

Solar Return Forecast Starting 8/2/2008 for Martha Stewart

SOLAR RETURN ANNUAL REPORT

Once each year, the Sun returns to the exact position that it held at the time of your birth. This report outlines the astrological influences on the year ahead for the positions of the planets at the precise time of your annual solar return.

The report delineates the influence of the Ascendant, Midheaven, Sun, Moon, and each of the nine planets as they interact with each other and with the Houses of the horoscope. Because there is such a wealth of information, you may find it helpful to orient yourself by first reading the following three sections in their entirety (including their subsections):

§2 - The Solar Return Sun: The Central Focus of the Year.

§3 - The Solar Return Ascendant: Personal Themes for the Year.

§15 - Connections between Planets and House Cusps: Key Events of the Coming Year.

The report is based on your natal and solar return charts cast for the following data:

Martha Stewart
Sunday, August 03, 1941 1:33:00 PM
Jersey City, New Jersey
Time Zone: 04:00 (EDT)
Longitude: 074° W 04' 41"
Latitude: 40° N 43' 41"

Stewart_Martha Rtn for 8/2/2008
Saturday, August 02, 2008 6:05:17 PM
Solar Return, 0° Separation
New York, New York
Time Zone: 04:00 (EDT)
Longitude: 074° W 00' 23"
Latitude: 40° N 42' 51"

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§1 - Introductory Comments: What is a Solar Return?

Introduction

You have certainly heard the expression "Many happy returns!" - a reference to the annual cycle that begins at your date of birth. The astrological Solar Return is a chart cast for the moment when the Sun returns to the exact position it held in your Natal horoscope. Each year the Solar Return marks the start of your personal New Year, and astrologers look to the Solar Return horoscope to see what events and issues await you in the year ahead.

Astrologers have proposed many methods for interpreting the Solar Return chart. This report follows the method of Alexandre Volguine (1903-1976), a French astrologer who, in 1937, first published his 15 years of research on Returns. Until his death in 1976, Volguine continued to update his study of Returns in subsequent editions of his classic text, "LA TECHNIQUE DES REVOLUTIONS SOLAIRES". For those interested in the astrological theory, the method of Volguine is outlined in the appendix to this report.

In accord with Volguine's method, this report is based on a Return chart cast for your location (which may be different from your birth place) when the Sun returns to its position in your Natal chart. Because we insert an extra day into the calendar every four years during the leap year, your Solar Return may occur either on, or a day before or after, your calendar birthday.

If you do not know your exact time of birth, you can still do a general Return chart by using as your presumed "birth time" the exact moment of sunrise on your birth date. The Solar Return chart calculated from a sunrise birth chart provides a generally accurate astrological forecast for the year ahead; but, if possible, use your actual time of birth to get the most accurate forecast.

According to the astrological theory of Solar Returns, the Natal chart represents a basic blueprint of the individual (similar to the DNA within the nucleus of the cell) and the Return chart reveals the annual renewal or reactivation of the Natal chart as measured against both the ongoing movement of the planets and the newly generated set of House cusps at the time the individual's Natal Sun is "reborn" at the annual (SR) birthday. A key feature of Return chart interpretation involves studying the relationship between the annual Return Houses and the birth chart Houses.

Beginning with the next section, this report will review and interpret the major factors identified by Volguine for identifying the themes and events that will dominate your life during the coming year. The current Solar Return chart actually spans a period of about a year and a half because its influence is felt from three months before the current

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birthday until three months after next year's birthday. This three-month transitional overlap between subsequent Returns represents the period when the themes of one year gradually give way to those of the next.

A note on stressful aspects:

In some delineations you will read that an adverse event could occur if the planet being discussed forms discordant aspects in the chart. The harsh aspects are the semi-square (45 degrees), the square (90 degrees), the sesqui-square (135 degrees), the inconjunct (150 degrees), and the opposition (180 degrees). In addition, the conjunction (joining together) of certain pairs of planets is intrinsically difficult because of the conflicting nature of the planets involved. To determine whether a stressful aspect is in effect, you may need to refer to the section where the aspects formed by the planet were first discussed in the report.

Into every life a little rain must fall. Do not be alarmed if negative predictions show up in various sections of this report. Stressful events often hover as potentials in the background but never materialize. The repetition of a trend in several parts of the horoscope chart is the key to accurate prediction in astrology. In general, adverse events occur only when many aspects or configurations repeatedly point toward their manifestation. If a stressful event is mentioned but once or twice, it is unlikely to manifest. In any case, forewarned is forearmed.

On Aspect Strengths: Next to the aspects you will often find a listing of the "strength" of the aspect. The number you see is based on how close the aspect is to being exact. The higher the number, the more exact the aspect. The aspects range in strength from a low of about 1 to a high of about 8. Theoretically, the very close aspects are more likely to manifest in your life.

Astrological Houses in the Return Chart

If you are not familiar with astrology, it will help to know a little about the astrological Houses as you read this report. You probably know that there are 12 signs of the zodiac. In a similar way, astrologers divide the horoscope wheel into 12 "Houses," which look like a pie cut into 12 pieces. Each House represents a particular area of life. The 1st House starts at the Ascendant, which is the point where the zodiac circle in the heavens crosses the horizon in the east. By convention the Ascendant lies at the "9 o'clock" point on the circle. The remaining Houses follow the 1st House in a counterclockwise direction around the wheel so that the 10th House, which symbolizes your career and standing in the world, lies at the very top of the chart. The entry point into each House is called its cusp. Below is a list of the twelve Houses and some of their key meanings for reference as you read this report.

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1st House: your body, personality, personal initiatives, life force.

2nd House: money, income, possessions, values.

3rd House: communication, analytical thinking, writing, local travel, siblings, neighbors.

4th House: home, family, parents, past conditioning, final endings.

5th House: fun, romance, recreation, vacations, children, sports, gambling, creative self-expression.

6th House: service, health concerns, daily grind, subordinates, tenants, pets.

7th House: significant others, consultants, partnerships, contracts, lawsuits, open enemies, the public.

8th House: death, sex, taxes, joint finances, surgery, investigation, transformation, occult studies.

9th House: higher education, long-distance travel, religion, philosophy, the law, foreign interests, publishing, broadcasting.

10th House: career, worldly status, honors, public standing, reputation authority, bosses, parental figures.

11th House: friends, hopes & wishes, group involvements.

12th House: solitude, imaginative endeavors, confinement, hospitalization, spiritual pursuits, loss of freedom, secret enemies, self-undoing.

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§2.0 - The Solar Return Sun: The Central Focus of the Year

General Significance of the Sun

The Sun, ruler of Leo, is the most important "planet" in the Return. The primal energy of the Sun makes possible our life on earth. The Sun enlivens, asserts, illuminates, vitalizes, promotes, fathers, energizes, individualizes, elevates, and makes conscious. Astrological aspects involving the Sun show how we achieve (or fail to achieve) honor, status, recognition, achievement, and individuation - how we shine, create, and make our mark on the world. People signified by the Sun include fathers, husbands, mature men, bosses, authority figures, and people of influence. In health matters, the Sun symbolizes the heart and the spine.

