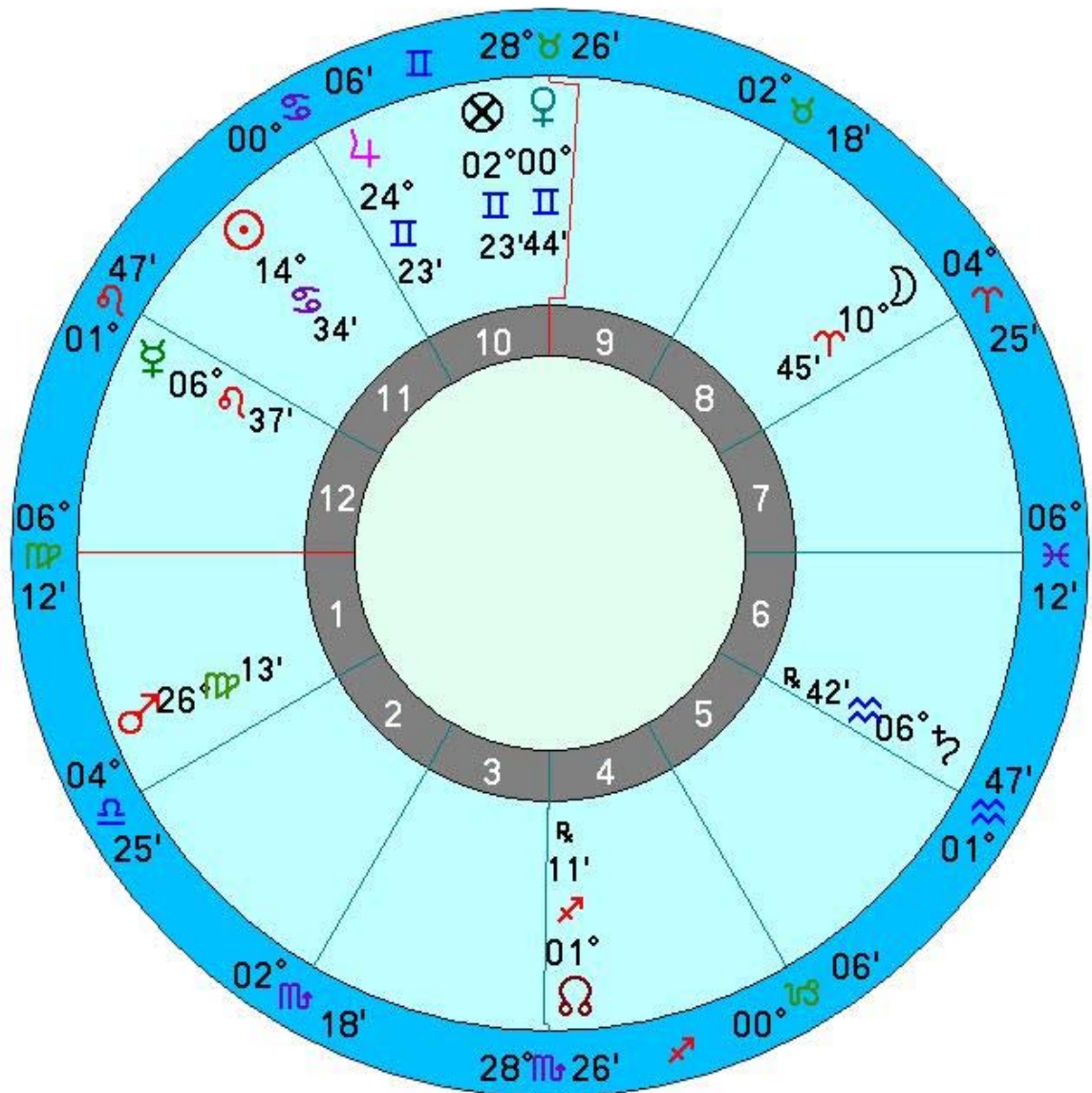




Henry VIII - How Astrology Explains History

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Henry VIII
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(fonte: B.M.MS. Royal 2. A. xviii Horae b)

The story of Henry VIII incites the most shaded and unusual fantasies, mainly in what concerns his loving life, followed by divorces, ruptures and the beheading of two of his beloved women, Anne Boleyn and Catherine Howard, cousin of Anne Boleyn who, like her, was accused of conspiring against the king.

