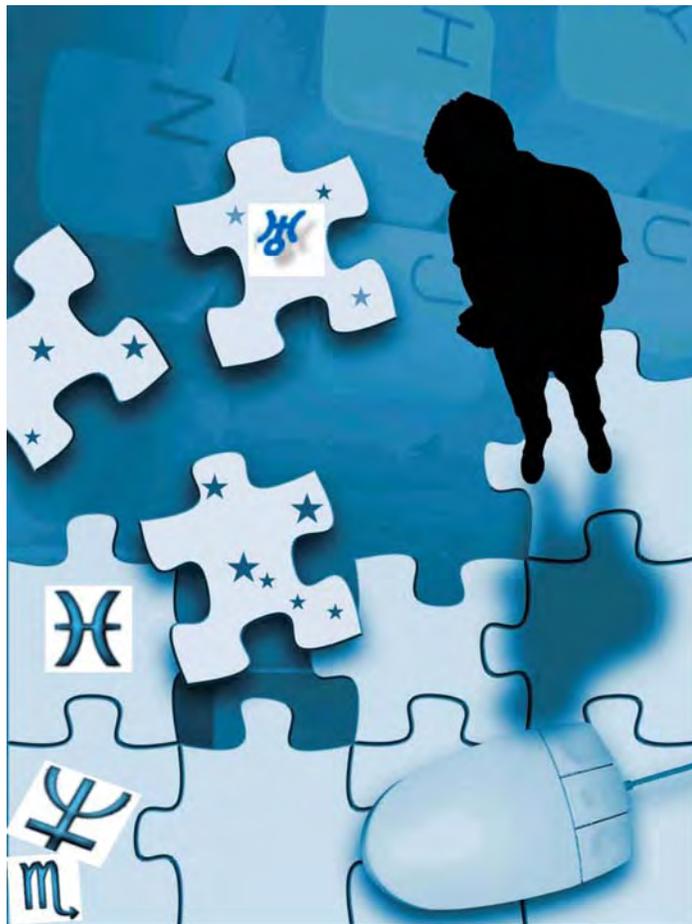


**THE OUTER PLANETS AND INNER LIFE, Volume 1:
THE CAREER PATH OF THE EXCEPTIONAL SOUL**

©2004 by Donna Cunningham, MSW



Moon Maven Publications

The Outer Planets and Inner Life, Volume One:
The Career Path of the Exceptional Soul
©2004 by Donna Cunningham, MSW

An e-book, \$19.95 from Moon Maven Publications,
available for download at <http://AstroDataBank.com>

*Has your career path meandered down too many dead-end trails?
Have you shot yourself in the foot so often at work that you now
wear bulletproof shoes?
Have you lost heart that you'll ever find your dream job, since you don't fit
the traditional mold?
Or, at midlife, are you suddenly impelled to toss security aside
to follow the lost dreams of youth?*

If your answer to any of these questions is a resounding **yes**, Donna Cunningham's e-book may be a lantern to light the way to your career destiny. With the astrological chart as a lens, this guidebook examines the career path of the exceptional soul. It explores the potentials and pitfalls of the Road Less Taken. Students of astrology who feel alienated from mainstream career tracks will learn how their special gifts and sensibilities contribute to the evolution of our world.

If the description above suits you to a tee, it is likely that the career areas of your astrology chart contain the outer planets—Uranus, Neptune, or Pluto—or their associated signs Aquarius, Pisces, or Scorpio. There is an otherworldly element when the outer planets are career markers, a sense of serving a greater purpose in human history. Each chapter of this e-book explores one of these planets in depth, applying them to the vocational sectors of the horoscope.

In Part One of a trilogy about the outer planets, astrologer, psychotherapist, and author, Donna Cunningham draws on 35 years of first-hand experience with clients like these. She shares what she has learned from them and from their lifelong quest to find their place in an ever-changing world. The wisdom displayed in her twelve earlier books—including *Healing Pluto Problems*, *The Moon in Your Life*, and *The Consulting Astrologer's Guidebook*—is brought to a new level here.

Will Donna solve all of your career quandaries? Sure, just as soon as she finishes saving the world! In the meantime, this astrological guide can enlighten, comfort, and counsel those exceptional souls who yearn for Right Livelihood and for validation and fulfillment in their work. Written in her usual clear, down-to-earth, and humorous style, this book would suit anyone from the intermediate student to the professional. Clients whose astrologers tell them which chapters apply to them will also find helpful insights.

This E-Book from:
Moon Maven Publications
PO Box 25331
Portland, OR 97298-0331
<http://www.moonmavenpublications.com>



ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Donna Cunningham, an internationally respected astrologer with over 35 years experience, is the author of 13 books on metaphysical topics. Listed in several *Who's Who* volumes, she has given seminars on astrology around the world and won the prestigious Regulus Award at the 1998 UAC. She also has a Master's Degree in Social Work from Columbia University. She uses this combined approach in her "Dear Abby" type column in *Dell Horoscope* and her ongoing series of articles in *The Mountain Astrologer*.

Donna still does personal consultations to stay in touch with the ever-unfolding patterns of the Cosmos. For information on her astrological or web design services, visit her web site at: <http://www.DonnaCunninghamMSW.com>

E-BOOK SERIES BY MOON MAVEN PUBLICATIONS:

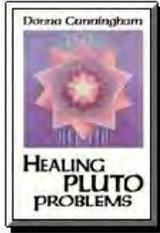
This is Part One of a trilogy of e-books by Donna Cunningham about the outer planets. The series continues with:

The Outer Planets and Inner Life, Volume Two: Exceptional Soul Seeks Same—Outer Planet Aspects to Venus and Mars.

The Outer Planets and Inner Life, Volume Three: Exceptional Souls and Their Peers—Generational Influences of the Outer Planets in Aspect to One Another

For more information on this series and other planned e-books, including flower remedy education and astrologically-based mysteries, visit her web site: <http://www.moonmavenpublications.com>

Donna Cunningham's Previous Astrology Books in Hardcopy:



How To Read Your Astrological Chart.

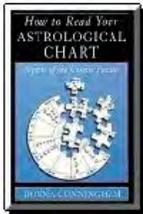
Red Wheel/Weiser, 1999

The Moon In Your Life.

Red Wheel/Weiser, 1996

The Consulting Astrologer's Guidebook.

Red Wheel/Weiser, 1994



Moon Signs: The Key To Your Inner Life.

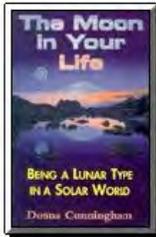
Ballantine Books, 1988

Astrology And Spiritual Development.

Cassandra Press, 1989

Astrology And Vibrational Healing.

Cassandra Press, 1988



Healing Pluto Problems.

Red Wheel/Weiser, 1986

(Donna's first book, *An Astrological Guide to Self-Awareness*, is out of print currently, but will be released as an e-book in the near future.)

Other Metaphysical Titles:

Flower Remedies Handbook.

Sterling Publishing, 1992

***Spiritual Dimensions Of Healing Addictions*, with Andrew Ramer.**

Cassandra Press, 1988

***Further Dimensions Of Healing Addictions*, with Andrew Ramer.**

Cassandra Press, 1988

To order Donna's books from the hardcopy publishers:

Ballantine/Random House (800) 793-2665

Cassandra (Pegasus) (800) 527-6104

Red Wheel/Weiser (207) 363-4393

Sterling (800) 367-9692



This book is dedicated to the memory of Betty Lundsted, the editor of all my books published by Samuel Weiser, Inc. She contributed so much to my growth as a writer, and she and Donald Weiser could always be counted on to advocate for their authors. This is the first book I have done without Betty in many years, and she is sorely missed as a trusted editor, advisor, and friend.

Acknowledgements: Many segments of this book originally appeared as articles in *Dell Horoscope Magazine* and *The Mountain Astrologer*, though each has been expanded and updated. Sources for individual articles will be given in the appropriate chapters. Here I wish to acknowledge not only the generosity of the publishers of those magazines in allowing me to reprint the articles but also the invaluable skills of their editorial staff in polishing the original articles into publishable form. Any mistakes in the final, expanded versions, however, are my own.

This book owes a great deal to the invaluable research tool of AstroDataBank software, which incorporates Lois Rodden's collection of some 27,000 birth data and Mark McDonough's software design. I wish to AstroDataBank for permission to use the notable's charts and the research results in various tables. For more information about the software, visit <http://www.astrodatabank.com>. Mark McDonough also took on the distribution of this e-book, for which I am grateful.

I wish to thank my trusted First Readers, those who saw all of this before you will and who provided valuable input, editorial comments, and most of all support and enthusiasm throughout the process of creating this book. They include, in alphabetical order, Bill Baeckler, Nicoli Bailey, Lynne Herlacher, MaryJean Kidd, Kathy Kreshock, Karen McCauley, Diana Stone, and Cheryl Woodruff.



Many of the images and photos in this book are the copyrighted property of ArtToday, Inc. through their subsidiary corporation, Photos.com, an online source for high quality, royalty-free stock photos at <http://www.photos.com>. These graphics are used with permission under license. The images and photos in this book may not be copied or downloaded without permission from ArtToday.com.

THE OUTER PLANETS AND INNER LIFE, VOLUME 1: THE CAREER PATH OF THE EXCEPTIONAL SOUL



ONE: OVERVIEW—THE OUTER PLANETS AS CAREER INDICATORS

The major vocational indicators; Differences between the three vocational houses; Aspects to the Midheaven: another piece of the vocational puzzle; Why an accurate birth time is crucial in vocational astrology; Notables with outer planet conjunctions to the Midheaven; Vocational effects of the outer planets' signs; Finding your planetary types; Comparing the three outer planets and their approach to vocation; "Outer Planet People"—from outer space to the rat race; Midlife and Outer Planet People; Outer planet transits to the career houses; Bibliography and resource list on careers.

TWO: URANUS AS A VOCATIONAL INDICATOR—"YOU'RE NOT THE BOSS OF ME!"

Who are the Uranians; A scale for rating the strength of Uranus as a vocational indicator; Caution—Uranian at Work; Notables with Uranus in the career houses; Who gets away with it—who doesn't; Crazy like a fox; Astrology as a vocational choice for Uranian types; Uranus in the tenth—the apple doesn't fall far from the tree; Uranus in the second—radical values; Flying high in April, shot down in May; Uranus in the sixth—don't hassle me, I'm busy; "So I'm blue collar—you got a problem with that?"; Those indispensable Uranians—they do it for all of us. CHARTS: Jack Nicholson; Chastity Bono; Ralph Nader; Rush Limbaugh.

THREE: NEPTUNE AS A VOCATIONAL INDICATOR—FOG IN THE WORKPLACE

Applying the issues of Pisces and the twelfth house to vocation; A scale for rating the strength of Neptune as a vocational indicator; Evolved vs. unevolved expressions of Neptune; "It's up to me to save the world"; The rescuer syndrome and how it grew; Neptune in the tenth: daddy was a dreamer; A nest of Neptunians—how the parent's dream sustains the child; The collective and the dream; Neptune in the second—"God will provide"; Codependency and Neptune in the second; Neptune in the Sixth—Saint or Servant; Neptune and the joy of work; Pisces or Neptune in the sixth—abusing the body; Growth and evolution with Neptune placements; The Neptunian's lifelong spiritual path as it applies to vocation. CHARTS: Drew Barrymore; JZ Knight; John Fitzgerald & Jackie Kennedy; Princess Diana, Jerry Lewis.

FOUR: PLUTO AS A VOCATIONAL INDICATOR—THE POWER TO MANIFEST OR TO FAIL FOR SPITE

Typical patterns; A scale for rating the strength of Pluto as a vocational indicator; What modern-day Plutonians do for a living; Evolved vs. unevolved expressions of Pluto; Common Plutonian career scenarios; Plutonians as targets in the workplace; Pluto in the tenth—living in a parent's shadow; Pluto in prominent families; The boss's whipping boy; Game playing; Pluto in the second—failing for spite; Pluto in the sixth—work habits and attitudes; Pluto in Virgo or the sixth and the work-health connection; Pluto in the career houses—a good thing or a bad? CHARTS: Christian Brando; Madam Curie; John Fitzgerald Kennedy Jr.; Lisa Marie Presley.

SPECIAL PREVIEW: THE URANUS-PLUTO IN VIRGO GENERATION AND THEIR CAREER

CHALLENGES An excerpt from Volume 3 of this series of three e-books, from a chapter detailing the qualities of the 1960s generation and their special challenges in finding the right vocation.

CHARTS IN THIS BOOK!



PLEASE NOTE: Timed birth charts in this book come from AstroDataBank, Version 3.0, featuring data from the late Lois Rodden's lifetime of meticulous work in collecting accurate data, setting standards for our field. Mark McDonough's brilliant work created software that makes access to that data collection possible and gives our field unprecedented tools for astrological research. I have also drawn extensively on the invaluable biographies that Lois compiled for each data record. This material is used with AstroDataBank's kind permission. For more information or to order the software, visit <http://www.AstroDataBank.com>.

Drew Barrymore	Chapter 3	Neptune as a Career Indicator
Christian Brando	Chapter 4	Pluto as a Career Indicator
Chastity Bono	Chapter 2	Uranus as a Career Indicator
Marie Curie	Chapter 4	Pluto as a Career Indicator
Danny De Vito	Chapter 2	Uranus as a Career Indicator
Jacqueline Kennedy	Chapter 3	Neptune as a Career Indicator
John Kennedy	Chapter 3	Neptune as a Career Indicator
John Kennedy Jr.	Chapter 4	Pluto as a Career Indicator
J.Z. Knight	Chapter 3	Neptune as a Career Indicator
Jerry Lewis	Chapter 3	Neptune as a Career Indicator
Rush Limbaugh	Chapter 2	Uranus as a Career Indicator
Ralph Nader	Chapter 2	Uranus as a Career Indicator
Jack Nicholson	Chapter 2	Uranus as a Career Indicator
Lisa Marie Presley	Chapter 4	Pluto as a Career Indicator
Princess Diana	Chapter 3	Neptune as a Career Indicator



TABLES IN THIS BOOK!

<u>Table #:</u>	<u>Subject of Table:</u>	<u>Chapter #:</u>
1	Notables with Outer Planet Conjunctions to the Midheaven	1
2	How the Outer Planets Differ in Approach to Careers	1
3	Rating the Strength of Uranus or Aquarius as a Vocational Indicator	2
4	Notables with Uranus in the Career Houses	2
5	What Uranians do for a Living	2
6	Rating the Strength of Neptune or Pisces as a Vocational Indicator	3
7	Notables with Neptune in the Career Houses	3
8	What Neptunians do for a Living	3
9	Rating the Strength of Pluto or Scorpio as a Vocational Indicator	4
10	What Plutonians do for a Living	4
11	Healing Tools for Plutonians to Transform Themselves and Others	4

Portland, Oregon
March 23, 2004

Dear Readers, Colleagues, and Friends,

Who are the exceptional souls? If you are one, you probably experienced a tingle of recognition just reading the title of this book, and you may have answered many of the career questions with a resounding *Yesssssss*. Your life and your gifts are in no way ordinary, nor are the challenges and issues you have consistently faced over the years. Astrologically, the charts of exceptional souls tend to have the outer planets—Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto—and the signs those planets rule—Aquarius, Pisces, and Scorpio—strongly featured. The Sun, Moon, Ascendant, or Midheaven might be connected with those planets or signs, or those planets might have many aspects, or be in a major configuration like a T-square, Grand Cross, or Grand Trine. When more than one of the outer planets is strong, astrologers may use the term Outer Planet Person—and, no, it doesn't mean you come from outer space, though you may sometimes wonder whether you did.

This trilogy of books is my way of sharing what I have learned through 35 years of working with the exceptional souls among my astrology and therapy clients. You won't be meeting any of my clients—they deserve their privacy—but we'll be looking at the charts of plenty of exceptional souls you already know from the media, the notable and notorious. In this first book, we'll be considering career challenges that come from having the outer planets or their signs in the career houses of the chart (the tenth, second, and sixth) or aspecting the Midheaven.

In Volume Two of the trilogy, *Exceptional Soul Seeks Same*, we'll be learning about the love life of people who have the outer planets and their signs strongly woven in with Venus or Mars. The third book, *Exceptional Souls and Their Peers—Generational Influences of the Outer Planets in Aspect to One Another*, deals with special generations born with two or more of the slower moving planets in aspect to one another. There are chapters on people born with the Pluto-Uranus conjunction of the 1960s, those born with Pluto and Saturn in aspect to one another, and those born with Uranus and Neptune in aspect to one another. The book includes a full chapter on the children born with the conjunction during the 1990s, a group many are calling the Indigo Children. At the end of this book, you will find an excerpt from the chapter on the Pluto-Uranus conjunction. (To be notified when Parts Two and Three are published, sign up on the email list at <http://moonmavenpublications.com>.)

Welcome to the world of e-books! If you read this after about 2008, it won't be new at all but quite routine—and a glorious day that will be! An e-book can be richly illustrated—as this one is—with color graphics and photos that would be too costly in hard copy. An e-book is never irrevocably finished and need not be time-sensitive. When additional material is available, you need not buy an entire new copy of the book, but can just download the new chapters. Unlike most hard copy astrology books today, an e-book will not go out of print in a few years when the publisher finds the bottom line more important than the education of astrology students.

There are exciting possibilities in this medium, and I've capitalized on many of them here. To use the special features of this format, take a bit of time to familiarize

yourself with Adobe Acrobat Reader. (If you are only seeing a half page of text with a menu on the right, click on Hide for a full-page view.) Clicking on the bookmark tab at the side will show links that take you directly to any section of the book that interests you. If you click on the binoculars on the tool bar at the top of this document, it will instantly search the book for all instances of any keyword you specify. The book contains active links to web sites and email addresses for an instant connection, if your Internet connection is open in the background. (Put the cursor on any email or internet address with a blue underline, and it launches the browser or email form.) Using the “Select Text” function on the toolbar, you can pull out brief excerpts for clients or friends whose charts match the contents. You can print out tables and charts for your own further study and use.

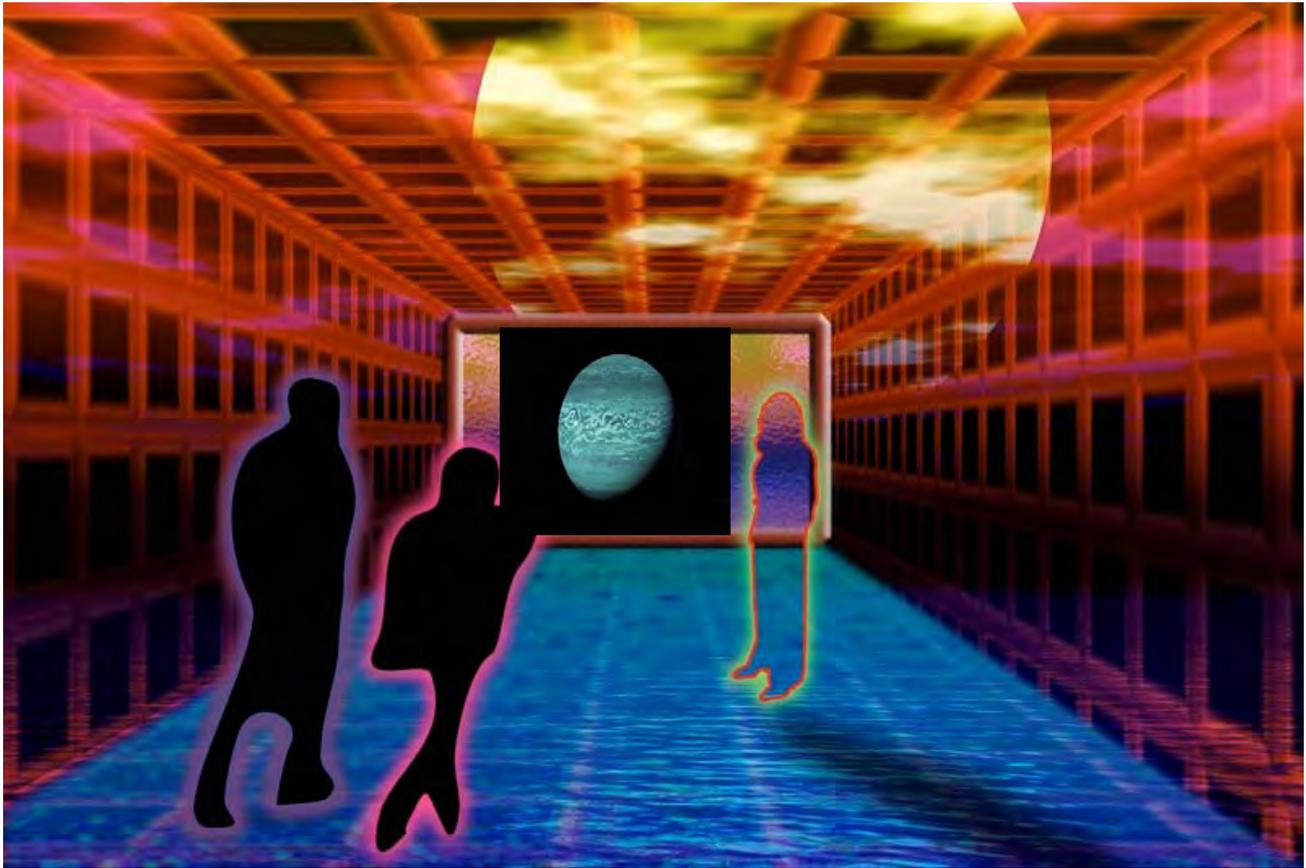
However, I hope you will use this book in virtual form rather than printing it out entirely. We all love having books in our hands, and yet change is inevitable—even necessary. At the rate trees are being harvested, in five to ten years, there will be no paper for our children’s textbooks or wood for homes. An e-book is one way you and I can contribute to saving the forests that are a vital part of our environment. They are crucial to the air quality, endangered animal and plant species, and rainfall levels. The *before and after* photos of an old-growth forest below may illuminate what my words cannot¹.

Donna Cunningham



¹ These photos are reprinted with permission of the David Suzuki Foundation, dedicated to preserving Pacific Northwest forests. For information, visit: <http://www.davidsuzuki.org>

Chapter One:
Hard at Work in the Twilight Zone:
An Overview of the
Outer Planets as Career Indicators



The Outer Planets and Inner Life, Volume One
The Career Path of the Exceptional Soul
©2004 by Donna Cunningham
Distributed by: <http://AstroDataBank.com>

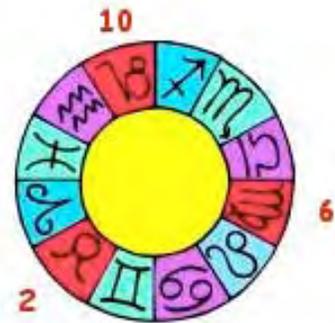
Hard at Work in the Twilight Zone: An Overview of the Outer Planets as Career Indicators¹

Vocational astrology is a complex subject — nearly as complex as the choices and challenges facing us in today’s workplace. To come to a conclusion about career potentials from the birth chart, we need to analyze a number of factors, including the vocational houses. The vocational houses of the chart—the 2nd, 6th, and 10th—are called earth houses because they are traditionally associated with the earth signs Taurus, Virgo, and Capricorn. They describe how we operate in such earthly matters as finance, daily work routine, and long-range career goals.

However, the qualities and concerns of the planets beyond Saturn—Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto—are not of this earth, so when they fall in the vocational houses, the career path is anything but ordinary. This would also be true when we find Aquarius, Pisces, or Scorpio—the signs connected with the outer planets—in the vocational houses. The Midheaven—that is, the dividing line between the 9th and 10th houses—is one of the most important career influences, so its sign and any planets within ten degrees of it powerfully affect our career choices and the way we pursue them. The chapters that follow explore in great detail the vocational patterns associated with each of these factors. Here, however, we’ll get an overview of the vocational houses of the chart and other career factors, as well as how the outer planets affect them. (For those who are new to astrology, the diagrams on the next page show some of the symbols and major features of a natal astrology chart. We’ll look at Rush Limbaugh’s chart in Chapter Two.)

Differences between the Three Vocational Houses

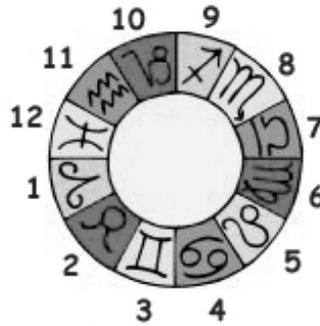
A house is strongly emphasized if it contains several planets, the Sun, Moon, or a planet with many aspects. If one of the career houses is strongly emphasized while the other two are not, then the house with the strongest emphasis dominates the career picture. As we will see, the motivation for the person with a strong 6th house tends to be different from that of the person with a strong 2nd house or a strong 10th house. The type of career may be similar, but the motivation is different and, consequently, so may be the career outcome.



People with the 10th House Dominant: The 10th house represents the career, long-term goals, lifetime achievements, and one’s ultimate status in the world. People with a strong 10th house emphasis are very career-oriented, rather than necessarily focused on money (2nd) or on work for its own sake (6th). If money is important to them, it is more for the

¹ Two articles in my chart interpretation series for *The Mountain Astrologer* have been incorporated into this chapter in expanded form: “Aspects to the Midheaven: Another Piece of the Vocational Puzzle,” from the April-May, 2004 issue, and “The Three Career Houses Differentiated,” from the June-July, 2004 issue.

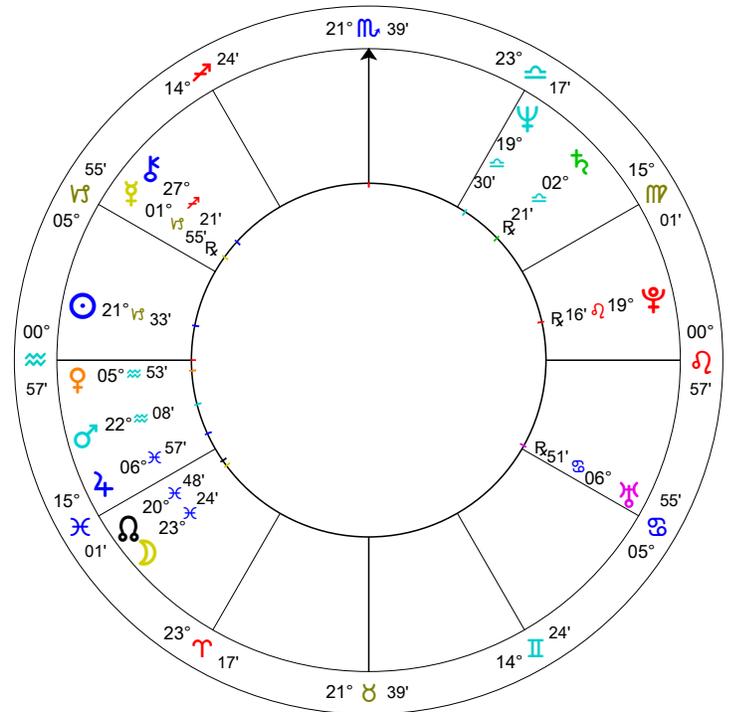
A BEGINNER'S TOUR OF A CHART:



BASIC WHEEL AND
SIGNS ASSOCIATED
WITH THE 12 HOUSES



RUSH LIMBAUGH
January 12, 1951
7:50 AM CST
Cape Girardeau, MO



Career Features to Note:

Scorpio on the 10th/ Midheaven; Mars in Aquarius square the Midheaven
Moon in Pisces in the 2nd trine the Midheaven; Uranus in Cancer in the 6th

status it confers. These individuals are intensely motivated by long-range goals and by accomplishing something meaningful in the world. They yearn to make an impact on their world and often seek recognition.

The career track would seldom be traditional when the tenth house features Uranus, Neptune, or Pluto or the signs those planets rule—Aquarius, Pisces, or Scorpio. Typically, it takes people with these chart placements longer to find their true vocation, since they are challenged to integrate the energy of that outer planet into the workplace, merging the transpersonal with the vocational. For instance, people with Uranus near the Midheaven might gain recognition by shocking us and shaking up the status quo. People with Neptune near the Midheaven—say within ten degrees of it, might yearn for a career that is artistic and creative.

The 10th house and Midheaven also depict our relationships with bosses and other Powers That Be and how these relationships affect our success². It is almost universal to carry over early experiences with authority figures—both positive and negative—into our expectations of bosses. Consequently, our relationships with bosses are shaped by these expectations. With an outer planet in the 10th, especially conjunct the Midheaven (10th house cusp), childhood experiences with parents can create a career challenge in dealing with authority figures in adulthood. (We'll discuss the vast differences between 10th house Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto placements in the relevant chapters.)

Many individuals with these placements grew up in dysfunctional homes, with erratic experiences of parental authority. If so, they may have adopted certain coping mechanisms in order to survive childhood that they carry over into relationships with supervisors. Unfortunately, the strategies that may have been functional for them growing up may not be entirely appropriate in dealing with the workplace chain of command. Trying to make a parent of the boss doesn't work well. **The boss just wants to get the job done; he's not looking to adopt us!** Sometimes, however, bosses—for reasons related to their own charts and family histories—are only too happy to accept the parental role they are cast for, making workplace relationships convoluted and ultimately dysfunctional.

People with the outer planets strong in the 10th have a genius for signing on with bosses who are near-clones of their parents. For instance, some with Neptune on the Midheaven seem to gravitate to job after job where the boss, however service-minded and creative, is an alcoholic or addict, just like Mom or Dad. The boss may even hire the Neptune-Midheaven person—though not consciously—to fill the role of rescuer and enabler. Many people with strong outer planet placements in the 10th are repeatedly, though not usually consciously, drawn to work situations that recreate the family dynamics. When an individual's 10th house is strong and the 2nd and 6th are weak, reenactment of family dynamics may even be part of what makes the career so compelling.

² When it comes to parental authority, astrologers are divided as to whether the 10th describes the father or mother and as to which parent the fourth house represents. For me, both houses describe both parents—the 10th being the authority function of both, while the 4th represents the nurturing/roots function. For instance, upon questioning clients who have the Moon on the Midheaven, they often reveal that the mother was the more dominant as an authority while the father was more of a lunar type. Given Pluto in the 10th or opposite the Midheaven, both parents may be Plutonian in different ways—perhaps one was overtly powerful and even abusive, while the other controlled more insidiously, for instance with emotional blackmail.

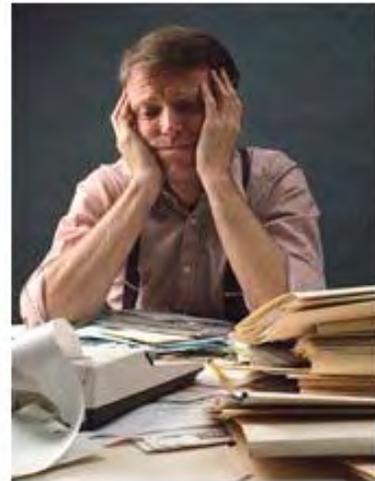
The 2nd house is similar in nature to the sign Taurus. **Those with a strong emphasis on the 2nd** are often motivated more by desire for money and what money can do for them than by long-term goals (the 10th) or by work for its own sake (the 6th). Many people with the outer planets strong in the 2nd would object vehemently to such an interpretation, insisting that they are not materialistic at all. (Pisces, for instance, can be otherworldly, as can its ruling planet Neptune.) No matter how much they may dislike the emphasis on greed and possessions in today's world, however, these people are confronted with the necessity to earn money for basic needs, so earning a living takes up more of their energy than they might like. The question of Right Livelihood becomes very complex when the special issues and concerns the outer planets represent are balanced with realities like paying the rent and making sure the children are fed.

Uranian types who are strongly motivated by a need for freedom and autonomy may earn a good living for the freedom that money buys—and not so much for the worldly possessions money allows them to have. Uranus-in-the-2nd natives can take or leave the attention, so long as it gives them the money—and thus the freedom—to do what they want. People with Pluto or Scorpio planets in the 2nd often get hooked into destructive games where money is concerned. Money is fraught with hidden agendas for them and often represents power and control in their relationships. We will go into the distinctions between these three planets and their signs in the chapters devoted to each of them.

The more planets that fall into the 2nd, the more complex the financial picture—and yet the more potentials for earning a living. If the Sun is in the 2nd along with these outer planets or their signs, self-worth issues are intricately woven into how much these individuals make—or don't make. If the Sun were in Pisces or Virgo or making difficult aspects to Neptune, low self-esteem might contribute to not charging as much as they should for their services, but then the low income reinforces a sense of not being worthy.

Many astrologers are reluctant to discuss some basic meanings of the 2nd and 8th houses. They tend to describe the 2nd house in terms of values rather than about money, and describe the 8th house in terms of transformation rather than about sex. This reluctance often has more to do with the astrologer's own comfort level with these topics than with the client's needs. Certainly, the 2nd house DOES show what we value most, and therefore how we spend our discretionary income. Our set of values also gives some clues about what we are and are not willing to do to earn money. However, in 35 years of doing consultations, I have yet to have clients complain of tossing and turning all night worrying about their values. Especially in today's difficult economy, a great many have expressed fear and suffering over money and have found it helpful to explore what their 2nd house and its transits show about their finances. The best and most down-to-earth book on the subject is Lois Rodden's *Money: How to Find It with Astrology*, listed in the bibliography at the end of this chapter.

Many clients have financial problems that cause a great deal of stress, worry and deprivation. If so, they can benefit greatly from looking at their ways of dealing with their income. The 2nd house



lends valuable insights into psychological blockages that create unwise attitudes and practices in handling money. Gifted and deserving people—particularly those with the outer planets highlighted—may be acclaimed for their work and still have an emotional barrier that keeps them from enjoying the fruits of their labor, so they live marginally. In the chapters that follow, we'll explore typical financial blockages experienced by those with the outer planets in the 2nd house.

6th house types are interesting, in that—like natives of the associated sign, Virgo—they can be intensely involved in work for its own sake. Much of their energy is bound up in work and the workplace, whether that is a happy and fulfilling venue or the source of frustration. The particular 6th house planets, signs, and aspects tell us about their work and how they seek satisfaction in this area. When the Sun is in the 6th house, self-esteem is bound up in the quantity and quality of their work. When the 6th house is stronger than the 10th, the person usually has a Virgo-like reluctance to be in the spotlight. These folks are often indispensable employees who do much of the important work in a firm yet get little of the credit. People with several planets in the 6th are sometimes workaholic, for work comes to serve many basic drives and needs.

The need for colleagues and for meaningful human interaction is one such need. People who have formal jobs spend about eight hours a day with coworkers, often more time than with loved ones. For some who live alone, time at work may be the most intense human contact of the day. Thus coworker relationships are an important peer connection and can represent either a source of joy or of difficulty. With outer planets in the 6th, however, relationships with coworkers or employees can be a struggle, for these people may be seen as different or even odd and therefore may not find it easy to fit in. On the other hand, if the outer planet is well aspected, then they may serve as a role model for expressing that planet's qualities, thereby uplifting their co-workers or employees.

Sometimes two of the three vocational houses hold planets, while the third is empty. For instance, if the 2nd and 6th are strong but the 10th is empty, these are often people who enjoy working and want to earn a good living at it, but are not so interested in building a career that affords recognition and ever-increasing managerial responsibility. They might be perfectly happy to let someone else move up the executive ladder and even take the lion's share of the credit, so long as they enjoy what they are doing and are well paid.

Conversely, if the 10th and 6th are strong, but the 2nd is empty, then the person enjoys the fulfillment of work for its own sake while also hoping to achieve an impact on the world. However, money itself may be a means to an end rather than a driving force in their lives. The picture can, of course, be modified by other chart placements. For instance, if such an individual had the Sun and Venus in Taurus on the Midheaven, then money would be a strong concern even with an empty 2nd house.



Hopefully, this brief summary has given you some insight into the differing motivations of people with the three vocational houses of the charts highlighted. House emphasis does not necessarily change the type of career, but rather changes what motivates the individual and, as a result, the outcome. Let's pretend we have three equally gifted computer programmers in front of us—let's further suppose that they were born on the same date and year, so that they all have a close and well-aspected conjunction of Mercury and Uranus.

The Astro-triplet who had the Mercury-Uranus conjunction in the 6th might work endless hours and never get so much as a credit in the program manual. Making a big splash in the world is not as important to such an individual as the intrinsic satisfaction—even the heady rush—of making the computer do something new and exciting. So long as there are new and stimulating programming challenges all the time, this could be a contented employee.