The Return placement and aspects of the Sun may involve us either personally through health matters and life circumstances governed by the Sun, or indirectly through people symbolized by the Sun. We will next look at the zodiacal sign and House positions of the Sun in the Solar Return chart.



Return Sun in Leo

The Return Sun occupies the exact location in the same sign as the Sun in your birth chart. Having the Sun in regal Leo generally makes you proud, generous, warm, confident, feisty, ambitious, organized, creative, elegant, self-expressive, fun loving, dramatic, and childlike. Your faults may include being too opinionated, self-important, patronizing, arrogant, or overly dramatic.

Having considered the sign containing the Sun, we now turn to the Sun's Return House position, which highlights the central themes of the year ahead.

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§2.1 - The House Occupied by the Sun: Major Issues of the Year

Return Sun in the Return 7th House

The Sun occupies your Return 7th House and places the focus on marriage, partnerships, legal matters, contractual agreements, consultative relationships, and dealings with the general public. You would do well to seek expert advice and to have those who are more knowledgeable than yourself represent you in any type of binding negotiation. This is likely to be a year of increased popularity with ample opportunities for socializing, teamwork, and contact with the public.

§2.2 - The Sun's Aspects in the Solar Return Chart

Return Sun conjunct Return Mercury (Strength: 3.49)

The Sun conjunct return Mercury indicates a busy year with lots of short trips, phone calls, messages, visits, errands, and moving about. There is a strong emphasis on communication, writing, speaking, learning, teaching, commerce, sales, transport, local travel, detailed planning, and contacts in the community. Often, in such a year, you receive news that opens doors and that has a profound impact on your life. Mercury represents young people who may play a significant role in your life at this time. This is a good year to take lessons or to learn a new skill. You are able to get your ideas across and communicate productively with others.

Matters related to the Return House position of Mercury and those Houses with Gemini or Virgo on their cusps will be especially highlighted during the year.

Return Sun inconjunct Return Jupiter (Strength: 1.44)

The Sun stressfully aspecting Jupiter advises you to remain cognizant of the dangers of immoderation in all your activities throughout the year. Difficulties may arise because of greed, arrogance, extravagance, illegality, or extremes of behavior. Beware of a tendency to overdo or to promise more than you can deliver. Events may stimulate your awareness of philosophical, religious, moral, and ethical issues. It is important to avoid taking unnecessary risks and to remain aware of your own limitations. Health problems may surface as a result of excess, overindulgence, lack of proper precaution, or poor nutritional habits.

§3.0 - The Solar Return Ascendant: Personal Themes for the Year

The Ascendant-Descendant or East-West Axis in the SR chart

The East-West Axis of the astrological map represents the Celestial Horizon. The Ascendant (in the East) signifies the filter through which you view the world and the manner in which you project your personality toward others. It also reflects your physical body and your personal initiatives. The Descendant (in the West) symbolizes your partnerships, close relationships, and the way you get along with other people.

Planets that form close aspects with the East-West Axis of the Return chart will color your personality style, personal initiatives, and manner of relating. The degree of the zodiac rising in the East (the Ascendant) varies with your location on earth at the time of your Solar Return. If the Return Ascendant receives particularly stressful aspects, some astrologers advise their clients to travel to a location that will minimize or negate those aspects on the day of their Solar Return. In the following section we consider the influence of the horizon (Ascendant-Descendant) axis in the year ahead.



Return Ascendant in Capricorn

The Capricorn Ascendant emphasizes matters related to the responsible, reserved, and status-conscious sign of the mountain goat. This is a time when you may assume new responsibilities and reap the rewards of your self-discipline and determination to achieve your worldly ambitions. If you have been working industriously toward a goal in recent years, you may now receive an honor, award, or other form of public recognition. You should use your sense of humor to balance your no-nonsense, rule-bound, and results-oriented approach to life.

Respect and status are important issues. Dealings with the establishment, with the rules of society, with parents, or with those in authority may occupy much of your time. You feel a need for structure, and you may now lay down roots to establish yourself in the community. Professional advancement could require the use of your teaching, organizational, management, negotiation, or leadership skills. This may also be a year

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when you buy, sell, refinance, or invest in real estate. Whatever you do, you will be making important decisions and tying up loose ends so that you can begin to realize your ambitions. Because the Ascendant signifies your body, check to see whether the Ascendant itself or the Ascendant's ruler Saturn forms stressful aspects. If so, you could encounter health problems during the year.

The Houses of your Natal chart with Capricorn on the cusp as well as the House of your Return chart that contains Saturn, the ruler of Capricorn, indicate areas of your life that will be in high focus during the coming year. Planets that form close aspects to Saturn in the Return chart indicate the types of people and events involved.

Because the planet Saturn rules the sign Capricorn, Saturn is the ruler of the Ascendant in this year's Return chart.

§3.1 - The SR House Containing the Planet Ruling the SR Ascendant

Return Saturn in the Return 8th House

Return Saturn occupying the Return 8th House makes you serious about matters related to joint finances, a partner's income, sexuality, investigation, death, inheritance, and human mortality. This is a year to tie up loose ends financially and, if possible, to get out of debt. A partner's earnings could become limited. Sexual difficulties may surface. You may need to assume added responsibilities related to taxes, loans, insurance, joint resources, the care of someone who is dying, a legacy, or the goods of the dead. Tremendous self-discipline and resourcefulness can accompany this placement. A serious interest in occult subjects or near-death experiences may develop. On occasion, a need for surgery or other major healing intervention may be indicated. Saturn here can also indicate the death of someone you care about.

§3.2 - The Natal House Highlighted by the Solar Return Ascendant

Return Ascendant in the Natal 2nd House

The Natal House placement of the Return Ascendant shows where you are most likely to take personal action during the coming year. Your dominant interests and activities will center around 2nd House matters such as income, finances, money, resources, belongings, and personal values. This is a year to get your financial house in order. Review your budget, plan your savings, make a will, and do what you must to provide for yourself and your loved ones. You may have the opportunity to improve your economic outlook, perhaps by seeking a raise, settling old debts, or pursuing new sources of income. If the planet(s) that rule or occupy the Return 2nd House are

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afflicted, there is a risk of monetary loss or financial difficulty.

The Return Ascendant-Descendant axis also highlights 8th House issues such as shared resources, taxes, loans, investment income, joint finances, sexuality, mortality, spirituality, the afterlife, crises, healing, personal transformation, and occult interests. You seek to understand what is going on beneath the surface. On occasion this can signify a need to deal with a legacy, the goods of the dead, or the passing of someone in your family or in your circle of acquaintances. You could also spend considerable time this year on matters related to your own health and mortality.

