THE PLAIN VANILLA ASTROLOGER

Pat Geisler, page 233

1—a planet is apt to manifest its best side in its own house or exaltation in a person’s birth chart. It takes really bad aspects to destroy ALL the good. Everyone who met Hitler socially in person considered him charming. He had Venus in Taurus and a little of the Venus in Taurus niceness came through despite the mess in the rest of his chart which made him such a bloody murderer.

2—a planet is apt to manifest its less desirable qualities in signs of its debility and fall. It takes good aspects to bring out the best. Some smidgen of its unpleasant side always sneaks out—often in a health problem or something. Any woman with a Scorpio Moon, for instance, will tend to have problems with the female reproductive system. Some will have a gynecological history of things going wrong that’s as long as your arm. Learning disabilities can show up with a debilitated Mercury, or even outright retardation. Or maybe just a mean tongue. Debilitated Venus may have trouble with color sense and emotional responsiveness. Perhaps a complete lack of fashion sense or a tin ear, if nothing else. Mars in debility can have problems with the male energy, nasty temperament or laziness.

On the other hand, in some charts those qualities seem to be sharply reversed and we find the other extreme manifesting. Mercury becomes a genius, Mars a mighty warrior or athlete and Venus a sex goddess, for instance. Nevertheless, in debility those roles express some of the less desirable qualities of the planets. Mars may have a streak of cruelty or temper, Mercury too much cold-bloodedness and Venus becomes promiscuous.

3—in charts with two or more debilitated planets and none in dignities or exaltations, I expect to find problems. There are usually difficulties in dealing with society and its norms. Sometimes there is a lack of ethics or standards, a certain expediency of approach to life.

4—in charts where there are two or more planets in their own signs or exaltations, the individual functions very well in society. There is usually a high set of standards and the individual is someone you can rely on to do what they say they will.

5—in charts where you have a lot of dignities and ONE sharp debility, the debility often becomes a focal point and a powerful pivot of the life. If it has a lot of good aspects, the person makes superb lemonade out of their lemon, and seems to derive more strength from the debility than they might from a planet in its own sign. It’s as if the strength of the sign was somehow needed in their package even if it meant putting a planet there that would normally be a debility.

6—in charts where you see one dignity and one debility, you see both sides of the dignity/ debility issue express very well in the life. It poses continuing ethical or social problems to the individual.