

Three Month Transits

Astrological Report for

Tony Blair

Apr 01, 2002 - Jul 01, 2002

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...As Above... So Below

Your Chart Data

Name: Tony Blair
 Date: May 06, 1953
 Time: 06:10:00 AM GMT +00:00
 Place: Edinburgh, Scotland
 003W13'00" 55N57'00"

Planet	Sign	Position	House	House
Sun	Taurus	15°Ta25'	12th	01 23°Ge13'
Moon	Aquarius	12°Aq04'	10th	02 08°Ca32'
Mercury	Aries	26°Ar28'	12th	03 23°Ca07'
Venus	Aries	15°Ar02'	11th	04 10°Le38'
Mars	Gemini	03°Ge29'	12th	05 06°Vi50'
Jupiter	Taurus	29°Ta13'	12th	06 24°Li25'
Saturn	Libra	22°Li21'	05th	07 23°Sg13'
Uranus	Cancer	15°Ca17'	02nd	08 08°Cp32'
Neptune	Libra	21°Li54'	05th	09 23°Cp07'
Pluto	Leo	20°Le48'	04th	10 10°Aq38'
Midheaven	Aquarius	10°Aq38'	10th	11 06°Pi50'
Ascendant	Gemini	23°Ge13'	01st	12 24°Ar25'

Three Month Transit Report

Traditional astrologers "make predictions." Often they are correct. But right or wrong, "predictions" turn you into a marionette, with the planets holding your strings. And in my opinion, that is not a very inspiring description of the way the cosmos works, nor a very accurate one. You are vastly more powerful than that. You can, to a great extent, shape your own life. That at least is my belief. The future isn't crystallized. It's a wavering, quivering web of possibilities. How will they manifest? Much depends upon how you wield the magical wild card we call your freedom.

So, what's the use of astrology? In a nutshell, it can help you make better choices. The planets never give a definitive answer to the question "What will happen to me?" Instead, they ask the question. But they ask the question in a very specific way: "Given everything you are, all the bridges you've crossed, all the contracts you've signed, there are several possibilities for what you might do next..." In other words, "Here's the menu. What are you having?"

Question mark.

And the question mark is the most important part of the whole inquiry, because that's where the uncertainty -- and your freedom -- lies. But the planets do even more. They offer advice. In a sense, they recommend certain choices over others. They seem biased toward your evolution. They often suggest that you take the less familiar path, the one that moves you into richer fields of your own potentiality. The planets express this rather philosophical bias in a very concrete way. Typically, when you make a less energetic response to a planetary question, the results, while initially comfortable, rapidly turn painful. Sometimes the pain is immediate and dramatic, as in the collapse of an important relationship. Other times, it's more subtle, as in the degeneration of life into deadening boredom and ritual. Either way, sooner or later we know you made a wrong turn somewhere.

In the pages that follow, we will be exploring the coming months of your life from this planetary perspective. There are three parts to the report, and any or all of them may be included here, depending on which have been requested. First, the big questions. In the part of the report called THE INVITATION, we try to get that "mountain-top" perspective that enables us to make sense of the details. In THE MEANS, we turn our attention to some secondary factors that offer suggestions, help, and support in responding to those big questions. And finally, we'll look at the report period month-by-month, day-by-day, to get some ground-level insight into THE DETAILS. Your report may be for three, six, nine, or twelve months and may include any or all three sections just described. For this reason, and because some years in your life are astrologically more active than others, report length can vary quite a bit.

Throughout the following text, I'll be endeavoring to write in plain English, but if you're unfamiliar with the jargon of astrology, you'll encounter a few words that may require definition. A "transiting" planet, for example, refers to the actual, current position of that planet in the sky. Sometimes the transiting planets form critical geometric angles with the "natal" planets in the birthchart, triggering developmental questions in your life. These critical angles are called "aspects."

The "progressed" planets function in much the same way as the transiting planets, but we approach them a little differently. They're like a script that's been built into your birthchart. Just as we know that an oak tree will emerge from an acorn and bring forth its leaves in season, similarly each person's birthchart contains within it the seeds of certain predictable developmental stages. Progressions spell out those stages.

So sit back, open your mind, and engage your heart. It's time to consider...

The Invitation

Some years loom large in our memories decades down the road; others are blurry, easily forgotten. That universal human reality is reflected in the movements of the planets -- astrologically speaking, one year is often far more significant than another, just as in life. Most of the really important celestial factors move rather slowly; thus, it's not unusual to experience a time in which none of them have gone critical, when we can calmly keep on putting one foot after the other, on "cruise control."

Well, for you this is definitely not that kind of year. Something truly pivotal is occurring...

Tr. Saturn is Trine Moon

In effect: Apr 8, 2002 - Apr 27, 2002

Peak Date(s): Apr 18, 2002

The planet Saturn is currently casting a gray light on your circumstances -- but is it the bleak gray of sorrow or the clear, comforting gray of wisdom and digested experience? That's the choice. Saturn is classically viewed as the "bad" planet, the "Greater Malefic." Don't believe it! Used correctly, its transits can bring dignity and self-respect. Essentially, Saturn is about maturity. The part of your life that's being touched by the Saturnian energies needs to grow up...which, despite the lies we're all told, is not a process one mysteriously completes on one's twenty-first birthday. There is an area of your life where you have simply outgrown yourself, at least inwardly. The task now is to adjust your outward circumstances to reflect the maturity you've already attained psychically and invisibly. It is a material problem, not fundamentally a psychological one. To succeed, there is first a need to face reality squarely, even if it's unsavory. Then to make a hard choice...that is, to reach an emotional bottom line and not be crippled by your awareness of the ambiguities in your situation. And finally, in a spirit of commitment, persistence, and self-discipline, to claim those circumstances in your life which reflect the hard

inner work you've been doing over the last few years. That's Saturn in general. Specifically, Saturn is trine your natal Moon: Apr 18, 2002.

Currently Saturn is maneuvering through your Twelfth House, which is the last house of the cycle and often suggests endings and dissolutions. Your key to success here lies in sorting out what parts of your life and circumstances have truly run their course and are therefore ready to be released. That's hard, sometimes, since like the rest of us you're in part a creature of habit and are therefore subject to getting too attached to the familiar. Of what should you be letting go? Part of the answer lies with Saturn, as we just described it: the part of you that's ready to "die and be reborn" is tangled up with that kind of energy and attitude. But we can go further. There is also some ending and releasing going in connection with the Moon, which is being invited into development by these essential and apt conclusions -- some of which, by the way, may be forced upon you by outside events if you're slow to recognize their necessity.

Astrology is the basic "programming language" of human consciousness. That may seem like a bold claim, but it's easily tested and proven. Pick someone who imagines he or she knows nothing at all about astrology. Ask them what the Moon means. After an initially dumbfounded look, you'll probably get an answer such as, "I dunno...feelings?" Which is quite correct. The mind naturally associates the Moon with darkness, with moonlight...and therefore with ghosts and romance, magic and tears, vulnerability and exhilaration: emotions. Deep inside us all is a subjective realm. Love and hate, joy and sorrow, dwell there. So do our daydreams and our creativity. If we could "average" a person's mood over a lifetime, we'd have an excellent profile of his or her Moon. When the Moon is triggered into development by a passing transit or progression, your inner life is stimulated. You feel stirred up. Powerful currents of emotional energy, for weal or woe, are released into your psyche. The very basis of happiness for you is evolving.

In what way do those notions connect with your present circumstances? Understand that the Moon occupies the Tenth House of your natal chart, an area which refers to issues of career, status, and your public role...concerns which are currently undergoing considerable developmental pressure and change. All positive steps in terms of profession or your place in the community hold one point in common: they move you further and further in the direction of the Moon, as we just described it. Any work that will prove enduringly satisfying invokes the considerable energies of the Moon in you; any work that does not embody them will turn out to be transitory or deadening.

As we said, the aspect involved in the event we just described is the trine, which refers to a 120 degree angle between the natal planet and the moving one. Trines are traditionally viewed as positive aspects, and in fact they generally do correlate with opportunities. Additionally, their existence implies that support is available to you, if you are willing to move to claim it. And therein lies the rub with the so-called "good" aspects. They're not very dynamic. Just as pain is a more powerful motivator than contentment, the trick with trines lies in taking advantage of them before the wheel turns and their potential vanishes. With regard to the developments we described in the previous few paragraphs: a door is now open, a red carpet rolled out...but don't count on everything remaining that way forever.

What we've considered above is the underpinning of this phase of your life. It's truly elemental

material -- the stuff of which milestones are made. There's no guarantee that astrological forces of such magnitude will be activated for everyone all the time. What follows is an analysis of some slightly less portentous dimensions of your astrological picture...less portentous, but still powerful enough to qualify as part of this year's "Invitation."

