

## ASTROLOGY

### Introduction

You probably don't believe astrology is a science. That's okay. Still, you read your horoscope in the paper every day. Why? Because it's fun, and quite often, it's right.

It's also fun to learn about yourself, as well as your friends and loved ones, to understand why we all do what we do. If the planets can help shed some light on us all, help us reach our goals, become successful, and find the right mate, why not explore them? Human beings have been using a study of the planets as a guide to study themselves ever since the dawn of man, and while other methods have long died out, astrology continues to thrive. Hmmm ... there must be something to this....

### History and Background

Although astrology is not considered an academic science, many of its supporters are in fact scientists and professors themselves. Most have come to believe in it for two reasons: it has steadfastly stood the test of time—even grown in popularity over the centuries—and its analyses and predictions have proven so uncannily accurate that it has quelled the skepticism of the most ardent disbelievers.

When ancient Egyptians studied the stars and planets, they understood that there was more to be learned from them than just the cold data of astronomy. They perceived that as celestial bodies orbit, they have a profound effect on each other. And since there is no life on any of the other planets in our solar system, we can confine our study to their effects on the earth, and specifically, the most highly-evolved creature on earth, man.

Your astrological profile, then, is quite complex: the fundamental qualities of your personality are formed by the positions of the sun, moon, and planets at the time and place of your birth; the changeable aspects of your personality, as well as the events of your life, are influenced by the changing positions of these heavenly bodies every minute of every day. Because the sun is easily the dominant celestial body (every planet, of course, orbits around it), it has the greatest influence over you; thus people of the same sun sign have many similar qualities. But each person on earth is a unique individual; astrologically, this is because those celestial bodies are always moving, changing positions relative to individuals on earth.

For example, your sun sign may be Taurus. But there are millions of Taureans on earth, and they are obviously not all the same type of person. If, however, we were to compare the fundamental qualities of each, we would find a great deal of similarities. The differences are accounted for first by each individual's time and place of birth (within the month of Taurus), and second by the effects of all those bodies up there moving around from day to day.

So if you were born, say, on May 12, 1961 in San Francisco, you would share many of the same personality traits as a person born on April 29, 1947 in Paris, but a great deal of specifics would vary, due to the differences of time and place. These differences would then be compounded by your own reactions to the moving planets, leading to two fundamentally similar, yet specifically different, individuals. This is why it's so much fun to have your own horoscope charted, because it's done to such fine detail that it can be yours and yours only.

Naturally, then, this book cannot hope to provide you with an exact astrological profile—that is only possible in a private session with an astrologer who will take the time to draw up your chart and analyze it. Instead, we'll focus on the most important determiner—the sun sign. We'll also point out the effects of the smaller factors—the moon and the planets—and along the way, have some fun with it all.

One last note: If you were born on a day that falls on the borderline of two signs, your astrological profile probably reflects qualities of both. You'll want to study each sign that applies to you to get the full picture.

ARIES (March 21-April 20)

#### Origin/Representation

The signs of the Zodiac begin with Aries, perhaps because in Greek astrology, Aries was represented by the war goddess Pallas Athene, who was not born but sprang from the head of Zeus as a fully-formed adult. Consequently, Aries is closely associated with both the head and war.

In other ancient cultures, the symbol for Aries was a rooster, indicating both aggressiveness and braggadocio; but eventually it came to be represented by a ram, indicating aggressiveness and stubbornness.

Aries' planetary ruler is Mars (the god of war in Roman mythology; in Greek mythology, his name is Ares). Its influence can be found in your absolute fearlessness, even ferocity, your preference for red, and your lucky day of the week— Tuesday (in French: mardi, named after Mars). Mars also represents energy, ambition, and action, as well as some negative traits such as audacity and thoughtlessness.

#### Positive Qualities

Not surprisingly, then, if you are an Aries, you are a natural leader. Your energy and enthusiasm are boundless, as is your physical courage. Pioneers are rampant in this category, as are politicians. You care little about the past, preferring to seek new avenues into the future, so you will always throw yourself head and body into new projects, which makes you an ideal leader in business and community. You rarely allow yourself to be found in a subservient role, such as a secretary or laborer. Instead, you will go out of your way to head your own business, even if it's a small one.

You are also known for your directness. Issues are generally black and white to you, and once you decide on something, you stick to it, proclaiming the strength of your position in no uncertain terms. This straight-to-the-point approach can be quite effective in situations like strategy meetings, where much time is lost in idle discussion, but an Arian's bluntness can often be upsetting to others, or even offensive. Tact and diplomacy are not in your nature, so smoothing over someone's hurt feelings is awkward for you.

#### Trouble Areas

Most trouble spots in Arians' lives involve reckless actions. Aries is a fire sign—highly impetuous and combustible. You often leap before you look. In dangerous situations, you are the first to risk your life, but you must be careful not to misjudge your chances. In relationships, romantic and otherwise, you are prone to get angry at small provocations. In particular, you tend to be resistant to criticism, becoming defensive when your weaknesses are pointed out. Fortunately, however, your anger is short-lived; once the fire is put out, it will not reignite.

You sometimes arouse envy in others because of your leadership position, your tendency to show off, and your impatience with others. You believe that when something needs to be done, it should be done right away, in a certain way, and you can't understand why anyone should be slow or difficult about it. You'll end up doing the job yourself if you feel others aren't holding up their end.

Your natural aggressiveness is both commendable and dangerous, depending on how you direct it, of course. Allans are the war-starters of the zodiac if other astrological factors are negatively influenced. It's best to keep this in check by channeling your fighting spirit into business or sports-related competition—you can win those battles and hopefully make yourself and those around you happier as well.

## Physical Qualities and Activities

You are the most naturally athletic of any sign in the zodiac. Your body is your vehicle of life, and you tend to it well. Excellence in sports, which others struggle to achieve, comes rather easily to you, as if you were born to it. You are most effective in individual sports, such as track and field or tennis, and your independent spirit only furthers your drive for success. There is a particular affinity for metal in this sign, so an individual sport that combines with that—such as shooting, fencing, bicycling, or race-car driving, is ideal.

Since Aries is a sign of such vitality and youth, health problems are fortunately uncommon. If anything, they occur not by chance but by your own doing, such as overexertion, overwork, or frustration from being in a situation where your strengths are not being employed. Headaches from an overtaxed system are the most frequent maladies (having sprung from the head of Zeus, this should come as no surprise!). When you are laid up, you feel utterly useless and depressed, because your primary vehicle is out of order. But in general, good health is certainly one quality you can boast of—yet another reason for you to be envied.

## Preferences

In clothing, movement is essential to you, so comfort takes precedence over fashion. You have an athletic physique, so you like to show it off with simple duds—shorts, T-shirts, warm-up suits, loose-fitting tops—anything that won't confine your motion, really.

Your favorite color is definitely red, the color of Mars and fire. Shades of red, brown, and yellow also appear, but nothing beats red for you.

You like your cars fast and sporty. A vehicle that defines the same athletic characteristics of your body is the preferred choice. It must feel good to drive, handle with agility, and accelerate with gusto. A red Corvette, Porsche, or 300-ZX is quite common with Aries drivers.

As for food, you prefer meat. It's red, it's substantial, and it's usually cooked over a flame (barbecuing appeals to all fire signs). Other reds also figure into your diet, such as spicy, peppered foods like curries and chiles (fire again) and tomato-based foods like spaghetti. Even with desserts, red fruits appear: cherry, strawberry and raspberry-flavored cakes, yogurt, and ice cream, as well as apple pie. Your ideal beverage, of course, is red wine.

You don't spend a lot of time at home, since you're always jetting from this activity or that, but the way your home looks is quite important to you. Its design and decor will reflect your strong independent streak, so you won't display a middling, run-of-the-mill taste, or calm, pastoral colors and images. You prefer strong, bold lines—in furniture and layout. Frilliness and gentility are nowhere to be seen. Your most likely motif is modern, perhaps even futuristic, with lots of high-tech touches like big-screen TVs, computers, and other gadgets. (In fact, you always appreciate a new toy as a gift.)

## Occupations/Financial Profile

You are well-suited for a career in the military and/or politics. There are more Arians in the armed services than any other sign (this has been proven statistically). Part of it is your affinity for metal, but your ambition and hard work also tends to be rewarded with more power in the military structure, and there is certainly a love of directness there, and a lack of tact. Metal also influences other career choices: many Arians are mechanics, surgeons, butchers, and drivers of any type of vehicle.

Needless to say, there is a long list of powerful military and/or political leaders in this sign, including the dictator Adolf Hitler, Soviet revolutionary president Nikolai Lenin, the formidable rulers Charlemagne and Otto von Bismarck, the great president and revolutionary thinker Thomas Jefferson, and the boisterous, power-monger-ing senator Joseph McCarthy. But leaders of other varieties also show up, including the demanding conductors Arturo Toscanini and Leopold Stokowski and billionaire industrialist J.P. Morgan.

Financially speaking, although you can't be bothered with most details, money is an exception. This is due to your strong need to be independent—if you're in debt, you're in a sort of financial prison, and will therefore feel confined and depressed until you're back in the black; then you can dash around with the best of them.

Since you relish a challenge, you are prone to financial recklessness. You have a tendency to move from job to job, either from boredom or an inability to compromise and work harmoniously with others. As long as you use your sense of independence, leadership, and ambition constructively, you will be financially rewarded. Just be careful not to flaunt it too much on showy things, or to invest in get-rich-quick schemes. Money fuels your sense of freedom, so try to be responsible with it.

### Love and Relationships

Your stubborn independence often leads to loneliness, particularly in short-tempered Arians. The need to lead, to explore, to pioneer, often translates to impatience in relationships. At first, a new relationship will be supercharged, fiery, passionate in every way. But as it begins to settle and mature, you are likely to get bored, and begin looking for that excitement elsewhere. This constant relationship "exploring" may be fun at first, but the bouncing around could ultimately get very depressing, as you later find yourself without the long-term companionship others enjoy.

Your ideal partnerships are with the other two fire signs, Leo and Sagittarius—you have a great deal in common with both. Aries and Libra is an excellent match of opposites, however—it mates Mars with Venus, and many secondary Arian character traits are primary with Libra, and vice-versa.

Those partnerships you should avoid are with Pisces (too sentimental for you), Gemini (too much bickering), and Virgo (too fussy for you).

### TAURUS (April 21-May 20)

#### Origin/Representation

Unlike Aries, which has had several symbols over time, Taurus has always been represented by the bull. To the casual observer, it might seem odd that a bull, which is often thought of as an aggressive, primal creature, should symbolize a sign of peace and love. The reason? Timing. In ancient cultures, most springtime celebrations occurred around May Day, when the last traces of winter were finally over, the land could be plowed again, and fertility was in the air. So the bull constellation's appearance in the night sky coincided with these festivities.

Also, the progression of the zodiacal signs occurs from the head down, so while Aries is represented by the head, Taurus has a strong connection to the neck, larynx, and ears.

Taurus' planetary ruler is Venus, the goddess of peace, love, and harmony. If you are a Taurus, Venus' likely influence on you includes your romantic, caring nature, your preference for the color blue (although there is some debate about this), and your favorite day—Friday (in French, vendredi, named after Venus).

#### Positive Qualities

You are a builder, restorer, and caretaker of those things you find important—primarily the earth, animals, and people. You are self-reliant, painstakingly patient, and stubborn—bullish, in other words. You take a great deal of pride and pleasure in fixing up and maintaining a home, or discovering a starving animal and nursing it back to health, or planting trees where there were none before.

Because of this open-armed kindness, people find you wonderfully comfortable to be with. You make a great friend—you're stable, loyal, and loving. Touch is essential to you—you love to hug and be hugged.

You appreciate beauty in all its forms, due to your close affinity with nature. You prefer to surround yourself with people who have highly attractive qualities—be they external or internal. You cannot tolerate ugliness, especially of the earth—this makes you a firm opponent of pollution in all its forms.

Since truth and beauty are so closely related, you also have a preoccupation with honesty, and a low tolerance for corruption. You are forthright in your conversation, and so look people straight in the eyes when you speak to them. In fact, you tend to distrust those who cannot meet your gaze. Although some Taureans have been successful political leaders (primarily as peacemakers, such as Harry Truman), most are quite content to be led (this fits with the chronology of the zodiac: Aries, the first sign, is a natural leader; Taurus tends to follow him). That is not to say you are subservient; your self-reliance allows you to be successful and to be entrusted with great responsibility. But it is usually within a larger context: in other words, you make a great executive within the framework of a corporation, but you are not a maverick. You don't need to be president. In fact, you tend to shun the spotlight. Large crowds can be intimidating to you, so you are much more effective in small groups. Many Taureans are teachers, an occupation that displays great patience, nurturing, and self-reliance within the larger framework of the educational system.

### Trouble Areas

Your desire for security and stability are so strong you tend to be overly stubborn and possessive. No matter what misfortune, obstacles, or heartache befall you, you simply will not budge. Although this is admirable, too often it limits you and frustrates others in their dealings with you. If you refuse to see someone else's side of an argument, there is little chance of resolving the conflict, so your obstinance will hurt you in the end. You are prone to brooding and dark moods, but these are not faults, as long as you don't get mired in prolonged states of depression. Step back and look at the big picture if this occurs, and chances are the "builder" in you will begin to see the light at the end of the tunnel.

### Physical Qualities and Activities

Like your symbol, you have a tendency to be big-boned, strong, perhaps even overweight. You're not very fast on your feet, but you can tangle with the best of them. You are an earth sign, so you enjoy being in contact with the ground; this fact, combined with your acute sense of touch and great patience, makes you an ideal gardener.

Because of your affinity with the ear and throat, music is prominent in your life. Your voice is one of your most distinguishing features, and you know how to use it to your advantage—many Taureans are excellent orators, singers and singing instructors.

But this also makes you prone to physical ailments in the throat and neck area. Treat any infections immediately, because they could lead to more serious problems elsewhere. Also, you gain weight easily, so be careful not to overindulge on the food you love so much, and exercise regularly.

### Preferences

Because of your great sense of touch, you love to feel your clothes. Although it's important that they look good, because you are known for your taste, it's far more important that they feel good. Soft fabrics, especially silk, appeal to you.

For the most part, you tend to look better in clothes that are more classic, loose-fitting, and conservative. Don't choose modern, urban styles—their vertical lines will make you look awkward. Softer curves and softer fabrics are your choice.

You have broad taste in music—you appreciate rock, jazz, blues, folk, classical, and international styles all equally well. Your taste in art leans toward landscape painting and photography—they're more earth-based, and "truer" representations of the world as you see it.

You prefer a home that's more secluded—perhaps behind some trees, or in the middle of a block. This coincides with your tendency not to lead or stand out, but to take your place in the larger context. You are extremely protective and possessive of your home, however—security is foremost.

As with your clothing, your home must be comfortable and inviting—it must feel good to your senses. It reflects your good taste and affinity for natural beauty, so everything in it is of a high quality. You are attracted to hardwood floors, solid oak and other fine woods, lots of plants, and anything that seems to have an earthy quality to it.

As mentioned earlier, your favorite color is likely to be blue, based on Venus' influence. However, other astrologers believe Taureans are attracted to the earth tones, green and brown, because Taurus is an earth sign. As with any true astrological profile, sun signs are merely the beginning, so a full examination of your rising signs and houses will tell the tale.

Food is very important to you—no other sign values it as strongly as you do. You love to cook. Most food comes from the earth, so preparing it is natural to you. You take great pride in your meals, and the Venus influence here also enables you take sensual pleasure in your enjoyment of food. Many of the world's most accomplished chefs are Taureans.

### Occupations/Financial Profile

Because Taurus rules the voice, some of the world's greatest singers are Taureans. The list includes Ella Fitzgerald, Barbra Streisand, Bing Crosby, and Perry Como—all of whom are not just fine singers, but noted particularly for the remarkably smooth texture of their voices. They're like fine wine, aurally.

