

MARS

MARS BY SIGN

Natal Mars in Aries

(Donna Van Toen)

Your energy levels are all high. Your energy type is primarily physical, raw and spontaneous. Your energy is often channeled into leading, starting things, and pioneering. You are courageous, independent and enterprising. You lack humility, patience and self-control.

This is a powerful Mars in that it provides a great deal of energy, but unfortunately there's often a lack of stick-to-it-iveness. You're inclined to leap before you look, with the result that you often find you've got too many irons in the fire to successfully control. There's a hot temper here, although normally there's no tendency to violence. However, if Mars is under heavy stress - in a Grand Cross for example - you could be a heavy drinker or a brawler. This Mars gives a slight tendency to attract cuts and burns, which of course would be more likely if Mars is under stress.

You have a healthy ego and a strong but rather hair-triggered sex drive. You are spontaneous and easily aroused as a rule. Men with this placement are often incorrigible woman-watchers regardless of their romantic status and their happiness (or lack of happiness) with same. They find the female body a turn-on. Alas, they sometimes at close range forget that love is not a ninety-yard dash, but rather a cooperative event, and there is generally no applause for coming in first! Women with this placement generally enjoy and are active participants in sex. They are also relatively creative sexually.

You want to be the dominant partner in the relationship, and you want enough challenge to keep the relationship interesting. You want a courageous but not too headstrong mate / lover. You're a spontaneous lover, eager to be involved. If your love life isn't satisfactory to you, and if relationships start well only to fizzle shortly thereafter, it could be that you're coming on a bit too strong. Some men and women will tend to be overwhelmed by your ardor or even suspicious of it; they may mistake it for plain old lust or even desperation.

You'd probably be happiest with a mate with Venus in a Fire sign, Venus in the 1st house, or a Venus / Mars conjunction. A mate whose Venus conjoins your Ascendant might also be able to provide the kind of love you want.

You have initiative and a high energy level, although to be at your best you must enjoy what you're doing. You also have executive ability, although at times you can be a trifle domineering, which can hold you back. You fall down on repetitive jobs - when the challenge goes, so does your motivation! Some good career choices for you would be: construction in general, mechanical engineering, highway planning, sheep farming, wool processing, politics, or psychology.

You're highly motivated in the intellectual area - particularly in the field of psychology. Electronics and home computers also intrigue you, although in these fields a lot depends on your available funds. Being curious, you tend to be an avid reader; and at times books you read simply because nothing else is handy later come to your aid by providing you with knowledge you need in order to take advantage of some lucky break. Conversations and meetings - both planned and spontaneous - tend

to alert you to opportunities that excite you. Speculative topics such as religion, politics, and astrology are particularly apt to motivate you to pursue them. You may get lucky breaks as a result of writing to newspapers or magazines; in fact, the field of publishing in general can be a source of good opportunities.

(Jan Spiller and Karen McCoy)

Static

You may have a tendency to alienate others by aggressively refusing to accept demands placed upon you. By acting on the Aries premise that 'everyone looks out for himself', your behavior may appear rash, abrasive in exaggerated independence, and inconsiderate to others. You can lose energy and acceptance by fiercely maintaining your right to absolute independence.

Dynamic

You can constructively interact by using independence in ways that inspire others to take the initiative. As you view your impact on them objectively, you can naturally assert your courage and initiative in ways that lead to freedom for all concerned. You can gain physical energy by considering the other person and giving that person confidence in his or her ability to follow destiny.

(Babs Kirby and Janey Stubbs)

Mars at home in its own sign is very sure about its desires. Its passions burn brightly, and it knows exactly who and what it wants. Being cardinal, Mars in Aries likes to take the initiative, and does tend to rush at people in a way that can be quite intimidating to those who like to make decisions more slowly. The person with Mars in Aries is excited by the pursuit, however, so rejections and evasions only serve to fuel the fire. Finding it hard to admit defeat, they cannot believe that they won't get what they want, and will see the slightest ambiguity as grounds for optimism. The Mars in Aries does have a tendency to enjoy the chase more than the end result, so that they often lose interest in people once they have caught them. They are then likely to run away just as fast as they were pursuing before! Someone who wants to retain the interest of this person will need to remain always a little elusive.

People with Mars in Aries feel energized by sexual desire - even if it is not fulfilled, it will make them feel more vital and alive. Very intuitive and trusting to instinct and gut reactions, they know exactly what is right for them, and will not compromise. They either desire people or not, the second they meet them: there is no uncertainty or doubt with Mars in Aries.

The person with Mars in Aries often appears much more confident than he / she feels, and may tend to look for an identity through his / her lovers, and try to prove him- / herself through sex. These people may go to great lengths to prove how independent they are, when they are really trying to define themselves through sex. Sex, therefore, to these people can assume huge symbolic significance; and they may invest the object of their desire with almost mystical status. They are searching for a hero to fire and inspire them, to help them discover the hero within. To this end, they may have to go on a long and lonely journey, facing many difficulties and rejections before they become the truly independent individual they need to be. Life holds many hard lessons for people with Mars in Aries. They step into each new sexual involvement with careless impulsiveness, naively believing that this one will be much easier than the last, and forgetting that Aries must pit itself against adversity in order to develop strength and self-reliance.

Mars in Aries people are attracted to sharply defined individuals of strong character. They enjoy a certain amount of combativeness and competition with their sexual partners, and are often quite sharp and argumentative with those they find attractive. Sexual desire stirs up anger for them; and they often feel safer expressing anger to lovers than to anyone else. It is important to them that the other person is strong enough to handle this, and can give as good as he / she gets. There is a need for the lover to be of equal strength, and they will feel irritated by someone who gives in to them all the time, and will soon lose interest in such a person. They cannot be pushed into things themselves, and tend to despise those who can. Although they may be critical of their lovers themselves, they will fight ferociously to defend them against anyone else who dares to attack them.

Honest, open and direct, the Mars in Aries person likes to let his / her potential lovers know exactly how he / she feels. It is important to Mars in Aries people that things are straight-forward and that there is no confusion. They in turn like to know exactly where they stand, and cannot bear any form of deception. They have romantic ideals about sex, and need to be true to themselves, so that the pretence involved in having sex with someone that they do not really want or when they do not want it can be very undermining to them.

Mars in Aries is not really looking for physical sensation, but rather for some kind of spiritual fulfillment through sex. These people seek spiritually unity, a fusing and oneness with their lover which transcends the physical act. Through it, they hope to experience a moment of bliss in which separateness has been abandoned and they have become one with their lover.

(Skye Alexander)

You are energetic, aggressive and highly competitive, a combination that strongly suggests athletic potential. However, you also have a 'short fuse' and may tend to let your temper get in your way. You also might have difficulty disciplining yourself and focusing your abundant energy and desire, unless you also have some stabilizing factor (such as a prominent Saturn) in your chart.

Impulsive and overly confident, you usually leap before you look. Action is your middle name, and you rarely think about the consequences of your actions before you do something. You never let an obstacle stand in your way. You charge ahead, undaunted by risks; in fact, the more dangerous a venture is, the more eagerly you tackle it - whether you're speculating in the stock market or sailing single-handed across the Atlantic. Sometimes you accomplish tremendous feats of daring and courage; other times, you are simply reckless and foolhardy. You love challenges, even conflict, and want to keep things stirred up; peace and harmony bore you.

You have a strong sense of self, but little understanding of others. Assertive to the point of being pushy, you don't know how to go easy or be patient. Your impetuosity can cause you to be accident-prone. At times, you seem rather like an exuberant, roughneck kid, unaware of your own strength or of your effect on others. Subtlety and tact are unknown to you. Blustering and blunt, you have a way of saying the wrong thing at the wrong time, and can offend others with your coarseness or brute force.

The ultimate individualist, you can't bear to have anyone else tell you what to do or how to do it. The word 'compromise' isn't in your vocabulary; and since you rarely value others' opinions you are likely to have trouble in situations that require teamwork. If you can't do it on your own, you are at a loss. Fortunately, you have the

drive and vitality to accomplish more than a dozen people, and usually function best when you can do everything yourself. Once you get going, it's hard to keep up with you; but your attention span is short, and you tend to run out of steam and interest rather quickly. You are better at starting things than completing them; and your life may be littered with half-finished projects.

Your sex drive is strong, but you lack true sensuality. Sex, to you, is a contest and a form of physical release - sort of an intimate boxing match - and your romantic quotient is zero. You also tend to be a bit rough, pushy and concerned only with your own satisfaction. Unless Libra or Taurus is prominent in your chart, you are probably more interested in adding notches to your bedpost than with having a meaningful relationship.

Men with this position can be the ultimate 'macho men'. A 'man's man', you love hanging around the gym with the other guys, hunting, and going out drinking with your buddies. You'll stand up to anyone about anything, and never walk away from a fight. In fact, you are often the instigator. You particularly enjoy provoking authorities; and there is a rebellious, individualistic spirit in you that won't bend to the powers that be. The feistiness and violence inherent in this planetary position can indicate lack of feeling and compassion; and you can be cruel at times.

Some women with this position are just as assertive and competitive as their male counterparts; others project this part of themselves onto the men in their lives. You may be attracted mostly to strong, aggressive men, athletes, 'muscle men' or 'macho men'.

(Frances Sakoian and Louis Acker)

Mars in Aries is characterized by uncontainable energy that must find an outlet. This is the basic position of the initial impulse to action and self-expression leading to evolutionary experience. Mars in this sign indicates energy, initiative, courage, and impulsiveness. The drive to get things accomplished leads to creativity and the starting of many new projects. There is leadership ability in the sense that people with Mars in Aries can take the initiative and spark enthusiasm in others. They have a great desire to be first. However, they may lack the organizational ability of Capricorn and the staying power of Leo; hence they may not sustain their interest and enthusiasm long enough to see a project through to its conclusion. Children with this position should be taught to finish useful tasks.

This Mars position makes people headstrong and independent. They will not tolerate opposition or interference. The position can lead to success if the natives can learn to think before they act; otherwise, blind action may lead to danger and mistakes.

People with this position are highly competitive; they enjoy sports and physical games in which they can pit their strength and courage against those of their opponents. The star football player or racer, for instance, is likely to have Mars in Aries. They also have an ability or liking for work involving machinery. Many sports car and hot rod enthusiasts have Mars in this sign.

These people often receive injuries to their heads. When they are ill, they run high fevers, but they are also capable of surviving fevers that would kill others.

If Mars is afflicted in Aries, there can be egotism, aggressiveness, and anger. Although these people can have violent tempers, their anger is short-lived, unlike that of those with Mars in Scorpio. They need to learn to express more love and patience.

Dane Rudhyar points out that the aggressiveness of Mars in Aries is a psychological

reaction against the muddle and confusion of Pisces, which was the previous evolutionary experience of the soul. Consequently, these people have a great need to reassure themselves of their own worth through overt expressions of strength and courage.

(Julia and Derek Parker)

Aries is the sign that Mars rules; and when in this sign, the planet becomes a strong focal point of a chart. As a result, when interpreting this placing, Mars should be considered second in importance to the influence of the ruling planet. It will bestow a powerful physical energy level which must be positively expressed. If there is not outlet through sports or another physically demanding activity, the system will stagnate, with the individual becoming restless and unfulfilled. The need to win, to be first, will be very important; and there should be no lack of drive. However, if Mars makes any aspect to Saturn or negative aspects to Uranus or Pluto, these should be studied with particular care, since they will inhibit the flow of energy.

These possibilities aside, the influence of Mars from its own sign is very pure, and will powerfully invigorate the individual, making him or her very much a 'get up and go' type who will encourage loved ones also to take bold, assertive action. If they do not respond, the subject is likely to take the upper hand and force issues. There will, however, be a strong tendency to lack consideration for others' feelings and needs, forcing others (and especially the partner, if he or she lacks confidence and assertiveness) to take what is believed to be the right action. If tact, diplomacy and sensitivity to the needs of others are present elsewhere in the chart, they will help counter the overzealous pushiness of this placing. If not, there can be problems, sometimes causing considerable embarrassment to others. So, encouragement is needed to be tactful and thoughtful.

The sex drive is powerfully increased by this placing, which also adds a strong emotional passion - but one that is simple and straightforward rather than seething, smoldering, intense or distorted by psychological twists and turns. The desire for motherhood can also be increased. The individual is usually uncomplicated, reducing apparently complex problems to a few simple components.

When the energy from Mars in Aries is flowing, and the individual is happily occupied with plenty of varied interests, all will be well; but the stagnating effect mentioned above will provoke health problems if it is allowed to persist. Usually, however, the subject will not allow this to happen.

Headaches will occur all too often, as will outbursts of Martian anger - a rapid loss of temper and a sudden raging storm that is over as quickly as it began. Resentfulness is not usual.

(Grant Lewi)

Your usually abundant energies are directed primarily along lines of ego assertion. You feel best and act best when you are not limited or restricted by elders, superiors or authority of any kind. You are swift to anger at any intrusion on your personal rights; you are quick on the trigger - the adrenal gland, controlling fight or flight, is sensitive, reacting sharply and generally on the aggressive side. You are a formidable adversary, for all your vitality is brought at once to bear on anyone who challenges your preeminence. Even in the chart of an otherwise timid soul, this will lend scrappiness to the nature. If your life aim is more detached, and if you are ambitious for worldly success, popularity, or any of the things that require self-control, your Mars will periodically trip you by directing your energies toward self-assertion at

times when you ought to be thinking of something else. The abrupt, aggressive speech, the sharp retort when your independence is assailed (or when you imagine it to be), can stand between you and the rewards of self-control. To serve the deeper ends of life that frequently require forgetfulness of self, you must continuously stand guard over the tendency of your energies to flow through the millrace of the ego into strife and disharmony.

(Sydney Omarr)

In Aries, Mars makes the native restless, dynamic; it is indicative of originality, daring, a healthy ego, but one which, if permitted full play, could indicate a native who feels that only his thoughts, feelings and comforts are of any importance. He is independent and enterprising, and has a keen appreciation for his own best interests.

He must learn to control his temper and impulses. Though inventive, he is sometimes in so much of a hurry that he neglects details, leaves himself open to ridicule, and can be prone to accidents. The astrologer's job is to help him gain a broader scope, envision new horizons, channel his energy and be more patient.

(Lyn Birbeck)

You are a bold, though potentially impetuous, suitor. Energy is created and maintained through honest and direct means that breed quick results, rather than through complex strategies and convoluted agendas. Decisions are best made impulsively; and if proved wrong, swiftly proceed with whatever's next, without looking back. Although lack of forethought can create problems, it is best to use these manners of assertion, or energy can remain as, or devolve into, anger.

You attract with a self-assured and energetic manner that comes right to the point and gets things started; with a direct sexual approach that excites because it leaves no room for mistaking your desires; and by a fearless, independent streak that puts you way out in front of competition.

You repel with an arrogance and pushiness that completely overlooks finer points and feelings; with a coarse and unsubtle, even violent, way which sets out to make sexual conquests; and with an inability to share and co-operate.

You are attracted to heroic types, or situations where the competition is stiff and you therefore stand to make the most heroic impression; to sexual objectives that can be swiftly achieved, or those who can swiftly achieve sexual objectives; and to athletic, adventurous, leader types.

You are repelled by faintheartedness and low-key situations where there is no competition or prize worth fighting for; by being treated as a sexual object - or not being treated as one, depending on your mood or gender; and by limp types with no get-up-and-go.

When you are alone, it can be for reasons which are as complex as you usually like to keep or have things straightforward. In other words, your direct, even pushy, sexual nature can be a problem in that it turns people off; or if you do not recognize this go-for-it side of your personality, then you can be consistently put off by it in others to the point of there being no corners, or at least none that you find attractive. This second point is far more likely to be the case if you are female. And so the remedy here is to be a bit more softly-softly if you are the former, and to swallow your finer feelings and be more to the point and honest with yourself if you are the latter. Your problem could of course be a combination of the two, in which case be more

circumspect, but not so much that the object of your desires is not clear about your feelings or intentions.

(John Townley)

Although you are not particularly forward in your social manner, when it comes to physical affection you are usually the initiator and in some ways the aggressor. Therefore you are happiest with a partner who lets you play that role most of the time and who will not conflict or compete with you.

You are spontaneous and eager; and you like to participate actively in lovemaking. But in your eagerness, take care not to get carried away and leave your lover emotionally behind in an earlier stage of lovemaking. The lessons you must learn are those of restraint and staying power. You will get more sustained pleasure out of love if you bank your fires a bit, even letting your lover carry the load so you can relax.

Because you become physically intense within a rather short period, you can gain more satisfaction from a brief affair than most people. You can pack a full relationship into a lightning affair that would leave others unfulfilled.

Do not let your impulsiveness lead you to make premature commitments or act rashly from either love or anger. You may take the opposite view just as intensely a short time later, so always leave yourself plenty of room to manoeuvre.

(Robert Hand)

You are a very independent and self-assertive person. Since you have a great deal of physical energy, you should try to get outdoors and let off steam in some active sport fairly often. You get very restless and fidgety if you are cooped up for any length of time.

You prefer to act on your own and set your own pace without waiting for people who work more slowly. Also, you like to be the first to take up a new activity. Although you are not at all a follower, you are perfectly willing to let others go their own way. You have no desire to impose your will on your friends, as long as they don't try to force their ways on you. However, you enjoy competition when someone offers a challenge. If pressed, you will fight for your beliefs. You get angry quite quickly, but you also cool off quickly and don't hold a grudge.

Obviously your greatest problem is learning to co-operate with others. It isn't that you want to create a fuss; but if the people you are with won't do something your way, you do it alone. But that is not always the most efficient way to attack a problem. You must learn how to give in now and then. Don't worry about having to compromise on anything important, for it isn't in your nature to do so.

You are also inclined to be rash and impulsive and to act without thinking, which can get you into trouble or even accidents. Accidents don't just happen; you create them through being careless. If you take time to be careful, you will have little difficulty.

Natal Mars in Taurus

(Donna Van Toen)

You have high-to-adequate practical and emotional energies, but low mental and physical energies. Your energy is stable, controlled and persistent. It is often channeled into keeping things as they are, building (both literal and figurative types), and accumulating things. Your strengths are stability, craftsmanship and loyalty. You lack flexibility, inner drive and physical energy.

You're much slower to act and much more patient than someone with Mars in Aries. Anger can be a problem for you. You tend to hold it in for too long, so when you do blow up it's often over something trivial, and your anger is totally out of proportion to the circumstances. You're quite conservative in your actions and ambitions otherwise. In the health area, there's some danger of throat problems, particularly if Mars is under stress or in the 6th house.

You have a powerful sex drive, and can be quite sensuous and earthy. Men with this placement have a tendency to want their women to feel obligated to them; they therefore aim to please, and also often aim to procreate. Women with this placement tend to deal easily with the requirements of marriage and family life, including sex. They do, however, take a while to 'warm up', and don't like to be rushed into lovemaking.

You want money. You also want physical demonstrations of love, and possibly tangible tokens of affection. You exude a strong sexuality, but it's low-keyed rather than overwhelming. It tantalizes at the background of your personality. Though your wants at first glance may seem unromantic, you're not asking for something you're not willing to give yourself. You may very well enjoy expressing your love by giving gifts, making things, or doing practical things for your loved ones. And you're also probably physical in your romantic expression. You undoubtedly like to give - and get - hugs, kisses, and cuddles in addition to sex itself. You'd be happiest with a mate who has Venus in an Earth sign, Venus in the 2nd house, or Venus sextile your Mars.

You aren't too well-suited to business partnerships - partly because of a self-indulgent streak that can cause resentment and, ultimately, friction; and partly because of your stubborn streak. So you're better off to work for yourself or to work somewhere where you're allowed to do pretty much as you please. You're a hard worker as long as you see rewards on the horizon, but a life of all work and no play is definitely not a part of your game plan - you like the occasional long lunch, a decent vacation, and a good salary with which to get a fair number of life's goodies. With proper training, the following career areas could meet your needs: finance, banking, art, music, architecture, building, cattle breeding, farming, routine office work (if the pay is good and there's potential advancement).

Your motivation is highest when it comes to practical opportunities. Your style is to work hard and play hard. Art, music, and working with growing things can steer you towards success provided you don't close your eyes to new trends that might affect your work. (You are, at times, a trifle negative about change.) Romance can provide tangibly good opportunities at times. Building construction or decorating can also be a lucky theme in your life.

(Jan Spiller and Karen McCoy)

Static

You may have a tendency to alienate others by judging or ignoring their values in order to confirm your own sense of self-worth. This mental competitiveness may bring about defeat by cutting off others on a material or sensual level. You can lose the energy needed to establish your worth if you refuse to allow the experience of others to be incorporated into a rigid Taurean value system.

Dynamic

You can constructively interact with others by allowing them to contribute their ideas and values in a way that is supportive in manifesting material results. When you commit yourself to participating actively in the world, a solid foundation for material security can be established. Your values can be transformed and translated into greater material and sensual results by viewing others as your resources.

(Babs Kirby and Janey Stubbs)

Someone with Mars in Taurus will have a good connection to his / her instinctual, physical needs. This will be a strong, no-nonsense person with a matter of fact attitude towards sex; someone who gets enormous enjoyment from his / her sexual relationships, and with wide tastes. These people could be into sex for its own sake, as pure physical pleasure, with no trimmings. They are comfortable with their own bodies and physical desires. More genteel types could find them positively crude.

With Mars in any of the Earth signs, there is the propensity to split love and sex; but someone with Mars in Taurus is most prone to this, simply because his / her desire nature is so strong. These are not people who can easily be celibate, so if there is no one in their lives who really matters to them, they are still going to look for sexual partners. They may take a pragmatic view of these liaisons, unaware of their own double standards, as when they are deeply involved with someone on a feeling level their values change dramatically.

Taurus is arguably the most possessive sign of the zodiac, and someone with Mars in Taurus may claim total ownership rights over his / her sexual partner. This differs from the emotional possessiveness of someone with Mars in Scorpio, as with Taurus the partner becomes a prized object in which a part of the self is invested. Infidelity is so completely threatening to these people that it is intolerable. They will value their partners highly, treat them as a possession, as an extension of themselves, and expect and demand absolute faithfulness. To say that they are jealous and possessive of loved ones is an understatement.

This is a very primitive Mars placement; we are dealing with a neolithic man / woman here. The rest of the world may have developed more liberated attitudes to relationships, but these will not have filtered through to a Mars in Taurus person. This is someone who has traditional expectations, and is likely to want to play a traditional role in relationships.

The Mars in Taurus person will build a relationship slowly. These people do not rush into things, and will take their time to get to know a prospective partner. A sexual involvement does not necessarily mean to them that a relationship is underway. They will evaluate a potential relationship in a pragmatic way. Once involved, they are loyal and reliable, and are not afraid of making a commitment. They are at their best when in a secure relationship.

(Skye Alexander)

Rather than chasing madly after your goals, you pursue them with dogged

determination. You may take longer than some to achieve your desires, and you might not do it with so much flair and daring; but your accomplishments are more enduring. Once you decide you want something, you are not easily discouraged, and you often succeed because of your persistence and single-mindedness.

One thing you are likely to pursue is wealth; and you'll invest all your energy to this end. Material possessions and creature comforts are important to you; and you'll do whatever you have to do you can have them in abundance.

Another area in which you might choose to focus your energy is the arts. Taurus stabilizes Martian energy, giving you the patience and perseverance to spend years developing and perfecting your talent. Architecture and interior or furniture design in particular might interest you. You appreciate beautiful things; and even if you don't have much talent, you probably enjoy art and might collect it.

This Mars placement indicates great sensuality and sexuality; and satisfying your physical desires is probably first on your list of priorities. No-one understands the pleasures of the flesh as you do. Sex is never far from your thoughts; and you have a tendency to be led around by your libido. You invest so much time and energy into fulfilling your body's appetites that you might overlook other areas of life. Your approach to sex is straightforward and uncomplicated, devoid of fantasies or fetishes. Your only sexual problems might be insatiability and lack of discrimination.

You don't radiate with energy the way people who have Mars in Fire signs do; and unless you have several planets in Aries or Sagittarius, you probably aren't very athletic. However, you have tremendous endurance and muscle strength, and are capable of doing more physical work than almost anyone. Even if you appear rather lethargic and overweight, you are remarkably powerful; and beating you in a fight is much more difficult than it looks. You're a lover, not a fighter, though; and it takes a lot to make you mad. You also have great resistance to illness and stress.

Though you can be stubborn, you are generally easy-going and co-operative, and are able to set your ego aside when teamwork or compromise is needed.

Men with this position pride themselves on their sexual prowess. Your measure of a man is how many times he can make love in a night. Earning lots of money and owning expensive and shoy things also makes you feel good about yourself as a man.

Women with this planetary placement might be attracted to teddy bear-like men who are both strong and gentle. You want someone who is affectionate, sensual, good-natured and down-to-earth. No James Dean types for you. Your masculine ideal is dependable, stable and a good provider; someone who'll praise your cooking and keep you warm at night. A man who enjoys doing the cooking himself is even better.
(Frances Sakoian and Louis Acker)

Since Mars in the sign Taurus shows a strong desire for money, much energy is exerted to acquire money and material possessions. This position of Mars indicates practicality, so that the energy is channeled into useful tasks that will produce concrete results.

Mars in Taurus is the sign of its detriment, being opposite the sign Scorpio, which Mars rules. The energy and action of Mars, therefore, will be slowed down by material obstacles and limitations. As Taurus is an Earth sign, the dense material plane does not respond as quickly as Mars would like to. People with this Mars position are slow to act, but possess great determination and perseverance once a course of action has been chosen. Although they are not especially aggressive, if they

are forced to fight then this position will make them strong and unyielding.

Mars in Taurus can produce craftsmen and skilled artisans capable of great patience and precision in the use of words. They create objects that are lovely and durable. Often they use solid, permanent materials such as metal and stone.

If Mars in Taurus is afflicted, there can be a preoccupation with sex and sensuality and an excessive attachment to money and material goods. These people can be jealous and possessive, especially where love and sex are concerned. The violence arising from sexual jealousy with Mars in Taurus can be just as intense as with Mars in Scorpio.

(Julia and Derek Parker)

There is plenty of passion here, and an abundant sex-drive will be expressed with Taurean warmth. Here is a sensuous and affectionate lover who is sometimes possessive. If Mars is unafflicted, there will be plenty of energy, used in a controlled, steady way.

Once anger is aroused, the rage of these subjects is only too obvious. It will take much provocation to reach this state, for Taurean patience will steady the Martian influence; but, because Mars quickens action, once their adrenalin is flowing those angry and heated feelings will be shown in no uncertain terms. These people must understand that, while such outbursts may be justified, they can cause great damage to those on the receiving end, for their feelings may be expressed far more passionately than they realize.

At its best, this placing adds determination, firmness and the ability to work very hard and tenaciously at both career and spare-time interests. Sometimes these qualities can develop into stubbornness; and Mars will definitely increase it if this trait is indicated elsewhere. In a chart dominated by Earth signs, the more adventurous side of Mars is slowed down, so it is important to look out for any tendency to get stuck in a rut. Overadherence to routine (even with a lively planet such as this) and a Taurean need for emotional and financial security will both be evident. A great deal of energy will be spent in making and spending money.

This is a marvellous placing for those who participate in heavy team games or the heavier sports in general - boxing, wrestling or weightlifting, for instance. Thinking of the Venus influence on Taurus, this will be a good, strong placing for a dancer, since discipline and routine are essential for such a profession; and, for the men, a great deal of weightlifting is involved - ballerinas are, after all, very much flesh and blood! The effect on health will be a tendency to feverishness and a vulnerability to throat infections.

(Grant Lewi)

You work most naturally along lines related to security, and are your best self only when this is assured. Worry over money throws you off-balance: you need to be able to take for granted at least the essential comforts of life, and can get to demand a good deal more on the luxury side. You may get, have, spend and lose much property in your lifetime; conservatism in finances is not well-marked, and you have to learn it by sheer force of strength. In a deep sense, you relate security to emotional as well as financial matters, are ardent and stable in love, and require (and generally get) plenty of sex satisfaction. Yet in this, as in money, your energies can run away into prodigality and excesses. You are 'set in your ways', know how you want to do things, and generally manage to do them that way. You are not exactly aggressive in your

search for independence; you don't make a big fuss about it, but you get what you want. Your motto is, 'I don't want to fight; just let's do it my way'; and with or without the consent of the governed, you generally prevail. You are a master of the art of passive aggression and passive resistance; whether your habits are right or wrong, good or bad, constructive or destructive, you keep ploughing along in the same furrow; and those who would oppose you generally stand to one side or get mowed down. Love and finances alike can fall before you; and your constant aim in life should be to stand aside from your own desires, your own intuition, and the things you take for granted, in order that you may judge objectively the value of your fixation and your effort.

(Sydney Omarr)

In Taurus, Mars points to passion, giving vent to emotions and involvement with those who bilk him by appealing to those emotions. The native's chief asset is perseverance. He works for security and drives toward his goals, real or imagined. Keeping on the move, he alienates many because he seems self-centered. He should strive for a more tactful approach and adopt an attitude of tolerance for others' foibles. He often thinks of love and money together - he is inclined to the physical, the creature comforts, and feels others must be worthy of his attentions. He must be taught not to bear grudges or brood about injustices.

(Lyn Birbeck)

You are a sensuous, though potentially jealous, suitor. Energy is created and maintained over a drawn-out period as long as you have a material goal. Laid-back initially, you take a lot to be turned on; but once aroused you take even more to turn you off. The same applies to your temper: if you are frustrated in pursuit of possession of what you desire, it is like a red rag to a Bull; what was previously steady and productive devolves into a destructive and hard-to-subdue anger.

You attract with an earthy, sensuous and throbbing sexuality; great stamina; with an advantageous material position, or at least, a sound ability and commitment regarding such things; and with a solid dependability that stands its ground and defends you and yours.

You repel with a jealous and possessive nature that is blind to reason and won't let up; with an opportunistic obsession with the physical / material aspects of life that bar any appreciation of the spiritual or intangible; and with a stubborn, intractable and unrelenting attitude that is its own worst enemy.

You are attracted to Others who promise stability of some kind or other, who have substance, and who produce solid results; to traditionally sexual types and situations, perhaps even where chauvinism has a place, to some degree; and to physical permanence and unhurriedness.

You are repelled by material insufficiency and promises that are not met; by woolly, newfangled ideas concerning sexual roles (or that do not have a discernibly practical purpose); and by Others or relationships that are prone to change and upset.

When you are alone, it is, for one reason, because you have having to take stock of yourself physically and materially, and learn to be your own master where such matters are concerned. Conversely (or possibly as an eventuality of the first reason), the almost excessive importance that you place upon money and physical gratification could have isolated you from fruitful relationship, and maybe made you rather sluggish or complacent too. Ultimately then, in either respect, you may have to

take some fall in the form of losing what or whom you hold most dear. This would force you to focus upon issues of physical and / or material satisfaction in order to appreciate their true value or limitations. If you have always, or for some time, been alone, then this states that such a revaluation is a priority concerning what you want and how you go about getting it.

(John Townley)

You take a while to warm up to lovemaking; but once in gear, you sustain a steady and unfaltering pace that allows plenty of time for full sexual expression. You should give careful consideration to your lover's rhythms and timing so that you do not either wear out or exasperate your partner. At times, even though you are still enjoying yourself, you should move on to something different, just to provide sufficient variety for your partner's swifter tastes. If you find a lover who can lingeringly savor each development, as you do, you will be in luck.

Your regular sexual drive needs consistent outlets to keep in balance, so you are best off with a regular partner, not depending on the vagaries of changing social contacts to find a lover.

You may enjoy expressing your love by making things by hand for your lover. This physical love-labor can be especially meaningful, lending the gift far more impact than store-bought merchandise. This is particularly true with love toys and bedroom accoutrements when you want a personal touch rather than more sterile machine-made products.

You are quite frank in your expression of affection, and you want a partner who does not intellectualize love too much but encourages you to manifest it directly in a manner that you both understand without words.

(Robert Hand)

You work carefully and rather slowly; but your results are almost always good, because your thoroughness makes up for lack of speed. You are also quite stubborn, and will resist anyone's efforts to speed you up or change your direction. You are not a quitter, and will stick to any task until it is done.

You have a strong desire to own things; and your possessions are very important to you. If you decide you want something, you will work very hard to get it. The only problem is that you may acquire so much stuff that your possessions get in your way. Your room may look like a packrat's nest.

You may have a problem with jealousy, tending to be very possessive of the people you love. You have to allow your friends some independence, or you will lose them. People cannot be owned like objects.

Whenever you work on something creative, you may be rather slow, but your taste and concern with craftsmanship are better than average. Even if you cannot do beautiful work yourself, you will respect others' work.

Anger can be a problem for you, because you have difficulty expressing it until it builds to the point that you lose control. It is all right to express this anger as long as you don't hurt anyone in the process. The problem is that other people may try to take advantage of your apparent patience, not realizing that you are really angry. It is up to you to let them know how you feel.

(Marcia Moore and Mark Douglas)

Keynote: Energy is utilised in practical, persevering ways.

Symbol: A bulldozer razes a site for an industrial development.

Since Taurus is the bull and Mars is the colour red, Mars in Taurus can be expected to produce displays of temper or 'seeing red'. Yet the word 'temper' means more than a fiery outburst or sudden tantrum. A blade of steel is tempered by fire into an effective cutting instrument. Justice is tempered by mercy to make it psychologically equitable. Thus, the individual whose disposition is tempered by Mars in Taurus may have to decide whether he will smoulder with resentment over real or fancied injustices, or whether he will burn with zeal to right wrongs and to shape the rude clay of Earth into more adequate forms.

Despite the harshness of the impact of Mars upon the obdurate material of Taurus, this is a felicitous combination for worldly achievement. It impels an individual to plough through resistance and to test his strength against obstacles, even though he may be forced to confront his antagonists by having his bridges burned behind him. Sometimes he feels that he has been compelled to fight for everything he gains; and in moments of discouragement may wonder if his victories have been worth the struggle. Nevertheless, he has the courage to endure, regardless of privations.

The person with Mars in Taurus prefers practical tasks to those of an abstract nature. He wants to move mountains, to make money, and to construct an impregnable bastion of security. Not for him are moralising, philosophising, and rationalising debates as to what to do or not to do. Once he sees the need for action, he will push with bulldozer-like persistence toward a successful outcome to his endeavours. Yet all too often, having obtained the desired objective, he unwittingly allows it to slip from his grasp. Even in his lowest moments, however, he finds that, just as there are fires smouldering deep in the heart of the earth which periodically blaze into activity, he too can summon up a resurgence of the will-to-win which enables him to move resolutely forward again.

Any Mars-Venus combination is liable to produce a strongly sexed individual. In this case, where the erotic energy of Mars is grounded in the earthy nature of Venus-ruled Taurus, the instinctive drive of the planet can be subverted into overbearing arrogance, unreasoning jealousy, and fierce possessiveness. The effect of Mars in Taurus can be like an underground explosion which, by churning up the emotions, destroys the hope of attaining the most coveted rewards by undermining the stable foundation upon which all accomplishment must rest. The compulsion to obtain and retain material things often betrays a power complex. Such a person may be extremely generous, but only as long as the reins of authority are in his hands and he is undisputed lord over that which he considers to be his own.

While Venus in Taurus inclines to co-operate with nature, Mars in Taurus determines to conquer it. These people court challenges, and have the rugged strength to meet them. Engineering, construction work, and enterprises which reshape the contours of the earth absorb their attention. Men with this combination are builders of tunnels, dams, highways, factories, and skyscrapers. Women often have numerous physical labours to perform such as moving households and belongings to keep up with a peripatetic mate. The job of civilising small children or a recalcitrant husband brings out the martial side of their temperament and calls forth their reserves of stamina.

All planets in detriment imply contradictory behaviour. Mars in Taurus can be alternately peaceful and aggressive, stoical and self-indulgent, generous and

grasping. Control is possible, however, if the person with this turn-about temperament can remain steadfast in the conviction that the only really worthwhile possessions is his own mind and soul. He has the strength of character to achieve his basic objectives. Therefore, it is especially important for him to understand the deeper desires which motivate him to action, and to make sure that the goals he seeks justify the effort expended in reaching them.

(Isabel Hickey)

Mars is not well placed in Taurus, where it is in detriment. Mars is persistent and patient in this sign, but also extremely stubborn, jealous and possessive. Money and sex are important. Values need refining for they are of the earth, earthy. Security, whether invested in money or people, is important. Acquisitiveness is strong, as is pride. If Mars is afflicted, there is a tendency to resentfulness. Selfishness and too strong a possessiveness must be overcome. Sharing must be cultivated as a quality. Apt to be penurious.

(Jeff Green)

Mars in Taurus reflects a desire that seeks to become self-sustaining and self-reliant. This placement will correlate to a Soul that desires to discover, actualise, and establish its own value system and the meaning of a life reflected in those values. As a result, there is an instinctual resistance to accepting or adopting the value systems of anyone else, including the value system of the existing society that the Soul is born into. Mars in Taurus correlates to a deeply internalised focus that generates a defiant stance of separateness and independence from the overall circumstantial conditions of society. Remaining instinctively separate from those conditions allows the Mars in Taurus person to become aware of the types of desires they need to act upon that will allow for an actualisation of the values that most perfectly reflect the meaning of the current life. Great rewards will come through sustained efforts focused on the goals and objectives that will lead the Soul forward in its evolutionary requirements. The house that Mars in Taurus is in, the house that the sign Taurus is on, the aspects that Mars makes to other planets, and the houses that those planets are in will correlate to the specific focus in subjective consciousness in which the Soul actualises the individual sense of meaning for its life, and the value system that reflects that meaning. Self-reliance will be learned through these dynamics.

Sexually, Mars in Taurus reflects a desire nature that seeks to use sexual energy as a vehicle for the metamorphosis of emotional and psychological limitations. In order to accomplish this, the Soul will create sexually confrontational situations in which the emotional and psychological reality, and the needs that reflect this reality, surface into awareness. At worst, this can manifest as sexual violence in one form or another. Relative to the desire to become self-reliant, Mars in Taurus can manifest as strong masturbatory tendencies. As a result, the sexual nature is strong and constant.

The Mars in Taurus soul is strongly grounded in the body, manifesting a strong physical and sexual magnetism that is instinctive. This magnetism creates a vibration of attraction that creates the necessary sexual experiences through which the Soul learns about the nature of sexual energy, and the proper or improper use of it. On the one hand, the sexual nature can be quite primitive in the sense that Mars in Taurus can focus on sex for its own sake - a desire for intense physical stimulation only, as if the Soul is somehow separate from the body and emotions. On the other hand, the intensity of sexual experience that the Mars in Taurus creates instinctively unlocks the depths of the emotions that lead to the Soul. Therefore, a progressive dissatisfaction will occur when sexual energy is limited to just physical intensity. This dissatisfaction reflects the Mars in Taurus people's core desire for a total connection

to their Soul and to the Soul of the sexual partner. By experiencing the limitation of just physical sex, the Mars in Taurus person evolves into sexual desires that seek total absorption with the sexual partner, and thus absorption to the Soul within.

Until this is realised, the dynamics of sex as power, control, manipulation, and being attracted to others as sexual objects, or others being attracted to the Mars in Taurus person as a sexual object, will occur. When this occurs, the dynamics of sexual addiction, sexual slavery, sexual infidelity, and relationships that are created for sexual reasons only, will occur. The real lesson begins when Mars in Taurus transmutes profane sex to sacred sex. These people must transform themselves from the prostitute or gigolo to the pure state achieved when the Soul and body are united through sacred sexual practices. The specific types of desires that reflect his archetype are determined by the house that Mars is in, the house that the sign Taurus is on, the aspects Mars is making to other planets, and the houses that they are in.

As their lives evolve, these individuals must eventually embrace the Scorpio polarity. In essence, this means to create a desire to focus on the nature of their motivations, desires, intentions, and overall psychological dynamics. They need to move from 'this is just the way I am' to 'this is why I am this way'. This polarity demands that such individuals allow themselves to grow, from the limitations that the instinct of self-isolation imposes to a reality that allows acceptance of reality as relative. Thus, they see that other people's values, beliefs, ways of being, etc. are just as important and valid as their own.

Natal Mars in Gemini

(Frances Sakoian and Louis Acker)

Mars in the sign Gemini indicates mental activity and aggressiveness. Those with this Mars position have active and critical minds, and as a rule engineering and mechanical skill.

This position gives a love of debate and intellectual contest. If Mars is afflicted, there can be argumentativeness and irritability. Ingenuity and resourcefulness are typical with this position, but not necessarily perseverance, unless other things in the horoscope supply it.

Reporters, critics, and journalists often have Mars placed in Gemini. Great restlessness goes with this position, leading to many changes of occupation; and these people may work at several jobs simultaneously. If Mars is afflicted in Gemini, the speech can be sarcastic and rude.

(Julia and Derek Parker)

This placing stimulates the mind, although many astrologers have found that Mars is not well placed in this sign, as it is not physically invigorating. We do not necessarily agree, provided that some kind of intellectual motivation for physical action is shown. It is important for the individual to exercise the body as well as the mind (as is the case with everyone), but he or she may not be particularly inclined to do so unless some sort of intellectual challenge is involved. Many forms of exercise will be tried, but most will be deemed boring. Encourage your subject to find one which satisfies his intellectual and physical needs, and to stick to it. If this does not happen, restlessness will build up, bringing a rather sharp bad temper and irritability that will be directed not only towards others but also to the self, through considerable self-criticism. Energy may be dissipated through too many changes of direction, both in life in general and on a day-to-day basis. This will obviously lead to feelings of

dissatisfaction, so look to other stabilizing areas of the chart for a steadier approach and sense of discipline; this influence can then be expressed in a more controlled and practical way.

Quite a strong element of versatility is usually present; and the key to getting the very best out of this placing is to remember that, because total relaxation is not usually enjoyed (again because it is considered boring), a change of occupation will be most beneficial. If heavy physical demands are made on the subject during the working day, he or she should invite intellectual challenges in the evening, or vice versa, remembering, of course, that the inclination to make too many changes must be controlled.

The arms and hands are vulnerable, so the subject should be encouraged to wear protective gloves when gardening or doing rough chores, and to be very careful when handling sharp tools or hot dishes - especially when Mars is making transits to the personal planets or the Ascendant.

As far as the sex life is concerned, here is a lively, experimental partner who will enjoy a rewarding sex life from youth right through to old age. The attitude towards sex will be light-hearted: it is fun, and to be enjoyed. This placing tends to take some of the steamy passion out of this sphere of life, but the subject will nevertheless be an energetic and often athletic lover, which in turn will help to keep the partner equally energetic, youthful, and athletic!

(Grant Lewi)

Your energies flow naturally into adventurous paths. Movement, physical and mental, is essential to you, and you express best when working, playing, living actively, preferably at high speed. You are rarely bored or boring, but you can wear others, and yourself, out by the ferocity of your attack on life. You are extraordinarily aware of the world around you; sense perceptions are acute, swift, probably accurate; and you are voluble in expressing what you take in. Energy flows naturally to the tongue; you are a better talker than a listener; and are generally glib, discursive, extensive in your remarks written or spoken. With any concentrative force, this position gains value; without it, you scatter your energies. You are something of a sensualist, and like the physical expressions of love; you probably think sex is more important than it really is, and by thinking make it so. Energy flows into mind force as well as into physical activity; this is peculiarly a position in which, to have a sound mind, you must also have a sound body. You must beware of neglecting your physical well-being through letting your energies dam up in the pools of the mind; also of being blocked by sensational thoughts which from time to time will tend to dominate you. The negative reactions of the sex urge, such as envy, jealousy and hatred, can frustrate you if you let them get hold. Mind control and bodily vigor are the two things for which you should constantly strive.

(Syndey Omarr)

Mars in Gemini gives the native an active, restless mind; it makes him want to change things, to bend situations to his own will. He likes action, but tries too hard, too soon. The astrologer can teach him the value of concentration and the necessity, at times, of making adjustments instead of insisting that the world adjust to him.

Mars in Gemini is adventurous, but once the chase is over he doesn't enjoy the victory as much as he should. This includes numerous areas of life: sex, food, money. Thus, there are numerous affairs; and there is a general restless nature, and dissatisfaction with home life.

(Lyn Birbeck)

You are an eloquent, though potentially tricky, suitor. Energy is created and maintained through the use of your intellect and words, and also your hands. Tactical pursuits like debate and chess also keep sharp your most valued weapons - your mind and tongue. Your rapier-like wit and lively nervous system need diverse and speedy input and stimulation, or they can devolve into biting sarcasm and defensive cynicism, such being the usual forms taken by any anger.

You attract with the gift of the gab; by being in the know and on the go; with a lively, adolescent-like wit and charm that dazzles and flatters with ease, and a kind of 'you can't pin me down' vibe; and with manual skills and an agile body, displaying versatility in more than one field.

You repel with a fly, roguish nature that palls as fast as it initially impresses; with a cold, unfeeling streak that cannot stay the emotional course; all head and no talk - at least, apparently; and with a fidgety or distracted temperament that never gets to, or steers around, the point.

You are attracted to lively situations where there is plenty of opportunity to interact in a quick, light and verbal fashion; to Others who have ready wit and a flashy sense of humour; and to where you are challenged to show your mental muscle or to keep people guessing.

You are repelled by dull, homey, predictable situations where nothing is happening at that very moment; by Others who cannot get their minds into gear and who are too slow to appreciate the pace of life as you like it; by a lack of stimulation; and by safe scenarios where everything and everyone is a known quantity.

When you are alone, it is because you have found the pace of your love or sex life too nerve-racking to continue with. The reason behind this is that you have been driven simultaneously by a desire to satisfy your feelings on the one hand, and a fear of actually encountering them on the other. So when you do get what you desire, you then have to control it with your wits in a bid to avoid feeling what you are afraid of feeling. You set up reasons and schedules that pre-empt that dreaded encounter with your own emotional truth. This psychological split may well express itself as a love triangle. So being alone is telling you that it is time to stop living life on these two diverging lines of thinking and feeling, and to take stock of your inner fears and feelings with a view to understanding them. Then and only then will you be ready to emerge again into the fray.

(John Townley)

You are quite sensitive, and you learn the delicate art of lovemaking very quickly. For that reason, you need a lover who responds to a rather gentle touch, and who is ready to search for every possible means of sexual expression. You easily translate thought into action, and therefore you can become quite expert with a minimum of physical experience as long as it is backed up with a maximum of knowledge.

However, you can be too knowledgeable, trying to pack too many different techniques into one night of love so that each individual expression is less meaningful. Better to savor each technique and reserve some for later enjoyment - there's a lot of life and love ahead of you.

On the opposite side, however, although you value the emotional communion of love,

you grow bored if the physical expression is always the same. Your lover should be willing to experiment or at least go along with whatever you devise for variety's sake.

You may enjoy using props and mechanical embellishments in lovemaking, particularly in acting out sexual fantasies. Such expression can be quite fulfilling, as long as it is not a substitute for emotional communication.

(Robert Hand)

Your energies get turned on very rapidly, and you work very quickly. However, you may have trouble directing your energy at a single task for any length of time. You are inclined to start several projects at once and never finish any of them, because it's more exciting to move on to something else. This can be a real handicap in school, because you are required to apply yourself for extended periods to tasks that may not be especially interesting. If you cannot overcome this basic tendency to dabble shallowly in many activities, you will not master any skill very completely.

On the other hand, you do have a quick mind, which you enjoy using, especially to debate and argue with others in a spirit of friendly disagreement. You may argue a particular point of view, not because you really believe it, but because it is fun to defend it. You are more likely to disagree with people about ideas than about almost anything else.

Try not to be so impulsive in the way that you think. If you make decisions too rapidly, you will often be wrong. This is another way in which you are too impatient to take the time to do the job thoroughly.

Your fondness for change may make you want to travel and move around a lot. You probably like to ride around on your bicycle, just finding out what is going on.

(Marcia Moore and Mark Douglas)

Keynote: Ideas are projected forcefully.

Symbol: A fencer engages his opponent with agile parries and swift thrusts.

Mars in Gemini denotes an energetic thinker with a busy, restless mind. He is a voluble talker who seldom hesitates to jump into a debate on any subject that ignites his interest. This individual endeavours to convert ideas into effective action as quickly as possible in order to be free to pursue the new projects which claim his attention. He will labour diligently to achieve designated results, but is apt to exert himself in spurts rather than in a steady, even manner.

Since the fires of Mars flare fervently when stirred by the breezy enthusiasms of Gemini, this ideologically impetuous individual frequently incites others to action with his sudden inspirations. He can be intoxicated by words; and his beliefs are contagious. He may, however, switch his stand and confound his followers by espousing different points of view on different occasions.

This position gives an adventurous streak, although there is no great fondness for 'roughing it'. Such a person is handy to have on an expedition, since he is a good sport, takes a keen interest in his surroundings, and can cope with almost any exigency. Although inclined to avoid heavy work, he knows how to mend things, improvise diversions, and boost morale. Later, he is likely to write a rousing account of his experiences which he will not hesitate to embellish for added effect.

The Martian Geminian should never be fettered. Whether he is a taxicab driver or jet-set pacesetter, he needs to circulate in order to be physically and mentally renewed. He is a born salesman who can inject his own ideas into whatever project he is promoting, whether this involves backing a political candidate, introducing a scientific concept, or extolling the virtues of the latest timesaving gadget. This individual makes an aggressive literary agent, a clever sportswriter, or a versatile executive secretary. Such a person can be counted on to excel wherever the physical stamina of Mars combines with the verbal dexterity of Gemini.

The Mars-Gemini individual is well adapted to duel with words, and can wield the rapier of repartee or the sword of sarcasm with telling effect. He seldom has to take overt action against an antagonist, because he can fight much more devastatingly with cutting phrases. His strength lies in his ability to unbalance his opponent with cleverly placed thrusts so that his power is expended where it counts and not wasted in unnecessary sparring. He may have to make a special effort to guard against the dispersal of his energies and to prevent excitement and irritability from fraying his nerves.

This verbal sophisticate is capable of building a bridge of words between the world of the mind and the world of practical action. He can make indelible enterprises sound feasible, and knows how to present the reasonable in terms of the desirable. Although Gemini is not noted for endurance, Mars acts through it with such direct force that a self-perpetuating blaze may be kindled. A fire need be lit only once; and the Martian Geminian can be an intellectual firebrand, igniting a conflagration that may spread far beyond the original spark of an idea that set it burning.

(Isabel Hickey)

Alert, energetic, witty, sarcastic, often strife with relatives and friends. Energises the tongue too much and makes it sharp and caustic. Can be the gossip and can have a forked tongue. Id afflicted, not trustworthy. Lively, mechanical-minded, and capable of doing many things well. Has to learn to conserve energy and direct it wisely. Otherwise the nervous system gives trouble. Biggest fault is failing to follow through and keep promises. This is why it is undependable. Scatters force and needs to learn concentration of power.

(Jeff Green)

Mars in Gemini reflects a desire structure that is energised through the motivation of independent thinking, and the desire to question every accepted opinion established by any authority. As a result, the mental temperament is argumentative and combative. Mars in Gemini desires to create its own mental constructions about the nature of things, to expand its level of awareness and consciousness through the expansion of its mental horizons. This will occur through the formation and reformulation of mental constructions or ideas that become ever larger and more expansive. The desire to continually expand and know more means Mars in Gemini will even challenge its own ideas at key points in the evolutionary journey. The desire nature is very restless and curious, and can pursue many different directions simultaneously. The weakness in this is not following through or completing anything (two pages in a book are read without completing the book, etc.), since what was curious or interesting yesterday may be boring today!

Sexually, Mars in Gemini manifests a mental desire to explore and understand the diversity of all possible sexual orientations and behaviours. To say that Mars in Gemini is sexually curious would be an understatement. Many will study the sexual traditions of many other cultures in the desire to obtain as much sexual knowledge as

possible. On a physical level, Mars in Gemini can find it very difficult to disengage its mind from the sexual act. There is an inner voyeur that is forever observing the physical act of sex. This observation creates as mental amazement regarding sexual activities. This can be frustrating to the individual, as well as to the partner. This frustration can lead to the use of sexual methods that lead to physical intensity as a way of bypassing the mental orientation inherent within Mars in Gemini. There can be strong desires to experiment with sexual toys or devices as a way of achieving sexual stimulation. There can also be a desire to challenge the limitation of gender roles, or the manifestation of bisexual or homosexual desires. At best, Mars in Gemini creates sexual versatility and adaptability to the desires of both partners. In and of itself, Mars in Gemini will not preclude any possible sexual scenario.

Mars in Gemini can also reflect karmic or evolutionary conditions that manifest as sexual issues between one's siblings or parents. When this occurs, the sexual development of the Mars in Gemini person will be arrested. This will lead to a form of sexual infantilism, where the individual will be sexually immature as an adult. The genital region, as a result, can be 'frozen' because the nerves (Gemini) have become constricted.

As their lives evolve, these individuals must embrace the Sagittarian polarity. In essence, this means the desire to actualise one guiding philosophical system of thought that serves as a foundation to which the various mental constructions can be consistently related. This creates a consistency of perspective and a consistency of thought. It allows for a consistency of interpretation of the phenomenal reality that we participate in. It is also important that this polarity be embraced so that such individuals learn to access their own unique 'truth', versus the 'truths' that are all too often projected on them by other people. Sexually, it means to distinguish between natural sexual laws and expressions, and the 'fads' of the day - to move from 'try anything once' to 'this is consistent with who I am and what I need'.

Natal Mars in Cancer

(Donna van Toen)

You have high emotional energies, adequate-to-low physical and practical energies, and low mental energies. Your energy is predominantly emotional, sympathetic and subtle. It is often channeled into gaining security, patriotism, and domestic activities. Your strengths include your ability to give TLC, instincts, and feelings. You lack perspective, direction, and spontaneity.

The fighting side of Mars is subdued here. You fight openly only when forced to do so; you prefer to use guilt to keep things under control, or you will sidle into things on the defensive, wondering if you'll be able to take the heat or be driven out of the kitchen by more assertive minds / bodies. I call this the mark of the worrywart, as your strong needs for security and nice things can put a lot of pressure on you to be 'the best' in some way - and of course perfection is hard to come by! Sometimes this position of Mars indicates difficulties in the involved house, because Mars here is in its fall and therefore hard to channel constructively. Other times, since Cancer is associated with home and family, it can attract a great deal of domestic discord. Your intuition is powerful; you should use it. But guard against negative psychism, and round out your development by also taking courses in philosophy or theosophy, to aid your psychic development. With practice, you could have good results with astral projection, past-life recall, and tarot in particular.

Mars in Cancer tends to have a somewhat uneven or erratic sexual quality. People with this placement can go for lengthy periods when they have little or no interest in

sex. These periods are interspersed with other periods of extremely sensuous, amorous, and occasionally even promiscuous behavior. Sometimes, there are bouts of impotence or other sexual problems. However, if you're sure you're loved, you're liable to be both refined and faithful, even if not always in the mood for sexual frolics.

Mars in Cancer men have many appealing qualities, not the least of which is the fact that they like women and are protective and solicitous of them. They make marvelous friends; and if you're willing to settle for cuddles instead of fireworks when they're in their disinclined stage, they can be quite capable of meeting your needs. Mars in Cancer women often have some difficulty deciding whether they want to be Earth Mother or Lolita - and sometimes take turns playing both roles.

You want an emotional mate who likes to touch and be touched. The chances are good that you also want a family. You can be a clinging vine and smother your lover if you're not careful. Your intentions are good - you want to protect, provide for, and take care of him / her so that his / her every need will be fulfilled. You therefore do best with a mate who's a wee bit dependent, someone who wants a strong person who can advise and help him / her when need be. In general, this rules out anyone whose overall chart shows a strong Aries (dependent this person wouldn't be), Sagittarius (you'd cramp his / her style), or Aquarius (too independent for your tastes) influence. Choose someone who has Venus in a Water sign, in the 4th house, or conjunct his / her Mon for best results. His / her Venus on your Nadir might also be a good choice if you want a comfortable, relaxed, stay-at-home sort of relationship.

You're able to succeed in a number of career areas, but would be best off to aim for a position with a title, preferably a position that involves serving the public in some way. You're motivated to gain prominence, and aren't too well-suited to partnership unless your partner is a silent one. You are, however, a prime candidate to be owner-manager of your own business. You're not suited to assembly-line work in a factory; nor are you suited to office work where you're one of several doing the same sort of work; you need to express your individuality in the career area. Some good career areas for you are: catering, cooking, bartending, advertising, office work (but not the very junior positions unless you really feel needed and there's scope for advancement once you prove yourself), shopkeeping, plumbing, nursing, hotel work, and fishing.

Working hard around your home is one way to find opportunities for personal growth. It doesn't really matter whether your work is actually connected with your home or merely done in your home; if your motivation is high, the opportunities will come. Cooking, delivery work, and the business world in general can also provide you with lucky breaks. In general, the less glamorous the field, the more opportunities you'll find, as you're most highly motivated when you see unfilled needs or people needing protection. This may often mean succeeding because you take on work nobody else wants to do.

(Jan Spiller and Karen McCoy)

Static

You have a tendency to alienate others by competing with them for fulfillment of emotional needs. You may aggressively demand attention and assume that the needs of others are a threat to your security. When others don't give you the support and attention you think you need, you can lose energy by using the Cancerian emotional touchiness to reject them.

Dynamic

You can be constructively assertive with others by using sensitivity to become aware of others' needs as well as your own. When you are willing to set aside self-centredness and adopt a position of responsibility, you can acknowledge the feelings of others as well as express your own needs positively. You can gain energy when you commit yourself to initiating closeness and objectively organizing situations in which everyone's needs can be met.

(Babs Kirby and Janey Stubbs)

Someone with Mars in Cancer is going to move cautiously wherever failure and rejection are a possibility. Like the crab, these people will approach their objective sideways-on. They will act carefully, and pay attention to what kind of response they are eliciting.

In relationships, someone with Mars in Cancer will not want to risk rejection, and will often not make a move unless sure of being accepted. These people will use their sensitivity to the non-verbal signals to gauge how safe it is before risking a refusal. However, Cancer is a cardinal sign, so despite their self-protectiveness Mars in Cancer people will initiate. When they feel emotionally secure, either because the external situation is non-threatening or from an inner security established within themselves, then Mars in Cancer people can act passionately and powerfully.

This is a sexually passionate placement with deep and intense needs for emotional safety within a relationship. People with Mars in Cancer are particularly likely to want sexual contact to reassure them that they are wanted, although their need to be wanted extends beyond the sexual and will permeate their whole life. They may try to make themselves indispensable to others so that they will never be abandoned.

In sexual relationships, they need to feel they belong, to feel protected and secure, and will in turn offer a sense of protection and containment to their partner. Mars in Cancer will often mother their partner and want mothering themselves. They enjoy taking care of others, both physically and emotionally. They are likely to be gentle, kindly and sympathetic.

Someone with Mars in Cancer will recognize and value the deeper exchanges of a sexual union and the bonds that exist on a feeling level. These people are likely to be possessive and to expect their partner to be completely faithful, though they will not necessarily apply this same standard to themselves. However, they will remain faithful if their infidelity would threaten their security or violate their feeling of belonging to someone else.

(Syke Alexander)

Mars has a difficult time expressing itself through this sign, for the two energies are radically different. Mars is active, assertive and individualistic; Cancer is passive, introverted and desirous of union with significant others. The physical vitality and the courage and confidence inherent in Mars are diminished when the planet is placed in Cancer. You might find it hard to assert yourself or to go after what you really want in an aggressive, decisive way. Instead, you tend to pursue your desires in a round-about or stop-start manner, changing your course of action from day to day.

