

# MYSTERIES OF MEDIEVAL ASTROLOGY

A Logical Approach to Precise Predictions

## PART II

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**Pages 1 through 26 are skipped in the preview**

The table below provides a general idea of the planet's action according to its celestial state. We will consider whether the significator is universally malefic (Saturn and Mars) or benefic (all the rest). Also, remember that the 6th, 8th, and 12th, together with the 7th house (regarding conflicts), are unfavorable.

<b>PLANET</b>	<b>CELESTIAL STATE</b>	<b>FAVORABLE HOUSE</b>	<b>UNFAVORABLE HOUSE</b>
Benefic	Good	Effectively produces the good things of that house.	Effectively mitigates the evil of the house, or cancels it.
Malefic	Good	Produces good things of this house, but through hardships, deprivation, or vicious ways.	Does not cancel the evil of the house. Instead, it creates a malevolent event either in a mild form or with subsequent rescue.
Benefic	Neutral	Produces things of average quality, or quantity, or duration	Does not create nor cancel the evil of the house, only mitigates it.
Malefic	Neutral	Does not produce, nor cancel the affairs of the house. Instead, it hinders their manifestation.	Does not protect but instead creates the evil.
Benefic	Bad	Either gives nothing or gives through hardships, deprivation, or in an unreliable or ineffective way	It does not protect from evil. On the contrary, it may create one.



Look at Venus in my natal chart above. By its position in the 12th house, it is most strongly determined to manifest itself in the 12th house matters—diseases, secret enemies, imprisonment, or exile.

But how will it operate within the framework of the 12th house? Let's assess Venus' celestial state.

- It's a natural benefic in its triplicity, making it a moderately noble planet.
- Its dispositor, Saturn, is detrimental. It worsens Venus' condition, but not so much as to cancel its moderately noble state.

Now, let's assess how close aspects from other planets alter this picture.

Venus receives a close sextile from the Moon. Although a sextile is a weak aspect, its proximity to Venus and the fact that it is an applying aspect make it the most influential.

- The Moon is a natural benefic and peregrine, making it a favorable planet overall. The Moon has no maleficent qualities except that it rules the unfavorable 6th house. This doesn't cancel its overall noble condition but adds a small portion of badness.
- The aspect from the Moon is favorable, meaning it places all the good things from the Moon and holds back most of her bad qualities in the degree of her sextile. Since the Moon has a small portion of badness, sextile aspect brings this badness practically to zero. So, we can say that the "copy" of the Moon in the degree of her sextile is generally favorable. However, note that this "copy" has landed in the sign of the Moon's exile, thereby making the sextile of the Moon moderately destructive.

- Finally, let's consider reception. The Moon exalts Venus. This means the Moon, and therefore its "moderately bad copy," will strive with all means to assist Venus or protect it. It compensates for the adverse effect of the aspect, making the Moon's sextile useless—it doesn't change Venus' celestial condition in any way.

**N.B.:** An aspect does not modify a planet's universal nature, which can be benefic or malefic. For example, the square of Saturn in Aquarius diminishes all the beneficence Saturn has in its domicile, leaving an almost neutral copy in the place of the aspect. But this nearly neutral copy still possesses the nature of Saturn, which we consider naturally malefic. Hence, a Saturnian copy in place of its square is no longer neutral but slightly harmful.

The second close aspect that Venus receives is Jupiter's trine. Although the trigon is a relatively strong aspect, it is separating. In addition, Venus is far from it, almost at the edge of Jupiter's 8-degree orb. Hence, the influence of this aspect on Venus's celestial condition is negligibly small, so we can disregard it.

So, close aspects do not change Venus's celestial state—it remains a moderately noble planet.

Since Venus' celestial state contradicts the evil nature of the 12th house, Venus cannot produce diseases or secret enemies, at least by its bodily position. However, Venus has "copies" in the degrees of its aspects. These copies also relate to the 12th house, and some may be destructive, which would align with the 12th house's nature. Such degrees can produce diseases, exile, and so on.

Let's consider Venus' aspects. I'll provide a brief comment on each aspect's action in the table below.



