantle's CRC, the Q♥, was his Pluto card the year of his death.

Bette Davis' CRC, the K♣, was both the Displacement and the Mars card of her 7-week spread at the time she died.

Spencer Tracy, with the same birthday (April 5) as Bette Davis, but born seven years earlier, of course had the same CRC, the K♣; for him it was both the Long Range Card the year of his death and the Saturn card of his 7-year cycle including his passing.

Winston Churchill's CRC, the 5♠, was both his Birth Card's Ruling Card the year he died and the Saturn card in his Planetary Ruling Card (PRC)'s spread that year.

Mother Teresa's CRC, the 3♦, was both the Result card of her Birth Card's 7-week spread and the Environment card of her PRC's 7-week spread.

Elvis Presley's CRC, the 5♣, was the Long Range Card of his PRC the year he died.

Greta Garbo's CRC, the 10♣, was the Result card of her PRC the year she died.

Ernest Hemingway's CRC, the 4♥, was his Saturn card the year he died.

Miles Davis, CRC, also the 4♥, was his Mercury card when he passed away - kind of an uncommon placement, but interesting for such a mercurial musician as Davis.

Cesar Chavez' CRC, the 2♥, was the Pluto card of his 7-week spread.

Sometimes there are interesting cross-references: For Princess Diana, her Birth Cards' CRC was in the Pluto position of her PRC at the 7-week period of the time she died. And the Cosmic Reward Card of her PRC was in both the Pluto position and the Displacement position of her Birth Card spreads. The examples above are provided to show only some of the ways in which this placement can occur, but they are not the full extent of possibilities.

If one wishes to consider such indicators in correlation to one's possible transition from this life, I think it's good to keep in mind that these correspondences only point to potentials or perhaps probabilities. They shouldn't be considered as absolute prediction. This conditional state is further amplified by the fact that any of these cards will occur at several times during one's life; clearly, therefore, they are only signs of possibilities -- and of various things at various times. Sometimes people pass away when none of these cards is present, and sometimes these cards are present in the chart and the person lives on for many years. Any major events and transitions in our lives are, I think, the culmination of a sequence of multiple causes and factors.

One may not even wish to anticipate or look for such intimations as this, but proceed without any potential foreknowledge of the period when one might "shuffle off this mortal coil." Yet such knowledge might be useful, in a number of ways. It may serve as a cautionary signal.
for those times in our lives, for instance, when we might take better care of our health, or proceed with greater caution when traveling, etc. Also, there are those who believe it is best to be as prepared as possible in advance, so that one may leave nothing undone or unfulfilled when the time comes - to leave no love unexpressed, to have at least attempted all of one's dreams.

I think it's very important to remember those other factors that play a part. Our individual karma is not unfolding in a vacuum. Each of our lives is part of a complex interweaving of many forces and elements, about which we have only partial understanding or control. It is part of the human paradox: We are forever in the balance between creating our lives ourselves and accepting that which is beyond our ken, while still being responsible for our actions. Esoteric sciences such as astrology, numerology and, of course, the Science of the Cards, are what I call "karmic filters," systems which make our "karmic outline" more visible, and helpful tools through which we can better understand and, to a certain extent at least, shape and direct the course of our lives. The kind of knowledge that Card Science provides also carries with it a responsibility - to be used with respect, mindfulness and balanced perspective, including humility. And though the timing visible there is a very important factor, we are each part of many karmas: individual, family, national, global, etc. If one person dies in a plane crash, surely that one person's life choices, karma or Cards didn't determine the deaths of all the others on the same flight.

As an example which many may relate to, each of the Kennedys seems to be part of some larger family fate or karma at work. The conjunctions, in glory and in grief, of many of that family's major life events, are too evident to ignore. And so many of their triumphs and tragedies occur at the same time. Just recently, John F. Kennedy Jr. crashed to his death in the ocean at a time which was the 30-year anniversary of the fulfillment of his father's highest aspirations for the space program, wherein another kind of flight took us to the moon. And at the same time, 30 years ago, his uncle Ted drove a different kind of vehicle into another watery disaster, crashing into Chappaquiddick Bay just off Martha's Vineyard, where the younger Kennedy was headed in July when his plane crashed. What a coalescence this was -- of the triumphs and tragedies, the highest aspirations and the falling from those heights, which have characterized his family.

It seems, in a way, that the Kennedys carry part of our national karma. Some have spoken of there being a "Kennedy curse." I rather think of it as the Kennedy karma, some of which may be the effect of patriarch Joe's actions, or perhaps not. It may be due, in no small part, to what we have come to expect of them ourselves. If, in our country, many have looked to them to be our royal family, our paragons, perhaps we can remember they are simply human. If some have expected them to be our standard-bearers of nobility and courage, greatness and adventure, perhaps we can release them from this projection, and release them too from the misfortunes which accompany it.

The lives of the Kennedys might be seen as examples of the kinds of karma, both individual and collective, which apply to all of us and within which we attempt to evolve. They are a reminder that, though their Cards all showed very strong indicators for their dying at those times, there are surely other factors to consider. And so it is with all of us. Therefore, if you see any cards that indicate a possibility of passing away at a certain time, please remember to keep it in mind within the larger context of your life. I've offered the information above in the hopes that it will be useful to you in that regard. I wish you peace.

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Questions and Answers

The following are questions that have been posed to me by students via email. I thought that many of you might also benefit from them so I present some of them here. If you wish to have a question answered, my email address is themagi@7thunders.com. I try to answer all of them.

Question:

I purchased your book Love Cards recently and find it fascinating, I'm a 10♣ and have found it to be very accurate! I was amazed when I read it. A question for you. Since you consider the Planetary ruling card the second most important card after the birth card is it appropriate to include the life spread cards of the planetary ruling card as part of the reading?

Answer:

We do not read the Life Spread of the Planetary Ruling Card. As you may have noticed, the Planetary Ruling Card comes from the Life Spread of the Birth Card. It is appropriate to read the entire chapter in Love Cards about the Planetary Ruling Card as if it were a Birth Card. So, for example, if your Birth Card was a 10♣ and your Planetary Ruling Card is the 8♦, I recommend studying the descriptions of both those cards in the Love Cards book. Generally we do imitate many of the qualities of our Planetary Ruling Card, often exaggerating them to some degree.

Question:

I am a 2♦. I've been looking at the 6♣ card a lot lately, which is my first karma card, which if I'm correct is to whom I owe a debt. I figured if I found out what it is I owe, I would have a better understanding of what's going on deep inside me. Does this make any sense? I would see a part of me that needs understanding and change. As I see it, it's me taking responsibility for the things I say and promise.

To bring it a little closer, it would be taking that responsibility and reflecting it back to myself, forcing me to see all there is without hiding from the parts I'm afraid of. I've discovered that I accept the parts of things that come to me that fit in nicely with what I know I want, ignoring those parts that would make me look at the truth in full, thereby having to realize that what is there is not what I really want.

Answer:

The 6♣ is here as a reminder that our words are powerful. When we say something, it goes out from us with a force that will inevitably bring back to us the thing stated. Six always implies an awareness of the responsibility associated with its suit, in this case, Clubs, or communication - the Word.

Everything you say, for good or bad, will be used to judge you, and this applies to all 2 of Diamonds people. As the first Karma Card it admonishes you to choose your words carefully and do not say anything that you do not fully intend to back up with actions. Any trivializing with your speech will bring negative consequences.
Question:

Dear Robert,
I've been studying the cards since 1980 when I had my first reading with Arne Lein. I was born 4/7/50 (A♠) and I do a weekly reading every Sunday and am obsessed with the cards. Thank you for everything you've done to make reading the cards so easy! My Question - My boyfriend who is the 7♦ 7/8/52 just turned 47. In the "Destiny Cards" it says that his Pluto Card is the 6♣ which is correct according to the patterns of the years from "The Sacred Symbols of the Ancients" by Randall & Campbell. Yet it also says that his Long Range Card is the 6♣. Is this correct? How do you determine the Long Range card for each year?

Answer:

Your boyfriend is correct. Since the Long Range cards come from a different spread than the rest of the cards in the yearly spread, it is possible for it to be the same card as any other in the yearly spread. I have seen many cases where the Long Range card is the same as the Jupiter, Venus, Pluto or Result cards. It would be too long an explanation to tell how the Long Range Cards are determined. However I do explain that thoroughly in The Advanced Oracle Workbook that we publish.

Question:

The system scares me a times--what do you tell people who read stuff that worries them in the future?

Answer:

I try to explain how everything has a happy outcome, unless we fight it. We always have a choice. Every card has a good side too. It is up to each of us to access the higher side of each card. Of course, Nines always mean endings and they cannot be stopped or changed. However, Nines only scare people who are completely unaware of what they love in life. Those who are in touch with themselves always know when something in their life has reached its end and no longer brings them any joy or value.

Question:

I just recently read Love Cards and liked it very much. But I'm not quite sure which Birth Card my significant other is. He was born in Athens, Greece on June 29, 12:20 A.M. Does this mean his birth card is actually June 28. Athens Greece is 7 hours ahead of New York time...If you could help me clarify this, it would be much appreciated!

Answer:

Your husband would still be an A♣ unless, and this is important, unless it was daylight savings time the year he was born. In that case he would be a 2♣. The cards always use local time, not New York time, unless of course you were born in NY. To be completely correct about a person's real birth time, you must convert the observed time at birth into true solar time, which is essentially sundial time. That requires adjusting for both daylight savings and for the distance of
the birth place from the standard time meridian of the area of birth. This is discussed in our Advanced Oracle Workbook in the section about the Hour Cards.

Question:

Hi, I really enjoy your site, and use it everyday, and have the book too, But the calendar used to give the destiny reading is not correct, it displays the dates for August 1998, and has not been accurate for about a week, please fix this so I can continue to get the most from your site.

Answer:

The calendar used by our java applet on our web site is always set to your computer's date. Just adjust the date on your computer and it will work as designed.

Question:

Could you please advise me as to whether I am correct in calculating the present yearly spread for the U.S. (J♦)? I think the U.S. is currently in its 22 yearly spread. Yes or no? If not, then how should I have calculated it?

Answer:

If you use the birthday of 7/4/1776 for the US, it is now 222 years old. Divide that by 90 (Quadrations) and the remainder is 42, which the age you look at for the yearly spread (90 times 2 = 180, 222 - 180 = 42). So, you can read the age 42 spread except for the Long Range Card, which comes from a different place.

Question:

For the record, I'm an A♦ female, January 26, 1963. Is there a method I can use to do a daily reading? I sometimes work all day on Sundays which is when the Destiny book tells me I should do my weekly reading. So, if I miss my Sunday reading I can't have a reading for that week. Do you have a method that I can use to just get up in the morning and do one on any given day?

I really enjoy the system, and I have learned so much. There is a job offer in my future, and it's just taking a long time for it to materialize. (It has to do with foreign investments) but I was getting so impatient until I took another look at my cards and it was in this period that I've just started that a new job possibility is to arise. So, I now have relaxed and have the patience to go on with the daily grind until this other job actually becomes available. Any help or suggestions you can give me would be greatly appreciated.

Answer:

It's okay to do your weekly readings on Monday, if you really can't get to them on Sunday for any reason. Just do it as soon as you can. If you can't do it until Wednesday, that may be a little late, though since two days have already passed.
I see your Ace of Clubs in the current period. This is a good omen. Actually, if you look in Destiny Cards in Chapter 8 there is some good information about an important cycle for you that begins this year. The next three years will be very fortunate for you in terms of your career, which is always important to A♦.

Question:

Is there any significance in two people having 10 cards the same in their Life Spreads? Actually, the cards are the same but under the influence of different planets.

Answer:

This can occur between a number of cards and it would be difficult to explain why. But it is a very good indication that you and this other person are sort of 'part of the same family' and are probably connected in some very important ways.

Question:

I am a 2♦, 9/9/52, he 8♣, 7/20/66. We are about 2000 miles apart and instantly connected on a phone call. I am in the process of a divorce from a 23 year old marriage, I know it doesn't surprise you I stayed much too long in this marriage and it took 5 years to come to and act upon my decision to divorce.

I have "Love Cards" and "Destiny Cards". Both I enjoy and am learning a great amount, but find it difficult to associate a 1-sentence statement to each card. Which comes down to much confusion when trying to analyze relationships and people. When you say he and I may be "part of the same family", exactly what does that mean? We both have J♠ as our Planetary Ruling Card and on each of our birthdays this year we will both have Q♠ as our Long Range Card. What does all of this mean? Is this a relationship we should pursue as lovers or be happy that we have a close friendship? Will I ever be able to look at things without having to analyze every minute detail and ever come to a clear understanding?

Answer:

Your telling me the birthdays makes it much easier to give you a more specific answer. Essentially you and this 8♣ are very strongly connected in the best possible way. That is why you two connected so easily. He is your Venus Card in your Life Path, you share the same Planetary Ruling Card and you are his Moon Card as well. All of this points to a high degree of compatibility.

8♣ are pretty reliable for the most part in relationships, better than most. But each of you has that J♠ card to deal with which is like a playboy card in some sense. J♠ can be the biggest liars in the deck, definitely playful and fun but perhaps not straightforward. My advice would be to proceed ahead but keep your expectations to a minimum if possible until you meet in person and find out the rest of the story. Though you have the greatest compatibility, there are other factors that will make or break even the best connections.
Astrological Update

We have experienced an inordinate number of 'shootings' this past month. Its amazing just how many shootings have occurred. Usually we might see one or so in a 2-3 year period but during a span of 30 days we had at least 4 major events where someone went wild and shot one or more people. And its interesting to see what has been going on astrologically that might be connected with this. I checked and sure enough there was a very stressful situation among some of the most powerful planets. I also received many phone calls and emails from people who were reporting some difficult experiences of one sort or another during the same time period. Saturn and Uranus began forming a volatile square configuration around July 10th that stayed in effect until about August 15th or so. These two planets in a stressful aspect like this can mean unexpected violent outbreaks of one sort or another.

If that wasn't enough, though, we had Mars and the Sun join in the fray as they first squared each other beginning around the 2nd of August and then went on to form a Grand Cross with Saturn and Uranus around the 7th of August. So, here we had very powerful planets, all connected in a most stressful relationship to each other. I would venture to say that babies born during this period will have some interesting lives as they bear this powerful Grand Cross configuration in their natal charts. And Leos whose birthdays occur between the 2nd and 15th of the month didn't have such a great birthday this year either, due to the power of this stressful configuration upon their natal sun.

This Grand Cross occurred at around 15 degrees of the four fixed signs, Taurus, Leo, Scorpio and Aquarius. I am certain that all of you who have important planets in those degrees of any of those four signs felt the impact of this configuration. Fortunately I don't have planets in these areas in my natal chart. But I have been affected by such aspects in previous years many times. Fixed signs are the strongest in the chart. They are often called the four pillars of the world. If you look at the World card (major Arcana number 21) in a Ryder Waite tarot deck, you will see depicted in the four corners of that card the symbols for this four signs, the Eagle (Scorpio), the Bull (Taurus), the Lion (Leo) and the Man (Aquarius). This was an exceptional situation that produced exceptional results.

Then, of course, we had the solar eclipse on August 11th, which is essentially interpreted as a negative influence. However, it is important to take note that nothing horrible happened on that day, as so many of the New Age psychos predicted. If everyone would just see this one example and how it played out, many would stop getting all upset about the reckless predictions of doom and gloom put forth by so many when they see this or that astrological aspects forming in the future.

From the November, 1999 Newsletter

Our Underlying Cards Each Year

The first edition of Destiny Cards, published back in 1992, was called The Atlantean Oracle. It wasn't nearly as complete as Destiny Cards but it did have one thing that did not get carried forth to the new edition, an article on how to find your Underlying Cards for each period of the year.

The Underlying Cards are a set of cards that influence each card in your Yearly Spread, except the Environment and Displacement Cards. Even the Long Range Card has a pair but we will not be able to present that pair because of the difficulty in explaining it in this form.
However, in this article we will show you the Underlying Cards for all the planetary periods and the Pluto and Result Cards. These should give you plenty to play with and to think about.

The Underlying Cards act as background influences, though sometimes they are just as powerful as the cards they influence. This is especially true when the Underlying Cards are spades. Spades are the most powerful of all the suits. When we get a card in our yearly reading that is a spade, chances are that we are going to have something significant happen, something that will absolutely change our life in some important way. Keep this in mind as you study your underlying cards for the current year.

Sometimes the Underlying Cards will reveal the Birth Card of someone playing an important role in that period. I remember one year I had a Queen of Clubs in my Saturn period. I wondered which of the many club cards this Queen would be when she finally appeared during that period. Upon studying the Underlying Cards for that Queen, I found a Ten of Diamonds. Sure enough when my Saturn period occurred, I met a Ten of Diamonds woman who played a Saturn role in my life.

I am only giving the Underlying Cards here for your Direct Cards in each yearly spread. There are Underlying Cards for the vertical ones too but I was running out of space and decided to only publish the direct one. If you enjoy this article, let me know and I will publish the vertical ones in a future edition of this newsletter.

The Underlying Cards are determined by your Displacement Card each year and are listed on the next page. For example, if your Displacement Card in your Birth Card spread is the Ten of Hearts, the Underlying Cards during your Mars period, under the direct Mars Card, will be the Two of Diamonds and Ace of Spades. Double check this so you know you are getting it right before looking up your own. You can do the same with your Planetary Ruling Card spread too. If your Planetary Ruling Card has a Three of Diamonds Displacement Card this year, what will be the Underlying Cards for your Pluto Card? If you said Nine of Hearts and Seven of Diamonds you are correct.

You may notice that when your direct card is either one of the three Fixed Cards (Eight of Diamonds, Jack of Hearts or King of Spades) or one of the four, semi-fixed cards (Ace of Clubs, Two of Hearts, Seven of Diamonds or Nine of Hearts) that the Underlying Cards are virtually the same. This has to do with the way the Underlying Cards are found. For those advanced students out there, if you haven't already figured it out, the Underlying Cards are the cards found in the Life and Spiritual Spread that are in the same relative position as the card in question. This would be relative as in the Grand Solar Spread array for that year.

With the addition of these Underlying Cards, you have many new tools with which to explore the events, both past, present and future, of your life. Some of these Underlying Cards can be quite powerful. Take for instance any year that your Birth or Planetary Ruling Card displaces the Four of Hearts. During that year, the Underlying Cards in your Saturn period will be the Nine of Diamonds and Six of Diamonds. Research has proven that regardless of what you have as your direct card in Saturn, when you displace the Four of Hearts, something very powerful will happen to you during that Saturn time. If the direct card in Saturn is also powerful, this can be a very dangerous situation.

Other examples include when we have the Five of Spades as an Underlying Card. This can occur when your Birth or Planetary Ruling Card displaces many cards including the Queen of Diamonds, Aces, Threes, Fours, Fives, Sixes, Sevens and Eights. During whatever period you have an Underlying Five of Spades card, there is considerable chance that you will move, change jobs or take a long trip. Watch carefully for these spade cards as you study your yearly spreads and the Underlying Cards that influence them.
Secrets of the Planetary Ruling Card

My initial concepts of what the Planetary Ruling Card is and how it operates in our life has been undergoing a gradual transformation as I have been doing readings for people. My first thoughts about the Planetary Ruling Card were that it operated like the Ascendant or Rising Sign in an astrological natal chart. The Ascendant in our natal chart is very important and it represents how we see ourselves in our life, a sort of self-identity. It often has a subtle spiritual purpose that few astrologers are aware of. For example, those with Cancer rising or Ascendant are given that rising sign in order to foster more of the nurturing and motherly characteristics in them. Another way of saying this is that those given the Cancer rising are those who had a lack of these Cancerian qualities and are given this self-image in order to develop those qualities into the soul's makeup. This is true of all the rising signs. Though it represents how we see ourselves, it is usually not how we really are. The rising sign creates a continual thought stream in our mind that we are like that sign and in doing this it causes us to embrace those qualities.

My research with the Planetary Ruling Card rarely shows any connection between it and a person's Ascendant. However, I do find strong connections between the Planetary Ruling Card and the planet that rules our Ascendant, called the ruler of the chart or lord of the chart. My youngest son, for example is a King of Diamonds with a 4♣ Planetary Ruling Card. The 4♣ is a strong Virgo influence. But my son has no planets in Virgo in his chart and his Ascendant is Scorpio. However, the ruler of his chart is his Mars (natural ruler of Scorpio) and we find his Mars in Taurus in his 6th house. The 6th house is the Virgo house and causes virtually the same effect as having Mars in Virgo. Since nearly the first month of his life my son has exhibited strong Virgo characteristics all on his own without any prompting from his parents.

I have found this to be quite consistent but also I have found other indicators and connections to the Planetary Ruling Card in other areas of the birth chart not related to the Ascendant at all. This consistent evidence is causing me to rethink the essential purpose and meaning of our Planetary Ruling Cards. I see its influence so strongly in the charts of people I know that I can no longer classify it as more of an external influence that is lesser in importance than the Birth Card. Indeed I find equally powerful influences for both the Birth and Planetary Ruling Cards in the charts of everyone I study. So now I must take another look at the Planetary Ruling Card regarding it as equal in importance to the Birth Card.

I have also found that the way we exhibit the traits of our Planetary Ruling Card is usually dramatized or exaggerated. We sort of overdo those qualities, in comparison to someone who has that same card as their Birth Card. For example, a person whose Planetary Ruling Card is an Ace if often more impatient, driven to achieve, and forceful that a person who Birth Card is an Ace. A person whose Planetary Ruling Card is a Five will often act out more restlessness and dissatisfaction than the person whose Birth Card is a Five. It seems that we have some need to really play out the qualities of our Planetary Ruling Card in a big way.

Because of this observation and also of studying how people's Planetary Ruling Cards interact in their personal relationships I have also made another observation that applies to how we use the Planetary Ruling Card in relationship comparisons. The general rule that I have been using in how we utilize the Planetary Ruling Card in relationship readings was to only use the Planetary Ruling Card itself in comparisons and never the Karma Cards of the Planetary Ruling Card. For example, if you have the 6♦ your Planetary Ruling Card I would only do comparisons with that card when doing a relationship reading with you and someone else. But now I see that the Karma Cards of the Planetary Ruling Card also play a role. I have met many people, for example, whose Planetary Ruling Cards are the 3♦. The 3♦ happens to be my first Karma Card, the card that I usually have to give to. I have found that in every case of those whose Planetary
Ruling Card is the 3♦, that it acts exactly the same way and in some cases it is even stronger in nature. Those with 3♦ Planetary Ruling Cards often demand things from me as if they are somehow entitled to something whereas those whose Birth Cards are the 3♦ are rarely so strong about it. So, now I am using the Karmic connections between the Planetary Ruling Card as well as the Birth Card when I do a complete relationship reading.

With all of this in mind I will be including connections between the Karma Cards of the Planetary Ruling Card in the next version of my Love Cards program and hopefully in the next edition of the Love Cards book as well. I invite you to take a second look at those in your life whose Planetary Ruling Cards match up with one of your Karma Cards or vice-versa. I think you will see the same consistency in how these operate as I have.

People are Dying All Over

All you have to do is have a couple of people that you know die to get you thinking about life, its meaning and what we are doing here. That's what happened to me just lately. Two people that I didn't know real well but that I had a chance to have some in-depth conversations with died in the last week. I can honestly say I learned a great deal from both. Both died early in terms of years. One was male the other female. And both had many things in common that preceded their death. A closer look at their deaths, or I suspect, the deaths of anyone that you are close to, will reveal some very powerful truths about life here on this planet. Perhaps this can help us live our lives better, for whatever time we are here.

In today's society we tend to look upon events such as these deaths as being tragic. We say "Oh, to have something so horrible happen to someone so young." And news of such events confirms our inner suspicion - that bad things happen to good people for no good reason. This is the prevailing belief that most of us live our life by. We are all victims. And we need insurance to protect us. Its completely ridiculous but that is the belief that most of us live in, and die in. But whenever I get the opportunity to talk to folks that are getting close to their death, I always find out the real truth - that they themselves created this death and played a vital role in bringing it about.

The first was a woman, 52 years old. She battled cancer for about five years before succumbing to it. She had been a devoted mother and wife. Her husband a well-known spiritual teacher, they both aspired to live a life of higher awareness. So, what killed her? Was it cancer? When I talked with her, my first question, and the one that always ask someone in this situation, was "what was going on in your life when this first appeared? Was there something that had just occurred or a significant event that happened just before the cancer showed up?" It didn't take her long to answer. Her last child left for college. Her role as a mother had ended. For many, this would mark the beginning of a new life, one of freedom to explore life and love with her husband who was still very much in love with her. They had the money and time that they could have just traveled for years and years. She didn't have to work unless she was doing what she loved and wanted to do. She was very strong willed and could have had a career of her own. But instead she chose to 'be there' for everyone else in her life for years and years. When the time came for her to step up for herself, she couldn't or wouldn't do it. She was unable to conceive a life where she wasn't taking care of everyone. She contracted cancer and died, checked out.

The other person I met was someone that I had known in a general way for years. He was 39 years old when he died, having just gotten married in the past 4 years and having a child. In a way, his seemed even more tragic because of his having a child and a wonderful wife. Interestingly, his wife's father had passed away as well as her first husband. It was like the Kennedy's, fate repeating itself with her new husband.
Having known him, I made an effort to speak to him weeks before he died. I wanted to see if there was any way I could help him using what I knew of astrology and the cards. I found out he was an A♠. We talked for about an hour, his wife there with us. I told him that the A♠, especially for a male, is a card of 'the creator' or 'the magician'. It usually represents a man who is just full of ideas for new things to do and create, a very active almost workaholic kind of guy who loves his work more than everything else. I also spoke about the hypersensitivity of the A♠ in terms of personal relationships. Fear of abandonment and betrayal are major issues for most of them with their 7♥ Displacement and Mercury card. Another 7, the 7♦, in Venus speaks of even more fears of rejection, abandonment and betrayal. A♠, be they male or female, are usually overly sensitive and tend to have lousy love lives and personal lives as a result. But this man was different. In his own words he had never really found himself in his work. He sought work that would make him happy but never hit upon the thing that would do it. I asked him about his childhood. I wanted to know how and when an A♠ creative energy got stifled to such a great degree. This man was literally incapable of doing. Something intense must have happened in his early years. He shared with me that as a child he was precocious and full of energy. Now, that sounds like an Ace, I thought to myself. But his mother didn't like it when he was that way and she did everything in her power to stop him from being so active. She threatened to leave him, the thing he feared most. And he stopped. And from that point on, for his entire life, he was never precocious again.

The onslaught of his cancer, which was an overwhelming combination of bone marrow and other cancers combined, started after losing a certain job he had been in. He had lost this job that, while secure, was basically a 'do what you are told' position. Like our first person, he was faced with the opportunity to make a new life for himself, maybe doing something that he really loved. But instead he froze in fear. And within a month of that date, the first signs of cancer appeared. It quickly escalated. And all the healing circles with well-meaning friends, trips to the doctor and other natural healers did nothing to stop it.

I asked him "If you were completely well right now, what would you like to do with your life? Is there some kind of work or occupation or even hobby that really excites you or turns you on?" The answer came back, "No. I really can't think of anything that I would like to do." I knew that was the answer for this man. With all the creative force of that Ace of Aces at his disposal, he was creating that cancer so vividly and completely that his death was certain. And there was nothing else that he really wanted to do. He was still afraid of his mother's disapproval. A glimmer of the truth shone in his eyes that day. His symptoms even disappeared for a while after our talk. But two weeks later I got word that he had passed away.

What I learned most from both of these cases was that we really must have a reason to be here. I think it is a divine privilege to be here on this planet for whatever time we have. And if we don't have a damn good reason to live, we will probably check out. It seems that our very life force requires us to have a strong personal interest in being here. Otherwise, there are a myriad host of illnesses that can take our life. And we must live for ourselves first on some level. Its interesting how often cancer strikes those who are martyrs. It seems it is no longer enough to be here only to sacrifice everything for others. This may be due to the fact that the age of Pisces is ending and now we are entering Aquarius. It was Jesus, the icon of the Piscean Age, who showed the way to sacrifice and self-immolation. Perhaps now that his age has ended, this way to salvation is no longer available to us. Now we must live for ourselves and proclaim our individuality (Aquarian principles) if we are to live a healthy existence.

Yes, people are checking out every day, of all ages. And we can learn a great deal about life from the conditions surrounding their illness and death. Perhaps we can learn how to life our lives in a more complete way. I truly believe that no one need fear death or illness if their lives are complete and full of meaning.
The Fool Card in the Ryder-Waite Tarot deck stands about to walk, unconcerned, right off the edge of a precipice. His happy go lucky countenance belies his attitude. On the brink of certain destruction, he is no more concerned than anyone. The Fool represents the Joker in our deck of cards. He is no card of his own. And not being any particular card, the Joker may assume any card or role that he or she chooses. The Joker is truly the Jack of Jacks. And all the other Jacks emulate him in one way or the other. Those Jacks, like the Joker, can assume characteristics and personalities. They are the actors and actresses of the deck for sure. But they are also much more. This applies to those who Birth Cards and Planetary Ruling Cards are Jacks.

The Jacks seem to have a casual disregard for the proprieties of life on some levels. The world is their playground. And play is what they like to do the most. Many of the Jacks I have met like to take all of the concepts that people have about life, the things that are important and not important, and just throw them to the wind. They juggle concepts as adeptly as a professional juggler does the various objects that they juggle. To the Jack, nothing seems so serious that they cannot have a little fun with it.

It has been said that this world is essentially governed by Maya, or illusion. It is said that nothing here is really real or long-lasting. The Jacks seem to understand this concept more than anyone. They embody the Fool Card. All the life is but a stage and we are but actors and actresses upon it. In this sense these Jacks seem to be the real masters of this world. Nothing seems to really faze them in a certain sense. They find humor in most everything. But beyond their apparent fun-loving attitude, there is something else going on. These Jacks are consciously manipulating the world around them, bending and twisting it into new ways. It may be through their conversations, their work, their relationships or other forms of expression. Then they present this new vision of the world to the people around them and watch their amazed reactions. This is a gift of theirs, the ability to bend reality and to toy with that which most of us find so serious and important. So, what is important to a Jack anyway? When they flaunt at convention, morality and tradition, what is it that they find important, meaningful and fulfilling? Is there anything sacred in their world, anything that commands their respect and loyalty? One must wonder at this because so many of them seem too ready to give up all convention in favor of pure fun. And so many of the Jacks and Jokers become so enamored with their versions of reality that they find themselves lost. Like a kid in a candy store, they cannot make up their minds about what they should do or shouldn't. What should they choose? And what is truly meaningful to them? This is a question that haunts most of them. What is real? What is true? What is worth making a stand for among all the possible experiences this life offers us? Is there anything about life, besides pure fun, that is worth making a stand for? And finally, the question that can haunt them the most, "Who am I?"

The Joker is the most powerful of the Jacks and all the other Jacks emulate him to some extent. The Joker, being no card can become any card in the deck. This sounds like a paradox until one fully understands this concept. The Joker has a solar values of zero while all other cards are some value between one and fifty two. Having no value of its own, makes the Joker into a fertile field where anything may be grown. Zero is actually the first number. It represents the unmanifest universe, the universe of infinite possibilities. It is also the original feminine number. It is completely receptive to any idea that it may create. Through receiving completely it is able to emulate or create anything. This explains why some of the best actors and actresses are Jokers. But to actually be a Joker must be quite an experience. Who am I? must be a big question for
them. With what or whom should they identify themselves? I have met quite a number of Jokers and they usually adapt themselves to whatever situation they find themselves in and become the role that others expect of them or that suits their purposes at the time.

Many card students have put forth hypothetical means and techniques whereby they can do Destiny Card readings for Jokers. They cannot seem to accept that the Jokers cannot be read. In order to accomplish a reading for a Joker, they must ascribe another card's personality to it. And they find reasons to do just this, often making the Joker an A♥, 3♥, K♠ or some other card associated with the crown line of the Grand Solar Spread. I myself am content with the notion that Jokers are a mystery unto themselves and that their true identities cannot be determined. Since they can change identities at will, it will remain a mystery as to which card they are at any given time. Even Olney Richmond said that they never did any work in their temples on December 31st, the Joker's day, nor would they do any work with decks of cards until the Jokers were removed. Either would render invalid results as the electro-magnetic forces of the Jokers upset any possibilities for reliable outcomes in card work.

The J♠ is the closest of the Jacks to the Joker. The J♠ can play a part so well that it would be hard to distinguish them from the part. This is the Actor Card and the strongest of the four regular Jacks. And the J♠ has only one eye. This makes them blindsided in some ways, usually blindsided to their own motives, needs and purpose. They can well imagine themselves as playing gallant, dramatic and often highly romantic roles in life while in truth their motives are more utilitarian than romantic and beautiful. They have needs the same as the rest of us. But who would choose such a mundane role when so many other more dramatic ones are available? And often with the J♠, the utter disregard for the conventional and mundane can lead them to a life on the 'wild side' where they blur the lines between good and bad, right and wrong. The J♠ has been called the Thief or the Rip-Off Card after all. Some J♠ have lost complete touch with reality. I know because I have met some of them. And these may be those whose Planetary Ruling Card is the J♠ or their first karma card.

Many birthdays are associated with this card and may have trouble distinguishing the reality from fiction. These include all the 10♣ birthdays, who have the J♠ as their first karma card. Remember that our first karma card represents those aspects of our character that need improving. When our first karma card is a Jack, we have a tendency towards the lower side of that Jack. There are twelve 10♣ birthdays. Then we have all the people who have the J♠ as their Planetary Ruling Card. These include the Taurus and Libra 4♣, the Gemini and Virgo 2♦, and the Cancer 8♣ (July 20th). Then we have the two J♠ birthdays themselves, January 3rd and February 1st. We may also consider all those birthdays whose Planetary Ruling Card is the 10♣. This makes quite a few birthdays that are influenced by this powerful card. And all those who have the J♠ somewhere in their Life Spread may also be included. For example, the 9♣ has the J♠ as their lifetime Pluto Card. Wouldn't you imagine that this may indicate issues surrounding the basic nature of this card?

The 7♣ has the J♠ as its second karma card. Being the card of blessings for the 7♣, one might assume that the 7♣ person would receive all the good qualities of the J♠. These would include the aspect of the spiritual initiate and acting and artistic ability. A famous 7♣ of our current time is President Bill Clinton. He is a Leo 7♣, which means he has no separate Planetary Ruling Card. It has become his legacy to be known as the lying president. This is interesting in light of the fact that he receives the blessings of the J♠. Perhaps in his case, this J♠ has given him the ability to lie without really getting caught. That certainly seems to be the case. This J♠ though, also gives the ability to be a shape-shifter and Bill Clinton is that to an extraordinary degree. I find it interesting how many 7♣ I have personally met who were interested in become actors and actresses.
The ♦ play with values like the ♠ plays with roles. This is why they make such good salespeople. They can bend and twist value like no other, making that which was value-less valuable or vice-versa. They have two eyes but are very Neptunian in nature with a large dose of Aquarian energy to boot. Not only are they the Uranus card in the Neptune column of the Grand Solar Spread, but the first seven cards in their Life Spread all fall in the Neptune line. The Neptune energy makes them compassionate, co-dependent and a bit 'savior' oriented in their life. Their strong Aquarian side gives them a strong urge for personal freedom and unique expression. This, combined with the general playful nature of the Jack can be the cause of their not putting down any significant roots. The other downside of the ♦ can be that they lose complete touch with what is important to them in life. When we play with things that most people take as important, we may inadvertently lose our own foundation of value. The most essential foundation of value is our value of ourselves. If the ♦ cannot find their own value, they are lost in a world where little seems worthwhile. Many valuable talents have been wasted in this respect. They may also find themselves asking "what in life is truly worth having?"

The ♣ plays with concepts and words. These people have brilliant and highly creative minds and often an uncanny memory to boot, the perfect combination for a successful story teller. It takes lots of energy to maintain untruths with people in our life. Not many people have the necessary energy, memory (to remember what you told to each person), mental power or creativity to do this. The ♣ does, however. This same gift can and often is applied in their jobs for success. These people are usually successful in their chosen fields. However there are some who just can't seem to get it together. The ♣ has the ♦ as their first karma card, an indication that where value is concerned, they tend to take the negative qualities of the ♦ which can be dishonesty and a tendency to not be serious about what they want in life. Generally they take their communications more seriously than their own values. When it comes to knowledge they have a higher respect and some become great teachers, authors, or communicators. Look at Oprah Winfrey as an example.

The ♠ has the ♣ as their first karma card. Its funny how many truly pathological liars I have discovered who are ♠. It's hilarious sometimes. Generally it is the men who play this role, much more than the women. Now look at the ♦ who has the ♣ in Venus. What do you think this tells you about the ♦ position regards relationships? The ♦ has the ♣ as their lifetime Pluto (challenge) card. What do you think this indicates?

The ♠ stands out as the most different of the Jacks first of all because it is one of the three Fixed Cards. ♠ people are fixed in their love nature, which tends to be on the Neptunian side. They are the saviors and the co-dependents. They are the other one-eyed Jack as well. They are often blind to their own motives when it comes to love and relationships. However, the Christ-energy is strong in them. They will make genuine sacrifices on behalf of their close friends, associates and loved ones. They will be there when you need them. However, their own personal lives are often filled with some form of tragedy. If you take the time to get to know them, you will discover a confusing mess of emotions and feelings about their love lives. Again, because of that playful nature of the Jack they will play with their love life and concepts surrounding relationships so much that they lose sight of that which is truly important to them. If they lose sight of what really makes them happy, which is often the case, it can be very difficult to find their way back to sanity. They often become martyrs when this occurs since their own personal happiness is obviously out of the question. All that remains is to be here for others, regardless of their own lack of fulfillment.

The ♠ has no karma cards in the sense that most cards do. No other card has the ♠ as their first or second karma card. But the ♦ has the ♠ in Venus in their Life Spread. You can imagine what this does to their view on love, relationships, marriage and family. Might we say
that the 7♦ has a very fixed and savior-oriented view on these? Surely we can. The Q♠ has the
J♥ as a Pluto Card and the 3♦ has the J♥ in Saturn. Sacrifice is the issue that they both share in
one form or the other. The letting go of their personal desires to benefit those less fortunate in
some way.

All the Jacks have this great power - the power to bend reality to their choosing. If used
consciously, this could bring great good to others. It is not always a negative thing at all. But
how many of them truly know what they are doing? Consciousness is the real question here. If
any of the Jacks is conscious of themselves they can become the true magicians of this world.
The word magician comes from the word magi, which implies an understanding of the esoteric
laws that govern reality. All Jacks possess a link to this level of understanding. All may
transcend the rules of reality and become true shape-shifters that use their powers to help others.
These are the true alchemists. If they first direct their attention inwards and come to understand
their personalities, yearnings, and hidden motives, then they may use their great power and see it
do much good in the world.

Doing predictions for celebrities and others

What draws a lot of people to the Destiny Cards system initially is that it so accurately
describes what is going on in their lives or what has transpired. I often invite people to look up
the years in their past when significant events occurred and look to see if the cards found there
match up with their experiences. Inevitably they do, often in an amazing fashion. But when it
comes time to make predictions about our future or the future of someone else, we find the task
very difficult if not impossible. It's interesting, isn't it? We can look in the past or present and it
seems to fit so well but as we make predictions about the future, we are usually wrong. What is
going on here? Is there something we are missing that could help us in this regard?

I am asked to do predictions for celebrities all the time on the radio shows that I do to
promote my books. I have discovered what I think is the key to making accurate predictions.
That key is that the cards we find in our spreads tell us what a particular experience will mean to
us personally, not necessarily objectively. For example, we often say that A♠ and 9♠ or 6♠,
either of these in Saturn, is a death card. Yes, this can be true. But if you study the obituaries in
your local paper and look up some of the people who have recently died, you will discover as I
did that there are many cards that can indicate death. The most important question that the cards
answer about anyone's death is just what that death meant to them. If someone was truly ready to
die and had lost all interest in this life, they might have a 10♦ for a death card. Why? Because
the 10♦ is a wish-fulfilling card. One person's death might be indicated by a five, any of the
fives, Their death may be a journey to a new place. The next person's death may be a 9♥, the
loss of their close friends, while someone who is highly attached to their physical possessions
may have a 9♠ as a death card, the loss of all their 'stuff'. So, if we look at our own cards and the
cards of others in this light we will find that our rate of accuracy on predictions will go up much
more rapidly. This is especially true of celebrities, whose lives are lived on a much different
level than the common person. These people often have unlimited amounts of money, love, fame
and success. What could possibly be important to them? How would you interpret their cards?

I remember how perplexed I was when I first heard about the deaths of Nicole Simpson
and Ron Goldman. I immediately suspected O.J. Simpson, my intuition just told me he did it.
But when I looked in his cards I found no indications of any loss or tragic event. On the contrary
I found indications of success, triumph and of a successful carefully executed plan. This is when
I got the first glimpse of how these cards really work. If I looked at his cards from that point of
view there was no doubt in my mind that he had committed the crime.
Let's take a more current example and play with it. Recently on a radio show I was asked to predict whether or not Bill and Hilary Clinton would get divorced. This is a good one because we have all the birthdays of everyone involved. We even have Chelsea's birthday. Here they are:

Bill 8/19/46 7♣
Hillary 10/26/47 9♥ with Q♠ and K♣ Planetary Ruling Cards
Chelsea 2/27/80 J♣ with a 4♦ Planetary Ruling Card

We might want to examine all their cards for indications of this possible event. For a great place to get celebrity birthdays, go to http://www.metamaze.com. They have both the birthday and the Birth Cards of many celebrities and you can search by name or by month. It's a lot of fun.

The first thing that occurred to me when I was asked this question was who I was dealing with. I have been watching Bill and company for years now and have come to the conclusion that for him and Hillary being in office and being in power are their primary motives in all things. So, right off the bat, I figure that if it will help her campaign, Hillary would dump Bill in a second. I am sure she is watching the polls carefully to determine whether public opinion will support her keeping or getting rid of him. I don't for a minute have any illusions about these two, or much respect for that matter. But that aside, let's see what the cards indicate, especially with this new perspective that the cards will indicate what the experiences are for them personally.

Bill's Cards

For the remainder of this year, age 53, Bill seems to have no indications whatsoever of any changes in his relationship or residence. Of course Bill's birthday is in August which is prior to the upcoming elections. Changes may be occurring after his birthday so let's look at next year as well. For age 54 we find a 5♥ and 9♥ in Venus. Now most people would immediately assume that these are indications of divorce and because Hillary's Birth Card is a 9♥, this could be the case. But other possibilities exist as well. These two cards could merely mean a vacation (5♥) spent with Hillary (9♥). This occurs in October and November, the election months. So a vacation is probably not an option. Could these cards mean that he is moving out or that Hillary has moved out, a separation or divorce? Let's keep looking. Bill also has a 9♣ as his Long Range Card next year. This 9♣ could just indicate the completion of his term in office. His displacing the 6♣ is a very good indication of recognition and reward because when anyone displaces the 6♣, their yearly cards move up to the crown line for three planetary periods of the year. It is one of the auspicious places to be. But that 9♣ could mean a year of disappointment on some level, one of endings that are unwanted. It's interesting that in that same year, age 54, that the 9♣ is displacing the Q♠, which is Hillary's Planetary Ruling Card. Could this mean that the 9♣ Long Range is tied strongly to her? It most certainly could. This is an advanced technique whereby we look for connections with other people's Birth or Planetary Ruling Cards in the Grand Solar Spread of the current year. It also turns out that Bill's 9♣ Long Range Card is his 7-year Environment Card. This would tend to indicate a favorable influence to this 9♣, rather than a challenging or difficult one. Overall, this looks like a great year for Bill's career and reputation. But those two cards in Venus could spell changes in his marriage.
Hillary's Cards

In Hillary's current year her Birth Card spread has no indications whatsoever of anything to do with relationships. But her Planetary Ruling Card spread does. As a matter fact she is in her Venus period as I write this until February 8, 2000. And in the Planetary Ruling Card spread she has a 5♠ and 9♥. Now I can assume from this a move. But I wouldn't assume a divorce. It's interesting that her Long Range Card in her Planetary Ruling Card spread is the Q♥. Could this mean a big focus on her daughter or on her marriage? She is in a Jupiter year right now. Things are looking good for her and her A♦ Long Range in her Birth Card spread has a 5♦ vertical with it. The move and perhaps a change in her values is evident. The A♦ however, just indicates her new job and the desire for the money to pull off a successful election.

The elections occur during the Mercury period of her age 53 year where she has a 9♦ and 2♥. We usually don't consider Mercury cards to be that impactful. But could the 9♦ indicate a loss in the elections? I don't think so. With all the Aces she has this year, A♣ Long Range and three consecutive aces in Jupiter, Saturn and Uranus, I would tend to think this is going to indicate her new job. But since these aces don't show up until long after the elections, this could just indicate her finding a new job after she leaves the White House. But are there any indications of a divorce from Mr. Bill? Not many of the usual ones. But the real question is this: what would a divorce mean to her? It could mean success to her, if connected with her election. We will have to see. She is Bill's Moon Card in his Life Spread. She has always been there as his support person. Once he is out of office it remains to be seen whether or not she will continue to play that role with him. She may have to get divorced from him in order to find her own path in life. That Moon connection is very powerful in the sense that it practically obligates the Moon person to play the supportive role for the Sun person. Intuitively I get it that she will have to get away from him if she wants to make a name for herself.

Chelsea's Cards

I also looked into Chelsea's cards to see what is going on for her. What stood out for me was the 7♥ Long Range in her upcoming year and the 5♥ at the time of the election, one year from now. My first impression of these two was that of her going through emotional trauma about her parent's relationship. And the 5♥ in Uranus is a pretty strong indication of her moving. She also has a 9♥ at that same time in her Planetary Ruling Card spread.

When I put all of this together I predicted that they would get divorced. I am not certain of this by any means but from what I could see and sense in all of this, that is what made the most sense. What would you have predicted? Be sure to go on our web site and visit our message board and let us know. [http://www.7thunders.com/bbs/index.sht](http://www.7thunders.com/bbs/index.sht).

The Fives - Contrived Freedom

Freedom is an important word to all people who are Fives. They want the freedom to be themselves, the freedom to travel, the freedom to pursue love wherever they find it, the freedom to be unencumbered by anyone else's concepts of them and so forth. To this end they strive throughout their life to pursue this ideal of personal freedom. They are restless, all of them, to one degree or the other. And the very nature of the Five is to be dissatisfied with what is. The Five, numerologically speaking, represents the evolution out of the Four. The Four represents security, stability, and satisfaction. The Five has had enough of those qualities and has now become dissatisfied with all things associated with the Four. They strike out on a new path of
adventure, and often danger too. They absolutely must find out what lies beyond the next hill. So, we find the wanderers, the adventurers and the travelers amongst their ranks. They seem to always be seeking new experiences, often in spite of the costs.

But the Five person is often a bundle of inner conflict. I have found so many Fives who have Grand Crosses and T-squares in their natal charts that I am amazed. Both the Grand Cross and T-square represent a lot of internal conflict. Just having one square in our chart can be enough to keep a person in turmoil their entire life. A T-square is 3 planets in square formation and a Grand Cross is four. For the person with one of these formations in their chart, there is rarely any rest or peace. And regardless of which path they choose in life, there is rarely satisfaction in even that choice. It’s the old 'damned if you do, damned if you don't' syndrome. And this is the point of this article. The freedom that most Five people proclaim for themselves is rarely a thing that comes natural to them or that they enjoy to any degree. It is painful and often contrived. And it often causes conflict in their personal relationships, careers and life in general.

I recently met a Sagittarian lady who I spent some time with and got a chance to know a little. The sign of Sagittarius is akin to the number Five. Sagittarians enjoy their freedom, love to travel and see the world. They are, after all the horse who gallops freely over the open plains. They are naturally adventurous and spontaneous. But spending time with this lady, I got to experience what real freedom in a person feels like. With this woman, the freedom was not an issue, she was freedom. The freedom within her came from a deep place and expressed itself naturally in everything that she did and said. She wasn't a Five, by the way. It was very pleasant to experience that freedom that did not need to explain itself and didn't create conflict in her life. When I contrast her to so many of the Fives I have met, I can see that for Five people, freedom is an issue, not a quality that springs forth from their Soul unfettered. Freedom is part of their inner struggle. I don’t think I have yet met a person with a Five Birth or Planetary Ruling Card who expresses that freedom without some misgivings and inner doubts.

I think that anyone who has a Five as their Birth or Planetary Ruling Card would benefit by spending time with some Sagittarian people. By being with them they may find a connection to their own inner well of freedom that will allow them to drop some of the struggle associated with it. In the truest sense, freedom is the absence of internal conflict. If the Five person directed their attention to those parts of themselves that are constantly at war with each other and with the world outside of them, they may begin to experience what true freedom is all about.

New Years Astrological Update

Let's take a look at all the astrological events that may be interesting in the coming year. But before we do, I have to say something about one that just passed, and that is the conjunction of Pluto and Chiron at around 10 degrees of Sagittarius.

These two planets when conjoined like this are extremely powerful. They were in a tight conjunction for the entire month of December, 1999. What these tell us is that if you or someone you know has started a new relationship or business under this auspicious aspect, it is destined for fantastic success. This aspect has been called the Star Wars aspect because the Star Wars movie was released on a similar aspect. So, if by chance you did begin something new in December, it could work out much better than you imagined. That transit ended on December 30th, 1999. Also, anyone with planets at 10 - 11 degrees of Sagittarius, Leo, Aries, Cancer, and Taurus has experienced some tremendous possibilities during this month, powerful new opportunities that could be life changing in a very positive way.
Along these lines, all Sagittarians, Leos and Aries born around the 2\textsuperscript{nd} - 4\textsuperscript{th} of the month are experiencing tremendous benefits. Sagittarians in particular and those born after December 2\textsuperscript{nd}, should be ready for huge positive changes in their life.

Virgos and Pisces, on the other hand, especially those born between the 1\textsuperscript{st} and 4\textsuperscript{th} of their month, are undergoing some radical and often difficult transformations as Pluto is squaring their Sun. I know one Pisces woman, born on the 28\textsuperscript{th} of February, that nearly died as the result of a car accident. Keep in mind that Pluto is the most powerful of all the planets discovered so far. Its results are often absolute and life-changing. The changes I have mentioned in these last two paragraphs will be an ongoing process for this entire year for the birthdays I listed. These are once in a lifetime transits we are talking about here.

Saturn is in Taurus right now, around 10 degrees as we celebrate the new millenium. And it is retrograde there until January 12\textsuperscript{th} when it will begin speeding up and making its way out of Taurus. When Saturn is in a certain sign it will most strongly affect planets that are in the signs that are square and opposite that sign. For Taurus, this means Aquarius, Leo and Scorpio. Saturn has been tormenting those signs for a while now or anyone who has significant planets in those signs. This, it will continue to do the remainder of this year, but only planets that are 15 degrees or more, for the most part. Saturn will bring lessons, restrictions, etc. But at least it will move beyond its square with Uranus, which is currently stationed at 15 degrees of Aquarius. Saturn has been squaring Uranus off and on for the entire year of 1999 and this square is mostly the one responsible for all the shootings we have experienced this year. There may be one more outbreak like this in 2000 shortly after the 15\textsuperscript{th} of April because Mars will join Saturn and Jupiter in a square to Uranus. Even though those three planets are powerful, Uranus is more so. However Jupiter's presence may help avert any major tragedies.

Mars will square Pluto briefly around May 20, 2000. This is also one known to be associated with outstanding violent displays of one kind or another.

Jupiter will finally catch up with Saturn at the end of May. For most of May and part of June they will be officially together. Think of it, the worst planet and the best together. In my experience, Jupiter definitely overpowers Saturn's bad qualities and provides a refreshing relief from him. But on May 31\textsuperscript{st}, when Jupiter passes Saturn, his beneficial influences will no longer dampen Saturn's influence and Saturn will be free to teach his lessons to all that fall in his path. At that time Saturn will be at 23 degrees of Taurus and will continue through Taurus till the end of June when he moves into the sign of Gemini.

Early May has an interesting conglomeration of six planets, all in Taurus. Mercury, Venus, Mars, Sun, Jupiter and Saturn will all be in the sign of Taurus, though not all conjunct. On May 3\textsuperscript{rd}, the Moon will join in. This should be quite a site at night. You will be able to see the Moon, surrounded by all the other five visible planets. Don't get too excited about this however. Some people will inevitably predict something like the birth of the next Messiah on that day. That stellium of planets will all be squared by Uranus and Neptune to some extent. It could cause a major earthquake. It sure feels like a lopsided group to be sure. I expect some really good things though too, because Chiron and Pluto will quincunx the Sun and Jupiter, which are very fortunate aspects indeed, especially for business and financial gains. But by June, most of those planets will all be in Gemini.
From the January, 2000 Newsletter

Using Card Synchronization to pinpoint specific dates of events during the year

Each year we have a certain Long Range Card for the year, or a certain Environment, Displacement or Pluto Card. From these positions alone, it is not clear just when some of these influences will actually make themselves known in the current year. When we look back over such a year we often say, "Yes, those cards describe just how my year was," but in fact the year was composed of many events that occurred during certain months, weeks and days. And some of these specific events were more impactful than others and caused us to realize the influences of these year-long influence cards. The question arises as to how can we predict, if at all possible, when these specific events will occur during the year that represent the events described by our year-long cards in our yearly spreads. You may have a 9♦ as your Long Range Card, for example. But when, in your personal year, will some of these 9♦ type experiences occur? One way I have found to pinpoint these times is to look for what I call Card Synchronization.

First-Level Card Synchronization

An easy example of this phenomenon is when you have a card in one of your planetary periods that is the same as your Long Range or other year-long influence cards. Since the Long Range Card comes from an entirely different spread than the yearly spreads, it is common to find one of your planetary period cards to be the same as your Long Range Card. Example number one illustrates this. The A♥ Long Range Card is also found as the direct Mars Card. This 7♥ person will likely initiate a powerful relationship during this Mars period which will become the overall theme of the year (Long Range Card). It could easily represent a childbirth for a female 7♣ at this age. This can also occur with your Environment or Displacement Cards. There could be a match between one of those and one of the cards in your planetary periods. For example, you might have a Q♥ Displacement Card and a Q♥ in Jupiter during the same year. In this case, you would probably experience the events of the Q♥, which could be marriage or a sexual relationship, most profoundly during your Jupiter period. Now, these sorts of Card Syncs do not occur every year and so we need other methods to use in their absence.

The Critical Year - an important Card Synchronization

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<th>Card Synchronization Examples</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Example One</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>7♥ Birth Card, Age 40</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mer Ven Mar Jup Sat Ura Nep LR Plu/Res Env Dis</td>
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<tr>
<td>1♥ 10♦ A♥ K♣ 8♠ A♥ 6♠ A♥ 7♠/J♣ 5♦ 6♠</td>
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<td>2♠ 3♥ K♣ Q♣ 8♥ 4♠</td>
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<td><strong>Example Two</strong></td>
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<td>7♥ Birth Card, Age 52</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mer Ven Mar Jup Sat Ura Nep LR Plu/Res Env Dis</td>
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<tr>
<td>7♥ 5♦ K♥ 5♠ 9♥ 9♠ 2♠ 5♠ 10♠/6♥ 9♠ A♠</td>
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<tr>
<td>8♠ 2♥ 8♠ 5♠ 4♠ 2♠</td>
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<tr>
<td>7♥ Birth Card, Age 7 (7-year spread ages 49-55)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mer Ven Mar Jup Sat Ura Nep LR Plu/Res Env Dis</td>
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<tr>
<td>7♥ 5♦ K♥ 5♠ 7♥ 9♥ 2♠ K♣ 10♠/6♥ 9♠ A♠</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8♠ 2♥ 8♠ 5♠ 4♠ 2♣</td>
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<tr>
<td>7♥ Birth Card, weekly cards, 40th week of year, during the Uranus period of year</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mer Ven Mar Jup Sat Ura Nep LR Plu/Res Env Dis</td>
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<tr>
<td>7♥ 5♦ K♥ 5♠ 9♥ 9♥ 2♠ 5♠ 10♠/6♥ 9♠ A♠</td>
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<td>8♠ 2♥ 8♠ 5♠ 4♠ 2♣</td>
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Another very potent example of this principle occurs at age 52. This particular Card Synchronization is the most important of the entire lifetime and this is one reason I call this the Critical Year. At age 52, our entire yearly spread coincides perfectly with the seven-year spread we are currently in. If you compare your age 52 spread with your age 7 spread, you will see what I mean. There are minor exceptions, such as the reversal of the semi-fixed cards but other than that and the Long Range Cards, the spreads are identical. The age 7 yearly spread is also our seven-year spread from ages 49 to 55. Read the section on page 109 of the Destiny Cards book for more information on how to find your seven-year spreads. This age 52 spread is probably the most important yearly spread we experience, partly because of the Card Synchronization found that year. It is also a Jupiter Year in its seven-year period and so is quite blessed overall. The more I study people and this year of their life the more I am convinced that our lives truly culminate for better or worse by that age. We are either crowned or condemned during that blessed year, depending upon our personal choices up to and during that year.

The Personal Daily, Weekly and Seven-Week Cards

The discovery of the personal daily, weekly and seven-week cards opens up an entirely new area for the study of Card Synchronization. These formulas yield personal cards that influence each day of the year, each week of the year and each seven-week period as well. However, the formula is complex enough that the average person would have difficulty utilizing it without help. Our software programs, Path of Destiny as well as the Book of Destiny Professional, both calculate and display these cards that govern shorter time periods than the ones in the yearly spreads. Card Sync occurs frequently when we utilize these shorter time period spreads. And quite often we will have an entire week or seven-week spread coincide with our current yearly spread perfectly, much the same way as the Critical Year does.

Recently I experienced this first hand when my weekly spread was identical to my yearly spread. I am currently 46 years old, born 7/3/1953, and was in the second week (2/4 - 2/10/2000) of my Saturn period. During that week, I experienced a great shift in my life. And on February 8, 2000, I was experiencing a Saturn day with exactly the same cards as the Saturn Cards in my yearly spreads. In effect I had a double or perhaps triple Saturn influence that day and more or less for the week. It was, of course, a pretty challenging week and I watched closely because I was aware of this Card Sync as it occurred. Needless to say, I really experienced my Saturn lesson of the J♥ and 10♣ during that week and especially on that personal Saturn day.

By the way, this will happen to everyone at the same relative age due to the way these spreads are calculated. By this I mean that when you are 46 years old and in the second week of your Saturn 52-day period, your cards for that week will coincide with the cards in your yearly spread for that year just as mine did.

But utilizing these calculated personal daily, weekly and seven-week spreads yields a lot more Card Syncs. This previous example is an outstanding one but there will be many more examples of just one of the weekly or seven-week cards coinciding with cards found in our yearly spreads. And these will likely pinpoint the specific timing of events that coincide with the events described by our year-long cards in our yearly spreads.

Example two is a multifaceted example that illustrates many of the card synchronizations we are discussing here. It displays, first of all, a seven-year, yearly and weekly spread that all contain essentially the same cards. I suppose you could imagine that this 40th week of the 7♣ person's life at age 52 would be important. It happens to fall in their Uranus period. Notice how the Long Range cards in each spread are different and how the semi-fixed cards have switched places among the three spreads. Next, notice how, in all three spreads the direct Uranus card is
the same as the Environment Card. This shows a time when that 9♣ influence that is for the entire year will manifest itself much more strongly. Finally, look at the 5♣ Long Range that is also the direct Jupiter card, another time-indicating synchronization of a year-long card with one of the planetary period cards.

If you have read this far and are interested in exploring this, I am going to make an offer to those of you who do not yet have our Path of Destiny program. It normally sells for $149 but until our May issue, you can get it for $99. Be sure to mention this article when you order the software so that we may apply the discount. And, remember that you can download it directly from our web site if you want to get it up and running quickly. And before you purchase it, you might want to read about it on our web site to see exactly what it does and to explore all its features. The address there is:

http://www.7thunders.com/CatalogSoftware.htm

The Rebirth Cycle – Ages 44 – 46
“Looking in the Mirror”

I have written earlier about the Prebirth and Rebirth years, ages 44 and 45 and noted their significance in several articles and in the Destiny Cards book. In this article I want to give a more complete overview of these important years and include information on age 46, which I have found is just as important as ages 44 and 45, bringing with it many important lessons.

Age 45 equals the Life Spread all over again

What is most significant about these years and the way we observe their significance begins when we notice that the cards at age 45 are nearly identical to the cards in our Life Spread and age 90 spread. This tells us many things. But they are not completely identical, at least not in many cases. If you have one of the semi-fixed cards in your Life Spread, the 9♥, 7♦, A♣ or 2♥, then these cards have switched places with their twin. This means that the 9♥ has switched with the 7♦ and the 2♥ has switched with the A♣. If your Birth Card or Planetary Ruling Card is one of these four, semi-fixed cards then your age 45 has switched places with the Life Spread of your twin. Take a minute to compare the Life Spread of the A♣ with the age 45 of the 2♥ to verify what I am saying. This switching takes place because of the way the quadrations of the deck move the cards from year to year. If you want to learn more about the quadrations of the Grand Solar Spreads from which we derive all the yearly spreads from, our book, the Advanced Oracle Workbook, provides a great deal of instruction and information. It illustrates all 90 of the quadrations for you to explore and use. Either the Advanced Oracle Workshop on tape or the Mastery Level Seminar will give you the complete information on reading the cards in the 'ancient method'.

But even in the case of these semi-fixed cards whose age 45 cards are different from their Life Spread cards, it is essentially the same anyway. Why you ask? Because of the nature of
those pairs of cards and they way they share karma. An A♣ person can read the Life Spread of
the 2♥ as his or her own. Same goes for the 7♦ and 9♥. These four cards are unique from all
others in the deck. No other cards have what I call a Cosmic Soul Twin as they do.

The Prebirth Year

So, we have age 45 as having all the cards we were born with. The next step is to examine age 44
in which our cards are essentially derived from the Spiritual Spread. Many students of the cards
notice with amazement how the direct cards in their age 44 spread are in perfect order. The K♠
person for example, will find his or her direct cards for age 44 to be the A♠ in Mercury, 2♠ in
Venus, 3♠ in Mars, 4♠ in Jupiter, 5♠ in Saturn, 6♠ in Uranus, 7♠ in Neptune and so forth. This
happens to all cards with the only exception being again the semi-fixed cards. When we think
about the Spiritual Spread we must consider it as being the spread that governs our existence
before we are born. The reason for this is that it precedes the Life Spread, which governs the first
year of our life. Perhaps the Spiritual Spread governs our time in our mother’s womb and before.
If we assign it a length of one year, as we do all the other quadrations, this makes for some
interesting conjecture. So at age 44 our yearly spread is derived from what is essentially the
Spiritual Spread with only the semi-fixed cards having switched places. Given this information,
how would you interpret the meaning of our age 44 year?

Karma Cards and Displacement Cards

What lends valuable insight into the age 44 year is the fact that during that year we
place our second Karma Card. Now, this does not apply to the semi-fixed cards or the three
fixed cards, the K♠, J♥ and 8♣. These seven cards do not have the two Karma Cards that the
other forty-five cards in the deck. But many of those fixed and semi-fixed cards have Planetary
Ruling Cards that are members of the forty-five so this information will apply to them as well.
All K♠, for example, have the 5♣ as their Planetary Ruling Card, which has Karma Cards and
will have a displacement card each year. Getting back to our point, at age 44, we are displacing
the very same card that is our second Karma Card. In general, our second Karma Card represents
a gift that we carry with us into this lifetime from good karma accumulated in past lives. The
first Karma Card is just the opposite. It represents karma of a negative nature that we must
contend with during the course of our life. Similarly, our Displacement Card each year represents
an area of life or a person that we will have to give something to in order to continue our spiritual
journey. It's imperative that we pay attention to it. The first Karma Card and the yearly
Displacement Card are very much the same thing in their effect. The big difference is, of course,
that the first Karma Card is in effect our entire life and doesn’t change from year to year like our
Displacement Card.

Age 45, the Rebirth Year

At age 45 we displace our Birth Card and we have all the cards that we were born with.
This occurs again at age 90 but the Long Range Cards will be different. The Long Range cards
are derived from the 7-year spreads so they take seven times as long to make the ‘return’, that we
see in the age 45 year. The age 45 is like much like a solar return in astrology that we experience
each year on our birthday. Around our birthday each year, the Sun has returned to the same place
that it was at the time of our birth. But the age 45 much more powerful, more like having all of
our planets returning at the same time. And age 45 falls as the Jupiter year in its seven year
cycle, making it a blessed year. Nice to know that our rebirth is accompanied by Jupiter’s
blessings!
Age 46, the final step

At age 46 we find ourselves displacing our first Karma Card. This could be interpreted as a double dose of challenges since the very act of displacing a card is similar to the influence of our first Karma Card. One might theorize that age 46 will be a very difficult year where we truly have to face the issues of our first Karma Card, once and for all. Add to that the fact that it is a Saturn year in the seven-year cycle and it could spell gloom and doom. However, this assumes that whoever is experiencing this year has not learned their lessons in life to this point. Saturn is indeed the teacher but he is also the giver once we have learned what he has to teach us. And if we have focused on and dealt with our first Karma Card to this point in our life, there is no reason why we should have a difficult time of it. I am currently in my age 46 year and my first Karma Card, which I am also displacing now, is the 3♦. One might surmise that I would be having financial problems and great uncertainty about what I want in life. In fact, I made more money one month during this year than I had ever made before. However, the potential for challenge is definitely there and I am certain that some people will find this a very difficult year. This all depends upon their level of self-awareness, how much they are familiar with the issues of their first Karma Card and how they have dealt with them to this point.

Interpretation

Looking at these three years, I have noticed a theme here. The theme is that of self-reflection. I have written about the Rebirth year before but I will restate it along with the addition of the ages 44 and 46 years.

At age 44 we are influenced by our past-life spiritual spread cards. We get to experience the more ancient aspects of our personality that went into making us who we have chosen to be in the current lifetime. That year gives us the opportunity to experience some of our deeper patterns of expression. As we live through the cards at age 44 we are reconnecting with some of the deeper and often subconscious traits within ourselves, ones that are so much a part of us that we are scarcely aware of them. But that is the beauty of having this year, we are able to get more in touch with them.

Then at age 45 we get the really big mirror of ourselves for the current lifetime. We get to see ourselves and express our life as it is with the blessings of Jupiter to reward us. I mentioned in a previous article how, at age 45, we often get many of the things we have wanted for a long time in our life. And it is through having these dreams realized that we are shown who we really are.

Then again, at age 46, we get a good look at our first Karma Card and we get to find out how we have progressed in our work with the issues it represents. This first Karma Card may actually be the Birth Card that we were in some previous incarnation where we collected the negative karma that it represents. I find this to be possible because I have noticed just how many people I have met this year who are more strongly connected to my first Karma Card than my Birth Card. It is like I am calling forth old relationships from my past life where I was this 3♦ person, perhaps for the purpose of healing wounds or repaying debts or simply to get a better reflection of the parts of myself that this first Karma Card represents.

In each of these three years, the theme is “Looking in the Mirror”. What a wonderful blessing life has provided us!

The Golden Cycle
All in all, I see the years from age 45 to 52 as being the most important of the entire life. It is during this time period when we are truly tested to see just how much good we can allow ourselves to have and receive. And this time period really sets the stage for the rest of our life. I think that whatever we have become by age 52 is pretty much who we will be for the rest of our life. Many people die during this cycle, a choice as I see it to end their life rather than evolve and embrace a new chapter and a new meaning. But those who choose to live usually find this to be the most blessed and exciting time of their life. I think it is those who have a reason to live and a love for life who remain here. With the help of the cycle of ages 44 – 46 we hopefully get in touch with ourselves, by reflection, so that we can get the very most out of this cycle that we can.

Transcending our Cards

I get asked many times by people just introduced to this system about the nature of our Birth Cards. "Are they something that we are destined to be?" they ask. "Are we bound by our card?" These questions seem to imply that our cards are a destiny prison of some sort. But when anyone considers the destiny factor of this card system, they can't help but wonder if our cards represent destined events and characteristics that we can never escape from. "If these descriptions of my cards are so accurate, which they are, does this mean that my whole life is destined and that I cannot change who I am or what will happen to me?"

Birth Cards and Planetary Ruling Cards are like Diseases

Many so-called diseases in our current culture are really only names given to a group of symptoms. Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD), for example is not really a disease at all. It's just a name for a certain group of symptoms. Each person who is diagnosed (don't you love that word) with ADD probably has a different cause of the behavior that has been labeled as such. Our Birth Cards are like that too. They are, in truth, a symbol or name for a group of characteristics. If your Birth or PR Card is an Ace, for example, you will exhibit the drive and passion of the ace personality. If you are a male, whose Birth or PR Card is the Ace of Diamonds, there is a strong likelihood that your life will be an endless stream of romantic and sexual liaisons. If you are a 5 of Clubs or 9 of Clubs woman, you will likely be drawn to secret love affairs. The Birth and PR Cards are uncanny in their ability to identify personality traits. However, we must remember that each person who is a certain card may have very different reasons as to why they act the way they do or end up with the pattern of life experiences that we identify with their card.

The High and Low of Your Card

I have always said that the 'card does not make the person, it is the person who makes the card'. Take any birthday of the year and for that combination of a Birth Card and Planetary Ruling Card, you will find some born on that day who are very successful, loving, prosperous, fulfilled and happy. And of course you will also find many of just the opposite. Did the card make the person? Reality shows us the truth. The mere fact that we can find such a wide variety of quality among those with the same birthday suggests that it is up to us to make the best that our card can be. Its funny though, because our card(s) do often show us the way to this success. Each Birth and PR Card also show us avenues of self-expression where we may find success in the world and in our personal relationships.
The Art of Transcendence

I have met a lot of people who would like nothing better than to just side-step themselves and be propelled into a magical world where they are free of the fetters of their material, mundane lives. When I lived at the ashram for 10 years many of us thought that we could just meditate ourselves into heaven. Ironically, as everyone eventually left there and returned to the worldly life, they found all their personality stuff and incomplete lessons with money and relationships just waiting there for them. One of my favorite spiritual lessons came from our guru's teacher, Kripaluvanandaji. He observed us all trying so hard to get to God and one day told us "I see that many of you are trying so hard to get to heaven. You meditate, pray and chant the names of God and yet heaven still seems so far away. I tell you this — if you just take care of your day to day life — your job, your relationships, your finances, your house, and your health, well heaven will come down to get you." His point was well made on me. It helped me to see that the way to enlightenment was not through avoiding my humanness but through working with it. And I achieved quite a bit after that sound piece of advice.

In the same way, we can transcend the patterns of our Birth and PR Cards. But that transcendence does not come from just changing our mind one day and acting differently. It only comes one way and that is by completely embracing all the good, bad, and ugly of ourselves. Relationships are often a key in this process. They reflect just who we are so clearly that we want to blame our partners for what they show us about ourselves. The truth is that we always attract someone who treats us like we treat ourselves and that we attract someone who is a mirror of ourselves in other ways as well. It even goes so far as people with the same Birth or PR Cards getting together. Same Birth Card, Personality Cards or those who are Karma Cards of each other are the strongest mirror type relationships, even though all relationships are mirrors at their core.

Embracing Ourselves

So how do we truly accept ourselves? How do we embrace all of who we are? A person who is not aware of his or her traits, be they good traits or bad ones, is at the mercy of those patterns of behavior. This person really has no choice in how they will be in the world. They will always react to certain situations or stimuli in a predictable way. This person will never transcend the pattern described by their cards. But self-awareness brings a magical ingredient into one's life, the power of choice. Once we are aware of just what we are, and how we act — both positively and negatively — then we can actually choose any behavior we like. But we really have to get to know ourselves pretty well to have this power of choice. It's more than just realizing what we do day in and day out. It's being familiar enough with our patterns to have gained a lot of self-understanding. We have to hang out with ourselves, especially the parts that we don't like since we tend to avoid those the most. If we do this, we begin to truly understand ourselves. And with that understanding comes acceptance. And once we have acceptance, we also regain the power of our choice.

Transcendence is really nothing more than the power to choose another path. A person who has fully embraced the pattern described by their Birth and PR Cards has the power to actually be any card, much like the Joker. But it is even more powerful than the Joker actually because this person is 'self-realized'. A Joker person, like every other person born on any given day, may or may not be self-aware. Being a Joker may be just as much of a prison as any other card in the deck, even though that prison has multifaceted walls.

You can really tell when you are with someone who has embraced and therefore transcended their cards. This person will not have any problem admitting the low side of their
nature nor taking credit for the high side of their cards. They will not get defensive should you mention the low side of their cards. They have already faced and embraced that as part of the totality of who they are. They didn't just abandon the bad parts of themselves, they took the bad along with the good and kept it all. The only difference now is that they know themselves. They know they CAN be good or bad and they make a conscious choice to be whatever seems appropriate. And what is bad and good anyway? By loving themselves and embracing their own positive and negative sides, they have come to peace inside and this peace radiates from them. In this state a person is free to choose his or her actions and do what is most appropriate, whether or not those actions are deemed okay by society or not.

So, like everything else in life, the solution comes back to us, back to loving ourselves and seeing our own personal truth. This is where the power, the freedom and the ultimate enlightenment lie. If the cards have a good purpose behind their creation, I think it was to help accelerate this process of self-awareness and self-love.

**Astrological Perspectives**

Check out this chart. This is the chart for May 3, 2000. Notice those seven planets in Taurus? Wow! That's a lot of planets in one sign. Let me be the first to make a prediction about this unusual configuration - nothing much will happen. However, with Uranus squaring Mars and Neptune squaring Venus, Moon and Mercury, it may be an interesting day and week. Uranus Mars squares often precipitate some sort of violent outbreak, like the Columbine high school shooting and others. But I wouldn't expect anything too dramatic.

A person born that day would be a 3♠ and probably quite a dreamy sort of person with that Neptune contacting Venus, Moon and Mercury. Remember that Venus is the planet that rules Taurus and the Moon is exalted in the sign of Taurus. This would create additional impact to the square from Neptune, the god of illusion, fantasy, creativity and mystical love. This person would be a 3♠/7♣. How would you guess such a person would be when they grow up? The Pluto and Chiron forming an inconjunct aspect to Sun and Jupiter and Saturn could bring great wealth to such a person, and fame, depending on what time of the day they were born. It will be interesting to see who is born that day.
From the May, 2000 newsletter

The 2♥ and the Illusion of Love

The most romantic card in the entire deck is the 2♥. When it appears, there is the distinct possibility of a love affair that could be the love of your life, or at least one you may never forget. It is the truest archetype of the eternal lovers. In the Life Spread, it sits in the Venus row, Neptune column. Could there be anything more romantic than that?

The planet Venus is regarded to be in its exalted position in the sign of Pisces, which is governed by the planet Neptune. Venus in Pisces is the same as the 2♥. It represents a love that we would make sacrifices for, or die for. When we combine Venus with the planet Neptune we experience eternal love, or love that spans lifetimes. Ask anyone who has been deeply in love and they will tell you that the love they felt was eternal. People who have Venus in Pisces, in the 12th house, or aspected by Neptune all tend to attract these sorts of relationships. Therefore it is not surprising to find that people with a strong 2♥ connection in their cards will have one or more of these astrological configurations in their natal charts. This would include the A♦, 2♥, A♠, 3♦, 9♣, J♥, 7♦ and really a host of other cards. Any cards that have the 2♥ in their Life Spread will be affected by this powerful love influence.

Neptune is the planet of universal love, also known as Christ love. It has both a mystical and sacrificial quality to it. Those who are affected by Neptune in their love life will often be willing to make enormous sacrifices on behalf of their loved ones or lovers. Also, those affected in this way seem to seek out a partner with whom they can see their love manifest as a healing or helping energy. They want to experience their love as healing someone. These people also place high value upon the mystical feelings they get from those they meet. If they meet someone with stimulates a lot of those mysterious, unconscious feelings, they find they are highly attracted to them. Relationships for these people often begin with an odd number of coincidences, as if they were fated to meet. This unusual element to how they meet serves to reinforce the idea that they are destined to be with this person. I once had a relationship with a 9♣ woman (9♣ have the 2♥ in Venus in their Life Spread). Six months before I met her she had a psychic reading in which the psychic described me to a tee. She even played the tape for me after we had been together a while. It was amazing how well that psychic described me on all levels. My 9♣ girlfriend had been waiting to meet me. And then, of course, I showed up. It turns out that I am one of the Neptune cards to the 9♣, from their 6♦ karma card. And this was probably THE most romantic relationship I have ever experienced.
But nearly all of us will someday experience a 2♥ relationship because we may get it in our yearly spread a few times during our lifetime. So most of us will have the opportunity to know the depths of this compassionate, sacrificing, and highly romantic love.

But there is a big downside to Neptune relationships. And I have a theory that because our planet is in the final years of the Piscean age, that we tend to see the very worst of all Neptune manifestations during the current time period. So, it has been my experience that nearly all Neptunian relationships fail, and usually fail miserably. This is odd when you think about it. I would tend to expect that anyone who has an exalted Venus in their birth chart would have the best love life. But instead we get the co-dependent illusion-oriented relationships that our current age is known for. The Neptunian person will now look for a partner whose life is so miserable and bad. They are instinctively drawn to this kind of person because their healing love seeks expression. And since you cannot heal a well person, they will usually pick a drug addict, alcoholic, abusive or co-dependent person for their love. And they mistakenly believe that if they love this 'loser' enough, that he or she will come around and be healed. There is a bit of illusion here on many levels. First of all it is a mistake to think that any of us have the power to make someone change. No matter how much love you have, it will always be completely up to the other person as to whether they will decide to make positive changes in their life or not. Next, the Neptunian person will rarely have any needs of their own. They actually do have tremendous needs. But they are so caught up in healing their partner that they never even think of themselves. In truth they have great expectations. They are working so hard to love their partners and they secretly wish fervently that their partner will love them back. But will they actually ask for this love? Rarely, if at all. And that is another problem in these kinds of relationships. The truth is that we all have needs, even the saviors among us. And if we do not learn how to communicate and voice these needs, they probably will not be met, which ultimately will make us very unhappy.

People who are most strongly affected by the 2♥, those who have it in their Life Spread, often have a powerful and dreamy side to their personality when it comes to love and romance. They are in love with being in love. They are so 'in love with being in love,' in fact, that they will often make up the difference if the person they are with is not really in love as much as they are. They will go ahead and act out their part as if their partner is as they want them to be. In the process, they may actually ignore the things that come up between them and their partner that do not fit into their romantic picture of what they want. In this way, they can turn a blind eye to what is going on in order to maintain the high that they feel. If this is carried too far, it begins to set up an appointment with reality. If enough things are ignored or avoided because they do not match up with their dream, they are actually creating a situation in their future in which they will be faced with the cold hard facts. This can be dramatic sometimes, usually just as dramatic as the number of times they avoided seeing the truth.

I recently performed a reading for an A♣ (2♥ Karma Card, remember?) woman who was dating a guy who was married. They actually lived together for 4 years while he was married and had a child, even though he already had 2 children by his wife. He was a J♠ and did a fine job of explaining why he couldn't divorce his wife. In her own mind, he didn't love his wife, he loved her. And she bought his story about why he couldn't divorce his wife and accepted that. But then, he started coming over to see her less often. And then, she found out that he had conceived another child with his wife and that they had bought a home. When all of this happened, reality finally hit home. In that painful moment, the truth finally dawned as the clouds of her illusion parted. He didn't care much for her after all. And when she noticed that in 3 years he never came over to visit his son that he had with her, she realized that he didn't care for his child either. But even though all of this happened, she confided in me that she still secretly wished he would come
back to her. And when he called one day, it took all of her will power to not just jump back into his arms.

So, these Neptunian relationships act just like drugs upon us. And we can become very addicted in the process. The final truth about Neptunian love relationships is that when we are in them, we are completely ignoring ourselves. We are so intensely focused on the other person that we rarely stop and ask ourselves, 'why does this person make me feel so good?' and 'what is it that I am missing inside of myself that I so desperately need this other person to make me feel better?' The truth is that we cannot become addicted like this unless we have a huge and powerful deficiency within us. When I say huge, I mean massive. And that is the main fault of these highly romantic and addictive relationships. We are completely unaware that we are sick and need help. We just assume that this is how love is supposed to be. Didn't they tell us that when you find the right person that being with them would turn all your darkness into light?

The 2♥ has the potential to bring us the real love of our life. But in order for that to happen we must first be a whole person ourselves. We must love ourselves and have filled in those gaping holes in our happiness so that we are self-content. If we ever fall in love with someone so hard that we feel we cannot live without them, this is not a sign of a great love but of a great disease within us. In the true 2♥ expression the two people come together as two whole people who can unite and multiply their love, not as two deficient people who desperately need each other to go on or to face life. In the Ryder Waite tarot deck there are two cards that personify both these conditions perfectly. The first is the Devil Card, number 15 of the major arcana. In this card the two are united through their passions and lower natures. They are actually shackled to the devil himself, a slave to their love. The 5 of Pentacles also shows a union that is based upon the lower forces. It is a good card to study to understand the incorrect expression of union. In the Lovers card, major arcana number 6, we find the truest expression of the divine union. The couple are unshackled and yet blessed in their union. In this card there is light and happiness. And this is how the 2♥ is meant to be expressed. So, as soon as we remove that which is not true love from our personality and romantic expression, we are able to experience, perhaps for the first time, just how real and true romantic love can lift us to the heights of human expression.

The Death Cards

Okay, no one really wants to think about death, much less discuss it. But let’s face it, we are all going to die someday. And in most cases, even before we pass on, we are going to witness several deaths of friends and family members. It is often the deaths of others around us that helps us accept our own. When we are young, we often live as though we shall live forever. The thought of death is remote, if not absent entirely. But in fact our days are numbered. If you go to my web site and run the Destiny Reading applet, you will discover just how many days you have been alive to this date. It’s an interesting exercise to become aware of our life as a number of days. How many days will you live?

So, I would like to comment on death and the cards and point out some patterns that emerge that may be helpful for us in our quest for understanding. I have already discussed in my books about what cards can be indicators of death but I want to take it a step further and talk about which Birth and Planetary Ruling Cards are more likely to experience deaths in their families and earlier than normal.

The most powerful cards of death are the A♠ and 9♠. It is interesting that both these cards are situated closely to each other, in the upper left hand area of the Grand Solar array when we are looking at the first quadrature, called the Life Spread (see illustration). It appears as
though many of the cards in those first two rows of the spread have deaths in the family and other places much more often than cards found elsewhere in the spread. The J♥ can play a role in this as well as I will discuss here shortly.

A 9♣ person has the 9♠ as their Mercury card in their Life Spread. This means that the 9♠ governs the first 13 years of their life. And I think you may find it interesting to discover just how many 9♠ people have had some sort of tragic death occur during their childhood. The Gemini (5/23) and Virgo (9/15) birthdays have this same 9♠ as their Planetary Ruling Card. This tends to further emphasize the possibility of tragedy during childhood and I have met many 9♠ who bear witness to just that. One 9/15 9♠ woman I met nearly died at birth. There were many complications surrounding her birth and she spent the first 6 weeks of her life in an incubator. Then, at the age of 4, her father died in an accident. Tragedy can strike early for these people. I am always interested to meet the 5/23 and 9/15 birthday people to see if they had trouble at birth or a death in the family when they were young. More often than not, they have.

The 9♠ as a Birth or Ruling Card seems to increase the likelihood of there being some death in childhood or young adulthood. A close friend of mine who is a Capricorn 9♠ lost 3/4 of his entire family by age 21, all in separate incidents. This included his mother and father and several siblings. These sorts of tragedies tend to color the personality of 9♠ people. They are often compassionate and a little on the melancholy side. Both 9♠ and 7♠ seem to be accident prone themselves and it’s interesting how many of them are involved in deadly or crippling auto accidents.

When we look at the cards that are connected strongest to the A♠ we have the 8♦, which have the A♠ as their Pluto Card, the A♣, which have the A♠ in Saturn, the 10♠ which have the A♠ in Mars and the 3♦, which have it in Mercury. Though having the A♠ in one of these positions doesn't have to necessarily be difficult, we find that deaths in the family can occur with these cards. The 10♠ can themselves suffer a violent death on account of the A♠ activated by the aggressive nature of Mars. The other cards that have the A♠ in their Life Spreads are not generally affected by it as much since these positions, such as Venus, Neptune and Uranus, are generally less likely to be associated with tragedy or to manifest with negative events or experiences.

The Jack of Hearts is another card that seems to have close connections to death in the family. The Q♣ person has the Jack of Hearts as their Pluto Card in their Life Spread. This Jack of Hearts can often represent the loss of a child or other loved one. My mother is a Q♣ and my youngest brother, who was a 10 of Hearts, died when he was 3 years old, devastating my mother. And I have met other Q♣ that have had similar experiences. In my mind, this must be one of the very hardest experiences to bear. First of all, being a queen itself emphasizes the importance of your children in your life. And then to lose one of them while they are still young must be one of the most difficult experiences to come to terms with. It’s interesting that the Q♣ is considered the Mother Mary card and the Jack of Hearts the Christ card. Just as Mary lost her son on the cross, some Q♣ are destined to share a similar fate.

I have met a lot of 3♦ people this year, probably because I am displacing that card and they are my first karma card. Usually I may meet one in a year or so but this year there must have been at least ten that have come into my life for one reason or another. What surprised me is how many of them have had deaths in their lives. Many of them have lost spouses. And some have lost a child. I attribute this mostly to the J♥ in Saturn in their Life Spread. But the A♠ in Mercury may also be responsible. Most of their spouses that died did so by taking their own lives. They were severely depressed and just checked out. So, it is interesting that the 3♦ would be with someone who is so emotionally disabled who would finally take their own life. The J♥ is a card of sacrifice. But more than that, it is a card that is highly charged with Piscean energy. It
encourages sacrifice for sure and it is also associated with a lot of codependent relationship dynamics where one partner is trying to save the other. In the case of the 3♦ who have this J♥ in Saturn, these attempts are quite painful and sometimes result in tragedy. The 3♦ has the 9♠ as their Neptune card. This also could be associated with death in their lives, either their own or that of a loved one. All in all the 3♦ seems to have much more than the average number of death-producing influences in their cards.

J♣ people often have a spouse who is very ill or who dies before their time. In their case, this is indicated by the 7♠ in Venus. I have seen a similar pattern in some 9♦ people as well. This may be attributed to the 2♣ in Venus which has an A♠ underlying it. In both of these cases, our Venus card reflects something about our marriages or choice of mates. Would it be reasonable to assume then that the 5♣ person may have a death of a spouse since they have the A♠ in Venus? Perhaps.

Each of us probably knows someone who has lost a loved one. Find out their birthday and see what conclusions you may draw from knowing their cards and perhaps the cards of those they lost. There is a wealth of information about the cards just waiting for you to discover as you examine the experiences of those in your immediate family and life.

Greed is Poverty Consciousness in Action

"After years of trying to get rich with get-rich-quick schemes, I know I'm going to get rich with this scheme, and quick!"

Homer Simpson

It takes a great deal of self-awareness to know when we are under the influence of our fear of poverty. Everyone is affected by this at one time or another and some more than others. To achieve true prosperity we really have to first become aware of this fear and finally eliminate it from our everyday lives. But it is rampant today and is woven into the fabric of our society so neatly that we are usually completely blind to its presence. When greed is present, we think we are going to get something without an exchange of value. We want something for nothing. We want to forego the process of providing something of value in exchange for what is being offered, mistakenly thinking that the universe is somehow magically rewarding us for something we may have done in a past life or something. What we don't see is that this illusion is based upon our fear of poverty, a belief that there is not enough of everything in the universe for everyone to have what they want. Thus, we must take some short-cuts and get what we can while we can.

People with a true sense of inner prosperity are not taken in by these deceptions however. They know that everything in life has a price and that value must be exchanged for value in order to fully own what we have created. Those with a true sense of prosperity have little or no interest in things such as:

1. gambling
2. playing the lotto
3. free offers that come in the mail and elsewhere
4. Multi-level marketing (MLM) schemes
5. Internet scams about getting money from Microsoft or some other company by forwarding emails, etc.
I recently was at a Radio Shack purchasing a microphone for my computer. It cost $10 and at the check out, the guy behind the counter told me I could have that microphone for free if I signed up with one of his Sprint Long Distance plans. I currently have no long distance carrier so I asked him to tell me what the plans were, just to see if anything new had developed since I last checked. I dislike any of those plans that charge a monthly fee, usually $5.95 a month, to get .05 a minute at night, etc. It turned out that he didn't have anything that I was interested in and I told him so. He was somewhat amazed that I would rather pay for the microphone than get it free. And I thought about it. Sure, I would accept that microphone for free if it was offered to me. But this was not a free thing at all. It was a deal. And in my mind, not a great deal. But I did feel, for a moment, that little twinge of fear when I thought I could get that microphone for free. And that fear was my greed. It’s the same feeling I get when I get a thing in the mail saying that I can have 10 CDs for a dollar if I join this or that music club. There is a part of me that knows that this is not a real deal at all and that I will regret it later. But another part of me wants to get something for nothing. And I have come to recognize that part of me as being my fearful part, the part that is worried that I will not have enough.

I happen to be especially resistant to all MLM schemes because I already make a good income doing what I do. But I can really see how people without much money would jump at those, and they do. I have had many friends and associates contact me with an amazing way to make a lot of money in a short period of time. Each time I have looked into these, it is a scam. It is some way for people to make a lot of money without anything of any real value changing hands. Get three or more people to send $10 to the top person on the list, add your name to the bottom, and in 4 weeks you will make $10,000. And I especially dislike companies that sell particular products through MLM. You always end up paying three or more times as much for something when it is offered through one of those distribution systems. I remember a bunch of my friends selling 3-D cameras about 10 years ago. It seemed like a great deal at $120 until I saw the same camera in a catalog for $39 a little later. Why is it that all those MLM's charge too much for their products? And you will notice that they always sell things that are unique or difficult to compare price in the open market place. But, if you take the time to investigate what they are selling, you will find that the asking price is usually two or three times what you can purchase the item for in normal retail channels.

Recently a woman called to introduce me to something. She mentioned right off that it is not a multi-level marketing (MLM) thing, which I have come to know means that it IS a MLM thing, but probably in a disguise of some kind. She invited me to participate in a live conference call with some people and gave me some sketchy details about the product itself. Over the course of three days I missed two opportunities to be in a conference. But in subsequent conversations with her, found out a little more about it, including getting a web site address where I could do some research on my own. It turned out that she was selling a series of 12 cassette tapes that cost $1250. On these tapes were information that would supposedly teach me how to stop paying income taxes for the rest of my life, among other things. At first, I found this to be interesting but my intuition kept telling me there was something wrong with this whole thing. It was partly due to the tone of her voice when we spoke. I got the distinct feeling I was the target of her greed. I was her next sale. It was that feeling, more than anything else, that told me that this was something I should avoid. I am grateful for this sixth sense of poverty consciousness that I have developed. I could feel it in her, even though her words were so full of promise. Later I did more research on her products and found many references to them on the internet exposing them for what they were, a MLM pyramid scheme selling information that was largely illegal in nature. And for my own part, I realized that my interest in them from the start was due to my own dislike of paying taxes and my fear of poverty as a result of having to give the government so
much of what I earn. Having seen my own fear, I was immediately immune to any false perceptions about what was going on. The problem is always within me, not out there.

About 4 years ago I met a woman from New Jersey who had been through an incredible experience. She met this guy who invested in stocks. He told her that all she had to do was get $5,000 together and he would be able to triple it in a matter of days. He said that he had some inside information on a company and that he was certain that incredible money could be made if she acted fast. Well, she managed to borrow the money and gave it to him. Lo and behold, 4 days later, he came back and gave her almost $20,000! She was elated, of course. And, he said, there was another deal coming in a week that promised to be just as good or better. Would she like to invest? She said she would think about it. She went home and told all of her family and friends about her incredible good fortune. They all became agitated and excited. She then mentioned he was going to do another deal. In a matter of days, most of her family and friends scraped together all the money they could get their hands on to invest with this guy. It came to nearly $100,000, and they willingly handed it over to him. He then disappeared, never to be seen again. And this investment made by her and her family and some of her friends caused them all to lose everything. All their savings, equity in their homes and other personal property, all lost. Greed had overtaken them. It was a tragedy for them all, a complete tragedy. But though it was terrible, it never could have happened without their greed - wanting something for nothing.

Greed is a powerful state of mind. We are highly motivated but we are blind at the same time. Just as when we are angry, we are unaware that we are actually afraid. But greed and anger are nothing but fear in action. Greed is the fear of poverty in action, the fear of not having enough or that we will somehow run out and be left to die. In our fear we often look for the easy way out, for short-cuts. We will even steal from others when we are in greed or fear. Sometimes this is very subtle like when we are offered a free vacation if we sit in on a 60 minute sales presentation of a time-share condo. And other times it is ugly and obvious like when we are gambling and are up $500 but just can't stop or when we take our family's assets and gamble them away on some get-rich-quick scheme that offers nothing of real value to others.

It is difficult to convince a person who is caught up in greed of what they are doing, or why. The real test of whether or not some deal you are in is greed-based is whether or not something of unquestionable value is being exchanged. This completely eliminates all those pyramid schemes that just recruit new people to sustain themselves. There is no real value being exchanged. Don't be deceived by the sales pitch, not matter how spiritual it may seem. If no real value is being exchanged, it is probably greed-based.

There are many ways to get rich and some of them are fairly easy. But none of them will involve having to steal from others deceiving them in order to make a quick dollar. Those who are truly rich are those who have given in order to receive. They know the value of things and have given value in order to receive. And they truly appreciate what they have. If we are only able to become a little aware of our own fears of poverty, we can completely eliminate the greed cycle from our lives and begin to truly accumulate wealth, wealth that is truly ours and needs no defending.
Romancing the Cards
by Melissa Wells

As a student of the Destiny card system, not only has the weekly reading been an essential component for internalizing interpretations, it has become one of the most important and intriguing activities of my day. This study is a welcome addition that has evolved into a new way of understanding events that are occurring around me. As I integrate the cards into every area of my life, they are becoming my companions in this amazing journey. My reliance upon and love for them grows daily. Indeed the cards and I have entered into a true romance. And just like the perfect lover, they entertain me, they comfort me, they sustain me and they provide me new outlooks on life.

As I observe the influences available to me by certain cards, I’ve chosen to maximize that potential by making choices for experiences that I otherwise might not have even considered. For instance, the week that all four “three” cards appeared in my reading, I tapped into that creative energy to finish writing the initial draft of my screenplay that I’d been working on for several months.

That same week the 6♠, 5♦ and A♣ appeared in Neptune. A study of the meaning of those cards in that position led me that day to spend the money (5♦) to experience a past-life regression therapy session (A♣). Furthermore, I then entered into a three-day spiritual retreat (6♠). The benefits I derived were tremendous, and while those influences might have been present before my study of the system, they would have passed me by had I not been aware.

As the weeks pass certain cards appear in my reading that I really look forward to experiencing. One of my favorite combinations is the K♣ in Mars. That all-knowing, masterful force calms the compulsive energy that is so abundant in Mars for me. The K♠ in Saturn recently served me well to process a childhood emotional trauma with a therapist. It combined with the 9♣ and A♣ to bring to an end (9♣) a limited comprehension of the event and to see new possibilities (A♣) for the outcome of the little kitten who had been abruptly removed from my life by a hardhearted authority figure.

Considering the power these observations of the weekly reading bring to me, I’ve developed a technique to tie this abundance of information together. Since the personal daily card, which is available on the Java Applet program at Robert Camp’s web site (http://www.7thunders.com/JavaApps/Readings.htm), also is an important aspect of my weekly reading, I have coordinated doing the spread with the day of the week that I was born. As Saturn’s child, I magnetize the cards and lay out my spread on Friday. This assures that the planetary influences of the weekly spread correlate with my personal daily card.

After I have spread the cards, I enter that information into my logbook. The left column indicates the position, e.g., long range, Pluto, result, environment, etc. The entry in the second column is the card (or three cards for the seven planets) and the third column is the interpretation of the card in that position, derived from studying Camp’s Destiny Cards book. I have gone so far as to highlight in the book the most meaningful information from his interpretation. This method allows me to keep track of which combinations are new in my weekly reading, a minor detail of great interest to my 3♦ mind.

If I’ve had the combination of a certain card in a specific position before, I don’t rely on my highlighted phrases, however. I study every sentence in the book carefully to discover if another meaning is more appropriate, given the companion cards in the position, e.g., the direct and vertical cards or the Pluto and result card. This is very much a matter of intuition, but it serves me well.
I arrange my entries in the log so that each day I can write about the events that occurred which the cards predicted. It is best if this part of the exercise is done daily, as it is easy to lose track of what happened when. At the end of the week, I write a recap of the overall effect of the spread. This is particularly useful to arrive at a more complete understanding of the four weeklong cards: long range, Pluto, result and environment. A retrospective view helps me understand more completely the influence and power of the cards in those positions.

This intensive study or intimate relationship that I’ve developed with my weekly reading has served a dual purpose. Most certainly my comprehension of the cards has grown quickly and tremendously as a result of investing so much time and attention to the weekly reading. I now also have a terrific journal that highlights significant events that I would otherwise forget in the hectic pace of daily life.

A New Look at the Weekly Reading

I have gotten quite a few calls and emails lately about the weekly reading. It seems that many of you are either rediscovering its importance or are still deriving a lot of benefit from doing it each week. Melissa's article points to some new twists that many students are putting on this great tool for your education and self-understanding. One is to begin your weekly reading on the day of the week that you were born, instead of Sunday as Destiny Cards instructs you to do. If you do not already know what day that is, you can go to my web site and run the Destiny Reading applet. Whatever day is your Mercury day is also the day of the week you were born.

While you are there, take note of your daily card. By combining your daily card with the ones you drew from the deck, you can get some new perspectives. The daily card that the Java applet calculates comes from a formula that is much like the one used to derive the yearly spreads. We have noted a lot of significance in that card and it is very instructional to add it or compare it to the other cards you have drawn for the day.

I still tell all new students of the cards that doing the weekly reading, as it is outlined in the book, is the fastest way to truly learn the meanings of the cards. And, if you do this reading for a year, you will likely master their meanings and no longer need to look up everything in the book. I hope you are taking advantage of this valuable tool.

From the July, 2000 newsletter

July 20th, 2000, A Perfect Day?

Electoral Astrology is the use of astrology to find the best days to initiate certain events such as the beginning of a new business or a marriage. The theory behind this method is that whatever day you choose to begin a certain activity becomes the birthday of that entity. A business is considered an entity with a
birthday just as we are. Similarly, every relationship has a birthday. With regards to relationships, the first time you meet someone, whether by phone or in person, becomes the birth date of your relationship. If that relationship proceeds upon intimate lines, the first time you have sex will be the new birthday of the relationship, superceding the date you first met. If later, you get married, the marriage date becomes the final date of your relationship, superceding all previous dates. Thus, in today’s world where many people live together but do not marry, the date you have sex the first time becomes very important.

A client of mine recently hired me to find the perfect day to get married this year. After hours of study and searching I came up with July 20th of this year. You can benefit from my research by using this information yourself. This date, July 20th, 2000, has many auspicious aspects, both for love and for business. It has powerful business aspects and the number one best aspect for romantic or marital bliss. You can use the power of astrology by initiating either a new business venture or a relationship on this day.

First of all, this day has no negative astrological aspects. For these kinds of charts I use an orb of 3 degrees only for all planets. The orb is how far from a perfect aspect any particular aspect is. A perfect aspect will have a 0-degree orb. A perfect Trine aspect, for example, will be exactly 120 degrees between two planets in a chart. If the aspect were 122 degrees, the orb would be 2 degrees, in other words, 2 degrees from perfect. Sometimes larger orbs are used and astrologers differ on this point. But considering an orb of 3 degrees, the chart for this day in time, after 6:00 pm or so, has no negative aspects. And, it has several very powerful positive aspects.

First of all, it has a Chiron/Pluto conjunction. We have had this special conjunction since last October. But then it was aspected by Saturn in the sign of Taurus. Now, that Saturn transit has moved on and we have an unhampered Chiron/Pluto conjunction. This aspect has been called the Star Wars aspect because the Star Wars movie was released on a day that had a similar aspect to it. The release date of movies becomes their birthday. This aspect can bring spectacular results in money, fame, business and reputation. This chart also has Jupiter Trine Neptune, which is another great aspect for business and love, promising long-lasting success and happiness. But for love, there is also the Chiron Trine Venus aspect and the Pluto Trine Venus aspect. Chiron/Venus is considered to be the number one best aspect to have in a marriage chart. And Pluto/Venus promises super success with money, not to mention great sex!

Let’s give an example of how you might benefit from this powerful day. Let’s say you have met someone and you think the two of you might really have a chance at a great relationship. If you haven’t had sex yet but think that you will, schedule a date for that evening. Anytime after 6:00 pm eastern (3:00 pm Pacific) will be great. Earlier in the day the Moon is squaring Chiron and Pluto, which detract from the other good influences. If you do have sex that evening, your relationship has that birthday with all of its great attributes. And this is regardless of whether or not the two of you have good or bad personal aspects that day. The success of that relationship is assured. The chart and cards for the day that we initiate things become the birth influences for that entity. And this is more important than our personal cards, planetary periods or planetary influences that we have at that time. This differs from what I have said in Destiny Cards where I recommend you get married in a Venus or Jupiter period. Sometimes the best day for a marriage will fall in a period of yours that may not seem as good. But in these cases, the date of the marriage supercedes your personal influences.

Similarly, you could schedule a wedding or begin a new business that day or initiate a new financial project. It will be interesting to see what other companies or movies begin on that day.

If your birthday happens to be July 20th, you are, of course, an 8♣ Birth Card with a J♠ Planetary Ruling Card. For all of you, the aspects on that day portend a very good year for you since the planets or our birthday set the stage for the upcoming year. To be more precise about this, one should have a solar return chart erected. Sometimes, your actual solar return time will
be as much as a day sooner or later than your birthday. And it is the solar birthday that sets the stage. So, some July 20th folks may have their planets in slightly different positions. But even so, much of what I discussed about this day will still apply since these planets move slowly.

So now you have an opportunity that presents itself. You may not be able to take advantage of this one, but at least you are aware of it and may use this information for future events.

The Presidential Elections
Who do you think will win?

Now that the primaries are over and most of the various contenders for the presidential race have been eliminated, we can focus on the two forerunners and try our hand at making a prediction about the results. To really assess this race I suggest that you check out the following:

1. The 7-year spreads in addition to the yearly spreads
2. The underlying cards found beneath the cards in the yearly and 7-year spreads
3. Whether or not either of the contenders is in an auspicious year or cycle
4. Check the cards in the Planetary Ruling Card spreads as well – both yearly and 7-year.

Keep in mind that the cards are subjective, not objective. The cards found in our spreads tell us what the events mean to us personally, not necessarily what the results are on an objective basis.

This could be fun and a good exercise for you in the application of this system. I suggest that you study their cards carefully before reading what I have to say about it. Remember to look at the cards in their Planetary Ruling Card spreads. Additional information there might be the deciding factor in your choice. Illustrated here are the yearly spreads for both presidential candidates at the time of the next election in November. Based upon what you see here, who would you think is going to win this election?

There is not a clear-cut winner indicated in their cards as far as I can see. That is the first thing that struck me. Both have some equally powerful cards and this is often the case in races of this magnitude. Why? Because just to be in the race at this point is a sign of great success. Both these candidates have already defeated many opponents to get to where they are right now and are experiencing the exhilaration of success and accomplishment.

| Al Gore 3/31/48 5♥ Birth Card, 7♥ Ruling Card |
| Age 52 |
| Mer | Ven | Mar | Jup | Sat | Ura | Nep | Plu/Res LR | Env | Disp |
| 3/31/00 | 5/22 | 7/13 | 9/3 | 10/25 | 12/16 | 2/7/01 | 9♥ | 9♠ | 2♣ | 10♠ | 6♥ | A♠ | 6♠ | 6♥/Q♦ | 10♠ | 3♣ | 3♠ |
| 4♥ | K♦ | J♥ | 10♥ | Q♥ | 2♣ |

| George Bush 7/6/46 9♦ Birth Card, J♠ Ruling Card |
| Age 54 |
| Mer | Ven | Mar | Jup | Sat | Ura | Nep | Plu/Res LR | Env | Disp |
| 7/6/00 | 8/27 | 10/18 | 12/9 | 1/31/01 | 3/24 | 5/15 | Q♥ | 8♦ | 4♠ | 10♠ | 2♣ | K♠ | 6♠ | 6♥/9♥ | 3♣ | K♥ | 10♥ |
| 7♥ | 5♠ | 10♠ | J♠ | 10♠ | K♥ |
Al Gore will be in Saturn at the time of the election and his cards are not so good then. What’s also interesting is that the underlying card for that Saturn period (lying beneath the 6♥) is the 9♦, which is Bush’s Planetary Ruling Card. A Six in Saturn can be a very difficult influence. However, when we look at the overview we get a different story. First of all, Gore is in his age 52 year, which I consider to be the most blessed year of life. It is the Jupiter year in the most important cycle of life that begins at age 49. And for this year he has the 10♥ Long Range with a 10♥ vertical Long Range. These are such powerful influences that they cannot be overemphasized. And all the way until his Saturn period, his cards are great. Especially in the Jupiter period where he has the same 10♠ and 10♥. So things really look great for Gore, at least until just before the election when he enters his Saturn period.

In Gore’s Planetary Ruling Card spread he has even more difficult cards in Saturn, the 9♣ and J♣. And underlying that 9♣ is the 7♣, another challenging card. Here, his cards are not nearly as strong as in his Birth Card spread. His Long Range is the 7♦, but it does have a 10♣ vertical, which is successful. But the overall indication is that his Saturn period is going to be a challenging one. Could this mean he loses the election?

Now the 6♥ in Saturn can have other meanings, such as a destined mission that we undertake. However that is usually not the case in Saturn. In Saturn, the 6♥ generally indicates something from the past that comes back to haunt us, usually a relationship issue. On June 6th of this year a story leaked out about how some tenants in apartments owned by Al Gore were complaining about the poor conditions of their apartments, which until this point had not been fixed. This was a smart move by these tenants. As soon as the story hit the media, Mr. Gore made sure those apartments got fixed up before the story received much national attention. This is what a 6♥ experience could be like, a pay-up for past misdeeds. I have a feeling that this is what is going to happen again to Mr. Gore, 2 weeks or so before the election. I think that he will be looking like he is close to winning this election at that point but that someone will come forward with something about him, from his past, that changes public opinion about him. Since this occurs so close to the election time, it could be one of those last-minute things that tilts the balance in favor of Bush.

George Bush doesn’t have such strong cards for his Long Range. But what you may not know about his 3♠ Long Range is that it is located in the Crown Line, sitting in the spot normally occupied by the 10♠. In addition, the year of the election is his Neptune year of his current 7-year spread. When we are at the end of a 7-year cycle our result card for that cycle becomes very important. And guess what Bush’s Result Card is for this cycle – the 10♣. The 10♣ is a very powerful card, just as much as the 10♠ and 10♥ that Gore has. It is a card of success, both personally and professionally. During the time of the election, Bush has the 4♥ and 10♠ in Mars. These are very good cards for success in competitive matters. And the cards that follow in Jupiter are the 10♣ and J♣. Could these mean the inauguration? They certainly are very successful cards and the J♣ is his Planetary Ruling Card. These two could very well indicate his successful inauguration.

In Bush’s Planetary Ruling Card spread, he is in a very auspicious place, displacing the 10♠ for the year. His Mars cards which govern him during the time of the election are fairly positive, the 4♥ and 6♠. Not as powerful as his Birth Card’s spread, but still good and definitely not an indication of failure or defeat. Good Mars cards like this usually indicate success in any competitive activity be that sports, legal or as in this case, a run for the highest office in this country.

So, what is my verdict on this upcoming race? I cannot be certain myself. During Clinton’s first win, the outcome was easy to predict (check the 7♣ spread for age 46). But in this case,
there is no clear winner between them. But if asked to pick the winner, I would pick Bush. I think he has more indications of victory than Gore at the time of the election while Gore has some cards of defeat and disappointment. It will be interesting to see what happens!

The Super Cards and other interesting tidbits

Look! Up there! It’s a bird! It’s a plane! No, it’s super card! Super card? That sounds a little odd! Well, just what is a super card and who are they anyway?

I have chosen this name, super card, to denote cards that are sort of a super version of their number or suit. In some cases, these birthdays are actually too much of a good thing, as you will see. Too much of anything can have a negative expression. Perhaps this is because life is usually best when things are balanced. Too much water can kill us, even though we depend on water for our very lives. In the cards, too much of a certain quality can produce an imbalanced personality. But, as in all other things, life is allowed to have extreme expressions of particular energies, perhaps to dramatize those qualities for us all to learn from. So, without further ado, here are some of what I call the super cards.

All Leos, first of all, are super cards. Why? Well, because they have a Planetary Ruling Card and Birth Card that are identical. This makes them a 'double' of their particular card, something like a person whose Sun sign and rising sign are the same. This creates a stronger version of that card or personality. In the case of Leos, this doubling effect may be somewhat responsible for the dramatic natures they tend to have. They will dramatize their card. Because Leo is ruled by the Sun, it is considered the strongest and most powerful of all the Sun signs. To be a Leo means that you have less problems in being self-expressive or in loving yourself. Therefore, Leos can play out their Birth Card's traits with abandon and fun. Of course, there are cases where Leos just become too much for most of us to bear. The Leo 8♦ (August 5th), for example, can be just too much. Why? Well, because the 8♦ is also considered the Sun Card in the entire deck. It sits in the Sun position in the Grand Solar Spread. So, being a Leo 8♦ means that you are a Sun born Leo with the Sun Card and the Sun Card as your Planetary Ruling Card. I think you can see how this can be a triple influence. And indeed, some of the Leo 8♦ people you meet can be just too Leo. This can mean arrogant or just acting in a way like they are too good for everyone else. The Leo 10♦ can also be a little too much at times. Because the 10♦ sits in the very center of the Grand Solar Spread, all 10♦ have a tendency to want to be the center of attention wherever they find themselves. This is a common Leo trait, to be the center of attention. So, if that 10♦ person is also a Leo, that could produce an extreme example of someone who overdoes that desire to capture others’ attention.

Other cards are super cards in the same way, based upon the association of their suit, number and astrological sign, which might all carry the same meaning. Take the Gemini or Virgo 3♣, for example. The number Three is a Gemini energy all by itself as it is associated with the third house in astrology and the mind. The suit of Clubs, likewise is a Gemini or mental energy. All Clubs people will have a strong mental orientation just like Gemini people, some more than others. So, all 3♣, regardless of their sun sign are going to be a little too much of a good thing by themselves, being a double mental and Gemini energy. But if we take that a step further and look at the Gemini or Virgo 3♣ birthday, we have someone who is a tripled mental person. This can produce an extreme personality. I once had a Virgo 3♣ client whose life was completely driven in a desire for perfection. She would wash all the clothes in her house every day and drove all the maids that cleaned her house mad with her drive for perfection and cleanliness. It overpowered her and she couldn't stop thinking about it. Perhaps you know one of these birthdays yourself? I recently gave a talk at a spiritual gathering in North Carolina and I was talking about the Threes
and their tendency to worry. I said “The 3♥ worries about love, the 3♦ worries about money. The 3♠ worries about their work and health. And the 3♣, they worry about everything. A 3♣ woman in the front row said, “Isn’t that the truth!”

Scorpio is generally associated with the number Eight. It rules the 8th house in astrology and Scorpio people are power-oriented just like people who are Eights. So, if we have a person who is a Scorpio and whose Birth Card or Planetary Ruling Card is also an Eight, we have the possibility of a super card. Take the October 31st birthday for starters. Though that person is a 4♥, both Planetary Ruling Cards are Eights, the 8♥, their Mars Card and the 8♦, their Pluto Card. Would you imagine this would be a powerful person? I would for sure. And how about the Scorpio 8♥ (October 27th)? In this case it is just the Birth Card that is an Eight, but what an Eight it is! These people can be so intense in their relationships. The Scorpio 8♣ can likewise be very intense and powerful. Thankfully we do not have any Scorpio 8♦ or 8♠. That may be just a little too much.

But we also have the Scorpio 4♣, November 16th. Though this person is a Four, look at the double Eight Planetary Ruling Cards, the 8♣ and 8♠! Don’t be fooled into believing this person is not power-oriented. I recently met a woman at a workshop. She was very small, about 5 feet high and she looked so innocent and unassuming. When I found out she was born on November 16th, I took a second look. As soon as we talked I realized this was someone to be reckoned with.

Sagittarius is connected to the number Five. Though Sagittarius does not rule the 5th house in astrology, Sagittarians have the same restless nature that we find in Five people, and that desire to travel and see the world. Therefore, the Sagittarius 5♠ (December 13th) and 5♥ (November 28th) birthdays are super cards. The 5♠ and 5♥ are already super cards in a way simply because they are Karma Cards to each other. Thus, they both have a double Five energy to them. So, when we also add to either of them the Sagittarius sun sign energy of restlessness, we can see how this could be a super influence of restlessness. And indeed, many of the people of these birthdays that I have met have been very restless individuals. How about the ones you have met?

However, there is another Five birthday that stands out as a super card that is not a Sagittarian. That would be December 26th. This birthday is a 5♥ Birth Card with a 5♦ Planetary Ruling Card. That birthday may be more restless than all the other Five birthdays, possibly because that 5♦ Planetary Ruling Card is just such an extremely restless energy.

Aries is associated with the Aces in the deck, the number one and the first house in astrology. Therefore if we have an Ace who is also an Aries, we have a super card. So, we can say that the Aries A♣ (March 22nd and some of the April 20th birthdays) are super cards. But there is also an Aries A♠, April 7th. All of these birthdays are going to be super Aries-like, being ambitious and charged up to do things.

Speaking of Aces, we should also mention the Tens. A Ten is really an Ace with the zero added on. This added zero does change the meaning, though most Tens retain many of the qualities of an Ace. Tens are ambitious and impatient just like Aces, with the distinction of having a greater chance of success due to the experience they bring with them into this life. This built-in experience of theirs is indicated by the added zero. And this added zero makes them more Capricorn-like. It’s interesting how the symbols for Aries, the ram, and Capricorn, the goat, are so much alike. But Capricorns are more reputation oriented than Aries, at least in general. But in any case, the Ace and Ten people are very much alike. And who are the Super Tens? Well, the Capricorn 10♠ for one. Just being a Spade itself is like being a Capricorn. But combine that with the number Ten and we have all 10♠ people being super Tens. But this is taken even one step further with the Capricorn 10♣, who can exhibit the most dramatic traits of the Ace, Ten and Capricorn energy. Just read the anecdote in my book, Love Cards, about Full-Tilt Fred, a 10♣ friend of mine. He is a Capricorn.
There are a couple of other Tens to consider here, though. Look at the 10♦ for a moment. Not only is it a Ten, but it has an Ace in Venus and an Ace in Mars. So, being a Ten Birth Card and having two Aces in significant positions in the Life Spread really adds a lot of ambition and Aries/Capricorn energy to their personality. I would rate all 10♦ people as super Tens for this reason. But if this 10♦ person is also a Taurus with an A♥ Planetary Ruling Card or an Aries with an A♦ Planetary Ruling Card, we have an even greater super Ten.

This same principle applies to the Virgo 10♥, August 29th, which has the 10♦ as a Planetary Ruling Card. And we should not forget both the Scorpio 10♥ (October 25th) and the Sagittarian 10♥ (some November 23rd birthdays and some December 21st birthdays). Both these will have Aces as a Planetary Ruling Card. It is the double Aces in the Life Spread of the 10♥ and 10♦ that causes me to call them the most selfish cards in the deck. Of course, not all 10♦ and 10♥ are selfish on the negative side, but they all have the tendency.

The number two is very much associated with the sign of Libra in that it is the number of partnership. Therefore we would assume that people who are Libra and a Two Birth Card or Planetary Ruling Card would be super Twos. This would include the Libra 2♣ (some September 22nd birthdays and the October 20th birthdays) and the Libra 2♦ (October 7th). But let’s not forget the Libra 9♣ (October 13th), who has the 2♥ as their Planetary Ruling Card. All of these birthdays will probably focus on relationships to an inordinate degree. But we should not forget one birthday that is a super Two for other reasons. That is the December 29th birthday, which is a 2♥ with a 2♣ Planetary Ruling Card. From my experience, this birthday is probably the most Two personality I have found. Mary Tyler Moore is this birthday and recently I saw her giving a speech on television. She spoke about her alcoholism that followed her divorce by saying, “I spent years tearing myself away from my bad marriage only to have to use alcohol to escape my loneliness.”

If we examine the Life Spread carefully, we will see that there are many times where cards that are five spaces apart are the same number. Five spaces apart makes for a Saturn connection. The two previous examples of the Capricorn 5♥ and 2♥ are ones in which this occurs, creating a super card. The 6♥ has a 6♦ as its Saturn card and the Capricorn 6♥ (December 25th) is another such example, this time a super Six. These people will actually exhibit many Libran traits in their personality. Though we have spoken about how Twos are Libran in their natures, the Sixes exhibit other Libran traits such as the distaste for emotionality and being the diplomat or peacemaker. If you know any Capricorn 6♥, I think you will agree that they have these traits in abundance, even though their Sun sign is not Libra. However, there are two other double Six birthdays to consider and these are May 26th and September 18th. Both of these are 6♣ people who have the 6♠ as their Planetary Ruling Card.

The Capricorn 8♥ (December 23rd) is another super Eight in the same fashion and the Capricorn 3♥ (December 28th) is a super Three. However, no Capricorn birthdays after December 29th have this quality.

Another super card worth mentioning is the Aquarian 2♠. The 2♠ is considered to be one of the most Aquarian cards in the deck already. If you know any 2♠ people of any sign, you will notice how important their circle of friends is to them. It is the friendship card, which is an outstanding trait of Aquarians. So, when we have an Aquarian 2♠ (February 10th) we have a person who might just be too much of a good thing. While we are on this line of thought, the K♣ Birth Card is also very Aquarian in nature. This is observed by the fact that they sit in the Uranus line and column of the Grand Solar Spread. This double Uranus influence makes all K♣ somewhat Aquarian in nature, which is a good thing for a card that is supposed to be the ruler of knowledge. Mercury rules knowledge and communications in our charts. And Mercury in
Aquarius, ruled by Uranus, is considered to be the highest sign for Mercury. Few K♣ have Mercury in Aquarius in their natal charts, but all exhibit traits that reflect that quality of genius that it implies. So, if we have a K♣ who is also an Aquarian (January 27th), we have a super card.

The sign of Pisces is ruled by the planet Neptune. In the cards, all those with a Nine Birth Card will have strong Piscean traits. Therefore any Nine birthday which is also a Pisces sun sign is going to be a super Nine. The would include February 29th, the 9♠, March 1st, the 9♠ and March 14th, the 9♠. Of these three the March 1st birthday will be the strongest, since Spades are the strongest suit. These people have the J♥ Planetary Ruling Card so you could well imagine that the imaginative qualities of Neptune are very strong in this birthday. But along the lines of double Neptune cards we must also add to the list the Gemini and Virgo 9♣ birthdays (May 23rd and September 15th). In each case the Planetary Ruling Card is also a Nine, the 9♠, which again is the strongest of the Nines. This double Nine influence makes for an interesting life, especially when we consider that the first years of our life are governed by our Mercury card and set the stage for our personality traits. People of these birthdays often experience tragedy of one form or another in the early years of their life and have a strong compassionate side to their personality. One last super Neptune example would be the J♥/9♣ or J♥/9♠ combination. Since the J♥ is already such a strong Piscean influence, if it is the Birth Card or Planetary Ruling Card combined with a Nine Birth or Ruling Card we have a super Pisces influence. This will occur with the Cancer 9♣ (July 19th), the Libra J♥ (September 26th) and the Virgo J♥ (August 28th).

Other super cards are the Pisces Q♦ (March 11th), which has a Q♦ as their Planetary Ruling Card. This is the only example of a super or double Queen besides all the Leo Queens. One could only imagine how service oriented and motherly the people of this birthday could be. The Cancer 4♥, July 11th, and the Cancer 7♥, July 8th, are also super cards because each one has a Planetary Ruling Card with the same number as their Birth Card (4♥ and 7♥, respectively). The Cancer A♦ (July 15th) is another one because their Planetary Ruling Card is the A♥. Isn’t it interesting that each of these is a Diamond with a Heart as the Planetary Ruling Card?

I have most of the super cards. However, I may have missed a few, there are many ways the cards can interact with the astrological that can produce a doubled or tripled influence. I hope this article has given you some new perspective on how these can interact.

The Truth of the Now

In our current society and time in history, we learn to always seek that which is outside of ourselves. Everything around us from birth on - our parents, our teachers in school, the media in all its forms - all say to us, ‘Go out there and make something of yourself. Accomplish things, get money, love, success’ and so on. In all this seeking we often become lost and confused. By focusing so much of our attention on what lies outside of us, we lose touch with what is within us. We chase after money, power, love, sex and adventure and in doing so detach ourselves from our true source. No one is really at fault for this, it’s just the way it is nowadays. But each of us is held responsible for our personal happiness. True success is an inner accomplishment. The external is only a mirror of this. All of our battles are fought in the relationship with ourselves. And in all of my travels, intellectually, spiritually and physically, I see that it is the relationship with ourselves that is the hardest to make right. To truly love and accept ourselves is possibly the highest accomplishment there is, certainly much higher and harder than becoming a millionaire or becoming famous. It is with that realization that this poem came to me, an affirmation that helps to get me back on track to my real source. I offer this to you in the spirit of friendship.
Money is where it’s at
and fame and power and accomplishment
But I am here...
A good job is where it’s at
with security and fulfillment
But I am here and now...
Sex is where it’s at, with a perfect partner
who can fulfill my romantic longing
But I am always here, always now...

I can never escape this moment
though I try to fill it with so many things
It is I that I seek, it is I that I long for
It is I that must realize myself

To be with me, that is the achievement,
the goal, the realization
There is nothing more than the eternal now, forever
And in that Now, I am
Always have been and always will be

From the September, 2000 newsletter
Success and How to Achieve It!

Our current society is largely success-driven. We are taught from childhood on to achieve things. The media rewards those who have achieved and ignores those who do not. Those with the most money, fame, and power seem to dominate our culture. Whoever is on television or appearing in the movies becomes an icon for our society and an unspoken role model that the rest of us are supposed to strive to become. And yet, only a very small minority of people actually attain success in their life. One might think that in a society so dominated by success-driven role models that more people would be like them. The real truth is that most people in our world are very unsuccessful.

But true success is not defined by our culture or the media. True success is a personal thing. What is success to one person may be meaningless to another and vice versa. One person's personal victory may be just getting over the fear of public speaking. Another's may be to stop smoking while yet another's may be just to have one beautiful day that is well lived. So, ultimately each of us has our own version of success which we strive to attain. No one success is better than any other. All are important to someone at some time in their life. This article is about how each of us can reach our own personal success, regardless of what that may be.

Each of us has some areas in which we want to have success and achievement. We have dreams or plans. It is the nature of the life force that circulates through our bodies to create, to improve conditions around us, to strive for more peace and self-satisfaction, and whatever external things will help us attain those. And the happier person is the one who is watching those dreams and plans take form, who is attaining those goals.
Struggle Mode

It is easy to tell if someone is being unsuccessful in their life. First of all, they are in what I call 'struggle mode.' Everything is difficult. They seem to encounter resistance on many fronts in their struggle to attain what they want. They are fighting and are fighters. A person who is 'fighting the good fight' appears as a positive thing in the early years of our life. We see them as ambitious, a quality that is admired by our society. But a person who continues with struggle and makes that a habitual part of their life soon loses their attractiveness. Continual struggle creates hard lines on their face. They are often angry at others and the world, either outwardly or in a hidden way. Either way they are at odds with much of their external world. Eventually their faces become a scowl and they are so used to meeting with resistance everywhere that they have all but lost the capacity to even believe that life could be rewarding or easy. They develop convenient philosophies to go along with this lifestyle choice. "Life's a bitch and then you die."

Trying

Each of us gets the chance to experience what this is like every year in some way. Whenever we want something very much but seem unable to achieve or acquire it, we are in struggle mode. Ask yourself this question: what things are you trying to do right now in your life? Take an inventory of any and all areas that you are trying to do something, trying to get something, trying to change something or in any way trying to make something happen. That list may be only one thing or it may be many. Here are some examples to help get you started:

1. I am trying to lose weight.
2. I am trying to make more money.
3. I am trying to find a good relationship.
4. I am trying to get a better job.
5. I am trying to stay healthy, to eat a better diet.

Go ahead now and see if you can get all of these 'trying things' out of your mind onto a piece of paper. This list will be very helpful to you once it's completed.

Now, let's take a look at what trying and struggle really are. Let's take a look at our life from a deeper, more internal perspective. Let's look underneath what appears to be happening and go to the place where it's really happening - inside of us. We think it's all happening outside of us, in our job, in our relationship, in our society or economy. But anyone who has focused all their attention there to achieve anything has met with failure. And that is because success always starts within. So, what is going on when we are struggling or trying? I once attended a workshop where they told us that 'trying is lying.' That was a strange expression to me at the time. I had never really thought about that word or how I was using it. But what they proceeded to show those of us attending was that when we are trying to do anything, we are in conflict with ourselves. Somewhere inside of us there is a war raging. Part of us really wants to achieve that thing or goal and another part is strongly resisting. And I have found that struggle and trying are really the same thing. The thing that we tend to do as products of today's culture is to think or believe that the problem and solution is outside of ourselves. We find ourselves in battles with our employers, employees, friends, romantic partners, spouses, government and a host of others. It's always a problem which someone or something outside of ourselves has perpetrated upon us and we must fight to make changes in this aspect of our world that is denying us what we want or are entitled to.
In fact, though, anytime we are trying to do something the struggle is really found inside of ourselves. We are the ones that are in conflict. A part of us doesn't want it to happen. Perhaps we do not think we actually deserve something. This is so common it is scary. Inside, a person feels that they do not deserve something that they also really want in a big way. So, because they are unaware that a part of them feels undeserving, they will go out and find others in their world who personify that belief and proceed to make war with them. Perhaps in the end they will wage a war with their boss who will not give them the raise they think they deserve, all the while unaware that their own feelings of self-worth are in question. With everything on the list of trying things you created, you are in conflict with yourself on some level. And the more you try to change your external world before examining your own feelings and motivations, the farther away you will get from achieving the things you think you want.

Here's a list of common things within us that can be stopping our success:

1. We do not deserve it. We want to have it in order to prove that we are as good as others, without facing our inner feelings about ourselves.
2. If we got it, we would become a bad person. We might become an asshole or worse.
3. It would hurt others if we got it, or they would not like us if we were successful.
4. It would cause us to lose something or someone else that we are greatly attached to.
5. If we actually got it, we think that something bad would happen to us to take it away.
6. If we got it, we would be so afraid of losing it because losing it would destroy us. So, it's better to just not have it in the first place, rather than have to lose it.
7. We are already entrenched in a belief system that doesn't allow that in our life.

This is what is going on in EVERY SITUATION where someone is trying or struggling or fighting. The conflict is within, not outside there. The truth is NOT out there! It is inside of us. We can use this as a powerful tool for self-awareness. I counsel many people and I love seeing people have their dreams fulfilled, just as much as I enjoy seeing my dreams being fulfilled. So, when a client has a strong desire for something that just isn't being fulfilled, I am excited because I see an opportunity for a big personal breakthrough. Once a person becomes aware of their own inner resistance to something, the thing they are desiring can magically appear, sometimes instantly.

A big part of my work, then, is to help people see how they DON'T want the things they say they are wanting. I know that when our internal energies are all going the same direction, there is nothing that can stop us from having what we want. It is a LAW OF THE UNIVERSE. It is irresistible. If you or I get clear on all levels that there is something we want to have in our life, that thing, person, situation or condition absolutely MUST appear before our very eyes. However, when it is not appearing and we keep thinking we want it, we must first assume that there is some part of ourselves that is holding it back. Until we arrive at that level of self-awareness, success is uncertain and continually delayed, mired in trying and struggling.

I have had several 3♣ female clients that preach to me that they want to get married and are asking me for help. And yet the guys they choose for relationships are married, live in foreign countries or are otherwise unavailable. I truly believe that if I introduced one of these ladies to a man who wanted to get married, she would be completely disinterested. And yet, she will swear on her mother's grave that all she wants to do is get married and raise a family, all the while making the choices that a career-driven, romantically charged woman makes. 3♣ can be a hard nut to crack because of their K♦ karma card. They are often blind, as the K♦ can be, to their
own true motives. Now, not all 3♣ are like this. I only use this as an example because I have met so many of them.

The importance of sleep!

If we examine our life, though, and see what we are choosing and what we do have, we can get a pretty clear picture of what we will allow ourselves to have, what we feel we do deserve, and perhaps what we really want at this point in our lives. The external manifestation can be a very good mirror of what is going on inside of us. I have often told clients that if you want to know what is most important to you in life, just make a list of everything you do in an average week and how many hours you spend doing it. The thing at the top of the list is your number one priority, no matter what you believe or what you say. For most of us, that is sleeping. Interesting, isn't it? But we can take that entire list and examine it carefully and we will have a pretty clear map of what is important to us and what isn't. We may not agree with it, we may not like what we find out, it may conflict with our self-image that we use to feel good about ourselves. But it will be true. How many hours a week you spend on your health will really tell us how important it is, no matter what you say. It's really that simple. And take a look at the things at the bottom of the list. It may surprise or scare you.

Instant gratification

All success comes from within. Once we can get a clear picture or specification of what we want and once we can eliminate any conflicting parts of ourselves that may want to hinder its fruition, it will appear instantly in our lives. It doesn't require money, time or anything. It only requires that our inner conditions be met.

So, in reality, to make something come to us, what really must happen is that we must come to it. We must become that thing inside of ourselves in order that it may be brought into matter form. We must examine ourselves carefully and seek out any blocks or fears that may conflict with its manifestation. It's all within us. The process of creating is an internal process. And until we get those internal mechanisms functioning smoothly, all the running around, trying and struggling to make it happen will fail. But by paying attention here, to what is going on inside of ourselves, we can learn to manifest success in every area that we apply ourselves. It's magical and it's ours to take advantage of.

The Solution Reading
By Melissa Wells 3♦

Note from Robert Lee Camp:

Melissa introduced me to this reading recently and I found it immediately useful and insightful. It fills the gap for a reading to use when immediate questions come up. I hope you enjoy this wonderful addition to the science of the cards.

This is an informative spread for answering specific questions that arise in daily life. Regardless of the nature of the question or problem, this spread provides very helpful information for finding a solution. I’ve even found it useful to help a client locate an important legal document that had been misplaced.

In some instances, just one or two of the cards can provide important information to help arrive at a decision on any matter. With one client, who was not inclined to disclose much
personal information, I discerned that the 7♣ in Venus, 9♠ in Mars and A♥ in Uranus meant that his fiancé was depressed about becoming unexpectedly pregnant and wanted to have an abortion. My client volunteered none of this information but did acknowledge that what I was seeing in the cards was true.

For my client who had misplaced the legal document, I saw that the 4♥ in Pluto and 3♣ in Jupiter meant the missing piece of paper was at home, probably in an area where she writes letters and pays her bills. Now that answer seems obvious enough, except prior to seeing those cards the thought had not occurred to either one of us. It could have been anywhere other than home, for that matter. But the cards don’t lie. The story they told me just with those two positions led my distraught client to her missing document.

**Overview**

The Solution Reading gives a quick picture of a variety of quite useful details in any puzzling situation. The cards are magnetized for each question by shuffling the deck for one minute and cutting the deck three times when the secondhand reaches the 12 noon, 4:00 and 8:00 positions. (See page 30 in *Destiny Cards* for complete instructions on how to magnetize the deck.) The top eight cards in the deck are used and the final (ninth) card in the reading is drawn from the bottom of the deck.

**The Solution Reading Card Layout**

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Nep  Res  Mer

Ura  Plu  Ven

Sat  Jup  Mar
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The first card in the **Pluto** position (center) tells us what the overall problem, dilemma or topic is related to the question. It is the challenge.

The second card in the **Mercury** position (1:00) shows what is on the person’s mind or some element that could quickly affect the situation. This is their mental outlook toward the problem.

The third card in the **Venus** position (3:00) shows how the person feels or what is going on at home.

The fourth card in the **Mars** position (5:00) indicates action that is being planned or needs to occur. This is one of the first cards to catch my eye when I use this spread.

The fifth card in the **Jupiter** position (6:00) shows help that is available in the situation, a blessing, a gift or perhaps a friend.
The sixth card in the *Saturn* position (7:00) shows the element of difficulty or reason for the test of this situation. It indicates a restraining force or obstacle to overcome.

The seventh card in the *Uranus* position (9:00) provides an insight to something that hasn’t yet been considered or a surprise in the situation. It is often a helpful suggestion for what to do that hasn’t been tried before.

The eighth card in the *Neptune* position (11:00) is what one wishes would occur, the unspoken desire.

The ninth card in the *Result* position (12:00), drawn from the bottom of the deck, suggests the outcome or ideal solution in the matter. It is always a blessing and is interpreted in the high side of the card because, in the final analysis, all universe experience is contributing to our personal evolution.

**Interpretation and Uses**

The Pluto, or first card in the center of the reading shows the overall problem that the reading is focused on and is the most important card in the reading. It will reveal the dilemma or topic that is related to the question. It is the challenge that is presenting itself, forcing some issue that requires a solution. Bear in mind that a card can be a significator for important persons in the situation, so it is helpful to have birth card information available for this interpretation.

**More notes from Robert Lee Camp**

Melissa also taught us this reading in our Intermediate Class in Asheville. She mentioned some of the following. The Mars card can also be very revealing as it often tells what action must be taken in order to resolve the situation. I have found this to be true in my own readings. Perhaps for men, the Mars card might be more significant since men as a rule search for the ‘what do I do about this’ rather than the ‘what do I need to understand about this’ approach to problems.

Melissa said that oftentimes she only had to draw 2-4 cards in the reading to get the answer she sought. I thought this was a very important point. As students, we tend to think we should have to interpret all the cards in the spread but there are cases when only one or two cards tell the whole story, even though the entire spread should be laid out. The last thing I got from Melissa was to play with this reading. Don’t take it so seriously that you stifle your own intuition.

**The Power of Important Choices**

You know the feeling. You just had a realization about your life, a breakthrough. You are feeling elated, happy. You can see the truth and the truth is love. You are feeling love for yourself and love for those around you. You can see that life is perfect just the way it is. Or, perhaps you are in love with someone. And for that reason, your heart is open and you have the same symptoms. In either case, this is a state of love and openness. This is a state of higher vibration, of higher consciousness. You feel in tune with the rhythm of the universe. Your breath is the breath of God.

And you know the other feeling too. The feeling that you hate the job you are in. Or you are in a loveless marriage or relationship. Or, perhaps, you are in some living situation that is much less than what you really want in life. You feel unhappy, stifled, limited, and imprisoned. You get the feeling that your life is somehow wasting away. You feel yourself getting older and wonder how much more time you have left. Will you ever have happiness and love? Is life really all about struggle and conflict? Do you always have to compromise yourself to have the security
and other things that you need? You feel dead inside and out. And you wonder how much more of this you can take.

Looking at these two very different states of mind, we could say that one is the state of love and the other the state of fear. One is expansion while the other is contraction. One is life-promoting while the other is life-stealing. One makes you feel happy and energetic while the other makes you feel sad and tired. Some spiritual teachings have said that there are only these two states in life, love and fear. And they are mutually exclusive. We are either feeling love or we are feeling fear. Many of us are not even aware of how much fear we are feeling. It has become such a part of our lives that it seems normal to us. And for those people, when feelings of love do appear, they are afraid to even trust them or to explore going in that direction for fear of retribution or punishment by some higher power.

And then, we have the power of choice. Each of us is given the power of choice. It is a God-given power and a God-like power. With it, we create our world. And it is our choices in our past that are most responsible for the life we are living today. You may imagine that you are the victim of life, in which bad things happen to you from some unseen place. But truly you are the product of your individual choices and your life as it is holds you accountable for those choices. If you don't like what you are and have, then change your choices. It really is as easy as that. Or should I say, it is as easy and as difficult as that. There are many obstacles facing the average person in utilizing this God-like power in their lives. Though it really does work as I have described, most of us are so mired in illusion about our life and how the world works that taking back that power can be a major life challenge. But hey! What else are we going to do anyway while we are here? And I have heard it said that the things we treasure most in life are those we have had to work for. Perhaps there is some truth to that.

We make choices all day long. There are little choices, like what to eat for lunch, what clothes to wear and what cologne to wear. And there are very important choices that will have a major impact on our lives, such as which career to pursue and which person to commit to in a long-term relationship. The important choices are the ones that can really make or break our lives. These powerful choices can affect us for years, if not decades. So, the better equipped we are to make these choices, the better our lives will be. And there is something that everyone should know about making important choices, something that can radically affect the outcome.

I have discovered a magic key. I have discovered a magic key connected to the power of choice that has transformed my life. This key is so powerful that it should be purposely used in all important choices in life. Before I tell you exactly what it is, I want to tell a short story from my life. I was 21 years old (in my pinnacle year, by the way). I had become successful as a rock guitarist, made lots of money and achieved my goals. But I was also very unhappy. All the things I had achieved had not brought me happiness or fulfillment on a deep level. After achieving my goals and realizing that they didn't matter to me, I was depressed. I began searching for a teacher, someone to help me. After praying for two years (in my most blessed year, displacing the 10♦) and more or less feeling unhappy and discontented, I met a teacher. He came to give a talk and a workshop near where I lived. I attended both. Sitting in front of him, my heart was at peace and my mind became clear. In his presence I could see life clearly. I was no longer troubled and depressed. I realized in that state of mind that what I needed to do was study under him. So, after the workshop I decided to pack all my things and move 1,000 miles north to his ashram in Pennsylvania. All my friends told me I was crazy. My mother thought I was joining a cult and feared for my life. But I knew in my heart and soul that this was what I needed to do. And I did it. I moved there and it changed my life. It was one of the most important choices of my life and it had the greatest positive effect of perhaps any I have made.

I share this story to illustrate this important secret regarding making choices. And this secret is, always make important choices from a state of love. The very nature of our minds and
emotions is that we go up and down all day long. Sometimes we are happy and other times afraid or sad. Our mind usually follows our emotions. If we feel safe, we think peaceful thoughts and are relatively clear. If we are afraid or angry, our minds are erratic and prone to jump to false conclusions. In astrology the Moon is our emotions and Mercury our minds. These two do not mix together well. The emotions can cause the mind to lose its objectivity. Objectivity is absolutely essential if you want to trust what your mind comes up with. Unfortunately, in our current society we have come to depend almost exclusively upon our minds and have little support for learning how to be with our feelings. The overall rule is this: If you are emotional or upset emotionally in any way, do not trust what you think. At these times your mind is coming up with erroneous evaluations because it is getting highly subjective input from your emotions upon which to base its conclusions.

But above and beyond this basic concept, there is something to be said for when to trust what you think. What I have discovered for myself is that any time I am feeling elated, loved, peaceful and happy, my mind is working in my favor and I can trust the ideas and directions I come up with. My continued success in life for the past 20 years has been based upon making commitments to ideas and plans that come to me when I am in a love-filled state of mind. This is a revolutionary idea when you think about it, so powerful that it could alter your life forever. All anyone needs to do is trust the ideas and directions that come to them when they are feeling or experiencing a higher state of being. When you are feeling happy, resourceful, fulfilled, loved and peaceful, this is the time to make plans for your future. Later, you will certainly have doubts about these ideas and plans. But, because they came to you from a higher state of being, they will always bring you to a more loving conclusion or outcome. The basic rule is this: Choices made from love will bring more love. Choices made from fear will bring situations and outcomes that are more fearful and confusing.

Let’s say you are working in a job that you really do not enjoy much. It does pay the bills but more and more you are discontent there. One day you get an idea to start your own business or to write a book. You get thrilled when you imagine a new life where you are doing what you love to do. What this principle is saying is that if you make a choice right then, in that high state of mind, to move in that direction, it has to bring you more of that state of mind. In other words, it will bring you the happiness that you feel while imagining it. However, let’s say that you do decide to write a book. Then, later, you have doubts and in that fearful state of doubt, you decide that it’s too much for you. In that state of fear and confusion, you decide to stay in your job that you do not enjoy. What do you think the outcome of this decision will be? You guessed it - more doubt and unhappiness.

I have learned that revelations do not come frequently in life. True revelations and epiphanies come rarely. When they do, I grab them and hang on for dear life. When they come, I follow them without question. I have learned that these revelations are gifts from my higher self. They are given to me to show me the way to a new life. Sure, I am going to be afraid later, I know that. My fears are tremendous and they always come up when I choose to do something risky. And yet, all my joy and happiness in life and all the truly magical moments in my life came from making just those kinds of decisions. I could list four or five major ones in my life that have taught me more about love and life than anything else in my life. Each time I have committed to a happy possibility in my life, it has paid off a hundredfold. So, it’s a matter of making a choice in that higher state of being and then committing ourselves to it. Later, we will certainly have our doubts. But I guarantee you that if you follow through with it, take it to its end, you will find the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow. And just imagine how wonderful our world would be if more of us were all making our choices from love. If there is ever going to be a positive change in our world, this is one way it could happen. Good luck on making your dreams come true!
Questions and Answers

Question:

As a newcomer to your system, I would like to tell you that I am totally fascinated with your system. In the meantime, I do have a question for you which is rather confusing to me, and that is my friend and I share the same birthday, so ultimately, we have the same birth and PRC card, however, I find that her life path and the destiny of her life is totally different from mine, and not to mention the events in our lives right now could not be more different. Please can you explain this to me and also be kind enough to share with me the knowledge of how to differentiate between 2 people who have the same birthday, but different karmas.

Answer:

Each card, both as a Birth Card and as a card we may find in our yearly reading, does have some variation in how it can be expressed. Even though you and your friend share the same birthday there is enough possible range of expression that you two could appear to have different lives. However, I think you will find that if both of you read my book independently of each other, you will find that the cards described in there reflect accurately what is going on in your lives. One of the most important elements on how to interpret the cards is finding out who you are reading for. People experience the cards differently based upon how they approach life in general, their level of self-awareness and other factors. Before I read for anyone I always find out as much as I can about the general attitude and approach to life that the person has. This, combined with the cards in their spreads, will tell me what is happening now and what to expect in the future.

Question:

Birthday: 7/19/1957

I have a quick question...my Venus period for my 43rd year I have the Queen of Spades in the Direct line and the 5 of Hearts in the Vertical. Those cards are so hard to read for me. I'm not in any relationships now, not for almost a year, so I hope that isn't a sign that I'm doomed yet again for another year without a relationship.

Answer:

Those two cards certainly do not mean that you will be doomed for another year. However, there aren't many other love cards in your yearly cards that I can see. Those cards could mean taking a trip somewhere with a dear friend or lover, or a move to a new apartment, etc. You might be lucky to not have any relationships right now. Perhaps you needed a break for a while. All I know is that everything happens when we are ready for it to.

Question:

Hi. The tapes arrived yesterday, thank you. I have read some of the literature you sent with the tapes, very interesting…. so, the 10♣ can be slippery or not a very nice person…. I was shocked to read that because I think I am perfect!! Joke. I think (hope) that I am operating on the higher level. I'm surprised you did business with me.. Or is it me that doesn't trust you, which is another issue for a 10♣, another joke. I have a good sense of humor. I am going to work on those areas that I am lacking...then, I'll be perfect.
I see also that my life's lesson is 7♥, overcoming fear. I do have a fear of death and I take it hard when someone I love dies (my dad and my 32-year old sister in 1996). My father died in England in July 96 and as I didn't see him and he had his ashes scattered, so in my mind he just seemed to have disappeared, whereas I was with my sister the moment she died (of cancer) in December 96 and that was horrific for me. In the Army I believe I have confronted many of my fears but now I see I still have work to do. My fear of public speaking, my fear of the dark. Even though I have these fears I do try to rationalize them and overcome them.

Answer:

I have known many 10♣ people over the course of my life and made many friends with that card. And some of them have really played out the low side of their Jack of Spades first karma card. But, at least in my experience, that is the exception, not the rule. But I do advise students of the cards to always be aware of that possibility. Usually I find that 10♣ who are spiritual tend to access the high side of that Jack, which is to become the spiritual initiate. All 10♣ can be playful like you, on account of that same Jack of Spades.

From the November, 2000 newsletter

The Powerful and Determined 8♣

The 8♣ is one of the three fixed cards in the deck. In all the 90 quadrations of the Grand Solar Spread, it never moves. This is why, like its siblings the J♥ and K♠, it has no Environment or Displacement Card each year. In essence, most of the cards in the deck move from one location, which we designate as the Displacement Card, to another each year or cycle. But the 8♣ does not. Recently I was asked by an 8♣ man just what this non-moving quality of the 8♣ does to the personality and life of the 8♣. I told him, "The 8♣ does not go out to seek life. Life must come to them." In this fixed place, which no other cards may occupy, the 8♣ views life. Many cards will come into the yearly spreads of the 8♣, bringing them new experiences. But not every card will appear in their spreads. A 9♥ person, like the other 45 movable cards, will eventually have every card in the deck show up in their yearly spreads. But not the 8♣, nor the other three fixed or four semi-fixed cards. For example, the K♠ will never have the 8♣ in its yearly spread. Since they are both fixed and the 8♣ resides in a different area of the Grand Solar array, these two cards will not interact in any yearly spread. None of this special family of cards will have the K♠ in any yearly spread. But the 8♣ stands out as being the most peculiar because it is the only one of the special family of seven that will never have any of the other seven cards in its yearly spreads. It will never have the K♠, A♣, 2♥, J♥, 9♥ or 7♦, anywhere in any yearly spread for life.

This fact belies the strong and fixed quality of this card. In a sense, the 8♣ is lacking these others cards. And how does it make up for this lack? By adopting a fixed set of mental principles with which to guide it through life. Some believe that we learn the things that we believe and the things that we live our life by. But the principles and attitudes of the 8♣ were there at birth, just waiting for the individual to mature to be noticed by others. These principles will become apparent, even as a child, in the form of an attitude that certain things in life 'should' be a certain way. These people will live or die by these principles. In essence, to be born an 8♣ is to decide to have a life that is based upon a specific mental construct and then to experience just what that is like. As in all other cards, that way of being has both its positive and negative expressions.
It could be said that the 8♣ lives life with blinders on. The choice to be firmly devoted to one set of mental principles by itself precludes the possibility of evolution and development, not to mention the possibility of experiencing all the other possible principles that life can be based upon. This is not necessarily a bad thing. Some 8♣ do great work over the course of their life by their adherence to these principles, becoming shining examples of those who devoted their life to a great principle and helped others by doing so. Many of them are message bearers. Look at Bob Dylan, Robert Redford, B.B. King and Neil Young as examples of this. It all depends upon the conscious awareness of the 8♣, because this same quality can be very dangerous.

The number 8 is a number of power and regardless of which 8 you are, your life is about power to some extent. Eight is connected to the 8th house in astrology and the sign of Scorpio and the planet Pluto. All eight birth cards will have some astrological power indications in their natal charts and the 8♣ is no exception. The 8♣ have been known to power their way through things in life, sweeping all others, and obstacles, out of their way. This can be a good thing or it can be bad, depending upon the conscious awareness of the person. Charles Manson is an 8♣ who had no awareness of anything except his principles, which did not include other's rights. His principles made it okay to kill others. O.J. Simpson, who has an 8♣ Planetary Ruling Card, did not hesitate to use force to settle his score with his wife. And Tanya Harding, another 8♣, did not hesitate to use force to achieve her goals either. When the 8♣ principles do not include awareness or consideration for the sanctity of life or for others’ feelings, they can be very dangerous indeed, like a mindless machine programmed to carry out an edict regardless of the consequences.

Other Birth Cards are influenced by the 8♣ as well. Those who have the 8♣ in their Life Spread will have the tendency to be very fixed in certain areas of their life. And this can be either good or bad depending again upon the consciousness of the person. The J♠, for example, has the 8♣ as their Mercury Card in their Life Spread. This gives them a powerful mind capable of accomplishing most anything. But, keep in mind that the J♠ is a one-eyed Jack. Combine that one-sided quality with the myopic tendency of the 8♣ and you have a strong possibility of a one-sided individual, someone who is really missing a big slice of the pie of life in terms of how they see things. Often with the one-eyed cards, I have noticed that the part they are blind to is either their own faults or how their actions affect others.

The 2♦ person has the 8♣ in Venus in their Life Spread. They tend to have very fixed principles about love and marriage. Once married, for example, most of them will do whatever it takes to keep that marriage going and going, even if all the love and reasons for being together have long since departed. Many them have strong religious beliefs that affect their marriage behavior. I have noticed a lot of 2♦ men who stay married a long time but have continual affairs once the love in the marriage has died. Somehow, in their minds, it is better to stay in a loveless marriage and have affairs rather than get divorced, which must be seen by them to be one of the world's greatest sins.

The 4♣ has the 8♣ in Mars. This makes them people to be reckoned with. You wouldn't want to tangle with a 4♣ in a legal matter. They are just very powerful in this area or in any area of competition. And if they get into a competitive situation with someone else, the 8♣ will make them very fixed and unreasonable in it. I once had a client who got divorced from a 4♣ man who literally put her through hell for three years. He did not hesitate to do anything, legal or not, to make her suffer on account of the perceived injustices she put him through. He was a madman.

The 6♥ has the good fortune of having the 8♣ in Jupiter. This can bring them a lot of success by sticking with their work. Publishing, writing, or other areas of communication are highlighted for success in their lives, usually beginning around age 39 when they enter their 13-year Jupiter cycle. However, the 6♥ person can have rigid views on philosophy or religion that need to be
examined as to their validity. Since Jupiter rules the 9\textsuperscript{th} house of religion and spirituality, 6♥
people can be powerful in their beliefs and practices. But they can also be very fixed. As an aside
I would like to say that most of us would not immediately suspect the 6♥ as being a mentally
strong card. However, with the 8♣ in Jupiter and a 4♠ in Mercury, these people are very sharp
and capable. They make great organizers and can have success in the mental fields as well as any
involving people.

The K♦, another one-eyed card, has the 8♣ in Saturn. This gives them an unusual ability to
overcome challenges of all kinds and the ability to focus their minds and work very hard to
achieve their goals. The downside is that they are one-sided and often blind to their faults. And
that 8♣ can cause them to expect everyone else in their world to adhere to their highly
disciplined work standards. They can make formidable opponents.

The K♥ has the 8♣ in Uranus. This gives them unusual mental abilities including a great
intuition and attraction to the metaphysical sciences. They do well in groups as well and can be
good teachers. The downside is that they can become very fixed about their metaphysical
discoveries or conclusions to the exclusion of other points of view, something like the 6♥ people
but more on a mental or analytical level.

The 2♥ has the 8♣ in Neptune which gives them a similar attraction to metaphysics as the
K♥. Both Uranus and Neptune rule the more spiritual aspects of life and the 8♣ in either position
will bring mental success and interest in these areas. Neptune, however, deals more with secrets
and the 8♣ in Neptune will give a mind that likes to ferret out the secrets and mysteries of life. It
also brings them a very active mental life in their old age since our Neptune cards rule the last
years of our life. The negative expression of this card might be a fixed idealism. With this the 2♥
person may be constantly seeking dreams that need to change in their life.

In any year that you displace any of the above cards, you will have the 8♣ in the same
position they do in their Life Spread, since the 8♣ doesn't move from year to year like other
cards in the deck. So, in those years you will be given a taste of the power of that card as it
occurs in their lives. For example, the years you displace either the K♥ or 2♥, you may find a
special interest in metaphysical sciences and success in them. At the same time, you may get the
opportunity to experience how the 8♣ can act as a blinding factor in your perception of the
world. As with all other cards the 8♣ has both a positive and negative expression. To really
know the 8♣ is to have experienced them both.

The Most Expensive Sin

Personally I don't even like to use the word 'sin.' It's one of those words that has been
misused for so long it’s impossible to use it without someone misinterpreting what is meant. But
for lack of a better word I will use it here. My definition of sin is something that is truly
detrimental to the self, to the soul, the personality, the mind, emotions or physical body of a
person. Very few of the things that we have been taught to regard as sinful actually are. Sex, for
example, and all the derivations of sex, such as masturbation, have been regarded by our society
as being sinful. But that is truly not the case. Sex can be a great healer in our life and I don't
think anything about sex is bad except maybe having too much of it. But too much of anything
will be detrimental. Too much water can kill you much faster than too much sex. So, what is
really sinful? In my mind there are things that are truly sinful. And all of them are things that are
clearly set in motion in order to hurt ourselves. Suicide is a sin in my book. It is a most selfish
and despicable act. I think it is the most selfish act there is. And it takes a life, which might have
otherwise grown and prospered over time.
But there is one thing that is the most sinful thing we can do and that is to wallow in guilt. Guilt is the most expensive of all sins. An ounce of guilt can cost you more than a ton of other sinful activities. Guilt is so expensive that few can really afford it. I know that I cannot afford it. It is the killer of spiritual growth and all things good in our life. In its essence, guilt is self-punishment and self-loathing. It is self-hate. It sets into being actions designed to kill parts of the self, to make us wrong, bad and unworthy of the love that is our birthright. Guilt is an emotion that no one can really afford. And anyone who has made a commitment to loving themselves will not allow even a moment of it to take up their time in their precious consciousness.

While living the life of spiritual renunciation for ten years, I experienced the guilt of not meeting up to the ideals set forth by my spiritual teacher. If I would go out, for example, and pig out on ice cream one night, I would feel great guilt about not having maintained a balanced and healthy diet. If I didn't get up one morning for our daily practices, I would feel guilty about that. But one day our teacher set me straight about my indulging in this guilt. He told me that no matter what I do, never indulge in guilt for even a minute. He said I should just get up and get going. He told me that guilt is the worst kind of cancer. And just like a doctor, I should cut it out before it had a chance to grow. He said that I don't even need any reason to get rid of guilt. I only need to drop it, immediately. Taking that advice to heart changed my life.

If you or I are going to have a wonderful life here on this planet, we must eradicate all forms of guilt. This is not to say that we should act irresponsibly or without regard for others. But once we have chosen a path or once we have already acted to the best of our ability, we must make a commitment to ourselves to be there for ourselves. If we find out later that we made a mistake, then it would be a good thing if we took responsibility for that mistake and did whatever it took to correct it. Saying "I'm sorry" does not make up for a mistake. It is like handing someone a check for something you just bought which has no money in the account to back it up. If you have inadvertently hurt someone, make it up to them. If you don't know how, ask them how you can make it up. They will tell you. But do not, under any circumstances, sit there and get into your guilt about it. That is such a selfish and small-minded thing to do.

Feeling guilt is a complete waste of time and precious life force. It benefits no one and robs you of the love and energy that could otherwise make a beautiful expression in the world. If you were serious about being responsible for yourself, you would not waste any time on guilt. You would just get up and make things right. Perhaps you will do better next time. Perhaps you will not get another opportunity. You may not even be given the opportunity to set things right with someone else. Even in that situation, you have no right to throw your life force away by being guilty. You just cannot afford it.

Another example that occurred during my days in the ashram revolved around our being celibate. As a support for our celibacy, we were taught all the benefits of containing our sexual energy and given many beliefs about how bad sex was for our spirituality. Our teacher used to say things like, "Sex is one drop of honey and a thousand bee stings" and "the highest path can only be achieved by practicing brahmacharya (celibacy)." These beliefs helped the 300 or so of us there to maintain celibacy though we were doing this at a time of our sexual peak (ages 20-40). We did other things to support this celibacy too, like not having any exposure to magazines and television. But it was those beliefs that were preached to us that had the most profound effect. To their credit, I was successfully celibate for five years. However, I got married after five years and began having sex on a daily basis. As much as I enjoyed conjugal relations with my wife, I also had a tremendous amount of guilt about having sex. I felt I was ruining my spirituality and my chances for enlightenment. All those beliefs that had helped me maintain celibacy were now my enemies. But I didn't really know what was happening, only that I felt so much guilt about being married. So, finally I went to talk with my guru about it. I was amazed at his response. He told me to forget all those beliefs that he had preached for so many years. He
told me that the path I had chosen was perfect for me and that sex was not a sin against my spiritual progress. This he told me in private since most of the people living there were still celibate. In effect, he gave me an entirely new set of beliefs that supported my choice of lifestyle. Those five minutes with him completely changed my attitude and my life. And I credit him for the way he taught me. And from that point on, I realized that beliefs are not the truth, just things we adopt to support choices we make. And since that day I have never been hampered by my beliefs.

Whatever you read or whoever taught you things that caused you to feel guilt did you a great disservice. It's funny how easily we will read a book and take on the beliefs put forth by that book without judgment. Rarely do we see how those beliefs could later become the source of guilt and self-loathing. Beliefs are there to help us accomplish things. They are clothing that we can take off and on. They are not the truth. If any of your current beliefs are causing you to feel guilty about the way you are leading your life, you owe it to yourself to get rid of them. Again, this is not a free ticket to go out and hurt others. Getting rid of guilt must also be accompanied by a sense of right and wrong. But most people that I see feeling a lot of guilt are not doing bad things to others - they are interpreting what they are doing as bad, however. And this is killing them from the inside out.

Guilt is a mild form of suicide. If allowed to linger in our minds and hearts, it can definitely result in our death. If you felt enough guilt about your sexual life, for example, you could definitely attract some disease that would kill you. With all the deadly diseases available to us today, it is very easy for a guilt-ridden person to kill themselves without being detected by science. Our modern medicine is looking for germs, not for the thought forms and emotions that are the true causes of diseases of all kinds. But even while you are experiencing mild forms of guilt you are killing off part of yourself. Even general ‘down’ frames of mind have an adverse effect on our body’s ability to function. It all fits perfectly if we just step back and look at it. We do something that causes us to feel some guilt about it. This guilt creates a negative state of mind. Though we are probably unaware of it, this state of mind immediately affects our body’s functions on a subtle level. We are now more susceptible to diseases of all kinds. If we maintain this state of mind, we will eventually contract some self-punishing ailment. And if we examine the symptoms of the disease we attract, we will see how it connects exactly with the guilt we harbor inside. Sexual guilt, for example, often creates sexual health problems or diseases. If we just look at all things as not being random, we will see the connection immediately. The location, size, symptoms and inconveniences caused by whatever ailments we have fit perfectly with the underlying guilt that helped create it. Take a look and see for yourself.

Anything that seems to cause guilt in ourselves should be seriously examined. And once it is found out, it should be dropped, eradicated, eliminated, for good. You do not need any other reason to stop feeling guilty than this: Your life depends on it. There isn’t a ‘how to’ get rid of guilt either. It’s not about how to get rid of it. Just do it. Just stop thinking bad thoughts about yourself as if your life depended on it. And everyone else in your life who receives you and benefits from having you around will benefit more from your getting rid of it. Want to do us all a favor? Drop your guilt. Do it now and do it consistently. The world needs more of us loving ourselves, not wallowing in self-pity and hatred. You have tremendous love in your heart. You are part of God and have been given His powers. The moment you detect guilt is the time to use some of that power. Just drop it. Accept yourself. You are not perfect. Or, you are perfect, but just do not realize it. Whatever the case, you cannot afford to wallow in self-pity and self-hatred.
Following the Underlying Cards Each Year

Wouldn't it be great if you had more information about each period of your year? Wouldn't it be great to be able to pinpoint events and people that will be playing a role this year in a more detailed way? Well, once you have mastered doing your yearly spreads and have been following them for a while you are ready to add another magical element to your yearly readings, an element that can really open up your vision of what is occurring each period of the year. This is achieved by looking up and paying attention to the underlying cards each period of the year.

