

**NANCY COHEN:
MOM, DAD AND THE KID
Family Dynamics in the Chart
July 21-22, 2001**

Nancy Cohen was the guest speaker at the July meeting of the Arizona Society of Astrologers. Sarah Laurent was our Scribe at this meeting, and here are her notes:

Friday Night Lecture

The chart is a map of potential. The child forms a bond with the dominant parent and then marries the other parent. The chart shows three things: 1) Your assets and liabilities, 2) the conditions of your birth, and 3) the first 2½ years of your life.

You take on the programming of the dominant parent – their beliefs and values – unconsciously. This happens in the first 2½ years.

If your Sun is in an air or fire sign, your father was dominant. If it is in water or earth, your mother was dominant. If you are an air or fire sign and have no father, your identity comes from not having one.

Your “physical parents” are depicted by the Sun (Father) and Moon (Mother). Your “psychological parents” are depicted by Venus (what your mother tells you a woman is) and Saturn (what your father tells you a man is). Sun conjunct Saturn: father was physically and psychologically the same. Moon conjunct Venus: mother was physically and psychologically the same. Aspects to Sun/Saturn and Moon/Venus from Saturn through Pluto describe how we got wounded and how to avoid passing that along.

In Saturn through Pluto aspecting Sun-Moon-Venus, look only at conjunction, square and opposition. If you have the trine or sextile, you are using the energy effectively.

1) Saturn aspecting Sun-Moon-Venus: The wound you carry is “not enough.” There is too much duty, not enough love. Saturn is our tribal law, the rules of the family. If Saturn makes a conjunction, square or opposition to Sun-Moon-Venus, your tribal laws were taken seriously. They are part of who you are. Your job is to question them. If there are no aspects, the tribal law isn’t an issue unless you have a lot of planets in the 4th house. Saturn is not close and affectionate. The Saturn family has lots of rules, regulations, and duties. The family stays together but does not really support one another. You know you have healed Saturn when you find yourself having more fun. Saturn families are often overly religious, or there may be alcoholism.

2) Uranus aspecting Saturn, Sun, Moon and Venus. You have been abandoned and your needs have not been met. This happens through inconsistency and mental or emotional illness. With Uranus the family is inconsistent. This is often seen in adopted children. Sometimes the parent is not there or sometimes the child is raised by grandparents. If Uranus is aspected to Sun or Saturn, it is the father who left you. The father was inconsistent in discipline, communication and love. In the Uranus home there is no stability. The Uranus kid becomes very independent He learns to meet other peoples’ needs but does not have the expectation that his own needs will be met. In relationships, the Uranus person finds it hard to get close to others.

3) Neptune in aspect to Saturn, Sun, Moon and Venus: In this combination, your family lived a lie. They were one thing on the outside and another on the inside. They pretended everything was ok when it wasn't. They made you feel crazy for acknowledging the truth. Usually the parent that lies is the one who is idealized. Under Neptune square the Sun, the person adores Dad and thinks he can do no wrong. When dad falls off his pedestal, it is a very hard fall and you are betrayed. If you have Sun or Saturn in hard aspect to Neptune, every man you have ever loved has disappointed you because you made him your god.

In the Neptune family, we get deluded. If Neptune squares, opposes or conjuncts the Moon, you are not clear on how you feel. If you are a man you make women into goddesses. If you are born with Neptune on the Sun and you are a Pisces, when you were born, your mother was very fearful you would die.

4) Pluto aspecting Saturn, Sun, Moon and Venus: With Pluto aspects, your gift is authentic power and empowerment. The Pluto family was life threatening. Moon-Pluto means your mother tried to abort you. There was violence, radical misuse of power, coercion, manipulation. "Don't talk, don't trust, don't feel." You shut down to survive. You learn never to let people know what's important to you. The family is not physically life threatening, but it's threatening to your soul. You always had to be on your guard. There was no safe place. Your mother may reject you, your father may molest you. You learn to survive on your own.

Trans-Saturnian planets with Mercury, Mars and Jupiter

MERCURY: Poor communication. Mercury- Saturn: all communication is about what you have to do. You are yelled at, blamed, and restricted. Mercury-Uranus: Communication was erratic. Mercury-Neptune: The family lied. It wasn't safe to tell the truth. You were lied to, and you learned to lie. Mercury-Pluto: Everything you said was used against you. Words were used to manipulate, coerce and control.

MARS: Your modus operandi. Mars-Saturn: You were never allowed to lie around and do nothing. You were always accountable. You could never do what you wanted to when you wanted. Mars-Uranus: Sometimes they showed up, sometimes they didn't. Mars-Neptune: In your tribe no one took responsibility for what they did. Mars-Pluto: there were anger issues; i.e. people hit too hard.

