Astrological Configurations of Suicide

An Essay

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LIFE is short, Art long, Experience not easily obtained, Judgment difficult, and therefore it is necessary, that a Student not only exercise himself in considering several Figures, but also that he diligently read the writings of others who have treated rationally of this Science, and make it his business to find out the true natural causes of things by experiments, to know the certain places and processions of tee Planets and Fixed Stars, Constellations, etc., but above all to be a passionate lover of truth- *Cardan, from "Seven segments of Cardan*"

A few years ago I carried out a statistical study in astrology, and realized that its results were highly questionable, so I eventually withdrew it from publication. The experience was useful for learning some basic concepts. First, I saw that I'd have to forego the idea of having one single and univocal answer. The signs are only twelve, and the planets are seven, plus the nodes and Parts of Fortune and Spirit. Therefore we have a total of 11 points to consider, and only 12 signs.

Unless the entire population showed the incidence of one planet in one sign, the fact of a planet appearing more times in one sign than in another is not significant, since the chances are high, representing 1/12th statistical probability, close to 10%.

It would be tantamount to have a test of glycemia knowing that in approximately 10% of the cases such test will produce a false result.

In statistics, data is relevant when it occurs in at least 99% of the cases. The ideal is for it to occur in 99.9% of the cases, perfect being in 100% of them.

Furthermore, a study requires a well-characterized population regarding the issue being studied, and it should always be compared to a group 10 times larger. The larger the population, the more reliable the study will be.

If, for instance, your sample consists of 60 cases, drawing statistics from them is not viable, since the number is too small. Consider that you'll need a random sample of about 30% of the whole population. You would have only 20 cases to compare with a control group of about 700 natives. The initial sample is too small, and cannot be representative.

All this care should be added to the need of having sophisticated software, developed by statisticians and based on astrological criteria deemed unquestionable. Not having such tools, the option left to me was to follow the *Astrodatabank protocols.

I picked 320 natives flagged by the program as having committed suicide, and whose birth date and time had received at least a "B" Rodden Ranking.

The population is small, since the program will randomly draw 1/3 of these cases and compare them with the control group: when I made the study, 161 suicide cases were compared, the

random sample from the 320 cases available, with 3.220 cases of non-suicides, all taken from the aforementioned program's database.

The problem was not only the small sample, but also that *Astrodatabank (hereon referred to as *ADB for short) is not flexible enough to search for complex configurations.

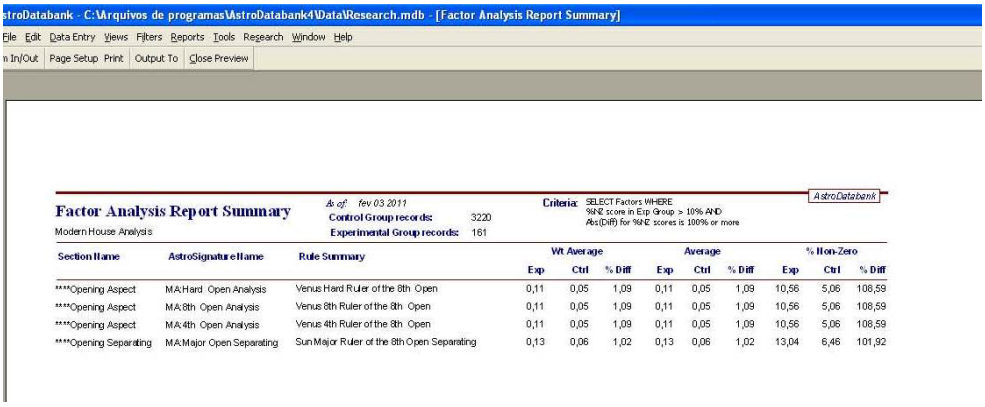
It is impossible, for instance, to query the program on how many cases have the Moon disposed by Mercury within the suicidal sample to ascertain whether this is relevant among the control group.

Furthermore, I noticed that some cases classed as suicidal were uncertain about the possibility of an accident, as it often occurs in cases of drug abuse, unless the individual leaves a letter.

The software was developed for the astrologers' community, including modern astrologers, and uses a lot of unnecessary data, such as hypothetical planets. Yet it fails to compute the percentage of the Part of Fortune and Spirit incidence in the signs, the *sect* of the charts, and other important pieces of information.

So I carried out the study in accordance to the specified protocols and, after 2,000 pages of data, I came to the conclusion that the truly significant statistical factors were two, which immediately struck me as an oversimplification. According to the results I gathered, Venus would have a malefic aspect with the ruler of House 8, more than twice as often than in the control group. Additionally, the Sun would have an Aspect with the House 8 ruler.

This is the summary of the study:



Factor Analysis Report Summary

Modern House Analysis

As of: fev 03 2011

Control Group records: 3220

Experimental Group records: 161

Criteria: SELECT Factors WHERE %NZ score in Exp Group > 10% AND Abs(Diff) for %NZ scores is 100% or more

AstroDatabank

Section Name	AstroSignature Name	Rule Summary	Wt Average			Average			% Non-Zero		
			Exp	Ctrl	% Diff	Exp	Ctrl	% Diff	Exp	Ctrl	% Diff
***Opening Aspect	MA:Hard Open Analysis	Venus Hard Ruler of the 8th Open	0,11	0,05	1,09	0,11	0,05	1,09	10,56	5,06	108,59
***Opening Aspect	MA:8th Open Analysis	Venus 8th Ruler of the 8th Open	0,11	0,05	1,09	0,11	0,05	1,09	10,56	5,06	108,59
***Opening Aspect	MA:4th Open Analysis	Venus 4th Ruler of the 8th Open	0,11	0,05	1,09	0,11	0,05	1,09	10,56	5,06	108,59
***Opening Separating	MA:Major Open Separating	Sun Major Ruler of the 8th Open Separating	0,13	0,06	1,02	0,13	0,06	1,02	13,04	6,46	101,92

We see, on the rightmost column, that the difference between the sample and the control group ranges from 102% to 109%.

This looked like a great breakthrough; however it appeared too simple, which is generally uncommon in astrology.

Visually checking one at a time all the 320 cases presented by the program, all too frequently I didn't see Venus having a malefic aspect with the ruler of House 8, nor the Sun having an aspect with the ruler of House 8.

Most likely the suicidal population was small, and the sample, even smaller, was not sufficient to offer reliable results.

What I noticed, after pushing aside 2,000 pages with results (kept on file, and available to anyone interested in them) is that I had before me a huge mess of data where factors of little significance – like the position of the planets in every degree of every sign – had been considered.
Many astrologers question whether astrology is adequate for statistical studies, and I am beginning to agree with them: statistics is the best way to set apart individual factors, however it misses complex configurations. To notice how astrology works with configurations, and not with individual factors, I quote one passage from Ptolemy's Tetrabiblos Book III, and Edition Project Hindsight:

10-Concerning Those Who Go Unnourished
"For it is simply this: if each of the lights should be pivotal and each of the malefics [respectively] should be present or else in opposition [to one of the lights], and these to the degree and by equality at leg, with no benefic being configured and the ruler of the lights being taken in places of malefics, the offspring will go unnourished and will have the end of his life because of them. "

This is an example of only two or three conditions entering the configuration, however authors frequently point to much more complex configurations to reach a certain result, with "OR" and "AND" appearing often.

It is noticed that many Boolean conditions should be taken into account. In astrology there doesn't seem to be a univocal answer, which renders it an unlikely object for statistical study, since it separates and studies one variable separately from another, while the model we use to describe each possibility encompasses a dance of significators, and never one plain answer.

It is up to the astrologer to collect sundry statistical factors that at times were predominant in only 60% of the cases to check if together they may explain the accident under study, and help to prevent them. *ADB suggests doing this kind of study to reach a *signature* that corresponds to the population being analyzed. I attempted to follow this advice, however failed to attain a good statistical result, and didn't reach a specific "signature" for suicides.

I also noticed that upon requesting a cluster of nativities with, for instance, the Sun in House 8, the program may include natives with Sun in House 9 or House 7 for not upholding the "5 degree rule", or for not having the sensitivity to use "whole signs" in some cases.
In my opinion, *ADB is valid for the considerable volume of data it contains, however it doesn't help much as a statistical research tool.

So I decided to take, from the approximately 300 suicidal natives, a random sample of 50 people, and study each one individually.

I don't intend my study and the results obtained to represent an absolute truth. I believe they are a head start. It will be up to my peers to check the validity of my data against their own case studies.

This essay is a modest – and hopefully serious – contribution to the astrological knowledge base, from an astrologer having a traditional astrology background.

The Method

Upon having decided to study only a part of the population made available by *ADB, I picked the sample using a random criterion, an important factor for having an unbiased array.

The most elementary way of doing it is with a Random Numbers Table, such as the one found in *Schaum's Outline of Probability & Statistics*, by Murray R. Spiegel, Appendix I.

To use this manual sampling method, numbers may be chosen from anywhere on the table, by column, by row, or randomly picking them from anywhere on the table.

I selected 55 cases, to have a few to spare, in case any of them had to be discarded for not being representative as desired. Yet I had to draw more, since some cases were individuals who were not only suicidal, but homicidal as well, or had severe mental diseases.

It is obviously expected that suicidal charts have strong adversity signals, however I avoided including in my sample cases of psychiatric inpatients, or those who were homicidal as well, to prevent biasing the sample. It was necessary to avoid configurations that would merit a separate study on their own, i.e. serious psychiatric issues, or significant behavior deviations, like homicidal maniacs.

