

Weird, Unconventional & Shocking: A Moon-Uranus Tale

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Abstract

In this thesis I explore three themes closely associated with Moon-Uranus interactions in the natal chart, while drawing in three distinct levels of connection.

The first chapter illustrates weird Moon-Uranus synchronicities, and I unashamedly confine the discussion to my own life experiences. This is the aspect of Moon-Uranus that I most strongly connect with and it is perhaps best demonstrated through the discovery that an earlier spelling of weird as 'wyred' is an anagram¹ of my surname. In this chapter I explore the rich imagery associated with the Moon and Uranus and enter the debate about its rulership. I assert that particularly when exploring Moon-Uranus interactions a synthesis of the gods Ouranos and Prometheus best describe the role of Uranus.

I was drawn to the second theme of unconventional through another very personal connection of the Moon-Uranus women in my family. These women carry an aspect of the unconventional that I am very proud of and which to an extent mirrors my own interest and feminism, and asks about women's relationship with reproductive rights and with children. The scene is set for an exploration of this theme through the prism of white invasion/settlement in Australia. In broad terms I trace the Moon-Uranus family history through my female ancestors, beginning with my great, great grandmother and with a central focus on my suffragette Great Aunt Nell Malone. The lunar slant of this thesis allows me to indulge my Cancer Moon in family history, inspired particularly by an interest in exploring and speculating about the life of Nell. The second chapter proceeds to explore the lives and Moon-Uranus signatures of five unconventional groundbreaking women starting with Germaine Greer and ending with a fighter of a different sort in Violette Szabo, who fought for the French Resistance and was executed by the Gestapo.

The final chapter theme of shocking is also populated by well known figures. It commences with a reflection on my early days in-utero, speculating about the affect of two significant shocks experienced by my Moon-Uranus mother when she was heavily pregnant with me. I subsequently explore the shocking theme as it reverberates through the lives of several

¹ wyred and Dwyer contain the same letters in a different order.

individuals who have left their mark on the world. This includes William Blake, Mae West, Salvador Dali and Bob Dylan, individuals who have variously brought pure genius into a creative realm through their shocks, and Charles Manson and Jim Jones who shocked the world through violent acts and wrought havoc on the lives of their followers and victims. The two Australians in this chapter, Azaria Chamberlain and Schapelle Corby, had shocking experiences of victimhood. Finally Diana the Princess of Wales shook up the British monarchy and shocked the world with her untimely death.

Through this thesis I explore the biographies and the associated astrology of some very influential people, who have entertained, intrigued and shocked the world. It demonstrates the multiple layers and the ways in which the Gods remind us of their domains on many different levels and some more conscious than others.

Acknowledgements

Firstly I am indebted to my partner Anne Marsh who has always encouraged my abiding interest in astrology while helping me to bat off the sceptics. She is both my inspiration and my most honest critic, and I thank her for her support and encouragement over many years.

I feel very privileged to have studied astrology under Glennys Lawton and Brian Clark who share a profound wisdom and bring together a unique blend of what is most magical as well as therapeutic in astrology.

Brian Clark taught me an enormous amount in particular through the course of writing this thesis. I thank him for his encouragement and gentle steering, through a period when my confidence and belief in my skills were being challenged. In this context a special thanks to Glennys and the Astrology Supervision Group and Advanced Tutorial Group who assisted me so much during a difficult time.

Particular thanks to my cousin Helen Malone whose extensive research on my family history and particularly into the life of her namesake Nell Malone inspired me to write about Nell while providing the material.

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Introduction

The most creative solutions are wrought from the greatest challenges, and some of the most interesting creations and adaptations are associated with the reconciling of particularly incompatible influences. This thesis will attempt to demonstrate how the combination of the Moon and Uranus delivers a particularly inventive albeit emotionally charged brew.

Looking at the night sky, one can start to glimpse the differences between the Moon and Uranus. Notwithstanding the vagaries of weather patterns, a clear, starry night, particularly in the country, will showcase an almost entirely predictable and reassuring cycle of the Moon waxing and then waning. It will rise at sunset when the Moon is full and approximately one hour later on the following night and so on. In a clear sky it will be visible for several hours of the day or night except at the point of the new Moon.

The very material presence of the Moon in the sky is contrasted by the no less powerful but more symbolic manifestation of Uranus. Although Uranus is said to be visible to the naked eye, it is extremely difficult to view without the aid of a telescope. Indeed it was the first planet discovered via a telescope and is a virtually featureless planet in visible light. Yet when I try to visualise Uranus I get the powerful image of a bolt of lightning, with or without the accompanying thunder. Enter a symbol for Uranus from stage left or stage right or perhaps powerfully from on high and you have the sudden, at times scary and sometimes devastating influence of the thunder and lightning storm, here one minute and gone just as swiftly. In the city one may not notice the cycle of the Moon as electric lights dull the sky view. However with the advent of a thunder storm the sky suddenly transforms into a brilliant sight as the stars, the horizon, the landscape and indeed even the Moon are thrown into a greater illumination. This combination resonates with me on a deep level, commensurate with the importance of this signature in my natal chart.

Astrologers debate whether their craft can be predictive and about the role of fate? The Moon-Uranus connection appears to encapsulate this query as the Moon's predictable rhythmic cycle is so visible if only reflective while Uranus heralds sudden and potentially

revolutionary events and appears to defy predictability, at least in its details, and this appears intimately connected with the relationship with time.

As a carrier of a Moon-Uranus Conjunction in Cancer in the eighth house and on my nodal axis, I will draw on Uranian energy to shine light on these themes first through my own and my family's biography and experience. This will lead into a broader exploration of the charts and life impacts of a number of famous creative artists, reformers and indeed a few criminals.

Chapter One:

Starting on a personal note

I started working on this topic with transiting Uranus squaring my Sun while entering my fifth house precisely as it begins its current journey into Aries. In recent years I have become more particularly aware of the power of the Moon-Uranus Conjunction in Cancer in my eighth house, which is also conjunct my South Node. This Conjunction opposes a Chiron-North Node union in Capricorn with both squaring Neptune in Libra to form a challenging and powerful T-Square that forms a signature in my natal chart. Mars is firmly wedged between Neptune and Saturn in Scorpio in my eleventh house.

I will confine the following discussion of things "as far as is possible to the Moon-Uranus theme, while acknowledging the challenge in attempting to disentangle this heartfelt tale from the influence of the Moon-Uranus Square relationship with Neptune in the eleventh house in my chart. This brings a dual sense of the best of the imaginal with a whiff of the somewhat delusional—in turn playing into the flavour of weird, which has been writ loud in my life.

I spent my weird childhood in a valley surrounded by distant mountains but foregrounding wide open country and a long horizon. As a result of innumerable black outs associated with wild thunderstorms, we sat outside on the veranda a lot beneath a studded starry sky at night. I believed that I had come from Sirius which is the brightest star in the night sky, and wondered how I had ended up with a strangely familiar but in other ways totally foreign group of people who were known as my family. These people, apparently my family, shared with me a surname which is an anagram of one of the old ways of spelling weird. I would project myself back to Sirius at times that I felt the need for detachment from my foreign family.

The visible moon was always on my horizon following a rhythmic pattern as it came and went in the night and daytime sky. I especially enjoyed full moons - later realizing that I was born on the summer solstice when the moon was in its full moon phase.

Lightning strikes and the sound of thunder were frequent where I grew up in the shadow of the Great Dividing Range. While at times quite scary, I loved the excitement of a good lightning and thunder storm. A story that on so many levels goes to the core of the weird theme that I am exploring in this thesis surrounds a childhood horse called Flash. Naming the horse 'Flash' was a little at odds with the usual pattern of horse names at Fassifern, where I grew up. Our other horses had more mundane names such as 'Salt' and 'Pepper'. And yet Flash's life was prematurely ended when he was struck by lightning in one of the innumerable thunder storms that played out so visibly in the sky and most notably in the night sky. I long pondered the rather obvious question of whether the horse's naming contributed to its destiny or whether my parents had been displaying foreknowledge of his fate in naming Flash synonymously with the method of his premature demise. In my view, this story goes to the heart of the definition of weird, and to the Moon-Uranus connection.

Another encounter with the Uranian (and Jupiterian) image of lightening occurred around the time of my first Uranian Square (to itself) when I was 20 years old. I contracted glandular fever, characterized by lack of energy and engagement with the world and in effect I slept for a whole month. Every day around sunset I awoke for my only brief contact with the world of conscious existence. I would momentarily step into lunar patterns. At the time I was living with a partner who would have cooked some food for me. I would predictably shower, eat and have a brief conversation in the world of the living. Then I would enter a less predictable Uranian theme witnessing one of the seemingly daily performances of thunder and lightning against the backdrop of a sunset involving a distant horizon, that were occurring that summer. That this happened on a daily basis brought in the lunar influence. Yet this was a weird and detached interlude in my life.

Defining Weird

The term *weird* has an interesting etymology. It is "..... common in old English, but wanting in Middle English until c1300, and then occurs chiefly in northern texts, though employed also by Chaucer, Gower and Langland... In senses now current the word is either Scottish or archaic (chiefly under the influence of Scottish writers)".² In its journey down the ages it

² Oxford English Dictionary on line at <http://www.oed.com>.

has had various spellings including 'wyrd' and 'wyrde'. 'Weirdly' the latter spelling is an anagram for my surname, and yet another indicator of a life journey that has proved to date to be more than a little on the weird side.

Weird used as a noun is defined according to the Oxford English Dictionary as:

1. (a) The principle, power or agency by which events are predetermined; fate destiny.
(b) Magical power, enchantment.
2. (a) The Fates, the three goddesses supposed to determine the course of human life.
(b) One pretending or supposed to have the power to foresee and to control future events; a witch or wizard, a soothsayer.
3. (a) That which is destined or fated to happen to a particular person, etc.; what one will do or suffer; one's appointed lot or fortune, destiny.
(b) pl. (often in reference to a single person).
(c) An evil fate inflicted by supernatural power, esp. by way of retribution.
4. (a) A happening, event, occurrence.
(b) That which is destined or fated to happen; predetermined events collectively.
5. (a) A decree (of a god).
(b) An omen or token significant of the nature of a future event; a prognostic.
(c) A prediction of the fate which is to happen to a person; etc.; a prophecy.
(d) A supernatural or marvellous occurrence or tale.