The one with Mercury and Uranus conjunct in the 2nd might enjoy programming also, but more than that, would want to make a lot of money with these skills. Get in, get the money, and move on to the next great opportunity. The third person—with Mercury and Uranus conjunct in the 10th—would probably make sure of getting credit for every line of programming, being determined to create a reputation for genius and maybe even to build a computer empire.

If you were an employer familiar with astrology or savvy enough to consult an astrologer about job applicants, you might make better informed hiring decisions based on the kind of motivation you were seeking in your employees. If you wanted a good, hard worker who was content to remain behind the scenes and not insist on too much credit for what he or she did, you might select the person with a 6th house emphasis. If, however, you were looking to cultivate a leader with management potential and an eye to the long-range development of your corporation, you'd go for an individual with a 10th house emphasis. If you wanted a short-term employee—maybe even a temp—who only cared about being paid for work rendered and wasn't looking to move up in the corporation, an individual with a 2nd house emphasis would do.

Aspects to the Midheaven: Another Piece of the Vocational Puzzle

Those who are new to astrology may want to skip this more technical section. Looking at planets that form aspects (angles) to the Midheaven can add depth to career analysis. The most important aspects are the conjunction (when a planet stands within ten degrees of the Midheaven), the square (forming a 90 degree angle, give or take 6 degrees), trine (120 degrees, give or take 6 degrees), quincunx (150 degrees, give or take 3), and opposition (180 degrees, within 8 degrees). If you aren't quick at finding aspects, a grid called an *aspectarian* is often printed with the chart, and it will usually note all aspects to the Midheaven, abbreviated usually as MH, MC, or 10th.

Planets that aspect the Midheaven do not usually represent possible careers unless they fall into the 6th or 2nd house. The qualities of those planets represent strengths and abilities that the person brings to the workplace or, conversely, personality traits, focuses of energy, or patterns of relating that detract from success. Houses that such planets fall into show areas of life that either support career efforts or drain energy away from them.

Technical Considerations: Why an Accurate Birth Time Is Important In Career Analysis

In vocational astrology, an accurate birth time becomes crucial. The Midheaven is the tenth house cusp and remains the same in all but equal houses. It is time-sensitive, in that it changes by one zodiac degree for every four minutes change in birth time. Under major transits or progressions, the degree on the Midheaven reflects the timing of important changes in the career or status of an individual. Therefore, when the slow-moving outer planets transit the Midheaven, a difference of as little as ten minutes between the real and reported birth times can throw forecasts off by two years or more.



In addition, if someone is relocating to improve career prospects, an error of two or three degrees in the Midheaven/IC axis may displace the lines on the Astro*Carto*Graphy map by a state or more. That is a costly error, considering the financial and energetic demands of a move can be and how much is at stake in the person's career. In relocation work, when the birth time is iffy, I will often recommend rectification.

Certain kinds of birth data automatically call the accuracy of the birth time into question. A given time like 8:23 A.M. may very well be precise. When the birth time is rounded off, like 8:00 A.M. or 8:30, it is more likely that delivery room staff was preoccupied because of a difficult delivery or a busy night and therefore not watching the clock at the time of birth. (A difficult birth in itself is a red flag that

causes me to wonder whether the time is accurate.)

Birth times that come from a family member's memory can be suspect, especially if there are several children and the birth was decades ago. A birth time that comes from the birth certificate, baby book, or birth announcement is more likely to be accurate. I am also careful to ask questions when the Midheaven falls into the first or last few degrees of a sign, since adjacent Midheaven signs can describe very different types of careers. I describe both possible Midheaven signs to see which more accurately fits the person's vocational history.

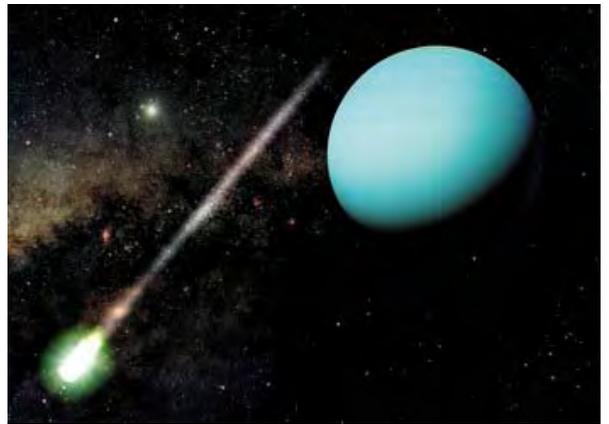
During the months of the year that daylight savings time was observed, check your atlas to be certain what was the custom for the birthplace. Certain states and cities like Illinois and Pennsylvania had laws—not always observed—requiring standard time rather than clock time to be recorded on the birth certificate. Before daylight savings time became the standard throughout the United States in 1967, certain Midwestern states were a morass in which one town might be on standard time and the neighboring town on daylight savings time. Astro Communication Services' PC Atlas is an absolutely essential piece of software for the astrologer or serious student, in that it records all such time considerations—as accurately as possible—and feeds them into the chart program. (This invaluable software is available from AstroDatabank's Astrology Software Shop at 1-877-275-0987 or <http://www.astrologysoftwareshop.com>.)

The most powerful aspect any planet can form to the Midheaven is the conjunction, including planets in the ninth house as well as the tenth, so long as they are within about ten degrees of the Midheaven. Such planets are the strongest indications of people's career path, signifying their life work—possibly even a clue to their life purpose—and what the world will most remember about them. It is a powerful indicator of their relationships with employers as well as what sort of employer they themselves would be.

In this facet of chart interpretation, I have long been influenced by the important research of Francoise and Michel Gauquelin, French psychologists who meticulously applied scientific research design to their study of over 60,000 timed birth charts of notables. The Gauquelin's research consistently showed that the sectors around the angles of the chart (the 10th, 1st, 4th and 7th house cusps) were powerful indicators of what the world saw of these individuals, with a high degree of statistical probability. The strongest of these chart areas, which became known as the Gauquelin sectors, was within ten degrees of the Midheaven, in either the ninth or tenth houses³. Planets in the 6th house conjunct the Descendant strongly influence work habits and vocational choice as well, but not as compellingly as planets conjunct the Midheaven.

Table 1, shown on the following page, gives examples of notables with Uranus, Neptune, or Pluto on the Midheaven. Scan down the columns of the table first, to get a sense of the people with the same outer planet influence. Look at the Plutonians, for example, to see what impression you get of them as a group. Do the same with the Neptunians and the Uranians. Then scan across the rows to contrast the three groups. As you compare the individuals with Uranus conjunct the Midheaven to those with Neptune or Pluto conjunct it, you may begin to get a sense of the differences between them. Perhaps you cannot verbalize them as yet—that will come as we explore the outer planets as vocational indicators in depth in the chapters that follow. Still, looking at the Uranians, you get a sense that they are quite different from the folks with Neptune on the Midheaven, and that both are different from the ones with Pluto on the Midheaven.

Among the actresses, for instance, Geena Davis' audacity and quirkiness fits her Uranus conjunction to the Midheaven, while Meg Ryan's soft, wistful air epitomizes her Neptune conjunction to the Midheaven. Both are different from the brooding intensity of Winona Ryder, who has Pluto conjunct the Midheaven. Among the singers, based on Midheaven conjunctions, Tina Turner is more Uranian, Gladys Knight more Neptunian, and Chaka Khan more Plutonian. Later in this chapter, we will learn key concepts for each of these three planetary types and will work with a tool for discovering which planets fit a given individual.



³ Two of their many books include Dr. Francoise Gauquelin's *Psychology of the Planets* (ACS Publishing, San Diego, CA: 1982) and Dr. Michel Gauquelin's *Cosmic Influences on Human Behavior* (Aurora Press, Santa Fe, NM: 1994).

**Table 1: Notables with Outer Planet
Conjunctions to the Midheaven**



Since the qualities of a planet are most publicly apparent in an individual's life when it is conjunct the Midheaven, the listings below should shed light on how the outer planets compare with one another when functioning as career indicators. In the examples below, the outer planet may be in either the ninth or 10th, but still within eight degrees of the Midheaven.

<u>Field:</u>	<u>URANUS/MIDHEAVEN:</u>	<u>NEPTUNE/MIDHEAVEN:</u>	<u>PLUTO/MIDHEAVEN:</u>
Actresses	Geena Davis	Meg Ryan	Winona Ryder
Actors	Ted Danson	Matt Damon	Fabio
Singers	Tina Turner	Gladys Knight	Chaka Khan
Singers	Paul Simon	Frank Sinatra	Julio Iglesias
Metaphysicians	James Redfield	Caroline Myss	Uri Geller
Astrologers	Marcia Moore	Jeff Mayo	Sydney Omarr

More Notables with Uranus conjunct the Midheaven: Comedians George Carlin and Tracey Ullman; actresses Kathy Bates and Cybill Shepherd; singers Judy Garland and Ricky Nelson; political figures Joseph R. McCarthy (HUAC), Pat Buchanan; Anti-gay activist Anita Bryant, but also David Kopay, first athlete to come out publicly as gay; author Anne Frank (young Nazi victim).

More Notables with Neptune conjunct the Midheaven: World leaders John F. Kennedy Sr., Pope John Paul II, and F.W. de Klerk; Walt Disney; Oprah Winfrey; actors Charlton Heston, Joel Grey, Robert Wagner and Keifer Sutherland; Metaphysical figures Marilyn Ferguson (*The Aquarian Conspiracy*) and medium James Van Praagh.

More Notables with Pluto conjunct the Midheaven: Sarah, Duchess of York; twin daughters of George W. Bush, Jenna and Barbara; Coretta Scott King; Christian Brando, son of Marlon; comedians Robin Williams and Red Foxx; singer Prince; director Roman Polanski; Simpson prosecutor, Marcia Clark; "Drag Queen of the Century," Divine; "Mayflower Madam," Sydney Biddle Barrows.

We can't cover all three outer planets' aspects to the Midheaven in this chapter but will use Neptune as an example. Like every planet, Neptune has both desirable and undesirable expressions and traits. It is challenging to integrate the qualities of Neptune into the workplace because these traits are anything but worldly and practical. Neptune is the planet of dreams, visions, and imagination. Our dreams are meant to inspire us and sustain us against a sometimes-harsh reality, but spending too much time in fantasy poorly equips us to realize our goals.

Neptune represents creativity, spirituality, and the desire to serve—much-needed qualities in an economy that lacks compassion and is increasingly driven by the bottom line. Still, these uplifting facets of Neptune—when pursued without wisdom, common sense, and a capacity for coping with reality—can also represent career sabotage through self-deception or becoming the victim/martyr type. Elusive and shape-shifting, Neptune has effects that are hard to describe succinctly, but let's look at several of its major aspects to the Midheaven.

When Neptune is *conjunct* the Midheaven the qualities and issues of the planet Neptune that we have been discussing can dominate the career, almost inescapably so. The relationship with a Neptunian parent—and the parent's legacy of either gifts or difficulties or both—frequently plays a major role in the course of that individual's career. We will explore Neptune's tenth house dynamics in depth in Chapter Three, so let's focus on other aspects here. These brief descriptions are, of course, only a few possible expressions of a given Neptune aspect to the Midheaven.

Neptune can *square* the Midheaven from four different houses, and each of these squares shows a different sort of tension between matters of that house and worldly success. (The celebrities whose names are in parentheses are examples of these placements found in AstroDataBank.) Squares can represent difficulties, yet the long list of celebrities with outer planet squares to the Midheaven demonstrates that such conflicts are not insurmountable. In fact, people with hard aspects are often more driven to succeed than those with softer aspects, who may find that things come so easily that there is no particular urgency or challenge.

Neptune in the 1st square the Midheaven: The appearance of these people and the dreamy, spacey, impractical, and soft-edged image they project can impede success in a highly competitive corporate field, but serve well in a more artistic one. These people may be glamorous (Geena Davis, Claudia Schiffer), and yet their beauty may place them in the limelight to an uncomfortable degree. The 1st being one of the health houses, Neptune here may represent some physical fragility or challenge that could detract from a physically-demanding career (Stevie Wonder) or an addiction that cannot be ignored (Bill Clinton's sexual addiction).

Neptune in the 12th square the Midheaven: Neptune's energy is similar to that of the 12th, so the wish to withdraw or escape from the mundane world can create a private, even reclusive individual, (Harrison Ford) and so a high-focus career is less likely than a quiet, contemplative one. Addictions or unconscious emotions and motivations may sabotage career goals, as may secrets. (With this position, however, gossip columnist Rona Barrett was a huge success ferreting out others' secrets.) The 12th is well suited for

fields involving service, spirituality (Della Reese) and for creative arts like writing and painting that do not require meeting the public. There may also be some sort of cause or ideal that the person puts above material success (Jerry Rubin).



Neptune in the 7th square the Midheaven: Especially with Neptune in Libra or Scorpio, the partner's needs are placed before the native's own goals. Where the partner suffers from an addiction or serious mental or physical illness, codependency can drain energy from the native's work-related efforts. A partner suffering from low self-esteem can subtly sabotage the native's career. In other cases, the native may be so overawed by the partner's gifts that he or she does not feel worthy of a career, becoming a support person instead. Since business partnerships show up in the seventh house as well, this placement is a red warning light, for business partners could prove to be unreliable, deceptive, or dysfunctional in ways that could sabotage the success of the business.

Neptune in the 6th square the Midheaven: Spaced-out, disorganized, inconsistent work habits and escape into daydreams can keep these people from setting and meeting realistic goals. Feeling—and playing—the victim can prevent them from being authorities in their own right; instead they may act like doormats. This placement is superb for service work, but the natives may become compulsive rescuers and martyrs to a cause, thus sacrificing their health. When work doesn't match their vision of a life purpose (most likely a creative or spiritual one), they might fall ill as a way of forcing a change.

Trines to the Midheaven: In analyzing the effects of these aspects, we need to consider both the matters of the house involved and *the type of aspect* involved. For instance, some 6th house planets *square* the Midheaven, while others *trine* the Midheaven. The trines tend to do better than the squares because the planet's sign is harmonious with the Midheaven's sign—earth to earth, for instance, or air to air. When Neptune trines the Midheaven from the sixth, these people's work habits may still be disorganized, but their creative gifts are a better match for their long-term goals, enhancing their chances of success. There may still be great compassion and a desire to serve, yet these individuals don't lose sight of positioning themselves in the world in order to create a lasting impact. (Elisabeth Kubler-Ross, Angela Davis)

When **Neptune in the 5th** trines the Midheaven, the contribution of creativity to long-range achievement is even more marked, and the native may have a gift for performing or for relating to children, which could be an asset to a career. (Wayne Newton, Carlos Santana, Vanessa Williams) With **Neptune in the 2nd** trining the Midheaven, creativity and compassion do not detract from the bottom line, but instead can be harmoniously integrated with earning a living. Very rarely, you will find a trine from the 1st to the Midheaven, though most often it is near the 2nd house cusp and thus blends in some second house meanings as well. When it is a legitimate **1st house trine**,

then the person's glamorous appearance or their apparent compassion for others adds to their professional appeal.

Oppositions to the Midheaven represent energies that draw the person away from a career into more private spheres. When Neptune opposes the Midheaven **from the 4th**, the individual may yearn to stay at home and pursue personal creative or spiritual endeavors, finding public exposure and being out in the rough and tumble world too difficult and abrasive. There may also be family responsibilities that entail a considerable sacrifice, such as the need to take care of an ailing parent. One or both parents may have been poor models for success. Like the Neptune conjunction to the Midheaven, there is often a codependent relationship with the boss in which the native takes on a caretaker or enabler role. However, the person with the conjunction still has a strong success ethic and may parlay caretaking into advancement on the career ladder. The person with the opposition tends to put caretaking first and become so immersed in that role as to lose sight of career advancement.

When Neptune opposes the Midheaven **from the 3rd**, these natives may identify with one or more troubled siblings, feeling a type of survivor's guilt if they succeed where the sibling (or a collection of siblings, cousins, aunts, and uncles) has not enjoyed success. The third house represents the mental abilities, so when Neptune aspects the Midheaven, on the one hand there can be considerable creativity, yet the tendency to daydream rather than apply these skills.

The third house also represents communications, and when Neptune opposes the Midheaven, there can be a lack of clarity and focus that tends to many snafus in the work and ever-growing piles of paperwork and lost files. This position also might detract from success in marketing and other sales applications. Establishing habits and systems to keep track of details can compensate for all these difficulties.

Aspects to the Midheaven show various ways the career must integrate the needs, urges, and qualities of that planet. Any given chart may have several planets aspecting the Midheaven, each adding to or detracting from the complex life task of finding the right



vocation. For example, one of Pluto's emotional triggers is the use and abuse of power, and so Pluto in the 7th square the Midheaven might show a romantic or business partner whose need to dominate and control may come to the fore when the native begins to enjoy success.

Whatever the aspect to the Midheaven, Plutonians can become enmeshed in relationships that seduce them away from focusing on their life work. For instance, a Pluto opposition to the Midheaven may show that even in adulthood, the person can be involved in murky family

relationships—especially those with parents—which sabotage their career progress. They might work in a family business where they are not paid the kind of salary they might get in an outside company, but they are manipulated into staying by guilty trips and the not-so-subtle message that they couldn't survive alone.

Uranus shows ways we are anywhere from unique to eccentric, and so Uranus in the 1st square the Midheaven often shows individuals who are so different from ordinary people in style and presentation that it borders on outrageous. In the usual corporate or sales job, their provocative appearance and behavior can create tension with bosses. Still, many such people wind up creating a vocational niche for themselves in which their uniqueness and eccentricity are an intriguing part of the package.

Vocational Effects of the Outer Planets' Signs

This topic deserves a book all in itself, in that the outer planets' zodiac signs show how whole generations express their energies, but we will consider a few of their effects here. For instance, there are ways that people born with Uranus in Leo (1956-61) are different from those born with Uranus in Virgo (1961-68). The differences between these two signs would show up in career patterns if they were placed in the vocational houses or aspecting the Midheaven.

Uranian types, regardless of Uranus's sign, often work well with computers, but what Uranus in Leo would do with computers in the line of work might differ substantially from what Uranus in Virgo would do. Both would be Uranian, i.e. very technological and inventive, yet differ in expression depending on their sign and, of course, what else the chart holds. Placed in Virgo, Uranus would probably be practical, while in Leo, it might be more creative and fun loving.

Uranus in Virgo could become known for good, reliable service and for accuracy in detail; Uranus in Leo for their pizzazz and drama in self-expression. Uranus in Leo could be more intrigued by the leisure and entertainment applications of software design or by its possible applications for children. Uranus in Virgo might be more capable at detailed programming or repairing hardware and finding the glitches in network systems. The insurance billing software used by clinics and hospitals most likely was designed by Uranus in Virgo programmers.

The drama and fun of computer games would be more like Uranus in Leo while business applications would be more natural to Uranus in Virgo. A web site designed by someone with Uranus in Leo could be more colorful—perhaps using Flash—while the Uranus in Virgo web site design might be more utilitarian, with a labyrinth of pages for each business purpose. If each of these individuals were hired by online businesses, the sorts of businesses would be different. It might be avant-garde performance art for Leo versus new health systems for Virgo—Napster vs. Doctor Online.



The Vocational Impact of Neptune's Sign: By contrast, Neptune's sign and matters important to that sign represent an entire generation's dreams and the types of difficulties they experience in making those dreams a reality. The matters of natal Neptune's sign are the places where our generation looks for salvation—the things we hope will lift us out of everyday reality and transport us to ecstasy. These dreams may work fairly well during our more idealistic youth, while our illusions are still enough to sustain us, but they often degenerate into addictions of one kind or another if it becomes apparent that these dreams are not likely to be fulfilled. Over time, and especially at mid-life, these addictions turn on us. Where we once thought they would be our deliverance, they prove to be false gods—I call this The Santa Claus That Never Came.

For the **Neptune in Virgo generation**, a fundamental addiction was workaholism. Born between 1928 and 1943, they were children during the Depression and its aftermath. Under the long shadow of the Depression, jobs were a Holy Grail. Often upwardly mobile, maybe the first generation in the family to go to college, they carried their families' dreams. As adults, they looked to meaningful work to transport and redeem them. They believed that if they could only find their life purpose in the form of work that matters in the world, they would be happy.

The mid-life crisis they faced in the 1970s-80s, when Neptune squared their natal Neptune, tended to be a crisis of faith for that generation, one where their beliefs about work and service were called into question. When they came into their forties, we started to hear about burnout for the first time as a concept. Surely it existed before, but we didn't have a name for it, and it wasn't recognized as a broad-based social problem. They contemplated career changes, and many went back to school to follow youthful dreams or find something more creative or spiritual.

By contrast, the **Neptune-in-Libra generation** (born between 1943 and 1957) dreamt of finding a soul mate, a perfect love to merge with, leaving dreary reality behind. To live in that dream world for even the briefest of interludes, these people may engage in codependent behaviors that distort their relationships. If Neptune shows our addictions, then for that generation, love can be an addiction. When Neptune in Libra is a career indicator, codependent relationships—be they with bosses, co-workers, or clients—can creep into business or career dealings in an ultimately destructive way. Pursing a career with compassion and spiritual wholeness is a noble achievement; sacrificing health, financial well being, and personal relationships by compulsively rescuing and enabling clients is an addiction.

The Vocational Impact of Pluto's Sign: Pluto moves so slowly that it is harder to discern the sign's effects, though they are there. Its orbit is erratic, at points travelling inside the orbit of Neptune, and it varies in the amount of time spent in each sign—anywhere from 11 to 20 years⁴. Over-all themes and issues when the vocational houses strongly feature Pluto or Scorpio are much the same as for Pluto elsewhere in the chart. At the lower end of Pluto's range of expressions, they can include abuse of power, battles for control, resentments and grievances, failing for spite, and being a target of other

⁴ As an extreme example of this erratic orbit, Carl Jung was born in 1875 with Pluto at 23 Taurus. He did not experience the square from transiting Pluto at 23 Leo to natal Pluto until 1952, when he was 77 years old. By contrast, people born in 1960, with Pluto in Virgo, would have had transiting Pluto square natal Pluto in 1996, at age 36.

people's projections. At the higher end, they can include transforming, healing, and empowering the people and conditions Plutonians care about. With the vocational houses involved, these themes impact people's capacity for success at major life goals (10th house), their ability to make and manage money (2nd house), or how they operate in the workplace (6th house).

The **Pluto in Leo generation** (1937-1958) was at one point popularly called "The ME Generation" because of their self-obsession, which carried over into their careers when placed in the vocational houses or in aspect to the Midheaven. The intensity and passion Pluto brings to its concerns meant that the ups and downs of their careers and their relationships with bosses and coworkers held an element of high drama. For some with these placements, sexual entanglements in the workplace were one of its perks.

Pluto in Virgo (1958-71) is a great deal more discerning and businesslike, and it adds the capability and keen eye for detail of Virgo to the mix. High-focus Pluto-in-Virgo people, in particular, may be skilled and dedicated, yet extremely critical of others who do not measure up to their exacting standards. Because Pluto and Uranus were conjunct in that sign for much of the 1960s, it is hard to separate the two influences, for the qualities of Pluto and Uranus are fused and also very colored by the qualities of Virgo.

For the group with Pluto and Uranus conjunct, living up to Virgo's high standards has become incredibly stressful. The workplace has changed radically during the past few decades in ways that greatly diminish job satisfaction for the majority. The widespread erosion of ethical standards for business makes it extremely challenging for those with Virgo strong in their charts to express their core qualities and to find a rewarding career. (At the end of this book is an excerpt from a lengthy chapter about the vocational dilemmas of this generation, taken from *The Outer Planets and Inner Life, Volume 3*.)

Those born 1971-1984 with **Pluto in Libra** who are obsessed with appearance may view their looks as a career asset or detraction and may wind up in careers related to fitness, fashion makeovers, or cosmetic enhancements to the body's structure like liposuction. When the Pluto in Libra generation is old enough to become the new wave of counselors, it is likely that they will have a special gift for mediation, for tackling relationship issues, and for healing the human heart.



Finding Your Planetary Types

One important element in chart interpretation is finding the individual's **planetary types**—that is, considering which planets and signs are the most important predictors of their behavior, based on their relative strength. For instance, a Venusian type—one with many Venus aspects, the Sun, Moon, Ascendant, or several planets in Libra, or a strong 7th house—would be strongly motivated to find and maintain love, harmony, and beauty. This book is devoted to understanding vocational patterns of people who have the slow-moving outer planets and their associated zodiac signs strongly

featured in their birth charts. When Pluto and Scorpio are featured in important ways, the person would be considered a Plutonian. When Neptune and Pisces are highlighted, the person may be called Neptunian. When Uranus and Aquarius are prominent, this is a Uranian.

How does a planet become prominent? The Sun, Moon, Ascendant, or Midheaven could be conjunct, square, trine, or opposite that planet. Or, the Sun, Moon, Ascendant, or several planets could be in that planet's sign. A planet would be strong if it is in a major configuration like a T-square, grand trine, or grand cross. It gains strength if it is one of the most aspected planets. For visual clues, draw in the aspects, using one color for the harder aspects and a contrasting color for the softer ones, then note which planets have many aspects and which do not. In the next three chapters, you will find numerical scales I have developed to measure the relative strengths of Uranus, Neptune and Pluto, assigning points for each way that they serve as vocational indicators.

Table 2 compares Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto in terms of how they are likely to operate in their careers. The first half compares how the three types approach a variety of concerns that can affect career potential. You will see that they are significantly different. Many Uranians are convinced that changing society is the only way for us to make progress as a race, while Neptunians may be more convinced that the spiritual path is the way to make life better. The Plutonian can think that both of them are misguided and that working intensely to heal the wounding of the past is the answer.

In the bottom half of Table 2, you will find a few of the many careers associated with each of the outer planets, although each of the chapters that follow will go into career options more fully. Scanning down the columns, you get a quick impression of the kinds of work situations that might collect Plutonian types, Neptunian types, or Uranian types. Scanning across the rows, you would begin to see how the three types differ from one another. At this point, we are aiming for an impression only, but in the individual chapters, career patterns and challenges of each type will be discussed in depth.

There have been a number of eras, however, in which the majority of people were born with two of the outer planets in aspect to one another and where the approach to career becomes a blend of both planets. In addition to the Pluto-Uranus generation mentioned above, there were also three separate generations born during the eventful Twentieth Century who had Uranus and Neptune in Aspect to one another. (Special generations like these are the focus of *The Outer Planets and Inner Life, Vol. 3.*)

“Outer Planet People”—From Outer Space to the Rat Race?

The term Outer Planet People does not refer to aliens from another planet, although these people often feel that they must be from outer space, since they do not fit easily onto this earth. The true Outer Planet Person, familiarly called an OPP, has a mixture of two or more of these planets or signs highlighted in the birth chart.

OPPs are exceptional individuals and not usually meant for mainstream careers, so their *curriculum vita* is anything but linear. Outer Planet People present special challenges when it comes to finding a life work or settling for a mainstream career. Their perspectives, interests, and needs are not well served by working in a bank. Even more than those with a single outer planet highlighted, OPPs often "meander" until midlife, trying out various types of work.

Table 2. HOW THE THREE OUTER PLANET TYPES DIFFER IN THEIR APPROACH TO LIFE PURPOSE



(Each of the outer planets has many qualities, areas of concern, and levels of expression. These are only a few examples, selected for the sake of contrast.)

A URANIAN APPROACH:

Focused on social change
Lives in the future
Information, reason saves us
Sudden, radical change
Demands freedom, equality
Idealistic, humanitarian
Detached, cerebral, rational
Zany, eccentric, unconventional
In-your-face, shocking
Individuated, elitist, unique

A NEPTUNIAN APPROACH:

Focused on spiritual growth
Lives in fantasy and dreams
Sacrifice, atonement redeems us
Slowly dissolve reality
Accepts being a victim/martyr
Compassionate, service-minded
Intuitive, subjective, romantic
Creative, artistic, imaginative
Self-effacing, etheric, elusive
Merging, blurring boundaries

A PLUTONIAN APPROACH:

Focused on death and rebirth
Lives in the past
Emotional purging transforms us
Slow, intense inner work
Seeks to control for safety's sake
Sees The Shadow, seeks to heal it
Analytical, penetrating, questioning
Cynical, satiric, pungent
Covert, close to the chest, secretive
Alienated, untrusting, closed

Outer Planet Careers Compared

Note: While there are hundreds of careers for each of the outer planets, these were selected for the purpose of making the contrasts between the three planets clearer. Most modern careers, however, draw on the skills and energies of several planets.

Uranian Careers:

Scientist
Astrologer
Self-help guru
Social activist
Animator, web designer
Technical writer
E-commerce
Radiologist
Engineer
Astronomer
Energy conservation
Teenage gang counselor
Computer hacker
Computer security

Neptunian Careers:

Mystic
Clairvoyant
Meditation teacher
Social worker
Fine artist
Poet
Charity worker
Anesthetist
Pharmaceutical development
Oceanographer
Water purification
Alcohol and drug treatment
Drug dealer
Prison warden

Plutonian Careers:

Healer
Medium
Past life therapist
Reformer
Art restorer
Investigative reporter
Bill collector
Obstetrician
Recycling expert
Archeologist
Hazardous waste disposal
Hospice staff
Hit man
Homicide detective

Those planets take a good deal of maturity to handle well, and it often turns out that OPPs haven't lost time after all, because the skills and experiences gained from this mixture of experiences help them understand the difficulties other people face. An astrologer, for instance, who has spent time in sales, as a receptionist in a doctor's office, and finally as a stay-at-home Mom can bring all those experiences to bear in client sessions. Drawing on this diverse background, that astrologer could relate to and give knowledgeable insight to clients who are in sales, those in the health fields, and young mothers trying to adjust to their roles.

OPP often have a sense of destiny about their careers. They are likely to regard their vocation as a **calling** in the old fashioned sense of the word—not as something that they chose, but as something that chose them. They are otherworldly rather than worldly, visionary rather than practical. They might wind up in nontraditional careers like motivational speakers, New Age practitioners, creative artists, or political or environmental activists. Our society does not tend to validate or reward the callings suggested by the outer planets. Thus, the person with outer planets in the 10th house is often forced to earn a living through the 2nd house and the skills shown there.

To the outside observer, the career of an OPP seems less like a path than a lane that wanders all over the place. OPPs typically meander for years on the road to a true career, with many apparent false starts. Often people who have these placements don't come into their own until midlife, when those planets by transit planets form aspects to their natal positions. Still, the meandering path they so often take in their twenties and thirties provides them with valuable skills and life experiences to ground their extraordinary life purposes. I often feel that people whose charts are strong in the outer planets need a lot of seasoning before these planets can be used at their best.



As a consequence, however, many OPPs wonder why they are not as well established as their contemporaries and consider themselves failures. People whose opinions matter—family, friends, mate, peers, even their community as a whole—may share this opinion and reinforce it, creating low-self esteem, guilt, and a heavy load of alienation. Their apparent failure is especially puzzling since they are often exceptional—brilliant, talented, and full of potential. There are good reasons for this pattern, and it is important that OPPs not judge themselves for not fitting into the mainstream career mold.

First, the outer planets are not ordinary and easy to express, but instead require a great deal of maturity to handle well. Meandering through life and having a variety of experiences is part of the growth and evolution that is required—as though the life journey were a long pilgrimage through a wilderness. It is easy to lose your way with these planets, and OPPs often do so repeatedly, learning much from these mistakes. We all tend to blunder and fall on our faces when using the outer planets' energies, but the typical OPP may do so spectacularly, publicly, and even compulsively.

Second, the OPP is often a visionary and social critic who entertains ideas our world considers strange or even dangerous. When that outer planet is well-featured, having excellent aspects, the OPP may be a trendsetter and innovator who galvanizes a new fashion or social development. Mostly, however, society lags far behind the OPPs

visions, moves exceedingly slowly, and does not exactly appreciate the seeming outsider who calls attention to needed changes. I have often likened the Plutonian, for instance, to the little boy who shouted out in the middle of the parade that the emperor wasn't wearing any clothes. I'm guessing that when that little boy got home, his parents didn't thank him for calling attention to the emperor's plight. I'm betting he got his behind tanned.

Generally the OPP is stuck waiting for society to catch up to these visions, so the OPP's considerable talents can at last be valued. What many OPPs do while they wait for society to catch up is to live on the edge and explore the more destructive expressions of the outer planets, one after another. Neptunians may try out a series of addictions. Plutonians may get caught up in various compulsions, including sexual ones. Uranians may hare about on motorcycles, become a computer hacker, or join some sort of counter culture. Eventually, pursuing paths like these tends to hurt like anything, but they do pass the time in interesting situations. They also offset that painful sense of alienation by bringing one into contact with others of the same planetary persuasion.

Often such paths are a crash course into how NOT to use the outer planets that might otherwise take several lifetimes to master. Many who have learned those lessons gain a sense of self worth and service by helping those who are still struggling to learn them. As an example, Neptune is often strong in the charts of alcoholics. Alcoholics Anonymous is based on the principle the recovering alcoholic's salvation comes in part through giving service to those who still suffer from the disease.



The outer planets' passages through the various signs coincide with vast social change. For some time now, the outer planets have been in what my teacher, Richard Idemon, called the Universal Signs—Sagittarius through Pisces. These signs have more to do with our ties to the collective than with intensely personal concerns or one-on-one relationships. While Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto have been in these signs, social change has accelerated to a dizzying pace. Changes or upheavals in one part of the world cannot help but affect every other part of the world. In the throes of such global change and

upheaval, the OPP's exceptional visions, insights, and abilities will be much needed.

One important time of personal and vocational development for people with the outer planets strong in their charts is between the **ages of 28-30**, when transiting Pluto crosses natal Neptune at the same time as the Saturn return and the Progressed Lunar Return. Over the years, many of my clients nearly self-destructed under this one to two year transit of Pluto to natal Neptune, especially those with Neptune in intense Scorpio. For many of them, the transit was a wakeup call in which they bottomed out on the destructive uses of Pluto and Neptune and started to look for some spiritual answers.

Even the pain of reaching an end point with Neptune can really represent a turning around—similar to alcoholics, who can never be rescued, but instead have to "bottom out." Pluto crossing Neptune can be that bottoming out, when they either ruin themselves, or they start to recover, often experiencing a spiritual awakening or other

positive expressions of Neptune. For others who are not using their Neptune in such self-destructive ways, the turnaround is easier, but this passage calls on them to take a close look at their illusions as well as their pipe dreams. An individual with Neptune in the third was always worried about her sister and brother, who had not done as well as she had. Suffering from survivor's guilt, she was forever rescuing and enabling them. When Pluto went over Neptune, not only was it a major spiritual awakening, but it was a wakeup call that made her give up rescuing.

Another major developmental phase for the Outer Planet Person is the so-called **midlife crisis**, between 38 and 44. Part of the astrological picture at midlife is a series of outer planet aspects by transit to their own natal positions. Transiting Uranus makes an opposition to its natal position in the chart, transiting Neptune squares natal Neptune, and transiting Pluto squares natal Pluto. In the process, the transiting outer planets set off all the aspects the outer planets form in the birth chart, representing an opportunity to learn how to use those aspects better and to fulfill more of their innate potential. (The exact ages when these aspects occur vary from generation to generation because the orbits of these three planets around the sun are not as regular in shape as the inner planets' orbits.)

When the outer planets natively are involved with the vocational houses or the Midheaven, then the midlife crisis is likely to be a major career passage. Sometimes at this stage, the visions that you always cherished finally match the direction society is taking. Sometimes, even if society hasn't caught up with your vision, you find yourself impelled to **GO FOR IT**, because life no longer seems worth living if you don't pursue your dream. We'll hear more about the midlife eras of the three outer planet types in the relevant chapters.

Outer Planet Transits to the Career Houses or Midheaven

In this book, we will focus for the most part on the natal chart and on how the presence of one or more outer planets in the vocational houses affects the unfolding of career. People who don't have these placements in the birth chart, however, will still experience transits of the outer planets through the 2nd, 6th, or 10th house for significant periods of time. Uranus remains in a sign for 7 years, Neptune's stay in a sign lasts 14 years, and Pluto—due to its irregular orbit—can be in a sign anywhere from 11 to 20 years. Because these are very slow-moving planets, the transits are more than passing influences. They alter the direction of the career considerably and irrevocably.

The amount of time each house of the birth chart is affected is determined by the size of the house, since houses can include intercepted signs and vary in width anywhere from 25 to 45 degrees. They vary according to the Ascendant sign and the angle between the Ascendant and Midheaven. I've never studied it, but I do get the impression from working with clients that the 6th/12th house pair is frequently more than 30 degrees wide, while the 2nd/8th house pair can often be narrower than 30 degrees. Perhaps this is only so in northern latitudes, since the nearer to the equator you are born, the closer the houses are to an even 30 degrees wide. I will descend into inarticulateness if I try to explain the astronomical reasons for all these variations, and that wouldn't be a pretty picture! My point is that if a house is 25 degrees wide, the outer planet transit is a relatively short one, but if it is closer to 45 degrees, the transit might seem to last forever.

