Firdaria

for Michelle Obama

Cast for 1 July 2026

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Birth data: 17 January 1964, 19:00, Chicago, Illinois, USA.

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It is not a prediction about this person's life. It describes what the sky is doing against a birth chart. Nothing here is a claim about what has happened or will happen to them.

Your Major Chapter — the Mercury Years

Mercury rules the longest chapter in the whole sequence, thirteen years, and it runs like an apprenticeship nobody remembers signing up for. Its subject is the working mind: learning, speaking, writing, reckoning, and the handling of information and of the people who trade in it. The traffic of life thickens. There are more messages, more forms, more short trips, more conversations that turn into agreements, more pages to read before you can sign anything. Underneath all of it, the era keeps asking one small question in different clothes: did you mean precisely what you said?

Skills pile up across these years the way coins pile up in a jar, unnoticed until the jar is heavy, and something learned in the third year is carrying real weight by the ninth. Whatever gets fudged compounds just as fast. A loose figure, an agreement read too quickly, a story told slightly better than it happened: each one is kept, and each comes back later and larger. Documents deserve more care in this chapter than in the other eight, and a promise put in writing is likely to be read back to you word for word.

Thirteen years can be spent being clever. That looks like forty projects at ten percent each, talk passing for action, and a mind so busy taking things in that it never puts anything out. Years like that are entertaining while they last and leave surprisingly little behind. Years spent on a few subjects leave a craft instead: a quality of attention that people start to trust, whether it shows as writing, teaching, building systems,

mending what other people gave up on, or getting the details right when nobody else bothered.

The line to keep: in the Mercury chapter a reputation is made of small accuracies, and a single careless sentence costs more of it than ten careful ones earn.

Your Mercury, ruler of this era, is in Capricorn, in the fifth house: the sign of structure and long effort, in the house of pleasure, creativity, romance and children. So the era is lived through that part of your life, and draws in the Moon, Venus and Chiron, which Mercury aspects at birth.

The Season Within — Mercury and Saturn

The talking years meet the filing cabinet. Everything you have been thinking about now has to be written down properly, checked, and signed — the contract, the qualification, the system that turns a good idea into something other people can use without you standing beside it. It is slow, and the slowness is the point. The shadow of it is the mind narrowing under the weight: caution mistaken for rigour, the study that never becomes practice, drafts that are revised instead of finished because finishing invites judgement. The strength of it is mastery in the ordinary sense — the craft learned properly, the structure that holds, the sentence that survives being read by someone

unsympathetic. What gets built in this stretch is small and unusually durable. Expect at least one qualification, contract or examination to matter more than it should.

The line to keep: the ideas of this era meet the paperwork. Slow and unglamorous, and the part that decides whether any of it lasts past the chapter.

Your Saturn, co-ruler of this stretch, is in Aquarius, in the sixth house: the sign of independence and the wider group, in the house of daily work, routine and health. So this stretch also leans on that part of your life, and draws in Neptune and Venus, which Saturn aspects at birth.

The Sky's Hand on Your Era-Ruler

❖ *Transiting Neptune square natal Mercury*

Neptune squares your Mercury, returning more than once over a period of years, while thinking turns foggy far more often than usual. When Neptune is in square to your natal Mercury, the fog does not lift on demand. Thinking runs late and gets nowhere, because the subject is one you cannot get a firm hold on: every time you reach for it the terms have shifted slightly. You will carry the weight of not being understood, and the not-being-understood is partly your own doing — the version you have been giving people is genuinely unclear. Ordinary

communication is where it bites. Conversations drift toward abstraction rather than decisions, messages go out vaguer than you intended, and agreements can be read in two ways without anyone noticing until later. Details slip; appointments and small facts are easier to lose than usual. You may drift away from routine tasks into daydreaming, which makes staying with anything that needs precision considerably harder than it should be.

Close relationships feel it too. Saying what you mean can become oddly difficult, or you soften things so much that the point never arrives, and those nearest you are left guessing. Misunderstandings multiply, not from bad faith but from mist. It is worth checking, more often than feels necessary, that what you said is what was heard.

Unhandled, the square produces a defensive kind of silence: you feel misunderstood, so you stop explaining, and the silence itself becomes another misunderstanding. Underneath is a worry that saying things plainly will expose you, or that your ideas will not survive being spoken aloud. Some people also fall for persuasive nonsense under this contact, from others or from their own hopeful thinking, so treat anything that sounds too good with healthy suspicion. Learning and study take an unusual shape. Subjects that depend on logic and memorisation can feel slippery, while anything symbolic, artistic or spiritual opens up more readily than it normally would. Reading fiction, listening to music while you work, walking without a

destination, or talking things through with someone patient can all help ideas form. Travel plans and paperwork deserve a second look; small errors in dates, addresses or numbers are typical of this contact and easy to avoid with one extra check. If you are writing something important, draft it now and edit it later, once the fog has lifted and your meaning is visible again.

Given room, the same openness is a gift for imagination. Poetry, music, storytelling, design, spiritual reading and any work that values intuition over precision can flourish. Ideas arrive whole, as images or feelings, and the task is to catch them before deciding what they mean. A notebook kept by the bed is useful; so is a daily habit of journaling, which gives the mist a place to land where it can be read later in a clearer light. Keep important decisions, contracts and technical matters for days when your mind feels sharp, or ask someone with a clear head to read them with you. The transit eventually leaves you with a wider, more compassionate way of thinking, and a mind that can hold what cannot yet be put into words without panicking about it. Many people look back on these years as the time their imagination finally got the room it needed.

The line to keep: you cannot think straight and you can imagine beautifully, and this is a poor season for confusing those two. Make things now; decide things later.

❖ *Transiting Sun opposition natal Mercury*

Opposed by the Sun, your Mercury hands your habits of thought and speech back to you, slightly enlarged. Habits of speech you no longer notice — a stock phrase, a defensive joke, a way of explaining that leaves people behind — become audible, mostly through other people's reactions. Some of what you hear will flatter you less than you hoped.

Other people may say back to you, in their own words, something you have been saying for months, and it can sound different from the outside — sharper, or less convincing, or simply true in a way you had not heard. Pay attention to that echo; it is the day's real lesson.

Plans have no clear direction and no obvious next move; the call that would set something important in motion does not get made, because thinking is muddled rather than sharp and the muddle is the whole of the difficulty. Decisions that are usually easy feel oddly loaded, and small details that you would normally brush aside demand attention. Leave the big call for tomorrow; not every question needs answering today.

Misunderstandings come easily. A date slips your mind, a remark lands harder than you meant, or a conversation leaves someone feeling not quite heard, and you only realise when they tell you. Each slip is minor if mended quickly; a short, plain apology costs far less today than a long explanation tomorrow.

Small practical slips are likely: a key left behind, an appointment confused, a message meant for one person sent to another. Build in spare minutes and keep notes; a little preparation keeps the slips from adding up. Laugh where you can.

At home, differences in how people communicate can become the subject of the argument rather than its background. One person wants to talk it through, another wants quiet; one hears a tone, another meant none. Naming the difference out loud often settles more than debating the point. Patience with one another's style goes further than any argument.

Money decisions benefit from a pause. Whether a purchase or a commitment truly fits your values is easier to judge once your thinking has cleared, a day or so from now. Waiting costs you nothing here. A night's sleep improves most decisions under this aspect.

Siblings, neighbours and familiar faces nearby may challenge your views most directly. Their disagreement is rarely an attack; more often it is an invitation to explain yourself properly, and the explanation can clarify your own thinking more than theirs.

Feeling misunderstood, some people go quiet. They answer tersely, step back from company and keep their thoughts to themselves for protection. Behind the silence is a dread of misjudgement, or of losing

their grip on their own story. Silence feels safe for an afternoon and leaves the misunderstanding exactly where it was. One honest sentence does more.

This opposition holds up a mirror each day, in which the way you speak and think — in public and in private alike — comes back to you at full size and in your own words. Before speaking or writing anything important, decide what you actually mean. Listen to others with the care you hope to receive, and treat the friction as information about your own habits rather than proof of anyone's ill will. The mirror is uncomfortable and fair.

Clarity comes back soon. Whatever you learned about your manner of speaking is worth keeping; whatever you said in a muddle can usually be revisited.

The line to keep: you will be understood correctly and disagreed with anyway, which is rarer and far more useful than being misheard.

The Sky's Hand on Your Sub-Ruler

❖ *Transiting Venus opposition natal Saturn*

Venus opposes your Saturn in a short, chilly contact, and warmth and caution stand at opposite ends of the week. You can be rigidly

disciplined and at the same time unable to connect with anybody at any depth, and the first is doing the second. When Venus opposes your natal Saturn, a recurring fear of commitment surfaces, and control issues turn up in places you were not watching for them.

What strains is the effort of keeping a boundary you are not certain is fair. Holding it costs something, dropping it would cost more, and neither price is visible to the other person. The introspection this contact asks for arrives uninvited and late: whether your limits are protecting something, or are simply old.

Older obligations can weigh more heavily than usual. A duty to a relative, a promise made long ago, a routine kept because it was once necessary — any of these can suddenly look like the reason there is no room for pleasure. Some of them are; some are only convenient excuses for staying guarded.