Early Findings

Upon observing the charts in my sample, my first impression was that Mercury played an important role in the configuration. Indeed, Mercury is the planet of thought, and masterminding a suicide involves some intellectual setup, i.e. to devise the weapon or instrument to be used, which is not always so easy, to plan the timing, etc. Furthermore, Mercury relates to the intellectual and rational side and, being suicide an act that – apart from folklore – is exclusive to the human species, it wouldn't be unlikely to find a more rational than instinctive aspect in such doing.

Nevertheless, when I compared the suicidal charts with those of plain natives, I realized that it was not possible to set Mercury apart as the causing planet. More than once I had to recall

that astrological traits require a configuration, and not merely a simple and accurate answer, such as what is obtained upon making one sole planet accountable for any act to be studied.

Even so, in search for a miracle solution, I was struck by the idea of checking the Part of the Spirit, which is the Part of the Sun, for being related to the future, non-repetitive, and demonstrating the individual's "will". Maybe that Part, its position, configuration, and ruler would shed some light on such a mysterious problem.

The random charts were the following:

1-Natal Chart, Berryman, John, 25 Oct 1914 AD GC, 11:00:00 AM CST +06:00:00, Macalester, OK, USA, 95w46'00, 34n56'00

2-Natal Chart, Friedeburg, Georg, 15 Jul 1895 AD GC, 9:30:00 PM MET -01:00:00, Strasbourg, France, France, 7e45'00, 48n35'00

3-Natal Chart, Cobain, Kurt, 20 Feb 1967 AD GC, 7:20:00 PM PST +08:00:00, Aberdeen, WA, USA, 123w48'00, 46n58'00

4-Natal Chart, Golly, Christopher, 27 May 1976 AD GC, 4:51:00 PM PDT +07:00:00, Van Nuys, CA, USA, 118w26'00, 34n11'00

5-Natal Chart, Hemingway, Ernest, 21 Jul 1899 AD GC, 8:00:00 AM CST +06:00:00, Oak Park, IL, USA, 87w47'00, 41n53'00

6-Natal Chart, Haemers, Patrick, 2 Nov 1952 AD GC, 8:15:00 AM MET -01:00:00, Schaerbeck, Netherlands, Netherlands, 4e22'00, 50n35'00

7-Natal Chart, Hall, Jon, 26 Feb 1915 AD GC, 10:00:00 PM PST +08:00:00, Fresno, CA, USA, 119w47'00, 36n44'00

8-Natal Chart, Garroway, Dave, 13 Jul 1913 AD GC, 12:05:00 PM EST +05:00:00, Schenectady, NY, USA, 73w57'00, 42n49'00

9-Natal Chart, Coles, Mark L., 7 Apr 1972 AD GC, 12:49:00 PM EST +05:00:00, Cambridge, MA, USA, 71w06'00, 42n22'00

10-Natal Chart, Conti, Leonardo, 24 Aug 1900 AD GC, 2:00:00 AM MET -01:00:00, Lugano, Switzerland, Switzerland, 8e58'00, 46n01'00

11-Natal Chart, Cunningham, Kevin, 20 Jan 1980 AD GC, 9:07:00 AM EST +05:00:00, Dorchester, MA, USA, 71w04'00, 42n17'00

12-Natal Chart, Suicide: Drugs 9732, 15 Sep 1944 AD GC, 4:24:00 AM EWT +04:00:00, Manhattan, NY, USA, 73w59'00, 40n46'00

13-Natal Chart, Defontaine, Valentine, 10 Nov 1984 AD GC, 1:30:00 PM MET -01:00:00, Lille, France, France, 3e04'00, 50n38'00

14-Natal Chart, Suicide: Hanged 9439, 17 Jul 1943 AD GC, 11:19:00 PM EWT +04:00:00, Manhattan, NY, USA, 73w59'00, 40n46'00

15-Natal Chart, Suicide: Jumped 9343, 15 Mar 1943 AD GC, 4:02:00 AM EWT +04:00:00, Queens, NY, USA, 73w52'00, 40n43'00

16-Natal Chart, Suicide: Hanged 9559, 28 Dec 1943 AD GC, 11:50:00 AM EWT +04:00:00, Manhattan, NY, USA, 73w59'00, 40n46'00

17-Natal Chart, Suicide: Gunshot 8178, 21 May 1938 AD GC, 1:27:00 PM EDT +04:00:00, Queens, NY, USA, 73w52'00, 40n43'00

18-Natal Chart, Suicide: Gunshot 9555, 18 Dec 1943 AD GC, 12:37:00 PM EWT +04:00:00, Manhattan, NY, USA, 73w59'00, 40n46'00

19-Natal Chart, Savannah, 9 Oct 1970 AD GC, 11:18:00 AM PDT +07:00:00, Hawthorne, CA, USA, 118w21'00, 33n54'00

20-Natal Chart, Linkletter, Diane, 31 Oct 1948 AD GC, 1:01:00 AM PDT +07:00:00, Los Angeles, CA, USA, 118w15'00, 34n04'00

21-Natal Chart, Howard, Steven, 19 Apr 1941 AD GC, 2:34:00 PM PST +08:00:00, Los Angeles, CA, USA, 118w15'00, 34n04'00

22-Natal Chart, Shannon, Del, 30 Dec 1934 AD GC, 3:30:00 AM EST +05:00:00, Grand Rapids, MI, USA, 85w40'00, 42n57'00

23-Natal Chart, Lohmann, Michael, 7 Mar 1952 AD GC, 7:30:00 AM MET -01:00:00, Halle, Germany, Germany, 11e58'00, 51n29'00

24-Natal Chart, Moore, Robert, 7 Jan 1935 AD GC, 6:00:00 AM PST +08:00:00, San Francisco, CA, USA, 122w25'00, 37n46'00

25-Natal Chart, Ideman, Richard, 8 Feb 1938 AD GC, 9:37:00 PM EST +05:00:00, Akron, OH, USA, 81w31'00, 41n05'00

26-Natal Chart, Saincene, Christian, 3 Sep 1945 AD GC, 5:20:00 AM MED -02:00:00, Marseille, France, France, 5e24'00, 43n18'00

27-Natal Chart, Loomis, Vivienne, 14 Aug 1959 AD GC, 2:30:00 PM EDT +04:00:00, Winchendon, MA, USA, 72w03'00, 42n41'00

28-Natal Chart, McGinnes, Bryan, 10 Nov 1980 AD GC, 9:53:00 PM EST +05:00:00, Attleboro, MA, USA, 71w17'00, 41n56'00

29-Natal Chart, Montherlant, Henry, 20 Apr 1895 AD GC, 2:00:00 AM LMT -00:09:20, Paris, France, France, 2e20'00, 48n52'00

30-Natal Chart, Pierres, Marc, 12 Jan 1980 AD GC, 4:50:00 AM MET -01:00:00, Pleurs, France, France, 3e52'00, 48n41'00

31-Natal Chart, White, Dan, 2 Sep 1946 AD GC, 8:13:00 AM PST +08:00:00, Bellflower, CA, USA, 118w06'00, 33n53'00

32-Natal Chart, Ley, Robert, 15 Feb 1890 AD GC, 7:00:00 PM LMT -00:29:56, Niederbreidenbach, Germany, Germany, 7e29'00, 50n53'00

33-Natal Chart, Suicide: Burned 1611, 24 Feb 1959 AD GC, 11:50:00 AM MET -01:00:00, Bruxelles, Belgium, Belgium, 4e20'00, 50n50'00

34-Natal Chart, Suicide: Drowned 12196, 28 Jun 1952 AD GC, 9:55:00 PM EDT +04:00:00, Manhattan, NY, USA, 73w59'00, 40n46'00

35-Natal Chart, Suicide: Gas 11396, 27 Oct 1949 AD GC, 3:40:00 AM EST +05:00:00, Manhattan, NY, USA, 73w59'00, 40n46'00

36-Natal Chart, Suicide: Stab 1607, 12 Sep 1946 AD GC, 11:55:00 PM EST +05:00:00, Jacksonville, FL, USA, 81w39'00, 30n20'00

37-Natal Chart, Suicide: Subway 11232, 6 May 1949 AD GC, 1:25:00 PM EDT +04:00:00, Brooklyn, NY, USA, 73w56'00, 40n38'00

38-Natal Chart, Suicide: Subway 11450, 9 Jan 1950 AD GC, 7:03:00 PM EST +05:00:00, Manhattan, NY, USA, 73w59'00, 40n46'00

39-Natal Chart, Suicide: Drugs 10854, 28 Jan 1948 AD GC, 3:35:00 PM EST +05:00:00, Bronx, NY, USA, 73w54'00, 40n51'00

40-Natal Chart, Suicide: Drugs 10854, 28 Jan 1948 AD GC, 3:35:00 PM EST +05:00:00, Bronx, NY, USA, 73w54'00, 40n51'00

41-Natal Chart, Suicide: Drugs 9679, 23 Jun 1944 AD GC, 3:45:00 PM EWT +04:00:00, Brooklyn, NY, USA, 73w56'00, 40n38'00

42-Natal Chart, Suicide: Gas 10699, 14 Aug 1947 AD GC, 4:05:00 PM EDT +04:00:00, Bronx, NY, USA, 73w54'00, 40n51'00

43-Natal Chart, Suicide: Gas 10699, 14 Aug 1947 AD GC, 4:05:00 PM EDT +04:00:00, Bronx, NY, USA, 73w54'00, 40n51'00

44-Natal Chart, Medical: Cancer 8795, 2 Mar 1941 AD GC, 8:17:00 PM EST +05:00:00, Detroit, MI, USA, 83w03'00, 42n20'00

45-Natal Chart, Suicide: Gunshot 11209, 8 Apr 1949 AD GC, 5:50:00 PM EST +05:00:00, Brooklyn, NY, USA, 73w56'00, 40n38'00

46-Natal Chart, Suicide: Stab 9657, 30 May 1944 AD GC, 1:56:00 PM EWT +04:00:00, Brooklyn, NY, USA, 73w56'00, 40n38'00

47- Udet,Ernt: 26 April 1886 AD GC 5:30 PM MET-1.00, Frankfurt On Main, Germany, 50N07’, 008E40’

48-Sanders,George: 03 July, 1906 AD GC 6:00 AM, LMT -2:01' St Petersburg, Russia, 59N55',30E15'

49- Suicide Poison 5667;20 March, 1923 AD GC 9:00 PM, MET -1:00,Muhlaker, Germany, 48N58', 008E50'

50= Suicide Shotgun, 25 Nov 1957, 06:10 AM, São Paulo, Brasil, 23S37' 46S32'-

I studied all the cases accordingly with the Part of the Spirit, and I concluded that:

1- The Part of the Spirit, or their dispositor had a malefic aspect.

