

Dedication

This book is dedicated to the Healers, Teachers, Leaders, Divine Awakening Souls & those seeking to return home to the True Self. It is for everyone, every man and every woman and every child. This book is also intended for you, whether you connect with these labels or not. It is intended to serve as a star map and guide through the fundamental energies of our galaxy, and ourselves, as we are indeed literally made of Stars. Each of us have these archetypes within us and these energies that we choose to manifest into our lives; shadow, light, masculine, feminine, conscious, unconscious... and so it's up to you to discover how specifically and personally this book applies, for everyone has their own perspective. You will know when you feel the resonance; when you feel the activators; when you feel the inspiration, you will feel what applies to you. Discernment and SOURCE connection WITHIN is always required and recommended to remain in and access sovereignty. This book is dedicated to illuminate the patterns of ascending the levels of our own human consciousness into the Divine Realms, to Our Highest Potentials. But most especially, this book is dedicated to the Union of the Divine Masculine and Feminine and the innocence and purity of Creator/Child-consciousness; the Divine Eternal Inner-Child within the heart of Humanity.

Astrological Introductions

What does Astrology have to do with you, me, or even this book's narrative? Everything, as it is one of the most ancient tools and languages we have to clearly see how everything is connected. The Zodiac and the 12 archetypes it represents are truly all connected as a singular whole, when we step back and look at the big picture. It is an entire Self, from individuated self to universal Self, and we can see it from distinct and multiple angles, yet remains a unified whole. Astrology is just as important as the seasons, tides, or the waves of energy cycles in our lives. Just as the moon influences the consciousness on the planet, as we clearly see when it monthly aligns with heightened emotional activities, increased birth rates, ER visits, and the origins of the word "lunacy", so too do all the planets represent and reflect aspects of our own states of consciousness.

Through understanding these energies, or archetypes, we are better able to navigate them within ourselves, and more effectively relate these internal energies to the external ones in our world. By studying Astrology, we have an expanded awareness of the cosmos and our own place within it. Astrology is Universal Vision. Some people confuse Astrology with belief when it's actually a language, a system of symbols to encode and relay meaning. It is also a spiritual (intuitive, symbolic) science (Math, Geometry) in that it deals with patterns and understanding the cycles of the planets and their frequencies, energies and how these relate to and connect with our own consciousness, as well as life experience.

If you want to learn more about your future, or what's ahead, review the past from a broader perspective, or if you want to understand yourself better, your own purpose and energetic makeup, then Astrology can be very useful to help answer these kinds of questions and far more. This includes profound, soul-level insight into our relationships, health, "karma", life-path/purpose and even the happenings of the world at large and Universal stages. Our personal birth charts are like our own unique soul recipes; where we are all made from the same ingredients (signs), just different combinations and proportions. Astrology is the study of an ancient wisdom where the planetary cycles represent a sort of universal clock, a celestial timepiece that can inform us of a Higher Order to our lives and our experience here on Earth. It is a dance of the planets as we spin through space and our soul's journey along with them.

"Millionaires don't use Astrology, Billionaires do" -J.P. Morgan

The Limitations of the One-Sign Astrological Identity

Most people feel some connection to Astrology, but at the same time feel that it often misses the mark. This is usually because the popularized newspaper horoscope style is woefully incomplete, reductive, and just too general for most. For example, the astrology sign normally referred to is based on the placement of the Sun in the zodiac on the day of birth, yet this is only one small puzzle piece of the whole picture; each heavenly body has a relevance in one's astrological makeup.

Traditionally, the Sun, the moon, and the Rising, Ascendant or horizon, are equally the three most important parts of the native's incarnation, aka "natal chart." There was a time in the past when the rising sign was actually considered to be the primary sign of the person, but because it deals with the 24 hour rotation of our planet (each sign on the horizon receiving about 2 hours), the time of birth is required. Unfortunately, many don't know their birth time, so the Sun has been taking center stage in modern years. Fun fact: each planet has been measured at a particular frequency, and NASA has even managed to record actual and literal sounds that the planets emit, and vibrate; each planet's frequency having a unique effect and relationship to our own consciousness.

