CHAPTER 9

INTERPRETATIVE MEANINGS FOR PLANETARY POSITIONS IN SIGNS AND IN HOUSES AND BY THEIR SHAPING IN A CHART

THE dictum cannot be too often repeated that the student will NEVER become fluent and quick in interpretation until he so thoroughly grasps the nature of each planet, sign, house and aspect, that he can apply them, as related in any chart, without constant reference to books.

The practised astrologer reads new publications and current magazines, attends lectures and sharpens his mind by endless discussion with his astrological friends, but when at interpretative work, he needs no book but his *Ephemeris*. The beginner should also read and listen as much as possible, but he needs the help of books in his work, at first.

When interpreting, he should remember the keywords, for the basic ideas, then he should re-read the earlier paragraphs on the planet with which he is dealing and on the sign and house in which it is posited. The short descriptions which follow are only as *reminders* when these have become familiar. They are in NO way a substitute for the understanding of essential meanings. For help in the understanding of *aspects** in a fuller way a whole book is necessary and should be read. Short hints will be included here.

It must be remembered that, in general terms, the SIGN placing of a planet will give its mode of working, while the HOUSE placing will give its application in the affairs of life, but the two are complementary and partly overlapping in meaning.

These will be modified:—

- I. By the aspects received (see Chapter 10).
 - (a) If mainly helpful, there will be ease of working of the principles of the planet and the best of the meaning of the sign will show in the sphere of life indicated.
 - (b) If mainly unhelpful, the planetary working will be difficult, and the traits listed under "overstress or misuse" of the planet and sign will be evinced.
- 2. By the strength assessed through the various placings as listed (Dignity, Debility, Angularity, Rulership, dispositor of satellitium).
- 3. By other indications from the rest of the map, more fully discussed in Chapters 11 and 12.

Note.—In the following condensed aids to interpretation, no detailed remarks are given about HEALTH except in regard to 6th house. Whatever bodily part, or system, is correlated with sign or house under scrutiny, will be improved by helpful planets contained and by helpful aspects to these, and vice versa (see p. 46).

^{*} The Astrological Aspects, by C. E. O. Carter.

By Sign

SUN

The entire nature of the person will be strongly as described for the sign in Chapter 4. In a woman's map, its conditioning gives some understanding with regard to the men in her life.

By House

The affairs of the house occupied will be strongly emphasised in the life. This is often accentuated by there being a satellitium in this house, because Mercury, whose orbit is nearest to the Sun, must be within 28° of it, while Venus, whose orbit is next, must be within 48°. Therefore, if very near, these three frequently form a small satellitium or part of a larger one. The word "Stellium" is used in the U.S.A.

By Rulership

The affairs of the house which has Leo on its cusp will be brought into connection with those of the house occupied by the Sun.

KEYWORDS:—POWER, VITALITY, SELF-EXPRESSION

These will be expressed in accordance with aspects:—

IN SIGN

Aries (Exaltation)

Assertive, courageous, energetic, incisive, bold.

OR

selfish, crude, over-harsh.

Taurus

Possessive, steadfast, hospitable, conservative.

OR

grasping, stubborn.

Gemini

Intelligent, talkative, with a lively manner, and much versatility and duality.

OR

with lack of concentration or lack of "heart."

IN HOUSE

(The same but with difficulty if NOT well aspected.)

1st

In personal affairs, which will be thought important, resulting in much self-concentration, but which will be enlivened and strengthened.

2nd

In affairs to do with possessions, money (mainly self-earned), personal feelings. Success in the natural desire to obtain these will be according to above modifications. The ability to do so will be much strengthened by the Sun.

3rd

In affairs to do with mental pursuits, or in activity in any communicatory way either by speech or by journeying. There will be more than usual connection with neighbours, brothers and sisters. Success will be according to modifica-All such matters will be enlivened and vitalised by the Sun.

Cancer

Intuitive, emotional, guarding, domestic.

OR

with lack of reason, withholding, moody.

Leo

Proud, cheerful, gay, magnanimous, powerful, generous.

OR

conceited, despotic, wasteful.

