

DUALITY AND UNITY—PLANETS IN GEMINI

Many of us are discovering that we have to invent a new vocabulary, a new field of verbal expression for the special experiences taking place in our lives. These are words and phrases that can convey our perceptions into the life of the Spirit. Such vision is the result of the awakening of our intuition and astrology is one such language that we may use to express this evolving faculty. There is almost an instinctive awareness amongst men and women of goodwill, that we are indeed one humanity, one global village, and one revolving and evolving organism. As our inner eye awakens, it sees with ever-increasing clarity the relationship between the visible and the invisible, and knows that these two are drawing ever closer together. --A.O.

The most obvious interpretation for the symbol of Gemini—II—is “duality.” Occult glyphs and symbols are multileveled as to what they represent, and the glyph for the Twins is especially rich in allegory and meaning. On the physical plane, II depicts the parts of the body ruled by this sign: the hands, the arms, the lungs and the entire bilateral nature of our physique. The highly developed athlete has this physical duality perfectly coordinated and under the control of the integrated mind, Mercury.

The true genius is capable of both intellectual understanding and the ability to perceive *spiritual meaning* in what is understood. The truly holistic man or woman is androgynous by nature and has integrated the prime duality of male and female into one harmoniously functioning organism capable of both power and grace, direction and inclusivity, penetration and reception. I am not inferring anything here that has to do with sexual orientation nor am I inferring that androgyny and bisexuality are one in the same thing. They are most definitely not. I am stating that the *energetic sexual duality* of male/female inherent in every human being and personified therefore by Gemini (II) is resolved when the soul and personality unite. This separation is under the rulership of Gemini and its exoteric ruler, Mercury. This union is also under the rulership of Gemini and its esoteric ruler, Venus.

Gemini seeks to foster the understanding existing within relationships between people, ideas, and objects, but when Mercury rules, these relationships remain polarized and thus a certain tension comes about between the object and the subject, the view and the viewer, the opinion and the opinion maker. This is why esoteric astrology teaches that Gemini is a Fourth Ray sign, the Ray known as “Harmony through Conflict.” In essence, Gemini seeks to learn (and to explain) how things work. In order to do this, Gemini has to analyze and by definition, this means, “to take things apart.” Yet from the level of the soul, Venus is the ruler of Gemini and thus the “urge to merge” is brought out through this interplay of opposites. The primary esoteric duality is that existing between the higher (soul) and the lower (personality) selves. The path between them, the force that links them is known as the “Rainbow Bridge” and this essential link is also ruled by Gemini and hence by Venus. The way we reach the Rainbow Bridge however is through the pain inherent in the Path of the Two Opposites (II), and resolved through the so-called

Middle Path the moves between the polls and finds resolution in Love (the quality of the soul). Venus governs the Middle Path, under the direction of the Laws of Cohesion, Magnetism, and Unity.

Highly developed Geminis thus have *three* faculties at work: 1. The rational mind (Mercury) that serves to analyze and objectify. 2. The awakened intuition, a faculty ruled by Mercury's higher octave, Uranus, the planet which reveals the inner meaning contained within all thought. 3. The urge to unite, governed by Venus, the esoteric planetary ruler of Gemini. Gemini is therefore the force of mind united with soul and carried into physical manifestation by the mechanical use of the hands, arms, and the two hemispheres of the brain, along with the wise application of the Word.

In our daily human experience, we can see that where Aries has pioneered the land and Taurus has settled and cultivated it, Gemini functions to explore neighboring regions, finding trade routes and creating communication between people. In essence, Gemini's natural mutability is expansive by nature, bringing about new opportunities for interchange, growth and development. Like the other two airy signs (Libra and Aquarius) and the other Mercury-ruled sign (Virgo), Gemini is not symbolized by an animal. Gemini is thus a human sign and as such has as its karmic task, the need to explain to people the relationships existing between the human and the other kingdoms in nature. It is through his intellectual enterprises that Gemini becomes familiar with the laws and principles inherent in humanity and may then communicate these to others in order to bring about a more conscious world. It should be noted that in esoteric astrology Gemini is a Second Ray sign. This Ray is known as "Love/Wisdom" and is the Ray of consciousness as expressed through teaching, healing, and by the power of the soul, which is Love.