Try to see what follows in the light of all that's gone before...

Tr. Neptune is Conjunct Midheaven

In effect: in progress - continuing

Peak Date(s): Apr 7, 2002; Jun 19, 2002

The planet Neptune is presently tinting and shading your biography, adding its dreamlike quality to the existential stew. Close your eyes; there's a world in there. That's Neptune, the planet of consciousness itself. Now open your eyes. There's a world out there too, and it's hard to ignore it. In fact, the outer world has become so pressing in its demands that you've partly lost contact with the inner one. But Neptune, transiting through sensitive territories for you now, is fixing that. Your inner world is so full it's brimming over, overflowing its banks into your daily life. If you resist the process, you'll find a host of Neptune problems plaguing you: losing the car keys, forgetting to pay the electric bill, having the attention span of a three-year-old on a sugar jag. But there's an alternative: trust the process. Slow down. Meditate. Let the images come. Mould opinions. Breathe in, breathe out. Why? Because your unconscious mind has a message for you. It has to do with the possibility of happiness for you over the next few years, about how old sources of joy are drying up and -- critically -- about new ones you must learn to recognize. How do you receive the message? You stop resisting. You simply let it in. That's Neptune in the broad sense. How is it effecting you specifically? Neptune is conjunct your natal Midheaven: Apr 7, 2002; Jun 19, 2002.

Currently Neptune is steering a course through your Tenth House. That's the traditional "House of Career," and any planet passing through that part of your natal chart suggests that external developmental pressures are now arising which have the effect of modifying your place in the world. Something is brewing in your profession or vocation, or in your social status -- the way you look to people who don't really know you very well. What is it? We can't say exactly, but to respond optimally to the potentials and challenges built into this event, you'll need to act according to the spirit of Neptune, as we just described it. But what's the core issue? What part of your own life is at stake? To answer that, we turn our attention to the Midheaven, which is being invited into development by these professional or social openings.

Doctor, lawyer, Indian chief -- we all play some kind of role in our community. Sometimes you're paid for it; sometimes you do it for the principle of the matter. The public "hat" you wear is symbolized by the natal midheaven. Physically, it's the highest point in your birthchart, and it corresponds to the most outward, obvious dimensions of your life: your profession, your status, your social role. When it is stimulated by a transit or a progression, you are advised of some impending evolution or revolution in your style of hat, so to speak. Much depends on the nature of the progressed or transiting planet, but certainly some adjustments must be made in your outward life to reflect more adequately those inner developments which have already taken place.

As we mentioned, the aspect involved in the event we just described is the conjunction, which refers to a precise alignment between the natal planet and the moving trigger. Thus, the process emphasizes fusion, integration, and synthesis. Of all the possible aspects, the conjunction is the most intense. The explosion rattles your outward circumstances; but it originates inside you, and puts you in the driver's seat. It is appropriate for you to claim some new level of power, of self-expression, and of autonomy. If you don't, no one will do it for you; and the opportunity will evaporate.

Tr. Neptune aligns with the Tenth House cusp

Date: Apr 7, 2002; Jun 19, 2002 - Continuing

Neptune played a part earlier in this report, but it has another trick or two up its sleeve. You may remember that this planet refers to letting down barriers and allowing the creative unconscious to speak. When handled well, it triggers a "seed time" in which new inspirations arise. If handled poorly, one tends to go off half-cocked while enamored of unrealistic ideas. So sit tight, enter trance, pay attention to your dreams and, if you're so inclined, pray or meditate. Neptune currently is conjunct your natal Tenth House cusp. The inner opening process peaks Apr 7, 2002; Jun 19, 2002.

The Tenth House -- we ruminated on this piece of astrological symbolism earlier in the report. It's up again, for Neptune has now entered it. Traditionally the "House of Career," the Tenth House actually signals any kind of change in your social status, although typically one's job is the centerpiece of the action. When stimulated, there is always a need to make some adjustments in the way you are interfacing with your larger community...in this case, to embody more of the spirit and tone of Neptune, as we just portrayed it.

Tr. Jupiter aligns with the Second House cusp

Date: Apr 14, 2002 - Continuing

The planet Jupiter is currently coloring your circumstances. Before we say exactly how, let's attempt to understand the more general significance of any Jupiter event. Essentially, this is a call to recognize an opportunity. Traditional astrologers view it more starkly -- to them, it is simply the planet of luck. And that is often the case: the toast does tend to land butter-side up when Jupiter is crossing sensitive territories. But the real, evolutionary meaning lies deeper. One key is that Jupiter is future-oriented...it is concerned with bright, unexplored possibilities. Stripped to its bones, Jupiter always asks one primary question: how have you been underestimating yourself? Its transits signal a time when new opportunities come into existence, but to seize them you must recognize that you deserve them, that you are capable of rising to them, and that old deals and compromises are finished. Trust yourself, have faith in life, and go for it: that's the spirit of Jupiter. How is it affecting you? Jupiter is conjunct your natal Second House cusp: Apr 14, 2002.

Traditionally the "House of Money," the Second House actually represents a broader territory: resources. And money is just one example of that category. The friends to whom you turn, the skills upon which you rely...all that enables you to function competently in the world falls in the domain of the Second House. And if your resources are sufficient to meet the

demands of your environment, you'll also feel the positive emotional dimension of this house: self-confidence. Of course, the other side of the coin is self-doubt, the sense of "faking it" or being an "imposter."

When the Second House is stimulated, as it certainly is now through the entry of Jupiter into it, the initial feeling is often rather frightening, not unlike the sensation of suddenly realizing that the ice upon which you are standing is beginning to crack. But don't panic! The sense of insecurity that you're experiencing is not insurmountable. To address it, though, you must first take it seriously. You are, in fact, on thin ice...but you can thicken it. How? By acquiring the actual resources that are objectively required for survival in the environment you've recently created for yourself -- and those resources are of the nature of Jupiter, as we just described it. In doing so, however, it helps to be wary of two pitfalls. The first is a massive failure of nerve, in which you cash in your chips and attempt somehow to flee back into your own past. Such a retreat is simply unnecessary, an overreaction. You have some practical problems now, but they're solvable. The second pitfall lies in viewing the emotions of self-doubt you are experiencing as a psychological or attitudinal problem. They're not! They are simply your brain's way of registering its objective assessment of a certain vulnerability in your position.

Typically, when the Second House is under developmental stimulation, you are invited to embark upon a period of building, and of solidification and consolidation. You are proving yourself to yourself; and the proof, to be convincing, must be practical and concrete. You'll work hard and harvest the rewards of your effort. In short, you need a victory.

Tr. Uranus is Square Jupiter

In effect: Apr 24, 2002 - continuing

Peak Date(s): sometime after the report period.

The planet Uranus is presently stirring the pot of your life, and that always promises a tumultuous passage, peppered with unexpected developments and encounters. Outwardly, Uranus is the wild card, bringing unpredictable and unforeseen events into the picture. Inwardly, it signals a time of accelerated individuation...that is, a time in which who you really are and what you truly want are rapidly emerging and defining themselves. A portion of what you imagined to be your identity has, in fact, little to do with you; it is a side-effect of your social training, nothing more. And, like training wheels on a kid's bike, you are now ready to dump it. This has an unsettling effect upon not only yourself, but also those around you. Often during Uranian periods there is a distinct "changing of the guard" in our social circles; old relationships end, new ones appear. Claim your right to be yourself -- that's the essence of the transiting Uranus. Whatever it touches, changes. Trust the changes! Like a hard wind blowing the sand off a buried city, they are revealing who you actually have been all along. That's Uranus in general. Specifically, Uranus is square your natal Jupiter: sometime after the report period..

Currently Uranus is navigating your Tenth House. That's the traditional "House of Career," as we've already discovered, and it tells us that something of the nature of Uranus is brewing in your profession or vocation, or in your social status. To respond optimally to the potentials and challenges built into this event, you'll need to act according to the spirit of Uranus, as we just described it. Being true to yourself is the challenge, as is generally the case in life. But your public life, with all its superficialities and practical pressures, is perhaps the hardest place in

which to live up to that ideal. To succeed here, pay special attention to Jupiter, which is being invited into development during this time of professional or public reorientation.

Hope and faith are essential to sanity. Without at least a few bright dreams and expansive goals, a person grows flat and dull...becomes a time-server. The same can be said for self-confidence: we need it. And even if such assurance sometimes crosses the line into a sprinkle of arrogance, that's less troubling and limiting than sitting around afraid to take any risks at all. There is a gambler's circuit in your psyche that understands these notions perfectly well. Astrologers call it Jupiter. When stimulated by a passing transit or progression, it encourages you to extend yourself further into your world, to bet on yourself, and to recognize emerging opportunities. Be wary at the same time that you don't settle for glitter when gold may be just around the corner.