§3.3 - Aspects involving the Ascendant in the Solar Return Chart

Return Ascendant trine Return Saturn (Strength: 5.90)

Saturn in harmonious aspect to your Return Ascendant marks this as a year when you reap the rewards of past efforts. If you have been working diligently toward a goal, this is a time of recognition and accomplishment. You may assume a position of leadership and responsibility. You can work out differences with parental figures, and benefits may come from those in authority.

§3.4 - Planets Rising in the First House of the Solar Return Chart

Solar Return Planets occupying the Solar Return First House

The Return 1st House reveals your yearly personal or psychological activity. Any planets that occupy the Return 1st House show the nature of your activity and your psychological reactions during the coming year. If a planet lies close to the Return Ascendant (within 5 degrees), you will have a fair amount of personal control over the action. Planets in the 1st House that lie further away from the Return Ascendant (more than 5 degrees) indicate that you will have less control and be more at the mercy of the forces symbolized by those planets.

The Return planets that occupy your Return 1st House are listed below. If this section is blank, there are no 1st House planets in your Return chart.

Return Jupiter in the Return 1st House

Jupiter in the Return 1st House heightens your sense of optimism, generosity, enthusiasm, and self-confidence. This is a generally positive influence that promises a relaxed, fortunate, and hopeful time. Events occur that help you to overcome problems

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from the past. You are able to further your personal ambitions. At times you may feel like the sky is the limit. You tend to be expansive and exuberant, but you may need to guard against becoming too puffed-up and full of yourself. There is a risk of overindulgence and other forms of extreme behavior. Weight gain is possible. You would be wise to pursue a sensible program of diet and exercise at this time.

§4.0 - The Solar Return Midheaven: Worldly Status, Career, and Public Activity

The North-South or Meridian Axis of the Solar Return Chart

The North-South or Meridian Axis of the astrological map represents your vocation, public image, parents, and family matters. The Midheaven at the top of the chart (due south in those charts of the northern hemisphere) symbolizes your career, worldly status, and public activities. The Imum Coeli (I.C.) at the bottom of the chart signifies your home, your domestic life, and the final conclusion of pending affairs.

Planets that form close aspects with the North-South Axis of the Return chart will color vocational and family matters during the year. The degree of the zodiac on your Return Midheaven depends on your location on earth at the time of your Solar Return. If the Return Midheaven receives particularly stressful aspects, some astrologers advise their clients to travel to a location that will minimize or negate those aspects on the day of their Solar Return. In the following section we consider the influence of the meridian axis in your Return chart.



Return Midheaven in Scorpio

The Midheaven in Scorpio suggests that your career, status, and public activities will involve your capacity for investigation and in-depth study of a subject. You are able to penetrate beneath the surface to ferret out secrets that others might overlook. A certain amount of emotional intensity this year is likely to involve the career arena. Your capacity for determined effort and intense concentration are definite assets in furthering

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your ambitions.

The House position of the Return Midheaven's planetary ruler gives further information about your social reputation and vocation in the year ahead. The planet ruling the Return Midheaven is discussed below.

Pluto and Mars are respectively the modern and traditional planetary rulers of the sign Scorpio. Thus, Pluto and Mars are the rulers of the Midheaven in this year's Return chart.

§4.1 - The SR House Containing the Planet Ruling the SR Midheaven

Return Pluto in the Return 12th House

Pluto, the planet of radical change and transformation, occupies your Return 12th House of spirituality, artistic expression, hospitalization, confinement, sleep, escapism, and self-undoing. Work related to hospitals, asylums, prisons, museums, ashrams, or similar large institutions can have a powerful personal impact. This is a year to look within and resolve deep-seated psychological hang-ups that now come to light. As you confront the "Shadow" aspects of your personality, you may undergo intense experiences that bring about profound spiritual transformation.

The 12th is the House of "secret enemies," and someone you have alienated may oppose your interests. You are likely to reorganize your priorities and reflect on the meaning of life. In-depth research and study are favored. If other factors in the chart indicate health difficulties, there could be problems caused by alcohol or drugs, violent encounters, or a need for surgery or hospitalization. On occasion, this position will signify an intense period of grief over the loss of a loved one.

§4.2 - The Natal House Highlighted by the Solar Return Midheaven

Return Midheaven in the Natal 12th House

The Return Midheaven lies at the top of the Return chart where it reveals the actions and circumstances of your life that will be most visible to others during the coming year. When the Return Midheaven lies in your Natal 12th House, it highlights the benefits of quiet contemplation in the pursuit of spiritual truths. You will need to confront personal limitations in order to achieve professional advancement. The health and/or hospitalization of a parent, other family member, or close associate could occupy your attention. You may have official dealings with a charitable, health care, or service organization. This placement may be accompanied by a feeling of discontent about

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your career and position in society. You must be careful to avoid making decisions that can harm your career or public image.

§4.3 - Aspects involving the Midheaven in the Solar Return Chart

Return Midheaven sextile Return Moon (Strength: 4.31)

The return Moon favorably aspecting the Midheaven benefits career, family, and domestic concerns. Others see you as more caring and emotionally available. Opportunities arise that allow you to follow your bliss. Relationships with family members flow smoothly. You may be offered a better job or an increase in income. A beneficial change in residence or an improvement in your home environment may accompany this aspect. Women may play an important role in your professional advancement.

Return Midheaven sextile Return Pluto (Strength: 2.00)

Pluto favorably aspecting the Return Midheaven indicates major developments affecting your career, marital status, parental concerns, and your standing in society. You can wield tremendous positive influence over your working environment and over the people in your life. Others are likely to follow your lead and assist you in achieving your ambitions. The force of your personality becomes a prominent factor in your success, and you could assume a position of power and influence. Matters related to sexuality, death, personal transformation, and human mortality come into sharp focus. Benefits may come through in-depth study and investigation.

§4.4 - Planets in the Tenth House of the Solar Return Chart

SR Planets in the Solar Return Tenth House

The Return 10th House relates to career, family, worldly status, and any public actions you take during the year. The Return planets that occupy the Return 10th House reveal the nature of such public activity and how it may affect your vocational and family life.

The Return planets that occupy your Return 10th House are listed below. If this section is blank, there are no 10th House planets in your Return chart.

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§5.0 - The Solar Return Moon: Your Emotional Life

General Significance of the Moon

The Moon, ruler of Cancer, receives and reflects the light of the Sun. As such, the Moon symbolizes the inner, reflective, receptive, emotional, and subconscious aspects of human life. The Moon represents our feeling states, heredity, instincts, habit patterns, our early experiences with mothering, and our domestic life. Astrological aspects involving the Moon reveal how we react emotionally, and how we give or receive nurturing and comfort. People signified by the Moon include mothers, females in general, and the significant women in our lives. In health matters, the Moon symbolizes cyclic changes, nutrition, and female issues; also, the breasts, the stomach, and the brain matter.