As a mutable sign, Gemini is known for his versatility and on a practical level is often seen to support himself by at least two jobs. He is best suited for work that is not sedentary, allowing him flexibility and freedom to express his variable self. As an airy sign, Gemini has a wide range of acquaintances, talents, interests and ideas. Yet his biggest challenge is to avoid superficiality and too much diversification. At his worst, he is very nervous and incapable of bringing things into harmonious and unified conclusions, continuing to separate himself and thus cause separation between himself and others.

There is quite a difference between a highly evolved, integrated Gemini and a scattered and diffused child of the Twins. The famous conductor Leopold Stravinsky was a Gemini. Stravinsky was able to hear each of the separate instruments of an orchestra and combine them into performing as a magical unit of sound. In order to do this, he had to remain at the center of his being while simultaneously projecting himself into every section of the orchestra and into each individual musician. If he were to lose his central wholeness, harmony would have become cacophony and the magic of the music would have been lost. The key to Gemini's success in life lies in his ability to play each of the instruments of his personality and still remain the conductor of his personal symphony. This ability requires the integration of melody (Mercury) and harmony (Venus), the

analytical mind (personality) and the higher faculties of cohesion and unity contained within the expression of love (soul).

Now let's examine some of the essential meanings of the planets when they are found in the sign of the celestial Twins:

Sun in Gemini: The solar force and thus the sense of personal identity expresses in Gemini as a desire to experience life through constant variations in what one does and how one does it. There is a great need for intellectual stimulation that at its best is the constant pursuit of knowledge and the life skills that come with knowing. When negative, this orientation leads to dissipation, diffusion, and instability. There is a definite propensity to dualism: two relationships, two jobs, two sets of opinions, etc. Yet when under the direction of the coordinated and integrated mind, such dualism is holistic in nature, allowing the individual to multitask successfully. When it is not, Gemini is seen to scurry about trying to be in two (or more!) places simultaneously and not succeeding at all.

Moon in Gemini: The lunar force and thus the orientation to the fulfillment of emotional intimacy and the instinctual urges for security is expressed in Gemini through the ability to adapt to any given set of circumstances. This is an important quality to cultivate as a person with the Moon in Gemini is inclined by life to ever changing and shifting environments. There is also the urge to express feelings through words, giving the need for good language skills in order to feel emotionally secure. Thus all Moon in Gemini relationships must have successful communication as a vital aspect to their ability to give and receive love on the human level. At best, Moon in Gemini people are active, positive forces that bring about unity between themselves and others. At worst, feelings become too superficial and scattered, leading to a sense of dissatisfaction in one's emotional life.

Mercury in Gemini: The mental force and thus the abilities to think and communicate are naturally very powerfully expressed in Gemini, Mercury's natural home sign. "Powerfully" however does not necessarily mean "positive." Remember that Mercury in Gemini is adaptable and it will take on the nature of the planets to which it is aspected. Mercury is indeed both powerful and positive in Gemini when it is "anchored" by good aspects to Saturn, Venus, Jupiter, or Uranus. It is then that the natural versatility, adaptability and quick logic inherent in this planet/sign combination work out at their best. But should Mercury in Gemini be in square or opposition to these or other planets also in mutable signs, the positive qualities just mentioned take on an overtone that dissipates, diffuses, and confuses the communicative capacities.

Venus in Gemini: The personal magnetism, sense of social harmony, and artistic nature of an individual embodied by the placement of Venus in the natal chart is expressed through Gemini with changeability and versatility. There is a tendency for many short-lived relationships and/or for many relationships conducted simultaneously. When negative, especially when in poor relationship to Neptune, there is apt to be a lot of

deception (self or otherwise) in relationships, as there is too much idealism and not enough practicality. In the horoscope of a soul-centered individual, this is a wonderful placement as it allows the person to bring a higher sense of unity and impersonal love into all human contacts.