The Twelfth House is where Jupiter lies in your natal chart, and it is currently undergoing a lot of evolutionary emphasis. It is critical that you make an effort to get in touch with the energies of Jupiter in yourself at this point. You need them, and you actually do have them available to you, but they've got a pattern of slipping away from your conscious control. Don't let it happen! Meditate on Jupiter! Draw pictures of it and tape them to the refrigerator! Do what it takes to avoid shooting yourself in the foot, which is what will happen if you let circumstances bamboozle you out of these healing, balancing energies.

When Jupiter interacts with Uranus, unanticipated opportunities arise. It's as though the Cosmos manifests as Santa Claus; gifts are given to you, often completely "out of the blue." Accept them. The psycho-spiritual theme here lies in loving yourself enough to embrace abundance, and many times the test comes and passes so quickly that success depends more upon reflexive self-confidence than upon any philosophical "position papers" about self-esteem.

The aspect connected with the astrological process we're investigating here is the square, as we have seen. The square, traditionally characterized as an unfortunate aspect, describes a geometric angle of 90 degrees between the natal planet and the moving trigger. To call squares "bad" is misleading. More accurately, they are compelling. In the area of your life we're considering, a terrific friction has arisen. It's not comfortable, but it is an extremely effective motivator. The trick in using the energy creatively lies in moving decisively -- determining precisely what you want, claiming it, and letting the rest go. A season of tough choices is upon you. Regarding the process we described in the previous paragraphs, there are costs involved in all the courses available to you...the most costly, for all concerned, being the course of indecision.

The Means

If you happen to have a cold on the day you win the lottery, will that taint your memory of the big event? Probably not. Ten years later, you will have forgotten your runny nose. Ten minutes later, more likely.

Life and memory work that way. We prioritize certain kinds of events, experiencing them more vividly and remembering them far longer than the trivial and the predictable. The details of a typical Monday morning aren't going to last as long in the memory banks as images of your moment of glory or your darkest hour.

In exactly the same way, not all astrological events have the same impact. What we have considered so far are all first-string milestones in your life. The rest of what we'll be considering is less central -- but that's not to say unimportant. What follows is a set of supplementary transits and progressions, presented chronologically. They're not quite as profound in their implications as what we've seen, but they're not without emotional and existential consequences. If what we have explored in the previous pages can be viewed as an evolutionary invitation, then, to that lofty end, what follows is....

"The Means"

As you'll see, each of these events stands as significant in its own right. But their deepest meanings lie in the way they interact with what we've considered in the pages above, enhancing and sometimes complicating the broader developmental patterns.

Cards on the table: you can skim the next several pages and, I think, learn some things about the coming months that will prove prophetic...and more importantly, helpful. But the real magic lies in putting all the pieces together, synthesizing them in your heart into an emotional whole -- just like you've done with, say, memories of a special summer long ago. No computer can do that for you.

Your own creativity, your own reflections on the material we're covering, your own translations, additions, corrections, amendments, and meditations -- these are what make the difference.

Let's continue.

Tr. Saturn is Trine Midheaven

In effect: in progress - Apr 13, 2002

Peak Date(s): Apr 3, 2002

Saturn played a role earlier in this account. Now it emerges again, in a new way. To refresh your memory, Saturn is ultimately the planet of maturity. It always places a strong emphasis upon hard work, decisive choices, and persistence. Saturn currently is trine your natal Midheaven. The energies crest Apr 3, 2002.

Currently Saturn is maneuvering through your Twelfth House. As we said earlier in the

report, this is the final house of the cycle and often suggests endings and dissolutions. A meditative, accepting attitude is best now, letting go lightly of the things that are taken from you, knowing that despite appearances what is lost now has no place in the journey to come. What is to be released? A hint lies with Saturn, as we just described it -- that part of you has completed a major phase of its work and must now "graduate" to a new level. But we can go further. There is also a need for some release in connection with the Midheaven, which is being invited into development by these vital resolutions and these necessary deaths -- some of which, by the way, may be forced upon you by circumstance if you're overdue in appreciating their necessity.

The natal Midheaven -- that, as we have seen, represents the role you play in your community. It is connected primarily to two territories: your work and your reputation.

The two factors, as we mentioned, are linked by a trine -- traditionally seen as a "good" aspect, but more accurately seen as simply enhancing or supportive. Generally speaking, with trines there is an opportunity...but to seize it, you must supply the initiative.

Tr. Uranus is Sextile Mercury

In effect: in progress - Apr 4, 2002

Peak Date(s): sometime before the report period.

Uranus came up earlier in this report. Now we encounter it again. As you may recall, this planet represents the "wild card" in life, and often correlates with unexpected events. Behind the roller-coaster ride, the real issue is your ability to claim your true individuality, even if that involves destabilizing certain aspects of your existing circumstances. Uranus currently is sextile your natal Mercury. The action peaks sometime before the report period..

Currently Uranus is navigating your Tenth House. That's the traditional "House of Career," as we've already discovered, and it tells us that something of the nature of Uranus is brewing in your profession or vocation, or in your social status. To respond optimally to the potentials and challenges built into this event, you'll need to act according to the spirit of Uranus, as we just described it. Being true to yourself is the challenge, as is generally the case in life. But your public life, with all its superficialities and practical pressures, is perhaps the hardest place in which to live up to that ideal. To succeed here, pay special attention to Mercury, which is being invited into development during this time of professional or public reorientation.

Your quickness, your alertness, your curiosity -- those are the dimensions of your life dominated by the planet Mercury. To say that Mercury represents your intelligence is quite accurate, but it's more connected to the natural style of your intelligence: not so much how smart you are as what interests you, and how your intelligence can be employed most pleasurably and efficiently. Intimately linked to such cerebral concerns is the question of your ability to communicate, since ideally there is some relationship between speech and forethought. Thus Mercury, the traditional Messenger of the Gods, is associated with both thought and conversation. When stimulated by a passing transit or progression, Mercury tends to speed up the flow of data in your life. You learn. You listen. You speak. Often events move at a hasty pace, and there's a feeling of excitement mixed with over-extension.

Your Twelfth House demanded our attention above; now we see it playing a part again, once more suggesting that the quality of your inner life is what's really at stake in the situation we're

considering. Under such a stimulus, many times the most appropriate step includes a strategic retreat...and a realization that something inside you is wise enough, spiritual enough, transcendent enough to sustain losses with impunity, even with generosity. To move positively in the present environment, renew your sense of the sacred by withdrawing and immersing yourself in the spirit of Mercury, a planet which is functioning something like an inner guide for you in this lifetime.

When Mercury couples with Uranus, the combination is exciting, innovative, and original. A real element of genius is available to you now. Not that you'll necessarily go down in history alongside Michelangelo -- but you're quite capable of breaking out of accustomed, well-trodden patterns and creating truly novel ideas. Everything depends upon your ability to doubt, to question, and to speculate.

The aspect pervading the event we've just considered is, as we observed, a sextile. Technically, that refers to a geometric angle of 60 degrees between the natal planet and the moving one. Sextiles are traditionally viewed as "good" aspects. Certainly, they're exciting. There is a mood of eagerness regarding the process we're exploring here -- and that's glorious, provided you're wary of the excessive impulsiveness that sextiles sometimes breed. In any case, the spinning wheel of circumstances can be counted on to provide some fortuitous, unexpected opportunities for you during this period. You'll have to be quick to seize them, though. They're real, but they're short-lived.

Tr. Saturn is Sextile Venus

In effect: May 5, 2002 - May 21, 2002

Peak Date(s): May 13, 2002

Saturn played a role earlier in this account. Now it emerges again, in a new way. To refresh your memory, Saturn is ultimately the planet of maturity. It always places a strong emphasis upon hard work, decisive choices, and persistence. Saturn currently is sextile your natal Venus. The energies crest May 13, 2002.

Currently Saturn is maneuvering through your Twelfth House. As we said earlier in the report, this is the final house of the cycle and often suggests endings and dissolutions. A meditative, accepting attitude is best now, letting go lightly of the things that are taken from you, knowing that despite appearances what is lost now has no place in the journey to come. What is to be released? A hint lies with Saturn, as we just described it -- that part of you has completed a major phase of its work and must now "graduate" to a new level. But we can go further. There is also a need for some release in connection with Venus, which is being invited into development by these vital resolutions and these necessary deaths -- some of which, by the way, may be forced upon you by circumstance if you're overdue in appreciating their necessity.

Venus is the goddess of love, of peace, and of the arts. In each domain, balance is the ideal. Deep in your psyche, there is a place that seeks the comfort of balance and equilibrium, whether through shared fondness with another human being, an hour's peace in the garden, or the rapture that sometimes arises as we immerse our hearts and minds in something beautiful. That inner circuit is your natal Venus. When it is stimulated, we often see experiences arising which prophesy a change in your relationships, in what gives you serenity, or in your aesthetic

experiences.