While an outer planet transits through one of the career houses, we become a “temp” for Uranus, Neptune, or Pluto, and we begin to experience the kinds of career challenges that someone who is born with that placement has faced for decades. We will explore those complex, lifelong challenges in depth in the chapters about Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto as career indicators. We will also discover differences between 10th, 2nd, and 6th house natal placements of these planets.

Similar issues and challenges develop when one of the outer planets transits a vocational house. For instance, while Uranus transits the 2nd house, we might experience the kinds of financial ups and downs that someone with that placement in their natal chart has learned to cope with over the long haul. We get used to jobs that come and go without warning; we may experience a series of layoffs, wild upswings, and sudden downswings in our fields; and in response, we can develop interesting and unusual sidelines to earn extra money. Like those with Uranus in any of the career houses natively, we may start a business of our own or become a consultant rather than an employee under this transit.

Such transits are especially important when one of the vocational houses of the natal chart already contains the outer planets or has planets in the signs they rule. Let’s say that the individual mentioned above with Uranus transiting the 2nd house was born with Uranus in the 6th or else with the Sun in Aquarius there. Many people born with Uranus or Aquarius in the 6th work well independently but rebel against close supervision. They bring a great deal of intelligence and inventiveness to their tasks, but grow restless when they’ve learned all they can from a particular job, so they may change jobs—or assignments—frequently. Maybe they can’t always justify quitting a job that has grown too confining, so instead they begin to provoke their supervisors by coming in late repeatedly or taking extended lunch hours, eventually crossing the line so consistently that they are fired.

Suppose that after this scenario has been repeated for many years, Uranus enters the second house by transit. That may bring the pattern to a head, and they decide they have absolutely **had it** with working for anyone else. By now, they have a vast range of skills and experience to draw on, so they go into business as an independent contractor or consultant. The finances are up and down those first few years, as Uranus continues to transit the 2nd house, but eventually they succeed.

Outer planet transits to the Midheaven usually coincide with major passages when people’s status, roles, and career directions go through huge shifts related to the issues of that planet. A Pluto transit to the Midheaven can bring Pluto issues like the use of power into the workplace, while Neptune transits often challenge us to add more service or creativity to our careers. Uranus transits bring a period of restless yearning for radical change and for greater independence.

In an earlier section, we talked about various natal aspects to the Midheaven and how they varied in expression depending on the houses those natal planets occupied.



Similar kinds of tensions—or supports—apply during the year or two that a transiting planet forms an aspect to the Midheaven. For instance, suppose Uranus is in the midst of a long transit of the 7th house and then squares the Midheaven. At that time, the area of partnership will have a major impact on career and status. There are a variety of ways that transit might play itself out.

One person undergoing a divorce might be so distracted that it is impossible to function at work. In another case, the spouse is transferred, so the person also has to move and change jobs or lines of work. In another, a long-standing business partnership or alliance is suddenly dissolved, and a series of short-lived connections with bright and exciting people ensues. None of them lasts very long, yet each one opens the person to new ideas and skills, eventually leading to a business as an independent contractor. Uranus transits may involve a sometimes-unsettling period of instability where the externals shift again and again. The long-range effect of these repeated shifts, however, is to awaken a higher consciousness and to develop a greater level of independent functioning.

For the duration of any outer planet transit through a career house, we are confronted with the same sort of challenges an individual born with any of these placements has faced throughout life. Pluto transits to the career houses, for instance, often mark the emergence of power struggles with the higher ups. Maybe politics have entered the picture in a big way—perhaps a huge corporation has swallowed up the company. The individual who is having a Pluto transit to the Midheaven must now learn how to deal with political game playing in order to continue to move up the corporate ladder.

Usually there is more than one way that a transit plays itself out, involving a series of changes or situations related to the issues of that outer planet. The immediate impact of an outer planet transit can be stressful, yet in the long run, events or situations related to that planet challenge us to evolve and to express the planet's energies more fully. We cannot cover transits to the career houses in depth in this volume, though a future edition could contain additional chapters. Read the chapter about natal placements of the outer planet in question to understand what vocational challenges may ensue and to gain a deeper awareness of the growth potential of situations like these.

RESOURCE LIST—CAREER AND THE OUTER PLANETS

©2004 by Donna Cunningham, MSW

An Exceptional Free Resource:

U.S. Department of Labor. Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2002-2003 Edition. Chicago, IL: VGM Career Books, 2002. Available online for free in searchable form at: <http://www.bls.gov/oco/> This is an excellent resource for astrologers doing career counseling, as it provides a realistic view of your client's current or prospective career. Input the name of any type of career and get a description of what that work entails, training required, earnings, outlook for the future, and related types of work.

Relevant Astrology Resources:

Cunningham, Donna. *Healing Pluto Problems*. York Beach, ME: Red Wheel/Weiser, 1986. Order at: <http://www.redwheelweiser.com>.

Cunningham, Donna. *The Outer Planets and Inner Life, Part One: The Career Path of the Exceptional Soul*. 2004, Portland, OR: Moon Maven Publications. Order at: Order at: <http://www.AstrologySoftwareShop.com>

Fenton, Sasha and Jan Budkowski. *Prophecy for Profit: The Essential Career and Business Guide for Those Who Give Readings for Profit*. Brentford, UK: Zambezi Publishing, 1999. Order on-line at <http://www.zampub.com>.

Lewis, Jim. *Peter Pan in Midlife and the Midlife of America: A Personal and Collective Memoir*. A Posthumous Book by Jim Lewis, Edited and foreword by Erin Sullivan. Southwest Contemporary Astrology, 2002. Order at: <http://www.erinsullivan.com>

Lois Rodden and Mark McDonough. AstroDataBank. This invaluable software program contains over 27,000 birth data of notables and others and is searchable by numerous categories, including vocation. Order at: Order at: <http://www.AstrologySoftwareShop.com>

Rodden, Lois M. *Money: How to Find It with Astrology*. Los Angeles, CA: DataNews Press, 1994. Order from Carole Schneider, Datanewz@netzero.com.

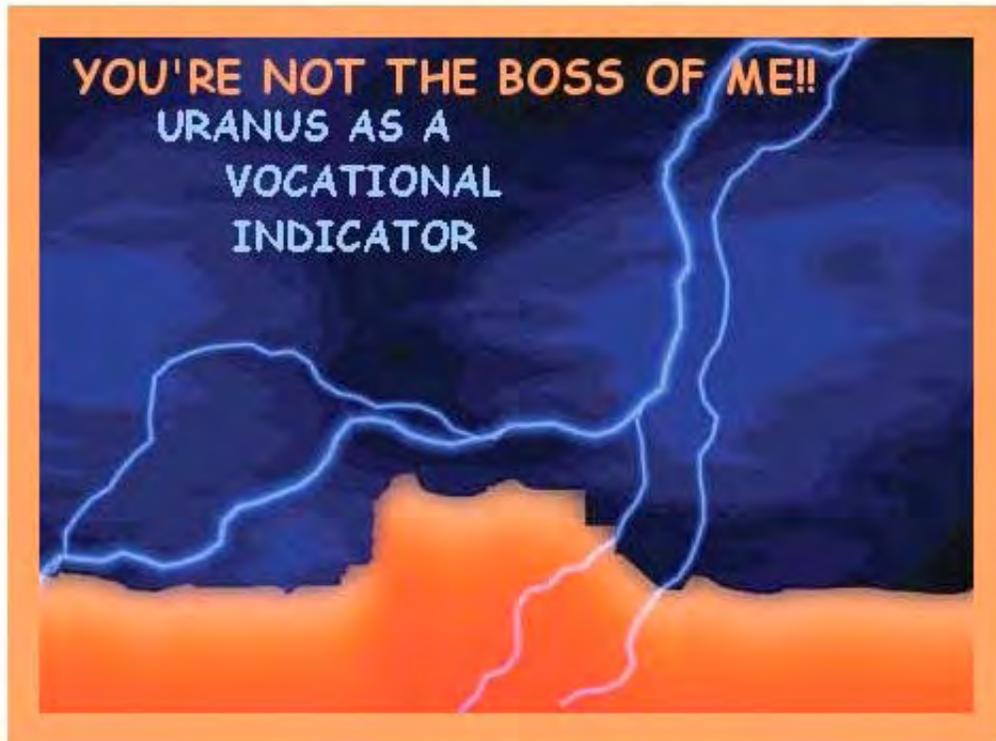
Wickenburg, Joanne. *In Search of a Fulfilling Career*. Tempe, AZ: American Federation of Astrologers, Inc., 1992. Order from: <http://www.astrologers.com>

OUT OF PRINT ASTROLOGY BOOKS:

Unfortunately, with the changes in the publishing world ushered in by Pluto in Sagittarius, many invaluable and classic astrology books have been allowed to go out of print, including Jamie Binder's *Planets in Work*. Some of the books listed above may join them momentarily! My *Consulting Astrologer's Guidebook*, which has a chapter on vocational counseling through astrology, is currently out of stock at Red Wheel/Weiser.

The best source for out of print astrology books is Dave Rowell's AstroAmerica, at: <http://www.astroamerica.com>. Toll-free number: 800-475-2272. Dave is now entering into the publishing world with print-on-demand versions of some classics with his new enterprise, Astrology Classics Publishing.

CHAPTER TWO:



From: The Outer Planets and Inner Life, Volume 1
The Career Path of the Exceptional Soul
©2004 by Donna Cunningham

URANUS IN THE CAREER HOUSES— “YOU’RE NOT THE BOSS OF ME!”¹

Precocious children have been known to tell their parents, “you’re not the boss of me,” but individuals with Uranus in the career houses of the astrology chart may adopt this as a life-long motto. Some wear it on greasy tee shirts along with other rude sayings, while others deign to wear suits but carry the attitude around in their pockets, ready to whip it out at any challenge. On the subway one day in New York, an impeccably groomed Asian American in a Dress-for-Success navy blazer was hanging on the strap in front of me, laptop clutched under his other arm. To all appearances, he could have been a stockbroker, but on his pocket was a crest with the motto, *Illegitimi non carborundum*. I remembered enough high school Latin to guess at the warning: “Don’t let the bastards wear you down.”² I stifled a laugh, and he winked, so I concluded this was a Uranian in corporate guise.



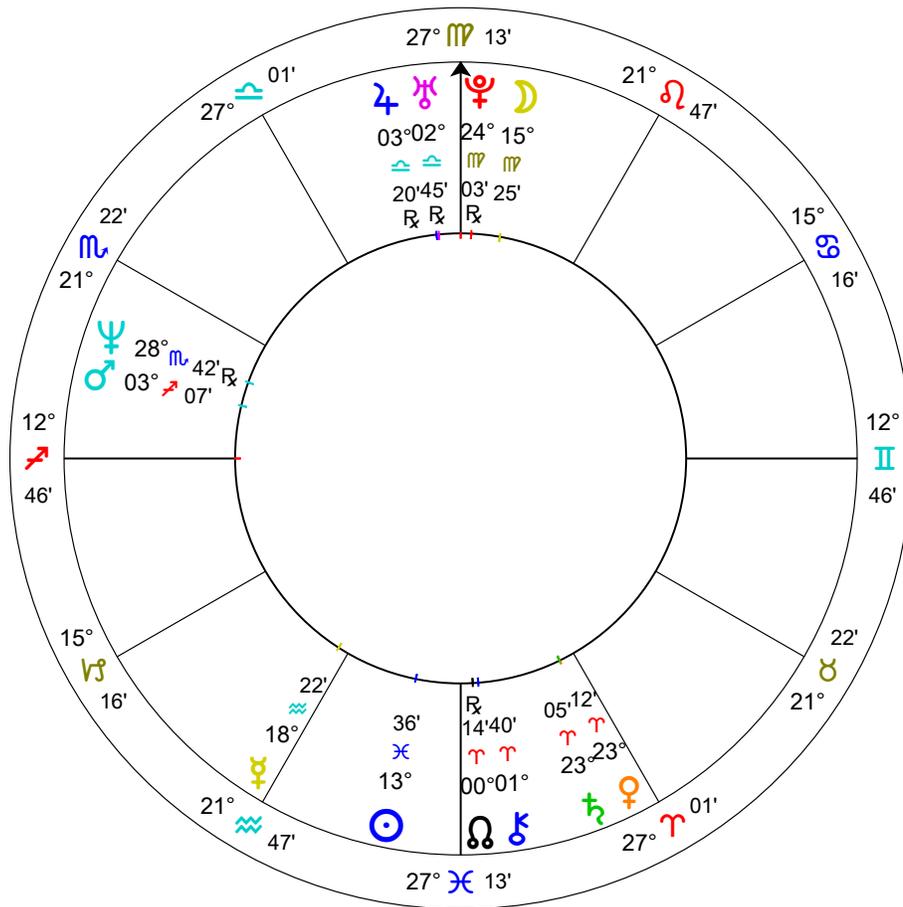
Who are the Uranians? They are people who have Uranus or the sign Aquarius strong in their birth charts, especially with strong aspects from Uranus to the Sun, Moon, Ascendant or Midheaven or falling within eight degrees either side of the Ascendant, Midheaven, IC, or Descendant. These factors are stronger if Uranus aspects a number of the personal planets or is in a major configuration like a T-square or grand trine, or if there is a stellium of three or more planets in the sign Aquarius. Such combinations make them Uranian in nature, but might primarily affect their personal lives. (If you are new to astrology and don’t understand the technical parts but identify with what has been said so far, chances are you are Uranian.) For a direct impact on vocational potential, these placements would generally need to be in the 10th, 2nd, or 6th houses or conjunct, square, opposite, or trine the Midheaven and would also need to be prominent in some of the ways mentioned above. If the chart has only Aquarius on the Midheaven or on the cusp of the 2nd or 6th houses but none of the factors mentioned above, the individual may not fit the picture I am describing. The likelihood of a match increases with the number of these factors in the chart.

Shown on the next page is a scale I developed for determining whether an individual’s chart would be considered Uranian in the vocational area. (If working with the scale is more technical than you are ready for just now, ignore it and continue with the rest of the chapter) Though subjective, it is based on observations of clients over 30 years. It should be considered a work in progress, not a finished scale. It could be a great deal more elaborate, but then might not be as useful or interesting to the student. If you are a practicing astrologer, feel free to modify it for use in your work.

¹ This is a much-expanded version of an article that appeared in *Dell Horoscope Magazine* as: “Uranus Packs a Punch in Your Career Houses,” 2/2003, pp. 23-30. It appears with their permission.

² Yes, Virgos, I know that’s not REAL Latin. It’s a joke, okay?

CHASTITY BONO
March 4, 1969
12:55 AM PST
Los Angeles, CA



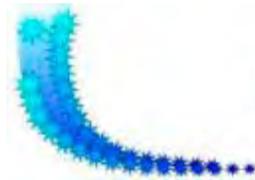


Table 3:
Rating the Strength of Uranus or
Aquarius As a Vocational Indicator
(c)2001 by Donna Cunningham

The ratings below are of the strength of Uranus and Aquarius placements in the career houses. Since there are no objective measures of the impact of such placements, these ratings are subjective, based on over 35 years of observing clients' career patterns. Falling within a conjunction of the four chart angles (Ascendant, Midheaven, IC, or Descendant) increases the planet's strength. It is also stronger in **high profile**—that is, when it is aspecting the Sun, Moon, Ascendant, part of a stellium, or one of the most aspected planets in the chart. Where more than one category applies—for instance, Aquarius in the 10th as well as Uranus in the 6th—add the total of the placements. A total of 5 would be considered low, while a total of 10 or more indicates a strong influence. More than 15? Very strong indeed!

MIDHEAVEN AND 10TH HOUSE URANUS OR AQUARIUS PLACEMENTS:

<u>Possible Score:</u>	<u>Type of placement eligible for score:</u>	<u>This Chart's points:</u>
10	Uranus in the 10 th or 9 th in high profile conjunct the Midheaven	_____
9	Uranus in the 10th in high profile but not conjunct the Midheaven	_____
8	Uranus square, quincunx or opposite the Midheaven, high profile	_____
7	Uranus within 8 degrees of the MH but not in high profile, not many aspects	_____
7	Aquarius Sun or Moon within 8 degrees of the MH in the 9 th or 10 th	_____
6	Each Aquarius planet in the 9 th or 10th, within 8 degrees of the MH	_____
5	Aquarius Sun, Moon, or single Aquarius planet in the 10th, not within 8 degrees of the MH	_____
3	Aquarius on the Midheaven, no planets in Aquarius	_____
3	Midheaven ruler in Aquarius or the 11th, or ruler of the 11 th in the 10 th	_____
6	Each conjunction, square, or opposition to a tenth house Uranus or Aquarius planet	_____
2	Uranus sextile the Midheaven, especially from the 11th	_____
1	Aquarius planet sextile the Midheaven, especially from the 11 th	_____
1	Aquarius planet in the 10th in aspect to natal Uranus	_____

2nd HOUSE URANUS OR AQUARIUS PLACEMENTS:

7	Uranus in the 2nd, high profile	_____
3	Uranus trine the Midheaven from the second (additional points)	_____
5	Aquarius Sun, Moon, or Aquarius planets in 2nd, high profile	_____
4	Each Aquarius planet in the 2nd making an aspect to natal Uranus or the Midheaven	_____
3	Each Aquarius planet in the 2 nd , not high profile and not aspecting Uranus or the Midheaven	_____
2	Each 2 nd house planet not in Aquarius, but in aspect to natal Uranus	_____

6th HOUSE URANUS OR AQUARIUS PLACEMENTS:

8	Uranus in the 6th within 8 degrees of Descendant, high profile	_____
8	Aquarius Sun, Moon, or inner planet within 8 degrees of Descendant, high profile	_____
7	Uranus in the 6th, high profile within 8 degrees of Descendant	_____
6	Uranus in the 6th within 8 degrees of Descendant, not high profile	_____
6	Uranus in the 6 th trine or square the Midheaven	_____
4	Uranus in the 6 th but not high profile or aspecting the Midheaven or conjunct the Descendant	_____
6	Aquarius Sun or Moon in the 6 th , not within 8 degrees of Descendant, high profile	_____
5	Aquarius Sun or Moon within 8 degrees of Descendant, not high profile	_____
2	Aquarius on the 6th cusp, no planets in Aquarius	_____
3	Aquarius planet in the 6th in aspect to natal Uranus	_____
1	Planet in the 6 th in aspect to natal Uranus but not in Aquarius	_____

TOTAL: _____

chapter. To make it easier to follow, you may wish to print out the table and her chart. Chastity's scores are as follows, for an extremely high total of 21:

Uranus conjunct the Midheaven, not high profile	9
Jupiter conjunct Uranus in the 10 th	2
Pluto conjunct Uranus, but in the 9 th	2
Midheaven ruler (Mercury) in Aquarius	3
Aquarius planet in the 2 nd house, not HP	3

Caution: Uranian at Work!



Typical Uranians can be the kings and queens of, “take this job and stuff it.” They tend to master technology or skills that put them well ahead of their field, but they find it difficult to accept being told what to do or committing to a deadening routine. Many function best in business for themselves. Others find a niche in chaotic enterprises or on the midnight shift where no one supervises them, so they fly by the seat of their pants.

When qualifications allow, they can be happier as consultants or independent contractors in that, in such situations, they are more likely to be treated as peers than underlings. Fairly unusual and nonconforming individuals, they may be perceived as charismatic, eccentric, or even weird, depending on whether Uranus has primarily difficult or positive aspects. They can be counted on to think outside the box.

Brighter than most people around them, typical Uranians easily grow bored and restless, and unless new challenges constantly present themselves, they can create an uproar in the workplace for the sheer excitement of it. Many of them gain the reputation of being mavericks who are unpredictable, erratic, or difficult. Because they are almost impelled to speak out about things that are wrong, they are often seen as troublemakers.

They question authority and object—none too tactfully—when standard operating procedures on the job are irrational, inequitable, or unjust. Uranians can have a superiority complex—sometimes even a justified one—but those who cross the line into arrogance are likely to create friction with bosses and coworkers. They inherently feel the rules do not apply to them, for after all they are special. Surprisingly often, they get away with it, for they appeal to our too-frequently-suppressed Inner Outlaw, and we live vicariously through their escapades.

The people who get away with it can be those with a well-aspected Uranus or with unafflicted Aquarius placements in the vocational houses. For instance, those with conjunctions or trines from Uranus to Venus or with a strong Venus in Aquarius have a quirky charm or even a charisma to make us love them and their eccentricities. Those with good Mercury-Uranus aspects or with Mercury strong in Aquarius can intrigue us with their offbeat ideas and make us laugh. Young Uranians—the gifted Golden Boys or Girls with Potential—often get away with fairly outrageous behavior because we make allowances for their youth. Uranians past midlife with good aspects tend to have mellowed enough that they no longer have much of anything to prove, so they can be comfortably eccentric and not raise too many hackles on the job.

When it comes to career—a Saturn-ruled area of life—I find that conjunctions or trines from Saturn to Uranus may operate as good aspects, for they lend self-discipline, self-motivation, and a concern for quality performance. Though often viewed as antithetical to Uranus, a Saturn aspect can actually increase the usefulness of the Uranian type, for it puts the brakes on the more outrageous expressions and adds grounding and practicality. Where Uranus alone might represent Pure Science, Saturn’s focus is on Applied Science and even on insisting that scientists take responsibility for the longer range implications of their discoveries. Even the squares can work to advantage, though less reliably, for they are first Saturnian, then Uranian by turns.

The Uranians of all ages who don’t get away with it—those who habitually run afoul of authority and whose career paths are therefore erratic and difficult—are often people with many aspects to a high focus Uranus in the career houses or with mainly hard aspects to Uranus. When Uranus is also the most aspected planet in the chart, they appear to have little choice except to live out the qualities of Uranus in their career, for better or for worse. Those with squares from personal planets to Uranus tend to be more hard-edged, persistent, and impulsive about their rebellion, and so their work habits can be more unreliable and erratic. People with the oppositions are generally more oppositional—dragging their heels or throwing a spoke in the works, if only by stubbornly refusing to budge. They tend to project the blame for their misdeeds onto others—“Look what you made me do!”

That is not to say that people with these aspects in the career houses are doomed to failure or a lifetime of erratic job changes. Hard aspects to Uranus do not necessarily make you a hard-ass. Plenty of people with aspects like these do well for themselves—you’ll meet millionaire notables in this book who do just that. We all have choices, and Uranus is about expanding our consciousness and freedom of choice. For help in mitigating the work patterns that get in the way of career goals, look to some of the flowing aspects in the chart—trines, sextiles, even to quintiles for gifts—as well as to placements in the earth signs.



Table 4: Notables with Uranus in the Career Houses

Note: These notables were identified through a search of AstroDataBank. Some names fit into more than one category, as Uranians tend to reinvent themselves periodically.

URANUS IN THE 10th: Political Figures and Activists: *Radicals*—Karl Marx, Black Power leader Eldridge Cleaver *Conservatives:* Joseph R. McCarthy, Pat Buchanan, David Duke, William F. Buckley, Ross Perot, Jeb Bush, Gerald Ford, J. Edgar Hoover; Anita Bryant.

Spiritual Leaders and Teachers: Ram Dass, Guru Maharaji, atheist activist Madalyn Murray O’Hair, Pat Buchanan, Albert Schweitzer.

Entertainers: Dolly Parton, Jack Nicholson, Tina Turner, Bruce Willis, Al Pacino, Phyllis Diller, Kathy Bates, George Carlin, skater Scott Hamilton, Anita Bryant.

Infamous Folk: Benito Mussolini, Jeffrey Dahmer, Ted Bundy, Joseph R. McCarthy.

URANUS IN THE 2nd:

Political Figures and Activists: Joan Baez, assassinated SF mayor Harvey Milk, Ralph Nader.

Spiritual Leaders and Teachers: evangelist Jimmy Bakker, metaphysician Terry Cole-Whittaker, Scientology founder, L. Ron Hubbard.

Entertainers: Sean Connery, Billy Crystal, Chris Carter, Chris Farley, Wynonna, Liberache, Anthony Hopkins

URANUS IN THE 6th:

Political Figures and Activists: Jerry Fallwell, Rush Limbaugh, George Moscone

Entertainers: Antonio Banderas, Carol Channing, Danny De Vito, Redd Foxx, Queen Latifah, Whitney Houston, Roseanne, Sly Stallone, Dack Rambo, John Belushi.

Infamous Folk: John Hinkley, John Wayne Gacy, Gary Gillmore

Uranus Conjunctions To The Midheaven, By Sign

Note that both 9th and 10th house conjunctions are listed. The statistical research of the Gauquelins suggested that in fact the strongest position for a planet was conjunct the Midheaven but in the 9th house. The search of AstroDataBank seems to bear that out.

Uranus in Taurus: In the 10th—General Norman Schwarzkopf; Pat Buchanan, Anita Bryant, Miss America Mary Ann Mobley and three other beauty queens, Susan Strassberg, George Carlin. In the 9th, but conjunct the Midheaven—Giorgio Armani, Vanessa Redgrave, Paul Simon, Ricky Nelson, Tom Smothers.

Uranus in Gemini: In the 10th—Kathy Bates, DeeDee Warwick, Rajiv Gandhi. In the 9th but conjunct the Midheaven—Art Bell, Gary Busey, Ted Danson, Pete Townshend.

Uranus in Cancer: In the 10th—Cybil Shepherd, Sissy Spacek; Michael Wilding, James Redfield (Celestine Prophecy), writer Andre Gide. In the 9th but conjunct the Midheaven—Robert Carradine, Columba Bush, ex-wife of Jed.

Uranus in Leo: In the 10th—61 listed, not one name that I recognized. In the 9th but conjunct the Midheaven—Geena Davis, Judge Reinhold, Tracey Ullman, ice skaters Robin Cousins, Tai Babalonia and her partner Randy Gardner.

Uranus in Virgo: a total of 21 only, none that I recognized.

Hard aspects between the Sun and Uranus, especially the conjunction, opposition, or square, can be quite difficult, because the person's identity and sense of self-worth can be so bound up in being Uranian that they almost feel they will lose themselves if they conform. (This is not necessarily true of Sun in Aquarius, unless badly aspected.) Hard Uranus aspects to the Moon can also be difficult for bosses and coworkers to cope with, for there can be sudden, inexplicable emotional explosions. Their problematic behavior on the job can be driven by unconscious issues having to do with their family of origin. (An Aquarius Moon, especially with difficult aspects, may be similar.)

Another pair of difficult placements would be Mars in hard aspect to Uranus or a high focus Mars in Aquarius with difficult aspects. People with these aspects can have a sort fuse, especially when being told what to do or when their ideals are challenged, but they can also exercise strong and even charismatic leadership abilities. They shine in crisis or in places where innovation and flying by the seat of your pants is a plus. For more detail and examples of this aspect, see the chapter on Mars-Uranus aspects.

Uranians' resumes tend to be full of mysterious gaps that give job interviewers the willies, and their references tend to be friends or colleagues rather than past employers. They tend to change jobs frequently and suddenly, particularly when bosses clamp down on them. Transiting Uranus is often the impetus for their vocational shifts,

for it increases the restlessness and the need to adhere to their own authority rather than rather than former supervisors. However, they are seldom jobless for long unless they want to be, because they are usually so bright at what they do that they dazzle potential employers into ignoring the personnel officer's "red flags" of warning. (They are also inventive enough to come up with plausible reasons for their spotty job history.)

Over time, they tend to change careers as well, when they no longer find their old field challenging enough or when technology evolves in interesting new directions. They get bored with what they are doing and move on. Alternately, the trend changes and their fifteen minutes of fame are up, and they are back on the path of exploration and experimentation that characterizes their work life.

Uranians, however, are capable of reinventing themselves any number of times in the course of their career and of hitting a hot streak now and then. Especially with Uranus or Aquarius planets prominent in the 10th, they may attract public notice when their own avant-garde interests and inventive abilities align with the newest craze. Examples from AstroDataBank of maverick stars with Uranus in the 10th who keep trying new forms of self-expression and continue electrifying the masses include legends and pop icons like Jack Nicholson, Bruce Willis, and Tina Turner. Table 4 gives examples of notables with the Uranus in all three of the career houses as well as those with Uranus aspecting the Midheaven in various zodiac signs. Table 5 explores a variety of career options for those with Uranus or Aquarius strong in the vocational houses.





**Table 5. A Sampling of
Careers and Fields Related to Uranus:**

Note: Almost any modern career involves technical or computer skills, which are intrinsically related to the planet Uranus. There are also jobs at many levels of skill and training for each type of work. This abbreviated list is only meant to stimulate your thinking about the more Uranian vocational possibilities.

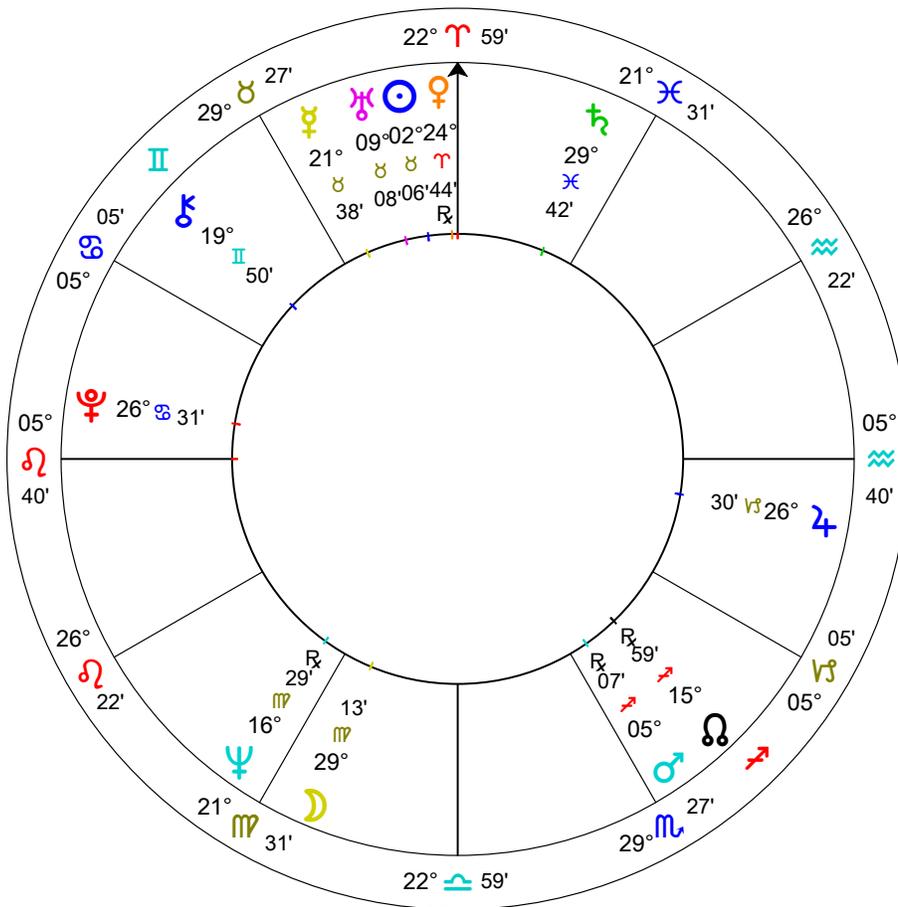
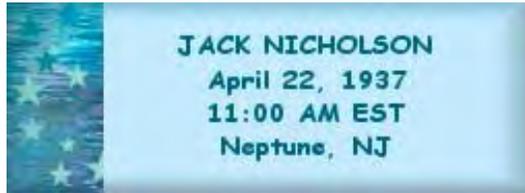
Airplane mechanic	Electronic manufacturing	Network administrator
Air pollution control	Energy conservation	Neurologist
Air traffic controller	Energy healing (Reiki, etc.)	Office equipment sales, repair
Animation	Engineering	Physicist
Astrologer	Film editing, production	Programmer
Astronomer	Flight attendant	Radiologist
Astronaut	Industrial design, production	Robotics
Automation	Industrial worker	Sound technician
Cable television industry	Information specialist	Science teacher
Chemical engineer	Inventor	Software developer, sales
Computer analyst	Lighting design	Statistician
Computer sales and service	Machinist	Telecommunications, wireless
Computer security	Mathematician	Tech support worker
Data processing	Math teacher	Technical writer
Database management	Mechanic	Test pilot
e-commerce	Mechanical engineer	Tool and die makers
Electrician	Meteorologist	Web design, web master
Electronic banking	Mineralogist, mining	X-ray technician

These suggestions were drawn from an excellent source of detailed information about a wide variety of careers –the online, searchable version of the *Occupational Outlook Handbook* at <http://www.bls.gov/oco/>. This is an exceptional free resource for astrologers doing career counseling, as it gives a realistic view of the client's current or prospective vocation. Input the name of any type of career, and the site describes what that work entails, training required, earnings, outlook for the future, and related types of work.

From: *The Outer Planets and Inner Life, Volume 1*

The Career Path of the Exceptional Soul

©2004 by Donna Cunningham, MSW



“Freedom’s Just Another Word...”

Is Uranus in the career houses an affliction or a blessing? I always say that, when it comes to Uranus’s placement in the birth chart, what looks like dysfunction is often a case of being crazy like a fox. No, we don’t conform; sure, our moms worry; but our seemingly inexplicable behavior in that area of life is calculated for results that serve us over the long run. By default, we are forced to develop independence, to break from convention, and to think for ourselves. We are also both forced—and allowed—to become inventive and to leave the safe womb of mass culture behind for some radically new way of life that may in time become the norm. I am reminded of “Bobby McGee,” the Kris Kristofferson song that said, “Freedom’s just another word for nothing left to lose.” Many born with Uranus prominent in the career houses are prepared to lose everything in order to remain free.

Unconventional, irreverent, even iconoclastic, Uranians thrill us the most when they are in their bad boy or bad girl mode. Jack Nicholson has Sun conjunct Uranus in sensuous Taurus in the 10th square his showy Leo Ascendant, a combination with plenty of presence and pizzazz. Surely the bad boy of our time, he usually plays a rebel who delights in shaking up the status quo—starting with his classic role in “Some Flew over the Cuckoo’s Nest³.” He continues to reinvent himself and to excite the public up to the present, remaining a sex symbol even in his mid-sixties.

When Uranus or Aquarius planets are prominent in the vocational houses, our career path is inextricably tied to the Uranian quest to develop our individuality and our unique genius, no matter how difficult that may make survival at times. Through our work, we announce to the world, “This is who I am, like it or lump it.” Those who present this motto with a modicum of charm and wit generally get a better reception than those who do it with a chip on the shoulder. Some with difficult placements prominent are moved by a deep, almost claustrophobic need for self-preservation where their individuality is concerned. They cannot simply conform, even if that sometimes makes it hard to pay the rent.

Vocation is a public and regulated part of life—more Saturn than Uranus—and thus inherently authoritarian. Consequently, society is more likely to come down hard on us and force us to play by the rules on the job than it is if we are simply mavericks in the privacy of our own homes. It can be argued, then, that it is a more arduous and more risky life path to be Uranian in the career area than it is to be Uranian in other, more private areas. However, by their very public nature, these placements make an impact on society that Uranus in other houses generally does not. Therefore, this type of Uranian has the potential to do best what most Uranians yearn to do—to change the world or at the very least to confront it about the things that need changing.

Are all Uranian types radical in their politics, and how do politics affect their career? A search of AstroDataBank called into question what we who learned astrology in the radical Sixties were led to believe—that a prominent Uranus was the sign of a revolutionary. Radicals with Uranus in the 10th did include Karl Marx, atheist activist

³ Nicholson’s AstroDataBank record lists his birth information, rated A from his memory, as April 22, 1937, variously 11:00 and 11:20 AM EST, in Neptune, NJ, 74W02; 40N13. ADB 3.0 notes that there is no birth certificate, only a delayed certificate of birth, filed May 24, 1954.

Madalene Murray O'Hair, and 1960s Black Power leader Eldridge Cleaver. Yet, search results for people with Uranus in the career houses actually showed more ultraconservatives than ultraliberals. Among the conservatives with Uranus in the 6th are Rush Limbaugh and Jerry Fallwell, while Ross Perot, J. Edgar Hoover, Pat Buchanan, Jeb Bush, and William F. Buckley have Uranus in the 10th. Another with Uranus in the 10th was Joseph McCarthy, who conducted the House Un-American Activities Committee hearings to hunt down communist sympathizers in the late 1940s.