Taureans are often thought of as "salt of the earth" types, and this is reflected in actors who are typecast as big, strong, silent, and earthy characters: Gary Cooper, Glenn Ford, and Henry Fonda fit this bill to a tee. You could even include Harry S. Truman in this category: as a president, he was very level-headed, and resolutely strong in his convictions (it takes a lot of guts to make the decision to drop an atomic bomb on two cities and stand by it).

You are most inclined to a job that involves tangible things, as opposed to ideas. You're good with your hands: you make a wonderful farmer, carpenter, construction worker, or chef. Your love of nature also can lead to a career as an environmentalist or animal trainer. Other land-based jobs, such as real estate agent, surveyor, or forester, are also strong possibilities.

Financially, you are no gambler. You prefer a more conservative approach to money, which includes stable, long-term investments and a steady, reliable income. Security is what's important to you, not adventure. The only negative in this picture is your famous obstinance. Without an open mind, you might not see a good opportunity when it comes along. It's healthy to be practical—that instinct will always protect you, but sometimes your bull-headedness can get in the way of greatness.

### Love and Relationships

As a lover, you are not as tempestuous as, say, Pisces, Leo, or Scorpio, but you are warm, sensual, and highly affectionate. As a mate, you are often ideal, because of your great capacity for love, your patience, and your stability.

Your ideal matches are with Scorpio (although it can be stormy, it's proven to endure), and the two other earth signs, Virgo and Capricorn. Both are very stable and harmonious with you, although the latter is perhaps better suited to a business partnership. Even a partner of your own sign is compatible, although it's not often found.

Signs to avoid are Aries (although the Arian's strong will can be compatible with certain Taureans who are more docile, they're generally considered too independent-minded), Sagittarius (much too free-spirited for you), and Gemini (again, too restless).

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)

## Origin/Representation

Gemini is symbolized by twins. In Greek astrology, those twins were Castor and Pollux, twin stars in the sky and heroic brothers in myth. Castor was a great horseman, and Pollux was a champion boxer (ironic, because Gemini is not normally a violent sign). More commonly, the twins are thought of as bright children, which gives Gemini a sense of mirth, innocence, and great wonder.

Gemini is ruled by the planet Mercury, which symbolizes great intelligence, communication (Mercury was the Messenger of the gods), eloquence, inquisitiveness, diversity, travel, speed, and changeability. If you are a Gemini, Wednesday is your lucky day (mercredi in French), and your best color is likely to be silver or gray.

## Positive Qualities

First of all, you're a great thinker. Many of the world's intellectuals are Geminis. Your mind is insatiable—it's so quick on the uptake that you can't understand why everyone else is just now grasping what you got in a split second. In fact, by the time it takes them to catch up with you, your mind has become bored by the inactivity. You've already turned and twisted the knowledge around just to see what would happen, and to keep your mind active.

Some people mistake this playful brilliance as deception or dishonesty, because they can't keep up with you. But you're just trying to keep things interesting. Your mind needs to be fed with new ideas on a constant basis. Having recognized this at an early age, you've become remarkably adept at satisfying it. Wit is your forte. You love to laugh, because you're so good at sharp humor. You're particularly fond of puns and wordplay—Mercury rules writing, language, and a love of words—so you're quite the social charmer.

You're popular, and you know it. You enjoy people, and you love to watch them to keep your mind busy. You're at your best at parties, bars, the office water cooler—anywhere you can find people with whom you can laugh. You thrive on gossip and news—you need information constantly, more even than food.

You're an avid reader—again, because of your need for ideas and your love of words. In fact, you're one of the few people who can read a book, watch TV, and talk on the phone all at the same time—you relish thinking on several levels at once.

You have a natural affinity for word puzzles— you're unbeatable at Scrabble and a regular crossword solver—but you should consider using your language talents for more useful purposes. Learn a foreign language, or read more constructively for knowledge that will help you in the real world. You certainly have the aptitude for it—it's just a question of applying yourself.

Many Geminis are multi-talented. The great thinker Jean-Paul Sartre (June 21) was a poet, novelist, and philosopher; John F. Kennedy (May 29) was not only a great president but also a respected author (Profiles in Courage) and one of

America's most gifted intellectuals. The Russian composer Igor Stravinsky (June 5) showed his precocity by penning his most famous pieces at a young age, then, like a true Gemini, not content to rest on his laurels, continued to innovate and experiment to satisfy his own mind, at the expense of confusing the public. He even lectured on poetry at Harvard.

## Trouble Areas

Since Gemini is represented by twins, some people believe the sign has a tendency towards schizophrenia, or at the very worst, a dishonest, two-faced character. The truth is, you're probably just misunderstood. To you, it's natural to think on two levels at once, but others can't understand it. Similarly, your playfulness is easily misinterpreted as deceit, so be careful not to overdo it, and try to be more aware of others' reactions to you. Quite often, you're so busy entertaining, charming, and theorizing that you don't stop to notice the effect of your words—you're too preoccupied with the next thought to see where the last one went.

As brilliant as your mind can be, you have to work to rein it in. Your attention wanders off a lot, as does your train of thought. Sartre can be lucid and penetrating on one page, then wander off on an errant tangent the next. If you organize your thoughts with more patience, your words will have more power. Otherwise, people are likely to react to you by saying things like, "That's very interesting, but who cares?"

You tend to be careless in many ways. Gemini is an air sign, ruled by Mercury, both of which represent thoughts and ideas at the expense of feelings and sentimentality. So you are not easily hurt, but you can hurt others without even realizing it. And since you have little patience, you have difficulty spending a long time with one person—you grow bored too easily—so your chances of settling down are limited unless you can tame this instinct and learn to appreciate a slower, richer experience. For this reason, divorce rates among Geminis are exceedingly high. (Even in Kennedy's case, his wife Jackie was seemingly ideal from our perspective, yet she was not enough to keep his interest from wandering to the likes of Marilyn Monroe.)

Other signs of carelessness in Geminis include chronic unpunctuality, a tendency to change jobs as soon as the current one loses your interest, and a penchant for leaving projects unfinished. You are a sampler of everything, but a master of very few. You just can't seem to devote yourself wholeheartedly to one area of expertise, so you never acquire the thorough depth of knowledge required for success in that field. You bob on the surface of life, but rarely dive into it too deeply.

#### Physical Qualities and Activities

Gemini is an air sign, and the fact that it's ruled by Mercury also indicates speed. So you are most likely to be light and airy in many ways, including physical stature. You are slight and small-boned, but your most distinguishing features are your expressive eyes. They're busy watching everything, so they react a lot, moving from side to side, even expanding and dilating.

You love music, and if you play, it probably involves fingerwork and air—the flute is a natural choice for you. Your favorite sport is likely to be tennis—it involves lots of movement and action, yet not so much that you have to work incredibly hard at it. It's also social—not only as a way to have fun with a friend, but to see others at a tennis club.

Your sign rules the chest, lungs, arms, and hands, so these areas are particularly susceptible to ailments. You're more likely to get a common cold than other people, so take extra measures to avoid it. You're also prone to nervous disorders, so don't overwork or overdo the caffeine. Light exercise—tennis, walking, skating, anything involving ease of movement and companionship that doesn't demand hard work or extraordinary skill—is highly recommended for you.

#### Preferences

Variety is truly the spice of your life. You hate to wear the same types of clothes all the time. You prefer separates, so you can mix and match them.

Also, plain prints are boring to you—you'll take a pattern of some kind, any kind, any day. Since movement is important, they must be light and comfortable. You don't like dark colors, only wearing them when you absolutely have to, and you quite like grey.

Your home belongs in a populated area, with lots of windows, so you can see people. You hate missing out on what's going on or being isolated. You also can't stand being confined, so you must have lots of room to move around. You do tend to have plenty of books and magazines, though, thanks to your need to feed your mind and your love of words.

You like to change the interior layout often, because you think it's boring for things to look the same all the time. You can also be quite fussy about where everything should be and how it looks—each room is color-coordinated and arranged just so, and neatness is important. This is because your home is often the center of activity socially—you must entertain a great deal, so it's vital that your home is impressive.

Food is not terribly important to you, except as a means to interact with people. You prefer to go

out to lunch and dinner with company—eating alone is simply out of the question, because mealtime is your prime social hour. As a result, you do more talking than eating. You do enjoy lighter meals, and you especially like the variety of a buffet or salad bar. Heavier foods like steaks and roasts are definitely not your first choice—you get bored chewing so much—but chicken or tuna is okay. Fortunately, overeating is not one of your chief concerns, unless it's due to overstress—that's when you have a tendency to abuse food, so be careful there.

## Occupations/Financial Profile

There are many Geminis in the communications field—radio, TV, journalism, publishing, and the like—for several reasons. Mercury, your planetary ruler, presides over communications and your skill with words. And you demand variety in your job: if you've met its challenge, and it becomes routine, you feel the urge to move on to the next project. In the communications field, people move around constantly. It's part of the deal. And in journalism, no day is ever the same twice—the hunger for information, the "newness" of news, keeps the famous Gemini restless content.

Geminis are also prevalent in the acting profession. The dual nature of the sign of the twins means that you can be yourself and a character at the same time. Plus, it allows your creativity to flourish, and you can move from project to project. Perhaps the only undesirable role would be in a long-running stage production, wherein you would have to repeat the same performance over and over for an extended period of time. Famous

Gemini actors include some of the best—Sir Laurence Olivier, John Wayne, Errol Flynn, Douglas Fairbanks, Bob Hope (who used the Gemini way with words in his joke-telling), Judy Garland, Marilyn Monroe, and Tony Curtis.

Your other talent is social. Anything that involves lots of human contact is up your alley, be it sales, promotion, or buying. Your way with words is an asset as an account executive, salesperson, or marketing rep. This might get you a promotion, but you're likely to get bored sitting behind a desk and long for the day-to-day human contact again.

Your love of words also can lead you to a career in literature, or perhaps even songwriting. Cole Porter, the master of clever wordplay in popular song lyrics, was born on June 9th. Literary Geminis include Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, author of the Sherlock Holmes mysteries, poet and philosopher Ralph Waldo Emerson, and the great poets Walt Whitman and William Butler Yeats.

You would be best served by finding a job that makes full use of your ingenuity, imagination, and love of ideas. Anything that requires quick thinking is also recommended, as long as it's not repetitive. You do not want a job that's static, or one that requires serious responsibility for the welfare of others (your approach to people is light and social, not heavy and responsible), or one that involves manual labor.

Financially, you're as compulsive as you are in other areas. You are prone to capricious whims, so spending can easily be excessive. You're the type of person, for instance, that doesn't plan vacations—if you feel like flying off to Hawaii for a small vacation tomorrow, you'll slap down a credit card and do it. Later, when it comes time to justify the bills, you've got a problem, and then you're likely to avoid it and hope fate intervenes somehow. You think you'll get a promotion later, or win the lottery, or inherit money, and pay it off later. Pretty soon you're spending more on a shopping spree and getting further into debt, rationalizing it the same way. Obviously, this is not right. Your biggest challenge as a Gemini, in fact, could be keeping your financial binges in check. Train yourself to be more conservative with money.

One great way to turn this pattern around is to make your ingenuity work for you financially by creating money, not spending it. Think of new ways you can make money. Your mind is full of ideas—use them constructively. Perhaps a hobby can earn you money; if you're a writer, as so many Geminis are, find new publications to sell your work to; if you're in sales, think of a new approach that will generate new clients. You get the idea.

## Love and Relationships

You are famous for your restlessness, especially in romance. You get bored easily, and as with other things in your life, you like to sample everything and everyone. Your best match is with Libra, who has just enough in common with you and just enough that's different. Your whims and fancies will be much appreciated and understood by the sign that loves to love. You also fare well in long-term relationships with Aquarius, who also is just capricious enough for you. You may find yourself attracted to Leos at first, but this pairing is ultimately unstable.

Those you should avoid are Taurus (too slow for you), Cancer (too stable and domestic) and Pisces (too emotionally needy—you'd hurt them far too often).

## CANCER (June 22-July 21)

### Origin/Representation

It was the ancient Assyrians who first designated the crab as the symbol for Cancer, because they believed the crab to carry its home on its back. In fact, it's merely his skeleton. They were right in associating Cancers with being attached to their homes, however.

The primary reason they chose the crab is because the sun enters Cancer on the summer solstice, the longest day of the year. The next day, it begins its backward motion towards the equator. Therefore, as it moves forward through time, it's moving backwards in the sky. This apparent paradox is perfectly symbolized by the crab, which must move backwards in order to move forwards.

The word itself is derived from the Arabic "khan," which means resting place, and "keras," which refers to encircling arms. Put the two together, and you have a picture of a person who places a high value on his home life, and who is extremely caring.

Cancer is ruled by the moon, which presides over emotions (the tidal forces within us), home life, fertility, and maternal qualities. It is a water sign, so Cancerians tend to reside near an ocean, lake, or river. And it's the fourth house of the zodiac, which is physically represented by the breast and stomach, whose most pervasive quality is tenacity.

### Positive Qualities

You are extremely sensitive, a quality that has its good and bad sides. Speaking positively, no other sign except Pisces feels as deeply as you do. You've had a great deal of tears-in-your-beer nights, and these experiences have led you to a deeper understanding of life, and a strong commitment to care for others, because you know what they're going through in times of trouble. You comfort, you counsel, you console. This makes you an ideal friend. Once you make a friend, you're always there for them, to bail them out, to keep their secrets, to take their hysterical late-night phone calls. If anyone or anything threatens them, you're the first to defend them— not by erupting into attack mode, but by retreating into a bunker and lying in wait, like a crab retreats into his hole. Your first line of defense is your tough outer shell, which is hard enough to crack. If threatened further, you then attack with your pincers.

The outer shell metaphor extends to the fact that you're most comfortable in your own home— more than any other sign, you are the domestic expert. You know exactly which furniture goes with which decor, or how to hang blinds, even how to fix the faucet. Combined with your caring side, this makes you an ideal mother or father—no matter how busy your career may get, your family and home life will always come first.

### Trouble Areas

Although your tough outer shell is there for your own protection, you are frequently misunderstood because of it—on the outside, you appear reserved and even unfeeling. Inside, however, your still waters run very deep indeed. It often frustrates you that people don't see the real you, the side of you that cares so deeply for others; when you do let your emotions run to the surface, people just think you're being moody or touchy.

You have a tendency to brood, even to become severely depressed. You're always frowning, worrying

about all your problems instead of enjoying the view—you probably live by a body of water, so step outside and let its power comfort you. Go fishing.

Ironically, because of your primal need for domestic tranquility, you often become too demanding of your mate. You want your home to be perfect, like some "Father Knows Best" fantasy family. You must realize that everyone has faults, that life isn't ever going to be perfect, and that you should just roll with it and do the best you can. Domestic strife is quite common with Cancerians for this reason, but it needn't be. Lighten up.

### Physical Qualities and Activities

Since your sign rules the breast and stomach, you must treat those areas with extra care. There's a common misconception that Cancerians are more likely to get the disease of cancer than any other sign. This is nonsense. Worry-wart that you are, you can at least stop fretting about that one. You are more prone to gastric ailments, coughs, and colds. Diet is especially important in your constitution, even more so because you have a tendency to eat a lot of fatty, nutritionally empty foods.

You most enjoy activities that alleviate the stress you've built up from all that worrying. Golf is popular among Cancerians for this very reason. Even better, any relaxing pastime that involves water is highly recommended—fishing, sailing, or for the more active, water-skiing.

Because of your domestic affinity, you also enjoy home-based hobbies. You might want to build an addition to your house (extending that shell), or continue perfecting it in some way—you always seem to have little projects to do around the home, be it painting, fixing, or strengthening its security.

