The Natural Zodiac:

The nature of the archetypes in Evolutionary Astrology.


The Zodiac itself represents or incorporates the totality of consciousness in human form on the earth in space-time reality. All of our human experience within the relative universe is contained within the 12 signs of the Zodiac.

The next central point to understand is that from the perspective of Evolutionary Astrology there is no essential difference between a planetary embodiment of an archetype or that of a house cusp or planet – in simple terms, with the example of the first archetype Aries - there is no difference between the sign Aries, the first house and the planet Mars. They all carry some essential quality as the first of the twelve – they all share an essential similarity.

What you are actually looking at when you look at a chart is how any given consciousness is structured. The 12 archetypes provide energy and quality within a multiplicity of possible interactions with each other to create the diversity of possible experience in life on earth. Rather like DNA the 12 strands or archetypes of the zodiac provide a blueprint for all experience.

ARIES

Aries is a Cardinal, Fire and Yang archetype. This correlates with the nature of energy moving outwards from the center, projected energy (whereas the Yin archetypes correspond to energy returning to the center). Whilst the Yin/Yang dynamic of the signs represents the natural polarity of our universe, the trinity of Cardinal, Fixed and Mutable signs adds a further dimension to the type of energy expressed. With Cardinal energy we have a sense of initiatory action, of taking a step forward, of then experiencing an inherent insecurity in having made the step and so stepping back again. Overall a kind of lurching forward movement is attained. Within the Aries archetype the insecurity stems from the original anxiety of separation from the womb. Aries squares Cancer (womb, mother) in the Natural Zodiac, furthermore as Mars is a lower Octave of Pluto and as Pluto represents the Soul in its dual desires (on the one hand to separate and on the other to return to its source) then Mars represents the subjective or instinctual experience of having desires, feeling them as a being. Through the inconjunct to Scorpio from Aries then, we see a crisis between Soul and subjective awareness – the crisis and insecurity around birth, of separating from the womb.
As a lower octave of Pluto Mars correlates with the type of desires we have and feel subjectively in our life, it demonstrates the archetype of separation, which in another form becomes the process reflecting our continuous state of becoming. Everything in life is unfolding, is in a perpetual state of becoming. The 1st house, Aries and Mars correspond to the types of desire we can (normally) be subjectively aware of, desire being the energy behind the perpetual process of becoming. These desires emanate from the Soul (Pluto) and yet in most of us the Soul remains unconscious for a great deal of the time. Mars represents the subjective awareness that keys in to the more subtle Soul sense, and is therefore how most of us will experience or know the desires that emanate from the more subtle origins of consciousness in the Soul.

In order to respond to the perpetual state of becoming that we find existing in life, Mars, Aries, the Ascendant, require freedom. Essential freedom to be able to act on the core desires that stem from the evolutionary requirements (as desired within the Soul/Pluto). To return to the natural inconjunct between Aries and Scorpio, we have here, in all people, the potential for a subconscious fear of entrapment, fearing that the needed freedom to become could be blocked or thwarted by another. The related lesson is commitment, which we find emphasized in the Scorpio archetype. If you have a dominant 1st house, a T-square with Mars, Mars in the 8th or Mars on the South Node then this fear of entrapment is emphasized.

Aries is opposite Libra, here we have the archetype of relationship, which as both Aries and Libra T-square Cancer represents an emotional paradox with regard to relationships – on one side we need people, on the other we need our freedom. To return to the relationship between Mars and Pluto we can see how key insecurity in one partner will trigger the other. As a culture our conditioning (Capricorn) promotes co-dependency in relationships, this paradox can become heightened and dominate many peoples lives. As Evolutionary Astrologers we are interested to understand the nature of cultural conditioning in order to return to the question why have we chosen this type of experience? This is in order to make possible the return of others (and ourselves!) to their inherent reality, beneath the conditioning.

Any sign that you have on the Ascendant will correlate with the types of desires that the Soul has on a subjective level, that which supports its own sense of self-discovery as an independent being and as an individual distinct from everyone else. The Ascendant in Evolutionary Astrology does not correspond with the ‘persona’ – Jeffrey saw this has one of the really big screw ups in some astrological thinking – because the Ascendant operates instinctively, without forethought or preconception, whereas the persona is a constructed phenomena which more naturally corresponds with the Descendant as this represents how we consciously construct a way of interacting with others.

If we take the example of Scorpio Rising we understand a person who is naturally intense, this is not a reflected or premeditated posture. Taurus on the Descendant then becomes a projected self-sufficiency to contain such intensity. Here we are seeing a dynamic of protection, to deal with the fear or crisis we have already described between Mars and Pluto (an inconjunct). With Scorpio Rising the Soul is creating a certain type of desire complex that relates to evolutionary necessity. In prior lives trust violations correlate now with an instinctual fear of betrayal, this is happening inside on a very intense level. The persona of Taurus gives the impression that others are not required, furthermore there is a dynamic of testing going on here, feeling out whether others can be
trusted, scrutinizing others to this end. Mars as instrument of desire, of separation (necessary to form an ego) correlates with the sexual instinct. To create, as we ourselves were created, we are led by our desires to another - led by our primary instincts, our primary brain. Mars correlates with this primary place of instinct. Mars undercuts the cervical cortex and the higher functions and returns to a more primal level, a level conditioned by natural law, by our animal nature as realized within nature. Mars, Aries, the sign on the Ascendant correlate with our natural sexual instincts, desires that correlate with our evolutionary necessity, free of conditioning patterns. The archetypal square between Aries and Capricorn represents this struggle between the natural sexual instinct (Aries) and the distortions or suppressions relative to cultural conditioning (Capricorn).

Aries, Mars and the Ascendant also connect with anger or rage; in response to the original anxiety of separation rage can become an outlet or expression of the fear. Furthermore if we can locate part of sexuality with Mars and resulting sexual karma, triggered by sexual violence perhaps with a Mars-Pluto transit, then rage becomes another response to abuse that has been perpetrated. Indeed Mars can correspond to rage at prior life injustices, violence, and sexual assault or primary anxiety.

The Mars-Pluto relationship can be seen as 8 primary phases that correspond to a cycle of roughly 8 lifetimes that are taken evolving the original evolutionary intent - this will be dealt with more specifically in the section on phases.