The Return placement and aspects of the Moon may involve us either personally through health matters and life circumstances governed by the Moon, or indirectly through people symbolized by the Moon. Lunar aspects that are said to perfect on a certain date have an orb of a month or longer. We will next consider the Return zodiacal sign and House placements of the Moon.



Return Moon in Virgo

The Moon in Virgo tends to tone down or dampen emotional expression. You focus on being efficient and getting the job done. There is little tolerance for emotional effusiveness. You are likely to be discriminating and critical of others as well as yourself. Your head tends to rule your heart under this influence. You are likely to show others how you feel by your actions rather than your words. Your emphasis on practicality, perfectionism, and attention to detail may come across as emotionally aloof at this time.

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Return Moon in the Return 8th House

The Moon, which reflects your feelings and emotional life, occupies the Return 8th House of sex, death, surgery, inheritance, occult matters, and joint finances. Fluctuations are possible in a partner's income. You are especially sensitive to the feeling states of those around you, and you may be in a position to counsel or heal others. Psychic experiences are possible. Your sex drive becomes intense but is also subject to wide variations. Human mortality may become an emotionally charged issue at this time. A need for surgery is sometimes indicated. You may need to deal with insurance, a legacy, or the goods of the dead. On occasion, the Moon here will signify a significant ending, a near-death experience, or the passing of someone or something that has been important in your life.

§5.1 - Aspects involving the Moon in the Solar Return Chart

Return Moon trine Return Pluto (Strength: 5.20)

The Moon aspecting Pluto often indicates profound changes in your personality and emotional life. You may experience great depth of feeling about matters that are dear to your heart. This could involve coming to understand, on a gut level, the meaning of death and human mortality. You will have the opportunity to deal positively with issues of power and control in close relationships. Personal transformation may come about through your relationships with the women in your life. Psychological insights and psychic experiences commonly accompany this aspect.

Return Moon sextile Return Midheaven (Strength: 4.31)

This interpretation appeared previously in section §4.3 - Aspects involving the Midheaven in the Solar Return Chart.

Return Moon conjunct Return Venus (Strength: 3.36)

Pleasant Moon/Venus contacts bring love, tenderness, affection, fun, and companionship into your life. Love affairs, romance, popularity, social invitations, travel, marriage, pregnancy, and childbirth are common during such a Return year. This is a good time to spruce up your appearance and indulge yourself a bit. Creative, musical, or artistic projects go well. Opportunities for increased income are likely to arise. You are able to deal more calmly with stressful events that arise during the year.

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Return Moon square Natal Uranus (Strength: 5.26)

Stressful Moon/Uranus contacts indicate periods of unrest, emotional strain, anxiety, and unpleasant emotional surprises during the coming year. You will need to be aware of a tendency to blow things out of proportion. Your rebelliousness and desire for personal freedom can lead to conflicts with others. Cravings for excitement may cause you to overdo things. Unexpected medical or dental problems could arise.

Return Moon square Natal Saturn (Strength: 2.67)

The Return Moon stressfully aspecting natal Saturn is often a depressing influence. You are likely to have periods of feeling lonely, isolated, and unloved. Your thinking may become dark, and you may dwell on what you consider to be personal failings and inadequacies. Worries about family and domestic issues may arise. There could be separation(s) from important women in your life.

Return Moon trine Natal Moon (Strength: 1.78)

The Moon harmoniously aspecting its natal position is a favorable indicator for your emotional life. You feel supported and nurtured by your love ones, and you are emotionally available to others. Close relationships proceed smoothly. Emotional matters can be successfully worked out.

§6.0 - Mercury: Communication, Writing, Learning, Selling, Short Trips

General Significance of Mercury

Mercury, ruler of Gemini and Virgo, was the messenger of the gods. Mercury symbolizes language, communication, the thinking process, the intellect, writing, correspondence, education, commerce, transit, movement, and all means of transport. Astrological aspects involving Mercury show how we think and communicate our ideas to others; also, how we move about in our community. People signified by Mercury include writers, communicators, salespersons, students, the young people in our lives, messengers, drivers, neighbors, siblings, and other kin. In health matters, Mercury symbolizes the tongue, upper extremities, lungs, respiratory system, nervous system, thyroid, and the sense of sight.

The Return placement and aspects of Mercury may involve us either personally through health matters and life circumstances governed by Mercury, or indirectly through people symbolized by Mercury. Travel accidents are often shown by afflictions to Mercury, especially hard aspects involving Mars or Uranus. We will next consider the Return zodiacal sign and House placements of Mercury.

Return Mercury in the Return 7th House

With Mercury in the Return 7th House, you find yourself thinking and communicating about marriage, partnerships, and binding agreements. You could become involved in negotiations or need to sign a business contract. Consultants may provide you with useful information. This is a good time to attend to marital and partnership issues. Legal disputes may come up for resolution, and an appearance in court is possible. Something that you say or write could garner public attention. You could be invited to lecture, teach, or present your work to the public.

§6.1 - Aspects of Mercury in the Solar Return Chart

Return Mercury inconjunct Return Jupiter (Strength: 3.55)

Mercury in stressful aspect to Jupiter provokes such a wealth of ideas that you may become scattered, exaggerated, or bombastic in your thinking. You must guard against overconfidence, impulsive decision making, promising more than you can deliver, and biting off more than you can chew. The key to handling this energy is to think before

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your act and to use common sense. When driving this year, don't take chances and keep your eyes on the road.

Mercury/Jupiter aspects bring opportunities for travel, new learning, and contact with people of diverse backgrounds. Positively, you can harness this energy to work on projects that involve writing, lecturing, publishing, teaching, broadcasting, or disseminating information. Negatively, overconfidence or foolish risk-taking can lead to problems with communication, transit, travel, education, religious matters, or dealings with those at a distance.

Return Mercury conjunct Return Sun (Strength: 3.49)

This interpretation appeared previously in section §2.2 - The Sun's Aspects in the Solar Return Chart.

Return Mercury trine Natal Mars (Strength: 5.18) - Aspect perfects on 12/28/2008.

You are able to get your ideas across forcefully and effectively. Any type of intellectual work is favored. Say what you think and ask for what you desire.

Return Mercury sextile Natal Jupiter (Strength: 3.84)

Intellectual tasks should go well. Also favored are buying and selling, negotiating, and commercial dealings. You absorb knowledge readily and easily. Travel is possible. This is an excellent time to study religion, law, philosophy, and other mind-expanding subjects. Writing, teaching, and publishing can be rewarding.

Return Mercury conjunct Natal Midheaven (Strength: 3.83)

Return Mercury conjunct your Natal Midheaven enhances your self-knowledge and communication skills. Advances in career or changes in social status may occur. Success can occur in the fields of teaching, sales, publicity, publishing, or advertising. Something that you say or write could achieve public recognition. An important communication may come from a person in government or authority. You are likely to receive significant news regarding your worldly status during the year. Through Mercury's rulership of Virgo, this placement can sometimes indicate health difficulties or the possibility of travel accidents, especially if Mercury forms stressful aspects.

