

The Minor Aspects

Transcript of a Lecture by

Al H. Morrison

Speaking at
The Irish Astrological Association
June 3, 1986

Edited by
Karen Christino

This research manuscript has been funded
by
a grant from the New York City Chapter of the NCGR

Introduction

Al H. Morrison (1916-1995) was a prolific correspondent and article writer, but his more involved astrological thoughts were shared only in his lectures and seminars. Here, I have transcribed one of them, which focuses on the minor aspects.

While Al's writing was often somewhat formal, in person he spoke with a southern drawl and was rather casual. I've left his typical "gonna" and "ain't" as he spoke them, so that those who knew him will be able to mentally hear his speech patterns. However in other cases, I've made slight edits simply to clarify and not change the intended meaning.

*Barbara Watters originally introduced Al H. Morrison to astrology, and she very much influenced his work. The "action" and "function" characteristics of the planets and signs that Morrison describes on page 5 come directly from Watters (see her book, *Horary Astrology*). Marc Edmund Jones and Charles Jayne were other important influences that he mentions in the lecture.*

Later in life, Al was very spontaneous, not making specific appointments or preparing very much for his lectures. In the lecture I've transcribed, he had only a small piece of paper with some notes and used no charts to help him, though he does refer to several horoscopes, which I've added to the transcription. In several cases, the aspect details he mentions do not agree with the actual charts. For instance, some of the midpoints in Adolph Hitler's chart must be within a 2-1/2° orb to create the Lotus pattern he talked about. Some of the aspects in the other charts are a little wide (over 1°). This may be

because Al spoke from memory. But I have also heard that some early asteroid coordinates were occasionally different than those we find in ephemerides today, and he may have used these. I've included the charts that Morrison discussed, but he actually talked about a Pallas-Pluto 165° aspect in Kissinger's horoscope and a Moon-Mars-Pluto Yod in Khomeini's chart. These are either too wide to consider, or not in evidence in the charts and with the placements that I've found. Al felt that a minor aspect within a 1/2° orb could be a major influence on the life of the individual, and of course the closer the orb, the more significant the aspect would be.

*There are several birth dates for Khomeini, but the one included here was the only one that contained a Yod. Morrison's chart is the one he used (rectified). The chart for Chiron is from Zane B. Stein's book, *Essence and Application: A View from Chiron*, and the rest are timed charts from Astrodatbank.*

Many thanks to Maurice McCann for providing me with the tape of this lecture, and to Diane L. Cramer for proofreading the transcription.
– KC

The basic education in astrology consists of a four-year course in planets, a four-year course in houses, a four-year course in signs, and a twelve-year course in aspects. What can I tell you in the space of an afternoon? So I have made a very harsh editorial decision, and I'm going to define my items first, care-fully and as tersely, as compressedly as I can. And then I'm going to erase all those that have something out in print already and concentrate on the things that you're not likely to have in print, because it's too big a subject to cover in an evening or a year or four years. There's no way I can do it justice.

We measure aspects on the plane of the ecliptic in terms of zodiacal degrees, that is, celestial longitude. We could, in theory, also measure an alternative system of aspects on the plane of the equator, in right ascension. And there are a few astrologers who do just that, and they do get results. They work at it; they work very hard at it. And there are other planes of reference on which to figure aspects. But all that is beyond normal, usual practice, so I'm going to skip further reference to that one.

Just because something is an aspect for some purposes does not mean, necessarily, that it's an aspect for all and every purpose. You've got to keep this very clearly in mind. The only known zodiacal aspects that work at all in horary are the exact parallels and contraparallels of declination. Here is where I part company with William Lilly, much to the astonishment of Geoffrey Cornelius. But I wouldn't want to push that one any further. It's only in a few select and very critical horary charts that you would think about that one. You would never launch a venture with elective astrology, choosing a time when the only aspect the Moon would be making would be a parallel or contraparallel. You just wouldn't *do* it. For that purpose it would have to be void of course, lacking in aspects.

Now, to begin with, Ptolemy, who copied everything that he could get hold of and translated it all into Greek, bad Greek, and copied all the errors of the time in astronomy and sixteen other subjects, he was an encyclopedist. He was *not* an astrologer, and he never really understood astrology, so don't be quoting Ptolemy as any kind of an authority. The people he was

plagiarizing included some authorities, but don't blame it on him.

We're accustomed to talk about Ptolemaic aspects. That is because the Ptolemy textbooks were out of the library when the Roman soldiers set fire to the joint, and we lost it all. That's how come we've got Ptolemy rescued: somebody had borrowed or stolen this particular interesting item, *Tetrabiblos*. These are the Ptolemy aspects: the conjunction, opposition, trine, square, sextile. Full stop, end of story. These are the only aspects to consider in doing traditional horary. Do not accept any minor aspect as meaning anything in horary. No way. You'll only take those which are applying, yet to happen. If the aspect is perfect, so much as a hair's breadth, a thousandth of a second of arc past perfection, it's finished; it has nothing to do with horary. Clean it up. It simplifies the whole chart before you have a chance of reading it. And you don't push a horary beyond the question that is asked. End of *that* story. Just because there's an interesting aspect in the chart in houses that do not relate to the question asked by the querent, it does *not* mean that you interpret the aspect. The horary chart is dedicated to the querent's question, in the sense placed by the querent, and you've got to keep it condensed and limited, right there, to the subject.

OK, so when you get books full of confusion in which horary meanings spill over into natal and *vice versa*, you get three different men named Sepharial and eight different men named Raphael, when you get Wilson and Pearce and all these hassling English slandering each other in print, printing false news of each other's deaths, hassle, hassle, hassle, contradicting each other for the sake of contradiction, never mind the truth of astrology, you've got a problem. Now, most of the textbooks in the last two, three centuries, practically everything printed in the English language and a great deal of that printed in Latin, has a woeful mish-mosh confusion of horary definitions and natal definitions and mundane definitions and elective definitions, and these are all different arts whose definitions should all be separated from the others. Just because a book is old does not mean that it's error-free or that it lacks confusion. And don't take me for a final authority; I'm simply going to tell you what seems to me to work. You have to do your

own thinking. I'm mainly from Marc Edmund Jones and some of his close associates and this limits me in a way because there are people in America who could never tolerate the man, don't believe in him at all, no way, to hell with him.

