

The Goddess Report

Chiron and the Goddesses

for

Princess Margaret

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Your Chart Data

Name: Princess Margaret
Date: Aug 21, 1930
Time: 09:22:00 PM GDT -01:00
Place: GlamisCastle-SCOT
003W00'00" 56N36'00"

Planet	Sign	Position	House	House
Sun	Leo	28°Le02'	06th	01 06°Ar07'
Moon	Cancer	25°Ca14'	05th	02 25°Ta25'
Mercury	Virgo	24°Vi56'	06th	03 16°Ge16'
Venus	Libra	12°Li56'	07th	04 01°Ca46'
Mars	Gemini	25°Ge47'	03rd	05 17°Ca38'
Jupiter	Cancer	12°Ca00'	04th	06 10°Le11'
Saturn	Capricorn	05°Cp33'	10th	07 06°Li07'
Uranus	Aries	15°Ar00'	01st	08 25°Sc25'
Neptune	Virgo	03°Vi07'	06th	09 16°Sg16'
Pluto	Cancer	20°Ca10'	05th	10 01°Cp46'
Midheaven	Capricorn	01°Cp46'	10th	11 17°Cp38'
Ascendant	Aries	06°Ar07'	01st	12 10°Aq11'
Chiron	Taurus	18°Ta54'	01st	
Ceres	Leo	17°Le27'	06th	
Pallas	Cancer	20°Ca54'	05th	
Juno	Capricorn	22°Cp39'	11th	
Vesta	Virgo	23°Vi01'	06th	

Introduction

Astrology is an ancient science and art that has been in use for centuries. The planets are named after the Mediterranean gods of ancient Rome and Greece. This illustrates the awareness possessed by our ancestors of the synchronicity between the activation of life's archetypal energies and the movements of heavenly bodies that seem to measure the timing of these events.

The last few centuries have been an exciting time for astrologers. We have witnessed the discovery of the outer planets and watched them conform to the synchronistic meaning ascribed to them by their names, joining and expanding the pantheon of deities that dance through the horoscopes of people and political events. Astrologers have become comfortable with the extended astrological family that now includes Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto, and these have been utilized in western astrology for most of the twentieth century. Since the dust has settled from these cosmic discoveries, astrologers have had some time to study the action of some other newly discovered heavenly bodies - namely Chiron and the asteroids.

The asteroids lie in a belt that orbits between Mars and Jupiter. It is now known that this belt is comprised of thousands of asteroids, but the first four were discovered many years in advance of the rest. These four asteroids were named after four major Olympic goddesses, which happened to redress the gender imbalance among the primarily male planetary deities that populate the horoscope. Thus it was that Ceres, Juno, Vesta, and Pallas Athena came along at the time of the birth of the women's movement in the nineteenth century. Astrologers do work with the myriad of other asteroids as well, but these four, with their associations to four of the most important goddesses, are the "standard" ones in use.

Chiron was discovered in 1977, and was named after the wise Greek centaur who tasted immortality. Chiron lies between Saturn and Uranus and occasionally passes within the orbit of Saturn. At first thought to be a comet or asteroid it is now considered a "planetoid" or small planet-like body.

The astrological portraits of the asteroids and Chiron have emerged through the observations of fascinated astrologers over the last century. This report informs you of their symbolic meaning and gives you insight into how they operate in your own horoscope.

Chiron & the Asteroid Goddesses in Your Chart

Chiron

The astronomical body, Chiron (once thought to be a comet or asteroid, now considered a "planetoid" or small planet-like body) is named after the ancient Greek, centaur demi-god who was horse from the waist down and human from the waist up. Chiron's orbit, unlike that of the asteroids, lies between Saturn and Uranus, and is irregular in that it occasionally crosses inside the orbit of Saturn. This astronomical characteristic is symbolic of Chiron's reputation for being somewhat of a maverick.