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In general, Return Mercury conjunct an angular House cusp highlights matters ruled by the planet Mercury and by the Houses with Gemini and Virgo on the cusp in both your Natal and Return charts. Mercury rules communication, travel, thought, writing, negotiating, commuting, sales, commerce, and dealings with young people.

§7.0 - Venus: Love, Money, Values, Relationships, Art, Beauty

General Significance of Venus

Venus, ruler of Taurus and Libra, was the goddess of love and beauty. Venus symbolizes attraction, romance, partnerships, social life, affection, harmony, fashion, art, style, luxury, money, possessions, indulgences, and sensual pleasures. Astrological aspects involving Venus show how we give and receive love, especially of the romantic sort; also, how we manage our finances, find pleasure, and adorn ourselves. People signified by Venus include lovers, wives, important women in our lives, artists, decorators, musicians, and anyone dedicated to the pursuit of beauty and/or pleasure. In health matters, Venus symbolizes problems of self-indulgence; also, the throat, the kidneys, the lower back or lumbar region, the parathyroids, and the sense of touch.

The Return placement and aspects of Venus may involve us either personally through health matters and life circumstances governed by Venus, or indirectly through people symbolized by Venus. We will next consider the Return zodiacal sign and House placements of Venus.

Return Venus in the Return 8th House

Benefic Venus occupying your 8th House has a fortunate effect on the areas of joint finances, shared resources, sex, death, inheritance, taxes, research, and occult interests. Social contacts may involve you in psychic or paranormal experiences. Sexual opportunities may be plentiful and, most likely, will be intense. Power struggles could arise in close relationships. A spouse or partner may enjoy increased earnings, but may also be tempted to spend more on luxury items. You can exert a beneficial influence on a partner's management of money and resources.

This is a good time to get your financial house in order. You may wish to pay off old debts, refinance your mortgage, make a sensible budget, review your insurance needs, or do estate planning. On occasion, Venus in the 8th will signify the receipt of a loan, a tax rebate, an inheritance, or some other boost to your finances. If Venus in the 8th

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House forms stressful aspects, it could signify a financial loss or the passing of an important relationship from your life during the year.

§7.1 - Aspects of Venus in the Solar Return Chart

Return Venus conjunct Return Moon (Strength: 3.36)

This interpretation appeared previously in section §5.1 - Aspects involving the Moon in the Solar Return Chart.

Return Venus oppose Return Neptune (Strength: 3.20)

With Venus discordantly aspecting Neptune, you may experience confusion, sadness, deception, or uncertainty in close relationships or contractual agreements. A sense of unreality may pervade your love life. Significant people may pass from your life. You could experience a separation, renunciation, estrangement, or disappointment in social or romantic relationships. Circumstances may pit the reality of your emotional ties against idealized wishes for how your relationships might be. On occasion, this aspect can signify a loss, an illness, or a need for hospitalization, but only if there are other such indications in the chart.

Return Venus trine Return Pluto (Strength: 3.16)

Venus favorably aspecting Pluto often brings an almost fated romance or attraction into your life. You may meet someone for whom you feel an intense and powerful sexual attraction. Falling madly in love - whether it be with a person, an activity, or a cause - can bring about a radical transformation in your personality. This aspect can also mean a significant improvement in your financial situation.

Return Venus trine Natal Moon (Strength: 6.42)

This aspect brings peace, harmony, and friendship into your life. Close relationships are warm and supportive. You are surrounded with people who love you. Any type of artistic, poetic, or musical activity is favored. You find ways to relieve stress when you need to.

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Return Venus square Natal Saturn (Strength: 3.69)

This influence can put a damper on your love life and expose any flaws in existing relationships. Venus wants to have fun, but Saturn is all about duty and responsibility. When these planets clash, you can end up feeling depressed, lonely, and unappreciated. During the coming year you are likely to confront aspects of your relationships where you need to assume more responsibility. If you learn your lessons well, you will be able to put your closest personal contacts on a more sure footing in the future.

Return Venus square Natal Uranus (Strength: 1.10)

This influence can indicate sudden disruptions, upsets, or separations in relationships. You may feel a need to break free from past influences and to experiment with new ways of relating or making love. Just be careful that your quest for novelty and excitement does not have untoward consequences.

§8.0 - Mars: Initiative, Leadership, Drive, Passion, Energy

General Significance of Mars

Mars, ruler of Aries and Scorpio, was the god of war. Mars symbolizes initiative, courage, action, daring, aggression, leadership, drive, physical energy, heat, sexual passion, and the willingness to face challenges. Astrological aspects involving Mars show how we act independently, pioneer ideas, assert ourselves, and deal with competition. People signified by Mars include young men, husbands, leaders, warriors, and important men in our lives; also, those who regularly use force, tools, or weapons in their work. In health matters, Mars symbolizes fevers, cuts, wounds, the head, the muscular system, red blood cells, the gonads, urogenital system, adrenal gland, and the sense of taste.

The Return placement and aspects of Mars may involve us either personally through health matters and life circumstances governed by Mars, or indirectly through people symbolized by Mars. We will next consider the Return zodiacal sign and House placements of Mars.

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Return Mars in Virgo

The planet Mars symbolizes your energy, drive, and personal initiative. The zodiacal sign in the Return chart that hosts the planet Mars modifies how you are able to assert yourself, confront obstacles, and face challenges in the year ahead. With Return Mars in meticulous Virgo, you apply your energy in a planned and systematic manner. After a detailed analysis, you follow a careful strategy to achieve your goals. You are quick to understand techniques and methods, and you want to achieve practical outcomes. Although you may desire perfection, you should avoid being overly critical, especially with co-workers.

Return Mars in the Return 8th House

Taking action regarding joint finances, sex, death, and personal transformation

Mars, the action planet, shows where you direct your energy. This location of Mars reflects a time when you can effectively deal with joint finances, mortgages, loans, taxes, escrows accounts, inheritances, jointly held property, insurance, a partner's income, or related financial matters. The management of joint monies and shared resources can become a bone of contention. You may wish to do estate planning, prepare a will, review your insurance needs, and go over your investment strategy with a financial advisor. The Houses of the Return chart with Aries or Scorpio on the cusp will reveal areas of your life that require financial attention.

Research, investigation, and in-depth studies are favored. Your sex life is likely to pick up, and reasonable caution is warranted to prevent sexually transmitted disease. You may be called upon to deal with matters related to birth, death and dying, power, control, elimination, and psychological understanding. This is a time of radical personal transformation. You can rid your life of accumulated junk, settle old debts, or eliminate anything that has outlived its usefulness. An urge to study the occult, psychic phenomena, or near-death experiences might surface. Steer clear of any type of illicit or criminal activity.

