

## Dignity and Debility – Part 2. Applying the theory.

Client privacy and legal issues mean there are very few meetings in murky, inner offices whose details, even disguised, can safely be aired in public. Most come with a delicate, if not embarrassing history, which it is necessary to know in order to appreciate fully the level of correspondence between the astrological symbolism and the circumstances. The following case took place several years ago and the individual is, very sadly, no longer on the earth plane. We still have no desire to be sued by her employers or their agents, so some diplomacy is necessary. The chart was read in advance, based on the scheduled time of the meeting. The real life start time may have been a few minutes different. Do not get unduly excited by fixed star aspects to angles.

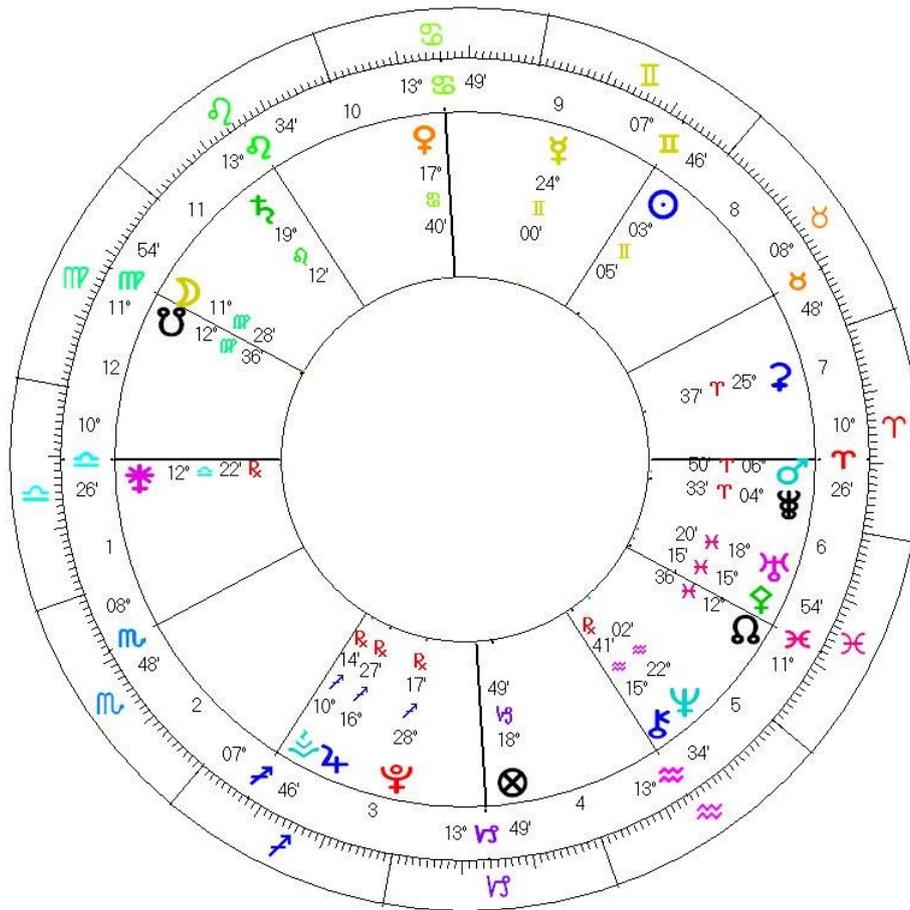
As previously stated – **this work cannot be done without a knowledge of the characters involved and their history.** If you are not personally involved you may need to ask many more questions about those who are, and what is going on, than you might for a natal reading. For that reason I would not suggest you offer this work as a service to clients the first week. Wait and see what is involved first. It is also necessary that you, or your informant, are able to be as objective as possible about the characters involved. Prejudice, or excess sympathy for your friend, will undo you.

