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Integration Through the Lunar Phases, Nodes, and Part of Fortune
ASA Saturday Workshop, April 16, 2005

Joanne's workshop began with a discussion of the Moon and then broadened into lunar phases, the Part of Fortune, and the nodes.

The Moon sign: what we do to feel safe.

Aries: Constantly reacts; impulsive and aggressive.

Taurus: Establish; does not adapt.

Gemini: Talks and writes.

Cancer: Withdraws to feel safe

Leo: Over-emotes; drama makes them feel safe.

Virgo: Analyzes.

Libra: Needs feedback to what they are saying to feel safe.

Scorpio: Tries to get control.

Sagittarius: Needs to travel, get away

Capricorn: Acts like authority figure to feel safe; take charge.

Aquarius: Unpredictability makes them feel safe.

Pisces: Escapes into an inner world.

When you put the Sun and Moon together, you get the lunar phase. This gives a sense of how you function in life.

Lunar phases: how we function in life

New Moon: Sun and Moon in the same sign or adjacent signs; the Moon is ahead of the Sun. This person operates instinctively; it's good in emergency situations. Operates instinctively, moves toward goals that aren't well defined. Faith in instinct. Can be a leader.

Crescent: Moon is 45 – 90° past Sun. Struggle to move ahead. The person has gained enough consciousness to be a little wary of the unknown. There are safety issues in the crescent Moon.

1st Quarter: 90-135°. This phase is introduced by square, and its essence is patterned around the square, though there's a trine later in the phase. A square challenges you to do something you've never done; once you meet a challenge, another one arises. This person may thrive on change. Their issue is learning to work with crises. When we reach the trine within the cycle, there's enough consciousness to create change without crisis. Still, this person lives a life of change.

Gibbous: 135-180°. This phase begins with a Sun-Moon sesquisquare. It's a very Virgoan, critical phase. If this is your phase, you are not quite aware of everything that's going on and you know it, so you try to perfect their understanding by constantly probing and asking questions. This can be annoying to others. Within the phase is a quincunx. At

this point, we're trying to go somewhere, what we think is our destination, and find a block in the road. Quincunxes often mean unexpected detours. Simple quincunx tells you which direction to go. You take the detour and get distracted by your destiny. Maybe you're on the way to a job interview and you pass a bookstore and go in, and you find an astrology book. Once you pick it up you can't put it down, and that is our destiny. When you have a yod, you have to choose between two alternatives.

If you have a quincunx between Sun and Moon, this is a major turning point in your evolution. You'll have several changes in life course. This is how it should be. You still need an outcome. Quincunx people have trouble reaching outcomes – they get distracted – can't complete conversations.

If you were born with the quincunx, your purpose in life comes from recognizing distractions, paying attention to what happens, and then getting back on course. The gibbous Moon is looking for perfection and direction.

Full Moon: 180°-225° : This is the phase of objective consciousness. You need to be aware of possible repercussions of your words and actions, as others are strongly influenced by what you do. So you need to take action only after full consideration of all possible variables. After the Full Moon point, the Moon is coming back toward the Sun. Every time you operate on instinct, you get the lesson that you should have thought ahead. Issues in your life are characterized by the opposition aspect: separations, problems with other people.

Disseminating Moon – 225°-270°: This is a very Jupiterian phase. This person is challenged to share with others what he or she has found meaningful. Their ability to share themselves can make them good at sales, preaching, con games, and the like. The trine within the phase can disseminate with less stress.

Third quarter Moon: 270°-315°: Crisis of consciousness. "Maybe what I thought wasn't true." Marc Robertson said a 3rd quarter person goes through incredible internal changes that are not seen by others. One day, when the person feels complete, they drop the old mask.

Balsamic: the Moon is 45° or less behind the Sun. This person leads almost a prophetic life. They feel they no longer fit with what's around them. May be ahead of their times, living out the issues of the emerging generation. The balsamic moon person feels a little separate from everyone else. They feel the pull of the unknown future. The seeds they plant will make a difference to future generations.