Chiron was no ordinary run-of-the-mill centaur at the mercy of instincts and appetites. He displayed such self-mastery and was so wise and gifted in both the arts of healing and the arts of war and statesmanship, that he found himself mentor to heroes and kings and their sons. His service was of such value that he was granted immortality by the gods. Chance would have it that he was accidentally wounded in the foot by one of his own poisoned arrows, carelessly tossed by one of his fosterlings (Heracles). Since by this time he was immortal, the result of this mishap was that Chiron was condemned by fate to suffer eternally the agonies of a poisoned wound that could not be healed. In order to obtain release from his endless suffering, the wise old centaur decided to relinquish the mantle of immortality that had been bestowed upon him. He gave it, instead, to Prometheus (who needed it to be freed from the punishment he suffered for mocking the gods and stealing their fire). In this way, Chiron embraced death and found release from his suffering.

Astrologically, Chiron's placement in the horoscope indicates one's experience of the wound that does not heal, (or the wound that does not seem to heal, because although an important lesson may be learned through dealing with it, the wound seems to spiral around with another lesson on a deeper level). Chiron represents one's experience of woundedness and the nature of the wound. Second, by coming to terms with suffering through an acceptance of one's mortality, one arrives at a greater state of wholeness or healing. Third, Chiron shows how one comes into one's own as an elder or mentor who can provide healing and guidance to others. Thus Chiron also astrologically indicates the ways and means with which you can guide others, as well as the kind of mentoring and healing you seek for yourself.

Chiron in Taurus

When Chiron is in Taurus, mentoring and the healing process are associated with learning how to care for one's body and one's physical and material needs, and with learning how to live in and care for the physical world. This applies to both the kind of mentoring you seek for yourself, and the kind that you are eventually able to extend to others. You may encounter mentor figures who are earthy types, engaged in such activities as organic gardening and ecological movements. Unhealthy attitudes towards the body or sensuality, or lack of physical nurturing or material security and stability at an early age could lead you to feel wounded or inadequate in these areas of life. Experiences such as the loss of material possessions or physical health can evoke your philosophical side and awaken a true sense of wisdom as you struggle to

come to terms with the ongoing suffering and the healing sought.

Chiron in 1st House

Chiron in the first house indicates that your very sense of identity is bound up with issues of healing, dealing with a wound that "never heals," or mentor relationships. Others may perceive you as a healer, mentor, or one who is wounded in some way. Because the first house often denotes one's physical appearance, you may possess an earthy vigor and vitality, symbolic of the strongly physical nature of the centaur. On the other hand, there may be some physical impairment (especially - like Chiron himself - with the feet, or with the part of the body ruled by the zodiacal sign in which Chiron is placed). Sometimes the whole issue of identity and selfhood is the area of woundedness; one may suffer deeply from a feeling of not knowing who one is or what one wants, perhaps because one's own needs and wants were never acknowledged. For you, the quest for healing and the need to reconcile the instinctual with the lofty are intimately bound up with your very sense of self, and the image you present to the world.

Mercury Trine Chiron Orb: 06°01'

Chiron forms a harmonious aspect with Mercury. The Mentor teams up with the Scholar. You appreciate witty "trickster" humor that gets to the core of something or someone more effectively than a direct approach. You may not have a formal education, but are instinctively wise in other ways that you gradually come to appreciate. You are able to accommodate both the rational and the non-rational realms of perceiving. Your conversations, writings, teachings or studies may revolve around issues of mentoring, wounding/healing, the resolution of the instinctual and the sublime or non-dualistic philosophies. You could be involved in teaching those who are wounded or handicapped (especially those with speech or learning disorders).

Pluto Sextile Chiron Orb: 01°15'

Chiron forms a harmonious aspect with Pluto. Psychological depth and self-empowerment can support the healing of painful wounds. As a result of the confrontation with your own sense of woundedness, you can have a powerful healing influence on others who are struggling with issues of power abuses and powerful or destructive emotional, archetypal, or sexual energies. Your avenue of healing or counseling may involve work with shamanism, initiation experiences, depth psychology, or primal or archetypal energies.

Ceres

Ceres is the expression of the Earth Goddess archetype that has been worshipped in many forms by various cultures. This archetype has always been associated with mother earth, harvests, a transformational journey to and from the underworld, rites of passage, and the birth or resurrection of a fertility deity.

The myth of Demeter (da mater or "earth mother") and the sudden abduction of her dearly loved daughter Persephone by the lord of the underworld contains the same universal symbolism as other Earth Goddess myths. These myths may appear, at first, to be early explanations for the changing of the seasons. They are actually wise, rich, symbolic teachings on such profound themes as loss and renewal, death and rebirth, and the endless transformation that constitutes the very laws of creation to which this universe and everything in it adheres.