Affection can feel scarce or conditional. Conversations with your nearest and dearest veer toward worries rather than pleasures, and it can seem that you are walking on eggshells around someone you love. Agreements of every kind, from shared plans to shared money, are harder to settle, and messages can read more coldly than they were meant.

Money can tighten in the same mood. Spending feels riskier, resources seem to drain away faster than they should, and a careful look at the household budget is more reassuring than any amount of worrying about it. Pleasure postponed for good reasons is fine; pleasure refused out of habit is the thing to watch.

Loneliness may visit even in company. It is not proof that you are unloved; it is what Saturn's caution feels like when it meets Venus's wish to be close. Naming it, to yourself or to someone you trust, usually shrinks it to a manageable size.

Defensiveness comes easily. Someone tries to help or to get closer and you treat it as an intrusion, dismissing their concern before it is finished. A wall goes up against exactly the sweetness Venus is bringing, and behind it hides the dread of asking too much of others, or of losing control. Left there, the wall turns every person into either a useful ally or a threat, and genuine closeness has nowhere to land.

The opposition works as a mirror. The limits you see in other people this week are often your own, reflected back, and noticing that takes much of the sting out of the exchange. You need not drop your boundaries; you need only check which of them still protect something you value.

Practical kindness counts for more than words this week. Turning up when you said you would, finishing a task you promised, remembering a detail someone mentioned: steady gestures like these speak the language Saturn understands, and they reassure everyone nearby that your caution is not coldness.

Be gentle and firm together. When a limit is tested, say plainly where your limit lies, without heat — something as simple as "I understand, and this still matters to me" holds a line without closing a door. Afterwards, do one small, warm thing for someone you care about, so the week does not become only about defence. The opposition passes quickly, and the boundaries you keep through it with grace usually prove worth keeping.

The line to keep: affection arrives with a condition attached, or feels as though it has. Work out which of those it is before you answer it.

What Is About to Take the Throne — Mercury and Jupiter

Around August 2026 (age 62.6), the minor lordship passes from Saturn to Jupiter, and a Mercury–Jupiter season begins.

When Jupiter takes the minor throne, the chapter widens. Jupiter seasons bring growth, opportunity, generosity and faith; teachers,

mentors and doors that were closed tend to appear. The handover often feels like confidence returning, a sense that things are possible again. It suits study, travel, publishing, expansion and any commitment made from optimism rather than fear. Its risk is excess: agreeing to everything, spending ahead of income, promising more than the season can deliver. Grow in one direction and let the abundance have a shape.

The line to keep: under Jupiter the chapter opens its doors, and the season gives most to whoever chooses which door to walk through.

The Whole Life in Firdaria — Where You Have Been and Where You Are Going

Six chapters are behind you, from birth to January 2021. Each is read as it stood when it began, so the words look forward from its first day; hold them against what those years actually brought.

Ages 0–9 — the Moon chapter (behind you)

A night birth spends its first nine years under the Moon. As childhood begins, everything turns on safety and feeling: the rhythm of a home, familiar faces and places, the moods of a household taken in long before they can be named. A child in a Moon era learns first through attachment, and whatever feels like home in these years becomes the pattern for comfort later on. The trace often survives in the smells,

rooms and routines that still mean safety.

The line to keep: the Moon era sets the shape of comfort, so the places and habits that soothe you now are worth understanding rather than outgrowing.

Ages 9–20 — the Saturn chapter (behind you)

A night birth leaves the Moon's nine years at about nine and spends the next eleven under Saturn, so the whole road from late childhood to the edge of adulthood runs under the planet of effort, time and rules. Where the Moon asked whether you felt safe, Saturn wants to know what you are able to do and whether it holds up when somebody checks. School is the obvious ground for it: work that comes back marked, tests that return a number, the first subject that refuses to yield to quickness or charm and opens only to practice. Rules come into view as rules, a school's, a team's, a household's, and with them the slow news that time is real. A deadline will not move because you argue with it, and a skill turns up when the hours have been put in and not a week before.

Responsibility tends to come in small portions at first in this chapter: a task that is plainly yours, a key of your own, a part in a team or a school play that falls apart if you skip it. Seriousness can look like shyness, like caution, or like a habit of wanting to get something right

before trying it at all, and adults often remark that a Saturn child seems older than the calendar says. When the chapter runs too heavy for someone so young, the strain usually comes out as worry carried in silence or as fun put off until every chore is done, and it goes better wherever the load gets shared and someone says out loud that enough is enough. In the late teens the testing turns outward: exams, forms, the first choices signed with your own name, the first time a grown-up decision is clearly yours to carry.

Looking back, the steady competence you reach for when things get difficult may well have been started somewhere in these eleven years, along with a certain impatience with anyone who skips the dull part.

The line to keep: Saturn's chapter runs a night birth from nine to twenty, so growing up and learning how things are built happen together, and the patience picked up then rarely wears thin later.

Ages 20–32 — the Jupiter chapter (behind you)

Jupiter governs for twelve years, and the map you live by keeps growing at the edges. Its chapter is the expansive one: opportunity, learning, travel, belief, generosity, the teachers who arrive when you have room for them and, later on, the people who come to you to be taught in turn. Life says yes more often than usual, then spends the twelve years testing whether you can say yes back without overloading

the boat. Horizons get literal: new places, new subjects, new audiences, a larger stage than looked possible from where you used to stand.

Help tends to flow towards you early in a Jupiter chapter and through you later on. Halfway through, the question changes from what you can get to what the getting was for, and the answers you settle on become a working philosophy you go on quoting long after the chapter closes. Sharing what you know pays unusually well here, be it by teaching it, by writing it down, or explaining it properly to somebody who was stuck.

Jupiter can also bloat a life. Promises go out past capacity, optimism does the bookkeeping, good fortune gets spent as though it were guaranteed to recur, and a conviction hardens into the kind of preaching that ends a person's learning. A Jupiter chapter that leaves you genuinely larger seldom counts its yeses. What marks it is faith used as fuel rather than as a substitute for planning, so that you finish wider in reach, deeper in understanding, and able to carry more for other people than you could at the start.

The line to keep: growth in a Jupiter chapter holds wherever it was given a floor, and almost everywhere else it quietly deflates soon after the era ends.

Ages 32–39 — the Mars chapter (behind you)

Mars takes the throne for seven years, and the temperature goes up. He rules will, contest and risk, and the particular education that only friction can give. Life gets more decisive, asked or not. Situations that tolerated drift for years begin to demand a move, and every move costs something. Rivals turn up with lessons attached. Anger turns up with information in it, often about a boundary you had stopped admitting was there.

Seven years gives you time to win something real, and little enough of it that you hear the clock from the first year. Mars years reward early, clean action. Asking plainly works better than hinting; starting before you feel ready beats waiting on a readiness that never arrives; cutting a loss early, while it costs little, beats defending it out of pride. What these years punish is the slow leak: resentment banked instead of spoken, battles fought sideways through other people, courage poured into the wrong hill because backing down felt like losing. The era will fund any fight you start, the foolish ones included, and the fights you start are what the seven years end up being about.

Heat scorches as readily as it forges. Temper makes the decisions, haste charges double for every shortcut, and conflict gets sought for the rush of it and not for anything it could win. The same heat, pointed at something worth having, forges a person settled enough to act under

pressure, defend what is theirs, and end a quarrel cleanly instead of letting it run on. The chapter leaves you with a few trophies, a few regrets, and a much sharper sense of where your limits sit. Those limits prove more useful than the trophies.

The line to keep: the Mars chapter ends with proof of your own nerve, and that proof goes on working for you long after the quarrels that supplied it are forgotten.

Ages 39–49 — the Sun chapter (behind you)

Ten years belong to the Sun, and the question under all of them is simple to ask and slow to answer: who are you, with no one there to introduce you? The Sun rules the self in plain view, meaning your name as other people say it, the things you become known for, and the spot you stand in when a room has to decide whose idea it is going with. Life keeps building small stages under it and walking you onto them. One may be a role that carries your name, another something you made and signed rather than shared, a decision that is plainly yours, or simply the first time people describe you without being prompted.

Authority runs through the decade as a recurring character. Somebody always seems to be holding the light you are learning to hold: a teacher, a person in charge, someone whose standing you envy slightly

and admire more than you say. You learn from them, push against them, and measure yourself against them for years longer than you let on. Purpose and identity start to fuse in these years, so that what you do and who you are stop feeling like separate facts. A stretch spent on things you have no faith in costs more here than in any other chapter, and it shows sooner.

Two things go wrong in a Sun chapter, and they mirror each other. One is wanting the room's eyes so badly that applause stands in for purpose, until every title you hold is something that could be taken back. The other is the decade spent half hidden: deferring, apologising for the room you occupy, letting others stand where you were meant to, and calling it modesty. Both waste the light. A decade that uses it looks plainer than either. A few things big enough to carry your whole signature get chosen and signed, you let yourself be seen without performing, and you lead without crowding anyone else out of the sky.

The line to keep: somebody in the Sun's decade begins to defer to you, and it nearly always happens a little before you would have called yourself ready.

Ages 49–57 — the Venus chapter (behind you)

Venus holds the throne for eight years, and life starts taking its directions from your liking. Her chapter is about attraction in the

widest sense: who draws you and whom you draw, friendships that begin to matter more, the music and colours and streets you choose, and the slow business of learning what you value for yourself rather than on someone else's word. Love may be part of it. So may a craft, a city, a set of friends, or a taste that sharpens until other people start trusting it as judgement.