One thing you will strive to achieve is security, and you may invest a great deal of energy to this end. You might seek security in material wealth and work hard to acquire as many financial assets as possible. Or, you could find security in your family and put lots of your energy and enthusiasm into your family life. Perhaps much of the activity in your life is centered around your home and / or family.

Though you are not naturally a fighter, you are like a mother bear when it comes to protecting your home and children, and would defend them to the death if need be. This fierce protectiveness extends to all members of your family and your expanded family - co-workers, neighbors, fellow citizens - and you might be known for your vociferous patriotism and loyalty.

You are strongly sexual and sensual, but are really only fulfilled within the structure of a committed, stable relationship. Sex without emotion seems meaningless and empty. You are happiest when you can share your powerful feelings with a partner to whom you are devoted and with whom you are comfortable and secure. Once involved in an intimate relationship, you aren't likely to be unfaithful, and couldn't bear any disloyalty from your lover. Infidelity threatens the sense of security you find within the relationship.

Highly emotional, you can be rather 'touchy', easily upset and volatile. Most probably, you are very susceptible to emotional stress and tension; and your feelings are quickly engaged. Thus, your emotional responses - particularly anger - sometimes seem disproportionate to the situation. Sensitive to what you envision as attacks on you personally, you tend to over-react with defensiveness when you believe you are being challenged in some way. You might feel vulnerable or weak, and try to compensate by attacking first or hardest.

Men with Mars in Cancer may have a particularly difficult time accepting and dealing with the great sensitivity and emotion they experience. Perhaps you choose to channel this sensitivity into an artistic field. Since Cancer is in the sign of children, nurturing and the creative process, you might put your energy into birthing 'children of the mind'. However, it is also possible that you may feel weak or unmasculine, and over-compensate with excessively 'macho' behavior or attempt to appear manly through use of violence. Perhaps you harbor much anger towards women - especially if Mars is stressfully aspected by Uranus or Pluto - and either denigrate them or try to assuage your feelings of inadequacy through sexual 'conquests'.

Women with this planetary placement are most attracted to men who are warm, affectionate, romantic, nurturing and sensitive. You find it rather endearing to see a man cry, and are put off by 'tough guys' who hide their emotions. A devoted family man, who loves children and takes good care of his mother, touches your heart. You also want someone who is a good provider, who can give you a nice home and financial security. Slightly plump homebodies who enjoy cooking and like nothing better than to cuddle up with you in front of the fire appeal to you most.

(Marcia Moore and Mark Douglas)

Keynote: Circumstances demand defensive action.

Symbol: A settler buys a gun in order to protect his home.

Mars in Cancer directs the full force of the feeling nature into the struggle to acquire an estate and to guard that which has been obtained. A soldier's place is not normally in the home. Therefore, aggressive Mars is in its fall in the domestic sign of Cancer where militancy is distressingly out of place.

Although the fire of Mars and the water of Cancer are more apt to boil than the blend, their enforced coalescence produces potent effects. The suppressed emotionalism of fire-water combinations may result in smouldering irritation followed

by sudden outbursts of temper or 'letting off steam'. When positively directed, the pent-up feelings can be channeled into passionate dedication to a cause. Often such an individual is driven to sublimate the ferment of feelings, which vie for control of his nature, into fervid endeavour. The result may be a brand of genius which is tinged with lunacy but which, nonetheless, gives rise to accomplishment.

Venus in Cancer can be smug in its reliance on traditional values. By contrast, Mars in Cancer churns up obscure problems, particularly on the home front. Excessive tension is liable to create internal distress in the form of nervousness and digestive upsets. Women with this placement often undergo abdominal operations; men are oppressed by possessive mothers; babies have difficulty retaining their food. Unconscious resentments lead to a dependence on cigarettes, alcohol, or drugs which wreak destruction upon the hapless cells of the body in socially acceptable ways. Addictive tendencies may be triggered by the use of artificial stimulants to counteract a sense of physical depletion.

A Mars-Cancer person should study and apply the principles of psychoanalysis in probing the depths of his own mind. Here he can wield the cutting force of Mars like a surgeon's knife in order to locate hidden sources of conflict. Frequently, he will find that many of his difficulties can be traced to childhood traumas or to uncongenial parents.

Although this position gives strong domestic inclinations, the nesting instinct is often thwarted by sudden, enforced changes of residence, political upheavals, or uncontrollable circumstances. Almost invariably, some frustration mars the harmony of the home. A typical Mars-Cancer woman had to work so hard earning money to maintain her household that she would return from her job too exhausted to do more than have a couple of drinks and fall into bed. Three miserable marriages and an unloving mother had combined to rob her of the tranquil homelife she so desperately craved.

Since Mars is the go-getter as well as a goad to action, it frequently provides a clue to a person's profession. In Cancer, it inclines toward occupations connected with the sea, food, housing, or children. The strenuous work involved in running a busy home, institution, hotel, or restaurant is characteristic of this configuration.

A good swimmer does not fight the sea, but allows it to buoy him up. Similarly, the Mars-Cancer person must learn that some battles are won through letting go and surrendering to necessity. Otherwise, he may waste energy struggling for lost causes. He needs to cultivate a quiet spirit, a happy disposition, and faith that the ongoing stream of life will bear him toward his goal.

(Isabel Hickey)

Very sensitive. Over-emotional. There are difficulties with digestion due to emotions. Strife in home conditions. Ambitious and hard workers, but changeable. Very domesticated. Can not fight, for is not aggressive outwardly. Holds everything in and steams inside. Timidity is strong if there are not other positive energies to help. Very sensitive stomach. Should not put juices on an empty stomach, for it irritates the stomach linings. People with Mars in Cancer have a 'red' stomach so acids can give upsets. Should not eat when tired or upset. Digestion strongly affected by moods and feelings.

(Jeff Green)

Mars in Cancer will correlate with a Soul that desires to create a safe, secure

personal reality in order for its evolutionary intentions to be actualised. The primary structure or form that Mars in Cancer will instinctively orient to in order for this security to be realised is that of family, home, and trusted friends. By extension, this drive reflects the core evolutionary intention of the Mars in Cancer archetype - to move from seeking its security needs through external forms or structures to realising that the security it requires lies within itself. In order for this evolution to take place, the Mars in Cancer person will typically be born into a family situation in which the parents do not meet these projected security needs in some way.

This can manifest in various scenarios, such as emotional conflict between the parents in which the child learns that something can go wrong at any moment, having parents who divorce, experiencing disruptions within the family structure on an ongoing basis, having one or both parents who are emotionally domineering and demanding towards the child, or having one or both parents that emotionally or sexually abuse or violate the child in some way. When the projected and expected emotional security needs of the child are not met, the psychological and emotional consequences will lead to displaced anger, and to a total breakdown of trust. Sexual abuse or violation in childhood will lead to a deep sexual anger and distorted sexual desires as the child moves into puberty and adulthood. In combination, these displaced emotional and / or sexual dynamics will be 'acted out' on other people. One of the worst forms of this 'acting out' of displaced emotions can manifest as pathological jealousy. Another example is reflected in the Mars in Cancer person becoming 'emotionally frozen', stemming from the fear of being emotionally vulnerable.

The house that Mars is in, the house that the sign Cancer is in, the house and sign that the Moon is in, the sign of the Fourth House and the location of its planetary ruler, and the aspects that these planets form to other planets and the houses that those planets are in, serve as the primary ways through which the Mars in Cancer person learns how to become inwardly secure. It is through these dynamics that the displaced emotions of childhood are 'triggered'. As such, they serve to progressively make the Mars in Cancer person aware of the causal factors that ignite his or her emotional states or relations. In this way, emotional self-knowledge takes place over time - a key intention of Mars in Cancer. The phasal relationship between Mars and Pluto will show how this is accomplished.

Sexually speaking, the Mars in Cancer person will be born with fundamental fears of insecurity linked with the act of birth itself. The anxiety of separation from the womb of the mother is symbolised by not only the birth moment, but also the cutting of the umbilical cord. As a result of the separation anxiety experienced at birth, the Mars in Cancer person will exhibit a deep fear of sexual vulnerability which mirrors the fear of emotional vulnerability relative to trust. The emotional and psychological compensation for these fears is to create situations in which the Mars in Cancer person attempts to totally control his or her emotional and sexual life. As a result, Mars in Cancer can be very sexually and emotionally possessive, domineering, and irrationally jealous. Hypocritically, these people can demand that their partner be absolutely faithful while at the same time giving themselves the right to have sex with someone else. Their sexual energy and needs are directly linked with their existing emotional dynamics. Because the emotional dynamics can be so complex in the Mars in Cancer person, the nature of his or her sexual dynamics can be just as complex.

The root issue, again, is linked with the original anxiety of separation from the womb at birth, and, through extension, with the various causal factors of emotional problems from childhood. As a result, men who have Mars in Cancer can have a preoccupation with the breasts of women, and a strong oral orientation to the woman. Women can have a strong oral orientation to the man. This orientation

reflects the child's need to bond with the mother at birth through breast feeding, and the security that this creates in the child. In essence, it also reflects the Mars in Cancer person's desire for the original security of the womb.

For some who have Mars in Cancer, various forms of sexual violence or dominance can manifest because of their unresolved anger. In women this can manifest as psychologically, emotionally, and sexually 'castrating' the man in some way; and in men it can manifest as sexual power over women. Such men use women as sexual objects in order to build up an otherwise weak self-image. Some will remain sexually arrested or immature, which will also cause various forms of sexual dysfunction. Sexual distortions can be focused on children or on people who are very much younger or older. Some children who have Mars in Cancer, and who have been sexually abused by a parent, will desire or attempt to have sex with other children, or with a sibling.

Once this Mars in Cancer person realises the evolutionary intention of inner security, his or her emotional and sexual orientation to life will change. Instead of being controlling, domineering, and possessive, he or she will become supportive and nurturing, and display an incredible emotional empathy that can truly heal the emotions of others. He or she will reflect a deep emotional wisdom that is offered in non-manipulative ways. He or she will be self-empowered, and seek to empower others. Sexually, he or she will be secure from within him- or herself, and will no longer fear being sexually or emotionally vulnerable. He or she will encourage and support the emotional and sexual vulnerability of others. He or she will desire to emotionally and sexually unite with another so that the sexual experience becomes a source of emotional and psychic renewal. When this occurs, the Mars in Cancer person has realised the evolutionary intention of his or her Soul.

As their lives evolve, these individuals must embrace the Capricorn polarity. Essentially, this will mean learning how to accept responsibility in their own actions, to become totally self-determined, to become emotionally and sexually mature, and to access the causative factors for their various emotional states, along with the sexual desires that manifest from them.

Natal Mars in Leo

(Donna van Toen)

You have high physical energies, adequate practical and mental energies, and adequate-to-low emotional energies. Your energy is confident, exuberant and dramatic. It is often channeled into getting others to do what you want, being in charge, and entertaining. Your strengths include generosity, leadership ability and enthusiasm. You lack the ability to work without recognition, and also lack humility, and the ability to play second fiddle.

You're an inspirational person, and probably have a considerable amount of self-confidence. Your willpower is also strong. You have a quick but easily-appeased temper. Normally you don't hold grudges. Sometimes, you can be a bit too pushy, though; and if Mars is under stress you must watch out for a tendency to be domineering. (On the other hand, if Mars is in a Yod, you have to watch out for domineering people.)

You have a direct approach when it comes to sex; and you want what you want when you want it. Men with Mars in Leo are normally optimistic about their chances of scoring, and have tons of ideas for the creative pursuit of the opposite sex. Women with this placement can appear haughty. They're generally not looking for just any

old passion; they want THE grand passion. Hence, they dig their heels in, and it takes some effort to sweep them off their feet. People with Mars in Leo generally have a tremendous amount of sex appeal even if not traditionally good-looking.

You want - you demand - to be the center of attention. You also want to achieve something in life, and won't take kindly to having your goals interfered with. Your approach to sexuality is fairly direct. You don't necessarily come on strong, but you make your wants known and aren't much on playing games. Probably you're faithful; certainly you expect fidelity from your mate or lover. For best results, choose someone who has Venus in a Fire sign, Venus in the 5th house, or a Sun / Venus conjunction. Try to see that this Venus isn't under stress from natal Uranus or from your own Uranus.

You have what it takes to work for yourself if you want to. Your energy level is high, and your productivity generally good - although you're not the fastest of workers. A tendency toward arrogance needs watching if you employ or supervise others (or hope to eventually). Otherwise, you 'sell yourself' well and generally work to make the most positive use of your potentials. Some career areas to consider are: art, acting, stock exchange work, paper-making or selling, jewellery-making or selling, cosmetic sales or make-up artist, or the dance.

Your motivation is high when you're contemplating large-scale action - trips to foreign countries, making a hit on Broadway, harnessing solar energy, etc.. Lucky breaks tend to come when you slip off to do your own thing rather than when you follow the crowd. However, crowd scenes can sometimes provide small opportunities, provided there aren't too many bureaucratic manoeuvres to contend with. Herb gardening, flower arranging, acting, dance, and astrology are all areas where your motivation would tend to be high even though the scope of your work may not be far-reaching initially.

(Jan Spiller and Karen McCoy)

Static

You may have a tendency to alienate others by asserting in ways that make you appear larger than life. If you compete for center stage in order to ensure that you will be acknowledged, you may, as a consequence, sacrifice leadership. You can lose energy by indulging in the Leo dramatic demonstrations of authority over others and by pressing to get your way regardless of their feelings.

Dynamic

You can constructively assert leadership by using the power of dramatic emotional expression to inspire and encourage others in their self-expression. Acting on a commitment to inspire others through your enthusiasm can reinforce your sense of independence. Your energies increase in direct proportion to your willingness to unite with others.

(Babs Kirby and Janey Stubbs)

The person with Mars in Leo desires with passionate intensity; and, like Mars in Aries, tends to attribute mythical qualities to those he / she wants. Mars in Leo people are looking for someone larger than life, whom they can truly admire; and because of this they tend to expect a great deal from their lovers. They are prone to serial monogamy, falling passionately in love with someone who seems to embody all the qualities they want. During this phase, they will see the lover as perfect, and will

be unstinting in their praise. They will devote all their energy and attention to pleasing this person until the imperfections begin to appear. Then they begin to feel angry and cheated as though the lover has deliberately set out to deceive them and let them down. The tendency then is to be very critical and see only the bad whereas before they had seen only the good. People with Mars in Leo like to dramatize, so they will tend to draw a lot of people in to sympathize with their disappointment. Mars in Leo people are proud and unyielding, so this pattern tends to be repeated many times before they are able to stop blaming others and see how fixed and unrealistic expectations bring about their own disappointment.

For people with Mars in Leo, sex is generally one of life's pleasures. They give a great deal of attention to setting the scene and creating the right atmosphere. Their bedroom will be the most important room in the home, and will be beautifully decorated in rich, romantic colours. Sex is something special to them; and they like everything to be exactly right. It is rather like staging the first night of a play; and great care is taken to ensure success. They know exactly what pleases people and enjoy giving pleasure, always bearing in mind that sex should be entertaining. They are generous with compliments and attention, and are able to make their partner feel really prized.

Because their self-esteem is bound up with sex, Mars in Leo people can be very sensitive to criticism and rejection. There is a tendency to feel that they have to put on a great performance in order to prove that they are better lovers than anyone else; and this can rob them of some of their natural spontaneity. When they trust to some of their instincts, they have an intuitive knowledge of what is pleasurable; and this, together with their warmth and enthusiasm, can make them quite inspiring lovers.

People with Mars in Leo are attracted to success. They tend to look to their sexual partners to confirm their identity and enhance their status, so that achievement, wealth and fame are all things that turn them on. They like the good life and enjoy luxury, so that someone who can offer these things is likely to seem very attractive to them; and they also get great pleasure from sharing their own good fortune. The person with Mars in Leo has a great capacity for enjoying life. These people's pleasures are very important to them, so it is vital to them that their lovers have a sense of fun and are able to share these pleasures with them. They will quickly lose interest in someone who lacks a strong appetite for life.

Mars in Leo people can be very arrogant and high-handed at times. Their belief that they are a law unto themselves can create a lot of conflict, drama and heartbreak in their relationships. They find it difficult to back down once they have taken a stand, and they may even end a relationship rather than admit they are wrong.

Touchy and easily hurt, they feel humiliated by rejection, and tend to need constant reassurance of their desirability. Being belittled or made fun of feels like death to the Mars in Leo person; and anyone who does this will kill off any desire immediately. In order for a relationship to flourish, this person needs to feel appreciated and respected; and his / her partner must be attentive and generous with praise and encouragement. If these things are not forthcoming, the Mars in Leo person will feel unwanted and turned off.

To the person with Mars in Leo, sex is life-giving and vital to his / her sense of identity. These people are seeking to discover their own uniqueness through it, and so put themselves wholeheartedly into it. It is a creative act for them; and they need to feel proud of what they do. They are highly principled where sex is concerned, regarding faithfulness and loyalty as essential to a successful relationship.

(Skye Alexander)

You project an image of confidence, self-sufficiency and vitality that makes people notice you immediately. Charismatic and gregarious, you see yourself as a natural leader; and because you believe so strongly in your own importance and ability, others are inspired to follow you. Ambitious and egotistic, you are likely to channel your abundant energy into becoming 'somebody'. You want to be recognized and admired by all. However, you can be arrogant and vain, forgetting that a king depends on his subjects as much as they depend on him. In your self-centredness, you often fail to realize the needs of others, and thus turn off those whose adoration and respect you so desperately desire.

You love being 'centre stage' and excel when called on to perform for an audience. You possess an innate sense of the dramatic, and are completely unselfconscious; therefore, you might choose to channel your energies into acting.

Your drive to express yourself might also find an outlet in one of the other art forms. Not only are you highly creative, but also you have plenty of energy, determination, and the self-esteem to keep believing in yourself regardless of what the critics say. Though you might be stung initially by criticism, you never admit defeat, and bounce back from disappointments easily. However, you may lack discrimination; and, if your talent is second-rate, you probably won't realize or admit it. Although you can apply much vigor and stamina toward achieving your objectives, you really don't want to have to work your way up the ladder, and may be lazy and impatient about 'paying your dues' before reaping the glory. You expect overnight success and instant fame.

Excessive pride is one of your most likely pitfalls. You are always ready to accept praise for your accomplishments, but rarely take the blame for any failures. It is almost impossible for you to concede to a fault or mistake, or to accept advice from someone else. Since you won't acknowledge your errors, you can't learn from them, and consequently are destined to repeat them.

You take great pride in your skills as a lover, and may be quite boastful about your sexual prowess. Affectionate and physically demonstrative, you enjoy the drama and excitement of a passionate affair. Though it bolsters your ego to have many sexual partners, you aren't as fickle as someone with Mars in Sagittarius or Gemini, and can be content in a monogamous relationship so long as your lover pays attention to you. You expect total devotion from your mate, and would see infidelity as an insult to you personally. But because you believe your partner already has the best there is, you'd probably be the last to know if she / he had other interests.

Men with Mars in Leo usually have a high opinion of themselves and their masculinity, but still desire constant flattery and ego-reinforcement from friends and lovers. You don't feel you have to do much of anything to earn the appreciation of others - your companionship should be enough. You are good-natured and optimistic, and your positive attitude and childlike enthusiasm endear you to many. You enjoy being magnanimous with people you like, and can be generous with your time, money and talents. Since you don't feel threatened by others, you willingly use whatever influence of power you have to help them achieve recognition, and enjoy playing the role of mentor or patron. Should one of your protégés 'make it', however, she / he had better dedicate the best-selling novel to you or give his / her first-born son your home.

Women with this planetary placement are most attracted to dynamic, charismatic, larger-than-life men. Status is important to you in a mate; and you want someone who

is well-known, respected and admired by all. The more important he is, the better. You are seeking vicarious fame, and want to bask in his reflected glory. Big, blond 'Greek Gods', beach boys and movie / rock star types appeal to you most.

(Frances Sakoian and Louis Acker)

Mars in the sign Leo gives energy, willpower, and creativity. Since much of this ability is expressed in the arts, many dramatic actors have Mars in this sign.

Like Mars in Aries, this sign gives positive initiative; but stability and determination are greater because Leo is a fixed sign. There is a natural ability for leadership because the self-confidence of Mars in Leo people inspires confidence in others. These people want to be in the forefront of whatever is going on; and they are competitive in activities that are important to them. They have strong, undeviating beliefs and opinions, which can arouse opposition among those who disagree with them.

Mars placed here also gives fixed, passionate desires. Although people with Mars in Leo are usually ardent lovers, they are also capable of jealousy and possessiveness. The men exude strength and masculinity, and are high-spirited and proud. People with this Mars position, then, are powerfully attracted to members of the opposite sex, who in turn sense their life and vitality.

As with Mars in Aries, men with this Mars position tend to lose their hair prematurely. The fiery nature of Mars burns the roots of the hair.

If Mars is afflicted in Leo, there can be egotistical leanings and an overbearing manner with a tendency to dominate others. There is also an inclination to believe in one's own infallibility.

(Julia and Derek Parker)

The fiery enthusiasm, energy and assertiveness of Mars are well complemented in Leo; and this placing gives excellent organizational ability and powers of leadership. Nevertheless, the individual must guard against becoming too pushy, especially with others who are less extrovert.

The emotions are positively increased, and there will be a great love of life; special pleasure will be gained from enabling others to be happy and enjoy themselves. The sex life will be full, rewarding and colorful; but if Mars is negatively aspected by Saturn, energy will be spent more unevenly than is usual when these two planets are at loggerheads. There is usually a sense of drama; and while this can be fun, it must be controlled - as must a tendency to exaggerate and show off, which can become bombastic at times. There is a genuine hatred of small-mindedness and petty behavior. The temper is quick (almost as much as when Mars is in Aries), but Leo magnanimity means all will be forgiven and forgotten equally quickly.

A passion for art and creativity is often shown. If painting or design is enjoyed, there is usually a flair for color - especially hot, sunny shades. If the Sun sign complements the Mars placing (being another Fire sign, for instance), the subject will look for such colors when choosing clothes, which will also allow plenty of movement.

If overenthusiasm is consciously controlled, or is countered by other, somewhat more sober elements in the chart, this placing is a marvellously invigorating one. It adds a certain robustness to the health; but look to the spine, which could be prone to strain, especially if the subject is confined to an office desk for long hours at a time. A

backrest chair would be an excellent investment. As Leo rules the heart, you should also encourage steady exercise, whatever the age of the subject. This does not mean that he or she will be prone to heart attacks, but it is as well to remember that the heart is a powerful muscle - a machine - and, like all machines, will work better and longer if it is kept well oiled and sensibly used. For exercise, all kinds of dancing are to be recommended, as are workouts at a well-equipped health club.

(Grant Lewi)

Energy flows normally in self-centered channels, serving the main bent of your nature by ensuring that you will always, as if by instinct, put your best foot forward. You have abundant animal magnetism and charm, and can 'get away with murder': people take things from you that they'd be angry at another about, and you like to 'make 'em take it and like it'. You are probably easy to look at, and make the most of your natural graces. Your energies are the willing servant of your ego, enabling you to dramatize whatever life task you set yourself. Energy may or may not be abundant, but in any case you make the most of what you have: this is the position of someone who 'dies with his boots on' and can always be counted on to do his duty, provided that the duty is one that he can relate to his deep ego centres. This is not a genuinely unselfish position for Mars, though if the total personality requires unselfishness, the energies will work toward this end as readily as toward another. This position of Mars in itself tells little about the character or personality, except that, whatever the ego demands, Mars will serve it with stability and a good deal of self-dramatization.

(Sydney Omarr)

In Leo, Mars is a symbol of great creative energy - the native is restless, anxious, dynamic, forceful; at times he pushes himself to such an extent that he frightens people, including members of the opposite sex.

He possesses a great degree of personal magnetism; he both repels and attracts. His personality is reflected in his creative endeavors. His personal touch is on almost everything he does. He tends to be self-centered, and doesn't believe anything is of real importance unless he, personally, feels its effects. He is impulsive, and acts with haste but seldom repents, because he is alert for a second chance. There may be battles with loved ones, and the danger that the excitement he finds in these clashes could blossom into psychological disorder.

(Lyn Birbeck)

You are a Royal, though potentially conceited, suitor. Energy is created and maintained through striving towards something that makes you feel pride and respect for yourself and / or Other. Finding the noble thing to do can be extremely important when you are having to fight your way through or out of a compromising or pressurized situation. Merely pretending that you are getting what you want with boasts and flourishes in spite of fair criticism is the sign of incipient anger.

You attract with a very confident and stylish way of asserting and displaying yourself; with a dignified and highly honourable manner of conducting yourself, especially when under emotional pressure; and with an impressive and chivalrous sexuality that comes across as relaxed and in command.

You repel with a pompous, vain self-righteousness that is blind to constructive and important advice; by steamrolling anyone or anything that gets in your way; with pure egotism posing as superiority; and with an imperious sexuality that demands its self-styled and self-elected rights.

You are attracted to Others who admire your social style and / or creative talents; to the spotlight; to the Other who can be your 'king' or 'queen' in the sense that he / she is respectful, honorable, and someone to be proud of; and to sexual or confrontational situations where your prowess and dignity win the day.

You are repelled by cynical or overly critical Others who fail to appreciate the drama of life; by low-key or lacklustre Others or situations that put you in a bad light, or that drag you down to their level; and by mean-spirited, back-stabbing means of getting what is wanted.

When you are alone, it is because either you have been banished by pricing yourself out of the market, or you have been upstaged as a result of not admitting to your failings or doing anything about them - at least not until it was too late. And bear in mind that being 'alone' can also mean that you are still with an Other but are not getting what you want. How long you spend in exile therefore has everything to do with facing up to your ego's delusions of grandeur, because they are at the root of your aloneness. Of all the Mars signs, yours can find it hardest to eat humble-pie - but when you do recognize what's best all round, you will be amazed at how swiftly things get turned around. A case of having to stoop to conquer.

(John Townley)

Your approach to lovemaking is rather direct and friendly; and you may be somewhat frustrated by a lover who requires extensive courting or who insists on innumerable verbal games before approaching the physical side of love.

However, once lovemaking is assured, you make elaborate preparations, particularly in lavish surroundings and sumptuous fittings. But remember to consider your partner's ideas, because some people respond to such elaborateness by becoming self-conscious and unable to fully let go.

You are the warmest and most open of lovers, but you may tend to go through one or two basic scenarios over and over without being entirely aware of it. This may become wearing; but if you consult your partner for suggestions and new directions, this needn't become a problem.

You are generous to a fault with your lover, particularly in supplying aids for lovemaking and tokens of affection. This can be most meaningful to you, but don't be surprised if your lover requires less or does not fully appreciate all your efforts. Where the hand fails in such matters, the heart will provide.

(Robert Hand)

You have a great deal of pride, and you enjoy doing things on your own initiative. An appeal to your sense of fairness brings out the best in you; and you will do anything to maintain these qualities. If you know that someone is relying on you, you work very hard to live up to that person's expectations. On the other hand, you are sometimes quite touchy about your sense of dignity. If someone makes fun of you or says something sarcastic, you get very angry and feel that you have to prove your worth to that person. At times, you may act arrogant and domineering toward others. You can't always be first, but you have such a need to be a leader that it may be difficult for you to accept anyone else in this role.

You demand that others let you be yourself so you can run your life as you want. You are quite stubborn about this; in fact, the harder someone pushes you, the more you

resist or persevere on your original course.

You probably have considerable self-confidence and even courage, but you are not especially reckless. At best, you have a good understanding of yourself, of your limitations as well as your strengths, which you emphasize, of course. In fact, you may feel uncomfortable with the softer side of your personality, your emotions and weaknesses. You would like to appear strong and self-possessed at all times.

(Marcia Moore and Mark Douglas)

Keynote: Creative energies stimulate vivacious activity.

Symbol: An actor bounds vigorously onto a stage.

Mars in Leo gives an abundance of élan vital and the incentive to project ideas in dramatic ways. Few combinations impart more personal magnetism. Everything is done 'with heart', and in a grand and chivalrous manner. There is a liking for the big, the bright, and the bold. Issues are clearly drawn and action is taken without fear of consequences.

The Martial Leonian seldom hesitates to act but will do what is needed without wasting energy debating the pros and cons of a matter. His heart tells him what is right; and generally its impulses are sound and trustworthy. This Promethean spirit quickly grows impatient with those timid souls who, because they lack the courage to take a definite stand, allow golden opportunities to elude them.

Leo is the born leader whom Mars impels to take the steps required to rise to a position of prominence. The presence of a fiery planet in a fiery sign gives a double dose of assertiveness which may prove almost too hot to handle. The defects of this position arise from a tendency toward extremism. Excessive zeal for a just cause can degenerate into a fanaticism which arouses antagonism even in those who are being helped.

The energy of Mars reinforced by the individualism of Leo fosters the ability to excel in artistic enterprises, such as acting, singing, and dancing, which require self-projection. One expects dramatic entrances and exits, startling effects and original touches from these colorful personalities. They aspire to transcend previous accomplishments and move on to greater things.

Mars also supplies the motive power to push forward, to brave opposition in competitive fields, and to be brash when necessary. On the negative side, it can make a person pushy and presumptuous. Sometimes, Mars in Leo signifies a power complex which drives an individual to struggle relentlessly for personal recognition and to use dictatorial means to achieve the desired status. He will fight his way to the top, not only because he wants admiration, but because he craves power.

Whatever his vocation, the person with Mars in Leo expresses himself with style and verve. He can take personal initiative and should execute his original ideas, even if by trying to keep everything in his own hands he overestimates his ability to cope with unexpected contingencies. His willingness to give personal attention to whatever he does accounts in large measure for his successes. He is ready to take a gamble, and will strike out on his own while others are clinging to the coattails of convention. He may win gloriously or lose ignominiously, but at least he is not a mediocrity.

One expects the king of beasts to be strong and bold, even if occasionally dangerous, and should be approached with deference. Mars intensifies Leo's courage, pride and

generosity, but it can also incite hasty judgement and lack of restraint. The Martial Leonian is seldom petty or mean, but he needs to check his temper and to realise that power entails responsibility. It is hard for the noble lion to pay obeisance to anyone. Yet there are times when he must submit to others, even if only to prove that he has this additional power over the kingdom of his own soul.

(Isabel Hickey)

Here is energy plus. Leo is a Fire sign, and Mars is a Fire planet. Dramatic, enthusiastic, ambitious and passionate. Have no intention of taking back seat to anyone unless there is a strong Neptune in the chart to nullify the ego. Quarrelsome and jealous where those he loves are concerned if Mars is afflicted. Hates to be wrong and can be extremely fixed in convictions and opinions. Tremendous vitality and courage. Can have heart trouble if he overdoes physically.

(Jeff Green)

This will correlate to a Soul who desires to take charge of and be in total control of its life and destiny. With Mars in Leo, the Soul desires to creatively actualise its evolutionary / karmic intentions and requirements to the fullest possible extent. As a result, the dynamic of creative independence will be emphasised relative to a personal will structure that instinctively resists any circumstance or person that attempts to restrict any experience or direction that the Mars in Leo person desires to act upon. In essence, Mars in Leo desires to be master of its own life. Mars in Leo will reflect a Soul that appears to be self-inflated and self-important, expects to be acknowledged for how special it is, and instinctively acts in such a way as to appear to be the very centre of the universe. Mars in Leo will reflect a Soul that is highly focused, intense, creative, rigid, passionate, dignified, inspiring, narcissistic, and selfish. In evolutionary terms, there will be reasons for the Soul to have Mars in the sign of Leo. For example, it is not uncommon for such a Soul to have had a series of recent lifetimes in which there was no sense of personal power, and to have experienced life in a way that was beyond his or her personal control. As a result, the Soul desires to counteract this experience through manifesting and creating a life in which a necessary Soul strengthening can occur. Looked at in this way, it can be understood as a necessary development for the Soul. The astrologer must positively reinforce this intention to the client, because typically such a client would have repeatedly heard from many people that he or she is too selfish, etc..

The house that Mars in Leo is in, the aspects that it is making to other planets, the house that the sign Aries is on, the house that the sign Leo is on, and the location of the Sun (the planetary ruler of Leo) will all correlate to how and where the archetype of creative actualisation of the Soul's karmic evolutionary intentions will specifically occur.

Sexually speaking, Mars in Leo will manifest desires of creative self-discovery that will not tolerate restrictions from any external source. The only source of restriction will occur from within itself - any sexual behaviour or expression that creates a loss of personal dignity or esteem will be resisted with great force. Mars in Leo will manifest an intense, deep, passionate, assertive, and narcissistic orientation to the sexual experience. There is a high degree of focus on self-pleasure. In men, this can correlate to the 'Adonis complex', where they expect to be sexually worshipped. In women, this manifests as the 'Cleopatra complex', where they also expect to be sexually worshipped. In both men and women there will be a strong focus on using their own bodies as temples of creative self-discovery through autoerotic practices. Many will be highly creative in designing masturbatory practices that allow for a deep intensity of psychological, emotional, and physical sensation, the intensity of

which serves to renew and release the Soul simultaneously.

In their sexual relationships, the Mars in Leo person is focused on experiencing his or her own intense stimulation through his or her partner. The partner serves as a vehicle through which this stimulation occurs. Through increasing the degree of stimulation and sensation in this way, the Mars in Leo person thus stimulates the partner because of the inner intensity of his or her own sensations. The specific nature of the types of sexual desires that the Mars in Leo desires to creatively actualise can be determined by the actual house that Mars is in, the aspects that it is making to other planets, and the houses that those planets are in. The phasal relationship of Mars and Pluto will correlate with how this is done.

As their lives evolve, these individuals must learn to embrace the Aquarian polarity. In essence, this means learning how to validate themselves from within themselves without constantly demanding praise and recognition, but also how to best actualise their creativity and need for recognition within the context of what society needs from them. Such people have an evolutionary need to validate and acknowledge the purposes and creativity of others as being equal to their own. They must ultimately understand that the source of creativity does not originate from their own egos or Souls, and that they must help others actualise their own creative purposes. Sexually, it means to learn how to objectify and embrace the sexual desires and needs of their partner - to listen and learn how to satisfy their partner's needs and not just their own.

Natal Mars in Virgo

(Donna van Toen)

You have high practical energies, adequate-to-high mental energies, adequate physical energies, and low emotional energies. Your energy is service-oriented, disciplined and efficient. It is often channeled into reasoning, finding flaws, and helping others. Your strengths include self-discipline, technical aptitudes, and unselfishness. You lack the ability to see the forest for the trees, imagination, and enthusiasm.

You can be a bit like the Boy Scout who drags the little old lady across the street in spite of her protests that she doesn't want to go. You mean well, and probably wouldn't push people around or argue with them for your own sake; but you have awfully definite ideas about what's good and bad for people in general and those you care about in particular. As a result, you can be too critical of others, interfering more than is good for either them or you. This trait can be channeled positively, however; for example, your sort of motivation can be a good asset if you're involved in a career in the medical field, or are a secretary, computer programmer or operator, or statistician. In any case, this Mars can be best used for acquiring knowledge and putting it to practical use. With this position, the enthusiasm of Mars is dulled to a large extent; although you tend to be physically active, you're not keen on strenuous activity unless there's some practical purpose to it.

Mars in Virgo people generally tend to be very careful and discreet about sex. Occasionally they're 'late bloomers' in this area. Various types of sexual hang-ups can manifest if Mars is under stress here; usually these have to do with rejecting people for rather petty reasons. Both sexes have to learn that good reasoning skills don't make for infallible judgement in the sexual arena. Men with this placement are often so busy repressing their emotions that they may not be very insightful about a woman's wants - or their own. Women with this placement set high standards for men - sometimes unattainably so. Both sexes can be incredibly dense when it comes to

picking up on someone's romantic signals; paradoxically, they find very blatant overtures offensive. Patience, as well as more than a modicum of refinement, will be necessary to break the ice - which generally turns out not to be ice at all, but rather a protective coating of 'intellectual polyurethane' designed to protect the emotions from getting scratched, scuffed or stained.

You want a healthy mate / lover. While not cold, you probably don't want a terribly sexually-demanding partner, as you tend to feel you have energy for other pursuits as well. You're very careful whom you get involved with. You're also careful where and how you get involved; you're nothing if not discreet! This doesn't necessarily mean you lack spontaneity; it does, however, mean that you're not one to rush into things. Impulsiveness tends to leave you feeling guilty; lack of preparedness worries you. So when you become involved, you invariably know exactly when you're doing! And while you may like variety, you don't like one-night stands. Being discriminating is your style, and it will work for you as long as you don't take it to extremes. You'd be happiest with a mate or lover who has Mars in an Earth sign, Mars in the sixth house, a Mercury / Mars conjunction, or a Mercury / Mars sextile.

Working for yourself or working where you have scope to do your own thing would be the best, although you're not averse to working your way up the ranks to a middle-management position if necessary. You're probably a hard worker and a meticulous one, though you may at times be less than honest if your job, a promotion, or a big commission is on the line. You're not at your best as 'the big boss' as you're inclined to be rather critical of your staff, yet at the same time are loathe to fire anyone. Some good career areas for you would be: the food industry, food inspector, clerical work (preferably a 'person Friday' in a small office), the police force, editing, teaching, chemistry, photography, and nursing.

Working hard comes naturally to you. Your job, relocation, and / or work transfers can lead to some of your best lucky breaks. Less important opportunities can come as a result of seemingly trivial things like going for a drive, getting a new refrigerator, having your typewriter repaired, etc.. The key here is that your opportunities tend to come in connection with serviceable things and practical activities rather than from involvement with luxuries or highly 'iffy' projects. Co-workers, editors, and professional people in general tend to motivate you by giving you encouragement.

(Jan Spiller and Karen McCoy)

Static

You may have a tendency to alienate others by taking what they do or say too personally and then aggressively demanding to be acknowledged as right all the time. Consequently, you may seek to prove the Virgo rightness by making others wrong. When your own or the actions of others fall short of your standards, you can be quick to criticize and judge. By focusing on errors, you may lose your momentum.

Dynamic

You can constructively assert yourself by taking the initiative in assisting others to straighten out their lives. Acting on your commitment to serve effectively, you might allow yourself to share responsibility and overcome the need to be right about everything, as well as the feeling that you have to do others' work for them. You can develop practical methods that aid others in achieving their ideals of perfection. Through humanely applying your passionate sense of order to chaotic situations in a tolerant way, you can experience satisfaction and a new sense of system. Your energy is increased in the process of making these changes.

(Babs Kirby and Janey Stubbs)

Someone with Mars in Virgo will be moderate and self-contained. These people will have the sensual sensitivity that all the Earth signs possess, but they will be reserved in expressing it. Sex does not matter much to them. Unlike Mars in Taurus, they have no desire in the abstract so they are quite capable of long periods of celibacy if there is no-one around that interests them. When in a new relationship, however, they may initially be very sexually active, trying to compensate for previous abstinence.

While someone with Mars in Virgo still takes sensual pleasure in his / her body for its own sake, this is tempered by a practical, matter-of-fact attitude to physical needs and desires. This is not someone who is easily drawn into the excesses of a Mars in Taurus; Mars in Virgo is far more circumspect and health-conscious.

Someone with Mars in Virgo will exercise considerable caution in getting involved in a relationship. These people do not want to make a mistake, and will select a partner with care. In choosing, they may seek to fulfil quite particular criteria. In extreme cases, a prospective partner may feel like a job applicant being measured against a detailed set of requirements to see if he / she is suitable for the position. Virgo has a reputation for being choosy, fussy and critical; and for someone with Mars in Virgo all of this can be brought to bear in his / her approach to a sexual partner.

Virgo is a very analytical sign, and Mars in Virgo can be analytical to an extreme. At their worst, these people will lose track of the inherent meaning in a situation, in trying to unravel and understand the detail. They can analyse a situation to death. More positively, they will always be prepared to talk about things and to try to understand themselves and their partner.

Mars in Virgo people may want a partner who is useful, perhaps someone who helps out with practical or technical problems; and they may offer this to those they are involved with. Joint ventures and activities will be an important part of their relationships.

(Skye Alexander)

You are hard-working and conscientious, focusing much of your energy into your job. When something needs to be done, you are the one who does it; and you manage to accomplish more than most people through efficient, practical organization of time and resources. This is the position of the office manager, production supervisor or shift foreman, the dynamo behind the scenes who actually runs the show and without whom the operation couldn't function. You tend to be a perfectionist, and have little patience with yourself or others when they make mistakes. However, your ambitions are modest, and you have no desire for fame, fortune and power (unless Leo is prominent in your chart). Because your ego is smaller than most and you don't stand up for yourself, you may not receive the credit you deserve.

In fact, you are fearful of having to assert yourself, and may 'choke' in situations that require aggression. Perhaps you feel weak or vulnerable, unable to protect yourself physically. Rather than moving outwardly with force and vigor, you often hold your energy in check, which results in a build-up of tension. The way you are most likely to release this pent-up aggression is through complaining, irritability and nervous habits. Stress and unexpressed anger also can cause you to have problems with your stomach or digestive system. Not only are you more susceptible to stress than most people, but also you don't possess a great deal of natural vitality, and therefore you need to take good care of your health through proper diet, rest and exercise. Yoga, in

particular, might appeal to you since you probably don't have much interest in competitive sports.

Although you may not be willing to fight for yourself, you often stand up for the rights and well-being of others, particularly those who are less fortunate than yourself. You are especially concerned with helping the sick and handicapped, and might choose to focus your energy into medical work. When it comes to nursing the ailing, you can be tireless in your efforts. You need to feel needed.

Though your sex drive is strong, you might not feel comfortable about expressing it, and tend to be a bit puritanical. You could even be somewhat fearful of letting your passion loose, of giving in to such overpowering sensations. It's hard for you just to relax and enjoy yourself, without worrying or judging. Therefore, you may repress much of your desire and be critical of people who are more sexually open or indulgent. At the same time, though, you envy them. Your perfectionism also might cause you to suffer from performance anxiety.

Men with Mars in Virgo often pride themselves on their efficiency, organization skills and dependability. You can be a workaholic, and expect everyone else to devote as much energy and effort as you do to the job. Working makes you feel good about yourself; and your ego is gratified if you believe you are indispensable. Though you aren't looking for lots of prestige and money for your contributions, you'll become cranky, complaining and negative if others don't recognize and appreciate how much you do. You want to serve in some way, and might be happier in a support or service position than one that is highly visible.

Unless Fire signs are prominent in your chart, you may be somewhat insecure about your masculinity, and might feel you are a bit of a 'wimp'. You fear you won't be able to assert yourself when necessary. Perhaps you have more brain than brawn, and lack athletic ability. However, you may attempt to overcompensate for your timidity with excessive bravado.

Women with Mars in Virgo are attracted to modest, unassuming, shy men. No Rambo types for you. You are looking for someone you can depend on, who is gentle, considerate, hard-working and practical. Cleanliness is high on your list of priorities, too, and it is much more important to you that your partner be neat than good-looking.

Natal Mars in Libra

(Donna van Toen)

You have high mental energies, adequate to low physical energies, and low practical and emotional energies. Your energy is pleasant, relaxed and social. It is often channeled into socializing, diplomacy and mediating. Your strengths include fairness, the ability to compromise, and co-operativeness. You lack decisiveness, independence and loyalty.

You have a strong sense of fairness; but because you're not always as perceptive as you should be, you may often find yourself torn between two choices of action. Sometimes this Mars position signifies a great deal of inner conflict centering around opposing needs for independence and supportive people. In any case, much of your energy is channeled into partnerships of various types which may or may not be long-lasting. Your physical energy level tends to fluctuate, and a lot depends on the aspects you have to Mars. Aspects between Mars in this position and Moon, Venus or Neptune can make you rather lazy, while aspects to the Sun, Jupiter, and Pluto tend to increase physical energy.

I have often suspected that a certain number of people with Mars in Libra prefer cocktail parties and pleasant social chit-chat to sex. Sex, after all, is so messy! It can really play havoc with fancy hairdos, and afterwards there's inevitably all that dirty laundry. And for what?

People with Mars in Libra have no qualms about initiating sexual encounters and no qualms about walking away from them when they cease to please. They don't, however, walk away until they have somewhere else to go as a rule. Men with this placement tend not to be sexually demanding; nor are they anti-sex. They can take it or leave it, depending on who's offering it. Women with this placement are most responsive - and most faithful - to lovers who mirror their own personalities. In other words, they tend to be drawn to the concept of total union, and sex is only one small facet of this merging.

You want companionship. You want to avoid loneliness, and will pay just about any price (in terms of compromising or altering your needs) to do so. However, you're also apt to want a growth-oriented relationship, so you're apt to be quick to instigate change if you feel things are getting too hum-drum. You don't mind taking the initiative to get a new relationship off the ground; you're a little less quick to initiate a break-up unless either there's someone else waiting in the wings or your lover has refused to budge and things just can't be improved enough to restore harmony. You'd do best with someone who has Venus in an Air sign, in the 7th house, or trine your Mars.

You need to use discrimination in choosing a job if you don't want to experience disappointment. Anything involving hard physical labor is out, unless the end result is a work of beauty. Secondly, you don't take orders very well, so menial work isn't a good bet unless it's of a temporary nature. What is good for you? Try the following areas: clock-making or repair, artistic work, politics, sales, brokerage work, modelling agencies, beautician or barber.

You're motivated to be a success in the working world, and thus are willing to relocate, work long hours, or even work for a rather disagreeable boss as long as you see a promotion, raise, or some sort of prestige out there waiting for you. The areas in which your lucky breaks fall tend to vary according to your own definition of luck and what you want out of life. Romances, however - even very short-lived ones - are common door-openers for you. Participating in local social events, and working in travel agencies or beauty shops, or getting involved in dance or exercise programs, can bring opportunities your way.

(Jan Spiller and Karen McCoy)

Static

You may have a tendency to alienate others by manipulating their responses in an aggressive way that produces false harmony. You may demand the Libra version of harmony by behaving as you think others want you to and expecting them to act as you want them to in exchange. You may subtly compete with others to see who can be the most harmonious person, and thus victimize yourself by continually demanding that others act fairly. You can lose energy by holding others responsible for creating justice and co-operation in your world; and when disruption occurs, blaming them for the disharmony.

Dynamic

You can assert yourself constructively by actively, responsibly and directly initiating social interaction on the basis of personal integrity. When you ask others what it is they want from the relationship and honestly share what it is you want, you are then able to create harmony based on truth. Thus, you can gain energy by experiencing yourself as the source of harmony or disharmony in your interactions.

(Babs Kirby and Janey Stubbs)

Mars in Libra carries within itself a basic dichotomy. The Mars principle describes how you set about getting what you need for yourself, and shows how you define yourself. Libra is about you in relation to another and gaining self-knowledge by using others as a mirror. These two opposing principles do not combine comfortably. How can you define yourself or decide what you want effectively if you consider the other person's needs before your own?

The person with Mars in Libra then attributes enormous importance to what the 'other' wants, and tends to give away his / her energy and sexual needs. These people do not know what they want until they have discovered what the other person wants. If you ask Mars in Libra people what they want to do, they will invariably answer by asking what you want to do. This makes decision-making virtually impossible because they are unable to focus in on what they want, but are always looking for answers from the outside, drawing in others to help them decide. Because of this difficulty in knowing what they want, they tend to be very ambivalent and give out double messages all the time. If they make a definite statement they will immediately qualify it, so that what they really want becomes blurred and open to doubt.

In their sexual relationships, Mars in Libra people like to observe the social niceties - Venusian touches such as romantic notes, thank-you letters, and cards sent to continue the connection. Romantic and charming, they know what pleases and show a flattering interest in their partner's life and emotional well-being. They always ask the right questions and respond appropriately, which can be very seductive.

Enjoying repartee and flirtation, people with Mars in Libra may tend to flirt for ever without ever getting round to doing anything. They enjoy creating the right setting - a romantic meal with soft lights and sweet music. There is a perfect atmosphere for sex, and the promise and the innuendo are there, but the sex itself may never materialize. This is because Libra feels much more comfortable with social pleasantries than with the disturbing intimacy of sex. People with Mars here like to initiate contacts, forge links and hold relationships together, but they also like to keep at a distance and avoid intense involvement, often using niceness and politeness as a barrier to intimacy. However, the urge to establish a sexual relationship is a driving force for people with Mars in Libra, so that even if there is not much actual sex involved, they do need to feel that they have a sexual partner, and will put a great deal of effort into pleasing their partner and holding the relationship together.

(Skye Alexander)

Your passions never rule your thinking, and you rarely act in haste or anger. Concerned with justice and fairness, you don't let your ego get in the way of your decisions and actions. Your objective, unemotional approach could enable you to be a good judge, manager, general or diplomat,

However, you often have difficulty asserting yourself and going after what you want in a direct, decisive manner. Instead, your tendency is to think too much before you act; and, because you usually can see value in both sides of every issue, you vacillate or change your course of action several times before reaching your goal. Or, you may

defer to others and let them decide for you.

Aggression in any form seems threatening to you, and you don't deal well with confrontations, arguments, forcefulness or physical combativeness. When faced with challenges, you may experience anxiety rather than positive stimulation. If possible, you'd like your environment and relationships to be balanced, harmonious and congenial at all times. Your desire is to unite with others rather than oppose them, and you'll always seek a way to work with others instead of against them if possible. You want to make friends, not adversaries.

Consequently, you might not enjoy sports (unless Fire signs predominate in your chart). There's too much antagonism and competitiveness involved - and too much chance of getting injured, or at least dirty! Since you don't possess a lot of natural vitality either, you may not like to exert yourself physically. Unless other factors in your chart provide energy and stamina, you probably need to get more rest and take better care of yourself than most people.

One area in which you are likely to be assertive is relationships. You invest much of your energy into pursuing and maintaining relationships of all kinds, but especially romantic ones. Although you are never pushy or forceful, once you decide you want someone you'll exert gentle and continuous effort toward establishing a partnership with him / her. You might even make love your life's work.

For you, sex is always best within the context of a loving and stable relationship; and you find casual affairs unfulfilling. Instead of being excited by the novelty of a new sexual encounter, you usually feel anxious, apprehensive or insecure. For you to enjoy sex, you also must be getting along well with your lover; a disagreement before bed will turn you off completely. Though you are very affectionate and romantic, your sex drive is rather low. You tend to overly idealize sex, expecting emotional as well as physical satisfaction. When it comes to lovemaking, you are conservative and cautious, reluctant to try anything new or different. You want everything about the experience to be nice, neat and predictable. No spontaneous, impassioned encounters in parked cars or elevators for you; and clean sheets, soft music and candlelight are more powerful aphrodisiacs than triple-X movies or exotic underwear.

Art is another area into which you might channel much of your energy and effort. You can be passionate about art and aesthetics, and might even feel invigorated by the act of creating something of beauty.

Men with this Mars placement pride themselves on their refinement and good taste. However, you can be terribly vain about your looks and the image you present. You enjoy dressing fashionably and like to impress people with your knowledge of music, art, fine wines, etc.; and you would rather discuss the classics than football. You know the best restaurants and tailor in town, and are more likely to have an art dealer than a stock broker or bookie. To you, fastidiousness and the ability to get along with everyone are virtues in a man. Tactful, sociable and well-mannered, you are the perfect dinner guest, a pleasant and amiable friend, and every mother's ideal son-in-law.

Women with Mars in Libra are attracted to men who are intelligent, sociable, impeccably dressed, and squeaky-clean, with perfect manners and good taste - old-fashioned 'gentlemen'. You are intimidated by forceful, passionate men, and prefer a partner who is more restrained. 'Jocks' and cowboy-types are too coarse for you; you want someone who is totally civilized and as far removed from the physical world as possible.

Natal Mars in Scorpio

(Donna van Toen)

Your energy levels are high in all areas. Your energy is gutsy, probing and non-stop. It is often channeled into understanding things, being the power behind the throne, and finding hidden things of both a literal and a figurative nature. Your strengths include being purposeful, perceptive and dedicated. You lack forgiveness, openness and adaptability.

This Mars placement gives you tremendous potential to do good or harm, so strength of character is required if you want to channel your energy positively. You have such strong likes and dislikes that the maxim 'thoughts are things' bears especially strong meaning. With this Mars, a negative thought about someone else will have tremendous power and will be felt by the person you're thinking about, unless he or she is totally insensitive. Fortunately, the same holds true of your positive thoughts. Needless to say, your emotions are intense; and as this is a position of extremes, you can be a strong ally or a dangerous enemy; and love - if soured - can turn to hate. Your intuition is strong, your psychic potential good. In particular, you'd have good aptitudes for alchemy, magic, and creative visualization.

Sex and Scorpio are well-nigh synonymous. However, that insatiably voracious sexual appetite is often only a mask for what Mars in Scorpio really wants, which is understanding. For someone to take the time to get close enough to see - and touch - the real person on all levels, and understand - physically, mentally and emotionally - is the ultimate turn-on for Mars in Scorpio. The males, given this kind of encouragement, will be totally faithful, and value the woman who succeeds in this regard above all else. Women with this placement find intelligence a turn-on. They especially find the sort of intelligence known as 'street-smarts' a turn-on. But they, too, are ultimately looking for understanding above all else.

You want sex. You also want to be allowed to be a bit or more than a bit self-indulgent on occasion. But there's a paradox here. Even though you want sex, and actively seek it,... because Scorpio is a passive sign, you're not entirely comfortable proclaiming your wants and pushing for them openly. In fact, you may try to deny them even to yourself. From what I've seen, Mars in Scorpio, particularly in women, is inclined to stifle or downplay its sexual energies for lengthy periods. Sometimes this is due to an overly moralistic upbringing, sometimes because your sexual energies are sublimated into psychology or the occult, and sometimes merely because of a lack of a suitable sexual partner. Anyway, because of this tendency, when your needs do make themselves felt, you may go through long periods when you're almost insatiable. You do best with someone who can adjust to both your 'on' and your 'off' periods. Choose someone who has Venus in a Water sign, in the 8th house, or conjunct Pluto, for best results.

You can do well on your own. You're also a good company person, provided you're treated well. You do especially well in service industries. You don't do so well in partnerships because you can be stubborn and dictatorial - neither of which will help you when there's a stalemate. Some good career areas for you are: medicine, surgery, engineering of virtually any type; ice-making, refrigeration, police work, banking, mining, undertaking, or brewing.

You're highly motivated to see everything there is to see and do everything there is to do; for this reason, travel, reading, and expanding your circle of business and social contacts would tend to appeal to you strongly. Romance, pregnancy, and caring for others are activities that frequently open doors. Psychology can be a good source of

opportunity for you, too. I find that sometimes this position has a way of bringing lucky breaks at times when you're either too tired or too busy to appreciate them fully.

(Jan Spiller and Karen McCoy)

Static

You may have a tendency to alienate others by competing for power over your environment. Consequently, you can lose energy if you suppress your desires and motives in order to maintain control. The Scorpio secretiveness in taking action may cause others to mistrust you and thus set the stage for explosive confrontations.

Dynamic

You can assert leadership constructively by committing yourself to responsible expression of motives and intentions. When you reveal your desires, others will know and trust your leadership and ability to use existing circumstances to transform a stagnant situation. You can gain energy in exposing your motives to others and thus free yourself to act.

(Babs Kirby and Janey Stubbs)

Mars is in dignity in Scorpio; and someone with this placement is likely to have a quietly powerful and unobtrusively charismatic presence, backed up by an inner strength and sense of purpose. These people will have a certainty in their manner that conveys that they are not people to be toyed with. This is the most assertive and potentially ruthless of the Water signs.

This sounds a promising placement for passionate sex, and Mars in Scorpio people are indeed passionate. However, when it comes to relationships they are often so intense and sex is often such a traumatic arena that they never actually do it, though they can spend a lot of time anguishing over it. Their sexual contacts are likely to be intensely emotional. They may have such huge feelings invested in sex that they seize up when they are attracted to someone, and all spontaneous responses fail; things just stop flowing. For a Mars in Scorpio person, sex is all or nothing; it is felt as life and death - which can throw them into dreadful crisis and inner turmoil. Sex is indeed intimately connected to life and death; and a Mars in Scorpio person will be closer to this truth than anyone else. This placement makes for a depth of emotional honesty and integrity that you do not find with Mars in the other Water signs, but it can also produce the most agonized expression.

Once a relationship becomes established, someone with Mars in Scorpio will not be afraid of commitment. These people will offer and demand absolute loyalty, and will stand by their partners through thick and thin. They will also be the most jealous and possessive of all the Water signs, and are particularly vulnerable to feelings of sexual jealousy. This is because their feelings become so deeply engaged in their sexual relationships. With such an emotional investment, they have a great deal to lose. There is nothing lukewarm about Mars in Scorpio. These people will want to own their sexual partner; anyone not wanting to be possessed might find their intensity too much.

(Skye Alexander)

You have tremendous will-power and drive, and are able to focus all your energy on your objective. Once you make up your mind to do something, you either achieve it or

die trying. You can be ruthless in the pursuit of your goals, and to those who try to stand in your way you show no mercy. No adversary is too formidable - even governments or religious institutions. You are an extremist, however, and can become obsessive in your quests, losing sight of reason or practicality and refusing to compromise or change once you've set your course of action. Your all-or-nothing attitude can cause you to triumph or lose spectacularly.

You may have the ability to transform others or situations in some way. Sometimes you accomplish this by manipulating their unconscious desires; sometimes you inspire the masses with your fearlessness and passion. However, the transformations you effect need not take the form of confrontation with the powers that be. You might influence others to kick drugs, change careers or take up occult studies, and thus transform their lives and outlooks in some important way. Or, you may develop your potential for psychic healing and use this power to benefit humanity.

Intensely passionate and sensual, you are likely to put a great deal of your energy into sex. You exude an almost animal magnetism that makes you extremely attractive to the opposite sex, regardless of how good-looking you are. You have an active and powerful libido, and are fascinated with sexuality in all its expressions. For you, the sex act is a way to merge with your partner, emotionally as well as physically. You may be a consummate lover with an uncanny understanding of your own and your partner's deepest desires. Or, you might be afraid of the strength of your own passion and attempt to repress it, lest it take control of you. Power struggles and issues of domination could play a part in your sexual expression, and you might use your sexuality to manipulate others. You are jealous and possessive of your sexual partners; and, if betrayed, are likely to become vengeful, perhaps even violent. In the extreme, you might be cruel or perverse, obsessed with the dark side of sexuality.

Men with Mars in Scorpio like to think of themselves as being 'forces to reckon with'. Though you might not be the type to start fights in bars, you are like a poisonous snake coiled and ready to strike, and can be ominous if provoked. You certainly won't run away from a confrontation, and seem to be fearless in the face of danger. Power is important to you, but you probably prefer to wield it from behind the scenes, and you want to be in control of everyone and everything in your environment. As a result, you tend to be domineering, unwilling to trust others or delegate authority to them. Proud of your prowess, you might emphasize your sexuality or use it to get what you want.

Women with Mars in Scorpio are often attracted to men who project an image of power. This could mean take-control types, authority figures or those who are in important business / government positions. Or, you might be fascinated by men who attempt to appear tough or mean, such as 'biker' types or petty criminals and thugs. You like your men to be overtly sexual, but you're looking for someone who is strongly emotional and passionate as well. Dark, smouldering, intense men of few words probably interest you most. Because this planetary combination sometimes signifies sexual frustration, you might find yourself continually involved with men who aren't good for you or who don't give you what you want. In the extreme, you could be attracted to men who are cruel or abusive toward you. And, because Scorpio is the sign of transformation, it's quite likely that you will be transformed in some way by the men in your life.