Taurus

Taurus archetypically is Yin, fixed and earth. If we stayed with Aries energy we would just fly away and disintegrate - with Taurus instead of the energy perpetually moving away from the center we have energy moving back towards the center in order to consolidate. Here we have the stabilization or grounding of energy. The deepest energy in Taurus, 2nd house or in the Taurus side of Venus, following the principle of instinct and desire, is the survival instinct: what resources we possess to survive – this survival requirement (whatever it takes to survive your life) will correlate with your sense of value, what your value system is and what your sense of meaning is in life. Viktor Frankl in his famous work *Man’s Search for Meaning* described his experiences in the concentration camps and how he was able to witness the relationship between a person’s sense of meaning and their survival chances. He did this through watching others and also through experiencing his own crisis as he was separated from his wife and family, and finally, when the manuscript of his book which he had hidden on his person was discovered and destroyed – a crisis that nearly broke his spirit, and therefore nearly cost his life (as he was to witness tragically with so many others as he continually saw the relationship of losing that which was most precious or valued to them, correspond to their demise). This sense of meaning or value will obviously have relationship to the belief structures a person holds, to their philosophy or religion – in Taurus is the root of the value we place on our needs and our felt sense of meaning in our life.
Part of the survival instinct corresponds to the desire to procreate. The felt sense of our sexuality and desire is found in Taurus just as our outgoing desire began in Aries. So wherever Taurus is in our chart, whatever sign occupies the 2nd house cusp, wherever Venus is, in combination, will serve as revealing the nature of our personal values, the sense of personal meaning. This is a self-sustaining, self-preservation instinct to promote the sustainability of our own life.

The inconjunct to Libra (the other side of Venus) shows the crisis that comes as we realize that we may not possess everything that we require to sustain ourselves and therefore may need others. In this inconjunction we see the force of projected needs, what others hold of value for us – Venus being self-value or need via the Taurus archetype and the values that others hold via its rulership of Libra. Inherently within Venus is a cycle, for periods people project too many of their needs on to others, creating co-dependency that through the inconjunct aspect between Taurus and Libra will necessarily promote a psychological crisis of meaning as the projected needs fail to be met at the level they were projected. This can lead to disillusionment (inconjunct) reinforcing then the experience and necessity of self-sustenance found in the Taurus archetype. Of course this experience can also work the other way around, excessive isolation inhibiting the growth as much as excessive projection. In this sense Taurus, Venus, the 2nd house can correlate with the ‘frog in the well’ syndrome of sitting at the bottom of the well and experiencing the one part of the sky that is visible from that vantage point as if it were the totality. Here we have comfort, familiarity, and stubborn security. Scorpio, an archetype in polarity (opposition) to Taurus includes the dynamic of confrontation, in this sense confrontation is the necessary counteraction to the rigidity possible in Taurus – to force the frog from the well.

This process also correlates with the sexual dynamic: the 2nd house (whatever the sign on the cusp is, the planets within etc) and Venus, are, following Mars, showing what that person’s natural sexual instincts and values and inner orientations are. The 8th house (the sign on it, planets within, ruler of cusp…etc) counterpoint comes through the kinds of sexual experiences the soul creates for itself, draws to itself in order to grow beyond the prior limitations.

For example a man has Aries on the 2nd house cusp, Mars in the 2nd house, Moon in Pisces. On a sexual level he desires to be number one (Aries) yet through the Moon in Pisces he is incredibly sensitive. In a society which values male machismo and performance it is possible such a man would feel under pressure, a classic cause of premature ejaculation. With Libra on the 8th house he searches for feedback – maybe he gets it – ‘you are too fast, I am unsatisfied!’ – leaving an imprint on the man, possibly feeding his ‘frog in the well’ Taurus nature, leading him to isolation. Yet Libra on the 8th demands that this be shared, that the problem be communicated, and by putting this out there (so to speak) attracting a woman who can help him slow down, who can teach him another Taurus lesson, that of patience.

In contrast to much of our cultural conditioning – that promotes and fosters dependence – we can, in searching out the implications of Taurus, the 2nd house and the inner side of Venus, discover the inherent resources that we were born with in order to promote self-reliance. In identifying the natural resources as an Astrologer we can then validate them and they can be supported.
Gemini

Gemini is Yang, Mutable and Air – here we have, in the nature of function of Mercury and Gemini the possibility of giving names and classification to all the phenomena within the relative universe, or the projected creation. In order to create an intellectual system of organization that allows us logically to order phenomenal reality. With the quality of a Yang archetype and the nature of air we once again have energy moving outwards from the center, post Taurus, consciousness needs to re-expand. This allows the possibility of communication, both within ourselves (our internal thought processes) and to others. The desire here is to know as much as possible. There is no inherent limit in and of itself to Gemini; it is like a series of progressively expanding concentric circles.

Related to this is the linking of opinions to Gemini – these do not necessarily correlate with truth. Truth in and of itself is related to Sagittarius/Jupiter/9th house and the natural laws of creation (such as say gravity which is irrefutable!). Whereas in Gemini is held the position of ‘points of view’, or relative angles and diverse takes on ‘truth’. The phenomena of interpretation is essentially Sagittarian, yet it operates within the law of polarity: so in Sagittarius we have the right-brain and in Gemini the left-brain. The right brain is non-linear and inductive (it intuits, it knows) whereas the left-brain is logical and deductive: a, b, c… So in Aboriginal culture we are conditioned to develop and live in the right-brain, in western cultures we live most predominantly in our left-brains. Many of us are caught somewhere imbetween – polarized, experiencing, rather like a two way switch, phases of one then the other.

Whatever sign you have on the 3rd house, the location of its planetary ruler (house, sign, aspects), wherever you find Mercury, Gemini or Virgo, all of this correlates with the nature of your thinking. Both how you think and then how you communicate about how you think. You need a mental structure to understand the evolutionary reasons for your existence (3rd house) from which to communicate your fundamental sense of values (2nd house) (stemming originally from my desires, Ascendant – through Pluto, the Soul).

Anatomically speaking the function of hearing on a nerve level relates to Mercury, however on a psychological level, how and what we listen to, corresponds to Venus. This is a very important point, I may not hear what you said with the exact same intention you had when saying it, I think that most of us can own having had that experience in our close relationships!

If you have Mercury retrograde there will be a need to simplify and internalize the thought processes with regard to a series of prior lives where lack of discrimination with regard to the type of information taken on board has been a dynamic in operation. The resultant need is to return the intellectual mind to only the information that is pertinent towards evolutionary growth right now. Thereby eliminating curiosity, knowledge for its own sake.
Mercury/Gemini correlate with what can be called short-term memory, whereas 
Uranus the higher octave of Mercury correlates with what we might call long-term 
memory. To return to the Mercury retrograde it can be a common experience for a person 
with such a placement not to learn as quickly as others in their school, because they are 
naturally tuning out to anything that has no use to them, they have no memory for 
anything else. (An evolutionary necessity but also a possible cause of stigma within the 
conditioning principles and values of our culture.) With Mercury retrograde the 
consciousness is trying to orientate towards the right-brain instead of the left.