While the energies of Venus that we just described are obviously positive qualities for everyone, they play an especially personal part in your own well-being, looming larger and larger in your life as you mature. That's because Venus lies in your natal Eleventh House, which pertains to your future, to your healthiest priorities, and to your most sustainable long-term strategies, all of which are well-described by that planet. Under the current stimulation of Venus, an evolution in your goals is occurring, rendering some old dreams obsolete or complete as new, sometimes unexpected desires and values begin to make themselves felt. It is a season of re-orientation.

When Venus collides with Saturn, a season of vows and boundaries in your intimate life is upon you. It's helpful now to remember that grown-up love is more than an emotion; it's also a commitment, a discipline, and a promise to be honored even in the face of difficulties or passing estrangements. Take some time alone now; you probably need it. Be clear and be serious, and don't let anyone trick you into taking positions you outgrew years ago.

The two factors, as we mentioned, are linked by a sextile -- traditionally seen as a "harmonious" or "mutually enhancing" aspect, often full of fast-paced events and emotional stimulation.

Tr. Jupiter is Square Venus

In effect: May 18, 2002 - May 29, 2002

Peak Date(s): May 24, 2002

Jupiter figured earlier in this analysis. Now we meet it again. As you may recall, this is the planet of possibilities and the seizing of opportunities. Jupiter currently is square your natal Venus. The action peaks May 24, 2002.

Let's first understand that the action is in the Second House, for that's where Jupiter is currently located in your chart. We've met this house before. As you may recall, it has to do with self-confidence, especially when that confidence is rooted in your personal resources -- and that means more than just money. The time has come to act in the spirit of Jupiter, as we just described it, and to claim the skills and material you need. But what's the point? What are the real questions? The answer lies with Venus, which is being invited into development during this time of solidification and consolidation in your life.

The natal Venus -- that, as we have seen, is where you store your romantic and affiliative sensibilities, along with your aesthetic tastes.

Your Eleventh House played a role earlier in the report; now we see it in the limelight again, once more telling us that your skill in forming necessary alliances and coalitions lies at the heart of the situation we're considering. Two reflections emerge. The first is that to succeed here you need to use all your social and political deftness...you can't do it alone, and the people upon whom you must rely are, to put it charitably, "human." The second is that to set appropriate priorities you must think deeply about what you want...which is to say, you need to know exactly what is worth fighting for and what you are willing to sacrifice. One hint: for you, the right answers nearly always have the tone of Venus, a planet we described above.

When Venusian energies splice together with Jupiterian ones, opportunity (Jupiter) comes to you through other people (Venus). Sometimes what we might call "dumb luck" makes itself felt, but it doesn't hurt to help it along by understanding the planetary "rules of the game." Basically, they boil down to this: you've got to ask for what you want, you've got to know that you deserve it, and you've got to look that way...which is to say, there's no room for being apologetic, ashamed, or defensive.

The two factors, as we mentioned, are linked by a square -- traditionally seen as a "bad" aspect, but more accurately seen as simply frictional. Squares generally suggest tough choices, external pressures, and at least some stress.

Tr. Jupiter is Conjunct Uranus

In effect: May 20, 2002 - May 30, 2002

Peak Date(s): May 25, 2002

Jupiter figured earlier in this analysis. Now we meet it again. As you may recall, this is the planet of possibilities and the seizing of opportunities. Jupiter currently is conjunct your natal Uranus. The action peaks May 25, 2002.

Let's first understand that the action is in the Second House, for that's where Jupiter is currently located in your chart. We've met this house before. As you may recall, it has to do with self-confidence, especially when that confidence is rooted in your personal resources -- and that means more than just money. The time has come to act in the spirit of Jupiter, as we just described it, and to claim the skills and material you need. But what's the point? What are the real questions? The answer lies with Uranus, which is being invited into development during this time of solidification and consolidation in your life.

There's a wild card in everyone, a rebellious, independent, free-spirited force that hates neckties and phony courtesies and all the slick moves that keep corporations and families from splitting apart. Astrologers call it Uranus. Stripped to its essence, this part of your astrological psyche is concerned primarily with the process of individuation, which boils down to whittling away all the parts of yourself which have arisen almost accidentally as side effects of your social background. When stimulated by transits or progressions, Uranus triggers your rebellions. It asks you to shed something unauthentic, unreal, or limiting in your life. Often it brings lightning-quick developments and unexpected circumstances. Almost always, there is a confrontation between you and some figure of authority, past or present.

Good things in general come your way when you make a positive response to Uranus. But one area has always been prominent in that regard -- the Second House, where Uranus lies in your birthchart. There, in the area of providing yourself with a real basis for self-confidence, the optimal use of that energy is most critical. Sometimes it comes down to seeing to it that you have enough money. Other times, provisions, proper tools, or even skills are the focus. Always the key here is to recognize the intimate link between personal resources and personal assurance.

When Jupiter interacts with Uranus, unanticipated opportunities arise. It's as though the Cosmos manifests as Santa Claus; gifts are given to you, often completely "out of the blue." Accept them. The psycho-spiritual theme here lies in loving yourself enough to embrace abundance, and many times the test comes and passes so quickly that success depends more upon

reflexive self-confidence than upon any philosophical "position papers" about self-esteem.

The two factors, as we mentioned, are linked by a conjunction -- the most powerful of the geometric aspects and one that suggests convergence, intensification, and often a new beginning.

Tr. Jupiter is Sextile Sun

In effect: May 20, 2002 - May 31, 2002

Peak Date(s): May 26, 2002

Jupiter figured earlier in this analysis. Now we meet it again. As you may recall, this is the planet of possibilities and the seizing of opportunities. Jupiter currently is sextile your natal Sun. The action peaks May 26, 2002.

Let's first understand that the action is in the Second House, for that's where Jupiter is currently located in your chart. We've met this house before. As you may recall, it has to do with self-confidence, especially when that confidence is rooted in your personal resources -- and that means more than just money. The time has come to act in the spirit of Jupiter, as we just described it, and to claim the skills and material you need. But what's the point? What are the real questions? The answer lies with the Sun, which is being invited into development during this time of solidification and consolidation in your life.

The Sun, as astronomers tell us, is the center of the solar system. Everything spins around it. With its enormous gravity, the Sun holds the entire system together. In a parallel way, the astrological Sun represents the gravitational center of your personality. Your ego. Your identity. The part of you that gets up in the morning and, without even a single sip of coffee, knows its name, rank, and serial number. Those same astronomers inform us that without the Sun's radiant energy, life as we understand it would cease to exist. Again, astrological meaning follows astronomical fact: the Sun symbolizes that spark of life inside you, your elemental vitality. Enthusiasm, energy, recuperative powers -- all these are solar themes. Thus, when the natal Sun is triggered in an important way, two critical questions come up for review: who are you, and what really makes you want to get out of bed in the morning?

Your Twelfth House demanded our attention above; now we see it playing a part again, once more suggesting that the quality of your inner life is what's really at stake in the situation we're considering. Under such a stimulus, many times the most appropriate step includes a strategic retreat...and a realization that something inside you is wise enough, spiritual enough, transcendent enough to sustain losses with impunity, even with generosity. To move positively in the present environment, renew your sense of the sacred by withdrawing and immersing yourself in the spirit of the Sun, a planet which is functioning something like an inner guide for you in this lifetime.

When the Sun interacts with Jupiter, claim some applause for yourself. Healthy pride and dignity are at stake here, and they're hard to sustain without receiving some appreciation. It may just come to you; but if not, then don't be shy about asking for it...and one of the best ways to do that is to insist upon a victory, the more colorful the better. The good news is that under this kind of astrological configuration, such a victory is in fact quite available to you now.

The two factors, as we mentioned, are linked by a sextile -- traditionally seen as a

"harmonious" or "mutually enhancing" aspect, often full of fast-paced events and emotional stimulation.

Tr. Pluto is Trine Venus

In effect: Jun 16, 2002 - continuing

Peak Date(s): sometime after the report period.

The planet Pluto is shading the spirit of your life nowadays, and in a nutshell that means that you are being challenged to heal. Pluto, as you probably know, is the lord of the underworld...or to put it more succinctly, the God of Hell. And it is disquieting, to say the least, to imagine that this deity is currently dining at your table. But take heart! The "hell" inside you needs airing out, and that is essentially what this transit is about. You've been hurt. You've been used, abused, rejected, exploited, lied to...the whole sad litany. And, like the rest of us, you've sometimes had to keep the proverbial stiff upper lip and simply get on with your life. But where does all that hurt go? Down deep into the unconscious mind, where it stays until you're clear enough and strong enough to handle resurrecting it and really going beyond it. Pluto's action is to bring up buried emotions. Its tone is intense. It often feels moody and confrontative. It can destabilize and disrupt the areas of your life that it's touching. The best course is to resolve to go deeper and deeper, truth above kindness and resolution over comfort. It's not easy, but in the end the energizing and empowering of the psyche make the process worthwhile. What is Pluto actually doing? Currently it is trine your natal Venus. Although Pluto is a slow-moving planet and usually unfolds its story over a period of two or three years, during the period of this report the action peaks sometime after the report period..