The conclusion we would have to draw from this survey is that Uranus' sign and aspects have some bearing on the belief system, but Uranians can have an extremist bent, whether to the left or to the right. Their belief system affects their views on money and success, which in turn governs how they conduct their careers. The most hide-bound have an extremist bent, whether to the left or to the right. Their belief system affects their views on money and success, which in turn governs how they conduct their careers. These Uranians cannot easily set aside their ideologies or compromise their beliefs. It is part and parcel of who they are.

Astrology as a Vocational Choice for Uranian Types

Uranus rules astrology, and a great many astrologers have Uranus or Aquarius connected with the career houses OR in aspect to Saturn. (Saturn's house, sign, and aspects in the birth chart are another vocational indicator.) Though I no longer have the reference, one national survey of vocations a number of years back listed astrology as one of the most desirable choices. The perks cited included the ability to make your own schedule, be your own boss, and conduct your work the way you want. Astrologers are not expected to be mainstream; in fact, the more eccentric and outrageous we are, the more clients tend to feel they got their money's worth.

On the down side, astrology is generally not one of the highest paid careers, so many astrologers wind up being part timers with another job to supplement their income. Like any other form of self-employment, earnings depend on your ability to market yourself—even aggressively so—and marketing is an activity many astrologers find uncomfortable. Uranus, however, represents the arena where we get to express what is unique and special about ourselves, and so there are nearly as many kinds and slants of astrology as there are astrologers. We come from a vast variety of backgrounds—everything from business or education to sales or computers—and each of these histories gives us something special to offer our clients. A stay-at-home mom who successfully raised several children can offer wise counsel to young mothers who are struggling with their role. Identifying your own niche and reaching out to those who need your particular expertise is a key to success as an astrologer.

How does an astrologer's particular brand of astrology show up in the chart? A search of AstroDataBank's extensive collection of astrologers' charts revealed an interesting pattern—that aspects by other outer planets to natal Uranus have much to do with the person's take on astrology. Those with Uranus-Saturn aspects woven into their vocational houses tend to be sound technicians with a strong work ethic, the professional's professional. Many of them are of a practical, even utilitarian bent and they do not necessarily jump on the bandwagon with the newest technique, but tend to

stick with tried and proven traditional teachings. Those with Uranus-Neptune aspects are more innovative, but may espouse mystical, mythical, or esoteric branches of astrology rather than pragmatic ones.

We will consider the generation born with Pluto and Uranus conjunct in Virgo during the 1960s later, but this group has yet to make great inroads into the ranks of professional astrologers, even though they were born at the moment in time when astrology burst into widespread popular appeal. It was the era when Linda Goodman's *Sun Signs* and similar books were best sellers. This somewhat troubling lack has been discussed at conferences for a number of years. One theory that has been proposed is that this generation is too practical to take the financial risks that the profession of astrology entails. Another is that they are too independent to attend conferences, preferring to learn on their own. Whatever the true reasons may be, it is hoped that they will take their rightful place in our field as time goes on, for they would certainly have much to offer, given their penchant for precision, attention to detail, and practical application.

Astrology is a faddish field and seems to reinvent itself with every new sign that transiting Uranus enters, so it is one field in which Uranian types are seldom bored. Since astrologers and their clients and students delight in novelty, each successful conference features lectures on the newest technique, the latest planetoid, or the next great theory. For instance, Uranus in Scorpio was the heyday of psychological astrology, Uranus in optimistic and philosophical Sagittarius saw the popularization of metaphysical teachings among astrologers as well as the formation of an international community in our field. Uranus in bottom-line oriented Capricorn saw more of us addressing the business and financial applications of astrology.

With Uranus in Pisces from 2003-2010, we are already experiencing a time when astrology is no longer very exciting to the mainstream—markets, magazines, and publishing opportunities are dwindling. We can also be entering somewhat of a leadership vacuum. We who have been the leaders for a long time are, frankly, getting a bit long in the tooth. Many of us came into our own when Uranus was in Scorpio to Sagittarius during the 1980s, coinciding with the part of the midlife cycle where transiting Uranus opposes natal Uranus. As transiting Uranus in Pisces opposes both Pluto and Uranus in Virgo for the Sixties generation, this can be the time when they step into the leadership vacuum and fill important needs for younger generations of clients.

Uranus in the 10th—The Apple Doesn't Fall Far from the Tree



People born with Uranus in the 10th house or aspecting the Midheaven generally came by their maverick qualities through parental example. One parent would be considered Uranian in nature—probably the father, but sometimes both parents were Uranian in different ways. The closer to the Midheaven Uranus sits—even in the potent Gauquelin sector in the ninth house but within ten degrees of the Midheaven—the more Uranian that parental role model would have been. Sometimes there was a “broken home,” back in the days when that was unusual, and sometimes there was another situation that kept the family perpetually unsettled, like “army brats” who got transferred

several times a year. Sometimes there was an absent father, such as a merchant marine or traveling salesman who was home intermittently then away for long periods.

Many times, Dad—if that's who was the designated Uranian—could have been described as a law unto himself. Usually too bright for his own good, he was apt to be a maverick or gadfly to society's stuffier conventions. With difficult Uranus aspects, he might have been seen by Mom and her disapproving family as an outlaw, one his offspring were cautioned not to emulate. However, Johnny Offspring could not help but identify with Bad Dad—boys just do—and take on a few of those behaviors and life-path patterns to escape suffocation. Mothers, do NOT talk your sons' fathers down in front of them, or they will feel obligated to defend him by becoming like him. This may not make sense, but it's common. Girls can also identify with Bad Dad, especially in the Uranus-ruled teen years while struggling to establish independence from Boring Old Mom.

Thus, even if Dad left so early on he is only known for the stories folks tell about him, he can be a role model for Johnny's—or Jenny's—career. Stepfathers, grandfathers, and other male role models can be additional influences, though some of them may also have been quirky, volatile, or unpredictable. In fact, in such cases there is likely to be a series of father surrogates, along with times when there was no consistent authority figure. The up side of this parental absence or neglect is often that the young person becomes extremely independent, a quality that can be a plus in the leading edge lines of work they pursue. However, the periodic changes in who ran the household only served to teach these youngsters that no one really was boss, so they had to fend for themselves. Some youngsters in this pattern turn to a group or gang leader as a surrogate parent and substitute the rules of that counterculture for the prevailing social dictates.

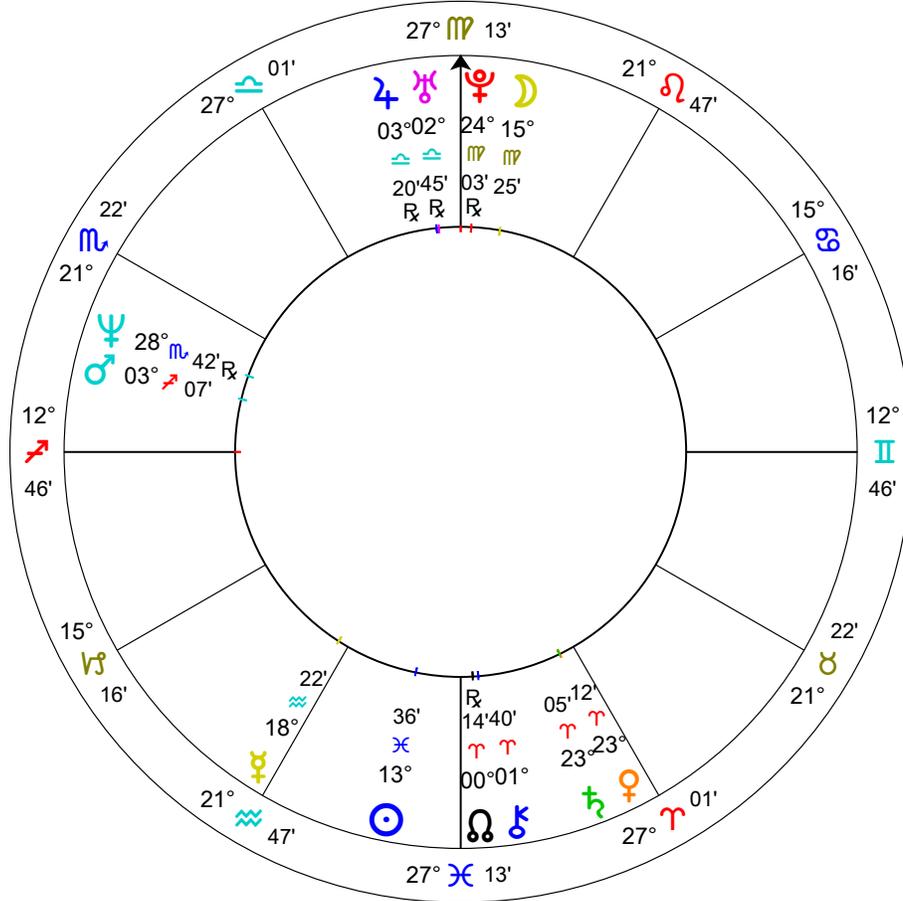
When Uranus also aspects the Moon or the Moon is in Aquarius, Mom may be the Uranian instead of Dad—or the person may come from a long line of Uranians. An example would be Chastity Bono, the daughter of Sonny and Cher, and it is hard to decide which of her parents was more Uranian. Certainly they were a sensation, definitely nonconforming, and certainly they kept reinventing themselves. Uranus rules divorce, and their very public divorce hit many of us as hard as if we actually knew them. Chas' chart, repeated here, has a close conjunction of Uranus, Jupiter, and the Midheaven in Libra, along with a wider out-of-sign conjunction to Pluto in Virgo in the ninth.⁴

Chas herself tried for a career in acting and singing, but along the way Uranus called, and she answered. After the death of her lesbian lover to cancer, she came out to the world and became a strong advocate and spokesperson for gay causes as Media Director for the Gay and Lesbian Alliance against Defamation. With Uranus in Libra, she was a reasonable advocate who tried to increase understanding and tolerance. When Sonny was killed in a ski accident in 1998, she retreated from public life, but with Uranus so close to her Midheaven, she has now reappeared with a book about her experiences.

If you believe, as many in our field do, that we choose our charts and our families before birth, then Uranian children have selected their parents for good reasons. Crazy like a fox, they may have chosen families that would suffer from disruption or inconsistent authority figures. They would have done so precisely to have the freedom and the impetus they would need to develop their independence and individuality. Before

⁴ According to Chastity's AstroDataBank record, her birth information, rated AA, birth certificate in hand, is that she was born March 4, 1969, at 12:55 AM, PST, in Los Angeles, CA, 118W15; 34N04.

CHASTITY BONO
March 4, 1969
12:55 AM PST
Los Angeles, CA



birth, they choose Uranian relatives who understand and support their need to resist social conformity and can even teach them the fundamentals of their special science or craft.

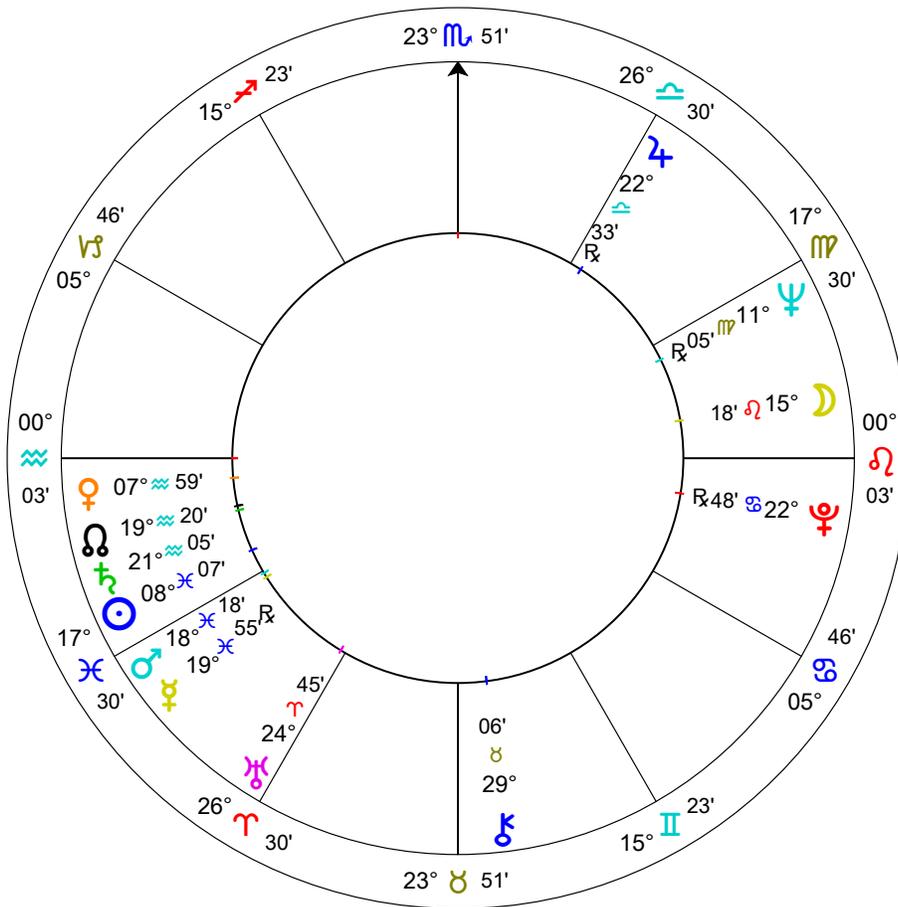
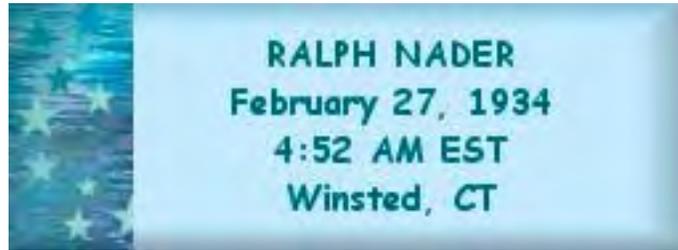
I also believe, though I've never heard anyone else express this, that each family or branch of a family has a ruling planet. It can be determined by looking at the charts of several generations to see which planet is consistently the most prominent. Another clue is to track the vocations of family members or to characterize what they are most remembered for, then decide which planet is most related to those qualities or lines of work. Uranians, and especially those with Uranus in the 10th or 4th, often come from a family whose ruling planet is Uranus—a long line of eccentrics and nonconformists and/or a family known for a unique set of skills or talents.

Our parents are our first and primary authority figures, and our way of relating to all subsequent authority figures is shaped by our experiences with them. Often, the Uranus in the 10th person has had a hit and miss, even a fragmented experience of parental authority. The result of this lack of consistency is that many of them do not accept that anyone has the right to tell them what to do—"You're not the boss of me." They tend to view themselves as the peers and equals of the people in charge, rather than as subordinates. The way this attitude goes over depends on how it is presented and also on how easily threatened the boss is. Bosses can have an Inner Outlaw, too, and one that is generally pretty well held in check. So long as the Uranian is in other respects a valuable employee, some bosses can have a grudging admiration for the outspoken maverick who finds inventive ways to subvert the rules.

Parents are role models for our careers, and the unusual, often gifted parent who is nonetheless a rebel is a model for the Uranian in adult life. If the designated Uranian parent believed that bosses were ignorant jerks who need not be obeyed, then no amount of preaching could tell the son or daughter any different. If the parent in question was a nomad who changed jobs or lines of work every few years, then the Uranian offspring sees that as a viable—even a desirable—curriculum vita, no matter what head hunters and personnel officers say. We live what we learn, and career is no exception. If the model works for these Uranians and if they are enjoying an interesting career that makes a contribution to the world, then there is no reason to change it.

Uranus in the 2nd —Radical Values?

Many spiritually-inclined astrologers talk about the 2nd house strictly in terms of values, avoiding the uncomfortable topic of money as too materialistic. Admittedly, our value system is deeply connected with what we manifest on a financial level—particularly what we would be willing or unwilling to do for money and how we deploy our resources. Above all else, those with Uranus or Aquarius planets in this house typically value being their own person and remaining true to their beliefs and ideals. This is far more important to many of them than having the kind of wealth and possessions modern society uses to measure people's worth. Rugged individualists like these refuse to conform to the mainstream strictly to survive—they'd rather starve than "sell out." The rat race is no place for them, and many wind up in business for themselves or intermittently employed in order to remain free of its bonds. Does this sound like aging Sixties Hippies? Some are, but even a 20-year-old with this placement might behave similarly.



For many 2nd house Uranians, their set of values around money constitutes a philosophy of life—they boycott grapes, buy green, and make sure their investments and major purchases are socially responsible. They will put their money where their mouth is, as a matter of principle. Uranus' sign, house placements, and aspects in a chart show where we make a political statement. In the first, we make it by the way we dress and look; in the seventh, it may be by the partners we choose. For some with Uranus in the 2nd, their way of handling finances is a political statement. How radical—to the left or the right—they actually are depends on the strength and aspects of natal Uranus or Aquarius placements. Those with Uranus in earth or aspecting Saturn, for instance, would generally be too practical to let politics override such basic needs as paying the rent.

One individual whose politics around money has made him famous is consumer advocate Ralph Nader, whose chart is shown here⁵. His campaigns for industrial safety and responsible government resulted in significant legislation, and Time Magazine named him one of the 100 Most Influential Americans in the Twentieth Century. Driven by his beliefs and political concerns, he lives extremely frugally and works obsessively. His Uranus in the 2nd in Aires completes a t-square with Jupiter in Libra in the 8th and Pluto in patriotic Cancer in the 6th, house of the common man. To increase his Uranian qualities, he also has Aquarius Rising with Venus in that sign on the Ascendant and Saturn in Aquarius square his Scorpio Midheaven.

Another interesting example of someone with Uranus in the 2nd who influenced others with his philosophy around money is L. Ron Hubbard, founder of the Church of Scientology. An engineer by trade, his life story—too long and intricate to go into here—was full of wild twists and turns. His book, *Dianetics: The Modern Science of Mental Health*, has sold millions and is the basis of the church's technology—all very Uranian in nature and billed as “the poor man's psychotherapy.”

Though often accused of cult-like qualities and criticized for the financial demands it places on followers, Scientology seems to do well by its members. Many of them prosper as they use Scientology's processes to detach from emotional blocks and troublesome past histories. Hubbard's chart—not shown here—emphasizes the achievement-oriented earth signs, Capricorn, Taurus, and Virgo. He had an exalted Mars in Capricorn in the 2nd, closely conjunct Uranus. Both form an out-of-sign square to Saturn in Taurus in the 4th house.

Not all of the people with Uranus in the 2nd are motivated by concern with the collective good. Where Uranus is placed in the chart of the true Uranian, there is a certain glee in being a gadfly, shaking up the status quo, and being different in an in-your-face way. When applied to finance, less evolved people with Uranus or Aquarius in the 2nd consider it their right—even their duty—to rip off the establishment. Carried to extreme, some are outlaw types who kite checks, hack into corporate computers, or use the Internet to find credit card numbers to pass around to their friends. Like many Uranians, they believe the rules don't apply to them, the rules here being the rules of personal finance. Fortunately for us, there aren't too many of this type!

⁵ According to Nader's AstroDataBank record, his birth information, rated A, from his memory, is that he was born February 27, 1934, at 4:52 AM EST, in Winsted, CT, 73W04; 41N55.

“Flying High in April, Shot Down in May”

Uranus in the 2nd is known for its financial ups and downs—even for wide swings between periodically striking it rich and being wiped out. This dramatic pattern is not something to hold the heavens accountable for, but instead we must look at the motives and behaviors that create these ups and downs. Where Uranus is placed in our charts, we tend to seek excitement, even to be hooked on it. The dreaded scourge of boredom is something a Uranian avoids at all cost, repeatedly precipitating disruptions to the status quo.

Those with Uranus in the 2nd are Aquarian where they are most expected to be Taurean. For many of them, there is a certain excitement in living on the edge of financial ruin. They may feel an adrenaline rush when they go to the cash machine, never knowing if there will be money in the bank or not—almost like a spin at the roulette wheel. Will that check bounce, and will the money for the rent come through at the last moment? The die-hard rebels among them can consciously or unconsciously enjoy the game of outwitting and evading fiscal authorities like IRS agents and collection agencies. By contrast, paying recurring bills promptly is deadeningly humdrum.

With Uranus placements, what looks like dysfunction is often a case of being crazy like a fox—our seemingly erratic behavior in that area of life is calculated to produce results that serve us over the long run. How does this pattern apply to Uranus in the 2nd? Fiscal upheavals that disrupt the status quo are a way to periodically break out of vocational ruts that threaten to calcify our minds and souls.

A pattern some Uranus-in-the 2nd people fall into is to be fired or laid off repeatedly, work in seasonal industries with long stretches of time off, specialize in a high-risk, constantly changing marketplace, or be self-employed. Patterns like this mean continually reinventing your way of earning a living—and Uranians are nothing if not inventive. Examples from AstroDataBank of ever-evolving stars with Uranus in the 2nd are Sean Connery, Billy Crystal, Wynonna, Anthony Hopkins, and Bette Midler.



The “crazy like a fox” part of this pattern is that it develops the Uranians’ capacity to be innovative, highly independent, and sharp as a whip about survival. It also helps them detach from depending on money for security or self-worth. This detachment can also extend to their varied skills and abilities, for they are not as identified with their work as people with Uranus in the 10th or 6th, considering it just a means to an end.

The brighter ones keep pace with society’s leading edge, and from time to time, their innovations or fascinations precisely fit our culture’s needs or current fads. (Envious onlookers like to dismiss these intermittent synergies as a “fluke.”) Because of their unusual perspectives, they can be charismatic, and magnetic. Fashion is by its very nature trendy and ever changing, so it has its Uranian side. AstroDataBank listed several fashion leaders with Uranus in the 2nd—Christian Dior, Bob Macke, and Carlo Benneton.

Talented Uranians can strike it rich and make a killing for as long as their invention or creation is popular—or until the niche they created becomes boring. When that happens, they may unconsciously arrange to mess up so spectacularly that they are once more out in the cold, just to get out from under a structure that is now too confining. The fall from grace can be carefully orchestrated to liberate them from bondage to their increasing respectability. Depending on natal aspects and how they intersect with current outer planet placements, they may have had their fifteen minutes of fame and never be heard from again—or they may hit the jackpot from time to time with their wild and woolly inspirations. Again, Uranus transits to the vocational houses or transits to natal Uranus may coincide with these vocational peaks and valleys.

Are all Uranus in the 2nd natives doomed to intermittent cash flow problems? Not at all. Anthony Hopkins owns his own private island; Steve Forbes heads a publishing empire; and Robert Redford has enough cash left over to fund numerous worthwhile causes and projects. Successful people with this placement are canny enough to recognize that money is freedom. They are careful enough about making and stashing away enough to give them the freedom not to have to do work they hate, but they invent ways of making money that do not entail a permanent commitment. For multi-talented individuals, diversification is often their strategy to avoid settling into a single, eventually boring enterprise or line of work. They easily pick up any number of marketable skills, and having more than one way of earning a living is their hedge against the fiscal ups and downs so typical of this placement. If one sideline is flat-lining, another may be doing well. They can also be brilliant at making money make money for them, so they may take the trouble to invest well.

Uranus in the 6th: “Don’t Hassle Me—I’m busy!”

People with the 6th house strong in their charts are often indispensable employees who actually do the work yet get little of the credit. The work itself is a primary motivation rather than external recognition (the 10th) or money (the 2nd). When it is Uranus or Aquarius that is strong in the 6th house, work is usually their play and their daily jolt of adrenaline, more exciting and compelling than anything in their personal lives. Many would rather nobody noticed them so that they don’t get hassled for who they are. Unfortunately, Uranians seldom blend into the woodwork, so to avoid interference they may wind up working the night shift or telecommuting from home.

By contrast, Uranus-in-the-10th types expect and on a certain level, WANT public recognition, if only for how “bad” they are. They can genuinely glory in the attention and capitalize on their charisma and uniqueness in order to reach their goals. (Those with Uranus conjunct Pluto in Virgo are different from the pure Uranus in the 10th type. They are often very conflicted about being high profile, as they fear it will make them a target—a fear that is sometimes a justified one.) Uranus-in-the-2nd people can take or leave the attention, so long as it gives them the money—and thus the freedom—to do what they want.

People with Uranus or Aquarius strong in the 6th have many of the Uranian qualities already noted—the inventiveness, the independence, the keen eye for the leading edge, the questioning of authority, and the ability to keep reinventing themselves.

Whatever their education might be, however, 6th house Uranians have a tendency to view themselves as craftsmen rather than entrepreneurs and to be found to be in a trade rather than a profession. Even so, it is apt to be a trade that requires a good deal of technical know-how or skill, and they are likely to be at the leading edge. Where computers play a part, many of them would be classified as “geeks.” Most care little about how they look, though they are not too happy wearing a necktie or carrying a brief case, and their spin on Casual Friday may verge on the bizarre.

Wanting to serve is a 6th house trait, so you may also find them in service-oriented fields like health care, where they would be innovators at the forefront of the field, especially if they have Uranus in Virgo conjunct Pluto. In the more rigidly regulated traditional professions, their penchant for thinking outside the box can cause trouble with whatever constitutes *The Establishment* in their fields—licensing boards, for instance, if they are hard-line Uranians. Like other Uranians, people with these placements in the 6th may have a history of many job changes and even of new departures in the direction of their career path every decade or so.

“I’m Blue Collar—You Got a Problem with That?”

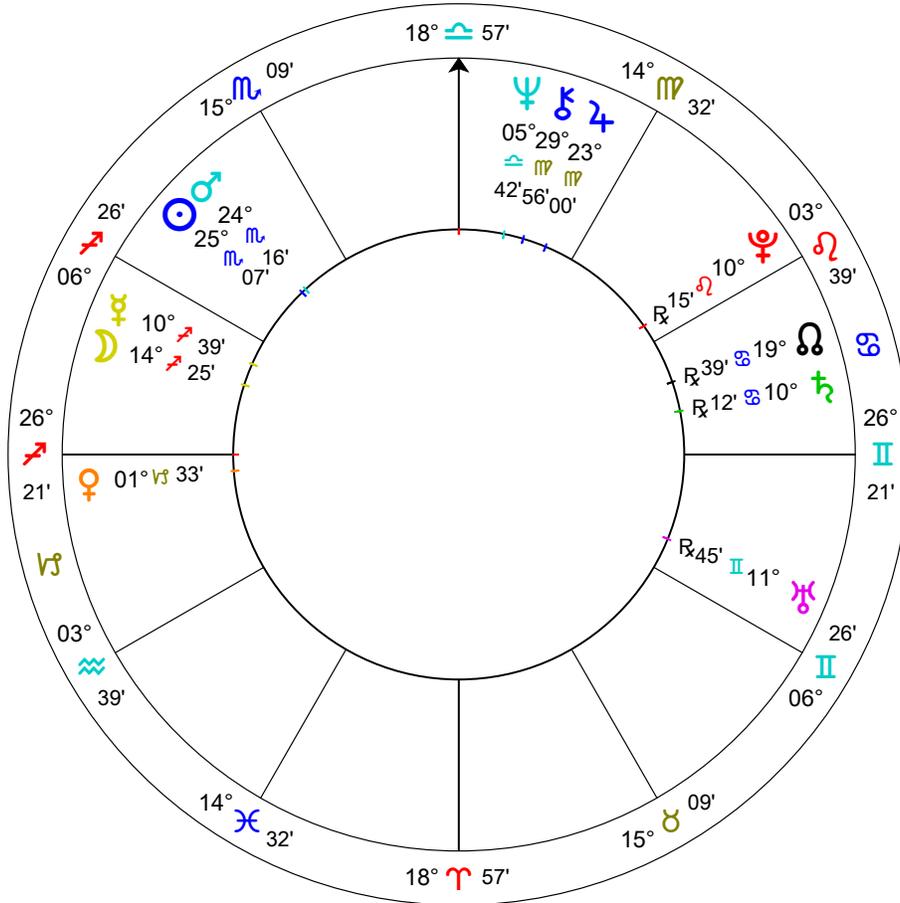


Though often bright and gifted, some with Uranus or Aquarius planets in the 6th make it a point of honor to maintain their identification with the common man. They can enjoy shaking up polite society by assuming an in-your-face Working Class Hero façade even if the success that comes from exercising their considerable gifts makes it possible to live in upscale surroundings. Some stars with these placements made their mark playing rowdy blue-collar characters. Redd Foxx portrayed trash collector Fred Sanford, Roseanne entertained us with her persona as factory worker Roseanne Connors, and John Belushi tickled us as one of the Blues Brothers.

Rush Limbaugh, the controversial and often crude radio talk show host, is another with Uranus in the 6th, this time in the sign Cancer⁶. Uranus rules Aquarius, a sign that is quincunx (five signs or 150 degrees) from Cancer. Uranus is not terribly comfortable in Cancer, for the combination generates tension about whether to break away from or hold onto the home, security, and tradition that Cancer finds so crucial. The result is often an erratic though nonetheless inventive attempt to do both. In Limbaugh’s chart, shown here, the tension between Aquarius and Cancer is heightened by the fact that his Uranus actually does form a quincunx to his first house Venus in Aquarius, which sits on his Aquarius Ascendant. To add to his combative, iconoclastic approach, he also has a short-fused Mars in Aquarius in a close square to his Scorpio Midheaven.

⁶ Limbaugh’s AstroDataBank record lists his birth information, ranked AA, from the birth record, as January 12, 1951, at 7:50 AM CST, in Cape Girardeau, MO, 89W31; 37N18.

DANNY DE VITO
November 17, 1944
10:20 AM EWT
Neptune, NJ



Another luminary who often plays blue-collar roles is Danny De Vito, who first came to our notice in the sit-com, *Taxi*⁷. With Uranus in mutable Gemini in the 6th opposite both Mercury and the Moon in mutable Sagittarius in the 12th, he is a comedic genius. Mutable signs adapt easily to changing conditions, and this adds to his Uranian capacity to reinvent himself with practically every movie project. Oppositions in a chart can signify the importance of “The Other,” and he is seldom the lead but rather the foil to the lead, using his humor to play against costars. His Sagittarian Moon in this set of oppositions also represents his wife, comedienne Rhea Pearlman, with whom he has had a long and apparently happy union.

It is precisely the maverick attitude about social class or what is considered acceptable social behavior that generates the buzz around these celebrities and is in good part responsible for their popularity. Does the same strategy work well for regular folks with Uranus in the 6th? As we saw earlier, whether Uranians get away with flaunting their nonconformity or whether it creates difficulty for them depends greatly on which Uranus aspects or Aquarian placements are involved.

However, since Uranus placements are where we are crazy like a (Redd) Foxx, who is to say what constitutes success for these individualists? Their real goals may have more to do with taking a stand for nonconformity or ensuring that they are free to be themselves in the workplace. Regardless of what judgements the status-conscious majority places on wealth and possessions, the Uranus in the 6th individual often considers material success less a goal than a by-product of pursuing work activities that excite them or challenge their abilities. If in the meantime, they get to rub their differences in the faces of the Haves, that’s just a perk of the job.

Those Indispensable Uranians--They Do It For All of Us

In pondering my thirty-odd years of astrology practice to prepare this chapter, I was struck by how relatively few clients had natal Uranus in the career sectors, as compared to those with Pluto or Neptune in those sectors. People with natal Uranus strong in other sectors frequently come for sessions. (Many with Venus-Uranus aspects or Uranus in the relationship houses meet soul mates about three times each year, so they need lots of chart comparisons.) I also see a great many clients with Uranus transiting the career houses who need to know when that earthquake at work is going to settle down. Clients with natal Uranus in the career houses are less common in my practice.

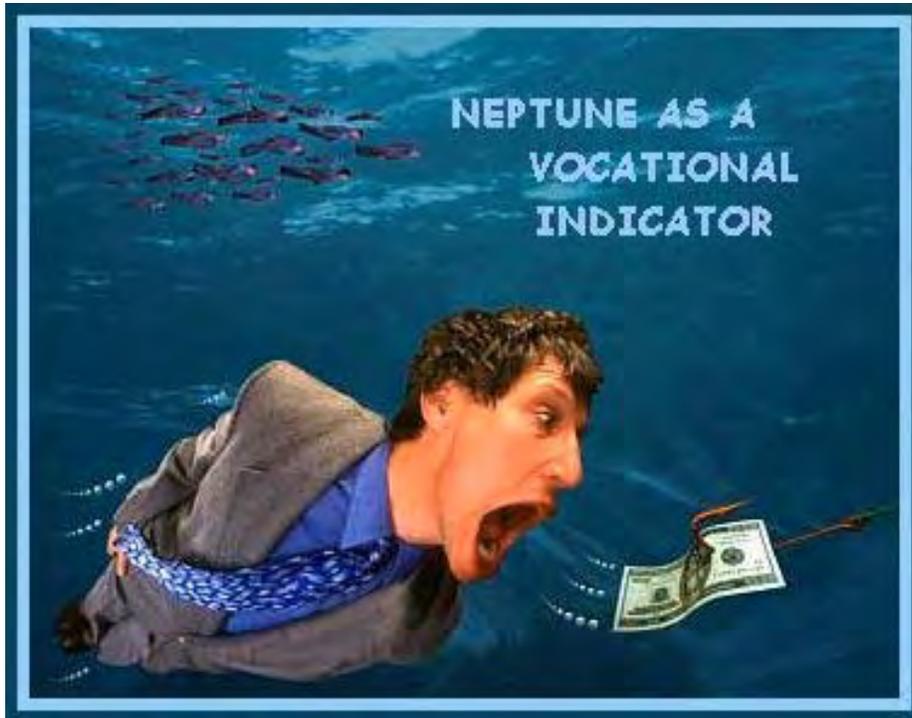
Reflecting on this, at first I thought that perhaps my insight-oriented, problem-solving style does not appeal to them, and that these Uranians are more drawn to astrologers of a mythical or transpersonal bent. That may well be so, but it is also possible that Uranians with career issues are less likely to go to astrologers in the first place. Many of them consider themselves too scientific, rational, and intellectual to take us seriously—not to mention too fiercely independent to ask anyone for help. Others who are Uranian simply don’t see their erratic, sudden, and even explosive career departures as a problem—it is society that needs to change, not them, and in many cases they are

⁷ De Vito was born November 17, 1944, at 10:20 AM EWT in Neptune, NJ, 40N13; 74W02. His record in AstroDataBank rates this AA, BC in hand from Steinbrecher.

right. Often they couldn't change their *modus operandi* if they wanted to, so therefore insight-oriented astrology may not have much to offer them.

Wherever Uranus is in our charts, we have a need to generate excitement, so we tend to do just that for ourselves and those around us. In its best expressions, there is an electricity and a presence to the Uranian type. When Uranus or strong Aquarian placements are in the career houses, that buzz happens in the world of work. Uranians are unforgettable and make life more interesting for the rest of us. We all have Uranus somewhere in our charts, though many of us suppress it in favor of conformity, and so it is the folks who express their Uranus publicly and fearlessly who intrigue and excite us. They shake up the boring status quo, and they have the vision to see where we ought to be headed next. If they just HAVE to bend the rules, so what? We need them!

CHAPTER 3:
FOG IN THE WORKPLACE—
NATAL NEPTUNE IN THE CAREER HOUSES



From: The Outer Planets and Inner Life, Volume 1:
The Career Path of the Exceptional Soul
An e-book ©2004 by Donna Cunningham

FOG IN THE WORKPLACE— NATAL NEPTUNE IN THE CAREER HOUSES¹

It's not very Western to have Neptune, Pisces, or 12th house pursuits as a vocation since those born into Western civilization tend to be more result-oriented and material-minded, even Me-centered. Neptune asks something different of us, something more Eastern. It asks us to be selfless, to sacrifice, and to serve the greater good—and then not to get conceited about it. Of all the planets, Neptune has the least to do with success in the material world, for its concerns are intangible and nebulous. Where Neptune is in the birth chart, we are usually at our most impractical, ungrounded, and idealistic—but also at our most inspired. Its sign, house, and aspects show visions we hope to realize in this lifetime. The positive expressions are service, compassion, spiritual seeking, creativity, and imagination—all worthwhile goals and badly needed in our world.

When exaggerated, these positive qualities can be twisted into something less healthy. Imagination is wonderful—the basis of arts and innovations of all kinds. An overactive imagination can turn into suggestibility, living in a fantasy world, and self-delusion. Spiritual seeking is a valuable antidote to today's pervasive materialism, yet the seeker must also learn to live with the world's demands. Metaphysical teachings say that we incarnate in order to take advantage of the wealth of challenges earthly existence provides. Exaggeratedly Neptunian types, however, tend to feel put upon by having to deal with realities like earning a living, when to their own eyes they are meant for greatness, glamour, or guru status.