2- In some cases, Part of Spirit was conjunct with the Moon.

3- In a few cases it was conjunct with, or opposed to, the luminaries.

4- Part of Spirit seldom had a difficult aspect with a planet in House 8, or the ruler of House 8.

5- I always used complete signs to check aspects that often, but not always, had aspects in exact degrees.

6- The malefic aspect is seldom by triplicity (about 2 cases).

7- At times the Part of Spirit position, or the malefic ruling over it showed the shape of death. However on others, the way of committing suicide had to be sought from other signifiers.

Back to Square One

Under the belief of having discovered something consistent, I slept one night in glory.

On the next morning I began studying cases from my own database, and that had died from natural causes, in addition to the *ADB cases.

My findings quickly took me back to square one: countless natives with the aforementioned characteristics had not committed suicide.

Back to the Drawing Board

We have some few indications about suicide in ancient authors: I´ll quote Albubather and Cardam.

Albubather "Sobre las Natividades" Translated by Demetrius Santos, Editora Edicomunicación, Barcelona, 1986, says on suicides:

"Chapter 193: On natives who kill themselves

When Sun, Moon, Jupiter, and Venus are in the MC, and Saturn and Mars aspect them, and whenever any of them is the ruler of the 2nd House, the native will hang him/herself.

When the 7th House and its ruler are misfortunate, and the ruler is in the Ascendant, the native will kill him/herself.

When the ruler of the Ascendant and the ruler of the 7th house does not aspect the Ascendant, the native will kill himself.

When the Ascendant ruler applies to the ruler of the House of Deatt, or either the ruler of the House of Death or of the 7th House are in the Ascendant without making any aspect with the Moon, the native will kill him/herself.

When Saturn and Mars are in 10th House, and both the Ascendant ruler is misfortunate and the Moon is apart from the ruler of the ASC, and not making any aspect with it, the native will commit suicide by hanging.

When Mars is in the Ascendant and the Moon on the Descendant, and the Fortunes do not aspect them the native will commit suicide."

Cardanus, says in Aphorism 2, *Aphorisms concerning Nativities*: "*Those who have afflicted luminaries in the angles are able to commit suicide. "*

However, some colleagues having a Vedic background suggested that the Nodes were related to suicide.

Facing so many options, and imagining that suicide charts are likely to be difficult, where malefics are expected to have complex relationships, I chose to start my study from scratch, without any preconceived ideas. If nothing came up, I'd simply face it.

Every new chart I saw, I wrote down what it presented before my eyes.
The delineation made for each chart is shown below. I limited the presentation to 30 cases, also randomly picked, for space reasons. The cases ~~stricken through~~ represent those that were excluded for their corresponding suicides having left some doubts as such. These cases were replaced with others from the sample.

The reader may find the history of these cases on the Internet by entering each one's name on a search engine, exception made to cases where anonymity was preserved. One of the Anonymous cases came from my own base data.

1 - The green mark corresponds to cases where I found significant configurations with the Moon.

2 – The blue mark indicates when I found them with Mercury.

3 – Bold letters were used when there was some configuration between the significators and the Nodes.

4 – Red letters were used when Venus had a hardaspect with the ruler of House 8, or vice-versa.

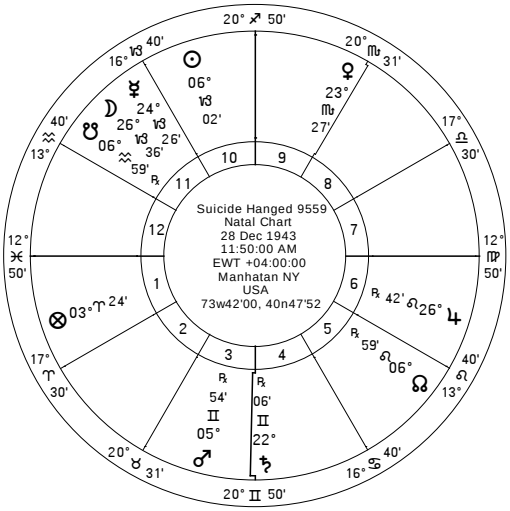
5 – Purple letters were used to point bad configurations with the Sun.

6 – ***Brown letters in italic*** shows where the configuration interweaves with Houses 7, 4, 8, 12 and ASC.

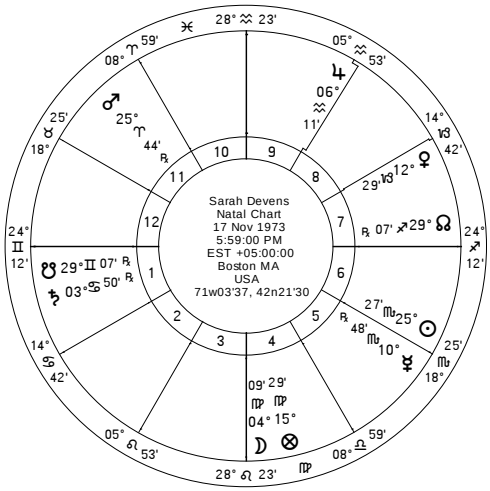
7 – I chose not to highlight configurations with Saturn and Mars, assuming that they are obviously the major suspects in cases of misfortune and death. The important thing was to highlight WHICH PLANETS had a configuration with them, and HOW.

Beginning now with the cases:

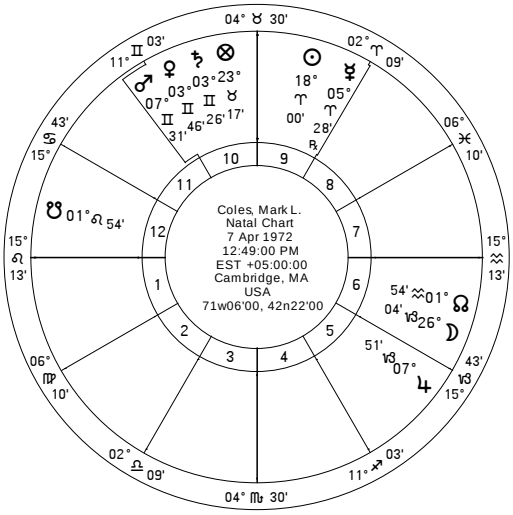
1-Suicide 9559 hanged- I observe Pisces rising and that Venus is the ruler of the 8th house. Venus is in Scorpio, ruled by Mars in Gemini in the 4th house where is also Saturn. **The Moon is in Capricorn near Mercury. So we can see the dispositor´s significators linking Venus, ruler of the 8th, Mars conjunct Saturn, and besides that, Saturn rules Mercury and the Moon.**



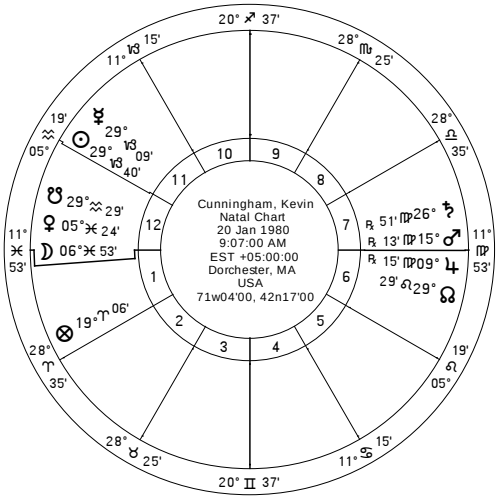
2-Devens,Sarah- Gemini is rising with the South Node. Saturn in the first degrees of Cancer is in opposition to Venus, who is in Capricorn in the 8th. Venus is squaring Mars in Ariesthe Moon o nos primeiros graus de Câncer se opõe a Vênus, planeta em Capricórnio na Casa 8. Vênus faz uma quadratura a Marte em Áries. Moon is in Virgo in the IC



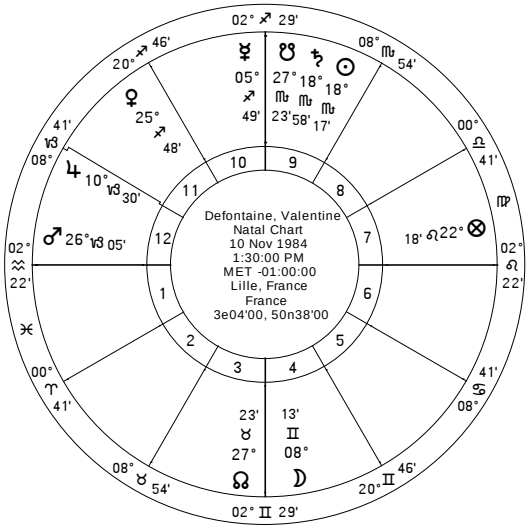
3-Coles- Rule of the 8th house is Jupiter which is in Capricorn in the 6th house. Venus is the 8th house´s almuten and she is in conjunction with Saturn, near Mars. The dispositor of the 8th house, Jupiter, is in Capricorn, the same place where the Moon is in.



