

## **Robert Corre - On the Technique of J. B. Morin de Villefranche**

Morin de Villefranche was born in 1583 to a middle-class French family. He was a philosopher and mathematician who became interested in astrology around age 30. Morin proved to be so good at astrology that he read for Cardinal Richelieu and Louis XII among others of the French elite. He developed a structured way to go through the horoscope, thus providing a more reliable approach to interpretation.

In Morin's system, we measure quality, quantity, relationship, timing. The astrologer measures the basic nature of planets and also measures planets in relation to other planets. Mastering his technique allows the astrologer to see the horoscope as a whole. If you only analyze the horoscope, it remains dead. Synthesis puts everything in context. The ancients saw each human as a small universe, an integrated whole. That is why ultimately, astrology is an art, not a science. As the mirror of the soul, the horoscope allows us to see the soul through symbols. Through astrology, we can study the interplay between consciousness and the instincts.

No matter what questions people bring to a reading, they really want to know one thing: will I be successful? Every horoscope, even the most difficult, is excellent if you can give it a purpose. The astrologer should never take away a client's hope.

What may I expect? is answered through the natal chart. When may I expect it? is answered through forecasting techniques.

Many astrologers make the mistake of giving the Sun sign too much importance. In reality, 80 percent of the horoscope is the Ascendant. It represents:

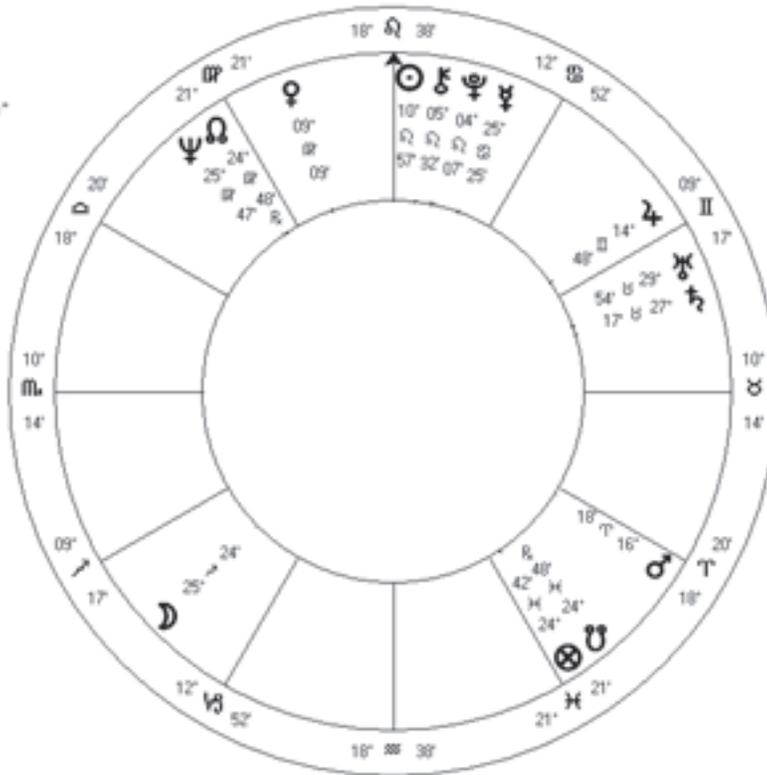
- The physical body. With no Ascendant there is no horoscope - only a disembodied soul.
- The person's physiological, moral, mental and psychological disposition. If you can get a feeling for the Ascendant, you won't take the rest of the chart out of context.

Robert demonstrated Morin's technique using Martha Stewart's chart. Martha came from nowhere and rose to become one of the most powerful business people in the U.S. Where did such power come from? The unusual nature of her life should show up in her chart. If you can't find it, then either the birth data is wrong or you don't know how to see it. Robert uses the Regimontanus house system.

Martha Stewart was born Martha Kostyra on August 3, 1941 at 1:33 PM EDT in Jersey City, NJ, 40 N 44, 74 W 05. A biographical sketch can be found on [www.Astrodatbank.com](http://www.Astrodatbank.com). Robert analyzed her chart step-by-step.

(1) The first consideration is the Ascendant: 10° Scorpio. The natural house of the rising sign carries your ambiance. This is your initial and most important impression of the person. Scorpio is about power and other peoples' money. Right away, we know that Martha is highly emotional, very dependent on her environment, and inflexible.

