



Nancy

THE PART OF FORTUNE ☿

The method of calculation, as I said before in a previous instalment is to add the position of the Ascendant to the position of the ☽, and subtract the position of the ☉. It should be included in all horary charts, and shows where your treasure is, and a variety of other things.

For years I have paid no attention to it in my birth chart because its position seemed irrelevant. Unfortunately I had read that its house position indicated the department in life where your substance would increase, and this was so inappropriate in my own case that I had begun to wonder if the calculation should be reversed for a woman's chart. (As a matter of fact, Manilius and Firmicus do reverse the method of this calculation in night time charts.) Ptolemy however calculated day and night charts the same way, the way handed down to us now. In the Loeb translation of the Tetrabiblos, page 375, Book 4 section 2, Ptolemy explains that ☿ informs about material acquisition, and that it is judged by the planet that is ruler of the sign where ☿ is placed, that is, by its dispositor or dispositors. We should note the strength of such planets, their essential dignities, their aspects, their relationship to the preceding syzygy (new or full moons) especially if near the nodes and if they conjoin any important fixed star etc.

If the planets ruling ☿, (that is the dispositors either by sign or term) are strong, the native will be rich, especially if they aspect the luminaries. We are told that if the dispositor is ♃ wealth comes through buildings and agriculture and (I can hardly believe it) shipbuilding, if through ♃, through securities or trusteeship, if ♃ through fighting, if ♃ through women, if ♃ from trade or eloquence.

We are given a particular instance of ♃ as the dispositor, which is in aspect to a mutable ♃ on the M.C. aspecting the ☽, the native is adopted and inherits the possessions of others, unless opposed or overcome by unfriendly planets, in which case there is loss of possessions.

The Part of Fortune is used in other ways also, the aspects between the significators of children, or of acquaintances, to the ☿ will indicate how fond of them you will be, or how charming or fortunate they are. In synastry when both ☿ fall in the same sign this brings a secure friendship, if the positions in both charts accord, it is a friendship through need. In Roman times it was of great importance, and a statue to Fortuna was in every temple, so Nick Campion tells me. It was one of the 4 important places, preceded by the ☉, ☽, and ascendant only. By Lilly's day it was one of the 5 important places. Lilly says the Ascendant, M.C., ☉, ☽, and ☿ are called the five hylegical (or principle) places, and that direction to them will show "most of the affairs and contingencies belonging to every man and woman in the natural course of life." Lilly, in "Nativities" directs both the ☿ and its dispositor to show increase or decrease of fortune. Manilius, in his Astronomica, shows us another zodiac, starting not at ♈, but at ☿. This is called the Circle of the Athla. It has 12 houses (which he calls temples,) just as a usual chart, but their attributes are in a different sequence. I have not tried this, I have only just discovered it, and I would be interested to hear from anyone who has, or who can tell me more about ☿.

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LILLY'S LIST
TO HELP YOU EXAMINE THE STRENGTH OF ☿ IN ANY CHART

Strong and fortunate in ☽ ☿	5
☽ ☿ ☽	4
☽	3
☽ in terms of ♃ or ♃	2
In ♃ with ♃ or ♃	5
In ♃ with ♃ or ♃	4
In ♃ with ♃ or ♃ or ♃ ♃	3
Strong by house in 1st or 10th.	5
7th, 4th or 11th	4
2nd or 5th	3
9th	2
3rd	1
Fixed Stars ♃ Regulus	6
♃ Spica	5
Not Combust or under the Sun's beams	5
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Weak in ♃ ☽	-5
☽	0
♃ or aspect with ♃ or ♃	-5
♃ or aspect with ☽	-3
♃ aspect with ♃ or ♃	-4
☽ aspect with ♃ or ♃	-3
in terms of ♃ or ♃	-2
In the 12th house	-5
In 8th, or 6th house	-4
With Algol	-4
Combust	-5

This list differs from some modern information, for instance Mrs Jacobson suggests ☿ in ♃ is unfortunate, while Mr. Lilly here gives it best marks. Perhaps the evaluation of ♃ as dispositor of any planet in ♃, accounts for this discrepancy. It was Ptolemy who stressed that ☿ should be judged by the strength of its dispositor, so every chart is different. However I include this table so that you can see the sort of consideration to make, and how important ☿ is.

I now also use the Fortunes as described in "The Fortunes of Astrology" by Granite, which is the method of Al Biruni.

Lesson 4.

I emphasise that a knowledge of traditional house rulerships is essential for horary. Houses sometimes have similar properties to signs, but not always. For instance the stomach belongs to the 4th sign ♋ but to the 5th house. This may be because the solar plexus would be 5th house. However we must remember that they are not identical.

In considering houses, remember that a planet within 5° of a cusp belongs to the following house.