In these marriages the king engaged because he felt in love. The other four wives were just a convenience matter.

The life of Henry VIII, who reigned in England from 1509 to 1547, also had another interesting point: - he broke up with the Pope and the Catholic Church because he wanted the divorce from his first wife, Katharine of Aragon, since she was not able to give him a male child to succeeding the king in the throne. At this moment Henry VIII founded the Anglican Church, of which he was the supreme lord. It is not necessary to point out that he took possession of all the Church assets in England as well as the ones pertained to rich Catholics who were living in the reign

My purpose here is to outline in the astrological traditional way the reason of the several marriages of the king, marriages only interrupted because he died at age 56, after being ill. His last wife, named Katharine Parr survived him, and was helping him in the end of his life.

Since everything revolves around the knowledge of the nature of the native, it is impossible to delineate an area of the chart not paying enough attention to the Ascendant that can tell us who was the native, the first point of the chart.

So, who was Henry VIII and what was he looking for? What was his priority in life?

We call Primary Motivation the not negotiable reason, the real motive for someone existence. Such a technique is taught by Robert Zoller to his pupils and if it's not strictly medieval there is nothing in his approach contrary to the ancient techniques.

The Primary Motivation is discovered through the planet that has: 1- any dignity in the cusp of the Ascendant 2- celestial dignity (for sign) and 3- accidental dignity (for house).

This planet cannot be cadent of the angles or in a really bad celestial state that would compromise its action, for example in retrogradation or combustion

We have to enter in the intimacy of the 'horoskopos' to understand the reason of a native's life.

Since Henry VIII has the Ascendant in Virgo, we will look first to Virgo's ruler, Mercury. We realize that Mercury has no power of action: it's peregrine in the 12th house and in aversion to the Ascendant.

So Mercury, the lord of the Ascendant by rulership and exaltation, must be discarded. He cannot take care of the Primary Motivation.

However, we cannot forget that the 12th house is the 10th from the 3rd. The 3rd house is ruled by Mars, a planet in the Ascendant. As the 3rd house represents the brothers we can explain through this configuration that Henry got his elevation to the throne as consequence of the death of Prince Arthur, his oldest brother.

The position of the ruler of the Ascendant in the 12th house, and the ruler of the 3rd house, Mars(the brother), being in the First House links the brother very personally to Henry, his own life and his ascension. Being Mars a malefic it's configured to destruction.

This is an important matter but we must come back the focus in our research about the Primary Motivation.

I will follow step by step in order to figure out the importance of all the planets present in the configuration. If the readers do want to follow my reasoning I suggest consulting the Table of Dignities present in this website.

So, we see that the rulers of Virgo's triplicity are Venus, Moon and Mars. The ruler of the term is Mercury and of the face is the Sun.

Excluding Mercury, all of them have power to act, being angular or succedent.

This justifies the power of the king and a life full of events.

Mars is angular in the First House, Venus is in the cusp of 10th House, the MC, though in another sign, the Moon is in the Eight House, an evil house but succedent, and the Sun is in the 11th house, a quite fortunate house, representing the support gave to the king by the Parliament and by his allies.

As for the Moon, Vettius Valens says that she is the only planet that rejoices in the 8th house, in her crescent, and this is not Henry's case, since he has the Moon decreasing in light, in the house of death and of the financial resources of the partnership.

Henry VIII has a fortunate chart in the point that the Moon applies to the Sun, and Saturn to the Moon, working as a 'doriphory' (doriphory is a Ptolomy's concept, the same that the Greeks call Spear Bearers, and it describes a way by which a planet casts its rays (aspects) or looks at others in front or behind it, helping the planet or the luminaries)

In the same way we see Saturn applying to the Moon, and this one to Venus if not by degree at least by sign, and the Moon also applies to Mercury, like protecting it from its cadency and giving the support of the other planets, especially of Venus in Gemini, in the house of the reign.