Martha Stewart  
 Natal Chart (2)  
 Aug 3 1941  
 1:33 pm EDT +4:00  
 Jersey City, NJ  
 40°44'34" N 74°1'04" W 041°  
 Geometric  
 Tropical  
 Placidus  
 Mean Node



(2) Next, the rulers of the Ascendant, Mars and Pluto. Mars is in the 5th just behind the 6th. If a planet is within 5° of the next house, its influence is working for that next house (8° for an angular house.) Her Mars works for the 6th. Mars is in Aries, its domicile. Pluto is in the 9th, in Leo. One ruler of the Ascendant is in the 6th. The ruler of 1 in 6 makes you feel subservient. Are you going to overcompensate or remain servile? Since Mars is in its domicile, it belongs to itself. You're king in your own home - you don't serve anyone else. This Mars has stability, duration and influence. She will work continuously, and a person who does that comes out well-prepared.

The other ruler, Pluto, is very elevated in the chart. The ruler of 1 in 9 means that you want freedom. Mars and Pluto are both in fire signs. Pluto is the higher octave of Mars. Fire gives energy and activity.

(3) Planets aspecting the Ascendant Each planet connected to the Ascendant contributes to formation of the personality. Astrology is the study of motivation and drive. What attracts you and how strongly? What pushes you and how strongly?

Martha's Sun squares her Ascendant within less than 1° of arc. This confers will, ego, power drive. Her ninth-house Sun, being 8° from the Midheaven, works for the tenth. It's in Leo, so it's something special. The power of the Sun is different from the power of Mars. Mars is muscle. Sun's strength is its ability to organize. It carries the energy of "I must come to a realization." The Sun's connection to the Ascendant is by a square. The square has the nature of Mars. It speeds things up, forces issues. We must come to a showdown.

The best quality in a good Leo Sun is integrity. Its worst quality is self-involvement, which leads to insensitivity. Leos are very cheerful - that's their good side. Their bad side is that they're despotic. Martha was known for this last trait.

The realization of any sign is always 10 signs away. With a Leo MC, the snake wants to be crowned. Scorpio is a snake. The first house shows your efforts. The tenth shows the results. The second closest aspect to the Ascendant is a sextile from Venus in Virgo, the sign of its fall. A bad Venus gives a complete lack of sincerity. Her Venus is used for commercial purposes. You have to ask yourself: do I want to deal with this person?

(4) Take aspects to the ruler of the Ascendant.

- Jupiter is sextile Mars: a classical aspect for success. Luck and courage. Sextile is lucky. Martha's Jupiter is in dishonor (Gemini). When a planet is in dishonor, it means you push its material values alone. When it's in honor, you also push spiritual values.

- Sun is trine Mars: This Mars is weak by position (6th house). If it is connected with a more powerful planet, she begins to be subservient. Martha worked continuously. With an approaching trine, she was indefatigable.

What brought her trouble? Her Sun. What destroys is too much or too little of something. Her energy is phenomenal.

(5) The sign on the MC. Leo wants and demands perfection, and it will pay a premium price for it. She has to be perfect in her profession. Her father, shown by the 10th, demanded perfection of her and was never satisfied. Her 10th is ruled by the Sun. Ruler of 10th is in its domicile so Martha will not fall.

The worst thing you can do to a Leo is humiliate them. They do everything in view of others. Shame is their biggest motivator. Leo is too fragile; it's not a gut fighter like Scorpio. The difficulty with Leo is that it won't change. This is true of all fire signs. Martha was offered several opportunities to change her story and tell the truth, and she would not. She couldn't admit to having done wrong.

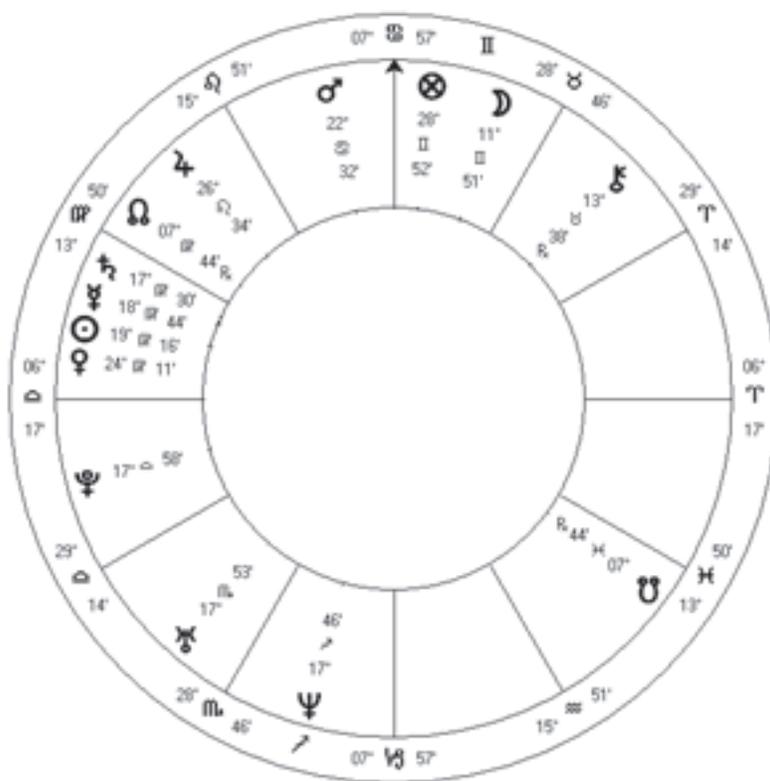
People who are very successful have horoscopes that are powerful and well-integrated. Usually their charts are very simple. The true image of Martha Stewart's horoscope is a Sun- Pluto conjunction in Leo trined by Mars in Aries. Nothing else really matters.