Our first step is to realize that the action and the developmental invitation are manifesting in the Sixth House, for that's the region of your birthchart through which Pluto is now passing. This tells us that duties and responsibilities are currently being emphasized in your life, and that their mood is the same as that of Pluto, which we just described. The effect of these external, often somewhat self-sacrificial requirements is to pull your attention away from yourself and place it on the needs of others. But what's the core issue? What part of your own life is being stimulated into development by these services you're offering others? To answer that, we turn our attention to Venus, which is being triggered by this period of hard work, giving, and supporting.

The natal Venus -- that, as we have seen, is where you store your romantic and affiliative sensibilities, along with your aesthetic tastes.

Your Eleventh House played a role earlier in the report; now we see it in the limelight again, once more telling us that your skill in forming necessary alliances and coalitions lies at the heart of the situation we're considering. Two reflections emerge. The first is that to succeed here you need to use all your social and political deftness...you can't do it alone, and the people upon whom you must rely are, to put it charitably, "human." The second is that to set appropriate priorities you must think deeply about what you want...which is to say, you need to know exactly what is worth fighting for and what you are willing to sacrifice. One hint: for you, the right answers nearly always have the tone of Venus, a planet we described above.

When Venus gets hooked up with Pluto, the progress of love (Venus) depends utterly upon the profundity of your psychological understanding (Pluto). A season of secrets revealed is upon

you, and not all of them are pleasant. At a time such as this, your optimal path lies in the direction of facing squarely the lacerations and abrasions of your own personal history and those of one about whom you care very much. Most challengingly, you need to make a mammoth effort to keep the two clearly separated.

The two factors, as we mentioned, are linked by a trine -- traditionally seen as a "good" aspect, but more accurately seen as simply enhancing or supportive. Generally speaking, with trines there is an opportunity...but to seize it, you must supply the initiative.

Tr. Saturn is Sextile Pluto

In effect: Jun 19, 2002 - continuing

Peak Date(s): Jun 27, 2002

Saturn played a role earlier in this account. Now it emerges again, in a new way. To refresh your memory, Saturn is ultimately the planet of maturity. It always places a strong emphasis upon hard work, decisive choices, and persistence. Saturn currently is sextile your natal Pluto. The energies crest Jun 27, 2002.

Currently Saturn is maneuvering through your Twelfth House. As we said earlier in the report, this is the final house of the cycle and often suggests endings and dissolutions. A meditative, accepting attitude is best now, letting go lightly of the things that are taken from you, knowing that despite appearances what is lost now has no place in the journey to come. What is to be released? A hint lies with Saturn, as we just described it -- that part of you has completed a major phase of its work and must now "graduate" to a new level. But we can go further. There is also a need for some release in connection with Pluto, which is being invited into development by these vital resolutions and these necessary deaths -- some of which, by the way, may be forced upon you by circumstance if you're overdue in appreciating their necessity.

Everyone has fears. Everyone has shames and wounded places. In you and me and everyone else, there are marks left by the times we've been lied to, abandoned, used, or exploited. It's not the world's cheeriest subject, but turning away only empowers those Plutonian hurts, gives them more latitude to influence your life. When your natal Pluto is triggered by a passing transit or progression, dark shadows are stirred within you. It's a signal that forgotten, unprocessed, or repressed elements of your personal history are asking to be investigated. The procedure requires intensity, honesty, and emotional courage. The results are worth the effort. If you work well with these energies, you emerge stronger, clearer, and often with renewed inspiration. If you hesitate, it's not unusual for the old wounding dramas to be re-enacted in your life.

Maintaining a healthy relationship with the force of Pluto is particularly central to your well-being in one key area: the Fourth House, which is where Pluto happened to be located when you took your first breath in Edinburgh, Scotland. There, in the domain of home and hearth and also of emotional and psychological processes, a strong response to this planet forges in you a clear sense of who you are and what you want. Happiness has different sources for different people. For you, much of it comes from experiences connected to Pluto, as we just portrayed it. Claim them! Always sound advice -- but how you go about claiming them is currently evolving, partly as a result of changing external circumstances.

When sober-minded Saturn gets involved with dark-hearted Pluto, you'll have little patience

for fluffy, frilly superficiality. This is a serious moment, something of a day of reckoning. Truths must be recognized and told. Lies must be illuminated, and demons named. You are ready. The situation is pressing. It will not go away or improve of its own accord. Take responsibility, move decisively, and do what must be done.

The two factors, as we mentioned, are linked by a sextile -- traditionally seen as a "harmonious" or "mutually enhancing" aspect, often full of fast-paced events and emotional stimulation.

Tr. Jupiter is Square Neptune

In effect: Jun 21, 2002 - Jun 30, 2002

Peak Date(s): Jun 26, 2002

Jupiter figured earlier in this analysis. Now we meet it again. As you may recall, this is the planet of possibilities and the seizing of opportunities. Jupiter currently is square your natal Neptune. The action peaks Jun 26, 2002.

Let's first understand that the action is in the Second House, for that's where Jupiter is currently located in your chart. We've met this house before. As you may recall, it has to do with self-confidence, especially when that confidence is rooted in your personal resources -- and that means more than just money. The time has come to act in the spirit of Jupiter, as we just described it, and to claim the skills and material you need. But what's the point? What are the real questions? The answer lies with Neptune, which is being invited into development during this time of solidification and consolidation in your life.

Close your eyes. Don't think of anything at all. Just be aware of all that infinite, dark space. Welcome to Neptune. In your natal chart, it represents the part of you that knows how to enter trance, to meditate, or to "space out." Everybody's got one, and everybody experiences that part of their consciousness from time to time. When triggered by transits or progressions, Neptune asks you to let go, to allow material to enter your mind uncensored and unstructured. It's more akin to feeling than thinking, but neither word captures it perfectly. Dreaming is the closest analogy...a sort of free-associative state in which your own mind works like an unpredictable movie theater. Why bother? Because such an astrological event signals that your unconscious mind or, if you prefer, your soul has an important message and is trying to get in touch with you.

Preserving a sound alliance with Neptune plays a leading role in one key area of your life: the Fifth House, which is where Neptune lies in your birthchart. And what are the concerns here? Pleasant ones, generally: playfulness, creativity, and self-expression. Life is hard work -- human beings, yourself included, require periodic doses of renewal, peak experience, and simple joy. You can meet those needs in yourself in a variety of ways, but the ones that work best and most efficiently come from experiences connected with Neptune, as we just portrayed them. And, in your current astrological circumstances, the need for that kind of re-charging is definitely up right now.

When Jupiter consorts with Neptune, there's a cliché that should never be too far from your mind: all that glitters is not gold. Don't be tempted by "extraordinary possibilities" now, at least not without a careful look at the fine print, a consultation with a sober friend, and a painstaking effort to consider worst-case scenarios. What is really going on here is that a bright new vision is

slowly forming inside you. It's real -- or more accurately, it's going to be real. Don't mistake its glowing emotional aura for something that is actually, physically, available in the present context.

The two factors, as we mentioned, are linked by a square -- traditionally seen as a "bad" aspect, but more accurately seen as simply frictional. Squares generally suggest tough choices, external pressures, and at least some stress.

Tr. Jupiter is Square Saturn

In effect: Jun 23, 2002 - continuing

Peak Date(s): Jun 28, 2002

Jupiter figured earlier in this analysis. Now we meet it again. As you may recall, this is the planet of possibilities and the seizing of opportunities. Jupiter currently is square your natal Saturn. The action peaks Jun 28, 2002.

Let's first understand that the action is in the Second House, for that's where Jupiter is currently located in your chart. We've met this house before. As you may recall, it has to do with self-confidence, especially when that confidence is rooted in your personal resources -- and that means more than just money. The time has come to act in the spirit of Jupiter, as we just described it, and to claim the skills and material you need. But what's the point? What are the real questions? The answer lies with Saturn, which is being invited into development during this time of solidification and consolidation in your life.

Getting kicked out of the nest, one way or another, is an elemental part of life. Faced with the stark, unyielding actualities of the "real world," you either die then and there or get on with the cunning, calculating business of staying alive. To accomplish either of those ends, you activate the energies of your natal Saturn: your self-discipline, your patience, and your practicality...if you choose survival. And if you choose to give up, you withdraw into fear and probably get into a mood of despair and defeat. When Saturn is triggered by passing transits or progressions, it signals a time in which hard work is appropriate, necessary, and the best insurance for happiness. Often it suggests that the circumstances or even people who have been a significant part of your past must now be left behind, making way for a more mature expression of your identity.

