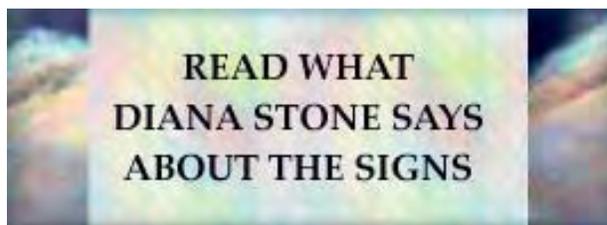


**THE TWELVE SIGNS OF THE ZODIAC:
THEIR PSYCHOLOGICAL PATTERNS AND BEHAVIORS
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Diana Stone is a professional astrologer who has served a private clientele since the 1960s. She maintains an international network via telephone consultations from her office in Vancouver, Washington. She specializes in natal astrology, current astrological conditions, relationship counseling, and horary astrology.

Drawing on decades of experience in observing human nature through the lens of astrology, Diana offers here her astute and often humorous observations about the twelve signs of the zodiac. If you're not sure about your Sun sign or some one else's, see the handy Zodiac Helper below. If you know your Moon sign and Ascendant as well as your Sun sign, read those for further insights.

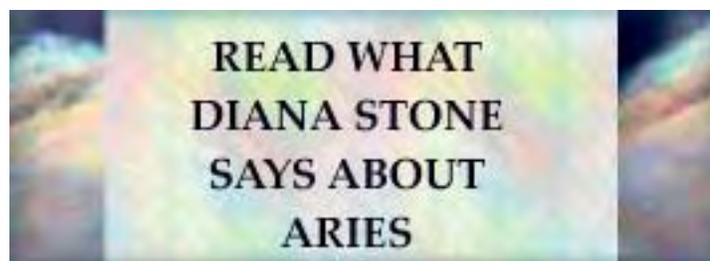
This series on the twelve signs of the zodiac is adapted from Diana's column at [The MetaArts](#). She also publishes a free [online newsletter](#). If you'd like more of her wit and wisdom to appear in your mailbox from time to time, sign up [here](#).

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READ WHAT
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SAYS ABOUT
ARIES

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The Sun typically makes its annual trip through the sign of Aries from about March 21 to April 20. The Spring Equinox marks the beginning of the zodiacal signs. Aries is number one and that symbolism carries through to the personality traits of our Aries brothers and sisters. If you were not born with your Sun in Aries you may think you exhibit none of the characteristics of the sign. You may be very wrong if your Moon is in Aries, for example, or with other planetary placements strategically placed in your chart. Read on and see if this describes anybody YOU know.

Aries is built for speed. Regardless of whether they have more than their share of speeding tickets (see that red car go), they want things to go fast. They are the movers and shakers of the zodiac. They look for fast results, think fast on their feet and are not long on patience. If it doesn't go right, smash the damn thing. They do not suffer the methodical plodders of the world gladly.

Aries is a very competitive sign. The Rams love to win and be number one. However, they are chivalrous. They do not take pleasure or feel comfortable competing against anyone who is not on a level playing field with them. For the weaker or handicapped, they turn into knights (knightesses?) and will ride to their aid on a white steed. The guy who chases the purse-snatcher with no thought of his safety? That's the Ram. They would have loved it in Camelot.



Aries is the pioneering sign of the zodiac. The natives of this sign may be found charting new territory from the North Pole to the ivory tower. The fact that they may lack support from the peanut gallery troubles them not at all. They do not look over their shoulders to check if there are followers. The current adventure completely fills their vision and call to action. My hero is Thomas Jefferson, an Arian who lived out this archetype so clearly.

Aries are loners, and this is definitely not a sign associated with intimacy. You had better give your Aries some space or the only thing left will be the foot prints up the front of you and down your back as they head for the door and the call of the wild. Do not try to tell them what they should do! They are restless and like change. In fact, their answer to problems is sometimes to just make a change...a new job, a new city, a new wife. This outer directed focus does not resolve problems when there are emotional issues involved.

The Aries penchant for independence and freedom does not play out so well if there are certain childhood experiences, which often come when the rising sign is Aries. I have found that there can be a separation from the mother, or the child is left alone or ignored much of the time. There may be a father that wants a "tough" kid and can be pretty rough. The subconscious decision is, "I must be self-reliant or I may not be safe." If they then seek relationships, they may not relate closely in order to avoid any dependency on others.

If the Aries patterns are heavily challenged in the chart, there may be anger and violence problems, usually toward them. The next question is whether the kid then begins to act out the modeled behaviors or not. If they do walk on the wild side, we see road rage and other types of uncontrolled outbursts of the rageaholic. It is the sign's darkest side.



Rather than violence, the Aries call to action may be out climbing mountains, speeding around the racetrack or getting their brains scrambled in the boxing ring and generally participating in what many of the rest of the population considers dangerous sports. In fact, they are comfortable with risk in many areas of life. Their courage may just as easily express in unpopular political causes, for example. They may well jeopardize a career before deserting their

heart felt beliefs.

I have a client that closely conforms to the textbook Aries. He was leaving his fourth marriage when I met him. He threw his wife out because she is an alcoholic and had an affair. He tried to help her overcome her addiction but Aries does not stick around forever. He said he spends six months of the year at his remote cabin in the far north. (Maybe that is why his wife was hitting the sauce and cohabiting with other guys!) He has trucks, cars and three boats. He owns a lot of property and does well financially. But he chafes that it keeps him tied down. He says he likes to keep on the move.

If the Arians in your life control their impatience, a bad temper, and avoidance of intimacy, you will have a friend who is dynamic and willing to protect you when they happen to drop by.

READ WHAT
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SAYS ABOUT
TAURUS

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The Sun is typically in the sign Taurus from April 20 to May 20. If your Sun sign is not Taurus, you may think you have none of the traits or behaviors of that sign. You may be wrong! If your Moon is in Taurus, or your rising sign is Taurus, or if any other of a number of factors comes together, you may well share more Taurean characteristics than you thought. See if the following describes anybody YOU know.

Taurus is an earthy sign that relates to experiencing life through the five senses. Sometimes one of the senses may be acute, like sight or hearing. Taurus functions in the physical world, consequently, and focuses on the physical body, the animal kingdom and nature. Taureans are often found among animal trainers, gardeners or body workers. Many of my clients are massage therapists and Taurus is nearly always a prominent influence in their charts.



Since Taurus refers to physical appetites, it may indicate the connoisseur of wine or food, for example. On the negative side, there is an excessive attachment to creature comforts. Then we have the couch potato who eats bonbons in front of the TV all day. Indulgence can be a problem.

The pleasure-pain principle is represented in the zodiac and Taurus represents pleasure. Yes, Taurus is about pleasure but it is also about working to earn those rewards--doing things you enjoy and having what you want. It is important—very important—to the

Taurus psyche to know there is the ability to provide one's own resources. That brings us to another theme popular with Taurus—money. It is the primary money sign. Taureans like money and the things money can buy. Ah, the delightful smell of that new car!

Taurus is not flashy. They may just plod along, but you have heard of the tortoise and the hare. The slow but steady tortoise won the race. Taurus is a powerful sign with a powerful will. They will keep going after everyone else has fallen in the ditch.

Taurus is also about sensuality. Natives of this sign need to learn to express their sensuality and sexuality needs in relationships. It is also about being present in the physical body.

One of the problems in childhood can be the presence of a jealous parent. Yes, that's right. The little girl is the apple of Daddy's eye. Mom doesn't get much attention and she's not getting any younger. Mother then emerges as somewhat sinister and dangerous. I have a client with that pattern and in her marriage(s) there is always the "witch woman" who tries to seduce her husband. That is the image her subconscious has of relationships—it's a three-way. It duplicates the early family dynamic.