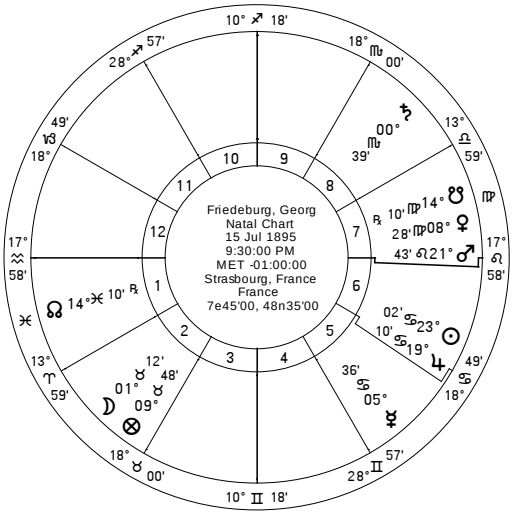
4-Cunningan- The ruler of the 8th (Venus), is in the First House in Pisces with the Moon. ***Saturn, exaltation ruler of the 8th (Libra) is in the 7th house in Virgo, and*** Mercury **in Capricorn conjunct Mars.**



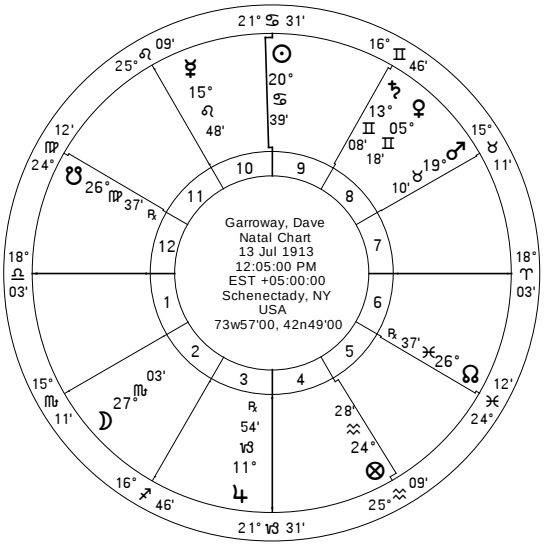
5-Defontaine- The 8th house´s dispositor is Mercury, which is in Sagittarius in the 10th house. His dispositor, Jupiter, is in fall in Capricorn in the 12th house. **The Sun and Saturn are in conjunction in Scorpio.** The Moon is in Gemini **and Mercury is also the dispositor of the 8th. Mercury is in** opposition to the Moon.



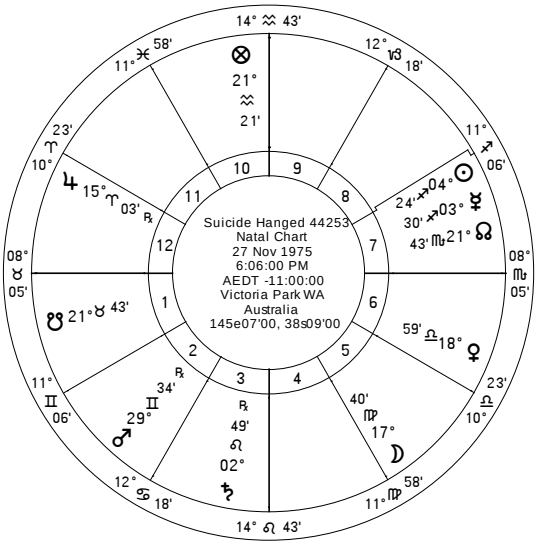
6-Friedeburg, Georg- Aquarius is rising. ***Mars is in the 7th house in Leo. S***aturn, the ASC ruler is in Scorpio in the 8th, opposing to the Moon in Taurus.



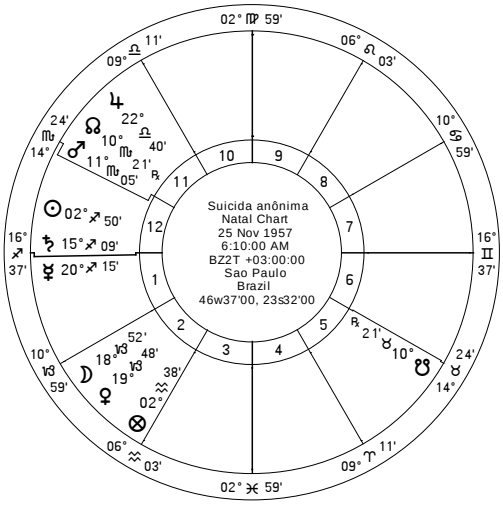
7-Garroway, David- Libra is rising. Venus ruler of the 8th house is conjunct Saturn. Mars is in the 8th house in opposition to the Moon is Scorpio.



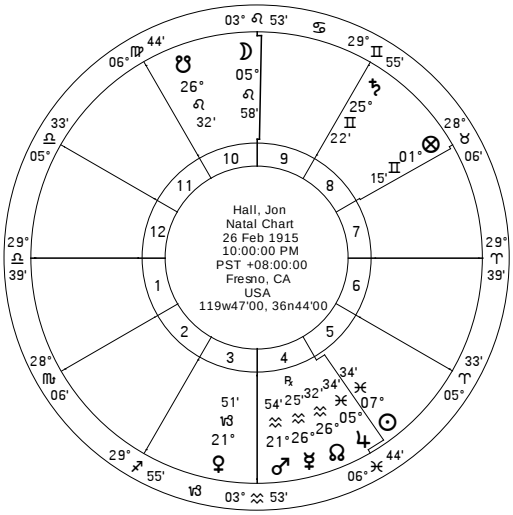
8- Suicide Hanged 44273, 27 Nov 1975 AD GC 6:06 PM AEDT-8:00, Victoria, Austrália, 38S09', 145E07' – **The Sun is in the 8th house in Sagittarius, conjunct Mercury**. ***The 8th house´s ruler is Jupiter, in the 12th in Aries.*** **Mars is Jupiter´s dispositor and it is in Gemini**, squaring the Moon in Virgo.



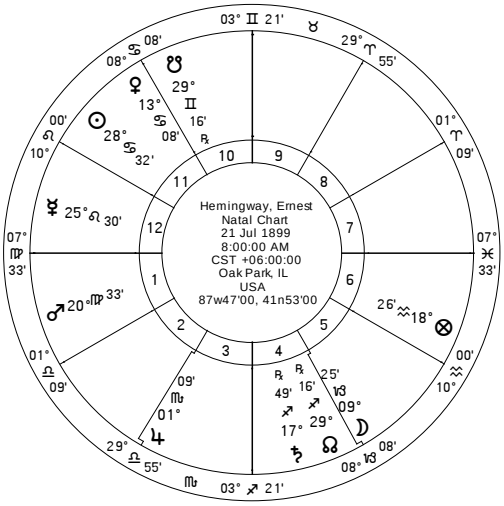
9-Suicide gunshot, 25 Nov 1957, 06:10 AM, São Paulo, Brazil, 23S37’ 46S32’- The 8th house ruler is the Moon in Capricorn ***ruled by Saturn that is in the ASC, Sagittarius next to*** Mercury. **Mars is in his domicile in the 12th house, in Scorpio, conjunct to the North Node.**



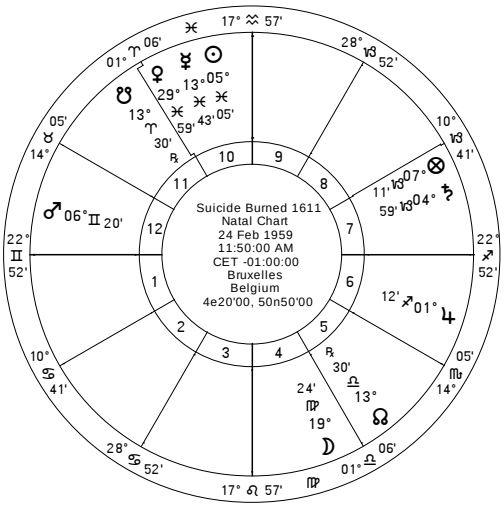
10-Hall- The ***8th house´s ruler is Venus, in Capricorn in the 4th***. *Saturn, her dispositor is in Gemini. Mercury is in Aquarius* **conjunct the North Node. Mercury is in conjunction with Mars.**



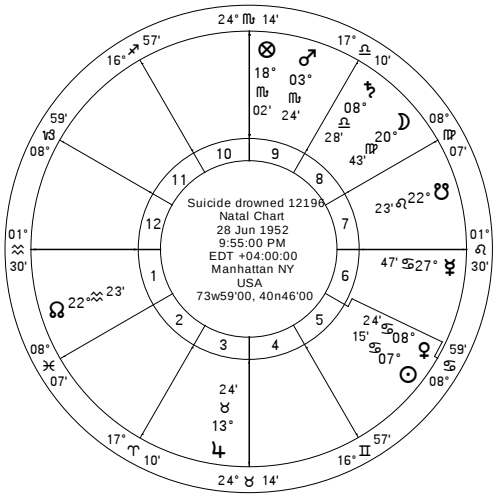
11-Hemingway: **Mars rules the 8th house and it is in the Ascendant in Virgo, squaring Saturn in Sagittarius.** **Ju**piter is in the 3rd House in Scorpio. The Moon is in the 5th House in Capricorn, linking her to Saturn and his square with Mars in the Ascendant.