Things in these years come by being liked more often than by being pushed. An offer appears because someone enjoyed your company; a door opens because you were pleasant to deal with when you had no particular reason to be. Money follows what you care about more closely than usual, for better and worse, going out on what you love and sometimes coming back in through it. The rooms around you and the objects you keep in them begin to matter, not as decoration but because they change how you feel when you walk in.

Venus also brings old quarrels up for settlement, with other people or with yourself, and making that peace is part of the chapter's real business. Sweetness can turn into a bargain here: peace kept by never saying the true thing, being wanted mistaken for being valued, pleasure grabbed instead of anything that might have lasted, beauty bought rather than made. Eight years spent like that leave a pleasant blur. The same eight can leave affection said out loud, your own gifts priced honestly, and every place you pass through a little better looking than you found it.

The line to keep: in the Venus years, what you love is the strategy, and the plans you make against your own taste rarely survive the eight years intact.

Ages 70–73 — the North Node chapter (ahead of you)

The Dragon's Head, the North Node, rules for three years, and they move faster than anything that came before them. The Head adds, gathers and joins. Under it, invitations arrive from off the map you have been using: things never tried, places never visited, versions of yourself that nobody can vouch for yet. The current runs one way only. Nostalgia gets expensive, and the familiar exits quietly lose their handles. Connections form quickly, sometimes between corners of your world that had never touched.

Increase is the signature of these years, but it is increase with a direction. What grows is whatever carries you closer to the life your chart has pointed at all along, which explains why the growth so often feels premature, like being handed shoes a size up and told to walk in them. Three years is not long. The chapter teaches by enrolment rather than by syllabus, and most of its lessons are learned halfway through doing them.

Appetite can outrun digestion here. Doors get chased because they are new rather than because they lead anywhere, and the future becomes a

way out of every uncomfortable present. Whatever you bring into the Head's years gets bigger, the restless habit included. A North Node chapter that holds together picks its unfamiliar doors on purpose and walks through them one after another, which is how three years come to carry something close to a decade's growth.

The line to keep: the Head's three years tend to hand you something ahead of schedule, and it fits once the Tail takes over.

Ages 73–75 — the South Node chapter (ahead of you)

The South Node, the Dragon's Tail, takes the last two years of the sequence, the shortest chapter and the quietest. The Tail is the pull of what is already done: skills banked, habits perfected, debts and gifts carried in from every earlier chapter. While it rules, life runs a clearance. Arrangements, roles and ties that have finished their work come loose, some by your own hand and some simply because the charge has gone out of them. Less arrives. More gets completed. A chapter this short has no room for new campaigns, and it does not pretend to.

Nobody is being punished here. It is the exhale after a long breath, and resisting it is the main way it hurts. The Tail favours the finishing arts: closing the long project, settling the old account, putting years of experience into a form someone else can use. Old skills become

valuable in a new way precisely because they have stopped defining you, and you can hand them on without feeling smaller for it. Time alone turns productive rather than empty, and the inner rooms get swept.

Holding on is how these two years drain away. Clinging to arrangements that have already expired, repeating a trick you mastered long ago for applause that no longer feeds anything, reading the ebb as failure and forcing growth while the tide is plainly out: each of those turns a release into a slow loss. Let the chapter do what it does and you leave it travelling light, with the skill kept and the costume handed back, and clear about what you are finished proving.

The line to keep: the Tail's two years take away more than they bring, and almost everything they take is something you had already finished with.

The Exact Arithmetic — Your Position, Reckoned Precisely

Because the Firdaria run on fixed numbers of years, your exact position can be reckoned to the month, and it is worth setting the arithmetic down plainly so that you can find your place at any age. Whether you were born by day or by night decides the order: a day birth begins with the Sun, a night birth with the Moon, and each major

period starts on a birthday and lasts its traditional number of years. Inside each planetary period, seven sub-periods divide the time into equal parts, beginning with the period's own lord and continuing in the fixed order of the sequence. The nodal years at the end are not divided. The dates below use the simplest reckoning, with every boundary on your birthday; some astrologers move a boundary by a few days to the exact solar return, which changes nothing in the picture.

The line to keep: the whole clock is arithmetic, so once you know your sequence you can find your place at any age.

You were born by night, so your sequence opens with the Moon, and your major periods fall on these boundaries, each beginning on a birthday: the Moon from birth to January 1973 (ages 0–9); Saturn, January 1973 to January 1984 (ages 9–20); Jupiter, January 1984 to January 1996 (ages 20–32); Mars, January 1996 to January 2003 (ages 32–39); the Sun, January 2003 to January 2013 (ages 39–49); Venus, January 2013 to January 2021 (ages 49–57); Mercury, January 2021 to January 2034 (ages 57–70), the chapter you are in; the North Node, January 2034 to January 2037 (ages 70–73); and the South Node, January 2037 to January 2039 (ages 73–75).

Inside the Mercury chapter, each of the seven seasons runs about 23 months, so its inner calendar falls like this: Mercury–Mercury from January 2021 to December 2022; Mercury–Moon to September 2024;

Mercury–Saturn, the season you are in, to August 2026; Mercury–Jupiter to June 2028; Mercury–Mars to May 2030; Mercury–Sun to February 2032; and Mercury–Venus to January 2034.

The Seasons of This Chapter, One by One

The first two seasons of this chapter are behind you, from January 2021 to September 2024. They are given as each would have read when it opened; set them beside what happened.

Ages 57–58.9 — the Mercury season (behind you)

The talking years run at full speed. With Mercury ruling both the chapter and this part of it, learning, exchange and busy days come at full strength: the reading list longer than ever, the correspondence that never quite stops, the deals, errands, messages and small decisions that fill a week to the edges. Your mind is at its most itself now, fast, curious and connecting things, and whatever it does well and badly, it does obviously. Short trips, siblings and neighbours often feature too. The difficulty is noise mistaken for progress: misunderstandings that come from speed, gossip that passes for conversation, a calendar so full that nothing gets thought through, and nerves frayed by constant input. The maturity is the mind put to real use, one skill learned properly, one piece of writing finished, communication matched to what you actually mean, and a clear head kept by deciding what not to

read.

The line to keep: this is the undiluted version of how your mind works, so use these years to learn one thing deeply rather than a hundred things a little.

Ages 58.9–60.7 — the Moon season (behind you)

The talking years turn tender. The Moon now brings the era's conversation home: talk turns to family, feelings, the house and everyone under its roof, and the mind spends its energy on what the heart is doing. Letters, calls and the stories households tell about themselves matter in this stretch. A long conversation with someone you trust can steady the whole house. The old pattern is worry with a voice: anxious thoughts that circle without landing, moods talked about endlessly and never settled, and messages read for hidden meaning. The newer form is emotional intelligence, the feeling put into words so that it can be heard, the conversation at home that clears the air, and a mind that listens as carefully as it talks.

The line to keep: in these years your thinking and your feelings share one room, so say what you feel in plain words and let it settle.

Ages 60.7–62.6 — the Saturn season (you are here)

You are standing in this season. It opened around September 2024 (age 60.7) and closes around August 2026 (age 62.6). It has about two months left to run, and then Jupiter takes the minor throne. Its reading is the one given in full above, under The Season Within.

Ages 62.6–64.4 — the Jupiter season (ahead of you)

The talking years widen. Jupiter now enlarges the reach of what you say and study: the course that opens a field, the trip that changes your frame of reference, the idea that finds a larger audience than you expected. Teachers, publishers, foreign places and wider networks tend to matter now, and so does the sense that knowledge is meant to be shared. Exams, publications and long journeys go well when they are prepared for. The difficulty is a mind that promises more than it can check: big talk, too many projects begun after one good conversation, opinions inflated into doctrines. The maturity is learning with a purpose, the one subject followed far enough to teach it, the message made larger because it has been made clearer first.

The line to keep: what you know can travel further in these years than it ever has, so make sure it is worth carrying before you send it.

Ages 64.4–66.3 — the Mars season (ahead of you)

The talking years get sharp. Mars now turns the era's words into action and sometimes into weapons: the decision finally made, the

negotiation pushed, the message nobody wanted to send sent at last. Thinking speeds up, and so does the urge to settle things by arguing them. The old pattern is a quick tongue: debates won and relationships lost, impatience with slower minds, criticism delivered faster than it can be weighed, and a restlessness that starts arguments simply to feel movement. The newer form is decisive speech, the hard conversation held on purpose and kept on its subject, a mind that turns plans into deadlines and words into things that happen.

The line to keep: your words carry an edge in these years, so point it at the problem, never at the person who is helping you solve it.

Ages 66.3–68.1 — the Sun season (ahead of you)

The years of exchange acquire a centre. You have been gathering — reading, talking, moving between things — and now a single thread pulls forward and asks to be the one you are known for. The scattered becomes the specific, which is a relief and a narrowing at once. Badly handled it is the ego arriving in the argument: needing to be the cleverest voice in the room, performing certainty you do not have, taking disagreement as a verdict on you rather than on the idea. Handled well it is a voice that finally sounds like a person instead of a survey — you stop reporting what is thought and start saying what you think, and it turns out to carry further than the balanced version ever did. Somebody with standing takes your thinking seriously in this

stretch, and it changes what you believe you are allowed to work on.