This configuration is very important and is observed in astrological charts of successful persons. This same configuration explains that natives like our King Pelé, who also has a doriphory in other signs, have had a huge social rise, sometimes initiating life in an humble environment to rise and to become universally known

However, to maintain the high position or destroy it later is a question that only the position of the planets in the chart can answer. It's easily understood that planets angular and strong can help more than those planets weak and cadents.

Back to the Primary Motivation! We checked out that the strongest planets in order to realize the Primary Motivation in our study case are Venus nearer to an angle, but without dignity in the sign, she is really peregrine, and Mars, a little more distant of the cusp of the first house but with triplicity and term in the sign.

The reasons to choice Mars as the planet to carry out the Primary Motivation of the native are heavier. In fact, Mars has essential and accidental dignity: he has triplicity's dignity in Virgo and it is in the First House.

Mars is the 8th house's ruler, the partnership's money, which explains that Henry VIII married several times by political and economical reasons. Mars rules also the third house, the brother, and has its exaltation in Capricorn, the 5th House, that has to do with pleasures, children and sex.

These things, namely partnership money, sex and pleasure and to have an heir were really important in the monarch's life.

He wanted an heir and for this reason he asked Katherine of Aragon the divorce, since she had six children but only Mary survived.

Henry always had several lovers. Anne Boleyn came to the palace to work as chambermaid of Katherine of Aragon. She worked with her sister Mary Boleyn, who was the official lover of the king.

Henry felt very attracted by Anne Boleyn and she was clever enough to know how to maintain the king's interest.

They got married in the same moment the king obtained the divorce and Anne gave him a girl. After she had a miscarriage and this really annoyed the king.

The Primary Motivation represented by Mars is modified by the square Mars makes with Jupiter. It's important to see that Mars has not any dignity in the sign of Jupiter, and Jupiter has his detriment in Virgo, the position of Mars. This kind of mutual reception by detriment makes the square very negative.

Mars in the first house is territorial and egocentric and Jupiter, being the universal significator of the religion, explains why the native broke up with the Catholic Church. Mars represents his own self and Jupiter, a planet in the 10th house, his power and kingdom: Henry couldn't give to the church all that power in his 10th! Besides this he could not accept an opposition from another power.

Being in detriment, Jupiter increases Mars's issues excessively and Mars reacts with ruthlessness and destructivity.

Both are disposed by Mercury, ruler of Marriage Part, in the 12th house, house of limitations. We can say that the exaggeration due to Mars's and Jupiter issues can conduct to problems and limitations sooner or later in the native's life.

Gradually we begin to see a human figure jumping out from the geometrical lines in a circle, and we begin to understand the story of the king Henry VIII.

Mercury is also Venus's dispositor, the most angular planet of the chart, in the 10th house, the house of power, and Venus, ruled by Mercury, the king's significator, was not managing to solve a big mental challenge, i.e. if his power was being really threatened or not and if there were being people conspiring against him to reach the power.

Mars in the Ascendant in Virgo, a feminine and receptive sign, supposes that Henry was a passive agent of suffering, not the cause of it. I will explain how he turned out an active agent

when talking about the Moon in the bloody sign of Mars, linking this with the almuten of the marriage.

Before all, we need to discover which planet represents the marriage in Henry's chart. In order to know this we must to calculate the Part of the Marriage for the Man according to Hermes (Pars Virorum Secundum Hermetem or PVSH), which we found out by measuring the distance between Saturn and Venus and by projecting it from the Ascendant.

We calculated the Part and found it in 00°12' of Aquarius, ruled by Saturn. Both the Part and Saturn are cadent in the 6th house, that is the 12th of the wives. Saturn is configured also for the 5th House, the children and the sex and for the 2nd house, the financial resources of the monarch. In this way we have in our hands the matters that were really important in the relationship between the king and his women, and what he was taking into account when he married a woman: sex, children and financial issues.