Confronted with some questions, it certainly can be very difficult to decide which is the relevant house. Let us say for example the army is under consideration. A young man about to join the army in peacetime might consider that it is a 6th house, employment matter, a service. A politician accessing the resources of his country might say it is an 11th house matter, for the kingdom is ruled by the 10th and resources are always contained in the following house. In the 17th century when every town had its army, the town was signified by the 4th house, and the 5th (resources) ruled ammunition and army. To a General about to lead his army on exploits, the army would be the 1st, it would be "ourselves" "we", he might ask "What shall we (the army) do?" I will give another example. If a king is shown by the 10th house (which he generally would be,) then his wife, the queen is shown by the 4th, yet in a country such as ours where we are ruled by a queen, the 10th house represents her. If she should ask the question she would be signified by the 1st house, but if her mother asked the question she would be shown by the 5th. A succedent house shows the resources of the preceding angular one.

For this reason the list of what is ruled by houses is brief, it is merely the underlying principle of house rulership that must be understood. I sometimes think your own questions work out best because only you fully realize what is implied.

In the first instalment I gave a list of conditions necessary for a chart to be valid. In addition to those, the chart should describe the situation asked about. The ascendant, the planets there, and the ruler of the ascendant should describe the questioner, the house ruling the quesited should produce a planet describing the person or matter asked about. It may not be easy at first to be sure if your chart does so describe the situation. If you ask a question, do not judge the question if a sign that is entirely alien to your nature rises.

Once you have written down your question, drawn your chart and decided it is fit to be judged it is a good idea to decide upon your main significators. When this has been done the chart begins to take on form, it begins to make sense, it no longer looks like a jumble. As I have already said, the sign on the ascendant and the planet ruling it always represent the querent (so does the ♍) so find that planet. Look at the house it is in, (refer to May Transit, ^{LESSON ONE} page 10). Each house describes a department of life. In the 6th, for example, it might describe you "in the office", "at work" or "worried about a pet" or about illness. The sign the planet is in will describe the place as an adjective would. If, for example, ♃ is on the 6th cusp the work could be hard work, the office could be a business one, the pet could be small and black, the illness might concern bones or skin or thinning hair, but whatever it is ♃ will describe it. Saturn as ruler of ♃ on the 6th must be taken into consideration, for it is the dispositor of the main significator. Remember that although ♄ is naturally a malefic it is not so if it is well placed, or if it rules fortunate houses, you must

consider its dignities, it has different values in each chart. If it has no essential dignities it can have accidental dignities. If you are not sure what I mean look at the November ^{LESSON THREE} Transit.

So when you have made your decision about the planet that represents the querent, turn your attention to the matter or person asked about, the quesited. You must decide which house your question concerns. (refer to May ^{LESSON ONE} Transit.) If you are asking about your son or daughter look at the 5th house. The ruler of the 5th symbolises your offspring. "Will I visit my daughter?" Are the rulers of the 1st and 5th approaching an aspect or separating, does another planet translate light from one significator to the other, does the moon contact them both, is there a heavier planet to which they both make aspect? Or with that most popular question, "Shall I leave my husband?" take the ruler of the 7th for his significator and the ruler of the ascendant for yours. Remember the ♁ is the natural significator of men, and so is ♂ , whereas the ♋ and ♎ are natural significators of women. Do the relevant planets draw together or separate, consider the aspects. In which house is his significator? Is it alone, or with a planet representing someone else? This can be a difficult question if the man asks the question about his wife, because the ♋ is usually the questioner as well, and so one is often not sure if the ♋ is the querent or the woman. Each case needs individual attention and study.

If you, the astrologer, ask the question the Ascendant and its ruler and the ♍ signify you.

If someone asks you, the astrologer, a question, the Ascendant and its ruler and the ♍ signify them, the questioner.

If the question is asked on behalf of someone else, consider the house that represents that person. If the question is asked on behalf of a husband or wife, turn the chart so that the 7th cusp ascends.

The chart can be turned more than once, suppose you ask a question on behalf of your husband's brother, turn it to the 7th, then to the 3rd from there, e.g. the 9th. That would do for your husband's brother, or for your partner's car. (One would hope you didn't get a question involving both of those at once.) Suppose you want to find your Mother's book, your mother is of the 10th house and her possession is the 2nd from there, e.g. the 11th. The book is symbolised by the planet ruling the sign on that cusp, it is also ruled by ♃ the natural ruler of books. The sign containing the planet that is the significator of the book will describe, as an adjective does, where it is. Suppose it is in ♍ (refer to August Transit). Virgo describes a place south from where you are, somewhere that work is carried out, low down, perhaps on the floor, it could be in a cupboard, the house position helps too, as for instance, in an angular house it is at home, but I will write a chapter on finding things later.

Next decide on the other main actors on the scene, who is the thief, if any, the buyer (1st) seller (7th) the holiday (9th) price (10th). Look at the planet ruling the sign on the cusp and at any planet in the house. Look at the dispositors, both by sign and term. Now we begin to see that one planet can represent several people or things, and that one person can be represented by several planets. It can be complicated. Of course if it is too difficult don't do it! Wait till another question may be more helpful. The beauty of such a chart as the satellite, illustrated in the last

Lesson

issue, is that it is strangely uncomplicated, there is only one main significator.