Your Fifth House held our attention for a while earlier in these pages; now we see it making itself felt again. You have an inherent capacity for playful, recreational, or creative self-renewal, and it operates best when those self-renewing activities emphasize the spirit of Saturn, as we just described it. That part of your psyche is under some pressure now. Take advantage of the energy and enjoy yourself!

When Jupiter interacts with Saturn, you experience an odd confluence of providential fortune (Jupiter) and daunting impediments (Saturn). Essentially, something very good is available to you now, but to attain it you must undertake a herculean effort. More profoundly, that effort itself will crystallize a very specific transformation in you: it will grant you the dignity of your advancing maturity.

The two factors, as we mentioned, are linked by a square -- traditionally seen as a "bad" aspect, but more accurately seen as simply frictional. Squares generally suggest tough choices,

external pressures, and at least some stress.

Pr. Moon is Opposite Jupiter

In effect: Jun 25, 2002 - continuing

Peak Date(s): sometime after the report period.

You don't need to be an astrologer to know what the Moon means. Just engage your imagination. Immediately, the mind free-associates. Moon: night...feelings...falling in love...seeing a ghost... And that's pretty much what astrologers throughout history have said: the Moon represents your interior life, your "heart." Like all astrological factors, the Moon progresses, taking a little over a quarter of a century to make one circuit around the chart. It typically spends a couple of years in each sign or house, and eventually forms aspects with all the planets. How do we read it? Simple: at any given moment the progressed Moon tells us where your heart is. Or, to be a little less schmaltzy about it, the Moon says where your attention is. What is concerning you. Where your growth experiences are unfolding -- which is often to say where you're experiencing challenges, upsets, or opportunities to regroup and express yourself in new ways. Being an emotional factor, the progressed Moon always refers to areas of heightened sensitivity. Intuition comes to the forefront. Instincts must be followed. Somehow the unconscious mind has gotten ahead of conscious awareness, and now conscious awareness is catching up, following the trail of intuitive clues and impulses laid down by the wise, dark interior of your spirit.

Our first step is to realize that the action and the developmental invitation are manifesting in the Sixth House, for that's the region of your birthchart through which the Moon is now passing. This tells us that duties and responsibilities are currently being emphasized in your life, and that their mood is the same as that of the Moon, which we just described. The effect of these external, often somewhat self-sacrificial requirements is to pull your attention away from yourself and place it on the needs of others. But what's the core issue? What part of your own life is being stimulated into development by these services you're offering others? To answer that, we turn our attention to Jupiter, which is being triggered by this period of hard work, giving, and supporting.

How is the progressed Moon currently impacting on you? It is opposite your natal Jupiter: sometime after the report period.. In thinking about this, remember that progressions are slow-motion events, and that this event simply peaks then; it will be affecting your mood for a period of two or three months on either side of that date.

The natal Jupiter -- that, as we have seen, symbolizes your capacity for positive thinking and abundance. More deeply, Jupiter is about your faith in life and in yourself.

Your Twelfth House demanded our attention above; now we see it playing a part again, once more suggesting that the quality of your inner life is what's really at stake in the situation we're considering. Under such a stimulus, many times the most appropriate step includes a strategic retreat...and a realization that something inside you is wise enough, spiritual enough, transcendent enough to sustain losses with impunity, even with generosity. To move positively in the present environment, renew your sense of the sacred by withdrawing and immersing yourself in the spirit of Jupiter, a planet which is functioning something like an inner guide for you in this

lifetime.

When the Moon interacts with Jupiter, the mood of life generally turns jovial and optimistic. There is an attitude of hopefulness and an alertness to possibility. It is a season of enhanced imagination, especially about your own potential future. In general, the best policy is to be bold in your dreaming, but cautious about signing on the dotted line. What you envision creatively now is probably quite sound, but it will want some editing in the cold light of dawn.

The geometric angle or "aspect" involved in the process we are studying is, as we said, the opposition. Not surprisingly, this suggests that the natal planet and the moving one are 180 degrees apart. Tension is thus woven into the spirit of this period of your life. The two forces we described are polarized, which often translates emotionally into a feeling of being damned if you do, and damned if you don't. How can you break the logjam? Recognize that any impossibilities you are experiencing in this area probably arise from an incomplete or biased perspective. The opposition aspect always calls for a leap into a new, more accepting level of consciousness. Something is missing in your view of the problem -- and that missing link (here's the corker...) lies in the wisdom embodied by those people or situations that are now antagonizing you. It's not that they're right and you're wrong; only that the truth that can carry you beyond this impasse lies somewhere between the two positions.

Tr. Saturn is Trine Neptune

In effect: Jun 28, 2002 - continuing

Peak Date(s): sometime after the report period.

Saturn played a role earlier in this account. Now it emerges again, in a new way. To refresh your memory, Saturn is ultimately the planet of maturity. It always places a strong emphasis upon hard work, decisive choices, and persistence. Saturn currently is trine your natal Neptune. The energies crest sometime after the report period..

Currently Saturn is maneuvering through your Twelfth House. As we said earlier in the report, this is the final house of the cycle and often suggests endings and dissolutions. A meditative, accepting attitude is best now, letting go lightly of the things that are taken from you, knowing that despite appearances what is lost now has no place in the journey to come. What is to be released? A hint lies with Saturn, as we just described it -- that part of you has completed a major phase of its work and must now "graduate" to a new level. But we can go further. There is also a need for some release in connection with Neptune, which is being invited into development by these vital resolutions and these necessary deaths -- some of which, by the way, may be forced upon you by circumstance if you're overdue in appreciating their necessity.

The natal Neptune -- that, as we have seen, symbolizes pure consciousness. It is the mystical planet, the part of your being that receives inspiration and, depending on your metaphysical tastes, either inner guidance or divine direction.

Your Fifth House held our attention for a while earlier in these pages; now we see it making itself felt again. You have an inherent capacity for playful, recreational, or creative self-renewal, and it operates best when those self-renewing activities emphasize the spirit of Neptune, as we just described it. That part of your psyche is under some pressure now. Take advantage of the energy and enjoy yourself!

When hard-headed Saturn is stirred into the same pot with visionary Neptune, a season of brain-storming has arrived. A happy confluence now exists between creative imagination and shrewd practicality. Keeping them in balance is the art. You'll have some great ideas -- but not as great as they may at first seem. And you'll also see some formidable obstacles -- but not as insurmountable as you may fear. There is a middle course between optimism and pessimism. It's called visionary realism. Practice it!

The two factors, as we mentioned, are linked by a trine -- traditionally seen as a "good" aspect, but more accurately seen as simply enhancing or supportive. Generally speaking, with trines there is an opportunity...but to seize it, you must supply the initiative.

The Details

In the mood for Mardi Gras? If you live in Chicago, it helps to know that New Orleans lies to the south. Head west or east and you'll never arrive . . .

What we've done in the previous pages is to show you the direction to New Orleans. We've looked at the big astrological themes that are affecting you this year . . .

As a reminder, at the beginning of our analysis of each month's events we'll make reference to any major configurations covered previously which happen to be reaching peaks of intensity then -- and please recall that some of them will have more than a single peak during the report period. There won't be any more analysis; just an allusion to the events so you can go back and review the earlier material, and see the patterns of the month in the light of the year's heavier transits and progressions.

Please remember that the fleeting, often forgettable influences we discuss in the following pages must always draw their real meaning from the far more monumental events we've already described. A "discussion with the boss," for example, is going to take on particular significance during a month when your whole career is up for grabs!

These minor transits unfold quickly. It's a rare week that doesn't contain at least a few. A report that discussed them all in the kind of microscopic detail we've applied to the major events would be several inches thick. In order to cover the daily astrological kaleidoscope within the practical limitations of the space available, we've resorted to producing capsulized one-sentence nuggets that compress a lot of information into a few words. So, slow down, shift gears, and let them wash over you. Think of these images more as daily meditations than as the kind of full-blown explanations to which you've gotten accustomed in the previous sections of SKYLOG.

One brief reminder: remember that many astrological events have not one but several peaks of intensity, so you may find a given "Invitation" or "Means" coming up several times in the pages that follow.

Even minor astrological events commonly have an impact over several days. In the following month-by-month analysis, configurations are listed chronologically according to the days they

"peak" -- but don't take that date narrowly. The most colorful events and profoundest realizations might easily occur a day or two later or earlier.

