

Love or Money and Murder: The Chart of Laci Peterson

By Education Director Judy Collins

Judy presented Parts 1 and 2 of this material at the May and June meetings of ASA. You can see her charts by clicking [here](#).

Ninety percent of the time, homicide is by a person the victim knows. To investigate a murder astrologically, you must start with the first chart that has an absolute verified time. The time of the 911 call is often the best place to begin. Work with charts you know are correct and form some opinion. Look for planets or points that are aspected in the charts of both people involved.

Often, the chart of a murder victim won't look bad. Many victims have grand trines and other positive aspects. Perhaps these people are too trusting. The chart of the murderer generally looks worse.

Natal charts

Laci Peterson's birth data is May 4, 1975 at 4:44 am, Modesto, California. This time is not confirmed by a birth certificate. What could contribute to her being kidnapped or murdered? If her time is correct, the Placidus house system gives her 18 degrees of Scorpio — “the accursed degree in the accursed sign” — on the 8th cusp. Her Mercury is in 29 degrees of Taurus, conjunct the “weeping sisters” fixed star, giving Laci something to weep about. It was also quincunx Uranus, showing a tendency to make very poor decisions. Her south node is conjunct that Mercury, so she was fatally attracted to a man who had a love of money and good looks.

Laci had a grand trine involving the Moon, Venus, and Uranus. Since Uranus fell in her 7th, she wanted a marriage partner who would be exciting and unconventional. Her husband, Scott, was handsome and drove a purple Mercedes to show his uniqueness. However, his desire for freedom turned out to be her downfall. Laci's Uranus was in 29 degrees of Libra and retrograde, so the marriage was karmic. She also had a retrograde Neptune in the 8th house, giving her reason to be worried about her partner's finances.

Her natal Mercury and Uranus were quincunx. This shows that her partner could leave at a moment's notice. In her progressed chart, solar arc Mars squares Saturn. Saturn rules her 10th—the end of her marriage (4th from the 7th).

By solar arc progression, there's a trine involving Saturn, Jupiter, and Neptune. The eclipse of Dec. 12 hit Neptune, activating all those planets. On Dec. 19 a full moon at 27° Gemini occurred right between her progressed Mercury and south node, setting off the natal Mercury-Uranus quincunx. This meant a fight was coming.

Solar arc Uranus squares her natal Moon, which rules her 4th house (her burial site). Nately, Saturn is in her 4th, shows a delayed burial.

Scott Peterson's birth time is not known, so Judy used the noon chart. His known data is October 24, 1972 in San Diego, California. He has a yod, and Neptune fills in the sensitive point between the two sextiles. His Saturn is at the degree of the nodes, in Gemini, giving him an inability to communicate or to think through long-term consequences. His Sun, Mercury and Venus are virtually unsuspected.

In Scott's solar arc progressed chart, nearly every natal point was hit negatively by a solar arc planet. The June 10, 2002 eclipse hit Saturn and that is about the time he took out the insurance policy on Laci—but not one on himself. Whenever an event happens on an eclipse, it's fated. It's pretty hard to get out of it.

The third partner of the love triangle, Amber Frey, was born on Feb. 10, 1975 in San Diego. Her time is not known, so Judy used noon. Most of her personal planets are unsuspected, indicating that she is shallow and amoral. Her main role was to be the karmic trigger. Her main configuration is a nasty t-square in which Mars opposes Saturn, and Pluto squares them both.

Amber's natal Uranus is conjunct Scott's Sun. The night they met, transiting Venus hit that Uranus-Sun combination and also less than one day after an eclipse.

Event charts

Whenever you study a homicide, it is helpful to look at the last contact the victim had with anyone prior to being murdered. Laci talked to her parents on the phone at 8:30 pm. What in that chart would lead you to believe something might happen? Look at applying aspects only. The Moon opposes Uranus by 16 minutes and a Venus-Mars conjunction in Scorpio squares Jupiter by 48 minutes. Seven minutes after Laci hung up the phone, Pluto went into her 4th house.

The next chart is for the time of the 911 call made by her stepfather. What is rising? 16 degrees of Cancer. According to Ivy Jacobson, an event is ruled by the Sun and the activity is ruled by the Moon. Let's look at the aspects the Moon makes. The Moon is quincunx the 8th cusp: fear of death or kidnapping. The Moon is also at the degree of the nodes: she probably is already dead. Mercury rules the 4th (the end of the matter) and is in 22 degrees of Capricorn. Mercury is quincunx Saturn, showing that Laci's "disappearance" will be resolved by news of her death. Saturn is in the 12th: her body has been hidden and the person responsible (7th house) will go to prison.

Scott was arrested on April 19 at 11:10 am in Modesto. Again, 16 degrees of Cancer was rising. The Saturn and Pluto opposition is still in effect, and both are squared by Venus. The Sun exactly opposes his Uranus, and the degree on the 4th house of the arrest chart is 28 Virgo, trine the degree of Laci's ill fated Mercury. Keep an eye on late degrees when the trial comes up.

Other relevant charts

Laci's body was found on April 14, 2003 at 12:15 pm in San Francisco. There are many hits from her chart to that chart. There is a confirmed sighting of Scott with a boat on December 24 at 9:30 am at a convenience store near his home. The Moon was 3 degrees of Virgo. This degree is important in his and Amber's chart. Between 11:40 and 11:42 am on December 24, Venus and Pluto were exactly parallel in the heavens. Could this be the exact time he disposed of the body? All we know for sure is that it happened between 9:30 AM and 12 noon.