The adjective weird is defined according to the Oxford English Dictionary variously as

1. Having the power to control the fate or destiny of human beings, etc.; later, claiming the supernatural power of dealing with fate or destiny.
2. (a) Partaking of or suggestive of the supernatural; of a mysterious or unearthly character; unaccountably or uncomfortably strange; uncanny
(b) Of sounds or voices.
3. Of strange or unusual appearance, odd-looking.
4. (a) Out of the ordinary course, strange, unusual; hence odd, fantastic.
5. (b) Colloq. Phr. Weird and wonderful.

The term weird with its interesting etymological history and associations is particularly pertinent to an exploration of Moon-Uranus connections on a number of interconnected levels. This bears particular fruit when introduced from the perspective of mythology as well as from an elemental perspective. In both instances it is Uranus that leads the discussion and it is the connection with the Moon that makes what is ‘interesting’ also particularly ‘weird’. While properly the territory of Saturn the time factor is of crucial importance here in the juggle between the futuristic Uranus and the lunar past.

In this chapter I will explore weird aspects of the Moon-Uranus combination. Firstly I will reiterate the myth of Ouranos eating his offspring and its implication about the challenge of manifesting Uranian energy and brilliance. I will explore the notion that when Uranian ideas are married up with the timeless, watery cyclical nature of the Moon, there is a particular challenge to the Uranian urge to manifest. However the air and action of Uranus combined with the watery Moon with its timeless cycles and implications of emotional detachment must lead somewhere. It does so through indirect manifestations that are projected into the world and can make their mark through the appearance of weird (read uncanny coincidence) and fated signs, events or signals that are difficult to ignore.

Tarnas describes the Uranian elements of this dance well as follows:

By having one’s limited rational framework repeatedly challenged and transcended by powerful synchronicities, one’s vision of the universe becomes opened to an intimate encounter with the numinous. The archetypal lives and breathes its meaning into us and into history whether or not we are capable of recognizing its presence; but by becoming aware of this reality in the profound ways permitted by the study of astrology, we are allowed the privilege of consciously participating in the creative process of the cosmos itself. The act of perceiving astrological archetypes and thus freeing oneself from the bondage of unconsciousness is, on one level, an extraordinary feat of human rebellion against archetypal manipulation. It is in essence, stealing fire from the gods. On a higher level, of course, that theft itself is archetypally ordained, and that archetype is Prometheus. Astrology is Prometheus’s fire.³

³ Richard Tarnas, *Prometheus the Awakener*, Putman, Conn: Spring Publications, Inc, 1995, p.85.

Uranus was discovered in 1781 at the height of the Enlightenment, as the first planet to be discovered since prehistoric times. While its naming was hotly disputed the name Uranus was suggested in the year of its discovery. The logic behind its particular connection to the pantheon of classical mythology and being named after the father of Saturn 'Ouranos' is associated with its role in disrupting the perceived boundary in the sky as the first of the three universal planets to be discovered.

Uranus transits are linked to unpredictable and disruptive changes and Uranus is often referred to as the cosmic trickster.⁴ Uranus is associated with freedom, sudden change, liberation, the breaking up of structures through revolution, lightning like flashes of insight, individualism, invention-originality and the unconventional. Richard Tarnas, in his essay *Prometheus the Awakener*, argues that Prometheus is the more apt God for this planet given its association with brilliance, invention and the impulse for change. He argues that the role of Ouranos the primordial god of the heavens is not to initiate change and rebellion, but to resist it. Ouranos encounters a revolt by his progeny and is overthrown. As the quote above indicates, Tarnas instead argues for Prometheus the Titan who rebelled against the gods, assisted in overthrowing Cronus, tricked Zeus, and stole fire from Mount Olympus to liberate humanity from God's power, as a more appropriate signifier of Uranus.

I would argue that the complexity of Uranus's role suggests that perhaps a synthesis of these two gods best describes Uranus. While Prometheus lends particular weight to its brilliance and apparently unpredictable change, the myth of 'Ouranos' is a very important key to apparent contradictions of Uranus in the need to overcome a perfectionism that will not tolerate manifestations of imperfection. Further I argue that this later aspect is particularly illuminated in the interaction between the Moon and Uranus. Indeed the idea of dual rulership does not appear to be a new one.⁵

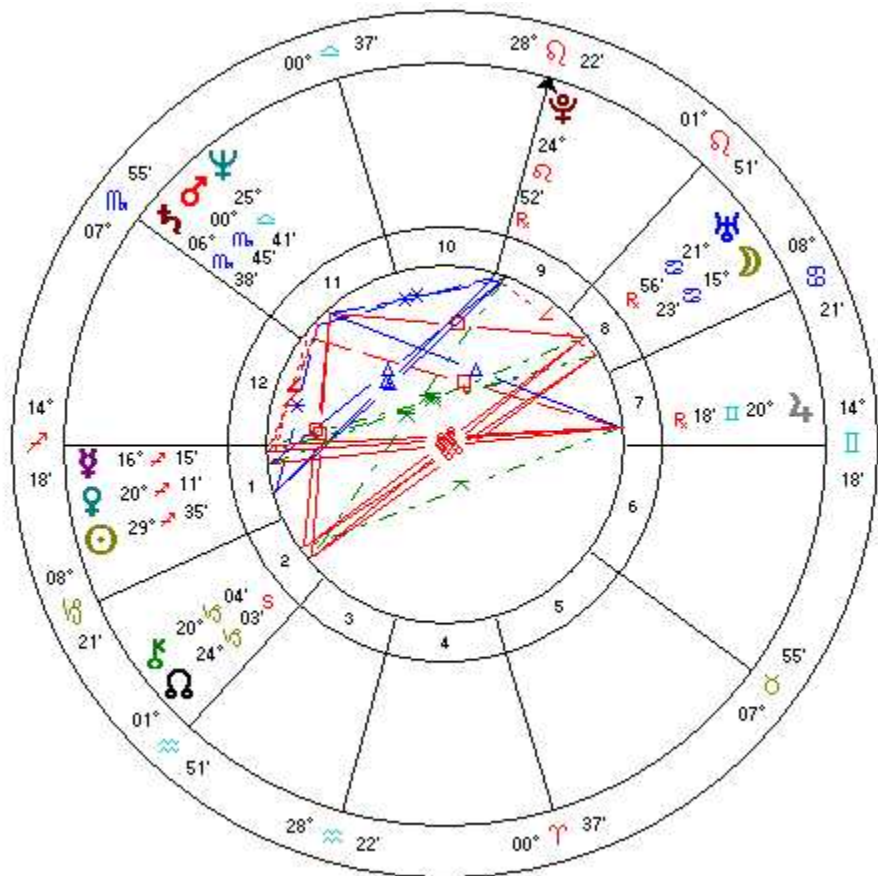
I sense that Tarnas in his focus on moments in history where social change is evident ignores the lead up to such a struggle. While this process is still not perhaps predictable it

⁴ Ibid, p.85.

⁵ See for example Ariel Gutman & Kenneth Johnson *Mythic Astrology: Archetypal Powers in the Horoscope* St. Paul Minnesota: Llewellyn Publications, 1993, pp. 153-155.

is likely to be an important background factor behind apparently random or synchronistic moments of Promethean brilliance.

Gil Dwyer
Natal Chart (2)
 22 Dec 1953, Tue
 3:50 am AEST - 10:00
 Brisbane, Australia
 27°S28' 153°E02'
*Geocentric
 Tropical
 Placidus
 True Node*



It's weird that I used to get the same pain in my leg (I think it was my right leg and it made me feel like I was crippled the day before I went back to catholic boarding school – it was like clockwork but would last for just the day and was a very dull ache). Another chapter will explore one of the two great bodily shocks that my mother (who has a Moon-Uranus Square) encountered when she was heavily pregnant with me. This devastating accident involved my five year old brother on the back of a tractor and having a nasty interaction with a sharp blade nearly severing his leg during her Uranus Trine.

My internal experiences of working on this chapter of my astrological thesis testify to Liz Green's helpful observations below.

Jung's definition of synchronicity is that it is the simultaneous occurrence of a certain psychic state with an external event (or events) which appears as a meaningful parallel to the subjective state. That is, in essence what we encounter when we interpret any placement in the birth chart, and in particular when we consider prognosticative factors such as progressions and transits, horary charts and solar returns. I could go on endlessly about these synchronous situations, for they seem to flock like crows around astrological and analytical work. Perhaps this is because these fields require a constant encountering of and relationship with archetypal material, and once one enters the archetypal 'field' one rapidly becomes exposed to the strange way in which it seems to 'order' both outer and inner events.⁶

Memories such as the following flood my imagination. One day circa October 1979 I was preparing for an upcoming overseas trip starting in San Francisco and with transiting Uranus Trine to its natal position and Pluto sextiling its natal position while moving over my Neptune, I experienced a tremendous shock with a aspect of prediction or synchronicity. I had a Pluto inspired conversation with someone about how unnatural it seemed to me that I had never seen a dead body. At the time I was working at a women's refuge in Elwood and living in Clifton Hill with each these dwellings weirdly close to one of each of the first apartment I bought and the house that I subsequently purchased and in which I still reside.

Invariably I drove my Volkswagen home from night-time meetings at Women's Liberation Half Way House. However once, the very next evening after the conversation about death, I was forced to catch a bus as my car was at the garage for repairs. While waiting at the bus stop an old man who was clearly inebriated started walking across the road while simultaneously asking me, "What time is the bus due, love?"

Before I had time to react, a car appeared suddenly, apparently from nowhere at a tremendous speed and hit him from a full frontal position. The old man was flung up on the windscreen and splattered back onto the road. The driver initially stopped and then took off in a hurry. This stranger had said his last words to me in a Neptunian haze as I found myself to be the primary witness to a hit and run fatality. This occurred within 24 hours of

⁶ Liz Greene, *The Astrology of Fate*, Boston, MA/York Beach, ME: Weiser Books, 1984, p.282.

voicing my thoughts on the apparent unnaturalness of not witnessing a death or a dead body, and it occurred in a particularly Uranian way. This was the first manifestation of a sequence of deaths and body viewings – which included a particularly weird one in a country so culturally associated with rituals and celebrations of death – Mexico. It culminated in my father suddenly dropping dead in front of me some six months later. These sudden death events appeared to “flock like crows” to my life experience.

This chapter has served to introduce Uranus and the issue of its rulership, as well as enabling an exploration of the weird theme through its many meanings and illustrated by quirky, uncanny and highly personal stories and events in the life of an individual with a prominent Moon-Uranus Conjunction.

Chapter Two: Unconventional

I move now to a broader discussion of the second theme of this tale, which constellates around my family as well as the lives of some particularly interesting Moon-Uranus women.