Finally, needlework is popular among Cancerians, perhaps because it closely resembles the movement of a crab's pincers.

Many Cancerians are attracted to art—it's such an emotional sign, it's natural to feel the expression deeply. You may love photography in particular, because it captures the emotion of a moment. (It also involves silver, the color of the moon!)

### Preferences

You are not a flashy person. Your colors are silver and white, because the moon is your ruling heavenly body. For this reason, your sense of style is unassuming. You prefer not to attract attention. In clothing, you prefer basics—you're especially fond of old T-shirts, jeans, boots, and jackets that have served you well over the years. In fact, when you finally admit you have to replace them, you'd just as soon buy new ones that look exactly like the old ones. You're just sentimentally attached to them, like old friends.

Similarly, you never choose a sporty car. Security is foremost in your mind, because your car is essentially an extension of your home, an outer shell on the highway. You are attracted to cars with rounded, crablike features, as long as they have a reputation for safety—most German and Swedish models fit this bill.

Your home reflects not only your passion for domestic tranquility, but also your caring side. You hate to throw things out, especially if they have the slightest sentimental value. You're not the tidiest person—you probably have drawers, closets, and shelves full of old letters, childhood drawings, photo albums and the like. You're sure to have photos of family and close friends where you spend the most time, such as a study. You probably get nagged a lot for being a pack rat, and your tenacious side fights back, refusing to part with every cherished souvenir. As with your worrying, you may need to compromise in this department in order to avoid domestic discord.

### Occupations/Financial Profile

Your real talent is caring for people. Your depth of understanding and loyalty know no bounds, so you will eventually find yourself making a nice living in any occupation that requires this

expertise. If you currently spend most of your working hours pushing papers, or operating machinery, you're in the wrong profession.

A great deal of Cancerians are managers, either on a corporate level or a small-business supervisory level, even in the entertainment or artistic worlds. You know every detail of what a person needs, how to soothe hurt feelings, how to stand up for someone in a crisis, and how to oversee an entire network of people working together harmoniously. Other Cancerian careers include nursing, teaching, curating a museum or library (these involve both caring for the work of generations and the sentimental pack rat instinct), and anything marine-oriented.

If you stick to these areas, you are bound to be financially successful. You are not an original thinker; rather, you expound on existing ideas, so it's not advisable to pursue your own business. You're better working within a given system or company, improving methods and earning the respect of your coworkers. Plus, you are a natural worrier and saver, so you've no doubt already planned for the worst. If you're an extreme case, you might even amass a fortune just because you're so concerned about not having enough to feed your family. Your anxious temperament will always protect you financially (and otherwise), but to truly enjoy life, you need to stop worrying about it so much.

Famous Cancerians include Helen Keller, perhaps the most heroic Cancerian of all, because she was able to emerge from the toughest outer shell fate could deal a person; "Silent" Calvin Coolidge; the introverted writers Ernest Hemingway and Nathaniel Hawthorne, the famous naval officer John Paul Jones, the painter Whistler (who's most famous work is of his mother—again, pictures of family take priority with a Cancerian), the Swedish filmmaker Ingmar Bergman (most noted for the brooding quality of his work), industrialist Nelson Rockefeller (who amassed a fortune worrying), and King Henry VIII, who was obsessed with domestic perfection.

#### Love and Relationships

You are very prone to marrying early, only to have it fail. Your domestic instinct is so strong it pulls you in as soon as is legally possible—in your case, often right out of high school. Unfortunately, most people are not prepared for the realities of such a young partnership, especially not you. Your need for domestic bliss only worsens the inevitable problems, and once your mate discovers you're soft on the inside, it could shatter his or her image of you as the hard protector. The trouble is, you're both at once, which makes it harder for you to achieve that perfect symbiosis.

That said, your ideal mate is likely to be Capricorn, but only after a few failed relationships. Once you reach your thirties and settle a bit, you're home free. Capricorns are your soulmates—they're just as shy and just as driven to perfection. You also may have an attraction to Scorpio, whose dominant nature should fit well with your caring side, and Rscs, who understands your depth of feeling like no other.

You'll want to avoid matches with Gemini (too flighty for you), Aries (too bold and self-centered), and Sagittarius (despite an initial attraction, the wandering, popular Sagittarian may be too much for you to handle, and jealousy and rage are right around the corner).

#### LEO (July 22–August 21)

##### Origin/Representation

Leo, of course, is a lion—the king of beasts, and the king of the zodiac signs. In Greek mythology, his singular audacity led him to leap from the heavens and battle Hercules, only to be killed. Although most present-day Leos are just as bold, they have thankfully learned to use their pride to better advantage.

Leo is ruled by the sun; the most advantageous day of the week is therefore Sunday. Since the sun is the eternal source of life and the center of our solar system, Leos are likewise the source of great happiness to the other signs, and quite naturally the center of attention in any group. It's also no accident that Leo falls in the center of the zodiacal year, during the earth's hottest

months. Leo is therefore a fire sign.

### Positive Qualities

You are a born leader, and you know it. You are blessed with many talents, and a destiny for greatness. The sun is a star; you, then, are the star of the zodiac. Because of this, you are eternally optimistic and cheerful. If something gets in your way, you conquer it, the way a lion will defeat virtually any foe in the jungle. And like a lion, you do so with dignity.

Your charm and generosity are unending, and people love you for it. You have a big heart—in fact, Leo rules the heart in the zodiacal body— and for this reason, you love buying a round of drinks, sharing colorful stories over a meal, and generally being the life of the party. Your many friends can always count on you for livening up their day. And best of all, they love you even more because you never ask for anything in return— you were born with gifts, so there's no need. You just love sharing them.

Like a cat, you are a hunter. You spot your prey, take aim, and pounce on your target. In human terms, this means your ambition is highly focused.

You know you will reach the top; it's just a question of when. Along the way, you are highly organized, frank, and outspoken—all qualities which focus on your target of being the leader.

### Trouble Areas

You often expect people to do things for you. Especially the little things, details a leader like yourself shouldn't be bothered with. Well, in real life, this can cause its share of irritation, even among your admirers. It's fine to prioritize, but don't let arrogance come at the expense of friends or family.

You expect to be high priest and master of any group, and you will not tolerate a challenge to this position. You will either fight bravely and win, or exit the group with dignity and find another situation to preside over.

You also get upset by change. Once you've attained your leadership status, you prefer things as they are. If the apple cart is upset, you immediately feel your role is threatened. Not surprisingly, then, many Leos are Republicans.

### Physical Qualities and Activities

Lions are large animals, and so are Leos. Everything about a Leo is on a grand scale. This is not to suggest obesity; quite the contrary. Leos are known for strong upper bodies and muscular tone, all the better to fight off predators and command the respect of the other signs.

Since Leo rules the heart, you are prone to heart disease. Your preference for red meat only compounds the problem. Also, your love of the sun can sometimes lead to heat exhaustion or sunstroke, so be careful there.

In fact, no other sign spends as much time in the sun as you. Your ideal vacation is a trip to a warm, tropical beach, where you can bask in the rays all day and show off your body. You tan easily.

You enjoy summer sports that are social and outdoor-oriented, such as tennis or golf. Your other favorite activity is charity work, due to your unbridled generosity. You'll often spend a weekend presiding over and organizing fund-raisers for this group or that.

Finally, you love to be on stage, be it as an actor, musician, lecturer, or just about any type of performer. Whether professionally or just for fun, your need for attention leads you to constantly show yourself off.

### Preferences

Since you are a fire sign, and the sign of the sun, you are naturally attracted to gold, yellow, orange, and red. You are also the king of signs, so naturally the royal colors purple and burgundy figure strongly in your life.

You like heavy, well-made clothes, but you make just about anything you wear look good, because of your confident bearing and posture.

Your taste in general leans toward the best of everything. Even if you can't afford it, you live the good life, buying expensive clothes and gifts, and taking luxurious trips. You'd rather spend than save.

You enjoy fancy cars, such as long limousines or sporty foreign models. You expect to attract attention everywhere you go, with everything you do, and your outward appearance in terms of clothes and cars is no exception.

### Occupations/Financial Profile

Surprisingly, you sometimes have a problem settling into a career. This is because you know you were born to lead, and therefore you have little patience working your way up the ladder. Realistically, you can't expect to just inherit the chairmanship of a corporation out of college (although Leos are known for their good fortune when it comes to this sort of thing).

You will have to bide your time for awhile, at least, until your talents and popularity become obvious to those in charge. If you simply do not have the patience to be an underling for awhile, try employing yourself. Quite a few Leos are entertainers; others have successfully created their own businesses.

If you choose the corporate route, use your organizing skills. Take advantage of those opportunities that arise when people begin to naturally come to you for advice, and make sure everyone notices how skilled you are at handling problems and challenges.

The situations you want to avoid are those dead-end jobs where you become one of the cogs in the wheel, or one where you're alone most of the day, or where you feel confined. Get out of those jobs quickly, and find one where you can rise to the top without too much competition, or one where you're entering as a big fish in a small pond.

The list of famous Leos is extensive, because the sign is so successful by nature. It includes Henry Ford, who popularized the automobile, the dynastic conquerors Alexander the Great and Napoleon, the dictators Fidel Castro and Benito Mussolini, filmmaker Cecil B. DeMille (who is famous for his grand epics, demonstrating the Leo trait for doing everything on a large scale), and the wonderfully generous Lucille Ball and Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis.

### Love and Relationships

Although romantic opportunities are plentiful for you, choosing a life-long partner is rather difficult. Your natural tendency is towards the casual affair, but after awhile even you will get bored of this pattern. Here, then, is your challenge: you need to learn to settle down and compromise a little—unlike most of the challenges you're used to winning, this one requires giving up a little to succeed, quite the opposite of what you're used to. Furthermore, you're so open, straightforward, and generous with your heart that your sincerity can easily be manipulated. You? Outfoxed and deceived? It's true. After awhile, you'll find your truest companion to be Aquarius. It's your zodiacal opposite, but there are few conflicts here. You both prize your fellow man, believe in the same ideals, and admire creative pursuits in different and complementary ways. Your fire-sign relatives, Aries and Sagittarius, are also natural companions, but on a more casual level. Like you, they're used to being the leaders, but they'll allow you to preside over those areas you're good at, and you them.

You'll want to avoid partnerships with Gemini (they're mostly mind-oriented, you are all heart), Capricorn (you'll overpower them, and they're not likely to forgive your mistakes), and Pisces (you'll hurt them before you even realize it, and they'll harbor a long resentment).

VIRGO (August 22-September 22)

### Origin/Representation

In every culture, Virgo has always been represented by a woman, usually referred to as a "virgin." The meaning of that word has changed over the years, however; the ancients described it as the age span between puberty and marriage, as in "maiden" (this age span used to be quite short—women usually married around age 15). In any case, the virgin was the personification of justice and proper behavior, since she was "pure." Today, these qualities can still be seen in many Virgos—they seem to know the correct way to dress for a social function and can judge a person's character rather easily. And, Virgos carry their childhood innocence with them into adulthood, longer than any other sign.

Virgo is ruled by Mercury, along with Gemini— for this reason, many Virgos get along harmoniously with Geminis. And the Mercury influence can also be felt on Wednesday (the French *mercredi* again), the sign's favorite day.

Virgo is an earth sign, as you might expect, since it falls during the month in which most crops are harvested. In fact, the woman that symbolizes Virgo is usually depicted with a sheath, or ears of corn.

### Positive Qualities

Ironically, most of your best qualities are often seen by other people as your worst. It wasn't always so: in ancient times, when priorities were different, yours was the most prized of the signs. Now, it is often the most disliked. Fear not, though—you're just misunderstood.

You're more complex than others give you credit for. As a Mercury sign, your head rules your heart, but this doesn't mean you're cold and unfeeling. On the contrary, your sensitivity is unmatched by any other sign except Pisces. It's often unseen, however, because you tend to be quite shy and reserved. This explains why Virgos are so generous—you want deeply to be loved, so you demonstrate this by going out of your way to be of service to others. You care for them, you do favors for them, you find just the right gift, and above all you give them your loyalty. Because of your shyness, you believe that once you've found someone special, you should do your best to keep them.

Mercury is a sign of intellect, so you're also quite smart. You're particularly adept at analysis and logic—many Virgos are scientists, doctors, and engineers for this reason. You also notice details more than any other sign—and this serves you well in a variety of careers: writer, editor (Mercury rules words), surgeon, even secretary.

You have a great work ethic—you're disciplined, highly organized, punctual, and tireless. (Much has been made of Virgos and neatness as well, but it's usually overstated.) Many Virgos find themselves at an economic disadvantage early in life, so they become extremely motivated to succeed as a result, and most achieve comfortable, if not lavish, means.

Finally, you're a perfectionist. When you tackle a project, you do it right, to the nth degree. You believe you have to be the best at it, so you study, you practice, you go the extra mile, you apply all your little advantages—smarts, hard work, and especially analysis—to get that edge. Once you've conquered it, you like to share it with people, but this often leads to your biggest fault...

### Trouble Areas

Because of your perfectionism, you're a critic. Too often, in fact, you're overly critical. Usually, you don't mean to be. You've figured something out, and you want to tell people. But they think you're condescending to them, or worse, placing unrealistic expectations on them. They grant you your expertise, but they often mistake your snaring for rubbing it in. Many professional critics in the literary and entertainment fields are Virgos, and virtually all chose their

profession because they believe in an ideal, in making the world-- and their art--as close to perfect as possible. Unrealistic, perhaps, and this is why many are resented.

Even more troubling is your self-criticism. You often vent your harshest words on your own flaws. If you're not the best at something, you flog yourself into working harder until you either succeed or give up. Because you're not very social, you can have a hard time with the opposite sex. Your perfectionism compounds the problem, limiting the field. And when you do find a mate, you often become too critical, scaring him or her away. All of this, obviously, can add up to misery at any stage of the game. The important thing is to realize that everyone has certain strengths and weaknesses. Learn to appreciate your special gifts and accept your flaws--if you punish yourself for them, you'll just prolong your agony.

One more thing: people often mistake your shyness for aloof coldness. When you do converse, you're more comfortable talking business or in-tellectualizing, not spilling your darkest secrets. Thus, you easily give the impression of preferring to be alone (Greta Garbo, of "I just want to be alone" fame, was a Virgo), so others keep their distance as a result. In fact, you want company, but you're picky. Make sure those you're interested in know you like them, and why. Watch your body language--don't stand with your arms folded over your chest, or avoid eye contact. You're a detail specialist, so use these little details to lead a happier life.

### Physical Qualities and Activities

You're probably not big and strong, like a Taurus, but of medium or even wiry build. As a sign of Mercury, you're more head-oriented than body-oriented, but you believe in treating your body right. Many Virgos are vegetarians, because it's important to you to eat for nutrition's sake, not so much for sensual pleasure.

You're not team-oriented, because you're so reserved, and you're not built for it anyway. Most of your exercise is solo, or with one friend. You especially like sports that involve regular, rhythmic movement, such as running, walking, cycling, or dancing.

In the sign-body continuum, Virgo rules the digestive system, so take extra care of this area. Eat a nutritious, high fiber diet to avoid problems with the colon or intestines.

### Preferences

Your house is neat. For some reason, neatness is the quality most strongly identified with Virgos. Although this is true, it's not extreme. You don't spend every day scrubbing the bathroom tiles, or bug-bombing your house, or holing yourself up in a germ-free prison like Howard Hughes. But you do pay attention to the little things: you keep track of important papers, and throw away the trash regularly (you're definitely not a pack rat); you do all the little chores--dishes, making the bed, that sort of thing, by habit; and you keep your belongings ordered (your record collection is no doubt alphabetized).