The 15° Aspect Series

Now, having destroyed that scene, you can group aspects in families. You can subdivide each of these; there are so many different ways of thinking about them that I've selected a few very simple, direct approaches here. You can take a modern view: you can say that every 15° is an aspect. 15° hasn't any name that is convenient or comfortable to use. In horary it doesn't count. In ordinary natal charts it doesn't shout loud enough to be a primary part of the delineation. But, occasionally, you'll find a chart that has so few major aspects in it and so many of them are loose orbs, too wide an orb, that the 15° aspect can be very important. OK. So you've got an accurate natal chart, really accurate. Then by progression the 15° aspect that matures, you're going to get quite a run of human experience from the maturing of the 15° aspect in secondary progressions, day per year. This is because it's a minor aspect.

Now what Edith Wangemann in Germany has done is a great deal of computer analysis, checking the 15° aspect as something to study, and she split it in half into seven and a half, and she split that in half to three and a quarter. And when you examine the daily events of the life, small incidents like Johnny forgot to bring back the carrots from the deli, or somebody slipped and dropped the cup that was inherited from Grandfather, all those little, trivial things all show in the charts of the individuals who are experiencing them, by transit and by progression, and it's these little split-down, minor aspects that describe and time them.

Can you see how the minor aspects in general, they reflect relatively minor events? But sometimes a small event is of major importance later. It all depends on how closely you want to study them.

Now this whole series when drawn out – 120°, 135°, 150°, 165°, 180° – you've got twelve aspects if you take every 15° as being an aspect. Now we've talked about the 15°, and the 30° is a semi-sextile, and by editorial choice we're not going to go into that one. The half

square is the 45°, we know that one. The 60° is the sextile, we know that one. The sextile gives you the capability, whereas the trine (the double sextile) gives you such ease that you don't bother to do it well. With the sextile you put a little effort into it and get a better result. The trine is the lazier one. Generally speaking, when you split aspects down into fractions, the smaller the piece, the more effort you have to put into it to make it work if you're doing elective astrology.

Now the, what I call, half-square, Zipporah Dobyns calls the octile. It fits her computer program, and she's literally built a whole system of astrology around octiles. 1/8 of the circle; the 2/8 of the circle, that's the quarter, that's the square you see; 3/8 of the circle, it builds. You can divide everything into eighths and arrange your thinking around eighths of everything. And that's what Dr. Dobyns has done. I find my head doesn't work that way.

The 90° is the square, we know about that one. The 105° is a minor aspect, the 120 is a trine. You know about the square and a half, the 135. The quincunx has its own symbol. The opposition you know about. Marc Jones said that the opposition, if you have one in the natal chart, furnishes an axis of left and right, black and white, right and wrong, up or down, plus and minus, around which the individual organizes his philosophy. It's a sort of a balance line. People like me, who do not have an opposition in the natal chart, we basically lack genuine objectivity. There's always a bias, there's always a slant. You get a chart full of oppositions, you get a theoretician who can take both sides, argue both sides, and they make master diplomats. There was a Dutchman at the United Nations that distinguished himself, and there were no squares in the chart; there were several oppositions focused on the Meridian. And he was just that – a parliamentarian, theoretical approach, hypothetical approach, could see both sides of everything. And it really was a loss when he retired and died. We need people like that. It helps move this rocky world we're in.

The 75° Aspect

Now here, as a little bit of an historical note: in ancient times, they made no attempts at the 15°, or the 75° or the 105° or the quincunx or the 165. These are all relatively new. It's the Germans, the Hamburg School with their 90° dial that brought the 15 into focus. That's

because it's a primary subdivision of this 90° business of the circle. Any fraction of 90° is all of a sudden very important. The 75°, I don't find very much use for it. I very seldom pick it up in medical astrology, it very seldom tells me anything. But for some people, it seems to be quite significant. It's a sort of a hybrid between the sextile and the square. You have some of the resourcefulness of the sextile, the ability to get something done, to put things together, plus the physical practicality of the square, pragmatism. And I think you find it more often in creative artists who are working with structure, people that design furniture or soap or sandstone or whatever: sculptors, landscape designers and this sort of thing. But, as I say, I haven't explored it too deeply.

The 105° Aspect

Now, the late Charles Jayne, a man who lacked any fire in his natal chart, (Sun in Libra, Cancer rising), took everything very, very personally and gave most of us an extremely unfortunate experience. He did have considerable insight into things astrological in spite of the other problems. The 105 was an aspect that he found very significant and scored quite a bit of success in prediction for clients, predicting events based on the 105. And he coined a term for it: "squine." That is, a hybrid between the square and the trine. You've got some of the laziness and the ease of sliding into it that comes with the trine, but at the same time some of the usefulness of the square, a definite tool, you're in between, you've got an incomplete tool that doesn't have quite a sharp enough edge, but it isn't fully automatic, so you have to put some energy into it, and this is essential to a good job. If it's something that a machine does itself, with no human input, then it isn't a creation anyway. There's no way a computer is going to delineate a horoscope, forget it. But if you have to put your own self into it, this aspect gives you a better access to the swift creativity. You might find it in poets, songwriters and lyricists and that sort of people. But again, since it's a minor aspect, it's not going to outshout the rest of the things in the horoscope. You've got to see the main pattern of the chart.

Planets, Signs and Houses

Here I realize I've neglected a basic definition, which is something you have to take in mind for all of my discourse. I have divided reality into sets of con-

siderations. Planets always to me mean action, not to be interpreted in any other sort of a language. Signs, in the final understanding, describe function, which is not the same kind of consideration as action, of itself. Houses are circumstances, conditions, the field or theaters within which the actions are taken. And these aspects are tools, the tools you use in taking the action, the tools you use towards fulfilling the function. And some tools are useful in some conditions and not in others, and this you find in the horoscope, what houses the aspects find themselves in. You can consider each of these categories as dimensions or coordinates or as alphabets, if you like. There are more dimensions than the ordinary three dimensions of physical reality. This piece of chalk has a length and a thickness and depth; there are three dimensions of it. It has a curvature on the outside; it has a shape, which is determined by how far it extends in these three directions. Now in this system of astrology that I'm trying to preach, we have many more dimensions, many more directions that things can have; we're not talking about just something so simple as a physical object. We're talking about intangible and abstract things, things that can't be quantified, things you can't weigh or measure or count or wrap up in green paper. And these are the tools by which you get a fix on these things. All right?