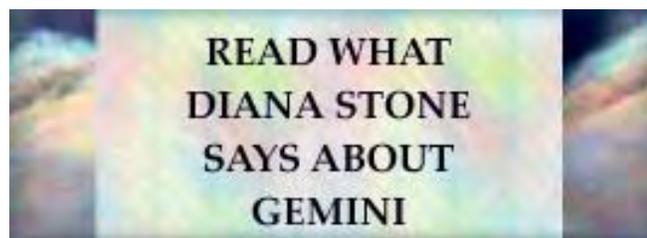
This pattern is not exclusive to women. I had a client recently—a man with the Moon in Taurus—whose father was jealous of him. The father struggled and suffered to give the son everything. Then he was jealous of the son's easy opportunities. He sent non-verbal messages to the son that he would never live up to him (the father). The guy is in his forties, broke and jobless and his number one priority is to prove to his parents that "he is not a loser."



Taurus the Bull is generally a very placid, peaceful sign, even indulgent of friends and their children. But you know what happens when you wave a red flag in front of the bull. Anyone who pushes the Bull too far may experience one of its memorable rages. Then it is probably best to stand clear and be aware that this is the sign that does not like to be teased. Sometimes the rages are a sign that the peace

loving Bull has tolerated bad behavior far too long and should have rebelled sooner. They are often too tolerant and may long endure abuse or negative circumstances. Dynamite can't move them if they really dig in their heels thus earning them the award for the most stubborn sign.

Taurus is a powerful, uncomplicated sign with a strong will. There can be an attractive esthetic streak. They are not the artists, but may be a patron of the arts. If Taurus does not give way to constant pleasure seeking, self-indulgence and the pursuit of money and material possessions, it is one of the hardest working, stable and dependable (even sexiest) signs.



READ WHAT
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SAYS ABOUT
GEMINI

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The Sun typically transits through Gemini from May 21 to June 21, the latter being the first day of summer or the summer solstice and the longest day of the year. If your Sun sign is not Gemini, you may think that the Gemini traits do not apply to you. But you could be wrong. Your Moon may be in Gemini, your rising sign may be Gemini or you may have several other planets clustered in this sign. Read on and see if this describes anybody YOU know.

Gemini is a sign that belongs to the mental world of communication and travel. It is associated with all forms of communication and rules over writers, lecturers, editors, TV newscasters, ordinary conversation or anything else that involves the written or spoken word. This can also include travel agents, traveling sales people or anything else that involves getting from one place to another. Gemini is specifically short trips as opposed to longer distances that fall under the opposite sign of Sagittarius.

Your little Gemini kid may be a real chatterbox and barrage you with endless questions. My dad used to say that some people just talk to hear their heads rattle. On the other hand, many Gemini folks are avid readers, fountains of knowledge and skilled at imparting that knowledge. (Take away their charge cards when they head for the bookstore.) They like to have about five books going at a time, one for each room in the house and one in the car just in case they get bored. Boredom is fatal to Geminians.

Gemini is a sign of duality. They can do more than several things at once and talk on the phone at the same time. (One famous Hollywood lothario, a Gemini, was tattled on by one of his former lovers that he could talk on the phone while making love!) They can be scattered with too many irons in the fire and consequently, habitually run late. In their houses, there are often little piles here and little piles there. These are their unfinished projects that



they alternate among. They may have a hard time making up their minds between several alternatives, or constantly change their minds and direction in life. Remember that there are many factors in an individual's horoscope that can modify any influence.

Gemini has a good sense of humor. Many famous comedians have a Gemini emphasis such as Bob Hope. His one-liners and quips are typical of the Gemini's quick mind. That playfulness is one of their psychological strengths. It is the Child in us. Another psychological plus for this sign is that it is associated with a strong grip on here-and-now reality. Some signs live in the past, others in the future. But Gemini is often acutely aware of details around them and tuned into now.

If things do not go well in childhood this can mean very difficult problems for the Gemini adult. Since Gemini is about communication, the parents and early environment needs to be consistent; that is, the adults must confirm the child's intuitive sense about what is going on. If the child's radar picks up trouble and the adults are emotionally closed down or outright deny their reality, the kid grows up wondering if he or she is crazy or not. This is typical of families where there is an alcoholism problem. Nobody is dealing with it straight on. Therefore, the kids grow up distrusting their own perceptions and ideas.

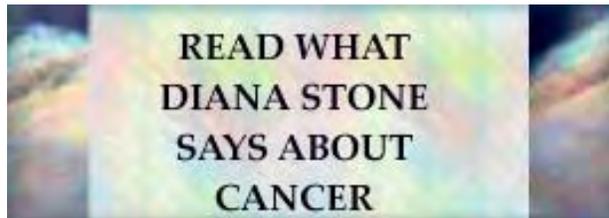
I have identified many clients with this problem. One client actually stopped me during a consultation several times to worriedly ask, "Is what I just said crazy?" Then there are the parents that simply ignore everything their children have to share, sending messages that what they have to say is not important. And if you hear, "Be seen and not heard" often enough the conclusion is obvious. Gemini can have a hot-wired nervous system, also. In medical astrology, Gemini is associated with the lungs and people with that emphasis may be prone to diseases in that part of the body.



Gemini natives are "people people" and easily approachable. They may have jobs where there is a lot of contact with the public. The sign is also about traveling. The job may involve lots of short trips. This can be your mail carrier, your Fed Ex driver or the telephone operator, all concerned with travel or communications. Gemini is also a student for life. They may go back to school periodically or are always taking adult classes or correspondence courses. If there is not enough stability in other parts of the horoscope, they may not finish what

they start or put it to use.

If Gemini is not too scattered, has self-confidence in the thinking processes and knows when to shut up, we have people who are appealing in their childlike innocence, native curiosity, bright intellect and lively sense of humor.



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The Sun typically passes through Cancer from June 21, the summer solstice, to July 22. If Cancer is not your Sun sign, you may think that the themes of Cancer do not apply to you. You may be wrong. Your Moon, rising sign or other major placements may fall in Cancer contributing a significant influence from that sign. See if this describes anyone YOU know.

Cancer rides the tides of emotions and is focused on home, family, safety and security. This is one of the signs where we deal with nurturing needs, how to give and receive care taking to and from others, up close and personal. Cancer the Crab has a tough protective shell, but that is to safeguard the soft inside. Cancerians do not like upsetting conditions, scenes or confrontation. They are easily hurt. However, it is a survivor sign.



This is one of the signs associated with traditional values and preserving the past. This fourth sign of the zodiac evokes images of a rose-covered cottage, apple pie, the flag and a cocker spaniel. Vocational choices may revolve around providing basic needs and are well placed in the restaurant business, real estate, running nursing homes, etc. The sign is intuitive and has good gut instincts.

The theme of nurturing is one that confronts us right off the bat. Our mother carries us to birth and if she (or someone) does not provide basic nurturing we would not physically survive for many years after birth. The relationship to the mother lays down the subconscious patterns that will play out in our intimate relationships in adult life. When I counsel clients about relationship issues, we see over and over the repeating patterns learned at Mom's knee. That is why Cancer is known as the Mother sign. It addresses that part of the psyche—male or female—that determines whether or not we will be taken care of in our emotional life and feel safe and secure in our inner lives.

Sometimes children who are not adequately nurtured must turn within to awaken the mother pattern at an early age and become “mother to themselves.” The decision is seen as a survival move and blocks out receiving “mothering” from others, which is perceived as a position of vulnerability just as it was in childhood. They then take on the parental role and attract “children” as marriage partners. They complain that the partner is just another child, is needy and incapable of answering their needs.