What they can do

The underlying cards can give you invaluable information about what is going on each period. They often represent a backdrop of influences that are affecting you, ones that you would not normally be aware of. Sometimes the underlying cards will be the Birth or Planetary Ruling Card of someone important in your life during that time. Knowing these underlying cards ahead of time can help you predict the Birth or Planetary Ruling Cards of people that will be involved in significant events that occur at various times of the year. I have used them many times to do just that - pinpoint an individual who would be playing a key role in my life for a significant period of the year. One year, for example, I had a Q♣ and 6♥ in Saturn (J♦, age 38). I wondered who this Q♣ would be who would potentially create some challenges for me in my personal life. Since the Q♣ could be a woman or person whose Birth Card or Planetary Ruling Card is a Q♣ OR the personality card of any woman of the club suit, I wanted to see if I could narrow it down before the period arrived. I noticed that underlying the Q♣ that year was the 10♣. Sure enough, just as I entered my Saturn period I met a 10♣ woman who played that key role for me.

The Displacement Card is like an underlying card

Actually your Displacement Card each year is the underlying card for your Birth Card each year. In fact there are actually two Displacement Cards but we only use the one derived from the Life Spread. For whatever reason, it seems to be the one whose effects are noticed more than the one derived from the Spiritual Spread. If, out of curiosity, you want to know what your other Displacement Card is for the current year, just look up the first Karma Card of your Displacement Card. For example, if you displace the K♦ this year, your other Displacement Card, derived from the Spiritual Spread, would be the 3♣, which is the K♦'s first Karma Card. But when you displace the K♦ you probably won't notice a 3♣ effect that year. You will notice the K♦ effect and all that goes with it, like having the 8♣ in Saturn for that year.

The point here is that your Displacement Card this year is showing you where your Birth Card has moved to in the illustration on page 243 of Love Cards. If you displace the 8♣, you are sitting up in the sun position in the top dead center of the entire Life Spread. If you are displacing the Q♥, you are sitting in the lower left hand corner of the spread where she sits. The Displacement Card this year is the card that underlies your Birth Card. In other words, it is the card that occupies the same position in the Life Spread. We regard the position of cards in the Life Spread to be very significant. In a sense, they 'own' those locations and affect any card who happens to sit there in a particular year. Thus I often teach that when we displace a card in a given year, we have literally moved into their home for the year and must pay rent to them. This illustrates how we must give to our Displacement Card each year. We must put energy into it for one reason or another.
And in the very same way, each of the cards in our yearly spreads have underlying or cards that they displace. And these underlying cards also give a great deal of additional information that was not apparent without knowing them.

How to find the Underlying Cards this year

Though the original way of finding these requires using a set of Grand Solar Spreads, such as found in the Atlantean Oracle Workbook or Sacred Symbols of the Ancients, there is an easy way to find them using the Destiny Cards book as well.

Essentially there are two cards underlying each of the cards in your planetary periods. One comes from the Spiritual Spread and the other from the Life Spread. The entire Grand Solar view of all the Life and Spiritual Spreads are found on pages 242 and 243 of your Love Cards book. If you were to study these carefully, and specifically compare them to your age 89 and 0 spreads in Destiny Cards, you would see exactly where all the yearly spreads come from, or how they are all derived from one of the quadrations of the Grand Solar Spread. On the right is an illustration of the Life Spread in the Grand Solar array. One could learn from studying these carefully how to derive your underlying cards for any year of your life. But we will not do this method since it is complex to communicate through just words.

To make things simple we can just use our Destiny Cards book. It has all the underlying cards for any year of our life all laid out for us, and fairly easy to locate. Here is how we do it:

To find your underlying cards this year, first look up the age 0 spread of the Displacement Card you have this year of life. If you have the Q♣ as your Displacement Card this year, just turn to page 274 and look at the yearly spread for the Q♣, age 0 spread for the first set of underlying cards in your planetary periods. The cards you find in each period of that age 0 spread are the ones that are the first underlying cards for the cards in your current year. For example, the Q♣, age 0, has the 10♠ and 10♣ in Mercury. Whatever you have in your Mercury period the year you displace the Q♣, you will have these two cards underlying your direct and vertical Mercury cards.

The second underlying card for each card in each of your planetary periods will be the first Karma Card of the first underlying cards you found. In our previous example of the year that you would displace the Q♣, in your Mercury period, your second set of underlying cards would be the first Karma Cards of the 10♠ and 10♣. A quick list of all the Karma Cards is found in the Love Cards book on page 320. So, looking up the first Karma Cards of the 10♠ and 10♣ we get this as the entire picture of that period. Let’s say you are a 4♦ person who is 63 years old. Your Mercury cards for that year are the 3♣ and Q♦. Underlying the 3♣, your direct Mercury Card, is the 10♠ and 4♥ (the first Karma Card of the 10♠). Underlying the Q♦ is the 10♣ and J♠. Graphically, it might look like this:
From here you would proceed to do the remaining periods of the year. With these underlying cards you will find a host of new information, information that is often the key piece that you need to make your choice about what to expect.

**Note:** The underlying cards are not available in the usual way for any of the three fixed cards (K♠, J♥, and 8♣) or the four semi-fixed cards (A♣/2♥ and 7♦/9♥). The three fixed cards have the same underlying cards every year of their life while the four semi-fixed cards alternate between two sets of underlying cards, the ones from their own age 0 spread and for the age 0 spread of their cosmic soul twin.

### Underlying Cards often point to people in your life

As mentioned earlier, one of the key uses of the underlying cards is to determine who may be involved in your life in a certain period of time. Often you may have very important cards and you would like to know who it may be, if anyone, that would be involved in that event or experience. The underlying cards are often the key to this question.

For example, I predicted in the July, 2000 newsletter that Al Gore would be betrayed by someone in his Saturn period where he has a 6♥ and Q♥. His underlying cards are as follows. For the 6♥ he has the J♣ and J♦. For the Q♥, he has the 8♦ and Q♠. It is interesting that Hillary Clinton is a Q♠ Planetary Ruling Card. And her Birth Card is the 9♥, which could make her the Q♥ that Gore has in his cards. Could this be Hillary playing a role in his life then? Gore entered his Saturn period on October 25th, 2000, just prior to the election. By the time you read this, the outcome of the race may already be known.

As another example, my new partner, Theresa, is a 6♥ Scorpio. It turns out that my Birth Card actually displaces the 6♥ this year. I didn’t expect to meet a 6♥ this year by any means. I have only met a few in my life since there are only three birthdays with that card. But once we got together, which was in my Mercury period, I looked at my cards and noticed that in my upcoming Mars period I had the 4♠ and 4♥. Either one of these cards could mean my settling down in a relationship but the 4♠ I have found to show up when someone purchases a home. So, I saw myself possibly buying a home and settling down with someone. But with whom? Looking at the underlying cards I found my answer. The underlying cards under the 4♠ are the J♠ and 7♣. Underlying the 4♥ are the 10♠ and J♠ again. Since Theresa’s Planetary Ruling Card is the J♠, I knew it was her. And as of this writing, I have purchased a home and we plan to move in together next week. I entered my Mars period 3 days ago. These sorts of confirmations can be invaluable.

### Other important uses for the Underlying Cards

Some underlying cards are very significant or powerful. And it is very important to keep abreast of them and watch out for their appearance in your life. If you have been using *Destiny Cards* for a while, you are probably already aware of which cards have a lot of power. Some are powerful for the good and others for the worse. Others are considered auspicious positions, such
as the Most Blessed Spot (the 10♦ position) or the Pinnacle (8♦). Even if your Birth Card does not displace a card in an auspicious position, one of your planetary period cards may have these auspicious cards as an underlying card. For example, any year that you displace either the 4♣, 2♦, J♠, 6♦, 4♠ or 10♥, you will have an underlying card of the 10♦ during one of your periods. Why? Because all of these cards have the 10♦ somewhere in their Life Spread. Therefore, you will have the 10♦ in the same location they do as an underlying card for one of the periods of that year. The 10♦ has been shown to be a pretty consistent indicator of wish-fulfillment and financial success. If you displace the 6♦, for example, whatever your direct Mars card is for that year will have the 10♦ and Q♣ (its Karma Card) underlying it. This 10♦ underlying card can bring you some financial success during your Mars period regardless of what your Mars Card actually is. The same holds for the three cards in the Crown Line, the 10♣, 8♦, and K♠. In any year that you displace the 4♥, 4♦, 2♠, 8♥, 6♣, 6♠ or Q♥, you are going to have these powerful Crown Line cards underlying your planetary period cards. Actually, since the K♠ is one of the fixed cards, it never has an underlying card. If you have the K♠ in a period, that is the only influence present.

So, these are a couple of examples of very good underlying influences. What are some examples of ones you should look out for that might be of a negative quality? Well, two that come to mind immediately are the years when we displace either the 7♥ or the 4♥. Why are these significant? Because both those cards have extremely powerful Saturn cards, which will be underlying your Saturn period cards the year you displace them. The 7♥ has the 9♠/K♥ combo in Saturn and the 4♥ has the 6♠/9♠ combination. When you displace the 4♥ or 7♥, your direct Saturn card that year will have one of these two powerful combos underlying it. O.J Simpson was displacing the 4♥ the year he lost his civil suit, for example. Beyond these two, be aware of nines and sevens as underlying cards and especially if they underlie your Saturn cards. Sixes in Saturn should also be watched for.

Be on the lookout for any spade cards that may fall as underlying cards. Remember that spades are the strongest suit and their influence will always affect our life in the most meaningful ways, for good or bad.

If you start looking up and using these underlying cards it will add a new dimension to your readings, both personally and professionally.

From the January, 2001 newsletter

To the Heart of the Matter
What This System Is All About

Recently it occurred to me that it would be a good idea, at the juncture of a new year, to share with the readers of this newsletter what my personal perspective is on this card system. I would like to share with you what I think about it, how I regard it and how I use it. I hope you find this entertaining and educational. First, some history.

When I first became aware of this system I was already a professional astrologer. I had discovered astrology a few years earlier and found it completely fascinating, though difficult to understand. I began doing readings after reading Astrology Plus by Hilarion, a book that we offer in our catalog. It wasn’t until I read that book that I understood the deeper implications of the planets in our natal or birth chart. Reading that book was an epiphany for me and from that point forward I have been sharing my understanding of astrology in all the readings that I do.
What most people do not know is that by this time in my life I had also spent 10 years in a monastic lifestyle at a yoga ashram. Five years of that was complete devotion to spiritual lifestyle – yoga, prayer, celibacy, service to my master and devotion to God. During those 10 years I established my connection with my own spiritual self and my role as a teacher. But most importantly I grew in my understanding of the spiritual path and myself so that I was strong in my love for God and my love of spiritual growth. What attracted me most about astrology was how it could pinpoint key issues in a person’s life with such accuracy. There are a couple of people at the ashram to thank for turning me on to astrology but I never received any lessons or teachings. All of my knowledge came from the books that I read along the way. With Jupiter in Gemini in my natal chart I have always benefited from great books, and seem to attract them like some people attract teachers. To me, astrology was a helpful and insightful tool that could aid us in our spiritual development. For some reason, I loved it and felt familiar with the material.

Towards the end of my ashram days, a friend showed me an old book she had in her library called *Sacred Symbols of the Ancients*. She got me going quickly by showing me how to look up my Birth Card in the back of the book and directed me to the chapter about my Birth Card, the Q♦. Though I felt put off by what I interpreted was a very negative attitude conveyed about my Birth Card, I had to admit to myself that it was all true, and amazingly so. Immediately I sensed that this was a true system, like astrology and I got my own copy of the book and poured over it for months. I then tried to find more books about it with no success until about a year later when I moved to Los Angeles and met my teacher Arne Lein.

Arne Lein was a nice man, giving and caring and he had been using the cards professionally for a long time. But he was surrounded, for whatever reason, by a bunch of weird, mercenary people, mostly women, who were focused on stealing information from each other and keeping their discoveries secret from everyone. And there was some darkness within him that attracted this to him. I took as many classes from him as I could afford and as he could do. He was dying of cancer when I met him and could only teach so much before getting tired and needing to rest. He wasn’t what I would call a spiritual man by most standards but he was doing good work with the card system, which he had apparently learned from the authors of *Sacred Symbols of the Ancients*. It wasn’t until after he died that I decided to pursue this full time and write books about it. And as I wrote my first book, *The Atlantean Oracle*, I felt his presence with me helping me write those interpretations. That was an experience I will never forget. I vowed that I would take this system and elevate it out of the dark, secretive, fearful energy that had surrounded Arne Lein.

What I brought into the card system that was not there before was all of my devotion to spirituality and my love of Truth. I knew that this system had been designed for spiritual purposes, not for just learning about our future. I put that spiritual direction back into it in my interpretations. Though I promoted my book as a means to foretell your future, my real intent was to help people gain more self-awareness and empowerment by having such a clear reflection of their choices. It was my intention that my books would help change peoples’ lives. And they have.

After writing my book and teaching for about 2 years, I found the remaining remnants of the ancient fellowship that was the progenitor of this system, the Order of the Magi. Upon finding them, my heart leapt with joy and anticipation. I was so excited about what I might learn and discover by sharing with them. Though it was a somewhat grueling 10-hour drive to see them, I did it 4 times or more over a period of months. On my third visit, in 1991, I arrived to discover that they had been directed to initiate me as a Grand Master of the order. That initiation, which took place on May 26th of 1991, was another high point of my life. It was on that day that I realized the true importance of this work I was doing. I was told, by the Magi Masters, that the Order of the Magi lived in the pages of my books. I was given their highest honor and title and
the invocation to carry on with this work of bringing this ancient knowledge to the world. This initiation and visions received by me confirmed that this was to be my work for a while and I committed myself to it completely.

For me, this system is as old as astrology and intimately connected to it. Astrology and the cards share the same foundation. Though their approach varies and one must be careful how you mix them together, they both will ultimately tell you the same truth – the truth of who you are. And this is their real purpose. The science of the cards is a sacred science. When I use that term I mean a scientifically based knowledge system whose purpose is self-realization. Most people who discover this system are at first drawn to the possibility of finding out more about their money, their love life or their health. But ultimately it is a tool for self-awareness. It is one manifestation of the light that can dispel the darkness of ignorance and illusion.

Using this system will increase a person’s awareness of their life and choices, which ultimately will make them more powerful and self-responsible. Initially, it appears to take our power away by giving us a fixed roadmap of our life, which cannot be changed or altered. However, each card, including our Birth Card, is actually an opportunity that can be taken advantage of or not. We cannot change the cards we are dealt but each card can be experienced on different levels. Its sort of like saying you cannot change the fact that you are living here, incarnated on this earth. But you can make the most of your time spent here. That decision to come down here, at a specific time and date and place, sets into motion certain karmic ripples in the ocean of possible experiences. The cards and astrology give us a map of our own choice and the karma that comes with that choice. And now that we are here, we can also use the cards to make the most of our visit by harmonizing ourselves with cosmic influences.

Ultimately there is no such thing as a bad choice. Everything that can possible exist on this planet including every conceivable emotional state or state of mind is ultimately just an experience. And who is to say which experiences are good and which are bad? From the point of view of life being an exploration of possible experiences from which we gain wisdom, no experience is bad. No choice is good or bad. They just are what they are and each has value on the path to complete freedom. Ultimately we are beings on the path of freedom. And with that freedom we can be or become anything we choose.

Many have and will continue to abuse this system. They will use it to take advantage of others, to avoid the things they are most afraid of, to soothe their frail egos and to make themselves appear better than others. But in doing so they only hurt themselves. We cannot hurt others without also hurting ourselves in the process, even if we are unaware of it. So, like all other tools, the value of it lies in the intention of the person using it. And if you continue using this system long enough, you will run into some of the self-proclaimed masters of this system who know little of its true purpose.

This card system has now been made completely public. That was the invocation that Olney Richmond received that prompted him to publish the first book about it in 1894. And now that invocation has been made real. The information is available for all. But remember its true purpose – self-realization. What was once only taught in the temples, and only to deserving aspirants who passed many tests, is now available to us all. It is available to you. What will you do with it? I say you will do with it what your level of consciousness will allow. For some it will just be a guide to make business or relationship decisions. For others, it will be a spiritual path.

For me it is a continual mirror of my life. It shows me my choices better than any other tool I have found. I am always amazed to see how the cards in my yearly spread play out in my life each year. I am constantly learning and getting wiser. I do not study the cards so much as I study reality, and how the cards reflect that. I always take reality, or what really happens, to be of the highest truth. If any system I use doesn’t somehow connect with what is going on in my life, I discard it as useless. This system has proven itself to me time and time again. It also helps me to
understand the spiritual and material cycles I am currently involved in. It helps me to distinguish what I am working on spiritually. When I look at my current 7-year cards, for example, I see a story unfold for the theme I am currently involved in. My 7-year Long Range Card is the Q♠. The 7-year Pluto and Result are the K♠ and J♠. When I look at these cards I see the work that is before me, to master myself (Q♠) and stop wanting the world to change to make me feel better. I see that my real power (K♠) comes from living the spiritual life (J♠) and not just talking about it. And as I near the end of this cycle I can tell that my reward for all my hard work will be just that, a new lifestyle (J♠) that is aligned with my inner truth and inner light. And so it is for those I read for as well. Our lives are reflected in our cards.

Though I will never discard this work, I feel that my contribution to it is nearly complete. I have taught all that has been given to me to teach. Nothing has been withheld. All that I know about it is available to those who desire to know and understand. There are a few more projects to complete and then I will feel that my contribution is complete. But I yearn now for a work that has more heart to heart contact in it. As the channel Rose of the Order of the Magi told me, I am really a heart-centered person, not a head-centered one. I will continue to support the work as I move into new areas so do not be concerned that you will not receive the support you need. This newsletter will continue and perhaps new projects will emerge from time to time. I am very grateful for all of you that I have met doing this work. That has been one of the greatest aspects of it all, connecting with so many seekers of truth. It’s been a blast! Those of you who wish to put yourself into this work more fully in a professional or semi-professional way should contact me. I support all who wish to share this knowledge with the world. So, stay in touch!

The Responsible Sixes

When I first began studying the cards, the Sixes were some of the cards that I had the hardest time understanding. It took me years to start understanding what those cards meant, both as individuals and when they show up in our yearly readings. Slowly, after meeting many Six people and having Sixes in my own readings, my understanding grew. I wonder if some of you have a hard time understanding them too. My knowledge and understanding of them grew a lot over the years but leapt forward tremendously when I had the opportunity to interact with some Six people in personal relationships. One of my sisters and my only brother are Sixes. But in addition I had some personal relationships with other men and women who were Sixes. And it was in the more intimate levels of interact that I really got in touch with what it means to be a Six. Here it what I found.

Symbols for the Six

The number Six is intimately connected to the planet Saturn. Though Saturn does not rule the 6th house in astrology, it does find itself exalted in the sign of Libra, which is symbolized by the Scales of Justice and the six-pointed star. The six-pointed star, otherwise known as the Star of David, has two interlocking triangles, one pointing upward and the other downward. These two triangles are arranged so as to balance each other. One is masculine, the other feminine. One is creative, the other receptive. The Scales of Justice are also two triangles, though not arranged like they are in the six-pointed star. In essence, then, the number Six represents balance and equilibrium. Is it any wonder that Six people want to maintain balance, harmony and peace around themselves? This is one of their marked traits, which on one level makes them all act like a person whose sun-sign is Libra. But the story of Sixes goes much further than just this idea of balance and peace. Six is a complex number at best, with many levels of meaning to understand.
Responsibility

Because of their connection to Saturn, all Six people are here to learn about Saturn and the Law of Karma. The Law of Karma teaches us about responsibility and the suit of any Six person defines the area of life where they are learning the lessons of responsibility.

6♥ - responsibility in love and relationships, and responsibility to the divine love that is channeled through them
6♣ - responsibility to their own words and to the divine word that comes through them
6♦ - responsibility to value and money and the sense of divine value that comes through them and to them
6♠ - responsibility in health and work and to walk the divine path of labor that is extended to them

All Sixes are aware, to some extent, of their individual responsibility in their respective areas. But in each one, the lesson is a unique combination of issues that are connected to the responsibility of their card. For example, among 6♦ people we find those that are so super aware of their financial responsibilities that they pay their bills ahead of time. But we also find some who haven't learned about responsibility. Often they expect others to pay their way through life, as if the world owes them a favor. And there are other variations among 6♦. But what they all have in common is the issue of responsibility.

Psychic Ability

The number Six is the first past Five, which is the last of the mundane numbers. So, Six is the first of the spiritual, non-material or other-worldly numbers. Its principles operate on the unseen level, not the material level. This gives Six people a certain amount of psychic ability. They can tune in to other realms for information, direction and inspiration, more easily than most other numbers. They sense, on some level, that the Law of Karma extends beyond the boundaries of their current life, that some of their karma comes from previous lives and may extend into future lives. Some Sixes are born with a mission to fulfill, aware of it from early childhood. Many world and spiritual leaders have been and are Sixes. Sixes have the capacity to go within and make a deep connection. Through the stillness of their minds, symbolized by the peace and balance of the interlocking triangles, they are able to hear the voice of God speak. For some of them, God will have a clear and powerful direction for them, a mission to benefit the world. These are the Way-Showers and Light Bringers.

Competition, Anger and Blame

Sixes often excel in sports and other competitive activities and many of our famous sports heroes are Sixes. They are able to withstand the intense pressure of competition and maintain their composure. This is an invaluable asset in competitive sports. But beyond that, they are also very competitive. Because of the prevalence of Saturn energy, they tend to act as Saturn's agents in dispensing out karma. It works something like this: If they are engaged in sports where someone on the other side makes a good play against them, they will retaliate with equal force. The word retaliation is a good one for all Sixes. They are good at it, if not great. And retaliation is just what is called for in competitive sports, its what makes the spectators in the arena go wild and makes them so dear to their fans.
But the other side of this competitive energy causes Sixes to be easily prone to anger and retaliation, even when it is not called for. And it extends into all the areas of their life. Many Six people are mired in anger and blame. They are so easily incited into aggressive retaliation that they can be considered a danger to others. The things that incite a Six into anger may or may not be actually true, but it is true for them and that is all that matters from their point of view. And when they are in this state of blaming others for what happened, they are avoiding the responsibility that is the core nature of their card. To blame is to hold others responsible, not ourselves. So, in personal and intimate relationships the Sixes often exhibit a lot of Mars energy and attract Mars relationships. This is interesting because they also have this peacekeeping side to them. Perhaps the answer lies in the fact that the astrological houses that are governed by Mars and Venus (Libra) are opposing each other (1st and 7th). We find people 'fighting (Aries) for peace (Libra)', a frightening idea that gets played out daily in today's world.

In each Six person you meet, this issue of blaming others will be more or less apparent. But for all Sixes it is their duty (Saturn) to someday take full responsibility for their anger and blame.

**Opposites Attract**

There is a theory among some astrologers that when you have a lot of a certain sign in your chart, you act like the opposite of that sign. For example, the Virgo’s perfection seeking can become so obsessive that it becomes a fantasy (Neptune), which is a quality of its opposite sign, Pisces. For Six people, the opposite sign is Aries and it’s interesting how many of them have a strong first house, Mars or Aries influence in their birth charts. Aries is best symbolized, card-wise, by Aces and Tens. The number one is synonymous with the first house, the first sign (Aries), Aces and Tens. From this, it isn’t surprising to find that all of the Six cards have either an Ace or Ten in Mars or Pluto in their Life Spread. Even the number Six is ‘one past the five’, five being the last of the earthly numbers. From this polarity between the Libra and Aries in their charts and Life Spreads, we see that they usually have a strong issue revolving around the needs of others in their life and their own personal needs. Sixes can go to extremes, from being supremely selfish to being the one who is trodden over by others who are selfishly acting. All of this makes for an interesting and often complex personality. Being a Six usually implies moving away from a past-life tendency towards selfishness to a more universal level of giving and loving.

**The Fated Missionaries**

All Sixes feel, on some level, the urge towards a more universal love and many of them wind up dedicated to a mission of spiritual importance. Their suit may define where their mission lies and tell more about it. Many of our greatest spiritual leaders have been Sixes. They are attuned to the inner voice and often become the vessels for Truth, love and higher consciousness which they share with the world. Two important spiritual leaders in my own life have been Sixes. The 6♣ and 6♠ are most likely to become well known in their mission since their Life Spread moves into the crown line. But many 6♦ and 6♥ have also made great contributions and been recognized for such. We owe much to some of these light-bringers and way-showers. Like John the Baptist they show us the way to the light and to a better life.
The Nines – Death? or Spiritual Transformation
By Jane Bennett

Death – Why do we die? But – maybe the real question should be – WHAT is death? We all have “mini” deaths in our life as well as significant ones – the passing of a beloved pet; the loss of a treasured item; the loss of a friend or family member; loss of a job; loss of money; loss of a relationship; or a passing away of a way of thinking, etc.

As a Destiny Card practitioner, I see the “death” cards many times in the life path of my clients. But – does this mean a physical death or a transformation or both? The Destiny Card system is a mystical combination of our everyday playing cards, astrology and numerology. Through the Nines in combination with other cards we can track our transformation during each 52-day astrological period in a given year.

If you have one or more of the following cards in a reading for a 52-day period or year - 9♥ - 9♠ - 9♣ - 9♦ - what would that signify? Does it mean that you or a friend or a family member is going to physically die when a nine appears? In actuality, when a Nine shows up in a reading it means that something that we have valued is over – whether it be a job, relationship, way of thinking, our physical life, etc. It is interesting to note that when one is cognizant of his/her spiritual path, a Nine in a reading can signify new spiritual pursuits such as some form of spiritual study – or helping others in a significant way – or changing our values – or changing our lifestyle.

Let’s digress for a moment and study the significance of our life path through each of the suits. Every person is born with both a Spiritual Spread (God’s Spread) and the Mundane Spread (Man’s Spread). If we only work out of our Mundane Spread and deny the Spiritual Spread, we will never have the opportunity to transcend our everyday problems and crises. It is important to remember that we have incarnated in this physical body so that we may learn and grow closer to God. Once we acknowledge our spiritual nature all experiences take on a totally different significance. Having a Nine as a birth card indicates that a person will have many “endings” in their life. (Note: The Birth Cards is a subject that we will discuss in future articles.)

The Nines

Hearts symbolize love and relationships; Clubs represent communication, thinking and knowledge; Diamonds are money and values; and Spades, which is the most powerful suit in the deck, represent our lifestyle. So – where does our spiritual path enter the equation? It encompasses all of the suits since one’s spiritual path means something different to each individual. Also, when a Nine appears in a yearly reading, the suit which the Nine represents will tell you what a person is giving up. This can be a physical death or a passing of a way of thinking, doing things, etc.

Emotions

If we view the 9♥ as an emotional loss of family, friends and lovers we have missed the point entirely. Relationships come into our lives for a reason, a season or a lifetime. Recognizing when to let them go is possibly one of the most difficult processes man goes through. Nines represent completion. The relationship with a person is over – it has reached its fullness and a door is closing so that another one can open up. Where this appears in your reading will indicate its significance to you. If your attitude is one of giving unconditional love
and counseling to others, then the 9♥ can signify a time of emotional transformation. This card is all about letting others be who they are and having no expectations of them. If this means the relationship is over for whatever reason your attitude toward it will go a long way in mitigating the “loss.”

Knowledge

Clubs represent communication, our way of thinking about ourselves and others, and sharing knowledge. The appearance of the 9♣ in a reading signifies that an idea, plan or way of interacting with others is ending. Often times we will resist this ending to such an extent that we develop negative thinking where we are convinced “the world (or a person) is out to get us” since nothing we plan seems to materialize. Stop a minute – what if this attitude is no longer doing you any good and is in reality limiting you in some way? Once we can let go of preconceived ideas and plans, and be open to embracing new ones, we allow ourselves to rise to a higher way of thinking. We then have an opportunity to open ourselves up to other possibilities. There can be a powerful spiritual awakening when this card appears in a reading. Then it can portend the sharing of our knowledge (such as spiritual teaching) with others.

Values

Diamonds – money, universal values and giving to others. Quite a dichotomy! What do we really value? How often have you heard people judging others on their material success – not on what they have given back to their fellowman? When a 9♦ appears in a reading it can represent the loss of a financial goal, job, relationship or something else that we value highly. But – remember, this is also a completion. What you valued so highly no longer has any significance in your life. You have the opportunity to reassess and change what you value most in life – is it buying “stuff” or giving generously.

Lifestyle

Spades governs our job, health and lifestyle. This is also one of the traditional death cards. Being the strongest of the Nines, it also encompasses all of the other suits. The basic meaning is changing one’s lifestyle. You could lose your job when the 9♠ appears – but it could also entail a promotion. A child may be born – and that would dramatically change our lifestyle. You may decide to give up an addiction. Whatever the change – it will be a decisive one. Even the passing of a loved one will remind us of the never-ending cycle of birth and death, beginning and ending.

Death or Transformation

How we handle any “death” or transition is significant in the way we approach life. Do we have a negative or positive attitude? Are we ready for what is around the next bend in life or are we just existing (which can be a death in itself) instead of living? Death must come for us to have a rebirth. To those of us who are aware of our Spiritual Path – dying is a part of life – not to be feared, not to be cheated – but to be welcomed as part of the cycle of moving ever closer to God.

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Questions and Answers

**Question:** I am one of the Fixed Cards. What does it mean to not have a displacement/environment card in terms of everyday experience??? What is lacking in my experience that others are experiencing. What would the reason be for this --- there has to be a reason for it --- this obviously being a hypothetical question --- but what is your opinion on it??? Advantages/disadvantages?

**Answer:** To be one of the three fixed cards implies a choice to live a life where some aspect is very fixed and immovable. In your case, this fixed quality is of mental concepts and principles of life that are then lived out to determine their worth or to experience just being that way. All the cards are just a choice and there are many varieties of experiences that can be possible by the choice of one's birthday. Imagine what it must be like to be a Joker, for example. The 8 of Clubs does not move. This means they do not go out seeking new experiences so much. Life comes to them instead of vice versa. This is all I have to say on the subject.

**Question:** Do you know of any examples of 8♣/J♥/K♠ = working together as discussed in your books, i.e. "working w/ the J♥ or K♠ will bring far reaching success."

**Answer:** I have known many personally though I don’t know of any famous couples. I have met many families where these combinations are found. The challenge in these is just as great as the possibilities.

**Question:** Its interesting that the PRC is not discussed (or mentioned?) in the Sacred Symbols of the Ancients book. It focuses entirely on the BC. In my thinking I always think in terms of both cards (really not even placing more importance on 1 over the other). In reading your newsletter you mention that the PRC has even more importance than you initially thought. In analyzing the cards it's obvious that both BC and PRC have an impact on our everyday experience. Why wouldn’t they mention it in Sacred Symbols and focus entirely on the BC??? I'm just trying to broaden my understanding of the cards and make sure I'm getting the "BIG PICTURE." I know that you can't speak on their behalf but why do you think they would focus exclusively on the BC and leave out any mention of the PRC?

**Answer:** They do speak of the Planetary Ruling Card, but not by name. In the section for the individual birthdays of each card you find a fairly accurate description of the PRC in most cases. They did not distinguish the PRC Card as a card, at least not in their book. But they did, I think, sense the different influences of the sun signs and many of the birthday descriptions match the PRC’s perfectly.

**Question:** I am an A♣ in my Mercury period. My direct card is the 8♦ and the vertical card is the 4♠. My question is this: is the impact of the 8♦ considered slight or even insignificant because it is in the Mercury period. Do we automatically not take the Mercury period as serious as say the Jupiter period?

**Answer:** To answer your question, yes, being in Mercury lessens the impact of any card. And as you say, the 8♦ is a much stronger financial benefit when it occurs in Jupiter than Mercury, though in both positions it will yield some benefits.

**Question:** It seems that the 7-year card influences are stronger than the 13-year influences, for me at least or perhaps just w/the card influences that I have going on right now. 8♣/Mars-13.....6♠/Pluto-9♣/Result 7-year card. It almost seems like that 6♠ has dominance big time and has since it came around in 98. It has taken a lot of energy to get anything going, and that’s an
understatement. Almost like going uphill or against the grain. This would seem contrary to the 
8♠ 13-year influence that I am under at this time (plus the 10♥ 13-year influence).
You wrote about the 13-yr influences in Destiny Cards and seemed to put a lot of emphasis on 
those cards. With an 8♠ and 10♥ in Mars you would think I would be kicking ass or something, 
but it feels contrary. Do you think that because of the combo of cards that there is a canceling 
effect or something?

**Answer:** When looking at the different influences in operation in your life, it is important to 
consider all the possible meanings of the cards. The 8♠ as a 13-year influence can have many 
more meanings other than ‘kicking ass’. It often does represent success but at its essence it 
represents power. When we look at a card in a longer-term sense like this, we must consider that 
power, and the use of it, will be a major theme during this time period. Sometimes you will be 
powerful and successful and at other times you will feel other effects of power, even perhaps the 
lack of it. I always consider the potency of any card to be mainly determined by how long it 
affects us. I maintain that the 13-year cards are much more powerful than any 7-year influences. 
However during the 7-year period you are in, you will experience your 7-year cards as being a 
big focus for you and at times those influences will consume your attention. Of course at those 
times, they are the most powerful thing going on in your life.

Sometimes cards do cancel each other out. But that usually only occurs when they fall in the 
same period of time for the same duration. In your situation, I would say though that you do have 
the power to change your destiny in regards to your work. In my experience of 8♠ people, 
though, they often miss the boat in terms of changes. You may have already run full cycle with 
the business you are in. That cycle being complete you may find that you no longer get any 
success from that which was once very successful. But your fixed mind may still be holding on 
to things as they were and thus being more of a problem than a help in the current situation.
Visions
Volume VI

A Collection of 56 Articles from The Voice of the Seven Thunders Newsletter

by Robert Lee Camp and
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and friends
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The 6♣ and 9♠ - Pay Heed to These Cards!

The 6♣ and 9♠ are Karma Cards that share the Neptune/Uranus space in the Grand Solar Spread. Individually these cards are both powerful - the 6♣, being the most powerful card of fate and karma, and the 9♠, being the most powerful card of endings. Put these two together and you have an unusual combination of endings and fate that causes events that are rarely forgotten, and often leaves an undeniable mark upon our lives. I don’t know what it might be about the combination of Neptune and Uranus that makes these cards so powerful. But I cannot deny that they demand a lot of respect, not to mention a good deal of caution. In the Neptune row and Uranus column of the Grand Solar Spread sit these two cards, one from the Life Spread (9♠) and the other from the Spiritual (6♣). In light of all the stories I have collected about the power of these two cards, one might interpret the Neptune/Uranus connection as unexpected (Uranus) Death (Neptune). One may not normally associate Neptune with death but Neptune’s realm is the land of the dead. Neptune really means the afterlife. Well, to get there you have to die, at least in some fashion, on the material level.

The combination of these two cards seems to have that effect on people. It seems to radically (Uranus) cause something to end (Neptune). The radical part can also come from the potency of these two cards, especially the 9♠. The 9♠ is truly the ending card of ending cards. Talk to anyone who has remembered going through a 9♠ Long Range year and you will know what I mean. And I want to talk more about the 9♠ in this article but first I want to talk about when we have that dynamic duo of the 6♣/9♠ influencing us any given year or period.

It comes up in the yearly, 7-year and other spreads of most Birth Cards. The Fixed and Semi-Fixed Cards are immune to this particular combination, something they ought to be grateful for. For the rest of us, this is something to be aware of and cautious about. These two cards ‘own’ that Neptune/Uranus position in the Grand Solar Spread. If you have a planetary period, yearly or any other card displacing them, you should be aware of their power and potential.
The table below illustrates how to know when you are being influenced by this powerful combination:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>When you are Displacing the</th>
<th>You have the 9♠/6♠ underling the cards in your Period.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K♣</td>
<td>Neptune</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1♠</td>
<td>Uranus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4♥</td>
<td>Saturn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4♠</td>
<td>Jupiter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2♠</td>
<td>Mars</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8♥</td>
<td>Venus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6♠</td>
<td>Mercury</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I have written in the *Destiny Cards* book and in other articles about the potential negative consequences when displacing the 4♥ card. And I used to think that was the only time that this 6♠/9♠ combo was really a problem. But since then I have seen that this combo can cause dramatic events in any period of the year. And it really doesn’t matter what cards you have in the period itself.

I have had many reports from clients of particularly devastating events in the Saturn period the year they displace the 4♥. One client’s only son, who was 28 or so at the time, was murdered. My client had the cards but his son was murdered. His son had very challenging cards too. But it is was my client’s son’s death that changed his life forever. And this is often what this card combo can do. The events that occur are often life-changing, turning points.

A student of the cards called me recently with another story. She was involved in a near-fatal car crash. I looked in her cards and really found nothing until I realized that during the period of the crash, she had the 6♠/9♠ as Underlying Cards. However, she was displacing the J♦ that year and she had relatively good cards in the Uranus period when the crash occurred.

I had an experience of my own, this time from the 7-year spreads. I was in the Jupiter year of my 7-year cycle and had an A♦ Long Range Card. There is nothing particularly scary about that combination. But, because I was displacing the 4♥ in that 7-year cycle, that A♦ was sitting in guess what spot? - the 6♠/9♠ position. It was during that year that I got divorced and started a new life.

One last example is O.J. Simpson. The year he won his first trial he displaced the Q♥, giving him the powerful K♣ in his Mars period. But unfortunately for him at his civil trial he displaced the 4♥ and guess what period he was in when the verdict came down? He also had a 6♠ in Saturn but it was the Underlying Cards that got him, at least in my opinion.

So, the upshot of this is that it would be wise to see if you are displacing any of those cards, either in the current year or in the 7-year spread. If you are unfamiliar with the 7-year spread, read the article on page 109 in *Destiny Cards* or wait for my new book, which will go into them in detail.

Now, on to the 9♠. I have also found the 9♠ card by itself to pack quite a punch. As you may know, it moves about the deck, just like the rest of the 45 cards that do and will sooner or later find itself in one of your spreads. I have been particularly amazed at its power as a daily card. I am speaking of the calculated, personal daily cards here, not the ones you get doing your weekly readings by hand. More often than not I find the 9♠ as the daily card when something particularly devastating occurs in a person’s life. One client of mine had that card the day she had an abortion. I had it myself on a particularly powerful day that is a good example for many reasons.

On May 12, 2000 I crashed an airplane I had just purchased and nearly lost my life. I got up and walked away from the crash itself, but I say nearly lost my life because I came so close to
death. One small detail being different would have been it for me. I had just entered my Neptune period where I had a 6♠. My Underlying Cards for that 6♠ were the 9♠ and K♥. Well, the 9♠ does sit in two different locations, not just the Neptune/Uranus position. It also occupies the Venus/Uranus position in the Spiritual Spread. So, it was one of my underlying cards. And on that fateful day, I had the 9♠ as my personal daily card. It was a Mercury day, by the way. You would think, that as a teacher of the cards, I would have been suspicious. But I never put it all together until afterwards.

That airplane crash absolutely changed the direction of my life. I didn’t really realize it at the time. Not only was I injured but I also lost a considerable amount of money and ended my preoccupation with flying. Looking back I can see how this event contributed to my move to Asheville and accelerated other developments in my life. But the point is, these 9♠ experiences leave a mark on us, one that will not be erased and one that often sets us out upon an entirely new direction in life.

The other point, at least about my accident, was that it was the result of several years of flying in a way that was a little risky. I had several close calls before that date, some of which were the direct result of my being so impatient and pig-headed. My accident could have been averted if I had taken a much safer approach to learning to fly that new airplane. In this respect, the 6♠/9♠ combination spelled a delivery of accumulated bad karma in regards to my flying habits. I have seen that this bad karma effect seems relevant to all the bad stories I have heard from people who have had things happen under this influence.

I have heard many stories from those who have the 9♠ as a Long Range Card. Most of these seem to be that everything that could go wrong in their lives went wrong – and kept going wrong, for the entire year. Plans and hopes were spoiled by unexpected turns of events. There were losses financially and often someone or something close to the individual died.

When I think of the 9♠, I get an image of someone accidentally spilling a cup of the blackest ink on a brand new piece of carpet. The carpet is ruined. It has to be thrown away and a new piece purchased. Olney Richmond says the Nine is a block in our path. Unlike a Seven, which offers a way around, with a Nine there is no recourse but to turn back. It is an ending marker, perhaps a gravestone. In any case it represents an important ending in our life. It is unfortunate that sometimes these endings have to come to us as a complete surprise. It would be nice if we had enough consciousness to know when something was about to end in our lives and that we could let go willingly instead of having it taken away suddenly and completely. And truly sometimes we can. But it seems that with the 9♠, we are usually unaware of what is going on until it is over.

The 6♠ and 9♠ together seem to spell an incredible event that will change our lives forever. We are going along in our life in a certain fashion and for the most part unaware of the negative karma we are collecting. Or perhaps we are slightly aware but for the most part not. Maybe we sense that we have been getting away with something for a while now. But even then, the powerful events that seem to come from this combination of influences seems to take us by surprise. It must be that Uranus column influence. In any event, this combination is one to be aware of.

The Limits of Knowledge

Knowledge, in its truest form, is information that is true. I remember the series, Dragnet, where the officers would constantly have to remind witnesses they were questioning to “just stick with the facts, please.” The best knowledge is factual knowledge. With factual knowledge
details that are often important can be communicated. These details can make the difference in certain situations. And for success in all material and mundane knowledge, factual information is a requirement. Without it, failure is sure to result as false assumptions are made and acted upon. If you are baking a cake from a recipe and you accidentally misread the amount of salt that is asked for, you could make a cake that is too salty to eat, essentially ruining the whole thing.

Having 'good' information is a key to success in most everything in our world today. Clubs know this more than any other suit because theirs is the suit of knowledge. The King of Clubs is the ideal person to study to understand the importance of knowledge. Most Kings of Clubs make sure they have the best information available. They have a natural knack for finding the best information and have developed skills that help them retrieve it from the people and situations that surround them. They pay close attention to details, too, because they know that it is often the smallest details that reveal something significant. The expression “good things come in small packages” can aptly be applied to knowledge for often the smallest bit of information can make a huge difference in the outcome of a situation.

Our current society has caught on to the fact that information is important. And the powers that surround us and want our money are trying their very best to make sure we have all the information we would possibly desire. The Internet is a living network of knowledge. With it, one can find out important information on nearly every subject. If you have a problem that has an answer in information, you can usually find it on the Internet. The Internet is like a living encyclopedia. But it has become so much more than that too. Through it, millions of us share our ideas, information, and opinions on a daily basis. It has nearly eliminated the need for a post office and allows those who previously could not keep in touch to do so readily.

But beyond the Internet we have cell phones, pagers, phones in airplanes offering stock quotes, news and weather, newspapers, magazines, satellite television reception and all forms of devices designed to deliver information to us on demand. The way these are promoted, one would think that all we need to be happy and successful in life is information.

We are, then, in the information age. And information has become readily available. It’s all there, if not through the Internet, through the media in other forms. Here in America nearly everyone walks around with a cell phone. Even the cell phones have Internet access now. No one is ever out of touch, or never need be. And yet, we are still a very unhealthy, unconscious society. We eat and drink ourselves into oblivion and live our lives as if all this great information weren't even there. Though we could easily find a book on how to have a better life, one whose guidance would certainly do the trick, we don't do it. If you or I go to the shopping mall on any Sunday and just look around you will see the current status of our society today. We are still a very unhappy and unhealthy lot of people, seeking through material acquisition to find fulfillment. When I go out to a shopping mall I see a lot of what I call ‘media zombies.’ Millions of people today have been tricked into believing that information is going to make them happy. It used to be the accumulation of money that was touted as the way to happiness, now it seems that it is the quest for the best information that seems to have taken its place.

But knowledge has its limitations. A menu can tell us what is available at a restaurant, a waitress or waiter can describe what a certain dish looks and tastes like, but none of this information can convey the taste of the food itself. One bite full would replace thousands of words. This brings us to an important point - one small experience is worth a ton of knowledge. The other side of this is that all the information in the world cannot replace experience.

A few years back I learned to fly. Flying today is an information-intensive experience. No one who has a desire to get a Private Pilot's license should do so unless they are prepared to acquire a whole new universe of information. Flying even has its own vocabulary and spoken language, and both must be mastered. There are tons of books, tapes, courses and teachers out there to teach us how to fly and there are a lot of books that you simply must read and
comprehend if you are to get certified as a pilot. But none of the knowledge from any of those books is any guarantee that you will actually ever be able to fly a plane. Flying a plane has been analyzed right down to the smallest nuance. Every factor and consideration of both the pilot and the aircraft has been considered, discussed, theorized, examined, verified, tested and approved. There is little, if anything, left that is not understood about how it works and why. But none of that information will help you fly a plane when you are sitting in the cockpit. The only way to really learn to fly a plane is to get in one and do it. And everyone who learns to fly has to do just that - get in the plane and fly. There will be an instructor there with them who will patiently wait for them to get it. The instructor will demonstrate it, describe it and encourage the student to do the right thing. But until the student does it enough and masters it energetically, he or she will not learn to fly. And interestingly enough, in the pilot community, you are always judged on how many hours you have flown. All pilots know that it is the experience of flying that counts. If you had a choice to fly with a person who had a Harvard degree and 20 hours flying and a person who never attended college who had flown for 1,000 hours, which would you pick?

And this is how it is with most of the important things in life. We learn from experience, not from knowledge that was provided. Most of the knowledge that is available today is descriptions of things by people who did experience them. Not that knowledge is unhelpful or anything. If the knowledge is good, it can lead us to the gate of experience. It can prepare us to take that leap into experience. But that leap we must take and it is the leap from our mind to our heart. As soon as we decide to experience something, we must leave our mind at the door. We will always pick it up on the way out of the experience. It just cannot wait to talk about what just happened.

Maybe it’s because the head sits higher than the heart in our bodies that we mistakenly believe that thinking and knowledge are superior to experience. The head must in some ways be like the Crown Line in the cards, the cards that sit there look down upon the rest of the deck. Some Crown Line people tend to have the belief that they are superior to the rest of the world and their lofty position reflects that. But regardless of what the mind thinks, the heart is where we experience and feel things. And these feelings and experiences are essential for life. The mind actually needs the heart in order to function well. Without the heart, the mind is deprived of invaluable experience that fills in the gaps in its knowledge. My guru used to tell us about the value of mediation by saying, "True knowledge flows from the still heart into the quiet mind." What is implied here is not only that we get the best knowledge from our heart, but that only a calm mind can receive it. A mind that is cluttered and racing around all day trying to figure everything out is missing the real stuff.

Unfortunately the connection with our heart has all but been ignored in our current society. As children we are rewarded for being smart, not aware. And most of us were discouraged from having feelings at all. It’s no wonder we are such a dumb society. Through our feelings we can know the true importance of things. It is through experiencing things that all our doubts and our millions of questions about them are answered.

Spiritual teachers know better than anyone the limitations of knowledge. It’s the 'how to describe something that cannot be described' problem. A true teacher has a greater interest in our growth and development than on lecturing day in and day out. Sometimes words can help the student. And students have thousands of questions. But often the best teachers are those who mostly keep silent and whose words only help propel the student into finding the answers in their heart.

Ultimately life is only experience, one that is constantly changing. Yes, it can be described. But even upon description life often changes or evolves into something new. The only way to have the best knowledge is to be in the here and now, where the leading edge of life is flowing. The moment we stop experiencing things in our life is the moment we become disconnected. At that moment our knowledge becomes old and less valuable, like yesterday's newspaper. It’s just
not up to what is happening right now. Therefore it should be every student's goal to not just read, listen and learn as much as they can, but also to stay aware of themselves moment by moment. Just the simple knowledge of how we are doing in the present moment can be very exciting. Watching what is going on around us and how our heart responds to it can be enlightening. And many spiritual teachers suggest that being in the moment that way is all there really is to the whole spiritual path.

The Bible and many other spiritual teachings agree that we must go within to find the true answers to life. This 'going within' means nothing more than experiencing things. If you want to know yourself, get familiar with what you experience and how you experience it. This will require you to feel, something that most of us avoid. But a session of deep feeling can answer a thousand questions about us - and the true nature of the universe. Once we start turning within we are usually amazed and delighted at what we find. And the search within can become an exciting and delightful exploration of self, the revealing of our own personal mystery. Through it we can find the life that we sought after in the world outside us.

Reading the Joker
By Melissa Wells

Opinions vary on how to read the Destiny cards for a person born on December 31st, the day of the Joker. Logic would seem to dictate that if born in the first 12 hours of that day to read the A♥ or K♠ if born in the latter half of the day. That seems to make perfect sense.

When I initially posed that question to Robert Camp, I was amazed and somewhat disappointed at his flat response: “You can’t read the Joker. They can be any card in the deck. Don’t even try.”

In my naiveté I thought something was wrong with that answer. There had to be some way using this system to read individuals born December 31st.

Then I read Thomas Morell’s writing on the topic and was happy to see that he’d come up with the same logical conclusion that I had devised using the birth cards for the days prior to and after December 31st, depending on time of birth.

My conclusion had been an untested theory until quite recently, when I received a referral to read for the client of one of my best friends who is also a psychic reader. My friend Christine Riley thought a second opinion would help her client decide on some very important matters in her career and romantic life. Although Christine told me about the referral, she gave me no other information in preparation for the reading. All I knew was her name.

This having been Christine’s first referral to me, the pressure was on to provide the clearest information possible. Imagine my surprise when Judith, the client, gave me her date of birth as December 31st. Since she was born at 1 p.m. I started reading her as the K♠. But the year-long cards didn’t match her energy at all. Then I tried the A♥, that wasn’t relevant either … and she’d booked an hour-long phone reading!

I tried several spreads and was able to pinpoint her issues. I also had a clear sense of where she needed to move forward but the advice coming from the cards had a strange, even unethical energy. For every other reading I’ve ever done, and that has been at least many hundred, the information in the Destiny cards has been practical, reliable and creative in finding solutions to a wide range of human dilemmas. That sense of sure footing was sorely lacking in this reading.

The cards advised, for instance, in the matter of how to get out from under the burden of an extraordinarily high rental payment for computer equipment no longer needed in her business that she arrange to have the equipment stolen and recoup the cost in an insurance claim. And in
the problem of how to leave her long-term relationship, the cards gave every indication that she should get involved with someone else. I’d never seen anything like this before and, quite honestly, did not understand what in the world was going on.

Afterwards I was haunted by reminiscences of that reading. I felt certain that something terribly wrong had occurred and I questioned my interpretation of the cards that came up in the reading. I processed my concerns with my daughter, who is also a student of the Destiny cards. She agreed that my interpretations were along the lines of what she would see.

And then I recalled Robert’s original comments about not being able to read the Joker. On the heels of this bizarre experience, his advice suddenly made perfect sense. I called Robert to process what had happened in that reading. His observations underscored what I’d just experienced. He explained that Olney Richmond, author of *The Mystic Test Book*, taught that in times past December 31st was considered the “Fool’s Day.” It was the day that the Magi closed shop and did no temple work. Richmond also asserted that there is no rhyme or reason to that day mathematically.

“No rhyme or reason,” that was exactly the energy of the reading I’d given Judith. For that hour I felt inside out, upside down and backwards with no orientation whatever. As to the unethical aspect of the messages coming from the cards during that reading, Robert explained that the Joker is a Super Jack, bringing out the worst energy of the J. The Joker’s energy would augment the tricky, deceptive aspect of the J.

Now mind you, Judith is a sweet, responsible, even overly considerate individual. None of this reflects poorly on her and her spiritual development. But again Robert’s teaching further underscored the nature of my attempt to read for her, the Joker, when he said, “They operate on the basis of having the energy to get to the next moment, just to get by in the world.”

That was precisely the level of information that the Destiny cards were providing for the reading. Absent were the qualities of faith, gratitude and acceptance, all the many facets of spiritual integrity. Instead it was dominated by crafty thinking with little or no thought of consequences for unethical behavior. I’ve never seen anything like this before, or since. But I’ve only attempted one reading for a Joker, and that’s all I’ll ever do using this system.

Robert relies on astrology in his readings for those individuals. I’m learning another divination tool as a companion to the Destiny cards. As a 3 I feel quite comfortable with this system and will always use it. But now I more completely respect its power and know better than to ever attempt to use the Destiny cards to read for a Joker.

*Melissa Wells is a teacher and reader of the cards in Largo, Florida. She can be reached at (727) 524-1198 or by email at wyndygo@tampabay.rr.com*

**Questions and Answers**

Question: Hello I’ve been fascinated with your book and study of the Cards. My question is about my Birth Card. I was born 1/27/71 @12:27 AM in San Francisco. Technically I’m suppose to be a K, but since I was born so close to midnight it seems I have characteristics of A as well. Can person be both cards?

Answer: You cannot have both cards, technically. You are definitely a King of Clubs. You will have Ace of Diamonds traits to some extent but you will only use the yearly spreads for the King of Clubs. If you had been born in the summer time, where daylight savings time is observed, you would have been an Ace of Diamonds. But your true solar time where you were born is very close to the 12:27 am.
Question: Your class is fascinating. I spend hours reading through your info, it's incredible. I've been trying to find out why a 9 of Diamonds is coming up on a reading between a guy I've been seeing a Queen of Diamonds 1/15/52 in a relationship report with myself 10 of diamonds 4/11/56. Although it is the seventh connection he is the moon card to me and the only nine of diamonds in his spread is in the results position. He has Saturn as a ruling planet I have Mars. Can you please help?

Answer: The 9 of Diamonds is your man's second karma card. We each have two karma cards. To be complete we find connections between the Birth Cards, Karma Cards and Planetary Ruling Cards.

Question: When I am interpreting the Long Range Card from a period in a Seven-Year Reading, do I use the interpretation of the card in the period as well as the interpretation of the Long Range Card or do I just use the Long Range Card interpretation alone?

Answer: I have found that the planetary energies associated with the Long Range Cards from the 7-year spreads do not usually have much impact. Therefore, I do not include that too much in my interpretation.

Question: I have a client who will enter a new 7-year cycle on his birthday, Saturday, February 10, 2001. He is a 2♠ Birth Card and 8♦ Planetary Ruling Card. He will be 42 on Saturday. Age 6 is his 7-Year spread for the ages 42 through 48. For the 2♠, he has the K♠ as his Long Range Card for seven years. Is it possible that this could have more of an impact on his life over the next seven years than some other Long Range Card? I would like clarification on this: Are you saying that the Long Range Card in a 7-year spread does not have much impact or are you saying the direct and vertical cards in the periods that take on the function of a long range card for any given year do not have much impact?

Answer: The basic rule of thumb regarding the power of any given card is that the longer its influence in our life, the more powerful it is. You misunderstood my last answer. I was referring to the yearly Long Range Cards, not the 7-year Long Range Cards. The yearly Long Range Cards come from the 7-year spreads. And there is a planetary influence to each one, which I do not consider to be of much importance.

Question: A 2♠ Birth Card and 8♦ Planetary Ruling Card for a birthday 2/10/59. He is 42 and I use the age 6 spread for his 7-year reading. In Mercury, 7♦ and J♠ for the 2♠ Birth Card spread. For the 8♦ Planetary Ruling Card the 8♥ and 8♣ are in the Mercury Period. The question is: When I interpret these Long Range Card for a 7-year reading, do I interpret these cards as being in the Mercury period or as being Long Range Cards? Or do I interpret them as being in the Mercury Period and as LRC? I really want to understand this point. Can you refer me to any extensive writings on the 7-year readings?

Answer: For the Long Range Card of the 7-Year spread, just use the Long Range Card interpretation devoid of any planetary influence. In reality every card in our reading has some planetary influence. However, as we get to the broader time periods this influence seems to be less significant than the actual card itself. I am writing a lot more about the 7-year spread in my upcoming book, the Little Book of the Seven Thunders.
Question: I have a question regarding a person that I have been involved with on and off again for a couple of years. Right now we are not seeing each other romantically, but are friends from a distance. He moved last summer. I was born on Jan. 5, 1956 (Birth Card 9♠) and he was born on November 22, 1967 (Birth Card J♥). I have never felt this strongly about anyone before. It scares me a great deal. I can't seem to get him out of my mind. The Love Cards book indicates that we are very compatible and the Destiny book (if I'm reading the 90 year card spread right) seems to indicate that he plays a big part in my life. Am I right? Is there a possibility that we may end up together (married) someday or are we destined to be good friends for life?
Answer: There is no doubt that you and this man you are interested in are very closely tied, card-wise. And there is every reason for you to be interested. However, the cards can never tell really if a person is going to come back to you or not. They may give indications, which you can look for in Destiny Cards. But even if they are present, it is no guarantee. Here, I will give you advice that many of my clients have paid hundreds of dollars for: If you really want to know if he is going to come into your life, or back, just ask him. I'd be willing to bet he will tell you the truth.

Question: In the Love Card readings there are Life Spread connections and Spiritual Spread connections. What is the difference between them and how does the difference affect the connections themselves?
Answer: That's a good question and actually it is one that I should have answered in my book. But here goes: The spiritual spread connections are those that are derived from a past life of being together. They are most of the love and hate at first sight connections. I call them the 'earned' connections for this reason. The Life Spread connections are those that are the result of how our present-day personalities connect with each other. A Mars connection, in the Life Spread, will represent two people whose personalities tend to irritate each other. In the Spiritual Spread, a Mars connection can mean a pair of star-crossed lovers from a past life who never were able to consummate their love in that lifetime, which creates a powerful attraction to each other when they meet in the current lifetime. If you read the interpretations in the Love Cards book now, with this in mind, it will be obvious how each particular connection has this present or past-life connotation.

From the May, 2001 Newsletter

The Wish-Fulfilling Card

There is one card in the deck that invariably brings us material and spiritual blessings. And its benefits will depend upon you - what you want or what you wish for. That card is the 10♦. The 10♦ sits in the very center of the Grand Solar Spread in the first quadrification, called the Life Spread. If you look in Destiny Cards on page 48, you will see this Life Spread with the 10♦ in the center. Its position there is influenced by the planet Jupiter, both by row and column. Jupiter is, of course, the greater of the benefic, or helpful, planets (Venus being the lesser benefic). These two planets both bring good fortune, but Jupiter is the greater of the two. Jupiter is the only planet in our solar system that puts off more electromagnetic energy than it receives from the sun. This may be why Jupiter is much like a mini-Sun. The Sun is actually the greatest benefic of all. Its rays give life to our planet and it sits in the center of our solar system. But as planets go, Jupiter is the most like the Sun, and gives beneficial energy to all. Thus, the 10♦, being the only double-Jupiter card in the deck, is a great bearer of good fortune.
In *Destiny Cards* I talk about the years of Wish Fulfillment and the Most-Blessed Year in Chapter Eight. These are especially important years in which we get one or more important desires of ours fulfilled. And the reason they fulfill our desires is because of Jupiter's influence.

In the Years of Wish Fulfillment, our Birth Card is situated in the Jupiter column of the Grand Solar Spread (see illustration). This occurs when we displace any of these cards: the 8♦, 10♠, 4♣, 10♣, 3♠, 7♠ or 8♥. But the year we displace the 10♦, we receive Jupiter's blessing from two directions - both the row and the column. This is what I call the Most-Blessed Year, which in essence is a year in which the thing that we want most will come true. This seems to happen without fail and it is only up to the individual's level of self-awareness to realize its power.

This 10♦ displacement also affects 7-Year spreads, 7-Week spreads and 7-Day spreads and should be watched for. When your Birth Card occupies the 10♦ position, you will be under Jupiter's blessing. The more we are aware of this, the more we can receive. Find out when your 7-Year Displacement Card will be the 10♦ by using the technique discussed in *Destiny Cards* on page 109. There you can discover how to look up your 7-Year Spreads. It may be that you will never displace the 10♦ in a 7-Year Spread. Since the average person will only experience 10-12 of these 7-Year spreads over the course of a lifetime, the 10♦ as a Displacement Card may not take place. But in viewing the 7-Week or 7-Day cards you will find this occurring frequently. And by knowing when these special times will occur you can take better advantage of the blessings being offered. However, the process by which we determine the 7-Week and 7-Day spreads is somewhat complicated. This has been discussed and illustrated in earlier articles but it is complex enough that most people do not bother. The best way to get access to these spreads is by utilizing one of my software programs. The Book of Destiny, Path of Destiny and Little Book programs all show you these 7-Week and 7-Day spreads. You can look ahead or behind as far as you want to locate their occurrences. You can also get your 7-Day cards from our personalized Destiny Calendars.

There are other instances of 10♦ influence that we must be aware of, if we are to take full advantage of its blessings. And that is when the actual 10♦ card shows up in our reading, whether that be as a 13-Year card, or showing up in a 7-Year, Yearly, 7-Week or 7-Day spread. The 10♦ card itself carries the Jupiter/Jupiter energy with it. Thus, virtually anytime the 10♦ card shows up in our spreads, it brings with it the potential for wish-fulfillment. What prompted me to do this article was two recent experiences. One day last week, I did more sales than I usually do in an entire week. I hadn't checked my daily (7-Day spread) cards. When I did, I was amazed. There, in my cards for the day was the 10♦ direct and the K♦ vertical. And, it was my Jupiter day of the week. 'Interesting...' I thought. Then, the following week the same thing happened. I had another incredible day, financially, making nearly as much as the previous week. I looked in my daily cards again and couldn't believe what I saw. I had the 10♦/K♦ again, this time on my Mars day! That pretty much drove home the point, as if the 10♦ card itself was talking to me saying, 'pay attention, boy, I am trying to show you something here!' Well, I paid attention and here is the article to prove it. What this showed me was that the 10♦ can really pay big, even on a daily basis. I would definitely recommend this information to anyone who needs to know when their most fortunate times occur. If a 10♦ in one day can have this much effect, how do you suppose it would be in a yearly spread or 7-Year? Keep in mind that the first rule of thumb in regards to the power of a card's influence is that the longer period of time that a card is in effect, the more powerful it is. Thus 7-Year or Yearly 10♦ cards will give even more dramatic and powerful blessings.

For example, your Long Range Card is taken from your 7-Year spread, for example. Thus, a 10♦ Long Range card will govern one year of that 7-Year period. If you have had a 10♦ Long
Range, you will know just how powerful this can be. But what if your 7-Year Long Range, Displacement or Environment card were the 10♦? Imagine the benefits that can be gained.

As positions go, the Jupiter position of the 10♦ is the most fortunate. Having the 10♦ in Jupiter (direct) is like having a triple Jupiter influence. This is one reason why the 8♠ Birth Card is so fortunate. They are the only card in the deck to have the 10♦ in Jupiter in their Life Spread. And their Jupiter 13-Year period, from ages 39 - 51, is the most fortunate of their life. Imagine what that must be like. But as you can see by my previous example, other positions can also be very good. I have found the 10♦ to bring good fortune in every position. Its blessings may be modified by the position but it will still bring good fortune in many forms.

In Mercury the blessings will tend to be short-lived, or be pertaining to an automobile, books, short trips or education. In Venus, the 10♦ can bring money for home or through selling a home, or money made in the arts or connected to performing and contact with the public. Beauty items are also in the Venus department. In Mars, the good fortune comes through hard work and passion, or through competition in some form, such as in legal enterprises or professional sports. But any goal pursued passionately can bring good fortune with a 10♦ in Mars.

In Jupiter it is the best, especially financially. Only the 7♦ in Jupiter could surpass the bounty of the 10♦, and only if the individual meets its conditions, which doesn’t always happen. In Saturn, the blessing may not be recognized or may be made through hard work. Alternately money or good fortune may come as the result of others misfortune or death, such as an inheritance.

In Uranus, expect good fortune connected with real-estate, computers, associations, large organizations or the circle of acquaintances you belong to. Olney Richmond used to classify any dealings with the minerals of the earth under Uranus, such as mining operations.

In Neptune good fortune comes through foreign interests, drugs, movies or spiritual endeavors. A 10♦ Pluto card is no guarantee of wish fulfillment. It only means that we want it. The 10♦ Result Card can be quite powerful. It’s like a 10♦ in Jupiter but often more powerful since it occurs as the result of a completed year or 7-Year period.

The 10♦ Displacement card is the Most Blessed year.

A 10♦ Environment or Long Range Card will have a great effect. If you have a 10♦ Long Range card, also check your 7-Year spread to see which planetary energy is influencing your Long Range Card. Hey, it might be Jupiter, which could even magnify its power!

I mentioned the 7♦ above and when talking about the most fortunate cards one must never forget it. It tends to have a more powerful effect than the 10♦, but it is a conditional effect. It will not bring good fortune to those who are not appreciating the things in their life. If you want to learn more about it, please read the many articles I have written about the 7♦ and its effects.

I did a quick scan of my Q♦ yearly spreads and realized that while most of us Q♦ worry about money unnecessarily, we are actually one of the more blessed cards in terms of how many good money influences come our way. Below is a list of the years that really great money influences occur for us. I would suggest that you go through your yearly spreads and count your blessings too.
Queen of Diamonds Very Fortunate Years

Ages 0 and 45 - 7♦ in Jupiter
Ages 1 and 46 – 7♦ in Mars
Ages 4 and 49 - 7♦ in Jupiter
Ages 5 and 50 - 7♦ in Mars
Ages 6 and 51 - 10♦ in Mars
Ages 10 and 55 - 10♦ in Uranus
Ages 13 and 58 - 2♣/10♦ in Jupiter
Age 15 and 60 - 10♣/K♣ in Jupiter
Ages 16 and 61 - 10♣/K♣ in Mars
Ages 20 and 65 - 10♦ in Mercury
Ages 22 and 67 – 10♦ Environment
Ages 23 and 68 - 10♦ Displacement
Ages 24 and 69 - 7♣/10♦ in Uranus
Ages 27 and 72 - 10♦ in Venus
Ages 34 and 79 - 10♦ Result (Cosmic Reward)
Ages 36 and 81 - 10♦ Result (Cosmic Reward)
Ages 40 and 85 – 8♦ in Jupiter
Ages 41 and 86 - 10♦ in Jupiter
Ages 42 and 87 - 10♦ in Mars
Age 44 - 10♦ Long Range

And, when we consider that all of these above influences also occur in the 7-Year, 7-Week, and 7-Day spreads, we can see that the good fortune comes very frequently for the Q♦.

What kind of good fortune should you expect from the 10♦? Mostly it is financial. But I have also noted that the blessings can be very spiritual. In my Most Blessed Year, at age 23, I met my guru and moved into his ashram, an event that was probably the most fortunate of my entire life, though not financially speaking. And I have watched others whose blessings came in all flavors varying from the mundane to the personal and spiritual. I have come to realize that the blessings tend to come where we want them the most. If we want money, then money it is. If, in our hearts, there is something else that we secretly desire or want, that is what will manifest. At Age 44 I had the 10♦ Long Range in a Mars year of my 7-Year spread. That year I learned to fly, got a motorcycle and ultralight aircraft, all things I had wanted to do for a long time.

Finally, every 7th year of life, beginning at age 3, is like a 10♦ year. This is because each of these years is a Jupiter year in our 7-Year spread. Regardless of what your Long Range Card is that year, you will receive blessings and have one or more wishes fulfilled.

By being aware of these Jupiter influences we increase their benefits. And if we know they are coming ahead of time, we can prepare ourselves to receive. When I speak about Jupiter's influence in workshops I use the analogy of money falling from the sky. If you knew that at 12:00 pm today that hundred dollar bills would be falling from the sky for 10 minutes, what would you do? Hopefully you would go out and get the biggest basket you could handle so that you could catch them. This is how the 10♦ is. If we see it coming, we can prepare a place for that money to come through. I took advantage of that at Age 41 by increasing the number of products, books and services I had to offer my customers well ahead of my 10♦ Jupiter period. By taking action I created a basket to catch the money. It turned out that I made more money in
my Jupiter period that year than in the entire previous year. But Jupiter will probably get you even if you do nothing about it.

A close friend of mine has the 10♦ in Jupiter this year. I have been watching her, to see how this is going to unfold. Just 10 days before the period began a friend came by her house and offered her a job that pays ten times what she normally makes. I was amazed at this occurrence because in her case it would have to have been some extra thing coming into her life to bring this good fortune since she was not actively doing anything that could have generated that sort of income. However, she did know about the 10♦ and was also watching to see what would occur. And in being open like that, she readily accepted the opportunity when it came. This is the power of our knowing our cards - we can increase the benefits when they come, and lessen the negative influence of the lessons we must learn.

The 10♦ and Jupiter are all about our receiving the abundance of the universe. In order to accept what they offer we must place ourselves into a receiving posture, so to speak. To do this, we must first drop any resistance we have to receiving abundance. If we do not at least make some room for some prosperity to come our way, how will we be able to receive anything? It's all in our frame of mind, it's about how much gracefulness we have. To be graceful means to be full of grace. Grace is related to gratitude. To be truly graceful means to be full of gratitude for the many ways that we are blessed. The truth is we are blessed every single day, whether we have a 10♦ or not. But few of us live that way. We have somehow become habitually ungrateful for the life we live. In becoming this way, we literally shut ourselves off from much of the beauty, joy and prosperity that life has to give us. A 10♦ card appearing in our spread may actually help restore our faith in the abundance of the universe. But we will have to meet it halfway. No matter what cards we have, ultimately we have the power to block or ignore what happens, or what could happen.

I hope this article has spurred you to examine all your spreads to look for the occurrences of the 10♦ in your life. Heck, I just checked and see that the week of April 27th - May 3rd I have the 10♦ Long Range Card. And, it is my Jupiter week. I wish all the abundance of Jupiter upon you and those you love.

**Around and Around - Exploring our Personal 45 Spreads**

Once the science of the cards is fully understood, we discover that our life is a circle of 45 - 45 years, 45 weeks, and 45 7-week periods. This circle is defined by the very process that the entire system is based upon - the *process of quadration*. Quadration is not explained in either the Destiny Cards or Love Cards book, even though all the information in those books is based upon it. It is the root of the entire system. In my latest book, *Exploring the Little Book of the Seven Thunders*, I explain not only the significance of the process of quadration but illustrate exactly how to do it and how it creates this 45-segment cycle that becomes the life we live. You can get a quick illustration of it by looking at the Spiritual and Life Spreads, the first two, and most important quadrations of them all. To do this, find your Birth Card in the Spiritual Spread then notice that it has moved from where it is to the location of your First Karma Card in the Life Spread. In other words, where your first Karma Card resides in the Spiritual Spread is where your Birth Card has moved to in the Life Spread. The Life Spread is the result of the first Quadration of the deck since the Spiritual Spread is literally all the cards in the deck, arranged in perfect order. Therefore, we can say that the process of quadration causes our Birth Card to move (in the next spread) to the current position of our first Karma Card. And this holds true each and every time we quadrate the deck. Of course, there are seven cards that do not follow
this pattern - the Fixed and Semi-Fixed Cards. But even these are largely affected by it because the cards in their yearly and other spreads are constantly rotating due to the same process of quadrature.

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**10♣ Life Spread**

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**Seven-Year Spread (derived from the Age 5 Spread)**

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**Yearly Spread for Age 41**

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**Seven-Week Spread (derived from the Age 41 Spread)**

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**Weekly Spread (derived from the Age 17 Spread)**

The K♠, for example, has an A♥ in Mercury in the Spiritual Spread. In the Life Spread however, that A♥ has been replaced by the second Karma Card of the A♥, the 3♥. And if we were to quadrature the Life Spread cards, we would get the Age 1 Spread and there the K♠ would have the Q♣ in Mercury, which is the second Karma Card of the 3♥. From the point of view of a Fixed Card, like the K♠, the cards seem to be revolving backwards - towards their second Karma Card. But from the point of view of the 45 free cards their Displacement Card each year is always the first Karma Card of the card they displaced last year.

What this boils down to is that after 45 years, we have completed an entire journey. At Age 44 we find ourselves back in the Spiritual Spread, with the only variation being the Semi-Fixed cards, which have switched places with their Cosmic Soul Twin. Since these Cosmic Soul Twins (i.e. the A♣ and 2♥ and the 7♦ and 9♥) are so closely connected, when you get one, you
practically get the other. If I have an A♣ in my reading, for example, it really has much of the same effect of a 2♥. Watch this for yourself and I think you will find this to be true. No one would think that an A♣ would bring a love relationship (2♥), but it often does. The same holds true for the 7♦ and 9♥. Can the 9♥ in Jupiter be a Millionaire’s Card? You bet! At any rate, though there are 90 total distinct quadrations of the Grand Solar Spreads, there are actually only 45 different places any card can sit in the Grand Solar formation and there are 45 different spreads that one can have. Many cards have identical spreads at ages 0 and 45, or any two years that are 45 years apart. Take a minute to examine your Age 7 and Age 52 spreads, for example. For most people these two will be identical, except of course for the Long Range Card, which comes from the quadrations of our 7-Year spreads. This is why the Age 45 year is called the Rebirth Year. The cards there are nearly or exactly identical to the cards in the first year of our life, which are our Life Spread cards.

So, we can take a close look at our 45 spreads and get a glimpse of the pattern that we are born under and the pattern that will repeat itself over and over again in our life. Having been born on a certain day has relegated us to a fixed set of 45 spreads. Those are our spreads. Some cards have more occurrences of certain cards, such as the 10♦, which defines a certain amount of good fortune that not all cards share. Some cards will have more occurrences of the marriage cards while others will have more occurrences of difficult relationship cards. But one thing is for certain, each Birth Card will have its own unique set of 45 spreads, and this includes the Fixed and Semi-Fixed Cards. Though they do not have different Displacement Cards each year, they do have a repeating list of 45 spreads. However, the exception to this is the Semi-Fixed Cards who have literally changed places with each other in the second 45 quadrations. For them, there truly are 90 distinct set of quadrations and they are the only cards who have a true 90 segment cycle, instead of the 45 segment that most cards experience.

But 45 segment or 90 segment, it is still a repeating cycle and a fixed cycle. But it does have its permutations that occur because of the occurrences of minor cycles within major cycles. And these permutations are what makes each year of our life completely distinct from any other. Did you know, for example, that the cards for the first 7 years of your life are identical to the cards for the first year, the first 7 weeks and the first week itself? At birth, all the cycle wheels are set into motion and the first week of life has all the cards that we will experience in our entire lifetime.

On the previous page are all the spreads influencing a 10♣ person born on 8/16/1959 for the date of 5/7/2001.

We can learn a great deal from studying the above spreads. But first let’s get some perspective on where this person is at on 5/7/2001. Since this person is 41 years old, they are currently in the Jupiter, 13-year cycle of life. During this cycle they are influenced by their Jupiter cards in their Life Spread, which in this case are the A♣ and 10♥. Their entire Life Spread influences them their whole life and during a particular period the cards found in that period will predominate and be noticeable.

Age 41 also puts them in the Neptune year of their 7-Year spread, which in this case is governed by the 4♦. In their Yearly spread, they are currently in the Uranus, 52-day period which is governed by the 2♦ and K♦. They are in the Mercury week of the 7-Week Spread, which in this case is governed by the Q♠ and Q♥ and 5/7/2001 is the Mars day of their week and in this week they have a K♣ and 9♦ as cards for this day.

All of these spreads are taken from the 45 unique spreads for the 10♣ person. There are no others. You will notice that the Yearly spread and the 7-Week spread are identical in the current time period. The Long Range Cards, which are not shown here, will be different in these spreads. But all the cards displayed here are identical in the two spreads. The major point I want to make
here is two-fold. First, no matter what week, 7-week period, 7-year period or yearly spread we are looking at for any individual, the spread we are looking at will be one of its unique spreads. The 10♣ person will never have a yearly spread for any other card, only its own. Secondly, since the weekly, 7-Week and 7-Day (Weekly) spreads change so often, we are bound to have two of our unique spreads influencing us at the same time. Sometimes, like the first week of our life, we can have three or more of these spreads all being the same, though this is rare.

Because we will only experience the spreads that are from our unique, 45-unit set, we can say that our life is destined and limited. Some cards, for example, will never have a K♠ as their Long Range Card of the Year. Others may never have the millionaire’s card (7♦ in Jupiter) in their 7-Year spread. Whatever your 45 unique spreads are, they define, for better or worse, what your life karma is. Knowing this, one could carefully examine these 45 spreads and discover some amazing patterns and qualities.

In my article on the 10♦, the Wish-Fulfilling Card, for example, I discovered that my Birth Card, the Q♦, gets more than the usual number of successful money cards over the course of a lifetime. This is interesting when we consider that Q♦ people are noted for having financial problems. It seems that getting money is not the problem as much as managing it is.

Some cards have very fortunate Life Spreads. Look at the 8♣ Life Spread, for example. All the cards in their Life Spread, from Mercury through Neptune, are found in the Jupiter row of the Grand Solar Spread. The Jupiter Card is the 10♦. Keep in mind, too, that each of these Life Spread cards will govern a 13-year period of the 8♣ life. Imagine having the 10♦ for 13 years, like the 8♣. Other Birth Cards have all even-numbered cards in their Life Spread, which is considered fortunate. And there are other fortunate Life Spread indications. The 7-Year spreads and yearly spreads reveal some interesting patterns of good fortune for some cards.

The Importance of the Seven-Year Spreads

Some cards have greater fortune in their life, simply because their 7-Year spreads are so good. Most of us will only live long enough to experience 10 – 15 7-Year cycles in our lifetime. This is less than a third of the 45 available spreads that we can live through. And since cards that influence a longer period of time have more power in our life, the first 10-15 7-Year spreads must be considered to be very significant, but especially the first 7 of these 7-Year spreads since they influence the greater portion of our active life. Therefore a Birth Card which has very fortunate spreads for the Ages 0 – 7 will have an advantage. Take the 10♦ above, for example. The first seven years of life are spent in the Crown Line with a 7-Year Displacement Card of the 10♦. Then again, from ages 21 – 26, the 10♦ person finds themselves having another seven years in the Crown Line, this time, in the Pinnacle position! And these are not yearly spreads, these are periods of seven years we are talking about. Is there any doubt that just this alone would help 10♦ get the feeling that they can accomplish anything and usually be very successful?

Another example is the K♣ Birth Card. Though it does not sit in the Crown Line for seven years like the 10♦, their 7-Year spreads for ages 0 through ages 20 do have many instances of Long Range Cards in the Crown Line. What this could cause is many experiences of success while in school, which is exactly what happens to many K♣ people. Since these successes occur in the early years of life, it helps the K♣ person develop a sense of self-confidence in their mental and communication abilities.

It is patterns like these that contribute to the overall definition of our Birth Card. To my knowledge no one has performed an exhaustive examination of each Birth Card’s 45 spreads to tell the whole story of their lives. It would be a worthwhile project. Personally, I really enjoy
watching the weekly and 7-Week spreads roll by. Because they change so frequently, I get a chance to live a year in a week, so to speak. I especially enjoy watching what happens in a week or 7-Week period that matches a yearly spread I have already lived through. I like to compare what happened to me in both cycles to see the similarities. Sometimes the similarities are amazing, though the events occur much faster. When we look at the cards this way, it is sort of like biorhythms. Some of our 45 spreads will be more like ‘up’ cycles while others will be more like ‘down’ cycles. Though the yearly spread may be a down cycle, we may experience several very up weekly and 7-Week cycles during this year that help modify the overall indications and make the year more pleasant.

Even though your Yearly Spread for age 50 will be virtually the same as the one you had at Age 5, the other spreads that influence you at Age 50, such as the 7-Year, 7-Week and Weekly, will be different. Thus, your Age 50 year will not be the same as your Age 5, though there undoubtedly will be some similarities from your personal perspective.

My Favorite Celebrity Birthday Sites

http://www.metamaze.com/

This site has a great database, easy to search.

http://us.imdb.com/

The movie database of databases, with more actor, actress and other movie-related birthdays than any!

http://astrodatabank.com/

Lois Rodden’s database site. She doesn’t have that many listed for free but does show their entire birth chart there and tends to put up people who are in the news.

http://historynut.terrashare.com/indexhis.html

Dave’s celebrity birthdays and other fun information. A lot of birthdays!

http://www.birthdayfinder.com/

Locate the birthday of many celebrities just by typing in their name.
From the July, 2001 Newsletter

52 Cards will Tell You The Truth!

Whenever I am faced with a situation where what someone says conflicts with what I know about the cards, I always believe the cards first. To date, they have never lied to me. This information has been helpful in so many ways, with clients and with my personal life. Let me give you a few good examples to illustrate what I mean.

The first example is one that has occurred many times while giving a reading. I will be reading for a client who is a Three or a Five or some other card that is what I consider highly ‘unmarriageable’ (see Love Cards, page 329). An important part of the readings I give is to illuminate for the person just what their Birth and Planetary Ruling Cards reveal about their personality and karma for this lifetime. Often with one of these people I will say something like, “Commitment is something you have trouble with” or “You have a short attention span when it comes to love,” or some other comment to indicate their trouble with long-term commitment in love relationships. This is all fine and good but invariably I meet someone who says, “No, that is not me at all. I am very committed.” This is where the cards come in to help me. I learned early on that there is a principle that applies to relationships and other areas that is very important in these cases. It goes like this: When it comes to card traits, or astrological traits for that matter, we either act them out ourselves or we pick a partner who does. So, now, when I get a client who denies having those characteristics at all, and believe me, they are very convinced they do not have them, I ask them about their partners. I will say something like, “Have you ever been with someone who is like that?” Invariably the answer comes back a resounding yes. Usually the person will go on to describe how all of their significant relationships have been with people who were unmarriageable.

I call this the ‘mirroring quality’ of relationships and when you start using the card system you will find this is very common. In this situation, the person themselves have these unmarriageable qualities. There is no doubt about it. However, for one reason or another they have chosen not to express these. Usually they have stuffed them down. There can be many reasons for this such as childhood influences and the like. But for whatever reason, this person has evolved into a place where they are in pretty much denial about having those qualities. And whenever this is the case, the universe arranges things in such a way that they will be most attracted to relationships with those who are acting them out.

This goes to the heart of what relationship is really about on a spiritual level. One of the most important things a relationship does is help us see qualities, within ourselves, that we have ignored or run away from. And it seems funny to realize how we are most attracted those who possess these so-called ‘negative traits.’ This is not a conscious process for most people. It happens on an energetic level. Few people actually analyze their attractions. For the most part we just follow them. But beneath our attractions are strong spiritual forces at work, forces designed to help us see ourselves and expand our vision of who we are. The cards are a tool that helps make this dynamic more plausible and real. When we see that our card has such-and-such traits and those traits are the ones found in most of the relationships we have been in, we begin to question our own self-image. This is a powerful process that leads to higher self-awareness and later, self-acceptance.

Here is another good example of how the cards can reveal the truth. A client of mine recently asked me, “Why does my brother hate me so much?” I got the brother’s birthday and looked at the connections between them. It turned out that the brother was my client’s direct Mars card in the Life Spread. However, my client’s cards were not in her brother’s spreads at all. What this
told me is that the brother made my client mad, but not vice versa. This is an important principle that the cards reveal. When someone is our Mars card in the Life Spread, they make us angry, but not vice versa. Our Mars card can represent all the things that we dislike about ourselves. When we see someone who is that card, we see them glorifying those qualities which we do not approve of in ourselves. This usually makes us angry. Since it is we that are angry, it is also we who bear the greatest responsibility for how the relationship goes. So, I told my client, “He doesn’t hate you, you hate him.” She balked at this comment at first. Then I talked to her a bit about their relationship. Soon, it became evident that this was entirely true. However, it was hard to ferret out because one of my client’s personal significators was a Nine. People who have a Nine as Birth Card or Planetary Ruling Card are often what we call ‘passive-aggressive.’ When they get angry with someone, they do not show it or act out angrily. Instead they play games like ‘take away’ and escape. They will retreat into denying their participation as a way of getting back at the person who made them angry. And, on top of this, they often feel that they are the victims of any situations they are in. Thus, if we take these two factors together, it would be hard for one of these Nine people to realize that they even get angry at all if they are passive-aggressive and victim-oriented. This was the case with my client but after further discussion she saw her own part of the dynamic with her brother. What is really great about these sorts of discussions in a reading is that when a person gets to see their own role in a situation like this, they get their power back and immediately feel better about it. They go from blaming others to taking responsibility and this always has a positive effect immediately.

Thus, the cards came through again. But I have one more example that occurs frequently. This happens between two people, one of which is the direct or vertical Saturn card in the other’s Life Spread. When we meet our Saturn card, we are meeting our critic. I was recently at a social gathering where we were doing some chanting. I led a chant, one I had learned years ago. At the conclusion of the chanting a young woman approached me and said, “I think you got the words to that chant wrong.” She looked at me very seriously as though this was something of great importance for me to see. She then presented her case about that and I then explained where the chant came from, etc. and she was satisfied with my answer and went on. I immediately thought to myself, ‘she must be a 7♣, my Saturn Card.’ Later that evening I asked her what her birthday was and sure enough she was a 7♣. This is all well and good and this is how most Saturn connections relationships play themselves out. The Saturn person feels compelled to help the other by pointing out their deficiencies. But there are cases when you will find a person who is acting like the Saturn person when just the opposite is true.

I have seen this dynamic many times and I am sure if you pay attention you will too. What happens is that a person meets someone who is their direct or vertical Saturn card in the Life Spread (these are the ones most likely to be our critic). But instead of being criticized by them, these people seem to want to criticize their Saturn card instead. The first few times I saw this, I checked to see if this person was also some Saturn influence to the other. But I discovered that no, it was only Saturn to them, not the other way around. ‘What is going on here?’ I asked myself. This seems backwards. No, it is backwards! But I refused to believe that the cards were wrong. Everything in me told me something was up. After seeing this a few times the exact thing happened to me. I met a 7♣ person and I saw myself criticizing them. I saw myself using the word ‘should’ in reference to them a lot and exhibiting all the other Saturn-like behaviors. But since it was happening to me, I got the chance to explore it deeper. I searched my feelings about this person to see what was going on and then it dawned on me. I was criticizing them because I thought that this would prevent them from criticizing me. And I didn’t think they would criticize me because they were my Saturn card. I just felt it inside. I believe there is a part of each of us that always knows when we meet someone. We always know what is their real role in our life, what they are here to show us. But we may choose to avoid the lesson they bring us. I could see
that in my case, I was using attack as a defense. And later, as this same dynamic appeared in many of my clients, I got the opportunity to check it out. It was the same in each case. Using attack as a defense is a way of avoiding the lesson. But once I saw that I was doing this, I made a conscious choice to stop doing it and face whatever was there. I have encouraged many of my clients to do the very same.

There have been many other examples, too, examples like when a person is involved with a Jack who doesn’t have any idea that the Jack person is completely lying to them. When I suggest it, they balk. But later, it turns out to be true. Are people this easy to figure out? Perhaps we are. Therefore, the cards have not lied to me yet. And they continue to amaze me, even after 12 years of using them, teaching and writing about them. I am always excited when I meet someone new and find out their birthday. And when, in conversation with them, it appears that their life does not match up with the cards, I always trust the cards first.

Choices, Choices

I have written about the power of choices before. But today I got a deeper insight into it and felt a strong inclination to share these insights with my readers. I think this information is profound and I have no doubt that it could change a person’s life. It has mine.

I was sitting in meditation this morning and I was feeling very connected – connected to God, to my higher self, to everything really that is loving, pure, abundant and kind. I was vibrating at a higher level and enjoying my experience, which I call ‘being in the heart of God’. During those times I will often see things in my life much differently. Looking at my life from that vantage point gives me much different insights and ideas than my normal, waking consciousness. I realized that my normal state of mind is somewhat agitated, fearful, stressful and confused. I am much more aware of this now than I was even ten years ago, one of the benefits of having lived for more than 47 years. Just being able to see more clearly how my normal state of mind and emotions are is a great benefit. It gives me perspective that I didn’t have earlier in my life, a perspective that allows me to more or less be the witness of what I am doing, thinking and saying instead of just being completely wrapped up in my own drama. So now I appreciate these moments of clarity and peace much more when they come. And they are coming all the more frequently lately because I have asked for them.

It dawned on me this morning that everything we are today is a result of our choices in our past. I thought about it and saw that even when events present themselves which we would consider unforeseen, even then, we always had the power to accept or reject them. I do not believe that most of us today live with the realization that it is our choices that create our lives. But this is an extremely important perspective. It brings power to an individual to see life this way. And it doesn’t really take much to see the truth in it. If someone is aware of their thoughts, to just a small extent, they will see how they make choices almost continually.

I often hear people say, “I had to do it, I had no choice.” But this is never the truth. And if I take a moment to talk to them about it, they see the error in speaking this way. As an aside, another important factor in getting our personal power back is cleaning up speech patterns such as this. If we endeavor to say only that which is actually true about life or our own lives, it can have a profound effect upon us. But why, you say, is it untrue to say, “I had no choice?” Let’s give a common example of how this expression is used. Let’s say you are a parent and one of your children gets into trouble and needs $1,000 to get them out of some jam or mess they have gotten themselves into. I am talking about a pre-teen or teenage child here. You go and pay the $1,000 and say “I had no choice. That was my son who was in trouble.” Another example would be someone who joins the army. This person finds themselves on a battlefield and ends up killing three or four people in the heat of battle. They say, “I had no choice, it was my duty.” And a last
example would be a person who joins a religious organization which believes in not taking blood, even in an emergency. Let’s say their child gets hurt and needs blood but they will not allow it and the child dies. They say, “We had no choice. We must follow our doctrine.”

In each of these examples, the choice was made, but made before the actual event. And the choice made determined future choices. The parent in the first example, decided that, to be a good parent, it meant to be there for the child no matter what. Another parent may have chosen a different philosophy in relationship with their child, one that would allow the child to be more responsible for themselves. But because this particular parent adopted a certain parenting philosophy, they felt compelled to put up the $1,000, even though they may have not felt good about it at the time. The person who joins the armed forces is already making a choice to ‘kill on command.’ If you do not want to kill people, you should not choose the armed forces for an occupation. And choices in terms of religious groups can be even more encompassing. Many religious groups will dictate pretty much your entire lifestyle. When you choose to follow that group, you are taking on a lot of choices that will influence your life in many different kinds of situations.

In each situation, it would have been wise to consider the extent of the choice before it was made, but at no time was anyone without choice. Even after making a choice to join the army or join a religious cult, one can change their minds and alter their destiny. It will have consequences but it can be done. Therefore, it is a rare event for someone to be completely without choice. In practical terms, it never happens. Therefore, it is best to assume that we always have a choice and to begin to use this power consciously.

Another very important factor about making choices is the state of mind that we are in at the time. I was talking with a client recently who discovered his wife has been cheating on him. Part of him is committed to the truth. But he has another, equally strong part of his personality that is afraid of being abandoned or left all alone. And this created a huge inner conflict for him. He wanted to confront his wife with the facts of what he discovered about her. He even wanted to tell her that it really didn’t matter to him, that he loved her anyway. But his fear of losing her was causing his mind to come up with all sorts of reasons why he should not confront her. So, in this situation, he was faced with two opposing forces within himself, one of his desire to be and live in the truth and the other to keep his wife from leaving him. The main difference in these two forces is that one comes from fear and the other from love. The desire to live in the truth is a loving desire while the desire to keep his wife from leaving him was fraught with fear and trepidation. I never found out which choice he made about this situation. But I do know something – whichever choice he made about it is now creating his destiny. And, if he chose in favor of the fear-based motivation, I can guarantee you that he is now living in more fear as a result of it.

This is the principle that has helped me countless times in my life. I never make important choices when I am afraid. And the other side of that same principle is that I always trust choices I make when I am feeling safe, loved, whole and happy. If everyone alive today would only practice this one thing, much of the crime and conflict that exists today would suddenly end. But it is hard to not want to act when we are in a panic situation. Sometimes, we are just not strong enough to hold back until we feel better. Sometimes the fear is so great that it practically grabs us and makes us do something. For those times, we can forgive ourselves. No one is perfect. But this still leaves plenty of opportunities to make loving and happy choices for ourselves. If we utilize this principle when we can, our lives will gradually get better and better. I make my best choices in my morning meditation like I described at the beginning of this article. When I am connected like that, I know that what comes to mind is something good, and something that will lead to more good, both in my life and in the lives of those I touch.
The Six of Hearts

When we consider just how important our personal relationships are to our spiritual growth, we might just call the 6♥ the most powerful karmic card in the deck. All the Sixes are karmic in nature. But the 6♥ is the one that governs relationships. And it is in the area of relationship that we have the hardest time being conscious of ourselves. When the 6♥ appears in your spreads, your consciousness is probably going to increase in this area by a hundred-fold. Saturn is behind all of this. Saturn is the power behind all the Sixes. And since he is exalted in the sign of Libra, he takes special pleasure and care in directing us in the area of our personal and professional relationships.

6♥ people know this more than anyone else. They have seen Saturn’s hand play itself out in their lives over and over again. They are under his constant guidance. There are 6♥ who are keenly aware of this and do almost anything to prevent hurting others or being thoughtless in their relationships. They will often go to extremes to avoid hurting others or being a part of something that hurts others. But like the other Sixes, there are the other kinds of 6♥ who are learning Saturn’s lessons the hard way. They are the ones who arrived here with habitual carelessness in their relationships, and habitual disregard towards the feelings of others. For them, it may take an entire lifetime of painful relationships to wake up to their responsibility in the area of love. The J♠ Mars card in the Life Spread of the 6♥ doesn’t help this process. And especially for Scorpio 6♥ (October 29th), it presents a powerful challenge since that is their first Planetary Ruling Card. The J♠ wants nothing more than to have fun but at the same time tends to use all of its creative resourcefulness to avoid any responsibility. Remember that it is the ‘Jack of Jacks.’ Though it also represents a desire for spiritual initiation, in practice we find a lot of self-deception among 6♥ people on its account. But at its core it represents an avoidance of responsibility. This is an issue that all Jacks share to one degree or the other. But for a Six, this presents a special situation and challenge since Six is the number of responsibility. And it is the 6♥, among all the other Sixes, that has the greatest challenge in being responsible.

Other cards enjoy the influence of the 6♥ in their Life Spread and we all enjoy it at one time or another in our yearly, weekly, or seven-year spreads, etc. Both the K♥ and 3♣ have the 6♥ in Venus. The K♥ has it as the direct card with a 3♥ vertical. This 6♥ in Venus makes K♥ people very competitive in their relationships. However it also causes events to unfold in such a way that cause them to suffer whatever pain they cause others. The same holds true for the 3♣. And in this case the 6♥ is the vertical card with the 9♥ as the direct card. It is interesting how both Birth Cards that have the 6♥ in Venus have another Heart card accompanying it. And in both cases, the other Heart card is an odd-numbered, problem-some card. The 3♣ does not escape any love karma either. And the 9♥/6♥ combination guarantees at least one significant relationship will be lost through their own carelessness or thoughtlessness.

The 2♥ person has the 6♥ in Mars, along with the 9♣ who has it as the vertical Mars card. Mars is considered the lesser malefic planet. And having a Six in Mars can be a very sharp double-edged sword. Aggressiveness is not tolerated by a Six in Mars. Punishment will be forthcoming for any aggressive transgressions in matters of love.

But the card that has the greatest 6♥ burden is the 9♣. They have the 6♥ as their Life Spread Saturn card. And what is very interesting about this is that they are also the only card to have the 2♥ in Venus (direct). The 2♥ in Venus is possibly the best card there is as far as romantic fulfillment goes. But they also have the Q♥ as their first Karma Card. This is another warning, much like the 6♥ in Saturn, to not let their passions get the better of them. So, the 9♣ has both the highest potential but the greatest warning in terms of their love life. I have often written
about how the 9♣ is the sexiest card in the deck. Sex to them is often like food, something they need every day. But they must be more careful than any other card to not allow their passions to cloud their responsibility in their relationships. The 6♥ in Saturn promises quick and harsh punishment.

But beyond that, the 6♥ in Saturn promises a certain number of difficult karmic relationships. Ask any 9♣ you meet about this. Though there will be some variation on the matter, all will agree that there have been some fated aspects to their relationships, aspects that are more or less on the harsh side rather than the loving, happy side.

When any of us get the 6♥ in our yearly or other spreads, take heed. Especially if this 6♥ falls in Mars or Saturn, or as the Pluto or Displacement Card for the year. These positions tend to be the ones that bring out the more negative manifestations of the cards, all to teach us of course, but we may not enjoy their effects until they have passed. I have noticed how the 6♥ showing up in a significant position like this is often accompanied by a significant transit of the planet Saturn in our natal chart. For example, I displaced the 6♥ this year and had Saturn conjunct my Venus most of that time. The 6♥ itself can be considered a Saturn(6)/Venus(♥) influence. Whenever the planet Saturn moves through our natal 5th or 7th house, astrologically, or aspects our Venus, we may also get the 6♥ card in our spreads. The 5th and 7th houses are both about relationships, just different emphasis. The reverse is also true and it is a good one to look for if you are in the habit of comparing the cards with astrology. I remember I had a 6♥ in Saturn the year that Saturn went through my 5th house. It brought another karmic relationship.

The 6♥ always brings lessons in love. We may not like the lessons being presented because they are not usually fun or happy experiences. Usually a relationship is involved, and one in which we tend to blame the other for what is going on. The relationship rarely lasts very long but is often powerful and leaves an enduring mark upon us. The net result is that our conscious awareness has grown in the area of personal responsibility in relationships. The actual drama can unfold in many different ways and really is not that important. What is important is what we learn about ourselves and how much we see. The 6♥ can be a very important mirror in our relationship evolution. The intensity of the experiences it brings will depend on how far off we are in our perception of ourselves and our behavior. Once we get past the blaming stage with whoever is in our life, the real progress begins and the 6♥ can be the signpost of a time in our life when great progress was made in this important area.

The Power of the Open Heart

It is our heart that holds all the answers to our questions. It is our heart that holds the power to heal all our wounds and to elevate our consciousness to a place where we see the truth of our human existence. And when our heart is fully opened, our entire world looks better. We have tasted some of this power and majesty when we have fallen in love with someone. That state of falling in love, at least in the beginning, is a stage of our heart opening up. And in that magical place our entire world looks different. It looks like heaven on earth instead of the normal hell that we experience. Though our minds are also very important while living on this earth plane, the role of the mind is nothing compared with the heart. With an open heart, miracles occur every day and even every moment. The mind itself benefits tremendously from having an open heart. My teacher used to say that “true knowledge flows from an open heart into a still mind.” This describes an experience that occurs when our heart is opened up – our mind slows down and begins to see the truth of this world in a way that never occurs while in the goal-oriented mode that we spend nearly all of our time in. As a matter of fact, when our heart is really open, our need to think about things is very little, if at all. The sense of contentment that arises from an
open heart fulfills whatever it is that normally keeps us thinking and thinking of what we need or should do at each moment. Therefore, the mind slows down and our perception opens up. When perception increases in this manner, we begin to see many things that only a still mind can perceive. This is just a small part of the magic of the open heart.

Finally, when the heart center opens, we transcend duality. This is something that has been known by yogis for eons. What I mean by transcend duality is that we no longer seek pleasure and avoid pain. The right and wrong, good and bad, pleasurable and painful, dark and light, male and female and other polarities found in our world no longer affect us. With an open heart we are connected to God’s heart and have little need for the fear-based patterns of behavior that normally drive us. We rise above duality in a way that is like the cream that rises to the top of the milk or the lotus blossom that sits upon the water but is not in it. As I mentioned earlier we have glimpsed this if we have fallen in love before. But this was just a small taste of what is available to us. And also, this experience of an open heart was very limited in that it was dependent upon someone else. The minute this other person did or said things that conflicted with our romantic dream of them, the very dream that caused our heart to open, we feel very hurt, much more so that we would have normally. That pain is so great that we must immediately shut down our heart in order to bear it.

For many of us there have been many times we have opened our hearts only to have to slam it shut because of some painful experience that occurred. This is common in small children. Small children are, for the most part, very open hearted. And they take things that happen to them much more seriously than we might imagine. Being so open, they can be hurt very easily and the hurt is felt to be profound. And when a profound hurt occurs at such an early age, emotional patterns are formed, ones that stay with us the rest of our lives, if we do not take time to explore our feelings and root them out. And sadly, very few people actually do this sort of exploration. Neither our parents nor our society promotes exploring our feelings. It is not taught in school nor is there any reward given for being a feeling person. All rewards are bestowed upon those who are being smart or competitively successful in some field. No rewards are given for allowing your feelings to emerge or for feeling them at all. No wonder our society is so devoid of love.

So, we slam our feeling shut as small children and spend the bulk of our childhood with a closed heart, trying to do whatever it takes to get the approval of our parents and others. Then, when we grow up, we experience our heart opening again when we fall in love with someone, only to have to shut it down again because they hurt us. So, then we live our adult life completely shut down, heart-wise. For most people, this describes their life. And these people are the ones that Christ was referring to when he said, “Let the dead bury the dead.” These are the walking dead. The only solace for someone in this condition is sensual stimulation or some other form of emotional stimulation that is artificial, like watching a scary movie or bungee jumping. When we are very afraid, at least we feel alive again. But these artificial stimulants soon become addictive in nature. And most, if not all, addictions stem from being emotionally dead and finding something external that makes us feel alive again. This can be drugs, sex, eating, watching TV or a host of other things, all of which are readily available today through our society and the media. Everyone wants to feel alive again. All the commercials on TV show people who seem happy and alive. That is what they are selling us – life. But unfortunately, none of those products give life back. The promises that those advertisements make are wholly empty and meaningless. They are playing upon our desire to love and to be loved to sell us things. Once we have those things our life never changes to be like those people in the commercials. We are just sitting there, holding the product, as unhappy as before. We have become a society of consumers. We consume and consume but still cannot feel the life that we seek. That life only comes through opening up our hearts again.
So, how do we open our hearts? Are there books out there, classes, teachers or whatever that can help us? Is there a product we can buy that can open our hearts? The media would like us to think so but unfortunately that isn’t true. Only we can open our hearts. No amount of money can pay someone to do it for us. Perhaps this is why Jesus said that it is harder for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for a person to enter the kingdom of heaven. Going within is not something we have been trained or encouraged to do in our life. But, it is something that is inherent in all of us and any of us can do it if we decide to.

One place to start, and probably the most powerful and important place of all, is to get in touch with our pain. As a society we learn to avoid and escape from our pain at every step. So, this is not something that most people have any desire to do. But pain is an important feeling. And it is usually with us all the time and so is readily available. By entering into a conscious awareness, a relationship really, with our pain, we can begin to close the gap between us and our hearts. Allowing ourselves to feel our pain will begin to open our hearts. A lot of the pain we feel is the direct result of our being in conflict with reality. Our minds think one thing and life disagrees. That distance, between our minds and reality is one of the definitions of pain and suffering. When mental concepts fight with reality, reality always wins and pain in the mind is the result. Mental expectations are the culprits and pain is the direct result of unrealistic expectations. And what is real? Real is just what is. Real is the fact that your car broke down and will require $1,000 to fix, even though you don’t have the money. Real is the fact that you have to take medication to feel normal, or that you are desperately afraid of being left alone or betrayed by another. Real is actually the facts of the matter, what happens in life. And most of our pain is the direct result of how the things we think and expect in life conflict with what is really happening.

But hanging out with our pain and really allowing ourselves to feel it has a magical effect. By actually feeling our pain, we create a relationship with reality for the first time. Our pain, though caused by a misguided mind and thoughts, is real in the sense that it can be felt. If we just allow ourselves to experience it, we begin to move into reality – the now. Even if you do not know where your pain comes from, if you hang out with it long enough, it will teach you everything you need to know. The real problem with most of our society today is that they have avoided everything that will bring them the life they desperately seek. Experiencing pain is a direct way back.

Fear is another negative emotion that we tend to avoid at all costs. No one wants to be afraid. However, everyone actually is afraid. The amount of fear we have varies from person to person as does the things we are afraid of. Ultimately most of us are afraid of death, which is considered by many to be the root of all fears. But in practical terms you have your specific fears and I have my own unique set. We may share the same fear but ultimately everyone has a more or less unique combination of fears that make up their fear complex. Since everyone is afraid, you would think that we might have, as a society, owned up to it and just acknowledged it once and for all. But have we? No way! Everyone is still trying to act like they are fearless and stuffing down their fears the same way they stuff down their pain, anger and other negative emotions. We are a society of pretend people, pretending to be something that we saw on television or read about in a book and ignoring who we really are. No one wants to be afraid, weak, ugly, bad, evil, or anything in the negative side of life. But guess what? We all are. We are all the negative and the positive. But just hearing that statement isn’t going to change you or me. Each of us has to face the negative feelings we have if we are to ever get our hearts open again. That process is inevitable for us all. Someday we will all face the parts of ourselves that we run away from each day. But just when each of us will make that step is determined by a complex set of factors and conditions. Just as fruit on a tree will only be able to be eaten during the season of harvest, so each of us has our own season for coming back into our hearts.
Perhaps the fact that you are reading this is a signal that the time is near for you. Perhaps you have already tried all of society’s remedies and have discovered just how worthless and meaningless they are. Perhaps now, after exhausting all the external remedies for your pain and suffering and your feeling of being dead, you are ready to go the only place left to go – within. This is going to require some alone-time. This is going to require you to develop a new, more intimate relationship with yourself, one that you may not have ever had before. This is going to take some quality time with your feelings, which are directly connected to your heart, the source of all your happiness. You may have to spend hours, days, weeks or longer just hanging out with your pain, fear, unhappiness, self-loathing and other negative emotions in order to see what is on the other side. But I guarantee you that if you move in this direction, your prayers will be answered. As far as truly spiritual acts go, this sort of move is the highest that one can do. To go within is the greatest of all spiritual accomplishments, much more significant than any external achievement. And another beautiful thing about it is that whatever gains you make in this area can never be taken from you. Whatever progress you make in developing a relationship with your heart and your true inner self, these are your rightful good and will pass with you on into the future, whether that be a new chapter of life or a new rebirth following the end of this life.

The power that we have to connect with our heart is God-given but it must be consciously activated. It is there and has always been there but it takes a conscious decision to do it in order to make it happen. Everything we need to do it is right here, right now. No matter how much we have deadened ourselves by following society’s formula for success, we still have our feelings of pain and fear. And we can start with them to return to the open heart we were born with. The only question that remains is if we will do it and when. Now is all we have. So, what will you do?

From the September, 2001 Newsletter

Testing the Cards

Since the early days when I first learned about the science of the cards from Arne Lein, I began exploring different theories about the cards, the spreads, etc. to see if there were hidden secrets contained therein. And in the early days especially, many discoveries were made. When I look back at what was given to me and how much I discovered, I am amazed in a way of what came out of this system. Arne Lein taught me how to read the Grand Solar Spreads, gave me some descriptions of all the Birth Cards and only one page of three to four word interpretations for all the cards in the yearly spreads. It was so little in terms of card meanings it was as if I literally started with nothing. Now, there are pages of descriptions of every card in every possible position. There was no Pluto Card back then, no Cosmic Lesson or Reward Cards, no Environment or Displacement Cards, no Karma Cards or Karma Cousins, Cosmic Soul Twins, no PreBirth and Rebirth Years, no Pinnacle Year, no Most Blessed Year, and many of the other facets of this system that we are familiar with today. However, all those things were actually there, they just had not been distinguished. They were waiting to be discovered. I cannot take complete credit for these discoveries. Many of them came from my students who pointed them out to me during classes or just wrote me about them. However, in each case it was up to me to validate what was discovered. I was actually presented with many other theories that I ultimately rejected. Even some of my own theories I had to reject. Why, you may ask? Because they did not prove to hold up in real life.
If any theory about the cards is actually a true one, I feel it should meet two qualifications. First of all, it should make some sort of logical or theoretical sense based upon the basic foundations of this system, astrology or numerology. In other words, it should have some sort of theoretical basis that at least appears mathematically correct or that correlates to something that we know is a given in this card system. The second qualification is that the interpretation must prove to synchronize with people's actual experiences. And this is the most important qualification of all. Any theory about cards or astrology, should resonate with people's experiences, and not just some but all. Now, the way we interpret what we perceive can make us feel that something works or doesn't work. Each of us filters our experience through our mind and its library of past experiences. We label what we experience based upon our past for the most part. In any case, each of us will apply different labels and words to describe what happens to us, and these words may give different meanings to different people. Therefore, we may find ourselves at odds with some people when we go to describe our experience. But with a little closer examination we can get to the root of any experience and translate it into words that most of us can agree with. The point is to understand what really happened. Then we can see if our understanding corresponds to the meanings of the cards and the present theory we have about them. And this is where many card theories have met their demise - they just didn't hold up in real life.

One such theory for me is the card relationship theory that if we add together the solar values of two cards, we will get a third card that describes the relationship. When the sum of the two cards' solar values exceeds 52, we subtract 52 from the sum to get the solar value of our relationship card. This is something that you will still see printed and described in my Advanced Oracle Workbook. It was presented to me by a fellow card student about ten years ago. On the surface it seemed very logical and appeared to make sense. So much so that I put it in Advanced Oracle Workbook for my students to play around with. It offered a very easy method to do relationship readings, which could be a blessing since the method that I usually use is somewhat complicated. However, as I explored my relationship with different people and those of many of my clients, it just didn't make sense. To place interpretations upon one card that is supposed to define two people's relationship was challenging enough. And many have tried. But after I used it for six months or so, I just did not get any meaningful results from it and so I abandoned it. I also questioned the theory itself. In my mind, it may not be a method that produces accurate results. Who says that it is okay to add two cards' solar values together to begin with, and that that sum will somehow represent the complex mixture of two people in relationship? I am aware that many people swear by this method. To them it works and makes sense, but not to me.

I am familiar with several similar astrological methods that do yield accurate results. One is where each planet in two people's charts are compared as to their position. The point that lies half way between these two planets is found and placed upon a new chart. This is called a composite chart, and has proven to be extremely accurate for doing relationship readings, one of the most accurate I have found. Since a composite chart works so well, it would be reasonable to assume that something like this could be transferred into the card system. However, it would probably be something like this: take each card in two people's Life Spread, including their Birth Cards. Then, find a mid-point card that lies between these two cards to derive a new card for the relationship. In this scenario you would end up with an entirely new Life Spread, and one that would in most cases not correspond to a real Birth Card's Life Spread. However, this new spread might just accurately reflect how two people come together. One of the challenges in doing something like this is how to find a card that is the midpoint between two cards. Anyone who has tried this will discover some problems with doing this. And this is where many creative theories will be tried and tested as to their validity.
About 8 years ago, I was exploring the Grand Solar Spreads. I had just taken a trip to see my son who was a 7♦ but did not see that trip reflected in either my Birth Card or Planetary Ruling Card spread. Since that trip seemed so significant to me, I looked around the spreads for where it might show up. To my surprise, I found a 5♠ and 7♦ in that period, but in the spread of my first Karma Card. Wow! I thought, this must be something important and significant. Because it was so accurate at that time, it got me very excited. I even decided to include the option of using these spreads in my software program, The Book of Destiny for Windows. However, upon checking those spreads after that period, the cards that appeared did not make any sense, neither for me or for clients. So, I again abandoned using those spreads in my readings. I want only to have spreads that are consistently accurate and meaningful. In theory, these could work. But do they? I still look at these spreads from time to time and there may be other things about them that I do not know, things that cause them to be accurate only at certain times and not others. It deserves more exploration and research.

Another example is how to find a personal daily card that is meaningful. I tried and tested a host of methods, both my own and others. All of these theories held some logical basis for being accurate. One involved using the current yearly quadration and placing these 52 cards in each day of the first 52 days of our year and then repeating them for the seven, 52-day periods. This did not prove to be accurate. Then, I tested the solar value, much like what was mentioned earlier, but this time taking our Birth Card and adding its solar value to that of the card ruling each day of the year. This, of course, will yield the same personal daily cards each year. It did not prove to be accurate. I tried other methods as well, like using the spreads in Olney Richmond’s book and applying them to days of the year. None of these gave me accurate results. Finally, I began experimenting with using the same quadrations that the yearly spreads are derived from and just applying them to weeks. This produced some amazingly accurate results, and continues to do so. I get positive feedback about it on a regular basis. This is the technique used in my software, web site and on the personal daily calendars we sell.

There are many other theories by myself and others that are being tested right now. Just because you read what someone has written about the cards, and just because it appears logical, does not mean that it actually works or that it is true. You must be willing to withhold your judgment of any theory long enough to test it for yourself. If it is an accurate theory, it will work, not only for you, but for everyone else.

Even though you may be just starting out as a student of the cards, it is a good idea to continually test the cards for yourself. Do not just take my word on it. If these cards are accurate, they will be accurate for you. When they do not seem to match up, be willing to question them and also to delve deeper into their meanings. I found for myself and others that the main reason the cards do not show up to be accurate is that we do not fully understand their meanings. It is a good idea to focus on that aspect until you have a firm grasp upon each card’s essential meanings. The interpretations in my book are usually very accurate. But sometimes they are not because I have not written about every single way that card can show up in a certain position. It is up to you to get a working understanding of the language of symbols, planets and suits so that you can always know what a card can mean in your readings. Be willing to test what you use and what is presented to you. This may help you not waste valuable time on a theory that just doesn't work.

Olney Richmond’s book is called the Mystic Test Book and he explains its title saying that everything about the cards can be tested. We must always be willing to test our theories, on a continual basis. In this way, we insurst that our understanding of the cards continually grows.
Exploring the Planetary Ruling Cards

The more I use and study the Planetary Ruling Cards, the more I am convinced of their importance. Seeing just how important they are causes me to look into them for more information and to integrate them into what we know of the card system for further significance and usefulness. In this article I hope to shed some light upon the Planetary Ruling Cards and offer some new ways of using them.

First it is important to know how the PRC (Planetary Ruling Card) is derived. It is always a card in our Life Spread, and always the one card in our Life Spread that corresponds to the ruler of our Sun sign. To find out what is someone’s PRC, you need to know two things: The Sun sign of the person and their Life Spread cards. To get good at this you will have to memorize which planets rule which signs. For those who are unaware, here they are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sun Sign</th>
<th>Ruling Planet</th>
<th>Sun Sign</th>
<th>Ruling Planet</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aries</td>
<td>Mars</td>
<td>Scorpio</td>
<td>Mars/Pluto</td>
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<tr>
<td>Taurus/Libra</td>
<td>Venus</td>
<td>Sagittarius</td>
<td>Jupiter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gemini/Virgo</td>
<td>Mercury</td>
<td>Capricorn</td>
<td>Saturn</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cancer</td>
<td>Moon</td>
<td>Aquarius</td>
<td>Uranus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leo</td>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>Pisces</td>
<td>Neptune</td>
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Using the above table and your Love Cards or Destiny Cards book, you can find anyone’s PRC card without looking it up, as long as you know their Sun sign. Let’s say you know someone whose birthday is April 24th. This would be a Taurus 10♣ person. Since the planet Venus rules Taurus, this person’s PRC would be the Venus Card in their Life Spread. The Venus card in the Life Spread of the 10♣ is the K♠. Thus, this person’s PRC is the K♠.

It is very important when looking up a person’s PRC to know their Sun sign and especially when someone is born on or close to the cusp between signs. If there is any cause for doubt, always do a full natal chart to determine the exact degree of the Sun sign. A matter of minutes can be critical.

Special Cases

Because Scorpios have two ruling planets, they have two PRCs. It’s been my experience that most Scorpios operate from their Mars Card more than their Pluto, but you should always consider both when doing relationship readings. However, for yearly readings, I usually choose the Mars Card’s yearly spreads over the Pluto Card’s. Of course if the particular Scorpio person appears to be operating more from their Pluto Card, which can be the case, I would use the Pluto Card’s yearly spreads.

The PRC for Leos is the same as their Birth Card since the Sun Card in our Life Spread is our Birth Card. This causes Leos to have essentially a double Birth Card personality, or an enhanced Birth Card personality. This enhancement of the Birth Card in Leos tends to make them a dramatic version of their card, usually a more pronounced version since both of the influences, birth and PRC, have been unified or combined into one. Perhaps this is why Leos make such good performers and actresses, they can put themselves into a personality role with more conviction due to the strength of their identity.

What is the PRC? How is it different than the Birth Card?
At first I thought of the PRC as being something synonymous to the ascendant in our natal astrological chart, that is a set of characteristics that we tend to identify with on a personality level. And, as it turned out, this is a lot of what it is. Most of us tend to identify strongly with our PRC, sometimes more so than with our Birth Card. Every so often, I will meet someone who doesn’t relate much to the description of their Birth Card in my Love Cards book. When I have them read their PRC’s description, they usually say something like “That is a lot more like me” or “That is me!” Lately I am seeing that most of us strongly identify with our PRC on a personality basis. What I mean by that is that we see clearly how we act like that card, usually more than our Birth Card. But beneath our PRC’s characteristics, we are still our Birth Card. One way I like to explain these two is to say that our Birth Card is what we are doing here on the earth and our PRC is how we like to do it. I believe that further distinctions between these two cards will be found in the upcoming years, distinctions that will draw more conclusions as to how these two cards operate in relationships and how to take the yearly spreads of each and incorporate them into our lives.

Distinguishing between the two

At this point, I see these two as distinct aspects of our personality. For example, let’s say your birthday is 9/17, making you a 7♣ with a 5♦ PRC. The 7♣ reflects some distinct aspects of your total personality makeup. It may reflect an intellectual gift that you have, along with a tendency towards pessimistic thinking and a desire for recognition. These are all 7♣ traits. The 5♦ will reflect a strong restless streak, trouble with authority figures and commitment. When doing a relationship reading for a person born on this birthday, I consider the connections he or she has with their partner in this light. Connections from the 7♣ Birth Card to the other person’s cards would be how the 7♣ part of their personality interacts with the other person. The connections found using the 5♦ would tell me how this more restless part of his or her personality blends with the personality of his or her partner. This is a distinction that I haven’t made before, though it was there all along. In the yearly, daily or seven-year spreads, the same distinction applies. In my own example, my A♦ PRC’s yearly spread tells me what is going on in my life with that part of my personality, which is distinct from my Q♦ Birth Card’s yearly spread. Using this method, I am able to fine-tune my readings for others to tell what issues they are facing with the different aspects of their personality, whereas before, I just had these two spreads and no idea on how to integrate or combine their influences into a reading.

The Karma Cards of the PRC

One method I began using over a year ago is interpreting the Karma Cards of the PRC card while doing relationship readings. Though my software does not do this yet, those of you who are doing readings for others should be aware of them. I intermix the Karma Cards of the PRC into the reading just as readily as I do the Karma Cards of the Birth Card. They make a lot of sense. I began using this when I noticed that everyone I meet who has a 3♦ PRC, which is my first Karma Card, act just like they are a 3♦ person in relationship to me, that is they act as if I owe them something. Whether or not I really do owe them anything is not important. The fact that they act like I do is enough to have an impact upon my relationship with them. I think if you look at the PRC’s of people you know to see which are your first Karma Card, you will notice the same thing. Sometimes the effect seems even more pronounced, probably due to the fact that we tend to identify so strongly with our PRC. So, we can use the Karma Cards of our PRC(s) in relationship readings and this often reveals significant connections that were hidden before.
The Vertical PRC

Last but not least is the notion that some of us can have two PRC cards, a direct and a vertical one. In most cases our PRC is one of the direct cards in our Life Spread. Since we also have a vertical card, in Mercury through Neptune, we may have a vertical PRC that goes along with our direct one. And the combination of these two may shed even more light upon our personality and life. For example, if your birthday is June 10\textsuperscript{th}, you are a 7♦ Birth Card and a 5♠ PRC, which is the direct Mercury Card in the Life Spread of the 7♦. The vertical Mercury Card in the Life Spread of the 7♦ is the A♣. So we could say that for the June 10\textsuperscript{th} and September 4\textsuperscript{th} birthdays, both of which are 7♦ with the 5♠ PRC, the vertical PRC is the A♣. It remains to be seen if these individuals act like an A♣ as much as they do a 5♠, but this is a theory worth investigating. Using this theory, we would only have vertical PRCs for those who are Geminis, Virgos, Taurus, Libras, the Mars Card for Scorpios, Sagittarians, Capricorns, and Aquarians. Pisces people may or may not have a vertical PRC since there is not always a vertical Neptune card in their Life Spread.

The Limits of Knowledge

Knowledge, in its purest form, is information that is true and accurate. I remember the television series, Dragnet, where the officers would constantly have to remind witnesses they were questioning to 'just stick with the facts, ma'am'. In their job, the facts are all that is important. The best knowledge is factual knowledge. With factual knowledge details that are often important can be revealed and communicated. These details can make the difference in certain situations and sometimes the smallest details make the biggest difference of all. And for success in all material and mundane knowledge, factual information is a requirement. Without it, failure is sure to result as false assumptions are made which will inevitably cause conflict in the process. For example, if you are baking a cake from a recipe and you accidentally misread the amount of salt to use, you could make a cake that is too salty to eat, essentially ruining the whole thing.

Having accurate information is a key to success in most everything in our world today. Clubs know this more than any other suit because theirs is the suit of knowledge. The K♣ is the ideal person to study to understand the importance of knowledge. Most K♣ make sure they have the best information available. They have a natural knack for finding the best information and have developed skills that help them retrieve it from the people and situations that surround them. They pay close attention to details, too, because they know that it is often the smallest details that reveal something significant. The expression 'good things come in small packages' can aptly be applied to knowledge for often the smallest bit of information can make a huge difference in the outcome of a situation.

Our current society knows that information is important. We have gone so far as to glorify information and have exalted it to a high position in our world. Those who are the most educated, the most knowledge-oriented, are usually the ones who are most successful and the ones who receive the most acknowledgement. Even as children, we are rewarded for being 'smart'. And to some extent, that is how it works best. Even the cards support the notion that after the Hearts period of life, which usually goes till about age 13, we enter the Clubs period, which is all about education and the attainment of useful knowledge and skills to implement knowledge and information.
The internet is a living network of knowledge. With it, one can find out important information on nearly every subject. If you have a problem and need information, you can usually find it on the internet. The internet is like a living encyclopedia. Yet it has become so much more than that too. Through it, millions of us share our ideas, information, and opinions on a daily basis. It has decreased the need for a post office and allows those who previously could not keep in touch so readily to do so. But it is a tool of knowledge and information. And in that, it has its limitations.

We are in the information age. And information has become readily available. Its all there, if not through the internet, through the media in other forms. Here in America nearly everyone walks around with a cell phone. Even the cell phones have internet access now. Most of have access to instant information about nearly everything there is to know in life. And yet, we are still a very unhealthy, unconscious society. We eat and drink ourselves into oblivion and live our lives as if all this great information wasn't even there. Though we could easily find a book on how to have a better life, one whose guidance would certainly do the trick, most of us don't do it. If you or I go to the shopping mall on any Sunday and just look around you will see the current status of our society today. Most people are very unhappy and unhealthy, seeking material acquisition and recognition from others to find fulfillment.

So, knowledge has its limitations. Reading books on how to get fit will not replace the actual exercise itself. A menu can tell us what is available at a restaurant, a waitress or waiter can describe what a certain dish looks and tastes like, but none of this information can convey the taste of the food itself. One bite full would replace thousands of words. This brings us to an important point - one small experience is worth a ton of knowledge. The other side of this is that all the information in the world cannot replace experience.

A few years back I learned to fly. Flying today is an information-intensive experience. No one who has a desire to get a Private Pilot's license should do so unless they are prepared to acquire a whole new universe of information. Flying even has its own vocabulary and spoken language, and both must be mastered. There are tons of books, tapes, courses and teachers out there to teach us how to fly and there are a lot of books that you simply must read and comprehend if you are to get certified as a pilot. But none of the knowledge from any of those books is any guarantee that you will actually ever be able to fly a plane. Flying a plane has been analyzed right down to the smallest nuance. Every mathematical and physical factor and consideration of both the pilot and the aircraft has been considered, discussed, theorized, examined, verified, tested and approved. There is little, if anything, left that is not understood, on an intellectual level, about how it works and why. But none of that information will help you fly a plane when you are sitting in the cockpit. The only way to really learn to fly a plane is to get in one and do it. And everyone who learns to fly has to do just that - get in the plane and fly. There will be an instructor there with them who will patiently wait for them to 'get it'. The instructor will demonstrate it, describe it and encourage the student to do the right thing. But until the student does it enough and masters it energetically, he or she will not learn to fly. And interesting enough, in the pilot community, your worth as a pilot is always judged on how many hours you have flown. A pilot's very sense of value can equate to how many hours they have flown. All pilots know that it is the experience of flying that counts. If you had a choice to fly with a person who had a Harvard degree and 20 hours flying and a person who never attended college who had flown for 1,000 hours, which would you pick?

And this is how it is with most of the important things in life. We learn from experience, not from knowledge that was provided. A lot of the knowledge that is available today is descriptions of things by people who actually did experience them. If the knowledge is good, it can prepare us to take that leap into experience. And the leap we must take is from our mind to our heart. As soon as we decide to experience something, we must leave our mind at the door. We can always
pick it up on the way out of the experience (Our mind just cannot wait to talk about what just happened).

Maybe its because the head is higher than the heart that we mistakenly believe that thinking and knowledge are superior to experience. The head must in some ways be like the Crown Line in the Grand Solar Spread, the cards that look down upon the rest of the deck. Some Crown Line people tend to have the attitude that they are superior to the rest of the world because of their lofty position. But regardless of what the mind thinks, the heart is where we experience and feel things. And these feelings and experiences are essential for life. The mind actually needs the heart. Without the heart, the mind is deprived of invaluable experience that fills in the gaps in its knowledge. My guru used to tell us about the value of mediation by saying "True knowledge flows from the open heart into the still mind". What is implied here is not only that we get the best knowledge from our heart, but that only a calm mind can receive it.

Even the best knowledge in the world must be applied before it produces a positive result. In other words, it must be put into practice. Just having read the answer to a question does not guarantee that one will actually use that information where it counts most. A number of years back two of my best friends attended a weekend seminar on how to buy real estate with no money down. They returned from this workshop very inspired and excited. They had two huge spiral notebooks full of information on exactly how to do it. And they had paid nearly $700 to hear the master of this technique show them how to do it. I noticed that they also had one small book that had been given to them called No Money Down. I took note of the author’s name and went down to the local bookstore and bought it. I paid about $8 for that book and when I read it, I became inspired to do it too. Six months later I owned three apartment buildings which I had purchased using the techniques in that $8 book. Neither one of my friends ever bought their first property, though they had paid a hundred times that much for the same information. That information helped me make over $100,000 in the next two years.

Spiritual teachers know better than anyone the limitations of knowledge. It’s the old, 'how to describe something that cannot be described' problem. A true teacher has a greater interest in our growth and development than on lecturing day in and day out. Sometimes words can help the students, with their thousands of questions. What they need is to experience something. Often the best teachers are those who mostly keep silent and whose words only help propel the student into finding the answers in their heart.

Ultimately life is only experience, one that is constantly changing. Yes, it can be described. But even upon description, life often changes or evolves into something new. The only way to have the best knowledge is to be in the here and now, where the leading edge of life is flowing. The moment we stop experiencing things in our life is the moment we become disconnected. At that moment our knowledge becomes old and less valuable, like yesterday's newspaper. Therefore it should be every student's goal to not just read, listen and learn as much as they can, but also to stay aware of themselves moment by moment. Just the simple knowledge of how we are doing in the present moment can be very exciting. Watching what is going on around us and how our heart responds to it can be enlightening. And many spiritual teachers suggest that being in the moment that way is all there really is to the whole spiritual path.

The Bible and many other spiritual teachings agree that we must go within to find the true answers to life. This 'going within' means nothing more than experiencing things. If you want to know yourself, get familiar with what you experience and how you experience it. This will require you to feel, something that most people avoid. But a session of deep feeling can answer a thousand questions about ourselves and the true nature of the universe. Once we start turning within we are usually amazed and delighted at what we find. And the search within can become an exciting and delightful exploration of self, the revealing of our own personal mystery. Through it we can find the life that we sought after in the world outside us.
Astrological Update

As we begin September we have Jupiter, the most beneficial planet, in the sign of Cancer. First Geminis benefited from his passage through their sign earlier this year and now Cancers can receive Jupiter’s blessings. Jupiter promises new beginnings that are of the fortunate variety, those which tend to bring more good fortune if followed. Scorpios and Pisces also benefit from Jupiter being in Cancer, though not as much as a Cancer person.

Geminis, who recently benefited from Jupiter’s passage through their Sun sign, are now dealing with Saturn. He is stationed at about 13 degrees of Gemini and opposing Pluto in Sagittarius. These two powerful planets in opposition to each other can create some fairly intense situations in the lives whose natal planets they touch. This definitely means Geminis, Virgos, Pisces and Sagittarians who were born between the 1st and 5th of their birth months. Health matters and challenges in other areas are to be expected, depending upon the house position of their Sun sign. Saturn and Pluto in negative aspect to each other has been considered one of the worst astrological aspects there is. Businesses formed between now and the end of November of this year will have this negative aspect, which usually spells doom for any entity with it in the birth chart. There are some days, however, when the Sun or other planets make a good aspect to this opposition and can mitigate its powerful negative effect.

Pluto is about halfway through Sagittarius. Some astrologers consider Pluto conjunctions to be negative but this has not been my experience at all. Pluto conjuncting the Sun brings a huge burst of energy in which a person can change their entire life, if they choose to. The transformation is big but doesn’t have to be an all out death and rebirth. Usually a person just feels inspired to make positive changes in their life. Sagittarians born after December 3rd or so are either experiencing this powerful effect now or will in the near future. As mentioned earlier though, Saturn, in the opposing sign of Gemini, is making this transformation more difficult than it normally would be. But this will not affect every single Sagittarian birthday. Pluto will continue in this way with Sagittarians until sometime in 2009 when it enters the sign of Capricorn and begins its work on them.

Both Uranus and Neptune are in the sign of Aquarius and will be for some time to come. Neptune is around 6 degrees as I write this and has been affecting Aquarians, Scorpios, Tauruses, and Leos whose birthdays fall around the 26th - 29th of the month. This can be a confusing time but it has the ultimate goal of helping them let go of old identities to make room for a new self to emerge afterwards. Neptune will slowly move forward, eventually affecting all birthdays of these signs. Aquarians get the best part of it since Neptune is or will be conjuncting their Sun, which is not considered to be difficult compared to the squares and oppositions the other fixed signs will endure.

Uranus is currently at 22 degrees of Aquarius, affecting the same signs just mentioned but those born between the 11th and 15th of their respective birth months. Uranus is helping the Aquarians truly remake their lives with a burst of positive energy to be themselves and to let go of any shackles that may be binding them to a less than ideal life. But for the other fixed signs, Uranus causes unexpected events, sometimes cataclysmic in nature, that help to dislodge old identities and attachments that are holding them back. It was Uranus opposing my natal Pluto at 21 degrees of Leo last year that corresponded to my crashing a private airplane and ending, at least for now, my flying career. Uranus is not to be underestimated, especially when making a square or opposition to some planet in our natal chart.
From the November, 2001 Newsletter

The Most Powerful Suit

In the Destiny Cards system Hearts are the first suit and Hearts represent children and the first stages of life. Traditionally we give the most power to the Spades suit and all of our talk about the Hearts suit seems to put it on the bottom of the totem pole. From many points of view it is. But when we consider the fact that for most of us the most difficult challenges in this lifetime are about our emotions and relationships, we get a new slant on the Hearts suit. Maybe it is the most powerful suit of all!

In the Vedic culture they tell us we have seven Chakras, or energy centers, in the body. The first four deal with the material world and the last three go beyond it. The 4th Chakra is the Heart Chakra. When that energy center awakens, we experience complete unconditional love. And when that experience happens to a person, they transcend the world of duality. They no longer have any desires for anything and see only love everywhere they look. No amount of words can describe the experience of having your heart open completely. I have experienced it a couple of times and it exceeds anything else this life on earth can provide. Nothing is missing or out of place. Everything is love and everything is perfect and we are simply and completely surrounded by God’s love.

This underscores the importance of the Heart center and of the Hearts suit. If we could fully awaken our heart, our love center, we would get everything we ever wanted from life and at the same time lose all attachment to it. The highest love is unconditional love, the love that never demands or desires anything in return. But to get to this profound state of love, we must first acknowledge our limitations in this area. Relationships are the most potent vehicle to get us in touch with our heart and its condition. And the suit of Hearts rules this important area.

People whose Birth Card or Planetary Ruling Card is a Heart know very well the importance of love. Some make it their life’s occupation. And from these Hearts the Clubs, Diamonds and Spades can learn a great deal. The Clubs can learn to get out of their minds and back into their feelings. Even though Clubs spend most of their time in their heads, they still need love as we all do. Hearts can show them that knowledge alone cannot take the place of love in your heart. Even the love of knowledge cannot make up for the love that two people can share.

The suit of Hearts represents one’s childhood, the first years of the life. It is well known that in the first years of our life our personality is formed, for better or worse. The influence of our family and childhood is carried with us throughout this life. And in all the thousands of readings I have done, problems in relationships are mostly traced back to events that occurred in the person’s Heart period of life. In childhood we are meant to be given what will become the foundation of all the other things in our life, self-love. If our parents love us and give us a healthy picture of who we are, we are more likely to have a fulfilling life and to attract good things to us in later years. So, in many ways, our childhood is the foundation upon which the rest of our life is formed. If the foundation is weak, we cannot build a strong nurturing, loving relationship.

We might say that no matter what our suit, we are all seeking self-love. The Clubs may do it through becoming smart and attaining some special or important knowledge. The Diamonds may do it through acquiring money and possessions of great worth. And the Spades may do it through the perfection of their work. But what lies underneath these attainments? - A desire to feel good about ourselves. And each of the suits will use these elements to escape from the lack of self-love. The Clubs will escape into mental pursuits such as reading, study and communication, the
Diamonds into acquisition of material things, and the Spades into their work and health concerns. Without our connection to love, our suit can be the means of our escape. And most of us in our country have well learned how to escape from their feelings, of which the Hearts symbolize. Even people who are Hearts will escape - into relationships and sex, two areas that are most represented by their suit.

So, we find that the suit of Hearts may be the most important suit of all. Without self-love, which is what is at the heart of this suit, all other accomplishments are meaningless. When we use expressions such as “At the heart of the matter” and “Heart-felt desire” what are we really talking about? I think if we look carefully we may find that our hearts are really the center of our being, and everything important in our life. For this reason, those who are Hearts can help the rest of us to get back to our center. Have you noticed just how much harder it is to have a successful relationship than to attain prosperity or success? As Jesus said, “It is harder for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for a man (or woman) to enter the kingdom of Heaven”. And where is the kingdom of Heaven? - Within our hearts.

Patterns in the Life Spreads
By Theresa Green with Robert Lee Camp

During Robert's workshop in Newport Beach last month, I started noticing that every card number has a pattern that shows up in the Life Spreads of all the cards of that number. I am still looking at these patterns and using them to go deeper into the meaning of each number. Most of these patterns involve the Mars and Jupiter cards in the Life Spread of each card. So, when we look at these Mars and Jupiter card patterns, we see just how well or in what fashion each of the cards expresses their aggressive or passionate energy, as well as the spiritual gifts in their lives. Mars rules our work or occupation, since activity comes from our passion. Mars is the God of action, war, passion, sex and competition. Many of these elements are found in our work. Thus these patterns often reveal choices of occupation. Jupiter reveals a lot about our spirituality and gifts we will receive in this lifetime.

Starting with the Aces, the A♥, A♣ and A♠ have a Five for their Mars card and the A♦ has a 3♣. One of the Karma Cards for the 3♣ is the 5♦, by the way, making it like another Five. As we know, Aces are restless and impatient so it makes sense that a Five or a Three would appear so strongly in their life spread. Aces like to have freedom in their jobs and space to be creative, which are Five expressions. Also, the A♥, A♣ and A♦ have a Three in Jupiter, the A♠ has the fixed J♥. Since Jupiter gives us the more positive expression of the card, the Aces are gifted with a lot of creative energy and versatility. They also like variety in their spiritual life, for example worshipping both Buddha and Christ.

Moving on to the Twos, the 2♥, 2♦, and 2♠ have a Six as their Mars card, the 2♣ has a four. This could be a contributing factor as to why the Twos are good in partnerships and may also have a destined kind of work. It could also make them stay long in a job that they don't like because most Sixes need to be extremely uncomfortable before they will move on. Also the 2♥, 2♠ and 2♦ have a Four in Jupiter, the 2♣ has the Q♥ in Jupiter. Having two even numbered cards in such powerful positions in their life spread gives the Twos much stability and consistency in their relationships and their lives. They are among the most materially fortunate cards in the deck.

It is interesting when we come to the Threes because the pattern varies a little bit, only two of the four threes have a common Mars card. The 3♦ and 3♣ have a Seven for their Mars card. This can mean that they are confronted with the need to have faith regarding what kind of work they are doing, sometimes having to forgo the safety of a paycheck every week in order to do the
work they love. These same Sevens cause many other challenges in work and also acts as a warning for the Threes to be careful in legal and other competitive activities. The 3♥, 3♦ and 3♣ have a Five as their Jupiter card, the 3♠ has the Q♠ in Jupiter. This gives the Threes a sense of restlessness for spiritual truth and the need to search for inner peace. The Five in Jupiter may also bring success through travel and changes in business. (You may also noticed that most odd numbered cards have several odd numbered cards in their life spread and the even numbers have more even numbered cards in their life spreads.)

The 4♥, 4♦ and 4♣ have an eight for their Mars card; the 4♦ has the 6♦. This could be why the Fours can have a tendency to be controlling and overpowering when they are angry. They are a force to be reckoned with in any legal or competitive activity. The 4♦ has a tendency to say things that will back fire on them later. They do not fare as well as the other Fours in legal matters. These same Eights make the Fours hard workers and generally successful in what they do. The 4♥, 4♦ and 4♣ have a Six in Jupiter, the 4♠ has an A♥. This can mean that the Fours are gifted with some intuitive abilities as well as good karma spiritually and financially. This also suggests that their success often comes from staying with the same job or business and developing it rather than changing it like the Threes will do.

The 5♥, 5♦ and 5♣ have a nine in Mars, the 5♠ has the 7♥. This could mean that the Fives are here to let go of their need to control and to trust in a higher power. What else is interesting here is that all four Fives have an eight in the spiritual spread in Mars which means they have power from a past life and the Nine in the Life Spread means they need to let it go. Also the 5♥, 5♦ and 5♣ have a Seven in Jupiter, which signifies a need to get more aligned with their spiritual path and use the gift of Faith that comes so naturally to them. They all four have a Nine in the Spiritual spread in Jupiter.

The Sixes all have powerful cards in Mars. The 6♦ and 6♣ have a Ten, the 6♥ has the J♠ and the 6♠ has an 8♦. This gives the Sixes a lot of power and since they all have a Nine in their Spiritual Spreads in Mars, they need to let go of the past way of expressing themselves and use their power positively for a higher purpose. It also gives them athletic ability, making them highly competitive. All four Sixes also have very powerful Jupiter cards. The 6♥, 6♣ and 6♦ have an Eight in Jupiter, the 6♠ has the K♠. This could be one of the reasons the Sixes are blessed with the gift of having powerful intuition and spiritual awareness.

The 7♥, 7♣ and 7♠ have a Jack for their Mars card; the 7♦ has the 9♠. This gives the Sevens with the Jack Mars card a need for freedom and creativity in their work. It also can mean that at some time they will have an experience that will awaken them spiritually to their true purpose in life. The 7♥, 7♣ and 7♦ have a Nine in Jupiter, the 7♠ has the 4♥. This can mean that they will experience some spiritual fulfillment in their life through letting go of old outworn patterns within themselves.

The Eights are a little different because only two of the four Eights have the same cards in Mars and Jupiter. The 8♣ and the 8♥ both have Queens in Mars while the 8♠ has the 10♥ and the 8♦ has the A♣. (As most of you know, Tens and Aces are similar in expression.) What they all have in common is power. The 8♥ and 8♠ have a Ten in Jupiter with the 8♠ having the Q♣ (she has the 10♦ Karma Card) and the 8♣ having the 5♥. As we know, Tens can be quite powerful cards and their placement in Jupiter can point to the Eights ability to influence and lead groups of others.

The 9♣, 9♦ and 9♠ have a King for their Mars card, and the 9♥ has the powerful Q♠ in Mars. This gives the Nines a lot of leadership ability which can show up as excellent business people and in the case of the 9♥, the power to master the self and to be of service to the world. Their Jupiter cards are also powerful in the Nines spreads. The 9♥ and 9♦ have a Jack in Jupiter,
the 9♣ has the K♦ and the 9♠ has the 6♥ in Jupiter. The Jacks can represent a gift of spiritual initiation earned from past lives.

The 10♥, 10♦ and 10♠ have an Ace in Mars, while the 10♣ has the 3♥ there (the Karma Card for the 3♥ is the A♥). This means the Tens are powerful initiators, they like working alone and have a lot of creative ideas. The 10♥ and 10♦ also have an Ace in the Jupiter position, the 10♠ has the 7♥ (which has the A♠ as a Karma Card) and the 10♦, which has the Q♦ in Jupiter. In the Spiritual Spread, all the Tens have an Ace in Jupiter. This can mean the beginning of new spiritual awareness this lifetime. They are like babies in their spiritual life with much to learn and yet a lot of enthusiasm and creativity to draw on. An Ace in Mars is further testament to the ambition of the Tens, along with a strong selfish orientation to life.

The J♥, J♦ and J♣ have a Two in Mars; the J♠ has the 4♠. This can mean that Jacks like to work with others (probably so there is someone to have fun with and bounce ideas off of). They can be the most creative when collaborating with someone else. The J♥ and J♣ have a King in Jupiter, the J♦ has the 8♥ and the J♠ has the 10♥. All four Jacks have very strong Jupiter cards, which gives them many spiritual gifts if they chose to apply themselves to a spiritual path. On the spiritual path they become the initiates of higher awareness.

The Q♦ and Q♣ have a Three in Mars, the Q♥ has the K♠ and the Q♠ has the 7♠. For the female Q♠ this could be one of the reasons they have difficulty with men and relationships. For the male Queens of these suits, this could add to their uncertainty in regarding their masculinity. Having a Three in Mars can also cause them to want to work many different jobs at the same time. The Q♥ will chose a powerful mate with the K♠ in Mars and the Q♠ will need to have faith to pursue her true spiritual work. There is no discernable pattern in their Jupiter cards.

The K♥ and K♣ have a Four in Mars, the K♦ has the 2♦ with the 4♦ vertical and the K♠ has the Q♠ in Mars. The strong Fours in Mars show that the Kings have the power in their homes and that they are strongly driven to seek security in their work. There is no outstanding pattern in their Jupiter positions except for the K♠ and K♥ who have a Two in Jupiter. This means they could both be blessed with the opportunity to create a spiritually based relationship by finding their soul mate.

I have only started to look at and interpret some of these patterns and know there is much to be discovered about the numbers in relation to these patterns. Look for yourself and see what information you can uncover to further the interpretation of each number. It is interesting these patterns seem to show up in the Mars and Jupiter positions. I also noticed some patterns with Moon cards and Saturn cards. Also the card in the spiritual spread in those two positions can add a lot to the interpretation of the Mundane spread. Just knowing these patterns are there gives us a lot to look at and work with. I would love to hear anyone else's insight into the cards and what these patterns reveal to them.

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The Way of Love

It has been said many times that love is the strongest force in the universe. If that is so, why do we worry? We worry because we truly do not know the way of love and have not experienced
its power enough to know with certainty that it is always present, all we have to do is open ourselves up.

The world is full of fear and hatred. This was true before the World Trade Center disaster and truer now. One of the gifts the WTC event brought to us all was that it has shown us just how much hatred and fear exists in the world, which is a reflection of how much fear we have within. Many of us have cancelled plans because of fear, plans that were made in happier, safer times. It is, for each of us, a time of trial to see whether we will succumb to and act from the fear within us, or if our past connection to love is strong enough to conquer the fear.

When the heart is connected to God there is nothing to fear. Love brings wisdom and knowing to the mind. The highest role the mind can play in our lives is to listen to the heart and allow the truth of the heart to guide it. However, in today’s society we don’t trust our hearts and allow our minds to rule. Is it any wonder we are so confused? Our minds are merely a computer, ‘garbage in, garbage out’. Our minds are useful only to the degree of what information that we put into them. If we put our fearful interpretations of our external environment into our heads, our minds will come up with solutions that are based upon fear and survival. The state of our heart and whether it is open or closed, influences our mind. When the mind is not influenced by fear it can arrive at useful solutions and ideas.

If we begin to listen to our hearts, we will discover that nothing outside of us has any power over us. I say this knowing that very few will understand what I mean. Through your own experience you will come to know it.

Love is the most powerful force in the universe and it will eventually overcome all fear. But it will overcome it in one person at a time. As Sting says in one of his songs, “Men go crazy in congregations, they only get better one by one.” Right now our country is mostly a crazy congregation, united by fear and hatred of people who are different than us. Once everything is abolished by war and mass destruction of lives and property, we will go back to the life we knew before the WTC, one in which we are all ruled by fear and greed; fulfilled at the expense of those around us. Ultimately, this will change too. One by one we will awaken to love by facing our fears square on and feeling what is going on inside of us. Once that process begins, love will have its way with us.

So what is the way of love? The way of love is to forgive and have compassion for those who are acting unconsciously. The way of love is to cry at the immense pain and loneliness in our lives and to release that pain. The way of love is accepting that no one outside of us has any power to make us angry. It is only our fears and expectations that make us so. The way of love is to take responsibility for what we have done, to reach out and make amends to those we have hurt in our fearful and angry actions. The way of love is to reach out to others and share our internal abundance. The way of love is to allow others to feel their pain. It is only through completely feeling it and embracing it that they are ever to know the truth and find their own hearts. Though we feel compassion towards them, we know that we must not interfere with their healing process. The way of love is to be honest with ourselves and to embrace our shadow. Then we can take back all the anger, aggressive energy and hatred that we once projected onto people and things outside of ourselves. Under love’s guidance and influence we will see the truth and know that our power is within, not in controlling external events or people.

Perhaps you are making this transition into love right now. If so, this is cause to celebrate. You may be experiencing intense pain at your heart’s awakening but just remember, one light is all it takes to light thousands.
Some Special Relationships

Over the past twelve years or so of studying the cards in depth, I have noticed some particularly strong relationship combinations that occur more often than chance would allow for. Perhaps you have been in one of these or know someone who has. All Karma Card combinations and Karma Cousin combinations are common. So are Sun/Moon relationships. It is interesting to report on ones that I have seen many times over. Perhaps you have seen some of these yourself.

The 9♣ and 6♦

These happen to be the Birth Cards of my grandparents on my mother’s side but I discovered this interesting connection before I found that out. Since then, I have seen this occur with many of my clients and friends. This connection usually involves a 9♣ woman and a 6♦ man. The 6♦ and 9♣ are Karma Cards to each other where the 6♦ owes the 9♣. In addition, the 6♦ is the Cosmic Lesson Card of the 9♣, meaning that the 6♦ can be an influence that helps the 9♣ get their life’s work going in a constructive manner. The 9♣ also have the K♦ in Jupiter, attesting to the fact that many 9♣ women receive a lot of money from some powerful or successful Diamond male. This often comes through marriage or through alimony or child support. Money seems to be an important theme in relationship of these two in most cases.

When the 9♣ and 6♦ marry, it is often a long marriage. My grandparents were married from the age of about 16 till they died. They had fourteen children together.

The J♣ and 4♦

I have noticed an unusual number of these relationships as well, usually with the male being the J♣ but sometimes the reverse. The 4♦ is the Neptune Card of the J♣ so this is a highly romantic relationship. The J♣ is also the Neptune Card of the 4♦’s second Karma Card, the 5♥, so we see the Neptune connection goes both ways. It is usually love at first sight and a romantic love that never dies. However, the hard karma of the 4♦ usually introduces a lot of pain and suffering into the relationship of these star-crossed lovers. The 4♦ is the Venus Card in the Neptune line of the Grand Solar Spread. They sincerely want a perfect romantic relationship and the J♣ fits the bill perfectly. But the 4♦ also has the Q♥ in Saturn. Their hard-luck karma, especially when they try to avoid hard work, can make their life miserable on every other level. All 4♦, both Birth and Planetary Ruling Card, must avoid a tendency towards laziness if they are going to have any success in life.

The 7♦ and K♥

It’s amazing how many 7♦ women end up with a K♥ man. It isn’t really explained that well in the cards since the K♥ is their Uranus Card in their Life Spread. You would think this Uranus connection would prevent marriage more than encourage it. And it does affect their marriage in interesting ways. Usually they end up living separate lives in one sense or another. Most women who marry K♥ end up being nannies once the kids show up. And the K♥ propensity towards having a harem can manifest itself as their having affairs. Even if they do not have affairs, they often work with a group of women whom they feel compelled to take care of, as if they were
indeed their harem. So, the 7♦ woman can feel like she is but one of many love interests in her husband’s heart.

The 7♦ and J♥

This one is to be expected since the J♥ is the Venus Card of the 7♦. My sister, a Libra J♥ married two different men with the same birthday, May 12th. What these two cards have in common is a strong commitment to family. Once married, they tend to stay married, all for the sake of the family. Personally each will have their share of relationship issues to deal with. Mostly they will have codependence issues. However, the 7♦ can also have a degree of strangeness about them, traits that make any ordinary marriage impossible. One of my sister’s exes, for example, was a cross-dresser and turned out to be bisexual. However, his devotion to the concept of ‘keeping the family together’ outweighed his weirdness. In the end my sister had to end it with him battling to keep the marriage together till the end, though he was completely unwilling to give up his odd behavior patterns. Some of these marriages can be made in heaven, however. The similarity in views on family and marriage can make for some very solid marriages. It just depends upon the personal evolution of the two as to how it will play out.

K♣ Men and Heart Women

This one starts with the mother of the K♣ man, who is usually a Heart Birth Card or Planetary Ruling Card. The K♣ has the Q♥ as their Life Spread Pluto Card. Heart women in general personify the dreamy and elusive quality that challenges the keen minds of the K♣. Thus, the mother of many K♣ men is a very Neptune-like woman who is both powerful and hard to pin down intellectually. Because of the unresolved issues of this primary relationship, most K♣ men are bound to have one or more significant relationships with women of the Heart suit, all of which will be as challenging as the one with their mothers. Some of these are highly karmic in nature, very challenging, and they rarely end up lasting that long. Once the K♣ man learns what he needs to heal his relationship with his mother, he no longer attracts such women into his life. There are rare occasions when the K♣/Heart woman combination forms lasting bonds. This will usually occur when there are Sun/Moon connections between them, such as a K♣ man with an A♥ woman or where the Planetary Ruling Card of one of them forms a Moon connection with the other. However, if that Heart woman is an 8♥, the K♣ man is with his Life Spread Saturn card. The K♣ has many Heart cards in his Life Spread, namely a 4♥ in Venus, 8♥ in Saturn and Q♥ Pluto. Thus there are many Heart women that show up in his life, even though Hearts are the rarest of cards and the K♣ the most common (12 birthdays).

K♣ and A♦

Among the A♦ women I have met in my travels, and among the ones that have good marriages, I usually find they are married to a K♣ man. K♣ men can find good marriages with many cards but for A♦ women, this is an important one to look out for. She is the Sun Card in this Sun/Moon relationship and the K♣ man is generally happy to follow her. She is usually very much into her business and that business often involves travel. He will often travel with her, both for work and pleasure. And travel is nearly a must for the A♦ woman who has the 5♥ in Venus. Her K♣ man will back her up, support her career ambitions and even take care of the kids when
necessary. And since there are so many K♣ and A♦ birthdays (12 each), there is a great likelihood that they will find each other.

Q♠ and 3♠

Perhaps it is because the 3♠ is the Saturn Card in the Life Spread of the 3♥ that these two are drawn together. The 3♥ is the first Karma Card of the Q♠. And, of course, the 3♠ is the Mars Card in the Life Spread of the Q♠, providing a lot of attraction. Both these cards have pretty tough relationship karma and usually will not entertain a traditional marriage. They will often get together, though, and remain lovers and companions for a long period in their life.

2♦ and 6♣

These two are Karma Cards to each other. But in addition they have a very powerful double-Jupiter connection in the Life Spread. The 2♦ owes the 6♣ so I have usually seen this one occur where the female is the 6♣. Since the 2♦ already has the tendency to stay married for long periods of time, these relationships can often last a lifetime. The double-Jupiter creates prosperity for these two, who are usually prosperous on their own anyway. If the 2♦ happens to be a Libra or Taurus, their Planetary Ruling Card will be the 8♣ which will form a Spiritual Spread Venus connection as well. If both are Librans or Taurus, there will be two double-Jupiter connections as well as the Venus just mentioned. This is one of the most fortunate pairings in the deck, money-wise.

9♣ or Q♥ male with a 10♣ female

10♣ women are usually very career oriented and unlikely to give this up to become a housewife. But many of them want to be married and can find a great partner in a 9♣ or Q♥ man. It doesn’t always work, as illustrated by Madonna and Sean Penn. But often it does. The 9♣ or Q♥ man will be the Moon Card to the 10♣ since the 9♣ has the Q♥ as their first Karma Card. If they do fall in love with a 10♣ woman, they will be highly infatuated with her and want to support her in any way they can. And having the Mother Card as their birthright, they will not usually object to staying home or playing second fiddle to their ambitious wife. I have seen Q♥ men as the wife in the relationship, staying home and raising the children while the 10♣ is out making a name for herself.

Karma Cousin Relationships

I began noticing the proliferation of these in the last couple of years. And it leads me to believe that there is something of importance about these that causes many people with this connection to be drawn together. Other than the Fixed and Semi-Fixed Cards, we each have two Karma Cousins, which are cards with which we share a common Karma Card. Many times these Karma Cousin relationships often form other important connections. In my own life I have had many special relationships with 5♦ people, who are both my Life Spread Uranus card and one of my Karma Cousins. My closest male friend of this lifetime is a 5♦ and I seem to always have interesting relationships with them. My other Karma Cousin is the 6♥ with whom I have a mutual Venus connection in the Life Spread and whom I am the Transformed Self card of in the Life Spread as well. My take on Karma Cousin relationships is that they happen mostly for some sort of exchange to take place. This can be an exchange on many different levels. One of the two
is implied to have to give to the other, much like a Karma Card relationship. However, the intensity is not as great because these two are not such strong mirrors of each other. I do think, though, that there are usually karmic reasons for people who are Karma Cousins to be attracted to each other. Whether together for a month or a lifetime, significant things are given and received, often things that make lasting impressions on each.

There are many more special relationship connections found and this is only a short list, but ones that have stood out for me personally. If you have some you would like to share, send them to me via email at themagi@7thunder.com.

Astrological Update – the Crisis

Most astrologers attribute the current war and acts of terrorism as being attributed to the planets Saturn and Pluto, which are opposing each other right now. Many astrologers consider these two in bad aspect as they are now to be the most negative aspects that exist. Pluto, the God of death and destruction, is opposing Saturn, the God of karma, fate and structure. I recently read an article about this from another astrologer who pointed out that Pluto is in the sign of Sagittarius and Saturn is in Gemini. Well, she noted that Gemini is the twins, in this case, the twin towers. These towers were, considered by most, to be the symbols of our economic empire. They were the structure (Saturn) that symbolize the greed and wealth of our country. Sagittarius is the half-horse, half-human archer. And isn’t it ironic that those two airplanes were so much like arrows shot from Pluto’s bow. Astrologically speaking, Pluto is much more powerful than Saturn. Saturn cannot influence Pluto, neither can any other planet. Pluto, however, can make bad or ill aspects to any other planet and remains unaffected itself. Since both these planets move relatively slowly, they will be in this opposition dance until May 25, 2002, close to midnight (see chart).
I see May and June of next year as being very critical times. As Pluto makes this final opposition, his power may be at its peak. Another interesting thing that Theresa pointed out is that when they make this final opposition, they will be conjunct the Moon’s Nodes. Nodes have to do with past-life karma and fate. This seems to point out the importance of this time in history. Theresa and I plan some powerful articles that will appear on my web site soon. We will be doing predictions on a monthly basis for both the US and for all of us as well. Check in frequently to get the latest. http://www.7thunders.com

From the January, 2002 Newsletter

Planning with the Cards

Once you have followed your cards for a while, you can begin to use them for planning purposes. You can begin to know when to do certain kinds of activities and when to hold back in certain areas as well. The cards, like astrology, provide a sense of timing about influences that will be more or less beneficial for specific activities. We can take advantage of these influences once we are aware of them. And used in this manner, it is possible to have more or less continual success in our lives. We will not be able to avoid our personal challenges. And the cards will tell us when these might occur as well. But just being aware of things, both good and bad, has a way of giving us more power to deal with them and to take full advantage of the blessed times when they occur. In this article, I would like to discuss some ways to use the cards to get the most benefit from them.

The basic principle is this: Plan things when the influences are good for them. Plan a trip when you have favorable influences for change. Plan a marriage when you have favorable love influences. This sounds very simple and it is. But it does require us to be aware of what cards are coming up and what things we want to achieve in the coming months. And it also requires that we be willing to act and take responsibility for our actions.

Before I begin, however, I have to say that it is important to not give your power away to the cards. There is a way to use them without losing your power in the process and you must be aware of the human tendency to give up your power at the outset. I have talked to hundreds of people over the years who have lost their power in this manner. This is not what the cards were intended for. The way to best use this system is as an outline for your own personal action. The cards may suggest what you can do and they may suggest areas where you can be successful if you apply yourself. But, as in all other areas of life, your success ultimately depends upon your own efforts. If you are ready to take action and to make things happen in your life, the cards can be a helpful tool. If you are waiting for good cards to come along and do things for you, you are already lost. The cards in our life will neither make us or break us. There is no bad card that cannot be overcome nor any good card that can guarantee success. The guarantee always rests in your personal commitment. Having said that, lets assume that you are ready to take action in your life and want to use the cards to help you along the way.

Money and Career

Good cards, financially speaking, indicate times in which your actions will be well rewarded. During those times you are likely to reap a lot more money or reward from your efforts than at other times. However, there are often limitations upon your earning ability that must be recognized. These limitations may prevent a great money influence from coming to fruition.
Here are the things to look out for:

Negative prosperity attitudes and beliefs
A job with a fixed income
A reluctance to give to others

The first one is so important I have written a book about it called The Big Money Book. Regardless of your cards your inner relationship with prosperity will always determine your financial condition. You may have momentary spurts of good fortune financially, even with negative money attitudes. But your attitudes will soon take you back to the place that coincides with them. Conversely, a good money attitude will always find you prosperous, even after momentary periods of less. A job with a fixed income can also be a limitation. A reluctance to give or serve others is often found accompanying a negative money attitude. Money always comes to those who genuinely serve others and think about their needs and desires. If you are ready to help others you are already half way to great prosperity.

For the best financial success have a job that has at least some aspect of unlimited upward movement. Even those who are self-employed can be limited by their choice of work. If you do massage, for example, even if you worked all day long all week making the top dollar for your area, you still will not be making much by most standards. Find a way to at least have some aspect of your work that can generate a considerable amount of money in a short period of time. This can be something you do or sell that costs a lot more, or something that you can do for a large number of people without much effort.

Keeping those guidelines in mind, now look for good money cards. The best are the 7♦, 8♦ and 10♦ in Jupiter. But these three cards can also have a great effect most anywhere except the Saturn period. In my own life I have made the most money in one period under a 7♦ in Mars. Following that were the 8♦ and 10♦ in Jupiter, in terms of how much I made in one 52-day period of time. When you see one or more of these cards coming in your spreads, prepare yourself for them by increasing the number of goods or services that you provide to others. Create a way to expand. Essentially you are creating more ways for others to give you more money.

