



"ASTROLOGICAL LATTE"

or "Do You Like Whipped Cream with Your Planets?"

By Roberta Chapin

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Contents

Please Read This First.....	2
<i>Terms of Use</i>	2
<i>Disclaimer</i>	2
Contents	3
About the Author	5
Introduction	6
Acknowledgements	7
1 - The Planets, Their Symbolism and Meaning	8
The Moon.....	8
The Sun.....	9
Mercury.....	11
Venus	13
Mars.....	15
Jupiter	17
Saturn	18
Uranus	20
Neptune	23
Pluto.....	25
Chapter Two: The Signs	27
The Road the Planets Choose.....	27
<i>Aries</i>	27
<i>Taurus</i>	31
Gemini.....	35
Cancer.....	40
Horoscope of the United States of America	43
Leo.....	45
Virgo.....	50
Libra	55
Scorpio	60
Sagittarius	64

Capricorn.....	68
Aquarius	72
Pisces	76
Chapter Three: The Aspects - The Direction the Road Takes.....	80
Conjunction.....	82
Sextile	83
Square.....	84
Trine	85
Opposition.....	86
Inconjunct.....	87
Mutual Reception.....	88
Chapter Four: The Houses - Every Road Leads Somewhere.....	89
Chapter Five: The Complete Itinerary	94
Chapter Six: Synastry – People We Meet Along the Road	99
Chapter Seven: Electional Astrology – Plan the Trip Ahead.....	106
Chapter Eight: Horary Astrology – What we did not Plan	109
Chapter Nine: Mundane Astrology – What We Cannot Plan	112
Chapter Ten: Travelogue – More Trips to Take	117

About the Author

Roberta Chapin has been teaching and doing personal consultations since 1988. She is continually enlarging her knowledge through attending lectures and extensive reading. She resides in North Olmsted, Ohio with her Taurus St. Bernard, Molly.

Roberts is working on her website, <http://www.aspectsofastrology.com/>, which offers a blog as well as contact information if you are interested in obtaining a professional treatment of your horoscope.

Introduction

This is a somewhat tongue-in-cheek introduction to astrology, meant to inform but also to entertain.

The perspective is North American.

The intention is to encourage the readers into further research and interpretation.

I've included links to useful websites in the Travelogue section. These will take the reader to limitless resources on the subject of astrology. You will be able to calculate your own chart provided that you know your birth time, the day and location.

You can learn about the branches of astrology covered in this text as well as many techniques for predictive astrology.

To get a free birth chart so that you can follow along with the text, go to:

<http://www.khaldea.com/>

Acknowledgements

As I explain the dynamics of their birth chart to my clients, some suggest that I write a book.

This endeavor is for them.

From my beginning astrology classes in the early 70's, given in the homes of renowned astrologers in Lakewood and Rocky River, Ohio, to my present state of independent study and readings, so many generous and supportive peers and professionals helped me attain the knowledge and experience I now possess.

Astrology is a field with possibly the most talented and inspired minds. It has been my honor to be in their company and glean what I needed to know from them.

They could not possibly teach me everything they know but they have certainly taught me everything I know!

Libby and Laura were there for me so many times when I needed a sounding board. They deserve a special Thank You!

Lastly, this is for George. His expertise made this possible. His vision changed my life.

1 - The Planets, Their Symbolism and Meaning



The Moon

The **MOON** is the swiftest moving of the ten bodies we study. She moves through all twelve signs about every twenty-eight days. She is perpetually in motion.

Our everyday routines reflect her waxing and waning. The moon represents the common, the ordinary, the everyday and its people.

Imagine the MOON cooking a big family dinner.

First, she investigates the cupboards and freezer looking for the needed provisions. She will be selecting from meat, poultry, fish or vegetarian choices. Then she decides if she will bake, boil, grill or sauté the main course. It might even be a cold dish that she dreams up. Her **New Moon** phase is much like the starting point of the meal.

At the **First Quarter** of the Moon, she will be busily putting together the right side dishes and starting to think about a tasty dessert.

This is where she may encounter her first issues; the rice must be pulled off quickly or it will overcook, or the potatoes need to be mashed just when the gravy is starting to thicken.

If she resolves the problems that arise now, she can set the table and call everyone in to eat.

As she lays out all the delicious fixings, we see how this resembles the **Full Moon** phase.

This is where the efforts made from the start of the New Moon show their greatest accomplishment. Just like the big ol' Full Moon shining up in the sky, the completed meal is ready to be consumed.

She can take in the compliments or let out some steam, depending on the finished product.