This instinct extends to dress. You wouldn't think of wearing clothes that didn't match, or wearing jeans to an important business function--you don't have the flair to get away with that. You really hate red--it attracts too much attention, and that's not you--preferring softer, blend-in-the-crowd colors like earthy blues, greens/and gray. Any patterns will be small.

### Occupations/Financial Profile

It's very rare to see a Virgo on the unemployment line, and just as rare to see one riding in a limousine. Most Virgos fall short of the millions, but live on comfortable salaries.

You are perhaps the most employable sign of all, based on your work ethic, your intellect, and your desire to be the best. You're the one that quietly works his way up the career ladder, usually behind the scenes. Your analytical mind solves problems easily, and this gets you promoted.

Your lone weakness, financially, is a tendency to gamble. It's as if, knowing you're so stable,

you need the excitement of the big kill to add spice to your financial life. Indeed, some Virgos have been known to succeed as professional gamblers, but only when they apply themselves using the same analytical faculties and work ethic that are usually saved for more traditional vocations. It's okay to have fun with it here and there, but don't make it a habit unless you're a dedicated pro.

As mentioned earlier, there are many Virgos in the medical profession, because it combines highly refined skills, a quiet demeanor, and a way to be of service to people. The Russian physiologist Pavlov, of Pavlov's dog fame, was a Virgo, as is the great caretaker of the people, Mother Teresa. We also find them in the military (again, attention to detail, service to others, and a structure to blend into) and teaching (detail, service, structure, and sharing learned information).

Because of the Mercury influence, many Virgos become great writers and composers: on the musical side, there's Leonard Bernstein and Claude Debussy (whose work symbolizes many Virgo qualities: it's quiet, introverted, and moves in regular rhythmic patterns); the great country songwriter George Jones, the rather introverted jazzman Branford Marsalis; the shy Buddy Holly; and perhaps most Virgoan of all, Michael Jackson—shy, sensitive, and obsessed with perfection, physically and professionally. The list of writers includes Leo Tolstoy, Goethe, Bret Harte, and O. Henry (all of whom expressed the misery of aloneness).

The famous Virgo actors tend to be introverted as well: the late River Phoenix, Ingrid Bergman, Anne Bancroft, Jeremy Irons, Richard Gere, Marlee Matlin, Sophia Loren, Twiggy, and of course, Greta Garbo. Other Virgo media personalities include the reserved newsmen Dan Rather and Charles Kuralt, quieter politicians such as former president Lyndon Johnson and senator Geraldine Ferraro, perfectionistic filmmakers Oliver Stone and Richard Attenborough, and hard-working athletes Jimmy Connors and Cal Ripken, Jr.

#### Love and Relationships

There are two main hindrances to success in love for you: shyness and perfectionism. So even if you do encounter someone you consider worthy of your heart (and that's rare), you still have to overcome your natural reserve to win them over. Moreover, once you're in the relationship, you have to be careful not to be overly critical—make sure your partner understands your perfectionist ideals right away, or you're in for a rocky road.

Your natural opposite, Pisces, is also your most ideal partner. Every quality you lack is ample in Pisces, and vice-versa, so no problem in this marriage is unsolvable, and every day is interesting. You enjoy the Piscean imagination and free-flowing creativity, while they need you to bring them back to reality.

You're also compatible with Taurus and Capricorn, your fellow earth signs: in the former, Taurus supplies the big heart while you provide the headiness; in the latter, the two of you work so hard to such a degree of perfection that, if you were business partners, you could dominate your field.

You should avoid Aries (too bossy and will not tolerate your pickiness), Libra (completely unable to take your criticism) and Aquarius (this can be either intensely wrong or surprisingly compatible, but most of the time you're at each other's throats).

#### LIBRA (September 23–October 22)

##### Origin/Representation

Libra is symbolized by scales, which represent balance. It's believed this idea originated because Libra begins on the autumnal equinox, at a time when the amount of daylight and darkness are exactly the same. In the old days, some societies made their convicted criminals wait until the autumnal equinox before executing them, so they could appease the gods of justice at the same time.

Libra is ruled by Venus, as is Taurus, but to a more obvious degree. Librans are clearly the most romantic, sentimental, and kindest of all the signs. The favored day is Friday (vendredi in

French), and there is a fondness for the color blue for the same reason (you definitely do not favor red, the color of your opposite sign, Aries).

### Positive Qualities

Everyone loves a Libran. You can't help it—it's your nature to be the friendliest, warmest, gentlest sign of all. You always find something to like in everyone, and you make them feel special as a result. You're the person that feels sorry for the lonely outcast at a party and engages him in a conversation so he won't feel left out; even if most people find him a bore, you smile and find the interesting, appealing side. For this quality, you will always have friends.

And you'll need them. That's why you do this. You simply can't function well without companionship. Others may interpret this as a sign of weakness, of "co-dependence" even, but it's just your Venus influence.

Because of this companionable nature, you hate conflict. You'll do anything to avoid an argument, or to stop one. It's not that you're so afraid of being hurt, it's that you're afraid of hurting someone else's feelings. You're a diplomat. When confronted with two opposing sides, you'll find a happy medium. You crave harmony, and like your symbol, balance.

You're also very intuitive—some would even say psychic. You're the natural judge of the zodiac, and this sense extends past reason into instinct. You may find something to like in everyone, but you'll also see the whole character of a person instantly. Others may be amazed at how correct your first impressions are when, later, they see the whole picture.

You have a hunger for knowledge, which befits your sign name—Libra is part of library. But mostly it's a surface curiosity of lots of things. Like another air sign, Gemini, you love variety, and would rather sample the essences of varied subjects than become an expert at one in particular.

### Trouble Areas

Because of this sampling instinct, you tend to overlook—or not take interest in—the little details. In fact, you dislike the fussy little things in which a sign like Virgo takes so much pride. This can lead to a reputation for unpunctuality, of laziness or unwillingness to do menial chores, or a reluctance to partake in anything that just doesn't interest you. People might call you selfish and vain if you're not careful.

You are a daydreamer. You follow your soul, wherever it guides you, at any time of day. This is a wonderful attribute that can lead to great creative expression when applied with discipline, but discipline is a weak area for you.

You have a hard time making decisions. It's not that you're weak, it's that you're so balanced. You see both sides of an issue clearly, and would rather not take a side for fear of offending the other. This can result in lost opportunities and ineffectuality in all aspects of life.

### Physical Qualities and Activities

Librans are generally regarded as the most attractive of all signs—not surprising, with Venus as a ruling planet. Some of the most famous Librans are blessed with stunningly good looks, including such men as Montgomery Clift, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Charlton Heston, Michael Douglas, Christopher Reeve, Sting, Marcello Mastroianni, Armand Assante, and Johnny Mathis. The list of lovely women is even more impressive: Brigitte Bardot, Melina Mercouri, Heather Locklear, Cheryl Tiegs, Anita Ekberg, Angje Dickinson, Britt Ekland, Sigourney Weaver, Susan Anton, Marie Osmond, Suzanne Somers, Margot Kidder, Julie Andrews, and so on.

Libra rules the loins, kidneys, and back; all of those areas are therefore vulnerable, and there is a tendency towards diabetes. Watch for backaches especially.

You are not regarded as one of the more physically active signs. Having been born attractive, you don't feel any great need to work hard at it. But you do maintain it, mostly with social sports like golf and tennis. You're also blessed with poise and fluid movement, so dancing is common as

well. Anything casual that can be done with companionship—that's what you want.

## Preferences

You look good in virtually anything you wear, so that's not a concern. You do tend to match your clothes, though—it's a sign of that Libran balance. So even though you don't wear black often, you will balance it with white when you do. You're more attracted to bright colors—they fit your cheerful persona. Except for red—that's too aggressive.

Your home is like you—attractive, and with a sense of balance. There's lots of soft, rounded furniture—it's both welcoming and it promotes laziness. But there's just as much space to balance the feel.

When it comes to food, you are much like another air sign, Gemini: you eat for social reasons, and you enjoy variety. A little of this, a little of that—balance again. You're not a big eater; it's more important that you have company. Meals are excuses to socialize.

## Occupations/Financial Profile

You have a tendency to be frivolous with money, even to take little interest in it, except to use it socially—you do like your nightlifer. But you must try to be more disciplined with money, to respect it more, to build a savings account; otherwise your social spending will continually consume your prospects of a sound financial future.

Occupationally, depending on your other astrological influences, you're likely to fall into one of two camps: you choose either a career that appeals to your sense of physical attractiveness or one that stresses balance.

In the first category are all those beautiful actors and models mentioned earlier, but also designers, decorators, beauticians, make-up artists, and painters. One advantage to these is that you generally get to work with someone, which is vital to you (painting is an exception).

In the second category are the law professions—attorney, judge, and legislator—as well as those that cater to tact, friendliness, and understanding: diplomat, counselor, concierge, and sales rep are a few examples.

Other famous Librans include Mahatma Gandhi (known for his supreme sense of right and wrong), John Lennon (whose life's work also demonstrated him to be an intuitive judge of character), Eleanor Roosevelt (a natural Libran hostess and diplomat), television host Bryant Gumbel (who is never confrontational), President Jimmy Carter (respected for his sense of fairness), comedian Dick Gregory (famous for his sense of justice in social issues), and designer Ralph Lauren.

## Love and Relationships

You need people, and you certainly need love, and this can lead you into romantic trouble. Opportunities are everywhere for you, because you're so attractive, so friendly, so flirtatious, and so easily influenced by the opposite sex. Love, in fact, is the most important thing in your life, which is why it's so problematic for you. But don't worry—after being misled, cheated on, and underappreciated by several partners, you'll get it right.

Your ideal mate is likely to be Aries, your zodiacal opposite. It's a planetary balance of Mars and Venus, aggression and tenderness, leadership and acquiescence, practicality and creativity. You also fare well with Gemini (they appreciate your understanding of their complex character, and you're artistically harmonious) and Aquarius (you both love people and beauty, although they're a touch more unpredictable).

Although most everyone likes you, a close relationship with either Virgo (much too fussy for you) or Scorpio (much too dark for your warm, sunny outlook) is unadvisable.

SCORPIO (October 23-November 21)

### Origin/Representation

Scorpio's origins are as interesting and as complex as the sign itself. Before the twelve-month calendar was created, ancient astrologers viewed Virgo, Libra, and Scorpio all as one sign. Once divided, they came to symbolize aspects of the creation story in the book of Genesis, as follows:

Leo is Adam; Virgo is Eve, the virgin (as well as the Garden of Eden itself—Virgo symbolizes harvest, and is an earth sign); Libra is the tree of knowledge, symbolizing justice and right and wrong; and Scorpio is of course the serpent. Since the apple hangs from the tree, the fall of Adam comes through Libra—hence, it is the first sign of the fall season. And since Scorpio rules the reproductive organs, a rebirth occurs through Scorpio that gives rise to the three intellectual, wise signs that follow.

Adding to the complexity of Scorpio is the fact that it is ruled by not one but two planets, Mars and Pluto. Of course, Pluto was not discovered until 1930, so this is a fairly recent interpretation. It is widely agreed that Pluto is the rightful ruler, but now debated whether Mars indeed has an influence or not. We'll assume that it does, until proven otherwise. Tuesday (mardi), then, is the best day of the week for you.

### Positive Qualities

The dual aspect of Mars and Pluto working together creates an intriguing profile for you. You have all the passion and power of Mars, but the secrecy of Pluto (it was there from the beginning, exerting its energy, but we only just found out about it, and even now it's hidden way, way out there, and is the only planet that does not orbit the sun on an elliptical path, but a rather skewed one).

As a result, you exert your power in subtle ways. You're the person pulling the strings above the stage, where no one can see you, yet you're in complete control. You know you have a natural dominance—not leadership per se, but quiet control—and you take pride and pleasure in seeing its effect on others. You notice that the opposite sex is naturally attracted to you: You notice that other people find themselves acquiring your habits, or your points of view. Yes, you are a natural manipulator, very much like the serpent in Eden.

This does not, however, mean that you're evil. A few Scorpios have taken advantage of this power for dubious purposes—the infamous German World War I spy Mata Hari, for example— but for most of you it's just your nature. You've learned early on that you can't control everything—that's impossible—so you limit your scope to the few areas in which you can excel.

One such area is investigation. Secrecy and control go hand in hand here, so any problem that needs solving, any mystery that is begging to be unraveled, is your baby. You discover gossip, for instance, before everyone else (although you're hardly a blabbermouth). This is just because you're extremely curious. You'll take apart a radio just to see how it works, you'll explore a cave to see where it goes, or you'll follow a trail to get to its source.

The Mars influence also indicates purposeful energy. Hard work is second nature to you, and if you're the controlling force, watch it world, you'll blow it open. Even if you fail, you can still start over—that's Pluto, able to reach very deep into the system and retool it.

### Trouble Areas

You are intense, and you know it. You have a deep well of passion and will, but if you don't get your way, you could explode like a volcano. A Scorpio rage is a rage that can blast everything in its path, including itself (when cornered, a scorpion will sting itself to death). This is why control is so important to you: it's for your own good, and everyone else's as well.

So you restrain yourself. You hold back your true emotions deep, deep in the well. Oh sure, you make the appropriate social response when needed, but it's either fabricated or just a hint of the real you, a drop or two from the well. People are attracted to you for that deep passion—it's

often a challenge for them to get to know you so well they find the key that unlocks the floodgates.

Scorpios are also thought to be preoccupied with death. It is certainly a sign with a dark nature, but in real life no Scorpios have ever been found to be more depressed or suicidal than others. You enjoy life as much as everyone else, but you are somehow more aware of mortality. Most other signs spend their lives ignoring it, but you let it dictate your actions to a degree, and you respond to it with your self-restraint mechanism. Only you know the power of your temper.

You are instinctively suspicious, because once you place yourself in the control room, you have to defend it. And, curiously, your defense mechanism is just as secretive as the rest of you. You'll use your powers of manipulation and investigation to create an aura of fear and fascination— that always works.

By no means will you ever leave yourself open and vulnerable. You have to hold something back, or else you'd be giving up control, and that simply is unthinkable. You will therefore share the deepest part of yourself only with a select trustworthy few.

It's not appropriate, in this case, to suggest moderation here and there, as is customary with most other signs. You are not one to compromise, so there's little point. Perhaps the only caveat is to suggest care of yourself and others—i.e., don't misuse the immense passion and power with which you were blessed. You and those around you will lead happier lives if you channel it positively.

#### Physical Qualities and Activities

Scorpio rules the reproductive organs, so this area is particularly sensitive. Like the serpent in the Bible, it signifies both the fall of man and the fertility of man, the birth/death continuum. You know you're vulnerable there—it's the well of your passion—so you don't share it with just anybody, and that's also why you're so restrictive of your deepest secrets.

You're really not an athlete, or all that inclined towards recreation. But you do love a dare. Anything that pushes the limit of danger gets your blood flowing—and not just faux danger, like bungee jumping, but real danger—riding a motorcycle at 100 mph on a windy mountain road, for instance, or scuba diving into shark-infested waters.

#### Preferences

You are attracted to dark reds, due to your Mars influence, as well as black. Wearing both achieves your desired effect: they exude both power and allure. You dress to announce your power, so you wear dark suits with sharp cuts, or tight black leather, the better to communicate containment of power.

Your home is densely furnished, perhaps with a black leather couch, dark decor, and heavy doth, like a quilt on the bed. The feeling is a bit confining to others, even a little oppressive and dungeony.

As a water sign, you enjoy seafood and anything that is moist and texturally soft—even sensual—like pasta with creamy sauces, rice, or yogurt. You're also attracted to red sauces and curries, due to your Mars influence.