On a more personal level, the Ceres myth deals with the severance of the bonds of love and/or attachment. When we experience love as we have known it being taken from us, we can feel as if we have been cast into a realm of eternal darkness, never to return to the world of the living again. We may then be unable to let go of the past, reliving it again and again in our minds - protesting and resisting the present, and demanding that it somehow hand over to us the treasure that has been snatched away.

Yet as with Demeter, who chose to forgo her divinity and wander in the world of humans, after which she was reunited annually with her transformed daughter, it is only when we can give up notions of eternal paradise and immortality that we can relinquish old attachments. Only when we have been humbled by and have accepted those mysterious cyclic forces beyond ourselves that we can be restored to a state of plenitude and abundance in the here and now. Then we can truly understand how our cup must be emptied in order to be filled afresh.

Ceres in the birth chart thus describes what one really cares about, and the way one nurtures others (and needs to be nurtured oneself) in a parental kind of way. It also indicates where one may tend to cling, the kind of separations that can be traumatic, and what one may be required to give up (or share with others) in order to grow. It can also indicate the ways in which we seek for something that seems to be missing, something we didn't get enough of, as well as the ways that can help us mourn such a loss. As with Demeter and Persephone, Ceres can also indicate the kind of experience that constitutes a rite of passage - the most profound transformation: the death and rebirth of the self.

Ceres in Leo

With Ceres in Leo, nurturance is conveyed in a benevolent, regal way - the "Queen Mum." There is a protective, lordly nature that seems to instill confidence in others: "Never fear," it says, "I am here; I will provide!" You associate nurturance with the fostering of creativity, and the pride and confidence that comes through the encouragement of self-expression. Lack of this kind of nurturance at an early age can result in lack of confidence and inferiority or superiority complexes. This lack could be a source of grief, through which you learn how to provide this kind of nurturance for yourself and, thus, for others. You may nurture others through your own

creativity or through inspiring them to express theirs. Your own creativity may express themes of separation and reunion, or may center around a noble, heroic, figure. Loss of creativity, the father, providing parent, or other animus figures could be a source of grief, and could serve as transformative experiences for you, ones that initiate you into the lessons of loss and return, death and rebirth, and simply letting go.

Ceres in 6th House

Ceres in the sixth house indicates that the work place is the arena in which you express your nurturing qualities. Perhaps your co-workers or employees find something comforting or reassuring in you. You may help them in a loving way to improve their work performance, acquire new skills, or advance their careers. The integration of parenting and the daily work environment can be a major concern for you, and you're all for such policies as company day-care. Conflicting demands between parenting and work (or the acquisition of work skills) could lead you to make sacrifices in one area on behalf of the other.

Venus Sextile Ceres Orb: 04°31'

Ceres forms a harmonious aspect with Venus. The mother-daughter (parent-child) story complements and is complemented by the pleasure principle (beauty, harmony, and the world of the senses). You associate nurturance with the cultivation of a sense of self-worth through affirmative touch and the affirmation of one's attractiveness. You nurture others (and look to nurturance yourself) through a loving acceptance of the sensual, the artistic and the creative. Your sexual expression may be very caring and tender. Love, relationships, and sexuality all benefit from your experience in handling the formation and severance of strong emotional ties.

Uranus Trine Ceres Orb: 02°28'

Ceres forms a harmonious aspect with Uranus. There's a story here involving the nurturer and the freedom-fighter. These two sides of yourself generally get along quite well together so that your need for nurturing emotional ties and your need to march to the tune of a different drummer can accommodate one another. You associate nurturance with support for individual expression, no matter how unique or bizarre, and with the encouragement of one's striving for freedom and independence. Other people may find comfort in your revolutionary, futuristic ideas. You can be a source of inspiration to others who are struggling with issues of loss or parent-child attachments. Your all-embracing universalism is nurturing to others.