ASPECT	DEGREE	COMMENT	EFFECT
Sinister *	17° ♋	Places Venus' noble qualities in its place of exaltation.	Highly favorable
Sinister □	17° ♏	Places a slightly unfavorable copy of Venus (due to its connection with the 12th and 8th houses) in its place of exile.	Notably Destructive
Sinister △	17° ♈	Places Venus' noble qualities in its place of rulership.	Highly favorable
♃	17° ♁	Places slightly unfavorable copy of Venus without any changes.	Slightly harmful
Dexter △	17° ♎	Places favorable copy of Venus in its place of fall.	Moderately harmful
Dexter □	17° ♉	Places a slightly unfavorable copy of Venus in its domicile, though position in an unfavorable house moderates the effect.	Moderately favorable
Dexter *	17° ♌	Places Venus's noble qualities in its place of exile.	Moderately harmful

As you can see in my horoscope, only one point associated with Venus in the 12th house is most capable of actualizing that house's evil. It is 17 Aries. This point is called the *promittor* of disease, exile, and secret enemies.

The rest of the aspects, including Venus's bodily position, are either little capable or not capable at all of actualizing the evils of the 12th house. It is elementary to verify in practice.

In my adult life, there was only one significant disease (not counting minor and childhood illnesses)—it was an acute kidney disease that occurred during the winter between 2008 and 2009. I was very bad and hospitalized for several weeks then.

Although we will discuss primary directions in detail further, I want to demonstrate how they work at the beginning of that book. Think of primary directions as applying aspects in horary astrology: We have two signifiers, ASC (the body in natal astrology in health-related questions) and Venus (illness). Venus may apply to ASC in different ways, such as conjunction, trine, etc. But one of them—we expect it to be sinister square—should produce illness, while others do not.

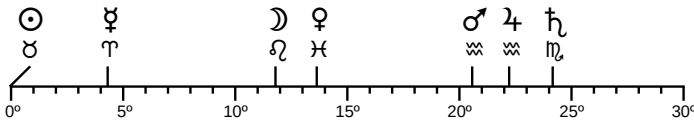
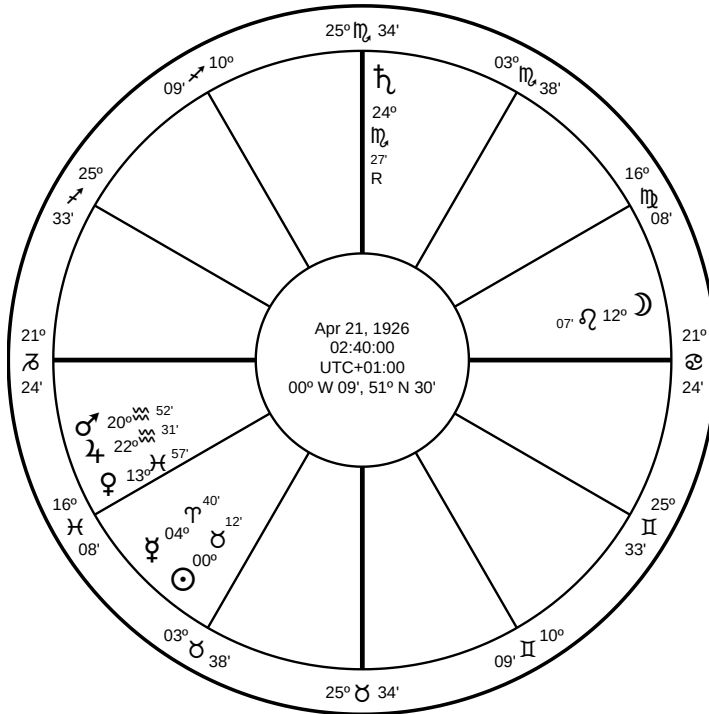
Let’s list the primary directions of all Venus’ aspects to the ascendant that were performed before 2024.

#	PRIMARY ASPECT	AGE OF LIFE	TIME	EVENT
1	ASC ♂ ♀ (Sinister)	3.8	March 1980	Nothing
2	ASC * ♀ (Sinister)	23.3	October 2000	Nothing
2	ASC □ ♀ (Sinister)	31.7	February 2009	Acute kidney disease occurred during the winter between 2008 and 2009
4	ASC △ ♀ (Sinister)	41.9	April 2018	Nothing

We have seen confirmation of Venus’s action with an accuracy of a few months. Remarkably, according to its second determination, Venus among the diseases indicates kidney disorders.