The line to keep: what you have been working out privately becomes something you say out loud. Say the unhedged version once, before you start qualifying it.

Ages 68.1–70 — the Venus season (ahead of you)

The talking years grow charming. Venus now sweetens the voice of the era: conversation becomes a pleasure, messages carry warmth, and words start to bring people closer, in love, in friendship and in the deals that run on goodwill. Taste sharpens too, for writing, design, music and anything where how something is phrased matters as much as its content. This is a good stretch for anything that sells on warmth, from a letter of introduction to a negotiation over price, and for saying aloud the affection that has gone unspoken. Your timing in conversation is unusually good. The difficulty is flattery: telling people what they want to hear, smoothing over what needed saying, choosing the pleasant conversation over the necessary one, and spending money on the strength of a good story. The maturity is grace in speech, the difficult thing said kindly and still said, creative work in words finished and shared, and relationships that grow because both people can talk about what they want.

The line to keep: your words win people over in these years, so use the charm to tell the truth gently, not to avoid telling it.

The Seasons of Your Moon Chapter, ages 0–9 (behind you)

This chapter ran from birth to January 1973, and its seasons are read as the forecast each one was given on its first day. Check each against what you know of those years.

Ages 0–1.3 — the Moon season (under Moon)

A night birth's first fifteen months sit under the Moon doubled. Infancy here is all feeling: hunger and comfort, closeness and absence, the voice that soothes and the arms that hold. A baby is learning, without any words for it, whether the world can be trusted to answer a need. Nothing from these months is remembered in sentences, only carried as a mood.

The line to keep: the trust laid down in these first months is not fixed for ever, and comfort given to yourself now reaches the same deep place.

Ages 1.3–2.6 — the Saturn season (under Moon)

Saturn brings the first limits between roughly fifteen months and two and a half. A toddler meets the word no: routines, bedtimes, things that cannot be touched, a world with edges as well as comforts. Frustration is new and fierce, and so is the satisfaction of doing something unaided. How you meet limits now, with a sigh, a fight or a quiet plan, may echo this season.

The line to keep: the first edges met at two teach where safety ends and self begins, and a good boundary can still feel like care.

Ages 2.6–3.9 — the Jupiter season (under Moon)

Jupiter fills the house with wonder at around three. A child's world swells with make-believe, picture books, visits and new faces, and with the generosity of grown-ups who enjoy their delight. Feelings are big and mostly happy, and the feeling that life is good can take deep root now. Simple pleasures that still lift you more than they should might belong to this time.

The line to keep: the wonder found at three is a reserve that can be drawn on for life, so protect the small joys that still reach it.

Ages 3.9–5.1 — the Mars season (under Moon)

Mars stirs the will around the fourth birthday. A child wants things fiercely and says so: the strong no, the tantrum that shakes the room,

the brave climb, the fight with a sibling over a toy that suddenly matters more than anything. Feeling and force arrive together. A quick temper when something you love is threatened can be the grown form of it.

The line to keep: the fierceness a child shows in this season is energy looking for a channel, and the adult version deserves one too.

Ages 5.1–6.4 — the Sun season (under Moon)

Around five and six the Sun steps forward. School often begins and a child starts to be seen by people outside the home: a teacher's praise, a star on a chart, the first performance for a watching room. Pride and shyness live side by side, as does the longing to be special. It may be where you first felt known for something of your own.

The line to keep: being noticed at five shows a child that they count, and whatever in you still wants to be seen is need, not vanity.

Ages 6.4–7.7 — the Venus season (under Moon)

Venus brings friendship and beauty at about six and seven. A child often finds a best friend, falls for a song, a game or a style of drawing, and learns the pleasure of sharing and the sting of being left out. Taste starts to become personal. The company that still feels easiest, and the things that still strike you as lovely, can carry this season's mark.

The line to keep: the friendships and pleasures a child chooses in this season show what their heart is drawn to, and that pull is worth trusting.

Ages 7.7–9 — the Mercury season (under Moon)

Mercury ends the Moon era, from about seven and a half to nine. Reading tends to take hold, and with it a flood of facts, jokes, secret codes and stories that a child can now carry alone. Questions grow sharper and the mind starts to enjoy itself. Subjects that still make you lose track of time are often first met here.

The line to keep: the mind that wakes in this season loves to learn for its own sake, and that pleasure can be reclaimed whenever learning has started to feel like work.

The Seasons of Your Saturn Chapter, ages 9–20 (behind you)

From January 1973 to January 1984, and behind you now. Each season below is given in the words it would have had when it opened; what those years held is the test of them.

Ages 9–10.6 — the Saturn season (under Saturn)

Night births reach the Saturn era at about nine, and Saturn rules its first season too. For a child this can be a serious stretch: schoolwork that asks for real effort, responsibilities that arrive early, a growing awareness of rules, time and consequences. Some children grow quiet and careful here; many grow capable. The steadiness you can call on when things get hard may have been built now.

The line to keep: the seriousness learned in this season builds real strength, and it can now be balanced with the play it sometimes crowded out.

Ages 10.6–12.1 — the Jupiter season (under Saturn)

Encouragement arrives at about ten and a half, when Jupiter steps into the Saturn years. A window opens in a serious stretch: a teacher who notices a gift, a new subject or hobby that suddenly makes sense, a trip or a book that shows how wide the world is. Effort begins to feel worth it. The first person to tell you that you were good at something often belongs to this time.

The line to keep: the encouragement a child receives in this season can carry for decades, and passing it on to someone younger is how it keeps working.

Ages 12.1–13.7 — the Mars season (under Saturn)

Mars pushes against the rules at about twelve and thirteen, inside the Saturn years. Independence becomes urgent: arguments with authority, the wish to decide for oneself, competition at school or in sport, and frustration when the limits do not move fast enough. Courage and defiance grow together. A first stand taken for something you believed in may sit in these months.

The line to keep: the push for independence in this season is healthy, and the adult who learns to aim it well keeps its energy without its anger.

Ages 13.7–15.3 — the Sun season (under Saturn)

In a night birth's sequence the Sun enters Saturn's years at about thirteen and three quarters and stays until fifteen and a quarter. The season is about having your name on things. Results come back with it attached: a test, a match, a performance, a project shown to the class, the team list you are or are not on. Authority looms larger too, in teachers, coaches, rules and the adults in charge, and it is easy either to clash with them or to want their approval far beyond what you would say aloud. Pride is tender here. Credit is slow, being judged stings more than it will in later years, and a small public failure can seem to last a term. Responsibility arrives that is clearly yours, a role or a duty other people count on. The first time something you did was judged in front of others probably falls in this stretch.

The line to keep: the Sun inside Saturn's years makes fourteen a season of being measured, and being measured this young leaves a self that keeps its shape better afterwards.

Ages 15.3–16.9 — the Venus season (under Saturn)

Venus softens the Saturn years from roughly fifteen and a quarter until nearly seventeen. After a serious stretch, warmth comes back in: friendships steady and grow loyal, an older friend becomes a good influence, and pleasure turns into something worth making room for even when there is homework due. A craft learned slowly suits this season, an instrument, drawing, cooking or a language, because Saturn supplies patience and Venus supplies the reason. First loves are more possibility than event, but they are taken seriously, thought about at length and rarely rushed. One habit to watch is treating fun as a reward kept back until every chore is finished. Another is grabbing at it carelessly because everything else feels heavy. A skill begun slowly now could well remain one of your pleasures.

The line to keep: Venus brings warmth into the night birth's Saturn years at fifteen and sixteen; what gets loved in this season is loved carefully, and that care is why it lasts.

Ages 16.9–18.4 — the Mercury season (under Saturn)

Mercury holds the Saturn years from just under seventeen until about eighteen and a half, and the weight of the era turns into lists. Exams, forms, applications, revision timetables, the first documents in your own name: the season is full of things that have to be read properly and answered on time. A general worry becomes specific, and a specific worry can be worked on in a way a vague one cannot. A worry can also loop. The same question turned over every evening from every side but the useful one is worry dressed up as planning. What helps is the person who will give an accurate answer rather than a kind one, and writing the answer down. Something learned properly at this point could easily remain among the things you know best.

The line to keep: Mercury turns the weight of the Saturn years into lists and paperwork at seventeen, and a worry written down in this season is already half handled.

Ages 18.4–20 — the Moon season (under Saturn)

The heavy years come home. The Moon now carries the era's weight into the private life: the household that needs managing, a family member who needs care, the emotional cost of the effort finally making itself felt. Feelings that were put aside to get things done ask for attention now, sometimes as fatigue, sometimes as a quiet sadness that has no single cause. The old pattern is endurance without comfort: needs ignored, tenderness postponed until the work is done, and a

coldness that protects you and leaves everyone, including you, slightly hungry. The newer form is care built into the structure, a home that steadies you, help accepted as well as given, and feelings looked after as seriously as any obligation. Rest is part of the job here, not a reward for finishing it.

The line to keep: these years bring the weight of your efforts into your private life, so make room for comfort and let it count as part of the work.

