



Welcome to a new year, Astrology Friends. In this issue, I share a pivotal aspect, answer a reader's question using the transits, feature a great astrology book, and link you to my talks about the charts of notable newsmakers. I have loved exploring these topics and am so grateful and happy to be able to share them with all of you.

Wishing you a star-studded month!

Highlighted Aspect

Sun conjunct Saturn

01-22-23

24 degrees Aquarius



On January 22, 2023, Venus and Saturn begin a new cycle as they conjoin at 24° Aquarius. Venus brings its love of connection – and fun and the arts – to stern Saturn, who has been large and in charge in its own domicile since December of 2020. Whatever we have been working hard at in the Aquarius place in our charts since that time now gets a little boost. It's a good time to realize, in the friendliest of signs, that we do get by with a little help from our friends. Asking for or lending a hand with a knotty problem or a challenging task helps move things forward, or realizing that putting some joy or fun into the work at hand will melt the drudgery away.

What is also significant at this conjunction is that the Moon in Aquarius is traveling to meet up with it later in the day, bringing the manifestation of this energy into our everyday life. In fact, this is a brand-new, highly energetic Moon in Aquarius, and it is carrying its light from a square to Uranus to that Venus-Saturn conjunction. While we are hoping for fresh starts here, we are also propelled back into the tension of the Saturn-Uranus square of 2021 and 2022 for a final skirmish before Saturn takes up residency in Jupiter's house of Pisces in March. Where are we longing for freedom, and

where must we answer the call of responsibility? Did we learn to give space to both over the past two years? Venus here with Saturn brings dignity and a little beauty to our struggle, and helps us to embrace a life where we can serve others while still carving out time for the electric “I wants!” a Uranus in Taurus generates.

To pinpoint the genesis of the Venus-Saturn cycle, look to the house 24° Aquarius occupies. Note how hard you have worked in this area of your life over the past two years, and how much you have accomplished. Then identify what challenges remain, and where you might find the resources you need for leaving this area of your life in good order before facing new tasks in the Pisces place of your chart. For understanding this process, I refer you to the many wonderful books and resources online which describe the journey of the planets through the houses (Robert Hand's *Planets in Transit* is one of my favorites), but I will provide the chart below to get you started:

	Venus-Saturn in Aquarius – HAS RESPONSIBILITY	In square to	Uranus in Taurus – SEEKS FREEDOM
First House	Identity, body image and appearance, energy level, our agency	Fourth House	Home, family, parents, ancestry
Second House	Earned income, spending habits, personal possessions, our basic needs	Fifth House	Joys, pleasures, creative pursuits and passion projects, children
Third House	Interaction with our everyday world – talking, information gathering, communicating, short-distance travel, siblings – or those who are like siblings	Sixth House	Health issues, maintenance of the body, the work we do in our job, service to others, employees, co-workers
Fourth House	Home, family, parents, ancestry	Seventh House	Partnerships (romantic, business, therapeutic), confronting ourselves in others, open conflicts, the spouse
Fifth House	Joys, pleasures, creative pursuits and passion projects, children	Eighth House	Income from sources other than employment (inheritance, insurance, investments, loans) and money we may owe (taxes, debt), the basic needs of others, our emotional or spiritual needs, intimacy, our partner's income
Sixth House	Health issues, maintenance of the body, the work we do in our job, service to others, employees, co-workers	Ninth House	Interaction with the greater world – overseas travel, experiencing other cultures, college, religious and philosophical learning, divination