Career and recognition-wise, look for Tens and cards that are in the Crown Line. In order to do this you are going to need to know how to find which cards in your yearly or other spreads may be in the Crown Line. This is discussed in detail in my new book, Exploring the Little Book of the Seven Thunders. Most of my software also displays this for easy locating. This could be your Birth or Planetary Ruling Card displacing a card in the Crown Line, such as the 8♦ and 10♦, or it could be that cards in your planetary periods are found there, such as when you displace the 6♣ and have your Mars, Jupiter and Saturn period cards in the Crown Line. The Crown Line is the top-most line of cards in the Grand Solar Spread and it symbolizes recognition and a general moving-up to a higher position. You could utilize this information even if you work a regular job. With Crown Line cards, you could be promoted. This would be a time to ask for a promotion. If you have your own business, this would be a time to expand your advertising or other ways to reach your customers. Look for avenues to reach larger groups of people or otherwise to get your name out there in the public eye.

The best influences for career and reputation usually occur when our Birth Card or Planetary Ruling Card displaces one of the following cards in our yearly spread: K♠, J♦, 4♥, 4♦, 2♠, 8♥, 6♠, 6♦, Q♥, 10♣, or 8♦.

In general, Eights and Tens are work success cards. They can also represent too much work sometimes but it can still bring you rewards that you would not normally experience.
Relationships

To determine whether the relationship with someone you are already involved in is going to change or how it will fare in the future, you only have to look in both your yearly spreads for indicators. First, look for the occurrences of your personal significators (Birth, Planetary Ruling Card or Karma Cards) in each other’s yearly spreads. The position of these cards will indicate the nature of the activities or events that you will experience together. Having one of their cards in your Mars position this year would indicate either a lot of passion or a lot of animosity between you. Of course it could also indicate both. Both Love Cards and Destiny Cards tell you what the different positions can mean. But you should also look for general relationship indicators in both your spreads. A 3♥ Long Range Card in your spread would probably indicate a sense of uncertainty about your relationship. This has other meanings too, such as having two relationships at the same time and is also an indicator of childbirth in some cases. But in general, heart cards appearing in your spreads may tell a story about what is going on for both of you or for one of you. Be aware that the meanings given in Destiny Cards are not the only meanings that cards can have. For example, marriage can occur under many cards that it doesn’t mention. I have seen people get married with a 5♥ or 9♥ as their Long Range Card. How is this possible, you may ask? These cards simply represent changes in ways of being in terms of personal relationships. A 9♥, though commonly a divorce card, can also mean the end of our life as a single person. Similarly a 5♥ can mean a change, from being single to being married.

Along these lines, keep in mind that the cards that appear in our spreads are the story from our point of view only. They are subjective, not objective. It is interesting, in that light, to see what cards do show up for people who get married. Sometimes, no cards related to marriage even appear in some people’s charts. This usually means that the marriage was not an important event for them. Sometimes the marriage is found as a 10♥ card. This is really a wedding card, not a marriage card. This means that the big deal for this person was the actual wedding and all that was entailed in putting it together. So, in all of these events, realize that what cards show up will be a subjective description of the event, from the point of view of the person who has those cards.

It is relatively easy to see a new relationship coming in our lives. Not all the time, but most of the time it isn’t that hard. Sometimes it is the obvious new relationship cards such as the A♥, 2♥ and 4♥. But other times, it is the card of the person himself or herself. If you are single, you may see a certain card approaching. This would usually be a Jack or Queen depending upon your sexual orientation. Either of these could indicate a romantic partner coming your way and if you look carefully at these you may find the actual Birth Card of the person coming as a vertical or Underlying Card influence to the Jack or Queen itself. Hopefully this will not be in Saturn. The 6♥ is a card that usually brings a fated or destined relationship. It can be found anywhere and still have this effect. But it usually is not a personal relationship indicator unless it is found in Venus or unless there are accompanying influences from an A♥, 2♥, 3♥, 4♥ or Q♥, etc. A 6♥ Long Range Card can mean a destined love relationship but it can also mean a destined business relationship. One must examine all the elements before making a determination.

Health

The suit of Spades is the overall ruler of health and the good spade cards are, health-wise, the 4♠, 8♠, Q♠ and K♠. These are good cards to look out for in general. The Saturn period also governs health and any cards found there may have a health related influence. I was recently asked for good personal card days to have an operation. I gave those four cards just listed. But I
would also add to look for days in which either one of these will be an underlying influence to
the day or Planetary Period cards. To find these you really must know how to use the Advanced
Oracle Workbook or Exploring the Little Book of the Seven Thunders. And it is well worth
it to explore these. Having a good health card underlying a card for a particular day or period can
be just as powerful as having that card as the direct or vertical influence.

I noticed an interesting phenomena a few years back. I had several people I knew all have a
life-threatening operation one year. And what was really interesting is that all of them (there
were three) had the K♠ as their Long Range Card that year. In each case, the operation was a
success though in each case they could have died during the operation itself. This has lead me to
believe that the K♠ can show up as a protective influence in life-threatening situations.
Normally, the K♠ is there to bestow us with material power, influence and success. But since
Spades rule health and the K♠ is the most powerful of all the Spade cards, this may be the savior
card for those in a difficult situation health-wise.

Travel and Moves

For travel, I would personally choose the Jupiter or Venus periods of the year, unless that
travel was to a foreign country. In that case, Neptune is the first choice followed by Jupiter and
Venus. Of course, you would want to know what cards fall in these periods as well. If I saw a 7♠
in Neptune I would not plan a trip overseas in that period, or in any period that the 7♠ was the
direct card. So, the cards that are found are also an important factor in your planning. Now, all of
this is assuming you have some choice about when you will travel. Sometimes you end up
traveling in your Saturn period with a challenging card to boot. In these cases, you must
surrender yourself to karma and do the best you can.

Fives usually mean travel or moves though other changes are also possible. But seeing a Five
coming is an opportunity to make a move or change if you have been thinking about it. And if
that Five is in a favorable position surrounded by other favorable cards, it would be wise to plan
your move or change for that time period. Why wait till later when the influences may be
negative?

The changes you make could be in any area of your life. Use a Five in a good position to plan
such changes. However, if this change also involves leaving a certain situation or place, Nines
can also be useful. Though we usually regard Nines as negative influences they are in fact the
indicators of endings. And often an important ending must take place before we are to move on
with our lives. A Nine in Venus or Jupiter has a greater possibility of being a positive
experience. So do Nines as Environment or Result (Cosmic Reward) Cards.

I Create

One of probably the most important spiritual concepts is that we create our reality. It can be
said that the more we realize ourselves as the creators of our destiny, the closer we come to God-
hood. And the realization that we have created or are creating something significant in our world
always brings a sense of relief and a feeling of rightness. Many times in our life we feel stuck, in
a place or situation that seems difficult or intolerable. Our first response is to lash out at what is
going on around us, to fight with it. This sort of response rarely helps. It is, after all, us fighting
with our own creation. If we fight in this manner, we usually feel stress and a feeling that we are
not in the right place or doing the right thing. But all of us will find ourselves in this situation
many times in our life. The trick, if there is one, is to get back to that feeling of empowerment.
And in order to do that, we must abandon all our fighting with what is, stop blaming others, and look within.

I find that asking myself why I might have created a conflicting situation is very helpful. Sometimes the mere act of asking the question is enough to cause an awakening of consciousness. The act of asking this question always causes me to feel what is going on inside of myself. I feel my feelings about the situation. I ask myself what it is I really want in my life. I ask myself what I wanted from this current situation. If there is a conflict in my external situation, whether that be in a relationship, job or other area, I try to see how that conflict is a mirror of conflicting parts of my own personality or desires. This sort of introspection is necessary if we are to find our power again. As Jesus said, “The kingdom of heaven is within.” If we are to find the kingdom of heaven, we have to turn our attention inward.

But what are our limits in terms of our creating? How much of the world around us can any of us individually take credit for? And the biggest question of all is, how much of our life exists as the fruits of our own efforts and how much is the result of the grace of God? My guru used to teach us that success in life requires two things – effort and grace. If either one is missing, success will not be achieved. Grace means accepting what is, taking in all that is simply given to us. God’s grace truly surrounds us every day. If we can open our eyes to see it, we can be supremely happy. But just being happy about everything that is given to us by our creator is not enough. We also must make an effort on our own behalf. ‘Knock and the door shall be opened.’ We must do our part in order for the grace to come to us.

I have been doing the cards for over twelve years now. One thing I have learned is that the cards cannot make or break us. I have seen many people get the best cards and have nothing happen. And I have seen people have the most difficult cards and come through the experience having gained wisdom and maturity. The cards can be considered the grace in our lives, if we open up to their message for us. But even the best message brought to us by the cards will be void of power if we do not act upon it. We must put our creative force into action to realize the benefits.

Making these choices and taking action are the foundation of personal power. And those who do make the decision and act get an opportunity to feel the God-power within them. In the same way that God created the earth in seven days, we get to feel the power of our intention brought into form. And a distinct feeling accompanies these acts, a feeling of safety, contentment and rightness. When we feel ourselves at the helm of our lives we are less afraid and less confused. We can see that things around us appeared as a result of our taking action. This gives a feeling of both power and safety. And the more we do this, the less things around us scare us or confuse us. And we find ourselves blaming others less and less.

Most people today are caught up in blaming the world outside of themselves for their problems. We all have stories to tell that explain how someone or something is the cause of our problems. And we are full of judgments for those things and people as we are angry at them for what they have done to us. This is the condition of powerlessness. People are powerless about their health, their financial situation, their reputations and especially about their relationships.

Relationships are the most difficult area for us to keep an awareness of our personal power. This is where even the best of spiritual seekers gets caught in blame. This is where most of us throw our power away and create judgments of others to save face. The more I work on myself in this area, the more I see just how caught up I am in this blame game. And it is no wonder I feel so powerless in this area.

It has been my opinion for a long time now that until we have mastered personal relationships, we are really not as evolved as we might think. I have always maintained that personal relationships are the final frontier of spiritual growth. It may be very difficult to sit under a tree and find enlightenment. But it is much more difficult to be enlightened in the context
of a personal relationship. Couples with healthy marriages are very hard to find these days. And whenever I talk to someone about their relationship, I usually get a litany of stories about how someone has done them wrong. Rarely do I hear someone describing how they themselves are at fault for the problems in their marriage or relationship. Let’s face it, most of us are powerless in this area, usually to a great extent.

But this is the area in which we can gain the most power if we choose. By applying the law of creation in our personal relationships we can become enormously powerful in our lives in general. The law of creation simply states that we are the cause of all that we see in our lives. We are not only responsible for its appearance in our lives, we are also responsible for the meaning we take from its being there. And from my own experience I believe that we are responsible, on one level, for everything. And I believe that anyone who applies this law in the area of their personal relationships will see the miracle of personal power as it applies to every area of their life.

I believe it is possible to look at everything in our life and see how we created it just the way it is. And even in the most difficult of situations, when we feel overwhelmed by conditions outside of ourselves, we can find the evidence of our personal power at hand. This is the path that I follow and the path to which I lead others. The more of us that feel we are the cause of our lives, the less fighting and hatred will exist in the world. This is my personal approach to helping the planet and its many ailments. I invite all of you to join me on what may be the holiest mission of all.

The Queen of Hearts

The ♠ is a paradox of a card in many ways. Being motherly, compassionate, dreamy and sensual, yet at the same time being powerful and demanding. I suppose these are all the qualities that any queen should have. As co-ruler of the kingdom she has to have leadership qualities equal to the king himself. So, she can exhibit these when need be. But at heart she is a mother and a woman and the ♠ embodies many of these feminine traits more than any other queen in the deck.

She sits in the lower left hand corner of the Grand Solar Spread, as if she is one of the cornerstones of the entire deck. She is ruled by the planet Neptune both by row and column. And from this we may surmise that a ♠ person is going to be very romantic and dream oriented.

You can apply all the qualities of Neptune and its sign, Pisces, to the ♠. She embodies both the good and bad of them. The good includes compassion, devotion to the service of others, a sense of universal love and, of course, psychic ability. The bad includes codependent behavior, hidden motives and desires, escapism, and a tendency to feel the victim of life. But this Piscean card is also a Queen of her land. In this she has a lot of pride and power. And the ♠ has probably the most powerful card combination of all in her Life Spread, the ♠ in the Mars position. Woe be to those who oppose her, or those who mistake her feminine beauty and charm for weakness. Many of us will get the opportunity once or twice in our life to experience the power she has. This will occur the year that our Birth Card displaces the ♠. For in that year, regardless of the other cards in our yearly spread, we will have the ♠ in Mars. This is because the ♠ is a Fixed Card and never moves to other positions in the Grand Solar Spread from year to year. We would be wise to use that influence when it occurs. It could
be especially helpful in legal or other competitive matters. Ask O.J. Simpson, who was sitting there the year of his first trial. This K♠ in the Life Spread of the Q♥ is a sign of tremendous power and is often symbolized by a strong Pluto aspect in the charts of Q♥ people.

The Card of Sex and Pleasure

For better or worse, the Q♥ is associated with sexual pleasure. It is funny when we reflect that it has been considered a marriage card for many years. Perhaps it really is no marriage card at all, unless marriage symbolizes a time when we will have sex in our lives. Nowadays people have sex in and out of marriage and I do think that the Q♥ is less a symbol for marriage under the current conditions than it was 40 years ago. I often call it the “I got laid Card”. It indeed does indicate a time in our life when sexual pleasure will be a big part, regardless of whether or not we are married. This can occur in a yearly spread or a weekly. It can be the daily card. It can also be an Underlying Card found influencing a card in our yearly, seven-week, weekly or daily card. If you take time to look for it, I think you will be surprised how often it appears during times of increased sexual activity.

Most Q♥ people I have met make no bones, pardon the pun, about their sexual appetites either. And I have met quite a few that will find sexual pleasure either within or without their marriage. It appears to be an important part of their lives, one that many of them will not go without for long. But they can also fall victim to sexual addiction or other negative sexual patterns just as well. When someone is the card of sex, this tells us that on some level, sex is an issue. This issue can take many forms. You may even meet a Q♥ who is incapable of the act itself, or has problems related to sex. This would make sex just as much of an issue for them as the person who is addicted to it. It is just the other side of the coin.

Q♥ females are considered to be, on one level, ‘the woman that every man dreams of’. They are the Queen of Cups in the Tarot deck, the beautiful, dreamy, gentle and completely feminine woman. They can be completely wrapped up in their feminine roles, whether that be as mother, wife, lover or all three. But because the first three cards in their Life Spread fall in the Crown Line, Q♥ can also be attracted to a career-oriented lifestyle. Or, like the 10♠, which is their first Karma Card, they can experience a conflict between the two whereby they do one or the other but have trouble integrating them. The 10♠ as a first Karma Card does indicate this as a potential issue that they must deal with over the course of their life. Q♥ men have the same issue but usually find it easier to get the career thing going. They seem to access their Crown Line cards and the K♠ in Mars easily propels them into a position of prominence. Johnny Carson and Michael Douglas are two famous Q♥ men.

What can we expect when we get a Q♥ in our yearly or other spread? Many things, really, depending upon our situation. You probably know by now that the Q♥ can represent any or all of the following:

1. Having sex, usually lots of it
2. Having a baby (for women)
3. Marriage (though I have discussed that here earlier)
4. Issues with our mother

Of course, the position of the card will make all the difference in how it shows up in our lives. A Q♥ in Saturn will be a lot different than a Q♥ in Venus. If you get the Q♥ in a yearly spread, it is often a good idea to study the card which has the Q♥ in the same position in their Life Spread to find out what this may be like for you.
Here is the rundown on who has what.

6♣  Q♥ in Mercury   6♠  Q♥ in Venus
8♥  Q♥ in Mars   2♠  Q♥ in Jupiter
4♦  Q♥ in Saturn 4♥  Q♥ in Uranus
J♦  Q♥ in Neptune  K♣  Q♥ as the Pluto Card
2♣  Q♥ as the Result Card

So, if you had the Q♥ show up as your Mars Card for one year, check out all the 8♥ people you know to see just how they act and how that card represents a part of their personality. For that period you will have the chance to experience what that is like. And studying them may tell you what to expect for that period.

If you are a woman, hoping to have a baby, the Q♥ could tell you when you will achieve your desire. The best positions are, of course, Venus and Jupiter and a problem some birth or motherhood would be the Q♥ in Saturn. Of course, the Q♥ in Saturn can definitely reduce the chances of giving birth and of having sex in the first place. The Q♥ in Jupiter can also represent a financially fortunate marriage.

Because the Q♥ is the symbol for the mother, that card can also represent our own mother playing a role in our life during the period or place it appears. The exact position will tell what that role would be. For example, a Q♥ in Mars might mean we are competing or arguing with our mother while a Q♥ in Venus would represent very smooth and happy relations with her.

Displacing the Q♥ is a very powerful position, and one to take note of. It is especially beneficial for career because the first three periods of that year will have cards that fall in the Crown Line of the Grand Solar Spread. Use that influence to propel yourself upward in terms of recognition and reward.

Some famous Q♥ people

Alyssa Milano Tuesday, December 19, 1972
Kristy Swanson Friday, December 19, 1969
Jennifer Beals Thursday, December 19, 1963
Reggie White Tuesday, December 19, 1961
Ken Griffey Jr. Friday, November 21, 1969
Troy Aikman Monday, November 21, 1966
Goldie Hawn Wednesday, November 21, 1945
Harold Ramis Tuesday, November 21, 1944
Weird Al Yankovic Friday, October 23, 1959
Dwight Yoakam Tuesday, October 23, 1956
Catherine Zeta-Jones Thursday, September 25, 1969
Will Smith Wednesday, September 25, 1968
Heather Locklear Monday, September 25, 1961
Christopher Reeve Thursday, September 25, 1952
Michael Douglas Monday, September 25, 1944
Barbara Walters Friday, September 25, 1931
Mother Teresa (Agnes Gonza Bojaxhiu) Saturday, August 27, 1910
Welcome to the year 2002! This is an update for the next two months to give you an idea as to what is going on astrologically. The way a planet aspects your chart individually will alter some of the interpretations here, but still many of these are felt more or less by us all. These are general meanings to offer you some insight into the next two months.

The year 2002 begins with Mars squaring Pluto. Anger is brought to the surface to be transformed into passion and enthusiasm. Square aspects are tension producing and Mars square Pluto can be explosive, even violent. But by January 1st this aspect will just about be over and we may feel more open and relaxed after releasing some pent-up aggressions. The Sun is opposite Jupiter on January 1st and will offer us the opportunity to grow spiritually from our experiences.

On January 13th there is a new moon in Capricorn. This is always a good time to make goals and start new projects for the year. Capricorn will give us a lot of discipline to follow through on whatever lifestyle changes we want. Then Mars will go into Aries on January 19th, the sign of beginnings and ideas, also offering us will power and passion to start new projects.

On January 18th, Mercury goes retrograde. This is the time to tie up loose strings and complete whatever we no longer want to be a part of our life. Mercury going retrograde is like pulling the string back on the bow, getting ready to shoot the arrow forward. Mercury goes direct on February 8th and by then we should have everything in place to move forward.

Venus goes into Aquarius on January 20th, helping us get a more detached perspective about our relationships. On January 26th, Venus conjuncts Neptune and brings a higher more spiritual feeling to our relationships. There is also a tendency to delude ourselves about a person we are in relationship with or become disillusioned by that person under this aspect. But since it only lasts two days or so, it is a good time to sit still and connect with our hearts and channel the higher potential of this beautiful aspect.

Saturn and Jupiter have been going retrograde for the past few months. The intensity of the Saturn/Pluto opposition is waning for now. We are being given a little break before the third opposition of these two not-so-friendly planets, which happens around the end of May 2002. On February 8th, Saturn goes direct at 8 degrees Gemini.

On January 21st, the Sun goes into Aquarius and we may feel more of a sense of community. Our interest in computers and electronic gadgets will heighten. On January 29th the Sun conjuncts Neptune and for some people this may bring confusion and for others it will heighten their spiritual awareness. This is a good time to meditate, practice yoga or do anything spiritual.

The full moon is on January 28th in Leo and we will seek balance between our individual needs and our need for community. There is an opportunity to find a place where we can assert our individuality and our gifts to benefit our community (Aquarius) by allowing our uniqueness to shine forth (Leo).

On February 8th, Venus conjuncts Uranus and sudden changes in our relationships may occur. Uranus brings the unexpected, so be open and don't make plans you can't afford to change at this time. Wherever we are limiting ourselves or imposing restrictions on someone else, Uranus will challenge and shatter these boundaries. Uranus gives the freedom and space to be oneself.

Venus moves into Pisces on February 13th, bringing a more mystical feeling to our relationships. However, Venus will square Saturn on February 19th causing tension for us to take a more realistic look at what is not working in our relationships. Then on February 26th Venus will square Pluto and bring some resolution to whatever was brought up by Venus squaring Saturn.
The Sun goes into Pisces on February 19th and we will shift our focus to more spiritual things and pay more attention to our inner life. The Sun will square Saturn on February 27th, again producing some tension in order to direct us more towards our spiritual path. Do not resist. The Sun will then square Pluto and whatever is still residing in the unconscious and is ready to come forth, Pluto will shine some light onto it and help us transform it.

The next two months hold some grand opportunities for growth through increasing our self-awareness. All the challenges we encounter are here to help us evolve. When we are willing to embrace these changes by surrendering to the powers that be, our lives will become a beautiful reflection of the God-energy that resides in each and every one of us. Happy New Year!

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From the March, 2002 Newsletter

Using Your Card Knowledge to Make Money

If you have taken an interest in my books and have been doing readings for yourself, chances are that you could easily make some extra money with the knowledge you have gained. In such a challenging time in our history as now, people more than ever would like to understand what is happening in their life and get some information that could help them make better decisions. If you have any desire to help others with this sort of information, you are already in possession of everything you need.

And I have communicated with many of you who desire to do something just like that. You would like to be doing some work that is more spiritually based. This system provides you with a method of helping others that is highly accurate, specific and meaningful. You can do this part time with little effort on your part. And it can, at the very least, supplement your income. For many, it has become their main way of making money. But that usually occurs only to those who truly love this knowledge. But even if you just enjoy it, it is enough to help you while you help others.

A common mistake a lot of folks make when thinking about doing something with the cards is to assume that they need to be an expert at it in order to charge money for it. The fact is that if you can give someone one piece of useful information in a reading or presentation, then it will be more than worth the price they paid for it. And if you only looked up their cards and read the interpretations from my book to them, this would also be more than worth their paying you for a session. But probably you have a lot more to offer than that. So, keep your expectations of yourself in check. But even if you just enjoy it, it is enough to help you while you help others.

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So what are some ways you can make money with the books you already possess? There are many and I will mention some of them here. First and foremost, you could do readings for others. You can place an ad in a local newspaper, though you probably have a local metaphysical
publication of some sort, or a more arts-oriented publication that would be better than your average newspaper. You can also go around to any bookstores, especially metaphysical and spiritually oriented gift shops. Ask them if they hire readers or if they would like to. Because you read Destiny Cards you actually have an advantage. There are fewer people using this system and stores are always looking for something different to offer their clients. Usually with stores you work on a percentage basis. They will take from 10% to 50% of what you make for a reading. Beginning readers usually get $1 per minute. But if you are doing appointment readings from your home or on the phone, you can charge more. I would suggest doing one-hour readings for at least $60. Also look for locally run psychic fairs. These are always looking for more people to work them and, again, because you are using Destiny Cards, you have an advantage. Few of them have a Destiny Cards reader while they have many psychics and Tarot readers.

Another great way to make some money is to sell software reports. This works best if you already have a clientele and know that they would be interested in them. The reports my software create are very salable. Most people are very impressed by them and get a lot of value out of them. But you must have some way to market them. And please, do not think that by just creating a web site that people will flock to you for reports. It just isn’t that easy. But if you already have a place to advertise where people who are looking for reports like this are found, then you have a good place to start. One of my customers sold reports to people in Japan. He lived in Hawaii and sold them for $100 each. He did a fabulous business. Another in Las Vegas ran some ads in a spiritually based magazine there and did a tremendous business. The trick with the software is who are you going to sell them to? But, if you are also doing readings, you can offer reports as well and you will definitely make more money. Plus, the software will cut down on your preparation time for a reading since all the information is at your fingertips.

Consider also doing presentations and classes on the cards. If you have read my books and understand it well enough to do your own readings, you are ready to teach classes on it. Many people would prefer to have someone explain and show them how to do the readings rather than read the book. And this is where you come in. If you just lead them through the step-by-step procedure and help them understand the structure and terms used in the books, you will be doing them a great service. And from such classes as this will come readings for you and report sales.

People love card presentations. You could invite a group of friends to your house and just give them a taste of what the cards have to say about them. It could be a relationship presentation. What fun it would be to just tell everyone how marriageable or unmarriageable they are (from the Love Cards perspective). One of my sisters has done these and they have a blast. Just telling new people how the cards match our calendar is sure to catch their interest and you can go on from there with more information about their card and the cards of their loved ones. You can offer my books at these presentations, along with your readings and reports. To those who are trying to make a living or partial living using the cards, I offer my books at below wholesale prices. Call or email me if you would like to know the specifics.

This is something that could start out small with no or very little investment on your part. If it is the thing for you, you will see immediate positive signs. If it seems difficult and doesn’t get going smoothly, then it is probably not for you. But for those who are trying to make money at something that they enjoy, this could be just the thing. I hope this article helps you get some ideas on how you can get going. Good luck!

Your Children In The Cards

I have talked about writing an article about children and their cards for a long time. There was even the thought of doing a complete book about it. It certainly deserves it. But for now, an
article will serve to convey some of my thoughts on the subject. I hope you find this interesting and informative.

There are several benefits from knowing the cards that can have direct implications upon our relationships with our children. First, it can help us understand them better. In understanding our children more we can harmonize our decisions about them with their true natures, helping them to reach their goals better and complimenting their basic natures instead of competing with them. It’s a sad fact that many parents impose their doctrines and ideals upon their children, never questioning whether or not these ideals are good for the children or not. They may be good for us but our children are not always like us. Many times they are very different from us and our structures, which we hold so dear, can be destructive of our children’s basic natures. Understanding the nature of our children’s Birth and Planetary Ruling Cards can help us help them. And isn’t helping our children what we really want to do?

The other benefit is that looking at the way the card system describes our relationships with our children can help us understand the dynamic of our being with them. If we see, for example, that one of our children is our Mars Card in the Life Spread, we could know that they make us angry, but not on purpose. The anger we feel about them is just a function of how their personality blends with ours. That realization could alleviate a lot of conflict and in some cases, abuse. We could stop thinking that they are doing things to make us mad on purpose and just realize that anyone with that card would probably have the same affect on us. That could help us to not get mad when we usually would. What a blessing that would be! So, let’s take a look at our children and our relationship with them from the cards’ point of view and see what we can learn. As you read these descriptions, keep in mind that it can be their Birth Card or Planetary Ruling Card. These general guidelines will help you understand your children but keep in mind that I have lumped the cards of the same number together. There are additional distinctions by virtue of their suit that I may not mention here.

Children who are:

Aces – are ambitious and active. They are vessels of God’s creative force and always are into something. They can be impatient and overly aggressive at times. They can be leaders and are usually courageous. They are working a lot on self-confidence. You can help them by giving them responsibility to do things in order for them to develop the self-confidence that they can set goals and achieve them. They get a lot of joy and fulfillment from accomplishment. Allow them to have their dreams and encourage them to pursue their desires without judging them harshly when they fail or do not accomplish their goals. Encourage them to finish what they start without judging them for not finishing things they start. Be just as proud of their accomplishments as they are. Tell them it is okay to be special for what they do because this is what they truly want and need. Be sure and reward them for accomplishing things that you ask them to do. Also, never diagnose them with some attention deficit disorder just because they have more energy than you do.

Twos – are talkative and like to be with someone. They are highly intelligent but often have fears, mostly fears of being alone or losing their loved ones. They are usually the most beautiful children. Encourage their mental gifts and reward them for their brilliance, but don’t forget that they usually have great fears inside. Allow them to express these feelings and to know that they are safe to do so with you. Be proud of their intelligence but do not make it a condition of your love. The world we live in already rewards the intelligent more than most others. Make your love unconditional for them.

Threes – are usually the most active of children, along with the Fives. And they will be the most creative and at other times, fearful and worried. They are the ones most commonly
diagnosed with attention deficit disorders. But remember that ADD is just a word invented by doctors to describe a group of behaviors. It is not really a disease at all and most Threes will exhibit these characteristics because they are so highly creative. Never give these kids drugs to calm them down. Instead, get them involved in activities where their abundant and natural creativity can be expressed. Have them explore different art forms, music, pottery, creative writing, acting and other avenues. Remember they may not have any attraction to practicality or organization. Encourage their uniqueness and the expression of the many ideas they have. Do not get mad at them when they jump from one activity to the other. Instead encourage interest in a variety of healthy avenues of self-expression so that they always have options to choose from and to move to. You may have a world-class artist living in your home. Try not to have these children fit into a mold that you have created for them. Allow them to be themselves, not you.

**Fours** – enjoy structure and routine. They actually need structure more than most of the other kids. Keep their surroundings orderly and their life on a predictable schedule. This is what makes them feel safe and at home. These children are builders and organizers. Allow them to build things and listen to their suggestions for how you can do things better when they make them. Security is very important to them and if you realize what their security is made of, you can coexist with them peacefully. The 4♥ needs people, mostly his or her family, the 4♣ needs order, routine, and explanations for everything to feel safe, the 4♦ needs money and the opportunity to work for it while the 4♠ will take security from home, family and in doing things. These kids can be very stubborn if this security is threatened. Encourage them to work for what they want. Give them chores and a schedule and follow up with it consistently. Consistency is what they need most from you.

**Fives** – are restless and adventurous. Like children who are Threes, they can be treated for ADD even though this is just part of their personality. They may not stay with things very long. They are not here to accomplish things but to experience things. The experiencing of things is more important to them than acquisition or the attainment of other goals. So try not to impose any goal-oriented value system upon them. They often end up with an overbearing father figure who tries to mold them into some rigid structure. Is that you? If so, lighten up or you may condemn them to years of therapy along with aversion for any authority figures, which will ultimately hurt their chances for accomplishment later in life. These kids love to travel and try new things. Take them hiking, camping and traveling. If they are just too wound up, take them for a ride in your car. That will always calm them down.

**Sixes** - are much more aware of the concept of responsibility than others. This awareness can cause them to be very hard on themselves, so much so that that they get angry with anyone who accuses them of anything. They are somewhat under Saturn’s hand their entire life. Try to understand this so that you do not add to the burden they are already carrying. When you see them being irresponsible, be loving but firm and help them back on the path. They can be somewhat quiet and immovable at times. They are usually very sensitive to everyone around them, much more so than you may imagine. And the feelings of those around them can really affect their peace of mind. See if you can provide them with a peaceful surrounding as much as possible. They love and thrive on beauty and harmony. Help them achieve a balance between being irresponsible and being very hard on themselves for not doing what they think they ‘should’ do in order to deserve your love. Do not underestimate their intelligence either. Some of them are geniuses.

**Sevens** – are sensitive children who go from being very happy and carefree to being worried, pessimistic or depressed. Help them achieve some balance with this by explaining that life is not all good or all bad. All Sevens have gifts of some sort, an area where they are connected to a God-like force. Their natural gifts are often amazing to behold. Encourage the development and expression of these gifts. Many of these kids are very powerful and need to learn not to bully
others. Help them see how powerful they are and at the same time how much their power can affect other children and people around them. Help them use this power responsibly. They are all born with a notion that they are special in some way. Let them know that they are special and that it is okay to be special. They often end up in leadership positions when they grow up.

**Eights** – are dynamic, stubborn, strong and powerful. They are going to try and get their way whatever the cost and usually will. Do not let their natural power scare you or you will end up competing with them which will probably result in your losing out to them. See this power in them and encourage them to use it to help others. Hopefully it will be okay with you if they are more powerful than you. Take delight in how clever they can be while not allowing them to make things happen that could hurt them or others. Realize that they are going to be pretty stubborn and will not take direction as easily as other kids. But once they learn something, they will not forget it. So, be patient and consistent and help them see how their power can affect others so that they can learn to use it wisely.

**Nines** – are very sensitive children who feel the feelings of everyone around them. They are kind and gentle and likely to help others before anyone asks them to. They will even help others and get their feelings hurt when the others do not repay them in kind. They are very psychic and you should encourage them to share what they pick up on. Some of them may even remember their former lives and tell you about them at an early age. These children are somewhat prone to disappointment as they have some notions about life that are not consistent with reality. This is their karma, not yours. Help them to see the truth and that they are not victims in this world while at the same time allowing them freedom to make their own choices. Help them see that it is their choices that determine their fate.

**Tens** – are full of ambition and energy and usually bent on accomplishment. Encourage them to set goals for themselves and let them know how proud you are when they achieve them. They may have too much energy for you at times but that is their nature. They are here to do things, not just talk about them and many have some special gifts. If they say, “someday I will grow up to be president”, don’t doubt it. If they shoot for the stars, they may at the least reach the moon. In some ways the world is their apple. But try to instill in them a sense of value that encourages them to help others as they reach for their goals.

**Jacks** – are fun loving and may never really grow up. They are the Peter Pans of the deck and are inquisitive and full of ideas. They enjoy having fun more than most children. Games and stories, role-playing and fun are their domain. They may shirk responsibility to some extent and are destined to deal with it more and more as they grow up. They are proud of themselves and expect others to recognize their special-ness. Encourage their creative expression in whatever form they seem drawn to. Many have special creative gifts that can be developed into a satisfying career later in life. Teach them the value of honesty and integrity as their model of the world may give little value to these concepts.

**Queens** – are loving and mothering of others and have a great ability to take responsibility. You may notice them taking responsibility for their siblings at an early age. But they are also proud and know that they are special in some way. Help them feel that it is okay to have a special destiny. Many of these children are creative as well and should be encouraged to develop their creative gifts in whatever area they express an interest. The children who are Queens will also act much like the ones described below who are Kings, since they share much of the leadership ability that the Kings enjoy.

**Kings** – are natural leaders and will naturally take a leadership role from an early age. They may even rule the entire household from an early age. Encourage them to take responsibility and watch what happens. They can be stubborn and strong willed but keep in mind that this is not a foot soldier you are raising here but a King! Authority figures will always be tested by them and they may not acknowledge authority naturally as many children do. They are the authority, if you
see what I mean. They will demand higher standards from their parents and you better be ready
to measure up. Even so, they are usually very loving and will make you proud if you give them
the chance. Try to avoid micromanaging them but instead assign them tasks and reward them for
being responsible.

Your Relationship With Your Children

The next step in this article is to discuss how we relate to our children through the
relationship connections we share with them. This is also very important and can set the stage
for an increased understanding of them, which can be very beneficial. The main point I would
like to make here is that many parents need to take more responsibility for themselves in their
relationship with their kids. If you are a parent who finds yourself fighting with your kids or
getting angry at them all the time, this is an indication that you are probably not looking at
yourself very much but instead blaming them for what you may be feeling about what they do or
say. The best thing we can do for our kids is to be grown up and admit our own faults while
trying to set a good role model of an adult. A parent that fights with their children is not really
being an adult at all.

Use the same connections in Love Cards that you would for other relationships. But apply
some of the meanings below to them for your children.

The Moon Connection

When a Moon connection exists between a parent and child, it is usually a blessing in their
relationship. If the parent is the Moon Card, then they will naturally assume a mothering and
supportive role with the child. Keep in mind that in this case, the child will naturally want to lead
the relationship and in many cases suggest or decide what you will do together or where you will
go, etc. If you are a leader type yourself and yet the Moon Card to your child, this may cause a
problem for you. We cannot fight these energies. Well, we can, but it will not change them in the
least. If you are the Moon Card, be a mother to your child and forget about the rest. If, on the
other hand, your child is your Moon Card, then it is your job to show your child what to do and
where to go, etc. You are the leader and I will bet that your child will love the things you turn
them on to and the places you take them. The communication with your child will be very good
with this connection and it is a blessing to be acknowledged fully.

The Venus Connection

Having a Venus connection with your child is very good as it promotes general compatibility
and love between you. If you are your child’s Venus Card, you know that they love you because
you are the embodiment of what they love in life. If the reverse is true you feel this way about
them. Either way, this creates a strong bond that makes the two of you want to spend time
together.

The Mars Connection

This one is very important to take note of and understand. A lot of problems can be alleviated
or eliminated by an understanding of how this can manifest in your relationship with your
children. It is important to know if you are their Mars Card or if they are yours. If they are your
Mars Card, this can be problematic. Here you have a child who represents in some way the
things that you dislike about yourself. This causes you to get angry at them when they act a
certain way. However, you need to know that your anger in this case is really about your relationship with yourself. The child is just acting the way they do for their own reasons. They are not intentionally trying to make you mad. It’s just that you have a ‘mad button’ that certain things they do will push. Try to control your anger and take it to a deeper level instead of getting mad and abusing your child, either verbally or otherwise. They are not the enemy.

If, on the other hand, you are the Mars Card of your child, the reverse is true. Things you do or say will energize them, in some cases making them angry at you. The best use of this Mars energy that you catalyze in them is to do constructive things. Do things with your child. Work together, play together but by all means be energetic with them. Avoid games where you compete with them for this will only make things worse. Instead, choose cooperative games. Be on their side, like the coach of their little league or something like that. This way, your Mars energy is working together to achieve a common goal instead of being directed at each other competitively. How is a child supposed to compete with you anyway?

The Jupiter Connection

This connection doesn’t have any outstanding characteristics that would have a great impact on your relationship with your child. It does promote a mutual understanding of life and philosophies which in turn promotes compatibility between you.

The Saturn Connection

This connection can be good or bad, depending mostly on the consciousness of the parent. When the parent is the Saturn Card to the child, this can be an ideal connection since the father in particular in a parent/child relationship is meant to teach the child self-discipline and to set boundaries for the child. The trick is to not be too heavy handed about it. Just your presence is enough for the child to be on his or her best behavior. You probably will not even have to say anything. With this in mind, be loving and clear when you do criticize the child, knowing that he or she already feels criticized by you most of the time. Teach your child by example more than punishment. Also, watch a tendency to be overly harsh with them. Perhaps your zealous pursuit of perfection in your children is actually a manifestation of some areas within yourself where you feel lacking. Be honest about this and do not try and make your children perfect to overcome your own imperfection.

If your child is your Saturn Card then they can see all your weaknesses and faults. They probably love you deeply but God has given them the gift to be your teacher. But how many adults can accept their child as their teacher? This, as you can see, can present a real problem. But these energies cannot be changed. Hopefully you will earn your child’s respect by being the best parent you can.

The Uranus Connection

This is another important connection to be aware of because it can drive parents wild when it exists in a certain respect. Specifically when the child is your Uranus Card, they will seem to defy your direction and attempts to mold them. Since most parents believe it is their job to direct and mold their children, this can be infuriating. The Uranian child will consistently seem to do exactly the opposite that you tell them to. And for the most part this will not be a conscious thing on their part. Their unpredictable nature will have them showing up late or not at all or, in most cases, doing what you feel they shouldn’t. You have to realize that God has given you this Uranus child to help you let go of some of your concepts. The more you try to control them, the
farther they will drift from you. You may have to let them go their own way most of the time and have faith that they will get all that they need and deserve from the rest of the people in their life. If you do, you will have them as a friend for life.

If you are the Uranus Card to your child, this can cause a sense of uncertainty in them because they never know, from their point of view, if you can be trusted or depended upon. This is a specific karmic pattern for your child, one in which there is probably little you can do about it except be aware and compassionate. If you can reassure them that you love them and never intend to leave them hanging, it might help. The two of you will be friends for life.

The Neptune Connection

This connection creates a psychic link with your child, along with a certain amount of fantasy. If they are your Neptune Card in the Life Spread, they will the child who can never do any wrong in your eyes. But this perception often turns out to be an illusion and many parents with this connection are shocked when they eventually find out that their child has all the same problems as other children, or sometimes a lot more. Overall it is a good connection as long as the parent is not ignoring what might be serious problems in the personality or behavior of the child.

When the parent is the Neptune Card to the child the reverse is true and this child will overlook the parent’s faults. This occurs frequently with children whose Birth or Planetary Ruling Card falls in the Neptune column or row of the Life Spread. It also occurs with children whose Birth Card or PR Card is a Nine or Six, since both of these have a great deal of Neptune energy associated with them. This child will adore his or her parent in spite of what may be many bad characteristics in them. And this child will certainly forgive the sins of the parent over and over again.

The Pluto Connection

This connection is like a super Mars connection. So all that applies to the Mars connection applies here, but in a more intensified way. Combined with a Saturn connection this would invariably lead to abuse of some kind. A child who is your Pluto Card, but especially the one in the Life Spread, is going to challenge you and bring up feelings that are intense and often explosive. It is the nature of Pluto to unearth the deepest and most hidden feelings we have and this relationship could certainly do that to the parent. This would not be something that the child is doing consciously or intentionally so that the burden of responsibility for what actually happens in the relationship falls upon the parent. But Pluto, being so strong in its expression, can often be hard to control.

If the parent is the Pluto Card of the child, the reverse is true. Knowing this, the parent can at least understand that their presence in the life of the child is indeed challenging on a deep level. Children, having less life experience, may not have a chance of bringing any consciousness into this area where intense feelings may dominate their behavior. On the positive side, this connection could be an impetus for the child to make some fundamental changes in life. However, since this energy would be present anytime the child is with the parent, the child may choose to distance himself or herself from this parent once they are old enough to take care of themselves. It may be just too intense to have around all the time.
Other Connections

Karma Card connections between parents are common and represent karmic paybacks from previous lives. The parent and child are mirrors of each other and at least one of the two have a more difficult time with the mirror than the other. This is usually the one who has the other as a first Karma Card. This connection also symbolizes a direct transference of characteristics from the parent to the child. And the child will be a lot like this parent in particular.

Children who are the same Birth Card as one of their parents likewise share many of their traits. Thus, the parent gets a chance to see his or her good and bad in the actions and deeds of this child. How the parent reacts to this and the Karma Card child will all depend upon how well the parent has come to accept their own good and bad traits. These relationships can be just as intense as the Karma Card relationships in some cases because of this mirroring effect.

The same basic thing occurs when the child’s Birth or PR Card matches the parent’s Birth, PR Card or Karma Card. In all these cases, there is a direct transference of personality traits and the mirroring principle involved. In many cases the child’s first name will be the same as the parent as well. Whenever you have a parent and child with the same name, check all their personal significators. Usually you will find a match somewhere since the same name has a similar effect as having the same card.

In Conclusion
I hope this information can help us be better parents. The one point that stands out more than all the rest, at least in my mind, is that we parents have the greater burden of responsibility when it comes to how well we get along with our children. They are young and less experienced than us and are more likely to act out negative traits more readily. Hopefully, because we are older and more experienced, we will be able to act more maturely and with discretion. This guide to the cards and connections can serve to enlighten this more important area of our lives.

Having a Conscious Birthday

According to the technique of the astrological Solar Return, the first 24 hours of each new year of ours is a pattern-setter for the rest of the year. This seems logical from many perspectives since it correlates with our natal birth chart and our Life Spread in the cards. So, the reasoning goes, the things we do during that special, 24-hour period of time, will essentially be repeated during the year and represent the themes of the year. A competent astrologer can read your Solar Return chart and tell you a lot about how your year is going to unfold. But you can have a hand in it yourself by making some conscious choices on your birthday.

The first thing you need to know, however, is that your real birthday will often fall on days other than what you think is your birthday. Your real birthday is the day of the year that the Sun returns to the same degree of our sun sign as it was the moment we were born. Sometimes this day will be a day before or after our calendar birthday. The way to find out is to have a solar return chart made for you. A good place to get one is at www.astro.com. It is easy and free but you must know your time and place of birth.

When you create one of those charts, take note of the date and time of your actual Solar Return this year. That time and date are the exact beginning of your birthday. And the 24-hour period that follows that time is the time in which you can make a difference. Once you know when your birthday actually begins, you are ready to use that important 24 hours.
What you do is plan, during that first 24 hours of your new year, all the things that you would like to see repeated during the year to come. For example, if you would like to do more exercise and eat a better diet, make sure that during that 24 hours you get more exercise and eat the best food possible. If you wanted to support your spending more time with your family or certain loved ones you would schedule that into your 24-hour birthday. By choosing consciously what you will do that day, you create your new year to be more of what you want it to be.

So, have fun with this your next birthday. Plan a fabulous day for your birthday that will help the entire year be a blessing to you.

From the May, 2002 Newsletter

Your Personal Guide to Choosing Your Next Relationship – Using the Cards

This is a topic that seems very timely from what I have observed lately. Many of us are either just ending significant relationships or are just ready to begin a new one. I certainly have gotten many requests lately to help clients and friends approach the often-confusing goal of finding someone for a personal relationship. So, I thought this would be a good time to put some of my thoughts in order and present it to our readers. Perhaps this information will help you find your soul mate or divine mate.

The first question I want to address is this: Can the Science of the Cards actually help us pick a better mate? I think this deserves some in-depth understanding. Think, for a minute, about this. As an astrologer I could find someone for you that would be a perfect match. The compatibility would be out of this world. However, would you actually be attracted to the person I would choose for you? In most cases I would bet not. The actual mechanics of attraction are very complex, involving many factors. Just who we are attracted to is a very revealing piece of information. That can be a very important tool in helping us understand where we are at in terms of personal relationships. But to use the cards ahead of time requires awareness of many factors, which I will try to relay here. So, the answer is yes, the cards can help us – but only if we are as conscious of all the factors as possible.

Where and Who Are You?

“Man (or woman, of course) know thyself.”

Your perfect partner in love will be someone who loves you for who you are. You should not have to do or be anything in particular to earn their love. Therefore, it is important that you first accept yourself and realize who you are in this important area. If you are still unclear about yourself, you will hamper or delay the process of attracting the perfect mate.

First of all, look at your past relationships and see if you can detect your personal pattern. There are many aspects to this personal pattern. The questions I would ask a client are:

1. How long have your significant relationships lasted?
2. Who usually leaves or ends the relationship?
3. How would you characterize the people you end up with in relationship? For example, are they intelligent, passionate, spiritual, worldly successful, or selfish, angry, and abusive? Whatever you usually choose tells a lot about you.
4. What were the personal issues that came up for you and them in the relationships, the most difficult ones.

Do you see any pattern when you think about your past relationships? We must be honest about ourselves if we are to find our perfect mate. The cards can help us identify our particular relationship pattern. Love Cards, Sacred Symbols of the Ancients, and Exploring the Little Book of the Seven Thunders all have information about your Birth Card and Planetary Ruling Card and the unique patterns of relationship associated with them. Get familiar with these so that you can find yourself and be comfortable.

Do You Want or Need Marriage?

There are basically two kinds of relationships as far as the cards are concerned: marriage, as indicated by the 4♥, and the love affair, as indicated by the 2♥. There are also strictly sexual relationships, friendships, etc. But I am talking about long-term relationships here. When I say love affair, I do not mean one that is temporary or illicit. Many birthdays are people to whom the love affair, that tremendous one-on-one relationship, is the most important. If you have the 2♥ in your Life Spread or as a Karma Card, you are likely to be that sort. Other cards are that way too. On the other hand, you may want marriage. Marriage is usually a security-based relationship. It is the foundation of a family. A marriage may or may not contain the romance and passion of the love affair. Usually the focus is on the family, having or raising children. If you are not interested in having and raising children with your mate, you are probably someone who doesn’t have a need for marriage. But then again, you may want marriage anyway, thinking that it will guarantee that your lover will always be there. In either case, marriage is largely security-oriented.

Our Venus Cards and Other Indicators

Our Venus Cards in our Life Spread often reveal important factors about us in the relationship department. Those cards, from both the Life Spreads of our Birth and Planetary Ruling Cards, can reveal what sort of relationships we like the most or are most attracted to. Those with a Four in Venus are probably more security and marriage minded. Those with Threes or Fives in Venus may have a hard time with commitments. Our Venus card is a strong indicator for relationships and may help you understand your personal pattern better. Using astrology, we can look at the sign, position and aspects to our natal Venus for clues, as well as any planets that fall in the signs of Libra or that fall in our natal 7th house. These are all indicators of how we are in relationship. We cannot explore that here but any decent astrological report or book will give you a lot of clues.

So, in knowing ourselves, we also find out what kind of relationship that would bring us the most joy and fulfillment. This is absolutely essential. Knowing this, we can find someone who wants the same things and therefore will be compatible with us.

What Are Your Current and Future Influences?

Where you are, card-wise and astrologically, can be an important factor in mate-finding. Do you see cards of new relationships in your near future? Or are most of your cards showing a focus on work, money, health or other issues? Having a Heart card as one or more of your year-long influence cards (Long Range, Pluto, Result, Environment or Displacement Card) can be an indicator that this is a relationship year for you. Seeing a lot of Heart cards in your yearly spreads
can also indicate this. This is a good place to start. Astrologically, having important planets transiting your natal 1\textsuperscript{st}, 5\textsuperscript{th} or 7\textsuperscript{th} houses would be a similar indicator since these are the traditional relationship houses. Also, if you have important transits to your Venus, or other natal planets that are in the sign of Libra, these could also indicate a relationship cycle for you.

Be aware of what is coming in your life. Sometimes you can see karmic relationships coming ahead of time. How would you see a karmic relationship coming? This would be indicated by a 6\textclubsuit card or any relationship card in the Saturn period. I once had a 6\textclubsuit in Saturn direct with a Q\textspadesuit vertical. Underlying the Q\textspadesuit in my Saturn period, I noticed a 10\textclubsuit card. Sure enough, when I entered my Saturn period that year, I had a fated and very difficult relationship with a 10\textclubsuit woman. But not all karmic relationships are bad. A fated, but good, relationship would most likely be indicated by a 6\textclubsuit in Jupiter, Venus or Environment or Result Card for the year.

The cards that usually indicate a coming relationship are the A\textheartsuit, 2\textheartsuit, 3\textheartsuit, 4\textheartsuit, 6\textheartsuit and Q\textheartsuit. But each of these has its own particular meaning that causes it to indicate a particular kind of new relationship. The 3\textheartsuit can mean two lovers, for example, which can be a problem or a blessing depending upon its position and your current circumstance. You may have a 10\textheartsuit or 5\textheartsuit coming up. That could mean that you are going to meet a lot of people but maybe not settle in on one for a while. These Heart cards can help you identify what is coming for you in the areas of love.

Once you get a pretty good idea of where you are and where you are going, you can also do the same thing to anyone you meet whom you are interested in. Once you know their birthday you can look for these same indicators in their spreads. But in addition to this, you can look for their Birth and Planetary Ruling Cards in your spreads and look for your cards in their spreads for the year. When you do this, remember to check out the Underlying Cards for the occurrences of both your cards in each other’s spreads as these often reveal hidden connections.

Who Is Your Prospective Partner?

Once you have gotten clear about who you are and where you are at right now, you will inevitably begin attracting people. When you first meet someone you can get their birthday right away. Noticing your level of attraction to them, check out their Birth and Planetary Ruling Cards to learn more about them. If you are highly attracted to them, their significators and the patterns associated with them will reveal a lot about where you are at, relationship-wise, at the current time. For example, if you find yourself meeting and feeling a strong attraction to someone who is literally unavailable or unmarriageable, it is highly likely that you are not ready for a long-term relationship. This would be especially true if you are attracted to a married person. Unavailable people come in many shapes and sizes. There are the married ones or the ones who are still in a relationship with someone else, the ones who live so far away that a real relationship is impossible and finally the ones who have a very low tolerance for any sort of emotional intimacy. These factors can be determined quickly by simply knowing a little about them or by talking with them for a short time. It is important that you get accurate information about someone new that you meet. I have heard many stories of people meeting someone and falling in love with them, only to find out that they were deceived. The other person turned out to be married or very committed emotionally to an ex-lover or spouse.

Some of the co-dependent cards, like the Nines, the 7\textdiamond, J\textheartsuit, A\textspadesuit, Q\textheartsuit and others, will often refuse to completely let go of past relationships. You will find that they are still supporting, on many levels, ex-spouses and lovers. It is important that you find out how much baggage your prospective mate is hauling behind them. You too, may be carrying a heavy load. For example, whenever I meet a female A\textspadesuit, I immediately start looking for the ‘hidden’ guys in her life. It
doesn’t take too long to find them. Other cards exhibit this same characteristic and both sexes of these cards. The baggage your prospective mate is carrying will become your baggage if you enter into an intimate relationship with them. Ask yourself if you need or want this extra burden.

Married people, regardless of their story or promises, are unavailable. If you meet one, suggest that they contact you once their divorce is complete and not until then. If you enter into an intimate relationship with a married person, you are telling the world that you are not ready for anything deep or meaningful. Basically, that is all you can handle – someone who can or will not make any serious demands upon you. There is no judgment in this. It is just good to know where you are. When you are ready for a deep and meaningful relationship, you will not be interested in unavailable people at all. They will be boring to you and you will not feel like you have time to waste on them.

The same will hold true of anyone you meet who is just not for you. Once we are clear about who we are and what kind of relationship we want, we will lose interest in anything that is less than what we really want.

What Are Your Connections?

Funny how this section is nearly last on our list of considerations. Most people think compatibility is the most important. In practice it only comes into play once the other criteria are met. This is not to say that it is unimportant. Once you have found someone who meets the other criteria, they still must meet the compatibility test as well. There are some people with whom we just cannot have a good relationship. They may be available and we may be strongly attracted to them. But within hours of meeting them, the problems begin to show up. We usually see these problems showing up immediately and it is a good idea to pay close attention to the dynamics of how the two of you interact from the very beginning. Even though we are somewhat infatuated with a new person, the telltale signs are there for good or bad, and usually show up right away. These signs can be explained through the connections we have with them.

The Love Cards book is a good place to start. But if you want to be as thorough as possible I would suggest you get a Love Cards relationship report from our software, which is more complete and accurate than the book. These connections will explain the details of your being together.

All the connections are important, but personally I make it a habit to look for Saturn and Moon connections. These can be deal-makers or deal-breakers when it comes to love. When someone is Saturn to us, they can often walk away from the relationship without any trouble and may never truly open up to us. On the other hand, a Moon connection is nearly a guarantee of intimacy, though one should be aware of the way the flow of energies go. It is important with a Moon connection to know which person is the leader and which is the follower. The leader will have the greater responsibility for the success of the relationship. It will be their inner intent that will make or break it. It is also important with a Moon connection that each of you is comfortable with the implied direction of the energies. Even though it presents the highest intimacy potential, your role in it may not suit your individual needs. For example, it would be difficult for someone who is an Ace or Ten to be the Moon person to their mate since they have such strong leadership qualities themselves.

Finally, I would certainly look at the astrological connections between myself and anyone I am thinking of getting involved with. To do this you must know a lot about astrology or get someone who does. However, there are computer-generated composite reports that are quite accurate and meaningful. They go by different names but are essentially a report developed from a chart created by combining your two charts together.
When Will You Begin Your Relationship?

As I have written about before, there are three dates that become the birth dates of your relationship with someone new. They are:

1. The day you first meet, face to face.
2. The day you have sex the first time.
3. The day you get married.

Each of these supercedes the previous date and becomes the new birthday of your relationship together. Once you have found someone that you feel is the one you want to commit yourself to, you can use this information to help guarantee a great long-term relationship. If you are not planning to get married, the date you have sex the first time will become your relationship’s birthday. Choose that day wisely. Personally I use both the cards and astrology to find these days. But for those just using cards, the best days to start a relationship are as follows: K♣, 6♣, 2♦, 8♠, 2♠ and 7♠. These are not the only days but are among the best, card-wise. It is beyond the scope of this article to explain how to use astrology to pick a date for a relationship, but there is an article in this newsletter on a near perfect day this year. Days like these are hard to find, usually one or two per year.

So, with these things in mind you can go about creating your next relationship with as much consciousness as possible, utilizing astrology and the Science of the Cards to the best potential. Remember that nothing can take the place of attraction, and I am not talking about just sexual attraction. Your heart knows more than anything who is right for you. The cards will just help confirm your feelings. Good luck!

A Blessed Day,
July 13, 2002
By Theresa Green

This chart illustrates what just may be the best day this year for starting a new business or for getting married. It is very difficult to find a day where there are no square aspects and there are so many positive aspects. And this day turns out to be a great card day for marriage and business as well. It is also a two of diamonds with a four of clubs ruling card!

This chart is cast for 1:45 pm, Asheville, NC. At that time, Libra is rising which makes Venus one of the rulers of the chart. The other ruler is the Moon since the Sun is in Cancer. Venus
and the Moon are conjunct (within 8 degrees of each other) and form a trine aspect (120-degree angle) to Chiron. Chiron is the “magic genie” of planets, and Venus trine Chiron is extremely beneficial for money and love. Also having the two rulers of the chart conjunct in the eleventh house can mean a fulfillment of one’s hopes and wishes.

There is still a little influence from Uranus being opposite the Moon and Venus, but it is more than five degrees apart and they are both moving away from each other so the effect is very minimal. And if nothing else it will add a tinge of excitement to a relationship, Uranus likes to keep us on our toes.

Another very blessed aspect is the Sun conjunct Jupiter and both are conjunct the Midheaven. Although Mars is moving away and just entered the sign of Leo, he is still conjunct Jupiter and the Midheaven and is influenced in a very positive way. Wherever we find Jupiter we find expansion. The Midheaven has to do with social status and the gift we want to present to the world. A business with the Sun conjunct the Midheaven would be a strong and powerful leader in its field with the blessings and gifts of Jupiter and the strength and courage of Mars.

There are no aspects to Pluto (besides a very wide opposition to Saturn which is on its way out) and no aspects to Neptune. Uranus is trine Saturn, which can be very good. Each of these planets can use a little of the other’s good qualities and a trine usually brings out the good side of two planets.

So if you are looking for the perfect day for getting married or starting a new business, I suggest you take advantage of this most blessed day. Such beneficial and magical influences like these only come around once in a great while. This is a good example of how we can use the gifts of astrology and the card system to benefit our lives and give ourselves the best opportunity for success!

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Another Terrorist Attack? An Astrological Perspective

The charts illustrated here are the chart of Sept. 11, 2001 at about the time the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center (WTC) took place, and a new chart, on the next page, for a time coming this May. What most astrologers including myself, believe indicated the WTC disaster was the opposition between Saturn and Pluto. These two planets are not friendly to each other to begin with, but in bad aspect they can be devastating. I have noticed in the past ten years that when major ugly events take place, such as Sept. 11 and the Columbine High School shooting, there are usually very difficult aspects between Saturn, Pluto and Mars. Sometimes Uranus is included too.

The gist of this is that in late May of this year, Saturn and Pluto will be in opposition again as illustrated in the next chart shown here. The date of the exact opposition is actually May 25th but since the previous terrorist act did not occur on the exact opposition, it is easy to conclude that the act itself could occur anytime after about May 9th through June 13th or so. This is a fairly large window of more than a month. What kind of act will this be? It is very unlikely that it will involve airplanes since we are now on such a heightened alert in this area. But it could involve another attempt to undermine our financial strength, such as attacks on financial institutions that the FBI just warned the country about on April 21st of this year. Osama Bin Laden has stated that this is our weakest link and that if our financial prowess is hurt, the rest of the country will fall in accordance. The WTC attack certainly did a lot to hurt us in that regard and I expect that future attacks will be aimed at the same basic areas.
I personally would not be afraid to travel at that time. But if another major attack occurs, it could cause the people of our country to cower in fear, financially. That would cause people to stop buying many of the things they now buy which would in turn cause more chaos and a sense of poverty in our already damaged national prosperity. Jobs and investments would be lost. Being aware that Bin Laden and his associates are determined to keep hurting us, it is wise to know that this is a time when such thoughts and intents may bear fruit. Plan accordingly. My personal approach to planning is: expect the best and be prepared for the worst. This is not always possible or wise but is something to think about.

Just to give some perspective on the matter, I am personally expecting May, and the rest of this year, to yield many incredibly good things in my life. I am aware of the potential for national problems, but I am also aware that my personal destiny is created, for good or ill, by my inner being and intent. Currently my inner intent is very positive and powerful for the good. May yours be as well.
My Personal Journey – Part One
by Robert Lee Camp

Many people have asked me how I got into the card system and to tell them more about the Order of the Magi. In response to these requests I have decided to put forth this article. A friend introduced me to the cards in 1987. I was already a student of astrology and had just begun doing readings for friends. I was introduced to the book *Sacred Symbols of the Ancients* by Florence Campbell and Edith Randall. After I looked up my card and read about it I was pretty amazed at the accuracy of what I had read. I was very puzzled when I found out that eight birthdays shared my birth card, the Q♦. How is it possible, I thought, for eight birthdays to have the same reading? And yet, it was so accurate for me that I could not deny it. So, I got myself a copy of the book and read it from cover to cover. I tried to find more books, too, but was unsuccessful. Though there were other books about card reading, none of them spoke of this system with which I was so intrigued. So, I gave up looking and put it aside.

**Arnie Lein, My First Teacher in the Cards**

A year or so later I moved to Los Angeles and shortly after arriving there I was introduced to Arnie Lein, the author of *What’s Your Card?*. I attended a class of his and discovered many things that *Sacred Symbols* did not even mention. I was utterly intrigued and excited about having more information to give my growing list of astrology clients. Arnie was quite ill when I met him and he died about six months later. Still, I took as many private classes with him as his health would allow. He was a gentle and kind man, a Cancer 8♦. And he instilled in me an attitude of reverence for this knowledge and the obligation to use it wisely.

**My First Book, The Atlantean Oracle**

Before he died Arnie showed me part of a second book he was writing, one that would tell how to read the Yearly Spreads that he had taught me how to read. After he died, I approached the executors of his estate and asked if they would like me to help complete his book. There were a lot of dark people around Arnie Lein and after his death there was confusion and greed present among them. There was no way they were going to let me complete his book. I was very disappointed but I decided that since they didn’t want me to help that I would just write my own book. I began writing and as I did, I felt Arnie Lein’s presence with me. I didn’t have a lot to go on and I had to write interpretations for 52 cards in 9 different positions. It took a long time. And, by this time, I really didn’t have much experience in using the cards. Most of my interpretations were theoretical. They were based upon sound principles but I didn’t have a lot of experience to draw upon. Some cards I hardly understood at all. Six months later my first book was done. I called it *The Atlantean Oracle*, since the Science of the Cards came from Atlantis. I set about printing the books and getting bookstores to sell them.

In the beginning, everyone was reluctant to sell my book and doubtful about the authenticity of the system itself. I had to convince each bookstore owner in the L.A. area to carry my book. But a few months later I had the good fortune of meeting the main book buyer for New Leaf Distributing out of Atlanta. She and I clicked and she decided to carry my book. Once I was able to tell bookstore owners that New Leaf was carrying my book, they would order them right away. It was very slow going at the beginning and I had to scrape by to survive. But I had some good opportunities come my way. I did some radio shows and held classes. I managed to survive.
I find the Order of the Magi

In 1991 a good friend of mine called one day to tell me that she thought she had found the phone number for the Order of the Magi. I had read a little about the Order in *Sacred Symbols* and in *The Mystic Test Book* but was unable to find anyone who knew anything about them now or what happened to them. I immediately called the number and the man who answered the phone said to me “Yes, I am the Magi, alright. And who are you?” We had a great discussion. I told him about my work with the cards and he told me about how he came to be the Grand Master of the Order. I was very excited, hoping to obtain more secrets of the cards from this Frank Koenig who lived in Paradise, CA. He seemed equally excited because he sensed in me someone who may help the Order to achieve more exposure in the marketplace. He invited me to come up and visit, and soon after I did. It was a long, grueling, 500-mile drive from L.A. to Paradise but my excitement was immense.

When I got there I discovered that Frank (Virgo 5♣), his wife Lilly (Libra 4♦) and a third woman named Mesha Rose (Leo 6♣) were basically all that was left of the Order of the Magi. He told me how he had been initiated in 1935 or so, even showed me his certificate. He gave me a lot of information about the Order and even taught me the formula by which you can calculate a person’s Birth Card in your head with just their birthday. But beyond that, there was little information on the cards. It turned out that Frank was really more of an astrologer and numerologist himself. But I felt a real kinship with him and felt honored to be associated with anyone of the Order. We talked a great deal and I promised to help promote their books in any way I could. I began making trips to see them as often as I could.

I attended their services when I could and became familiar with the work they were doing. Through them I realized that the Order of the Magi has many branches. Jesus Christ, for example, is considered to be a member of the Essene Branch of the Order of the Magi. Olney Richmond was more concerned with the study of the cards. This Order in Paradise, CA, was working mostly with spiritual truths and books that help people get the most of their earthly existence. My work with the cards was more akin to what Olney Richmond had done. And I discovered that I learned all of these esoteric sciences in a former lifetime when I was incarnated as a man called Meshach, who was one of the prophet Daniel’s assistants. All of these realizations were leading to something, but at that time I did not know what.

From the July, 2002 newsletter

The End of a Cycle

The Destiny Cards system is composed of many cycles, or periods of time. Each one of our years, for example, is divided into seven, 52-day cycles. The year is a cycle of seven such periods or 365 days. There are also daily cycles, 7-day and even 7-week cycles, and all of these are governed by a particular card influence. For some of these cycles, the ending is just as significant as the beginning. And, it is good to be aware at these ending times because many beneficial things can occur. Our awareness of the positive potential of these times serves to increase their benefits to us.

The cycles where endings are most helpful are the year and 7-year. Each year of our life has a Result Card, also referred to as the Cosmic Reward Card. I called this card the Cosmic Reward
because it acts very much like a Jupiter influence. It is, in fact, related to Jupiter, in the same way that Venus is related to Neptune and Mercury is related to Uranus. Neptune is like a super-Venus and Uranus is like a super-Mercury. In this same fashion, the Result Card is like a super-Jupiter Card. When asked, I always tell people that the Result Card of each year is always a good influence. Since every single card in the deck has a positive side, even cards like the 9♦, we can always find a good meaning to our yearly Result Card. For example, a 9♦ Result Card can mean retirement. But keep in mind that as our Result Card, the 9♦ would be perceived by us as a very positive experience. Retirement itself is neither positive nor negative but to those who have a 9♦ Result Card would be those whose retirement would be a major blessing in their life. So just to reiterate, there is no bad Result Card. It is always experienced by us as a good thing in our life.

And because this yearly Result Card’s influence is felt at the end of the year, it will usually be in our Neptune period that we experience its benefits. It also carries over into the new year too, sort of an earned reward of the last year’s personal transformation, which came by addressing last year’s Pluto Card. I have found that the influence of our Pluto Card has been pretty much dealt with by the end of our Saturn period. Once we get into our Uranus period, both the Saturn and Pluto influences of the year have been dealt with and experienced. But we usually do not get the Result Card’s blessing until we get into Neptune. At least this has been my experience.

Because Neptune is generally when we get some of the rewards of our Result Card, it is a good idea to study our Neptune Card with the Result Card in mind. It is also helpful to study the Underlying Cards of our Neptune Card(s). I have written many times about finding the Underlying Cards so I will not describe how to find them here. If any of you are interested, read my latest card book, Exploring the Little Book of the Seven Thunders. That book covers that and a whole lot more. Sometimes the Underlying Cards tell more of the story than the cards themselves.

Right now I am in my Neptune period and I have the 7♣. My Result Card for this year is the 10♦. What is interesting is that underlying my 7♣ in Neptune is the 10♦ Card. It’s like I have the 10♦ twice since it is both my Result and underlying Neptune Card. Just as the Neptune period began I had a very fortunate stock trade where I netted over $10,000. This would certainly qualify as a 10♦ experience, even though the direct card for this period is the 7♣. But the 10♦ Result Card has many more broad-reaching interpretations. It also means having one’s deepest wishes fulfilled, not just financial gain. With three more weeks left before my birthday I am setting my heart upon knowing its truest and deepest desires. But no matter what our Result Card is, it always comes to us as something to be most grateful for.

The other very important cycle whose ending is beneficial is our 7-year cycle. The last year in each 7-year cycle is called our Neptune year. They occur at ages 6, 13, 20, 27, 34, 41, 48, 55, 62, 69, 76 and 83. When we are one of these ages, we are in the last year of a 7-year cycle. And that 7-year cycle has a Result Card just as our yearly spreads do. If you read on page 109 in Destiny Cards, you can discover your 7-year cycles and their cards. Being in a Neptune year of a 7-year cycle is a lot like being in the Neptune 52-day period of the year. It is at that time that we are experiencing the rewards of our 7-year Result Card. And this time, it is more powerful because the influence lasts for an entire year, instead of 52 days. So, it is a good idea to keep track of where we are in the 7-year scheme of things just as we do in our yearly spreads. Oftentimes the transition from one year to the next, or one 7-year period to the next, is quite dramatic. It seems miraculous sometimes just how quickly things can change in our life. Just look at your current 7-year period, for example. It has a Pluto, Result, Environment and Displacement Card, just like your yearly spread. And these cards will influence you for seven entire years of your life. Then, you complete this cycle on a certain birthday and now all of a sudden you have a new set of cards. Sometimes these influences are quite different from the
previous seven years. But regardless of how different they are, we always begin the next cycle carrying with us the blessings of the Result Card of our previous cycle.

Other Rulers and Ruling Cards

Most of my readers are familiar with their Planetary Ruling (PR) Card. This card is the card from our Life Spread whose planetary position matches the planet that governs our astrological sun sign. This card has proven itself to be much more important than we originally thought. In practice I find that most of us identify with our PR Card more than we do our Birth Card. And I use the PR Card in yearly readings and relationship readings as much as the Birth Card. But there are other rulers, some very important. And it is good to reflect on these as they may pertain to your cards. I think this could open up some new doors of understanding for us all. In order to use these rulers and their cards you will need to have an astrological natal chart done. If you do not already have one, go to [www.astro.com](http://www.astro.com) and do one there. It will not cost you anything but you will need to know the time and place of your birth. Once you get your natal chart, take note of the Sun and your Ascendant. What you need to know is both their sign and the degrees within that sign. Most planets and positions on a natal chart are denoted as degree/sign/minutes, such as 26Sag58, which would translate as 26 degrees and 58 minutes Sagittarius. Find out what the sign and degree is for both your Sun and Ascendant using this method. Each sign has 30 degrees and each degree is composed of 60 minutes.

The next thing you need to understand is Decanates of signs. Each sign of the zodiac is a sum total of 30 degrees. Twelve signs give us the total 360 degrees of the circle that surrounds our planet. But each 30-degree sign can be broken down into three Decanates, each 10 degrees. The first of these three Decanates is governed by the planet that rules that sign naturally. For example, if your birthday is June 24th, the Sun was in Cancer at around 2 degrees of that sign at that time of the year and will be reflected as such in your natal chart. This would make you the first Decanate of Cancer, which is also governed by Cancer. The second Decanate of each sign is governed by the next sign of the same element when progressing through the zodiac in natural order. Below is a table that lists the Decanates of each sign.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sign</th>
<th>1st Decanate (0–9.59 deg)</th>
<th>2nd Decanate (10–19.59 deg)</th>
<th>3rd Decanate (20–29.59 deg)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aries</td>
<td>Aries</td>
<td>Leo</td>
<td>Sagittarius</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taurus</td>
<td>Taurus</td>
<td>Virgo</td>
<td>Capricorn</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gemini</td>
<td>Gemini</td>
<td>Libra</td>
<td>Aquarius</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cancer</td>
<td>Cancer</td>
<td>Scorpio</td>
<td>Pisces</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leo</td>
<td>Leo</td>
<td>Sagittarius</td>
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<td>Virgo</td>
<td>Virgo</td>
<td>Capricorn</td>
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<td>Libra</td>
<td>Libra</td>
<td>Aquarius</td>
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<td>Scorpio</td>
<td>Scorpio</td>
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<td>Sagittarius</td>
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<td>Aries</td>
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<td>Capricorn</td>
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<td>Aquarius</td>
<td>Aquarius</td>
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<td>Libra</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pisces</td>
<td>Pisces</td>
<td>Cancer</td>
<td>Scorpio</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
This Sign | Is Ruled by:
---|---
Aries | Mars
Taurus | Venus
Gemini | Mercury
Cancer | Moon
Leo | Sun
Virgo | Mercury
Libra | Venus
Scorpio | Mars/Pluto
Sagittarius | Jupiter
Capricorn | Saturn
Aquarius | Uranus
Pisces | Neptune

Your Sun Sign’s Decanate Ruling (DR) Card

The first other ruler to find is your Sun’s DR Card. To determine this, find the number of degrees of your Sun in your natal chart. Then, look up in the chart above to see which decanate that falls under. If you are the first decanate of your Sun Sign, then your DR Card will be the same as your PR Card. But most of us will fall in the second or third decanate of our Sun Sign. And for us we will have to look in our Life Spread to find the card that corresponds to the decanate ruler’s planet. Let’s take an example to illustrate how this works.

If your birthday was December 6th, your Sun sign would be approximately 16 degrees of Sagittarius, making you the second decanate of Sagittarius, in this case Aries. For this birthday, the DR Card will be the Mars Card in their Life Spread. December 6th is a Q♣ and the Mars Card in the Life Spread of the Q♣ is the 3♦. Therefore, a Sagittarius Q♣ will have a DR Card of the 3♦, even though their PR Card is the A♠. I invite all of you Sagittarius Q♣ people out there to look at your 3♦ Card as a secondary ruler and see if you can identify with it and its characteristics.

If a person were born on December 18th, however, the decanate ruling planet would have been the Sun. Since the Birth Card is the Sun Card, a person in the third decanate of Sagittarius would have a DR Card that is the same as their Birth Card.

I have found my own DR Card to be quite significant. At first, I didn’t see much of a correlation. But I just hung out with it for a while and I found that my DR Card, the J♣, explains a lot of my personality characteristics that were not explained by my Birth Card or PR Card. I am beginning to explore both relationship connections using my DR Card and also the yearly and other spreads of my DR Card. It is not something that I have drawn any conclusions with so far but I find it quite interesting and do see some significant parallels for myself.

Your Ascendant’s Decanate Ruling (ADR) Card

Just like we found the DR Card for our Sun Sign, we can likewise do the same for the ascendant of our natal chart. You need to know both the sign and the degree of your ascendant to do this. In my own case, my ascendant is 18 degrees of Virgo, which causes that to be the second decanate of Virgo, which is Capricorn. Since Capricorn is ruled by Saturn, my ADR Card would be the Saturn Card in my Life Spread. Since I am a Q♦, my ADR Card is the 7♣.

The ADR Card is completely independent of your Birth Card or your Sun Sign. However, the ascendant in astrology is very important, especially in the areas of personal relationships. I am
just now beginning to study the ADR Card for myself but my guess is that it will be very important in the area of relationship comparisons. I invite all of you to let me know of your own findings as you experiment with these cards.

**Cancer’s Cosmic Moon Card**

For Cancers, I also want to make one final suggestion. In my new book, *Exploring the Little Book of the Seven Thunders*, I describe how to find the Cosmic Moon Card. For people born under the sign of Cancer, this card may also be an important ruling card. I certainly see important parts of myself reflected in that card, even though it is not considered a part of my Life Spread. For those who are advanced students but who do not have my new book, the Cosmic Moon Card is the 11th card from the Birth Card, the Cosmic Lesson being the 10th. So, it is the one following the Cosmic Lesson Card in the Life Spread.

I hope these additional ruling cards will give you some new dimensions to explore. I find in many cases that they answer questions that were left unanswered before.

**Feeling What We Feel**

The title of this article may lead you to believe that this is a trivial subject. However, I want to assure you that it is not. And for whatever reason, this issue is one that I have been seeing a lot of in the past year or so. I suppose it is meant for me to write about this now.

After a couple of years of intense work on myself in the area of personal relationships, I have come to the conclusion that what makes or breaks love relationships is the ability of the partners to feel their feelings. This may sound simplistic but allow me to explain. Another way of saying this is that the trouble in most relationships is judgment and blame. When we get upset at our partner, our habitual response is to blame and judge them harshly. This judgment causes them to react to us in turn. No one likes to be blamed or judged. Behind all judgment and blame is anger. And behind that anger is hurt. Behind that hurt is love and fond expectations of giving and receiving love. These are the levels of feeling we are talking about. Let’s look at them again:

**The Levels of Emotion and Feeling**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Most surface level</td>
<td>Judgment, blame, attempts to change and control our partner, withdrawal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Just under that level</td>
<td>Anger – it’s not apparent on the surface but it’s there</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Underneath anger</td>
<td>Hurt – from unfulfilled expectations or a perceived disrespect or hurtful actions or speech</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The deepest level</td>
<td>Love and the happy expectation of receiving and giving love</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Most people in the world today are not aware of their feelings enough to acknowledge these levels of feeling for their partner. Those that are unaware are simply caught up on the first two levels. For them, separation from their loved one is inevitable. This is because the top two levels
always result in behavior that is destructive to the relationship. When we judge, blame or act out angrily in any other way, these actions are hurtful to both our partner and the relationship. The hurts we cause our partner accumulate over time, especially if our partner is also unable to feel their feelings. These perceived hurts will destroy the relationship. It is only a matter of time.

The truth is that most perceived hurts are based on a misinterpretation of what our partner did in the first place. Many of us have conditioned emotional responses. If our partner says or does certain things in certain ways, we automatically feel hurt or rejected. One good exercise for all partners is to stop the action. To stop the action means that when you think you have been hurt or rejected, try to not react but instead check it out with your partner. Ask them if they were really doing what you think they were doing. Give them an opportunity to explain what they did and why. You will find, as I have, that 90% of the time our partner was not doing what we thought. We were trapped in our past. We are emotionally wired to think and feel rejected or disrespected when we perceive certain stimuli. Stopping the action is a method that produces quick and measurable results. It can save a relationship if the blame and anger have not gone too far.

But beyond stopping the action, there is another level of awareness that can truly eliminate the destructive behavior in relationships. This is more difficult for some because some of us are wired to react angrily more than others. But all can benefit from this if they give it a try. This method works because of the truth behind what is going on in relationships. Let me explain this part first.

Let’s take a common scenario where our partner does something that hurts us. Most of us will go immediately into blame, judgment and anger. But the truth is that the hurt is still there, underneath all those more surface expressions. I have found that we actually go into the more surface expressions for one reason. We do not want to feel that hurt. It seems that no one has the courage or desire to feel their own hurt. Did you notice that I used the words ‘own hurt?’ I did this intentionally because our hurt in life is actually our own. It is not created by our partner but by our own expectations, which have been, for whatever reason, unfulfilled. This leads us to the truth that all the pain we feel in relationships comes from these expectations. And these expectations are nothing more than mentally constructed desires. In other words, they are all in our minds. It is never our hearts that are having the problem. But the heart does follow what the mind thinks is real. If you really tell yourself that your partner has hurt you in some way, your feelings will follow suit. These feelings, however, are not founded in reality. They are only there because of a previously constructed expectation that wasn’t met for some reason. And when we confront that unfulfilled expectation, our mind rebels. Like a two-year-old who dropped his lollypop in the sand, we cry. We experience the pain of an unfulfilled mental construction.

And no one seems to want to feel that hurt. No one wants to feel pain. All they seem to want to do is feel anger and to get into blaming their partner. If a person in that situation were to just stop and feel all the pain of not having their expectation fulfilled, they would have a breakthrough. If we allow ourselves to just cry like a two-year-old does, our pain would soon vanish and we would be on to the next thing. But this is a rare occurrence. It is much easier to blame someone else than to feel our pain. So, that is what we usually do. And, of course, we destroy the love in our life in the process.

Each of us has a unique set of expectations about love and relationships. Most of us have a huge list of these expectations. Many of them came from our parents and childhood influences. But there are also many that we are just born with. These kinds of expectations can be identified in an astrological natal chart if one knows where to look. It is a good exercise to sit down and list our expectations. You could start by filling in the blank of “In a good relationship, the partners act like _______. “ These are your dos and don’ts of love and partnership. Some of us have huge lists of these sort of expectations.
When you meet someone new, listen to them speak and you will soon discover what some of their expectations are. But what about your own list? Rest assured that your list of expectations controls your happiness in a relationship, or should I say, your unhappiness. Sooner or later your partner is going to do or say something that sets you off. What you do when that happens will depend upon your level of self awareness and your commitment to personal growth. Without a mutual commitment to individual growth, most relationships are doomed when they start. You just can’t go out and find someone you like and expect to live happily ever after. Not when you have so many ways (expectations) that your happiness can be taken away. And if you are unable to simply feel your hurt and pain, you will go into anger, judgment, blame or withdrawal.

A magical thing happens when we feel our pain. First of all, it brings us in closer contact with our own spirit. It creates a bond between our conscious and unconscious selves. It creates a union within ourselves. Pain, when deeply experienced, falls away, revealing bliss. There is no pain in your life that you are not strong enough to endure. God made it that way and he keeps it that way. And pain, as in all emotions and feelings, is like a cloud passing in the breeze. If we just allow ourselves to experience it, it will pass on. If we move into the surface levels and avoid feeling it, it follows us around like an old shadow, just waiting to be experienced again. And these unfelt hurts and pains accumulate. After a while, we react more and more and can become violent and abusive. And all of this occurs because we were unwilling to feel.

There is a tremendous amount of wisdom in Kahlil Gibran’s *The Prophet*. In the chapter on Love, he reveals how love will bring up our most intense pain just as it will bring us the most intense pleasure. And he admonishes those who are thinking of approaching love by saying do not approach love unless you are willing to experience both. There is no way to experience only the joy and pleasure of life. Life is both pleasure and pain, not because it has to be that way, but because we have so many expectations just waiting to be unfulfilled. The very definition of pain is the difference between what we think life should be and what it actually is. So, until we unravel and clear away these expectations, we are destined to feel a lot of pain. But at least we can start by actually feeling it and stop blaming our feelings on our partner and everyone else in the world. To me, this is the true mark of a great person — someone who can own his or her feelings and stop the process of blame.

Self-love is really all there is. And being with our feelings is just one way to love ourselves. Taking the time to actually sit, close our eyes and feel is one of the most profound ways of loving ourselves. I find it a little funny that it took me so long to discover this fundamental pathway to loving myself. All of the great works on spiritual wisdom teach us that the ‘kingdom of heaven is within.’ If we never take the time to go within, how will we ever have any other experience than victimization? It is up to each and every one of us to take the time to get familiar with who we are on the emotional level. Going within, we may discover just how incredibly beautiful and magnificent we really are.

**My Personal Journey – Part Two**

*by Robert Lee Camp*

**The Vision**

One night, sometime in the middle of May, 1991, I awoke in a quasi-dream state. Instinctively, I knew that I was awake on the astral plane. I was both fascinated and scared at the same time. And though I was scared of being there, I was also afraid that I might just scare myself out of being there. And I really wanted to stay and explore. This was a new experience for me. But I managed to remain there for a while. I sensed there were many other beings around me, though I could not see them. I could sense that this entire event was being watched over and orchestrated carefully. Suddenly, a beautiful young, olive-skinned, dark-haired woman came into
the room. When I looked into her eyes, I felt so much compassion and love that I nearly started to cry. Just the eye contact alone was almost too much to bear.

She looked at me and said, “I am your mother.” When she said that I knew somehow that she didn’t mean my earthly mother but was referring to a much more broad sense of the word. And though she appeared to be about 19 years old, I knew she was speaking the truth. And that explained the immense love I felt when I first looked at her. We seemed to just stay there for a few more moments when I sensed another movement in the room. “Here comes your father,” my mother said to me. I looked around to see a young, olive-skinned man with dark hair enter the room. I locked eyes with him and was again overwhelmed with love and compassion. In that instant I knew that an unconditional love much greater than I had ever imagined was always available to me. I knew that I was loved beyond anything I could have imagined up until that point in my life. This sense of love overwhelmed me and I started to cry. Then my father spoke to me.

“Let us see your book,” he said. This was very early in my work with the cards and I only had one book, *The Atlantean Oracle*. He picked up a copy and opened it up, examining it closely. Then, he pointed to a certain page in the book, one that I never had seen before. It was a beautiful page with an ornate and beautiful border, like some sort of certificate of achievement or something. There, in large bold letters in the center of the page were these words:

**The Order of the Magi on Terra**

I knew in that moment what these words meant, though neither my father or mother said a word after that. My crying was becoming more intense now. The love I was feeling was overwhelming me even more. Within a few seconds I awoke, crying in my bed. The love I felt, and the longing inside to be a part of that love, to be able to receive that love, made me cry off and on that entire day. I knew at that moment what the true meaning of the story about the prodigal son in the Bible was all about. I knew that all of us are loved beyond belief but we are unable or unwilling to let it in.

At the same time, I understood what the words in that book were saying to me. They were telling me that the work of the Order of the Magi, on earth, was being accomplished through my books. In essence, my book was the Order of the Magi. I felt a deep sense of connection to something that was much more ancient and special than I ever imagined about my work with the cards. I knew that my work and I were part of an ancient fellowship, perhaps one of the oldest that existed. And I knew that I was supported in this work by beings of love and light. I was renewed and inspired to continue.

I wrote a letter to Mesha Rose of the Magi in Paradise, California to tell her what had happened. She confirmed that it was a visit from the Order on the Astral Plane and shortly after that I received a letter from her. It was an astrological reading that was given to her, or should I say, through her, for me. You must know that Rose did not know how to read an astrological chart. She merely recorded what was told to her by the Magi masters. In that reading I was told that I was an achiever and that together, with God’s help, I would be able to achieve a great deal in my lifetime.

Mesha Rose also sent me a special tape that would attune me to the Magi masters and strict instructions that were meant to protect me from evil influences on the astral plane. She explained that the astral plane was much like earth in that there were good and evil forces present there. And whenever someone opened themselves up to the astral, the evil beings usually rush in to make contact so that they can have some influence in earthly matters. This helped me to
understand the many so-called Godly beings who were being channeled in around that time, beings whom I personally felt were misleading thousands of people.

Soon after this, I was instructed to come up to Paradise on a certain date for something very special.

**My Initiation into the Order of the Magi**

That date was May 25th, 1991. I arrived the day before and spent many hours with Mesha Rose. I actually recorded my conversations with her, which were her instructions on how to be a good leader and how to represent the work of the Magi appropriately. I still didn’t quite get what was going to happen the next day and I dared not get my hopes up so I just took in her teachings. Rose was a very special woman. She was the channel through which all the Magi masters spoke. She had channeled over 17 books with the help of Frank and Lilly. She was in constant contact with the masters and received direction and information from them often. She was also very humble and wise and I felt privileged to be spending time with her, regardless of what happened. She questioned me and discovered that both of us had spent time under the auspices of a Guru. Her master was Yogananda. The fact that we both had such experiences in ashrams made us feel even closer.

The next day we awoke and there was a sense of excitement and urgency. I finally found out that I was to be initiated into the Order of the Magi in a ceremony taking place both on earth and on the astral plane. Rose lead this ceremony, describing the events occurring in both Magi temples, the one on earth and the one on the astral. With beautiful music playing, we all ascended to the astral plane for the great ceremony that was already taking place. The Magi temple on the astral plane was full of devotees, all dressed in white. There had apparently been many invocations and other ceremonies performed earlier. The place was alive and buzzing. There was a great flame from the center of the hall that shot up towards the ceiling. On the floor was a zodiac and important people stood at the cardinal points signifying their positions in the order.

Soon after we arrived my name was called and I was led up to the altar. I was first given two minor titles, one which was called Reverend Doctor. These were given in quick succession. It was proclaimed that I had done all the work to earn these titles in my former incarnation as Meshach, the assistant to the prophet Daniel. I was told that I had learnt all of the mystic sciences while in service to him in that life and thus the titles were bestowed without hesitation. But then, the three wise men, Balthazar, Caspar, and Melchior, each came up to the altar, one by one. These are very powerful Magi masters and as they were called to come up to where I was standing, I could feel that something important was about to happen. Proclaiming again that I had done the work of the order in prior lives it was announced that I would receive the title of Grand Master. One by one, the three wise men placed a hand upon my head. They surrounded me like a tripod and then placed their other hands upon me, all interlaced with each other. At that moment, Balthazar announced that from that day forth I would be a Grand Master of the Order of the Magi. The large flame from the altar bent over towards me for a moment, signifying that very thing. I felt a beautiful wave of energy pass through my body. I was given the command to carry on the work of the Magi with their full blessings.

This was one of the most glorious days of my life. Just realizing that I had the blessings of the Magi masters in such a profound way inspired me deeply. At that time I was struggling to get by. But now I felt a renewed sense of purpose and the commitment I had made two years earlier was strengthened immensely. That invocation has been the guiding force behind my work these past 11 years and continues to direct my thoughts and actions.
After the initiation, I returned to Los Angeles and continued my work. Finances improved, mostly because I had been exposed to some of the Magi teachings on prosperity. Within months I was prosperous and productive. I made a plan to leave Los Angeles to move to Paradise to rewrite my book. That would take me six months. I managed to save enough money to live on in that 6 months while I rewrote and republished *The Atlantean Oracle*. A year later I was living in Paradise and slowly completed a rewrite of the book. After receiving a profound psychic reading later in 1991 I renamed the book *The Cards of Your Destiny*. I had a beautiful cover designed for the book by a talented 7♦ woman. Another 7♦ lady helped me edit the book. In commemoration of their help, the 7♦ appears most prominently on the cover of that book. I held a class in early 1992 in Sedona, a free teacher training class. There, I asked for and received about $8,000 that I needed to publish the new book. I repaid the money in less than a year. I planned to publish the book when Jupiter crossed my ascendant, which was August 17, 1992. And that’s exactly what I did.

During that year I also met Katherine. She and I teamed up and worked the business of the cards. I taught workshops, wrote more books, made tapes and software. She filled orders, managed the money and handled customer relations, which she was very good at. We were a great team and experienced great success after a slow start.

As years went by I made more and more distinctions about the cards, some that were quite profound and useful. I wrote more books, software and instructional tapes and have taught classes all over the US and in some foreign countries.

Now, after over 12 years of working with the cards, I feel that my contribution is nearly complete. Three years ago I felt an urge to move in a different direction. New information still comes through about the cards and I pass that along through my newsletter and web site. But overall, I feel that I am needed elsewhere. I am currently working on a music CD and studying sacred geometry. For the first time in years I feel the urge to study and read again. Something new is on the horizon. I will never abandon my support for the cards, however.

I meet a lot of people these days who are making job transitions. I would like to tell you all to trust your heart on this matter and dare to take a risk on yourself. When we remove fear from the equation, we find that we are being guided to our next best place. Trust that your guides are there for you, loving you and wishing for your highest fulfillment in this lifetime.

**From the September, 2002 newsletter**

**Higher Love – Understanding the J♥**

Most card students and teachers have long considered the J♥ to be the Christ Card. Sitting at the upper center of the Grand Solar Spread, it appears to be sitting 'on the cross'. It is one of the three Fixed Cards in the deck. For better or worse, a J♥ person is who they are as they are unlikely to change much. But the primary area where they are the most fixed is in their emotional and love area. Theirs is the Christ-like love, the love that makes personal and other sacrifices in the name of helping others. They do this automatically and without hesitation. There is rarely a selfish bone in their body. And being fixed the people of these cards are dependable. They usually do just what they say they are going to do, and especially when it involves helping someone in need.

Many cards have the J♥ in their Life Spread. For them, this energy of sacrifice can take many forms. The 7♦, for example, has the J♥ in Venus. 7♦ people take their home and family very seriously and will readily make sacrifices for those they love. Because of the fixed nature of
the J♥, the 7♦ person will also tend to believe that marriage is forever, a quality shared by the 2♦ person who also has a fixed card (the 8♠) in Venus. The Q♣ person has the J♥ as their Pluto Card. For many Q♣, this symbolizes the loss of a child, just as Mother Mary, who is symbolized by the Q♣, lost her son, Jesus. Another card that has the J♥ in a difficult position is the 3♦. They have the J♥ as their Saturn Card. And it is common for 3♦ people to have one more younger people in their lives for whom they must make some difficult sacrifices. It is interesting how the J♥, in this and in the example of the Q♣, represents younger people. The Jack has always been a symbol for the pre-adulthood stage of life. Other cards who have the J♥ in their Life Spread include the A♣, 10♠, 5♣, A♠, 7♥ and 5♠. All of these are affected by this card and have some of the sacrificial energy as part of their personality makeup.

Check the Yearly Spreads of the four Semi-Fixed cards and you will see the J♥ appearing on a regular basis. The A♣ and 2♥, who are Cosmic Soul Twins to each other, have the J♥ as their Result Card every other year of their life. Since the Result Card is considered a good influence we must conclude that sacrifices made by these two cards are probably not that difficult, or at the very least bring positive results in their lives. Interestingly, the other two Semi-Fixed cards, the 7♦ and 9♥, also have the J♥ every other year of their life, but in their case it is their Venus Card. This illustrates how similar their lives and loves are, even though they occupy very different positions in the Life Spread. Both share those fixed values about love, home and family and both make willing sacrifices for them.

But even for those of us who do not have a J♥ anywhere in our Life Spread, there will most likely appear a J♥ card in our Yearly or other spreads from time to time. During those times, we will get the opportunity to experience what it may be like to be a Christ-like person. Here is what you may expect when the J♥ comes your way:

Most people I talk to are not too excited about the idea of making sacrifices for others. The word sacrifice itself rarely conjures up any appealing visions. It is usually associated with pain, suffering, blood and the like. But the actual experience may not be as bad as you may imagine. As a matter of fact you may receive the experience with open arms and be quite in harmony with it when it comes. Let's look a little deeper into the meaning of the card.

The J♥ represents a high state of spiritual being. In astrology, the planet of love, Venus, is in its highest sign in Pisces, the fish. And the birth of Christ, who is commonly symbolized by the fish, coincided with the dawning of the 2000-year Piscean Age, which is just ending in our current day and time. So, astrologically at least, Christ is connected strongly with the sign of Pisces and its ruler, Neptune. So, if the highest love is the Piscean love, what does this tell us about our own human experiences? The Piscean love is that love which is selfless and unconditional. But in addition to that, this love is that which will readily make sacrifices for the beloved. Ask any Nine person, any Pisces person or anyone whose natal Venus is associated in any way with Pisces or Neptune and they will confirm just what the experience of sacrifice for love is all about. And Christ himself made the ultimate sacrifice for us all by giving up his life to cleanse the sins of mankind. As gloomy as that may sound today, on the spiritual level this is a very high concept. Love is the most powerful force in the universe. And the Neptune love is the love of the most-high spiritual order.

How individuals experience this love personally varies. But one thing is certain - when the J♥ is present, we are experiencing a love of a higher and more spiritual order. I have found that when someone has the J♥ that they naturally want to be there for others. It is not a chore or a hassle, as it would seem to be. The person usually just naturally gravitates towards giving to others and being less concerned about their own personal desires and needs. It feels natural at the time, not difficult. And situations seem to present themselves at that time that give the person with the J♥ ample opportunity to give to others. At times this may seem demanding and the
person with the J♥ may feel overwhelmed by the needs of others. But overall, it is handled in a natural way without a lot of conflict or resistance.

This would not be true however if the J♥ were found in a challenging position. What are the challenging positions for cards? I'll list them. That would be Saturn, Pluto and Displacement. However, no one will ever have the J♥ as a Displacement Card since it is one of the Fixed Cards. So that leaves Saturn and Pluto, and in some rare cases, Mars, since Mars is the 'lesser malefic' (Saturn being the greater). In Saturn or Pluto, a J♥ can bring hardship or even tragedy. At the very least it will bring some sort of sacrifice that one is resisting. Once I had the J♥ in my Mars period. At that time I decided, on my own, to practice celibacy for that period of time. It felt like the best thing to do and it had good results for me. And this was appropriate since a J♥ in Mars can represent the sacrifice of sexual pleasures (Mars).

The important thing to remember when you have a J♥ appearing in your spreads is that you are now under the influence of high spiritual love energy. Whatever choices you make at that time are probably motivated from a selfless place and from a genuine desire to help others or to do something from a place of higher love. And though your choices at that time may not make any sense to others, you will know in your heart that you are doing just the right thing for yourself and others.

The Fear of God Cards

"God, give me the strength to change the things I can, and to accept the things I cannot."

This article is written specifically about those whose first Karma Card is an Eight or King. These are the 7♠, 8♠, 9♠, 6♣, 7♥ and 7♣. But to a lesser extent it also applies to those whose Birth Card or Planetary Ruling Card is an Eight or a King. Those six cards are the power people. But not just power people in a usual sense. These are the cards that usually demonstrate the lower side of the power issue. They are the ones who usually exaggerate the need for control and who find themselves getting into conflict with others frequently based on their need for control. A person whose Birth Card is an Eight or King is actually a lot less likely to abuse their power than someone who has one as their First Karma Card. Here is why this is so and how it often plays out:

Our first Karma Card represents a part of us where we are not integrated, where we are out of balance and where we may tend to abuse or misuse certain characteristics found in our personality makeup. This is the card that we must 'give to' in order to improve our lives in certain areas. Because this first Karma Card more or less represents our 'weak' side, many of us do not like to acknowledge it, or the characteristics it embodies. In extreme cases a person will avoid looking at those traits with all their might. Often, the only solution is for them to have a relationship with someone who is that Karma Card. That reflection, provided by their partner, will be hard to ignore. And ultimately they will come to see these traits as their own and come into a deeper sense of self-loving.

When our first Karma Card is one of the power cards, i.e. Kings or Eights, a general rule of interpretation is that this person abused his or her power in a former lifetime. Usually this means that in a former lifetime they found themselves in a position of great power over others. That power corrupted them, or they were lured into abusing it. So, a soul pattern was formed, one in which they were used to getting their way most of the time. It could be considered something like an addiction to reckless arrogance. They ended that lifetime with this pattern being fully formed. Now, in this lifetime, those tendencies to be domineering, powerful, overbearing, arrogant and forceful are still present. But the karma carried over from the past life will now be
met. Instead of being able to indiscriminately throw their power around and make others bend to their will, in this lifetime they will meet with a lot of resistance and hard lessons. They will attract to themselves others who are just as powerful or more powerful than they are. In many cases, their life is a series of power struggles. Enemies are made easily and some enemies will be very significant in their life. The life can be seen, in extreme cases, as a series of battles. There is a tendency to view others as people trying to control them, and so these cards will often try to take the upper hand first and attempt to dominate others. The desire to control and dominate others can also manifest itself in more subtle ways such as emotional blackmail, playing emotional 'take-away', threatening rejection or worse. Underneath it all is a fear of being controlled and a desire to control others for protection's sake. But what are they protecting themselves from?

Fear is at the root of all negative behavior patterns. Someone who dominates and controls others has a fear of being dominated or controlled. If we examine this fear carefully we will see that underlying that is a basic fear that life is not a safe place. And underneath that fear is the lack of a good relationship with a higher power, or what most people would call, God. A person that needs to maintain control over their life and people in it with such a dominating force have little faith. And isn't it interesting that three of the cards listed above are Sevens, which are considered the cards of faith. True faith comes from a knowingness that we will be taken care of in spite of whatever external circumstance we find ourselves in. It is a basic belief that life is good and that God is always watching out for us. It is also the belief that God is a loving God, not some hateful judgmental being who cannot wait to punish us for our sins. This basic faith can come from a simple devotion to God, like a love relationship. And it can also come from having experienced many challenges in life and having learned the truth through them.

So, these 'abuse of power cards' do not feel that safe in the world. And they come into this life with a predisposition towards using their great will to make others bend to their way. This great will power of theirs is being used from a place of fear, though few of them are aware of how deep this fear actually goes. Often it is such an engrained part of their personality that they just do it automatically. The process works something like this: Something happens which makes them afraid. This might cause them to be afraid of being disrespected, losing money or property, or of being used by someone else (this is one of the key issues for these cards). Their automatic reaction will be to try to control the situation using the force of their will. They can also use physical force if necessary and if they are predisposed. Regardless of what kind of force they use, the end result is that they abuse others - all to keep themselves from feeling the great fear within. Remember too that they will be the last to actually admit they are afraid. That is part of the pattern too.

Our Birth Card then, it not always a symbol of a quality we possess, but can instead represent a personality or soul trait that we are attempting to integrate. And in many cases, it can be seen that our Birth Card symbolizes something that we are in dire need of having because it is so absent on the personality or soul level when we are born. And having a certain Birth Card means a lifetime of lessons involving its issues. Every single card has their specific issues. And some of their issues are revealed by carefully studying the first Karma Card as well as the Birth and Planetary Ruling Card.

And in all cases, these patterns can be overcome. In doing so, one can then exemplify the higher qualities of their Birth Card on a consistent basis. This does not occur by denying our negative qualities. Denying them or trying to run away from them only strengthens their hold on us. I always find that clients who tell me "Well, I used to have that problem but I overcame it" are the usually the ones who have fooled themselves into believing they have overcome it. But I can sense their reluctance to discuss certain issues and that tells me that they are still there.
People who have truly faced an issue will not deny it for a moment that they have it. They might say instead, "Yes, I have that issue. I just choose not to express that anymore."

The 7♥ person has the 8♥ as their first Karma Card. For them, emotional control is a predominant theme in their life. But this comes into play specifically in their closest relationships. They choose powerful people for mates, people with whom they can do emotional battle. The 7♣ has the K♦ as their first Karma Card. The K♦ is considered the most likely of all the Kings to abuse their power because the card has only one eye. That blindness to situations is carried over into this lifetime by the 7♣ person. The 8♣ has the K♠ as their first Karma Card. This is a ‘double-power’ card since the Birth Card is also a power card. The negative K♣ here will express itself in mental domination but that will only add to the 8♠ personality which already has a tendency towards material gain at the expense of others. The 9♠ has the K♥ as its first Karma Card. However, the 9♠ also has the K♥ in Venus, which helps modify this and make it less of a problem. However 9♠ can still play emotional (Heart) control games with others and many of them do. The 7♠ has the 8♦ as its first Karma Card. It is from this Karma Card that 7♠ get the secret desire for fame and fortune. But this represents a tendency to abuse fame, fortune and positions of recognition. They also can be very tough around financial matters. The 6♠ has the 8♠ as their first Karma Card and remember that the 8♠ has the K♣ as its first. This makes the K♣ the Karma Cousin to the 6♠ and represents a chain of power issues from past lives. 6♠ can be very competitive and have strong tendencies to want to control things in their life.

Keep in mind that not all people whose Birth Cards are these six will act out in the negative fashion all the time. This is just one of the issues they face. All of us have negative karma from our first Karma Card to deal with. Those whose Planetary Ruling Card is an Eight or King also tend to exaggerate the domination and power theme. But in their case, it is not necessarily a past life, negative karma thing. Usually this is a test to see if they will succumb to the power at their disposal. One might say that if they fail the test and abuse their inherent power in this lifetime, chances are that next lifetime they will return as one of these six cards we have discussed.

Those with the power and domination issue will eventually see their own fear that lies behind their need to control. That step alone marks a significant milestone in spiritual growth. At that point, this person will have an inner ‘witness’ to their domination tactics. And this witness will, in time, be the death of those negative patterns. Through the realization that they are afraid will eventually come the entire truth about the pattern. And gradually they will catch themselves doing the control thing in time to cease the abuse of others. They will learn also to love that part of themselves that feels fearful and worried instead of demanding that the world around them do something to make them feel better. And this is the highest and best stage of the transformation, where people learn to truly love themselves. At this stage they will realize that everything they need is within themselves and that trying to change anything or anyone outside is just a waste of time. More time will be spent nourishing their relationship with themselves and this will bring a true enlightenment.

Only those who have faith can surrender their will to the will of the divine. Once we realize that God's will is behind all manifestation, and that God truly loves us beyond comprehension, we lose our need to control events and people around us. The entire world looks different when viewed from such a loving perspective. So different, in fact, that many people in the world will not be able to relate to or understand the actions or choices of one who is operating from this kind of love. But that is all part of the magical and miraculous spiritual path. Those who begin with the fear of God can end up with the love of God.
The framework of the Spiritual and Life Spread consists of 3 Cards at the top of each Spread and also of a matrix of 7 rows and 7 columns in which all the 52 Cards are placed. In the yearly spread we use 7 periods of 52 days. So the number 7 takes a very prominent place in the Birth Cards system. Now, there are also 7 days in a week and each day is related to one of the 7 ancient planets. Most of us know which planet rules a certain day of the week. Here is the table:

- Sunday: Sun (Birth Card)
- Monday: Moon
- Tuesday: Mars
- Wednesday: Mercury
- Thursday: Jupiter
- Friday: Venus
- Saturday: Saturn

It’s then only one step further to create a new Card which establishes a link between the Birth Card and the planet which ruled the day a person was born. This new Card will be called the Planetary Day Card and it can give us a better view of the characteristics of a person. Being born on a Sunday means that the Birth Card and the Planetary Day Card are the same, because the Birth Card is related to the Sun. Finding the Planetary Day Card is really simple. As an example when someone is born on a Thursday and has the Q♣ as Birth Card, you look for the Jupiter Card in the Life Spread of the Queen of Clubs person which is the A♦. This is because Jupiter rules Thursday. Another example is someone born on a Wednesday as a 6♠ Card. When we look at the Card sitting next to the 6 of Spades in the Life Spread at the Mercury position, we will find the Q♥ as Planetary Day Card. A short discussion will follow now about some famous successful persons and see how their Planetary Day Card fits into their lives. In all cases The Planetary Ruler Card is different than this new Card so that the distinction between those two Cards can be judged better.

The Federal Reserve Chairman of the USA, Alan Greenspan, is born 3/6/1926 on a Saturday. His Birth Card is the 4♠ and since he’s born on a Saturday we look up the Saturn Card in the Life Spread for a 4♠ person for finding his Planetary Day Card. This is the A♦. One main characteristic of an A♦ is taking financial initiatives and that’s what Greenspan is exactly doing every time when he announces a new rate of interest.

Ronald Reagan, born 2/6/1911 on a Monday, has the 6♠ as his Birth Card and since he is born on a Monday his Planetary Day Card is the 6♣. His Birth Card promises a great potential for success and recognition. Combined with the 6♣ as his Planetary Day Card a political leader like Ronald Reagan must be very much aware of the responsibility of the spoken word in the public.

Robert Camp is born 7/3/1953 on a Friday. His Birth Card is the Q♦. Born on a Friday we look up the Venus Card for the Queen of Diamonds which is the is the 3♣. This card symbolizes an excellent writing talent and all of us know the books he has written about this Ancient System of Playing Cards.

Kim Basinger is a 10♣ person who is born on 12/8/1953 at a Tuesday. We look up at the Mars Card for a 10♣ Card and we find the 3♥ as her Planetary Day Card. A 3♥ Card is, for an artist, an excellent outlet for expressing one’s emotions.

George Foreman was a famous boxer who was born on 1/10/1949, which gives for him a 4♠ as his Birth Card. However, his Planetary Day Card is the 6♦, which is the card found among many successful sportsmen and competitors.
Isaac Newton, born 12/25/1642 has the 6♥ as his Birth Card. His Planetary Day Card is the 8♣, which accounts for his mental power and discipline he had to use for his mathematical and other scientific inventions.

In my own family and friends circle there are two persons who have the K♥ as their Birth Card and they are both born on a Saturday. Their Planetary Day Card is therefore the J♠, which is related to the concept of 'spiritual initiation’. One of the persons is a mental nurse and the other a psychologist. So both of these K♥ persons are helping other people to bring the necessary mental changes in the lives of their clients so that in the end this will lead to a ‘positive change in their doing’. And that’s one of the main meanings of the J♠.

Let’s have a look at the USA as J♦ country. Born on a Thursday gives the 8♥ as the Planetary Day Card. It’s not a surprise then that this country has such an emotional power and magnetism to many people all over the world.

Finally let’s have a look at the 9/11 event of last year. This is a K♣ day and next to this Card in the Life Spread is situated the Card of the USA, the J♠. The event took place on a Tuesday which is related to Mars. The Planetary Day card is therefore the 4♦. This Card symbolizes also buildings because the number 4 is related to structure and Diamonds to the earth element. In its most negative expression Mars in the 4♦ can therefore symbolize fire and destruction. So this event can also be explained from this new Planetary Day Card.

The Planetary Day Card has been postulated as a theory and of course not every case as above will lead to the same satisfying results. Still much investigation needs to be done. The Birth Card, the Planetary Ruling Card and Personality Card are the Cards that we all know in the system of the Ancient Playing Cards. These cards are being used for a personality description, for a compatibility analysis and also for a view into our future. When looking at the above cases it seems that this Planetary Day Card is probably not so much suited for a relationship reading or for future readings. It’s more an individual Card about what a soul wants to manifest here on earth. This does not necessarily mean an important mission or a job, but it can also relate to a hobby. Something the heart wants to create.

If you don’t know on what day you are born and no one else can give you the information, you can have a look at www.astro.com, which mentions the day of the week someone is born. Probably many of us have astrological software, which also gives the day of the week.

**Relationships Are Hard To Do**

Look around you sometime and see how many people you know who are happily married. I personally see a lot of married people but few that are really happy in their marriage. Even the ones that appear happy on the outside often have a lot of hidden conflicts that they do not want anyone to know about. Again look around and see how many couples are just happy and satisfied with their relationships, married or otherwise. Even in the couples I see that look happy, when I look closer I see one or both of them looking around or appearing really closed down. The only couples that seem remotely happy are those who have just met and started dating. I do happen to know a few couples who are truly happily married or in long-term relationships. But it is so few that it causes me to wonder greatly.

I have often stated in my writings that relationship is the last frontier of spiritual growth. It is so difficult to achieve success in relationship that I often recommend to my clients to work on their money and work issues before attempting it. Having one's money and work issues cleared away is a great help to any relationship. You have probably heard that money is one, if not the, biggest issue that couples face, and the one that causes the most conflict. So, if you or your partner has gotten clear on your prosperity consciousness, that will go a long way towards
alleviating stress in your relationship. But even still, if one of you still has poverty consciousness, the imbalance will eventually cause problems for you both.

But money is just one of what seems an unlimited number of issues that can cause problems in relationships. There is sex, the in-laws and other relatives, children, the home, friendships with others, health, vacations, and any number of other topics which can become the source of conflict. When you think about how many potential areas of conflict there are, you may wonder how relationship is possible at all. I am certainly amazed at how beautifully the universe can help someone find a partner who is compatible. But most of us do eventually find someone and oftentimes the compatibility is very high. But still, these relationships meet with failure too. Compatibility may be overrated, or maybe there is something else going on here.

It is very interesting to talk to people who have just broken up. Invariably, when they talk about their experience, they talk mostly about the failings of their partner. Rarely do you hear them speak about their own part in the downfall of the relationship. It is as if they had nothing to do with it at all. When I hear such stories, I am always suspicious. And later, when I get to hear the other person's side of the story, I know why I felt that way. And when I hear both sides, I often find it difficult, after hearing both sides, to determine what actually happened. It seems that our interpretation of events is so colored by our emotions, fears and desires that we can rarely see the simple truth of an emotionally charged event or situation.

We keep going back into relationships; at least most of us do, even after ending a devastating relationship. Some ask why. I think it is because the issues that come up for us in a relationship are so important that our soul cries out for freedom from them. This soul's desire for freedom will eventually get us back into a relationship in order to face our feelings, fears and unfulfilled expectations. I believe that many of us here on the planet today have more work in the area of relationship than any other. For us, relationship is the most important vehicle for our spiritual and personal growth. Many people are aware of this on a conceptual level. Many of us know that relationships are about our growth, or we think that they are. But how many of us really understand that idea in such a way that it transforms our approach to relationship? In my experience many people talk about relationship in that way but few actually live that concept to any meaningful degree.

What is spiritual growth anyway? I find that people disagree about that concept to begin with. For me, spiritual growth is empowerment. It means growing into becoming more God-like. It means becoming more powerful. Ultimately I believe spirituality will lead us to a realization that we are God in every sense of the word. If we are to become Gods and Goddesses, we will have the power to create anything we choose at any time. Everybody agrees that they would like to evolve into a being of greater power and glory. But here is the rub - very few are willing to also bear the responsibility that is implied in having that kind of power. Let's look at that a little deeper. If I am really a powerful being who creates my reality and places all the characters on the stage of my life for my amusement, then I must be ultimately responsible for my life the way it is right now, in every detail. And this means in the area of relationship. Which means one important thing above all else - I shall not blame.

Blame is the ultimate downfall of relationship and you will find it in abundance in 99% of failed relationships. Each partner blames the other for many things. All anger against another is blame in action. This is something that is understood only by a few people. And here is another key that is rarely known - all blame is powerlessness. Another way of saying this is that we can't blame others and be powerful at the same time. They are mutually exclusive. To blame is to give our power to the other, the power to upset us, the power to disrespect us, the power to make us unhappy, or the power to hurt us. When we are blaming we are living and breathing 'the victim'. No one can be powerful and be the victim at the same time. And this is the real bottom line when it comes to relationships.
A good friend of mine was a teacher in a unique school here in Asheville called The Mastery of the Heart School. This school was all about getting in touch with our hearts and really working from the heart in all areas of life. But primarily the place where the school had the most effect on a person's life was the area of relationship. My friend shared with me that the number one rule that was observed in the school and the rule that was strictly enforced was that blaming was not allowed. Whenever a person's problem was being discussed, it was always discussed from the point of view that he or she created the problem and that they had everything they need to remedy the problem. Angry outbursts were strictly not allowed. Some people who were incapable of not blaming and getting angry with others were asked to leave the school. The work they did at this school was very powerful. I had sessions and classes with my friend and I benefited a great deal. And the underlying, bottom-line assumption in all the work I did with my friend was that I am the one who created it all, and that I had both 100% of the credit as well as 100% of the blame.

This is something that you will be hard-pressed to find in a personal relationship. Blame is the rule of thumb in nearly all relationships today. And eventually these relationships become a 'who did what to who' game that goes on and one into infinity. And unfortunately nothing is learned and no progress is made. How can you or I make any progress in an area where we think and act as if we have no power? Again, it is impossible. If you are having trouble in a relationship right now, ask yourself these questions:

1. What traits and behaviors does my partner have that I do not like?
2. Are these traits at all a reflection of my own traits? For example, have I acted just like them at times in my past?
3. Who is responsible for my happiness?
4. Who can take away my happiness?
5. Am I so dependent on my partner that the least little thing they do can upset me?
6. Do I get angry often in my relationship?
7. How do I justify giving my power away to my partner?

The blame thing has many potential roots in other issues in our life. All of us have some relationship issues to contend with. There are many things that tend to set us off. And it is not the issues themselves that we are judged by here. It is how we deal with them. No one is blamed for having such and such a problem. But when we get angry and place all the fault of our anger on someone else, we are creating a lot of bad karma. And we perpetuate our powerlessness. The real truth of relationship is that our partner is nothing more or less than a mirror of ourselves. It is difficult to convey just how important that last statement is. I will say it again. Our partner is our mirror. That basic truth of relationship has so many ramifications that affect nearly every area of our life that it might be the most important of our existence here on the earth plane. If we can really accept that basic and most profound truth, we can then form a foundation of spiritual growth in our relationships. A foundation for spiritual growth here is one in which allows us to actually grow in the context of the relationship. But spiritual growth is very challenging. Yes, this is very true. As Christ said, "it is harder for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to get into heaven." This implies that going within for our answers is nearly impossible. Yet, with personal determination and commitment, anyone can achieve the impossible.

Here are some truths about love and relationship that create a foundation for spiritual growth. The more of these fundamental truths that you and your partner can integrate into the way you relate, the greater your chances are for success. It is not necessary for you to practice all of them. Even if you integrate one of them, you will see improvements in your relationship.

1. Your partner is your mirror. All that you love and hate in them is you.
2. You chose this relationship to see yourself more clearly to help yourself grow spiritually. You chose this relationship to help you learn to love yourself more. You chose a partner who reflects some aspects of yourself that you are unable or unwilling to look at on your own.
3. If something your partner does upsets you, the problem is in you, not in them.
4. Your partner is not intentionally trying to upset you. It is your attachment to certain ideas or situations that is causing you pain and suffering. Pain is the difference between what is and what we think things should be. Therefore, our pain is our own creation, or the creation of our mental attachments.
5. Your pain is all your own. It is about you and not about your partner.
6. To be powerful means to take responsibility for your feelings and expectations.
7. Anger and blame only perpetuate your powerlessness over your situation.
8. It is never okay to dump your anger on your partner. That is destructive to both of you and enforcing the illusion that your partner is the cause of your problems. It also causes hurt which can destroy the love you share.
9. Any mental judgements you have about your partner come from negative feelings that you do not want to feel, especially some painful feelings that their presence has catalyzed in you.

The path of relationship is the most challenging of all. It is the hardest to see ourselves clearly and the easiest for us to fall victim of blaming others. A true spiritual approach is one where we each take full responsibility for the relationship as it is and especially for our feelings that come up. There is nothing wrong with what we feel in a relationship. Relationships can bring out our deepest and most painful feelings. And all of these feelings are okay. But we must not allow ourselves to dump anger and blame on our partner. That has to be a bottom-line rule for a relationship to prosper and bloom. Without it, all the love in the world that exists between you will be for naught. By basing your relationship on spiritual truths, you can give yourself a great chance to realize the joy and bliss that you desire.

From the November, 2002 newsletter

Advanced Relationship Techniques

In the past couple of years I have come upon some new techniques for finding information about people in our lives each year. Like other distinctions I have made in the past, these techniques were always there. It just took some time to see the patterns that emerged. These particular discoveries are very useful in yearly readings and help explain how some people come into our lives for short periods of time and then fade out. I taught these techniques in the last Mastery Level Seminar held here in Asheville this year. They have already proven themselves to be very valuable.

Most of these techniques require knowledge of the yearly Displacement Cards and Underlying Cards. If you are unfamiliar with Underlying Cards, please read some of the back issues of my newsletters, such as the November, 2000 issue (also found in Visions Volume V), or read my new book, Exploring the Little Book of the Seven Thunders, where I go into the subject in depth. These Underlying Cards are extremely significant and I am discovering more uses and significance for them each month and year that I use them.
The Displacement Card

To begin using these techniques, first choose someone to compare with yourself. Now, find out what both you and the other’s Displacement Card is for the current year. You can do this for both the Birth Card and Planetary Ruling Card but let’s focus on the Birth Card’s Displacement Card first. Once you have both, check the following:

1. Does their Displacement Card this year fall into your Life Spread or vice versa?
2. Does their Displacement Card this year fall into your Yearly Spread?

We’ll look at each of these separately as they each have some interesting aspects that can be very useful.

Let’s say that you are a 7♣ Birth Card. Your Life Spread is:

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<td>5♦</td>
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Now, let’s say that your partner’s Birth Card is displacing the Q♠ this year. It doesn’t really matter what their Birth Card is or what you are displacing this year. If their Birth Card is displacing the Q♠, this means that it is sitting in the position normally occupied by the Q♠ in the Life Spread, which happens to be your Venus Card. Even though you may not have your partner’s Birth Card sitting in your Venus period for your yearly spread, the fact that they are displacing your Life Spread Venus card means that they will be playing a Venus role for you for the duration of their year. You may notice I said their year, not yours. For the duration of their current year, they will be this Venus influence in your life. But once their birthday occurs, their Birth Card will move on, this time to displace the 10♦, which is not in your Life Spread at all. So the influence lasts for as long as they displace that card in your Life Spread. Let’s do one more example to make sure you are getting how this works. You are a 9♣ Birth Card. Your Life Spread is:

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<td>9♣</td>
<td>2♥</td>
<td>K♥</td>
<td>K♦</td>
<td>6♥</td>
<td>4♣</td>
<td>2♣</td>
<td>J♠</td>
<td>8♣</td>
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Your significant other is an 8♥ who is 54 years old. The 54-year old 8♥ is displacing the 4♣, which happens to be your lifetime Uranus Card. This means that your 8♥ partner will be acting as a strong Uranus Card to you for the duration of their year, as if they were the 4♣ itself. And this leads us to the second technique.

If your partner is displacing a certain card, they, in effect, are living and acting as that card for the duration of their year. Thus, they may show up in your Yearly Spread as that card. So, in the first example above, if person number one (the 7♣) had a Q♠ showing up in their Yearly Spread, this would be an indicator of their partner, since their partner is displacing the Q♠ that year. We looked at the Q♠ in the Life Spread of the 7♣ but we can also look in the Yearly Spread for the same Q♠. Let’s say that our 7♣ person was 56 years old, for example. At age 56 the 7♣ has a Q♠, both as a vertical Uranus and direct Neptune Card for that year. Looking at this from the opposite point of view, we could say that whatever card you are displacing this year would be a symbol of you that we could look for in the Yearly and Life Spreads of people you are connected with.
Here are some other examples that can help you see the significance of this technique. What if your are a woman and your Birth Card is displacing the same card that is the Moon Card in your boyfriend’s Yearly Spread? Here is the A♦ Yearly Spread for Age 48:

Notice the Moon Card for this year, the 7♣. What if this person’s girlfriend is a 2♦, 37 years old. Her spread would look like the one below: Notice that she is displacing the 7♣.

This would indicate her playing the Moon role with him for this year. But there is another way she could have been in a Moon role without showing up as his Moon Card in the Yearly Spread. What if she were 40 years old instead and her Yearly Spread looked like this:

Since her boyfriend is displacing the 8♠ in his year (A♦, Age 48) and she is displacing the 10♦, she is in a Moon position to him because the 10♦ is the Moon Card to the 8♠ in the Life Spread. Here is the 8♠ Life Spread that illustrates that:

Taking this technique even a step further, here is an application of this principle that I find fascinating. What if the card you displace this year is the card of someone who is or was very significant in the life of your partner? For example, what if your Birth Card is displacing the card that is the same as the Birth Card of your partner’s ex? I have seen this happen a lot, and not just with exes but with us displacing the cards of parents, children and exes. What this means is that from your partner’s point of view, you are moving in and replacing that person in their life. This can be very significant in some situations. The year I married my ex-wife, I displaced the card of her father’s Birth Card. It was interesting that year because she and I both worked a lot on getting her father out of our relationship. The marriage ceremony was very appropriate when her father ‘gave her away’ to me.

The techniques I just discussed are very important and useful. I suggest you review the examples given until you understand how they work. You will find immediate use for these.

The Environment Card

In our last Mastery Class, we also experimented with using the yearly Environment Card as a significator of ourselves in other people’s spreads. All the above techniques would apply but
instead of the Displacement Card you would use the Environment Card. This technique is more of an idea at this point. I personally have not proven its validity yet but it is a technique to experiment with.

**Life Spread Card Relative Connections**

This final technique is one I have been thinking about for several years. Instinctively I know that it is a real and valid distinction. But there is so much work involved in getting this one fully explained that I have avoided the task. I will present it here and those of you who have the desire to pursue it may. It involves comparing the various cards in one’s Life Spread with the various cards in the Life Spread of your significant other. To backtrack a little first, realize that most of the work in the Love Cards book and software, regarding relationship, stems from finding the card or cards of your partner in your Life Spread. The Love Cards book only lists the direct cards in the Life Spread but there are also vertical cards and cards that fall in diagonal sequence that represent planetary relationships. In other words in your Life Spread you have direct, vertical and diagonal Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter, etc. cards. When someone you know has a card that matches one of your Life Spread planetary cards, we have a ‘relationship connection.’ The entire Love Cards book is a discussion of these connections and their significance and it has found the connections for you. It is very accurate and meaningful. But we can take this entire system, which is already somewhat complex, and go into an entirely new level of distinctions by comparing our Life Spread planetary cards with those of our partners.

As a good example, examine the Life Spreads of the 6♣ and 9♠ Birth Cards above. Notice that the 6♣ has the Q♥ in Venus and the 9♠ has the K♥ in Venus, both direct. This could represent a very strong sexual connection, since Venus rules sex. This could be called a ‘relative Moon Connection’ in Venus, if I were to give it a name. Another connection that could be derived from the two spreads above would lie between the 6♣’s Mars Card, the 10♣, and the 9♠ vertical Mars Card, the K♣. The relationship between the 10♣ and K♣ in the Spiritual Spread is a Mars connection. So, having these two Mars Cards in a Mars relationship to each other could represent a very strong Mars Connection between these two, even though a Mars connection may not show up in their normal connections. If you were to study these two spreads carefully, you could come up with quite a few of these relative connections, some good and some stressful.

You may be able to imagine just how many interpretations it would take to cover all the combinations possible using this method. That is one reason why I have not wrote them all out and their meanings. But by understanding the way it works, you can begin looking for these in all the relationships you dissect.
Further Karma Card Distinctions

This distinction may the most important one in this entire collection of new techniques for relationship readings. And, like some of the others, it has been there all along; we just didn’t notice it. It involves the distinction between our two Karma Cards and the significators of others. Of course, this excludes people with Birth and Planetary Ruling Cards that are Fixed or Semi-Fixed since they do not have the two Karma Cards that have such an important function. For the other 45 cards, our two Karma Cards each symbolizes something important about us:

1. The first Karma Card represents qualities that are weak and need to be worked on during the current lifetime – essentially bad karma from past lives is symbolized here.
2. The second Karma Card represents qualities that are strong and flow easily – essentially good karma from past lives.

From the purpose of these Karma Cards, we can now take it a step further, as it pertains to relationship connections. The basic premise is that if a connection between two people involves one of their Karma Cards, the connection will pertain to either the good or bad karma of that person, depending upon which Karma Card is involved. Thus:

1. A connection between my first Karma Card and some card of someone else will represent how they influence the weak or poorly expressed qualities that I am working on in this lifetime.
2. A connection between my second Karma Card and some card of someone else will represent how they relate to the side of me that is well developed, strong and flowing smoothly.

Here is an example that may help you understand how this works: a 7♣ person is in relationship with a 7♦ person. This would make the 7♦ person the Moon Card in the Spiritual Spread to the 7♣’s first Karma Card, the 8♦. Thus, in this example, this Moon Connection is a supportive influence to the 8♦ part of the 7♣ person, which is their tendency to make money, fame and power too important in their lives, or the tendency to push others around to get what they want. The 7♦ person will be a supportive person in this regard, which may be a good influence or a bad one. What if the 7♦ person had a tendency to support (and never question) the misuse of power of the 7♣ person? In this case the favorable Moon Connection could have a negative consequence. Another important possible way of interpreting this is that the 7♦ has a strong past-life (Spiritual Spread) tie to the 7♣ person. In that lifetime, the 7♦ person played a supportive or nurturing role, perhaps as a mother or mate. In this lifetime, the two feel this strong bond that was created before, which draws them to each other and the 7♦ person feel a natural inclination to continue in that supportive role for the 7♣ person. However, in this lifetime, the powerful nature of the 7♣ tends to be expressed negatively (8♦ first Karma Card). The 7♦ person wants to be supportive but must resist the urge to support the abusive qualities in favor of higher ones.

This distinction has tremendous potential in terms of refining the interpretation of connections between couples. Of course, to use this, you will have to be able to know which Karma Card is being used in each connection between two people. The Love Cards book cannot tell you this. You either have to know how to do it yourself, from reading Exploring the Little Book of the Seven Thunders, or you can find out from the Love Cards Reporter software program. That program will tell you which exact cards are used in any connection it finds. The reports it creates also shows this information.
I believe that these techniques are the real next step in terms of relationship readings. And I believe that by exploring this carefully, we can make many important distinctions for couples.

**Truly to Live By**

Day in and day out, we humans go through many ups and downs as a part of our lives. Through experiences of pain and pleasure we learn what is real in life and what is not. From my personal point of view I can see that all the success in my life has come from finding things that are really true and then putting these truths into practice. I may have come up with the habit of collecting truths through some of the self-help books I read when I was a teenager. I remember one in particular that said that success in anything required three things.

1. A good source of knowledge on how to make a success of whatever you wanted to achieve.
2. The passion to apply that knowledge or to put it into action.
3. A commitment to achieving the goals you are striving for.

From this point of view, the truths I have collected in life have been the first part of these three. And by keeping these truths with me at all times and by putting them into practice, I have not only avoided a lot of conflict, pain and suffering but I have also achieved many goals and made many of my dreams come true.

Many truths in life are not so obvious. And in my own experience, the very best of the truths I have found have been ones that are usually considered a secret by the masses. In other words, some of these truths seem to go directly against what is commonly known or agreed upon in our current society. The Ace of Spades is the symbol of the cards, the Order of the Magi and of all the secret mysteries that can be revealed through the metaphysical sciences. But what that card really symbolizes is the secrets that lie hidden from the view of the common or worldly person. It takes a spiritual perspective to find the truths that it represents. And many of these truths or secrets seem paradoxical to what we as a society hold to be true. But, the real test of any so-called truth is this: What results do we get from the application of that truth in our day-to-day life? The best truths are those that can have a profound impact upon us in a positive way. I have a knowing inside that tells me that it is truly possible to live in the world and be completely free of the snags and snares that befuddle most people. And my experience has shown me that this is only possible through finding and practicing certain truths.

I have collected a small set of these for you to consider. These came to me through many different sources and I have tested them all. I have proven all of these to be extremely powerful and these are my personal favorites. I invite you to test these for yourself. In the same way that Olney Richmond calls the deck of cards a ‘mystic test book’, or one that can be tested and proven, we can test any truth we come upon and find out through our direct experience if that truth has any worth or not. Once you have tested any truth, and found it to work in your life, the next step is to live that truth on a daily basis. And this means living it even when your energy shifts into states of consciousness where you doubt it or just don’t want to do it. Truth number three below will explain how important it is to hold on to these truths. For myself, my truths are the foundation of my life. And maybe it’s the tenacity of my Cancer Sun sign that helps me hold on to them through thick and thin. But one thing in certain; clinging to the truths we have found definitely works. I will speak more on this at the end of this article.

**Truth Number One** – Life is a series of choices. And the power to choose is what makes us Gods. We always have a choice in every situation.

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Each moment of each day we are faced with choices. And we make constant choices as we move through our days and nights. These choices are what define us as individuals. Our choices are the things that distinguish us from each other. The power to choose is a gift from God that sets us apart from the animals. Our choices are setting into motion many series of events that result in the textures and events of our life. Sometimes, choices we made in our past come back and make us feel that we have no choice in the present moment. For example, someone who chooses to murder someone and then later gets caught may be faced with a life in prison from which he or she cannot escape. But even in that situation, many choices are still available that can affect the quality and meaning of the rest of his or her life. Many great things have occurred in prison.

We can all benefit from this truth by realizing that first; our life is completely in our control. And that control comes from the choices we make. The only thing that separates a rich person from a poor one is the choices they make. No circumstance is greater than the power of choice. If you remember the movie *Braveheart*, William Wallace chose to die rather than renounce his commitment to freedom. Yes, he died, but he died by his own choosing. Secondly we will benefit by realizing that we always have a choice. And we can start making a better life by making different choices now.

**Truth Number Two** – Everyone has exactly what they really want and desire, regardless of what they say they want or desire.

People will tell you they want this or that. They will proclaim their undying dedication to acquiring something which they do not currently possess. But the truth is that we all have exactly what we want right now. And right now is all that really exists. I have found that we each possess everything that our choices will allow for right now, and that is all. Whatever we accept into our lives right now is what we really want, no matter what we say about it. To understand this, we must really get a handle on what life priorities are really about. I often talk in my workshops about how understanding the suit of Spades helps us understand this basic principle. Spades represent what we do in life, as opposed to what we feel (Hearts), think (Clubs) or desire (Diamonds). It is what we actually spend our time doing each day that defines us. No matter what someone tells you about what is most important in their life, the things they spend the most time doing are most important to them. Think about that for a moment. And the things we end up doing each day are defined again by the choices we make. If we really wanted our life to be different, we would have it be different.

This is part of the grand illusion that we are born under; that we cannot have exactly what we want when we want it. One example of this that I discuss in the *Big Money Book* is how we often say “I can’t afford it.” The statement “I can’t afford it” is untrue. The truth is that we always manage to get the money we want for anything that is real important to us. Even the poorest person manages to get what they want. This may seem hard to fathom given some of the stark poverty on the planet today but this is a subtle metaphysical law that cannot be broken. It would be much more constructive to see the world as a place where everyone has exactly what they have chosen than a world of people going without and being denied their wants and desires.

The implications of this truth are enormous. Just realizing it will keep you from feeling sorry for the many people who are always crying or whining about how bad their life is. Instead of pitying them, you could remind them of their divine power to have what they want and also remind them that they have exactly what they have created, right now! And, of course, by practicing this truth in our own lives, we can begin to see our divine power at work and eventually come to never doubt it.
Realizing for a moment that you have exactly what you want can help you go within instead of without. This subtle truth can lead you within yourself where the real excitement is, instead of blaming your apparent failures on something or someone outside of yourself. It can help you ask questions of yourself, questions that can lead you to the real source of your life, the source within.

**Truth Number Three** – The *intention* behind an action is the determination of what the result of that action, and its consequences, will be.

This very important truth can be broken down into two sub-truths for practical sake:

1. Actions taken from an inner state of fear will result in more fearful consequences
2. Actions taken from a loving state will result in more loving consequences

I cannot emphasize just how important this truth is. And, like the previous one, the practice of it will lead you within. But more importantly, if you practice this, you will see an amazing difference in the results of your actions and speech. Of course, it does require that you are aware of your state of mind and emotions. You have to know when you are fearful or when you are feeling loving and safe.

When we get into a panic situation, which for most people occurs many times daily, we immediately go to our minds to find a solution to the problem we face. Our mind then begins frantically seeking a solution. The trouble is, this is happening from a fearful point of view. What our mind comes up with for a solution seems, at the moment, to be a good solution and we trust that and implement it. The truth is that solutions from a fear-based mental perspective will always have a result that puts us in an even more fearful situation.

Conversely, when we are feeling loved and safe, our mind is functioning for our best. And we are able to think clearly and come up with plans and solutions that will result in more love and satisfaction.

And the third state is even more exciting in terms of its possibilities for you and your future. This is not fear and not love and safety. It is the state of inspiration or illumination. This happens when we are feeling loved and safe. We get a sudden burst of inspiration about how our life can be, a wondrous possibility. Perhaps we get an inspiration about the kind of work we would love to do or the place we would love to live. These inspirations are true ‘treasures of the soul’. But few people know of their importance. When we get an inspiration as such, it is our higher self, pointing us in a direction that will truly bring us more joy and happiness. And all we need to do is to follow that inspiration. But we must commit to it as well. Our state of mind will again, at some time, return to a state of fear, doubt and confusion. At those times we will doubt the validity of our inspiration and if we believe in this doubt, we will cease moving towards the goal the inspiration showed us. This is exactly the time that we need to ignore our thoughts and keep our commitment to the brighter and greater future we envisioned. If we do, success is guaranteed. I can only tell you this from my own experience. You are going to have to prove or disprove it for yourself.

I feel I need to say one thing here about these inspirations, given our current society. Inspirations achieved by unnatural means such as drugs (coffee, cigarettes, pot, l.s.d., cocaine, etc.) do not qualify. When we take any kind of drug, we see life differently and may get many positive inspirations about our future. The trouble with drug-induced inspirations is that they are distorted. What drug experiences cause, on a deep level, is to hide a deep intention from us, while giving us an inspiration that seems wonderful. And the deeper intention is a negative or fear-based one. Once, a long time ago, I did some drugs and received an inspiration that I should have a harem of girlfriends. This is a common fantasy among men, but under the influence of the
drug I became convinced that this was my destiny. I found out later that this inspiration was actually masking an inner sense of insecurity. The drug gave me this great inspiration as a solution for my fear of being alone. But the drug did not show me the inner fear. This is what drugs do; they hide our deeper motives from us while bringing us euphoria. It is self-deception at its best.

Our world is full of people making choices from fear on a constant basis. They wonder why their lives seem to get worse each year. They wonder why they have less prosperity, more conflict and more suffering as time goes by. This is because they are choosing to reinforce their fearful side instead of their loving side. All of us have both within. All of us have fear and all of us have love. This is how you can allow you love to shape your life to transform it into a virtual dream come true.

Another important aspect of this powerful truth is as it occurs in our daily lives in terms of relationships, work, and other matters. All actions and words that we create will have results that depend upon what our intention was when they began. The more we can become aware of just what our deepest intentions are, what we are feeling when we initiate new actions, the more we can clean up our life. I tell you this – if you can begin to make more and more of your actions come from your love, your life will become easy, prosperous, and joyful. Conflict will disappear. You might even miss the conflict once it begins to leave. Some people are addicted to it. And that is another step of moving into happiness. But living these truths can change your life.

Sometimes people in our lives perform seemingly harmless actions. But even the most apparently harmless actions may have motives that are powerful and achieve far-reaching results. Likewise, it is difficult to judge anyone just by their actions alone. Their inner motive must be known in order to assess the impact or value of what they are doing. Sometimes, people who are saints do things that seem to obviously wrong or evil. But without knowing their inner motive, we cannot really know if their actions are evil or good.

Truth Number Four – We are the Creators of our Destiny

On some very deep level, everything in our life is our creation. This is a realization that comes to those who reach the highest states of consciousness. Very few of us actually can realize this truth in our day-to-day lives. But, it is true nonetheless. As an exercise, just take a mental inventory of everything that is a part of your life right now. You can start with just the things you own, the place you live, the clothes you wear, the car you drive and move on to the people you spend time with. If you look at each thing separately, you will see that this is something you had at one time desired. You may not necessarily desire all those things now but at one time you did, and they became part of your life. You used your divine power of creation to manifest these things for your own enjoyment and use. It gets a little harder when we look at our relationships, especially the one with our significant other. But the same principle holds true there too.

With this in mind, it becomes easier to see how we have created our life to be the way it is. Just yesterday I had an inspiration as I was driving out to the mountains to go hiking. What if, I thought, God was just waiting there, ready to give me anything and everything I want? What if I really do not have to worry about anything? What if I will be successful in any direction I choose? What if I could just relax and trust my own inner volition as to where I should go or be and God would ensure that this direction would be accompanied by success, prosperity, safety and love? I realized in that moment that all these ‘what ifs’ are really true. But, am I ready to live my life in that truth? That is the real question. I personally believe that this is my destiny and all our destinies – to be living in paradise here on earth. So, I have committed myself to this truth and I am living my life from the perspective of this truth. This has helped me drop concerns about things happening lately, concerns about money, concerns about future directions I may
take. And it helps me tune in to my deepest center of awareness where I always know where I should be and what I should be doing.

There are many other truths that I would like to share with you. But for now, these four will get things started. I may share more in a future article. There are some juicy ones to share, for sure.

**Applying and Keeping the Truths You Find**

So, once we have discovered a truth about life that can have positive impact upon our lives, we need to put them into practice. Truths usually come to us when we are in an open, loving state of mind. But our state of mind and emotion can vary greatly from day to day and inevitably we will be in a down state where everything in life looks bad and gloomy. It is during these times that our truths can help us the most. This is the time when we need our truths most. When our energy is low we see life differently and tend to look upon things negatively. It is during these times that we must hold on to the truths we have realized for dear life. Everything within us will tell us to abandon them and to succumb to a lower way of looking at life. So, commitment to practicing a particular truth is very important. And it is most important when you need it most.

A good idea is to keep your personal set of truths in front of you more or less all the time. You can write them on a piece of paper and tape them somewhere you can see them daily. You can make them your Windows Desktop wallpaper, if you are graphically inclined. There are numerous ways you can remind yourself of these truths. Remember, you received them during a time of elevated consciousness. If you practice them enough, your conscious can expand to be in that elevated state all the time.

**From the December, 2002 newsletter**

**The Return of the Angry Planet**

On Aug. 27, 2003, Mars will be less than 34.65 million miles (55.75 million kilometers) away -- closer to our planet than it’s been in about 73,000 years (http://www.space.com/spacewatch/where_is_mars.html). In addition to that, there will be quite a lineup of planets on that date (see chart) with six planets opposing each other. Mars and Uranus are together in early degrees of Pisces, opposing Jupiter, Moon, Sun and Venus in Virgo. Sun and Moon being conjunct signals a lunar eclipse. Wow! This event looks to me to be some kind of very powerful trigger point for those of us living on the earth.

As the space.com article says, this will be “the most dramatic and spectacular Mars apparition you or any of your ancestors has ever had a chance to see. .

*The Red Planet is getting progressively closer to Earth with each passing night, and consequently it will slowly appear to grow larger and brighter. By late August 2003, when it will be about 191 million miles closer, the reddish point of light in our night sky will appear more than six times larger and shine some 85 times brighter than it appears now.*

*At the close approach, the Red Planet will be brighter than Jupiter and all the stars in the night sky, outshone only by Venus and the Moon.”*
Do not be too alarmed by this coming apparition. The presence of both Jupiter and Venus in this planetary lineup tells us that there will be much good to come of it. But still, Mars, Uranus, the earth and Sun in stressful aspect could signal the beginning of some major conflict. Remember that Mars is the God of War. Somehow Jupiter and Venus will come into play and ease the expression of this. But I do really sense this configuration of planets to be the signal for a possible major war on our planet.

Most western astrologers do not take notice of how far planets are from the earth at the time of birth. But some vedic astrologers do, and this information is very meaningful. When a planet gets closer to the earth, its effect is increased. In India, many celebrations (called pujas, hotras, yagnas, etc.) occur each year that coincide with the Moon and other celestial bodies reaching their closest point to the earth that year. When a malefic planet such as Saturn or Mars gets close to the earth, we can expect an increase in malefic energies and activities. Then, again, if that malefic planet forms stressful aspects to other planets, we can expect negative consequences and events to appear on the earth. Fortunately the coming configuration does not involve Saturn or Pluto, which were involved in the 9/11 event last year. What would be your prediction for this coming event?

Be forewarned that every time we have some astronomical event of this kind, the new age nut cakes come out from under their rocks and issue all sorts of gloom and doom proclamations. Be prepared for the onslaught, especially on the internet through email chain letters. But those of you who have read this article will be prepared for this, and much more informed. Perhaps you can help settle the minds and hearts of a few people you come in contact with.
Celebrities Through the Cards –
Halle Berry

Born 8/14/1968 Leo Q♣

Married Eric Benet (born 10/15/1970 7♣/Q♠) on January 24, 2001

The new James Bond girl is Halle Berry (Die Another Day with Pierce Brosnan). But in case you haven’t been noticing, she has been doing a lot of great roles lately and her career just seems to go up and up. But what are some things about her life that are reflected in her cards? In this new series we will explore people’s lives and see what we can find out.

Born in 1968, Halle has the same birthday as many other celebrities, including Magic Johnson, Steve Martin, David Crosby and Sarah Brightman. The Q♣, though a powerful card, has its share of negative karma to deal with. Halle Berry is no exception. She has had both tremendous success and some significant difficulties in her life. When she was younger she was physically abused by one of her boyfriends and lost 80% of her hearing in one of her ears. He has one failed marriage and has diabetes. Q♣ are known for health problems and only those who devote a considerable amount of their attention to good health habits are able to avoid having problems.

Her first marriage was at age 24 during her Mars period. She had a 10♥ Long Range Card that year. You can bet that the wedding was a major focus of her attention. It is interesting that her Saturn Card that year was the 7♥ with a 4♥ vertical. Her Life Spread Saturn Card is also the 7♥. I bet that her marriage showed some real problems right from the start. Her Long Range Card the following year was the 7♦, the Birth Card of her husband. And she had his Planetary Ruling Card in Mars. I bet that him being her Long Range Card was more of a sign of problems in their marriage than the opposite. In her Saturn period at Age 27, she had the 2♠ and 9♥ in Saturn. That 2♠ had the Q♥ as its Underlying Card and of course the 9♥ and 7♦ are Karma Cards so I believe that signaled the real end of her marriage. I do not know when the divorce was official.

She was placed on three years probation and ordered to pay $13,500 in fines and penalties after pleading no contest on May 10, 2000 to a misdemeanor charge of leaving the scene of a traffic accident. The judge also ordered the actress to perform 200 hours of community service and to make restitution as determined by the outcome of civil litigation arising from the February accident when she was driving a rented Chevrolet Blazer and ran a red light and crashed into another car on Sunset Boulevard. She left the scene of the accident before authorities arrived, suffered a gash to her head that required 20 stitches to close, and the woman (Hetal Raythatha)
driving the other vehicle broke her wrist. Halle reported the accident to a police officer at the hospital where she sought treatment.

During this event, she was 31 years old and was displacing the J♦. She was in her Uranus period with a 6♥ and 2♠. That 6♥ had the big, bad dynamic duo of cards, the 6♠ and 9♠ as Underlying Cards. I have always told everyone to watch out for those pair as Underlying Cards. Fortunately they were not in Saturn when this occurred.

The following year during her Jupiter period she married Eric Benet. She had the K♥ and 2♦ in that period. Underlying the K♥ was the Q♠, his Planetary Ruling Card. His Q♠ is a Karma Cousin to her Q♣ Birth Card and he has to give to her in that exchange. All in all, this new marriage seems to be much more blessed than the first. Eric has a daughter whose mother died in a car accident so perhaps Halle gets to play the mother role as well. It is entirely possible that her diabetes may prevent her from having children of her own. With an A♥ Long Range Card this year, that may very well be a huge topic for her now and perhaps she will find a way to accomplish this dream of hers.

In April 10, 2002 Halle received an injury on the set of Die Another Day (2002). Halle was injured on location in Cadiz, Spain while shooting an action sequence that involved Pierce Brosnan firing on a helicopter being flown by Rick Yune. At that time she was, you guessed it, in her Saturn period and had the 7♥ and 9♠ there. Something tells me that with her accident, was a sense of loneliness (7♥). I do know this for a fact but the cards certainly suggest it. Perhaps her and Eric were not able to be together at that time. It is also interesting the Pierce Brosnan is a May 16th, 1953 birthday making him a 3♦/7♥. His Planetary Ruling Card shows up there. And don’t forget that the 7♥ is her Life Spread Saturn Card. That 7♥ in Saturn seems to show up a lot in the yearly spreads of the Q♣. Perhaps this is one reason why their lives are so challenging. This year ends her current 7-year cycle with a 10♠ result. Though there have been many trials, she gets her dreams made true. Maybe she will get that baby she has always wanted. What do you think?

From the January, 2003 newsletter

From the Mystic Test Book – Part One
By Robert Lee Camp

A Quick Personal Reading for Any Day

In The Mystic Test Book, page 43, Olney Richmond states:

“In every pack of cards, no matter how much or by whom shuffled, mixed, or cut, there are seven cards that rule under the seven planets. These rulers change in accordance with the occult principles of time and the magnetism of the person or persons handling them.”

Later, in that section, Olney Richmond describes exactly how to find these seven planet ruling cards and their importance. He goes on to say, on page 46,
“Let a person shuffle or mix the cards up for a period of 60 seconds and the place of every emblem corresponds to his (or her) personal magnetism. Let him (or her) cut the book so prepared, 3 times in succession, with just 20 seconds interval between, and the ruling places are occupied by the cards ruling at the time, under the seven planets.”

Here is a translation for those to whom it may be helpful. Olney is saying here, first of all that in any deck of cards there are seven cards that are representative of the actions or effects of the seven planets. These rulers change by both the time of day and the magnetism of the person handling the deck of cards. The Life Spread (in Grand Solar array) has these seven ruling cards and it turns out that they are the three Fixed (8♣, J♥, K♠) and four Semi-Fixed Cards (A♣, 2♥, 7♦ and 9♥). For those who are interested, here is a list showing which is which.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Planet</th>
<th>Place in the deck</th>
<th>Card in Life Spread</th>
<th>Card in Spiritual Spread</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mercury</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>A♣</td>
<td>2♥</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venus</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>7♦</td>
<td>9♥</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mars</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>J♥</td>
<td>J♥</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jupiter</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>2♥</td>
<td>A♣</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturn</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>8♣</td>
<td>8♣</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uranus</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>9♥</td>
<td>7♦</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neptune</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>K♠</td>
<td>K♠</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We are not going to be using the Life or Spiritual Spreads for our reading but I wanted to share that with those students who have an interest.

In the second paragraph, Olney is saying that if someone shuffles a deck for 60 seconds, his or her personal magnetism has caused all the cards in that deck to be in their proper place as a reflection of that individual at that time. In other parts of the book he describes how the 60-second shuffle corresponds to the rotation of the earth on its axis, etc. Then, he says, if the same person cuts the deck three times on 20-second intervals, not only will the deck be magnetized for the individual but also, the 7 ruling cards will be aligned with the person’s personal magnetism.

This presents an opportunity to do a personal reading for any given time and place because we end up with seven cards, each governing one of the seven planets. I have tried it and the results are amazing. Here are specific instructions:

1. Take a deck of cards. Remove the jokers and count them to make sure they are all there.
2. Using a clock with a second hand, perform a 60-second shuffle of the deck in any fashion you prefer.
3. Exactly at the end of the shuffle, lay the cards down and immediately do a cut of the deck. A cut of the deck consists of laying aside a portion of the deck and then taking up the remaining cards and placing them on top of the ones you laid aside. The cards are face down for these cuts.
4. Repeat the cut twice, each cut being 20 seconds after the previous cut.
5. Now, to find the rulers, keep the deck so that the backs of the cards are up and the faces are down. From the top of the deck, count to the 2nd card. This is your Mercury Card. Take it out and lay it down. Next, using the table above, count out the remaining planetary cards. The Venus Card will be the 9th card, the Mars Card will be the 11th card and so forth. Lay them
out from left to right. When you are done, you should have seven cards laid out from left to right as Mercury through Neptune.

6. Now, use the Destiny Cards book to interpret the cards in their respective positions. However, keep in mind that this is a reading for that exact moment in time for you. I believe that if you do this, you will see that the cards reflect exactly how you are experiencing your life at that moment. The different planetary cards will portray the various part of your life as follows:

   a. Mercury – what you are thinking about, the state of your mental health, educational pursuits, short trips and your automobile.
   b. Venus – things around your home, your closest relationships, luxury and beauty items and artistic pursuits.
   c. Legal and competitive matters, relationships with men and male-ruled groups. Passion and sex drive.
   d. The blessings in your life, both material and spiritual.
   e. The challenges and sources of limitation in your life. Health matters.
   f. Real estate, social and other groups, unexpected happenings.
   g. What you wish and hope for, what you may be secretly afraid of, the secrets you are keeping.

Using the above descriptions as general guidelines, I think you will get some very interesting results from this reading.

How often can you do this reading? Olney doesn’t place any limits on it but I would imagine that doing it more than once a day for personal use would be too much. The reading doesn’t actually answer any questions you may have. However, it does give you an accurate picture of what is going on in your life at the moment and is a very interesting study.

More about the Upcoming Mars Opposition
By Ginger Tidrow

On August 27th, 2003, Mars will be less than 34.65 million miles away. The last time it came this close to the Earth was 73,000 years ago. Only Venus and the Moon will shine brighter in the night sky. Usually, Western astrologers do not focus on how close the planets are to the Earth; however, we will also have 6 planets opposing each other on that date. It is certain that some significant events will take place in our world this year.

Interestingly enough, this event occurs when the Sun, Earth and Mars are all in a straight line. Because the Earth orbits closer to the Sun than Mars, it is essentially blocking Mars from the Sun and astronomers refer to this as a Mars opposition. If the Mars opposition happens when Mars is at it’s closest point to the Sun and consequently the Earth, then it is called a perihelic opposition. The perihelic opposition occurs every 15 to 17 years and because of the elliptical orbits of both the Earth and Mars, some oppositions swing closer to the Earth than others, or form a peak opposition, which happens every 49 to 79 years.

The last perihelic opposition was in 1988 and the doomsday predictions were flying at the speed of light. This usually happens for any noteworthy astronomical event. It has been suggested by more than one person that it is the signal for another World War. There is a correlation between past perihelic Mars oppositions and aggressive behavior on this planet, particularly when it is a peak opposition.

In 1625, Charles I, of England ascended the throne and took a French Catholic Princess for his bride. This angered the Church of England members of the court. Relations between the
Catholics and the Church of England were turbulent at best. The stage was set for English Civil War against Charles I, in 1640 when Mars moved into peak opposition with the Earth.

The next time Mars orbited very close to the Earth was in 1766. England and France had been at war with each other almost constantly for the last one hundred years. King George began to look to his North American colonies, which had been largely ignored while he was fighting France, to rebuild the treasury. He began to levy taxes that the colonists considered excessive. 10 years later the colonies declared themselves free and the American Revolution began. The same war also ended during an opposition, although not a peak one.

In 1845, Mars moved into peak opposition again, and after Texas and Florida joined the Union, Mexico declared war against the United States. The entrance of these states is also a contributing factor to the Civil War. Both of them entered the Union as slave states, which tipped the balance and made the Northern states begin to feel threatened. In 1860, the year of the next perihelic Mars opposition, the first state seceded from the Union and in 1861 the Civil War began.

1924, the year that Stalin won the struggle for leadership of the USSR, was the year of the next peak opposition.  Germany was floundering under heavy war reparations imposed after World War I, the Ottoman Empire was overthrown and Hejaz fell to the Saudi’s. All of these events lead to years of unrest and in 1939, when Mars moved into opposition, World War II began.

The opposition that occurs on August 27, 2003 is a peak perihelic opposition. If world events follow the same pattern of an event or events in the peak opposition causes serious anger and unrest and the major conflict coming in the following opposition, then the 2003 opposition will see the seeds of war planted once again erupting in a major conflict in 2035, the year of the next perihelic opposition.

Even peak perihelic oppositions are not created equal because it has been 73,000 years since one came this close to Earth. Since recorded history does not extend back that far it is hard to gauge how the effect of a few million miles closer proximity. However, the Earth keeps her own records. 73,000 years ago, the Earth recorded a violent event, which didn’t involve war. Toba volcano in Indonesia erupted with such magnitude that it lowered the planetary temperature 10 C for 5 years completely altering the flora and fauna on the planet.

Obviously, if our history tells us that, this Mars opposition will make an impact on life as we know it today.
While it is hard to view those pivotal historic events as anything but negative, they did create the climate for social reform. The English Civil War started removing absolute sovereignty from the monarchy. The American Revolution created this Democratic society. The American Civil War ended slavery and World War II was a hallmark of many social changes including the workingwoman.

If this argument that war can bring about needed social change has not convinced you, then you may want to start employing the antidote to Mars aggression, peaceful intentions. Place your peaceful intentions into the world every day and ask for balance to return and ease the aggressive Mars energies. Keep in mind that Venus the planet of love and Jupiter the planet of luck are both involved in this configuration.

Ginger Tidrow is a card student and reader in the Dallas, Texas area. If you would like to contact her, her number is 214-213-1020 and her email is tidrowg@earthlink.net.

Are You Prepared for World War III?
by Robert Lee Camp

In light of the above article and the similar one that I wrote in my special December 2002 issue, the potential for World War III is very strong. Vedic Astrologers use the closeness of a planet to the earth to measure a kind of strength it possesses. This is something that is missing in western astrology but can be very significant. Mars the God of War and a malefic planet. His effects as he comes close to the earth in a perihelic opposition can only be one of violence and destruction. His grandfather, Pluto, was the cause of the 9/11 disaster. The son returns in his strongest form in 73,000 years. I am normally not a doomsayer and I am not predicting doom for this planetary configuration either. I even make fun of all the New Age types that get excited every time we have some sort of planetary alignment. However, this configuration, combined with the current actions and choices of our government represent a very real prospective that I think all of us should be aware of, and prepared for.

First of all, even if World War III begins this year, it does not mean the end of your life or my life. It may be the end of life as we have known it but to be human is to be resourceful and adaptable. We will survive as most in past wars have survived. But just looking at what happened on 9/11, we can already see that our lives have been altered. We cannot go back to how it was before that time. Now, we must be prepared for more to come, more changes and big changes. I certainly do not agree with our going to war, and you probably don’t either. It may not even be possible to truly know why our nation is going to war. We rarely, as a society, are in the loop to the inside story of what goes on at the highest levels of decision making in our government. So, we may never know why we are going to war or even be able to do much about it. But we can be prepared for it ourselves. And in doing so, we can weave our way through troubled times like a river through the rocks of mountains.

There are several possible wars impending. The U.S. may tackle both Iraq and North Korea. China may fight with Taiwan. Other countries may engage or disengage. China will probably defeat Taiwan so quickly that it seems impossible. And then, we may face China ourselves. Many are predicting a war between the U.S. and China. China is probably the most powerful nation on this planet at the moment. And thanks to us, they are now duly technologically equipped to do war in the 21st century. Just how many wars can we afford? And how will it affect us all? Think about WW II for a moment. Our entire nation became essentially a war machine. Everyone had to work to contribute to the war effort - men, women and children. It may not come to this and let’s hope that it doesn’t. But how will you prepare for any war that may be upon us?
As far as money goes, stocks do not do well it war time. Gold and other safer investments do well. We see today a rise in ‘police state’ mentality. The government is seeking more and more freedom to invade our privacy, all in the name of safety to our country. Expect us to have less rights and more government intrusion. The government may end up having full disclosure into most every facet of our lives in the coming time. Already there is legislation to allow the government to read all of our emails. They are probably already doing it. Expect more, again, in the name of national security. A good friend of mine and I were discussing this lately and we both concluded that it all goes back to the basic law – the more security we have, the less freedom we have. This applies universally, not just in our relationship to our government. The safest place of all is probably in jail or in the grave. Think about it.

Looking back to WW II, we may expect shortages of luxury and other items, things that we now take for granted. We now import many things from China. In the event of a war with them, these imports would stop. Prices in the US will go up for many items. Oil supplies will probably be shorter and prices for gas and heating oil could go through the roof. You or I may be called upon to help in the war effort in any number of ways. Some of our children or relatives will be drafted and there will probably be many deaths.

The main thing to keep in mind here is that there could be a lot of change in our lifestyles and some of us will face tough challenges as a result. However, as a spiritual being, you do not need to be afraid of your future or that of your loved ones. During war, there are many tragedies but there are also many victories on the personal front. Though an entire country may be involved in a war, it affects each of us uniquely. Your connection to God, your sense of inner prosperity and peace, your beliefs, attitudes, and your approach to life will determine exactly what you attract to yourself, just as they do now. So, if we each maintain our connection to God and our higher self, we have nothing to fear. And if we can share that inner peace with those around us, we can make a contribution to them as well.

The Magic in Your First Karma Card
by Robert Lee Camp

Recently I held an intermediate level workshop at my house here in Asheville, NC. And as workshops usually go, some new and very fascinating discoveries are made. Something about the synergy of people coming together to study the cards causes ‘brain sparks’ to fly. These sparks of intuition often reveal a new level of understanding about some aspect of the cards or an entirely new distinction. In this recent workshop some new distinctions about the first Karma Card dawned on me, distinctions that are both practical and powerful in nature. That one discovery lead to a cascade of other related discoveries, all of which I am going to share with you now.

To explain this new understanding, first lets look at what we already know about the first Karma Card. We know that our first Karma Card represents an area of our life that is weak or undeveloped. This usually indicates a tendency to express the lower levels of expression of that card. So, whatever your first Karma Card, you will find that you tend to express the negative interpretation of that card, at least most people do. Conversely, the second Karma Card is one that we seem to express the high side of quite effortlessly. As a matter of fact, most of us express the second Karma Card so naturally that we are usually unaware of our having that gift at all. This seems to be a lot like the interpretation given to trine aspects in our astrological natal chart. Many astrologers will tell you that a trine aspect is one that is essentially positive, but most people are aware of this gift that it represents. And, carrying that analogy a step further, our first Karma Card would be a lot like square aspects in our natal chart. Square aspects represent parts
of our personality that have difficulty being expressed, usually because of internal conflicts surrounding it.

One way of describing the two Karma Cards that may be an over-simplification would be to call the first Karma Card our *Bad Karma Card* and to call our second Karma Card, the *Good Karma Card*. For most people, these labels describe them fairly adequately. But since good and bad are really relative to the individual’s point of view, we have to look deeper to get their true essence.

