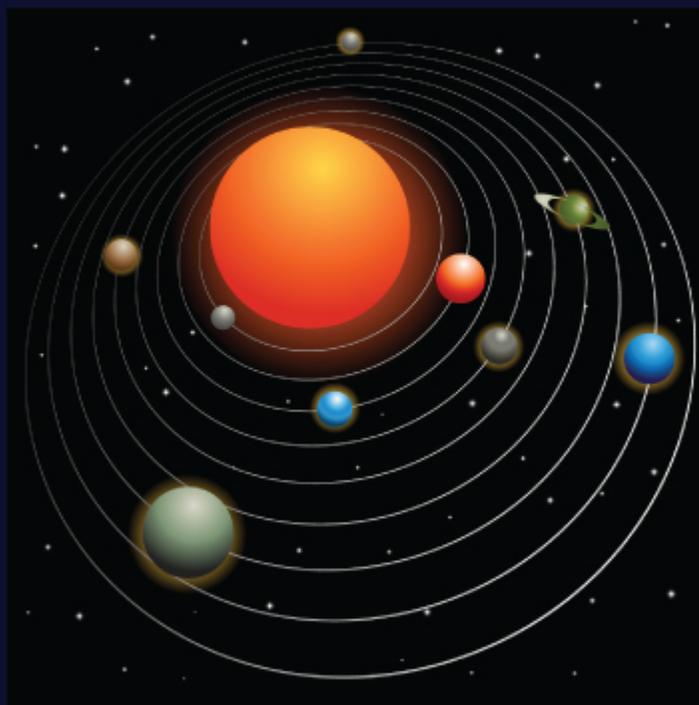


Retrograde Reader

Full-Phase Motion



by Michael Erlewine

Retrograde Reader

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An eBook from

SpiritGrooves.com

A Wide-Awake Production

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ISBN 978-0-9794970-8-7

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Graphics designed by Michael Erlewine

Cultural Astronomy

This is a bit of an essay of the general phenomenon of retrogradation in the history of astrology.

Astrology has often been called “Cultural Astronomy,” and the phrase rings true to me, in particular that accent on the second word “Astronomy.” We could rephrase that to say that astrology is the “meaning” of astronomy in the sense that astrology for the most part is based on astronomy, like the accurate positions of the planets, the lunar cycle, and all the other celestial phenomenon. Most astrologers like to be as accurate in their calculations as the astronomy will permit.

In other words, astrological interpretations are based on accurate astronomy, as just mentioned. In this sense, our astrological imagination is limited by the facts that astronomy delivers to us. In fact, most astrology has to do with the meaning or interpretation of the astronomical facts, and these astronomical facts have had centuries of time to be absorbed and interpreted by astrologers. However, this is not true in all cases, and the “retrograde phenomenon” is a good example of an astrological technique where we have not yet exhausted the astronomical framework or facts.

All planets move through the familiar zodiac in the same direction, from Aries to Taurus, and so on. However, periodically a planet will pause in this forward motion, and begin to move backward through the zodiac, against the grain of the zodiac. Such a backward-moving planet is

said to be retrograde.

Depending on the planet, a planet can be retrograde from 7% (Venus) to over 44% (Pluto) of the time.

Mean Planetary Motion Per Day

 The Sun	59'08"
 The Moon	13°10'36"
 Mercury	1°23'
 Venus	1°12'
 Mars	0°33'28"
 Jupiter	0°04'59"
 Saturn	0°12'01"
 Uranus	0°00'42"
 Neptune	0°00'24"
 Pluto	0°00'15"

In the history of astrology, retrograde planets tend to be interpreted in somewhat of a negative way, perhaps because the backward motion itself of the planet lends itself to ideas of (literally) retro, backsliding, falling behind, and so on.

Burn Rate: The Retrograde Phenomenon

Perhaps no astrological factor has more different opinions and less agreement among astrologers than the phenomenon of retrograde motion, the fact that from the earth's view all planets appear to move backward in reverse motion through the zodiac, one or more times a year. Expert's opinions range from there being no perceived effect whatsoever when a planet is retrograde, to their being a very dramatic effect. But then, even if an effect is indicated, there is a wide range of declarations as to what that effect might be.

The various interpretations are all over the board. In this book, we will examine the physical astronomy behind the retrograde phenomenon and, based on what we find, go on to discuss how this might be interpreted.

For starters, among those who do credit retrograde planets with an interpretation, it is generally agreed that when a planet is retrograde, its nature and effect is somehow retarded, delayed, or obscured. For the most part (and with a few exceptions) in the history of astrology it is not considered a good or helpful thing to have a planet retrograde.

The most well-known example of a retrograde planet and what it portends is that of Mercury. Most of us have heard things like "Don't sign that contract! Mercury is retrograde," and there is a whole astrological sub culture built up around what you should and should not do

when Mercury goes retrograde. When Mercury is retrograde, so it is claimed, communications of all kinds cannot be trusted, and may go haywire. The advice is usually "Wait until Mercury goes direct." With this sort of thing in mind, let's examine the retrograde phenomenon.

