



# America's Sizzling Aspects in 1946

by Sally DuCharme

On a soft spring evening in May 1946, upon landing a job and a house, William Blythe was driving from Chicago to Arkansas to join his wife who was expecting their first child. Blythe had packed a lot of experience into his 28 years. After a hardscrabble upbringing in Texas, he had made his way as a traveling salesman, a job which suited his Piscean wandering feet. With an obvious predilection for the ladies, he had charmed, married, and divorced no fewer than four women — and was now married to a fifth. Serving in the army during World War II had given him a more serious perspective, however. On the brink of his first Saturn return, he was now preparing for a more settled life with his growing family.

In these hopes, William Blythe was not alone in the spring of 1946. The difficult years of the depression and World War II were fading. Pluto in the first decan of Leo had seen energies unleashed in the world of human beings doing their best to exterminate each other. Now, with Pluto in the second decan of Leo, many people were turning their energies toward generating new human beings, and the baby boom of 1946–64 was on.<sup>1</sup>

On this same spring evening in New Haven, Connecticut, a young navy aviator — George H.W. Bush — could also have been heading home to his pregnant wife.<sup>2</sup> After returning from the war, he was just now finishing his freshman year of college, anxious to complete his degree as quickly as possible, begin his career, and provide for what he and his wife hoped would be a large family.

Fred Trump, a home builder in New York City, and his wife were expecting their fourth child in the spring of 1946. He had done well enough during the war, but his business

was now booming as the demand for housing skyrocketed to accommodate the mass impetus to settle down and start a family. His two-story house was no longer big enough to hold his numerous offspring, he decided, and he needed to build something much larger and showier to reflect his burgeoning wealth.

Our energetic college student, George H. W. Bush, and the prosperous home builder, Fred Trump, welcomed their baby sons into the world in the summer of 1946. Both men would go on to succeed spectacularly in all their hopes and plans for the future. Blythe, however, was not so fortunate.

While driving through Missouri on May 17, 1946, he lost control of his car when a tire blew out, and he was thrown into a drainage ditch. Blythe survived and attempted to crawl out of the ditch but eventually drowned in what was approximately three feet of water. The sad irony of a young man surviving the dangers of war to die a year later in a ditch of shallow water would be lost to history were it not for the son he never knew. Born three months later and named for him, William Jefferson Blythe III would be adopted by his stepfather and be known thereafter as William Jefferson Clinton.<sup>3</sup>

## Saturn, Pluto, and the US Path to World Power

What lightning was striking in America in 1946 that three future US presidents would be born on June 14 (Donald Trump), July 6 (George W. Bush), and August 19 (Bill Clinton) — a span in time of just 66 days, and a little over two Moon cycles? While some might declare this mere coincidence, astrology teaches us that we are all born into certain energies which we carry through life, and that there is a true dynamism in energies at specific times in history and



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in the life of countries. Astrologer Ray Grasse writes, "We're all living embodiments of the universe as it appeared at the moment we were born, and we continue to send out those energies through all our actions and achievements."<sup>4</sup>

The determination of these three prospective fathers to survive and thrive, even when one was injured and thrown into a ditch of water, is mirrored at that time in the Balsamic phase of the Saturn–Pluto cycle. Saturn in the final degrees of Cancer, indicating the struggle to build the security we need to sustain life, was carving out a determined path toward Pluto's power and dominance in Leo.

That summer, transiting Saturn was crossing the US's 8th-house Mercury in Cancer and opposing Pluto at 27° Capricorn.<sup>5</sup> (See **Chart 1**, below right.) Much of the world lay in ruins from the war, and the task ahead was to clean up and rebuild. With transiting Saturn touching off the country's Mercury in the compassionate sign of Cancer, Americans shouldered the task of providing aid to other countries needing to rebuild, aware that hungry people could easily fall sway to communist regimes. With Saturn in Cancer, we were also providing aid to bank up our own security; and in opposition to our Pluto, we staked our claim to power.

As Saturn entered Leo in August, it made a sextile aspect to the Midheaven at 1° Libra, further signaling that the US was now a dominant force in the world. Another indicator of the US's emergence as a world power was Pluto in Leo, the sign ruling the 9th-house cusp of international affairs, approaching a trine to its Ascendant at 12° Sagittarius — the signature of identity.