In my case, my first Karma Card is the 3♦. ♦️️ people are known to have a secret fear of not having enough money, a sort of uncertainty about what they want that causes them to worry about whether or not there is going to be enough money, love, etc. there for them. My second Karma Card is the 9♦. This card points to the ♦️️ tendency to give to others. We are called philanthropic by many and love to give to charities and to those that we meet who are in need. Giving comes easy to ♦️️. The worry about money is something that they all work on to one degree or another.

The new distinction that was revealed to me at that workshop was that what the first Karma Card really represents is an area of our life that we have avoided looking at or dealing with. In effect, we tried to ignore that area as much as possible, for a variety of reasons. Now, in this lifetime, we will be faced with the issues associated with that card over and over again until we decide to pay attention to them. I invite you to pause at this point in this article and think about your first Karma Card for a minute in light of what I have just stated. To fully understand this you must be familiar with both the higher and lower expressions of that card. Without knowing the spectrum of expression of that card you will not be able to get much from this discovery. *Destiny Cards* does a pretty good job of giving the high and low side interpretation of each card. As a guideline, you can read the Saturn, Pluto or Displacement Card interpretations for more of the lower expressions of the card and read the Jupiter and Environment Card interpretations for the high side meanings.

Once you are familiar with the higher and lower expressions of your particular first Karma Card, see how these traits are expressed in your life. Ask yourself how, at this point in your life, do you tend to express that card. Is it more on the high side or low side? Also, look back in your past and see if you have changed that behavior from how you did it when you were younger.

Now, ask yourself if you have come to accept the fact that you have the negative expression of that card within yourself and that you have or are expressing it negatively in your life. Try to get a sense of just how familiar you are with the aspects of your personality that your first Karma Card represents. What I am driving at here is, *just how much have you actually looked at or faced that card*.

The next discovery about the first Karma Card is that if we truly face the negative expression of that card, we can rise above it. We only have to really look at it, and stop running away from it, to rise above it. As simple as that sentence is, this is something that is often one of the hardest things to do in our life. Many of us are still in the stage of denial about the issues this card reflects. Those in denial cannot even acknowledge they have a problem there, much less accept it. True acceptance of something, which is also what I call true *looking* at something, only comes through being completely aware of it and not running away from it. We tend to run away from things we do not wish to accept. We run away first by denying that it is us. Next, we run away by blaming others for it. All that is required is to keep looking at it. If we look long enough, a magical transformation will take place and we will no longer be bound by the negative expression of that card.

I found that by just seeing the insecurity and fear that my 3♦ caused in me that the fear dissolved and left me with the abundant creativity that the 3♦ bestows in it’s positive expression.
As a matter of fact, my research shows that those who truly face their first Karma Card actually begin to manifest the positive expression of it. In effect, it becomes like the second Karma Card, a blessing in our life. What this has taught me is that our first Karma Card is, for most people, an untapped gift, and a wonderful gift at that. But because of a lack of looking, or a lack of acceptance, they are unable to access it. So, the magic in the first Karma Card is that it can become a blessing in our life, one that we can use over and over again.

The next awareness that came to me about the first Karma Card is that it is in many ways identical to our yearly Displacement Card in form and function. Actually, the yearly Displacement Card and first Karma Card are derived in the very same way. And their expression is the same. The only difference is that the Displacement Card lasts only one year while the first Karma Card lasts for life. The fact that they are derived the same tells me that the message and meaning of the yearly Displacement Card is the same as the first Karma Card. In other words, our yearly Displacement Card represents an area that we have ignored in some way and must pay attention to during this year. It only lasts one year but it can represent a very important and timely direction for personal growth. It is, in effect, the first Karma Card for the year. Think about that for a minute. In the same way, the yearly Environment Card is like the second Karma Card for the year. Interesting, don’t you think?

So, the same message applies to the yearly Displacement Card. If we just look at the behavior represented by that card, and in particular the negative behavior associated with the low side of that card, we have a direction for spiritual growth that can bring many rewards. Remember, by looking at this Displacement Card, we can transform it from the low side to the high side, just like we can our first Karma Card. This offers exciting possibilities for spiritual growth and advancement.

In my case, I displace the 5♣ this year. I certainly feel the restlessness of that card and I have found that a big issue for me this year has been to just acknowledge my need for personal freedom and look at the parts of myself that are wanting to break out of the mold, both mentally and emotionally since the 5♣ is strongly connected to the 5♥. Part of this for me is to acknowledge the parts of myself that do not want the confines of a long-term relationship. It is a strange place for me to be since most of my life has been spent in long-term, committed relationships. But that is what is here for me to look at. That same 5♣ could hold a different meaning for someone with different circumstances than myself. A good friend of mine is also displacing the 5♣ but he is happily married. For him, the card is manifesting more as a need for him to expand his mental horizons in new areas this year. In both cases, we have to look at this inner restlessness and allow it to become manifest for ourselves in some positive way.

And finally, there is one more piece to this ‘landslide of distinctions’ that came from this workshop. And that is this: When we look at our yearly Displacement Card, we should also evaluate that meaning of its first Karma Card. In other words we should consider that we have two Displacement Cards each year, the one listed in Destiny Cards and the first Karma Card of that card, whatever it may be. Let’s say, for example, that your Displacement Card this year is the Q♣. So, as far as what you should be looking at this year in terms of spiritual growth, look at the Q♣ and its first Karma Card, the 3♥. What you are doing, in essence, is looking at the Displacement Card in both the Life and Spiritual Spreads. Look at both cards and see if their expression in a negative fashion is not something for you to face and transform. Why the first Karma Card of the Displacement Card? The reason may be a little hard to explain for beginner or intermediate level students but I will state it anyway for the benefit of those who are using the Grand Solar Spreads in their work. The Displacement Card is the card in the Life Spread that we displace each year. The first Karma Card of that card would be the card we displace in the Spiritual Spread each year. And I can see now that both are extremely important. Having both
gives a much more in-depth look at what is going on in our year in terms of spiritual growth and development. I hope you find this information as exciting as I have. It helps define yearly and life-long issues and a pathway for success in these areas. I believe that the yearly Displacement Card may actually represent the spiritual growth card for each year, the area where God or the powers that be see best for our advancement and sense of fulfillment. Imagine if we just looked each year at that card and its first Karma Card and that was all we had to do to experience continual success and amazement in our lives. I for one believe this is actually the case. As a good friend of mine once put it, “the cards are God’s plan for man.” Well, if this is our plan, then let’s get on with it and get to work!

From the March, 2003 newsletter

Star Card Couples
Ben Afflect and Jennifer Lopez

Ben Afflect 8/15/1972 J♣ (J♦/10♥ Karma Cards)
"I'm always described as 'cocksure' or 'with a swagger,' and that bears no resemblance to who I feel like inside. I feel haunted and plagued by insecurity, and I feel afraid a lot of the time ... I wish I was more fearless."

Jennifer Lopez 7/24/1970 4♣ (5♣/6♥ Karma Cards)
"I thought she'd [her mother] offer me some sympathy. Instead, she said, 'don't you ever call me crying again! You wanted to be in this business, so you better toughen up!' And I did."

Jennifer Lopez seems awfully in a hurry to get married. Scarcely two years ago she announced her engagement to dancer Cris Judd, subsequently married him and got divorced. It seems that she goes through a lot of guys in a short period of time. What Ben probably doesn’t know is that she has a Sun/Mars conjunction in her natal chart. This aspect has been affectionately termed the ‘you don’t own me baby’ aspect. The men in her past have all found out that she is very strong willed and used to having her way. She is sort of your classic Latin ‘handful’. And with a 5♣ first Karma Card, she is just as restless as any man, in her own way. The main thing in this relationship is that they are both Leos. Leos, the most dramatic and romantically driven sign in the zodiac. Just being a Leo can add to any card the romantic restlessness of a Three or Five. And of course, more so if the first Karma Card is a Five as well. So, we are sure to hear more J. Lo escapades in the future. This would be her third marriage in five years. And, their rumored wedding on Valentine’s day didn’t seem to materialize. Will she and Ben actually get married? Read on.

With Ben, she has met a strong Neptune Card in the Spiritual Spread. There is also a strong Uranus connection in the Life Spread that adds to her excitement over him. But both the 4♣ and J♣ are also both very fixed cards, each in their own way. J. Lo, with a Moon in Aries and the
aforementioned Mars conjunct Sun, is the more outgoing and fiery of the two. But J♣ are known to be very fixed in their concepts in life in general and in love and marriage in particular. Hopefully the Neptune she feels for him will keep her romance alive when she runs into that fixed mind. The one thing that no one usually knows about J♣ until it is too late is how fixed their ideas are about marriage and the role of the husband and wife once married. It doesn’t appear until after marriage but then, things can change dramatically as the J♣ expects his or her mate to be all that their ideas say they should.

And he, being a J♣ man, is not immune to the charms of other women. Though the J♣ is a fairly marriageable card, and though Ben seems pretty underwhelming personality-wise for the most part, he is again a Leo. I wonder after seeing Daredevil, one of his recent films with co-star Jennifer Garner, if there wasn’t some ‘chemistry’ between them that might have went too far. And why didn’t J. Lo show up at the premier of that movie? Jennifer Garner is a 4♦ (4/17/72). That happens to be the direct Neptune Card of the J♣ in the Life Spread, a strong connection. We may never know. But I wonder if Ben can stay with one woman, or long enough to get married. But, between you and me, he is more likely to get married and stay that way than she is.

Do they have marriage cards in their future? I do not see convincing cards in J. Lo’s spreads - nothing that would normally indicate marriage. Ben’s cards look equally unconvincing as far as marriage is concerned. Interestingly, they both have the A♠ as their Long Range Card for the year beginning on their next birthday. In its broadest interpretation, the A♠ could mean marriage, if that marriage represented a complete transformation in their life. But, I ask, has a date been set for this marriage yet? Truth is, an engagement without a date is not an engagement - it’s just talk.

The Deeper Meanings of the Sevens and Nines

Sevens and Nines are, for most of us, some of the scariest cards in the deck. Most of us who have studied the cards for a while have learned that these cards usually spell trouble of one sort or the other. But I say that these cards are generally misunderstood. When I wrote Destiny Cards, I was writing on behalf of the general population. And the truth is, for most people Sevens and Nines will be trouble and loss of one sort or the other. But for those on the spiritual path, these cards can bring success. And it is important to understand more about them if you are going to access their higher sides. Olney Richmond, in his book, The Mystic Test Book, discusses the meanings of Sevens and Nines in his section about the symbology of the arrangements of the spots on page 43. He states, “The seven is trouble, from one way only. Approach it from another direction and trouble disappears.” Then, for Nines he states, “The geometrical form on the nines is a representation of a path with a disappointing obstacle in the center. Approach from either end and it bars your progress. You are disappointed and turn back.” He also states, on the next page, that “Sevens do not indicate spiritual trouble, but material.” They are actually indicators of spiritual success. I am going to take up where he left off and explain these in more detail.

When a Seven appears, there is a good likelihood that a challenge of some kind will appear in your life. Something that you already have or will be coming to have will be threatened by a new development. All may seem lost at the outset of this event. You will certainly feel that the possibility of losing something or someone is imminent. And for most of us, this creates fear and
apprehension. Even people that are pretty firmly grounded in a sense of self may feel this way at the outset. But it is what each individual does with the situation from that point forward that distinguishes his or her level of true spirituality. When we feel threatened or afraid, most of us want to exert extra effort on the material plane. In other words, we want to control something or someone outside of ourselves in order to remedy our fear. So, we try to change the external situation, using all the power at our command. However, under a Seven that will be very difficult and usually impossible. A Seven will cause all manner of events that seem to conspire against all your efforts. You can feel as though the universe is working against you. But this is where the magic comes in. If, in that situation, we cease trying to change the external situation and find some way to accept it as it is, it can magically turn around. But, you must keep in mind that we cannot fake this attempt. We cannot pretend to have let go of our attachment while secretly keeping our attachment to a situation and expect it to change. We must truly let go inside and be willing to let God take over for us. It also helps a lot if we can muster some gratitude for things in our life related to the incident before us. The more true gratitude we can feel, the quicker this situation can turn around. And this is what Olney meant when he indicated that we can have success if we approach a Seven situation in another way. One important key to keep in mind is that with any Seven you face right now, there is always a way out of it. No matter how bad it looks, a Seven is a guarantee that you can find another way around it. But that other way is the way within, not a way of controlling or trying to change the external situation.

Once during a 7♥ Saturn period, I received a letter from someone who had once been a friend. The letter was accusatory and insulting. I apparently had done something a long time ago that had hurt this other person’s feelings. My initial reaction was hurt, fear and anger at receiving this angry letter. But before responding, I took some time to feel what I was feeling and to explore the situation. I recognized my reaction to the letter and took the time to allow my feelings to calm down. I knew that nothing good would come of my retaliating. So, I took the complete opposite approach. And I truly dropped my fear. I wrote back apologizing for my inconsiderate behavior and asked if there was something I could do to make up for what I had done. I was sincere in this as I had dropped my fear completely. My letter helped turn the situation around and the other person responded in a completely different, more positive manner. And, we became friends again. I have experienced similar situations again and again and have watched my clients experience them as well. The good news for anyone going through a Seven situation is ‘there is a way out.’

Now, for Nines. Though I agree with Olney, I don’t think he took the time to explain Nines as well as he should. Nines are losses, indeed. And there is no other way around a Nine like there is for a Seven. But, and this is an important but, Nines do have an incredible resolution power if one understands them. The appearance of a Nine means that something we are engaging in is over. But even more than that, that something that is ending in our life is no longer good for us or in our highest interest. If we could really understand this, at its deepest level, we would not be so afraid of Nines. God is truly watching out for us. And the appearance of a Nine means that He is helping us get back on track, away from something or someone that is no longer serving us in any capacity. The only trouble is that when a Nine appears, we are usually unable to see this. From our point of view, it usually looks like we are losing something, something that we want to keep, something that we believe is good for us. After a Nine experience, we see the truth. But sometimes that is only after a lot of worry, disappointment and grieving. If we were to start looking at Nines differently from the outset, we could save ourselves so much aggravation, pain and suffering.

The real thing to do when you are faced with a Nine situation is to let go. Just let it go, whatever it is. To let go in this matter is an act of having faith in God. I guarantee that you will soon realize just how good the decision to let go really was. And what can follow that letting go
is a euphoric experience of being connected to reality and the universe in a much more profound way. It is human to grieve something that we lose. Allow yourself grieving time, if you need it. That is part of the human experience. But don’t hesitate to let go. Your ultimate good is just around the next corner.

I once had a plan to teach an astrology class when one day I received a phone call telling me that the bookstore owner had mistakenly scheduled two classes at the same time and since he had scheduled the other class first, he felt that he had to delete my class from the schedule. The weird thing was that the other class was also an astrology class. Not only that but I had also scheduled an introductory lecture to promote the class. So, now, here I was, doing an introductory free lecture only to promote someone else’s class. At first I tried to persuade the storeowner to change his mind. But I immediately realized energetically that this was going against the flow of the universe. I had a 9♦ in Mercury at this time. So, I just let go and told the storeowner that it was no problem and that I would be happy to still do the lecture and help promote the other class. As soon as I hung up the phone I had a spiritual revelation. First of all, I realized that I really did not have time to teach the astrology class and that it was really more of a distraction to what I was working on at the time. Though it might have generated some income it was really not what I needed to be doing with my time. I felt great relief and I also experienced a feeling of being back in the cosmic flow. I felt euphoric. I called the other teacher and told him what happened and he ended up promoting me a lot. Everything turned out much better than I could have planned myself. And I felt loved by God that He was looking out for my highest interests, instead of angry at having had something taken away from me. This story illustrates exactly how a Nine can show up and how letting go can result in a ‘universal experience.’ I hope this article can help you get more excited about the good possibilities when a Seven or Nine appears in your spreads. And I hope it can help you counsel your clients when they are faced with the same. These cards of spiritual success require spiritual direction in order to turn them around. But they are the ones that make the spiritual path so amazingly fascinating and rewarding as well.

Using Your Life Spread Cards in Yearly Readings

From one perspective, each card in your Life Spread represents issues in your life and a patterned way of dealing with them. Take for example, your direct Venus card. This card will describe a habitual or patterned way of approaching relationships, choice of partners, and what things you consider pleasurable or beautiful. If you have an even-numbered card in Venus, you are more likely to be stable once in a relationship and more likely to be content with one partner. An odd card in Venus could mean the opposite. Whatever your particular Venus card is, it describes you in those areas. Since every card in the deck has both a positive and negative expression, there is no such thing as a ‘good card’ in any position. Each of us will most likely express both the positive and negative of every card in our Life Spread at different times in our life. In this way, our Life Spread cards represent what I call ‘issues’ of our life. Another definition of issues would be ‘characteristics of our personality that will be experienced both positively and negatively at different points in our life, and therefore, traits that need to be integrated in a positive way into our lives.’

If we each take time to study our Life Spread cards we will find a wealth of information about ourselves, information that can help us develop a deeper understanding of the Karmic pattern under which we were brought into this world. Each of the Life Spread Cards, along with the first and second Karma Cards, are instrumental symbols of the challenges and issues that we face in this lifetime. The book, Sacred Symbols of the Ancients, by Florence Campbell and Edith
Randall, has descriptions of the seven direct cards in the Life Spread of each Birth Card. That book, though outdated in language, is a good reference place to start if you want to learn more about the meanings of the cards in your Life Spread. You can also read the basic meaning and meaning in planetary placement of each of the cards in your Life Spread from the Destiny Cards book and get a general sense for what it means.

Once you have become somewhat familiar with the cards in your Life Spread and can recognize the issues in your own life that these cards represent, you are ready to take your yearly readings to a new level, both for yourself and others. This occurs by studying your Yearly Spreads and looking for occurrences of your Life Spread cards within them. The basic principle is this: when a card from your Life Spread shows up in your Yearly Spread, this will indicate a time period in which the issue or issues associated with that card will show up in your life to be experienced or dealt with. From one point of view our life is a school in which we will learn lessons that help us to love ourselves more fully. This technique can help us pinpoint the timing of events and experiences that will relate directly to some of our most important challenges and issues. This information can be invaluable, both for our own self-understanding, and for helping others who may be going through challenging times. It adds a new dimension of understanding to what we see in our Yearly Spread cards. It shows us that one of our lifetime issues is going to reappear for another opportunity to integrate it into our lives.

Let’s look at some examples of this to see how it can be beneficial. Then, I will describe a step-by-step method for using it. This first example is for a 3♠ person who is 34 years old. First, here is the Yearly Spread of this person.

```
Mer  Ven  Mar  Jup  Sat  Ura  Nep  LR  Plu  Res  Env  Dis
4♥  10♥  Q♠  9♥  K♠  J♠  6♠  J♥  7♠  J♦  Q♠  Q♦
10♦  3♠  5♣  2♣  A♦  6♠
```

Now, we look in the Life Spread of the 3♠ person to see if any of those cards have appeared in the Yearly Spread above. What we want to look for, if we are interested in finding important issues surfacing, is for prominent cards in the Life Spread to appear in significant positions in the Yearly Spread. What I mean by prominent is essentially the Mercury through Saturn cards as well as the Pluto and Result. These are more likely to represent issues that can be easily identified than the Uranus and Neptune cards. And what I mean by significant positions in the Yearly Spread are positions that are likely to be more impactful in the year. This would normally include the Saturn, Pluto and Displacement Cards for those representing challenges. Here is the Life Spread of the 3♠ person.

```
Moon  Sun  Mer  Ven  Mar  Jup  Sat  Ura  Nep  Plu  Res
3♠  3♠  9♥  7♠  5♠  Q♠  J♠  9♠  7♠  2♠  K♠
10♦  4♣  J♥  10♠  8♠  8♥
```

And here is where I would start and comments I would make about this person’s Yearly Spread. The first thing I notice is that the Pluto Card for this year, the 7♠, is also the Venus Card in their Life Spread. This tells me that one of the challenges of this year will be dealing with the often negative attitude (7♠) that the 3♠ person has towards their love life (Venus). Since there is a J♦ Result Card connected to it, it is likely that this will be associated with or stimulated by a person of the Diamonds suit, most likely someone younger or a romantic interest. Not only is the Result Card a J♦ but the Pluto Card is displacing the J♦ in the Life Spread (see other writings on the Underlying Cards for more information about this). This further reinforces the notion that
some J♦-like person will be involved in this issue. However, as an aside, the J♦ is one of the Karma Cards of the 3♠ person. And, it is the second Karma Card, which represents their gifts from past-life good karma. So, this could indicate challenges that come with blessings.

Other connections between these two spreads are that the Q♠, which is the Life Spread Jupiter Card of the 3♠, is the Mars Card in this year’s spread. This is a very good indicator for success (Jupiter) in work (Mars). This same Q♠ is the Environment Card in the Yearly Spread of the 3♠. The 9♥ Mercury Card in the Life Spread of the 3♠ is found in the Jupiter position this year as well, another indicator of business or financial success, this time through mercurial type activities. There are a few other connections between these spreads. Can you see them?

In my own spreads this year, I have a 3♣ as my vertical Saturn Card in my Planetary Ruling Card (A♦) spread. This 3♣ also happens to be my direct Venus Card in my Life Spread. So, one could interpret this to say that my life-long quality of indecision and uncertainty in terms of relationships (negative side of the 3♣) is a challenge this year, and especially during my Saturn period, and especially to the A♦ part of my personality because the card is located in my A♦ Yearly Spread. Last year, my Pluto Card was my Planetary Ruling Card, the A♦. It was connected to the 10♦, my Result Card, which happened to be the Planetary Ruling Card of my significant other at the time. In that case, I would interpret that to mean that my A♦ qualities, which are typically described as having trysts beyond the primary relationship, would be a challenge, especially connected to my 10♦ girlfriend. And this is pretty much what occurred. So these two fit my situation exactly even though you would have interpreted them completely differently for someone who did not have the A♦ as a personal significator or as a card in their Life Spread. The A♦ usually means a desire for work, new business enterprises or a desire for money, none of which occurred in my particular case.

I hope these examples can help you understand just how important this technique is. It can reveal information that you would not normally see in a Yearly Spread, information that will be pertinent only to your client because of their Birth Card and its Life Spread. Here is a step by step, for those who can use it, for using this technique.

1. First, have a layout of both the Life Spread and the Yearly Spread of you or your client. I would also have the Yearly Spread of the Planetary Ruling Card or Jack or Queen if you or your client is a Leo sun sign.
2. Compare the two spreads by looking for cards from the Life Spread in the Yearly Spread. Personally I would be looking for all but the Uranus and Neptune cards first, but there are cases when even they could be significant.
3. If you find a match, go back to the Life Spread and study the card you found as it effects the person you are reading for. If it is their Venus Card, as in the examples above, it will be about the way they are in relationships. If it is their Mars Card in the Life Spread it will be about their competitive or passionate energies and how they are expressed.
4. Try to create a description of this card using the Life Spread position and meaning as a basic meaning and then its position in the Yearly Spread for how the issue connected to that card will be experienced in the current year.

That is pretty much all there is to it. And the more you use this, the easier it will be. I think, though, that you will find this perspective on reading the cards very revealing and rewarding.
The Karma Card Yearly Spreads  
and the Space Shuttle Astronauts

Years back I made a startling discovery. I had taken what I considered a significant trip to see my son and I had checked my Yearly Spreads to see if any cards in the spreads indicated that trip. I checked my Birth Card, Planetary Ruling Card and Personality Card spreads and none of them had any indications of that journey. Then, by accident, I looked in the Yearly Spread of my 3♦ first Karma Card. There, I found a 5♠ and 7♦. I had taken a trip (5♠) to see my 7♦ son. The discovery of those cards startled me. And it caused me to draw a hasty conclusion that the Karma Card Yearly Spreads were very significant. Immediately I began using them and actually included them in my Book of Destiny software program. To this day, you can view and report on those Karma Card Yearly Spreads. But shortly thereafter I found that the Karma Card spreads seemed inconsistent. Sometimes they were right on the money and other times they seemed very irrelevant. So, I felt that I should not claim them to be an accurate method since they proved so inconsistent. I stopped using them.

Then, just lately I received an email from an avid student of the cards. In her email she stated that many significant events of her life appeared strongly in her Karma Card spreads. I asked her to send me some examples so I could check them out. She did and I did, and I found that she was correct. Things that occurred to her had not shown up in her Birth Card or Planetary Ruling Card Yearly Spreads but did in her Karma Card spreads. Then, I think it was the same day, I was watching a forensic science TV show that night (I love those Medical Detective type shows). In this show a young woman was murdered by her boyfriend at the time. Her birthday, as seen on the show, was 4/29/1952. And she was murdered in late September 1988. That was her Mars period and in her Birth Card Yearly Spread she had the J♠ and 6♦. Though those were cards that could have been challenging, they certainly didn’t look like ‘being murdered’ cards. The Underlying Cards for that period were not bad either. Then, I checked her Planetary Ruling Card spread. There she had an 8♦ and K♠. Great cards and again, good Underlying Cards too in that spread. So, I turned to her first Karma Card spread and what did I find? - the A♠ and 10♠! Well, that surprised me, for sure. I wish that show had revealed the birthday of her boyfriend. But only in some cases do they flash a document on the screen with the birthday of people involved. But judging by his actions, he was probably a J♠ kind of guy. By the way, he was never convicted of the crime though after his trial they found proof positive that he had done it.

So, lately I am checking these Karma Card spreads a lot. Recently, in a class held here at my home, we explored the Yearly Spreads of the shuttle astronauts that perished in the disaster on February 1, 2003. Here are the names and birthdays of the ones we could find, from the NASA web site on astronauts.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Birthday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Michael P. Anderson</td>
<td>12/25/59</td>
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<tr>
<td>David M. Brown</td>
<td>4/16/56</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rick D. Husband</td>
<td>7/12/57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William C. McCool</td>
<td>9/23/61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L Ramon</td>
<td>6/20/54</td>
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One thing before we start this investigation, keep in mind the golden rule of interpretation: What cards do show up will represent what the event was for the person personally. What is important about this rule is that we tend to project what an event would be for someone with our own point of view about it. But, in fact, that event could have meant something completely different to the person who experienced it. In the case of a death, there are many ways a death could be experienced by a person. For some it can be a release, for others, a journey, for others, a
loss of material possessions and for still others, the loss of significant relationships. Whatever cards we do find at a person’s death will tell us what that death meant to them. With that basic rule in mind, let’s explore their spreads to see what we find.

Michael P. Anderson 12/25/59 Age 43 - 6♥ Birth Card, 6♦ Planetary Ruling Card. Michael’s death occurred during his Mercury period. His cards were as follows:

Birth Card spread: 5♠ direct, Q♥ vertical
Planetary Ruling Card spread: 10♣ direct Q♦ vertical

These spreads do not have cards that we would normally associate with death. However, the 5♠ is a very powerful card and it happened to have shown up in many of the astronauts spreads at the time of the accident. I suppose on one level we could call the 5♠ a ‘change of life’ card, or a ‘journey to another existence’. The Underlying Cards in the Birth Card spread were the 5♥/4♦ and 6♦/9♣. Again, we see another Five and a Nine, but nothing that would seem as dramatic as death. His Underlying Cards for his Planetary Ruling Card spread were not mentionable either. But in his first Karma Card spread he had an 8♥ direct with the A♠ and 7♥ Underlying Cards. The vertical card, the K♥, had the 6♠ and 9♠ as Underlying Cards. Those who have been reading my newsletter are aware of the power of that lethal combination. So, in this case we find more indicators of his death in the Karma Card spread. And it occurred in the Underlying Cards.

David M. Brown 4/16/56 Age 46 - 5♦ Birth Card, 9♦ Planetary Ruling Card. David was in his Uranus period when he died. His cards in the Birth and Planetary Ruling Card spreads are as illustrated. Notice the Fives again, very prominent in his spreads. The smaller cards illustrated are the Underlying Cards. The top two larger cards are from the Birth Card spread and the bottom from his Planetary Ruling Card spread. He also had a 9♦ Displacement Card this year, which can be an indicator of death in some cases. But we do not see the usual indicators of death here that we might expect. And even in his Karma Card spreads, we do not see these indicators. This makes me suspicious again of the Fives and their possible role as indicators of life-transition.

Rick D. Husband 7/12/57 Age 45 - 3♦ Birth Card and 5♣ Planetary Ruling Card. Rick was in his Rebirth Year in his Jupiter period when he died in the accident. That seems unusual since the Rebirth Year is also a Jupiter Year. One would expect nothing but good fortune for someone during that period. But here again, we have that 5♣! What do you think about that? The Karma Card spreads did not yield anything significant or interesting in this regard.
William C. McCool 9/23/61 Age 41 - A♣ Birth Card and 10♠ Planetary Ruling Card
(most likely he is a Libra but he is born on the cusp so we cannot be certain)

Bill was in his Mars period and had the cards illustrated. Nothing really suspicious here except the 9♦/5♦ underlying his direct 6♥ in his Planetary Ruling Card spread. He did have a 9♠ Transformed Self card this year but that alone would not raise any suspicion. The J♥ has been known to be associated with famous deaths. John F. Kennedy was assassinated on a J♥ day. But overall, we do not see any indicators of death in his cards. Since he is one of the semi-fixed cards (A♣), he does not have the usual Karma Cards to look for spreads in.

Ilan Ramon 6/20/54 48 years old 10♣ Birth Card and 8♦ Planetary Ruling Card.
Ilan is the only one of the astronauts who was found in the Pinnacle Year at the time of his death. I expected more of them would be since this position can bring about a ‘famous death’. He also had the 9♠ as his Pluto Card with the notorious A♠ underlying it. He died in his Saturn period though his cards were not that bad. Again we see a couple of Fives as Underlying Cards but that is about it. However, in his second Karma Card spread (4♠, age 48) we see the A♠ and 8♠ with a 7♠ underlying his A♠. Those would definitely qualify as death cards.

I hope these examples helps you realize both the importance of the Karma Card spreads and that you have learned more about how to interpret the cards from real life situations. I have always held the position that real life is always correct. The cards must reflect it in some way or they are not accurate to begin with. But as we explore the deeper meanings of the cards we have to keep in mind that the cards reflect our experience and not necessarily the experience that others would expect us to have in a given situation. With that knowledge in mind we can look at our spreads and those of others and gain a deeper perspective into the mysteries that this ancient system can reveal.
From the May, 2003 newsletter

Update – Cards, Wars, and SARS

Okay, now what? In the aftermath of the month-long siege on Iraq, things seem like they are back to normal, at least partially. Our presence in the Gulf is tenuous at best. It makes me feel like there is a lot of background stuff going on that we know nothing about. As we approach the Mars transit I spoke of in January, I can’t help but think that there are more wars to come. Tensions are mounting in many theaters around the world. And the United States is involved in a significant way in most of them.

Where is Saddam, anyway? Is he dead or just regrouping? I tend to think that he is dead. If he isn’t dead, I am sure he is plenty pissed off! And, ready for revenge. We, as a country, have set the stage for another terrorist reprisal many times over. Are we so arrogant to assume that we are powerful enough to prevent these from occurring while most of the Arab world wishes us dead? I find it interesting that most, if not all, of the 9/11 hijack guys came from Saudi Arabia. Saudi Arabia is the home of Mecca, the center of the Arab world. And Saudi Arabia is our ally. How is this possible? And why are we chasing Saddam Hussein and Osama Bin Laden when the act itself originated in Saudi Arabia? I also wonder when, the United States became the ‘democratic police’ of the world. Do we really have the right to impose our philosophies on the entire planet? Where does it end? We have nuclear and biological weapons aplenty. Who gave us the right to prevent other countries from having them? It seems to me that we have stepped way beyond our cherished values of liberty and freedom from religious persecution.

I have no doubt that our country is a J♦. Most other countries look upon us in that way. And I believe, that if we knew what was really going on in all of our ‘negotiations’ on the world stage, that we would see our nation as nothing more than a band of economic hustlers and hucksters. Nothing other than economics explains some of our behavior in foreign policy. As we hear in most television detective dramas, all we need to do is ‘follow the money’. I am sure that we could find the financial trail in all of our international dealings if we were to just stop, look, and ask the right questions. We have been extremely fortunate as a nation so far. But I can’t help but think that someday, the dishonest policies of our government, the wars fought for money and deals done under the table are going to catch up to us. Perhaps this Mars transit will bring a larger scale reckoning in this regard.

And now we have the SARS epidemic. But is it that bad? SARS is pretty bad for sure. But it is nothing compared to AIDS. AIDS kills virtually everyone it infects without treatment and 20 years into the AIDS epidemic there is no cure and no vaccine. On the other hand, 94% of SARS victims recover and survive. To date, 326 people have died world-wide. Let’s see, there were 19,358 Alcohol-induced deaths in the United States, not including motor vehicle fatalities, in the year 2000. Perhaps we should be more afraid of beer than SARS.

Speaking of cards, has everyone seen the Iraqi Most Wanted card deck? I wonder whose idea this was, to put the names and faces of the most wanted men in Saddam’s administration onto a deck of cards? Olney Richmond mentions how the cards contain a ‘mystical potency’ that maintains their integrity throughout the ages. The A♠ has always been the symbol of death. Anyone who watches TV or the movies has seen the A♠ show up so many different places. Just last night I was watching the movie, Tombstone, with Kurt Russell and Val Kilmer. In the first scene of the movie, the bad guys show up at a wedding and shoot everything up. The first we see of them is a close-up of their leader’s boots. On his boots are the four Aces, with the A♠ showing prominently as the facing Ace. Its interesting because everyone knows it is a death symbol, and yet, no one really knows, that is, except we, the card students of the world. And it seems that many of the cards seemed to fit the roles of the people on them.

The cards combine elements of wanted posters, playing cards and trading cards. Instead of batting averages and earned run averages, the cards list job descriptions. And they’re ranked, apparently, according to who is wanted the most. This is according to how the world sees cards as Aces being the most valuable of
the cards. Hussein's son, Uday, is the A♥. He has a reputation for brutality and flamboyance. Saddam’s son Qusay is the A♠. The A♣, of course, is Hussein. The fourth ace, the A♦, is the presidential secretary, Abid Hamid Mahmud al-Tikriti. Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz, a familiar figure in the media, merits only the eight of spades. The recently captured Himat Mizaban Ibrahim al-Azzawi is the 8♦. He was the minister of finance and most responsible for hiding Saddam’s fortunes.

And perhaps fittingly, Hussein's minister of information, also called the Minister of Truth, Mohammed Saeed al-Sahaf, is not in the cards. It was al-Sahaf who claimed coalition forces were being turned back, right up to the time Baghdad fell and he disappeared. This guy is such a character that many web sites have been devoted to him, comparing him to Josef Goebbels, Hilter’s information minister. He is the one that proclaimed daily that “There are no American infidels in Baghdad. Never!” and “God will roast their stomachs in hell at the hands of Iraqis.” There are two jokers in the deck: One lists Arab titles, the other Iraqi military ranks. But I personally think that distinction should have been given to Mohammed Saeed al-Sahaf.

"I repeat, there is no U.S. presence in Baghdad."

Celebrity Profiles

Aaliyah
Born 1/16/1979 J♠/6♠ as Aaliyah Haughton
A talented R&B singer and actress.
died in a plane crash on Aug. 25, 2001

Aaliyah was a beautiful R&B singer whose career was moving up rapidly just before her death in 2001. She had starred in several movies including Romeo Must Die with Jet Li and Queen of the Damned, an Anne Rice vampire movie. Her first album, Age Ain't Nothing But A Number, was released when she was only 15 years old. She was married shortly after its release to R. Kelly, who produced that album. If you look at her spread for that year, in particular her Planetary Ruling Card spread, you will notice that she has the Q♥ as Long Range, Environment and Result! It makes me wonder how many 6♠ women get married at that age (I know one other who did!). The marriage didn’t last but it did provide a stepping stone for her career.

Aaliyah had been given a starring role in the upcoming Matrix Reloaded movie and had filmed several scenes just before her death in a plane crash during her Saturn period in 2001. There are rumors that she can still be seen in several of the scenes though Marvin Gaye’s
daughter, Nona Gaye, filled her starring role. Notice the A♠ in Saturn in her Age 22 yearly spread.

It is interesting that some of her most significant life events occurred in her 6♣ Planetary Ruling Card spread. This may be because the 6♣ has such a more dramatic spread for success and recognition than the J♦. It was her 6♣ life that began at age 15 and ended at age 22, exactly 7 years later.

Secretary of Defense - Donald Rumsfeld
Born 7/9/1932 - 6♦/8♠

Donald Rumsfeld is a pretty good choice for Secretary of Defense. At least, when you look at it from the point of view of the cards. He is a 6♦ Birth Card, which makes him naturally competitive. And he is an 8♣ Planetary Ruling Card, which makes him strong-willed and forceful. For these reasons, he makes a good ‘attack dog’ kind of guy. He gets the job done and is not afraid of using force. However, he is a force to be reckoned with in himself and not easy to deal with. His fixed nature prevents him from being open-minded and he has received a lot of criticism for this quality in recent months. He created a plan for war with Iraq, a plan that was criticized by many as being under-powered in terms of the forces and resources we used. His attitude was that of staunch, persistence on his plan. A report on March 29th of this year stated, “Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld repeatedly rejected advice from Pentagon planners that substantially more troops and armor would be needed to fight a war in Iraq.” The article goes on to say “Rumsfeld insisted at least six times in the run-up to the conflict that the proposed number of ground troops be sharply reduced and got his way.”

Well, it may be luck that Rumsfeld’s conflict turned out the way it did. Because there is apparent success, all the criticism of him seems unfounded. He was successful. This is both good and bad. It is obviously good that we succeeded in doing what President Bush chose for us to do, but now that Rumsfeld has been successful, he will be even less open to criticism or opposing view points as the conflict continues. This is all very interesting when we look at his cards for this and next year.

Notice the A♠ Displacement Card this year, along with the 9♦ Long Range Card. These cards would normally cause experiences that would help the individual let go of some important aspects of their life. At the very least, Rumsfeld should be more aware that a personal or
professional transformation is at hand. But the 9♦ is also President Bush’s Birth Card. So, that
card at least may not be pointing to an important ending in Rumsfeld’s life. However, next year
he has the 9♠ Long Range Card. And, because he displaces the 7♥, his Saturn Card has the same
9♠ as an Underlying Card. This is mentioned in Destiny Cards in Chapter Eight where it talks
about years of caution. This will be a year of caution for Rumsfeld. But in addition, the 9♠ tells
me that he will probably leave his position at some point. At the very least, many of his plans
and ideas will meet with disappointment or failure. Please read my Update artcile in this same
newsletter for some predictions in this area. If Rumsfeld makes it through the Age 71 year okay,
he has the good fortune of displacing the 8♥ the year after. Whatever changes he goes through at
Age 71 will likely result in more success and popularity the following year. He may even run for
a significant office in 2004. The only question is whether or not he will survive his Age 71 year.

Donald Rumsfeld: Age 70 and Age 71 Yearly Spreads

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Whitney Houston

Born on the 9th of August, 1963, Whitney Houston’s Birth Card is the 4♦ and she is a Leo
Sun sign. There is a predominance of Leos in the entertainment industry and it is the Sun sign
most suited for being noticed, being a strong personality, and having strong
romantic urges that often spark many
relationships. Whitney is no less a Leo
than the others. However, the 4♦ Birth Card is not one of happiness, even if the
person is a Leo. This card is the one in
the deck that has an unusual number of
hardships and heartaches. Nothing in
their life comes easily and they have an
inherent lazy streak that causes them to resist the very thing that will bring them the most
fulfillment – hard work. It is also a harder card for a woman, at least that is how it seems.
Somehow the men seem to find that hard work ethic faster and get into the groove easier than the
ladies of this card. But for both sexes, karma guarantees that there will be hardships of many
kinds over the period of their life.
With Bobby Brown (February 5, 1969) Whitney had as close to a perfect marriage connection as one could expect. She is a Moon Card to his 2♠ Planetary Ruling Card and her Karma Card, the 5♠, shares a past-life love connection with his 7♠ Birth Card. However, Bobby, being a 7♠, can be a completely unreasonable person to deal with. 7♠ have a past-life karma of abuse of power (K♦ first Karma Card) which usually carries forward into this life. There can be arrogance, egomania, and in some cases, an abusive personality. And to top it off, 4♦ people usually attract abusive relationships because deep inside they often abuse themselves.

There can also be escapist tendencies such as drugs or alcohol abuse as well. In spite of great successes, their personal lives usually do not yield the happiness they seek. It’s funny, in a way, because one would see someone like Whitney or Gillian Anderson and Melanie Griffith, who share her birthday, and say “Wow, what a lucky lady she is.” But what is not usually seen is the hell they are enduring in their personal lives. Whitney’s life and personal hell has been displayed for all the world to see. But not all 4♦ have a life of such dramatic losses. The 4♦ who stays focused on their work and makes that come first, before love and other considerations, will escape these horrors and have a great reputation for their achievements and contributions. If Whitney just turns a corner and gets back to work, her entire life and self image will make a miraculous recovery. And looking in her cards, there is a very good possibility that she will do just that, in the next year or so.

The Importance of the Sun / Moon Relationship

For whatever reason, lately I have been doing a lot of readings. And again, for whatever reason, many of my clients have been experiencing challenges in relationships where there is a strong Moon connection. I thought it would be helpful for students of the cards to read about these and learn, as I am learning, about how these work in real-life situations. The Moon Card connection is found in most marriages. I do not know the exact percentage but I bet it is above 70%. People who meet who have this connection often feel an immediate rapport. Communication is easy and they find a mutual interest in what the other has to say. Even if one of them is not that talkative, he or she will feel more like talking with the other. If the Moon Card connection is from the spiritual spread, such as between a 3♦ and 4♦, for example, there is also a deep sense of intimacy that is present, a sense that feels mystical and timeless. This is due to the fact that this indicates having been together in a prior lifetime. It is an unexplainable feeling of familiarity and ease. These feelings cause us to feel very comfortable with our Moon Card ally. And for many people, this is just the feeling that makes them feel that they could ‘live together forever and ever.’
But not all Moon Card relationships work or last. And there are several reasons for this. First, let’s examine how the Moon Card connection is directional. This explains a lot of it. In the Moon Card connection, one of the cards is ahead of the other. This is because the cards in the Life Spread follow a certain order. It is almost as if they are marching ahead, one in front of the other. While in this order, each card in the deck has a card that it follows and one that follows it.

Looking at the picture of the Life Spread, in the Grand Solar array pictured above, this order begins with the 3♥, in the upper right hand corner, and proceeds from left to right. After the 3♥ we find the A♦, the Q♦, 10♣, 5♣, 3♣, A♠, 7♥, and so forth. After the Q♥ in the lower right hand corner, comes the 10♣ in the crown line, followed by the 8♣ and K♠. From the K♠, it begins back with the 3♥ again. Therefore, among the following example pairs, we can see which follows which. Study these examples carefully and you will see just how this works.

Every card has some card that follows it, its Moon Card, and a card that it follows, we can call that it’s Sun Card. The examples given here are only for the Life Spread. The Spiritual Spread is also very significant for these connections and easier to find too. This is because the Spiritual Spread cards are arranged in ‘perfect order.’ Instead of starting with the 3♥, they begin with the A♥, followed by the 2♥, 3♥, 4♥, etc. through the Hearts, Clubs, Diamonds and Spades. Thus, if you take any card, it is easy to determine its Moon Card in the Spiritual Spread: it is the card just below it in value. Here are some Spiritual Spread Moon Card examples. Study these carefully as well and you will get this easily.

One can use either the Birth Card, Planetary Ruling Card or Karma Card to make these comparisons. However, the Birth Card and Planetary Ruling Cards seem to be the most important of these.

Now, I want to make some further distinctions between the Moon Card and the Sun Card in a given relationship. These all arise out of the fact that there is this directional quality to these connections. One important feature of these distinct roles is that they never change. They are permanent and they are set from birth. There may be yearly influences that mitigate these to a certain extent. But no yearly influence is stronger than the life influence of these connections. If you are in a relationship with someone and there is only one Moon connection between you, that connection defines the qualities above for the two of you and these will never change. Knowing this can save you years of struggle. All the effort in the world will not cause these energies to flow in a different direction.

Here is a common example of what can happen. Let’s say a man is a J♠ and he meets a Q♦ woman. Because he is her Moon Card in the Spiritual Spread, there is an immediate rapport and feeling of intimacy. This man will be completely fascinated by this Q♦ woman. She is ‘ahead of him’ in the Spiritual Spread. She brings him good ideas, a fresh perspective on life and great conversation. She will feel very nurtured by his presence and enjoy the intimacy she feels with him. He will, in his own way, encourage the sharing of feelings. He will want to take care of her in whatever way comes naturally for him. In all ways, this can seem
to be an ideal pair. However, what if this man is someone who has a strong male ego. Perhaps he does not want to ‘follow’ anyone, much less any woman. Many men share this attitude. And for them, being the follow up person in the relationship may not work. I have seen many men walk away from such a relationship. And usually, they walk away suddenly and just disappear without saying much. This is because there is nothing they can say to the Sun woman that can change the nature of the relationship and on some level they sense this. The story in such relationships is usually that the man suddenly disappeared or just went and married someone else. One example of this was Madonna and Sean Penn. She is a 10♣ and he a 9♣. Having a strong male ego, he was never happy playing the female role in the relationship. He ended up with another very strong woman, Robin Wright Penn, who is born on 4/8/1966, a K♦/2♦. But he is not Moon to her.

Women who attract men who are Moon to them usually are women who want to maintain control of the relationship. This is also true of men who attract Moon women, of course. But what I am pointing to here is that women who are afraid of losing control in a relationship, or who are afraid of letting a man take care of her will usually go for the men who play the Moon role. These women usually refer to these men as ‘weaker men.’ Therefore, we often find women playing the Sun role whom are either very domineering by nature or who are simply unwilling or unable to allow themselves to be in the ‘receiving role’ in a relationship. For example, women who have the North Node in Scorpio, or North Node in the 8th house, usually have difficulty allowing men to give to them. These women will usually pick a Moon Card man as mates. However, women who are very career oriented will also make similar choices. These are women who are more masculine in nature. These women are usually very comfortable around men in general and less comfortable around women. Sometimes you will find that these women

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sun Person ☉</th>
<th>Moon Person ☾</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wants to lead the relationship.</td>
<td>Wants to support the Sun person.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Has more control over the relationship.</td>
<td>Has less control over the relationship.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wants to show the Moon person some new things that can help him or her on different levels.</td>
<td>Enjoys the ideas, information, and things that the Sun person brings into his or her life.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is the ‘provider/protector’ of the relationship.</td>
<td>Is the receiving person.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feels supported by the Moon person and acknowledged for his or her contribution.</td>
<td>Is simply enamored with the Sun person, wants to follow this person and be close to them.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Has an easier time letting go of the Moon person and leaving the relationship, if that becomes necessary.</td>
<td>Has a harder time letting go of the Sun person should they break up.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Does not look up to the Moon Person</td>
<td>Looks up to the Sun person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bears a greater responsibility for the direction of the relationship.</td>
<td>Bears a greater responsibility for the emotional content of the relationship.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Can feel like they bear too much of the responsibility for the relationship.</td>
<td>Can feel like they never get a chance to lead, or that they always get cast into the feminine role in the relationship.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Usually wins arguments and disputes.</td>
<td>Usually loses arguments and disputes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Usually sits to the right of the Moon Person</td>
<td>Usually sits to the left of the Sun Person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plays the husband role in the relationship, regardless of their sex.</td>
<td>Plays the wife role in the relationship, regardless of their sex.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

have few close female friends but many male friends. These are just some indicators of a predominant masculine nature. And many of these women have created successful marriages with men who are their Moon Card. Even so, sometimes, later in
the relationship, the man may feel that he would like to ‘shine’ more himself. If this occurs, his desire for recognition may create friction in the relationship. Sometimes this can lead to divorce, as the relationship is now no longer appropriate for the male.

Some women who choose Moon Card men are simply afraid to be with a man who is stronger than they are. They will pick Moon Card men so that they are never challenged. But these same women often long for a man they can look up to. Often they will sooner or later decide to have a relationship with a man to whom they are the Moon.

There are many cases where there are double Moon connections. That is, each partner is Moon to the other. The first Moon connection may be from one’s Birth Card to the other’s PR Card and the second could involve the PR Card with a Karma Card. When these Moon connections are somewhat equal, we find equality in the roles as well. The couples tend to take turns playing the various roles, or each will pick a part of the relationship in which they want to either lead or follow. These relationships can be delightful.

Regardless of their sex or their sexual preferences, a Moon connection in a relationship does define who is playing the masculine and feminine roles. This can be very instrumental in understanding one of the most important of the dynamics between couples. This dynamic points to the very core of the partnership. Even with homosexual couples, these cards will define who is playing which role.

It is a very strange thing, this ‘dance of the genders.’ There are no hard and fast rules. And it doesn’t really matter who is the Sun or the Moon, as long as the underlying reasons are not fear-based. Ultimately we are all male and female. We choose partners that balance us or reflect us and in doing so, we find contentment and peace in our relationships.
Visions
Volume VII

A Collection of 56 Articles from The Voice of the Seven Thunders Newsletter

by Robert Lee Camp and Seven Thunders Publishing and friends
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The Lord of Your Chart

Most people will tell you that your Sun, Moon and Rising Sign are the most important significators in your natal chart. When someone wants to know more about you, they will ask what these are. There is no doubt that these three are extremely important, probably the most important three in your chart. But what is often overlooked is what I call the Lord of the Chart, which is the planet that rules your ascendant. In many ways, this planet is more significant than these three that are most asked for.

Most people will tell you that your Ascendant, or Rising Sign, is the strongest indicator of how you look physically. But I think if you look at people with this in mind, you will see that this is usually untrue. The Rising Sign is important and some people do look like their Rising Sign. But in my experience, we usually look like the Lord of our chart. For example, you might be Aquarius Rising. Typically Aquarians are thin and lean and often unusual looking in some way. But if Uranus in your natal chart, which would be the Lord of your Ascendant, is in the sign of Cancer, you will look more like a Cancer, which is more round, soft and motherly looking.

The Lord of our chart is a powerful symbol of our self-expression. Most people are a little confused about the Ascendant. They think that the Ascendant is a symbol of who we are. However, according to some other astrologers and me, the Ascendant is more of a personal identity rather than something that actually exists in the chart. Evidence of that is that often the sign on our ascendant is the only thing in our chart with that sign. This is not always true but it is in a surprising number of natal charts. It is often a missing sign as far as the planets in the chart go. But the Lord of the Ascendant is always a powerful symbol of our personalities.

To find the Lord of Your Chart, you need to know what your Rising Sign, or Ascendant, is. If you do not know, go to www.astro.com and get a free astrological chart. It will tell you what your Ascendant is. Once you know that, you need to know which planet governs each of the signs. Here is a table in case you do not know.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Planet</th>
<th>Sign</th>
<th>Planet</th>
<th>Sign</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mercury</td>
<td>Virgo, Gemini</td>
<td>Saturn</td>
<td>Capricorn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venus</td>
<td>Taurus, Libra</td>
<td>Uranus</td>
<td>Aquarius</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mars</td>
<td>Aries, Scorpio</td>
<td>Neptune</td>
<td>Pisces</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jupiter</td>
<td>Sagittarius</td>
<td>Pluto</td>
<td>Scorpio</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Now, look at this chart ruler as if it were your Sun or other important planet. But when you look at it, think of it as the planet in your chart where your personality most strongly shines through. In particular, look at the sign of the Lord, the house position, and the aspects that it makes to other planets in your chart. Start with the astrological sign of your chart Lord. See if you tend to exemplify many of the traits of that sign, almost as if it were your Sun's sign. For some of you, it will be the same sign, which will not help you see its significance. But most of us will find that our chart Lord is a different sign than our Sun and that we do tend to act out of that sign a lot.

Next look at the House that your chart Lord is in. A sign governs each house of the zodiac as well. So, in essence, you can translate the house position as a sign. The list below tells you which sign rules each of the houses so you can translate that.
Let's take a few examples to see how this works. Let's say that your Rising Sign is Cancer. Cancer would make your chart Lord your Moon. Now let's say that your Moon is in the Sign of Libra and it is found in your 4th house. Having a Libra Moon as your chart ruler will give you a strong Libra expression and look. You would probably have eyes that are far apart and a certain amount of physical beauty. People may think you are a Libra, in fact. However, since your Moon is also in the 4th house, this will further strengthen your Cancer traits. You truly will act like a Cancer, not just think you are one.

Now, you may be confused by this example and asking yourself how can someone be two signs at the same time? Do we have to combine these two signs together to get an accurate read on someone? The answer is no. When there are two, and sometimes more astrological influences, affecting a certain planet, we find that we act each of them out individually, not some combination of them that we cannot define. In our example above, the individual would sometimes act out as a Cancer and at other times as a Libra. But I would bet that the Libra is stronger because Libra is the sign. In my experience the sign is slightly stronger in expression than the house.

For a second example, let's say that someone is a Sagittarius Rising. Jupiter governs Sagittarius. So, Jupiter would be the Lord of the chart. If this Jupiter were in the sign of Virgo, you would have an individual who acts more like a Virgo than anything else. In this example, Jupiter would probably fall in the person's 10th house, which is ruled by Capricorn. So, likewise there is a strong Capricorn expression. This person would likely be detailed oriented, very organized, and career oriented. These traits are not those normally associated with a Sagittarius. In fact, Sagittarius and Virgo are signs that are not that compatible. But here you would have someone who thinks they are a Sagittarius (because that is their Ascendant) but acts like a Virgo/Capricorn.

When I do relationship readings using Astrology, I usually look at the Lord of the Chart first. If one person's chart ruler makes a strong aspect to planets in the other person's chart, this is a strong connection for relationship, especially if the aspect is a conjunction. For this reason, it is very important to know the sign, house and number of degrees of its sign, for your chart ruler. That way, you can tell pretty fast if it aspects any planets in someone else's chart. Chart Lord conjunctions is a very strong aspect, marriage material. It is not the only one however, just one of many. It’s definitely something to look for.

Another very powerful thing to keep an eye on is when transiting planets conjunct or otherwise aspect the Lord of your Chart. One of the most powerful experiences of my life occurred when Jupiter conjunct the Lord of my Chart. This is one transit that everyone should be aware of, even though it only occurs every twelve years. Any transit to your chart ruler is bound to have a more or less profound effect upon you. This is because of how much we act through this chart Lord.
Finding the Perfect Partner Using the Destiny Cards
By Joseph Malinak

I’ve had the delightful opportunity in the last couple of years to attend four or five of Robert Camp’s “Destiny Card” workshops. It has fascinated me that in each one of these the time that participants become the most enlivened is when this subject arises: “what is the best birth card in an ideal mate for me?” This always ends up being a very lively discussion, exploring what are “the best Destiny Card combinations for me in a partner?”

This is certainly a valid use of the cards, although we may be asking the wrong question. My own interest in the Destiny Cards was profoundly aroused when I saw the clarity and depth the cards brought to the understanding of relationships. As a practitioner of Jyotish, the ancient Indian astrology, compatibility had been one of my special areas of interest. I was amazed by how much further I could go in understanding relationships with the Destiny Cards than with the ancient, well proven technology of Jyotish.

I feel that there is a more significant use of the Destiny Cards in assisting us to have successful relationships. When we look at “good compatibility” we’re making some assumptions. The most significant assumption made is that each of the cards is operating at its highest frequency in the persons whose spreads are being read. However, each birth card has a full range of frequencies. In addition each birth card has a karmic weakness, indicated by the first karma card. You might think of this first karma card as the place a person goes under stress.

Let’s take a look at an example in order to understand the significance of this interplay between the birth card and karma card in relationships. My birth card is the King of Hearts. At a high frequency the King of Hearts can be a loving father and a good partner. At lower frequencies the King of Hearts can be a philanderer and a tyrant in his family and social circle. In addition the King of Hearts has a Two of Clubs first karma card. This Two of Clubs can bring a tendency to argue, whine, and to use anger in attempts to manipulate.

An ideal compatible partner for the King of Hearts is the Queen of Hearts, who stands in a moon position to the King. Robert has indicated that the sun/moon relationship between a man and a woman can be one of the most significant indicators of a successful relationship. However, the potential of this relationship can be fulfilled only if the King is operating at a higher frequency. The sun/moon relationship works only if the individual in the sun position is willing to lead. And, of course, the individual in the moon position must be willing to follow. My wife happens to be a Queen of Hearts. As a Queen of Hearts she is a capable leader in her own right. If in a situation where I need to lead I choose instead to follow her, she will pick up the lead because she is so capable. However, this switch in roles will frustrate both of us. She does not need me to always take the lead. However, wherever it is appropriate for me to lead, it is best for us if I choose to do so and not fall back and expect her to lead in my place.

Comparably, as a Queen of Hearts, my wife’s most natural expression is that of “mother.” Even though she does not have children, she expresses the higher frequency of the Queen of Hearts “mother” through loving nurture of our pets, our home, and to those she serves through volunteer activities. However, the mother expressed through a lower frequency looks like her trying to mother me! That puts her in a leadership position to me and causes tension.

Concerning the effect of the first karma card; as a King of Hearts, if I predominantly act from my point of weakness, the Two of Clubs first karma card, I really frustrate her! If she predominantly acts from her point of weakness, the Ten of Spades first karma card, she really frustrates me. This is how codependent relationships are created. A codependent relationship is simply a relationship based on two people’s weaknesses rather than their strengths. If as a King of Hearts I operate from my argumentative, whiny, or angry place of the Two of Clubs, and if
she as a Queen of Hearts operates from her Ten of Spades weakness of getting preoccupied with busy-ness, then we get trapped in a vicious cycle. Perhaps she gets busy trying to fix me. That means she tries to take an inappropriate leadership role with me. Or maybe she gets busy with other things and other people to avoid the discomfort and aggravation of my whining and argumentativeness. That creates a scenario where we can start drifting apart. If her busy behavior annoys me, I can wind up angry and have even more to whine about! This isn’t a pretty picture. However, you can clearly see how getting stuck in our weaknesses – those first karma cards – is fertile ground for a codependent relationship.

Because my wife and I know what operating at our birth cards’ lower and higher frequencies looks like and because we know the effect our first karma cards have on our personalities, we bring conscious attention to understanding how we operate with one another. We can make the choice for the higher frequencies by monitoring how, where, when, and why our weaknesses show up. We don’t try to eradicate the weaknesses. We just work with them. We also do not call each other on the other’s weaknesses. Having an understanding of each other’s cards gives us patience while each of us does his or her own work. In a sense we befriend the weaknesses so that they don’t get the better of us.

The most significant aspect of the Destiny Cards for relationships is how they can lead us to become the perfect partner. The real essence of a good relationship is not in finding the perfect partner; rather, it is in being the perfect partner. It is through exploring the deepest meaning of our cards that we can begin to experience how we need to grow in order to attract the kind of relationship we desire.

Many people understand today, at least intellectually, that our partner is a mirror for us. However, many people go through one partner after another refusing to look in that mirror. For most of us searching for the ideal partner, there is a picture and a mirror that hang side by side. The picture holds the image of that ideal partner. The mirror holds the true reflection of what and who we are attracting. Too many of us focus on the picture and continually reject the mirror and the truth that it reflects. We choose illusion over helpful information that can help us become the partner we need to be in order to attract the partner who is ideal for us. Using the Destiny Cards to fantasize who our ideal partner must be takes us outside ourselves and prostitutes the deepest use of the Destiny Cards. First we need to use the Destiny Cards to accurately see ourselves. Secondly, we need to take advantage of the information that gives us to become worthy partners. Then we will be ready for our ideal partner when he or she shows up!

As a graduate of the Bert Hellinger USA Institute training in Systematic Phenomenology, The Mastery of the Heart Teacher Training Programs, the Destiny Card Master Seminar, and many years as a professional Vedic astrologer, Joseph Malinak brings a wide variety of experiences and training to his passion of assisting others in the development of healthy relationships and in assisting men reconnect with their masculinity. Joseph is available for relationship readings and can be contacted at jmalinak@acninc.net or at 828-645-0999.
Celebrity Profiles
Two Powerful Ten of Diamonds People

What do all 10♦ have in common? A desire to be noticed, to be the center of attention. Also, a strong materialistic urge. The desire to make a lot of money. Tens also often have a hidden fear of failure combined with a drive for success. This creates some very successful people in life, but often a kind of personality that is overbearing or too much. The two celebrities here certainly share those traits in abundance. But being the ‘most blessed card in the deck’ is not all it’s cracked up to be. Read on to explore what it must be like.

James Eugene Carrey
Born 1/17/1962 10♦/5♥
"Maybe I'll turn 45, and suddenly I won't need people to tell me I'm great anymore, and I'll just go off in another direction completely."

With his 5♥ Planetary Ruling Card, Jim Carrey has his share of relationships and issues around them. At age 41 he has been married twice and had a year-long relationship with Renée Zellweger (4/25/1959 - 9♣/2♥). He also dated singer/actress Linda Rondstadt (7/15/1946 - K♣/2♣) earlier in his career. His marriages were to Melissa Womer, a waitress from one of the earlier comedy clubs he worked at, and actress Lauren Holly, whom he met on the set of Dumb and Dumber. Lauren, born October 28, 1963 (same cards as Bill Gates 7♥ J♥/K♦) must have been a lot to handle for poor Jim. Their marriage lasted ten months. There was Venus, but a whole lot of Mars too, in their relationship. I don’t have the birthday of Melissa. But the latest gossip is that she is filing for an increase in her child support payments from Jim. Seems that $10,000 a month isn’t close to being enough to support her lifestyle these days. In all fairness, she does have Jim’s only child, Jane. His divorce to Melissa has been described as ‘very messy’, thus fulfilling the 10♦ karma of having the 5♥ in Saturn.

In recent interviews Jim admits that he is now just dating with no thoughts of marriage. His 5♥ freedom-loving nature is finally being expressed. And now that he has, he may never go back, especially after the bad experiences he has had in trying to make marriages work. However, his father, whom he worshipped, was a big family man and set the example for Jim to follow. Perhaps he will have a go at it again after he has sewn his wild oats a while. In two years, Jim reaches his Pinnacle Year, displacing the 8♦. I predict one or two very big movies by then and then a more or less radical shift in his life, which is common for the Pinnacle Year.

Martha Stewart
Born 8/3/1941 10♦ Leo
"You just put on your résumé that you worked for Martha Stewart. That's more valuable than any amount of overtime I could pay you."

The golden girl is in trouble. By lying about a shady stock transaction she has lost an estimated twenty million dollars. The penalty for what she did, if she had come clean, would have been about $5,000. But she is a Leo and looking good is what matters most. Which is probably why she lied. Her image means everything to her. She actually has good cards until after her birthday coming
soon. But her cards for next year show that this is not going to end well for her. She displaces the 7♠ and has a 9♠ and 5♦ in Saturn. Her Mars cards are not much better (7♥/K♣). It will be a hard fall for Martha but as we all know, those who climb the highest have the farthest to fall. And climb high she has.

Martha has always managed to keep herself the center of attention. She worked as a model, then a caterer as she developed her style. Her career has done nothing but go up, up, up.

She married Andy Stewart, a Yale law student, in 1961 and they were married until 1987 when he moved out and they eventually got divorced in 1990. It was not an amicable parting. Andy got a court order to keep Martha away. So, it seems that she too maintains the 10♦ karma of a very difficult divorce, one that is karmic in nature. As hard as that was, however, I think the current situation is probably the most difficult of her life. Her entire empire was built upon her apparent moral goodness and propriety. Now, all of that is in question. By making herself such a public paradigm of virtue, Martha has set herself up to be the example that the government will use to illustrate the downside of dishonesty in big business. But Martha is a warrior and will fight this in her warrior manner that has helped her reach such a high place in the world.

The Card of Where You Live

In 1999 a book was published by Llewellyn Publications called *Moving to Success* by Rose Murray. In this book, Rose shows how to use your knowledge of the cards to find suitable places to live and work. I met Rose in 1988 at the same time I met Arnie Lein, my teacher in the cards. She was one of his neighbors in his apartment in Santa Monica. Her book is an expansion on the method I learned from Arnie about how to do relationship readings. But instead of people, she takes the birth dates of places, towns, countries and states. Unfortunately I have been told that her book is currently out of print. There are many used copies around, however. A friend of mine recently picked up a dozen of them for less than $4 each. I am sure if you search around on the internet, you will be able to find some. The one good reason to get her book is that she has gathered all the birthdays of places together in one place making it easy to look them up.

However, even if you don't you can still use this technique and see what it does for you. You can actually improve on her method dramatically using the your Love Cards book. I will explain why in a minute. There are many sources of birthdays online that you can use to get the birthdays of states, cities, etc. For example, [http://www.50states.com](http://www.50states.com) has the birthdays of all the 50 states. I am sure you can also find the incorporation dates of cites nationwide online somewhere. Once, you find the birthdays you are interested in, here is how you use them to do a compatibility.

In Rose's book she uses the most basic method for determining compatibility and that is looking at direct, vertical and diagonal influences from the Birth Card. This method is accurate and is the same that I use in Love Cards. However, she does not use the Planetary Ruling Card, Karma Cards or Karma Cousins. In other words, she is using less than half of the available connections for her method. While the connections she finds this way are accurate, they can, in many cases, be missing some of the most important connections there are. So, if you use your Love Cards book you will be able to derive many more connections and get a more in-depth reading on yourself and whatever place you are planning to live at or move to.

All you need to do is get the birthday of the place you are interested in and see how you connect with that place as if it were a person you were doing a relationship reading with. For example, say you were interested in moving to California and you wanted to get an idea of how you would do in California. California's birthday (the day it achieved statehood) is September 9, 1850, making California a 2 of Diamonds with a Jack of Spades Planetary Ruling Card. So, knowing your Birth and Ruling Cards, you can use the Love Cards book to do a relationship
reading between you and California. There are birthdays for each town and city in each state as well. And those might even be more significant, in terms of where you should live, than the state itself. It invites some experimentation.

Personally I have not validated this method to my own satisfaction. I suppose that non-living entities can have birthdays but I am not entirely sure that this application actually works. I do notice, however, that I am very compatible with Asheville, NC, where I live now. But I used astrocartography to make that determination, which has always been meaningful and accurate for me personally. I have good astrological lines here. But Asheville is also a good card for me, card-wise (King of Clubs/6 of Clubs). So, I would need more data to base an opinion on. I invite you to experiment with this method and let me know what you think. Also, if you find a good, online source of birthdays for cities around the country, please share that with me as well.

**Information and Our Connection to the Source**

Welcome to the age of information. Welcome to the Age of Aquarius, the age of the Internet. Communication has never been better and the world has grown much smaller as a result. Photos and video from all over the world are right at our fingertips. You can go online and get the daily news in Beirut or most any city in the world right from your home computer. You can watch live satellite pictures of the earth, check the weather in any part of the world, find out which of your neighbors has been in prison, research the best products for your home, office or personal life, read reviews of books and other products, and find out what people are saying about any of a hundred thousand topics. And, there are more books than ever, good books and great books. There are books on enlightenment and all manner of esoteric science, in addition to the millions of books on every topic imaginable. You can get a book that can help you do anything you want to do, written by someone who has successfully done it. It is all available and coming at you every minute of the day. It used to be that we only had newspapers. Now we still have newspapers but we also have television, radio, internet, email, the world wide web, newsgroups, PDAs, cell phones, GPS receivers, VCRs, DVDs, CDRs, Satellite TV, cable, DSL, ISDN, MP3s, modems, wireless internet and high speed everything. We can always be in touch with what is going on. As a matter of fact, it is a little hard to be out of touch.

With all of this information at our fingertips, you would think that we could have happier lives. Heck, the common belief is that information is the key to a happy, successful life, isn't it? We learned to read and are encouraged to read even now. So, there is all this information. Why is our planet so screwed up? A friend handed me a book recently called *The Power of Now* by Eckhart Tolle. I don't read much anymore but she insisted and I sat down one day to read it. Now, this is a very powerful book. After reading about five pages I had to put it down. I have a very high regard for books and for information, especially information of such a high spiritual nature. After reading five pages I realized that it would be an insult to that source of information if I were to continue reading it without putting what I had already read into practice. This used to happen to me when I read other books such as books by Krishnamurti and a book by Jan Roberts called *The Nature of Personal Reality*. These books speak of a shift in consciousness and point to the very heart of true mysticism. To just read them like a newspaper or a novel is do insult the gift they bring. But in today’s rampant information society we have fallen pray to the downside of having so much access. And that is that we do not value it as much. We do not appreciate the power of information and its true place in our life.

Information relates to our minds. And it is our mind that creates plans for us, plans for action. Like it or not, we still live in a world that requires actions in order to materialize things or changes in our life. Information can give us a blueprint. But without action, it is wasted. And
people who read them with no intention of doing anything to change their life waste millions of books each day. A book, even a powerful spiritual book like *The Power of Now*, can be used as an escape from reality, a way to fantasize about a better life without any intention of doing anything different to create that dream. It is also like someone who reads the news every day but is actually making no news themselves. What is the news in your life? Do you have any? Or do you live vicariously through the news of the world around you? Sometimes reading the news and watching television becomes an escape from our own life and we can forfeit our own life in the process. These are the downsides of information.

Essentially, information is worthless. It is worthless unless we do something with it. Another way of saying this is that information without the intention to act, is worthless. It is like spending six years in college just to graduate and get a job at Burger King. So, it is not the information we receive that is priceless, it is what we are doing with the information we receive that is. There is so called priceless information out there. But no matter how important or valuable that information was to one person, it is worthless to someone who has no intention of using it. See that? Information is meant to be used, not just taken in for the experience of taking it in.

A number of years ago two friends of mine approached me. They had just taken a weekend real estate investing seminar costing $600 each. They had a pile of books, tapes and other materials with them from the course. They were so excited and inspired about how much money they were going to make buying and selling real estate. I got very excited too, just hearing about it. As I looked through their materials I noticed a book among the other items. It was called *No Money Down* by Robert Allen. The next day I went to my local bookstore and bought that book. It cost me about $8. Three months later neither of my friends had purchased any property. As a matter of fact, they never did purchase any, even after spending so much money on that seminar. However, after that same three months, I already had purchased two buildings. And I went on to buying twelve more buildings and making more money than I had ever.

Books have always been my friends. Certain books that I have read have absolutely changed my life. I would recommend them to others, and I have, many times. However, I am under no illusion about the power of good information. It is only good as what the person receiving it is going to do with it. If I gave you one of my most precious books, one that changed my life, it might not have any effect on you. It depends on what you need right now, and whether or not you will act upon the information it gives you.

This leads us to the final conclusion of this article. That is, that without you and your actions, all this information is worthless. As a matter of fact, all that life has to offer you is worthless, not just the information that is surrounding us today. The older I get the more I realize that what I need most in my life is me. Information is interesting but without me, without that essence of who I am, it is meaningless. I recall once when I was in my early twenties that I got very ill with a high fever for nearly a week. In that weakened state of being, I lost all interest in life and everything in it. I remember how amazed I was to see how meaningless everything was without the energy to appreciate it. It was a sobering experience. So, more and more in my life, I manage my energy and myself. I realize that everything in my life depends upon me being there. So, my being here, and feeling well and being connected to my higher self, has become my highest priority. All that I have to offer the world comes from my connection to something greater than my mind. It comes from my connection to the source. So, I do things every day to keep that connection open and flowing. Without it, I am nothing.
From the September, 2003 Newsletter

There’s No Such Thing As A Bad Card

For as long as I remember I have thought of God as a loving entity. Maybe its my A♦ blind enthusiasm and positive attitude, but its always been with me and a part of me. I even read the Bible when I was nine years old and when I did I got a very different impression of it than was taught in the church where we went. I never believed that God was some calculating being up in heaven that was judging our actions constantly and keeping meticulous records, ready all the while to punish us for our bad deeds. I just knew in my heart that He loved us above all else. My relationship with God has deepened since then and now God is my loving father. Though I experienced a lot of pain, suffering and tragedy earlier in my life, I now feel that my life is under the constant care of my heavenly father. To me, God is a loving father, and that is how I pray to Him. And from that relationship I tend to expect good things to happen to me all the time. And, of course, as I believe, I receive.

Along those lines my attitude towards the cards is one in which I do not see bad cards at all. Every card, whether it be a Birth Card, Planetary Ruling Card, or card in a yearly spread, is a good card, or has the potential for good expression. So, for me, the rule is, there are no bad cards, just people who will express the energies of their cards in either a positive or negative fashion. This is a very healthy attitude to have since it gives each individual the power to make his or her own destiny.

When I give a reading I have this attitude in mind. Usually within minutes of the start of the reading I can tell what kind of person I am talking with. I can tell, for instance, if they are the kind of person who is more likely to express the positive sides of their cards. In a scene from my favorite movie, Groundhog Day, a guy is talking to Bill Murray at a bowling alley while they are getting drunk. The guy turns to Bill’s character, points to his beer, and says “Now some guys would look at this glass and say it is half full. And other guys would say it is half empty. I get the feeling that you are one of the half-empty kind of guys.” And, indeed he was, until he made the transformation later in the story. Once I know who I am reading for, I make an effort to convey to them that the cards and planets in their readings are really opportunities. They can choose to take advantage of them or let them slip by. There is no blame or shame in whatever choice they make. But there will be results, determined by what they choose and their motive for choosing it. I convey this to my clients in as loving a manner as possible. I make them aware of their choices and their consequences and let them choose.

Sevens, Nines, especially in the Spades suit, and odd-numbered cards in Saturn can always bring us a scare when we imagine how they might turn out. These are the mundanely challenging cards. I say mundanely because these same cards bring rewards on the spiritual level. I had read this in Olney Richmond’s book, The Mystic Test Book, but it took me a long time to really understand what he was saying. To understand what a spiritual reward is all about, you really have to experience one. But I can try to put it into words. Once, while under a 9♦ in Mercury, I had some moneymaking plans go awry. A class I had planned was being cancelled. I was disappointed and angry and wanted to blame someone. But for some reason, I caught myself in the moment. I saw clearly that my anger and blame would not do any good for anyone. So, I decided to just let it go. I even did a turnaround. I offered to help the person who was responsible somewhat for the cancellation of my class. As I did, a strong feeling came over me. This was a feeling of freedom and bliss. At the same time, a realization came over me, one that I was unaware of before. The realization was that I really did not want to do that class.
This was something I was unaware of until then. The 9♦ served to remind me that I was pointed in the wrong direction. I resisted it at first. I even considered trying to use all the personal power at my disposal to make it turn out another way. But my choice to let it go brought me more than I imagined. At that moment, I tapped into the universal quality of the Nine. I felt supremely blessed by the universe. And it wasn’t just a feeling; it was real. And, for that moment, I got a glimpse of how beautifully the universe is working all the time, though I am rarely aware of it. And, of course, I felt just how much God loves me.

So, to say spiritual reward is also to say material reward. At least that is how it turns out. Once the spiritual challenge is met, the material rewards are abundant. Sevens create a need for faith and positive attitude. Nines always mean we have to let go of something. Since most of the world today is averse to letting go and to having a positive attitude, these cards show up as negative or frightening experiences. But exactly the reverse can be true. And the good that can be had is much greater than any materially rewarding card, such as an Eight or a Ten can bring you. I have had many such experiences over the years, with Sevens, Nines, and other challenging cards. More and more I am able to access the high sides of these cards and enjoy their spiritual benefits and material rewards.

If I really believe that the universe is a loving, giving place (which I do), then I must also assume that the following is true:

1. That everything happens for a loving reason and purpose. I underscore the word everything because this must include every single area of our life.
2. That behind even the most dreadful appearing tragedies is the presence and intelligence of God’s love and that God is loving each individual involved through it.
3. That there is no such thing as bad cards or bad experiences.
4. That there is a higher purpose for our lives than just avoiding pain and pursuing pleasure.

It is possible to live a life in which you have no fear of anything. This can happen because you have developed a deep relationship with God and yourself. You know yourself and your innermost motives and you know how Karma works. When you are following divine law you are assured of the results of your words and actions. This is called living in the truth. The truth is always a loving truth. If you are living in it, there is no room for doubt or fear. Life is love in action and that’s all there is to it.

The Secrets in Your Life Spread

*Sacred Symbols of the Ancients* by Florence Campbell and Edith Randall, *What’s Your Card?* by Arnie Lein (currently out of print), and my book, *Love Cards*, all offer descriptions of your Birth Card. What they really offer, however, is a description of your Life Spread. It is the Life Spread of each of the Birth Cards that really defines the particular patterns inherent in that card. But what are the aspects of your Life Spread that you can look at to discover more things about yourself? Here is a list that you can start with:

1. The planetary row and column position of your Birth Card in both the Life and Spiritual Spreads (Grand Solar style)
2. Your Karma Cards, both first and second, positive and negative
3. The Life Spread Cards themselves, from Moon through Cosmic Lesson
4. The Cards Underlying your Life Spread Cards
5. Your Planetary Ruling Card and its Karma Cards
If you read *Sacred Symbols of the Ancients*, which I highly recommend, you will see that the authors pretty much cover these bases for every card. They do not always point out the cards they are talking about, but their interpretations point to them consistently. For example, when you read about the various birthdays of each Birth Card in their book and compare those descriptions with the Planetary Ruling Card of each birthday you will often find a strong correlation. Let’s discuss these individually to make some new discoveries about ourselves.

### The Planetary Row and Column position

The illustration on the next page of the Life Spread in Grand Solar array displays the planetary Row and Column influences. The same illustration is found on page 48 of Destiny Cards. On pages 342 and 343 of Love Cards and in the back of *Sacred Symbols* you will find both the Life and Spiritual Spreads displayed in this fashion. Note the planetary influences that govern the rows and columns. In *Sacred Symbols* the authors generally combine the row and column influence from both spreads to make an interpretation. They will say, for example, that the 6♣ is the ‘Saturn Card in the Neptune Line (Mundane) displaces the 8♠ (Natural Spread). They call the Life Spread the Mundane Spread and the Spiritual Spread, the Natural Spread. They mean the same thing. We can see the 6♣ in the Life Spread pictured here. It sits in what I call the Neptune row and the Uranus column. In the Spiritual Spread, not pictured here, it sits in the same location as the 8♠ sitting in this illustration, that is in the Jupiter line and Saturn row. Thus, the 6♣ has a Saturn influence in each spread combined with a Neptune influence in the Life Spread and a Jupiter influence in the Spiritual Spread. Thus, three distinct influences: Saturn, Neptune and Jupiter. Then, in most cases, the ladies who wrote *Sacred Symbols* will say something about how those influences show up in the personality or character of the individual possessing that card. If you have a basic understanding of the planetary influences, you can learn a lot about yourself by seeing what your planetary influences are and how they show up in your life.

For example, my Birth Card, the Q♦, is Saturn/Mercury in the Life Spread. This shows a tendency towards mental (Mercury) pessimism (Saturn) as well as a mind (Mercury) capable of high discipline and concentration (Saturn), both qualities of most Q♦. The Spiritual Spread influences are Mars/Uranus. These influences cause Q♦ to act (Mars) unexpectedly (Uranus), and to be (Mars) very independent (Uranus) in work and action (Mars). This can also represent an affinity for occult (Uranus) work (Mars), or at least an interest in such. With these examples as guidelines you should be able to uncover some new secrets about yourself and others. Read what the ladies in *Sacred Symbols* wrote about your card and others to get a head start on this. At first it may seem hard to understand but if you try a few examples, I am sure you will catch on quickly.
Your Karma Cards

Our Karma Cards are an extremely aspect of our self-understanding. I cannot over-stress their importance. I have written extensively about this in many articles the past three years so if you want to study this more, check out the Visions books in our catalog. Their full table of contents is found online here:

http://www.7thunders.com/Visions.html

The first Karma Card listed in my books is a card that symbolizes an area in which we have to work on to improve over the course of our life. The second Karma Card is an area where we are very talented or gifted, where things come easily. Learn your Karma Cards and see how they play out in your life. As an example, take the Q♣. Their first Karma Card is the 3♥. On a negative level the 3♥ means uncertainty in love or a fear about not getting enough love. The Q♣ typically have both. Their second Karma Card is the 10♦. Expressed positively the 10♦ gives a natural sense of abundance and the ability to handle large-scale businesses with ease, which is also common among the Q♣ I have met.

The Life Spread Cards

This is where there is a wealth of information. Both Sacred Symbols and What’s Your Card? go into detail on the specific meaning of each Life Spread card. Love Cards presents an overall meaning that includes information about the Life Spread cards without specifically mentioning them. These are essentially the cards in your Age 0 Year in Destiny Cards. The most important of them are displayed in Love Cards as well, and includes the Moon Card. Understanding them can be easier if you relate to them from the following meanings.

The Cards Underlying Your Life Spread Card

These are not so apparent but are referred to often in Sacred Symbols where they discuss the various Life Spread Cards. For example, in their description of the Mercury Card in the Life Spread of the Q♦, which is a 5♥, they say, “There is a certain financial security in the early life which is not so dependable later on.” This is a direct reference to the underlying 4♦. They

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Card</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Moon</td>
<td>That which nurtures and supports us. How our mother was for us as a child.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>The Birth Card itself</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mercury</td>
<td>How our mind is, what we think about a lot, the nature of our communications, things that happened in our early childhood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venus</td>
<td>Our choice in mates, how we are romantically and things we like to have or do in our homes. Things that happened in our late childhood, adolescence.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mars</td>
<td>What we are passionate about or how our passionate, aggressive energies express themselves.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jupiter</td>
<td>Business and work preferences, where we are blessed in one or more ways</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturn</td>
<td>Some of our important life lessons. Health issues of our card.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uranus</td>
<td>Work matters, associations, real estate success, and some of the later years of our life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neptune</td>
<td>Our relationship with foreign interests, the last years of our life, our psychic ability. Our hopes and fears card.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pluto</td>
<td>Important life challenges and area of transformation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cosmic Reward</td>
<td>Blessings we acquire later in life. Areas where we have blessings to give to others.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cosmic Lesson</td>
<td>Where we must set an example for the world in our actions and work.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
could have also said something like “Q♦ have a good organization (4) mind (Mercury) when it comes to money(♦).” Each card in your Life Spread has one Underlying Card, unless that card is one of the three Fixed Cards (8♣, J♥, and K♠). These underlying cards not only contribute to the meaning of the 13-year period the card governs (Mercury – Neptune only in this case) but also to the personality traits that come with that card. So, how do we find them? This is easy. All you need is your Destiny Cards book. Look at the Age 90 Spread, which is virtually identical to the Age 0 Spread. They are both the Life Spread cards. Now, look at the Age 89 Spread of your first Karma Card. Those are the Underlying Cards taken from the Spiritual Spread. So, for example, if your Birth Card is the 9♠, you would look up the Age 89 Spread for the K♥, since the K♥ is your first Karma Card. There you would see, in Mercury, the A♣ and in Venus, the 2♣ and so forth. The A♣ is the Underlying Card of your Life Spread Mercury Card, the 2♥. The 2♣ is the Underlying Card of your Life Spread Venus card, the K♥, and so on. In this example, the underlying 2♣ in the Venus position could represent an affinity for partners (Venus) of high intelligence (2♣). Even the vertical cards in your Life Spread have Underlying Cards and they are readily seen in the Age 89 Spread of your first Karma Card. As you study these, you are really looking at some hidden influences and many new secrets will be revealed.

Your Planetary Ruling Card and its Karma Cards

Finally, we must study our Planetary Ruling card much as if it were our Birth Card. This includes mostly studying the descriptions of that card as if it were a Birth Card and studying its Karma Cards for even more details. In Sacred Symbols, there is a description given for each birthday of each Birth Card. That description, more often than not, fits a general description of the Planetary Ruling Card. Check it out. Read the description of the Capricorn Q♦, for example. As you read it, think about how this description easily fits a 7♣ person. “Conformists to orthodoxy, but want enlightenment. Money much desired but always a problem. Uncertain in faith. Fear of the future and worry over it – which interferes with work and health.” But you can also read the Planetary Ruling Card descriptions in Love Cards and just do some investigating on your own. Definitely look up the Karma Cards of your ruling card and see how they come into play in your life, just as you did for your Birth Card in step two of this process. Many new secrets will be revealed.
Have you ever read one of the descriptions of a certain Birth Card and wished you had that Birth Card instead of yours? It seems no matter what our birth card is, we wish we had another. Not to mention that the traits of another first Karma Card can seem much kinder than the one we have. In last month’s article, I introduced the topic of using the Destiny Cards to improve relationships by becoming a better partner. I continue that discussion in this article by expanding it to include how the Destiny Cards can assist us in developing self-love. Through greater self-love we become a better partner and create the kind of partnerships we have always dreamed about. I’m suggesting a process of learning to love who you are and experiencing the profound benefits that come from this process. I will admit that, for me, even though it seems simple, this hasn’t necessarily been an easy process. And I’m not certain that the process ever ends. I now feel that it is a lifetime process. But the benefits of even a little of this practice are tremendous.

Let’s begin again with the concept of the first Karma Card. In the last article I indicated that the first Karma Card is our karmic weakness – or where we tend to move in times of stress. The first critical step in the process of developing self-love is to clearly identify our behavior in times of stress. This seems obvious and simple, but all too often it’s easy to act out with unhealthy behavior, unaware that we are operating from a point of weakness.

If I use myself as an example, my addiction most of my life was argumentative-ness and anger (2♣ first Karma Card). For many years I felt quite justified in this behavior. I did not perceive it as a weakness. I self-righteously perceived my indignant behavior as an appropriate response to a world full of people who justly deserved my rage. After many years and a lot of self-work I began to see the harm that this type of behavior caused and to identify it as inappropriate. During the years that I acted out my anger through rage and during the years of self-work, when I was in rage I completely identified with that rage. I was my rage.

Through the self-work I began to recognize two stages to the rage. In the first stage I was self-righteous about it. This was always followed by a second stage of deep shame and guilt. Identifying anger, with the accompanying acting out of rage, as a weakness and as unproductive behavior was my first critical step in developing self-love.

We can use our first Karma Card to assist us in identifying our weakness; however, identifying our weakness is an important step but not enough in itself. For me, when I became fully aware of the inappropriateness of my behavior in times of stress, I found myself locked in a cycle of anger, shame, and guilt; which, of course, led to more anger, shame, and guilt. This pattern is very similar to a pattern found in alcoholism: first there is excessive drinking with no self-awareness of the extent of the drinking. When there is finally an awareness of the excessive drinking and its devastating impact on both the alcoholic and his family, the immediate reaction can be shame and guilt that leads to more drinking.

Working to better one’s self is not enough without the development of self-love. Here’s where self-love comes in. Through guidance, practice, and support I learned to love myself even when I felt and expressed anger. In the beginning I used a simple technique called the mirror exercise developed by Louise Hay. This exercise requires looking in the mirror every day for a specified length of time saying, “I love you.” This is very difficult for a man at any stage of the game. But it was extremely difficult when I had just made an ass of myself through a bout of rage. This is when it was, and is, very important for me to say, “I love you, Joseph, even when you express anger.”
So let’s review where we are. First we have to clearly identify where we go in times of stress. Becoming familiar with all aspects of our first Karma Card can greatly assist us in this. When I first started hiking with Robert Camp, one aspect of my 2♣ Karma Card that I wasn’t aware of was “whining.” After a few hikes Robert pointed out that when things got difficult I tended to whine and that this was a common expression of the 2♣ first Karma Card. Over time I started seeing how pervasive this behavior is in difficult situations. So that was the first step, to identify the behavior, which in this case was clearly an expression of the first Karma Card. I was surprised and a little embarrassed, not only to be caught in whining at my age but also to see that it was basically a pervasive habit.

Because I have put a lot of effort into developing self-love and embracing all aspects of myself, I began working on the whining. One way this has been expressed is by being able to make fun of it. So now when we hike, both Robert and I just lovingly make fun of my whining. I haven’t tried to eradicate it. I just gently allow it to be there. It’s become something we can even enjoy. It no longer has to have a negative impact because I am not defensive about it and we can comfortably address it when it gets to be too much. I’m sure you’ve heard the expression, “what you resist, persists;” or, “what you put your attention on grows.” When we attempt to get rid of something in ourselves, we often make it stronger. When we embrace it much of the charge and negativity is taken out of it. That’s the impact of self-love. Self-love truly allows us to embrace all aspects of ourselves, even those that cause us pain. Self-love is the path to mastering the negative affects of the first Karma Card.

If I am able to sit in front of a mirror and say, “I love you, Joseph, even when you get angry,” I become bigger than the anger. In that process the anger and the need to get angry diminish. I no longer identify with the anger. I am the container through which the anger passes.

Our first Karma Card often points us to an area where we can cultivate more love of ourselves. By utilizing it in this way you use your knowledge of the cards to deepen your love for yourself. Then, from this place of self-love, you are bound to attract a better partner, one that is now a reflection of your self-love instead of a reflection of self-hate or self-punishment. Other cards in your Life Spread, such as your Saturn and Pluto Cards, can also point you to areas where loving yourself could have tremendous benefits. In this way, you can turn your knowledge of the cards into real progress in your personal relationships.

The exciting thing about developing a deep, abiding self-love is that a person is then freed up to take the cards and love themselves to the highest expression of who they are with the information and guidance provided by the system. As in my last article, finding the perfect mate isn’t as simple as locating a partner with the perfect Birth Card and hoping for the best. The self-knowledge provided through the Cards of Destiny is profoundly enhanced and broadened through the practice of self-love. And the practice of self-love is profoundly supported by the knowledge revealed through the Cards of Destiny. It’s a beautiful marriage!

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The Blame Game

Blame. Everybody does it. Most people are not even aware that they are doing it, but they do it all the time. It is the cause of more problems in life that most people could imagine. It is rampant and destructive and causes people to perpetrate the vilest acts upon each other. It is contagious and escalates when acted out. It is a self-generating cycle of pain and suffering. And most of us throw away a great portion of our life’s vital energies with it. It is no wonder we are so tired and uninspired in our lives. It extends from each of our lives in a day to day basis to the highest levels of government and political agendas. No area of society today is free of its influence.

Exactly what is blame? How do we recognize it? And how can we stop from losing so much of our happiness through it? Let’s start by saying that blame is the exact opposite of responsibility. It is a state of victimization, of being the victim. For every victim there is a perpetrator. The perpetrator is the person or situation that we blame for something in our lives. In the world of blame there are only victims and perpetrators. You are either one or the other. When we blame someone we proclaim to the world that ‘they did it to me’. This is a statement of victimization. When we say “they did it to me” we are saying several important things. First, we are claiming that we are not responsible for what happened – they are. Secondly, we have no power or control over what has happened. Thus we are unable to change it or undo it. We can only change or control that which we have created. And finally, we are angry at ‘them’. We want to make them pay for what they did to us. And, we feel justified to do whatever we must to get them back. We feel that we have a good reason or excuse to perpetrate something bad upon them, something that we feel equals what they did to us.

On its deepest level, blame is actually our resistance or reluctance to feel pain. Something happens that causes us to feel pain. We do not want to feel this pain and so we lash out at someone or something outside of ourselves. This is a little-known secret. Pain is rarely physical. It is almost always mental. Pain can be described as the difference between what is and what we think things should be. The farther the distance between reality and our concepts of how life should be, the more pain we feel. And when our concepts about life or anything for that matter run into the brick wall of reality, we feel great pain. It’s funny how this pain is not a body pain. It is mental and emotional pain. But this is the kind that we suffer from the most.

In a personal relationship, blame runs the highest of practically any other area of life. Blame is so strong in marriages and love affairs that judges presiding over divorce cases are the most afraid of their own personal safety. Blame gets so out of hand in divorce cases that even the judge will be blamed. Judges have been threatened murdered during and after divorce trials, by one of the spouses. And in interviews with judges, they say that they are more afraid of divorce cases than they are of mafia cases. The point here is that in personal relationships blame runs the highest and it is the area where we, as a race, tend to blame someone else for what we feel.

Most of us have been so accustomed to blaming others that we are not even aware that we are doing it. This is called denial. It may be obvious to our friends and associates that we are blaming the world for our problems but we just can’t see it ourselves. This is the state that most of our world is in today. And it is a sign of great spiritual growth when we realize that we are blaming others. That realization sets into motion a cycle of spiritual prosperity and growth like no other.
One of the signs that we are blaming others is that we use the ‘you’ word when talking to them. We say ‘you did this’ and ‘you did that’ and ‘you made me mad’ and ‘you pissed me off’, etc. All these you statements are a sure sign that we are enmeshed in blame, and being the victim along with it. If you find yourself trying to change your partner, such as trying to convince them of why they are wrong and what they need to do about it to make your relationship better, you can rest assured that you are blaming them and throwing your power away.

People say they want to be more powerful in their lives. They say they would like to become more God-like and enlightened. But, in fact, no one seems to want to give up blaming others to get there. And, the fact of the matter is that unless we can give up blame, we can never hope to be powerful. Blame is the exact opposite of being powerful. It is powerlessness. It may make someone feel powerful when they boldly speak out to blame someone else for their problems, but sadly, it is a sure sign of a weak, unaware person. Blame and responsibility cannot exist together; neither can blame and being powerful. You can have either one but not both. So, if you want to be powerful, stop using the ‘you’ word and ask yourself what you can do about the situation. Also, ask yourself questions like ‘Why would I create this situation?’ and ‘What do I hope to gain out of this situation?’ These questions help us get our attention focused back on ourselves. But they are just the beginning. The process may take a long time. We are so engrained in blame that it may take years to start really living our own lives.

Ultimately, getting our power back will entail us being willing to feel the pain of things in our life. A good rule of thumb for this goes like this: If you suddenly feel pain over any situation you find yourself in, first remind yourself, ‘This is my pain. Though this pain may have been catalyzed by an event associated with someone else, it is I who feels this pain. It is my pain.’ Then, take your focus completely off of the person or situation that catalyzed your pain and allow yourself to just feel this pain. We go from pain to anger and blame so fast that it will take practice. You may not even know that you are in pain when you are blaming. It may take a while for you to even feel the pain that lies beneath the blame. But it is there. And if you make any effort at all to get in touch with you, you will find it. Once you do find it, allow yourself to just feel this pain. If you feel it long enough, your feelings will elicit memories of events way back in your past, even to events in your childhood. Many of these painful reactions to events come from early experiences in our life, experiences that were never resolved. If we allow ourselves to truly feel our pain, we will often be lead back to those experiences automatically. The trouble is that we are somewhat conditioned as a culture to not feel anything. So, it takes a conscious effort to resist the urge to blame and to take that feeling within for self-analysis. And this is where the rubber meets the road, so to speak. What separates the conscious spiritual people of this world from the unconscious masses is the ability to go within for answers rather than without. Blame is a purely externalization of an inner wound that has been brought to the surface by some trigger event. The wise person will use this painful event as an opportunity for self-growth. The unconscious person will perpetuate his or her suffering by lashing out at others as the cause of their pain and learn nothing from it. The mere act of blaming others has the effect of perpetuating the illusion that we are victims in a world where we have no power. It reinforces it and deepens the habit. Only conscious effort can change this habit and get us back on the road to inner power. Look around you. The world is nothing but a sea of blame, anger and victimization. You can choose to let that stream of ignorance carry you along or you can decide to step up above and out of it. But make no mistake; the way out is one where you are the one responsible. Any attempts to place any responsibility for your life on others is just a perpetuation of the illusion and the suffering that goes along with it. Choose consciousness now. Choose to feel your pain rather than ignore it. It is yours, all yours. By exploring it, you come nearer to emancipation and God-power.
Transcending Your Cards

The science of the cards can definitely appear as a limitation when we look at it from the point of view as being a fixed system. Many of us, including myself, do not like the notion that our lives, or our futures, are predetermined or fixed. Olney Richmond, the Grand Master of the Order of the Magi that published the first books on our science believed that life was completely destined and governed strictly by mathematical law. He is not alone. Many astrologers believe the same thing. But, there is also the belief that personal choices and initiative have a role in our future. And this is what I have come to understand for myself. There is Karma, however, and it cannot be avoided or delayed. Except, in extremely rare cases. Let’s explore this subject a little deeper and learn how we can transcend our cards in the truest sense.

First of all, we must understand that our Karma is something of our own making. Much of the events of our life are predetermined. Not by some higher being up in heaven who is making us do things, but by our own past actions, both in this life and in previous lives. One way that helps me see this clearly is this illustration: If I kick a ball, that ball is going to move. And it will move as far or high as the energy that I have transferred to it by my kick. Conversely, if I see a ball flying through the air, I know that someone or something has transferred that energy to it to make it happen. Our Birth and Planetary Ruling Card, along with our natal astrological chart, point to the ‘kicking’ we have done in past lives. Because we did certain things then, we must see the results of those actions and choices in this lifetime. Our past-life patterns of behavior cause us to react and act in this lifetime with a certain amount of conditioned responsiveness. What I mean is that we have tendencies – ways of reacting to certain stimuli that stems from past-life experiences. For example, a person who is a Five card, either Birth or Planetary Ruling Card, will usually react to stressful situations by taking flight. Sixes will usually react by fighting back against the person or situation that caused the stress. Every card has its own inherent reactionary patterns. And these come from past-life Karma.

In addition to these patterned responses to situations, we also have to deal with some events that will definitely occur for us due to our actions in past lives. For example, everyone who has a Nine for one of their personal significators will have some experiences of loss and disappointment over the course of their life. But these Nines will also have some experiences of enlightenment, or universal consciousness. Both these experiences will be the result of things they did in their past lives. We kicked balls, so to speak, in those past lives, and now we must watch those balls fly here and there as a result of our actions then. Some of these past-life Karmic events will be perceived by us to be of a positive nature while others will be interpreted as unwanted or negative experiences. The real point here is that we have no choice now because the choice was made in the past life and we have already acted, to which we must experience the reaction now.

In my experience most of these sort of destined Karmic events have transpired by the time we reach our forties. Early in life, especially in childhood and adolescence, is when we experience the bulk of these past-life Karmas. And we often feel like we are the victim of life or the victim of some power much greater than us. But in truth, we are only the victims of our own past actions and choices. This is very difficult to see or understand when we are young. But that seems to be much easier to realize as we get older.

The other aspect of getting older is that we have learned, through Saturn’s constant pressure upon us, to be more thoughtful of others in our behavior. Saturn is the Lord of all Karma and it is his laws that guarantee that as we sow, so shall we reap. By the time we reach our forties, two things have happened. First, we have exhausted much of our past-life Karmic events. Secondly,
we have become richer in wisdom and because of that we are creating less Karma for the future. At the age of 39 we enter our 13-year Jupiter cycle in the cards. And this is when life usually lightens up and we realize a more abundant, peaceful life. But it has been really due to Saturn’s pressure that we wised up.

Having said all of this we can now talk about transcending our cards. Many people believe they can just become enlightened without doing much for it. And there are many of what I call false spiritual teachers who promise enlightenment, in exchange for your hard-earned money. I personally haven’t met anyone who became enlightened in the company of any of these sort of teachers. Another word for enlightenment is transcending, or transcendence. Transcendence occurs during a deep state of high spiritual consciousness. When we achieve that, we can fully embrace the polarities of life and thus we lose our habitual attachment to either end of the polarity spectrum. Some call this ‘choice-less awareness’. One ancient saying about this is that ‘to a saint, a lump of coal is the same as a piece of gold.’ This is what true transcendence or enlightenment is about – rising to that state of consciousness where we no longer pursue pleasure and avoid pain.

Transcending our cards operates in the same fashion. When we can look at our cards, both negative and positive, and no longer have any attachment to them one way or the other, we transcend them. Another way of saying this is ‘when I can look at a $9♠$ in Saturn coming my way and not be afraid, or look at a $10♦$ in Jupiter and not get excited, I have transcended my cards.’ I do not think this is something that anyone can just do by deciding with their mind. I think it takes first of all the willingness to meet our lives squarely and to experience the good and bad that is our creation. No card will hurt us unless we bear the attachment to the physical world that it implies. I speak often about my conquering my fear of poverty. That occurred during a $7♦$ year that brought me to the point of destitution before transforming to a new way of looking at money. Since that transformation, $7♦$ cards always bring me money, not take it away. When Sevens and Nines show up, there is always a spiritual challenge at hand. Actually it will be a material challenge and a spiritual victory. The results as we perceive them will always be directly due to our level of attachment.

The approach that I have adopted for my life and my relationship with the cards in my spreads is to take each challenging card as being an opportunity to see if I can relinquish my attachment and access the spiritual victory aspect of the cards I am facing. I can see the cards coming in my future and I am still open to learning more about myself through them. For example, as I write this article I have a $9♥$ in Mars and coming in my Saturn period I have a $7♥$. Since Saturn and Mars are the basically malefic periods these cards will show me exactly where I am at in my attachment (Sevens and Nines) in personal relationships (Hearts).

Most of my life I expected to be punished by such cards. But as I grow older and wiser, I find that they reward me more and more. I guess I must be learning something.

The Charming A♦

Being my personal Planetary Ruling Card, I have a lot of experience with this card. It is a paradox, of sorts. On one hand this is a very selfish card. People who have it are highly motivated towards personal goals and ambitions. On the other hand, they often see themselves as saviors of the world and seem to go out of their way to help those in need. It is an interesting paradox, to say the least. Here we have one of the stronger Aces in the deck, which is associated astrologically with Aries (Aries is the first sign and Ace is the first number). But when you look at the card’s position in the deck, you discover that it is the Jupiter/Neptune card in the Life Spread.
Since Jupiter always creates a magnification of anything it is associated with, the Neptunian traits are highly exaggerated in the A♦ person. And Neptune is the ruler of Pisces, the last sign in the zodiac. So, with the A♦ person we have a curious mixture of Aries selfishness and Pisces selflessness. The strong Neptunian and Piscean energies help the A♦ get through life with a positive attitude in spite of so many obstacles that they have to overcome. When you think about how all seven of their Life Spread cards are found in the Saturn row of the Grand Solar Spread, you might think that this could be such a difficult card to be. And, in fact, there are many trials and tribulations for the A♦. But Jupiter and Neptune combine together to give these people an abundance of idealism and just enough escapism to get through the hard times without really being dragged down by them.

Another curious way that their Jupiter/Neptune energies play out is that it is very difficult for most A♦ to see just how much they are motivated by self-interests. Many see themselves as the savior to others, even though the things they do to help them always have a payoff for them too. If you mention to one of them just what a selfish card this is, the usual response is complete denial. They just can’t see it. Those who have been close to them can see it though it is usually lost on them.

I call the A♦ the Aries card in the deck. And, if you look at an A♦ person’s natal astrological chart, and this can be someone with the A♦ as Birth or Planetary Ruling Card, you will usually see a strong Aries/Mars/First House influence. As an example, I am a Cancer Q♦ with the A♦ as my Planetary Ruling Card. In my natal chart, I have Sun conjunct with Mars. This alone makes me very Aries-like. But in addition I have my Moon in Aries in mutual reception (in each other’s ruling signs) to my Mars in Cancer. This sort of makes me a super-Aries. And as often I tell people in my workshops, I am the most impatient person I have ever met. I have so many Mars-like qualities and yet it took me a very long time to see just how self-oriented I am. What it took was a lot of different people pointing it out to me for it to finally get through.

Above all else, the A♦ is ambitious. This is something that is shared by all Aces and Tens. But the A♦ is seeking their self-worth (Diamonds) through accomplishment. There is nothing that an A♦ likes more than to make a lot of money – at least most A♦. Some will deny that money is important at all – another one of Neptune’s illusions. But for most Diamonds, money is a symbol of their own self-worth. In the case of the Ace, this becomes slightly exaggerated since there is so much passion in this card to achieve. A♦s are in, in some respects, to be achievers. They always have a lot of ideas of things to do and are usually busy achieving their goals.

Making money also gives A♦ the freedom to travel – another one of their great loves (5♥ in Venus). And if possible, they want someone to travel with them or have someone to travel to (more on this later). An occupation that includes travel is also very well suited to A♦ and you will usually find that to be the case, with Birth and Planetary Ruling Card.

The drive to achieve is so strong, it makes you wonder where it comes from, what is behind such a strong urge. Well, for the A♦, part of the answer lies in their self-worth. The word, ‘self’ is very applicable to all Aces and Tens because of the number one, which stands alone. All these cards must explore what it means to be an individual. They are often loners, even in the midst of crowds. The A♦ is an accomplished loner. This comes from the A♥ second Karma Card. This A♥ gives them the ability to be very happy by themselves. They definitely get involved in relationships but they can usually walk away from them much easier than other cards. They really do enjoy their own company and they need a certain amount of time each day and each week to enjoy that. The Cancer A♦, whose Planetary Ruling Card is the A♥, has this tendency so strong that they are often recluses or couch potatoes. They just love being in seclusion and often are.
All of these traits make others see the A♦ as being selfish. And, from their point of view, they are right. Anyone who fixates this much of their attention on themselves is selfish by definition. But the A♦ sees themselves as giving so much to everyone around them. They measure their worth by this in some ways. They see their tendency to be alone and to be very intently pursuing their personal goals. But, at the same time, they watch themselves make conscious decisions to come out and do things for others. And in their Neptunian way, they choose to focus on the good deeds they are doing for others. Its all a matter of perspective.

This dynamic causes some interesting problems in personal relationships. Especially when you consider the fact that the A♦ has a 2♦ as their first Karma Card. Having the 2♦ in a negative karma sense, usually means having trouble seeing things from other people’s point of view, or trouble including others needs in their scheme of accomplishments. And when trouble arises out of this tendency, the A♦ will usually retreat and fall back on their A♥. It’s the old, ‘If no one else understands or loves me, I will just have to love myself’ syndrome. This A♥ gives the A♦ a lot of power in personal relationships. Because they have less fear of being alone, they can walk away easier. A♦ males have the reputation for being charming and very outgoing. They meet women every day and women are attracted to their boyish charm and Mars-like passion and sexuality. Though a loner at heart, they have no fear of meeting people in unfamiliar surroundings, or just walking up to a woman and introducing themselves. As a reader and student of the cards for over 13 years, I have yet to meet an A♦ man who is faithful in a marriage. I know this sounds very absolute and some would say, negative. But I am only sharing my personal experience. But if a woman is in a relationship with an A♦ man, and especially if this man travels, you can bet there is a woman meeting him where he goes. The only way to avoid this is to travel with your A♦ man. That seems to satisfy the same urge in a way that is more conducive to a committed relationship. My two favorite saying about A♦ men are: 1) ‘So many women, so little time’, and 2) ‘Will travel for sex’. That about sums it up for many of them.

Having said that, I should also say that any one of us could rise above the influences of our card through self-awareness and personal determination. It is a long process and most people are not even interested in the task. But a few are and some of those will be able to act in ways contrary to the natural tendencies of their cards. As an A♦ Planetary Ruling Card, I am attempting to do just that. Time will tell if I am successful. One thing is for sure, the A♦ would have to want that to happen first. For many, there is no desire to change who they are. There is, after all, nothing wrong with it. But those who crave a deeper, long-lasting relationship will have to confront all the parts of themselves that have no interest in that. And for the A♦ male, that is a lot.

The female A♦ is generally a different creature. Her career is important, for sure. But she does not have the male’s tendency towards philandering. The most common pattern for them is several rounds in life where they are first into a relationship followed by a period where they are very into their careers. In my experience, the career ultimately wins out. They will have relationships but they give them less importance – definitely a back seat to the work they are doing in the world.

One of the biggest challenges for the A♦ is that of self-confidence and self-worth. Though they appear very confident on the surface, they are usually seeking this through achievement. There is often a sense of inner insecurity that they must overcome over the course of their life. They are natural leaders but can they give themselves permission to be so ‘great’ or so ‘respected’ by others? Some of their hardest trials will occur when their peers or superiors question their worth as an individual, or as a creator. An A♦ who is still ‘not there’ yet, will be
easily upset by the criticism of others. This is the easiest way for them to tell if they have really
learned to respect themselves yet.

The happiest ♦ are those who have created a lifestyle that is adventurous, financially
prosperous and yet has a deeper meaning to it. When an ♦ becomes aligned with a spiritual
purpose they find much deeper satisfaction to their ‘doing’ and ‘achieving’. When their work
somehow involves helping the world they realize the truest sense of personal achievement and
self-worth – the thing (Ace) they have been craving (Ace) their entire life.

A New Relationship Connection

Wow! This is exciting, at least for me. Whenever a new distinction is revealed I feel excited.
It makes me realize that there is still so much more to learn about this card system. So, without
further adieu, I would like to introduce you to a powerful, new, relationship connection. This
connection is not found in the Life or Spiritual Spread. It can happen between almost any two
birthdays. It does not depend in any way on the way your card and their sits in the Grand Solar
Spread. It can occur between cards that are really not that compatible. And yet, it causes a sense
of closeness that is akin to the Venus or Moon connection. I call it the Displacement Connection.
This connection occurs when two people displace the same card each year in their Yearly
Spreads. It has degrees of strength as well. It is strongest between people whose date of birth
(month and day) is closest together. So, the farther apart your birthday is to someone you have
this with, the weaker it is. And I haven’t researched this enough to make the full determination.
And for that reason, it may very be that only people whose birthdays are a month or less apart
actually have it. But lets talk about it a little to explain and give some examples.

I first noticed this with a friend of mine. She is a Scorpio ♣ (November 7th). Her mother is
a Sagittarius ♦ (December 1st). First of all, they do share the ♦ card, that being my friend’s
Planetary Ruling Card. But because they are 25 years different in age, give or take a month, they
have the same Displacement Card each year at virtually the same time. Their birthdays are less
than a month apart, so they spend about 3-4 weeks in the same period as well. I believe this has a
powerful effect on their relationship. Think about it and you will see what I mean.

Our Displacement Card is very important in one respect – it determines what our Underlying
Cards are for each period of our year. These Underlying Cards often have a very powerful effect
on what happens in each period, an effect that is generally not revealed by the actual cards in the
period. If any of you are unfamiliar with the concept of the Underlying Cards, it is discussed
completely in my book, Exploring the Little Book of the Seven Thunders. Underlying Cards are
not the same as the vertical cards in your yearly spread periods. They are influences that are not
shown in the Destiny Cards or Cards of Your Destiny books. Under each card in your Yearly
Spread are usually two Underlying Cards that tell even more about what will happen in that
period. So, when you and someone you know displace the same card each year, your Underlying
Cards will be the same too. And this will cause a similarity in what happens to you both each
year. Now, if in addition to this, your birthdays are close together, you will be the same planetary
period at times. This will cause these events, which are common to you both for the year to also
occur at close to the same time period. It is my belief that this sort of connection causes a
closeness, whether conscious or not, that draws people to be together.

Since I moved to Asheville three years ago, I have made a very special close friend. He is a
Cancer ♏ (June 30, 1943). I am July 3, 1953 and though we are different cards and born ten
years apart, we have the same Displacement Card each year and the same Underlying Cards each
period. But since our birthdays are only four days apart, we are very close to being in the exact
same place all year long. Now, the cards in our Yearly Spreads are usually very different from
each other. But since the Underlying Cards are the same we seem to be going through many of the same issues at the same time. Very interesting!

Averting Disaster – Using the Cards for Future Planning

The cards can be used in many important ways in our life. One is what I refer to as ‘driving at night with your headlights on.’ In this respect, we can use the cards to avoid or diminish the negative impact of potential future influences, or to take appropriate action to side step the issue. This is something that I have used with hundreds of clients and continue to use today. Everyone of us often get cards that can really scare us. This happens once we realize that some of the cards carry a huge potential for challenge, loss, defeat or disappointment. I will never forget one night at 3:00 in the morning when I got a call from my sister who was obviously upset. “What’s wrong?” I asked. “I am going to die” she replied. “Die?” I said, “What do you mean, die?” She then said, “I looked in the Destiny Cards book and six years from now I have a 9♠ in Saturn. I can’t sleep, I am so upset.” I proceeded to explain to her that these cards have many meanings, etc. and calmed her down as best I could. As funny as this sounds you would be surprised at how many people will have a reaction like this, especially after they realize how accurate this system is.

This is how I personally use the cards. I have discovered that by using the cards as a spiritual guide in this manner that I can pretty much have continual positive experiences in my life. So, let’s talk about how we can use this information to our advantage. Just making a small effort can often pay off in a big way.

Step One – Know the Nature of the Potential Negative Experience by the card or cards, and their positions

First of all, you need to understand the card or cards you are looking at to see just what might happen that you should or should not be concerned about. To begin with, cards in Mars, Saturn, and Pluto are usually the most likely to be difficult. This is because these are the malefic positions. There can be very challenging things occurring in other periods but that is not the usual. It takes a very difficult combination of influences to create disaster in periods other than Saturn or Mars, such as a 6♠ and 9♠ together. And these also must accompany special circumstances. Here are some tips to know the potential negative impact of cards that you have.

1. The difficult cards are generally the odd-numbered cards in the deck, but especially the Sevens and Nines. But in Saturn, any odd-numbered card can represent difficulties.
2. Saturn is the number one negative position for most people. In some cases, Capricorns and Aquarians have less difficulty with Saturn influences. This is because Saturn governs both these Sun signs. Cards tend to go to the negative side of their meaning under Saturn more than in any other position.
3. Saturn also represents negative Karma from the past. This can be past-life Karma or simply Karma from your actions at some time in your recent past. Most past-life Saturn Karma is exhausted by the age of 40 or so. But we can continue to experience difficult Saturn periods on account of new negative Karma we have created in this lifetime.
4. The number Six is also a Karmic influence, in any position. In Mars, Pluto, or Saturn, it can represent negative Karma, the results of our past actions against others. Thus, if you have a Six in Saturn, it is like having a double negative Karma situation, something very important to keep in mind.
5. Mars represents the results of aggressive actions. In the negative, Mars deals with anger, blame, judgment and hostility. It also tells us what we can expect from competitive or legal matters. If you have challenging cards in Mars, expect problems with competitors. A Nine in Mars would usually mean a competitive loss or disappointment. A Six in Mars will usually result in a fair resolution, though perhaps not the resolution you desired.

6. Pluto cards will confront us, challenge us and cause us to change. Pluto is like a Super-Mars. In some cases the element of death is part of Pluto. Whatever your Pluto Card this year, you will be faced with some issue and given the opportunity to change. Since we tend to resist change, we experience this as a negative event.

Step Two – Be prepared, in your mind, to take the correct action to relieve the conflict caused by that card.

Every card, even in Saturn, Pluto or Mars, has a positive expression. The problem is that in those positions, it is more difficult to access. It takes patience, self-awareness and a willingness to take responsibility for what is happening. Without those ingredients you can pretty much guarantee a negative outcome. But each card has within it a specific remedy.

1. Sevens require us to be willing to see things in a more positive way. Though the situation represented by a Seven has caused us some problems, we must realize that this is really just a matter of perception and attitude. In fact, when presented by a Seven, there are always things that we can be grateful for. As a matter of fact, even the challenge of the Seven is a gift. But our attitude is messed up and we are focusing on the negative. And the Seven has come to show us that our thoughts and attitudes are powerful. Change the attitude and change the perception. Change the perception and change your reality. A Seven can bring us more of whatever it is that we feel we are missing than any other card in the deck. It is the Magical Seven that fulfills all wishes and desires. But we must be in the frame of mind of seeing the good before this can happen.

2. Nines require that we are willing to let go of something or someone. The presence of a Nine tells us that something in our life has gone full circle for us and moved beyond the point where it has anything good to offer us. It actually has become poison. But our attachment and fear have blinded us to this fact. So, we cling to it though its time in our life has past. With a Nine we must ‘fall back’ on God and let this thing go so that we can be loved in a divine way. As soon as we let go, a Nine will open up our awareness and help us see the divine fabric of life and our place in it. Its called ‘let go and let God.’

3. Sixes and Saturn events can be best handled by being willing to take responsibility for whatever is happening – full responsibility. Steven Gaskins, the leader of a somewhat famous spiritual community called The Farm, preached the concept of ‘buying Karma.’ What he meant was that in any situation of conflict that we find ourselves in we should stand up and take responsibility for it and then do something about it based upon that notion. Saturn is the gatekeeper to the spiritual planes, the last visible planet. It is only by assuming responsibility that we enter the gates of the divine realms.

What happens when you see potentially difficult cards in your future and use the cards appropriately is that you become more conscious. And this consciousness is self-awareness. Difficult experiences cause us to go within, hopefully to the source of our problems, which is always within us. By taking this approach to these difficult experiences you will accomplish several things.

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1. First of all, many of these events will not even occur. Many of these negative experiences were given to us to increase our awareness. Once our awareness is increased, they really have no purpose. So, in many cases, they just do not occur at all.

2. We are often able to transform a potentially negative experience into a positive one. Knowing how the card we have can be transformed can guide us to actually transforming a negative into a positive. We can experience a spiritual victory, which are the most fulfilling victories of all.

3. We can avoid a potential pitfall or take appropriate action to not aggravate a potentially harsh situation. We can know when to lay back and when to press forward. Under negative influences it is often a good idea to just sit back and not take action at all. Sometimes just changing the timing of our actions can help them result in a positive way, instead of running into a brick wall or falling into a pit.

This is the bottom line – you can know what is going on and what you need to do to turn every negative into a positive. In this way, your cards can become a spiritual guide that is invaluable. Good luck in transforming them all into spiritual victories!

Celebrity Couples – Uma Thurman and Ethan Hawke

Uma – April 29, 1970 5♣ Birth Card A♠ PR Card
Ethan - November 6, 1970 A♦ Birth Card, 3♣/Q♠ PR Cards

She's the angelic blonde who twisted with John Travolta in *Pulp Fiction* and looked absolutely perfect in *Gattaca*. He was the student with a conscience in Dead Poet's Society who met his match while starring in *Gattaca* opposite this lovely, unusual beauty. Together, they were one of Hollywood’s most handsome couples. But that was yesterday. Today they are separated.

About Uma Thurman

• Her mother is originally from Sweden and her father is a Tibetan Buddhist monk.
• Her family is Buddhist, while she considers herself agnostic.
• "Uma" is named after a Hindu deity, the consort of Shiva.
• Her father was a personal friend of the Dalai Lama.
• She is romantically linked to many actors in the past including Nicolas Cage, John Cusack, Robert De Niro, Robert Downey, Jr., Richard Gere, Timothy Hutton, Mick Jagger, Don Johnson, Judd Nelson, Brad Pitt. She was previously married to actor Gary Oldman.

• May, 1998 – marriage in Manhattan
• July 8, 1998 – birth of their daughter, Maya Ray
• January 18, 2002 – the birth of their son, Roan

As a 5♣, Uma is essentially unmarriageable. Same applies to Ethan’s A♦ and 3♣. It seems inevitable that cheating, or at least fears of cheating, would be what broke them up. Ethan is now dating a model named Jennifer Perzow. According to reports in the British press... The 22 year
old 34-26-34 Canadian model, says "I'm no home-wrecker. All this stuff that I broke up their marriage is just not true." The couple split when Uma kicked Ethan out because he thought she was having an affair with Quentin Tarantino (March 27, 1963, a 9♣/K♥). Uma spent nearly a year filming her new movie *Kill Bill*, which was a long time away from home. There is no proof she had an affair with Quentin but it appears that as soon as there were, Ethan began having his affairs too.

Many 5♣, after a marriage or two for the experience of it, decide that marriage is just out of the question. Witness Michelle Pfeiffer, another famous 5♣ woman born the same day as Uma in 1958. Of course the A♦ and 3♣ are no better. Now that Ethan is famous and somewhat single again, I expect we will see him hook up with many Hollywood beauties.

Earlier this year, Uma had a 9♥ and Q♠ (Ethan’s 2nd PR Card) in Venus. Those divorce cards are at just the right place in time (6/20/03 – 8/11/03) for this breakup. She also has a 9♥ Pluto and 3♥ Displacement in her Ruling Card’s spread this year. Will she and Tarantino end up together? Its possible.

For his part, Ethan has a 9♥ Long Range in his 3♣ spread for the next year in his PR Card spread. He also has a 9♥ in Saturn in his Birth Card spread. I say it is over for these two. And we will have to see if Uma ever ties the knot again. I would be very surprised if either of them do.
From the January, 2004 Newsletter

Looking Into 2004

As we begin this New Year, we are entering a year filled with conflict. The Mars transit of last August has initiated many conflicts, world-wide, just as it has done in the past. But this particular transit may have been more powerful than the ones in the past because it came closer to the earth that others for the past 70,000 years. So, this could mean more war, perhaps eventually another world war. It seems that each day our news is filled with more conflict and bloodshed. Terrorism threatens to strike at any moment. It is the main topic of news today. I expect us to see more of this as the year progresses, a heightening of the stress in the world today, largely revolving around on the Muslim verses Jewish conflict. Here are some specifics about planetary energies this year.

Saturn is in the sign of Cancer all year. It is now affecting those born around the beginning of July, October, January and April. This will last until about June of this year. After that it will affect those born later in those same months, from the 3rd or 4th of those months up to about the 16th or 17th. This effect will result mostly as having to work harder, more care needed in personal relationships, and in some cases, health issues. Sexual and romantic involvements as well as relationships with or around children will also require more energy and will have more challenges to deal with. Saturn will also affect anyone with natal planets between 7 and 27 degrees of Cancer, Aries, Libra or Capricorn.

Pluto is in Sagittarius all year, between 18 and 22 degrees. This is causing a huge transformation of a very positive nature for people born around the 8th to 12th of December. They are given the power to make a complete change in their life and self-expression. They are advised to shoot for the stars now as this may be one of the most important times in their life. Those born around the 8th –12th of September, March, and June will also be experiencing this transformation. However, for those, Pluto’s aspect is stressful which means they should expect some major deaths in their life. When I say deaths I mean endings of all kinds, depending on the house position of their Sun in their natal chart, along with other planets aspecting the Sun. Pluto will bring things to a dramatic end in one manner or the other. Pluto will also affect anyone with natal planets between 18 and 22 degrees in the signs of Sagittarius, Virgo, Pisces and Gemini.

On September 6th of this year, Pluto and Mars will make a stressful combination for four days. These four days are likely to have some violent eruptions around the globe and everyone in general will be more likely to take their anger to a lower level of expression. This will be a time of caution for the wise. This aspect has also been known to coincide with things like train wrecks, airplane crashes and other events where people die violent deaths.

Jupiter begins the year in Virgo, benefiting Virgos born around the beginning of September to the 5th of September a lot until about March of this year. Then, Jupiter will bring rewards to the rest of the Virgos born after the 5th until September 22nd, when it enters the sign of Libra. Early Librans (born in September) will benefit a lot from Jupiter until the end of the year. Jupiter brings good fortune in all areas but mostly in self-expression, relationships with children and romantic interests.

And speaking of good days, September 22nd is one of those rare days that has many super aspects for marriage or the beginning of a new business. Actually the good aspects extend from the 22nd until the 24th of September so this will be a good time to plan some important beginnings in your life that can take advantage of the positive influences. The best of them are Jupiter conjunct Sun, Venus Trine Pluto and Inconjunct Chiron, all super aspects for marriage or business.
The Saturn Cards

Saturn has a pretty bad rap among those who have a familiarity with astrology. Usually, those who know just a little about astrology will fear Saturn the most. Saturn is the cosmic ‘bad guy’ to most people. He brings bad news, difficulties, ill health, death and other unpleasant experiences. But like him or not, all of us have to deal with him. Everyone has a Saturn card in their Life Spread and all of us have the planet Saturn somewhere in our natal chart, not to mention transiting Saturn moving through our natal charts and our live. But there are certain cards in the deck who are born under Saturn’s influence and this article is about them. Here is the list:

Saturn line, Life Spread ♦, 5♥, 3♠, 3♣, 9♥, 7♦, 5♣
Saturn column, Life Spread K♠, 5♣, 9♠, 2♦, 8♣, 9♥, 2♠, 6♠
Saturn line, Spiritual Spread 3♦, 4♦, 5♠, 6♣, 7♦, 8♣, 9♦
Saturn column, Spiritual Spread K♠, 5♥, Q♥, 6♣, K♦, 7♠, A♠, 8♠

These are what I am calling the Saturn Cards in this article. And because of Saturn’s influence on these cards, they share common traits. Saturn is a teacher and often a harsh or terrible teacher. But there is also a good side to Saturn. He does give rewards, but only to those who pass his tests.

Every card in the deck has some Saturn areas of life, denoted by their Saturn Card in their Life Spread. But those born in a Saturn row or column have a larger amount of this Saturn energy. And in this respect this means they have more negative karma. Saturn is called the Lord of Karma. He is the Lord of the Law of Cause and Effect. The Law of Cause and Effect, also called the Law of Karma, guarantees that we will eventually experience both sides of every possible human or earthly experience. If we have helped someone in the past, we get to later experience being helped by another. If we have hurt someone in our past, we get to experience being hurt by someone. This is called karma. Most people think of karma as being either good karma or bad karma. The part where we experience pleasant things is good karma and the unpleasant things are negative karma. But in reality, from Saturn’s point of view, there is no good or bad to karma, there is just karma. He just makes sure that we get to experience things from both sides. And from the point of view of karma being the mechanism that guarantees a complete human experience, all karma is good karma.

But as it turn out, if your Birth Card is found in one of the Saturn positions in either spread, it is most likely that you have a good amount of negative karma that you must experience in this lifetime, from a past life or unconscious behavior. I say unconscious because it is possible to act without creating negative karma. If we are mindful of just how our actions influence others, we can act in a way that is unpleasant to them and yet not accumulate negative karma for ourselves since we are already fulfilling Saturn’s mandate, of being aware of both sides of every experience. This is why Saturn is exalted in the astrological sign of Libra. Libra is the sign of ‘the other’ in our life. Since Librans are very aware of how the things they do affect those around them, they fulfill Saturn’s requirements and do not tend to accumulate negative karma.

Our Saturn Card people listed here have accumulated a good amount of karma from past-life unconscious behavior. This is usually in the area of personal relationships but can also be in other areas such as in regards to being honest or by being thieves or playing other roles that hurt
others while disregarding how it must have been to be on the other end of that hurt. For this reason, these cards will have many unpleasant experiences in their life, most of which will occur in childhood and adolescence. There will be many set-backs, disappointments, tragedies, losses and even death in the earlier part of their lives. Usually these people are familiar with the negative side of life, the side that most consider unpleasant and unwanted. Because of their having so many of these negative experiences in early life, their personalities will be colored by this in many ways.

Some of these cards will just take the attitude that life is a place where you work hard. They become hardened by their early life experiences. And they treat others harshly as well. These people will often harbor secret or open resentment towards people who have an apparent ‘easy’ life. They have the attitude that life is meant to be hard work and little else. And, their experiences confirm this belief. It is a fact that Saturn will reward those who work hard. He is the planet of discipline, the confiner and the limiter of expression. But if we work hard, he will reward us with material gain and recognition from those around us. Some Saturn Card people learn this lesson early on. But they become one-sided about it. They just work, work, work and their life becomes mired in struggle and work to the extent that they cannot see above it to any other possibility. It is a fact that most of Saturn’s negative karma is exhausted by the age of 45. So, everyone has a chance to experience an easier more pleasant life starting in their forties and beyond. But some of our Saturn Cards, because of their early conditioning, cannot even imagine life without hard work and struggle. And they run the risk of perpetuating this mentality and denying themselves the ease and good fortune that life is meant to bring them. The 4♦, 8♠ and 5♥, in particular, tend to fall into this pattern. But we will find individuals among all the Saturn Cards who have, or are, struggling for this same reason.

Other Saturn Cards will respond to their early life negative experiences by seeking escape from Saturn’s pressure. Some become averse to any sort of authority or structure. This is true of the Fives in particular but all Saturn Cards are suspect. These people will avoid Saturn-like influences as much as possible, as if they could escape from him in this way. Other cards escape by just ignoring the pain and suffering that they have experienced in early life. They often have forgotten their childhood to one extent or another. They develop a coping mechanism of ‘not looking’ at the unpleasant areas of their life. They can become very idealistic and well-meaning. They get involved in helping others or in their work and set high and idealistic goals for themselves. And many of them achieve these goals. But there is a blind spot in these people. They often are disconnected from themselves in a way that makes them somewhat shallow and fake in their expression. And often they will become hostile towards others who remind them of things that make them aware of the big hole that lies in the center of their being. They will have emotional outbursts that surprise them. They cannot explain where they come from because they are disconnected from their own pain. But for these, Saturn has made a date. And at some point in their life, their house of cards will meet with the winds of reality and come crashing down. Saturn guarantees that they will eventually come around. All of the Saturn Cards will have some of this experience in their life. And for some, it might just be too much to deal with.

Their life can go along for thirty years or more and they think everything is great. Then, in their thirties or forties, they will have a period of time where everything changes. Things will seem to go against them. They might have some bad experiences that they cannot remember ever having in their life and be very confused. Everything seems to turn against them as they experience some tragedies that they never imagined they would have. But these tragedies have a divine function in their lives, and that is to get them in touch with who they really are. Not that who they really are is pain and suffering. But it is only through embracing the pain of our life that we can truly embrace the beauty of it. Any blind spots must be removed. And Saturn will make sure this happens, whether we participate with the process or not.
Saturn Cards tend to be hard on themselves. In personal relationships, Saturn connections usually result in criticism. Someone who is our Saturn card in a relationship will tell us we ‘should’ do this or we ‘should’ do that. But Saturn Cards treat themselves this way, usually all or most of the time. Again, this behavior is created in early childhood and usually becomes unconscious as an adult. Thus, Saturn Cards are often very self-critical and not even aware of it. They expect more of themselves than others do. They feel that they must work hard and achieve more than others in order to be worthy of others’ love. Most of them are not aware that they are seeking self-worth through working so hard.

These people often have a great deal of difficulty with someone else criticizing them. It will bother them more than others and it will carry a huge emotional impact for them. They will even imagine others are criticizing them when it isn’t happening. Some carry a burden of self-hate that is so great that there really isn’t anything they can do in this world that would make them worthy of love. This self-hatred poisons everything they do. It hurts their relationships, where they will unconsciously but consistently choose partners who are abusive, or who appear abusive. They choose jobs where others will be critical and hard to please. Basically they will attract experiences that confirm to them that they are not good enough.

Some of these will fight back against these ghosts of self-hatred. They will become angry at others, sometimes specific groups. They will find some outlet for their anger that gives them justification to fight. This is a process of externalization, of projecting an inner hatred of self outward into the world. They find enemies to battle with. The real enemy is inside but they usually are unaware of this. But Saturn’s presence will eventually call up a reckoning. Though they fight it, at some point circumstances will force them to see the pain that lies within them. All the fighting must cease and the real enemy, their self-hatred, will be revealed. However, much harm may have been done by this point in their lives, which could have created a lot more negative karma for them to experience later, in this life or the next. At any point a Saturn Card could make a turn around. But each individual has their unique personal timing in this regard. Their big, lifetime turning point is known only to God.

In relationship, Saturn Cards tend to attract Saturn relationships or partners who are Saturn Cards. Relationship is a powerful spiritual mechanism for developing conscious awareness. Thus, the mirroring quality of a relationship can teach us things about ourselves that nothing else can.

If you look at the list of Saturn Cards there are certain ones that stand out. Some because they are Saturn in two places. Among these are the 5♥, 8♠, 9♥, 7♦, K♠ and 6♣. These cards have a double-Saturn influence that accentuates the many characteristics mentioned here. The K♠ is somewhat immune to this because of its position in the Crown line and the fact that they are all Capricorns, ruled by Saturn in the first place. Capricorns and Aquarians tend to be immune somewhat to Saturn’s negative influence because they are ruled by Saturn in astrology and thus their very nature is to work hard and be responsible as well as aware of others. But the other cards in this list have a stronger Saturn influence. We also need to add one more card to this list. That is the Q♦. The reason why this card stands out is that six of its seven Life Spread cards fall in the same Saturn line they are born in. It is like their entire life is full of Saturn challenges. And it also means that nearly all of the areas of their life, represented by the cards in their Life Spread, have Saturn lessons to learn. It is well known that they are considered to be one of the most difficult cards in the deck to be and this is the main reason.

The 9♥ also stands out in our deck because it is the Saturn/Saturn card in the Life Spread. The 9♥ may have the title of having the most negative relationship karma of any card in the deck. Why the area of relationship? Because it is a Heart. This means that both the Q♦ and 9♥ experience a lot of negative relationship karma due to a lot of unconscious relationship behavior.
in past lives. In order to balance that out, they will have to experience many difficult relationships and relationship-based chapters over the course of their life.

Many of the Saturn Cards are destined for great success and recognition in the world. Saturn rules the tenth house in astrology and this is the house of recognition and fame, much like the Crown Line in the cards. This is one of Saturn’s main rewards. Once a Saturn Card person realizes that he or she must abide by the rules of engagement, as dictated by Saturn, they can progress along in life very quickly and with many rewards along the way. Saturn’s only dictate is that we are aware of how the things we do and say affect those around us. This awareness is the result of all the painful and unpleasant karmic experiences we go through. We become aware, as it was, of what is like to be on both sides of any human equation. Having learned this lesson, we are free to act in the world without being afraid of what bad thing is going to happen to us next. Saturn brings wisdom and working from high morality. It often brings great recognition for work performed and character developed. It also rules the 13-year period of life that begins at age 52. It is during this period that we tend to collect the benefits of our Saturn, hard work. So, keeping all of this in mind, we can have more compassion for Saturn people and an understanding of what they are going through. We do not have to excuse their behavior but at least we can understand its origins and know the extent of the challenges they face.

When a Saturn Card person learns their lessons and meet their karma head on, they become wise indeed. Saturn bestows the truth about life, especially the side of life that others often avoid or ignore, due to the painful nature of looking at it. This maturity can lead to great satisfaction. Saturn Card people walk a tightrope between enlightenment and resignation. Some resign and give in to the pressures of their karma and are lost in a world that is out to get them on every level. But there are many who embrace their Saturn lessons wholeheartedly and dedicate themselves to what growth they may gain from their experiences. For these, a measure of enlightenment, or perhaps full enlightenment, awaits them. Depth in understanding is one of their main rewards. Life is no longer a mystery that confounds and blocks progress. It is a place where everything is governed by a divine law that is both loving and rewarding on the highest level.

**Mastery of Fear – Part One**

Don’t be fooled by appearances. Everyone is afraid. Fear is prevalent in all of our lives. Rarely does anyone experience a time that is free of fear. And in today’s world, as it has often been in the past, the uncertainty about political and economic forces that are beyond the control of the average individual has caused a heightened sense of fear. This uncertainty puts more pressure upon each of us. After 9/11 for example, everyone was more afraid. The economy in America deflated instantly. People were afraid to fly, afraid to visit foreign countries. The airline industries suffered tremendously and this affected other areas of the economy, which are all connected to each other. The stock market suffered as well as a general sense of uncertainty swept our nation. As I write this, our country is still under the shadow of fear. A terrorist act threatens to strike any day. It seems that nearly all other countries hate us for one reason or another. It is not safe to visit many countries, many of which have their own unrest to deal with, and who detest America for our meddling and interaction on the global scene. The stock market is trying to come back but is still sputtering. All of these factors and more have contributed to a general sense of uncertainty in our American world. And, I would venture to say, it is probably the same in many other countries of the world.

This kind of basic uncertainty, which causes us to feel as though our very security is unstable, causes people to become desperate. Like an animal that is cornered, people are on the verge of instinctual survival behavior. When surviving is the only concern, concern for others is
out of the question. It is every man and woman for himself or herself. In today’s world, mob mentality is easily catalyzed. Many are eager to plunder and take advantage of others should the governing body lose control. I would hate to see what would happen in our country should we have another major terrorist act occur on our shores. But the important point here is that we are all feeling more uncertainty in general in our world today. And for the spiritually minded person, this makes the challenge of staying in the source just that much harder.

In today’s society, most people are unaware of just how afraid they are. Instead of having any awareness of their fear, they just go right into action to make things occur the way they want them to. They just try and manipulate the world around them to guarantee their safety. However, when a person is making choices and acting from a place of fear, he or she tends to make unwise choices. Under such conditions, the individual usually makes short-term remedy kinds of decisions and fails to see the long-term effects of these choices, which are almost always bad for themselves and others. It is up to you to be conscious. It is up to you to be aware of your fear. It is up to you to make good choices by not letting your fear run your life. Those whose lives are being run by their fears experience a perpetual ‘running away from’ life experience. Like a dream in which others, who are trying to kill you, are endlessly chasing you, they just run from situation to situation without any relief. And each new situation is a little worse than the last. Ultimately they must do very bad things to others in order to avoid being caught.

Fear is the basic state of mind behind all negative states, experiences, and emotions. This includes:
1. Anger, hostility, fighting, judgment of others and blame
2. Jealousy, covetousness, envy, kidnapping, theft, rip-offs, lust and greed
3. Control, power, forcing, manipulating, abuse, murder and persuading
4. Co-dependence, victim-savior, escapism, suicide and depression

All of these experiences and behaviors have their root in fear. And anyone who experiences enough fear will act out these things to one extent or another. Even a pious person, if pressured enough and threatened enough, will be bound to act negatively in one of these ways. It would take a truly and completely enlightened person to not do so when the pressure is applied.

To the extent that a person has become aware of his or her fear and to the extent that they have learned to master it, to that extent will this person be less bound to act out these behaviors. All of us have the opportunity to become less fear-based in our choices and actions. But only those who have a sincere desire for the truth will actually make the effort. There are several laws and truths about fear and its effect in our lives that can help us see what is really going on and what we can do to change it.
1. Most fear today is imagined, not real. Few people are actually being threatened in the here and now. Most of the fear that people have today is the fear of what might happen. It is the mind working on perpetual problems.
2. The mind is the first tool we turn to when we are afraid. This is the norm today. We try to figure out a solution. We mistakenly believe that our mind can help us. The fact, as we will soon discuss, is just the opposite.
3. The mind can only give good solutions when the emotional state is relaxed and the person is feeling safe and secure. A mind that is excited by fear will miss thing and develop solutions based on false evidence. Therefore:
4. Solutions arrived at with a fearful mind will always lead to even more fearful and negative situations. This one is the most important truth of all.
5. Someone acting from a fearful mind will often perpetrate ill upon others in the process.
Anyone who makes a sincere effort can overcome the negative effects of fear in their life. This does not mean that they will necessarily get rid of fear. In my experience we never get rid of fear. But we can completely stop all the negative effects of fear through conscious awareness and deliberate efforts to not act from it. The benefits of this approach are many. The first is that we stop the cycle of going from one negative situation to another. Our life will gradually improve instead of the opposite. The next benefit is that we can find a safe place within ourselves, a place where we can go to eradicate any fear that may come up. One has to experience this to believe it. But once this connection to source is made, you or I can move ahead in life and at the very least not be afraid of what our fear may cause us to do. As Winston Churchill once said, “There is nothing to fear but fear itself.” When we eliminate the fear of our fear, we have made a huge step towards mastery of fear. The last benefit is that we will be free, free from the bondage of our fear and of the fear of the world. This is an interesting perspective that can only be appreciated when you experience it directly. When you get to this place, you will see the world around you operating and being controlled by fear but you will no longer be a part of that world. You will be able to experience ‘being in the world but not of the world.’ The truth is this: God loves you and everything that happens to you is His will, and His love for you. You will be able to realize this someday if you make the effort. It will not be just some spiritual saying; it will become your truth.

The first step towards mastery of fear is to recognize it and to realize just how much of a control it has over our lives. You can start by looking over the list of negative manifestations to see if you have been acting out any of these. With self-awareness you can get to the heart of it. If, for example, you find yourself angry at someone, for any reason, take a moment by yourself. Feel what you are feeling. If you just watch your breathing pattern and feel what is happening inside your heart, you will quickly see that you are afraid. The fear lies just below the anger. This also applies to all the other negative emotions. You have to try this to realize this for yourself. Just feel. You will first see that the breathing pattern is one of fear – short, quick breaths and a feeling of panic in the heart center. The breathing pattern of nearly all of the negative emotions is like this. This is because they are based in fear. They are fear turned outwards.

Make an assessment of yourself. Try to see how much of your life is being run by your fear. It may look bad in the moment, like you never realized how bad your life really is. But this step is critical. Without it, there can be no progress beyond. People who cannot get through this step are in denial. They are denying that which is actually very evident and visible – that their lives are nearly controlled completely by fear and fear-based choices. Only those who can see their own fear can hope to master it. All the crimes that you see on television and read about in the paper are rooted in fear that is not be looked at.

One of my teachers used to tell us to hang out with our fear. He would say, “Invite your fear to sit down for a chat. Get to know your fear well. That is the way to enlightenment.” I later realized just how important his words were. It is the awareness of fear’s role in our lives that gives us the power to regain control of our lives. Most people are so afraid of their fear that they refuse to look at it. Its like when you were a child and your mother told you there was a monster in your closet. It would take a tremendous amount of courage to open that closet door and take a look. But looking is what we must do. The more we look, the less fear has any power over us. It is the light that dispels the darkness and illusion that fear creates in our lives.

To be continued...
My Work
Robert Lee Camp December 19, 2003

As I descend into Los Angeles International Airport today in a 747, I am reminded that this was the birthplace of my involvement with the cards, back in 1989. This is the place I was living when I made a commitment to take this system to the attention of the world. I had been searching for just this kind of work for over a decade. I had been successful in many areas but I always felt as though the work that was truly mine was still out there. It was as Jupiter transited my midheaven that I found this work and made the commitment. My initiation into the Order of the Magi in 1991 and subsequent development of other books, software, videos, and workshops all followed that fateful year. The books and other resources you see today are the culmination of over 14 years of work and study.

God has been good to me. He has helped me be continually successful and to survive some pretty hard times. He has brought me more and more information that I could share with the world. It’s funny to me that this work of mine was born in Los Angeles, a place where I would hate to actually live. To me, it is one of the most materialistic and ‘lost in illusion’ places on the earth. But somehow, LA is a good place to give birth to a business or enterprise. And, so it seems, it was a good place to give birth to this work, which I have to admit, is the work of my life.

I consider myself to be very fortunate. I found a work that had both a spiritual meaning and a lot that I found interesting and rewarding. I get letters every week from people all over the globe thanking me for the work I have done. One man recently wrote, “Thank you for the work you are doing. When I happened upon your Book, Destiny Cards, I felt as though I had found the book I have been searching for my entire life.” I thought that was pretty amazing because that is exactly the intention that I had when I wrote it. I wanted my book to be one in which a person would feel this way when they picked it up. For letters like that I am very grateful and I am reminded of how blessed I am. I can honestly say that I found my place in the world in terms of my work. There are still areas of my life that are not so clear. But this is one in which I am eternally grateful.

For those of you who are still searching, I offer this advice: First, never give up on your dream. No matter how old you are or how long you have been dreaming it, that dream is yours and yours alone. It is your rightful good that you were given that vision and your rightful good that you should see it’s fulfillment. The moment you give your dream up is the moment that you die inside. The world is full of people whose dreams have been abandoned, who at one time had the highest hopes for their future but succumbed to the challenges that their life brought to them. They are part of the walking dead mentioned in the Bible. You do not have to be one of them.

I was recently in Las Vegas and spent some time gambling on the slot machines. It was really fun when I would win some money and really depressing when I would go through a long period of losing. During one of those periods of losing I stopped to reflect for a while. Here I was, fixated on the screen of this slot machine, waiting for the laws of chance to bring me a lucky ‘hit’. I felt a little embarrassed to see myself acting so powerless. Then, I realized that these machines are programmed to only give back a certain percentage of what goes into them, usually around 90%. Anyone who plays them long enough is going to lose all the money they have at risk. So, essentially, the machines are rigged for me to lose. Some people do win at the slot machines. But that is a matter of timing. And even those that win will lose it all back if they continue to play.
This is a fact of the gambling world. However, this is not a fact of life. Life is not geared up for us to lose. Life is a winning proposition. But, because of karma, many of us can feel that our life is like an extended stay in the casinos. We can feel that no matter how hard we try that we continue to lose. There is nothing as depressing as that sinking feeling that your life is getting worse year after year. I know because I have experienced that myself. I am here to tell you that this is an illusion. That is not what life is, or what it was meant to be for anyone. But you will never realize this truth for yourself if you give up. There is a part of you that has always known that life is meant to be beautiful and fulfilling. It was strong when you were young and it is revealed to you in your dreams. Don’t give up those dreams. God’s love is infinite.

Next, you must be willing to take a risk. When your time comes, you will have to take a risk for happiness. You will have to risk your security, your familiarity with the secure, but dead life you may have been living. You will have to take a chance, a chance on love, life and happiness. It is only by being willing to lose that you can win. Some say that opportunity only knocks once. I do not know that to be true. I think it knocks several times in our life. But what I think is true is that we must be ready and willing to act when that opportunity comes. And in that act we must be willing to let go of our past and the life we have known. There is a thing about choice that is good to understand. Choice is the act of specifying one thing from many, from distinguishing one possibility from a field of many. Usually when we choose something, we are, at the same time, un-choosing many other things. To choose happiness and abundance, we have to deselect unhappiness and misery. Prepare yourself for that day. And get yourself straight with God. Make an agreement with Him (or Her) that when the time for your opportunity comes that you will give up everything, if you need to, to follow your path to a happy and bright future. You may have to move to a new location, to give up some people that you now call friends, to give up personal habits and attachments that just do not fit. Be ready.

So, be prepared. Your time is coming. And when it does, also be prepared to create a plan for your success. There is nothing so powerful as a carefully crafted plan. By visualizing your dreams and making your plans for the future carefully, you can essentially guarantee your success. Most people do know have an idea of what a plan actually is. A plan is where you take every aspect of your goals and map them out on a ten-year basis so that when you are done you know what you need to do and focus on now, next month and next year. This sort of planning is best done with the help of someone who does planning for a living. So, be willing to at least read a book on planning and better yet, find someone you can hire to help you make this plan. I was fortunate to find someone like this when I was first beginning. And the real benefit of this was that I realized, after doing my plan, that my dreams were entirely doable. I knew that if I just did each step in succession that my dreams would become reality.

Now, plans do have to be changed after a period of time. As you get into your dream fulfillment, you will realize new things that affect your plan and you will have to make adjustments. But that is also part of the process. These truths about fulfilling our dreams have been known for a long time and written about many times by many teachers and authors. They are not new. But sometimes, it is good to be reminded of them. I certainly am reminded of them as I think about the last 14 years of my life and how I made the transition from a seeker and dreamer to a finder and fulfiller of my dreams. I wish this same experience for you on this New Year of unlimited possibilities.
From the March, 2004 Newsletter

The Leo Thing
Robert Lee Camp

An article I read today, combined with a news report I saw on TV last night both confirmed a lot about what I understand about Leos and Leo energy in general. These discoveries can teach us a lot about ourselves as well and about our own Sun expression. Let’s explore this kingly sign and see what we can learn.

The sign of Leo governs the natal 5th house in astrology. Most astrology books will tell you that the 5th house has to do with romance, self-expression, children and lovers. It is the house of childbirth and other ‘births’ in our life. It is the house of affection and affectionate relationships. It is also the house and sign of blind love as we shall see.

I have stated for many years that the affection we feel for a baby is the same affection that we feel for a lover. Astrology confirms this by the way we find the same house governing both. In a Reuters Science article I got today from Yahoo.com, we find that scientists have proven just this point.

Maternal Love Affects Brain Like Romance – Study
Fri Feb 13

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - Love may indeed be blind, whether it is love for a newborn or its father, British researchers reported on Friday.

Scanners showed the brains of young mothers lit up in the same way when they looked at their babies as the brains of people who looked at images of their lovers. And the region activated told an important story, too. It was an area known as the reward system.

Now this is interesting. That particular area of the brain is called the ‘reward system’ area. I have also declared, as have other astrologers, that the 5th house is the house of pleasure. Jupiter’s transit through our natal 5th house is one of the transits of ‘great reward’. The article goes on to say:

Parts of the brain also turned off when looking at a lover, spouse or child -- and that was the system involved in making negative judgments, the team at University College London said. Writing in the journal NeuroImage, they said their finding suggests that to some degree, love really is blind to faults.

"Both romantic and maternal love are highly rewarding experiences that are linked to the perpetuation of the species, and consequently have a closely linked biological function of crucial evolutionary importance," said Andreas Bartels of UCL’s Wellcome Department of Imaging Neuroscience, who led the study. His team scanned the brains of 20 young mothers using functional magnetic resonance imaging, which can show brain activity as it happens. They had already documented how the brain responds when people see images of their lovers. The young women were shown pictures of their own children, children they knew and adult friends, to make sure that feelings of familiarity and friendship were not interfering.

There was a special pattern when the mothers saw their babies, and much of it overlapped with the pattern seen when people look at their lovers, Bartels and colleague Semir Zeki found. The areas activated were brain cells known to be sensitive to oxytocin, a message-carrying chemical associated with sensations such as euphoria, pleasure and love. This explains the
"power of love to motivate and exhilarate," the researchers wrote. The deactivated areas included those involved in negative judgments and critical thinking.

This blindness is a classic Leo fault. This is not to say that every Leo individual has this blindness. But it is a Leo trait and the more Leo planets and influences a person has in their natal chart, the more they turn off their critical minds to the people they love, and are often blind to any of their faults. Blind love and blind loyalty are very common in Leos and those with a great deal of Leo / 5th house energy in their charts. There is a classic book in India called the Mahabharata, which is actually an epic tale that spans 17 volumes. But the main story revolves around two families, one good and the other bad. The bad family was lead by Duryadhona, whose father at his son’s birth was warned that his son was evil and that he would cause the destruction of the entire race. His father, in blind love to his son, ignored all the signs, portents, and advice of his wise counselors and sages of that day. Duryadhona did indeed cause the destruction of the race and was evil. But his father’s love was steady throughout it all, though he lost everything as a consequence of it.

Leos are proud and mighty in their affection. They place the objects of their affection upon pedestals. They also place themselves upon pedestals. And they see their lovers there beside them, sharing the throne. They fulfill the ‘drama’ of their lives by writing a screenplay. Leo and the 5th house are those that govern acting and actors and actresses. If you are involved with a Leo, you are a character in their play. And everything takes on a dramatic hue. There is nothing in a Leo’s life that is ordinary or boring. Everything, both good and bad, is incredibly dramatic. Its either really-really good, or really-really bad. Being with a Leo is often like being on a roller coaster of ups and downs. And the farther you go up, the farther you go down.

It’s funny that Leo is considered the strongest of the Sun signs. What’s funny about is that this dramatic nature has something good for all of us to realize since we all have a Sun somewhere in our chart. Leos tend to be able to love themselves more than other signs. Now, of course, this characteristic can be negatively expressed, such as in a Leo person who goes on and on about their own greatness. But the underlying principle and the reason we love Leos so much, is that of self-love, or the love of the inner child. If the 5th house rules affection, love of children and lovers, then it stands to reason that it also governs self-love and the love of our own inner child. And, in my estimation, the lack of this self-love is probably the biggest hurdle to happiness in today’s society. So, regardless of what any Leo’s other traits are, good and bad, we can learn to love ourselves more by being around them.

Leo rules the heart in the physical body and this goes on to further emphasize the importance of love, romance, affection, etc. Leo people often die of heart trouble as well. When problems arise for them, it is usually with relationships and their hearts, both emotionally and physically, suffer as a result. I once had a Leo 10♣ client who told me that he could only find love fulfillment with a Leo woman. He flat out stated that there was nothing like them. What is funny to me is that Scorpio is often associated with sex. Because of this, most people consider Scorpios to be the best lovers. But this is actually completely untrue. Scorpios are the ones who most often have sexual issues. They are usually very judgmental about their own sexuality or often will use sex to get what they want from others. So, in my opinion, Scorpio is more like the negative sexual expression rather than the positive. Isn’t it funny that both the Moon and Venus, the planets of affection, caring and love, are in their worst signs in Scorpio? No, in my opinion, Leo is the sign of greatest satisfaction and positive expression in love and sex. And they rarely have sexual hang-ups. If they do, it is probably because of Scorpio planets that afflict their Leo planets. Scorpio and Leo are not friendly to each other in general. A Scorpio person looks at a Leo person and will often say, or should I say, secretly think, “what makes you so special?”
If you have any planets in Leo, or any planets in your natal 5th house, then you have some Leo traits in you. I have met people whose Sun sign is not Leo and who have no Leo planets in their charts. But some of these people will have four or five planets in their 5th house and they will act and be more Leo than many actual Leo Sun signs. I always laugh when people tell me something like, “I have no fire in my chart” or “I have no earth in my chart.” This may be true of their planets’ signs but they may have plenty of planets in fire or earth houses, which is the same thing. So, if you found that you relate to any of the traits mentioned so far, it is very likely that you have a lot of Leo in your chart somewhere.

We can all learn a lot from Leos. We can learn about self-love, honor, dignity and affection. We can learn to be more forgiving of ourselves. Did I mention that forgiveness is a major Leo trait? Though they seem to constantly crave attention and recognition, which can be irritating at times, we must admit that they possess something that we can all relate to. And that is that inner love of self that most of us need and crave.

Mastery of Fear – Part Two

In the last issue, we discussed how fear runs our lives. In this final part, we will talk about how to harness this fear for a happy future.

Some of us are much more fearful than others. All have fear and each of us has fear in specific areas. But some people are just more fearful in general. And for them, the way out may be harder. But this only makes the rewards of mastery all the more sweet. For a really fearful person to find freedom from his or her fear is a life-altering experience, and one that will never be forgotten.

Once you are aware, often painfully, of just how much fear you have in your life, there are specific exercises that can really help you deal with it when it happens. To utilize these, you must first realize that the fearful part of you is your inner child. Consider your fearful side to be you at the age of four or five. And see yourself at that age when you become afraid. If you can, get a photo of yourself when you were a child. And when you find yourself in a fearful state of mind, look at your photo and see that this is the part of you that is afraid. The inner child is the part of us that depends upon our inner parent to take care of us. If the inner parent abandons the inner child by ignoring it or wishing it would go away, or by running away into some form of distraction or addiction, the pain of the inner child grows and it becomes even more annoying and pleading for love and a feeling of safety. But, if you, as the inner parent, will take your inner child unto yourself at the time when he or she is needy and afraid, you can comfort that part of yourself.

The first step when I am afraid is to refuse to act. If I am angry, fearful or upset, the first step is simply to resist the temptation to 1) do something about it or 2) distract myself with some escapist behavior (drugs, sex, video games, movies, books, food, etc.) or activity or 3) go out and attack someone else for my undesirable state of mind. This step is critical. Just stopping yourself has a tremendous impact on your life. You are now preventing yourself from getting yourself in more trouble by acting out your fear. You are now in control instead of your fear. This step alone will change the quality of your life.

Personally I will lie down when I am very afraid and close my eyes. I will be alone, all by myself. I will close my eyes, feel my fear and other feelings and speak to my inner child. I will say things like “I know you are afraid. I am here. I will not leave you. I will stay with you until you are feeling better. It is okay for you to feel the way you do. It is okay to be angry, it is okay
to be afraid. I am here and I am with you. I love you.” By repeating these things as I visualize my inner child (from my photos) a miraculous thing happens. It does not happen instantly. There have been times when the fear was so great that it took an hour or more. But at some point, a magical thing happens. The fear dissolves and I feel this tremendous love and sense of safety. This is the miracle of love and of our awareness, which is really the same thing. Though I have done nothing at all to change the external circumstance that caused my negative emotions, I am now feeling safe, centered and no longer bothered by it. It is miraculous and can only be experienced. Our minds are so convinced of the reality of our situation. But when the feeling changes inside, the mind’s view of everything changes instantly.

However, your ‘monkey-mind’, as they say in India, will try to prevent you from completing this process. We, as a society, have become accustomed to using our minds to solve all of our problems. The first thing that happens when we are angry, upset or afraid is that we get the instinct to do something about it. And we use our minds to come up with what we need to do. So, as you perform this method you will feel that urgency to act, along with the mind coming up with different plans to help you solve your problem. You will have to resist the urge to get up and act or you will never experience what lies beyond. As you start to relax, the ideas your mind comes up with will get better and clearer. This will make it even more tempting to get up and act. However, you must persist in feeling your heart, the center of your being. Only by doing this will you see and experience the miracle of the power of your own attention. You will continually move down, within yourself, to the deepest center of your being, the place where love and truth is who you really are.

From that place, you are ready to act, if action is even necessary. Usually no action is necessary. Without the fear the need to do something disappears. There is acceptance and understanding. Many realizations occur and in no time I am feeling God’s love and seeing how He orchestrated this event just for my highest and best good. This is in stark contrast to how I was feeling earlier – threatened, unloved, and victimized. Now I am back in the flow, in the source, and connected to my higher self. I realize, from this place, that my fear was all an illusion. It was based upon false information. It looked real from my emotions but it was not. I realize that if I had acted from that state of fear, I would have caused more harm to others and myself. But now I am free, and I am clear, from the inside out.

This process is one that I have repeated hundreds of times. I expect I will go on repeating it over the course of my life. But having been successful with it, I am now no longer the slave to my fear. I am no longer afraid of my fear. It can come with me and be part of my journey. That is okay. It is what God has given me and I accept it. And I have seen an incredible improvement in many areas of my life. There are still areas that I am working on, still areas where I am caught up in the fear before I know it. But my commitment to working on this is strong and I will not give up.

This is the way to mastery of fear. It is a personal journey. No one can do it for you. Your fears are uniquely your own. They are part of you and have been part of you since you were born. If you choose, you can embrace yourself in an entirely new way. And your journey will be filled with wonders and rewards that only you can appreciate. Some of you have already begun this process. Others are just getting started. If we want to change this world we live in, we have to change it from the inside out. Attempts to change the world will always fail unless we have faced ourselves first. When we are in the state of love, all our actions and choices will bear good fruit.
Abiding in the Source
Robert Lee Camp

The title of this article is one that I have heard before. Many people on the spiritual path are using or have used this expression a lot. I wonder, however, how many of them actually know what it means. I have certainly found that a lot of them use it without knowing its true meaning. I never really thought about the expression much myself until one day, as I was examining my own process, I realized that it was the perfect expression to describe one of the steps in my current spiritual practice.

Life for me has become a process lately of looking at myself. And these bouts of looking at myself are often quite painful. Painful really because I am looking at things that I haven’t wanted to see and have avoided for most of my life. It takes what we call unpleasant experiences of one kind or the other to get us to see some of our darker sides. And, from where I stand now, the darker sides of any individual are those aspects that bring up guilt, shame and self-hatred. One of my teachers used to teach us that guilt is the number one killer of all spiritual growth. He urged us to drop guilt the very moment we become aware of it. Shame and self-hatred are all connected to guilt and from what I can see, all of us have it to one degree or another, and most of us have a lot of it. However, most of us also have a habit of ignoring our feelings, especially in today’s society where being a feeling person is not supported or even acknowledged. But if we were to actually feel what is going on in our hearts, we would realize that we have a lot of guilt and shame about ourselves. And the deeper we look, the more we find.

This guilt and shame stem from an unconscious place for the most part. We can feel ourselves getting down on ourselves, working harder than hell for the approval of others, struggling in life when we know we should be loving it. But we have a hard time tracing those feelings back to their source. Some say they begin in childhood. That may be true for some. But it is also possible that we bring a lot of this guilt from our past lives. This seems to be true because we can see guilt-ridden behaviors even in very small children who have not had any time to have collected negative experiences. But the truth is that we really don’t need to know where it came from. It is enough just to know that we have it and to have a desire to really make a transformation in relationship to it.

The cost of self-hatred in all its forms is immense to each individual. It robs us of peace of mind, keeps us from receiving the love of others, keeps us enslaved in work that we do not enjoy, causes us to attract abusive or otherwise unsavory relationships. The list goes on and on; it is endless. Each of us has our own repeating pattern of negative choices or behaviors that have, at their root, a sense that there is something wrong with us and that we somehow deserve to be punished. I do not make this statement lightly. Because of lack of awareness, many of us will not even know that we hate ourselves. We will be out there trying to change the world around us and blaming others for our problems. We all play the victim in some areas of our life. But the truth is that behind nearly all negative aspects of our life, our behavior, and our choices, is the unseen anger and rejection of ourselves.