Kepler and the Quincunx

Now let's go back to the aspects. The quincunx is something that Kepler discovered in his astrology; he was primarily an astronomer, a mathematician. He did *not* want to believe in astrology, but the only way you could make a living then was doing astrology for a wealthy patron who mainly wanted to know, well, things you shouldn't use astrology to learn: "When am I next going to make a sexual conquest?" I've had clients who wanted to know if they were going to get the promised mink coat or not. I really don't want to do that kind of astrology. I really don't want astrology used to answer such questions. As Marc Jones said, "You do not cast a horoscope to see if it's advisable to eat breakfast. Consult your appetite." It's that simple. You don't misuse it [astrology] for all kinds of trivial things.

Kepler in the course of his explorations discovered that the quincunx has to do with the individual in a philosophic bind: damned if you do and damned if you don't - *Catch 22*. And those of us who have it natively are perennially caught up in that, and every time you cater

to one end of the aspect the other end flies loose. You see, I've got several pieces of chalk here and they're all approximately straight, you can think of them as oppositions if you like, I could tie them in a little bundle. But, if one of them is bent in the middle like the 150° angle, there's no way you can tie it into the bundle. You put the string around one end and the other end's gonna stick out. So you go back and tie down the loose end and the first end sticks out. Or the chalk breaks or some other calamity happens. I paraphrased that from one of Marc Jones' lectures. He never used physical examples; he wasn't that sort of a man – no earth in the chart. The no earth people are forever going into the intangible and the unquantifiable and the theoretical and somehow or another never make it in sculpture or engineering. See?

Now the kind of aspects you have modify that a great deal. If you don't have squares in your chart, you're not gonna make it in engineering, either. It's that simple. Now this 150° aspect is a very good substitute for the square in the chart that does *not* have any squares. They have a derived, secondary precision that sometimes is better and more accurate than the direct squares. But you have to put a lot of work into it to make it do. You really have to work hard at it.

I used to place a lot of orders for printing with a printer who had Mars square Saturn. Now that man could with his bare hands line up the linotype slugs and lock them into the proper steel frame with just the right amount of pressure and tension, throw it on the press, and out it comes, perfect. No problem. Where other printers have people using strain gauges and all sorts of gizmos, he says, "Morrison, I don't need any of that junk." OK, so I have the 150, but not the clean square. I don't have a very exact square until we get Chiron. You wouldn't believe the mess I get into trying to line up the sample sheet for the typesetter. If you look at the pages of the book I just printed, you'll find a couple of pages where the paragraph slants a little bit. I'm determined to get it straight and when I reprint the book I'll straighten those out, and then Zane Stein will probably add another paragraph and I'll get those crooked, too. But this is the way it works. I have Saturn quincunx Uranus, and it's not a very comfortable aspect. None of these 15° things are necessarily comfortable. Those that fall in the sequence of semi-sextile, sextile, trine, yeah, sure. But those that fall in the square family, or subdivisions or multiples of them, no way. They're all difficult.

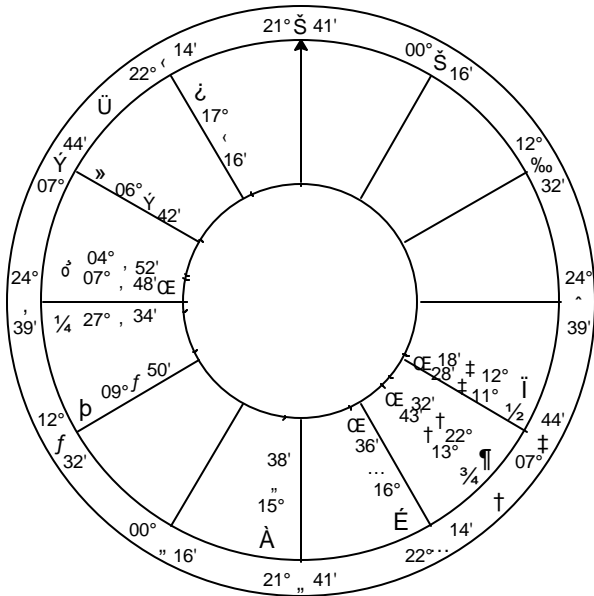
All right, so we have Kepler publishing the great news that the 150° aspect works, and in some cases more profoundly than the Ptolemaic traditional aspects. Till you have our colleague Morinus, Jean Baptiste Morin de Villefranche, in France, who writes about six million words of astrology in Latin, and to be sure that he's fully understood writes about a quarter of a million words in French. His main theme is the denunciation of Kepler for thinking that that's an aspect: "How stupid, how ignorant, how intolerable, how sinful, how God awful, how just terrible! Stinks!" And he goes round and round and round and round and round about this; you wouldn't believe the amount of printing he wasted on this one complaint. Just never should have thought that was an aspect. Just can't be. That's Morinus.

The 165° Aspect

So in America we have L. Edward Johndro, who died rather abruptly early in the 50's. He was by training an electrical engineer and in the great depression he was unable to find any work. He had rather ungracious social habits and an extremely high IQ. He was in the habit of informing everybody else that they were just too stupid for him to deal with. Of course, that will get you a job, any day. He worked as a stone mason for lack of anything better to do. And he wrote some astrology and was very, very critical about it and came upon some of the more profound insights.

Well, in the course of all this hassle, there was a New York City professor of psychology (City College of NY), who went to Boston to lecture, Dr. Brown, W. Kenneth Brown. He got done lecturing and he went over to the railroad station, had some time to kill before his train left, and he picked a magazine off the stand and got tangled up with L. Edward Johndro. When he got back to New York he wrote him a letter to ask him what did he mean by, how did he get this way? And they wound up being partners by mail. Johndro did the basic astrology and Brown did the psychology, being a psychology professor, and seeking out the clients and using his Ph.D. And they wound up with this other astrologer, Mackenzie King, who was Prime Minister of Canada, and the three of them worked together to manage the government of Canada by astrology, very well, thank you.