As an indicator of what we need, the Moon, when coupled with Uranus, suggests that the individual, above all else, needs a great deal of space and freedom on a day-to-day level, especially emotionally and domestically.⁷

It seems evident, at least to this Moon-Uranus individual, that getting space, let alone freedom, is likely to be a whole lot more difficult for women within a culture arguably to this day based around patriarchal values and beliefs. Without differentiating the affect of the Moon on the female or the male of the species, one has only to look at the history of gender politics and gender roles to make this observation. This contributes to the sense in which women with significant Moon-Uranus contacts are seen to act in unconventional ways.

Unconventional is defined in the Oxford English Dictionary⁸ as:

- Not limited or bound by convention or custom
- Diverging from accepted standards or models
- Unusual; and
- Unorthodox.

In view of women's position until relative recently at the fringes of all but domestic life, and given that women to some extent continue to be fringe dwellers, it can be said that women in the wider world are by definition unconventional.

I will initially set the scene for this theme through the prism of white invasion/settlement in Australia since 1788 and the early furious attempts to civilize the environment. In this context European women were in the minority and were viewed as marriage fodder, typically having children soon after getting "hooked-up" and being confined to a

⁷ Sue Tompkins, *Aspects in Astrology: A Comprehensive Guide to Interpretation*, Shaftesbury, Dorset Great Britain: Element Books Ltd., 1989, p. 145.

⁸ *The New Shorter Oxford English Dictionary*, vol.2, New York, United States, Oxford University Press, 1993, p. 3466.

particularly claustrophobic domestic front. According to Australian folklore this was while their men folk were out droving or pioneering in the great outdoors.

I will argue that women with strong Moon-Uranus signatures in their natal charts tend to a form of unconventionality that subverts the more traditional roles of women while engaging with particularly lunar themes with children, women's control over reproduction and women's roles in society often at the centre. Given the difficulties women throughout history have experienced in relation to having control over their own bodies and reproduction, this is a particularly pertinent space for work that is central to making any lasting impact on women's place in society beyond the patriarchal model. As with the other themes of this thesis race as well as gender appear as salient themes much too often in the lives of Moon-Uranus individuals to be merely coincidental.

In addition to tracing the Moon-Uranus theme in women in my family, the vehicle through which my interest in the unconventional theme was first formed, I will also consider the charts of other interesting and groundbreaking. and better known unconventional women. This will include Germaine Greer, Katherine Hepburn, KD Lang, Marie Stopes and Violette Szabo.

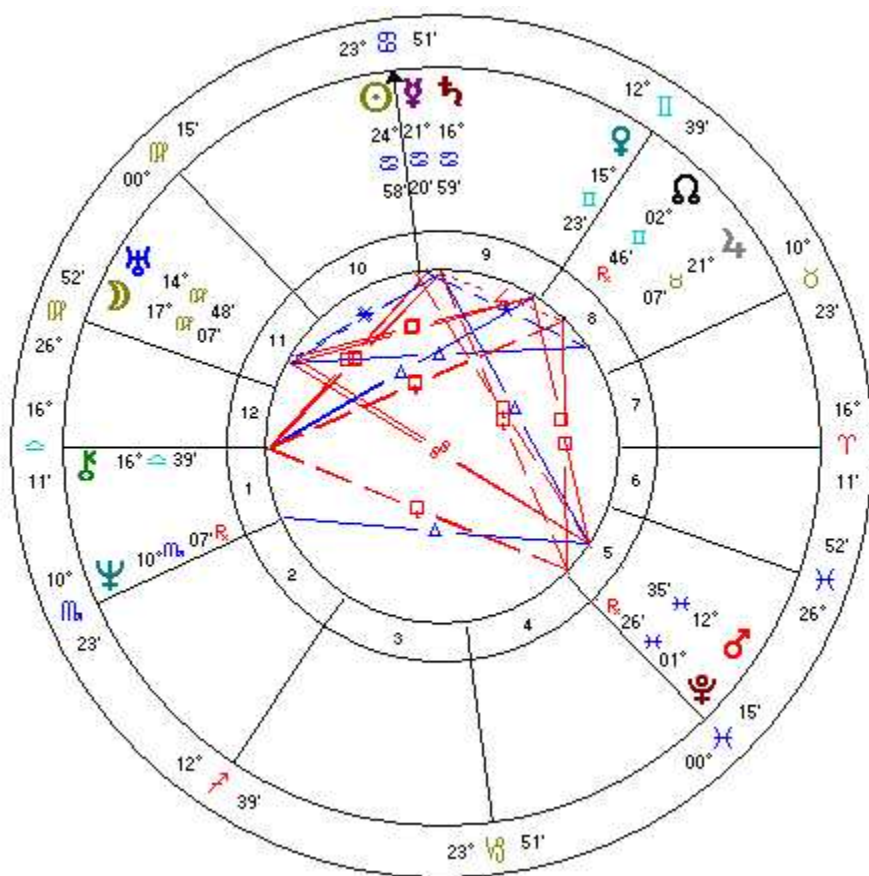
This chapter is inspired by the strong presence of unconventional women in my family history. Moon - Uranus is both a strong theme within my family and the theme that I am drawn to most powerfully.⁹ The more general Uranian influence appears to be fairly strong in both genders and I must acknowledge that Uranus Sun contacts compete for dominance in the natal charts of members of my family overall. However while these contacts are about equally shared between the genders, Moon-Uranus is more prominent in the female line, and is constellated towards the more challenging and thereby potentially productive aspects. My father and my mother's father carry the Trine and the Sextile respectively, and I would note that they have both been great supporters of my mother's

⁹ While there are a number of other factors such as strong Jupiter - Sun and Sun - Mars contacts in my female family line, the unconventional women in the family theme has a particularly potent Moon-Uranus flavour to it, at least from the perspective of the author.

fulfilment as a Moon-Uranus type. The unconventional women theme as it runs as a thread through my family history is clearly reinforced by Sun-Uranus contacts.

The story starts with emigration from Ireland (in the 1850's and 1860s) and from Sweden (in the 1880s). The earliest ancestral chart that I have been able to draw up is that of my great, great grandmother on my maternal grandmother's Swedish side of the family. She was my great grandfather's mother and was born on 17 July 1798¹⁰ with a Moon-Uranus Conjunction in Virgo. She is the only 18th century female relative whose birth details I have been able to source.

Elna Nilsdotter
Natal Chart (2)
 17 Jul 1798 NS, Tue
 12:01 pm LMT -1:12:16
 Farsta, Sweden
 59°N14' 018°E04'
*Geocentric
 Tropical
 Placidus
 True Node*



¹⁰ As I do not have a time of birth this chart is constructed using a midday birth time. However as the Moon was approaching Uranus in the early hours of her birthday if she was born very early in the morning the Conjunction would have had a 5 degree approaching orb and if she were born in the last minutes of the day she would still have had a wide Conjunction with a 10 degree orb.

The Moon-Uranus relationship was also present in my mother's great grandmother's chart (Trine), is carried by one of each sets of grandparents including my father's mother and my mother's father as well as in the charts of four of the latter's siblings. My mother and one of my sisters have a Moon-Uranus Square as did two of mother's aunts and my father's mother. Both my parents have Moon-Uranus contacts as have my two younger female siblings.

Unconventional lives have been a significant theme in the family particularly in relation to the challenging of gender roles. The lunar themes are strongly present, and these women in my family, are on many levels as emotional and as feminine as the others.

A loss of the mother at an early age and an associated fear of abandonment is a very literal manifestation of the Moon-Uranus signature. My mother's mother lost her mother when she was only eight years old and my father's mother became a motherless child when she was just three years of age. Prior to this my mother's grandmother had been rendered motherless at the age of fifteen.

While my maternal grandmother escaped any natal Moon-Uranus contact¹¹, she had transiting Uranus conjunct her natal Moon and North Node in Capricorn, when at the age of seven years old she was lost in the bush for three days, to be eventually found by an Aboriginal tracker. Poetically she ventured into the male sphere of the great outdoors at an early age. Perhaps she was living out the adventurous spirit of her Uranus in Sagittarius, undeterred by potential risk with the support of its exact Trine with her Leo Mars. As quoted in *Wilderness to Wealth*.¹²

Another incident in the adventurous annals of Murgon was the occasion on which the girl child of the Pearsons was lost for three days in the scrub. That was a time at which the serious business of establishing new holdings went by the board, whilst the settlers rallied spontaneously to form the search party which scoured the scrub till the missing child was

¹¹ Ivy Violet Malone had a Venus Uranus Conjunction and an exact Trine between Uranus and Mars.

¹² J.E. Murphy and E. W. Easton, *From Wilderness to Wealth: Being a History of the Shires of Nanango, Kingaroy, Wondai, Murgon, Kilkivan and the Upper Yarraman portion of the Rosalie Shire: 1850-1950*, Brisbane: Smith and Paterson, 1950 (QSL J994. 32 mur), p.219.

found. Showing little traces of her ordeal, she was engaged in rapt contemplation of the "pretty flowers"¹³ when the rescuing bands arrived.

In the following year when her mother died the transiting Moon opposed her natal Uranus and transiting Uranus was exactly conjunct her North Node.

My Brilliant Career¹⁴

The Square is the most common aspect between the Moon and Uranus amongst my female relatives, manifesting in each generation. It is perhaps best exemplified by the story of my Great Aunt Nell.

My Sagittarian maternal grandfather Ted Malone who was born with a Moon-Uranus Sextile¹⁵ was a particular hero in my childhood and heavily implicated in supporting the strong and unconventional women theme in my family. I felt a strong connection and dreamt about him frequently for many years after his sudden death from a heart attack when I was not yet eight years old (10/8/1961) and at a point when the Moon was in Conjunction with my Uranus by transit.¹⁶

I have early memories of hearing tales of his sister, Nell Malone, who independently went overseas at a relatively young age. Although we never met her, my female maternal cousins and me and my sisters spoke of her in awe speculating about and projecting all sorts of freedom and adventure fantasies onto her apparently unconventional, mysterious and interesting life. She had a comparatively exotic lifestyle as well as the Moon-Uranus theme of estrangement from the family.

When the film *My Brilliant Career* based on a Miles Franklin novel was released in 1979 my mother noted that Great Aunt Nell was travelling companion to Miles Franklin when she

¹³ The connection with her extremely floral name of Ivy Violet is uncanny.

¹⁴ Research on Nell and indeed on other family history is totally indebted to my cousin Helen Malone.

¹⁵ The males in my family line that have a Moon-Uranus link natally most often have a Sextile or a Trine including a great nephew born 19 June 2011, who has Moon in Aquarius in the ninth house Sextile Uranus in Aries.