If other factors concur, there could be a need for surgery, healing, or counseling during this Return year. You may receive news of a death or need to become involved in some way with the affairs of the dead.

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§8.1 - Aspects of Mars in the Solar Return Chart

Return Mars oppose Return Uranus (Strength: 3.49)

Mars discordantly aspecting Uranus warns of sudden outbursts of forceful or violent energy that could have negative consequences in your life. You may undergo periods of stress, turmoil, or tension during which you are tempted to act precipitously. Bouts of anger, combativeness, or abrupt applications of force can abruptly throw you off course. The aggressive energy of this aspect may be self-generated or may be directed toward you from other people. You would do well to think before you act and to seek professional advice rather than acting on impulse.

There is a possibility of accidents, falls, burns, cuts, injuries, wounds, or surgical operations, which could involve either you or someone you care for. You may feel a strong desire to break free of restrictions, and you are more than ready to fight for the right to express your individuality. If not used carefully, motor vehicles, guns, weapons, tools, ladders, and mechanical devices could pose a risk of harm to self or others.

Return Mars conjunct Natal Neptune (Strength: 0.83)

Return Mars conjunct Natal Neptune often indicates feelings of lassitude and dissatisfaction. You may find it hard to focus on achieving your goals. Any use of mind-altering substances is likely to have negative consequences. Positively, you may be able to channel your energy into artistic, spiritual, or imaginative pursuits.

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§9.0 - Jupiter: Opportunities for Growth and Expansion

General Significance of Jupiter

Jupiter, ruler of Sagittarius and Pisces, was king of the gods on Mount Olympus. Jupiter symbolizes good fortune, benevolence, expansion, learning, publishing, wisdom, long-distance travel, foreign interests, further education, philosophy, religion, and the broadening of one's horizons. Astrological aspects involving Jupiter show opportunities for advancement, potentials for growth, and our willingness to gather new experience. People signified by Jupiter include mature men, judges, lawyers, physicians, clergy, university professors, politicians, and those who have achieved positions of prominence or influence in their fields. In health matters, Jupiter symbolizes problems due to excess; also, the liver, pituitary gland, thighs, blood, arteries, and the sense of smell.

The Return placement and aspects of Jupiter may involve us either personally through health matters and life circumstances governed by Jupiter, or indirectly through people symbolized by Jupiter. We will next consider the Return zodiacal sign and House placements of Jupiter.

Return Jupiter in the Return 1st House

This interpretation appeared previously in section §3.4 - Planets Rising in the First House of the Solar Return Chart.

§9.1 - Aspects of Jupiter in the Solar Return Chart

Return Jupiter inconjunct Return Mercury (Strength: 3.55)

This interpretation appeared previously in section §6.1 - Aspects of Mercury in the Solar Return Chart.

Return Jupiter inconjunct Return Sun (Strength: 1.44)

This interpretation appeared previously in section §2.2 - The Sun's Aspects in the Solar Return Chart.

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Return Jupiter square Natal Mars (Strength: 3.23)

Your energy level is stimulated and you are more likely than usual to take risks or engage in impulsive behavior. Find ways to channel this energy into constructive pathways. Be careful while traveling. Think before you act. Keep away from unwise use of drugs and alcohol. Avoid excess.

§10.0 - Saturn: Duty, Responsibility, Important Lessons, Hardship, Limitations

General Significance of Saturn - The Great Teacher

Saturn, ruler of Capricorn and Aquarius, wrested power from his father Uranus by castrating the ruling father sky-god and casting his genitals into the sea. Saturn symbolizes ambition, responsibility, stability, duty, discipline, boundaries, rules, and regulations. It also represents crystallization, aging, death, fears, restrictions, hard things, the reality principle, and lessons that we must learn. Astrological aspects involving Saturn show how we build structure in our lives and how we deal with the inevitable limitations and losses that life brings. People signified by Saturn include parents, teachers, taskmasters, older individuals, government officials, bosses, and those of a serious disposition. In health matters, Saturn symbolizes blockages, hardening, obstructions, and acid formation; also, the skin, teeth, bones, joints, spleen, gall bladder, knees, the vagus nerve, and the sense of hearing.

The Return placement and aspects of Saturn may involve us either personally through health matters and life circumstances governed by Saturn, or indirectly through people symbolized by Saturn. Look to Saturn to see where your major struggles will occur in the year ahead. We will next consider the Return zodiacal sign and House placements of Saturn.

Return Saturn in the Return 8th House

This interpretation appeared previously in section §3.1 - The SR House Containing the Planet Ruling the SR Ascendant.

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§10.1 - Aspects of Saturn in the Solar Return Chart

Return Saturn trine Return Ascendant (Strength: 5.90)

This interpretation appeared previously in section §3.3 - Aspects involving the Ascendant in the Solar Return Chart.

Return Saturn conjunct Natal Venus (Strength: 5.80)

Return Saturn crossing over Natal Venus tends to put a damper on your affections and emotional life. Difficulties may arise in love affairs and in close personal relationships. Your popularity suffers, and feelings of rejection may surface. Separations and emotional endings may occur. You focus more on business and finances than on love and romance. Sometimes this can mean a love affair with an older partner. Disappointment, frustration, or hardship could arise with regard to matters ruled by the Natal Houses with Taurus or Libra on the cusp.

Return Saturn sextile Natal Ascendant (Strength: 2.71)

This year you are likely to grow in experience, prestige, and maturity. Benefits may come through people in authority or through those who are older than you are. You happily take on new responsibilities and could assume a position of leadership. The hard work of your past pays off. Others appreciate your persistence and reliability.

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§11.0 - Uranus: Novelty, Originality, Jolts, Disruptions

General Significance of Uranus - The Awakener

Uranus, ruler of Aquarius, was the original sky-god who was castrated by his son Saturn in a coup to usurp his power. Venus-Aphrodite was born of the white foam that spread around Uranus' discarded genitals in the sea. Uranus symbolizes sudden shocking events, electrifying change, willful independence, separations, originality, inventiveness, modern technology, and progressive thinking. The action of Uranus is abruptly and without warning to shatter the old structure built by Saturn.

Astrological aspects involving Uranus show how and where sudden change, excitement, and disruption come into our lives; also, where we are likely to rebel against the past and strike out to do our own thing. People signified by Uranus include scientists, modernists, astrologers, reformers, inventors, eccentrics, and those who insist on marching to the unique beat of their own drum. In health matters, Uranus symbolizes strokes and accidents; also, the ankles and calves.

The Return placement and aspects of Uranus may involve us either personally through health matters and life circumstances governed by Uranus, or indirectly through people symbolized by Uranus. Look to Uranus to see where you can expect the unexpected in the coming year. We will next consider the Return zodiacal sign and House placements of Uranus.

Return Uranus in the Return 2nd House

Uranus in the Return 2nd House suggests sudden happenings that disrupt the status quo with regard to your values, income, and possessions. Abrupt changes in your financial situation are possible. You tend to appreciate money for the freedom and independence it can afford. The purchase of computers, electronics, and high-tech equipment is common with this placement.