## §2.6. Homework Assignment

So, it's time for your first assignment. Here is a woman's horoscope. It is a "blind" chart, meaning you know nothing about the person. Your task with this chart is to determine which planets (and what aspects of these planets) are most likely to bring children.



*A blind chart*

**Hint:** According to its natural significance, the Moon represents everything that appears for the first time, particularly newborn infants. Use this in your analysis.

After you complete this task, I will show you the correct answer, and then you can compare it with actual events.

## **Solution**

In this chart, there are no planets in the 5th or opposite 11th house, but there is Mercury, ruler of the 5th house. It is maximally determined to manifest in matters of this house. Mercury is a benefic planet, peregrine, placed in a favorable house. There is nothing bad about it. However, its dispositor—Mars—is a natural malefic. It slightly diminishes Mercury’s beneficial nature. Overall, Mercury modestly promises children.

Two other planets cast close aspects to the cusp of the 5th house. These are the Moon and Venus. The Moon, like Mercury, is a natural benefic without dignities. But unlike Mercury, it is in the power of the benefic Sun, located at an angle, meaning it has great power to manifest, and most importantly, it is a natural significator of infants. Thus, regarding children’s birth and pregnancy, the Moon has apparent advantages over Mercury—it promises children more vividly.

Venus is a benefic, it is in the sign of its exaltation, and its dispositor is a noble planet. Venus promises more good deeds in the 5th house than Mercury. Moreover, its dispositor—Jupiter—is a natural significator of fertility, making Venus a bright promittor of children.

As you can see, the two planets, the Moon and Venus, clearly stand out. Mercury remains in the shadow. The secondary ruler of the 5th house, Mars, will not bring anything. Firstly, Mercury is unexpressive compared to the Moon and Venus, making its dispositor ineffective. Secondly, Mercury’s dispositor (Mars) is a natural malefic whose nature acts against the matters of the house.

So, the Moon and Venus are the only planets that promise children more brightly than anyone else. They can realize this promise by their bodies or by their favorable aspects. Let's list all of these aspects:

The Moon's trine places all the good that the Moon promises into the signs of Aries and Sagittarius in favorable houses, which do not modify the Moon's action for better or worse. The same applies to the Moon's two sextiles, which place the promise of children in the signs of Gemini and Libra. However, the last aspect is slightly less effective as it falls in the unfavorable 8th house.

The Moon also has a notable dexter square in Taurus in a favorable house. The square minimizes all the good in the Moon, making the copy almost neutral. Still, on the other hand, it places it in the sign of the Moon's exaltation, enhancing its good qualities. It is not as effective as if the Moon were in that sign, but still, such a replica of the Moon produces good things in the 5th house.

All these aspects have roughly the same chances of bringing a child as the bodily position of the Moon.

The trine of Venus in Cancer places Venus's best qualities in the sign, which does not change the celestial state of her replica, though it falls in an unfavorable house, making it less effective. The same applies to the sextile of Venus in Capricorn. Finally, the sextile of Venus in Taurus—in the sign of its rulership that occupies a favorable house—is the most promising.

The two planets' bodily positions and favorable aspects are the places of the horoscope that promise children. We call them promissors. Let's list them all again in a convenient table.

PROMITTOR	ACTION
♄ ☽ in 12°♍ in the 7th house	Moderately favorable
♁ ☽ in 12°♎ in the 2nd house	Moderately favorable
♁ ☽ in 12°♏ in the 11th house	Moderately favorable
* ☽ in 12°♐ in the 8th house disposed by benefic ♀	Less favorable due to the terrestrial state
* ☽ in 12°♑ in the 5th house	More favorable due to the position in the 5th it is more determined to the birth of children
☐ ☽ in 12°♒ in the third house	More favorable due to the celestial state
♄ ♀ in 13°♋ in the 1st house close to the 2nd house	The most favorable of all due to the celestial state
♁ ♀ in 13°♌ in the 6th house	Moderately favorable due to the terrestrial state
* ♀ in 13°♍ in the 12th house	Moderately favorable due to the terrestrial state
* ♀ in 13°♎ in the third house	Very favorable due to celestial state of Venus and her aspect

If you found these promittors, you were right.