#### Occupations/Financial Profile

You are well-suited towards rising to the top of the corporate ladder because of your unique need to control. Your best path is by a combination of hard work, keen maneuvering, and working your subtle power magic. Your investigative abilities will tip you off to opportunities and strategies before everyone else, your suspicious nature will help you ward off the competition, your dark suits will demonstrate that you fit the bill, your powers of manipulation will get you in the right doors at the right times, and in between all this you'll work ceaselessly to prove you're the controller, not the controllee.

Outside the corporate structure, you are well-suited for a career in police work, detection, or intelligence (all of which make use of power, secrecy, curiosity, and danger) like Mata Hari, as well as medicine (particularly research). Examples of the latter include Jonas Salk and Marie Curie.

Perfect examples of powerful, mysterious Scorpios who rose to the top of their fields include Ted Turner, Indira Gandhi, Robert Kennedy, George Patton, Roseanne Arnold, Charles Bronson, and filmmaker Mike Nichols.

The dark side of Scorpio is evident in writers such as Goethe, Milton (coincidentally, Milton's most famous work, *Paradise Lost*, is about the fall of man), Andre Malraux, and Dylan Thomas, as well as artist Pablo Picasso (his paintings are extremely confined and dark in color, containing immense power) and to a frightening extreme, Charles Manson.

### Love and Relationships

Because you have an innate understanding of secrecy and power, you have to be careful of jealousy in your relationships. You can be quite trustworthy when you're happy, but when you suspect some wrongdoing, watch out. Pity the poor soul who makes you an enemy, and you yourself will agonize over such a state. Cultivate the traits that will make you more open and trusting, and just as importantly, choose the partner most suited to you.

And that would be Taurus, your zodiacal opposite. A Taurean mate is perfectly trustworthy, loyal, earthy, domestic, a great cook, and very loving—everything you need to open you up and enjoy life.

You also get along well with Cancer (you understand each other symbiotically—you both have deep emotional wells underneath that hard surface, and are both water signs), Virgo (you admire each other's work ethic, and the negative traits of both cancel each other out), and Pisces (although the attraction is immediate, it doesn't last long—the Piscean will become too possessive for you).

You must avoid partnerships with Aries (the other Mars sign—you'll constantly fight over control of everything), Gemini (you'll get jealous of their freedom), and Sagittarius (too flighty and untrustworthy—this match is liable to bring out your darkest qualities).

### SAGITTARIUS (November 22-December 21)

#### Origin/Representation

Sagittarius is represented by a Centaur—half-man, half-horse—with a bow and arrow. It's believed that when ancient artists sketched warriors on horseback, they got to taking a short-cut, thereby merging the two into one body. This became a popular symbol, and they chose it to represent Sagittarius because this sign is thought to have tamed the baser instincts and taught wisdom—as well as outdoor sports.

The centaur's other significance is that in the zodiacal family it points its arrow at Capricorn's dying goat, symbolizing either a deep sense of religion (for having sacrificed the goat) or a complete denial of religion (for killing its symbol)—to a logical Sagittarian, religion cannot be accepted on faith alone. Yes, this is a contradiction, but that's normal for this sign. Sagittarians prefer one extreme or the other.

Sagittarius is ruled by Jupiter, which provides the sign with its most salient quality: largeness. If you're a Sagittarian, you're probably well-built, with a big heart, a big head, and big ideas. Your favorite day is Thursday (*jeudi*, for Jupiter, in French), and you're quite, well, jovial (Jupiter, the god, was also known as Jove in the Roman era—hence the expression "by Jove").

#### Positive Qualities

When you think big, the whole world is your playground, and everyone is your friend. You have no time or interest in details—save that for Virgo—you see the big picture, and you think in bold

strokes.

Much like the two other fire signs—Aries and Leo—you're dynamic and charismatic: You have friends in all areas of your life and a few very close ones. Most people are attracted to you by your unbridled optimism and good-natured directness. In a room full of strangers, you'll be one of the first to break the ice with some silly gesture and get the party moving. You see no reason to be shy, or for that matter, delicate (more on this later).

There are two extremes of Sagittarians, so you are either one or the other. The first seeks to be a great intellectual. If this is you, you have grand ideas about philosophy, religion, the arts, history, and current events. You'll debate long into the wee hours about foreign policy or Plato, and you'll debate well. You think logically, and this makes you a convincing speaker. In fact, you debate for the love of it—you're both truly curious about getting to the profundity of the matter and you're big-headed about it, which means you will not accept being wrong (you'll benefit greatly from the presence of a diplomatic Libra if the argument gets too scalding). Yes, you are well-read and wise, but you must learn to be more tolerant and accepting of other views.

The other extreme is athletic. The centaur is a hunter, and so are you—you thrive on competition in all sports, and will usually be the one who gets dirtiest in the mud. Also, your natural association with horses makes you an excellent rider, trainer, and caretaker of these animals.

Both extremes lead to your other great love—travel. If you're intellectually curious, you will want to see as much of the world as possible, to say you were there and to know what makes it tick. If you're a sportsman, it's the man-on-horse-back influence, which makes you want to just go, go, go.

#### Trouble Areas

You have too much pride. Even if you know logically that you're losing an argument, you'll do your darndest to try to twist it to your advantage. You can't stand losing, because deep down you're insecure—Sagittarius is the most insecure sign in the zodiac—so you do everything in your power to hide it. Your talent for debate, though, usually means you will win. But should you always?

The fact that you dislike details means you get impatient easily. Little annoyances like losing your keys or fixing a leaky faucet just make you frustrated—you're a big-idea thinker, not a fuss-budget. Just relax and think logically—you're terrific at that—and all will be fine.

Along the same lines, you have a tendency to blast through parties like a freight train. You have a reputation for being rather ill-mannered: you'll interrupt someone's conversation bluntly if the thought strikes you, and ignore other simple rules of tact, like habitually not returning phone calls or even compliments. If someone whispers a secret to you, it's no big deal to you to blithely blurt it out to the next soul that walks by.

This isn't an intentional flaw—all Sagittarians are like this. You treat social graces like those annoying details—you can't be bothered. There are too many important world-saving ideas in your head, so there's no room for "I'm fine, thank you, how are you?"

#### Physical Qualities and Activities

As the hunter and sportsman of the zodiac, virtually all athletic pursuits are fair game. You're especially fond of those with a direct connection to the centaur, however, such as horse racing, polo, any sort of riding, shooting, or archery.

You're well-developed physically, so you'll have no problem leading your team in home runs, baskets, or touchdowns. In fact, unlike Aries, the other great sporting sign, you thrive in team sports. You're the first to dive for the ball, even if it means splashing in mud puddles.

It's in your nature to be a bit scruffy and unkempt—the hunter always goes home to the farm with a few scrapes—and this goes for physical appearance as well. You don't care if your hair hasn't been washed today, or if your T-shirts all wrinkled—those are just more annoying details.

## Preferences

You live in a happy, but messy, home. There are probably papers all over your desk, clothes scattered about, and dishes that need to be done. Again, it's just that you don't have time for those little things like organization and laundry.

The great thing, though, is that nobody else cares. You're Oscar Madison, the lovable slob, and everyone knows that when they come over, they can sink into your couch, prop their feet on your coffee table and grab a slice of pizza.

As for food, you're a wolf. You eat fast, and it's not all that important what it is. It keeps you going, and you prefer to get going to the next place. You do love your meat (after all, you're the hunter), so your idea of a fun meal is a backyard barbecue with steaks, burgers, dogs, and all your friends. Anything red (since you're a sign of fire and Jupiter) appeals to you, so those pepperoni pizzas or spaghetti-and-meatballs dinners are standard weekly fare.

You also like rough-and-tumble vehicles, like Jeep four-wheel-drives, because they love to get dirty and they'll go anywhere on earth, which satisfies your insatiable curiosity to travel.

## Occupations/Financial Profile

Curiously, there are perhaps more Sagittarian entertainers—particularly musicians—than most any other sign. Sure, Gemini are actors because the twin-instinct leads them to the duality of playing and being, but why Sagittarians?

Because of your pride. You need an audience, because deep down, you're the most insecure sign of all. Sagittarian musicians include Beethoven, Frank Sinatra, Hoagy Carmichael, Tina Turner, Jimi Hendrix, Robert Goulet, Chuck Mangione, Bette Midler (now there's a Sagittarian!), Lou Rawls, Andy Williams, Dave Brubeck, Sammy Davis Jr., and Dionne Warwick. Note that they're all outgoing crowd-pleasers.

Other famous Sagittarian performers include Mary Martin, Rich Little, Woody Allen, Katerina Witt, Kim Basinger (and yes, red is definitely her color), Kirk Douglas, Bob Barker, Dick Clark, Dick Van Dyke, Patty Duke, Tim Conway, Jane Fonda, and Phil Donahue. Once again, all are very outgoing.

The other great Sagittarian trait in occupations is intellectual debating. Socrates was the first known Sagittarian, and he had quite a lot to say (and said it very well). Others that fit this profile include Nostradamus, Winston Churchill, William F. Buckley, Jr., Gary Hart, G. Gordon Liddy, Don King, Chet Huntley, and William Safire.

Then there are those famous Sagittarians who simply thought big: Walt Disney, Andrew Carnegie, Charles de Gaulle, Joseph Stalin, and Francisco Franco are in this group. Finally, there are the champion athletes: Joe Dimaggio, Billie Jean King, Dick Butkus, Deacon Jones, Cathy Rigby, and Chris Evert fit this bill.

Needless to say, any career that involves performing, either in sports or entertainment, is promising, as is anything that takes advantage of your keen logical intellect. The worst job for you would be to get stuck in something detail-oriented, such as applying small parts on an assembly line. You also make an excellent teacher, coach, lawyer, scientist, writer, and politician.

Financially, you're the eternal optimist. You're a bit too spendthrift when it comes to shopping and gambling. You think, "Oh, I'll get rich soon," so you justify losing money at the race track or charging impulse buys on a credit card this way. A little prudence goes a long way here.

## Love and Relationships

You are known for impetuosity—your mood varies from day to day, and this complicates love relationships. Although your opportunities are ample, due to your popular outgoing nature, the successful long-term relationship is quite difficult for you until you settle into middle age or so.

Your ideal mate is likely to be either Gemini (although since both of you are prone to "sample" partners in life, it's rarely a stable match), or one of your fire-sign relatives, Aries and Leo. Although at first the latter pairings may seem unlikely, due to the natural tendency of fire signs to lead, they are both compatible with you because of their innate understanding of your passions and interests.

You don't have many enemies, but in close relationships, conflicts will arise between you and Taurus (who is too possessive, and who would want to limit your freedom), Cancer (similarly, too rooted in family stability for your tastes), Virgo (too critical of you, and your pride will not stand for that), Scorpio (although physically compatible, there is too much distrust and competition for dominance on both sides), and Capricorn (too pessimistic for you).

CAPRICORN (December 22-January 20)

#### Origin/Representation

Capricorn is represented by a mythical creature who is half goat, half fish. In Greek mythology, the god Bacchus was sitting by a river when he was threatened by a monster. Fearing death, he dove in and transformed himself: underwater he was a fish who survived by swimming; above the water he was a goat with horns who could fight the monster. Jupiter (who, by the way, rules Sagittarius) was impressed enough to promote Bacchus to the heavens, where he remains as the constellation Capricorn to this day.

Capricorn is also the sign of sin and sacrifice. Sagittarius the centaur-archer is believed to have shot Capricorn, transforming him into a sacrificial goat, or scapegoat. This is the very foundation of many religions, including the story of Jesus Christ.

In the Apocalypse, St. John explains that the Sun God (or son of God) is always born at midnight when the sun enters this sign of the winter solstice. The child is born in poverty, in a goat's manger in a stable, so that he can later save humankind as its sacrificial goat.

Capricorn is ruled by Saturn, a planet that orbits the sun very slowly. As a result, Capricorns are said to think the same way: long-term. Saturn's influence also means that the best day of the week for this sign is Saturday.

#### Positive Qualities

You are a tireless worker, to the point of self-martyrdom. You'll do any and all work assigned to you, so that you can impress your superiors and gradually move up the ladder. You will eventually gain more and more status and wealth, but it takes a long time. That's okay with you, though—you've always understood this.

Chances are, you come from a poor background—like the baby Jesus—and you decided early on that you would work as hard as you could to improve your standing for your family. In fact, you have an innate fear of poverty, so much so that once you've achieved a rank or two in the world you will fight to the death to keep it.

This is also in keeping with your far-thinking approach to life, as determined by the slow-moving Saturn. You plan, plan, plan. You save, save, save. One would think you a dour person for all this work, but you have your moments of joy—after all, the words saturnalia and bacchanalia apply to you, and both define wild abandon.

You probably already know a lot about sacrifice. You were the one who stayed up caring for a sick relative when you were a kid, instead of playing with your friends. You're the one who keeps the family together, in fact, when members drift off. You're the glue, the controlling force in this world. Without you, it would simply fall apart.

Similarly, you have a great sense of tradition. You respect what you've inherited, and you believe in cherishing it and handing it down in the same state or better. Be it a grandparent's locket or

the oral history of the family, it's safe with you.

Like your neighboring signs, Sagittarius and Aquarius, you are proudly intellectual. But you're not as argumentative as a Sagittarius. Yours is a quieter wisdom—if you know you're right, you don't believe you have to get into an all-out war just for the show of it. The truth will win out.

For this reason, you make an excellent teacher. In fact, you see the world as very structured, and as you gain rank in the system, you believe in teaching those below you. If you are a teacher, you're probably very strict. It's not due to malevolence, just a strong sense of tradition, of wisdom, of right and wrong, of the merits of hard work.

### Trouble Areas

You would think that Capricorns would be capricious. But you're not. Far from it. Oh, you have your occasional gambling binge or Saturday night bash, but for the most part you're very ordered. You live for the future, not for the moment. You're busy planning your life five, ten, twenty years from now while the Sagittarians, Leos, and Arians are living it up. That's all fine, but the problem is, you are easily depressed.

In fact, you're probably preoccupied with death. Saturn is often said to be associated with Father Time; others believe it is an evil influence (Saturn and Satan are almost interchangeable). This makes you rather morbid—your sense of humor is sarcastic and dry to the point of being, well, sick.

Capricorns are also known for bigotry. It seems your fear of poverty is so strong you'll take any tack to defend the status you've gained in life, and that includes a narrow-minded view of people of different backgrounds. You're entitled to your opinions, and you have strong reasons for them, but this inflexible attitude could cause irreparable reputation damage in today's politically correct climate.

Saturn's slowness also throws delays into your life. You're used to them by now, but still, you often think you have the worst luck—another ailing relative to care for, or car to fix, or unwelcome responsibility at your job .... You'll do it, because sacrifice is your nature, and when you have time again you'll work harder just to make up for what you lost.

This pattern can easily lead to a depressed, bad-things-always-happen-to-me attitude. Don't let it. People really appreciate you—no one else could be a better friend. They also respect your ethics and status. So relax—you'll get what you want, it just takes time, and time is something you know about all too well.

### Physical Qualities and Activities

You're a lean, mean, running machine. Seriously. Capricorns are not particularly muscular, but rather lanky. The sign rules locomotion, the knees and joints, and your personality is very driven towards long distances, long time spans, and hard work. So, you're the ideal marathon runner. You also enjoy other endurance events, such as long-distance cycling, rock climbing, mountain climbing, or anything with a similarly daunting goal.

If you participate in any other sports, it's only to get better at them, or to further your career by being in the right place. Otherwise, you're not the type that will get out and enjoy recreation just for the idle fun of it.

Like the other intellectual signs, you do enjoy studying, and you especially love music. There's something in its complexity—particularly in great classical works, its degree of difficulty to master, that you appreciate.

### Preferences

More than any other sign, even Scorpio, you prefer dark colors. Black is you. It goes with your propensity towards depression and death.

Your sense of style is quite traditional and conservative, and here, dark is also preferable—it shows status and power better, and that is, after all, what you spend your life striving for.