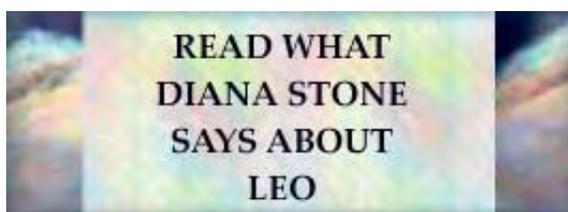
I remember a client with several planets in Cancer. She told me about caring for an invalid husband, running a 12-acre truck farm and constantly dealing with her four children who took her money and were basically dysfunctional and selfish. One of the consequences of the Cancer pattern where the person does everything for others is to create dependency needs. When I questioned my client about her heavy load, she denied it all over the place. I finally got through to her and worked with her for a few months. The interesting thing was that when she pulled back and quit doing everything for everybody else, her husband recovered and had a successful career.



Cancer folks can be fearful and shy and very insecure. If they can overcome these traits, there is a powerful inner life, great emotional resources and valuable instincts as to the needs of others. It is sometimes a good solution to be a professional caretaker, collect a paycheck, go home and have a mutually supportive relationship.

If you number Cancerians in your life, you will very likely enjoy their commitment to your welfare, a sympathetic ear and homemade chicken soup when you have the sniffles. Just don't insult their mother. They will have to kill you.

(I like to remind people that the sign Cancer has no relationship to the disease cancer and does not imply you will be any more likely to contract it than anyone else.)



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The Sun typically passes through the sign Leo from July 22- 23 to August 22- 23. If your Sun sign is not Leo you may think that you do not relate to this sign. But you could be wrong! You may have other placements in Leo in your birth chart that make this sign significant. It may be your Moon sign or the rising sign. Read on and see if this reminds you of anyone YOU know!

Leo is one of the power signs of the zodiac meaning there is a strong will and a persevering nature. And never forget that this is the sign of royalty. No matter how an individual may express the leonine nature, there is one thing you should never do to your Leos, never ignore them! The nature of this sign gravitates toward center stage. This is a sign of style and a strong presence. We notice when Leo makes an entrance!



There is a reason for this beyond purely ego gratification. This is a sign that facilitates self-awareness by observing the reaction to one's behavior and ideas. Their psychological dynamic is dependent on social interaction and feedback from others. There is a common saying that we can never see ourselves as others see us. We can never observe from inside our skins totally objectively. So it is the Lion that puts it all on the line to see how others react. If ten people point out that we are a jerk for a certain behavior, then we change it. The Achilles' heel in all of this is that it doesn't work very well if we have a Leo who lacks confidence and a fairly good idea of who he or she is. Not all criticism is helpful criticism or given without a hidden agenda. The wounded Leo may take in all criticism wholesale without discernment and be quite damaged and confused by it.

The two primary psychological needs of Leo are recognition needs and approval needs. Leo as the rising sign is especially sensitive to this in early childhood. Recognition needs mean that someone tells the kid that he or she is at least okay to take up space on the planet. If that need is seriously absent this can produce a suicide script. Recognition of mere existence is one thing, but approval is quite another matter. Are you okay or you not okay? Leo is not rebellious by nature.

If there is heavy criticism and not-okay messages, the natural actor in the Leo psyche is challenged to adapt to a role that DOES get parental approval. If that happens you may not recognize the Lion. You may have met the woman in her fifties that is still Daddy's little girl in dress and mannerisms. The doctor has a mid-life crisis because he always wanted to be a writer. The person locks into a role whether a positive or negative one and the true self is limited by it.

Leo is the sign of creative self-expression. One of the things we create is a child, and Leo may be very good with children and desire to be a parent. Leo is associated with the heart. We have many expressions that suit the Leo personality; kind-hearted, tender hearted, big-hearted and so on. They are often generous to a fault and can be very indulgent toward family and friends. It is a powerhouse of a sign but they are suckers for a sob story.

Sometimes even the most powerful parts of the horoscope are repressed. One client's chart featured five planets in Leo. Instead of the roar of the Lion that one might expect, there was only a whimper. Early childhood messages warned of beatings unless she kept her mouth shut. The problem with repressed material is its availability for projection onto another person. Sure enough, her husband was the

personification of negative Leo traits, an arrogant, self-centered know-it-all. I encouraged the woman to reclaim her power. She eventually did through therapy. She divorced and was later successful in her campaign for a seat in her state's legislature.



This is one of the most positive and optimistic signs. If expressing on the positive side they bring sunshine into the world. They have a lot of energy and can sometimes over-extend themselves like there is no tomorrow. There is then a danger of burn out in mid-life if they don't watch it. Leo is also associated with gold. Now you know what to buy for

a gift, the stuff that glitters will put a sparkle in any Leo's eye.

If Leo folks can control the personal ego, overcome a tendency toward self-centered attitudes and arrogance and also put the brakes on power trips, they deserve the approval and attention that they love so much and will return in equal measure.



The Sun normally transits Virgo from September 23 to October 25. If your Sun sign is not Virgo, you may think that none of these patterns applies to you. You may be wrong. Your rising sign may be Virgo or your Moon sign. Your chart may also show a grouping of other planets clustered in Virgo. There are many ways that your astrological signatures are communicated through the complex interrelationships of the symbols. Read on and see if this describes anyone YOU know.

I wrote an article about a group of scientists meeting in Eugene, Oregon studying the possibilities of human habitation on Mars, the “third planet from the sun.” My friend, Herb Wells, Cedar Falls, Iowa, wrote, “I was under the impression that the third planet from the Sun is already inhabited by humans.” Mars, of course, is the fourth planet from the Sun. This gives me the perfect segue into the article about Virgo. Herb is a “double Virgo”, both his Sun and rising sign are in Virgo. Of course, he would spot the error. After all, it is Virgo’s favorite sport!

Yes, Virgo is the sign of the zodiac that is famous for critical analysis. Natives of this sign don’t see the forests; they see the trees. If someone is needed to spot the flaw in a project, a situation, a car engine, etc. call in a Virgo. Some of them are good at analyzing you as your therapist. They are sometimes much too prone to self-criticism that can tear down their self-confidence. Virgo is the perfectionist sign. This can sometimes be carried too far. As my mother used to say, “Will you quit fiddle-faddling around.” In English, that meant knowing when to quit nit picking something to death.

Virgo is the sign that has a corner on a trait that seems to be in very short supply in the world, common sense. Virgo natives are practical, down-to-earth, no-nonsense types that are focused on getting the job done. Yes, this is a sign that relates to productive activity and work issues. Virgos need to be useful and are most unhappy and may even fall ill if not occupied with work they consider important. If you want to compliment this sixth sign of the zodiac, tell them “job well done.” They have very little desire to be singled out and are happiest working quietly behind the scenes. Of course, that can be a powerful and influential position; “the power behind the throne” so to speak.



Virgo is a sign of service to others. Their focus on other people makes them good at understanding what is needed in a given situation. Many of them are counselors, social workers or in other service related occupations. They are also famous for rescue operations at the expense of their own needs. This often leads to some fairly disastrous relationships in which they end up victimized. I have clients who marry addicts, alcoholics, the mentally ill or otherwise troubled individuals. It usually does not lead to happily ever after. Even if their

rescue efforts are successful, the partner then runs off with someone who hasn't seen their demons.

Virgo is also the sign associated with the physical body and health issues. This brings in vocations as nurses, nutritionists, chiropractors, health food store owners and things of this sort. You normally won't find Virgos on the bloody end of medicine.