Pallas

As with goddess-myths associated with the other asteroids, the myths that pertain to the warrior goddess Pallas Athena reflect socio-historic upheavals as well as archetypal themes. One of the most interesting aspects of Athena's myth, as it has evolved, is the changing nature of her birth. In her earliest form she was said to have been born of Lake Triton in Libya, home of the legendary amazons. Her worship was brought to the Greek islands much later by the Libyans themselves as they emigrated across the Mediterranean sea. The story of her birth reflected this migration, for she was then said to be born of Metis - a sea goddess. Further evolution of her myth reflects the encounter of the goddess worshipping peoples with the patriarchal people invading Greece from the north: Metis (whose name means Wise Counsel), pregnant with Athena, was devoured by the invaders' god, Zeus, who later gave birth to a fully grown and fully armored Pallas Athena from his head. Later versions of this myth omit altogether any mention of Metis, and depict Athena as having been conceived without a woman's involvement.

Later myth also portrays Athena as bringing about the destruction of both Pallas and Medusa in what appears to be sociological evidence of the attempt to destroy goddess worship. (Pallas, Athena, and Medusa were the three faces of the Libyan version of the triple goddess.) In one of these myths Zeus tricks Athena into killing her Amazonian sister Pallas during a friendly competition. Another myth relates how Athena helped King Perseus to cut off Medusa's head by giving him a mirror to use so he could avoid her deadly gaze. Yet, as much as these myths might have been used as evidence of the wise Athena's denunciation of the Feminine, they also contain symbolism that indicates how Athena preserved the goddess trinity. For, upon the death of Pallas, the grieving Athena placed her sister's name before her own. As for her attitude towards Medusa, she bore Medusa's image upon her breastplate and distributed her blood to healers as a regenerative medicine. The symbolic importance of the mirror in the Perseus-Medusa conflict also hints at Athena's wisdom and gift as a mediator in teaching how to reconcile opposites by seeing in oneself the disowned qualities that are projected onto opponents.

Pallas Athena signifies wisdom and creative problem solving in which a holistic view of conflicting or opposite elements (the Masculine and the Feminine) is required. This sense of fairness is backed up by a willingness to defend or fight for the underdog. Thus Pallas Athena is also associated with fighting for causes. She represents the application of practical skill and creative intelligence in order to best be of service. She was the goddess of war (defense, originally) as well as the goddess of wisdom and culture - patroness of the civilized arts such as pottery, sculpture, weaving, architecture, and animal husbandry. Pallas Athena can also represent the denial of one's own gender in an effort to cope with situations that require the skills of the opposite gender in order to survive, as well as the struggle to rediscover and reconnect with essential qualities of one's own sex. Androgynous conditions and healing through feminine wisdom, energy balancing or conflict resolution are also expressions of the Pallas Athena archetype.

Pallas in Cancer

Pallas Athena in Cancer denotes perceptive insight or intuitional skill when it comes to

empathy and the realm of emotions. You may be particularly inventive or subtle in your ability to mother and care for others, or to provide a sensitively nurturing atmosphere that offers the reassurance, familiarity, and traditional values of "home." Difficulty may arise if this encourages dependent behavior), and it may be important for you to utilize these skills in your career. Your perception of emotional undercurrents, your sensitivity to emotional suffering, and your wisdom regarding unconscious or early childhood emotional issues are often employed in the defense of the underdog, the misunderstood, or the emotionally homeless. Patriotism and a sense of family roots may also evoke your defensive sentiments. You may utilize your sensitive skills to work for social, political, or minority causes by arousing empathy in others (see Pallas Athena's house position, below). Skills in healing or conflict resolution may lie in a creative ability to provide emotional nurturance and acceptance.

Pallas in 5th House

Pallas Athena in the fifth house grants a true flair for creative expression, and makes for a gifted actor or orator. You may be a spokesperson for the arts or for sports. You feel most creative when using your mind and your practical wisdom - perhaps in matters of justice or defense - and you enjoy games that force you to use your wits. You may be quite gifted in dealing with children, perhaps championing causes on their behalf. Romantically, you may be attracted to cultural or politically conscientious types who don't conform to traditional gender roles. You need creative, inspirational, or sport activities to keep your "wise warrior" spirit healthy, shining, and bright. Difficulty can arise if Pallas Athena's energy is expressed as a crusade in which self-expression is all that matters.