12- Suicide burned, case 1611- ***Saturn rules the 8th House and it is in Capricorn in the same 8th House,*** next to the Fortune. ***The exaltation ruler of the 8th, Mars, is in the Ascendant in Gemini: Mars exaltation ruler of the 8th is in the 12th*** **ruled by Mercury which opposes to the Moon.**



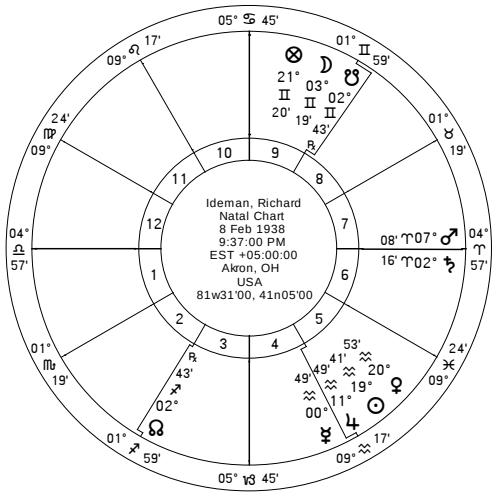
13- Natal Chart, Suicide: Drowned 12196, 28 Jun 1952 AD GC, 9:55:00 PM EDT +04:00:00, Manhattan, NY, USA, 73w59'00, 40n46'00: **Saturn is the ruler of the ASC and He is in Libra squaring the Sun in the 6th House** in Cancer, sign of the Moon. The Moon is in Virgo in the 8th and her ruler, ***Mercury is in Cancer in the 6th***.



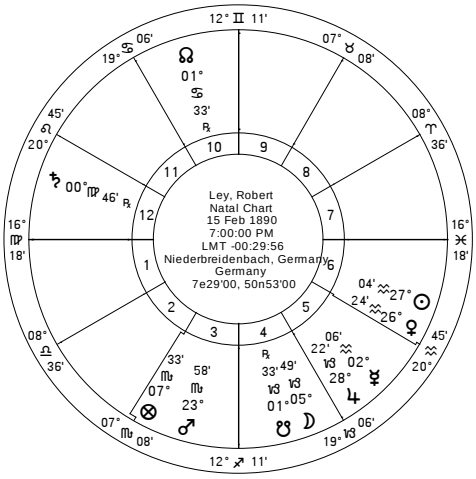
~~14-Suicide drugs 10854 : Doubtful~~

~~15.Howard, Steven; Death during LSD ingestion.~~

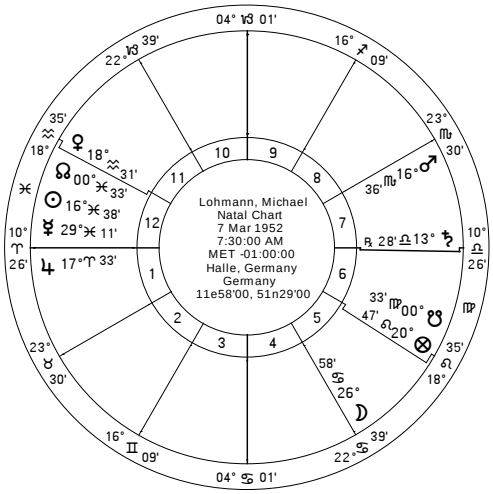
14- Ideman, Richard : **Moon conjunct South Node** in the 9th House in Gemini. ***Venus, is the ruler of the 8th House, Taurus. She is in Aquarius disposed by Saturn conjunct Mars in Aries in the 7th House. Saturn is the almuten of the Ascendant and is opposing to it.***



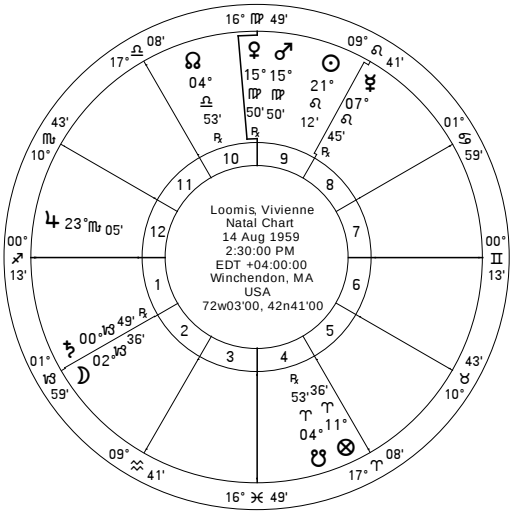
15-Ley- The 8th House is in Aries. Mars is in Scorpio and squares Venus, which is in Saturn´s sign, Aquarius. **The Moon is in conjunction with the South Node in Capricorn**. ***Saturn is in Virgo in the 12th, and by whole sign it is in the First House.***



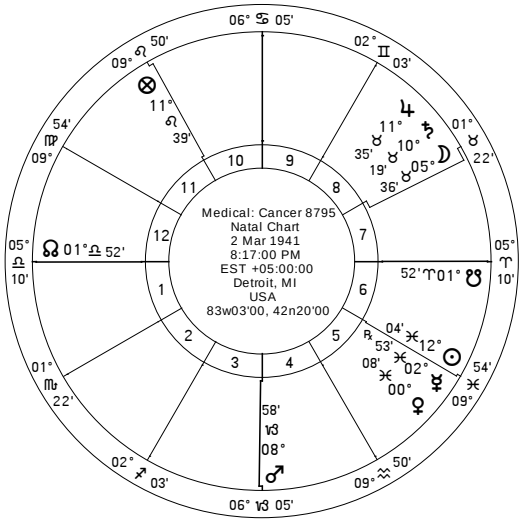
16-Lohman- **Mars, ruler of the Ascendant, Aries, is in the 8th in Scorpio**, squaring Venus. The planet in the cusp of the Ascendant is Jupiter, so Jupiter is also ruled by Mars. **Saturn Rx is in the 7th House exalted, is in opposition to the Ascendant and Jupiter.** The Moon is in Cancer in the 5th house. **The Sun is in the 12th House, ruled by Jupiter**



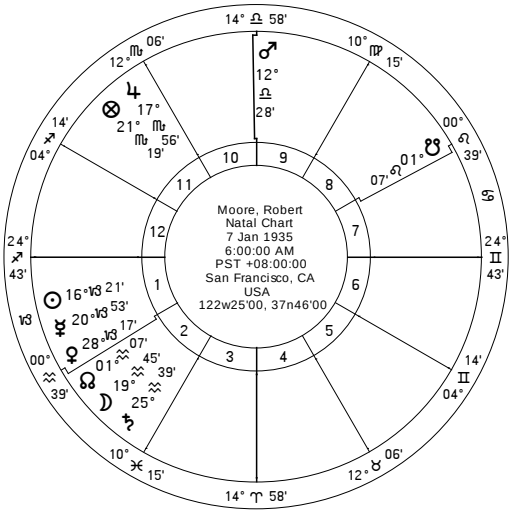
17-Loomis, Vivienne: Moon is the ruler of the 8th House, and she is in Capricorn, conjunct Saturn and **squaring the Nodes**. Mars is the most elevated planet in the MC in Virgo, conjunct Venus.



18- Medical Cancer 8795: Saturn is conjunct with the Moon in the 8th in Taurus. **Venus is in Pisces in the 6th house conjunct Mercury.** ***Mars is exalted in Capricorn: he is the ruler of the 7th and is in the 4th in Capricorn, ruled by Saturn in the 8th House.***

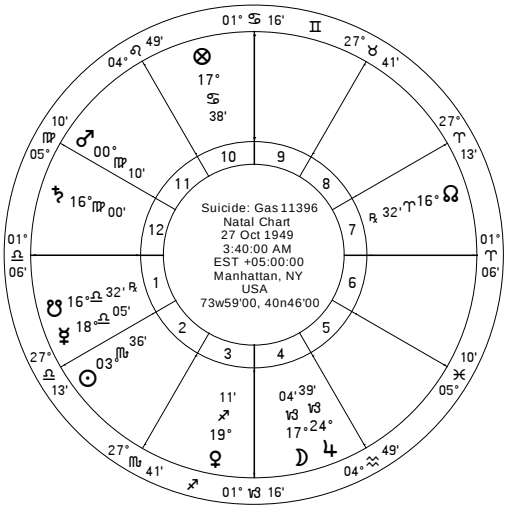


19- Moore: Sagittarius is rising. **The ruler of the 8th House is the Sun, which is in Capricorn in the First House using quadrants.** Saturn is the dispositor of the Sun and he is in Aquarius, conjunct with the Moon. Mars is elevated in the MC in Libra**, squaring the Sun.** Jupiter is the Ascendant´s dispositor and is ruled by the elevated Mars in Libra, ruled by Venus in Capricorn

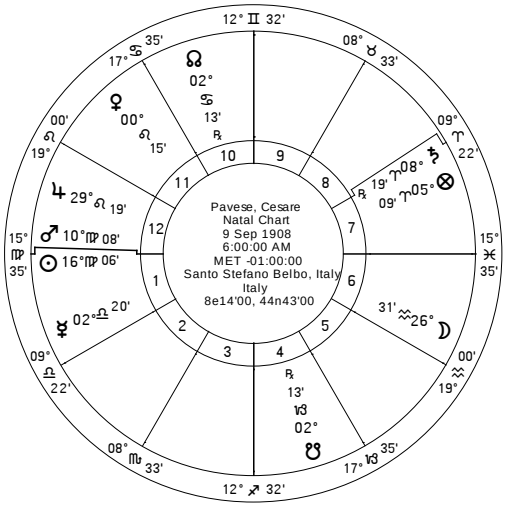


20-Suicide gas case 11396 –Libra is rising. The ruler of the 8th House is Venus, using whole signs. Venus is in Sagittarius, squaring Saturn ***in the 12th House*** in Virgo. **Mercury, Saturn´s and Mars´s ruler is conjunct the South Node.** Venus´s ruler, Jupiter, is conjunct the Moon in Capricorn.