This sign is related to natural healing, organic food, herbal medicine and the like. Virgos do not have a strong physical constitution but may end up healthier than some of the other signs because of their devotion to a healthful life style. They also prefer mental work and may drive other signs into the ground when it comes to things of the intellect.

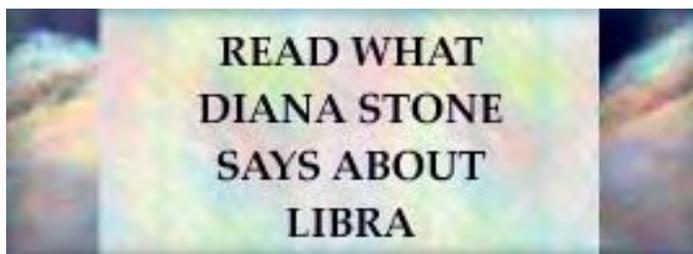
However, they don't like hard physical work, often lacking the physical stamina of some of the other signs. They are also extremely fastidious and don't like getting dirty. They love to give you advice about your health (or anything else).



One of the problems that can crop up with this sign is if Virgo describes your mother, which can be the case with Virgo rising or the Moon in Virgo. This can be the martyr/victim mother, not the greatest role model. Since Virgo is a sign related to the physical body, there can be a serious problem where an individual rejects him or herself at the biological level. Sometimes Mom was given a message that she should have been a boy or that girls are second-class citizens. Mom then rejects all feminine biological functions; menstruation, breast feeding or childbirth. Since Virgos are such perfectionists, she sometimes overcompensates by being Super Mom, but there is a lot of anger and resentment underneath. This generates some very complex and confusing non-verbal messages to her daughters particularly.

One more thing, Virgo has a dry wit that can be very amusing if you are sharp enough to get it. And this business of Virgo the Virgin? Well, let's just say that we should not interpret that too literally!

If Virgos can avoid destructive self-criticism, find useful work they like, not spend all their time in their heads and avoid rescuing in relationships, we have people who really care about others needs, are quietly and effectively organized, clean up other people's messes and uncomplainingly suffer a world of incompetent fools.



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I want to clarify the correct pronunciation of the seventh sign of the zodiac. Below is a reprint from the dictionary.

Libra is NOT pronounced LEE-bra.

Libra (Lie'-bra) 1 The Balance, the seventh sign of the zodiac which the Sun enters about Sept. 21 2 *astron.* A zodiacal constellation.

Libra *lee-bra* for definitions 2 & 3 2 The Spanish and Portuguese pound of sixteen ounces. 3 A gold coin of Peru, equal to ten soles.

The Sun will normally pass through Libra (LIE-bra) September 23 to October 23. If your Sun sign is not Libra you may think that none of this applies to you. Your horoscope may have Libra as the rising sign, which may be as strong an influence as with the Sun there. Your Moon sign may be Libra (LIE-bra). An analysis of your entire chart is the only way to assess the emphasis on any given sign. So let's see if this reminds you of anyone YOU know.

Some of the key themes of Libra includes relationships, search for beauty and harmony, communication, fairness and justice and negotiation.

I think of Libra as the most civilized sign. This is where we find the principle of peaceful co-existence and the rules of social conduct. Librans are offended by rude and oafish behavior. By and large, this is a class act. Librans are people you can take home to meet your mother.



These are the beautiful people if operating on the positive side. Appearance is important. They generally are attractive and have great taste in clothing and home decorating. There is a strong creative and aesthetic sense. They are strongly impacted by their surroundings. They can feel sick and out of sorts when living in an ugly, dirty environment with loud music blaring

Libra is the sign of the peacemaker. They make good diplomats or labor relations negotiators, for example. There is a strong sense of fairness and they usually are the first ones willing to compromise. They are found in many vocational pursuits, but may nonetheless play the role of arbiter of disputes in many family and vocational settings. They abhor arguing, fighting and violence. If this is carried too far, they concede personal needs and wants in the name of harmony. Mr. And Mrs. Nice Guy may go too far down the road seeking peace, but miss the iron fist in the velvet glove at your peril. There is a line. If you cross it you will find that the flip side of the peace coin is war. Some of our greatest military generals have the Sun in Libra; Dwight Eisenhower for one.

Librans are communicators and in relationships, which are very close to their souls, they prefer to work things out by talking and resolving things amicably to each person's satisfaction. In extreme cases, some of my clients carry concession to a point where they almost lose their own identities inside a relationship.

The Librans biggest fault is probably indecision. They are so inclined to see the merit in both sides of every situation that they can't choose one. They can be very manipulative in getting you to make all the decisions. Watch out for "Oh, whatever YOU want to do, dear" or "I don't care one way or the other." On the other hand, if you state a strong opinion about something they can be challenged to take the other side just to balance things off. They may passionately defend their position even though the other day they were just as passionately defending the opposite side to someone else.

If they ever give you a choice between two things, be sure to strongly go for the one you don't want to do in a hundred years. Then let them talk you into the one you wanted in the first place. My ex-husband is a Libra and in 18 years of marriage he never failed me on that one.

There is a pattern that can begin in infancy. As one of the major relationship signs, Librans are extremely sensitive to the adult relationships around them. If Mom is anxious or upset in handling her baby or there's an otherwise violent or tense household, it is as though these young ones shrivel up and by this action expect things will calm down if they are really still and quiet and demanding nothing. This withdrawal pattern can have serious consequences in adult life. It is "Never make waves or ask for anything."

This is a quote from my client Pat, “To be alive I had to be as dead as could be. I got no recognition. I was invisible. I never wanted to get married because Mom just lost herself in Dad.” Pat has Libra rising in her chart.



Libra is the sign that yearns for beauty, peace and harmony. In case things get really ugly, Librans carry rose-colored glasses in their pockets. When they look through the lens of such projections, their awareness of what is really going on is extremely and seriously delusional in some cases. One client actually described her mother as a goddess and so popular with men that she was constantly showered with candy and flowers. In actuality she was a prostitute too dumb to get paid in cash.

If Librans can overcome indecision, early childhood negative parental models, suppression of their needs and face reality we should all be grateful that we have this as one of the twelve great archetypal influences of human behavior. The world would be worse for the absence of their civilizing influence, their courtesy and considerate attitudes, justice and fairness and a sense in relationship that your happiness concerns them fully as much as their own. And they are so damn good-looking!



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The Sun normally passes through Scorpio from October 25 to November 24. If your Sun sign is not Scorpio, you may think that these patterns do not relate to you. You could be wrong! Maybe your rising sign is Scorpio or your Moon sign could be. There is more than one way that any particular sign can strongly influence your chart. Read on and see if this describes anyone YOU know.

Before we talk about what Scorpio is, it is important to understand what it is not. Scorpios are not all revenge-seeking sex maniacs who terrorize the human race. But Scorpio is, without a doubt, the most maligned sign. Why does it get such a bad rap?

The reason is that this eighth sign of the zodiac is concerned with the things that many of us have issues with or would like to avoid altogether. The list includes money matters, debts and sometimes bankruptcy. Add to this list intimacy and sexuality issues. That's not all; Scorpio also reigns over death, loss and separation. For good measure let's also add that this sign over all others probes the deepest depths of the human psyche.



Scorpio is a sign that is very complex because of the nature of the powerful areas of life that it addresses. And remember, every chart has Scorpio somewhere whether there are planets in that sign or not. It is a sign that deals with extremes where there is sometimes just black and white with no middle ground. This comes from the idea that this sign refers to the subconscious and parts of the psyche not obvious to the conscious mind that may hold very different views and wants. It deals with opposites.