If we want to understand what most astrologers agree retrograde indicates, it would be something to the effect that when a planet is moving backward in the zodiac, it is not moving forward doing its normal thing. As obvious as that statement is, it makes sense. If we have been progressing forward in one direction or another, and then find ourselves backtracking over the same ground, we are not going forward. That seems to be the essence of the traditional interpretation of what retrograde motion is all about.

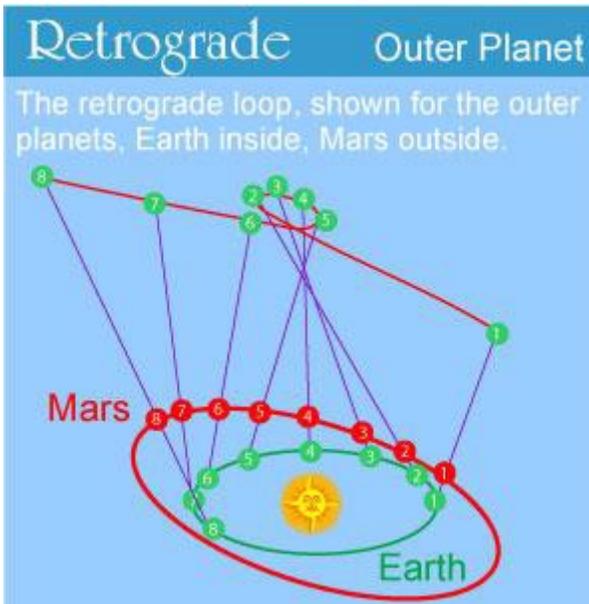
Psychometrists

Astrologers are not unlike their more psychic cousins, the psychometrists, who use various objects to get in touch with different types of information. Instead of handling some personal object belonging to the person in question, we astrologers tend to use all the available astronomical facts as a touchstone or pointer to whatever meaning we are searching for.

As mentioned, much of modern astrology is concerned with our paying close attention to the observed facts as determined by the science of astronomy and astrophysics. Perhaps early in this century astrologers were a little fuzzy as regards science, but nowadays most astrologers

are interested in learning all they can about the hard facts of deep space, the planets, and what not. My point here is that it seems that the more we understand the actual facts, the better directed we are to any inner meanings they may indicate or point to.

The real facts of any situation are the ultimate talisman or key to the meaning or directionality that may be involved. With this in mind, let us take a look at the very important phenomenon of planetary motion, in particular the fact that the planets appear to go forward and backward thru the zodiac -- the retrograde phenomenon.



Outer Planets Retrograde

First, a brief review. The planets orbit the Sun in large, almost circular, orbits. Considered from a heliocentric or Sun centered standpoint there is no retrograde or backward

motion, only the steady forward travel thru the zodiac - cycle after cycle, round after round. Retrograde or backward motion only exists from the Earth centered or geocentric perspective. This itself is a significant statement and can be interpreted.

As the earth moves thru its orbit around the Sun, the other planets at times appear to move backward (retrograde) in the zodiac much like a slower train seems to move backward when seen from within a faster moving train. Thus, the position of a planet like Mars (as seen from Earth) appears to slow down in the sky, come to a complete halt (reaches its station or stopping point), and begins to move backward, or retrograde thru the zodiac. After a time of retrograde motion, it once again comes to a halt and starts again in a direct or forward motion.

Those who want more on the astronomy behind the retrograde phenomenon can download this free book called:

“Burn Rate: The Retrograde Phenomenon”

<http://spiritgrooves.net/pdf/e-books/BurnRateBook.pdf>

This book also includes a retrograde ephemeris to make things easier. Otherwise, let's get into use this interpretive technique.

RETROGRADE READER

To use this “Retrograde Reader,” you need two birth charts and it won’t cost you any money. Just go to AstrologyLand.com and select the CHART WHEEL option in the upper middle of the page, which will take you to the Chart Wheel page.

FREE Astrological Chart Wheel Lancaster, PA, 07/18/1941 05:03:00 PM EDT +04:00

The Planets

- ♁ Earth
- ☾ Moon
- ☼ Sun
- ♿ Mercury
- ♀ Venus
- ♂ Mars
- ♃ Jupiter
- ♄ Saturn
- ♅ Uranus
- ♆ Neptune
- ♇ Pluto

The Signs

- ♈ Aries
- ♉ Taurus
- ♊ Gemini
- ♋ Cancer
- ♌ Leo
- ♍ Virgo
- ♎ Libra
- ♏ Scorpio
- ♐ Sagittarius
- ♑ Capricorn
- ♒ Aquarius
- ♓ Pisces

Personalize your Chart

Name Month Day Year

Event
 Male
 Female

Wheel Styles

Standard Unequal Euro Aries Helio

You then can enter your birth information where shown, the month, day, and year. If you have the birth

time, you can enter that too, which will make it a little more precise, but if you don't have your time of birth, just using the month, day, and year is good enough.

After you have entered your birth information, you first calculate the standard astrological natal chart by selecting the ARIES button and then the CALCULATE button. Jot down your results as I have here.