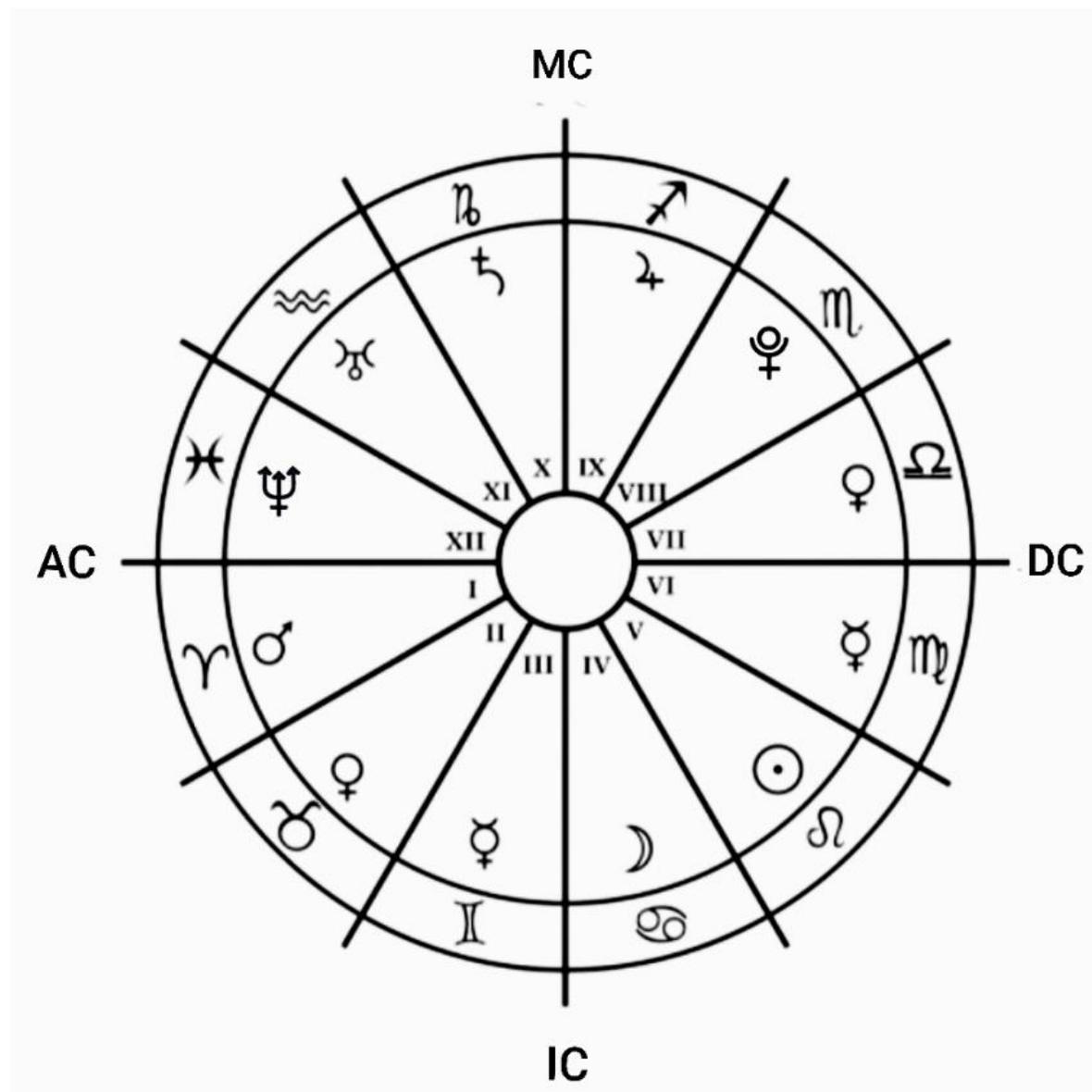
The Sun is the veritable star of the show, which is why it tends to get so much attention. It represents our consciousness, the masculine, radiant energy of the personality; the Light of our Soul, awareness, the Higher Self, and more. It rules the sign of Leo, and the 5th house. The rising, or horizon, has to do with our world view, perception, personality and perspective of our individual self, relating to the general outlook one will have, plus how one will be perceived. It is ruled by Mars, the sign of Aries, and represents the first house in the natal chart. The moon deals with the feminine, emotional, unseen and inner experience of the self, as well as the past, memory, and much more. It rules the sign of Cancer, and the 4th house, the home, the mother, our roots, etc. For a simple overview of all the planets and signs/houses: Mercury Rules Gemini (3rd house) & Virgo (6th house) and deals with our thoughts and communications; Venus rules Taurus (2nd house) & Libra (7th house) and deals with love and relationships; Jupiter Rules Sagittarius (9th house) and our sense of higher knowing; Saturn rules Capricorn (10th house) and our responsibilities; Uranus rules Aquarius (11th House) and our individual genius; Neptune rules

Pisces (12th House) and our Spirituality; and last but not least, Pluto rules Scorpio (8th house) and our ability to rebirth.