Significadores	☼	☾	♃	♄	♅	♆	♁
7ª 6° 12' ♋				9	3	5	1
R 7ª Casa 24° 23' ♌	1		8			3	5
♃ 10° 45' ♌	7			3	5	3	3
♄ 00° 44' ♌			9			4	3
Pcvsh 00° 12' ♋			4	1		3	8
Total	8		21	13	8	18	20

We construct a Table pointing out the value and dignity of each planet that collaborates for the men marriage in general and specific values for Henry VIII chart , including the PCVSH (Pars Virorum Secundum Hermetem) and we found out that the planet with bigger dignity in marriage matters in our study case was Mercury, the weak and fragile Mercury, the worse planet in the native chart.

We always think that Henry VIII was divorcing from and beheading his wives because he was tired of them.

I do not think this is the fundamental point!

The wives were disposed by Jupiter, an elevated planet in the the 10th, so it looks like they had importance in the reign and this fact was enough to threaten the security of the king.

And more: Venus is the ruler by exaltation of the 7th and it is in the cusp of the 10th. These women were shining in some way and were disposed by Mercury, the almuten of the marriage.

Henry couldn't deal easily with Mercury in the shadows of the 12th house whispering conspiracies and treasons against him.

Anne Boleyn at least was a quite articulated person, and in spite of not being loved by the people, conquered a big power, weaving relationships with mighty persons. Henry certainly felt the bite of Mercury and reacted using the opposite planet configured to marriage namely Saturn

Beside this the Moon in Mars sign was sending her rays towards Venus in the 10th:- the reign was in danger! Feeling it the king's reaction was upon his wife, using the rude strength of Mars.

Anne Boleyn was the first wife to be imprisoned in the Tower of London, accused of conspiracy and of having sexual intercourse with her brother.

From a real point of view Henry did not attack at random, since he was feeling visible and invisible conspiracies. Feminine signs are passive and they react, while masculine signs are active and they act. Henry was threatened by his partners. Mercury is the almuten of marriage, as we see in our Table, and Mercury is like a ghost incarcerated in the tower of Henry VIII mind.

Saturn, ruler of the Part of Marriage is opposed to Mercury, the marriage almuten, and this is difficult to harmonize if we consider that Saturn is cold and insensitive, configured to illnesses, and Mercury is moist and hot, in Leo, passionate and configured to the mind.

The beheaded wives were those that he married because he felt in love: Anne Boleyn and the young Catherine Howard were matter of the 5th house, passion and sex, ruled by Saturn, dispositor of the 5th house, an exalted malefic, that due to its cadent state send his malefic rays outside the native's frontiers.

To Henry VIII the worse that might happen would be to lose his position as a consequence of conspiracies behind the scenes.

His other wives, and he had four more, were matter of convenience and of the Second house, and his 2nd house was being ruled by the benefic Venus, so it wasn't a so dark scenery.

However we see that Venus in the MC has an important position in the king's Primary Motivation: Henry wants to maintain the throne and his material resources, costs whatever it costs. Venus was configured for the throne, the cusp of the MC is in Taurus, and Venus is the ruler of the 2nd house, the finances.

Besides the fact of being configured for the native's diseases Saturn is in the 12th of the 7th, i.e. the restriction that Henry VIII imposed to his wives, having detained two of them for years in the Tower of London. The death came to them through the sign of Libra, which almuten is Saturn, the Eighth house of the Seventh, and Venus is in Gemini a bicorporal sign: so they were beheaded, divided in two pieces.

The real weakness of Henry was Mercury, the obsessive fear of conspiracies, of having no heirs, and the presence of ghosts whispering to his ear that he should fear the shadow itself.

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My conclusion is that Henry divorced of the wives in part because his egocentrism and his desire of having an heir, but by another side (the darkest one) was because he was afraid of dividing the power with a queen who could to betray him. The tragedy that happened to Anne and Katherine was clearly a question of fear: He couldn't let them go. He had to control them and have them imprisoned, like a child with a bug in a match box, to have control over them.

And this happened because he felt threatened by the power that he thought they had. But what power was that? I imagine that Anne and Katherine acted over his mind, besides his heart.

The reason why a so powerful king became so frightened has only an answer: his mental illness, due to Mercury state in its worst condition, in opposition to Saturn that was in the illnesses house.

After I wrote the article I read that Henry VIII was suffering of syphilis probably acquired by sexual transmission and that affected his mind.

In that moment I thought: "-That is the way astrology explains history."

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