GEOCENTRIC

Sun 25° Cancer 48'

Mercury 07° Cancer 20'

Venus 19° Leo 55'

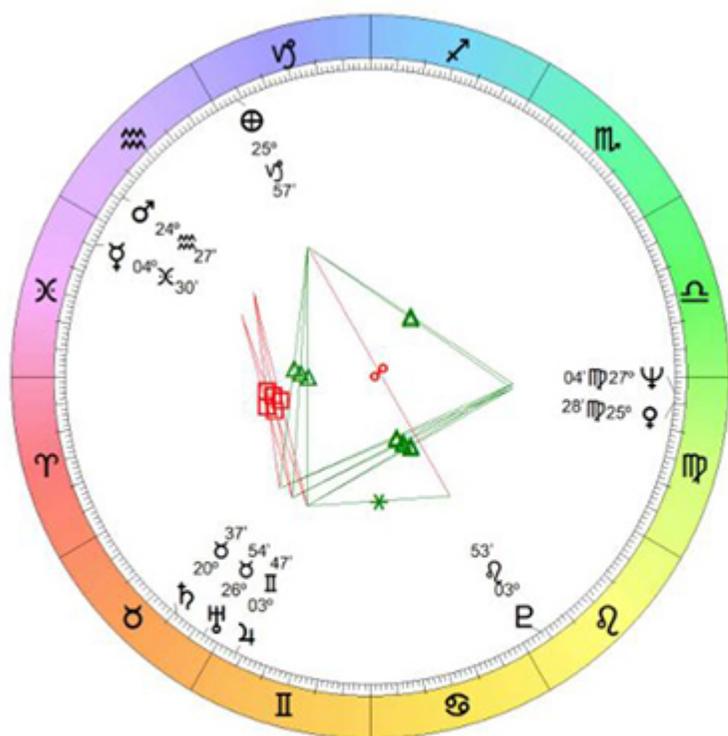
Mars 09° Aries 06'

Jupiter 11° Gemini 50'

Saturn 26° Taurus 23'

Uranus 29° Taurus 23'

Pluto 03° Leo 40'



The Planets

- ☉ Earth
- ☾ Moon
- ☉ Sun
- ☿ Mercury
- ♀ Venus
- ♂ Mars
- ♃ Jupiter
- ♄ Saturn
- ♅ Uranus
- ♆ Neptune
- ♇ Pluto

The Signs

- ♈ Aries
- ♉ Taurus
- ♊ Gemini
- ♋ Cancer
- ♌ Leo
- ♍ Virgo
- ♎ Libra
- ♏ Scorpio
- ♐ Sagittarius
- ♑ Capricorn
- ♒ Aquarius
- ♓ Pisces

[View Chart](#)

Personalize your Chart

 Name Month Day Year


Enter Timed Birth Data

- Event
- Male
- Female

Wheel Styles



Standard



Unequal



Euro



Aries



Helio



Today's Chart

Enjoy the Mini-Reports— Try a complete report at right.

StarType: The Entrepreneur



"For ideas must be made to matter." This might be the slogan for Michael Erlewine, and of this StarType, "The Entrepreneur," a type that is driven to react to any practical contact with ways to improve the situation - always bringing new ideas into the practical sphere. For one, Michael Erlewine naturally gets the big picture, just taking in any situation, and grasping the overall gist of it. This is Michael Erlewine. But coupled with this supervisor or overseeing ability is something just a little rare and that is: a constant drive to implement whatever he sees in his mind, as practical solutions in the day-to-day world. He can't rest until the ideas that he sees in the overview of his mind are implemented here on earth in a very practical way. Thus, the nickname: "The Entrepreneur" for his natural drive finds him endlessly risking all to bring something into

Then using the same data, select the HELIO button and then the CALCULATE BUTTON and jot down the results as shown here.

HELIOCENTRIC

Earth 25° Capricorn 48' (Earth is the circle with a cross in it)

Mercury 07° Cancer 20'

Venus 19° Leo 55'

Mars 09° Aries 06'

Jupiter 11° Gemini 50'

Saturn 26° Taurus 23'

Uranus 29° Taurus 23'

Pluto 03° Leo 40'

Now you are ready to find where in your chart each planet is currently in the retrograde cycle.

For Mercury and Venus, all you have to do is to look at your geocentric natal chart and find the Sun in the zodiac wheel. Then, see if Mercury is ahead of the Sun in the signs of the zodiac or behind the Sun. In my case, Mercury is behind the Sun in the zodiac. Also, NOTE if the planet is retrograde or in direct in motion.

I have no retrograde planets, but if I did there would be what looks like the symbol for the doctor's prescriptions, a capital letter "R" with a line that crosses the lower right-hand leg of the "R". That means a planet is retrograde. If that symbol is there, the planet is in Retrograde motion (going backward). If it is NOT there the planet is going in direct motion. Note it down "Direct" or "Retrograde."

And so, my planet Mercury is BEHIND the Sun in the zodiac, which I call being in the PAST from where the current Sun is. If it were AHEAD of the Sun in the ZODIAC, I label it as in the FUTURE zodiac, where the Sun has not yet gone in this yearly circle.

Mercury is in the PAST in Direct Motion.

Now, do the same thing for the Planet Venus, as we can see that my Venus is in the FUTURE because it is ahead of where the Sun is and it too is not retrograde..

Venus is in the FUTURE and also in DIRECT Motion.