Scorpio belongs to the world of the emotional life and that includes relationships. This sign is looking for its other half and may be extremely relationship driven. For many Scorpios, life does not begin until they find a partner. This is particularly true with the Moon placed in the sign.

Don't get the idea that all of this emotional power is always that obvious. This sign is not going to wear its heart on its sleeve. These are the strong silent types, but still waters run deep. We describe Scorpio as other-person centered. This means that they may be so focused on the needs of others that their own needs may be lost in the shuffle. Many natives of the sign can be sacrificing, even to extremes. This may be particularly the case with Scorpio as the rising sign or Moon with Pluto.

It also means that they are perceptive and very sensitive to the needs of others. They may know what you need before you do. However, in their efforts on behalf of others, it does not encourage dependency like in a sign like Cancer, for example. They do not want to do it for you. They want to help you so you can help yourself. This trait is sometimes a problem. They assume that you are as sensitive in understanding their needs as they are to yours. Consequently, when you don't read their minds, they think you are deliberately withholding. Scorpios have to learn to find their voice and ask for what they want. It does not come naturally to them.



The depth that they are capable of in matters of the heart may be equally strong when they are betrayed. The wronged Scorpio is capable of great revenge plots. Most of them will not act out in violent ways but they have a great imagination about what they could do. They can forgive, but they will never forget. If you think retribution may come your way if you wrong them personally, it is nothing compared to their reaction if you hurt a member of their family or a close friend. God help you then. They are mother and father bear and extremely protective.

There are two groups of people to the Scorpios, their inner circle and the outer circle. If you are fortunate enough to be included in the inner circle, then you have a protector that will lay down his or her life for you. However, people outside the circle are regarded with distrust, suspicion or a wait-and-see attitude before admittance to their inner sanctum.

The relationship with the mother in the early life is extremely pivotal in how adult relationships will go. Sometimes mother is the devouring mother. This sets up a conflict between "I must live with this person to survive" versus "if I live with this person she'll kill me." I have worked with many clients who have this "I'm dead either way" pattern. The subconscious drives the relationship life and swings between a strong neediness for intimacy to a fear of intimacy.

There are many ways that this theme can be played out. Some people do it within one relationship that blows hot and cold over the years. Other people continually go in and out of relationships with a series of partners. Remember, the inner self believes that it must be in a relationship to survive because of the very real dependence on the mother in infancy. Yet the mother's devouring energy tells the child that she is dangerous and he or she must avoid intimacy. So both needs are pushing there.

Scorpio is the sign where we deal with sexuality. So a typical strategy is to engage in high-powered sexual relationships in which the whole self is not there. I have clients who report that the sex life with their partner is intense but there is no real presence of their essence. They aren't really connecting on other levels. The Scorpios fool themselves into thinking that they are having intimate relationships.

This is the sign of transforming personal consciousness. This sign knows no half measures so this is where you can get the big leagues of growth and change in one lifetime. This does not automatically include all Scorpios, however. But when this occurs, there is a process of death, transformation and rebirth. Death in this context simply means that no one can change and stay the same, so something has to go. There is a Dark Night of the Soul that can be really very difficult. A death or loss may

occur in the outer life as well. The rebirth is complete, however, and there is no going back. The butterfly cannot return as the caterpillar to its chrysalis. (I used to say “cocoon”, but a Virgo reminded me that caterpillars come from chrysalises.)

Because of the possibilities of deep involvement in one’s own psychology, Scorpios are natural born therapists. If they don’t get paid for it, they will be unpaid counselors. People just naturally seek them out to confide their deepest secrets and all their problems.

This is a sign of healing on the physical level as well as the psychological level. They make great healers and may be found in the surgical theatre. Their attunement to the inner life makes Scorpio one of the psychic signs. They can be empathic and very attuned to suffering in others. Male Scorpios sometimes get more morning sick than their pregnant partners! They can lean toward shamanism and psychic healing. They are very good judges of human nature.

It is obvious that Scorpio rules over the deep, the dark and the mysterious. It is associated with nighttime. That is the reason they may be spies, private detectives or people who deal with the criminal element as detectives and police officers. One time a client came to have his chart read and he was a sheriff. He came in all his regalia; uniform, guns, and an attitude. Like many Scorpios, he folded his arms and did not give any clues about himself. He was totally



unresponsive. I was in the outer circle and I had not proven myself. I am used to the sign’s behaviors so I just rattled away for two hours.

At the end of the session there was an awkward silence. Did I pass? Finally he leaned forward in his chair and said, “You have changed my life. If anyone ever messes with you, just call me.” Textbook case.

I also mentioned that Scorpio deals with any money matters that are shared with another person or institution. That includes taxes, insurance, alimony, child support, loans, debts, estates or the partner’s money. If crazy and dangerous Mom, sexual issues, relationships and psychic or occult matters don’t give you enough to think about, then there is always all the stuff about money. So Scorpios may be found in the financial professions helping others by helping them to manage their financial resources better.

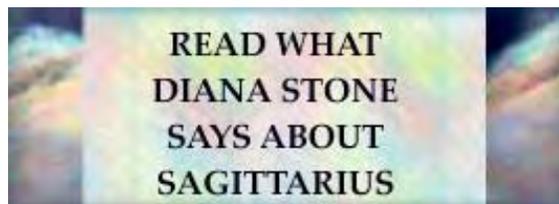
Scorpios are also vulnerable to a psychological pattern called displacement. They are so heavily involved in relationship needs that when they lose one, they are absolutely devastated. They recover, but then may decide subconsciously that it is better to lose money than people. What follows is sometimes quite spectacular financial losses over and over.



I know this is getting to be a long article but that bespeaks the complexity of this misunderstood sign. One other theme I would like to mention as a primary one is the issue of limitation, denial and self-control. Taurus is the polar opposite to Scorpio and it deals with creature comforts and pleasure and we hope there is a place in life for that. The balancing sign of Scorpio is here to put the brakes on excess. The idea of limitation is another reason for the misplaced aversion to this sign.

Limitation is an important aspect of life. We do not want to over indulge in pleasure seeking. We need limits on eating and drinking. There needs to be limits on the personal ego and power plays. When our body has cancer, we certainly want some limitation on unparalleled growth. When it comes to money, maybe it is advisable to give up the new car in order to send the kids to college. Self-control may be unpopular but it is necessary and has its place. It can also be overdone. With the Scorpio penchant for extremism, this particular trait can lead to punishing deprivation. It relates to problems like anorexia. There can be a destructive streak in rare cases even leading to self-mutilation.

If the Scorpios in your life can overcome their dark side, which can be really quite terrible considering the themes we are dealing with here, and resist the temptation toward manipulation, controlling behaviors and unhealthy sexual encounters, then you will have someone who will lay down their life for you, put your needs ahead of their own and magnetize you with their incredible charisma. Even the ugly ones are irresistible. Think Jack Palance and Charles Bronson.



The Sun normally transits Sagittarius from November 22 to December 22. If your Sun sign is not Sagittarius, you may think that these themes will not relate to you. Sagittarius makes itself felt if your Moon sign is Sagittarius, or your rising sign or even several of the planets are placed there. A strong placement of the planet Jupiter can do it as well. Read on and see if this describes anyone YOU know.

Sagittarius is an optimistic sign and natives of this ninth sign of the zodiac are among the most popular and personable. Sagittarius, along with its complementary sign Gemini, represents the child part of the personality. Psychologically, these refer to traits like playfulness, spontaneity and humor. Even Freud listed play as one of the essential aspects of a balanced life. As little kids, Sagittarians are often a real delight. However, they do not respond well to arbitrary rules. As a mental sign, they respond better to explanations even if they are too young to understand. They need to feel that YOU know and that there is a logical reason for things.



