

SOLAR RETURN REPORT

An Astro Gold Report for Lady Gaga



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Compliments of:

Dream Life New Zealand

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Lady Gaga

Solar Return

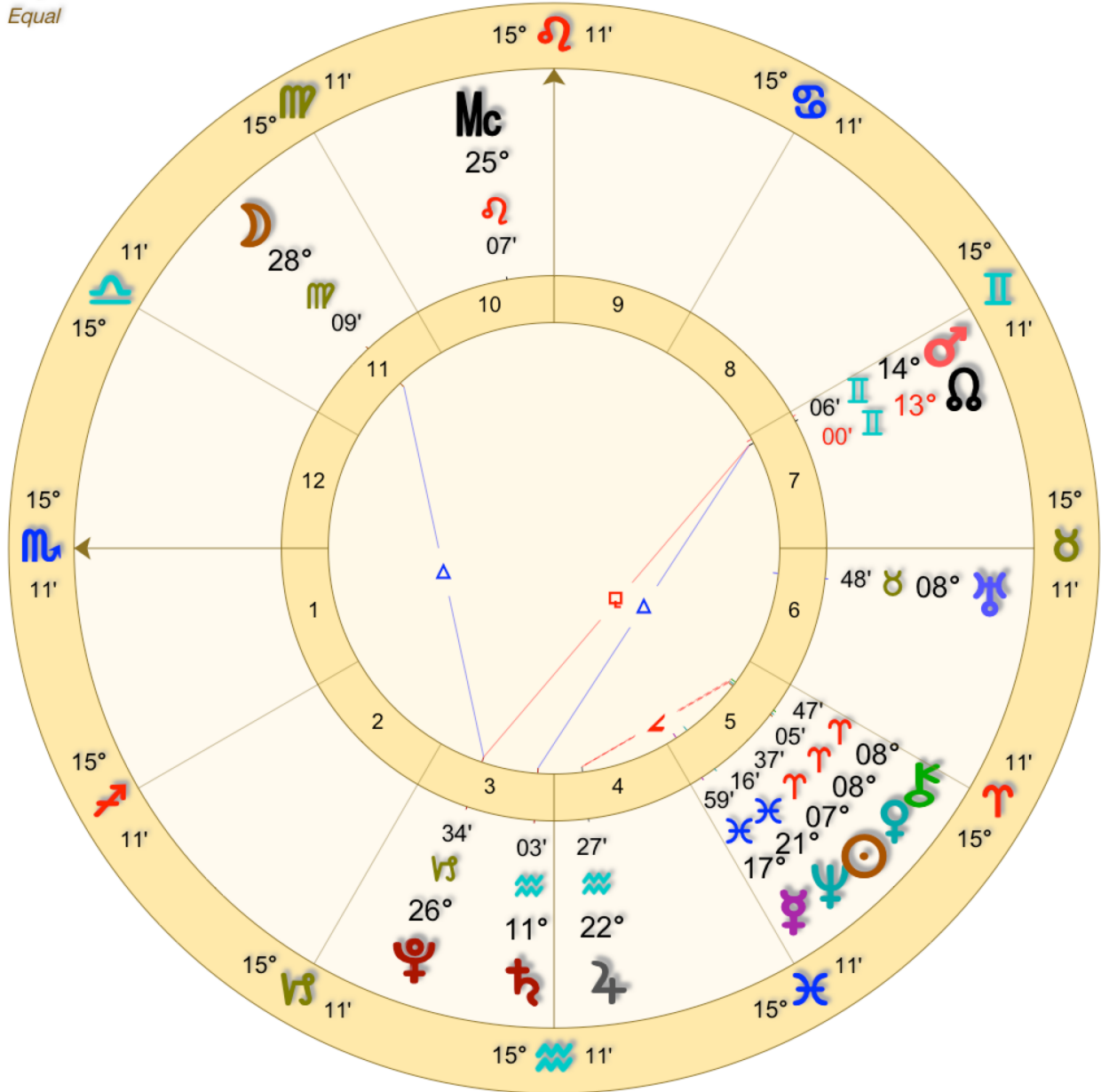
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New York, New York

Geocentric

Tropical

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Astrological SummaryChart Point Positions: Lady Gaga

Planet	Sign	Position	House	Comment
The Moon	Virgo	28°Vi09'	11th	
The Sun	Aries	07°Ar37'	5th	
Mercury	Pisces	17°Pi59'	5th	
Venus	Aries	08°Ar05'	5th	
Mars	Gemini	14°Ge06'	7th	
Jupiter	Aquarius	22°Aq27'	4th	
Saturn	Aquarius	11°Aq03'	3rd	
Uranus	Taurus	08°Ta48'	6th	
Neptune	Pisces	21°Pi16'	5th	
Pluto	Capricorn	26°Cp34'	3rd	
Chiron	Aries	08°Ar47'	5th	
The North Node	Gemini	13°Ge00'	7th	
The Ascendant	Scorpio	15°Sc12'	1st	
The Midheaven	Leo	25°Le07'	10th	

Chart Point Aspects: Lady Gaga

Planet	Aspect	Planet	Orb	App/Sep
The Moon	Trine	Pluto	1°34'	Separating
The Sun	Conjunction	Venus	0°27'	Separating
The Sun	Semisquare	Jupiter	0°10'	Separating
The Sun	Conjunction	Chiron	1°09'	Applying
Venus	Semisquare	Jupiter	0°38'	Separating
Venus	Conjunction	Chiron	0°41'	Applying
Mars	Conjunction	The North Node	1°06'	Separating
Mars	Quincunx	The Ascendant	1°05'	Separating
Jupiter	Semisquare	Chiron	1°19'	Applying
Saturn	Trine	The North Node	1°56'	Applying
Pluto	Sesquisquare	The North Node	1°25'	Applying
Pluto	Quincunx	The Midheaven	1°27'	Applying
Chiron	Sesquisquare	The Midheaven	1°20'	Separating

Introduction



"Because time itself is like a spiral, something special happens on your birthday each year: The same energy that God invested in you at birth is present once again."

-- Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson

Many people are familiar with their own astrological sign because Sun sign astrology is popular in today's culture. However astrology is a complicated tradition and many other techniques exist. These techniques can be used to gain greater understanding of a persons nature, but also of their current opportunities. A Birth Chart is produced that astrologers can interpret. This you probably know. What you may not know is that astrologers can also calculate a chart for each of your birthdays, and these charts can predict the patterns that you might experience in the forthcoming year. This is because each year the Sun does a full revolution of the Zodiac. Therefore each year the Sun returns to the exact position of your Birth Chart Sun. Wherever you are in the world astrologers can calculate this birthday chart. This chart is called a Solar Return; hence the saying "many happy returns". This chart represents the opportunities and challenges of the forthcoming year. It should also be read in conjunction with your Birth Chart to fully understand the lessons and opportunities available to you in any given year.

When using these Solar Return interpretations, please bear in mind that, inevitably, every chart will contain some contradictory influences. As a result certain interpretations of different items in the same chart may seem difficult to reconcile. However, this may still be an accurate reflection of your chart, as it is likely that you do experience conflicting desires, events and circumstances in your life. Usually an astrologer will synthesise these apparent contradictions in order to present a cohesive and meaningful interpretation of the dilemmas of the chart.

Please also be aware of the fact that each person possesses both positive and negative influences in the chart, and therefore in their lives. The challenge is to accept and overcome the negative influences, so that we can successfully focus on manifesting the positive traits or qualities. This report outlines both influences, and therefore helps us to rise to the challenges during any given year. Any advice given is meant to be an aid the individual in taking responsibility for his or her own life. Ultimately the decision rests with each individual.

THIS YEAR'S MAJOR THEME

And in the end, it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years.

-- Abraham Lincoln, US 16th President

The Ascendant

The Ascendant indicates your primary focus of the year. It shows your main direction and how you are likely to go about achieving your goals. The Ascendant indicates whether you are more likely to be self-motivated, or whether you are more likely to rely on other people during this year.

The Ascendant is in Scorpio

Your birthday chart Ascendant is in a feminine Water sign indicating that this year during which you are more introspective. As a result you are more likely to be focussed on your feelings, rather than your intellect. In astrological terms the three Water signs are considered fertile. Therefore you may be considering whether or not to bear to a child, or perhaps to give birth to a new project. Nevertheless if you do seek a new project or professional advancement then you are more likely to cooperate in a team, rather than step forward as a leader. Your creative process is also likely to be a gradual process as you give birth to ideas, reflecting on different options, and letting these ideas gently transform into actuality. Even if this is not your usual modus operandi, this year you are content to go slow and perhaps even take a back seat. You may be more focussed on the needs of others rather than yourself. Emotions may run high during the course of this year depending on other aspects of your astrology. Your journey is to learn to follow your intuition, taking into consideration other people's views, but not submerging your own desires too severely. If you focus too much on other people's approval then you could lose your way. You are better advised to be thoughtful and caring, but also to value your own feelings and needs.

The intense sign of Scorpio urges you to discover your own emotional truth. Logic, both your own and other people's, is unlikely to feature largely during this year. You are sharply aware of the role that emotions play in people's interactions and decisions, and are keen to discover the emotional truth. Other people may only be partly aware of the insights that you are gaining, both into your own subconscious motivations and theirs. However, you are ready to pounce, changing the course of your own life, and perhaps profoundly affecting the lives of others. Truths that have been buried in the past are likely to surface during this year. Perhaps you trusted loved ones only to discover that all was not as it seemed. It is not too late to honestly appraise emotional situations and put them right, however; you may have to be willing to step into murky waters before real healing and cleansing can take place. Although this is an intense year, it is a very enlightening one. You are shining a light on the darker corners of your past and present, so that you can gain greater understanding, forgive yourself and others, and walk on with a much lighter load.

The Sun

The Sun is very important when interpreting a Solar Return chart given that the chart is based on the Sun. It

indicates the major theme of the year depicting the area in which you would really like to shine. Parts of your life that have been seemingly unimportant in previous years can become very important once the Sun shines its light in a particular house of a Solar Return chart.