Brown and Johndro advised businessmen using astrology. In the course of astrology for corporations, elective astrology and mundane astrology, they found that the 165 is of extremely crucial importance in picking employees, appointees to fill difficult positions, negotiators. The key of it, of the 165, is that they don't know when to quit, they can't quit, they won't quit, they choose not to quit. It doesn't matter how unfeasible the proposition is, there's no way they can be called off. To get them to quit you have to shoot them. One simple example, we had a Secretary of State, Henry Kissinger. Kissinger has the Moon in Libra 165° from Venus.

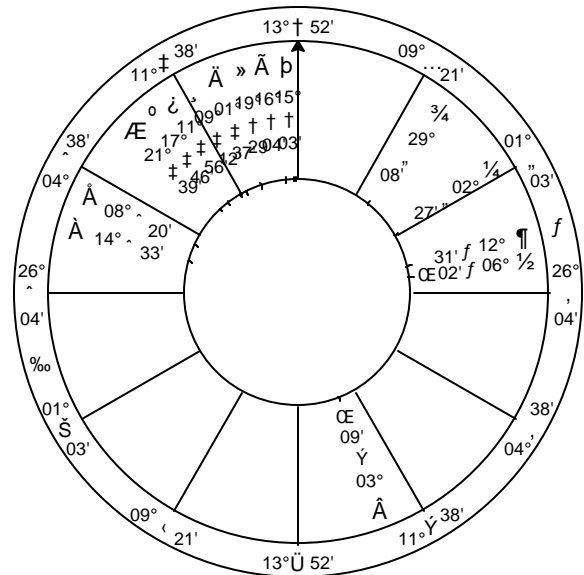


Henry Kissinger
 5/27/23, 5:30 am CET, Furth im Wald, Germany
 Kissinger has a Moon-Venus 165° aspect.

So here is Henry Kissinger back with the gross national product of a fairly large nation, running back and forth between Jew and Arab and trying to alleviate these two Plutonian mass hysteria colliding pressures. And considering the kind of job it is, totally impossible, always finding something new to say after the last total, final absolute, "No" has been said, but finding some basis on which to reopen the subject and continue discussing it. That's the 165.

Dr. Brown's example of the 165° aspect people: an oil field speculator, a wildcatter in Texas borrowed some money from a New York bank. The banker didn't understand the oil business, the oil people didn't understand the banking business, and they made a contract that was gonna kill them all. There was no way

that their lawyers on either side could see or do anything to get them off the hook. The Texas people picked out a man who had the 165° aspect, the most exact, applying, afflicting aspect in his chart, sent him to New York, and they told him to stay there until he talked them out of it. He did. It took him several months of continually finding some new thing to say after the subject was totally closed, of finding something new to remark after there was no possibility of further discussing it.



Discovery of Chiron
 11/1/77, 10:00 a.m., Pasadena, CA
 There is a 165° aspect (under 1/2°) between Chiron and Mercury and wider 165 aspects between the Ascendant and the Moon, and Chiron and Venus in this chart (both under 1 1/2°).

Zane Stein hadn't thought about the 165 aspect; he never heard of it. I wrote a letter and scolded him about it, and then he went back to look at the Chiron discovery chart, and lo and behold, the 165 aspect is extremely prominent in the Chiron discovery chart. So don't tell me we're going to have any relief from hearing about Chiron. That ain't gonna happen.

Finding Your Highest Skill

Now, you can, for your own work, you can sort out your own horoscope for the most exact, applying afflicting aspect. That is, the planet which is going to cause the aspect to become perfect. The faster or moving one has to be an afflicting planet; it cannot be the Sun, the Moon, Mercury, Venus or Jupiter. It can be any of these if a malefic is moving faster, if for example, you have Venus stationary, making no motion, which goes with being near retrograde, being at near station. You might conceivably have a faster moving Saturn coming to make the square to it. And you can't just assume that because something is faster in its average motion that it really is faster. In that case, that might be your most exact skill. It will describe it exactly, every time. Pick the house position it's in; see the sign indicating functions, how it works, what kind of a tool it is. You sort all that out for the client, and the client says, "Oh, but Mr. Morrison, I already knew that! Of course I'm so expert at adding, I always get high wages, I'm bored with it, I'm looking for something else."

Let me write this down so we don't get confused. Most exact. If there's anything else in the chart that's more nearly accurate, that one is it. Not this one; there's only one most exact. Applying: not yet perfect. Afflicting. For the afflicting planets, you've got Mars, you've got Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, Pluto, all the asteroids except Ceres. Ceres goes up here as a benefic one. But without exception so far all we've got is negatives, afflictors, asteroids. And comets. Kahoutek, Halley's. These are afflictors and they move quite rapidly while they're here. They can go several degrees in a single day. And a comet could conceivably, while it's here, be the most exact applying, afflicting aspect in a natal chart to confer on a few people the highest skill doing something cometary, something violent and drastic, something strange and unusual.

At the time of the December 1973 solar eclipse, with this peculiar, very powerful indication of the native's attitude towards everything, and making the closest applying aspect, conjunction, near, just a little bit after an eclipse of the Sun, was the comet Kahoutek. The up-to-the-moment of perfect eclipse, the Moon was next ahead of the Sun, but once the eclipse was perfect, there was Kahoutek being next ahead of the Sun, and it was directly overhead in Guyana. And since I'd been to Guyana myself and knew something about the nature of the country, rainforest, jungle, I thought: it's pretty strange. In 1973 I began talking about a Messiah figure

who might arise in Guyana. Many years later we learned that Jim Jones, the religious group leader, had gone to Guyana in December of '73, his plane had landed during that eclipse, and years after that something terrible had happened. Over 900 people died in that very messy incident. Don't tell me these aspects have no meaning.

I'm still looking for people born in December of 1973 who have Kahoutek prominent in their natal charts and participating in this most exact applying, afflicting aspect. I want to know what they're like, what their high skill is, I want to see their impact on society. They're coming on 13 years old now as of this coming December. Keep a lookout for me, let's find these people, let's study them, let's see what we can find out about them and perhaps help guide them into constructive channels. You might, incidentally, alter the course of history. If you think what that kind of an inquiry might have meant to help things in the childhood of Adolph Hitler, for example. Can you see what might have happened if he could've been directed into more constructive channels? I think it would've made a difference.

