

Hello, Astrology Friends, and welcome to an Exalted Aries Sun!

This month, I point you to one of the most dynamic conjunctions of the year, and awaken you the potential for leaps of faith on April 11.

How did the Sun-Mars square work out for you on March 22? Did something take a dramatic turn that began last October? I had to laugh – I received an email at the time of the Sun-Mars square from Amazon, telling me the electric blanket I ordered last October must be unplugged and disposed of immediately because it posed a grave risk of bursting into flames! If you would like to share your Sun-Mars square story, please email me at sallyjducharme@gmail.com, and I will publish it (anonymously) in a future edition of *Highlights*.

To catch up with our Q&A folks, our frustrated job hunter from February is still looking for something which enables him to work closer to or at home. Our mother wondering if she should have a second child in last month's issue impulsively adopted a little rescue dog and is very happy helping him settle in as a member of their family. Stay tuned to see if she decides to pursue adding another human to her life. Our concerned daughter from January reports that her mother is very happy in her new home.

This month, we find a lady who has discovered love late in life, but finding it is just as complicated as it was when we are younger.

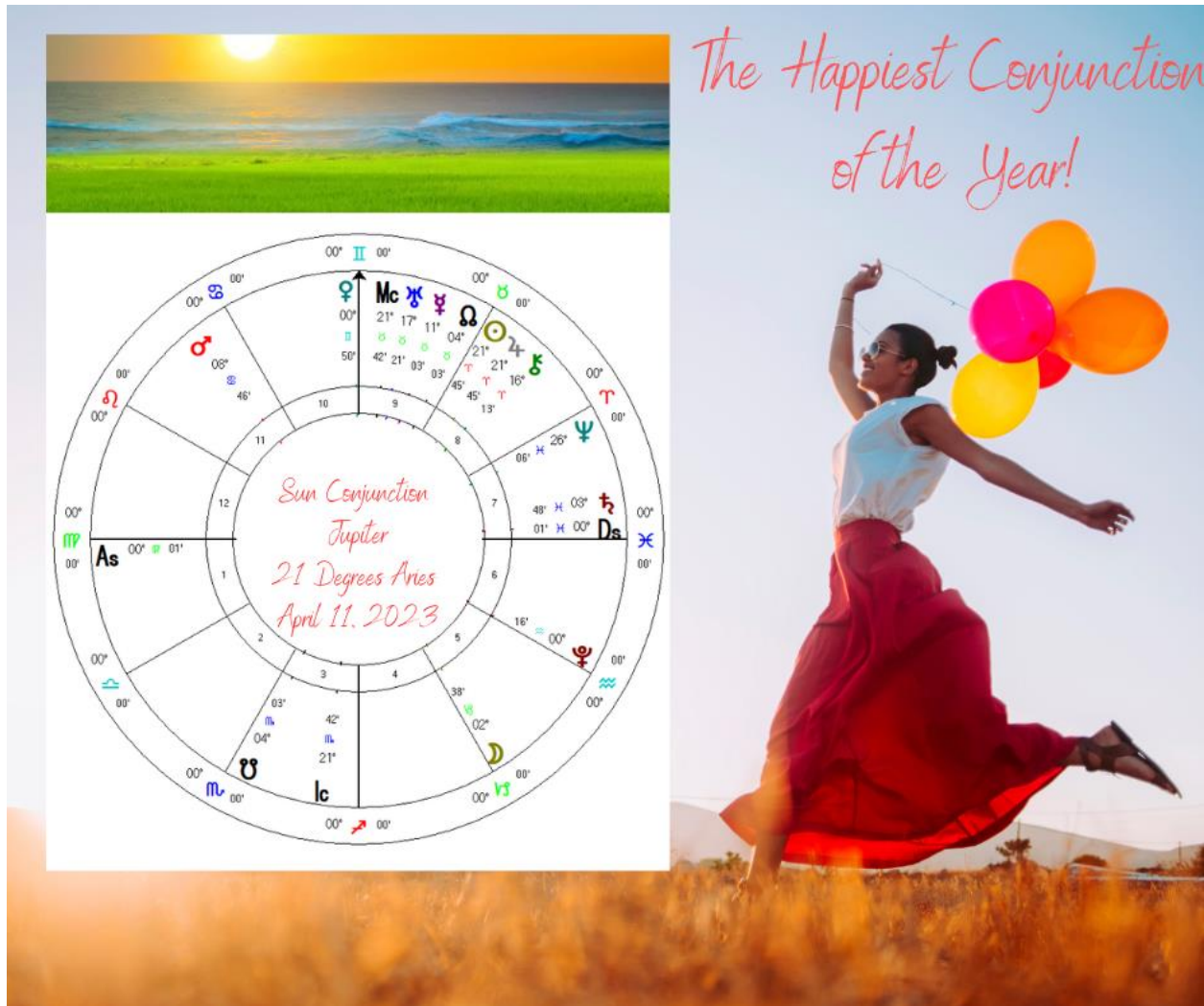
Our book this month is Steven Forrest's *The Book of Fire*. I share with you his inspired exploration the power of the fire element in our charts, and discover that fire in the charts of a trailblazing LGBTQ activist, a mysterious magician/spiritualist, a world-record sprinter, and Princess Diana.