That takes care of the two inner planets. Now for the rest of the planets. To do this we take each planet's position in the HELIOCENTRIC chart and note or write it down.

Then, for each planet we compare the position of that planet in the heliocentric chart with the position of the same planet in the geocentric chart to see if the geocentric planet's position is AHEAD or BEHIND (Future or Past) compared to the heliocentric position, and we come up with these results:

Mercury is PAST and DIRECT

Venus is FUTURE and DIRECT

Mars is FUTURE and DIRECT

Jupiter is FUTURE and DIRECT

Saturn is FUTURE and DIRECT

Uranus is FUTURE and DIRECT

Pluto is PAST and DIRECT

That's the hard work. You only have to do that once and write it down. Now, just scroll down through the

text and, for each planet, find the combination for your planet which you wrote down....and read it. If you find that the planet is conjunct the Sun (right on top of it), you can read that blurb or if it is near the turning point where it turns from Direct to Retrograde or from Retrograde to Direct, you can read that blurb.

Of course, if you are an astrologer, you already know all this, so you can easily look up your birth planets. And you can do it for today's date but doing the same thing with today's charts.

MERCURY

MERCURY FUTURE TURNS RETROGRADE

Don't quit your day job, because whatever plans you have been hatching, whatever pipe dreams you have in the air, and anything that you think is just about to happen probably won't, at least not right now. In fact, as you will notice in a day or two, that great pendulum in the sky has reversed itself once again and will be picking up momentum soon, but in the opposite direction from where you have been hoping and heading, so hold on to your hat.

This is not the time to start new things or even extend what you already have in the works. Take what you can, whatever is lasting that you can hold on to, and let the rest float. The tide has turned and will be going back, not forward just now. If you don't want to be disappointed, then abandon expectations and future-looking plans and ideas, and begin to trace your steps back to a more practical approach.

MERCURY FUTURE RETROGRADE

This is a time for pulling in the literary and mental horns somewhat, doing a little backtracking, and certainly getting a lot more conservative of your resources, as in "back from the future." Whatever you have building out there in your mind has gone ker-plunk and stopped moving forward. Rather, it is still moving, but now in the opposite direction to what you had planned. Bide your time and catch the next flood tide, because an ebb tide is flowing now, carrying you back toward where you came from, not where you want to go. Work with it. This affects ideas, plans, studies, and all mental goings-on

MERCURY RETROGRADE CONJUNCT SUN

Your mind is at its clearest and there is a subtle change taking place and it may take a day or two for you figure it out and get with it. It mostly has to do with how you think, your mental outlook, and any kinds of plans or whatever ideas you have going for you. This change is slow and simple, and you should be prepared for it, since things have been backing out of the future and toward the past for some time now anyway. This is a turning away from starting new things, not a time for pushing plans to happen or thinking about the future, and rather a turning to more practical, traditional, areas of your life, like whatever you already have had going for you up to now. Instead of pushing for the new, the swing will be toward looking into what you have, bolstering it, rebuilding rather than building, and shoring up a past that at least for a time will again become your present. You understand tides. This is not a flood tide to the future, but an ebb tide pulling you toward the past. Flow with it, and it will reverse itself in time.

MERCURY PAST RETROGRADE

This is a somewhat extended journey backward to the way things were rather than forward to where you might want them to be. It could be experienced as coming to your senses in a practical and responsible manner, attending to things that you have known need attention, in particular when it comes to mental plans, ideas, study, anything that involves the mind and its use. It is anything but moving forward. Instead, you are re-trenching and moving ever deeper into your own past history, perhaps ideas and plans from the past, nostalgia, memories, and the whole lot. This

would be a good time to take care of any unfinished business.

MERCURY PAST TURNS DIRECT

You may feel your mind is mired in the past just now, unable to get back or on with the present, much less see much into the future, but actually this is an excellent perspective from which to take advantage of whatever you do have going for you. This is a key point to take a cold, calculating look at whatever is occupying your mind, and you are probably as sharp and calculating as you are likely to get this round, so be shrewd and think things out. It won't get easier for that kind of mental figuring than right now, so take a hard look at things. Take advantage of this opportunity and use your mind.

MERCURY PAST DIRECT

You may feel a little behind the 8-ball just now, in particular as relates everything mental: ideas, thoughts, plans, studies, schemes, etc. And you could feel caught up in a past of your own making, struggling to get up-to-date, much less feel that you are moving on to future plans. However, this is an excellent time to take care of unfinished business, especially with the mind and all that is mental. Attend to responsibilities, tidy any mess you have made in the past, and prepare yourself to move on into the future. Things are moving forward, but you are not out of the woods yet.

MERCURY DIRECT CONJUNCT SUN

Your mind is at its clearest. This is a balancing point or time of change, but it may be subtle enough that it could take you a while to feel it out and get with it. In general, this shift affects what you think, your ideas

and plans, studies, and whatever relates to the mind and all things mental. You have closed off the past and from this point will be increasingly moving things forward. You are future bound once more, pulling yourself beyond the past and actively fashioning new ideas and plans. This should be a very positive and forward-looking time.