Sagittarius operates in the abstract mental and philosophical realms. Many Sagittarian children are very bright, but the emotional maturity may lag behind the mental gifts. Some Sagittarius folks will have a great deal of trouble dealing with emotions and emotional issues. That is because we are dealing with the idealists of the zodiac in this sign. If that goes into overdrive, they will behave as though everything is just dandy, projecting their version of the ideal situation onto one that is far from it. When it finally crashes around their ears, the whole mess is often past a point of fixing it.

Included below are a couple of real life situations that demonstrate so well what happens when fairness, justice and idealism get in bed together and produce multiple births, too much of a good thing, that is. Yes, fairness and justice are admirable traits. However, we get into irrational thinking when fairness and justice are projected onto every situation that may in reality be grossly unfair to others and ourselves.

One client was married to a woman who was interested in another man. She actually spent time at his house and said she couldn't decide which one she wanted. She went from one to another and this had gone on for some time. My client was oozing a philosophical attitude and was unselfishly "letting her explore her consciousness" around this scenario. I said, "What are you feeling about this?" He was not even close to accessing that, not until I got through with him. Tolerance has its limits.

Another guy was married with two-year-old twin sons. He had gotten involved with another woman. He was "honest" with his wife about his attraction to the other woman and how much time he was spending with her. He actually told me that he hoped this could be a "win-

win” situation all around. I said, “Are you crazy? Everyone is getting hurt here.” You should have seen the incredulous look on his face. He also got it after our little “chat.”

Speaking of relationships, Sagittarians are lone rangers. Yes, that’s right. This is one of the top signs that have the strongest freedom needs. If you want to see the last of your Sagittarius, why not suggest that he or she call you every day at 8: 00 PM and check in? You might be waiting by the phone that never rings!

One of Sagittarius’s Achilles heels in relationships is sticking around trying to make sense out of a crazy partner. This sign has to figure things out, right? I have clients like this tells me they just can’t figure out their partner. That’s because she is crazy, man! What is crazier, just plain crazy or trying to make sense of a crazy person? And don’t think the partner is too crazy to keep playing the crazy game just to keep the Sagittarian hooked into the relationship, trying to “figure it out.”



EXPECTATIONS are major themes and appear in various forms. Families often project high expectations onto kids with Sagittarius as their rising signs. (The rising sign is calculated from the TIME of birth.) To understand this sign pattern, one must understand that ideals are abstract and are never going to be duplicated in the reality of physical life. Therefore, the expectations can never be translated into full expression, leaving people feeling overwhelmed. Even if the personal achievement and performance are high, it never seems quite enough.

I have clients whose expectations of what they can accomplish are totally unrealistic. They are going to write the great American novel, compose a hit song, make it in the movies, win the election or succeed at some other grand achievement for which they are totally unqualified. Another more typical take on the pattern is a seeming inability to recognize their obvious superior performance on the job. I like to say they don’t know what a “C” is. Even if they did, average performance is not acceptable anyway. If they do receive good performance ratings and praise, they tell me that they have people fooled...so far. In fact, this very pattern can lead to behaviors of holding people somewhat at a distance. If others get too close, the fear is that it may reveal that the Sagittarian is flawed in some way after all.

Another form of unrealistic expectation is to project the idealism onto what one expects the world to be like. Read this quote from one of my clients that sums up the sentiments so typical of this pattern, “People break laws. They don’t behave the way they should. *I don’t want the world to be the way it is.*” This attitude leads to a great deal of frustration because the individual feels powerless to change the situation.

We astrologers look for a strong Saturn placement in the horoscope to counter balance the unrealistic idealism. Saturn is the reality checker of the zodiac. My husband is a homeopathic physician and he gives homeopathic *Ignatia* for patients caught up in expectations that can never be fully met. It is particularly effective when this pattern involves relationships. (“No man is ever good enough.”)

Sagittarius is the sign that refers to the personal belief system and philosophy of life. It also includes values, goals and ethical considerations. It doesn't make any difference what the belief system is be it atheistic, organized religion, fanatic cults to New Age metaphysics. No one can pull a belief out of their pockets and set it on the table. However, they or entire nations may nonetheless go to war over these matters. How many hostilities have broken out over religious issues? Religious conflict can exist in the family dynamics as well. Talk to a kid who is the son of a minister or who attended parochial school and now is an astrologer and a Buddhist. More than one family has become estranged over just such issues.

A search for truth then is tied to the formation of personal beliefs. Sagittarians like to be knowledgeable and regarded as informed and intelligent. They are curious. This is about the world of the mind so includes the institutions with ivy-covered walls. They are usually candidates for a higher education. They are natural born teachers, but also may be students for life as well. I have some clients with these patterns as the definitive drivers of their charts, and they are students as a career. They may reach age 50 with several degrees and never punched the time clock on the job in their lives.



The personality may go two separate ways. One is into the academic world of teaching, writing, publishing or lecturing. They can be the absent-minded professors whose socks don't match as they contemplate deep thoughts. Another is the outdoor type and the athlete. I like to notice the baseball pitchers unwinding a tall, lean body for a hurl over the plate. Not what you think; I am only looking at that academically to see if we have a Sagittarius.

Sagittarians love honesty. Don't ask their opinions unless you are ready for some blunt truth. They will think they are doing you a favor to tell you some unvarnished reality about yourself. In fact, they are prone to offering it even if you don't ask. (Yes, you do look fat in that dress.) My son, David, has Sagittarius rising. I was shopping a manuscript around to publishers and received a rejection letter one day. He comforted me by telling me that maybe my book just wasn't good enough.

The really amazing thing about that is the way the Sagittarians can get away with these less-than-flattering remarks. If the Scorpios said the same thing, we would deck the bastards. They have this sort of childlike innocence and a look of expectant praise for helping you see the light. For all their intelligence, they are probably the likeliest targets to fall for a tall story. They just can't seem to bring themselves to believe that anyone can REALLY be so bad as to cheat or lie to them.



Turn the coin of honesty and integrity over and what do you get? The sociopath, Sagittarians dark side. These are the confidence schemers, the embezzlers and perpetrators of white-collar crime. They are seldom violent. They succeed at their nefarious activities with a silver tongue. They lie as naturally as breathing. Catch their hand in the

cookie jar and they will have you believing you are hallucinating without batting an eye.

I did a long research project on neurological problems in the horoscope. I have published articles and lectured in many different cities about it. This refers to symptoms following head injury and other trauma. Sagittarius and the planet, Jupiter, are strong indicators of these problems when afflicted in the chart. It is also one component of bi-polar disorder. Don't jump to conclusions. These extreme expressions of problems require an entire complex of indicators, a professional consultation and a case history before confirming any such thing.

Sagittarius is associated with long-range vision, prophetic dreams and the like. This is one of their strong suits but it is also true that future orientation can work to a disadvantage. It takes the focus off the here and now reality. Many Sagittarian clients suffer frustration because a situation is not the way RIGHT NOW like it will be in their vision of the future. It is just as much of a mistake to live in the future as it is in the past. In seeing the big picture, one runs the risk of missing the trees for the forest. Sagittarians may do well to team up with their Virgo or Gemini cousins to fill in the details of their plans.



One last thing, Sagittarians have an itchy foot. It is a sign of travel. They like to get around the world. Too much confinement can really get on their nerves. Sometimes the concept of travel is inner directed. This can take the form of studying other cultures by watching documentaries right in the comfort of their own living rooms.