Once you attain a certain rank, you have a weakness for displaying it. You want a car, for instance, that is above all a status symbol. You take pride in how far you've come, so you want to announce this to the world by buying an expensive, well-made vehicle, such as a BMW.

Your home is also impressive, the better to announce your status. In terms of actual taste, though, it may be a bit plain. Traditional. You rely on the good taste of historical style to lend it an air of quality.

The same goes for food. Your sacrificial side has such a strong hold on your work ethic that you often don't stop for food. It's not nearly as important to you as it is to your earth sign relatives, the Taureans and Virgos. And when you do eat, it's never adventurous. Meat and potatoes, chicken, burgers, anything safe. Exotic foods? Never.

### Occupations/Financial Profile

You work best in a structure, such as a large corporation, school system, church, or the military. You appreciate the earning of rank, and once you've achieved it, you hand down the same wisdom to those younger than you.

This makes you an excellent teacher, pastor or priest, or ranking military officer. In business terms, the bigger the company the better, because it offers you the opportunity to work so hard that you climb from the mailroom to the executive suite. In fact, whenever you read about such a success story, it's almost always a Capricorn.

You're quite good with financial data, so a large bank, insurance or investment company is a smart direction for you. As an earth sign and a hard worker, you appreciate buildings as well, so real estate and the construction industry are also recommended. Finally, Capricorn's connection to the bones and teeth can lead you to a successful career as a dentist or orthopedic surgeon.

Typical famous Capricorns include the hardworking Woodrow Wilson, who began prohibition; the hardest worker of all, Horatio Alger; the industrious Benjamin Franklin; Howard Hughes, Conrad Hilton, Aristotle Onassis, all of whom climbed admirably to the top of the business world; and Richard Nixon, another who climbed with all his might to the top.

There's also Clara Barton, who founded the Red Cross, exemplifying self-sacrifice. Several pop stars represent the sign's love for music, as well as its tendency to rise to the top of a tough business, including Elvis Presley, Rod Stewart, David Bowie, Naomi Judd, John Denver, and Kenny Loggins.

Capricorn women are said to have a rather cold beauty. This is evident in Marlene Dietrich, Faye Dunaway, Sade, and Crystal Gayle (another cold beauty, Patricia Neal, is on the Aquarian cusp).

Similarly, the dark, depressed, morbid side of the sign can be seen in the works of Rod Serling, Edgar Allan Poe, J.D. Salinger, and Simone de Beauvoir.

### Love and Relationships

Because of your great teaching instinct, you often make the mistake of setting up a similar teacher-pupil relationship in your romantic affairs. Nothing could be more disastrous. Successful marriages thrive on equality and complementary qualities, not dominance and submission. However, once you are married, you become a wonderful parent, since you can thrive in the obvious teacher role that parenting provides—it also gives you an heir to whom you can hand down your prized family legacy.

Your ideal partner is likely to be your opposing sign, Cancer. A Cancerian's highest goal is family perfection, something you obviously treasure as well. And while they can understand your sacrificial brooding side just as intensely, their outlook on life is more supportive, caring, and ultimately, more positive. You also get along well with your fellow hard-working earth signs,

Taurus (whose loving nature will cheer you up and encourage you) and Virgo (who understands your perfectionism to a tee, and will work harmoniously with you to achieve it, especially in a business partnership).

You do not get along well with Aries (too impatient and impetuous for your slow-climb approach to life), Gemini (too whimsical, with little regard for your ideals), Leo (too outgoing for you to trust), and Sagittarius (a complete opposite— you would never see eye to eye on anything).

## AQUARIUS (January 21–February 19)

### Origin/Representation

Boy, is this one confusing. You'd think a sign with the word aqua in it would be a water sign. Nope. Or that its planetary ruler is, say, Neptune. Wrong again. Aquarius is an air sign, yet water plays a significant part in it. It's even symbolized by a young boy pouring water on the earth. Even that part is odd, considering that the later signs are thought to represent the later stages in life, with such virtues as wisdom, peacefulness, and humanity. So why a young boy?

Well, in Greek mythology this young boy was Ganymede, a mortal so handsome he was chosen by the gods to be their cup-bearer, and so ascended to the heavens. He represents the sheer physical beauty of Aquarians—Librans are attractive, but Aquarians are stunning.

As for the water confusion, the most logical explanation is that during this mid-winter time of year, the northern hemisphere actually thaws from its snows. The sign's symbol, which shows two squiggly parallel lines, serves two purposes: its waves indicate the importance of water to the sign, but also wisdom. They were originally drawn as two serpents, one good and one evil; natives of this sign are therefore believed to know the difference well.

Aquarius' planetary ruler is actually a combination of Saturn and Uranus. The two together form a curious duality: Saturn's influence can be seen in an Aquarian's cool level-headedness, while Uranus' pull is in the need to be unique, modern, and unconventional.

### Positive Qualities

You are the world's humanitarians. You love people passionately, in large numbers. For this reason, you're always involved in areas where you can make a difference for the betterment of humankind. Local politics, especially, is where you feel you can make the most difference, and where you feel the problems are most real.

When you're not acting for social change, you're often discussing it. As an air sign, you are a person of great ideas, an idealist and a bit of a dreamer, and you love to engage people in your vision of an ideal society. As a thinker, you're quite logical, so your arguments are always compelling and believable. Combined with your humanitarian zeal, this makes you a popular choice for political or social leadership.

And once you decide what's right, you stick to it. You hate compromise. Unlike Sagittarians, however, whose pride will not allow them to give in to a more logical argument, you will admit you're wrong if someone else's argument is stronger. But you'll immediately turn it around and adopt it as part of your own agenda.

As a sign of the people, you refuse to be placed on a higher level than your friends, even though you may deserve it. You distrust and dislike hierarchies—you're a true democrat—so inequities of class and race fuel your ardor all the more.

Despite your social passions, you're actually very solitary and independent more than people realize. (Another aspect of the two serpents in your sign, which represent good and evil, is a coexistence of other opposites: sociability and aloofness, selflessness and independence, politeness and rudeness. Some astrologers even believe the sign itself is comprised of complete opposites: those people who are the best in the world, and those who are the worst.) In any case,

you've learned several tricks to maintain your independence when you need to: you let the answering machine pick up the phone at home, or you're conveniently absent or late for appointments. Essentially, you make a point to interact with people when you choose to, not vice-versa. This is not a negative trait, it's just you being true to yourself first and foremost.

### Trouble Areas

The later zodiac signs are considered emotionally unstable, progressively more so in the sequence. You are known for being very touchy, especially when criticized. You have a thin skin— you're extremely sensitive to comments from people, and easily hurt.

You're also known for your fear of rejection. Quite often, you find it easier to explain yourself—or even ask for a date—on paper, where you can pour out your soul freely, and not be present for the potentially negative blow. This trait alone has led many Aquarians to blossom into passionate writers and poets. Much like the often misunderstood Virgo, your true self shines through on paper, revealing a sensitive, passionate soul that surprises those who only know your cool, independent public persona.

All of this emotional sensitivity, though, has its downside. If you can't accept criticism, you can't improve flaws in your character. Similarly, if you can't face rejection, you're not likely to survive and prosper in the real world.

Some of the criticism you've heard is probably oriented toward your curt, sometimes rude social manners. This is not because you mean to be offensive, it's just that you find formalities a bit hypocritical and elitist. You're a person of the people, after all, and you know your own mind, and you speak what's on it. Those little things don't feel right to you, so you ignore them. Of course, the problem is, you (and perhaps Sagittarius) are the only one who does, and this directness is not appreciated by most. No doubt you've experienced a few resulting social episodes by now.

### Physical Qualities and Activities

Aquarians are far and away the most physically attractive sign in the zodiac, especially around the eyes, because the sign rules that area (as well as the lower legs). Just as the boy in the hieroglyph is beautiful because of a few soft feminine features, so too is each Aquarian blessed with androgynous good looks: men will have a feminine feature or two, women a masculine few. Most Aquarians have angular faces, not round, and slight builds. Each step is rather light, and the independent streak shows in how an Aquarian manages to avoid bumping into people.

The list of beautiful female Aquarians, then, is quite long: Jeanne Moreau, Tallulah Bankhead, Mia Farrow, Kim Novak, Vanessa Redgrave, Princess Caroline, Geena Davis, Nastassia Kinski, Katherine Ross, Suzanne Pleshette, Princess Stephanie, Christie Brinkley, Barbara Hershey, Lana Turner, Tina Louise, Jane Seymour, Cybil Shepherd, and Vanna White.

Handsome male Aquarians include Clark Gable, James Dean, Charles Lindbergh, Placido Domingo, Rutger Hauer, Humphrey Bogart, Neil Diamond, Paul Newman, Wayne Gretzky, Mikhail Baryshnikov, Tom Selleck, John Forsythe, Tom Brokaw, Nick Nolte, Robert Wagner, Burt Reynolds, Matt Dillon, and John Travolta.

As an Aquarian, you're not much into sports, although you do enjoy being part of a team. This manifests itself in an interest in being on social committees or in charity groups. You're also interested in scientific pursuits, so you're happy to spend your time building a ham radio, or going to an aeronautics museum, or reading science fiction.

### Preferences

You're the sign that likes the odd colors, such as orange or metallic blue or anything provocative or a little unusual. You have the avant-garde instinct—it's the influence of Uranus—so you don't mind if your clothes are considered weird, though most of the time you assert your style and independence subtly, with just an accent here or there to throw people off, or an ordinary suit of

an odd color.

Your home is likely to feature modern designs— those metallic glass tables, perhaps, or lots of black-faced compact technology. You prefer the overall space to feel more horizontal than vertical (this fits your hatred of social hierarchies).

As an air sign, like Gemini and Libra, you're not much interested in food. You could easily spend an entire meal talking, then find that you haven't eaten a bite when everyone else is done. But as with your choice of colors, you'll go for the unusual morsel, that strange orangeish vegetable or gourd, say, before anyone else does. Your idea of fun is to get a group of people together and try a new exotic restaurant—a Moroccan feast or an Indonesian barbecue, for instance. This combines your love of people with the unusual.

#### Occupations/Financial Profile

You are blessed with a logical, scientific mind, and this alone suits you to innumerable careers in the high-tech industries. If every computer company declared that each employee could get their birthday off, they would literally lose half their staff in February. Since these jobs are generally secure and pay well, and since you love this kind of logic-based work, you'll enjoy success on all levels here.

Your other great talent is for social work. A great many activists, teachers, and politicians are Aquarians, and although these positions may not pay as well as the technical jobs, to an idealist like you they are perhaps the most satisfying pursuit you could choose in life. You want to make a difference in the world, not get rich. In fact, no one irks you more than the person who simply chooses a career for the money.

What you're not great at is anything that is vague or negotiable, such as sales or dealmaking. You need the solidity of machines and logic, or the nobility of truth and mankind's welfare, to satisfy you.

As mentioned earlier, many of the world's great writers are Aquarians, because they understood that they could show their true feelings on paper much more easily than in person. This list includes Charles Dickens (also a great social humanitarian), Somerset Maugham, Francis Bacon, Charles Darwin, Lewis Carroll, Sinclair Lewis, James Joyce, Tennessee Ernie Ford, science fiction master Jules Verne, and the poets Robert Burns and Lord Byron.

#### Love and Relationships

As mentioned earlier, your greatest obstacle is your fear of rejection—you'd rather write down your feelings than express them face to face. Remember, though, *Cyranos de Bergerac* was a tragedy, and unless you can overcome this fear, so too will your love life be sad. Even when you do succeed in finding the right mate, you must verbalize your feelings more often. You feel your love, but you express it in other ways, such as buying gifts. Without those key words, however, your efforts are lost.

The good news is that finding your mate is easier when you know who to look for, and in your case that would be Gemini or Libra. The former loves variety and unpredictability as much as you do, and can understand your conflicting character. The latter will be just as physically attracted to you as you are to him or her, since you're both blessed with great beauty and a love of it, and this will be harmonious as long as the Libran accepts your irregular need to be alone. Secondarily, you also get along well with Leo (there is mutual respect here) and Sagittarius (you'll bond by discussing the finer points of life and the world's problems, long into the night, time after time).

It's best to avoid partnerships with Taurus (who cannot tolerate your unpredictability), Cancer (too homebound and stable for your complex fancies), and Virgo (you cannot tolerate their need for order).

## PISCES (February 20-March 20)

### Origin/Representation

Pisces is depicted by two playful fish, frolics head-to-tail in a counter-clockwise direction, although it is also shown as two fish facing opposite directions linked by a band. Egyptian astrologers believed the constellation Pegasus was a boat that pulled the two fish underneath it—hence the band.

In Greek astrology, the Pisces story is similar to that of Capricorn. Venus and Cupid were supposedly playing innocently by a river when they were approached by a monster (the same one, in fact, that threatened Capricorn). Like Capricorn, they dove into the river for safety, at which time the goddess Minerva took pity on them and lifted them into the heavens for posterity.

The significant aspects to this myth are many. First of all, Venus represents pure love and Cupid mischief in romance, both of which are strongly present in the Piscean character. Secondly, the two were saved by water—hence Pisces is a water sign, occurring during the time of year when rainfall is most plentiful. In fact, Jesus Christ was born in the Piscean age (time itself travels through ages of the zodiac which affect us all), promised to wash away man's sins, and is often represented by a fish; he also fed multitudes of people with two fish and five loaves, magically turning them into twelve baskets of food, which astrologers believe to be symbolic of the Piscean trait of great spiritual love to all twelve zodiac signs. Finally, Minerva is the goddess of wisdom and patroness of the arts; so Pisceans are spiritually wise and immensely creative.

Pisces is ruled by both Jupiter and Neptune, both of which govern the imagination and emotions, as opposed to practical matters. As a result, Pisceans are the most sensitive, creative, and adaptable of all the signs, but the least organized. In the anatomical realm, Pisces rules the feet and toes, the foundation on which the entire body is supported. This is ironic, because Pisceans are not considered strong people, either physically or emotionally. But just as each sign is assigned a part of the body, so each is also assigned a stage of man's life; the ancients believed that Aries' immature selfishness resembles the first stage of childhood, and that therefore Pisces' spiritual wisdom represents the final stage of maturity. Indeed, there is a great deal of strength—albeit a misunderstood one—in spiritual wisdom.

### Positive Qualities

Joie de vivre. Joy of life. You are the most free-spirited sign of all, and the most aware of experiencing all that life has to offer, right here right now. Those two fish in your hieroglyph are the only truly happy symbols in the zodiac, and so you too are naturally carefree and playful.

Your imagination is the most fertile of all the zodiac signs as well. The rest of us rely on you to dazzle us with your flights of fancy, either with words or visuals. There are more poets in your sign than in any other. You're the artists of the zodiac, and the list of famous Piscean creators proves it.

You also have an immense sense of sympathy for others. If someone near you is in pain, you feel it just as intensely. You simply have to lend your help and understanding because your world is not right until you help cure it. For this, you are prized as a friend.

As the twelfth sign of the zodiac, you are considered to be on the highest spiritual plane, and so you are naturally more intuitive than all other signs—perhaps even psychic. You're on a quest for spiritual peace—in your mind it's the ultimate calling of mankind, and you'll probably spend your life trying to attain it. You certainly have the best chance of finding it.

### Trouble Areas

You are sensitive to a fault. The slightest out-of-earshot whisper or behind-the-back rumor will floor you. You're a water sign, but unlike the other two—Cancer and Scorpio—you have no outer shell to protect you. So instead, you swim away. Your defense is to hide, either shutting yourself off in a room or, if that's not possible, withdrawing mentally into your potent imagination. This

is how you write most of your poetry, or paint your most passionate pieces—in a highly-charged, defensive emotional state that's often triggered by an overheard comment or casual criticism.