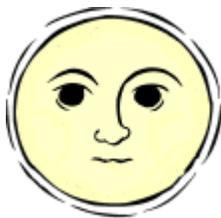
As the moon starts to decrease in size, so does the amount of food left on the table. If she forgot to take the strawberries out and cut them up for the dessert, she will be in a hurry to finish them, whip the heavy cream and get the shortcakes out of the oven. Here, at the **Last Quarter** phase, she meets these challenges by serving up a mouthwatering dessert, just as everyone is groaning that they cannot possibly eat another morsel!

Just as soon as everyone pushes back from the table thoroughly satisfied, the moon goes into her **Final Phase** of clearing the table, putting away leftovers and tidying up the dishes. This closely resembles the **Waning Moon**, finishing any loose ends.

Every 28 days of the Moon's cyclic activity mirrors this type of domestic event.

What we have just observed is the moon in action. Since the moon symbolizes the home and women, the analogy to the family dinner can keep in your mind the mission the moon has every month.

The moon has a close relationship to the Fourth House.



The Sun

When we even dare to peek at the SUN, his brilliance can be enough to temporarily blind us. This is akin to judging people by their sun signs. Temporarily, we are blinded by the high energy this vital body emits so we may overlook other worthwhile traits someone possesses.

The SUN is number one on the music charts, the most often played tune, the song with the most memorable words. They roll off our lips without giving it much thought. The SUN is how we most often project our ego.

We are most comfortable when we can easily project the qualities of our SUN sign.

You can judge how consistent the SUN is by its predictable path.

In the spring at the vernal equinox, it marches into motion.

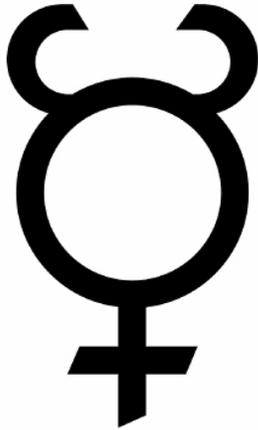
It will take roughly a month to pass through each sign of the zodiac. This never changes from year to year.

Our calendar corresponds to the movement of the SUN through the signs.

The heat from SUN warms any other planet it contacts. But, it tends to outshine any planets that are very close. This characteristic of the SUN plays an important role when you begin to interpret the Horoscope.

Since most people know their SUN sign, it is easier to interpret the meaning given to the SUN through each sign. People can readily identify with the traits of their SUN sign.

The Sun has a close relationship with the Fifth House of the Horoscope.



Mercury

When we think of MERCURY, it reminds us of quicksilver, the substance that used to be in thermometers. MERCURY adjusts its size according to the temperature. It expands in the heat and retracts in the cold.

In early myths, MERCURY was the Messenger of the Gods. MERCURY personifies Communication.

MERCURY stays pretty close to the Sun all year long, maybe lagging behind or forging in front of the Sun a bit.

If MERCURY is in the same sign as the Sun, we sometimes see a little less objectivity, a little more embracing of one's own words and thoughts.

This tendency is most pronounced when the Sun and MERCURY are in Leo.

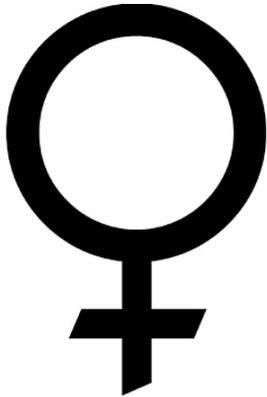
This is less discernable, but still present, when the Sun and MERCURY are in the opposite sign of Aquarius.

More than other planets, MERCURY takes on the flavor of any planets close to it. When we hop in the car to go on errands, MERCURY is on display as it is when we write short notes or articles.

MERCURY in the Horoscope shows how our communications work for us.

Since MERCURY is sexless, it represents brothers and sisters of ours with whom we have a sexless relationship. Since MERCURY is sexless, it can take masculine or feminine roles with equal balance. Learning - as separate from education - is a task performed equally well by either sex.

This is why we look to MERCURY to see a person's ability to learn. MERCURY holds sway over the Third and Sixth houses of the horoscope.



Venus

VENUS reminds me of beauty. She is the Love Goddess, surrounding herself with ardent admirers. She is all things feminine.

Ponder the Orchid corsage; beautiful, delicate, in good taste and expensive.

Let us go shopping for an outfit with VENUS. It has to be color-coordinated, flattering and tasteful, within her budget and it has to appeal to her significant other.

