

GEMINI—SIGN OF DUALITY AND PATH TO UNITY

The word unanimity comes from two Latin roots: “uni,” meaning one, and “anima,” meaning soul. Thus unanimity means “being of one soul.” This is quite different from uniform, which is defined as “being of one form” (Latin root: “forma”). Thus the true urge for unanimity speaks directly to us of that place within us that is of the soul, a place that unites us in the consciousness of the one human family of which we are all a part. Unanimity is therefore an expression of love. Uniformity speaks of union and agreement in the material world of form and is thus an expression of the lower self, the personality: one form separating us from dissimilar forms. Unanimity releases while uniformity binds. —A.O

The astrology of the Ancient Wisdom describes Gemini as “the light of interplay,” meaning that it is Gemini that reveals the basic duality of manifestation. This is the relationship between Spirit/ Creator and form/the created. At its highest level therefore, Gemini is the path to the soul for it is the soul and its product, consciousness that is the point of resolution of this great tension. Gemini is then said to be ruled by the planet Venus, the goddess of love whose primary purpose is to unite all opposites in bonds of harmonious matrimony. But in terms of our ordinary life and the traditional astrology that serves to define and explain that life, Gemini itself becomes that duality. The Twins then fall under the rulership of Mercury, the ever- fluctuating, ever-shifting messenger.

The purpose of Gemini in terms of our ordinary life is to produce an awareness of the relationships that exist between all people, places, and things. In terms of the personality, Gemini does not resolve the dualities and conflicts inherent in these relationships. Gemini focuses our attention of the many, the multiples and the myriads, the potentials and the possibilities. It opens the door for the personality to experience itself in all sorts of environments and life situations. Gemini thus broadens the mind and expands our sense of connectedness with life. But it does not create unity on the personality level; that is simply not its role. Once the individual has evolved the faculty of intuition (through Mercury’s higher octave, Uranus), once our life orientation changes from a focus on form to an identification with energy, then the messenger of desire becomes the Messenger of the Gods and Gemini serves another purpose in our lives. This purpose allows all the communicative potentials that Gemini and Mercury make to serve the mission of the soul. This mission is Love and whenever this word is mentioned, we are taken back to the love goddess Herself, Venus.

Gemini along with Virgo, Sagittarius and Pisces is one of the four mutable signs. The primary function of all the mutables is to produce a constant state of flux. This is a periodic, cyclic movement of time and space that manifests in our daily life as changes in form. Yet the higher purpose of mutability and of Gemini in particular, is to provide an expanded field of expression for the life and function of the soul. It is this gathering of life experiences, based on the movement of relatedness and relationship, which is

fundamental to the Twins. Gemini relates and by so doing, reveals the true intent of the soul: the interplay and interconnectedness of Spirit and matter.

Perhaps we would come to know Gemini and its various levels of expression better if I were to describe how Gemini functions depending on one's level of consciousness. A person with the Sun or Ascendant in Gemini who is primarily egocentric and functions primarily from a place of personal desires is a prisoner of his or her own battles with duality. This is an individual who is neither connected to the cohesive energy of Love on the soul level nor to the higher harmonies of Venus. The instinctual lower mind rules the life. He or she responds to the dictates of mind totally motivated by desire.

The focus of relationship in the life of such a person is how everything and everyone relates to oneself. The sense of real sharing is totally absent. Every movement and every person is seen as a means of furthering one's own particular agenda. This type of personality-centered Gemini will at best learn about the nature of opposites through constantly experiencing the conflicts inherent in duality. Such a one has yet to learn that mutual harmony can exist or that anything else but a "me verses the world" life perspective exists.

Once the soul/personality relationship is in place, a higher level of consciousness is achieved. This Gemini man or woman has developed a definite awareness of others that extends into relationships and life situations in which the individual is not personally involved. The mind seeks to expand its knowledge so that it may be of service to the greater world. Intelligence thus moves from instinctual to creative and from the purely subjective to the objective and impersonal. This development of this kind of detachment is a key to freedom from duality! At a yet further level on the Path, the Gemini individual is being used as a conscious vehicle for creating harmonious linkages in the world. This may involve a career in which aligning various conflicting political or social forces is at the center of one's activities. As such, Gemini then acts as a messenger for harmony in terms of group interrelations and may become a person who invents technological or sociological tools for the benefit of humanity.

As indicated from all of the above, we can correctly assume that when Gemini is placed on the cusp of each of the houses in the natal chart, it will produce the tendency to multiplicity, flux, mutability and a broadening of experience in terms of the nature of that house. It will also contain the promise of bringing a greater sense of harmony to the situations described by that house once a higher level of consciousness has been achieved. Let's now examine some of the most prevalent effects of these sign/house combinations.