§11.1 - Aspects of Uranus in the Solar Return Chart

Return Uranus oppose Return Mars (Strength: 3.49)

This interpretation appeared previously in section §8.1 - Aspects of Mars in the Solar Return Chart.

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Return Uranus square Natal Moon (Strength: 2.72)

You are likely to experience periods of overstrain and nervous tension during the year. Try not to be too stubborn and also avoid a tendency toward stubbornness and self-will. Sudden events may disrupt or upset your home life and your emotional equilibrium. Stressful happenings may force you to alter old habit patterns from the past.

Return Uranus trine Natal Mercury (Strength: 2.71)

Your thinking is quite creative, inventive, and original. You are capable of great insight, and your intuitions are reliable and razor-sharp. You can influence others through verbal intervention. This is an excellent time for new learning. You are fascinated by novelty, especially in the fields of technology, transport, and communication.

Return Uranus oppose Natal Neptune (Strength: 2.34)

Return Uranus in harsh aspect to Natal Neptune brings about significant changes in your belief system and spiritual life. Sudden insights shatter long-held illusions, leaving you feeling somewhat shaken in the process. Hidden matters may unexpectedly come to light in upsetting ways. If there are other indicators in the chart, accidents due to confusion, sedation, or intoxication are a possibility.

§12.0 - Neptune: Spirituality, Creativity, Self-Deception, Confusion

General Significance of Neptune

Neptune, ruler of Pisces, was the god of the oceans. Neptune symbolizes boundlessness, intuition, psychic sensitivity, compassion, spirituality, sleep, unreality, creative imagination, artistic inspiration, fantasy, illusion, Hollywood, subconscious processes, fog, confusion, self-sacrifice, and self-defeating attitudes. Astrological aspects involving Neptune show how we attune to the feelings of others, use our imaginations, distort our perceptions, undo our own efforts, and also how we deal with the dissolution of old structures in our lives. People signified by Neptune include poets, artists, dreamers, musicians, mystics, spiritualists, idealists, sensitives, and those who compassionately tend to the needy. In health matters, Neptune symbolizes the feet, sleep difficulties, intoxicants, mental disorders, and problems with drugs and alcohol.

The Return placement and aspects of Neptune may involve us either personally through health matters and life circumstances governed by Neptune, or indirectly through people symbolized by Neptune. We will next consider the Return zodiacal sign and House placements of Neptune.

Return Neptune in the Return 2nd House

With Neptune in the Return 2nd House, you may gain financially through creative, musical, theatrical, or artistic endeavors. You are likely to reflect on the value of money and its role in your spiritual life. Income may come from service you render to others. Neptune here also suggests dissolution, loss, sadness, misunderstanding, deception, confusion, or letting go with regard to income, finances, major purchases, sales, and possessions. A longstanding situation, relationship, or concern related to such matters may dissolve or fade from your life. Be careful not to let money slip through your fingers, and get sound advice from a financial expert before spending large amounts of money. What now looks like a sure-fire investment may later turn out to be a pipe dream. If you make a major purchase, be sure it's the real McCoy.

§12.1 - Aspects of Neptune in the Solar Return Chart

Return Neptune oppose Return Venus (Strength: 3.20)

This interpretation appeared previously in section §7.1 - Aspects of Venus in the Solar Return Chart.

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Return Neptune sextile Natal Moon (Strength: 2.78)

Your creativity is enhanced and you wax poetic. You are comfortable with the workings of your unconscious mind and may have psychic experiences. Listen to your inner voice.

Return Neptune oppose Natal Midheaven (Strength: 1.45)

Return Neptune opposing natal Midheaven puts pressure on you in the career arena. It may be difficult to see your way clearly to accomplishing your goals and ambitions. Confusing developments could arise on the domestic scene. This could involve dealing with ill or aging parents in the twilight of their years. Now is a good time to let go of what no longer works in your life as you step back and put things in perspective.

§13.0 - Pluto: Power, Control, Intense Emotional Experience, Elimination, Radical Transformation

General Significance of Pluto

Pluto, ruler of Scorpio, was the Greek Hades, lord of the underworld. He abducted and raped Persephone - an action that ultimately brought about the season of winter on earth. Pluto symbolizes power, control, domination, the management of joint resources, penetration, unconscious processes, irresistible forces; also, uprooting, elimination, death, regeneration, rebirth, radical transformation, and the ending of a phase of life. Astrological aspects involving Pluto reveal which deeply buried factors in our lives need to be brought to the surface so that they can be reviewed, reworked, transformed, or eliminated. People signified by Pluto include miners, psychoanalysts, occultists, undertakers, money managers, and anyone whose work involves exposing that which is concealed or hidden. In health matters, Pluto symbolizes the gallbladder, the sex organs, the organs of elimination, and the body's ability to restore itself.

The Return placement and aspects of Pluto may involve us either personally through health matters and life circumstances governed by Pluto, or indirectly through people symbolized by Pluto. We will next consider the Return zodiacal sign and House placements of Pluto.

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Return Pluto in the Return 12th House

This interpretation appeared previously in section §4.1 - The SR House Containing the Planet Ruling the SR Midheaven.

§13.1 - Aspects of Pluto in the Solar Return Chart

Return Pluto trine Return Moon (Strength: 5.20)

This interpretation appeared previously in section §5.1 - Aspects involving the Moon in the Solar Return Chart.

Return Pluto trine Return Venus (Strength: 3.16)

This interpretation appeared previously in section §7.1 - Aspects of Venus in the Solar Return Chart.

Return Pluto sextile Return Midheaven (Strength: 2.00)

This interpretation appeared previously in section §4.3 - Aspects involving the Midheaven in the Solar Return Chart.

Return Pluto conjunct Natal Moon (Strength: 4.58)

Return Pluto going over Natal Moon indicates a time of profound emotional upheaval. There will be periods in the coming year when you will feel compelled to deal with emotionally charged issues and intense feelings that emerge from the deepest recesses of your subconscious mind. Those around you may be prone to violent emotional outbursts. You must resist the temptation to be swept into action solely on the basis of your feelings without regard for the effect you may have on others. You may become deeply concerned about your own health and welfare or that of an important woman in your life. Problems related to bodily fluids could arise. By the end of this year you will likely have made a sweeping review of your emotional life. This would be a good time to study the teachings of Buddha on human desire and the value of non-attachment.

Return Pluto square Natal Neptune (Strength: 1.96)

This aspect affects your entire generation, and you will be forced to confront and adapt to a new reality.

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Return Pluto inconjunct Natal Mercury (Strength: 1.09)

Return Pluto inconjunct Natal Mercury is a stressful aspect that suggests a need for adjustment because of bad news or malicious gossip. Difficulties may arise because of haste in word or deed. You will need to watch what you say or put into writing. Significant complications could enter the lives of young people of your acquaintance. Travel may become an intense and potentially dangerous experience.