MERCURY FUTURE DIRECT

Things should be on the up-and-up and smoothly moving forward to wherever you have imagined you want to go, in particular as relates schemes, plans, ideas, studies, and all that relates to using the mind and mentality in general. You are ahead of the curve and probably marking out a future for whatever plans you have in mind. You could be positively entrepreneurial right now, moving head in areas where others may be quite far behind.

VENUS

VENUS FUTURE TURNS RETROGRADE

This is a turning point that affects your affection and values, if that phrase may be allowed. Not what you care about or love, but how you care about things, how you love. That is what is undergoing change here. And life can appear arbitrary enough to suddenly change directions and it takes a day or two for us to catch on that something is different.

What is different here is that where before your appreciation was ongoing or future oriented, now much of that could fade at this point, leaving you either at a loss for how you feel or grasping around for what you used to like, starting to look backward to the way you felt before.

This is not the time to appreciate, appraise, or put a value on new things or to reach out or forward. The tide of your affections has turned, and you find yourself feeling differently. This will sort itself out in a day or so, and you will probably gradually give up what you were reaching for, and begin to appreciate what you already have and are used to valuing.

VENUS FUTURE RETROGRADE

This is a time of finding more to love and enjoy in what you used to do, rather than to feel forward for new things to appreciate or value. There is definitely the sense of being happy with what you already have rather than looking for new things to come along, a turning back rather than forward.

And this is all about what you care for and how you value, love, and care for it – appreciation. Finding that you care for things as you used to rather than look outward for more or new is what is at issue here, and as each day passes, you will find yourself more content with what you have.

VENUS RETROGRADE CONJUNCT SUN

Your sense of values is clear and accurate at this time. This is a shift in affections, one that may not at first be all that apparent to you, but that will in time become known. You can feel the change, but may not know how to work with it or best take advantage of it. Before you were feeling more hopeful, perhaps expectant and forward looking with your affections, how you care about people and things. And now you will find yourself appreciating more what you have, rather than what you could or feel you should have. It is a simple change of direction from outer to a more

inward sense, a valuing of what 'is' rather than what could or should be.

VENUS PAST RETROGRADE

This could be nostalgia heaven, because your feelings will be running back to the past and not looking much toward the future. You may find yourself appreciating, caring, and loving what you already have, content with where you came from, and looking to go deeper yet into the past and history. This has to do with affections, what you really value, and the ability to assess things, to put a value on what life offers. Past is prologue to the future, and right now you are finding your future in the past.

VENUS PAST GOES DIRECT

This event marks a dramatic change in your approach to how you feel and what you feel and care about. Also, your ability to judge and assess the value of things, whether relationships, people, antiques, etc, is at its sharpest. You can see from way back all the way to up front, so decisions that you make right now relating to assessment and value probably really count. You have wisdom as well as shrewdness in these things at this time.

VENUS PAST DIRECT

Your ability to take in a situation and access it is strong now, in particular when it comes to matters of affection, relationships, but also valuation and putting a price on things, and you may find yourself working your way through the bric-a-brac of past with relish, but always with an eye to the future. You can take advantage of your own history and that of others, able to sum up what is worthwhile and discard what is of no value at this time.

VENUS DIRECT CONJUNCT SUN

Your sense of values is clear and accurate at this time. A gentle or subtle shift in your affections, one that may take a day or two to take hold and reorient yourself to, is taking place. You are shifting from being content with and loving what is, what you now have to love, to instead looking beyond that to what could be, what may be possible in relationships and, for that matter, anything else in life you value, whether people or things. You will be taking a more positive, outgoing, and aggressive approach to those things and people you care for in the immediate future.

VENUS DIRECT FUTURE

This is a time to increase your outreach and to look forward, in particular when it comes to relationships and affections in general. You probably are less content with what you have been given and more adventurous in what you might have or would like to have. And while this goes for people and feelings, the same trend will be true of anything you value and care for. You may find that you can appreciate and are willing to put a value on things that before you ignored or were unaware of. You are reaching out.

MARS

MARS FUTURE GOES RETROGRADE

Right now, a shift in how you do things, the energy and drive you have to get things done may suddenly fail and go absent, leaving you with a day or so to pick up the pieces, find the trail, and come up with some new direction. The pendulum of your interest and drive has switched polarities and is moving in the opposite direction to what it was, so no wonder it might take some time to readjust.

The sudden loss of drive means nothing other than a brief pause, and the time it takes to change your course a bit. As to the direction of the shift, it will be away from taking chances as you like them or pushing at the future, and toward a more deliberate and conservative approach, which will reveal itself with each passing day. Wait for it.

MARS FUTURE RETROGRADE

A not-so-adventurous time and approach on your part, with energy increasingly being directed toward more conservative goals and fewer risks being taken. In other words, this may be a time to minimize expenditures of energy in sketchy ventures and one to direct your attention and drive toward issues that you know to be reliable and that have in the past always produced for you. You are taking a more conservative approach and will continue to do so for some time to come.

MARS RETROGRADE CONJUNCT SUN

Your energy and drive is as clear as it gets now. A subtle shift on your part, away from taking chances and toward investing your energy in what you know will show a reliable outcome. In other words, you will find yourself increasingly doubling-down on what historically has worked, and not pushing the envelope at this time, and for quite some time to come. Conserving energy and avoiding risk is the hallmark here, and will serve to separate it from your recent less-conservative future-oriented approach.