Moon Conjunct Pallas Orb: 04°20'

The asteroid Pallas Athena is conjunct the Moon. Your emotional perceptivity and "women's" intuition may be remarkably developed. Your natural way of responding to any event, person, or stimulus is strongly colored by your creative intelligence, your cultural sensibility and your natural urge to defend the underdog. You are emotionally responsive to artistic or cultural awareness in others, and may be attracted to androgynous anima types or mother figures who display these qualities.

Mercury Sextile Pallas Orb: 04°02'

The asteroid Pallas Athena forms a harmonious aspect with Mercury. Your intellectual-communicative abilities and your cultural and socio-political urges mutually enhance each other. You appreciate fine or thought-provoking literature and intellectual discussions, especially when the topic revolves around issues of the arts or non-traditional gender, cultural, or political issues. You may enjoy networking with community projects that support these issues, perhaps supporting them through your writing or communicative skills.

Uranus Square Pallas Orb: 05°54'

The asteroid Pallas Athena forms a challenging aspect with Uranus. The cultural protectress-patroness of the arts meets the freedom fighter, and lines are drawn in the sand! The need for creative or cultural expression conflicts with the urge for freedom and change. Humanitarian

activities or collective enterprises may conflict with one's involvement in mental or artistic pursuits. Revolutionary ideals and rebellious tendencies could be a little over-zealous, with a contempt for creative or cultural concerns which are viewed as the province of the privileged. Or, conversely, socially or culturally "correct" attitudes could be suffocating, though trendy, and create trouble for the individualist who sees things differently. Identification with unconventional gender roles could create chaotic stress or confusion. The nervous system can suffer from excessive mental activity or from the stress of conflicts like those listed here. The answer lies in accepting both the need for artistic/cultural expression and the need for change and individual freedom. This will alleviate the tendency to unconsciously deny one of these needs and then "see the enemy out there."

Pluto Conjunct Pallas Orb: 00°44'

The asteroid Pallas Athena is conjunct Pluto. Issues of power and self-empowerment are bound up with intellectual and socio-cultural interests. You may have a powerful impact upon others through the expression of your mental/creative abilities, perhaps through artistic expression or perhaps through socio-cultural contributions or activism. Or perhaps you possess a certain charisma that you wield in support of a favorite cause. You may possess intuitive insight into the workings of the human psyche, sexuality, self-transformation, and power issues. You may support groups that are experiencing or recovering from abuse of some kind.

Juno

Juno (whose Greek name is Hera) is an ancient Queen of Heaven Goddess dating from that matriarchal period when the sovereign Deity was female and reigned alone, presiding over the mysteries of birth, motherhood, and the various phases of reproduction. Mythology relates how she was seduced by Zeus, married him out of a sense of honor, endured a marriage characterized by power struggles over issues of fidelity and bearing a line of descent, as well as how she went into retreat occasionally in order to renew and center herself. Her myth parallels the history of social upheaval in the lands where she was worshipped. Northern invaders struggled to impose traditions of patrilineal descent and the worship of their chief god, Zeus, upon the indigenous matriarchal cultures of Mycenaean Greece and Crete. Over a period of hundreds of years of cultural conflict, the two divinities were forced to share the altar. Thus, in addition to her authority over matters pertaining to childbirth and motherhood, Juno has come to be associated with issues of socially acknowledged relationship, legal marriage, marital fulfillment through commitment and fidelity, and the struggle for equality within a relationship. She represents, also, the kind of power struggles that involve controlling the partner through control over offspring, or through the withholding of sex or emotional intimacy. Juno can also represent committed relationships entered into out of a sense of duty, guilt, or for social reasons.

Juno represents both the need for relationship and the refusal to accept inequality within the context of a relationship. She represents the struggle to balance the need for intimacy with the opposing need for freedom - needs which both partners have, although one of these needs may be projected onto the partner. She can also represent the need to take marriage as a sacred trust, a way that leads to spiritual fulfillment through the reconciliation of the opposites in a state of union.

On another level, Juno can represent the way in which one feels rendered powerless by conflict in spite of sincere effort and irreproachable conduct on one's own part. The harder one tries, the more inadequate one's efforts seem to be, for there is a tendency to cling to old methods when circumstances have changed and a whole new paradigm is needed before the way clear can be seen. This frustration can sometimes lead to self-depreciation and loss of faith in oneself. Juno thus symbolizes the transition state between old and new ways of being, where the old fails to meet the needs of the times and the new is not yet manifest. She describes the need for a kind of spiritual self-rejuvenation that is needed in order to see oneself through times of utter disintegration into the future that awaits. Juno in the horoscope thus represents the ways in which we need to renew ourselves, and where our ability to adjust to changing circumstances is most tested.