The Sun is in the 5th House

If you have been hanging out for a lighter, brighter year then this is it. The major theme for this year is creativity and fun. It is time to play. From creation will spring forth. You can do anything that you choose to do. This is your time to express yourself. You can dance, sing, act, design, write, paint, experiment in mathematics or science, or anything that your heart desires. Last year you sought knowledge, this year your imagination can reign. As physicist Albert Einstein once said, *"I am enough of an artist to draw freely upon my imagination. Imagination is more important than knowledge. Knowledge is limited. Imagination encircles the world."* Nevertheless you may choose to study or teach a course in something that inspires your creative genius. This is not a year to be cautious, but rather to take risks. This may be as simple as believing in yourself, backing your own abilities. Alternatively you may like to sky dive, parachute or fly to another country. This is your time. Read, research and take off in your mind or on a plane. Romance may also be in the air. If you are married then you are likely to seek more romance from your spouse. If you are single then a new romantic interest may enter your life. Only time will tell whether or not this is a serious relationship. The time is ripe for fun and frolic. Later you can assess your relationship options. Towards the end of the year you may like to start considering how you are spending your resources, but only after you have had some fun and explored your opportunities in many areas of your life.

On a slightly different note children may play a role this year. It is more likely that you are required to explore your inner child, however; it is also possible that you seek the company of children. Perhaps you are enjoying spending time with a newborn baby, or perhaps a grown-up child has left the nest and you are no longer required to take responsibility but rather to enjoy your child's company. Once again the emphasis is on enjoyment, finding creative solutions and laying the groundwork either for new avenues of self-expression or for new moneymaking ventures.

10th House Cusp is in Leo

The Sun also shines its rays on a different area of your annual chart when taking into account rulerships, a system used by astrologers to link planets and signs. In your case your annual Sun is ruling the tenth house of your chart indicating that you are also focussed on matters directly linked to career, marital status or parenthood. During the course of your year you are likely to make life-changing decisions regarding the course of your career, or your marital status. Your role as a parent or grandparent may change, as you welcome the birth of a child, or as older children leave home.

Sun is Conjunct Venus

This is your year to be on your toes when it comes to love and money. On the positive side you can reap rewards from an existing or new partnership. If you are single then you are likely to attract a significant lover, one who sparks heartfelt attraction, but who also challenges you to assess your relationship values. Do you want love and commitment, or are you just playing? Do you like the dating game or are you ready to settle down? If so this process is likely to demand some changes in your lifestyle. Are you prepared to make these changes? A strong and loving relationship has the potential to change your sense of who you are. The longer that you have been single, the harder you are likely to find it to change some of your habits. During the course of the year you need to dig deep and ask yourself some tough questions if you want to make a commitment. If you are ready to change your sense of self, update your image and move into a loving bond with another person then this is your year to fall in love and marry. If you are in love and ready for a commitment then your love deepens. Perhaps you have a new opportunity to reunite with a love from your past, or perhaps you have fallen in love with someone new. If you are ready, willing and able to make a commitment then your bond deepens. If you are already married, or in a committed partnership, then your lover is likely to demand changes. This may relate to the way in which you express yourself and your love, or it could involve money matters. You may welcome these changes, delighting in a newfound romance or you may feel a little overwhelmed. Take your time and love will find a way. A little financial planning can be a positive course of action during this period. You may be tempted to spend your money on pleasure - fashion, beauty, the arts, dining out and short trips. However, you need to balance this with your long term goals. Budget for pleasure, and don't be tempted to overspend. Perhaps the most pertinent question that you can ask and answer for yourself is, where does my true passion lie? Once you have the answer to this question then you are set to move forward and make a commitment either to yourself and your own passionate pastimes, or

to a very special person.

Sun is Semisquare Jupiter

The beneficial planet Jupiter is shining its powerful rays on you indicating that you can enjoy a year of growth and success. Good fortune is with you. More than ever you are able to see your own life in terms of the big picture, as if you were observing a fortunate character in a paperback novel, an epic film or a theatrical production. You are able to be the leading man or lady in your own life story, and to enjoy the journey. However, you may come across these discoveries are a period of soul-searching. You are not handed your good fortune on a silver platter. Rather you have to seek nuggets of wisdom as you journey through this year. At times you are likely to feel like a super hero, able to leap tall buildings in a single bound. You are optimistic, gladly trying out new activities and ventures. You may even journey to a different location in order to gain experience in a certain field, or to learn more about yourself. Despite some setbacks, you are generally lucky as others notice your natural enthusiasm and willingly lend a helping hand. In fact you may receive rewards from people in high places. This is one of those years when doors open almost as soon as you state your request. It is almost as if you have your own personal genie in the sky, granting your wishes. If you are young then you may attract some benefactors this year, those who wish to see you do well in life and are willing to go out of their way to offer a lending hand. In fact this ability to be a magnet for a beneficial mentor, teacher, or benefactor can occur this year no matter how young or old you are. You are popular, happy-go-lucky, free to explore new options and able to take great strides towards your goals. However there are some pitfalls along your life path and you need to be wary so that you can make the most of the good fortune that comes your way. You don't want to squander opportunities. For one, you need only beware of expecting too much, and becoming greedy. An unassuming eagerness for advancement and adventure is one thing, self-importance is quite another. An attitude of gratitude goes a long way to helping you on your journey. If your ego is starting to become over-inflated think of this quote from the famous Walt Whitman, *henceforth I ask not good fortune. I myself am good fortune.* In other words start to spread good fortune for others, rather than seek it for yourself. This is also your year to become a benefactor, teacher or mentor.

THIS YEAR'S PERSONAL MATTERS



"The greatest comfort of my old age, and that which gives me the highest satisfaction, is the pleasing remembrance of the many benefits and friendly offices I have done to others."