The Seasons of Your Jupiter Chapter, ages 20–32 (behind you)

These seasons ran from January 1984 to January 1996. They are read forward, as each looked from its own beginning, and the years themselves have since given their answer.

Ages 20–21.7 — the Jupiter season (under Jupiter)

The expansive years double. Jupiter governs the era and the stretch alike, so growth runs undiluted and whatever has been opening in your life opens further: the teacher found, the journey taken, the door that was ajar swung wide, the belief that had been forming becoming something you would defend out loud. Generosity comes back to you in this stretch, often from directions you had stopped watching. The

pull is toward more of everything, with promises made faster than they can be kept, a bigger plan stacked on one not yet finished, and faith in good fortune standing in for judgement. Growth travels further once it has a direction: one large opportunity chosen and given your whole attention, and the wider view used to decide what is worth enlarging.

The line to keep: luck is plentiful in these years and so is the temptation to say yes to all of it, so pick the one expansion you would still want in ten years.

Ages 21.7–23.4 — the Mars season (under Jupiter)

The expansive years grow teeth. Growth stops being something that happens to you and becomes something you go and take — the application sent without being invited, the territory entered before anyone agrees you belong in it. Luck in this stretch favours the person already moving. The old pattern is appetite without aim: three opportunities seized at once and none finished, a quarrel picked with the very people who were about to open the door, confidence that reads as arrogance to everyone who has not seen your last two years. The newer form is nerve deployed on purpose — the ask made directly, the risk sized to what you can actually carry, the campaign that ends with ground held rather than a story about how hard you tried.

The line to keep: this period rewards going after the larger thing, and it will not tell you when the window shuts — assume it is shorter than it feels.

Ages 23.4–25.1 — the Sun season (under Jupiter)

The expansive years put you on stage for a stretch. Whatever has been growing quietly — the practice, the cause, the body of work — acquires an audience, and the audience changes it. Invitations arrive that assume you are already what you are still becoming, and most people say yes and then hurry to catch up. Appetite for the recognition itself creeps in easily, and then the visible thing wins over the useful one, being asked passes for being ready, and the applause sets the direction the work was supposed to set. The light can also be put to use while it is on you, in a door kept open for someone, the introduction made, the thing built in public that would otherwise have taken five private years. Generosity is unusually cheap in this stretch and unusually well remembered.

The line to keep: this is where the growth becomes visible to other people. Being seen doing well is pleasant, and it is not the same thing as the doing.

Ages 25.1–26.9 — the Venus season (under Jupiter)

The expansive years turn pleasant. Doors open through liking rather than effort — someone enjoys your company and mentions your name in a room you were not in. Money arrives more easily than it has, and so do people. The cost is the softening: comfort mistaken for progress, spending that assumes the good stretch is permanent, a romance conducted at the scale of the mood rather than the life. The reward is the generous run — hospitality that costs little and returns for years, work made beautiful because there was finally room to make it beautiful, and the discovery that being liked is a resource you have been refusing to use. Take the invitation.

The line to keep: the luck of this era arrives through people during these months rather than through effort. Say yes to the invitation you would normally decline.

Ages 26.9–28.6 — the Mercury season (under Jupiter)

The expansive years start talking. What has been growing quietly now needs explaining — to a client, a class, a committee, a stranger who could change things — and the explaining turns out to be its own skill. You write more in this stretch than you expect to. The raw form is breadth without weight: too many conversations, promises made in the enthusiasm of a good meeting, an idea described so often it never gets built. The finished form is the teacher's stretch — you understand your own material properly for the first time because somebody asked a

question you could not answer, and the answer becomes the next chapter of the work. Teaching something you only half know is how you come to know it properly.

The line to keep: the ideas travel further than you do in this stretch. Send the half-finished one to the person who can use it.

Ages 28.6–30.3 — the Moon season (under Jupiter)

The expansive years come home. Growth turns domestic for a stretch: the household gets larger or warmer, a move gives everyone more room, someone is taken in, and the generosity of the era is spent on those nearest you instead of on the world at large. Feeling runs fuller too, and faith becomes something you feel in the body of a day rather than argue for. The people you belong to can become a source of real support now. Hospitality comes naturally in this stretch. The difficulty is comfort as a ceiling: the home grown so pleasant that nothing else gets attempted, needs met by overindulgence, every mood fed rather than understood. The maturity is a home that becomes a base, security used as a platform rather than a cushion, care given widely because there is genuinely enough of it to go round.

The line to keep: the growth of this era turns inward for a while, so let it enlarge the place you live and the people you live with, and then use that ground to go further.

Ages 30.3–32 — the Saturn season (under Jupiter)

The expansive years sober up. After a stretch in which growth came easily, Saturn arrives inside the era and asks whether what has been built can stand on its own: the business has to show a profit, the course has to be finished, the commitment made in an optimistic month has to be kept in a difficult one. Opportunities still come, but they come with conditions, and the conditions are the point. This is where the era's gains are either consolidated or quietly lost. The old pattern is resistance to the bill: hesitating over anything that will not pay at once, feeling crushed by commitments that seemed light when they were made, or carrying on as if the expansion could run forever without maintenance. The newer form is optimism given a structure, the large aim broken into dated steps, responsibility taken on because it secures what you started, a mentor's role or a leader's accepted because the steady part is what the work now needs. People who use this stretch well come out of the Jupiter era with something solid rather than a memory of a good run. Delays here are not refusals; they are the inspection the growth has to pass before it is allowed to continue.

The line to keep: the expansion meets its first bill here, which does not end the era; it is the part where what you started gets asked whether it can stand on its own.

The Seasons of Your Mars Chapter, ages 32–39 (behind you)

From January 1996 to January 2003, behind you, read the same way.

Ages 32–33 — the Mars season (under Mars)

The fighting years reach their own centre. Whatever this era is about, it is about it hardest now — the confrontation you have been circling, the physical push, the decision made at speed and defended afterwards. Energy is not the problem in this stretch; direction is. Left undirected, this stretch is heat with no target: the argument taken with whoever is nearest, injuries from moving faster than the body agreed to, a fight won so thoroughly that the relationship does not survive the winning. Given direction, it is force with a plan behind it — the sustained effort that finally breaks something open, courage in the specific place it was needed rather than everywhere at once.

The line to keep: this is the era at full voltage, and it will not ask whether you have chosen a direction. Choose one anyway, because the energy is arriving either way.

Ages 33–34 — the Sun season (under Mars)

The fighting years step into the light. Mars still drives the era, and the Sun now puts you before an audience: the role that bears your name,

the stand taken in public, the effort that finally gets noticed by those who decide things. Confidence runs high and so does the wish to be seen winning, and both can be used. Pride can get into the fight, so that battles are picked to prove something, authority is challenged because it is authority, and a temper costs you the very recognition you were working for. The same confidence can lead instead, spending its energy where it lifts everyone around you as well as yourself, and it can bear being seen trying hard, in plain view, without needing to look effortless.

The line to keep: these years put your effort on display, so choose the fights you would be glad to be known for and leave the others unanswered.

Ages 34–35 — the Venus season (under Mars)

Venus walks into the fighting years and things turn personal. Desire turns up inside a chapter built for effort, and the two refuse to blend politely: you want somebody, or something beautiful, or simply a good time, with the same heat you had been spending on the struggle. Attraction this season runs vivid and slightly combustible, and whatever starts here, a friendship, a romance, a passion for some craft or object, starts at full volume.

Mars and Venus are the oldest pair of opposites in the sky, and for this year they keep mistaking each other. A quarrel can be courtship in disguise. Money gets spent to feel something rather than to have something. Someone may be pursued with all the tactics of a siege when they were never resisting at all. The appetite is real enough, but it keeps borrowing the methods of the fight it interrupted.

What Venus offers the Mars era is a truce. Part of what was being fought over was available for the asking, and pleasure proves not to be a prize that has to be won first. Something in this season is genuinely worth wanting. Money moves strangely as well, going out fast on what is felt rather than needed and now and then coming back the same way, through somebody who simply liked you.

The line to keep: wanting and being wanted are the same appetite in this stretch, and you keep filing them separately. Nearly every misstep this season comes from asking for one while hoping for the other.

Ages 35–36 — the Mercury season (under Mars)

The heat moves into words. The years of drive keep going, but the front line shifts to conversation — the negotiation, the email nobody wanted to send, the point pressed until somebody concedes it. You think faster than usual and you say more of what you think. The tongue turns into a weapon easily in these months: the remark aimed

accurately at the softest spot, the argument you conduct at speed and win before the other person has assembled their side, correspondence that reads harder on the screen than it sounded in your head. It is also the strategist's stretch, with plans that survive contact, the sharp question that saves a year, and the ability to say the difficult thing cleanly and once. A great deal gets decided in this stretch by whoever is willing to put it in writing. Learning lands quickly in this stretch because you are motivated rather than merely curious, and motivated learning stays put.

The line to keep: the fight becomes an argument for a while. You will win several, and it is worth checking afterwards which of them were worth having.

Ages 36–37 — the Moon season (under Mars)

Inside the Mars chapter, the Moon's season turns the fight towards home. Across its twelve months, the drive that normally points outward goes into security: your home ground, the money that keeps it standing, and the small circle of people and things you would defend without being asked. Practical matters take on a personal edge. The accounts tend to get checked more often than usual, a room may be rearranged twice, and some domestic matter you would normally let pass can start an argument, because the Moon has quietly turned each of them into a ruling on how safe you are.