Now let's check in practice which birth dates these promittors indicate. We will let these points apply to the significators of the 5th house in their primary motion, thereby actualizing a child in the native's life.

As signifiers, we usually take the planets most determined by the house, that is, the planets inside the house and the ruler of the house by sign. We also take the cusp of the house since the degree of the empty sign is also well-determined by the house. In our case, this is the cusp of the 5th house and Mercury. Additionally, suppose the natural signifier of the object has a strong connection with the house, signifying that object. In that case, we may take the natural ruler as the signifier in primary aspects. In our case, this is the Moon.

We have already said that although Mercury is maximally determined to manifest itself in the affairs of childbirth, it produces moderate results. It's like having a clear road without traffic jams, but your car is slow. With all the opportunities given to you to drive without traffic jams, you will still be late for work. Likewise, Mercury is not the most effective signifier for children compared to the cusp or the Moon.

On the contrary, the favorable aspect of the Moon, promising children, strongly fortifies the cusp of the 5th house. So, the cusp is much more effective in receiving promissors and directing their actions to the matters of the 5th house than Mercury.

We will consider the period from 20 to 40 years when the likelihood of having children is highest. Since many promissors of children approach the two signifiers of the 5th house, we will get many possible dates. However, primary directions indicate all possible dates over 180 years. And we are interested in the small fraction of that period from 20 to 40 years of life. Hence, only some of these promissors will approach the signifiers during this period, and we will get fewer dates than you think.

If we consider all possible combinations of promissors and signifiers for the specified period, we will get the following dates:

PROMITTOR	SIGNIFICATOR	EXPECTED DATE
* ♀ in ☿	The 5th house cusp	December 1947
□ ☽ in ☿	The 5th house cusp	October 1949
□ ☽ in ☿	Mercury	May 1952
* ♀ in ☿	Mercury	July 1956
* ☽ in ♀	The Moon	December 1959
△ ☽ in ♃	The 5th house cusp	April 1963

In my observations, the approach of promittors of children to the cusp of the 5th house (at least in female charts) more often indicates the moments of conceptions rather than births, as if the 5th house distributes the power of the promittor within itself, creating a pregnancy. At the same time, the planet-significator of the 5th house is an active participant in external events. It indicates the appearance of a child in the native's life. Therefore, we will add nine months to the dates of appropriate directions to the cusp.

We will also consider that the cusp of the 5th house and the Moon are more inclined to accept promittors than Mercury. Therefore, we will make two tables with a list of the more expected and less expected birth dates of a child:

Most expected dates:

PROMITTOR	SIGNIFICATOR	EXPECTED DATE
* ♀ in ☿	The 5th house cusp	September 1948
□ ☽ in ☿	The 5th house cusp	July 1950
* ☽ in ♀	The Moon	December 1959
△ ☽ in ♃	The 5th house cusp	January 1964

Less expected dates:



PROMITTOR	SIGNIFICATOR	EXPECTED DATE
□ ♃ in ♈	Mercury	May 1952
* ♀ in ♈	Mercury	July 1956

Please remember that these are approximate dates, accurate up to several months. We will later learn how to adjust these dates and pinpoint the exact month and date of the event.

Now, it's your turn to compare our expectations with reality. It will either confirm or refute the correctness of our significations. It was a chart of Queen Elizabeth II of Great Britain. Her life is well documented (as is her time of birth). Find some time, use Google, and discover in which years and months she welcomed new royal family members into the world, and compare it with our table.

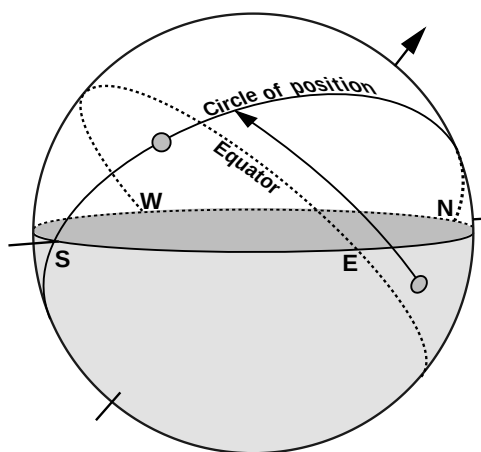
### §3.6. Geometry of Primary Directions

There is so little information about primary directions that I have dedicated a separate appendix to the mathematical calculations of these aspects.