Zodiacal seasons are experiential time-locks, as Barbara Marciniak puts it in her book “Earth, Pleiadean Keys to the Living Library,” passing into new energies, where and when we can access and manifest them most purely. For the purposes of simplicity, this book will focus on Western Astrological tradition, though it absolutely recognizes the relevance and accuracy of all the world’s history and its interpretations of the study of Astrology. In this Hellenistic view, Aries begins the chart as well as year with spring and its equinox, and so expresses its cardinal, fire sign energy archetypically in the sprout. Taurus sustains the growing spring in its fixed, earth energy, symbolized by the bull. Gemini represents the mutable air energy of late spring, giving way to summer, and is symbolized by the twins. Cancer is the cardinal (season initiating) water sign of summer, symbolized by the crab. Leo is the fixed (season stabilized) fire sign of midsummer, symbolized by the Lion and Virgo is the mutable (season changing), earth energy giving way to autumn, symbolized by the Goddess of the Harvest. Libra (Cardinal) is the air sign of fall, symbolized by the scales and the balance of the zodiacal year as the Sun falls in our Northern hemisphere skies after the equinox. Scorpio (fixed) is the water sign of autumn, symbolized by rebirth and the Scorpion and Sagittarius (mutable) is the fire sign symbolized by the archer’s arrow and the vision of a new life ahead of winter in spring. Capricorn is the (Cardinal-initiatory) earth energy of winter, symbolized by the mountain goat and the trials of harsher environments. Aquarius is the (fixed-unchanging) air sign of winter, symbolized by double wavy lines, with its cold and airy expression; and Pisces, symbolized by the two fish, is the (mutable-dynamic) water sign of winter, where we lose ourselves to something greater.

On the following page, you will see an image of what astrologers refer to as the “Natural Chart,” meaning that Aries is on the rising, which represents the natural sequence of the signs, and aligns the signs with their corresponding houses, plus, in this image, we also see the planetary ruler featured in each house and sign it rules. There is a metaphor that travels around astrological circles that explains the interplay of the planets, signs and houses, and how they connect: “The planets are like the actors, the signs they are in are like the costumes they wear, and the houses they are in are like the stages they play upon.” A personal metaphor that I have adapted through my years of study and working with clients professionally is that the planets, signs and houses are all expressions of the same energy, but in different densities or specific expressions. For example, water is the same element, even in each of its different physical states. Relating this to Astrology, the planets are like the densest, most physical expression of the sign energy, symbolized by the solid phase of water, ice. The sign energy the planet is in, is like the

liquid phase of the element, and the overall energy it is swimming in, and the house energy the planet finds itself in, is like the gaseous phase of water as steam, representing the larger environment it all takes place in (the area of our life that sign represents).



What does this all mean? Fundamentally, even if we don't have any of our natal planets in a certain sign, we will all still have a piece of the other signs within us, because they are all interconnected. So even if your Sun, moon, Rising and all of your planets have no Scorpio placement, they will still have those Scorpio energies expressed through the planet Pluto (or possibly the 8th house) somewhere.