Aspects as Fractions

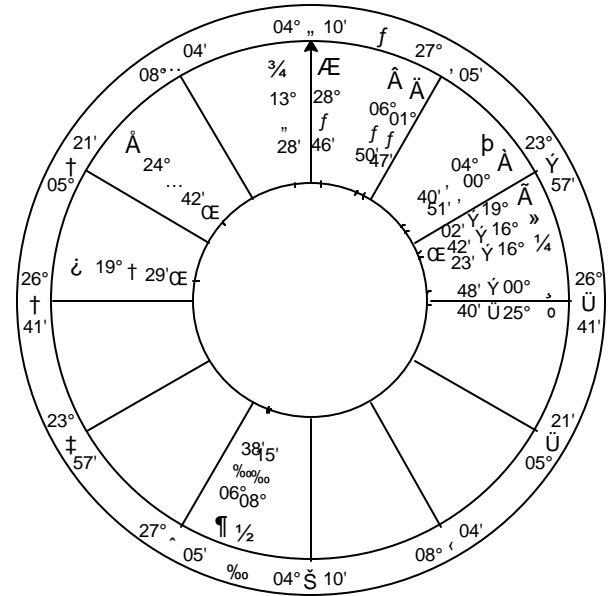
Can you see that in each of these 15° aspects, we could spend a month on each of them, including those that I've skipped over? You could start all over again; you can talk about fractions of the whole circle. The 0 fraction is the conjunction. The 1/2 the circle is the opposition. The 1/3 of the circle is the trine. The 1/4 of the circle is the square. The 1/5 of the circle, and all of a sudden we have the quintile, and some people use a "Q" to indicate it, which looks like the figure "2" – nonsense. I spell it out, quintile, or write it, as a fraction. All right. We have the 1/6, and this is our sextile all over again. We have the 1/7, and that's a septile. We have the eighth, well that's our octile, that's a half-square. We have the ninth, which is a nonile, 40 degrees. You have your tenth, which is the third part of the sign, decile, from the Latin decum, 10. Divide the zodiac by 10 and you get 36°. They keep getting smaller. Then there's the 1/11, and the 1/12, of course, is the half of the sextile, that's the semi-sextile. Then you can go to 1/13. Now, let's get rid of these Ptolemaic aspects we all know about, and the immediate fractions of them that we *should* know about and try to talk about the minor aspects that are not usually discussed in terms of fractions.

The Quintile Family of Aspects

Now the 1/5: you take your 360 and divide it by 5, and you're going to get 72 degrees. Then you get immediately another consideration. If you've got 1/5, why not 2/5, why not 3/5? Now when you get to 3/5, you're over half way; there's no point in talking about 4/5 'cause that's the 1/5. Unless your mind is that way, you just want to weigh both sides of everything. Some people's minds work that way. You can program computers that way. I don't do it. I'll take the piece of it that's smallest, it's easier for me to get my head around it and use it.

The 1/5 of the circle, the quintiles, relate to the capability of working magic. This is a wrap-up of a course that takes, the way somebody I know teaches it, a grand master magician, five years at three classes a week. There's that much involved in the mere interpretation of this one aspect, the one teacher of this one aspect. It's one of the most important aspects there is in the natal chart, and it's very seldom sought out, it's very seldom examined, very seldom delineated. But to go just to this one-only feature of the aspect, the human nervous system works like a television station – every bit and in the same manner as our TV. Every cell in your nervous system is a component in this pulsing, vibrating, wave-emitting thing. The electric power that operates the whole system comes from our digestive system. We do a chemical fermentation with the help of a lot of other organisms, which generates electric power to feed this nerve system the same as they have electrical generators that fuel the television broadcasting system.

Now when you are in complete inner serenity, you know who you are. No doubts, no ambivalence, no hesitation. When you have a pretty good idea of what you really need, (which is not the same as what you *want*), your neural system will make pictures out of that, wave patterns which present these pictures, and other people's neural systems will pick up on that, will receive them. Now, this process is interfered with by what Karen Horney used to call human neurosis. She wrote a book called *Neurosis and Human Growth*, it's a very disturbing book, but very, very useful as an educational tool.

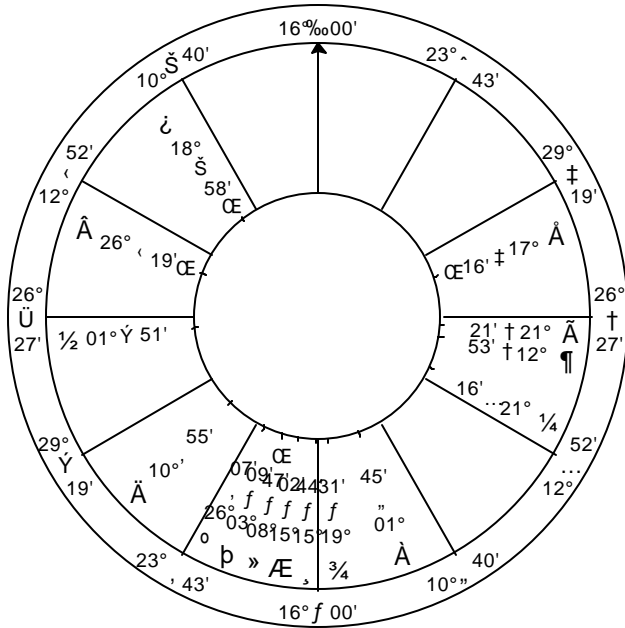


Adolph Hitler

April 20, 1889, 6:30 pm LMT, Braunau, Austria

Hitler had five quintiles: the Ascendant to Jupiter and Saturn (a little over 1°), Ceres to Venus and Mars, and Saturn to Neptune.

It's said to be extremely bad metaphysics to use one's own self for demonstration material, but this is the way it works. I am at peace, I'm admiring the garden and not fretting about anything, and suddenly I realize that something has happened in New York that's beyond the instructions I left with somebody tending my mailbox. She was debating making the telephone call and not sure that the phone number in Dublin would be right and not sure when to make the call. I'd simply beat her to it. But you can't do this kind of thing unless you've got quintiles in your chart and unless you achieve some personal serenity, some clarity within yourself. It doesn't mean that you're more mortally perfect or anything. Adolph Hitler had five quintiles in his chart, and I've only got four. But anybody that can put an entire world into chaos, can attract enemy troops from 26 different nations in one crack, has got to have something going beyond ordinary political persuasion. There has to be some magic there beyond ordinary oratory, ordinary reason, ordinary provocation. Magic is not necessarily automatically beneficial, it's dangerous. Very dangerous. And to expose yourself as being somewhat of a magician may get you into trouble, very simply.



