

## *The Common Signs* *Part 2*

**G**EMINI, THE THIRD SIGN, is the sign of the Twins, brothers. The third house is similarly concerned with our brothers and sisters. According to the position of Mercury, the ruler of Gemini, the aspects he receives, the house occupied by Gemini, the planets in that sign, and the planets in the third house, will be our attitude toward our brothers and sisters and their attitude toward us. Thus, if Mars is in the third house, he will give a tendency to quarrel with sisters and brothers, but if in the same horoscope Gemini, occupies the 11th house, signifying friendship, and Venus is there, the effect of Mars in the third house would be counterbalanced, and friendship would prevail.

Please bear this in mind, that whatever department of a horoscope you may be studying, no single testimony will give a safe basis for judgment. To be sure of our ground it is absolutely necessary to examine all factors and see if the first configuration noted is corroborated or contradicted. Conflicting testimonies must then be balanced against each other. Thus only can we form a correct judgment which will be sustained by events.

If Saturn is in the third house, we would judge that the person involved is unpopular with his brothers or sisters. He may be a chronic scold whom all will shun, that is, if an aggressive sign like Aries, Scorpio, or Capricorn is on the cusp of the third house at the same time. If a negative sign like Pisces or even Libra or Cancer is on the third house, Saturn will signify that the person is the butt and scapegoat for his brothers and sisters. The



*Winged Mercury*

*Mercury's winged hat, or petasos, signifies his quick and adroit thinking, his winged feet indicate his ability to be virtually ubiquitous. He also has the ability to assume different appearances. He is the patron of merchants and commerce (mercatus, to trade) and is shown above carrying a purse. He is not above filching a coin and deceiving for gain, and he gives his name to mercenaries (who fight for money). He bears the double-serpent caduceus, a potent hermetic symbol.*

sun or Jupiter in Gemini and elevated would modify either of these augurs. The subduing influence of Saturn would then be exercised in a benevolent manner for the good of all involved. But if the Sun or Jupiter is in the third house with Saturn elevated in Gemini, let the brothers and sisters beware, for Saturn's influence is sinister.

Gemini rising gives a tall, slender body with long arms and fingers. The sun and Jupiter make the figure more portly if they are on the Ascendant; Uranus and Mercury make it taller. The moon and Venus shorten and also add plumpness, but Mars rising in Gemini makes one muscular without adding flesh. This position, therefore, makes a

certain athletic type, such as that of sprinters for short distances, but they cannot endure the strain long, as Gemini is a common and airy sign.

Mercury was chosen messenger of the gods because of his winged feet, which made him swift as thought. Gemini, one of the two signs he rules, is therefore the focus of the mind as we express it through the brain. We well know the instability of the lower mind, and as that is an expression of Gemini, the third house also expresses this characteristic.

In the Saturn Period those exalted beings whom we know as Lords of Mind were human. The world globe on which they lived was formed of mind stuff, and they learned to shape it and build thought forms of that subtle material as we are now learning to build houses, bridges, machinery, and a multitude of other objects with the solid physical matter of which our earth is composed. Thus they became experts in handling the subtle mind stuff.

As Saturn among our present day planets expresses in a measure the characteristics of that ancient period which we speak of as the Saturn Period, his ray is conducive to one-pointedness and control of mind when he is posited in Gemini or the third house, both of which focus the lower mind, also when he is in Sagittarius or the ninth house, for these deal with the higher mind. In the third house Saturn makes the mind methodical and orderly, because he obstructs its flightiness, but it will of course depend upon the nature of his aspects whether this faculty is exercised for a beneficent purpose or the reverse.

A trine or sextile to Mercury will give a splendid mind which may be used to good purpose in the world's work; but if these planets are in square or opposition, we may have a schemer of the dangerous type, one whom it is well to watch. This applies no matter where in the horoscope Saturn and Mercury are found, but if one or the other is in Gemini or the third house, the potency of the aspect for good or ill is much intensified. In fact, as Mercury rules Gemini, his aspects to any planet affect the mind most potently, according to the inherent nature of that planet as expressed in its keyword.

Mars for instance, is dynamic energy; therefore

he will lend force to the mind if aspecting Mercury, and the direction in which this is used depends on the aspect. A good configuration will make a keen, penetrative mind, quick and correct in its conclusions. An adverse aspect will make a man impulsively jump at conclusions, foolhardy, headstrong, and not amenable to reason. Venus or Jupiter in good aspect to Mercury makes people philanthropic, benevolent, and therefore beloved of all who are fortunate enough to come in contact with them. The adverse aspects make them self-indulgent to a high degree. They use a winning, ingratiating way to gain their despicable ends, but they are treacherous and ready to sell out their benefactors for a favor from another. They have no scruples whatever, and are always ready to cast aside the old love for the new whenever it suits their convenience.

