ABOUT ME

➤ I have practiced traditional astrology professionally since 2000

➤ My teachers are John Frawley (graduated from the Horary Apprenticeship course in 2004) and Deborah Houlding (Masters Horary Course)

➤ I teach, consult with clients, and write - currently a column on astrological magic for The Mountain Astrologer

➤ I am working on a very long-term project; illustrating and explaining Guido Bonatti’s 146 Considerations (12th century text) in cartoon format. You can see past pages on Facebook, Instagram, and if you want to support my work, Patreon.

➤ My work with hundreds of clients’ natal charts has led me to streamline traditional methods of personality analysis
MYTH: TRADITIONAL ASTROLOGY IS NOT CONCERNED WITH PSYCHOLOGY

Lack of reading and understanding.
STEP 1:
IDENTIFY THE TEMPERAMENT
Ancient Greek philosophers theorized that everything is made up of four immutable elements.

Hippocrates, the famous physician extended this to the body.

Governed Western medicine until the Scientific Age of the 18th century.

Still key to Islamic traditional medicine, Unani Tibb ("Greek Medicine").
TEMPERAMENT

➢ A mixture of the four qualities: cold/hot and dry/wet
➢ The traditional ideal is to be perfectly balanced along both axes
➢ Environmental, emotional, or physical factors cause balance to shift
➢ Excess or deficiency along either axis causes dishealth
FOUR TEMPERAMENTS

Many calculations for determining temperament exist:

- William Lilly (Christian Astrology)
- Johannes Schöner (On the Judgment of Nativities)
- Dorian Greenbaum: Temperament - Astrology’s Forgotten Key
- Ryhan Butler’s Talk: Temperament - Attaining the Balance Within
BASIC FORMULA FOR FINDING THE TEMPERAMENT

➤ The rising sign and its ruling planet
➤ Any planets in the Ascendant or in close aspect
➤ The Moon’s sign, phase, and planets in aspect
➤ The Sun’s sign and the season
➤ “Lord of the Geniture”
ENHANCED FORMULA FOR FINDING THE TEMPERAMENT

- Thanks to Ryhan Butler
- Ascendant sign and its ruler
- Any planets in the Ascendant or aspecting the Ascendant
- The Moon’s sign, phase, and planets in aspect
- The Sun’s season
- Almuten of the figure (the planet with the most essential dignities in the places of the Sun, Moon, Ascendant, prenatal lunation, and Part of Fortune)
1. Rising Sign and ruling planet

Hot and Dry (Aries) and
Hot and Dry (Mars)
2. Planets in Ascendant or in close aspect

Cold and Wet (Moon)

Slightly Hot and Dry (Mercury)

Cold and Dry/Hot and Dry (South Node - like Saturn and Mars)
3. Moon’s sign, phase, and planets in aspect

Hot and Dry (Aries)
Cold and Wet (4th Q)
Slightly Hot and Dry (Mercury)
4. Sun’s sign and season

Cold and Wet (Cancer)

Hot and Dry (Summer)
5. Lord of Geniture

Cold and Dry (Saturn)
Grand Total:

Hot: 7
Cold: 5
Wet: 3
Dry: 9

Dry: Separation, objectivity, pragmatism.

Hot: Ambitious, outwardly oriented, active

Dry/hot:
Choleric with secondary melancholy.
Barbara Cartland
Female Chart
Jul 9 1901, Tue
11:40 pm  +0:00
Edgebaston, Birmingh
52°N30' 001°W50'
Geocentric
Tropical
Placidus
True Node
Rating: AA

Choler: Mars
Melancholy: Saturn
STEP 2:
MANNER (PERSONALITY)
BASIC RULES FOR FINDING THE SIGNIFICATOR OF MANNER

➤ Any planets in the Ascendant and their dispositors/aspecting planets. Focus on the most powerful planet among many in the Ascendant.

➤ If no planets in the Ascendant, then examine aspects to Moon and Mercury. Again, focus on the most powerful planet.

➤ If no planets join Moon or Mercury, then examine the ruler of the Ascendant.
NATURE OF THE SIGNIFICATOR OF MANNERS

- **Benefics**: A good, laudable personality
- **Malefics**: Evil and corrupt, unless well-dignified, in which case “good, pretty conditions, but ever mixed with a tincture of poison, or with the remains of some crabbed condition or other...” *(Christian Astrology, p 535)*
- **Luminaries** have no special characteristics, unless they are “wonderful strongly fortified.” *(Ibid., p 535)*. Look at the luminary’s dispositor rather than the luminary itself.
NATURE OF THE SIGNIFICATOR OF MANNERS

➤ **Saturn**: Grave, austere, deep thinker, preservers of riches, patient. Abject spirits, unattractive, low self-worth, envious, deceitful, malignant, thieving, miserly, misanthropic.

➤ **Jupiter**: Virtuous, dignified, generous, just, religious, honest. Egotists, naive, only partially good, proud, fearful, prodigal.