Since marriage proved to be this goddess' testing ground, Juno in the horoscope also indicates the qualities associated with one's marriage partner and the ways in which one handles intimacy/freedom needs as well as the jealousy and insecurity that often accompany this balancing act. Juno's position describes the nature of any control issues, the ways in which such power struggles get enacted, and the type of sacred cows that need to be relinquished so that the path to marital fulfillment can unfold. Juno's placement in your chart can refer not only to your mate (or the way that you perceive your mate), but to the relationship and to your own behavior

in a committed relationship as well.

Juno in Capricorn

With Juno in Capricorn, the qualities you appreciate in a relationship are stability, responsibility, and long-term commitment. For this reason you may seek the security of marriage; it appeals to your sense of duty and traditional values. You appreciate a partner who's willing to persevere. Someone who'll work as hard as you do, and who will respect you. It could be that, in spite of your best efforts, you yourself experience a sense of inadequacy or powerlessness when it comes to such matters, or that your partner is doing all the expressing in this regard (or vice versa). This could be a source of difficulty when it comes to intimate relations, and may lead to emotional withdrawal or authoritarian behavior towards the partner. Intimacy/freedom needs, childbearing, fidelity, and power issues need to be taken seriously and worked through with patience. Otherwise demanding behavior can result with one person acting as an authority and the other obliged to obedience.

Juno in 11th House

Juno in the eleventh house indicates that your committed relationship will involve issues around interactions with clubs, groups, organizations and humanitarian causes. It is important for the relationship that you have these experiences, whether shared by the both of you, or whether one partner be granted the freedom to do so by the other. Behind this is the need for friendship and companionship in your relationship, which can be revitalized through drawing on the friendship of a broad base of people who share your interests and concerns. If not married, this could represent the one who is wedded to a cause in a fully committed way. Alternatives (in relationships, lifestyle, or social concerns) may be important. The qualities described by Juno's sign position (above) indicates the manner in which you can best deal with these issues.

Moon Opposite Juno Orb: 02°35'

Juno forms a challenging aspect with the Moon. Your emotional and instinctive responses are interwoven with your need for intimate and equal relationships, but in such a way that these two aspects of yourself seem to war with each other. The struggle for equality and autonomy within a partnership may conflict with the need to have your own emotional needs met. Or perhaps you feel emotionally threatened by relationships that stress issues of equality and you respond by avoiding intimacy altogether. One partner may expect mothering from the other, or try to manipulate the other through emotional power plays. The challenge is to learn to see that both the need for freedom within a relationship and the need for emotional comfort can and do co-exist within yourself (and in others). These needs are not mutually exclusive and you may need to find ways to meet them both, and to avoid the natural tendency to unconsciously repress or project one of them out onto others (especially your partner).

Mercury Trine Juno Orb: 02°17'

Juno forms a harmonious aspect with Mercury. Mental urges combine nicely with the urge to relate intimately and on equal terms. Your grace in communicating your need for equality and autonomy within your relationship strengthens the bond between partners. You have a knack for

making your partner feel understood and listened to, and for being able to communicate on his or her level. Or perhaps it is your partner who possesses these abilities. Interests in intellectual stimulation, learning, community networking, or communications may provide you and your partner with a comfortable way to share and enrich your relationship.

Pluto Opposite Juno Orb: 02°29'

Juno forms a challenging aspect with Pluto. The whole sphere of intimacy and equality in relationship collides head-on with issues of power, self-empowerment, and transformation. Your psychological depth and your instinctive grasp of the deep inner forces at work in life are strongly colored by your experience within a committed relationship, and may figure importantly in the power struggles and the striving for equality which are part of such relationships. You may feel that your partner or a committed relationship impedes your struggle for self-empowerment and transformation or that if you take your power you will be undesirable as a partner. Relationships may get bogged down in a tendency to examine every little interaction for evidence of conscious or unconscious power abuses. A determination to "not give one's power away" may inhibit gestures of intimacy. Issues of control, domination, or jealousy may play havoc with intimate partnerships. It will be important to learn to see how both the need for a committed relationship and the need for transformation and self-empowerment co-exist within yourself (and in your partner). If you can start to address both these needs within yourself (which may require some healing) then relationships will also transform and be healed of unconscious projections.