Your other defense mechanism is to disappear. You have the uncanny ability to quietly metamorphosize into the walls, becoming unapproachable and therefore reasonably invisible to anyone else in the vicinity.

Both of these reactions, obviously, are dangerously anti-social. If channeled creatively, they can be quite therapeutic, but if not, you need a strong balancing force—either a mate or close friend with a strong foundation, or even therapy.

This state can also lead to an overabuse of drugs or alcohol. You don't have the constitution, either physically or emotionally, to withstand their affects, and you become addicted easily. You tend to resort to them much too quickly, and the problem just worsens from there.

On a more practical level, you tend to lack self-discipline. Some would say you're just plain lazy, but it's more that you're not interested in mundane facts or routines. You're so involved in your imaginative world that things like bills and responsibilities are a lesser priority. Here again, you need the balance of a mate who is business-minded and pragmatic.

Finally, you have a hard time making up your mind about anything. You are a wonderful adapter, a chameleon even—if you're interested in someone who is passionate about, say, gardening, you immediately will learn everything there is to know about gardening, so you can enjoy it with them. Most of the time, though, you'll find that you'll soon lose interest and something else will fascinate you. That's okay, as long as those around you understand and appreciate your free-spirited playfulness. If not, find someone who does.

#### Physical Qualities and Activities

You are not known for your size. In fact, most Pisceans are quite frail and soft—not necessarily overweight, but just not muscular or firm in any sense.

As with your tendency towards alcohol and drug abuse, you tend to rely on medicines a bit too much, because your body does not have the constitution to fight oft annoying viruses as well as it should. But you may find that more natural treatments suit you better, and the holistic sciences in general satisfy your desire to exist on a higher spiritual plane.

You are not an athlete, but you love to move gracefully. Because Pisces is associated with the feet and movement, many of the world's great ballet dancers—Nijinsky and Nureyev, for example—are Pisceans. You also enjoy swimming, because it's both a water activity and a graceful way to move.

Interestingly, you probably are also fascinated by movies. Film and photography are very Piscean activities. Emotionally, you are extremely sensitive, just like film. You pick up everything, so this enables you to understand film—and especially film that moves—deeply.

#### Preferences

Since you don't have a strong foundation either physically, emotionally, or interpersonally, you reflect this in a lack of an announced style. You often wear clothes that don't match, or clothes that just blend in with the pack. You're indecisive about it. You'll go through stages in life, even from day to day, where you try this or that, never really landing on a look of your own. That's okay. You're more concerned with creating, and attaining spiritual enlightenment, so who cares what you're wearing? Pisceans are the most likely sign to enter a monastery or an eastern religion, and where personal style is utterly meaningless and trivial. That makes more sense to you.

One famous Piscean, Albert Einstein, spent his entire life discovering, creating, and philosophizing—this is what made him one of history's great men. The fact that his hair was always completely disheveled simply added to his appeal—he couldn't be bothered with combing it when such brilliant matters were on his mind.

Since you're the most emotional of all the signs, you prefer things that resonate emotionally to you. You don't care if the furniture in your home matches, but you care greatly if an old chair has sentimental value. That's the key: any inanimate object in your life is prized for its emotional content, or of whom it reminds you.

Even your taste in food is governed by emotions, although you obviously have a bias towards a diet that's high in water content—such as soft, liquidy rice and pasta dishes, fruits and vegetables—as well as seafood. More importantly, though, if a particular food reminds you of someone, or a special place in time, you'll experience it more deeply, a trait that's truly unique to you among the zodiac.

### Occupations/Financial Profile

Poets, writers, painters, musicians, actors, and dancers dominate the list of famous Pisceans. But what of those who are not so famous? There are several other avenues that suit you well. First, anything to do with fish. This may be too obvious, but you have a natural affinity with the fishing industry. Second, you are inclined toward alcohol—perhaps too much—so any job in the creative or social end of it, such as bartending or brewing, is up your alley. Third, and similarly, you are well-suited towards the pharmaceutical industry—drugs are very Piscean. Finally, and most predominantly, your innate sympathy towards others makes you an excellent nurse or similar caretaker in the health field. No one understands pain and unhappiness to quite the same depth that you do.

But it's the creative Pisceans who give the sign its glamour. The poets include Longfellow and Elizabeth Barrett Browning; the writers, Victor Hugo, John Steinbeck, Tom Wolfe, and John Irving; the painters, Michelangelo (perhaps the ultimate Piscean artist) and Renoir; the musicians include Chopin, the passionate opera singers Caruso, Renata Scotto, and KM Te Kanawa, the sensitive vocalists Nat King Cole, Smokey Robinson, James Taylor, George Harrison, and Nina Simone, and entertainers Harry Belafonte, Dinah Shore, Johnny Cash, Liza Minnelli, Charlie Pride, and Al Jarreau; filmmakers Robert Altman, Bernardo Bertolucci, and Ron Howard; actors Elizabeth Taylor, Jean Harlow, Jerry Lewis, Sidney Poitier, Michael Caine, Billy Crystal, Glenn Close, Bruce Willis, William Hurt, Ozzie Nelson, the ever-adaptable Ed McMahon, and scores of others.

### Love and Relationships

Because you exist on a high spiritual plane, finding a compatible mate can be challenging. It is necessary, though, because your feelings are so deep and intense that it would be unthinkable for you to exist without it. Not only that, but the right mate can also provide the pragmatic strength and common sense that you so desperately need to help organize your life, since you spend all of your time creating and experiencing the gamut of your emotions.

That ideal mate is your zodiacal opposite, Virgo, as long as it's a Virgo who is aspected to a more sensitive degree—i.e., one that understands your depth of feeling and appreciates your creative world. In return, you get a devoted care-giver, a smart, sensible bill-payer, and hopefully, one that can inspire you to success with his or her ideals, as opposed to tearing you down with harsh criticism. If you're selective, it will work wonderfully. Your secondary partnerships are with your water-sign relatives, Cancer and Scorpio. The former will understand your deep emotional nature, and support you with his or her strength—that outer shell. The latter will attract you immediately, and vice-versa, but has a strong chance of wandering off later.

Those signs not compatible with you are Aries (too aggressive and harsh), Gemini (too prone to variety, and not sympathetic to your needs), and Leo (although you are easily led by him or her, you are also easily cast aside).

### FURTHER EXPLORATION

At the precise moment when you were born, the entire sky was lined up in a certain way, and that is what makes you unique. Although the position of the sun has been our primary focus, since it exerts the strongest influence, it is impossible to give an accurate astrological profile without considering the influence of all the other heavenly bodies. Each plays a role in determining your

personality, and it is important that you learn about them to get a complete picture. It is a far more complicated procedure than the parameters of this book will allow, however, so it is advisable to see a practicing astrologer to get a true reading.

Briefly, here are the secondary signs, and their influence on you:

**The rising sign:** The rising sign is the one that was just coming up on the eastern horizon at the moment you were born. All twelve signs will rise each day—roughly one every two hours—so it is determined by learning the exact time of day you were born. It gets complicated, though, when you consider daylight savings time and particularly the location of your birth, because all measurements are taken using Greenwich Mean Time—so then you have to figure out how many hours away from this particular spot in England is your birthplace. The point is, don't try this alone.

Your rising sign is the second-most influential determiner of your personality, so it's quite advantageous to know it. For instance, if your sun sign is Aries, but your rising sign is Cancer, you'll probably have all the strong-willed leadership qualities of Aries but a great deal more sensitivity and sympathy toward others, and you'll also stay home more than a typical Aries. The sun sign will dominate, but the rising sign will play its part.

**The moon sign:** The moon governs emotions, so its effect should not be taken lightly, especially when forecasting the future. Wouldn't you like to know when you're most likely to feel overwhelming joy or intense sorrow?

Finding your moon sign requires a calendar that charts all phases of the moon from year to year, and this will again be something any astrologer will have ready.

**The houses:** This is where it gets really complicated. The houses are twelve imaginary divisions of the sky. Since a complete orbit of the sky is 360 degrees, each house is 30 degrees wide. The concept here is that when you were born, each planet was in a different section, or house, of the sky. Don't confuse your own planetary ruler or the sun or moon or even your rising sign with this idea. Every planet has an influence on your personality—to what degree and over what area depends on where they were. In fact, your daily horoscope is based largely on the movements of all the planets through these houses—that's what makes every day unique.

The first house, for example, determines physical appearance, so if Venus was here at the moment of your birth, you're probably quite beautiful, more so than others of your sign (if you're not already, say, a Libra or Aquarius).

Each of the other eleven houses represents a different characteristic, so it's fun to chart these as well.

## PALMISTRY

### Introduction

It looks simple. You glance at your palm and you see three major lines. At some point in your life you've probably heard of palmistry and wondered what those three lines meant, but then you thought, "Oh, it's just a bunch of baloney," and that was that.

In fact, those three lines are just the beginning. Virtually everything about your hand reveals aspects of your personality and life: its shape, the type of its skin, the fingers, the way the hand combines with the fingers, the three major lines, and all the other little lines as well. To think all this time you've had a wealth of insight literally in the palm of your hand and at your fingertips, and you didn't know how to use it. Well, now you will!

And by the way, it's not considered baloney anymore, either—nor should it ever have been. The art of palmistry began in the Stone Age—ancient cave paintings of hands are abundant, and the second-oldest manuscript known to man is a treatise on hand-reading. Through the years it has gained more and more scientific acceptance, particularly through the credibility of the famous psychologist Dr. Carl Jung, and recently received an enormous boost of legitimacy with a new scientific theory.

According to this medical study, as reported in Time and Newsweek, the nerve endings in the hands are directly connected to the brain, as if the hand were itself a printout of the brain's circuitry. This was supported by the fact that people who have lost the nerve functions in their hands also lost their lines.

By the same token, since people go through a lifetime's worth of subtle personality changes, so the hands too experience corresponding changes in their lines (always in response to the brain, never before it).

Some skeptics still maintain that lines are merely reflective of hard work, scars, or physical tears—that sort of thing. Jung disproved this by examining the hands of newborns—even they have distinctive line patterns!

What does all this mean? If the patterns on our hands merely reflect what's already happened, how can they possibly help us?

Yes, the hands are like mirrors of our personalities. In some cases, they can help predict the future (as with the major lines, which we were born with), but they can also help us see ourselves better. We get into ruts, we forget what we're good at and what we're not good at, and by studying our hands, we can remind ourselves of our strengths, our best chances for happiness, and even our destiny.

### The Shape of the Hand

First of all, you'll notice a subtle difference between the patterns on your left and right hands. Your dominant hand (for most of you, this is your right hand) reflects information about your everyday life, and the opposite hand indicates your imagination and inherited qualities. Your dominant hand is usually larger as well, since you use it more.

There are three main types of hands: round, square, and rectangular.

If your palm is round, you are the active type. Quick-thinking, quick-acting, always on the go, always trying to get ahead, ambitious, and goal-oriented. You grasp ideas easily and achieve financial success rather quickly as well. You feel fenced-in by dull jobs—especially housework—and would much rather sink your teeth into a challenge. Your career choice tends to be law, journalism, acting, stock brokering—anything high-pressure and challenging. Celebrities with round palms include Johnny Carson, Elizabeth Taylor, and Julia Roberts.

If your palm is square, it indicates, as you might suspect, that you are earthy, hard-working, and capable of solving problems (especially those of a logical nature). This aptitude assures of you of success in your chosen field, which tends to be in the specialized technical areas. You are also trustworthy, skeptical, highly moral, modest, and very grounded in reality. You enjoy activities that involve your hands, such as woodworking or painting. Famous square-hand types are Clint Eastwood, Sylvester Stallone, Barbara Bush, and Amelia Earhart.

If your palm is rectangular, you are more of a thinker—in fact, you spend more time dreaming than doing, imagining more than you can carry out. You also have a tendency to get bored easily, and wander from job to job and person to person, always floating on top of life but not diving in very often. You're the creative type, but you have to discipline yourself to concentrate, otherwise success can elude you.

Actually, this third category can be subdivided further: rectangular-handed people without many lines on their palms are generally more active and emotionally stable than those with a great deal of lines. So if you have few lines, you are creative and sensitive, but ultimately your head rules your heart. Celebrity examples of this type include Jimmy Stewart, Kirstie Alley, Michael Landon, and Betty White.

If you see many lines on your palms, these are probably the result of worrying too much and imagining too many scenarios that will never be played out in real life. You are in love with love, and you'll create drama just to satisfy your craving for it. In other words, your heart rules your head. You share this hand-type with Katherine Hepburn and psychic Jeane Dixon.

## Skin Types

Before examining the details of the palm, check the back of your hand and assess your skin type, to see what it reveals about you. There are three major categories: smooth, healthy, and worn (obviously, don't cheat and rub lotion on it just before you do this).

If your skin is smooth, you are known for your good taste and sophistication, but you may be a bit lazy. You're more of a thinker than a doer, and need to be reminded of practicalities—like paying bills—often.

If your skin is healthy and firm, somewhere between smooth and rough, you are physical and active, something of an outdoorsy type, but not overly so. You love sports and staying in shape, and you are very efficient in everything you do.

If your skin is worn and rough, you obviously spend a great deal of time outdoors. To you, physicality is your most important quality. You are very strong, love challenges, and often meet dares just to prove your mettle. You thrive in wide-open spaces.

## The Fingers

There are four types of fingers, each of which define a certain characteristic of your personality: thick, soft, thin, and sinuous.

If you have thick fingers, which are strong and square at the tips, you are realistic and down-to-earth. You're also pragmatic, hard-working, materialistic, and opinionated.

If you have soft fingers, it's not because you're overweight. They're there for a reason. You have a warm, loving, receptive personality. You have an intuitive sense about people—you pick up their thoughts and emotions non-verbally, and by your keen sense of touch. Your fingers are smooth around the knuckles and the tips are shaped like cones.

If you have thin fingers, you're more the analytical type. You're idealistic, critical, and logical. Your knuckles are more defined and your tips are square or just a little rounded. The skin tends to be dry as well.

If you have sinuous fingers, with knuckles that are barely pronounced and tips shaped like trapezoids, you're an active type. You get nervous a lot, but you also get a lot done, and therefore achieve success earlier.

It's possible that you can have a combination of these four types, but it's rare. More likely is an unusual combination of fingers and palms. For example, a rectangular palm, which indicates sensitivity and imagination, is most likely to have soft fingers, because they fit closely with the personality type. But you could easily have rectangular palms and thin fingers, meaning your sensitive but logical as well—a good combination of heart and head. We're all unique, so expect the overall picture to be somewhat complex.

A fun aspect to the fingers is their mythological associations, as follows:

The index finger is associated with Jupiter, the largest planet in our solar system. It therefore represents leadership and pride. If it's long, you are strong-willed and even a bit dictatorial; medium, you're a quieter, more graceful leader; short, you more of an advisor than a president.

The middle finger represents Saturn, as well as the qualities of good judgement, balance, fairness, and planning. If it's long, you're very cautious and must be convinced before making a decision; medium, you're a little more open-minded, a moderate; short, you need to spend more time deciding what's right.

The ring finger is that of Apollo, and signifies, as you might suspect, romance and style (you don't wear that symbol of romance there for nothing). If it's long, you're passionate and a tastemaker, one who creates fashion trends; if it's medium, you're quietly tasteful and romantically active; short, you follow the prevailing trends and are very loyal in relationships.

The little finger is associated with Mercury, which we learned in astrology represents communications, speed, writing, and conversation. If it's long, you're a great talker and natural salesperson; medium, you make a convincing case when you feel the need to; short, you're a shy listener.

The thumb represents the goddess Rhea, and more importantly, the will. Since it's opposed to the other four, it can easily dominate the tendencies of all of them. If it's long, you are stubborn and used to getting what you want; medium, you're a good negotiator, and you understand the nature of give-and-take situations; short, you give up too easily.