## The Three Presidents' Saturn–Pluto Signatures

The drive toward dominance by amassing power thus became a hallmark in the charts of each of these three future presidents born during the Balsamic phase of this Saturn–Pluto cycle. It is interesting that both Bush and Trump, born with Saturn in Cancer — the sign of family heritage — built their success while standing on the shoulders of supremely successful fathers. Clinton, however, born after Saturn entered the more self-focused sign of Leo, made his own way.

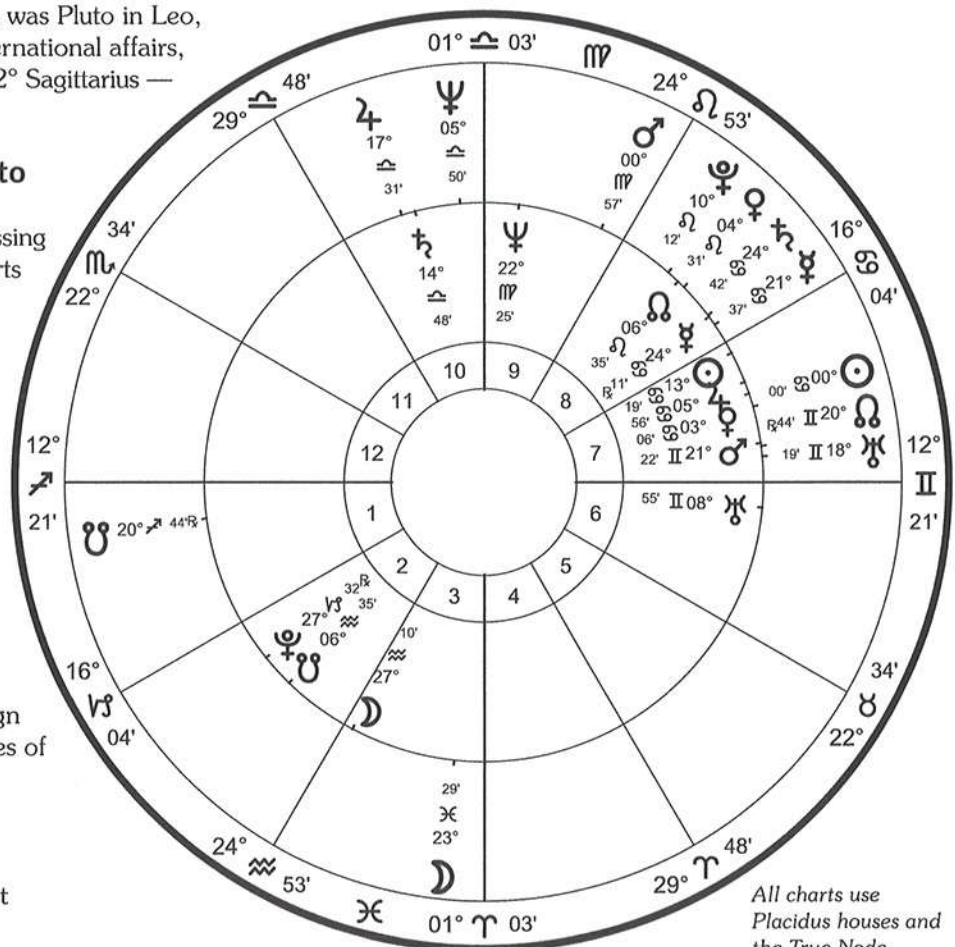
The resolution found in this Saturn–Pluto aspect to build a fortress (Saturn) to combat perceived titanic destructive forces (Pluto in the subjective sign of Leo) has been evident in the presidencies of

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Bush, Trump, and Clinton. Leaving out of this analysis any commentary on the policies of each president, one can state objectively that they've all faced formidable foes.

After 9/11, George W. Bush focused on erecting a fortress against terrorism in the United States by passing the Patriot Act, establishing the Department of Homeland Security, and launching wars against nations that harbored terrorists. He encountered increasing opposition to his policies but held fast to his course of action. Author Jean Edward Smith writes, "For George W. Bush, the war on terror was a global undertaking, not only against enemies abroad, but domestically as well."<sup>6</sup>

Donald Trump maintains that economics is a security threat to our country, as the US struggles to compete in a global economy. In a recent speech, he stated, "In 2016, I stood before you supremely confident in what our people



**Chart 1: Bi-wheel.**

Inner wheel and house cusps: US Sibly Chart  
Outer wheel: Summer Solstice 1946

All charts use Placidus houses and the True Node.



could achieve if government stopped punishing American workers and started promoting American workers and American companies.”<sup>7</sup> His proposals for an economic fortress have included building a wall to keep out immigrants who may take jobs, putting tariffs in place to protect manufacturers, and giving tax breaks to domestic businesses. These policies have been met with intense, vociferous opposition, but Trump unwaveringly adheres to his plan to “make America great again.”