(Frances Sakoian and Louis Acker)

Mars in the sign Scorpio indicates powerful emotions and desires. This tremendous emotional intensity gives the natives relentless courage and thoroughness in executing their intentions. It can lead to the greatest heights of spiritual achievement or to the lowest depths of moral degradation, depending on the amount of wisdom

and type of motivation by which the energy is guided.

These people have resourcefulness, courage, and energy, especially in meeting difficult situations. Even the possibility of death does not frighten them, if they must face it in order to accomplish their goals. They are capable of an uncompromising fight to the end in defence of their principles. The two-hundred Spartan soldiers who held off the entire invading Persian army are an example of the Mars in Scorpio principle.

The powerful sex drive that goes with Mars in Scorpio, if wrongly motivated, can result in possessiveness and intense jealousy. People with this position tend toward an all-or-nothing attitude which makes compromising with them very difficult. Since it is hard for them to be neutral or indifferent, they make either friends or enemies of those with whom they have sustained dealings. They are secretive and do not reveal their plans or actions without good reason. They need to learn greater detachment and objectivity.

There is danger of coarseness and bluntness with this position, since at times these people do not take into consideration the feelings of those less forceful than themselves.

When Mars is afflicted in Scorpio, there can be intense anger and resentment; but unlike the anger of Mars in Aries, such feelings are not forgotten easily. People with this position can hold grudges, nursing their anger like steam in a pressure cooker until the effects of its outlet are disastrous. Consequently, they make the most dangerous kind of enemy. If Mars is heavily afflicted in Scorpio, there is the tendency to dominate others emotionally, forcing them into submissiveness and servitude.

(Julia and Derek Parker)

This placing will be a focal point of the chart, since Mars was the ruler of Scorpio before Pluto was discovered. Old textbooks may declare that Mars (rather than Pluto) rules Scorpio, but this is out of line with modern astrological thought. Nevertheless, the influence is a powerful one, and should be given full attention.

The heavy emotion of Scorpio is intensified by the passion of Mars; and it is essential that someone with this placing finds rewarding and satisfying sexual expression. Do not dismiss this statement as a generalization; while we all need sexual fulfillment, if this is not forthcoming for someone with Mars in Scorpio there will be resentment and a brooding unhappiness which may be hard to pin down if the individual is not consciously aware of his or her problems - sometimes obsessive tendencies emerge.

There is marvellous potential in this placing, and if the emotions related to all spheres of life are allowed to flow positively, we find brilliant engineers, miners, specialists in the wine trade and many other professions who have Mars in Scorpio. On the negative side, jealousy can be a problem, and in extreme circumstances the subject may show vengeful tendencies. There will be a love of good food, and sometimes a liking for really living it up!

Here are the whole-hoggers; for instance, when they decide they need to lose weight they will go on a severe crash diet - then have a large and calorific celebration once they have achieved their goal! If the love of food and drink gets out of hand, it may be that they are compensating for a lack of emotional fulfillment. Try to talk problems through; there may well be a tendency to gloss over difficulties, for the subject can be very secretive. It is vital that these people are emotionally involved in their careers because, while moneymaking is immensely important to them, the forceful

and highly-charged energies of Mars should be fully expressed through work.

The physical energy of Mars will be plentiful; and as the placing adds considerable determination (often stubbornness), heavy exercise - and sometimes martial arts - will usually be enjoyed. Water sports are also very popular. As the genitals are governed by Scorpio, any inflammation or slight problem in that area should not be ignored. Mothers of babies with this placing should take particular precautions to avoid diaper rash, which could cause above-average discomfort.

(Grant Lewi)

The most impressive position of Mars in the Vitasphere. It can be the best or the worst of all possible things to find in the chart. In its best form, the energies flow into channels that make for deep personal security, through business and love. Magnetism is powerful; the vital forces serve the ego forcefully: to draw others and hold them, and to extract from the world the maximum of material and spiritual benefits. In its worst form, the same security urges turn to fear that the ends of the ego will not be achieved, and the native seeks escape in a variety of undesirable forms. He becomes timid, vacillating, quarrelsome, self-indulgent and apparently weak. Some of the good and some of the bad are likely to show forth in your life as a result of this position. Your constant aim must be self-control - to direct your energies and your habits away from yourself into objective action; to draw other people to you, and to hold them, with love rather than fear; to avoid the negative, destructive instincts of jealousy, fear and suspicion; and to achieve faith in yourself, your world and the people who inhabit it with you. Your energies are an almost tangible force emanating from you in a sort of aura; you make yourself felt wherever you are; and you can genuinely build up or tear down another person by what you think about him. This is because your instincts are so powerful that you show in movement, action and tone what you innerly are believing, and you are nearly as effective in silence as in speech. You should cultivate mind power, reserve and self-discipline in order to lead your magnetism into channels where it will help and not hinder you.

(Sydney Omarr)

Mars in Scorpio is perceptive but drives himself harder than he would drive anyone else. The native is passionate, determined, and attracted to people he does not really respect. He has great magnetism, and draws persons who want to love, live, move, chase and be chased. He is not given too much time for relaxation!

The astrologer must help him find peace through personal fulfillment, and teach him the lesson of true relaxation. He must help the native obtain a greater degree of self-discipline and self-control. There is much power and creativity here - it is to be hoped that it can be used constructively.

(Lyn Birbeck)

You are a passionate, though potentially cruel, suitor. Energy is created and maintained through the uncompromising and undeviating pursuit of whatever it is that you truly desire. Such should include powerful or front-line occupation, the military, getting closer to any place of power (internal or external), or creating deep change, especially with regard to how you make known and satisfy your desires - or it can remain as or devolve into a highly destructive anger.

You attract with an intense sexual effectiveness that does not necessarily have anything to do with how you look; with a forcefulness that brooks no opposition; with an intrepidity that shrinks from no challenge; and with a spiritual stamina that makes

it through the night.

You repel with a poisonous and destructive resentfulness; with a negative opinion of anyone whose weaknesses remind you of your own; with a disinclination to honestly confront the enemy within, and so forgive those who (appear to) have been hostile towards you; and with ruthless vengefulness.

You are attracted to powerful people and relationships that inevitably get very close to you, and transform you - despite your reservations; to charismatic types and / or dangerous situations that demand your complete and utter involvement; and to breaking (sexual) taboos, thus forcing confrontations.

You are repelled by wimpishness and superficiality; by fainthearted attempts to win you body and soul, something which alone can merit a relationship worthy of your involvement; and by your own self-disgust borne of a reluctance to bite the bullet and take the plunge - into a relationship or your own Shadow.

When you are alone, it is because you have been denying or suppressing those strong desires, especially for some kind of personal transformation, to which the above refers. Indeed, you could be 'alone' even though you are in a relationship. This is because you feel you must experience some kind of emotional pressure or pain to maintain an ongoing sense of being intensely involved - but you have rigged it, probably unconsciously, so that no crisis or confrontation occurs. But inevitably it will, whether you are alone or not. So you must own up to this dark and powerful streak, and note how it has affected Other in the past, and thereby attract a relationship and partner that does it justice - or renew the one you are or were in as a result of taking stock of your provocativeness and overhauling your manner of expressing it.

(John Townley)

Your energies tend to be rather muffled and smoldering, in that you harbor a desire for a long time before allowing it to break out, and then it is very intense. For this reason, your lover may not be truly aware of the nature or extent of your needs, which when revealed may surprise or overwhelm him or her. It is wise to express yourself verbally beforehand so that your partner is prepared.

Because of this rather dominating high energy, you often rule a relationship, directly or indirectly, particularly in its physical aspects. To you, sex is a kind of mutual self-immolation, which you sometimes lead your lover into without warning. You need a partner who is open to sexual adventure and self-abandonment; someone who can experience your kind of sexuality.

You may rely particularly on the physical and organic aspects of sex for relaying cues of affection to a lover, and therefore you should avoid sexually conservative types unless you relish continually shocking your partner. True communication takes a while for you to develop; but once it is established, the ties are very deep and not easily broken.

(Robert Hand)

You have a strong will, and you let everyone know what you want. But you do not seem especially pushy, just persistent. You apply pressure steadily until you get what you want. If someone makes you angry, instead of blowing right off, you go into a slow burn. people know you are upset, however, because you are likely to make sarcastic and biting remarks. But this tendency to hold back your anger can work

against you, partly because the anger is not released, so you stay angry. You may hold a grudge for quite a long time. But also the intensity of your anger, even though it is held in, may be rather frightening to others whose emotions are not as strong as yours.

But you do not get angrily easily. You can be pushed quite far before you get mad; and even then it may not develop right away. But sometimes you remember a past incident when you could have gotten angry but didn't, and suddenly you are just as angry as if the incident had just occurred. If necessary, you are a fighter, although you don't look for fights. But you don't run from them, either; and when you get into it, you fight with body and soul, for your deepest emotions become involved.

You have such strong likes and dislikes that it is hard from you to be neutral about anything. You relate to the world around you very emotionally, and there is very little to which you do not react.

Natal Mars in Sagittarius

(Donna van Toen)

You have high physical energies, adequate mental and emotional energies, and low practical energies. Your energy is freedom-seeking, erratic and speculative. It is often channeled into gambling of a literal or figurative nature, publishing, and giving advice to others. Your strengths include hope, optimism and enthusiasm. You lack discrimination, endurance and consistency.

You have a strong sense of justice and an inner strength based on a positive philosophy of life. You're also courageous and very good at debating, persuading, and popularizing. Your spontaneity is a plus, although at times it can contribute to sloppiness or slapdash work. And should your Mars be under severe stress - in a Grand Cross, for example - your tendency to act without thinking can get you into a fair amount of difficulty.

Sexually, you're expansive and undoubtedly not the sort to 'save yourself for marriage'. You tend to approach any kind of sexual encounter optimistically, and sometimes with not a lot of discrimination. If it's offered, after all, it must be a sign that somebody 'up there' thinks you need it. If it's not offered, men with Mars in Sagittarius can be quite bold, blunt, and even crude about asking for it. And they have few qualms about one-night or even one-hour stands. What they do have qualms about is committing and taking responsibility; they are not, by nature, Boy Scouts, and hence do not always come prepared. Women with this Mars placement tend not to be really good at 'feminine wiles' and often wind up being the best friend rather than the lover. They do, however, enjoy sex - although they sometimes, to their detriment, get it mixed up with love.

It's hard to say what you want, except that you want what you believe in. And you'll fight to get it. 'It' might be foreign travel, higher education, specialized knowledge, or merely freedom to come and go as you please with no strings. You tend to approach virtually any involvement in a wide-open, anything-goes fashion. For this reason, a lot depends on your philosophy of life. There can be beautifully spontaneous relationships that deepen without losing their zest as time goes on, or there can merely be a series of rather superficial relationships - fun while they last, but not lasting long. Your best chances of happiness would come from involvement with someone who has Venus in a Fire sign, Venus in the 9th house, or a Venus / Jupiter conjunction. People with Fire or Air predominating in their charts will probably be more compatible with you than those who have Earth or Water predominating.

You're best off working for someone else in a salaried job. You have a high energy level and are a self-starter, but meeting deadlines isn't your strong suit. You have a tendency to get side-tracked and spread yourself too thin. In a corporation, this tendency will be squashed pretty quickly, and therefore will be kept under control by you if you value your job. But when self-employed, or working freelance, with no-one to account for your time, your unreliability can lead to more than one setback. Curb that tendency to scatter your energies, and success will be yours! With proper training, you could do well in the following areas: legal work, religious work, publishing, diplomatic work, publicity, communications, lecturing, philosophy, travel, exploring, or flight engineering.

Unless an activity has tremendous potential to improve your life, your interest in it passes quickly and your motivation remains on low. Trips to little-explored foreign places and opportunities to teach or do research in new, wide-open fields would be typical of the sort of activity that motivates you strongly. On a smaller scale, social activity involving shared creative or intellectual interests, or meeting people who expand your mind somehow, can lead to lucky breaks. So can romance. Fads, especially those of a recreational nature, can provide you with good opportunities, as can any action on your part that's designed purposely to remove restrictions from your life.

(Jan Spiller and Karen McCoy)

Static

You may have a tendency to alienate others by competitively pitting your philosophical understanding against another's intelligence. You can inadvertently imply that the beliefs of others are based on inferior understanding and intellectual ability. You may lose energy for expanded insights by using the power of Sagittarius intellect to intimidate others with demonstrations of self-righteousness.

Dynamic

You can assert a powerful intellect by inspiring others to attain their intellectual heights. When you are willing to learn as well as teach, you can accept the views of others and incorporate their ideas with yours. Taking the time to understand another's point of view first allows you to establish a line of communication. You can gain energy by acknowledging the intellectual contributions of others and actively inspiring them to reach out and expand their goals and ideals.

(Babs Kirby and Janey Stubbs)

People with Mars in Sagittarius tend to have huge expectations of sex. Believing it to be a path to self-knowledge, many are looking for sex to give meaning to life, and they may elevate it to the status of a religious belief. This can lead to restless promiscuity as they search for the spiritual enlightenment they crave. They can make a religion out of their own need for sexual freedom in order to pursue this illusive goal. On the surface, they appear to be happy and easy-going; but underneath there may be emptiness, despair, and a sense of having been cheated, as life constantly fails to match up to expectations. This provokes an endless search for the deep sexual healing that they believe could soothe this inner pain.

As with all Fire signs, but most intensely with Sagittarius, there is a propensity to feel limited by the body, which holds them down when they want to be all spirit; and this can lead to a total rejection of the physical. This manifestation of Mars in Sagittarius

can indicate someone who despises the ways of the flesh and aspires to devote him- / herself to the concerns of the mind and spirit, therefore renouncing sex completely.

On a more ordinary everyday level, most people with Mars in Sagittarius do not live in such an extreme way, but they do all have the need for sex to bring meaning to life, together with a strong belief in personal freedom. There is a common desire for sex to enrich their lives spiritually and offer a gateway to personal development. They are stimulated by differences and challenge, and so are often attracted to those who come from very different backgrounds who can give them a new perspective and widen their horizons.

The impulsive nature of Mars in Sagittarius people means that they often jump too quickly into close relationships and then immediately feel restricted, so that often they have no sooner started a relationship than they have dreams of leaving. There is a tendency to run away from difficult situations rather than face up to the consequences of their own action. Indeed, they often find it hard to accept responsibility for what happens, believing that they have acted with the best of intentions and that therefore it must be the other person's fault.

In order to enjoy sex, these people need to feel free to act spontaneously. Within a relationship that offers this, they are very active and enthusiastic sexual partners, uninhibited and keen to experiment. They need the stimulation of variety, and tend to become bored if sex is too predictable.

The person with Mars in Sagittarius will want to get a lot of fun out of his / her relationships, and will enjoy going out to the cinema, concerts, and other entertainments with his / her partner. These people are also likely to enjoy their partners participating in sporting activities with them, so that a shared morning jog or a tough game of tennis could be quite an aphrodisiac!

People with Mars in this sign are able to make their partners feel really good. They have a warm enthusiasm which they give out freely - if they want you, they really show it. Generous-spirited and optimistic, they expect to be desired, and so act in an open, confident way. If they are rebuffed, they will just try again or turn their attention elsewhere. They can, however, be rather careless with other people's feelings, tending to act first and think later, which can be very painful to those who are more sensitive. They find it hard to focus on the here and now or empathize with other people, as their gaze is firmly fixed on the distant horizon. They prefer to ignore difficulties, and that includes people's hurt feelings. Rather than grapple with present problems, they will concentrate on their visions for the future and chase their dreams. For someone who shares these dreams, it can be an exciting road to travel.

(Skye Alexander)

Restless and energetic, you need lots of physical activity, and have trouble sitting still for long. You want to be on the move as much as possible. Your boundless curiosity and adventurousness may inspire you to explore distant realms; and you enjoy nothing better than travelling.

You probably enjoy sports and have natural athletic ability as well as energy, speed and enthusiasm. Since Sagittarius is associated with the legs, you might excel at skiing, running, soccer, basketball or bicycling. Or, your love of speed and gambling could make you an auto- or horse-racing enthusiast. Unless you have some stabilizing factors in your birth chart, though, you may not have the discipline and determination to develop your talent fully; you want to have a good time, and once it becomes work you lose interest.

You have a tendency to scatter your energy, to try to do too many things at the same time, and to spread yourself too thinly. Because your attention span is short and your interests are many, you often start things but fail to finish them, and are inclined to promise more than you can deliver. It seems that you are always late and rushing madly from place to place, like the rabbit in Alice in Wonderland.

Friendly, witty and good-natured, you have many associates, people with whom you like to do things and have fun. You love to talk, but prefer to keep the subjects light and humorous, and often entertain friends with jokes and amusing stories. You have a vivid imagination, and might channel your energy and enthusiasm into creating a colorful fantasy world. Too often, however, you prefer the fantasy land you've imagined to the responsibilities of the material world.

You believe that you are invincible; and your irrepressible confidence and optimism usually get you through the tough times, so that it seems as though you were born under a lucky star. Often you succeed because you never stop to think about failing. You are the quintessential salesperson or con artist, and sometimes even manage to convince yourself that your snake oil really works. Even if one of your fanciful schemes doesn't pan out, however, you bounce back from defeats with hope in your heart and a smile on your face, and it's hard to stay mad at you for long. To you, it's all a game, and the playing is what counts.

You approach sex as if it, too, were a game to be enjoyed, but not taken too seriously. It's difficult for you to commit to one person, partly because you don't want to limit your opportunities and partly because you are afraid of serious involvements. You are terrified of being 'trapped' in a relationship. In this area as in so many others, you are better at starting things than finishing them.

Men with this planetary combination are proud of their sense of humor, positive attitude, athletic ability and playfulness, and see wit and optimism as desirable qualities in a man. You enjoy nothing more than watching a ball game or going out drinking with the boys. But when things get too serious you become uncomfortable and you fill your life with activity to avoid dealing with important issues. Free and easy with your money and time, you like to impress others with your generosity. Responsibility, however, isn't your strong suit, and things like mortgage payments and business meetings tend to slip your mind.

Women with Mars in Sagittarius find humorous, upbeat, fun-loving men most appealing. You want a partner with whom you can go places and do things, not someone who will sit quietly with you in front of the fireplace. In particular, you might be attracted to athletes and / or tall, active, robust men who make you laugh.

Natal Mars in Capricorn

(Donna van Toen)

You have high practical energies, adequate physical and mental energies, and adequate-to-low emotional energies. Your energy is predominantly practical, attainment-oriented, and sustained. It is often channeled into planning, overcoming feelings of being unloved, and organizing. Your strengths include your tendencies to be respectful, ambitious and responsible. You lack friendliness, a sense of humor, and humility.

You probably started planning your career while still in your teens - or even before - because you have a tremendous amount of ambition. You like to be in charge, too. Although you have quite a bit of magnetism, you're not a particularly warm person,

and can be quite aloof for a long time while you're seeing if others measure up to your standards. And when you are angry, your coldness is enough to freeze everything in your path. You're well-co-ordinated as a tulle, and not averse to physical activity and hard work.

You have a strong - but often well-hidden - sex drive, and can be an excellent lover once you finally trust your partner and yourself. You tend to have very specific sexual wants, and sometimes aren't terribly comfortable with these. You're also very demanding of yourself in terms of putting your partner's satisfaction before your own. One of the lessons Mars in Capricorn men seem to be forced to learn at their parents' knees is how to be a good sport or a good loser. Carried into the sexual arena, this means they will generally yield quite politely and agreeably to a woman's demands. However, if this doesn't give satisfaction for them, they may start to be resentful, and, instead of speaking up (real men are ALWAYS satisfied if they satisfy the woman), they may start seeking out women they can use for sex and sex only, which usually only serves to compound the problem by making them feel guilty, and this in turn makes them try even harder to please their significant other at the expense of their own needs. Women with Mars in Capricorn tend to be logical about sex. They see it as a need that can be attained. They don't generally confuse sex with love, and they tend to be 'good shoppers' who know their rights - all of which sounds terribly cold and unromantic; unromantic, maybe, but these women, once committed, tend to be both very warm and very wise.

You want advancement and recognition. You're inclined to make quite specific demands on your mate or lover, these demands having to do with the sort of support you need to advance in life and gain the recognition you want. But you're not all take and no give - you almost certainly demand a great deal of yourself when it comes to playing romantic roles. You tend to want the sort of love life described in novels, complete with the early phase of fireworks alternating with excruciatingly painful doubts, the eventual vows of eternal love, and a happy-ever-after ending. But this doesn't always happen; and even if it comes close, there'll undoubtedly be some hum-drum or even turned-off periods. Expect these - and don't take them too hard; they happen to everybody. You'd do best with someone who has Venus in an Earth sign, Venus in the 10th house, or a Venus / Saturn conjunction. (Note: Contrary to popular belief, Venus conjunct Saturn doesn't automatically imply frigidity. In fact, I find it more often gives romantic intensity. While people with this aspect may be a bit slow to warm up, when they do there's generally plenty of romantic ardor!)

You're a hard worker having both integrity and perseverance. You're probably very ambitious and a good organizer too. So your ability to run or supervise a business is no doubt very good. Best career areas for you are: office work where there's scope for advancement, mining, government work, politics, mathematics, or osteopathy.

You're highly motivated to be successful in the career area. Social and recreational interests, therefore, tend to take a back seat to work. You might unconsciously say 'no' to lucky breaks if they come in these two areas, because if you've got work planned you're reluctant to reschedule it. You must remember that it is possible to mix work and pleasure successfully. Opportunities can be linked to friendships as well as to your work.

(Jan Spiller and Karen McCoy)

Static

You have a tendency to alienate others by competitively pitting the Capricorn need for maintaining a social image against the well-being of others. When you regard

social prestige as a means of self-justification, you can treat yourself and others as objects to be used in fulfilling your ambitions. In adopting austerity to achieve your aims, you may lose energy by cutting off your feelings and emotions.

Dynamic

You can assert leadership by sharing a sense of organization and social protocol. By encouraging others to accomplish their ambitions, you can relieve the tension brought on by the need to justify yourself. When you share the natural Capricorn ability for organizational leadership, you can experience the more personal rewards of career accomplishment. Your energy can be increased by your establishing social prestige for an organization that is bigger than yourself.

(Babs Kirby and Janey Stubbs)

Someone with Mars in Capricorn is likely to have an air of authority, and an innate dignity and bearing. These people give an impression of self-mastery, and conduct themselves with decorum. They may seem quietly distinguished. All the Earth signs exercise self-control, caution and reserve, but these traits are most in evidence in someone with Mars in Capricorn. This could be because their dignity is at stake, which is arguably something that matters a great deal to them. They may restrict their lives in order to maintain their dignity.

When initiating sexual relationships, someone with Mars in Capricorn will take considerable care not to make inappropriate moves. A rejection would be a loss of dignity. Yet these people will have a strong sex drive and strong needs for physical contact, so when sexually involved and certain of their partner they can be very bit as ardent as Mars in Taurus. People with Mars in Capricorn may be painstakingly slow in establishing contact, but once they have, they want the rewards for their efforts. They will take a sexual relationship seriously, and expect it to last.

Like Mars in Virgo, people with Mars in Capricorn can go through long periods when, if not in a relationship, they remain celibate. For Mars in Capricorn, these may be rather austere times, when they bury themselves in their work or productive activity and swutch off their sexual needs. This is their way of surviving. When they do have a partner, they will let go of some of their control and have a powerful sensuality.

People with Mars in Capricorn will be ambitious, and might choose a sexual partner who helps them get on in life or who enhances their status in some way. They may choose someone who opens doors that might otherwise remain closed, or who has money. This is not as calculated as it sounds, for a Mars in Capricorn person may literally get turned on by money or authority. Alternatively, a Mars in Capricorn person may start up in business with his / her lover. The dividing line between business partnerships and sexual relationships can easily blur. This is in many ways an ideal placement for a working sexual relationship.

(Syke Alexander)

Ambitious, hard-working and determined, you channel much of your energy into your career, and have a tendency to become a workaholic. You believe in making it on your own, through your efforts. Able to focus and direct your energies productively, you don't waste effort, and therefore accomplish more than most people. You pursue your desires with cautious, steady, well-planned steps, and won't attempt something unless it seems to be a sure thing. No flash-in-the-pan schemes for you. Patient and persevering, you are willing to wait for what you want. Not only do you want your achievements to last, but also you have a strong sense of responsibility and

commitment to your company and / or community, and aren't likely to bail out if the going gets tough.

Quite probably, you have managerial ability and are good at organizing others and delegating responsibility. Your common sense and practicality could be advantageously applied in almost any area of business. However, your tendency to be overly cautious and sceptical can cause you to miss out on opportunities at times; and your fear of the unknown might lead you to look to the past for answers. Taking risks is difficult for you, and you have trouble breaking out of old habit patterns and traditions in order to try new ideas.

Somewhat pessimistic, you are inclined to look for trouble, often expecting the worst. Perhaps you lack self-confidence because you are all too aware of your limitations. Other people may see you as somber, withdrawn and rigid. Certainly you take your responsibilities seriously and are anything but frivolous; however, you may need to 'lighten up' a bit.

Although your natural vitality is not great, you have tremendous endurance and strength of will that enable you to overcome illnesses. As a child, you might have been rather sickly or limited in some way, but your energy and health usually improve as you mature. Your self-reliance, stubbornness and tendency to dig in your heels in the face of adversity could result in a long, independent life.

Your sex drive is strong, and you have plenty of appreciation of all physical and sensual pleasures. However, you probably conceal your desires behind a carefully controlled and dignified exterior. In public you appear cool, refined, even uptight, but in private you are not shy about expressing your lustfulness. Perhaps you might attempt to repress your powerful sexuality since it is important to you always to be in control of yourself, and you wouldn't want your libido to get out of hand. You might even be a bit insecure about your sexual ability; and men in particular may suffer from performance anxiety or fear they are not desirable. However, you are likely to retain your sexual appetite until late in life and amaze younger partners with your vitality.

Men with Mars in Capricorn might have had difficulty being children. You couldn't wait to grow up, and always seemed more mature and serious than other boys. Not until you were nearly forty did you start to become comfortable with yourself. You pride yourself on your common sense, practicality and stability, and look askance at men who behave like overgrown adolescents or shirk their responsibilities. To you, a 'real man' is one who heads a prosperous company and is a respected member of his community.

Women with this planetary combination often seek a substitute father in their partners. You want a man who is the strong, silent type, who takes charge of problems and manages them efficiently. Serious, mature, dependable and dignified men appeal to you most, and you are put off by boisterous, childish or carefree types who show no signs of achieving material success. Your ideal man is tall, dark and handsome, a protector and provider on whom you can lean and who will always take care of you.

Natal Mars in Aquarius

(Donna van Toen)

You have high mental energies, adequate practical energies, adequate-to-low emotional energies, and low physical energies. Your energy is mentally-dynamic, truth-seeking and scientific. It is often channeled into avoiding restrictive relationships and possessive people, discovering truth, and humanitarian causes. Your strengths include your friendliness, originality and independence. You lack conformity, empathy, and respect for tradition.

Mars is at its best when it has a physical outlet. Aquarius is an intellectual sign and loathes to expend any more physical energy than it has to. Consequently, Mars tends to be uncomfortable in Aquarius, and may not be as productive here as it is in some other placings. If you're convinced of the importance of a cause or course of action, there's no problem, as this gives you the motivation to take physical action. Otherwise, the energy of Mars can get bottled up inside where it creates inner conflicts and nervous tension. The source of conflict is very often a conflict between your need for friends and your need to be an individual in the truest sense. This latter need tends to make you scornful of things like tradition and conservatism, and hence makes some people a little wary of you, which, of course, makes you uncomfortable and makes your inner conflict more pronounced. Often you can do well in areas like electronics, science, and writing, where your originality will be appreciated rather than frowned on.

Sexually, you're experimental and prefer to play the field for a while before settling down. Men in particular find it easier to have women as friends than to have them as lovers - they don't always have an easy time keeping lovers happy. Though kind, they tend to be brotherly rather than lovely, and can have a detached, almost clinical attitude toward sex that can earn them an undeserved reputation for cold-heartedness. These men may need to realize that, while sex may well be just another normal bodily function, most women prefer it to have a little more mystique than, say, flossing one's teeth or showering. Women with this placement tend to be turned on by intuition, truthfulness, and helpfulness. Mental orgasms are just as important as physical ones - if not more so - to this woman.

You want friends, and may be more comfortable with a platonic relationship than a passionate one. You want an interesting mate or lover, and a relationship that evolves and renews itself continually. Being independent, you don't want a clinging vine or a terribly possessive partner. Your style of romantic / sexual expression is multifaceted, making it hard to generalize about you. Basically, you're idealistic; you may therefore do a lot of 'market research' or keep your options open longer than some of your peers. You'd do best with someone who has Venus in an Air sign, Venus in the 11th house, or a Venus / Uranus conjunction or sextile.

You need a profession rather than a job. It should be predominantly mental work rather than physical. Since you have a rather strong individualistic streak, general office work is not a good choice. Your dislike of the nine-to-five routine is apt to show in this type of setting and make you unpopular. You can successfully work for yourself, though, or in an area where you're given a lot of freedom. Some potentially good career areas for you are: astronomy, gymnastics, art, electricity, lecturing, and working with formulae in general (as in science and astrology).

To be frank, it's impossible for me to generalize about what motivates you. Mars in Aquarius, taken on its own, doesn't have typical, consistent motivator. What really

motivates one of you is apt to be the same thing that causes someone else to turn up his / her nose in disgust. Furthermore, what motivates you now may irritate you or just plainly leave you cold a month for now. Trips, social activities and club involvements can all bring lucky breaks provided you're keen on them, but there's not way to be more specific as far as I can see.

(Jan Spiller and Karen McCoy)

Static

You may tend to alienate others by asserting that the Aquarian ability to express and achieve humanitarian ideals is exclusive. As a result, you may think you need to become coldly dispassionate toward others in order to act freely on those ideals. Thus, you can inadvertently estrange yourself from those who might participate in group effort. You may lose energy by cutting yourself off from the dynamics of the group consciousness.

Dynamic

You can assert for the group ideals rather than using the group to support personal plans or models. When you are able to identify yourself as part of the group rather than separate, you can implement the Aquarian humanitarian ideals for human beings. You can gain energy by inspiring yourself and others in the group to grow toward and manifest these ideals.

(Babs Kirby and Janey Stubbs)

'He will die with total strangers, but he will not live with me.' This line from Dory Previn's song 'The Altruist and the Needy Case' expresses perfectly what Mars in Aquarius is all about. Very cool and impersonal, these people will fight to the death for a cause they believe in, but find it very hard to deal with intimate personal and emotional issues.

Intense involvement feels very claustrophobic to the person with Mars in Aquarius. These people have a detached and intellectual attitude to sexuality, and have difficulty handling emotional situations. They often have strong principles concerning personal freedom, so that honesty and openness are valued much more highly than sexual fidelity. However, Aquarius is a fixed sign and does not change easily, so people with Mars here tend to have long-lasting relationships, even though they may have more than one on the go at a time. Like other fixed signs, Aquarius believe strongly in loyalty and trust, and will not easily forgive someone who betrays them.

The physical side of sex is not really very important to those with Mars in Aquarius, although they are likely to be interested in it as a topic of conversation. Their need for friendship is much stronger than their need for physical contact, so it is of much more significance to them that their partner shares their interests and ideals than their bed. Fighting for a cause stimulates their sexuality, and they are likely to be attracted to those who fight alongside them. They may only desire those whose thinking is politically right-on, and may define their sexuality according to their political beliefs. Radical feminists who become lesbians not because of a natural inclination but because they believe in it as a political ideal are acting in a typically Mars in Aquarius way.

Those with Mars here hate any form of possessiveness, and will coldly rebuff public displays of affection, which they see as claiming ownership. In fact, they may not really enjoy being touched at all, and generally feel more comfortable communicating

through the written or spoken word than with their body. Because they tend to be distanced from their feelings, they often have difficulty in understanding their own desire nature. There is a tendency to project coolness onto others, while failing to recognize it in themselves. There is a lot of discomfort and uncertainty where strong feelings are concerned, which can make the Mars in Aquarius person quite defensive and unpredictable. Because these people cannot trust their own instincts, they find it hard to trust others, and may prefer to end a relationship rather than risk getting hurt.

Having strongly held ideals about sex and relationships, the Mars in Aquarius person always tries to act honourably and fairly. It is a matter of principle to these people to accord their partners equal rights and to listen to their point of view; and they always try to behave democratically and to be a thoughtful friend.

(Skye Alexander)

You are concerned with the world of ideas, particularly those of an unconventional or progressive nature; and you invest much energy in mental pursuits. Always eager to learn new things, you want to be challenged intellectually.

It is important for you to be able to think and speak freely. Often you find yourself at odds with accepted 'truths'. You enjoy being thought of as 'different', a unique individual. As a result, you may become involved in unpopular political causes, or avant-garde art movements, or be on the cutting edge of scientific or technological causes.

Because Aquarius is a fixed sign, you can hold rather stubbornly to your opinions. When you believe in something, you believe passionately and express your ideas with evangelistic zeal. Though you consider yourself open-minded, you really regard your way of thinking as the only 'right' way. You love discussing ideas; and your 'discussions' frequently escalate to heated debates. You enjoy nothing better than a good intellectual argument with a worthy opponent. Others may find you extremely opinionated; but you see no virtue in being wishy-washy.

You are always ready to stand up or fight for what you believe in. You have the energy and enthusiasm to stir others to action, and could be effective as a labor organizer, politician, team captain, project head, or leader of a group dedicated to social change. However, you lack diplomacy and can alienate people with your abrasive and self-righteous approach. From time to time, you might find yourself in trouble with authority figures: parents, teachers, employers, even the law.

One of your purposes in life is to break down old structures and change outworn traditions so that new ones can take their place. In the extreme, however, this expression might take the form of terrorism, for Aquarius is also the sign of revolution and violent upheavals. Rash and explosive, Mars in Aquarius can indicate the 'rebel without a cause' who rails against any authority or established order and wants change for the sake of change alone.

Easily bored, you require a high level of excitement and stimulation. Sexually, you are intrigued by anything new or unconventional. You consider yourself open-minded about sexual issues, and may want to experiment with all sorts of sexual behaviors and partners. For you, variety certainly is the spice of life.

Men with this planetary position usually pride themselves on their intelligence and uniqueness. You want to be seen by others as open-minded, unconventional, independent, and a free-thinker; and you admire these characteristics in other men.

Stereotypical male roles don't interest you; and you don't need to appear 'macho' to feel masculine. Nor are you threatened by strong, independent women; and probably you are more egalitarian than most men.

Women with Mars in Aquarius are attracted to men who are intelligent, forthright, independent, egalitarian and / or unusual in some way. All sorts of men from all age groups, races and backgrounds interest you - the differences keep things from getting dull. Most importantly, your partner(s) must be your friend(s). You want a companion with whom you can share ideas; and you probably have many platonic male friends, too.

(Frances Sakoian and Louis Acker)

Mars in the sign Aquarius gives the desire for independence to pursue unusual or unorthodox courses of action. The natives demand the freedom to do things their own way. Their actions may be inspired by a superior level of intelligence combined with good organizing ability, which can lead to work in mechanical, electronic, and other engineering fields. Further, if the energy is well directed, there can be worthwhile accomplishment in humanitarian work concerned with inventive and scientific achievements. Much more can be achieved through teamwork than through individual efforts, if the lesson of group co-operation is learned.

This Mars position produces reformist tendencies that are translated into action. Natives devise original methods of doing things, and are contemptuous of traditional views and methods, unless these conform to logic and practical experience. Tradition is respected only if it deserves respect, in contrast to the Mars in Capricorn position, with which orders are obeyed merely because they are issued by authority. Consequently, people with Mars in Aquarius do not work well under authoritarian direction. They must be allowed to learn by their own mistakes. However, they are in danger of discarding the old ways before being able to replace them with something better. Thus the outcome of their actions can be either constructive or destructive, depending on the degree of wisdom and maturity indicated by the overall horoscope pattern.

If Mars is afflicted in Aquarius, there can be a desire to overthrow the established order rather than regenerate and improve it. Many revolutionaries have Mars in Aquarius. People with an afflicted Mars in this sign need to learn the art of harmonious functioning with friends and in groups.

If Mars is afflicted in Aquarius, there can be trouble with circulation of the blood.

(Julia and Derek Parker)

The independence and need for freedom often present with a Martian influence is very evident when that planet is placed in Aquarius, and nicely complements many Aquarian characteristics. There is a decidedly unconventional streak - indeed, we think that this planetary placing contributes more zaniness than any other. Although this can be extremely amusing and entertaining to friends and loved ones, it can also result in embarrassment at times.

There is often stubbornness, and the energy of Mars is spent rather unevenly, so that there will be considerable bursts of activity followed by times when the individual will want to get on with the usual demands of living but may be unable to do so, perhaps because of tension or sheer eccentricity in the shape of perversity.

It is vitally important that the aspects Mars receives are studied with great care: if the planet is afflicted by the Moon, Saturn or Uranus, the likelihood of nervous strain

and tension is considerable, and ways of releasing them must be sought. Because this placing contributes considerable individuality, it is difficult to make positive suggestions along these lines, so look to other areas of the birth chart which might suggest some energetic and demanding sporting activity or, as a contrast, something much more introspective, such as yoga.

An element of the pioneering spirit of Mars is combined with the humanitarian side of Aquarius in this placing; as a result, the subject will do much to relieve suffering, perhaps even a certain amount of fieldwork in places that have suffered a famine or flood.

There is no very highly-charged emotional influence from this sign; in fact, while the subject will enjoy sex and may want to experiment, the need for freedom could delay commitment. Look out for complications in this sphere of life if other areas of the chart contradict these tendencies; but in all probability, unless Mars or Uranus are personal planets, the Sun, the Moon and Ascending signs, plus the influence of Venus, will overrule.

Considerable originality is often indicated by this placing, and can be expressed through scientific experimentation, inventiveness or simply an interest in offbeat and unusual subjects. Exercise and sporting activities should contribute to a steady and regular expenditure of energy, with the additional benefit that they also encourage good circulation.

(Grant Lewi)

Your energies flow into social channels which may be quite idealistic or quite personal. The more idealistic you can make them, the more you can prevent the social urges from becoming centered in yourself, and the greater will be your success and happiness. There is a constant struggle within you between self and others; you are a pretty high-strung person. To translate your energies away from nerves and into channels of material and social progress is to achieve the best that this position has to offer. You have constantly to fight a curious trend toward introversion, for as indicated by all the positions of Mars in the fixed signs, you may become set in your ways and your desires, and must therefore see to it that your desires reside primarily outside yourself, in the world of material affairs. If you run into difficulties with the world - and you often do, one way or another - you will tend to feel sorry for yourself, and perhaps to console yourself in ways that block your progress. Genuine humanitarianism is your best role; whether you are in business, a profession or the arts, gear your energies to the thoughts of others, and rest assured that the benefits of your efforts will thus come back to you, like bread cast on the waters.

(Sydney Omarr)

In Aquarius, Mars gives us the native who is idealistic, active with organizations; he is sensitive, often impatient with the failure of others to 'see the obvious'. The astrologer must help him to avoid becoming so bogged down with group tasks that he neglects his own problems, his own job and ambitions. Organizational ability is indicated; the native has the fire to inspire others, to make friends for various causes - including the unpopular ones.

His views, generally, are not of the orthodox type; this leads to battles with authority, including parental authority. He tends to become set in his ways, but seldom loses touch with humanity - he would rather hurt himself than injure others.

(Lyn Birbeck)

You are an inventive, though potentially odd, suitor. Energy is created and maintained through making sure that you can pursue your possibly quite unusual, quirky, abstract aims in equally unusual, quirky, abstract ways. You like to make your mind up as you go along, not keeping to a set schedule or route if you can help it. This appears erratic to Other, but it's actually your free-wheeling way of doing things. If denied, your usually cool temperament can turn into sudden, laser-like anger.

You attract with an unusual, unclassifiable approach that is exciting because there is an 'anything-can-happen' feel to it; with the feeling about you that you are your own person; and with an interest and urge to involve yourself in progressive, innovative and New Age projects.

You repel with a lack of sexual substance or any real willingness to commit yourself; with a perverse, odd or peculiar quality about you that is symptomatic of similar notions and feelings, or that hides indecisiveness; and with a lot of far-flung ideas and intentions but little else.

You are attracted to friendly sexual (mind)games that do not necessarily lead to anything more serious; to any Other who appeals to your taste for the unusual, unconventional, complex or even off-the-wall; and to group or team activities rather than solely one-to-one ones.

You are repelled by having your sexuality presumed upon simply because it is open or unusual; by meat-and-potato types who bore you and fail to appreciate your uniqueness and the intricacies of your personality; and by being forced to interact more intimately than is comfortable to you.

When you are alone, it is because your desires, and your way of expressing them, are possibly too rarefied for a suitable Other to be available at the present time. Maybe you do not realize how unusual your tastes are, and have been trying to find an Other who is straight or ordinary, giving rise to disappointments. Or you have failed to relate to Other properly for the same reason, and consequently things haven't worked out. The more you accept the erratic and out-of-the-ordinary nature of what turns you on, the more, paradoxically, you will have to turn you on. Deny it, and it will be denied you. So go out on a limb, maybe use computer dating in a spirit of experimentation. If you are fully aware of your quiriness, and are alone within or without a relationship, the time has come to 'out' yourself and surprise yourself into a (re)new(ed) relationship.

(John Townley)

Your style of expression is multifaceted, and you focus on exploring a number of forms of fulfillment rather than developing one particular area.

You may be tempted to play the field to find maximum opportunities to extend your range of expression. This can be rewarding, but it can result in a lack of communication and a certain sexual dilettantism. Ideally, you should find a partner who wants to be as wide-ranging as you are, combining variety with truly satisfying intimacy. This should not preclude the possibility of having others share your mutual enjoyment, but one steady partner will provide the regular expression you need and the real closeness that only a long-range relationship can provide.

You go out of your way to discover and fulfill all your lover's fantasies, which makes you a particularly desirable partner. But be sure to avoid jealous lovers, for you must remain free to express your personality, even if you do not choose to exercise that

freedom.

When you try out new varieties of sexual expression, however, you should define each sexual vignette quite carefully, so that it can be carried out fully without confusion.

(Robert Hand)

Rather than working according to established patterns, you want to find your own way, which you hope will be better. As a result, you are quite inventive and original. But often you do something just because it is different, even when the old way is better. Being original is fine, but it's a waste of time to be different for its own sake. Also you may have difficulty with authorities - parents, teachers or officials - unless they take the trouble to explain why you should do what they ask. You don't follow orders very well.

As you get older, you will be concerned with the greater good of society. You are quite capable of directing your efforts to goals that will not benefit you personally but will benefit others. Even while you are young, you resent authority, not so much because you are against society, but because you feel that your ideas are better ideas and would benefit everyone.

If you are convinced of the importance of a cause, you work better with a group than you do alone. You know how to align your own objectives with other people's so that the results are satisfying to all.

Natal Mars in Pisces

(Donna van Toen)

You have high but erratic emotional energies, adequate mental energies, adequate-to-low physical energies, and low practical energies. Your energy is unifying, erratic and intuitive. It is often channeled into serving others, unifying ideas or principles, and looking for solutions to difficult problems. Your strengths include your being charitable, receptive, and imaginative. You lack consistency, drive and goals.

There are pluses to this Mars; but overall, it is a difficult placing. On a positive note, this position will help offset selfishness found elsewhere in the chart. It also makes you kind, forgiving, and a good listener. Usually it suggests shyness; people with this position are almost never aggressive, and are frequently of the sort who apologize when someone else steps on their foot. But the potential problems are many. Sometimes there's a tendency to be too influenced by others. Other times, there's a tendency to wander through life with no goals. In still other instances, there's a fear of the unknown in the material world that leads to involvement in religion or some form of psychic phenomenon to the exclusion of all else. The emotions are almost always unpredictable, with ecstatic highs and a tendency to brood when depressed. This latter tendency needs watching; if carried to extremes, it can make you quite neurotic or even trigger a persecution complex. Should this be a Mars T-square, a Grand Cross, or otherwise under severe stress, extra care is needed with alcohol, tranquilizers, and psychic phenomena of the spiritualist nature, as these can cause you to lose touch with reality.

Sexually? Well, Mars in Pisces can usually take sex or leave it alone. If it's a total union - spiritually, intellectually and emotionally - they'll take it. If someone else needs it, they'll offer it - particularly if the 'needer' is a wounded bird - non-orgasmic, impotent, not awfully confident of his / her own sexuality, for example. Mostly, though, Mars in Pisces is just as happy merely being held as he or she is being

ravished. Mars in Pisces men are phenomenally patient; they therefore often attract women with various sorts of sexual hang-ups. Often they turn out to be just what the doctor ordered for these women - though occasionally they'll need a doctor for themselves by the time the affair's over. Women with Mars in Pisces tend to be somewhat leery of closeness, as if they fear losing themselves and their own identities in the relationship. They often prefer friends to lovers for this reason, and invariably go through a phase of being terrified to discover that there are sexual feelings in the relationship. The terror is worse for a woman with this placement if she can trace these feelings within herself. However, once this phase is transcended (which it can be), this woman is loyal and loving, though she may always prefer the after-cuddles to the actual sex.

You want time for contemplation. You don't want a terribly aggressive or sexually demanding mate or lover. Your sexuality and type of romantic self-expression is subtle. You're not aggressive yourself, and don't like people who come on strong. Your overtures to possible romantic partners are sometimes so low-keyed that they get misinterpreted - or even missed altogether. They may, in fact, be more instinctive than conscious much of the time, making it hard for you to figure out what's happening yourself. For this reason, you need a very perceptive and rather sensitive type of lover, someone who's willing to spend time and energy drawing you out of yourself. Someone with Venus in a Water sign, Venus in the 12th house, or Venus conjunct Neptune, would be ideal.

There are quite a few career directions you can go in successfully, assuming you're willing to get proper training. Normally, you do best working under others in a public service capacity, though. No matter what you do, you're apt to experience some dissatisfaction, as with Mars in Pisces there's a distinct tendency to prefer dreaming to doing. Some good career areas for you are: automotive engineering, diving or diving instruction, the textile industry, nursing, medicine, prison work, psychiatric work, movie work, the shoe trade, work connected with the manufacture or sale of alcohol, and chemical engineering.

Psychology motivates you, as does virtually anything creative or occult or anything that can be done now and forgotten about for a long time. By the latter, I mean one-shot, intensive project - things that may involve hard work but give long-term (preferably permanent) results once done. Motivation flags in areas where the work is repetitive and has to be done regularly to stay caught up. You meet luck in the form of people who either help you do things you can't do yourself due to lack of skill or help you pay for things you truly need. Lucky breaks can also come in the career area, but these are not always taken advantage of due to a fear that career success will detract from harmony on the home front. Productive hobbies are a good source of opportunity; particularly those connected with beautifying your home, exploring your subconscious in order to remove failure programs, or doing anything that helps you become more self-sufficient. Theater and film work, social service work, and hospital work are also good areas to explore.

(Jan Spiller and Karen McCoy)

Static

You may alienate others by assuming that you are the only one who sees the true spiritual vision. Consequently, by operating from a belief in the Piscean spiritual superiority, you can camouflage your motives and desires, and negate the input of others. In withholding yourself from direct involvement, you can lose the vitality of your direction and become confused. This may result in a scattering of your personal energies.

Dynamic

You can assert yourself by communicating openly about problems that exist in the personal life. As you share spiritual solutions to practical problems and allow others to share their insights also, everyone will benefit from an expanded spiritual awareness. You can gain energy from practical service and a revitalizing sense of faith in your vision when you allow open and direct interaction with others.

(Babs Kirby and Janey Stubbs)

Mars in Pisces is the most romantic and tricky placement of the Water signs. This is someone who is extremely sensitive to romantic gestures in love, and able to tune in to his / her loved ones on the subtlest levels. These people can make the most attentive lovers, who seduce and overwhelm their loved ones with flattery and attention. And yet, just as the object of their affections begins to succumb, they may be on their way, ever elusive, to the next lover. Their effusive gestures of affection can be in some ways impersonal. With a Mars in Pisces suitor, you are never sure whether you are the real thing or just a sounding board on which he / she is practising - the idealized love object of the moment. These people may want to keep their vision intact more than they want a partner. And they may enjoy the seduction process more than a real relationship. They may be in love with the concept of being in love.

If you are 'the real thing' for a Mars in Pisces person, then your relationship will be infused with romance and mystery. These people will need a degree of intrigue to keep them involved, and will themselves regularly inject special ingredients into the relationship to keep the romance alive. These are poetic souls for whom fantasy, fiction and fairy-tale may be more real than facts.

There is a deep yearning for an at-oneness with their partner; a total merging, which they are likely to seek to satisfy through sexual contact. For them, sex may be a spiritual and sacred experience. It may be an at-oneness with something far greater than their partner and themselves that they seek, whether they are conscious of it or not. For someone with Mars in Pisces, there will be a conscious awareness of this spiritual dimension. The practice of tantric yoga symbolically represents their orientation. Someone with such an orientation could, if not in a relationship, spend long periods celibate. These people may choose to transcend their sexual desires and to merge with something higher, something divine, bypassing sexuality entirely.

Paradoxically, those with Mars in Pisces can also be the most promiscuous, with no sense of sexual boundaries, and wanting everyone that they feel attracted to. It really does depend on their level of consciousness. This is the most passive of the Water signs, and perhaps the one with the greatest diversity of expression.

(Skye Alexander)

You have a great deal of trouble asserting yourself, and tend to be rather shy, withdrawn, even timid. Passive and peace-loving, you have no desire to behave aggressively or engage in any sort of contest or combat with others. You believe in 'turning the other cheek' and are more likely to respond to an assault with forgiveness or retreat than with violence.

This attitude stems from your keen sensitivity to the feelings of others - not only humans, but animals and plants as well. You can almost feel another's pain yourself, and thus cannot bear to inflict injury on anyone or anything. Instead, you are likely to

strive to improve the lot of all defenceless or underprivileged creatures; and the only fight you might engage in willingly is the fight to end cruelty and tyranny in the world.

You are private and inclined to withdraw from outer-world activity, unless you have a number of other planets in sociable signs. What activities you do engage in are probably of a personal, inner-directed nature. For artists and persons involved in spiritual pursuits, such isolation and introspection is essential. Highly imaginative, you probably channel much of your energy and enthusiasm into some sort of artistic endeavor. Your sensitivity to color, tone and rhythm might incline you to painting, photography, dance, music or poetry in particular.

Unless Fire signs are prominent elsewhere in your birth chart, this placement of Mars signifies a lack of natural vitality, energy and resistance to illness. You probably need plenty of sleep, and are more susceptible to contagious diseases than most people. Allergies, too, might trouble you because you are so hypersensitive to everything in your environment. Although you may not enjoy athletics or any sort of physical activity, you could increase your stamina and vigor through regular exercise.

Because Pisces is more concerned with cosmic realms than with the physical world, you might not have much interest in sex. In order for you to be satisfied physically, you need to be emotionally involved, too. You are extremely idealistic and romantic about sexual matters; and your expectations might be of a fantasy, storybook sort that are impossible to achieve in real life. In extreme cases, this placement could indicate celibacy for religious reasons or self-denial so that all your energy can be used for your art.

Men with Mars in Pisces often feel somewhat insecure about their masculinity. Perhaps you have trouble accepting your sensitivity and emotionalism, believing that such things are signs of weakness. You might fear that you could not defend yourself against an attack or take care of yourself in difficult circumstances; and these fears make you feel inadequate. You are proud of your artistic / musical ability, however, and want to be respected for this talent. You also admire creativity in other men. If you are involved in religious pursuits, you find strength in your beliefs and practices, and want to be recognized for your spirituality. Men who are able to accept their sensitivity, vulnerability and strong emotions as positive qualities see these as desirable characteristics in a man.

Women with this planetary combination are attracted to men who are gentle, peace-loving, romantic and emotional. Blustering, rough or 'macho' types don't interest you in the least. You find the sensitive artist or selfless, saintly humanitarian much more appealing.

Your heart is touched by someone who appears helpless and needy; and consequently, you have a tendency to fall for men who are physically or emotionally ill. As a result, you might find yourself continually getting involved with dependent partners who are not capable of taking care of themselves, and end up sacrificing for them.

Overly idealistic, you may be disappointed frequently by the men in your life because you refuse to see them as they really are, viewing them instead through the mist of your illusions. You are seeking the perfect lover, a soulmate, but what you are looking for cannot be found on the Earth plane.

MARS IN THE HOUSES

Natal Mars in 1st House

(Donna van Toen)

Courageous, impatient, and sometimes pushy, you don't always take the time to understand other people's points of view. So although your leadership abilities are good, you may drive your followers, employees, et cetera, a bit too hard. Sometimes this gives red hair. Or there may be a scar on the face. Stress aspects to this Mars tend to bring high fevers when ill.

Mars here says being on the move turns you on. Being kept waiting for an answer turns you off.

This is a sign of a high level of motivation, so undoubtedly there'll be a great deal of activity in your life. You're particularly good at fighting for your rights; in that sense, you make your own luck. Your physical energy level is liable to be quite high, enabling you to take action when opportunities come your way. However, if Mars is in Cancer, Libra, or Pisces, your energy may be more mental than physical, and you may have to push yourself a bit in order to avoid the tendency to let circumstances decide for you.

Any planet in the first house symbolizes someone (or something, or some action) that's to be extremely important in your life, for better or worse. Planets here encourage you to reach out, to seek experience. The more planets here, the more you'll want to experience in life. If Mars is here, it's a favorable omen, as it says you've learned to approach life with a positive attitude. Your self-confidence is apt to be strong - or at the very least can be strengthened. The purpose of Mars here seems to be to give the energy and health necessary for you to attain your goals.

(Babs Kirby and Janey Stubbs)

The person with Mars in the first is a fighter who approaches life as though it were a battle. These people tend to see other people as blocking them and preventing them from doing what they want, so they often attack first and think afterwards. Or sometimes their behaviour provokes others into attacking them. With the Mars energy up front like this, it is hard to ignore.

These people exude a strong sexual energy, which they may not be consciously aware of; and this can lead to conflict and difficulty in their relationships. They may get angry if they feel that others are seeing them primarily as a sex object, but they may unconsciously be using their sexuality to get what they want. As with all first house placements, there is a tendency to project the energy of the planet and see it in others. With Mars here, they will be likely to see others as being too aggressive and forceful and as sexually exploitative.

It is important for people with Mars in the first to take the initiative and go after what they want in a direct and courageous manner. It is vital to their well-being that they take charge of their own lives and act on their own decisions. If they are afraid of their own strength, they will tend to act in an over-conciliatory way which will sap their energy and cause anger and resentment to build up. This will lead to periodic explosions which result in sudden irrational attacks on those close to them, which can cause havoc in their lives.

With Mars in the first, there is often a strong feeling of insecurity. These people feel threatened, and react by constantly setting out to prove their strength and independence. They will tend to be rather touchy about anything that threatens their autonomy, and so can be quite prickly to get close to. Their relationships therefore tend to be volatile - full of quarrels, partings, and reunions.

People with Mars in the first are looking for someone equally strong to spark them off. They enjoy the challenge of pitting themselves against someone strong and decisive, so they are attracted to independent individuals with a sharply defined personality. They derive strength from fighting for what they want, and find the battle energizing and stimulating.

These people are very open and direct in their approach; and in order for them to feel desired, their partner will need to be equally honest and straightforward. They will not be convinced by vague hints, but need to be shown directly that they are wanted. Although they enjoy battling against their partner, they do need to feel that he or she is fundamentally on their side, fighting with them against a hostile world.

Basically uncomplicated in their desires, these people usually have a very clear idea of who and what they want, and will not be afraid to express this. They do not hold back, and usually jump impulsively into sexual relationships. Full of warmth and passion, they are prepared to fight for the person they want, and will not easily be discouraged. They invest a great deal of themselves in everything they do, so they are able to maintain relationships at a high level of emotional vitality.

(Stephanie Camilleri)

Mars rising gives tremendous vitality, drive and will. It is impossible to keep anyone with this placement down. If one thing doesn't work, these people will figure out something else. If other factors testify to a career, this will give impetus, competitive spirit, and follow-through. These people will go crazy from boredom if they haven't got something to keep them busy at all times.

Women with Mars rising can have a somewhat hard or unprepossessing appearance if there is no aspect from the Moon, Venus, or Jupiter to soften it. If there is, Mars adds fire and intensity, and gives a compelling force to their appearance that commands attention. Women with Mars rising have a tough row to hoe, but if they are honest with themselves they know that they wouldn't have it any other way.

Mars in this location adds great physicality to the nature. It adds fight to the nature, the will to never say die. Unless its fire is greatly diminished by sign or aspect, there will probably be at least one knock-down-drag-out physical fight at some time, usually in youth. It's an especially good position for soldiers, athletes, and dancers, but it also is good for any career as it gives great stamina, staying power, and courage.

These people seek thrills and challenges. They may either die young from taking risks, or live long and hearty lives. There is great gusto here, a lust for life. They are extremely competitive, and need regular physical competition so their competitive nature won't cause problems within their friendships and love relationships.

They are not inclined to be deep thinkers unless other aspects show it. Even if there are thought aspects, these people will rely mainly on instinct and inspiration. Action is a passion for them. They love to be in motion.

They have big appetites, and can be lustful, willful, and gluttonous, unless other aspects hold them back. They tend to get into positions of authority through their

energetic efforts, and also because they don't like taking orders themselves. If they do acquire authority, they tend to be somewhat insensitive toward those beneath them, and to use power to satisfy personal desires. Many kings and emperors have Mars rising or conjunct the Sun; not only those who win their own glory, but also those who inherit it and go on to use it effectively.

With good aspects, they become like smooth-running machines in middle life, once past their early lustful rebellious years. By middle life, they tend to become serious, dedicated, and able to command respect.

They are inclined to be accident-prone, depending on the aspects to Mars, and must watch out that they don't go too fast and lose control. They often have a scar on the face or head, or on that part of the body ruled by the sign Mars is in. Unless aspects are really bad, they lose their tendency towards accidents in middle life. With good aspects, they are agile and deft with their hands, bodies, and minds from youth until death. If there are oppositions or inconjuncts to Mars, and no trine or sextile to relieve them, there will be great stress, an unresolved physical tension, a rigidity, an inability to move or act, that may end in illness or accident.

They are usually slender in youth from activity. If Mars is in a Water or Earth sign, they may gain weight in later years from overindulgence in food and drink, though some stay trim throughout life due to self-control.

If Mars is square Mercury, they are witty, but may overwork themselves. A rising Mars square the Sun tends to overwork to the point where there may be a breakdown.

(Bill Herbst)

Self-expression: With Mars in the 1st, there is an urgency to the spontaneous expression of personality. You have a cutting edge, a sharp thrust to the radiance of self; and this thrust is natural rather than intentional. Desire is paramount, even when it is not fully conscious. You 'come on' strong, and your personality has a voracious feel, a natural hunger. The pitfall involves confronting life too combatively, while the challenge is to act as spontaneously and directly as you can.

Natural persona: The natural face you show the world is pointed, focused on the next crisis just around the corner. You tend to be assertive, razor-sharp, and sometimes downright pushy, although you rarely see it that way. You lead with the cutting edge of personal desire.