¹⁶ Saturn had recently opposed my Moon-Uranus Conjunction for the first time in my life, coinciding with this the first significant death in my life. For my grandfather Pluto had been forming an exact Conjunction with his Moon while Neptune eclipsed his Uranus at the time of his death.

went overseas and had subsequently become estranged from the family. The climactic point in *My Brilliant Career* has Sam Neill proposing marriage to Judy Davis and her declaring **“The last thing I want is to be is a wife in the bush having a baby every year.....I want to be a writer!”** I related strongly to the sentiment of this film having had an early recurring nightmare of being stuck in a suburban household with a stranger for a husband and surrounded by a band of particularly demanding, dependent children. This very clear Uranus Moon gestalt encapsulated my powerful and undeniable conviction that I never wanted to be a mother and my apparent lack of anything resembling a maternal instinct (nor its sublimation onto dogs or cats). I am particularly interested in the unconventional theme pertinent to the female experience with this role clash at the centre, and this chapter contains several examples.

At the time of the release of *My Brilliant Career* there was speculation that Miles Franklin may have been a lesbian. I assumed that my Great Aunt Nell and Miles Franklin became partners shortly after they met and the family did not approve. A wealth of documents recently released from embargo at the Mitchell Library had pointed to a particularly close connection between the two.

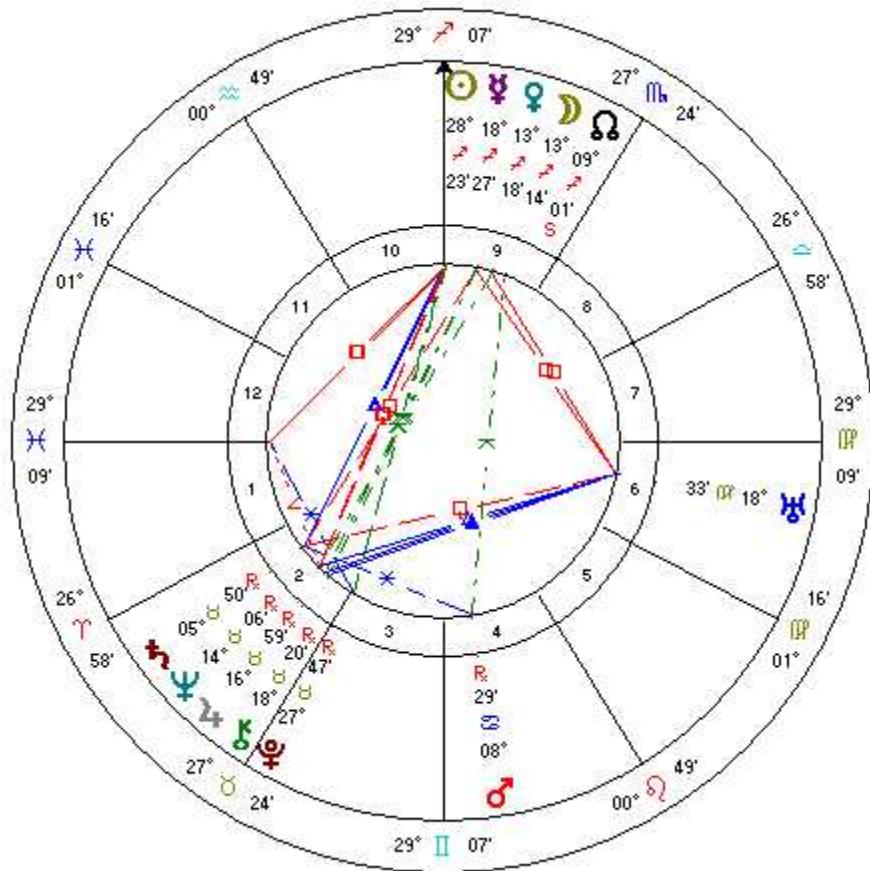
Nell was born in New South Wales in the late nineteenth century with a Moon-Uranus (in Virgo) Square. Her Moon participated in a stellium with the Sun, Mercury, Venus and the North Node in Sagittarius implicating her adventurous travel experiences and her Virgo Uranus directed this to the sphere of service to others in a profound way.¹⁷

She spent most of her childhood on a fairly isolated property near Charters Towers in North Queensland and learnt the ways of the land. Life would have been fairly tough. For example a story from those days is that they were in severe drought and the skies foretold

¹⁷ The contrast of Nell's life with that of her younger sister Daisy is worth noting. While I met Daisy only once and towards the end of her days, she was also a Sagittarian. Her Sun and Mercury are on the same degree as my Sun and I will always be curious about her internal life. Daisy who had a Square between her Moon in Aquarius and her Scorpio Uranus (conjunct Saturn and Venus) broke her hip in her early thirties and spent the rest of her life in hospital in Brisbane. The reason recorded for her nearly forty year hospital stay is that her hip never healed.

rain so they soaped themselves up to stand in the rain only to be disappointed when the rain never came.

Nell Malone
Natal Chart (3)
 20 Dec 1881 NS, Tue
 12:01 pm LMT - 10:04:28
 Inverell, Australia
 29°S47' 151°E07'
 Geocentric
 Tropical
 Placidus
 True Node



The following extract from Miles Franklin's novel *Childhood at Brindabella* is believed to be about Nell.

A Queensland girlfriend told me she was so fond of her carpet-snake that when she found it coiled on a flour bag in its residential quarters that she would stroke it in passing as one does a cat.¹⁸

Perhaps she had an initial sense of an adventurous and unconventional life to come at around the age of twenty to twenty one when she was experiencing her first Uranus Square with Uranus exactly conjunct her natal Mercury in Sagittarius. Of course by this

¹⁸ Miles Franklin, *Childhood at Brindabella: My First Ten Years*, Sydney: Angus and Robertson, 1995, p.111.

stage Uranus had temporarily joined forces with her North Node, Moon and Venus all in Sagittarius.

Having very little contact with her Australian family after she left Australia, Nell led a very challenging (she was involved in two world wars and interned in France during the second) but adventurous life in Europe, made possible by her uncle's luck in the goldfields. It appears she was coming into her power in a particularly Sagittarian way¹⁹ and it is interesting that she was to become closely associated with someone who expressed the sentiment of the unconventional woman as well and publicly as Stella Miles Franklin did in *My Brilliant Career*.²⁰

Nell travelled to America with a female companion leaving Sydney for San Francisco on the Sonoma on 1 August 1914. (Little did I know that I was following in her footsteps when I hopped on a plane from Sydney to San Francisco on 25/11/1979) while experiencing my first Uranus Trine).

Nell met up with Miles Franklin and Kath Ussher (an illustrator and author²¹) at the National Women's Trade Union in Chicago. This of course would have been a hotbed of rich experience for unconventional women. The three women became lifelong friends, sharing an independent spirit and a belief in women's rights which was particularly unconventional and ground breaking for the times, with none marrying or having sexual relationships of any significance. (In the early 20th Century the two were relatively mutually exclusive).

Nell, Miles and Kath all joined the *Scottish Women's Hospital for Foreign Service*; a suffragette organization completely funded, set up and staffed by women. Shortly afterwards all three went to work in the Balkans. While registered as a nursing orderly Nell was known to have been expert with animals. When she later applied for a position in Paris as nanny to a traumatized child, and was asked what qualified her for the role she

¹⁹ The lunar side of her Moon-Uranus Square brings in a Sagittarian urge to divine the meaning of life from a wide range of experiences which brought her so much travel etc., with her Uranus in Virgo urge for service.

²⁰ Nell makes frequent if ironic references to her "brilliant career" in her correspondence with Miles.

²¹ Her publications included Kathleen Ussher, *The War Wanderings of an Aussie Girl* Aussie 15 February 1921, accessed via Australian Artists Online at <http://www.daaao.org.au/bio/kathleen-ussheer/>.

remarked "...I've been in charge of a regiment of mules".²² The conflict and inherent contradictions of a Square between a service oriented Uranian urge for dealing with the practical issues for humanity (particularly during world wars) and her lunar emotional need for adventure were being accommodated creatively through her unconventional work choices.

It would appear that Nell had no formal qualifications at all but she devoted much of her working life to looking after animals, children and old people, reflecting her Sagittarian Moon and it's Square to her Uranus in Virgo. She appears to have been most at home doing service but avoiding the domestic claustrophobia that may have been her lot had she married and had children in North Queensland. Immediately after the war Nell went to work in an American war orphanage.

Although children were particularly prominent in her life Nell never wanted to marry and there are no references to any men in her correspondence. Her friendships with women were very close although neither Miles nor Nell was a lesbian.

Maud MaxLinder was 16 months old when her parents died in a high profile incident deemed a double suicide.²³ They left separate suicide notes requesting that their respective families assume custody of Maud. ²⁴ The child was naturally extremely distressed and they could not retain the employment of a nanny for her until Nell came along in 1927.

Nell told Maud about the circumstances of her mother and father's death when she was about ten years old. She told Maud that her father had known that she was old enough to cope and honourable and strong enough to make her own way in the world. This is a good example of her Uranus in Virgo reinforcing for the dependent child she effectively mothered the power of the mind. This proved to be a very empowering explanation for

²² Another tale of Nell has playing the role of horse whisperer when some wild horses were on the loose in the streets of Paris, and causing terror.

²³ Max Linder himself had both a Moon-Uranus Sextile. Both Maud's parents died from drinking Veronal, and injecting heroin and her father slit her mother's wrists and his own. While the magistrate deemed it a double suicide associated with a suicide pact, according to her maternal grandmother, Maud's mother complained to her shortly before that he was going to kill her.

²⁴ Maud's father Max Linder is credited with creating the world's first identifiable motion-picture character, and appears to have been a source of inspiration for Charlie Chaplin, who referred to Max as 'The Professor', and dedicated Modern Times to him. Maud's mother was only 22 years old. They left separate suicide notes each requesting that their respective families assume custody of Maud.

Maud who surely would have struggled to make sense of such a horrendous loss of both parents. Nell taught her to be proud and in control and valued honour, service and courage enormously.²⁵ Perhaps reflecting her Moon-Uranus signature she particularly urged Maud to never cry in front of anyone that she didn't respect. For her sixth birthday Nell gave Maud a Swiss army knife, which at the age of 87 she evidently still carries in her bag. Maud's maternal grandmother was horrified to find that in contrast to the conventions of French society at the time Maud was a tomboy and a wild child, more versed in Australian ways than French high society. Her grandmother sent her to boarding school for a time to try and address this transgression. Although not in possession at this point of her date of birth, I suspect Maud too may carry a significant Moon Uranian contact.