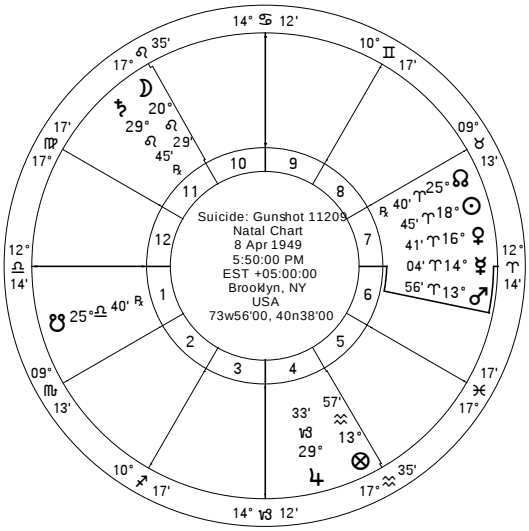
Using Alchabitius ***the ruler of the 8th House is in the 12th, in Virgo,*** and his dispositor, **Mercury is conjunct the South Node in the First House**.



21 Pavese- Ascendant in Virgo. Aries in the 8th House. **The ruler, Mars is with Mercury in the *cusp of the Ascendant.* Saturn in the 8th House is in opposition to Mercury in Libra**. Saturn rules the Moon in Aquarius in the 6ht House.



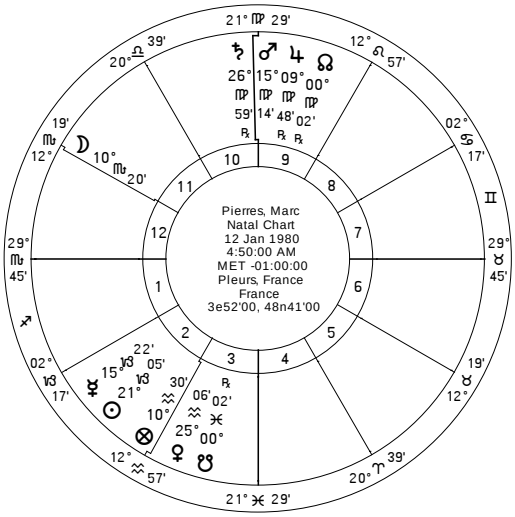
22-Suicide gunshot 11209: Libra is rising. The ruler of the 8th is Venus that is in Aries in the 7th conjunct Mars and Mercury. The Moon is in Leo conjunct Saturn.



~~23- Archiduque Rudolph: there are rumors that he died by natural causes: apoplexy.~~

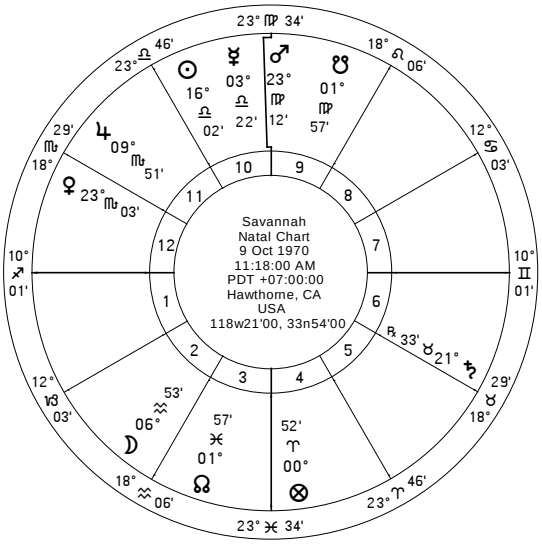
23-Pierres; The Ascendant is in the last minutes of Scorpio. **The Moon is in the 12th House *by division but she is configured to the Ascendant as well.*** Moon rules the 8th House, that is Cancer. She is in Scorpio ***in the 12th*** and Mars, her dispositor is in the MC in Virgo , elevated, and Saturn is conjunct Mars. Mercury rules both and is in Capricorn.

Using whole signs the 8th house would be ruled by Mercury which is in Capricorn.

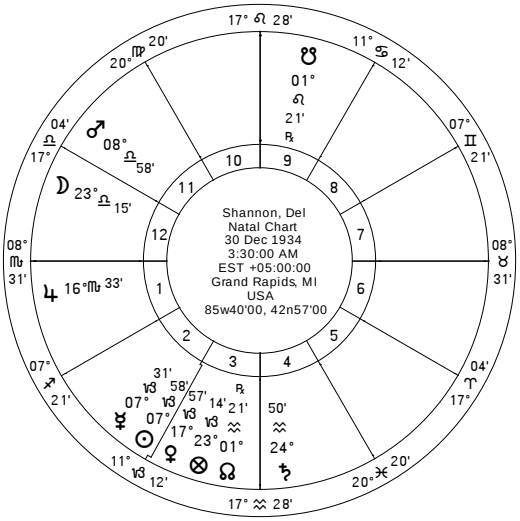


24-~~Saincene (doubts)~~

24-Savannah – Sagittarius is rising. The ruler of the 8th house is the Moon, and she is in Aquarius, in the 3rd House, squaring Saturn ***in the 6th House in Taurus and squaring Jupiter in Scorpio in the 12th House. Mars is the ruler of the 12th House and of the 7th and he is in the cusp f the MC in Virgo, the most elevated planet.***

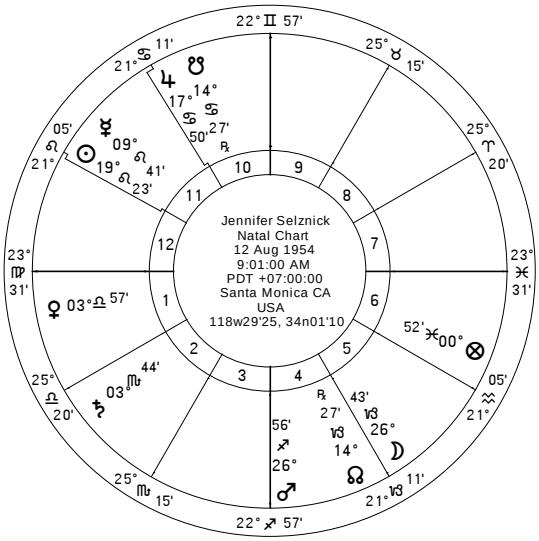


25 Shannon, Del- The Moon is in conjunction with Mars in the 12th House in Libra. Venus is in Capricorn ***Mars is the Ascendant´s ruler, Scorpio and it is in the 12th house. Jupiter is in the Ascendant, ruled by Mars in Libra in the 12thScorpio,. Mercury is the ruler of the 8th house and is conjunct to the Sun, combust, both in Capricorn*** in the 3rd House**. Saturn rules both, Sun and Mercury, and is in Aquarius in the IC**. Saturn is also almuten of Moon and Mars.

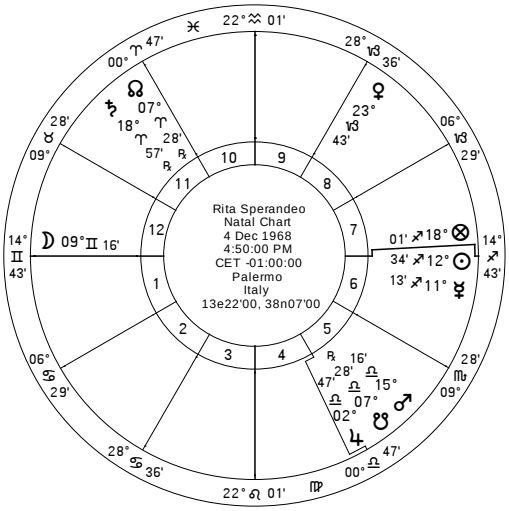


~~26- Drugs 9679- doubtful~~

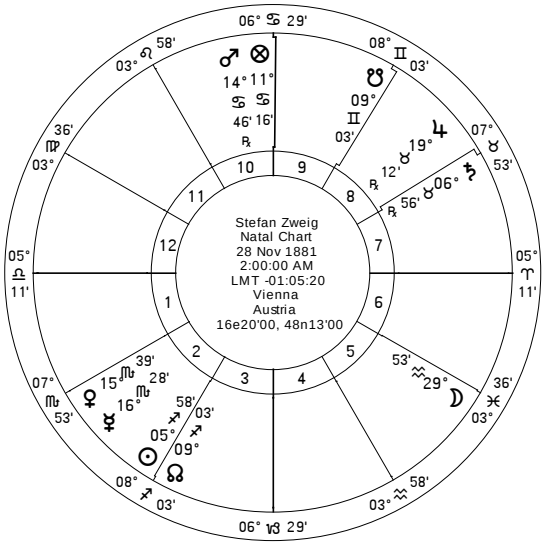
26- Selznick, Jennifer- jumped The Ascendant is Virgo. **Mercury is conjunct the Sun in the 12th.*****The 8th House ruler is Mars, that is in Sagittarius in the cusp of the 4th house.*** Jupiter **is Mars´s ruler and it is conjunct the South Node in the 11th house in** opposition to the Moon in Capricorn.