Al H. Morrison

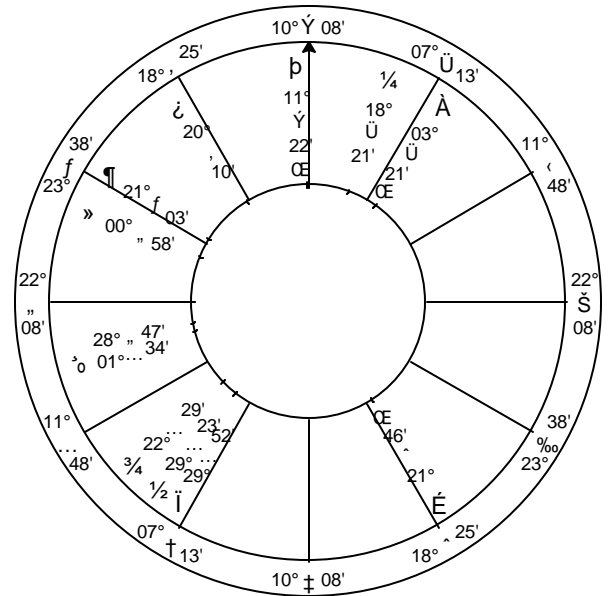
7/8/16, 0:15 a.m. CST, N. Little Rock, Arkansas

Al had quintiles under a degree of arc between the Ascendant and Venus, Venus and Mars, the Moon and Neptune, and Jupiter and Uranus. There is also a wider quintile (a little over 1°) between Ceres and Jupiter.

Now what Zipporah Dobyns has done is take the semi-quintile, which is the 1/10 part of the circle, and rack up a lot of computer surveys of famous people's charts and one thing and another, and she finds it has significance. 36°, that aspect maturing and progressing tends to bring a stroke of luck to the individual in the affairs described by the houses regarding actions as described by the planets involved, to fulfill the functions shown by the signs involved. Now, you see 36°, you've got to have two signs, two functions being served together. OK? So you've got a delineation exercise just sorting out what the 36° aspect in the natal chart means, and what it means in progression. In progression there will be an incident that seems a little separate, a little more emphatic than just the average, normal course of your life. And you've heard the expression, "He lives a charmed life"? Somebody who always lucks out somehow or another regardless of all probability, something always turns up. You have to think, perhaps, that this kind of a thing may be working. The minor aspects don't always necessarily relate to minor daily problems in life.

Septiles

Now the septile turns out to be an irrational sum, it's 51° and some minutes and some seconds, and if we pursued it, some thirds and some fourths. It never resolves; if you do it in decimals it goes on forever; it's an irrational number. And when you do the bisepiles of it, you've got the same problem, and the triseptile. The septiles have to do with the capability of a broad attention span. You take somebody like the composer Debussy; he has the septile in his natal chart along with some quintiles.

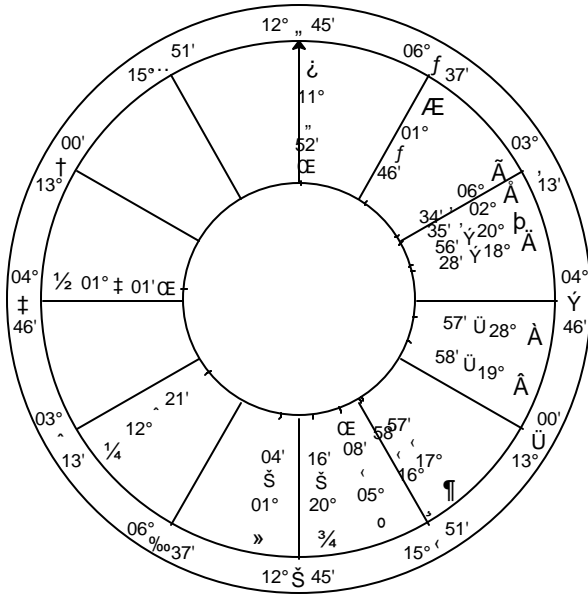


Claude Debussy

8/22/1862, 4:30 am LMT, St. Germain, France

Debussy has a Moon-Midheaven quintile and a Mercury-Uranus quintile, as well as Venus and Saturn in a septile aspect.

Now if you listen to Debussy's *La Mer*, the whole thing is all in one swing, it's all one movement, everything is tied right next to everything all the way across. And it goes, it goes with you. Ravel's *Bolero* is another instance of the same thing; he has a septile in his chart. It's not the same thing as Bach. Bach's main thing is the 165° aspect, and when you think he's played out everything that could be played out, he picks up with another variation and here we go again.



Maurice Ravel

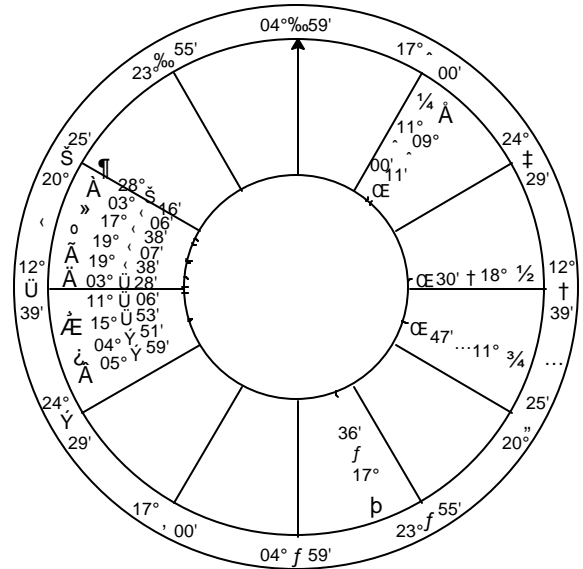
3/7/1875, 10:00 p.m. LMT, Ciboure, France

Ravel has septiles between Uranus and Pluto and Pluto and the Midheaven.

It takes somebody with a septile in the chart to be hearing that first sound of the whole symphony while at the time they get to the last sound, to have that broad an attention span to be hearing it all at once as one piece. And what kills me in music is my memory doesn't go back that far and my anticipation, even though I know the piece fairly well, does not go forward more than about so far. So I'm only hearing a short segment out of the barrage of sound. And this limits my enjoyment of music. Some pieces are going to be too long, too involved, too sophisticated for me to really enjoy listening to because I don't have the septiles in that great a profusion.