Gemini on the First House cusp (Ascendant): A person with Gemini on the Ascendant has an inborn versatility as well as a constant urge to change his environmental circumstances. This gives rise to avoidance of routine, a love movement and as a consequence, the cultivation of a variety of life experiences. Gemini in this position may also lead to a rather superficial attitude to life as it is common for such individuals to dissipate their energy through an attachment to too many people, places,

and things. Unless Jupiter is strongly connected by aspect to this cusp, the person tends to be slender, fleet-footed with a tendency to a nervous disposition. He or she may like to change clothes frequently during the day. Duality is a major theme of life and will be even stronger should Mercury be in a mutable sign in the natal chart. But duality when properly handled does not necessarily have to lead to conflicts as long as the mind is trained towards integration and synthesis. Gemini rising is a natural-born communicator, and is at his best when linking people together for the greater good of all.

Gemini on the Second House cusp: There is a definite degree of versatility when it comes to using one's resources that return an income. Gemini here inspires an individual to move into any number of different directions when it comes to establishing the ways and means of learning and earning. The sense of self-worth is established through experimentation, generally through the way one communicates one's ideas and insights into life. A blockage in this ability to express oneself, as seen through afflictions to Mercury especially by Saturn, can lead to serious psychological consequences. Care has to be taken that the person does not spend her financial resources in too many places simultaneously. Mercury well aspected and in one of the fixed signs, can be most helpful in curbing this tendency and giving proper self-discipline.

Gemini on the Third House cusp: This is an indication of a very active and busy mind. As Gemini is the natural sign of this house, its influence here can be quite positive. The focus and proper use of the mind as well as the ability to relate successfully in the world is augmented and reinforced when Mercury is well placed here especially if it receives good aspects from Saturn and or the Moon. Mercury is always happy when in sextile to Venus! Gemini on the Third indicates the importance of siblings and their prominence will be that much more established if Mercury is placed in one of the angular houses. The Twins here also tend to point to a variety of intellectual interests, a strong association with one's early environment (and if the consciousness is developed, with the environment in general), and the urge to communicate one's ideas with others. If Mercury is in Libra, this latter trait will be strongly emphasized.

Gemini on the Fourth House cusp (Nadir/IC): Frequent changes in domicile are indicated, especially if Mercury and/or the Moon are in a mutable sign in the natal map. This is a person who can easily feel that too much stability in one's life is a form of entrapment. There is often an inner restlessness for it should also be borne in mind that Gemini on this cusp will yield Pisces (another mutable sign) on the cusp of the Ascendant. The need to understand oneself is expressed through the urge for a wide variety of experiences that when coupled with residential shifts, can easily produce a life of travel (usually of short distances). It is likely that one's mother was a busy person with many interests. If Mercury and the Moon are in a hard aspect, such interests may have excluded a warm and emotional contact between parent and child.

Gemini on the Fifth House cusp: As the Fifth is the "house of pleasures" and Gemini indicates versatility, we can expect this sign/ cusp combination to produce a tendency for many hobbies and enjoyable activities. This orientation may easily extend

itself into one of the other spheres of interests of this house—romance. Thus the Twins here can indicate a person who plays at love and who enjoys having a number of affairs and amorous contacts. This characteristic will be strongly emphasized if Mercury is connected by aspect to one or more of the following: the ruler of the Eighth House, Mars, and Venus. Mercury in Leo, Libra, or Scorpio will also enhance this playful “urge to merge.” This is also an individual who may have a strong affinity for children and can easily feel like a child herself when in the company of youngsters. Writing and communications of all sorts are the natural creative outlets when Gemini is on this, the cusp of the Sun’s natural domicile.

Gemini on the Sixth House cusp: Here, Gemini’s natural versatility gives rise to the ability to tackle many situations simultaneously. The urge for variety inherent in the nature of the Twins emerges in the work sphere through a generally agile and adjustable nature. There is definitely a liking for those activities that permit one to vary his or her routine; travel as part of the job is a natural plus. An afflicted Mercury here (especially in a mutable sign) can lead to too many job changes. An afflicted Mercury in Aries will point to changing jobs prematurely, while Mercury in Taurus or Cancer square to Saturn and/or the Moon can make a person stay too long at the same job. The planets speak clearly to us we just have to know how to listen to them! Health issues usually involve the nervous system, and anxiety can arise through an overly analytical mental nature, especially if Mercury is afflicted in Virgo. The lungs are apt to be quite sensitive, so smoking should be avoided.

