

# Last Month at the ASA

## Stephanie Clement on Dispositors and Dr. Ruth

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Our speaker on Friday night, Stephanie Jean Clement, PhD, is a professional counselor, astrologer and author. Her lecture taught us how to use dispositors in our charts to help make decisions in life's situations.

When we speak of dispositors we are speaking of a planet, which gives its disposition to another planet, disposing it to act in a certain way. You begin, of course, by knowing which planets rule each sign. For example, Mars in Aries, in the chart of Dr. Ruth, gives its disposition to everything else in her chart. It is the single final dispositor of all her planets, as none of the others are in the signs which they rule, so consequently, their energies are dissipated throughout the chart, while Mars in Aries indirectly affects them all.

However, having a single final dispositor is difficult, giving you only one way to approach the world and make decisions. Also, a single final dispositor will get clobbered by transits. But Mars in Aries gives Dr. Ruth her courage and outspokenness. Stephanie also feels that fire signs are very intuitive, an attribute which Dr. Ruth uses well.

In the next example, mutual reception of dispositors, we look to the chart of Muhammed Ali. Here we find Venus (ruled by Taurus) in Aquarius, and Uranus (ruled by Aquarius) in Taurus. This is the mutual reception of planets and gives the owner two ways of looking at any problems, and also two different energies to use in making choices. However, with only two choices, you can still have a dilemma

if each choice seems equally bad or equally good. You must ask yourself, "What is my third choice?" You need to know all your choices before you can take action.

Borrowing from psychology, Stephanie tells us that we always have three choices in a situation: 1) Accept things as they are and go on; 2) Make changes in the situation; or 3) Leave the situation. However, you must make sure that your choices are clear and do-able. Once made, choices have to be confirmed again and again.

Making choices speaks directly to another kind of dispositor which Stephanie calls a "ring" dispositor. For example, if Mars is in Taurus, Venus is in Gemini and Mercury is in Aries, each of the three is giving its disposition to the other one. This gives you a really good way to analyze a problem but sometimes keeps you from taking action, as you keep going round and round trying to make a decision! Eventually, you must stop and decide. Choose a planet in your chart and use its energy to help you. Also, ask yourself, "How will this look in the end?" Stephanie feels that everyone really does the best they can, and if something turns out badly, you probably didn't have enough information to help you make your decision.

With the ring dispositors, the rest of the planets get their disposition indirectly from the three in the ring. To help in making your decisions, look at yourself from different points of view using these planets. For example, using Venus, you might think of how your decision will affect your social group; using the Sun, you can decide how you, yourself, really want to do it; using Pluto, decide what is the most powerful way to affect this

situation, etc.

Stephanie tells us the kinds of words people use tell us how they think. Something that "sounds good" denotes a Mercury hearing mode, while someone relating strongly to color is in a Venus visual mode. A mutual reception of Mercury in Aquarius and Uranus in Gemini person will have strong thinking and intuitive abilities.

However, with a single dispositor planet, you may need a different way of making choices. Whenever you need a second choice, pick your favorite planet, and let its energy help you decide. Sun or Ascendant are good choices to use. Or, when you need a third choice, first do something else (meditate; sleep on the problem and see if your dreams provide a solution; or just forget it for a while) and the idea will then come through. You may then want to practice the results of your idea, as this will help strengthen your resolve to follow through on your decision.

Here are Stephanie's keywords for each of the planets when you are considering them as a dispositor:

Sun - personal consideration, desire; Moon - gut feeling, sensitive stomach; Mercury - logic, intellect, deductive reasoning; Venus -harmony, looks good in the end; Mars - action, strength; Jupiter - philosophical, distance from problem; Saturn - security, structure; Uranus - insight, intuition; Neptune - subtle; Pluto control.

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