If natives of this sign express the flip side from sociopathic, have some grounding as to the realities of life, possess a fairly clear idea of his or her abilities, live in the now

and resist the very annoying penchant of constantly preaching about everything, your Sagittarian friends will always entertain you with their great wit and humor, lift your spirits with their optimism and teach you that sometimes visions and dreams of the future really do come true.



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The Sun normally transits the sign Capricorn from December 22 to January 19. You may think that this does not apply to you. "I'm not a Capricorn." Don't be so sure! What you mean is that your Sun Sign is not Capricorn. The rising sign is a place in your horoscope that is calculated from your birth TIME. Capricorn is the rising sign approximately two hours EVERY DAY. That stamps you with the sign of the goat also. That's not all. The planet Saturn will carry the themes of Capricorn into your horoscope if it is strategically placed; i.e., close to your Sun, Moon or rising sign. This all goes to say that a professional astrologer must analyze the complexities of the entire chart to identify any particular theme. See if this describes anyone YOU know.

You don't have to be an astrologer, however, to recognize some of the psychological patterns typical of a sign. One Capricorn theme, certainly not the only one, I call the Parent pattern. As is the case with almost all the patterns, this one begins in childhood. The early environment is such that the child becomes the Little Adult; he or she doesn't really get to be a kid. The early parental influences are such that the child makes a psychological decision: "In order to survive I must be responsible for myself." The Capricorn themes become translated into a subconscious pattern that will be acted out in adult life. It screens out assistance and intimacy with others



So what are the behaviors and life experiences that are driven by the hidden subconscious decision made as a child? The individual plays the role of the giving, responsibility-taking Parent. The role of the spontaneous Child that receives from others is avoided because of the childhood decision that this is a position of vulnerability. Typically, the Parent person marries the psychological Child to balance out the archetype. The partner then carries the themes of immaturity, irresponsibility and neediness. Of course, this drives the responsibility-oriented Capricorn-type person up the wall.



This pattern is not limited in its expression to only committed relationships. The Parent can be found on the job. They are good in leadership positions or running their own business. They may be very critical and complain that their employees are helpless children, however. In friendship relationships, they must do more for you than you do for them. They may feel very uncomfortable if someone surprises them with a gift for no apparent

reason. They often have trouble asking for help, and if they do, they insist on paying.

Capricorn is a sign oriented toward work and career. It can be ambitious and driven. The aspirations and early childhood role modeling often produces the workaholic. One message commonly given to kids with Capricorn as the rising sign particularly is that nothing is quite good enough. There can be very heavy critical messages. The pattern of conditional acceptance lies with this tenth sign of the zodiac. Love and approval hangs on performance and the contract is good for one day. You must start all over tomorrow. It embraces outer appearances. Personal feelings and desires play second fiddle second to what the neighbors will think.

Capricorn is where we find feelings of guilt, fear and depression. There can be a pessimistic turn of mind. The emotions are regarded as interfering with the business at hand. Repression of the emotions may lead to depression, the negative side of Capricorn.

Capricorn is the sign that describes our relationship to the physical, material world at large. Our most important consideration in that regard is survival and everything necessary to physically survive. In Western countries this may expand to a job, money, a car or a power wardrobe. If the child has a childhood that is abusive or otherwise troubled, he or she may project this experience onto the world at large and see life as all-powerful and hostile over which they have little control. On the other hand, if the child's early security needs are met we are more likely see the powerful,

responsible leader who is interested in everyone being safe and willing to work in that direction. It is associated with people in the professions.

Capricorn also relates to the natural laws of the physical world, or nature. No matter how powerful we are, we will not stop the earth from spinning on its axis. We will always be outclassed by nature. The natural laws are translated into the laws of the land in every culture. This establishes the judiciary where you will find many Goats sitting on the high bench. The most successful Capricorns do not buck the system that is more powerful than they. They learn the rules of the game and this provides adequate latitude for the expression of their best traits.



How any individual relates to the powerful forces over which we have no control will depend on the early influence of the family. If the child experiences abuse and powerlessness, this is projected onto life itself. The world then appears dangerous and threatening producing a personality driven by fears. As a result there may be career problems and trouble with authoritarian types.

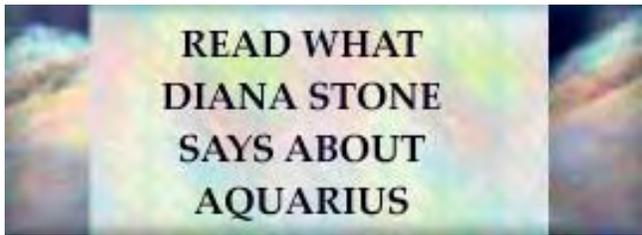
Capricorn is a conservative sign. It is about tradition and basic values. It relates to the past and what needs to be preserved from the past, hence their tendency to favor the status quo and resist change. Careers that resonate with this theme are archeologists, historians, antique dealers and genealogists. In the soul of many Capricorns is a yearning to return to past times and for things to “be like they used to be.”

Control is a major theme here. It is expressed in different forms. They may exhibit controlling behaviors or repress the emotions. They themselves are sometimes the ones controlled by other people and circumstances. Their inclination to be in control is fundamentally based on a strong need for security for the self and also others.

There is an inner feeling that it is safer with them in charge. This can be overdone, of course.



If your Capricorn friends can let go of total control, accept help, honor the emotional issues in life and do not work themselves to death, you will have people who will always be there to help with no strings attached, do what they say and preserve traditions that create stability in your circle and in the world. They often have a wonderfully sophisticated dry wit and will never embarrass you in public.



READ WHAT
DIANA STONE
SAYS ABOUT
AQUARIUS

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The Sun will normally transit Aquarius January 20 to February 19. Your Sun sign may not be Aquarius but you may very much resonate to this eleventh sign of the zodiac regardless. For all you know, this could be your Moon sign. It is also the rising sign for approximately two hours every twenty-four hour period. A strategic placement of the planet, Uranus, may also confer very distinctly Aquarian characteristics. See if the following material describes anyone YOU know.

Aquarius is the sign of individuality and freedom needs. Aquarians need space. If there is one sign that can get along just fine alone, this is the one. It may seem like a contradiction, because Aquarians are very open and friendly, yet, they recharge their batteries when alone. There seems to be an unmistakable energy drain when Aquarians are around others. If they do not stay aware of their needs for a time-out, even in relationships they wish to maintain, they may feel so depleted that they will leave the relationship altogether.



Aquarius is about equality in relationships. That explains their love of friendship relationships. It may not serve them as well in career matters. When elevated to positions of authority or prominence, their psyches may chafe at what feels like an unequal relationship with others. One of my Aquarian clients actually resigned a sales manager position to return to the sales force with his buddies.

They may have a misfit complex but not in the usual sense. Their intellectual creativity and communication skills often target them as leaders and valued members in whatever group they may find themselves. Yet, the Aquarian may feel they have very little in common with groups that happily include them.

Certain patterns of Aquarius in early childhood feature an on-again off-again relationship with the mother. At the subconscious level, relationships are seen as sometime things, here to day, gone tomorrow. If this is the pattern, intimacy is

avoided because of the inner belief that relationships are transitory and will lead to pain and loss if they invest too much emotionally. I stress to clients who always choose unavailable or unsuitable partners as a defense strategy that this is their pattern projected on to others.

Aquarians will usually go the extra mile when you are in trouble. At the end of the mile, however, you had better show signs of helping yourself. The Aquarian will not go down the tube with you and are the last to form co-dependent relationships. And when an Aquarian dumps you, you will stay dumped. They unhook completely.