April Invitation Peaks

Apr 07, 2002 - Tr. Neptune conjuncts Midheaven

Apr 07, 2002 - Tr. Neptune enters Tenth House

Apr 14, 2002 - Tr. Jupiter enters Second House

April Mean Peaks

Apr 03, 2002 - Tr. Saturn trines Midheaven

Apr 18, 2002 - Tr. Saturn trines Moon

April The Details

Apr 01, 2002 - Tr. Sun sextiles Moon

Keywords: group-dynamical personality stimulates your normal employment-oriented sensitivity.

Apr 04, 2002 - Tr. Mercury sextiles Moon

Keywords: visionary communication excites your native vocational attitude.

Apr 04, 2002 - Tr. Sun conjuncts Venus

Keywords: goal-oriented personality combines with your characteristic priority-clarifying affection.

Apr 05, 2002 - Tr. Sun squares Uranus

Keywords: goal-oriented identity conflicts with your instinctive financially savvy originality.

Apr 06, 2002 - Tr. Mercury conjuncts Venus

Keywords: priority-clarifying dialog combines with your characteristic strategic human connection.

Apr 06, 2002 - Tr. Mercury squares Uranus

Keywords: priority-clarifying conversation clashes with your instinctive self-respecting autonomy.

Apr 09, 2002 - Tr. Mercury trines Pluto

Keywords: long-term communication supports your typical self-protective investigation.

Apr 09, 2002 - Tr. Mercury opposes Neptune

Keywords: priority-clarifying communication is in tension with your inherent child-like imagination.

Apr 09, 2002 - Tr. Mercury opposes Saturn

Keywords: strategic dialog is in tension with your inherent imaginative solitude.

Apr 10, 2002 - Tr. Sun trines Pluto

Keywords: strategic identity enhances your usual watchful intensity.

Apr 11, 2002 - Tr. Venus squares Moon

Keywords: spiritually open affection conflicts with your instinctive career sensitivity.

Apr 11, 2002 - Tr. Mercury conjuncts Mercury

Keywords: meditative dialog fuses with your natural spiritually open communication.

Apr 11, 2002 - Tr. Sun opposes Neptune

Keywords: long-term personality opposes your inborn spontaneous contemplation.

Apr 12, 2002 - Tr. Sun opposes Saturn

Keywords: priority-clarifying nature is in tension with your inherent spontaneous solitude.

Apr 12, 2002 - Tr. Mars conjuncts Jupiter

Keywords: quiet courage combines with your characteristic reclusive exuberance.

Apr 12, 2002 at 10:47 PM - Tr. Moon enters Twelfth House

The Moon in a month passes through all twelve houses of your chart. In so doing, it correlates with the passing whimsies of mood. One afternoon you're bright and cheery, the following morning you're blue...but energetic again after lunch. It doesn't amount to much, and it's not really very important in practical terms -- with one exception: the passage of the Moon through the Twelfth House. During that time you are going through a kind of emotional moulting, ending one cycle and preparing to begin another. Your attentions and energies are turned inward. Accept that, handle it well, and the period -- usually a couple of days -- is quiet and contemplative. It may even be rather pleasant. But if you try to keep up your normal level of activity, you'll find yourself confused, flat, and prone to dumb accidents. So when the Moon enters your Twelfth House, make sure that you have some unstructured time. Minimize distractions. Put off any significant new beginnings for a couple of days. And take a few unhurried breaths. This month, the transiting Moon crosses into your natal Twelfth House Apr 12, 2002 at 10:47 PM, and emerges Apr 17, 2002 at 05:21 PM, when a new emotional cycle begins.

Apr 13, 2002 - Tr. Venus sextiles Uranus

Keywords: private affection stimulates your normal self-respecting individuality.

Apr 13, 2002 - Tr. Venus conjuncts Sun

Keywords: quiet human connection combines with your characteristic spiritually open identity.

Apr 16, 2002 - Tr. Sun conjuncts Mercury

Keywords: private nature fuses with your natural spiritually open conversation.

Apr 18, 2002 - Tr. Venus squares Pluto

Keywords: private relating conflicts with your instinctive psychologically sophisticated investigation.

Apr 18, 2002 - Tr. Mars conjuncts Mars

Keywords: private swordsmanship combines with your characteristic quiet courage.

Apr 19, 2002 - Tr. Mercury squares Moon

Keywords: spiritually open communication clashes with your instinctive work-oriented attitude.

Apr 21, 2002 - Tr. Mercury sextiles Uranus

Keywords: meditative conversation excites your native self-respecting individuality.

Apr 21, 2002 - Tr. Mercury conjuncts Sun

Keywords: private conversation fuses with your natural meditative identity.

Apr 24, 2002 - Tr. Mercury squares Pluto

Keywords: quiet dialog clashes with your instinctive self-protective investigation.

Apr 25, 2002 - Tr. Venus conjuncts Jupiter

Keywords: meditative relating fuses with your natural reclusive opportunity.

Apr 28, 2002 - Tr. Venus conjuncts Mars

Keywords: reclusive relating fuses with your natural withdrawn courage.

Apr 29, 2002 - Tr. Mercury conjuncts Jupiter

Keywords: reclusive communication combines with your characteristic quiet opportunity.

May Invitation Peaks

(None this month.)

May Mean Peaks

May 13, 2002 - Tr. Saturn sextiles Venus

May 24, 2002 - Tr. Jupiter squares Venus

May 25, 2002 - Tr. Jupiter conjuncts Uranus

May 26, 2002 - Tr. Jupiter sextiles Sun

May The Details

May 01, 2002 - Tr. Mars trines Moon

Keywords: private courage enhances your usual work-oriented attitude.

May 02, 2002 - Tr. Sun squares Moon

Keywords: private personality conflicts with your instinctive career attitude.

May 03, 2002 - Tr. Mercury conjuncts Mars

Keywords: meditative dialog fuses with your natural spiritually open assertiveness.

May 05, 2002 - Tr. Venus trines Moon

Keywords: quiet human connection enhances your usual employment-oriented sensitivity.

May 05, 2002 - Tr. Mars sextiles Venus

Keywords: spiritually open courage stimulates your normal goal-oriented relating.

May 05, 2002 - Tr. Sun sextiles Uranus

Keywords: withdrawn personality stimulates your normal self-confident individuality.

May 06, 2002 - Tr. Sun conjuncts Sun

Keywords: quiet nature fuses with your natural private personality.

May 08, 2002 - Tr. Venus sextiles Venus

Keywords: meditative affection stimulates your normal long-term relating.

May 10, 2002 at 05:27 AM - Tr. Moon enters Twelfth House

This month, the transiting Moon crosses into your natal Twelfth House again May 10, 2002 at 05:27 AM. It emerges and a new emotional cycle begins May 14, 2002 at 11:00 PM. As we discussed earlier, this represents a brief period in which you serve your own ultimate interests best by relaxing a bit, taking some extra precautions against physical mishaps, and most importantly, delaying any major new starts, insofar as that's possible.

May 11, 2002 - Tr. Sun squares Pluto

Keywords: reclusive personality clashes with your instinctive psychologically sophisticated honesty.

May 12, 2002 - Tr. Venus sextiles Pluto

Keywords: private affection excites your native self-protective investigation.

May 13, 2002 - Neptune turns Retrograde (at 10°Aq59' in your 10th House)

Aspects: Conjunct Moon, Square Sun, Sextile Venus, Conjunct Midheaven.

May 13, 2002 - Tr. Venus trines Neptune

Keywords: withdrawn affection enhances your usual child-like imagination.

May 14, 2002 - Tr. Venus trines Saturn

Keywords: withdrawn human connection enhances your usual spontaneous composure.

May 14, 2002 - Tr. Mars sextiles Pluto

Keywords: reclusive swordsmanship excites your native sensitive investigation.

May 14, 2002 - Tr. Venus conjuncts Ascendant

Venus: Goddess of Love, Goddess of Peace...in her fast transits around your chart, she offers you counsel and support, sometimes through friendship, sometimes through more romantic kinds of intimacy. Her arrival at a sensitive zone also suggests that a time has come to relax and to receive solace or comfort, or to recharge your inner batteries through the perception of beauty. People come warmly into your space; a chance to "let your hair down" arises; paintings, music, and Technicolor sunsets abound.

Venus arrives at a conjunction with your Ascendant May 14, 2002, and that always suggests a colorful, active few days. A new cycle of experience is beginning for you. It's not earth-shaking in its implications, but you'll be happier if you act positively in the spirit of Venus. The ball is in your court. Decisive action, imprudent action, or inaction on your part now will have long-term effects, just as the experiences of childhood leave their mark on the adult character. Don't be afraid of a little apparent selfishness now. There are seasons of giving and seasons of taking; this one is for taking.