4th

In affairs to do with home and family and basic necessities. Happiness and self-fulfilment in such matters will be indicated.

5th

In all affairs which are creative and enjoyable and occasionally risky. Children, love affairs, sports, games, artistic creativity.

The gay, shining Sun lights up all these happy activities. They will be successful and gratifying to the self.

The Principles of the Sun are at their strongest when it is in its own natural sign or house.

Virgo

Modest, practical and with keen desire to work and with attention to detail.

OR

over-cool, fussy, interfering.

Libra (Fall)

Pleasant, smiling, companionable.

 Ω R

discontented, vacillating.

Scorpio

Intense, passionate, secretive, penetrative.

OR

resentful, vengeful.

Sagittarius

Restless, free, cheerful, with dignity and generosity.

OR

over-sporting, careless, extravagant.

6th

In affairs to do with service, with work, especially if of the detailed practical type, or to do with health and hygiene.

The Sun in this house, well aspected, indicates excellent health and ability to do good work after the manner of the sign involved. It also points to good relations with workers.

7th

In affairs of marriage or partnership. The Sun in this house indicates a successful marriage.

8th

In affairs of the strongest feelings, in sexual matters, often in connection with death and legacies and with mysticism and psychism. The Sun in this house indicates successful interest in the above matters and, eventually, a normal death.

9th

In matters to do with serious study and with distant countries. The Sun in this house indicates addiction to and success in such studies. It often indicates much time spent abroad.

Capricorn

Practical, ambitious, but cautious.

OR

with a stern, hard, selfish manner.

Aquarius (Detriment)

Independent, unconventional, original, free.

OR

rebellious, perverse.

Pisces

Emotional, intuitional, artistic, often psychic. Also sacrificing and kind.

OR

confused, deceitful, and with desire to escape consequences.

10th

In affairs of "the world" whatever that may mean to the person. In dealings with those in authority. In the business or professional life.

11th

In groups and societies and amongst acquaintances brought together for a common purpose.

12th

In secluded or hidden ways. The Sun in this house often indicates a secluded start to life and an ability to use the unconscious side of the psyche.

MOON

By Sign

Since the Moon is receptive and responsive, in that she reflects and gives out from what she receives, the conditioned behaviour, mannerisms, habits and ways of a person will be expressed in the mode of the sign in which the Moon is found. In a man's map, it often has reference to the women in his life, and for both sexes, it frequently represents the mother. It also refers to conditions of early childhood. In adult life, it represents the manner of dealing with the general public.

By House

The affairs of the house occupied will be of interest to the person and will tend to colour the life.

By Rulership

The affairs of the house which has Cancer on its cusp will be brought into connection with those of the house occupied.

Note.—In older text-books, the Sun, Moon, and Ascendant have been said to represent specifically certain sides of the nature. These have been stated as Personality, Individuality, also as Spirit, Soul and Body, etc. It is now suggested that the entire psyche of a person cannot be dissected into such divisions, but that all combine to form the whole. The art of astro-analysis is in blending the indications given by these three important pointers.

KEYWORDS:—RESPONSE, FLUCTUATION

These will be expressed in accordance with aspects:-

IN SIGN

Aries

In ways and manners which will be pushful, self-assertive, quickly aroused.

OR

quick tempered, unthinking.

Taurus (Exaltation)

In possessive ways and with a liking for the good things of the earth and for Venusian things.

OR

in greedy, money-seeking ways.

Gemini

In addiction to mental and rational interests. In a lively, variable manner.

OR

in over-hard manner and over-shrewd ways.

Cancer

In domestic ways, with much sympathy and desire to care for others.

OR

over-accentuation of the feminine and the restlessly sensational.

The Principles of the Moon are at their strongest when it is in its natural sign or house.

Leo

The character seems to show the solar traits. The manners and behaviour will be sunny and gay. The tendency will be to organise and control.

OR

manner conceited and overbearing.

IN HOUSE

(The same, but with difficulty if NOT well aspected.)

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In a tendency to have many vicissitudes in personal affairs and to be easily changeful.