If she is not rushed, she will remember to tuck her coupons into the designer purse she found for "practically nothing" the previous week.

We see her touching the fabrics on the 50% off sale rack. Nothing feels right.

She may wander to the Sportswear section. Here, most of the items are pre-matched with complimentary hues. If she wants to get the trip over and get on to luncheon, she will settle for the beige sweater and the matching cashmere, fully lined suit.

Before deciding, she glances at the gold Pave' watch that she received as a gift. How often she smiles and remembers receiving the timepiece. A former fiancée who was eager to please her bought it for their very special day. She could have returned it when they decided to part ways, but he insisted she should keep it as a token of the love they had shared.

She still has an hour before the Annual Garden Club luncheon. This gives VENUS plenty of time to browse through the newly arrived items in the high fashion section. Maybe she will try on the creamy yellow linen pantsuit.

As she lifts it gently from the display, a bold hounds tooth check and solid black dress catches her artful eye. She takes both items and heads for the dressing room.

As flattering as the color of the yellow suit is, she really should take off a few pounds before she wears it.

The black and checked dress is made for her! The square cut neckline emphasizes her graceful shoulders and comely neck.

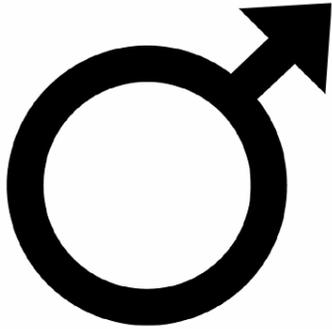
She can wear her matching diamond pendant and earrings.

She gathers up both outfits and heads for the cashier.

She settles into her Lexus sedan and decides to take the more leisurely route through the metro park. She is on her way to accepting the \$500.00 First Prize in the Best of Show Rose Exhibition that is awarded immediately following the luncheon.

VENUS smoothes the way for us. VENUS always makes things prettier, more expensive and, above all, in good taste.

When we have a five course delectable dinner with someone very special, that is VENUS leading the way.



Mars

As Venus gracefully exits, out springs MARS.

We get our warrior instincts, sex drive, lead foot and all matters that convey a sense of urgency from fiery MARS. Race car fans are living out their Martian zeal vicariously by watching the challenges the drivers encounter during a 300 or 500 lap event.

When we lose our head and start spouting off at someone who cut us off in traffic, MARS is driving us at full speed.

Let us just observe MARS doing some heavy yard work. He checks the engine on the power mower, revs it up and cuts the lawn speedily.

Next, he sharpens the blade on the hedge clippers, and chops the front bushes evenly.

Next, Mars cuts a small edge around the entire lawn.

He's ready for the gasoline powered blower to quickly remove all the debris from the sidewalk and driveway.

Now, he cracks open a can of beer and eyes up the pretty new neighbor across the street planting her garden.

As seen above, MARS represents action.

Knowing when to act is one example of the best use of Martian energy.

Believe me, there is energy where MARS goes.

We would not be able to run around the block without a dose of MARS.

When we want to bench press 100 pounds, MARS is there giving us the strength.

The daredevil actions taken by youngsters are unbridled MARS. They are not yet experienced enough to adequately manage the high energy MARS provides, so an accident can easily happen.

Maturity requires other planets contacting our MARS to shape how we will eventually react to its powerful influence.

Be assured that where MARS is operating, there will be action!

24

Jupiter

As we expand our study, out rolls **JUPITER** like a giant ball.

It can be our winning Keno number popping up while we are on a cruise to Monte Carlo and other exotic ports of call.

On the other hand, JUPITER might be that urge to splurge we felt when we first saw the ancient Chinese pottery at the College Alumni yearly auction.

A World Philosophies course taps into the mind broadening drive (JUPITER) to expand our horizons. When we visualize a globe-trekking vacation, JUPITER will be in the background providing a diverse itinerary.

Anyone inspired by Christianity, Buddhism or other religious belief is using JUPITER'S gifts. JUPITER can be thought of as a major university in a far-flung city; we can experience major mind expansion AND it is a very long trip.

The incredible luck sometimes associated with JUPITER possibly comes about through distant journeys of the mind allowing us to visualize the prize. How often we have heard a big winner say, "I just knew it was coming my way!" They already saw it happening.

JUPITER comes along to encourage us to think bigger thoughts, understand larger concepts and see the world as our personal arena of life.

Go ahead, hit the lottery and use the winnings to earn a Doctorate in Global studies. On your breaks, take in the Grand Canyon and the Himalayas.

JUPITER bestows the biggest blessings, enjoy!

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