In general the retrograde symbol conveys a sense of need to return to the past in 
order to resolve what was left incomplete there. Usually something is unfinished or lacks 
resolution from a prior life and needs to be re-experienced and re-integrated. So with 
Venus retrograde a person needs to repeat key relationships with people wherein 
something has remain unresolved in the dynamics that brought those people together in 
the first place. With Venus retrograde the individual will most likely reject the values of 
the society into which they are born, in this manner retrogradation can further the 
intention of individuation, for defining oneself as apart from the consensus. The 
retrograde function is an internalizing one; a Venus retrograde is learning therefore to 
develop an active relationship to themselves, standing as a group of one if necessary. If 
you have a planet that is retrograde and in aspect to a non-retrograde planet this can lead 
to a form of oblique retrograde influence, less pronounced but effective with regard to the 
archetype being activated by the retrograde contact – i.e. whilst you might not have 
Venus Rx you may have Saturn Rx squaring it showing the potential need to develop the 
Venus Rx lessons, of internalization and repeating to resolve, with regard to the issues 
raised by the Saturn placement (which might include the relationship to authority and 
conditioning.)

There are many more signatures that necessitate the repeating or reliving of the 
past other than a planet being retrograde – for example a planet that is squaring the nodal 
axis, a planet on the South Node, retrogradation through transit or progression.

Cancer

Cancer is Yin, Cardinal and Water and now correlates with the return of energy towards 
the center. Cancer, in Evolutionary Astrology, specifically correlates with what we might 
call the ego, the subjective awareness of consciousness. A necessary integrating function, 
you cannot get rid of your ego, you may be able to integrate this subjective awareness 
into a much bigger field through awareness, meditation or grace, but the ego is a 
necessary function of consciousness – rather like the lens of a movie projector the ego 
creates a distinct self-image through which to focus the experience of reality (the film). 
As Jeff said, Christ, Buddha all had egos or they would not have been able to say their 
names, they would have just be a diffuse awareness! In Evolutionary Astrology the 
intention is not to remove the ego but to re-identify it. Most people on earth, following 
the original separation in Aries, identify just with the separated sense of themselves – 
relative to the square from Cancer to Libra this can generate extremes that with the 
square to Aries emphasizes the fear reaction to the original trauma of separation.
This can create the situation where the ego is dictator, sending thousands to their deaths in genocide situations all over the world, projecting their alienation outwards and literally destroying other egos without thinking. The binary system of Pluto explains in itself the necessary relationship between soul and ego; Pluto has another planet, half its size, rotating around it. In Evolutionary Astrology the soul creates the ego to aid in its experience of itself. Cancer, the 4th house and the Moon give personal form, name and identity to the individual. From the 4th house cusp, the Moon (house, sign, aspects) and the position of Cancer in the chart we can determine the relative strength and nature of the ego of an individual. This is essential for understanding how a person works within any given culture - are they a strong or weak ego, if weak is there a potential for masochism or victimization, if a strong one can they really live up to their own self-image, are there hidden issues…? All relevant therapeutic issues for the individual.

Another point is that how you see yourself inside does not necessarily correlate with how others see you – for example to return to the Scorpio Ascendant example, naturally radiating intensity, but put a Pisces Moon there and this person may experience themselves as timid and shy – this was of course the case with Jeff Green who had these placements, most people were literally blown away by him and yet he had to wear dark glasses when discussing the sexual archetypes work because he could barely look anyone in the eye!

Cancer, the Moon and the 4th house cusp also correlate with the experience of our early home-life, our parental experience. As a child we are open, defenceless, and we osmose and internalize the impact of the early home-life very strongly. These imprints have a tendency to unconsciously dominate huge parts of our experience as any therapist, or person who has undergone extensive therapy, will usually attest. As Neptune/Uranus transited Capricorn (operating through polarity into Cancer) the great buzz word therapeutically was the wounded child.

The Cardinal archetype, as we have already touched on, is one filled with an inherent insecurity. Here with Cancer unresolved or difficult early imprinting experiences may lead to displaced emotions later in life as the difficulties of the childhood experience resurface and seek to find release. The Moon corresponds to emotions, feelings correspond to Venus – feelings are the immediate reactions to an existing stimulus, and emotions are a reaction to those feelings. (The natural square between Cancer and Libra). Someone maybe has Venus in Libra and Moon in Scorpio, their partner starts to go out frequently with some one else, and maybe something is going on…? - The Libra side may tend towards maintenance of the relationship, ‘yeah I feel fine’ whereas the core emotional reality may start to produce strong rage and fear of betrayal (Scorpio).

The ultimate teaching of Cancer (through the water signs, culminating in Pisces) is to realize that the security we are all seeking is not external to ourselves. Cancer, through Scorpio will produce emotional shocks in order to produce the realization (Pisces) that external security is ultimately an illusion. So Cancer as an archetype has a relationship to what we call security, so for example with Cancer on the 9th house cusp our belief systems may hold security for us. You can tell through analysis of the Moon, 4th house cusp, Cancer etc about a person’s capacity to embrace change, relative to their security needs.
Cancer represents also our inner child—we all still have a child within us and in regard to the Capricorn polarity, there is a lesson—can we take responsibility for ourselves? Here we have a situation that links the Cancer lesson to learning to parent and nurture ourselves, just as we have an inner child, we also have an inner mother, and whilst these archetypal presences are shaped by our actual parental experiences they are not necessarily the same thing—whilst we might not be able to change our actual experience of childhood the archetypes themselves can be reached and evolved by, and through, our own capacity to take responsibility for our own nurture and security needs.

Leo

With Leo we have a Fire, Fixed and Yang archetype—energy is once more moving outwards from the center. This now moves into the fundamental creative actualization of the self. The 4th house created the self-image (knowing yourself within on the subjective personality level, following Gemini, Taurus, Aries) with the 5th house, Leo; it is time to actualize the identity. The Sun is the principle force of integration in the chart—without a Sun there is no solar system, the Sun is the center—so the Sun in Astrology shows how we are integrating and giving purpose to our life, how we creatively actualize that purpose. We all go through crises in life, this is the function of the Virgo archetype but how we integrate those crises relates to the Sun and Leo. If the Sun is in Sagittarius this may be a philosophical process, in Scorpio a psychological one.

The function of Leo is necessarily a narcissistic one psychologically speaking, one has to be full of one’s self first before one can share oneself or give of one’s energy. Negatively this could show delusions of grandeur. In order to rightfully express Leo and the Sun we must bear in mind its polarity Aquarius—what does the larger social system need from me? Aquarius correlates with objective awareness of consciousness and Leo to the flowering of subjectivity. Meaning and purpose of the current life can be found through the Sun, the house and sign that it is in, the aspects that it is making, where we find Leo, the 5th house cusp. If the Aquarian polarity is embraced then the social system will embrace this meaning and purpose, if not then isolation from the larger social sphere may be a result. This can create a tremendous degree of frustration, the starving artist syndrome, and some one like Van Gogh with tremendous creativity at their disposal may be still essentially isolated.