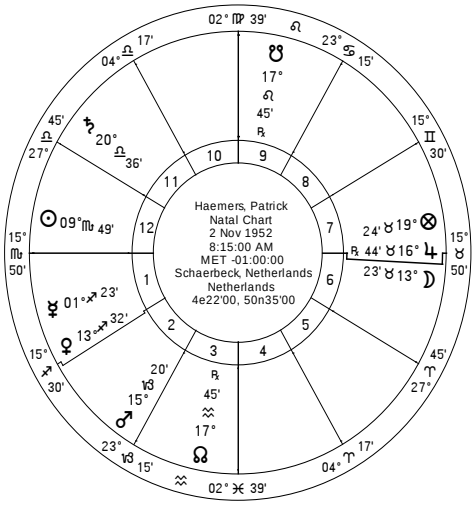
27- Sperandeo, Rita -Jumped - **Saturn ruler of the 6th House is in Aries in the 11th House in conjunction to the North Node and opposition to Mars in Libra conjunct the South Node.** Venus is in Capricorn in square with Saturn. **Mercury, ruler of the Ascendant is combust in the 7th** in Sagittarius in opposition to the Moon in the Ascendant, Gemini.



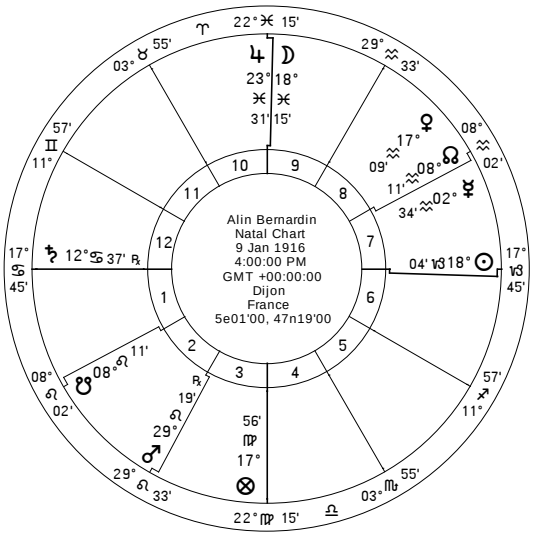
28- Zweig, Stefan- Libra is rising. Saturn is in the 8th House in Taurus in opposition to Venus. **Venus is conjunct Mercury in Scorpio**. The Moon is in Aquarius in the 6th House, disposed by Saturn in the 8th House.



29-Haemers, Patrick- Hanged (in prison). We see that **the rulers of the 7th and 8th Houses are in conjunction** in Sagittarius. **Their dispositor is Jupiter in the cusp of the 7th**, in conjunction to the Moon. It is in opposition to the Ascendant **and squaring the Nodes**.



30- Alin Bernardin- 9/1/1916- 4:00 PM GMT +0:00, Dijon, France, 5E01', 47N19' The 8th House is in Aquarius **with Mercury conjunct the North Node**. ***The ruler of the 8th House is in the Ascendant.*** **The Sun is in Capricorn, other sign of Saturn, in the 7th House, also *ruled by Saturn in the Ascendant***



Describing my Findings

What I observed most often, and with few exceptions, is that the Moon frequently gets into configuration with malefics or the ruler of the 8th House. The expected configuration is not by aspect, but by rulership instead. We find, for instance, the Moon in Saturn signs, significators of House 8 in aspect with the Moon or its dispositors, or disposing of them. Mars also appears, sometimes angular, at times in difficult Houses, such as 8 or 12, and sometimes in conjunction with Mercury or in the signs it rules.

The poor essential quality of the planets sometimes only appears looking at theirs dispositors, which can be in bad state by sign or House, or both, or even by entering into configuration with malefic.

Charts often display bad aspects of Venus and Moon with Saturn. The planets' celestial dignity does not serve as a protection, prevailing the mundane Houses they refer to. It doesn't matter if there are benefic planets ruling the dispositor of House 8, for example. If they are in "bad" houses or disposed by malefic in bad houses it is enough. So, malefics in malefic houses, or malefic houses being ruled by the malefics in angles or not, or benefics ruled by Saturn are a point to take into consideration. The position of personal planets in Saturn signs has a really important role in suicide scenery, but they have to appear in an specific configuration in order to diferenciate them from other kind of adversities' charts.

If Saturn, specifically, has an aspect with Venus or the Moon or if Venus or the Moon is in Capricorn or Aquarius, and if there is any participation of Mercury and its signs especially if Mars is in them and the ASC has some participation is that configuration this is a point to be considered as a probability for a suicide.

I observed that the Moon appears frequently in Aquarius, Capricorn, and Virgo, more often than in other signs. However it isn't possible to generalize from such a small sample.

The Nodes have an important role, specially the South Node when in conjunction with a planet, however they seldom justify the suicide on their own: they must be in conjunction with the ruler of House 8 or with the Moon, and it is generally necessary to have something else on the chart, such as Saturn on the ASC, or an opposition to the ASC from a death-related significator.

The Moon, more than the Sun, appears on the configuration, and even if she has dignity, a rare occurrence , if there are other determining problematic factors her dignity doesn't protect the native.

Regarding Houses, there is no clear dominance; however there is a higher tendency for malefic planets to appear in malefic Houses, such as 12 or 8, but also in the ASC, Houses 7 or 4.

As shown by *ADB, bad aspects also appear between Venus and the ruler of House 8, but we need a whole configuration and the present aspect is only part of it.

I also noticed the presence of Mercury, or the signs it rules, in the configuration.

There is a noticeable frequency of personal planets in Capricorn or Aquarius. Ascendants in Libra were also frequent, possibly because often Libra has Saturn as almuten. I observed as well that Sagittarius appears with some frequency, more than it was supposed to happen for a sign ruled by a benefic.

It is not possible to give a univocal answer on if the native will ever commit suicide. There is no planet in charge of suicide. There is no sign more prone to it than any other, though the malefics have a strong role on the chart. This alone, however, does not guarantee a suicide. In the charts where death occurred from natural causes, we often see many malefics with little level of celestial dignity in angles[1]. Not even the malefics on their own have the power to reverse the natural path of living, which is to preserve ones own life at all costs, and not destroy it.

We need some signals coming together: the first signal is to have a chart pointing to a life of distress, internal conflicts, and dangerous accidents, i.e. a chart showing obvious signs of adversity and violence.

The Moon appeared often in Aquarius, Capricorn and Virgo, but we have to take into account the size of the sample.

On Mars´s signs planets is Scorpio appears much more than in Aries, possibly because Scorpio is a centripetal sign and turns the problems against him.

People who died from natural causes **did not have on their charts signals of so much adversity as those potentially suicidal natives.**

The reader will have the opportunity to study on their own the charts introduced, to decide if more factors should be observed, considering basic principles, i.e. keeping in mind that the solar sign, the position of Venus and Mars characterize less a chart than the positions of the Moon and the ASC, which change more rapidly.

Regarding the system of houses, I considered quadrants, working with Alcabithius as well as “whole signs”, however I noticed that the use of quadrants worked better, as I was dealing with the quantitative part, the strength of the planets that drive an individual to what is considered an extreme act.

Suicide by taking drugs fits a pattern where violence is less evident. The charts of those who committed suicide using fire weapons are more typical, and resemble those of people who suffered accidents.

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[1] see my article in **www.astrologiahumana.com/maleficsinangles.pdf**.

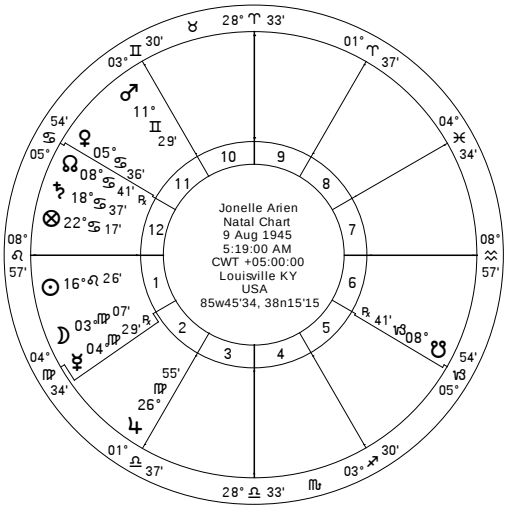
A few suicidal charts failed to display the typical configuration I described above, and only after the incident we recalled that they had suspicious traits. However this is **generally rare** and I believe to have identified the planetary choreography that makes the native prone to suicide, and that signals such possibility.

For comparison, I analyzed the charts of natives who died of natural causes and I did not find the above characteristics. I analyzed also the charts of people who were murdered, and found that their configurations were more straightforward and show less sinuosity and meanders than the suicides.

Comparing the last two groups I noticed that people who were murdered had more obvious configurations in their charts; however they have many features in common with those of suicides.

There are a lot of resemblance points, though, between the charts of people who caused their own demise and those who were murdered and in order to exemplify I´ll bring two charts.

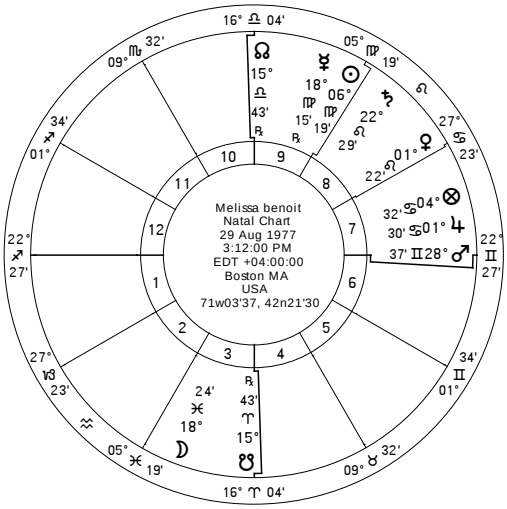
Here we see the chart of Jonelle Arien, born on 09/Aug/1945 at 05:19 AM in Louisville, KY, USA, CWT + 5: War Time, 38N15, 85W46.



We see that the ASC is Leo, the House 7th is ruled by Saturn, which is in Cancer in House 12. House 8 is ruled by Jupiter, which is in Virgo, like the Moon and Mercury, both in conjunction and squaring Mars in Gemini.