2nd

In a tendency to have changes over financial affairs and personal feelings. Money is likely to be obtained through dealings with the public, with women or through the mother.

3rd

In a tendency to changes in early education, to insufficient continuity of mental application, to changeful ideas. Many alterations in the affairs of brothers and sisters. Much activity in going "round-and-about."

4th

In interest in the home and family. Regard for ancestry. Changes in residence.

5th

In public success in games, sports and with children and women. Interest will be in all these. Aspects to the Moon will give indications about children and about creative activities such as art and literature (according to sign).

Virgo

In addiction to precise attention to detail and readiness to change the mode of work involving this. Love for clean hygienic conditions.

OR

in fussy, interfering ways.

Libra

In gentle, companionable ways and diplomatic manners.

OR

in lazy, easy going, peace-at-any-price ways.

Scorpio (Fall)

In an appearance of intensity and emotional force.

OR

in bitterness and jealousy.

Sagittarius

In a restless but mentally interesting and cheerful approach to life.

OF

in an offhand and over-casual manner.

Capricorn (Detriment)

In a reserved, cautious manner and generally thrifty, sensible ways.

OR

in cold, selfish ways.

Aquarius

In a manner which is independent and detached; widely friendly without great affection; liking for mental pursuits, especially of unusual and scientific nature.

OR

manner aloof.

Pisces

In a manner which is sympathetic, voluble, kindly and extremely receptive to the influence of others.

OR

weakly impressionable, over-gushing and emotional.

6th

In desire to work and to make others work. In interest in health. Possible public work in this way.

7th

In changefulness towards those in any intimate relationship. In a liking for women as intimates. In the expectation that the marriage partner will be motherly.

8th

In an interest in sexual matters, in psychic research and speculation on the after-life. In matters to do with legacies of others or contacts with their affairs (as trustee, etc.).

9th

In an interest in travel, in study of profound subjects.

10th

The life is lived much in public. The career is of interest.

11th

In a tendency to join all sorts of societies and groups and to pursue the chosen objectives with interest but with varying ends.

12th

In a tendency to retirement, and to work in secluded or isolated ways—also in a tendency to live in a world of the imagination, or to use the power of the unconscious self or to be mediumistic.

By Sign

MERCURY

The way of self-expression by any method of communication will be shown by the sign containing Mercury. The kind of nervous system and reactions will also be implied.

By House

The affairs of the house occupied will indicate those to which the mind is largely applied and there may be some indication to do with brothers and sisters.

By Rulership

The affairs of the houses which have Gemini and Virgo on their cusps will be brought into connection with those of the house occupied.

KEYWORD:—COMMUNICATION (Mentally and by Transport)
This will be expressed in accordance with aspects:—

IN SIGN

Aries

Speech and thought and nervous energy will be used assertively, cuttingly, strongly. The gestures will show this.

OR

hurtfully, sarcastically.

Taurus

Speech and thought and gesture and movement will be slow and smooth. Good for singing voice. The mind will not be resilient but will be turned towards practical and pleasant things.

OR

these will be expressed ponderously and dully.

Gemini

In this sign, the mind works most fluently, quickly and with the greatest versatility. Talking, writing, speaking will be easy.

OR

the above will be excessive, verbose, over-rational and under-emotional.

IN HOUSE

(The same but with difficulty if NOT well aspected.)

1st

In personal affairs which will be approached rationally and coolly but very especially according to the sign on this cusp. Mental occupations and diversions will attract. The mind will be directed towards the self.

2nd

In money-making ways in which the mind can be used, mainly clerically, educationally, commercially, rationally.

3rd

In affairs to do with reading, writing, correspondence, educational matters and the many varied interests described under "3rd house." The affairs of brothers and sisters will matter in the life. The nervous system will be important as weakness will cause worry, often resulting in intestinal trouble (Mercury rules Gemini and Virgo).

The Principles of Mercury are at their strongest when it is in one of its own natural houses or signs.

Cancer

The mind is subject to the emotions. Memory is good.

OR

mind over-tenacious of its opinions and harking back to authorities of the past rather than outreaching.

Leo

Mind works fixedly and cheerfully.