-- Marcus Cato Roman Statesman

The Moon

The Moon is also an important indicator in a Solar Return chart. Generally speaking the Moon shows which areas of your life are likely to undergo change during the year. More specifically the Moon shows your personal needs. Your individual needs and urges are likely to trigger changes in your life during the course of the year.

The Moon is in the 11th House

Friendships are likely to change during the course of this year. Your bonds with close friends and colleagues stir deep feelings. This could be for many reasons. Perhaps your life path has changed and your friendships have changed as a result. Perhaps you have new friends who are challenging you to think in different ways. It is also possible that you have discovered a deeper love for one of your close friends. There may be a period during which you are on your own as you sort through your changing feelings. The challenge is for you to focus on your own goals and let those around you come and go. Hold on lightly. The Swedish group ABBA has a song with lyrics that could provide some comfort and guidance right now, *"I have a dream, a song to sing, to help me cope with anything. If you see the wonder of a fairy tale you can take the future even if you fail"*. Now is your time to dream, and follow those dreams. This could be a specific project, a new business idea, or perhaps a hobby. Whatever your own personal dreams, this is your year to pursue them. Follow your intuition.

The Moon is in Virgo

The Moon currently resides in the element of Earth in the sign of Virgo indicating that this is the year in which you take charge of your own life, in particular your own health and happiness. You need to get practical about personal matters. If you want to go out and play then this is an unlikely year. Right now you have too many responsibilities, which you need to tackle before you can even contemplate a lighter side to life. You need to take control, in the most positive sense of the word. This may involve some re-organisation, sacrifice of immediate emotional needs, and hard work. Instant gratification is not the order of the day. If you want to make the most of the opportunities that come your way during the year, then you need to stay focussed and take charge of your life. It is a busy year during which you can achieve much if you manage your life well. You need to use your common sense, plan your schedule and keep your nose to the grindstone. In personal matters you are inclined to be more detached. You are able to make decisions based on logic and analysis. You can formulate a plan for your personal life and carry it out in detail. This may also be true for your working environment if you are in a position of responsibility. You are less likely to tolerate uncooperative employees or co-workers. Your decisions are more likely to be based on sound analysis of a situation rather than emotion. As a result of the changes that you make this year, your daily life may not be as comfortable as usual, but you are not seeking comfort this year. You are practical, methodical and ready to exchange bad habits. You may have something to prove to yourself, or to your loved ones. Either way you have the mental resources to adopt new behaviour that promotes your health and happiness. You can apply yourself with more self-discipline than usual. For instance you may incorporate a specialised training

schedule in order to prepare for a particular project. This has the benefit of keeping you fit, as well as helping you achieve your goals in areas that matter a great deal to you personally. In fact right now you need to pay attention to your bodily needs, rather than your spiritual ones. You need to eat more healthily and improve your diet. If you don't then you visit the doctor or health professionals more often than you would like. The good news is that others are likely to notice the manner in which you conduct your life. Your good deeds can earn you the respect that you seek. New habits and routines adopted now stand you in good stead for a healthy and happy future.

Moon is Trine Pluto

Birth and renewal are themes in your domestic life. This could literally depict a pregnancy and birth of a baby, or it could more metaphorically indicate emotional renewal. Either way you are likely to experience some deep feelings this year, triggered by an event or a person. This is a significant year of change in your personal life. If you try to resist the forces of change then you are likely to experience distress. Your feelings are powerful, perhaps overwhelming at times, however; you are strong and able to end one chapter of your private life and experience the elation that comes from renewal. You are well advised to avoid struggle and conflict and where possible go with the flow. Imagine yourself as a vehicle for the outpouring of emotions. Let them flow through you, rather than fear and resist them. If you can trust the changes that are occurring in your domestic life, and perhaps also your body and allow them to take place, then you are likely to feel cleansed. You need to also have confidence in your feelings of distrust for anyone who plays a prominent role in your personal matters. If your emotional antennae tell you that someone is trying to manipulate or control you then you need to deal with this situation as soon as possible, even if it means walking away. Of course you feel sad as a phase of your life ends, or as you say goodbye to a special person, yet these can also be sacred times, where you learn to have faith in yourself. You are able to recognize your emotional strength as well as form strong bonds with those closest to you. Gradually you realize the privilege of shared emotional experiences and being intimately linked with another human being, whether this is through the process of birth, death, or perhaps marriage. The emotional bonds formed this year are strong.

Venus

The planet Venus sheds light on the personal areas of love and finance in the forthcoming year. This planet of love tells you whether or not personal relationships are likely to be prominent during the year. If you are single then are you likely to attract a significant relationship? If you are married is this a year of romance and fun, or perhaps one in which you tackle a few changes.