We hate ourselves for not doing good things, like exercising and eating a good diet. We hate ourselves for the things we have done that have hurt others. We hate ourselves for not being successful, for not meeting the expectations of our parents, and for being lazy. We hate ourselves for the way we look. We hate ourselves for being angry and for not being loving to others. We hate ourselves for being patient. But most of all, above all else, we just hate ourselves for being alive. And for the life of us, we cannot figure out why or where that came from. And we try like crazy to avoid knowing the extent of our rejection of ourselves. We distract ourselves by working too much, drinking coffee and alcohol, smoking cigarettes and pot, watching television.
and movies, having sex, and playing video games. Whatever will take us away from the dark feelings we have about ourselves is what we do. And we are weak for this. We can never be strong when we are so disconnected from ourselves. When there is so much of us that we just cannot face, how can be actually be who we are?

And we go on like this for years. And we begin to feel dead and our life seems to be getting darker and worse each year. And new episodes occur in our lives that add to our pile of guilt, new failures and mistakes that we just do not want to admit to ourselves. So, we go deeper in debt, so to speak, deeper into the many addictions that we have created to avoid ourselves. And then, God steps in. God does not want us to be unhappy. He loves each of us completely, and so much that it is incomprehensible. In His love for us, he will create a perfect situation that will jar us out of our vicious cycle of escapism and avoidance. Some situation will occur that will strike us so deeply that we cannot avoid it. It may threaten our very existence, or at the least, our sense of false security. These kinds of events are called tragedies by society. But in truth they are the most loving things that could happen. They are designed to heal us, though the operation we need may be quite painful. But God has a way of arranging the most unique situation so that we cannot escape. And so, we finally get to face ourselves and reunite with the missing half.

All of this may sound pretty bad and I apologize if I have depressed you in the telling. But this is the life condition that we all endure, day in and day out. And through the calamities of our life, we are finally brought to a place of acceptance of ourselves. But life does not end there. There are subtle levels of self-denial that surface as we progress. And for me, it is a daily vigil to be watchful for them and to make the appropriate choices when they do.

It starts with a new experience that somehow upsets me. As a result, I am either irritated, angry, afraid, or all three. The first thing I do at this point is very important. And for me, that first thing is to not move into action against whatever it is or was that upset me. I have learned to take pause and reflect, and to wait before acting. I do, at this point, have strong inclinations to take action to correct the problem. But at this stage, I am very much in rejection of my feelings. I just want it to end. And usually I am blaming someone or something and wanting external things to change so that I can feel better. And in my anger, I am really not feeling the depth of what is going on inside of me. Anger is a very surface feeling. There are many layers beneath it, far more significant and powerful. Most people in the world today will never take this pause that I speak of. They will do what I consciously choose to not do. And in doing at that stage, they unconsciously perpetuate their suffering. If know that this is what you do, you are not alone. And, please do not use this awareness to feel bad about yourself. But know that there is another way and you can do it.

Taking pause gives me time to feel more deeply. I have techniques that I won’t go into here to help me get in touch with my feelings. I have several things that I do to start an inner healing process within me. I begin this process in a state of blame and of being a victim. I end it in a state of inner power and peace. At the end, I see my part in it and in taking the ownership, I am relieved to realize that I can change it. The pause stage usually leads me to an inner fear, and often to an inner sense of shame, guilt or self-hatred. For me, the self-hatred ones are the hardest to get in touch with. They seem to run very deep and resist exploration. But even so, my persistent nature wins out in the end. It just takes longer and seems harder. But once I have made the effort, and that usually involves some praying too, by the way, I often have what I call a ‘spiritual breakthrough.’ These breakthroughs leave me in a more powerful, clear, and happy place. And most importantly, I feel connected to myself on a much deeper level. That alone is worth the price of the pain I suffered to get there times a thousand.
And, at that moment in the process, I am there, abiding in the source. I have faced a part of myself that I didn’t want to see, but one that was necessary to experience this deeper sense of connectedness. And now I realize that the experience that upset me so much was actually perfectly designed and soaked in God’s love for me to rise up to a new and higher level of living. And, I have realized that the more a particular experience upset me, the greater was the gift that was given to me at the end. Knowing this as I do now from going through this process many times makes it easier for me to be steadfast in my resolve to not act out when I am upset but to go within.

Be easy on yourself. Be loving to yourself. Don’t let anything you learn or hear from anyone become a new way to judge and condemn yourself. Get in touch with your own rhythm and cycles of growth and change. The world around you is designed by the Creator. And his designs are all fashioned for the elevation of consciousness and the ultimate victory of love.

A New Way to look at Yearly Spreads

I was thinking today about my cards during this period. I am going through what I would consider a difficult Saturn period with a 7♥ and 3♦. Heavens! So, as tough as this period is for me, I was thinking, what card has the 7♥ in Saturn in their Life Spread? Quickly I realized that that would be the Q♣. 'Wow', I thought, 'this Saturn period I am having must be what it is like to be a Q♣ person!' That gave me a lot of compassion for the Q♣ people, and more understanding of them and their pattern.

Then it dawned on me that this would be a great way to look at our yearly spread cards in general. Whatever card you have in a certain period, see what Birth Card has that card in their Life Spread in the same period. For example, if you had the 9♠ in Mars, that would be the card that the 5♠ person has in their Life Spread Mars position. So, during that period, you could think, "I am experiencing what it is like to be a 5♠ person right now."

You may have to practice to get to the point where you can find which Birth Card has your current period card in their Life Spread period of the same planet. But, that would be good practice as well. So, let’s see, after Saturn I have a 4♠ in Uranus. That’s the same as the 6♥ has in their Life Spread. So, at that time, I will experience something of what it is like to be them. Then, in Neptune.... I think you get the point. I think this is a cool way to get us to think more about the different cards. It might even inspire compassion and more understanding. And we can all use some of that!

A Deeper Look at Personal Relationships

I was recently talking with an old friend of mine. This woman is very beautiful, vivacious and very successful in her life. However, her marriage is terrible. Her husband is constantly telling her how ugly she is and basically married her for her money. She used her money to get him started into a very successful business. Listening to her story, it was very easy to see how my first impulse was to have a lot of pity for her and a lot of resentment towards her terrible husband. But I know better than that. I have seen this sort of thing all too many times in the readings I do. And it is a trap that most of us fall into, that is, pitying the poor victim of an apparently abusive relationship. The part that is easy to overlook is that this person is making a choice, every day of their life, to stay with this abusive person. The reasons for this can be many and complicated. But we must never forget that this is where they want to be. If they wanted to be anywhere else, with anyone else, they could be, in an instant. That is the power of choice.
And this is true of all of our personal, most intimate, relationships and us. We are there by choice. And knowing the power of that choice can set us free. When I heard about my aforementioned friend, I saw that everyone took pity on her and hated her husband. But would she do what it takes to get rid of him? No way! And do I blame him for his actions in relationship to her? Or should I congratulate him on a job well done? At least he is making conscious choices and getting what he wants. He is not complaining. And herein lies the secret of relationships, the secret that is so hard to see but is true in every case. That secret is that our partners treat us the exact way we treat ourselves. The other part of it is that our partners are a mirror of ourselves. They represent a part of us that is important and needs to be seen (by us). So why is this so hard to see?

It is the degree of intimacy that we achieve in an intimate relationship that blinds us. When we open up to another, and especially if sex is involved, we become vulnerable to a high degree. We actually take our partners into us, and make them part of us. We want them near us. And, even though we are unaware of it, we begin to treat them as we treat ourselves. If I am hard on myself, I will naturally be hard on my partner. In the ways that I am nice to myself, I will also be nice to my partner. I will want to give them the nice things that I give myself, and share with them the good things that I have discovered for myself. This is a natural process. The only time it does not occur is when we really do not open up to our partner. This can occur, for a number of reasons, but this is not the usual case. And when we are so close to our partner and loving them the way we love ourselves, we are also very sensitive to things they do and say. We become hyper-sensitive, actually. After opening up so deeply, the things they say and do really have an impact on us. We are wide, open to receive more loving and pleasurable things from them, and expecting them. So when they say something that we interpret as being hurtful, it hurts much more than otherwise. And our reaction, to their apparently hurtful actions or words, is often extreme. And, more importantly, in this state of being hurt so deeply, it is very difficult to do anything other than blame them. And this is where we lose conscious awareness and lose touch with any recognition that the pain we feel is actually about us. This is where we become the victim. And this is where the sad stories, like the one about my friend, begin.

You see, when the pain is so great, so out of the ordinary, and when it comes out of the blue like that, it just makes sense that it must be their fault. Since before we met them, we never experienced pain like that, coming on so suddenly, etc, the logical mind deduces that logically, it must be them. And all of our powers of mental reasoning support this theory. And, the more logical a person we are, the more likelihood of us falling into this false interpretation of events. The mind just has no other way to interpret it. But this is a very important mistake. And, let’s face it, this is a mistake that most of the world is making day in and day out.

The main problem with falling into the blame thing against another person is that we lose touch with ourselves. For the time we spend thinking they are the problem is lost. Sometimes we just have to let our anger subside before we can begin to explore the truth. If you notice, anger usually lasts a day or so. Sometimes it lasts longer but rarely longer than a week. Once it begins to subside we can start to see what is really going on. Some of us, however, are not even aware that we are angry when we are. We all have to start somewhere and we always can only get to a new place in our life starting from where we are right now. If I am unaware that I get angry at my partner, my first step is going to be to do what it takes to discover how angry I am. And this step alone can take years if my denial is a deep pattern. There are techniques that can help us realize where we are. I remember one person told me that a good way to determine whether or not you are still angry at your parents is to ask yourself if you would allow them to raise your children. If you have hesitation, doubts or resistance to this idea, then you are still holding on to things with your parents. I am sure some sort of similar litmus test could be developed for helping us tell if we are still holding onto things with our partners.
There is an ultimate truth to all relationships, a truth that we will all come to realize if we are interested in knowing it. That truth is that our relationships are nothing more than mirrors of ourselves. Our partners simply act out areas of ourselves for us, hopefully so we can see ourselves better. The exact way that they mirror us or show us parts of ourselves can differ from one couple to another. But they are always a mirror. And this one truth can really set us free if we choose our relationships to be the vehicle of spiritual growth that they are. I have often been quoted as saying that personal relationships are the final frontier of spiritual growth. You can meditate until you disappear. You can practice affirmations, chant mantras, eat a pure diet, do yoga, pranayama, and take a spiritual pilgrimage to the far corners of the earth. You can speak with God in whatever spiritual practice you are doing. But until you can have a successful personal and intimate relationship you have not truly faced yourself and your dark side. One of my teachers used to say that we can do so many things to elevate ourselves, to take us to God, to heaven. But, he said, if we just pay attention to what happens in our day to day life, and life our lives in the best way we can, following higher principles, being loving and patient, we will not have to strive to get to heaven – heaven will come down and get us. In my mind, that is the highest path we can travel.
Celebrity Couple Shakedown
Who’s Hot and Who’s Not!

On behalf of my publisher I have been a guest on some radio shows lately talking about celebrity couples and how the cards can tell what is going on and why. Here are some of my findings, for your entertainment. Celebrities, especially Hollywood types, have always been known to push the boundaries of social norms. Elizabeth Taylor for example, had a public affair with Richard Burton while she was still married. At that time, this was shocking. So, they continue to shock us, even now. There is a lot of Leo energy in celebrities and Leos are the lovers, but not necessarily the husbands and wives, of the zodiac. So, we have come to expect many changes in lovers, short-term relationships, broken marriages, etc. I expect this pattern will continue as long as actors and actresses remain.

Let’s begin with a very popular couple, Jessica Simpson (7/10/80 5♣/7♠) and Nick Lachey (11/9/73 J♣/2♣/2♠). They recently married and are the stars of their own television show. These two are very compatible on a lot of levels. And they appear to be the dream couple on and off camera. However, I see trouble down the road. Why, you may ask? Mostly because Nick is a J♣. J♣ men have very fixed ideas of how a woman should behave as a wife. As soon as marriage takes place, they impose these ideas, which were never even discussed before, on their wife and they can be very controlling and unyielding about it. In this honeymoon stage of their marriage, all seems well. Jessica was recently quoted as saying that “Nick just loves my adventurous (5♦) nature.” I predict, however, that Nick will really attempt to control Jessica until one day she will have to escape. She is a 5♦, by the way, and they stand for freedom. It will be fun to see what happens.

Ben Affleck (8/15/72 J♣) and Jennifer Lopez (7/24/70 4♣) I already predicted what has already happened. When I wrote about them last year, there were no marriage cards in either of their spreads in the foreseeable future. I am certain it was a highly romantic relationship while it lasted. I just doubt that Jlo will ever get married again. She has tried it several times now. Ben, another J♣ like Nick Lachey, seems like he still has some playing around to do before he ties the knot. J♣ are one of the more marriageable cards, however. And he has a 4♥ in Venus this fall. Let’s see what develops.

Reese Witherspoon (3/22/76 A♦/3♣) and Ryan Phillipe (9/10/74 A♣/Q♦) Check this out, they are both A♣! When people of the same Birth Card hook up, it is the Planetary Ruling Cards that tell the whole story. In this case, Reese is Moon to Ryan’s Q♦ ruler and Reese is Venus and Mars to him as well (3♣). This is a very compatible couple. But there is a catch, you know. And that is the fact that Ryan is Q♦/A♦. Both these cards have trouble staying married. I give it 4-5 years tops.

Tom Cruise (7/3/62 Q♦/A♦) and Penelope Cruz (4/28/74 6♣/Q♥) and Nicole Kidman (6/20/67 10♣/8♦) It is not news that Tom and Penelope have parted ways. When you think about it, he sure hooked up with her a little too fast after breaking up with Nicole, don’t you think? This is called a transition relationship by many psychologists and transition relationship are always short-lived. Is Tom back with Nicole now? It sure appears that way. He has a 4♥ and 8♦ right now and underlying the 8♦ is the 10♣. So, I say they are back. But I also say it will only be temporary. Tom has the same cards as Ryan Phillipe above, just reversed. And though he was married for ten years, he has a lot going against his settling down for very long. Tom has good connections with both Nicole and Penelope. I don’t think there is anything troubling about
either relationship. I think the main problem is his uncertainty about what he wants in the love department.

Courtney Cox (6/15/64 2♣/J♠) and David Arquette (9/8/71 3♠/A♦) People wonder how these two can be happy together because they seem so different. But look at the great Moon connection they share, a perfect marriage connection. David is the one more likely to cause a breakup, if it ever happens.

Ashton Kutcher (2/7/78 5♠/K♦) and Demi Moore (11/11/62 9♣/K♥/J♠) With 16 or so years between them, people wonder if this could possibly work. Ashton, though younger, is a very strong willed guy with his K♦ Planetary Ruling Card. Demi is Venus, Jupiter and Saturn to him. He is also Jupiter to her. Demi has strong marriage cards right now and I am predicting it will happen. How long they will stay together is a question for the future.

Brad Pitt (12/18/63 K♥/2♦) and Jennifer Aniston (2/11/69 A♠/9♠) Brad Pitt played around so much earlier that it surprised everyone that he got married and apparently has stayed married. In truth, his birthday is very marriageable. These two are very compatible and have a strong karmic tie. Apparently there has been a lot of talk between them about having children. Now, here comes the rub. Both Brad and Jennifer have strong K♥ energy (Jennifer’s 9♣ PR Card has the K♥ as a Karma Card). Both will want to be the one to decide about children and once the child is born, they will both take their parenting very seriously. I think when this happens, their relationship is going to change drastically. Ask any woman who married a K♥ about what happened after the children showed up. We’ll just have to see if it affects their relationship adversely. Usually, the romance is over and it is time to move on to raising the kids. And usually one or both will feel romantically unsatisfied and that could eventually break up the marriage. Again, we will see…

Charlie Sheen (9/3/65 8♣/K♠) and Denise Richards (2/17/71 8♠/5♣) new baby (girl named Sam) born March 9, 2004 (2♠/K♠) married in June 2002

This is an interesting matchup. Both Charlie and Denise have the same Birth Card, the 8♣. Charlie gets to lead because the 8♣ is Moon to his K♠ Planetary Ruling Card. That’s all good. But what woman could have helped him finally settle down? Well, Denise’s 5♣ ruling card is Saturn to his K♠. I think it took a woman who was a little Saturn to him to tame his wild side. And being that they are both 8♣, they understand each other’s wayward tendencies. My feeling is that this one will last a while. What is really interesting is their daughter. First, they gave her a man’s name, Sam. Next, her ruling card is the same as her father’s the K♠. This, of course, means that she will be much more like her father than her mother. It will be interesting to see what she is like when she grows up.

Salma Hayek (9/2/66 9♦/7♠) and Ed Norton (8/18/1969 8♣) just broke up. I am not surprised. First of all, Salma, having a 7♠ ruling card, is very strong-willed and determined. Ed is a strong Saturn Card to her. And he, being a fixed Leo 8♣, is basically a take him or leave him kind of guy. In other words, he is just as you see him and he is not going to change. But besides the fact that they really had no strong connections, the Saturn thing was probably the main focus of their relationship. She is also Pluto to him. I bet that these two had some lively disagreements!
The Twelve Colors of Life

For everything that you are, there is something very different. For everything you are, there are things that are different, and yet, harmonious to you. And there are also things that are so unlike you that you cannot harmonize with them. And even though you cannot harmonize with them, someone else can and does. And though you are different from them and they are different from you, there is nothing bad or wrong about either of you. This is the lesson that astrology teaches us, a lesson that we could all benefit from.

Each of us has a Sun sign, plus eight other astrological bodies or more, all in various signs and houses at the moment of our birth. We are, in a word, the unique combination of those various forces, symbolized by our astrological natal chart. Some of our planets are stronger and others weak. Some are well-positioned, being in a powerful sign or house, while others are more or less exhibiting the negative nature of their signs by being positioned badly. Your Sun’s sign and position in the chart are only the beginning. Most astrologers consider the Moon, Ascendant, Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, Pluto, Chiron and the lunar Nodes. All of these represent aspects of who you are. And among your planets, some harmonize with each other while others fight or compete.

Some people have a lot of one sign or the other. I recently talked to a woman who had six of her planets in Leo. Imagine having six of the ten or so all being in one sign. A person like this can only see life from one point of view, in this case Leo. There is nothing wrong with Leo energy. It is one of the twelve and has its place. But there are eleven other signs, all just as valid. We all make the mistake, at one time or another, in thinking that our way is the only way of looking at something. Harmonious to Leo are the signs of Sagittarius, Aries, Gemini, Libra and even Aquarius (sometimes). These five other signs can resonate well with Leo’s urge. But Leo does not harmonize well with Taurus or Scorpio. Put a strong Leo person together with a strong Taurus or Scorpio person and they are going to have problems agreeing on things and getting along. They actually speak different languages. A strong Taurus, Leo or Scorpio will fight for what they hold dear. That is unfortunate in a way because they may be fighting with the universe. There is nothing wrong with either of their points of view. Each has a place in life, a place where it is a loving and good thing. But when you are coming from one of the conflicting signs, you have a hard time seeing the beauty of the other. All you may be able to see is how that other expression is inappropriate or negative.

In the table on this page are your harmonious and inharmonious signs, in case you do not know. You can use these for any planet in your natal chart.

For example, if you have a planet in the sign of Libra, that planet would be incompatible (usually) with planets in Capricorn, Aries and Cancer. This is a general rule. To be specifically accurate you have to know how many degrees your planets are in their respective signs before you can determine their harmony or lack of harmony. The two planets being compared must fall

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within a certain range of similar degrees, called the orb, to qualify as having an aspect. There are 30 degrees in each sign. Most astrologers will use an orb of no more than seven degrees to define an aspect. So, it is very possible to have two planets in discordant signs that are not actually discordant, if their orb is very large. But, as a general rule, this table can help you make some basic determinations.

We could all avoid a lot of conflict if we realized that every other point of view is actually just as valid as our own. In certain situations, there may actually be one point of view that is the best for all concerned. But in order to know that we must first be willing to acknowledge all the others, realizing how they see the situation, and then make a choice with all their points of view in mind. This process of acknowledgment is really a powerful expression of self-awareness. If I realize that I am not the only person in the world, and that my opinion is only one of twelve possible, then I can take myself less seriously and see the whole picture, instead of only the one my mind is tending to project. All I have to remember is that my point of view is only one of twelve. And the other eleven are just as valid as mine!

Every sign has its opposite. Opposites attract, they surely do. But opposites can never think they can change their opposite to be like them. They must allow their opposite to be as they are. But above and beyond that, when opposites are brought together, there is an opportunity for balance. Balance simply means equal weight to each opposite. In astrology, opposing planets are pulling in opposite directions, each wanting to be fully expressed. But because of the presence of their opposite in the form of another planet, there is a tug of war. In this case, and in the case when you meet someone whose planets oppose yours, there is a need for balance. Both of you must pull, but you must pull in equal amounts. Otherwise balance is lost and there is a negative expression present.

Looking at this another way, just look at yourself for a moment. If anything that you represent is pushed too far in one direction, you will upset the balance of life. Then, your opposite is bound to come in to rectify things. So, no matter what your point of view, there is an equal and opposite point of view to it. It is very interesting to look at any situation with this in mind. It gives us a new perspective on life.

Each of us has a mission to accomplish in this lifetime involving opposites. And that is in regards to our North and South Nodes. These nodes always oppose each other. And your Nodes tell the tale of some area of life where you have favored on side of the equation (the South Node’s side) over the other (North Node). In one manner of speaking, we are all seeking balance between these two nodes in our chart. It is wise to become familiar with your Nodes and learn what meaning they have for you. Any half-decent astrological chart will reveal their sign and house location. We sell two books in our catalog that tells you what they mean. I am sure you will be enlightened by what you read. I find that many of the readings I give others center around the lessons these nodes have for them. They are often the very heart of the matter.

So, as you go about your day, remember that for everything you do or say, there is an opposite and other points of view that are compatible with yours and some that are not. Nothing is either good or bad here. But the rainbow is composed of many colors. All have their place. And the beauty of life is the way these various vibrations are expressed in combinations at various times. All the colors are beautiful.
The Most Common Misconceptions

I have often said that the definition of pain and suffering is the difference between what life is and what we think it should be. And this statement is true. Most of the pain we feel is actually mental pain, that is the disappointment we feel when things do not go as we planned or imagined. Some call this expectations or attachments, it is all the same thing. It is the mental structures that we build in our minds that cause us the most suffering. Not that building mental structures itself is a bad thing, but mostly because we build them with false foundations. We base our structures on false beliefs, attitudes and notions that make them unstable and prone to being torn down by the winds of reality. If we are ever going to be able to use our minds effectively, we have to get our thinking based upon reality. Now, there is nothing wrong with dreaming. I would never recommend anyone to give up their dreams. But even dreams must be weighed against reality to see if they are just fantasies. We can easily achieve our greatest dreams if these dreams are in harmony with the laws of the universe and truth.

In our current society and culture there are some prevailing myths and falsehoods that I see that tend to cause the most pain and suffering. If we can eliminate only one of these from our minds, we can be just that much freer to create the world we truly desire in our heart of hearts. Check out my list and see where you might do a little mental ‘house cleaning’.

1. *I am afraid I might hurt someone (which could be you, their husband, girlfriend, ex-wife, sibling, etc.)*

   When someone uses this statement, especially in the context of personal relationships, they are usually lying to themselves. It’s a little hard to see but if you look closely, you will see it. First of all, we really cannot hurt others. If you realize that our pain and suffering are caused by our expectations, you will see that everyone’s pain is their own. It is their expectations that bring them pain, not you. If you do not meet up with someone else’s expectations, they will feel pain for sure. But you are not the cause of their pain – their expectations are. If you feel that you are to blame for their pain, you are just trying to hurt yourself for some other reason. However, there are many that find it very hard to be around people who are feeling pain. These people are typically somewhat psychic or empathetic. They will often go out of their way to avoid causing others pain because they can feel the pain of others so acutely. So, they will say, “I did it that way so that I wouldn’t hurt them.” But the real truth is “I did it that way so that I wouldn’t feel their pain, because I can’t stand to feel others’ pain.” So, even that act of avoiding the pain of others is actually selfish. The truth is most of our motivations are selfish. And no one is really afraid of hurting others unless they are just afraid of the consequences of upsetting the other. Don’t be fooled by what seems to be selfless love. If you find yourself using this expression, become aware of it and stop using it!

2. *They*(he, she) *made me do it.*

   Unless someone has a gun or a knife or somehow threatens your life, they really cannot make you do anything. You always have a choice. Even when your life is threatened, you have a choice, though the choice seems obvious. God gave each of us the power of choice and we use it every day of our lives. The very fabric of your life or my life is the choices we make each day. Look around you right now and you will see the result of all your choice. If you find yourself using this expression, stop using it right away. You are throwing your power away just saying these words!
3. *I will be happy when I find the right person.*

This myth is perpetuated by our pop culture, especially by songs and movies which describe the great happiness that some feel when they fall in love. The truth is that until we learn to love ourselves, no matter who we are with, we bring our unhappiness with us. Our inner happiness or unhappiness does not really depend upon external circumstances at all. They depend upon our relationship with ourselves. This is a lesson that few will ever realize in their lifetime. It is a deep, spiritual lesson that comes to those who really seek the truth of the soul. It is very hard to fathom the notion of self-love to begin with. How do we love ourselves? Who am I loving when I love myself? Am I two people, one who loves and one who receives love? These are questions that can only be answered by direct experience. But each of us will have a string of unhappy relationships until we begin to see that our partners are merely reflections of ourselves, and that it is ourselves that need our love the most.

4. *I am waiting for them (he, she, etc,) to change, or, I think I can change them.*

You meet someone and it is nearly perfect. There is just this one or two things that are glaringly wrong. But so much else in the relationship seems great. You begin to think, ‘they can change, I know it.’ So, you wait and pray. You can see their faults but you forgive them. But they do not even see their faults at all. And when you even mention anything about the faults you see, there is a fight, or even worse, they just ignore or you or leave. This happens all the time, to all of us at one time or another. The real truth is that most people do not change or have any interest in it. Changing even one significant personal trait can be a lifetime proposition. It is harder than climbing Mt. Everest. It takes dedication, commitment, self-awareness and help from the divine. People who really want to change show signs of it.

You will see them admitting they have problems, see them reading books, seeking out help or doing things every day to work on themselves. From one point of view, change involves five steps. Depending on the strength of the issue, each step can take up to a lifetime to accomplish. The first step is denial. And many of us will be in denial of our problem our entire life. Until one gets beyond denial, there is really little hope for any change, especially when you consider that there are four more steps to go. If you know someone who is in denial about a significant character flaw or behavioral problem, do not hold any expectation of them changing. To do so would be an act of self-hatred on your part. My basic attitude is that people do not change, with rare exceptions. And I am delighted when I meet someone who is truly interested in self-transformation. But I am rarely surprised like this.

5. *I don’t have time, also, I can’t afford it.*

These two are the same actually because they deal with resources, even though the resources are different. The principle is the same. We’ll start with time. Everyone on the planet has the same amount of time. How you use it is your choice. You always have enough time but you only have time to do the things you think are most important. The same thing applies to money though most people do not see this one at all. The truth is there is plenty of money in the world for everyone to have everything they want. Even people who are classified as poor usually get the things they really want somehow. To repeat either of these statements is a negative affirmation that will ultimately contribute to your negative situation rather than improve your situation. Instead of saying, “I don’t have enough time”, say “I prefer to spend my time doing other things that are more important to me.” Instead of saying “I can’t afford that”, say “I would rather spend my money on something else. I don’t want that thing as much as I want other things.” These are true statements that encourage a sense of prosperity. They affirm that you can have whatever you want and that you have the power of choice, which you always do.
6. Trying is Lying

Whenever we use the word ‘try’ or ‘trying’ we are at conflict within ourselves. I have written about this many times. If say ‘I am trying’ to do something, here is what you can know is true: First of all, there is a part of myself that does not want to accomplish what I say I am trying to accomplish. Read that over again so that you get it completely. I have two parts of me that are fighting about it, one that wants it to happen and another that doesn’t. But in addition to this, when I use this expression, you can also know for a fact that the part of me that doesn’t want it to happen is greater or stronger than the part of me that does. This is a significant piece of information. If you catch yourself using the ‘try’ word, check in with yourself. This can drastically change your level of self-awareness. Just ask yourself what part of you doesn’t want this to happen. As soon as you see it, you will stop using the ‘try’ word and get back to getting things done in your life.

7. My children need me.

Perhaps, but probably not as much as you need them. Many parents today develop nasty, co-dependent relationships with their children. There are many ways this can show up. But usually the parent feels the need to constantly take care of the child, even though the child is nearly grown or fully-grown. Many parents do not realize the value of allowing their children to face problems on their own. If the child never has to face their own problems, many of which they created, how will they ever learn what their own self-worth or the power they have to overcome challenges? Some parents deny their children finding their own power, usually because they are afraid to lose them, or lose control over them. It’s a disgusting pattern. On the surface the parent feels as though he or she loves their child.

But in fact, this supposed love is just masking a fear of abandonment or of losing control, or of losing one’s identity. Parents need to allow their kids to try and fail. They need to allow their kids to have their own pain. They need to realize that though their kids came through them, they are not them. Each of us was a child at one time and we had our own unique karmic package that became our life. Though our parents reflected some of this, they did not create our karma. And each child in a family will either be a failure or a success depending on their own mettle and not the achievements of their parents. The healthiest thing a parent can do is to set an example of happiness for their children to follow, and never step in and try to solve their children's problems for them.

There are more of these false concepts but I have covered the ones that I see most often. If we can eliminate a few of these from our vocabulary, at least our own world will be a better place to live. But we might also have a positive influence on those around us.

Between Wanting and Having

The state of lacking something is primarily a mental state. This is a very important thing to know and understand because truly understanding it could completely eradicate lack from your life. No one likes to be without. Being in lack is a fearful state of mind. There is no rest because there is a problem. And usually, that problem lacks a solution. I have written at length about prosperity, even written a book called The Big Money Book. But today, I received a new inspiration about lack as I was hiking the mountains in North Carolina where I live. For me, the lack I was feeling was not about money but about love. Having a ♥ in Saturn right now, I have a good excuse for feeling that way. But there really is no excuse since this is something that all of us can overcome. I have completely overcome my sense of financial lack. And I thought,
many times, that perhaps I could apply the same technology to overcoming my sense of lack in the relationship department.

But, for whatever reason, I never actually did. It was an idea, but I guess its time had not come yet. It took a ♦7 in Saturn, combined with a ♦3, to help me see the truth. And again, God has been so merciful and loving to me. For those of you who study the cards, the ♦7 is my lifetime challenge card (Age 52 Environment Card) and the ♦3 is my first Karma Card. So, one could say that these two cards probably represent the biggest challenges of my life. And they are, together, in Saturn! And honestly, I was getting pretty depressed with the issues that were coming up in my life. But I can see now that the issues that came up for me during this period had a divine design behind them. They put enough pressure on me that I could not avoid the inner fear that has plagued me my entire life.

I was hiking down the mountain, after climbing up, a climb that takes over an hour and is quite an exertion. My mind was going ninety miles an hour, thinking of my problems, rehashing it all over and over again with no solution in sight (♦7/♦3 in Saturn!). Then suddenly I slipped on a wet and slippery rock. I nearly fell down, but managed to recover my balance and keep going. If anyone had seen me at that moment they would have seen what looked like a crazy man dancing an Irish gig down the trail as it took several seconds to regain my balance. Once I got back on track and realized what had happened, I immediately rewound my mind. ‘What was I thinking about the moment I slipped?’ I thought to myself. I realized what I was doing, the eternal mental quest for a solution. Then, I immediately thanked God. I thanked him for recovering from the fall (I have fallen before and it is not fun). But at the same time, I thanked God for waking me up. It dawned on me at that moment that I was in a deep state of lack in regards to my personal relationships. I can’t explain it exactly but the awareness I had of it showed me just what I was doing wrong. And just like my experience that I described in The Big Money Book where I had an epiphany regarding financial lack, I had another epiphany regarding lack in the love department. I saw clearly that I was focusing heavily on the love I didn’t have rather than the love I did have. I was perpetuating my lack. And at the same time, I realized that all I had to do was focus on the love I had. That was my only job and I haven’t been doing it. I immediately felt better and realized just how much love I have in my life, right now. And though I am not out of Saturn yet, I feel that I have passed the test.

As I hiked on down the mountain that day, several other realizations came to me, all related to this same issue. I first realized that the spiritual technology that transformed my lack in the financial area can work in every important area of my life. This means love and money but also health, success and any area of personal happiness and fulfillment. Money and love have been my two biggest areas but some people have similar, if not greater, challenges in health or other areas.

Another realization came in the form of a one-line truth. “Good things can come to us in life to the degree that we are in a state of having as opposed to a state of wanting.” While I am in a state of wanting, the mental state I spoke of at the beginning of this article, I am literally blocking the flow of the universe. It never feels right to be in that state of mind. The reason it never feels right is because we are out of the flow. The natural flow of the universe is the state of having and appreciating what we have. Anyone can verify this for himself or herself. Just see how you feel when you are in the state of wanting as opposed to the state of having. There is a book that I often recommend for prosperity consciousness development by Stuart Wilde called The Trick To Money Is Having Some. I would like to amend that title to read The Trick to Having Everything in Life is Having Everything in Life. I now see that it is all connected.
Imagine a life without lack. Could you be at peace with that? Would you be comfortable? The truth is that you probably already do have everything in life. Unless you are literally dying from starvation, thirst or lack of oxygen right now, you are truly blessed. But how much time do you spend appreciating what you have? When a Seven appears in your spreads, you may be seriously challenged to discover just that. And you will be given an opportunity to transform yourself and move back into the flow.

As a side note, and especially to all of you who have read my *Big Money Book*, this year I will be teaching, for the first time, a 3-day seminar on how to completely transform your relationship with money, personally and professionally. The details of the two dates I am teaching it and what will be included are on my web site.

**World News Update**

The economy is heating up. Interest rates are starting to climb. Things seem to be getting better. But somehow, it appears that we have become more ignorant of what is happening around us. Globally, things couldn’t be more stressful. Last month we lost more American troops than ever in Iraq. And it seems like no one really cares. Tensions are mounting around the globe. Terrorism is striking out, nearly once a week, somewhere on the planet. And we, the U.S., seem to be involved in every incident on some level. I think that our false sense of security and recovering economy is based upon our becoming numb to the new levels of tension that have been created since 9/11 and Iraq. Somehow, all of that is okay, we still have our MTV, right? We still have our What’s New at the Movies?, our celebrity news, and our American dream. We can ignore the potential for world disaster if we just make it through our day. Unfortunately, there is little that any individual can do about the current state of affairs in our nation and the world. It is all just the play of our collective illusion playing itself out. But we can be aware. And I believe being aware means just to realize that all it would take is one, small terrorist act on American soil to deflate all our notions that we are a growing, thriving economic power. In other words, our security is very precarious. What I am recommending is just to be aware of this. If the Al Qaeda make good on any of their threats, well, you can see the potential for that and what could happen. Do not be lulled into the complacency of the media and think that all of our questionable involvement in foreign affairs will not bear fruit. It already has, and still we persist in our intervention policies in nations where we probably don’t belong.

Common sense dictates that there is a strong likelihood of more from intervention our end and reactions in the form of terrorist acts from theirs.

Astrologically, at least, we don’t have any Pluto/Saturn aspects to deal with for a while. But this fall, actually right on September 11, 2004, Pluto will square the Sun and Mars at the same time. This might be the timing for a new chapter to be played out on the world stage. Those aspects are not considered to be as bad as the Saturn Pluto we had on 9/11/2001. But still, prudence dictates caution in light of the current international situation.
Celebrity Couple Update

Well, Jennifer Lopez has done it again! She is married, this time to Latino crooner, Marc Anthony, (9/16/68) an 8♣ and 6♦ Ruling Card. And the latest rumor is either that she is pregnant with child or planning to have a child with him. Funny, when Joseph and I first looked up their cards we noticed that the baby thing looks like a done deal. Both of them have lots of baby cards coming up. But what of their marriage? Sports bettors in London will give you three to one odds that their marriage will not last one year. So, if you would like to make some quick cash, this could be an opportunity! But the bookies in the UK do not have the benefit of the cards as we do. And they may not have realized that a baby is in their future. Babies have a way of extending otherwise short marriages, at least for a couple of years.

Jennifer usually picks powerful men, which she can fight with. This time, she ended up with a Fixed Card, the 8♣, which also happens to be her direct Mars Card. I predict that they will last more than a year, but it going to be hard. They both show up in Saturn in each other’s spreads next year. But I still think they will stay together at least that long.

The Magical Cards in Your Yearly Spreads

There are hidden, magical cards in your yearly spreads, cards that you probably didn’t think much of at first but which offer you some invaluable information about your personal and spiritual growth. From one perspective, each of our lives is really a set of core issues that we must come to terms with over the course of our life. Your Birth Card, Planetary Ruling Card, Karma Cards and Life Spread cards will all help identify what your issues are. When I read for someone, I help them to identify their core issues in a non-judgmental way. I help them to see what holds them back and what helps them progress. I help them see the things they can change and the things that must be accepted and embraced. Cards in our Life Spread offer some really valuable insight into our issues and can also tell us when these issues will be coming up in a more prominent way for us to look at. And when these cards appear in our yearly spreads, it tells us when we will deal with those issues. So, in a way, finding these key cards in our yearly spread is like having a calendar to our own spiritual growth. They can tell us when we will be faced with some of our core issues, otherwise known as opportunities for spiritual advancement.

Let’s first talk about the key cards in our Life Spread that can tell us a lot about ourselves. Every card in the Life Spread is significant but some tend to hold more importance to each of us. But the following ones tend to be important for everyone.

**The First Karma Card:** The first Karma Card represents an area of our life in which we tend to express negatively rather than positively. It is often referred to as the negative or bad Karma Card while the second Karma Card would be the good Karma Card. Since every card in the deck has a negative and positive expression, it is fairly easy to look at our first Karma Card and derive from it the pattern that it represents in our life. My first Karma Card is the 3♦, for example. I tend to worry about money, the negative expression of the 3♦, as most Q♦ Birth Card people do.
Another example would be those people who have a King or Eight as a first Karma Card, like the 7♠ and 9♠. They tend to have arrogance and domination of others as one of their issues, which is one of the negative expressions of the powerful Kings and Eights. All of us but the Fixed and Semi-Fixed Cards have a first and second Karma Card. This is an extremely important identifier of a life-long issue.

The Saturn Card: Our Saturn Card represents another negative karmic area. It is often an area of limitation, struggle and hardship, and an area that we find difficulty in expressing in a positive way. It has positive expressions as well but as far as personal issues are concerned, our Saturn Card always identifies one soul trait that requires upgrading, much like the first Karma Card. For example, Q♣ people have the 7♥ as their Saturn Card. This implies that they have abandonment and betrayal issues in regards relationships of many kinds, something they must work consciously on if they hope to overcome the tendency to create the negative in their lives.

The Pluto and Result (Cosmic Reward) Cards: These two cards, and especially the Pluto Card, define an area of our life that we must make a huge transformation in. This implies bringing the energy of that card from a lower expression to a higher. However, with Pluto, the energy is more intense and often the transformation is deeper in nature. When we meet someone who is our Pluto Card, for example, we are often taken by surprise at just how intense our reaction to them is. The Pluto card is often a deeply engrained pattern that will be hard to dislodge, one that we will spend the majority of our life becoming aware of and changing as we are able to become aware of it.

The Lifetime Challenge Card (Age 52 Environment Card): This card is not written about in Destiny Cards but is extremely significant. It represents another area that we must bring into positive expression. Again, the Fixed and Semi-Fixed Cards do not have one of these. However, they may have one through their Planetary Ruling Card and that may be just as significant. Study your Age 52 Environment Card to see how that represents an area where you live in a poverty consciousness. The Lifetime Challenge Card is often mastered by age 52 but not always. To interpret yours, look at the lower expression of the card and see how that can fit. It would signify an area where you need to be fully self-expressed on the positive side.

Beyond these key cards, any odd-numbered card in our Life Spread can present areas of challenge and spiritual growth. To give a good example, look at the Q♦ Life Spread. Q♦ is often considered one of the hardest cards to be and one of the reasons for that is all the odd-numbered cards in its Life Spread. Q♦ has the 5♥ in Mercury, the 3♣ in Venus, the 3♠ in Mars, 9♥ in Jupiter, 7♣ in Saturn, and 5♦ in Uranus. The only truly ‘grounded’ card is their Neptune card, the Q♠. Odd-numbered cards represent change-able-ness, uncertainty and basic instability. They can also represent creative gifts but the individual must make a conscious effort to get the high side of these cards as they usually want to be expressed on the low side. The two Threes in Venus and Mars mean that the Q♦ has lots of uncertainty in the areas of love and work and these tend to create problems of many kinds. So, even though these are not the Saturn or Pluto Cards, because they are odd-numbered, they point to key issues that must be dealt with.

Having reviewed these cards, let’s point to specific examples of how they might show up in a yearly reading, as well as some other magical cards that might reveal hidden information in your year.

Your Planetary Ruling Card appears in your Birth Card’s yearly spread or vice versa

In order to get the meaning of this, you must first know the difference between your Birth Card and Planetary Ruling Card. These two represents different aspects of your personality. You
must be familiar with each card and what part of you it represents in order to derive some meaning from their appearance in your spreads. This coming year, in my Q♦ Birth Card spread, I have the A♦ as my Long Range Card. The A♦ is my Planetary Ruling Card. What this tells me, above the usual meaning of the A♦ as the Long Range Card is that I will be dealing a lot with the issues of the A♦ part of my personality. Whenever I see this happen in someone’s spread, and it does happen frequently, I then look to the other card’s spread, in my case the A♦ spread, to see what that part of me will be experiencing this year that is so important that it becomes my Long Range Card in my Birth Card spread. In my case, my A♦ spread has a 9♠ Long Range card this coming year. This 9♠ Long Range can be interpreted many ways. Some would say it is a disappointment, a year full of setbacks and roadblocks. But I have learned that Nines like this can often bring fulfillment. That 9♠ Long Range for my A♦ could be the attainment of some important goals that I have sought for many years. It could also represent my A♦ having finally found its match, personally, since it is such a strong card for having multiple relationships. These are some of my theories about it as the new year approaches. In any event, having my A♦ Planetary Ruling Card as my Long Range means a huge focus on that part of me, as opposed to my Q♦ personality, which is very different from my A♦ personality. Each have their own issues and traits.

This principle can apply for these cards appearing in any position. The only difference is that when they appear for just one period of the year, the influence is shorter and not as significant as when they are one of the five year-long cards. So, when your Birth Card appears in your Planetary Ruling Card spread or vice versa, you get both the normal meaning of the card plus the hidden meaning that comes from the fact that it is one of your personal significators.

**Your first Karma Card appears in your yearly spread**

This will show that you will be dealing with the issues implied by your first Karma Card for whatever period of time the card appears. This year I had my very own first Karma Card, the 3♦, in my Saturn position. I had a really difficult Saturn period this year and this card was only one of many that appeared there that held special significance for me. But here I was, experiencing my own uncertainty about values and a lot of fear, often associated with Threes, in my Saturn period. I felt like I had nearly all of my negative traits thrown right into my face the whole time. It was difficult but enlightening. The good news was that it only lasted for 52 days.

Your first Karma Card can appear anywhere in your yearly spread. When it does, think about what your first Karma Card tells you about yourself and expect to have that experience at that time.

**Your Saturn Card appears in your yearly spread**

I think by now you are starting to get how this works. A couple of years ago I had my Saturn Card, the 7♣, in Mars. I knew I had to make a conscious effort at that time, to elevate my thinking to a more positive level, or I would experience many problems. When your Saturn Card appears in any position, expect to see an appearance of that trait which you need to elevate to a higher expression, and one in which you usually feel limited by or that you tend to express on a more negative side. If my 7♣ had been in Venus, for example, it would be a definite message to me that I need to think more positively about relationships or about something going on in my home or family. You might even have your own lifetime Saturn Card appear in Saturn in a particular year. Most of us will have that at age 45 but sometimes it happens in other years as well.
Your Pluto or Lifetime Challenge card appears in your yearly spread

Either one of these carries the same basic message as the previous cards listed. But each of them has a specific message for us personally. Again, we need to be very aware of each of these cards and their meanings to us personally if we are to utilize this special information they bring us when they appear in our yearly spreads. I am always on the lookout for these key cards. I look for them in my yearly spreads and I look for them in people that I meet. Both are significant. In the Saturn period I spoke of earlier, my direct Saturn Card in my Birth Card spread was my Lifetime Challenge Card, the 7♥. So, I had my Lifetime Challenge Card as my direct Saturn Card and my first Karma Card as my vertical Saturn Card. Now you can understand why that period was so hard for me. If they had appeared in Mars or any other period, I do not think it would have been so difficult. The issues would have surfaced but they would have not been so difficult to be with.

Having any of the above cards in your Saturn Period

Any card in Saturn tends to be more challenging. If there are things about that issue that you have tried to avoid looking at in the past, having a card in Saturn will cause it to be ‘in your face’ and unavoidable. This is actually a good thing in that it helps us to come into a deeper acceptance of ourselves. But rarely does anyone actually enjoy the process. Saturn will magnify the things that you don’t like about it enough that you cannot avoid really seeing it for what it is.

Having any of the above cards as your Displacement Card for the year

The real function of the Displacement Card each year is just to get us to look at something and come into a fuller acceptance of it. It doesn’t have to be negative unless we just want to ignore it or avoid it. When your Displacement Card for any particular year is also one of the above cards, which are generally considered difficult to begin with, it will probably be harder to just ‘be with’ the issues associated with that card than it would be if it were some otherwise unrelated card. This can represent a significant year in which you get more familiar with that issue through direct experiences and come into a deeper acceptance of yourself or of the part of yourself connected to that issue. For example, if you were a Q♣ person who is 59 years old, you would be displacing the 7♥, which also happens to be your Life Spread Saturn Card. That year would likely have a lot of challenging 7♥ experiences, for the purpose of getting more in touch with the abandonment issues associated with it.

Having any of the above cards as your Environment Card for the year

This happens too. And when it does, you will find that what is normally a difficult issue for you will be easier to deal with and produce more positive results. This could be the result of Jupiter transit in your natal chart and it is considered a gift. The same might be true if one of these cards showed up in the Jupiter period but the Environment Card lasts all year and so, is more powerful and significant. Consider it a gift and allow yourself to receive its blessing. You may have noticed that at age 44, our Environment and Displacement Cards are switched. We have our 2nd Karma Card as our Displacement Card and our 1st Karma Card as our Environment Card. This is a very interesting circumstance and is all part of the PreBirth pattern of the Age 44 spread and the cycle of self-reflection that begins that year. Unless you live to be 89, that is the only time this occurs.

The way the yearly spread cards lay for each of us is perfect in the manner in which our life unfolds. If we look at the cards that signify some our important personal issues and track their appearance in our yearly spreads, we can know the timing of our own personal and spiritual development. Knowing this, we can harmonize ourselves to God’s will and participate more
fully in our own spiritual progress. This information can be useful for you or for anyone you are reading for.

The Results are Consistent with Me

I once did a reading for a 5♣ man who had some real money problems. No matter what he tried, he could not seem to manifest having financial security or the amount of money that would make his life comfortable and fun.

Have you ever found yourself in a situation where you keep trying to achieve something but you fail? Or maybe there is something you really want but can never seem to get it? These sorts of experiences can lead us to believe that we are powerless and ineffective. However, that is far from the actual truth. The truth is that we are all-powerful, as we are made in the image and likeness of God. But, unfortunately as it may be, we are generally unaware of this power and how it is being used, day in and day out, to create the world we live in. It is this lack of awareness that is the real problem, not the ‘not-getting’ of what we want. If we could see the whole picture, we would see that it is us that is stopping us from getting what we want. There are many reasons that we might prevent ourselves from getting or having something, someone, or some experience. The main ones are:

1. We feel that we do not deserve to have it
2. Having it would go against our sense of right and wrong or conflict with some other cherished beliefs that we have from our past.
3. We would not feel ‘right’ about having it.
4. Having it would cause conflict in our current life, such as problems with family relationships.
5. Guilt that we would put ourselves above our loved ones if we had it, as if we had betrayed them.

There are many reasons like this, though usually it will fall under one of these listed. The point is, there is a side of us or a part of us that is committed to our not having it. And now, it is stopping us. But, for whatever reason, we have lost touch with that part and we feel like God or the universe is denying us what we want so deeply. But in all cases, the results we achieve in any endeavor are consistent with what we are on the inside. If we really want to get what we say we want, we may have to go inside and do some exploration to remove any obstacles. The funny part is that we have put those obstacles up ourselves. We just don’t remember doing it.

My 5♣ client confided in me that just a few years earlier, he had tremendous wealth. He had made a lot of money and had the freedom to do most anything he wanted. He owned a million dollar house, drove expensive cars and lived a high lifestyle. He was a rich, globe-trotting yuppie.

It is a considerable job to find out why we are stopping ourselves, especially if you have been denied having this for a long time. In those cases, you can bet that you are out of touch with your self to a great degree. This usually means that it is going to take more effort to find out how and why you are blocking its fulfillment. But, you can rest assured that if you are having these symptoms, that is not being able to manifest something that you desire, there is some part of you that just doesn’t want that to happen.

This is the beauty of being self-aware. Once you can get into an awareness of why and how you are blocking your own creation, you will regain the power to create. Actually, you never lost the power. You were creating ‘not having’ it all along. But because we often are unaware of what our deepest motivations are, we think that we are just having bad luck or that someone or something outside of us is keeping us from what we desire. That just isn’t true. What is true is
that we are incredibly powerful beings who are constantly creating the world we live in. And everything we create is coming from our will connected to God’s will. The things we are thinking and feeling today are creating our tomorrows. And, most importantly, the limitations that we place upon ourselves, for whatever reason, are the boundaries within which we can and do create. We can never create something, for example, that we feel we do not truly deserve to have. Our level of deserving is one of the filters through which our creating must pass before an external manifestation can occur.

We actually have many of these filters, mostly from the list you see above. We pick these up in a variety of places. It could have been, and usually is, the result of something or someone from your past. It could be something you learned when you were a child, some ‘should’ or ‘should-not’ your family handed that down to you. It might be something you learned or read from a book. It is amazing how easily we take in things that we read in books. Many of us just drop our otherwise critical mind, and take in whatever we read as the truth without challenging its validity. Some of our beliefs about life were acquired in just this manner.

I asked my client, well what happened to you when you had all this money? He replied that he had become arrogant and acted basically like an ‘asshole.’ In the process, he had hurt many people that he knew and loved. This caused him tremendous grief and inner conflict. Sometime later, he lost all of his money.

Having the thing we want may cause separation from those we love. For example, if there is something you want that your parents never had, you may feel some guilt about having it. Your act of getting it could be perceived (by you) as disloyalty to your family or lineage. Family loyalty is very powerful and usually subconscious. This is just one of many reasons that may lie below the level of your conscious perception that is blocking your ability to manifest something.

The good news is that you can see, hopefully, that you are being blocked from creating. If your desire is constantly withheld from you, you have to know that there is some part of you that is against having that. If you follow that train of thought, you can begin the process of asking yourself the right questions so that you can get in touch with that which is, for now, unconscious. Oftentimes, just the act of asking is all we need to do to get things moving forward. Here are some questions you can try out:

1. Is there anything about having the object of my desire that would cause me to feel guilty?
2. Would I be betraying anyone I love by having this experience, person or thing?
3. Do I feel there is something inherently ‘wrong’ in having this desire fulfilled?
4. Would I feel comfortable and at ease having the object of my desire?
5. What are the benefits of not having this thing, experience or person?
6. Did I have this thing at some point in my past and do something that I regretted in having it?
7. Can I be at peace with the notion of having this wish fulfilled? In other words, can I be at a level of consciousness where having or not having it would be the same?

These questions can help get you started on the journey within. That journey should take you to the deeper recesses of who you are, where you will find decisions that you made long ago which now act as boundaries for your creation. Once there, you can either accept your boundaries or change them. Yes, you may actually realize that you feel okay about the boundaries you set up for yourself. You may have had good reasons for setting those at the time and you may feel that they still apply.

So, then, I mentioned to him that perhaps he was afraid to have money again because he believed that if he did, he would hurt others again. Immediately, he saw the truth in that. And in that instant, he realized how he had been preventing himself from having money again. And he had to ask himself whether or not he could be trusted to have money again and not
hurt others. His answer was yes. That realization was all that it took. Within weeks he was again making lots of money and enjoying wealth and luxury, as he had before.

Then again, like my client, you may realize that the boundaries you set for yourself no longer apply and that you can release them to allow for the creation of the object of your desire. In any case, you will no longer be in a conflict about it. You can either accept your self-imposed limitation, or remove it. Either way, you will again be the master creator in your life.

The Money Cards – part one

There are many good money cards in the deck. And they often show up in our yearly readings, if we are ready and able to take advantage of them. I say this because sometimes we are neither ready nor able to take advantage of them. A person on a fixed income, for example, is not likely to realize the benefits of a millionaire’s card coming up in their reading. So, it is important to realize that just having good money cards is not enough to make it happen. We have to cooperate with the cards if we are to fully realize their benefit. We have to be willing and able to take a step towards the potential wealth that is being offered to us by universal cycles and principles. As it has been said before, ‘God helps those who help themselves.’

Having said that, here is a short article on the various money cards and how to maximize their benefit to you when they appear. Let’s start with basics about the location of money cards in your spread.

**Money cards in Mercury** generally mean money made quickly. Usually the amounts are not as large as in other periods. But money can also be made through use of your automobile or through phone work or other forms of communication.

**Money cards in Venus** often represent money made through the arts, through beauty products, adornments or objects related to the home and women. Venus itself is a benefic planet, like Jupiter and so tends to bring out the better sides of card that fall in it.

**Money cards in Mars** mean you may be aggressive about your pursuit of money. It can also mean money made through legal or other competitive activities or money made in association with men or men-dominated professions.

**Jupiter** is obviously the best place for money cards, especially for business success. Our Jupiter card each year, even if it is not a Diamond card, can tell us which direction or directions are likely to bring the most prosperity. This past year, for example, I had the 10♠ in Jupiter. I made money by working hard and working a lot (10♠)!

**Saturn** will also mean having to work very hard for the money. But it can also represent money coming in through others ill health, death or misfortune. Generally though, Saturn just means we will have to work, work, work, to make our due.

**Uranus** money cards can often mean money made through real estate. If I were investing in real estate, I would definitely look at my Uranus cards each year for indicators. Real estate is nearly always a good investment by itself and is already related to the money sign Taurus in astrology. Uranus can also mean money made through computers, radio and television or other forms of the media.

**Neptune** money cards generally refer to money made in foreign countries or money made through shipping, drugs and alcohol, or the movie industry, all of which are ruled by Neptune. Generally, though, it is our yearly hopes and dreams card. A big money card in Neptune means we are dreaming about having it. The question is, will it actually happen?

**Pluto** usually represents the desire for something, not necessarily having it. A big money card as Pluto may motivate you to do what it takes, and especially to change whatever needs changing within yourself, to make more money.
The Result Card is nearly a guaranteed blessing. If it is a money card, it is nearly a sure thing that you are going to come into the money described by the card.

The Displacement Card is the card we need to pay attention to. By paying attention to it, we may indeed get the rewards of the card itself. A 4♦ Displacement would mean that we have to pay attention to having a sound sense of values if we are to achieve financial stability (4♦). The 8♦ and 10♦ Displacement have very significant specific meanings themselves that are not necessarily financially related. Read about them in Chapter Eight of Destiny Cards (or Cards of Your Destiny) for the Pinnacle and Most Blessed years. But even so, they usually carry financial success with them.

The Environment Card, like the Result Card, is nearly guaranteed to bring the positive money side from any money card placed there. Even a 9♦ or 3♦ would bring financial success in this position. Of course, the 10♦ or 8♦ would probably be more powerful. But the bottom line is, ‘there is no such thing as a bad Environment card.’

The 7♦ in Jupiter - This card is the traditional millionaire’s card. And it has the highest potential of reward of all the card positions in the deck. But, as in all cases, it is not without its conditions. The first thing to realize about this card is that what it really means is spending a lot of money. The 7♦ card generally indicates money going out, at least according to most sources. So, the theory is that if a lot of money is being spent, it must have come from somewhere. Thus, in a reverse fashion, it means making a ton of money. Now, how much a ton of money depends upon your relative sense of wealth and value. A ton of money might be $100 to one person and $10,000,000 to another. Money is relative to you and who you are. And since the cards are more subjective in their meanings, much will depend upon what wealth and prosperity mean to you.

I have found the 7♦ to be the best money making card in the deck. But that was only true after I had mastered my sense of prosperity by working on my inner relationship with money. Before that, the 7♦ seemed to always bring me money problems. The same could be said for this millionaire’s card. It will, in some ways, depend upon your level of spiritual maturity in the area of finances. Personally, I have made the most money in one period when I had the 7♦ in Mars. But I haven’t experienced the 7♦ in Jupiter yet, at least not as the direct Jupiter card in my yearly spread, which is where it brings the best results.

The 7♦ in Jupiter will usually only occur once in a lifetime as the direct card. It will occur again, 45 years later, as the vertical card with the 9♥ as the direct Jupiter. Since it is one of the semi-fixed cards and will only be in Jupiter when you displace either the 5♣ or Q♦, it will not occur in the yearly spreads of any fixed or semi-fixed card.

Other Occurrences of the 7♦ - I believe now that the 7♦ can bring tons of money in any position, except perhaps Saturn. A 7♦ in Saturn would be very difficult to realize the positive expression, though not impossible. I will let you know after I have it at age 60 in ten years. Or you can let me know if you have already had it! But in every position, its effect will be determined by your relationship with money and prosperity. Any position could also bring you money problems if you are still walking around with a poverty mentality. It is a magical card that simply magnifies your inner state of well-being or lack of.

The 10♦ in Jupiter and other positions - The 10♦ is already the Jupiter/Jupiter card in the deck. So, it already has blessing power associated with it, regardless of what position it appears in your spread. Realizing this, it is interesting to note that one of the biggest issues for 10♦ people is their inability to receive from others. That same inability to receive also prevents them from having as much financial success. Here they are, the most blessed card in the deck, acting as if everything in their life had to be earned the ‘hard way.’ The inability to receive is a major issue with most everyone who is experiencing money problems. And when the 10♦ appears,
your ability to receive may limit its expression. I had the 10♦ in Jupiter and it paid off in a big way. The basic meaning of this card is ‘expand your business and financial opportunities’ so that you can receive more money. The bigger you can expand, the more money you can make. And this means expand by serving more people, creating more products and services. Of course, I have seen people win the lottery with the 10♦ in Jupiter as well. So, there are other ways for it to be expressed. This is one of the few cards that I would actually recommend someone playing the lottery with, or even gambling with.

The 10♦ is the big business card. If you can think big when you have it, you will benefit more. But it also is a wish-fulfilling card on other levels. What that means is that it has the potential to grant you some cherished wish or wishes, even if they are not money-related. This is especially true when it is the Displacement Card since that is the year that you are sitting in the Jupiter/Jupiter position yourself. You can prepare for this card by creating a way for people to give you more money. If you are in business, offer your customers more variety of things to purchase and make sure some of them are more expensive. The 10♦ can mean a large sum of money that you do not possess. That isn’t much fun so make your preparations to have this money be all yours! In whatever period it falls, be prepared to harvest. What I tell my students about the 10♦ is that it is going to start raining money. Be certain you have very large baskets to catch it because how much you get will depend upon how large your baskets are.

The 10♦ or 8♦ in Saturn can mean money coming in from another’s death or misfortune such as an estate settlement.

The 8♦ in Jupiter and other positions - The 8♦ is very much like the 10♦ in financial power. Though not as large a number as the ten, it still is very powerful. What makes it different is that the 8♦ usually appears when we are ready to make a large purchase of some kind. Again, what large means to you is dependent upon your value system. But generally the 8♦ would appear when you are going to purchase a house, a car or some other high-ticket item. It represents the ‘power to buy’ and can bring this power in any period or position. Even in Saturn, it has a way of bringing money, though usually through lots of hard work.
Unsolved Card Mysteries

Many new distinctions and discoveries about the cards have come out in the past 15 years. Some by me and some by others, as we continue to use this magical system, we see more and more as we marvel at its depth along with its simplicity of use. I thought it would be a good idea to list some of the mysteries of the cards that have yet to be explained or discovered. There are a few that I know of and perhaps some that you know too.

The Fixed and Semi Fixed Cards

What I have discovered is that these cards have a relationship with each other that is unique. It places them in a special family. And, as rare as some of these cards are, we find them together in families or as friends, lovers, etc. They seem to be a magnet to each other. One example is the 2♥. As rare as this card is because there is only one birthday, most will find themselves in a close relationship with some other Fixed or Semi-Fixed Card (A♣, 7♦, 9♥, J♥, 8♣, and K♠). Just why they are attracted to each other is a mystery. Another mystery is what is the nature of their connection. I get a sense of karma between them. But what is the nature of the karma? Does anyone owe any other, as in the other 45 cards in the deck? And finally, what is it about this family of seven cards that sets them apart from the other 45 in the deck? These are questions that remain to be discovered in the future. Perhaps you have a clue.

Some common, but unexplained, pairings

There are some cards that are often found married together or in significant relationships for reasons that do not seem to be explained by the connections we know of. Here are a few that I am aware of.

The 9♣ and 6♦ - Yes, we can say, they are Karma Cards, that is why they so often find each other. But, I ask, why are not other Karma Card couples found as commonly as these? I see these two ending up together so often, that there is some other element here that eludes me.

The 2♣ and A♠ - This is another Karma Card couple that seems to me to occur a lot more frequently than others.

The 6♦ and J♣ - Here is a couple that would not seem to have any reason to end up together. They are not Karma Cards and their first connection is that the 6♦ is the Cosmic Lesson Card of the J♣. That connection is not enough, in my estimation, to account for how often these two end up together. I think there is some undiscovered element that draws them together.

The 7♦ and K♥ - Another mystery to me. The K♥ is the direct Uranus Card of the 7♦. The outer planet connections, from Uranus on, are not the kind of connection that accounts for marriages and significant relationships. And yet, we find these two together frequently. They are in the same general area of the Grand Solar Spread. But Uranus?
The Mystery of the Queen of Spades

In the Life Spread there are two very significant cards, the 8♦ and 10♦. The 8♦ falls in the top center position of the Grand Solar Spread. It is the Sun Card, bearing the distinction of being the highest, top-most card in the deck. In a way, it literally ‘shines down’ on the rest of the deck. The other is the 10♦, which falls in the very center of the Grand Solar array of the Life Spread. It is the most blessed card being located in both the Jupiter line and column. These two cards are the Karma Cards of the Q♠. The Q♠ itself sits in the Uranus row of the Mercury column in the Grand Solar array. Its placement does not seem that significant. But its Karma Cards occupy these two most distinctive places. What is the meaning of this? What does this tell us about Q♠ people? What does it mean for us individually the year that our Birth Card displaces the Q♠? These and other questions arise at this unique marvel.

The Mystery of the Ten of Spades

The 10♠ also has a unique configuration with it’s Karma Cards. If you notice its position, first of all, in the Grand Solar array of the Life Spread pictured here you see that it sits just below the 8♦, in the very center of the first complete line of cards. What is interesting is that its two Karma Cards, the 4♥ and Q♥, sit in the left and right lower corners of the spread. In a way, these Karma Cards seem to be the basis of a triangle that the three of them form together. This is the only card in the deck that displays this unique configuration, where it and its Karma Cards form a symmetrical geometric figure. Not only is it symmetric, but it appears to be significant since the Karma Cards are the very ‘corners’ of the spread. What is also interesting is that whenever our Birth or Planetary Ruling Card displaces the 10♥, we find our Karma Cards also sitting in these lower corners. This happens, for example, to the K♥ at ages 25 and 70 and the Q♠ at ages 36 and 81. Just what the message is to the 10♠ and anyone who displaces the 10♠ in any given cycle is unclear. Since the 10♠ has a major issue between their work and home life, I would assume that anyone displacing it would also have to deal with that issue during that year. But there may be more to the story.

The Age 43 and Age 88 Yearly Spreads

At first glance one would not notice anything special about these two years. But, on closer inspection we discover a peculiar pattern. In those spreads, are found many occurrences of the same card number in threes. Here are some examples you can check this with. This would be noticed in the yearly spreads of certain cards at ages 43 and 88.

The K♠ and others will have the A♠, A♠ and A♥, all in a row. (88)
The 5♠, 5♦ and 5♥, and others will have the 8♠, 8♦ and 8♣, all in a row (43 and 88)
The 2♠ and others will have the 5♠, 5♦, and 5♥ together all in a row. (43 and 88)
The 9♠ and others will have the Q♠, Q♦, and Q♣ all together in a row (43 and 88)
The three Queens just mentioned will each have the 3♠, 3♦ and 3♣ all together in a row (43 and 88)
The A♠ and others will have the 4♠, 4♦ and 4♣ all together in a row (43 and 88)
The 6♥ and others will all have the 9♠, 9♣ and 9♥ together in a row (88)
The 9♠ and others will each have the K♠, K♣ and K♥ together in a row (43 and 88)
These patterns of three cards together can be best seen while looking at these spreads in the Grand Solar Array, such as in *The Advanced Oracle Workbook* or *Exploring the Little Book of the Seven Thunders*. If we consider the Karma Cards of some cards, there would also be groups of three Twos and Sevens as well.

Just what the significance of this is or what this means for individuals who have these 3-card patterns in their yearly spreads is not known.

**Your Pinnacle Year**

This is the year that your Birth Card displaces the 8♦. Looking at your spreads in the Grand Solar array, your Birth Card would sit at the very top center of the entire spread. We already know much about the Pinnacle Year, how it represents a big life-changing year and often a year of recognition or fame. You can read all about it in chapter eight of *Cards of Your Destiny*. But I believe there is much more significance to that year and the cards that are located in various positions in the Grand Solar Spread for that year of your life. To play with this you must be able to see that year in this array, which you can find in *The Advanced Oracle Workbook*, *Exploring the Little Book of the Seven Thunders*, and some of our software programs such as the Path of Destiny, Book of Destiny 2.0 and Little Book. If you look at your Pinnacle Year’s spread take note of what cards are located in other significant locations in the spread. For example, which cards are found in the spaces normally occupied by the 10♣, 10♠ Q♥ and 4♥. How about the 3♥ and A♠? All of these spots are significant because they are corners and centers of the Grand Solar Array. I believe that these cards may tell us something about ourselves, much like the cards in our Life Spread do.

**How marriage changes an individual’s karma**

Olney Richmond says in *The Mystic Test Book* that nothing changes the fate of an individual more than marriage. He discusses how each person can be represented as one of billions of ‘Magic Squares’ or ‘Tarots” as he also calls them. Though he does not detail how to create these individual four by four grids, or ‘birth tarots’ that symbolize each of us, he states that if an individual is married, it actually changes some of the values of the numbers in the squares. He states that the very electromagnetic energy of the person is changed in the process of getting married. However, he does not tell us how this information can be applied to our cards or in relationship readings in any meaningful way. I sense that there is something very important here to be discovered.

**The Greatest Mystery of All**

Published accounts of interviews with Olney Richmond describe a demonstration he performed for several newspaper reporters in Grand Rapids, MI. In this demonstration, he would hand the reporter a sealed envelope and a deck of cards and ask him to shuffle and cut the deck on precise intervals. Finally, he would have the reporter lay out the entire deck onto a zodiac cloth, face down, placing in a random fashion, four cards in each of the houses of the zodiac and four in the very center (4 times 13 = 52). After this, the reporter would roll a pair of dice and take the four cards from the house by the same number appearing there. The reporter would look at these cards and subsequently open the envelope. In the envelope was a piece of paper, which stated exactly which cards the reporter would pick from the deck.
This was one of many so-called ‘mysteries’ that Olney performed using the cards, proofs as to their authenticity and to the fact that nothing on earth was random but obeyed exact mathematical laws. Olney would often show the reporter the exact equation by which he had used to determine which cards the reporter would choose. That equation took into account the date and time of day, along with the birthday of the reporter. When you think about this particular demonstration, it becomes apparent that this was a bridge between the physical and metaphysical. The knowledge of how he performed this mystery would be of great benefit to the world. However, this information was never published. There are bits and pieces of this knowledge in The Mystic Test Book, but not enough to perform the mystery above.

This example points to the fact that much of the basic, mathematical foundation of the work that Olney Richmond did has been lost after his death. There is much behind the Grand Solar Spreads, the Magic Circle, The Mystic Triangle and ‘the Word’ that is discussed in The Mystic Test Book but not fully explained. There is also a lot that is fairly well explained but not given any practical application. For example, I have been able to figure out Olney’s calculations for determining the card of the hour and minute of the day. But what can we actually do with this information? And, he never shows us just how to calculate our personal hour and minute card, which is something that we might find immediately useful.

All in all, much of The Mystic Test Book remains a mystery. But, little by little its secrets are being revealed. With time and God’s grace, all of it will be known and understood. And if we are very fortunate, all of Olney’s lost and unpublished books will be found and shared with the world.

The Thing About Aces

In Poker or Blackjack, Aces are considered the highest card in the deck. So, when you tell someone that their Birth Card is an Ace, they usually get very excited, thinking that they must somehow be the best of the cards in the deck. And this tells you a lot about Aces and their cousins, the Tens. Both Aces and Tens have a driving need for recognition. They act as though being recognized for their greatness is very important to them. And this appears to be true to the observer. However, there is much more to the story, much that goes deeper than this external appearance. For the purpose of this article, we must also consider people who cards are one of the four Tens as being similar to Aces. Aces and Tens share the common 'One'. For this reason, they display similar personality characteristics, and personal issues.

The Ace is the one. It stands alone. All people who are Aces or Tens must, in one way or the other, stand alone and prove themselves. They do not do this for the recognition of others per se. However, recognition from others may be a byproduct of their accomplishment, or even proof of it. But deep inside, all Aces must prove something to themselves. They must prove their capability to achieve, to accomplish goals, to realize dreams.

The Ace, you see, is a creator, endowed with the divine creative spark in abundant capacity. The Ace is a vessel through which God gets things done. Being an Ace ruling card myself, I was once given a channeled reading, which stated, "You were born to achieve, together (with God), we shall achieve much." So, you will notices in most Aces a high degree of ambition, of a desire to attain some high goals they have set for themselves. They will not be happy with things as they
are but will always seek to accomplish something they find worthwhile, something they dreamed up and have decided is worthy of their time and effort. But underneath this 'goal-oriented' behavior, the Ace person is out to prove that he or she is worthy of having received this divine gift of creation. On some level, every Ace has a personal mission. That mission involves finding their worth in the eyes of God through accomplishment.

For this reason, Aces will want to do things alone. Even a child who is an Ace will often refuse any help. They may want to be shown how to do it but will not want you to do it for them. If you understand this basic drive of theirs, which in many cases is the most potent passion in their life, you will step aside and let them make the attempt. Failure does not stop them. They will pick up and try again, until they succeed.

The un-evolved Ace will be cocky and arrogant. They will be overly selfish and self-centered to the point that they alienate others around them. They will have difficulty seeing things from anyone’s point of view other than their own. The arrogance they display is largely a function of their insecurity. The more insecure they are, the more they need to proclaim and have others agree that they are great. And they will often need to put others down in order to feel that they are okay.

The Ace who has evolved a bit does not need others' approval to create. It is the young (soul) Ace who seeks others approval for his or her actions and then seeks to get it. The Ace who is accomplishing in order to get others' approval or recognition has not yet found his or her self. Many Aces go through a stage of ambition for the sake of getting others to like or approve of them. But they eventually grow beyond that, especially once they realize how fruitless this effort is. They may even accomplish the goal and be given a lot of praise by their family and peers. But that really does not satisfy the hunger, which is really coming from themselves. Some Aces become arrogant at this stage, self-absorbed and self-righteous. But that is just part of the growing process, a part that is destined to someday end.

Every Ace eventually realizes that his or her mission is only to satisfy the self, to be fully realized in his or her expression of divine creation. And they no longer seek or need other's approval to do what they do. This realization is the beginning of true self-confidence. And self-confidence is probably the most important quality that an Ace is seeking along his or her journey. It is usually lacking at the beginning of their journey. Though the young Ace will act confident and does display a certain amount of courage, they will not usually find their true self-confidence until after many trials. And they will often argue with others who seem to be criticizing them or putting down their choices. They will blame those in positions of authority who have 'held them back.' These are all the symptoms of lack of self-confidence. And this self-confidence is not achieved by simple accomplishment, per se. It is eventually realized when the Ace stops needing others approval for their actions and choices. Then, the Ace can step forward and live their life by their own rules, which is their birthright and namesake.

Tens exhibit much of these same qualities since they have an Ace within them. However, they generally have more self-confidence to start since the '0' after their '1' represents having completed a full cycle of experience. This is why Tens are often more immediately successful than Aces. But this does not relieve them of any issues. The Tens still have to accomplish and they still must stay on the path of self-realization and self-satisfaction.
Aces and Tens are the astrological goats and rams, ruled by Aries and Capricorn, and the first and tenth houses, respectively. These pairs share much in common. And both will have a life of accomplishment and realization of goals. Whether they receive public recognition or not is really not important. What is important is that they find themselves through the act of creation.

**Why a Fellowship?**

By Joseph and Sarah Malinak

"With great power comes great responsibility"

*Spiderman*

The task of a Destiny Cards reading is to meet the needs of the clients. The best readers learn to recognize when they are operating from their own needs so that they can remove their needs from the session and get back to the needs of their clients. The best readers are present with their clients to assist them in discovering their next step. Whether that next step is spiritual or physical, the task of assisting another in finding the next step on that soul's journey is a powerful spiritual act. With that power does come great responsibility. *Balancing the power and the responsibility is what the Fellowship is all about.*

The Magi Fellowship has been designed with two major objectives. The first objective is to assist Destiny Cards Interpreters in the acquisition of the knowledge of the cards. The fellowship offers profound support to individuals who desire to master both the knowledge of the Cards and to master the delivery of interpretation. The adage "knowledge equals power" is acutely accurate for Destiny Cards Interpreters.

The second objective is to assist members in developing the deep self-knowledge that allows them to recognize when their needs are getting in the way of the client's needs. Meeting this objective provides members with profound empowerment for leading a life filled with self-love and self-awareness, the kind of empowerment that makes one a master of one's life. Working together in the Fellowship to increase self-knowledge creates a field of momentum that encourages and assists one on the path of enlightenment. Together the process of self-knowledge becomes more effective for each individual.

All too often the kind of knowledge available through the Destiny Cards is used by the reader of the Cards to enhance his or her own ego. Readers and Healers in any discipline are often motivated by the need to make themselves feel like good people. Most likely each of us has been on the receiving end of feeling that we were meeting our healer's needs more than our needs were being met. Most of us, when being honest, can recognize those times when our clients have suffered at the expense of our needs rather than getting their own met.

Many of us who help others do so, not only out of love for the other, but also from a sense of inadequacy. Some of us even help others to appease a sense of guilt. If an reader of the Cards feels inadequate, but he or she is able to tell a client some profound truth about the client based on the Cards, that reader can find meaning in life for giving such a good reading. Then the client leaves, some time passes, and the inadequacy bubbles to the surface again, undermining the reader's peace of mind and soul. It is always easier to look at other people's lives and assist them than it is to look at ourselves and take responsibility for what we find there.

*The brilliance of the Fellowship is that not only will we increase our knowledge of the cards exponentially; we will also increase our self-knowledge and our ability to take responsibility for our lives exponentially as we gather together as a group. We will bring to light and embrace both the darkness and the light that reside inside us. Then we will be able to move to a pure state*
where we will be able to be a good tool for another soul. Within the Fellowship we will develop the habits and discipline necessary to be able to maintain and return to the purity that comes with self-knowledge.

Most of us have created environments for ourselves that are very comfortable places for hiding out. We tend to go in cycles of acting in ways that do not work, taking time to justify our actions, and then going back to acting in ways that do not work. The environments we create and the cycle of acting/justifying/acting help us continue to hide the inner darkness from ourselves. In the Fellowship an environment is created where bringing the darkness to light is not so frightening a prospect. In the Fellowship an environment is created where knowing and embracing the self is easier and gets to be a habit. As the Fellowship supports us in the habitual process of self-knowing, we find that when we go out from the group back into our individual lives we are now more naturally in the habit of self-realization and that the process of enlightenment continues. The Fellowship seminars are not a matter of "I'll feel like a master of my life for the first two weeks after the seminar and then it will peter out." Rather, the Fellowship seminars bring about a process of personal empowerment that is available to be experienced in all aspects of our lives and is practiced regularly in our Interpretations of the Cards with our clients.

When a client comes to you and pays you money for a Destiny Cards interpretation, whether that person wants to know more about him or herself or about what the Cards say about the future, that person is not paying you to meet your needs. You are present to meet his or her needs. The task of a Destiny Cards reading is not for you to receive praise, acceptance, or approval. Those things are the icing, not the cake! The task of a Destiny Cards reading is to meet the needs of the client.

Are you today truly able to be fully present with the needs of your clients who come to you for readings? Would you like to grow and develop in enlightenment like a well tended and nurtured tree? Are you a seasoned Destiny Cards Interpreter who would like to go even deeper in the knowledge of the Cards as well as grow in self-knowledge? Are you new to the Cards and desire to come on board the Fellowship to get the whole package from the very beginning of your journey as a Destiny Cards Interpreter? Come be a part of the Magi Fellowship. It is the beginning of an empowering journey as an Interpreter of the Destiny Cards and the next step of your journey of self-realization.
The Escape from Being

“It is harder for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for a man to enter the kingdom of heaven”

The Bible

Here in America no one is taught the art of being. Our country is proud of its accomplishments and the media idolizes those who have done a great deal, accomplished great goals, amassed great amounts of money, etc. Doing is worshipped here as it is nearly everywhere on the planet today. We are a materialistic world, driven largely by the lust for power and money. And there really isn’t anything wrong with doing. It is an absolutely essential aspect of life for each of us. But as in all things, too much of anything can be unhealthy. In the case of doing, there is an opposite, being. Doing is an active, masculine state. Being is a receptive feminine state. Too much of either one, without the balance of the other, is unhealthy. In our particular day and time, we have over accentuated the doing part to the exclusion of our being side. We are not taught how to be, only to do. When someone has a problem, the first thing they think about is, “what do I do about this?” No one even takes the time to be with the problem before going into doing mode. We just immediately go into doing. Thinking is also part of doing. Thinking precedes action. It is an action on the subtle level, just as thoughts are subtle objects. Thoughts are pre-objects and pre-actions. When we are thinking about our problems, we are already engaged in doing, whether we are aware of it or not.

We have become ill as a society and as a planet on account of our non-being approach to life. To stay balanced we must have both being and doing. Our doing suffers for lack of being. No one wants to be anymore. No one wants to sit and be with anything – their feelings, a problem, a situation. They just want to get away from these things and get into action. And because we lack this important other half of life, we are shallow human beings. I am not even sure if we can call ourselves human beings. Perhaps we should rename ourselves ‘human doings.’

A big part of being is feeling. Taking time to feel our feelings is critical. Without the information that we get from feeling, we cannot really know exactly what to do. When we go to the doctor with a problem, the doctor will usually ask us, “Where does it hurt?” We have to feel in order to give him the answer. He requires that answer in order to diagnose our problem. In the same way, our wonderfully gifted minds cannot come up with a good solution to our problems without the element of our feelings, feelings that fill in important pieces of information that our mind needs to come up with its plan of action. Deprived of feeling input, our minds just make a ‘stab in the dark’ about how to solve our problems. And these stabs are usually off the mark and often cause us to end up in a more problematic situation than we started. Feelings often reveal the real reasons for our discomfort or pain. Feelings can take us back to the source of problems. But in order to have these wonderful things happen, one must be capable of being with their feelings. This is something that is mostly lacking in today’s culture.

Usually we will do everything in our power to escape from being. Most of us are very uncomfortable in the state of being. Our minds, which we have become greatly identified with to the point that we actually believe that we are our minds, are afraid of losing control and are afraid of the unknown. To be in a state of being is to be in a state of non-control. There is no guarantee that we will feel a particular way. Our minds cannot control our feelings. Thus, there is a natural avoidance by the mind. And since we have given most of our power to our minds, we
are at the mercy of its whims. And it does not like to relinquish the stranglehold it has upon our attention. And herein lies the paradoxical problem. Without the feelings the mind is ineffective. Yet, it avoids the very thing that it needs to be more effective. What that means for most of us is that we are sort of stuck in a perpetual hell. Many of us are nothing more than what I call ‘walking heads.’ Our bodies and all of our activities are merely slaves of our heads. They only exist to get our minds where they want to be.

I know this all sounds very extreme but sadly it is often true. It takes very dramatic and often devastating and disastrous experiences to pry our attention away from our heads and allow us to be and feel. Its not that we need to give up thinking and doing altogether, we only need to have balance. Too much being can be just as bad as too much doing. It can cause laziness, procrastination and fear of taking action. But to get back into balance in today’s culture requires most of us to learn how to be again, how to feel, and how to receive what is all around us. We must become more feminine, which is just as powerful as masculine. In America today most women now have become more masculine. They have applied themselves to becoming better doers, often to compete with men who seem to keep them in some form of patriarchal slavery. So now we have women competing with men in most every area of doing. And many of them have proven they can be just as competitive as men. The trouble is that many of them have lost much of their feminine birthright. They have forgotten the power of the feminine, the power to be and to attract to themselves what they need. This causes them innumerable problems in life, just as it does anyone who cannot operate effectively on both sides.

To be truly effective in life we need a balance. Regardless of whether we are male or female, we need to be comfortable with both doing and being. To develop a high level of self-awareness is mostly a product of being. Being allows us to explore ourselves, and the deeper mysteries of life. Having grounded ourselves in a strong state of being, we are then ready to act effectively in the world, our actions being guided by a keen awareness of all the factors surrounding any situation. This, I think, is what is meant, by entering the kingdom of heaven.

**Presidential Election Update**

In a previous newsletter I predicted that Bush would either win or lose depending upon whether he decided that he really wanted to win or not. Loyalty to his father would dictate that he would lose since his father lost his second election. However, at the time of the election this year, Bush’s 52-day card sits in the 10♦, or most-blessed spot. This means that his dream will come true, whatever that may be. The latest news from the Republican convention and other areas seems to indicate that Bush actually does want to win this election. That being the case, I would say his success is assured, even though by winning he will be disloyal to his father by outdoing him and having two terms.
Presidential Election Update

The race for the presidency is still up in the air. As of today, Bush is slightly ahead in the polls. But Bill Clinton has finally come out to aid Kerry and his influence could make a difference. The cards cannot really give us a clearly defined winner or loser this time. Poor Kerry. He has a 3♠ right now in Neptune. I bet he is fraught with worry and anxiety. I just don’t think he is going to win. But with their cards being so close, I would not be surprised if we have a big dispute over who wins, as we did in the previous election. Florida is using the new computerized voting machines, without a required paper trail. This could cause a dispute over the winner. But even if the actual results were delayed enough to get Kerry into his next year (His birthday is Dec 11th), his card in the next year are not so great that we might consider him to win in that case. They are not bad, though. So, here we are again with ‘anything is possible.’

Choosing Your Relationships
Using The Cards As Your Guide

The two most popular topics in readings are love and money. I am sure that you are interested in both or you have clients who are. In this article I will present all the various aspects that you can use when helping someone, or yourself, choose a new relationship. I might start out by saying, however, that even though you may be able to use the cards to find a birthday or card that is perfect for you, there is no guarantee that you will be attracted to them or that they will be attracted to you. There is a fair amount of mystery surrounding our choice in mates. And some of may not even want to remove that mystery. Sometimes love is all the more enjoyable going into it just from a heart perspective and leaving all the analysis behind. But, I am called upon every week to perform such analysis and hence I will share it anyway. Hopefully, this information will help you, one of your loved ones, or a client, make a better choice.

The First Step

Most people jump right into how compatible they are with someone and miss out on the most important first step. That first step is critical. It can make or break a possible relationship. It involves getting to know each of the two people for this possible relationship. Here are a couple of things we want to look at:

1. Are both/either actually available?
2. Are they ready for a relationship?
3. Are they capable of having a monogamous, committed relationship? (The marriage-ability factor)

Who is Available?

Ok, let’s jump right in and cut through any relationship bullshit we often encounter. The first item on this list is critical. Some people are not really available for a relationship of any depth. There can be many reasons for this. And there is no shame or harm in it. But it does need to be recognized and acknowledged. Here is a list of people that are probably unavailable.
1. Anyone who is married.
2. Those who just got divorced or just broke up from a long term relationship.
3. Those who are married, but thinking and talking about getting divorced.
4. Those who are still legally married, even if their spouse and they have been separated for years.
5. Those who have an ex that they are ‘taking care of’ or somehow still entangled with, even if they are divorced.
6. Anyone who is having sex with someone else at this time.
7. Those who, for whatever reason, are not ready for relationship yet.
8. Those who are over 40 and have never been married.

You can see from this list that it eliminates a lot of people! You might think this is funny but you would be surprised how often a client comes to me wanting a relationship from one of these unavailable types. Please take this list seriously, people. It can save you lots of heartache and time. Trying to make one of these unavailable people become available or wishing that they would become available is a waste of your time and your heart. If you want a true relationship with someone, just pass these folks by and keep looking. Watch carefully to see if your mind is making up exceptions to this list. Perhaps you are interested in someone who is one or more of these types above. You really want it to work and you are telling yourself, but he or she is the exception. Careful! Love has a way of causing us to fill in the missing pieces in the object of our affection. Make sure you are not deluding yourself. Finally, if you truly find that you are highly attracted to someone who is unavailable, then relax. This just means that you are not available either. So, you can enjoy this shallow relationship with the other unavailable person until you become ready for something more substantial.

Are You Ready for a Relationship?

The next factor is being ready. You may be available but just not ready yet. So might the person you are interested in. Assuming that most single people were in a relationship before now, it usually takes some time to make a transition to being ready for another relationship. There are many who, because of their great fear of being alone, will jump right into another relationship at the first opportunity. This is always a bad idea and has bad results. One of the golden rules that apply here is that any choice we make from fear will put us into some kind of prison. If we choose a relationship out of fear of being alone, our new relationship becomes a prison in some way. The other very distinct possibility is that we get into a co-dependent relationship. If you cannot be at least somewhat happy by yourself, you need therapy, not a new relationship.

People who have just ended a relationship of 6 months or more are in transition. Transition people usually do find someone to be with. However, their transition relationships rarely last beyond the transition period. Usually, once the transition period is concluded, so does the transition relationship. This makes complete sense when you look at it from their point of view. As they end one significant relationship, there is no way to know what sort of relationship would work best for them. That takes time, the time of transition, which can last up to a year or more. But once they do get over the transition period, they are able to sort out where they are going and who would be best to be with them. It is very rare for that to be their transition period person. This is important to realize. If you are falling for someone in transition, you can bet that it is not going to last. If you yourself are in transition, the same applies. It helps to just keep this in mind.
Marriage-ability – oh so important!

On page 329 in the Love Cards book is a section about who is marriageable and who is not. This is such an important section but I think sometimes that most people overlook it. Not only does it rate every card but it explains the common reasons why that card may have difficulty in maintaining a long term relationship. The procedure is explained in the book. But I will remind you that you must consider both the Birth Card and Planetary Ruling Card in the equation. I will give an example. The Q♣ Birth Card is not very marriageable. There are many factors. However, the 10♠ is a very marriageable card. Therefore a Gemini Q♣, like Paul McCartney, for example, is fairly marriageable. This is especially true when we consider the fact that most of us identify with our Planetary Ruling Card more than our Birth Card. Therefore, when using the marriage-ability table, I would give slightly more weight to the Planetary Ruling Card. In the case of the Gemini Q♣, I would say they are better than half marriageable. I often sum up a person’s marriage-ability as a fraction, like three quarters marriageable or 1/3 marriageable, based upon the marriage-ability of their Birth Card and Planetary Ruling Card combined.

What is sort of a cosmic joke is that many of the most marriageable birthdays are strongly compatible with unmarriageable birthdays. I guess God wanted to keep things interesting here. But the main point here is to understand when you first meet someone, just what yours and their marriage-ability is. I will say the following under strict conditions: It is possible for someone to rise above their lack of marriage-ability. However, the requirement is either that they have to do lots of spiritual work on themselves and the causes of what keeps them the way they are OR old age. Yes, as funny as it sounds, old age makes people more marriageable. The person who may actually be more marriageable, even though they score very high as being unmarriageable would be the person who first of all acknowledges that they have a serious problem with commitment. Anyone in denial about it is a lost cause. The person who acknowledges it is way ahead. Next, he or she is actively pursuing help to make the internal changes. You will see them reading books, attending classes or getting professional counseling. These are the symptoms of someone who could actually overcome their problems with commitment. If these are not present, forget it.

The other thing to consider is that some people are just happier not having the bounds of commitment in their life. Many of the freedom oriented cards, like Fives and Jacks, are often better off not trying to make themselves fit into a social structure involving commitment and monogamy. Keep this in mind. There is nothing wrong with someone who just isn’t suited for commitment. They will have love in their lives too. It will just take on a different form than the usual.

Finally, you may find yourself strongly attracted to someone who cannot make a commitment. This again, means that you are not ready yet, or that you are one of the ‘unmarriageables’ too! Two unmarriageable people can often do well together. But wouldn’t it be that much more fun if everyone was just up front about it?

The Moon Connection

Okay, now that we have gotten that out of the way, we can start talking about the connections you share with others. Even this step, however, will cause you to take a look at yourself. I suggest that if you want to seriously look at any relationship’s connections that you get a print out from our Love Cards 3.0 software. It can list up to 25 or so of the connections between two people. And it does not miss any while integrating both the Birth Card and Planetary Ruling Card. If you do not have the software, find someone who does and have them print out for you the connection list at least. It can tell you a lot at a glance.
The Moon connection, in particular, is very important. I consider it the most important. And it is usually found there somewhere in significant relationships. It is very important because it describes who will lead the relationship. For example, I am an A♦ Planetary Ruling Card. As the Ace that I am, I always want to lead. It is my nature. I may find fascination with a woman who I am moon to, like a Q♦ or 2♦, but I would be asking for trouble if I got involved because my Ace nature would be in conflict with the natural energetic direction of the relationship. Essentially my Ace would never be happy with following someone. And the Moon connection is strong. I have experimented with this many times and watched hundreds of clients’ lives. I have never seen anyone be able to change the direction of a Moon connection. This is very important if there is only ONE Moon connection or if all the Moon connections between you go one direction. Often there is more than one. Usually when this is the case, there will be one going each way, which is a balanced situation that can work well. Even if you are a leader type, if there is at least one Moon connection where you can lead, you can be happy in a relationship where some other Moon connections have you following your mate.

The bottom line is, when Moon connections are found, do they go the direction that fits both you and your other’s personalities? People who are strongly career and ambition-driven usually need to lead whatever relationship they are in. These are usually people who are Aces or Tens or have strong Aces and Tens in their Life Spread.

The Moon connection is the most common one found in long-term relationships. It engenders a sense of intimacy and a feeling of partnership that is unequalled in other connections. It is desirable for any relationship providing that the above considerations are met.

The Saturn Connection

The next connection to understand is Saturn. Saturn is notorious for representing problems, limitations and challenges. However, many marriages and other relationships have it. And, a lot of Birth Cards have it within themselves. Capricorn and Scorpio Sun sign people usually are very Saturn to themselves. Therefore, in relationship, they will also be Saturn to the person they are with, even if no Saturn connection is present. There are other cards, like the 8♠ and 6♣, and others found in the Saturn line of the Grand Solar Spread. This includes the Q♦, 5♥, 3♠, 3♣, 9♥, 7♣ and 5♦. All these cards and a few others tend to be Saturn to themselves and will often attract Saturn relationships. So, sometimes, you just cannot avoid Saturn. And it can be very difficult, or it can be very constructive. It is all a point of view. The first thing I want to mention here though is that despite what the Love Cards book interpretations say, a Saturn connection in the Spiritual Spread is not at all like a Life Spread Saturn connection. When you meet someone who is Saturn to you in the Spiritual Spread, you will not find him or her criticizing you or putting you down. The normal Saturn expressions are just not present. They will play a helpful role in your life but not by being your critic. So, we can eliminate the Spiritual Spread Saturn connections from the list of undesirables.

Now, if you are attracted to someone who is Saturn to you in the Life Spread, it is a different story. They will play a father role in your life. They will use the ‘should’ word with you a lot. They will know all your faults and weaknesses and will have the opportunity to be your best and strongest critic. However, they will not always choose to play that role with you. They may have all this awareness of your faults but choose to just remain silent and loving. That is within their realm of choices. This is not usually the case, however. Most people with Saturn relationships are being criticized and judged constantly. Some are abused by their Saturn person. The real bottom line is that if we are attracted to someone who is Saturn to us, it means that deep inside that we do not approve of who we are. We choose a Saturn person to remind us of our shortcomings because, for whatever reason, we are unable to consciously tell ourselves the truth.
about how we feel about ourselves. A Saturn person will only treat us as we are already treating ourselves, whether or not we are conscious of it or not. They are just a reminder of how we are inside.

Some Saturn relationships can be very constructive. However, for this to be true, you must take on your Saturn person as your teacher in a conscious fashion. If you can say to them, “I want you to teach me,” all the better. A Saturn person can show you the way, literally, to a more successful, responsible you, one more deserving of recognition and praise. They can also help you with your career.

The Mars and Pluto Connection

Mars is good in small doses. Too much Mars means fighting all the time. Sex is great if you like the fight and make up kind. One Mars connection is usually enough. Two or more within the first five connections in the list are usually too much. Past-life (Spiritual Spread) Mars connections are slightly less of a problem than Life Spread Mars. They usually tend to manifest more positively. The only exception to this ‘too much Mars’ rule is when the two of you are very active physically or working together. With a common goal, or common enemy, your Mars energy can be put to constructive use. Even then, though, you need some time apart so that you do not turn on each other. Mars must be handled carefully. Remember, it is a malefic planet, like Saturn, just less malefic.

Also keep in mind that if there is a direction to the Mars connection, the person who is receiving the Mars energy is the one responsible for how the energy gets handled. This is important because this is the person that has the power to keep the Mars energy going in a positive fashion. If you are my Mars card, I am the person with the power to make it a good Mars experience, not you. I am the one who is most affected and the one who has the power to transform that stimulation into positive experiences.

Pluto is like Mars but on a much more intense level. We can become obsessed over someone who is our Pluto Card, especially in the Life Spread where it is always stronger. We can want them so badly that we become addicted to them. A Pluto person has an influence on us that often brings up our deepest feelings, often feelings that we didn’t even know we had. In a Pluto relationship we may find ourselves feeling things so abruptly and suddenly, and so deeply, that we are in completely unfamiliar territory. Because of the suddenness of it, and the fact that we never felt it before, it is natural to go into a state of blame on the Pluto person. ‘It must be them because those are not my feelings!’ The truth is they are our feelings but we are not used to having them so strong and deep. It is often sexual in nature, like Mars. But the intensity of it often brings us to the point of life and death. Without some degree of self-awareness a Pluto connection can have you doing and saying things that you never thought you would do or say. It is definitely something to look out for. Even in the Spiritual Spread, the Pluto connection can be very confronting and challenging. Like other connections, however, it can be constructive with the right amount of awareness and intention. But not many people have enough awareness to get something good from it. It is best avoided by most. There is a positive side, of course. The Pluto person is helping us, though not by their own design, to make some important changes in our life. They stimulate a death and rebirth in us, which will ultimately result in a much-needed transformation for us.

Ah, Venus and Jupiter!

Venus connections are so nice. They really are the compatibility connection above all others. You really need some of these in a relationship. Without them, you do not know what you are missing. True friendships are often built upon Venus connections. They support ease and
harmony in your relationships. You will have much in common that you can share on a day-to-
day basis. The importance of this cannot be overemphasized.

Jupiter is likewise a big boon to compatibility. It operates more on the financial side if it is
Life Spread Jupiter connection and more on a philosophical or spiritual side of life if it is a
Spiritual Spread connection. Life Spread Jupiter is great for marriages. It keeps the prosperity
flowing between you. Marriages need money and this one helps keep it flowing in. And there is
something wonderful about either wanting to naturally give to the other or have them feel that
way about you. It creates lasting bonds.

Uranus and Neptune

I have already spoken enough about Uranus connections in the books so I will not add much
here. Just to say that you might find a true friend with someone who is your Uranus card. You
may not be together much but when you are, you will usually have a good time and you will feel
like you can really be yourself with them. That is Uranus’ gift.

Neptune must be considered carefully. It is very hard to be in a relationship with a Neptune
person and not fantasize about them, romantically speaking. We all have some dreams of love
and a happy life lived together. When we meet our Neptune card, we just naturally want them to
play that fantasy role for us. We usually do not even care if they really are that person or not,
because we are so high on just being with them. We let go of our rational minds a lot in Neptune
relationships. That gives us that nice, ‘high’ feeling of being in love. But it also sets us up for a
big letdown when the dream clashes with the truth, which it generally does after a while. No
matter what we do, we cannot help but put our Neptune person on a pedestal. We see them in our
highest light, often overlooking their faults and shortcomings.

If the Neptune connection is not the first or second it adds a nice romantic aura to the
relationship that can keep the romantic feelings alive for the life of the relationship. However, if
it is the first or second connection, you should take a hard look at it. Look at it with someone else
too. That helps because we have such trouble being objective when Neptune is involved. Also
keep in mind the direction of the Neptune connections. If they are your Neptune card, you are the
one who is fantasizing. If the reverse is true, you may often feel like they do not even know you.
It is nice to be worshipped by someone else, to be told how wonderful you are over and over
again, but while this is happening, you also realize that it is conditional upon your continuing to
play the role they want you to. Like I said earlier, a little of this is okay. But too much actually
creates separation between you. Therefore it is best if it is not the first or second connection.
Fifth or higher is just about right.

The Cosmic Reward Connection

This connection does not have much of an impact on a personal level in a relationship. For
those who meet someone who is their Cosmic Reward card and are under the age of 40 or so, this
connection is more likely to manifest itself like a Pluto Card. This card has the potential to be the
‘one we were meant to be with.’ After all, it is our life-long Result Card. If this happens, though,
it is usually after age 40 or so. It usually takes any of us that long to meet the challenges of our
Pluto card. I have seen a few relationships where one was the other’s Cosmic Reward. And it
really did manifest that way. Both people felt like they were meant to meet someday and finally
did.
Past Life or Present Life?

This works especially well if you have the connection list from the Love Cards 3.0 program. Looking down the list of the first 10-15 connections, how many are Life Spread verses how many are Spiritual Spread connections? A predominance of Spiritual Spread connections tells you that this relationship has very strong past-life ties. This may be just a continuation of what went before, and the connections themselves might tell you something about what you did in the past lives that is being carried over into this one. I have seen relationships that are nearly all Spiritual Spread connections. In this case, there is a strong sense of destiny about it, both parties feel that ‘I already know you’ or ‘I have known you before’ quality. That feeling is highly desirable as far as love goes because the planet Venus is exalted in Pisces and Pisces is the ruler of these past-life affairs. On one level, we all want to feel as though the love we have for another is timeless. And Spiritual Spread connections make us feel that way.

If most of your connections are Life Spread, then this is likely a new relationship and your connections will tell you what you will have to deal with energetically. You are just starting with someone and the canvas is clear and ready for you to make a painting of your love as shared with him or her. Make it the best you can!

So, who is right for you?

Now, the only question that remains is what is the perfect relationship for you? Probably the most accurate answer is ‘the one you are with right now.’ God works in mysterious ways but always to help us. And even though our current relationship may present us with challenges, it has to be perfect for us on some levels or we would not have chosen it.

It is my intention that this article clear up a few things about how we can use the cards to look at our choices in love. I hope you got the main drift of this article, and that is that it is mostly about you and where you are at, and where you are going. The one you end up with will hopefully be a good fit for the life you have created for yourself. If you keep all these little things in mind, I guarantee that you will choose better.

Legally Speaking

Personally I despise our legal system. I avoid legal matters at all costs and it wasn’t until this year that I ever had to appear in court for a legal matter. Appealing to our legal system is a last-effort, in my opinion, only something that is done when all else fails. That having been said, there are times when we must appear in court or deal with a ‘fight’ with someone else and have to resort to our legal system. In this regard, the cards can be very helpful throughout the process. I hope to divulge some information here that may be helpful to you if you find yourself in some sort of lawsuit.

Keep in mind that our current legal system is not fair. It is also victim of human failures of all sorts on the parts of all members, including judges, attorneys and plaintiffs. But whether or not things seem fair to you or whether or not the process is polluted by less than honest participants, the ultimate outcome is always fair since that will be what is best for you, from God’s point of view. It is nearly impossible for any of us to understand the workings of destiny when we have so little information about what has gone before and why things are happening as they are. But I have learned that God’s will is always done. Combine that with my knowing that God loves us and I can say with assurance that whatever happens is ultimately for love and truth. Some of us escape the immediate karmic results of our actions. But karma is absolute and will
always be met, though that meeting may occur later, even in another lifetime. Even the reason for why someone would apparently ‘get away’ with something now and have delayed karmic retribution is in God’s hands and has a divine purpose. Thus, when approaching a legal matter, it is always better to have this in mind. Have an attitude that goes like this: I will do my best to do what I think is right. However, if things turn out against me, I will accept this as God’s will and seek to understand. Ultimately I will know why.

Now, to the cards. The first thing to consider in a legal situation you are involved in is what your basic legal karma is in this lifetime. Your Birth Card determines this and the Mars cards in your Life Spread. Some Birth Cards have great legal karma and others have poor karma in this area. The card with the best legal karma is the Q♥. The Q♥ has the K♠ as their Life Spread Mars card. A K♠ in Mars is nearly a guarantee of success in all legal undertakings, because the K♠ is the most materially powerful card in the deck. In one of the legal matters I was in recently, my opponent’s lawyer was a Q♥. I did not discover this until after the fact. Needless to say, I did not do so well in court against him. My personal legal karma as a Q♦ Birth Card is not good to begin with. I have the 3♠ in Mars. Any Three or Five, or Seven or Nine in Mars represents relatively poor legal ability. I would only be successful if I hired a powerful attorney. But with my basic legal karma being so poor, I probably would end up with a not so good attorney in spite of my best efforts. You see, our basic legal karma may be the most important deciding factor and you must keep this in mind first. Know the birthday of your opponent and their attorney. Look at their basic legal karma and yours. Who has the best card in their Life Spread Mars? That is the first thing you should look at, and the most important. Other cards that have very good or excellent legal karma are the 4♣ (who has the 8♣ in Mars), the 4♥, the 6♣ and 6♠. There are many others but these stand out as being the strongest. Know your karma and that of your opponent.

Even if your basic legal karma is not so good, you may be successful if you are doing your legal stuff in a year in which you have good legal karma. If you have an Eight, Ten, or King in Mars this year, and this is best if it is the direct card in your Birth Card spread, you have good chances of winning in a legal situation. If you have a Seven or Nine, forget it. Try to delay the matter until you have better influences. I recently talked with a client whom I advised to wait a year for a legal matter. He waited because his Mars card was a Seven. The following year he had a King in Mars. He did as I suggested and was successful. OJ Simpson displaced the Q♥ the year of his first trial. This is absolutely the best position anyone can be in if facing a legal matter. The next best would be displacing the 4♣. This is because both those positions give you a powerful, fixed card in your Mars period. OJ won even though it seemed like an open and close case. He lost his civil suit however, a couple of years later while displacing the 4♥. The 4♥ has a good card in Mars, the 8♥. However, in Saturn it has the 6♠ and 9♠. It was in his Saturn period that OJ lost his second trial. Knowing which cards you have in Mars the year you are involved in a legal matter, and the cards that your opponent has can help you know what to do and when to do it.

In the last 6 months I have made predictions about the legal affairs of Martha Stewart, Kobe Bryant and Michael Jackson. So far, all of them have come true. Where was I looking? In their yearly spreads for their Mars cards primarily.

There are other cards that can bring success in legal matters. Having a K♠ Long Range Card is about as good as it gets. One friend of mine had a K♠ Long Range and won several legal battles throughout the year. It was as if he was omnipotent! Other strong Long Range Cards will add to the possibility of your success. Difficult cards in the Long Range position or in Saturn may spell your failure, or the failure of your opponent. Look at all of these when considering how and when to act. A powerful card in Saturn can represent your overcoming of challenges.
The year you displace the $K♦$ you will have the $8♠$ in Saturn. That is a great card to have. The year you displace the $6♣$ you will have the $K♠$ in Saturn. That is even better. The $6♣$ displacement is perhaps the best of all because your Mars card will have the Underlying Card of the $10♣$ and the $8♦$ underlying your Jupiter card. These are all great cards, especially when combined with the $K♠$ in Saturn. An Eight as a Result Card indicates success, especially the $8♠$ and $8♦$. $8♦$ Result would indicate a favorable money situation that could have come from a legal matter, but not necessarily.

The information above can help you decide if you should wait or proceed. Sometimes you only have to wait a short time. Let’s say your opponent has great cards right now but their birthday is a month from now and next year they have a Seven or Nine in Mars. What should you do? Delay the proceeding until after their birthday. This will definitely act in your favor. The important cards are the ones in effect before or during the actual legal process. If they have already passed, they may not have any impact on your trial. For example, if you are currently in Jupiter, your Mars card has less impact than when you are in Mercury, Venus or Mars. The best is to have the legal process coordinate so that it occurs during your Mars period when you have great Mars cards.

How to choose your attorney

Choosing an attorney is also something that can be done more successfully using the cards as a guide. For this to be helpful you need to know your opponent’s birthday and his or her lawyer’s birthday, if possible. You probably cannot go wrong having a $Q♥$ or $4♣$ attorney. Their overall legal karma is so great that they will usually win. But that may not be enough sometimes. What if, for example, your $Q♥$ or $4♣$ attorney is having a bad year? All cards, no matter how powerful they are, will have bad years and failures. So even having a strong card for an attorney is not a definite winner. You need to know that they are at least having an average year. If they are having a great year, you can count on your success, especially if other indicators mentioned here are positive. There are other Birth Cards that have favorable legal Karma. The $8♣$ and $6♦$ are fairly good. The $6♣$, $K♣$, and $2♠$ are good as well. Just explore the Life Spreads of the various cards and you can see which cards have good Mars and Saturn Cards. There are quite a few.

Here are some other pointers. Pick an attorney who is the same Birth Card as your opponent. This works especially well if your opponent is a very disreputable person up to a lot of tricks. If your attorney is the same card, he or she will know what to do. This is what happened to ex-president Bill Clinton. Both Ken Starr and Paula Jones were the same card as he (7♣). Paula is the only one that won anything against him. Ken Starr may not have won but he definitely gave the press a run for his money and caused him innumerable troubles. This is because being the same card, both Paula Jones and Kenneth Starr knew what Clinton was capable of and how to counter it.

Another very good strategy is to pick an attorney who is the Life Spread Saturn card of your opponent or his or her attorney. If your attorney is your opponent’s Saturn card, they will instinctively know your opponent’s weaknesses. He or she will know how to attack your opponent at their weakest places. Oh, how much fun that could be, just sitting back and watching your opponent sweat under the pressure of his or her Saturn card! Everyone has a Saturn card, except the Joker. The odds are very slim that your opponent or their attorney would be a Joker (thankfully).

I hope you never have to be involved in a legal matter with someone else. Wow, wouldn’t that be great. But if you do, perhaps this information will help you deal with it better.
From the December, 2004 Newsletter

Your 2005 Astrological Outlook
By Robert Lee Camp

Astrology is an exact science. A complete chart requires your date, time and place of birth. As such it is not possible to make specific predictions for everyone born during a 30-day period of any year, which is what a lot of astrology columns attempt to do. All we know from your Sun sign, is which of the twelve Sun signs were in effect at the time of your birth. We know nothing about the other nine planets in your chart or how the planets today are affecting you because of them. Still, knowing your Sun sign, astrologers who know how can deduce some effects of the other planets on your Sun that will accompany certain kinds of experiences you are likely to have. Having said all of that, here are my predictions for your 2005 based upon your Sun sign.

**Aries** – In general, Aries people are receiving support from two powerful planets that will, on one hand, cause them to have to become more self-disciplined this year, and on the other, able to make some big changes in their life. Creative projects will require hard work but ideas brought into form will also tend to be more successful. There will be additional responsibilities with their children if they have them. Relationships will be a key area of good fortune this year. Single Aries will meet better people than usual and one could be the ‘right one’. Married Aries may find that their relationship improves and that their spouse’s financial success increases as the year progresses. Some Aries will receive support from people in higher places at their job or in their profession. The year begins with lots of energy to accomplish things, Take the initiative and be bold.

**Taurus** – As the year begins, Taurus people are experiencing benefits on the job and through co-workers. Health has probably been better than usual as well. But as the year unfolds their good fortune shifts to the relationship area, like the Aries above. Those looking for someone new may be surprised at the people who show up. Limitations and responsibilities in the areas of home and family will continue for a few months in 2005 and gradually ease up. After that, expect challenges with children and romantic involvements. Taurans born between the 1st and 6th of May are undergoing a fundamental change in who they are, what they do and how they express themselves. Life is somewhat confusing for them at this time but it results in a new personality, much more aligned with the things you have learned in life.

**Gemini** – Early Geminis, those born around the 23rd - 30th of May, are going through a tremendous change this year. The key word is to expect the unexpected, especially in the realm of career. Many of these changes are initiated just as the New Year begins so fasten your seat belt. Gemini’s born around the 11th of June are likewise facing important changes, this time in the area of personal and professional relationships. Some people in your life are playing the role of obstinate obstacle. These will fade over time but you may have to let some people go who just cannot allow you to be yourself. Single Geminis of all birthdays will enjoy this time of great enjoyment, especially romantically. A lot of good also comes from starting new creative endeavors and spending time with children.

**Cancer** – Crabs like me finally have Saturn leaving our sign, which is a huge relief. Over the past year Saturn brought us a lot of introspection and an increase in fears and worries, combined with doubts about our own self-worth. That is passing away now. However, we have to still be
cautious on the financial end of things. Try to spend some time each day appreciating just how lucky you are. Good things happening around your home should help engender these good feelings and give you things to be grateful for. This is a great time to either move to a new home or expand/remodel the one you are in now. Money coming from joint ventures and partnerships is still a keynote for this period. Keep those relationships growing and healthy for continued financial success.

**Leo** – With Saturn moving into the sign of Leo early this year, it is Leos that will be taking stock of themselves and digging in. Be careful not to work too hard or to overdo anything for the sake of ego. Normally the most self-loving sign in the zodiac, this year will find you facing feelings of inadequacy, sparking you to do more to make your mark in the world. It will inspire you to work harder and become more career conscious. Indeed, the work sector of your life will be going great. Creating writing is especially favored for the year ahead, as well as relationships with your siblings. It is also a great time to purchase a new car. You will find the perfect car at a good price. It won’t be long till you will be moving as well. Start dreaming about where you would really like to live. You may also receive some unexpected money through an inheritance or some past or existing relationship.

**Virgo** – A good or even great financial year awaits you, dear Virgos. If you are in business, consider expanding to take advantage of the favorable influence. If employed, looked for ways to get a raise or to get promoted up the financial ladder. If you have any subconscious fears about anything, try not to act on them. It is just things being played out in your psyche and they will amount to nothing if you do not react. Some relationships will seem a bit unpredictable. If you are single your love life will also seem that way. Just go with the flow and all will turn out well, though any attachments and expectations will be challenged from time to time.

**Libra** – Librans will enjoy Jupiter, the planet of all good things, transiting their sign this year. Its sort of like having a birthday that lasts a year. Make it a point to go out and be with people socially. You may find that everywhere you go, you have a great time. This is also a favored time for meeting someone new. You will also find that your finances will begin to improve as the year progresses and by next fall, you will be making more money than you have for a long time. Be open to new lines of work or new ways of approaching your work and career. Some of the best may be things you never considered. For some of you, especially those born around the 3rd of October, a strong romantic involvement will bring a lot of pleasure and fulfillment. What else could make a Libra so happy? Married Librans will continue to find great enjoyment in their children and grand children.

**Scorpio** – The scorpions will begin this year with major drive towards making more money and can expect success from those actions. Conditions are favorable for all contracts and business related communications during this initial part of the year. Speaking of career, you will find that this is the area where much of your attention is focused this year. Plans and past actions have lead you to this point where many of your dreams will be realized. Be prepared to work hard and press forward, even though at times you will feel overwhelmed by it all. Also do not let situations that develop cause you to lose faith in yourself. All will work out in the long run. The latter half of this year will bring you a boost in personal power and others will find you irresistible. Maybe one of them will be the one you have been waiting for.

**Sagittarius** – Horses will find people in high places, lending a hand and pulling them up to new heights. Friendships and groups are also very favorable this year. Allow yourself to enjoy the
social occasions that arise. You start this year with tons of energy. You might want to change your wardrobe or get involved in outdoor activities. Whatever you go after with passion will yield good results. You will be given a considerable amount of will power and self-discipline this year to make progress in your career and the achievement of your goals. Actions taken this year will culminate in your achieving some of your highest ambitions in the years that follow. Be willing to shoot for the stars. You will, at the very least, reach the Moon.

**Capricorn** – One of your favorite topics is your career. Well, how nice that most of your blessings this year are in this area. If you are starting a new one or even thinking about it, you are favored to move forward with assurance that it will turn out well. Some of you will be introduced to something new that is much better than what you have been doing. Be open and willing to follow the red carpet that is laid out for you. The problems you have been experiencing this past year in relationships is fading out but you can expect that joint ventures will be financially challenging. Focus your energies on how you can make money instead of how others can make it for you. If married, your spouse’s income may decline some while your own earning potential increase. This is just a cycle that will come and go so be willing to let it be.

**Aquarius** – Lately most Aquarians have been drawn towards the pursuit of their dreams. This is as it should be and this year brings some progress in that area, and confirmation that you are on the right track. You have, or will be given the message. Be prepared to follow. This may be the one that guides your life for many years to come. This promises to be a very special year for you, especially since you value your circle of friends so much. You may make new friends or luck into a group that fits you perfectly. What more could an Aquarian ask for? Perhaps love? Well, love is another matter. You will have to take that subject more seriously this year. A personal relationship requires more from you than usual this year. The keywords for love now are ‘being willing to work for it’ and ‘responsibility.’ That shouldn’t be too hard, just a reminder.

**Pisces** – All Pisces people are overdue for a huge shift in their lives, a fundamental change in their self-image and relationships. This is coming to all, but this year it occurs to those born before the end of February. The remainder of the birthdays will have their change in the next two years that follow. This change will be for the better in all ways, though you will have to stand up for your own uniqueness and be willing to let go of anyone who does not support the new you. If married, expect your spouse to bring more money into the family this year. All business partnerships are favored for financial success now, as they have been this past year. The only area of caution is work and health. Try not to work too hard or you will be unable to work at all. Balance your work load with periods of relaxation and be sure to eat well and take care of your body. Following that, there should be no problems.
Letters and Testimonials

Dear Fellow Students of Life,

I believe the timing of the Universe is a wondrous thing. Not always easy to swallow, though Divinely orchestrated. I was in a 24-year marriage and business partnership with a man I'm still friends with. ( I'm a 8 Clubs/he's a Ace of Clubs ). After that, I went into a relationship for 2+ years with a man who is an Ace of Diamonds. Before I met this man I briefly came across Cards of Your Destiny. Hindsight is 20/20. I had many little taps on the shoulder that this relationship wasn't the highest path to choose. I did not listen & of course we go from little taps, to medium knocks to full blown two by fours over our heads and hearts.

After the relationship ended, I was presented with the entire system, and a reading by Robert. Also, right after the relationship dismantled, I received Vol.13 -Nov. 2003 issue of The Voice of the Seven Thunders newsletter. In it is an article on "The Charming Ace of Diamonds". All the information anyone could ever want, after the Universe so beautifully granted my intention of being with this person, they showed me 'you asked for it, you got it'.

I have been studying astrology, and spiritually based teachers & their works for many years. I have never seen a system more accurate than this one. Never. With this relationship I last had, it did not end well and continues to bring deep healing & growth to myself. My guidance had been calling me for a while to find a new home location. I mustarded the strength to go for what I really wanted and moved to Victoria, Canada. Just the other day, while living here I was told that, 2 months after we ended our relationship, he got married.

So here I am, in a beautiful, safe place, great for healing, inspiring and loving, to be able to receive more information for my growth. Ah, the Universe is so amazing!

This system helps with understanding relationships that can often be very difficult to understand. I highly encourage anyone who really wants to take ownership of what & who they bring into their lives to look into this system, it is an absolute blessing.

Sincerely,
L. J. Z.

I have had four sets of these books and have done over 400 readings and have only had 3 people say that it did not sound like them. i use these books all the time and am still learning from them. They have truly changed my life and the lives of many -, many others who I have had the pleasure of reading. Thank you Mr. Camp for making such a positive difference in my life path.

Gratefully, M.T.
The Current Age of Darkness

According to the cosmology of the Vedic culture of India, we are now experiencing the effects of the Kali Yuga, also known as the Age of Darkness. There are four Yugas in all and Kali is the darkest and most difficult of all. It began in 3102 BC or around 5000 years ago just after the time in history when Lord Krishna walked the earth. Krishna, an incarnation of Lord Vishnu, came to earth at the end of the previous Yuga to rid the earth of the demons. According to ancient literature, Vishnu always incarnates at the end of each age to rid the planet of the demons. During Krishna's life there was a great battle, described in the book, The Mahabharata, in which millions upon millions of men were killed. It was shortly after that battle that the Kali Yuga began.

Our current age of Kali was foretold and described in detail in several ancient texts and their descriptions were accurate. The overshadowing nature of the Kali Yuga is a lack of righteousness and dharma and the prevalence of 'adharma' or ill conduct. Basically it means a lack of morality and truth and a preponderance of lust, greed and amorality. The ways this immorality can be expressed are nearly limitless but we see it today as commonplace. Some examples are:

1. Governments bought and controlled by financial interests.
2. Stealing and theft on a grand scale.
3. Sexual misconduct of all kinds, including rape, incest and others.
4. Family members killing each other over money and property.
5. Justification of all kinds of immoral acts.
6. Lack of honor, loyalty, charity and other noble traits.

Tens of thousands of years ago, accurate descriptions of the coming Kali Yuga were given:

Vivid descriptions of the Kali Yuga are found in the ancient Indian texts, especially the Vishnu Purana. A terrible picture is painted of Kali Yuga, which is considered to be the age of decline and degeneration of human values. People in the Kali Yuga are seen to be wicked, quarrelsome and beggar-like. They also eat indiscriminately, much like pigs and live in cities filled with smoke and thieves. It is truly the age of darkness, where the people are oppressed by their kings and by the ravages of war, calamities, diseases, fatigues and anger. There is distress, anxiety, hunger and fear...

According to the Vishnu Purana, one of the most ancient Indian texts, during the Kali Yuga, "property confers rank, wealth buys virtue, passion the only bond between husband and wife, sex the only means of enjoyment, falsehood the source of success and ceremonial trappings are confused with reality".

The lifespan of men and women is different in the different ages. The Puranas indicate that in Krita or Satya Yuga (the Golden Age) the average life-span is 100,000 years;

In Treta Yuga (Silver age) it dropped to 10,000 years;

In Dwapara Yuga (Bronze age) it further dropped to 1,000 years.

At the beginning of Kali Yuga (Iron age) it came down to a mere 100 years and
At the end of Kali Yuga it could be expected to last no more than say, 22 years.

Keep in mind that these things were written many thousands of years before this age actually began. How accurate these descriptions are! Also, keep in mind that there are three other ages, all of which are much better than the Kali. Fortunately the Kali Yuga is the shortest age of the four.

Basically, in this age, greed and lust predominate and we see a sort of negative evolution of these into lower and lower forms each year. We experience a continuous decay of morality, higher values, and goodness and continuous growth of evil deeds on all levels.

I was reading an article written by a man in 1870. In it, he describes the decay of our society. He said, our government is being bought and paid for by special interests, etc. Everything he said is exactly what one would say about our situation today. So, what is a unique quality of the Kali Yuga is that at any time in the Yuga, we will experience this sense of decay of righteousness and morality on a grand scale. Now, here is the kicker: The Kali Yuga will last another 427,000 years, as it is 432,000 years long.

It has been true for the last 5,000 years and it will be true 20,000 and even 200,000 years from now. People alive at any given time in this age will say, "These are dark times when people do atrocious things to each other. And, it is getting worse."

This is really what is experienced in this age, a continual sense of 'things are getting worse.' In my own lifetime, I can say that things have gotten worse and worse. Not to me personally, but to our society. I do not remember a time when the world at large is getting better. Nowadays, instead of Leave it to Beaver we have The Osbournes. If you do not define that as decay, I do not know what would qualify. In our country, our education is getting worse each year. There seems to be more and more dishonesty in government and businesses, more theft, rape, incest, pornography and the people in society that we hold as role models, such as politicians and movie stars, seem to act out more and more in dishonorable ways. Now we have serial killers who are as popular as politicians and movie stars. I would assume that anything our government is doing, whether here or internationally, is all based upon greed and the lust for power. In other words, there are no higher values that we are making decisions upon. There really isn't anyone around to hold up as a positive role model these days. I imagine the same will be said a hundred years from now, and thousands of years from now.

During the past 20 years or so a lot of people got excited about the coming Age of Aquarius. There was a happy sense that things would get better, somehow because the Age of Aquarius is somehow better than the Age of Pisces from which it evolved. Every astrological age, each of which lasts 2,000 years, has its unique characteristics. However, during the Age of Kali, all of these astronomical ages will be expressed in the most negative fashion imaginable. Now in the Age of Aquarius, instead of people doing horrible things to each other in the name of religion (Pisces), we have people doing it in Aquarian ways, such as high technology, the internet, etc. You might as well expect the worse expression of Aquarius: that is what we will get. Well, here we are. We are in the Aquarian Age now. Has anything improved?

I say expect more of the same because it has been my experience that it is much better to be aware of the real nature of the world around us as opposed to holding some dreamy expectation that all of a sudden people in the world are all going to miraculously wake up and start acting better. Some would say I hold a negative perspective on the world but actually I am an optimist. I just want to make sure that my optimism has a firm foundation in reality. Optimism only meets with success when it is grounded in reality. Otherwise it is a fantasy that will someday cause much pain and suffering. Having accepted the conditions of the world I am living in, I can now make the best of it.
I believe it is very important to those on the spiritual path these days to realize that they are the minority in the extreme. I do not know what the exact numbers are, probably no one could know. But those who are conscious and living a life based upon principles and morality are the rare exception today in this age of darkness. Everything we see today in the news is all a reflection of the consciousness of the majority. Those who are ‘in the world, but not of it’ are few and far between and do not dictate the rules of society. One must realize that all the governments, media and societies of all countries are affected. All are being led by people whose main motivations are fear, greed, and lust for money and power. And this is how it will remain.

And that is not the end of the story. The Kali Yuga is regarded by enlightened masters to be the best possible time to incarnate. The reason for this is because under such circumstances, an individual has a greater possibility of evolving and attaining enlightenment. Thus, in this age, we find some individuals who become enlightened. Of course, many fall. Like the many teachers and gurus who have succumbed to the lure of power, sex and money, many climb high only to fall back. But that is also part of the spiritual path. We must all be lead into our own temptations and come to terms with them before we can finally be set free.

This is considered a special time to be born, a precious time to be here. And just the fact that you and I are here now is an indication of a spiritual favor being bestowed upon us. If we can realize how precious our time here really is, we can remain more focused on self-development and less caught up in the alluring drama of the illusion (Maya). This is the time of the greatest illusion and thus, the greatest danger. But it is also the time of the greatest opportunity.

When Kali ends we go directly to the highest age of all, The Satya Yuga or Age of Light. There will be nothing but purity and dharma in that age. But we must keep in mind that this age is going to be around for a long time. You and I will incarnate again and again in this age, unless and until we reach personal enlightenment and forgo the need to incarnate again. So I say lets make the best of it while we are here. You must admit we do live in interesting times!

The Karma Cards In-Depth

The more I study the Karma Cards, the more I see that they are so powerful in what they can tell us about ourselves. In a way, I feel like I have overlooked them for so long. Lately, though, I find myself observing them and watching how their characteristics show up in everyone I meet. In astrology there are some important ‘points in the sky’ called the lunar nodes. Some people have contacted me suggesting that the nodes perform a similar function as the Karma Cards. The lunar nodes do have to do with past-life Karma and present life directions. But they are not the same. What’s more, everyone, every birthday, has lunar nodes. But in the cards, there are seven cards that do not have two Karma Cards that perform the function I will discuss here. Those are the three Fixed Cards (8♣, J♥ and K♠) and the four, Semi-Fixed Cards (A♣, 2♥, 7♦ and 9♥). Their particular functions are different too. Though each of us has two lunar nodes, which describe a past-life imbalance that will be rectified over the period of a lifetime, they both together would, at best, only describe certain negative issues that need to be made positive. The Karma Cards, however, describe both a weak issue and a positive trait, something the lunar nodes do not.

Let’s take a deeper look at these mysterious Karma Cards. They have much to teach us. In some ways, they might be the most important indicators among the cards that tell us about ourselves. When I meet someone new and I have the opportunity to tell them something about themselves, I now think of their Karma Cards before I speak. Recently I met a highly successful businessman, a Capricorn 7♠. I knew he had a 4♦ Planetary Ruling Card so I started by saying,
“You are a very good organizer, especially with business and money. In some ways, you help others provide the foundation for a good or successful business to others. You are extremely practical and know how to get things done.” He and his friends who were there were very impressed because I had just described exactly the kind of work he does. Among other things, he is a ‘turn-around’ man who takes companies who are ailing and puts them back on the road to success. He also makes startup companies more successful with his natural business acumen and experience. But I decided to take it one step deeper and say something more personal. So, I looked at him and said, “At times you can be too powerful. You have had to deal with a tendency towards arrogance in your dealings with others. You sometimes have trouble seeing others’ points of view.” This caused him to become very quiet, but I could tell that I had hit a bulls-eye. After that, he did not doubt that this card system had something to it. That was something that no one could know on a casual meeting. In that instance I was referring to his first Karma Card, the K♦.

Our first Karma Card always represents a quality or set of characteristics that we express negatively and learn to express more positively over the course of our life. Usually it takes us a while to get it right. And we will find that we express it negatively more often than positively until we become aware of it and work on it. It is easy to interpret the first Karma Card. Just look at it in its negative expression and there you have it. Its not that we always express it negatively, we just tend to. With awareness, we can turn it around. Its actually not that difficult to do. But for most of us, the habitual tendency to express the qualities of our first Karma Card negatively are unconscious. We just do it but do not see ourselves doing it. Therefore you can assume that most people you meet will still be doing it and you will rarely be wrong. However, those you meet who are truly practicing self-awareness and self-responsibility have a higher chance of expressing their first Karma Card in a positive fashion.

The second Karma Card comes to us like a gift from the past. We just naturally, and usually unconsciously, tend to express that card on its highest side. It is something that we do easily in a positive way, which is nice because it is always good to have something that we do well that also tends to help others. And this is how the second Karma Card is usually expressed. It is generally expressed in a balanced and helpful way for the benefit of others.

Knowing just what you have read so far, you could easily do a pretty interesting reading for anyone you meet just by explaining the meaning of their Karma Cards. I have done this many times and it is quite amazing how it pegs people and some of their deepest issues. So lets explore some of the particular Karma Cards to see how they show up in real life.

Every number and suit combined together represents something that can be expressed either positively or negatively. Actually it is a matter of vibration. When I say positive what I am actually saying is that it is being expressed in a higher manner, or more from a place of love as opposed to fear. Negative is simply an expression from fear. Fear is an illusion and so negative expressions are also illusions. As such, they produce confusing results, and a tendency to perpetuate the negative condition.

Take the number Three for example. Positively it is creativity, an active process of getting new idea upon new idea, always adding to what is there and giving the end result a new wrinkle. It is also self-expression, the desire to share what and who we are with the world. Negatively the Three is worry, indecision, uncertainty and an unending list of questions. Will there be enough? Must I choose or can I have both at the same time? Am I safe? What shall I do next? Now, who are the cards that have a negative Three influence? These are the ones that have a Three as a first Karma Card, the Q♣, Q♦, J♦ and K♦. These cards will express the negative side of their Karma Card until they realize the tendency and bring conscious awareness to that department of their lives. On the flip side we have the A♥, 5♦, 6♦ and 6♥ who get the positive side of their Three Karma Card. These people may not seem to have any reason to be creative in a positive way, but
they are. And they can be just as successful as artists, inventors and authors as any Three Birth Card person since this is their gift.

The Aces are an interesting lot. That is true mostly because one of them is the A♠, which has such an important distinction. Being the primary death card, this creates the fear that we find in 2♣ people. For them, the A♠ is their first Karma Card. It is an underlying fear of death, transformation, being alone, or the unknown that is responsible for some of the psychotic behavior associated with 2♣ people. Honestly I do not meet that many 2♣ who have such extreme behavior. But the fear seems to be present in all to one degree or the other. The 7♥ has the A♠ as a second Karma Card. For them, transformation comes easily. The Aces are primarily concerned with self. Since the 3♥ person has the A♥ as a first Karma Card, their weakness is self-love, or finding a sense of safety within themselves. The A♥ in turn, has the A♦ as its first Karma Card. They must find their own value or worth if they are to find contentment and will seek it outwardly through material accomplishment until they realize that it is not found there.

Having a two as a first Karma Card usually means the individual needs to learn the value of cooperation and partnership in order to find success and balance. The cards that have these include the K♥ (2♣), K♣ (2♠) and A♦ (2♦). In one way or the other these three cards need to learn to work with others to find their highest success. For the A♦ it is sort of obvious since Aces tend to be loners. The K♥ has more to learn about mental cooperation as well as avoiding some of the argumentative and fear based thinking of the 2♣. The K♣ is learning how to be successful in working partnerships or shared living situations.

A four as a first Karma Card indicates a need to pay attention to practical matters and matters of security and stability. In some cases, the emphasis must be adjusted the other direction. The 10♠, 6♥, 5♥ and 4♥ each have fours as their first Karma Card. Among them, the 5♥ is the one that really must develop an appreciation for stability and security, especially with regards to money as their first Karma Card is the 4♦. The 10♠ must realize the value of family and marriage (4♥) as opposed their work. The 6♥ must learn the importance of routine and organization (4♣) while the 4♥ is one might be overemphasizing the security thing. For them I believe the challenge is to let go of some of their security stuff instead of developing it.

Fives mean expansion from the stability of the four. The cards that have a Five as their first Karma Card must learn to keep exploring new avenues and realms lest their life become routine and dead. Two of the cards that have fives as first Karma Cards are fours, the 4♣ and 4♦. For them, it is obvious that they need to keep moving away from structure to some degree and be willing to take some risks in order to be in balance. The 5♣ is already so freedom loving, you would think that they are the ones least needing a five as a first Karma Card. But in fact they have the 5♥. But sometimes these Karma Cards are there for us to look at from the opposite point of view. I believe for the 5♣ this is true as I think their 5♥ first Karma Card tells them that they need to look at such an overpowering need for freedom that it often precludes any significant relationships in their life. In their case, their restlessness emotionally (5♥) is the weakness itself. The 3♣ has the 5♦ as its first Karma Card. They have to deal with a constant state of dissatisfaction and fears of not having enough money as a result.

Six is a number of responsibility. Positively expressed it is person who considers their actions and their effects upon others. When they see that they have caused harm or inconvenience to others, they will step forward, admit the fault and do whatever they must to make amends. It will be natural for them to be responsible in their given area, determined by their suit. This group includes the 4♣, 9♣, 8♠ and 9♠. Interesting, isn’t it? All of these cards have a Six second Karma Card. How about those who have a weak sense of responsibility? Who are the cards that have to work on this issue to get it right? That would be the 3♦, 2♦, 3♠ and
Another interesting group, don’t you think? Especially when you notice how we have two Twos and Two Threes of only two suits. Now, another manifestation of a negative responsibility issue would be to make too big a deal of it. For example I know a 2♠ guy who is actually too responsible at work, so much so that his health suffers from it. But he also has trouble being on time for things.

Sevens are the numbers of spiritual freedom, or freedom from earthly attachments. Those having a seven as a first Karma Card must learn this lesson until they get it right. They include the A♠ (7♥), 1♠ (7♠) and 8♥ (7♠). These cards all need to learn faith as their first Karma Card tends to represent an inner fear that drives them to unwanted behavior patterns. The suit of the seven will tell you what area those fears are about.

A similar situation exists for those with a nine as their first Karma Card. The nine in this context usually means having to learn how to let go. Here we have the 6♣ (9♣), 5♠ (9♦) and 6♠ (9♠). Interesting that two of them have Karma Cards in the same suit as the Birth Card. There will be disappointments in the lives of each of these cards according to the suit of their nine first Karma Card until they learn to let go of whatever it is they are holding on to. I would imagine that among these, the 6♠ has the hardest row to hoe as the 9♠ is such a strong card.

All the cards that have an Eight or a Queen or King as their first Karma Card will have a strong possibility of arrogance or being too strong with others. They can be too powerful, dominating, or in rare cases, cannot find their own power. Think about it. This includes the following cards: 6♣, 7♠, 8♠, 9♣, 7♥, 7♣, 8♠, 9♦, 10♦, and 9♠. Looking at this list, there are two of these who are Eights, the 8♦ and 8♠. For them, there is a double-indicator. They are already power cards and they also have a power, arrogance or domination issue from their first Karma Card. But what about the cards that have one of these power cards as their second Karma Card? This list includes the 7♠, K♣, Q♠, 3♥, 3♦, 10♣, 10♠, 2♣, 3♣, and 2♠. These cards are naturally comfortable with leadership, responsibility and power. They are usually given power as a natural course of life and tend to handle it well. Interesting that two of these cards are also on the list of negative power Karma Cards, the 10♦ and 7♠. In fact, both the Karma Cards of the 7♠ are Eights, one positive and one negative. And both Karma Cards of the 10♦ are Queens, one positive and one negatively expressed. In these cases, the power is expressed positively in one area and negative in another.

There are two face cards that stand out as having peculiar characteristics when they are the first Karma Card. They are the Queen and King of Hearts. Together these are the mother and father cards in the deck respectively. The 9♣ has the K♥ as its first Karma Card. What this usually manifests as is someone who is heavy handed in the home, someone who must have everything go their way. Because it is a heart, this will be predominately in the home and with regards to the children. Sometimes they just have lots of difficulty with children or with having children. It is the same arrogance we have with the others listed before but focused mainly on the home or in regards to how the children are raised, etc. The 9♠ has the Q♥ first Karma Card. Besides being a ‘heavy’ parenting card, like the K♥, the Q♥ has the distinction of being the ‘Sex Card.’ Thus, many 9♠ have sexual addictions. They also have some challenges around children, just as the 9♣ does. For the most sexually and romantically active 9♣, children often show up as a means to bring their lives back into balance.

People with tens as the first Karma Card need to learn to stop overdoing things or obsessing in one area or another. These include the 5♠ (10♥), 4♠ (10♥), Q♠ (10♣) and Q♥ (10♠). Each of these will tend to overdo things in their life according to the suit of their first Karma Card. For example, the Q♥ will have workaholic tendencies while the 5♠ will be too involved in their social life. All will need to find balance.
Those with Jacks as first Karma Cards usually have to deal with the negative expression of the Jack as a life lesson. This can include dishonesty but also includes an overemphasis on their personal freedom. The cards in this group include the 10♣ (J♠), 10♥ (J♣) and J♣ (J♦). When the Jack is a second Karma Card it gives an abundance of creativity. The fortunate cards that have this are the 7♣, 3♠ and J♦. You can see why the 3♠ is called the Artist Card. Not only is the 3♠ artist in itself but it has the J♦ as its second Karma Card.

That pretty much sums up the Karma Cards but one last thing I would like to mention is that many cards have their first or second Karma Card in their Life Spread. Here are some of them.

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<th>Card</th>
<th>Karma Card</th>
<th>1st or 2nd?</th>
<th>Position in Life Spread</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K♣</td>
<td>2♠</td>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Jupiter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3♠</td>
<td>5♠</td>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Jupiter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Q♦</td>
<td>9♠</td>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Cosmic Reward</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A♠</td>
<td>7♥</td>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Mercury</td>
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<tr>
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<td>7♣</td>
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<td>Vertical Saturn</td>
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<td>9♠</td>
<td>K♥</td>
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<td>6♥</td>
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<td>5♠</td>
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<td>6♦</td>
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<td>2nd</td>
<td>Cosmic Lesson</td>
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When this occurs, the Karma Card is emphasized in their charts and it definitely adds more meaning to it. For example, the K♣ has the 2♠ as its first Karma Card. They must learn partnership and how to make compromises in working relationships. The fact that this is also their Jupiter card in their Life Spread means that they will also benefit tremendously from those partnerships.

If you have followed the gist of this article you should now be well-equipped to interpret both your own Karma Cards as well as those of others. They offer insight into some of our most important life lessons and blessings.
The Earthquake Card

On Sunday, December 26th 2004 at 7:58:53 AM local time, a 9.0 magnitude earthquake struck off the coast of Indonesia 18.6 miles deep in the ocean. Hitting mostly rural areas with little or no advanced communications, the residents had no warning of the tsunamis that were approaching. Several large waves hit in succession, preceded by a recession of the water on the coastline. Many people, seeing the water recede, ran out to explore the beach, not knowing that a large tidal wave was approaching. The death toll has topped 100,000 people to date and is likely to double before the final count is in. The hardest hit were Indonesia and Sri Lanka though the entire area was affected. Most of the deaths were caused by the debris hitting people in the water. Entire families were wiped out. Entire businesses and ways of making a living are gone. Thailand, for example, completely lost its tourism industry, the largest part which was people visiting their beautiful islands, which are now littered with dead bodies and debris. In a nutshell, lives and ways of life have been changed forever in some areas.

This earthquake occurred on a double-Five day, a 5♥ with a 5♠ Planetary Ruling Card. What is astonishing is that a similar earthquake hit last year on the same day, one that killed 31,000 people in the area of Iran. Another hit that day out in the ocean with no reported fatalities. When I think about Fives I don’t usually think earthquakes or tidal waves. But I do think about the earth’s crust and double Five like this could mean a dramatic shift. I also can relate the 5♥ to water since I associate Hearts with that element. When I did research a few years back on the space shuttle astronauts that died, I noticed that the greater percentage of them had Fives in prominent positions. Several had the 5♠. Since that time I have been paying more attention to Fives as symbols for the transition we make from this life to the next. From that point of view it is not surprising that a double Five day could have such an impact. Besides the obvious loss of life, when we look at what occurred we can see that there was a tremendous change. It is speculated that this event may even change the leadership of certain countries. It ultimately may affect us all.

I know someone born on December 26th. Actually I have met several. But this one stands out because her life is what I would call a classic, or extreme, example. Her particular life seems to be like a series of ongoing earthquakes – basically from one upheaval to the next. I have known her for over five years and the only thing consistent in her life is the ongoing disasters and upheavals that are the fabric of her life. Perhaps you know someone born on this birthday. I would like to meet more of them to see how much this pattern is reflected in their lives. One thing is for certain – we should pay more attention to these fives when they show up in our spreads. They may warn us of impending changes that are more dramatic than we would usually imagine. I would say especially a 5♠. This is interesting because that is the card I displace after my next birthday. I am fastening my seat belt as I speak!
Good Judgment

Our minds are wonderful and complex things. They are like powerful computers that make fine distinctions about everything in our life. One amazing ability we possess through our minds is that of making judgments. To make a judgment about something is to distinguish it and categorize it. This ability allows us to distinguish something and its relationship to us. It is very useful and necessary. To distinguish between what is good for us and what is not, what is healthy and what is not, and to put everything in our life into an appropriate category is all the function of using judgment. Each decision in our life is based upon some judgment we make. Each choice we make utilizes our ability to judge and make distinctions. When you realize for a moment that our entire life is nothing but a series of choices, you start to understand the power and importance of our ability to judge and discern. But the power of judgment can be corrupted through not acknowledging and being aware of our feelings. This article is about maximizing our power of judgment so that our judgments help us, not hinder.

I learned to fly airplanes about five years ago. Successfully flying an airplane requires constant use of judgment. Weather is a big factor. So, if I were to go out to fly one day, the first judgment I must make is about whether or not it is safe to fly with the current and upcoming weather. I would also check in on my own condition, physical and emotional, to make sure I was fit to fly safely. I would then inspect my aircraft and make a decision as to whether or not it was fit to fly safely. In planning the intended flight I would make decisions as to where to go first, what flight path to follow, whether or not I would need to have radio contact, and a host of other factors. All of this is considered before stepping into the cockpit. While taxiing and taking off, my judgment ability is used constantly as I make small corrections in apply the throttle, flaps, ailerons, and rudder. But the most important judgments were made before I even took off. An old saying among pilots is that all accidents, and deaths, are caused by bad judgment. Assessing the situation from beginning to end is the most important thing a pilot does. And it often will make the difference between life or death. One famous example was that of John F. Kennedy Jr. who made a bad judgment call to fly that fateful night. The conditions that night far exceeded his ability or experience and it cost him his life.

Likewise, all the important decisions in our life are arrived at through our process of judgment. All the little ones too, for that matter. But think, for a moment, about how important your ability to make good judgments is. In many ways, it is the difference between your happiness and unhappiness, and sometimes between life and death. Knowing this, it may be helpful to understand how your process of judgment works and how to make sure it is operating towards your good all the time.

Bad Information Equals Bad Judgment

This powerful facility that we have, the power of judgment, is one of the mind. The mind is more like a big computer than most people realize. Making good judgments and good assessments requires several important elements as a result. First of all, the mind must have good information upon which to make its judgments. If the information coming in is faulty it will result in a determination that is also faulty. The old saying in the computer industry is ‘garbage in, garbage out.’ Programmers know more than anyone that what goes in must be correct and accurate. As human beings we are not so careful. We allow a lot of information to go into our
minds that is inaccurate. We seldom stop to verify its accuracy or authenticity. For example, you might hear a rumor about someone from one of your friends. Rumors are usually very inaccurate by their very nature. Each person who hears it, translates it into what they think it means and then relays this new version to the next person. By the time a rumor has been to four people it is likely to be completely off the mark. But we usually assume that rumors are accurate and rarely test the authenticity.

Another area where we just ‘take-in’ information without judging its validity or accuracy is through books, publications and public speakers. If we read a book, we just assume that the author must know what he or she is talking about. Somewhere in the back of our minds there is this rationale that says, ‘It takes a lot to get published. Only those whose information has passed rigorous testing ever get into print. Therefore, it is safe to assume that a book in print is good information.’ However, this is very far from the truth. Many books are published that are full of personal prejudice, inaccurate innuendo and information, and flat-out false statements. We tend to just take it in. The same happens when reading magazines, newspapers and hearing people speak in public. What this results in is a lot of confusion in our minds as we hear conflicting stories from different sources. Plus, if we have only been exposed to one line of thought on a subject and took that to be the truth, it could have been inaccurate. As humans in today’s society, we need to be more careful about testing information that is given to us. After all, we are making important decisions for our lives with it. All rumors should be ignored until proven. How many people’s lives have been ruined over rumors? Always question the source of the information offered to you. Does the person offering it have a personal motive? Usually, the answer is yes.

Judgments or Judgmental?

The other extremely important aspect of making judgments is that our minds need to be free of emotion. If we are emotionally upset, all of our mental facilities are impaired. But our judgment facility is particularly impaired. A common example is when someone in our life has hurt us or made us angry. When this happens, the judgment quality of our mind becomes ‘judgmental.’ Now, our wonderful mind is putting labels on this other person. We call them names and say bad things about them. We label them as bad in many ways. We put them into the ‘bad’ category. What we don’t see is how, in that situation, we have made judgments from a negative emotional state. We are upset. This upset-ness is fueling all the negativity that we are now directing onto the person. All the judgments we make under such a state of mind are false. Period. Being judgmental is an inaccuracy by its very definition.

This process of being judgmental is a defense mechanism. Inside we are simply hurt or afraid. The mind is frantically trying to help us feel better so it comes up with negative judgments. It is also doing this in order to maintain domination of your awareness. If you were to feel the feelings behind the judgments, the mind and its judgments would not be necessary. As a rule, the mind does not want to relinquish its monopoly on your awareness. But, behind all judgmental states of mind lie hurt feelings and raw emotion. The mind goes crazy trying to find a solution. But everything it comes up with, and the decisions that follow, are false. And the choices made under such a state of mind will only lead to more confusion, anger, hatred, fear, jealousy, etc.

Some people have direct links between their minds and emotions. As an astrologer, I see this frequently. For these people it is even more of a factor. But all of us need to be aware. The sad truth is that in today’s society most of us are disconnected from our feeling side. Most people are not even aware they are upset. For this reason, the world today is full of people fighting with each other, throwing out judgments left and right, and perpetuating their sense of aloneness in the world. Each day you and I are faced with such situations. Just remember that our life
depends on our good choices. Be willing to check into your feelings before making important decisions in your life. Sometimes the real need is just to explore the feelings that lie beneath all the critical judgments and the choices that come from them.

If you take the time to explore your feelings when an urge to make judgments about someone comes over you, you will eventually get to the source of the need, which is always a feeling that we do not want to feel. Allowing ourselves to feel that feeling will bring truth into the situation. And as a result, our judgments will not be polluted by the emotional forces that cause problems. This is a powerful technique for having a continued state of improvement in our lives. Less and less we will make decisions based upon false judgments and more and more our choices will lead us to light, love and more of everything we dream of.

The Highest Path and the Ace of Spades

There is a divine intention behind the creation of the deck of cards. That intention is purely spiritual in nature. Though the cards can be used for mundane matters quite effectively, their real intention is to help each of us evolve in matters of self-understanding and self-love. Their true intention is personal transformation. For many others, and me the cards have become our ally in the path to enlightenment. I feel that I must define some of these words, just to clarify. Spiritual means ‘of the spirit.’ The spirit is that energy within us that lies at the core of our being. It is the part that continues on when our physical body completes its earthly cycle. That spirit is directly linked to the creator of all, by whatever name you may call it. And to be spiritual means to be turned inwards towards that divine source where we are all one. Naturally then, to be spiritual means to be turning our attention away from things of the world. One cannot be focused on both at the same time. This means to cease trying to change the external circumstances in which we find ourselves and instead explore the causes that may have gotten us there. It means to be ‘of the spirit; as opposed to ‘of the world’ and it means to be at the source of things in our life rather than at its effect.

Using the cards in their highest intended way is to use them to identify our personal and other issues. The cards can reflect who we are being in this lifetime. They can help us see who we are and help us recognize the patterns of expression that we are generally bound by due to our karma from past lives. Each card represents a package of particular traits, some good and others negative. Each card has a high and low expression. Each card has a beautiful expression of when that card is being expressed from love and unlimited abundance and each card has a negative expression that would be fear-based or based in a sense of lack. There is no good card or bad card in the deck. Any card can be expressed on any number of levels of being. By studying our cards and here I mean not only our Birth Card and Planetary Ruling Card but also the cards in our spreads and how we interact and behave under their influences, we come to know ourselves. We come to see in what areas we tend to express our cards positively and negatively. It doesn’t take too long for each of us to realize that we have areas of strength and areas of weakness. The cards help us identify these very specifically. That alone is priceless. The cards can do what years of therapy might never accomplish.

You may feel bound by your cards to some degree. You may feel encumbered by them. You may, as many people often do, feel powerless in the face of the cards that govern your life. This is a step that most of us go through when we realize just how accurate they are. But it is only a stage and it must be transcended at some point. The cards were never intended to make you a victim. People who tend to see the causes of their problems as things outside themselves will do the same with the cards. But continued use and study will eventually help them come to the next
stage, where they see the cards merely as reflections of their choices. Once they see that it is their choices that define the positive or negative expression of their cards, they can rise up to whatever level they desire, simply by making different choices. This is another powerful spiritual aspect to this amazing system handed down to us by the Magi of old.

To sum it all up, the cards by their very nature, are meant to bring us to a place of more self-realization. When I use the word self, it is very intentional here. The cards will lead each of us to the place where we discover that we are the source of both the positive and negative in our life. To make the transformation from blame (making the source external) to ownership and empowerment is what they are all about.

The one card in the deck that has always been the symbol of the ancient mysteries and teachings is the Ace of Spades. And this is the card that is also the symbol for the entire science of the cards. It has been regarded as a symbol of death and of secrets. It is the only ace in the deck that is always distinguished by being larger and more prominent than the others. It is the symbol for the Order of the Magi and for all the esoteric sciences and knowledge. And in our work with the cards it is the symbol for transformation, death and rebirth.

This symbol holds much meaning for each of us, which we will explore here. First of all this card is an Ace, so it stands alone. This tells us that the process of transformation is a lonely one and one that we must do by ourselves. As one of my favorite songs by Sting goes:

“Men go crazy in congregations, they only get better one by one.”

The process of transformation is one that only we can do by ourselves. We may receive support from others but ultimately the choice to do it is ours. It is also a choice to stop looking outside for the answers and to go within. The Ace of Spades means secrets. When we are ready to make a spiritual transformation, we must explore our secrets, those that lie within us. Our attention is focused inwards now, not towards the external things in our life.

The Ace of Spades is an acorn. The acorn must pass through the death of winter in order to be reborn in the spring. Much like a caterpillar who gives up all external activity to move into its cocoon, the Acorn seems completely lifeless as it passes through the winter, the season of death. But during this season of death, something is happening inside the acorn and the cocoon, secret things, mysterious things. A transformation is taking place that is vital for the continuation of life. Many seeds will not germinate unless they pass through the winter. So it is with each of us that when we are ready to make an important transformation in our life, we must withdraw all our attention from worldly matters and go within. We must pass through our own season of death so that subtle but powerful processes may take place, so that we can transform. The caterpillar goes from the ground-based existence they are born in to the limitless form of the butterfly, which can soar to the heavens. Likewise the acorn eventually becomes a tall tree with limbs reaching up to the heavens. This is what happens to us as well. In each transformation we make, we leave behind limitations that have bound us.
A Missing Card Link

This article is about a missing piece in the interpretation of the cards. It is not about THE missing link, just an important link that has recently come to light. It has been there all the time, but now can be distinguished out and used by all. This concept is more on the intermediate to advanced level and will be very useful to all who are doing readings for themselves or professionally. However, it should benefit students of all levels and even more as a student progresses along in their understanding.

I want to preface this information by reminding all that the science of the cards is a mystical, esoteric science. Its intent is to enlighten, not entertain. This science was designed for a higher purpose, and that purpose is the removal of illusion and the attainment of the highest inner truth. Enlightenment is an easy word to say but hard to live. It causes us to do the opposite of what the society teaches us, things like facing pain instead of running away from it, welcoming challenges instead of avoiding them and looking for answers within instead of trying to change others or our external situation. So, keep this in mind as you read this article.

First of all, you must realize that each of us has a unique karmic set. Your karmic set is the combined karma from your past that causes you to attract certain things and react to certain situations in a pre-programmed way. There is also an external element to karma in that some external situations will occur on behalf of your past actions. These events will be intimately linked to your karmic way of reacting and perceiving the world. As you and I experience our karma, we have repeated opportunities to become more aware. We become aware of our misperceptions and aware of our pre-programmed ways of reacting to the world and events in our lives.

The strength of your cards and planets

Your birthday identifies you as a certain Birth Card and Planetary Ruling Card and also a specific natal astrological chart, which also requires your time and place of birth to be complete. Hidden within your cards and natal chart are specific strengths and weaknesses. A thorough study of your personal significators, your Life Spread, and your natal chart can tell you what planets and cards in your Life Spread are most powerful and which are weakest. This information is then very important in making an accurate interpretation of your Yearly Spread. I will give a few examples to explain how this works.

I have noticed for a long time that my Mars period of the year is my most successful. This is a little unusual since my Mars card in my Life Spread is the 3♠. One would first assume that my Jupiter period would be the best since Jupiter is considered the most fortunate planet astrologically speaking. However, in my natal chart, my Mars is well aspected and in a very powerful position. I believe this explains my good fortune in my Mars period each year. Because, in this case my Mars is so powerful, it helps any cards that appear in my Mars period each year. It also helps my Mars day of the week. I noticed years back that I would win more billiard tournaments on my Mars day of the week than any other day of the week. The Mars card in my Life Spread is the 3♠, which is not a powerful card. But in my particular case, the astrological power of my natal Mars seems to make the difference.

Jupiter in my natal chart is also well aspected and powerful. However, my Jupiter card in my Life Spread is the 9♥. The 9♥ is good in Jupiter but not a powerful card to begin with. Jupiter makes bad cards better but it doesn’t completely remove the lack of power in the card. A 9♥ is good at letting go, but it is not good at acquiring. Contrast that with an 8♣ who has the 10♦ in Jupiter, or the 6♣ who has the 8♦ in Jupiter. Those Birth Cards have much more
fortunate Jupiter cards than mine. Thus, my Jupiter period each year and each week benefits from my natal Jupiter being well placed and well aspected, but loses some from being a 9♥, at least on the material level. Spiritually, of course, 9♥ in Jupiter is very good.

Someone like an 8♣ or 6♣ is very likely to have a good Jupiter period each year, unless however, their natal Jupiter is poorly aspected, astrologically. That is somewhat unlikely though since the astrology usually follows the cards and vice versa.

For those who do not know, powerful cards are generally the even-numbered cards in the deck, the Two, Four, Six, Eight, Ten, and the face cards. Odd-numbered cards tend to be less powerful or positive in expression. The Eight and King are the most powerful in the suit. From this you should be able to look at your Life Spread and make a determination of which periods have power and which do not. Next you can do an evaluation of your natal astrological chart. Many of you will not have the knowledge to do this so you will probably have to consult an astrologer. Specifically what you want to ask this astrologer is which of your planets are the most powerfully placed and well aspected. That will help you determine how the astrology plays into the picture. If you cannot do the astrology part just yet, do not worry. Just applying what I just showed you with your cards will add some benefit to your readings.

Now, you can take this information and use it. First of all you will know which of your periods you have the most power in each year and which do not. That alone will make a difference. But here is a further expansion on this. Since you know which periods of yours are most fortunate, look at the 13-year Life Spread periods and the 7-year periods in the same way. I believe that to do a complete reading, one must consider all the influences present. And the general rule is that the longer an influence, the more powerful it is. Thus, Life Spread and 13-year period cards are the most influential at any given time, followed by 7-year cards, yearly cards, and 52-day period cards.

Next year I will enter my 13-year period of Saturn, card-wise. My Life Spread Saturn card is the 7♣. This is not such a good card, materially speaking. However, it does have an underlying 8♠, which is a great money card. It is interesting that my natal Saturn falls in my 2nd house of money, conjunct Neptune and squared by Uranus. This is a good and bad situation, which I expect will play itself out during the 13 years of Saturn in my life. I would interpret this as ‘much money being made and some lost through enemies (Uranus in the 11th). When I turn 52, I will have this new 13-year influence in effect as a background to whatever yearly spread I am experiencing. It will be more powerful than any of the yearly spreads or 52-day cards I experience. I will also have my 7-year cards to consider. As of this writing, at Age 51, I am in my 8th 7-year period of life, which would mean that I am in a Mercury 7-year period. My Mercury card in my Life Spread is the 5♥, not such a great card, but good for changes and travel. But my natal Mercury is very well aspected and is the Lord of my chart, ruling my Virgo Ascendant. For this reason, I consider Mercury to be at least a 7 out of 10 in my chart and life. So my Mercury periods, both yearly and otherwise should be working at a 7 or better.

Some of this astrological jargon may be hard for you to understand. If so, just ignore it for now. Someday you will likely develop more understanding of astrology and learn to make use of this more. But I hope that this article gives you further fuel for making more accurate interpretations of your yearly and other cards. Interpretation is the very heart of this system. With it, you can do a lot with a little. Without good interpretation skills, you cannot do much, even though you may understand the structure of this system perfectly.
Do No Harm

There are many people who have learned the card system who are hurting others. Some are doing it consciously but most are doing it unconsciously. They are using it to inflate their ego at the expense of others or saying things that are hurtful or harmful. There are people out there that think that they know more about the cards than anyone else and that they have been appointed (but by whom we will never know) to be a leader in this system. Some have criticized my works and even the works of the founder, Olney Richmond, in order to elevate their supposed status. One guy even appointed himself as a Grand Master of the Order of the Magi. Others are just using the cards to try to make money, such as predicting the stock market or when they will be lucky in gambling. This is not what this system was intended for. The sad truth is that there is absolutely nothing that I can do about it.

With every power comes an inherent responsibility. The knowledge you gain from using this system gives you power. In order to operate at the highest level possible, you must be aware of this power and the responsibility that goes along with it. It sometimes takes a while before we become aware of either the power that we now possess or the responsibility that goes along with it. We may have to hurt several people before we realize what we have done or are doing.

If you speak to someone and tell them one or two things about themselves that they find accurate, they will, in that instant, drop their most of their skepticism and rational, critical functions. From that point forward they will regard everything you say as being the truth. Basically, the things you say to them after that will be taken into their subconscious as truth. If you then tell them that something terrible is going to happen to them, they will take that as the truth and become very upset with worry. Their worry may in turn help cause the terrible thing to occur. Our minds are very powerful things. When open to suggestion, they can create most anything and often instantly. You become responsible for what you tell them at this point and as such I suggest that you think before you speak. Here are some points you may want to consider.

1. Are you qualified to be making predictions or doing readings in the first place? In my opinion a person would have to use and study this information at least a year before they would be well versed enough to do serious readings for others. But really, two years would be better. Each of us needs time to have our own personal experiences to compare with the cards so that we develop the necessary wisdom on how they manifest. Wisdom comes only with experience. Knowledge is gained much easier and faster.

2. Do you have a personal need for ego gratification or to feel superior to others? Many do and unfortunately they are unaware of it. So many people today have to make themselves superior to their clients and associates so that they feel good about themselves. If this information makes you feel superior to others, you have already lost the game. Period. Your reading will not serve others because it is already intended to make you feel okay about yourself.

3. Is the information you are giving them positive in nature? There is a saying that we should never give someone bad news about something they can do nothing about. In other words, if you see something very bad coming for someone and you know that it cannot be averted, it will not help them to tell them that. If it is something that they can do something about, then by all means share it. I was told by the Magi that readings should always be positive in nature. Being a Queen of Diamonds and predisposed to a Saturn-like view of life, I have to be careful when I read for others. I feel impelled to show them their faults, not as criticism but like a doctor who tells his patient what is really going on so that it can be cured. I always offer positive solutions but sometimes I realize that a certain client is just not ready for that.
level of information and that it would do them more harm than good to mention it. More and
more, I spend time being aware of my client and deciding what information would truly be
helpful for them and which should be withheld until a later time. I want my reading to inspire
them to make positive changes in their life, not to depress them with negativity about
themselves. I have made this mistake many times in the past. But it happens less and less
because now I am aware of my responsibility.