OR

conceitedly, arrogantly. The tone of voice may show this.

Virgo (Exaltation)

Mind works in a detailed, sensible, thoughtful manner.

OR

tiresomely fussy and given to worrying.

4th

In affairs to do with home, domesticity and any business to do with collecting. Often points to mental occupations carried on in the home.

5th

In affairs to do with creativity. The mind will tend to occupy itself with pleasures, love-making, children, artistic creation. The speech and letters, will be much concerned with these.

6th

In affairs connected with day-to-day work, especially if secretarial, commercial, educational. Also in matters of health. As with the Gemini placing, over-worry conduces to intestinal trouble through the double rulership.

As in Gemini, the principles of Mercury are strongly expressed since it also rules this sign.

Libra

Charming in speech and manner. Speech will be slightly drawling but soft and attractive. The mind tends to enjoy friendly discussion and all beautiful objects of contemplation.

OR

wavering in manner, unable to make decisions.

Scorpio

Mentally intense. Penetrative with depth of feeling.

OR

with the same in hurtful ways.

7th

In affairs to do with partnership of any kind, or any matter which implies reciprocity or rapport with others.

8th

In affairs to do with possessions of others and emotions aroused by others. Occultism will attract.

Sagittarius (Detriment)

Mind works in a "far-flung" manner. It is restless because far-seeking. Can be satisfied by knowledge. Interest in travel and in acquiring languages. Speech quick and decisive.

OR

over-restless, unconcentrated. Nerves too tense.

Capricorn

Mind practical, sensible. Forethought and patience good.

OR

with limited mentality, concentrated only on utilitarian things and forever wanting the next thing on the list.

Aquarius

Here the "communicativeness" of Mercury will turn the mind to mental interests of the scientific kind and those deemed to be for the good of humanity, but also towards a linking with other minds similarly motivated.

Pisces (Fall)

Mind sympathetic and intuitional. It is confused by practical issues, but is highly receptive to artistic, psychic and benevolent ideas. The nervous system is sensitive so that elation and depression quickly alternate.

9th

In affairs to do with the more profound studies and in foreign interests.

10th

In affairs to do with the life out of the home. Business, politics and all public life will attract.

11th

In all ways in which there may be a getting together with others for a common purpose or objective. Friends so made are mental companions rather than emotional ones.

12th

In ways in which the mind can work by swift intuition rather than ordered reasoning. Excellent for occultism, for work in seclusion, for things of the sea. Likely to keep its communicativeness hidden unless otherwise brought out.

VENUS

By Sign

The power to attract others, to make good relations with them, to love and to be loved and enjoy people, beautiful things, and all the pleasant ways of life will be expressed according to the sign containing Venus.

By House

The affairs of the house occupied will show the sphere in which this ability is mainly used.

By Rulership

The affairs of the houses which have Libra and Taurus on their cusps will be brought into connection with those of the house occupied.

KEYWORDS:—HARMONY, UNISON

These will be expressed in accordance with aspects:—

IN SIGN

Aries (Detriment)

Affection will be strong, keen, ardent but tending to be self-seeking.

OR

selfish with others and easily quarrelling with loved ones.

Taurus

Will be steadfast in love, but possessive. Slow to make partnership but reliable when once settled. Happy when host or hostess. Inclines to music, art, good living.

OR

over-possessive of loved ones. Greedy for the good things of life.

The principles of Venus will be strongly expressed in either of its own signs and houses.

Gemini

Affection is changeable and often for more than one at a time. Expression of it is charming and fluent.

OR

inconstant. All talk rather than real feeling for another.

Cancer

Affection is sympathetic and tender and somewhat maternal or cherishing in its desire to care for the loved ones. Attractive for house-keeping ways.

OR

affection which will not let go. Overemotional and unreasoning.

IN HOUSE

(The same but with difficulty, if NOT well aspected.)

1st

Attractive personality. Good looking. Likes to be "spoilt" and have plenty of amusement and social life. Tendency to fail in these things if Venus not well aspected.