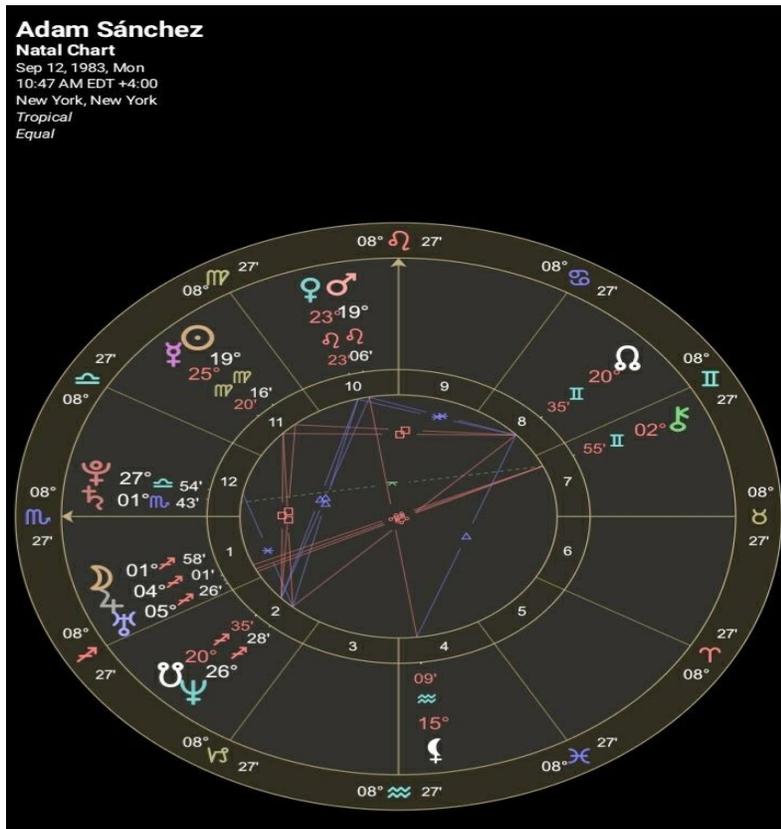
Yoga and Astrology connect really well because they are both holistic spiritual sciences. Holistic teachings offer us an integrated approach of the Bigger Picture, operating from the understanding that each piece is a part of the bigger whole, while also understanding the intimate connections between the micro and macrocosms of reality, both within and without. If we fixate too much on one aspect of the entirety, we are guaranteed a tunnel vision that misses the integrated whole. As we come to see the inherent connections and oneness between ourselves and all of life, Divine Understanding is experienced as this Unity, our long-awaited birthright. Yoga literally means and symbolizes this Unity. In ancient India where Yoga originated from, they understood the profound connection between these spiritual sciences, and they practiced them together.

People aren't just one thing. We are multifaceted, unique, yet our differing and sometimes even contradictory parts are all interconnected, just like the planets and their respective signs. Astrology reflects this inherent unity, and Yoga teaches us about it, experientially. As we study and embrace awareness of ourselves, Astrology can mirror this awareness in profound and transformational ways. The potential of Astrology to expand our awareness is infinite.

In the chapters ahead, this narrative will follow something like the hero's journey with each planet through every sign of the zodiac. There will also be reference to other works of great teachers, some who may resonate for readers, and perhaps some less so. It is always good for any aspirant of truth to conclude for themselves what to assimilate or eliminate on the path of Truth Discovery. This is not only to introduce and instruct in an engaging way, but also to paint a specific picture, with a particular intention and agenda. The ultimate intention of this work is to Liberate the Soul of Humanity by illuminating the path from darkness, or unconsciousness, into the Light of full awareness and our True Potential.

Throughout this work, you will be guided through one particular lens, along a journey of each planetary player expressing their essential energy through the distinct nature of each sign, as well as how these energies may relate to or manifest as narcissism. Even though there are countless valid perspectives describing these energies, and within the study of astrology in general, this narrative will focus on a view that is weighted in the direction of clarifying and illuminating systemic narcissism, or as this author has coined it, the narcissystem.

About the Author



I remember when I was in grade school and they were teaching us to write, and how one of the teachers told me that to improve my writing I had to use the word I less because no one cared or wanted to hear about me or what I had to say. While I was originally offended by this comment at that time and I don't fully agree with it either at this point in time, I definitely see where she was coming from. Meaning, it can come off as narcissistic when one talks about oneself too much.

Regardless, I have decided to write in my personal voice for this section and for specific chosen sections throughout this work. I feel that there is Great Value in sharing from our own personal voice whether it is physical or written and so I'm happy to share with you about myself and introduce myself astrologically, as it were.

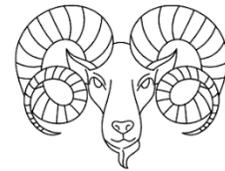
With my Scorpio Rising I tend to find myself looking deeper into everything that catches my interest particularly the mysterious hidden and unseen forces of life in the universe. I've been told, those with Scorpio rising have x-ray vision, and in my experience, despite the fact that in the past I ignored them too often, my intuitions about people and their deeper motivations is usually right. With my Virgo sun and Mercury sign I have a very analytical mind and attention to detail that creates both excellence and perfectionism paralysis on my path from time to time. With my Sagittarius moon conjunct Jupiter and Uranus with my South node (past lives) and Uranus in Sagittarius as well, to say that I am a free spirit would be an understatement, as freedom is one of my biggest core values in life.