With regard to the natural T-Square between the 2nd and 8th houses to the 5th, the principle of children is found as an essential aspect of the creative principle: in the 2nd is the procreational instinct, completed through sexual union in the 8th house with the end result of children in the 5th house. The problem can be that many parents can be very Leonine, wanting their children to be vicarious extensions of their own reality—embracing the Aquarian polarity would suggest that all parents must learn to objectify the individual reality of each child and facilitate that individual development instead of projecting their own sun-like reality on to the child. Via Aquarius the parent could become the friend of the child, sharing their Cancerian vulnerability instead of hiding behind the role of parent (Capricorn).
An intrinsic problem of Leo is the need to receive constant feedback – to be told how wonderful you are. This can become a bottomless pit of need – say someone with a difficult Pluto in the 5th can create intense, unfulfillable needs to be adored. In this sense Leo can correspond with love affairs – as Jeff called them Astrological ‘cookbooks’ (books with a heading ‘planet in this house means this…’ definitively!) say that the 5th house corresponds with love affairs, this can be true sometimes because of the bottomless needs for reassurance and feedback which if the existing relationship is not providing may lead a person to look elsewhere to fulfill the need. The Leo Moon may experience this even more intensely than the Sun (because of the Moon’s correspondence to emotional reality) place this Leo Moon in the 10th house and we may find a person who is incapable of asking for that kind of emotional feedback because of the suppression dynamic in operation through Capricorn relating to fear of judgment. The needs of Leo are primarily through words; in Cancer the need is primarily for holding and touching.

The concept of Anima/Animus also relate to the Moon in its 2 faces. In this way Evolutionary Astrology fundamentally differs from say the work of Liz Greene. Jeff was not totally dismissive of the Jungian psychological schools of Astrology but he felt that the role of gender assignment and therefore how we relate to the opposite gender to our biological one on an inner level correspond with the Cancer archetype. Jeff gave the example of the Pluto in Cancer generation in the 1930’s when Uranus in Aries squared this placement and the rigid specificity of gender roles that was the consensus then produced massive frustration and inward rebellion – thus setting up he Pluto in Leo generation that when Uranus began to transit Cancer began to rebel against the limitation of gender assignment.

To take a quick example of how this archetype relates back to the previous one, a person with a Leo Ascendant will instinctively desire to take complete control of their own destiny, so they would have no conscious sense of being special, with a Leo Moon there would be a sense of being special at an egocentric level.

Virgo

Virgo is a very important archetype because it is a transitional archetype. From Aries to Leo we have necessarily been following a subjective development with the goal of a deep and enduring self-orientation. From Libra to Pisces we will begin to relate to the social system, other people’s realities, and the role of the collective. Virgo is the transitional archetype – because from Aries to Leo a natural superiority and self-sense has been developed, as we move toward Libra the requirement becomes to be in a state of equality with others. In order to create this Virgo becomes the step down from the inflation of Leo and therefore corresponds with inferiority, insecurity. From Aries to Leo its is as if we have been building a pyramid with the Leo Sun on top, whereas with Virgo the pyramid goes on top of the individual. This creates the awareness and desire to be of benefit or help to a larger whole than just yourself and relates then to service. In relationship to the Earth Grand Trine, our innate resources in Taurus relate to the society as a whole in Capricorn through finding our right work and service in Virgo.
There is a an element in Virgo that begins to humiliate the consciousness in order to induce humility and to begin a journey of knuckling down to a course of action that might benefit others. Through the Pisces polarity there is the realization that the ultimate other that one wishes to serve is the divine. In the work place this is the employer/employee, or the Guru/disciple in certain spiritual disciplines. In making us aware of other things Virgo forces a self-introspective, self-analytical consciousness. This then creates an awareness of lack or imperfection, which can then promote the step-by-step program of self-improvement central to the actional (earth) element of Virgo.

The polarity of Virgo, Pisces, creates an awareness of ultimate ideals; in Virgo this creates an awareness of lack or relative imperfection. If Pisces is the night sky, the vast starry realms then Virgo is the human on the ground dwarfed by the enormity. Mercury ruled Virgo promotes then a left-brain activity of critical self-analysis, a mental deconstruction. The sign on the 6th house, the nature of Mercury, the planetary ruler of Mercury etc how this inner self-critical analysis may be operating.

The deeper connection can be found in the Astrological Ages. Right now we are in the last stages of the Virgo sub age of the Pisces age – a sub age that began around 1200 A.D. Linking this with the conditioning factor of Western religion on consciousness - consciousness itself a Pisces phenomena and therefore akin to water – water having no shape and therefore being held in whatever shape is created – we have an issue here of the impact of Christianity on this archetype. For example the myth of the Garden of Eden which Jeffrey has spent a good deal of time deconstructing in his written work subjugates the feminine, the body, emotions and sexuality to the role of producing the Fall. This gives rise then to the archetype of dominance and submission (of the feminine principle by the priest-Adam). This promotes a sado-masochistic psychology - a psychology that permeates Christianity and its obsession with the cross. Jeffrey loves Christ and these teachings correlate to an integrative appreciation of all the great spiritual teachings of the world but he felt it was very important to see clearly and critically the destructive impact of the beliefs and central myths of the Christian church on humanity and I agree with him. Via the Grand Earth Trine Virgo relates to Capricorn, of which a function is guilt, Virgo corresponds then to the need to atone for such guilt. The suppression and even abuse of the feminine, the body, feelings and sexuality within the Christian church has led to a psychology of masochism, atoning for things that are perfectly natural and an essential part of human life, and led to a psychology of sadism to the extent that these ‘impure’ elements are suppressed or become allied with rage and are therefore expressed brutally. These dominant ‘myths’ of Christianity are causal in many of the problems in intimacy between the sexes and also in the fundamental inequality still existing in the work place where women can be paid less for doing exactly the same work (they are predominantly at fault in the origin myth of original sin).
Jeffrey taught that there are 3 main “tapes” playing with regard to a masochistic psychology:

1) I deserve pain, punishment, crisis, suffering, denial and I do not know why.
2) For my needs to be met I must be hurt first.
3) I am essentially worthless even though mentally I know better.