Mars in Gemini: Personal drive and the urge for individual achievement as well as the direction of the sexual nature, forces embodied by the Red Planet, are expressed in Gemini with versatility. Yet there is also the tendency to fluctuate in terms of the direction of one's personal drives and should Mars be afflicted, such fluctuations lead to a dissipation of potency both creative and sexual. The individual is prone to taking on too many challenges at the same time. If Mars is well aspected with Saturn, these challenges can be successfully coordinated but if Mars in Gemini is in square or opposition to Neptune, then there is the tendency to lose one's focus within the power of the desire nature and success is then very hard to achieve.

Jupiter in Gemini: The urge to expand one's scope of understanding of the larger issues of life through those pursuits of life that enlarge and uplift are expressed by Jupiter in Gemini through the personal intellect. Should this be open and unbiased, then this planet/sign combination will lead to many intellectual adventures that bring a wide range of experience into the person's life, experiences that lead to wisdom and understanding. But if the nature of the person is closed or otherwise prejudiced, such negative thought patterns only expand and increase under the influence of Jupiter in Gemini. We then have a person who thinks that they have more intelligence or wisdom than they actually possess. In fact, they are indeed possessed but what holds them back is the limitations of such personal opinions. As in all planetary positions in Gemini, the great gifts are versatility and adaptability, but the great challenges are superficiality and lack of concentration.

Saturn in Gemini: Saturn is a mental planet and thus is naturally at home in Gemini. Saturn rules the formation of mind, the structure of thought, and the very shaping of language. Thus Saturn in Gemini rules grammar. A well aspected Saturn in Gemini with Jupiter and Mercury will give great language skills while Saturn in Gemini poorly placed with these planets will result in challenges to one's language and communicative skills. When positive, Saturn in Gemini bestows the ability to use the mind and the various types of mental skills for the fulfillment of personal goals and ambitions. The sense of timing is also rather keen and developed. Yet when negative, these mental processes are highly circumscribed in nature, limiting the individual just to the ways of his own mind and closing him to the ways other people think.

Uranus in Gemini: Uranus is the higher octave of Mercury and is thus very comfortable in Gemini so that when acting positively in the natal chart, this planet/sign combination bestows the gift of intuition and adds tremendously to the intellectual faculties. This would be especially the case when Uranus in Gemini is trine to Mercury in Aquarius and to a slightly lesser extent when trine to Mercury in Libra. The sextile between Uranus in Gemini and Mercury in Aries is also very strong and positive and to a

somewhat lesser degree when in sextile to Mercury in Sagittarius. Uranus has a cycle of some 84 years. It was last in Gemini in the 1940's and returns to this sign in 2026. Uranus' other gifts in Gemini are original and inventive thinking but when negative, its effects lead to an erratic and "jumpy" mind.

Neptune in Gemini: Neptune is not a logical or a mental planet. Its placements in Mercury's two signs (Gemini and Virgo) are thus not particularly compatible with its true nature. Neptune's imaginative and other worldly nature feels confined within the demanding logic of mentally oriented Gemini. It thus tends to rebel in the lives of most people with this placement, confusing logic with idealism, practicality with aspiration. This would be especially the case if Neptune in Gemini were afflicted with Mercury and/or Saturn in the natal chart. In the lives of those people who can respond favorably to this contact, it bestows inspiration and imagination, that latter being much more pragmatic in nature should Neptune be in harmonious contact with Mercury and/or Saturn. Neptune has a cycle of about 164 years and will be next in this sign in about 2052AD. No one born in the 20th century has this planet/sign combination.

Pluto in Gemini: Pluto's cycle is so long (240 years) that the last time it was in Gemini was in the late 19th century. No one born in either the 20th or the 21st centuries will have this planet/sign combination in their natal chart. When positive, Pluto in Gemini sharpens all of the mental faculties, giving a heightened perception into the meaning of words and a penetrating mind in general. The more advanced among this generation will be powerful orators, highly convincing in their opinions and ideas. They will use such insight to lead people into right forms of human relationships. The more negative among them will use the mind to manipulate and control, trying to shape other people's minds to their egocentric goals.