4. Never predict someone’s death. This was relayed to me in my earliest years of training. It
was one of the first things that was impressed upon me. My first teacher, Arne Lein, even
told a story about how he was doing readings at a Hollywood party and someone came up to
him for a reading. He said to the man, “I am sorry, but I cannot read you.” The next day the
man died and Arne knew this when they met. But he would never tell him that. Just imagine
the harm any of us could to by telling someone they are going to die. We must also take care
in predicting the death of someone they know. Frequently a client will want to know if a
parent or spouse is going to pass on soon. In these cases, the parent or spouse is usually very
ill or old or both, and I can sense that my client has already accepted the event. In these
cases, I will discuss the possible timing of their death. However, if I sense in any way that
my client would be caused undue stress or worry about the death of the parent or spouse, I
politely change the subject.

Keeping these things in mind can help you do some good with the power you receive by learning
this amazing system.
Planetary Gemology

The system of gemstones for your birth month, that is so common today, is one that was created by jewelry manufacturers to sell more jewelry. There is nothing about this system, save coincidence, that actually connects it to the astrology of your chart and the gems that would be most appropriate for you to wear. In fact there is an extensive science of planetary gemology that connects every planet and every sign with a gem and by understanding it you can choose gems and jewelry that can actually benefit you in many ways. This system comes to us from ancient India, the Vedic tradition. It is still very much alive and used today all over the world. If you would like to know more about how to pick gems for your chart, then read on.

The Vedic system of astrology has been around so long that no one really knows when it began. Ancient translated texts are supposedly hundreds of thousands of year old. Let’s just say it is a very old science and a tradition that is still used today. It is an integral part of the culture in India. Many of the holidays celebrated there are based purely on astronomical phenomena. For example, the Puja or worship day, for the Goddess Laksni (Goddess of Wealth) falls on a different day each year, that day when the Moon is in the sign of Pisces and makes it’s closest pass to the earth. A grand celebration is planned on that day, even though each year that day is a different date. There are many other such holidays in India that are based on planetary movements.

Likewise, hundreds of thousands of years ago, planets were ascribed to the various gemstones, often associated by their appearance. For example, the gems for Mars and the sign of Aries are orange-red in color such as red coral and certain garnets. The gem for the Moon and the sign of Cancer is the pearl. These gems and their color, resemble the actual planets themselves. Every gem possesses magic powers of one sort or the other. All the gems have some magical powers. For example, it is written about rubies that “The potency of a high-quality ruby is such that even an ignorant person living a sinful life and surrounded by deadly enemies is saved by wearing such a gem. Anyone wearing such a naturally effulgent ruby would be freed from diseases caused by any imbalance of the bodily functions.” There are two ancient texts that expound on this science of planetary gemology, the Garuda Purana and the Graha-gocara Jyautisha. For those wishing to read the actual original texts, these are the books to look for though they are hard to find.

Before I go into some of the gems and their planetary equivalents, however, I need to point out some important elements of this system. First of all Vedic astrology is quite different from the western astrology that most of us are familiar with. Chances are you are a different sign in that system. As a matter of fact there is a good chance that 70% or more of your planets fall in different signs in that system. In order to use these gemological connections you will need to have your Vedic chart done. There are many web sites online where you can get your Vedic chart, along with some rudimentary explanation of it, for free. But you should also know a bit about Vedic astrology as well before you go and start prescribing gems for yourself. There are several web sites now that will actually do your chart and prescribe a gem or gems for you based upon it. A search for ‘astrological gems’ should point you in their direction. http://www.p-g-a.org is one such site but there are many.

Primarily the Vedic gemstone system uses the rising sign, called the Lagna, as the main focal point. It is usually safe and recommended to wear gems that are compatible with your Lagna. If you are Leo rising in the Vedic system, as I am, then rubies and golden sapphires are both highly recommended as a general rule. However, in Vedic astrology, certain planets are
friendly with each other while others are enemies with each other. It takes some knowledge of this astrology to make good recommendations for a person’s chart but usually a gem for your Lagna is a safe bet.

Oftentimes people in India, and abroad, will wear gems as ‘remedies’ to bad planetary aspects in their natal charts. For example if you had a Moon that was ill disposed in your natal chart, wearing a pearl would be a recommendation for correctly that. By wearing the gem, we are literally offering obeisance to the planet it represents, sort of a prayer to help us, not hinder us. The actual installation of the gem onto your person should be done on the right day, at the right time and a certain mantra should be repeated so many times to make the installation complete and proper. For example, I wore a golden sapphire ring for about 15 years. When I installed it, it was on a Thursday (the day of the week for Jupiter), one hour before sunset and I repeated the appropriate mantra nineteen times (Aum brim brihaspataye namah). Another factor is that the piece of jewelry in which the gem is installed should allow either physical contact or a clear opening between the gem and your skin. So, if the gem were installed in a ring, for example, there should be an opening so that the rays of the gem, or the light passing through it, should contact the finger.

One very important consideration is the quality of the gem you wear. In the ancient texts, it was stressed many times never to wear a gem of inferior quality. Wearing a gem of inferior quality produces just the opposite of the good effect, and sometimes other negative effects, for that gem. A gem of poor quality would have occlusions and inclusions, specks inside, color banding, be dull, have a sandy appearance, have cracks, etc. If you are going to invest the time to find the perfect gem or gems for you, also invest in a flawless gem. You will not find flawless gems in your neighborhood jewelry store or at the mall. They are the most expensive of all. Some gems of a flawless quality are too expensive for the average person. A flawless emerald, for example, is extremely rare as most emerald material is highly flawed before it is cut. There are substitutes for some gems that can be used that are a lot less expensive and give the same result. Instead of an emerald, for example, you can use a green sapphire or a tsavorite garnet. Many of the web sites mentioned earlier will present you with alternatives to the gems you may be selecting that are more affordable.

One last thing to mention is about diamonds. First of all, we must realize that most diamonds worn today are of an inferior quality. According to the texts, just having an inferior diamond in your home will be a source of misfortune. The more inferior the diamond, the more misfortune to expect. Secondly, and this is going to possibly upset some ladies, it was written that diamonds should never be worn by females. Diamonds, they say, have a mystical potency that causes women to become unhappy. There, I have said it, now you can do with it what you will.

Having said all that, here is a list of the more prominent gemstones and their mystical qualities.

**Ruby** – planet is the Sun and sign is Leo  
Day of week is Sunday  
Effects: strengthens the heart and blood circulation. Makes one bold and courageous. Removes sadness and sensuality.  
Sanskrit names: Padmaraga, ravi-ratna, shona-ratna

**Pearl** – planet is Moon and sign is Cancer  
Day of week is Monday (Moon day)  
Effects: strengthens the mental faculties. Calms emotions and increases peace of mind.
“A large, round, white pearl with effulgent luster and with a clean, even hole drilled through its center, which charms even a person not interested in pearls, should be considered as possessed of a rare, good quality. The owner of such a pearl will never suffer any form of ill fortune.”

Sanskrit names: Jiva-ratna, mukta, sasi-ratna

Note: You may not be aware of it but pearls come from many sources. There are pearls that come from bamboo stems, snake heads, elephant heads, fish heads, conch shells, wild boar heads and clouds. Cloud pearls are so rare that they are considered more priceless than the entire earth. I don’t believe one actually exists on the earth at this time.

**Yellow Sapphire** – planet is Jupiter, sign is Sagittarius
Day of the Week is Thursday
Effects: promotes general well being and spirituality. Especially helpful for pregnancy and childbirth, and marriage. Prevent jaundice and liver diseases.
Sanskrit names: Guru-ratna, pusparaga, pita-mani, puspa-raja

**Hessonite Garnet** – planet is Rahu, sign is Aquarius (Rahu is Vedic for the North Node)
Day of the week is Saturday
Implements dealing with low-class people and protects from sudden misfortunes.
“A pure Hessonite sparkling with internal fire and set in gold is the ultimate talisman, capable of increasing the life span, the progeny, and the happiness of its owner. It can also remove evil thoughts and motives from the owner’s mind. And man or woman possessing such a praiseworthy Hessonite, even if only for ornamental purposes, would surely become wealthy and famous in this lifetime.”
Sanskrit names: rahu-ratna, gomeda, tamo-mani

**Emerald** – planet is Mercury, sign is Virgo and Gemini
Day of week is Wednesday
Effects: Improves psychic powers, sharpens intellect, intuition and memory. Improves learning ability, communication and clairvoyance. Good for general health, but especially the nervous system. A remedy for snake bite as well.
Sanskrit names: marakata, budha-ratna, garuna

**Diamond** – planets is Venus and sign is Taurus and Libra
Day of week is Friday
Effects: increases purity and fearlessness. Gives artistic abilities and worldly happiness. Strengthens bones and is good for sexual disease and disfunctions.
“A king wearing a diamond that flashes rays of light like bolts of lightning will surely be able to conquer other rulers and gain sovereignty over their wealth and followers.”
Sanskrit names: Hiraka, vajra, bhargava-priya

**Cat’s Eye Crysoberyl** – planet is Ketu, sign is Pisces (Ketu is the Moon’s South Node)
Day of the week is Thursday
Effects: similar to Hessonite, protects from unwanted psychic intrusion, hidden enemies, mysterious and hidden dangers, drowning and drug problems. Brings misfortune to gamblers.
Sanskrit names: sutra-mani, ketu-ratna, vaidurya

**Blue Sapphire** – planet is Saturn, sign is Capricorn
Day of the week is Saturday
Effects: Counteracts enviousness from others and keeps away the evil eye. Protects from travel dangers and mental unrest. Alleviates long-term misfortune.

“The most rare and valuable of all blue sapphires is the maha-nila, which, when immersed in 100 times its own weight in milk, can tinge the milk blue.”

Sanskrit names: sani-ratna, nila-manì, nilam

Coral – planet is Mars and sign is Aries and Scorpio
Day of the week is Tuesday
Effects: Removes obstacles and averts warfare. Assists in money making and financial matters. Purifies the blood and cures boils.
Sanskrit names: Bhauma-ratna, munga, vidruma

Note: Much of the information for this article was obtained from the book, *Handbook of Planetary Gemology* by Richard S. Brown.

A Card is a Card

Recently I wrote an article about choosing a personal relationship based upon the cards. And in the beginning I emphasized the importance of knowing yourself and who you were considering as a partner. The more I look at this the more that I see that this is actually even more important than I realized then. The things that we learn about people through the cards are really true. The person you meet may be young. It is common that younger people do not know themselves yet. But the qualities of their cards will come out over time and end up being the story of their life. For example when I first got married at the age of 29, I didn't have any idea about my card and what sort of relationship karma I possessed. After three failed marriages and an in-depth education in the cards and astrology I am aware of my shortcomings and tendencies. There are many mistakes I will not make now, but that is only because I am now aware of myself, not because my basic nature has changed.

A friend of mine has a daughter who was married recently. She is a J♥ and her husband is a 3♣. Besides the fact that he is a Saturn card to her, he is also an extremely unmarriageable birthday. I can tell that he doesn't have any awareness of this. He got married, as I did the first time, thinking it would last forever and that he would live happily ever after. But two years into the marriage, it is showing severe signs of deterioration. He is going on mini-vacations with his buddies while his wife stays home with their new baby. Rumors are already circulating that he has cheated on her. So, a card is a card.

Expecting someone to be other than their card may be foolishness. Of course, when we first meet someone our desire to have a happy relationship overpowers our objectivity. If we find someone that we are attracted to and seems at least somewhat good for us, we usually will ignore anything that points in the opposite direction. We just want some relationship to work, dang it! But eventually the person's card will come through and will need to be dealt with. In many cases, that card of theirs will make the relationship impossible, if not miserable for both people.

Our own card is highly questionable. All cards have bad traits. Even the most marriageable cards can be controlling, arrogant or fearful to the extreme. Your Birth Card and Planetary Ruling Card both have a high side and a low side. They also have traits that some will like and some will dislike. Any of us may be considered to be 'not so good a catch' for some people out there. The aspects between your card and someone else’s, the connections as they are called in the Love Cards book, will tell the story of you two together. Hopefully the stressful connections you share are not so painful that it is impossible for the two of you to be happy. And hopefully
you do not have some aspect to your card that makes it nearly impossible to be with you or impossible for you to be with someone else.

My own card, the Q♦, has many problems. Besides having uncertainty about the entire notion of love and marriage, we can be very critical of others and negative at times. We have strong egos that need constant attention. I laugh as I write this but be warned. And we can be very powerful and absolute in our decisions. All the Queens, Kings and Jacks can be like that.

I recently became even more aware of just how many people who are Sixes, and this includes birth and ruling card Sixes, have an anger issue that is nearly insurmountable. Don't get me wrong, there are many Sixes that do not have this. But there are a lot of them that do. They are just looking for someone to fight with, whether or not they are aware of it or not. Usually they are not aware of it at all. They are just fighting and blaming as they go. Will they ever get it? Some may. Most will not. Its good to know this in the event you meet one.

I met a woman recently who was married to a Leo 8♣. This man physically abused his son so bad that his son has brain damage. He was sent to prison for abuse but got out in 13 months on good behavior. Now, he is back and threatening her. This is the extreme downside of any eight. Eights gone to the bad can stop at nothing to get what they want. And the 8♣, such as Charles Manson and this man, will get an idea in their head and not even hesitate to maim or kill others to fulfill it. It is good to know this. Not that many 8♣ will act in this way. But the potential is there.

What if the cards that are the most compatible with you are all unmarriageable? Hahaha. That is funny but it is also true for some people. One of my Moon cards is the Jack of Diamonds. No help there! Another is the Ace of Diamonds. They are marriageable, sometimes, and under certain conditions. This is the part of the grand cosmic joke that is life. We have to understand the nature of all the cards and look at them realistically.

When you meet someone, see if you can explore both the positive and negative potential of their card. Don't be afraid to imagine just how bad it could be under certain conditions. Chances are those conditions will occur someday. Each of us will do things we would normally never do if we are under great strain and pressure. The question is, how bad can it get or how bad can you get? No one will tell you about their dark side, especially not in the dating phase. Heck, I have read about and heard about people that were married for 4 or 5 years before the dark side emerged. The cards can help you know that the potential is there. That is a benefit.

The same must be observed with the connections you have with another. You meet someone you like and you see Saturn and Mars connections but you think, 'I don't see those in our relationship.' And you think they are not there. Actually I think those sorts of connections will show themselves right away. Even so, you could fantasize that they will not affect your relationship that much. I bet they will. The ones to watch out for are Mars, Saturn and Pluto. Mars is the least troublesome of these unless there are 3 or more Mars connections out of the first 8. Then, you may want to consider running, not walking, the other way. Strong Saturn and Pluto connections can cause behaviors that are deal-breakers in your relationship. In other words, the stuff that comes up is just too intense to allow the good connections to make up for. In this regard, these connections in the Life Spread will always be more detrimental than in the Spiritual Spread.

All of this can take a lot of the romance out of starting a relationship. You could just not look at all and follow your heart. Great lessons can be learned that way. I have done that. I can't say now that I regret what I did. It was very hard but I did learn a great deal about myself. Ultimately I believe it is possible to get to a place within ourselves where we could co-exist with anyone, any birthday, in spite of their cards, our cards and our connections to them. This is a spiritual ideal. Perhaps no one will ever actually reach that place. But through the development of self-love I can certain increase my capacity to be in uncomfortable situations and not go into
blame and anger. And I can become non-reactive instead of over-reactive. I have already seen a lot of progress in my own life so the possibility exists. But until that time I still refer to the cards and I know now, more than ever before, that a card is a card.

Astrological Myths

People with a casual knowledge of astrology, and even people who are practicing astrologers, carry many myths about astrology that just don't hold up in real life. Since I complain about these on a regular basis I thought I would just go through them one by one and clear up some of the prevailing lack of insight that accompanies these concepts. The underlying problem is that many practicing astrologers are more conceptual in their understanding of astrology and do not have real life experiences with which to test their theories. The trouble is, some of these people write books and people who read them believe that what they say is true, simply because they got published. These myths spread themselves around as these astrologers share their so-called wisdom with their friends and clients, who in turn share these precious bits of wisdom with their friends. So, these myths get circulated and soon enough become part of the collective misunderstanding of life that is part of the illusion we live under. Some of these myths actually scare a lot of people and have folks afraid to do things on certain days and make people more worried about the planets than they need to be. Are your planets scaring you? If so, let's see if we can separate some of these out and get rid of them once and for all!

Horoscopes

Let's start with the daily and monthly horoscopes that you read in magazines and newspapers. There are also weekly ones that fall under these categories. Since anyone writing such a column lumps everyone of a certain sun sign together, not knowing the date, time or place of birth, they are forced to use a technique called the solar chart, which creates a chart with a 0 or 15 degree sun sign on the ascendant from which transits can be calculated and predictions made. Needless to say, the solar chart is rarely, if ever, accurate. If you read something in one of these articles that hits home, believe me, it is purely by accident. You were born on a specific day, in a specific month and year. Without knowing at least your day, month and year, it is impossible to make any sort of accurate prediction for you that would be as specific as affecting a given month, week or day of your life.

Mercury Retrogrades

It seems that more and more people are aware of when Mercury goes retrograde, which is does quite frequently. And more and more people are concerned about it. They will avoid doing anything on Mercury retrograde times, which often span weeks and weeks at a time. They essentially put their life on hold until Mercury goes direct. The truth is that Mercury retrogrades do have an effect and sometimes it is quite pronounced. However, Mercury retrogrades do not affect everyone and you would need at least an intermediate level understanding of astrology to know whether or not it would affect you, and how much. For a Mercury retrograde to affect you adversely, that transiting Mercury planet would have to make an adverse aspect to some planet in your natal chart. Then and only then will you experience some of the horrors of a retrograde Mercury.

I used to completely ignore Mercury retrogrades, which is actually what I recommend to everyone. Just forget about them. The greater percentage of them will not affect you at all. If you
really want to know which ones will, have some astrologer tell you if you will get a stressful Mercury transit while it is retrograde. In the last ten years I have only have two Mercury retrogrades that affected me powerfully in a negative way. Two in ten years! So, I am not going to pay attention to them, which I never had anyway. And who needs one more thing to be afraid of anyway?

Void of Course (VC) Moons

Here is another one, slightly more esoteric and so, if you tell others about it, you can be thought of as being really hip. And this one stumps most astrologers. So many astrologers out there are just mental and don't get the truth behind things, not to mention they believe everything they read that is in print. And from my personal experience, most astrological books out there are pretty useless, if not misleading. I will talk about one or two of them later. But the void of course moon is another highly misunderstood area in astrology. This occurs when the moon has reached a point in the current sign that it is in, when it will not make any other aspects to the other planets before entering the next sign. That is the technical definition. They say it is void course or void of course because it will not make any aspects before hitting the next sign. The moon moves very fast, going from one sign to the next in 2 1/2 days. So, it will pretty much be void of course every couple of days. And what do they say about it? They say that "anything began on a void of course moon will come to nothing." Don't ask me who said this but I will never forget the words. In other words any new business, relationship, project, etc. will basically fizzle out and become worthless if it is started while the Moon is void of course. And VC Moons take an even more advanced knowledge of astrology to determine than Mercury retrogrades. You are probably going to have to pay someone to get this information!

Now that sounds pretty heavy, doesn't it? And it sounds like something we should all pay attention to. Darn! I had better figure out when these VC Moons are so I can plan my life around them! Life is like a mine field. Now I have to watch every step I make to make sure the Moon is not void of course. But the truth is that the effect of a void of course Moon is not as they say. For example, the longest running television show in history, The Tonight Show, was began while the Moon was void of course. That one fact makes you realize that this myth is way off target. In my own experience VC Moons tend to bring a steadiness to situations, a persevering quality. And it is entirely possible that they have no effect at all.

The Truth about Transits

There is a fairly famous book called Planets in Transit by Robert Hand that is probably one of the most worthless books I have ever read. You can go through all the trouble to figure out what transits you are experiencing and when, and then read his book about what you can expect to experience and I guarantee you that rarely will anything he describes actually happen to you. After the disappointment of reading his book and some years of real life clients and studying the charts of my loved ones, I determined some real stuff about transits and got rid of the junk. Here are a couple of my conclusions:

1. You will have some sort of experience, an event, when there is a conjunction of a transiting planet to one of your natal planets. These conjunctions are when some planet that is passing by, moves right over the place where one of your planets was at the time of your birth. When this occurs, an event will happen.

2. You will never experience a transiting trine, sextile or inconjunct as a distinctive event. These influences are so subtle you will not even notice them unless you are looking carefully for them.
Robert Hand's book has interpretations for every planet making most of these aspects and none of that will likely happen.

3. You will experience squares (especially) and oppositions from the outer planets (Saturn - Pluto) to your natal planets. These transits are the trouble-bringing or growth-bringing transits and will all precipitate in some meaningful, if difficult events in your life.

4. The only Jupiter transit that yields an event is a conjunction. Jupiter is such a gift-giving planet that it has no negative transits. The stressful aspects of squares and oppositions from Jupiter will not yield negative events or experiences. There you have it in a nutshell. The rest is, well, worthless.

Lunar and Solar Eclipses

Some astrology magazines and columns will warn you about lunar and solar eclipses, another highly misunderstood and overstated problem. They will tell you not to plan or do much before during or shortly after one of these events, as if they are some sort of astrological poison. In fact lunar and solar eclipse are like a death and rebirth of that sun or moon on the day they happen. But again, these will not affect you unless they aspect specific planets in your natal chart. However, having a solar eclipse on your birthday is definitely not desirable. This will often portend a year with some sort of darkness, perhaps a tragedy or health issue that overshadows the year ahead. But for the most part, these eclipses come and go without notice and are nothing to worry about.

Relocational Astrology and Solar Returns

In astrology there is a chart called a relocation chart that is done by substituting some other location with your birth location. The theory is that if you are living somewhere else other than your birthplace, which most of us are, that you get a somewhat different chart, changed by your new location. So, astrologers will create these 'relocation charts' to tell you what this new location will do for you. It doesn't work. And relocation charts have no meaning at all. If you doubt my words on this, get one done for where you now live and see for yourself.

There are several prominent astrologers that make a lot of money sending their clients all over the world for their solar returns. The solar return is basically your birthday - the day the sun returns to its exact location it was at the time of your birth. However that day can vary a bit from year to year. Some years, your solar return will be either a day less or greater than your actual birthday. The theory with solar return charts is that they become like a birth chart for the new year. The wrinkle that is sending people all over the planet on their birthday is that the place where you are on your birthday will affect the house positions of the planets in your solar return chart. For example, if you had a very well-aspected Venus or Jupiter in your solar return chart, by being somewhere specific on your birthday, you could position the planet so that it brought its great success to bear upon a specific area of your life, such as your career, health or personal relationships. The theory sounds good but in practice it just doesn't work.

In my experience the solar return chart does have an impact and can be used to make some predictions about the upcoming year, if it is done for the location you are living or will be living for that year of your life. But just being at a certain location on your birthday is not going to affect you if you immediately go back to where you are living. An accurate solar return will created for where you intend to live for the year. People are wasting their time and money to get solar return charts with no results from them. Don't believe me, just ask them.
Stelliums of planets and special planetary configurations

A stellium is really just a bunch of planets in the same sign. Just recently there was a stellium of planets, Sun, Mercury, Venus and Mars, all in the sign of Aries. Often when these stelliums come, and especially when there are many of the outer planets concerned, some pot-smoking amateur astrologers put out the word that some big and exciting metaphysical 'event' is going to occur. They will assign it some cool name, like the Harmonic Convergence, and spread that around along with a story of what it means and what is going to happen as a result. I have seen so many of these come and go, with grandiose predictions about earth changes and angels coming down to earth, etc. that I can spot them immediately. Nowadays they come through email, circulated by the aforementioned amateurs. So far, and I have seen at least 20 of these in the past 12 years or so, none of their predictions have come true. This also includes reports about other planetary configurations. I think just last year I received reports about a ‘Star of David’ configuration that occurred. Yes, it did occur. No, none of the predictions about it came true.

In fact, certain planetary alignments will appear when tremendous world events take place. There were such an alignment on 9/11. Funny that none of these prophets caught that one. Just because an email sounds convincing and intelligent, mostly because the writer is using some astrological jargon that you don't understand, doesn't mean that any of it is true. The best policy is to ignore these and chastise the people that send them.

The Sad State of American Vedic Astrologers

I have always had an interest in Vedic astrology since I spent ten years in a yoga school. I just love the whole culture. So, I investigated vedic or Indian astrology a bit. When I did, I realized that the subject was so vast that even at the age of 35 I would not have enough time to really learn it well enough to do much with it. Plus, my energy was invested in western astrology and I had to decide between the two. I chose western because I had already invested so much of myself into it. But I did want to get a good reading for myself by an Indian astrologer. So it wasn't long before I found someone who did it, a guy named Nilakanta who was a Hare Krishna devotee. I got a reading and was fairly satisfied with it. But it really didn't seem like my reading was as good as it could be. Then my wife got a reading from a fairly famous Indian astrologer in Los Angeles called Chakrapani. I listened with great interest to her tape and was very disappointed in his work. He spent at least 5 minutes at the beginning of the reading advertising his other services. And the things he told her really didn't seem relevant or accurate for her. This guy must be a Jack of Diamonds, the way he is constantly selling stuff during his paid readings. Then I found a book by James Braha, an American guy who is well known as a vedic astrologer. I read his book with anticipation, using my chart as a study tool and was again disappointed. The interpretations did not fit. This James Braha guy, I thought, knows very little about Vedic astrology. He was just one of the first American guys who wrote a book about it, and so had become somewhat well known.

I was beginning to lose faith in the entire system but something inside me told me that somewhere there are great Vedic astrologers who really know what they are talking about. I got another reading from a guy in Los Angeles, I cannot remember his name, and again it just wasn't even that useful. At this point none of the readings I had seen or had could even come close to the relevance or accuracy of the readings I was doing in western astrology, and I wasn't even that good and I knew it. So, I put the idea aside for a few years until I happened to discover a man named Mamaji.
Mamaji was an Indian man in his mid-sixties and he could not speak English. He was visiting the yoga center where I used to live and I found out he had performed many readings during his visit before I got there. After he found out about me and my work, he offered to trade readings though I would have been happy to pay him for one of his. He had a friend with him who could translate so we set up a reading.

Mamaji, it turned out, had been doing vedic astrology for over 50 years. This was his first trip to America. When he began to speak during my reading, he said things that none of the other astrologers had mentioned. I was amazed from the very start, as he began telling me about my life from birth on. He mentioned many things that happened to me that I had forgotten and explained how the speed of my planets affected their expression and how as they changed speeds, as I grew older, that my karma would also change. He basically started from birth and went through my childhood, teenage years and adult years, marking what he called 'turning points' which were years when I made important transitions. He was amazingly accurate, which made me even more excited when we got to the part about my future. The predictions he made then have already began to come true, exactly when he said they would. I can honestly say that this reading was among the top 3 received in my life. But I also realized that it would be nearly impossible to find a man like Mamaji. I truly believe that there are none in America who can even do the system justice and I cannot think of anyone I would recommend. As for Mamaji, I tried to locate him later in India without success. If he surfaces again I will let you know. I think that maybe, and I mean maybe, someday we will actually have a great American Vedic astrologer. It is actually very hard to find a great Vedic astrologer in India. But that could be a long time from now because the Vedic science is so vast that it takes not only a lifetime of study, but also a sincere devotion to God to become masterful at it. So, my advice is 'don't hold your breath.'
The Effects of Culture

After traveling recently to both India and Russia recently it became apparent that the culture that a person is born into and accustomed to will have a profound effect upon the way their life plays out. This cultural effect should always be considered when doing a reading for someone who may have a foreign heritage, as it may significantly alter the way you would interpret every influence you see related to them.

In India, for example, the family unit is considered sacred. Most of the people there are highly religious and so, follow a code of morality that guides their conduct and behavior. Their particular religious bent is mostly Hindu with also a large faction of Muslims. If you wanted to understand a particular individual in India, you would need to first understand the significance of their religion and how it is practiced. The people in India usually take their religion very seriously and thus it affects most every area of their life. You would be wise to know this if you were reading for them because some patterns of behavior that are common in the US would be very rare there and would not be expected to be played out.

One example is marriage and romance. Most Indian people follow a fairly strict pattern when it comes to romance and marriage. The boy knows that to attract a bride, he must have either a good education or some form of ample moneymaking. Having both would be the ideal. Education in India is not only seen for its money-making potential but also that it helps create a more refined individual as the schools there also focus on behavior, etiquette and other social considerations. The mother of the bride holds a lot of power in the entire marriage procedure as do the parents of both parties. But in particular, the proposed groom must meet with certain qualifications before he will ever even see the proposed bride in person. He must pass certain tests, mostly conducted by the mother of the proposed bride, before the two would even meet.

If he passes the initial tests then the two meet, their astrological charts compared and the two would see if there was attraction. But falling in love is not a requirement. As a matter of fact, the cultural belief is that love would develop over time after being married so it is not an initial requirement. But still, the young couple would at least want to see an attraction, or at the very least, that they would be able to ‘stand’ being married to the other. Factors that will affect the long-term stability of the relationship and of raising the family are much more important than the compatibility of the couple and how in love they are. Interesting, eh?

Once married the couple are expected to stay married for the duration of their lives. Divorce is possible but highly frowned upon and basically denied by their religion. Thus, divorces do happen but they are very rare. And even if the two do not actually get along that well, cheating or having relations outside of the marriage is extremely rare.

This is a good example of just how different things can be from how it is here in the United States. You could be reading for someone who is essentially un-marriageable here in the US but in India would be married for life. The qualities of their card would certainly emerge but not in the usual way in this area of life. Divorce cards would mean something else. Love affair cards would mean something else. Everything you read about this person’s love or home life would have to be evaluated in light of the prevailing cultural influence.

In the US there are pockets of culture that exist in certain areas and in certain families. They are often people who have not been in the US that long or who have made an effort to preserve the culture of their homeland while living here. And all these cultures are different in certain respects. If you are reading for someone who has a strong foreign culture, it is in your best interest to know how much this culture is still in effect. In general, foreign cultures tend to
dissipate over time here in the US. Our media creates our culture and since most people are glued
to their TVs, internet and MP3 players, they are highly influenced by the American culture. You
can expect to see a degradation of their homeland culture to a degree depending upon how long
they have lived here. New generations are inevitably influenced by pop culture and thus it
replaces their native culture slowly but surely over time until the individuals are purely American
pop culture as are the rest of us.

Even so, some families and communities here in America have retained some of their native
culture to one degree or another. You would be wise to investigate some if you think this may be
a factor. Some cultures have men that are ‘machismo’ or patriarchal in nature. This basically
means that they treat women badly and see them as sex and other kinds of slaves rather than an
equal in a marriage. This is popular in some Latin American countries for example and in others.
It would be good to know if your female client is married to a man with a strong cultural
disposition to this way of being. And every single culture have their characteristics. Some forbid
marriage outside of their culture or faith. Some forbid divorce or strongly frown upon it. Divorce
in some cultures basically causes your family, friends and religious group to disown you and
exclude you completely. There are a variety of cultural expectations and it would be a big
decision for your client to go against them. The need to feel included is one of our strongest
human needs. That need is often denied when we go against our culture. For this reason, many
will not go against their culture, even if they are now living in America with new rules. Your
awareness of these things will only benefit both you and your clients.

The Q♦ and 3♣

Years ago, when Tom Cruise was just getting married to his second wife, Nicole Kidman, I
predicted he would have three marriages. At that time he and Nicole seemed the perfect match,
like a couple that would stay together for a lifetime. Now, Tom has proposed to Katie Holmes,
which, if he goes through with it, will be his third marriage. How did I know? Well, for starters,
he and I share the same birthday with me ten years his senior. I was in my third marriage when
he began his second. But more importantly he is a Q♦ and it is a very common experience for
Q♦ to have three or more marriages. Seeing that Tom Cruise is sort of following in my footsteps,
I feel safe now saying that he will have four marriages before he is done. Sounds kind of funny
to say that but I have been studying Tom carefully the past ten years and he acts a lot like me,
seems to have similar motivations and characteristics. I am now considering my 4th and I bet he
will do the same some day in the future.

What is it about the Q♦ that causes so many marriages? Why do they even get married in
the first place if they are just going to get divorced later? What is it that keeps driving them
to marriage and then driving them out of it a while later? I believe that the answer to most of these
questions is mostly the effect of the many Three cards in their Life Spread, but especially the 3♣
in Venus and the 3♠ in Mars. They also have a 3♦ as a first Karma Card and a 5♥ in Mercury.
All of these contribute but I think the Threes play the biggest role.

Hugh Hefner is another famous Q♦ and his Planetary Ruling Card is the 3♣, the Author’s
Card, which explains his penchant for publishing. But what he is most famous for are the many
women he keeps as company. He also has had multiple marriages. He now just has at least two
girlfriends all the time, not one like he used to.

Lately I have been watching how my mind works when it comes to love, romance and marriage.
For whatever reason, I have never been so aware of it as lately. And I can see that my mind is
like a hamster on a treadmill, just going around and around. The more I think about love, the
more questions I have. There seems to be no end to the questions and different viewpoints I can have about love and the choice of a partner. And I see that there is no end to the kinds of women that I am attracted to, along with the reality that no one woman could possibly have all the various traits that I love. This all comes from my 3♣ in Venus. You see, the 3♣ is an idea-generating influence. Put that creative force in the love department of a person and this is what you get. Essentially what a Three does is keep adding something to what is there. Many of the best ideas just take something that you already know and add a twist to it. Artists and writers have this knack. But put this same energy into the love and romance department and you get someone who continually wants something or someone that he or she does not have. No matter how wonderful the mate you are with is, he or she could never have all the possible qualities that are available. Thus there is a sense of eternal dissatisfaction in the love life, like someone questing for an impossible dream.

I have had many 3♣ clients, mostly women, and a number of 3♣ friends. I watch them with amazement because I see reflected in them my own love nature. They share some of my same traits, always thinking about love and sort of eternally dissatisfied with what they have. They come up with new ways to look at life every week, along with a fair amount of uncertainty and doubt, just as I do in my love life. Since they are my Venus card I always like them even if I am embarrassed by the reflection I see in them.

One 3♣ friend of mine would have an entirely new plan for his life every single week. One week he was going to buy a boat and sail around the world. I was very convinced that he would do it, or should I say, he was very convincing. However, the very next week he had abandoned that plan and was now going to buy a toy-making business and run that. Then, a week later, his plan had changed entirely again. After about 3 months of these weekly changes I realized that I couldn’t really take anything he said very seriously. Then I reflected on the process I go through thinking about my love life and I see the same pattern. And now I tend to take myself very less seriously than before when it comes to the love and marriage department. It’s just my idea-generating 3♣ in Venus doing its weekly workout.

The 3♣ in Venus also bestows other characteristics. One is that it gives the Q♦ a fair amount of romantic drive and the gift of a verbal seduction. This quality is enhanced by the vertical K♥ in Venus in our Life Spread. It’s a lot like being a Jack in that the Q♦ can become very creative when romantically motivated. I actually amaze myself sometimes with the things that I say when I am interested in someone. We Q♦ can write great love letters, poems and songs about love and to our beloved. There is lots of artistic talent in Q♦ and many are or have been successful artists of one sort or the other.

On the other side the same 3♣ brings worry, uncertainty and doubt to the romantic life of the Q♦. After three failed marriages, for example, I often doubt if I can actually sustain a long-term committed relationship even though I am convinced that I want it. And I have always had many fears connected to love and marriage, mostly a fear of abandonment, which is common for Q♦. Add to that an inclination to always be looking for more than I have and you can see why relationships are so tough. These qualities vary from one Q♦ to the next and may manifest in a variety of ways but the underlying uncertainty is always there, being expressed in one way or the other. This underlying uncertainty and worry about whether or not there will be enough love is often one of the main reasons that the Q♦ gets married to begin with. It’s for the security of knowing that there will be love there. Marrying for this reason usually results in the Q♦ feeling trapped and wanting out, no matter how wonderful his or her mate actually is.

When a Q♦ gets divorced it is most often just because they want something new and different in the love department. Threes hate routine, boredom and sameness. I believe that Tom Cruise has experienced what I have: even though married to a wonderful woman, he started to
get bored with her and wanted something and someone new and different. Bored is sort of a harsh word when applied to a relationship. But, for lack of a better word, it does tell the 3♣ story.

As my years are bringing more wisdom I can see that success in a long term relationship for me will have to entail a certain amount of mental discipline. I will have to curb the wanderings of my mind and focus in on what I have if I am to ever stay with someone more than a few years. I still have uncertainty about the boredom factor. Could I ever be happy with just one person forever?

The Q♦ is not the only card that has a Three in Venus. Add to the list the 8♦, 5♥ and 10♣. Among these the 8♦ and 5♥ display more of the traits because the 10♣ has strong Karma Cards that help prevent changes in love and marriage (Q♥ and 4♥). 8♦ are also known for multiple marriages as are the 5♥. The 3♥ card is essentially the same influence as a 3♣ in Venus. Hearts are Venus energy and the number Three is Club energy. All the cards with the 3♥ in their Life Spread will have some of this 3♣ in Venus behavior. These include the 2♠, 8♥, 6♣, 6♠, Q♥, 10♣, 8♦, K♠ and A♣. It is not quite as strong as it is in the Q♦ but there are many examples that seem very similar. Larry King, for example, is an A♣ and he has had more than four marriages.

Whether the 3♥ and 3♣ in Venus are a curse or a blessing depends on how you look at it. If you value family, stability and long term relationships, I say they are a curse. The artistic and creative contribution can be great however. And like all other things in life, ultimately everything is just an experience. We choose to be whatever card we are to have the unique experience associated with it. Florence Campbell had some compassion for Q♥ in her book, Sacred Symbols of the Ancients. But she also knew that they were often at fault for their many problems. Considered one of the two most difficult cards in the deck, the karmic burden is great. Ah, but the lessons can lead to enlightenment when the Q♦ turns to spirituality, which most of them do.

Uranus and Relationships

Each of the planets in our natal chart has a unique effect on our personal relationships. The planets that most affect relationships in an astrological natal chart are the Sun, Moon, Venus, Mars and the Ascendant, which is not a planet but the sign that was on the eastern horizon at the moment of birth. If I were determining the suitability of someone for relationship or marriage, I would look at these five, their relationships (aspects) to each other and their aspects to the other planets, Jupiter through Pluto and Chiron. Among these other planets the planet Uranus has a definite effect that can be bottom line as to whether or not a person can even sustain a long-term relationship. Some of the aspects that Uranus makes can be deal-breakers. That is, they can be a symbol for personality traits that make it nearly or practically impossible to sustain anything other than a casual, short-term relationship. Therefore it is wise to check Uranus and its aspects at the outset of any new relationship. It tends to act unexpectedly so it may not show up for a while at all. But it will definitely show up sooner or later and when it does it can change or destroy the current relationship.

The nature of Uranus is freedom and unexpected change. The position of our natal Uranus often denotes the area and the way we express our individuality. Uranus is the super-Mercury, the knowingness that comes on so strong that it cannot be denied expression. If Uranus conjuncts one of our natal planets, it gives a strong sense of individuality to us in that department of life. For example, my Uranus conjuncts my natal Mars in my 10th house. This causes me to act rashly and suddenly (Uranus) with passion and aggression (Mars). The 10th house position of these
combined planets causes me to want a career (10th house) that is totally unique (Uranus). Uranus by itself in a chart is usually not as significant as when it combines with other planets to form aspects. Conjunctions (unions), Trines and Inconjuncts tend to express themselves in a positive manner. Squares and Oppositions tend to cause problems and conflicts, both within the individual and in their relationships with others.

When Uranus makes a stressful aspect of a Square or Opposition to a natal planet, it indicates an area where we tend to act rashly out of a subconscious fear of losing our freedom or individuality. As you can imagine, you will frequently find these squares in the natal charts of people whose Birth Card or Planetary Ruling Card is a Three, Five or Jack. Threes are not normally associated with this freedom issue but most of them are related closely to, or situated just next to, a Five and so receive the same influence to varying degrees. As you can imagine, some of these Uranus aspects will tend to cause problems when the individual attempts to pursue an intimate relationship. The reason it is so hard to deal with is that usually the individual is unaware of this fear of losing individuality or freedom. Without knowing why, they will find a myriad number of ways to sabotage their relationships. If they were aware enough to feel the underlying fear, they would have the opportunity to act on their own. Alas, most people are not and so they are just doing what I call the ‘freedom dance’ without knowing it, all the while wondering why they can never seem to sustain an intimate relationship. The truth is that their fear of losing their individuality or freedom is imaginary. But it would be hard to convince them because it occurs as a spontaneous impulse, usually without any forethought. Uranus is often pictured as a lightning bolt that hits without warning and quickly. It is impossible to predict when this urge for freedom will strike and this causes a certain uneasiness in the mind and heart of anyone who is in a relationship with someone who possesses stressful Uranus aspects in their chart.

Uranus, making stressful aspects to planets in a chart, will make intimacy nearly impossible. As soon as the person starts to open up and get close to someone else, the fear creeps in and they pull back or push away. They will first attract someone, then push them away. I am sure everyone reading this has known someone like this. On one hand they want a relationship, perhaps very much so. But on the other they keep resisting the natural process of getting closer and manage to alienate their partner so as to create distance between them. This would be true to some extent to Uranus squaring the Sun, Moon, Venus and Ascendant. If you meet someone with one of these squares in their chart, you can expect this behavior up front. It will be hard to get close to such a person, especially the one with Uranus square the Moon or Ascendant. If you like or need a strong sense of emotional intimacy you would best avoid people with these aspects.

All the Uranus squares also create a life-long sense of bad timing. As a super version of Mercury, Uranus controls or governs the timing of our actions in life. When in stressful aspect, we tend to act out in a declaration of our freedom at the wrong time. What often happens is that when a person has one or more of these squares, they will act out boldly for their freedom and independence. But the timing of that act will cause the destruction of situations that they have been working on building for a long time, like a job or relationship.

When Uranus squares or opposes Venus it creates the distinct aspect that is often called the 'fling aspect.’ Here the person gets sudden and unexpected, but also powerful, attractions to potential lovers. Without other aspects in a chart that would modify this expression, the person would just resign themselves to a life of one short-term fling after another. I have met such people many times. To them, a long-term relationship is a fairy tale, not something they will ever experience. Their relationships begin as a powerful attraction, usually ending their previous relationship. And then, just as suddenly as it begins, it ends, often just days later. This is definitely an aspect you would look for in the chart of a potential mate, a deal-breaker. If you see it there, no matter how much you think you like this person, just move on. You will save yourself
a lot of pain and suffering. That is, of course, unless you have the same aspect yourself. In that case the two of you would be able to enjoy the affair without expectations of the future. It is much better to be able to accept such a person, and yourself for that matter, than to try to change them.

When Uranus makes good aspects to the Moon, Venus, Sun, Mars and Ascendant, the individual will have a more balanced expression of their urge for freedom. The freedom urge will be strong, however. For example, Uranus making good aspect with Venus will create a desire in the person to have a strong friendship with their mate or lover. They will want to be ‘friends first’ and enjoy a certain amount of distance in the relationship. The difference is that they will not destroy the relationship in the process of expressing this urge neither will they have the urge to run off with the next person they meet who turns them on.

When I do a relationship analysis for someone, Uranus is one of the first planets I check. As you can see, it can make all the difference in a person’s desire and ability to have a long-term relationship. But it also clues me in to what sort of relationship would be most comfortable and natural for this person. Uranus is not strong in all individuals. But when it is, it must be recognized and considered because it will have a strong impact on that individual and the partnerships he or she forms.

Tom Cruise and Katie Holmes

This is Mr. Cruise’s potential 3rd marriage and according to the latest news, it appears to be a sure thing. She is even becoming a Scientologist in preparation to be with her leading man. Are they compatible? You bet! Actually this may be the most compatible relationship Tom has ever had. I am the same birthday as Tom and I have a saying that I have never met a K♥ that I didn’t really like. It is almost hard to explain. Sure there is a vertical Venus connection but there are also two Saturn connections so one would think there could be some problems.

However, I have never seen this to be true. Tom is a Q♦ with an A♣ Planetary Ruling Card. Katie is the same birthday as Brad Pitt, a Sagittarius K♥ with a 2♦ Planetary Ruling Card. Because Tom has a 3♦ Karma Card and an A♣ Planetary Ruling Card, they have two Moon connections, one going each way. From my experience, the connection between the A♣ and 2♦ is the strongest of these and in that one, Tom is the Moon card to Katie.

This often shows up in pictures of the two together where Katie is often on Tom’s right side as pictured here, indicating her being in the more leadership, or Sun role. This also would explain his recent behavior and statements he
has made in public about just how crazy he is about her. When we are Moon to someone we tend to adore them and never get tired of them. Since they both are Moon to each other, this relationship could last a long time, if Tom were not a Q♦!

Katie is very marriageable. Both her Birth and Ruling Cards are very relationship-oriented. They tend to be stable and to stay in relationships for a very long time. Tom, on the other hand, already has two strikes against him. No matter how spiritual he is, he is still sorting out what it means to be a Q♦/A♦ (see my article on the Q♦ in this same issue for more on this). This marriage may be his best yet but it remains to be seen whether or not he can make it really long term. I must say, however, that his choice is excellent and his chances are good. It really comes down to how well he understands himself and is able to take responsibility for his two previous failed marriages.

Katie is displacing the 4♥ this year and has a 4♣/J♣ right now in Jupiter, which is when she accepted Tom's proposal. No date is set as of now but I expect it will not take long. Though I haven’t written about it extensively, Tom’s Decanate Ruling Card is the J♣ and we see several instances of it in her spreads. It is her Environment Card in her Birth Card spread and her Displacement Card in her Planetary Ruling Card spread. In her Birth Card spread, she has an A♣ Long Range. I usually interpret the A♣ as if it were a 2♥ since that is its Cosmic Soul Twin. This means that if you have an A♣ in your spread somewhere, it may show up as a 2♥ as well as the usual meaning associated with the A♣. She also has an A♥ Long Range Card in her Planetary Ruling Card spread. All in all, she has a lot of hearts and instances of Tom’s cards this year. Next year she has a wedding card, the 10♥, as her Environment Card. In attempting to predict when she will get married, I see instances of marriage cards in her Mercury, Venus, Mars and Neptune periods. Comparing those with Tom’s cards it looks more likely to occur in December just after her birthday, which is in Tom’s Jupiter period.

Things look good but I notice that both of Tom’s significators are found in her Saturn period next year. Undoubtedly something difficult will occur in her life regarding him in July and August of 2006. But I don’t think this will cause a breakup by any means. And scanning down the upcoming years for both I do not see any indicators of divorce. I do see some challenges in the year following their marriage, however. The various celebrity scandal magazines keep close tabs on new couples like this so we will undoubtedly know what is going on as it occurs.

Tom has been in Neptune since May 12th and much of the latest developments occurred in this period. It may occur that things look a little different to him once his birthday has passed. And that’s the same time period as Katie’s Saturn period so stay tuned.

If Tom and Katie do break up or divorce some day, I predict that this will be the hardest of Tom’s breakups. When we are Moon to someone, we are usually the one who suffers the most when the relationship ends. I will be very curious to see what happens this next year, especially in Katie’s Saturn period where she has Tom as Saturn twice. I get the feeling that because she is young she doesn’t realize yet the power she has in this relationship. When the pressure is on, I think she will step forward. Saturn can surely bring on the pressure.

Since Tom and I share the same birthday, I tend to follow his personal life closely to look for correlations. I have found many, including cards of mates that matched up, along with a strong interest in spirituality. So, I will be following the developments in this new relationship closely as well and will make reports when new events occur. I certainly wish him well and Katie too.
Visions
Volume VIII

A Collection of 56 Articles from
The Voice of the Seven
Thunders Newsletter

by Robert Lee Camp and
Seven Thunders Publishing
and friends
Visions
Volume VIII

A Collection of 42 Articles from The Voice of the Seven Thunders Newsletter

by Robert Lee Camp and Seven Thunders Publishing and friends
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The Pluto Gateway to Your Life’s Destiny
Robert Lee Camp
August 14, 2005

The Pluto Card in our Life Spread may very well be the most important card there. When we consider that
this is a card of personal transformation that governs our entire lifetime, we begin to see its possible
significance. This is especially true for anyone who is consciously following a spiritual path. For them,
the Pluto Card represents the greatest personal challenge, the challenge of a lifetime, the hurdle that must
be surmounted in order to achieve the most important transformation in their life. Other cards in the Life
Spread are important and some point to important life issues that must be resolved. But the Pluto Card is
an almost blatant symbol of that which we need to make a personal transformation about. At 52 years of
age and having studied my cards for over 15 years, I am just now beginning to fully understand the
significance of my Pluto Card. And the more I understand it and bring my attention upon it, the more
freedom-giving energies flow into me.

Like all other important cards in our life, the Pluto Card only requires our full awareness to be met and
dealt with. It is always the lack of awareness in our life that is the problem. Awareness of something will
eventually lead to acceptance. And it is the areas of our life where we have turned a blind eye, or are just
beginning to gain an awareness of, that present the greatest hurdles to our personal happiness and
fulfillment. So, we can safely assume that most of us begin this life with little or no awareness of the
issues that our Pluto Card represent. And I would venture to say that most of us live in denial of those
issues until, by some divine grace, we are given an inkling of what lies there for us to discover about
ourselves. I feel very fortunate at this stage of my life to be receiving some awareness about this
important part of my life.

I remember when I first was learning the cards, Arnie Lein my first teacher, would tell me that my J♣
(Pluto Card) was the big issue for me in this lifetime (I am a Q♦). When he said it to me, he acted as if I
understood what he was talking about. In fact, I did not have any idea except that a negative Jack would
probably be a liar and deceptive. As I pondered on it so long ago I could not really connect with the J♣
part of me. I just wasn’t ready at that time. I didn’t know myself well enough yet. A breakthrough
occurred a couple of years ago when I realized that the J♣ is also my Decanate Ruling Card (July 3rd). For
those who are unaware of what that is, please refer to my book, Visions Volume IV, where there is a
complete article on what it is and how to find out what yours is. After seeing this, I began to see how not
only do I act like a J♣ in many ways, but also that others relate to me as a J♣. I suppose it was my
hanging out with this notion that opened up more awareness of this part of myself. And the more I hung
out with it, the more I could see the issues that lie in that part of my personality. I have long recognized
that I have a ‘super mind.’ It has served me well in many areas of my life, helping me to learn the cards,
learn computer programming, and be clever and witty. However, now I am seeing that this super mind of
mine is also a big hurdle. It doesn’t want to let go of its monopoly on my attention. It doesn’t want to stop
thinking and just let things be. It wants to keep believing that all the good things in my life have
originated from brilliant thinking. And, this brilliant J♣ mind of mine thinks that it has all the answers.
But more and more I know that this is not true. As wonderful as my mind is, I am having direct
experiences that show me that the good in my life springs from a source outside the control of my mind
and thoughts. It comes from a source over which I have no control. But my J♣ mind does not want to
embrace that, because it would mean its own death. And yet, I know inside that true liberation will be, for
me, through the renunciation of this super mind.

What my J♣ mind does have is versatility and cleverness. And these go a long way in the world for
various kinds of success. But when it comes to true happiness, it is just a shadow of the real thing. The
Jack in me will try to create a fake version of what is real. And on that level, it is a lie, a very subtle but powerful untruth. Good explanations and reasons cannot take the place of love or happiness.

The relationship between the Pluto Card and the Cosmic Reward Card, also called the Result Card, is also very important when we are trying to understand this life-long transformation. What I have realized is that the Pluto Card can represent that which is stopping us from realizing the blessings that are being held for us in the Cosmic Reward Card. Something about our Pluto Card is blocking the way, preventing us from realizing perhaps the blessing that will fulfill us more than anything else in our life. My Cosmic Reward Card is the 9♣, which also happens to be my 2nd Karma Card. For me, that card represents the letting go of all attachment to material desires and merging into the infinite abundance of God and the universe. I have been blessed to have experienced this at times in my life - this knowing that I am connected to all things and infinitely blessed. I know it is real and that it is my heritage. But I still deal with my Jack of Clubs ‘monkey mind’ as it has been called and see more than ever that it must someday die and be reborn in the light of truth and surrender to God.

It is interesting how similar the Q♦ and Q♥ Life Spreads are. The Q♣ also has a Jack as a Pluto Card and a Nine as the Cosmic Reward Card, in this case the J♥ and 9♣. There is much for them to learn in this regard, about sacrifice for love (Jack of Hearts) that will lead to mental liberation (9♣). In the same way that the Q♦ seeks liberation from attachment to things (9♦), the Q♣ yearns for mental liberation from attachment to thoughts, ideas, points of view. In other words, they yearn to merge with the Universal Mind where they will, of course, have access to all knowledge, and I do mean all. For them, the J♥ is the obstacle to their realization of this. When we think about the J♥, it becomes apparent that this can take several forms. For example, we might say that Q♣ people are born with a disposition that causes them to think that they must make sacrifices in life. This disposition would then cause them to attract to themselves situations in which they find themselves making sacrifices. The J♥ also represents a fixed love nature, and usually one that is fixed on being the sacrificial lamb to those around them. Another way of looking at this as their Pluto Card would be that they need to let go of this tendency towards a martyr-type personality and thoughts, in order to reach the universal mind.

All of us have a Pluto Card. When you think about yours, consider for a moment that this card, along with the Cosmic Reward, represent an issue that may take most of your life to come to terms with. In other words, it has a pretty high karmic power. It is a habit or tendency that is so deeply engrained in us that we may go unaware of it most of our life. Then, hopefully, we will become aware of it and begin the process of healing and opening up to the gift of our Cosmic Reward. If someone is under 30 years of age, they may not even relate to the meaning of their Pluto Card. It all depends upon their level of self-awareness.

To explore yours, read the Basic Meaning and the meaning when it is your Yearly Pluto Card in Cards of Your Destiny book. Take those interpretations and try to envision them on a much broader scale, the scale of your entire life. See if you can relate to the Pluto Card’s meanings. But also look up the meaning of your Cosmic Reward (or Result) card in the same way. Together they may describe your life-long challenge and necessary transformation. But see if you can visualize how the Pluto is the gate you must pass through to get to the gift of the Cosmic Reward. Here are a few more examples to help you understand how this works.

The 2♦ person has an A♥ Pluto and A♦ Cosmic Reward card. The A♥ means self love and the A♦ means self-worth. We might say that 2♦ people need to learn to love themselves in order to find a true sense of their own worth, as opposed to always depending on others to love them, which is a common ‘Two’ trait.
The A♠ individual has the K♥ and K♦ as their Pluto and Result Cards. Kings like this speak of power and responsibility. Either the A♠ needs to recognize the power they have or learn to use what power they have responsibly. The K♥ also represents ‘mastery over emotions’ and thus that will be a part of their challenge as well. What they get to, after overcoming the K♥ challenge, is ‘mastery of values.’

The J♥ person has a 2♦ Pluto and J♠ Result. This seems to indicate a need for more cooperation in the realms of business and finance. There could be, in some cases, illegal activities (J♠) connected to them or they attract those who are dealing under the table. The high side of the J♠ is spiritual initiation, or living a higher lifestyle. Somehow, the J♥ has to integrate others in their life in a fair way, financially speaking, to attain this high initiation for themselves.

The 4♣ person has a 8♠/A♥ Pluto combination. The 8♠ is one of the strongest power cards and perhaps many 4♣ people have to learn how to dispense power without dominating over others in the process. The A♥ speaks of a need for self love, which could be the cause of their dominating behavior, or the reason why they choose partners who are arrogant and controlling. Through either learning to moderate their power, or attain it, they can find a peaceful state of self-acceptance and unconditional love. (Some 4♣ either are abusers or get abused in relationships.)

The K♣ has a Q♥/10♣ Pluto combination. It is amazing how many K♣ men end up with women of the Hearts suit. In addition, their mother is usually a Heart or at the very least, acts like one. This Pluto combination is different for the men than for the women since for men it usually speaks of trouble with their Heart females, and marriage. For the women, the Q♥ is often a sign of female problems of one sort or the other. This can range from sexual problems to difficulties associated with motherhood. Each individual K♣ must be studied carefully as there are many ways this combination can play out. The 10♣ is the teacher card and this is the gift that is due them upon dealing with their Q♥ issues. The Q♥ is also known as a card of either over-indulgence in physical pleasures or laziness. Some K♣ have to deal with and overcome these tendencies within themselves to reach their highest potential (10♣).

It is a fairly well-known fact that most 10♣ people’s biggest hurdle is their uncertainty about what kind of work they should do. This is represented by their 3♦ Pluto Card, coupled with the A♠ Result. They really want to get going with their life’s work (A♠) but just do not know which way to turn. For them, they need to realize that the 3♦ means uncertainty in values and a mind that is too caught up in the question of ‘what do I want?’ They will have to transcend that mind or at least keep it away from the question of what do they want if they are to see the power of their ambition come to fruition. It is basically a mind mastery thing for them.

I hope these examples can help you take a closer look at your own Pluto and Result Cards. I find these to be so critical and for whatever reason, they seem to be so important in my own life right now. I am learning a lot and growing from this awareness. I hope you do too!
Our minds, as wonderful as they are, are constantly playing catch-up with reality. There is life, what is happening, and there is our mind, calculating, labeling, classifying and analyzing everything we are experiencing. It is completely unable to stay up with all that is coming in through our five senses. The mind is a busy thing, especially for those of us today in the so-called modern world, because we have been trained to depend upon it for most everything. We have become so accustomed to using our minds that we have gone overboard with it. Our culture has convinced us that our minds hold the solution to all our problems, ignoring our many other faculties. Thus we, as a civilization, tend to keep our attention glued to what we are thinking while ignoring most everything else. Might we be called ‘ignorant’?

Many of us cannot separate what we are thinking from the other parts of ourselves. We just believe that we ‘are’ what we are thinking. This is especially true of people whose Birth Card is of the Clubs suit, since it is the suit of the mind, but others share the same fate. By focusing our attention upon any one part of ourselves we can become convinced that we are that part, ignoring the rest. But there is much more to us than just our thoughts. We have our feelings, we have our senses, our emotions, our intuitions, as well as spiritual, beyond this physical plane, perceptions. A truly balanced person should be able to place his or her attention upon any of these at will. For example you have the capacity right now to focus your attention upon your breathing. If you close your eyes and just watch and feel what is happening in your body as you breath, you are directing your attention to something other than your thoughts. But I guarantee you that your mind will interfere with that attempt. Go ahead and try it right now. Sit down, close your eyes, and just be aware of the sensations surrounding your breathing. As soon as you tear your attention away from your thinking in order to feel the gentle rhythmic movements of your breath, you will find your thoughts creeping in almost immediately, wanting to steal your attention back. I would be surprised if you could sustain even five seconds of having your attention upon anything other than your thoughts. It is a sad statement of the reality of most people in our world today. I say sad because such a compulsive attachment to the mind has many undesirable consequences.

It would be just as bad, in a different way, to be completely identified and absorbed with our emotions. But this is not the usual problem today. Today at least, we are stuck in our heads. We are walking and talking heads, and little else.

The biggest problem with being so stuck in this way is that it gets in the way of our receiving sensory and other input. Have you ever been driving and sort of wake up, realizing that you can’t even remember driving the last 50 miles? I have been so lost in thought that I completely tune out everything that is going on around me. Lost in thought. This happens to most of us every day to some extent but it happens to us especially when we have a problem. When something is wrong we have been trained to look to our mind for a solution so it goes into high gear searching its records for a solution. Our mind will search the past, looking for similar situations to compare this one to, and from which to draw conclusions and answers. The trouble is, the mind cannot find solutions to most emotional or spiritual problems and so it becomes something like a mouse on a treadmill, going around and around on the same problem but not finding a solution. All the while, however, our attention is glued to it. Thus, we miss out on much of what is both happening within us on other levels and outside of us. When we are upset, our attention becomes so glued to our thoughts, that we can actually endanger ourselves. This is why they tell you not to drive a car when you are upset, or not to do anything that is inherently dangerous when you are upset. When I learned to fly I was taught to make an assessment of myself before taking off. Part of that assessment was emotional or the condition I was in on a physical and emotional level. Experience has shown that pilots who are distressed over something make mistakes and mistakes often cost you your life when it comes to flying.
You can assume that most everyone you meet is in the same boat. They are walking around with a greater percentage of their attention glued to their thoughts, lost in thought. I read a book called *The Scout* by Tom Brown in which he was trained in the art of *tracking* by an old Indian scout. He learned that it was very easy to track and scout humans because their perception levels are so low. However, if the humans he was scouting had a dog, he had to be much more careful because dogs are much more alert than humans. You and I think we are alive. But in fact we are missing most of life by having our attention glued upon our thoughts.

So, to begin with, we are not taking in much of what is going on around us. This gives us a huge limitation in life, a huge handicap. What this does all by itself is increase the chances that what we think is true actually isn’t. We just do not receive enough accurate input from our surroundings to make a correct determination of what is true or real. When I read in a newspaper about a certain political or international situation, I am at least smart enough to know that what I am reading is not the whole story. I could never expect to know the real truth from just reading the paper or listening to the news. But in our day to day lives, we miss so much of what is going on around us that we have no idea how much of what we have chosen to think is real, just isn’t.

One definition of suffering is that it is the difference between what is real and what we *think* is real. Pain in this regard, and we are talking about most of the pain we experience, is the pain of our minds adjusting to reality. And we are doing it all the time on account of our limited perception of it. If we were to just pay attention more, we would naturally have a lot less pain and suffering. We would be up to date on what is real and less in our heads. In turn, even the thoughts we have would be much closer to the truth since we had received truthful input to base them on.

The other factor that increases our pain and suffering is that we filter our perceptions through our emotionally-charged past memories, fears, expectations and beliefs. So, not only are we receiving so little information due to the fact that we are glued to our thoughts, but the information that we do receive is filtered through many misconceptions. Thus even the experiences that do get through are largely misinterpreted. Many self-help books today are all about removing these misconceptions, these misplaced concepts, that we hold about life. Many of these erroneous ideas come from our environment and our family while others came from traumatic emotional experiences, which we misinterpreted, setting a pattern of mis-interpretation upon future impressions.

Another factor that is prevalent in America and some other countries as well is the media. The media, and this includes all forms of advertising, is deliberately trying to dominate our attention. Your attention is gold in their hands and they pursue that gold with all the greed and lust they have. There is hardly anywhere you can go today where you are not being bombarded by advertising and by the media’s interpretation of reality. And we love our televisions. We would be lost without them. Even when you go out into the woods you will find advertisements in places you would not have expected. I doubt that many of us realize just how much we are controlled through the media that we so cherish. For example how could you or I make any sort of intelligent assessment of any of today’s important issues, without reading a paper or watching TV? All we have to base any opinion on is what we see, hear and read in the media. To form an opinion upon such financially driven sources of information is folly because these sources are influenced by financial interests, not yours. The truth is we rarely know anything about what is really going in our government and in foreign affairs, etc. The only thing we can say is the truth is the weather. And at least in the weather they admit that they might be wrong or that they just don’t know most of the time.

From all this, it should be obvious to anyone that if you or I are holding a strong opinion about some political agenda, or about some world event that recently occurred, or even about religion or history, that
we should have our head examined. None of us have enough information to form a point of view on any of these subjects. All we have is what we heard or read somewhere and that source was definitely tainted.

For most of us, our perception of life is akin to a peephole. We look in and see a small, limited area. We probably are seeing less than 10% of the whole. But from our limited view we draw conclusions about what is real. We ask ourselves important questions like ‘who am I?’ and ‘why am I here?’ and ‘what is the meaning of life?’ But unfortunately the answers we come up with are severely limited by how little we are actually seeing, both within ourselves and in the world around us. Our perception is so severely retarded by the limitations just discussed that the average person would be much better off not believing and trusting in what they think is true and not believing their conclusions about life. But even if you or I decided to not believe our own conclusions, the question would remain, ‘who can I believe?’ And even that choice would be severely hampered by the same limitations.

So, is it any wonder then that we have so much violence, pain and suffering in the world today? Is there any wonder that we fight with our neighbors and loved ones? We all have such a limited perspective of life and yet we are convinced of its reality. And then we fight for what we believe. It is very sad when you think about it. This is the root of much pain and suffering. This is a guaranteed recipe for pain - to be convinced that what we think is real actually is.

Is there a solution? If there is, it will only be a solution for individuals, not for the world at large. It will never be a solution for the masses because companies and others with financial motives dominate and control all mass media. The average person will never escape the stranglehold that financial interests have on their beliefs and opinions. The real solution is for each of us to get back the control of our attention. If you or I can consciously decide where to put our attention, we can become masters of our universe. We could, for example, give some of our attention to our feelings, emotions, and our connection to God within, all in some more balanced manner. We could pay more attention to the needs of our physical body. We could become more intimately aware of our bodies to the point where we would rarely require doctors or medical attention. We could become aware of our heart and our need for love and companionship and thus balance out that area of our life. We could become aware of the deepest of our inner urgings, the ones that shape our life and learn to be our own best friend. Instead of habitually depending upon our mind to solve our problems, we would learn when it is best to simply ignore our thoughts and pay attention to our hearts. By paying attention to our hearts we would become more aligned with ourselves and have gut feelings about things that would tell us whether or not they are true.

Your attention is the most valuable thing you possess. Do not just give away to the advertising companies or to your mind with its inherent limitations. Keep a good portion of it for yourself. Put it where you decide to put it. In doing so, your peephole will expand and in turn your understanding of life will expand. And of course, in the end, your life will be much happier because you are now much more aligned to what is real.

Reflections on the Critical Year
Robert Lee Camp
August 29th 2005

It is one thing to theorize about the significance of some year of life and another thing to actually live it. I have been writing about the Critical Year for many years now, mostly based upon my observations of others and of the theoretical basis as displayed in the card spreads themselves. Well, now I am living it and thought it might be a good idea to report some observations I am having.
I noticed earlier that many people die, either in their Age 52 year or within a year or so of that age. This alone seems unusual since we can live so much longer these days due to modern medicine. At 52 I am as healthy as I can be but I can see that there is some force within me, questioning my existence here on Terra. It is like a voice asking myself, ‘Do I have a good reason to stay here any longer?’ I have spoken to others lately too, some who are either in their Age 52 year or who just had it a year or so in the past. So far, we all agree that we had to answer that question. One woman I spoke with asked her guides this question, which essentially told her that she did not need to be here anymore but could stay on if she wanted to. She had really completed the bulk of the personal work she came here to do. Her decision to stay was in light of the fact that she could do some more good work while she was here.

One of my best friends’ father died at the age of 51. Then, when he was 51, my friend nearly died of a heart attack. He knew then that he was going to either change or die and he chose to change. But it was a close call and he had to make a deliberate and conscious choice to stay here. But I have known of so many more whom, for whatever reason, checked out at that time.

I can hear my own inner voice this year asking me the same question. I feel that urging within to make a stand for life and at the same time I can feel the overall urge to experience life more abundant. And I can see now, more than ever, that I am the one who limits the joy, love, happiness and pleasure that I derive from life.

Though I have only just completed my Mercury period of this magical year, I have already experienced a great deal. In my particular case, my Age 52 Environment Card, which I call the Lifetime Challenge Card, is the 7♥. So, it is a relationship card and I have been highly involved in relationships since my birthday. I see all my old tapes playing back but somehow in this blessed year I have this part of me that is witnessing it all, more clearly than ever. I can see that I have been playing these old tapes forever. They are tapes of disappointment, rejection and betrayal. They are self-judging and self-limiting mind sets, ancient past-life experiences of pain and suffering. They are the tapes that have essentially dominated my state of being most of my life in the relationship department. Age 52 is a blessed year because it is a Jupiter year. I can feel Jupiter’s blessing, helping me to see the truth and free myself of the limitations of my past.

Whatever your Age 52 Environment Card is, it is a symbol for you of that issue or area of life that has held you back, or one in which you feel a deep sense of lack. I have studied the Lifetime Challenge Cards of many people and some are quite hard to understand and interpret. At this point I feel that is up to each of us to study this card for ourselves and compare it to our experience to derive the message it holds. I can tell that in this blessed year, there is great support for letting go of those limitations, whatever they may be. I can sense more detachment from my old tapes, which allows me to witness them and to know that they are not me. That alone is priceless. But in addition to that, many good things are happening and I can see that is simply a matter of my opening to receive them and not allow my self-limiting beliefs and ideas from the past get in the way of allowing more to come into my life.

Ultimately it is all about self-love. But the Lifetime Challenge card may point each of us to one particular area where we have held back our own love the most. The Age 52 year can be a year of healing and true personal growth in the areas where it counts most. Though the Age 45 year is the Rebirth Year, I feel that it is the Age 52 year that sets the stage for the rest of our life. What will be the limitations that we place on our happiness? Every way that I limit myself has come up in the past 52 days for a visit. And, I am given a choice as to whether to continue with these limitations or to let them go. With God’s help I intend to release as many as possible, allowing myself to become more than I have in my past. It is a scary process sometimes. I have had nightmares and many bouts with my fears and limitations, all in a short space of time. But the blessings far override these episodes and tell me to ‘keep on keeping on.’ In this way, the Age 52 year shows us possibly the most important issue of having a life to live in the first place. Will we appreciate it and let it in more abundantly or keep limiting it with all our might? The answer is yours to make.
Making Accurate Predictions
Robert Lee Camp
October 27, 2005

This article is meant to help you make predictions for celebrities and others. Its fun and very educational to make predictions for celebrities because their lives are so public that you can follow along and get instant feedback on your skills. We can learn a lot because we have the facts about what happens in their lives as things progress. This is most true of the ones who are in the news a lot, which lately are mostly the younger crowd. People like Brad Pitt, Jennifer Anniston, Tom Cruise, Katie Holmes, Angelina Jolie and others are in the news a lot lately, getting together, having babies and breaking up. And then we have all the political figures to look at too! This gives us a lot of real life experiences to test our skills on. There are some things I have learned using trial and error that may help you. The skills you can develop doing analysis of celebrities can help you in any card work that you do. With some examples here, perhaps you can pick up on some of the techniques and approaches that make for more accuracy in all your card work.

There are two factors that I think are critical in doing predictions, one of which is more or less specific to doing them for celebrities. I will first list them and then explain them in detail. The first is the fact that the cards are subjective. The second is that we really do not know celebrities personally. Both these factors will have a big influence upon any predicting I do for a celebrity.

Usually before I do a reading, I have the opportunity to interview my client, ask them questions and get to know them a little. Just a short conversation can tell me a lot about them. I can pick up on their attitudes in general and their attitudes about the issues they are facing in their life right now. I can find out more about them and get the birthdays of everyone significant to them in their life at this time. This is something that I do not have access to when doing a reading for a celebrity. I may have the birthdays of one or two significant people in their life, but I do not have the others, such as father, mother, siblings, agents, and others that may be playing a significant role in their lives. Some of the cards that I see in their spreads this year could very well be the Birth or Planetary Ruling Cards of other people that I do not know about. This alone could bring inaccuracy to my work with them because I will likely be inclined to interpret the cards as events instead of the people that are actually a part of their lives. Then again, I really don’t know exactly where they are in their life. I don’t know what is most important to them, what are their current goals and aspirations. I can make a good guess but I may never be certain. However, my understanding the nature of the Birth and Planetary Ruling Cards, along with how they usually show up in life, can help me make a very good educated guess. And often I am right.

For example, the breakup of Brad Pitt and Jennifer Anniston was, in my opinion, because of his desire to have a child, which is typical of K♥ people. I’m not sure of exactly how that desire played in with the desires and wishes of Jennifer Anniston, but I must assume that it somehow caused conflict with her. And, after I had made statements to this effect, it came out in magazines that this was, in fact, the core issue surrounding their breakup. I also know that Angelina Jolie is Brad’s Mercury Card (K♦) which makes him her Moon Card. And I know from experience that men who meet their Mercury Card are often infatuated with them to a large degree. It is a powerful attraction. Thus I know for certain that Brad is highly attracted to her and that she would be the leader of their relationship. However, I do not know what is going on in Angelina’s mind, what her intentions or goals are in relation to Brad and what she wants from the situation. I do know, however, that K♦ like to get whatever it is that they want, and will often do most anything to get what they want, irrespective of morality or social norms. It could easily be true that Angelina just wanted to take Brad away from Jennifer. And she could have instinctively known that having a child would be exactly the lure that would do it. Now that she has him, I wonder what she wants next? I laugh as I write this. Isn’t life funny? I will talk about those two more later in this article.
This lack of information about celebrities in key areas makes the second part harder. The second aspect is that the cards are subjective. I cannot over-emphasize this one trait, even if it is the one thing that is most overlooked by everyone who is reading the cards. To state this another way, the cards we see in anyone’s spread are their life from their point of view. The cards in their spreads show us what is happening to them personally, not what is happening externally. A good example of this is how many different ways a person’s death can show up in the cards. There are so many that it is nearly impossible to predict a death. The cards that appear in your spreads at the time of your death will tell us only what that death was for you. You may have a 9♦, telling us that death was, for you, a loss of all your material possessions. You may have a 5♠ meaning that your death was a new adventure. Incidentally, this is the card that showed up the most for the deaths of the space shuttle astronauts that burned up in reentry a few years back. Most of us think that only the A♠, 9♠ and 6♠ are death cards. But we must realize that the cards in our spreads are subjective symbols, not objective. There is no one death card for everyone, or any card that is always one thing for anyone. What cards appear tell us what this person is experiencing, from their point of view, not what is going on externally.

Thus, in order to know what any person’s cards might mean, you need to know a little about that person. Regardless of who it is, someone you know or a celebrity, you need to try to get inside their head a little in order to understand what their card influences are telling you. Sometimes you will read about someone going through an apparent tragedy. When you look in their cards, you do not see signs of tragedy or disappointment. Perhaps you see success cards instead. This should alert you to something. Maybe what is happening in this person’s life is not being experienced as a tragedy at all. The cards tell the truth when apparent conditions may not. I always trust the cards. For example, as I write this, in yesterday’s news Harriet Miers (8/10/1945) decided to withdrawal from her nomination to the Supreme Court. Whatever we may think about why she did this, in her cards now she has a 4♠ and 8♠. Whatever the actual circumstances, this decision was okay with her, not a disappointment or failure by any means. In other words, she is fine!

So, we have to attempt to get into the heads of whoever we are reading for if we hope to be able to make some predictions for them that will be meaningful or accurate. President George Bush has a 6♠ and 7♦ coming up in his Saturn period this year, which begins on January 31, 2006. This is, on its face, a pretty scary combination. Underlying the 6♠ is a 6♥ and 4♠. There is no way you or I are going to know what is going on inside the head of President Bush. These cards tell us that he is going to have some major karmic payback. Some Hindu astrologers have actually predicted a possible assassination, so difficult are his astrological influences in the coming months. And a 6♠ in Saturn could represent a ‘karmic death.’ Without knowing some intimate details about Bush’s personal life, it would be nearly impossible to predict what this combination will mean. I do know that whatever it is, it has a good possibility of being devastating to him. I know that it will most likely be due to something he did that offended or hurt someone else personally (6♥ underlying). And we know that there could be a financial aspect to it, a major financial challenge (7♦). The 6♠ does not tell us much about the actual event but instead how it will be experienced by Bush personally. It is even possible that it could be something so personal, that it does not even make the news at all, such as a family situation. But the potential magnitude of those cards in Saturn make it more likely that it will be something big. Karl Rove, Bush’s top advisor, happens to be a 6♥. Karl has been in the news a lot lately, is being studied for a possible Federal indictment. This man is so important in Bush’s life that the possibility that he will be involved somehow in what happens in Bush’s Saturn period is very high. Karl himself (December 25th, 1950) has some interesting cards in that same period of time, Fives and Nines. So, a story seems very possible. It will be very interesting to see how this develops.
Tom Cruise (July 3rd, 1962) and Katie Holmes (December 18th, 1978) have had a much-publicized relationship in which we have seen some new and different sides to Tom. He tends to lead a more private life in general but this time he stepped out and we got to see how he can be arrogant and insecure. Apparently he and Katie are engaged, though no date has been set, and apparently she is now expecting his child. Looking at her cards I do see signs of marriage in the coming year. She displaces the 4♠, which is a major ‘settling down’ card and has the 10♥, the wedding card, as Environment. What concerns me is the fact that both of Tom’s cards fall in her Saturn period. She has a Q♦ and A♠ in Saturn in her Birth Card spread. Not only that, but there is an A♦ underlying her Q♠ Saturn card, sort of double whammy. Now we do not know exactly what this will mean, except that to Katie, it is going to be very difficult. One possible explanation given Tom’s recent behavior, is that actually living with him and all his strong beliefs will be very difficult for her. This is just based upon what we know about Tom so far. I also notice that she just entered her Neptune period on October 27th of this year and she has an A♠ there. Would it be possible that she has a miscarriage? Possibly. The only reason I mention it is that I do not see many influences of motherhood in her coming year, other than the Q♥ and A♥ in Mercury, which are not typically that strong and which occur much too early to coincide with the birth of a child. You would think that for a K♥ woman that having a baby would be monumental. So, I would normally expect to see more cards for it than we see in her case. Makes me wonder.

Speaking of people born on December 18th, Brad Pitt, born that day in 1963 has some interesting cards coming in light of his recent affiliations with Angelina Jolie (June 4th, 1975). I have already written about how compatible these two are. On Brad’s next birthday he begins a new 7-year cycle where he is displacing the K♦, Angelina’s Birth Card. In addition, he has the K♦ as his Long Range Card. She also shows up in Neptune in his Planetary Ruling Card’s spread. These are each very strong possibilities for him. Since we know that the two are together to some extent now, it just makes a deepening of their relationship all the more possible. Angelina has Brad’s Birth Card, the K♥, in Neptune this year as well. This relationship is appearing to have more staying power than I would have guessed originally.

These analysis here are still very flimsy at best. I am making some assumptions based upon what is available in the media and past histories. I may get lucky and be right about one or more of these. Whatever does happen to these individuals, the cards will accurately reflect it. But since we do not have many of the intimate details of their life, we are somewhat handicapped. But let’s see what happens. And perhaps in your analysis, combined with other things you have read and observations you have made about the people in question, you will be able to make even more accurate predictions about these celebs.

It is a fairly well-known fact that most 10♣ people’s biggest hurdle is their uncertainty about what kind of work they should do. This is represented by their 3♦ Pluto Card, coupled with the A♠ Result. They really want to get going with their life’s work (A♠) but just do not know which way to turn. For them, they need to realize that the 3♦ means uncertainty in values and a mind that is too caught up in the question of ‘what do I want?’ They will have to transcend that mind or at least keep it away from the question of what do they want if they are to see the power of their ambition come to fruition. It is basically a mind mastery thing for them.

Liar Liar - The Cards of Dishonesty
Robert Lee Camp
October 30th, 2005

I talk about the cards who lie a lot in my classes so it is time that I write about it in more depth. But before I begin I need to put forth this statement. Not everyone who is these cards will be a liar. All will have the potential for it but each person of those cards has the power of choice of whether to be guided by
personal integrity or their fears. In nearly all cases, people lie because of the fear of losing something they want or facing undesirable consequences. It all comes down to whether the individual has developed a sense of personal integrity as to whether or not they will allow their fears to dominate their decisions rather than a sense of integrity or morality. But having said that, it is human nature for each of us to use the gifts and abilities we have been given. And some cards have been given the ability to be very creative and resourceful, which are two of the necessary ingredients to being a successful liar. We will talk about these cards and identify them and some of their traits. Just as the 8♦ and K♦ person will want to use the power of their value to make big purchases and the 8♥ and K♥ person will want to use the power of personal persuasion to make others do what they want, a card with the power to lie successfully will use it simply because it is there. Many people who are dishonest know they are being dishonest and feel guilt as a result. Others have no reservations about it and do not feel that it is even wrong. But both of them will be less than honest in certain situations. As we talk about these cards, keep in mind that it applies when it is Birth or Planetary Ruling Card. Either one can manifest in the same way.

The Playful Jacks

Jacks have long had the reputation for dishonesty. I believe that it comes usually from having such mastery over the material world, but without having a sense of responsibility to go with it. Some of the greatest liars are Jacks. Jacks are idea people, extremely resourceful, and used to thinking outside of the box. They can come up with solutions that others miss and can help you get out of jam with brilliant ideas and ways of looking at things. That same gift, coupled with an often disregard for boundaries, rules and morality can create someone who lies more or less as a matter of course. I have been told by more than one Jack person that “The truth is highly overrated.” As stunning as that statement was to me at the time, I can see that it represents how many Jacks view the world. Among the Jacks, the J♥ is the least likely to lie because they are so concerned with being there for the people they love. Their sacrificial nature usually overshadows everything they do. But even some J♥ people can lead double-lives when they are single or young, or both. And there are a few I have met who have made being dishonest a life-long occupation. But these are the exception. Most J♥ are extremely trustworthy and honest because they care about you and about being there for you.

The J♠ is the most likely Jack to lie and be deceitful in many ways. Though many have a strong interest in spirituality, they just don’t seem to live up to their ideals, especially in their personal lives where the pressure is greatest and the temptation to use their creativity to get by. Some J♠ people have actually lost nearly complete touch with reality due to constant dishonesty in their lives. I have met more than one that are helplessly lost in a scary world of their own making where they must constant make things up to cover for their lack of self-love. This is especially true of many J♠ Planetary Ruling Card people. Mel Gibson is a famous J♠ Birth Card person who proclaims a more or less spiritual perspective on life and seems to be doing some good work for society along those lines. Funny that I have had two clients in California who have been propositioned by him, though he is married with a large number of children. The J♠ is so powerful that other cards who simply have it in their Life Spreads, or as a Karma Card will feel its effect. We will mention a few of those later.

The J♦ and J♣ are more or less middle of the road in the dishonesty department. Some do and some don’t. When they do, they can be award-winning liars, and achieve some level of notoriety on the dark side of things. Both have exceptional memories giving them the ability to remember everything they told everyone. Keeping track of all of that takes a genius and some of these people have it.

I enjoy watching forensic science shows on television. Not the Hollywood versions that have appeared recently but shows like Cold Case Files and Medical Detectives where they discuss real cases. Often they flash the driver’s license or some court document on the screen briefly that displays the birthday of the
perpetrator. I have Tivo so I am able to stop the show and take a good look. You would be amazed how often these villains are Jacks. Personally, I am always a little cautious around Jacks until I have the time to check them out. I am glad that none of them are my Neptune card!

Those connected to the Jacks

If someone’s first Karma Card is a Jack, we can expect that the possibility of using that Jack energy in a negative way is heightened. And this certain appears to be the case. The two that stand out in this manner are the 10♥ and 10♣. The 10♥ especially seems to be the one card in the deck that takes the grand prize in terms of lying. They have the J♠ as their first Karma Card. Perhaps there is more to the story than just that one influence but when the expression ‘pathological liar’ comes up, it is often talking about a 10♥ person. I have heard of 10♥ who have two or more marriages going on simultaneously. Talk about talent! Imagine being married to three different people, all of whom are convinced you are only married to them. Its unfortunate that so many 10♥ end up in illegal activities. It may be that all the Aces and Tens in their Life Spread preclude them from having much empathy for others.

The 10♠ also has a Jack as a first Karma Card, the J♠. Accordingly you might think they would have the highest leanings in the areas of dishonesty and theft. There are many examples of 10♠ people out there who do turn that way. But most of them are so success-driven and so capable of it, that they rarely need to resort to the lower forms to get to where they want to go. The capacity is certainly present but generally gets expressed in positive ways such as creativity and resourcefulness. Still, I am careful around 10♠ until I get to know them.

The 7♣ has a J♠ second Karma Card, which means a great ability to lie if they want, and get away with it. Ex-president Bill Clinton was such a 7♣. Consider for a moment a person whose Birth Card is the 7♣ and whose ruling card is the J♠. Interesting possibilities present themselves.

The 5♠, K♣, 2♦ and Q♠ all have a Jack in Mercury in their Life Spread. Among these only the 2♦ stands out as having honesty issues. And I have heard so many stories from friends and clients about 2♦ people and their lies. Having the J♠ in Mercury is a contributing factor but not the entire story. The 2♦ also has the 6♣ as their first Karma Card, which usually means a tendency to not take the ‘law of the word’ seriously. The tendency is there in all 2♦ and is expressed to whatever the extent of the individual’s personal karma and progress in this life. They are one to keep an eye on, in my opinion.

The Threes and their Friends

Threes are by their very nature a lot like the Jacks. They are creative. But in addition, they are also more prone to be afraid. They can and do lie but usually because they are afraid of some consequences instead of just having a general disregard for honesty in the first place as we see in some Jacks. Any Three can be a liar, or as I like to say, a ‘good story-teller.’ When I hear some Threes talk, like the 3♣ for example, I just sit back in amazement at the often-rich and engaging story they can weave. I don’t take too much of it seriously however and I don’t think the 3♣ takes what they themselves say very seriously either. In my experience, it can and will change, usually within seven days. However, it sounds very convincing and most people will believe them and that the 3♣ is coming from the heart. I mention the 3♣ first because this is the strongest of the Threes in terms of dishonesty potential. The 3♦ takes a close second followed by the 3♥ and 3♠. All have the creative power to come up with a convincing story. But the 3♣, being a communicator at heart, gets top honors. Like the J♠, I see many 3♣ that get more or less lost in a world that has no boundaries or substance. Anyone who is dishonest on a more or less constant basis will lose touch with a sense of what is real, and lost-lasting. This leads to an overall sense of uncertainty and fear.
As you witness anyone who is a Three, you can see a bit or a lot of that in them. It varies per the individual.

Those who are connected to the Threes also have a potential for dishonesty. Among them, my card, the Q♦, takes top spot. We have a 3♦ first Karma Card, a 3♣ in Venus and a 3♠ in Mars. It is generally in our personal life that we are dishonest, usually due to a pervading sense of insecurity and uncertainty in love matters. I recently read an article in Newsweek magazine by a woman who talked about her father and how he was a pathological liar. She said that he would attend a party she was giving and go around the room and meet everyone. Afterwards, all her friends would come up to her and say, “Wow, your father is terrific! I had no idea he was a covert operations man for the DEA!” and “We enjoyed getting to know your father and hearing all about his life as a foreign diplomat.” She soon realized that everyone he talked to had been given a different story. I was convinced her father had to be a Jack or a 10♥. I emailed her and asked for his birthday. Turns out he was born on June 16th, making him an A♦ and Q♦ Planetary Ruling Card. The Q♦ was the part of him that was being expressed in that situation. Speaking of those born in June, Gemini’s have long held the astrological distinction of being the liars of the zodiac. Not all Geminis are liars by any means but it does add a little to their propensity if they are a Gemini birthday of the one of the cards mentioned here. Something to keep in mind.

The 6♣ and other Sixes

Finally we come to the 6♣ and their relatives, the other Sixes. Six is all about responsibility and being fair. But when someone is a Six it just means that this is their issue, not that they actually have a handle on it. Not all Sixes are irresponsible. A lot of them are too responsible, making a mountain out of a molehill about being responsible. But nonetheless we have to keep in mind that an equal number of Sixes will fall on the negative end of their card. Those are the ones who have come here to learn to practice integrity and responsibility. Thus, any Six may have the capacity to be irresponsible according to their suit. For example, a 6♣ person may display total irresponsibility concerning a financial matter. Now, what if this same 6♣ were a 10♥ Planetary Ruling Card, such as the October 3rd birthday. Bingo! You have a high potential for some shenanigans. But since Clubs govern the spoken word, it is the 6♣ who bear the most responsibility around what they say. And I have seen many 6♣ who were brought down from greatness by not telling the truth. My guru and spiritual teacher of over ten years is a 6♣ who lost his entire empire because he lied about his intimate involvement with several of the women on his staff. It wasn’t the act itself that infuriated his followers but the fact that he had lied about it. When someone is a Six, they would be wise to take the power of their suit very seriously. I consider the 6♣ to be the most fortunate card in the deck materially speaking. They have much to be grateful for. And many of them are very honest. Some have a special spiritual or other mission to fulfill in this life. But I am always careful when I meet one until I can discover which side of the honesty fence they are on.

Now you have the tools to be watchful for the cards of deceit. It’s not that we have to consider everyone we meet of these cards to be liars. But it is wise to take some time before entrusting them with your confidence. Some, like the Q♦, will usually be dishonest in just one area. But there is no rule that applies to all. I like to think of it as being cautiously realistic. I don’t prejudge people but I keep my eyes open to see what is going on, keeping in mind the potential of their birthday to have a certain behavior appear. Generally the behavior does appear in some way. But usually it is not an important area or something that will cause me any harm. In classical Vedic Indian texts, honesty was considered against Dharma (right conduct) but there were exceptions. It was considered perfectly fine to lie in two sets of circumstances: when your life was being threatened and when all of your personal property was at stake. And I cannot forget the book that I read years ago which was discussing the topic of lying from a spiritual perspective. It read, “Lying is not that great of a sin, no more in fact, than overeating. We must not be so harsh in our judgement of those who are dishonest.” That statement got me to be more accepting of dishonesty in
others and myself. Dishonesty has its own liabilities and it is not everyone’s issue. Just certain ones of us have to work on this to regain our sense of personal integrity.

The Price of Gold and Gas
And other mulling
Robert Lee Camp, October 30, 2005

Life has gotten even more interesting since 9/11. When we thought we had seen it all we now see the price of fuel skyrocketing. Katrina and other hurricanes are shifting our sense of safety to one of general insecurity. I hear people I know complaining about the high costs of fuel. People are driving less, causing the price of fuel to actually go down lately. If shopping somewhere requires a long drive, people are opting for somewhere closer. Walmart, the largest retailer in the world is attributing lower sales to the cost of gas. But did you know that we are still much lower than the average cost of fuel around the world? Check out these prices per gallon (as of May 2005, using currency exchange rates from August 2005) from a recent CNN/Money article:

- Amsterdam, Netherlands: $6.21
- Stockholm, Sweden: $5.74
- Paris, France: $5.43
- Zagreb, Croatia: $4.80
- Tokyo, Japan: $4.61

Count yourself lucky to be living in America at this time. If you have visited many foreign countries you will notice that a lot of people ride motor scooters. I have seen entire families packed onto one small motor scooter in India. Motor scooters generally get 90 or more miles to gallon. And sales are up, way up!

The rising fuel costs have also highlighted just how poor our system of public transportation is. Other countries far less fortunate than our own have great public transportation systems of many kinds. Maybe we will come around to the same. I laugh when I see these television ads for new cars and trucks, especially SUVs and these big power trucks. I can just see the pain on the owners faces when they are at the gas pump and realize how much a fill-up is costing them. Personally I am very pleased that I purchased a VW Jetta Diesel a year ago. I get 50 mpg on the road. Even these new hybrids don’t actually get that good mileage. What surprises me the most is how no one is complaining about the fact that our president and his cabinet are mostly ‘oil-men’ and how the oil companies have made the largest profits ever the past two years.

The price of gold always goes up when there is a state of general uncertainty in the world. The billions of dollars that people have in various investments starts to shift into ‘safe harbors’ and gold is the bottom line safety harbor of all. So, it is no surprise that recently gold reached a 17-year high of $480 an ounce. All analysts are saying that it will go much higher in the coming months.
The Crown Line

The Crown Line, just like it sounds, is a special place. Most Birth Cards will move there, by Displacement, several times in their life. Some are born there or spend seven or thirteen years there. This article is about removing some of the mystery about this special place and its effects.

In the Love Cards book, on pages 342 and 343 you will find an illustration of the Life Spread and Spiritual Spreads, in the format we call the Grand Solar Spread. There are actually ninety of these Grand Solar Spreads and it is from these that we derive all the yearly and other spreads and relationship connections. In reality, the entire system is contained in the first two if you know where and what to look for. But what I what to direct your attention to is the three cards that sit atop the entire deck. In the Life Spread, it is the K♠, 8♦ and 10♣. In the Spiritual Spread, it is the K♠, Q♠ and J♠.

These three positions in either spread, combine together to form what we call the Crown Line. And remember, there are a total of ninety of these Grand Solar Spreads and in each one different cards are found in the Crown Line. All but six of the Birth Cards will go to the Crown Line 2 or more times over the course of their life. The six that will not move there are the all of the Fixed and Semi-fixed cards, except of course, the K♠ who always sits there.

The Crown Line is much like the 10th house, or the Midheaven, in astrology. The Crown Line is the highest position in the spread, just like the Midheaven and 10th house are the highest positions in the natal chart. The 10th house and Midheaven relate to career ambitions, and reputation. The Crown Line is similar. It relates to reputation, fame, notoriety and more. When sitting in the Crown Line, we get to look down on all the other cards in the deck from a lofty position. Some cards sit there at Birth and so hold this lofty position their entire lives. These are the K♠, 8♦ and 10♣. What these three cards have in common is a natural predisposition towards fame and recognition, and a tendency to be very independent. This independence is a very marked trait. These three cards often have an attitude that they are somehow ‘above’ the rules and boundaries of society and the world. They are personally independent, even rebellious. Sometimes they have a disregard for any rules or laws, somehow feeling themselves to be immune from these societal limitations. Personally they are quite independent as well, often avoid marriage or other confining relationship arrangements. But it is their tendency to be so directed towards fame and a high standing that really sets them apart from the other 49 cards in the deck. Not that they all achieve fame or that many of the other 49 cards do not. But it is the natural birthright of these three cards to be leaders and trend-setters on account of their position in the Crown Line.

45 of the Birth cards, which means all but the seven Fixed and Semi-Fixed cards, will move to the Crown Line twice every 45 years. The first time will be when they displace the 10♣, a position we call the Ascent to the Pinnacle. The next time, occurring exactly three years later, is when they displace the 8♦, which is called the Pinnacle year itself. The 8♦ position, in the center of the Crown Line, is the most desired of all. It is the topmost center position of all the cards in the deck. It is the Pinnacle position and often endows its occupant with fame and recognition. It is likely that your Birth or Planetary Ruling Card will move there at least once in your lifetime. Chapter Eight in Cards of Your Destiny tells the age that each card moves to the Ascent to the Pinnacle and the Pinnacle position if you would like to quickly look up when you will move there.

The Pinnacle year (8♦ displacement), has even more significance than the Ascent to the Pinnacle (10♣ displacement). It is literally the highest position that one can occupy in the spread. And, it represents the end of the line as far as a cycle of life is concerned. There are many other reasons for the significance of the Pinnacle position and you can read more about it in Cards of Your Destiny, Chapter Eight.

So, moving to the Crown line for a year, because of Displacement, can be a great thing. Some people can achieve fame. Others get promoted to higher positions within their company. Some achieve the highest position available to them given their current situation. And all of these would be considered good fortune for someone desiring more fame or recognition. So, knowing when someone’s Birth or Planetary Ruling Card is going to move there can portend some good fortune for them.
13-Year Crown Line Cards

But there are cards that sit one or more of the Crown Line positions for seven years and others for thirteen years. These cards have even greater likelihood of achieving fame and high reputation, and one that is more long-lasting. Let’s explore these. Previously we mentioned how we can get to the Crown Line by Displacement. That is not the only way to get it’s influence but it is a good one. The other way is through the positions in a Life Spread, seven-year spread or yearly spread. Lets start by looking at the longer lasting ones. Since each card in our Life Spread represents approximately 13 years of our life, anyone who has the 10♣, 8♦ and K♠ as one of their Life Spread cards will enjoy that Crown Line influence for 13 years for each card. Take for example, the 6♣ person. Their Mars card in their Life Spread is the 10♣. This 10♣ will be in effect for them for 13 years beginning at age 26. This is a strong, Crown Line influence that propels many 6♣ people into the limelight at a relatively young age. But even after age 38 when their Mars period ends, they remain in the Crown Line for 26 more years! This is because their Jupiter card in the Life Spread is the 8♦ and their Saturn Card, the K♠. The 6♣ is one of the rare cards that enjoys 39 years in the Crown Line, and this is symbolic for how many of them achieve high success in their life.

But they are not the only ones. The Q♥, 6♠, 8♥ and 2♠ each enjoy 39 years in the Crown Line by virtue of the same principal. The difference is that they will enjoy it at different ages. For example, the 2♠ does not enter the Crown Line until age 52 when they enter their Saturn 13-year period governed by the 10♣. The Q♥, on the other hand, begins their life in the Crown Line. Their Mercury Card, which governs ages 0-12, is the same 10♣. This is why so many Q♥ enjoy early fame or early success in their life. If you take a quick look at all the famous people that have been these cards, you will see that having Crown Line cards in your Life Spread greatly increases your chances for high recognition or fame.

7-Year Crown Line Cards

Each card in our Life Spread also governs one year and seven years of our life. Thus the same cards mentioned above enjoy Crown Line influences for 21 years (3 cards times 7 years), further enhancing their fame potential. But since seven years is much shorter than 13, we find many other cards who enjoy Crown Line success at different points in life for 7, 14 and 21 year periods. Here are a few examples. First, from displacement in the 7-year spreads, we have the 7♣, who sits in the Pinnacle position for seven years beginning at age 7. Likewise the 4♠ displace the 10♣ for the same seven years. This early fame can be shown in their childhood and early school years. The table below shows which cards sit in each of these two auspicious positions for the seven year cycles up to age 83. You will see that most of the cards are the same ones already mentioned as having Crown Line influences in different categories.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ages</th>
<th>Displacing 8♦</th>
<th>Displacing 10♣</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-6</td>
<td>8♠</td>
<td>10♣</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7-13</td>
<td>7♣</td>
<td>4♠</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14-20</td>
<td>J♣</td>
<td>4♥</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21-27</td>
<td>10♣</td>
<td>10♣</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28-34</td>
<td>4♠</td>
<td>Q♥</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35-41</td>
<td>4♥</td>
<td>9♣</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42-48</td>
<td>10♣</td>
<td>6♦</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49-55</td>
<td>Q♥</td>
<td>3♠</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56-62</td>
<td>9♣</td>
<td>J♣</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63-69</td>
<td>6♦</td>
<td>J♣</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-76</td>
<td>3♠</td>
<td>10♥</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77-83</td>
<td>J♣</td>
<td>5♠</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Here are a few others:
From ages 49 to 56 the 7♠ has a Crown Line influence from their 49-year spread.
From ages 49 to 63 the 4♠ has a Crown Line influence from their 49-year spread.
From ages 49 to 70, the 9♣ has a Crown Line influence from their 49-year spread.
From ages 56 to 77 the 2♠ has a Crown Line influence from their 49-year spread.
From ages 63 to 84 the 2♦ has a Crown Line influence from their 49-year spread.

Crown Line Influences for a series of periods

Any year in which our Birth Card or Planetary Ruling Card displaces one of the following cards, we have one or more periods in the Crown Line.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Card Displaced</th>
<th>Location of K♠</th>
<th>Periods in the Crown Line</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8♦</td>
<td>Mercury</td>
<td>Mercury</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10♣</td>
<td>Venus</td>
<td>Mercury and Venus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q♥</td>
<td>Mars</td>
<td>Mercury, Venus and Mars</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6♠</td>
<td>Jupiter</td>
<td>Venus, Mars and Jupiter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6♣</td>
<td>Saturn</td>
<td>Mars, Jupiter and Saturn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8♥</td>
<td>Uranus</td>
<td>Jupiter, Saturn and Uranus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2♠</td>
<td>Neptune</td>
<td>Saturn, Uranus and Neptune</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4♦</td>
<td>Pluto</td>
<td>Uranus and Neptune</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4♥</td>
<td>Result</td>
<td>Neptune</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Thus, if I displace the 8♥ this year, the periods of Jupiter, Saturn and Uranus will be in the Crown Line, regardless of what cards I may have in those periods. Note that in every case, the K♠ will appear somewhere in the spread. The K♠ is always in the Crown Line and is the most powerful card in the entire deck. Thus, it can predict great success under certain conditions. But in each of these cases, there is the likelihood for great success or more recognition in one’s position in life. It represents an opportunity to achieve more recognition, to be promoted to a higher position or to somehow stand out from the rest and be noticed. This can be very important information for someone who wants these things. Being in the Crown Line is a good time to advertise whatever you are doing and to reach out in the media for more attention to you and your products and services.

However, the Crown Line can also be a place of infamy. Fame can be created in a person’s life for many reasons. For example, Nicole Simpson, O.J.’s wife, and her friend Ron Goldman, were both in the Pinnacle Year the year they were murdered. Fame does not in any way guarantee something that we might label as good or great. It is just fame.

All in all, the Crown Line is a good thing and most people welcome the promotions or other recognition they receive when they are under its influence. Others are determined to achieve high recognition at all costs. And for them, the Crown Line influence can tell you when they will realize their dream. Paying attention to it can help all of us understand some of the significant cycles of life.
Transcending Your Cards

Yes, you can transcend your cards. No, it is not easy. Yes, it is possible. Yes, it has been done and is still being done. But no, most people who think they are transcending them are not. And truthfully, it is a very rare event that may occur to you only under the right conditions.

It goes back to some ancient Indian philosophy that speaks about transcending the plane of duality that most of us live in. Like it or not, our lives are being played out on the stage of Maya, or illusion. In this illusion, everything is regarded as either bad or good, fortunate or unfortunate, happy or sad, dark or light, lucky or unlucky. This is the world we are born into. Our parents and other family members indoctrinate us into it at an early age. They tell us what is real and what is not and we have little choice but to believe them. Thus, our reality and our relationship with the world is formed. We learn about good and bad, or good and evil, from them and we learn to label the various things we do and experience under these various headings. From that point forward we evaluate and label everything that happens to us. Labeling helps us communicate about what we are experiencing with others. But only when the meaning of our words match theirs. When we meet someone who interprets our labels differently than we do, we have difficulty finding suitable words to communicate our intentions and ideas. But, most likely the other people we meet as a child have been given very similar meanings to their labels and events and so we are generally able to maintain good communication.

However, our labels have unknowingly limited our relationship to the world. We have this compelling habit of labeling everything as good or bad, along with a predetermined mission to avoid all that is bad and pursue all that is good. That is our social imperative – to pursue good and avoid bad. That is basically what we are all about. It is so simple that it is comical. But that is what we are up to. And this is the very essence of the Maya or illusion that we live in and that which must be transcended if we are to experience higher consciousness. And if we are ever to transcend our cards, which are intimately linked with our personal illusions, we must first transcend our interpretation of events and experiences in our lives. To do this requires the achievement of a higher state of awareness, one in which labels are meaningless.

They say that to an evolved master that a lump of clay is the same as a pile of gold. They hold the same meaning and the same value. This state of being has been called ‘choice-less awareness.’ It is a state of being where everything just is and there is no compulsion to achieve good or avoid bad. In this state of mind, good and bad are seen as they truly are – just mental concepts about life, but not life itself.

When you or I look in our cards and see a 9♠ coming in our Saturn period what do we do? Most of us will be concerned or afraid. And this is especially true if the cards have already proven their accuracy and validity to us. So, we read the interpretation of the 9♠ in Saturn and we see that this is likely going to be a very big disappointment, our own death or the death of someone we know – pretty serious stuff. So, how could someone transcend this powerful and often deadly influence? Well, any Nine can mean fulfillment. To someone who is spiritually aware and conscious of themselves, and who has been living more and more out of this awareness, this same 9♠ could bring the completion of a long sought after goal or occupation. It could also represent the attainment of enlightenment, even in Saturn. You see, Saturn is only a ‘punisher’ when we are out of alignment in our awareness of others. If a person has learned to be considerate of others in all of his or her undertakings in life, he or she is essentially free of Saturn’s retribution. In such cases, Saturn rewards us with good reputation and crowning achievement. Remember that Saturn is the planet that governs the 10th house of fame and reputation in astrology.

Nines and Sevens both are known to bring ill fortune. They are ‘bad cards’ and especially in the positions of Mars, Saturn, Pluto and Displacement. But these are also called spiritual success cards. To someone who has become unattached to the material plane stuff, these cards always bring success. I myself have overcome my poverty consciousness. The same 7♦ that used to bring me so many money problems now bring me wealth. I have made the most money of any time in my life when I had a 7♦ in the Mars period, a position that would have caused great difficulty in my past. I have literally transcended
the money cards in my spreads. However, I am still working on other areas. The relationship cards seem to be the hardest for me personally.

The ancient Vedic teachers knew that one can transcend duality through opening of the heart chakra. The fourth, or heart chakra is where the heart opens completely and the person experiences nothing but love. When one sees nothing but love all around them, they are no longer bound by duality. It is simple, powerful and yet hard to understand just how this amazing principle works. If we could attain a state of perpetual love for everything in our life, we would automatically transcend all of our cards. In that state of bliss we lose all concern for good and bad. We just love what is. This state cannot be attained that easily. I do believe it can be attained. I have experienced it in brief moments at different times in my life. Those experiences showed me that it was possible, probably God’s way of telling me not to give up. Hope is in sight. Either way, the truth is that the more we can appreciate and love the things and people in our life, the more we will transcend duality and live in the truth of God’s love. And, of course, our cards will no longer apply to us. They may, in retrospect, reflect what happened. But there will be no more of the tragedy and loss that most of us suffer on a regular, if not daily, basis.

So, if you are really determined to transcend your cards, I hope this little article gives you direction to follow. The more we can drop our fear of cards and just live a good life, the less any of these influences will actually affect us.

The End of 2005 & Early 2006: A Vedic Astrology Perspective
By Joseph Malinak

This time of the year is a period in which we reflect on the passing year and look forward to the coming one. In this article, we will take a brief look at the recent past and early year ahead for the USA through the lens of Vedic astrology. As you will see, there are an infinite number of factors intertwining together to weave a complex pattern of events. As Lord Krishna said to Arjuna in the Bhagavad-Gita, “Unfathomable is the course of karma.” In other words, we never definitively know cause and effect. So for our purposes, we’ll focus primarily on planetary transits and interactions of Mars and Saturn, Pluto and Mars, and Rahu (the North Node). We will consider these transits and interactions as “triggers” for events rather than causes.

USA’s Vedic Chart

First, a few words about Vedic astrology (Jyotish). Although there are significant differences between Vedic Astrology and Western astrology, today, I’ll mention only a few.

- Vedic astrology is sidereal in nature therefore the planets are seen against a fixed background whereas Western astrology is tropical in nature based on the Sun. The result is that in the Western system, Aries always begins on April 21 but, in Jyotish, Aries would begin approximately 21 - 24 degrees earlier. Thus the signs of many of your natal planets will be different in Vedic, usually the sign before the one in western.

- One’s ascendant & Moon sign are more important than one’s Sun sign. In Western astrology, I am a Cancer because my Sun falls in Cancer but in Jyotish, I am a Taurus because that is my ascendant.
In Jyotish, planetary aspects are from house to house rather than by degree. All planets aspect seven houses away from their location in a chart. Jupiter also casts aspects on houses 5 & 9, Mars also on 4 & 8 and Saturn, 3 & 10.

In our look we’ll use both the USA’s chart and the President’s because, as it has been said, “As the President goes, so goes the nation.” There is much disagreement between astrologers, both Eastern and Western, about the exact birth time to be used for the USA chart. Some even have proposed interesting arguments for a July 2, 1776 birth date rather than the generally accepted July 4. I have seen notable astrologers who used Gemini, Cancer, Leo, Libra, Scorpio and Sagittarius ascendants. For the purposes of this article, we will use a USA chart with a Sagittarius ascendant and mention that much can be determined about the impact of transits, no matter which ascendant is chosen. President Bush’s birth time is generally agreed to be 7:26 am, Jul 6, 1946 in New Haven Connecticut.

The Mars Saturn Connection

Perhaps most notable both in looking back and for early 2006 is the mutual aspect between Mars and Saturn. In August 2005, Mars entered Aries and will remain there for 6 months until early February 2006 while Saturn remains in cancer for over 2 years. In the sign of Aries, Mars is aspecting Saturn in Cancer and Saturn is aspecting Mars in Aries. This is a dreaded mutual aspect between the 2 most malefic planets and gives rise to much contention and frustration because of their opposite nature. Saturn’s chilling effect is like stepping on the brake with both feet while Mars’ heat is like moving full steam ahead with both feet on the accelerator. This mutual aspect between Mars and Saturn gave rise to much contention and frustration in the last half of 2005 and will continue into early 2006.

Although there may be a very difficult planetary configuration in the sky, it will not affect everyone or everyone in the same way. However, it will affect anyone who has natal planets that will touch upon these two as they do their dance. It just so happens that it does touch upon planets in the chart of President Bush and the USA. So let’s see how this mutual aspect impacts the charts of President Bush and the USA.

In President Bush’s natal chart there is a Pluto-Mercury natal conjunction in his first house, Cancer, which tends to lead one to extreme stances, subjectivity and, once the mind is made up, unwillingness to change positions. Transiting Saturn is directly hitting this Pluto and Mercury conjunction while being aspected by transiting Mars from Aries.

Saturn transiting one’s first house is difficult in itself. Here, Saturn demands accountability, especially socially, such as in terms of integrity in relationships. If there has been a gap in the way one thinks things should be and the way they are in reality, Saturn demands a more realistic perspective. But Mars aspect on the Pluto-Mars conjunction exacerbates stubbornness and an unwillingness to allow the accountability and realism Saturn is demanding. Notice that Mercury is President Bush’s third house lord...
and as such rules communication. The Saturn-Mars aspect on Mercury can create aggressive verbal responses to frustrations or perceived attacks. But it can also result in ineffectiveness in speech whether conciliatory or aggressive. The president’s perceived effectiveness reflected in the polls in the last half of the year has been unusually low no matter how many speeches he has made. He has gone from a 57% approval rating in June to 37% in December.

- Some of President Bush's biggest disappointments of the year can be viewed as a direct reflection of this malefic transit combination:
  - The withdrawal of Harriet Miers, his second pick for the Supreme Court.
  - The impotent federal response to Hurricane Katrina, which tainted his leadership profile.
  - The Iraq debate took on new potency at home while many called for withdrawal of all troops.
  - As the year ended, the administration lost its bid to open oil drilling in an Alaska wildlife refuge.
  - Congress extended the Patriot Act for just a month.
  - The European Union was vowing to probe allegations that the U.S. has been holding suspected terrorists in secret CIA prisons in Eastern Europe.
  - The White House was forced to accept Sen. John McCain’s demand for tighter restrictions on the treatment of foreign detainees.
  - At the end of the year some were calling for impeachment because of government eavesdropping without warrants.
  - Even a casual following of national events reveals the obstacles and frustrations he has faced in these months. Although the final exact square of transiting Mars and Saturn takes place on December 28, 2005, when Western astrologers would then begin to relax, a Vedic astrologer would expect the house to house aspect to continue to bring difficulties for the President into February.

Transiting Saturn has been closely conjunct USA’s Rahu (North Node) in Cancer. Rahu exaggerates. Rahu in Cancer can bring a strong protectionism tendency in an individual or entity, especially in protecting against real or perceived threats to family, home, or homeland. The Mars-Saturn mutual aspect impacting the nation’s natal Rahu has lead to an openly aggressive stance, defying international opinion: torture and denial of legal right of prisoners, secret prisons, kidnapping citizens of other countries, killing of perhaps 100,000 innocent civilians in Iraq.

Expect accountability for these actions to be demanded throughout 2006, even as these or similar actions continue.

The transit of Saturn may also create unease in the economy and a falling housing market throughout the year. Again this is looking at only one of the many elements impacting a complex situation.

Notice in the USA’s transit chart above that in late December 2005/early January 2006, Pluto enters Sagittarius. In this position, Pluto is directly opposite the USA’s Mars in Gemini. This notoriously difficult transit has the potential to be very difficult. Generally, this opposition can lead to explosive situations due to a lack of self discipline or self control and stubbornness. It can bring arguments, accidents and violence. This energy will be strengthened in early April when transiting Mars exactly conjuncts the USA natal Mars, while this conjunction is opposed by transiting Pluto. Again, this portends political difficulties, violence, war, or earth upheavals.

At the end of 2005 and beginning of 2006 this Pluto – Mars opposition is occurring at the same time that Mars exactly squares Saturn. This is a dangerous time for President Bush and the Nation. It can only be hoped that our leaders are extra thoughtful in their decisions at this time.
It's time for an update on the latest celebrities, whose pregnant, whose getting married, whose getting divorced, etc. There is a lot we can learn about the cards by watching celebrities. It's like having more relatives whom you can watch and study their cards. And their lives are so public that there is often little that is not known about them, making them ideal subjects for study. And, it is fun to make predictions for them using the cards. It's amazing how much the cards can tell us about them.

Let's start with Brad Pitt (December 18th, 1963) and Angelina Jolie (June 4th, 1975). In the February 20, 2006 issue of In Touch, there is a long article about the couple and their upcoming wedding. One headline says “Angelina is leading Brad around.” Here they contrast his relationship with Jennifer Anniston where he lead her around. Instead Angelina is leading Brad and it is quite noticeable. And isn't this exactly what we would expect since he is her Moon Card? Brad’s K♥ sits right behind Angelina’s K♦. So, here is a woman who can tame the lion. Apparently Angelina thinks that children are very important and she picked the perfect wife, i.e. Brad, to take care of the brood (the Moon person in a Sun/Moon relationship plays the wife role). Angelina has two adopted children already and is pregnant with Brad’s child now, her first natural child. Angelina is also taking charge of all the wedding plans, which is also opposite what Brad did with Jennifer Anniston. In the former case, he oversaw all of the wedding details himself. They actually should be married by the time you read this. Angelina has a 9♥/K♥ in Uranus from February 20th – April 13th, which is a very strong marriage influence (9♥ means the completion of an event or the ending of single life). But it may occur in March as well. They are keeping the date secret but rumor has it that Brad is anxious to have it happen, another characteristic of being a Moon Card to someone. The latest is that they are expecting a baby girl to be born sometime this summer. Since her Result Card is an A♠, the child could be born on June 3rd or July 1st. If I get a better expected date, I will make a prediction.

Will these two stay married. I am betting yes, for at least 5-7 years and maybe longer. Brad just entered a new 7-year period in December in which he displaces the K♦, Angelina’s Birth Card. There are no prominent divorce cards in his foreseeable future. He also has the K♦ Long Range this year. The fact is that even though Brad will be playing the wife role in this relationship, these two are very compatible and have similar values. As a K♥ he loves children enough to make their welfare his primary focus.

Speaking of babies and K♥, Katie Holmes, December 18, 1978, is expecting her child by Tom Cruise (July 3rd, 1962) in her Mars period (April 2nd to May 24th) this year. The birth of the baby looks good and assured. She has a 4♦ and 2♥ in Mars in her Birth Card spread and a 5♥/8♠ in her Planetary Ruling Card spread. But what is happening with their marriage plans? There are some indications in his spread and in hers, but not strong. I get the feeling that he is getting cold feet about it. And what really concerns me most is that he is both of her Saturn cards this year, in the period of July 15th to September 5th. Him being Saturn to her means that on some level he is being a burden and restriction, as well as a critic, to her. We have already seen how arrogant he can be about his beliefs on television. I wonder how he applies these beliefs to his young wife to be? It just makes me wonder about their future. I do not feel that Tom is a genuine person, about her or in general. I guess I am feeling a little worried about Katie but on another level I know that she chose this for some reason. It reminds me a little of John F. Kennedy (3♠) and his wife, Jacqueline, another K♥. He was an incredible philanderer and womanizer and she, the dutiful obedient wife.
As I predicted last year, Nick Lachey and Jessica Simpson’s (July 10th, 1980) marriage has bitten the dust. Though formally separated at the moment, Nick is not wasting any time getting back into circulation. Nick is fairly bad news to any woman who would want to marry him or even date him right now. Born November 9, 1973, he is a ♣ with double Two Planetary Ruling Cards. He is now dating a former girlfriend, Elizabeth Arnold (birthday unknown). Nick claims he still has feelings for Jessica and she is his Long Range Card this year. As far as I can tell, they will not get back together. I see a new man coming into her life after her next birthday, and Nick becoming a father next year, most likely with someone else.

Jennifer Lopez (July 24, 1970) is trying to get pregnant with her new husband Marc Anthony (September 16, 1968) and it looks like they might get their wish within the next year. The influences are not the most definitive, but promising. She has a ♦ Long Range next year and the ♦ can mean ‘three hearts’ i.e. the mother, father and baby. He has a ♦ in Neptune this year and a ♦ Long Range right now. Good cards, but like I said, not definitive.

Rumor has it that Cameron Diaz (August 30th, 1972) is now sporting an engagement ring from Justin Timberlake (January 31, 1981) whom she has been dating for the past three years. Is marriage in their future? If so, it is not showing up in their cards anytime soon. The cards show her dreaming about it (10♦ in Neptune) but it is only showing as a small possibility in his cards. Also possible is for her to have a child by him. But again, these are relatively small influences. I would tend to think that neither will actually happen.

The Hidden Cards in Your Spreads

If you are reading the Cards of Your Destiny or Destiny Cards book, which are the same internally, you are probably not aware of the cards I am going to talk about here. You are, by now, familiar with your planetary period cards, Mercury through Neptune, and the yearlong cards, the Long Range, Pluto, Result, Environment and Displacement. All of these but the Environment and Displacement Cards have what we call Underlying Cards. These Underlying Cards are influences that are normally hidden in the sense that they do not show in the book and are derived from techniques involving reading the Grand Solar Spreads. These techniques are only discussed in Exploring the Little Book of the Seven Thunders and in the Advanced Oracle Workbook. But there is a way, if you are willing to do a little work, to reveal the Underlying Cards in your Yearly Spreads, without using the advanced techniques in those books, by simply using your Destiny Cards and Love Cards books.

What is really great about the Underlying Cards is that they can show you things that you normally would never see, often revealing things that are very important and meaningful. Let’s first talk a little about the Underlying Cards and then I will show you how you can look yours up and interpret them. Most of the cards in your Yearly Spreads have two Underlying Cards. These cards are derived from your yearly Displacement Card(s) for the most part. You may already know that the Displacement Card is where your card is sitting this year in the Grand Solar Spread of the Life Spread, illustrated here. This is a picture of all the cards in the deck, minus the Joker, arrayed in what is known as the Grand Solar Spread formation. This one spread is the most significant of the entire system and a full
understanding of it could tell you pretty much everything we know about the science of the cards. If you take a minute and look up your Displacement Card this year, it would tell you where your card is sitting in this Grand Solar Spread of the Life Spread. For example, if you are displacing the A♠ this year, it would mean that your Birth Card has moved to the far left upper corner position of this spread where the A♠ is located. Because we are virtually sitting in the place of the Displacement Card, we inherit some of its qualities in that year. You might even say that the Displacement Card is the Underlying Card of our Birth Card each year. Though our Birth Card is sitting there, we are strongly influenced by the card that normally sits there in the Life Spread, in this case the A♠. Like wise, each card in our Yearly Spread has underlying it, a card from the Life Spread of our Displacement Card, as well as a Spiritual Spread counterpart. More about that later. But suffice it to say, each card in our Yearly Spread, except the Environment and Displacement Cards, have two Underlying Cards, one from the Life Spread of our Displacement Card and one from the Spiritual Spread counterpart. These two cards will bring to bear their influences in whatever position they are located, influencing what happens to you.

Using the previous example, whenever anyone displaces the A♠ (which means the A♠ is their yearly Displacement Card) underlying their direct Mars Card, whatever card that is, will be two cards, the 5♠ and the 10♥. You can check this for yourself later after I tell you how to look these up. What is important here is that no matter what your Mars Card is that year, it will be heavily influenced by the two Underlying Cards, the 5♠ and 10♥. The 5♠, being such a strong card of moves and changes, is bound to play a role during that Mars period. Many people will move or change jobs in that period and it may not show up in their Mars Cards themselves. For example, a Q♦ person displaces the A♠ at Age 37 and in their Mars period they have a 10♠ and 4♦. Neither one of those cards would represent a move or a change of career. But I bet if you ask a Q♦ who is 37 or 38 about that period of time, you will find that they did indeed have a change of that nature. This is the power of the Underlying Cards. And when the Underlying Card is a powerful card, like a Spade, and especially a significant Spade card such as the 3♠, 5♠, 7♠, and 9♠, the effect can be quite dramatic.

The other important function of Underlying Cards is to identify people who will play a role in our life during those periods. In the above example perhaps the 10♥ or 5♠ could be the Birth Card or Planetary Ruling Card of someone that would play a prominent role during that period. I actually think that finding people is the most important use of Underlying Cards. It often really shows me who is showing up for someone and how.

So, how do we find out what our Underlying Cards are in our Yearly Spread? Please follow carefully. It will be a little complicated but well worth the effort. Let’s use an example to practice on and I will lead you through it. Let’s say you are reading for a 10♣ guy who has just turned 31 years of age. We look at his Yearly Spread and see that his Displacement Card is the 5♣. We want to know what are the Underlying Cards in his Mercury period, which is showing a 10♠ and K♠.

Step One: Look up the Life Spread of the Displacement Card – in this case, we look up the Age 0 Spread for the 5♣, because the 5♣ is his Displacement Card.

Step Two: Look up the cards that correspond to the planetary period you are wanting the Underlying Cards for. Looking at the Age 0 Spread of the 5♣ and it’s Mercury period, we find a 3♦ direct and a K♠ vertical.

Step Three: determine the first Karma Card of each of the corresponding cards. This may seem complicated but here goes. You can use your Love Cards book for this. Take the 3♦, and look in the chapter in Love Cards for that Birth Card. See what the first Karma Card is for that card, in this case the first Karma Card for the 3♦ is the 6♥. Thus, the two Underlying Cards for the 10♠ in this example are the 3♦ and 6♥.

The K♠ is one of the three, Fixed Cards. Those three cards (8♣, J♥ and K♣) never have an Underlying Card. Also, if the card you are seeking Underlying Cards for is one of the four Semi-Fixed Cards (A♣/2♥ and 7♦/9♥) their only Underlying Card is their partner. Thus a 2♥ has the A♣ as an
Underlying Card and vice versa and the 7♦ has the 9♥ as its Underlying Card and vice versa. These cards are always this way.

Let’s do another example just to make sure we have it. What would be the Underlying Cards under the direct Venus Card for a 4♦ person age 63? Looking up their Yearly Spread, we see that their direct Venus Card is the K♣. The Displacement Card for them that year is the Q♣. Looking at the Q♣ Life Spread, we see that the direct Venus Card is the 5♠. Looking in the Love Cards book under the 5♠ Birth Card, we discover that it’s first Karma Card is the 5♥. Thus, the two Underlying Cards for the K♣ that is the direct Venus Card for the 4♦ person, age 63, are the 5♣ and 5♥.

The two Underlying Cards are always Karma Cards to each other, you will notice. Essentially what they are is the influence of the spaces they occupy in the Life and Spiritual Spread. Each card in the Life and Spiritual Spread cast an influence on those spaces every year of life, regardless of which cards are actually occupying those spaces in any given year. You might say that the Underlying Cards reflect the Life and Spiritual Spread influence that is present in any given spot of the Grand Solar Spread/Life Spread. These influences are often more powerful than the cards that are found there.

Another thing to notice is that the Underlying Cards at Ages 45 and 90 will be the same as the cards occupying the space. This is because the cards at Age 45 and 90 are essentially the Life Spread repeated.

As you begin to use the Underlying Cards, you are actually dipping into the more esoteric aspects of the card system. You will receive a lot more information and may actually make some interesting discoveries. If you would like to fully explore the advanced aspects of the Science of the Cards, get a copy of Exploring the Little Book of the Seven Thunders found on our web site and in our catalog.

From Wanting to Having

In an article in USA Today on March 2, 2006 the headline reads “How long can households sustain negative savings?” This article by John Waggoner states:

Never have so many spent so much and saved so little.

The nation's dismal savings rate is the focus of a sharp debate: This can't go on forever, some economists say. We spend and borrow too much, we save too little, and in the long run, it spells trouble for individuals and the nation. Nonsense, others say. We might be dipping into our savings, but that's a deep well: Household assets — swollen by rising home equity — stand at $62 trillion, according to the Federal Reserve.

The gist of the article is just highlighting the overwhelming tendency in our country for people to borrow and spend and not save. We are a consumer nation first and foremost, surrounded on all sides by advertising, pleading and persuading us to spend, spend, spend. To buy the things we want, we are encouraged to borrow. We use credit cards, home equity loans, second and third mortgages, and other unsecured loans to purchase the things we want. It sort of looks like most of us want to at least appear we are worth something by having all the right ‘stuff’ that makes us look like we are successful. So, we buy,
I am amazed actually, when I ask some of my friends and my siblings if they have any money saved and if so, how much. Few have any savings and those that do have little money in their savings account or set aside. The concept of saving seems to be lost on most of us. People have savings accounts with very little in them and the overall feeling I get is that no one really even knows why they have a savings account. They just do it because they saw their parents do it. They never stopped to ask why or its importance. For this reason, most people’s savings account, if they even have one, is just a token account. It has no real purpose or intention behind it. And it gets looted regularly and is for the most part forgotten.

What most people do not know about becoming wealthy

What most people in our country do not know is that saving money is one of the key foundations of wealth and prosperity. I don’t mean that your savings account will make you wealthy. The amount of money we make by putting it into a savings account is secondary to the basic principle of wealth that having savings fulfills. We tend to think that our country is the most wealthy in the world. However, the 9/11 tragedy and hurricane Katrina should have shown us by now that our status of wealth is very fragile at best. We are not a nation of wealthy people. We are actually a nation of people whose financial stability is fragile and weak. Again from the USA Today article, is a quote: “Some people wouldn't know a piggy bank from a snake,” says Mark Bass, a financial planner in Lubbock, Texas. "They think they're going to retire in 10, 15 years, and there's no way they will.” What is really happening here is that we are becoming a nation of wanting and not a nation of having. Even our government is borrowing itself into oblivion.

To have prosperity in our lives we have to create a sense of having and expand our capacity to have. It does nothing to our inner and external prosperity to constantly want more.

Imagine for a minute that you have a million one-dollar bills to give away. You announce it somehow and a line of people form. As each person comes in front of you, you offer them as much money as will fit into their pockets. Under these conditions, whom among those you meet will get the most money? Obviously it will be the ones with the bigger pockets. The pockets, in this example, represent each person’s capacity to have. The more the capacity to have, the more someone can receive. And this is how it actually works in real life. Each of us has a certain capacity to ‘have’ that sets limits on the amount we can have and feel comfortable. Articles have been written about people who have won the lottery and who, within a relatively short period of time, revert back to the same financial condition they were in before getting the money. What does all of this have to do with savings? Well, saving money on a regular basis has the effect of increasing our sense of having and decreasing our sense of wanting.

Again from the USA Today article:

"Our sense is that people don't have enough put away for a rainy day," says Jack Gillis of the Consumer Federation of America.

A CFA study last year showed that young women were particularly poor savers: 55% of women ages 25 to 34 had less than $500 in an emergency fund. And 42% of all women said they had no emergency fund at all.
This is the truth of what is going on here. Most of us are not saving and in turn are decreasing our sense of having, and increasing our sense of wanting. There are old expressions about separating people into two categories, the ‘have’ and the ‘have-nots.’ If you are experiencing financial problems or limitations, you are in the ‘have-not’ category. And if that is true, how are you going to change that?

Increasing our sense and state of being to have is one of the most important things we can do to increase our prosperity consciousness. One of the best ways is to create a savings plan that you put money into on a regular basis. This is not saving money to spend on something in a year or two. It is a ‘life savings’, one that you will contribute to for the rest of your life. You may have to dip into it at one time or another, but overall the trend is for it to keep increasing. As the amount you have saved increases and you realize that it is really going to keep on increasing, a magical thing happens inside. Inside you will begin to get it that you actually ‘have’ money. This inner knowing that you ‘have money’ will, in turn, cause more money to be attracted to you. You will, in essence, become one of the ‘have’s.’ It is the state of being called ‘I have money’ that is responsible for attracting money to you, not what you do for a job. People that have a lot of money are people that ‘have’ a lot of money. Simple, isn’t it? So simple and yet for most people, so difficult to understand or to implement in their lives.

So, be a rebel! Go against the pull of our media-driven society. Become a ‘have.’ Be prosperous and content, not a debt-ridden person who can never get enough things to be happy. Start a savings account now and contribute to it daily, weekly or monthly. But make sure you contribute to it on a regular basis. That is the key. Once it grows enough, put it in a five year Certificate of Deposit, you will more than double your interest rate on it, especially if you use a Credit Union instead of a bank. Watch it grow with joy and glee! And then watch money start coming to you as easy as water flowing down stream.

There are many things you can do if you really want to have prosperity in your life. If you are ready to do everything you can, read my book, The Big Money Book, available in our catalog and on my web site. There is no reason you cannot be prosperous for the rest of your entire life!

The Mysterious Ace of Spades

The A♠ is what I consider to be the most spiritual card in the deck. But at the same time, it can be the most material, or mundanely oriented. It is the card of mysteries and secrets. It is the card of transformation and death, but also rebirth and new beginnings. I consider it to be the Pluto Card of the entire deck. As a Spade, its effects are always felt. We cannot just ignore it when it shows up. We could say that when the A♠ shows up, transformation is just around the corner. Transformation involves a death of some kind. We must die before we are reborn. I recently had the A♠ in my Jupiter period and experienced a tremendous transformation. But if I had not taken action myself and made deliberate choices to effect that transformation, it would never have occurred. This is how it works with the cards. We have to see the possibilities that our cards hold for us and then take action if we are to realize their potential. I was also interested in just how difficult this transformation was for me this year. Even though I had the A♠ in Jupiter, it was extremely difficult for me to make the changes. I would normally expect a card in Jupiter to be easier or more kind. Nonetheless, transform I did. I even cut my hair, something I had not done for 6 years. Now I am an A♠ survivor. That would be something like a Cancer survivor. I died and came back from the dead. I look and feel new. I am alive again.

The A♠ is also the card of secrets and of the Order of the Magi. For those who are unaware, the Order of the Magi is the secret society responsible for the preservation and eventual dissemination of the
card science system throughout the ages. It was only in 1894 that the public was made aware of the card science. It is for this reason that the system is still relatively unknown in the world. As the single card in the deck that actually represents the science of the cards itself, the presence of an A♠ in your yearly or other spreads could be an indicator of your involvement with the system. The Q♣ Birth Card has the A♠ in their Jupiter position of their Life Spread. For all Q♣, this represents blessings (Jupiter) coming from involvement with the science of the cards. I know many Q♣ people who are making lots of money using the cards as part of their life’s work. Many other cards have the A♠ in their Life Spread, which often indicates a close relationship to the card science. The 3♦ is notable for this because the A♠ is the first card, the Mercury Card, in their Life Spread. It is a fact that most of the Grand Masters of the Order of the Magi in the past century have been a 3♦ Birth Card. However, other cards have some connection that often has them working with the cards to one extent or the other. The 5♣ has the A♠ in Venus, the 10♠ has the A♠ in Mars, the Q♣, as mentioned earlier, has the A♠ in Jupiter and the A♠ person has the A♠ in Saturn. All of these may have a strong connection to the card science that shows up as them working with it in some way.

The 8♦ has the A♠ as their lifetime Pluto Card. This is very significant when you think about it since the A♠ is already the Pluto Card of the entire deck. Think about it a moment – having the Pluto Card of the entire deck as your Life Spread Pluto Card. Doesn’t that sound pretty intense? Well, in fact it actually is. 8♦ people do experience some tremendous transformations over the course of their life. The most common is the transformation from trying to change others to directing the desire for change upon themselves. When the 8♦ person stops trying to change or control others, that is a sign that they have successfully applied the lesson of their A♠ Pluto Card. Indeed, all of us who displace the 8♦ in a Yearly Spread will experience some of this transformation. That year is called our Pinnacle Year. And whatever our Pluto Card is for that year will have the A♠ as the Underlying Card, giving special potency to the transformation effect of the Pinnacle’s year’s Pluto Card. This is one of the main reasons it is called the Pinnacle year – the transformation is huge and noticeable. It represents an ending of importance, the end of the line, so to speak, in relationship to our life’s course up until that year.

The A♠ also represents secrets. An A♠ in Venus can mean a secret affair. Ask any 5♣ about this. An A♠ in Mars, a secret legal matter. The A♠ is essentially an Acorn. That is what is symbolized by the shape of the Spade. An acorn is a seed that holds within it the secrets and mysteries of life. This is why A♠ represents all mystic sciences which reveal these secrets to the determined students who pursue them.

A♠ people are likewise somewhat enigmatic. Many are super workers, super busy doing so many projects, very passionate and self-directed. All A♠ have a rich spiritual heritage underlying this busy exterior. All are sensitives, or aware of other planes of reality. However, most ignore that. It is an area that is scary for them. Most A♠ are very emotionally sensitive. They usually get their feeling hurt easily and have difficulties in intimate relationships. For this reason, many of them hide behind their work and run to it whenever their emotions become upset. Some of their lives are tragic, like Princess Diana, a famous A♠.

I have met a few A♠ who do pursue spiritual matters or make that a big part of their career. It is when they pay attention to their spiritual side that they discover the answers to their questions and obtain the guidance they need to have a happy, healthy, successful life.

The Cards of Spiritual Growth

Each of us has several cards that relate directly to our Birth Card and Planetary Ruling Card that signify the areas of spiritual and personal growth that we will encounter in this lifetime. For purposes of this article we will focus on the cards that relate to our Birth Card. But you should know that you can also look at those relating to your Planetary Ruling Card in a similar fashion. But the Birth Card is our main symbol of Karma in this lifetime. It is our most important significator.
Actually, every card in our Life Spread is a symbol of some kind of Karma that we are dealing with in this lifetime. This Karma comes in many flavors and affects us in different areas of our life in different ways. Not all Karma is bad Karma, by the way. We have sort of come to thinking of Karma as being bad Karma but Karma comes in both positive and negative flavors. The deeds we perform in any given lifetime create Karmas, both positive and negative, that will be experienced in a future lifetime. Deeds that help others generally create positive Karma. Positive Karma shows up as gifts and abilities, areas of ease and good flow. Having a healthy, attractive body is an example of good or positive Karma. Having courage, being loving and trusting, having a gift for helping others in a unique way – these are all examples of positive Karma. You could say that everything you have or are that is enjoyable, loving, and something to be appreciated is part of your good Karma. On the reverse side, fears, insecurities, physical deformities, lack of skill or abilities, challenging relationships, inability to trust – these are all forms of negative Karma. The cards in your Life Spread often point out our Karma in different areas of our life. For example, my Birth Card, the Q♦, has a 3♣ in Venus. This 3♣ in Venus symbolizes both positive and negative Karma for the Q♦. On the positive side it brings a gift of creative writing and speaking. Negatively it represents uncertainty and indecision in regards to relationships.

So, every card in the Life Spread has some Karmic significance. But there are some that stand out from the rest as being the most significant. These we might call the cards of our spiritual growth. They represent the most significant progress we will make spiritually speaking in this lifetime. Here they are, one by one, with some explanation.

1. **Our first Karma Card** – Our first Karma Card is the primary and first place to look for an area of spiritual growth that will occur in our lifetime. It is essentially an area that we must pay more attention to if we are to make spiritual progress. Take the K♥ for example. The first Karma Card of the K♥ is the 2♣. This 2♣, expressed negatively, represents arguing and whining, essentially a negative mental state that is expressed in many different ways. K♥ people are known to be angry, temperamental and argumentative and this comes primarily from their 2♣ first Karma Card. The spiritual growth that will occur for them is to become aware of this tendency and to seek out inner solutions for its expression, turning it from a negative expression to a positive one. The 2♣ also is a fear card. And generally speaking it is one or more fears that lie at the heart of the K♥’s negative expression. It is considered a spiritual accomplishment to get to the heart of an issue and heal it.

2. **Our Saturn Card in our Life Spread** – Naturally our direct Saturn Card is a powerful symbol of an issue that we must contend with in this lifetime, and heal. Generally speaking, it represents an energy or pattern of expression that we tend to express negatively in a habitual manner. It is a negative that needs elevating to a positive. The 9♣ person, for example, has the 6♥ as their direct Saturn Card. This 6♥ implies many things. But at its very deepest level, it implies that 9♣ people came into this lifetime disregarding the ‘law of love’ and that they are here to learn about fairness and consideration of others in their personal relationships. It also implies that there would be a certain number of significant, Karmic relationships in their lifetime, ones in which they would suffer at the hands of their lover. These relationships would be mirrors of how they treated others in a previous lifetime. The 9♣ person would have to first experience these negative relationships, then move from being the victim of their partners to taking responsibility for their choices and seeing how their partners reflect their own internal state of being. Ultimately, 9♣ people are destined to become more caring and considerate of their partners as a result of the lessons of the 6♥ in Saturn.

3. **Our Life Spread Pluto Card** – Here is another powerful card of spiritual growth, one that points to a fundamental change that we must embrace over the course of our life. Whatever your Pluto Card is, it symbolizes an area where a shift from a low expression of that card must occur to a high expression. It has taken me nearly 50 years to come to a complete understanding of my Life Spread Pluto Card, the J♣. It is funny because my teacher, Arnie Lein, mentioned it to me in one of the classes I had with him. He pointed to it as if I should know what it meant, but I didn’t. The negative J♣ is the schemer and liar, along with being very fixed minded. It has taken me a long time to realize how much my
monkey mind interferes in my life. I can see all the negative traits of the J♠ now but it took a while. I was fooling myself for such a long time. And I had lost my integrity many times in the past and utilized my J♠ genius mind to explain my way out of it. Don’t be surprised if you haven’t figured out the message of your lifetime Pluto Card yet. It can have many levels of meaning to it.

These three are the main cards of spiritual growth. However, there are others. As I said earlier, any card in your Life Spread may be a symbol of an issue, or an area where some energy needs to be expressed more positively. This is especially true of the odd-numbered cards in our Life Spread. Odd-numbered cards tend to express in a more or less negative fashion. The A♠ is a good example of this. Nearly every card, from Mercury through Neptune, is an odd-numbered card. They have the 7♥ in Mercury, 7♦ in Venus, 5♠ in Mars, J♥ in Jupiter, 9♣ in Saturn, 9♠ in Uranus and the 2♥ in Neptune. All those odd-numbered cards represent challenges of one sort or the other. Some cards are relatively blessed in this department. The K♣ for example, has all even-numbered cards in its Life Spread.

When your spiritually challenging and Life Spread cards appear in your Yearly Spreads

No discussion of these spiritual growth cards would be complete without mentioning the dynamic that occurs when you find one or more of these cards in your Yearly Spread. This can happen frequently, by the way. If we can take an inventory of all the spiritually growthful cards in our Life Spread, and know what issues they represent, we will have a really good handle on the timing of when those issues will appear in our lives by noting the timing of when they show up in our Yearly Spreads.

For example, let’s say your Birth Card is the Q♣ and because of that, your lifetime Saturn Card is the 7♥. That 7♥ certainly represents a significant Karmic issue to be dealt with over the course of your life, in this case, abandonment issues and control issues in personal relationships. Now, what would it mean if you had a 7♥ as your Long Range Card this coming year? Naturally, that would mean that it would be this coming year that you would have ample opportunities to work on that issue. You could predict that experiences involving abandonment, betrayal and control in personal relationships would appear in your life over the course of the year. Now, what if you also had a 3♥ in Saturn for the year? Well, the 3♥ happens to be the first Karma Card of the Q♣, and represents an inner uncertainty about love and perhaps a fear of not getting enough love. So, if this were the case, this would be a powerful year of spiritual growth for you since you have two of your three main cards of spiritual growth appearing in your Yearly Spread this year.

For this reason, it is always good to examine the cards in your Yearly Spread to see if any of your spiritual growth cards are found there. I would also include looking for any and all cards of your Life Spread. For example, if you are an 8♣, you have the 4♠ in Venus in your Life Spread, which is a pretty good card to have in Venus. But what would happen if you had this same 4♠ in your Saturn period in the coming year? This would indicate that your normal way of approaching love and family (4♠ in Venus) would somehow become a burden, restriction, or would be a challenging issue in the year ahead.

When you examine your Yearly Spread cards in this manner, looking for cards that connect to your Life Spread and other spiritual growth cards, you get an entirely new perspective on the cycles you are living through. It’s almost like you get to see your life as a progression of spiritual opportunities rather than the usual mundane concerns.
Your Intra-Day Planetary Periods
By Jonathan David Sloate

Note from Robert Lee Camp: Jonathan David Sloate is a genius when it comes to the science of the cards. In this article, he will show you how to find and experience your daily planetary periods. Read carefully. It is somewhat complex, but I think you will agree, well worth the effort.

Each day we routinely cycle through a repetitive chain of 7 planetary Periods in order from the closest planet to the Sun i.e. Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune. Each planetary Period symbolizes a specific thematic energy that influences and shapes the emotional experiences we go through for that duration of time. A 24-hour day can be broken down into approximately 7 consecutive three hour and twenty-six minute Periods. Therefore, we begin each day of the week with a three hour and twenty-six minute Mercury Period, followed by a three hour and twenty-six minute Venus Period, followed by a three hour and twenty-six minute Mars Period, followed by a three hour and twenty-five minute Jupiter Period, followed by a three hour and twenty-six minute Saturn Period, followed by a three hour and twenty-five minute Uranus Period, and ending with a three hour and twenty-six minute Neptune Period.

Finding Your True Solar Birth Time

However, each person is born at a different time of the day let alone in different cities in the world, so each of us has a unique time that signals the true beginning of each day. This time is your True Solar Birth Time (TSBT) adjusted by the exact city you are currently located in. Rarely, will anyone actually begin their day at midnight, even though it’s the standard by which we all signal a new day has begun. Your TSBT can be calculated by first finding your official, or observed, time of birth (OTB), which you can usually find on your birth certificate or perhaps in a baby book, and then adjusting this time based on the longitude of the city you were born in, your birthplace. Find the Time Zone that your birthplace is in, then adjust your OTB if your birthplace is not exactly located at the longitude of your birthplace’s Time Zone. Here is a list of the US Time Zones and their corresponding longitudes (degrees/minutes):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time Zone</th>
<th>Longitude</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Atlantic</td>
<td>60w0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain</td>
<td>105w0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawaii</td>
<td>150w0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern</td>
<td>75w0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pacific</td>
<td>120w0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yukon</td>
<td>135w0</td>
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You then need to find the exact longitude of your birthplace by going to free sites like [www.astro.com](http://www.astro.com) and entering your birthplace into their Astrology Atlas Query. If your birthplace’s longitude is East of your OTB Time Zone’s longitude then you add 4 minutes to your OTB for every degree of difference to arrive at your TSBT. If your birthplace’s longitude is West of your OTB Time Zone’s longitude then you subtract 4 minutes from your OTB for every degree of difference to arrive at your TSBT. However, you may have to make one final adjustment if you were born during Daylight Savings Time, in which case you must subtract 1 hour from this time to arrive at your final TSBT.

For example, let’s say you were born at 10:45am Eastern Standard Time on July 3, 1953 in South Charleston, WV. South Charleston, West Virginia has a longitude of 81w44, which is approximately 6 and ¾ degrees West of the Eastern Time Zone longitude of 75w0. 6 degrees difference multiplied by 4 minutes equals 24 minutes of total adjustment time. Then, you take the 44 part of the longitude, which is calculated out of a possible maximum total of 60, and divide 44 by 60, which is approximately 73.3% and can be rounded up to 75% of 1 degree. Thus, 75% of 4 minutes equals exactly an additional 3 minutes of adjustment time that’s added to your total adjustment time. So in the end, 80w43 degrees means you subtract 27 minutes total from your OTB arriving at a time of 10:18am Eastern Standard Time. Since
there was no Daylight Savings Time observed in Wheeling, WV in 1953, 10:22am would be your final TSBT.

Adjusting for where you live now

Now, let’s continue the example and say that you are presently living in Manhattan, NY. Manhattan, New York has a longitude of 73w59. We can round the 59 up to 60, which then makes Manhattan’s longitude exactly 74w0 or exactly 1 degree East of the Eastern Time Zone longitude of 75w0 degrees. Therefore, since each degree equates to 4 minutes of adjustment time, we would add 4 minutes of time to your TSBT to arrive at your Adjusted Solar Birth Time (ASBT) of 10:26am. Thus, while you are in Manhattan, NY this person would begin each day not at midnight but at 10:26am. Once Daylight Savings Time begins in your location you would simply add 1 hour to your ASBT, so this person would begin each day at 11:26am during Daylight Savings Time. For this person here is a list of when they would begin each Intra-Day Planetary Period everyday during Daylight Savings Time as long as they were in Manhattan, NY: Mercury 11:26am EDT; Venus 2:52pm EDT; Mars 6:17pm EDT; Jupiter 9:43pm EDT; Saturn 1:09am EDT; Uranus 4:34am EDT; Neptune 8:00am EDT.

As soon as your day begins at your ASBT you start your three hour and twenty-six minute Intra-day Mercury Period. Mercury is the fastest energy and speeds up the mental capabilities of the mind to their greatest potential, so this Period of your day is the best time to write, speak, communicate, strategize, plan, negotiate, sing, think creatively, brainstorm and create correspondence. Mercury is also the best time to go on short journeys and errands since you should experience the least amount of delays, traffic and wait times. Because Mercury rules everything regarding communication and ideas, you will notice that conversations are passionate and usually very brief in duration, though you sometimes will experience your longest conversations and meetings in Mercury too, and that any task initiated in Mercury will usually pass by very quickly.

After our Mercury Period, we experience a three hour and twenty-six minute Intra-Day Venus Period. Venus is all about the people we love to be with the most and the things we love to do the most. You will notice that it is during this Period of your day you spend time with the lovers, friends and family members you adore the most. You may also take part in the activities, hobbies and passions you enjoy the most during Venus. Venus rules all indulgences too, so this is the best time of your day to eat your favorite foods (i.e. chocolate, ice cream, etc...), play hooky from school or work, relax and be lazy, and be loving and affectionate with your significant other. Additionally, Venus is a great time to spend money, buy presents for yourself and others, and generate money for your business. Venus is the most loving energy, so this should be the Period of your day that you love the most each day. Venus rules the theatre as well, so this is the best time to perform or watch theatrical productions.

Your three hour and twenty-five minute Intra-Day Mars Period always follows your Venus time of the day. Mars is both the God of War and Lust, so this Period of your day is the one most likely filled with arguments and fights or sexually aggressive behavior and infatuation. Mars also rules the physical body so this is the best Period of your day to work out at the gym, play sports, dance, and do anything that requires physical exertion. Mars is the best time of your day to be productive in business and get the most accomplished. Mars wants to rule any activity it engages in and provides you with the most masculine energy during your Intra-Day Mars Period each day.

The next three hour and twenty-six minute Intra-Day Period that follows Mars is that of Jupiter. Jupiter is the most blessed time of your day. It is that time of your day when the Universe sends you a gift of some kind. You may get money or your salary during Jupiter, find out you got a raise and promotion, receive a present from someone, win the lottery, and be given some form of generosity from someone or some institution. Jupiter is the all about abundance and excess, so this is the best time to grow your business and make some form of spiritual growth. It’s the most likely time someone will want to give to you in some way be it financial or spiritual or both.
The following three hour and twenty-six minute Intra-Day Period is that of Saturn. Saturn is the most difficult and challenging time of your day. This is when everything becomes harder to accomplish. Saturn is also the most likely time when you have an accident, become ill, get fired, fail at the task you are facing, get audited, be hounded by creditors, break up with your significant other, and get criticized by someone for not being good enough and not doing things correctly. Saturn is the great teacher and master, so unless you are the willing student Saturn can be an extremely harsh energy to deal with. It is also the most heavily fated and karmic time of the day, so people who come into your life during your Intra-Day Saturn Period are here to teach you the hardest lessons. However, if you are proactively responsible and show a determined willingness to be serious and learn the lessons that are being taught to you during your Saturn Period, you can experience great rewards in the long run and go a long way to diminish the harshness of Saturn’s force. In general, it will be very challenging to struggle through this heavy and burdensome time.

After Saturn, you enter you three hour and twenty-five minute Intra-Day Uranus Period. Uranus rules higher intelligence, so this is the best time of the day to learn about the secrets of the Universe, astrology, tarot and any kind of science and mathematics. Uranus also rules the home, so this is the most likely time to improve your home in some way, move to a new house, and buy and sell your home. Uranus also rules all forms of broadcasting, so you may find yourself listening to music on your mp3 player and the radio, watching television, recording music and video, working on your computer, reading and sending e-mails, and surfing on the internet. Uranus is also all about surprises and excitement, so this is the best time of the day to get thrown a surprise party, get a surprise gift from someone, and have someone unexpectedly enter your life. Since Uranus rules large institutions, fraternal organizations, and large groups of people especially friends, you may have any of these energies dominate this time of your day. Uranus is also when you will be most intuitively aware of life and others.

The final three hour and twenty-six minute Intra-Day Period is that of Neptune. Neptune rules the water, so this is the most likely time to be near large bodies of water as well as take long journeys that may require you to travel over large bodies of water. Neptune is all about illusion and delusion, so this is the time when your greatest dreams and fears are realized. It is also the most likely time when you are not seeing people for whom they are but through rose-colored glasses. Neptune also rules fantasy, and there is no greater fantasy that romance and romantic love, so this is the best time to spiritually connect with your significant other. Neptune conveys prosperity and longevity, so things unfold slowly and idealistically in this dreamy Period in your day. Neptune also rules any live performing as well as the movies, so this is the most likely time of your day to see a new movie, read a romance novel, and go to a live concert. Unlike Mercury, things take the longest to unfold in Neptune but last the longest as a reward.

The Cards in Your Daily Planetary Periods

Once you understand when you begin each of your seven Intra-Day Planetary Period then you can start calculating which Cards you have each day during each planetary Period. Knowing the set of Cards you have for any given Intra-Day Planetary Period gives you an understanding of the thematic emotional experiences you will go through in each of the seven Intra-Day Periods of your day as well as the people who will come into your life at different parts of each day. To determine the exact set of Cards you have you will first need to go to Robert Lee Camp’s web site at http://www.7thunders.com and go to his Free Destiny Reading Page. Enter your birthday and write down your Birth Card. Then select TODAY and write down the number of days you have been alive. To find out what day you are on take the total number of days you have been alive and divide that by 90. Then take only the remainder and multiply that by 90. Ignore the remainder, if any, of that multiplication and this number is the Day, or Age Spread, that you are on today. If you now open up Robert Lee Camp’s book CARDS OF YOUR DESTINY, find the charts in the back of this book where your Birth Card resides. Now, simply take the Day you are on and look at the Cards for the same Age. These Cards represent the actual Intra-Day Planetary Period
Cards that you have for that day. Once you know what Day you are on, you can easily track tomorrow’s Intra-Day Planetary Period Cards by looking at the next incremental Age/Day and so on as each day passes.

For Advanced Students

For those who know how to find out what their Planetary Ruling card is, simply go to those charts in the back of CARDS OF YOUR DESTINY and look at the same Age/Day and you can see the other set of Intra-Day Planetary Period Cards that you will experience that same day. For advanced students who have Robert Lee Camp’s THE ADVANCED ORACLE WORKBOOK, pay special attention to the Underlying Cards since they have a major influence on the emotional experiences you will go through. I have also noticed the importance of your Diagonal Cards throughout my Intra-Day Planetary Periods as more of an indicator of reciprocal energy being exchanged by me and someone else.

Knowing which Intra-Day Planetary Period you are in and the set of Cards you have for both your Birth Card and Planetary Ruling Card will give you much more insight into both the thematic planetary energy and the emotional experiences and people who influence and enter your life throughout the course of the specific day you are on, giving you greater awareness and understanding of the timing of your daily experiences as they occur in each of your Intra-Day Planetary Periods.

Note from Robert: This process can be somewhat challenging and Jonathan offers a unique service called the Intra-Day Planetary Period Starter Kit ($49.95). He will do all the calculations for you and tell you your periods and the cards in them. If you are interested, contact him directly at jonathan@blackforestproductions.com.

Donald Rumsfeld 7/9/1932 6♦/8♣

Recently Donald has been receiving lots of criticism over his methods of handling the Iraq war, specifically how he interacts with the Joint Chiefs of Staff and other military personnel. I could not help but be impressed with how well he fits his cards. No less than 6 generals who were under his command in the war have stepped up to criticize him and ask him to step down due to incompetence and arrogance. New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson, a potential Democratic presidential candidate, told CBS's "Face the Nation" program, "Besides the fact that the Iraq war has been mismanaged ... we should listen to what these generals are saying. These are six distinguished military officers," Richardson said. "They basically are saying that Secretary Rumsfeld, on issues relating to military strategy ... didn't listen to them. ... This reaches a new level ... of not being willing to admit mistakes, not being willing to change a course, policy that is just not working." Doesn't that just sound like an 8♣? Here’s more:

"We went to war with a flawed plan that didn't account for the hard work to build the peace after we took down the regime. We also served under a secretary of defense who didn't understand leadership, who was abusive, who was arrogant, who didn't build a strong team." - Retired Army Maj. Gen. John Batiste

"He has shown himself incompetent strategically, operationally and tactically, and is far more than anyone responsible for what has happened to our important mission in Iraq. ... Mr. Rumsfeld must step down." - Retired Army Maj. Gen. Paul Eaton
"My sincere view is that the commitment of our forces to this fight was done with a casualness and swagger that are the special province of those who have never had to execute these missions — or bury the results." - Retired Marine Lt. Gen. Gregory Newbold.

Retired U.S. Army brigadier general James Marks said officers "are charged to speak up" and did. The problem, he said, is that their views were disregarded. "There were requests for forces that were denied," Marks said on CNN. "We requested the 1st Cavalry Division. That was denied — at a very critical point in the war."

Donald is the same birthday as O.J. Simpson. This is a super competitive birthday, which can get fixated mentally. But through that same fixed quality, combined with a natural competitiveness, we have a formula for success. This is someone that Bush can count on. He isn’t going to change. And once he gets the ‘plan’, the idea, fixed in his mind, there is nothing stopping him. In a way, this describes the perfect henchman. All 8♣ can be blinded by a concept. They can disregard everything due to a mental construction where they feel ‘right.’ In other words, the ‘ends justifies the means.’ This is not to say that all 8♣ are like this. But they all have the potential to be and many of them display this. Keep in mind that Charles Manson is also an 8♣ who was fixated upon an idea. Put the 8♣ and 6♦ together and you can have an extremely effective person, driven by a mental projection or idea. That, of course, can be for good or naught, depending upon the purity of the seed idea that is driving them.

Rumsfeld is still receiving lots of support from President Bush and knowing his fixed nature, it is unlikely that he will step down. The only reason Bush would ask him to step down, in my opinion, is if he saw his approval ratings affected by this outcry. However, Bush, being a 9♦/J♣, is also very fixed minded and tends to just ignore anything that is not in his plan. From this point of view, he and Donald are a perfect match. Unfortunately for all of us is the fact that both of them are short sighted at best.

**Understanding the Sevens**

To be spiritual, as the number seven implies, is to be free of concern for worldly, or material, affairs. This would include attachment to relationships, money, good health or ideas and attitudes we may have. The four Sevens in our deck of cards each stand at the center of their suit, halfway between the Ace and the King. This unique position implies that they are the bridge between the mundane and the spiritual, or between the seen and unseen, or between attachment to the material world and non-attachment. People whose Birth Cards are Sevens are observed to travel to the extremes of each side of their card. In one moment they are absolutely free of concern (as per their suit). In this state they are in touch with the divine and they know from their own experience that life is abundant. They feel connected and complete and nothing really can harm them. They are usually ‘gifted’ in this state as well. They will often have abilities that are beyond the mundane. For example, the 7♣ will often have some amazing mental ability. However, they will usually move from that spiritually connected state to it’s opposite, where they are afraid, concerned, worried, contracted, pessimistic, defensive, or angry. In this state they are attached in the world of duality and they seem lost in its clutches. It is interesting to observe these individuals because they can teach us a lot about the number seven and what we will experience when we are under the influence of one.

When a Seven appears in our Yearly Spread or other spreads we are looking at an opportunity. Well, I should mention that most people would not see it that way. The average person in our society today, who is materialistic and attached to things and people, will see any Seven only as a problem. Seven does represent a challenge to all. But to the spiritual person, one who is seeking his or her answers within themselves instead of in the world outside, the Seven will often represent a victory. Each of us comes into this life with some attachments. These are karmic in nature, that is, originating from our choices in past lifetimes. But we also have some good karma that we bring with us. We may have attachments in the area of relationship but not with money. We may be very fearful and attached when it comes to money but not so with our body and health. Each of us is different. Some people may have big attachments in more than one area but very few would have attachments in every area.
The four Sevens, each in its own suit, represent the four basic areas we may have attachments. Hearts are of course, relationships. The 7♥ expressed on the negative side means fear of abandonment, betrayal, being alone, rejected or dismissed by someone we love. The 7♣ expressed negatively shows up as pessimism, a critical mind that sees everything in a negative light, depression, attachment to notions of perfection on some level and difficulty with verbal communications. The 7♦ is simply fear of poverty, which can be expressed in numerous ways such as greed, constant worry, attempts to control others or illegal activities such as stealing. The 7♠ usually expresses itself as physical or health concerns, accidents which produce physical handicaps or impediments, but also work concerns such as the fear of being fired from your job or the fear of failure, and often when we are attempting to follow our inner guidance to do some spiritually oriented work.

All of these Sevens bring a challenge, but only to those who have attachments in the area of their suit. That is very important to understand. If you or I are not attached in that area, we will not have a challenge with that Seven. However, I should say that if a Seven is located in the Saturn or Pluto position, it is highly likely that we will experience a significant challenge in spite of how we might assess our own degree of attachment. Barring Saturn or Pluto, however, a Seven can bring a significant amount of success to someone who has learned to live on its high side. In my own experience Sevens can bring the most success of any numbered card under those circumstances. For example, I have made more money with a 7♦ in Mars than any other card combination, including the 8♦ in Jupiter and the 10♦ in Jupiter. This only occurred however after I had overcome my poverty state of mind, which originally took many years. So, those who have learned to live on the positive side of the Sevens can expect many good results from them in most periods and positions.

What is the best thing to do when you are under the influence of a Seven and you find yourself experiencing the negative expressions of the card? The first thing is to just take stock of the situation and how you are responding to it. Can you see the attachment (fear) that lies behind the external results you are having? Just identifying the fear and the attachment to its opposite will create an increase in awareness of yourself and your relationship to the situation. Having done that, the next step is to develop a positive relationship with the situation by the practice of appreciation and affirmation. By affirmation I do not mean visualizing something that is not there. Instead, take inventory of everything and everyone you have to be grateful for in the same area of the situation. For example, the 7♥ has been a life-long issue for me. There has been a more or less constant sense of ‘not having enough love’ in my life for as long as I can remember. What I practice affirming is several things. First, that I love myself. I take time to be with my feelings, to acknowledge them and to do nice things for myself. Next, I inventory just how many people I know who love and care about me. As I become aware of how many people care about me, I am increasing my internal sense of ‘I have.’ This is the exact remedy for a negatively expressed Seven. Here is another example. Let’s say you have an accident and hurt your foot, making it very painful to walk on it. This could be one expression of a 7♠. For some people, that one hurt foot could make them so miserable that it essentially stops all the good stuff in their life. Their entire attitude could be dour or down as a result. But what if that same person were to take an inventory of all the things that were working great in their body? Just affirming all the good things that work would tend to counteract the negative expression of the 7♠.

Here is one last thing to consider. If you were teaching someone something new, what, in your opinion, would be the proper balance between constructive criticism of their efforts and recognition of their successes? In other words, what do you think would be the optimum balance of giving them positive reinforcement verses pointing out their mistakes? Most people when asked this question respond with 50-50. It would seem reasonable that if you were very affirming of their successes 50% of the time and the other 50% of the time you showed them where they were lacking that you would get the best results. Well, scientists have observed this carefully and found that the balance that gets the fastest and best results is five positive reinforcements to one negative awareness. In other words, about 15% of the time we should point out someone’s deficiencies and the other 85% of the time we should be pointing out what they are doing good or well. This is what actually gets the best results. Keeping this in mind, we can
adopt this principle in our day to day lives. Let’s spend 85% of our time affirming all the wonderful things we love in our lives and only 15% looking for things we need to change or correct about it. Let’s have our list of things we love be five times longer than the list of things we hate. In doing so, we will have positive and extraordinary results from every Seven that appears in our life!