Service—one of our most generous impulses—originates in the heart. Yet, the path to service is full of twists, for if consistently pursued in unwise ways, it is seldom good for either party. It can sap the giver's energy and resources while also subtly undermining the receiver's self-sufficiency, until it turns into a relationship based on rescuing and codependency. People who serve in order to feel needed and to gain a sense of worth may covertly sabotage those they help. When ego or desire for personal gain enter the picture, our highest intentions can become corrupted. Neptune shows where we are most prone to denial, so ego can masquerade as its reverse, spiritual pride. (“I'm the best servant and the humblest person in the whole wide world.”)

Another challenge in dealing with Neptune is its fluid, shape-shifting nature. At one moment, the Neptunian part of our being can encompass all that is high, holy, and creative within us; the next moment, deceit, and self-deception can take hold. Neptune's realm is the astral plane, which is easily shaped by thought and distorted by fantasy. Self-awareness is a crucial correction for Neptunian denial and self-deception. While Neptune's positive expressions are gifts, rigorous self-examination and honesty can avert Neptune's less desirable expressions. The discipline of a regular spiritual practice such as meditation or *Tai chi* can provide clarity to keep us on track. Are you wondering whether Neptune defines your career path? For the advanced student, one guide is Table 6 and the directions that follow. (If math isn't your forte, skip that section altogether—it's not mission critical.)

¹ This is a much-expanded version of an article that appeared in *Dell Horoscope Magazine* as: “Demystifying Neptune in the Career Houses,” 9/99, pp. 43-49. It appears with their permission.

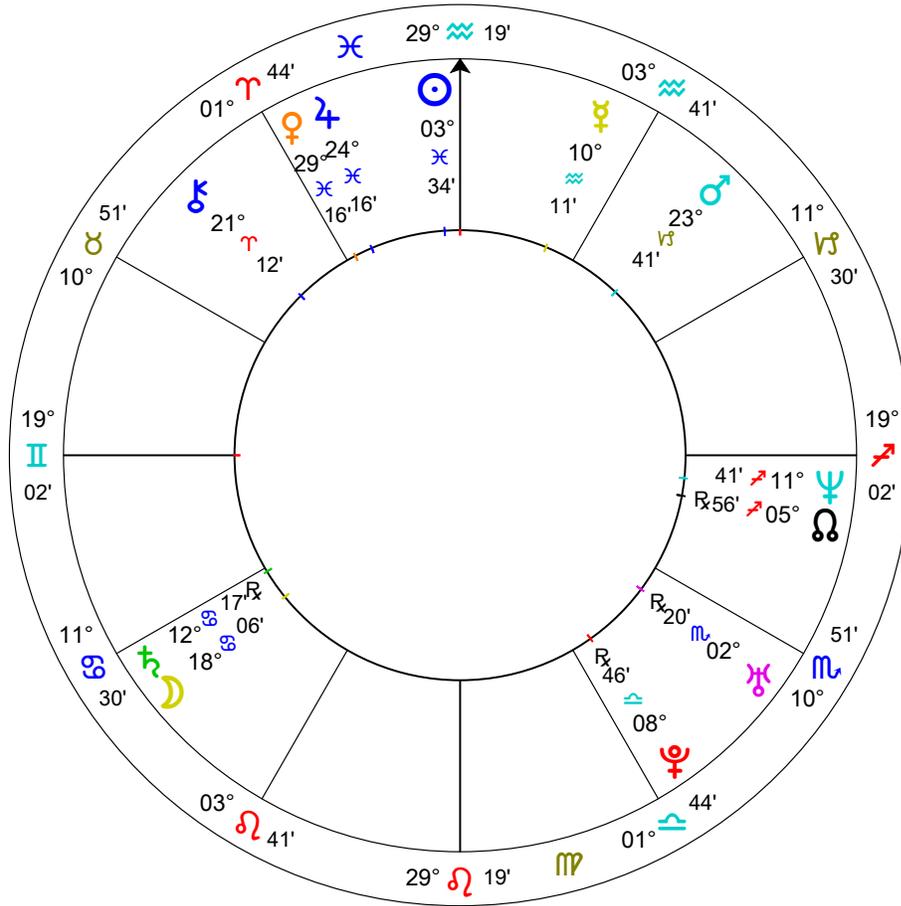




Table 6: Rating the Strength of Neptune or Pisces As a Vocational Indicator
(c)2001 by Donna Cunningham

The ratings below are of the strength of Neptune and Pisces placements in the career houses. Since there are no objective measures of the impact of such placements, these ratings are subjective, based on over 35 years of observing clients' career patterns. Falling within a conjunction of the four chart angles (Ascendant, Midheaven, IC, or Descendant) increases the planet's strength. It is also stronger in **high profile**—when it is aspecting the Sun, Moon, Ascendant, part of a stellium, or one of the most aspected planets in the chart. Where more than one category applies—for instance, Pisces in the 10th as well as Neptune in the 6th—add the total of the placements. A total of 5 would be considered low, while a total of 10 or more indicates a strong influence. More than 15? Very strong indeed!

MIDHEAVEN AND 10th HOUSE NEPTUNE OR PISCES PLACEMENTS:

Possible Score:	Type of placement eligible for score:	This Chart's points:
10	Neptune within 8 degrees of the MH (either 10 th or 9 th) and in high profile	___
9	Neptune in the 10 th in high profile but not conjunct the Midheaven	___
7	Neptune in major aspect to the Midheaven, high profile	___
7	Neptune within 8 degrees of the MH but not in high profile, not many aspects	___
7	Pisces Sun or Moon within 8 degrees of the MH in the 9 th or 10 th	___
6	Each Pisces planet in the 9 th or 10 th , within 8 degrees of the MH	___
5	Each Pisces planet in the 10 th , not within 8 degrees of the MH	___
3	Pisces on the Midheaven, no planets in Pisces	___
3	Pisces planet in the 10 th square, opposite, trine or quincunx natal Neptune	___
3	Midheaven ruler conjunct, square, opposite, trine or quincunx natal Neptune	___
3	Midheaven ruler in Pisces or the 12 th or 12 th house ruler in the 10 th	___
2	Each conjunction, square, trine or opposition to a 10 th house Neptune or Pisces planet	___
2	Neptune sextile the Midheaven, especially from the 12 th	___
2	Pisces planet aspecting the Midheaven, especially from the 12 th	___

2nd HOUSE NEPTUNE OR PISCES PLACEMENTS:

7	Neptune in the 2 nd , high profile	___
5	Pisces Sun, Moon, or Pisces planets in the 2 nd , high profile	___
6	Neptune in the 2 nd , not high profile	___
3	Neptune in the 2 nd trine the Midheaven	___
3	Each Pisces planet in the 2 nd trine the Midheaven	___
3	Each Pisces planet in the 2 nd square, opposite, trine or quincunx natal Neptune	___
2	Each Other planet in the 2 nd square, opposite, trine or quincunx natal Neptune	___
1	Pisces planet in the 2 nd not high profile nor aspecting natal Neptune or the Midheaven	___

6th HOUSE NEPTUNE OR PISCES PLACEMENTS:

8	Neptune in the 6 th within 8 degrees of Descendant, high profile	___
8	Pisces Sun, Moon, or inner planets within 8 degrees of Descendant, high profile	___
7	Neptune in the 6 th , high profile within 8 degrees of Descendant	___
6	Neptune in the 6 th within 8 degrees of Descendant, not high profile	___
6	Neptune or Pisces planets in the 6 th trine or square the Midheaven	___
4	Neptune in the 6 th not high profile, not aspecting the Midheaven, not conjunct the Descendant	___
6	Pisces Sun, Moon, or inner planet in the 6 th , not within 8 degrees of Descendant, high profile	___
5	Pisces Sun or Moon within 8 degrees of Descendant, not high profile	___
2	Pisces on the 6 th cusp, no planets in Pisces	___
4	Pisces planet in the 6 th square, opposite, trine or quincunx natal Neptune	___
2	Other planet in the 6 th square, opposite, trine or quincunx natal Neptune	___

TOTAL: _____

Rating the Strength of Neptune and Pisces as Career Indicators

Shown on the previous page is a scale I developed for determining whether an individual's chart would be considered Neptunian in the vocational area. Since there are no objective measures of the impact of these placements, these ratings are subjective and open to modification, based on over 35 years of observing clients' career patterns. It should be considered a work in progress, not a finished scale. It could doubtlessly be a great deal more elaborate, but then the student might not find it as useful or interesting. If you are a practicing astrologer, feel free to modify the scale for use in your work.

For the student, use it if you wish, but if you find it too technical for the moment, also feel free to skip it if you are already confident that Neptune is a major factor in the chart you are considering. To determine if you are applying this scale correctly, try it out on the chart of Drew Barrymore, shown here².

Sun in Pisces conjunct the Midheaven	7
Jupiter in Pisces in the 10 th , not conjunct MH	5
Venus in Pisces in the 10 th , not conjunct MH	5
Jupiter conjunct Venus in Pisces in the 10 th	2
Uranus (Midheaven Ruler) trine Pisces Sun in the 10 th	2
Neptune in the 6 th conjunct the Descendant, not high profile	8
Saturn (career indicator) in the 2 nd quincunx Neptune	2
Venus (12 th house ruler) in the 10 th (in Pisces)	3

Since a score of ten is considered strong, Drew's total of 30 is quite extreme. As we will see later, this matches the extremely Neptunian unfolding of her career and life history.

Applying the Issues of Pisces and the 12th House to Vocation

Pisces, the sign Neptune rules, shares many of Neptune's issues and can express either its positive or negative poles. When important Pisces placements—especially the Sun, Moon, or a stellium—fall into the 10th, 6th, or 2nd houses, then Piscean qualities color the individual's approach to vocational issues. Neptune and Pisces are related to the 12th house. On a psychological level, planets and signs in the 12th depict motives and emotions we hide—even from ourselves—as well as ways we sabotage ourselves. A 12th house individual who is unwilling to address hidden motives may suffer from addictions, chronic illness, or other self-defeating patterns. As career indicators, Neptune or Pisces can share these pitfalls when used unwisely.

Having Neptune or important Pisces placements in the career houses would be similar to applying the matters of the 12th house to the workplace. The 12th house itself takes on a vocational significance if the Sun, Midheaven ruler, or a stellium is placed there, especially when square the Midheaven. What sort of career would placements like these suggest? Traditionally the 12th house is connected with service, places of retreat from the world like ashrams or convents, and establishments like hospitals, institutions,

² According to Drew's birth certificate, which Lois Rodden had on file from the Wilsons, she was born February 22, 1975, at 11:51 AM, in Culver City, CA, 118W23; 34N01. Data rated AA.

or prisons. It is not uncommon for people with Neptunian, Piscean, or 12th house vocational indicators to work in such settings. The word *vocation*, in its old-fashioned sense of a “calling,” often referred to settings like these that require immense devotion.

In the Western world, we have little understanding of the *devotional* principle that Neptune typifies. In Eastern religions, the devotee or disciple may spend a decade scrubbing the master’s toilet and getting up at 4:00 AM to kneel for hours on cold stone floors chanting before finally being initiated. Westerners like to think of initiation as something you get at a weekend seminar for \$650, meals included. As a result, Western forms of initiation are not readily recognized as such and may not be terribly pleasant. For example, there’s the kind of initiation people get from spending years in jail or in trying to heal a chronic illness. If we embrace the more positive potentials of the 12th house mentioned early and let go of self-sabotage, however, we don’t have to wind up living out these negative potentials.



Evolved vs. Unevolved Expressions of Neptune

By now you may be saying, “What about evolved Neptunians?” Of course, many of them are evolved—most of us yearn to express the higher side of Neptune and succeed in doing so at least part of the time. It is an important part of our being, and we can feel incomplete or even lost until we integrate it. In expressing an outer planet, however, no one is EVER evolved all the time. If people want you to think they are, be wary, for this is a signal that *THE SHADOW* lurks. The “Shadow” in the Jungian sense is a part of ourselves that we find unacceptable and pretend doesn’t exist but that erupts in destructive behavior from time to time.

We like to tell ourselves that we are high-minded and even saintly, and sometimes we are, but self-serving easily creeps in, especially when our ego is engaged. Neptunians are ingenious at deceiving themselves and others about their motives. Neptunians with a following are especially prone to going off track. Regardless of a Neptunian leader’s motives, the followers tend to twist the leader’s message to their own advantage—especially after the leader’s death, when no one can get first-hand information about what the teachings really meant.

The presence of Neptune in one of the vocational houses doesn’t tell you the whole story, only that there is a Grand Dream—a vision about the place the person was born to fill in the scheme of things. To see whether the individual is likely to apply the sweat equity required to make the dream a reality, assess the condition of other planets in the chart. A hard-working, well-grounded Saturn would help. Look to challenging aspects like squares, oppositions, or quincunxes for the energy and drive to bring the dream to fruition. Look, also, to easier aspects—trines, sextiles, and quintiles to Neptune—for natural abilities and gifts to achieve the goal, as well as for support from others in realizing the vision.

It is impossible to arrive at a conclusion about the viability of the dream from the chart alone, given the variety and ever-shifting uses of these placements. Talking to the

person and asking pertinent questions is a necessity. Personal and career history provide clues as to whether the planet is being expressed in a mostly evolved or mostly unevolved way. For instance, an unevolved Neptunian might have a propensity for delusion, blaming others for their troubles, or even victimizing people. The following considerations give additional clues to where the Neptunian stands.

Like all Neptunians, the unevolved type has a grand dream, but dwells in fantasy, confusing the vision with the manifestation as though it were already so. Rather than working diligently, these dreamers have a million excuses for why the Great American Novel never got written or why that call from Hollywood never came. They blame all those others who didn't understand or support them.

Unevolved Neptunians regard themselves as victims, helpless to better their situation. They surrender their power to others or to their addictions, health problems, overwhelming life obstacles, or self-defeating patterns. They tend to be in denial about what is going on in such situations, blaming others for their difficulties rather than taking responsibility for their own actions and choices. They act out the victim role, forever looking for that knight in shining armor to rescue them or lift them out of their too-tedious reality.



The Rescuer Syndrome and How It Developed



Neptunians who do not see themselves as victims often play the complementary role of rescuer, especially in their careers. Where does the urge to be a rescuer arise? Particularly with Neptune in the 10th, a parent may have been alcoholic or otherwise seriously troubled—the type of whom it is said, “drink stole his dream.” As adults, they often become enmeshed with bosses, reenacting unhealthy relationships with their parents.

My astrological practice over the years has included thousands of adult children of alcoholics (ACAs). Nationally, upwards of two-thirds of ACAs either become alcoholic or marry alcoholics or other addictive personalities. Those ACAs in my practice with Neptune in the 10th or 6th house were generally not heavily involved with alcohol or drugs, though I cannot vouch for

their partners. Instead, these clients were often workaholics clustered in the helping professions, including an astonishing number of astrologers and others in alternative fields.

People in the helping fields who come from such a background would find it useful to work with reference materials or groups for adult children of alcoholics in order to overcome vocational self-sabotage³. Many of them try desperately to save the world because they could not save their parents or siblings. In the helping fields, boundary issues—typically associated with Neptune—can lead to unwise practices with troubled clients.

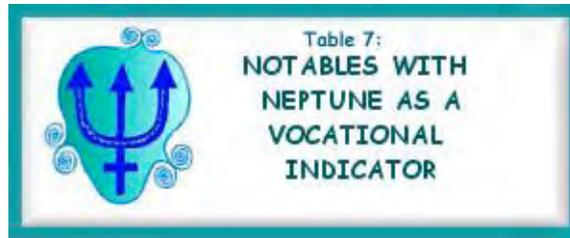
Poor boundaries can show up as defensiveness about our abilities and as needing validation and stroking from clients. Poor boundaries can make us prone to over-identifying with clients and needing to “save” them from themselves. Over-identification may also cause us to project our own problems onto clients. We may have trouble setting limits, allowing sessions to go on for hours even when we are drained. If we have difficulty setting limits or expressing anger in a healthy manner, how can we be good models for clients with similar problems? We may also have difficulty in setting appropriate fees because of low self-esteem and the mistaken belief that we are being helpful. (How this background affects astrological practice is explored in detail in a chapter in *The Consulting Astrologer’s Guidebook*, my textbook for professionals⁴.)

Many with Neptune and Pisces vocational placements have genuinely spiritual motives, being compassionate individuals who want to relieve others’ suffering. Yet, because these placements are so difficult to keep in perspective, service workers can be slowly and insidiously pulled off track. Keeping on track emotionally is exceptionally difficult for professionals in the field of addiction treatment and recovery, with a high burnout rate. Many ACAs who enter that field find—to their disillusionment—that they can’t save addicts or alcoholics any more than they could save their parents. People do recover from addictions when they are ready, but not because of another person’s determination to save them.

The line between evolved and unevolved expressions of Neptune is hazy and constantly shifting. In career terms, evolved Neptunians may remain humble and focused on serving rather than becoming grandiose and self-serving. However, Neptune is tricky and so are Neptunians. At one point, they can be pure in intention, serving the collective in beautiful, irreplaceable ways. At other points, they deceive themselves about their motives and behave corruptly, especially when ego or other personal issues become attached to their work. For instance, very fine psychics may become overworked and discover that, despite their growing clientele and reputation, the gift simply can’t always be summoned on demand. Whether consciously or through self-deception, they may eventually boost their percentage of “hits” with trickery.

³ The website for Adult Children of Alcoholics, the Twelve-Step program based on Alcoholics Anonymous, is <http://www.adultchildren.org> For books still in print on the topic, go to <http://www.amazon.com>

⁴ *The Consulting Astrologer’s Guidebook* is published by Red Wheel/Weiser, York Beach, ME, 1994. As of 3/2004, it was out of stock and would not be reprinted until they had several hundred orders for it. To let them know you’d like to reserve a copy, call them at 207-363-4393. If you feel you absolutely **MUST** have this information for your practice, write to me at my website: <http://www.DonnaCunninghamMSW.com>



LEGENDS, MAJOR STARS: Neptune in the 10th or conjunct the MH: John Fitzgerald and Jackie Kennedy, Princess Diana, Princess Grace of Monaco, Movie legends like Marlene Dietrich, Clint Eastwood, and Walt Disney, Television mega-stars Johnny Carson, Oprah Winfrey.
Neptune in the 2nd: Jack Nicholson, Jerry Lewis, Muhammed Ali, Bruce Willis, Tom Hanks, Judy Garland, skater, Michelle Kwan.
Neptune in the 6th: Audrey Hepburn, John Lennon, Robert Redford, Carol Burnett, Bill Cosby.

NOTABLE FAMILIES: Neptune in the 10th or conjunct the MH: Caroline Kennedy, William Kennedy Smith, and Joseph Kennedy Jr., Nancy Reagan, Jamie Lee Curtis, Tori Spelling, Anjelica Huston, Debbie Boone, Isabella Rosellini.
Neptune in the 2nd: Chelsea Clinton, Prince Edward of England, Natalie Cole, Tatum O'Neal, Vanessa Redgrave, Donny Osmond, Dweezil Zappa, Brynn Hartman.
Neptune in the 6th: Drew Barrymore, Ethel Kennedy and Maria Shriver, Julian Lennon, Liza Minnelli and Lorna Luft, Christina Onassis, Charlie Sheen.

SPIRITUAL/RELIGIOUS FIGURES: Neptune in the 10th or conjunct the MH: Medical intuitive, Caroline Myss, channeler JZ Knight, healer Kathryn Kuhlman, medium James Van Praagh, conservative Christians Jerry Fallwell and Jerry Fallwell, Jr., actor who played both God and Moses—Charlton Heston.
Neptune in the 2nd: Jeanne Dixon, psychic Peter Hurkos, Jose Silva, Silva Mind Control.
Neptune in the 6th: Cult leader, Marshall Appelwhite, metaphysical teacher, Terry Cole-Whittacker.

SERVICE CAREERS: Neptune in the 10th or conjunct the MH: Dr. Patch Adams, NYC drug treatment official, Judianne Denson-Gerber, oncologist Dr. Stephanie Simonton.
Neptune in the 2nd: None who are well-known, apparently not a good match for fame.
Neptune in the 6th: Rights of the dying advocate Dr. Elisabeth Kubler-Ross, metaphysician Gotham Chopra, hypnotherapist, Milton Erickson, famed trial lawyer, F. Lee Bailey.

MUSICIANS: Neptune in the 10th or conjunct the MH: Diana Ross, Grace Slick, Chuck Berry, Bobby Brown, Keith Richards.
Neptune in the 2nd: Luciano Pavarotti, Tina Turner, composer, Andrew Lloyd Weber, Sheena Easton, Melissa Etheridge.
Neptune in the 6th: Bette Midler, Ricky Martin, Ringo Starr, Country and Western stars, Johnny Cash, Bonnie Raitt, and Randy Travis, lots and lots of working musicians, band members who are not famous in their own right.

Comparing the Three Vocational Houses

As we discussed in the introductory chapter, the vocational houses are related, yet emphasize different facets of the complex question of how we provide for ourselves in the material world. Outwardly, a person with Neptune or Pisces planets in the 10th may suffer from some of the same difficulties—and have some of the same gifts—as others with such placements in the 6th or 2nd, but the reasons are different. Table 7, on the previous page, gives celebrity examples of Neptune in the three career houses.

Many of the celebrities listed in that table display in extreme form some of the traits and issues we will discuss. Don't fantasize—or lose sleep worrying—that your newborn family member or daughter's fiancé will be just like our examples. Depending on the strength and aspects of Neptune and Pisces planets in the chart, the scenarios given here may or may not match an individual's history. Life is like fiction in many respects. When you plug in the details, there are thousands of stories, yet with the story line reduced to bare bones, there are only a few timeless plots. In determining whether the scenario fits, concentrate on the general principle, the over-riding picture, rather than the details. Let's look into underlying dynamics of these three circumstances, starting with the 10th because it is the most compelling—and in certain ways the most difficult—of the three.

“It's Up to Me to Save the World”

One dynamic of Neptune in the 10th is a conflict between Neptune's wish to be the invisible yet devoted servant and the 10th house urge to shine in the world. Paired, they become, “I am important because I embody Neptune. I'm a better servant, sacrificial lamb, and victim than anyone else.” Certainly there are times when a leader is genuinely inspired, but typically the message is carrying the messenger rather than vice versa. After the burning bush cools down, the messenger is likely to be quite human again, with many human failings. If the ego has grown attached to having followers, serious imbalances can arise. When not tempered by humility, the combination may lead to a Savior-Martyr complex. At worst, this can be the deluded spiritual leader—the Messianic sort who says, “the end of the world is coming but you will be saved if you follow me.”

An example of a charismatic yet controversial New Age leader with Neptune in the 10th is JZ Knight, the channel for Ramtha. Her chart is shown here⁵. One of nine children, she overcame a background of severe poverty to become the leader of a movement of faithful disciples, and today she is a multimillionaire. Her Neptune opposes Mercury and Venus, but is sextile her Sagittarius Ascendant. To add another Neptunian influence, her Pisces Sun opposes the Virgo Midheaven.

⁵ Lois Rodden found the data in Knight's autobiography, **A State of Mind, My Story**, p.24. She was born March 16, 1946, at 0:02 AM MST, in Dexter, NM, 104W22; 33N11. Data rated B, from the autobiography.

If you apply the Neptune Vocational Scale given earlier, Knight's chart rates a total of 16 points. Here are the scores:

Neptune in the 10 th , not high profile	7
Venus opposite 10 th house Neptune	2
Mercury opposite 10 th house Neptune	2
Mercury (Midheaven ruler) aspecting Neptune	3
Pisces Sun opposite the Midheaven	2

The other pole of a high-profile Neptune is scandal, especially with a 10th house Neptune. Scandal has certainly dogged Knight's path, including the huge settlement paid to her 5th husband, a gay man with AIDS who claimed she convinced him to abandon medical treatment and follow her.

The savior-martyr theme is not limited to notables with Neptune in high-focus. Less recognized spiritual teachers and practitioners can share in the pattern without the renown. Many bolster low self-esteem and satisfy a need for importance by deceiving themselves and their students about their saintliness and their motives. The worst of them suffer from grandiosity, the flip side of low self-worth—for instance, self-styled New Age gurus who claim they are channeling eight Ascended Masters. Some of the material MAY come from higher spiritual sources but all too often it is mixed with self-aggrandizing nonsense.

Neptune in the 10th: Daddy Was a Dreamer

The sign on the Midheaven and any planets in the 10th house describe our connections to authority figures, especially our parents. When Neptune is in the 10th and particularly when it is conjunct the Midheaven, the qualities of this planet describe the parent who had the most impact on the native's career choice. Regardless of birth sign, this parent would have qualified as a Neptunian. Whether or not the native identifies with that parent in other respects, when it comes to life purpose, he or she seems to live out important facets of that parent's vocational patterns.

Often the parent has a talent, a creative or artistic dream that is sacrificed because of family responsibilities. Sometimes both parents feel they sacrificed their gifts, and so their offspring's success is supposed to make the sacrifice worthwhile. Talking with clients who have this position, it often becomes clear that the dream the parent never got to realize is an important dynamic in the parent-child relationship. When there are several children, the child with Neptune in the 10th is often charged with living out the parent's dream. It is common, for instance, for child beauty pageant mothers and Little League



Many from families whose artistry represents the upside of Neptune have also had to combat the downside of Neptune, such as addiction. Nine generations of Barrymores have graced the stage and film, and many of them also struggled with alcoholism. Drew Barrymore, whose chart is repeated here, is the youngest—and possibly the last—generation of this legendary family. She began her film career as a toddler and started drinking and drugging before her teens. In the Hollywood milieu she experienced as a child star, addiction is practically an occupational hazard.

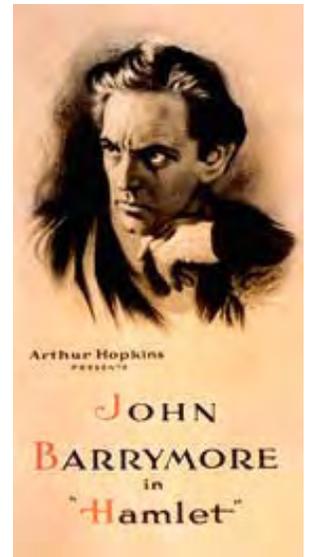
Interestingly, a particular planet's degree—and its multiples—can represent significant turns in the expression of that planet. Drew's Neptune is at 11, and since her first detox was at the age of twelve, we might assume that eleven was when she first became addicted. (The multiples—22 and 33—would also be critical eras in the way she expresses Neptune.)

Recall that earlier we scored Drew's chart on the strength of Neptune as a vocational indicator and came up with the astonishing total of 30. The chart features Neptune and Pisces placements in two of the three career houses. Neptune is in her 6th, and her Pisces Sun is conjunct the Midheaven. Her three Pisces planets in the 10th house—the Sun, Venus, and Jupiter—represent the family heritage of both addiction and stardom. This planetary trio shows an idealized love for her legendary family but also the propensity to identify with and succumb to their drinking patterns. With an almost fatalistic attitude, she wryly dubs herself “a fourth generation alcoholic.” She struggled by fits and starts to finally reach what is reportedly a drug and alcohol free lifestyle. If she overcomes the negative influences of the Barrymore heritage, she could carry their greatness to new heights.

When we see Neptune or Pisces planets in the 10th house of a talented person, how do we know whether the parent is supporting the child in a shared vision or pressuring the child to carry out a failed dream? With nebulous, shape-shifting Neptune, at any moment in time the answer could be *either, both, or neither*. This parent-child pair may well have drafted its mission statement before the birth of either the parent or the child, but it is possible that along the way one or both of them has forgotten or defaulted on the plan. That is especially easy to do when addiction enters the picture. Unanticipated factors can also arise that alter the outcome. One of the uncontrolled variables in achieving any vision is society itself, which often refuses to cooperate with our dreams and heartfelt efforts to improve it. Still, it is a Neptunian's delight to ponder complex mysteries like these.

The Collective and The Dream

Some notables, we might say, carry the collective's dream. This is true of many Neptunians, but especially those with Neptune in the 10th. Some well-known people with this placement can only be described as legends and mythmakers because of their capacity to uplift us. They capture our imagination and show us that a better world is possible. Sometimes their appeal is that we live out our fantasies through them, but often they also inspire us to be better people.



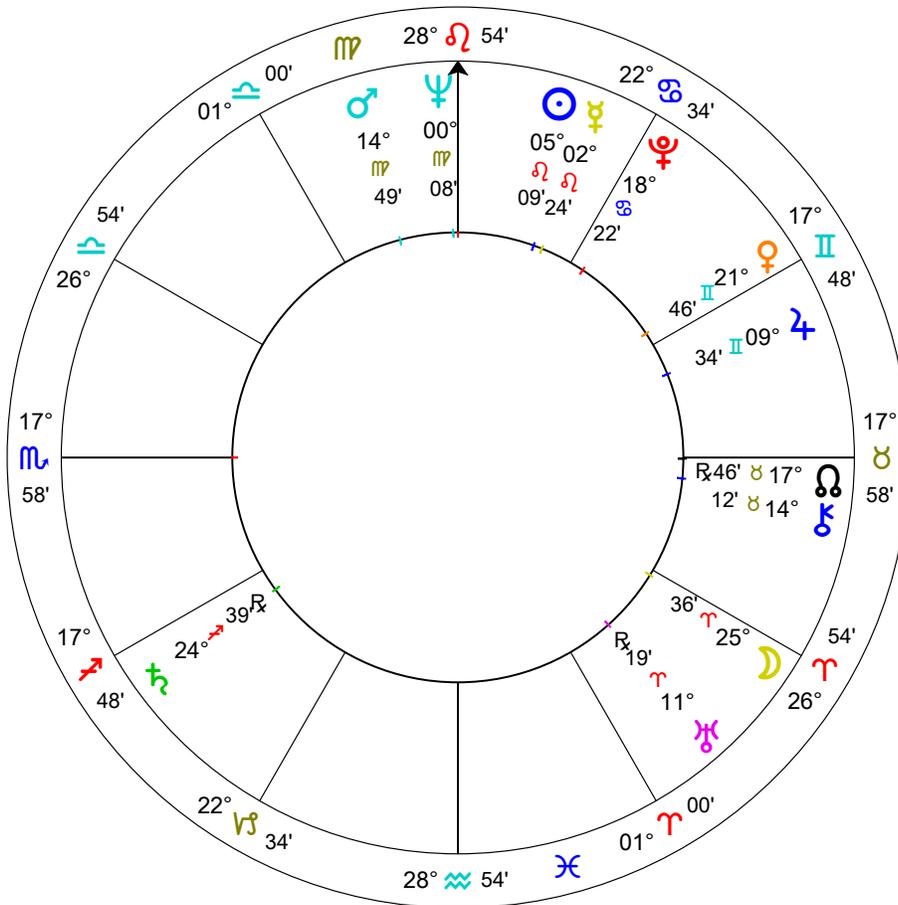
Camelot was a legend, and America's First Family consisting of John and Jacqueline Kennedy and their two children not only loved the story of Camelot but also came to represent it for the collective. John and Jacqueline's charts are shown here⁶. Not until I had assembled the charts of all the members of that nuclear family was it clear that a 10th house Neptune was a theme for all but John F. Kennedy, Jr., whose chart we will consider in the next chapter. Astrological placements do run in families, but the concentration of this mythmaker aspect in the Kennedy charts is why the world remembers that family and not yours or mine. One would think that a bona fide curse would be Plutonian, but the so-called Kennedy Curse seems to be related to Neptune. Although Neptune in the 10th can serve the collective, it had personal meaning as well for each of them and depicted their relationship with a Neptunian parent.

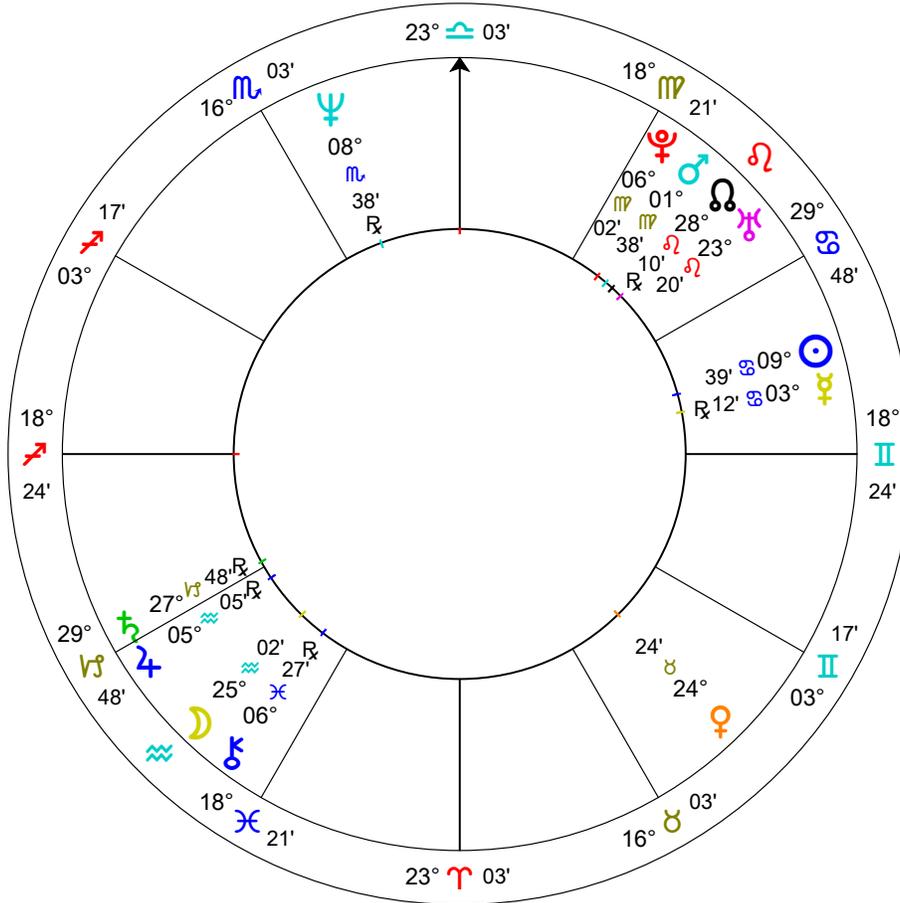
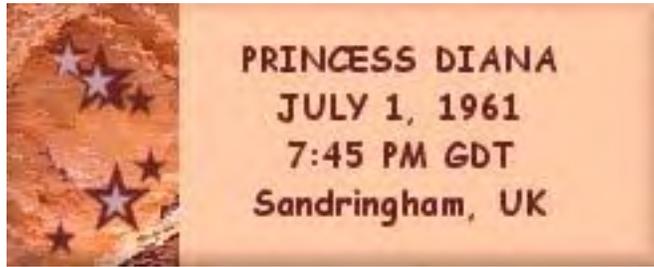
The out-of-sign Neptune-Saturn conjunction on JFK's Midheaven has martyr potential. After his older brother's death, JFK was chosen to fulfill the family dream of a Kennedy in the White House—we could say he was sacrificed to it. (Not surprisingly, that older brother, Joseph Kennedy, Jr. also had Neptune in the 10th.) JFK's Neptune-Saturn conjunction also represents his father, Joseph Sr., who appeared to be a pillar of society and was a U.S. Ambassador yet allegedly made much of his fortune through bootlegging. It is widely believed that Joseph called in Mafia influence to get his son elected. Though JFK is still beloved as a martyred hero, information about his own darker sides has leaked out. Persistent rumors—and some now documented facts—include compulsive womanizing even on the White House premises, his own Mafia links, and the question of involvement in Marilyn Monroe's death.

Using the daylight savings time, which some have disputed, Jacqueline Kennedy had a nearly 29 degree Leo Midheaven, site of the fixed star Regulus, and she was as close to a queen as our country has ever seen. Shown here, her chart features Neptune conjunct that midheaven. Though Neptune is in the earliest minutes of Virgo, it forms a Grand Trine with her Aires Moon and Saturn in Sagittarius. Jacqueline adored her hard-drinking, womanizing father, "Black Jack" Bouvier, though he left during her childhood. When another Jack of similar charm (and sexual habits) came along, she was smitten and signed on for Camelot. After JFK's assassination, she continued to capture our imagination and remained a cultural icon.