Your name-tag, almost more challenge than statement, says simply 'Hot'.

Self-awareness: 'Maleness' is the key to dawning self-awareness. The more spontaneously assertive you are, the more natural radiance is formed around the desire, and the greater will be the awareness of your central, core self. You must reach out of yourself, beyond yourself, in order to become aware of yourself. When you want something, you open the doorway to your inner self. When you go after it, you become who you really are.

Boundaries: Competition, confrontation, and direct urgency of expression function as the bridge between inner and outer realities. Nonaction or passivity damages the bridge between the two environments; but heated aggression or brash pushiness provoke misinterpretation and embarrassing errors of judgement as the 'arrow and the bull's-eye' forfeit their mutual perspectives. The challenge is to spontaneously fire yourself outward, but without overkill. Remember: your high energy is a bridge with

which to connect, not a missile used to destroy. If you forget this, others may launch their missiles in response.

Vitality: Your vitality is naturally high, and your recuperative powers excellent in any crisis, but there may be susceptibility to fevers and an exaggerated tendency toward sudden injuries, such as cuts, abrasions, or broken bones that could require surgery. There's a marked tendency here to 'lead with the head'; and you may eventually have the facial scars to prove it. The main culprit is stress and the artificial but intense feeling of crisis it provokes. You must learn techniques of relaxation; but this does not mean inactivity. Rather, it implies relaxed action. Be sure to give yourself enough physical outlets for the high energy of your personality.

(Robert Pelletier)

You have a driving ambition to make an impression on the world. When stimulated, you energetically accept any challenge that will demonstrate your courage and ability. You thoroughly enjoy competition and the thrill of meeting problems head on; and when you succeed, you literally glow. But don't neglect the formal training you need for greater polish and savoir-faire. You can accomplish far more by finesse than by brute force. If you can learn the art of friendly persuasion, you will achieve the same results without wasting energy in unnecessary conflicts. Education will teach you how to deal with people and win their co-operation. You have high hopes that your children will reach out to their destiny with the same enthusiasm you show. You have little difficulty attracting lovers, but your attention tends to wander once you've achieved your victory. You need a partner with wisdom and patience to cope with your competitiveness and to help you to be more objective and realistic in your goals.

You know you should plan ahead, but you are too busy worrying about your current interests to take the time. You have no doubt that you will succeed. With your active mind and physical daring, you can implement your ideas and get whatever you want. Living for the moment, however, only satisfies the moment. You consider the future too abstract to focus on; but if you don't plan for your future security, you can't expect to get it. Your friends might have some helpful suggestions. Although you are well paid for your professional skills, you will not be financially independent in your later years unless you start saving.

You will achieve greater harmony in your dealings when you learn to concede to authority and face reality. You must restrain yourself to avoid displeasing those in authority over you. True, you must take the initiative in order to accomplish anything worthwhile; but be very sure that the situation warrants your response. You cannot afford to antagonize people in important positions by being impertinent or insensitive to their feelings. If you do, you will meet adversaries at every turn. Try to compromise and listen to good advice, especially from those who really care for you. It will cost you very little, and may pay handsome dividends.

Because you can provide services that people need and will pay for, you will always have opportunities for employment. Refusing to help will undermine your chances for success and earn you contempt. Probably you will use the opportunity to show what you can do. Be careful not to overreact to what you think is expected of you. You are eager to win public approval in order to prove yourself. Some people may avoid you, thinking that you will try to take advantage of them. Your ability to detect human weaknesses gives you an advantage over your competitors.

When you intimidate people in order to get what you want, you are the eventual loser. If you fail to build solid human values that people can relate to, they will lose respect for you and quickly forget your accomplishments, no matter how spectacular.

On the other hand, if you accept responsibility for your actions, you will be rewarded by the everlasting appreciation of those whom you have helped. You can help people become more self-reliant by teaching them to take advantage of their own resources and to capitalize on their natural talents.
(Howard Sasportas)

According to the myth, Ares (Mars) sprang forth fully grown from the body of the outraged Hera. Similarly, those with Mars here may find that their anger, fury or actions 'leap out' before anything can be done to stop them. At worst, they can be impatient and furious with the slightest obstacle blocking their way, and exhibit a constant need to prove their power. Rather than turning their own bodies into a battlefield or taking out their aggression on whoever comes along, they will benefit from some sort of regular physical exercise or competitive sport. The disciplines of tai-chi, yoga, karate or the various body-therapies (which allow, and work creatively with, the cathartic discharge of anger and tension) are also recommended.

At best, those with Mars in the 1st are authentic, spontaneous and refreshing. Without appearing too blunt or rude, they can be honest and self-directing, possessing the courage to respect their own priorities rather than playing a role for somebody else. They are meant to meet life 'head on'. Rather than waiting for something to happen, people with this placement should take the first step.

Mars in the 1st is most noticeable in a Fire sign; but even if placed in watery Cancer or Pisces, they will still evince a strong presence whether they speak up or not. If those with Mars in this house appear shy and withdrawn, then other aspects in the chart are impinging on its expression, and these should be examined. In some cases, they may need to be reminded that it is permissible to ask for what they want in life, rather than covertly manipulating others into giving it to them.

The urge to be the masters of their own destiny is usually strong, and they will grapple against all odds to satisfy their desires.

Mars in the 1st often calls for a fair degree of stamina, strength, fight and independence even very early in life.

Natal Mars in 2nd House

(Donna van Toen)

You're efficient, acquisitive, and fairly possessive. But you're not tight with your money. You spend freely, and can at times be very extravagant. You could have a loud voice. If this Mars is under heavy stress - such as in a Grand Cross or T-square - there can be losses resulting from fire or theft.

Mars here says you want stability and want a mate / lover who wants to be possessed or wants to defer to you.

You're motivated to be somebody special in some way and to own nice things. This can be good or bad, depending on whether you equate luck solely with money and prestige or whether you're willing to settle for less tangible sorts of luck. You're willing to work to establish yourself so that opportunity doesn't overlook you in any case, which is good. However, if money is your only goal, you may pass up some potentially worthwhile activities and thus short-change yourself.

Planets in the second house tell you what you need to possess and what you need to lose. They tell you both how you can make money and what you should do with it. If

Mars is here, it may or may not imply involvement with a Mars-ruled profession. Mainly it gives you the ability to apply yourself to your work and do whatever is necessary in order to earn enough to live on. However, Mars here under stress from an outer planet would suggest that you'll have to be on the go a lot in order to satisfy your material needs and may have a harder time than other people in 2nd house matters due to certain karmic debts or irresponsible past-life actions.

(Babs Kirby and Janey Stubbs)

A person with Mars in the second is going to have very strong physical desires. These people are very sensual and get great pleasure from using their bodies, so they have a natural talent for giving pleasure. They are in tune with the physical and are comfortable with their sexuality.

They have a strong desire for material security. To be without money feels like a threat to their survival, so they direct a great deal of energy into obtaining it. In fact, they may subvert their sexual energy into the pursuit of wealth. Money and sex are likely to be bound together for them, so they tend to be attracted to wealthy partners. On the other hand, they may find themselves on the receiving end of other people's projections, so that they become sexually involved with people who want them to earn money for them. In this way, money can become a big issue in their relationships, with both partners wanting to take control and many battles being fought over who spent what.

People with Mars in the second can be extremely possessive. They cannot tolerate infidelity, which feels much too threatening to their security. The person they desire is thought of as a prized possession and is not to be shared. These people may lavish expensive gifts on their partners in order to bind them, and they may then feel that they are 'owed' sex.

Sex can be a huge issue to these people, as their value as a person is bound up with their sexuality. Because of this, there can be an overemphasis on performance and technique - there is too much at stake to leave things to chance. To them, sexual prowess means security, and order to feel secure they need to have an active and successful sex life. Because sex is so important to them, they do not enter into sexual relationships lightly. Their sexuality is of great value to them, and they do not give it away easily. There is also a tendency to use sex as a bargaining counter.

Loyalty and commitment are very important to people with a second-house Mars; and they are not comfortable with promiscuity. These people have a solidity and depth which feels reassuring to others. They offer security and stability, and do not change their desires easily. There is a tendency for them to be very cautious about becoming involved - sex is a serious and long-term proposition to them, and they like to build solid foundations, to know a person well before they embark on a sexual relationship. They will want to know that they are going to get a good return on their investment!

People with Mars in the second need a lot of physical contact, and will enjoy being caressed and massaged by their lover. They will need to be touched a lot in order to feel desired, and will, in turn, show their own desire in a very physical way. Because they are so tactile, they get great pleasure from sensuous luxuries like silk sheets; and it will be important to them that their surroundings are comfortable and pleasing.

(Stephanie Camilleri)

These people don't want to deny themselves any sexual experiences if Mars is in Fire

or Water. They are more likely to accept restraint in Air or Earth. This makes for a hectic emotional life. Out of forty-seven celebrity charts with this Mars, only four were those of women (and one of them took a man's name). Women with this Mars usually have too exciting or time-consuming an emotional life to have anything to spare for a career.

In other ways, it can be a conservative position, reinforcing basic values: home, family, mother, mate, church, and so on, although the drive for sex experience can act as an undertow. If there isn't frequent sex, there is the desire for it; or, in Air, a great deal of thought about it. These people usually have an aura of sexual power, machismo, or seductive femininity. With other factors that indicate the same thing, it can testify to homosexuality, or at least to some homosexual or bisexual experiences. With very severe bad aspects, there can be serious sex deviations and problems.

There is a lot of drive and energy in this location; but, unless there are strong humanitarian testimonies, it will be primarily motivated by a desire for self-gratification. They are usually well aware of what side their bread is buttered on, and will rarely act so as to endanger income, property, or social status. If social determinants prevent them from gratifying their sexual desires, it will set up a terrific conflict within them, and they will try hard to find a way to have it both ways.

They are apt to be rather cynical and not terribly idealistic, unless other aspects show that strongly. They are also apt to be loners, and to stand apart from the rest of society in some way. They may feel somewhat misunderstood or isolated. With bad aspects, this can become paranoia, wife-beating, bar-brawling, or such; even (with other testimony) the total isolation of madness.

There is the danger of an early removal from the action; exile, loss of power in a coup, or something of the sort that keeps them on the sidelines for a long period. This position of Mars requires good supportive aspects and the utmost patience to bring anything to fruition.

(Bill Herbst)

Self-worth: With Mars in the 2nd house, self-judgement is both a desire and a struggle. You must assert yourself to gain personal value. You must push for it, and often fight for it. There can be inner arguments, pitched battles surrounding the issue. Inverted anger directed at yourself is the pitfall; and the challenge is to aggressively destroy negative feelings you may discover yourself to believe, to consume them in the flame of desire for good feeling and the kinetic movement of productive action.

Possession: You exert considerable energy around the issue of ownership. There are territorial battles; you must fight for what belongs to you. Conquest is emphasized in the desire to prove your mettle through territorial expansion. The focus is usually on acquisition rather than preservation or maintenance. The challenge is to keep moving forward, moving through possessions, not looking back, and to regard the issue of ownership as a field of honor.

Money: Both the acquisition and the use of monetary resources are experienced as issues of considerable heat within your personality. At times this is felt and expressed as passionate interest, at other times as angry aggression. Money is often a battleground for proving the courage and assertiveness of the self. There is great desire for personal resources and the power they provide, for wealth is symbolic of victory, and it is occasionally used as a weapon in the struggle for personal success, although its primary use is acceleration - to enable you to move with speed. The

challenge is to compete with full power, but by the rules. Be sure that competition is primarily with yourself rather than against others.

Self-exertion: You are like a racehorse that loves to run. Long, complicated work rituals are not your forte; you are more sprinter than long-distance runner. The natural orientation is to race flat-out for a clearly visible finish-line. Nor are you a craftsman, for precision, polishing, and detail work are uninteresting. Mistakes are inevitable, and often overlooked, necessitating that some jobs be done over. Physical effort with a strong emotional component is ideal for this placement; and there is a strong crisis orientation, a 'rising to the occasion'. Don't go around obstacles; push through them instead, tackling each problem one at a time. The challenge is to keep your motivation high, and confront problems directly.

Sensuality: Sensation and desire come together. There is not nearly the emphasis on pleasure that Venus experiences, but instead a passionate fire aroused through touch. This fire builds from a spark into a flame, and can explode into a conflagration of activity and kinetic urgency. Similarly, desire and emotional heat are experienced more in the body than in the psyche, for physicality is the natural area of aggression. The pitfall is that such explosive energies can sometimes be disrespectful to your body when touch is made into a field of combat rather than a source of pleasure. The challenge is to use sensuality in an assertive way, as the cutting edge of the psyche, but to remember also that full sexuality involves a great deal more than simple physicality. It can begin with the body, but it must end with the soul.

(Robert Pelletier)

You capitalize on all your resources to get what you want when you want it. A free spender, you will always need a good income to maintain stability, but sometimes you are careless in handling money. You are wary about forming close ties until you know the other person's motives, and you are cautious about contacts that might prove costly in the long run. You should be equally cautious in the way you handle your assets. You are quite clever in cultivating good relationships with your superiors, who are impressed with your ability to help them achieve their job objectives. Your skill in winning support in your profession will pay dividends when you are considered for promotion. In addition to knowing how to put your best foot forward, you also have some insight into your competitors' weaknesses, which gives you an advantage over them. Because you are reasonably ambitious, you could use this information to make substantial gains in your career.

In general, you understand your feelings, but you also are aware of other people's failings. You know how to be helpful to those who genuinely need assistance; but when you provide professional services, you expect to be well paid. You don't want to be obligated to others, for fear that this will indicate weakness on your part. You consider yourself quite self-sufficient. Your early environment gave you ample opportunities to learn to make your own way and earn security and independence. You are grateful for your parents' foresight in stimulating you to be self-reliant; and you know that they wanted you to realize your goals.

You are intimidated when you observe others, especially competitors, making gains from endeavors that you could have been involved in. You judge others by their professional accomplishments and resultant assets. It might be better to develop your own attributes. Others will admire you for your accomplishments if you put forth the energy to exploit your creative talents and if you are willing to forego some of life's pleasures while you pursue that goal. This is the only way you can achieve the stability in your affairs that will give you greater financial independence in your later years. Perhaps your children will provide the stimulus you need to succeed for

yourself and to give them opportunities you might have missed.

In your search for ways to increase your earnings, you might overlook getting an education, which could simplify your problems. You must be willing to extend yourself, no matter how difficult it seems, to improve your skills through suitable training, either in formal, academic schooling or as an apprentice. It will be exciting when people seek your services, because they trust your ability to handle their affairs as though they were your own. This course will involve sacrifices, but the eventual dividends will make the sacrifices seem unimportant.

If you take enough time to plan your moves carefully, you will be abundantly rewarded for your efforts. Learn all you can about a situation before expressing your opinion. This will win people's respect and admiration for your rational attitude and incline them to request your services. Your drive and ambition attract notice, but you will have to control your easy-come, easy-go temperament, which might make some people apprehensive about putting their trust in you.
(Howard Sasportas)

If we understand a planet in a house to define the way in which a person can best approach that area of life to unfold the potentiality, then Mars in the 2nd calls for aggressive, assertive and daring action in the pursuit of money and possessions. They may have to take risks and chances to attain what they so desperately want. Unfortunately, this 'go out and get it' quality may prove counter-productive if their manner is too rash, impatient and abrupt.

More generally, this placement describes a strong desire nature, with an urgency to enjoy the material world and the realm of the senses. While Venus in the 2nd turns on her seductive charms to allure and entice others to give her what she wants, Mars in this position operates more on the premise that 'I want what I want and I want it now'. If those with Mars in the 2nd don't take the initiative to go after what they want themselves, then they reach in the cupboard for their favourite whine: 'Give me, bring me, buy me, take me!' They also might take out their aggression on objects, smashing a prized vase to underline a point during an argument.

On a more positive note, their innate inner resources are characterized by courage and initiative, and they could excel at any work which required these qualities. They will defend and fight for what they value, although they could also force what they value onto others.

For them, money and possessions are concrete symbols of their power and strength. In fact, we can understand these people better if we realize that they are basically trying to assert and affirm their individual existence, 'alive-ness' and vitality (Mars) by showing the world just how effectively they can go out and get what they want (2nd). (Even so, I would still keep my distance from them on the first day of the Harrods sale.)

Natal Mars in 3rd House

(Donna van Toen)

When you're talking with people, be sure to keep your impulsive streak under control; otherwise, you may find yourself having to eat your words fairly often. You're frank, determined, and sometimes pushy. You're also a risk-taker. If Mars makes any aspect to Uranus, fear isn't in your vocabulary. You'll fight for yourself and your beliefs. You'll also fight on behalf of your neighborhood and family. But if neighbors, siblings, cousins and the like disagree with you, you can just as easily fight with them

instead of for them. Mars here as part of a Yod indicates dealings with extremely excitable, possibly unstable people on a daily basis.

Mars here might say you want a well-read lover, but probably it's also saying you want a sexually experienced lover. You probably have quite definite opinions about what you do and don't enjoy and quite specific requirements about your mate / lover's attitudes, sense of humor, interests, and so on. More about these can be told by looking at your Mars sign and aspects.

Your motivational level is good. The tempo of activity in your life is apt to be fairly brisk. You sometimes make your own bad luck by trying to coerce others into believing as you do or doing what you say. This generally happens when you're feeling insecure for some reason; it's a form of over-compensation. It can result in you having doors slammed in your face even though your skills or ideas are worthy of consideration, so watch this tendency. Your best opportunities are often connected with writing and other sorts of mental work - the harder, the better. For that reason, a good education would be a great asset.

The third house has to do with mental interests to be furthered and communications skills to be developed. If Mars is here in the solar 3rd house, I take it as an indicator of mental maturity. In times of stress, there will be a tendency to act without thinking because in the past communication has been more physical than mental. Otherwise, there will be an abundance of mental energy that can be used to further your goals in whatever manner you choose. Actions will involve learning right thinking, learning the consequences of too-impulsive thinking, and / or learning to compromise.

(Babs Kirby and Janey Stubbs)

To the person with Mars in the third, verbal communication is of vital importance. These people get a buzz from verbal sparring and arguing with their partner, and indeed often sharply attack those to whom they are attracted. They tend to use words as weapons; and the stronger the attraction, the more fiercely they attack!

These people need to be able to express their anger verbally, and it is important for them to speak up and ask for what they want. If these things are suppressed, then energy levels in general and sexual desire in particular will suffer.

There is a need to talk about what interests them and excites them with their partner, and to be active with them - being out and about, doing lots of things. They will also want to talk about everything they do; and they become very animated when discussing the things that interest them.

These people get very excited about ideas and words, and this feeds into their sexual energy, so there is a strong need for verbal exchanges and debates to keep desire alive. They are attracted to people who are mentally stimulating and exciting, and need this mental excitement to stay interested. If their mind is not stimulated, they will soon lose interest physically as well.

Constant contact and communication with their lover is important, and they will be writing, phoning and sending cards to keep in touch when they are not together. They like to express how they feel verbally, using words like caresses. They will also need to receive these in order to feel desired, and will need to be talked to and listened to a lot by their partner. They will feel unwanted if their lover does not show interest by asking questions and telling them about what he / she has been doing.

People with Mars in the third tend to think about sex a lot, and can be sustained by

sex in the mind, which may sometimes seem more satisfactory to them than the real thing. For them, sex is like a conversation between two people, and they like to be learning about the other person through it and communicating something about themselves. Making love is seen as talking to their partner in a deeper non-verbal way. Like conversation, sex can vary from a superficial chat to a deep communication; and the needs of people with Mars in the third vary too. Sometimes they will be happy with something light and playful, while at others they will need soul-to-soul communication. A satisfactory dialogue of touch will be more important to them than physical satisfaction. It is what the other person is saying that counts, not physical technique. For these people, the desire for sex is closely bound up with the need to express their feelings in a way that is more profound than words can ever be.

(Stephanie Camilleri)

Those with a third house Mars are fearless about exploring anything that is new and untried. Eternally youthful, they are forever in search of new and better methods, better places and ways to live, deeper and more fundamental truths. It is a good location for inventors and scientists, although anyone with this Mars will be inventive and have the true scientific spirit. There is an experimental attitude towards life; if one thing does not work out, they'll try another. Once something has been tried, though, they tend to lose interest; so this isn't a particularly good aspect for business or career, unless other factors show it, such as Mars in Capricorn or Virgo. Unless they have the Sun, Moon, Venus, Neptune or Jupiter in a Water sign, they will be likely to experiment with their emotional life as well.

Their energy level fluctuates at this angle; they must learn how to work hard and then relax completely, or they will slow to a crawl. They need to keep going several projects that require different energy levels, so that when one kind of energy is used up they can switch to another.

They are good communicators, able to convey and understand ideas without confusion, unless there is much contact with Neptune or the Moon, in which case they learn by doing and may have hard time expressing themselves verbally. They are inclined to speak too rapidly, and sometimes too forcefully. If there are bad aspects from Uranus and / or Mercury, they may suffer from a speech impediment of some sort.

This is an excellent position for athletes such as swimmers, tennis players, golfers, or equestrians, where the accent is more on form and style and less on sheer power. It is excellent for entertainers of all kinds, especially dancers. It contributes to the ability to blend several talents, such as dancing, singing, comedy, mime, and acting, or writing, performing, directing, and producing. Whatever they choose to do, they are usually graceful at all the social arts, able to speak well and amusingly, and able to do the latest dances and to dress stylishly.

They are quick to learn in school, though they may get in trouble for being too restless or too outspoken in class. They don't like to sit still for too long, and always need plenty of exercise or they will be nervous and jumpy, or will rely on substances like coffee, cigarettes, pills, etc., to keep them going. Jogging, walking, and riding bicycles are much healthier ways for them to use, stimulate, and regulate their energies.

They are apt to have a highly competitive relationship with at least one sibling, and, at least once in their lives, a physical or verbal battle with a neighbor. If there are squares to Mars, there may be many such battles.

They love to be on the move, and will drop everything and take off at a moment's notice. They are good drivers, though they tend to go too fast and, with squares or oppositions, may be accident-prone. They love to drive everything from a tractor to an airplane, and make excellent race drivers and pilots. They love to explore, take dares, set records, and do things no one has ever done before.

(Bill Herbst)

Outreach: Mars in the 3rd indicates that the focus of assertive energies is directed into daily activity through the immediate environment. You 'shoot' yourself into the world. Depending on the sign quality of Mars, this can be reflected in a pointed, almost laser-like approach, somewhat on the order of a 'self-arrow', or it can be more spread, more shotgun-like, a splay pattern of 'self-pellets' covering a broad range of activity. Regardless of the bore and the gauge, Mars here indicates an urgency toward real action, revealing a person who must push into external surroundings. A self-starter, you are almost always busy, relentlessly confronting some obstacle or problem in the environment. Objectives are usually short-term, and results must be immediate. The challenge here is to keep emotionally steady in personal centeredness, to regulate the energies of desire so they're competitive but fair and even-tempered. Master the physical release of aggression; conquer the environment, but do not destroy it, and remember that people are more than objects in a force field.

Concrete mind: You are a mental warrior, passionately involved in the mission to seek out and capture the essence of information. The mind becomes keen, even combative in the desire to prove points by cutting through irrelevance to the very heart of the matter, and vanquishing opponents by the superior use of mental weapons - the 'sword' of acute perception and the 'shield' of logic. Sometimes, however, the game of mental victory becomes more important than life or truth, and the pitfall of mental vanity can lead to dishonor: bending the facts to support your own bias. The challenge is to use reason as a surgical instrument cutting away façades of deception to reveal deeper truths, and finally the wisdom hidden within.

Curiosity: Curiosity here is razor-sharp, a siren sounding a red alert that mobilizes the entire being. It is a very basic itch, and you're not likely to hesitate in scratching it. The relation between subject and object is interesting: initially, it is what catches your attention that galvanises you; but once aware of your desire, it becomes the drive to know that's your focus of attention. The object changes from a curiosity into a target.

Basic education: Physical skills often develop early; and all games and sports are excellent vehicles for learning. Getting along with others is not likely to be one of the easier facets of this placement, however, for aggression and territoriality are quite strong in ordinary socialization. Early education tends to be an arena for conflict; but curiously, this is often quite positive, for it can lead later in life to an incisive and inquiring mentality.

Communication: The speaking voice is direct, urgent, and often sharp. Speed and power rather than beauty and form are the emphasized qualities. The words themselves as well as the style of delivery are chosen for maximum impact; and they often seem to explode out to the listener. You make your points with certainty, leaving no margin for doubt or interpretation. Confrontation replaces tact, and volume replaces grace, for mental competition is the keynote, mental victory the ambition. Others should not engage you in conversation unless they are prepared for at least subtle combat.

(Robert Pelletier)

You are a master at debate, and no one who has provoked you will ever forget the verbal attack you unleashed. While you may not be physically violent, you lack tact and self-discipline when challenged. This same lack of control also causes some problems in getting your ideas into shape so you can more effectively achieve your ambitions. No-one questions your honesty. (They wouldn't dare.) But your methods leave much to be desired. Still, your friends usually support you in your endeavors, for which you should be grateful. Your competitors are impressed by your exciting display of aggression and fascinated by how successful your suggestions are in stimulating an active response from others. You apply the same leverage in your more personal and intimate relationships; and few people can resist you when you dramatize your feelings about them.

In your eagerness to be in on the activity around you, you skillfully manoeuvre yourself into positions where others must turn to you for stimulus. Though your antics often get you into hot water, some people may thank you for urging them to seize an opportunity that they might otherwise have missed. In your romantic escapades, you rarely accept 'no' for an answer, and you usually have a sizable list of partners to choose from to satisfy your needs. You are something of a gambler at heart, but you take risks only when there is a high probability of success.

Even when gainfully employed, you constantly seek to improve your position through additional training and education. You want to be ready when a challenging opportunity for which you must compete comes along. Your greatest liability is not knowing when to be silent. Your arrogant self-confidence masks the fact that you can't stand to be upstaged; but becoming better informed will make this dodge completely unnecessary. You can then put all your energy into finding the best way to apply your talents.

Most people are envious of how much work you accomplish; and of course your superiors are delighted. Your driving ambition to succeed and gain the recognition you deserve may bring on some problems with the people you work for, if your efforts remind them of their inadequate performance. You have the necessary drive to succeed in advising others about their financial affairs. Not only do you appear concerned about their best interests, you truly are. You know how people are motivated by their desires, and you have little difficulty making the right contacts, whether in your work or to satisfy your own physical needs.

Your aggressive nature might have caused you some anxious moments while you were growing up, when you had to confine yourself to the limits imposed by your parents. They may have considered you too big for your britches then, or simply reckless and immature. Your need to demonstrate your independence might have alienated you from them. Your subsequent development made you realize that you had to act when you felt that it was appropriate, knowing that 'he who hesitates is lost'. Even now, you aren't easily dissuaded by people who say that your plans won't work, and you always manage to prove them wrong.

(Howard Sasportas)

By asserting themselves on the environment (usually through their words, opinions, knowledge or points of view), people with Mars in the 3rd affirm their power, vitality and existence. Although many of us are afraid to say what we really think, this is precisely what those with Mars in the 3rd must do - if possible, of course, with tact, the universal antidote to a bad case of Mars.

Some may be afraid that being clear and direct is too rude or blunt. As a result, instead of saying what they really want to say, they resort to dropping large hints and heaving great sighs. Unfortunately, in any house containing Mars there appears to be a kind of storage tank which can accommodate only a certain amount of unexpressed thought, feeling or action before it blows up and makes a huge mess. Ultimately, with Mars in the 3rd, it is better to say what one is feeling or thinking rather than suppressing anything for too long.

There is usually an active, eager mind with quick repartee. A piercing intellect, a strong vocabulary or sharp verbal ability may be stockpiled as the necessary weapons with which to mount any advance. Although sometimes those with a 3rd house Mars may 'ram' their thoughts down another person's throat, their words also have the capacity to arouse others to action. Then again, they may spend as much time fighting their own thoughts as challenging those of other people. They can attack any subject of interest with zeal; and there is a natural desire to talk or write about whatever excites them. Some may 'blow off steam' through writing down their thoughts and feelings. A good form of self-therapy might be composing an angry letter to someone with whom they are furious, and then ripping it up.

Those with Mars in the 3rd find their own initiative and learn how to assert themselves by constellating power games with others in the early environment. Therefore, this is one of the prime placements for conflicts with siblings, teachers and neighbours. However, when caught for something they shouldn't be doing, rather than owning responsibility, they may exclaim that it was their brother or sister, something they read, or a video nasty which put them up to it.

Because of a restless and highly strung nervous system, these people should strive to develop some degree of control and caution, especially on any form of journey or travel. Mars in the 3rd may also need to 'siphon off' excess energy through sport and exercise. Some may find tinkering with the car or other mechanical things relaxing.

It is an old adage that 'thoughts have wings'. Mars in the 3rd is powerful on the mental plane; and any strongly felt thought could affect the environment whether or not it is directly spoken or acted upon. In a sense, the mind is like a sharp instrument or tool, which if handled in the right fashion can be highly effective in cutting through anything, but if employed incorrectly can be dangerous and destructive, both to the self and to others. Regardless of the aspects to Mars, it is ultimately this person's choice which way the implement is used.

Natal Mars in 4th House

(Donna van Toen)

You may have sudden, inexplicably touchy spells. You're a hard worker in your home and / or for your loved ones, and are normally energetic (although if Mars is in a Water sign your energy may be more emotional than physical). Possibly you lost a parent in childhood or came from a home where fighting was common. Early on in your life, strong desires for independence and security came to the fore. These are what motivate you; and no doubt what you gain in these areas will be retained well into old age and perhaps throughout your life. Sometimes people with this aspect prefer not to marry; but they nearly always want their own home. Mars here under stress can be a troublemaker, a disturber of the status quo. Watch that!

Mars here says your wants are pretty basic - love, loyalty, a home, an even temper. One thing you want is a sense of shared past or similar background. You may insist on knowing your mate / lover's romantic history before committing yourself.

You're often motivated by hidden or subconscious factors that are triggered by environmental stimuli and stir your instinctive defence mechanisms. Lucky breaks are apt to be connected with your home and / or birthplace; at least a great deal of your activity may be connected with these (sometimes it's getting away from them which leads to lucky breaks!) To a lesser extent, lucky breaks may be connected with some sort of serious involvement with community recreation or promoting local businesses. Career activities tend not to offer too many opportunities as a rule, either because you're a rather private person or sometimes because of a militant or egotistical approach that turns people off.

The fourth house has to do with your home environment as well as your emotional and metaphysical development. If Mars is here, it suggests quite a strong emphasis on creative and / or psychic energy, which has developed over several lifetimes, but hasn't been used constructively. In the past, impatience has gotten the better of you, and caused you to leave many things uncompleted or badly done. This tendency is still with you and will have to be watched closely. Your actions will involve finding a constructive outlet for your creativity and / or psychic ability, learning to develop thoroughness in your chosen field, and learning to tone down strong emotions that interfere with your ability to follow your chosen path.

(Babs Kirby and Janey Stubbs)

A person with Mars in the fourth needs deep emotional connections and puts a lot of energy into close relationships. Sex tends to stir up lots of buried feelings and anger from early life, and carries the weight of past hurts, which makes intimate relationships very volatile. This person may have come from a family background where there were big issues around sexuality with a lot of unspoken undercurrents around at home.

These people's need to feel emotionally secure in order to enjoy sex means that they feel uncomfortable with casual sex. They will feel most at ease with a live-in lover, which gives them both the security they need and plenty of time simply to be with that person.

People with Mars in the fourth often have periods when they feel the need to withdraw from relationships altogether. They are affected at a deep level, and therefore need time alone to restore themselves after a relationship has ended. This allows feelings and memories to surface so that they can digest and reassess them.

For these people, a strong, secure emotional relationship gives them a solid base from which they can operate. They feel freer and more able to go out into the world and fight for what they want if they have this.

A secure home is also a vital necessity for their security. They need to feel in control of where they live, and will fight fiercely to keep it. Obtaining and maintaining their own living space is a powerful motivating factor; and they will focus a great deal of energy on this. A lot of effort is put into getting their home exactly as they want it; and they tend to be frequently reorganizing and redecorating it. Doing things around the home is restoring and energizing to them.

Their strong feelings about their home may create conflict with those they live with, especially if they do not have the same values and attitude. However, with someone who shares their tastes and objectives, getting a home together and working on it will bring deep satisfaction, strengthening the bond between them and fostering sexual desire. Because of this, actually living together can seem vitally important to

the fourth house Mars people. To them it feels essential to the survival of the relationship. They are strongly territorial both about their home and about their partner, and want the security of knowing that they belong to him / her alone.

(Bill Herbst)

Microcosm: With Mars in the 4th, your inner sanctum is constructed around the imagery and feeling of desire. What you want becomes almost sacredly personal. Your inner focus is honed to a razor's edge. But you may experience caution around overtly going after what you want. The pitfall involves this tendency to postpone action and thus inadvertently delay fulfillment; too often, you want to be sure you're safe before you act. The challenge is to express desire with all the depth it deserves.

Personal security: Security is much desired, but difficult to achieve, in large part because you are by nature polarized toward those closest to you. You want so much with them and from them that ordinary fulfillment is sometimes not enough. You tend to be extremely sentimental and protective; but remember that even softness can be smothering. As an adult, you're concerned with the scars of the past. You want to clear the air with your family, to get one clean shot at making your points, so you can finally connect with them on your own terms. The pitfalls are continual restlessness and a lack of true relaxation, while the challenge is to learn the difference between passion and aggression.

Emotional imprints: Your imprints were probably more event-oriented than would be the case with most of the other planets. Peak experiences were more significant than subtler conditioning; and the classical assumptions of childhood trauma, especially separations, have greater relevance if they occurred. The sheer weight of territoriality was a profound influence: fighting for what was 'mine'. You felt you were being judged according to male standards: desire, assertiveness, and willful action.

'Inner-link' parent: Here we see a contradiction, a masculine symbol in the mother's area. It can indicate a number of distinctly different possibilities. If your mother was feminine on the surface, you still felt her masculinity assert itself often. She might have been a woman of high energies, the natural ruler of the roost, someone who could easily have moved her talents into the external world of cultural power. On the other hand, your father may have taken over some of the classical duties of motherhood. Or you could have imprinted on the urgency of your relationship for him, with desire spilling over into interaction. This placement sometimes indicates long-standing disputes or bitterness with parents, often resulting from a conflict in the parent-child roles. However, even when that is the case, there is a sense of strength that pervades the imprints.

Private intuition: your relationship to inner guidance moves through heated and volatile exchanges. You go within to energize yourself, to charge your batteries, to light the flames of desire. Again and again, you momentarily withdraw from the world during times of difficulty, only to emerge soon after with an entirely new direction or fresh approach, almost like a slingshot. Your guides often remind you of what you truly want. They are not, however, always friendly. Often they confront you, pushing you to get up once more, to live your life adventurously and with real passion.

(Howard Sasportas)

Anything in the 4th house may be hidden from view. But, sooner or later, the drive to express the self latent in a 4th house Mars can no longer remain underground. And like anything which has been locked away for any length of time in the basement, it is not likely to be very pretty when you finally let it out. This placement suggests a

hidden aggressiveness and anger that needs to be brought to the surface, analysed, re-integrated into the personality, and consciously directed to constructive ends. At first Mars may appear as intense fury and rage, erupting volcanically all over the place, surprising both those who spew it and anybody within close range. Once the Mars is 'freed', however, those with this placement eventually grow more adept and graceful at expressing and honouring everything that is going on inside them - the nasty bits as well as the good. Reconnecting to a 4th house Mars, like drinking a well-known beer, enlivens the parts other planets can't reach. A kind of juicy vitality which wasn't there before pervades much more of the life.

When most people come home to roost after a hard day's work, they just want to take off their shoes, mix a drink, put their feet up and watch television. But for those with Mars in the 4th, it is after they've 'clocked off' that their day begins. It is within the home sphere and personal life that they are likely to evince their greatest drive and enterprise, not to mention their domineering and aggressive streaks. In this respect, they are not unlike a certain type of creature called a cichlid fish. These war-like fish need other fish on whom they can vent their aggression. If a pair of them is isolated from a tank containing other fish, then the male will turn his aggression to wards his spouse and offspring. Similarly, those with Mars in the 4th may displace the anger they feel but don't express to other people onto those innocently waiting for them back at home. Well-mannered and docile at work, they may come home spoiling for a fight. Aggression can be displaced in other ways however: digging in the garden, building an extension on the house, provoking someone to get angry at them, or falling down the stairs, etc..

The father (or hidden parent) may be experienced as powerful and masterly, or as pushy, argumentative, sexual and potentially violent. Those with this placement may have to do battle with the father in order to reclaim their own sense of autonomy and freedom of expression. They may not succeed in this until they establish a home of their own; and there is usually a strong urge to do so. Often they are descended from a background of 'survivors'; and they, too, possess a mighty resilience - they can only be held down for so long before they bounce back fighting.

(Robert Pelletier)

You are annoyed when conditions force you to submit to other people's demands. As you grew up, you felt resentful when you had to fulfill family obligations or take on other people's responsibilities. You wanted to be independent as soon as possible, even though it caused some bitterness at home. You especially want to make your own way and make your own mistakes, which is part of the maturing process. There will be hazards to face; and you must accept full responsibility for your actions. Your best path for development would be through some broad social program where your efforts can have the best results. You will have to be discriminating in choosing who to associate with in your endeavors. Because you encourage people to trust you and believe that you understand their problems, it is important not to violate their confidence.

You believe that actions speak louder than words as you strive to acquire the necessary financial resources to fulfill your ambitions. You find it especially upsetting to be without funds, and you make a point of knowing as much as possible about money and devising schemes to earn it. You equate freedom with financial independence, but you should develop human qualities to offset any lean periods. People tend to help those who demonstrate admirable qualities and shun those who are totally preoccupied with money. You must work hard to develop friendships that will benefit you when you are in need, and learn to make concessions to others, for their priorities are as important to them as yours are to you.

Your greatest difficulties will come when you face reversals or rejection in your career. Establishing goals within reasonably safe limits will allow you to gain experience and proficiency in your field. Don't try to fulfill your parents' expectations, for the only potentials you must live up to are your own. Once you are independent, you are accountable only to yourself. Take advantage of opportunities offered by your associates, and learn why your competitors sometimes fail. Your partner could be a valuable source of creative imagination if you listen to his or her ideas. You are stimulated when your mate admires your successes, and comforted by support when things go wrong.

Be very careful of friends who are always asking favors. See to it that you help only those who deserve it. Work out a program of action designed to give you the security you need for your later years. You will be guided by the sound ethical standards you learned in your formative years. Getting an education will extend the limits of your goals and give you the necessary leverage to successfully meet any challenge without having to resort to questionable practices.

You have to learn the hard way, but you never forget what you learn. Your greatest asset is your ability to put your ideas into action, if you can learn not to act until you have fully explored the consequences. Probably you want to make substantial gains in your career before considering marriage; and that is the course you should take. You cannot afford the responsibilities and limitations of a family while you are trying to establish a place in your career. You need as much mobility as possible during this period of your life.

(Stephanie Camilleri)

This is a difficult spot for Mars: square to the Ascendant, opposed to the Midheaven, and submerged in the lowest sector of the chart. However, these very difficulties often stimulate it to great effort, so that although it doesn't always show forth as great external accomplishment, it almost always shows a life of great growth and inner development.

This placement almost always indicates a heavy relationship with the mother that marks the entire life. The mother is apt to be domineering, though if aspects are supportive, this may simply show as strength and support without her will being imposed to too great a degree. In any case, the mother outshines the father, who may die or leave the home during childhood. If the Moon is here, or Neptune, or if Mars is in Cancer or Pisces, there is sorrow added - the mother suffers, is ill, or is unhappy or hysterical. Or, she may die, leaving them with lifelong emotional pain and guilt. This can result in alcoholism and, possibly (with enough other testimony), suicide.

In a man's chart, Mars in the fourth is apt to make him strong-willed, sometimes even harsh or cruel toward his wife and children, perhaps to compensate for having to endure his mother's problems. Having children of his own may appear to him to be a burden and a sorrow rather than a joy. In a woman's chart, it makes it hard for her to be receptive toward other women, particularly older women; and she may be unresponsive to her own children, due to pent-up anger or grief.

A fourth-house Mars with squares, inconjuncts and oppositions almost always points to a hectic, disorderly home in childhood, with the possibility of physical or emotional violence. This difficult home atmosphere may be reproduced in the adult home as well. People with these chart conditions would benefit from therapy.

This may not be the easiest location for Mars, but it can act as a goad, prodding them

toward self-mastery and accomplishment, if only to escape or rise above the early home environment. It forces them to consider basic values, to decide what is real versus what isn't, to set priorities, and to act upon them. It is the sign of those who must pull themselves up by their bootstraps. It is a sort of 'make or break' factor; they will either succumb and allow life to turn them into something they themselves cannot respect, or they will fight to improve themselves and their lot. In the one case, they will be self-pitying, filled with anger and blame and inclined to take out their feelings on those weaker; in the other, they will be philosophical, feel pity for those who mistreated or neglected them, and be kind and tender to those weaker than themselves.

It gives a good deal of strength to understand the ups and downs of fortune in either case, and generally gives a firm grip on life. It can testify to a long, productive life, or to an early, usually violent death, depending on various other factors. It can also be partial testimony to death by accident. In any case, there will probably be a close call early in life that shocks them into caution and awareness.

Mars at this angle doesn't have the power that it has on the other angles to bring things about rapidly; but it does have stick-to-it-iveness, follow-through and bounce-back, and it can accomplish a lot over a life-time. It does give the power to start something new, a new way of doing things, new ideas, that take a lifetime of dedication to instill, and often bring more renown to those who come after than to those whose vision it was in the first place. Sometimes it means that they have a greater effect on later generations than on their own.

Often, it means that they leave home and live the rest of their lives far from native roots. If Mars is in Gemini or Sagittarius, they may never stay anywhere long enough to put down roots of their own. If it is in Earth or Water signs, they may build their own home, or sacrifice much to acquire land and property or a home of their own. With bad aspects, there is danger to the home, particularly from fire. It is a good location for construction workers, builders, and architects.

Natal Mars in 5th House

(Donna van Toen)

Creative and passionate, when you meet someone you like, you probably won't take 'no' for an answer! There'll probably be lots of romances in your life for that reason. You should be able to work well with children; you may also have aptitudes for acting or dancing. If you have children of your own, they'll probably be a lively bunch, and there's a good chance the first-born will be a male. One of your children is apt to be extremely stubborn, and may cause some unhappiness in your life.

Mars here says you want to be entertained. You therefore may have a greater-than-otherwise desire for sexual pleasure. But more than this, you want a mate with a zest for living.

A need to be yourself is what motivates your actions more than anything else. If you have children, or work with children, they can be a source of lucky breaks. Interests in theatre, fitness, sports, or alternative lifestyles might also be good sources. If opportunities aren't coming your way, it may be because you lack discipline, since if you don't want to do something, your tendency is to procrastinate in the hopes that the need to do it will just go away. Unfortunately, it won't; and if you procrastinate for too long, you'll only wind up being unprepared when opportunity knocks.

The fifth house is that of creativity and self-expression. Like all of the fixed houses -

the second, fifth, eighth, and eleventh - this is a regenerative house. Planets here push you to do something with what you have. 'What you have' can be material or strictly potential. In any case, when you find planets in this house (or any of the other fixed houses) you're being told 'use it or lose it'. Of course, you can use it constructively or destructively, as you choose. If Mars is here, you're due for a lesson in self-control. There's a tendency to put all your energies into one area to the detriment of the rest of your life. Most often, sex is the focal point; but less frequently it's a child or a business of your own that dominates your life. Selfishness has been a stumbling block for you in past lives; it can be again if you're not careful. Or you may pay your debts by experiencing a less-than-delightful relationship with a self-centered lover, bringing up a self-centered and difficult child, or finding obstacles in the career area, perhaps because those in a position to help you see you as a threat. There tends to be a perceived lack of freedom when Mars is here. My guess is that you abused or refused freedom in the past and are now paying the piper. Not fun, but unless there's a slow-moving planet here, you chose this path of your own volition and undoubtedly you're capable of gaining from it.

(Babs Kirby and Janey Stubbs)

People with Mars in the fifth put a lot of energy into pleasure and play. The arts, entertainment and sport all increase their sense of aliveness and vitality. Pursuing these pleasures with their partner keeps their relationship alive and stimulates their sexuality, so it is vital to them that their lovers share their enthusiasm for these things. They tend to be attracted to those who are artistic, creative and entertaining. They want to have fun in their relationships, and will become restless and dissatisfied if too much time is spent on boring domestic activities.

Children are very important to these people, and they will give a lot of time and energy to them, especially playing with them and entertaining them. If things are not going well in their relationships, they may tend to sublimate their sexual energy into their children, gaining vicarious satisfaction from their successes and wanting them to live out their Mars energy for them. They may tend to be like a suitor with their children, especially an opposite sex child, taking them out to dinner and treating them to things, enjoying doing things on their own together.

Sex may tend to be like a sport to them; and they enjoy taking risks and gambling with it. Having an affair which puts their main relationship at risk will be a thrill which adds to the excitement of both; but they will be devastated if their partner is unfaithful. It will be a terrible blow to their pride, implying that they are not good enough. This can make them rather possessive, expecting absolute loyalty of their partner while feeling that they have the right to do as they please themselves.

People with Mars in the fifth tend to see themselves as rather romantic figures, courting those they desire by winning and dining them, taking them out on holiday - winning them with gifts and being lavish with both money and attention. They want to impress, and may splash money around in order to do this. Strained finances can make them feel very depressed, lowering their libido and hurting their pride. If they cannot be generous and make big gestures, they feel less potent and alive.

Sex is very important to these people, as it is a means of self-expression for them, increasing their sense of identity and pride in themselves. For these people, sex can be rather like a performance - they want appreciation for their sexual prowess. They have to prove themselves the best and be suitably rewarded.

In order to feel desired, they need a lot of attention and appreciation; and in return they give a tremendous amount, and are able to make those they desire feel really

special. They are generous and fun; and relationships with them are warm, romantic and rewarding. Nothing gives them greater pleasure than to make someone else happy.

(Stephanie Camilleri)

This location of Mars gives a powerful will. It is a partial testimony to the self-made man or woman. It is a very strong testimony to career success. Mars at the 120 degree (trine) angle to both the Ascendant and the Midheaven gives a powerful drive that can be applied to any chosen end.

These people exert a magnetic fascination for others, but as performers they have a hard time because they find it so difficult to take direction, except from those few they truly respect. They may have a hard time in childhood because they hate to be told what to do. They were eager to grow up and form their lives for themselves. They can't work for others for long, but must control their own destiny, and will do so, as soon as possible. Sometimes, they launch out into business for themselves at an astonishingly early age.

They are very sexual, and, if there is other testimony to homosexuality, this will strengthen it. Bisexuality is possible with both sexes. The sex drive is intense and, with oppositions and squares and no trines or sextiles, it can be a problem, as ungratified desire can lead to violence of some sort. They are passionate and generous in love, and seek to gratify their partner as well as themselves. They are often too rapid in their responses for others, and must learn to go slowly. Their intense competitiveness can harm love relationships until they learn to use it in appropriate ways.

They are inclined to have children - possibly lots of them, with more males than females, all rambunctious and hard to control, but healthy, strong, and eager to learn. With bad aspects, there may be danger to the life of a child through fire, fever, or accident.

They are very creative, and generally have several hobbies that have a way of turning into income-producers. They usually like knives and metal tools, and will try to become proficient in their use. They may also like guns, even though they may not totally approve of their use, appreciating them for their workmanship, power, etc., rather than their killing potential. They enjoy using their bodies, and find it easy to stay in shape through regular exercise. This is an excellent position for a professional athlete or dancer. They are highly competitive, and enjoy sports and games where their competitiveness and combativeness can find a safe and enjoyable outlet.

They are gamblers, and are usually lucky. They like horse racing, card games, and all forms of wagering. They like taking risks of all sorts. If forced to stick too close to the straight and narrow, they get bored and become bad company, irritable and prone to temper. Parents of children with a fifth-house Mars must learn to let them discover their own limits earlier than most children do, because an overreaction against authority can bring on accidents or illness. They require training, but the child should set the pace, the parent acting only as watchdog. They rebel if forced, but, if given their own lead, will forge ahead with confidence.

People with Mars in the fifth are excellent natural leaders, and will pull others with them wherever they go. Their charisma is usually nonverbal; they will have an intimate circle who know them, while few outsiders will have any knowledge of what they are really like. Sometimes that circle is very small; but they don't care. It can be a placement of narcissism, too much self-interest, yet they continue to attract others

who do not know them and who never will.

Although they love freedom, they also know that nothing happens without discipline. They are usually orderly at bottom, even if the surface sometimes looks a little confused, and demand that subordinates be the same. They are good teachers, inspiring but demanding. They do their best as leader of a team, a small, flexible unit that reports to a respected superior (if to anyone) but functions apart. They don't like bosses looking over their shoulder, and they don't enjoy managing large groups. If they can, they will turn such a job over to someone else. It is a good position for an independent worker, someone who generates his or her own business or ideas.

With Mars in Water, they are extremely passionate, may be unreasonable or moody at times, may fantasize a lot, and may be in danger of going off the deep end over love or artistic projects. They may also be inclined to drink too much. With Mars in Air, they are usually very thoughtful of co-workers, lovers, friends and students, and are forceful and independent thinkers. With Mars in Fire, they may be too quick and too hot, self-willed and over-competitive, at least in youth. In Earth, they will be quite self-controlled and more likely to work steadily at a lifelong career than if Mars is in one of the other elements.

If Mars is in a cardinal sign, these individuals have strong, irresistible, but flexible wills. If it is in a fixed sign, they will be strong-willed, but inclined to be stubborn and inflexible. In a mutable sign, their own self-development may be more important to them than maintaining a career thrust.

Conscious persona: Mars in the 5th reveals that your conscious persona is spontaneous, direct, and very male in tone. Self-projection is autonomous and assertive, so much so that impact on others (the audience) can often become the main motivation. You're like a heat-seeking missile, hurling yourself onstage into the limelight. Desires for personal recognition and an ability to improvise in an immediate crisis are hallmarks. Your ego loves rising to the occasion. The pitfall involves overbearing penetration, while the challenge is to develop a razor-sharp, hawklike focus for brilliant activity.

Romance, giving love: You live on the passionate side of romance. There is tremendous urgency, a sense of conscious desire. That sense is competitive, almost challenging, just short of aggressive. You are the arrow streaking toward the bull's eye. The performance of love in courtship is more direct here than with any other placement, more physical, more immediate, and hair-triggered. You often won't take 'no' for an answer; and that is a serious pitfall. You can be fooled into believing receptivity exists where, in truth, it may not; but your special challenge is to create successful romance out of the sheer adrenaline of personal fire. Desire is everything.

Sexual performance: Mars is the complement to Venus, and in the 5th provides the male aspect of sexuality. This 'maleness' in sexual expression is appropriate regardless of your biological sex. It indicates a pressign drive in lovemaking, a sense of the warrior plunging into the breach, charging up the mountain. To say that this placement indicates a passionate nature is to revel in understatement. Sex is expressed in the most physical terms possible as bodies are made molten by the heat. The pitfall involves losing yourself too quickly in the push toward fulfillment and release, while the challenge is to reveal the desire inherent in a give relationship, allowing it to emerge fully.

Personal creativity: Creativity is not merely an event for you. Rather, it is the cutting edge of your aliveness. When you create, you do more than simply express yourself. You birth yourself in each creative event. As a result, your ego is much more involved

in creativity, and you are more vulnerable to the onus of failure. Happily though, even when you are crushed by rejection, you come back as soon as a new adventure is envisioned. The challenge is to use creativity for self-renewal.

Competition: You are a fierce competitor and an honorable adversary. This placement indicates adolescent bravado, where all challenges - 'cross that line if you dare' - are both personal and territorial. You love to hurl yourself into new arenas, for every time a risk is undertaken, you can prove not only your mastery, but, more primally, the validity of your very existence. A gamble is often an irresistible lure, like a red flag waved in front of a bull. Just prior to action, however, you may experience overpowering fear. The military metaphor works especially well here: they don't give medals for accomplishing what's easy; they give medals for courage - action in the presence of fear. The higher the mountain, the more you want to climb it.
(Howard Sasportas)

The 5th house is the house of play. And when Mars plays, there is no doubt who is boss of the sandbox. The competitive spirit is very great; and if you build a bigger or better castle than your friend with Mars in the 5th, watch out - you may end up with sand in your eyes. Who said it's not whether you win or lose, but how you play the game, that counts? Not likely to have been somebody with Mars in Leo's natural house.

And the same applies to life, love and creativity. It's not good enough just to do something - it must be done dramatically and with all the heart. On the plus side, there is a natural vitality and enthusiasm which stamps the individuality on everything those with Mars in the 5th undertake. They may not be another Picasso, but the picture they paint is very special - at least to them. And who's to deny it, if even for just a few days or moments the act of creating from inside themselves has given them a greater feeling for who they are or enhanced their sense of power, identity and vitality?

Often there is a love of competitive sport or feats involving some degree of daring, risk or strenuous physical exertion. And with the same zestful and impulsive spirit, they pursue the greatest sport of them all, the game of love and romance. Nor are they just looking to make a match; nothing short of a whole forest fire will do. Provided those with Mars in the 5th don't frighten others off with their intensity, how soon the flames of love are extinguished or whether the fire quickly spreads somewhere else will depend, to a large degree, on the aspects and sign placement of Mars.

Children will catch something of the Mars projection. The initial enthusiasm to produce a family will probably be very strong; but the daily drudgery and sacrifices involved may be much less appealing. How can they paint pictures, take tennis lessons, make love, go to the opera, and have the time to raise children as well? It's not surprising that people with this placement bear offspring with strong independent streaks. The children would need to learn to stand on their own fairly quickly and develop strong enough wills to combat and compete with the demands of the parent's fifth house Mars.

(Robert Pelletier)

Although you do everything enthusiastically, you sometimes lack the self-discipline required to get the most from your efforts. Your impatience makes you less efficient, but your aggressiveness is useful when the time comes for action. You have the courage and daring to take advantage of your creative potentials. When your plans go awry, you may make excuses, since it is painful to realize you've made a foolish

mistake. You are well-informed but often unrealistic in your impulsive outbursts. Your friendliness is endearing to others. You have a strong desire nature; and when your mind is made up, you won't take 'no' for an answer. However, some people won't let you have your way. You can get away with doing things that others would be severely criticized for; but sometimes you take chances that you regret later. You let unpleasantness roll off your back, because you don't take yourself too seriously. Yet you insist on the right to assert yourself; and you don't feel you have to explain your actions. You would gain an even greater advantage over your adversaries if you developed your mental assets. You enjoy participating in sports, stimulating young people to take part in activities, and indulging in speculative enterprises.

You are creative enough to find many dramatic ways to put your ideas to work. You are really an actor; and you easily win over opponents to your point of view. The freshness of your actions wins support from competitors and associates. You are ambitious, and you know how to get important people to share your enthusiasm for your endeavors. In your personal life, you want a partner who will share in your excitement as you strive for your goals, someone who will also be enthusiastic in meeting your physical demands. You want your mate to consider you the most important person in the world.

Think about the goals you hope to reach, and remember that achieving them should be your most important priority. When you work on them, you may realize that you are not investing sufficient mental energy for the greatest returns later. You should make long-range plans for using your natural assets efficiently and using your energy to preserve your physical well-being. You tend to spend money carelessly and to get into situations for which you are not adequately prepared. High on your list of priorities must be establishing realistic values and being willing to make some contribution to others. You cannot go forth with empty hands and expect to succeed.

It may not be easy, but you will have to forego some of your indulgences if you hope to realize substantial returns on your investments in later years. You enjoy public exposure; and your public position will be better if you take the time to develop your hidden talent. Inside, you are really a 'softie' and more sympathetic than it seems toward people in need.

Your early environment may have given you the idea that your freedom is of paramount importance. Obviously you were given the opportunity to show what you could do on your own, and it is imperative that you take the time and self-discipline to cultivate your creative potentials. You may not see immediate evidence of its value, but this investment will be of inestimable value as you become stabilized in your career.

Natal Mars in 6th House

(Donna van Toen)

When working with others, you're inclined to be bossy; but as you're a hard worker, you'll be respected if not always liked. If you employ others, you'd tend to attract energetic workers. You have a tremendous amount of vitality if Mars is in a Fire or Earth sign; and even in Air and Water signs this placing can increase physical energy a bit. You may suffer from headaches as a result of this Mars, especially if it's under stress. And if Mars is part of a Grand Cross, you may overwork to the point where your health is adversely affected.

Mars here says you have quite specific requirements; notably you want a mate who is discriminating, enjoys going into details and is sexually cautious without being hung-

up and inhibited.

You're reasonably energetic, a hard worker, and are motivated by praise. There can be a problem with this placing: since Mars here says the primary use of your energy is to serve others, these others can keep you from getting the breaks you deserve if you don't choose your 'masters' wisely. Co-workers, relatives, your mate - all can enslave you or conspire against you (consciously or otherwise) if they feel your progress wouldn't be to their advantage. You have to be aware of this, and should refuse to let anyone become too dependent on you in any capacity. Opportunities tend to come in the areas of health, writing, and / or service or support staff positions.

The sixth house is that of health and improvement. Planets in the 6th house symbolize things we haven't done well - misguided efforts. The chances are your intentions were good but your ideas were flawed. Or perhaps you chose to attempt things that were for one reason or another beyond your capabilities. If Mars is here, there'd be a tendency to try to push your way through life, to try to make up for lost time in the past. This could also mean that your karma involves a great deal of physical work or work involving machinery. There would be a tendency to run high fevers when ill. Illnesses may or may not be of karmic origin, depending on your overall chart.

(Babs Kirby and Janey Stubbs)

With Mars in the sixth, energy is directed largely towards work, and this person may be something of a workaholic. Hence, these people often meet their sexual partners through work. Being of service to others is of great importance to them; and they like to do practical things for those they desire, and enjoy looking after them. They need their partner to show, in turn, that he or she wants them in practical ways; and they enjoy working alongside their lover, doing things together. It is hard for these people to relax and just enjoy life. It is vital for them that their work is stimulating and physically active. If they are doing dull sedentary work, they are likely to become apathetic, losing their vitality and sexual desire.

They can be very self-denying, putting work and duty before pleasure. They will want to feel that everything is in order and well-organized before they can enjoy a relationship, and will put things off if there is something they need to accomplish first, deferring gratification until things are right.

These people can be very anxious, and tend to worry a lot, which can interfere with their sexuality. Problems at work are often translated into sexual difficulties as the two are closely bound up for them. Overwork and stress can cause ill-health too, and they may suffer from a lot of minor illnesses. This is often the only way that they can allow themselves to let up from their punishing work schedules and give themselves a rest.

People with Mars in the sixth can be very analytical about sex, seeing it as a skill that has to be learned properly, so that they become obsessed by techniques and lose sight of pleasure and passion. Sometimes they see sex as a duty, and relationships may develop out of obligation rather than desire. They become involved with people they work with or who are useful to them, and find it difficult to extricate themselves because they are so conscientious. They also tend to fall into comfortable routines with people; and this too can make it hard to break away.