When writing this book, I was unaware of any astrological software that precisely performs these calculations as described in Morinus’s “Astrologia Gallica” 22nd book. Therefore, I had to create the software that automates the formulas from Appendix 1. You can find a link to it on my YouTube channel. Alternatively, you can search for the appropriate software or use the formulas at the end of that book to calculate directions manually or automate them in Excel spreadsheets. After all, in the 17th century, astrologers didn’t even have that.

Since I have included all the mathematical apparatuses in Appendix 1 of this book, I will only explain the geometry of primary directions in this section.

First, we must understand the conjunction of two planets in the celestial sphere. A line from south to north through the significator is called the *significator's horizon under its pole* or its *circle of position*. If the significator is a house cusp, this line coincides with the dividing line between the houses.



*Promittor is approaching significator's circle  
of position*

Next, we keep the significator's horizon stationary and allow the promittor (star, planet, its aspect, or antisicion) to reach that line. The promittor's path to the significator's stationary circle of position, in degrees, indicates the number of years from birth to the event.

## **Converse Directions**

Sometimes, the path from the promittor to the significator's circle of position takes more than 180 degrees. In this case, astrologers sought ways to calculate the shortest route. Some ancient astrologers rotated the sphere in the opposite direction, allowing the promittor to reach the significator's horizon by the shortest path. We call such directions *converse*.

However, as Morinus pointed out, this calculation method contradicts common sense. The celestial sphere does not rotate in the opposite direction in the first hours after birth. We need to find a way to direct the rotating horoscope to the stationary radix figure to calculate the shortest distance between one planet and the circle of positions of the other.

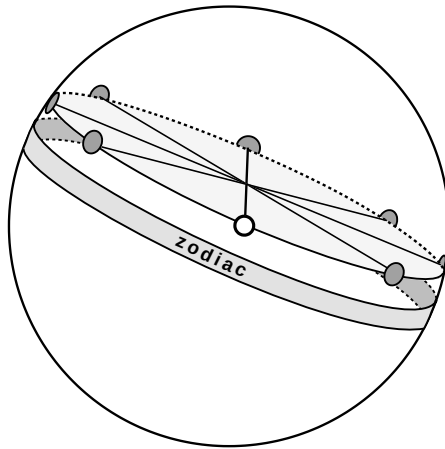
For this purpose, he proposed a more straightforward method: leave the promittor and its circle of position stationary and move the significator along with the sphere until it reaches the promittor's horizon. If the significator is the house cusp, we direct its zodiac degree to the promittor's circle of position. This approach changes the length of arcs in converse directions and, in practice, confirms incredible accuracy.

However, Morinus, the most renowned scientist and professor of mathematics of his time, improved the primary directions even more, bringing them to the next level of accuracy.

## **Circle of Aspects**

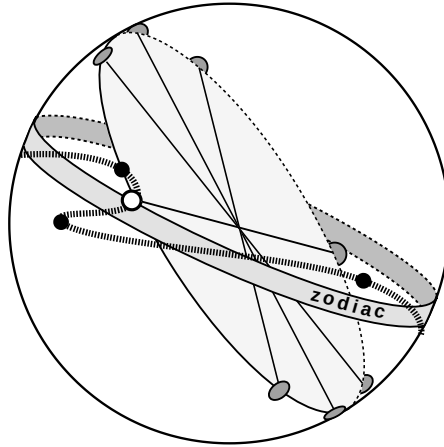
For a long time, astrologers disagreed on which plane to plot planets' aspects for primary directions. Some believed it should be the surface, parallel to the ecliptic, while others thought it should be parallel to the equator. The figure below shows the surface of aspects parallel to the

ecliptic. Directions utilizing aspects in this plane are called *zodiacal directions with the planet's latitude*.