The Hidden Treasure in Your Relationship
By Joseph and Sarah Malinak

Did you know that there is a hidden treasure in your relationship? There are at least three to be found there! The first one is you, the second is your partner, and the third is the relationship. In this article we’re going to talk about that first treasure, you, and how discovering the treasure that you are enhances all your relationships. While there are many connections in the cards that tell you a lot about how relationships are for you (such as the First Karma Card, the Pluto Card, the Cosmic Reward Card, etc.), for the purposes of this article, we’re going to talk about the Venus card and how it shows you who you are, how you tend to be, inside your relationships.

The most important secret to finding the hidden treasure that is you is giving yourself permission to love you. Perhaps the highest expression of the Cards of Destiny happens when a person uses the Cards to learn about himself in such a way that he embraces all of who he is, finding that he is then able to come from a place of strength to address both the strengths and the weaknesses that his cards reveal. Or when she uses the Cards to face hard truths about herself but accepts those truths without judgment, working with them creatively rather than destructively. As Robert Camp has said, you are not your card. However, your card can give you invaluable information about yourself that is best used in love and compassion for you.

So let’s begin with a woman who has a 5♣ birth card. Some would consider her to be unmarriageable. With the restlessness that 5♣ persons experience, their need for adventure can extend to the bedroom as well, creating a lack of emotional and physical stability. The Venus Card for the 5♣ is the A♠, indicating a propensity for secret affairs. The 5♣ person, male or female, may always keep an emotional back door open and available. However, the Ace in Venus can also result in the 5♣ person setting out on the search for her soul mate, her perfect partner. If she is willing to harness the restlessness that is such an integral part of her life, creatively channeling it in a direction that she finds fulfilling (such as travel or very intentional adventures), if she is willing to sacrifice a propensity for secret affairs, then she can create a long-term relationship. Perhaps even one where friends turn to her for advice because she and her partner have a commitment to keeping their sexual expression vibrant, alive, and creative – never boring!

Let’s look at another birth card, the J♥. The J♥ is called the Christ Card because the Jack person will sacrifice for love. This is so very evident in his Venus card, which is the 9♣. One way sacrifice for love can play out in the romantic relationships of the J♥ is continual losses of partners. Usually, the drive to sacrifice for love overshadows the J♥’ ability to love and care for himself. There are people out there looking for Messiahs to come rescue them. When they attract the J♥, his blind eye cannot see that this Messiah-seeking-person will drain him dry of emotional and physical resources until there is no love left in the relationship. In that situation the J♥ is likely to continue to sacrifice from his own love when there is really no love left inside the relationship to nurture. A more self-loving expression of the sacrificial nature of the J♥ is to be very intentional about expressing compassion and unconditional love. J♥ need to learn that love isn’t only expressed (and perhaps not even best expressed) in times of crisis. And loving someone who continually needs to be rescued by continually rescuing them is usually not the highest expression of love. Unconditional love and compassion are phenomenal gifts. The J♥, whose 9♣ Mercury card gives them the joy of learning new information, can learn to grow beyond a blindly sacrificial love that spoils people to a wise expression of sacrificial love that slows down and uses
circumspection and objectivity to truly raise others up to their highest potential, increasing the love all around them.

Let’s look at one more card, the A♦. The Venus Card for the A♦ is the 5♥. Here, again, we have someone who could be considered unmarriedable. With that 5♥ Venus Card, the A♦ has been described as a traveler and adventurer with a girl in every port! The “remedy,” if you will, is to find that girl who will go adventuring with you! If an A♦ desires a stable, long-term relationship, he or she must be very intentional about finding a partner who will travel alongside him or her to every port of call as well as be very intentional about valuing that person.

Addressing your Venus Card, observing weaknesses and strengths, and making strides towards intentionally creating what you desire through this kind of self-observation and attention to detail is challenging. However, you are a treasure, a priceless gift. You owe it to yourself to give yourself permission to really get to know you in an intimate way where you are comfortable in your own skin. Denying the challenges of your cards won’t produce that level of comfort. Embracing all of who you are, loving you, and a willingness to creatively address your own strengths and weaknesses, will bring about a level of personal comfort that will attract the perfect partner for you. At some point in your courtship he or she will likely say, “When I met you, I felt like I was coming home.” Ain’t love grand?!

Joseph and Sarah Elizabeth Malinak are Love Coaches who use the Cards of Destiny to assist people in getting to know and love themselves and their partners at deep, abiding levels. September 15-17, 2006, Joseph and Sarah Elizabeth are giving an experiential workshop using the Cards of Destiny entitled, Discover the Hidden Treasure in Your Relationship ~ Destiny of Love. For information www.idealrelationships.com or 828-645-0999.

**Being Intentional**

“The road to hell is paved with good intentions.” Whoever coined this phrase was ignorant of the true power and purpose that intention serves in our lives. The sad fact is though that many of us who are doing things with a ‘good intention’ are often deceiving ourselves about our real motives. For example, many of us who are out in the world helping others are actually doing it to make ourselves seem better or to keep ourselves in a position of power over others. It is true that it is the intention behind our actions that always determines their outcome. But try hard as we may, some of us really cannot tell what our true intentions are. We think we are doing such and such to give or to help someone else when in fact we have selfish motives that we are for the most part unaware of. This is where self-awareness comes into play. If we know ourselves on a truly intimate basis, we will know when we are doing things selfishly and when we are doing them truly as an offering of love to others. It is typically the Neptune-oriented cards in the deck, by the way, who are most likely to deceive themselves about their motives. The most notorious of these are all the Nines, the 7♣, J♥, and A♦. However, all the cards located in the Neptune line and column of the Grand Solar Spread Life Spread are susceptible.

I recently had a client who was discussing his most recent relationship. He is a 7♣. In his natal chart he has a very strong aspect for being a ‘user’ of other people, but especially women (Mars square Venus). When I told him about this, he was bewildered. In his mind he was the most giving and selfless person he knew. He cited many examples of this. Still, he wondered why his last two relationships just up and left him without warning. The 7♣ is one of those cards that is very co-dependent in relationships as a general rule. With a J♥, the sacrifice card, in Venus, they tend to see themselves as relationship saints. However, the strong Neptune energy associated with the J♥ makes it nearly impossible for 7♣ people to see their own selfish motives. That is the nature of Neptune. It hides our true motives, especially the ones that are selfish, from our view.

So, we have all these Neptune people like 7♣ and J♥ out there helping people but wondering why no one is helping them in return, and why they always seem to get the short end of the deal in their
relationships and business transactions. The reason is simple but very hard to see if you are one of these Neptune-ruled people – that your true intention was to take, not give. One easy litmus test you can do to tell if you are being selfishly motivated in your giving is this: if you feel disappointed by the way the person you gave to reacts or responds to your giving, then you were attached. As an example, I suggested to my aforementioned client that he do some completely unconditional things for his ex girlfriend, whom he claimed he was still in love with. So, the next day he sent her a single rose and had it delivered to her door, anonymously. I suggested that he do things anonymously so there was no possibility of him doing it for a reward, and thus be true unconditional loving. Well, his ex figured out that it was from him and called him to say, “thanks for sending the rose.” She didn’t say much else. When he related this to me, it was obvious that he was very disappointed with her response. He said something like “all she said was thanks for sending the rose.” I pointed out to him that he was disappointed with her response, which indicated that he had given the rose with an expectation. I thought it was also significant that he only sent her one rose instead of a bouquet and I pointed that out to him as well. This was a big ‘Ah-Ha’ for him. It may have been the first time in his life that he had the opportunity to see his selfishness in action. Recognizing his deeper intentions, he now has the power to make a different choice. Before, however, he was feeling victimized by his lack of success in relationships, that was in part due to his unrecognized inner intentions.

Consciously being intentional in our lives is an extremely powerful technique that can produce miraculous results. I have witnessed some downright miracles lately due to the power of my intention and the intention of others. However, magical things like this can only occur when I am very clear about my intention and self-aware enough to know what I am really up to. Being intentional can be our greatest tool in the world. It can bring us everything we dream of and want, almost magically even. I have seen in my own life, the ability to go into a situation that I would term ‘impossible’, and with a strong and clear intention, to have it turn out in a positive way. We can use being intentional in all sorts of situations. All we need to do is consider what exactly it is that we would like to see happen before we go into it, and then hold that as our intention before and during the interaction. I invite you to experiment with this, especially in situations where you may normally tell yourself that it is impossible. Just keep holding on to your intention and do not be swayed by what you perceive in others as you do it. This does not mean that you cram your ideas or choices down the throats of others. We actually have to be in a state of surrender to do this. It seems like a paradox. On one hand, we are clearly intentional about what we want to see occur. On the other we are surrendered in such a way that we are not discouraged if we do not succeed. We just accept what is. But being intentional in a powerful manner like this often produces amazing results.

Another area where being consciously intentional could bring dramatic results can be explained as follows: We all have some deeper, and often important, intentions for the many things we do in our day-to-day lives. For example, you could be doing your laundry, which is a pretty non-exciting job for most of us. A deeper intention for doing your laundry might be so that you can have clean clothes to wear to work. Deeper still may be your intention to make a lot of money for your family. Deeper still may be your desire to have everyone in your family experience a sense of ease and prosperity so that they have the best life possible. Examining this carefully, it might be true to say that you are actually doing your laundry so that your family has the best life possible. Just standing there doing laundry may be a tedious, routine job that has little meaning. It may be considered by many to be a boring job or a necessary evil. But if you could consciously connect your intention to have a wonderful family life with your laundry, you could actually be very excited and elated while doing the laundry! Imagine that for a moment. Think about the many things you did yesterday, for example. See if you can connect any or all of those with some deeper intention that you have for your life. Practicing this technique can make nearly every moment of your life exciting and full of grace and appreciation, instead of a routine of necessary tasks that seem like a chore or a problem. I use this myself and it works magically!

So what is the ‘spiritual way’ to integrate all of this? My definition of spiritual is looking within for answers instead of without. With this inner perspective in mind, we can first examine ourselves closely. If we are consistently getting results other than what we say we want in our lives, we must be willing to examine our intentions carefully. Perhaps our motives are less than pure, or other than we are telling
ourselves. Perhaps we do not feel we actually deserve to have these things show up in the first place. Maybe our real intention is to fail but we cannot see that. You can bet that if you are having disappointments and failures in your life that there is something about your true intentions that is amiss. I invite you to examine yourself closely. The more honest you are about what you really want and why, the faster you can have continual success in your life. Continual success? Sure! Anyone can have that if they are simply willing to take a close look at themselves and then start making some grand intentions that truly reflect what is in their hearts. Let’s all go out there and make it happen!

Divine Timing and our Dreams

Recently I participated in a tremendous training program that completely changed my life. It was well timed for me as I found myself in a place in my life where I was open to and searching for some seminar type experience that could help me make some significant internal changes. The remarkable thing about this training I participated in was that it promised so much and then actually delivered everything it promised! Actually, going into it, I was told that whatever I was committed to achieving by using this training, I would achieve. I made a list of three things I would like to get from the training and gave it my best. Sure enough, when my training was complete miracles occurred in my life. I got everything that was on my list, and more! I was stunned at the change that I had gone through. Not only that, I realized that every single dream I had ever had was going to happen for me, and quickly. I know this sounds like some exaggeration, something way too good to be true, but I assure you, it is not. Not only have I found the relationship of my dreams but all my work goals are in the process of coming true in the biggest way imaginable. This particular training is the most powerful and effective work I have ever done on myself.

So, that is my story. The training itself was very challenging, however. I did not become the person I am now without having to face some pretty scary stuff inside of me, much of it things that I was completely unaware of beforehand. What I learned by my own experience was that in order to become the kind of person who could have all his dreams come true, I had to face and acknowledge all the parts of me that had been keeping me from my dreams for so long. This was a very painful process at times. I had to stretch way beyond my normal set of self-created limitations and beliefs about myself. There were times when I did not think I could even complete it or that I would fail. But ultimately I realized that I was meant to have all my dreams come true. I also realized that all of us are meant to have all our dreams come true. I saw that we are only given the dreams that were meant for us. In other words, each of us has very specific and personal dreams and desires. No matter how wild they may seem, these are your dreams or my dreams. The Creator gave those dreams to us and we were meant to see them come true. That is why He gave them to us in the first place. So, I saw that each of us only has the dreams that are ours. They may be similar to other people’s dreams, but the exact nature and flavor of them are unique to each individual’s heart and soul. And the very fact that we have them is a sign that we were meant to see them materialize in our lifetime.

This realization got me to have the desire for everyone I know to have their dreams come true. I began telling all my friends and associates about the training. To this day over 25 people have taken the training on my recommendation. I have seen miracle upon miracle occur for my friends, family, and associates. It has been an amazing dream come true for so many of them.

But there were some who did not have the miraculous transformation that I had. I watched sadly as they took the training but talked themselves out of it. When push came to shove and when faced with those parts of themselves that had been keeping them miserable for so long, they were just not ready to give them up. It broke my heart more than once and I have even lost some friends in the process. I wanted so much for their lives to have the magical transformation that I had. I could plainly see how their ego, and attachment to ‘being right’ and to being separate from others had them caught in its spider web of pain and suffering. But I was not able to help them or prevent them from what I now call ‘blowing up’ the training. But since it happened several times, I had to admit that this was something important for me to look at. After thinking about it for several months I had to accept that each of us has a divine timing in place for our own transformation in life. Though I know that everyone has beautiful dreams in their life, it
saddened me to realize that some may never realize them. I can see what it takes to have their dreams come true but everyone is not up to the task, at least not now. I have come to accept that some will have their dreams, but it might be later in their life, or in many cases, not in this lifetime at all.

I know the pain in having a mediocre life. I know the depression, the lack of a sense of purpose and direction, the sadness in working a job that I do not love, of being the victim of poverty and painful relationships. And I know that it was ultimately that pain that motivated me to have a change in my life and to participate in a training that ultimately changed me. And I know that it is the pain and suffering in each of our lives that will ultimately decide when each of us will decide to make that change. It is certainly not mine to decide. I can offer anyone all their dreams come true. I know now more than ever than all of us can have everything we want or wanted. But I am also very aware that in order to be that person, the one who has all his or her dreams come true, that there is a lot that must be faced and let go of. And not all are ready or willing to meet that internal challenge. I guess I still believe that all of us will ultimately get everything we want in life, even if it means postponing that till a future life here on our beautiful planet. So, I keep an optimistic smile and openness to everyone I meet. But I also am aware that we are in the darkest of times and will be for some time to come. Only few will be able to stand up against all the ignorance that is our current society to effect the transformation of their lives.

I once was asked a question, “Would you give up everything you have to have what you truly want?” On the surface this seems like a pretty simple question and answer. Most might say yes as they imagine giving up money or possessions to have their most important dreams come true. What I know now is that we are much more attached to being right, and to our precious beliefs about ourselves and life than we are to the things in our life. And it is much more difficult to give them up. Most of us could not even imagine giving up things that are so much a part of us that we cannot even identify them. But I say that these are the things that really stand in the way of our happiness, and in the way of having a magical life. There are actually many ‘human potential movement’ training experiences available these days. Many of them can absolutely transform you or I into the life we always wanted. I would be happy to share about the one that found and used. If you think your timing is right for possibly the biggest positive change in your life, I am more than happy to support you in having that for yourself. Just go to my web site and send me an email and we will talk about it sometime.

If I Were King

I really don’t know if voicing my opinion about today’s world would be a meaningful thing to do, but the thought occurred to me today to do just that. Consider this to be a “If I were King, I would....” essay. Here are some things I would do and have done differently if I were powerful enough to make it happen.

Government

I would create a government that was more accountable and honest. That would first mean that the people in the government would be this way. I would create a system by which anyone wanting to run for office would have to be evaluated for their level of competency, intelligence, but most of all, integrity, beliefs and other factors that would really impact the things they would do while in office. They would undergo rigorous testing, designed to really see where they stand, what is most important to them, what their real motives would be for running for office and how mature they are in many key areas of their life. If someone was found to be immoral, or spiritually or emotionally insecure, we would simply ban him or her from running for office. We would want people in there who loved what they were doing and who had a vision for a better planet. We want people in there who are leading us by example, so that we can look up to and emulate them. People who will set positive role models for all of us and who will be guided by a higher set of principles instead of fear, greed and the lust for power. My evaluation process would be pass or fail. And the results would be highly publicized. Any crooked politicians would probably not even apply.
Campaign Contributions and Lobbying

No one should be allowed to influence our government with financial incentives given to those in office. Today, we find powerful business people in the cabinet of every president, ones that are unqualified for their positions but are there to influence policy towards making more profits for their companies. This is immoral and should be illegal. I would completely eliminate lobbying and campaign contributions. There would be no way any special interest group could bribe or otherwise influence someone running for, or in, office. Why do we have lobbying and contributions anyway? Is our government meant to be for sale to the highest bidder? Shall financial interests always control our leadership? Let’s just eliminate the entire matter. Instead, when it comes time for elections, let each candidate stand up, state his or her vision of the world with us and then have a debate, not just with their opponents, but with us, the people. Let us have the option to question them on their past choices, actions, words and deeds. Let us have the opportunity to hold them accountable. Then, we can elect the one we like most. Once he or she is in office, let their policy be again guided by their vision of our country, not some company’s balance sheets.

Government Spending and Foreign Policy

If I were King I would have our country get out of all foreign countries where we have no business being. If there is a war going on somewhere, we can offer counseling and mediation, suggestions and perhaps incentives for coming to a peaceful resolution. But we would never take sides and never offer either side weapons. No selling arms to any country. Period. If anyone in America felt so strongly about some foreign conflict, such as the conflict right now between Israel and the many Muslim factions, we would give them the option to become a citizen of another country and go there and help them. We would not allow any lobbying or special interest groups to influence political figures to support either side. Perhaps we, as a country, could do an in-depth analysis of the conflict and present this openly for discussion. We could even take a vote, after getting all the facts about it, about whether or not we, as a whole, approve or condone the conflict. But we would never take an active role in fighting another country’s fight. Of course, if a country came to us pleading for help and if the two of us were very aligned on our vision of the world, it could be possible that we would take sides and protect them. But if we ever took sides it would never be such that it would further the political or financial ambitions of industrial or political figures, or any special interest groups within our country that do not represent the majority.

We would keep investing in technologies that would protect our country in the event of an attack by a foreign nation. We would be prepared to go to war, if necessary, to defend our freedom and way of life. But we would abstain from politically and financially motivated wars and conflicts entirely.

I would take all the money we are spending on wars today and invest it in our country from the ground up. Starting with education of our young, and moving up the line to investing billions in alternative energy resources and options. I would mandate that our country be free of all dependence on foreign oil within seven years. And within ten years be free of all need for fossil fuels, period. We would share all of our research and findings with all nations to contribute to their progress in these areas.

Instead of programs that create more dependence upon the government such as subsidy programs and free handout programs, I would create an atmosphere where we only support people doing good things for themselves. We would create opportunities for the growth of individuals and reward and acknowledge individuals for their efforts. What we need to move away from is the conversation that the government owes us something.

I would create a basic conversation that the government’s true goal is the elimination of government and returning the power to the hands of the people. Today the government is growing more and more. It won’t be long till most of our population is on a government payroll. We need to reverse this process and keep the government out of our decision-making process. I would encourage communities to come up
with their own legal systems. If you were living somewhere and you didn’t like the system, just move to an area where others believed and felt the same way you do.

I would devote tremendous spending to developing the quality of life here in America. I don’t mean the attainment of material objects but real quality, which means personal happiness and purpose in each of us. I would love to see a country of informed, educated, conscious people, not swayed by advertising but by the facts. So, if government could really contribute to that, I am all for it. Perhaps if the government could just do investigation and present the facts on all world matters to the people, that might be something worthwhile – some unbiased fact finding so that we could all be informed if we chose.

But mostly I would love to see our country become one of communities of people that shared important things in common. And therefore, people of like mind could live close to one another and share in their lifestyles. And then, everyone would have a choice as to where they want to live. Everyone would be encouraged to express himself or herself and reach their fullest potential, and live in an area that supports their highest expression.

Immigration

As far as immigration is concerned I would allow anyone to come to our country and live. But there would be a program set up and it would not be easy to get in. Everyone will have to meet some strict qualifications and be willing to earn their right to US citizenship. But it should never be denied. They would have to answer some important questions such as ‘why do you want to leave your homeland and come here?’ I think it would be good to do a thorough investigation for all immigrants in our country. Everyone who is here illegally would be sent home and made to pay for the cost of relocating them. Let them know how they could obtain legal citizenship and support them in doing so. But if they are here illegally, they should be required to leave immediately.

The media, television and advertising

I would like to see the entire advertising thing redone. First of all I would not allow any advertising in the movie theatres and have specific cable channels that did not have any advertising. These would be called bullshit-free channels. I would like to see us be able to only pay for the cable and satellite channels that we liked and wanted to have. We could subscribe to whatever channels we watched and not have to pay for the other hundred channels that we have no interest in at all. I would make advertisers responsible.

I would create laws that punish the companies that are using and paying the spammers instead of the spamming companies themselves. After all, they are only the hired guns of the companies that they advertise for. I would like each individual to be able to choose what sorts of advertisements they will receive, in every area of their life. This includes television, internet, radio, and any other personal area. Every advertiser would be required to create and maintain an internet forum on their products where users could share experiences about their products. If anyone wanted to know if a certain product was actually effective, they could go to the forum and read what others are saying. Users of the products could tell the truth about their experiences, both positive and negative.

Any advertiser found to be really lying about their product would be severely financially punished. Third time offenders would lose their business. Advertisers methods would be fully exposed to the public so that when they are watching an ad, they know just how they are being manipulated.

Public transportation

I would create a national system of safe, inexpensive public transportation. Every town would be required to come up with a useful, inexpensive system and the government would handle the state-to-state systems. I want to see a system of public transportation so effective that most people would choose to not even own an automobile. Every town would be required to have bicycle lanes and scenic bicycle routes to
encourage people to ride them. Just take a look in many foreign countries to see how great their systems are. Look at Russia, for example. Everybody gets to where they are going, and few have a car.

I would create a computerized car-pooling system where anyone could plug in and catch a ride. Everyone driving would put in where they are going, if they had room or not, time of departure, etc. The rider would contribute his or her share to the cost of the ride to the driver. This is like hitchhiking but would be computerized and there would be identification and records of each trip in case someone tried something illegal.

Medical care, doctors and drugs

The entire medical community (doctors) and drug companies would immediately be put under severe scrutiny. The collusion between them would be destroyed. Doctors would be unable to receive any compensation from drug companies. All doctors would be fully liable for any malpractice and unnecessary operations. We can consider taking away their liability insurance altogether. That way, they will act more responsibly. Drugs would have to have much more testing over time and all potential negative side effects explored before making them available. Everyone would have the option to use natural methods to cure themselves. People would be encouraged to take full responsibility for their health (see insurance below for more) by setting up a plan for health maintenance. Anyone whose illness was found to be the result of poor lifestyle choices and other bad habits would be held 100% accountable for their treatments. Women would be encouraged to have natural childbirths and would only be able to have caesarian births in emergency situations. The entire childbirth process would be one that would be approached differently. It would be great if we would require that couples would have to prove readiness, willingness, and competency in order to have children in the first place. There would be a baby-making program that they would have to complete before having a child that insured their desire and ability to raise children in a healthy manner.

We would spend more money on disease research, but also reveal the ways that people create disease with bad lifestyle choices. We would hold individuals responsible for their diseases. We would fully explore all natural methods and make them available, using herbology and Chinese medicine, Ayurvedic and other proven systems and discourage the use of drugs, except those that are tried and proven to be beneficial on all levels.

Marijuana would be legalized along with some other non-addictive naturally occurring drugs. Marijuana would be encouraged for some people as a natural remedy and for general relaxation though its potentially negative use would also be made very clear. Anyone found to be addicted to any substance would be locked up in an institution and have to attend an educational program to reclaim their freedom. Any individual who hurt others under the influence of a substance would be punished in a like-kind manner.

Insurance

All insurance would be gotten rid of. Everyone would be held accountable for their actions, whether they consciously did them or attracted them by their attitudes and other factors. Instead, there would be health gambling that anyone could participate in. The ‘insurance’ company would be like a health casino, you betting you will get sick and they betting you will stay healthy. It would be just like insurance companies today but it would be called what it really is and made a choice, never a requirement. The same applies to insurance on all material possessions. You could gamble that you will lose or destroy them against companies who say you won’t and see who wins. You will be made aware of the odds and costs ahead of time.

I am not sure why our world today is so illogical. My hunch is that we are essentially a greed-driven world and that this basic intention is the cause of much of the harm we see in the world today. We need leaders who are not greed and power-driven if we expect any significant changes to occur. But more than
that, we need more people who are less greed driven for that to happen. We can blame our government and politicians for our problems but we must finally admit that we put them there. They are, in any case, a mirror of the consciousness of today’s society and culture. It should be no surprise that our society today allows such blatant corruption. Ultimately I have to chalk it all up to this age of darkness that we are in. If we expect our leaders to be of a higher caliber, we must first practice that state of being ourselves. Ah, but give me a crown and watch me go!

The Fours and Their Struggles

Fours are connected to the planet Jupiter (4th planet) and the sign of Cancer (Jupiter’s sign of exaltation). By most measurements, one would consider them to be some of the most fortunate cards in the deck. Indeed, when you or I get a Four card in one of our yearly or other readings, it is usually considered a sign of good fortune, contentment and success. However, being a Four Birth Card or Planetary Ruling Card is often a different story. Keep in mind as we begin here that there is no card that is immune to Karma and who is not here to work on their issues. All of us here have work to do so even the most fortunate cards will have their share to complain about. But Fours have a peculiar aspect to them that sets them apart from others. On one hand they are very security oriented and enjoy stability, routine, order, and organization. This makes them all very good organizers. On the other hand there is this tendency towards struggle that is often hard to explain. As we examine them more closely perhaps we can unravel this mystery.

The first thing that I look at is their lifetime Saturn Cards. The 4♥ has the 6♠ in Saturn, a rather difficult card for anyone. The 4♣ has the best of the Saturn Cards of all the Fours, the 4♠. 4♠ in Saturn does cause one to work hard and work a lot, but at least it gives good health and the overcoming of life’s obstacles through persistence and hard work. The 4♦ has the Q♥ in Saturn. Ouch! We will talk about that more later. The 4♠ has the A♦ in Saturn, another ouchy but in a different manner. A cursory glance tell us that three of the Fours have very challenging Saturn Cards. Our Saturn Card in our Life Spread, which you can explore in Love Cards, reveals at least one of our lifelong issues that we are working on. Let’s discuss these individually.

The 4♥ is very family oriented. Their security lies with the people in their life, usually their family or closest friends. With Eights in Mars and Pluto, many are destined for great success. However their Saturn Card, the 6♠, points to some pretty dramatic Karma, usually in the area of health. However, it can occur in other areas as well. The 6♠ in Saturn, which also has a 9♠ connected to it, is the most scary Saturn card you can have. It points to the most powerful Karma since both the Sixes and Saturn are connected to Karma in the first place. Some 4♥ indeed have very powerful health Karma to deal with. But this Karma can manifest in other areas as well, such as the health of family members or close friends, or job challenges. It is this 6♠ which is most responsible for the challenges and struggles in their life. It can seem, at times, to be overwhelming and all encompassing.

The 4♣ is the most fortunate of the Fours. It sits in the Jupiter column of the Grand Solar Spread and has all even numbered cards in its Life Spread. But the security issue in this card is strong. Think about it for a moment. If I am very concerned about my security, placing it first in my life, there is a good chance that I will make choices that tend to put me into a prison-like situation. That can be a monotonous job or a dead end relationship or living situation. There is no other reason a 4♣ would end up in struggle other than their fears connected to security.

The 4♦ has always been known to be one of the biggest cards of struggle. There is a fair amount of Saturn influence on this card and Saturn is the planet of obstacles, and struggle. And they have the Q♥ in Saturn that says basically that any pleasure-seeking (Q♥) on their part will backfire and cost them a lot, usually a lot of hard work (Saturn). I have done readings for many 4♦ people over the years. It is not surprising that many of them have Sun square Saturn or Venus square Saturn aspects in their natal charts.
Saturn squares are among the most difficult, astrologically speaking. And often, they represent an area where we truly believe we must struggle and where we expect things to go wrong. The 4♦ has this both in their work and in their love life. It is a hard card to be. However, hard work in both areas always causes good results and the fulfillment of desires. 4♦ have to overcome their lazy streak to really have a good life. I have seen so many 4♦ women, for example, who are just so beautiful. You would think, ‘Wow, this woman could have anything she desired and any man she wanted.’ Then you realize who and what she chooses and it is so surprising to see how unhappy most of them are. This just goes to show that it is what is inside of us that matters most, not our external.

The 4♠ struggles for two reasons. First, they are a Spade card and all the Spades tend to focus on work, work, work. It is hard to get any Spade person to stop working so much, must less a Four, who feels that work is the key to contentment and security. But beyond that, the A♦ in Saturn creates a persistent fear in 4♠ people that there is not going to be enough money. If we combine that with their tendency to work, we have a very successful formula for a life of struggle. 4♠ people usually do find contentment later in life. Though they struggle, they can amass considerable financial reserves and find the peace of mind they seek.

Fours can be very stubborn and determined at times. They get so focused on creating their security that they fail to get the big picture. But it doesn’t seem to really matter to them. They have a goal in mind and the means to achieve it, even if the means involves a lot of hard work and struggle. Perhaps once they attain their goals they may survey their situation and realize that they could have asked for a whole lot more. And that is one of their main lessons in life. There are other cards who are afflicted by Saturn in similar ways to the Fours. For all of them, it can be difficult at times to even envision a life that is free of obstacles and challenges on a daily basis. These sorts of struggle patterns are set early in life, so early that we have no memory of life without them. But every once in a while the sky will open up and reveal the possibility of a life that flows without the many problems and obstacles. In those moments, the Fours get a glimpse of a new way, one that they can aspire to and eventually attain.

Celebrity Update

Tom Cruise and Katie Holmes

Not married yet, no wedding date. What can this all mean? Rumors are flying about these two. Recently Tom lost his contract with Paramount studios over his antics last year, both about Katie and his expressing his views about psychiatry in his most arrogant way in his interview with Matt Lauer. All is well with his career, though. It is Katie I am more worried about. As I write this she is in Saturn with both of Tom’s cards present (A♦ and Q♦). This could not be a more difficult time for her. She has her new baby, Suri (April 19th, 2006), but rumors are that she and Tom are fighting. I bet one of the areas is about how to raise poor Suri. You see, Tom is a high ranking Scientologist and they have rules, rules he must obey cause he is so intertwined with them, about how Suri should be raised. But Katie is a K♥ (12/18). She also has some strong views about how to raise their daughter as any K♥ naturally would. As a matter of fact, any K♥ would usually want to have complete control and power in this area. This, could, of course, cause great conflicts between them and ultimately Suri will be the one who suffers the most. A cursory glance at her natal chart reveals her Moon opposing Mars and squaring Mercury. This indicates a lot of verbal conflict in her childhood.

I have thought that perhaps Katie, like many other K♥ women, will just kick Tom out and raise Suri alone. Of course, Tom is very powerful and would do everything to prevent her. Looking at her cards in the future, it is hard to say exactly what will happen. An imminent breakup seems unlikely but it possible after her birthday in December. In Tom’s cards we see no indications, either way, of what will happen. Actually, looking at his cards, it seems that Katie and all issues involving her are not really that important.
to him personally. It is his career and money that seems to be his focus right now and for the remainder of this Age 44 year of his life.

Nick Lachey, Jessica Simpson and Vanessa Minillo

Long divorced but still making the headlines in all of the Hollywood gossip magazines. It seems like everyone would like them to get back together. Jessica at least has not found anyone to really hook up with since their divorce. However, Nick has been hooked up to Vanessa Minnillo for a while now and that relationship seems to be progressing. I was somewhat surprised today to find out that they share the same birthday (November 9th, J♣, 2♣. 2♠). Whenever I see a man with a woman of the same birthday, my first thought is, ‘Wow, he met his match!’ At the very least, they will understand each other. Having the same birthday could entail the possibility of feeling like you are soul mates. At the same time, you would, of course, be looking in the mirror. But the good news is that they may both have similar ideas about marriage and relationship that would make them very compatible. Looking in their cards they each have each other as their Result Card for this year. He has a K♥ Long Range next year in one of his ruling card spreads. There is a good possibility they will have a baby. I think these two will be together for a while. Perhaps Mr. Hunky did meet his match!

Jim Carrey and Jenny McCarthy

Speaking of matches, here we have another pretty amazing coupling. Jim is January 17, 1962, a 10♦ and 5♥. Ex-porn star Jenny is November 1st, 1972, a 6♦. But her Planetary Ruling Cards are Jim’s cards, the 10♦ and 5♥. Thus we have another case of possible soul mates here. Jim certainly seems to think so. All the latest articles have him professing his love of her and practically smothering her with his love (Rumors are that he is very insecure and has been hurt a lot in the past). But apparently she does not mind that much. And these two are very sexual people. I am sure they are having lots of hot romance. Looking ahead, there is the strong possibility of a baby in their future. Wow!

David Chappelle

Born 24 August 1973, Dave is a 2♣ and K♣. It is any wonder that he gave up a $50 million contract on moral grounds? "It's good to have a vision for your life, but your moral conduct and your moral code
should be priceless," he said. "You should just have some values that you just hold, that you won't sell at any price." When you think of comics you may rarely think of a K♣ card since most of them are so firmly devoted to the truth. However, many K♣ are in the comedy business including Carrot Top and David Spade.

**Mel Gibson, the One-Eyed Jack**

Mel Gibson (January 3, 1956) is a J♠. He has recently been censored for his anti-Semitic remarks he made when he was arrested for drunken driving on July 28th of this year. This was very bad for his reputation, both with his fans and with the Hollywood crowd and he received a lot of criticism for it. Help! Mel needed to come up with some way to make up for showing his real thoughts and feelings. Ah, I got it (he said). I will get an interview with Diane Sawyer! And so he did it aired on Good Morning America October 12th and 13th, 2006. If you had the opportunity to watch, you got to see a master liar at work, spinning excuses and reasons for his behavior, feigning apologies and remorse for his actions, all of which seemed too rehearsed.

I was delighted when I read Star Magazine’s article (October 30th, 2006). They hired four psychological and body-language experts to analyze the video of his interview. All four independently concluded he was lying through his teeth. They noted things like avoiding looking directly into the camera, having his hands moving up to his mouth and ears, and other telltale signs that someone is lying and can’t believe what they themselves are saying. This is not so surprising to those who know the cards however as he is a J♠. Mel readily exhibits the other side of the J♠, the super creative and playful sides, along with the ability to assume different roles or characters at will. In truth, the J♠ is a close second to the Joker in it’s ability to play and put on masks. We see very few of them, however, since they only have two birthdays each year. The last really famous one was Clark Gable, who also portrayed the dark, riverboat gambler type.

It has been a rough year for Mel. He just came out of a Saturn period where he had the 6♠. This card in Saturn is the worse for reaping some bad karma. All his resentment towards Jews and Hollywood, combined with his arrogance, finally caught up with him. Expect to see a lot of him in the coming months, ass-kissing and otherwise doing everything he can publicly to get his fans and other back on his good side.

**Born Around Midnight?**

How to determine your Birth Card when you time of birth is close to midnight and your card is in dispute

If you were born within an hour of midnight, there is a good chance that you could actually be a different Birth Card than you think. Here is how you find out and check it.

In this world today, we use a system of time called Observed Time. We have divided up our planet into areas called Time Zones, which vary in shape but each has a central north to south line, or meridian, whose time is observed throughout the entire zone. Generally, the meridian lies close to the horizontal center of the zone, but not always. This system is one of agreement. Everyone in a particular zone agrees that the time is the same as the Sundial, or True Solar Time along the meridian. The map on the next page shows these time zones and the longitudinal meridians upon which the time zones are based. This map can also be found online at [http://www.travel.com.hk/region/timezone.htm](http://www.travel.com.hk/region/timezone.htm), where it is much more detailed and useful.
However, in the card system we use True Solar Time, which can also be referred to as Real Time or Sundial Time. This is the real time that was at the location of birth, according to the Sun’s position in the sky. Observed Time can vary as much as an hour or more from True Solar Time and thus render your Birth Card to be invalid in some cases. If you are born within an hour of midnight it is wise to determine your True Solar Time. Your actual birthday could be the day before or the day after that which is stated on your birth certificate.

The Steps to Determine True Solar Time

1. Make sure you have your accurate observed birth time and place from your birth certificate or other source. If this time is not correct, your calculations will be incorrect as well. My birth time was 10:18 AM. This is what it says on my birth certificate.

2. Determine which time zone you are born in. The name of it is not that important but the longitude of the standard meridian in that time zone is. In the United States, we have
   a. Eastern Time Zone, which is 75° West
   b. Central Time Zone which is 90° West
   c. Mountain Time Zone which is 105° West
   d. Pacific Time Zone which is 120° West.

3. Get the longitude of your place of birth. You need the degrees and minutes. I was born in South Charleston, West Virginia, in the eastern time zone at 81W44, which means 81 degrees West 44 minutes.

4. Find out if it was Daylight Savings Time (DST) where you were born. This varies from place to place but generally begins each year the beginning of April and ends around the end of October. Some states, such as Hawaii and Arizona, do not even observe DST so it is important to find this out for sure. For example, I was born on July 3rd, 1953. Most states observed DST that day but not where I was born in West Virginia.

5. If you were born during DST, subtract one hour from your Observed Time of birth. This one factor alone will eliminate or confirm many cases where it is in doubt. In my case, there was no DST so there is nothing to subtract from my observed birth time of 10:45 AM.

6. Determine how many degrees and minutes, east or west of your standard meridian, is your place of birth. In my birth location the standard meridian is 75 degrees west. My birth longitude is 81W44 so I am actually 6 degrees 44 minutes (which is about ¾ of a degree) west of my standard meridian.

7. For each degree east or west of your standard meridian, multiply by 4 minutes of time. In my case it would be 4 times 6.75, or 27 minutes.

8. If you are east of your standard meridian, add your calculated minutes of difference to your Observed Time of birth. If you are west, subtract these minutes. In my case, I am west of my meridian so I subtract the 27 minutes from my observed time of birth and get a True Solar Time of birth of 10:18 AM.

   If I had been born during DST, I would have had to subtract an hour and 27 minutes from my time of birth. This could have been very important if I had been born at, let’s say, 1:15 am. In that case, my True Solar Time would have been 11:48 PM on July 2, 1953, making me an entirely different Birth Card.

That is really about it, your True Solar Time will tell you whether you are actually born on the day of your birth certificate or not, a critical factor when doing readings for yourself or others.
The Card Archetypes

Every card in the deck is some archetype. Each is a symbol of a certain frequency of ‘vibration experience’ that will manifest itself as a set of personality traits or as specific kinds of personal experiences. We see pictures on some of the cards, with symbols that reflect the kinds of experiences or traits one might expect, but only on the face cards of our deck of 52. But many of the other cards have distinctive traits and represent such specific events or experiences. I thought I would go through them all and give some of the names we have for these archetypes.

A♥ - Self Love – this card is really about loving ourselves, even though it may manifest in many ways including having a baby. The Baby Card
2♥ - The Lovers – Not hard to figure this one out, two hearts together. And you probably know that it can mean being with very close friends. It is always someone very dear to you. Can also be a Baby Card (mother and child together).
3♥ - The Bisexual Card – Many of those who have this card in their Life Spread have difficulty determining just exactly which sex they are. The Uncertainty in Love Card.
4♥ - The Cancer Card, meaning the card that represents the sign of Cancer, which rules the home and family and marriage. Thus it is also the Family Card, the Home Card and the Marriage Card.
5♥ - The Earthquake Card? If some of you had read my newsletter a couple of years ago you would see the significance of this. But this card has many archetypes including the Divorce Card the Move Card, but mostly the Eternally Restless Card.
6♥ - The Peacemaker’s Card, though people with this as a Birth or Planetary Ruling Card can be very competitive and angry. The Love Karma Card.
7♥ - The Abandonment Card or really the fear of Abandonment Card. Emotional Betrayal Card.
8♥ - The Playboy or Playgirl Card, naturally and one of the most common uses of the power this card bestows. Can also be the Emotional Tyrant Card. The Card of Charm.
9♥ - Universal Love Card but also the card of personal emotional loss. The most spiritual cards (generally the sevens and nines) are also the most painful in the mundane sense. The Emotional Loss Card.

10♥ - The Party Card – always throw a party when you have this card in your spreads. You won’t be disappointed. The Pathological Liar Card.

J♥ - The Sacrifice Card or the Christ Love Card. Just get to know any J♥ and you will see how this one works.

Q♥ - The Sex Card and the Mother Card. The appearance of the Q♥ is often a symbol of a sexual time period. And of course, sex is known to result in motherhood. The Q♥ can also be the Self-indulgent and the Lazy Card.

K♥ - The Father Card in a man’s spread and if found in a woman’s spread, the Ideal Lover Card. Can be a Playboy or Playgirl Card as well.

A♣ - The New Information Card, the Self-Absorbed Card

2♣ - The Fear Card, the Arguing Card, the Card of Beauty (figure that one out!)

3♣ - The Worry Card and The Story-Teller Card. Also The Author Card, it often appears when you would be writing a book. Sometimes The Nut-job Card, like the 3♥.

4♣ - The Virgo Card, anyone possessing this card (Birth or Planetary Ruling Card) will show marked Virgo traits. The Card of Order.

5♣ - The Restless Mind and Heart Card, the Card of Dissatisfaction (mentally and emotionally)

6♣ - The Psychic Card or the Spiritual Teacher Card, The Corporate Card.

7♣ - The Pessimist Card – can also be enlightened mind

8♣ - The Fixed Mind Card – can be positive or negative depending upon the application. The Mental Power Card.

9♣ - The Giver of Information. In personalities, this is the most sexual Birth Card, a close match for the Q♥ but having a 9♣ in your spreads is not an indication of sex like the Q♥.

10♣ - The Teacher Card and some would say, the I Can’t Sleep at Night Card

J♠ - The Photographic Memory Card, the Bisexual Card (much like the 3♥ but for different reasons), the Card of the Brilliant but Fixed Mind and sometimes the Liar Card.

Q♠ - The Mother of Intuition Card, the most psychic card in the deck. But also the Mental Service Card, serving others through knowledge and information. In many cases, the Impatient and Angry Bitch Card. The Mother Mary Card.

K♠ - The King of Truth Card. Very few of these individuals will tell lies.

A♦ - The Aries Card in the deck, a card of great passion and ambition. Among Birth Cards, the Cheating Husband Card and the Selfish Co-Dependent Card.


3♦ - The I Don’t Have Enough Money Card. Also the Creative Product Ideas Card.

4♦ - The Card of Unhappiness – have you ever met a happy 4♦? The Struggle Card and the Card of Financial Organization.

5♦ - The Salesman Card (like the J♦) but more like the Wandering Salesman Card.

6♦ - The When Am I Going to Win the Lottery? Card (or When Am I Going to Marry a Rich Guy? Card)

7♦ - The Wacky Co-Dependent Card – to varying degrees, depending upon the birthday. The Millionaire’s Card in Jupiter or the Money Problem Card most anywhere else.

8♦ - The Sun Card, the Leo Card in the deck, the Card of Fame and Recognition. The ‘I Fight With Powerful People’ Card. The Serial Monogamy Card in relationships.


10♦ - The Me-Me-Me Card, also the Beggar at the Banquet Card. But when you or I get it in our spreads, the Millionaire’s Card.

J♦ - The Creative and Lying Salesman Card. The ‘I won’t grow up!’ Card.
Q ♦ - The Rich Grandmother who will take you shopping Card. In relationships, the ‘I can’t make up my mind.’ Card. The Philanthropist Card and the Business Woman’s Card.

K ♦ - The cold, hard businessman Card. The ‘I make enemies, but who cares?’ Card.

A ♠ - The Pluto Card of the entire deck, the Card of Transformation. As a person, the Emotionally Sensitive Workaholic Card. the most famous of the classic Death Cards.

2 ♠ - The Friendship Card, also the Let’s Do Something Together Card, the Aquarian Card in the deck.

3 ♠ - The Hypochondriac Card, The Artist Card, the Double-Life Card, the Nut-job Card. The undiagnosable health problem Card.

4 ♠ - The Home Card (like the 4♥ but stronger for buying a home). In a personality, the Struggle for Money Card.

5 ♠ - The Wanderer Card or the Adventure Seeker Card

6 ♠ - The Emotionally Shut Down Competitor Card, the Card of Fate and Karma.

7 ♠ - The Health Issue Card, the Card of Faith, the Accident Card

8 ♠ - The Card of Power, the Dominator Card, the Workaholic Card.

9 ♠ - The Pisces Card in the Deck, also an Accident Card, The Giver

10 ♠ - The Super Worker Card, the Capricorn Card in the Deck.


Q ♠ - The Drudgery Card, The Card of Self Mastery, The Mother of Labor Card, the Unrelenting Boss Card.

K ♠ - The King of Kings

Joker – The Nobody Knows Just Who I Am Card, the Fool.

The Life That We Make

One of the most profound changes that I notice in myself as I move beyond Age 52 is my attitude towards life. I remember when I was younger I read a paragraph by some famous author who was older than 60 who said something to the effect that ‘I make my life what it is, on a daily basis. Each day I wake up and decide what my life is going to be.’ I took note of these words of wisdom when I read them but I knew that I did not fully understand them. My life up until that point was a combination of long-term dreams and goals and working each day to accomplish some small part of a bigger accomplishment. That was not so bad, really, but what was missing then was the knowing that I absolutely could decide what I want my life to be and have that become true. My Age 52 year was profound. I experienced an incredible transformation, mostly as a result of taking a training program called Legacy in Raleigh, NC. But it was more than the program itself. It was also my readiness to experience a deep transformation in my life. What I experienced at Age 52 was pretty much what I had predicted it would be by observing other people who went through that year. I had to ask myself if my life was worth living. And if the life I was living was worth living or was there something more that I needed to adopt for my life to make it a life worth living. It is interesting that one of the key questions posed to me during the Legacy Training was ‘what is a life worth living?’

At Age 52 many of us have already had some form of accomplishment in our lives. Looking ahead, we have to decide whether or not we have some good reasons for taking up space here on the planet. Many people, as I have said before, choose to die at or near Age 52. Is this just a coincidence or is there some inner process, part of our development as human beings, at work? By Age 52, we pretty much have everything figured out. At least, I think that most of us have come up with explanations for most everything in life and are somewhat settled-in with our understanding of life. Basically we feel comfortable, even complacent, with our knowledge of the world, our life and relationships. But in that acquired ‘mental set’ we are also limited. We limit others and ourselves. We cannot see beyond our personal history. It is hard in this place to even picture a new life for ourselves, we are so encumbered by
what we have arrived at as an explanation for ourselves, others and life. We have our huge set of beliefs about ourselves, such as what we are good and what we are not good at, what we can tolerate and what we cannot tolerate, what kinds of relationships we like and dislike, what kinds of food we like and dislike, the list goes on and on. We think that this knowledge of ourselves is a good thing, not realizing that we have put ourselves into an apparently comfortable, but actually miserable little mental box.

If we are to move beyond this box, it will take conscious deliberate effort. The authors of Sacred Symbols of the Ancients, Florence Campbell and Edith Randall, once stated that after age 52 we either progress spiritually or we stagnate. We all certainly know lots of people over the age of 52 that are in stagnation. I remember going to a nursery home once and talking with many of the residents there. Most of their conversations consisted of an endless loop of ideas and memories about their lives, most of which would repeat themselves in less than five minutes. These people had ‘died’ long ago, though they were still breathing. If you are over age 52, ask yourself how often you talk about what you used to do and how you used to be. It should scare you to realize that you have left the present and future in favor of memories of the past. But that is human nature and it will prevail without some conscious effort.

So, at Age 52 I took a hard look at myself and asked some hard questions. I realized that my life was not going to change at all unless I made a conscious and deliberate decision to change it. It is funny to think about actually. On one hand I knew that I could accomplish anything. I have proven that to myself many times. But at Age 52 I was reluctant to actually pick something and do it! What was it that was stopping me? Did I just want to die?

So, this is the essence of this article. What I realized was that my life from this point forward had to be whatever I decided it would be. The question of whether or not I wanted to die or what was stopping me was just an excuse, manufactured by my mind, which had become engrained in all the ways of being I had accumulated from my past history. The truth was that I still had dreams and unfulfilled desires. So, I just made up my mind.

The first step in this process is to declare what it is we intend to create. You may have no proof that you can do it, but hey, that’s part of the magic of it all. What we can do is create anything from nothing. And that begins with a declaration. Our declaration is the specification of what we want. I had done some deep soul-searching during my Legacy experience. I had used that training to get me deeply in touch with what there was in my heart of hearts that mattered to me. And, it worked. Coming out of there I knew exactly what I wanted and even why. So, I declared my intentions, both to myself and to those who were closest to me.

Magic happens when we are clear and committed. Doors open up, invaluable connections are made with others who can help us, needed resources show up, and other miraculous events. It is as though out comes the red carpet. We feel that we are being guided and assisted by the powers that be. This is no miracle, though it sure looks and feels like one. It is simply how things work when we have made a decision to act based upon our deepest heart-felt desires. But just knowing what we really want is not enough, even though it is absolutely a necessary step. What else is needed is a commitment to having it and creating it. The declaration I spoke of earlier is a symbol of our commitment.

From there forward we just stay committed and stay open to possibilities as they arise. Often, we get many of the things we want instantaneously. Others may involve a process but you will notice there will be little or not obstacles of any significance. But each day forward from that important declaration, we are living in a reality where we are intentionally creating the life that we say we want. As the magic unfolds we see that this is really how life really works. It always worked this way but we were just not able to see it. I suppose there are some things in life that cannot be learned by most of us without some years of experience, meaning that a lot of us do not get it until we have reached a certain age. You might say this is one of the benefits of getting older. You might say this is wisdom. And the suit of Spades, which governs the last years of our life, are the suit of wisdom in its truest sense.

So here we are, creating our life to be what we want it to be, on a daily basis. Each day we affirm what we are doing and if necessary, why we are doing it. We state our intentions to ourselves, keeping our goals and dreams displayed in our mind’s eye. In this way, we are making good use of our mind, instead of allowing it to stagnate and drop us into the gutter of regurgitated history.
Living Large or Living Small

Life means something different to each person. I wonder how many of us stop to think about just how precious it is. Or do we just allow our life to become this routine of maintenance. I have thought about it and I can see that it would be easy for anyone’s life to become more or less just the maintaining of what they have. I mean, after we clean our house, shop for food, cook, do laundry, and do whatever work we do to make a living, how much time do we really have left? And if we are in a relationship and that requires some time and energy on our part, we end up with even less time. And if we throw in a couple of other hobbies and habits, even simple things like watching television and reading the morning newspaper, it is easy to see a life that is more or less consumed by just maintenance-oriented activities. And what is it for? Is there any purpose or deeper meaning to our lives?

One thing I realized after completing my age 52 year, which in the cards we call the critical year, is that my life is only going to be what I decide to make it. There is something about being 52 that causes us to really assess what we are doing and why. I found, as many do, that I had to decide if my life was worth living. I had to decide if there was any reason for me to be here, alive, on this beautiful planet. I know this may sound very odd to someone, especially someone young. This kind of thinking never really occurred to me when I was younger. Perhaps it is the Chiron return that usually occurs around that age, or some other astrological event. But it is very interesting how many people die around that year. And most people I have talked to who are more or less aware of themselves agree that that year was one of a decision about the meaning of their life and whether or not they were going to continue on or check out.

Now, life after age 52 is different for me. I am no longer waiting for some meaning to come to me, too make my life worthwhile. I realize now that life is going to be what I make it, or better yet, what I decide it is going to be. The work I did with the Legacy Center, which is fundamentally a Lifespring training, had a lot to do with my change of heart and mind. And it couldn’t have happened at a better time for me. Actually I would suggest that anyone approaching their age 52 year find something like this, something that will cause an intense and deep soul searching. Of course no one has to wait until they are 52 years old to do this. But even if you do it earlier, you will want to do it again when you are 52. There is no real explanation for why this comes up as a need at that age, it just does.

Another thing I realized in my 52 year was that I could choose to have the life I had always wanted. I realized that I could have an extraordinary life, one that was far better than I had ever allowed myself to imagine. I believe that all of us are born with certain dreams. Our dreams are not a product of our childhood or our genetics. What each person dreams about doing in their life and the things they want to experience in life are uniquely theirs. Some people know from birth what they are going to do or be. Many people who are the top in their field today knew, as children, what they wanted to be and do. Others have their dreams too, but their childhood circumstances cause them to doubt or deny them. I believe everyone has their dreams, though a lot of us have probably forgotten much of what they are. And living a life without them is, in my opinion, a life hardly worth living. I know this is a strong statement to make, but if you or I have an incredible dream and are not living it, what are we really doing here? I believe everyone has an incredible dream.

During my work with Legacy, I had the opportunity to talk to a lot of people about their dreams. I facilitated them in getting in touch with their greatest and fondest dreams. It was for me a wonderful experience. I got to hear about the things they really wanted for themselves and others. But most of all, I got to hear the God-given dreams each of them had tucked away. And then I invited them to consider going for it. I remember as I talked with them I would suggest that they dream big. My question to them was simple, “If you had a magic wand and could not fail, what three things would you create for yourself in the next year of your life?” That simple question became a powerful force in many people’s lives,
especially mine. It has guided each step of my life since then. It caused many to awaken to things they had always wanted but had forgotten about, or lost touch with.

The thing I saw for myself last year (age 52) was I can choose to go for all my dreams, the really big ones, or I could go for small things. I could choose to life a big life or a small life. And to me, the definition of whether or not my life was big or small came down to whether or not I was giving to others and how much. I could just live a life of maintenance or go for something extraordinary. I venture to say that a life lived simply to satisfy our personal needs is a small life. It is only through giving that we expand and become much greater than ourselves. If what we are doing does not give anything to others or to the world, it has little meaning. And if we really look at those who have achieved a great goal, we can see that it usually involves giving to others.

We each, every day, must answer the question of what are we doing here. What are your goals? And what is it that you seek that is behind the goals you have set for yourself? I invite you, now at the beginning of this new year of 2007, to look at your life and ask yourself ‘is my life big enough?’ How big can you allow your life to be? Are there things you always wanted but didn’t think you could have for some reason? Make 2007 the year you go for it all.

**Lindsay Lohan Hollywood Bad Girl**

Lindsay Lohan starred in a movie called Mean Girls, and it appears that the movie fits her personality pretty well. She gets a lot of media attention, most of it for the bad things she has done or from the enemies she has made. I just watched a show last night where some spoiled rich kid was dissing her. She had obviously done something to make this guy hate her. Here are just a few of the headlines about Lindsay, and these are all just in the past couple of months.

- **Lohan Continues to Party** - Lindsay Lohan continued partying last weekend despite the fact she was hospitalized Wednesday and received a scathing letter from the studio head of her latest movie detailing her lack of professionalism. James G. Robinson, the CEO of Morgan Creek Productions, sent a letter to Lohan calling her "discourteous, irresponsible and unprofessional" and went on to say her actions were those of a spoiled child which had caused her co-workers on the set of Georgia Rule to feel alienated and "has endangered the quality of this picture." Robinson also threatened to sue the 20-year-old star if she continued to delay production. August 1, 2006

- **Lohan Slams Bad Birthday Behavior Reports** - Hollywood actress Lindsay Lohan has hit back over claims she was rude to staff at her private birthday bash at Disneyland in California earlier this month. One blogger on Miceage.com, a website dedicated to the Anaheim theme park writes, "Between the rude behavior and the snotty attitude the entire party displayed, there were very few Lindsay Lohan fans working at Disneyland by the end of that night." July 24, 2006

- **Left battered and bruised after taking pole-dancing lessons for her role as a topless dancer in new movie I KNOW WHO KILLED ME.** (December 19, 2006)
- Loves stealing other people's boyfriends, insisting she finds unavailable men more attractive.
- Went to Alcoholics Anonymous to seek help for her heavy drinking. (December 2, 2006)
- Says Sex and the City inspired her to date lots of different men. (November 28, 2006)
- Is reportedly attempting to buy the rights to the Stevie Nicks (another tough lady) story so she can star as the singer in a new film. (November 24, 2006)
- Her Land Rover collided with a police car in London when she was partying with Calum Best. (November 23, 2006)
- Had to pay out $38,000 after losing a Cartier bracelet loaned to her for her presenting job at the World Music Awards in London. (November 21, 2006)
- Was booed for poor hosting at 2006 WMA's and was forced to abandon her role as host when she fell down the stairs.
- Denies reports that she was recently involved in another car crash and has accused the media of making it all up. (November 14, 2006)
- Tossed a four-letter expletive at fellow Hollywood run-around Paris Hilton when she was captured leaving a Los Angeles hotel inside which Hilton had reportedly been partying. (November 13, 2006)
- Left Robbie Williams red-faced earlier when she snubbed his advances in a Los Angeles night club. (November 9, 2006)
- Received a court summons to appear as a witness as she strutted up the red carpet, for a case believed to be related to her mother. Lohan was presented with the papers at a party in Beverly Hills, but thought it was a request for an autograph from a fan. When she discovered the true nature of the document, she was visibly shocked. (October 18, 2006)

So, what are we to make of her? It seems she is a magnet for bad press. I think most of it is explained by her birthday, July 2, 1986. July 2nd is one of the two birthdays each year that is a double King, in this case the K♦ Birth Card with a K♥ Planetary Ruling Card. I have known lots of K♦ people, and just being a K♦ is enough to warrant some bad behavior. They are known to make enemies and to just push their way through situations with relative carelessness for others. It is because they are the one-eyed king, the only one in the deck. They are usually blind to some important aspects of life, usually blind to others around them or to how their actions affect others. Maybe its just being the ‘King of Value’ that causes this. It seems that many people who have the K♦ as a Birth or Planetary Ruling Card exhibit this ‘the ends justifies the means’ mentality. Look at Bill Gates who has the K♦ as a Planetary Ruling Card. Having this blindness can bring a lot of success as a person can pursue their goals one pointedly without any remorse for how their pursuit may affect those around them.

Lindsay is in good company. Other K♦ women include Angelina Jolie, Sharon Stone, Patricia Arquette, Christina Ricci, Faye Dunaway, Emily Watson, and Michelle Branch who is also born on July 2nd. If you study these ladies carefully you will see that all of them are tough and able to handle their own affairs. They often end up in movies where they play a powerful woman, often one who is the equal, or superior to any man. Lindsay is one of the first to be so arrogant and outspoken in her day to day life.

It should be said that not all K♦ exhibit these behaviors. Some K♦, like other kings in the deck, are here to discover that they are powerful. Many kings are born thinking themselves to be powerless and the victim of others and life in general. So, being a king can mean you are experiencing the power issue from either side of the coin.

So what is Lindsay Lohan’s future? That is easy to predict. It will be more of the same. There seems to be something within her that clamors for as much attention and drama as possible, much more than the average Hollywood celebrity. I expect that she will continue to attract highly volatile and dramatic situations to her until she starts to see how she is creating it, which might not ever happen. But looking at
her cards this year, in her next period, Saturn, which begins on the 27th of January 2007, she has a 9♣ with the famous 6♠/9♠ Underlying Cards. This may be a very difficult Saturn period for her this year, and out of that could come some maturity and wisdom. But, at 20 years old, it is doubtful she will learn all that much. It is likely that she will keep creating all this drama in her life and eventually she will tire of it. But I don’t see that happening any time soon.

Our Galactic Cards

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Presented here is a table containing each Birth Card and their corresponding galactic cards. What are the galactic cards? They are what I have called the Cosmic Moon and Transformed Self Cards in my book, Exploring the Little Book of the Seven Thunders. To be honest, there is little that we know for certain about these two cards. But here are my thoughts about them and their significance. They are certainly worthy of study and inspection.

To begin with, we know that the number 13 is significant for many reasons. There are 13 lunar cycles each year and 13 cards in each of the four suits. When we examine our Life Spreads, we usually stop at the Result, or Cosmic Reward, Card. This is the 9th card counting from our Birth Card in the Life Spread, if we look at it in the Grand Solar array. For those unfamiliar with the Grand Solar array, take a look at page 108 in the Cards of Your Destiny book. But you really don’t have to look it up, the list is right here. But I do want to say that the Cosmic Lesson is the 10th card from the Birth Card, the Cosmic Moon card is the 11th card from the Birth Card and the Transformed Self Card is the 12th. And when you put these twelve cards together with the Birth Card, you get 13 cards.

Theoretically, therefore, we have twelve cards in our Life Spread, well 13, if you include the Moon Card to the Birth Card. And I do believe that before this century is complete, science and astrologers will be acknowledging and tracking 12 or 13 planets as affecting us here on planet Earth. It doesn’t matter if they have reclassified Pluto as a dwarf planet, the energy of it remains the same, as will other heavenly bodies discovered out there in the Kuiper belt.
But how do we interpret these outer planet cards? Honestly, it gets a little difficult. I have found that beyond the Cosmic Reward card, I can only theorize at this point. But, in the past most of my theories have proven to be true. Ultimately I will now know what these cards mean until I have some direct experience of them, either my own or of someone I know closely. I have studied my Cosmic Reward and Transformed Self cards for a while now. I find them all the more interesting because in my case, they are the Birth and Planetary Ruling Cards of my father, born on May 30th (2♣ and K♣). Am I like my father? Certainly, though not in every way. But we do share a lot of traits. I also have had many significant relationships with K♣ people other than my father. So, just based upon that, plus the other people I know and how I see them connecting with these cards of theirs, here goes.

I would like to talk about the X card, the Transformed Self card, first. I want to rename it to the Galactic Card, at least for this article. One way I would like to express this is that our Galactic Card is who we are on a galactic level, or the level beyond the earth. To understand this, I think we have to step back from ourselves a little and imagine a bigger picture. The card that we are now, our Birth Card, is firmly rooted in our birth here on planet Earth. The Galactic Card would be our more universal identity. By virtue of having been born here on this planet, we are under the influences of the planets. But when we venture beyond this planet, what will happen? Will our karma change? Personally I can’t imagine it not changing. We will have much different electromagnetic influences. Now, there are few of us that will ever experience travel to other places beyond earth, at least among those of us alive today. But I think that before long it will be commonplace to be born on different worlds and to travel to different worlds. But even if you are not born on another planet or travel to one, your Galactic Card has great meaning. It may be the biggest version of you that could be imagined. Think of your Galactic Card as the most universal part of you, the part that is connected not just to mundane things, but also to other realms and extraordinary vibrations. It is the Super-You. It is a higher identity so I would always interpret the card on the high side of its expression. So, for example if your Galactic Card was a Three, like the 3♥ or 3♦, your cosmic identity would be creative, an artist of sorts. So, when you look at your Galactic Card (marked X), always interpret it in its highest and most positive light.

The Cosmic Moon would be the planet that supports and encourages the expression of your Galactic Card. It represents people, whose Birth or Planetary Ruling Card support the vision of your expanded self, or the energies present that help you express it. Since it is essentially playing the feminine role to your Galactic Card, it may hold special significance for those of the female gender. For example, it might be more important itself, in its feminine power, as a symbol of their expanded selves. I invite the ladies reading this to try this card on and see how it fits you.

On a side note for Cancer sun sign natives, the Cosmic Moon may be another Planetary Ruling Card for you. There are those among card students who believe that the Cosmic Moon is actually the true Moon Card. Personally I cannot deny it is significant for me, a Cancer, but I don’t see it fitting in every aspect. I have come, however, to seeing both my Moon Card and Cosmic Moon Card as co-rulers for me.

In relationships, meeting someone who is your Galactic Card has got to be a good connection. This person may help point the way to your true role in a more universal sense, much like the Cosmic Lesson Card. But whereas the Cosmic Lesson implies some sort of obligation or responsibility, the Galactic Card is merely a signpost pointing upwards. Whether you take advantage of the sign and decide to go that way is completely up to you. Personally I have found relationships with my Galactic Card to be quite good. However, I have many other favorable connections with that card that make it hard to distinguish where the good stuff is coming from. Perhaps some of you can tell me about some people you have known who are your Galactic Card, or your Cosmic Moon Card and let me know how you experienced them.

I hope this small article has stimulated your imagination and got you thinking about your life and where you are going. See how these cards fit into your life. Check and see which people you have known who
are either one of these cards and how they affected you. And see how your Galactic Card might be a symbol of a new you, one that is ready to travel beyond the bounds of our mundane existence. When all is said and done, I believe the Galactic Card to be like the North Star, leading us on to a higher plane of existence.

**Looking Ahead to 2007**

Here is a brief look at some astrological events occurring in 2007 and how some of them may affect the various Sun signs. 2007 begins with the chart depicted here. What I tend to look at in this kind of evaluation is the transits of the outer planets, Jupiter through Pluto.

First of all this is, and has been, an important time for Sagittarians. With Jupiter and Pluto in their sign, good things are happening. Actually Pluto will leave Sagittarius after this year and has already done most of what it is going to do to Sagittarians because it has reached 27 degrees out of 30 degrees. Still, those Sagittarians born on or after the 19th of December are still in the midst of a huge personal transformation. And it should be a good one. Jupiter adds it’s blessing this year. I think all Sagittarians should be expecting positive turns of events in 2007, healing and affirmation of their natures.

However, Uranus in Pisces is also causing these same Sagittarians to undergo many changes, often unexpected and abrupt. Many Sagittarians, and this also applies to Gemini, their opposite sign, have experienced the changes I have been talking about. Uranus makes us want to throw off everything in our life that is not really us. We want to stand up for our uniqueness and not let anyone or anything keep us from being who we truly are. For those Sagittarians and Geminis born after the 3rd of December and June, this is especially true and will be for the duration of 2007.

Saturn in Leo has affected all the fire signs in a more or less constructive way but has been very challenging for all the fixed signs (Taurus, Aquarius to a lesser extent, Scorpios and Leos themselves). But Scorpios and Taurus people have been the most challenged by its transit through Leo. As the year begins, it is affecting those two signs, but especially those born around the 16th – the 18th of May and November. As it travels through the rest of Leo, those born later in those months will be challenged by Saturn’s firm hand, each where they need the growth and opportunity for wisdom and maturity. Saturn enters Virgo in September of 2007 where it will begin challenging all the mutable signs, Pisces, Sagittarius, Gemini and Virgo, but only those born in the early days of that sign, usually between the 20th and 26th of their respective birth months.

Eventually Saturn will reach a point where it will oppose transiting Uranus. This will not occur until November of 2008. But when it does, we can expect things like earthquakes, airplane crashes and other
freak acts of nature. In December of 2008, this opposition will be squared by Mars. This would be a very volatil
time. You may have noticed that there are times when we have a lot of some kind of event occur, such as plane crashes, mass murders, wars, etc. These tend to occur most when the outer planets are fighting as suggested by the stressful aspects they may from time to time. This particular time will stand out.

Neptune is still in Aquarius, affecting all Leos, Scorpios and Taurus people born around the 6th – 8th of their birth months. Neptune has the effect of confusing us and basically ‘melting down’ our identity in order to make way for a new identity that wants to emerge. All of the Fixed signs just mentioned are undergoing this transformational experience. Next year it will move on to those born later in the sign but it will be in Aquarius for some years to come.

An incredible opportunity

Begin November 23rd of 2007 Jupiter and Pluto will be together in the heavens for a brief time. The time from then to December 11th is especially powerful. This transit only occurs every 13 - 15 years and is one of the very best for immense financial gain. If you can begin a financial deal during this time, start a new business or even get married, the possibilities are enormous. You can bet that I will be taking advantage of this rare event for financial gain. Just to give you an idea, Bill Gates has Jupiter and Pluto conjunct in his house of money in his natal astrological chart.

Being a Spiritual Warrior

A warrior is that person who is prepared to face whatever enemies he or she must in order to accomplish his or her goals and objectives. In many ancient cultures it was considered an honor for a warrior to die in battle. That was part of being a warrior. Men and women took pride in serving their causes through being a warrior. Ancient India, to be a part of the warrior class meant that you were the protector of the weak, and of the Brahmins, who were essentially beggars. It was the warrior’s duty to provide sustenance for the Brahmins and to protect them. The kings in those days were mostly all from the warrior class, or caste. In battle at that time, the men who fought followed a strict code of ethics as to how they fought. They would not, for example, fight with another warrior who was not their equal in skill or rank. They would not attack or kill someone who had decided to leave the field of battle. They also believed that to die on the battlefield was a great honor that would take them to a special heaven where great enjoyments would be experienced. So, when these men went out onto the field they were prepared to lay down their lives for honor, duty, respect, and for their very purpose in life. And when in battle, they faced their opponents head-on and knew whom they were fighting with.

Today we do not have quite that kind of honor and ethics in war. We do have men and women fighting and risking their lives to protect their respective countries. But on the field itself there is often a lack of ethical conduct. Those sorts of ethics are not expected as a rule and in many nations it is nearly the norm to rape and pillage any defeated townspeople.

But the warrior spirit lives in all of us. No matter who you are, you do have a warrior within you. And each of us has to fight our battles in life, whether large or small. Mars is the God of War. He is the God of anger, rage and fighting. He is also the God of courage and is exalted in the sign of Capricorn. Capricorn is all about following the rules and being ‘upright’ in our conduct. Even in war, we can be upright and just. Thus, Mars can be expressed positively, even though it is a minor malefic planet and tends to express in a negative manner.
Especially in today’s society and culture – we see so much blame and fighting that is truly unnecessary and ill begotten. It is up to each individual to examine our fighting and to ask ourselves the question, ‘Who am I fighting with?’

What is mostly missing today, for whatever reason, is the quality of going within for answers. Though all great spiritual teachers have professed that we must look within for the solutions to our problems, this view is not supported by our media or by our society at large. It is up to the individual to find his or her way. Fortunately many of us have had many past lives in which we have been connected to higher culture and spiritual wisdom. These people have the ‘memory’ of how life is supposed to be lived. And they are never taken in by the illusion of society. One example of this illusion which is so prevalent, and this is just a little one, is the popular TV show of late, the X-Files. The motto of the show was ‘The Truth is Out There.’

To be a true spiritual warrior means that the truth, or the fight is never out there. It is always within. And no spiritual master ever told anyone that he or she could not find the truth. They all say it is possible and that we have to look within to get to it. But what does this actually mean, looking within? For me personally it has been a slow process. But it began by realizing that if I am upset, the problem is with me, and not with the world or other people. I have to ask myself, ‘Why am I creating or attracting this?’ and ‘What does this situation show me about myself?’ I have to stop trying to change others, get angry and defeat others and look at myself.

The real problem with fighting others and the world is that it keeps us continually in the role of victim. No matter how right we might feel about what we are doing, it is our responsibility to look within and see where we are really coming from. Most if not all anger comes from fear. If we are fighting from a place of fear and are not aware of it, we do tremendous harm to ourselves and those we love and others. Five minutes of intense anger can drain us of an entire day’s worth of energy and love for life. It is we who lose when we are operating from fear in this way. We destroy things that we have carefully built and preserved.

The spiritual warrior may never be seen fighting. This is because his or her fight is taking place with the demons inside, and not with people and situations around him or her that are upsetting or disturbing or threatening. When something or someone upsets the spiritual warrior, he or she turns within first. He or she must find the source of upset within before deciding on a course of action. This is exactly opposite what most of the world does.

If you are working on yourself in this manner, no matter what religion or spiritual beliefs you profess, you are a spiritual warrior. It is never the group we belong to that defines us, or that gives us credit or condemnation - it is our individual actions and decisions. The true spiritual warrior knows instinctively that his or her answers are within. He or she has a personal relationship with the creator and has faith in his or her connection to the one. He or she also knows that each challenging situation that presents itself is an opportunity to ferret out illusions, misunderstandings, miscommunications, false beliefs and other demons that lie within, not an opportunity to go out and bully someone else. Looking ahead, with his or her hand on the hilt of the sword of truth, the spiritual warrior stands ready to do battle with the enemies within. Taking that stand is spiritually priceless. It cannot be bought for any amount of money and nothing is more valuable.

More on Relationship Connections

My book, Love Cards, teaches a lot about relationships and how the cards can reveal what is going on between two people. I would like to add some to that, based upon the many questions I have received over the years. I would like to answer some of those questions here.
One thing about the connections between people, card-wise, is that these are energetic connections that are the result of the ways the energies of two people tend to interact. Think about it this way. There are twelve signs and twelve houses in the zodiac. Each expresses itself differently. Among the various signs, some are compatible with each other. In other words, if you put them together, they tend to flow and combine easily. Other signs combined will be stressful. They will tend to not combine or to do so in inharmonious ways. This is no one’s fault. No sign is good or bad. But some signs are just so different from each other that they cannot find a place of compromise without great effort.

In the course of a relationship, we tend to get lazy and not want to expend that great effort. If we have connections with another that are stressful, after a while we can become tired of the struggle. Unless there are compelling reasons, and perhaps other great connections between us and them, we may gravitate away from that person or behave in some manner that causes more distance in the relationship. Mostly this is an unconscious process. And really, for many of the connections, there is no one at fault. It is just because of the energy.

The other thing is that we really cannot change the nature of the connections we have with another person. In an ideal world, perhaps we could change the connections we have with someone else, to make us more compatible. But that is not going to work, not in this world anyway. What does work is appreciating what we have with someone else. If two people feel attracted to each other, there are probably some great connections between them. If these two can focus their attention on the good things they share, they can have a great relationship. But if they focus on the things that do not work, they can drive themselves apart.

In this regard, I want to talk about the Moon connection, though this dynamic applies to all connections. The Moon is one of the most significant so I will use it for this discussion. I always search for Moon connections first. Why? Because it answers some fundamental questions about the relationship, such as:

1. Who is the leader and way-shower in the relationship?
2. Who is the support person and learner?
3. Who bears the greatest responsibility for where the relationship is going?
4. Who can walk away from the relationship easier? (the Sun person, in case you didn’t know)

If a relationship between two people has only one Moon connection, the answer to these questions is clear. And because of the nature of the connections that I just discussed, nothing these two can do can change that. I happen to be an Ace Planetary Ruling Card. Because of my strong identity with this Ace, it is very difficult for me personally to be a follower in a relationship. I have chosen teachers in the past and submitted myself for direction. But when I do, I do this very consciously and deliberately. But in a personal relationship, it comes most natural to me to be the leader. I like to lead and take risks based upon my own judgment. For this reason, it is difficult for me to be in a relationship where I am the Moon person. I was in a two-year relationship once with a woman who I was Moon to. On one hand I adored her. This is a common story from anyone who is the Moon person in a relationship. The Moon adores the Sun and usually never tires of the connection. But after a while I saw that my desire to be the leader was always in conflict with the basic nature of our connection. Instinctively she wanted to direct our relationship and me. And I just didn’t like that. I got to see the price that I was paying for being with someone that I adored in this manner.

I see lots of men married or in relationship with women where they are playing the Moon role. And for many it is perfect. But if a man is very masculine in a traditional way, or if he is an Ace or Ten, Birth Card or Planetary Ruling Card, this is probably not going to work. And here is the point: It is really no
one’s fault. It is just the nature of the connection. And, there is no way we can change the nature of that connection. This is true for all the connections we have with someone. So, please do not blame your partner if you are experiencing difficulties in one or more areas of the relationship. The connections are there - they will not change. Instead, try to focus on the good connections you share and the advantages you are getting from all the connections you have.

Becoming a Great Card Reader

This article is for those who are either just starting out with my books, or those who have been using them for a while and want to get better at the readings you are giving others and yourself.

The first thing I want to say is that there is no substitute for experience. It simply takes some time to really ‘get’ how the cards show up in real life situations. After nearly twenty years of using the cards, I am still learning how to interpret and seeing new ways that certain cards can show up in the lives of people. I am a complete believer in the cards and when the cards do not agree with what I am seeing, I always think that there is something more that I need to understand about the cards. Give yourself at least a year of use to get to the point where you start to feel that you have a degree of mastery over them. I always suggest a watch and learn attitude for the first year. But still, there are some suggestions I can give you that can help you refine the readings you are giving. Here they are

Know the person you are reading for

The person you are reading for is always some mixture of traits. But they are also more or less aware of themselves and tend to be more materially (externally) or spiritually (internally) oriented. This degree of awareness and their basic nature will have more to do with the meanings of their cards than the cards themselves. Remember that each card has a high and a low side of expression. There is no good or bad card. A difficult or challenging card, such as a Seven or Nine, is going to tend to have a negative expression with material people and a positive expression with more spiritual people. Now, by spiritual I do not mean a person who goes to church or wears crystals. I mean someone who looks within for their answers (see the article in this issue about the Spiritual Warrior). Actually Sevens and Nines can both mean fabulous success and fulfillment for spiritually-minded folks. But be practical – the majority of our society is not spiritually minded in this way. It is much more likely that your client or whoever you are reading for is a mixture of both spiritual and material and probably more on the material side. So, this is something you must evaluate for yourself. One way to tell is if the person you are reading for talks about their life in terms of being the victim of others or by blaming others for their problems. This is generally a sign that the person is materially oriented and these Sevens and Nines are going to bring them a lot of problems and challenges to deal with.

Know Thyself

Your ability to read for someone is always going to be limited by your own consciousness, beliefs, need for approval, desire to serve selflessly, and your sense of self-worth. Unfortunately, it is very difficult to separate ourselves from our readings. It is good to start every reading with a prayer asking God or whomever to guide you so that you can be as pure a vessel as possible and not to allow your personal issues to interfere with your desire to help the person you are reading for. If you can catch yourself projecting your own issues into the reading, this can be a great breakthrough for you. I cannot help but give advice to others based upon what I see. But I like to check in with myself to make sure the thing I am giving advice on is not a charged issue with me. If I am slanted one way or the other, I will not be able to really ‘be’ with my client and hear what is going on for them. All of us can use this advice when
approaching a reading. A client often gives us a lot of power during a reading. If we are accurate on a few things, they will tend to believe everything we tell them. This implies a great responsibility for us, one that should not be taken lightly.

Ask yourself why are you giving readings anyway? What is your desire, need, purpose, intent? The answer to that, if you could dig deeply within yourself, will be the true cause of what happens in your readings. If you are not clear about it, try to get clear. The more clear you are, the more you will not be surprised by the results – you created them! As an example, here is my intent in giving readings:

I give readings to enlighten and empower individuals, to get them so in touch with them and their power to create their destiny, that they can leave my reading with the knowing that their fate is in their hands and that they can have everything they want from life.

Stay on the Positive

Everything, no matter how bad it may appear, has a positive side to it. The world’s greatest tragedies had positive outcomes. I want my clients to feel that they can handle anything that comes up, even the most scary cards and experiences. I show them how they are part of the creation of what is or may be going on, and this gives them the ability to accept and deal with whatever is going on more effectively. If I created this situation, I can learn from it or change it because I am the creator, not the victim. This is what I convey to my clients and the most satisfying readings for me are the ones where I get to see my client go from victim to creator. Wow, those really make my day! So, I never see whatever is going on as a bad thing. Sure, there are situations that come up in life that we absolutely don’t like or don’t want to deal with it. But it is my job to remind myself and others that even the worst things have a loving and absolutely brilliant meaning behind them.

Read for those you know a lot

Always begin your education in the cards by reading for yourself and those that you are familiar with. The process of learning is one of personalizing the symbols of the cards. These cards are merely symbols of our choices and us. If you read for people that you know well, you will learn the cards much faster. That is why I always suggest that you do the weekly reading as it is taught in the book for at least a year. Five years would be my suggested minimum actually. What we each need as we are learning the meanings of the cards is first hand experiences with which to compare with the cards we see in our spreads. This is where the real learning takes place. Nothing will teach you more about an A♠ in Saturn than having one yourself. I laugh as I write this because I am going through an A♠ in Saturn right now! This is the first time I have had one since I have known about the cards. What an education!

Suggested Materials for Study

As you can see by this article, mostly I recommend approaches that you, as a reader, can take, ways of being and I haven’t spoken much about the learning materials. That is because most people focus too much attention to the materials and not enough to the experiences they are having. But I have compiled some great materials for your study and if you have the resources, here is what I suggest. I am assuming you have both my books and have read them and know the basics of doing a reading, etc. If not, then your first step is to do just that – get the books and read. They are laid out to be very easy to understand and use. Just start from the beginning. Once you are ready, here are the next things you can look into to. All of these products are available on my web site at this link:

http://www.7thunders.com/Catalog/products.htm
Intermediate Level Items

The Weekly Reading DVD this will help you understand the ins and outs of doing the Weekly Reading. And probably most of any questions you may have about it will be answered by watching it.

The Intermediate Video CD Workshop – I guarantee you will learn so much about the cards from this recorded six-hour class! As I was taping this class I realized that there is a lot that can be explained about the cards that is not covered in my books. I hope you enjoy this one. Keep in mind that these CD videos will only play on your computer.

The Cards and Relationships This DVD class is a great resource for learning how to use the cards in all forms of relationship readings. Again, it should answer most of your questions.

These next two classes on DVD are resources that a card student on any level can take advantage of. They can be viewed again and again as there is a lot of information given on these.

Inside the Meanings of the Cards Part One In this four-hour class you will learn the inner secrets behind numbers, suits and planets and how they each interact to form the meanings of the 52 cards in the deck. As I talk about each card in the deck, you will see how each card plays a role in both the Life Spread and Yearly Spreads of individuals.

Inside the Meanings of the Cards Part Two – This is similar to Part One but here I talk about each Birth Card and the Karma and characteristics of each in detail.

Advanced Level Items

The advanced level offers a distinct advantage that you are able to access more information, not only about the cards in the yearly spread but about other spreads such as the Seven Year Spread and the 13-year cycles. You also get the benefit of using the Underlying Cards and the opportunity to see new relationships between cards based upon learning how to read the Grand Solar Spreads. However, the cost for all this new information is that it is more complex. So, if your desire to have more is great enough, be prepared! This is a lot of new information. Here is what we offer:

The Advanced Card Training Class – this is my latest recorded class on the advanced level information. It is a video of a real class on DVD. You should have a copy of the Advanced Oracle Workbook while you watch this.

If you would prefer an audio taped version of this class, check out the Master Seminar on Tape that includes all the books you need as well.

And finally, for anyone who feels really drawn to this system, we have created a special group called the Magi Fellowship. This is something for those who feel that they want the work with the cards to become a significant part of their life’s work. If you have such feelings yourself, be sure to read about this on my web site, under the Training and Certification link on our main page or here:

http://www.7thunders.com/mf/welcome.html
Celebrity Update

What is with Brittany Spears (3♣/5♠) lately? Has she gone crazy? First, last November, she divorced her husband Kevin Federline (2♦/6♦). Up until then, everything seemed fairly normal for a woman who was a pop diva. But since then she has gone through many strange changes and experiences. She started hanging out with Paris Hilton and before long there were photos of her private parts on the internet taken as she was leaving a limousine with no panties on. Hanging with Paris Hilton (8♦/5♣) was probably enough since little Paris, being the 8♦ that she is, will do practically anything to get attention and has shown up in more than one X-rated video on the internet.

But just a few days ago, Brittany had her hair practically hacked off and had several tattoos and her private parts pierced to boot!

What could be the cause of all of this? Speaking from the cards point of view all I can say is that a 5♠ Planetary Ruling Card person is usually up for trying most anything. Fives are the adventurers of the deck and will often do and try things that other people feel is crazy or strange. It was reported that she was tired of all the attention she was getting and did this just to be less attractive to the cameras, in the intent of getting less attention so she could lead a normal life – NOT!

I do think that losing Kevin was a huge blow to her. He is her Moon Card (2♦ to her 3♦) and I am sure that he was everything that helped her feel safe in this world. So, this is what Fives do when they are under intense pressure! I think so.

Martin Scorsese just won the Oscar for best director. He has the 10♦ Environment Card this year. He is a 3♣/7♠/7♠, a very creative guy, the Writer’s card. It is nice that at age 64 he can achieve the recognition he has wanted for so long. With a 10♦ Environment Card, it is not surprising that he finally got his dream come true.

Other famous 3♣: Rock Hudson, John Lithgow, Faith Hill, Bill Murray, Ricki Lake, Steven King and Luke Wilson. These folks are very creative but suffer from a lot of worry in the background. Take a look, Steven King is the Writer’s Card!

About the Nines

I recently had a client who was in her Venus period with a 9♠. There were several issues facing her, all pointing to a need for her to let go and move on. She understood what I told her when I helped her see the need to let go. But she was actually still attached, both to a personal relationship and a job that she had created for herself years earlier. Thinking that she really had gotten what I had said, I saw her 9♠ in
Venus as a victory for her. I know if that we can let go with a nine we can often have dreams come true. I could see this happening to her but I did not realize at the time that she was not ready to let go yet.

So, I was a little surprised when less than a week later she called, crying over how she suddenly lost it all. I felt a lot of compassion for her because she was grieving over the loss of her business and possibly her relationship, all at the same time. It reminded me of how very powerful Nines can be and how their influence depends so much on where we are at in our life when they appear.

To understand a nine card in your spread you must first realize that it represents the ending or conclusion to something that was began long ago. Whether that ending is a cause for grief or celebration is entirely up to you. If you are attached to keeping that thing, person, job, idea, or whatever, you will experience disappointment and loss. If you are not attached, that nine will bring you freedom and a conclusion to something very important in your life. The real crux of the matter here is whether or not you are attached. I am sure that you have probably experienced both sides to this at one point or another in your life.

I have seen Nines work in both ways in my own life. I remember the year I learned to fly when I had a 9♦ as my Long Range card. That 9♦ represented the conclusion to a long-held dream and ambition of mine – to learn to fly an ultra light airplane. I had actually wanted to do that for more than 15 years. It was immensely satisfying and enjoyable. I have seen in other people’s spreads where Nines bring victory or successful completions.

9♥ can mean marriage or the finding of the perfect partner/lover. (In Tarot, the 9 of Cups is the Wish Card!)
9♠ can mean the successful completion of a communications project, a grand idea, school or other educational pursuit.
9♣ can mean finding the dream job or acquiring something greatly valued for a long time.
9♦ can mean the completion of a work assignment or important project, or the perfect job, similar to a 9♠.

These positive expressions of a nine can happen to anyone. But they tend to happen to those of us who are more in tune with what is going on inside of us. My client who I mentioned earlier was already feeling like the job she subsequently lost was over for her. She had lost the love for it. But still, she hung on to it anyway. We often do just this – hang on to something or someone that we know is really over for us. Thus a Nine appearing would have to mean loss and disappointment. But if my client had been really attuned to a deeper degree to the part of herself that was done with that job, she could have just let it go and something wonderful could have happened as a result.

I will never forget the week I had a 9♦ in Mercury in my weekly spread. I had been planning to teach an astrology class at a local bookstore. The owner called me on that Mercury day to tell me that he had accidentally booked two classes at the same time and that he had to give the space to the other person. I was naturally shocked by this sudden news and I felt the impulse to fight against it. I was thinking of what I might say to the owner to fight for my time slot. But something within me told me that this was not going to do any good. It was already gone. So, I adopted a new attitude right then and there. I told the owner that was okay and we would try it again sometime.

Immediately after hanging up the phone I had an epiphany. I realized that I really did not have the time to teach that astrology class, that it would actually interfere with my work on the book I was writing. In that instant I realized that my losing that slot was God’s plan for me, for my best and highest good! It all flashed clear as a bell and at once I understood the real meanings of Nines.
The trouble with all of this is that sometimes, try hard as we may, we really don’t see that we need to let go of something (or someone). We may look at the situation and just cannot see how that would be good for us. But I tell you this: if you see a Nine coming in your spreads, you must realize that an ending is in store for you, whether or not you see that. As I write this I have a 9♠ coming in about 2 weeks in my Neptune period. Also, I have a 9♠ Long Range card in my next year’s spread, which begins in about 2 months. What those Nines will mean for me is not clear yet. But I can tell you that I am making peace with my life. If something I am doing or having is going to leave me, I am determined to let it go in as graceful a manner as possible, whatever that is. I have plans for my life. I have goals and dreams. But even those dreams must go if God says so. And how will I know what God says? But looking at what happens to me, watching carefully for signs of things I must let go of. Though I may not understand exactly why yet, I do know from my past experiences that whatever God takes away, it is always for my highest good and for the highest good of all concerned.

There is a story from the Mahabharata about a great warrior named Arjuna. While traveling through a mountainous area alone, he shot a deer with his bow. At the very same moment another arrow flew into the deer from another hunter. Arjuna met the other hunter and they got into a quarrel over who owned the deer. It was Arjuna’s Dharma as a warrior to end disputes in battle and so a fight quickly ensued. The other hunter did not seem to be out of the ordinary, dressed in animal skins as he was but Arjuna, was considered one of the greatest archers on the earth, could not defeat him. The battle lasted for hours. Arjuna finally fell down exhausted and bowed before the hunter in respect. “I do not know who you are, great hunter, but I am unable to defeat you. I surrender to you and your greatness. Please accept my gratitude for this wonderful fight you have given me.”

Right then the hunter revealed his true identity. “It is good, O Arjuna that you should pranam (bow) before me. I am Lord Shiva and I cannot be defeated in battle by anyone in the three realms. Rise, Arjuna, I am pleased with you and your humility. Come, I have some gifts to give you.”

This is a famous story where Arjuna acquired one of the most powerful weapons known at that time, the Pasupata Astra that no other mortal had in their possession. It was Shiva’s gift to him.

The moral of this story is that we can and must do our very best to follow what we think we should do in life. We should all follow our Dharma. But if we do our very best and still meet with failure, we have to then surrender to the will of God and let go. It is then that we receive our rewards, the rewards that a Nine promises us.

Your Displacement Card

Our Displacement Card each year, and week, and in our 7-year spreads, is one of the most powerful and important cards in our spreads. However, I have not really fully explained its importance in my books. I want to shed more light upon it for the benefit of users of my books.
First consider the illustration below.

Note the planetary influences for each row and column on the side and bottom of the illustration. These planets influence these rows and columns and have significance. What you are looking at is the first and foremost of all the Grand Solar Spreads, what we call the Life Spread. If you find your Birth Card here, you will see its exact location in this spread and the cards that surround it. Each card is located in some ‘neighborhood’ where you will find other cards that share similar life experiences and karma. It is common for us to have relationships with people in our neighborhood. But you must keep in mind that this is not the only neighborhood spread. There is another one call the Spiritual Spread and this would be our past-life neighborhood. You might be more connected with someone in that neighborhood than the one illustrated here.

The place where you sit here is your lifetime position in this important spread. You bring with you some energy from this position with you, regardless of where you move to in other years. But each year, your Birth Card moves to a new position in this spread. And that new position is called your Displacement Card because you are literally ‘displacing’ the card who owns that Life Spread spot.

Keep in mind that there are seven cards that do not move from their Life Spread positions. These are the Fixed and Semi-Fixed Cards (J♥, 8♣, K♠ and A♣/2♥, 9♥/7♦) The Semi-Fixed Cards do move, but only to change place with their Cosmic Soul Twin. Therefore, these seven spaces are not available to the other 45 cards to move to. But they do move to a new spot in this spread each year. Every year we follow our first Karma Card and move to the space it is occupying. If you look on this illustration and find your first
Karma Card, that will be the place you move to in the 2nd year of life, or Age 1. And we keep following our first Karma Card each year until after 45 years, we return to the place we started. It is a 45-year cycle! And, it repeats itself.

What is important to know is that wherever your Birth Card has moved to in the current year, this new location has usually put you in an entirely new neighborhood. You are likely, therefore to meet people who live in that neighborhood. Last year I displaced the 5♠. In the 5♠ Life Spread, we find the J♥ in Mercury, the 9♣ in Venus, the 9♠ in Mars, etc. Well, that year I met so many new J♥, 9♣, 9♠ and 2♥ people, it was truly fascinating to witness.

So, you may find, if you look at the other cards in the neighborhood of your Displacement Card, that you are meeting some of these people in the current year. But on a deeper level what you are doing is experiencing life from their perspective. Being in this new place gives you the opportunity to know what it is like to live from that spot in the Grand Solar Spread.

Some of these ‘spots’ are very significant. That is, they bestow a special importance because of their position. For example, if you look at the 8♦ position, you see that it is at the top center of the entire spread. This is the position of fame and recognition, called the Sun Spot. The year you displace the 8♦ you may achieve great recognition or fame. But there is more to the story. The 8♦ has the A♠ as its Pluto Card in the Life Spread. When you displace the 8♦, you get that A♠ underlying your Pluto Card for that year. This causes a huge transformation for whoever is in their Pinnacle Year, as we call it. There are many such important spots in the Grand Solar Spread and it is wise to become familiar with those so that you are aware of when they are coming. These are described in detail in Cards of Your Destiny, chapter Eight. Time spent becoming familiar with what is in that chapter will be well rewarded, I promise!

One thing I would mention here though is to notice the center column of the Grand Solar Spread, In it we find the 8♦, 10♠, J♥, 4♣, 10♦, 3♠, 7♠, and 8♥. This column is influenced by the planet Jupiter and any year that you displace a card in that column you will have a Jupiterian influence in your life. What that translates into is that when you displace one of these cards, you will have good fortune and have one or more important wishes fulfilled. You will never displace the J♥, unless you are a J♥ already so that space is not available. But the other six spaces are. This is just one small example of how your understanding of the Displacement Card can benefit you.

The Cards of Cho Seung-Hui
Mr. Hui is the young man who caused the deaths of over thirty people recently at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, VA. In this article we will explore his story through the cards to see what might be revealed. Cho was born on January 18, 1984, making him a 9♦ with a 4♥ Planetary Ruling Card. As soon as I found out his Birth Card I thought about how I have been reminded a lot lately about 9♦ people. They all come from a past life in which they had power over other people and a certain amount of arrogance and the ability to dominate others (Q♦ first Karma Card). They are used to having things go their own way, mostly through the exercise of their power. But in the current life, the 9♦ must let go of this need to dominate others. Most 9♦ are not even close to the degree of these qualities as was Cho. He is an extreme example of this. Why he kept his true feelings secret and never made any attempt to get help is a mystery. But we do know that he suffered a lot of feelings of loss and disappointment, common feelings for those of his Birth Card.

Cho committed the murders and died in his Venus period. If we examine his cards during this period we see a conglomeration of influences, all very karmic and powerful. Even though on the surface the cards may appear benign, or even good, a look at the complete picture, which includes the underlying cards, reveals a more ominous picture.

| Birth Card Spread | 8♠ | 9♣ |
| Underlying        | Q♦/9♣ | 9♣/6♠ |
| Planetary Ruling Spread | J♠ | 6♠ |
| Underlying        | 9♣/6♠ | 6♠/3♠ |

At first glance just notice how many Sixes there are and the occurrence of two 9♣. This alone should set off warnings. Sixes are the cards of Karma. The 6♠ is the strongest of these fated cards. And when we put the 6♠ and 9♣ together we get the makings for an often, tragic event.

One of my students noted that in the previous year, back in August of 2006, Cho had a 7♥ and A♥ in Saturn. He had also displaced the 7♥ in his Planetary Ruling Card spread. It may have been the pain of that disappointment and romantic failure that motivated him to seek violence in revenge. We now know that his actions were those of revenge. Therefore, all of this revenge energy culminated in his Venus period this year with all these fated cards appearing in his spreads.

The 8♠ appearing in his direct Venus position is an indicator of the fame that he achieved by this notorious act. If he had lived afterwards he would have no doubt had his 15 minutes of fame or more. In today’s society we reward the most vicious evil doers with fame and recognition.

I find it interesting that whenever someone goes on a killing spree like this, out of anger and revenge, they invariably kill themselves at the end. I have had a lot of experience with anger in my own life and I know that once our anger has been fully expressed, our minds clear up and we for once see the truth – that our
anger was misplaced and had no real foundation. It is in that state, I believe that spree killers take their own life. They see the harm in what they have done, the wrong in it, and realize that the only right thing to do would be to take their own life in compensation. Now, I am not certain about this. Some may take their life to avoid prosecution and prison. But it is my belief that the majority get a glimpse of the truth after the killings, realize the tremendous mistake they have made and seek redemption through self-inflicted death.

Cho Seung-Hui’s Yearly Spread in the Book of Destiny Software program

Mass Disasters and Personal Power

When we think about something like hurricane Katrina or the tsunamis that often occur in different parts of world, events that cause the death of thousands of people at one time, it is difficult to not believe that we are all just helpless victims of fate and the tides of change. In one swift moment, thousands or more people can die, be forced to move to an entirely new place or experience other kinds of calamities. Where does our sense of personal power come into play when such events happen in the world on a daily basis? The very nature of our insurance industry is based upon how much we will pay to have some peace of mind about the negative possibilities that we could experience.

The recent movie, The Secret, was all about our power to create our realities. How does this philosophy jive in a world where seemingly anything can happen to anyone at any time? Is there a way to protect ourselves against such disasters? Can a person rise to a place where those sorts of events will not affect them? To find the answer to that we must be willing to take a deeper look at these mass events.

Though I don’t think it has ever really been done, I have thought for a long time about the possibility of doing research in this vein. Imagine interviewing all the people whose lives were touched by a major disaster, such as the one that occurred on 9/11. For the people who died, I would interview all their surviving family members. I would first ask if the person who died had any premonition of the disaster or any sense that their death was imminent. Then I would ask whether their life was at such a place where they might have felt they had no real reason to live on, for example, some of these people might have been 52 years of age and have decided on a soul level to check out. Were there any indications of this
noticed by those who survived them? I would also ask the survivors what the effects of the death of their loved one had upon them. Were there positive results ultimately from this tragic event?

I believe that if someone dies in a mass event like this, that the individual had a particular reason for being part of it. We may never know the whole story, especially because those that perished are not here to tell their story. In each of these mass events, there were stories of sacrifice for others, of great courage, and I am sure, stories of how those affected came to accept what happened. In other words, for each individual involved, whether it was someone who died or survived, there was a unique perspective, a unique story of how that event was woven into the fabric of their life, and how ultimately it had positive effects upon them.

I may appear to be a Pollyanna about such matters but I can never believe that bad things happen to good people for no reason. I will never relinquish that I am the author of my life. Whenever I seem to be the victim of some event, I adopt the attitude that there is still something that I need to understand about what happened, never that I was the victim. Ultimately I have always found the truth and it is always a loving beautiful one.

I have to take a look at Karma first and foremost. We do not fully understand it. Sometimes Karma is instant and sometimes it spans lifetimes. Some events that occur in this lifetime, actually I would prefer to say most events in this lifetime, were set into motion in a prior existences. We are not usually given the understanding to know the reasons behind all the things that happen to us. This is especially true when we are in our first 45 years of life. I have found that we experience mostly past-life Karma in the first half of life. And perhaps it is for this reason that we are susceptible to the notion that we are victims of a world we never made. Our parents, our childhood, along with all of its major events, all of these are more of an expression of the Karma that we brought with us than of Karma we remember creating. But once we reach Age 45 our lives are more governed by the actions we had when we were younger. Some people, around Age 52, realize the damage they have done and decide to check out in one way or the other. Some of us become bitter in our mid to late life and we spend most of our time running away from the ‘terrible’ things we have done earlier in our life. But still, I do not believe any of us are victims, even to our own Karma. After all, we are the ones who created it, even though we do not remember when.

In mass events I am sure that some of the people who perish do so because of past life Karma. There is no real way to determine it but generally we would consider younger people who perish to fall into this category. As adults many more possibilities open up. Some die to experience what it must be like to make a great sacrifice – perhaps in the time of crisis they gave up their own life to save the life of others. This occurred to one of the teachers in the recent killing spree at Virginia Tech. He could have saved himself but chose to save his students and ended up being killed by the gunman afterwards.

In conclusion it is my contention that in mass events and disasters, each individual is playing out a unique role for their own personal growth on a spiritual level. No one is a true victim. It just appears that way on the surface. But I believe that if we took the time to really look into it, and if there was some way for the dead to speak, we would discover that what appeared to be a disaster was actually a blessing for all concerned. After all, it could not have occurred unless it was the will of God. And the God I know is always loving.
The Power of Choice

Wow, here I go again, talking about another power that we have! One might think that I believe that we humans are super-brings, instead of normal, everyday people. If that is what you believe, I guess I should say you are absolutely right. I believe that we humans are made in the image and likeness of God. We have His power to create and make our lives just the way we want them to be. As a matter of fact, everything is perfect right now. Your life, my life, or anyone’s life is just the way we want it to be, right now. There is a lot to the story, actually. If you or I are to really experience ourselves as powerful, there is a lot that we need to become aware of. I have talked a lot about this in past articles and talks I have given. But there is more to learn and today I want to talk about our power of choice.

I think choice is something that we pretty much take for granted. How often do you sit down and examine the many choices you make, even just the choices made in one day? I think if any of us would take a closer look we would be amazed at just how many choices we make in the course of a regular day. Just getting out of bed is a choice. And it goes on from there until the time we turn off all the lights and head off to dreamland. From one point of view, life is simply a series of choices that we make. And those choices determine the quality of our life.

You may often think, ‘if only I had done that instead of what I did, things would be much better.’ Or, ‘I wish I had done that. My friend did that and now look how rich and successful she is.’ We mull over our past choices. And when we do, you can tell that we really do think about the choices we made and how much of an impact they have made in our life, for better or for worse. And the older we get the more we realize that some key choices we made altered the course of our life in the most meaningful way possible. The life that you are living right this moment, is the result of your past choices. There is no altering that fact.

But there is an overall sense of helplessness in the world today. In spite of the fact that our choices are what really determine the nature and quality of our lives, many of us go around thinking that we are the victims of life. Those are the people that feel that life is but a big joke being played upon them. They might say that in spite of their best efforts, they always make the wrong choice. So, in a way, they feel that they are not capable of making good choices at all. Or, they feel that they are jinxed in some way. Some evil force out there is punishing them and making them choose the wrong thing.

And there is another group of us that feel that we have no choices at all. Life seems to be something that is imposed upon us. Whatever choices we may have, they are not very powerful. Something much more powerful than us is really calling the shots. Its all luck, and we have bad luck. That is their story.

But I think that we do have the power of choice and that power can have our life be whatever we want it to be. What is necessary here is consciousness. When I say consciousness I am not talking about some mystical meditation experience. I am talking about down to earth, awareness – just seeing things as they really are and just simply putting our attention upon them long enough to make an accurate assessment. That is the real thing that is missing today – awareness. Very few people seem to really understand their own motives.

Depending upon your personality and background, you may make choices in one of many ways. To a Diamond Birth Card like me, choice is most often about value. I always ask myself, even when I am not
conscious of it, ‘is that worth it to me?’ That is my main question, ‘how much is it worth?’ or ‘is it worth it?’ Someone whose Birth Card is a Club or Heart may use a different criteria. A Club, for example, may ask ‘does this comply with my understanding of life?’ or ‘Do I have a good reason to do this?’ A heart may ask ‘Does this feel good to me or not?’ A Spade person may ask ‘Would this be me acting in excellence?’ No matter, though. The important thing here is that we have some criteria and from that criteria, we make our choices.

Some choices are hard to make. They will not feel good. They will be uncomfortable. They may cause us to experience something that we do not like, at least in the short term. But someone who is wise will always choose from a larger perspective rather than the immediate situation. They will look at the situation long term to see its effects. They will examine the long-term effects of their choices. They will also include the effects of their choices upon others in their decision-making. This usually comes from experience. And so, in general, we only find older people making such wise choices. But you or I can make wise choices right now.

If you or I truly understood how powerful we are! The act of making a choice is the very act of creation itself! Just think about it. Each time you or I make a choice, we have just created something. It could have been something else. But it ends up being what we chose. When I think about this, I am amazed. It has always been there, right in front of me. But for some reason, I missed its significance. Each time we choose, we are waving a magic wand. From all the myriads of possibilities that exist around us, we are choosing one – the ONE. That is what creating is all about.

There are times when we appear to have no choices, for sure. Sometimes we find ourselves in a situation in which our choices are limited, in some cases, we may appear to have only one choice. But in reality there is no situation that will ever occur to you in which you do not have a choice. In the movie Braveheart, William Wallace chose to be executed in the end rather than forsake his belief in personal freedom and freedom from the tyranny imposed upon his people. He might have said, ‘I have no choice’ but he knew that he did and he made it consciously. Whether or not his choice was a good one depends entirely upon your point of view. But one thing is for certain, we will always remember him for this powerful choice he made.

If you feel very limited in your choices in a particular area of your life right now, realize that this is due to some choices you made in the past. You might have made them hastily or perhaps you just didn’t foresee how things might turn out. But indeed, it was your choices at work that landed you where you are today. Realizing this, use your power of choice again, right now, to make your best choice ever. And keep making these choices. Though they might be hard to experience here and now, wise choices, made by looking ahead to their long-term effects and taking into consideration how they will affect others, are guaranteed to lead you to more happiness and good fortune.

So the bottom line is that we need to align our choices with our highest intentions. That is the way to salvation, freedom, and personal fulfillment.

Accessing the Power in Your Daily Cards
I want to share with you a technique that some of my clients pay thousands of dollars for me to do for them. This involves using your calculated daily cards for planning purposes. It has proven to be highly effective and accurate. And because these cards are calculated, you can look ahead as far as you like to make your plans utilizing this method. However, to utilize this, you will most likely need our software program because calculating these cards by yourself is quite tedious. It can be done and I know that some of my readers are doing it. But most of them do not know how to do it or simply do not want to do it. So, the software is the best way. And we will be using the Birth Card and Planetary Ruling Card spreads for this analysis so the software just does that for you with just a click of your mouse. But in any case, this will be helpful for you to understand and hopefully, to use.

To begin with, let me explain how this works and the importance of it. The person who can use this method is someone who plans a lot of meetings and personal activities and wants to ensure success as much as possible. The cards are intimately related to astrology. That is, their effects are definitely connected to astrological influences. However, all of this influence comes to us in the form of cards, which are really much simpler and easier to use. Each day of our week will have usually four cards governing it. Two will be the direct and vertical daily cards from the Birth Card spread and two will come from the Planetary Ruling Card spread. When analyzing a particular day for its general tenor, we look at all four cards. Neptune days of the week will often only have one card from each spread and so those days will often only have two cards to consider. But the other days will have four. The other exception is if you are a Leo. In that case your Birth Card and Planetary Ruling Card are the same and you essentially have only one spread. I suppose you could integrate one of your personality card spreads here in substitution for a Planetary Ruling Card. I think that would be fine. Just remember that a personality card is never as significant as a Birth Card.

What we want to see here, for each day of a particular week or month is, which days are the most positive and which are the most negative. We want to plan our important events on days which have the most power and success and we want to keep a low profile and not communicate or be active as much on days where the influences are more negative. So, when we are done we will have a list of the Best Days and the Worst Days of a given time period. I usually do three months at a time for my clients. You can do just one week if you want, or you can do a month or more.

So we have to start with a list of which cards are governing each day. Below is an example week taken from someone born on 5/10/1990. Ignore the Week-Long Cards. For this analysis, we don’t need them or use them. We focus only on the Daily Cards.

Under each day we see four cards in the example show below, except the Neptune day, which has two. This is what is most commonly found. We will look at all the cards that day and apply the following rules to interpreting them.

1. Positive Cards are even-numbered cards and face cards. Twos, Fours, Sixes, Eights, Tens, Jacks, Queens, and Kings are the positive cards.
2. Power Cards are the Eights, Tens, Jacks, Queens and Kings.
3. Best Days are days in which 3 or more of the cards are Positive or Power Cards.
4. The very Best Days are days in which you have 3 or more Power Cards. These are the days you want to utilize the most for important events in your life.
5. Negative Cards are the odd-numbered cards. Three’s, Fives, Sevens and Nines. Aces, but only in certain locations. Aces are neutral in general.
6. The scariest of the Negative Cards are the 6♠, 7♠, 9♠ and A♠.
7. Worst Days are days in which 3 or more of the cards that day are Negative Cards.
8. Jupiter brings out the best of all cards. Even Negative Cards will often have a positive outcome on Jupiter Days. However, if you have a Jupiter Day with 3 or more Negative Cards, that would not be considered either a Best Day or a Worst Day. It would be neutral. But in general, you cannot have a Jupiter Day be a Worst Day.

9. Venus is like a mini-Jupiter and also lends a beneficial quality to the cards in that day. But it is not as strong as Jupiter and you can have bad Venus Days.

10. Mars and Saturn will bring out the more negative qualities of cards, but especially the Negative Cards. Having just two Negative Cards in either Mars or Saturn would definitely disqualify it from being a good or Best Day.

11. Having 3 or more Negative Cards on a Mars or Saturn Day is a huge Cautionary Day. Do not plan anything of any importance on one of these days. In some cases, you should not even drive a car on such days, if possible.

12. On Negative Days you would probably do best to just stay home or at least, keep out of harms way. This means reducing your communications with others and certainly postponing important conversations and events.

Speaking of cards, your Mercury Day is the car-driving day. If you have a Worst Day fall on a Mercury Day, the precaution is about driving or traveling in a car first and foremost. It is also a precaution about communications and possibly head injuries. Other areas affected by each Worst Day are listed below.

### Worst Day Interpretations

What areas are affected if you have a Worst Day on a:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mercury Day</th>
<th>Venus Day</th>
<th>Mars Day</th>
<th>Jupiter Day</th>
<th>Saturn Day</th>
<th>Uranus Day</th>
<th>Neptune Day</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Driving a car, communications, head injury</td>
<td>Relationship(s), family, people or things in your home</td>
<td>Legal, dealings with men, competitive</td>
<td>Financial (but remember, there are rarely bad Jupiter Days)</td>
<td>Health, and all other areas are possible</td>
<td>Real estate or unexpected events, Groups.</td>
<td>Foreign affairs, drugs, alcohol, travel over water, swimming.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I will use the example below to demonstrate. In this typical week, we have the days play out as follows. The following is a picture of the Weekly Calendar Page Report by the Book of Destiny 3.0 or 3.5 software program that we sell. The direct card for any given day is the one on the left while the one on the right is the vertical card.
1. Mercury Day: Neutral since there are two Negative and two Positive Cards.
2. Venus Day: Also neutral for the same reasons. But this day is slightly positive since it is ruled by Venus. Still, overall I would classify it as neutral.
3. Mars Day – One of the Best Days, and actually the Best Day this week. See the two Jacks (Power Cards) and a Two and a Four.
4. Jupiter Day: one of the Best Days – Two Power Cards and one Positive Card combined with Jupiter’s favorable influence points to a very good day for business.
5. Saturn Day: actually not a bad day. Two Cards are Power Cards and one is Positive. However, the direct card in the Birth Card spread is a 7♠. So, I would not give list this day as a Best Day by any means. But the day most likely will be challenging, but overcome and have a happy ending.
6. Uranus Day: another Best Day, just not a very best. But with 3 out of 4 good cards, one of which is a King, this will be a good day.
7. Neptune Day: Neutral. One power and one Negative card cause this day to be 50/50.
One thing I think that is important when you do this sort of analysis is to remember that these daily cards are the least powerful and the least significant of all the card spreads you may do. These influences only last one day. So do not get very upset by bad cards as their influence will be short-lived. Like-wise even powerful cards will only last one day and so their influence is minimal at best. The cards in your Yearly Spreads are much more significant and powerful. However, these daily cards are important when used as a planning tool and experience has shown their relevance.

When I do research for a client, I create a report, usually for three months at a time. In that report I just list the best days and worst days in date order so that my client can easily scan a calendar and connect the days and the cards. I format the report in this manner to make it as easy as possible for my client to use that information.

That is really about all there is to it. But if you do a lot of planning and consider things like Mercury retrograde, etc. this method might be highly valuable for you. To tell you the truth, I think that the card system actually accounts for Mercury retrogrades in these daily cards. In other words, just by following what the cards are saying you can avoid any bad days that Mercury retrograde would potentially be the cause of. Happy planning!

The Four of Spades Home Card

One thing that I have learned since I last published the Cards of Your Destiny is the importance of the 4♠ card when it appears in a yearly reading. Its importance is, of course, related to a particular area. All the Fours represent security and stability in one way or the other. But because it is a Spade, the 4♠ is the most powerful of the Fours. And as far as security and stability are concerned, a home is the most powerful manifestation of that. And this is what I have noticed in my spreads and those of my clients. When the 4♠ appears, especially in certain situations, it represents the home, often a new home. Since clients often ask questions about buying a home or moving, etc, it is important to know how this card can show up and what it means when it does.

The 4♠ is the most stabilizing of all the cards in the deck. For this reason it can also represent getting married. Often, getting married involves the purchase of a home. With the 4♠ both things could happen at once, especially if you regard getting married in this way, that is the establishment of a foundation of security and stability, usually for the intent of raising children.

Here is a list of the ways the 4♠ can show up and what possible meanings that may have.
1. 4♠ Long Range or Result Card – this is one of the most powerful indicators of purchasing a new home or moving to a more desirable home. It is also one of the more powerful indicators of a marriage – to occur by the end of this card year.

2. 4♠ in Venus, especially as the direct card, is an indicator of happy home life, which generally means you have a new home that you really love and are enjoying. This also means happiness and stability in marriage.

3. 4♠ in Uranus is a very strong indicator of purchasing a home since Uranus governs real estate.

4. 4♠ Environment Card is a symbol of protection and blessings either in the current home or in acquiring a new one. If a client of mine had this and wanted to purchase a new home, I would tell them ‘this is the time to do it!’

5. 4♠ Pluto Card would most likely mean you really want a home, or a marriage. But are you willing to really do what it takes to get that desire? The Result Card associated with the 4♠ Pluto may tell the rest of the story.

6. 4♠ in Saturn does not usually pertain to the home, but it could in some situations. If so, it would probably indicate a lot of hard work around the home. This is an overcoming influence however. It helps in health matters and helps overcome any negative influences in the same period.

7. 4♠ in Mercury, Mars, Jupiter or Neptune are usually not home related. But never rule it out completely! This card is so powerful that it could represent buying a new home in any position.

8. 4♠ Displacement Card – this could mean you will purchase a home, but really is an indicator that you should focus more of your energy on settling down, getting married or purchasing a home. Maybe you just need to pay more attention to those areas of your life.

With that in mind, if you are planning to purchase a home, look for instances of the 4♠, especially as the direct card in one of the planetary periods of your Birth Card Spread, as a good time to do so.
Visions
Volume IX

A Collection of 56 Articles from The Voice of the Seven Thunders Newsletter

by Robert Lee Camp and Seven Thunders Publishing and friends
Visions
Volume IX

A Collection of 45 Articles from The Voice of the Seven Thunders Newsletter

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Star Cards - Kate Hudson and Owen Wilson

Your life must be going pretty lousy if you can’t even succeed at killing yourself. But that’s exactly what happened to Owen Wilson (11/18/1968). His life has been pretty miserable for a while now, or at least since Kate Hudson (4/19/1979) broke up with him because he was going downhill fast doing drugs of all descriptions, drugs he apparently gets from his good friend, Steve Coogan (10/14/1965). Coogan is rumored to be the kind of good friend who will be there with drugs in hand as soon as you get out of rehab. Both Kate and Owen are Twos (2♦ and 2♣) with a Six as a Planetary Ruling Card (6♦ and 6♠) so they have much in common, the main thing being the fear of being alone. But at least Kate was smart enough to jump off of a sinking ship. Rumor is that her leaving Owen is one of the reasons he is so depressed. Any signs of them getting back together, perhaps after he cleans up his act? Well, it’s not showing in his cards, or in hers, so I feel pretty confident in predicting ‘that’s not going to happen.’ The golden couple are no longer.

Being a Scorpio and a 2♣ is not that easy. Scorpios are naturally hard on themselves, as if they are paying for a huge crime they committed but cannot remember. Self-torture is part of their makeup. And 2♣ can become neurotic. I am certain the drugs are not helping him. His second Planetary Ruling Card is the 4♥ is one that cannot get away with too much abuse of their bodies. Delicate health, or a weak constitution is common for this card. He is currently if the Uranus period with average cards. There are a couple of nines there and the period doesn’t end until the 27th of September. Maybe he will have another shot at finishing himself off. He does have a lot of support around him and this stay in the hospital could help him get off drugs and face himself. The cards do not indicate either way for him so he can basically write his own ticket. The only question is whether or not he will decide that his life is worth living or not. It is amazing to see someone like Owen, who really has the entire world in his hands, just throw it away like this.

Kate, who is now dating Dax Shepard (1/2/1975) seems quite happy and to have moved on from her tumultuous time with Owen.

People I know

I know lots of people. And when I meet someone new I always find out what their birthday is. By knowing that, I know how we two will interact. I know how they will treat me and how I will treat them. It is so wonderful to have this knowledge. It helps me to interact successfully with everyone in my life.

People I know who are my Moon Card will always like me and look up to me. They will find me interesting and we will enjoy our conversations a lot. They will especially love the things I have to say and I will feel compelled to turn them on to things I think they will love and benefit from. I know that I have more power in the relationship and I respect that and do not abuse it. I give back appreciation for the support they offer me and gently lead the way, creating opportunities for the two of us to do things together. I know that if I know where I am going, the two of us can have fun getting there.

People I know who are my Venus Card are people that I get along with very well. We just do. We seem to like a lot of the same things, or should I say we seem to focus on the things that we have in common that
we both really like. It’s funny how that works. It just does. We become friends almost instantly and almost always get along no matter what happens. Some have become my best friends of all.

People who are my Mars Card excite me. I get that feeling in my gut when I am around them. They stimulate me and sometimes I get irritated at them. Without knowing it I can be short with them or I just react before I know it. I have to be patient with both myself and them when I am around them. They also stimulate me sexually. I feel that ‘urge to merge’ when I am around them. I know now that I must be careful around my Mars friends to manage my reactions. I also know that they remind me of things I may not like about myself, so I am introspect in my dealings with them. I appreciate my Mars friends because they excite me into action and keep me alive and kicking.

People I know who are my Jupiter Card are my benefactors. They seem to want to help me, and to give me things that I need to be successful. We also seem to be encouraged, together, to make more money somehow. One could say they are benevolent unto me. Many of my Jupiter friends share the same life philosophies as myself. And we can connect on that level. I don’t feel any obligation to give back to them per se, but usually I want to anyway. Overall, it seems mutually rewarding to be with them.

People I know who are my Saturn Card are my teachers and those who critique me. I know that they are doing this because they are personally against me or anything like that, so I have learned to accept their input gracefully. I have had Saturn people help me correct things I have written or created. They are so good at finding my mistakes! I also see in them qualities that are within me, things I have been working on. It is nice to know that others share some of the same challenges as I. I am also amazed sometimes at their gifts and abilities. I somehow know that life would not be complete without them.

People I know who are my Uranus Card are my true friends in the strictest sense of the words. We really have few or no expectations of each other. We enjoy our time together but can spend years apart and still remain friends. I have had some of my most memorable experiences shared with them. There does seem to be the issue of expectations that crops up from time to time. It seems that if either of us has expectations of the other, things get messy real fast. So I have learned to just love them for who they are and enjoy the things we share and let the rest go. It keeps the love flowing to have this sort of attitude with them. I appreciate how unattached I have to be to stay connected to my Uranus friends.

People I know who are my Neptune Card are the ones I treasure the most in some ways. I really see something I like in them. I feel a special feeling for them that I do not feel for any other cards, a feeling that I treasure. I know that I am somewhat in illusion about them. But I have learned to just enjoy the feeling and not let my fantasies get the better of me or us. It feels good to worship someone, or at least to think so highly of them in a consistent manner. It is a matter of the heart and I cannot be other than heart-connected when I am around them.

People I know who are my Pluto Card surprise me in the most unusual ways. I will be going along thinking everything is grand when suddenly they do something that rocks my boat and my world. I am amazed at the strength and intensity of the feelings that come up in these transactions. Sometimes the things they say to me hit me right to the core. I don’t even think they are aware of how effectively they skewer me. With them I get the chance to see parts of myself that I didn’t know I even had and for this I am grateful. I have learned to be prepared for the off-hand comment that may hit like an atomic bomb. I also have learned that it is not personal. It is just their God-given gift to help dislodge me from my sleep state into active awareness. I am grateful for their presence and effect in my life.

People who are my Result Card often affect me in the same way as my Pluto friends. However, with them I also feel a certain sense of myself that is familiar and kind. I sense that in them lay a reflection of my
destiny - the ‘me’ I am destined to be and perhaps the ‘me’ that I am already becoming now. I watch them carefully for clues about my destiny and the changes I must make to realize that. I know they are powerful symbols for me and for that reason I feel a strong kinship with them.

People who are my first Karma Card are those who really show me the parts of myself that I am constantly improving upon in my life. And even though I have done a lot of work on these issues, I am reminded by them that it is not something that is just done and over with – it is a life-long process of continual refinement. Thus, when I meet my first Karma Card friends, I am always open to new perspectives on some of my most sensitive and important life issues. In watching the way that I interact with them, I am reminded of my own progress, or lack of therein in these key areas. These are my closest Karma buddies. And I always feel this closeness when I am around them. I know we are really the same on a deep level and I feel like I am with my family when I am with them.

People who are my second Karma Card are easy for me but I know that I may not be easy for them. I see in them some of my most admirable qualities but I am also aware that they might not see the same in me. So I enjoy their company always mindful of our interaction and looking for ways in which I can stay connected to them in a peaceful, loving way. They remind me and make me conscious of gifts I possess - gifts that I express every day of my life, but often take for granted. I am reminded when I see them to take stock of my blessings. And I often will make the effort to share with them all the wonderful qualities I see in them, ever mindful that sometimes they may not be in the mental space to receive that.

**Personal Experiences of a 10♠**

My name is Dan Westphal. Reading the cards is a personal passion for me. I no longer do readings for others. But, I find the information about others - helps me when working with them. I do creative services; brochures, advertising and marketing. I like to know the birth dates of everyone I work with. It gives me an idea of who I am really dealing with. So with new contacts I find the right way to ask for their birthday so that we don't get side tracked with another subject. Once I have this information I know what I need to do for them and how to present it. The following stories tell of some of the ways I have utilized the cards in my life.

**Story One:**

Some years ago I was working with a casino producing their corporate newsletter. I had one person I was dealing with and the project was running smooth. Management decided that more input was needed and called me in for a special meeting of their new newsletter committee. (Committee ... for those of you in a creative field, you know that is the scariest word to ever be heard.) I sat and listened to everyone for awhile to understand what each thought their position was and responsibilities were to the committee. No one really knew what management had in mind since no one from management was a part of this committee. But we did know that more input was needed from more departments. The group needed a leader.

I started along the lines of commenting, that I liked to know everyone's birthday. I just liked to wish them a happy birthday on the right day. Everyone went along with it and for a few minutes all twelve of them were in happy conversation. I was making notes.
I started my usual fact finding conversation about how materials were going to be gathered, who wanted to be responsible and just who would like to help in which departments. During this time I was figuring out all the cards.

I am a Ten of Spades. In my committee I had a good mix of energy patterns. I had some fours and sixes I could depend on and a Queen of Hearts who is my karma card I receive from. I knew I could call on her and count on her for assistance. I had some good Clubs who wanted to write when I offered the position to them. The real surprise was that the quite one of the committee was an Eight of Diamonds. I chose her as the Committee leader.

The Eight of Diamonds is the Sun Card and directly over me in the Mundane Spread. As a Mercury connection I knew that we would be able to communicate well and I was counting on her (unseen at the time) leadership ability. I also knew the responsibility that I would have to guide her since I was also Saturn to her. She would lead, but I would have to be there to support and guide.

I had all this figured out in my head within a few minutes and started talking to the committee securing volunteers and handing out positions. The leader choice took a little coaxing but she agreed. Within six months the importance of the committee was forgotten by management but the goals were accomplished. The main positions assigned in the first committee meeting lasted the whole time I had the newsletter contract. For three years this project ran smooth and it was an actual pleasure to be a part of it.

Story Two:

I have been working with the cards for about 12 years but no I longer do readings for others. The cards have become a part of my life though. I use them to find out the relationship and the energy path of others in my life. It has amazed me what two Kings, a Queen and an Eight of Diamonds could do when they worked together. We all know the story of The Beatles. The fact that powerful cards can do powerful things together got me thinking. Since I am a Ten of Spades and I know what I am capable of ... what could a company of Tens do?

Little over six years ago I put together an advertising agency made up of five Tens. I wanted to call it Ten Up ... but changed that to Rainmaker Advertising and Design. It took us two months to agree on the name. I should have seen the handwriting on the wall. I had the Tens covered with a Heart, Diamond, Spade and two Clubs. One of the Clubs was January the 30th ... a Ten of Clubs and Ten of Spades combination.

We were a remarkable company from the start, picking up clients and winning awards. We all had experience and I had hand picked each one. None of them knew about my plan for a company of Tens. But it was working. As our client base grew I noticed that we spent less time together. We were not a close-knit company. We worked together when needed but I could never get a cohesive unit out of the company. We were just too independent. None of us wanted or needed any help. It became the attitude of, "No that is OK, I will do it." We were all powerful starters, doers and finishers.

After two years, we all just faded away. It was pretty much a mutual thing. We took the part that each had developed and went our own ways. I left and set up a print shop. The others had their own interests. The Jan. 30th Ten of Clubs kept the company name and continued on his own. We are all still friends. It was an interesting adventure. But, it was the most independent group I have ever worked with.

When I do research for a client, I create a report, usually for three months at a time. In that report I just list the best days and worst days in date order so that my client can easily scan a calendar and connect the
days and the cards. I format the report in this manner to make it as easy as possible for my client to use that information.

That is really about all there is to it. But if you do a lot of planning and consider things like Mercury retrograde, etc. this method might be highly valuable for you. To tell you the truth, I think that the card system actually accounts for Mercury retrogrades in these daily cards. In other words, just by following what the cards are saying you can avoid any bad days that Mercury retrograde would potentially be the cause of. Happy planning!

*Note from Robert Lee Camp: Dan is a personal friend of mine that continues to amaze me with this 10♠ drive applied to the cards and his life. He also has helped lots of Mac people who wanted to run our software on their computers. He is one of my true soul brothers.*

**Health Secrets that have changed my life**

I live a pretty healthy lifestyle and often get comments that I look much younger than I am (54 years old as of this article). I have often thought about writing a book, especially for men, which would tell the things I have learned that really make a difference. I will probably never get around to writing that book but I thought I would share a few things that might help. I want to say right up front that none of these are pills. These are things you can do that will really enhance your physical well-being. I hope you find these as useful as I have.

1. **Use moderation** in all things as a guide. Just being moderate in what we do in life really makes a difference. It is when we do too much of a certain thing that we get out of balance. Overeating or over-exercising, over-working, too much indulgence or even too much sex – all of these can be detrimental. Anything that is considered bad for you is usually okay if you do it in moderation. I really like ice cream and I really like chocolate. But I can tell when I eat too much of either that it is harmful to my overall feeling of well-being. But I can enjoy a moderate amount of either and I don’t feel any negative effects. I am very sensitive to dairy and cheese, cow’s milk, etc. But even I can have a pizza once in a while with no negative repercussions. It is great to be able to enjoy all things in moderation!

2. **Me and my tongue cleaner** – I purchased my first tongue cleaner in 1976 and I still own the same one. I use it every day. Most bad breath comes from the lining of stuff on our tongues. Just a couple of simple scrapes and it is all gone. It is amazing in all the benefits that it has. And they are so inexpensive, usually less than $10. If you don’t have one, you are truly missing out.

3. **Yoga** – the best exercise there is – Yoga has so many benefits on so many levels that it truly is the king of all fitness techniques. Of course there are so many kinds of yoga these days and I don’t think they are all great. Some are like ‘power-yoga.’ In my opinion, these strenuous versions lose many of the benefits of the ‘meditation in motion’ kinds. Yoga combines movements with coordinated breathing and visualizations to enhance flexibility, harmony in the body and peace of mind. There is no part of our being that does not benefit from a good yoga session. My favorite is Kripalu Yoga.

4. **The Five Tibetan Rites** – also called the Rites of Rejuvenation can be done in ten minutes or less each day and will reverse aging in the body. Combined with a yoga practice, you got a super session for personal happiness. The Five Rites will reverse the aging process in the body, increase your libido dramatically, and restore your desire to exercise and do other good things for your body. Can anything else you know of do that? To really get started and get the best background and understanding, read *Ancient Secret of the Fountain of Youth* by Peter Kelder. Do not read the
volume II that was published afterwards. That book is pure rubbish designed solely to make more money from the original book. The first book is the only book you need and want.

5. Try the **Blood Type diet**. I was vegetarian for over 20 years. Then, at one point, I got very run down and tired. I went to an acupuncturist and he noted that I had hardly any pulses at all! He told me to go out and get some red meat right away. I immediately went to Burger King and ate a Whopper. My entire body said ‘Yes!’ I immediately felt better and I have been eating beef and chicken ever since. I found out later I am type O and we are supposed to eat meat. As a matter of fact, nearly all the foods that I really like and am naturally attracted to are type O foods. There are many books out there about the blood type and foods that are best for each. I do think it has a lot of validity. It is certainly worth an experiment.

6. **Ginseng** – this is the only supplement that I recommend, and really only for people over 45. It has been used for ages in eastern cultures and is a definite tonic for men and women. A little bit each day will definitely make a difference. Try to get a real tincture from Dr. Schultze or the Herb Pharm. Anything else might be watered down and ineffective.

7. **Conserving sexual energy** – this is way more important for men than for women but women need to be aware of it too, since they usually have a man in their life. Men lose way more energy and life force in an orgasm than women. It is just a biological fact. There are many good techniques for the conservation and rebuilding of sexual energy. One book I recommend is *Cultivating Male Sexual Energy* by Mantak Chia. There is a female version too. It’s nice to be vital in my mid fifties. Sex is not really designed to last an entire lifetime but men should not be losing their vitality in their forties and fifties either.

8. **Beware of modern medicine** – More people die in hospitals each year than anywhere else. And the number one cause of death in our country is prescription drug related deaths. Those two facts alone should tell you that hospitals and traditional doctors are dangerous to your health. The current medical establishment has been so overpowered by drug companies seeking to improve their profits, that even doctors are suspect. The drug companies give them perks, free samples, etc. The doctors pass those along to their patients and then it is you and I who suffer. Don’t get me wrong, there are a lot of lives that are saved in the hospital too and sometimes it is the best choice. But its funny how I have only been in a hospital once for myself. I do fine without them.

9. **Avoid All Meats and Dairy Products that are not hormone free** – Breast and Prostate cancer are now rampant in our country. That was not the case 20 years ago. So, what has changed? The widespread use of all sorts of hormones and additives to get animals to grow bigger and faster. Then, we eat these animal products. Is it any wonder that our own cells go out of control? I believe you can entirely eliminate the possibility of either of these two just by choosing free-range and hormone-free meats and dairy products. I believe this is much more important than eating organic vegetables because the risks are greater with the hormone laden meats, milk, cream, cheese, eggs, etc.

10. **Health Self-Responsibility** - If you take the trouble to manage your own health, you can eliminate doctors, hospitals and medical insurance from your life altogether. Even if you are using a doctor, you should always have the attitude that you make the final decisions about procedures and prescriptions. But if you take your health into your own hands and practice living a healthy lifestyle, you will rarely need them. Try being responsible for your health and not leave it in the hands of others. The results can be tremendous!

11. **Get to know your body** – When you do Yoga you will start to develop a relationship with your body that is intimate and personal. You can discover, as I have, that you can take care of yourself quite well. I learned a long time ago how to massage my own intestines, stretch my neck, shoulders, back and legs when needed and can feel cravings for certain foods when they occur. Our bodies are miracles of a divine plan. They are meant to fix themselves and give us signals of what to do. People are alive today that completely abuse their bodies because their bodies can take a lot. It takes a sustained period of intense self-abuse to die. If you start to love your physical
body, as you would love and take care of any prized possession, you will be rewarded with a lifetime of good operation and service.

Well, it’s all up to you now. And it always has been. You can have whatever level of health you choose. Good luck!

**All About Your Planetary Ruling Card**

Though I teach a lot about the Planetary Ruling Card in classes, I have never fully explained it here for my newsletter readers so I thought it was about time I did so. To begin with, when I first published The Cards of Your Destiny and Love Cards, I didn’t fully understand it myself, or it’s importance. Therefore, some of my earlier writing on the subject does not reflect what I will be talking about today. I did realize, after so many years, that the Planetary Ruling Card is just as important as the Birth Card, even more so in some ways. For example, some people will not relate well to their Birth Card description in my Love Cards book. But those same people will really connect with the description of their Planetary Ruling Card. This, and other observations told me that many of us are more identified with our Planetary Ruling Card than our Birth Card. I also noticed that we tend to be an exaggerated version of our Planetary Ruling Card. Though a person whose Birth Card is an Ace may have the quality of impatience and aggressive passion, those with an Ace as their Planetary Ruling Card will have that quality even more. Finally, studying people’s astrological charts has revealed that planets and aspects in the chart point to the qualities of their Planetary Ruling Card just as much as their Birth Card. All these findings caused me to place a lot more importance on this card and hold it in higher regard in the overall scheme of things. What I have come to is this: If we do not know the Planetary Ruling Card of someone we are looking at or talking about, we really don’t know them at all. It is just that important.

For those who do not know how the Planetary Ruling Card is derived allow me to give a short lesson on it. Essentially the Planetary Ruling Card is the card from your Life Spread that corresponds to the planet that is the ruler of your Sun Sign. In order to know someone’s Planetary Ruling Card, we must know what their Sun Sign is and what planet governs that sign. The table below will help clarify, along with a few examples.

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You will notice several things when you look at this table. Both Venus and Mercury govern two signs, for one. Next, Scorpio has two planets for its rulers. It is important to remember this for Scorpios.

Taking the example of Britney Spears, whom I have also written about in this newsletter, she is born 12/2/1981. Her Birth Card is the 3♦ and she is a Sagittarius. Since Jupiter rules Sagittarius, Britney’s Planetary Ruling Card will be the Jupiter Card in her Life Spread, which in her case is the 5♠. If any of this confounds you, just look in the Love Cards book at the chapter for the 3♦ and notice the 5♠ in Jupiter in their Life Spread.

Someone born on July 15th is a K♣ and of the sign of Cancer. Since Cancer is ruled by the Moon, their Planetary Ruling Card will be their Moon card in their Life Spread, which in this case is the 2♣. It is really as simple as that. But we must mention Leos and Scorpios. The sign of Leo is ruled by the Sun. Since the Sun Card is the Birth Card, Leos have a Birth and Planetary Ruling Card that are the same.
They have, in effect, a double-card influence. This would explain why they are such dramatic examples of their cards.

Scorpios are ruled by both Mars and Pluto. But for most of the work I do, I use their Mars card as their Planetary Ruling Card. This is because it takes most Scorpios a good portion of their lives to utilize and move into the quality of their Pluto, or Phoenix Card. For them, life is a process of moving from the Mars to the Pluto. I call their Mars Planetary Ruling Card their everyday working PR Card, while the Pluto PR Card would be the higher expression for them. So, someone born on let’s say, October 24\(^{th}\), who is a J♥ Birth Card, would have both the 2♥ (Mars) and 2♦ (Pluto) as Planetary Ruling Cards. It is interesting that among the cards in the Life Spread, often cards that are five spaces apart are the same number. Since Pluto is exactly five spaces from Mars, we find that many Scorpios have ruling cards that are the same number. Another example would be Halloween (October 31\(^{st}\)) which has a 4♥ Birth Card but the 8♥ and 8♦ as PR Cards.

Understanding what I have shown here, you should be able to determine anyone’s PR Card by knowing their birthday and their Life Spread. The Love Cards book shows you each card’s Life Spread but you can also learn how to determine someone’s Life Spread and PR Card just by knowing the Grand Solar Spread. Everyone’s Life Spread can be determined from the Grand Solar Spread Life Spread, pictured below.

You only need study this and compare each Birth Card’s Life Spread to understand how to do this. The beauty of this is that once you learn it, all you need is this one graphic here to determine anyone’s PR Card. If you would like to learn the method from one of my books, read Exploring the Little Book of the Seven Thunders.

Now that you understand how the PR Card is determined, let’s talk more about it’s meaning and purpose. Our PR Card is the part of our personality that we strongly identify with. It’s exact purpose is not known, but I think that on a soul level, the PR Card may serve the purpose of developing certain traits within us, much like the Ascendant does in astrological charts. Because we keep getting this notion in our heads that ‘this is how I am’, it engenders the development of those traits. What we know for sure is that we do really have those traits and that we tend to exaggerate them.

It is important to see the difference between your PR Card and your Birth Card. Each of them represents certain traits you have. Each year you will have a spread of card for both the Birth Card and PR Card. The Yearly Spread for your Birth Card will pertain to events and experiences that the Birth Card part of will have. The PR Card’s Yearly Spread will only refer to things happening with the PR Card part.
of your overall makeup. For example, my PR Card is the A♦ while my Birth Card is the Q♦. The Yearly Spread for my A♦ will tell me what is happening with the ambitious part of me while the Q♦ will tell me what will happen with the more nurturing part of me. If you can really understand the difference between your Birth Card and PR Card in yourself, you can derive more meaning from your Yearly Spreads.

The PR Card is especially important when doing analyses of relationships between people. If we are not using the PR Card in our comparison, we are probably missing out on the most important connections. Many marriages have their most important connections between the PR Cards of the couple. If one person’s PR Card is Moon to the other’s Birth Card or PR Card, we have a high potential for a successful marriage. Some couples will have the same PR Card, though their Birth Cards are different, or they will have a PR Card that is the same as their partner’s Birth Card. Either one of these connections is considered very good for a relationship of any kind.

I hope this discussion of the Planetary Ruling Card has been enlightening for you and perhaps has answered some of your questions about it. And I hope that from now on, you don’t just find out what someone’s Birth Card is, but also take the time to discover their Planetary Ruling Card. Once you have them both, you have the complete picture and can start doing whatever type of reading you like.

The Magic In Numbers

We are surrounded by numbers. Our birthday is a set of numbers, we have an address number, a telephone number, a social security number, a license tag number, and many more. I never really paid much attention to the numbers surrounding me until a close friend asked me one day, “What’s your number?” I replied with “What do you mean, what is my number?” I had no idea what they were talking about. She responded with “Well, what’s the first number that comes to mind?” I thought about it for a second or so and said “Seventeen.” “Okay, then,” she said, “seventeen is your number.” She went on to explain that everyone has a number and that this number somehow represents them and has significance. I did not know anything about numerology at the time and just kept an open mind. She told me her number (23) and for the rest of that day and beyond I kept noticing the number 17 showing up all around me. It was eerie. “Sometimes, your higher self will communicate to you through numbers,” she said. I began paying attention and indeed I think I have gotten many messages through the numbers that occur in my life. Even now, whenever I see a 23, I think of her. But even more I pay attention to the numbers that show up around me in all ways. Here is a basic introduction to numerology - not really traditional numerology per se but a neat version of it that you can use for fun and perhaps even profit.

First of all you need to know some basics about numerology. Whenever you are given a number higher than nine, you reduce the number to its one or two digit essence. For example if you get a birthday, such as 10/11/1955, you would simply add up each individual digit and then reduce it. 1+0+1+1+9+5+5 = 23. You can stop there, but a 23 also reduces to a five (2+3). No matter what numbers you are adding up, such as a telephone number or a social security number, you can always reduce it. The 2-digit version has a meaning and the one-digit version has meaning. But the one-digit reduction is usually the most important. Just adding up your birthday can reveal a lot about you. The best book I have read that discusses these meanings is called The Life You Were Born To Live by Dan Millman. I highly recommend it. But I do want to give some brief explanations of the single-digit numbers here for you to use and have fun with.

One – this is the number of a beginning, ambition, passion to create, a new idea, a birth, a new beginning of some sort. It is also a loner’s number. The Ace stands alone. The emergence of a one somewhere in your life would indicate a significant new beginning. What if, for example, your home’s address number added up to a one? This could indicate that this place would be a new start for you or a place where you would give a significant birth to some new project, idea or enterprise.
Two of course would be about partnership. It represents you and someone else together. This could be a working partnership, business contract, marriage, love affair or friendship. Or simply some collaboration.

Three is about creativity and diversity. It is a moving beyond the Two so it is moving from what is to something added. It can be about self-expression such as writing or speaking or simply some form of art or music. It can also be about diversity, having more than one job, relationship, idea, home, etc.

Four on the other hand is about stability and security, and let’s not forget, hard work. Building a foundation is indicated. It is a number of home, family, marriage, or anything that brings peace and stability to our life.

Five is change, sort of like the Three but really change from security to adventure and freedom. A five means branching out in new directions, leaving the familiar behind and taking risks. Moves and travel can be indicated here. Or many other kinds of change such as divorce (or marriage if you are single).

Six is a number that represents responsibility and Karma. It can also mean simply a period of peace and lack of change. Steadiness would be a good word to describe it. Karmic events often transpire under the influence of a Six, both good and bad Karma. So, never assume either, it could be the other!

Seven is the spiritual number. It is success spiritually and challenges materially. However, those who have a well-integrated spiritual life will find that a Seven will bring success in life, much more success than other cards. So, it can mean problems or success and much of it depends on us and where we are at. A Seven can mean doing spiritual work or spiritual things as well. My home in Asheville was number 70 Austin Ave. And it had a history of healers and metaphysicians living there, even before me.

Eight is a power and success number, almost always welcomed by anyone. When present, it is an indicator that you have the power to accomplish something above and beyond the normal. It is power that you can use, so use it!

Nine is the number of completion. Usually associated with loss or endings, the Nine can also represent fulfillment. Like the Seven, this is a spiritual number and gives different results depending on the consciousness of the person it is associated with. I have had losses under a Nine but also great successes, the completion of things long-desired. It is better to not assume that a Nine will bring trouble. Some endings in life are welcome ones.

Zero – When the zero is added to another single digit number, such as in a 10, 20, 30, etc., it represent a certain added bonus to that number. The ‘0’ represents having completed at least one cycle of experience in regards to the first number, adding to it an air of accomplishment. For example a Two might mean a new relationship but a 20 means accomplishment in the area of relationship or partnership. When I lived at 70 Austin Ave., it was a symbol that I was already accomplished in doing spiritual work. A good friend of mine who is also a professional astrologer, moved to Asheville in a home that was simply number Seven. This told me that he was just getting started in doing his work as a reader and had not yet attained the accomplishment that would be symbolized by the 70.

With the above information I hope you can begin to observe numbers around you. If you want to study further, I suggest studying the Tarot cards, especially the Major Arcana. There is much truth in the symbolism and interpretation of those, and the numbers go all the way to 22.

So, what does your phone number add up to? How about your license plate number, social security number and others? Do you believe that we get these numbers by accident? I don’t think so. And a closer look can give us some interesting and valuable information.
Star Cards – Britney Spears

From Diva to Disasta – what happened to Britney?

Poor Britney Spears. Born December 2nd, 1981, she is a 3♦ with a 5♠ Planetary Ruling Card. Though very successful and wealthy, her life could be seen as tragic, especially lately. First she got divorced from her husband Kevin Federline (3/21/1978). He being a 2♦ with a 6♦ Planetary Ruling Card, he essentially played the Moon role with her and was her main source of comfort while they were together. Apparently she took that divorce pretty hard since that was when she started spiraling downward.

She has been caught on film with no panties on, cut all her hair off, got a DUI, got arrested for driving without a license, and now is facing losing her children in a custody battle. Things are just not going her way.

I think she is a good example of how the cards can tell us things about someone. The 3♦ is known as one of the most difficult cards to be in the deck. There is tons of love and money karma inherent in it. The basic problem is un-clarity about they want. With Britney being a 5♠ Planetary Ruling Card, we also have the strong urge to do things that are dangerous for herself and others, a sort of impulsive recklessness.

According to the UK’s News of the World, Britney is obsessed with Princess Diana and now believes she will meet the same tragic fate as the People’s Princess.

“She’s utterly obsessed with Princess Diana. We’re worried about it,” a friend of Brit’s told the paper. “She’s turned one of the rooms in her house into a shrine to Di — there’s photos, books and cheap souvenirs everywhere.”

But the infatuation doesn’t end with memorabilia, as her pal explained. “Britney has told people she truly believes she and Diana share the same path, the same destiny! She’s taken to surrounding herself with anything connected with the princess.”

Is Britney going to die soon, as she may be thinking? Well, according to her cards, it is a possibility, though I don’t really think she will go that far. I am not really quite sure just how confused or unhappy she is. Her outward actions are certainly bizarre lately but that could be said for many 5♠ Planetary Ruling Card people.

Like other 3♦, Britney will have to turn to spirituality or her life will continue on its tragic descent. I know this may sound brutal or fatalistic but it is merely what the cards teach us. There are other successful and talented 3♦ people out there. But I would say that the ones who are happy have made a connection to the higher forces within them. Donald Trump, Rebecca Romjin and others are all happy and successful 3♦. Let’s hope that Britney takes a look in a different direction before she accomplishes her self-fulfilling prophecy of destruction.
The Thing About the Cards

What is this card system all about anyway? How is it so accurate? I thought I would talk a little about it, perhaps explaining some things that may not be understood just by reading the book. This system was developed from perhaps a divine source. Certainly it was from a source of high consciousness, at a time in history when much higher awareness was prevalent unlike today where lower consciousness dominates the planet and society. We are fortunate to have the pieces of this system that we have, though it is apparent that we by no means have it all. What we have today of this system is really just a couple of books handed down by a master who wrote only one book about this system that was ever published. What we don’t have is all the other books that he had and the knowledge that he didn’t publish in books. This man was Olney Richmond, and even facts about his life are in dispute.

But aside from him, we know that this system originated very, very long ago. Olney says it was over 20,000 years ago and came from Atlantis. I am inclined to take his word for it since everything else he has written has proven it’s worth to me. Olney was a person of precision and detail. He believed that all real truths could be tested. This is why he called the deck of cards, The Mystic Test Book. He possessed a series of card-tests that he called the Egyptian Mysteries. He mentions them several times but never explains even one of them in detail. I suspect that if we had them, we could actually prove, as he apparently did time and time again to reporters that would visit his temple, that physics and metaphysics have a direct and undeniable connection and that all phenomena could be reduced to numbers, if one possessed the formulae for doing so.

Aside from what we don’t know about the cards, we do know that this is first and foremost a spiritual, or esoteric science. It’s most important and true purpose – to enlighten individuals. What this science does is provide a framework of reference for everything in our life. Our personal and professional issues all laid out before us in an easy to understand and non-judgmental way. I think that the first and main benefit of anyone studying the cards is that they get a self of self-understanding that they did not have before. Often a person just reading about their Birth Card gets a sense of relief, like here is an explanation of me that makes it okay to be who I am. As the author of my books, I am privileged to be able to bring this information to others. I will always be grateful to have been the one to bring such good news to others. But not all the news that the cards bring us is considered good. Often it shows us things about ourselves that we do not want to hear. Though it may be accurate some of us are not ready to know that much about ourselves. I myself was first astounded and insulted when I read about my Birth Card in the Sacred Symbols of the Ancients book long ago. I thought it was way too negative. But then
again, it had been completely honest with me and for that, it became my life’s work.

Where this information originated is not as important simply realizing that this system is as accurate as it is because it is connected intimately to this planet we live on. I like to say, in talks that I give, that this system will not work for those born on other planets. How could it? Those other planets will not have 365 and ¼ days each year. It will be a different set of symbols for other planets and those born on them. A true metaphysical science should not be one that is foreign to us. As the cards show, everything is really right here in front of our faces. We just have to take a closer look at what is here. Our magical planet and it’s cycles have always been here, waiting to be discovered by the person with the consciousness and mind to do so.

For better or worse, our birthdays define us. They reflect, to the metaphysician who knows how to read them, the intimate details of our life on this earth. Our Birth Card and Planetary Ruling Card, along with the cards in our Yearly, Seven –Year and other spreads all tell the story of our Karmic Destiny in this lifetime, which by definition is the culmination of our Karma to this point in our soul’s development.

If the cards are to be used for their highest good, it will be to inspire self-acceptance and responsibility at the same time. Understanding ourselves engenders success in all areas of life. Thus the cards have the potential to be a life-long friend and guide to help us along life’s often difficult pathway.

It is clear that the more and closer we look at our cards, the more meaning we derive from them. To those who have the greatest need for enlightenment, it will be given. We are all fortunate that the cards are here for us to benefit from.

Note: The illustrations in this article come from The Mystic Test Book by Olney Richmond, available from us in the Advanced Section of our Software, Books, Etc. on our web site (www.7thunders.com).

Global Warming and the Mayan Calendar

If you have been paying attention to the latest scientific news, you know that the thawing of Antarctica is proceeding at an alarming rate. What was first predicted to happen over the next 50 years is not being projected to be complete by 2013. Scientist now say that by 2013 there will be no ice in Antarctica in the summer. This of course, can cause the elimination of many species, including the polar bear. Already scientists have discovered mass deaths of walrus trying to find new places to breed and live.

Antarctica is just the beginning however. Greenland is also melting and Greenland has enough frozen water to elevate the sea level by 50 feet. If Greenland melts, which of course eventually it will, the state of Florida will be virtually erased as will millions of square miles of coastal lands all around the globe. With populations increasing every year, just where do you think all these people seeking a place to live will go? I am thinking the value of my home in the mountains of North Carolina will skyrocket. Is anyone else thinking ahead on this one?

It is fairly well known throughout the spiritual community that the Mayan calendar, which by the way has many connections to the cards, ends on 2012. And, it has been predicted by many that at that time there would be tremendous earth changes and various disasters, etc. The melting ice may be just one of many unimaginable challenges that we will face at that time. But just that one thing is enough to change the face of our earth, and the course of civilization, for a long time to come.
The Importance of Satsang

Satsang is something that a lot of us do frequently but do not realize that we are doing it or the power that it holds to help us. The word satsang comes from the Sanskrit language. Sat means truth and Sang means ‘the company of.’ It is regarded as a very powerful and high spiritual practice. It can be expressed in many ways. Traditionally it involved sitting at the feet of an enlightened master and listening to him discourse on various subjects. The listener’s mind would become purified of lower thoughts by hearing the words of the master. But another important way that satsang is expressed is by reading words of purity and truth. Reading the words of an enlightened master is nearly the same as hearing him speak. In today’s world we can have satsang in those two ways but also by listening to CDs or MP3s of our favorite teacher.

All of us choose who our teachers are to be, and which books we read and which audio files we listen to. We may also have the opportunity to go listen, in person, to an enlightened master talk. Either way, we benefit greatly.

When we read a book or listen to a CD of someone who is really in touch with the truth, it helps our minds get clear about things. Many people I know read books like this every day. It is like their daily ‘mind vitamin.’ And there is no doubt on how important it can be. All of us, no matter how enlightened we may be, can benefit from reminders.

In this regard is it important to pick the very best information you can when it comes to satsang. There are, as expected in this dark period in history, many false prophets and those who simply preach but are incapable of practicing what they preach. Anyone who is incarnated on this planet, with the exception of the one in a billion avatar (incarnation of God), is here because they have some negative karma to work out. Many can preach the truth but few can practice it. And unfortunately many even who preach it are really all about getting more money, more sex, more power, etc. Personally I am very picky about who and what I listen to and read. I have the good fortune in this regard of having my natal Jupiter in Gemini. This is a good karma for me that brings exceptional books and other information to me. I treasure the books I have found and read. In fact, my finding Sacred Symbols of the Ancients, the book that got me started in doing work with the cards nearly 20 years ago, was on account of my good karma with Jupiter in the sign of knowledge in my natal chart. But be careful. There is a lot of garbage out there and teachers who talk the talk but who cannot walk the walk. Humility is a good thing to look for in teachers. I am reminded of a channeled being called Ramtha that was popular about 15 years ago. I watched a few videos of her. She (J.Z. Knight by name) keeps telling her followers that ‘You are God!’ all the while treating them like children and elevating herself to Godhead while making them seem less than slaves. I do not even know how many people she mislead or is still misleading. But examining her behavior makes it easy to see that she is not who she would like us to believe she is. And then there was the Lynn V. Andrews debacle. It became known, for only a brief period of time however, that all her books (Medicine Woman, Star Woman, Jaguar Woman, etc.) were fabricated and not even written by her. I wonder if she actually wrote any of her books, even her new ones. She would like us to believe she is a powerful Shaman woman. Imagine that! These are just two examples. There are many others. It just reinforces the importance of checking out the source before giving your power of belief over to it.

If you haven’t read any good books lately or listened to some high spiritual teachings, I recommend that you do. It could really help you to move forward with some of your important life issues and themes. I was just recently reminded of this and have benefited tremendously from some new books and CDs. And now I realize just how important having the company of truth really is!
Mission Impossible

I would like to take you on a little visualization if I may. So, for a minute, suspend your normal way of looking at life and your life and go along with me and share this experience. First of all, take a look at your life as it is right now. Look at the condition of things on every level. Look at your financial condition, your relationship condition, and your level of happiness with your work, your health condition and your living condition. Just take a quick inventory of where your life is today. See the areas that you feel good about and those that you do not feel good about. Even take a look at how you feel about your culture, society, government and race! Now imagine that you and only you are the one and only creator of it all. Imagine that every relationship that is not going well in your life is your creation. Imagine that any and all health problems you have are being generated by you. Imagine that you are creating all the successes and the failures in your life, exactly the way they are. Imagine that you are completely responsible for every minute aspect of your life, including all the things that you think and say you don’t like and don’t want. But if this were true, why would it be this way? Why would you or I create something that we say we don’t really want? Why would we struggle so much and have to wait so long for some things to come to us? Why can’t we create them instantly?

Imagine that you are this ultra-powerful being who has unlimited ability to create. Imagine that you have been given a magic wand of sorts. Imagine that in every moment of every day you are creating your life to be exactly the way it is right now, in every detail. But imagine that there are essentially two parts to you. One is your conscious self. This part is the one you hear talking in your head all day. It is telling you that you like this and don’t like that, that you want this and don’t want that. It is the ‘always-there’ conversation that you have about your life and the part that most of us identify with as being ‘us’. That is the part that you and most of us know well. But imagine that you have another part, actually much larger, that is hidden from the view of this first part. This is your subconscious part. This part does not have thoughts that you can listen to. It resides in a higher plane of consciousness and is connected to higher energies, as well as energies and resources that are far more vast than your conscious mind has access to. With effort, you can make contact with this part. But it is normally beyond the range of our conscious mind. Only those who truly take the time to listen may know of it or connect with it in any meaningful way.

And this second part is the greater part of you, being an accumulation of deeper desires and motives, some which span many lifetimes. It is the part that recognizes others you have known before in past lives, the part of you that instinctually ‘knows’ things. Within that part also harbors some deep past-life patterned beliefs, unfulfilled desires, soul-patterns and other parts of us that may often seem deep and mysterious. Many of our feelings and emotions come from this part. The way we feel about this or that, which often contradicts what our conscious thoughts are telling us. It is often the unexplainable part of us. We are confronted with these feelings every day and often we just do not know or understand what to do about them.

So, we go about our day-to-day life and we see things showing up that we like and others that we don’t like. And for the most part we assume that we are just a victim here and not a creator. In many areas of our life we seem to be constantly ‘trying’ to have things be better or different. And we spend a lot of time waiting for some things to show up in our life, all the while unaware of the power we have and how we are creating it to be just the way it is. Our lives seem to be full of conflict. We are often at odds with that which we create or have attracted into our lives. We do not understand why certain things keep showing up and keep happening. We see the pattern but cannot see how we have created it. But here is the really most important thing in all of this – even though we usually feel that we are powerless to change our lives, there is another part of us that knows that we can. And that part, even though its voice is very small and hard to hear sometimes, comes from the greater part of us and will never go away. Essentially, it is
our fate to know that we are the unlimited creators of our destiny. It is our destiny to experience this and
to experience this completely.

So, this is our mission impossible. And if you remember any of the Mission Impossible shows or movies,
they always pull it off in the end, regardless of how impossible it appears at the beginning. We are
stunned by how much it takes – how much ingenuity, how much intelligence, determination and effort.
But that makes it all the more satisfying. In the end, we feel elated by the accomplishment. And isn’t this
how our life really is?

The real mission, should you decide to accept it, is to make contact with the greater part of yourself.
Discover who you are and what parts of you would have your world be the way it is right now. Ask and it
shall be given, but make sure to ask the right questions. For example, for those trying to lose weight, ask
yourself, ‘Why would I have my weight be what it is right now? Why would I want to be this much
overweight? What am I gaining (besides the pounds) from being in this physical condition? What bad
things am I avoiding by it or what other kinds of good things do I get from it?’

This same questioning can be done on any area of our life where we feel that we are ‘trying’ or getting
results other than what we say we want or need or like. Question, asked again and again, will lead to
answers. Make a clear intention to know the truth about yourself and you will discover it.

It is important to understand that when we find ourselves in a situation of trying, or a situation where we
are not getting the results that we want, that what is going on is that the second part of us, that part that is
largely unconscious, is where the answer lies. Here is a brief example. A young girl is molested by her
father. As she grows older, she puts on weight and notices that he loses interest in her. So, she becomes
overweight as a means to keep her father away from her. She grows up as an overweight woman,
constantly battling with her weight. Now she wants a relationship but her weight makes her less desirable
and she wants to look her best to attract someone that she likes. But she is struggling. She has completely
forgotten about the oath she took as a young child to keep her father from molesting her. It is now part of
her unconscious self. And though she is not thinking of it, it is much stronger than her current thoughts
about being thinner and more attractive. So, she is struggling. But where is the real struggle? Who or what
is she really fighting with?

This example illustrates what is really going on with all of us in areas that we find ourselves out of sync
with our lives. If we are not getting the results that we want in life, the fight is with ourselves, not
anything outside. I received a very nice gift of a set of Abraham (Esther and Jerry Hicks) CDs for
Christmas this year. Their message is virtually the same as I am putting forth here. But what they added
that is delightful is this: it is never the job of the conscious mind to figure out how to get things to happen
in our lives. Now, saying that is saying a lot. And they really didn’t say it in those words. Those are my
paraphrase of what they said. But Abraham teaches that the way to create is to simply visualize what we
want to have in our life with a positive emotion attached to it. According to them it does not work to try
and think of ways of obtaining what we want. But we must only visualize it, with feeling, and then use
our conscious mind to enjoy the things we have created. Perhaps this sounds familiar. It is essentially the
same message that I wrote in The Big Money Book. But it bears repeating again and again. To put it in
other words, it is not the job of our conscious self (the first part of us mentioned here in this article) to try
and create things in our life, nor to solve the problems that we face. It’s only real job is to enjoy the
creations we have created. Wow, that says a lot. It is amazingly simple and at the same time, easily
missed.

When I write such things I realize that words can only go so far. Once we see the truth of something, we
must be ready to put that into action. I remember when I read the first chapter of the book, The Power of
Now. That book held so much truth that I had to put it down after one chapter. Why? Because at the
moment of receiving such pure and powerful truth, I needed to practice that which was just given to me. It would be an insult to the message to just keep reading without putting it into practice.

So as I am writing this, I am excited to put this truth into practice. I want to stop trying to figure out my problems and just enjoy my creations. I want to stop using my conscious mind to make things right and just keep visualizing what I want to create and feel how wonderful it will feel when those things appear in my life. I want to tune into my feelings and let them guide my creations, always allowing my creative energies to intentionally create things that I love.