Though Caroline Kennedy's Neptune is in the last degrees of the 10th, it is virtually unsuspected. Up to the time of her brother's death, she steadfastly avoided the media hounding and managed to have a private life, but she has been more visible since that tragedy left her the only living member of her nuclear family. Other members of the current generation with Neptune in the 10th are U.S. Congressman Joseph Patrick Kennedy, son of Robert, and William Kennedy Smith, tried for sexual assault in 1991.

⁶ AstroDataBank gives the information for John F. Kennedy, Sr. as May 29, 1917, 3:00 PM EST, Brookline, MA, 71W07; 42N19. Rated A, from his mother. ADB notes the following for Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis: July 28, 1929, 2:30 PM EDT, Southampton, NY, 72N23, 40N53, (There is controversy over whether DST was in effect, but this fits.) Rated A.





Princess Diana, whose chart is shown here⁷, lived out all that her 10th house Neptune suggests—the fairy-tale wedding to Prince Charming, the glamour, the service to downtrodden outcasts, the repeated scandals, and, finally the martyrdom. Her life illustrates many of the tensions inherent in a 10th house Neptune. She embodied Neptune’s deep and almost desperate yearning to retreat from the world and yet was drawn over and over into the public eye—due in part to her glamour, in part to her desire to serve. When her Chiron in Pisces is included, Neptune in Scorpio was the apex of a Grand Water trine with her Sun and Mercury in Cancer in the 7th. Troubled with tumultuous emotions, Diana used her own pain to develop tremendous empathy for others’ suffering and to inspire her adoring public to care about these unfortunates as well. After her death on August 31, 1997, she still inspired the collective as mourners around the world donated millions to her charities.

Suppose that your child has Neptune in the 10th in the birth chart. Can you hope that the child will be as universally loved as Diana or the Kennedys—or Princess Grace of Monaco, who also had Neptune there? Or, conversely, should you fear they will suffer a similarly tragic fate? The difference in working with celebrity charts—and with a single chart facet—is that these public figures are bigger than life, with talents and opportunities on a vast scale. About one person in twelve is born with Neptune in the 10th, and, in a million with this position, there may only be one Diana or JFK.

The best thing you can do for children with Neptune in the 10th is to make sure your own use of Neptune is squeaky clean, since the 10th shows the influence of parents and other role models. Pass your spirituality along in non-invasive ways, mainly by example. Encourage their imagination and creativity, but do not become ego-invested in their achievements. Teach them compassion for others, and give them opportunities for service appropriate to their age. Guide them in saying *no* to drugs and other addictions and heal any addictions of your own. Most of all, support them in claiming their own visions, rather than imposing yours upon them.

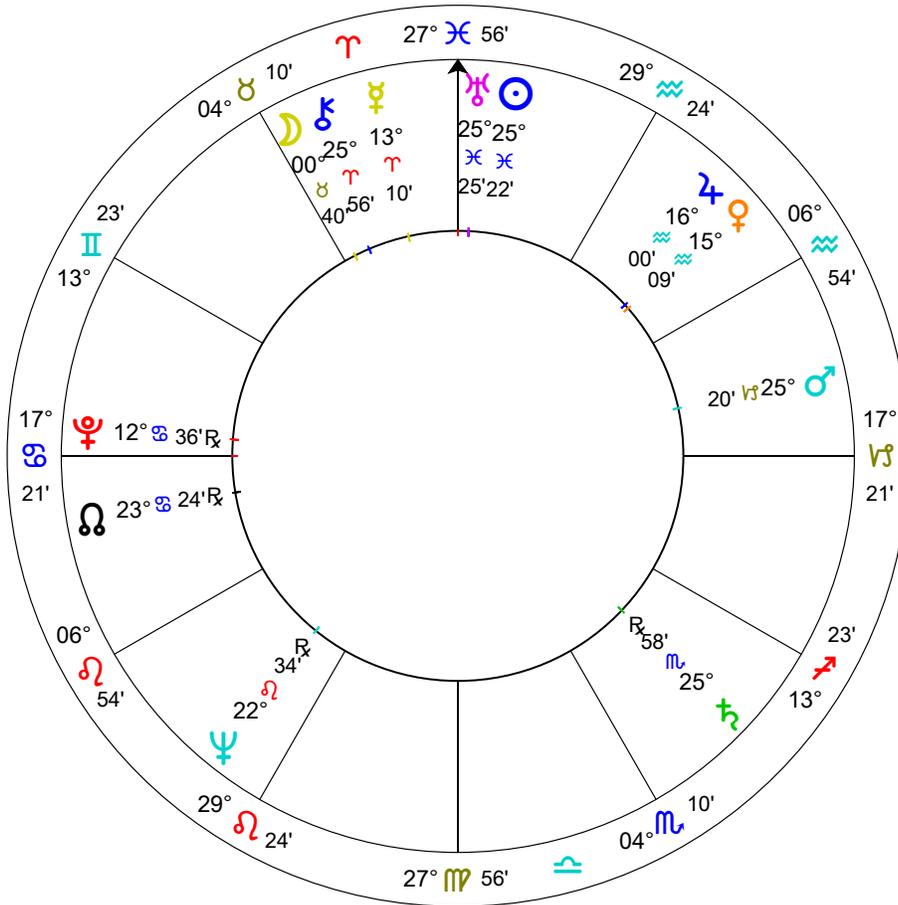
Neptune in the 2nd —“God Will Provide”

The 2nd house shows not only earnings but also crucial attitudes toward money and how we manage it. Money management can be quite a problem for many with Neptune in the 2nd. It slips through their fingers—where it goes, no one knows. Some are addicted to shopping—and if the 8th house also has important placements, they may also be addicted to debt. “It’s only money, after all, and God will provide,” they reason. “Besides, someday my ship will come in. I will sell the great American novel/win the lottery/find a rich patron or mate.”

Pipe dreams like these may come from gaps in dealing with the real world. There may be faulty perceptions learned from



⁷ Diana, Princess of Wales, was born on July 1, 1961, in Sandringham, England, 52N50; 00E30. Two birth times have been published for her, one at 7:45 PM GDT, with Sagittarius rising, as shown here, the other at 2:00 PM, with Libra Rising. The 7:45 PM time is more generally accepted, as she or her mother gave it to several astrologers, and is rated A, from memory.



parents with unrealistic views of money. We also live in a heavily materialistic culture in an era where few people live within their means. Instead, we have created an illusory affluence based on immense personal and national debt. Bankruptcy rates continue to soar while we fool ourselves into believing we have a solid economy. If this collective house of cards topples, it could be a rude awakening for people who have no idea how to live within their means and who depend on possessions for a sense of self-worth. Budgeting and keeping track of where the money goes can be an uphill battle for those with Neptune in the 2nd. Still, it is possible to make headway by giving oneself permission to pay attention to money and then consistently recording expenses.

Neptune in the 2nd has some wonderful attributes as well. In a refreshing departure from the materialism of our age, some people with this placement share a solidly spiritual value system, seeing the holiness in others as their primary worth rather than their possessions. It is important to keep the material and spiritual realms in balance—a task we all struggle with, but one that is consistently in the face of the person with Neptune or Pisces in either of the money houses, the 2nd or 8th.

One celebrity with Neptune in the 2nd who became immensely wealthy yet is also deeply committed to raising funds to help those less fortunate is Jerry Lewis, whose chart is shown here⁸. For the past several decades, his annual Labor Day Marathon has brought in billions of dollars for the cause of Muscular Dystrophy. His 2nd house Neptune in Leo is the apex of an Eye of God configuration, also known as a Yod. It is quincunx both his Mars in Capricorn in the 7th and his Sun-Uranus conjunction in Pisces in the 9th. As those Pisces planets are actually just two degrees off his Pisces Midheaven, he is also in some respects a 10th house Pisces type. Both of his parents were Vaudeville performers, though they never made the big time, and they brought him on stage for the first time at age five. His vast and lasting success was a fulfillment of their failed dreams.

Codependency and Neptune in the 2nd

Wherever Neptune is in the birth chart, there is a strong tendency for boundary problems, since Neptune is where we merge with All That Is. Deeply spiritual at best, on the more mundane level, this blurring of boundaries can easily create problems such as codependency and the chronic tendency to play either the rescuer or the rescued. In the 2nd house, Neptune can blur financial boundaries, with fairly sticky results. The house Neptune rules shows which significant others are involved in the financial muddles.

For example, suppose that someone has Neptune in Libra in the 2nd house, with Pisces on the 5th, suggesting financial codependency with children or lovers. With Neptune in Libra, in general, love is valued far more than money—and so it should be! However, with this particular house placement, Neptunians with low self-esteem may equate the two and be convinced that children, lovers, or friends will not love them unless they are showered with gifts. They may repeatedly bail children or romantic partners out of financial trouble, thinking this shows their love, when it is more often a

⁸ Lewis's birth certificate, which Ed Steinbrecher had in hand, says he was born March 16, 1926, at 12:15 PM EST, in Newark, NJ, 74W10; 40N44. The data is rated AA.

kind of enabling. Unfortunately, the codependency this creates over time is not love, as it undermines the receiver's will to be self-sufficient. With Neptune in the 2nd but in Scorpio instead of Libra, financial dependency and control issues can be meshed in very murky ways. (Consult Chapter 4, Pluto in the Career Houses, for insight into games people with Scorpio planets or Pluto in the 2nd can play. Neptune in Scorpio folks can be deeply hooked into the "fail for spite" dynamic discussed there.)

Many artists or service providers with Neptune in the 2nd find it hard to charge appropriately, so they live in chronic financial chaos or peril. By undercharging or letting clients owe large sums, they persuade themselves that they are spiritually evolved. Often these seemingly saintly acts are efforts to bolster low self-esteem. They may also have been heavily programmed by religious teachings about money as the root of all evil

As a result of undercharging or of discomfort in marketing themselves, some of these people wind up *needing* rescuing when they cannot meet expenses. Time after time, family, lovers, or friends are called on to bail out Ms. or Mr. Neptune, who mysteriously, despite great talent, just can't get it together. When self-esteem improves and some of the misconceptions are cleared away, they are able to charge what they are worth, and the financial difficulties begin to shift. This pattern is harder to clear up, however, if they become addicted to the sometimes-gratifying pattern of being rescued. With Neptune in Libra, they may view being a Damsel in Distress as the height of romance, with the rescue being proof that the rescuer loves them.

Neptune in the 6th—Saint or Servant?



Of the three career houses, Neptune or Pisces planets fit the 6th best, given the natural polarity between Virgo and Pisces. These placements also share many of the qualities—and the dilemmas—of Neptune in Virgo. People with Neptune in the 6th are not as conflicted by material or success issues as those with Neptune or Pisces in the 2nd or 10th houses. Not generally invested in long-range achievements or motivated by material gains, they are generally less high-profile than their counterparts with Neptune in the 10th. Many with Neptune or Pisces in the 6th are dedicated to service as a true calling.

Compassionate and deeply sensitive to those around them, they bring needed solace to those who suffer. The world would be a sorrier place without them.

As wonderful a contribution as these folks make, there are also pitfalls to this placement. Having Neptune or Pisces planets in this position often exaggerates the 6th house propensity for workaholicism. Since many of them experience feelings of unworthiness, they sometimes take on the demeanor of a servant and invite mistreatment on the job. If taken advantage of by employers and coworkers, they can be assigned the tasks no one else will do or accept schedules and workloads no one else will. If these tendencies are present, the individual needs to work on self-esteem and to learn to say *no*.

A long incarnational history of selfless service or a religious vocation may be a precursor to these tendencies, but one current life pattern is common. That is where working class origins are deeply identified with, sometimes in ways that hold the individual back. The 6th house traditionally relates to the working class, and I so often see class issues as a dynamic for people with this house strongly featured. In all three vocational houses, Neptune or Pisces placements are often seen among African-American and other minority group members who struggle to rise out of poverty and who succeed, though that success may come at a high personal cost. They can feel great loneliness, since neither the folks they came from nor the folks whose ranks they have joined can fully relate to or understand them. In leaving their background behind, they often experience a painful identity crisis that leaves them with a fear of success.

Some with 6th house placements sabotage their work as a way of avoiding conflicts and losses with family members or former peers. Despite decent education and skills, they may remain in lower ranks in their field, hiding their light under a basket and not taking credit for their invaluable service. Many from such backgrounds with Neptune in the 6th, however, do succeed brilliantly. They have both creativity and a good work ethic, and yet they never lose sight of where they came from. They work tirelessly to lift others out of poverty, serving as role models and mentors to young people on the way up. They are often volunteers, like many successful performers who appear in celebrity fund-raisers.

Neptune and the Joy of Work



Sigmund Freud supposedly said that the two strongest indications of good mental health were the capacity to love and work. It is sad that more people at this time in history do not get to experience work as an act of love. Job satisfaction has deteriorated for many of us due to the broad social changes we will discuss in the final section of this book. Where is the personal reward in churning out data entries that no human will ever see or assembling disposable plastic doodads? Given that the career houses represent a quarter of our charts and that our jobs take up a third of our day, this is a considerable loss in quality of life.

For those with Neptune or Pisces planets in the 6th, however, the loss is all the greater, for work is meant to be their bliss. Where Neptune or Pisces are placed in our charts, we look to be elevated from ordinary, humdrum existence and put into contact with something far greater than ourselves. It is where we look to escape our insignificance and to merge with All That Is. For the individual with a 6th house Neptune, work is that place. It is their “high,” and it can become their addiction.

Those with Neptune in either the 6th or 10th may be workaholic, but for different motives. People with Neptune in the 10th often do it with an eye to glory and some grand scheme or vision, while for their more humble 6th house counterparts, the payoff is work for its own sake. Interestingly, there were a third fewer notables in the AstroDataBank collection with Neptune in the 6th than with Neptune in the 10th. On the whole, those

listed for the 6th house were less known, including many working musicians who were backup singers or members of bands. Those with Neptune in the 6th don't seem to make as big of a splash—no JFKs or Princess Dianas in that AstroDataBank category—but their work is no less important to the people they serve.

Since the 6th is also a house of health, illness can develop when work goes sour, often under difficult 6th house transits or transits to 6th house planets. For anyone with the 6th house emphasized, a health crisis is possible when there is no longer any joy in working, but this is especially true for those with Neptune or Pisces planets in the 6th. Such individuals are particularly apt to succumb to occupational health hazards. The body will do for us what we cannot or will not do for ourselves, which is to say *no*.

Pisces or Neptune in the 6th—Abusing the Body

The 6th is the house of both work and health. Especially with Pisces planets in this position, we often find those who martyr the body in order to serve others indiscriminately and unwisely. The rescuer-savior pattern is not uncommon among helping professionals who suffer from occupational health hazards. Many overworked massage therapists and chiropractors wind up with Carpal Tunnel Syndrome or back problems that ultimately curtail their practices. Doctors and others in mainstream health fields who work on other people's bodies continually yet seriously neglect their own also may have a 6th house emphasis in their charts. They can be genuinely dedicated healers but over time the lack of balance in their lives can have serious consequences. How do such patterns develop? Parental role models may have martyred themselves for their work, especially if the Sun (the father) or the Moon (the mother) is placed in the 6th.

Many healers and therapists chronically overwork, proudly lamenting how much their clients need them and can't get along without them. They don't get enough rest, never take vacations, ignore pressing physical needs, and eventually harm their bodies. Under the right set of transits, helping professionals who overwork chronically and sacrifice their personal lives and loved ones' well being are also prone to serious burnout. You catch a whiff of Neptunian excess in those who can't say *no* to clients and who have trouble setting boundaries. Especially when the Sun is involved—being in Pisces or in aspect to Neptune—this supposedly saintly self-sacrifice may compensate for low self-esteem, as though pointless suffering somehow made them important. Ultimately, if they don't learn the lesson of self-care, the body breaks down. They may develop Chronic Fatigue Syndrome, which often starts with Neptune transits to the health houses. Many of them ultimately use the body's frailties as an reason to say *no*, but how much better it would be to learn to say no without the need to suffer!

Table 8: WHAT DO MODERN-DAY NEPTUNIANS
DO FOR A LIVING?



What are some career possibilities for Neptunians?

The following list contains a wide range of choices related to the planet Neptune, from those requiring almost no training to those with a long preparation time. Karen McCauley, who edited this chapter, was moved to contribute this sometimes tongue-in-cheek collection.



- | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Acting | Ghost writers | Poets |
| Aesthetics | Gas station workers | Prison staff |
| Alcohol treatment | Hospital staff | Prophet/seer |
| Anesthesiology | Illustrators | Religious literature and sales |
| Aquarium attendant | Impersonators | Retreat house staff |
| Ballet dancer/belly dancer | Junk dealers | Sailors and seaman |
| Bartender | Life guards | Scuba divers |
| Boat building and sales | Liquor sales | Service of all kinds |
| Camera operators | Magicians | Shippers |
| Charity worker | Mariners | Shoe sales and repair |
| Chemists | Metaphysicians | Shoe and hosiery designers |
| Church staff | Missionaries | Smugglers |
| Clairvoyants | Musicians | Social workers |
| Con artists | Mystics and monks | Taxidermists |
| Counselors of all sorts | Narcotics officers | Violinists |
| Dancers | Oceanographers | Wardens |
| Distillers | Oil workers | Water purifier and sales |
| Dolphin trainers | Painters—house and art | Water sports |
| Druggists | Pantomimes | Welfare workers |
| Dry cleaners | Pharmaceutical development | Wine growers and sales |
| Film makers | Photographers | Wizards |
| Fishermen | Podiatrists | Used car salesmen |

Growth and Evolution with Neptune Placements

Table 8 shows a variety of paths taken by people with Neptune as a career indicator. Often there is a sense of meandering and not finding a true vocation until long after less Neptunian peers have settled on a life work. Neptune-related patterns change during the course of a lifetime and, hopefully, we evolve—both personally and professionally—as we mature. Two eras with great possibilities for growth come to all of us. The first is the transit of Pluto over natal Neptune that we experience in our late twenties, often near the time of the Saturn return and progressed lunar return. For many, this is a spiritual awakening as we enter a path of studies that lasts the rest of our lives.

For others, unfortunately, it is a descent into negative expressions of Neptune such as addiction. Many who take the addictive fork of the road do so because they feel helpless to manifest the visions they brought into this incarnation. In astrological research, addictions have long been associated with strong Neptune or Pisces placements. I wrote two books with Andrew Ramer about the spiritual dimensions of addictions.⁹ They were based on metaphysical and spiritual explorations of this disease rather than astrological ones, though it was clear how Neptunian the addictive process was. It became apparent that addiction often enters in when a dream cannot be manifested or when it goes awry. Many of the tools we developed while working on this material with a group of recovering alcoholics had to do with reclaiming the vision.

The 2nd major era for evolution is the mid-life cycle of our late thirties to early forties. We discuss this life passage in other chapters, but what is relevant here is **transiting Neptune's square to natal Neptune**, setting off all the natal aspects to Neptune. Often that is a time when we bottom out on negative expressions of Neptune and return to the visions we came here to fulfill, but with a more mature perspective. When Neptune is a career indicator, this midlife aspect is very likely to bring on a period of burnout and disillusionment with the career path, even if it once suited the individual perfectly.

Typically, this is followed by a period of yearning for a more fulfilling career—something more creative, more spiritual, or more related to service than to material gain. Yet, it can also be a time of feeling powerless to make a change or unsure of what direction would be satisfying. The same transit of Neptune square natal Neptune repeats itself several times over a couple of years due to Neptune's retrograde and direct motion. During this process, working in the old job may become less and less tolerable, and the wise person begins to do what is needed to make a change. Many such individuals have already “paid their dues” in terms of raising a family or other responsibilities and thus have some freedom to explore alternatives.

In other cases, the true calling that emerges may require sacrifices, like living on a shoestring while getting training in the new field or working to establish writing credits, a portfolio, or whatever represents credibility. Many people turn their backs on this dream,

⁹ Volume One is *Spiritual Dimensions Of Healing Addictions*, Donna Cunningham and Andrew Ramer. San Rafael, CA: Cassandra Press, 1988. Volume Two is *Further Dimensions Of Healing Addictions*, Donna Cunningham and Andrew Ramer. San Rafael, CA: Cassandra Press, 1988. These books are most readily available through Pegasus Products, 1-800-527-6104.

saying, “I’m 44 years old, and by the time I finish school, I’ll be almost 50.” So six years go by, and amazingly enough, they are 50 now anyway AND haven’t been to school and are still stuck in the job they burned out on years ago. Pursuing a dream takes courage and may demand heroic efforts, but by and large, people who do so seem much happier than those who don’t. In addition, those who force themselves to continue doing work that they hate rather than taking a chance on pursuing the dream can develop health concerns. If you have been through either of these stages of growth and have Neptune or Pisces as a vocational indicator, you may have already outgrown some of the less desirable patterns.

The Neptunian’s Lifelong Spiritual Path as It Applies to Vocation

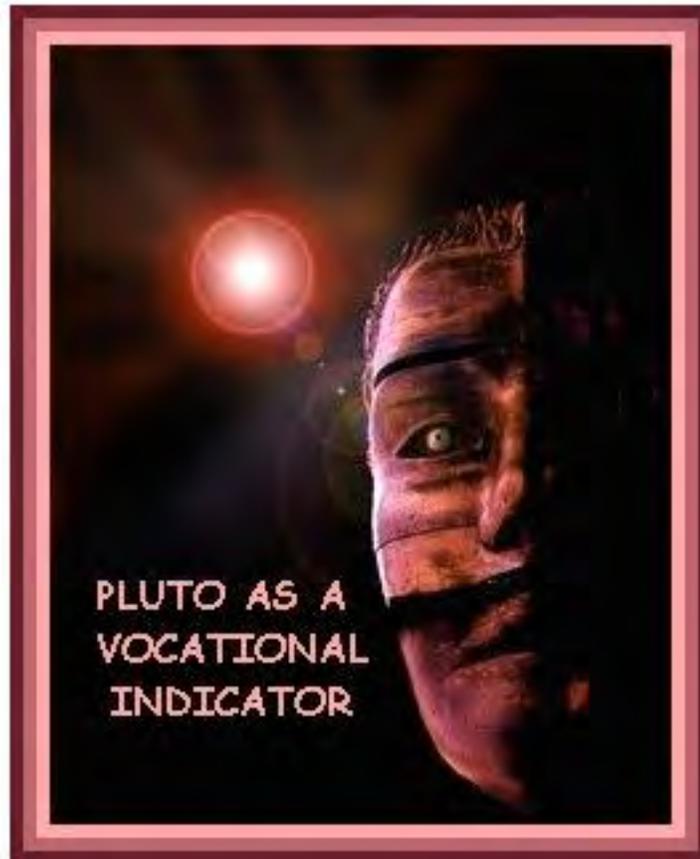


In this exploration of the ways Neptune and Pisces color the vocational houses of the birth chart, we contrasted neurotic or even destructive manifestations with the more exalted ones. Let us not deny the very real place Neptunians have in uplifting and inspiring the collective, for without them we would be too earthbound and mired in mundane realities. Our world is increasingly materialistic and ruled by greed, and the workplace is more and more technological and dehumanized. In such an era, Neptunians’ dreams become harder and harder to fulfill at the same time that their

visionary capacities are more and more needed. They remind us of our own spirituality and compassion for others, and they inspire us to be better people.

It is never a simple matter to use Neptune well, given its nebulous and ever-shifting nature and the all-too-human wish to deny our less-than-holy motives. Neptune is especially tricky to use in a healthy way when placed in the houses related to success on the material plane. Where Neptune and Pisces are in our charts, however, we learn over the course of a lifetime to cope with balancing spiritual and earthly concerns. Thus, when Neptune or Pisces are career indicators, the struggle to integrate their energies into the workplace represents a tough yet extremely productive spiritual path. This life path serves not only the native but the rest of us as well. Thanks, folks—we need you!!

CHAPTER FOUR:
PLUTO IN THE CAREER HOUSES—
THE POWER TO MANIFEST OR TO FAIL FOR SPITE



From: The Outer Planets and Inner Life, Vol. 1
The Career Path of the Exceptional Soul
©2004 by Donna Cunningham

PLUTO IN THE CAREER HOUSES— THE POWER TO MANIFEST—OR TO FAIL FOR SPITE¹

Over-all themes and issues when the vocational houses strongly feature Pluto or Scorpio are the same as for Pluto elsewhere in the chart. At the lower end of Pluto's range of expressions, they can include abuse of power, battles for control, resentments and grievances, failing for spite, and being a target of other people's projections. At the higher end, they can include transforming, healing, and empowering the people and conditions Plutonians care about. With the vocational houses involved, these themes impact people's capacity for success at major life goals (10th house), their ability to make and manage money (2nd house), or how they operate with day to day routines in the workplace (6th house).

As with the other vocational indicators we have considered, don't draw conclusions about Pluto on the basis of a single factor, but only on how it is woven into the birth chart. To have a profound career impact, it must be in a vocational house or in major aspect to the Midheaven (conjunct, square, trine, or opposition) plus be in high focus in one of several ways. For instance, Pluto or Scorpio placements are especially strong in the regions eight degrees either side of the four chart angles (Ascendant, Midheaven, Descendant, or IC). These placements might aspect the Sun, Moon, Midheaven, or Ascendant—or more than one of these key chart features. They might form hard aspects to several personal planets or be part of a major configuration like a t-square, grand cross, or grand trine. If Pluto or Scorpio planets do not meet any of these criteria, the patterns we will discuss may not apply.

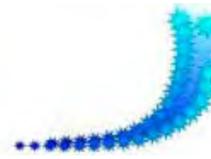
How would you gauge the impact of these placements? Table 9 ranks placements of Pluto and Scorpio according to the strength of their effects on career. Though subjective, it is based on my observations of clients over the past 30 years. It should be considered a work in progress, not a finished scale. It could doubtlessly be a great deal more elaborate, but then might not be as useful or interesting to the student. If you are a practicing astrologer, feel free to modify it for use in your work. As a test of whether you are using it correctly, the total score for Christian Brando, whose chart is shown here but discussed later, is 18. The total includes:

Pluto within 8 degrees of the MH and in high profile	10
Saturn trine 10 th house Pluto	3
Planet in the 2 nd aspecting Pluto (Saturn)	2
Mercury trine 10 th house Pluto	3

(NOTE: If working with the scale is more technical than you'd care to undertake just now, bypass it and continue with the rest of the chapter. It isn't critical to the material under consideration, just intended as a tool for the consulting astrologer or serious student.)

¹ This is a much-expanded version of an article that appeared in *Dell Horoscope Magazine* as: "Powerhouse Pluto in the Career Houses," 11/02, pp. 29ff. It appears with their permission.

Table 9: Measuring the Strength of Pluto
As a Career Indicator
(c)2004 by Donna Cunningham



The ratings below are of the strength of Pluto and Scorpio placements in the career houses. Since there are no objective measures of the impact of such placements, these ratings are subjective, based on over 35 years of observing clients' career patterns. Falling within a conjunction of the four chart angles (Ascendant, Midheaven, IC, or Descendant) increases the planet's strength. It is also stronger in **high profile**—that is, when it is aspecting the Sun, Moon, Ascendant, part of a stellium, or one of the most aspected planets in the chart. Where more than one category applies—for instance, Scorpio in the 10th as well as Pluto in the 6th—add the total of the placements. A total of 5 points would be considered low, while a total of 10 or more indicates a strong influence. More than 15? Very strong indeed!

MIDHEAVEN AND 10th HOUSE PLUTO OR SCORPIO PLACEMENTS:

Possible Score:	Type of placement eligible for score:	This Chart's points:
10	Pluto within 8 degrees of the MH (in either the 10 th or 9 th) in high profile	___
9	Pluto in the 10 th in high profile but not conjunct the Midheaven	___
8	Pluto square, trine, quincunx or opposite the Midheaven, high profile	___
7	Pluto within 8 degrees of the MH, not many aspects	___
7	Scorpio Sun, Moon, or inner planet within 8 degrees of the MH in the 9 th or 10 th	___
5	Scorpio Sun, Moon, or inner planet in the 10 th not within 8 degrees of the MH	___
3	Scorpio on the Midheaven, no planets in Scorpio in the 10 th or conjunct the Midheaven	___
3	Midheaven ruler in Scorpio or the 8 th house, or 8 th house ruler in the 10 th	___
3	Each major aspect to a 10 th house Pluto or Scorpio planet	___
2	Pluto sextile the Midheaven, additional point if from the 8 th	___
3	Scorpio planet aspecting the Midheaven, additional point if from the 8 th	___

2nd HOUSE PLUTO OR SCORPIO PLACEMENTS:

7	Pluto in the 2 nd , in high profile	___
6	Scorpio Sun, Moon, or inner planets in 2 nd , high profile	___
6	Pluto in the 2 nd , not in high profile	___
4	Pluto in the 2 nd trine the Midheaven	___
3	Scorpio planet in the 2 nd in aspect to natal Pluto	___
2	Planet in the 2 nd in aspect to natal Pluto but not in Scorpio	___
2	Scorpio planet in the 2 nd in aspect to natal Pluto	___
2	Ruler of the 2 nd house in the 8 th or ruler of the 8 th in the 2 nd	___

6th HOUSE PLUTO OR SCORPIO PLACEMENTS:

8	Pluto in the 6 th within 8 degrees of Descendant, high profile	___
7	Pluto in the 6 th , high profile within 8 degrees of Descendant	___
6	Pluto in the 6 th within 8 degrees of Descendant, not high profile	___
6	Scorpio Sun, Moon, or inner planet within 8 degrees of Descendant, high profile	___
6	Pluto in the 6 th trine or square the Midheaven	___
4	Pluto in the 6 th but not high profile, not aspecting the Midheaven or conjunct the Dsc.	___
6	Scorpio Sun or Moon in the 6 th , not within 8 degrees of Descendant, high profile	___
5	Scorpio Sun or Moon within 8 degrees of Descendant, not high profile	___
2	Scorpio on the 6 th cusp, no planets in Scorpio in the 6 th	___
5	Scorpio planet in the 6 th in aspect to natal Pluto	___
3	Other planet in the 6 th in aspect to natal Pluto	___

The difficulty with being a Plutonian type where career is concerned is that many of them have been scarred by bad childhood experiences with authority figures including parents or other relatives, or school or church officials. Many faced losses, abandonment, betrayals, or abuse. Not all Plutonians carry these experiences into the workplace—it may instead be a place of blessed escape into normalcy. However, especially when Pluto or strong Scorpio placements are involved with the 10th house or the Midheaven, that early history can have a direct impact on career patterns and ultimately on their potential for success.

Feeling powerless may translate to a sense of low vocational potential, which these individuals may either accept as their reality or may work compulsively to overcome. If these experiences left them mistrustful and afraid of people in authority, their relationships with supervisors are likely to be profoundly affected. They may adopt a variety of strategies to cope with their bosses' power and to have some measure of control over their work lives. Relationships with co-workers can also be difficult. Plutonians' early experiences may have left them with a feeling of being set apart by shameful secrets, different and alienated. This emotional residue can make it hard to enjoy an easy, comfortable interchange with peers at work.



The house Pluto occupies in the birth chart can represent areas of life where we **fail for spite**. That is, we may chronically set ourselves up to fail in those areas in ways that are painful, frustrating, and mystifying to us on a conscious level. On the unconscious level, the motive is often to get back at potent childhood figures who considered that area crucial. The behavior is self-destructive, like the scorpion's sting. For some Plutonians, however, extracting vengeance is more important than doing well. With Pluto in the vocational houses, failing in the career can embarrass the parent or other authority figure, a form of revenge. ("You said I'd never make anything of myself. Well, I'll show you...") Parents can't control whether their offspring succeed or not, and the more parents demand success, the greater the sting when their offspring fail.

People with Pluto or Scorpio planets in the vocational houses or aspecting the Midheaven are prone to dramatic career turns, for better or for worse, especially under transits to the Midheaven, natal vocational-house planets, or natal Pluto. Many of them glory in intensity, exist at a life or death pitch, and view work situations in terms of extremes—black and white, good vs. evil, shadow vs. light. If they engage in spiteful, self-destructive rounds of hardball, they may crash and burn publicly, even repeatedly, under transits or progressions to planets in vocational houses or to the Midheaven. If they are evolving past those negative patterns, they are capable of amazing turnarounds—the Phoenix rising from its own ashes. Though hardly a sterling example of a Plutonian in other respects, Richard Nixon was able to rise from near-oblivion several times and regain political power. He had Pluto in the 10th opposite Mars, Mercury, and Jupiter.



**Table 10. A Sampling of
Plutonian Careers**

Note: Almost any modern career involves technical or computer skills that are more related to the planet Uranus. However, because the people born in the 1960s with Pluto and Uranus conjunct in Virgo are now the largest section of the work force, at 35%, it is difficult to completely separate these two planets in making a list of careers. This abbreviated list is only meant to stimulate your thinking about the more Plutonian vocational possibilities. There are jobs at many levels of skill and training for each field.

Accountant, CPA	Financial planner	Physical therapist
Accounts receivable	Forensic pathologist	Physician's assistant
Actuary	Foundation manager	Plumber
Acupuncturist	Fund raiser	Policeman
Animal breeder	Funeral director	Psychiatrist
Archeologist	Garbage collector	Psychologist
Archivist	Grant specialist	Psychiatric aide
Bail bondsman	Gynecologist	Real estate agent
Banker	Hazardous waste tech	Recycling worker
Bill collector	Healer	Reformer
Bounty hunter	Hospice worker	Reincarnation reader
Butcher	Industrial espionage	Rejuvenation
Claims adjuster	Inspector	Renovation
Commodities broker	Insurance agent	Repo man
Conservationist	Investigator	Restoration
Credit counselor	Investigative reporter	Salvage operations
Demolitionist	IRS agent	Sex therapist
Detective	Loan officer	Shaman
Employee benefits planner	Medical research	Skip tracer
Estate planner, executor	Mortician	Spy
Exorcist	Obstetrician	Soul retrieval
Exterminator	Occupational therapist	Stock broker
Family planning counselor	Parole officer	Trust officer
Fertility specialist	Pathologist	Waste removal

These suggestions were drawn from an excellent source of detailed information about a wide variety of careers –the online, searchable version of the *Occupational Outlook Handbook* at <http://www.bls.gov/oco/>. This is an exceptional free resource for astrologers doing career counseling, as it gives a realistic view of the client's current or prospective vocation. Input the name of any type of career, and the site describes what that work entails, training required, earnings, outlook for the future, and related types of work.

From: *The Outer Planets and Inner Life*, Vol. 1
The Career of the Exceptional Soul ©2004 by Donna Cunningham, MSW

What Do Modern-Day Plutonians Do for a Living?

Careers are shifting rapidly and continually in today's world, so vocational astrology needs updating. At the beginning of the 21st Century, what lines of work might people with Pluto in the vocational houses pursue? Table 10 shows a spectrum of possibilities from the most elevated and rewarding to the most mundane, a range that includes a variety of educational backgrounds and interests.

With their keen eye for what is amiss, Plutonians often work in the healing fields. Some who have been wounded are drawn into a field where they can heal the similarly wounded or even prevent others from suffering as they have done. Therefore, they might work in child protective services, foster care supervision, or child psychiatry, or if they have been abused as an adult, in domestic violence services. In such settings, it can be difficult for them to maintain their objectivity and they may be overzealous at times, but they are strong advocates for the disempowered.