Venus is in the 5th House

The planet of love is residing in the astrological house of pleasure emphasizing that love is a hot topic this year. Romance is a key feature of your life, whether this is because you are love struck, witness someone else's tender liaison, or write a romance novel. If you are already in a serious relationship, then you may marry this year. If you are already married, then you may experience a renewed sense of love and pleasure. It is also possible that a close friend or family member has fallen in love, and you enjoy observing their happiness. If you are single then the most likely scenario is that you meet someone, fall in love and enjoy a courtship period. This may lead to a commitment, but this depends on other aspects of your annual chart. Right now you are content to enjoy the experience of being in love, the pleasure of your lover's company and the renewed sense of meaning this attachment brings to your life. Of course, you may enjoy formalizing your love with a betrothal or wedding ceremony. If so, then you are likely to take great pleasure in each stage of the relationship, from the courtship, through to the ceremony and honeymoon and eventually to living together. Your passions are aroused this year. If you are not smitten with a lover, you are likely to be infatuated with a project or perhaps a child. If you are a parent, then this is an ideal year to enjoy the company of your offspring. If you are involved in an artistic field, then a particularly appealing project may be on offer, or the creative juices flow, or someone offers you a gift that enables you to pursue your art with greater abandon. Perhaps you meet your muse. Make the most of the gifts that come your way because this is your year to pursue pleasure in a form that most appeals to you.

Venus is in Aries

The planet of love is in a Fire sign this year indicating that you are more adventurous in love and money matters. Generally speaking you are more willing to take risks when it comes to love and money. Even if you usually enjoy security, you are prepared to venture out of your comfort zone a little. If you are single and looking for a lover, then you are likely to be attracted to outgoing, artistic or adventurous types. If you are attached, then you or your partner is likely to initiate changes. You are ready. Look at other aspects of your annual chart for more details on your personal life.

Venus is Semisquare Jupiter

You are seeking greener pastures in your personal life, ventures that pay off emotionally or financially. This could mean that you are prepared to travel this year, to pursue a romance or more lucrative work. You are ready to take a risk in order to receive the rewards. This could produce some tense moments, as you wait to see if your speculation pays off. On the whole you are lucky in love and money this year. In other words your ventures are likely to pay off, as long as you have not been too grandiose. If you have taken a calculated risk, and remained focussed on the long term benefits while you make a few short term adjustments, then you are likely to succeed. If you over reach your limits then you are likely to suffer a fall from grace. Fortunately your loved ones are nearby to offer assistance while you pick yourself up and rearrange your life. Whether you realize it or not you are going to be better off than you thought possible. The angels are watching over you and the beneficial effects of the two positive planets of Venus and Jupiter are many fold. After a period of loneliness or embarrassment or some such self-inflicted consequence, you are stronger and more optimistic than ever. However, this is a worst case scenario. It is more likely that you enjoy the benefits of the good fortune that shines on your love life and your money matters. On an emotional level you stand to gain a greater understanding of yourself and others, forming positive bonds with loved ones. This is your year for the getting of wisdom. On a financial level, your investments are likely to pay off. You gain a more rewarding job, or a friend helps you out, or you receive increased dividends. It is time to enjoy your good fortune, and share it with your friends and loved ones.

THIS YEAR'S CHALLENGES



"If we could be twice young and twice old we could correct all our mistakes."
-- Euripides Ancient Greek Playwright

Mars

The planet Mars tells you about your assertion and drive for the year. It depicts what motivates you in the current year, and what desires drive you most powerfully. Are you ambitious for professional power, or do you desire a meaningful relationship? Are you likely to be highly motivated, or perhaps ready to sit back and cruise for a while? These are the types of questions answered by the qualities of the planet Mars in your birthday chart.

Mars is in the 7th House

The sparks are flying in your partnerships this year. The positive note sounded right now is one of excitement, sexual tension, and energetic co-operation in business and personal affiliations. If you are single then you may meet someone who really lights your fires, and changes your personal life. If you are married then you are keen to involve your spouse in your activities and projects. You seek their enthusiasm and involvement, at the same time expecting your beloved to accept your guidance. It is also possible that an event in your own or your spouse's life triggers a change of circumstances this year. Sexual attraction is likely to be a strong force in your major relationship this year. You are keen to share positive sensual experiences, and may become disgruntled if the feelings are not shared. You may feel frustrated, tempted to have an extra-marital affair. All being well, this year sees your marriage or business partnerships flourishing with renewed vigour and excitement. The problem is that you may be expecting too much. The planet Mars is a feisty one, that often incites arrogance in those who have this tendency. Therefore you need to be wary of being too pushy. You may have plenty of energy and drive, but perhaps you are compelling your partner to follow your lead, when he or she has other plans. If you are not careful joint projects can become a battle of wills, yours against your partner's. This likely to aggravate you, and fail to produce the results that you want. Of course, if someone else is standing in your way you can end the alliance. This is your choice, but you need to be sure that you are doing this for the right reasons. If you are simply being childish, taking your ball and playing elsewhere because you haven't been able to force your own way, then you are likely to miss out on all the benefits of a loving marriage, or a successful business partnership. On the other hand if you have done all that you can to co-operate and feel that the battle has reached a standoff, or worse still is showing signs of violence, then you may decide that the time has come to move on. In this case you and your partner could part ways this year. Imagine that you are in charge of a team of headstrong, harnessed horses, pent up and keen to take off. What is the best way of handling this spirited team? The answer is to keep calm and disciplined guidance through the reins, as well as giving the team enough freedom to race ahead. This is how you can harness your own feelings when it comes to your involvement with your spouse or business associates.