These people can be fitness fanatics, channelling their sexual energy into sports or exercise. They find these things a turn-on, and get sensual pleasure from them. If

they are in a relationship, they will find it stimulating to share these activities with their partner. They will also enjoy things like massage, which they may use as a lead-in to sex.

They may use sex like some kind of physical therapy to relax and restore themselves; and sex with them can be a very healing experience for their partner. They can be extremely considerate lovers who give a lot of time and energy to those they desire, helping them in every way possible and showing genuine concern for their welfare.

(Stephanie Camilleri)

This is a placement of obedience. Mars in the sixth house gives these people the ability to work diligently; but they must find a field they like, or they'll suffer from psychosomatic ills, accidents in the workplace, or fights with co-workers. Mars here is more or less trine the Midheaven, but inconjunct the Ascendant, so the energy moves more easily from the ninth and tenth houses, the houses of bosses and 'superiors', than it does from the first, that of the self, with the result that this is inclined to be somewhat of a self-sacrificing position. These people will often work themselves into the ground for the good of the company. With tenth-house planets, this is a good placement for a team athlete or coach, a member of a ballet corps, or a ballet teacher. Most men with this Mars location spend some time in military service. Some make it a career.

These people are slow and hard to train as children; but, once trained, they become good, dependable workers at whatever they do. This Mars is good in any field where daily practice is necessary. They may take a long time learning to practise; but once the habit is developed, they will adhere to it religiously from then on.

As children, they are the opposite of those with Mars in the fifth; they must be pushed. They need early training and discipline, as the older they get, the more ingrained bad habits will become. They may seek to avoid work if Mars is in Leo, Sagittarius, Libra, or Pisces, or if it is conjunct or opposite Saturn, the Moon, or Neptune. There can be trouble with relatives and bosses over lack of work effort until they find their true field. Those with Mars in Aries, Cancer, Virgo, Scorpio, or Capricorn can work hard at anything, if they must.

A sixth-house Mars needs a square or other hard aspect to give it a kick from time to time, or these people may fall into a rut, working for too long at the same job and living a life that leads nowhere. One way out is to develop a hobby by constant practice. Eventually, this will lead to a freer and more satisfying existence.

(Bill Herbst)

Disease and healing: Disease is linked with the sharp edges of reality. Fevers, rashes, cuts, and other sudden or dramatic conditions are more likely here; and the relation of infection to deeper disorders is more pronounced than with other planets. Excess or misdirected heat is a relevant pitfall. Psychologically, desire and maleness are possible areas of misunderstanding or oversensitivity. This is true with both your own desires and those expressed by others. The particular pattern of vulnerability depends on other factors in Mars's condition (sign placement, aspects, and the overall planetary pattern), but we presume that you'll struggle with 'wanting'. The challenge is to cleanse the pathways of desire. Both the causes of and treatments for disease involve vital self-expression.

Unequal relationships: You fight over inequality, and struggle with others over authority. Otherwise normal exchanges can result in affront to personal dignity. This

occurs in both directions: in your feelings, or in the feelings of others who are relating to you. It's as if there's a chip on your shoulder where power is concerned, a built-in red flag waving in front of a bull. Your challenge is to learn to judge which rituals of submission are appropriate and which represent abuses. Opposing abuse is imperative. However, to fight simply because two individuals are not equal is a waste of precious life-energy.

Duty and service: There is an urgency to helping others. It has the feel of surgery: you want to penetrate and cut away obstructions with the sharp edge of your own desire. You're compelled to seek out blockage or resistance, to break through those walls, however hard you have to push. However, keep in mind that others are people, not problems to be solved, not walls to be smashed. You'll want to perform miracles; don't bite off more than you can chew. Service is a basic desire, so you'd be well-advised to consider a helping profession as a full-time career. This enables you to spread your heat over many interactions with numerous individuals, allowing you to hone your scalpel into a fine tool, while insuring that you don't overwhelm any single individual by too many repeated 'operations'.

Technical mind: Thinking is passionate and direct. The speed of your mind is impressive; you learn voraciously if you can get a foothold in basic understanding of an issue or idea or process. But be aware that the very desire that drives you mentally can also trip you up. You push so hard to reach the end of a logical sequence that you're prone to error, sometimes glossing over an important step. Remember, the program won't run unless every bug is isolated and replaced by the correct instruction. Your mind is best suited to basic and direct problem-solving; it's where you shine. If the situation is too inverted or laced with complexity, frustration may override desire, and you'll lose interest before a solution is found. The challenge is to keep your mind focused in the present.

Discipline and routines: Routines are often experienced as a continuing series of confrontations. You stay with one issue until it is solved or exhausted, then turn your attention to the next urgency. With Mars, lifestyle is not so much regular as it is imperative. You could be downright irregular, always backed up, having more to accomplish than you can possibly achieve; but as long as your days are full and your ratio of victories is high enough, you're happy.

(Robert Pelletier)

Your willingness to really apply yourself in your chosen field of activity helps assure your success. You work hard to develop your creative potentials, for you believe that your skills will be appreciated. You are able to effectively capitalize on your basic resources to increase earnings. You have confidence in the value of your creative abilities, so you don't hesitate to take a chance when you know there are material benefits to be gained. But you can significantly reduce the risks you take by getting a formal education. Being better informed increases your options and gives you more leverage in dealing with competitors on your terms rather than theirs. It is especially satisfying to know that you can succeed honestly and gain the respect you deserve for a job well done.

You are grateful for your early parental conditioning, which taught you to be self-reliant in making your own way in life. You've accepted the responsibility for your actions, and you understand that you must apply yourself with determination in order to succeed. With this belief, you respond to people's needs and give them the services they require, for which they will pay you well. This is how your future security will be achieved. Your partner gives you the co-operation you need, which makes the effort worthwhile.

Until you have greater self-confidence in your ability to succeed, you may have to work without getting recognition from those you hope to impress. But if you are patient, recognition will come as your capabilities grow and you take on more responsibilities. You don't have to accept obscurity if you are geared to take advantage of your creative resources. Most of the people you deal with know how competent you are to assist them with their needs, and they appreciate your efforts in their behalf. Your skills are especially valuable in helping those who can't help themselves. As your talents are recognized, your services will be increasingly in demand. People know that they can trust you to do your very best, and that you take responsibility for your actions. The sincerity and dedication you bring to your career endears you to everyone; and they know they can depend on you.

Take care not to make a nuisance of yourself by trying to do tasks for others that they can do for themselves. It's fine to be helpful; but some people resent the inference that they can't succeed without you. Find people who have real deficiencies, and let them ask for your help. You can get yourself into a lot of trouble by taking on more work than you should, which may lower your physical vitality. You only have to prove yourself to you. You will win your partner's respect and admiration for your accomplishments when you compensate for his or her inadequacies. The bond between you will be strengthened when you know your mate considers you indispensable.

Always strive to improve your skills, for this will assure your future security, increase your self-worth and improve your image. You hope to win the affection of your loved one by showing that you expend a great deal of energy to earn a comfortable living and that you are sufficiently motivated to get ahead. You hope that your children will take advantage of the benefits you've provided and that they will succeed in achieving their goals. If they appreciate your efforts, you will feel amply rewarded. (Howard Sasportas)

The possible manifestations of Mars in the 6th house become clearer if we compare and contrast the ways in which the Greek Ares and the Roman Mars would approach the affairs of this house.

First, picture Ares mounting an attack on the housework. Within ten minutes, he would have whizzed through every room and nearly all the corners as quickly as possible, it is to be hoped not knocking over too many things in the process. His motto might be 'A job worth doing is a job worth doing in a hurry'. Or, after losing yet another battle with his sister Athene, he might immediately take out his rage 6th-house-fashion by furiously scrubbing the kitchen floor, yelling at a servant, or kicking the dog.

Ares would push his body hard. Besides exhausting himself continually chasing around from one thing to another, he could attract accidents due to recklessness and inner discord.

Although it is not like Ares, if he did hold in his anger, he would probably suffer regularly from headaches or more generally turn his aggression against the body. (With the planet Mars in the 6th, feelings and impulses register very strongly in the body and must find some sort of expression if it is not going to short-circuit and blow a fuse.)

Of course, Ares would be a big hit at the office. Unlikely to tolerate someone lording over him, and probably exhibiting a tendency to run roughshod over co-workers, it's fortunate that he prefers to attend to his job independently.

In striking contrast, the Roman God Mars handles the affairs of the 6th house very differently. Seeing every little thing he does as a reflection of who he is, he would take fastidious pride in his work down to the last detail. Concerned with achieving independence and self-sufficiency in the running of everyday affairs, he would welcome the opportunity to learn new skills, and gain great satisfaction mastering tasks which challenged him.

Although he could be obsessive at times about the body's smooth functioning, much energy would be directed into caring for and maintaining the body. He recognizes the body as the vehicle through which he can express himself and prove his power, and naturally he wants to keep it in good shape.

Somewhat reminiscent of his Greek counterpart, and due to a strong belief about how something should be done, the Roman Mars (in the 6th) may experience difficulty and impatience with co-workers, although in the right situations a joint effort could prove stimulating. But usually Mars in the 6th wants to run the show himself. He might, however, fight battles for workers' rights or stand up for a colleague whom he believes is being mistreated. Mars in the 6th might equally support an animal rights group.

In general, a well-aspected Mars in the 6th tends to act like the Roman Mars. But difficult aspects to Mars in this house (hard angles to it from the Sun, Jupiter, Uranus and Pluto especially) are more likely to manifest, initially at least, as the Greek Ares.

Natal Mars in 7th House

(Donna van Toen)

This suggests that you have some lessons to learn about partnerships in general and romantic commitments in particular. Public opinion will also somehow play a role in your life. Highly independent and courageous yourself, you're apt to attract an energetic, assertive mate. There may be a bit more competition than is healthy between you, particularly if you both work. Enemies would tend to be aggressive, selfish, highly competitive people.

If Mars is here, you want a monogamous relationship, and you want a mate / love who can be depended on to be there when you need him / her. But at the same time, you need a social life, so woe be unto the mate / lover who tries to make it just the two of you forever more.

Tension motivates you. This can be good or bad, depending on whether you use your energy to resolve problems or to get back at those whom you feel are causing your bad luck. Harmonious relationships can be good sources of opportunities for you. Discordant relationships can also lead to positive opportunities if they help you determine your priorities and understand what motivates you. Be careful of childish 'tit for tat' behavior, though. That's counterproductive.

The theme of the seventh house is 'we vs. me'. It's most specifically involved with marriage; but business partnerships and relationships with clients are also a part of this house. If you're an astrologer, counsellor, beautician, et cetera, pay special attention to this house; it will tell you a lot about why you're doing what you're doing. If Mars is here, there's been impulsiveness in the area of marriage in the past. This tendency would have to be curbed now; and any past damage done would have to be rectified. Karma might be worked out through experiencing a marriage to an argumentative person; and in extreme cases, your mate might even be physically or

mentally cruel.

(Babs Kirby and Janey Stubbs)

To people with Mars in the seventh, relationships are the driving force of life, even though they are fraught with difficulty and the source of much conflict. Being close to someone brings up a lot of anger and insecurity, and these people may tend to use their partner as a punch bag on whom they vent all their frustration and rage. But even though close relationships are so difficult, the urge to be involved is so strong that they are seldom on their own for long.

Desire and anger are closely linked for them, so sex tends to stir up hostility, and they can be very critical and aggressive toward their sexual partners. Easily hurt and oversensitive, they tend to see criticism as rejection and overreact, retaliating viciously when hurt. They can be very abusive; and the desire to hurt their partner can sometimes destroy the relationship. At times they will end a relationship themselves because they feel insecure and resent the power the other person has over them. They attack in order to defend themselves, and this can be very destructive. There is also an -often unconscious - urge to provoke anger in others; and they may needle a less volatile partner until he or she explodes. To them, anger is part of love, and they find it hard to accept that they are loved if the other person remains calm.

There can be a tendency to project their Mars energy and look for a partner to be strong and make their decisions for them. They try to live through their partner, and get very angry when the partner does not live up to expectation. But if they do find someone that fits the projection, they will feel powerless and resentful and will eventually want to break free and regain their power.

These people tend to see others as a challenge against whom they must constantly test themselves, so relationships tend to be a battleground in which they fight for survival. Mars is not comfortable in the house of sharing and co-operation, where it feels its autonomy to be under threat, so freedom of action is going to be a big issue for these people. There will be a lot of quarrels and fighting for space; and they may feel that they have to fight to be themselves.

Although relationships are seldom comfortable for the person with Mars in the seventh, they are full of passion and warmth. They put a tremendous amount of dynamic energy into love, which is one of the reasons that their partnerships are so tense. They cannot be cool or neutral towards their partner, so they tend to be either passionately loving or fiercely angry, without much in between! They find all the ups and downs stimulating, and the battles a constant source of excitement. They need the friction to feel alive; and the amount of passion that goes into the quarrels tends to reflect their desire for the other person!

On a more ordinary level, these people get a tremendous amount of satisfaction from doing things with their partner. The more activities they participate in together, the happier they will be. They will get a lot of pleasure from things like getting a home together and planning exactly what they are going to do with it. They gain satisfaction, too, from fighting alongside the partner - for example in political campaigning.

(Stephanie Camilleri)

This Mars gives a combative nature; they won't take anything lying down. They are argumentative, and it seems as though no matter whatever it is, they're against it.

They have trouble getting along with people, so those with Sun or Mars in Fire or Earth signs will get a reputation for being touchy and hard to deal with, while those with Sun or Mars in Air or Water will mask their irritation in order to avoid confrontation. They are compelled by their strong sex drive to find a partner, but have a hard time staying with anyone. Part of the reason for this is that they tend to choose other combative types, so the fur will fly from time to time (or all the time). At least one relationship will end in anger and total misunderstanding. It takes them years to learn how to live with others.

First, they must learn to live with themselves. Often mistreated in some way, neglected or ignored by one or both parents in childhood, they take out their anger on everyone else until they begin to see what they are doing and learn to release the energy in other, less destructive ways. With Mars in Cancer or Pisces, the combativeness is modified. It may show as passive / aggressive behavior, or it may be turned inward, leading to illness. These people should always involve themselves in competitive sports so as to absorb their combative energies and keep other areas free from it.

If the Moon is on an angle, this Mars can be dangerous; violence may be done to them or by them. Yet if they can learn to harness their energies, and to live with themselves and others, much can be achieved with the seventh-house Mars, as the energy, properly applied, is endless.

These people are often lonely, and feel misunderstood by others. Something has hardened them to the outside world, diminishing their natural sensitivity to others. They feel misunderstood; but it is really they who misunderstand others and misinterpret their motives. It is hard for others to break through this tough shell. In fact, it is impossible, until they are willing to come out from behind their defenses.

They will often have a relationship with an athlete, someone athletic in nature, or who enjoys sports as a pastime, possibly someone in the police or the military. With bad aspects to Mars, they may have a relationship with someone violent, or someone who has suffered from violence, or who has dangerous occupation or lifestyle.

They are tough opponents, and do well in anything where fight is required. Although oppositions or conjunctions to the Moon or Saturn may make them fearful, once the fat is in the fire, watch out!

Good aspects, particularly trines to planets in the eleventh house, will modify the difficulties of his position, giving these people the power to control themselves and diminishing the touchiness. However, the basic stress of opposition from the Ascendant and square from the Midheaven to this most energetic and forceful of planets is hard to modify.

(Bill Herbst)

Mirrored awareness: Others may seek you out as an attractive object of desire. You might find yourself 'courted' or prosied, and you could develop high confidence and charisma as a result. However, it can also seem that people are overly combative with you, that they are often overly aggressive or sometimes downright disagreeable with you. But look within yourself and you'll discover some of that same energy. Find out what it's about. Don't let it lurk beneath your awareness. Mirroring is also positive. The challenge is to discover your own natural sharpness through relating, and then to use it to cut away any obstacles to the fulfillment of your natural desires.

Equal partnerships: Your partnerships tend to be energetic and focused with a clear

sense of purpose. Although you are capable of sustaining long-term relationships, the emphasis is on the immediate crisis, the momentary confrontation, today's problem rather than yesterday's or tomorrow's. Equality is a struggle. You may feel that your partner is trying to conquer you, but you're just as likely to use the same strategy. In either direction, a win / lose battleground is really no partnership at all. Avoid both surrender and victory, for it is imperative that humiliation and revenge be kept out of your relationships. You are likely to be oversensitive to your partner's desires, so keep the focus on your own male qualities. Assert yourself with the intention of reaching rather than conquering your partner. Penetrate the partner's heart with your sincere desire.

Contracts, commitments: When you find a relationship you want, you immediately commit yourself to having it. It's not thought-out or chosen after considered contemplation. You jump right in, urgent, propelled by desire. The only commitment you know how to make is total - forever. What gives this the flavor of paradox, however, is the fact that Mars doesn't measure forever in terms of literal time. Rather, 'forever' means until the desire no longer exists. One pitfall involves seeing your partner as an object rather than as a person, a screen upon which you project desires. The challenge is to learn to make promises rather than commitments, for they are more suited to your warrior nature's appreciation of honor.

Co-operation: This is a paradoxical placement for Mars. The ordinary expectations would be that you are unwilling to co-operate with others. But characteristically, the reverse occurs. You are so willing, so eager to compromise that you give your power away, blunting the sharp edge of your own desires, so to speak. Also, as stated above, you tend to be drawn to very assertive, even aggressive partners. Remember, it is your job not to give others what they want, but rather to use your natural sensitivity to their desires to get in touch with your own. The challenge is to overcome all these obstacles to shared fulfillment, so you can reach full expression with your partner.

Natural partner or partnership: Your natural partner is a person whose masculine nature has impact on you, who knows what he or she wants and goes for it without hesitation. This partner must not be too subtle, for that would dilute the desired effect of direct and spontaneous contact; and the more physical your partner is in approaching reality, the more you appreciate your mate. You want someone powerful, but, more importantly, ardent and passionate.

A natural partnership for you stimulates your contact with the energies of desire. It need not be overtly sexual, but there must be an animal quality present in the sharing. If it's not compelling, it's not real. The image is a wild stallion racing with the wind.

(Howard Sasportas)

By house, Mars shows the area of life in which we need to take action and assert ourselves. In the 7th, this gives rise to a strong urge to define the identity and gain a sense of power through relationships with other people. I have seen many instances of this placement in the charts of young men and women who rush haphazardly into marriage - often inspired by the first taste of sexual passion or partially motivated by the desire to escape from the restrictions of a difficult or oppressive family background. Through marriage, they believe they will find themselves in their own right. More often, what they do discover is that they have replaced one form of tyranny with another. The initial sexual attraction may die down, but the power games are still there.

Some people with this placement come on so strongly at first that they frighten

others away. Conversely, they may be an attraction to someone with obvious Mars qualities - the bold, straightforward, dynamic hero or heroine who can relieve them of the burden of making their own decisions in life. After a while, they may become angry or resentful at the bossiness of the other person and attempt to take back the power they once so freely handed over. But it is unfair to condemn Mars in the 7th only to relationships filled with strife and contention, although some people seem to thrive very well on a diet of fireworks. There are many examples of Mars in this house which manifest in lively, stimulating relationships where the partners positively 'spark off' one another, while still allowing the mate to maintain personal freedom. However, there is still the danger of taking their aggression out on those closest and most dear to them, or not so subtly arousing other people to anger and thereby conjuring a justifiable excuse to vent their own. Those with Mars in the 7th also appear to need fairly constant reassurance of their worth in the eyes of other people. They are also likely to be the first to stand up and defend another person if they believe that he or she is being unjustly accused.

(Robert Pelletier)

An argumentative person, you must try not to get angry when people disagree with you. If you can be objective, you will understand that no-one is trying to threaten you - they are simply presenting an alternate point of view. This could be an opportunity to expand your knowledge and get the benefit of someone else's experience, so don't cut it off before you have a chance to evaluate the situation. People are impressed by your aggressiveness, but they are intimidated when you act impulsively without justification. You will get support for your programs if you learn to discipline yourself, because people won't take a chance with you unless you seem more self-controlled. You arouse people's interest by dramatizing your plans. Above all, get an education so that you can learn how to promote your ambitious plans without incurring the resentment of your intended supporters.

You devote a lot of time to thinking about the best way to realize your dreams. You should use an equal amount of energy to carry out your ideas, because talk is useless without action. Be wary of shady suggestions from friends, because it is imperative that you always operate within the limits of your conscience, guided by your sense of right and wrong. Freedom is so precious to you that it would be senseless to risk losing it through careless disregard for ethical behavior.

In spite of appearances, you doubt your ability to successfully meet competition. You overreact to threats, and use tactics that are more aggressive than necessary to win, or else you become quarrelsome when you suffer defeat. This probably results from the conditioning you received while you were growing up. Perhaps you weren't allowed to express yourself freely, or you were severely punished when you did. In that case, leaving home while you were young was the best action to take, although you felt somewhat guilty about it. You may be alienated from your parents, so you will have to rely on your own resources to make a life for yourself. A career that allows you to have authority over others will relieve some of your tension, but it has to be handled intelligently to be truly productive. With common sense and objectivity, you will acquire status for your accomplishments.

You thrive on competition as a chance to demonstrate your superior ability. Your aggressive nature will pay dividends when you have the opportunity to make money. Nothing will deter you from your goal of financial independence; and this vision sometimes drives you to excess. It may be useless to tell you to relax and get away from the pressure of your work now and then, but it needs saying. When people appreciate your help, it pleases you more than if they simply pay for it.

Your 'all or nothing' attitude demands that your partner be completely dedicated to your needs and ambitions. You find it painful to be rejected by anyone, especially the one you love. You don't demand complete submission, but you must be the most important person to your lover. For those who qualify, you will do anything to preserve your relationship. In your career, you must develop your skills to the utmost to increase your chances of winning in competition. You have the energy and imagination to use your skills to obtain any reasonable goal and win the public's respect.

Mars in 8th House

(Donna van Toen)

Lusty, blunt, and an independent thinker, you do things with a great deal of intensity. You tend to live for today, and aren't especially good at saving, so it's possible that there'll be a great deal of fighting over joint finances in your life. You have strong sex drives, and will try to be the dominant sexual partner. In the career area, you may be attracted to surgery, psychology, or psychiatry. Your death is apt to be connected with some sort of accident. Although your psychic ability is good, if there are stress aspects between Mars and Neptune you should avoid involvement with psychic phenomena due to a tendency to become fanatical about it.

With Mars here, you want sexual activity. Without it, you become very tense and start to feel empty or lethargic. But casual sex isn't apt to be completely satisfying; you want understanding as well.

Your motivation can be very material or very metaphysical. Your lucky breaks can be either very big or very small, depending on how ambitious you are and what you choose to do with your life. Conflicts very often actually turn out to be opportunities in that they force you to reexamine your wants and bring them more in line with your needs and abilities.

The 8th house is sometimes called the house of death, sometimes called the house of transformation. It's another of the 'use it or lose it' houses. Planets here demonstrate the occult principle that thoughts are things. If you have planets here, be careful what you wish for. You might just get it, and if you do, it'll be might hard to get rid of it if it's not to your liking after all. If Mars is here in the Equal House system, it could be a sign that you've misused your psychic powers in a past life and are now having to pay the piper. This can mean there'll be almost an obsession with obtaining some sort of psychic information or becoming skilled in some metaphysical discipline, or it could mean there'll be a strong fear or dislike of the occult and its practitioners. Either way, there'll be a blockage of your psychic powers - you'll be able to go so far and no further. As a routine precaution, you should stay away from the more intense quasi-religious groups, avoid techniques that require you to go into trance, and take advice from non-traditional healers with a grain of salt. If Mars is here in the Koch system, you're at the 'use it' end of the spectrum, and therefore may well become active in metaphysical groups or involved in one or more occult disciplines. (Alchemy, magic, and esoteric astrology seem to hold particular appeal for those with this placing.) In either case, there's a good chance that others will seek you out for advice, and this is how you'll work out your debts.

(Babs Kirby and Janey Stubbs)

The people with Mars in the eighth crave intensity and depth in their sexual relationships. Direct and uncompromising, this is a primitive instinctual urge. They

want sex for its own sake, and seek a death and rebirth experience. They want something so intense that they go right out of themselves and emerge transformed by the intensity of the experience. They tend to see potential partners only in terms of sexual desire, leaving their partner feeling used. They can be very ruthless in this respect. There is an urgency to their desires, and when they feel like sex they will just go out and look for it - sex will be a very strong motivator for them.

Because of the intensity of their desires, these people are extremely jealous and possessive, and will not tolerate infidelity. They can be quite brutal about cutting someone out of their life if they feel that this person is untrustworthy. On the other hand, they may find it quite unreasonable if their partner has the temerity to question their behaviour or try to restrict them. So their sexual relationships tend to be filled with power struggles, with jealousy being a big issue. People with Mars in the eighth will know instinctively if their partner is even slightly attracted to someone else, and may attack him or her mercilessly, even if his or her behaviour has been exemplary. This can lead to many crises in their relationships, but they thrive on this intensity, feeling more alive and drawing energy from it.

People with Mars in the eighth tend to be either on or off. They desire someone either intensely or not at all. They cannot be casual or light about sex, because it is so important to them and they are looking for such a powerful expression of feeling. Because of this, they tend to have obsessive attractions which make an enormous impact on them whether or not they actually have a relationship. They have a powerful sexual presence, although they may not be consciously aware of the impact they have on people, and can be surprised by the strong passions they arouse.

They have a deep interest in whatever is hidden, so they dig around to find out what people are hiding. They feel a need to know what people are feeling and what their underlying motivations are, and can be quite unrelenting in their determination to extract information. Natural detectives, they enjoy any form of investigation and throw themselves into uncovering every last detail. They tend to have obsessive interests and do everything with total effort, while the passion lasts. This applies to sexual relationships too, so that as long as the attraction lasts they will be totally committed but once it dies down they will leave.

With Mars in the eighth, there are a lot of unspoken undercurrents concerning sex. People with this placement may have grown up in a home where there was a powerful sexual energy which was not expressed openly. As a result of this, sex may be a taboo subject, and there can be a lot of fear attached to sexual feelings. Hence the eighth house Mars person may try to avoid close relationships altogether, fearing the power of sexual desire. These people have to come to terms with their own vulnerability before they can benefit from their deeply transforming sexual nature; and they may have to experience the intense pain of being rejected by the person they most desire before they can unearth the treasure that is buried deep within them.

(Stephanie Camilleri)

Still waters run deep - and strong. These people have a charisma that attracts others to them, but they are reserved and hard to know. There is a restlessness of the soul that will lead them far from the native soil and the native values on at least one far-flung excursion. Many venture so far from home that there is no return. They march to a different drummer from that of their community of origin. Their drive is towards different goals from those of family and early friends. Often misunderstood in youth, they seek a distant ideal that rarely or never materializes and, even if it does, often does so only briefly.

They are inclined to sacrifice too much in relationships at least once, which may cause them to become fearful of the emotional demands of relationships. Escape from a relationship can be the motivating force behind big changes in their lives, moving far from home, taking a job in a foreign country.

They are highly sexual, which brings problems. They may repress their sexuality, resulting in psychological problems of various kinds. With Mars in a fixed sign, there may be homosexual desires; other placements will show if these will be expressed, or denied and repressed. Frequently, in Air or mutable signs, homosexual experiences are brief and occur in youth as part of sexual development. Their sexual development is so important to them that it may rule their lives.

Even their death is often related to sex in some way, with links to the loss, failure, or frustration of a sexual relationship. They will often have a close brush with death at some point in their lives. Mars in the eighth is partial testimony to a sudden death.

(Bill Herbst)

Union: You sense the value that resides in your beloved. It fills you with desire, and you are eager to push through the outer personality to reach the treasures stored in the queen's chamber of the inner pyramid. But you often ignore your partner's boundaries. In fact, the higher the boundaries, the more you may try storming them. This is a deadly pitfall, for the treasures of union are gained only when both individuals feel safe to surrender. If you insist on smashing people's walls, they will simply fortify their defences against you. The result is constant warfare, argument rather than intimacy. Recognize the impact of your male force, the power of your thrust. Let the warmth of your desire arouse the other's receptivity. The challenge is to be ardent rather than combative, and thus gain entry to the inner sanctum.

Transformation: You can be a consummate spiritual warrior, a crusading knight who walks out alone to confront the dragon of ego-death. The pitfalls involve the confoluted meanings of victory and defeat. If you slay the dragon, but your ego survives, you've suffered a spiritual defeat. The question to be asked is this: what is the dragon? You're a heat-seeking missile looking for an external target. But often, the only heat is coming from you. As in Pogo's famous remark, 'We have met the enemy, and they is us'. Transformation comes not from conquest, but from interpenetration. The challenge is to keep it simple, to go after what you want, and to know that desire itself will change in the process.

Sexual merging: You are charged with sexual passion. The wish for union glows constantly in the lower chakras. When you are aroused, desire burns white-hot. You often blot out every other consideration. This can express itself as 'going for the goal line' of orgasm without sufficient concern for sharing, but it may also mean obsession with closeness. In either case, the pitfall lies in assuming that the obstacles to union reside somehow outside yourself, in your beloved. That leads to explosive conflagrations around the issue of sex. Remember that it is self-defeating to turn your lover into your enemy. The challenge is to learn correct penetration. Passion and heat are your arrows; desire is your bow.

Focused intuition: Never one to wait, you thrust yourself out of your body, pushing for intuitive contact with others. Anyone you desire becomes a target for the sharp edge of your radr. The pitfall involves trespassing. People's inner thoughts, feelings, and desires are often dangerous, often not an accurate reflection of their truest selves, and thus necessarily private. Learn to intuitively enter only those chambers that are open or unlocked. When you push towards someone's inner sanctum, you

could tumble instead into the cesspool of their darker selves, and what you find there may not be pleasant. The challenge is to hone your psychic sensitivities to a razor's edge. Use these tools as a surgeon might, to cut away blockage, or as a lover would, to fill the beloved with goodness.

Shared assets: You are sensitive to money, and probably want more than you have. Rather than building your fortune through simple and direct effort, you're drawn toward those who already have money, or obviously desire wealth. But be careful: money, property, and possessions can easily become heated topics, both in your family, and later in your social or romantic relationship. Play down the conflicts, or you may destroy the love that exists. The challenge is to work with others to create shared goals your partnerships can achieve, and to extend your mutual fires into a single flame of togetherness.

(Howard Sasportas)

Those with Mars in the 8th come alive in joint enterprises where they can give and receive all they can. Usually there is a shade more subtlety to Mars in this house than in his other domains, although the clumsy Greek Ares may evince his characteristic impetuosity by rushing into hastily conceived financial deals. Some people with Mars in the 8th will gain a sense of honour and virtue by standing up for their deeply felt beliefs, and will try to challenge and convert others who don't share the same values. Others with Mars in the 8th find the prospect of appropriating the values and possessions of another person much more rewarding and enticing. A difficultly aspected Mars could indicate fights with the marriage partner over joint resources, battles over legacies and inheritances, trouble with a belligerent tax-inspector, and conflicts with get-rich-quick business partners, so some degree of caution is advised in these areas.

But it is in the most intimate arena of the bedroom that an 8th house Mars most clearly exposes itself. These people's passions are strong, but sexual expression may be more than just a means of relieving built-up physical tension: for many, sex is a contest and Mars is determined to be the victor. Again, we can understand these people better if we realize that in acting this way they are attempting to affirm and define their identity and power. The principle of the Sun distinguishes us from others, but we need Mars to prove our point; and whether, in the 8th house, the point is given or taken, Mars here likes to be in charge. With a little bit of thought, it's not hard to appreciate that there is more to a person's sexual taste than meets the eye; and fortunately or unfortunately for some, Mars in the 8th people may take out their aggression in the bedroom. Or due to guilt and ambivalence, Mars in the 8th people may resort to its second-favourite battle-cry: 'They made me do it', blaming others for forcing them into situations they somehow help to contrive.

By meeting them in others or through their own selves, those with Mars in the 8th often discover and have to grapple with the darker emotions of blind lust, envy, greed, jealousy, etc.. The need or ability to transmute these seething feelings into a more constructive expression depends, to a large degree, on the aspects to Mars. If Mars is difficultly aspected by the outer planets, it is usually most pressing that the raw, primordial side of Mars be rechannelled in other ways.

Sometimes there is a burning interest in the esoteric or the occult. Caution should be taken when exploring or experimenting in anything mediumistic in nature: there is the danger of projecting their own anger and aggression onto something 'out there' and then experiencing the disowned quantity as turning around and pursuing them. Although Mars can hardly be defined as covert, in the 8th he does have a kind of detective-like ability to probe subtly and persistently into what is hidden or secret. If

those with this placement sense something wrong or askew in a relevant person or situation, they are not easily able to let it rest.

The Scorpio Dylan Thomas wrote, 'Do not go gentle into that good night'. In deaths and transformations of a physical or psychological nature, Mars in the 8th will usually follow that advice.

(Robert Pelletier)

You are demanding in your relationships, and you feel bitter if rejected. You may bide your time when your wishes are not granted immediately, as long as you know that eventually you will get what you want. You want to become self-sufficient, because you dislike being obligated to anyone, which limits your plans and ambitions. You aren't afraid to work hard to get what you want out of life, and you know that any investment of time and energy will be rewarded when you start getting results from your efforts. You are important to those for whom you provide necessary services, and you consider this part of your social obligation. When your efforts are appreciated, you are stimulated to take more responsibility and to make even greater achievements.

Probably you will choose a career that gives you an opportunity to grow and develop, because you are reasonably sure of yourself and of what you can accomplish with your talents. You believe you can demonstrate greater competence in your chosen field, so you don't hesitate to promote your skills whenever possible. People are convinced that you can serve them better than your competitors, so they turn to you and demand your services.

If maintaining a high income is your main motivation, your success may be limited and you may suffer some setbacks. It would be better to develop your skills to the highest level of competence and know that you give the best value for what you earn. This will gain you the patronage you need and assure you of consistently high earnings. Working with the public will allow you to serve a large number of people and be recognized for your efforts. The main stumbling block to success in your career will come from your inability to resist indulging in personal pleasures. You must determine your priorities and accept the need to make some sacrifices as an investment in your career and the status you hope to achieve in realizing your ambitions. Family obligations may temporarily frustrate your desires, or romantic entanglements may distract you from your main objectives. You will have to develop self-control and learn to manage your personal affairs more prudently.

Your wealth of ideas means little unless you act on them or cultivate them so they can be of some value to you. The best way to get people to notice your competence is to work at promoting your ideas and skills. Such an investment of time and energy is essential if you are to derive the most from your potentials. You owe it to yourself and to the public to make your skills available. Dedicating at least some of your talents to serve important needs of the public will enrich your later years with contentment in the knowledge that you were willing to get involved.

Your partner probably admires your driving ambition to succeed and to do whatever is required to sustain the relationship for the benefit of you both. What you accomplish is important, but even more significant is how you do it and the moral responsibility you take for your actions. If you are motivated by a desire to help people in need, then there is no problem. But if you take liberties with what is considered ethical behavior, then you will have to expect major losses in earnings and prestige. This is a decision you have to make; and the outcome is yours to

determine.

Natal Mars in 9th House

(Donna van Toen)

This says you're quite restless. Mars here increases your mental energy, but also broadens your interests - sometimes to the point where you become a dabbler rather than capitalizing on your best potentials. There may be fights with your inlaws. In rare cases, there are ethnic or racial prejudices. If Mars is in a Grand Cross or otherwise under severe stress, there can be bad timing in espousing causes, and poor choices in terms of leadership.

With Mars here, you might want a mate / lover who enjoys nature and the outdoors. Or you might want a partner who's a connoisseur of culture or has some sort of highly specialized knowledge. Or you might want someone with whom you can play the role of sexual mentor.

Your motivation is strongest when you're doing creative intellectual work - teaching, programming, devising games, etc.. You put almost all your energy into expanding your mind, so lucky breaks tend to take the form of finding information. Opportunities tend to be connected with law, metaphysics, and religion.

The ninth house is that of the higher mind. Planets here are given to increase your understanding of life in general. They also influence your personal code of ethics by expanding and / or refining it. If Mars is here in the Equal House system, you've had a very dogmatic philosophy of life in the past. You tended to see people whose beliefs differed from yours as bad - even dangerous - people. You could have participated in the Inquisition, the Salem Witch Trials, or some other nasty piece of history, or you could have been just a run-of-the-mill Archie Bunker-type bigot as a result of a combination of ignorance and self-satisfaction. If Mars is here in the Koch system, you're here to be a pioneer or ground-breaker for some school of thought that departs from tradition. This may be in order to pay a debt caused by past closed-mindedness, or it may have something to do with developing the courage of your convictions. The chief difference between the two Mars positions is that the Equal House position stresses that you open your own mind, while the Koch position involves opening other people's minds. (Of course, if Mars is in the 9th house in both systems, you're to do both!) Regardless of house system, this position tends to give a very restless mind, and, of course, learning to control this restlessness is one of your reasons for being here. There may also be a desire to work in a foreign country and / or teach and learn about a foreign country's people, customs, and philosophy. Doing one or all of these things may be instrumental in working out your karma.

(Babs Kirby and Janey Stubbs)

With Mars in the ninth, energy is directed towards expanding horizons and widening understanding. These people are always travelling, either physically or mentally. Increasing their knowledge is what makes them feel really vital and alive. Sex is invested with great meaning and seen as a path to self-knowledge and personal growth. The person with this placement feels spiritually enhanced by sex, and may be a crusader for sexual enlightenment and liberty. These people are likely to take a high moral stance on sex, with some seeing the sexual act as a religious experience, and others, fearing its power, seeing it as inpatible with their religious beliefs. Among this group, too, are those who feel driven to campaign against sexual freedom, seeing it as a threat to the moral order they would like to see imposed in

society.

Another manifestation of Mars in the ninth is the intellectuals who sublimate their sexuality into their studies. They get their excitement from abstract needs, and tend to forget that they have physical needs. These people often choose to live alone, finding it difficult to fit in with other people's expectations of them.

Some people with Mars in this house see sex as a subject to be studied, and approach it in a very intellectual way, reading mountains of literature and constantly aiming to improve their performance and widen their repertoire. Because these people are seeking to broaden their knowledge, they like to experiment with many different partners and will need to feel free in order to do this. Indeed, their whole philosophy of life may be based on the concept of personal freedom of action.

Mars in the ninth needs to be on the move, and feels revitalized by travelling; and these people often meet sexual partners through their travels. They are attracted to those from different countries or cultures, finding additional stimulation in the challenge of different cultural patterns and even, perhaps, different languages. They feel they are gaining much more from a relationship with someone who has a widely different background from their own. To people with Mars in the ninth, getting to know someone is like going on a journey; and a challenging journey to a faraway place will be much more exciting than a trip to the neighbouring town!

Shared travel will be an important part of any relationship to a ninth house Mars, and will help to keep it alive and vital. To those who prefer travels of a more intellectual nature, studying together and engaging in deep philosophical discussions will fulfil the same purpose. These people are often attracted to those they meet in the course of their studies.

People with Mars in the ninth need a tremendous amount of space and freedom, and will feel quite claustrophobic in a relationship that is too confining. They are natural 'bachelors' (of either sex), and may tend to go walkabout if they feel tied down. There is a restlessness that drives these people on to new horizons; and for a relationship to be successful, their partner must be a fellow traveller rather than a gaoler.

(Bill Herbst)

Conceptual frameworks: In the 9th, Mars indicates a passionate interest in mental conquest - thinking makes you hot. You want to demonstrate the nobility of your mind. Every time you encounter a new question, you must discover an answer to move forward. At first, your attitude is mere bravado, and you can be slain by any trick question. As you gain experience, however, your confidence builds. You master the game of knowledge, learning to vanquish silly questions and confront more profoundly challenging ones. The pitfall is argument for its own sake. The challenge involves thinking clearly and logically, pushing through the often veiled and convoluted patterns of religion, philosophy, or morality. Simple and direct, that is your path.

Cultural perspective: Eager for adventure, you want to satisfy your wanderlust by conquering foreign territory, and are willing to drop everything and go at a moment's notice. As you move through a strange cultural setting, adrenaline surges through your system. Too much stimulation causes paranoia; you may at times feel like Custer, surrounded by hostile Indians. If that pitfall occurs, look for points of familiar human contact in your alien environment, for this can soothe the savage beast within. The challenge is to push beyond your cultural boundaries. Literal travel is more important than vicarious travel in the mind, so get up and get out as much as you

can. You're happier with the rough-and-tumble of a Conastoga-covered wagon than the comfort of a plush, touristy Winnebago. Live by your wits, and make your adventures legend.

Higher education: The cutting edge of your life is the desire to know more, to see further. It's as if the lead dog on your sled has an incredible urge to chase rabbits into the forest. What you already know soon loses its lustre, so study what is most vital for you. Traditional institutions are suitable arenas, for credentials are your medals. Once you set your sights on a certain type of knowledge, don't stop until you've mastered the subject, at least in basic terms. But at times the very urgency of your direct approach prevents you from appreciating the subtleties of a conceptual system. This naiveté spurs you to greater efforts to scale the educational heights.

The search for truth: Getting to the truth is no problem. If there's a wall, you knock it down. Never one for subtlety, you ignore the convolutions, exceptions, and paradoxes, searching for basic truth. You like seeing the mind in simple terms of truth and lies. This is fine as long as the situation is clear-cut. But human interaction does not always reflect such stereotypes, and you need to understand that your truth may indeed coexist with that of others. So before you batter your opponents into the ground, a serious pitfall, remember to ask yourself if there is a larger truth than you knew. Look before you leap, and don't shoot before you see the whites of their eyes - they may be friends rather than foes. The real challenge is to eradicate the hidden darkness within yourself. Fight for truth, but remember that warfare is not a philosophy, only an extreme means of establishing peace. Truth is a sword and a shield.

Ideal society: You idealize the clarity and simplicity of archetypal morality, where good and evil are clearly defined, where everyone knows the score, and the strongest buck leads the herd. You'd create a world where sexuality could be more openly expressed, one where desire would be acknowledged as the highest of emotions, the purest of drives. As Ruler of the World, you would be a proud samurai: strong, fierce, and noble.

(Robert Pelletier)

You are eager to prove yourself to even the most determined challenger. When you focus on an objective, your enthusiasm is nearly boundless, which almost always gains the attention of the important people you are trying to impress. You will certainly succeed in your endeavors because you believe in your ability. At times, your actions seem inspired with imagination. Not afraid of risks, you take on tasks that others would avoid, but you should be careful of speculative and hazardous risks. You should have a good relationship with your children, for they are delighted with you and your daring temperament. You indulge them and tell exaggerated stories of your adventures. You certainly encourage them to promote their own potentials, giving them opportunities to develop. You try to live up to your partner's expectations as a romantic lover, and you will probably always be a lover to your spouse.

Although you always seem to get the first and last word in a discussion, you aren't all that sure of yourself, and you use this intimidating method to put others on the defensive. If you take time to become thoroughly informed about matters that others find interesting, you will add to your long list of friends. Your partner must learn to live with your insistence on having the last word. You know how to take advantage of many people's offers of help when you need it, and you generally reciprocate. You pursue your many goals with creative enthusiasm.

Because you dislike taking orders from anyone, you would do well to be self-

employed. You really should be on your own, so that your mistakes are yours alone to correct and only you know you made them. You should learn to listen when others have something important to say. Postpone taking action until you have all the facts at your disposal. There is not harm in asking for advice, and it may prove beneficial in the long run. If you keep your moral and ethical standards high, you will never feel the apprehension or guilt that can make life uncomfortable. You should strive to work in behalf of socially disadvantaged people, for you could be a champion who represents them in their predicaments.

It wasn't easy to gain the independence to do what you wanted. Family responsibilities may have forced you to be patient about your own desires, but you still yearned to prove that you could achieve on your own. The only way to make sure that this will happen is to get an education and training. This is the best investment you could make, with a yield that will continue for years. Don't borrow unless there is no other alternative; and stay within reasonable limits. You don't like being obligated to others, so why take on this kind of embarrassment deliberately?

When you are attracted to someone, you are not easily put off. You might even use your professional position to advantage in your romantic affairs, though that would hardly seem necessary. In your career, you should promote yourself so that people will use your services. But don't forget that you are important only as long as people need what you have to offer, which carries a great deal of responsibility. Don't ignore the people who helped you get started; and remember them when you fulfill your goals. Your position has built-in risks, in that you must fulfill your obligations to those who have given you the recognition you wanted.

(Howard Sasportas)

We might think that there is a chance to breath some fresh air when we enter the realm of the 9th - the house of religion, philosophy, long journeys and higher education. But history has shown that in many respects this is the stickiest and bloodiest battlefield of them all.

With Mars in the 9th, God is not just sought after, but hunted. Those with this placement usually pursue and stand by strong philosophical or religious beliefs. Believing that their version of the truth is the only one, they might promote and defend it with crusader-like zeal. And some might say why shouldn't they, since it is probably formulated in such a fashion as to support and justify their deepest desires and passions in life anyway? Although the image of God may be an angry and fiery one, He is probably cast enough in their own likeness to understand and indulge those occasions when they may have to break His rules. For a few with this placement, God even manages to accept killing, raping and pillaging provided that these things are done in His name. In this way, some people with Mars in the 9th are culpable of displacing responsibility for acting out their own cruel drives onto God. Generally, before they undertake something they like to have the justification of some higher law behind them.

However, others may express a 9th house Mars by being angry at God himself. Like Tevya in *Fiddler on the Roof*, they shake a fist at heaven or go even further, and start telling God how He should run the show.

There is often a strong urge to travel; and sometimes they may just 'pick up and go' at the spur of the moment. A woman with Mars in this house might develop a powerful attraction to a foreign man, or someone who offers to broaden her horizons in some way. In like manner, there may be a passion for one particular culture.

Mars in the 9th will also influence the sphere of higher education. Expansive knowledge on one or two subjects gives them a sense of power and authority. The Mars may be projected onto an institution of higher learning or one particular professor with whom they do battle.

Careers which offer a chance to preach - such as writing, teaching, publishing or the ministry - may attract those with Mars in this house. The Gauquelins found Mars in the 9th prominent in the charts of champion sportspeople, top executives, military leaders and physicians.

Finally, on a more mundane level, Mars may describe something about their relationship with in-laws. This, like the proverbial mother-in-law, speaks for itself.

Mars in 9th or 10th House (Stephanie Camilleri)

Mars at the top of the chart gives a powerful thrust toward recognition. Whether this is for good or ill will be shown by Jupiter, Saturn, and the aspects to Mars and its dispositor. If these are mostly supportive, there will be early and enduring success. Stimulating aspects from the Sun, Uranus, or the Moon, without balancing trines, bring recklessness, notoriety, an early rise followed by downfall, and / or early death. Oppositions, conjunctions, or squares from Neptune or Saturn can slow or deny recognition, causing intense frustration. Mars conjunct Neptune can distort recognition, causing them to be misunderstood, and their deeds misinterpreted (down through history, if they are famous, or infamous).

This Mars gives great energy and drive. They will never say 'die'. They are extremely combative and competitive, and, though they frequently mask it with charm, they have wills of iron, unyielding and enduring, particularly with Mars in Fire or Earth. They are inclined to make enemies by their methods, but they usually delight in enemies, using them to strengthen their combative or competitive techniques.

Mars is more self-questioning in the ninth house, more political and less autocratic in technique, more open, more inclined to give up and let go under stress. It is stronger in the tenth house, more enduring. In either house, there is an inclination to displays of bad temper, or, if there are very tense aspects to Mars, fits, hysterical tantrums, or some kind of periodic outburst of pent-up energy. Extremely physical, they need sports or some other kind of stabilizing outlet for their energies.

As leaders, they are inclined to be harsh or even cruel to their followers, driving them too hard; though, if this tendency is held in check, they are a vitalizing force for those around them, a source of energy and motivation. They are inclined to drive themselves mercilessly, and may be rather humorless, at least about themselves and their needs, rights, and immediate goals. They see their own rights very clearly, but not always so clearly the rights of others.

This is definitely one of the signatures of a career chart. In a woman's chart, she will have a career come hell or high water, even if she is married, has ten kids, and lives in the Outback. With Mars in the ninth, she may subordinate her own desires and work for her husband's success, but inside she will resent it. With Mars in the tenth, she will get busy and find a way to do it herself.

This highly-placed Mars makes people restless, not content to stay put for long. They will probably travel far from home and experience much. Success does not usually come in their place of birth, or, if so, only after travelling and experiencing other places. They have a hard time getting along with other strong-minded people, including authority figures; and moves are often initiated after altercations with other members of the family or community.

As children, they must be driven hard physically to develop their endurance and use up their energies so they won't erupt in temper or get into trouble. Pile on the chores: they'll rise to the challenge and, even if they grumble, deep down they'll be grateful. They should be given the freedom to roam and to discover their own limits, but should be held strictly to account for wrongdoing and punished fairly. Grounding is a non-violent and effective punishment for these restless souls. This elevated Mars provides a momentum that is hard to overcome and should be trained, while it is still young and pliable, to live by the rules as much as is possible.

Natal Mars in 11th House

(Donna van Toen)

The energy and motivation of Mars is expressed through your goals in life and your powerful dreams for the future. You are an enterprising person; and much of your energy goes into creative activities. You have many casual acquaintances, the majority of whom are male. If Mars is in difficult aspect to other planets, planning is not your strong point and you have a definite tendency to leap before you look.

With Mars here, you want to be a humanitarian. You may also want to be considered an accomplished lover.

You're motivated to formulate goals for the future. These basically involve ego-enhancement of some sort; and you use your energy to pursue them. Physical activity involving friends or clubs, membership in scientific, psychological, or parapsychology groups, or any activity that allows you to make contact with important people can be a source of lucky breaks.

The 11th house is called the house of hopes and goals. Planets here represent plans that have not yet materialized. What you do in this life will either change these plans, perhaps even cause them to be abandoned, or bring them closer to fruition. If Mars is here in the solar 11th house, you can be strongly drawn - almost compelled - to act as a leader. How successful you'll be in this role depends on your aspects to Mars. Suffice to say that you've probably played this role or a similar one before (unless Mars is in Aries, in which case you're fed up with being a follower and this is what motivates you to lead). If Mars is here using the Equal House system, you may be attracted to work connected with machinery, science, or psychology as a means of working out your karma. If Mars is here in the Koch system, you might be involved in developing machines that will do work for people. Or you might be involved in retraining people who've been displaced by machines or helping people discover constructive, enjoyable uses for their leisure time. Regardless of house system, Mars says that actions will involve working for the betterment of groups of people or society as a whole. This may involve participation in some formal association (which could be either large or small), or it could be a more informal effort that involves you and a friend or two. In any case, this work would help pay a debt incurred because of your selfishness in the past. Actions may also involve learning when, why and how to say 'No!' as the chances are good that in the past you've had problems in this area that have kept you from growing.

(Babs Kirby and Janey Stubbs)

Mars in the eleventh house people may not be very grounded in their bodies, and may have so many sexual ideals that they almost unsex themselves. There can be a feeling that personal desires are unacceptable; and these people often focus all their energy on group efforts and idealistic objectives. Their drive is towards the future, and they

find it hard to be in the here and now.

Friendship will be much more important to them than intimacy, which may feel rather uncomfortable, so that even when they are in a sexual relationship they may spend very little time alone with their partner. They will want their lover to be part of their circle of friends, sharing the same interests and ideas, and will definitely not want to be an isolated couple.

Sex can be an abstract intellectual idea to these people; and they may feel more comfortable discussing it in their therapy group than actually engaging in it. They are likely to have strong views on non-possessiveness, and to lay great stress on openness and shared decision-making.

Mars is not at home in this socially-orientated house; and these people often suffer from guilt around their sexual desires and personal needs. It is difficult for them to take what they want without feeling that they are being selfish and antisocial; and they may also accuse others of these traits. They tend to feel that energy should be used for the good of all rather than for personal satisfaction, which can make them rather disconnected from their physical desires. Their energy can be rather scattered; and they may feel obliged to do what they think others want rather than being in touch with their own needs. Conscious effort may have to be made to focus inwards on themselves before they can really get in touch with their Mars energy. One way of doing this is through forms of healing through movement, such as T'ai Chi.

Within a sexual relationship, they are strongly motivated by friendship and respect for their partner's rights, so that any form of deception or underhand behaviour will be anathema to them. Good communication and honesty will be essential for them to feel they can trust their partner. They may not believe in monogamy, but they will certainly not be able to tolerate deceit.

Sexual relationships can be quite difficult and complicated for these people, because they are trying to be rational about something that is essentially a primitive drive. Sometimes, therefore, unconscious motivations can cause them to behave quite unreasonably, and this can make them feel very guilty. For them, even more than most people, it will be important to have a partner who is also a trustworthy friend, someone they can talk to and with whom they can share their anxiety and ambivalence about sex.

(Bill Herbst)

Group participation: You want to be socially accepted, to feel part of a group. But you also want to lead, to stand at the prow of the social ship and chart its course; and others in your groups may resent or resist this assertive tendency. Work to become a vital representative of your organizations, rather than their sole voice, and you achieve greater fulfillment. Your challenge is to use the spontaneity of your desires to rally and propel groups toward more concrete stands, but to do so without engendering needless infighting or pointless argument.

Appropriate behavior: Although you have a natural instinct for appropriate behavior, and can act as the essence of social virtue when you want to, your high spirits sometimes get you in trouble. You overstep your bounds and end up dancing with the lampshade on your head. This may be just fine, a real kick, but be aware of the pitfall: social embarrassment can be extremely painful to you. Keep your assertiveness in mind; if anyone criticizes you about a certain behavior, you will try to defend yourself very aggressively, sometimes compounding the problem. And try not to attack others

for what you see as inappropriate behavior. It's their business, not yours. The challenge is to make your pride an ally rather than an enemy.

Friendship, social circle: Your friendships go through conflicts, even passionate ones. You want to cut right to the heart of friendship, so be careful that you don't wound others or yourself in the process. If the chart as a whole reveals a gentler disposition, it may be that you pick out friends who provoke disagreements. But keep in mind, whether you're on the giving or the receiving end, that it's still your life. You are territorial socially, willing to fight for your friends, either through shared goals, or in defending them from outsiders. When you're close to someone, your loyalty is intense, although this can change as the friendship changes. If you occasionally lose friends, pick yourself up and make new ones.

Shared creativity: You see the other group members as players in the competitive game of creation; and you work in reaction to them more than with them. You enjoy the stimulation, the challenge to your ego; but you must keep in mind that others may occasionally react negatively to the personal tone of your thrust. Remember that this is indeed a shared process, and these are your comrades in arms. Your creative role is to push the group toward new directions and new challenges.

Receiving love: You do so want to be loved. You want to be wanted, and you're willing to extend yourself to make it possible. This is a paradox, since the very nature of the experience requires a receptive posture, and thus the action must be created subtly rather than overtly, magnetically rather than aggressively. If love can be considered a dance, you are a master of leading while seeming to follow. You feel loved when your suitor acts out your desires, when the behaviors are direct, forceful, and ardent. Urgency looks like love to you, as does assertion, and above all passion. Even anger is sometimes interpreted as a display of affection, since you understand how closely linked these primal emotions can be. Gentleness wins no points with you. Your challenge is to encourage a release of the fire in others, and, having initially done so, to discover a way to keep the fires burning. Mere smoke will not do; the flames must rage brightly.

(Stephanie Camilleri)

With an eleventh house Mars there is a strong determination to move continuously toward permanent goals that are fixed in youth and rarely questioned later. If there are other planets in the eleventh house, the goals may be mixed or, where the planets are not congenial, there may be confusion or conflict between two or more goals. However, no matter what the difficulties, these individuals will struggle on toward their goals in spite of everything.

They have a great deal of energy for getting what they want, are not easily talked out of going for it, and will keep it once they've got it. If not actually 'born to the purple', they are inclined to be social climbers and like hanging out with the Four Hundred, shining by their reflected light.

These people have strong personalities, and have a hard time yielding to the desires of others. Often, they will fight to have their way about something that they don't care about any more, just on principle. They may suffer inner stress over the conflict between doing things the way they want and doing them the way they must if they are to 'get ahead'.

This Mars gives great power to act on ideas. It is good for an artist, writer, or any kind of independent creator. In the realm of ideas, it is possible for them to work well with groups, but they will usually do best on their own.

With Mars in fixed signs, they are unbelievably stubborn. They must be in charge, and are not particularly sensitive to those they are bossing. In cardinal signs, there will be more perspective; they will be excellent at setting and achieving goals. In mutable signs, they will be more flexible, better with co-workers and groups. They will be more able to upgrade goals in later life, with spiritual goals more likely.

Often, women with this location of Mars are attracted to men of the same nature, and they will form a team to achieve common goals, although sometimes an overly competitive attitude makes team work difficult, even impossible. Women with this Mars should not marry early, as often they will come to regret it later. Neither sex should marry until they know themselves well enough to tolerate someone else over a long period of time.

(Robert Pelletier)

You hope to achieve many goals, and you apply yourself knowledgeably and with common sense. You have plenty of energy, and you assert yourself to get what you want in your career and your personal affairs. You've cultivated friends who will gladly assist you in reaching your objectives; and you offer them help in return. Your mate shares your enthusiasm for doing whatever will benefit both of you. You know how to bring out the best in people in everyday situations; and they reward you by getting satisfactory results. You are confident that you will eventually achieve your objectives and enjoy a comfortable life. You have a zest for making your dreams materialize as you want them to.

Because you want to be completely free to come and go at will, you must succeed in your career and be financially independent. With this in mind, you got the education you needed to qualify for more important and responsible positions. As you progress, you dream of having the freedom to indulge in your personal interests and enjoy your friends more fully. Financial independence is important to you, for it will allow you to enjoy privileges that are out of the question when you have to be gainfully employed.

You demand opportunities to show what you can accomplish with your creative talents; and being challenged by competitors only stimulates you to prove your claims. You give your children every chance to succeed according to their own needs. Being appreciated and loved brings out the best in you. Your strong physical desires demand to be satisfied, but you must also consider your partner's expectations. You aren't afraid to make sacrifices in your career to help achieve your long-range objectives. Financial burdens are especially painful, for they limit what you can accomplish. You may have to resign yourself to earning a living before you can indulge your outside interests. That is why financial stability is so important, so you can relax your anxieties about independence. With some self-discipline, you can satisfy your current needs and still continue with your long-range plans.

Your parents probably made some sacrifices so that you could pursue your own course in life more freely. You appreciate their efforts; and you don't mind making sacrifices for them now, although you realize how important it is to build a foundation for your own accomplishments. You aren't afraid of hard work, because you know it will make you that much more valuable to your superiors and to yourself. You should exercise restraint so that you don't exceed your physical limits.

Tension really builds when you can't be as free as you feel you deserve to be, which makes you resent the people who are imposing their will on you. Because of this, you apply yourself in your career to derive the greatest return for your efforts. You want to be able to come and go at will and enjoy a more leisurely life in your later years.

Helping people who lack your fortitude, daring and talent will bring you contentment; and you should be grateful for the opportunity to prove how sensitive you are to people's problems.

Natal Mars in 12th House

(Donna van Toen)

A deep, secretive person, you tend to be more or less clueless about how you affect others. You have a strong impulsive streak and, generally, a tendency to buck authority and go against tradition. This brings a danger of slander into your life, as it makes you quite a controversial person. If Mars is in a Grand Cross or otherwise under severe stress, you can be extremely disruptive.

With Mars here, you want a certain amount of time to yourself. This is a placing that tends to give a fear of rejection; therefore, you want to take things slowly and carefully.