Aquarians do not look at the world through conventional lenses. They are attracted to the unusual and nontraditional. Many astrologers are born when the Sun is in Aquarius. Other non-traditional occupations are liberally represented by the natives of this sign. That includes people in alternative health care, chiropractors for example. In whatever profession the Aquarians may find themselves, the purpose of this archetype is to shake up the status quo. They may not fare well in situations dominated by entrenched conservative values.

In some cases, this personality type can isolate themselves from the culture by extremely eccentric behavior, far-out dress codes and fanatical ideas. Their revolutionary leanings can sometimes throw the baby out with the bath water. They may also suffer from being too far ahead of their times with unfortunate consequences. There is a violent side to the sign. Some of my clients with Aquarius as the rising sign suffered regular beatings as kids.

Aquarius is the archetype where the masculine and feminine are evenly balanced. Women of the sign, for example, may pride themselves in the more masculine qualities of intellect and success in the world. Their masculine counterparts may value their sensitivity. Consequently, their best friends may be members of the opposite sex. Occasionally, I have encountered clients with sexual identity confusion. One man felt he was a woman and was healed only after a length therapy.

This is a sign of intellectual giftedness. However, Aquarians often do not do well in school. They do not learn in the conventional manner that teaching is presented in public schools. Once they are free to study what they are interested in when they get to college, they may well surprise themselves at their good grades. Before that, many of my Aquarian clients regard themselves as poor students.

Aquarians may not have any of their own but are nevertheless very good with children. They are good teachers with a rich imagination and may also work with handicapped children very effectively. They often come by a family through marriage.

The natives of Aquarius may never take chicken soup to a sick neighbor. However, they may start a soup kitchen to feed the homeless of their city. They have the most personal feelings for large impersonal issues of any of the signs. They may be politically active, involved in the Peace Corps or efforts to save the whales.

This is probably the most liberal and tolerant sign. Their circle may include such a dog's mixture of friends and acquaintances that if they were gathered in one room each group would be totally perplexed that the others could possibly be part of their companion's life. They may befriend people that are generally considered misfits or are rejected by society. Their philosophy is "live and let live."

This tolerant attitude will come to a screeching halt, however, if you try to control them and their opinion about most anything. They are flexible in many ways, but change their minds on their own terms. Aquarians can get caught up in their own interests and ignore socializing with friends. However, if you hit hard times they will likely stay in close communication. They are foul weather friends, so to speak.



Aquarius is a sign of inventiveness and creativity. They can possess a touch of genius if they succeed in finding their niche. That is sometimes the problem. They can be a jack-of-all-trades and find it difficult to choose a main focus.

Aquarians gravitate to the world of the mind. They like to know things and that is not all, they have a strong urge to pass this knowledge on. If you don't listen to them, you should know about their favorite sport. It involves those four little words, "I told you so."

If you have an Aquarius in your life you can expect a companion that will keep you laughing with an outrageous sense of humor, who is a loyal friend and shakes you out of your rut with an unconventional view of life.



READ WHAT
DIANA STONE
SAYS ABOUT
PISCES

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The Sun typically transits Pisces from February 19 to March 21. If your Sun sign is not Pisces you may still resonate to this sign nonetheless. Perhaps your Moon is Pisces, a placement that may manifest the pattern even more than if the Sun were there. Your rising sign may be Pisces; it is the rising sign approximately TWO HOURS every day. Read some of the Piscean patterns and see if you recognize anybody YOU know.

The sign of Pisces embraces the broadest range of personal traits and life experiences. It can be found from the monastery to the drunk tank, from the finest art galleries to the rehab center, from a renowned psychoanalyst's couch to the prison yard and everywhere in-between.

Pisces is a sign of empathy, intuition, creativity, spirituality and service to others. It works well in one of the helping professions as long as there is no blood involved! It rules over the religious vocations or describes a strong interest in the inner life. Pisces is the soul of the artist and musician.

The sign represents a search for an absolute. However, this last sign of the zodiac needs to remember that absolutes are never found in the physical, material world. Some people project their dreams of ultimate fulfillment in all the wrong places, money, partners, a big house and so on. These things can lead to nothing but disillusionment if they become our personal gods and goddesses. Then there are the Fishes that try to fill that role by being all things to all people.

When you think of Pisces, think of anything that cannot be perceived by the five senses. This includes God, Mother Nature, dreams, hypnosis, the unconscious, inspiration and things of this sort. Anything that creates an illusion belongs to this archetype. The movies, magical tricks, jewelry, fashion and we all know that powder and paint make a woman what she ain't.



The abstract is the realm of Pisces; many are gifted abstract thinkers. There sometimes is a problem as the rarefied air approaches ground level. Practical application may be left to their opposite complementary sign, Virgo. It is always a matter of where any sign pattern fits best. Who knows? Some Piscean genius may at this moment be contemplating the newest revelations in quantum physics. On the other hand, they may not know their own minds and wallow in indecision and inaction. A lack of confidence and an inability to speak up is common.

Here is one sign that does not like the limelight and may have problems with self-confidence. Rather than worry about an overblown ego, we often find that a stronger ego would serve better to set stronger boundaries. Their comfort zone is definitely behind the scenes. In extreme cases, they can be almost invisible.

They may find their courage to express in a stronger way on behalf of others, rather than themselves. The sign is strongly associated with a love for nature and the animal world. You may find them as animal rights activists or gifted with an extraordinary ability to communicate with our four legged friends with whom they may be more comfortable than two-leggeds.

There is a problem if the early life is not one of beauty and harmony, but abusive and ugly instead. This can lead to a sense of disillusionment and futility. The person may grow bitter and feel disappointed because life never matches his or her fantasy. The antidote is a dose of reality and acceptance of the world as it is. If not, Pisceans may take refuge in a variety of escapist behaviors including lethargy, neurosis or substance abuse.

Pisceans are motivated by an urge to serve. It is not unusual that one of the parents role modeled patterns that crossed the line beyond helpfulness into self-sacrifice and martyrdom. This sets up the kid as an adult Piscean to form relationships and situations where they are victimized. They may attempt to rescue people who are beyond their help, or marry them thinking they can “save” them.

The latest fashion for a Pisces may well be rose-colored glasses. They can look at a really unworkable situation or a person who is dysfunctional and rationalize away most anything. Yet, this is the most psychic and intuitive sign. When I talk to a Pisces client involved in an obviously losing situation, I always ask when they knew it was bad for them and that it would never work out. The answer often is, “Right from the beginning.”



One of the reasons that Pisces does not see the obvious sometimes is because they are up against a formidable foe, the subconscious. Pisces is the sign that describes for all of us the power of early life decisions operating outside of conscious awareness to sabotage adult life choices.



The natives of this sign are often too easily influenced by others. They are the folks most vulnerable to betrayal and disillusionment. There is a naïve streak making them targets of con artists. However the dark side of Pisces is when they themselves are the swindlers and rip off artists whose fraudulent activities lead to criminal activities and incarceration. Pisces rules over any place of confinement such as mental institutions

and prisons. On the other side of the bars may be the Piscean counselors, social workers, psychiatrists and others in the helper role.

Particularly if Pisces is the rising sign, there can be a very worried mother in the picture. There may have been a difficult birth or problems with the child. Picture the new mother wringing her hands over the baby's crib. This lays down an energy theme in the infant that may extend into adult anxiety, "What is the matter with me?"

If our Piscean friends can avoid victim consciousness, disillusionment with life and escapist behaviors they are our most compassionate, sensitive and gentle souls who add beauty to the world.

This booklet is the creation of astrologer and author, Diana Stone. To find out more about her services and what she can tell you personally about the signs in your own chart, visit her website at <http://www.dianastone.com> or call for an appointment at 360-546-2497.

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