An operative dynamic then becomes self-sacrifice. The lesson with Virgo is through crisis and Virgo compulsively self-analyzes until the meaning of such crises is found. Masochism operates on a basis of perpetual self-undermining behavior – repeatedly not doing what you know would be best for you. Masochists can see spiritual potential without being able to embody it or experience it in reality; disillusionment (Pisces polarity) then becomes the vehicle for growth. As Jeff said, with a kind of personal sigh as if recollecting much, disillusionment is one of the hardest emotional experiences you can go through.

Evolutionary Astrology comes from an observed relationship to evolution and includes the potential to evolve itself, in a few thousand years the Virgo archetype may have completely moved on from this Pisces Age conditioning and experience – yet I myself have now worked with many hundred of charts where such dynamics hold a powerful sway (including my own!). In the origins of culture in matriarchy Virgo also has a completely different sense or meaning that we will discuss later, and many of the souls with these memories may have had them overlaid with Christian dialogues in more recent prior lives.

As patriarchy began to uproot and overrule the older matriarchal origins of culture (6000-8000 years B.C. in the Capricorn sub-age of the Cancer age) the conflict between spirit and flesh began to grow, a conflict that reached its zenith in some aspects of Christianity. It is this split and the disintegration that stems from it that creates the current Virgo orientation of experiencing what might be named an inner existential void. This void then becomes the basis (via the Pisces polarity) of escapism: workaholism, eating disorders, excessive TV, drink/drugs, compulsive sexual acting out or complete abstinence. Another Virgo dynamic in relationship to this is just that of always keeping busy – the to-do list just keeps getting longer and longer, with the most important things on the list often near the bottom – a masochistic psychology.

One of the core lessons here is that of discernment or discrimination – the capacity, relative to Pisces its polarity to separate between actual reality and illusions/delusions. The point here is to emerge into Libra with the potential for meeting the world as a social equal, not inferior, not superior.
Libra

In evolutionary terms Libra leads the consciousness to embrace the world of social other – it is the original archetype in shifting from pure subjective awareness to objective consciousness. Libra is Cardinal and therefore initiatory, its ruler is Venus, its’ element is Air and it is a Yang archetype. Energy is going outward from the center and connected to the air triad (Gemini, Libra, Aquarius) the need and intention is to initiate a diversity of relationships with a wide range of types of people: the intention being to learn about relativity. The soul seeks to evaluate itself through comparing and contrasting itself with others – here also, in contrast to the polarity Aries, we are learning to become aware of the needs and realities of other people. This corresponds with the lesson in Libra of learning to give to other people, as previously in the growth of our subjective awareness we have been taking from others. The lesson being learned in Libra is that of balance – this is being learned however, not given as some ‘astro cook books’ would have it – inherently Libra is an archetype of extremes – we learn the balance of polarity through testing all possible extremes and like the motion of a see saw Libra through its learning curve can be a giddying experience! For example a person has Venus in Virgo, Mars in Libra – it might be a likely outcome that such a person, in response to their central inner aloneness or void (Virgo) would initiate many relationships (Libra) on a compulsive basis to drown the aloneness. The lesson would be to learn discrimination (Virgo) as to whom they initiate relationships with (Venus in Virgo ruling Libra, Mars in Libra).

Marriage is an 8th house, Scorpio phenomena around the issue of commitment – Libra instead intends diversity of relationship with all types. Sexual union (the consummation of marriage) is a Scorpio issue; Libra can denote business partnerships as well as the outer face of a marriage (with Scorpio holding the keys of intimacy). In Scorpio/8th house we learn to make specific choices and commitments, in Libra we generate enough relationships in order to be able to create a field of possibilities before making the choice implied in Scorpio.

In the late 60’s with Uranus transiting Libra the concept of free love came into play, with the square to Capricorn the previous social structures of marriage were challenged (a flowering of the original intention of the much earlier and subliminal influence of Neptune in Libra in the 1940’s). Of course it was discovered that there are inherent flaws in the concept of ‘free love’, in fact the Scorpio dynamic of commitment/betrayal break that concept apart. Yet we can see it as a necessary evolutionary process of challenging the status quo.

Psychologically through the inconjunct from Libra to Pisces and the square to Cancer (ego structure) there is the possibility for various forms of mental illness within the Libra archetype – schizophrenia, multiple personality syndromes, psychosis or a fractured or disintegrated ego structure. Often various forms of personality disorders are possible. In Capricorn (square Libra) the possibility for manic depression is held as a person loses any sense of who they are, as they have been trying so hard to conform to other people’s expectations.

Generally however Libra is the archetype of initiating relationships with a diversity of types to learn social equality and balance. In Libra we are learning how to give not just take, how to listen to other people in a way that is true to their experience of reality instead of just filtered through our own expectations.
Scorpio

Scorpio is a Fixed Water sign with Yin energy returning in towards the center. Scorpio, Pluto, the 8th house correlate with what we are calling the soul, i.e. an immutable consciousness within us that can only evolve, it cannot be destroyed. The soul is pure energy and can only change form, not disappear. This changing form is the metamorphosis we experience in relation to evolution.

The psychological correlation with Scorpio is with the issue of commitment and in contrast to that, the fear of entrapment: being limited by the choice that the commitment implies. Scorpio is the psychology of consciousness, the whole field of therapy, motivations, intentions, and can also correspond with the phenomena of compulsion or obsession as it relates to the deepest unconscious sense of security that will exist in anyone.

Scorpio also correlates with sexual union, the experience of the ‘little death’ of orgasm, the merging of souls, the meaning and significance of sex. In its trine to Pisces this ‘little death’ of orgasm connects with the re-alignment of the ego through to a deeper experience (‘higher self’ or divinity). It is the vehicle that the soul learns that it is a co-creator of reality on a physical level. It is also the vehicle through which karma is exchanged between two people, particularly through the exchange and then osmosis of each other’s sexual fluids, which contain the coding, karma, and experience of individuals. Here is a sexual law, those whom you sleep with feel to be more inside you, they live on in you, here is a reason for the lesson of discrimination in Virgo! Jeff taught that celibacy is only authentic when base sexual urges are transmuted through Tantra and awareness into a natural state of celibacy, a condition that only a very small percentage are experiencing authentically right now. For the rest who are celibate, through choice and belief, or through fear of intimacy or inadequacy the result is repression and repression leads straight to distortion.

Scorpio correlates with marriage – the commitment and shared values/resources of two people (Taurus/2nd house into Scorpio/8th house). It also corresponds to metamorphosis, which is the change of one form into a completely different one (such as a caterpillar into a cocoon then a butterfly). Transformation in this sense is change from one form to a similar or recognizably related form that corresponds to Uranus/Aquarius and Transcendence is completely different again and specifically means transcending time and space and corresponds with Neptune/Pisces.