Your motivational level is erratic. You tend to give up if you think people aren't handling your ideas properly or aren't appreciative of your efforts. Because you don't like surprises, you often feel irritable rather than pleased when lucky breaks present themselves. You want to succeed all by yourself; you tend to alternately resent offers of help (seeing them as interference) and complain about how much you have to do. In terms of opportunities, they tend to be the best - and best appreciated - if you work alone. If possible choose a creative field.

The 12th house is called the house of sorrows or the house of self-undoing. It can fit that description - but it doesn't have to. This is the house of your subconscious. And if you descend to the depths of your subconscious and try to understand what you find there, you'll transcend your sorrows and discover your soul. Actually, the gloom and doom connotations of this house are, if not total misconceptions, at least highly over-rated. Planets here symbolize those things that separate you from the mainstream of life. These things may be traumas, physical limitations, inferiority feelings, or any other gristly thing you care to imagine. They may be self-inflicted or acts of God. Either way, you're responsible for them in the sense that it's you - and nobody else - who allows them to make you unhappy instead of letting go of them or learning to work around them or turning them into strengths rather than weaknesses. Which brings me to another point: amidst all that psychic garbage, there are other things that separate you from the mainstream of life. These are your inner strengths, the results of lessons learned, knowledge gained, and obstacles overcome in your past lives. They may be talents such as writing, creating, or a special ability to understand others. They may be character strengths such as courage, practicality or self-awareness. They may be guardian angels, either in the sense of intuitive or psychic abilities, or in the sense of people to whom you've given help in the past, people who will now help you if you open yourself to their caring. In any case, these things exist. For everyone. The more planets you have in the 12th, the more strengths you've developed. But to tap these inner resources, you first have to wade through all sorts of soggy flotsam and jetsam and get rid of your 'poor mes' and 'life's unfairs' to find and understand the real you. If Mars is here, temptations are the theme. With the Equal House position, the temptations tend to be tangible or material. With the Koch house position, they tend more towards self-deception or self-defeating behavior. There's a tendency to repress your feelings and become quite passive unless Mars is conjunct the Ascendant. This must be watched, as it's the prime cause of self-undoing with this position. Your actions will involve developing confidence, acting on your convictions, and overcoming resentments.

(Babs Kirby and Janey Stubbs)

With Mars hidden away in the twelfth, sex is going to be a subtle and complicated issue. These people are not going to be very conscious of their Mars energy, and may be unaware of the sexual image they are projecting; and this can lead to a lot of sexual confusion. They may get very angry when people make sexual advances because of the unconscious messages of desire that they have put out. There may be fears of violation and rape, accompanied by tremendous hostility which is not owned or recognized. Because of all this unexpressed aggression, these people can be like sponges, attracting other people's negative emotions to them. Or they may subtly provoke those around them into acting out their own anger.

With so much going on under the surface, those with Mars in the twelfth can be subject to disturbing fantasies and nightmares - living out their Mars energy in their dreams. Because it is difficult for them to get in touch with what they really want, there may be an underlying sense of frustration and dissatisfaction, with a tendency for them to play the role of martyr. Sometimes they do this by sublimating their own sexual needs and living out other people's sexual fantasies. Or they may sacrifice their sexual needs altogether to live a more spiritual life or to put their energy into looking after others.

People with Mars in this house may long for sex to be a spiritual experience. For them, sex is something mysterious and ethereal, which can make actual physical sex seem crude and primitive. They will feel uncomfortable with any direct and obvious sexual behaviour. Their own sexuality may be hidden and diffuse, so that they come over as 'safe' and asexual; and because they tend to express their desires in subtle, indirect ways, there can be a lot of confusion and misunderstanding around sex.

With Mars in the twelfth, people can be their own worst enemy, acting against their own real needs. Sometimes sexual desire brings out their buried anger, causing them to drive away the people they want most.

If Mars is close to the Ascendant, the energy will be much more accessible, and the people with this placement will be much more aware of their own sexual needs and able to pursue their fulfillment. None the less, all people with Mars in the twelfth will be looking for something much more than a physical experience from sex, and will yearn to lose themselves in a mystical union with the other person.

(Stephanie Camilleri)

Mars is very strong at this angle; those with this position are capable of intense effort. They will have an early experience that teaches them restraint (if it doesn't do them in), although it may take many lessons before they learn to hold back when necessary. They are capable of miraculous feats of effort and will. Types of effort will range from the spiritual - lives dedicated to high spiritual goals - to the lowest levels of self-gratification; but the power is present to do what they will.

The Mars energy is so primal and strong at this angle that it is hard for these people to be rational and objective about their inner desires and cravings. In youth, they may be troublesome to those near and dear because of the scrapes they get into. They are capable of rising high in life and achieving much, but are always susceptible to having their cart overturned, usually due to their own recklessness (physical in Earth and Fire, verbal in Air, emotional in Water).

If Mars is close to the Ascendant, there is more persistence; more power to hold on, to learn from adversity and go on to win, and to try over and over in spite of

difficulties. Mars in the middle of the twelfth house inclines toward giving in to defeat, or to a loss of control so great that the recuperative powers have no chance to act.

If aspects to Mars are not good, there may be trouble with the law, time spent in jail, or serious accidents and time spent in hospitals.

(Bill Herbst)

Imagination: Your fantasies have primitive urgency. Heat fills your dreams. They are a repository for vital images of maleness in our species's evolution. While it would be absurd to suggest that all your fantasies involve aggression or conquest, there is a tendency toward these, so even benign dreams may invoke the maleness in your psyche. Crisis, confrontation, conflict, danger, and desire are all relevant symbols in your imagination. The challenge is to identify and connect with this imagery, promoting more effective action in real life. The transition from dream states to ordinary consciousness is especially relevant here.

Unfocused intuition: You want intuition, and you want it now. But you're like an athlete with a special function on the team. Much of the time you languish on the sidelines, waiting to get into the intuitive game, pacing back and forth along the bench like a placekicker, never knowing when he'll be called on to boot the winning field goal, but understanding that he must be ready to perform when the crisis comes. Curiously, you're at your best in crisis when you surrender to intuitive guidance. Attempt to maintain ego-control, and you are lost. The challenge is to let yourself go wherever demons must be slain.

Withdrawal or isolation: You may experience difficulty dealing with anger, both your own and that of others. The directness of such urgent emotions can be upsetting, so they tend to build up inside. Often, you feel them most strongly when alone. This quality can work against you in situations requiring conscious action, but it may also work for you in a crisis, providing an extra boost of energy. Physical activity can be mysterious, almost meditative. You work well on your own, behind the scenes; but schedules and deadlines are not conducive to your best performance. However, you can be brilliant at creating success from the rubble of 'best laid plans'. The challenge is to use alone time to contact your heat source. Get in touch with it, then carry it back into your real life.

Selfless giving: You are repeatedly drawn to situations where energy is bubbling away beneath the surface. You may find yourself in confrontations that are not of your own making, for you're a lightning rod for the release of buried, blocked, or superconscious forces. Your own desires are often sublimated beyond the control of conscious will. This can result in floundering without direction, or equally it may lead to extraordinary commitment, like being a commando who volunteers for a secret mission. The lead sled dog on your team listens to a higher master, and thus may take off at any moment, in any direction, and at other times might just lie down and go to sleep in spite of your yelling, 'Mush!' The challenge is to deal with assertive energies when they come, however they come, allowing expression while remembering that the ultimate goal is peace of mind.

'Past lives': Your experience of maleness in past lives is unassimilated. You may have been male, or had relationships with men in such a way as to leave unfinished business that is now cutting into this life. Assertion, anger, heat, action, and desire are not fully understood or accepted; and the old patterns need to be revealed before you can become whole. Precisely what rhythms are held over from past lives is not clear from the house placement alone; but the sign, the ruling house, and the

interplanetary aspects of Mars will help solve that riddle. The challenge is to befriend these stored energies, then to release them in situations requiring intense but controlled explosions.

(Robert Pelletier)

Before you can take up any purposeful activity, you must have a reasonably firm foundation. Your childhood environment may have taught you the importance of having your own roots, just as your parents needed theirs so they could accomplish their objectives. When you feel secure, you should be less apprehensive about doing the right thing in striving to reach your goals. You will be more successful in your life's endeavors if you start from a reasonably stable position so that your goals are more sharply defined. If your objectives include serving others as well as satisfying your personal needs, so much the better. Occasionally you may be so preoccupied with satisfying your physical desires that you neglect giving your more significant objectives the attention they deserve.

Plans and noble intentions mean nothing unless you act on them. You will be fulfilled only if you invest the time and energy to achieve your dreams with devotion and self-discipline. In addition to satisfying your needs, you will get the recognition your skills and accomplishments deserve. There is no other way you can gain financial security and independence so that you can come and go as you want.

You may have many useful ideas, but you must carry them out deliberately if you want any rewards from them. By accepting this kind of personal responsibility, you can make a valuable contribution to society. Your progress will be greatly simplified if you get an education that will teach you how to develop your skills. With skills, you can meet the challenge of rising to your highest level of achievement. Without some formal training, you might have to resign yourself to mediocrity or relative obscurity in the world. You can do so much to help relieve social problems that it would be a significant loss to society and yourself if you neglected this task.

Probably you will always attract people with problems who feel that you can help them. You can be highly effective in helping people learn how to help themselves; and doing this will lessen your feeling that you aren't really useful to the world. Your partner may be the first to show you how qualified you are to render assistance to others. He or she may work to help you think more positively about yourself. You have enormous potential; but you must be willing to make whatever sacrifice is required to develop and apply it. Your family may be the stimulus you need to motivate you to act. The results will prove that you are qualified for many endeavors.

You must avoid negative thinking, for that will make you more uncertain of your ability to take the right action at the right time. You can get rid of your feelings of inadequacy by getting the training you need and acting decisively. Take advantage of any opportunity to participate in group activities, for you can be effective in improving the quality of life for others.

MARS ASPECTS

Natal Mars conjunct Jupiter

(Robert Pelletier)

With the conjunction of Mars and Jupiter, you have an abundance of energy and enthusiasm to take on tasks that would frighten all but the most courageous. In order to get what you want, you assert yourself fearlessly, even in the face of danger. You have a rather reckless faith in your ability to tempt fate and take chances, never doubting that you will succeed. What you lack in finesse you make up for in arrogance. You rise to a challenge at the slightest provocation, and your competitors have cause for alarm when you oppose them. You enjoy direct confrontation with your adversaries, and you revel in the accompanying glory and publicity. Fascinated by the entries found in the Guinness Book of Records, you would be pleased to find your name listed under some accomplishment there.

With your flair for the dramatic, you don't do anything in moderation. Not content to simply win over a competitor, you punctuate the victory with some kind of ritualistic, publicity-seeking display. You know how to achieve recognition by drawing the public's attention to your talents.

There are many ways you can use this very forceful, dynamic aspects. You have an exciting combination of physical stamina and intellectual resources. Because you don't believe in failure, your chances for success are improved. If you express your creative abilities physically, you will apply your intellectual skill and common sense to obtain the best results from your efforts. Should you follow a more intellectually demanding life pursuit, it will be characterized by an incredible degree of physical endurance and competitiveness. Such fields as sports, exploration, law, government, acting, composing, or writing would provide you with vast opportunities to display your talents and demonstrate what you can do.

Your most persistent liability is your lack of moderation, which can cause physical exhaustion. Your driving ambition to rise above the challenges you set yourself can cause deterioration of your physical resources. It is essential that you take periodic rest or vacations from the constant abrasion of close competition.

(Karen Hamaker-Zondag)

The energy and executiveness of Mars side by side with the expansiveness and jollity of Jupiter give abundant energy and a great need for activities of all kinds. Usually, with this aspect, we find an enormous appetite for life, strong vitality and the resilience to rise above difficulties. The optimism of Jupiter is coupled here with the courage, love of action and enterprise of Mars, which can give quick and energetic action on the spur of the moment - action which often strikes lucky. But the drawback is that the planets concerned carry the word 'too' embroidered on their pennons; they get us working too hard trying to overachieve. That is why we sometimes find dissatisfaction in this combination; a dissatisfaction that can express itself in rebellious behavior - unnecessary really, because the get-up-and-go of Mars plus Jupiter holds plenty of promise of success. Sometimes, with this conjunction, we take risks - physical, material, mental and other.

We have considerable need for independence and freedom of action; both Mars and Jupiter encourage us to go our own way. Mars can enhance the Jovian characteristics, and this can lead to great opinionatedness and the spirit of Liberty Hall, but also to proselytizing zeal and to a startlingly outspoken, disarming and

sometimes very naive honesty. If we set our minds on anything, we do so heart and soul. Then we display courage and readiness to put up a fight, are energetic and businesslike, and have enthusiasm and great confidence in ultimate success.

However, with this aspect, we must always guard against all forms of exaggeration. For self-control is not our strongest point.

(Betty Lundsted)

Mars represents 'I act' and Jupiter symbolizes 'I relate, I reach out'. When these two energies are together, the 'I act' principle combines with the ability to expand, to reach out; the energy will be described by the signs in which the conjunction takes place. It can bring exuberance in the Fire signs, oversensitivity in the Water signs, etc..

The Mars-Jupiter conjunction can indicate an exuberant person, one who jumps to conclusions, one who has boundless energy, one who may over-relate or overreact. The aspect by itself is not harmful, for it generally indicates an open person who acts in a straightforward manner, expressing the energies of the sign involved in the conjunction. It can indicate a tendency to overcommitment or a person who works too hard. It's important to note the other aspects to the conjunction in order to determine how they will affect this one, and to also check how the Mars placement will affect the expression of the Sun archetype. In matters of love, both the Mars and the Venus position should be considered, since these two principles work together.

(Charles Carter)

Here we find that the native is commonly wealthy or at least comfortable, but there may be a demand for more and an ambitious or avaricious tendency. The feelings are active and powerful, with decided likes and dislikes, as is shown in Clemenceau; and there is frankness and outspokenness. There is much whole-heartedness in the pursuit of aims and objects.

In a congenial sign there may be a great love of fun and amusement, often with a satirical tendency. In more repressive signs (such as those ruled by Saturn or in Scorpio), it may give dissatisfaction and rebelliousness.

The native usually has an active and even a belligerent or disputative life, being either controversial or the object of controversy; or perhaps he is engaged in financial operations that bear resemblance to military manoeuvres and conflicts. In any case, he will prove a redoubtable opponent, with considerable resource and energy.

The combination inclines to daring undertakings and feats of prowess and courage.

Mars trine Jupiter

(Robert Pelletier)

The trine from Mars to Jupiter indicates that you apply your physical resources in a well-integrated way. Because you have a good blending of intellect and physical strength, you will be able to achieve your goals with only a moderate amount of effort. However, you may not rise to the challenge of competition because it doesn't seem worth the effort. you are creative and sometimes inspired in accomplishing tasks that would overwhelm others. Luck seems to play an important part in your successes, although talent is applied too. You have the knack for doing the right thing

at the right time, or of being in the right place when an opportunity is presented. You never have to resort to subterfuge to get what you want. Honorable in temperament, you uphold the law in your dealings, and trust people without question. Your 'easy come, easy go' attitude makes you a bit careless about spending money. You have amazing optimism about life, and it never occurs to you to fear that you won't gain what you want.

Such fields as law, government service, sports, working with children, teaching, exploration, writing, or arts and crafts seem appropriate to your talents. Success of itself is not terribly important to you. You merely want to express yourself to the fullest through work that you enjoy. The 'rat race', in your opinion, takes too much effort for the returns you get. You are too self-indulgent to deprive yourself of the many pleasures you enjoy by mortgaging yourself to limiting endeavors.

You enjoy the company of a variety of people who lend interest to your life. While you don't make excessive demands on people, you will not submit to such demands by others either. You prefer to enjoy your friends freely and always maintain the right to end any association that tries to bind you.

You are not especially disturbed by current changes in attitudes towards organized religion. You are privately secure in your beliefs, regardless of the prevailing dissent among theologians and philosophers.

You are romantically attracted to persons who are similarly turned to an untroubled existence. your physical desires are strong, but even these are reasonably controlled. You expect more than physical expression from the person you love. You are an idealist who will not settle for less than a mate who shares your needs and wants in mind, body and soul.

Mars sextile Jupiter (Robert Pelletier)

Mars sextile Jupiter indicates that you can effectively use your considerable resources of mind and body to gain your objectives. You tend to establish ambitious and demanding goals, but you are prepared to take any steps necessary to see that your ideas are constructively implemented. Early in life you exploited your intellectual abilities whenever you could. Perhaps you applied your creative skills to devise games or indoor activities in which you could test your ability to meet challenging competition. You were giving your mental-physical muscle workouts that prepared you for later confrontations with serious opponents.

You know how to assert yourself under pressure and have developed your talent for effective communication through dramatic delivery and clever use of words. Never one to withdraw from a debate, you always document what you say with convincing evidence. You are quick to defend anyone who cannot defend himself because he lacks information or is not trained in the art of persuasive argument.

Your abilities can be easily applied to many professions or occupations. You will probably lean to the more intellectual pursuits, in which you shine, such as law, teaching, writing, drama, government, or the communications media. Any of these would be an excellent field in which to distinguish yourself and gain recognition. Still, recognition is not really as important to you as having the opportunity to fully utilize your talents.

You project yourself amazingly well and gain many admirers for your effusiveness. Young people are especially impressed with you and may even regard you as an example to aspire to. You can be blunt in saying what is on your mind, and it is rare

that you will alter the truth as you know it.

You are drawn to persons who have a reasonably clear idea of where they are going and what they expect to achieve. You have great respect for anyone who has the courage of his convictions, even if they differ from yours. But you insist that honesty and integrity accompany one in seeking goals.

Your feelings are intense, and you need a loving companion with whom to share your experiences. Your sexual desires are strong, but probably they are best satisfied with someone with whom you have an intellectual rapport. This planetary combination unites spiritual and physical properties in an intellectual combination.

Mars trine or sextile Jupiter (Karen Hamaker-Zondag)

In the harmonious aspects, the excess inherent in all Mars / Jupiter combinations has free rein. We possess more than enough vitality and combativeness to face whatever problems come our way, and, in fact, we are inclined to make light of them. Also we prefer to see everything in a social, religious or metaphysical setting. But the setting must be our own, not part of some system imposed from outside - the latter would restrict our freedom unbearably. In fact, whether on a large scale or on a small scale, we are likely to work out our own rules and morals.

We like to air opinions and make good propagandists. Therefore these are not bad aspects for the politician, the publicist, the clergyman or missionary, or the dedicated social worker. For if one thing is foreign to our nature, it is repose or idleness. Even the usual leisureliness of a harmonious aspect is banished by the fiery, bluff enthusiasm of this planetary combination.

Adventure appeals to us and we long to make good (Jupiter heightens the ambition of Mars); we are ready to fight for our ideas and ideals (Mars strengthens Jupiter). But with a harmonious aspect, we encounter less resistance than with a discordant one; which makes it easy to cling to our opinions, even when they need revising. Hence, however profitable this combination proves to be, it tends to make us wayward and full of self-will; nevertheless we do seem to know how to get away with these character defects.

Mars trine Jupiter (Betty Lundsted)

The trine between these two planets indicates an individual who was presented with a family atmosphere that encouraged a positive and constructive action. This individual had someone around in childhood who encouraged him, and he was shown (through other family member interactions) that one can relate to what one does and that one can be open about action taken. The two energies express well together.

This usually indicates an individual who enjoys sex and enjoys loving, unless the Mars placement is in turn involved in some other hard aspect.

Mars sextile Jupiter (Betty Lundsted)

The sextile indicates a person who has been raised in a family that related to each other, so he is able to relate to the action he takes. He also can relate to his sexuality. He can enjoy both work and love. The sextile shows a family that took constructive action. This energy can be applied to career situations in adult life.

Mars trine or sextile Jupiter (Charles Carter)

This combination is mainly one of optimism and enthusiasm, and the native has as a rule the ability fully to enjoy life, while such interests as attract him are strenuously and wholeheartedly pursued. These are generally of a Jovian character, for the heavier planet appears to be the directive factor, whilst Mars supplies the energy. Thus we find enthusiasm for sport, travel, hunting, the stage, religion, political freedom, and science, though as regards the last, it is what may be called the 'live' sciences which attract, such as psychology and astrology.

The native is often a propagandist or publicist, and enjoys nothing more than acting the evangelist proclaiming the truth that sets men free. It is excellent for a missionary, a slum-worker, or one engaged with young people - or young peoples.

There is usually plenty of loyalty, pride, and honour.

In a worldly way, it is a distinctly fortunate combination, and the native is rarely other than comfortable in a worldly sense, though there is not always wealth. Yet even if this is denied by other factors the native is generally close to it, perhaps missing it narrowly through some special circumstances. However well placed financially, the native is rarely lazy.

Natal Mars square / opposition Jupiter

Mars square Jupiter (Robert Pelletier)

Your Mars square Jupiter indicates that it is essential for you to discipline yourself in using your abundant physical and intellectual resources. Everything you do must be planned, or you will waste a lot of energy in nonproductive enterprises. You want to emulate those you admire for their professional accomplishments, but you may not be willing to endure all the hard work required to succeed. You make valiant efforts to acquire knowledge, but when there is no immediate reward you quickly lose interest. Once you acquire faith in your ability to succeed, persistence and determination will come. You are impatient to an extreme, but with some contact between Saturn and Mars or Saturn and Jupiter, this will eventually be corrected.

In spite of the sloppiness resulting from your careless use of your energy, you will nevertheless benefit somewhat from the lessons learned. Only time can refine your manner of applying yourself. You need to define your objectives clearly and then establish a program for realizing them, a schedule you can adhere to. You need to consolidate your resources to make a massive assault on your most important priority. To do anything less than this would be a sheer waste of energy. Diversification is fine, if you take up each subject exclusively, but not if you attempt to develop a variety of interests simultaneously.

You are almost certain to have domestic and professional difficulties when you first set out to make a life for yourself. This planetary combination inclines you to have some difficulty in dealing with people. You feel threatened by competitors and unfairly treated by superiors in your job. You don't accept criticism gracefully. Your domestic tranquility will be disturbed because you complain so bitterly about the way you are treated that your partner becomes bored with it all.

You have the potential for excellence in law, government, teaching, writing, public speaking, sports, acting, and the communications media in general. This aspect gives you the necessary drive to accept challenges, for you realize that they are the only way to determine your competence. You are probably more likely to avoid a confrontation when you suspect that your opponent is expertly trained and has a greater advantage than you. With experience, you will meet any challenger with

complete assurance of success. Even if you don't succeed, you will know you have given your best, and that is all that can be expected.

This configuration indicates that you are accident-prone because of your reckless disregard for safety measures. You tend to act impulsively, not taking time to consider whether any danger is involved. Because you do everything to excess, you need frequent rest to restore your physical reserves.

Mars opposition Jupiter (Robert Pelletier)

The opposition from Mars to Jupiter shows that you enjoy challenges and eagerly seek them out. You are physically competent to take on any adversary to prove to yourself that you can succeed, and you do need to prove it. You use competition to reassure yourself of your capabilities. You might fail, but you are willing to take that chance. However, you sometimes bite off more than you can chew, which you regret later when you are thinking it over in private. You operate on the premise that the one who strikes first has the advantage over his opponent, but that is true only when one has first made careful plans. Being both imprudent and ostentatious, when you succeed you make grandstand plays to call attention to yourself.

You resent people who demonstrate their superiority over you, and you may resort to unfair tactics to discredit them. This tendency alienates your associates and friends, who view you with suspicion and give you a wide berth. They may also try to destroy your credibility because of their resentment. You must be careful not to cut off all sources of support, for it can be lonely to be cast off by your peers.

Your best opportunities to gain recognition and express your creative potentials would be in law, government, sports, communications media, acting, teaching, or public relations. Once you learn to temper your combative tendencies with moderation, you can achieve great heights. Even your competitors will admire you for a job well done. Your only problem is your fear of inadequacy in the face of responsibility. Careful planning and application should relieve you of any anxiety in this respect. You've got to know you are qualified to meet challenges without feeling threatened by competitors.

Your physical desires are as powerful as your ambitions. You are not satisfied unless you can express your sexual appetite when aroused. This can cause problems, unless you are lucky enough to have someone available at all times. This will not be an important matter if Saturn makes a contact to Mars, giving you a built-in factor of self-control. Your mate must match your physical prowess in this respect, or complications will develop that can seriously endanger the relationship.

Moderation is advised in everything you do. Indecision will be an irritant until you recognize your self-worth and can take a firm stand without waiting for approval.

Mars square or opposition Jupiter (Karen Hamaker-Zondag)

Although the optimism and enthusiasm, the executive power and force of the Mars / Jupiter aspects already mentioned are equalled if not exceeded here, this is not an unqualified blessing. Great care is needed; for not only are the two planets not noted for self-control, but the strain set up between them makes it hard to use and manage our energies properly.

We are never satisfied, but are always looking for more - though not necessarily in material things; the aspect works even more strongly on the mental plane. We crave adventure, have an enormous need to prove ourselves, and want to be completely

unfettered and independent. We ram our opinions home (sometimes we go on about them far too much), and are extremely pugnacious where ideals are concerned. Fair play is something on which we insist, and we champion new things or indeed anything we find absorbing. But the constant danger is that, because we can underestimate the force and application needed to gain our ends, we shall always be wanting too much and pushing ourselves (and possibly others) too hard, often to the point of exhaustion. All the same, we do manage to keep extricating ourselves from self-made difficulties, and our sense of purpose can be tremendously stimulating to those around.

Mars square Jupiter (Betty Lundsted)

The square indicates that the relating principle and the action principle are at odds. Mars represents the action taken on any physical level, including sexual expression. Jupiter represents the relating principle and how one opens up to new experience. The square indicates that this person may not relate to the action he takes, and therefore may be accident-prone, for he may expose himself to unnecessary risks. He may not relate well to career decisions either; he may not understand the actions he takes regarding his job responsibilities. On the sexual level, he may not relate to his own sexual needs; he may have excessive needs, depending on the additional aspects in the chart.

Any square between Mars and Jupiter indicates a setup for excessive action, and when things don't go as planned, this individual often overreacts. The aspect indicates a childhood environment that was excessive during the formative years. If the square also ties into the Sun or Saturn (father) or the Moon or Venus (mother), we can see which parent helped form the reaction pattern. Because Mars indicates action and sexuality, the square to Jupiter indicates a problem relating sexually, as well as an over-relating in other aspects of life. If the square doesn't tie to any of the parent symbols, everyone in the family was functioning that way during the individual's formative years. Overreacting sexually may be indicative of a parent who only relates on a sexual basis, or one who is confused about sexual attitudes. The individual picks up the reaction and makes this response a part of his or her adult experience.

Because of the square, one form of expression that happens is that of not relating to the partner after a sexual relationship has been established. Sex is separated from the relating experience. The complex can be cured by examining the needs of both planets by sign and function. Combining the energies in some constructive manner can be learned. Examining old relationships may be of help in discovering the relating pattern, so that new ones can be established.

Mars opposition Jupiter (Betty Lundsted)

The opposition is similar to the conjunction or the square, for it indicates a person who may not relate to the action taken. The individual is raised in an atmosphere of law and order, but with little explanation as to why one does what one does. It indicates a person who feels he must compromise his action or his sexual needs in order to have a relationship. This attitude is learned in early childhood. It can help develop an excessive attitude, and the person may push to have his own way; he may overreact to life situations and take excessive risks. He may act before he thinks; he may generally be an over-responder to many life situations presented to him. This can indicate poor judgement as far as career moves are concerned. It can indicate the type of person who is in love with someone new every few weeks, for the exuberance is rarely lasting, and as one exuberance fades, another comes along.

In order to rechannel the opposition, the compromise must be understood, and overreactions have to be checked. Individuals in the process of overcoming the aspect are forced to think out every move, and they may spend six months evaluating every decision. 'Will this action be good for me six months from now as far as my overall goals are concerned?'

The cause of the frustration comes from either the family environment and the ethics or traditions espoused, or from one or both of the parents. If the opposition also ties to the Sun or Saturn (the father) or the Moon or Venus (the mother), the parental influence can be determined so one can see where the pattern comes from. In order to develop consciousness we must each take responsibility for what we do, and that is difficult as long as the opposition causes us to function without regard for actions taken or our sexual needs.

Natal Mars quincunx Jupiter

(Robert Pelletier)

The inconjunct between Mars and Jupiter represents difficulty in establishing priorities in your affairs, especially in dealing with people. Through your generosity to others, you try to buy their permission to indulge yourself whenever you choose. You willingly offer your services to people, assuming that they cannot take care of themselves. In the process, you deprive yourself of your resources, and you deprive them of the opportunity to become self-sufficient. If something that must be done isn't done immediately, you feel guilty. You can be a carping critic who is never satisfied unless something is done your way. You often interfere where you are not wanted, which encourages people to resent you. Learn to mind your own business, and don't take your own guilt out on other people; they may have their own guilt to concern themselves with.

There is much you can do if you plan carefully and use your talents where they will be appreciated. Law, government, medical services, welfare programs, research enterprises, physical therapy, rehabilitation of the handicapped, and religious organizations are some of the areas in which you can constructively apply yourself. You need to see the results of your labors, and any of these fields would demonstrate your effectiveness in using your creative resources. You would be especially competent as a teacher because you can stimulate students to manifest their individual potentials.

In your persistent need to be useful, you are sometimes victimized by people who will take advantage of you and exploit your ideas for their personal benefit. Learn to withhold information about any project you are developing until you can capitalize on it yourself.

You must protect yourself against omnivers who will try to undermine your self-confidence. You are inclined to go along with people who suggest that you are incompetent and to accept a subservient position to them. But this raises serious questions in your own mind, because you consider yourself more than competent. If you stop constantly seeking approval, you will never have to submit to interrogations about your capabilities. Develop your talents and test them in competition, and you will gain the self-assurance you need.

In the same way, in your romantic relationships, don't humble yourself as though you don't deserve the best. It's fine to be generous toward the one you love, but be critical in deciding whether the individual is sincere and deserving.

(Karen Hamaker-Zondag)

With an inconjunct between Mars and Jupiter, it is very difficult to see ourselves as we are, especially where executive power and energy are concerned. Whenever we set to work, the influence of Jupiter seems to deprive us of a sense of proportion: we get involved in a bigger task than we had planned, or we put in too much effort. Possibly we fail to get our priorities right; we want to do everything at once - at the risk of messing everything up. Therefore we need to be chary over making promises: not guessing what it will cost us to keep them, we are inclined to bite off more than we can chew; this, of course, can cause trouble.

When we become involved in Jovian matters such as study, travel and expansion of the spiritual horizons, things tend to get out-of-hand, because we start doing too much, or we stress ideas or experience more forcibly than we think. So clashes are not always avoidable.

With the inconjunct between Mars and Jupiter, setbacks and recoveries will teach us that our expenditure of energy (Mars) suffers in an underhanded way from the expansiveness of Jupiter, and that the watchword must be 'look before you leap'. The same applies to Jupiter, which is secretly fired by Mars, so that we tend to do things on too large a scale and try to make too much of an impression. In sports, for example, there is a need to learn that physical limits are reached sooner than we suppose. But, by and large, this aspect is also a source of enthusiasm and encouragement.

(Betty Lundsted)

The quincunx indicates a strain wherever it exists, and here a strain is indicated regarding the action taken in life and the ability to relate to what is being done. There may be feelings of a vague discontent regarding the sexual needs versus the relating needs. In career situations, the action taken may not complement the manner in which this individual relates to fellow employees. Both planets need to express, and the qualities of both signs need to find an outlet.

Natal Mars conjunct Saturn

(Robert Pelletier)

Mars conjunct Saturn shows that you are fortunate in being able to use your energy constructively. The normal desire to assert yourself on impulse is balanced by realization of the consequences of such an action. This quality of restraint can mean great accomplishments for you because you don't waste energy on unproductive efforts. Your sense of economy and efficiency are characteristics of success; you know how to use your talents purposefully for specific objectives.. You are realistic in applying good judgement before taking any action.

Your early training enabled you to take on major responsibilities without difficulty. Knowing your limitations, you rarely go beyond them. You are prudent and yet fearless, cautious and yet aggressive, hard-working and yet able to accomplish a great deal with economy of effort. Although you are a complex person, you use the most simplistic approach in solving problems. You represent the ideal in terms of a balance between aggression and self-control.

You are never indifferent to the feelings of others, but can become angry when others try to interfere with you. Frustration brings out the most dangerous kind of energy in you. You are not accustomed to having your plans challenged, and can launch vicious

attacks against your adversaries, even resorting to physical violence. Other factors in your chart may indicate whether you would go do this extreme, but the potential for it exists in this planetary combination. Many professional pursuits are possible with this combination. Especially suitable are occupations requiring physical endurance and stamina, such as archaeology, exploration, geographic surveys, and forestry service. In the industrial field, research and development seem appropriate. Military service would be another means of expression for your controlled energy.

In your romantic pursuits, you easily play the roles of both prey and predator. You carefully evaluate the partner's line of least resistance in order to decide which techniques you will use. The remark 'pursued until you caught the pursuer' is descriptive of your method.

It is very important not to become chilled when indulging in physical activities. Cool off gradually and avoid cold liquids to prevent cramps. Use as little salt as possible when not doing strenuous physical work.

(Karen Hamaker-Zondag)

A Mars / Saturn conjunction gives problems with our expenditure of energy. The enthusiasm, fervor, energy and executive ability of Mars are restricted by the tenacity and confining action of Saturn. At best, this produces well-thought-out activities, but generally speaking there are difficulties to overcome. Saturn tends to hold us back whenever we feel the urge to make our presence felt (Mars); and yet Saturn itself promotes a form of ambition born of the desire for greater security. So, on the one hand, there is the fear of being too forward which may express itself in a withdrawn or passive attitude, and, on the other hand and by way of overcompensation, there is possibly a determination to prove ourselves or to outshine everyone else come what may. In the second case, the assertiveness is great, but the motivation is really an enormous vulnerability.

Strange as it may seem, both forms of expression can be found in one person, and stop-go is characteristic of many with this conjunction. Sometimes they are busy moving mountains; at other times, a fire lit beneath their chairs would hardly rouse them.

Mars has much to do with resilience, and, when it is conjunct Saturn, mental and physical resilience are not always very strong.

Usually, with this conjunction, we pass through one or more difficult periods during life, when we are hampered by internal or external causes and are tied hand and foot by (for example) too much responsibility, too heavy a work load or mental pressures of some kind. But the conjunction of the two planets also supplies the strength to break these shackles. Saturn can apply the energy of Mars to a certain goal or project with great concentration for a very long time - which is the other, very profitable, side of the coin with this conjunction.

(Betty Lundsted)

The 'I act' principle is affected by the influence of the individual's father. Mars indicates the ability to act out the energy of the Sun. The conjunction indicates that the actions may be limited or restricted because of something the father does while the individual's personality is forming (age 0-3). This influence inhibits the person's ability to react constructively and to feel confident about the action he takes. The conjunction usually has some effect on the sex drive.

Saturn says 'I take seriously', and conjunct Mars means 'I take my actions seriously'. This can serve to inhibit or restrict any action taken; it can indicate harsh action, for Saturn symbolizes the concept of law in each individual, causing this person to act out (Mars) the law (Saturn). This energy is sometimes used for law enforcement and can indicate a person who will enjoy a career that involves enforcing the law. This energy can create a sure-footed, slow-moving individual who moves cautiously in life; or an extremely hard individual who becomes an enforcer of the law regardless of the circumstances. It is wise to consider the other aspects to this conjunction for it will give a broader picture of how the personality will operate.

In a personal sense, the conjunction can indicate a serious outlook regarding sexual expression. It can limit sexuality, cause one to avoid sexuality, indicate symptoms of frigidity in both the male and female, make one afraid of sexual expression, or cause one to attempt to force sexual standards on others. The Mars-Saturn conjunction indicates that the father inhibited the individual's sexual concepts or perhaps his early sexual expression in some manner. What he did is an unknown factor, but he did something. Other aspects to the conjunction may tell more about what happened.

It seems that this type of individual is rarely chemically attracted to another. The sexual difficulties cause guilt, and then the conscious mind decides to have a sexual relationship because the prospective lover will be 'good for me'. Or, because the individual is so rarely physically attracted to another, when the chemistry does happen he jumps into bed without going through the normal courtship period. Then the guilt begins because he feels he responded too quickly. This individual can respond sexually to the right person but he finds few people appealing.

The father may have had his own guilt about his sex drive; the father may have had a harsh attitude as the small child explored his body as all small children do. The rest of the chart will help tell the story. The pressure of the aspect can be relieved when this person investigates the relationship between sexual expression and universal law. Sex is not unhealthy; only people are.

(Charles Carter)

A very powerful and in some cases dangerous combination. If other influences agree, there may be a distinct danger of unusual physical suffering. It occurs in the nativities of several victims of violence. All inharmonious combinations of these planets appear to point this way. In one case (conj. in Virgo in 2nd) there was great suffering from eczematous gout with chronic irritation. In two more instances there were severe burns, illustrating the marked tendency of this combination to cause injury to the skin, said by some to be ruled by Saturn as the significator of the limits of the body. Blows, cuts and stabs sometimes occur, often as the result of falls.

Although this configuration must be regarded as of serious import, it is necessary to judge it carefully, and to give full weight to possible counteracting influences.

Natal Mars square / opposition Saturn

Mars square Saturn (Robert Pelletier)

With Mars square Saturn, you alternate between periods of aggression and periods of recession and apathy. You are constantly at war with yourself because you cannot resolve this problem, which is not an easy one, as your experience has shown. Even when you gather the will to assert yourself, you are apprehensive that your timing may be off. Likewise, when inertia prevails, you realize you should have taken advantage of an opportunity earlier. Only time will improve your capacity to correctly

judge when you should take action.

You will have to be very careful not to become embittered by your occasional setbacks. If you can learn from them, you are ahead because of the experience. Potentially you can accomplish much, once you know your limits. You can excel in occupations requiring endurance and follow-through, as in the fields of military service, land development, sports, and physical therapy. In whatever profession you follow, you must be willing to start at the bottom and work your way to the top. There is no easy way to gain a position of authority - you must earn it. Any shortcuts to the top are at best hazardous, because your position will be insecure.

Your greatest lessons in life will probably be learned through your relationships with others. You don't always know just how much you can assert yourself in your associations. You especially need to develop your opinion of yourself by learning to use your talents so skillfully that you never need to feel threatened by anyone else. You must develop self-confidence about meeting challenge and competitors. When you say 'No!' you must mean it, and when you say 'Yes!' it should be with firm conviction based on reason. You must especially avoid vacillation and indecision, because they raise doubts about your credibility.

Your romantic relationships are ensnared with inconsistencies of temperament and emotional intent. You suffer deeply if your advances are rejected by someone. It is possible for you to become vindictive and even use physical violence against people you don't really want to hurt. You tend to hurt the one you love without realizing it.

Caution in all physical activities is advised, because this planetary combination inclines to accidents and broken bones. Be particularly careful around machinery, and when you are unsure whether you can do something that requires considerable physical strength, don't.

Mars opposition Saturn (Robert Pelletier)

The opposition between Mars and Saturn indicates some conflict between your desires and your sense of responsibility. You alternate between moments of intense activity and periods when you cannot seem to gather the energy to accomplish anything. Your temperament is either aggressive or completely apathetic. You find it difficult to maintain a moderate position that would allow you to achieve your goals without 'highs' and 'lows'. You are the only obstacle in your path to achievement. You need to become self-disciplined in using your energy constructively, and you must establish goals within your reach. Resolve firmly that you will not let feelings of futility keep you from reaching them.

You tend to be awed by the accomplishments of your associates or competitors, probably because you give them greater credit than they deserve. You desperately need competition so you can evaluate your own worth; ignorance of your capabilities is your greatest liability. The chances are that others will always have a higher opinion of your potential than you, and you will need to be reassured that your talents are genuine.

Once you get over the idea of your unworthiness, you can go far. You must like yourself enough to feel that you deserve the success you can achieve, but you will have to assert yourself. You could find some expression in law enforcement, industrial engineering, military service, conservation, or physical therapy. Initially, you would probably work best alone, until you can convince yourself that you could make a significant contribution in your field. Later, you could work satisfactorily with others without feeling threatened by their competence. You tend to establish goals

somewhat out of reach, which makes you unhappy with your accomplishments. It would be better for you to grow into higher levels of responsibility by taking one step at a time. In that way, your current security is never jeopardized.

Your personal and romantic relationships never measure up to your expectations. Your desires always seem to be frustrated or to encounter great difficulties. The phrase 'After you get what you want, you don't want it' is descriptive of your feelings in these relationships. In any case, it is doubtful that your desires will be fulfilled to your satisfaction, and some denial is to be expected.

Moderation is necessary in all your affairs, or physical depletion can result. Rest is very important in order to maintain physical well-being. Accidents resulting in fractures are common with this planetary combination, as are problems affecting the joints, such as arthritis and bursitis. Moderate exercise is helpful if you get sufficient rest.

Mars square or opposition Saturn (Karen Hamaker-Zondag)

In the hard aspects between Mars and Saturn, the incompatibility of the planets comes more to the fore. Usually, we are ill-at-ease as a result of inferiority feelings which, as in the conjunction, can make us very reserved and even passive on the one hand, and full of (overcompensating) ambition on the other; consequently, we strive hard to reach goals, and are not to be deterred by any obstacles in the path. These aspects are often associated with intermittent bursts of energy; either we are taking things easy or we are being intensely active - there is no thought in our minds of a happy medium.

Because we feel so vulnerable, bearing is poised and stiff, and the impression we make on others is of someone hard and even forbidding. People can find us intimidating, and so a vicious spiral is set up. They in turn behave coolly toward us, or refrain from responding to us at all, and so our inward hurt increases and we become even more withdrawn. Although aloofness may look like egotism, it is really a form of shyness and sensitivity.

Perseverance comes hard to us; aims (Saturn) and actions (Mars) are always in conflict. Sometimes we attract circumstances in which we are unable to get enough of our own work done; as if, here again, aim and action are out of balance. Generally, our own attitude is to blame, but we can correct this as we grow older. For, even with the active tense aspects, we can set our sights on responsible long-term goals.

Mars square Saturn (Betty Lundsted)

The 'I act' principle conflicts with 'I take seriously' or 'I regard with caution'. The father's influence on this individual's psyche built an atmosphere of mistrust or fear - he did not encourage the individual's actions. Authority seems to be the 'thing in the way' of personal action. The person often feels that all authority figures (Daddy, teachers, bosses, men in general) are against whatever he may be trying to do. As an employee, he can appear as a subversive type for he may develop a strong anti-authority complex. The aspect can indicate a rebel, a rabble-rouser, or someone who works to change the status quo. The energy has to be directed, for action must be taken from a constructive point. As a youth, this person may be so negative to authority figures that he 'cuts off his nose to spite his face'.

As far as sexuality is concerned, there is a seriousness to it that is unwarranted, and self-imposed restrictions on sexuality are the result of a subconscious fear caused by the father early in life. Men have been traditionally expected to enjoy sex with many

women; we have been trained to think that men should enjoy any sexual contact. Men with this aspect seldom do, however, for they find few partners pleasing, and when they do, they fall deeply in love. The female reacts the same way, and, depending on the freedom of the generation she was born into, her sexual enjoyment may vary considerably. In this day and age, many women are experimenting with sexual freedom, and some women with this aspect are shocked, since few men appeal to them. Some of the women married early, have had a family, a husband, and no sexual pleasure, for they married before trying sex.

The aspect doesn't completely restrict sexual feeling, but it's difficult for these individuals to find a pleasing sexual partner. Once that is understood, people who have the aspect can cease judging themselves so harshly. The original sexual restriction had something to do with the father and his influence on a small child. Sometimes analysis can help to get to the root of the problem; sometimes self-diagnosis can do it. At any rate, this aspect indicates serious and loyal people, for once they make an emotional or sexual commitment, they mean it.

Mars opposition Saturn (Betty Lundsted)

This tie between sexuality and responsibility is one that is difficult, for it involves a compromise regarding either sexual expression or action taken, or both. Mars symbolizes the 'I act' principle and Saturn indicates the restriction is caused by the image of the father in the psyche. Mars is 'I sex' and Saturn is the restricting influence from the father because of views he had about sex when this individual was young.

It can seem that Father Time, or the Wise Old Man, is universally against any action attempted, for every action is tested for merit. The individual who lives with this energy may become resentful and feel that too much is asked of him. He may rebel against society, authority or his father. If this energy is used constructively, the rebellion against the father can establish a personal ethic that causes the individual to become involved in changing cultural conditions that need it. If not, it can indicate an individual who may be harsh, who wishes to become a law unto himself.

In the sexual sense, it may be that the Saturn opposition controls the sex life, that there are losses connected with sexual expression; it may be difficult to establish long-lasting relationships. It may be difficult to find an enjoyable sexual partner. In this case, check out Venus and Moon aspects as well, for that may tell the story more completely.

As far as career is concerned, the Mars-Saturn opposition can cause restrictions on any action taken; so movement may be stagnated, or the individual worries too much about what he does. The aspect may indicate a person who doesn't handle crises well, for any crisis demands immediate decisions and immediate action. He may be restricted because of ideas and concepts learned from the father. As this energy is worked with, it can develop a slow and careful decision-maker, a steady worker, one who is precise and deliberate.

Mars square or opposition Saturn (Charles Carter)

These are frequently stated in text books to be of a violent character, indicating brutality, cruelty, and blood-lust. It may at once be said that this is by no means invariably the case; in fact, the writer has at least two friends with this combination (the square) who are conspicuously kind and gentle, there being of course other indications of this nature in their charts.

It may be said that it may incline to a certain hardness or sternness, but if the rest of

the horoscope is good this may be necessary to the native by reason of his occupation and the tempers of those with whom he has to deal. Again, the severity may be turned inward and there may be an inner austerity and self-discipline.

Its chief effect on character appears to be of a quite different kind. The Saturnian influence acts as a brake on the Martian energies, and I have certainly often noticed a sort of erraticity in these people, so that their enthusiasms are sudden and violent, but short-lasting, with alternations of 'blowing hot' and 'blowing cold'. Sometimes there are spells of laziness, due to the inhibition of the Mars action; sometimes there is a restless energy without good directing common sense when Mars overcomes Saturn. Definite purpose often seems lacking, as if the native regarded life as something of a child's game, passing from one interest to another lightly and inconsequentially. However much in earnest such people are (and they often seem very much so), I have noticed that they commonly forget their pursuits as soon as they cease to amuse them. True depth is generally deficient. In one case there was great love of starting fresh enterprises and considerable ability in this way; but the natives soon lost interest in them when the initial difficulties had been surmounted, and left them to another; here Mars was also square Uranus.

There is usually a certain amount of selfishness or egoism. Thus, even when there is real kindness of heart, the native likes to go his own way, and will not readily turn aside from what interests him personally in order to minister to others. There is an inclination to impatience with those who do not readily agree.

Exteriorly, Mars-Saturn tends to a life of hardship and suffering, as well as to the undergoing of physical violence. The former may occur in the way of health. There is a danger of strain and excess; and this may be followed by the need for prolonged rest, rigid attention to dietetic and other restrictions, and otherwise 'paying the price'. The aspects seem to have a distinct affinity with enteric fever. There is also a liability to burns and scaldings.

The square is not uncommon in the victims of murdering. But in all such cases other potent factors will occur in addition, for the bad aspect of two planets (as apart from Sun, Moon and Angles) cannot, however serious, destroy the life prematurely or violently. General Charles Gordon had the two planets in trine, but Mars was debilitated by sign. The same occurs in the case of Alexander II of Russia (killed by a bomb).

These aspects do not by any means forbid success, though this will come late and after severe struggles.

Natal Mars quincunx Saturn

(Robert Pelletier)

The inconjunct between Mars and Saturn shows problems in fulfilling yourself without being destroyed in the process. You have difficulty in exactly determining your responsibilities, both to yourself and to others. Lacking this determination, you often trap yourself by indulging the whims of other people who take advantage of your willingness. Perhaps you feel guilty because in the past you were rather indifferent to others, and you are trying desperately to prove to yourself that you really care about other people. You are hoping to win approval and atone for past misdeeds in order to be finally free of liability. The pain of submitting to others is in proportion to the anxiety and guilt you feel when you don't.

Once you can psychologically get off the hook in this regard, there is much you can

accomplish for your own benefit. Military service, sports, conservation, and physical therapy are some of the fields to which you could constructively apply your talents. You might work in union activities or public welfare programs, for which you are qualified. If you are not careful, you may become involved in disputes between your co-workers, because you can be easily intimidated. Try to control your temper when such incidents develop, or you may spoil future opportunities for advancement. Concern yourself with personal matters and avoid getting involved in the affairs of others.

In relating to others, whether they are competitors or associates, you tend to consider them more gifted or competent than you, and you therefore assign yourself a position of relative unimportance. Learn to be expert in your chosen profession so that you don't have to seek confirmation of your expertise from others. You must know you're good at what you do in order to succeed.

Unless you are firm in your convictions, you may experience some irritating problems in your personal and romantic relationships. Some partners may try to take advantage of you until you demonstrate strength of character and thereby gain their respect. Don't allow anyone to use your feelings against you in a kind of emotional blackmail to gain your submission. You don't need the kind of person who would resort to such leverage. Also, the physical expression of love should be in keeping with your self-respect.

You may experience some physical problems, such as accidents that result in fractures, or somewhat immobilizing conditions such as arthritis or bursitis. As you get older you will tend to eliminate physical activity and exercise, but you should guard against becoming too inactive.

(Karen Hamaker-Zondag)

The inhibiting effect of Saturn on Mars comes out most strongly in the inconjunct. A secret, ill-defined uncertainty and fear bothers us as soon as we want to prove ourselves or take an active part in life. Quite possibly, we will stop short, or even fail to make a proper start, due to a growing feeling of incapacity. Although all Mars / Saturn aspects have a stop-go character, initially there is more stop than go about the inconjunct.

Also we find it hard to express a sense of responsibility; as soon as we emphasize Saturn, we undermine its influence by our actions (Mars) but, due to the fact that the aspect is an inconjunct, are slow to fathom what is wrong. Unintentionally, we can stand in our own light and suffer from a sense of inadequacy, anxiety and frustration. Yet in spite of these drawbacks, we are very ambitious and can become extremely irritated at the slightest reverse. Usually we vacillate between forcing the issue and creeping away from it; we have no idea of the whys and wherefores of our behavior.

Nevertheless, when we learn to adjust to the fact that our goal-setting and sense of responsibility (Saturn) seek to express themselves differently from our energy and executive ability (Mars), we can bring out the positive qualities of this aspect.

(Betty Lundsted)

Here the activity of Mars is influenced subtly by the restrictions of Saturn. The psychological effect of the father on the individual, the limitations within the psyche, are present but not obvious.

Action may be taken with gritted teeth, and others don't see this internal dilemma.

Sexuality may be inhibited in some way, for an image is retained in the psyche that says one shouldn't do that.

Natal Mars conjunct Uranus

(Haydn Paul)

This will give you a dynamic, powerful energy that you attempt to direct in pursuit of your ambitions. One difficulty can be in the often erratic flow of this volatile energy, which creates problems in consistent application. It will be seen as though an on-off switch is being internally activated by an unknown hand. This is the unpredictable instability of the Uranian vibration, which is interfering with the drive of Mars.

Even so, the power that you release is quite considerable; but you may have to learn how to apply it in ways that create the maximum benefit for yourself, perhaps through taking into account this irregular flow pattern, and organising yourself accordingly. When this energy is freely flowing, you will feel highly charged, and under the influence (or 'inebriation') of this energy you are liable to be quite impulsive. Actions can be taken without due thought or consideration, and this can create future difficulties, through following unwise choices. A lack of sensitivity to others, and a diminution of common sense, can occur; and you may look for ways to release the sudden pressure that can rapidly build up inside you. In extreme cases, this can be expressed through explosions of temper and anger at any provocation, even to the point of physical violence; certainly attempts to release the energy through verbal and emotionally directed violence towards a partner are common.

You prefer to retain as much independence as possible; and you are not one to bow to any authority. Basically, you are anti-establishment, a natural rebel, an anarchist. You see your own will and desires as paramount, following a purely personal code of behaviour which is determined by a self-centred perspective on life. You tend to insist on your right to be free to follow your own path and ambitions, and can experience relationship problems through this attitude, and may need to learn the values of co-operation to modify this tendency.

Your search for excitement is mainly in terms of physically based action, which can be through competitive sports, or in sexual conquests. You feel a strong need to 'feed' this urge for physical / material level action, and it is tied in with a need to prove yourself in relation to others, to prove that you are better than them in some chosen way.

In some ways, the rebellious spirit can find suitable channels through becoming an opponent of the Establishment, but one who is working from within a socially accepted framework, attempting to change society from within. It may be argued that this is the most effective way, to initiate constructive change through speaking out on behalf of a minority or disadvantaged social group. Irrespective of how you may express this tendency, you will tend to look for results to occur in the physical world as a reflection of your impact. You can have little patience for social rules, preferring to disregard them; but apart from you being penalised if you contravene them, you may have to learn the art of apparent conformity in order to create a foundation that you can work from in your own inimitable, subversive way.

Probably you will find that you become more effective if you can control the inner energy, so that you are able to direct it into predetermined channels of creative expression. The act of clarifying your aims, personal and social, will help this process. Careful consideration of your options and goals will lead to wiser choices at the times of activity, and a gradual transformation from self-preoccupation to becoming more

aware of the rights and feelings of others will be a great step for you to make. Learning to share and work with others in co-operation will offer scope for the fullest use of your talents and forceful energy, and will re-integrate you back into society as a positive revolutionary rather than just a negative reactionary.

(Robert Pelletier)

With Mars conjunct Uranus, you are unrestrained, forceful, and energetic in striving to achieve your goals. You establish your own rules and won't submit to anyone's restraints. As you work to get what you want out of life, you are completely uninhibited, guided by the belief that you must be free to do whatever is necessary to get what you want. There's never a dull moment when you're around, because you seek excitement, and when there isn't any, you create it.

This impulsiveness can cause you many problems. Society is stabilized by laws and rules of behavior, and the people who abide by them are irritated by your rebellious nature. If you truly want to accomplish your objectives, you will have to play by the rules.

Your courageous nature can best be used in occupations that require daring, such as sports, racing, mountain climbing, or exploration. Before contemplating any of these, however, be sure you understand that safeguards are necessary. Otherwise, the results will be tragic. Only a powerful Saturn in your chart can offer the protection you need.

You could easily become the champion for people who are too weak or perhaps too timid to demand social adjustment or change for themselves. You have the courage to instigate change by challenging powerful government officials. To dramatize your point, you may even threaten them, using the public support you've gained. Once you have all the evidence to confirm an allegation of wrongdoing, you won't be stopped from whatever action is needed to make sure that justice is served.

You have a powerful sex drive that cannot accept 'no' for an answer. You would be refused mainly by those who expect an emotional response in addition to a biological one. As far as this conjunction shows, you are primarily a 'taker' and not much of a 'giver'.

(Karen Hamaker-Zondag)

The executive ability and energy of Mars is placed under high tension by a conjunction with Uranus. With two impatient factors in such close contact, we feel the urge, even when very young, to go our own way as unconventionally as possible. There is something provocative and defiant about our behavior whenever we stand up for ourselves.

Our patience is not great: we have too much need of action, change and renewal. In one way or another, we are very alert to what is going on around us; and, because we are rather keyed up, we may suffer from nerves or slight overstrain. We are inclined to rush into things, but seldom finish them. And we are not good at co-ordinating our activities. Impulsiveness and lack of forethought are increased by Uranus; which can cause us to be brusque, capricious and sudden, not to say liable to the occasional fits of temper. Therefore this combination increases the risk of broken friendships and marriages; also of accidents. But the same swiftness of action makes us extremely adroit at handling difficult situations where snap decisions have to be taken.

The wayward self-will of Uranus produces a degree of obstinacy in the owners of

Mars / Uranus aspects. We can impetuously follow our own ideas in spite of anything anyone may do to stop us. We are very dynamic, and it is hard to resist our bold handling of affairs. We can shine brightly if given the chance to be ourselves; but being warned off or told what not to do arouses the fighting spirit, and then the destructive side of this combination puts in an appearance. Forbearance is not our strong point.

(Betty Lundsted)

If Mars represents the 'I act' principle and Uranus represents the erratic or self-willed tendencies of the personality, the combination can be indicative of an individual with a 'short fuse'. How this energy manifests will depend on the sign placement.

The energy level is usually high. People born with this aspect are aware of the inherent energy level, and by the time they reach their twenties they have learned something about channeling it.

In a sexual sense, the conjunction can indicate a strange, unusual or unorthodox sexuality, which can manifest as a slightly eccentric conditioning as well as include all forms of what is considered sexual perversion. The aspect should be synthesized with the other aspects involved in the conjunction; the Venus, Sun and Moon placements should be considered before determining that a Mars-Uranus conjunction is unhealthy. The aspect indicates precociousness, impulsive sexual relations, as well as impulsive physical reaction in general. This person may jump into emotional or sexual involvements without considering all the factors necessary in a relationship. This aspect can cause relationships with partners who are unusual types.

Because Mars represents the action taken to express the Sun potential in each individual, it's important to become conscious of the energy here. Uranus involves erratic behavior and one can take erratic action. The concept of self-will may need to be considered, for action may be too impetuous to accomplish what is desired on an overall level. The conjunction bestows a creative genius that may not be expressed until the less evolved qualities are disciplined.

(Charles Carter)

Will-power, courage, and dogged persistence characterise this aspect, though the nervous strain may be so great that the native breaks under it, fighting, as a rule, to the last. Paralysis must sometimes be feared from the tensions of Uranus. Often the character shows best in moments of danger but it has little patience under stress and strain. I have only known one case wherein, to date, it has been something of a dumb note; here it falls in Leo in the 12th and has externalised in the shape of dire suffering through the sickness of wife and children, as well as injuries at games.

Charubel, the astrological seer, had the conjunction in Capricorn; his natus exemplifies the occult side of Mars intensified by Uranus; Tennyson, who had the conjunction in Scorpio in the 6th, also had an interest in such things, but it was half-smothered by the age in which he lived.

Inharmonious aspects between these planets may in some measure denote weak-mindedness, probably through an actual malformation of the brain (Mars).

Natal Mars trine / sextile Uranus

Mars trine Uranus (Haydn Paul)

With the trine, the Mars and Uranus energies should be reconciled and capable of working well together. In several respects there is similarity with the sextile, although there will be less emphasis upon the level of mind as a dominating factor.

There will be a multiplicity of interests and fascinating areas of knowledge that will attract you; and you will demand that you have sufficient freedom to be able to explore them. Building upon the results of your studies and skills that you have developed, you will feel attracted towards ways of creativity which demonstrate your capacity for self-expression. Being creative is important to you; and once stimulated you may have the problem of choosing what idea to work with out of the many that appeal to you. Discipline can be necessary at such a point, once you decide to follow a creative project, so that you succeed in completing it, before diverting yourself into others.

Independence seems necessary for you; and that impatient, restless nature often makes you soon tire of any enclosing intimate relationships. You need a broader scope, with the stimulation of more people to offer more expansive horizons. Group involvements can help to satisfy such needs, as well as providing a focus for your energies. Potentially, you can become a leader of such groups; but if you do so, you may find that your independence becomes constrained and the accompanying duties and responsibilities are onerous. Organisational routines and predictability would limit your freedom - which you would hate. A routine life and employment will not suit you. A greater degree of mobility and choice of activity can be aimed towards building a lifestyle that satisfies your needs, rather than frustrating them. Otherwise, those nervous tensions will grow, and can lead to psychosomatic illness.