2nd

Likes to make money by pleasant ways to do with art, beauty, lovely clothes, flowers and will be diplomatic and pleasant over money-making and will enjoy it for the sake of the lovely things it will bring. Successful and happy in the above if Venus well aspected.

3rd

Venus here gives charm to all mental activity. Going here and there for visits and social occasions is much enjoyed. Will learn if the subject is liked. Inclined to be lazy otherwise. Relations with brothers and sisters happy and they are likely to be good-looking and attractive.

If Venus not well aspected then the above are liked, but there is less benefit through them.

4th

If Venus is well aspected, the home is harmonious and delightful and family relationships smooth and loving, especially with parents. Pleasure will be taken in all matters of furnishing and decorating and the arrangement of flowers and pictures.

Leo

Warm, heartfelt affection. Faithful and generous in love. Likes to be proud of the loved ones. Likes gay, luxurious comforts.

OR

over-emotional and all for having a good time at all costs.

Virgo (Fall)

Affection is cool, undemonstrative and critical, but with a retiring modest charm.

OR

allows critical faculty and constant fuss about detail to interfere with harmony of life.

Libra

In love with love. Happiest when with a congenial "other" either for work or play. Happy, charming, lovable nature. Usually attractive and good looking. Women prettily dressed even though not well off.

OR

always seeking the "other half" and never satisfied.

5th

Happiness and success through lovely affairs and eventually through lovely children. Enjoys creative ability through art and the things of the theatre and any way of being prominent. Also all games and happy occupations. Success through all these if Venus well aspected.

6th

Favourable for health. Happy in work so long as it is not ugly or dirty. Ready to give the helping hand to another to make life go happily. Good at getting others to work harmoniously either as co-workers or employees. All successful if Venus well aspected.

7th

Excellent indication of happy marriage and ability to live harmoniously with others. Business partnerships run smoothly.

If not well aspected, the same desires are present but fulfilment is disappointing.

The Principles of Venus are strong in either of its own signs and houses.

Scorpio (Detriment)

Love tends to be more intense, more sexual, more secretive and passionate.

OR

love which turns to hate. Jealousy of loved one through possessiveness.

8th

Gain through partner's money or inherited money or possessions. Harmonious conditions in sexual relationships. An easy death. If the development is such that the life energies tend towards spiritual rather than physical pleasures, then these are a joy and a happiness.

Again, if Venus is not well aspected, these desires will not be harmoniously satisfied.

Sagittarius

Affection is demonstrative and gay but does not want to be enchained. Freedom often preferred to marriage.

OR

too free with affection and unstable.

Capricorn

Sincere and stable in affection but conventional.

OR

inclined to expect position through affection and to be too practical with loved ones and too strict with younger people.

Aquarius

Love is unemotional and detached. Friendship preferred rather than emotional ties. Desire for harmony for others in a widespread way results in kindly motives in humanitarian ways.

OR

too cool in affection.

Pisces (Exaltation)

Sentimental in affection. Very emotional and expressive of feelings. Easily influenced through affections. Ready to sacrifice self for love not only in an amorous way, but in a self-abnegatory way for a greater love for the weak or suffering.

OR

sloppily emotional.

9th

Fond of study and intelligent interests and of travel. Success through foreign countries and people from abroad. May marry a foreigner or live abroad after marriage—or may go into such partnership for business or profession.

Disappointment in the above if Venus not well aspected.

10th

Very happy in life in the world. Ambitions succeed. Good in public because of diplomatic manner. Happy with parents. Prefers profession or occupation as listed under Venus as planet.

Disappointment in the outcome of these things if Venus not well aspected.

11th

Good at achieving smooth working of any club or society or group to which attached. Happy amongst like-minded friends.

Disappointments in above if Venus not well aspected.

12th

Happy when alone or in quiet, secluded place. Can keep love affairs secret. Enjoys mystery and hidden matters. No neuroses through suppressions in the unconscious self. Undercurrent of life smooth. Liking for psychism.

MARS

By Sign

The energy and initiatory force of the person will be expressed according to the sign containing Mars. This will include physical strength, working ability, and, when applicable, sexual energy. Harshness experienced from others will be signified also.