Mrs Waters gives a rule for deciding between two objects, an old car and a new one. The 3rd rules cars. Your third is your car now, and the third from the 3rd is the next one, she says. This is a very useful rule.²

Some planets are not main significators at all. Do not waste time with them, they may not be relevant to your question. If the ☽ casts no approaching aspect to them they may show something in the past which has little bearing on your answer.

A question that seems to worry some people is: "If many people ask the same question, how do you know which chart should be judged?" To this I can only give my opinion which is based on the rule that you can't ask the same question twice, that it is the first time a question is asked that it is valid. Of course most questions are domestic ones, and you know if you have asked them before, but questions such as "Who will win the general election?" seem useless to me because you do not know who the first questioner was. Others ask, "Can one chart answer more than one question?" Yes, if they are at the forefront of your mind at the same time, and you write them down. One chart will, of course answer more than one questioner, it will describe also every event that is happening in that place at that time. It will give a variety of answers according to the question and significators used.

BRINGING THE MATTER TO PERFECTION

There are various ways of reaching an affirmative conclusion, or as they used to say, of bringing the matter to perfection. You need more than one indication to produce a certain, or even probable answer, such as the significator of the querent drawing to a conjunction with the significator of the quesited without difficult intervention of a malevolent or unsympathetic planet.

If the conjunction takes place in the sign of the joy of the planet, that's a help too, for instance ♃ in ♍, ♃ in ♌, ♃ in ♍, ♃ in ♎, ♃ in ♏.

If the conjunction takes place in an angular house, and the significator involved are moving fast, and if they are strong in dignity, essential or accidental, then the matter occurs, or your affirmation occurs the sooner. If the planet symbolising the quesited is the disposer of the querent this is even better, (assuming the question was a positive one). If the conjunction takes place in a succedent house, it will take longer, if in a cadent house, longer still, *unless of course your question involves the 2nd or 8th house when this rule is reversed and angular houses take longest.* Timing is a complicated matter and I will try to write about it later.

If the conjunction takes place in the sign of the joy of the planet, that as help The Δ or * or □ also bring affirmative answers, though with difficulty if it is a □, but consider the houses from which they apply towards an aspect, whether they are fortunate or not, and if the planets involved are dignified, (see Ptolemy's Tables,) or even accidentally dignified. For a □ to bring affirmation the planets involved must have dignity.

The position and dignity of the planet is more important than the nature of the aspect. A trine of the ☽ to ♃♃ Scheat in the 8th house sank the Titanic. (A Δ indictes ease, certainly the ship sank easily.)

The ♃ is SEPARATIVE, it usually comes to nothing. If there is mutual reception by sign between rulers it may bring some result of a temporary nature that you

would regret, but even then the Moon would need to confirm, by translating light from the quesited to the ruler of the Ascendant. Never start anything at the full ☽. You can get an affirmative answer by translation of light, (described in the last issue of Transit). A lighter planet translates light from one significator to the other.

You can get it by collection (described in the last issue of Transit) when both significators aspect a heavier planet.

Sometimes the very presence of a planet in a house can give an affirmative answer. Suppose you desire a certain job. The 10th shows profession. If the ruler of the 10th is in the 1st (your personal house) it would show the job is yours—comes to you. If your significator is in the house of the matter asked about you go to it. It is yours.

If planets are in mutual reception this can also give an affirmative answer even if there is no aspect between them. It is easily accomplished and quickly. Mutual reception by house would be if your significator were in the 10th and the ruler of the 10th in the 1st. Then you would get the job. The kind of mutual reception every natal astrologer knows is reception by sign, if you want a relationship with someone and their significator is in the sign of which your significator is ruler, and vice versa, that's fine, you get it. But mutual reception can be by triplicity, as ☽ in ♀, and ♃ in ♀; or by term as ♃ in 28° ♀ and ♃ in 2° ♀; or by face as ☽ in 18° ♀ and ♃ in 25° ♀. If there is reception but a □ aspect, the answer is affirmative but with difficulty.

I have found one example chart of Lilly's where he counts as valid a mutual reception between the ☽ in the triplicity of the ☽, and the ☽ in the sign of the ☽.

Significators in mutual reception "abate all malice", he said.

In connection with the moment of the question, I would like to express my personal feelings about it, an opinion with which you may not agree. For me the moment of the question is a moment of contact with a greater intelligence. To that extent it is divine. The planetary and fixed star position then extant is an expression of that greater intelligence, it is a writing that our pea-sized brains can decipher, once we understand the code. *Learn that pattern, that state of the universe, we understand to the best of our ability the outcome of the moment. Consider the breathtaking significance of this. We are probing for the truth, we are not playing a parlour game. A religious man could pray for assistance at such a time. An astrologer may joke in public but at work he is in earnest. If not, you can know him for a charlatan. This does not mean you cannot ask about the winner of the Grand National if you do so with sincerity and in accord with that particular time. But if you ask a question at the wrong time you will get no reply. It is wonderful that your earnest curiosity for a reply will come at a right moment. William Lilly said it depends on our nearness to God, others might use a different terminology*