

VIRGO—SIGN OF THE METHODS OF SELF-IMPROVEMENT

The astrologer in the New Age must be thoroughly trained intellectually in the scientific methodologies of the science of astrology. He or she must also be equally heart-centered and intuitively prepared in order to interpret the level of consciousness through which the planetary forces are operating in the life of any given individual. This is true soul-centered astrology. Such preparation will offer the astrologer many personal opportunities for psychological and spiritual growth and development. The seeds for this type of evolutionary astrology as well as the presence of this initial seed group of astrologers fortunately already exist.
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Virgo is a highly complex and often misunderstood sign. People born under its influence are all too often dismissed as being overly critical and complaining. The real essence of this rich and fertile part of the zodiac is overlooked, but then Virgo is the Virgin, hiding her real treasures until the right moment when she reveals what lies beneath her gossamer veils. Virgo holds a stalk of grain in her hand. This symbolizes the fact that she is a fertility goddess, a Sacred Mother overlooking and guarding nature's bounty. The one stalk represents countless number of grains, an infinite quantity of nourishment just waiting to be harvested.

Virgo is the Virgin Mother holding within herself the nascent Christ child. The reader is advised to gaze across the zodiac to Virgo's opposite sign and there one will find Pisces, the Fish. So it is that out of the waters of the Piscean ocean ("Mare" in Latin) comes Mother Mary ("Maria" in Latin) who carries her Sacred Fish (the Christian symbol for Jesus) to nourish the world. It is in the mystery of the virginal conception and birth that Virgo holds her secrets and her potency. This mystery is far older than the Christian era, dating eons and eons back into human history and prehistory. It is a mystery anchored in those ancient teachings that tell us that each of us no matter what our gender, can birth within us our inner Child of Infinite Love.

Virgo represents the process of purification that allows us to free our personality of any and all impediments to the coming forth of that Higher Self, the Soul. It speaks about those methods, processes, and techniques that one must acquire in order that the urge to self-refinement and total cleanliness is achieved. On more pragmatic levels, this means that people born under the sign of Virgo are always accumulating those tools of self-development that lead to a more perfected sense of self. These activities can range from taking endless courses and workshops that improve one's educational qualifications, to buying endless jars and tubes of cosmetics to enhance one's physical beauty!

Although at its highest level, Virgo does indeed represent the vehicle through which human perfection occurs, most humans (including most Virgos)

do not live on such exalted plans and spheres. This is why Virgo does indeed earn its reputation as a critical and complaining person. Virgo knows that she can produce an “improved version” of herself. And it is not only oneself that needs to be improved—Virgo thinks that everything and everyone could use an overhauling. But these superficial complaints, these endless rants against the smallest details of life gone amiss, these constant pronouncements of a rhythm out of sync, are all representative of a greater and deeper reality. This is Virgo’s need to remind herself and everyone else, that life can be better, that the world can be a more perfect place, and that you and I can seek out and find a way to improve our lives and the lives of the people around us.

Virgo is also the ruler of a very important evolutionary process—synthesis. It is said in the Ancient Teachings that the soul unfolds its reality through synthesis. Synthesis requires releasing the lesser and embracing the greater. It teaches us to let go of what is no longer necessary to our life and embrace what is: replacing the excessive with the exquisite. This means that it is through the refinement of consciousness that a human being finds the Center of Love and Wisdom within him or herself. That Center has many names: the Christ Center; the Abode of Krishna, the Dharma of Buddha, the Holy of Holies, the Paradise Garden of the Sufis, the Cloud of All Knowable Things, and more...The point is that each and every one of these Sacred Places of the Heart is available to us and Virgo shows us the way to reach There.