MARS PAST RETROGRADE

This marks a continuation of your more deliberate and we could say 'conservative' approach to drive and energy use. You are investing right now in what works

and has worked in the past as opposed to what might work. Speculation is not the order of the day and risk has been replaced by a more cautious and calculated use of resources. This is not a short-term solution, but will go on for some time. You are looking for sure things, not sketchy ones.

MARS PAST GOES DIRECT

Here is a basic change in your energy and drive, a major shift away from looking only for what works and is tried and true, and the beginning of perhaps being able to be a little more adventurous, but that may be getting ahead of you. Right now, you have a lot of situations to wade through and sort out, although perhaps with new eyes and more willingness to risk and speculate. It is more an attitude change than a physical one. Your energy may be about the same, but how you direct and use it is changing from a purely conservative approach to one that is more entrepreneurial in nature.

MARS PAST DIRECT

You are sorting it all out, working through past situations, but now with an eye to the future and the possibilities that may unfold. You are losing some of your more conservative concerns of the recent past, and able to find and direct energy toward not only taking care of existing business, but you also may be considering investing time and push in future potential as well. It is still early, and much of the past needs to be sorted out, but you are looking forward now and not over your shoulder.

MARS DIRECT CONJUNCT SUN

Your energy and drive is as clear as it gets. This marks a real time of change in how you invest your

energy and time. Up until recently you have been very deliberate and careful, working behind the curve rather than pushing ahead of it, but this moment marks a change in your attitude. As the days move on, you will find it natural to drive more toward what 'can be' rather than what already is. The future possibilities of situations will receive more of your drive and interest, and you will find yourself more able to risk and take a chance.

MARS DIRECT FUTURE

This is about as entrepreneurial as you can get, a time when you may be increasingly abandoning caution and pouring your time and energy into what can be or could be, rather than just what is. Future possibilities and opportunities to get ahead may absorb more and more of your resources and drive, as you very literally take a chance on moving ahead. You are risking it.

JUPITER

JUPITER FUTURE TURNS RETROGRADE

This is a fairly obvious event, one earmarked by the tendency to lose one's direction for a few days. Whatever you have been pushing forward, whatever idea you had of getting some place and building a future can just dry up and disappear, leaving you wondering what you are doing and where it was you were trying to get to, thus: a loss of direction. This will remedy itself in a short while, but generally what happens is an about face direction-wise. Where before you were wending your way into an imagined future, now you will forget about that and find yourself becoming more cautious and conservative when it comes to career and life direction.

JUPITER FUTURE RETROGRADE

Whatever future-oriented plans and direction you had laid out for yourself have probably dried up and just faded out, leaving you more-or-less scrambling toward a more conservative path, one less risky.

Everything ebbs and flows, like waves on the ocean, and right now your sense of career and the direction it is taking is ebbing, not flowing, which simply means you may be looking for something to hang on to that is more secure and promises the kind of future that speculation can't fulfill just now. You are becoming for the time being more conservative, career-wise.

JUPITER RETROGRADE CONJUNCTS SUN

Your sense of direction is clear and true at this time. This rather subtle change suggests (at least for the short term) that you are giving up on (perhaps not abandoning) future career hopes and dreams in favor of something more secure and conservative. This marks a move on your part toward going back to the past, to what is tried, true, and has always worked as regards your career, as opposed to any kind of risk-taking speculation, a simple shift in emphasis.

JUPITER PAST RETROGRADE

This is more a time of digging in, securing yourself, and working with what you know works when it comes to career and life-path matters and decisions, as opposed to speculation on future possibilities. You are no entrepreneur just now, but should be quite content and busy, and follow a path laid out by others or one you already know from experience works for you. You are (and will be) becoming more conservative in these matters for at least a short time.

JUPITER PAST GOES DIRECT

A ray of light career-wise marks this moment, although it may take you some time to really trust and believe in it. Your career direction has been more deliberate and conservative lately, with perhaps not many future-oriented possibilities popping up.

But something at the core has changed, and even though the external situation may continue and be the same, inside you will find more reason to hope for a better future. It will take time, but each day will be more progressive as you work toward not only getting beyond your past, but future plans and opportunities will begin to form.

JUIPTER PAST DIRECT

This is “whistle while you work” time, one not so much any different than it has been, but one where career possibilities and plans are still forming. You should be able to feel it inside, even through externally not much may have manifested. Your career or life-path and direction is on the improve, and patience with sorting out your present situation will lead to greater opportunities down the road.

JUPITER DIRECT CONJUNCT SUN

Your sense of direction is clear and true at this time. Things can start to really pick up for you when it comes to career and, in general, the life-path direction you are on. Your attitude should be increasingly optimistic, and you will finally put behind you what has worked in the past and turn more toward what future possibilities may beckon. You could be breaking the mold and daring to venture into new and what look like hopeful opportunities.

JUPITER DIRECT FUTURE

The future possibilities of career moves intrigue you and may lead to a steady move away from a more conservative approach and to your actually taking some risks, speculating. It would seem you are on a roll and everything points to future opportunities working out and carrying you away to a better place than you have had up to now. Some caution may be required on your part to stay within bounds.