In Saturday's workshop, Robert discussed in detail the charts of two escorts, Dominique and Miwa. Only the highlights of Dominique's chart are presented here.

Dominique was born Sept. 12, 1979 at 8:23 AM PDT in Vancouver, Canada, 49N16, 123W07. She has 6° of Libra rising and Venus in Virgo in the 12th. Right away, we have a tremendous modification. Libra is angular and cardinal. Having its ruler in the 12th weakens the her. With the ruler of 1 in 12, you become your own worst enemy. You feel you are in prison, unable to exercise your free will, and your desire is to escape. The secret enemy of any sign is the previous sign.

Venus in Virgo is in its fall, so it feels benumbed, powerless. Virgo is ruled by Mercury, planet of

**Dominique**  
**Natal Chart (2)**  
 Sep 12 1979  
 8:23 am PDT +7:00  
 Vancouver, Canada  
 49°N15° 123°W07'  
*Geocentric*  
*Tropical*  
*Regiomontanus*  
*Mean Node*



commerce. Venus in Virgo's attitude is that everybody has a price, and it is more than willing to sell itself. To those members of the audience who had Venus in Virgo, Robert said that you must look at the Venus in relation to the whole chart. Look at the dispositor and planets connected to it, and is it angular or cadent. Dominique's Venus is weak, and so is the rest of her chart. As Robert pointed out, nobody goes into prostitution who is strong.

Dominique's Venus is part of a stellium consisting of Saturn, Mercury, Sun and Venus, all in the 12th and in Virgo. The only thing more important than the Ascendant is a stellium. To make things worse, nothing in Dominique's stellium makes a major aspect to the Ascendant, so there's no real interaction between them.

In the average chart, 3 or 4 planets aspect the Ascendant. There are two possibilities: no planets aspect the Ascendant or all 10 do. If none do, nothing pushes you to act. If all 10 do, you are pushed by all 10 and you go with the strongest. Lucille Ball had aspects from all 10 planets to her Capricorn Ascendant and she found ways to handle the energy.

Dominique has only one planet connected to the Ascendant - the Moon, with an orb of almost 6°. The Moon is not a sender, it's a receiver, and here the aspect is wide. Furthermore it is intercepted and in Gemini, where it becomes restless and unfocused.

To achieve, you need a goal, a direction. Dominique has none. She is interested in nothing except

survival. Her Moon is in the 12th sign from Cancer, so her instincts are bad. With so many planets in 12th, she has a passive approach to life. Dominique does not have enough fire in her chart to challenge the heaviness of all that earth. Dominique told Robert, "Surviving in New York is easy. All a woman has to do is swallow her pride and she can make money." The ruler of Dominique's Ascendant is in dishonor. It does harm to her feelings of self-esteem.

Who rules her destiny? The Moon, because it rules her MC. Although she is very beautiful, her horoscope promises a difficult lifestyle and short lifespan.

In answer to a question, Robert said that the north node has the nature of Jupiter and Venus, and the south node has the nature of Saturn and Mars. Nodes are only taken into account by conjunction and within 1°. He doesn't take aspects to nodes because nodes are receivers, not senders. He never talks to clients about karma because it isn't independently verifiable. Robert said that if you have the modern planets very strong in your horoscope, you feel like an outsider. Where do you find these people? On the fringes of society. (He cited astrologers as an example.) Most people don't respond to the modern planets in a constructive way.

Someone from the audience asked if we can make meaningful changes in our lives. Robert said yes, but there's a price. It takes a long time. Mercury is learning, Moon is instincts. Through constant repetition you can build up every planet in your horoscope.

Robert offers ongoing courses in astrology through his website, [www.Forumonastrology.com](http://www.Forumonastrology.com).

*~ by Sarah Laurent*