Virgo on the cusp of the First House (Ascendant): When Virgo rises in the chart it gives the individual a distinct awareness of the many details taking place in her immediate environment. This is a person who is very particular about the image she presents to the world, an image that she wishes to be pure and perfect. Yet so many other people with Virgo on the First get lost in these details, finding themselves awash in all the “shoulds” and “shouldn’ts” that surround us. Such a person may find that the ideals of neatness and organization are all but impossible to achieve as their surrounding physical confusion too often shows. Virgo on the First usually denotes a highly practical person, one whose job and finances are always primary considerations as they approach the various demands and challenges of life. The mutability of this sign can either bring an ever-shifting chaos, or a deep resourcefulness that allows them to come up with the right solution for almost any problem.

Virgo on the cusp of the Second House:

This sign/cusp combination often results in a well-organized and logical attitude about the use of one’s personal talents and resources towards the acquisition of money. There is a distinctly practical orientation to life and there is a “place for everything and everything has its place.” Yet Virgo on this cusp may also give rise to a person who is totally disorganized financially, one who seems never able to keep his or her checkbook balanced or in order. As a rule this position indicates that a person is either constantly worried about finances or has found those means and methods that bring ease in using one’s resources for practical gains. The determining factor is usually the position of Mercury in the natal

chart. Hard aspects between Mercury and Neptune for example, will give rise to the former condition while good aspects between Mercury and Saturn will permit the latter.

Virgo on the cusp of the Third House:

Here we have a person who has the tendency to see what has to be repaired, healed, or improved in the immediate environment. As Virgo is an earthy sign, there is a very pragmatic approach to relating and communicating. Situations have to be taken care of, tasks have to be completed, and the normal things of life have to be done. Virgo on this cusp strives to find the best and most efficient ways to accomplish all of this. As a child, this person may have made sure that his or her siblings were properly supervised, dressed, fed and looked after. Good aspects between Mercury and the Moon should have made such activities natural and relatively easy for the native. However, such tasks may have been experienced as a burden if Mercury is found to be in a hard aspect to Saturn in the natal horoscope.

Virgo on the cusp of the Fourth House (IC):

The urge to bring healing, wholeness, and refinement into one's domestic life is very strong when Virgo sits on this cusp. If the individual's psychological foundations are healthy, this is a person who may be counted upon to be helpful in times of life's challenges. If the personality tends to be splintered and overly compartmentalized, Virgo on the Fourth indicates a person with too many loose ends. The position of the Moon should always be examined whenever you consider the nature of the IC in the horoscope and in this case, the astrology student should judge the relationship of the Moon and Mercury. The latter will tell you a great deal about a person's psychological foundations as well as how effective the person's mother and background were as a source for practical knowledge and common sense.

Virgo on the cusp of the Fifth House:

Hobbies may form an important part of one's life, and the hands work in tandem with the head to produce lovely objects. A practical approach dominates the urge for pleasure: gambling and speculation are definitely not favorites on this person's "Top Ten List." Romantic objectives are usually clear and uncomplicated, for there is an avoidance of becoming "lost in love," as the practical side of this person's personality is often stronger than the idealistic when it comes to lovers. Children are seen as a natural product of intimate relationships, yet as a parent this is a person who can be rather fussy about the details on how to raise one's children. It is also quite common to find a person whose work is closely connected to young people when Virgo occupies this house cusp.

Virgo on the cusp of the Sixth House:

As this is the natural sign ruler of this house, Virgo in this position indicates a person who tends to pay a great deal of attention to personal health, work, pets and the accumulation of ways and means to self-improvement. An urge for

perfection on the job is often very pronounced. This sign/house combination can reveal a person who is overly critical about what she does. Yet such perfectionism when balanced can make for a highly accomplished individual, one who excels at everything she sets out to do. Strong and positive Mercury/Saturn/Mars aspects will help in this respect as will the square between Mercury and Mars. As a rule, there is a liking for physical fitness. The digestive systems and especially the intestinal track will be sensitive and the individual should pay attention to the rate at which the body absorbs and digests nutrients.