Uranus

The planet Uranus is one of disclosure. It reveals the areas that you need to change during the course of your

birthday year. If you are the type of person who anticipates and embraces new experiences then you are likely to delight in the challenges, and instigate a few of your own in the area highlighted by this unpredictable planet. If you tend to prevaricate, preferring the comfort on known situations, then you are likely to be in for a few surprises. This erratic planet does not recognise safety and security. Its task is to help you to grow beyond your limitations. You can either accept or resist the challenge and see what happens as a result.

Uranus is in the 6th House

It is time to re-evaluate your level of job satisfaction. If you are happy in your working environment then you are likely to accept any changes that occur, as being for the best. Your workplace may change, colleagues may come and go, your salary may vary, and duties alter. If you believe that you are on the right path in your job then you are likely to welcome the variations in your workaday world. If you are dissatisfied then the time has come to make a move. You may be restless and unsure of what changes to make. If this is the case then you need to explore your options, and perhaps seek the advice of an expert. If you have been putting off decisions, then you may decide to leave your work in order to take on a role as a parent, or to re-train in another profession. If you are generally happy with your overall career then it is still important that your everyday job is pleasurable. Otherwise you need move to a more rewarding working environment. If you resist the winds of change then you are likely to be forced into making a decision anyway. Wouldn't it be a better situation if you were to take the initiative? It is time to embrace a little excitement in your daily life, particularly if you have been in a rut. A new diet, exercise program and quitting any bad habits can really help propel you into a happier lifestyle. This may also give you the confidence to take the initiative and apply for different jobs. You may also seek an alternative lifestyle this year, something a little bit out of the ordinary. If you have always desired a change, a move to a different location or adopting a more environmentally friendly lifestyle then this is your year. A change is as good as a holiday as the old cliché goes.

Pluto

Peace can be deceptive. True peace comes when life is balanced, when you are living true to yourself and are sincerely happy with your life choices. You respect other people and assert your own needs and wishes, and live your life with integrity. Sometimes it appears that your life is peaceful, but you are really just sweeping things under the proverbial carpet, keeping the peace by swallowing your own needs or biding your time until events or people force you to make the necessary changes. You can be assured that the powerful planet Pluto will shine a bright light in one or more areas of your birthday chart and you will see your own process very clearly. If you are living your life true to yourself then you are likely to reap benefits from this planet of transformation. However, if you have been dodging the truth then events or people are likely to change.

Pluto is in the 3rd House

The powerful planet Pluto is highlighted in the areas of communications. This year you are undergoing changes in the way in which you express yourself. The planet Pluto has an uncanny ability to strip self-deceit and force us to face the truth. You are being challenged to see the truth about the ways in which you communicate with other people, particularly siblings and neighbours. Are you expressing yourself in an assertive and positive manner, or are you allowing subconscious forces to influence your thoughts? Are you being bullied by anyone, or are you the one who is trying to coerce others to your way of thinking? Either way this needs to be resolved during the course of this year. You may need to learn new methods of communicating and counsellors, advisors and literary material may be helpful. You are being challenged to change the way that you think. This year you have the chance to reflect on beliefs that have coloured your life, and to change them so that you have a new sense of purpose. It is time to face your fears, move through them and gain new insights.

Matters of power are also likely to be prominent right now. What does this mean? One dictionary describes power as, *the ability or official capacity to exercise control; authority - a person, group, or nation having great influence or control over others - forcefulness; effectiveness.* It is time for you to gain a greater understanding of these matters. Do you listen to other people or do you talk over them, offering your own opinion before they have a chance to fully divulge their thoughts? If so, then it is time for you to learn how to listen, absorb and respond appropriately. Perhaps you are being called on to take up a role of advocacy? If so then you are likely to get a crash course in the art of communication, the underlying politics and how to express yourself with integrity. It is time ensure that you are expressing yourself with integrity and working co-operatively. As a result you are likely to enjoy a new surge of energy as well as increase your effectiveness in achieving your own ambitions. You may also discover leadership potential that you never knew existed.

THIS YEAR'S LESSONS



"Our birthdays are feathers in the broad wing of time."

-- Jean Paul Richter German Writer

Mercury

The planet Mercury helps you plan your year ahead. The Messenger of the Gods in a Solar Return chart indicates whether or not you are encouraged to forge ahead with your plans, or perhaps better advised to wait another year before moving ahead. This is particularly true for any area of your life connected with communications, study, business and transport.

Mercury is in the 5th House

This is your year to explore different media for creative expression. If you have artistic or literary skills then doors may open enabling you to direct your talents into a specific project. You may enjoy learning a new artistic skill, either professionally or personally. Art, drama, dance or craft classes may appeal. If you have always wanted to learn a musical instrument then now is the time to get started. Your creative urges are not limited to the arts. This is your chance to express your original thoughts in any field. No matter what else is happening during this year you are able to escape by learning or applying something that is fun. Children and young people are also likely to attract your attention. If you are a parent then this is likely to be a busy year taken up with your child or children's many activities. You may enjoy initiating or participating in these activities. Either way this is a hectic schedule and you need to be flexible. See this as the ideal opportunity to reclaim your own child-like innocence and sense of fun. You can encourage and join in activities such as juggling, circus acts, charades, doing puzzles, playing card and board games and just simply clowning around. Whether you have children of your own or not, you are still likely to spend time with young people. Perhaps you are a teacher, or have the opportunity to lead a creative project that involves young people. Teaching and public speaking opportunities may arise this year. This could be through your work, or when a relative asks you to speak at a birthday, wedding, or other special occasion.