Gemini on the Seventh House cusp (Descendant): As a rule this sign/ house combination gives the need for variety, versatility and freedom in relationships. The latter trait is strongly reinforced as Gemini on the Seventh means that the “great wanderer,” Sagittarius is on the First. There is often an indication that this is a person who tends to have more than one relationship at a time or who, at the very least, will marry and/or become seriously engaged in partnership on several occasions. This urge for multiple or sequential partnering is reinforced should Mercury be in a mutable sign and/or afflicted by the Moon and/or Jupiter. This is a person with a definite independent streak (emphasized if Uranus is in aspect to Jupiter, lessened if Mercury is in Cancer or Capricorn). He or she will prefer to have partners who are engaged in their own interests and who bring such interests into the relationship. Communication and intellectual rapport with others will be of utmost importance when the Twins occupy the Descendant.

Gemini on the Eighth House cusp: Here is a person who usually adjusts easily to the major changes in life. It is an individual likely to “go with the flow” and release old patterns, for such releases are always the demands that the Eighth House makes upon us. Sexual activity and attitudes may fluctuate between periods of sexual frequency and other times of general celibacy. When coupled with other features in the chart that may indicate it, this is a sign/house combination that can point to bisexuality. Strong planetary affinities between Uranus, Venus and Mercury will reinforce this orientation; Mercury in Taurus, Cancer or Capricorn afflicted by the Moon or Saturn will lessen it. The Twins on this cusp also indicates a person who may work as a financial agent, handling the

practical affairs of people as a stock broker, bank teller, real estate agent or other, similar occupation. Neptune, Pluto, or Jupiter afflictions to Mercury here can point to the mishandling of other people's resources or legal and other difficulties surrounding wills and legacies.

Gemini on the Ninth House cusp: This position points to an avid curiosity about life and an eagerness to stimulate the mind. Gemini however is not a fixed sign and its mutability gives rise to the tendency to move from subject to subject, thus a broad and general knowledge results rather than a specific area of expertise. People with this sign/house combination have to be careful not to teach what they have just learned but not experienced. Travel will be a very important part of one's life, especially if Mercury is in Aries, Gemini, or Sagittarius; less so if in Taurus, Cancer, or Capricorn. Mystical and metaphysical leanings are prominent should Mercury be in Pisces or well connected with Neptune while technical learning is indicated if Mercury be in Aquarius. Note: Always pay attention to the sign in which the dispositor of a planet is placed for that will tell the astrological student a great deal.

Gemini on the Tenth House cusp (Midheaven/MC): A person with Gemini on this cusp requires a career that provides a lot of versatility for routine will be definitely avoided. The Twins on the MC require that if a person is to stay behind a desk, that this desk be complete with several phone lines, a couple of computer screens and plenty of opportunities for communication. Writing, journalism, design, or working as an agent or intermediary are perfect outlets for this sign/house combination. The ability to travel may also play a major role in the consideration of a profession. The duality of Gemini plays itself out by the tendency to hold down more than one position at the same time as well as an urge for added education to improve one's position. If Mercury is in a mutable sign in the natal chart, the father may have been frequently away from home during one's youth and if Mercury is afflicted by Saturn, then the communication between parent and child may have been limited.

Gemini on the Eleventh House cusp: There is a tendency to have a wide field of friendships and social connections. This would be especially the case if Mercury is in an air sign in the natal map. The urge for an active social life is strong and is apt to be successful if Mercury is well situated with the Moon, Venus or Jupiter. Uranus' aspects to Mercury with the Twins in this position point to the ability for social and/or technical networking—computers and the internet will play a strong part in this person's life to be sure. As a rule, this sign/ house combination gives the urge to know many different kinds of people in all levels of society. One should avoid however becoming involved with too many groups and organizations as diverse loyalties can bring about conflicts with friends and associates.

Gemini on the Twelfth House cusp: This position warns a person not to be all things to all people. One has to be careful that there is a consistency and honesty in all forms of communication. This would be especially the case should Mercury be in a difficult aspect with Neptune and/or Pluto. If the rest of the horoscope reveals a certain

maturity of character and a more steadfast nature, Gemini on the Twelfth is a wonderful position for being able to find the “missing links” in all social situations. It indicates a person who can find the lost fax, locate a friend who has disappeared over the years, and say just the right thing at the right time. This latter tendency will be emphasized if Mercury is well placed with the Moon in the natal map. Mercury in this position, especially in good aspect with Venus or the Moon, can be a very positive influence in the resolution of conflicts as this placement allows a person to take a global view of things.

© Alan Oken, All Rights Reserved