Mars and the Moon make an uneasy pair. One wants to act, the other to feel, and in this season the feeling usually lands first, with the action following a little too fast behind it. Irritation is the common weather: a short temper over bills and chores, a defensive watchfulness about how your situation looks from outside, and a habit of picking at the nearest problem because the real worry is harder to name. Anything decided in a flare of feeling here usually has to be decided again a week on.

When the heat goes into the place rather than into whoever is nearest, the year does protective work properly. It suits the repair you kept postponing, a budget that actually holds in place of the one you kept meaning to write, and whatever change of arrangement makes home feel safe rather than merely well run. Safety in this season is partly a number in an account and partly a feeling in a room, and this year can supply both. Give the restlessness a task of its own, somewhere it can burn off harmlessly, and it stops leaking into everything else.

The line to keep: the drive of this era turns homeward and gets complicated. What you are fighting for and who you are fighting with may briefly be the same people.

Ages 37–38 — the Saturn season (under Mars)

The fighting years meet a wall. Saturn now sets limits on the era's drive that cannot be charged through: the rule that will not bend, the

slow authority, the task that must be done properly or done again. Force alone stops working in this stretch, and the fights that matter now are won by stamina and method rather than heat. Frustration can turn sour here, as anger at the delay itself, as pushing harder at the same obstruction, or as giving up altogether because the old way of winning has stopped producing wins. What actually works is disciplined force: the campaign planned, the energy rationed across months rather than spent in a week, and the hard skill learned properly because nothing else will get you past it.

The line to keep: your drive meets resistance it cannot overpower in these years, so turn the fight into a long siege you can actually sustain.

Ages 38–39 — the Jupiter season (under Mars)

In the middle of the fighting years, the ceiling lifts. There is more room than the struggle had led you to expect — an offer, a country, a course, a person who thinks bigger than the argument you have been having. You arrive braced, and bracing is a poor posture for noticing an open door, because a braced person is watching for the next blow. Momentum is easily wasted on the wrong front here, overreaching because you are already at full effort, taking on the larger fight instead of the larger opportunity, with confidence running ahead of the actual ground. Then there is the campaign that finally has a direction worth the energy: the same drive, pointed at something that grows rather than

something that resists, and aimed at a horizon instead of an opponent. Effort stops being endurance and starts being progress, which is a different feeling entirely, and one you may not have had in years.

The line to keep: the door opens while you are still mid-fight, which is precisely why you nearly walk straight past it. Look up in the middle of the effort at least once.

The Seasons of Your Sun Chapter, ages 39–49 (behind you)

From January 2003 to January 2013, behind you, read the same way.

Ages 39–40.4 — the Sun season (under Sun)

The visible years blaze. With the Sun as both ruler and sub-ruler, identity, purpose and being seen are at full strength: what you make, the role that suits you, the moment you are recognised for what you have been becoming. Vitality runs high, and people tend to look to you for warmth, direction or leadership. Birthdays, launches and public moments tend to land with more weight than usual. The difficulty is needing the spotlight: pride that cannot take correction, generosity offered only where it will be noticed, and an identity tied so tightly to a role that the role cannot change without a crisis. The maturity is radiance with a purpose, confidence used to encourage others, creative

work made because it matters to you, and an identity that stays steady whether or not anyone is watching.

The line to keep: you are most fully yourself in these years, so put that brightness behind something that will outlast the attention.

Ages 40.4–41.9 — the Venus season (under Sun)

The visible years warm. Venus now brings love, beauty and pleasure into the centre of things: a relationship that becomes one of the things you are known for, creative work that is admired, a social life that opens doors, and rewards that follow taste. Charm comes easily now, and with it a strong wish to be liked. Art, fashion, hospitality and anything that trades on taste tend to bring recognition in this stretch, and someone close may share the credit. The old pattern is love as a mirror: people chosen for how they make you look, flattery welcomed, and pleasure pursued as proof of worth. At its best it is a warmth that shares the light, closeness between equals, creative work that expresses something real, and generosity that makes the people around you feel valued rather than merely impressed.

The line to keep: these years bring love and beauty into how you are seen, so let them be real rather than decorative, and they will last beyond the era.

Ages 41.9–43.3 — the Mercury season (under Sun)

The years of identity find their sentence. You have been becoming something; now you have to be able to say what. The introduction, the pitch, the answer to what do you do — the words you settle on in this stretch tend to stick to you for the rest of the chapter. The unlived form is the performance: cleverness deployed instead of substance, a story about yourself polished past the point of being true, the need to be understood turning into a need to be agreed with. The lived form is the plain account — what you actually do, said without decoration, which almost always lands harder than the version you were rehearsing.

The line to keep: the words you pick for yourself now are the ones people will repeat back to you for years. Pick them while you are sober about what you actually do.

Ages 43.3–44.7 — the Moon season (under Sun)

The visible years turn inward for a stretch. Now the Moon turns attention back to home, family, comfort and the private self: the house that needs attention, your nearest people asking for more of you, feelings that run louder than usual. The public chapter goes on, but its fuel is now drawn from somewhere private. Time at home is not time away from the work; it is part of the work. The old pattern is to read the retreat as failure: pushing for visibility when you need rest, hiding feelings to keep up an image, or letting moods spill into the public role without being understood. Handled well, it is self-knowledge that

steadies, needs met so that you can shine without strain, and a private life tended as carefully as a public face.

The line to keep: the private life turns loud inside a chapter about being seen, so do not mistake the retreating for a loss of nerve, because it is where the fuel is kept.

Ages 44.7–46.1 — the Saturn season (under Sun)

The visible years get tested. Saturn now brings discipline and delay: the role you must earn again, the authority that questions you, the self-doubt that arrives just as you were being noticed. Recognition slows down and responsibility speeds up. An older mentor or a demanding institution often plays a part, and the lessons outlast the discomfort. The difficulty is a self that shrinks under pressure: confidence dented by criticism, ambition postponed indefinitely, and a habit of proving yourself to people who will never be satisfied. The maturity is a self with a spine, purpose given structure, the long project undertaken because it reflects who you are, and authority accepted as something you grow into rather than something handed to you.

The line to keep: these years test whether your sense of self can carry weight, so build it slowly and it will carry a great deal.

Ages 46.1–47.6 — the Jupiter season (under Sun)

The years of visibility widen. What you are becoming known for turns out to travel — further than the city, further than the field, sometimes further than you had thought the work deserved. Offers arrive from outside the room you built your reputation in, and they are usually larger and less defined than what you are used to. The difficulty is the size going to your head: promises made at the scale of the enthusiasm rather than the calendar, a public self inflating faster than the private one can support, the belief that momentum is the same thing as foundation. The maturity is the deserved expansion — the platform used for something other than being on it, the door held open for whoever comes next, a life that gets genuinely bigger rather than merely busier. Travel features, and so does teaching — the two ways a reputation stops being local. Whatever you are known for gets explained to strangers in this stretch, and explaining it will clarify it for you as much as for them. Say yes to the room that is slightly too big.

The line to keep: the visibility of this chapter turns into opportunity for a stretch. Say yes to the larger version rather than to the safe one.

Ages 47.6–49 — the Mars season (under Sun)

The years of visibility acquire a fight. Something you are known for now has to be defended, or something you want has to be gone after in public where failing would be seen. Courage and exposure arrive together in this stretch, which is why it is memorable and

uncomfortable. The tangle is the ego in armour: taking a professional disagreement personally, needing to win in front of an audience, a temper that becomes part of your reputation without your consent. The resolution is the stand that defines you — the position held when it cost something, the difficult thing attempted where people could watch, and the particular authority that only comes to someone who was seen risking a loss.

The line to keep: you will be seen doing something difficult. That combination is rarer than it sounds, and it is worth arranging on purpose rather than waiting for it.

The Seasons of Your Venus Chapter, ages 49–57 (behind you)

From January 2013 to January 2021, behind you, read the same way.

Ages 49–50.1 — the Venus season (under Venus)

The sweet years arrive at their own centre. Whatever this era has been about, love, money, beauty or worth, it is most fully itself now and least diluted by anything else. Attraction is stronger, taste is surer, and what you want is unusually easy to name, whether it is a person's company, a colour for a wall, a friendship that deserves more of your time or a song you put on every evening. Appetite needs watching

here, because it can start running the show: spending as a mood, a fondness kept up because the wanting feels good rather than because the person or object is right, possessiveness passed off as devotion. More often the strength shows up as knowing your own preferences without apology, what you find beautiful, whose company you actually want, what your time and your gifts are worth, and acting on that knowledge while it is this clear. Few stretches of a life hand you your own taste so plainly.

The line to keep: this is the era at full strength, and whatever you want, you will want it more clearly in this sub-period than at any other point in the chapter.