Chapter 1 - The Narcissystem and our Fall from the Grace of our True Self

Aries

March 21st - April 19th

Element: Fire
Mode: Cardinal
Season: Spring
Universal Law: Vibration
Chakra: Root - Survival
Governs: Head and Brain
Cell Salt: Potassium Phosphate



1st House (a.k.a. Ascendant): Sense of Self
Planetary Ruler: Mars
Gift: Pioneering
Shadow: Aggression
Archetypical Characters:
Hero/Warrior/Athlete
Soul lesson: Proper Use of Desire
Musical Note: C

I. Mars in Aries' Essential Nature - The Hero on the Hero's Journey

Aries is the sign of beginnings-starting off the zodiacal year, but also representing the beginning of many different symbolic zodiac cycles: Individuation, initiation, instigation, to name a few. Aries begins the natural year with spring, but also begins the sequence of the astrological signs as the evolution of the soul; from identification to completion; from individuation to reunification; a sequenced journey through all the cycles, that ultimately completes the zodiac with Pisces, and the dissolution of the self at the end of this cycle, reunifying with the oceanic oneness that spiritual Pisces exemplifies.

Aries is the impetus to move, the desire and action, and Mars, its ruling planet, represents all of the energies of this sign manifest into physical form. Mars represents the embodiment of the warrior energy of Aries, as well as men, masculinity, muscle, and much more. The planet itself acts as our local solar-system emissary for its sign. With Mars at home in the sign of Aries, when

we connect with and experience its energy, we are decisive, in touch with our desire, self-confident, active, athletic, bold, and ready to pioneer new territory. When overdone or afflicted, this energy can be aggressive, dominating, inflicting, egotistical, selfish, violent, divisive, even deadly. On the other hand, if it is muted or not strongly placed, we can feel indecisive in our life, afraid to be ourselves and not know what we want or how to move forward.

Naturally, every energy has its extremes of potential, and this cardinal fire sign is no exception. It grounds the spark of our consciousness into the physical realm, and sets within us a personal reference point, or the groundwork for a soul-identity complex. This is where our personality can take its form as individuation from the formlessness of Pisces. Aries/Mars represents the self, the personality, the ego, the I Am consciousness: the identity point from which we experience our subjective reality called "I." This is also expressed astrologically as the first house in the zodiac wheel, and illustrates the materialization of our identity and perspective in this incarnation.

Leadership is Motivation from Within - Mars in the first house

Leadership is often associated with Aries, and all the fire signs, plus the first house, where we each pioneer the direction of our individual lives. Though, true leadership is often misunderstood. Many think that being a leader means that you have to find followers, tell them what to do, and that barking orders to servile subjects is a trait of leadership. In actuality, and in its pure form, it is much simpler, and far less flashy. Leaders are the ones who decide on either who they want to be, what they wish to experience, or what they will do with their life in this world, and go out and make it happen. This is especially true when we are in communication with our Spirit, leading from the heart rather than from the mind. Leadership often manifests as a result of an individual unapologetically choosing their own path, most often in the face of obstacles, opposition, and many more challenges, thereby giving an example to others of what is possible with this kind of pioneering effort. The ambition and energy of the fire signs to accomplish great things is one of their most inspiring traits. Someone deciding to do something that has never been done, in one mere moment, can represent the shift of a culture, a world, or even an entire age, based on the direction of one individual soul's choice. This is the energy potential of Aries, Mars, and the 1st house of our personality in our zodiacal charts.

II. What is the self? Narcissus and a Shadow of Mars in Taurus

While there may be fewer philosophical questions that are more open ended, we can define the terms of self for this narrative in a few fundamental ways. It is the reference point of our own consciousness, as a combination of our genetic and spiritual legacy through bloodline and "karma," as well as our personal spiritual path, providing a focal point and direction for the expansion and evolution of our consciousness along our life's journey. We can also look at it from the spiritual perspective as an expression of our individual soul, the inheritance of our past experiences, giving rise to our current desires, preferences, purpose, longings etc. Mars is said to be in exile in Taurus, if we consider the ancient rulership of Mars also ruling Scorpio, Taurus' opposite. Mars in Taurus is known for its staying power, and even stubbornness. In the earthy home sign of sensual Venus, Mars and desire can easily lose itself in the material world of comforts and pleasure.

The story of Narcissus, who drowned from falling in love with his own image reflected in a pond, represents an archaic and possibly misleading understanding of this phenomena, relating pleasure and even self-love for egotism, which admittedly walks a fine line at times, and represents the valuable moral of this myth. Exploring deeper, however, we see most narcissism is actually housed by a personality devoid of inner value (a.k.a. true self-love or innate spiritual source connection), and needs to compensate for this void by endlessly seeking validation from the external world. That is not to say that external reflection of all kinds is harmful, but to point out that it will never be enough for a mind and heart that doesn't learn how to also source meaning, value and purpose from within. These kinds of trappings of materialism can take their toll with Mars symbolically compromised in Taurus in this way.