Nell looked after Maud through the ten years during which contested custody was being sorted and the court made an order that she was always to be with Maud during this time. By May 1930 Miles Franklin noted that "... the tragedy has almost got her down. Nothing will prize her loose from the child now."²⁶ Another way of viewing it is that Nell had met her needs in relation to having a child in a very unconventional and adaptive way.

Nell spent a few years during WW2 in a prison camp in France and is fittingly buried in Maud Lindner's family vault in Paris with Maud's mother, grandmother and great grandmother in a vault with no men.

Subsequent Brilliant Careers

My mother was born with a Square between a Gemini Moon and Uranus in Pisces and was a groundbreaker in her time. Although she bore five children she railed against the domestic restrictions of women with her favourite refrain being "I may be your, wife, and their mother but primarily I am a woman with my own needs and interests".

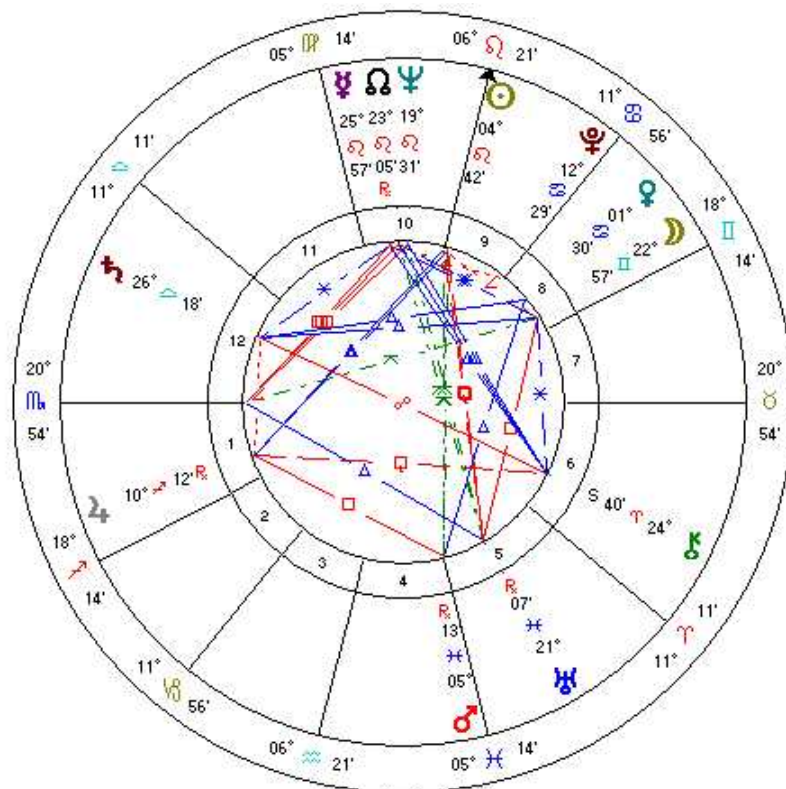
She was the first woman to attend a cattleman's dinner, after asserting her right to do so. While her politics were conservative and she just missed out on preselection for a state seat in the Queensland National Party she was clearly a libertarian and an unconventional

²⁵ The tales of Nell's unconventional bravery include one where she played "horse whisperer" to wild stallions that were out of control in the streets of Paris standing in front of them and quietly quietening them while all the men hid.

²⁶ This is an extract from a letter from Kath Ussher to Miles Franklin dated 8 May 1930, held in Miles Franklin's archive at the Mitchell Library.

woman. For example as National Programs Advisor for the Australian Girl Guide movement she led a strong campaign against the amalgamation of the girl guides with the boy scouts on the grounds that they would just end up making cups of tea for the men. While she had five children she stood up for her rights as a woman in a conservative small town community, often challenging the conventions of the day. She won a number of awards for her work including being made a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for her services to community and to youth.

Joie Elwyn Malone
Natal Chart (2)
 28 Jul 1924, Mon
 12:01 pm AEST - 10:00
 Brisbane, Australia
 27°S28' 153°E02'
 Geocentric
 Tropical
 Placidus
 True Node



She typifies the coherent, unconventional thread running through a selective stream of my female relatives with children, service, birth, termination of pregnancy and early death of the mother all contributors to the story.

There are many other examples amongst women who have made their mark in their chosen fields and I will continue along this theme through an exploration of the charts and biographies of some of my favourite unconventional women.

The Female Eunuch and Beyond

One of the most Uranian public figures in recent Australian history, Germaine Greer, has a close Conjunction between the Moon and Uranus in Taurus in the fourth house.²⁷ Her first book *The Female Eunuch* was as groundbreaking as it was shocking.

Greer uses humour, boldness, and coarse language to present a direct and candid description of female sexuality; arguing that men hate women, though the latter do not realize this and are taught to hate themselves.²⁸ *The Female Eunuch* hit the bookstands in 1970, and nearly sold out of its first printing within six months having been translated into 11 languages.²⁹ Its main thesis is that the 'traditional' suburban, consumerist, nuclear family represses women sexually, and that this devitalizes them, rendering them eunuchs.³⁰ Perhaps one can speculate that Greer was also projecting her own Moon Uranian inspired sense of disconnection with her femininity, through this her first book.

With her Moon-Uranus Conjunction in Taurus in her fourth house this is a particularly pertinent theme for her, further charged with the internal contradictions inherent in her Sun Moon Square. To this is added a little solar brilliance attributable to her Sun in Aquarius Square Uranus.

Greer identifies as an Anarchist Feminist and while deeply critical of the nuclear family, she is arguing for a revaluing of the domestic sphere and children and for the importance of the earth and sustainable ecology. While considered quite brilliant, Greer's theoretical concepts are at times contradictory and her argument not well understood by the public, with many people enraged by her more provocative assertions.

²⁷ Germaine Greer was born with a Moon-Uranus Conjunction in Taurus in the fourth house on the IC opposite her North Node with her Uranian energy strengthened by a Square to her Sun in Aquarius.

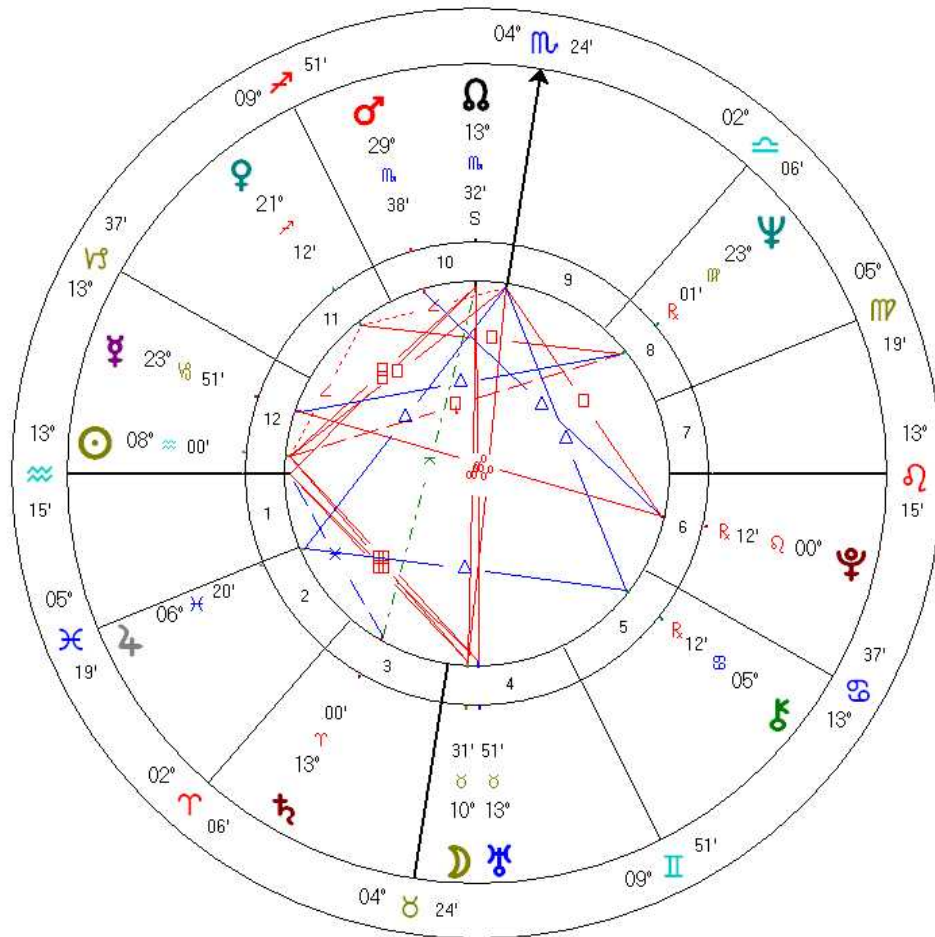
²⁸ Christine Wallace, *Germaine Greer: Untamed Shrew*, Sydney, Australia: Pan Macmillan, 1997.

²⁹ Cited on Wikipedia http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Female_Eunuch on 28/06/11.

³⁰ Ibid. 28/06/11.

Never far from Uranian controversy Greer caused uproar in the press when in 1999 she admitted that she longed to have a child. "I was desperate for a baby and I have the medical bills to prove it", she is credited with saying according to the premier issue of the British magazine *Aura*.³¹ This article quotes the "hollowness that haunts her, the terrible sorrow she feels at what she lost: her chance for motherhood".

Germaine Greer
Female Chart (2)
 29 Jan 1939, Sun
 6:00 am AEST -10:00
 Melbourne VIC, Australia
 37°S49' 144°E58'
Geocentric
Tropical
Placidus
True Node
 Rating: A



Caring for a time for daughter of a friend she wrote "Ruby lit up my life in a way that nobody, certainly no lover, has ever done. I was not prepared for the incandescent sensuousness of this small child, the generosity of her innocent love." ³²

³¹ *Aura Magazine*, Eve Pollard Ed., London: Parkhill Publications was only in print for about 12 months. The article containing her admission was immediately republished in the Daily Mail as a double spread without Greer's permission.