While Bill Clinton faced many challenges during his presidency, his greatest foes were those determined to remove him from office, not because of his job performance, but because of his personal life. His nemesis through the impeachment process, Special Counsel Kenneth Starr, was born on July 21, 1946, embodying the same Saturn and Pluto fight-to-the-finish energies. The fortress Clinton built was in the White House, as he adhered to the defense that the mistakes he made in his private life did not preclude him from performing his public role as President and that he had the right to serve. He vowed he would stay in office “until the last hour.”<sup>8</sup> He was impeached by the House of Representatives but was found not guilty by the Senate, crawling out of this figurative ditch of dirty water and surviving.

But a strong Saturn–Pluto aspect in the charts of these three men, while describing their tenacity, does not explain the certain magic in the summer of 1946 which infused their lives and propelled them to the highest office in the land. Hillary Clinton, after all, was born in 1947 after the Saturn–Pluto conjunction perfected, and she did not prevail against Trump. Nor did Al Gore, born in 1948 when the Saturn–Pluto conjunction was still in effect, succeed in 2000 against Bush.

### Uranus Lightning Strikes in the US Chart

Lightning and magic in a chart are often displayed by the placement of Uranus. In the summer of 1946, Uranus was traveling direct through Gemini in the US’s 7th house,



conjoining natal Mars. Uranus had company. In July, he met with the North Node of the Moon, also in Gemini. The North Node magnifies what it touches, bringing it out into the world in a big way. Astrologer Judith Hill tells us that the transiting North Node “is where the celestial tide is coming in.”<sup>9</sup> Uranus — already indicating a force of change, revolution, invention, emancipation, and controversy — was supersized.

Inventions appeared at this time which were in their infancy: the microwave oven, a car phone, and a huge computer call ENIAC, which filled a room 30 by 50 feet.<sup>10</sup> Growing numbers of people owned that most Uranian of inventions: the television. The first heavyweight boxing match was broadcast live to a record-breaking audience of 141,000 people on June 19, around the time the Trumps would have been bringing baby Donald home. A television network (Uranus) broadcasting (Gemini) a boxing match (Mars) to a large audience (North Node) neatly weaves together these archetypal threads. It is also interesting that movie star Sylvester Stallone, who embodies America’s underdog boxing champion in *Rocky*, was born on July 6, the same day as George W. Bush.

### Uranus, Mars, and a Lunar Eclipse Challenge World Peace

But the granddaddy of all inventions was the atomic bomb, exclusive at that time to the US and the subject of raging and roaring discussions in 1946. Uranus and the North Node were lighting up the US’s natal Mars: arguments (Gemini) and discussions (7th house of others). Americans were sharply divided over the questions: Do we share our knowledge with an international coalition for the purpose of using nuclear technology for peaceful means? Or, do we guard this knowledge to protect our own security and enhance our world dominance?

Scientists came together to propose an international agreement which would govern the “mining, refining, and utilization of all the world’s atomic raw materials, denaturing all fissionable material and making it available for peaceful uses.”<sup>11</sup> However, President Truman appointed staunch anti-communist Bernard Baruch to present this plan to the United Nations (UN). After Baruch amended the proposal to ensure the US would maintain its nuclear dominance, the Soviets lashed out at the perceived drive toward world domination. The proposal went down in flames, the Cold War escalated, and an arms race was underway.<sup>12</sup>

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Bernard Baruch brought his doomed proposal to the UN on, of all days, June 14, 1946, when Donald Trump (see **Chart 2**, at right) was making his entrance into the world. Enhancing the drama was a lunar eclipse at 23° Sagittarius, just 2° from an opposition to the US's Mars at 21° Gemini. The desire for world peace (transiting Moon in Sagittarius), was eclipsed by the drive to dominate and be first (transiting Sun at 22° Gemini had just separated from the US's Mars).