*Planet (in the center) and its aspects on a surface, parallel to the ecliptic. Planet is slightly above the ecliptic at the moment*

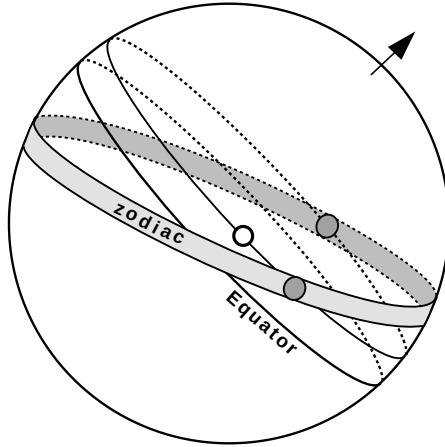
Morinus brilliantly resolved this problem. He proposed constructing the plane of aspects, considering the apparent motion of planets (including their loops). He built a surface that passes through two points—the planet's current position and the point of maximum elevation above the ecliptic on the planetary path from the past to the next node. Thus, the plane of aspects depends on the planet and the current moment.



*Planet (white dot) and its aspects on a surface, constructed by Morinus. Black dots represent the places where the planet deviates most from the zodiac circle along its apparent motion path (bold dashed line).*

The promissors (planetary aspects) plotted in this plane, approaching the significators, indicate the most accurate timing of events. You have already seen that the deviation between the direction indication and the event amounts to only a few months. At the same time, aspects of planets plotted in other planes give a difference of several years.

But Morinus's genius did not stop there. He also considered that planets' antiscia are not just a mirror reflection of the planet on the zodiacal circle but the intersection of the arc of its diurnal motion with the ecliptic surface. Therefore, on the three-dimensional sphere, planets have not one but two antiscia.



*Planet (white dot) is slightly above the ecliptic, hence it has two antiscia.*

These positions of the antiscia also provide a more accurate result. For example, as you remember, in Hitler's chart, Venus rules the 8th house; it conjuncts Mars and Algol. Relative to Saturn in the 10th house, it indicates deadly threats or violent death from a head wound (according to Mars and Algol) due to the native's own actions. The far antiscion of this Venus (a Venus' copy, which fell in the middle of the 8th house of death) approached Saturn, indicating September 1945. Several months before that, in April 1945, Hitler shot himself in the head. So, you can see the accuracy of our results when we apply Morinus' calculations.

But that's not all Morinus left us. Astrologers have long noticed that the number of degrees the celestial sphere rotates corresponds to approximately, but not precisely, the number of years. Over the years, astrologers have tried to find a key that could accurately translate the degrees of directional arc into years of life so that they would closely match reality. One such key was suggested by the German scientist, professor of mathematics Valentin Naibod. He proposed taking one year of life not as 1 degree of the planet's diurnal path but the Sun's mean daily motion along the equator, which is  $0^{\circ}59'08''$  (or  $0.9855^{\circ}$ ).

Morinus examined many keys, applying them to the plane of aspects he constructed. He found that Naibod's key gave the most accurate timing.

Since one year of life corresponds to  $0.9855^\circ$ , then 1 degree of the arc of direction corresponds to approximately 1.0147 years of life. The slightest error in the key would lead to a significant deviation in terms by age 50-60. But Naibod's key and Morinus's plane are devoid of this drawback—they accurately indicate the timing of events throughout the native's life.

You already saw the last direction in Einstein's horoscope, which triggered a fatal illness at 75 with a difference of only a couple of months between the direction's indication and reality.

## **§4. Rectification of Birth Time**

The birth time reflected in the birth certificate or the one you recall from memory is not inherently accurate. Even a minute's deviation in the birth time can change the timing of events according to primary directions by months.

Therefore, astrologers use a procedure known as *rectification* to refine the birth time. Its essence lies in making predictions based on your natal chart and comparing how accurately these predictions align with known events. If the discrepancy is significant, the astrologer adjusts the birth time forward by a minute, then backward, attempting to determine the direction in which the deviation between predictions and known events decreases.

The astrologer further adjusts the time until finding a minute where the deviation between predictions and reality is minimal. The logic here is this: if the rectified chart accurately reflects the timing of already known events, it will similarly predict future events with the same accuracy. Usually, the rectified time can differ by a few minutes from the time on the birth certificate.