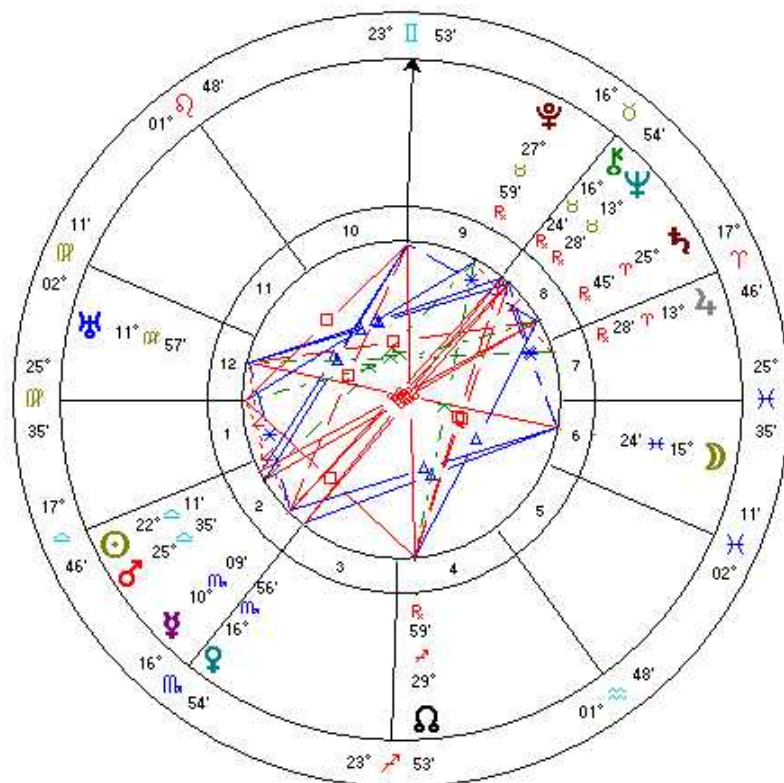
³² Birdeye, "Aging Feminist Regrets Childless Life", cited on <http://byrdeye.blogspot.com/2006/11/aging-radical-feminist-regrets.html> on 21/12/11.

In April 2000, with transiting Pluto squaring her Moon-Uranus Conjunction, a mentally unwell 19-year-old female student who had been writing her letters and had recently appeared uninvited on her doorstep sprang from bushes in her garden and leapt on her back screaming “Mummy, Mummy”. She then took her into her farmhouse and proceeded to tie her to a chair and keep her captive for two hours, while smashing up her furniture. Underlining the transiting influence from Pluto then in her eleventh house and in Sagittarius, the prosecution noted that the offender had regarded Greer as a “spiritual mother figure”.³³ This surely encapsulates the Moon-Uranus theme.

Her unconventional views on marriage are perhaps best exemplified through the three week duration of her first marriage. Although she bore no children of her own she has 13 godchildren.

Making Birth Control More Accessible To Women

Marie Stopes
Natal Chart (4)
 15 Oct 1880 NS, Fri
 4:10 am +0:00
 Edinburgh, Scotland
 55°N57' 00S°W13'
 Geocentric
 Tropical
 Placidus
 True Node
 Rating: AA



³³ Stephanie Merritt, “Profile on Germaine Greer: Danger Mouth”, The Observer, 5 Oct 2003.

Marie Stopes was born with a Moon-Uranus Opposition. True to the health and science bent of her twelfth house Uranus in Virgo and her Moon in Pisces in the sixth house, after achieving a Ph.D. in palaeobotany in 1904, she went on to become the youngest person in Britain to earn a D. SC. Degree. Stopes opened the U.K.'s first family planning clinic in 1921 in the lead-up to her Uranus Opposition³⁴ and the Conjunction of transiting Uranus with her natal moon. Through this work she was playing a major role in breaking down taboos about sex and assisting women in increasing knowledge and power over their reproductive health. Family planning and abortion clinics so that "...women of all classes (may) have the fear and dread of undesired maternity removed from them"³⁵, are named after her until this day. In 2010 the organisation aimed to protect 20 million couples from unplanned pregnancies and unsafe abortions.

While Stopes bore one child, this did not happen until she was 44 years old. Stopes had complex interests and on the negative side is noted to have been a supporter of Adolf Hitler and racial purification through Eugenics. The latter negatively resonates with her Uranus in Virgo in and she has been quoted as saying of those deemed unfit to be parents:

Those who are grown up in the present active generations, the matured and hardened, with all their weaknesses and flaws, cannot do very much, though they may do something with themselves. They can, however study the conditions under which they came into being, discover where lie the chief sources of defect, and eliminate those sources of defect from the coming generation so as to remove those who are still to be born the needless burdens the race has carried.³⁶

Two Entertaining and Unorthodox Katherines

As an unconventional and uncompromising musician KD Lang is renowned as the first major recording artist to announce her lesbianism.³⁷ Like Stopes she has a twelfth house

³⁴ Her Uranus Opposition came into effect exactly a year later.

³⁵ Marie C. Stopes, 'Racial and Imperial Aspects', in *The Control of Parenthood*, various authors, James Marchant, ed., 1920. p. 211.

³⁶ Ibid. p. 207.

³⁷ Lang came out as a lesbian in a 1992 article of the LGBT news magazine *The Advocate*. Cited on http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/K.d._lang on 10/01/12.

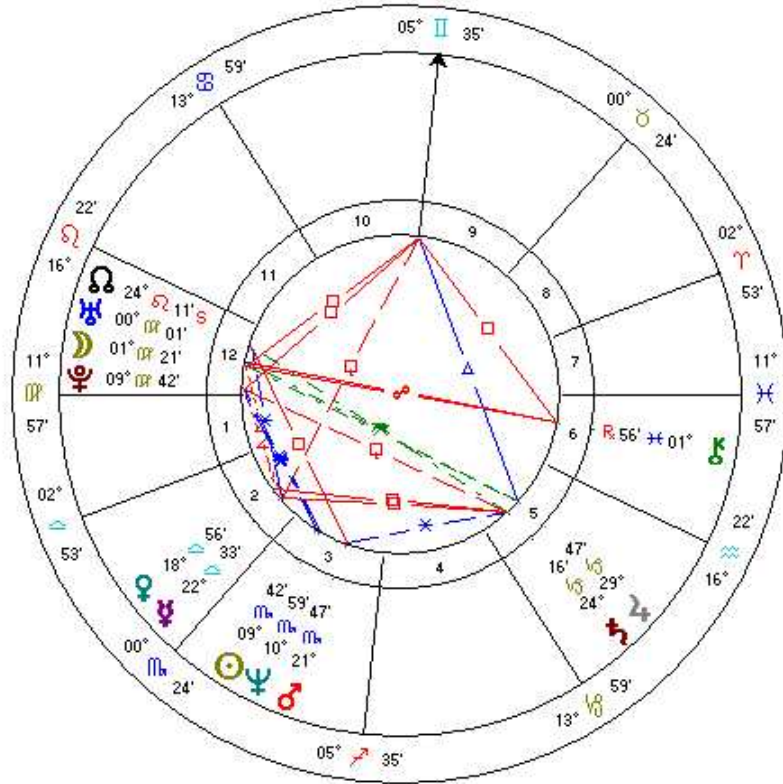
Uranus, in this instance in close Conjunction with her Virgoan Moon and in a crowded twelfth house ruled by the Sun. Her heritage is diverse and quite incredibly she claims English, Irish, Scottish, German, Russian, Jewish, Icelandic and Sioux roots. Her musical career has been extraordinarily diverse and she resists being pigeon holed thus:

"I've always tried to disallow the genrefying of myself, and just ... I just try to sing what I feel".³⁸

Patsy Cline was one of her earliest influences and perhaps reflecting the Leo rulership of her twelfth house, she acted out the role of Patsy Cline prior to becoming just as famous as her earlier idol. However she was quick to bring rock inflections into her country music and was said to have confused the country and western field with her androgynous look. While receiving her first Juno award for most promising artist in a wedding dress, she also released an album referencing both cigarette smoking and cross dressing appearing in a tuxedo on the cover of her album *Drag*.

³⁸ Kim Ruehl, KD Lang Interview, cited on <http://folkmusic.about.com/od/interviews/a/kdlanginterview.htm> cited on 25/10/2011.

K D Lang
Natal Chart (2)
 2 Nov 1961, Thu
 2:03 am +7:00
 Edmonton, Canada
 53°N33' 113°W28'
Geocentric
Tropical
Placidus
True Node
 Rating: AA



In a late 2011 concert at the Sidney Myer Musicbowl in Melbourne she appeared at first to be channelling Elvis Presley. She was experiencing her Chiron return in exact Opposition to her Moon-UranusConjunction and exuding a highly charismatic female sexual energy, while appearing to tap into the collective consciousness in a unique and mesmerising way.

The exact Opposition from Chiron in Pisces in the sixth house to her Moon-UranusConjunction is also being drawn into service for the causes of gay rights, HIV/Aids, animal rights and Tibetan Buddhism through her activism on these issues. Lang has won numerous awards for her work including six Juno awards.³⁹

Katherine Hepburn was born with an exact Sesquiquadrate between her Moon in Taurus in the seventh house and her Uranus in Capricorn in the third house. In her career she experienced much of the conflict and frustration associated with the Sesquiquadrate relationship and at times this was explosive. This conflict would have been intensified by

³⁹ These are Canadian Music Awards.

her Mars Uranus Conjunction. Born in 1907 she was incredibly unconventional for her time fighting back against the “Box Office Poison” ⁴⁰label that she attracted.

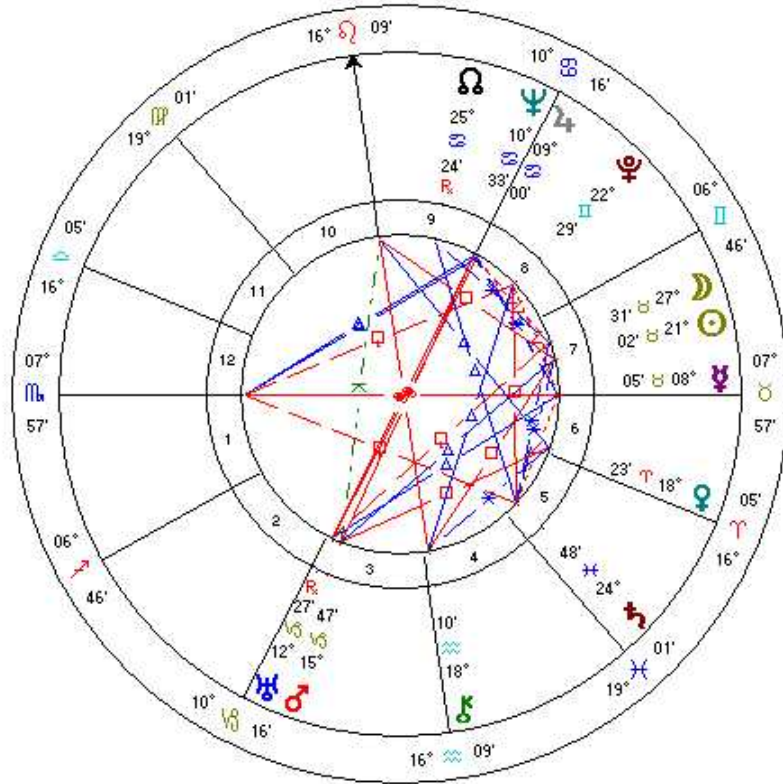
Like Marie Stopes, Katherine Hepburn’s mother was a suffragette and she fought for birth control with the feminist pioneer Margaret Sanger. Not bound by convention or custom, encouraged to think and to fight injustice from an early age, she was a tomboy who liked to call herself Jimmy. She cut her hair short like a boy and throughout her life she wore trousers when not in a movie role. It seems that she owned no skirts or dresses during her whole adult life. ⁴¹ Despite her masculine attire Katherine embodied feminine beauty but also masculine strength and reserve and was not quite as androgynous in appearance as the other Katherine in this chapter, KD Laing.