SATURN

SATURN FUTURE TURNS RETROGRADE

If you thought you were just getting things organized and under control, well forget-about-it, for things just changed and any attempts at getting your ducks in a row right now are not likely to work out. Instead, there may be a shift toward falling back on whatever you already have under control, rather than reaching beyond the status quo for more. This change may be gradual, but it is definitely a move from trying to control the future back on what you know works.

SATURN FUTURE RETROGRADE

This is a time when loss of control and the failure to organize something beyond your reach hold sway, and you may find yourself in retreat from anything progressive and scurrying back to the known and mastered, be it regressive, conservative, or whatever you might like to call it. In any case, the practical and historically stable is where you are headed and plans for new or greater organization are probably on hold.

SATURN RETROGRADE CONJUNCTS SUN

Your practical and organizational skills are at their clearest. This is a more subtle change, moving from trying to expand your control, and to perhaps better organize areas of your life, to trying to find a solid

base on which to stand and stabilize things. More often than not this involves a swing toward the past, toward what works or has worked, and away from anything more speculative or insecure. Security is the key here, and going against that will result in even greater instability.

SATURN PAST RETROGRADE

Working backward to move forward is what is happening here, perhaps a little retro for sure, but finding stability and thus control in what has been proven to work, in what you have done before is the issue here. Getting your feet solidly on the ground, and giving up for the time thoughts of expansion and outreach when it comes to organization or trying to control, laying down the law, etc. is in order.

SATURN PAST TURNS DIRECT

A visible change, although perhaps felt internally at first, but then carried forward and outward is at hand. The result will be greater stability, getting your feet firmly planted on the ground, and the means to move from there onward. Perhaps slow in the beginning, you should have an eye to the future, while still working in the past (which is also the present just now), moving steadily toward greater control and organization down the line. The tide has turned.

SATURN PAST DIRECT

This is not the easiest time and you may feel mired in the past or stuck in obligations, responsibilities, dues, etc. Still, what is really important is that inside, your attitude is now oriented toward the future and not the past. Inwardly you have a new freedom, the confidence that you will master all of this and move into new territory, which will include new freedoms

and greater control of your situation. You may be a bit under it now, but each day sees you getting it better under control.

SATURNS DIRECT CONJUNCT SUN

Your practical and organizational skills are at their clearest. Perhaps more of an internal change than one that is flashy and outward, this shift in emphasis marks your moving out of the past, out of whatever obligations and responsibilities you have to do, and onto a future of greater control and mastery on your part. In other words, you will be better able to handle things, to exert control over your own affairs, and direct your future than you have up to now. This is the beginning of a more future-oriented time.

SATURNS FUTURE DIRECT

A sense of space and perhaps freedom separates this time from the recent past. Instead of being at the mercy of events, controlled by laws, responsibilities, and duties brought on by the past, you can actually exercise and begin to control your own future, make your own rules and laws, and manage your own business. You can see light at the end of the tunnel. and it is much easier to work when there is hope and the light of a future to guide you. This is a positive change.

URANUS

URANUS FUTURE TURNS RETROGRADE

Your quest for freedom and perhaps greater variety in life may have just taken a hit or at least changed course. And you may have to pull in your horns a bit, back up, and bide time when it comes to pushing for independence and autonomy. Instead, you may

find yourself being just a little more retro, moving away from what you hoped for, and back into a more conventional frame of mind.

URANUS FUTURE RETROGRADE

This is a not-so-subtle shift away from an imagined independence and a quest for new freedoms on your part, back to wherever it is you came from, a more conservative or conventional state of mind. This will actually be a better refuge just now than trying to get more out on the fringe of things. Go with the flow.

URANUS RETROGRADE CONJUNCT SUN

This is a time of clear insight, so use it. The change, perhaps subtle at first, marks a shift in emphasis on your part from more independence and freedom to something perhaps just a little more ordinary or conventional. You may find the time spent in more traditional values actually stabilizing, and enjoy a rest from a quest to be different that has run its course for the moment.

URANUS PAST RETROGRADE

Any urge for independence and greater freedom must (at this time) be built on a solid foundation, one found not on the fringe of conventionality, but on the rock-solid values of your own history and past. Don't look for something different in blue-sky territory, but instead find freedom in the ordinary things you already know.

URANUS PAST TURNS DIRECT

This event marks an inner change on your part, perhaps an urge to move away from the past and traditional values and seek independence in whatever is new and future oriented. You may find yourself caught up in the past or even your own history, but also note that something inside is looking out at the future and taking steps to reach out to there.

URANUS PAST DIRECT

You have a certain light in your eyes that suggests that regardless of where you find yourself, no matter where you are perhaps stuck now, that you have an insight into being free and independent that will in time allow you to gain that freedom. There is a confidence in freeing yourself from conventional values that has taken hold and will stay by you.

URANUS PAST DIRECT CONJUNCT SUN

This is a time of clear insight, a kind of shift from within, almost like a coming-out of the past and from whatever binds or attempts to contain you. Your eye is now on the future and the freedoms and independence you can clearly see that it holds. The past, whatever has been confining, is abandoned and your reach is now outward and forward to the future in greater independence.