Ages 50.1–51.3 — the Mercury season (under Venus)

The sweet years start talking. Mercury brings words, exchange and busy days into the Venus era: the conversation that changes how two people stand with each other, the letters, calls and introductions that open doors, creative work done in language, and the practical side of whatever you love. Social life gets lively and full. A class in a craft you enjoy, writing about what moves you, or simply better conversations with the people you care for are the gifts of these months. Charm can run ahead of substance in this stretch, which shows in flirtation that goes nowhere, agreements made only to please, gossip standing in for closeness, and affection conducted mostly by message

rather than in person. What lasts from it is love that can talk: closeness built on honest conversation, taste turned into skill, and the dull, practical side of a creative project handled with the same care as the art itself. Someone who listens well becomes unusually important to you while it runs.

The line to keep: these years give love a voice, and one plain sentence said aloud in them does more for a bond than a year of hints.

Ages 51.3–52.4 — the Moon season (under Venus)

The sweet years move indoors. Pleasure stops being an event and becomes a habit: the meal cooked exactly to your own taste, the chair by the window, the call that comes at the same hour each week, the ease of company that can sit in silence. Money turns domestic too, going on the rooms you use every day, a lamp, a better kettle, the thing bought for home rather than for show. Comfort can slide into a blur here, with affection folded into routine until nobody remembers choosing it, food and shopping used to quiet a mood instead of feeling it, and a bond that keeps running while the people in it slowly lose their curiosity about each other. It can just as easily deepen into being known daily rather than admired now and then, which is a smaller pleasure and one that wears much better. Something practical about home usually settles in this window: a room put to a new use, a move or a firm decision to stay, an arrangement with whoever shares your

days or your street. It reads as admin at the time and looks, from further on, like the real decision.

The line to keep: love goes domestic in this sub-period, which sounds smaller than it is, because what gets built at the kitchen table tends to outlast what gets declared over dinner out.

Ages 52.4–53.6 — the Saturn season (under Venus)

The sweet years meet the bill. Love, taste and money have been setting the coordinates, and now the chapter asks which of it is actually load-bearing: a bond gets defined or it does not, the beautiful thing gets paid for or it goes, and the pleasure that came easily starts to need upkeep. Promises made in this stretch are unromantic and unusually solid. Warmth can drain out of a room here, with duty performed where fondness used to be, a bond of any kind kept going on habit and timetables, and self-worth quietly marked down because somebody withheld their approval. What Saturn builds instead is affection with a frame under it: the standing arrangement kept, the skill rehearsed until it is good, the friendship tended through a dull patch, the deliberate choice to keep something that no longer runs on novelty. Durable things get chosen in these years, and they get chosen with open eyes.

The line to keep: the sweetness gets means-tested in these years, and whatever survives the boredom and the bills is what you actually had.

Ages 53.6–54.7 — the Jupiter season (under Venus)

The sweet years expand. Jupiter enlarges whatever is good in the Venus era: a bond that deepens, a generous friend or patron, money that stretches further than expected, the trip, the celebration, the plain sense that life is abundant. Faith and affection travel together now, so you give freely and receive freely. Gatherings, invitations, gifts and good news from other people's lives are the kind of events this stretch tends to bring, along with a general feeling that pleasure is allowed. Trust in other people's goodwill is rewarded more often than not. Plenty has hazards of its own, and they look like overspending, overindulging, warm promises given in a glow that the next morning cannot keep, and a hunger for more that leaves no time to enjoy what has already arrived. Judgement keeps the generosity worth having: plenty shared rather than used up, fondness that grows because it is looked after, beauty sought in ways that enrich others as well as you, and gifts handed over without anybody keeping count.

The line to keep: these are generous years for love and money, and the plenty holds for precisely as long as your judgement stays beside it.

Ages 54.7–55.9 — the Mars season (under Venus)

The sweet years catch fire. Mars brings desire, pursuit and friction into the Venus era: an attraction that cannot be ignored, a creative project

started in a rush, money chased rather than waited for, and the quarrel that tells you how much something matters. Passion and impatience rise together. Something admired from a distance may become something you go after, a person's company, a creative ambition, a town or a coast you have put off visiting, and the going after changes you as much as the getting. Any pastime with real energy in it, dancing, singing at full volume, a garden bed dug over, a competitive game, lends the heat an outlet and keeps it out of quarrels. Desire without care brings jealousy, sharp words with those you love, impulse spending, and pleasure pursued so hard that it stops being pleasant. Desire with a direction looks different: the person or the project chosen wholeheartedly and pursued honestly, energy that makes affection brave rather than combative, and creative work given the drive it needs to be finished.

The line to keep: these years put heat into love and pleasure, and the fire that makes you brave in them turns careless the moment you stop aiming it.

Ages 55.9–57 — the Sun season (under Venus)

The years of love turn visible. What you value stops being a private preference and becomes the thing people recognise you by: the way you keep your rooms, the company you choose, your style, the things you make because you enjoy making them. Taste becomes identity in

this stretch, and identity is a heavier thing to carry than taste. Display can take over, with a friendship narrated to an audience, beauty maintained for the look of it, and worth measured by how much you are admired for what you chose. It can also go the unembarrassed way, loving something openly and in public, letting your pleasures be known rather than defended, and finding that being seen enjoying your own life is closer to confidence than any achievement has managed. Whatever you make or tend in these years, a garden, a collection, a stack of letters or stories, a name for keeping a good table, tends to be what people associate with you afterwards, so it repays a little thought before you settle on it. A generosity is on offer here as well that costs nothing and is remembered well beyond the moment: introducing people, praising someone's effort in public, letting somebody else be the beautiful one in the room without needing to match them. The chapter rewards the host more than the ornament.

The line to keep: what you love becomes part of how people see you in this sub-period, and you can tell enjoyment from a show by asking whether you would keep it up with nobody watching.

The Closing Nodal Years (ages 70–75)

The sequence ends with the two lunar Nodes, the North Node for three years and the South Node for two, and the tradition treats these closing

years as different in kind from everything before them. The North Node, the Head, is a principle of increase and joining: it magnifies whatever it touches and gathers the threads of a life together. The South Node, the Tail, is a principle of decrease and release: it lets go, unwinds and completes. So the last five years of the seventy-five move from a season of amplified gathering into a season of release, a fitting shape for the end of a full turn of the wheel. Unlike the planetary periods, the nodal years are not divided into sub-periods; the Nodes govern alone. After them, in the traditional reckoning, the cycle begins again.

In your chart the North Node is in Cancer and the South Node in Capricorn, so the closing years amplify the life's lesson of belonging, tenderness and care, and release its habit of duty, status and self-sufficiency. The Head's years gather family, home and the feelings that work once kept at bay; the Tail's years let go of the public role and the need to be in charge. The wheel ends closer to the hearth than to the office, which is where it was always heading.

The Ages of Man — the Natural Hinge of Your Early Forties

Underneath the personal Firdaria the tradition lays an older and simpler scheme, the Ages of Man, in which each planet naturally

governs a stretch of every human life regardless of the birth chart: the Moon infancy, Mercury childhood, Venus youth, the Sun young adulthood, Mars the middle years, Jupiter maturity and Saturn old age. In this scheme the years from the early forties pass under Mars, and the tradition marks the passage as a known hinge, a time of harshness and trial. Modern astrology arrives at the same place by other clocks: the Uranus opposition, the third and a half Jupiter return, the profection to the seventh house. It is the ancient name for what we now call the midlife passage, and it is worth knowing which of your own lords is on the throne when it arrives.

Your own sequence puts the natural Martian hinge of the early forties inside your personal Sun chapter, which runs from thirty-nine to forty-nine. The universal midlife reckoning arrives while the Sun, the lord of identity and visibility, holds your throne. That gives the passage a specific question: not only what must end, but who you are now that it has. The natural Mars passage supplies the disruption, and the Sun chapter supplies the light to see yourself by, so the early forties in your sequence are a remaking of identity, a decade in which you are asked to stand in your own name more fully than before.

What Each Period Means — the Traditional Delineation

The canonical meanings below are the tradition's own, held to fairly closely. They describe what each planet's chapter is FOR, which is not the same as what it feels like from inside it. Read the one you are in, then read the ones on either side of it.

The Sun's years are about visibility and the forming of a self that can be seen. The tradition gives them to leadership, recognition, the father, and matters of standing. Work done here tends to attach itself to your name. What the period asks is that you be identifiable — that there be something specific you are known for rather than a general competence.

Venus's years are given to love, beauty, pleasure and the making of bonds. They soften a life. The tradition associates them with marriage, with art, and with the acquisition of things that are valued rather than merely useful. The risk the old writers name is indulgence, though the more common modern failure is treating the period as frivolous and spending it working.

Mercury's years belong to learning, skill, commerce and the mind. They are the apprenticeship years wherever they fall in a life, and they reward accumulation — of training, of contacts, of methods. Their difficulty is scatter: Mercury will happily fill thirteen years with a great many interesting things and no single deep one.

The Moon's years turn a life toward feeling, belonging, home and the people in it. Traditionally they concern the mother, the body, the public in the sense of the many rather than the powerful. Things move and change in these years more than they settle. What is built is not usually a structure but a set of attachments.

Saturn's years are for consolidation, limitation and what endures. The tradition is blunt about them: they are heavy, slow, and productive of things that last. Responsibility arrives, often before it is wanted. What is genuinely constructed in a Saturn period tends to still be standing decades later, which is the compensation offered for how the years themselves feel.