The electricity of this day was further intensified by the New Moon solar eclipse that preceded the lunar eclipse. At 8° Gemini, it conjoined the same degrees as the US Uranus (4° from the Descendant), changing the course of US international relations forever. (See **Chart 3**, below right.)

Also, following the June 14 lunar eclipse there was a New Moon solar eclipse on June 28 at 6° Cancer — just 1° from the US's Jupiter. (Charts not shown.) Two days later, the US would again explode onto the world scene with its first test of an atomic weapon since the war at Bikini Atoll, sending the message — and warning — of the deadly force of US power.<sup>13</sup> This solar eclipse was the prenatal lunation for George W. Bush, born five days later.

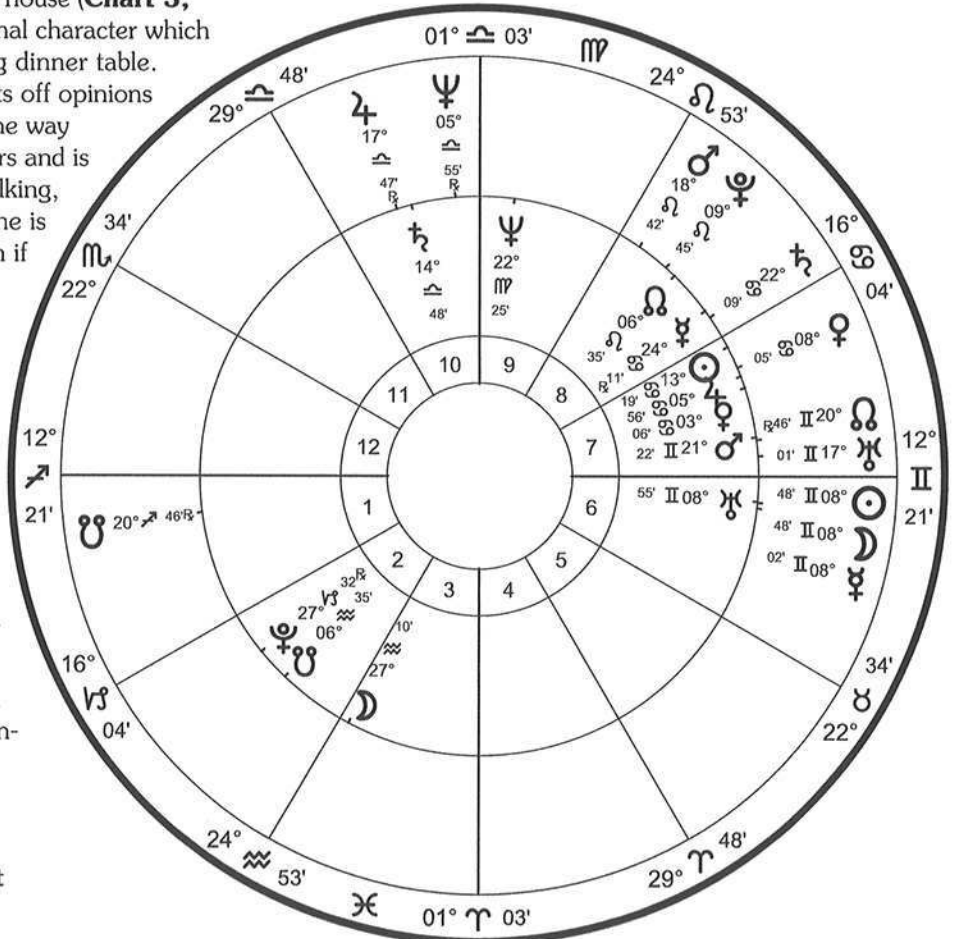
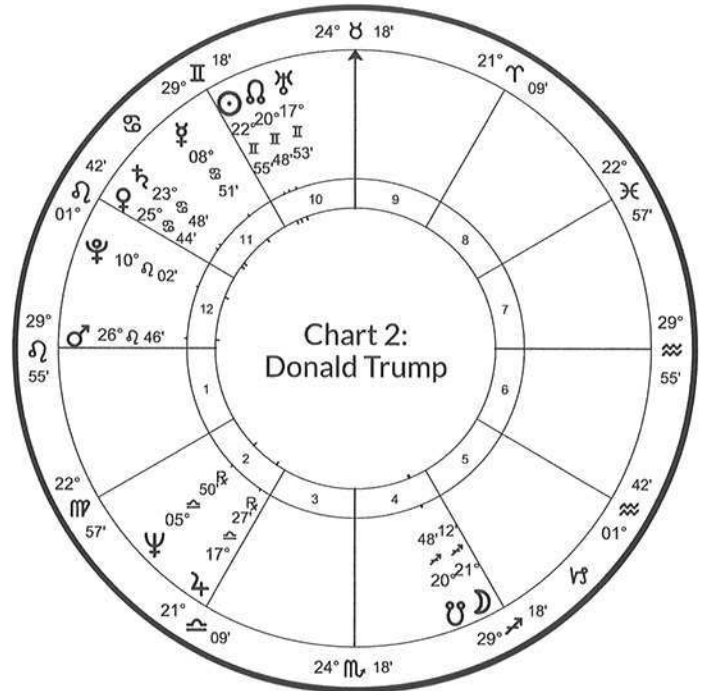
## Mars and the US National Character