## Hand and Finger Combinations

One of history's most famous palm scientists developed a system of hand-and-finger combinations that uses the four basic elements: fire, earth, air, and water. Knowing which combination you have will not only help define your personality, it can also help you find your ideal romantic partner.

The fire hand is rectangular with short fingers. Since fire is hot, full of energy, and constantly moving to survive, so are you. The long palm brings you creativity and sensitivity, the short fingers an eye for the big picture (details are for long-fingered types). So you create passionately, on a grand scale, and you experience life to the fullest, but you burn people without realizing it.

The earth hand is square with short fingers. The squareness of your palm brings you a solid work ethic, the kind that leads to long-term success, and the short fingers an ability to work with things of a larger scope—i.e., you're a better forester than a whittler. You love rhythm, and are very attuned to the seasons, the generations, the birth /life continuum. Your family comes first.

The air hand is square with long fingers. Just as air is associated with the wind, birds, sound waves, and communication, so you are very quick in your movements and intellect, and you speak and write cogently and logically. In fact, your mind often overrules your heart and gets in the way of your emotional needs. Most people with air hands are either in the communications field, are in one that emphasizes logic, such as law.

The water hand is rectangular with long fingers. As astrological water signs are highly emotional and creative, so too are people with water hands. You are very introverted, experiencing most of life beneath your outer shell. Like a Pisces, your imagination and emotions feed each other, and you are highly spiritual and intuitive. But you rely on others to move you to action, as water relies on outside forces like wind and gravity to move it.

## Romantic combinations

Although degrees vary greatly, here are the ideal combinations of the above hand types:

Fire and air: Both of you are highly intelligent, which makes for charged conversation, and you're both goal-oriented and passionate. The negative is a tendency to be competitive, which generates friction, but the attraction is electric, and carries enough mutual interest to overcome that.

Earth and earth: You believe in the same things, to such a strong degree that a combination with another sign would be too problematic. The only negative is sameness—you're likely to get into a rut. Still, you share too much to too great a degree—this is what lasting relationships are based on.

Water and water: Since the water sign is the most misunderstood, it's also the hardest to match. For this reason, relationships with those who understand you best seem the most compatible, although this varies to a great degree. In this combination, there is great mutual support and magnetism, but also a tendency for overpossessiveness, jealousy, and irritation. If it's too unsteady, find another—you're the most adaptable type, so a combination with, say, your opposite the fire hand, can be just as successful.

## THE MAJOR LINES

### The Life Line

The life line is the lowest of the three. It begins on the edge of the hand between the thumb and forefinger, and extends in a downward arc. Contrary to popular belief, the length of the lifeline does not necessarily correspond to the length of your life. It is a measure of how you live, not how long you live. Quality, not quantity. This is because your palm is changeable—it reflects the course you're currently on, but if you alter it, it will reflect your new direction.

So if your life line is short, fear not. Many people with short life lines have led long, full lives. In fact, some parents become frightened when they notice that one of their children has a short life line (the three major lines actually form only eight weeks into the embryonic stage of a baby's development). What they fail to realize is that the length will change as the child grows older.

It's more important that the life line extend as far as possible across the palm. If your life line fits this description, you have a great zest for living, you look forward to waking up and greeting each day, and you are blessed with an exceptional amount of energy and stamina. It stands to reason that with your great enthusiasm for life, you are likely to live much longer.

Conversely, if your life line is shaped like a semicircle that arcs inward back towards the thumb, you need to work on your stamina and attitude. You are more likely to be depressed, to encounter more day-to-day problems, and you tire easily. You need to balance your life so you get enough exercise and stimulating activity, but also more quality rest and relaxation. This will improve your overall outlook on life, and thus help extend it.

What if you show a break in the life line? Does that indicate a serious calamity? Not usually. You're likely to experience a change in your outlook at that time, brought on by a change in another area—it could be your health, or your relationship, or your career. By examining the lines that represent those areas later, you can perhaps find a clue, and so avoid unnecessary crises in your life.

If you see a break in the life line surrounded by a box, this is very promising. It means you can handle the problem the break suggests and overcome it smoothly. But if the box does not surround a break, it suggests confinement, perhaps even prison. Knowing this in advance will help you avoid it, and the box will disappear. Really.

How do you chart time on your life line? Once again, the length of the line does not accurately reflect the length of your life. But you can still estimate time on it. The best method is to draw an imaginary line from your second finger down to the life line. The point that it meets the life line is about the age of thirty-five. So if you see a break in the life line just beyond this point, you can prepare yourself for a change in your life just after that age.

If you know of a major event in your life that happened earlier than age thirty-five, such as an accident or breakup or death of a loved one, you might see a mark on your life line before the thirty-five point. From there, you can figure the number of years by the difference in length, and then use the same distance to figure events in the future. So if you broke both legs in a skiing accident at age twenty-five, which is indicated by a break in your life line an inch before the thirty-five point, you can assume that an inch beyond that point indicates age forty-five, and so on.

You might also notice a large number of very fine lines around the base of the thumb. Some may even cross the life line, or be more prominent than others. These are worry lines, and the more you have the more worrying you've done in your life, and will continue to do. Worrying, however, is not healthy. It leads to all sorts of health problems and psychological unhappiness. Learn to relax and enjoy life more, and these lines will gradually disappear.

### The Head Line

Logically, you would think the head line would be the uppermost of the three major lines. But no.

The head line is the middle one, and it represents intelligence and the quality of your thinking.

In general, the longer the head line, the more intellectually gifted you are. If you have a very long head line—one that extends all the way across the palm to the outer edge, you have a wide range of interests, great powers of insight, and enormous capacity for learning.

If your head line extends to about the area under the little finger, you are bright, quick-thinking, and have several main interests.

If your head line ends in the area under the ring finger (the average length), you are practical. You get to the point and get on with it, rather than debate and analyze like those with longer head lines are prone to do.

Head lines can also be divided into two distinct types: practical and imaginative. Practical head lines extend in a virtual straight line across the palm. If this is yours, you are a logical thinker, not one to take something on faith. You are best-suited for a career that emphasizes logic and analysis over imagination.

Imaginative head lines extend in a downward arc towards the wrist. The further the arc extends downward, the more imaginative you are. If it extends so far downward it actually connects with the wrist, you are so imaginative as to be somewhat out of touch with the workings of the real world. If it has a more gentle arc, you are highly creative, and you know how to succeed with your gifts. You also have a need to surround yourself with natural beauty or things that inspire your imagination.

Some people show a fork on their head line. This is very positive—it indicates a head suited both for practical matters and imaginative ideas. If you show this, you've probably learned how to succeed by using both qualities to your advantage.

If the head line slopes upward, it indicates a need for material possessions. You want to get rich, and the sooner the better.

It's also useful to examine the point at which the head line begins. There are two main scenarios here—dependence and independence. First, if it's joined to the life line at its origin, it indicates a cautious personality. If it begins beneath the life line, it means you needed the protection of your parents early in life, and still lack a good deal of confidence in yourself. If it's actually joined with the life line for a short distance, you were not able to separate yourself from your parents for awhile, and needed their help and guidance to make decisions.

But if your head line does not connect with your life line, you were born independent and remain so to this day. It didn't take you long to affirm your identity, and you might even have had some conflicts with your family in your youth as a result. The farther away from your life line, the more independent you are. If your head line starts at the base of your forefinger, you are so determined to get your way in life that nothing will stop you.

### The Heart Line

The heart line is the uppermost of the three major lines, and extends in the opposite direction of the other two. It begins on the outer edge of the palm and ends somewhere under the first two fingers.

There are two main types of heart lines: physical and mental, which are rather like the popular classifications of personalities as Type A or Type B. The physical heart line, for instance, curves upward at the end, finishing either on one of the first two fingers or between them. If this matches your heart line, you are able to express yourself and your feelings well, and are capable of overcoming emotional pain. If you have a relationship breakup, for example, you have your share of hurt feelings, but you get over it and move on.

If your heart line simply goes straight and ends before the first two fingers, without curving, it's the mental type. You are very sensitive, and you don't recover from emotional trauma well. You keep your feelings to yourself, and so suffer the blues a great deal. You are emotional to the point where it often blocks your practical sense.

No matter which type of heart line you have, the point where it ends is quite important. If it stops somewhere between the first two fingers, you are well-balanced. The first finger represents the ego and self-concern, the second worldly judgement, so in this case your needs are met, but in the context of reality. This offers the best chance for happiness.

If your heart line stops on the first finger, you are selfish to a fault: your ideals are often unattainable in the real world, and so you will be so selective as to hurt your own chances for finding a mate.

If your heart line ends on your second finger, especially after curving downwards, you are gifted with a special love for humanity. You are a care-giver, a nurturer, and simply all heart. But you place the needs of others before your own happiness, so while this is a wonderful, rewarding quality to serve the world, it is often at your own expense.

Many heart lines will fork near the end. This is not a negative sign, just an indication of emotional complexity. If you have three or more lines that look like branches, you are the ultimate romantic—extremely emotional and in love with love. This is actually considered a lucky mark, but only if you're in a relationship with a partner who is just as supportive emotionally.

You might notice marks in the early stages of your heart line that look like chain links. These are indications of emotional stresses. They're very common in the first half of life; if the line continues onward smoothly, you'll have a happy, stable romantic life thereafter.

Finally, you might notice a small companion line that runs parallel with your heart line towards its end. If so, you're a lucky soul. This is an indication of a long-lasting relationship that extends through the later years of life. What could be better?

## THE MINOR LINES

### The Fate Line

Although it is not considered one of the three major lines, because not everyone has one, the fate line is almost as important. If you see a vertical line nearly bisecting your palm from bottom to top, you indeed have one. It normally begins near the wrist and crosses the head and heart lines, ending somewhere near the base of the fingers (especially the second finger).

Having a fate line means you have a strong goal in life, and are working hard towards achieving it. Virtually every successful person has one, because it's rare to reach the top without a strong goal and the drive to get there.

The fate line is also a bit of a good luck charm—people who have it experience fewer mishaps in life, and when crises do come, they seem to overcome them more smoothly. It's almost as if it were a guide, a protector that steers them along the right path.

If you do not show a fate line, you are probably not driven to succeed in any one field. You may be at a point where you're still wondering what to do with your life, or perhaps you made a major mistake earlier and now seem stuck in a hopeless pattern. It's always possible to change your life for the better, and chances are if you find the key to success, a fate line will soon appear, confirming the strength of your new decision.

Occasionally, a person without a fate line will succeed financially, but this is usually the result of either odd fortune—such as a sudden inheritance or lottery windfall—or the result of other factors. Hollywood entertainment executives, for example, are famous for "failing upward"—that is, receiving a better offer from a company after being fired from their previous job. Many of these types do not have fate lines, but experience a different definition of success that comes through being in the right place at the right time and knowing how to play the game (by virtue, usually, of a strong head line).

The position at which the fate line begins is an indication of the point in time you decided on

your path. If it begins inside the life line, you were under a strong family influence early in life, and it took a while before you became independent enough to pursue your dream on your own. The benefit of this is that you probably have a strong foundation of morals and caring for others—you may be successful in life, but it won't come at the expense of family.

If your fate line begins outside the life line, it indicates a sense of independence very early in life. You've always preferred your own way of doing things, and this tendency will keep you from getting trapped in career corners throughout life.

Some people have fate lines that begin towards the outside of the palm, which emphasize the independent streak even more. In this case, you likely did not have a strong family structure at all—perhaps you were an only child from a broken home or even an orphan—so you learned to be on your own at a very young age. Ironically, this usually indicates a career in the public eye: as if to compensate for the lack of family as a child, you will seek to find acceptance in the multitudes. Many performers and artists fit this profile. Almost all will say they decided to become performers as a very small child.

So if the starting point represents a childhood decision, what is the time scale of the remainder of the fate line? Well, it's not exactly linear. Since the fate line most commonly represents career goals, its scale is weighted towards the point at which those are accomplished. The point where the fate line crosses the head line is age thirty-five. This is most commonly the age at which people settle into their path and attain a sense of order to their lives.

From there, it's usually very straight until it crosses the heart line, at age forty-nine. These years are usually stable, during which time you're earning money and raising a family.

Quite often, the fate line will end at age forty-nine. Again, this does not indicate longevity of life but the attainment of life goals. Once you've reached them, you become more relaxed and set in your ways. If your fate line continues on from this point, you will enjoy a continued sense of variety in life—and that is often an indicator of longevity. You might also notice a slight break around age forty-nine. Again, this indicates—especially for very independent people—a will that is just not satisfied with the attainment of the first goal. You'll find a new challenge, and enjoy a stimulating new path later in life.

You might notice an adjoining line that runs parallel to your fate line. This simply means you have more than one goal, more than one interest in life. Perhaps you have a hobby that excites you so much it becomes a second career goal. Or maybe you're a "Renaissance man" (or woman), with an insatiable appetite for variety to go along with your drive for success. This is fine, but remember that it's nearly impossible in our specialized world to be an expert—and a success—in more than one or two fields.

The point at which your fate line ends is also important. If it runs straight upward toward your second finger, as is most common, you have chosen a stable, productive role in society—you're likely a businessperson or executive or teacher. If it veers towards your third finger, your path is more creative—perhaps you're a musician, actor, architect, or designer. If it runs all the way toward your little finger, a very rare instance, you are a born communicator (since the little finger represents Mercury, the messenger)—you're an ideal entertainer, public speaker, or broadcaster.

Quite often, the definition of fate lines will vary in one palm. The stronger it looks, the stronger your will to succeed at that point in life. So if it's blurry or vague, you too are (or were) unclear of your direction at the time indicated. If it shows a break, that indicates a career change. If it joins the life line at any point, your family takes precedence over your own will at that stage of life. If there's a square surrounding it at any point, feel fortunate. You are protected from potential hazards, and will come through them without losing momentum.

#### The Health Line

If you have a health line, it will begin somewhere near the palm, usually inside the life line, then continue diagonally across the hand towards the little finger. If you do not have one, don't worry. In fact, it is a very positive sign not to have one—you are in great health, you are very relaxed and stress-free and you probably are resistant to little annoying bugs like colds and

flus.

If you do have one, it should be well-defined. If it's clear and long, running all the way to the little finger, you'll enjoy a long, healthy life. Sure, you may have the odd occurrence of a minor setback here or there—everyone does—but your constitution is strong enough to outlast them easily.

If your health line is indistinct, you probably have health problems. Little changes often make a powerful difference in these cases—try altering your diet and getting more exercise.

If it varies in quality, it indicates health setbacks. Breaks are indicative of periods of illness or injury. If, however, a break is surrounded by a square, you will be protected and enjoy a smooth recovery.

#### The Sun Line

This is a special line that indicates great success—even fame—in your chosen field. It runs parallel to your fate line, usually beginning near your head line and running upward towards your third finger.

If you show a clearly-defined sun line, you have the potential for greatness. If it begins lower on your palm, near the wrist, you will have already enjoyed great achievement, and its length will determine how long you enjoy your success. In these rare cases, the sun line sometimes ends before the head line, indicating brilliant early success, then a burn-out. Child actors, for instance, might show such a line.

Most sun lines vary in intensity, showing breaks or other defects. This is actually common, because great success does not usually come free of obstacles. A break, for instance, indicates financial problems. More breaks indicate versatility, but usually people with this characteristic spread themselves too thin over too many areas. A square, as usual, is a sign of protection from harm—in this case, you'll experience trouble in the career world, but will emerge free of damage to your reputation and stability.

#### Medical Stigmata

If you show three or four short parallel vertical lines under your little finger, you are blessed with a wonderful healing touch. This is called the Medical Stigmata, so named because those who have it tend to be drawn toward the healing pro-