There are no amenities here: we see big problems with House 7 issues. The ruler of House 7 is in House 12, this native was shot dead by her husband. That husband was a concealed enemy, very badly positioned by sign, a bad character. No need to mince words here. We find the Moon in the configuration, Venus with the North Node in House 12, and Venus is the almuten of House 8. Suicides and murdered people have similar configurations: there are many examples like this. However House 7 configures more closely with House 8 for homicide victims than for suicides.

Another case: Melissa Benoit, born on 29/Aug/1977 at 3:12 PM in Boston, MA, USA EDT+ 4: 0 Daylight, 42N22, 71W4.



Here the ASC is Sagittarius: the 7th House is in Gemini, and the 8th is in Cancer. Moon is at 18 degrees of Pisces, and Mercury is at 18 degrees of Virgo, on the 3/9 axis. Both planets square Mars, planet in the 7th House. Mars squares the Nodes. Venus is in the 8th House: the reason for the violence and death was sex, since Venus rules the 5th House. In this case, it was rape followed by death.

Meanwhile suicidal charts show a triangle element connecting the signifiers, which may be overlooked.

Studying suicide charts is like taking a winding road to reach the same destination, destruction. We have to look to the dispositor of the dispositor frequently to conclude that such a native was a potential suicide. Neither the murderer nor the murder victim has such feature, only the suicides.

Suicide is a much more elaborate – even sophisticated – act than murder.

How to proceed?

A small guide (easy, but not simple)

I suggest you look for one or more of the following configurations:

1 – The ruler of House 8 is a malefic and is related to the Moon, or is in conjunction with a Node.

2 – The ruler of House 8 is a malefic and is on the ASC or in House 12 and is related to the Moon by ruling or being ruled by it.

3 – The ruler of House 8 is a benefic, however it is in a sign ruled by Saturn, or makes a conjunction with it or is conjunct with a Node (generally the South Node).

4 –Check for the presence of Mars in Mercury signs, or in conjunction with a signifier.

5 – Look for oppositions or squares configuring the Moon, the Ascendant and Saturn.

Sometimes the configuration appears clearly: for example, the Moon rules the 8th House and is in Capricorn is the 2nd House, and Jupiter, the Ascendant´s ruler is in the 7th House in Gemini and Mercury, his ruler is in conjunction with mars in Virgo. This kind of configuration is the obvious one. Other times, though, this configuration is well disguised and it is necessary to GO to the final dispositors of a complete configuration or even to submerge in the deepest level of the chart to know the real authors

As a general rule, begin by looking at the 8th House and its rulers. Verify its aspects and the aspects of its dispositors, if they are malefics, and if they aspect the Moon, or one of the planets is in conjunction with the Nodes in any kind of house. Next, look at the ASC and the 12th House and search for Saturn and planets in his Houses. Check whether they are configured with the Moon, the 8th House or its ruler, and with Mercury and Mars.

If the reader finds this setting on a chart, he may believe that he is facing a potential suicide.

A Case in the Movies and a Mystery Chart

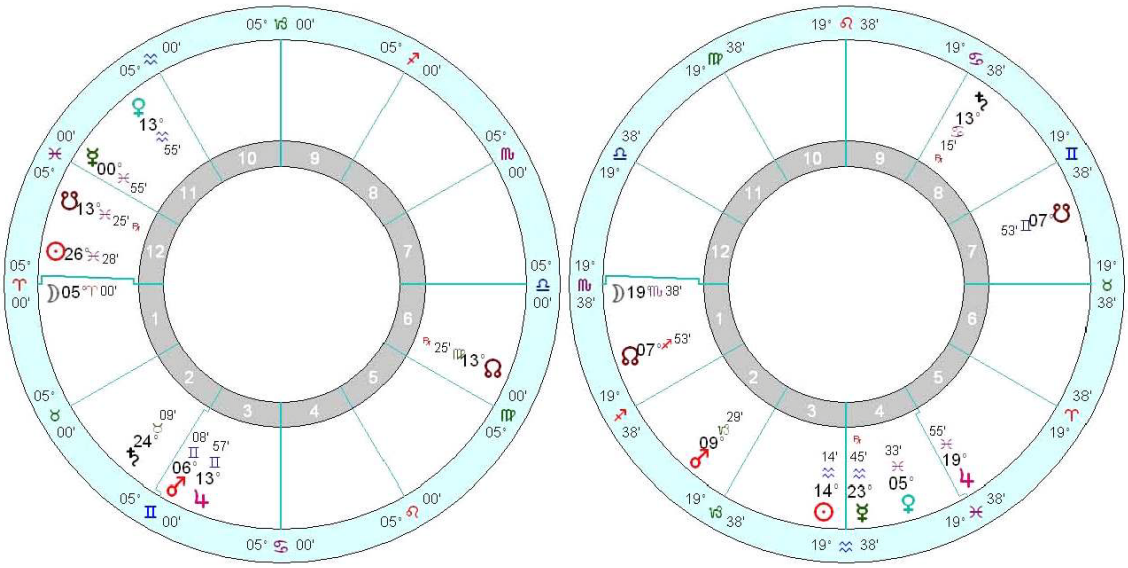
A recent film shown in cinemas was “Dear Mr. Gacy”, based on the book by Jason Moss, a brilliant lawyer who studied the mind of psychopathic murderers by developing a friendship with them.

While he was still studying Law, Jason Moss, posing as a homosexual, managed to become a friend by letters and phone calls, of John Wayne Gacy, for fifteen years in prison, and finally sentenced to death for the murder of 33 people, male youngsters whom he lured into his home, seduced, raped, and killed, burying his victims right there.

Gacy eventually died from the fatal injection, and Moss graduated with honors, married, wrote a book about his friendship with Gacy and the murderer’s mind. In 2006 he shot himself dead.

I managed to get the birth dates of both, but not the time of birth.

I resorted to the Hellenistic tradition of making from the Moon a *horoskopus* viz. an Ascendant. I assembled both the serial killer's and the suicidal lawyer's charts for noon, to obtain a middle time, however the Moon might have been ahead or behind. Next, I took the Moon obtained as Ascendant. The reader will see below two nameless charts, and I invite you, before looking at the answer, to try to decide which one belongs to the killer, and which one to the suicide.



The left chart shows that the Moon is in the sign of Mars, Aries. The 8th House from the Moon is also in the sign of Mars. The good or evil of a House depends on its ruler. Mars is in Gemini in square with its ruler, Mercury, in House 12.

Mercury receives Mars; hence Mars does what Mercury commands: things under cover that require cunning, Mercury, and aggression, Mars.

The native's demise will be the outcome from Mars' endeavors.

Now let's move to the chart on the right.

Here the Moon is also ruled by Mars, and Mars is in exaltation in Capricorn, sign of Saturn. Since Saturn receives Mars, Mars will do whatever Saturn wants. And what does Saturn want? As Saturn is in House 9, the motives are the studies and the philosophy.

Saturn is received by the Moon. Saturn, Mars, and the Moon are configured for deep studies and communication, which requires some courage, provided by an exalted Mars.

The 8th House is ruled by Mercury, which is in the 4ht House from the Moon, in Aquarius. Aquarius is a Saturn´s sign and the 4th House is the house of the end of things. The Moon and Mercury are in square.

So which of the charts is the murderer's, and which one is the suicidal?

According to both my studies and the charts provided in this study, I can state that the chart on the left is the murderer's, and the one on the right is the suicide´s chart. We notice some resemblance between them, which explains that the researcher and the research subject had points in common; however there are deep differences in the quality of Mars, ruling the Moon for both. There is also a difference in Mars, on the right chart, being an instrument in Saturn's hand, as well as Mercury, ruler of House 8: the desire to study and learn, with Mars, provide the learning content - violence. Meanwhile the 4ht House, the end of things, is related to Saturn, in the house of studies.

The killer's chart, on its turn, says that because of Mars, his death shall come. In fact, he was sentenced to death, and died because of his numerous murders.

We can see that the murder´s chart is straightforward in its delineation whereas the suicide is full of meanders and sinuosity. Meanders and sinuosity covering a configuration that deals with danger is the signature I found for suicides.

Reminiscences from the Past

There is no way to obliterate the fact that my early background was in clinical psychology, therefore my interest in investigating what compels a human being to commit suicide is not casual. I can state that so many meanders and subtleties actually match reality to the extent of misleading both therapist and physician. I had firsthand contact with suicidal issues for many years, and learned that it's something to be always feared and proactively regarded, since suicide is precisely as I described it in this essay: loaded with deception, impulsive, malicious, and hard to control.

Conclusion

I do not know how far I have been clear in my explanation. It seems to me easier to observe whether or not a configuration exists in a given chart than describe them widely, and thus I sometimes stretched the explanations and specifications in a detailed way. It is difficult to say in few words what a Suicide Chart IS, because it does not exist. Any chart is different but something that we can do is to find important points in common between natives who had committed suicide in some moment of their lives.

The hypotheses raised in this study require testing in larger populations. Confirmation will come from the astrologer's community committed to traditional studies and research.

Tradition provides us with a wide and consistent knowledge base to guide our minds towards what we should look for and where in each chart.

It is not possible to make a long journey short. Let's resist the temptation to find easy answers and miraculous explanatory hypotheses. We should mirror ourselves on the ancient masters who didn't bother to own the master key that would open any door.

Furthermore, it's worth keeping in mind that astrology provides signals and leads: the future belongs to God.

Our pool of studies and observations will enhance the credibility of astrology as an instrument for research, and to uncover the configurations suspected of causing one or another event. Then we might be able to circumscribe the signals associated to suicidal configurations, and possibly spare some lives, forewarned by some potentially disastrous indicators.

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