III. Shadow & Divine Masculine - Mars in Gemini & Understanding Dual-Nature

Mars in airy Gemini has passion for communication, excelling in debate, even to the point of weaponizing words in its shadow expressions. Gemini is a dual-natured sign, and is perfectly exemplified by the dualistic nature of the human mind, which it rules in Astrology. Equating the mind to masculinity with Mars in Gemini, the shadow masculine is essentially the wounded, insecure beta-male mind, pretending to be alpha, through denial of its own limitations and

weaknesses, compensating for them through grandiosity and over-estimation of its actual capacities. Grandiosity is one of the cornerstones of the overt, narcissistic mindset, which essentially serves as a self-defense and survival mechanism. Grandiose ego is a front for a doubtful and wounded one, at its core. Confidence, along with true-self mastery on any subject is born on skill and experience, not in self-deception, denial or false projections.

Grandiosity like this reflects the loss of innocence, respect and reverence for our own, pure/child consciousness, and the sacredness of the unknown, where the ego, materialistic mind believes itself superior to the Universal Divine Source, as a compensation for its own fears of inadequacy. This is due to the egoic belief in its separation from this Source, and the resulting sense of deep, often unconscious inferiority this brings. This weakness of the masculine vibration erodes healthy boundaries, which are fundamental to sovereignty, by overstepping them, especially when giving into fear-based, self-serving desires. This is founded on a selfish, wounded relationship with the world and a sense of entitlement, being owed compensation for all the injustices it has experienced, perceived or real. Gemini is very intelligent, and in its shadow expressions in particular, can be very dubious, even deceptive. A classic technique that this shadow, narcissistic personality type will use to cover up their own crimes is called **Turning the tables**. For example, imagine a criminal breaking into your house, stealing from you and accusing you of being the selfish one for not letting them. What may be most shocking is the conviction with which they will believe their own lies. The shadow masculine dominates, while the Divine Masculine simply directs, protects, and maintains healthy boundaries from an unattached, stable love.

The Divine Masculine is the true Alpha male consciousness that naturally leads based on its soul, and not its ego or material self alone, though wisely informed by them. It need not prove anything to anyone because it knows itself as a vessel for the Divine Creator, and life supporter. It is both confident and assured in its identity and where it can be most of service to life. This kind of consciousness is not devoid of ego, rather, it knows its ego, and has mastery with it, and accepts its place in the grander design through its inner, fully-conscious connection with the Divine. From this place of true self-knowing, it has no time to get caught up in ego trips or even materiality for its own sake, as it understands the true source of its life. This level of certainty brings with it great freedom to be one's self, without need for validation, permission or assurances from the external world, while also being able to receive and integrate feedback from the external in a meaningful way. Mars in Gemini in its evolved expression represents the Divine promise of true communication.

One thing is for sure: the power is Within Us, and not in the world, and our ascension or soul evolution, comes with a kind of descension into our own deepest and even darkest self, unifying any fragmented parts, and remembering the wholeness of Love that was always natural from that place of original purity. When we know the real truth of that Love, and remember that it is sourced from within our own heart, body, & spirit, we are truly home, truly free, and more able to easily see that free Divine Spirit in everyone and everything. We can even see the divine purpose of narcissism teaching us to stand up for our True Self-Love Within. From this level of an integrated personality, we don't see a separation within ourselves or the varying levels of our own consciousness, embracing flaws and strengths, both. From this level of internal unity, we see the unity between self and others, and deal in respect with healthy, selective boundaries, treating others as we would want to be treated. Embodying the timeless wisdom of the Golden Rule, we can see that to be a baseline of functional relating.

IV - Emotional Reactivity - Mars in Cancer: the Wounded Warrior

Mars in sensitive Cancer is said to be in its detriment, meaning the sign opposite its exaltation (Capricorn), and this fiery planet isn't ideally placed in this water sign. Although it is surely tenacious, and shines brightest when it focuses its protective energy on others, but it can also be prone to passive aggressiveness and challenges when stuck in self protectiveness. The denied and suppressed emotional pain of identifying as hyper-masculine, or one might call it harboring toxic levels of testosterone, with Mars in Cancer acting as a symbol for this energy here, is a cornerstone of the narcissystem and its shadow patriarchy program. This fractured...