JUPITER: Your sociability. How social are you? How social were your parents? Jupiter-Saturn: Socializing was rare in your family. Jupiter-Uranus: Socializing was unusual and spontaneous. With this aspect, you may not know how to plan social activities. Jupiter-Neptune: Parties may involve drugs, alcohol, costumes. Jupiter-Pluto: You will be in control of the party.

Saturday Workshop

The Sun is what you are becoming and lessons to be learned. Where the Sun is by sign shows what parent you identified with and what your issues are. Following are Nancy's interpretation of the Sun through the signs:

Aries: You identified with your father and valued accomplishment. If you don't earn praise and rewards, you feel ignored. If you are male, you learn to disrespect your mother. Aries men don't hold women in high regard. The message is, "be a better man than Dad so you can earn your mother's love." Aries are the workaholics who want to accomplish something new and different.

Taurus: You identified with your mother. You may have been born under volatile conditions. There is financial insecurity and Mother feels powerless. The boy feels very attached to mother and wants to provide her with things dad couldn't. Mother feels out of control inside, so she is controlling on the outside. When a Taurus baby has a need, they learn they have to wait for mother's response before asking again. Why is Taurus slow? They are afraid they will be punished if they are in a hurry, just as Mom hurt them. They want financial stability and will always feel a little insecure about money.

Gemini: Father-dominated. In Gemini's house, people didn't relate well, and they didn't relate to emotions at all. There was no sensitivity to feelings; parents just chattered away. Gemini learns to solve everything by talking, but they never talk about anything of substance. Geminis avoid human interaction and intimacy.

Cancer: Either the Cancer mother had no identity until she became a mother, or she is a child who had a child so that someone else would love her. The Cancer child becomes a caretaker and never got to be a child. Often the oldest child cares for other

siblings. Cancers are sensitive. They grow up and marry someone who needs to be nurtured. Cancer is the universal enabler.

Leo: The Leo has a dad who doesn't pay the child enough attention. Leo needs approval, especially from its father. The Leo is always born into a home where the father ignores the child or always finds fault.

Virgo: The Virgo was born at a time when mother really wanted this baby. Unfortunately, she had little faith that the father would take care of the kid properly, so she constantly nagged the father. Virgo learns "cover your ass no matter what." If you not perfect, hide it.

Libra: The Libra was born at a time when there was chaos in the family. Often the parents are on the verge of breaking up and only stay together for the sake of the baby. The kid feels guilty about this and feels the need to be a peacemaker. The Libran child is always between two opposing forces, playing the mediator. Libra is the most social sign and the sign most afraid of relationships.

Scorpio: The mother had just gone through some great loss just before the child is born. At the time of birth, the mother was grieving. She was overwhelmed with her own needs and took minimal care of the child. When the child is 3-5 years old, mother starts to come out of her depression and decides she likes the child.

Sagittarius: Daddy's precious little being. For the first 2½ to 3 years, Dad was around a lot. He was a terrific companion and couldn't get enough of the kid. All of a sudden, father had to go to work. For the rest of his life, the kid is looking for that good

companion. In relationships, they want a friend. Sagittarian women are confused about how to be women. Sagittarian boys see women as competitors for Dad's attention.

Capricorn. Mom knows her place and Dad knows his. Mom could run IBM - she is organized, capable, efficient - but it is not ok for women to do that, so she does it through her husband. The Capricorn woman isn't allowed to own her own power, so she has to live through a man. If you are a man, you expect women to support and take care of you. Capricorn would rather be right than happy. Self-righteous indignation is Capricorn's drug of choice.

Aquarius: Your father was weird and so are you. The weirder you are, the neater you are. Your dad was the mad inventor before his time. Aquarians are brilliant people. They are different for the sake of being different and proud of it.

Pisces: Mother thought the kid would die. Either there was difficulty during delivery or the baby is sickly. Pisces baby's mother thinks there is something wrong with the child and projects it onto the kid. He picks it up and becomes a hypochondriac.

Bits and pieces: The Sun is what you are becoming, The Moon is your feelings and the Ascendant is the face you show the world. Nancy uses 10-12 degree orbs for conjunctions. Energy matches energy — you seek the person who matches your wound. Isolated planets mean you did not have access to the parent. Nancy is a Cancer. Her mother didn't want children, but wanted the identity of being a mother. Nancy has a Virgo Moon. Her mother was analytical and critical. She has Venus in Leo. Psychologically, her mother was intense and devouring. Her Moon squares Uranus: her mother was nuts. She didn't know how to be a mother or a housewife. The kids in the family were there to do the housework.