A lady we will call Joy was summoned to a meeting because she had messed up. Although she was employed her week was structured much like that of a self-employed person. She responded to requests for her specialist help from other individuals within the organisation, therefore her hours and the times she worked varied. The organisation was spread over several sites some distance apart, she did some work in each of them. She also worked from any other place judged appropriate and convenient for her and the person who needed her help, sometimes at week-ends. She made a lot of judgement calls about the extent and nature of her assistance, which was frequently outside the lines, but was for the benefit of her 'client' and the organisation and involved other areas in which she was trained and experienced. In order to get paid she filled in a form at each of the sites, whenever she happened to be on site, so that each department paid only for the hours she had supplied to their own people.

There came a point at which somebody noticed she had been entering a few hours a month on two forms, one at the main site, from where she received most work, and one at the satellite concerned. She had therefore been paid twice for those few hours for several months. When confronted with the forms her response was 'OMG My Bad! How much is it? I will pay it back now.' Normally that would probably have been enough. She had been a good employee for some considerable time and they should have known her character. They probably did. The system was awkward enough that it was not too difficult to get it wrong. In addition, both her supervisor, whose job it was to check the hours before signing for them, and the office had not noticed the double entry. Technically Joy had committed fraud but her supervisor had not

done her job and someone in the office had not been vigilant. It seemed that either nobody should have been disciplined or everybody should have been and the system should probably have been overhauled.

Unfortunately the organisation was about to put out a call for voluntary redundancies. History had shown that this is a time when infringements can grow as large as is necessary to reduce the number of staff who actually have to be paid off when they go. The supervisor in this case may well have been equally at risk. Given this added complexity Joy wondered how bad her situation might be. It was not clear if she would be seen by her supervisor or someone higher.



Someone in management initiated the meeting, exactly who that meant was not clear. Unless a meeting is part of a series, on one issue, the initiator is almost always described by the Ascendant. Both the boss and the supervisor are women. Libra rises and Venus is on a Cancer Midheaven. The Moon is applying to sextile the MC. All of which is strong confirmation the Ascendant symbolises a female boss. Note the presence of Juno, another female symbol, who started out as a Queen. From this perspective she also helps indicate the Ascendant is a woman who can carry authority.

It is not certain yet how, if it becomes necessary, we separate Moon and Venus into the supervisor and the Boss. However the Ascendant is not likely to be Joy, it follows that she is probably the Descendant. We still need to confirm the matter.

Mars sits on an Aries Descendant, (sextile the Sun) Joy had natal Sun and Moon in Aries with Sun trine Mars. This match between her character and the meeting chart is excellent evidence that she is represented by the Descendant here **but we have the advantage of already knowing her chart. What if we do not?** What if Murphy's Law means either the Boss

or supervisor are also Martial by nature or position? We need evidence based on Joy's role in the organisation or her current circumstances. She is not a sword maker but she has no timetable, she is paid hourly, the number of hours vary. Her week is largely self-structured by negotiation with her 'clients'. She has to decide what is necessary to solve their problem. She also works in a similar capacity, for a completely separate organisation. Each gives her a percentage of normal employment rights. Her working life is remarkably similar to that of a self-employed person. Score points for Mars. In contrast the boss and supervisor both have standard, fixed contracts. In addition the strong female symbolism elsewhere is worth taking seriously as the woman boss because they are still fairly thin on the ground and anything female is harder to describe astrologically than anything male because there are only two symbols available. Sometimes the universe is helpful enough to shout loudly at the obvious to get us started.

Evidence based on the present circumstances is also available because we know them in detail. If Joy is Mars she has rulership. Tradition suggests she ought to be in a strong position. The two planets we have set aside for the boss and, or supervisor (Moon and Venus) have no such dignity. Does this mean that Joy has more power than her bosses? Very unlikely! **Mars is 'strong' but it does not rule anybody else, which seems to matter a lot in this type of work.** In this particular case I would read the rulership as symbolising the fact that **Joy's own actions have put her where she is.** Nobody pushed, bullied or manipulated her. This is supported by the fact that Mars has very few aspects, others are not involved, (at least in the original action.) **This Mars is in rulership because it denotes someone who has been able to behave characteristically, not because it has power over something or someone else.** Rulership is a more varied (and ultimately more interesting) matter than scoring more points than everybody else.