Virgo on the cusp of the Seventh House (Descendant):

Here we find an individual who is looking for a real “help-mate.” There is the need to find in “the other” what is perceived as talents and abilities lacking in oneself. As Pisces is on the Ascendant of this chart, the more dreamy nature of the Fish is seeking to merge with the more practical, down-to-earth qualities of Virgo. Indeed, partnership notwithstanding, this house/cusp combination indicates a person who has to merge the ideal with the real in order to find personal completion. Virgo on the Descendant bestows the need to be of service in one’s relationships to others. This is usually accomplished through the acquisition of those educational and practical tools necessary for such a position in life. The person has to take care that this orientation towards helpfulness is not taking place through an overly idealistic urge to cure, heal, or “save” others from themselves. When exaggerated, such a tendency may easily lead to many kinds of codependent complications.

Virgo on the cusp of the Eighth House:

This is fundamentally a very good sign/house combination. It gives a person the potential to transform and develop his or her natural talents and abilities; indeed this position is an indication of the urge for personal refinement. This position can give rise to an individual who is quite particular and highly selective about his or her sexual partners. When expressed to the extreme, this can be either an exaggerated prudery or a predilection for distinct fetishes or unusual sexual interests. If Mercury is in an earthy sign and/or in good aspect with Pluto or Venus, Virgo on the Eighth can show a person who does quite well with other people’s financial resources, and who is usually quite practical and discerning in this respect. It is an excellent indication for a bookkeeper, accountant, financial consultant or economist.

Virgo on the cusp of the Ninth House:

As we have mentioned, Virgo collects practical tools, methods, processes and techniques. When it appears on the Ninth House cusp, Virgo tends to seek out those educational experiences that can widen a person’s resourcefulness in the workaday world. There is a constant urge to refine and improve one’s knowledge and we can therefore usually find the native at school, taking an extra course that will improve his or her chances for success in the practical world. This is a person who may be strongly critical and judgmental about religion and philosophy, especially those belief systems that seem to abstract or “other

worldly.” “I’ll put what this teacher is saying to the test,” says Virgo on the Ninth, “and will only believe it if it works!” People with a natural spiritual orientation to life who have this position, often find themselves using their knowledge and skills in the service of others.

Virgo on the cusp of the Tenth House (MC):

Work may easily be at the center of one’s life when Virgo occupies the MC of the natal chart. This is a person who takes pride in her level of performance, seeking nothing sort of perfection in her career achievements. Service has to play a major role in one’s personal work ethic, while the career will naturally involve an orientation to creating greater healing and wholeness in one’s surroundings. The medical professions, all types of therapists, personal assistants, guides, and counselors are all favored by this sign/house combination. The individual’s father tends to be a hard worker and is quite pragmatic by nature. He may also be a very critical person, who was never particularly easy to please. To judge the nature of the father when Virgo is on the Tenth, look to the relationship of Mercury to Saturn as well as Saturn to the Sun.

Virgo on the cusp of the Eleventh House:

This position is often indicative of a person with a sincere urge to be of service to humanity or to any organization of which he is a part. This is an individual who serves well as the secretary or accountant of any group or association. The native has a pragmatic eye and can be most helpful when planning out the practical details of group activities. It is very important for this person to know that his or her place is well defined in any collective of friends and associates. “I need to know that my function in society is clearly delineated,” says a person with Virgo on the Eleventh. “It is in knowing my particular place that I may best be of service to the whole.” If Mercury is well aspected by Uranus, Virgo on the Eleventh will often bestow an especially fine ability to be a connecting link between people of different groups and organizations. It may also indicate special computer and other highly technical skills.

Virgo on the cusp of the Twelfth House:

If Mercury is well aspected, especially by Saturn, this sign/cusp combination may yield a person who has the practical know-how, skills, and techniques to be of any assistance wherever it is needed. This is a position that contributes to a natural urge to work with people in hospitals and other institutions where sustained support is required. Such a life urge will be especially prominent if Mercury is well aspected by Neptune and/or the Moon. When positive, this position allows a person to bring order out of chaos. If Mercury is poorly aspected in the chart, especially by Neptune or Jupiter, chaos often reigns and there is a lot of difficulty in taking a practical course through life. In this case, the individual has to take care not to lose the thread of a thought and get tangled up in the spool of an undisciplined mind.