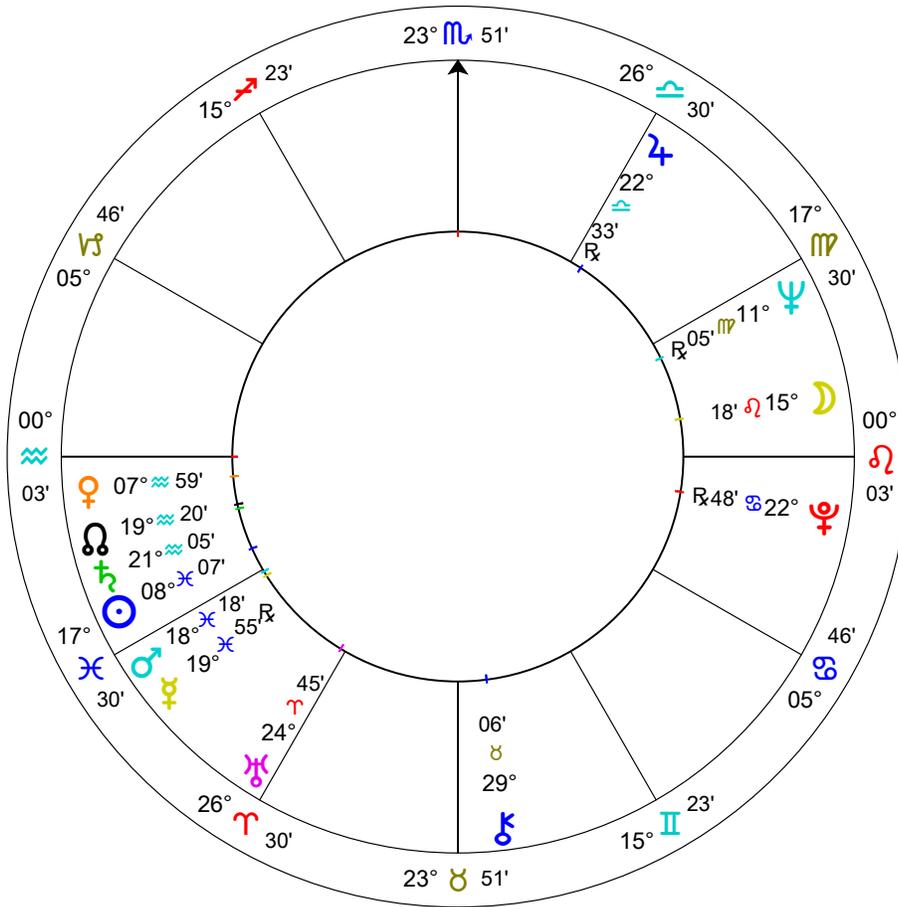
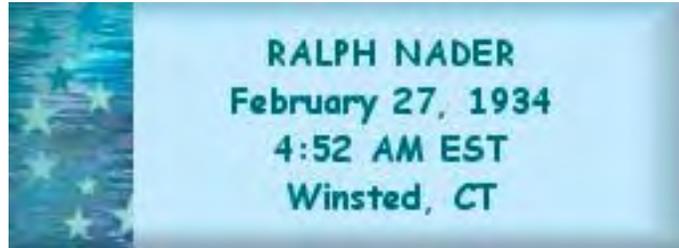
Especially when the Moon or the 7th house are also strong, they may be therapists at whatever level their education permits, from psychiatrists and social workers to suicide hotline staffers. The Pluto in Leo generation (at one point dubbed "The ME Generation") represented the heyday of individual, analytical psychotherapy, though today's lack of insurance coverage for long-term counseling now makes that approach a rarity. When the Pluto in Libra generation is old enough to become the new wave of counselors, it is likely that they will have a special gift for mediation, for tackling relationship issues, and for healing the human heart.



Those with Pluto prominent in Virgo or in the 6th house, however, are more commonly centered on physical healing—anything from surgeons, radiation technicians and fertility clinic staff to nutritionists and alternative health practitioners like body workers, acupuncturists, and herbalists. Since birth is related to Pluto, they may work with sexual and reproductive health, being found in clinics for prenatal care,

family planning, or fertility. Even if they are employed in marketing, the products or services they promote may be related to health or fitness. Though still young, those with Pluto in Libra who are obsessed with appearance may also wind up focusing on fitness, fashion makeovers, or cosmetic enhancements to the body's structure like liposuction.

The Plutonian's fascination with delving beneath the surface is an asset in counseling and healing, but it is a key to other fields as well. We find them in research, anything from medical and genetic research or psychological studies to delving into dusty archives as a historian. Often solitary types, they can tolerate the isolation these pursuits entail, and they have the focus and persistence to do them justice. Less academic people with this same keen curiosity about hidden matters might become private investigators.



The self-employed, even in retirement, may create their own businesses tracking down information others need but don't have the time or expertise to pursue—genealogy records or lost loved ones, for instance.

We are in an era when nothing is really held secret or private, so some Plutonians are involved in the growing industry of spying on everything from celebrities and political figures to the guy next door. Investigative reporters who search for the truth behind cover-ups must have a strong Pluto, perhaps aspecting Mercury. Especially when the Uranus-Pluto conjunction in Virgo is in high-focus, computers and other modern technology can play a part. The internet is a major privacy-invader—entrepreneurs spam us daily selling spy-ware, and internet professionals develop marketing profiles based on sites we surf. Not all Plutonians are noble healers and reformers!

Activist Ralph Nader, whose chart is repeated here from the chapter on Uranus as a vocational indicator, could also be considered a Plutonian, for he has Scorpio on the Midheaven trined by Pluto in the 6th. The Ralph Naders on all levels may do us a service by exposing toxic waste, occupational hazards, sexual harassment in the workplace or other modern ills. As the environment is increasingly polluted by landfills, chemical spills, and industrial wastes, new careers are developing to correct the harm. A high-focus Pluto-in-Virgo in particular may signify a lifework involved in this crucial type of cleanup operation or in developing ways to protect the environment.



Plutonians can also want to help people reform. Correction officers, policemen, parole officers, and other law officials protect us from criminals but also hopefully help some of them to start over. Repair and restoration may also interest Plutonians, so many of them make a living from restoring antiques, classic cars, old family photos or older houses. Recycling and other salvage operations may also be involved.

The field of finance is Plutonian, for Pluto has to do with wealth and power. Thus stock brokers, loan officers, financial and estate planners, tax accountants, and CPAs are Plutonian. The guys who take over when people die are Plutonians: life insurance agents, estate executors, and trust fund administrators—not to mention funeral directors. Telemarketers who convince you that you need still another \$5000 credit line are Pluto people. So are the collection agents who hound you when you've missed a payment or two, as well as the debt counselors who guide you out of the high interest credit morass. Tracking down deadbeat dads and others who skip out on financial obligations is Plutonian. Telemarketers who collect for charities are Plutonian, as are more high powered fundraisers and grant writers.

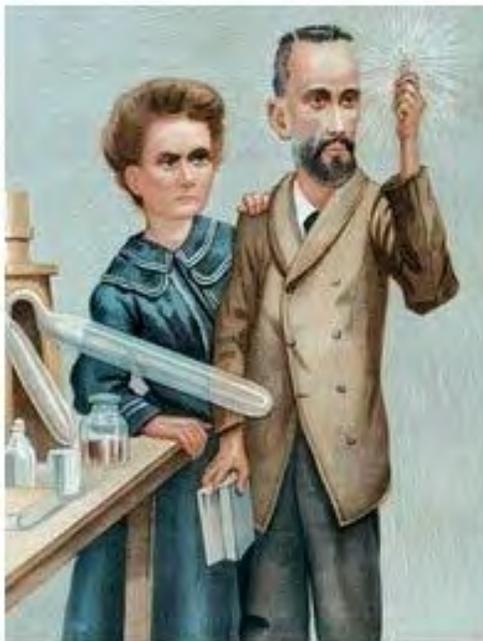
Plutonians' difficulties in the workplace may in part be due to their vocational directions—the types of jobs spelled out above are not light-weight and involve sides of life that the ordinary person would rather ignore. Some of these possibilities are uplifting; others are simply a job, but Plutonians in the less inspiring range of choices should never conclude they are stuck forever. In this time of flux, few people work in one field their

entire lives. Pluto people can have the courage and determination to upgrade their skills and education in adulthood, especially around midlife, for a career that is more rewarding. A client with Pluto in Virgo in a Grand Earth Trine grew tired of selling mainstream pharmaceuticals he could no longer believe in, so he went back to school in his mid-thirties and became an acupuncturist and Chinese herbalist.

Evolved Versus Unevolved Expressions of Pluto

Few Plutonians are born evolved, but many evolve by healing and releasing childhood traumas and persistent personality problems. The wounded ones who are not healing themselves tend to maintain a high level of toxicity in their lives. With Pluto or Scorpio prominent in the career houses, they often nurse grudges in the workplace that keep them alienated and isolated. They may display a tinge of paranoia about bosses or co-workers, feeling that they always, always wind up getting shafted at work. They can have repeated nasty meltdowns in their job history, all related to the same themes and with a tendency to escalate.

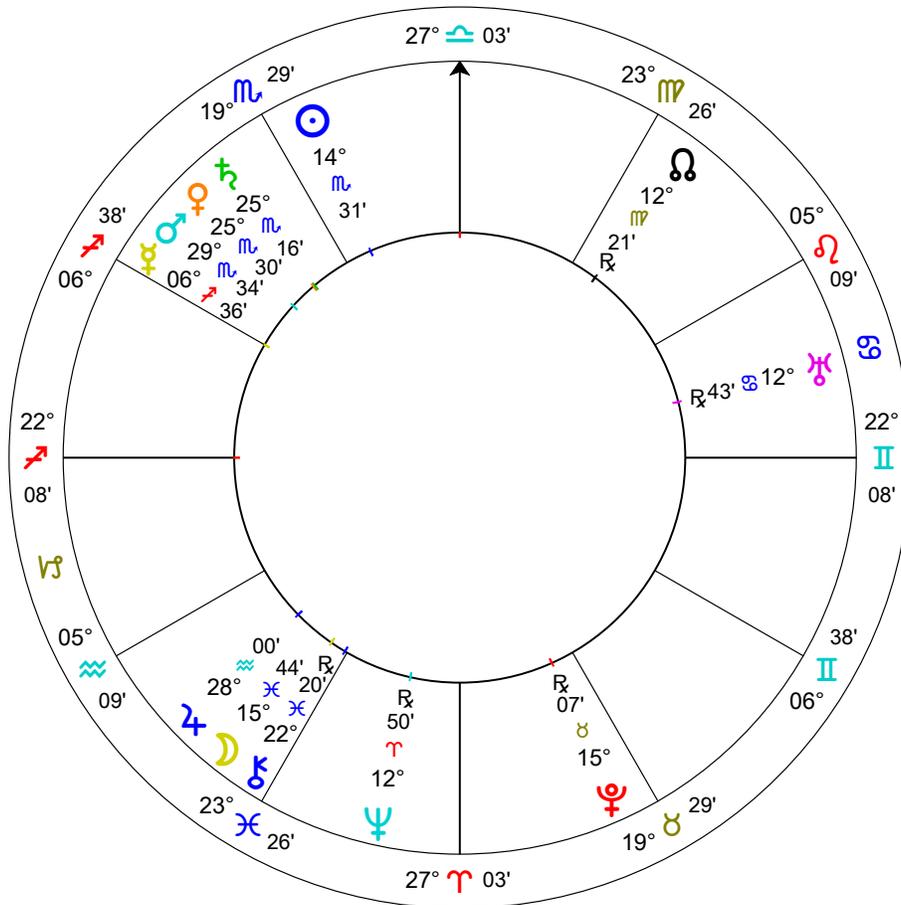
To determine whether negative career patterns are changing, look back at the most recent Pluto transits to vocational indicators or other recent transits to natal Pluto or to Scorpio career indicators. Question the person closely about what happened. Did the problem pattern repeat or even escalate? Or, did the Plutonian—as these often-insightful individuals are fully capable of doing—address the issue, take full responsibility for their part in the problem, and delve courageously into the healing process? Pluto transits are an excellent window for these individuals to transform their lives.



A rare etching of the Curies

When pursuing a path of evolution, these people are positive change-agents and transformational leaders in their fields, becoming catalysts for others to grow and be empowered. They have a strong sense of a life purpose—often one that chose them rather than vice versa—and of a kind of destiny about their life path. Early traumas and difficulties that might have crushed a weaker soul become part of their curriculum vita. They have an awesome capacity for focus and for magnetizing the resources and results they want. They are not daunted by extreme difficulties in their chosen tasks, but persevere despite huge challenges and setbacks.

When considering evolved Plutonians, I am often reminded of Marie Curie, the pioneer of science who with her husband Pierre spent years combing through tons of pitchblende to find the first few grains of radium. Her chart,



shown here, has Sun in Scorpio in the 10th opposite Pluto in Taurus in the fourth, with Mars, Saturn, and Venus also in Scorpio.² Her Scorpio Sun forms a Grand Water Trine with Uranus in Cancer in the 7th—representing her scientist husband—and with her Pisces Moon. (The Pisces Moon is a position she shares with Martin Luther King and many others who made great sacrifices for a dream of improving the world.)

Today we would find it hard to fathom Madam Curie's struggle for acceptance in her field. The scientific world was solidly male in the late 1800s and early 1900s, and she was denied admission into the French Academy of Science even after she won Nobel Peace Prizes in 1903 and 1911. Yet she did not become bitter about The Establishment, as many with Pluto in the 10th do, nor did she allow this wall of male prerogative to stop her from accomplishing what she set out to do. Her story is almost a Plutonian archetype, as her discoveries about radiation led to major advances in the diagnosis and treatment of cancer, yet she ultimately died for her cause when radiation poisoning led to terminal cancer.

What proportion of Plutonians are evolved, compared to those who are not? Who can say? The evolved ones don't need astrologers much and probably lead lives of comfortable anonymity, not splashed all over the tabloids or the weekly town paper's police beat. Furthermore, the path of evolution continues until our very final hours and probably beyond. In this chapter, I am focusing on the less desirable ways that some people express their Plutonian energies, in the hope that my 35 years of observations can shed some light on their difficulties. Keep in mind, however, that not all Plutonians have life-long career struggles, and many, like Madame Curie, contribute to our world in irreplaceable ways, as their life work tackles tough issues that impact us all.

Common Plutonian Career Scenarios

Plutonians have a magnetic power of attraction, which can be turned to either positive or negative ends. When used constructively, they have a strong capacity for manifestation—that is, they can bring things into being through their thoughts and actions. For instance, since a keyword for Pluto is **power** and a keyword for the 2nd house is **earnings**, those with Pluto in the 2nd who have healed their blockages can have great earning power. When this same magnetic power is used destructively, however, Plutonians can repeatedly draw difficult and even harrowing situations to themselves—for instance, those with Pluto or Scorpio placements in the 2nd may repeatedly become entangled with users who exploit them for money.

Where Pluto is in our charts, we may hold onto toxic resentments or grudges that infect the present. With Pluto or Scorpio in the vocational houses, such resentments can have considerable fallout in the workplace. The resentment that so often corrodes the work life of troubled Plutonians is a pre-existing condition that they bring to the job on Day One. It is a longstanding emotional habit, even sometimes an addiction—the vocational equivalent of road rage. It is a grievance waiting to happen, and if nothing is

² AstroDataBank lists Curie's data, ranked AA, from her baptismal certificate as November 7, 1867, at 12:00 PM, in Warsaw, Poland.

wrong, Plutonians will create something to brood about. Such free-floating resentment is displaced from its original targets, like parents or earlier work situations, but needs a handy target, so it is vented on the current boss or co-workers. If they heal old backlogs of resentment, current work conditions get better, too.

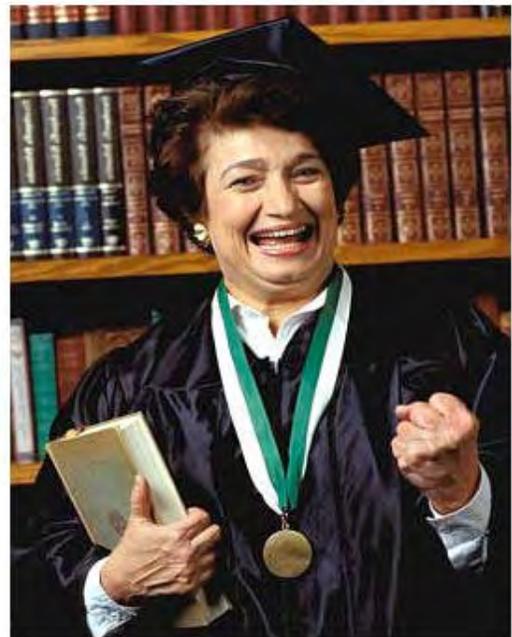
By the law of attraction, what we focus our attention on repeatedly, we draw to ourselves. If we obsess on resentments about how we were treated in the past, we attract people and situations into our lives that repeat the past and perpetuate our resentments. Unfortunately, holding onto resentments can become more important to some Plutonians than having a better life. In holding onto resentment, they hold onto things they have lost and onto a certain view of themselves as powerless over authority. To the extent that they are unwilling to release the grievances, they are likely to remain stuck repeating the toxic interactions.

As one example of how holding onto a grudge perpetuates the problem, it sometimes happens that educational barriers enter into the picture when Pluto is in the 9th house and either conjunct the Midheaven or square a 6th house planet. In such cases, the individual may nurse a longstanding grudge about not having been given the necessary education to pursue the career they desire. There is a story—with Pluto, there's always a story—but here it is about how they were **done out of their education**. Maybe their parents passed them over in favor of educating a preferred sibling, maybe wealthy relatives failed to help, or a foundation promised a scholarship and then reneged. Maybe an unwanted pregnancy derailed educational plans or a financial settlement never materialized due to a corrupt legal system.

Hard-line Plutonians may chew over their lack of credentials for the rest of their lives rather than reclaim the power to overcome educational barriers to the career they wanted. Another disadvantaged person, perhaps with Saturn in this position, might go back to school as an adult, taking night classes and working extra jobs to pay tuition. For this type of Plutonian, however, the emotional payoff of holding onto the grievance—even forty years later when everyone else involved in the situation is dead—may outweigh the benefits of self-empowerment through going back to school.

Whatever the resentment may be—educational or otherwise—it is important for Plutonians to monitor their thoughts and expectations—especially repetitive negative ones. To alter what they are attracting, they must change their mind set. They need to identify and change counter-productive thought patterns and beliefs that attract negative people and events.

Visualizations and affirmations alone seldom work with patterns this ingrained, so Pluto people can wind up feeling metaphysically incompetent. In order to stop magnetizing the same undesirable situations over and over, they would need to heal themselves of old traumas.





**Table 11: ALTERNATIVE HEALING TOOLS FOR
PLUTONIANS: TRANSFORMING THE SELF AND OTHERS**
©2004 by Donna Cunningham

The Obligatory Disclaimer: This information is not meant as a recommendation of any particular method or individual practitioner in a given case. Alternative methods are not intended to replace formal counseling or medical care when it is needed. Plutonians, turn on your innate BS detector before selecting a practitioner or method. If it doesn't feel right for you, try something else!

FLOWER ESSENCES: Also known as flower remedies, these gentle, natural healing catalysts can support people in releasing longstanding emotional blocks and finding new ways to perceive and respond to life's challenges—an excellent adjunct to other types of healing. For a large collection of articles on the subject, visit Vibration Magazine, the free online educational quarterly I co-edit with Dr. Deborah Bier. The current issue would be at: <http://www.essences.com/vibration/> Coming in 2005, my e-book, *Flower Remedies: How Plants Can Heal Us*. For information, visit <http://www.donnacunninghammsw.com>

HOMEOPATHY: High-potency homeopathic remedies act on so many interconnected levels of the mind, body, and emotions that, when correctly prescribed, they are far more deep-acting than flower essences. Because of their potency, a mistaken prescription can create many difficulties. For that reason, I strongly advise against self-selection of high-potency homeopathic remedies. For recommendation of a certified homeopath, visit The Council for Homeopathic Certification at <http://www.homeopathicdirectory.com> or the National Center for Homeopathy at <http://www.homeopathic.org>.

THE RECONNECTION: Originated and taught by Dr. Eric Pearl, this form of energy healing serves to reconnect us with parts of our minds, bodies, and spirit that closed down due to trauma or loss. It initiates a long-unfolding process of reunion with those parts of ourselves and with family, peers, and the greater community, much-needed for Plutonians who are in a state of alienation and isolation. Begin by reading Dr. Pearl's book, *The Reconnection: Heal Others, Heal Yourself* (2001, Hay House) For information on seminars in many major cities, call 1-888-ERICPEARL or visit Dr. Pearl's website at <http://www.thereconnection.com>. Practitioners trained by Dr. Pearl are listed on the site.

HEALING FROM THE BODY LEVEL UP™: A potent and fast-acting healing system developed by Dr. Judith A. Swack that integrates biomedical science, Neuro-linguistic Programming, psychology, applied kinesiology, energy psychology techniques, her own unique methods and spiritual practices. The healing begins by using kinesiology to dialogue with various parts of the mind, body, and spirit to discover root causes of deep and persistent problems. Then various healing tools are deployed to get at those roots. For information on seminars and practitioners, visit <http://www.hblu.org>

PAST LIFE REGRESSION AND THERAPY: Some hard-to-heal painful and dysfunctional patterns in career and other important areas of life stem from traumatic past life experiences. When such influences are suspected, work with a certified past life therapist may be indicated. The IARRT - International Association for Regression Research & Therapies Inc. - is a non-profit organization dedicated to increasing the acceptance and use of professional regression sessions through education, association and research. For information on their conferences and a list of practitioners they have certified, visit <http://www.iarrt.org>

HEALING FROM NEAR-DEATH EXPERIENCES: One of the ways Plutonians become Plutonian is through undergoing a near-death experience, which has been shown to have profoundly life-altering effects that are not readily understood by loved ones. The website of The International Association for Near-Death Studies at <http://www.iands.org> has a large collection of informational articles, access to books on the subject, and local support groups.

From: The Outer Planets and Inner Life, Vol. 1
The Career Path of the Exceptional Soul
©2004 by Donna Cunningham, MSW, available at <http://www.astrodatbank.com>

Table 11 describes some possible healing methods that Plutonians could investigate. They might look in any local new age newspaper or on the internet for practitioners, but should trust their own highly-developed instincts about any practitioners they find. Once Plutonians find a way to heal themselves, they do not flinch at the hard work and emotional catharsis such methods entail. Furthermore, in pursuing their own healing, their own innate healing abilities may awaken and they may discover a new vocation.

Plutonians as Targets in the Workplace

Many Plutonians who chronically experience job problems say they feel singled out for negative attention and discriminatory treatment. With Pluto in the 10th or in hard aspect to the Midheaven (conjunct, square or opposite), they can become a target of authority figures. With Pluto in 6th, they may become scapegoats of co-workers or employees; and with Pluto in the 2nd, they are sometimes singled out around their money or lack thereof or may get into murky career situations because of financial machinations.

They try changing jobs, even changing careers, and yet nothing really changes. The new boss, so promising at first, winds up treating them like the old boss and the boss before that—and, come to think of it, just like their abusive Mom or Dad did. Or, co-workers despise, revile, and gossip about them just like co-workers on the old job. When politics enter the workplace, often the case with Pluto transits to vocational indicators, the Plutonian may wind up as fall guys, blamed for whatever has gone wrong in the department. This is especially likely for Plutonians who have enmeshed themselves in office politics or maneuvered to make themselves indispensable by taking over crucial tasks.

How does someone become a target? Because of clients and friends who struggle persistently with being targets in the workplace, I have tried for years to get to the root of these situations, but they are complex, and the motives only semi-conscious. Many with these patterns wonder why they are forever entangled with fellow employees who play games when they, themselves, do not EVER play games. Right!

It is tempting to blame past lives for persistent Pluto problems, and in fact that might be a contributing factor. The house that Pluto occupies in our charts is a prime arena for resolving old power, abandonment, and betrayal karma, so in the matters of that house, we tend to link up with people we either loved or hated in other lives. A sense of instant recognition is a clue. Anyone who takes a strong dislike to us, especially at first sight, may be responding to dim memories of being our enemies in former lives.

Past lives aside, when you look closely enough, the individual contributes plenty to the situation through present-day attitudes and behaviors that set people off. The Plutonian who has been to the school of hard knocks can be bitter, negative, and cynical—traits that hardly endear them to others. Many Plutonians are intensely emotional, and they can seethe with undercurrents, easily take offense, and be secretive. These qualities can make such individuals unapproachable on the job, setting them apart and making it hard to discuss routine work conflicts in an easy, open manner. Unable to resolve differences normally, fellow employees may well wind up joining forces and going behind the person's back. Plutonians have a tendency to be loners rather than team

players, again creating barriers to workplace harmony. (Being a loner, however, equips the Plutonian to tolerate certain lines of work that by nature entail a good deal of solitude.)

There are also ways in which being a Pluto person, in and of itself, sets one up as a target. Plutonians can be gifted at seeing beneath the surface to underlying emotions, motives, and political machinations others would prefer to hide—most often from themselves. This is often an unwelcome quality to fellow workers with less than honest motives and those idealists who bury their heads in the sand—no less so when dealing with dysfunctional workplace patterns. When people who are not entirely honest sense that the Plutonian knows these hidden truths, they become uncomfortable and want to avoid connecting more than superficially. Plutonians may be denial-busters—meaning that Plutonians can feel almost compelled to uncover deceptions and to speak out against



the things that are wrong. When others around them flatly deny these perceptions, the dishonesty contributes to a sense of alienation and not being able to trust others. Not all Plutonians get into trouble for their eagle eyes—some get away with telling it like it is, for they do so with wit and even a modicum of charm. Canny Plutonians may also develop selective blindness about what is going on with fellow employees as protective coloration that helps them fit in more smoothly.

In Plutonian vocations like healing, counseling, investigative reporting, or research, this capacity to plumb the depths of the human psyche and to articulate what is going on is a great gift. This gift for psyching people out is an asset in sales or public relations as well. However, in less psychologically-oriented lines of work, office mates become uneasy when you see more about them than they want you to know.

Maybe precisely because nothing that goes on in the workplace gets past them, I have often observed that people with Pluto in the vocational houses can have an attitude of **contempt** toward others in the workplace. High-focus Pluto-in-Virgo people, in particular, may be skilled and dedicated, yet extremely critical of others who do not measure up to their exacting standards. People with Pluto in the 10th, especially in Leo, may feel derisive and resentful toward bosses. (“How does that ignorant jerk deserve that fat paycheck he’s pulling down? I’m ten times smarter than he is, and I’m doing a better job.”) With Pluto in the 6th, scorn may be reserved toward less capable co-workers, especially those on a faster career track. Plutonians are usually too smart to verbalize the contempt openly, though they’d best keep shredding those office emails! However, the unspoken contempt is still perceived and creates animosity in response.

As we will see, the pattern of being targeted did not arise in the workplace, Plutonians brought it along when they were hired. They may unconsciously set up others in the workplace to recreate dysfunctional family patterns or other traumatic losses or betrayals, and some fellow workers will be triggered to reenact similar histories of their

own. If Plutonians walk around with a chip on their shoulder, it is easy enough to find people who are eager to knock it off. Repeated experiences of being scapegoated or isolated only cement the pattern, so healing work may be required to stop it.

PLUTO OR SCORPIO IN THE 10th HOUSE

George Bush Sr., Coretta Scott King; Dalai Lama; Ted Kennedy, Harrison Ford, Shirley McLaine and Kirk Douglas; Paul Newman, Betty Ford, Christian Brando; David Berkowitz (Son of Sam); John Hinkley; American Nazi George Lincoln Rockwell

Chart positions with the potentials we are about to consider include—in order of their impact from the greatest to the least: Pluto conjunct the Midheaven from either the 10th or the 9th, Pluto in the 10th but not conjunct the Midheaven, Scorpio personal planets in the 10th, and Scorpio on the Midheaven. In addition, people with tight squares from Pluto to the Midheaven may display some of the characteristics we are exploring. (The Master of the Deal, Donald Trump has a two-degree square from his 12th house Pluto to his Taurus Midheaven.) Likewise, Pluto oppositions to the Midheaven from the 4th or the 3rd can be persistently troublesome. A career stalemate can result when these individuals become emotionally entangled with bosses. Often, the boss is unconsciously and inappropriately treated as a surrogate parent—or the employee inappropriately assumes a parental stance toward the employer, gradually subverting the employer's power.

Pluto's sign is important to consider as well. The Pluto in Leo generation can have a regal bearing and sense of entitlement that insecure bosses can find “uppity” and even threatening. When Pluto in Leo opposes an Aquarius Midheaven or 10th house Aquarian planets, the opposition can be oppositional indeed. These folks may be so resistant to being supervised that they become hard-nosed Aquarian rebels and mavericks. For instance, people with Mercury in Aquarius on the Midheaven opposite Pluto in Leo may stand out in the workplace as exceptionally bright, yet sabotage their success by communication styles that range from smart-mouthed to downright arrogant.

Aquarian types can have strong negative responses to people who try to control them, and all the more so when an Aquarian planet is opposite Pluto. They may go to such extremes in resisting being controlled that they themselves become controlling. Pluto-in-Virgo people, by contrast, can be extremely judgmental when things aren't done correctly. When it opposes a Pisces Midheaven or a 10th house Pisces planet, they can feel compelled to bring some control to the chaos they see in the workplace and to make up for what they perceive as sloppy, helpless and hopeless leadership.

Particularly with Pluto on the Midheaven, past life work may well reveal that these natives misused power in past lives and carry guilt that makes them lean over backwards not to have power in this life. Yet, the use or abuse of power is always confronting them, and they cannot duck this karmic lesson. They seem almost inevitably drawn into work situations where they must deal with wealthy, powerful people and where office politics take on a vivid intensity. Pluto-Midheaven ties in particular can catapult these folks into the public eye—not necessarily on CNN, but certainly in their own sphere. They are far from invisible, though they may often wish they were, because a high profile may lead to being singled out—a lonely and vulnerable position.

Living in a Parent's Shadow

Living in a parent's shadow has two meanings. One is that of being overshadowed by a parent, a strongly dominant figure who is prominent in the community—whether that community consists of Hollywood glitterati, Miami Beach moguls, or a local street gang. To small children, parents are omnipotent anyway, but all the more so if the community at large also acknowledges the parent as a VIP. In some such families, the parent is so successful and accomplished that the offspring feel helpless to live up to their reputation or wealth.

Some of these parents are severe disciplinarians—absolute rulers and tyrants in the household. Whether or not they are actually abusive, the child is afraid of the parent's power and is shaped by trying to avoid its sting. Domineering parents who feel impotent over the outside world may feel empowered by wielding physical or emotional power over their offspring. Typical windows for physical and sexual abuse occur when these parents have somehow lost ground in the workplace—like being laid off or passed over for a promotion—and consequently feel a lack of control.

Secondly, in the Jungian sense, these natives may also live in the parents' Shadow—meaning that they come to embody negative qualities the parent disowns. The psychological defense mechanism of *projection* occurs when someone disowns or represses their own darker impulses and instead attributes them to someone else, who is then pointed out as a bad person. These parents may be repressing—OR wildly, publicly acting out—their own sexual or moral temptations, which are then projected onto the child. In some such families, the overtly acting-out parent is That Monster, while the “good” parent controls the spouse



and children through subtle manipulations. (“You don’t want to grow up like HIM do you?”) To the “good” parent’s mystification, adult offspring may harbor as much resentment toward them as toward the “bad” parent. We may well wonder what unconscious motives drew the “good” parent to the “bad” parent in the first place, but such insights are seldom appreciated when a destructive game is afoot.

One child in the family—sometimes the one with Pluto in the 10th—may be singled out to carry the label of the Bad Girl or Bad Boy, while the rest are constrained to act like angels. With Pluto in the 10th, the projections of parents and other authority figures become part of these children’s self concept, and they may struggle throughout life with a sense of worthlessness. Low self-esteem may well be covered up with bravado, but it dominates the offspring’s life path and career potentials.

Why does the parent target the Plutonian? Often the child reminds the parent of some hated family figure or even of unwelcome parts of themselves. Sometimes the child

has special needs early on that the parent resents filling, or the child was born at a bad time in the parent's life. If an infant was born while transiting Pluto was making a hard aspect to the mother's Moon, for instance, you can suspect she was not happy about that pregnancy. The transit ends eventually, and yet the child's natal Pluto forever aspects the mother's Moon. The chart contact of the child's Pluto to the mother's Moon may then continually activate her ambivalence about nurturing the child, which she sometimes bends over backward to deny by spoiling the child.

When a child is identified with a parent's own antisocial or unacceptable impulses, these parents then scrutinize the child's every move and take extreme measures to control him or her. This process generally intensifies during the teen years, as the youngster develops sexually and has more capacity to pursue outside temptations. A child who is continually told he or she is bad may eventually be hypnotized into behaving badly in a very public and embarrassing way. ("You think I'm bad? I'll show you BAD!") A young girl, for example, who is continually accused of being promiscuous may very well wind up getting pregnant as a way of getting back at her parents. Recall what was said earlier about the *fail for spite* pattern.

A 10th HOUSE PLUTO AND PROMINENT FAMILIES: Many with Pluto in the 10th or aspecting the Midheaven have a prominent parent or grandparent who controls and dominates the family through money. AstroDataBank contained many instances of these placements in the charts of children of notable families—particularly families that we would more properly label dynasties. A case in point is Christian Brando, Marlon's troubled son, whose chart is shown here.³ The object of bitter custody battles and maternal abuse throughout childhood, he turned to drugs in his teens and was in and out of trouble for years.

His wild lifestyle culminated in his imprisonment for murdering his sister's abusive lover on May 16, 1990—"just coincidentally" at the moment when his own acting career might have taken off. What was most memorable about media coverage of the event was the way the cameras focused in on Marlon and his tumultuous emotions and even on high profile defense attorney William Kunstler, while Christian himself was virtually ignored. It's pretty bad when you can't even be star at your own murder trial!

Earlier, we used Christian's chart as an example for measuring the strength of Pluto, and we found that he had a high score of 18. His horoscope has a supposedly fortunate Grand Fire Trine with Pluto on the Midheaven trine Saturn in Sagittarius in the 2nd house and trine Mercury in Aries at the cusp of the 6th. This Grand Fire Trine shows that even positive Pluto-Saturn aspects can have drawbacks. Pluto in Leo rules his Scorpio Ascendant and is conjunct the regal fixed star Regulus, one indicator of his father's status as Hollywood royalty. If wide orbs are used, Pluto makes a fixed t-square with Chiron in Aquarius in the 3rd (wounding connected with his sister) and his Sun in Taurus in the 7th, all aspecting the Ascendant and Midheaven. Pluto, then, is the single strongest influence in his horoscope.

Besieged Plutonians can find solace in being invisible, even anonymous. When he was released from jail five years later, on January 10, 1996, Christian took on an assumed

³ According to AstroDataBase, Christian Brando's birth data, rated AA, is May 11, 1958, at 7:36 PM PDT, in Los Angeles, CA.

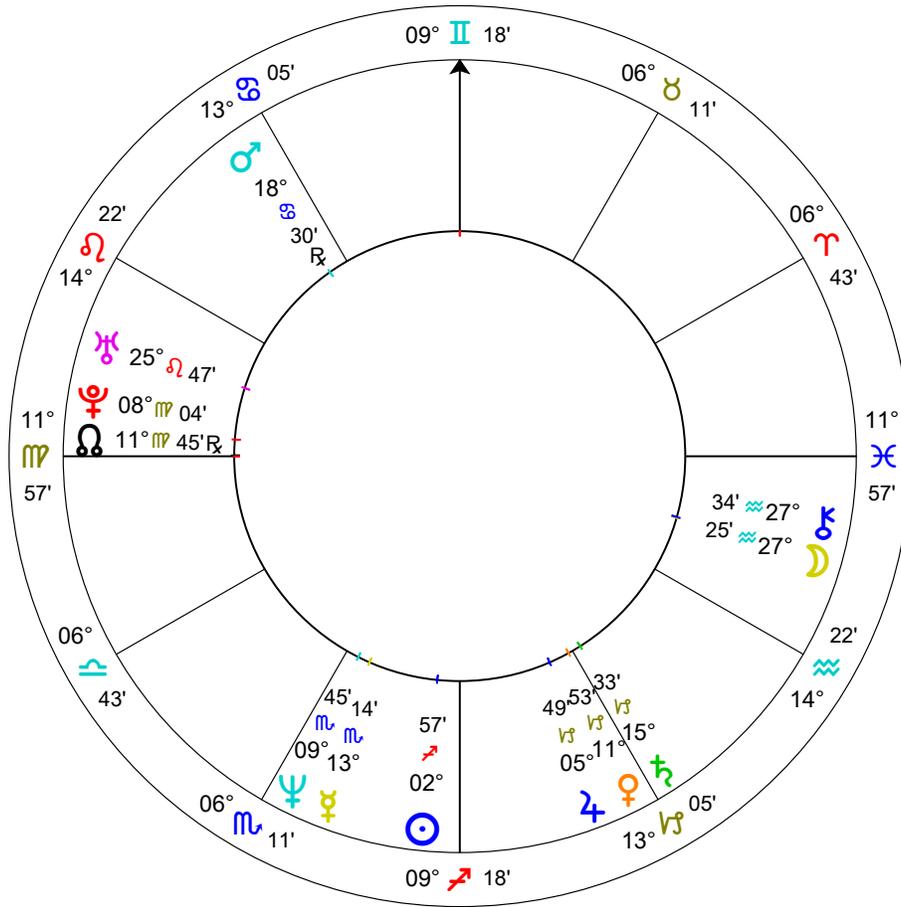
name and buried himself in a small town in the Pacific Northwest, where he worked as a welder and rambles around in a pickup truck. In the summer of 2002, when Uranus in Aquarius opposed his MH and Regulus, Christian's name surfaced once more in the headlines⁴. He was named as a suspect in the slaying of Robert Blake's wife, Bonny Lee Bakley, though it proved a red herring on the part of Blake's attorneys. In his earlier days, Christian had been among the many Hollywood figures who had been sexually involved with the woman Blake finally married. When will Christian finally get to live out his own potentials? Based on observing many people with painful Pluto patterns, I predict that when Marlon dies, about a year later Christian will finally emerge from obscurity and come into his own.