If your creative spirit is released, and you enter into a less conventional life, you will find that more unorthodox relationships are appropriate and liberating. A traditional marriage may feel limiting, assuming that this tends to imply a traditional lifestyle as well. Under social pressures to conform, people often find that they are being forced to live in certain ways that are inimical to their natural needs and desires as evolving individuals. Nonconformism is usually penalised, and demands a strong personality to oppose these pressures and so create a life that is appropriate for them. Most societies favour a predictable 'greyness' of population, rather than welcoming a multi-coloured richness that is harder to control.

Mars trine Uranus (Robert Pelletier)

The trine from Mars to Uranus shows that you act with originality and creative enthusiasm. There is a feeling of drama in the way you express yourself. Although you are impatient, it is only because you are always excited about what interests you. You demand freedom in order to exploit your creative potentials and to indulge yourself when you choose. Your energy is boundless, and you have innumerable projects to keep you busy. You feel sorry for people who are trapped in limiting circumstances, because you realize how these can destroy creative development.

You are best suited for occupations that give you mobility and self-determination. The nine-to-five scene is just too routine and full of restrictions. You should become involved with group activities, where your leadership qualities can be used to best advantage. Exploratory enterprises, research, invention, travel, industrial sales, and engineering are some of the occupations that could provide you with the kind of incentive you need.

Even politics could be fascinating for your abundant creative talents. You enjoy being with people who are exciting, progressive, and interested primarily in the developments of tomorrow.

You do need to learn greater moderation, though, and you must be patient if others don't act with your decisiveness. Occasionally you need to unwind to ease the nervous tension that frequently builds up. You may not realize how abusive this can be to your physical condition, for you pride yourself on getting along with no let-up and little rest.

In your romantic affairs, you are impulsive and restless. It goes without saying that you have strong sexual needs. You don't tolerate rejection with grace. The limiting ties of marriage are not of much interest to you, and you disdainfully view the conventional life as a relic from the past. You prefer to enjoy a wide circle of friends who can give you a variety of pleasures. Others may envy you for your exciting life-style.

Mars sextile Uranus (Haydn Paul)

With the sextile and trine aspects, the more positive use of the Mars-Uranus energy is displayed through activities designed to be of social benefit. Whilst you will intellectually challenge the established patterns of social thought and behaviour which you believe inhibit individual freedom, your intent is to provoke new thinking which can offer the potential of new horizons to explore. All new directions and spheres of progress that humanity has taken have emerged from someone questioning the current state of affairs and then seeing new alternatives.

Mentally, you will have a restless, curious nature, which can find an effective outlet through applied research and study in whichever areas of enquiry attract you. You are not an intellectual dilettante, and prefer to delve deeply enough to gain a real comprehension of any subject; this can also free that ability for more original independent thinking, and it is possible that you will receive insights that enable you to make a significant contribution to that subject. You will prefer a futuristic dimension to your enquiries, thus satisfying the Uranian impulse and providing an opportunity to benefit others too.

Even though you have this ability for specific focusing, you will also expand into exploring a wide variety of interests and topics. At times you may move rapidly between disparate spheres of knowledge, but you will eventually settle down to focus upon one area in particular. You may find some difficulty in perseverance and applying your energy consistently to achieve your aims. Sometimes a sudden diminution of your interest and energy may occur, which brings to a halt any progress you are making. When the energy flows again, you may be interested in something new; this is the erratic Uranian influence.

Communication is important to you. There may be an attraction to teaching in some way, both for the satisfaction you can receive in sharing knowledge with people, and in the platform offered for you to express your opinions. These are likely to be radical and unorthodox, but you have enough intellectual confidence in your knowledge to feel quite prepared to stand by your arguments against any opponents. Discussions of ideas can fascinate you; and you enjoy such encounters, seeing them as intellectual combat, where your more aggressive Mars energy can be used. Your approach is often based on strategy and skill; and even in friendly discussions you dislike being intellectually defeated. You enjoy stirring dissent, and proposing disturbing concepts and ideas to attack the power of the status quo, both in society and in individuals.

In relationships, you need a strong intellectual and physical bond. An area of weakness can lie in a disregard and lack of sympathetic understanding of the emotions. These are often relegated in your sense of priorities; and the more subtle dimensions of them are ignored in favour of the more basic emotional / physical passions and the interests of the mind. Restrictions are rejected in intimate relationships; and a self-preoccupation can dominate and cause later problems. However, you tend to commit yourself to seeing through those decisions that you do take, so a marriage commitment can help to modify these tendencies, provided that your partner is strong enough to encourage you to modify any selfish behaviour in the interests of mutual harmony.

Mars sextile Uranus (Robert Pelletier)

The sextile between Mars and Uranus shows that you have a restless, impatient nature and are constantly seeking outlets for your energy. Your curiosity is insatiable. You have strong opinions, which you are never afraid to state. Once you have determined what you will do, you act immediately. You cannot stand dawdlers and people who can't make up their minds. You are a strategist, and your plans are successful, but you always feel that a job you do can be improved on later. Although you have enormous energy, you must be careful that you don't bring on nervous strain by driving yourself impatiently to achieve your objectives.

You can work best in occupations requiring originality, intellectual skills, and alertness. Because you are aware of the present, yet compelled by the future, you are especially suited for work in research and development. Your excitement is knowing you've made a positive contribution to a better future for everyone's benefit. All levels of teaching would give you the satisfaction of making a significant personal contribution to others.

Your interests are varied, and you try to take part in as many as possible. You are likely to succeed in any activity you take up, because you invest a great deal of energy to increase the odds of success. You don't accept defeat. With your particular skill in argument and persuasive delivery, you can easily shatter any opponent's position.

An intellectual rebel, you are quick to challenge old ideas and doctrines that have outlived their usefulness. You demonstrate your concern for society by actively taking part in socially beneficial programs or by stirring up dissent to provoke necessary changes.

In your personal relationships, the one you love must have similar attitudes and mutual interest

in order to avoid frustration when your partner tries to restrict you.

Mars trine or sextile Uranus (Karen Hamaker-Zondag)

The restlessness, impatience, overactivity and self-will of the conjunction are also seen here. Mars and Uranus stimulate one another whenever they are mutually in aspect, so here, too, we have a need to live our own life, to interest ourselves in new things, and, above all, to look for excitement. The harmonious aspects offer the advantage that circumstances are more likely to swing our way. Originality and reforming zeal give us the opportunity to become the independent, pioneering leader of a group.

We are quick to seize fresh opportunities, and expect others to do the same. On the other hand, we lack patience, and have only a limited capacity for co-operation; but

where we have to make a solo effort we can do outstandingly well - because it fits in better with our deep-rooted love of liberty. The changeability and fickleness of Uranus make an impact on energy and executive ability; therefore we find it hard to remain long at the same task - we do need varied activities, not to mention a certain amount of challenge and adventure. With the harmonious aspects, we usually know how to create or find situations in which we obtain what we seek. The abruptness of a Mars / Uranus combination always makes itself felt and even with the harmonious aspects we have to be guarded in our actions, which can sometimes be disruptive.

Uranian tension is not far to seek in the harmonious aspects, and from time to time we may suffer from nervous diseases and overstrain. With this combination, we seldom rest; for although the harmonious aspects tend to be rather passive, two such active planets in combination will put this passivity to flight. Provided life is full of action and variety, and provided we get the opportunity to show what we can do, we can be extremely creative and innovative - quite often in technical / mechanical fields.

Mars trine Uranus (Betty Lundsted)

An astrology teacher once described this aspect as the mark of genius. Uranus indicates erratic, unconventional behavior; Mars indicates action. If the action taken is unorthodox or unconventional and constructively applied, this individual can bring new ideas into his generation. However, if the ideas or behavioral attitudes are merely unconventional, the aspect may reflect a person who thinks he is creative only because he is 'different'.

In order to determine whether or not the aspect is functioning creatively, the rest of the chart must be synthesized, for the creative energy expresses better when action is taken because we like ourselves. If either the Sun or the Moon is afflicted, perhaps the creative energy will not manifest until this person becomes conscious of the need to bring body and soul into context. Once the Sun and Moon energy find appropriate expression, this individual has creative energy at his disposal.

Mars sextile Uranus (Betty Lundsted)

Mars represents the 'I act' principle and Uranus indicates the behavior of the generation we are born into, as well as the part of us that expresses as self-will before it evolves consciously.

The sextile indicates that the action patterns formed by this individual in childhood were well received by the parents. The early environment demonstrated the ability to act (or sex) in a manner that expressed the will, allowing the child room for being 'different' so that he could form his own particular value system. The value system can be diagnosed from the signs and houses.

Mars trine or sextile Uranus (Charles Carter)

The contacts between these planets are of an important character, producing some of the most marked results of any aspects. They are valuable, and yet, unless the planets are well placed by sign and have no other aspects of a discordant kind, they may be somewhat critical, even when they are technically of a benefic nature.

They greatly add to the energy, vigour, decision, and will-power of the native, who is very rarely of a milk-and-water or nondescript character. He will as a rule know his own mind excellently well, and much will depend on the rest of the chart, for, unless this shows sense and judgement, the strength of Mars-Uranus may lead to disaster because of its very strength and courage.

It tends to give physical robustness, the ability to stand hard conditions, and the capacity for hard work; but even thus, cross aspects from other bodies may result in high nervous tension and an overwrought condition, the will, as it were, tearing the body asunder. In one case known to me there is a trine between Mars (Taurus) and Uranus (Virgo) with a cross aspect to the latter from the Sun (Sagittarius). Here the heart has suffered, as the outcome of nervous strain, and the native is almost an invalid. In another case, with the same trine from the same signs, but with Sun and Saturn in square to Uranus from Gemini, there is indomitable courage, but it is spent in an uphill fight with poverty and sickness. It may be said that any ill aspect to the harmonious Mars-Uranus combination will occasion a greater or less degree of nerve-tension.

This tension seems to externalise itself frequently in the form of accidents or assault. Even among those who possessed good aspects between these planets this is sometimes exemplified. For instance, Queen Victoria and King Edward VII both had them, but in each case there were attempts on the life, which may in part be ascribed to these positions. Wallenstein was a great leader, with that personal fascination that goes with good aspects of Uranus, but he was assassinated. Sometimes the attack takes the form of slander.

But as a rule grave danger need not be anticipated from the good aspects, and on the other hand they bestow excellent qualities, particularly for those who are called on to deal with difficult, arduous, or perilous conditions. Only if the rest of the chart is weak or violent does the Mars-Uranus trine or sextile seem to be involved in the general crisis.

Natal Mars square / opposition Uranus

Mars square Uranus (Haydn Paul)

The square will be felt as an inner tension: you are torn between the Uranian search for freedom and a deep need to feel safe and secure. This is a clash between the familiar patterns of the known and the siren call of the potential of the unknown.

This is likely to be felt as a fear of commitment and risk. Whilst you will be attracted towards greater freedom, with the possibility of creating a context where you can be more fully yourself, the likelihood is that you will resist the impulse. As you analyse your options, you prefer to play safe, as you cannot obtain these cast-iron guarantees that you would like as to the future success of your choices. This inner frustration that is likely to build up can cause stress, as a part of your nature is being denied and repressed.

You are liable to feel some emotional unease, where you are afraid of allowing full emotional expression, or even properly acknowledging your emotional nature. It is a fear of 'letting go' that is the root of this difficulty, where emotional or material losses are to be avoided if at all possible. This may have arisen through childhood experiences of loss which deeply affected you, or through a pattern developing that too strongly identified your self with people or possessions, so that with any withdrawal or removal of them from your life, you felt that you were losing part of yourself.

You will feel that you need to keep a tight control on life, trying to ensure that chance and predictability are fended off; in this sense, you accept the more grounding energy of Mars, whilst denying the unsettling but potentially liberating energy of Uranus. You apply the Mars energy in terms of conservation, ensuring a protection of

your resources through prudent and cautious organisation. You intend to apply yourself diligently to your objectives, even if you expect that they will take longer to achieve without taking risks; the problem is that for varying reasons, your intentions often fail to be realised, perhaps through an impatient Uranus unravelling those attempts at persistent effort. Or your interest wanes as you reach a point where a more risky decisive step has to be taken. When that journey of a thousand miles requires the taking of the first step, you may decide not to travel anywhere, preferring established security.

Yet you may find that you are willing to allow the Uranian impulse to move freely in your life. This could initially arise as a result of a phase of denial where some external circumstance beyond your control throws you into a period of confusion and turmoil. Redundancy or the sudden collapse of a marriage could be triggers for Uranus to break through that dam. Certainly, it will not be denied expression for all your life, and that side of the square will need to be accepted and integrated.

There is potential that even while maintaining your relative control you could safely begin to open up to new horizons, to explore other interests, to expand and liberate your limiting conception of your nature and life. There are strong foundations there, and you should be able to build efficiently upon them. To achieve those ambitions and personal desires, you will have to take some risks at some point. If you are not committed to achieving them, then it is unlikely that you will ever succeed, because your focus and energy flow will be too diffused and unconcentrated to generate the necessary momentum. That erratic will-power needs to be drawn through into a regular consistent direction. If you can succeed in liberating that inner frustrating tension, you would be surprised how effectively that energy could be applied to reach your aims, instead of clashing within you. Your personal relationships would also improve as the stress began to disperse, and you felt that a great weight was lifting away from your shoulders. Releasing that pent-up, potentially violent energy could mean the dawn of a new era of personal creative enrichment. To free yourself from the restrictions of this square aspect, you have to open up to life's insecurities and risks. It's your choice.

Mars square Uranus (Robert Pelletier)

The square from Mars to Uranus shows that you have a strong desire to be free to exploit yourself without hesitation or restraint. However, the fear of emotional or material losses reduces this drive to prudent levels. You must have self-control in order to conserve your personal resources, and you should have some guarantee of safety in any deliberate action that you take. You may feel much anxiety and apprehension for accomplishing less than you could if security were not an important consideration. Before you begin any contemplated action, you must be assured that the effort will not have been wasted.

An undercurrent of measured caution always accompanies your professional activities. Because of this, it will take longer to realize your goals. Once you achieve your objectives, however, they will be far more permanent because their foundation is solid. You will still be impatient, though, for postponing projects can be aggravating. There is no alternative, unless you go ahead, taking the chance that others won't resist you and challenge your desires.

Your romantic needs are strong, since your desires are well-developed. But the responsibility associated with emotional satisfaction may deter you from every marrying. If you readily accept responsibility, then the urge to marry may occur early in life. Otherwise, you will have to relate to someone who can accept an arrangement without legal sanction.

You should avoid machinery until you learn to protect yourself. You must acquire a healthy respect for safety. Try not to exceed the limits of your physical capabilities, and if you are in doubt about whether to indulge in a physical activity, your decision should be negative.

If you are in charge of others in your work, don't expect them to perform as you would. They may not have your drive. Above all, moderation in all things should be your guide.

Mars opposition Uranus (Haydn Paul)

The energies generated by the opposition aspect are often projected out into the external world; and this will be true in respect of the powerful energy released by this Mars-Uranus aspect. If this is expressed through a more integrated consciousness, which is sure of the direction to travel, then its impact can be considerable. If it is manifesting through a less integrated personality, then it can create real problems in life.

Again, the revolutionary tendency is very strong, and you will have a natural antipathy towards traditions and static patterns of acceptable social lifestyles.

Your attitude will be anti-authoritarian, and you will be iconoclastic in your questioning of the status quo, and critical of those who are in positions of social responsibility and power. Hypocrisy from 'leaders especially upsets you, and you can be scathing in denouncing it. In fact, you probably have developed a fairly demanding set of personal principles and ideals from which you perceive the world.

You tend to expect less from 'ordinary people', acknowledging their frailties; but you expect the highest standards from social leaders. Concepts of social justice, equality and change attract you, and this can draw you into relationships with revolutionary or reactionary political groups. Depending upon the overall bias of the chart, your radicalism could be directed towards a re-creation of past patterns or a new creation to suit future needs and realities. Generally though, with the Uranian impulse it will be future-orientated, and this will lead you to more altruistic liberal and humanitarian groups.

Your personality can be very assertive, even aggressive and combative. You have an image of yourself 'at war' with whatever you disagree with, whether this is just a war that you fight in your own head, or it is one that you externalise by opposing social establishments that you dislike. There is a stimulation for you in conflict; and whilst it may not always be openly displayed, you enjoy competition and intend to win and dominate. This is reminiscent of the Scorpio characteristics, which are reflected through this aspect, with the Mars-Scorpio link and Uranus exalted in Scorpio. The quality of assertiveness could be extrovertedly expressed, stridently and powerfully, or quietly through the power of a strong personal presence.

You enjoy arguments and discussions; here the stimulation of ideas, beliefs and attitudes can be enriching. Often you play devil's advocate on ideas, just to enjoy the sparks that can fly; but if it is on a subject close to your heart, then a more passionate, committed side of you emerges, one that is determined to 'win' the argument.

You oppose in principle any restrictions to individual freedoms, although in practice and with serious consideration, you do tend to impose 'limits' for valid social reasons. Your main thrust is towards a broadening of personal freedoms, and the creation of

more variety and scope for potential experience and opportunity in life. If discipline is imposed upon you, and you feel that you are imprisoned in a stultifying routine, then you will rise to oppose it; however, for your own purposes you can be highly motivated and self-disciplined.

Freedom is extremely important to you, and is the key to developing your own uniqueness. You feel that you have to get your own way, and this can cause problems if you are too selfish about this demand. If denied, you feel emotionally frustrated, and this becomes a form of pent-up physical tension, which in extreme cases could result in violence. Tendencies to be arrogant, authoritarian and too self-willed can cause friction in social and intimate relationships. If your lifestyle becomes inhibiting, then this can also create explosions of sudden temper and excessive arguing to release inner pressures.

Whilst you see yourself as an outsider, a loner following a personal path, there is an underlying lack of self-confidence, which Scorpio-like is hidden beneath the mask. You insist on finding and making your own way in life, pursuing one's 'dharma' (own truth), and will be like the traditional stubborn mule if anyone else tries to lead you against your will. You learn from life's hard experiences, and indeed, you tend to accept and welcome such intensity and challenges. Often, you will be tempted to throw off the binding shackles of the past, slough off the old skin like a snake, and burn those bridges to leave yourself free to travel forward into the bright future. You seem as though you know what you are doing, and appear to be optimistic, but this is the glow of a belief in your own ability to succeed, to cross those challenging abysses. You may need to unify your will and clarify your desires so that they work more in harmony.

Potentially, this aspect if rightly applied through a reabsorption of any negative projections back into yourself for transformation, can offer a 'magical' ability to succeed in your aims. The 'enemy' is not just 'out there'; and you need to use the tension for self-transformation, to balance out the relationship between yourself and society, so that your revolutionary spirit manifests as an agent for the evolutionary spiral of human progression.

Mars opposition Uranus (Robert Pelletier)

With Mars opposition Uranus, you have a genius for arousing others to challenge you. You enjoy competition, and have a flair for gaining dominance over others. The simple fact is, you are arrogant, demanding, and authoritative in your dealings, which tends to disarm people. You seem to thrive on bickering and argument, even if you aren't serious about it. This is just another way to provide continuing excitement.

Your behavior has little to do with your competence, although your forwardness often convinces others that you know what you are doing. With your flair for expression, you should seek occupations such as selling, politics, group interests, or science, that depend on this quality. You could become interested in hazardous occupations like flying, racing, exploring, or mountain climbing, but you must be extremely careful and take all safety precautions. Because you are accident-prone, these endeavors are not recommended. You tend to throw caution to the winds, especially when someone is watching. Your desire for approval is so strong that you will even risk danger to gain it.

You don't tolerate any restrictions on your freedom and mobility, and need to be constantly on the move. Is this because you are afraid others will discover how insecure you really are? Perhaps your life-style is a defence against admitting that you are mainly a 'physical' person.

You aren't the easiest person to get along with. Your outbursts of temper and cantankerous attitude really rub people the wrong way. A revolutionary, you are basically against tradition with all its limits to individuality. You are critical of anyone who wields authority, and want your own way so much that you become violent when anyone tries to deny it. Your unpredictable nature may cause you to lose dear friends who will not tolerate your arrogance.

Mars square or opposition Uranus (Karen Hamaker-Zondag)

The tense aspects are the most difficult to live with: we find it extremely hard to curb energy (Mars) because Uranus keeps it under constant tension. Strained and restless, we easily become irritable and quick-tempered. The (often unintentional) disruption caused by this combination is great; hence its traditional association with separation and divorce. Reactions are usually too sharp, too rash, too thoughtless and too energetic in situations which call for calm. Also, with these aspects, we are inclined to go our own way at all costs; and this can cause conflicts at school when we are still young. Whenever possible we do as we please, and being prevented from doing as we please drives us wild (to an extent that depends on the rest of the horoscope). In any case, we enjoy being provocative.

We are virtually unable to control our energy: Uranus itself would make energy control difficult, even if it did not throw a hard aspect. It is impossible to stick at the same thing for long. We frequently hop from one thing to another without getting anywhere. This is a shame, because the combination packs enough power to move mountains.

We are eager to express (Mars) our longing to be free and our originality (Uranus); but, with tense aspects, are liable to emphasize them unduly. The consequence can be asocial or even antisocial behavior; but at epochs when a break has to be made with outworn values, we come into our own. The destructiveness inherent in the Mars / Uranus combination can be channelled into fighting sports (preferably not dangerous) and into occupations such as woodcutting, where we literally break things up: the release of tension helps us to handle energy better.

Mars square Uranus (Betty Lundsted)

Mars is the indicator of the action principle and how the qualities of self reflected by the Sun archetype will be expressed. Uranus indicates the overall behavior of the generation we are born into, as well as how eccentric or self-willed we are.

The square indicates that the peer interests or behavior patterns of the individual may keep him from taking action that reflects the interests of his Sun. Action taken may be more impulsive than well-thought-out; and impulsive action is sometimes somewhat self-destructive. The goals, the overall scheme, the best-laid plans can be totally forgotten in a moment of anger. The early childhood environment reflects parents who may have impulsively put a stop to the individual's activity in some way. This aspect can indicate some form of abuse toward the individual, either physical or emotional in nature. If the square also ties to planets that symbolize the mother and father, the source of the abuse can be determined.

On a sexual level, the individual may bring a great deal of anger into relationships. The aspect is sometimes found in adults who have some need to hurt either themselves or others because of the sex drive. The energy will manifest differently depending on the signs involved.

A woman with this square will function a bit differently from how a man will, for she may get into a self-destructive situation apparently caused by the kind of lover she chooses.

The energy can be creative once it is channeled properly, but that has to be learned. Part of the learning process includes taking responsibility for one's actions, learning to see how behavior patterns conflict with what one wants. Because Uranus represents the behavior pattern of a generation, this can indicate a person whose action conflicts with that of the peer group, and the conflict can manifest in either a constructive or a destructive manner. The choice is ours. If this energy is rechanneled, it brings out the creative genius that lies buried beneath the anger, for this aspect can indicate a brilliant mind.

Mars opposition Uranus (Betty Lundsted)

The action principle essentially describes the action taken (through Mars) to represent the Sun sign archetype. Uranus indicates how the generation behaves as well as the kinds of eccentricities to which an individual is prone.

When the opposition is in effect, the action taken by the individual is compromised or colored by the behavior pattern; he may not relate well to his peer group. This individual may take self-willed or erratic action rather than make necessary compromises in life. In some cases, he may be violent when angered or threatened. Because the will is involved in the action aspect, this individual may be overly willful and want immediate satisfaction because constant internal pressure is at play. The childhood environment was unpredictable, and this person may have been so repressed at home that high anger levels are considered 'normal'.

When people act one way and feel compromised by their eccentric needs, the action taken may not only be unproductive, but these individuals feel internally angry with themselves. If the anger is projected onto others; if others are blamed for the mistakes created by those who have this aspect, then the energy is destructive. They will have to learn to act in such a manner that any eccentricities within the nature also have a chance for constructive expression. When the anger is directed neither at the self nor at others, the energy is free to express creatively.

When attempting to determine where this behavior pattern comes from, check the planets that reflect the effect of the mother or father. This person may have been abused as a child. If so, much resentment may be harbored toward the parent, along with guilt because one is not supposed to hate one's parents. It's important that the anger be understood and not suppressed, for until the energy is free to flow, the creativity cannot be released. This person may wish to undergo analysis to get help breaking the old pattern.

Mars square or opposition Uranus (Charles Carter)

Here we get a good deal of self-will and eccentricity. There is no lack of energy, but it is often fitful and ill-directed, and the native is often a relative failure, being unable for some reason to make as good use of his talents as might reasonably be expected. Ill-temper is common, but is not always present; sometimes there is a tendency rather to fretfulness and erratic self-will; the native may be blunt and abrupt, or irritable and querulous. Sometimes the nervous conditions lead to shyness and retirement. The native is often what is known as edgy or cornery, and is frequently not well fitted for ordinary existence; it is distinctly unfavourable for married life or for any restricted or ordered way of living, but it is not an aspect which as a rule indicates any essential ill-nature or vice.

Like all combinations which create a desire for freedom and unrestriction, this often externalises in the shape of suicidal tendencies, the native being unfitted to brook patiently the check and delays that occur in most walks of life. Patience is a virtue that is seldom present, and humility is also rare. The native is likely to scorn diplomacy and any kind of manoeuvring, and is prone to throw up the sponge as soon as this is called for. In a word, he wants his own way at all costs.

As we have mentioned before, there are often attacks on the native's morals or honour, and sometimes there are direct assaults on his person, provided other more vital points are afflicted as well.

Accidents are not infrequent, and these aspects do not make for longevity, for there is seldom much placidity with Mars-Uranus; and the ability to acquiesce cheerfully and readily in the dispensation of Providence is not often very noticeable. There is often a disposition to take risks, and to overwork.

Natal Mars quincunx Uranus

(Robert Pelletier)

With the inconjunct from Mars to Uranus, you function with great drive and originality, but you always seem to be under some pressure. Perhaps you are trying to prove something to yourself or to others. Why are you killing yourself? Is it so important to convince others of your talent that you will risk physical exhaustion in the process? You sometimes act as though you were expected to do more than everyone else. Learn to distinguish responsibility from abuse. It may be that your deep concern for your future drives you to do everything immediately. There is more time than you know, so first establish your priorities, and then you can accomplish all you want.

There is an element of guilt underlying your intense preoccupation with doing more than your share. This is extremely important in your occupation. Make sure that others don't make demands of you that are physically impossible or perhaps unnecessary. It is easy for others to impose on you, but only if you permit it. Don't be a patsy for other people's incompetence. You admire those who seem successful, and try to emulate them, but this can lead to even greater frustration. Try to exploit your own creativity and uniqueness, for they are your individual contributions, through which you will gain independence.

Learn to be independent of people who challenge the way you do things. If you don't, you're merely an extension of them. You don't take criticism easily; and to avoid it, you yield. If you fight for the freedom to 'do your own thing', in time you will gain the respect of others, and they will back off.

Even in your romantic interests, you show signs of latent insecurity about your competence. You lean toward those who seem totally in command of themselves, even if they make demands of you. You must be admired, though, for the assistance you give others who truly need it.

(Karen Hamaker-Zondag)

Where there are two impulsive and active forces, one of which secretly energizes the other, there is a big risk that we shall behave thoughtlessly and cause upsets without intending to do so. Whenever we take positive action (Mars), Uranian impatience unconsciously comes into play, and we may be more rude or more awkward than we suppose. What has been painstakingly built up can be blown to smithereens in this

way. Many times during life, we shall see things crumble around us - due, we think, to circumstances beyond our control, though all the while the reason lies in our own subliminal field of tension. Even when we want to be original and to make room for personal development (Uranus), we are apt to force the issue (Mars) and to put too much energy into it; encountering, as a result, more resistance than we expected. The latter irritates us, and we become involved in a vicious circle, with self-will and belligerence alienating us from those around us.

As in the hard aspects, we need to find a safety valve for excess tension and energy to enable us to function in a more efficient and balanced way; although we must learn to live with our restlessness.

(Betty Lundsted)

Mars represents 'I act' and Uranus indicates 'I behave'. The combination here brings a subtle strain that can be interpreted via the signs and houses involved. Other people won't notice the problem, but it brings some inner consternation to those who own the aspect. Both energies need to manifest, and find appropriate expression.

Natal Mars conjunct Neptune

(Haydn Paul)

This conjunction can pose several difficulties: in choice of actions, where you may struggle to establish what your real aims are; in making that final decision to attempt to achieve them, and in ensuring that sufficient and persistent effort is then made to guarantee success. An unintegrated Neptune can dissolve that focused will, making decisive clarity difficult to maintain. Additionally, you tend to avoid accepting the consequences of your choices, and there can be a refusal to acknowledge responsibility when such actions lead to failure or negative results.

Part of this derives from lack of prior consideration and a willingness to sometimes jump into action on impulse alone; yet this is often used as a spur to be decisive. 'I didn't know it would turn out like that...' is used as a defensive excuse, and is probably true because possible repercussions were not evaluated. Yet continuing with such an approach is essentially avoiding personal responsibility. You may realise eventually that most actions you take on impulse go awry in some respect, rarely fulfilling your initial intention.

This issue related to choice and action is one which needs clarification and resolving. You may find that it is beneficial to pause before acting on impulse, and sensible to slow down and take time to consider the likely results of your decision. This may then show you alternative routes to take, or may even dissuade you from taking action at all. As Mars will influence you to be more dynamically assertive, you need to take into account your effects on other people too, especially any family and those closest to you. This may then modify your more self-centred tendencies and ensure that through insensitivity you do not then create unnecessary pain for anyone.

You can be quite attractive to others, as the Mars-Neptune energies combine to create a potentially dynamic glamour, yet this apparent combination of action and sensitivity can often be superficial when the Mars characteristics are dominating the more subtle Neptune ones, which is more often the situation. Neptunian qualities come through disguised as a flexibility of personality, a set of masks and images that you almost automatically assume in your relations with people and in social or work environments. You recognise that these lead to some inner confusion, especially in respect of decision-making; but they are also usable for self-projection. You quite

enjoy playing with these masks and feeling that your real intentions are hidden within a secret persona; you do not really like others to know you too well.

This leads to the attraction of acting behind images, and there is often a dramatic side to your nature, perhaps through some creative expression or even theatre work, where imagination can flourish in an evocative situation and you can be hidden behind the mask, performing a role. Certainly you will develop a favourite image of yourself which is projected out for others to see you through. Some have affinities with medicine and healing abilities; even here, you may hide behind the image of nurse, doctor, consultant or psychic healer. Alternatively, your dreams and desires about yourself could be unrealistic; and whilst you aspire to great status and achievement, your lack of will or application and your impracticality defeat you. Ultimately, your image of self-elevation may only exist within your imagination.

Steps can be taken to improve matters though. Feeling able to release your blocked imagination into daily life is important, because whilst initially such a move may be glamorous and ineffective, you can learn to direct it towards deliberate intentions, and so use it as a powerful energy to achieve your aims. Techniques of creative visualisation are recommended to take advantage of this process of mental imagination, and can help to re-create your life. Future planning can help you to gain greater control too, so that there is less opportunity for something unconsidered to destroy your intention. And working hard to actually achieve viable skills is another way of helping yourself; if you do not do this, that unintegrated Neptune will serve only to dissolve those dreams instead of helping to fulfil them.

In intimate relationships, more awareness will probably be needed. A combination of impulsive Mars and the self-deluding tendency of Neptune may conspire to show you the pain of disappointing illusions in love. Mars can encourage you into sudden passionate affairs, caught within the glimmers of a new lover, but when you are directed by purely unconscious motivations the likelihood is that suffering will result, as a prompt to make you more aware the next time. Be wary of any personal tendencies toward self-deception and deceiving others or being deceived; these may be likely, and can be associated with the sphere of the conjunction's natal house. Try to remain honest and frank, as communication is vital in relationships, and you have a tendency both to be emotionally vulnerable and to have unusual emotional needs, so the quality of your intimate relationships should ideally be high.

(Robert Pelletier)

You have the planet Mars conjunct Neptune, indicating some conflict between your impulses to act and your willingness to accept responsibility for the results of your actions. You may not deliberately avoid the consequences, but it is often difficult for you to clearly see the burden of guilt. Your imagination is sometimes blocked because you are unable to plan ahead well enough, and you allow chance to determine the results. Almost everything you do on impulse will prove disappointing. Before you act, you must realistically weigh the energy you are investing against the probable effects. You are inclined to ignore reality and the feelings of others when you assert yourself.

People are drawn by your magnetic appeal. You easily take on characteristics that will please others and not appear threatening to them. The theatre and related fields are especially suited to your active imagination and great creative potential. With your acting talent, you can also successfully 'play the role' in many professional activities. To gain acceptance in your field of interest, you may have to resort to subterfuge. However, honestly developed skills must soon replace the act, if you expect to retain your position. If other factors of your chart indicate caution, reserve,

and responsibility, medicine may be the best field for your sensitive nature.

Be extremely careful in your romantic relationships. What may seem to be true love could turn out to be merely an escapade for you or your partner. Such a disappointment would be very painful. It is easy for you to become entrapped in an alliance that would be embarrassing if it were revealed. Don't deceive others, or you risk being deceived by them too. Any contacts you make must be made honestly.

Be wary of medication unless a physician advises it. Good hygiene is essential, for you are more susceptible to infection than others.

(Karen Hamaker-Zondag)

When the desire for self-preservation, executive ability and energy (Mars) conjuncts a need to blur the borders and thus to refine, to idealize or to make things fluid (Neptune), very divergent and apparently conflicting elements may be expected. The background of the signs plays an important role in this, however.

If Mars has few or no dignities, Neptune may drain the energy of Mars, leaving less resilience, less self-assertion, and less pugnacity than one would normally expect. Even if Mars is well-fortified, Neptune will still undermine, and the Martian influence will be rather impersonal and idealistic, yet will work in such a way that we can throw glamor around ourselves and we appeal to others as very lovable. For film stars and models, this aspect is ideal. Incompatible as the two factors may seem, they do interact. That is to say, Neptune transforms the manifestation of Mars: either the energy is reduced, or else the attitude is relatively free from Martian egotism and so indefinite that others read into it what they will.

The conjunction also makes us a trifle woolly-minded but idealistic. We want to help humanity and can work hard for a social cause. We regard Martian energy as something to be used for the group rather than for personal ends: the collective within us takes precedence over the individual. Therefore a Mars / Neptune conjunction can cause a certain amount of trouble with relationships.

Neptune is a planet capable of producing glamorous, shimmering illusions, whereas Mars gives a need for down-to-earth activity. Therefore we can be very romantic, but are liable to deception by an internal dream-world, which we may also project on the things we see around us. A plus point here is that, for the professional artist, this is a fine aspect which enhances his or her powers of expression.

(Betty Lundsted)

Mars symbolizes the action principle; Neptune adds fantasy, illusion or delusion to any facet of the action principle. In one sense, this conjunction can indicate inspired action; it conveys creative activity. It may also indicate a person who doesn't know what he's doing.

Since Mars rules sexuality, the Neptune influence indicates one full of fantasy and delusion; and that fantasy can manifest in myriad ways. It can indicate the person who must have a spiritual and inspired sexual relationship; it may reflect the person who wants to live out all his sexual fantasies. To determine whether or not the conjunction suggests those who may have unprofitable or strange sexual relationships, one must check the other aspects in the chart to see if sex is viewed as something abnormal. If so, the conjunction will support that abnormality; if not, the conjunction will reflect a person who may be at least an interesting sex partner. Sexual dysfunctions will be indicated by other aspects to Mars, Moon or Venus. If the

Sun is afflicted, the person may have an unhealthy self-image and therefore take sexual action that reflects his self-image.

This particular conjunction must be interpreted according to the additional aspects to it, for the energy will syncretize all the planets involved. If the individual develops a sense of self-worth and becomes trained in metaphysical principles, the energy can be indicative of brilliance.

(Charles Carter)

This is a very potent feature in any chart. The temperament is often fond of romance, colourful things, painting, ritual, music, dancing, and similar expressions of the emotions. There may be vanity and much self-approbation, with lofty aspirations which tend beyond the possible and desirable. The enthusiasms are not always wise or well-controlled. There may be an analytic tendency, a desire to plumb the depths, or there may be a soaring ambition, but the native seldom seeks ordinary or merely routine things.

With respect to externalities, things ruled by the house wherein the conjunction falls are likely to present intricate and important problems; and perhaps ill-will and cunning will be aimed at the native from those directions. Sometimes there may be great apparent success and power in regard to the matters denoted by the house-position and rulerships, but often this proves illusory or is marred by treachery. Bitter disappointment and disillusionment may follow on bright beginnings. As a typical example, in the 5th house, still-born children may occur.

Natal Mars trine / sextile Neptune

Mars trine Neptune (Haydn Paul)

The energies of the trine should enable you to become a practical idealist, where the spheres of personal relationships and social obligations are highlighted in your experience. Mars will provide you with a powerhouse of energy to use, and Neptune will indicate suitable directions for expression.

This will be through a heart sensitivity to the problems of others, either individually or on a more impersonal, collective scale, and you will feel motivated to share in aspects of social responsibility. Fortunately, most of your personal aims can be achieved within such a framework, and so you may be attracted towards socially orientated work, especially in the fields of welfare, medicine, community aid and physical therapy. In such ways, you feel able to share your energy by supporting others who may be struggling in life, perhaps through ill-health, disadvantaged social conditions, or family problems. There is a natural sympathy, and your compassionate approach will often lead to many sharing their problems with you. It may be that at times you will need to cleanse yourself of 'accumulated suffering' absorbed from such work, and forms of negativity-releasing meditations or psychic protection are advised; otherwise, you may experience your level of vitality dropping under the burdens that you choose to take.

Even if you do not adopt the Neptunian way as a profession, your closer social friends will recognise this quality of support within you, and will often turn to you for a helping hand and a listening heart, coming away feeling less burdened, more inspired and sharing in your confident energy that all will be right (or that they can at least cope successfully). This is an aspect of a healing energy that you can transmit, and which is often connected to an acute inner sensitivity to the environment and people's emotions. This empathy is a key to your potential effectiveness in

relationships, an intuitive knowing of how to respond and what type of support can be offered. Some may consciously gravitate towards areas of spiritual / occult healing techniques, and this could be an effective channel to explore.

Your intimate love life should be reasonably satisfying, often with a strong emphasis on physical and heart energies, possibly with some intense and passionate romances. Once you settle with a stable partner, you will appreciate those deep emotional bonds, those subtle empathies and feelings of real relationship that can be established through mutual love. Generally, your partnerships are honest and direct: friendship and goodwill for each other are strong, and genuine feelings for people with whom you have shared intimacies can still persist even after a relationship has ceased. Some relationships end in perpetual bitterness and mutual conflict; but whilst recognising that love can fade, you prefer to separate on good terms. People can benefit through contact with you, and finding a suitable partner can offer you an opportunity for considerable mutual inner growth and enjoyment.

There can be an attraction towards more dramatic expressions of the energies of these two planets, perhaps one where flamboyance is possible, such as the theatre, acting, dance, or where physical culture is emphasised. In some, the Martian energy to act is focused through spheres of Neptunian creativity, design, art, literature, film, photography. The trine often appears in charts of creative people, as the energy helps the process of anchoring the idea, vision or intention. You should find that you can achieve your goals, making the most out of the potential and opportunities that are presented to you; allowing scope to your imagination and then acting on it is the key to success.

Mars trine Neptune (Robert Pelletier)

The trine between Mars and Neptune shows that you have successfully integrated your aggressive and desirous nature with your social responsibilities. You can satisfy personal goals and objectives without sacrificing your impersonal obligations. Because you understand your deepest biological urges, you are able to control them, realizing there is a time and a season for everything. You are sympathetic with those who are less fortunate in managing their impulses, and readily 'lend an ear' when others want to unburden themselves or discuss their problems. Your inner perception is highly developed to detect sincerity or dishonesty in people.

Your inspiration and driving ambition to serve others are particularly suited to welfare programs, medicine, law, or physical therapy. Your healing abilities would astonish even a professional practitioner, who may not realize that your success results from helping people cope with spiritual as well as physical problems. You would bring special insight to psychology, group encounter therapy, and other rehabilitative techniques.

If you are motivated to seek personal acclaim, you could pursue a theatrical career as an actor, dancer, or stage designer. You have a flair for effective delivery, and your sensitivity brings out a warm, emotional response in others.

Your romantic life is uncomplicated but still very exciting. Because of your poise and personal dignity, you enjoy warm and tender relationships with the opposite sex. You maintain honest and sincere ties with those you love, and willingly sever ties with those whose interest in you seems to be waning. Their love may fade, but they will never fail to respect you completely for all your good qualities. You hold others simply by your magnetism, charm and sociability, and you know how to bring enthusiasm and joy into the life of the one you love.

Mars sextile Neptune (Haydn Paul)

The sextile offers a better balance than the conjunction between the characteristics of these two planet, so that the more positive qualities can shine through easily. That energy blockage which can cause problems in action and decision-making in the conjunction is released, and tends to flow into spheres of creativity and service to others.

The Martian tendency of impulsive passion is transformed into a basically generous and compassionate spirit, where you are aware and sensitive to the needs of others who are less fortunate than yourself. There is an effective balance of individuality in you that is poised between being excessively self-assertive and excessively passive; you are neither an exploiter nor a victim.

Generally your energy level is high and vital, and this can find channels of expression through various routes. Healing is attractive, for you use that personal magnetic vitality to support a healing process, and others can feel convinced that you have their well-being at heart. There may be subtle abilities associated with psychic sensitivity that are present, or could be developed. As you have a sense of social responsibility, you can feel fulfilled by work which is in that sphere of life, where you are helping to meet social needs and improve the lot of people; certainly you will feel the attraction towards such an involvement in some way. The commitment and inspiration that you offer can be uplifting to many co-workers and recipients of your contributions.

More individually creative channels may appeal, such as drama, dance and visual skills like photography and film. Physical culture is likely to be important, especially in your young adult life, and you can gain great enjoyment from expressing yourself through physical movement and dance, where fluency and grace may be present. In later years, this can become an interest in the body work of hatha yoga, maintaining a suppleness of body as well as improving body health. These types of preferred creativity tend to focus on a developed use of either the body or of the physical senses, rather than a more intellectualised form of creative expression.

Potentially, your relationships can be successful and fulfilling, and you will expend considerable effort to ensure that they remain so for yourself and for your partner. Your optimistic outlook helps you to perceive the highest qualities in a lover, whilst not denying the fact that people are human and prone to express much lower tendencies than an ideal. Tolerance and understanding of human weakness and tensions will be present, and your trust will be reciprocated. Much will depend on your choice of partner, and partly this will depend on a realistic appraisal of your own needs, especially those powerful physical and emotional ones, and on what is required of a suitable mate. Basically, though, you have a 'give and take' attitude, and are reasonably relaxed and realistic about the pressures of living together in marriage. The quality of mutual communication is essential, and you highly value a direct and honest approach, which is always beneficial because at least each knows the nature of the current situation.

Mars sextile Neptune (Robert Pelletier)

The sextile from Mars to Neptune shows that you understand the difference between passion and compassion. You realize there are times when you must assert yourself to satisfy your own desires, but that at other times you must yield to someone else's desires. You are intellectually aware of your responsibility to serve others when they are unable to serve themselves. You are imaginative in finding suitable means to express your creative abilities.

There are many ways to exploit your potentials. You are particularly suited to professions that satisfy important social needs. Medicine and related fields can provide you with a rich and rewarding experience. You have qualities that promote healing in others, perhaps through the soothing effect of your trust and sincerity. Also, your well-developed rhythmic sense lends itself to such artistic pursuits as dancing, physical culture, and acting, in which physical grace is a prime ingredient. You could work successfully in undercover enterprises involving classified material. Your psychic abilities would offer some protection even when conditions seem threatening.

You are a romantic in that you strive to find honest and refined ideals in everyone. You make allowances for the failings of others, and you expect them to be reasonably tolerant of your failings. In a romantic alliance, you can always find positive qualities in your lover, even when certain traits rub you the wrong way. Above all, you insist on open and honest communication between the two of you. You detect insincerity no matter how skillfully it is hidden. Your strong emotional and physical desires must be satisfied, but you won't easily compromise your ideals by accepting a coarse or vulgar partner.

Your admirable qualities are much in demand today. You have a 'feel' for social responsibilities and the persuasion to do something about them. Through your efforts, you raise the ideals of everyone you contact, in both your personal and your professional activities.

Natal Mars square / opposition Neptune

Mars square Neptune (Haydn Paul)

The square aspect can pose a variety of inner tensions and compulsions that are difficult to acknowledge and integrate properly. It is indicative of the inner conflict and stress which often affects the nature of your relationships, especially emotionally and sexually.

Most of your impulses arise from the unconscious mind, and so it can be difficult to perceive them correctly or to understand their nature. Squares involve frustration, and here both the energies of Mars and Neptune are mutually inhibiting, creating distortions in both their favoured ways of expression. Even the inner energy flow is distorted, with the Martian energy taking on an intermittent current, ranging from an obsessive urge for action (or release) to almost disappearing at times, leaving you with a minimum of motivation and vitality. Often the Neptune energy emerges in its distorted nature, in that there can be disconcerting emotional impulses, strange imaginations and obsessions, or negative types of habit=patterned behaviour, which can be essentially self-destructive through a vulnerability to the Neptunian addictions of drugs, alcohol and compulsive sexual obsessions.

As there can be an inhibition in consistently and effectively expressing your self and your aims, this eventually creates a build-up of frustration, leading to internal pressures and stresses. This can form personality splits, where more negative aspects of the unintegrated unconscious mind erupt into the conscious personality and begin to dominate, almost as forms of possession. You can feel impelled to act in certain ways, and whilst you feel in a state of confusion, those hidden powerful motivations are directing your choices.

There tends to be a 'vicious circle' in action, often due to that belligerent and aggressive way in which you can attempt to be self-assertive. Because of those unresolved inner conflicts, your style of emotional expression and your relationship with others are often tainted by vibrations of aggression which are registered and usually rejected by others. The result can be a rejection of your outstretched hand and of your aims. Yet as this becomes a repetitive pattern, your inner conflicts become more intensified, and so does part of your energy field which is sensed by perceptive people. Alienation can occur.

Because of inner blindness, you can fail to understand what is occurring, and thus enforce a developing pattern akin to paranoia, where you begin to imagine additional rejections by others, become extremely touchy regarding all social contacts and imagined slights, and then become defensively belligerent too as a form of protection. There is considerable self-deception happening, in that you fail to see the process within you. Through looking outwards, you fail to see the source of your difficulties.

Sexual relationships can be a major battleground, and a central point for many of these tensions. The nature of your sex life and sexual desires is likely to be distorted to some degree. Sex and emotions are closely tied together, and it may be essential to achieve a redefinition through understanding. This may become the core of your obsessions and compulsive behaviour, stimulated by a highly active imagination. There is unease, anxiety and confusion related to your sexual impulse. This can arise from a lack of intimate opportunities, leaving the frustrated energy little option but to circle around within you, activating a variety of stresses and splits that ideally should be healed rather than widened. It could be that your imagination becomes over-active, creating unfulfilled sexual imagery and desires. Or it may be aspects of your natural expressions of sexuality that you are refusing to acknowledge, and so repressing. It is certainly an area of inner contention.

This often leads to an overshadowing guilt pattern developing, where you are attracted towards illicit affairs, or sexual activity which you believe is morally wrong. Resorting to unsatisfying sexual expression may be attempted, such as the purely physical release of the energy and pressures, as with prostitutes for example. This need for sexual release is a crucial one for you to come to terms with; it is essential to discover an approach which is fulfilling and which does not re-emphasize your inner conflicts.

Relationship failures may be common until you begin a reorientation, a re-channelling of your energies into more suitable directions. You may find that your experience of the stresses inherent in this aspect is one of degree only, but much depends on the rest of the chart, and even then some degree of modification will still be required, especially if other aspects are challenging to Mars and Neptune.

What is necessary is a confrontation with reality, where you assume self-responsibility for your situation and inner life. This is an acknowledgement of inner conflicts without feelings of guilt, denial or personal condemnation. Acceptance is the first step; this may be quite difficult to achieve, yet it is the first step towards a resolution of the problems and to allowing inner healing to occur. Stop mentally pointing at others and projecting any blame for your failures onto them; yet conversely, do not blame yourself either; just resolve to change things for the better in the future. Because experiences have led to the creation of repetitive patterns frustrating you, it does not mean that this situation has to persist. The potential is there for you to change it. Study the techniques of creative visualisation; take control over the areas in your life that you want to change or resolve. Begin to look for ways in which the energies of Mars and Neptune can be integrated together, where using your imagination creates bridges instead of more uncrossable abysses of neuroses,

paranoias, illusions and obsessive sexual desires. Change your attitude to people; be willing to take a risk in re-creating your life. Instead of looking to take, look for where you can give, as this will redirect that Neptune energy into constructive channels, withdrawing it from the distortions of Martian energy and from overstimulating sexual desires. It is a sacrifice of an attitude that is necessary, and it is one that poses problems for you; in releasing it there lies the opportunity for a rebirth to occur.

One key lies in the correct use of emotional and sexual energy, discovering a direction that can soak up its excessiveness and negativity, transforming it into a positive asset rather than a guilt-ridden obsession. Discover creative channels to pour it into; express it through the physicality of dance; through art, literature, music, drama. Even if the original creations are not beautiful or harmonious, be assured that over time their quality will change as your inner healing proceeds through the release of those frustrating poisons. Instead of being controlled by the energy, take control of it; plan and direct your life so that it moves in your chosen way. Eventually, with persistence, the pieces of the new jigsaw will fall into place and you will emerge into an experience of life that satisfies you. Fight those inner battles, and those conflicts can dissipate.

Mars square Neptune (Robert Pelletier)

With Mars square Neptune, it is difficult for you to assert yourself without causing some turmoil. You fluctuate between an intense desire for action and complete apathy. The unconscious or vague reasons that prompt you to act are in conflict with your aggressive feelings. You also have deep anxieties in your sexual life that are a constant source of annoyance. Your needs are considerable, but obtaining the satisfaction of sexual release is often complicated by your inability to face reality. You may be attracted to someone who is already attached, so that you experience guilt in fulfilling your desires. Early parental conditioning may have tried to repress your desires, and now you suffer from the results of repression.

With your temperament, you should work with as few people as possible to minimize the subversive factors others sometimes use to gain control over you. Self-employment would be even better. You could function well in the fields of medicine, and satisfy your need to render service and still remain detached. You need to develop your ability to plan and control events in order to determine the effects you hope to achieve. Leave nothing to chance. When things don't go well, you tend to blame others, diverting criticism from yourself. You defend yourself against imagined abuses as if you were looking for ways to persecute yourself.

Because you are somewhat accident-prone, you should avoid machinery and mechanical devices. You are also more susceptible to infection than most people and should follow hygienic rules strictly in preparing your food. The same attention to cleanliness should prevail in all of your activities.

The crises in your relationships may be caused by your casual attitude about your lover's credentials. Sometimes you lower your standards and attract negative types whose primary interest is sex. When such disappointments occur, you may become bitter and resentful, but you have only yourself to blame.

Mars opposition Neptune (Haydn Paul)

The opposition is focused more on your outer relationships with people, although inner projections are often the key to their problematic nature. As with the square aspect, there is the presence of the unconscious mind being activated by a frustrated Neptune, which leads to distortions in action and expression. Inner motivation is often

unclear in respect of its true nature, and often compulsive desires are hidden behind a façade so effectively that even you are often essentially unconscious of why you act in certain ways and way is actually making those decisive choices for you. Self-clarity can be difficult to achieve, especially in the areas of emotional and sexual desire, which can have a compulsive quality to them, and which can dominate your options. Those areas may become highly emphasised in your life, excessively so and out of a healthy proportion and perspective.

You probably lack trust and faith in life. Suspicion is a constant companion, and you see others through such a filter, yet this is often mainly composed of your own nature projected out like a shadow over the world. How can you trust yourself when you do not fully comprehend your own motivations and desires for actions? Yet you often mean well, but yare let down by your own tendencies of secrecy and manipulation. Your own attitudes are reflected back at you, so that mutual suspicion is often created, and you lose even more trust in people. Sometimes you tend to withdraw from social activity due to this. A refinement in how you choose to assert yourself may be necessary, as well as a withdrawal of these conditioning negative characteristics.

Confronting reality is essential, so that, by acceptance, a more realistic balance in relationships can emerge - one where your desires are less dominant and threatening, and where the emotional dimension is more integrated and explored. This will help to modify and redirect the blocked Neptune energy so that relationships become deeper, more satisfying and a bridge to renew your experience of social relating. Evaluating your ambitions in life can be more productive once the projections are being withdrawn, and using intellect and common sense can be more effective in realising them than following a path of glamour and compulsive desires which, whilst perhaps temporarily exciting, leads to a dissipation of your self and your objectives. Avoidance of unnecessary stimulants is also wise, as these will not help; and a more perceptive insight into the nature of glamour and illusion will also be highly beneficial. This is especially so if you have become involved in the occult or spiritual realms of life, where there are always many candidates to take advantage of those who are more gullible and susceptible to the power of 'secret knowledge'. Those how have the desire to be 'special' are often abused physically, emotionally, mentally and spiritually.

The nature and quality of your relationships can be transformed, provided that you deal with those problematic areas of your inner nature, trust, emotions, sexuality and illusions. Perceiving how you can negatively condition your experience is the key to realising how you can positively transform it too.

Natal Mars conjunct Pluto

(Haydn Paul)

This aspect should give you considerable physical energy and vitality which you can apply to tasks requiring persistence, determination and endurance. You are able to direct a potent will towards realising your aims; and your innate vitality when rightly directed will be the means by which you steer your life course.

The energy can tend to amplify any self-centred tendencies in you, stimulating your desire nature and setting goals to achieve which would be primarily for your own personal benefit and satisfaction. You may like to create challenges for yourself, as a test for the efficacy of your 'powers'. If this tendency is allowed to dictate life choices, then you may become dominated by an insatiable desire compulsion, which is rarely fulfilled; this can reflect a certain naivety or innocence in your outlook which is

essentially selfish and adolescent in quality; and the 'I want' syndrome may need more conscious moderation in order for you to regain control.

Often you will prefer to assert your individuality, sometimes even as a compulsive expression despite the reactions of others. You may not always think things through enough, or consider the possible implications of your actions and words prior to committing yourself. This can obviously create some difficulties for you; it is similar to the behaviour of an adolescent, which as most parents discover can lead to considerable family friction.

You will have a dislike of restrictions imposed upon you, always having a need for as much freedom as possible. If you feel that your energy is imprisoned, then you will be looking for the way out, feeling that before too long your energy will explode, and this can be quite uncomfortable. To minimise this, you should try to develop your life so that your choices of partner and work are reasonably compatible with your needs, if only to avoid unnecessary inner friction.

In your intimate relationships, you may be too forceful and aggressive. The Pluto energy will tend to make you too possessive and demanding of a partner; and you may attempt to dominate by your sexual expression. Sexual experiences will hold great meaning for you; and you will try to release much of your physical vigour on the physical level in an intense and potentially transforming manner. You may need to gain greater control over this aspect of yourself, to avoid it becoming obsessive or too extreme and violent in approach or tone.

As you mature more, you may discover an increasing interest in and awareness of social concerns; and this can be a fruitful channel through which to express your vitality and talents. You can be quite useful in encouraging others to apply their positions of power and influence to work for greater social benefit; and your ability to resolve difficult situations by strength of will can be creatively positive.

(Robert Pelletier)

The conjunction of Mars and Pluto shows that you have a strong desire nature, with the persistence and determination to get what you want. You may often find, when you get it, that you didn't really want what you were pursuing after all; that it was merely an exercise to prove to yourself you could. Satisfaction is the only motive for many of your pursuits. You may easily mistake willfulness for desire in your motivations.

In a crisis, you can contain yourself until the right moment occurs to act. Then you will use all your energy to cope with and resolve the crisis. You have enormous compulsions to assert yourself, especially if you suspect that anyone is trying to restrict you in any way. You don't tolerate domination, although you do respect authority if it is fairly administered.

In your personal relationships, you tend to be the aggressor, which may make others apprehensive about getting too close to you. You are possessive in love and demanding even of your friends. Your desire nature precedes you, stimulating others either to anticipate your physical charms or to feel threatened and avoid you. Your physical needs are strong, and your ambitions could induce you to use sex as a device for achieving your goals. You often justify your methods as being the only way to gain your objectives.

You are aware of the social problems in your environment and can be extremely useful in urging others to make the necessary changes to solve these problems.

However, you are able to persuade others, because your demands have a threatening quality. You have the courage to take on the most difficult tasks fearlessly, and are resourceful in gaining financial support for your enterprises. You need to find a way to express yourself through constructive activities.

(Karen Hamaker-Zondag)

When there is a conjunction between two planets that both have to do with the wish for self-expression, with the wish to prove oneself and to make one's mark, then there is an almost compulsive need to show off combined with enormous will-power. Pluto intensifies the executive force of Mars and puts us in possession of an almost inexhaustible supply of energy and incredible resilience. The craving for power (Pluto), on the other hand, is activated by Mars so that we really want to take the reins in our hands and are fired by boundless ambition.

We can usually look after ourselves; we do not brook the least opposition but ram opinions down people's throats and go our own way without fear or favor. The aspect has been termed destructive, but need not be so provided we have an outlet for our strong drive and ambition. A splendid way of using energy constructively is in competitive sport; politics is another option. We do not spare ourselves. Whatever we engage in - politics, science, sport, occultism, etc. - we throw ourselves into it heart and soul, outstripping many of our rivals and making a name for ourselves. Life's challenge attracts us, and we get a kick out of playing for high stakes.

The activity of Mars is enhanced by Pluto, and we are quick to push ourselves into precarious situations. In more placid times, we can eagerly mastermind a strategy for pulling off some coup or other. The person with a Mars / Pluto conjunction has a strong, extremely inflexible will, and is not to be balked. We will run our lives without reference to current rules and regulations. If we are thwarted, we can go to extremes; sometimes gradually cutting ourselves off from everybody.

(Betty Lundsted)

The 'I act' principle may be overwhelmed by the power of Pluto's energy. This may indicate an individual who takes 'controlled action'. Action may be manipulative of either self or others, or both. This individual may be unconsciously angered, for Pluto indicates unconscious motivation and Mars can symbolize anger. Action taken based on an unconscious motivation may not be responsible action, and it might be harmful to others. Action may be caused by anger or control needs. It may be that this individual is influenced by the symbols of the collective unconscious; that the images in the psyche interfere with any physical action taken. It indicates (because of the energy coming from the psyche) that action taken can be inspired by the mythic images of the collective unconscious. Action may be extremely creative. Before the creative potential can really be expressed, however, the anger must be worked out.

If this person has other aspects that indicate problems expressing sexuality, this conjunction may indicate a set-up for sexual violence. Sexual violence may range from having sex that hurts self or others, to possibly indicating the rapist, the masochist, or the person who may draw sexual violence to him.

An astrologer once told me that hard aspects between Mars-Pluto combinations implied a need to develop conscious responsibility for action taken. She recommended the study of metaphysics.