Scorpio, Pluto, 8th house also relate to the genetic coding (RNA/DNA) within the body. The real health of the body corresponds with the level of toxins in the colon/intestines – this also corresponds to Scorpio. We live in a very toxic world/culture at this time and via osmosis (Scorpio) we take these into the red blood cells, creating an effect of crystallization within the immune system. The phenomenon of deep cleansing is also a Scorpio one. As Pluto moved through Scorpio there was an acceleration of viral and bacterial life, the development of so called super-viruses that have begun to mutate and metamorphose with regard to the kind of antibiotics that we have used in allopathic medicine, to become resistant to them. These are all Scorpio or Pluto phenomena. Genetic engineering is also a related issue. Furthermore the law of karma itself! Also the dynamic of penetration, inner and outer – the inner psychoanalysis of the soul.
Sagittarius

Sagittarius is Fire, Yang, ruled by Jupiter and Mutable. The Mutable archetypes connect to the idea of adaptability, one of the reasons why as a species we are still on the planet is because we have been able to adapt to all sorts of conditions (ice ages, cataclysm).

Sagittarius corresponds to the sense of being connected to something larger, the connection to space, flight, and other planets. This perceptual awareness of what we are connected to becomes the basis of philosophical thinking, pondering and metaphysical speculation. Sagittarius corresponds to what we call truth (relative to the phenomena of creation). Since something exists there must be a basis to explain, that which is in existence. Sagittarius connects to our right brain, our intuitive function, and our sixth sense. Intuition functions in a non-linear way and connects to the power of visions.

Visions are not time specific, rarely are you given a specific time scale in vision. Via the natural square between Sagittarius and Pisces, visions (Sagittarius) can connect to the power of premonitions (Pisces) – they are coming through Jupiter and its joint rulership of these signs. As a result of these processes Sagittarius connects to the nature and function of our belief systems and as a result how we interpret reality. This is a critical point, because how we interpret reality may not correspond to what is universally true – hence the phrases this is my truth, or this is what is true for me.

Sagittarius correlates with the transmigration of ideas (linked to the polarity of Gemini). In the late 1800’s Pluto and Neptune were in Gemini and linked to this polarity this was the first real occurrence of Eastern thinking influencing the Western world with figures such as Rama Krishna, Yogananda and others. Relative to Libra (sextile/trine Sagittarius/Gemini) we can experience the relativity of truth, the square from Libra to Capricorn creates the delusion there is just one way. Linked again to the polarity of Gemini this transmigration of ideas this becomes the basis of intellectual and philosophical debate and disagreement. A strong 9th house transit will lead to the questioning of our beliefs, the potential change of those beliefs leading to a change in our interpretation and attitude towards our experience – Is this really the way I wish to live, is it possible to interpret (and therefore experience) life differently? In this way Sagittarius connects to a sense of restlessness for here we have an absolute need to explore and to embrace the totality.

The real problem with Sagittarius is what Jeff called the ‘Billy Graham problem’, the tendency of Sagittarius being to make generalizations, then fixing on those as the truth and needing, therefore, to convince and convert others to the same point of view. With regard to the inconjunct between Sagittarius and Cancer connects with the need for others to belief the same things in order to generate emotional security. The problem is that Sagittarius corresponds with only a portion of the truth; the total vision of truth is embraced in the final archetype, Pisces. In fact the Mutable Cross, Gemini, Virgo, Sagittarius and Pisces correspond to how we learn, experience, vision and surrender to truth in life and therefore this corresponds naturally to a process of philosophical and intellectual arguments and disagreements.
From a deeper perspective the truth in Sagittarius is that of natural law. The truth that is self-evident within nature, having nothing to do with man’s opinions. These laws exist of themselves and will continue to exist whether there is a human species or not. There is a fundamental difference between natural law and man-made law. In Pisces we understand that all of the manifested creation is interrelated and equal to itself, through the Virgo polarity we can see that nothing is superior or inferior to anything else. Man-made law operates on the central delusion that we, as a species or as individuals, are somehow superior to nature or other forms in the creation. This delusional thinking is causal in the terrible destruction and havoc we are perpetratting on the planet. So many species are going extinct, so much of the forests and land leveled for building or farming etc – so Sagittarius has a connection to the totality that was named Gaia. The old daemon referred to the connection of human consciousness with every other form of consciousness of earth, its Christian perversion into the word demon represents the hellish distortion of animal forms portrayed in man-made laws.

Psychologically Sagittarius connects to humor, following Scorpio that was so inward and intense, experiencing everything in a life-or-death extreme, Sagittarius lightens the load, and via the square to Virgo recognizes that humor is a central component in positive healing. One learns to laugh at oneself and at the absurdity of life itself. Scorpio has its own gallows humor but in Sagittarius there is a connection to the cosmic joke, the vision of the absurd. Sagittarius, in connection to the specific processes and media of health care found in Virgo relates to the underlying inner radiance that is central to true health. Lama Yeshe, the founder of the Foundation for the preservation of the Mahayana Buddhist Order and Kopan Monastery, so instrumental in bringing Tibetan Buddhism to the west had a hole in his heart from birth, that in the last 10 years of his life threatened death on a near daily basis – he would retreat to his room for a couple of hours to rest and practice dream yoga when an attack occurred and would then be straight back teaching students and giving incredible energy out from himself. This inner radiance was literally keeping him alive, and feeding so many others at the same time.

Sagittarius also corresponds with the international linkage of this planet, increasingly we have traveled and explored every aspect of our earth and now we fly and record all parts of it and broadcast journalism (Gemini polarity) brings it home to us. As Pluto transits Sagittarius we can experience more of the whole planet than ever before. In this transit we also have the seeds of the international conflicts, particularly on religious grounds, or because of different ways of seeing the world.
Capricorn

In teaching about Capricorn, many years ago now, Jeff said many things that seem even more relevant now: he believed that roughly 90 percent of people on this planet do not want war, that the average person simply wants to get on with their life in peace. Yet 10 percent of the population of this planet is in control, have power over the others. This he believed was the central problem of Capricorn. The polarity is Cancer (ego) and a small number of people, because of their tremendous desire for social position, stature and prominence (Capricorn) fuelled by delusions of grandeur (Leo, inconjunct Capricorn) wish to impose (Scorpio) their vision of the world (Sagittarius, Pluto there now!) onto others to preserve their existing world order and power structures (Capricorn).

Capricorn’s deepest teaching, metaphysically, is the phenomena of time and space itself, the law of cause and effect therein. This links to the finite nature of life and therefore to the maturation process as we increasingly realize that we have only so much time and resources in a life, we become more focused as to what to do with that time, with those resources. This awareness of death and limitation begins at the first Saturn Square, about age 7, and the Saturn cycle continues its structural impact throughout life. So at ages 28-30 as we have our Saturn return we in a sense reach our Astrological maturity (a little bit later than our 18th or 21st birthday bash!) - The Saturn return represents the first full capacity for taking control of our own life free of the karmic causes that have propelled us through life to that point. To return to the first Saturn Square here the child begins to become aware of the country that they live in and hence the nature of the social conditioning that that country promotes in its populace. In Capricorn we have the nature of all laws, customs and taboos and also our parental conditioning as well.