THE BOSS'S WHIPPING BOY: Why would supervisors wind up targeting the Plutonian? While politics are a workplace reality, lots of other employees manage not to get caught in the crossfire, so why this person? Again, no mystery, it's the attitude. If the person's attitude is one of resentment toward authority figures, higher-ups can't help but react. Mistrust and animosity based in early family problems come through loud and clear, whether spoken or unspoken. If employees with Pluto in the 10th have a strong sense of contempt toward bosses, supervisors pick up on that message in a minute, even when it is not verbalized. The boss can regard the individual as someone to keep an eye on, maybe someone who's out to get his job. If the person is too touchy to be supervised in an easy-going manner, management's recourse is to start building a personnel file behind the person's back.

GAME PLAYING: Repeating dysfunctional interactions with parents, the person with a difficult Pluto in the 10th can play fairly sick games with bosses and others in power. There is a game of seduction that goes on, even sometimes literally—the proverbial sleeping your way to the top. More likely the seduction is less literal, as the person gradually maneuvers to become indispensable to the boss, subtly usurping power by taking over mission-critical tasks. (Highly skilled Pluto in Virgo individuals easily become indispensable, as they are capable yet prefer to remain behind the scenes.) Emotional enmeshment can be sought as a way to win power over the boss, again repeating ways parents dealt with the person. Astute observers and—let's face it, often snoops—Plutonians make sure they know where the bodies are buried. The least evolved types with Pluto or Scorpio in the 10th can be calculating and ruthless.

THE VALLEY OF THE SHADOW OF DEATH: With these placements, especially Pluto near the Midheaven, one occasional—though not common—manifestation is the early death or desertion of a parent. Such an event casts a long shadow over the person's life, for mourning the loss can go on into adulthood, as can a strong fear of abandonment. Such events powerfully alter the family history, sometimes by reducing the family to

⁴ Details found on the internet at <http://www.blakemurdercase.com>



financial dependency on other relatives, especially a forbidding grandparent who rules with an iron fist. Career choices and potentials may get shaped around the lost parent—for instance, the individual may feel compelled to carry out the lost parent's mission in life or to carry on the family name in some high profile way.

Where the loss is not through death but desertion, the remaining parent can be consumed with bitterness that pollutes the atmosphere of the home. The child may be continually scrutinized for evidence of being like the deserter. Raised in this manner, the person may make crucial life path decisions based on identifying with or rejecting the missing parent, going to one behavioral extreme or another that bleeds over into career.

The most obvious instance in our time of the power of a lost parent is John F. Kennedy, Jr., whose chart is shown here⁵. Pluto is in high focus in his chart, closely squaring the Midheaven from the 12th house, but also conjunct the North Node and Ascendant. It widely squares the Sun, which also opposes the Midheaven. Appropriate to someone *People Magazine* named the Sexiest Man Alive, his Pluto-Ascendant conjunction trines Venus and Jupiter.

His father's tragic assassination was a major event for the collective, one none of us who loved him ever really got over. We watched over JFK Jr. as he grew up, almost as though he belonged to us, too. He spent years fumbling and meandering to find his own place in life *vis a vis* the Kennedy legend amid public and possibly family pressure to go into politics. With natal Pluto in the twelfth squaring his Midheaven, he could have been unconsciously terrified of getting into a position of power or prominence because his father and uncle were publicly assassinated when they reached their political peaks.

Just as he seemed to be truly emerging into his own, he, too, died tragically when the plane he was piloting crashed on July 16, 1999. Transiting Pluto was almost exactly square its own natal position, a segment of the midlife cycle that is especially crucial for Plutonians. Perhaps more importantly, since Pluto square Pluto happens to us all in midlife, transiting Pluto was quite close to his IC-MC axis. Do not conclude, even if Pluto makes precisely the same complex set of aspects in your chart natively and by transit that his does, that you would share his fate. Few of us live—or die—on the epic scale of the Kennedys, and thus few of us will duplicate their life paths.

There is also a propensity for those with Pluto aspecting the Midheaven or in the 10th to emerge from their tragic losses with impressive new strength, in that the death in adulthood of someone who is important to them can catalyze a major shift in life direction. We often respond powerfully to such deaths, for they wake us up to our own mortality and cause us to focus intensely on making a difference in the world. Coretta Scott King, for instance, emerged as an activist and an important personage in her own right only after Martin Luther King's assassination. She has Pluto on the Midheaven in Cancer trining her 6th house Pisces Moon.

Sometimes in more dysfunctional families, when a parent has been a negative role model and thus a career obstacle, we only shed their neuroses and psychic influence over us after they die. Mediums say that one year after death, souls make a major transition to the next level. In doing astrologically-based counseling, I have often noted that Plutonians make big turnabouts in their lives within a year after a problematic parent

⁵ AstroDataBank rates JFK Jr.'s birth information as A, from news clippings at his birth. He was born on November 25, 1960, at 12:22 AM EST in Washington, DC, 77W02; 38N53.

dies. As much mourning as there may be over the loss of the opportunity to heal the tie, the individual may also be relieved that the struggle to cope with that parent's behavior is over. Freed from the *Fail for Spite* mandate, and freed of the parent's shadow, these individuals seem more able to reclaim their own lives and take back the power the parent in question had over them. (This is why I made the prediction that Christian Brando's life would change after Marlon dies.) For people with Pluto in the 10th or aspecting the Midheaven or with Scorpio planets in the 10th, that turnaround may well mean finally having the career they wanted.

PLUTO OR SCORPIO IN THE 2nd HOUSE

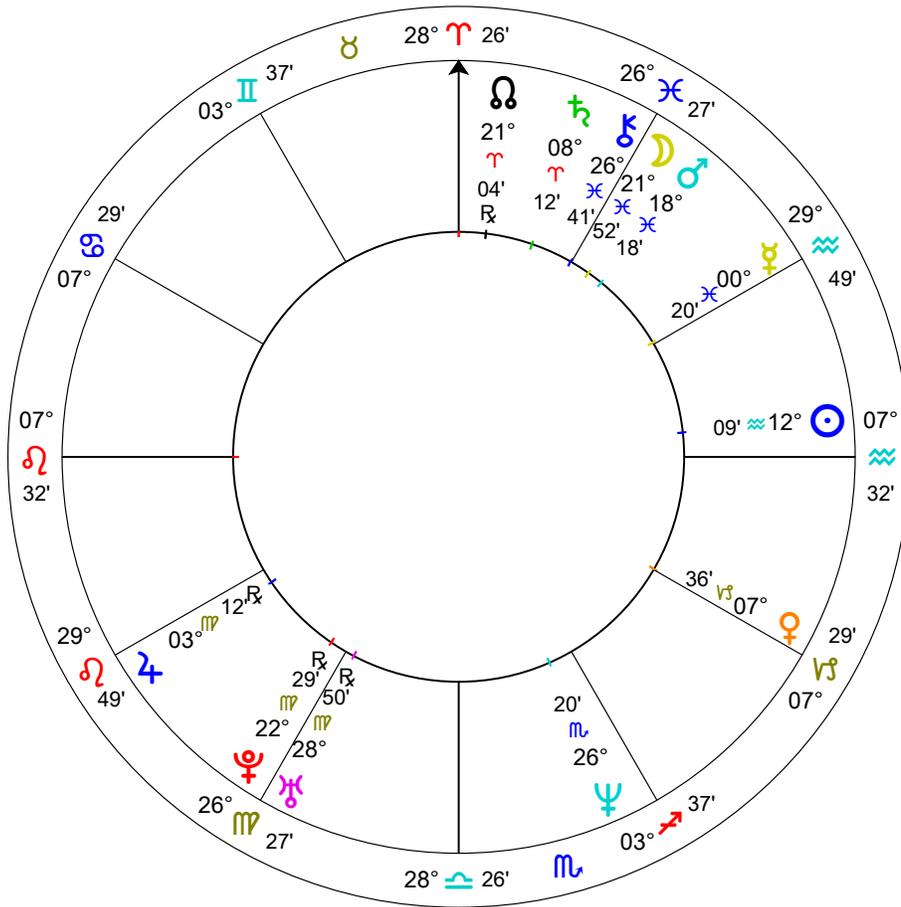
EXAMPLES FROM ASTRODATABANK: John Travolta, Wynonna Judd, Lisa Marie Presley, Gerald Ford, Peter Fonda, Patricia Nixon, Prince Andrew, Hustler publisher Larry Flynt

This group includes Pluto or Scorpio personal planets in the 2nd. Such placements denote an emphasis on shared resources in much the same way as 8th house concentrations of planets. To find out exactly whose resources are involved, look at house rulers. If the ruler of the 7th is in the 2nd, the partner's money is important, and these individuals may well marry or stay in a bad marriage partly for financial reasons. (Pluto-Venus natives may have similar dynamics.) If the ruler of the 10th or 4th is in the 2nd, family money may play a role.

Many with Pluto or Scorpio planets strong in the 2nd house suffered from painful early experiences around money that led to troublesome adult financial practices. The experiences include bad role models and dysfunctional financial dealings that the individual copies. Often, parental purse strings were used to control and bind the person. Typically, this was not open-handed generosity. No matter how financially comfortable the parent was, money was doled out begrudgingly in dribs and drabs and cost the receiver plenty in humiliation. Often, being remembered in or written out of **the will** is dangled as a way of keeping control.

Pluto-in-the-2nd natives may or may not have money depending on which role they choose to play in relationships—the Haves or the Have Nots. The Haves are typically compulsive about making money to use in controlling others, especially in close relationships. If the ruler of the 2nd is in the 7th, the native may be bankrolling the partner's enterprises or luxuries. If it is in the 5th, the native's money may be a factor in codependent relationships which bind adult children to them, yet subtly undermine the offspring's will to become independent.

One celebrity offspring with Pluto in the 2nd is Lisa Marie Presley, heiress to an immense fortune after Rock Titan Elvis Presley died when she was ten. To this day, people the world over mark anniversaries of Elvis' death, and, as potent as that loss still is to his fans, you can imagine its impact on his daughter. Richly indulged throughout her youth, Lisa's teen years were marked with drugs and other scandals. Her love life, including her one-year marriage to Michael Jackson, has been perennial tabloid fodder. For many years it seemed that she was simply famous for being famous, but she is now emerging as a singer in her own right. She brought out her first video in 2003.



Her chart is shown here.⁶ Her Uranus-Pluto conjunction in Virgo in the 2nd opposes the Moon and Mars in Pisces in the Pluto-related 8th house and also—along with Neptune in Scorpio—forms an Eye of God configuration, counting the quincunxes to her Aries Midheaven.

The Haves learned to use money to buy love—or at the very least to avoid abandonment. Such people are not usually into their work as a career or calling, but instead are motivated by money, which they equate with control. They can heavily resent what they have to do to earn it, yet can overwork compulsively because they fear abandonment if they don't have anything material to give to their partner, family, or friends. People with Pluto in Virgo (the adult children of the Baby Boomers) can especially resent having to earn money in jobs they consider menial. (We'll be taking a closer look at this generation soon.)

People playing the opposite game (the Have Nots) don't get their money act together because not doing so means some significant other has to keep rescuing them. ("See, you can't abandon me, I won't survive!") They may give away their power, becoming deliberately though unconsciously self-destructive, so they can't be expected to provide for themselves. In such cases, the person perennially messes up where money is concerned because of enmeshment in a relationship.

The *fail for spite* pattern may be very much in effect here. Chronic financial failure can be a form of revenge in which a reduced or perilous financial status is an embarrassment to the family. In order to appear more affluent—and thus more important—they may also run up huge debts on luxury items and vacations they couldn't possibly pay for and then declare bankruptcy. (That is different from running into, say, huge unforeseen medical or legal expenses that you couldn't help.)



One client with Mercury and Saturn conjunct in Scorpio in the 2nd was constantly compared to a brother several years older who was highly successful. The parents had always been openly partial to that brother. Though my client was consciously humiliated by his own intermittent unemployment, he eventually came to see that he derived great—though neurotic—satisfaction from forcing his parents—and even sometimes his unwilling sibling—to bail him repeatedly out of fiscal hot water.

Plutonians who are hooked on playing this sort of game can find it difficult to give it up for a healthier pattern of self-support. My sense, from working with long term therapy or astrology clients, is that if they are grown—e.g. in their thirties—and still receive regular financial supplements from their family, it may be quite difficult for them to change, though it can be done. There are simply too many perks for being broke.

⁶ AstroDataBank rates Lisa's data as A, based on news reports when she was born on February 1, 1968, at 5:01 PM CST in Memphis, TN.

Their benefactors' seeming gifts have a shadow side, for there can be emotional blackmail on both sides. "Givers" wield control through money and manipulate in treacherous ways to undermine the receivers and keep them dependent so they won't be able to leave the giver. "Takers" may involve themselves in increasingly self-destructive failures in order to justify their need for support. The interaction becomes more and more tainted, as the increasingly resentful and often abusive "Giver" has to keep paying the bills.

The person is not always relying on an actual, living individual but still may be doing so on a symbolic level as a form of revenge. Sometimes the parent in question is long since dead, but the native still plays out the support issue with financial institutions. For instance, they may maneuver themselves into some sort of financial assistance that they are not strictly entitled to or may concoct bogus law suits or may be hundreds of thousands of dollars in debt to the IRS. Others with Pluto or Scorpio prominent in the 2nd or with a strong eighth house may be saddling themselves with massive debts to Mommy Master Card and Daddy Visa. Under very difficult transits, these strategies can fall apart, with disastrous effects. Still, the phoenix lives to rise again from its own ashes, so this need not be a permanent state.

In years of intensive work with incest victims around the time *Healing Pluto Problems* was published, I often found a connection between a history of sexual abuse and compulsive shopping that runs up ruinous debt. Especially where the ruler of the 10th is in the eighth, incest survivors may have been seduced into the abuse by money and gifts or were given special treats to silence them. In adulthood, buying themselves presents on credit was unconsciously connected with this form of compensation—they felt entitled, especially if they were currently enmeshed in situations or relationships that evoked the childhood shame. As they tackled healing the remnants of the abuse, many of them spontaneously cleared up longstanding debt.

In my years in social work, I saw charts of many people from families who had been on welfare for generations; in my astrology practice, I saw a fair number of people who lived off trust funds. Oddly enough, though the trust fund recipients obviously lived better than the welfare recipients, their charts weren't all that different, nor—on a certain level—was their self-esteem. Either the 8th house was strong, usually involving Pluto or Scorpio planets, or those same combinations were in the 2nd house. I concluded that anticipating an inheritance has a disempowering effect, as many of these folks do not feel the need—or the ability—to succeed financially on their own efforts.

People with Pluto or Scorpio strong in the 2nd often have a deep bitterness or contempt toward those who have money, perhaps soaked up from parents who seethed with it. You sometimes see this pattern in "poor relations" of rich families or the working-class youngster who lives marginally in a wealthy suburb or goes to school on scholarship with rich kids while waiting tables. This envy and resentment, carried to toxic levels, can have destructive consequences, like going after money by unscrupulous means ("Anything for a buck!"), going deeply into debt to finance luxuries, or gambling compulsively. Many Pluto-in-the-2nd natives are prone to high-stakes dramas where money is concerned, hardball games that tend to escalate under 2nd house transits or transits to 2nd house planets. Because in today's world money is realistically so linked to power and survival, getting enmeshed in power struggles like these can result in a difficult end game.

They usually can't clear up their money problems unless they clean up their Plutonian motivations and behaviors. They often need to work on releasing resentments and their attachments to power struggles. Coming clean about their motives helps, as does getting honest, at least with themselves, about what they are getting from such games. They may also benefit from structured debt counseling and debt reduction programs, where they can avail themselves of professionals who are healthier role models for financial management than their parents. There are a variety of metaphysical and healing approaches that can help, though in my experience visualizations and affirmations for abundance do not work so long as the person is hooked on destructive games.

As difficult as this healing work can be and as hard as it can be to get solid in terms of money management, the results are well worth it in reducing the harrowing stress and emotional turmoil bad money management creates for these individuals and those close to them. Remember, the keywords for the 2nd house (**Earnings**) and for Pluto (**Power**) show that people this placement have great potential for Earning Power—they can be money magnets and do very well financially. The most evolved Pluto in the 2nd natives use the power of money in a clean way, to help transform and heal our world.

PLUTO OR SCOPIO IN THE 6th HOUSE

EXAMPLES FROM ASTRODATABANK: Lucille Ball, Sylvia Browne, Evel Knievel, Art Carney, Janis Joplin, Dionne Warwick, Richard Dreyfuss, Shaq O'Neal

The 6th house is the house of the working class, not the wealthy; the underdog or underling, not the one in control. Pluto represents power, control, and even wealth, and thus would be more natural in the 10th or 2nd than in the 6th house or in the related sign, Virgo. Pluto in the 6th may conceivably even work against the external trappings of success. In doing research with AstroDataBank, I found 240 celebrities born with Pluto in the 10th in the targeted time period, but only 160 with Pluto in the 6th, a third less.

A Pluto in the 6th house person, we might conclude, has very different values and definitions of success than someone with Pluto in the 10th house. For those with the 6th house emphasized, work for its own sake can become a strong motivation rather than recognition. Like Virgos, people with a strong 6th house can be self-effacing and work behind the scenes, yet are invaluable because of their dedicated and often skilled work. People with Pluto strong in Virgo in any of the vocational houses may find that they have patterns similar to those described here with Pluto in the 6th house. (To understand some of the career quandaries and strategies of the Pluto-in-Virgo generation, see the book excerpt that follows this chapter.)

With Pluto or Scorpio placements in the 6th, there seem to be two extremes. Some are extremely capable and skilled workers who can be work-obsessed almost to the point of ruining their health. These include very fine and dedicated healers, usually

consummate professionals. There are also extremely fine artisans and craftspeople with a stellium in Virgo, now getting involved in computer graphics as well. Or, for the sub-generation with Uranus in Virgo mixed in, there are the tekkies who design software and computer applications as well as systems analysts and tech support people.

Another, less educated and skilled group often has a serious attitude problem, hating work they consider menial and beneath themselves. They can seethe at being supervised and can engage in subtle sabotage, performing assigned tasks in a perfunctory and begrudging manner. They feel little satisfaction in work for its own sake, but consider it something they are forced to do for survival. Some with Pluto in the 6th have a decent education and set of skills, but have inflated ideas about what they should be paid and often go unemployed for long periods rather than make less money. Bringing in Pluto's eight house connections, it is not uncommon for them to be ensnared in situations where they depend on family or spouse to support them, to the growing resentment of those they depend upon.

Pluto in the 6th or in Virgo and the Work-Health Connection

The 6th is the house of work and health, and there is a profound connection between the two. First, when it is emphasized, it often attracts people to work in the health fields. In my many years as a social worker in medical settings, I found that my co-workers' charts were as likely to have strong 6th house placements as they were to have planets in Virgo. Many Pluto in the 6th or Pluto in Virgo people are very fine, detail-oriented health care workers.

However, as the Pluto-in-Virgo generation has come to be the dominant adult generation, the traditional health professions are more and more controlled by massive financial interests—insurance companies dictate medical practice, and medicine becomes big business rather than healing. Pharmaceutical companies aggressively court physicians and clinics, while also advertising in the media to influence consumers. Doctors, nurses, other mainstream health providers get less and less satisfaction from their work, and thus can focus on the money they earn, while the public becomes increasingly cynical and resentful. Consequently, a growing number of people have an interest in natural methods of healing—herbs, body work, health foods, alternative medicine—and there are more and more practitioners of alternative medicine in that age group.



The basic structure of the astrology chart reveals a deeper connection between work and health, in that they are the twin concerns of the 6th house. Many of my clients with strong 6th houses—especially during outer planet transits to their 6th house planets—begin to experience health problems when they no longer find satisfaction in their work. With Pluto in the 6th natively or by transit, those who resent work they must do to survive

may unconsciously begin sacrificing body parts as a way out of the hated job. Also, longstanding grudges can fester into toxic conditions in the body.

Today, with the Pluto in Virgo generation dominant in the work force, occupational health concerns and health hazards are rampant. In part, it is because the workplace is more and more toxic, but it is also true that for many, work is more and more sterile and dehumanized the more mechanized and automated it becomes. People resent the meaninglessness of it and the lack of job satisfaction. They may spend much of their time spaced out and only half attending to the task, consequently becoming more likely to harm themselves physically through injuries.

Thus my advice to people with Pluto or Scorpio strong in the 6th house is that employment must empower them in deeply fulfilling ways or else it is time to change their line of work. If they feel stuck in unrewarding and disempowering work, I cite the infinite capacity Pluto people display for reinventing themselves. Reread the section on what Plutonians do for a living, and you may identify a much more rewarding career goal. It may take time and effort to gain the necessary skills, but Plutonians are great survivors and can display the strength of diamonds in going after what they want.

Pluto in the Career Houses—A Good Thing or a Bad?

Most of us have scars and personality flaws to overcome, and the house Pluto is in often shows the areas of life where we have to work hardest to heal and transform ourselves. From reading the descriptions in this chapter, you may conclude that being born with Pluto or Scorpio in the career houses is a misfortune and that these placements are nothing but trouble. It is true that they can be difficult, potentially the most difficult of vocational indicators when strongly featured and with hard aspects.

Remember, however, that I have chosen to focus the less evolved expressions of Pluto in the vocational houses. This is because the more conscious these folks are of why they compulsively act in the ways they do, the more likely they are to start working to heal those behaviors. Plutonians can transform their lives in mighty ways. For those with Pluto or Scorpio planets in the vocational houses, that rebirth can come about in and through their careers.



In addition, the houses where Pluto and Scorpio are placed are areas where we each have the potential to make a positive impact on our surroundings, and for the folks we have been considering, those areas are in the challenging realm of the workplace. By finding the right work, they have the gift of spending at least eight hours a day making a

difference by correcting some of the ills of modern life. Pluto people at their best have an awesome capacity to focus on their work, to persevere despite all obstacles, and, in the process, to be catalysts for change. Many of them are unafraid—even determined—to tackle and correct difficult social issues and to delve into arenas that most of us don't even want to face. We all owe courageous individuals like these a debt of gratitude.

(Keep scrolling for a special excerpt of another book in this series.)

special preview

An excerpt From Donna Cunningham's e-book,
The Outer Planets and Inner Life, Vol. 3:
Aspects Between Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto

REVENGE IS IN THE DETAILS: WORKPLACE CHALLENGES OF THE PLUTO-URANUS IN VIRGO GENERATION AT MIDLIFE



*Note: This is a short excerpt from Donna Cunningham's **The Outer Planets and Inner Life, Vol. 3**, an e-book dedicated to exploring mutual aspects between the slower-moving outer planets. This particular chapter deals with the generation born in the 1960s with Pluto conjunct Uranus in Virgo. The full chapter includes: Clues to Pluto-Uranus aspects—key concepts; A timeline of 1960s events and social unrest; “Work Just Isn’t What It Used to Be!”; Revenge is in the details—barristas and other malcontents; Cyber-terrorists or cyber-warriors—history will judge; The Sixties generation at midlife—crisis or point of empowerment; How some Pluto-Uranus stars handled their midlife series; Safe harbors in a sea of shifting paradigms. For information about this and other e-books, inquire at <http://www.DonnaCunninghamsw.com>*

Revenge is in the Details—Workplace Challenges and Strategies of the Pluto-Uranus in Virgo Generation at Midlife⁷

People born during the tumultuous 1960s had both Pluto and Uranus in the work-oriented sign Virgo. According to the U.S. Department of Labor, in 2003 this group made up the largest percentage of the labor force (about 28%) and included an estimated 41 million workers between the ages of 32 and 44.⁸ They make a huge contribution to our lives, as a great many are capable and highly inventive, especially in fields dominated by computers and technology (Uranus).

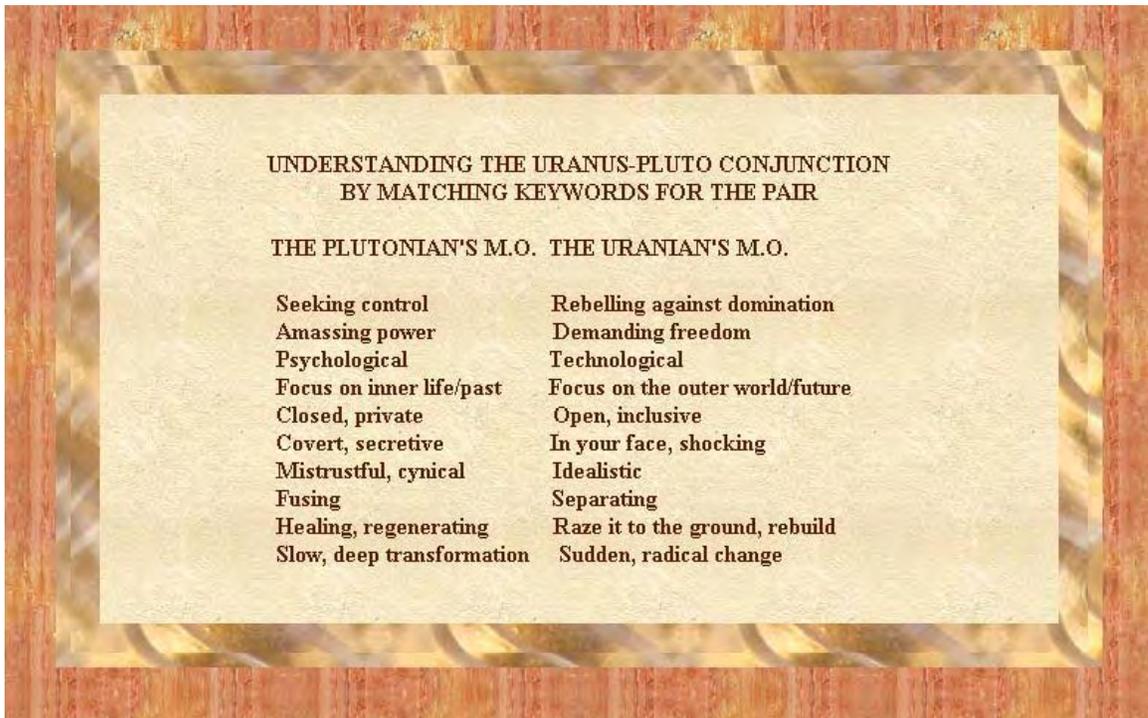
Understanding their special vocational challenges and gifts is important because the two biggest concerns clients bring to astrologers are love and work. As we will explore, many workers—from day laborers to highly skilled professionals—have experienced a long, insidious erosion of job satisfaction as more and more businesses have grown into giant conglomerates driven almost entirely by the bottom line and by greed. Pluto can represent resentment and Uranus can represent rebellion, so people with this combination emphasized can be deeply angry at a power structure that treats them as disposable commodities rather than individuals. Virgo is nothing if not subtle, so the more common forms of protest may not be recognized as such. Their on-the-job conduct may instead be viewed by employers as an attitude problem and by consumers as a generalized and lamentable decline in service.

Clues to Pluto-Uranus Aspects—Key Concepts

In analyzing an aspect, it is often useful to compare keywords or concepts for the two planets, and this technique is suggestive when combining Pluto with Uranus. What does Pluto want and how does that conflict with what Uranus wants? To contrast the two, here are some key phrases:

⁷ This is a much-expanded version of an article in August-September, 2004 issue of *The Mountain Astrologer*.

⁸ These figures estimated from data on page 2, the *Occupational Outlook Handbook*, 2000-2001 Edition, published by the United States Department of Labor, VGM Career Books, Chicago, IL. Up-to-date vocational information is available from this source through their website, <http://www.bls.gov/oco/>.



You can see how different—even opposed to one another—are the modes of these two planets, so to merge them into one person and one house of the chart is difficult. It's like trying to mix Scorpio and Aquarius, arguably the most challenging square because both signs are so very fixed and both tend to go to extremes. People with both these planets or signs strongly featured in their charts can display what psychologists call *doing and undoing*, meaning that one set of actions is so at odds with another set of actions that they wind up canceling each other out. Pluto is more often covert, while Uranus is in your face with its rebellion. Pluto can be manipulative and controlling, while Uranus will balk if you try to control it. Uranus is, "Don't tell ME what to do!!!" but Pluto combined with Uranus is, "Tell me what to do and I will GET you!"

Next, we need to add qualities and concerns of the sign Virgo to the mix. Virgo and the closely-related sixth house govern our daily work and attitudes toward it, work procedures, the work ethic, job satisfaction, the working class, occupational health issues, coworkers and employees. Not generally ambitious in a cutthroat way, Virgo is a sign that can love work for its own satisfaction—the joy inherent in a job well done. Textbook Virgos are hard-working, capable, skilled employees with high standards and a concern for doing things correctly and well. With an eagle eye for spotting what is amiss, they can be quite critical, and yet their motivation is to keep improving themselves, those around them, and the world at large. Above all, they wish to be helpful and to serve, and they can do so with great modesty and integrity. By no means does everyone born with Sun, Moon, Ascendant, or several planets in Virgo display all these qualities, but many do display them, especially when the chips are down.



For this group with Pluto and Uranus conjunct, living up to Virgo's high standards has become incredibly stressful. As we will discuss, the workplace has changed radically during the past few decades in ways that greatly diminish job satisfaction for the majority. We are seeing a widespread erosion of ethical standards for conducting business, making it extremely challenging for those with Virgo strong in their charts to express their core qualities and to find a rewarding career.

These developments may account for much of the resentment and rebelliousness of those born with the Pluto-Uranus conjunction strongly featured. Especially when there are additional aspects from planets in the mutable signs—Virgo, Pisces, Sagittarius, or Gemini—finding the right

work can be a major and recurring issue.

Not everyone born with Pluto and Uranus in Virgo would be equally affected. Most impacted would be those with aspects between both planets and their Sun, Moon, or several personal planets, in a major configuration like a T-square, or if the planetary pair were within an eight-degree range (conjunction) of the Ascendant, Midheaven, IC, or Descendant. The closer the conjunction, the stronger its effects may be. Depending on house placement, the conjunction could relate more to the personal side of life but would be most likely to signify work and career concerns if placed in the vocational houses—the second, sixth, or tenth—or aspecting the Midheaven.

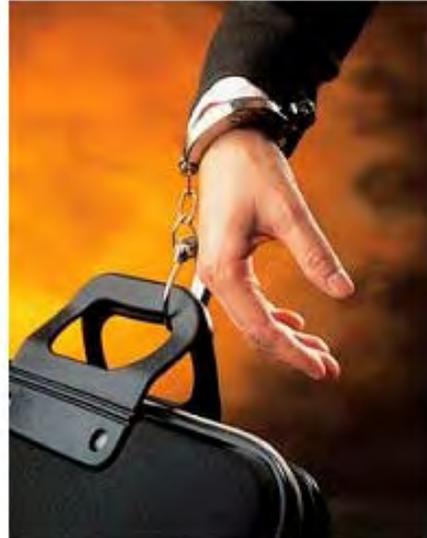
“Work Just Isn't What It Used to Be!”

There have been massive changes in the world of work during the forty plus years this generation has been around. Workplace changes accelerated during the years Capricorn—another sign related to work and career—was being transited by Uranus (1988-1996) and Neptune (1984-1998). Capricorn rules professions, career orientations, big business, the corporate sector, bosses and our attitudes toward them, the chain of command, status, and expectations and attitudes about success, including what worldly trappings are defined as success. It was a time of slow but major change in the arena of vocation, much of it fueled by computers and technology, matters related to Uranus. Computers need not be used in dehumanizing ways, but dehumanization occurred, and workers became replaceable cogs in a machine.

What developed, over time, was that the bottom line got to be God, as the power structure progressively broke any given profession or job category into small, increasingly meaningless pieces. Consider the example of health care in its many forms—one set of vocations that Virgos traditionally found rewarding. During those years, the corporate sector gradually remade health care into the Health Care Industry. These once satisfying professions grew into a bottom-line driven, for-profit system in

which insurance company clerks with little or no background in health make major decisions about the medical care we receive. As corporate greed increasingly co-opted this and other service-oriented fields, concern for patients or customers eroded at the same rate as employees' job satisfaction.

That was also the period when the Uranus-Pluto generation slowly emerged as the dominant portion of the work force. With transiting Uranus and Neptune moving through Capricorn, mundane details of our jobs changed in physically and emotionally toxic ways, with higher and higher pressure to produce and little job security. Across the job spectrum, from the highest paid professionals to the fast food industry, jobs are "dumbed down" into cost-effective steps, more like an assembly line. Companies outsource fragments of jobs in order to pay less, have parts of it done for pennies in third-world countries, hire long-term temps so they don't need to pay for benefits, and keep downsizing, assigning more and more work to fewer and fewer employees.



As job satisfaction and career possibilities diminished, people instead got hung up on more material and Capricornian goals like status, the posh car, and the stock portfolio. While those Capricorn transits are long since over, we are left with the aftermath. Huge social developments like these are nearly impossible to stop once they gain momentum, hence the powerlessness, resentment, despair, and intense stress so many working people are feeling. Consider that the Pluto-Uranus generation has two major planets in Virgo, a sign that can love work for its own satisfaction and can take pride doing their job well. Work occupies at least a third of their day, but no longer brings gratification for many in this group.

People who are seriously unhappy in their work may distance themselves from the body while on the job, becoming more prone to accidents and injuries. Many develop occupational health problems like Carpal Tunnel or sensitivity to workplace toxins. They also suffer in large numbers from stress-related illness like Chronic Fatigue Syndrome because the pressure to produce is so relentless, and employers cut them very little slack. Vulnerability to occupational health concerns is a global rather than national problem. Do you recall the news items some time ago about the large numbers of Japanese businessmen in their thirties and forties suddenly dropping dead of heart attacks because of extreme overwork? They, too, are part of the Pluto-Uranus generation.

Not everyone born with Pluto and Uranus prominent in Virgo struggles to keep food on the table. Many of them became affluent during the years that Uranus and Neptune in Capricorn trined those natal Virgo planets. Among them are a large class of technocrats with the necessary intelligence, skills, talent, education, and early advantages to earn \$50-\$100K a year and more. They drive costly SUVs, own homes worth half a million, ski in Vail, and float monthly credit card balances that would feed a third-world country. They work long hours under immense pressure to keep ahead of corporate demands and to give their children every conceivable advantage. And, yet, even these

privileged individuals can finally be affected by dehumanization and other effects of corporate greed over time—perhaps as stress-related health problems take a toll or as they come to feel the spiritual deadness of a life based mainly on material gain. They, too, can come to a turning point during midlife.

Naturally, this is not the only group to be impacted by the steady degeneration of job satisfaction. Everyone in the labor force is affected to a greater or lesser extent. However, the Boomers with Pluto in Leo were impacted later in life, including the ones who were downsized in their fifties and couldn't find employment, but at least a significant part of their careers unfolded during better times. Work wouldn't have the same meaning, either, for the Pluto in Libra generation—they have more Venusian priorities and obsessions.

However, for those with the Virgo conjunction prominent, and especially when it falls in the vocational houses, the issue of Right Livelihood is an important dimension of their collective psychology. Their sense of purpose and self-worth, their hopes and life expectations, even their destiny, are shaped by it. When they are not fulfilled in work, their joy of living is diminished. These permanent changes have taken place, also, during their thirties and forties, prime time in anyone's career. And, yes, there are still those in this group who love their work and who get up each day eager to get to their desks, but many of these fortunate individuals are self-employed in private practice or in their own businesses, not part of the corporate machine.

NOTE: This has been an excerpt from Donna Cunningham's **The Outer Planets and Inner Life, Vol. 3**, an e-book dedicated to exploring mutual aspects formed between the slower-moving outer planets.

The full chapter includes the following topics: Clues to Pluto-Uranus aspects—key concepts; A timeline of 1960s events and social unrest; “Work Just Isn't What It Used to Be!”; Revenge is in the details—barristas and other malcontents; Cyber-terrorists or cyber-warriors—history will judge; The Sixties generation at midlife—crisis or point of empowerment; How some Pluto-Uranus stars handled their midlife series; the charts of Johnny Depp and Robert Downey Jr.; Safe harbors in a sea of shifting paradigms.

For information about current and forthcoming e-books, inquire at <http://www.moonmavenpublications.com>