May 15, 2002 at 06:43 PM - Mercury turns Retrograde

Three, maybe four times in the course of a year, the planet Mercury spends three weeks or so going backwards in the sky, a period we call Mercury Retrograde. Practicality sometimes intervenes, but to the extent that you can arrange it, you are better off if you can avoid signing anything important during this period, buying anything mechanical (unless its failure would be of trivial consequence), initiating travel, or attempting significant communications by phone or mail. This, of course, is a lot to ask; and sticking to it too firmly starts to verge on Cosmic Paranoia. Still, there is a heightened tendency for objects, messages, and plans to go awry during this Retrograde time. Sometimes a little patience exercised now will make your life a lot easier in the long run. If steps simply must be taken, it doesn't mean everything is doomed to failure...just keep duplicates, have backups, double-check everything, and be prepared for petty annoyances. The first appearance of a Retrograde Mercury during the period of this report occurs May 15, 2002 at 06:43 PM. Those conditions persist until Mercury again goes "Direct" sometime after the report period..

May 16, 2002 - Tr. Mars trines Neptune

Keywords: quiet courage supports your typical imaginative inspiration.

May 16, 2002 - Tr. Mars trines Saturn

Keywords: spiritually open assertiveness supports your typical spontaneous solitude.

May 17, 2002 - Tr. Venus sextiles Mercury

Keywords: resolute relating excites your native private conversation.

May 18, 2002 - Tr. Mars conjuncts Ascendant

Mars, the God of War, is transiting through sensitive territories for you, suggesting some turbulent waters to be navigated. Always the trick with the red planet lies in realizing that the time has come to overcome a fear or a resistance in yourself, and to take what is legitimately yours. Your blood is up, and that's not a bad thing, unless you "chicken out" and misdirect the Martian energy toward some inappropriate target.

Mars arrives at a conjunction with your Ascendant May 18, 2002, and that always suggests a colorful, active few days. A new cycle of experience is beginning for you. It's not earth-shaking in its implications, but you'll be happier if you act positively in the spirit of Mars. The ball is in your court. Decisive action, imprudent action, or inaction on your part now will have long-term effects, just as the experiences of childhood leave their mark on the adult character. Don't be afraid of a little apparent selfishness now. There are seasons of giving and seasons of taking; this one is for taking.

May 20, 2002 - Tr. Sun conjuncts Jupiter

Keywords: withdrawn personality fuses with your natural meditative exuberance.

May 23, 2002 - Tr. Mars sextiles Mercury

Keywords: authoritative assertiveness excites your native withdrawn conversation.

May 24, 2002 - Tr. Sun conjuncts Mars

Keywords: private identity combines with your characteristic withdrawn swordsmanship.

May 31, 2002 - Tr. Mercury conjuncts Mars

Keywords: private conversation combines with your characteristic spiritually open swordsmanship.

June Invitation Peaks

Jun 19, 2002 - Tr. Neptune enters Tenth House

Jun 19, 2002 - Tr. Neptune conjuncts Midheaven

June Mean Peaks

Jun 26, 2002 - Tr. Jupiter squares Neptune

Jun 27, 2002 - Tr. Saturn sextiles Pluto

Jun 28, 2002 - Tr. Jupiter squares Saturn

June The Details

Jun 02, 2002 - Tr. Venus squares Venus

Keywords: self-respecting human connection clashes with your instinctive strategic affection.

Jun 02, 2002 - Tr. Venus conjuncts Uranus

Keywords: dignified human connection combines with your characteristic resourceful autonomy.

Jun 02, 2002 - Tr. Venus sextiles Sun

Keywords: financially savvy human connection stimulates your normal meditative nature.

Jun 02, 2002 - Tr. Sun trines Moon

Keywords: spiritually open nature enhances your usual career awareness.

Jun 02, 2002 - Uranus turns Retrograde (at 28° Aq50' in your 10th House)

Aspects: Sextile Mercury, Square Mars, Square Jupiter, Trine Saturn, Trine Neptune, Trine Ascendant.

Jun 05, 2002 - Tr. Sun sextiles Venus

Keywords: spiritually open personality excites your native long-term affection.

Jun 06, 2002 at 01:01 PM - Tr. Moon enters Twelfth House

This month, the transiting Moon crosses into your natal Twelfth House again Jun 06, 2002 at 01:01 PM. It emerges and a new emotional cycle begins Jun 11, 2002 at 05:54 AM. As we discussed earlier, this represents a brief period in which you serve your own ultimate interests best by relaxing a bit, taking some extra precautions against physical mishaps, and most importantly, delaying any major new starts, insofar as that's possible.

Jun 07, 2002 - Tr. Venus squares Neptune

Keywords: financially savvy relating clashes with your instinctive playful imagination.

Jun 08, 2002 - Tr. Venus squares Saturn

Keywords: dignified human connection conflicts with your instinctive self-expressive composure.

Jun 11, 2002 - Tr. Venus squares Mercury

Keywords: intelligent human connection clashes with your instinctive withdrawn communication.

Jun 11, 2002 - Tr. Sun sextiles Pluto

Keywords: reclusive nature excites your native self-protective investigation.

Jun 13, 2002 - Tr. Sun trines Neptune

Keywords: withdrawn personality enhances your usual spontaneous contemplation.

Jun 13, 2002 - Tr. Sun trines Saturn

Keywords: spiritually open identity enhances your usual self-expressive composure.

Jun 14, 2002 - Tr. Venus sextiles Jupiter

Keywords: open-minded relating stimulates your normal reclusive opportunity.

Jun 14, 2002 - Tr. Sun conjuncts Ascendant

The transiting Sun is like a huge, dumb battery. Whatever it touches, it electrifies -- but never for very long or very deeply. That's simply because it's a fast-moving factor, never staying anywhere long enough to develop true depth or complexity of meaning. In a year, it circuits the chart once...which leaves it only a few days to spend in each of your chart's many sensitive zones. Whatever it touches, however, is temporarily pushed into action. And sometimes, if more serious astro-psychological energies have been building or brewing in that area of your life, the Sun's transit over that point might just be the trigger that sets big wheels turning. The critical point is that the Sun represents your ego, and when it collides with sensitive territories you need to act accordingly: not "egocentrically," but with an awareness of your rights, your needs, and your desires.

Sun arrives at a conjunction with your Ascendant Jun 14, 2002, and that always suggests a colorful, active few days. A new cycle of experience is beginning for you. It's not earth-shaking in its implications, but you'll be happier if you act positively in the spirit of Sun. The ball is in your court. Decisive action, imprudent action, or inaction on your part now will have long-term effects, just as the experiences of childhood leave their mark on the adult character. Don't be afraid of a little apparent selfishness now. There are seasons of giving and seasons of taking; this one is for taking.

Jun 16, 2002 - Tr. Mercury conjuncts Mars

Keywords: spiritually open dialog fuses with your natural reclusive courage.

Jun 17, 2002 - Tr. Venus sextiles Mars

Keywords: intelligent relating stimulates your normal withdrawn swordsmanship.

Jun 17, 2002 - Tr. Sun sextiles Mercury

Keywords: forceful personality excites your native reclusive dialog.

Jun 20, 2002 - Tr. Mars squares Venus

Keywords: self-assured swordsmanship clashes with your instinctive group-dynamical human connection.

Jun 20, 2002 - Tr. Mars conjuncts Uranus

Keywords: self-confident courage combines with your characteristic resourceful individuality.

Jun 21, 2002 - Tr. Mars sextiles Sun

Keywords: self-assured swordsmanship excites your native meditative identity.

Jun 23, 2002 - Tr. Venus opposes Midheaven

The transiting Venus emerges again, suggesting experiences coming to you centered on other people with whom you are involved, and also encouraging you to relax and release tension now, perhaps with the help of music, art, or natural beauty.

Venus aligns with your Fourth House cusp, the very bottom of your birthchart, Jun 23, 2002. As you might imagine, this point, being buried, represents inward, psychological experience, and often puts emphasis on the home or family. Claim renewal for yourself now, and hold quiet counsel with yourself. Don't let the pressure of events drive you faster than is good for you; you don't need rest so much now as active silence. Vision is rising up in you, if you let it. To attune yourself to this new enlivening, get away from society; be alone, or be with people in your own inner circle -- your real "family" -- and do it in the spirit of Venus. That will put you in the proper attitude of receptivity.

Jun 25, 2002 - Tr. Venus opposes Moon

Keywords: emotional relating opposes your inborn employment-oriented awareness.

Jun 25, 2002 - Tr. Mercury trines Moon

Keywords: spiritually open communication supports your typical work-oriented attitude.

Jun 27, 2002 - Tr. Venus trines Venus

Keywords: emotional affection supports your typical goal-oriented human connection.

Jun 28, 2002 - Tr. Venus squares Sun

Keywords: emotional human connection conflicts with your instinctive private identity.

Jun 28, 2002 - Tr. Mercury sextiles Venus

Keywords: withdrawn conversation excites your native priority-clarifying relating.