The Novile

All right, now, we get down to the 1/9 of a circle, 40°. It has something to do with holding fast; it has something to do with picking up the next octave, the next cycle, the next go-round of the spiral. Imagine reincarnation as a spiral that goes round and around and around, and always going a little farther each time it comes around. It doesn't go around on a flat surface; it goes around slightly analogous, slightly parallel, slightly above, hopefully, the turn before. So when you get to the same part of the cycle, you're that much farther along. And it's this recurrence that's referred to in this ninth part of the circle. And you'll find this re-



Johann Sebastian Bach

3/31/1685, 5:45 a.m. LMT, Eisenach, Germany

Bach has three 165 aspects: an exact Pallas-Jupiter and wider Moon-Saturn and Jupiter-Uranus 165s (both under 1½°).

flected in numerology, in what we have from Pythagoras.

There was another library loss, very profound. In the Roman Imperial Library there were available to the general public 75 scrolls of Pythagoras. But when the whole situation came apart in the year 472 the various dissident minorities took the whole situation apart, took the whole roof off the library and let the rain in on it, and they used the scrolls for kindling. And only a few fragments of two early in the series of papyri of Pythagoras survived. The religious people who copied them didn't understand what they were copying. So what we have is worse than fragmentary, it's poorly understood. But this is where we got it from.

Now, the astronomy behind all this: the earth goes around the Sun; the Moon goes around the earth. But while the earth is going around the Sun, the Sun is going in a larger swing, part of a complex spiral, and it's going the equivalent of 83,000 miles per hour. So by the time the earth gets around it once, it's moved on. And you can see the spiral going on forever. Now you'll find this same story carved on the stones at New Grange, Knowth, Dowth and Loughcrew in Ireland. Those boys understood it, however early they carved them. They

cared enough about it to do the hard work of carving them without any metal tools. Metal tools hadn't been invented. This is so many thousands of years earlier than the very earliest Greek mythology there ever was, there's no point in trying to apply any of that. But this is the astronomy that they recorded. They understood this.

Other Aspects

Zane Stein has worked up the 1/11 aspect and has coined a Greek word for it. Someone in England has done the same thing and has coined a slightly different Greek word for it. And they find it useful in delineating natal charts. I don't think anybody's done anything on the 1/13. But it's related to this effort to break the circle, to create the spiral to go on. This business of the thirteenth is, you get about so far and then you have to deviate and break off into a new. It goes round and round and round. That thirteenth house is the step to the next echelon around. Stein thinks that people who have the 1/13 part of the circle as an aspect in the chart have this ability to break off from the past and to innovate into the future.

Midpoints

There's another set of minor aspects that is all the rage. It has a major defect. Take Saturn someplace, anywhere, some degree or other, doesn't matter. Take another planet, anywhere, doesn't matter what degree. Measure how many degrees it is between them, and divide that number of degrees, whatever it is, exactly in half, that's the near midpoint, and you take the exact opposite, that's the far midpoint. There are whole schools of computer-based astrology focusing on this sort of thing, and finding apparent meaning in it, apparent reality. They treat these midpoints as if they were aspects. I don't focus on that primarily. But every once in a while I notice in some natal chart an exactly divided aspect, three planets arranged such, say in an exactly divided square, which reverses the sense of square, undivided, altogether, flips the meaning of it. And that's for sure a very serious delineation problem. But then I find in another chart something, say another planet here, Moon midpoint Mars-Saturn. Now the Hamburg School would write it thus: Moon = Mars + Saturn, or they might, it depends on who you are, put a slash there to indicate it. It doesn't matter what the arc is, and they can be in three different signs. The mathematical

precision of being exactly halfway is, of itself, of great astrological significance. You can't simply interpret a Moon so placed in the same way you would interpret a Moon that is not on the midpoint. It just isn't the same Moon at all. You've got an individual who's quite different from somebody else with the Moon in the exact same degree, of the same sign, in the same house. You have to see the midpoint phenomenon as changing the nature of the Moon in delineating the chart.

Now if you're going to have this apply to all of the things in the chart, can you see how extremely specific individualizing impacts you're going to have to look at in a chart? I do not, when I look at a chart, try to remember anything about what anything has ever meant in any prior chart. I look at each chart as if I'd never seen a chart before and try to understand it. I look at the client, I look at the chart, I look at the client, I ask a question. I check to see if the chart is right for time, occasionally for date. If the Midheaven is some degree or other, and say, nine degrees further on it forms an exact aspect to something or other in the chart, I say, "What happened when you were nine years old?" What did your father do that upset the apple cart?" The client says, "Oh, something *did* happen, but it happened when I was eight. Then I know I've got a wrong chart, that the Midheaven is off by a degree. I rectify the chart before I get into the reading of it. 'Cause when you get into this midpoint business, if your chart is even a few minutes wrong, all this midpoint business is skewed, and it's useless. It's like pulling the stones out of place. Once you pull the stones out of a stone circle, you've lost it, it isn't there anymore.

The same disturbance happens when you have wrong charts and try to do midpoints. With all these sophisticated things, the finer and more elegant we are, the more essential it is to have absolute mathematical precision. This takes it beyond what people like me can do with a pencil and paper. I can't use it, it's beyond my reach. But it's there for you if you've got the computer or have heads capable of dealing with computers. It's really profound, very important. If you go through your chart and have all the midpoints calculated, these are minor aspects, all of them. You will have any number of minor aspects, there are so many, I didn't bother to do the math of estimating how many. And when you put Chiron in there, then you've got something else. Circus.