§15.0 - Connections between Planets and House Cusps

Alignments of Planets with House Cusps

The House cusps are power points in the chart, and any planet that aligns closely with a House cusp will be especially prominent in the year ahead. Planet to House cusp alignments often portend specific events whose nature combines the symbolism of the planet and the House involved.

The three sections that follow will look at the contacts, if any, (1) between Return planets and Return House cusps; (2) between Return planets and Natal House cusps; and finally, (3) between Natal planets and Return House cusps.

When comparing the Solar Return and the natal charts, any close alignment between a planet and a House cusp is highly significant. In fact, the conjunctions of planets with House cusps in the superimposed natal and return charts usually pinpoint the major factors that will be operative during the year. Pay close attention to the following three sections because they highlight the specific events that you will need to deal with in the coming Solar Return period.

§15.1 - Return Planets connected with SR House Cusps

Solar Return Planets Connected with Solar Return House Cusps

This section considers the influence of any planet or point in the Solar Return chart that forms a close connection with a House cusp in the Solar Return chart.

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Return Mercury conjunct Return 8th House (Strength: 5.00)

Return Mercury on the cusp of the Return 8th House turns your mind to thoughts of death, legacies, joint finances, taxes, loans, sex, surgery, healing, and a partner's income. In rare cases, this can indicate the death of a sibling, a neighbor, or a young person in your life.

Return Sun conjunct Return 8th House (Strength: 1.49)

The Return Sun on the Return 8th cusp highlights matters related to joint finances and property, credit, loans, taxes, inheritances, and a partner's income. This year you can work toward settling debts and achieving long-term financial security. The 8th House also relates to issues of sex, death, rebirth, and personal transformation. Events may occur that remind you of the reality of human mortality. You could develop an interest in research or in occult studies. A need for surgical or medical treatment is sometimes indicated.

Return Neptune conjunct Return 2nd House (Strength: 1.27)

Return Neptune in close contact with your Return 2nd House cusp acts to dissolve past attitudes toward income, savings, possessions, and values. Income can be gained from artistic, psychological, charitable, or spiritual pursuits. Sometimes this can indicate vulnerability to get-rich-quick schemes and the possibility of deception in financial matters. You could undergo a period of financial loss or instability, and it would be wise to prepare in advance for a monetary rainy day. If favorably aspected, however, Neptune here can indicate financial gain through paying attention to your hunches and intuitions.

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§15.2 - Return Positions connected with Natal House Cusps

Solar Return Planets or Points Connected with Natal House Cusps

This section considers the influence of any planet or point in the Solar Return chart that forms a close connection with a House cusp in the Natal chart.

Return Uranus conjunct Natal 5th House (Strength: 6.22)

Return Uranus conjunct the Natal 5th House cusp sharpens your creative instincts and allows you to express your originality and inventiveness in joyful ways. You may take up a new and exciting hobby. You may be drawn to athletic pastimes that have an element of risk. Romantic attachments may suddenly enter or abruptly leave your life. Children may demand more freedom and independence, sometimes in rebellious ways. There could be an unwanted pregnancy or an upheaval in speculative investments.

Return Jupiter conjunct Natal 3rd House Cusp (Strength: 5.35)

Return Jupiter conjunct the Natal 3rd House cusp brings growth, expansion, and a sense of ease to your communications, community involvements, and dealings with neighbors and kin. You may have the opportunity to study, teach, or receive further training. Authors can be very productive at this time. Events may occur that expand your mind and broaden your outlook.

Return Mars conjunct Natal 11th House Cusp (Strength: 5.27)

Return Mars conjunct the Natal 11th House cusp directs your energy toward your hopes and wishes for the future. Much can be accomplished if you work cooperatively with others who share your values and concerns. You might be called upon to assume a leadership role in a club or organization. Time spent with friends can be exciting and exhilarating, especially physical activities like athletics. A significant dispute with a friend could occur during the year.

Return Neptune conjunct Natal 4th House Cusp (Strength: 2.45)

Return Neptune conjunct the Natal 4th House cusp exerts a spiritual or otherworldly influence on your domestic circumstances and family life. Some aspect of the basic structure of your life may go into a state of dissolution. You may retreat to your home

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for reflection, prayer, and mediation. Time may be spent visiting family members who are ill, hospitalized, or confined. Your own health may be adversely affected. You are likely to undergo psychological changes that allow you to feel more a member of the human family. When this configuration occurs toward the end of life, it signals a time to sum up and assess how well you have fulfilled your spiritual mission on earth.

Return Ascendant conjunct Natal 3rd House (Strength: 1.98)

The Return Ascendant conjunct your Natal 3rd House cusp puts a strong emphasis on communications, education, and contacts in the community. Your schedule will be full of phone calls, messages, paperwork, errands, commutes, and local travel. If you are an author, you could get a lot of writing done at this time. You might decide to take a class or otherwise advance your learning. Relationships with siblings, close kin, and neighbors may occupy your time.

§15.3 - Natal Positions connected with Return House Cusps

Natal Planets or Points Connected with Solar Return House Cusps

This section considers the influence of any planet or point in the Natal chart that forms a close connection with a House cusp in the Solar Return chart.

Natal Midheaven conjunct Return 8th House (Strength: 5.83)

The Return 8th House cusp on the Natal Midheaven give special prominence to eighth House issues such as sex, death, healing, surgery, transformation, taxes, joint finances, research, and occult interests. Any attempts to control others or dominate the situation could garner public attention. The demise of an important person in your life may occur during this Solar Return year.

Natal Jupiter conjunct Return 6th House (Strength: 5.54)

Natal Jupiter on the Return 6th House cusp suggests expansion in the workplace. You may find yourself busier on the job, handling more duties and responsibilities. With Jupiter here, your efforts at work generally meet with success. You may have occasion to offer healing to others, or someone with a healing presence may enter your own life. Sometimes this aspect indicates health difficulties related to the liver, hips, or thighs, to dietary excess, or to the manner of growth of cells in the body.

Solar Return Forecast Starting 8/2/2008 for Martha Stewart**Natal Saturn conjunct Return 5th House (Strength: 5.40)**

Serious about romance

Natal Saturn on the Return fifth House cusp indicates seriousness and added responsibility with regard to children, love affairs, creative projects, and speculative investments.

Natal Neptune conjunct Return 9th House (Strength: 3.81)

Natal Neptune conjunct the Return ninth House cusp increases the likelihood of long-distance travel, perhaps of a spiritual or religious nature. The purpose of such travel could be to escape a difficult circumstance.

Natal Uranus conjunct Return 5th House (Strength: 2.81)

Kinky pleasures

The Return 5th cusp conjoining your Natal Uranus brings an element of novelty into your love life. Unusual forms of recreation may provide enjoyment. You are also likely to express your creativity in highly original ways. Children can pose unique challenges at this time.