Jupiter's years open a life outward — travel, belief, teaching, law, and growth of the kind that has to be managed rather than chased. The tradition calls them fortunate and means something specific by it: opportunity arrives more readily than usual, and the work is selection rather than pursuit. Overreach is the named hazard.

Mars's years are for effort, conflict, courage and cutting away. Seven years is the shortest of the planetary chapters and the most concentrated. The tradition warns about quarrels, accidents and haste, and it is equally clear that this is when a person does what they have been putting off. Nothing gets built in a Mars period without something else being ended.

The two nodal periods close the sequence and are unlike the seven. The North Node's three years pull toward increase, appetite and the unfamiliar; the South Node's two toward release, retreat and the settling of accounts. The tradition treats them as a threshold rather than a chapter — the years in which a cycle finishes emptying itself out before the whole seventy-five-year sequence begins again.

Reading the Sub-Lords — What Each Planet Adds

A sub-lord does not take over. It joins. The chapter's business continues and the sub-lord supplies the manner in which that business gets conducted, which is why two sub-periods inside the same chapter can feel entirely different while producing the same kind of result.

Sun as sub-lord raises the visibility of whatever the chapter is doing. Work that was private becomes noticed; a decision that could have been made quietly acquires an audience. It is the stretch in which the chapter's theme gets attached to your name.

Venus as sub-lord softens and connects. Negotiations go better, aesthetics start mattering, and the chapter's work gets done through people rather than around them. Even a hard chapter tends to have its most companionable stretch here.

Mercury as sub-lord makes the period articulate. Things get written down, explained, taught, bargained over. It is often when you first become able to say what the chapter has been about, which is not the same as it being over.

Moon as sub-lord brings the chapter home and makes it personal. The theme stops being abstract and starts involving the people you actually live among. Also the most changeable stretch of any chapter — plans made here get revised.

Saturn as sub-lord slows the chapter down and asks it to prove itself. Whatever cannot bear weight comes apart in these months, which is unwelcome and useful in the same proportion. What survives a Saturn sub-period is generally what was real.

Jupiter as sub-lord widens the chapter. More becomes possible, and the choice of what not to do becomes the important one. The tradition reads it as the easiest stretch of any period, with the caveat that ease and progress are not the same thing.

Mars as sub-lord sharpens and hurries. Conflict that has been managed comes to a head and gets settled one way or the other. It is the most decisive stretch of a chapter and the one most likely to be regretted in detail and not in substance.

The first seventh of every chapter has no sub-lord but the chapter's own planet, which is why the opening of a period so often feels more like itself than anything that follows.

How the Sub-Periods Work — the Traditional Mechanics

It is worth setting down how the sub-periods are actually built, because the old sources are precise about it and the mechanism is more elegant than "each season is a seventh" suggests. The doctrine reaches us through Abu Ma'shar's *On the Revolutions of the Years of Nativities*, drawing on the older Persian material of al-Andarzaghar; through al-Qabisi's *Introduction*; and into Europe by way of Bonatti's *Liber Astronomiae* and the work of Johannes Schöner. Modern translators carried that lineage into English in the last few decades, which is why the technique is available to you at all rather than sitting in a manuscript.

The rule is this. Each major period divides into seven equal sub-periods — but the first seventh belongs to the period-lord alone. Abu Ma'shar puts it plainly: when a planet manages the years of its fardar it stands alone in its indication at first, for one-seventh of its years, and only then do the rest of the planets partner in the indication.

So the opening stretch of any chapter is that planet undiluted — the theme arriving in its own voice, with nothing else colouring it. After that the remaining six planets take their turns in order, each partnering with the lord rather than replacing it. A Saturn chapter stays a Saturn chapter throughout; what changes is who is standing beside Saturn while it does its work.

That partnership is the part most modern summaries lose. A sub-period is not a small version of the sub-lord's own chapter. It is the major lord's business, conducted in the sub-lord's manner — Saturn's long consolidation carried out with Venus's diplomacy, or with Mars's impatience, and those two years look nothing alike from inside even though the underlying task has not moved.

The order the sub-lords follow is the same sequence as the major periods themselves, picked up from wherever the current lord sits in the cycle and running on from there. Nothing restarts. The wheel simply keeps turning at two speeds at once, and where the two hands happen to point is what any given year of your life is made of.

Living the Transitions — How to Recognise a Handover

Because the Firdaria are datable in advance, you can know roughly when each handover falls. It helps to know how the changes actually

feel, so you recognise one when it arrives instead of treating it as a personal failure of nerve. The major handovers — when one planet's whole period ends and the next begins — tend to register as a genuine shift in what the years seem to be about. Not a change of circumstances necessarily, though those often follow, but a change of subject. People describe it afterwards as everything suddenly being about something else. A life organised around building competence gives way to one organised around belonging, or the reverse, and the old preoccupation does not so much get resolved as stop being interesting.

These are not clean edges. A handover takes months to complete and is usually clearest in hindsight. The year before a major change often feels like an ending without a replacement — the current theme has run out of things to teach and the next has not announced itself. That flatness is part of the mechanism and not a sign that something has gone wrong.

The minor handovers, when a sub-period changes every year or so inside a chapter, are subtler. They shift the flavour rather than the subject. The task in front of you stays the same and the temperament you bring to it changes: a stretch of patience followed by a stretch of urgency, on the same problem, with no change in the problem to explain it. Knowing a handover is coming does not let you skip it, and the tradition never claimed it would. What it lets you do is meet the change consciously — to notice when you are still running the

previous chapter's strategy against the current chapter's conditions, which is where most of the avoidable difficulty in a transition actually comes from.

Combining the Firdaria With Your Other Timing

The Firdaria are one clock among several, and they are the slowest. They tell you what the chapter is about; they are not built to tell you which month. Read them against the faster techniques rather than instead of them. A transit that would otherwise look minor becomes significant when it touches the planet currently ruling your period — the sky's hand landing on the lord already on the throne. A profection year that activates the same planet as your current firdaria lord is a year in which that theme arrives with unusual force, because two independent clocks are pointing at the same place.

Where they disagree, the slower clock usually describes the subject and the faster one the timing. A Saturn chapter does not stop being a Saturn chapter because a bright Jupiter transit turns up in the middle of it; what you get is a good year inside a long consolidation, which is a real thing and worth having. The most useful moments are the ones where several clocks agree. Those are rarer than astrological writing usually implies, and they are worth marking in advance when you can see one coming.

A Note on the Tradition

The Firdaria are Persian in origin and reach us by a long road. The system is set out in Abu Ma'shar in the ninth century, drawing on al-Andarzaghar before him; it passes through al-Qabisi, into Latin Europe with Bonatti in the thirteenth century, and survives in Renaissance practice with Schöner and others. It went quiet for roughly three hundred years along with most of the older timing techniques, and returned to English-language practice through the translation work of the last few decades.

Two things follow from that history and are worth knowing. The first is that this is a genuinely old technique with an unbroken written record, not a modern invention dressed in antique language. The periods, their lengths and their order are the same numbers Abu Ma'shar wrote down. Where sources disagree — and they do, chiefly about the two nodal periods and about whether the sequence begins from the Sun or the Moon for a night birth — the disagreement is visible in the manuscripts rather than smoothed over.

The second is that the Firdaria are unusual among astrological techniques in owing nothing to your particular chart. The sequence and the ages are the same for everybody born by day, and the same again for everybody born by night. What makes a chapter yours is the condition of that planet in your own chart — where it sits, what it

touches, what it was already doing before its years arrived. A well-placed Saturn and an afflicted one both get eleven years; they do not get the same eleven years. That is also the honest limit of the technique. It tells you which subject is open. It does not tell you what you will do with it, and the tradition never claimed otherwise.

Seen Whole — the Arc of Your Seventy-Five Years

You are in the Mercury chapter now, ages 57–70; North Node takes over at 70.

Step back from the periods and their seasons, and the Firdaria tells one long story. Born at night, you walk an order that begins with feeling and duty, and that order is the meaning. Life opens under the Moon, nine years in which home, care and the emotional climate of childhood set the ground for everything after. Saturn follows for eleven years, bringing responsibility early, rules, limits and often a sense of growing up faster than others. Jupiter then gives twelve years of expansion into the twenties and early thirties: education, travel, faith and the first real opportunities.

Mars arrives around thirty-two for seven years of drive, ambition and conflict, the period in which you fight for your place. At thirty-nine the Sun takes the throne for ten years, and identity steps into the light: this is often when you become most visibly yourself. Venus follows around

forty-nine with eight years for love, pleasure and the reward of relationships, and Mercury closes the main sequence with thirteen years of thought, teaching and communication from fifty-seven. The nodal years complete the circle at seventy. Read as one arc, the night sequence starts with duty and discipline and ends with light, love and wisdom. Its hardest lessons come early, and its most personal fulfilment comes in the second half of life.

The line to keep: a night-born life does its heavy lifting young, so the years ahead are more likely to give back than to ask.

The Shape of It

So the time lords tell a clear story. You are in the chapter of Mercury, thirteen years about learning, skill, communication and finding your voice. The question of the whole chapter is your knowledge and your voice, and every season inside it approaches that question from a different side. The instruction for this stretch is to learn deliberately and to put what you know into words, because the skills and the voice built now are the tools of every later chapter.

Now: the Mercury–Saturn season, to about age 62.6. Next on the throne: Jupiter.