Chiron and the Lotus

This is a Chiron thing, it doesn't fit, anywhere. In Switzerland there's Hans-Jörg Walter. Now, I translated some of his pieces for *CAO TIMES* because I thought it was rather important. They gave him the number one spot for the Cosmobiology Conference in Germany. Now Hans-Jörg Walter is very strong on midpoints; he uses that as a primary tool for sorting all the horoscopes out, that's his number one approach. OK, so here we have a chart, with some planet somewhere, at the midpoint of two planets here, and also at the midpoint between these other two planets. And then also at midpoint of two more planets. So all of these midpoints are converging on one planet, the multiple midpoint. And he has a special name for that; he calls this sort of thing the Lotus pattern. Now he finds that every person who has ever really broken the surface in world history has at least some pretty heavy Lotus pattern. He finds that every person who has ever jolted world history off its proper tracks and off in a new direction has Chiron as a focus of a Lotus pattern. In the chart of Adolph Hitler, Chiron is the midpoint of six different pairs of things in the chart. And with as few bodies as we have in the chart, you have to put in more than just planets; you have to start digging in asteroids and chart angles and stuff. But it's this multiple midpoint focused on Chiron that created the innovation, the wrecking of all that was, good, bad and indifferent. Wipe it all out and start all over again. But that's the nature of Chiron.

I've been hoping to call it an "inconvenient benefic" but Walter sees it as not necessarily benefic. He agrees it can be about as inconvenient as things can be imagined. But he also sees it as potentially destructive as all get-out. About 50 million people were killed in the course of Hitler's adventure. You've got to think about it. It's deadly serious. You cannot disregard Chiron; you can't wait for years of research before you start putting it into charts.

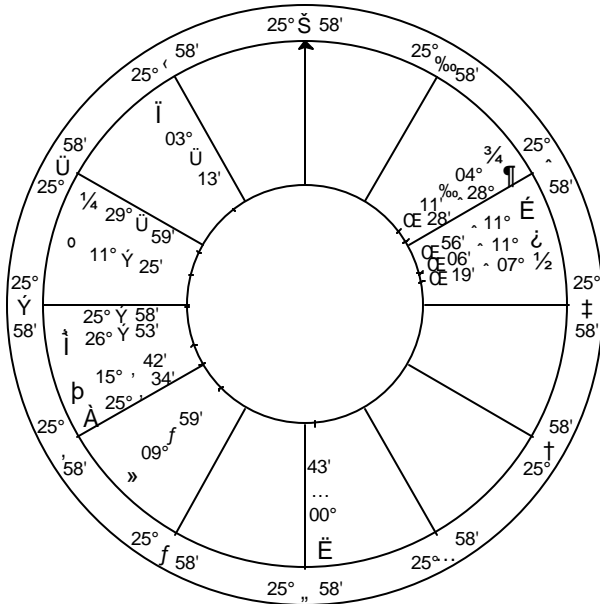
The Yod

Now there's one other personal vendetta that I've got: The Yod. From the Hebrew letter which is said to look like a "Y" but doesn't. The Hebrew letters according to the scholars of ancient Hebrew, the oldest examples of that writing there is, their thesis is that the patterns of stars in the sky provided the models for the letters of their alphabet. That's the theory.

OK, now a Yod, by definition, is a deal where you have a planet, which is 150° from two different other planets, we'll say this one is X and this one is Y, let's make this one A, just for kicks [see the example on page 14]. So this angle gets to be 60° . See? So in terms of midpoints, A is the far midpoint of X and Y. In terms of quincunx, this is a double quincunx. Right? It is *not* a Yod and cannot *be* a Yod unless the A is moving slower than either X or Y. And no way can it be a Yod unless that's true. There is a whole library of hastily written books by half-educated people in the United States, talking about Yods, but not one of them has one example of the true Yod in it. They're all flawed by having the A moving faster than the X and the Y. Can you see it? What happens with the quincunx aspect is that the energy flows from the faster planet into the slower planet (in a simple quincunx). In the double quincunx, if A is slower than X and Y, all the energy from both of these planets is gonna flow this way, together, toward A.

All right, now suppose A is moving faster than X. The energy's gonna go this way, from A to X. Can you see the two energies pushing past each other and tearing up the whole landscape? This is like the San Andreas fault, in California. The mainland trying to stay put and the coast trying to move to Alaska. And when it jolts, millions of dollars of damage. In the horoscope, this back-to-back, double quincunx, which is *not* a Yod, gives an individual who's deeply divided within himself; it creates chaos. He's not together on this. OK? Now it's possible to have a deal where the energy's diverged this way, where you've got the Moon here, faster than either of them. Can you see a divided individual?

For an example of the true Yod, I'll give you Mercury here, Venus here, and Uranus here, at A. This is the Ayatollah Khomeini of Iran. The faster planets feed together; there is absolutely no mode of indecision in this man's life. There's no internal confusion or conflict or any doubt in his mind that he's the finger of God. He says so in very plain French and Arabic. That's the meaning of the Yod, and the man *acts* like he's the finger of God. He really believes it, there's absolutely no compromise here. You're not going to find many true Yod people around. You can't mistake it when you see it. But you mustn't believe all these trashy, incomplete, unthought-out books talking about Yods when there isn't any Yod in any of them, when they don't even understand the native that they're picking for examples. I'm sorry about that. It's sad. Very sad.



Ayatolla Khomeini
5/17/00, Solar Chart

Mercury as X, Venus as Y, and Uranus as A form a Yod (discussed on page 13).

Now, within the Yod idea, you can take a double 165, something slower than these two things, 165 on both sides. Boy, is that ever a wheedler. That one really will work you hard.

But look, suppose the single quincunx, 150°, suppose one planet is quite slow and one is moving a little faster. What to do is you rotate the chart to cause the slow

planet to be like a synthetic ascendant and you'll find that the slightly faster one is in the sixth house. Or, you could find another arrangement in which the slightly faster one is in the eighth house. So all quincunxes have to be divided: is it a sixth house quincunx or an eighth house quincunx? You've got to determine if they're right-handed or left-handed, so to speak, without regard as to where the planets actually are in the horoscope. In chemistry terms, one is the *ortho*, and the other one is the *iso*. This right-handed, left-handed, it changes the whole nature of it.

The sixth house quincunx will give an individual who concentrates his quincunx obsessiveness into sixth house activities. That's the one I have, I'm a workoholic. The eighth house quincunx people are focused entirely differently. It so happens my sixth house quincunx does not involve the sixth house at all, but it has this sixth house called right-handedness so to speak, to distinguish between the other split. It makes a difference in how you're going to delineate the chart.

Now if you think that's all the minor aspects, I've got news for you. We could go on and on and on and on. This is a hasty effort to disregard the main body of present astrology to focus on a few footnotes that are not generally printed in your available textbooks. Can you see I've left out at least 200 times as much material as I've given and I've just gotten started?