Mercury is in Pisces

The sharp intellect of the planet Mercury is mingling with an emotional Water sign, which is not an easy mix. Right now you are finding it difficult to make clear and sensible decisions. Perhaps you receive some news which upsets you, or possibly life is changing in a way that doesn't feel good. You need to say good-bye to one section of your life and embrace a new chapter. You know deep down what you need to do, but are nevertheless are indecisive. Right now your thoughts are at odds with your feelings, and you are confused. You may think one thing, and feel something completely different, or your feelings are influencing your thinking processes. You may try to push your feelings away, closing your mind and your mouth. This is not likely to help your process of learning more about yourself and your loved ones. You need to let your feelings come to the surface so that you can gain a greater understanding. You could try directing your sentiments into a mentally stimulating project, one that is both a conduit and helps you make sense of your feelings. Perhaps you could write poetry, a private journal, or a personal story. You may enjoy trying your hand at acting, which enables you to express strong feelings on stage. Painting, drawing, and sculpting may also be therapeutic. Whatever method you choose, it is important that you learn to express your feelings more this year. If you try to push your feelings away then you could become disoriented, and make poor decisions based on misguided beliefs. For instance you may think that you are acting in a strong and independent fashion, whereas you are simply cutting yourself off from loved ones. The more that you try to rationalize,

rather than explore, your emotions, the more that you are likely to feel despondent. Your opinions are then coloured by your disillusion, rather than by your passion. You may be irritable, full of complaints and hard to get along with. If you are unsure of your feelings, and how to express them then you may benefit talking to a personal counsellor, psychologist, or a close friend. On a more positive note, the more that you acknowledge, accept and express your emotions the more that you are likely to enjoy opportunities to become intimately involved with your loved ones and creative projects. You can enjoy happy occasions and create joyful memories, trusting in your intuition and the rapport that you feel with family and friends. You may enjoy photographing feel-good moments, writing a family history, or perhaps even listening to other people's experiences. This is a year in which experience plays a bigger role than book learning. So enjoy the new experiences that come your way.

Jupiter

The planet Jupiter tells you about the opportunities and benefits that arise during the course of the year. Good news, new prospects and a sense of well being are associated with this beneficial planet.

Jupiter is in the 4th House

This is a year of good news in the family, as well as an opportunity to expand your living arrangements. You have the chance to move to a larger house, or a house in a spacious area, or to add on rooms. You need room to breathe in your home, and right now you have the chance to create some space. It is also possible that your family is expanding. You may be expecting the birth of a child, or older children are moving back home, or you are moving in with a lover who has children of his or her own. On the other hand you may be planning a home office, or a retreat in which you can meditate and broaden your perspective. Whatever your personal circumstances you can be assured that this is a busy time at home. As such you may choose to clean out cupboards, discard unused items and make room for the new. It is time to expand your horizons. Your need to physically expand your living quarters probably comes from a realisation that it is time to be released from the past to make way for new growth. You are ready to let go of past hurts or obstacles in your home and family environment and expand your private life in ways that uphold you. Try not to move too quickly. You need to ensure that the foundations are solid, and to enjoy the process of change as much as the end result. This ensures that you are happy with each step of the process, and can enjoy your new living arrangements.

Saturn

Timing is an important aspect of life. People often comment on being in the right place at the right time. The planet Saturn can support us when it comes to timing. Is the time right to take up a new venture, or would we be better advised to shoulder our current responsibilities for a little longer? These are the types of questions that the nature of the planet Saturn can reveal when reading a Solar Return chart.

Saturn is in the 3rd House

You are more likely to be concentrating on work rather than pleasure this year. This could be because of a project that demands concentrated physical or mental effort, such as a research, writing, policy planning, building, sports or gym work, or it could be because you have significant decisions to make. It is also possible that past decisions are catching up with you, as you realize the consequences of verbal or written interactions in recent times. Likewise, you are learning that sometime silence is golden and at others it is detrimental. Alternatively you may be overburdened by too many tasks. You may have to work for extended periods in your own company, and at times suffer from mental fatigue. It is time to learn from past mistakes, learn new skills and honour current commitments. If you do this then you have the mental discipline to honour your obligations and gain the respect of those around you. However, you need to be aware that this year it is likely that your social interactions with other people are much fun. You are more likely to be restricted, perhaps even a little lonely, while you concentrate on learning your own lessons and the tasks at hand. Your commitments may demand that you travel away from home, and hence your social life is likely to suffer. On the other hand you may be preoccupied with one or more life important decisions. You may have some tough choices to make in either your professional and private life. Perhaps you are considering making an important promise to someone, such as a betrothal or a decision to have a child, or perhaps you are deciding to end an association. Whatever the scenario in your life, you are reassessing options in one or more areas of your life, and making firm resolutions. You would be well advised to keep your own counsel, rather than confide in all and sundry. It may feel like you are stifling your own voice, but this could have benefits in the future. Perhaps you could consult an expert to help you through this stage of your life, however; you should not rush any major decisions. Take your time, consider the consequences, plan your strategy and then state your case.

THIS YEAR'S JOURNEY



"Sow a thought, and you reap an act;/ Sow an act, and you reap a habit;/ Sow a habit, and you reap a character;/ Sow a character, and you reap a destiny."