URANUS FUTURE DIRECT

You work toward the future and the independence and freedom you feel it holds for you. The past, and conventions hold less and less interest at this point, and you just don't want to be bound by tradition any longer. You have your mind set on breaking out of whatever confines you and simply being more free, and you are taking steps in that direction.

NEPTUNE

NEPTUNE FUTURE TURNS RETROGRADE

There is a shift in direction that may pop a balloon or two when it comes to realizing your current hopes and dreams, whatever you imagine could take place. It is not that these things won't ever happen, but they probably won't be happening just now. In fact, quite to the contrary you should be heading not for the blue-sky events, but somewhat back to the drawing board and more down-to-earth reality at this time.

NEPTUNE FUTURE RETROGRADE

Your hopes and dreams may be in fade-mode just now as life takes a turn away from what you imagine and dream it should be and toward getting more realistic and down-to-earth. This is a return from being perhaps just a little out there, somewhat too hopeful and dreamy and back to a reality based on a little more clarity and common sense.

NEPTUNE RETROGRADE CONJUNCT SUN

Here is a time with a clear sense of unity and togetherness, a not-so-subtle shift from envisioning the future based on your imagination, not to mention your hopes and dreams, back to something a little more realistic and practical, perhaps based on what you already know, your own past and experience. You are getting grounded.

NEPTUNE PAST RETROGRADE

No room for pie-in-the sky thinking or flights of the imagination just now, as you are working for a time at least in quite the opposite direction, trying to pop your dreamy balloons and tie down your hopes to reality by being more practical. You are attempting to make your dreams matter and real by not giving in to just what you imagine and thinking that might be sketchy.

NEPTUNE PAST TURNS DIRECT

Perhaps a little too grounded in the practical and the mundane and unable to do much about that at this moment, still an inner vision stirs, and you can see better how to work through this to a point where you can actually begin to make your dreams real again. This is the beginning of a more future-oriented approach.

NEPTUNE PAST DIRECT

Now you are working toward the future, a future perhaps not yet obtainable, but still in sight. You have an inner vision and growing confidence as to how you might work through the more mundane and practical parts of your life, eventually making more and more of what you imagine life should be, your dreams and hopes real.

NEPTUNE DIRECT CONJUNCT SUN

This is a time with a clear sense of unity and togetherness, but also a shift in emphasis away from letting the practical and common-sense rule all things to taking more flights of fancy and imagination. This is a time to take the blinders off as you can see better how to incorporate more of your dreams, what you have hoped for, into your day-to-day reality. You can see a more of the blue sky at the end of the tunnel.

NEPTUNE FUTURE DIRECT

At this point you just go for it, pushing aside the past and whatever is holding you down from making your dreams real. You are willing at this time to even go out on a limb, if need be, to make the spiritual and what you imagine matter more in your life. You don't care what others think or what it may look like.

PLUTO

PLUTO FUTURE TURNS RETROGRADE

Your attempt to seize control of things, get your ducks all in a row, or whatever situation you are in may start to break down and have to be abandoned for now, as the pendulum has turned and is heading the other way, away from what you might try or like to do and back toward something more practical and doable. The sage advice here is to go with the flow and bide your time until the next wave comes along

PLUTO FUTURE RETROGRADE

Having life as you ideally would like it may have to take a back seat to reality just now, the reality of not having things under your control as YOU want them, but rather giving up some control (that is not working out anyway) and returning to what is in fact doable and makes more practical sense.

PLUTO RETROGRADE CONJUNCT SUN

A clear vision of your own power (and vulnerability), but also a shift in direction or emphasis here away from what should or could work if you had more control or power, and back to what can and does work for you. The time to seize the day and exert your strength is giving way to a return to what you already know how to use, and better controlling that.

PLUTO PAST RETROGRADE

This is a time during which you are not as forward looking as you are (instead) locked in the past, using and controlling the things you already know how to use and can handle. At this point, you would be advised to control by moving backward until you

reach areas that you already know well and that are easier for you to handle.

PLUTO PAST GOES DIRECT

This is a turning point, although probably not yet outwardly so, a time when you can better see how to manage and take advantage of what you know and, although it will take time begin to move out of the past and toward a future, you now have a vision of the future that you may have not seen for awhile.

PLUTO PAST DIRECT

You are moving through what you know and can manage, probably old stuff now, but with more confidence and somewhat of a vision of what can be rather than what has to be. This should give you the patience to deal with what is at hand, what needs to be taken care of, because you can begin to see the future possibilities on the horizon.

PLUTO DIRECT CONJUNCT SUN

Here is a time with a clear vision of your own power, but also a shift from what has been to what will and can be, as you are now able to put the past behind you and see much clearer how to handle and perhaps better control the future. You are moving ahead of the game into territory that is new, but that is also promising and malleable. You take the risk.

PLUTO FUTURE DIRECT

You are running ahead of the curve, pushing toward a future where you have more control and power, and out of a past that has at times controlled you. This is risky, but you have a clear vision of the possibilities and are willing to take that risk and cast your bread upon the waters. You run ahead of the curve.