Approaching her 14th birthday and close to her first Saturn Opposition Hepburn discovered the body of her beloved older brother after an apparent suicide. She subsequently withdrew, dropped out and for some time assumed her brother’s birthday (8 November) as her own.

⁴⁰ Cited on Wikipedia at http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Katharine_Hepburn on 25/10/2011.

⁴¹ One of her many awards came from the Council of Fashion Designers of America in 1986 – in recognition of her role as non-conformist in modern fashion.

Katharine Hepburn
Natal Chart (3)
 12 May 1907, Sun
 5:47 pm +5:00
 Hartford, Connecticut
 41°N45'49" 072°W41'08"
 Geocentric
 Tropical
 Placidus
 True Node
 Rating: AA



Katherine Hepburn married once and only briefly and is quoted as saying “I don’t believe in marriage,” later remarking “It’s bloody impractical to love, honour, and obey.”⁴² She was an atheist and lived by herself and never considered having children explaining that she was too selfish. However for over a quarter of a century she had a relationship with Spencer Tracey until his death in 1967. He was married throughout that time, and evidently this arrangement suited her well.

Initial success for Hepburn was followed by failure. Undeterred she masterminded her own comeback buying the film rights to *A Philadelphia Story* and only selling them on condition that she star in the film. She went to have twelve nominations for best actress and to win a record of four academy awards. Turner Classic Movies described her as “arguably the most interesting, difficult, challenging woman in the history of American pictures”. She lent her name to various liberal causes particularly family planning.

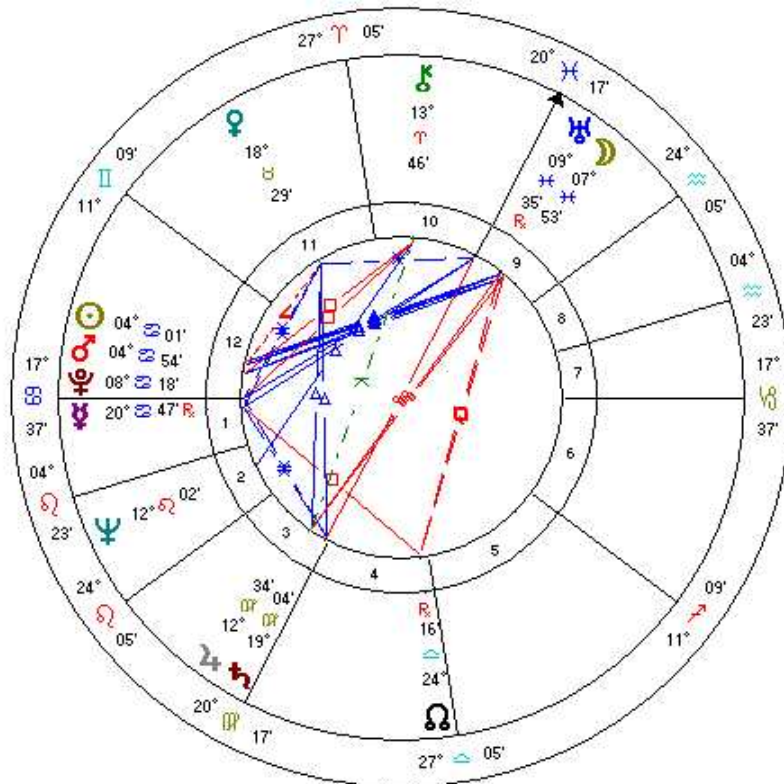
⁴² Cited on <http://www.traditioninaction.org/Cultural/B004cpHepburn.htm> on 25/10/11.

In later years her Moon-Uranus contact was perhaps visible in her essential tremor, a chronic neurological condition that causes involuntary shaking of the head, hands and feet.

In her own words: "Everyone thought I was bold and fearless and even arrogant, but inside I was always quaking."⁴³

An Unconventional Fighter

Violette Szabo
Female Chart (3)
 26 Jun 1921, Sun
 6:00 am BST - 1:00
 Levallois Perret, France
 48°N54' 00"E18°
 Geocentric
 Tropical
 Placidus
 True Node
 Rating: B



By contrast to Katherine Hepburn's long life, Violetta Szabo lived a relatively short 23 years before being executed by the Nazis after her work as a Special Operations Executive/spy. Her code-name was Louise and she fought for the French Resistance. Her work as a spy was apparently motivated by the death of her husband from chest wounds in battle only two years after they first met and days after the birth of their only child.

Szabo was the second woman to receive the George Cross bestowed posthumously and her citation published in the London Gazette⁴⁴ⁱ reads:

⁴³ Tejvan Pettinger. *Biography of Katherine Hepburn*, Oxford, www.biographyonline.net, 24th Nov. 2008.

Madame Szabo volunteered to undertake a particularly dangerous mission in France. She was parachuted into France in April 1944 and undertook the task with enthusiasm. In her execution of the delicate researches entailed she showed great presence of mind and astuteness. She was twice arrested by the German security authorities but each time managed to get away. Eventually, however, with other members of her group, she was surrounded by the Gestapo in a house in the south west of France. Resistance appeared hopeless but Madame Szabo, seizing a Sten-gun and as much ammunition as she could carry, barricaded herself in part of the house and, exchanging shot for shot with the enemy, killed or wounded several of them. By constant movement, she avoided being cornered and fought until she dropped exhausted. She was arrested and had to undergo solitary confinement. She was then continuously and atrociously tortured but never by word or deed gave away any of her acquaintances or told the enemy anything of value. She was ultimately executed. Madame Szabo gave a magnificent example of courage and steadfastness.

Assisted no doubt by Chiron on the Midheaven and her Sun, Mars, Pluto Conjunction in the twelfth house she followed a destiny very in keeping with her ninth house Moon-Uranus Conjunction in Pisces.

Violetta's fate was sealed with her first Uranus Square to her Moon-Uranus Conjunction which coincided with deployment into the field and her execution.

Concluding Remarks

This chapter has sought to demonstrate a strong association between women who are unconventional, particularly in lunar fields, and the Moon-Uranus signature in their natal charts. These women have all made a mark and have in some way paved the way for other women to benefit from the freedom and liberation they have sought to promulgate on a more or less conscious level for the female of the species. I have traced these threads through a long view of my family's history as well as through drawing on the lives and charts of famous women in various fields.

⁴⁴ *London Gazette*: (Supplement) no. 37820. p. 6127. (<http://www.london-gazette.co.uk/issues/37820/supplements/6127>). 13 December 1946. Retrieved 2008-05-27.

Chapter Three: Shocking

The Moon corresponds with the core of our attitude and the innermost part of our self - our inner child. It signifies what we need in order to feel that we are being taken care of, loved, nurtured and safe. By contrast Uranus brings in the unexpected twists and turns that change what is possible.

With Uranus connected to the Moon instinctual emotional reactions to things may differ from other's reactions⁴⁵ and one may be left second guessing how "normal" people could be expected to react in an attempt to appear normal.

One way of viewing the dynamics of Moon-Uranus connections is in terms of any associated breakthroughs being accomplished on a deep and potentially sustainable level, albeit within the changeable frame of Uranus. Given the Moon's involvement we could expect any changes to be emotionally processed and grounded. That is any resolution after the shock of Uranus may be on a deep, instinctual and rhythmic level.

While Uranus is especially associated with sudden change and shocking experiences the combination with the Moon brings a particularly deep emotional charge to this theme, almost like adding a new dimension.

The very concept of shock is remarkable for the sheer breadth of its levels of meaning. A selection of particularly relevant associations as outlined in the Oxford English Dictionary⁴⁶ is as follows:

- A sudden and violent blow, impact or collision; a disturbance of equilibrium or oscillation resulting from this; a sudden large application of energy.
- A sudden violent shake of the earth's surface as part of an earthquake.
- A sudden disturbance in stability, especially as causing fluctuations in or permanent damage to an organization, monetary system etc.

⁴⁵ Amy Herring, *Astrology of the Moon*, Woodbury MN: Llewellyn Publications, 2010, p. 250.

⁴⁶ *The New Shorter Oxford English Dictionary*, vol.2, 1993, p. 2832.

- A sudden and disturbing effect on the mind or feelings, especially as causing depression or distress; a start of surprise, excitement etc. Also an occurrence, discovery etc., occasioning such an effect.
- Throw (troops) into confusion by a charge; damage or weaken physically by impact or collision; destroy the stability of.
- Subject to or transform by mechanical shock
- Come into violent contact Orig., wound the feelings of, offend, displease. Later, affect with a painful feeling of intense aversion or disapproval; scandalize, horrify, outrage, disgust, startle.
- A sudden, debilitating effect produced by severe injury, blood loss, violent emotion, etc.; the state of nervous exhaustion resulting from emotional trauma.

In exploring the theme of shock as it relates to Moon-Uranus contacts in the natal chart, I will draw on the charts of people who have left their mark on the world. All the characters included in this chapter have experienced and/or initiated shocks⁴⁷ that have reverberated throughout the universe or at least more broadly in their own communities. This is in keeping with Uranus as a universal planet associated with revolution and awakening and brings in a particularly lunar flavour.

There is a sense that in exploring the theme of shock one is entering into another dimension. An electric shock may kill or seemingly bring someone back to life, e.g. through the use of defibrillation paddles. Contact between the old and rhythmic Moon and transformative Uranus may chart a shocking new pathway with inherent wisdom and/or madness.

Some of the individuals included in this chapter have brought pure genius into a new creative realm through their shocks (Blake, West, Dali and Dylan), others have had shocking experiences of victimhood (Azaria, Schapelle Corby) while a couple bring in a particularly charismatic and megalomaniac quality that perhaps serves to warn humanity against false leaders and extremes (Jim Jones and Charles Manson).