Happy Spring (or Fall, for those of you Down Under). Wishing you all a star-studded month.



Sally
DuCharme





Jupiter in its annual reunion with the Sun is always a sign of optimism and a fresh start. This year, however, the Sun meets Jupiter in Aries, the sign of its exaltation, so making this, arguably, the happiest conjunction of the year. The Sun loves the time of the year following the Spring Equinox, when more light than dark grows every single day. The life force of the Sun revels in a sign which generates bold undertakings, untrodden paths, and facing one's fears. Paired with Jupiter's love of expanding one's horizons, the Sun signals us to use this cosmic boost to take something in our lives to the next level.

Where this conjunction lands in our chart indicates the area of life crying out for a courageous leap of faith:

1st House Aries Rising	Self-confidence, Appearance, Bodily strength and energy level
2nd House Pisces Rising	Income, Possessions, Spending and saving, Self-worth
3rd House Aquarius Rising	Communication, Siblings, Practical knowledge, Daily round
4th House Capricorn Rising	Home, Family, Heritage, Real estate
5th House Sagittarius Rising	Children, Creativity, Pleasure
6th House Scorpio Rising	Work, Health, Service
7th House Libra Rising	Partners, Those we work with rather than for, Open conflict
8th House Virgo Rising	Joint Resources, Debt, Emotional needs, Facing fears
9th House Leo Rising	Higher learning, Long-distance travel, World-view
10th House Cancer Rising	Career, Status, How we contribute to the world
11th House Gemini Rising	Friends, Groups, Shared Mission, Hopes and Dreams
12th House Taurus Rising	Seclusion, Unconscious, Mental Health and Inner Work

Highlighted Q and A

Dear Highlights:

After being single for decades, I have been seeing someone over this past year. We get along very well and enjoy each other's sense of humor. Our friendship is slowly developing into a romance, and I am hopeful that we are moving towards becoming romantic partners. However, there are some barriers to our relationship which involve entanglements with his family. Would the planets be able to tell me if the romantic partnership I dream of will become real any time soon?

In Love Late in Life



Dear In Love Late in Life:

It's heartening to hear that we can find romance in all seasons and times in our lives. When I see Mars's long transit through Gemini in your fifth house this past year, I know fun and romance could have been activated in your life, especially since the Sun, ruler of your Descendant and partnerships, is in your fifth house as well. In fact, Mars stationed and went retrograde on your Sun's degree last October, emphasized this warm solar energy. I can imagine this man being very talkative, curious, and liking to get out and about (Gemini), dynamic (the Sun), and highly motivated to connect with you (Mars).

Earlier this year, transiting Saturn in Aquarius in your first house formed a trine with this energized Sun, indicating that you could have found your confidence building along with your sense of enjoyment in life. Saturn's earlier transit through your first house could have been a trying time, possibly seeing a restriction around mobility or your health, and

Saturn reaching such a beneficial angle to your life force does bring in the image of a beautiful spring emerging from a difficult winter.

