

Funnel, focal planet Chiron

You have the planetary pattern type called the 'funnel' shape. All your planets form a group, with the exception of the focal point, one planet or two planets in conjunction. Your energies tend to be channeled through this focus. You will have abilities in the occupied area of the chart, and goals in the direction of the focal point. The focal planet(s) symbolizes how your energies will be expressed, and where you seek to have your needs met or achieve your purpose. Chiron in the Fourth House (or sign) represents issues with the vital force of self-nurturing and taking care of those closest to yourself. With this placement you have a strong drive, even a compulsion, to be centered in home and family, but this desire does not easily find its fulfillment. There may have been painful episodes in connection with early family life; perhaps you had trouble getting settled down to enjoy the comfort that a safe and secure home brings to a child. As a result, you may be even more motivated to having this firm base of security in your adult life than others to whom it is second nature. You may alternate between over-identifying with your family or under-identifying with them, or you may find yourself constantly thwarted in finding this important level of security as you go through life. On a more symbolic level, you are also painfully challenged in finding your own center in a psychological sense. Because of the inherent insecurity of your inner world you may struggle to find yourself, and become easily influenced by others due to lacking your own clear sense of self. Without this base you are more easily unbalanced, and you may find that you move in many different directions emotionally, as the wind blows. You may long for a more secure and comfortable sense of who you are, independent from others' opinions, a place where you can truly be yourself. Part of the problem with connecting to your inner self and externally with home and family, is that the conflict you feel may be largely unconscious in nature, running on autonomously as a result of long-buried experiences too painful to recollect and consciously examine. You may have difficult times with issues regarding home and family as you go through life, until you can become more conscious of these influences, and less easily overtaken by them. There may be conflicts with your mother, or other primary parental figure, that need to be worked through, as you really begin to get in touch with your blocks and difficulties in these areas. Once you begin to nourish yourself and to provide your own parenting, rather than depending on the external world to provide comfort and security, you can come around to being a source of inspiration for others as well as yourself. The following applies to your generation as a whole as well as to you personally: Chiron in Aries (or the First House) represents issues with one's vital force to be, to act, to initiate. With this placement of Chiron, your very sense of who you are may be threatened by disturbing realizations and painful memories. You may have felt belittled and put down in your formative years, rather than encouraged, by the significant adult figures in your life. Even after reaching maturity, you may encounter obstacles that prevent you from reaching your full potential. These difficulties can set up a pattern for failure, in which you operate more from a fear of failing than the expectation of success that breeds confidence for further achievement. One way this may manifest is in terms of acting not in your own behalf, in furthering your own goals, but rather in behalf of the goals of other people, which seem somehow more important or at least get priority treatment. You

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may keenly feel a lack of achievement in your own life, and compensate by trying too hard to help these others, putting yourself in the background, as it were. As long as these patterns operate more or less unconsciously, they are difficult to overcome, so the first step in surmounting them is to become more conscious of your own pain; acknowledging and discovering more about what exactly went on in the past to make you feel frustrated with your own abilities. At that point you begin to come out from behind your painful experiences and really show yourself. With a more conscious understanding of your own dynamics you can also begin to truly be of help to others, in how they deal with similar issues, as you start to approach them not from a false sense of vicarious achievement, but from a place of true friendship and helpfulness.