Natal Mars trine / sextile Pluto

Mars trine Pluto (Haydn Paul)

The energy and qualities released through the trine aspect can be quite beneficial and socially constructive. In many ways, you should find this an uncomplicated and straightforward aspect to live and work with.

You will feel at ease in applying your potent will-power to ensure the success of any aims that you clearly decide to achieve and which are realistically within your scope. You are likely to observe over time that, when necessary, the self-discipline required to direct your will consistently in the chosen direction also stimulates an inner change to occur, whereby your qualities and talents seem to be remixed or rebalanced according to the needs of your objectives. This can be very useful as a regeneration of the inner life to reflect a pattern of internal harmony, in which conflicting energies and tendencies are no longer competing for expression and diverting your attention away from your purpose. However, this process should only occur during phases where you need to be intensely one-pointed and concentrated enough to make your decisive active step, and should not be encouraged to continue, as the result may be a repression of aspects of your personality and a pushing them down into the unconscious mind. See it as a temporary 'selective tightening' necessary for a short time, and then allow a relaxation and a release of these temporarily unexpressed aspects to be free again in your personality.

You tend to have insight into people and situations, and the capacity for direct, realistic analysis. You prefer to allow space for others to be themselves, being quite tolerant of most people - providing they are not causing deliberate harm or taking advantage of others. In addition, you have a clear sense of interrelationship with society, and feel that you have a natural responsibility to use your energies in a socially constructive way. In particular, you take a certain pleasure in attempting to resolve social problems by becoming involved with social pressure groups which indicate directions to follow which they believe would be socially beneficial. You can become very committed to supporting causes that you have faith in, devoting time and energy to furthering the cause, and in being true to yourself and your personal beliefs. The only point to bear in mind with such a tendency is the need for an ongoing evaluation of belief and self, to determine your current standpoint and to allow it to change and evolve naturally, as you develop through time and greater life experience; belief should not be an unquestioning, static position.

Mars trine Pluto (Robert Pelletier)

With Mars trine Pluto, your aggressiveness is well aligned with your dedication to causes. You can be effective in solving awesome problems in society because you have a deep understanding of those problems and their origin. You offer your services out of a spiritual conviction that you are obliged to do something constructive about your surroundings. You may even feel that as a member of society you have contributed to the problems. On the other hand, the ease of this planetary aspect may enable you to dispassionately detach yourself from any responsibility and remain simply an observer.

Your ardent sexual nature is reasonably under control. You are intensely concerned that the object of your affection truly cares for you in more ways than just as a lover. You expect more than a physical expression of love, and you offer more than this in your love. The physical release you seek is enriched by a shared spiritual union. Your loving nature extends in many directions to transform those you contact socially and emotionally.

You aren't preoccupied with power as an instrument for gain, but see it rather as a force for continued growth. you realize that life is a continuing spiritual process in which patterns of ever-increasing awareness unfold. Recognizing that everyone has his or her own level of development, you are tolerant when others occasionally stumble. You will offer your hand in assistance when you are needed, but rarely interfere except to avert an impending tragedy.

You are fearless in defending your rights and may surprise your friends with your ruthless courage in the face of overwhelming odds. You can draw on vast sources of spiritual energy to sustain you through the most difficult crises.

Mars sextile Pluto (Haydn Paul)

You will expect honesty and straightforwardness in your dealings with people, preferring to hear the truth rather than be confused by evasion, innuendo and psychological manipulation. In fact truthfulness is one of your most highly valued qualities. You have a sensitivity to the motives of others; and whilst you have no real illusions about the nature of the human race, you tend to give a high regard to the principle of truth, whilst maintaining a wary eye on your fellow men. You cannot always live up to your own ideal, but at least you try!

You have a mind which tends to be analytical and deductive. Added to this, you are articulate and generally persuasive - if only in the force with which you express your opinions, arguments and beliefs - and have a grasp of dramatic presentation which you apply in order to influence listeners in your favour, personally and to support your position.

Your level of physical vitality should be high; and you may be attracted towards exploring your body or developing it in terms of physical activity and culture. You should have a more healthy and positive approach to sexual expression than those who have the Mars-Pluto square or opposition; and you perceive sex in essentially natural terms without inner compulsions complicating and distorting the energy release.

Usually, others know where you stand on things, as you are not shy of revealing your viewpoints, and express them clearly and directly; and you expect the same of others. If people tend to express themselves in less direct ways, and if you later discover them to have been telling lies, then you can be quite unforgiving in your attitude to them; even if you store the knowledge away for reference, they have forfeited your trust.

You may need to become a little more self-righteous. Because of your directness, forcefulness and relative clarity of expression, you may begin to believe that your perception is invariably right, and begin to pay more attention to your own pronouncements than to the view of others. The viewpoint of others is as valid as your own, and is usually worth listening to, as different perceptions can help to expand your own understanding, to correct misapprehensions, and to enhance contact and dialogue. There can be many routes to the top of the mountain; and even from the peak there can be many ways to reflect the view back down into the valley.

There may be a tendency to think and talk about things in your life without actually doing them, almost as though this level of involvement were sufficient and satisfying. It is likely that you could manifest your aims in a more distinct and objective way, to ground them more in everyday reality and enable others to respond to and share them.

Mars sextile Pluto (Robert Pelletier)

With Mars sextile to Pluto, you are eager to know the truth, motivated by the realization that truth is more powerful than fiction. You are as persistent in your search for the facts as a detective seeking unassailable evidence. Forceful and articulate in conversation, you command the attention of your listeners. You know how to dramatize yourself to establish your position both to large groups and to individuals. You can effectively stimulate action to correct social injustices, and will not tolerate weakness as a defence for inaction by anyone.

Because you are aware of other people's motives, you are rarely caught with your defences down. In your personal contacts, you usually establish your position clearly so that no-one has to guess about your intentions. In return, you expect openness both from associates and from competitors. You deplore subtlety as unnecessary and indefensible.

You have strong physical desires, though you won't accept a merely physical relationship. To be acceptable to you, the relationship must include compatibility in other areas.

It may be necessary for you to yield occasionally to other people's opinions, for they are as valid as yours. You tend to be explicit in your expectations of others, and may feel no need to make any adjustment in your attitude to compromise with theirs.

It is especially important that you do more than merely talk about your objectives. You must become actively engaged in pursuing them. You often talk as though you were involved in some activity when you have really only talked about it.

Mars trine or sextile Pluto (Karen Hamaker-Zondag)

We have a great need to prove ourselves and to exercise power. In many instances, we manage to engineer circumstances in which - to a greater or lesser extent - we end up in a position of authority, even if it is only by doing something others cannot do. We have an unbelievable fund of energy, and, even if physical strength is limited, mental power and perseverance enable us to fight our way through.

We are often very self-willed with these aspects, and the fact that they are harmonious does not save us from confrontations. We enter into the latter with head held high, determined not to be done down, and becoming very angry when we are. Our grim determination can achieve a great deal, but can also isolate us somewhat from those around us. Even the easy aspects do not enable us to take things easy.

We can go far if we know how to use our energy constructively; but, by the same token, can go badly astray if we take a wrong turning. Easy aspects are actually the worst aspects when it comes to persisting in the wrong direction until finally being pulled up short by a dead end. But, as already mentioned, resilience is great; so that, in principle, we can overcome all our problems. Pluto is insatiable and will never be satisfied with what Mars can do. We expect a lot from ourselves with these aspects, and may overtax our strength, although the danger is not so great as in the hard aspects.

Mars trine Pluto (Betty Lundsted)

Mars represents the action principle; when it trines Pluto (our unconscious motivation), it indicates that the energies can merge in a productive manner. This individual was encouraged in childhood to express himself, to co-operate with groups,

to act for the common good of the family. The collective images in the psyche may influence actions that are taken, but in a constructive manner. The creative facet of the aspect may not be used early in the life, for this individual will be coping with the more difficult configurations in his or her birth chart at that time.

Mars sextile Pluto (Betty Lundsted)

Mars represents the action principle used to express the Sun archetype. Pluto indicates the collective unconscious; the unconscious motivation that may underlie our actions later in life. If Pluto represents the masses, then action taken by this individual may be beneficial to the masses. This person was exposed to the idea of co-operation in the early family environment. The sextile indicates an individual who can develop a talent that is marketable as long as the action taken co-ordinates with the needs of groups: so, media, communication, politics, etc., would be a good direction to follow.

Natal Mars square / opposition Pluto

Mars square Pluto (Haydn Paul)

With the energy released by the square, you will be mainly motivated by self-centred tendencies and a need to 'throw out' overflowing and excess martian energy. You tend to think that the power of your natural energy is sufficient to win you success and satisfaction; and indeed the force and directness of it often can, but using it in such a way often overrides sensitivity and awareness of others. Considered aims and planning are often ignored under the immediacy of impulse and desire; and a spirit of recklessness can ignore any thoughts of the possible future consequences of your actions, provided you believe that your desires will be satisfied.

You find it difficult to motivate yourself for long periods of time, as in a commitment to achieve something through careful planning; you have problems in disciplining and directing your will sufficiently for that kind of effort, and you are more suited to using your force in a more immediate, spontaneous impulse for self-satisfaction. This is also partly because you experience some conflict in directing your will to achieve your desires, and rarely feel as though you are making the most of your talents.

There can be a sense of inner frustration, caused by the forceful nature of this energy, and a lack of a suitable channel along with to direct it in a constructive manner. This will create a lack of patience, a potentially violent temper and sexual aggressiveness, where you 'throw out' excess energy through a dictatorial and demanding personality in order to dominate others. You may need to develop a more healthy perspective on sexual expression, one which regards sex more in terms of relationship and partnership, and less in terms of self-satisfaction, energy release, domination, exploitation and aggressiveness.

This experience of inner stress is symptomatic of clashing energies; it is not something that you have to endure all your life; it can be adjusted to be more harmonious. One way to begin this reorientation is to learn how to determine the overall direction of your life, to see a broader picture of your immediate social influence and how you want to live in relationship with others. To break down this preoccupation with self and to appreciate and acknowledge the feelings and needs of others as being as valid as your own is essential, and a key to transformation. By becoming clearer as to personal aims, you can begin to apply your will consistently in order to achieve them over time; desires for instant self-gratification are unrealistic. Learn how to live in equality of partnership and relationship; a mutuality of needs, desires and responsibilities requires mutual sharing and co-operation. Avoid

tendencies towards domination and power struggles. Basically, you require suitable channels into which to pour your energy, constructive channels that are life-enhancing for you and others. You tend to devote most time and energy in opposing others through conflict and aggression rather than in working together for group benefit; find ways to become positively in favour of something, and then add your energy to help it become real. There is much greater satisfaction and fulfilment in that form of achievement than in struggling to satisfy a very separate self that you try to maintain.

Mars square Pluto (Robert Pelletier)

The square of Mars to Pluto provides you with an overly forceful nature. You are inclined to be extremely aggressive in pursuing your ideas, and your behavior is often foolish and reckless. If you assume that you can assert your will on others with impunity, you may discover later that you've created a problem you can't handle. The embarrassment of such an incident can make you angry, and you may even resort to physical violence in retaliation.

When frustrated, you can become abusive, which will cause problems in your relationships with others. The result may be domestic difficulties and antagonism from your superiors, which could jeopardize your income. You must learn to curb your temper under stress, or you will bring yourself more grief than any temporary satisfaction would warrant. Once you learn this, you will find that you can accomplish what you wish because of your courage, determination, persistence, and self-driving ambition.

You have a highly developed but unrefined sexual drive. When your advances are rejected, you overdramatize and exaggerate the importance of the incident. The sexual drive is significant, to be sure, but you need to assess its value in relation to your total life direction. Make sure it is balanced by other facets in your relationships with people.

When you are unhappy with disagreeable elements in your environment, examine these elements realistically, not emotionally. Get someone else's opinion and then submit the problem to a person with the authority to do something about it. If you attempt to take matters into your own hands, they will only get stained in the process.

A final word - try to be for a cause with the same enthusiasm you show when you are against something. Love works wonders in getting people to work voluntarily with you. Resist using ultimatums when you run into resistance.

Mars opposition Pluto (Haydn Paul)

The opposition aspect tends to reflect an inner conflict in you, that of a clash between your personal desires and a possible contributing positive role in society, as represented by the opposition between the personal Mars desires and the more socially orientated Pluto.

You probably require a greater understanding of the nature of personal power, the right application of it to benefit the group rather than to satisfy purely personal aims and desires, especially as you may have the tendency to take advantage of a group's power and influence to further your own ambitions.

Your nature will express a forceful will, which can be experienced by others as aggressiveness, making them avoid too close a contact with you; in fact, you often

appear to be quite unaware of your effect on people; and a greater sensitivity to the rights and reality of others is a quality that you could do well to help develop. This would help minimise any negative effect you may have on others, especially those in close relationship to you, whom you often attempt to dominate. Control in an intimate context is attractive to you; and you are likely to have an intense and powerful sexual nature, which at times can lead towards an affinity with forms of potentially violent passion and sexual undertones. You tend to link sex with power as an exaltation of personal force; and this can stimulate certain problems, although some potential partners can find the sheer physicality extremely exciting and provocative. This, plus the psychological manipulation that you attempt, can lead to stormy relations; and you are probably wiser to moderate and discipline your release of energy through a controlled awareness of its impact on others. You may observe that your flow of sexual energy can be erratic and irregular, where your passions are either 'hot' or very 'cold', and you are basically unable to regulate them according to demand or switch them on.

In your home life, you may find problems arising in the spheres of financial management, and power struggles, and on the emotional levels of relationships. You probably find that your emotions are driven by the force of passion and sexual energy, and that you have a lack of real understanding of their nature, as they tend to be swept along on the tide. Perhaps this is why you often demonstrate little awareness of the emotions of others in everyday life, as yours are often held in a state of suspended repression, like waters blocked from following their natural route by a dam wall. If the emotional level was released carefully and consistently in a healthy way, the blocked Pluto energy operating on that level could be freed, and many of your problems would begin to dissolve, leading to personal transformation. This would then adjust the level of force and suppressed violence in you, so that you would deal with your power more positively. This would lead to a clearer perception of self and others, allowing partners more personal freedom through mutual agreement and compromise, rather than your previous imposition of will. Taking such a course could develop also towards greater social involvement, using your energy in positive and creative channels, realising that if you can change from living mainly to satisfy purely personal desires at the expense of others, then there is the potential for a self-centred violent society to change from exploitation to co-operation and mutual benefit.

Mars opposition Pluto (Robert Pelletier)

With Mars in opposition to Pluto, you have a defiant attitude toward the effects of your aggression. Lacking sufficient control of your energy, you are surprised at the response you stimulate in others. You challenge people to be on the defensive in their dealings with you. You tend to overdramatize your competitors' motives and may even raise unnecessary barriers to protect your own interest. Your actions often cannot be logically justified.

Your intense sexual nature may lead you to form strong alliances, but it may just as easily cause severe rifts in your relationships. If you use your magnetism to gain control over others, you may later find yourself the victim of another's obsession with power. The problem is to determine whether you are motivated by a lust for power and control or whether you should use your energy as a force for social responsibility. You could be spiritually dedicated to making necessary changes in your environment. However, you may encounter powerful forces with the economic advantage to frustrate you in your objectives.

Above all, it is important that you evaluate the positive and negative aspects of any proposition. Consider the values of

compromise before taking action. You must carefully judge the effects you hope to achieve and be reasonably certain that you will not deny other people's rights. You will still alienate some persons as you assert yourself. Only you will know if the achievement of your goals justifies this.

You are sure to encounter problems in your personal affairs. It is almost certain there will be problems affecting your marital status if you are too demanding of your mate. Domestic turmoil could result from mismanagement of income, disputes over authority, or extreme jealousy expressed by either of you. You may have some problems concerning an inheritance or credit responsibilities.

Mars square or opposition Pluto (Karen Hamaker-Zondag)

Tense aspects between Mars and Pluto are the most forceful and violent we can have. Everything to do with executive ability, energy, action and the like is combined and intensified. Therefore the fierceness and pugnacity of these aspects can run to extremes, in both a positive and a destructive sense. This is seen in the champion sportsman (especially in those practising pugilistic sports like boxing), but also in criminals. With the hard aspects, we are determined to get the most out of ourselves and out of life by doing something hair-raising (like stunt work), by pushing ourselves to the limit (especially in sports that are physically or mentally demanding), or by pitting ourselves against formidable opposition even without resorting to physical violence (as seen in that indefatigable exponent of passive resistance, Mahatma Gandhi). We are fascinated by challenges and fights, physical or mental (or a combination of both), and can never have enough of them. Too many of them weary us, but we seem unable to ignore them.

We are always eager to prove ourselves; and this makes us opponents to reckon with in politics, sport, etc.. With the energy of the tense aspects, we fight hard, provoke controversy, and seem to enjoy throwing ourselves into the fray. The danger with these aspects is that we can be too hard on ourselves and others, to the point of cruelty. However, if the rest of the chart indicates gentler tendencies, we confine ourselves to holding our own. The more drastic the situation, the grimmer and more purposeful we become. The ability to work under great strain is outstanding.

Obstinacy, energy, craving for power, and desire to succeed are great, and can make us impervious to what others want and think. We go our own way in spite of everything. But obduracy can bring us into risky situations, so we do need to be careful.

Mars square Pluto (Betty Lundsted)

This is a difficult energy level that needs to be channeled and understood before it becomes productive. A square indicates that the planets involved in the aspect are working against each other. In this case, it indicates that Mars (I act) works against Pluto (my unconscious motivation). It signifies a person who takes action that may be spurred by negative input from the psyche, or a person whose need for control works against his ability to take action.

Anger may be confused with sexuality when this aspect is present. This individual may use sex to control other people. The Pluto-Mars square requires that an individual control the action taken, and when his universe crumbles, anger takes over. Blind rages can surge up from the unconscious. Because the rage can be so intense, those who own this aspect are aware they have it. They are usually afraid of their own anger. They may not be willing to admit that the anger exists, for these are

often people who implode - they push the anger far down into the depths of the personal unconscious because they are afraid of expressing it. People born in Fire or Air signs usually suppress this aspect, for anger is not considered 'spiritual'. Folks who've attempted some form of spiritual development don't want to admit to having this anger, for they are not proud of it.

However, in order for the aspect to become productively creative, the anger has to become conscious and channeled into other directions. Anger is merely unchanneled creativity. This person needs to become aware of the Plutonic sensitive points so the anger can be consciously let go. Anger usually manifests when we are afraid of something or when our feelings are hurt. When the fears and hurts are understood, we no longer need to be angry.

Mars opposition Pluto (Betty Lundsted)

The action principle, or the action taken in life, works against the images coming from the unconscious. The aspect indicates that action may be forced; the individual may not be co-operative. Usually hard aspects between Mars and Pluto indicate an individual who avoids groups; who doesn't care for crowds because he feels out of control there. This can cause certain kinds of claustrophobia or ochlophobia.

Some kind of compromise has to take place between the action principle and the sensitivities from the unconscious. The unconscious motivation represents and influence (or a sensitivity) developed in the early years that will work against constructive action. The difficulty with Mars-Pluto aspects is learning how to control anger; how not to act or react because of anger; how to diffuse the anger when one is out of control.

Before the benefits (the creative action potential) can manifest, the aspect must be understood. Anger is so intense that the individual more often implodes than explodes. This person may not even be conscious of the anger he is shoving down into his personal unconscious. Until the anger is recognised, it can't be rechanneled. Anger is usually caused by hurt feelings and / or fear. The hurts or fears can be handled intellectually; they can be reasoned out. When hurt, fear or anger appears, one can ask 'Why am I hurt? What am I afraid of?' The answers will reflect the needs of the Sun or Moon, plus the signs involved in the Mars-Pluto aspect. The next key will be the Pluto position, for it indicates an unconscious influence.

Once the anger becomes conscious it can be worked out. The power of the aspect shows management ability as well as the potential for creative group action. It's worth the work.

Natal Mars quincunx Pluto

(Robert Pelletier)

The inconjunct from Mars to Pluto shows that you are overly responsive to demands by your environment or by the people in your daily life. You may wonder whether others think of you as a workhorse to be driven at their pleasure. Your compulsiveness in taking on more tasks than you can safely handle results in depleted energy. You are driven by the ever-present thought that there is so much to do and so little time in which to do it. In fact, you are persecuting yourself.

Although your sexual needs are considerable, you may encounter problems in satisfying them. Sex depletes your energy to an unusual extent, so moderation is advised. Make sure you get proper nutrition to help conserve your energy and give

you a necessary sense of well-being.

When events don't proceed as you had expected, you tend to feel guilty and to punish yourself unnecessarily. You may become arrogant and bad-tempered because you seem to carry a greater burden than others do. Financial stress can cause you to become overly anxious, especially when others involved seem so casual about it.

It is important that you establish priorities in the matters that require your attention. Learn to manage your time more efficiently and to put aside matters that can be safely postponed. Learn how to just waste time occasionally, and give yourself a chance to simply relax. In time you will realize that you're an important person too. If you will become a bit more selfish about giving of yourself, your friends will be amazed at the change in you. They will also secretly admire you for your new-found courage to say 'no'.

(Karen Hamaker-Zondag)

With the inconjunct between Mars and Pluto, we ought to be able to manage our energy better than we generally do. For whenever we stand up for ourselves, our efforts are intensified by Pluto; so that we act more forcibly than intended and with a grim determination that surprises us. The upshot is that others are provoked and start causing trouble; which means that, in a sense, we are to blame for our own insecurity. Initially, we find it strange that we arouse such fierce reactions, but we radiate Plutonian emanations that others find disturbing whenever we try to influence them, although we ourselves have no idea of the impression we are making.

Also, with the inconjunct, we have an enormous desire to prove ourselves; although we are not so quick to see that this is so as we would be with one of the other Mars / Pluto aspects. We can go far, but tend to be overinsistent about our own opinions - even when we think we are making every allowance for the opinions of others. Consequently, we force issues that would be better left alone; and so our career or aim in life absorbs more energy than necessary. Pluto represents the urge to get to the bottom of everything; in this aspect, the result of such a course of action is a feeling of uncertainty. Nevertheless, once we realize the reason for discomfort, we shall find that we have an enormous fund of energy at our disposal, and that even the inconjunct is an asset in its own way.

(Betty Lundsted)

This is not a heavy aspect. It indicates a strain between the action taken and unconscious motivation for it. The failure of the Mars reaction to be understood by the partner causes an overreaction based on the qualities of Pluto's sign. The problem can be analyzed consciously and reasoned out.

Natal Mars aspecting North Node

(Frances Sakoian and Louis Acker)

Mars conjunct North Node: Natives with Mars conjunct North Node tend to act in harmony with the people in their environment, thus gaining both co-operation and approval. However, as the saying goes, 'Nobody is right if everybody is wrong'. The desires of the natives and their resultant actions can be swept along in a chain of mass passions that ends in self-destruction. For example, individuals caught up in a flood of misdirected patriotism can find themselves the agents or victims of war.

Mars sextile North Node: This configuration gives the natives the ability to act at the

right time to further their well-being and improve their relationship to society. Their activities gain the co-operation and approval of their social order; and they are able to find support for their endeavors to bring about constructive change.

Mars trine North Node: This configuration gives the ability to act and to time actions so that they are in harmony with socially accepted modes of behavior. Thus the natives gain popularity as social leaders. The configuration favors politicians and others who lead public lives. The energy needed to deal with social trends and institutions is available.

Mars square North Node: This aspect indicates a condition in which the actions and impulses of the natives are likely to be at odds with current social standards. These people tend to express their aggressive tendencies at inappropriate times and places. They may appear to have bad luck, because they lack the ability to act in harmony with the events around them. Others then become irritated, and the natives themselves frustrated.

Mars opposition North Node: On the positive side, this aspect can cause the natives to question the militaristic values or group actions of their society. They may step aside if they feel that the trend is to no good. They sometimes become loners, acting upon their own decisions and disregarding what others think or do. On the negative side, their actions and desires tend to be out of harmony with the standards of society. They may act at the wrong time and in the wrong place, antagonizing others and causing opposition. They are likely then to lash out in anger and frustration.

(Reinhold Ebertin)

Mars conjunct North Node: Collaboration and co-operation, union based on physical attraction alone. A lack of adaptability, the desire to quarrel. Associations of people working together to a common end or purpose.

Mars trine or sextile North Node: The desire to co-operate with others, comradeship, and team-spirit, a social conscience, the desire for progeny. The attainment of joint or shared successes, the stage of entering into union with others.

Mars square or opposition North Node: Disharmonious collaboration, the desire to quarrel, a lack of good fellowship. Quarrels and disputes within communities, organizations and associations, interruption of associations.

(Bernice Grebner)

Mars conjunct North Node: Mars energy is very forceful for North Node activity. This position over-stimulates and sometimes exaggerates sexual arousal. It definitely puts action behind the North Node growth.

Mars trine or sextile North Node: This aspect invigorates the sexual nature and gives much vitality. In a woman's chart, it gives her the magnetism to draw a vital man into her life. For a man's chart, it shows good sexual strength and strong vitality. It can give a feeling of independence because of the vital nature these people have. This person is well able to function physically in most things he attracts. He is able to undergo danger with great courage, and has great endurance in conflict. It gives practical application of energy to the affairs of Mars and the South Node.

Mars square North Node: Along with this aspect comes cruelty or a stern nature. This person has sudden erratic bursts of enthusiasm and energy; he blows hot and cold. He usually wants to start new enterprises but loses interest in them when the first

challenges are met. It gives impatience, and may disturb the physical vitality, which can cause physical suffering. It gives much sexual energy, sometimes to the point of sexual promiscuity. Squared energy (Mars) doesn't work well with the South Node area; it leads to excess. However, it does seem to work better with the North Node area where this excess is needed.

Mars opposition North Node: The South Node stimulates Mars passions and senses, but can give poor timing, for the South Node influence pushes forward with passion and then pulls back. Action and fear need to be balanced. This is what the aspect is: action, then fear.

(Mohan Koparkar)

Mars conjunct North Node: This aspect provides strong interest in athletic or physical activities in these individuals. In this matter, the secret of their success depends largely upon the instincts rather than just a discipline. These instincts have long been developed in them from previous life, which increases their ability to react to situations tremendously. In this case, tempers and aggressiveness go hand-in-hand to achieve the objective without wasting any time. If they fail to get what they want, their temper provides the continuation of energy to either 'get even' or go after something more comparable. Their energy applications seem to have a preprogramming that once the things get going, it is more of a remotely controlled operation. Physical sex drive is often at its highest; and it has certain past-life connections. Sometimes these connections are in the form of unfinished manipulation or simple 'get even' from the previous life. It seems as if the Martian energies are coupled with the previous memories, and they have a Scorpionic touch. In a female chart, it indicates reversal of normal roles from the past life to this life (man-wife relationship turns into wife-husband, brother-sister to sister-brother, etc.). Strong assistance from brothers and sisters is seen in getting ahead in life, or vice versa.

Mars trine North Node: This aspect provides added physical strength or reserve energies to that individual. They can always recall these energies when needed to get the work done. This is not an initiative-creating situation, but an energy-strengthening condition. For women, this aspect often signifies better success in marriage and love relationships. Due to strange Karmic learning tactics, this aspect provides more than one happy marriage for women, just to reward them and strengthen their faith in that soul. This condition has been brought about by past life compensation and total circumstantial withdrawal from 'fun and games'. Assistance from brothers or to them is very prominent in this person's life.

Mars square North Node: Energy balance is achieved, or forced into being achieved, in this configuration. Often one finds that they have no energy when they have a lot to do, and vice versa. In a woman's chart, it often signifies hidden difficulties with men or even difficulties reaching sexual satisfaction. Lack of good health is more common in this aspect than squares by nodes to any other planets. Dealings with brothers, or being big brother to someone, is highly necessary as a part of this aspect. The energy applications of this person are often curtailed or obstructed by the circumstances. As a result of this, their goals get distorted or the efforts do not necessarily go along with their desires. Common consequences are accident-prone nature or misdirected energies.

Mars opposition North Node: In this aspect, the physical energy is highly channelled inward to heal the internal structure. Naturally, the outward energy applications look quite weak. In a woman's chart, this often denies sexual satisfaction or the other extreme, depending upon the rest of the chart. Here, the soul learns subconsciously to curb its martial authoritative nature. In a previous life spectrum, the indulgence

and misuses of physical power, sex, and energies have brought about this condition in this life. Circulatory problems or blood difficulties can be a normal deficiency for these people. General temperament of these people is very difficult to grasp. When they want to be angry or temperamental, a sudden curb on energy is imposed by circumstance and they often fail to show the reactions appropriately.

(Donna van Toen)

Mars conjunct North Node: Assertiveness leads to growth, although during the overcompensating phase of the nodal balancing act assertiveness can get out of hand and lead to quarrels. Ability to concentrate on whatever goal is represented enhances growth potential. A need for activity stimulates growth.

Mars semi-sextile North Node: Marriage, sexual encounters, and other relationships often provide opportunities for growth although these are sometimes misconstrued in some way and seen as attempts by the other party to repress the person or alter his or her growth pattern.

Mars sextile North Node: Adaptability must be consciously worked at if growth is to come. Energy is more easily channeled into resisting growth than seeking it. The more the person consciously channels his or her energy into growth-producing activities, the more difficulties that will be overcome.

Mars trine North Node: Ability to face potentially dangerous situations and a great deal of courage are generally growth-enhancing assets. A need to co-operate with others encourages growth. A need for healthy sex or a desire for children can stimulate growth.

Mars semisquare North Node: Bad news, mourning of some sort, or destructive behavior on the part of the person or someone in his or her circle may inhibit growth at times.

Mars square North Node: This person generally wants to grow, and starts new activities accordingly, but may lose interest in growing once challenges have to be faced; the nodal pull can exert tremendous tension. There's similarity with Mars conjunct North Node in that tensions caused by the nodal imbalance often find an outlet in quarrelling or aggressiveness; there are also many similarities to Mars conjunct South Node. The way in which conflicts are dealt with will tell you a great deal about the state of nodal balance.

Mars sesquisquare North Node: Growth potential is inhibited or tends to fluctuate due to unhealthy environmental circumstances. If nodes are succedent, growth may be interfered with through circumstances beyond the person's control or destructive behavior on the person's part. If nodes are cadent, fatalism and a tendency to grin (or gripe) and bear things may inhibit growth. Mourning over a death or other type of loss may interfere with growth.

Mars quincunx North Node: This seems to coincide often with complaints of being smothered or stifled in some way.

Mars opposition North Node: Adaptability is limited, hindering growth. A tendency towards accident-proneness or fear of injury can lead to stagnation. When angular, this position frequently coincides with loss of a mate or parent through death or separation, or sometimes some traumatic blow to the self-esteem at an early age.

(Bruno and Louise Huber)

Mars conjunct North Node: In the conjunction, Mars is experienced as a powerful driving force for progress. The personal advance upward is courageous, although unsuitable means are frequently used. The native has ambition and does not mind the trouble involved in undertaking unusual tasks, which often tax the strength, yet are carried out with energy and enthusiasm. Depending on the sign and house involved, the Martian force brushes aside all opposition, is often incensed by it, and can then put personal development first with a big show of aggression and egocentricity.

Mars opposition North Node: In the opposition, the militant energies can prevail. According to the sign and house, the native will tilt at windmills and misdirect his or her energies. Wrong ideas are fiercely defended, but without convincing others of their merit. Many resort to feverish activity and waste their strength. The time that must elapse before the native learns the most profitable use of the latter depends largely on other planets aspecting Mars.

Mars conjunct Ascendant

(Robert Pelletier)

Mars conjunct the Ascendant gives you an inexhaustible supply of energy. You are constantly in motion, but sometimes it is motion without meaning. Lacking self-discipline, you take daring and unnecessary risks when challenged. Your supporters regard you as courageous, but your enemies consider you 'pushy' and arrogant. However, you are not moved by either opinion, because you want most of all for people to recognize your superiority and give you the breathing room you need. You constantly have to see that people are in awe of your aggressive superiority, because inside you are not really that sure of yourself. The image you present hides a persistent inferiority complex. You probably win your arguments by making the most noise and wearing out your opponents with unceasing harassment. But you don't need to waste your energy this way, because you have enormous creative ability that merely needs to be harnessed to an objective. When you do this, no-one can succeed as easily as you can, and with energy to spare.

A very physical person, you tend to brush aside any talk of compromise or concession as tactics fit only for the weak and spineless. It is almost impossible to have a simple, friendly talk with you; when you think you are losing control and your position is weakening, you become angry and may resort to violence. You can be sure that people who converse with you in simple 'yes's and 'no's are aware of your short fuse. On the positive side, you are independent and self-confident. You know how to mobilize people and their resources to achieve your objectives. Although you can work as hard as the best of them, you prefer to play the role of the instigator, sitting back and pulling the strings to make them do your bidding.

(Karen Hamaker-Zondag)

The attitude to the world is strongly colored by the self-assertiveness of Mars. We are not inclined to pay much attention to others. We seldom look before we leap; and we act before anyone has a chance to offer advice. The impression we make is one of activity, courage and daring. Independence and will-power are not always welcome, however. Every now and then, people will probably treat us as sharply and aggressively as we treat them. The impression we make is more abrasive than we may wish, and if we are thwarted we can become annoyed and take swift action. The rashness of Mars has an outlet here which can result in divorce or broken friendships; so we do need to exercise restraint.

(Betty Lundsted)

This is a powerful aspect, for it indicates a high energy potential. These individuals will make quick, perhaps rash, decisions. The early childhood environment will be very active; it may even be somewhat violent. These individuals will be familiar with anger, and the kind of anger they were exposed to as children will be indicated by the sign in which the conjunction occurs.

The emotional reaction to life will have to be handled constructively, or this person might spend too much time overreacting to ordinary life situations. Career decisions will need to be thought out carefully to overcome the natural inclination to jump into new situations thoughtlessly.

(Sue Tompkins)

Those with Mars conjunct the Ascendant tend to view the world as a highly competitive place and approach it from this vantage point. Often, too, there is a vague feeling that conflict might break out at any minute. Sometimes, the Mars rising person was born into or raised in an early atmosphere of conflict. Occasionally, the birth itself was a violent one or involved surgery, as, for example, in cases of caesarean section.

In any event, the persona the Mars rising person may wear is of someone always ready for action and sometimes ready for conflict too. Some people with Mars rising just seem to go out into the world spoiling for a fight. Nevertheless, the appearance of strength, courage and bravado may be all show; merely a mask the individual has learnt to cultivate in order to protect him- / herself.

Mars conjunct Ascendant people are keen to get on with things. This is the client who, being impatient to start, arrives early and refuses a cup of tea.

In appearance the Mars rising person often exudes strength. Sometimes the individual is rather muscular-looking as if armour-plated against any possible attack.

This is a very honest, go-getting kind of combination, good for any kind of initiation, although unrestrained by other chart factors; and, depending on the sign involved, the individual may just be too impulsive or pushy for his / her own good. More positively, there is usually strong leadership potential with this placement, and it is ideal for any life-situations where the individual can legitimately compete and stretch him- / herself to the limit. Sport is the immediate physical vehicle that springs to mind.

Natal Mars trine / sextile Ascendant

Mars trine Ascendant (Robert Pelletier)

Mars trine the Ascendant shows that you assert yourself positively and aggressively. You have much enthusiasm, which you transmit to others in such a way that they are aroused to support you in your actions. Although you may not always be right in what you do, you are certainly willing to take that chance. You enjoy taking chances anyway; and luck seems to hold out when you do. You have a mind of your own, and are determined to express yourself when you feel the urge. You have the gift of the gab, and know how to gain the advantage in conversation. Being competitive, you enjoy both mental and physical challenges. Sports give you the opportunity to let off steam, either as a participant or as a spectator. You delight in winning, but, whether you win or lose, you take tremendous pleasure in the game.

You need a considerable amount of money to support your pleasures, and you can dream up the wildest schemes to get it. Because you are inclined to spend much more than you earn, you must learn to be more moderate. You find it very embarrassing to be without money, but you should avoid money lenders, if you can.

You don't pay enough attention to planning for the future. Your motto could be 'Live today, for tomorrow you may die'. But with this attitude your security is always in doubt. In your job, you give an impression of great activity, so that your superiors think you are making an enormous contribution. When it comes down to reality, however, you may fail to prove your worth. You need greater self-discipline so you can harness your creative enthusiasm to specific tasks. You would like to be independent, but because of your inclination to spend, it may be difficult to accumulate enough money to function freely. Your personal affairs tend to get in the way of your professional endeavors, and you could end up relying for assistance on the generosity of others.

Your success depends on your willingness to work at developing your talents. Hard work will bring you the results you want, as well as satisfaction for not having to depend on others.

Mars sextile Ascendant (Robert Pelletier)

With Mars sextile the Ascendant, you usually express yourself with persistence and determination. You are fearless in saying what is on your mind, and careless as well. You assert yourself enthusiastically but impulsively. This lack of temperance in expressing your opinions tends to put people on the defensive. Because you are somewhat of a 'live wire', people come to expect the unexpected from you. With so much nervous energy, it isn't easy for you to sit still for very long. When your body isn't in motion, your tongue is, and this is how most of your problems in relationships begin. Although you may want harmony in dealing with people, it isn't evident from your actions. If you learn to reflect before you speak, you will avoid saying the wrong thing at the wrong time. You want to be admired by your friends for having a mind of your own and the courage to speak up when you feel you should. You need their support because you aren't always that sure of yourself.

You work hard at your career, perhaps doing more than is expected of you if you work under supervision, and certainly so if you are self-employed. There is some danger that you actually do more than you should, because much of your effort comes from nervous energy. You feel challenged by competitors and want to prove that you are more competent than they are. By being well-informed, you are prepared to take on any responsibility when the opportunity is offered.

You need greater self-discipline to get the full benefit of your creative ability. If you can consolidate your efforts towards a specific objective, you will always manage to succeed. Your zest for living is dramatically shown by your boundless enthusiasm in everything you do. Don't waste it in nonproductive enterprises or in a useless show of superior strength.

Mars trine or sextile Ascendant (Karen Hamaker-Zondag)

Generally speaking, we stand up for ourselves, manage our own affairs, and put in a fair stint of hard work; but the idea is to concentrate on doing the things we like best.

We know how to encourage others and to keep them busy. Quite often these aspects give leadership qualities; but more by setting an example of courage, boldness and

enthusiasm than by good administration.

We are very resilient; and physically we can often achieve a great deal. Usually we are very keen on sport and sporty things, but our keenness can degenerate into mere rivalry. Competitions and tournaments appeal to us, and we can do well in them. It is not unusual for us to espouse some cause or ideal; for we are not averse to the smell of battle, even with the harmonious aspects. Here, too, even if we are not quite so culpable, we have to learn to leave others some breathing space. If anything, our quick spontaneity is to blame when we expect more than our due.

Mars trine or sextile Ascendant (Betty Lundsted)

When Mars trines or sextiles the Ascendant, the individual was taught constructive action as a child; and action taken as an adult will complement the persona.

Natal Mars square / opposition Ascendant

Mars square Ascendant (Robert Pelletier)

Mars square the Ascendant indicates that you show not moderation in asserting yourself. When you feel the urge to take action about something important, you usually do so without polish or refinement. When you act this way, people resent it and find you offensive. When reminded of your shortcomings, you are offended because you feel you should not have to answer to anyone for your actions. It is nearly impossible to stop you from expressing your opinion, and you don't care where you are or who hears you. Anyone who provokes you invites your immediate reaction, usually a negative one.

You seem to enjoy watching people become upset by your display of bad manners. You delight in putting people on the defensive and watching them squirm as you antagonize them with your tirades. Because you aren't really convinced of your superiority, you have a chip on your shoulder. Only winning in a show of strength can satisfy your ego.

Your parents probably tried to stimulate you to do the things they were unable to accomplish in their lives, and you became annoyed by this pressure. Disagreements and bickering in your early home life have caused you to become bitter and resentful of authority. Although you want your talents to be recognized, your inability to submit to authority creates problems and restricts the progress of your career. Problems may also result because your parents could not provide you with an education. If you have received an education, you have done so by your own efforts.

You admire people who can translate their capabilities into financial gain. But if you are willing to endure the self-denial and sacrifice required, you can accomplish the same thing. You know your future security depends on successfully developing your potentials. You are willing to work hard to realize your goals, but there are times when you wonder if they are worth all the effort and the frustrations you must endure.

Mars opposition Ascendant (Robert Pelletier)

Mars opposition the Ascendant shows that you attract people who threaten you, as though you had a chip on your shoulder and dared everyone to know it off. You don't really have that much self-confidence; your aggressive actions are an attempt to convince yourself that you do. You need constant encounters to improve your skill in dealing with people who would otherwise take advantage of you. Meeting others in

competition is how you learn how to assert yourself constructively, with greater self-control and discipline. Naturally argumentative, you are not the easiest person to get along with. You must learn to be more compromising if you want peace and harmony. Making concessions shows strength of character, not weakness; and if you realize this, you will be respected for your maturity.

In personal relationships, your offensive tactics force you to raise your defences when the going gets rough. While it is necessary to fight for your independence, you must show some restraint so you don't incur everyone's displeasure. You want to be recognized for your ability to succeed in spite of challenging competition. But an attitude of superiority often masks feelings of inferiority or inadequacy.

You have a lot of creative energy you should express. Remember, it's what you do rather than what you say you can do that is important. Knowing that your future success and happiness depend on you alone, you must realize that you will have to make some contribution to ensure them. Take advantage of your closest friends, who can offer worthwhile suggestions; and when their ideals help you, show your appreciation.

You may have some difficulty in getting your superiors to give you a more important position, because of your inclination to flare up under pressure. You tend to speak out of turn, which arouses suspicion that you cannot handle the authority delegated to you. Develop more self-control, or you will run into many troublesome situations that could be extremely difficult to resolve.

Mars square or opposition Ascendant (Karen Hamaker-Zondag)

It is hard to regulate energy with these aspects. At one instant we are rushing matters; at another, we are frittering energy away on futilities; and generally speaking we are pretty inconsistent.

We flare up easily, and are always ready to take a poke at someone, but soon calm down. Also we sometimes react angrily to the (often well-meant) advice of others, which we regard as meddling in our affairs. We are quite capable of managing on our own, and make a point of doing so. Even when we know we will be rebuffed, we prefer going our own way to following someone's lead. As in the other Mars / Ascendant aspects, there is energy, daring, courage and enterprise - but we do need to be careful that impetuosity does not lead to ruptures with others. And we must not be surprised if we get some rather adverse reactions now and then from those around us. No-one could call us docile; and we never let anything go by default.

Mars square or opposition Ascendant (Betty Lundsted)

If Mars squares or opposes the Ascendant, it is not easy to energize the creative potential in the personality in an appropriate manner. When the square appears, the action taken doesn't complement the persona. The action taken may not express the career interests, for career moves may not be perceived appropriately. Goals may be confused. Since Mars also rules sexuality, the sexual expression may not make sense either, for the career may be affected by the choice of sexual partners, or the career life-style may not connect in with the love life.

When the opposition occurs, a compromise is indicated, for the persona, the public attitudes claimed while we put 'our best foot forward', may not agree with the action taken in life, or with the sexual needs. When these people understand the various possibilities regarding manifestation of this energy, they can make conscious decisions regarding how they wish to use it.

Mars opposition Ascendant (Sue Tompkins)

Mars conjunct the Descendant, or making hard aspect to the axis, may be more combative than Mars rising. Those with Mars on the Descendant may see others as aggressive, or look to others to help them find their own retaliatory impulses. This is a splendid combination for lawyers or others who have to fight on behalf of another's point of view. Often those with this placement have to put a great deal of energy and sometimes real 'push' into achieving a position of co-operation. A key phrase for this combination may be 'fighting for co-operation'; fighting too for justice and fairness as they see it.

Like Venus-Mars contacts, the Mars setting person may be impulsive about relationship, jumping into liaisons with a real spirit of adventure but not a great deal of forethought. This is a good combination for competitive relationships -partnerships that involve a bit of rough and tumble and don't rely on everything appearing to be sweet and nice. Thus, relationships with people with Mars along this axis may feel either very alive and stimulating or as if World War III had just broken out.

Natal Mars quincunx Ascendant

(Robert Pelletier)

Mars inconjunct the Ascendant means that you tend to deplete your energy by trying to do more than you are physically able to do. You never want anyone to say that you didn't try hard to accomplish everything you set out to. But you are somewhat careless about taking safety precautions because you want to feel that you are fearless in any task you perform. When someone doubts you can do what you say, you feel personally challenged and proceed to prove that you can. Sometimes you regret your impulsiveness, for you tend to bite off more than you can chew. But you will never admit it when the going gets rough.

With all your energy, you are impatient for results and anxious to develop your talents as soon as possible. Your parents probably trained you to respond to challenging situations without taking too much time to think before accepting the competition. You are not a reflective person, which is one of your weaknesses. Learn to consider whether you can succeed before accepting a challenge. Although you are resourceful in capitalizing on your talents, there is still a limit to what you can do.

Your superiors admire your courage, but they deplore your foolhardiness when caution is required. Your refusal to believe that you have any weaknesses can get you into a lot of hot water. Your friends may dare you to do things they wouldn't try themselves, so why should you take the risk?

You like contact with people, especially when they disagree with you, because you enjoy arguments, even if you don't win them. You know how to gain the confidence of those you deal with, because you can do things they are unable to do for themselves. A whirlwind when you set your mind to accomplish something, you drive yourself to exhaustion. Being so restless and energetic, you would enjoy participating in sports, and it would be a good outlet for your energy.

(Karen Hamaker-Zondag)

Without knowing precisely why, we often become tensed up if we have an inconjunct between Mars and the Ascendant in the chart. Whenever we are dealing with others, the effect of Mars operates unpredictably: either we push ourselves forward too

vigorously, or else we fail to stand up for ourselves when we should. In short, the role Mars plays - and it certainly does play a role - is a very uncertain quantity. We can feel insecure because at one time we are letting ourselves be pushed around while at another we face criticism for wanting to take the reins into our own hands.

Often we do not know what we want. Our inner drive (Mars) is so much at variance with our public image (the Ascendant) that we can be in a state of upheaval. We may feel that nothing turns out as we wish; so we are always looking for something new to do. However, the unsettledness is really in ourselves. If we are able to release tension (in sport or other Mars-type activities), then we can settle down to do whatever suits us best. As with all aspects of Mars, we must try to avoid the thoughtless behavior likely to lead to broken relationships.

Natal Mars conjunct Midheaven

(Robert Hand)

Very early in life, you will develop a firm determination to do everything your own way. You decide upon a course of action quite quickly, and you usually know just what you want to accomplish. If someone tries to stop you, you get very angry, feeling that you are the only one who really knows what is right for you and what isn't. Eventually this will be true, but while you are young you should be a little less headstrong and listen to what others say. You won't always follow their advice, but at least give it a hearing.

However, you are not merely strong-willed; you also identify yourself very strongly with whatever you intend to do. If someone questions your moves, you take it very personally. You must realize that you are more than the sum of your actions, and that when someone challenges your decisions, that person is not challenging you personally.

This aspect indicates that when you are older you should choose a career in which you can have a great deal of independence and expend a lot of physical energy. If you work for someone else, you will frequently feel more like a competitor than an employee, and if you don't like the pace set by your employer, you will feel very angry and hostile. You would not be at your best working in a team situation, with the possible exception of an athletic team. This placement of Mars is very common among athletes; but even in a team sport you need to have opportunities to shine on your own in order to be happy.

(Karen Hamaker-Zondag)

The urge to engage in social activity is great. We feel a need to make ourselves felt in the community, and strike others as very enterprising, not to say militant. We can shift endless mountains of work - but may have to face the snarls of others due to our lack of tact. It is important to learn to be more considerate and less impetuous. We seem enterprising because of the ease with which we address problems or stand up for ourselves. We prefer to clear obstacles from the path by exerting ourselves to push them aside. When an appeal is made to our fighting spirit and resistance, we are generally at our best. While still young, we show signs of willfulness, and make it plain that we prefer to follow our own inclinations. This conjunction definitely has something recalcitrant about it.

(Sue Tompkins)

Mars conjunct the MC is suggestive of a real sense of direction in life and great

ambition. Conjunctions and hard contacts to this axis often indicate a vocation that involves either fighting to get to the top or fighting to remain there. This is the kind of combination that one might expect in the armed forces, the police force, sales, sports or politics. It is also very commonly found in careers in various trades; work that involves a skill using tools or calling for decisive action. As always, the sign and its ruler are very important in determining the type of work.

(Frances Sakoian and Louis Acker)

This aspect makes the natives highly ambitious. They desire importance and prominence in the world and in their professional lives. Their energy is directed toward definite purposes that will further their long-range goals. They are highly competitive where position is concerned, and will fight to get to the top.

They are often found in politics, whether in a corporate structure or in government. The conjunct favors those in industrial professions and jobs connected with machinery and engineering. It also disposes the natives toward a military career.

Natal Mars trine / sextile Midheaven

Mars trine Midheaven (Robert Hand)

You have a strong sense of self - that is, you know who you are and what your rights are with regard to other people. You have considerable self-confidence and will fight for what you believe to be yours. On the other hand, you are less likely to dominate people than those with other Mars-Midheaven combinations. You do have a great deal of physical energy, however, especially in activities that you want to be involved in. As you get older, you will pour out energy in your work and career, and you will be known as a very hard worker. But you may not feel that you are working hard, because the energy comes so spontaneously that you do not regard it as work. For this reason, you should look for a task or purpose that your life can revolve around, that you can identify closely with. While you are young, this may simply be a hobby, but later on it will be your career or life work. Fortunately, with this aspect you won't have much trouble finding a purpose in life.

You are not especially competitive, but you are independent. You do not like to be dependent on other people; nor do you like anyone to interfere with the schedule you have set for yourself. Consequently, you may find it easier to work and play alone than with others.

When you have to make a choice, you are usually able to do so quickly and easily, because you know pretty much what you want, and you go after it. If you don't know which of two choices to take, you may make an arbitrary decision, feeling that making some choice is better than going nowhere.

Mars sextile Midheaven (Robert Hand)

You are very independent and self-reliant, but you are able to balance your own energies with other people's and work in a group, as long as you know what you personally will get out of the effort. You have the ability to work for others unselfishly, but in the end you will always defend your own needs.

You may express your will in subtle ways; but you do express it. You know what you want, and you already have some understanding of your inner self as well. This aspect is usually a sign of self-confidence. But even more important, you will learn very early in life how to capitalize on your strengths and minimize your weaknesses.

Also you will choose your life course while you are quite young, and for the most part you will stick to it.

Purpose is very important in your life. You do not like to do anything that doesn't fit into some higher scheme relating to your long-range plans. For this reason, in your youth you may be less fond of fooling around than most people.

Your relationships with your father and with other male authority figures should be quite good. They will teach you to stand up for yourself and be your own person. Probably they will encourage you; and it is very important that they do, because if they choose, the men in your life have more power than anyone else to tear you down and make you feel bad about yourself. Fortunately, that is not likely to happen.

Mars trine or sextile Midheaven (Karen Hamaker-Zondag)

We are not averse to hard work; and are active and enterprising when it comes to carving out a place for ourselves in society. With the harmonious Mars / Midheaven, we are as ambitious as people with the Mars / Midheaven conjunction, but are not so uptight about it. Others see us as industrious; and this can be an advantage in job applications or in anything where first impressions are vital. Mars in harmonious aspect with the MC gives a degree of self-assertion and independence which others can find stimulating. We make good self-starters, provided that we are able to follow our own bent. We feel free to speak our mind when anything is amiss, and usually know how to promote changes in the desired direction. All Mars / MC aspects enable the native to enter active social life. In the harmonious aspects, self-image contributes substantially to success in this field.

Mars trine Midheaven (Frances Sakoian and Louis Acker)

This configuration strengthens the natives' ambitions and determination to rise to prominence in their careers. They are energetic and hard-working in their chosen fields. Thus by gaining the confidence of those in authority they win the means to provide a good domestic environment for themselves and their families.

Mars sextile Midheaven (Frances Sakoian and Louis Acker)

This configuration is favorable for constructive action in professional and domestic affairs. There are opportunities for career advancement, which in turn leads to fulfillment in the home. Sometimes the home is used as a base for carrying on professional activities.

Natal Mars square / opposition Midheaven

Mars square Midheaven (Robert Hand)

You will tend to work against yourself until you really understand who you are and what you are doing. Your immediate desires, especially if they are compulsive and urgent, may actually prevent you from getting where you want to go in the long run. Try not to be shortsighted, and do not assume that people who warn you of this are simply trying to hold you back. You may be rather suspicious of such people and assume that they are just trying to dominate you. This is because you sometimes try to dominate others for no particular reason. Also, you sometimes pick a fight just because you are suspicious of someone. You try to seem confident and self-assured; and probably you will be when you are older; but now your aggressiveness comes from a lack of self-assurance; from a fear that others will see your inner weakness and take advantage of you. Actually, most people don't want to bother; the

aggressiveness you see in others is really a reflection of your own.

Your relationships with male authority figures may be quite difficult, because you see them as challenging rather than trying to help you. It is difficult for you to acknowledge that someone has a right to be above you. This could be a serious source of trouble with employers.

Basically, the challenge of this aspect is to learn about yourself and your limitations, so that you can have self-confidence. Then you will no longer see need to challenge others for no reason, and you won't fear challenges from them.

Mars opposition Midheaven (Robert Hand)

This position can have two quite different effects. On one hand, you may be subject to compulsive desires, wanting to do things without any special reason except willfulness. Such actions are usually rash and sudden, and may be caused by an inner emotional upheaval. Sometimes this happens because you have had such a stormy and turbulent home life as a young child that all your resentment comes out in sudden aggressive energies. To counter this, your parents should provide you with a reasonably stable and supportive home life, where you can feel that you are accepted for yourself.

On the other hand, if you feel confident that your family loves and accepts you, you will experience the energies of this aspect quite differently. You will determine the course of your life very directly, according to your own inner needs and impulses. You will be conscious of these needs, so that you can gratify them in a controlled way instead of being at the mercy of your inner drives. In general, you will succeed by creating a satisfying inner life more than by achieving in ways that the outer world can easily recognize. You may or may not be successful in your career, but that will not be as important to you as inner satisfaction. While you are young, your parents should understand this and help you discover your own needs rather than make you conform to other people's expectations.

Mars square or opposition Midheaven (Karen Hamaker-Zondag)

With Mars in conflict with the MC, problems will regularly arise owing to an often too bold, sometimes too aggressive and vehement approach to others. We have a high opinion of ourselves and are not always tactful enough to hide it. We strike others as domineering, ambitious and belligerent. Socially in particular, that can spell trouble, because our attitude will come under attack more than once, and this is bad for our ego-image.

Once we learn to govern ourselves, enormous energy should take us far. To a greater or lesser extent, we shall always have to struggle to reach our goals; but this is something we are well equipped to do. Socially, we do best in positions where we can be very active and enterprising and also very independent. Freedom of action is something we prize extremely highly.

With these aspects, we usually have little regard for others, and often take the wind out of their sails by our speed and competitiveness. Whatever we feel like doing, we do as a matter of course.

Mars opposition Midheaven (Sue Tompkins)

Mars conjunct the IC suggests that the individual operates from a foundation of anger. Usually there is a history of conflict in the home, and individuals with this

placement may do anything to hide their own anger from public view and sometimes from themselves. With Mars on or contacting either end of the axis, there is often tremendous anger felt towards one or both parents, an anger that can fuel the individual into accomplishing tasks that require tremendous tests of strength or energy. This placement will often be indicative of the person who works from home or who is always 'on the go' when actually at home. The home is a place of activity for Mars conjunct IC. Whilst such activity may be of a more Mercurial nature if Mars is in the 3rd house, this placement is also ideal for more physical tasks, for these provide a way for the individual to contact and work off his or her anger. Often people with this placement feel cut off from their physical energy unless they actively take steps to stoke themselves up. If Mars is making hard aspects to heavier planets, this placement can be indicative of accidents or fires. Such manifestations usually only occur if the individual is not actively 'using' his or her energy. Mars conjunct IC can also indicate an urge to dig out one's roots. For those with this placement, courage may be about unflinchingly exploring the emotional and sexual roots of the family and their own psyche.

Mars square Midheaven (Frances Sakoian and Louis Acker)

This square indicates that the natives may be unable to get along with their parents, family, landlords, immediate superiors, or employers.

Both career and domestic affairs are subject to strife. There is a tendency to transfer to the job the conflicts that result from quarrels at home and vice versa. Thus, problems in the profession or in the home life are likely to aggravate other spheres of activity. The natives must learn to use their heads more and their feelings less.

There is also an inclination to get into trouble with the state and with its legally constituted authorities. Sometimes the natives are unwillingly involved in military affairs; for example, they may be drafted.

Mars opposition Midheaven (Frances Sakoian and Louis Acker)

With this aspect, vehement actions and desires manifest themselves in the domestic life of the native. Since the conjunction of Mars to the IC partakes somewhat of Mars in its fall in Cancer, it tends to create a situation of disharmony in the home unless it is very well aspected. The forceful, combative nature of Mars does not harmonize well with everyday life, in which sensitivity and mutual love are needed. The home, which should be a place of beauty and harmony, can become a battlefield generating emotional tension and upset. Mars conjunct Nadir is something like a bull in a china closet.

This conjunction is favorable for people connected with industrial occupations having to do with the earth itself, such as mining or building construction. The Mars energy can also be used to make do-it-yourself improvements in the home.

Natal Mars quincunx Midheaven

(Robert Hand)

This aspect can mean that you have mixed feelings about all authority figures, including your parents. You may feel that you have to violate the rules laid down by your parents in order to get your way. This is a significant problem, because if it continues into adulthood, you will have great difficulties with employers. Therefore it is very important that your parents teach you how to express your self-assertive drives without going against their teachings. Unfortunately, it is impossible to state

how that should be done, because the conflict between self-will, on the one hand, and self-denial and work, on the other, is different for each person.

Clearly, you should spend a lot of time releasing your great energy in vigorous play. The more energy you use up in this way, the less you will need to assert yourself destructively. You must learn what society demands, such as going to school and doing schoolwork, learning to obey instructions for your own good and so forth.

Another way to solve this kind of conflict is to learn that you can say what needs to be said and not be forced to remain quiet. You can't expect your elders to always go along with your ideas, but you should be able to feel confident of your right to say it. The exception to this, of course, is that you do not have any right to say something just to hurt others.

(Karen Hamaker-Zondag)

With the inconjunct between Mars and the MC, we shall be aware of a vague tension affecting social behavior. We certainly feel the need to make a mark on society, but always imagine that we are not being given a fair chance or that we are not able to do what we want. This leaves us with a gnawing sense of discomfort that is hard to define. Consequently, we are constantly up in arms over rules and regulations, if only to convince ourselves that we are free spirits. At the same time, a gnawing sense of discomfort drives us to seek an important role; and, in so doing, to infringe the liberties of others more than we think. That this will arouse opposition goes without saying. But because we do not have much insight into our behavior, we shall not immediately understand these reactions, and this can set up a vicious circle: we retaliate fiercely, the other members in our social group hit back, etc., etc.. And because we are not in full control of our energy, we may also suffer from physical accidents or mental breakdowns. Nevertheless, with a safety valve for our energy, say in hard work on our own initiative, or in games and sports (preferably dangerous ones), we shall enjoy a greater sense of achievement and feel much more settled. The heart of the problem invariably lies in the fact that energy (Mars) and social expectations - or, for that matter, society's expectations of us - (the Midheaven) are not always in agreement.