➤ **Mars**: Generous, valiant, fierce, dextrous, unafraid. Cruel, criminal, bragging, violent, quarrelsome and tyrannical.

➤ **Venus**: Cheerful, pleasant, neat and clean, virtuous, kind, elegant, artistic. Cowardly, lazy, lustful, of poor repute.

➤ **Mercury**: Inventive, sharp mind, studious, wise and wily, good at divination and counsel, dextrous. Inconstant, turbulent, envious, liars, Machiavellian, meddlers.
Planet in the Ascendant:

Moon in Aries: Luminary - we look to dispositor Mars.

Mars rules the Moon and the Ascendant.

Mars in triplicity and bound, so more likely to be constructive. Bold and courageous, open in speech, boasters.
Fixed stars of 1st or 2nd magnitude near the ecliptic are most powerful.

- Algol - 26 Taurus - A dogged nature, violence, causes sudden death to self or others
- Pleiades - 0 Gemini - wanton, ambitious, turbulent
- Pollux - 23 Cancer - Subtlety, craft, spirit, valor, audacity mixed with cruelty and rashness
- Regulus - 0 Virgo - Magnanimous, generous, desires to bear rule, ambitious of dominion over others
- Spica - 24 Libra - Sweet disposition, diligent in arts and sciences, a most admirable invention with Mercury
- Deneb Adige - 5 Pisces - ingenious, apt to any learning and knowledge
STEP 3:

WIT OR UNDERSTANDING
MERCURY AND THE MOON

➤ Mercury governs the reason and “animal spirits in the brain” (Christian Astrology, p 543)
➤ Moon rules the sensory, “vegetative” spirit
➤ Ideally, both are well-placed, strongly dignified, and in mutual harmonious aspect
MERCURY AND THE MOON (SCHOENER)

➤ Cardinal/Moveable Signs: Will love public expression of his work, ambitious, think on divine matters, acute of intellect, and generous.

➤ Mutable/Common Signs: Easily changeable, doesn’t know what he wants, happy, loving, unstable, crafty, love of music, skillful and acute, impulsive.

➤ Fixed: Just, truthful, stable, not trivial, honorable, calm, long memory, stubborn, letting go of hostility with difficulty
➤ Take the planet that has greatest number of dignities in places of Mercury, Moon, and the Ascendant

➤ Also, if a single planet is the almuten of the Moon and Mercury’s places, their personality is more orderly and harmonious

➤ Almutens of the places of Mercury and the Moon malefics in an angle, the native will be proud, evil, but fortunate (Schöner, trans. Hand, p 123)

➤ Almutens of Mercury and the Moon are benefics which are not angular, the native will be good but unfortunate (Ibid.)
MERCURY

- Strongly influenced by planets in aspect and by dispositor
- Mercury under the earth - arts and skilled work; above the earth: speech and oratory
- Mercury very swift: fast thinkers but inconstant. If retrograde or slow - difficult to think, “stuttering.”
- Combust or under the beams - meddles with impertinent matters or niceties (cannot see the forest for the trees)
- Oriental - a more open nature; occidental - a closed or deceitful behavior
- Dignified and in air signs - acute intelligence, good linguists
MERCURY

- With Saturn, or in his signs: Wary, constant, and persevering; good memory (*Christian Astrology*). Impeded tongue, envious, hiding hostility (Schöner).
- Jupiter: Honest, learned, virtuous, humane. Truthful, discreet, honorable.
- Mars: Confident and presumptuous. Liar and deceiver of women.
- Sun: Ambitious, arrogant, proud. Associated with kings and writers.
- Venus: Eloquent and charming. Lover of all sciences, good rhetorician, good judge.
- Moon: Unstable and changeable.
TEMPERAMENTS AND STUDIOUSNESS

- Phlegmatics: Slow and disinclined to serious study
- Overabundant melancholy: Unintelligent
- Sanguine: Flighty students
- Cholerics: Do not love studying
- Sanguine-melancholics make the best students
- Choleric-melancholics: “Excellent inventions” (Ibid., p 546)
Barbara Cartland  
Female Chart  
Jul 9 1901, Tue  
11:40 pm  +0:00  
Edgebaston, Birmingh  
52°N30' 001°W50'  
Geocentric  
Tropical  
Placidus  
True Node  
Rating: AA

Mercury and the Moon

Cardinal: Ambitious, attempts to act on the world.

Almuten of the Moon is Mars and Saturn.

Almuten of Mercury is the Moon (leading back to Mars).

Mercury aspects both Moon and Mars. Confident, presumptuous, changeable.
Dame Barbara Cartland (1901-2000)
Upwardly mobile socialite and prolific romance author of 723 books.

Gifted self-promoter, “always tended to dislike being touched,” and “was designated Achiever of the Year by the American furnishing industry for wallpaper and fabric designs.” (Guardian obituary)
Thank you!

You can reach me for questions or consultations via Facebook (Nina Gryphon) Instagram (@ninagryphon) or email: nina@ninagryphon.com