The balsamic phase by progression is a transitional time. You need to have faith that there will be something for you in the future but you're still a bit trapped. The progressed New Moon brings freedom, a new chapter in life.

Look at the match-up between your lunation cycle and your Saturn cycle. The Moon phase shows what we're ready for, and Saturn's position in its cycle shows what's expected of us in the world. We spend about 7 years in each phase.

At the Saturn return, we learn what we need to do in the world. The progressed Moon cycle tells us what we need to do internally to make that happen.

Calculating all our planetary phases can give a lot of insight. For example, the Mercury-Jupiter phase shows how we naturally expand our way of thinking. Jupiter expands the mind, and Mercury processes the information it brings in. The Mars-Venus phase shows how we get what we want.

Planets are like little characters. Jupiter is the teenager who doesn't want to stop whatever it's doing. Uranus is the rebel. They all rely on you – the Sun, your self-consciousness. In fact, planets don't become fully themselves until they've been touched by the progressed Sun.

The Part of Fortune: Expressing the whole self

The Part of Fortune is based solely on the Sun-Moon phase. Its formula is $\text{Asc.} + \text{Sun} - \text{Moon}$. Some people reverse the formula for night births: $\text{Asc.} + \text{Moon} - \text{Sun}$, which is the same formula Dane Rudhyar used for the Part of Spirit. Joanne told us that both can be mind-blowing in a solar return.

The Part of Fortune shows where you're going with your life. The Part of Spirit shows where you've been and what you've developed in the past.

The Ascendant shows how you bring things into the world. The Part of Fortune falls in the area of life where you can most creatively and purposefully express your Sun-Moon phase. If you do not use different day and night calculations, the house the Part of Fortune falls in will correspond closely to the lunation cycle. The Part of Fortune is where you can express your whole self out into the world.

Any Part is calculated by adding the Ascendant + a faster-moving planet and subtracting a slower-moving planet. For example, the $\text{Asc.} + \text{Mercury} - \text{Jupiter}$ shows where Mercury and Jupiter can best express their energy out into the world.

Moon's Nodes: putting it all together

The nodes are like a good mother: she has two parts. One, the south node, wants to be safe and comfortable. But a good mother also wants you to leave the nest, to take risks, to become more than you were. That's the north node. They always occur opposite each other, and they're always linked.

As one audience member put it, the south node is our resume, and the north node is our application. The north node is not a complete leap into the unknown – just the next logical step. There's still an element of protection.

Whatever else is going on in your chart, if the nodal axis is not working well the rest won't come together.

In response to audience questions, Joanne talked about problems that can occur when one person's planets conjoin another person's nodes. For example, if one person's Sun is on another's south node, the Sun person can drain the South Node person unless both are conscious of what is going on. The Sun person needs to grow in that area, and the south node person does not. Likewise, a Moon-south node connection can be draining to the south node person.

If A's north node is on B's south node, which often happens between parents and children, A has something that B needs to be learning and vice versa. It can be a polarizing relationship, positive or negative. It's rocky if you don't allow the process to happen, or if one person takes without giving anything back.

If your own Sun is on your south node, your purpose is to grow and develop in connection to the south node. Your purpose is to be giving, but you can be drained. The south node needs to know when to stop, when you've given enough, when to get back in balance. The south node is never a problem unless you let it become one. Joanne mentioned that south node issues are major with clients.

In Summary

The phases, Part of Fortune, and nodes all work together. The phase is how you are internally, how you learn and grow, whether it's through instinctive action or through rationality. Sun is the growth in consciousness, Moon is all our memories. The Moon rules all containers.

The Sun illuminates the past, making us aware of how it influences our life and creates our future. Together the Sun and Moon create our inner psychology.

Add the Ascendant, and you get the Part of Fortune. It shows how we outwardly express our sense of who we are. It's an outlet outside of ourselves to demonstrate the qualities we're learning.

Along the way of growth, we face choices, shown by the nodes. Do I move forward or stay where I am safe? Watch any major transit going over nodes. Saturn conjunct the south node is a time of release or loss. This is not necessarily an easy transit. Saturn is a needed disciplinarian, pushing us forward in the direction we need to go.