Thus we have three ways that tend to indicate Joy is Mars. She may have put herself in the fertilizer but, since she is, nevertheless, still in rulership, we may hope we are not looking at the worst case scenario, which is dismissal. Since she is Mars and not Saturn or Neptune it suggests strongly that she made an error due to haste. Aries and Mars do not calculate. Those who know her probably realise it well enough, Mars in Aries is sitting on what is now functioning as **Joy's** Ascendant, which suggests she is up front and on show, not hiding things.

From **Joy's perspective** the primary action (the Moon) is in **her** sixth, in Virgo, it is at work. This may appear simple but I would still be extremely wary because from a general perspective that primary action is in the twelfth. Somebody is very busy behind the scenes. Given the situation and the other possibilities indicated by the chart it seems most likely that the supervisor is the Moon. She knew about Joy's error before the boss and may well be acting to shift any blame away from herself. She also knows there are redundancies coming. The Moon is conjunct the south node. Ebertine links the north node to events affecting groups of people, presumably the south node must share in this idea, as it is impossible to aspect one and not the other. Rex Bills gives redundancy to Jupiter, who sits at the bendings, in rulership but retrograde and ruling the north node, in the sixth. The Moon appears to be making some effort to deal with Jupiter and his power over the group at work.

Opposite the Moon, at the north node, in the sixth (which from Joy's perspective is behind her back) is Pallas. This very adept female tactician shows either the supervisor saving her own job or the boss, simply doing her job by reducing the body count as cheaply as possible. Since the Moon and Venus are in sextile it matters little which woman is which, their aims harmonise

and whether shown by the radical twelfth, or the twelfth from the seventh, somebody is working against Joy and she is in trouble.

In addition to helping describe the boss, Juno rising is very likely also to be the elephant in the room that this whole procedure is a set up. I have seen the same signature more than once elsewhere. The central point about Juno is that she was a woman who was cheated. When on the Ascendant at a meeting she is almost sure to be relevant! I have found it much better to remember that she used to be Queen of Heaven, before she was conned out of her crown, than to ignore her for being just a little bit of rock. Here Juno, as she symbolises the underdog, is in the hands of the boss.

Does Joy have any help?

Experience has taught me to use the eleventh and its ruler for a trade union. (See part one of this article for clarification). The union, or its representative, is the Sun. He is in moderate condition in Gemini, which is a suitable sign for a meeting. He also applies to sextile Joy. (Mars) His ruler is strong in the ninth. His intentions ought to be honourable and he is likely to speak well for Joy. He is concerned by the law, which is strong. What rules him (Mercury) also rules the action (Moon) and the woman who is acting behind the scenes. He wants a reasonable and legal solution and the Moon will, or has no choice but to, abide by it.

The end of the matter (shown by the fourth) and Joy's job, or even career (as it is the tenth from the seventh) is shown by Saturn. Saturn is in the eleventh. The union or its official holds the result in his hands.

The fourth contains Fortuna. Even allowing for the chart time to be slightly out Fortuna is near the IC, which formed the basis of one of my conclusions. In total they were:

The meeting would be pleasant and Joy need not fear an attack. (Libra rising, Venus MC)

She should certainly ask for a union representative to be present because s/he would do well protecting her interests.

Ignominious dismissal was not likely.

Neither was an agreement to accept redundancy. Fortuna, at the end of the matter, suggested there would be some material benefit but its rule by Saturn, in detriment, meant it would be much smaller than a severance package. (I had no idea what the benefit might be).

The outcome was:

The meeting was very civilised. The boss was very pleasant, the supervisor not so.

The union official was a man and very supportive. Joy felt he was successful in his efforts to make the best of the situation.

They agreed that Joy would resign and therefore keep her record unblemished. She was allowed to keep the money she had over-claimed.

It was agreed she was given a good reference.

Joy also decided it was worth taking account of dignity in her own chart readings.

Part 3 in this series of articles attempts to shine light into some of the dark corners, so you might see who is closeted in them whispering with whom.