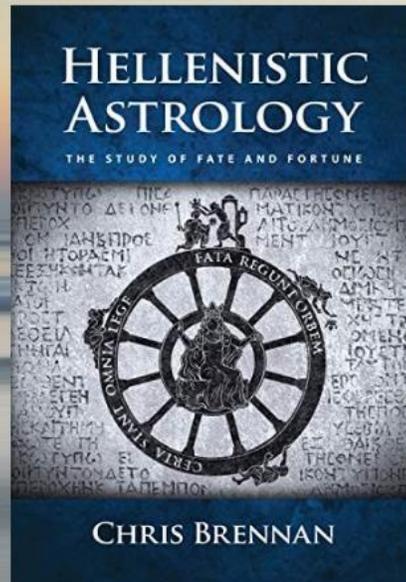


	Venus-Saturn in Aquarius – HAS RESPONSIBILITY	In square to	Uranus in Taurus – SEEKS FREEDOM
Seventh House	Partnerships (romantic, business, therapeutic), confronting ourselves in others, open conflicts, the spouse	Tenth House	Career, our role in society or "mission," our status or reputation, bosses
Eighth House	Income from sources other than employment (inheritance, insurance, investments, loans) and money we may owe (taxes, debt), the basic needs of others, our emotional or spiritual needs, intimacy, our partner's income	Eleventh House	Our tribe, those with whom we share interests, goals, aspirations, networks or groups we join, friends
Ninth House	Interaction with the greater world – overseas travel, experiencing other cultures, college, religious and philosophical learning, divination	Twelfth House	Mental health issues, care of the soul, our service to the world at large, solitude, retreat, connecting with the unconscious, those we do not "see" or understand or who may be working against us
Tenth House	Career, our role in society or "mission," our status or reputation, bosses	First House	Identity, body image and appearance, energy level, our agency
Eleventh House	Our tribe, those with whom we share interests, goals, aspirations, networks or groups we join, friends	Second House	Earned income, spending habits, personal possessions, our basic needs
Twelfth House	Mental health issues, care of the soul, our service to the world at large, solitude, retreat, connecting with the unconscious, those we do not "see" or understand or who may be working against us	Third House	Interaction with our everyday world – talking, information gathering, communicating, short-distance travel, siblings – or those who are like siblings

Highlighted Book

*Hellenistic Astrology:
The Study of
Fate and Fortune*

by Chris Brennan



Highlighted Book: Hellenistic Astrology by Chris Brennan

In 2017, Chris Brennan published the results of his lengthy study of the ancient texts written by astrologers practicing at the dawn of western astrology in Greece 2,000 years ago. *Hellenistic Astrology: The Study of Fate and Fortune* clearly explains techniques used by astrologers who only had their powers of observation of the sky to guide them, and he introduces to our age highly effective ways to interpret an astrological chart. In sharing the techniques used by these early astrologers, Chris Brennan introduces astrologers to a well-constructed system for approaching an astrological chart which quickly and impactfully reveals the circumstances and experiences of the native's life.

After learning the techniques from Chris Brennan's amazing work, I applied the concept of sect to the chart of Julia Roberts and wrote about it here: <https://www.sallyducharme.com/post/julia-roberts-hellenistic-astrology-meets-a-pretty-woman>

I also applied the Hellenistic technique of planetary witnessing to the chart of George Clooney here: <https://www.sallyducharme.com/post/fate-fortune-and-george-clooney>

My favorite technique, that of annual profections, I discussed with Joe Biden's chart here: <https://www.sallyducharme.com/post/joe-biden-and-his-9th-house-profection-year>:
<https://www.sallyducharme.com/post/joe-biden-and-his-9th-house-profection-year>

And I explored the very challenging but fascinating technique of zodiacal releasing in the chart of Vice President Kamala Harris here: <https://www.sallyducharme.com/post/at-her-peak-kamala-harris-and-zodiacal-releasing>

I would like to close by thanking Chris Brennan for all his hard work to provide today's astrology community with a sturdy and serviceable bridge to the brilliant astrology community in Hellenistic Greece.



Newsmakers –

Who have we been talking about over the past few weeks? I love to look up the charts on people in the news to assess how the planets indicate they are experiencing life events that draw the attention of the world at large. Two well-known women passed away at the end of 2022, and I explored their charts on my YouTube channel.

For Barbara Walters, I wondered what would indicate such a trailblazing and long-enduring career.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BByhH-G8q7s&t=22s>

For Kirstie Alley, I explored the link with her birthday twin.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MtmceAct4gk>

I looked at the question of Sam Bankman-Fried's criminal intent.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=63oJb6gMstE&t=215s>

And I wondered, in advance of the run-off election, whether Herschel Walker would win the Georgia Senate race.

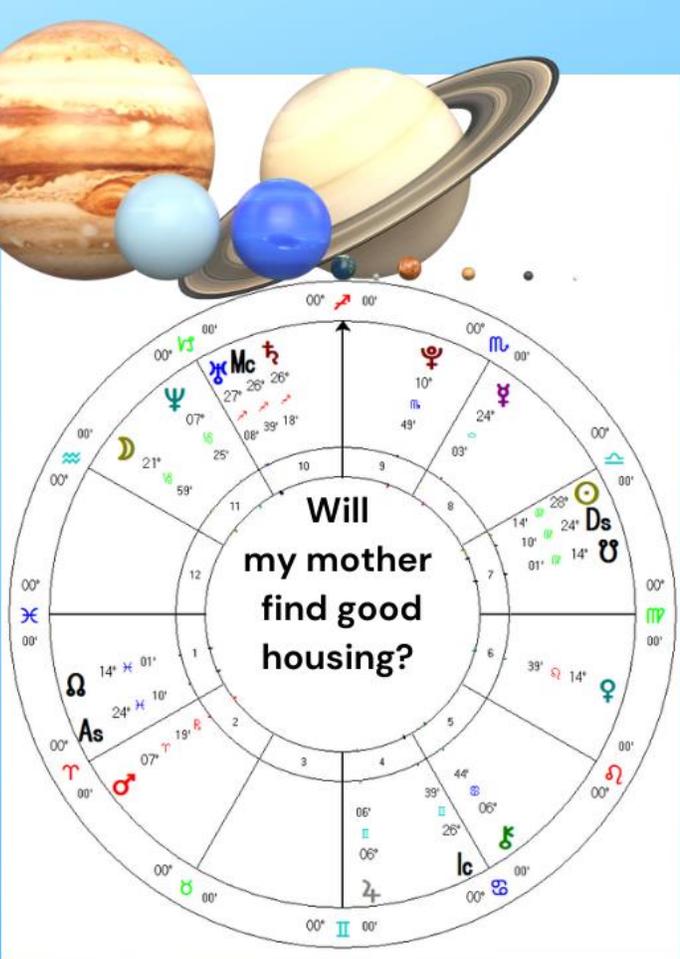
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aT7QWz5ZCV4&t=172s>