However, at the same time, transiting Neptune has been in square to your Sun – the same Sun that has been experiencing a Mars transit. From your second house, Neptune subtly makes you question this connection, wondering if it truly meets your needs (2nd house). In Pisces, Neptune could be challenging whether this romantic relationship is good for your soul. The entanglements from his family you indicated could be giving you an inner discomfort. Since Jupiter in Pisces is natal in your second house, I think it is important to you that you act honorably in all situations so that you value yourself. Saturn leaving the trine to your Sun and entering Pisces this month could emphasize this need, and this will only grow stronger as Saturn comes to meet your Jupiter this summer.

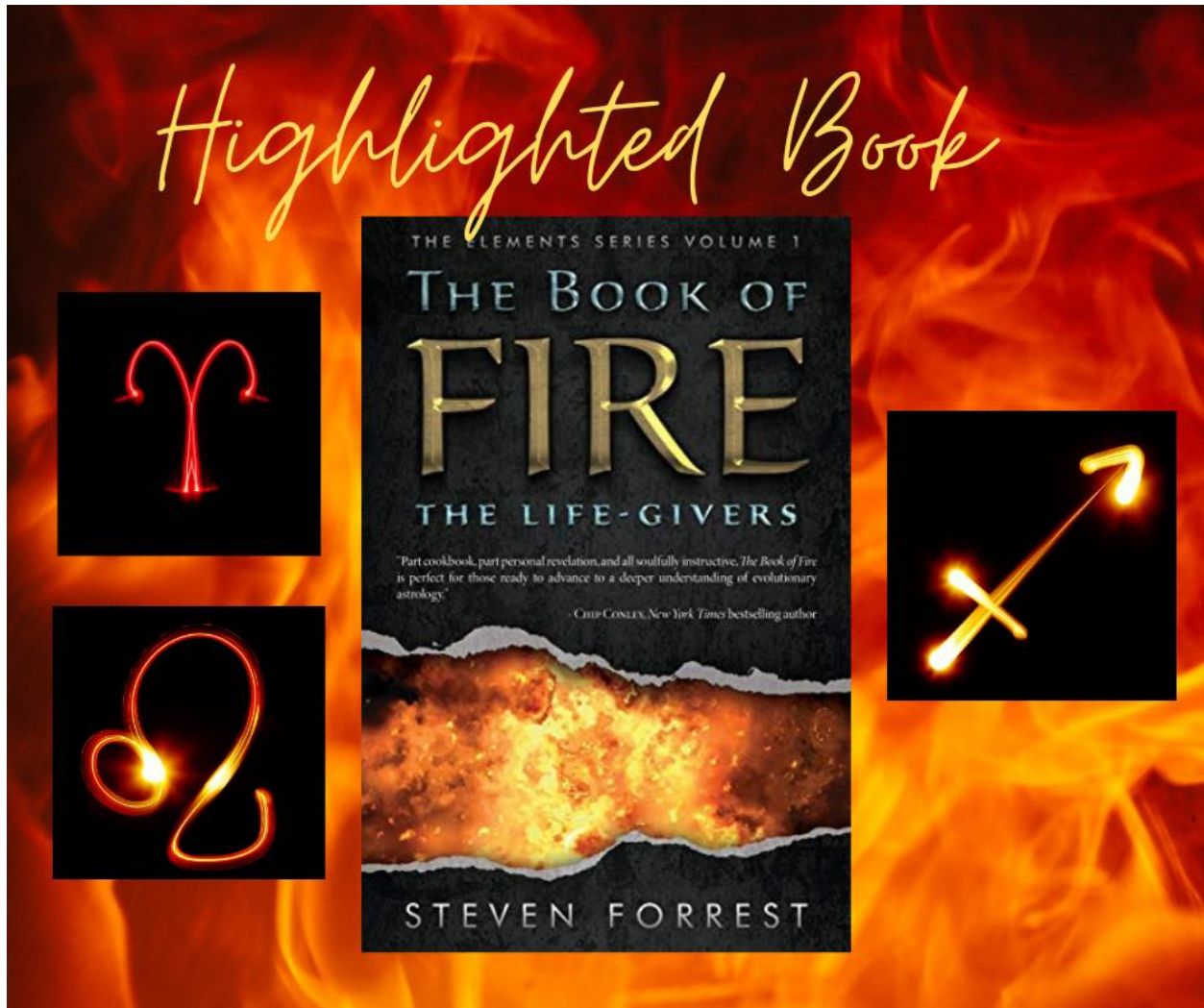
This summer will also be a crucial time for you around relationships because Venus will be making its long journey through Leo and your seventh house of partnerships. It will bring a welcome sextile to your fun-loving and romantic Sun, suggesting a romance blooming into a romantic partnership. But Venus will also square your natal Venus in Taurus in your fourth house, where, just to complicate things, transiting Uranus is forming a conjunction. I can see conflict arising between wanting the fun and pleasure of a partnership, and resisting the loss of the inner security and quiet and stable home life you have built up over the years.