Capricorn connects also with how the dictates of the social system will allow you to actualize yourself (inconjunct to Leo) within your career. For example you may be a natural psychologist, yet you will not be acknowledged as such by society until so many years of education are complete and the piece of paper with your name on it is signed and presented. As a result Capricorn can correspond with frustration or self-defeating psychology, particularly if the society’s rules are far from the natural vision or inclination of the person. This can correspond to futility, the feeling of never being able to fit in. Any group of people living together must have socially agreed contracts, the laws of family, tribe, and society. This is the function of Capricorn and its connects to the formation of a consensus line within any given family, tribe or society, then there is massive pressure created to conform to what this consensus dictates. Now without socially agreed contracts a state of complete anarchy would occur which few would wish for, but obviously consensus pressure can be extremely problematic for a soul in a more individuated cycle of development. This consensus furthermore becomes the basis for nationalism, for clear boundaries of identity, whether the skin (as the border of yourself in the human organism) or the boundaries of two states. The increasing delusion of nationalism is responsible for much of the ethnic cleansing and plight of oppressed people we see on the planet today.
This point of nationalism becomes causal in the process of judgment, which is central to the Capricorn argument. Relative to Virgo, the preceding earth sign in the Earth Triad and its lessons of superiority/inferiority we have the basis of people thinking themselves superior to others, the western world’s stance toward the so-called third world, the stance of the French to the English and vice versa.

From a psychological basis Capricorn connects with the following dynamics: self-determination, accepting responsibility for your own actions, emotional maturation. Capricorn also connects with the phenomena of suppression and repression. That which is repressed goes into the individual or individuated (in Jung’s terms) unconscious represented by the Uranian element of consciousness. Connecting this to the sexual impulse (Aries in natural square to Capricorn) here we have the suppression of the natural sexual laws by the fears or taboos of the existing societal consensus (which itself is conditioned by religion). Such suppression of the primary instincts strong distortion is possible which becomes the basis for the archetypal experience of ‘Dark Eros’ (Jeff recommended a very good book of this title by Thomas Moore), dark is used here in the sense of contrast with what is white or ‘pure’.

Capricorn also connects to the psychology of depression. There is good reason for this – the nature of depression is reflection – a dynamic necessary to consciousness, as in reflection and depression we need to discover the operative dynamic in our life that needs to change. Saturn and Capricorn correspond to the way we structure our consciousness, just as Saturn is the skeletal structure of the body so is it of the consciousness. In this sense depression then reflection leads to the capacity to initiate change (Capricorn is a Cardinal archetype).

Capricorn and Saturn can correlate with the dynamic of shame relative to conditioning or parental judgments. Furthermore from the point of view of prior life actions and their resultant effects in this lifetime it can correspond to the burden of guilt, generated often by the times when the expression of the life force in us has deviated from the natural impulse into a conditioned or oppressive response.

Capricorn and Saturn can also, with regard to the inconjunct to Leo, show us where we can resolve the crisis between our desires for creative self-actualization and the need to become a recognized figure or authority in the community in which we live. Jeff himself has Capricorn on the 3rd house cusp and a Saturn-Pluto conjunction in the 9th house, he wrote a book *Pluto: the Evolutionary Journey of the Soul* and began to teach schools and become an authority in his field as a result.
Aquarius

Aquarius, ruled by Uranus, Fixed, Air and Yang. Aquarius correlates with the archetype of liberation – liberation from conditioning patterns as set down by Capricorn with regard to parents, family, and society or nation. Also liberation from conditioning based on past-life memories. The Uranian element of consciousness corresponds to long-term memory (as the higher octave of Mercury which is short-term memory) and holds in the individuated unconscious or subconscious memories of our own unique experiences in this and in other lives. Can we remember exactly what happened 3 weeks ago? These memories go into the Uranian memory, just as memories form other lives (where we were conditioned by other societies and families than our present one). So the ultimate intention of Uranus/Aquarius is absolute liberation form all causes of conditioning – in order to arrive at what Buddhists call the Vajra or diamond nature: the truly unconditioned, liberated nature. Clearly this is a long journey in evolutionary terms.

The act of rebellion is central to Uranus/Aquarius, rebellion from existing authority or circumstances to allow evolution and individuation to proceed. The problem in Capricorn is conformity (relative to Cancer and peoples’ needs to feel emotionally secure), which creates the sheep effect, following everyone else. Uranus/Aquarius asks the question do you wish to embrace your own unique identity and path to creative self-actualization (the Leo polarity). This demands that you confront your fear of being insecure (the inconjunct to Cancer from Aquarius) and create security purely from within (individuation). As this individuation begins the person begins to vibrate differently, attracting people of like mind to them.

Aquarius will describe 3 distinct types of grouping within the social sphere:

1) A small percentage of social heretics/iconoclasts who will absolutely rebel from any type of external pressure to be anything other than what they are. These people are typically totally individualistic in a state of splendid isolation.

2) Another small group of political revolutionaries like Karl Marx for example who form allegiances with others of like mind toward forming pockets of resistance or movements toward social change.

An immature expression of this group is found in the typical teenage rebellion where by its very nature it typically conforms to all sorts of consensus dictates of fashion and taste and is in reality typically an expression of another consensus, just one that differs from the older generations.

3) A very small percentage of social dinosaurs, people who (relative to the Saturn co-rulership of Aquarius) are trying to embrace some prior value system, to resurrect it from another time.

For most of us the vibrational nature of Uranus will manifest in the need to bring together folks of a like-minded nature. A bit like a group studying Evolutionary Astrology together, a subject that by the prevailing consensus standard would be deemed as at best worthless and at worst dangerous!
As Neptune and Uranus moved through Capricorn we say the phenomena of social change or revolution as the depression (Capricorn) of the people created the inner need for liberation (Aquarius) and we saw the fall of the eastern bloc and various civil wars and national struggles. It seems that as a collective we need things to become tyrannical (Capricorn) or just a whole lot worse before we can embrace collective change – that as we are approaching the beginning of a new Astrological Age, that of Aquarius is desired.

Where you find Uranus in your natal chart (house, sign, aspects), the sign Aquarius, the 11th house show specifically that areas that your soul can access the liberation form existing conditioning that it might seek. For example Uranus in the 8th house corresponds with an intention to liberate from all the fears of betrayal, abandonment, loss and violations of trust that have been experienced. This can happen through examination of the causal factors in operation. Uranus in the 4th house indicates the potential to radically alter the way that you see yourself.