Vesta

The asteroid Vesta (Latin) is named after the ancient Greek goddess Hestia, first born of the Olympian deities and last released by her father Cronos (father Time), who at one point swallowed all his offspring. Thus she denotes the beginning and the end - alpha and omega - and serves as a reminder of the source from which all things originate and to which all must return. She represents the preservation of sacredness and the state of connection to formless Essence. As such, she is the only Olympic deity not worshipped anthropomorphically; she is symbolized only by the altar and its sacred flame. Thus she also represents any sacred space - be it temple, sweat lodge, or meditation corner - that acts as a container in which we may center ourselves, and feel the presence of Spirit. In ancient times Vesta was worshipped both in the city center as the flaming altar, and in every home as the central hearth whose embers were literally passed on down through the generations from mother to daughter when the daughter married and established her own hearth. In this manner Vesta came to represent the perpetuation of the spark of life, and of civilization and one's ancestral and cultural roots.

In early matriarchal societies, priestesses honoring Hestia maintained a connection to this spiritual essence (represented by a sacred flame that they tended night and day). They offered themselves in sacred sexual union in order to teach the divine aspect of sexuality and the need to remain aware of the sacred while engaged in physical life. The priestesses remained unmarried and committed to none but themselves and their worship. Their sons (conceived anonymously during ceremonial summer solstice rites) served as year-kings when there was no royal heir. These customs were finally abolished when patrilineal traditions were enforced and the priestesses were compelled by the Roman king to serve as keepers of the new (patriarchal) civilization and to observe vows of celibacy. To break these vows entailed a cruel death penalty. In exchange for the relinquishment of their sexuality, matrilineal customs, and true spiritual function, the priestesses (Vestal Virgins) were granted freedom from paternal control.

Vesta's sacred flame represents, in the yogic tradition, the kundalini force which, when properly awakened and channeled, leads to spiritual development. Thus, astrologically, Vesta has come to represent both spirituality and consecrated (or desecrated) sexuality. This can include a wide range of sexual expressions such as abstinence, renunciation and celibacy, the celebration of spiritually honored sexuality, sexual idealism, and the sacred whore. Astrologically, Vesta stands for that which provides us with inner sustenance; the way in which we are pulled back to our core or inner self; and the struggle between this and the demands of the outer world. Vesta represents the way in which we long to bless others with the fruits of the spiritual resources we have found within ourselves, but it is also the need to retreat and preserve our inner sanctuary against any disrespectful intrusion. Vesta is associated with dedication, focus, and commitment. She represents those things that helps us focus, the way in which we dedicate ourselves with heart and soul, and that for which we are ready (or compelled) to make a sacrifice. The things indicated by Vesta's position in your chart may be things that you feel compelled to give up or sacrifice, often out of a sense of spiritual compulsion. Yet they can also be the very things that evoke your dedication - leading to a sense of deep inner fulfillment when you are willing to

make some sacrifices on their behalf. Keep this paradox in mind as you read on, for Vesta can express itself one way or the other - or both!

Vesta in Virgo

Vesta in Virgo indicates that neatness, efficiency, and attention to detail are the things that help you focus and center yourself. You use them to both go inward and get in touch with yourself, and to then move outward and commit your focused energies with dedication, zeal, and even sacrifice (described further by Vesta's house position, below). You may see sex as a sacred duty to your partner and through this come to experience the more profound aspects of sexuality and the perpetuation of life. Or perhaps religious concerns cause you to restrict your sexuality. Service and duty can be sacred to you. It is possible that, through one-pointedness, you focus so much on these pursuits that the means becomes an end in itself and you lose sight of the goal they are meant to serve. If this happens, perfectionist, critical or workaholic tendencies can take over and leave you feeling off-center and out of touch with yourself. Practices like karma yoga (in which work and actions are performed with spiritual mindfulness) can help restore the balance between your dedication to work and your dedication to Spirit.