Highlighted Q and A

Dear Highlights,

I have been worried about my mother, who has been struggling to find housing. Would the transits to my chart indicate whether she will find a good home for herself, where she is happy and has the space to garden?

Concerned Capricorn Moon



The image features a circular natal chart with the central question "Will my mother find good housing?". The chart is divided into 12 houses, with various zodiac signs and planetary symbols. Key features include: a long Mars transit through the 4th house (Capricorn) and the 11th house (Gemini); a Capricorn Moon in the 11th house; and a Saturn transit through the 11th house. The chart also shows the Ascendant (As) in Capricorn and the Descendant (Ds) in Gemini. Above the chart is an illustration of the planets Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune.

Dear Concerned Capricorn Moon:

I am very sorry to hear about your mother's difficult situation. Capricorn Moons often experience a sense of responsibility for a parent, so I understand how worrying this must be for you. Looking at your chart, we see that this long Mars transit through your 4th house of your family and roots has been destabilizing, and in Gemini, it has been mentally taxing.

This would have been emphasized when Mars went retrograde at the end of October, tossing lots of conflicting options in the air, and, I would imagine, generating many confusion discussions with family members. Mars goes direct tomorrow, on January 12, bringing the ability to sort through the information you all have gathered and make a decision to move forward. With Mars stationing so close to Jupiter in Gemini in your 4th house, it energizes the natal generosity and optimism in your family although Jupiter in its fall is a signature of some instability and changeability natively in your early family life. So the plans made now may be in flux, but they are being formed.

One of the gems in your chart is the ruler of your 4th house, Mercury in Libra, being in trine to your IC in the 4th house, showing the closeness and connection you have with your mother. From January 16 – February 10, Saturn in Aquarius will be in trine to both your IC and Mercury, creating the stability of a Grand Trine. As a bonus, transiting Saturn is in sextile to your Saturn-Uranus conjunction at your Midheaven, transforming the Grand Trine into a Kite formation. This tells me there will be kind of a boon from the Universe which will help your mother find her home. This is especially emphasized when we consider that by derived houses, this Mercury which is so well aspected rules your mother's first house, and her 4th house of the home (your 7th house).

Because Saturn is the planet bringing the benefits, we must consider that it tends to bring us more what we need rather than what we want. Saturn forming this helpful aspect from your 12th house suggests some help or sacrifice on your part may be required, and with Saturn extending a helpful arm to your 8th house Mercury, the path forward could involve seeking out some public financial resources that may be available to your mother to help her with her housing. By derived houses, Saturn is in your mother's 9th house (9th from the 4th) suggests that the home your mother finds may be at some distance from where she wants to be (or, to throw out a wild card, may involve a church community, be connected with a university, or involve living with people from other cultures!). But because the benefitted Mercury is in your mother's 5th house (5th from the 4th), I think she will eventually be happy in her new home. With this Grand Trine being in air, I am not certain of the possibility of gardening, but the Aquarian Saturn could suggest the possibility of community gardening being available.

Adding to the good news of this January 16 – February 10 window, Venus will join Saturn in its Grand Trine formation on January 22, showing the presence of some valuable assistance. Also, transiting Jupiter in Aries will sextile your natal Jupiter in the 4th from February 1 – 5, relieving you of some financial concerns and helping you to relax your concerns for your mother.

I wish you and your mother all the best on this bumpy journey, and I would love to hear in the future how the transits have played out for you both. As Steven Forrest says, "the planets are here to help us," and I am very hopeful this will be true for you and your mother.

Send your questions to me for future consideration in a Highlights issue at sallyjducharme@gmail.com.
Charts are always published anonymously.