Therefore, much of the amazing energy that our three bouncing baby boys inhaled with their first breath is wrapped around the US Mars in Gemini in the 7th house (**Chart 3**, inner wheel). This is the part of our national character which is like Uncle Charley at the Thanksgiving dinner table. He contradicts everything he hears; spouts off opinions he may have picked up on the radio on the way over; and seems to make sense some years and is totally bonkers others. But he is always talking, always curious, thinks most clearly when he is challenged, and stands his ground — even if he finds himself on quicksand.

Aries is on the IC of the Sibly chart, making this argumentative Mars the ruler of our origin story. America began with a conversation, a very fractious and sometimes violent argument. With Sagittarius on our Ascendant, we have a worldview and universal set of values, but with Mars in Gemini lying in opposition, we never agree on how those values shall be implemented in the everyday world, and we even disagree on the interpretation of our own Constitution.

When we choose leaders whose natal charts connect with the US Mars, we con-

tinue the conversation by reinforcing our own divisions and dual nature. George W. Bush left office, but still the controversy continues over the right of the individual to privacy versus the security needs of the nation. The Me Too movement led to a popular podcast asking, 20 years later, "Did



### Chart 3: Bi-wheel.

Inner wheel and house cusps: US Sibly Chart

Outer wheel: May 30, 1946 Solar Eclipse

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feminists give Bill Clinton too much of a pass?"<sup>14</sup> Donald Trump's assertion that America should put its own needs ahead of its responsibilities as part of the global community is vigorously challenged by environmentalists, business leaders, and others concerned with the world outside our borders. Battle lines have been drawn over these and other issues as the US continues to gravitate towards lightning rod leaders who ignite our differences about how we see the world and how we should be governed.

Our natal Mars was lit up by a conjunction with Uranus, the North Node, and a lunar eclipse all during the extraordinary summer of 1946. After this season, the United States of America emerged as a superpower, a cold warrior, and a country divided over its conflicting desires for world dominance and for peace. Like the prospective fathers who began this story, we, as a nation, have carried within us the potential both for unimaginable prosperity and for unthinkable catastrophe. The three highly polarizing future presidents born under these sizzling aspects continue to incite conversations that challenge us to think critically and to sharpen our values. We often deplore these conversations. They are so loud, so messy, so unbecoming to our better natures. Yet, somehow, it is through these rocket-fueled confrontations that we, as a nation, progress.



*Protest outside Trump Tower, Chicago on November 9, 2016  
By Albertoaldana - Own work, CC BY-SA 4.0*

## Chart Data and Sources

*(in alphabetical order)*

**William Blythe**, February 27, 1918; 1:50 p.m. CST; Sherman, TX, USA (33°N38', 96°W37'); AA: birth certificate.

**George W. Bush**, July 6, 1946; 7:26 a.m. EDT; New Haven, CT, USA (41°N18', 72°W56'); AA: birth certificate.

**Bill Clinton**, August 21, 1946; 8:51 a.m. CST; Hope, AR, USA (33°N40', 93°W35'); A: from memory, collected by Shelley Ackerman.

**Donald Trump**, June 14, 1946; 10:54 a.m. EDT; Jamaica Hospital, Queens, NY, USA (40°N42', 73°W48'); AA: birth certificate.

**United States (Sibly)**, July 4, 1776; 5:10 p.m. LMT; Philadelphia, PA, USA (39°N57', 75°W10'); C: timed, original source unknown.

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