Vesta in 6th House

Vesta in the sixth house indicates that sacrificial dedication and intense focus are channeled into your interactions with co-workers, bosses, and employees, as well as into efficiency in the handling of matters in the daily work environment. Apprenticeship, the gaining of work skills, and service activities may also be the center of this focus. You could experience frustrations and setbacks on the job, but your commitment and willingness to make sacrifices for your work ensure that you do an excellent job. Difficulties may arise if your zeal involves excessively high standards (and thus a critical attitude towards co-workers), perfectionism, or workaholic tendencies. Sexual expression could be sublimated into your work drive. Health, nutrition, and preventative care are other areas in which you may direct this kind of one-pointed focus, perhaps as a result of your own struggle for good health (especially where the digestive system is concerned). Careful consideration of these activities or issues will help you understand how to best manage your sense of commitment and remain centered in your self.

Moon Sextile Vesta Orb: 02°13'

Your Vesta forms a harmonious aspect with the Moon. You may channel your sense of commitment to a cherished goal and your capacity for self-sacrifice into such things as nurturing, mothering, or domestic endeavors. Or you may focus your energies on such issues as emotional health and the healing of the inner child. You are able to balance your sense of dedication to your goals with your need for emotional fulfillment. You can honor your sexual and spiritual needs in a way that supports your emotional well being. Anima or mother figures may be supportive of you in these ways.

Mercury Conjunct Vesta Orb: 01°55'

Your Vesta is conjunct Mercury. You have a great ability to focus and discipline the mind. You may feel called or inspired to teach, disseminate information, or communicate your thoughts

and views to others through your writings. You may dedicate yourself to the development of the mind, either through study or through techniques, such as meditation, that help you focus and direct your mental energies. There may be sacrifices made for the sake of the research and learning, or perhaps it is the learning itself that is sacrificed for the sake of some other (perhaps religious) goal.

Mars Square Vesta Orb: 02°46'

Your Vesta forms a challenging aspect with Mars. Your fighting spirit and masculine energies are at loggerheads with the whole issue of dedication and self-sacrifice. You may feel, or be made to feel, that it is unmanly for men to express themselves in spiritual or sexually honoring ways. Or perhaps you struggle with a lack of confidence or fear of confrontation when it comes to expressing your spiritual views, your sexuality, or your capacity for dedication to a cherished activity. Sexual or spiritual trauma resulting from patriarchal abuses may require healing in order to move beyond a state of entrenched conflict. Or perhaps spiritual views leave you feeling uncomfortable about your more masculine characteristics, such as willful drive or assertiveness. Impossible as it may seem, there is a place in the world, and in you, for both cherishing sacrifice and healthy masculine assertiveness. The more you can entertain this possibility and give up the tendency to take sides between these two expressions, the more you will experience the resolution and healing of old conflicts of this nature.

Pluto Sextile Vesta Orb: 02°52'

Your Vesta forms a harmonious aspect with Pluto. Your capacity for self-sacrifice and your sense of sacredness complements your urge for powerful and transformative experience. Your psychological depth and sense of self-empowerment can benefit your spiritual/sexual life or the activities to which you are committed and into which you pour your focused life-energies. You may channel some of your capacity for dedication and intense commitment towards supporting those who are experiencing or recovering from abuse of some kind. You are able to balance your need for spiritual/sexual expression with the inner need for regenerative healing, self-transformation and self-empowerment.

This sums up your report for Chiron and the Goddess asteroids in your chart. An astrological chart is like a blueprint of the human psyche, with its great and dramatic cast of archetypes. And each human psyche is like a unique, one-of-a-kind carpet woven from many beautiful threads of many different colors. Chiron and the asteroids are five of those threads.

This report has described each of those five threads by house and sign, and has even described what happens when one of those threads is intertwined with other single threads (the other planets). And this does give you some kind of overall picture. But the best way to understand the pattern that all the threads make in their weaving of the whole unique carpet, is to consult an astrologer skilled in chart interpretation. The astrologer can make a big difference in helping you piece together the puzzle of your chart so that, in the end, you can see the beautiful carpet where once, perhaps, all you saw was a tangle of threads. Hopefully, this report will help you to understand some of the magical threads that are woven into your life.

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