I know I am not making this easy for you – but it seems a choice will need to be made, and both choices involve some sacrifice on your part. As Venus goes retrograde in your seventh house between July 22 and September 3 this year, I believe you will be reviewing and re-examining the aspects of this potential partnership, and you will find some clarity. Also, when I see so much energy in the seventh house, especially for someone like you, who has Pluto in the seventh, I suggest that counseling could be extremely helpful. Having an objective third party view this potential romantic partnership with you (or with both of you, if he is willing) would enable you to believe that you are making the decision which is right for your life.

Wishing you all the best, and keep us posted!

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

Highlighted Book



Steven Forrest began his series on the elements in 2019 with the publication of *The Book of Fire: The Life-Givers*. He chooses fire first because this element provides that impetus of life, what drives us to survive (Aries), thrive (Leo), and expand (Sagittarius). Recognizing and tapping into the fire in our charts “keeps us strong enough to bounce back from defeat, disappointment, and the most grievous losses life can throw at us,” Forrest writes. We live our best lives when we follow our “fire,” awaking each day excited to be alive and following the path predicted in the stars.

But, I have no planets in fire, we mourn. Not to worry, Forrest assures us. We have the three fire signs at certain points of our chart, bringing that pioneering spirit (Aries), creative bursts (Leo), and a zest for experience (Sagittarius) to the topics of those houses. We can also access the fire element through our fire planets. When we follow the Sun, our life force, by the traits of its sign and its place in our chart, we find our bliss. What will we fight for and defend to the very core of our being? Access Mars by sign and house placement. The sign, Forrest believes, is the “being” of the energy, and the house is the “doing.” And how do we fight boredom and the tendency to lose hope?

Study Jupiter to identify those new horizons awaiting us, and the path that leads us to faith in the goodness of the Universe.

Fire can also be mined from the “fire houses” of the chart, the first, where we emerge from nothing to become a fully formed human being. We can reinvent ourselves here. In the fifth, we discover joy, what makes us grateful to be alive and encourages us to create from the source of that joy. And in the ninth house, we find ourselves on a perpetual quest, exploring to make sense of the world, and then finding each door we open only leads us to another threshold to cross, and then another. Identifying your planets in these fire houses, either natively or by transit, helps us understand where we need to light the fuse to make our planets glow.

I had great fun this month identifying charts of those who have an abundance of fire in their charts. I looked for the purest form of Aries (all fire planets in Aries) and found a courageous pioneer in the fight for gay rights:

<https://www.sallyducharme.com/post/bring-aries-fire-to-the-lgbtq-struggle>

Seeking out a dominant Leo, I came across the chart of a complicated spiritualist/magician/healer:

<https://www.sallyducharme.com/post/authentically-a-leo-but-is-he-authentic>

And for someone born with all the fire planets in Sagittarius, I explored the chart of a dazzling runner who set world records in 1988 which still stand today:

<https://www.sallyducharme.com/post/flo-jo-s-sagittarian-fire>

And, finally, my most intriguing takeaway from Steven Forrest’s book was his assertion that the progressed Sun is the dominant indicator of how we are evolving in this lifetime. “There’s absolutely nothing more central or important in the entire system,” he instructs us. To try out his theory, I followed the progressed Sun of Princess Diana, who emerged at the time of her marriage to Prince Charles from a shy and retiring Cancerian hidden in the eighth house, to a luminous international superstar as her progressed Sun entered Leo and her ninth house:

<https://www.sallyducharme.com/post/princess-diana-and-her-progressed-sun>

Or you can find a video version here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ve7fVhxB0>