



Forecasting Tips and *The Eight Winds of Life*

By Celeste Teal

Having the ability to make accurate forecasts is a major focus for most astrologers; it is the possibility to do this that keeps us attracted to the science. Ever more important, is to learn how to best utilize the available potential so that our clients or we can benefit best.

In my research, I've found a fairly simple method for ferreting out the major theme in a life for a specific time period. This is by thoroughly analyzing the progressed aspects.

For any given time period, there won't be more than a handful of "active" aspects in the progressed chart. Close aspects among the natal and progressed planets show how we've been utilizing our potential and to where our previous efforts have brought us. We begin today to create our tomorrows, but choices yesterday and the day before have led to our today. So, these aspects sometimes show the effects of our choices for some time past. There is also the factor of what we're here to learn; we aren't on vacation; sometimes we seem to be pulled into situations that weren't of our choosing.

Without dressing up the aspects or adding any frills, we first get to the root message in the progressed aspects

and then we can use all the tools that are available to us to capitalize on promising themes or find the antidote for troubling themes. Knowing limitations help us avoid risky measures while we can also find the best times to push forward. If one can find the most likely physical or earth plane manifestations shown in the aspects, it helps tremendously in knowing where to focus the applications of psychological and spiritual remedies. It becomes much easier to work out stressful energy in a conscientious and practical way, especially so of preventable illnesses or becoming accident-prone.

Last April, I attended a seminar by Gary Zukav, where he told an old Buddha story about the eight winds:

praise & blame,
joy & suffering,
credit & ridicule,
and gain & loss.
As the story goes,
there was a young
man who thought

he'd become enlightened, so he wrote a poem, called a Gotha, and sent it to his master who lived 300 miles up the Yangsu river. In the poem he declared that he had become enlightened and was no longer blown by the eight winds. His master read the poem and sent it back to him after writing, "fart fart" at the bottom. When the young man received it, he was taken aback and decided he must speak to his master. So he made the 300-mile trek up the river and standing before his master said, "Surely I have some degree of enlightenment; what do you

mean by writing this on my poem?" His master replied, "You say you are no longer blown by the eight winds but two little farts blew you all the way up here."

I wrote down the eight winds on a post it note and stuck it on my computer tower. They seemed familiar somehow and I thought of a phrase from The Prophet; "your joy is your sorrow unmasked". I kept thinking about it, realizing how one can be blown by joy just as easily as by suffering. Or, by praise, as easily as blame. Some winds are more desirable; they may even be a bit heady, but while we're here in this earth-school, as Gary calls it, we are likely to continue being blown by these winds. Are we willing to give up

**the eight winds:
praise & blame,
joy & suffering,
credit & ridicule,
and gain & loss.**

one to avoid the other? Perhaps the ultimate lesson is in how we let the winds affect us...

I continued to dwell on these winds and it finally dawned on me that these eight winds sounded very much like the themes that most often come to light in the progressed chart. In my books, I've constantly referred to finding the prominent "theme" and showed how to do it, but I never actually attached names to the possible themes. I decided to start watching to see if the prominent theme in a chart could be described by one of the eight winds.

Very applicable!

Forecasting Tips and The Eight Winds of Life

Continued from Page 3

In the cases I've tested, at least one of the eight winds is identifiable. There have been occasions in which two of the winds are blowing at the same time. This can happen when there are an emphasized number of active aspects in the chart, with one set of aspects implying one set of circumstances and another set of aspects pointing to another set of circumstances. This was the case in the story of Annie in *Predicting Events with Astrology*. Within one week, her home burned and she wed. Her chart at the time showed the *two* themes — one the wind of sudden and

unexpected loss and one the wind of joy.

It goes without saying that the planets themselves provide clues to identify the winds. For instance, an afflicting Mars can indicate “danger of” loss or danger of suffering. A physical planet, it frequently warns of physical threats through illness or accident. Saturn may show “fear of” ridicule if afflicting or Neptune of blissfully experiencing the joy of a long-held dream if well configured. The Sun is connected with the winds of credit and praise and with their opposites according to the aspects. The sum of the aspects, including the houses ruled, paints a very clear picture. Transits then underscore and time the event. And don't forget that if a planet

becomes active, both the natal and progressed position is a hot spot for transits.

Since I didn't make this connection until after completing my new book, I thought I'd pass it along to you here in case it proves helpful. Best wishes on your astrological journey. *Celeste Teal*

Celeste Teal's new book, ***Identifying Planetary Triggers***, includes a chapter for each of the planetary returns - Moon through Saturn. Another section is devoted to the progressed chart and another to transits, making it a highly usable reference for the intermediate and advanced student.

Celeste's website: www.moonvalleyastrologer.com is a wealth of great information too. ***Don't miss it.***

This page left blank intentionally