The essence of the projected creation is electrical, the essence of the brain is electrical, Uranus corresponds with what we might call the ‘higher mind’ the potential to project the electrical nature of consciousness into new forms, to create one’s own reality within the limitations of one’s karma and the space-time universe (Saturn, co-ruler). The Uranian mind is like a radio receiver through which we can tune into other vibrations and the electrical energy of aspects of the creation itself. As Uranus transited Capricorn (the space-time Reality) life itself has begun to speed up, there has been a collective quickening of the vibration on planet earth. This includes a quickening of the metabolism of the entities upon the planet – ourselves! The regulator of the metabolism in the body is the thyroid and the production of iodine that it regulates, Capricorn rules them and the effect of Uranus has been the quickening. The function of this speeding up of perception and of time itself on our planet right now relates to the function within the brain that Uranus has through the formation of dendrites. Dendrites are responsible for new connections within the brain – literally the ‘aha!’ moments we have as a new idea comes, or an existing conundrum receives an answer. So a rapid evolution is occurring in human thought (a preparation for a new Astrological Age?). This quickening serves to disrupt conditioned sleep patterns (a new generation who are awake whenever they are awake, not necessarily in the day!) and to create erratic and incomplete thought patterns as the brain seeks to catch up (as it were).

The simplest way to know your deeper self and how it is endeavoring to operate in your life right now is to pay attention to the types of thoughts that are occurring inside you of their own volition (no just analytical thinking!), no matter how incomplete or seemingly unusual they are. These thoughts, the ones that surface time and time again will always implicate your future. Aquarius/Uranus is long-term memory that as well as holding past life memories holds a future blueprint, a field awareness of your larger potential (a bit like the morphogenetic fields the evolutionary biologist Rupert Sheldrake has found in the organisms and structures of nature). These blueprints of actualization can be both individual and collective. Dane Rudhyar, an Astrologer and Evolutionary Philosopher who influenced Jeffrey enormously (the work on phases which we will come to began with Rudhyar’s) held a concept of ‘seed people’ – that there will be certain people whose consciousness are receptive who will begin to seed the ideas of the new Astrological Age for others.
**Pisces**

Pisces is Yin, Mutable, Water ruled by Neptune. Neptune and Pisces correlate with the phenomena of consciousness itself: consciousness in a total sense, not just limited to human consciousness. Consciousness is everywhere, only differentiated by the level of self-awareness within consciousness (a dog having more than say seaweed) and all of creation is interactive in consciousness within the totality (Shamanism). If all of creation is conscious in some form and interrelated it is therefore equal. In understanding this we are dissolving (Neptune) the wrong thought form that the human being is the only conscious being and therefore superior (Garden of Eden Myth).

Consciousness can be compared to water; it can assume the form or shape of any structure it is put into – so the perception of the totality of creation is conditioned by the nature of the form it is put into. This is an interdependent creation.

Whilst Capricorn is the conditioning, the shape or form in the space-time universe Pisces correlates with the timeless, the universal or absolute and therefore deals with the principle of transcendence. All forms of consciousness have a transcendent impulse, which stimulates the principle of evolution. Within the soul (Pluto) there are two main stimuli, the desire to separate and the desire to return to the source, this desire to return is enacted through this urge for transcendence in Pisces. Through the polarity to Virgo specific techniques and practices are employed to further the transcending desire, to allow it not just to be activated or empowered but also to become conscious. This then connects back to having experience of the souls and the larger creation (direct experience being a Scorpio phenomena) instead of just the blind faith, which can characterize an aspect of the Piscean archetype.

Wherever you find Pisces, Neptune, the condition of the 12th house (ruler, aspects, planets in etc) in the chart you find the person’s natural way to spiritualize. For example if Neptune is in the 4th house then emotional forms of spirituality, or spiritualization of the emotional body is the path for you.

Pisces/Neptune has a correlation with the Pineal gland, which secretes the substance melatonin, which at one level is responsible for our sleep cycles. Why do we need sleep? To digest the material – consciousness on a Neptunian level is hypersensitive and with all the random stimulus in our culture and world overwhelms us (the brain at our present stage of evolution is only actualizing about 10 percent of its capacity!). So sleep regenerates the brain and minimizes the excess input of stimuli and also purges (trine to Scorpio) unnecessary psychic junk that has accumulated within consciousness – about 70 percent of dreams reflect the purging of unconscious ‘junk’ material. At another level though Neptune correlates with dreams that carry prior life content – there are 2 main types of these dreams: 1) a surreal gathering of the threads of many prior lives into one symbol rich dream or 2) dreams that express or explore one specific prior life or a dynamic within that life. The imagery of a past-life dream will often be quite dark and may have a dark circle or even halo around it. When the soul dreams in this way there is a reason, the prior life contents will in some way relate to the person’s existing circumstances.
There are also superconscious dreams in which imagery of flying, falling or moving rapidly forwards predominate. One type of these dreams is where the person remains conscious and is taken somewhere else to receive teachings, instruction or guidance the nature of this being relevant to the person’s current situation. The second type involves being taken or transported and yet the person will not remember in a conscious way but will simply be left, upon waking, with a sense of having been somewhere very special. Dreams follow cycles, generally the lunation cycle – New Moon to New Moon.

Pisces corresponds to meditation: the pineal gland and its melatonin production serve to dissolve (Neptune) the boundaries (Saturn) that separate the subjective or ego conscious from the soul consciousness. The center of gravity in most people is the ego; over a long period of meditation this center can begin to change. When people have this active production of melatonin from the pineal gland without a spiritual practice or without conceiving of themselves as spiritual beings this becomes the causal factor in various forms of psychic disruption or mental illness. Jeff said that he had done studies in mental institutions and had found that 90 percent of residents there had emphasized Neptune/Pisces or 12th house signatures.

Neptune also correlates with imagination, fantasy, illusion and delusion. Disillusionment becomes a necessary phase of psychological evolution through Pisces. Where you find Neptune/Pisces in your chart, alongside the condition of the 12th house you will find the areas in your life where the potentiality of disillusionment can occur relative to the formation of your illusions and delusions.

The Jungian term the collective unconscious applies to Neptune: the totality of the memories, experiences and knowledge of humanity as the sub strata beneath conscious awareness, from which archetypes arise. We can tune into this in a Neptunian fashion and through Scorpio psychologically osmose with the material in this collective layer of experience. The collective conscious/unconscious can be seen as racial, national and regional. Here, with Neptune, we are invited to transcend the ethnic and cultural limitations of our time.