-- Charles Reader Modern Author

Neptune

The planet Neptune represents all that is ethereal in our world, and challenges us to develop qualities such as faith, hope and love even in the face of adversity. Under the influence of Neptune we can soar to great inspirational heights, however; if we are not careful then we can also sink into despair and disillusionment. The test is to look beyond the superficial and find meaning in our lives. The planet Neptune in our annual chart can indicate where to look.

Neptune is in the 5th House

This is a very creative year, one in which you are likely to be attracted to artists, lovers, and children. Subconsciously you are seeking inspiration, fun and a greater connection to the creative forces of the world. You are also likely to gradually gain awareness of the obstacles that block you from experiencing joy. As such you may make find creative ways to remove these obstacles. Of course if you are responsible for young children, it may be that your sacrifices are worthwhile. This is not the time to neglect your responsibilities for young children, but rather to enter their innocent and imaginative world and delight in their company. Children have much to teach you this year. This is your year to believe in a little magic, just as children do. This is likely to be through romantic love, an artistic creation, or an inspirational pursuit. In her book *The Age of Miracles*, Marianne Williamson says, *Romantic love is a force of nature. Like an ancient goddess it likes to receive gifts. It must be honoured, respected, protected and cherished. Otherwise it simply leaves.* This is your year to honour, respect, protect and cherish romantic love, and to be the recipient of such moments. It is also the ideal time to pursue any latent artistic talents. Even if you cannot devote yourself full-time to art, drawing, music, theatre, dance, poetry, writing, or similar interests, you can lay the groundwork for the future. In some ways you are on a quest, in a similar fashion to the fairy tale princes and princesses who are on a quest to find true love. You can indulge in some fantasies about what or who is your passion. This year you can let your imagination flow and deal with the practicalities later, as long as you are not gambling your life savings, or risking your health and wellbeing. Gradually the mysteries of love and artistry reveal their truth to you during the course of this year, and you are likely to be wiser and richer for the experience.

The North Node

The Nodes highlight the areas of your year that are destined to occur no matter what you do. When you look back on your life you can see moments when the coincidences just seemed too uncanny - a chance meeting, a phone call out of the blue or an instant of being in the right place at the right time. The Nodes can give hints of which areas of your life are attracting the Fates attention right now.

The North Node is in the 7th House

As you travel through the next year your path is likely to be entwined with a mate. If you are single then you may meet someone who is part of your destiny. The Fates are working spinning, threading and cutting - to make sure that your path crosses with this person. This is so that the two of you can fulfil your destiny and

serve a higher purpose. This higher purpose could be changing each others lives, or it could be a joint venture that changes the lives of others. During this period, and perhaps beyond, you have a mate to help you along the way. If you are already married, or involved in a personal relationship with a significant partner then this years story is much the same. Your choices are likely to be influenced significantly, perhaps more strongly than usual by this person. In other words someone important is going to change the course of your life. This can be a very exciting and joyful union, one that gives you a renewed sense of love and purpose.

North Node is Conjunct Mars

You are destined to change direction this year. You are being called on to reassess your goals in the light of your true purpose. If you are on the right path generally then you are likely to make a few slight adjustments, but if you are way off track then you may find yourself making some dramatic differences. You are likely to enjoy the challenges that arise, recognising that they are helping you head in the right direction.

North Node is Trine Saturn

This is a year in which both loneliness and happiness call at your door. You are destined to cope with some of the year's events on your own, but there is a happy ending as you face your challenges with courage and determination. One door is destined to close right now and you can be sure that another will slowly open. If you are unsure of the road ahead, take heart knowing that you are fated to overcome your fears and move forward. Some might say that this is a year in which you are dealing with karma, as the planet Saturn is considered the Lord of Karma. This may involve responsibilities for caring for make decisions responsibly and with integrity then you can grow and learn and make steady progress in completing one chapter of your life before beginning another.

North Node is Sesquisquare Pluto

Your life changes in profound ways as it is time to cast off old ways of life and embrace new ones. New friendships, associations, groups, business associates, projects and perhaps even a new marriage partner (if you are not already married) are likely to arrive during this year. As a result you may feel compelled to reassess certain aspects of your life with the view to incorporating the new and saying "good-bye" to the old. In some cases you may literally be throwing out old possessions, renovating your house or moving your business. Fate plays a strong role in your life at the moment. This can be a very rewarding period, as long as you are able to go with the flow. You feel invigorated by the change of pace in your life, delighted to be more purposeful and energetic.

Conclusion



About the Author: Stephanie Johnson is a founder of Esoteric Technologies, the company that creates the Solar Fire suite of astrology products. She has helped create, design, develop and author Solar Fire and the other products. In particular she is the author of many of the Solar Writer range of astrology report writers. She is also the Marketing Director for Esoteric Technologies. Stephanie runs her own Seeing With Stars astrology consultation business as well as editing the Australian Data Collection. She holds a Federation of Australian Astrologers' Practitioner's Certificate and Diploma and is a member of the Federation of Australian Astrologers. She is a student of Medieval Astrology and the Ancient Wisdom teachings. She has lectured at national conferences, and her astrology articles have appeared in Australian publications including the FAA Journal and the Astrological Monthly Review. Before commencing her professional astrology career Stephanie was a journalist for 15 years in Australia, England and the USA.

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