Jessica Alba and Cash Warren
April 28, 1981 and January 10, 1979 respectively

I like to read about celebrities. Their lives are so public they make great people to study, sort of like studying your own friends and family. Basically they are a source of additional experiences with which I can learn more about the cards and study human behavior, one of my favorite things to do. I really like Jessica Alba. First of all she is one of the most beautiful women I have ever seen, and is a 6♣ and Q♥, two of my favorite cards. I think most of the young men in the United States and elsewhere are in love with her. And we would all like to see her happy. And recently Cash Warren disappointed all of us male followers by getting her pregnant. I don’t know what it is about being a male that we should even care about who is knocking up who, but there you have it. I blame it on genetics.

Anyway, Cash (4♠/A♦) is quite the catch, or so it seems. He is decidedly handsome in an A♦ kind of way (think Tom Cruise). They met on the set of Fantastic Four where he was part of the crew. He has gone on from there to being a producer, albeit a small time one up till this point, but certainly pointed in the right direction. Their relationship so far has been rocky. Just as recently as July of 2007 they broke up, her telling him, “I am not in love with you anymore.” Just a month before that Spike TV named Warren the "Luckiest Bastard" of 2007 at their first annual Guy's Choice Awards, due to his relationship with Alba. There is an obvious gap, however, between their star status and that can always be the source of conflict. He is a long way down the Hollywood food chain from her. So what is it about these two? What is going on here? They recently announced an engagement.

The first thing we look at is that they have two Moon connections. The 6♣ has a 2♦ Karma Card and Cash’s A♦ Planetary Ruling Card is Moon to that. A♦ men often end up with 6♣ women because of this Moon connection. Then again, his 4♠ has a 10♣ Karma Card and Jessica’s Q♥ Planetary Ruling Card is Moon to that. These two Moon connections are what are making this relationship work. There is, however, one really big problem with this relationship: Cash Warren is an A♦!

No matter what the Birth Card, if a man has an A♦ Birth or Planetary Ruling Card, he can never have enough women. Even having Jessica Alba would not be enough. Now that he has had her, being an A♦ Planetary Ruling Card myself, I can imagine him thinking about how many women out there would like to date him, the ex of Jessica Alba. This is my prediction: They may or may not get married but that will
not last long. I just don’t think a leopard can change his spots. The baby is a sure thing, however. A marriage could happen but it is not showing up in their cards in any significant way. And there are some signs of a breakup in the coming year. Nothing is conclusive in this case because there is a mixture of cards and no definite direction indicated. But I am betting that Cash will express his A ♦ sooner or later, probably sooner. Remember what I say about A ♦ males? “So many women, so little time!”

New Years Astrology Report for all Signs

I don’t actually do predictions based upon Sun Signs alone as many astrologers do. I find that they are rarely accurate and when you understand how astrology works you quickly realize that it is hard to make predictions for a group of people born within a 30-day period of the year, any year. But I do enjoy looking at the transits of the outer planets and giving a few details about how they will affect the Sun Signs for the year ahead. And sometimes I have to be specific about what time of the month for birthdays because a planet in a sign is not necessarily going to effect everyone whose Sun Sign is that sign for a given year.

For example, Pluto is currently just about to cross over from 29 degrees of Sagittarius into 0 degrees of Capricorn. This move from one sign to another is significant. But this will only affect those Capricorns born in the earliest degrees of that sign, those born from December 22nd through the 25th, for the year of 2008. Actually on January 1st of 2009, Pluto will be at 1 degree of Capricorn. Thus it will go into Capricorn soon, but will go retrograde back and never make it that far into Capricorn over the course of this year. So, any Capricorn born after December 25th will not even feel any influence from it. That is how it works. Pluto is the slowest moving of all the planets and will be in Capricorn until 2024, just to give you an idea. Now, it certainly can be said that between now and then, all Capricorns will experience that Pluto conjuncting their natal Sun. And this conjunction will cause an incredible and positive change in their lives. As an aside many astrologers think that a transiting Pluto conjunction is a bad thing. But it is just the opposite. It gives us the power to complete remake ourselves and often propels individuals into a much higher vibrational expression. It can even cause fame or high recognition along with the fulfillment of one’s true destiny! So, all Capricorns will have this at some time in this next 17 years but only about 2-3 birthdays of Capricorn will experience anything each year.

That being said, other planets will move faster than Pluto and it just so happens that Jupiter is in Capricorn this year as well as Pluto. And over the course of 2008, Jupiter will cast a positive light on the affairs of all Capricorn people. Yeah for them! Now the exact nature of where that good fortune will come will depend somewhat on which house in their respective natal charts Jupiter is moving through. But since all are Capricorns it is likely that all will benefit career-wise, since Capricorns are so career oriented. And I should tell all Capricorns to be on the lookout for a new wrinkle to their careers to surface. If a new job or new direction presents itself, go for it! Jupiter is always a signal of good fortune.

To a lesser degree, this good fortune will extend to the other two earth signs, Taurus and Virgo. So people of those Sun Signs should expect some good fortune, though not as much as Capricorns. It will be more like favorable events occurring which will aid them in their life direction in some way.

We must also mention Saturn, which is currently in Virgo and will be all year. Currently it is around 8 degrees and going retrograde. This means it is affecting Virgos born around the beginning of September or late August even. Saturn conjuncting one’s Sun is not a wonderful transit but it is not the hardest either. It usually just means a period of hard work and no play. But there are three other Signs that Saturn is making hard aspects to and those are Sagittarius, Pisces and Gemini. People of those signs, especially those born around the end or beginning of their respective months (within 2 days) are experiencing a negative Saturn transit to their Sun, which can be quite difficult in certain situations. Two friends of mine
are born on November 29th and Saturn is currently squaring both their Suns right now and will continue to square their Suns off and on till August of 2008. It is affecting both of them differently because they were born different years and at different times of the day. But for both, it is rather difficult. After August, Saturn will move forward and start affecting those born from the 5th to the 10th of their respective birth months, again in the signs of Sagittarius, Pisces and Gemini.

The planet Uranus is also in one of these mutable signs now (Pisces). It acts a lot like Pluto when it conjuncts your natal Sun, causing a transformation and change in your basic personality, for the better. It has been affecting Pisces people for a while now but this year it is affecting those born between March 4th through 8th. They are being given, by the planet of freedom, a boost in self-expression and individual expression. Those of the other mutable signs, Gemini, Sagittarius and Virgo, and those born between the 4th and 8th of their respective months, are experiencing a difficult Uranus transit, which causes unexpected upsets and changes. Ultimately these changes will result in positive experiences but they are usually regarded as unwelcome when they first appear since they upset the apple cart so much. And we must mention that Cancers and Scorpios, born between the 4th and 8th of their respective months are also receiving benefits from Uranus, helping them be themselves and express their unique qualities.

We are not complete until we talk about Neptune, the other outer planet big guy. It is the next most powerful planet after Pluto and moves nearly as slowly as him. Currently at 20 degrees of Aquarius and ending the year at 22.5 degrees of Aquarius, it is affecting those born between the 9th and 13th of February. Neptune conjuncting their Sun brings a vision of a new life and the drive to achieve it. It also brings connections to the unseen world, in other words, psychic experiences and abilities during its movement. These Aquarians will benefit from this as will the other air signs (Libra and Gemini) who are born around the same time of the month as mentioned. But the other fixed signs (Taurus, Leo and Scorpio) who are born between the 9th and 13th of their respective birth months will likely experience a lot of confusion from Neptune making a negative aspect to their Sun. This really causes a meltdown of their identity and a necessary one, that will later be followed by a remaking of themselves that is free from some of the confining self-limitations they are now experiencing.

We see that ultimately all astrological transits are good. But the negative ones are the ones that we resist initially because they usually go against our plans or expectations or create unwanted events to transpire. But that is the nature of life, isn’t it? We are constantly being asked to grow in new directions and that implies letting go of the old.

52 Cards will Tell you the Truth!
One of the golden rules for interpretation that will help you be more accurate

Have you ever felt that your ability to predict using the cards could be better? Or that you could be more accurate in identifying people’s traits based upon their cards? I think that if you gain an understanding of the principle of this article, you will do much better in both areas, and in using the cards in general.

I love the card system. It will always tell us the truth. People will tell you all kinds of things. But the cards never lie. They tell what is really going on, if you know where to look and how to interpret them correctly.

The number one golden rule of card interpretation that really is the key that we all need to get to be good at it is this:
The cards are subjective, not objective. Put in other words, the cards will tell you how a certain person is experiencing life, not what that experience is. This begs further explanation.

First of all, there is no card that absolutely means a certain event will happen. There is no ‘death card’, ‘divorce card’, or ‘millionaire card’ that will always show up in just that way. There are cards that we label as such, for sure. However, all these cards can show up in many different ways for a certain person. For example, the A♠ is often called the Death Card. But that card can mean so many different things. For example, it could mean getting a new job, or having a secret about something. The 5♥ and 9♥ are commonly known as divorce cards. However, did you know that these same cards can also indicate marriage? In case you can’t see this, let me explain. The 5♥ really means a change in relationship status or a change of residence. Both divorce and marriage constitute a change. And marriage often involves a change of residence. The 9♥ really means an ending of something related to another person or relationships in general. It can also mean the fulfillment of something important, connected to relationship. Therefore, a 9♥ can mean the ending of being single and the fulfillment of the desire to have a marriage, just as much as it can mean the ending of a current marriage or relationship.

So, the first thing must consider whenever we are reading someone’s cards is ‘how much do we know about this person?’ We absolutely need some reference information about someone in order to make an accurate assessment of what the cards are telling us. If you see a 9♥ or 5♥, wouldn’t it be nice to know if the person you are reading for is currently married or single? It makes all the difference in the world.

The more we know about someone, the more accurate we can be with their card readings. But there is another side to this, one that is equally important. If you see cards in a person’s spread that seem to contradict what you see happening to them, you will benefit by taking a closer look. For example, and please forgive me for this example because it is old and a little worn out, O.J. Simpson was born on July 9, 1947. The death of his wife Nicole occurred in his Neptune period of his age 46 year. I remember looking carefully at his cards when that tragic double homicide occurred. I was looking in O.J.’s spreads for cards of tragedy and loss. Instead, I found cards of successful completion of a plan (10♣/8♣ Pluto and Result) and needing money (for attorneys, A♦ in Neptune). This event was what really inspired me to look closer at the cards I saw. What O.J. said had happened and what had actually happened and what the cards said all seemed to contradict. In the end, I believe the cards told the truth, as they always have.

Events that we may interpret as tragic can actually be a victory for the person involved. But to know that, we would need to know what they are really thinking or really wanting. When George Bush senior and Bill Clinton were both competing for who would be president, they were both in the Pinnacle Year. Now, the Pinnacle Year can be a major transition year for anyone and for both Bush and Clinton it was. Bush transitioned out of the White House, while Clinton transitioned in. I would actually guess that Bush did not really want to be reelected that year. It certainly appeared that way, by the way he campaigned in such a lackluster manner. And again, the cards told us the real truth, which was that Bush was wanting to transition out of the job as president.

The cards that show up for any person at any given time only tell us one thing – what is going on for them personally. We may see success externally but if the cards they have are one of trouble or challenge, we know that this is what is going on for them on a personal level. This is what I mean when I say the cards are subjective, not objective. And if we are to truly know what their cards are saying, we have to at least attempt to get inside their head.

The other side of this is that often the cards will tell you what the person involved will not. People have many reasons for not sharing the whole truth about a situation. Usually it is because they do not want to
look bad or because they are afraid of what other people will think of them. Or perhaps we don’t tell the truth because we are afraid of the consequences of others knowing. This is true for most of us. Even if we are telling the truth, we may withhold parts, parts that we don't want to share for one of the above reasons. The cards can reveal things like secret affairs, unhappiness, health and work problems, dissatisfaction with a job or relationship and other important information that may be withheld.

Whenever I meet someone, be that a client or just an acquaintance, as soon as I know their birthday, I begin to know them better. For example, I recently had a client who was a J♣. During the reading I asked him who, among the 3-4 women he gave me to look at, was he actually sleeping with. He said one of them and told me which. But knowing he was a Jack and seeing also in his astrology chart a propensity to stretch or misdirect the truth, I held reservations. It wasn’t necessarily important to me that he be honest about this. I told him what I needed to tell him anyway and I think we had a great reading. A little voice told me, however, that there were things he wasn’t sharing with me. I would be likely to doubt things that most Jacks would say, and a few other cards as well. I myself have been a consummate liar at different points in my life and I am familiar with how it works from my direct experience.

It is comforting to know that the cards can be such a source of truth, especially in a world today where the truth is so undervalued.

**A Closer Look at the Presidential Race**

I always wait till about this point in the presidential race before I say anything. It takes this long to sort out the real candidates from the hopefuls. And now we are really looking at only three people so it is a lot more manageable. So, today, March 2, 2008 we only have:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Date of Birth</th>
<th>Cards</th>
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<tr>
<td>Hillary Clinton</td>
<td>October 26, 1947</td>
<td>9♥/Q♣/K♣</td>
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<td>Barack Obama</td>
<td>August 4, 1961</td>
<td>9♦ Leo</td>
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<tr>
<td>John McCain</td>
<td>August 29, 1936</td>
<td>10♥/10♦</td>
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Actually, at this point it is looking a lot like Hillary will lose the Democratic bid to Barack, the elections next week will tell the tale. Just to get started, I have felt that Barack would beat Hillary because he is the direct Saturn Card in her Life Spread. Both of their yearly spreads are inconclusive but this one fact is enough to make me think that no matter what Hillary does, that Barack will come out ahead. Here, in the final days of the bid for the Democrat majority, Hillary seems to be almost desperate. Unfortunately it actually makes her appear weaker to try and attack Obama the way she has lately. We keep seeing her release ‘smear campaign’ type announcements. Apparently she does have support in the media because you see each and every one of her Obama put-downs in the news. But each time, it seems to backfire. I really think this is because he is Saturn to her.

What is interesting here is that whether Barack or Hillary win the democratic bid, they would have to face John McCain. And what is interesting about that is that both Hillary and Barack are Moon to McCain, as follows:

Barack Obama 9♦ is Moon to John McCain’s 10♦
Hillary Clinton’s 9♥ is Moon to John McCain’s 10♥

It has proven itself time and time again, that it is nearly impossible to beat someone who we are Moon to. So, it might not really matter whether Barack or Hillary wins. McCain will become president. Personally I would hate to see McCain become president. He is the same birthday as Michael Jackson and I am afraid, just as crazy. I like him on one level. He has a nice face. But much like our current president, I don’t think
he has any real substance. I would love to see Barack win but I have my doubts that this will happen. Let’s take a closer look at their cards.

Card Analysis

I am assuming here that Barack will win against Hillary. I may regret this later but here goes anyway! If we look at both McCain’s and Obama’s cards for their next year, which is the year the presidential election occurs, we can make inferences about what may occur.

Here are first, Obama’s cards for the coming year.

The election will occur in Obama’s Venus period (November 7th, remember?). Neither the Long Range or other year-long cards show anything amazing or outstanding. And the card in Venus are not so strong, though his Mercury cards are. Overall, I would not say this is a powerful year for him.

Now, look at McCain’s cards:

The election will also occur in McCain’s Venus period. And his cards are equally as mediocre as Obama’s. He does, however, have a 10♠ Long Range and that in itself is a pretty strong indicator of success for this year, and is a much more powerful card than Obama’s 4♥ Long Range.

Neither of these spreads is an all out conclusive verdict. But McCain’s cards are somewhat better than Obama’s. Add to that the fact that Obama is Moon to McCain and it looks more like McCain is going to win this one.
The funny thing is, if Hillary could beat Obama for the Democratic nomination, she has a fair chance of winning the presidential bid in November. Her Mercury period cards are not that bad but the real clincher is her K♠ Long Range card in her K♣ Planetary Ruling Card spread.

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So, who do I think will win the presidential election? My best guess would be as follows:

John McCain has the best influences overall. Barack Obama is next in line and could win if he could overcome being McCain’s Moon card, followed by Hillary Clinton, who, in relationship to the other two has the least chance of all.

However, to be fair, there is no clear winner, card-wise, for this election, as there wasn’t for the election between Bush and Al Gore. It will probably be a race full of ups and downs for each candidate and there are factors at work that could create an upset in one of many ways.

The Amazing Card Stories

Years ago I was giving a reading for a couple. After looking over their cards and the birthdays of people in their lives, I said to them that they would go on a trip at such and such a time and while they were there, they would meet with the husband’s mother. I didn’t think much of it at the time and honestly did not remember telling them what I had. But months later they called me and told me what happened. They said they had taken a vacation in Europe and were actually on a cruise ship going down a river there. On that trip they discovered that the man’s mother was also on the same ship. What was amazing was that they did not know his mother had any plans to do a trip. And the fact that out of all the places in the world, they would meet in Europe on a boat was truly amazing. I was just as amazed as them. But after that, lets just say they were true believers in the cards. So much so, in fact, that the man wrote a testimonial for the publication of The Cards of Your Destiny book.

Just recently I did a reading for another couple. In this case they were facing some troubling financial times. The man had essentially lost his business, which was real-estate related. Now they were being forced to sell their house and move into something more affordable, and to cut back on expenses in every area of their life. Looking in their cards for the coming year I said that the lady would get involved in a business and that her husband would join in to help her in that, and that this business would make them both a lot of money. This was an ‘out-there’ prediction in many ways because in their marriage, she had
never even worked. He was the bread winner and sole provider and it would seem that this would be the only arrangement that would work for them. Just 2 months later, the wife got started in a multi-level business selling a health-related product. At first the husband was skeptical but became interested when he realized how the business end of it worked and when he saw just how much money they could make. Within a week or so, he joined forces with her and before long they were making lots of money and feeling great about it. Again I had really forgotten what I had told them at the reading but they reminded me of it while sharing breakfast together just recently. I know I was looking at their cards when I said that because I do not know of anything astrologically that would pinpoint such a specific interpretation.

The cards never cease to amaze others and me. The more we look at them, the more we see. Perhaps you have a story about the cards that you would like to share. If so, please send that to me, themagi@7thunders.com. I might even publish it!

The Sixes and Responsibility

I have written about Sixes before. They always fascinated me because they were the numbers that I had the most difficulty understanding when I was first studying the cards. I still do not claim to understand them perfectly but it is becoming clear that the word responsibility is the most important word that applies to them. The word, responsibility, can be taken on many levels, and really, for Sixes, it should be taken on all levels. They have responsibilities of a personal nature, a work nature, a health nature, a relationship nature, but also a responsibility to the world at large. That responsibility entails performing a sacred service to humanity – that of bringing something to the masses that they need to further themselves. These are the missionary cards and within every Six person lies the voice that tells them they have something important to contribute to mankind.

Sixes fall on both sides of the responsibility sword. Some, perhaps most, are super-responsible. They consider it their life’s mission to be upstanding and be fair and equitable with those around them. Their individual suit will tell you which specific area they feel this responsibility in. But among these people you will find those who go out of their way to pay their debts. Some, like the 6♣, are actually overly hard on themselves. They have a double-Saturn influence that causes them to be their own judge, jury and executioner. Perhaps all the Sixes have this to some degree. We might assume this since most Sixes react strongly when they feel blamed or attacked about a particular issue. This is likely a response from just how diligent they are with themselves. Others reminding them of their shortcomings can be too much to bear.

Sixes are peace-lovers and peace-makers, but paradoxically, the greatest competitors. They will fight back when they feel wronged and often it does not take much to get on their bad side. And among Sixes we find some of the world’s greatest sports competitors. Take a list of who you think are the best in sports, both current and past and see how many Sixes pop up. It will amaze you.

So, Sixes are aware of responsibility but also need to be aware of responsibility. Blame is the act of throwing responsibility onto others. And when a Six is blaming someone else, they are usually 100% convinced that their blame is just worthy and well founded. They rarely stop to think about how their blame might be a way of avoiding responsibility themselves.

We have an equal number of Sixes who act irresponsible a lot of the time. They are the 6♦ who think everyone else should chip in and pay their debts, or the 6♠ who is angry at others a lot of the time for the many injustices done to them. I must think it is pretty hard to be a Six sometimes though I also see that many of them are the most fortunate and blessed cards in the deck. So, we find Sixes riding both sides of
the fence. All of them cannot avoid responsibility but each of them is working on it from their own unique angle. And this is the area of personal responsibility I am talking about.

On a more universal level, Sixes have a job to do. Each must act as a vessel to bring an important message to the masses. They are each to play out a specific role. But ultimately that role will serve to uplift the rest of us in some important way. The 6♥ will convey a message of love. The 6♣, a message of truth. The 6♦, a message of higher values and the 6♠, a message of will aligned with the divine will. Any Six person may rise to great heights sharing their message with the world. Sometimes the message can be distorted as in the case of someone like Saddam Hussein. But most deliver a message of beauty and love like Amadeus Mozart, whose Planetary Ruling Card is the 6♣.

There are a couple of birthdays that are double-Sixes and for them the qualities of the Six are often exaggerated. Karl Rove, born December 25th, is a 6♥/6♦. He may be one of the most successful political competitors we have ever seen. He shares a birthday with Clara Barton, a famous philanthropist from the past. We also have the Virgo, September 18th birthday, which belongs to Lance Armstrong who holds the world record for the most Tour de France wins in a row. The same two Sixes, 6♣ and 6♠, are for the birthday of May 26th. These birthdays bear the most amount of Six Karma, for better or worse. Six does not seem like such an important number but we cannot doubt their contributions to our world, nor the impact they make on all of us. They are the living, breathing representatives of the Lord of Responsibility, Saturn, himself.

The Way of the Spiritual Warrior

Even without your permission, there is a war taking place and you are in it. All of us are embattled in a struggle for our lives, for our very existence. It is do or die, win or be defeated, which ultimately means death. Most of us think that war is our daily life struggle with our external circumstances such as our job, our relationship, money, and health. We all generally agree that this is where our biggest life battle is happening. We fight each day to have things in our life go a certain way. We each have good reasons too, for wanting life to turn out a certain way for us. Often we want a better life for our children. But just as often it is so that we can have our dreams come true, whatever they may be. But there are some among us whose daily struggle is simply for survival. Just paying the bills and dealing with ordinary situations has become an endless struggle. What are your areas of struggle? Where do you fight your many battles on a daily basis? Is it about your job, finances, love life, or other family relationships? These are the most common but each of us has a particular set of areas with particular emphasis. I also ask you this – what would it be worth to you to finally become victorious over all your struggles? Can you even imagine what that would be like?

The word spiritual means only one thing to me. It refers to that which is within us, not without. To be acting in a spiritual manner, or to be spiritual, is to look within for our answers instead of trying to change the world outside of us. The daily struggles that are part of our lives are, for the most part, external struggles. They have external solutions, or so we believe. We never stop to notice that even when one struggle is overcome, that it is quickly replaced by another, equally annoying or difficult struggle or problem. We rarely stop and look at our lives from a perspective outside of us to see, in a more objective fashion, just how our lives are doomed to misery. We rarely are willing to admit that the way we are living our life is not working. We do not notice how our life is getting worse each month, each year, how we are just more tired and more cut off from whatever our life might have been if our dreams had come through, or if things had turned out the way we had planned them. What is happening here? Why is our life becoming smaller, and worse as time goes by?
I say that the real struggle is within us, not outside. And I say that the true enemy is within us as well. There is one enemy that is at the root of all our problems and struggles in life. That enemy is determined to defeat us and will stop at nothing to accomplish its ends. It would have us lose all of our relationships. It cares not about anyone or anything else but itself. It prides itself and grows stronger by making others, even those that we love dearly, wrong. It makes them wrong and in doing so, makes itself right. It does not care how much it hurts others in the process, as long as its insatiable desire to feel better is filled.

Enemy number one would steal all our energy, time, and goodness. As long as it survives and thrives, it does not even care about us or others in our life. Even if we die in the process, it will not stop. It is the very essence of selfishness and success at all costs. It’s own survival is all that it cares about. Period.

This enemy is none other than our mind and our ego identification with it. And this enemy is out to kill you, and everything you love. And if you allow it to continue unchecked, it will do just that. As long as you remain identified with your mind, your thoughts, your past and future, you have no choice but to do things that will be hateful and hurtful, both to your friends, family and associates, and to your own existence. No one who is in the grips of their mind and ego can really help themselves. All the solutions they come up with are also from this same mind/ego. Is it any wonder that no progress is made? More than that, the severity of the negativity increases as time goes by. The mind successfully avoids anything that would threaten its dominion over us. It is extremely devious and cunning, as well as tenacious and resourceful. If you plan to get your life back, you had better be prepared for the fight of your life, literally.

Few are truly prepared for this battle. Most are really unaware of who the enemy is. They are so identified with their mind and ego that they do not know that any other reality even exists. However, within all of us lies our true nature and it is ever shining forth and calling us on. We somehow know that life was meant to be better than the endless and futile struggle we find ourselves in. We feel guilty about all the wrongs we have caused others but we cannot seem to control ourselves.

I was 23 years old when I met my guru and moved to Pennsylvania to become a full time resident and practitioner of his teachings. My life had become one of depression and negativity, even though I was only 23 years old. I had even contemplated suicide. When my teacher appeared I knew instinctively that I needed to follow his teachings. I also knew that there were no other alternatives for me. My life depended upon my somehow being different. Otherwise, it was futile and I might as well be dead. Living in the ashram was extremely difficult. It was regimented and involved consistency and hard work on my part, two traits that I had rarely displayed up to that point. I resisted everything and keep brooding internally against the very structure I had committed to using for my own personal growth. One day, after contracting a fever for four days, I had a realization. I realized that it was my mind that was my real problem. I saw that it was my resistance to the program that was the problem. Finally I realized, in that moment, that mind was trying to kill me. I made a decision that day that changed my life. I decided, and more than that, I made a commitment to myself, that whatever I did not want to do, I would do anyway. Whatever my mind resisted doing, I would just throw myself into, 100% and do it. The saying, “Just do it” would be very appropriate because that is exactly what I did. I suffered a lot after that. I made myself do things that I resisted. I dropped my judgments, resistance, negative emotions and stories about my life. I just got in there and did whatever there was to be done. And within a few months, my life changed dramatically. I regained my life and love of life. I defeated my mind and ego, at least achieved a major victory.

This is the battle we all fight. Even when we are struggling with external situations, the real fight is in our ego/mind. It is reality that we resist each day and hour and minute. Stress and suffering are no more than the difference between what is and what we want it to be. We let our mind, with its future projections of happiness at some future date, rob our ability to enjoy whatever is happening right now. We keep trying
to live in the future, or the past. But the simple truth is that we can only live in the NOW. Pain and suffering exist only in the mind/ego. It is a simple truth, yet profound in its depth and magnitude.

I was driving across the United States, traveling from California to North Carolina. It was a long trip and I was experimenting with seeing if I could keep my attention in the NOW instead on my mind with its thoughts of past and future. It was not working all that well but I decided to just observe how my mind works and do the best I could. As I was driving, one thought kept creeping in. I kept fantasizing about eating a meal at a Kentucky Fried Chicken. I love the chicken there, though I rarely eat there, but I kept thinking about it even though I would immediately release the thought and get back to being in the NOW.

About twenty minutes later I took an exit to get some gas and right there before me was a Kentucky Fried Chicken restaurant. I thought that was interesting and decided to go in and eat. I went in, ordered a meal to go and went back out to my car. Then it struck me. Here I had fantasized about this great meal and had actually ordered it and got it. But was I allowing myself to enjoy it, to experience it? No. I was already planning my next move, in this case to get in the car and start driving again. I realized that I would not be able to really enjoy that meal while I was driving because I would be trying to do too much at the same time. But I could see that this is how my mind works. Once I have something, I want something else. I never stop to really take in the enjoyment of the thing I just acquired. I decided to stop and just eat, and I really enjoyed that meal, though even while eating I could see my mind constantly running into the past and future, wanting me to not be HERE or NOW.

Later in that same trip, I had an experience of being in the now. Though it lasted but a brief few seconds, it showed me the truth in a profound way. I wasn’t doing anything important in particular. I was driving my car at the time it occurred. But in those few seconds I experienced what it is like to be present and not under the dominion of my ego/mind. It is an experience that defies description really. All I can say about it is that the NOW has everything I ever wanted or needed in it. And when I say everything, I mean everything. It is a cosmic joke of vast proportions that we humans have a mind but are enslaved by it. In truth, our mind is a fantastic machine created for our use on the plane of matter and duality. But our identification with it has caused this beautiful creation to become an evil and despicable master.

The true spiritual warrior is the person who stops fighting the world around them and takes on the battle of their lives – the fight to regain dominance over their mind/ego. Anytime you or I are fighting someone or something in our world, we are, at that moment, enslaved by our mind/ego. Sadly for some of us, this is occurring constantly. And nearly all of us can have no real inner peace because of the constant chatter of our ego/mind. The world needs more spiritual warriors and it needs them NOW. I hope you will enlist yourself in your personal battle to become realized – which ultimately means, to become real and live in the HERE and NOW.

Exploring Your Life Spread Cards

One of the greatest books about the cards is Sacred Symbols of the Ancients by Florence Campbell and Edith Randall. Unfortunately that book is out of print with an uncertain future. If you have a copy, you are fortunate because of some of the unique information it contains. From my own perspective, the most valuable part of it is the interpretations given for the Life Spread cards for each Birth Card. Much of what the ladies wrote in there was the result of years of experience in studying people and doing readings for them. Some of it was also analytical, that is to say, coming from the meaning and position of the card from a pure theoretical basis. In practice, the theoretical should match the empirical. That means that if your understanding of the meaning of the cards and their positions is accurate, it should match up with how it shows up in real life. I am going to present here some guidelines for interpreting your Life Spread cards. I will not be giving you specific interpretations for each card in every position. That would end up
being a total of 468 interpretations if I included the Pluto and Result Card. Instead, I will give you suggestions and guidelines and point to you resources that can help you interpret them yourself.

The main resource we will use for this is the Cards of Your Destiny book. The reason for this is that in that book you have interpretations for all the cards in every possible position. You also have a basic or general interpretation for each card. This basic interpretation often gives additional information about the card that may not necessarily appear in the positional interpretation of the same card. In other works, if you are reading, let’s say, the J♦ in Mars, which is what the 7♠ Birth Card person has in their Life Spread, the interpretation of the J♦ in Mars in the Cards of Your Destiny book may not mention some aspects of the J♦ that are mentioned in the basic interpretation. It is a good idea while you are doing this to have everything you can find about the card in question at your disposal.

Use the interpretation in the Cards of Your Destiny book for the yearly spreads. Then, just imagine the same interpretation extended over the period of your entire life. That is the main technique I am suggesting here. I will, however, offer some other tidbits here to add to what you find in this manner.

**Your Life Spread Mercury Card**

This card has a lot more importance than one would initially think. It is your Mercury card and as such, refers to your thinking and communications in some way. It may reflect something about your mind or mental capacity. For example, a 7♥ person has the 7♦ in Mercury. Though not immediately apparent, this 7♦ in Mercury gives many 7♥ people an uncanny ability to be good money managers and business people, something you would not normally associate with someone of the Heart suit. One example is Bill Gates, arguably the richest man on the planet, who is a 7♥ Birth Card! As another example, the J♠ has the 8♣ as their Life Spread Mercury Card. Here we have a card who is playful and perhaps deceitful at times, but who has an incredibly powerful mind capable of achieving great feats of mental prowess. Look at Mel Gibson, one of our more prominent J♠ people. He is not only a great actor but easily moved into the roles of director and producer. Any card with a strong mental card in Mercury will have a great mind that can bring a lot of success in their lives. This includes the 2♣, Q♥, Q♠, 6♥ and 8♥, just to mention a few. But whatever the Mercury card is, it does reflect, on some level the quality of the mind or communications. The Q♦ Life Spread Mercury card is the 5♥. Is it no wonder that they display a sort of perpetual dissatisfaction in the area of relationships? The 5♥ in the mind can cause such a result.

So, we have the mind connection given in Mercury. But the Mercury card has much more significance than that. The reason for this is that this card is also your Long Range Card for the first seven years of your life and it is the Life Spread card that governs the first thirteen years of your life. This is evident in Sacred Symbols of the Ancients where they often refer to early childhood when speaking about this card. The same Mercury card is also the Long Range card for the first year of our life. If we just look at how important this card is, and how it predominates in the early, developmental years, we see that its importance to our psychological makeup is paramount. One could easily say that this card is our Long Range card for life.

However you interpret this card for yourself, keep in mind this importance and the fact that it has an effect on our mentality and communications. Here are a few other hints to help you.

1. If your Life Spread Mercury card is a face card, such as a Jack, Queen or King, know that your early childhood years were more or less dominated by an individual. This is usually a parent,
grandparent or sibling. For example, the A♦ Birth Card has a Q♦ as their Life Spread Mercury card. What this means is that most A♦ people had a powerful mother, usually a businesswoman, that was a major force in their early years.

2. Look at this Mercury card as being the influence that predominated during your childhood and see how that is connected with how you think now. If the card is even in number, it is more likely that your childhood was peaceful or successful. If the card is odd-numbered, it is likely that your childhood was rocky, insecure or problematic. Look at the 9♣ Mercury card and the 3♠ Mercury card. Both are Nines, usually representing losses of some kind at an early age. Compare that with the 4♠ and J♠, both of whom have powerful and successful cards in Mercury.

Our childhood is where we develop our attitudes towards life and other specific areas of life. Knowing this, you can see that the Mercury card in the Life Spread may be the most important one of all.

**Your Life Spread Venus Card**

The Venus card is your Life Spread governs the second, 7-year period but also the 2nd, 13-year period of your life. Essentially it governs the period of life where we often have our first romantic attractions to the opposite sex and the period where we first enter into school. However, the Venus card does not signify our mental capacities in any way, as the Mercury card does. Instead it generally focuses on our choice of partners, our way of being in close relationships and any artistic gifts we might have. Like the Mercury and other cards, even-numbered cards in Venus tell of ease or less stress and confusion in these areas while odd-numbered cards in Venus point to inner conflict or a changeable nature. In a general sense, one could say that:

1. Having an Ace in Venus would make one more selfishly oriented when it comes to love, or their choices in love and marriage will always have a more selfish motive attached to it.
2. Having a Two in Venus is a gift, making the person very love and friendship oriented and can give them the ability to be the perfect partner.
3. Having a Three in Venus can be associated with restlessness and uncertainty around relationships. A person with a Three can be a serial-monogamist or someone who cannot make a commitment to begin with. This is the classic, ‘the grass is always greener’ aspect. This card can even indicate sexual preference uncertainty or indecision. On the positive side, it often bestows artistic ability.
4. Having a Four in Venus means that you actually love and enjoy the stability and security of home, marriage and close friends. You are very marriage-able, even though other cards in your Life Spread may make it hard for you to get to the altar. Take the K♣ as a good example of this.
5. Having a Five in Venus makes you restless in love. You may never be able to be satisfied. Or, you want to travel to meet lovers or have lovers or partners at a great distance. Or, all the above. It can be sign that you cannot commit as well.
6. Having a Six in Venus means you tend to stay with one partner for a long time and that many of your relationships are destined, or fated. This person may also feel helpless about being able to actually create a relationship and feel that they have to just wait for someone to show up in their lives. Sometimes the Karma implied in this number can bring Karmic relationships of both the positive and negative kind.
7. Having a Seven in Venus can be quite a challenge since Sevens are the spiritual challenge cards of the deck. It can point to negative romantic experiences as a young adult that color that person’s views of relationships. The 3♦ is a good example, having the 7♥ in Venus in their Life Spread. This points to fears of abandonment and betrayal that color many of their relationship experiences.
It also bestows, however, the ability to give love unconditionally to friends and others, though not usually to their romantic partners.

8. Having an Eight in Venus points to an attraction to powerful people and having a lot of romantic power to use in finding partners. Often they will also attract powerful partners, with whom they could have power struggles. It is a gift for the most part but one that must be used wisely if one is to create happiness in love with it. It can easily be abused, and often is. This card can also bring success with the public.

9. Having a Nine in Venus points to early disappointments in love and a more or less co-dependent attitude towards love in general. Victim/savior partnerships and friendships are often the result. There is, of course, the ability and desire to love unconditionally. But just as easy, this person will offer a blind eye to other’s faults and thus perpetuate a series of unsuccessful relationships. This is a good card for those in the helping professions and can bestow artistic ability.

10. Having a Ten in Venus brings success with groups and the public and usually creates a more or less social person. They might have a large family or work for a large organization. Life those with an Ace in Venus, their choices may ultimately reflect a more or less selfish or ulterior motive.

11. Those with a Jack in Venus are often attracted to more off-beat and unusual partners. Women who have a Jack in Venus often go for the ‘bad boys’ or those who are flirting with the rules in life. This can ultimately lead to a relationship where their partner steals from them or deceives them in some way. 4♣ women are known to have this Karma. But sometimes they just like the motorcycle guys.

12. Having a Queen or King in Venus often indicates a desire for a partner who is prominent in some way, or highly successful. These cards also bestow a certain mastery over others and gives them the power to be very successful through the way they handle others in their life, both personally and professionally. Also it is likely that these individuals have a creative gift and many of them are successful artists, musicians, writers, etc.

Your Life Spread Mars Card

One of the first things to mention about our Mars card is that it is a general indicator for our lifetime success or failure in legal battles. If your Life Spread Mars card is odd-numbered you may want to think twice before entering into a legal suits. Aside from that, our Mars card tells us about the period of our life from ages 26-38 and how our aggressive or passionate energies are expressed in our lives. Those with power cards (Eights, Tens, Queens and Kings) in Mars often do well in legal fights. The Q♥ is a sterling example of this, having the K♠, the most powerful card in the deck, as their Mars card. The 4♣, 9♦, 6♦ and 3♥ are other examples of those with powerful Mars cards. Where is your passion often directed? Look at your Mars card for clues. The 10♦ has the A♦ in Mars. It is easy to see why they might be very ambitious about making money. The K♥ has a 4♠ in Mars. You can see how a lot of their passion can be directed into learning and researching. Those with a Three in Mars are very creative and those with a Five are super-restless or changeable. Those with a Six in Mars can feel like they get into a rut. Mars energy wants to move ahead. The Six wants to keep things as they are. In this, you can see the contradiction that makes for the conflict. However, these people can also be very competitive. Anyone with a Seven in Mars will have to learn how to let go of attachment if they are to have success. If they push too hard, the Seven will give them the opposite of what they want. These Sevens point to possible problems associated with being ambitious or passionate, or problems related to too much Mars energy in some form.
Whatever your Mars card, make sure you see that its meaning is related to the drive and ambition of Mars, and also the passion and pure desire nature of the angry planet. For women, the Mars card acts a lot like the Venus card in men’s Life Spreads – it points to the kind of mate they would be attracted to. Venus (female) energy is attracted to Mars (male). It’s as simple as that.

**Your Life Spread Jupiter Card**

Here is your blessing card for life, as well as the card that governs ages 39-51 of your life. It shows the potential of success, both financially and spiritually. Since this governs a major portion of our money-earning years, this card also points to how we might make the most money in our life. In that way it acts like a career indicator, much as the Saturn card does. Our Jupiter card shows where we can have success pretty easily, if we choose to go that route. For example, people who are the 9♦ Birth Card have the J♦ in Jupiter. They often experience great success as promoters or salespeople. They ultimately may not choose that as a career but they do usually realize that they have a gift in this area.

For those with Nines in Jupiter, such as the Q♦ and 7♥, success comes through giving to others. The more they give, the more they get. But usually for this to work, the giving must be without expectation of reward. As you can imagine, Tens in Jupiter have the potential to bring the greatest rewards. However, we often see people like the 8♣, who have the 10♦ in Jupiter, not making a ton of money. It is obvious that even though the potential is there, it takes something else to realize that in the matter plane. Usually what is required is that we focus on that card and essentially do what it suggests. I think that the 8♣ who do focus on business and money-making will find great success simply because they consciously put their energy into that direction.

**When you find Life Spread Cards in your Yearly Spreads – pay attention!**

Recently I was in my Neptune period at Age 54. I had a 3♣ in Neptune in my Birth Card spread and a 7♣ in Neptune in my Planetary Ruling Card spread. As a Q♦ Birth Card, both these cards are found in my Life Spread. The 3♣ is my Venus card and the 7♣ is my Saturn card. I didn’t pay too much attention to this until I was nearly done with my Neptune period but I realized just how significant these two cards impacted me. What dawned on me was just how powerful these two cards were because they came from my Life Spread! First of all, the 7♣ is my Saturn card and every Q♦ has issues with negativity on the mental level. Pessimism and even meanness are part of the Q♦ pattern. But in the Neptune position, this natural inclination towards pessimism and negativity was transferred to the realm of the hidden (Neptune) and illusion. Basically this manifested negatively as vague fears and worries. However, it did also manifest positively as a strong interest in spiritual studies (Eckhart Tolle’s work mainly) and more time spent in meditation.

The 3♣ is my Venus card and all Q♦ must contend with a certain amount of desire for romantic variety, plus worries about not having enough love and affection. This one card causes many Q♦ to be un-marriage-able. And I have certainly experienced the negative and positive influences of this card over the course of my life. In Neptune this card caused me to fantasize a lot about romance and relationships and to have a desire for variety that was above and beyond normal. Fortunately for me, it did not manifest on the material plane but it was certainly a distraction on the mental plane for the whole period. And that’s often the way with Neptune cards. Remember that Neptune is the period of hopes and fears. It is things we secretly hope for, or are secretly afraid will come to pass.
This one experience really drove home the impact that our Life Spread cards have on us when they show up in our yearly readings. And now I will always recommend that one of the first things we do when looking at our yearly spreads is to check for the occurrences of our Life Spread cards and Karma Cards. The way to use this information is as follows:

Examine both your Birth Card’s yearly spread and your Planetary Ruling Card’s yearly spread. Look to see if either of your Karma Cards appears in the spreads. The first Karma Card points to the possibility of difficulties and the second Karma Card to positive experiences. Whatever period either of these appears will mark a time when you will receive either positive or negative karma from them. Now look for the cards in your Life Spread. Focus mainly on just the direct cards in your Birth Card’s Life Spread. The vertical cards may be important too but from my experience it is the direct cards that play the most important role. The direct cards are the only ones mentioned in the Love Cards book so that is the best place to look.

For now, I would probably ignore the Cosmic Lesson and Cosmic Reward cards and any other cards beyond them that are mentioned in Exploring the Little Book of the Seven Thunders. Why, you ask? Well these cards are fairly hard to interpret and often do not have any personal relevance when they appear. I would focus on the cards we can relate to the most.

As you look at your Life Spread cards, read the article in this and the past newsletter. See if you can identify which personal issues and character traits correspond to each of your Life Spread cards. You need to identify these before you can really interpret what they will mean when they show up in your yearly spreads.

As you find occurrences of your Life Spread cards in your yearly spreads, be aware of the issues that each card represents for you personally and see how that is, or will be expressed in the time period where it shows up.

Here are a couple of examples of what you might find:

What is your Life Spread Saturn card appears as your Long Range card for the year? This would tell you that you will be dealing with this Saturn issue of yours in a big way in the current year. If I had my ♦ as a Long Range card, it would tell me that this year I will be dealing with my tendency towards pessimism and negativity. Essentially this could be a year in which I really handle that part of myself.

What is your Planetary Ruling Card is your Long Range card in your Birth Card’s yearly spread for the current year? This would tell you that your focus is going to be on that part of your personality that is represented by your Planetary Ruling Card. This happens frequently, and even the reverse can happen.

You have your Birth Card be the Long Range card in your Planetary Ruling Card’s yearly spread. These sorts of events point to a certain focus on a specific part of your overall personality makeup. You will have to get familiar with which parts of your overall personality are described by your Birth Card and Planetary Ruling Card individually to use this. But it is extremely useful when you do that.

Your Life Spread Jupiter card is your Environment Card this year. This would be a pretty powerful culmination of positive forces in your favor, something to take advantage of for sure.

Your Life Spread Pluto card is found in your spread somewhere this year. If it is a year-long influence such as Long Range or Displacement, you can bet that this will be a transformative year for you, one in which you really deal with the issues suggested by your Pluto card. If it falls into a certain period, the same applies but it will be just a limited duration.

Your first Karma Card is your Saturn card in this year’s spread. This could be a particularly challenging time period and year. Here you will be faced with the issues represented by your first Karma Card, but in a more challenging way because of Saturn’s pressure. This may not bother you at all if you have already made peace with your first Karma Card. But if not, this could be a very difficult period.
I hope these examples give you something to work with and explore. I think the yearly spreads take on lots more meaning when you find your Life Spread cards located there. You find out that your life has a certain schedule, one in which you know ahead of time when you will be experiencing the various elements of your birth pattern for your spiritual development.

Exploring Your Life Spread Cards – Part Two

**Your Life Spread Saturn Card**

This is the first of our ‘lesson’ cards, the other being the Pluto card. Besides being a symbol for the period of life that begins at Age 52 and ends at Age 65, our Saturn card represents one of our challenge cards in this lifetime. Essentially, it can be interpreted much like our first Karma Card, that is as being an influence that we tended to express on the negative side in our former lifetimes and now needs to be upgraded to a higher level through intention and determination. This card may also represent areas of life where we tend to have ‘bad luck’ or negative experiences of certain types on a consistent basis. In any case, this energy can certainly be upgraded to a positive expression through our own personal efforts. What Saturn demands of us all is that we are more aware of our actions and more responsible. Therefore, our Saturn card may represent an area where we have been irresponsible in past lives.

Even numbered cards in Saturn, such as Fours and Eights, are indications for the most part of a lessened karmic burden. Cards that have these Saturn cards find it easier in most cases to overcome life challenges. The K♣, for example, has the 8♠ in Saturn. Through determination and focused mental intentions, they can overcome any problems. The 9♦ has the 4♥ in Saturn. Normally this would be a pretty good card to have. But for the 9♦, this 4♥ represents family burdens and responsibilities that are out of the ordinary. Still, if they are willing to put in the work required, there is always the ability to overcome the challenges presented, as there is with all Fours or Eights in Saturn.

Heart cards, and especially the odd-numbered Heart cards in Saturn, represent some of the most difficult relationship challenges in the deck. Among them are the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Birth Card</th>
<th>Card in Saturn</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7♥</td>
<td>7♥ - fear of abandonment or betrayal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A♥</td>
<td>6♦ - inner loneliness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3♥</td>
<td>6♠ - inner fear and uncertainty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5♥</td>
<td>10♦ - karmic divorce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9♥</td>
<td>A♦ - karmic divorce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q♥</td>
<td>4♦ - karmic divorce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Q♥ - pleasure comes at a high price</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6♥ - heavy fated relationships</td>
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Similarly, odd-numbered Diamond cards would indicate financial karma, mostly related to fears of not having enough or a sense of poverty. For example, the 4♠ has the A♦ in Saturn and must overcome a powerful sense of poverty before they can attain peace of mind financially. The same applies for Clubs
and Spades. But with Clubs it is about the status of the mind and for Spades it will mostly be about health. My own Birth Card, the Q♦, has the 7♣ in Saturn. For all of us Q♦ this represents a sense of negative thinking and speaking that we must overcome. Thinking positively instead of negatively has been one of my own biggest challenges in this lifetime.

Probably the heaviest karmic cards we find in Saturn are the Sixes. Sixes already carry a Saturn energy to them so when they are placed in Saturn they become a double-Saturn or double-karmic influence. The 9♠ has the 6♥ in Saturn (karmic relationships), the 6♥ has the 6♦ in Saturn (financial karma), the J♠ has the 6♣ in Saturn (be careful what you say), and the 4♥ has the 6♠ in Saturn (health considerations cannot be overlooked).

Your Life Spread Uranus and Neptune Cards

Our Life Spread Uranus Card is not so significant in the first half of our life. It may represent some karma you have with real estate, either positive or negative. And it has an influence related to groups that we belong to. For example the A♣ has the 7♥ in Uranus. The 7♥ has an 8♠ first Karma Card so money in real estate is a possibility. In addition, A♣ like to be part of groups who are connected by spiritual information (7♠).

Our Neptune Life Spread card represents our overall hopes fears for our life and the success or failure of overseas or foreign country enterprises and adventures. The 4♣, for example, can have a lot of success in foreign countries due to their 10♦ in Neptune. It may also tell you your life-long hopes and fears. For example, the 3♦ has the 9♠ in Neptune. They might hope for enlightenment and also be very afraid of things ending in their life, as well as having a more pronounced fear of death.

The Uranus period of life begins around Age 65 and extends to Age 78. The Neptune period begins around Age 78 and extends till death. Actually the start and end of these periods can vary, depending upon how long a person lives but these ages are pretty accurate in most cases. Together, these two periods represent the last years of our life and we look at both the Uranus and Neptune cards as indicators of what the last years of our life will be like. Some cards, like the 2♦, have the 10♦ in Uranus and the 8♠ in Neptune. For most 2♦, their last years tend to be wealthy years with good health. The 8♠ also guarantee a relatively long life for most 2♦. Contrast that with the A♠ who has the 7♥ and 7♦ in Uranus and Neptune. Many A♠ end up lonely and broke in their latter years, especially if they have not turned their attention to the spiritual side of things by then. Q♠ also, tend to have health challenges in their latter years with the 7♦ in Uranus and the 5♠ in Neptune.

Your Life Spread Pluto and Result Cards

The Pluto and Result (also called the Cosmic Reward) Cards in our Life Spread act as a pair, just as they do in the yearly spreads. They affect our entire lifetime, not just a 13-year period. Together they define something we must transform over the course of our life. So, it is helpful to interpret them together to describe this challenge we face. Here are a
few examples.

The 2♠ person has the 3♥/A♣ as Pluto/Result in their Life Spread. This indicates how mental (3) they are about their love life (♥) and the A♣ even adds to this since the A♣ is the Venus (♥) card in the Mercury (3) line of the Grand Solar Spread. All in all, the major challenge for 2♠ people is to not think so much about love but to learn to feel more and think less.

The Q♣ person has the J♥/9♣ as Pluto and Result Cards in their Life Spread. Sacrifices for children and being willing to let go of their concepts and ideas are intertwined. Many Q♣ people experience the death of a child. But all of them have challenges relating to children (J♥) and their concepts (9♣) about motherhood.

The 2♦ person has the A♥/A♦ as their Pluto/Result combo in the Life Spread. This A♥ Pluto symbolizes their difficulties in love. They have a hard time loving themselves and feel a sense of loneliness that pervades their lives. Sometimes the Pluto/Result indicates a choice that needs to be made. In this case it would be the choice between love and money. 2♦, like 2♠ and the other Twos, are very mentally oriented. This orientation makes emotional challenges all the more challenging and harder to grasp or work with. It is much easier for a 2♦ to be successful in business than in love, and that is generally the direction they take.

Some other general guidelines in interpreting the Pluto/Result Cards are as follows:

If the Pluto Card is a Jack, there can be issues surrounding honesty that need to be addressed by the person.

If the Pluto Card is a Four, the transformation will probably relate to security needs and the tendency to create struggle in life.

If the Pluto Card is a Six, the issue is about being responsible, in the area indicated by the suit of the Six.

If the Pluto Card is a Seven, the issue is about gratitude and faith. This person needs to transform to a higher perspective in the area indicated by the suit of the Seven.

If the Pluto Card is an Eight, King, or Queen, the issues are likely related to power, authority and responsibility. Some will be irresponsible and need to learn responsibility and others may be arrogant and overbearing to others, or they may need to discover power that they do not believe they actually possess.

If the Pluto Card is a Two, their challenge is about relationship or partnership in some way. Again, the suit of that Two will further describe the details of that challenge.

Fives are easy, freedom and restlessness. More like the fear of losing their freedom.

The Result Card, however, also serves a second function in the Life Spread. It tells of a quality that we will attain by the end of our life. This doesn’t have to take our entire life to attain but it might. When interpreting this for any Birth Card, always use the highest level of interpretation for it. For example, my Q♣ Result Card is the 9♣. This promises that I will attain non-attachment to material things over the course of my lifetime. So, when you look at your lifetime Result Card, think positive! Isn’t it nice to know that life has a happy ending?
The study of our Life Spread cards is a life-long study. The longer we live, with an awareness of these symbols in mind, the more we learn about ourselves and how well they mirror to us the issues that we face during our stay here.

The Days of the Week Are My Friends.

On my Mercury Day, I am ready to communicate. I plan short trips in my car and catch up on any necessary communications. I am agile and versatile. I don’t take anything too seriously. This is not a day to be feared or revered in any particular way. But things are happening quickly and I remain alert and poised.

On my Venus Day, I think of shopping, especially for beautiful things to adorn myself and my home. I may also buy presents for those I love. I am enjoying my home and those close to me, especially those who live with me. I am a pleasure-seeker this day and anything goes!

On my Mars Day, I am competitive and energetic. I like to go hiking or workout in some way. Even though my Mars Day falls on a Sunday, I will often work because my passion wants to express itself in my work. I am careful with my interactions with others knowing I may come off a little too much! I channel my energies into positive expressions.

On my Jupiter Day, I am open to prosperity and any opportunities that present themselves. I also like do make business agreements and contracts on this day of the week. I plan promotional and money-making activities then and generally open up to ways that prosperity can flow to me in a bigger way. I open myself up more to receive the good things in life that may come on any level.

On my Saturn Day, I am prepared to work. If I just have this attitude of willingness to work for things, it all goes great for me. I schedule my dental and doctor appointments on my Saturn Days. They seem to work best then. I do not expect bad things to happen but I prepare myself to do whatever is required when situations present themselves. In this way, Saturn is my friend.

On my Uranus Day, I am prepared for the unexpected. If things do not work themselves out the way I planned them, I do not take it personally. I know that the universe loves me and any unexpected events are to help dissolve any fixed notions or plans I have made unconsciously. I get to practice having no expectations on my Uranus day. What fun!

On my Neptune Day, I get to dream. I enjoy going to see a matinee that day or make some music. My imagination flies high and I direct it towards the positive. On these days, I dream of what could be, but without attachment. If my Neptune ideas are worth considering, they will still look good tomorrow (on my new Mercury Day!).

If you do not know what days of the week are your personal planetary days, do the Free Destiny Reading application on 7thunders.com. It will tell you, on the daily card reading, what day of the week is ruled by which planet, for your birthday.
9♣ - Becoming Present

Many of you probably know that I am practicing being in the NOW these days as a result of some inner motivation to become more conscious. All of this happened in my 9♠ Long Range year. So, to begin with, those of you who have a deep fear of the 9♠ should note that this powerful, spiritual card could bring rewards in some situations. It is a death card for certain but what or who will die when it appears?

I did have a couple of old friends pass away this past year. But no one really close to me. Still, having people that I knew well at one time, and people who are the same age as I pass away caused me to rethink my life situation, goals and directions. Perhaps that is why I got the message months ago to pursue self-transformation.

The word transformation is often associated with the A♠, by the way. It implies death and rebirth. I was certainly feeling that I was carry around a burden but I did not know what the burden actually was. Once I started listening to CDs by Eckhart Tolle, however, I realized the gist of my situation and what it was about my life that was completely unsatisfactory.

Many spiritual teachers have said that we must ‘die while we are alive.’ But what must die? And how can we die and still be alive? I think it all comes down to our identity. I don’t think many of us even stop to ask, ‘who do I think I am?’ so it might not make much sense to question where our identity is. A good way to test this is to imagine I have just walked up to you and I ask you “Who are you?” What would be your response to that question? Most of us in America would answer by telling what our job is. “I am a secretary.” one might say. Essentially, their sense of ‘who they are’ is defined by what they do, their job. Others would respond with stories from their past, stories that tell them who they are. Many people’s stories are about their problems, both past and present. That is what they want to share with others most readily. Their problems might be health-related, relationship oriented or work related. But when someone keeps telling their stories, I get a feeling that this is who they really think they are. Still other people will define themselves by who they are ‘going to be’ someday. These are the futurist types. “Someday, I will be president of a large corporation.” they might say. In all cases we find that for the greater majority of us, our sense of who we are is defined by concepts and other external and mental factors. Even when we look at those whose identity is tied closely with their work, it all boils down to what they know. ‘I am what I know’ or ‘I am what I know how to do’ sums it up.

When I stop and reflect on this, I can see how this identity is a scary one at best. If I am one of these many concepts or ideas, which are things that can easily be assailed by life events, then I am under constant fear of my identity being destroyed. I have learned that the areas that we fight the hardest against in life are the areas where our identity is most threatened. If you just stop and take an inventory of what things upset you the most, you will see, upon closer examination, that these are the places where you have your identity falsely placed. I have certainly seen this in my life. And now that I am aware of this, I have more of a choice in the matter.

I am grateful for all the things that happen in my life that threaten my ego and my identification with things that are not real. I am happy for the challenges that present themselves to me daily in so many forms. They help me die (9♣) to that false identification that is constantly feeling threatened and surrender to the truth. And the truth is that I am much more than any of those mental projections. I am really that which can only be experienced NOW.
Your Decanate Ruling Cards - Revisited

The cards and astrology are intimately connected in many wonderful ways. One important way is that our Planetary Ruling Cards are derived from our astrological Sun Sign. Take a look, for a minute, at the Planetary Ruling Card of several people you know. First of all, if you look carefully, you will see that each Planetary Ruling Card is a card from the person’s Life Spread, always. Furthermore, it is the card in their Life Spread that corresponds to the planet that governs their Sun Sign, as shown in the list here. A planet rules each sign, and the card in the Life Spread that corresponds to that planet is emphasized, thus the term Planetary Ruling Card. If you were to memorize the table displayed here, you could actually know what a person’s Planetary Ruling Card is without having to look it up.

There is another ruling card that I do not discuss much though I am finding that it holds a lot of significance. The more and more I look at it, the more I see that is it important, especially in the area of relationships. This is called the Decanate Ruling (DR) Card. Like the Planetary Ruling Card, the Decanate Ruling Card is found among the cards in your Life Spread. However, it comes instead from the planetary card that governs the sign of the Decanate you were born under. Which Decanate were you born under? The first thing you need to understand is how Decanates of signs are derived. Each sign of the zodiac is 30 degrees in size. Twelve signs give us the total 360 degrees of the circle that surrounds our planet. But each 30-degree sign can be broken down into three Decanates, each 10 degrees. The first of these three Decanates is governed by the planet that rules that sign naturally. For example, if your birthday is June 24th, the Sun was in Cancer at around 2 degrees of that sign at that time of the year and will be reflected as such in your natal chart. This would make you the first Decanate of Cancer, which is also governed by Cancer. The second Decanate of each sign is governed by the next sign of the same element when progressing through the zodiac in natural order. Below is a table that lists the Decanates of each sign. In order to use this, you must know exactly how many degrees your Sun Sign is. If you do not know this, go to www.astro.com and do one of their Free natal charts and look to see just how many degrees your Sun is of it’s particular Sun Sign. One you know how many degrees your Sun is in it’s sign, you can use the table below to determine which Decanate your Sun is in, and which planet governs that Decanate.

If your birthday was December 6th for example, your Sun sign would be approximately 16 degrees of Sagittarius, making you the second decanate of Sagittarius, in this case governed by Aries, which in turn is governed by the planet Mars. For this birthday, the Decanate Ruling Card will be the Mars Card in their Life Spread. December 6th is a Q♠ and the Mars Card in the Life Spread of the Q♠ is the 3♦. Therefore, a Sagittarius Q♠ will have a DR Card of the 3♦, even though their PR Card is the A♠. I invite all of you Sagittarius Q♠ people out there to look at your 3♦ Card as a secondary ruler and see if you can identify with it and its characteristics. If a person were born on December 18th however, the Sun would be more than 20 degrees in Sagittarius, making it the 3rd Decanate ruled by the sign of Leo, governed by the Sun. Since the Birth Card is the Sun Card, a person in the third Decanate of Sagittarius would have a DR Card that is the same as their Birth Card.
If your birthday falls in the first Decanate of your Sun Sign, your DR Card will be the same as your Planetary Ruling Card, making you a ‘double-ruler’ birthday. This may explain why people in this first Decanate are more dramatic examples of their card. I have always found this to be true. People in the first Decanate of their Sun Sign are what I call the ‘early degree’ people of the zodiac. They are often more dramatic or extreme versions of their card, much in the same way that a Leo person, because of their double Sun/Planetary Ruling Card mix are dramatic versions of their Birth Cards. There are actually a couple of other Decanates that will act in this manner. Those would be the ones that yield a Decanate governed by the sign of Leo. Though not normally considered to stand out in any particular way, you will notice that these people exhibit this same dramatic flair in their personalities. Russell Crowe (April 7th) and Brad Pitt (December 18th) are good examples of this. There are a lot of folks born on December 18th that have ended up in Hollywood or very Leo-like roles, including Steven Spielberg, Katie Holmes, Keith Richards, Christine Aguilera, DMX, and Ray Liotta. You know that this birthday, being a K♥, is going to be even more Kingly with that Leo Decanate behind it.

The Decanate Rulers and Relationships

I realized that I have a double DR Card, because I am in the 2nd Decanate of Cancer, governed by Scorpio that has a double ruler (Mars and Pluto). This makes my DR Cards the 3♠ and J♣. The more I look, the more I see, especially when I see how I connect with people that I meet. My wife Desiree is a K♣/2♠. Since I am a Q♦/A♦, we already have one Moon connection between my A♦ and her K♣. But with the addition of the 3♠ DR Card, we have another Moon connection between her 2♠ and my 3♠. Her DR Card is the 4♦, which yields another Moon connection between her 4♦ and my 3♦ first Karma Card.

I have also noticed that even though there are no direct connections between my Birth Card or Planetary Ruling Card and the 10♣, that I always have a great connection with 10♣ people. Seeing my J♣ DR Card explains just why that works so well, and the fact that they show up as Moon to me. I always know that when I meet a 10♣ that we will get along well and they will appreciate a reading or the information in my books for this reason.

The 3♠ and J♣ DR Cards of mine also point to how I have gotten more involved with creative aspects in my life. I have been a professional musician and artist several times. I designed jewelry and played in many music groups. All in all the DR Cards make a lot of sense for me and play themselves out over and over.

Ben Affleck is a Leo J♣ (August 15th), married to Jennifer Garner (4/17), a 4♣/6♣. His DR Card, being in the 3rd Decanate of his sign, is his Mars Card, the 2♣. I have spoken often about how I see so many 4♣ being happily married to 4♦, which occurs far more often than one would think based on averages. I attribute it to two things – the fact that it is a Neptune connection and the fact that the J♣ has such a fixed...
notion of what the perfect wife is (7♠ in Venus, underlied by the K♦). Because of this fixed notion, it takes a Neptune connection to override it. In the case of Ben and Jennifer, they get two direct Neptune connections when you add the fact that her 6♣ Planetary Ruling Card is Neptune to the 2♣ DR Card of Ben’s. This is a double-whammy for him. Her DR Card is the 6♠, which ends up being double Pluto to him if you look carefully. Though this relationship is highly idealized by him, I am sure she can be very difficult for him at times. And if I were to size this relationship up in a sentence I would say that it is easy for her and challenging for him. But in spite of that, she is a 4♦ and life is never easy for a 4♦, regardless of their circumstances or who they are married to.

David Beckham (5/2/75) is a 4♠ with a 10♦ Planetary Ruling Card. He is married to Victoria who is the same birthday as Jennifer Garner (4♦/6♣ with a 6♠ DR Card). Because David’s DR Card is the 10♥ and because that 10♥ has a J♣ first Karma Card, we see the same Neptune connection apply as with Ben and Jennifer, just not as strong. However, when you hear about David and Victoria’s romance, you get the sense that these two were destined to be together. Interesting that they are both Fours and Fours tend to have to work for everything.

If you haven’t already done so, I would highly recommend figuring out your DR Card or Cards. Also take some time to look up those cards for any people in your life who are really close to you. I am sure you will be surprised at what you discover. If you are doing readings for others, look up their DR Cards. Often the connections you seek are located there. Be aware of who is Moon to your DR Card or Cards and who your DR Cards are Moon to, or karmically connected to. I believe you will discover that you make many connections with others through those cards, both yours and theirs.

It is possible that there are undiscovered distinctions between the Birth Card, Planetary Ruling Card, and Decanate Ruling Cards. Perhaps each of them represents a particular part of our personality or our lifetime Karma. I have yet to see these distinctions though I have an intuition that they exist. For now however, I see that they are very important. So important that I plan to include them in the next revision of my software. I hope you enjoy discovering yours and seeing how they contribute to the way you are in the world and who you connect with.

2008 Presidential Election Update

I generally refrain from being political. Generally it is such a divided topic that there is nothing really that one can say that will make a difference. And in this day in age, our political theater is so governed by hidden financial forces that one wonders if it really even matters who ends up in office. Whichever party is elected, you can bet that we, as the people of this nation, will end up paying more money to support them, that the government will grow and become more meddlesome. If we look ahead, any intelligent person could forecast that the government will eventually take away all our rights and basically have us all be slaves to it, with those in the powerful positions getting all the goodies. I don’t know about you, but I always find something to despise in any elected official. I guess that seeing what happened in this last administration was particularly hard to take. Now, we are literally hated all over the world and gas prices have tripled, all benefiting the current administration and their oil buddies/contractors. How much worse can it get?

That being said, we have news as we wait for the next election. Both candidates have chosen their VPs and their birthdays get added to the mix. Here is what I see so far.

First, the teams:
What generally counts in a contest between two people are Moon connections and Saturn connections. If I am Moon to someone, they are a lot more likely to win if I compete against them. As a matter of fact, most everything the Moon person does to defeat the Sun person, ends up backfiring and helping them. In this regard, Obama’s 9♦ Birth Card is Moon to McCain’s 10♦ PR Card. This may be enough in itself to have McCain win. However, Obama’s Q♠ Karma Card is Saturn to McCain’s 10♥ PR Card. This does tend to make the race more even and harder to predict. But in my opinion, the Moon connection is slightly stronger than the Saturn in this case because of the cards involved, giving McCain the advantage.

Sarah Palin’s cards do not affect Obama’s cards at all, and vice versa. She does not help or hinder McCain’s chances as far as Obama is concerned. With Biden, he is Pluto to her and her 9♠ PR Card owes him in a Karma Card connection to his K♥. If Palin were running against Biden, I think she would lose by a landslide. But this race is not just her and Biden. I sort of figure that the VP selections have less impact on the election, card-wise. If one VP was really a winner over the opposite presidential candidate and the race between the two presidentials was close, like it is in this case, that VP could make the difference. But what we have here is McCain with an edge over Obama.

The other thing to consider is the candidates themselves. I get the feeling that McCain is a clever and cunning adversary, who will say and do anything, as long as he doesn’t get caught (10♥ have the distinction of being the best liars in the deck when they want to). It is my feeling that he will do many things as the election gets closer to get populace on his side and to discredit Obama. The one thing that might help is the debates. The Saturn connection that Obama enjoys over McCain might have the ability to really make a difference in a public debate. He could point out obvious lies or mistakes in McCain’s speaking that could have an impact on the viewers.

This is another election, like the two before it, that is just too close to call. I suppose it will be rare to see elections that are easy to predict. The last one was the one between Bush Sr. and Clinton.

We could add in the Decanate Ruling Cards. Those might make a difference. Obama’s is the J♣ and McCain’s 10♥ owes the J♣ in a Karma Card connection. But then again, that same J♣ is Moon to McCain. McCain is in the first Decanate of Virgo and so he doesn’t have a unique DR Card. So, even with the DR Cards, it is a draw. The end result will probably go to McCain, only because in my opinion, his republican party has more control over the media. We will see how each candidate will use their card and other resources as this election nears.
The Mystic Story of Atlantis
From the Mystic Test Book, by Olney Richmond

The following is from the Mystic Test Book by Olney H. Richmond. It is a neat little ‘story-trick’ that is fun and entertaining to do or watch. I am paraphrasing here, in an attempt to make the instructions more understandable.

As you remove all the face cards from a deck, you begin to tell this story to your audience,

“Once upon a time – many, many ages ago, there was an island in the Atlantic Ocean called Atlantis. It was a very large island, with mountains, and plains, lakes and rivers, upon it, and was cultivated by a busy population.”

“The island was divided into four quarters by large rivers which arose in the highest portion, among the mountains, and from their common source, flowed to the ocean in four directions. These four parts of the island were kingdoms, and four kings thus governed the entire island.”

“At the great city, which was built at the top of the mountain, at the source of these four rivers, the capital of all these kingdoms was located, where the four Kings and their courtiers, and their Queens and wise men used to meet to pass laws and hold council together.”

“One chamber was set apart expressly for the sitting of this High Council, which was held once each month. In this chamber, the four Kings used to sit on the highest row of seats, as such:”

Place the four Kings in a row on the table in any order they may happen to come in.

![Kings on the table]

“Upon the next seats, below the Kings, the Queens were seated, ready to take part in the deliberations, if called upon.”

(While saying this, arrange the four Queens by laying them out directly below the Kings. Arrange the Queens carelessly in such a way that the two center ones shall be the same suit and the same order as the two Kings on the left side, as displayed below. The right hand Queen also, should be the same suit as the King above her, with the two ‘arranged ones’ in the center.)

![Queens on the table]

“On the lowest seats, the Prime Ministers of the court were seated.”
Now lay the four Jacks, so that their suits exactly correspond to the four Kings above them.

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J♥ J♠ J♣ J♦
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“After the Council was over, the various members composing it would change their positions and converse on the subjects considered.”

As you say these words, exchange the right hand queen with the left. Move the two left hand Jacks, in the same order, and exchange them with the right hand ones. Now, the Queens and Jacks should look like this:

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Q♥ Q♠ Q♣ Q♦
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Now exchange any King, Queen or Jack with any other card of the same suit, as much as you please while keeping up a suitable story.

When you feel satisfied, gather up the cards in this exact order. Start with the lower right hand card, in this case the J♠. Place that on top of the card above it, face up, in this case the Q♦. Then take those two and place them on top of the card above, the K♣. Now that the first column is complete, take those three cards and start at the bottom of the next column, the J♥ and place them on top of that. In this manner, stack up all the cards face up. (After you did the exchange mentioned above, the cards will be different than I said, but use those positions for the gather.

“Then they would go to the great banquet hall and would mix further.”

Place the deck, face down, and allow your viewers to cut the deck as many times as they like.

“When the banquet was over, they all retired to their respective quarters of the palace, each King with his Queen and Prime Minister.”

Starting from the top of the deck, remove one card at a time and place them in four areas. The first card in its area, the next card in its area, and continue laying out the cards until you have four piles with three cards in each. If you have done this properly, you will have each pile being all the same suit!
Star Cards
Rebecca Romjin (11/6/1972) and Jerry O’Connel (2/17/1974)

Rebecca, an A♦ with 3♣ and Q♠ Planetary Ruling Cards, has appeared in many movies and television shows. Most notably, she starred in the X-Men series as Mystique, the chameleon woman. Being an A♦, it is likely that marriage and career always present a problem, at least having the same two together. She was first married to John Stamos, 8/19/1963 (7♣), which I am sure was an interesting relationship since their first connection is Uranus. That lasted six years. Then she met Jerry O’Connell (8♦/5♣) and announced their engagement on what would have been the anniversary of her and Stamos’ 7th year together. Apparently she did not waste much time finding someone new.

Jerry likewise has played in many movies and television shows, most notably the TV series, Slider and Crossing Jordan.

These two share a lot more connections than Romjin and Stamos. There are several past-life Venus connections. Between the two, Rebecca is much more marriageable than O’Connell. People of his birthday, including Paris Hilton, Michael Jordan, Bryan White and Lou Diamond Phillips, are generally serial monogamists. So, there are certainly doubts about how long this may last. O’Connell also may be prone to secret affairs with this 5♣ Planetary Ruling Card. But for now, things seem wonderful with the couple recently announcing the upcoming birth of twins!

The Venus Saturn Connection

Venus is the planet of love, sex, sensuality, and pleasure. Saturn is the planet of limitation, rules, discipline, judgment, hardship and often, suffering. Venus is considered the minor benefic planet (Jupiter being the major benefic) and Saturn is considered the major malefic planet. Based upon this, we would tend to think that these two are polar opposites. But both the cards and astrology tell us otherwise. The 7♦ and 9♥ are an interesting couple in the cards. The 7♦ sits in the Venus/Venus location of the Grand Solar Spread. And the 9♥ sits in the Saturn/Saturn location of the same spread. Again, one would think these are polar opposites. And yet, these two are one of the Cosmic Soul Twins in the cards, the other being the A♣ and 2♥. Both the 7♦ and 9♥ move from the Cosmic Soul Twins in the cards, the other being the A♣ and 2♥. Both the 7♦ and 9♥ move from the Venus/Venus spot each year to the Saturn/Saturn spot every other year. In other words, they share the same two spots. During the Saturn/Saturn year they often experience hardships or hard word. During the Venus/Venus year that follows they experience their focus on love, family, sex, etc. It must be an interesting life for these people and they share this Karma even though they are different cards. This special combination shows us, in the cards, that there is some kind of special link between the planets Venus and Saturn.
In astrology we see a similar thing. Every planet has a sign in which it is referred to as ‘exalted.’ A planet in its exalted sign is said to be at its strongest and most positive. Even Saturn, which we normally associate with difficulties, bad Karma, health problems and others, has a sign that it is exalted in. And that sign is Libra, which is the sign that is ruled by Venus. If you have Saturn in Libra in your natal chart, as I do, you have Saturn in its very best sign.

Another astrological connection between Saturn and Venus occurs in Vedic astrology. In that system of astrology, Saturn and Venus are considered ‘great friends.’

These examples show that there is this magical connection between Saturn and Venus. I have been studying the cards for over twenty years now and I notice new things most every year. Just recently I made a new discovery, a new relationship connection so to speak, and one that is found between most of the cards in the deck. Actually only 28 cards in the deck have the opportunity to have this Saturn Venus connection. You can see these cards in the picture here. They are the ones that are on the four outside columns of the Grand Solar Spread. When you start from any of these cards and count upwards, the card that is second in the count is their vertical Venus Card, which is nice. But when you count upwards from their Venus Card to get back to their card, it is five spaces away, or a Saturn connection. Take the 5♦ for example. Locate the 5♦, which is in the far leftmost column. Moving upwards from the 5♦ two spaces you come to the 8♣, which is their vertical Venus Card. Now, starting from the 8♣ and counting upwards you go as far as the A♥, which is their Venus Card and then continue at the bottom to the Q♥ and on to the 5♦, which makes five spaces vertically. This is a Saturn connection. So for every card located in these two outside columns, there is both a Venus and a Saturn connection with two other cards.

Normally a Saturn connection is considered to be difficult, especially if it is found in the Life Spread. However, I am discovering that these specific vertical Saturn connections operate differently, because there is also a Venus connection included with it. Great friendships can be had with people who share this connection. And the Saturn part, though not entirely gone, generally manifests in a much more positive manner that is rarely harsh or judgmental in the way we normally see it. In addition, the Venus connection that is there makes for great friendships. This connection would benefit a marriage or any kind of relationship.
My best example of this, though I am sure you can find some in your own life, is my best friend Joseph Malinak. Once he and I connected, our friendship was cemented and I can honestly say he is the best male friend I have ever had in this life. He is a K♥/2♥ and I am a Q♠/A♦. We have the vertical Venus/Saturn connection twice, both between our Birth Cards and our Planetary Ruling Cards.

The table shown here will make it easier to find which cards share this connection. The Card is the first person and the friend is the second person. The Friend will be the person who is Venus to the Card person and the Card person will be Saturn to the Friend person.

Between these couples there still exists some of the Saturn energies for the Friend person. The Card person will be helpful to the Friend person in some important ways. It might be work or career related, as Saturn has a lot to do with these areas. Or it could manifest in other areas. But again, I do not see this as a negative. As far as Saturn goes, this is the best (easiest, and most positive) of those that exist.

**Star Cards - Jennifer Anniston and John Mayer**

Jennifer Anniston February 11, 1969 A♠/9♠  
John Clayton Mayer October 16, 1977 6♣/Q♥

We all came to love Jennifer Anniston on the Friends television show. She was the all-American girl, nice looking, kind-hearted and easy to like. And I think most of us expected her to have a fairytale life. Then, she was engaged to Brad Pitt, arguably the most sought after hunk in Hollywood at the time. And we all thought, yeah, she deserves this. But after a time that fell apart. I have written about why that happened before. But here we have Brad, now happily married and making babies as fast as he can, and Jennifer, still searching. She seems somewhat like a lost sheep.

We might say she had it all and then lost it. But the story does not end there. The latest rumor is that she is now pregnant with John Mayer’s child. Who would have known? They were together before and broke up. Now they are back together. They are an interesting couple in many ways, as seen through the cards.

Jennifer is generally the problem in any relationship she is in. Being an A♠ makes her emotionally insecure (7♥ first Karma Card). In addition her 9♠ Planetary Ruling Card makes her strong willed and prone to anger. I took a quick look at her astrological chart and she has Mars squaring her Sun. This aspect in a woman’s chart means that she was born with anger towards men. Surprise! She is somewhat of an angry woman who is also insecure. Brad Pitt was too much for her. She could not control him. And I think she knew that once he had children with her that her role in his life would be second to the children, which is common for K♥ men. She also has Venus opposing Uranus. She is the one who is unpredictable and prone to changes in feelings without notice. So, even though we always thought she was the all-American girl, it turns out that marriage may be one of her worst areas of expertise.
Then along comes John Mayer. He is a 6♣ and Q♥. His Planetary Ruling Card is Moon to hers because the 9♠ has a K♥ Karma Card. Because of this, she gets to be the stronger person in the relationship and the one in control. As entertainers go, John Mayer is very marriageable, which is unique in that profession. He is more likely to be faithful and to enjoy being married and staying married. As I said earlier, if a problem arises, it is probably going to be due to Jennifer and her temperament.

Now we can look ahead and see what might be in store. At the moment Jennifer is in her Uranus period at Age 39. She has a K♥ in her Birth Card spread and a 6♣ in her Planetary Ruling Card spread. Well, it is obvious that John is back and the K♥ could also mean that she is indeed pregnant. Any signs of marriage? Only that she has a 4♠ as her Long Range card this year, which will soon be over. I wouldn’t bet on that though it still exists out there as a remote possibility. Fast forward to next year and she as a 9♣ and 6♥ in Venus. Underlying the 9♣ is a 6♣, John’s card. This is a very interesting combination that could be interpreted in several ways. It could mean a Karmic (6♥) breakup (9♣ in Venus) with John. If that happens it will be due to her behavior prior to that time. However, because Jennifer’s Planetary Ruling Card is the 9♠, these cards represent the possibility of happiness or even marriage with John. In her Planetary Ruling Card spread, there is another Nine, this time the 9♥ with a J♠. We have to keep in mind that these Nines can be interpreted two ways. A Nine is either a significant ending of a relationship, OR the ending of being single (by getting married). So, what will happen is that she will either get married to John OR break up with him. Either way it will be significant. And her 9♠ Planetary Ruling Card is displacing John’s 6♣ next year, which adds more to the possibility of their getting married.

However, in John’s spreads, at the same time that Jennifer has her Nines, he has a 9♥ in the Saturn period with Jennifer’s A♠ vertical. And in his Planetary Ruling Card spread he has a 9♠ with an 8♠. Him having these cards and it being his Saturn period makes it much more likely that these two will have a dramatic break up at that time.

Jennifer is a fighter and so is John. As much as he adores her, we know that her anger with men will surface in their relationship and he is a capable adversary if provoked. All Sixes are. But if these two are willing to work on it, there is much there that can help them have a happy future together. The only question is if.

Better than Fine

Someone asks, “How are you?” “Fine,” you respond. Most of us are very familiar with this exchange. It happens many times a day. And some of us get tired of saying ‘fine’ so we come up with other things to say instead. A friend of mine used to say, “as good as I can possibly be” when asked how he was. Others will say “fantastic” or my personal favorite, “great!” (the exclamation point pointing out that yes I really am doing great) I suspect however, that even when we say it differently that we are really saying ‘fine,’ just in different words. I see people’s faces and their demeanor when they say these things and what I am seeing is ‘fine’ not ‘fantastic’ or ‘great.’ It’s a matter of perspective. Many of us put a great deal of effort into looking like we are doing great. We want to affirm the positive in our life. But often, one can notice that this is often a forced expression. There is something menacing about people who are trying to appear great, like the thin shell of their fineness could crack unexpectedly, releasing a torrent of suffering and unhappiness, some of which may be directed at you, the listener. And in my experience this does happen occasionally. Those people who are straining to show up as being so happy and wonderful often break open, in anger, hostility or deep sadness. I think that the word fine really does describe our average state of mind or being in the world today. And this word, fine, actually speaks volumes about what is really going on inside of us.
Fine is, in my estimation, a mentally based description of a state of mind where everything is, at least for now, in check, in balance. It can mean ‘I am managing to hold it together’ or ‘I have just come through a really hard day and I am still alive.’ To me it represents a state of balance having been achieved, but one that is at best temporary. Ask me now and I am fine. But in ten minutes all hell may break loose and my life may be going down the toilet. Not that there is much to be gained by focusing on our problems, or the negatives of life. But saying we are fine is often just a mask for our deep-seated misery that our lives become. Fine also symbolizes a sort of ‘not so good’ quality. Fine is not great. And great is not great, especially when it is an attempt to just come up with a different way to say ‘fine.’ And either of them in the right context just means, ‘not so good actually.’ We could substitute this in our daily conversations and it would probably be a lot closer to the truth. “How are you?” “Not so good, actually,” you reply. Fine is not great. It is not fantastic, over the top wonderful. It is simply fine, which on a scale of one to ten is about a five. Not low, not high; somewhere in the middle. So, we might just be a race of beings whose lives today are Fives out of Tens. We are all living a life that could be represented by a Five (out of a possible Ten) because that is what we tell each other when we say or mean ‘I am fine.’ When I tell someone ‘I am fine’ a more proper and honest response might be, ‘that bad, huh?’ because a Five out of Ten is not that great. Some would say it is horrid.

At any given moment our lives can be much more than fine. As a matter of fact our entire life could be spectacular. Here is the key. In every moment of our life there is something incredible happening. We only have to look to see it. We can only see it if we look. That is the key. This sounds incredibly simple and in fact it actually is. However, it may not be easy to realize. The reason for this is that we are so mind-dominated. The way our mind dominates us, there is hardly room for an actual moment of looking at what is happening in our life. The word, realize, means to make real, or in other words, to experience. It has nothing to do with thinking. To realize something is to experience it directly. And believe it or not, we rarely do this. Or, if we do experience something, we do not spend much more than a second or two in that experience. Our mind hates for us to experience anything. Whenever you or I are having an experience, the mind is absent. It loses itself. It is always deathly afraid of being destroyed. So, the very moment a nice experience is felt, watch how your mind immediately labels it, compares it, makes comments about it, etc. The experience itself is never enough for our mind and ego. Thus, we are always fine and never truly wonderful. But if you would like to step out of this, at any moment, like right now, just realize that ‘at this moment something truly extraordinary is occurring.’ That’s all it takes and you can do that now. Welcome to a world that is much better than Fine.

Looking Deeper into the Card Connections in Our Relationships

Every relationship has more than one connection, card-wise. And it is interesting to see how things play out between people based upon these. No relationship is cut and dry. No relationship is just one thing or the other. There are usually many connections between people. And each of these connections tells you something about each of the two involved. When I look at the connections between couples what I seeing is why each of them is in the relationship. Like it or not, we all choose our relationships, even though a lot of us profess otherwise. Your relationship, and the connections found there, tell much about you and your life’s journey on a spiritual level. I say spiritual meaning what is going on inside of you in relationship to yourself. Why do you think you choose who you do? What do you think is the underlying force that governs the choices we make in relationships? It is our desire to grow spiritually, to become more aware of ourselves.

Recently I had a female client whose husband had cheated on her many times. Yet, she stayed married to him. Looking at her astrology, I saw that it was she that had the aspects in her chart for cheating. And finally, just recently, after twenty years of marriage, she did cheat on him. When I shared
with her how she had just married her mirror in order to see that part of herself, I could tell there was a light going on inside her head. She started to realize why she picked him and why she stuck it out for so long. I could feel her power returning to her because for the first time, she was seeing her part of the equation and not being the victim to her husband.

And this is what our connections can show us, our part in the relationship. For example, I have Mars in my astrological chart squaring my Moon in the house of relationships. My mother was an angry woman and I have always been attracted to relationships where there was competition and fighting. So, as you can imagine, most of my relationships had a lot of Mars connections. This is my Karma. My choosing Mars relationships is my way of working through my anger towards my mother. So, I pick women who I see as being like her. We all do this. If you pick Mars it is for anger stuff. If you pick Saturn relationships, it is because you are hard on yourself. Whatever your relationship is, it is certainly a mirror of you. And it is important. Entering into a relationship, especially a long-term one, is one of the biggest decisions we will ever make. It stands to reason that knowing as much as possible about our choice can help us have clarity and success in it.

Use the cards to help make these important choices. But first look at who you have chosen in the past and see how it reflects the personal issues that you are working on. Ask yourself how you have progressed in working on these issues and how aware are you that your choices are reflecting you.

Global Warming Update – Debunked!

Al Gore is being sued by a group of over 30,000 scientists who say that global warming is not true and that this is something that Al Gore and his constituents made up to sell energy credits for lots of money.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FfHW7KR33IQ

We are having one of the coldest winters in recent history, by the way. Most of the media will not report on this. But the man behind this movement is the guy who invented The Weather Channel. I tend to believe him over Gore who is neither a scientist nor a weather person. John Coleman, by name, says that his group has repeatedly requested a debate with Al Gore’s group to discuss their facts, etc. but have never gotten a reply.

Having the Perfect Relationship

In my book, Love Cards, I describe how to take some action towards having a perfect relationship. There I mention creating a list of qualities that you want in your potential partner. I have used this method many times and it is always successful. But there is another thing that often happens. I would meet someone who met my list perfectly and then I would discover later that there were some things that should have been on my list and I had not thought about. And this has happened to me many times as well. I would meet someone who fit my description and then realize later that there were some things that were missing that I had never even thought of. I have heard from lots of people about having this same experience as well. And it seems like there might not ever be an end to this repeating pattern – make a list, meet someone who fits the list, having that new relationship not work because of something not on the list, make a new list and start over, etc. And one might think that, in the end, you could never find the right person.

There is an old saying about love and relationships, one that goes something like this: “If you want to find the perfect partner, learn how to be the perfect partner first.” I have heard this many times before and never quite understood it. Well, I thought I knew what it meant, but not really. But in my quest for the perfect partner I really searched my soul for the truth that underlies this. After participating in a self-
transformation seminar a couple of years ago, I thought I had it right. This particular seminar was one of the most difficult and transformative experiences I had ever had. And I was able to get in touch with my heart on the deepest levels. The question was posed, “what do you want?” And without revealing the process I endured, I will say that I was able to get in touch with what I wanted more clearly than I ever have in my life. And that was one of the reasons I attended the training in the first place. One of the things I became crystal clear about was relationship. I realized that for me, it was how I felt about the person I was with that matters most. I wanted to be truly, deeply and passionately in love with someone. And I wanted a love that wouldn’t quit. I believe that my taking the time to do this intense work was my part of becoming the perfect partner. Taking the time and energy to delve into myself, that was the payment I had to make in order to actually be ready for the perfect person to show up. And I can honestly say it was at that moment that I was for the first time capable of having the relationship I had dreamed about my entire life. Not surprising, but still it all seems like a miracle, the woman I am now married to, the love of my life, showed up two weeks later.

This story sounds like it might be only for ♦ since we are the ones with a Three in Venus, Three in Mars and a Three first Karma Card. Indecision and uncertainty about love are part of our life’s challenges. For you, and for those you know, the challenge may be different. To become the person capable and ready to have the relationship of your dreams may involve a different journey for each card in the deck, or for each individual. Every card has its own relationship pattern and karma. Every one of us is some expression of our Birth and Planetary Ruling Card and so we each have an individual path to follow along the road to happiness in love.

Pay close attention to the words I am using here. I am saying that to become the person who is capable of having the perfect relationship is what this is all about. To be capable of having is a big thing! As a society we all go on and on about what we want in life but rarely do we ask ourselves, “Am I capable of having this (or that)?” And yet I say that it is our capability to have that is the real deal-breaker one way or the other. It works in all areas of our life. On some level we are all comfortable with certain levels of things. The things I am referring to are money, love, health, etc. It is a common fact that people who have lived a life of poverty for a long time, and who suddenly come into the possession of a large sum of money, such as winning the lottery, will quickly spend that money or lose it so that they return to the level of comfort that they are used to. The same principal applies to love. If you are not happy with your love life, if you even have one, you must be willing to ask yourself some questions. “Why am I in this current state?” “Am I comfortable with this, even though I tell myself I do not want it?” “Could I really open up to and receive a deep, long-lasting and extraordinary love relationship if one appeared in my life?”

It is funny in a way how so much of our life is unconscious. We say we want a great love or more money but we are not conscious of the parts of ourselves that are committed to the opposite. I have had so many clients who profess wanting a perfect relationship but who are most attracted to people who are unavailable. They make up excuses for it like, “I just can’t stop feeling the way I do about him (the married or otherwise unavailable person they are attracted to).” But I am here to say that no matter how much you love someone, or how you feel about them, if you really want to have a relationship, you will abandon all thoughts of this unavailable person and move on. You may still have feelings for them, and these feeling may never die. But you will move on if you really are ready to receive and have a perfect relationship in your life. If you find yourself attracted to an unavailable person, just realize that there is a much bigger part of you, a part that is not conscious, that is not yet ready to have the love of your life. There can be many reasons for this but you are not ready, no matter what you keep telling yourself. Your attractions reveal that which is unconscious.

So the bottom line is this, if you have not found the love of your life and are not enjoying that kind of love in your life, it is something you can change if it is important enough to you. The work involved is mostly
to getting yourself to a place where you can have that kind of love. It really isn’t going to work to just keep trying to find someone without looking at yourself. If nothing changes in you, then you will never become the person who could have such love. Investigate yourself. Become your own personal detective. Search for clues inside yourself for what it may take for you to become the perfect partner – the person capable of having the love of a lifetime. You have nothing to lose and everything to gain.

**The Power of the Unconscious**

One of my clients recently, let’s call her Jane, reports that she just can’t seem to make any money. She is highly intelligent, creative and has a very good business sense. But, for some reason, she is never financially successful at what she does. Thus, she is literally forced into living with her mother, which is in her words a ‘constant torment.’ Looking at her and seeing just how talented she is, there is something missing. What could be the cause of her lack of financial success?

Another client of mine, Mary, is in love with a married man. I asked her if he is planning to get divorced. She says he is not sure. So, there is no future in sight. And still, she keeps hanging on to the hope that he will get divorced and marry her. They see each other once a week and sometimes longer when he travels. But she is unhappy about the situation and claims to want a real relationship. But her heart is given to him and she says she cannot want anyone else but him. This is a very attractive woman who could have her pick of many men. And she turns her attention away from the men who pursue her. She is unhappy and can’t seem to help herself. What is the cause of her misery?

When I was younger I had a pattern for marriage that extended through three failed attempts. I would get married, and then around two years into it, start wanting other women. Eventually my unhappiness about being unfulfilled would cause me to have affairs and eventually get divorced. I seemed unable to help myself and seemed doomed to repeat this pattern again and again. But after three failed marriages this pattern had taken its toll on my feelings about myself and my happiness. Something had to change. But what? What was going on that I could not understand or get a hold of?

All of us have areas of life where we are victims to some part of ourselves that we cannot seem to get a handle on. We seemed doomed in these areas even though we are struggling to overcome them. One great example is attraction. Most of think that we choose who we are attracted to. But I say that the process of attraction is completely unconscious. That is to say it occurs on a level other than our conscious, rational, thinking mind. In the area of attraction in personal relationships, our conscious minds are always playing catch-up to some process within us that is both powerful and compelling.

Unconsciousness is virtually everywhere and in everyone. It is much easier to see it in others than in ourselves and for this reason it is often helpful to get others to give you feedback. It is also a good idea to watch how you give feedback to others. You may be very aware of someone else’s problems so be compassionate when you give them feedback about it. Realize that you were unconscious about that same thing at one point. Be gentle. Sometimes of course we do not want any feedback from others. The same unconscious force within us that is keeping us unhappy does not want to be revealed or changed. But eventually our desire for happiness will prevail and we will reach a place where we are open to anything and everything. It is at that point that change can occur. It is at that point that we will look in places that we usually do not, and that our level of awareness is poised to take a leap forward.

There are symptoms to unconsciousness at work in our lives. Here are some of the most common:

1. We are struggling to attain something without success for an extended period of time. In other words, repeated failure to attain certain goals or objectives.
2. We feel helpless to change some aspect of our life situation or some pattern in our life.
3. We experience ourselves as being compelled in a certain direction and that feeling is overwhelming and irresistible. This is like someone trying to quit smoking or trying to give up a bad relationship.
4. We feel attached to something that we know is not good for us but can’t seem to break free.
5. Others keep telling us things about ourselves that we do not want to hear, but the feedback seems consistent from person to person.
6. We find ourselves ‘trying’ a lot but not succeeding.

If you are experiencing some of these things, which I would say most of us are, then it is very helpful to know that there is an area of unconsciousness working strongly in your life right now. Jesus said, “Forgive them Lord, for they know not what they do.” And it is a good idea to forgive ourselves in this process of becoming aware of that which is unconscious. It is not your personal fault that you have some powerful unconscious pattern. It is just a certain step in your own road to higher awareness. And all of us go through these steps in consciousness. Being unconscious is a step towards becoming conscious. In the beginning we do not even know that we are unconscious. We just experience having some of the symptoms listed here. To know that you are being affected by something unconscious is a step forward towards more consciousness. It is progress. So, if you can at least identify your areas of unconsciousness, you are making progress, even if you still seem unable to change anything about them. What can happen at that point is that you start to watch yourself more. Once we know that we have an unconscious pattern happening, we pay more attention. I would even suggest that you make it a personal project of yours to just watch how you are in relation to this pattern. Be like a spectator to yourself. Do not judge anything you do, just watch and say, ‘that’s interesting!’ ‘Look at what I just did (or said, or thought)!”

A friend of mine had just split up from a relationship that had some very bad elements to it. But as bad as it was at times, there were parts of it that were truly magical. This made it very hard for her to let it go. She would keep remembering the good parts and feel that longing for the fulfillment it gave her. But to remind herself, she put a rubber band around her wrist. Whenever she caught herself thinking and longing for this man, she would snap that rubber band, which was somewhat painful, and say to herself, ‘remember the other times!’ This was her method of keeping her mind focused on all the reasons that this relationship did not work so she could move on, and it worked quite well. Leave it to a 10♣ to come up with such a brilliant method of controlling her thoughts.

Each of us has our own timing when it comes to consciousness-raising. It cannot be forced or be made to speed up. It is painful to realize just how many of us are caught up in unconscious behavior. The more I look the more I realize that unconsciousness is really the fabric of our current society and world. And in this lack of awareness we kill each other and do so many other bad things, and yet, we are unaware of what we are doing. This lack of awareness is not really our fault, though we are held responsible, karmically, for all our actions and deeds. But at least if we really get how this unconscious is something we all share, and that we all will eventually evolve out of it, we can be more forgiving of others and realize that their actions, though stupid, painful, hurtful to others and more, are just the symptom of a stage of evolution. Perhaps we can be more kind and understanding to others by knowing this.

But ultimately it is our responsibility. We must each make the endeavor once we know what is going on. Once you or I reach that stage of evolution that we know that we are acting unconsciously, then we must do our best to allow that awareness to have an influence on our behavior. We are not responsible for other’s behavior, just our own. And by increasing our awareness, we help everyone we come in contact with. A little awareness goes a long way!
2009 – The Year of?

Numerologically speaking, 2009 is an 11 (2+9). This makes this year a master number. One would predict from this that this will be a powerful year, and potentially a year of great accomplishment. I really feel that the current financial situation, that is being felt all over the world, is a very good thing. I believe that for many of us, this has helped us get grounded in our understanding of what is really important to us and what is not. I think people have turned back to basics more and have taken a closer look at their values. This has resulted in an overall higher level of awareness about values and this is definitely a good thing. We always hate change and as a culture, we whine about our problems and situations that appear that threaten our security. But really, this is just change and many good changes are happening. This reminds me a lot of when Saturn makes a transit through our natal 2nd house. It often creates financial difficulties that in turn have us examine our spending habits carefully. It always has a positive and healthy result, especially if we are open to learning and growing. Similarly after this financially-threatening period of time, most of us will have a new and improved sense of value and a new determination regards work and money. This is healthy!

So, 2009 could prove to be a good year for many of us. Maybe we will stop complaining about the way things are and instead take some responsibility for our lives and go out and do something worth talking about. I always think it is better to make some news than just read it.

The planet Jupiter will enter the sign of Aquarius in a few days from now. This is, of course, a good omen for everyone born under that sign and for everyone who has important planets in that sign in their natal charts. There will be a very powerful and interesting conjunction of Sun, Neptune and Chiron starting around February 7th and extending till February 11th. This is a very rare event and is one of good fortune making it an especially good time to launch a business enterprise. January 19th – 21st is another great time for this. On those days, the Sun conjoins with Mercury and Jupiter. When three planets get together like this and all our essentially positive planets, it is a good omen for the beginnings of new things. I would suggest to use these days to start a business, or to sign important contracts. Making agreements is highlighted since it involves Mercury. Some people would say NO, Mercury is retrograde. Please ignore these people. Sometimes a little knowledge of astrology is much worse than no knowledge of astrology. On these same days, Venus and Uranus are conjunct and Chiron is close enough to Neptune to be considered a good influence. Use these days and see what happens.

This Jupiter/Neptune/Chiron conjunction will make its appearance all throughout 2009. This may be one reason why the 2009’s ‘11’ year can be so powerful. I predict a lot of success for individuals who are ready to have something happen in their lives.

Saturn has been in opposition to Uranus for a while now. And it continues and Chiron joins this opposition this month. Saturn is considered negative and something to be avoided. But oppositions have more possibilities for resolution than squares because other transiting planets can form trines and sextiles to the opposing planets to alleviate the negative opposing energies. This happens, for example with the Moon on January 19th. It trines Uranus and Chiron and sextiles Saturn, alleviating the tension between them. And starting around March 1st, Saturn does not oppose Uranus anymore, at least for a while. It goes what we call ‘out of orb’ for a while as it is retrograde. Saturn will not oppose Uranus again until September of this year and then just for a few weeks.

Jupiter will mainly benefit those with Aquarian planets in their natal chart but this appears to be an equal opportunity year for anyone interested in more success in their life. The question now is, what will you do with it? Will this year be the year you accomplish some great things or not? The influences certainly
support you. All that is needed is your intention and commitment. Add those magical ingredients to an already magical year and you have a sure-fire potion for great success.

The Ace of Spades Revisited

The Ace of Spades is one of the more complex cards in the deck. Perhaps it is partially because it is known as the ‘card of secrets’ that we have such a hard time gaining a complete understanding of it. And, indeed, when you get an Ace appearing in your yearly report it has the possibility of representing a secret something, such as a secret affair (Ace in Venus) or secret communication (Ace in Mercury). But when your Birth Card or Planetary Ruling Card is an Ace, there is much more to the story. Ace people can be secretive but that is not a characteristic that we would normally just assume about them. There is a lot of complexity to this card mostly because of it’s spiritual implications. When the cards are laid out after the first quadration of the Grand Solar Spread, the Ace appears as the 7th card displayed. Being the 7th card is itself a very spiritual influence, since seven is the first of the two spiritual numbers in the cards, nine being the other. So, we have this so-called ‘spiritual’ card. So, what does that mean actually? To be spiritual in the sense I am referring to here means that your life is lived through higher principles. Principles such as non-attachment, unconditional love, higher values.

The spiritual road in life is rarely an easy one. And the cards with the stronger spiritual influences will often have the most difficult burdens to bear. Releasing attachment to the things mundane is largely what spirituality is all about. The Ace has a good deal of this going on for them. The trouble here, if there is trouble at all, is that people of the suit of spades are often very materialistic. Not that they are money-minded but they do get overly concerned with their work and accomplishments in life. To be materialistic simply means to be attached to things of the material world, whether that be money, love affairs, health matters or work itself. And the Ace, being so passionate and goal oriented as all the Aces are, is often guilty of focusing too much of their attention on their work and not enough on the things going on inside them on deeper levels. The heritage, and potential is certainly there. Any Ace can access their deeper spiritual sides if they choose. But as is written in the Bible, “It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle that for a rich man to enter the Kingdom of Heaven.” Translated that simply means that the more materialistic we are, the harder it is to access the true wealth offered us by the connection within.

So, most Ace people walk a tightrope between the spiritual and the mundane. In fact, most Ace people just ignore their spiritual sides altogether and focus all their attention upon their work. This is largely due to the fact that the biggest challenges in life for the Ace lie in the emotional and relationship areas. The challenges there are so great that for many Ace, it is better to just forget about it and focus on what they can do best – work. This is represented by their 7 Hearts first Karma Card. This happens to nearly all Ace men. For men, probably because we are mostly expected to work and be productive, it is a natural thing for the Ace male to become very ambitious and productive, all to the detriment of his love life or personal life in most cases. In work they find solace, peace, and a sense of their self-worth that is so vital to all Aces.

The 7 Hearts Karma Card make all Ace people hypersensitive in emotional matters. You can just assume this when you meet any Ace person, that how you treat them will be very important to them. Even among
friends and family there can be a need for approval (or an apparent lack of concern, masking their fear), fear of rejection or betrayal. It varies from person to person. But all have it to some degree and it can manifest in many different ways. If you study some celebrities of this card you begin to get a clearer picture. Princess Diana, a Cancer ♆, comes to mind. But add to that list the following: Jennifer Anniston, Juliette Binoche, Billie Holiday, Pamela Anderson, Penelope Ann Miller, Julia Louis-Dreyfus, Sheryl Crow, Kelly Rowland, Eva Gabor, Tammy Wynette, and Tina Yothers. You can see in these ladies a strong career drive, couple frequently with a disastrous love life.

This 7♥ is coupled with a 2♥ as their lifetime Neptune Card. The 2♥, being the card of ‘the lovers’ and being in the place of hopes and fears, causes a nearly incessant drive to achieve an ideal love affair. This can make many A♠ promiscuous. They want the perfect lover, not necessarily marriage. And their ideals are very high. You can probably see how this, combined with a fear of abandonment and betrayal, would be a very difficult combination to have. On one hand, you dream of a perfect love, on the other, the reality is that you are hardly capable of having it (see my article in this issue about having the perfect relationship).

The trick for any A♠ will be balancing their work and other matters. Generally speaking and especially for the male A♠, everything comes second to their careers. For many A♠, the lesson is to have just the opposite. They must look within more deeply to find the answers to their important life questions and realize that there is more in life than just work and accomplishment. Focusing on their emotions, and their spiritual urges (all are very psychic by nature) will open up a whole new world for them. This new world is where they find deep peace and contentment. And once they point themselves in this direction they discover that they have a vast storehouse of spiritual treasure just waiting for them to access.

Our Life Stories

What is your story? If I were to ask you, 'who are you?' what would you say? If you were to sit down and tell me your life story, how long would it take? What would be the general tenor of the story? Is your story a happy one or a sad one? Would your story include memories of success, recognition by others, good deeds, people you have loved and who have loved you? Or would your story have memories of difficult times, regretted actions, mistakes, bad choices, and endless problems? What feelings would you feel while telling your story? What emotions would accompany the various chapters?

As you tell your story, what parts of it are the ones that you identify with the most? When you look back over your past, what is it that defines the essential you? And who are you? What are you doing here in your life? What is your story? And where is your story leading? Is there a happy ending somewhere in your future? Are there things that you look forward to? Goals, achievements, acquisitions planned?

When we meet someone new, we exchange stories. Our stories define us. Or at least that is what we think. So, we meet. I give you my stories and you give me yours. We select chapters from our story books to share with each other, hoping on some level that the other will better understand who we are. "If you only knew what I have gone through to get here." so we seem to be saying. People say things like, "if you had only been where I have been." And in this way, they set themselves aside from us, superior to us. We can never be their equal because we did not have their experiences. And their past is better somehow than ours, in some way that makes it impossible for us to ever really know them. This is how it all appears in our conversations with each other, with our exchange of stories.
Through exchanging these stories we hope to validate our existence somehow. It is as if these stories are all we have to explain our purpose in being. Without them, who are we? Without them, do we even have good cause to be here and take up space?

And then we have our 'gonna be' stories, the ones about our future. These are the stories that we tell ourselves and others about goals and dreams and plans that we intend to achieve. Our fulfillment in life always rests somewhere in the future. It will happen when we do such and such, attain a certain amount of wealth, find the perfect relationship, complete some important project. These goals are part of our story too, the happy ending we keep promising ourselves.

The way we think and the way we feel about ourselves when we tell our stories, both past and future, really are what we are about. I am not saying this is who we really are, but for the vast majority of us, this is all we have. We only have our stories from the past and our promises for our future. And there is a sense of tragedy that we all share on one level, a sense of uncertainty. And much of our past and present seem taken with sadness as well. The emotions we feel when we think about ourselves are seldom really positive.

But if we are not our stories, who might we really be? If I am not my sad story about my past and how it all came to this place in time, interspersed with some moments of fulfillment, then who am I? For most of us, that question is seldom even asked, and even less answered. We are really like the people in the movie, The Matrix. We are just going about our day to day lives never even suspecting that there is something beyond our story-bound existence. We are so identified with the ramblings in our head, we know nothing else. And what is funny is that most of our memories are severely tainted and inaccurate. They are, after all, just electrical pathways in our brain that were etched there under questionable circumstances and highly prone to misinterpretation. What we are stuck with are highly inaccurate memories, but nonetheless they contribute to our overall sense of who we are. One could easily make the case that we have no idea who we are at all, since our entire sense of identity is taken from a storage vault of inaccurate memories.

And what are memories anyway? Are they real? They are only real if we repeat them, here and now, in our heads. They are not real at all. They are just one of the many things our minds do. And they are always done in the present. The past and the future are equally not real, just as not real as our identities. They are both mental projections and fabrications. This fabricating function of our minds is useful in many cases. We imagine and plan things to carry them out here on the physical level. Where they are not useful at all is when we look in these projections to find ourselves. Ask yourself these questions:

1. Are you your level of education? Does your degree or lack of one contribute to who you are?
2. Are you the income level of your parents or their parents?
3. Are you your health history? Is your story an endless recital of all your health problems, operations, and doctor visits?
4. Are you the accomplishments you remember doing? Are you just a story about your past accomplishments, highlighting your absence of anything good in the present?
5. Are you the beliefs you hold about politics, religion, God, or any other subject? Would you kill someone to be right about your version of God?
6. Are you your job, the work you do? Are you nothing more than a book of information about a certain job or occupation?
7. Are you your family history or family associations?
8. Are you your ideas about things? Are you the conclusions you have come to about any subject in your life?
9. Are you your marriage or relationship? Does who you are with contribute to your sense of who you are? Are you lost without a relationship?
The fastest way to see who you think you are is to watch where you start defending yourself. If you get upset when someone else says or does things, look at what you are defending. In every case it will be something that you identify with. It is not an argument about politics, for example. It is you defending your very existence because you think you are your political beliefs. Whenever any of us is defensive, and this includes every time we are taking the offensive, which is the same thing, it is our identity that is at stake. This is why some people have killed others over differences in beliefs or opinions. It is not the belief or opinion that is at stake, it is one's very existence. Look at how small that is!

The things we fight about the most with others are in reality very trivial. But, on a deeper level, we are defending our very existence, which is not trivial. It is too bad that all these things are not really who we are. We are actually much more than this. But we will continue to hurt and even kill others in our own defense for as long as our identity is connected to our stories. And this is the doomed existence that we all share. And we really cannot help ourselves. If I am my stories, I must do whatever possible to maintain my sense of who I am lest I face death - the death of my existence.

How do we disassociate ourselves from our stories and gain some true perspective on the truth of our lives? This, of course, takes awareness. And the place to start is to simply watch your mind and how it operates. Watch yourself become agitated in a conversation. What were you defending? Why was it so important to be right? Notice what events upset you and watch how vigorously you defend your position or your image.

This is a process of self-query and self-observation. All spiritual growth begins with self-awareness. We have to watch ourselves to increase our general awareness level. People talk about higher consciousness a lot but really do not understand what they are saying. They speak of higher consciousness like it is some achievement, like a prize that can be won or earned. It becomes a goal. But what many people miss is that this higher consciousness is nothing more than being more aware of ourselves, and especially our mind and our strong attachment to it.

There used to be a spiritual practice taught in some of books back in the 70s and 80s, like Be Here Now by Ram Das, called being the witness, or becoming the witness. Essentially you start to identify yourself as the witness of your thoughts and life. It is a great practice that does create more consciousness. As the witness you do not judge or condemn what you see yourself doing, thinking or saying. You just watch. This is the essence of consciousness itself.

We have the opportunity to observe ourselves now. Anyone can do it. It is always available. And it is up to each of us to take that opportunity. Even in the most trying of times, we can become the observer. We can allow ourselves to experience whatever is happening, but most of all in our reactions to what is happening, or our reactions to what we are thinking. This is the very essence of true spiritual practice that transcends most other methods in it’s effectiveness. How did you think higher consciousness was going to happen anyway? By the fortunate touch of some Guru’s hand on your head, or by reading a great book? Higher consciousness is not only possible but available at this very moment. Will you partake in it?

Each of our life stories are stories of problems and tragedies. Sure there are some successes too, but none that last. We can use these stories to get a glimpse of how much we are enslaved by them and then transcend them to have a life that is not fettered with problems and stories of the past. We can use them to become conscious, instead of allowing ourselves to stay unconscious, playing them out day after day. Are you your story? I think not. But the decision is ultimately yours.
Dreams and Nightmares

Dreams have always held a special significance for me. Even as a young child I took events that occurred in my dreams to have some meaning in my real life. And I have had many profound and wonderful dreams along the way, some of which held great significance for me on many levels. And I have also had nightmarish dreams, dreams where I was so scared I felt I could hardly move. Some of my most powerful scary dreams are ones in which there are people chasing me and trying to kill me. I have a lot of conflict dreams, dreams where I am fighting for my life. I always manage to win the fights in the end but I am so afraid while the conflict ensues. Sometimes I jump off a cliff in my dreams, knowing that I will die. In those cases I usually surrender to the death, or the fall, and realize that somehow I am not dying after all. I found out a while back, after many experiences, that I can wake up from a dream and save myself from some horrible dream situation. I have had many dreams where I have become consciously aware that I was actually dreaming. Then, if things in the dream were too scary, I could just wake up to escape from a bad situation. The reverse has also been true. There were dreams where I would struggle for an apparently long time to acquire something or someone I wanted and then, just as I was about to get what I wanted, I would wake up. I laugh when I think about this. I get nearly as upset when I wake up this way as if it had actually happened!

Intentionally waking up from a scary dream is something we all can do if we want. All it takes is conscious awareness and intention. I am sure that most, if not all, of you have done this at one time or another. What I realized just a day or so ago is that we can also wake up from our normal dream state that we call our regular life. You see, we all run around in our day to day, literally covered in problems. These are the conversations that make up our thoughts. If you take the time to observe your thoughts for even a few minutes, you will notice the following:

1. They are either about some happy future, with the anticipation of some desired result (happy thoughts!), or
2. They are about the fear of some unhappy future, where something you do not want lies waiting to happen to you (worry), or
3. They are about things that happened in the past, either pleasurable or undesirable (fantasy or remorse).

You will also notice that you are unable to stop thinking, no matter how hard you try. Even the attempt to stop thinking is dominated with thoughts. This is sort of how it is in a dream, isn’t it? Your dream sort of goes on its own, winding this way and that and you seem to have no control over it. In other words, most of our lives is dominate by incessant thinking over which we have little, if any control. You may notice, as I have, that fantasy thoughts, either about the future, or a replay of some past pleasurable experience, tend to appear when something happening in the present is undesirable. We just don’t want to experience what we are experiencing, so we run away, into a past pleasurable memory or into some imagined pleasurable future. This is the nature of all of our minds and there is little that we can do about it. Especially if you think you can do something about it. Just thinking about it is actually more of the same – just more thoughts and avoidance of what is happening here and now.

Because of this incessant running into the past and future, most of us live in a present-day hell. Our lives are beset with problem upon problem. I don’t know about you but sometimes when I wake up in the morning, I do not relish the experience of watching my mind kick in to remind me of all the problems I may face this coming day. It is a prelude to another day of torture by my thoughts. Many of us find ways to escape from this torment. We can escape into alcohol, drugs, sex, work, video games, books, movies,
family drama, or anything else that can get us from thinking about our problems. If our mind is fixated on something else, at least it will not torment us about how bad our life really is.

But just like in nightmares, there is an escape from the nightmare of our life that is available to all of us. And you can use this when your problems seem to truly overwhelm you. It is very simple, though it may take several attempts to master it. But imagine for a moment, if you had a way to escape from the torture of a life full of problems and it was as simple as waking up from a bad dream. Well, that’s it! Just wake up. And what I mean by that is, get your attention off of your thinking and into the present moment. In the present moment there are no problems – ever. And even in times when you are the most worried or afraid about some potentially devastating future, or when you are beset with regrets or sadness about your past, you always have the option to move your attention away from these thoughts into the NOW. The things you are thinking about are causing your body to feel very unpleasant emotions and feelings. But those feelings are merely responses to the fantasies being played out in your head. They are not based on anything that is happening right now. This is the real truth regardless of what you may think about it at that time.

We have to remember that when we are attached to our thoughts and mind the way we are, that we experience being compelled to go into the past and future, both of which really do not exist. But still, we spend most of our time living out memories and fantasies, which are truly just energy streams in our minds.

I like to think of the movie, The Matrix. The reason that movie was so successful was that it touched upon something that we all know on a soul level – that we are all stuck in a make believe world and that we do not even know that we are stuck in it. And like in the Matrix it is up to each of us to reclaim our power and to get back to what really matters. Just sitting around in a body while our attention is completely dominated by incessant thinking is not living. Even if those thoughts are pleasurable, they are not real. And every positive or pleasurable thought will soon turn to a negative. That is the nature of the world of forms, to which thoughts are intimately tied. We might say that thoughts are forms themselves, just more subtle versions of the stuff in our lives. And forms all have birth and death and are constantly changing. If we experience light, we will soon experience dark. If we experience pleasure, we will soon experience pain. That is the nature of the world of forms itself, it is not personal, and it will not change from being the way it is.

So, for each of us, the question is, shall we live our lives completely absorbed in thought or will we come out every once in a while to experience a real life, as it is? No matter how terrible your life is right now, no matter how many problems you have or how difficult those problems are, you can make a bold escape now by moving your attention away from your thoughts into the present. Start by experiencing your own breath, the feelings in your body. Feel the emotional residue from whatever you were obsessively thinking about earlier. Just feel those emotions. When you find your mind commenting again, which it will do, just gently bring your attention back to the now. Hear whatever is to be heard around you and feel whatever is to be felt in your body. Be present with what is. This can be practiced with eyes open, or closed. You can do it while driving or while doing anything. It can be practiced now. And you will soon discover that in the NOW, no problems exist. And the answer to all your problems, each and every one of them, is to come into reality, into a conscious awareness of the present.

I know it sounds too simple, too good to be true. But hey, that’s the good news! It is!
The Neptune Cards

There is a host of Birth Cards that have a strong Neptune influence. And this influence manifests in many positive and negative ways for the individuals who possess them. In this article I will explain more about the Neptune influence itself and how it can have a profound impact on people whose Birth or Planetary Ruling Cards happen to be one of these Neptune Cards.

In the Life Spread, pictured here on the next page, there is both a Neptune row and a Neptune column. The Neptune row is the bottom row, in which you see the Q♥, 6♠, 6♣, 8♥, 2♠, 4♦ and 4♥. The Neptune column is the leftmost column and in that column you have the A♠, 2♥, 8♣, A♦, 5♦, J♦ and Q♥. Notice that the Q♥ is Neptune in both row and column. As you might guess, this gives them a double Neptune influence. All these cards are Neptune Cards. But in addition to these, we need to add all the Nines. Nine is the number associated with Neptune and all Nine Birth Card and Planetary Ruling Card people display Neptune/Piscean traits. The planet Neptune is the lord of the sign of Pisces so we can also add to this list anyone who is a Pisces Sun Sign. When you add all these together you get quite a list of people born each year who are under a powerful Neptune influence and it plays out in many ways that are definable and specific.

The number Nine is the last number in the cycle. The sign of Pisces governs the last house in a natal chart, the 12th house. Thus, Nine and Pisces and 12th house are all pretty much synonymous. In the cycle of birth, life and death, Neptune represents that point where we are dissolving our individuality and returning to the oneness of all things. We become universal instead of individual. We merge with the infinite instead of being a singular individual struggling in his or hers own private world. When you think about it, this is why so many Neptune Card people are so caring of others. They feel your pain. They are very psychic and make good counselors. They can be empathetic and consoling and accepting. You will feel understood and accepted by a Neptune person. This is the good side of this planet’s expression.

The Nines

The Neptune energy causes us to think more about others than ourselves, though some Neptune card people struggle with this. Many people who are Nines, for example, have come from a past life pattern of being fairly selfish and full of self-importance, arrogance and a tendency to dominate others. This was their ‘eight’ stage of evolution, reaching the fullness of their power. But that stage ended in that lifetime and now they must let it all go. This is the main reason a person is born as a Nine Birth or Planetary Ruling Card. They need nearly a lifetime to let go of these past patterns. And this ‘letting go’ process is often experienced by them as disappointment, reversals in fate, tragedy and difficulties. They are not really these things, this is just their interpretation of the events of their life, and if you examine them and
their situations carefully you will see that much of their tragedies are really just their interpretation of what happened. Whether something in our lives is a tragedy or a blessing largely depends upon our point of view. And Nines just tend to have higher expectations of how things should be. These expectations are unconscious, having been set in those previous lives. Therefore, the Nine person is generally unaware that the real problem is in their point of view. The same could be said for all of us but it is much more apparent in the Nine cards.

The positive side of Nines is that they get to experience moments of true cosmic bliss and the feeling of being one with everyone and everything. All Nines will have these experiences, which serve as reminders to where they are going. Their destination is to become much greater than the little person who was powerful, controlling and dominating. So, this is the Nine struggle, just one of the many aspects of the Neptune energy.

The cards in the Neptune rows and columns, along with all the Pisces Sun Sign people, usually express other manifestations of the Neptune energy. I have studied the charts of many people whose cards fall in these Neptune positions and I always find strong Neptune influences in their natal charts. Among these, I find:

1. Sun or the ascendant’s ruling planet in the 12th house.
2. Sun or the ascendant ruling planet heavily aspected by Neptune, such as conjunction, square, opposition or trine.
3. Many planets either in the sign of Pisces or located in the 12th house.

My wife is a perfect example. She is a Sagittarius $\spadesuit/\clubsuit$. You would not normally associate Neptune with a $\clubsuit$ but you might with the $\spadesuit$ since it is one of the cards in the Neptune row of the Grand Solar Spread. And sure enough she has both Sun and Mercury in the 12th house, making her literally as much Pisces as she is Sagittarius.

I find that most $\spadesuit$ women act a lot like Pisces Sun Sign people. They have that somewhat spacey feeling to them and they often make very strange conversation and choice in life. As smart as the $\spadesuit$ is, there is a part that seems to misconnect on many important levels. And this, I believe, comes from the heavy Neptune influence.

Neptune, you see, can be an influence of confusion and in many cases, deception. The 12th house is the hidden house, or so it is called. People with heavy Neptune can be lost in their own house. Keep in mind also that Pisces is the sign opposite to Virgo. If Virgo are neat freaks and orderly, Pisces are their opposite. So, having a heavy Neptune influence as in the cards we have discusses here, can mean a lot of confusion in life and sometimes deception, both perpetrated by the individual and to them as well.

There are some birthdays in particular that have the highest concentration of this Neptune energy. First of all, any of the aforementioned cards that are also a Pisces Sun Sign are going to be rather dramatic in their Neptune-ness. Some examples of this are March 4th (6$\spadesuit$), March 8th (2$\spadesuit$), March 9th (A$\spadesuit$), February 24th (A$\spadesuit$), March 12th (J$\spadesuit$), March 19th (4$\spadesuit$) and March 18th (5$\spadesuit$). But we need to add to that the one double-Nine birthday, December 22nd (9$\spadesuit$/9$\spadesuit$) and any Q$\spadesuit$ birthday since they are the one and only double-Neptune card in the deck. These birthdays could be considered more or less extreme examples of the Neptune effect and thus are worthy of study.

In it’s highest expression a Neptune person will dedicate their life for the benefit of mankind or achieve cosmic consciousness, or both. Eckhart Tolle, a 9$\spadesuit$ spiritual teacher, is a perfect example of this. In
achieving the highest that Neptune can bring, one must completely lose the sense of ‘me’ (also called the little me by Eckhart). In losing the me, we become more identified as we, and we become universal in all ways. We don’t realize it in our normal state of consciousness but losing the me is the answer to all of our problems. No problems can exist once we have let go of our identity with our little self. And this is Neptune’s message to us all. Like the other 12 houses in our zodiac, it has it’s message for us. But this is the last of all the houses, pointing to our ultimate destination – oneness with all.

Following Saturn’s Journey
Through our Natal Charts

Saturn is a planet that we cannot ignore, though we usually wish we could. We really don’t like Saturn. This is mostly because wherever this planet’s influence is felt, we experience challenges and limitation. Saturn seems to bring problems and difficulties of all kinds. And usually whenever we are experiencing a really challenging period in our life, we can find Saturn’s hand at work. These experiences we have of Saturn are felt consistently by most people. But we tend to ignore the positive benefits of Saturn’s influence when we speak of it. A good friend of mine and her husband recently went through a tough Saturn transit. Saturn was in her natal 2nd house of income and money and was squaring her Sun in Sagittarius. Her husband’s business, which was real estate related completed disappeared in a matter of a couple of months. This was a business that employed over 50 people and helped them make payments on their 5 million dollar home. On top of that, they got an audit notice from the IRS. And because Saturn was in Virgo, the sign of health, she had some health challenges to deal with. As I watched her go through the transit I saw all the positive changes. She would call me from time to time and share her experiences. She would say things like, “We have really become aware of how much money we were wasting.” They trimmed down their spending tremendously and then found a new business opportunity and got busy working that. Now, less than 2 years later they are making over a half a million a year in their new business. This is a perfect example of taking Saturn’s lesson to heart and working it. And now my friend tells me about how beneficial all those problems were for them and how much healthier they are in so many respects having gone through it.

‘Working it’ is exactly what Saturn requires. Saturn is always somewhere in our natal chart as it makes it’s 28 year journey/cycle. Right now Saturn is in one of your natal chart’s houses. And if you are not working it, you are degrading at a fairly rapid rate. If we simply ignore Saturn, conditions will worsen until we cannot ignore him anymore. On a simply practical level, we can minimize most of the negative experiences generally associated with Saturn just by being willing and ready to do something constructive in the area he is affecting.

If Saturn is anything, he is the Lord of Higher Consciousness. He brings us from unconsciousness to consciousness. It may seem unfortunate that the path to higher consciousness is paved with pain and suffering, but on some level, this is what we all signed up for by reincarnating on the earth plane. For the most part, higher awareness stems from situations of suffering and pain. Once we are back in alignment with the truth, the suffering ends. If we could all be so smart to realize that any Saturn experience we are having is helping us become more aware, we could respond faster to Saturn’s call and alleviate much pain. We could also be very grateful to Saturn for the lessons he brings, lessons that leave us more aware and wise than we were before.

A person can only perform a despicable act if they are in a very low state of awareness. It is impossible to do something that would hurt others in a state of high consciousness. If Saturn’s influence were reduced to one vital message it would probably be, “truly know how your actions and speech affect others.” Saturn
guarantees that if we perform actions from unconsciousness, those actions will be perpetrated upon us someday, so that we may know what it is like. Saturn does not punish, that is not his intention. He balances. He makes sure the equation is equal on both sides, with no judgment inherent. It is simply the law of cause and effect in action.

Having said all of that, I wish to illuminate what Saturn’s influence will be in the 12 houses of our natal zodiac. In order to use the information here, you will have to know how to determine where the living, moving Saturn is currently located in your natal chart. Even if you don’t know astrology that well, you can get this information for free from www.astro.com. Just go there, sign up as a new user, enter your birth information and go to the Free Horoscopes section. Once there, click on the Extended Chart Selection link. Once there, under the chart selection drop down box, ‘select natal chart and transits’. This will draw a double chart. Your natal chart will be in the middle with the transiting planets around the outside. Look for Saturn, his symbol looks like the number five (♄). Just do this and notice which of your natal chart houses he is currently located. As I write this article Saturn is located at 17 degrees of Virgo and he is retrograde, which means he is going backwards and lessening in degrees each day instead of increasing as is normal. Saturn will soon go direct and start increasing in degrees. Saturn generally spends 2 ¼ years in each house of our chart. That can vary somewhat but it is a good rule of thumb to start with. If it is in your 3rd house now, within two years it will be in your 4th house. But you can always check online to see exactly when it will depart its current house in your chart and move on to the next.

The information I am giving here is general in nature relative to Saturn’s house position in your natal chart. Some of the experiences I describe can be more intense or dramatic if Saturn also makes stressful aspects to your natal planets. I cannot teach you about that right now but many of you already know about this. But, even without stressful aspects, Saturn’s current position is causing you to have certain kinds of experience and you can start taking action now to alleviate the influence if you choose. This is the main benefit of knowing this in the first place.

Saturn in your natal 1st House

Here Saturn will cause experiences that cause you to doubt yourself and question yourself. You will be less confident and more sensitive to others opinions. I used to wonder when I saw so many of my female Los Angeles clients getting facelifts when Saturn entered their first house. Now I realize that the cause was a lessened sense of self. They got the facelifts and chemical peels to regain their confidence. Unfortunately, in most of the cases I observed, there was no accompanying inner work with the plastic surgery. And this caused many of these operations to go bad or have unforeseen negative consequences. Saturn will cause you to have experiences where you doubt your own worth and cause you to feel less than you usually do. What he is calling forth in you is to take positive actions to strengthen your sense of self. We need to do things that help us feel better about ourselves. Mirror work, where you sit in front of a mirror and tell yourself ‘I love you’ is highly recommended. You need some kind of regular practice of self-love if you are to have this be a positive period for you. You will not find self-confidence in others or in your accomplishments now, it must come from within.

Saturn in your natal 2nd House

This, of course, is the house of money. So, experiences of financial limitation and heightened fears about money are to be expected. What Saturn is really calling for here is heightened awareness about finances. Budgeting is really positive here. And anything that brings your attention upon your financial wastefulness and wasteful spending habits. If you are really unconscious of this when this transit starts, you are in for quite a painful process. Being thoughtful about spending, and appreciating what you have are the remedies to take. There does not have to be great loss unless you ignore what is being asked of
you. And like my friend which I spoke of earlier, this new sense of the worth of things can lead you to a new beginning and successful undertaking.

Saturn in your natal 3rd House

Your state of mind will likely be worried and pessimistic now. Communications with others can go badly, to the point that there are significant miscommunications, such as contracts and agreements. Also, relationships with siblings tend to be strained at this time. Finally, car troubles are to be expected to some extent. This is not a good time to purchase a new car. But the real underlying theme of this transit is how you manage your mind’s point of view. Are you looking at everything from a glass half-empty point of view or a glass half-full? Positive thinking must become a daily practice now. One good thing to do would be to make a list of everything you appreciate in your life and read it out loud to yourself just before going to sleep and just after you wake up each morning. You say you don’t feel like working that hard on it? Well, then, expect more things to complain about. Saturn will provide.

Saturn in your natal 4th House

This will affect marriage, if you are, or any relationship with someone you live with. Also, your relationship with your mother and women in general will tend to be strained. You may feel emotionally down or drained. Your marriage could be a source of problems or hardships. The 4th house governs our feelings, emotions, childhood and present day home and relationships in the home. All of these will be under pressure now. You must be willing to work in the home to make things better. Be prepared to give to those who live with you. Be willing to work for things to be better by doing whatever is called for. Also, do something each day to take better care of yourself, both food-wise and emotionally. Have a consistent system of self-nurturing that helps you get through this. This is not a good time to purchase a home. But if you do, be prepared to really work hard at it. With hard work, Saturn can become even positive.

Saturn in your natal 5th House

Being one of the houses of enjoyment, Saturn here may take some of the enjoyment out of your life. Relationships with your own children, or with lovers, will be difficult. If you are single, don’t be surprised if you attract a lover much older than yourself. Creative projects will be a burden and difficult to complete and with less rewards at the end. This could be a tougher than normal time for a professional artist. It is your inner child that needs some energy now. Don’t expect so much from others but do things for yourself that are fun and playful if possible. Be open to lessons about love and sex if you are single, and I guess even if you are married, though it probably won’t be with your married partner. The way you use sex or interact with it may be up for re-evaluation now. Be open to learning a more mature and responsible approach.

Saturn in your natal 6th House

This is the house of health and work. Challenges will be likely in one or both of these areas. A positive health regime is pretty much a necessity now. Join a health club and make it a priority to have consistent workouts. Also, be prepared to work harder at just being healthy in general. Do everything you can to have a healthy diet and to get some regular exercise. But don’t do stressful exercise. You can get sick from that just as much as any other stressful activity now. Things at work will likely be challenging. If you have accumulated some bad health karma in the recent years by neglecting your health and practicing unhealthy lifestyle choices, this will be the time you will pay the piper for that. At work, coworkers will likely be difficult and you probably will not get that raise you are looking for. Or, you will
get it but now have to work much harder. Just do the work. This is actually one of the better houses to have Saturn in and working at it will have immediate payoffs.

Saturn in your natal 7th House

This is the house of partners, including marriage and business partnerships. Like the 4th house transit, this one can see you having marriage difficulties. You will have to give more to your partners now to alleviate this influence. Even if you don’t think you should, you will have to, or you will watch as your relationships deteriorate further. You may also have to pay for some things you did in the past to others that were unkind or unconscious. Your awareness of others and how important they are to you and your success will be heightened. Every house in our zodiac is important in some ways. Now you are learning the importance of relationships.

Saturn in your natal 8th House

This transit will put a huge damper on your libido. You could even have sexual illness now, though that is not common. If you are married, your spouse’s income will be challenged. This is a really bad time to get divorced. If you do, you will lose a lot of money in the fight with your spouse. Add to this any disputes over family estates or taxes. None of these will be smooth sailing and some of them will be very difficult. You would be wise to avoid any of these areas for this period. Like the 5th house transit you could also be learning lessons about how you use your sexuality. This is considered one of the most difficult of Saturn’s transits. One must practice appreciation as much as possible, for everything you do have and the things in your life that are flowing well.

Saturn in your natal 9th House

During this transit, foreign travel will be difficult or non-fulfilling. If in college, school will also be more challenging and difficult. Legal matters can crop up that need attending and these can be difficult as well. Your integrity may come into question by events that transpire and if you have been out of integrity with others, some of that may come back to haunt you now. Try to avoid any foreign travel for this time period and be prepared to work harder in school to keep up. Also be prepared to practice honesty to a higher degree in all areas of your life.

Saturn in your natal 10th House

This is the house that Saturn governs naturally, therefore we might say it is his home. His return here can bring some good fortune. Usually this transit marks a high point in one’s career, sort of like the Pinnacle Year in the cards, though this will last 2 years or longer. Work that you began 14 years earlier will reach a culmination point and you may embark on a new direction that your elevated status takes you to. However, it is also likely that events that concern your reputation may come into question. If you have been unfair with others in the past, in particular, that may become known and have an adverse effect on your reputation.

Saturn in your natal 11th House

This house deals with associations, large groups, corporations, and is known as the house of enemies. Saturn here could cause you to have challenging relationships with certain people in high places and the organizations they are part of. Be prepared to make things right with others if any of these situations should crop up. Be careful to avoid association with others of low moral character as these could be the same ones that would later turn into enemies.
Saturn in your natal 12th House

This is the house of the hidden and if Saturn is making stressful aspects to other planets in your chart while it passes through your natal 12th house, you will feel that you have hidden enemies. Scary dreams and unpleasant psychic experiences could occur. It is best to avoid psychic readings during this time. You may also have vague feelings of apprehension with no apparent cause. Your fear level may be heightened as a general rule. Be prepared to deal with your fears by simply facing them as they come up. Most will be imaginary and have no real substance. Try not to make any important decisions under the influence of these vague fears.

The Saturn Return

This occurs for all of us every 28-29 years or so. We have our first one around age 28 and then again around age 56. Essentially Saturn returns to the same place it was the day we were born. This can have a variety of expressions and it depends a lot on where you natal Saturn is placed, its sign, and house and aspects to it. I have Saturn in Libra and I remember that during my first Saturn return, I could not make up my mind about things for nearly two years. It was not all that difficult, just a curious annoyance. I am approaching my second Saturn return now. The Saturn return is seen by most astrologers to represent a cycle of maturing as a person.

Our Peephole into Reality

Albert Einstein is known to be one of the best minds of the last century. And he was able to uncover some very powerful understandings of life here in our universe. He made discoveries that changed the way we look at the world we live in. So, naturally, we all tend to look up to him and admire him and essentially to think of him as being a great person who had amazing insight. If he were alive today, we would most likely be ever attentive to things he might say, knowing that he knows some things that most of us do not. And yet, for all his knowledge, the discoveries that he made are minute in comparison to what there is to be known in this universe. He once said, “I want to know the mind of God, the rest is just details.” I do not believe that he was an arrogant person and I think he himself knew how limited it is to be in a human form. Interesting that he was a Pisces ♉ with a 2♣ Planetary Ruling Card. It was his Nine that gave him perception into the unforeseen realms. And it was his 2♣ that could make sense of it all and communicate it to the world.

Many people living today have what we could call incredible minds. And yet, these minds are not necessarily coming up with things that can really change the way the world is right now. The truth of the matter is that inspiration and breakthroughs do not come from the mind at all, even though the mind would like to claim credit for them. Breakthroughs and epiphanies of all kinds actually occur when the mind is not present. They come in moments of mental stillness, brief though they may be. And this points to the main problem. Even when we encounter a breakthrough in understanding, our mind comes in with a vengeance and now the opening that was once open is closed.

This is what I call our peephole into reality. We are like someone looking through a pinhole at a giant vast expanse. We cannot see what is coming from the left or right, just what is right in front of us. We also cannot see what is above or below our point of view. We see something and immediately make assumptions and evaluations about what it means, and especially, what it is means to us and our continuing ‘story of my life.’ If we could only see a little more, we would have a much more accurate version of the world. But all we have is this little speck of experience upon which we base our entire understanding of the world and our place in it. And no matter how great your mind may be, you will not get a lot from it because it has so little data to base its evaluations upon.
This is the predicament that we are all in now. And is there any surprise that we are constantly fighting with each other over what is true and what is not true? I remember a science presentation I attended about perception. The presenter told half the audience to close their eyes and he showed the other half an image. When I look at the drawing, it was an image of a rabbit. But when he asked the other group what they saw, they said it was a young girl. Both groups were convinced they were right. Then he showed us how the same image, if turned on its side, looked like a rabbit verses when it was upright and appeared to be a girl. This is a good example of how we are with our little peepholes. And the sad thing is that we get so righteous about what we think we know. Many of us will argue, fight, or even kill others who disagree with us or threaten our ability to be ‘right.’ Being right is truly one of the most dangerous diseases that we face as a culture today. I think if we all just realized, first of all, that what we think we know is based on a very small percentage of what is real, we could at least withhold judgment and be more open to others.

To broaden our peepholes is actually very simple, but nearly impossible for most people. It requires staying open and allowing our perception of life to deepen. This means just being aware. The trouble is, most of us are completely lost in the world of thoughts and the story of our ‘little me’ lives. We rarely spend any time just perceiving something in our life. The universe in all of its magnificence is right here, right now. But we ignore it, nearly completely. We take a little here and there. But mostly we are just analyzing, labeling, judging, comparing, and defending. It is no wonder that by the time we are in our fifties we tend to look so tired. The mind and all of its ideas and desires seemed a wonderful fascination to me when I was in my 20s and 30s. But now, I long for an escape from the incessant thinking that my life has become. I take time now, on a regular basis, to simply sit and open my perception. These daily journeys into NOW give me the life force to go through the day. Without those periods of quiet, I quickly run out of energy and become sullen. I suspect this is true for most of us. And all the drugs and alcohol that we take television and other addictions, all so that we can have a little relief from our problem making minds. Every time I go into perception, I feel refreshed, energized and optimistic. Isn’t it amazing that the very thing that could solve all of our problems is completely avoided by us? We truly are the prodigal children.

I believe it is very helpful to gain some perspective on life and our place in it. If all of us could just realize that we really know hardly anything, that would be such a great realization! No more fighting just to be right. We could all be more open to each other and less judging and condemning. This is something that happens naturally when we spend more time in the presence of life. I invite everyone to do this, for themselves and see.

Babies, Infertility, the Destiny Cards, and Taking the Judgment Out of who we are by Sarah Elizabeth Malinak

Throughout my adulthood, I have gone through phases of watching other women get pregnant and have babies. My feelings about it have shifted through the years, but I always have feelings about it!

When I was in my twenties and my peers were all making babies I was jealous and envious. In my early thirties, I moved and most of my peers had school age children. That was fun because I love kids and was the adult in their lives that made them feel seen, understood, and with whom they could have a blast! Eventually, some of those thirty-something peers had it in them to add one more child to their folds. I learned that it was in my best interest to not attend baby showers.

Then there was a period of reprieve. My peers either already had children or weren’t in the process of having them. Joseph and I met at this time and I thought the issue was closed for me. Interestingly, I now had a bunch of people in my life who were psychic. And they all predicted a baby for me. They all saw an infant hovering around in my energy field. One woman, a stranger to me, had the audacity to come up to me and exclaim, “Let me be the first to say congratulations!” I said, “What?” She said, “You’re going to have a baby!” I had my doubts and was tired of these forecasts. It wasn’t coming true (it wouldn’t come
true) and I learned a lesson about the arrogance of spiritual people who spoke before filtering their thoughts through a process of kindness and consideration for others’ well being.

Then, when I was 42 and my best friend was 38, she got pregnant. That was an emotional roller coaster ride! She’s my best friend. I couldn’t not go to the baby shower. I couldn’t refuse to be a part of the miracle of life just to protect my feelings! You don’t do that with best friends! I survived and adore her daughter. This past year, five years later, she gave birth to my god son! I’m in a whole different place now and it’s yummy.

Sort of. Because now I have a new, younger generation of women in my life getting married and trying to get pregnant. I hear from them conversations I used to have with people when I was trying to get pregnant. From my perspective, it’s hard to be excited. I do not share the caution I feel inside about their enthusiasm and their hope that they can get pregnant because it just wouldn’t be fair. If they have a similar experience as mine, having to deal with infertility some day, I’ll be there for them. In the meantime, it’s my job to be supportive and happy for them. So, that’s what I do.

Even though the likelihood that we could become pregnant is not very likely, because the rarest possibility it could still happen for us exists, I can’t help imagining what it would be like to have a baby at this age. When I imagine it, I can’t imagine how I would fit a child into my life. At 48, I’ve spent most of my life not having to extend myself for children, toddlers, or infants. Now, at this age, my life is so filled with my work that I cannot envision how I would bring a child into it. I’ve been paying attention all these years. I have a good idea as to just how much time, energy, and sacrifice is required of parents!

Today, at lunch, I shared this train of thought with Joseph. I started out saying with a self-deprecating chuckle, “I guess I kind of think more than most people…do you think so?”

He said, “Well, yes! Of course!”

I continued, “Because I spend so much time in my own head with my own thoughts and imagination, I can’t imagine making room for a child. I guess with some couples, who don’t need that much inner reflection time, their children fill up their world and stimulate their imaginations. And then those are the couples who, when the kids leave home one day, look at each other and wonder what they have to talk about now. For me, EVERYTHING is an intrusion on my thoughts!”

Then I said, “I’m so selfish!”

Joseph said, “No! Now that’s where you have to be careful. That 10 of clubs makes sense that your inner world is so rich…”

I added, “…and that ‘one’ is a club so I think alot and it matters a lot!”

And then I relaxed. There are two things going on with this baby conversation I’m having with myself these days. One is that my birth card is the Queen of Hearts. That inclines me to really, very much, dearly wanting to have children! It hasn’t happened. And why it hasn’t happened through adoption is a whole other blog entry. For today, the thing is now I am living the other side of the Queen of Hearts coin, so to speak. Queens of Hearts who don’t have children, nurture their careers. That’s where all that mother energy is going right now and I LOVE IT! I’m ready for it at this age, so, yeah!

Between the 10 of Clubs planetary ruling card and the dreamy double Neptune associated with the Queen of Hearts, my stars above, how can I not adore my inner world?! Quit judging it, Sarah Elizabeth! It’s just who I am. Judging it ain’t gonna change nothin’!

Sigh. I think the shift from being the jealous Queen of Hearts who couldn’t/didn’t have children to the satisfied Queen of Hearts who loves her life as a writer is just something I’m in the middle of adjusting to.

If you are familiar with the Cards of Destiny, then this blog entry made sense!!;-) If you want more information about the Cards of Destiny, now curious about your own cards of destiny, see Joseph’s site. The address is easy! It’s www.JosephMalinak.com. As a King of Hearts, he’s THE relationship guru around here…Mr. Relationship! It’s amazing how the cards can help us understand ourselves and others so that we take the useless judgment out of our lives!
Sarah Elizabeth Malinak is the wife of my best friend, Joseph. They have a new book, Getting Back to Love, a weekly radio show and offer many products and services to help us have better relationships. To find out more go to: http://www.idealrelationships.com/

Using the Cards for Business and other Planning

One of my business clients, who is currently involved in several multi-billion dollar deals, has been using the cards now for over ten years for business planning. Initially I would do reports for him. I would examine his calculated daily and yearly spread cards and create a report for him that essentially told him what his best and worst days were for a two or three month period. As he used these reports for months and months he began to identify patterns in his own experience, certain card/days or card/periods that were particularly good or bad in a general sense. He has found these card reports to be invaluable to him. He has seen their validity over and over again and now swears by the importance of his calculated daily cards. In this article I will share with you some of this information, along with easy steps on how to do it. We will start with the calculated daily cards and move on to the yearly spread cards, all of which follow the same basic principles and procedures.

Most of you are aware that you have a calculated daily card. This is different from the ones that you get by doing the weekly readings in the Cards of Your Destiny book. It is very similar to the yearly spreads in that book, however. Actually the calculated daily cards are taken from the same exact spreads as the yearly spreads and so in many respects will be the same. There are seven periods of any given year and seven periods (called days) of any given week. The calculated daily cards merely derive a spread of cards for every week of our life in the same way that the Cards of Your Destiny book assigns these spreads for each year. There are a lot more weeks in our life than years so the calculation to find the current ‘week of life’ are a bit more complicated that finding which yearly spread to look at. In addition, to do good planning using the cards, you are going to need to get not just the direct card for any day, which is what is offered for free on my web site, but also the vertical card and the direct and vertical cards of the day for your Planetary Ruling Card, if you have one. If you are a Scorpio, you could have 6 cards each day to consider. But for most people it will be four. The Neptune day often has only one card per spread, or two cards, but the other days always have two cards per spread. The important thing here is that you will need all these cards if you really want to start using the cards for daily planning. I am going to give you a simple method to get them, as they are not really available except as a report from my Book of Destiny software program, which is not even a product that I currently offer on my web site. Even the Destiny Calendar does not give you the cards for your Planetary Ruling Card. It only offers the Birth Card’s spreads though it does have the direct and vertical, along with the week-long cards for every week of the month. I am currently working on a Destiny Planner program, which will make all of this quite easy. But for now, here is a way to get all your daily and weekly cards.

Using either the Free Destiny Reading on my web site, or the free Facebook application (Facebook | My Destiny Cards), start with your personal Mercury day and track your cards for one week. Write them all down. For example, I was born on a Friday, and here are all my cards for the current week:

Mercury  Venus  Mars  Jupiter  Saturn  Uranus  Neptune
 4♦  5♠  2♠  10♦  8♣  4♥  8♦
You can start this any week. What you need is an entire week’s worth of cards. The next step is to take this list and look in your Cards of Your Destiny book at your yearly spreads for your Birth Card. What you want to do is see which week of your life has cards in the yearly spread that match the ones you found. If you check out my Q♦ spreads, you will see that these cards match the cards in my Age 41 yearly spread. Just take the cards you found and start at Age 0 and check each spread in your book until you find the matching year. This tells you everything. Now you have the Age spread that you are currently in. Next week you will move to the next yearly spread. For example, my next week’s spread will come from my Age 42 yearly spread in the Cards of Your Destiny book. This also gives you the vertical cards for each of the days. Just look them up there. Here is the complete view of the planetary period cards from my Age 41 yearly spread, courtesy of The Book of Destiny for Windows program. You can get the same cards, minus the underlying cards, from your book. So, if I was looking at my Mars day, I would see that I had a 2♠ but also a J♦ vertical. Similarly, now that I know what age to look at (Age 41), I can get my daily cards from my Planetary Ruling Card spread. If you look at the A♦, Age 41, you would see that in Mars I have a K♣ with a J♠ vertical. So using this method, you can always find all of your daily cards.

One note worth mentioning here: You can use the Pluto, Result, Environment and Displacement cards from this yearly spread too because they would all apply to this week. But you have to ignore the Long Range card because it is derived from a seven-week spread that is too complex to derive in this short article.

But okay, now that you have access to all your daily card influences, you are ready to start using them and interpreting them. With these tools in hand you should be able to construct a chart for any given day that looks something like the one below.

You will notice the spaces I left here for various ratings. I will explain that now. This method will yield a number from one to twenty four for any day of your life. This is just a method I made up but I believe it corresponds accurately to how you, or most people would experience a particular day. I don’t like to use the words good and bad but in reality most of classify everything that way. A good day in the context used here would be one in which things tend to go your way. On a good day, for example, you would likely feel strong or good, and be relatively successful at everything you do. For the purposes of this method you do not need to interpret the individual cards in your daily layout. All we are looking for here is how positive or negative this day is likely to be experienced by you. This can be very useful for planning purposes. First of all with this method you should easily be able to tell what cards you will have in your future days. You can easily map out the next month or so. The point of using this would be to plan important events in your life on the most positive days and plan to keep a more or less low profile on

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Planetary Day</th>
<th>Mars</th>
<th>Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BC Direct Card</td>
<td>2♠</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BC Vertical Card</td>
<td>J♦</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR Direct Card</td>
<td>K♣</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR Vertical Card</td>
<td>J♠</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall Day Rating</td>
<td>Day</td>
<td>Rating</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
cautionary days. This can help important meetings and other important events be more successful. This is how my client uses it and you can too. So, the next step is to know how to rate any given day. Here is the formula.

Overall Day Rating Values for each card

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Card</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kings</td>
<td>+10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queens</td>
<td>+8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jacks</td>
<td>+7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tens</td>
<td>+10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nines</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eights</td>
<td>+10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sevens</td>
<td>-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sixes</td>
<td>+4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fives</td>
<td>+2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fours</td>
<td>+8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Threes</td>
<td>+2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twos</td>
<td>+6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aces</td>
<td>+2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The table to the left here gives a value to each card in your daily layout from minus 3 to ten. This number represents just how positive a given card is alone. Notice that the Sevens are a minus 3. These numbers come from my research. You are welcome to substitute your own if you like. You might think, for example, that a Nine deserves a lower number than 0. But I would suggest that you start with these and try them out for a while before changing them. You will have two, four or six cards for any given day. Most of us will have 4 cards on most days and sometimes only two on our Neptune days (Two for your Birth Card and two for your Planetary Ruling Card). Only Scorpios will have 6 cards, because they have two Planetary Ruling Cards. And on Neptune days, a Leo person may have only one card. Take all the rating numbers for the cards displayed and add up their total. Then, depending upon how many cards you have total, do the following to that total rating value.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th># of Cards</th>
<th>One</th>
<th>Two</th>
<th>Four</th>
<th>Six</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Do this to the card’s rating</td>
<td>Multiply by 2 and add 2</td>
<td>Add 2</td>
<td>Divide by 2 and add 4</td>
<td>Divide by 3 and add 6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The ‘and add _’ that is used here is to give a little more strength to the Birth Card spread daily cards.

Now you have a total that should lie in most cases between 0 and 24. There will be days that fall outside this range but just apply either 0 or 24 to those days. They will be very rare indeed. But to be completely accurate, you can also apply the following to the rating of any card you find:

If the card found in any given day is

1. Your Life Spread Jupiter Card, add 3 to its rating number
2. Your Life Spread Venus Card, add 2 to its rating
3. Your Life Spread Saturn Card, subtract 3 from its rating (even if it is a King or Eight)
4. Your Life Spread Pluto Card, subtract 2 from its rating
5. Your first Karma Card, subtract 3 from it’s rating
6. Your second Karma Card, add 3 to its rating.

I have found that even in daily card situations, finding one of these key Life Spread cards will affect its effect upon us.

This final number you get for the day will give you a good idea of how positive or negative you will experience that day. I have come up with some labels to apply to each day’s rating, based upon its value as follows:
After you have used this for a while, you could adjust these interpretations to suit your personal experiences. These are ones that fit my own experience.

This is the basic technique. And once you get a handle on this, you can apply this to your 52-day period cards and Long Range cards for the year.

### The 52-Day Period Ratings

Each 52-day period has 2, 4, or 6 cards just like each day. And you should already know how to find those. Just take them and assign them rating values exactly as I instructed for the daily cards. This will give you a rating for each period of your year. This can be helpful in doing more long range planning.

### The Yearly Ratings

Though perhaps not as useful for planning purposes, each year does have a rating of its own, just like each day, and each 52-day period. And whether or not you are aware of it, each year has 2, 4 or 6 cards that are all Long Range cards. Years follow 7-year patterns just the same that days follow 7-day patterns and 52-day periods follow 7 period patterns. This is the fractal nature of the card system. To get your direct and vertical Long Range cards, you need to examine the 7-year spreads. On page 109 of The Cards of Your Destiny, or Destiny Cards as the earlier edition is called, you can find instructions on how to look at your 7-year cards. Once you do this, you will have access to all of your Long Range cards to use to derive ratings for every year of your life. I personally do not use these yearly ratings for planning but I suppose I could. I have noticed that they do accurately describe my experience of the year in a material sense. And this brings us to the next topic that should be mentioned here.

### The Material verses the Spiritual

This rating system is really about telling you when material endeavors will be more successful. And if that is all you want to know, there you have it. You should know that spiritual progress is measured by the opposite cards. Sevens and Nines are the best cards, spiritually speaking, and the worse cards materially. But you will find that on days and periods where there is a predominance of spiritual influences, life will be harder, but spiritual progress will occur. And to be complete I should say that once a person has adopted a spiritual approach to life, there is much less fear of ‘bad’ cards or difficult periods. If we have less attachment to material success, our life is much happier and fulfilled, no matter what is happening to us or around us.

Watching your days go by and using this rating method could help you become more attuned to where you are, spiritually speaking. If you notice that really low days do not affect you that much, that could be a sign that you are much less attached to material things. I find that I really enjoy watching my days go by and looking at my ratings. Soon I will have the Destiny Planner software program available for all. I am
using it now, though there is still work to be done on it. In the meantime, you have all the tools you need to study and learn and to plan for your material success. Good luck!

The World of Forms and the Key to Everything

Once I was driving on an 8-hour trip through Pennsylvania and surrounding states. I had taken the trip before several times. The trip had me traveling through some really nice areas as well as some really ugly, coal-mining areas. But this particular day something unusual happened. I was traveling along side a huge and beautiful canyon area, all green and lush. As I looked over to my left I could see this vast expanse, almost as if I was in an airplane. And the sun was setting behind me casting an eerie glow on the entire scene. Then, I looked again to get one more look at this beautiful scene that I had come upon when I saw what looked like a small airplane flying up the middle of the canyon. From my car, the plane was nearly at eye level. As I looked closer I could tell that it was a small Ultralight aircraft with just one person in it. It seemed I could almost reach out and touch his plane. Then I was struck by the beauty of that moment and the amazing thing that this lone pilot was doing. He was flying right up the middle of that canyon. I imagined for a second how that must look from his unique point of view and chills went up my back. I thought to myself, ‘I have to do that someday. That is just too cool for words!’

I never forgot that moment and can still remember it vividly, even over 20 years later. The power of that single moment of awareness lead me to later learn to fly Ultralights and eventually to get a regular pilot’s license and fly real airplanes.

It is amazing how a single moment like that can have such a profound effect on our lives. Perhaps you have had moments like this in your life. I suspect you have. It could have been the moment you first laid eyes on someone that later became your lover or spouse. It could have been the moment you first realized what your life’s work would be. It could have been any very insignificant thing that you looked at or experienced, but for you had a profound impact. I suggest you conjure up one or two of those moments now. Just remember what happened. What was it or who was it that you saw, tasted, smelled, or sensed in some way? Just remember it for a moment and perhaps reflect on how that might have affected your life from that point forward.

Now pick just one of those moments. I want to examine it a bit, as I have examined this one of mine. I want to ask you this question: Was it the thing that was happening that caused that euphoric feeling in you, or was it your openness to it? Another way of stating this would be, was the profound experience you had caused by the object of your attention or was it your attention itself that provided that experience? This is a profound question actually. If you spend a few moments with it, it could change your life.

There are many of these moments in most people’s lives. Some are more significant than others. I have had many, many of them and continue to have them. Some are very short and less impactful than others, like the feeling that came over me a couple of weeks ago as I looked out over the area I live in from the top of a local mountain peak. The view took my breath away and for a moment I was euphoric.

My contention here in this article is to say that it is these moments in our life that are the most important of all. I say that when one of us experiences one of these moments, it really affects us, and always in a positive, life-bringing way. These moments of illumination, we might call them, are the basis of many of our most important life choices. Think about it for a moment. Think about some of your most important life choices, like the ones that have you living where you live, doing what you do, sharing with whom you share. What was the inspiration for these choices? I believe that more often than not, the inspiration was
one of these ‘aha’ experiences, however brief. You may have even forgotten some of these but I bet you remember most of them.

And if this is true, if these moments of ‘open awareness’ where we see the true beauty of something or someone, are the keystones to our life choices, this tells us a great deal about who we are and what motivates us. Everyone is seeking fulfillment in some form. To each of us, that fulfillment will be a unique combination of forms. It could be having a relationship with a certain person, living in a certain place, possessing some object, attaining some goal (which is a mental form), or attaining some level of something. In all cases, it is us wanting to attain something. Something always refers to some object or form. There are so many books out there, and so many teachers, all willing to help us fulfill our ambition, all wanting to help us attain our goals and dreams and desires. But how often do we stop to examine these objects of our desire? Well, not the objects themselves, but the process that had us become attached to them, as a goal or dream. How often do we examine that dream-inspiration process.

Many books will tell you that it is not the things in life that we are really seeking after. It is something that we want from those things. These books will suggest that it is other things like love fulfillment, self-esteem, a feeling of belonging and other things that we are really looking for in our list of goals and dreams. I think this is true. But could there be something even deeper than that? And especially for all those objects on our list that were inspired from a moment of clarity as I have described here.

I say that it is never the object itself that gives us that euphoric feeling. This becomes apparent to all of after we have acquired that object. There is always a momentary sense of gratification but it never lasts. And the fulfillment that we imagined we would experience by possessing that object or reaching that goal never materializes. Never in the way we imagined it. And yet, these very imaginations often spring from a wonderful moment of clarity and realization.

As in my story of seeing that ultralight pilot that one evening, I had an incredible experience of awe. But what happened was I immediately associated flying an ultralight to that wonderful experience of awe that I felt. I made the mistake of thinking that flying an ultralight would allow me to have that experience anytime I wanted it. I made flying an ultralight a goal to be attained someday. And even though it took me over 15 years to attain it, I never forgot it. The truth is that it was really fulfilling to learn to fly and to fly an ultralight. But I was never able to recreate that initial feeling. And so it is for us all.

But what most of us really do not get is that it was the fact that our consciousness was open, even if just for a fraction of a second, that was the cause of our euphoric feeling. In other words, our opened awareness was the true source of that amazing experience that we had. And this will be true in all cases. But unless you or I are aware of this, we will always attach ourselves to the object of perception, and completely disregard the quality of perception itself, that was the true source.

This is the very essence of the malady that has most of us tied up in seeking goals that never fulfill. It is the very thing that all books on manifestation overlook as well. Many books and teachers can help us manifest things in our lives. But rarely do we stop to think about what made this or that thing important to us in the first place. Ultimately it is the quality of our openness that determines how truly happy and fulfilled we are. It is never really found in the objects we pursue. I am very excited about this personally. I find myself stopping and questioning many of my goals, ideas, thoughts and other mentally created objects to attain or pursue. I am struck by the truth that it is always the quality of my awareness each moment (or NOW) that determines my experience. And in the present moment, I find fulfillment. I have never found it by pursuing some goal or dream. It was never there to begin with. And even those most cherished goals of mine, like the one I describe here that was initiated by an amazing ‘aha’ moment, never brought me the fulfillment of the ‘aha’ moment itself. And if I can be more attentive, in the present, my
life could be a continuous string of ‘aha’ moments, not just one every few weeks, months or years, but always. Enough said!

All about Chiron and Your Chiron Card – Part One

What is Chiron and what does it mean to you, if anything? Well, Chiron is a planetary body found in our solar system, one that circles our sun like the other planets. It was only discovered recently and scientists are still not clear on exactly what it is. They are not sure if it is a comet, a planet or an asteroid. After it was discovered and received its name, many astrologers, including some prominent ones, decided to jump on the bandwagon to be the first to write about this heavenly body, even before they did any testing of it. It was largely greed that motivated these efforts and it is unfortunate because now we have most people thinking that the body Chiron is some sort of symbol for the ‘wounded healer’, which is a description which fits the centaur Chiron found in Greek mythology. In fact, the mythological Chiron has nothing to do with the planet, or comet or whatever Chiron is. And to add to that, the real name of Chiron is 2060 Chiron and it has been classified as a comet.

Nonetheless, Chiron has been found to hold significance, astrologically speaking. Not by those who tried to cash in on it’s discovery but by those who took the time to do some empirical research. The Magi Astrologers, who wrote Magi Astrology: The Key to Success in Love and Money, did their homework. This book has been out of print for a while but if you really want one, you can probably find a used copy on www.amazon.com.

In any event, it turns out that Chiron is a special influence indeed. And if we simply examine some basic facts about it, we might see how this is so. In the cards, there are 13 cards in each suit. At the center of each suit is the magical Seven. You can see this in the illustration here. And Seven is so magical for the reason that it sits with one side in the mundane and the other in the spiritual. The Seven has access to both and acts as a channel to bring the spiritual energies into the mundane world. This is why a Seven can bring the most profound success, if we know how to access it. Similarly, the comet 206 Chiron’s orbit has it right between Saturn and Uranus. Its orbit is so wide and eccentric that at times it touches upon the orbits of both Saturn and Uranus. Since Saturn is the last of the visible planets and Uranus is the first of the invisible, it can be said that 2060 Chiron acts as a bridge between the mundane world, signified by the inner planets and the spiritual realms, by the outer. Understanding the power of the Seven, one could also conclude from this that perhaps Chiron could bestow the most profound success, like a Seven can. And this turns out to be true.

The Magi Astrologers have found that when Chiron is in a good aspect to our other natal planets, it creates incredible success for the individual. Where it is in negative aspect, such as a square or opposition, it creates the opposite. I have verified that this is true. And it has other implications in relationship charts that are also very powerful. For these reasons, I call 2060 Chiron the ‘Magical Elixir’ because it is when it mixes with our planets that the magic occurs.

If you want to find out how 2060 Chiron is aspecting your natal planets, you only need to get your chart done. There are free services online for this. And wouldn’t it be good to know? But all this knowledge of Chiron got me thinking. Is there a Chiron Card that acts in a similar way in our Life Spread? I think so, and I will discuss this in our next issue!