Mercury is never so far removed from the sun as seen from our planet that it can form an aspect of importance with this great Light. Also, its aspects with the Moon are of no significance, for our satellite has no basic nature of its own, but, as signified by its keyword "fecundation," it only fertilizes that which is inherent in any planet with which it is configured so that that may be brought into manifestation. As said before, when speaking of Saturn's aspects to Mercury, if Mercury or the planet it aspects is in Gemini or the third house, the effect on the mind is much intensified.

The keyword of Gemini is *changeability* and Mercury, its ruler, the fleet-footed messenger of the gods, is the patron of travelers (who are changing their environment), and of merchants (who are professional exchangers of goods or money, and who were wont to travel from place to place in ancient times). Therefore Gemini and the third house denote traveling salesmen, agents, messengers, letters, and writings. Again, the planets aspecting Mercury and the planets in Gemini and the third house tell if a person has ability to write, if he is fitted to be an agent or salesman, and whether he will meet with pleasant experiences or be liable to accidents while on short journeys. (The ninth house deals with extended travel.)

Saturn in aspect to Mercury, or in Gemini or the third house, does not favor writing, but if the

aspect is good, it may nevertheless produce a philosophical writer of great depth and penetration or a most exact and painstaking scientific investigator. The writings of such a person will never be many, nor will his investigations cover a wide range. He will however, be very thorough in covering a limited field. Though by dint of the hardest and most painstaking work such people may be able to express themselves lucidly on paper, they will have difficulty in public speaking.

The Sun, Venus, or Jupiter in good aspect to Mercury, or in Gemini or the third house, facilitate vocal expression. writing, art, and music. The philosophical discourses engendered by the ray of Jupiter can never compare with those of saturnine origin in depth and erudition but they are sure to take the soul to lofty heights of sublimity altogether undreamed of by those under the sinister Saturn. The oratory of the Jupiterian is the voice of the soul speaking directly to the soul. It carries conviction and rouses its hearers as the cold, clear argument of a saturnine speaker never can.

The unfavorable Mars-Mercury aspects may inspire an agitator to incite to rebellion, bloodshed, and destruction of homes in what he considers a righteous cause; but the Mercurial air modulated in the Venus voice may breathe the sentiment of "Home, Sweet Home," with the effect of touching the heartstrings, drawing a person close to the hearth and promoting "On earth peace, good will toward men."

In respect to travel, Saturn delays and hinders when aspected to Mercury and when he is in Gemini or the third house, for it is his nature to obstruct wherever he is; but the moon and Mercury in aspect or in Gemini or the third house have the reverse effect, for they are of a restless and changeable nature, and will cause a person in whose horoscope they are posited to wander from place to

place all through life. Saturn in Gemini or the third house and adversely aspected gives liability to accidents while the person is traveling. So do Mars and Uranus, but there is a difference in the nature of the hurt sustained. Saturn causes bruises and crushing. Mars causes cuts, burns, and scaldings, and lays the person liable to attacks from robbers or to be taken prisoner by the military authorities if in a country where there is war. Under such conditions Saturn in Gemini or the third house would make the person a secret agent or spy, and adverse aspects would cause capture or even death by hanging. Jupiter or Venus in the third house or Gemini would of course make travel pleasant for the person fortunate enough to have them well aspected, but if afflicted it would be best for the person not to travel.

Gemini is an airy sign. It rules the lungs, which supply the body with the important element air. Mercury, the ruler of Gemini, governs the air

which passes through the trachea and bronchial tubes. The ebblike and floodlike inflation and deflation of the lungs are another example of the duality and changeability of Gemini. Saturn hardens and encrusts, and when he has evil aspects and is in Gemini, he is one of the causes of tuberculosis. Mars in Gemini gives a tendency to hemorrhage of the lungs, and Uranus, being spasmodic in its action, produces the involuntary movements of the lungs which we call a cough.

It should be constantly remembered by pupils, however, that though the horoscope at birth shows the lines of least resistance, and though we find it easy to drift along those lines, we as spirits are in life's school to assert our own individuality and thereby overcome obstacles placed in our path. Every time we conquer an aspect, we have lived up to our divine nature. As the Bible says, "Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good." □

—Max Heindel

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