⁴⁷ In some cases drawing this distinction may appear arbitrary.

For my own part the intrauterine experiences I will describe appear at first to have no point but to embed neurotic physical fears, and yet perhaps the connections are too complex or it is still too early to tell.

When we are exposed to objective realities - existing conditions of life that persist without our personal efforts - the transpersonal can be said to be getting personal with us.any transpersonal experience shocks the ego with a reality greater than itself and sometimes, greater than anything we have ever known.....outside shocks act as well-timed evolutionary triggers, synchronized to jolt us whenever and wherever we are suffering from the illusions of **excessive certainty, separateness, or control.**⁴⁸

Perhaps we attract shocks to ourselves as a way of meeting deeper transpersonal needs for waking up to what's oppressing us (Uranus).

On a personal note

First I will relate a deeply personal and somewhat lunar story.

I was initially motivated to explore this theme because of my own heightened fears and phobias about physical shocks and associated expectations of mental ones. I am convinced that this was first grounded in events that happened to my Moon-Uranus mother when she was heavily pregnant with me. While Moon-Uranus contacts often signal childhood experiences of shock or trauma, in my own case it appears that this process was heralded even before birth. This may be a particularly potent form of transmission through generations.

Astrological symbolism had helped me to explain or at the very least to ground a suspected connection between an absolute fear and loathing of blood and sharp objects and the knowledge that when my mother was 33 weeks pregnant with me she was subjected to a huge shock involving large amounts of blood after a shocking interaction my brother experienced with a sharp object.

⁴⁸ Cited on *Outside Shocks: Uranus, Neptune & Pluto* www.verticalpool.com/astro7.html on 1/12/11.

My mother was standing in the kitchen when a man who was working for my father on the farm arrived at the door carrying my brother in his arms. He had a deep cut in his leg which left the impression in her memory of the bottom part of his leg hanging off and dripping blood. A blade from a threshing machine at the back of a tractor had sliced through his leg and there was lots of blood. My own repetitive dream when I was a small child (3-5 years old) of being under the threat of attack from two workmen wielding a saw, bears an uncanny similarity to that experience and I have a sense that the trauma may have been transmitted to me in-utero, metaphorically reinforced by a serious haemorrhage when my mother gave birth to me.

It was much more recently that my mother told me that she also experienced a blow out of a tire on the highway to Brisbane when she was heavily pregnant with me - with my brother (aged five) and my sister (aged two) in the car.⁴⁹ While she managed to pull over without hitting any other cars or crashing her own, she reported having received quite a shock and having been extremely worried for the safety of her three dependents.

My mother's tight Square between her Moon in Gemini and her Uranus in Pisces as well as my own Moon-Uranus Conjunction appear to be implicated in these events.

Shocking the World and Terrorizing Hollywood

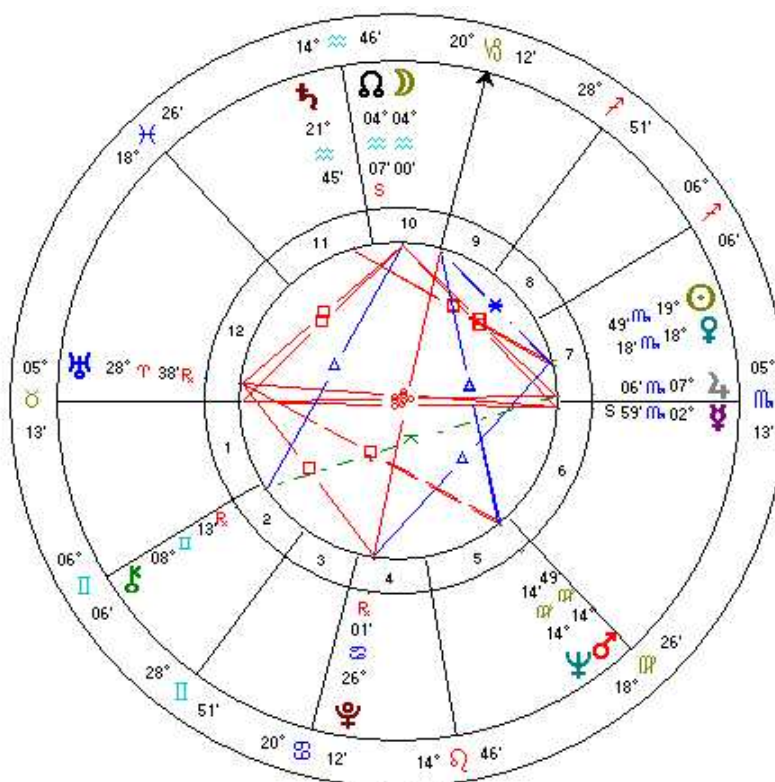
Charles Manson was born with Uranus in the twelfth house squaring his Aquarian Moon in the tenth house which in turn is in exact Conjunction with his stationary North Node and also squares his Mercury-Jupiter Conjunction and his Ascendant. His cult murders shocked the world, terrorized Hollywood and were grounded in the Uranus-Pluto-Jupiter Conjunction of the late nineteen sixties. Uranus corresponds to shocks of oppression and freedom.

Born to a 16 year old single mother, and with an unknown father who was possibly African American, Charles Manson was first called "no name Maddox". After spending many years in goal as a virtual unknown he shot to notoriety and temporary domination after setting

⁴⁹ I have no way of knowing or finding out whether this event took place before or after the other but gather they were fairly closely timed.

himself up as a guru in California in the height of the sixties during the Uranus Pluto Conjunction. In an explosive Moon-Uranus gestalt that according to his twisted logic drew on hidden messages from the Beatles *White Album*, particularly as articulated through the song *Helter Skelter*, he harboured megalomaniac delusions about creating racial warfare. This was to be achieved through his own music and his drug induced hold on a number of vulnerable young women (whom he clearly hated) and to a lesser extent men. Thus he orchestrated the murders of seven people over two days including the well known actor Sharon Tate.

Charles Manson
Natal Chart (8)
 12 Nov 1934, Mon
 4:40 pm +5:00
 Cincinnati, Ohio
 39°N09'43" 084°W27'25"
 Geocentric
 Tropical
 Placidus
 True Node
 Rating: AA



In his framing of events which weirdly fits with his twelfth house Uranus Square Moon in the tenth house, he was getting recognition in the form of infamy for his actions, which may have appeared within his clearly twisted world view as accomplishments. This act was apparently intended to provoke an internecine war of near-extermination between racist and non-racist whites over the treatment of black people. According to this scenario

Manson and the Family would eventually emerge from the Plutonic Underground to a position of power.⁵⁰

In his own albeit crazy way Manson may have been searching for freedom from perceived oppression and to be himself. His Aquarian Moon was contributing to a sense of being a rebel without a cause. While demonstrating the emotional detachment so synonymous with Moon-Uranus contacts he was invoking the name of the Family (of the more universal type)⁵¹ and very publicly living out his own lunar traumas from childhood. This included not knowing who his suspected African American father was and being called “no name”. It is probably not a coincidence that the most well known victim Sharon Tate was heavily pregnant, connecting the event back to his mother’s pregnancy with him.

Through committing these atrocities he sought increased autonomy that almost inevitably landed him back in goal (ruled by the twelfth house).

Sasportas has observed that if Uranus is well aspected in the twelfth house those that hold it can have a wealth of good advice to offer others, but that with hard aspects their vision is sometimes impaired by their own personal neuroses and complexes.⁵² This surely is an understatement in relation to the audacious and shocking work of Charles Manson.

It is interesting to note that Sasportas also cites Adolf Hitler as a man with Uranus in the twelfth house, whose vision was not rationally thought out.⁵³

At the time of the shocking murders ordered by Manson, transiting Uranus was moving through his sixth house⁵⁴ first forming a Quincunx of his natal Uranus (Square Moon) and then trining his natal Moon (Square Uranus). Then in 1975 when he was experiencing a

⁵⁰ Cited on Wikipedia http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles_Manson_ on 6/08/11.

⁵¹ Note the presence of Pluto in Manson’s fourth house.

⁵² Howard Sasportas, *The Twelve Houses*, London: The Aquarian Press, 1985, p.281.

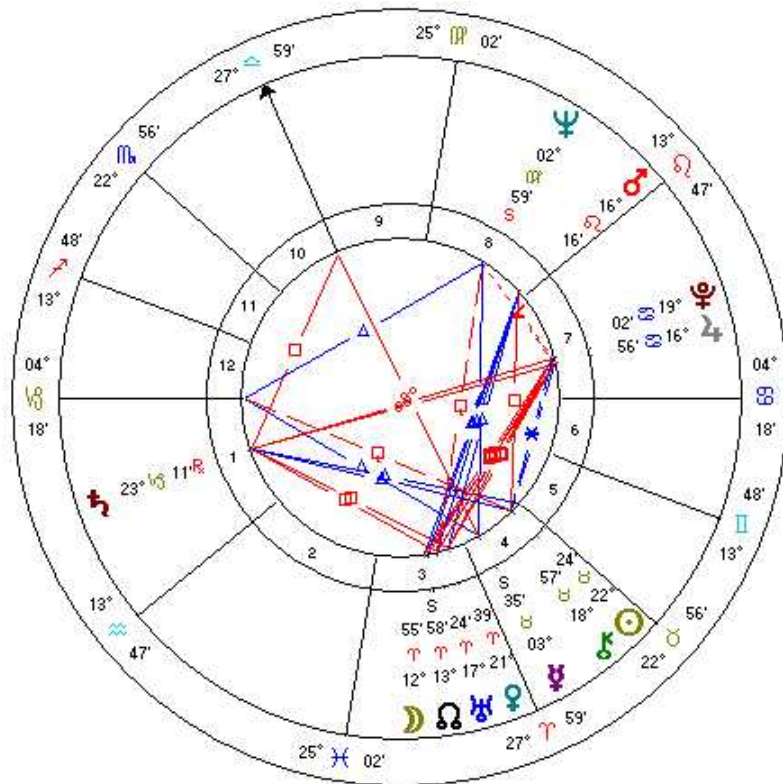
⁵³ Liz Greene points out that Uranus in the twelfth house is associated with ‘a very strong interest in political movements and ideologies, but in a rather compulsive rather than reflective way’. Liz Greene, *The Outer Planets and Their Cycles*, Reno, Nevada: CRCS Publications, 1983. p.57.

⁵⁴ Uranus in the sixth house indicates revolt against obligations and work roles in one’s life that are found to be oppressive and brings in a sense of style and originality.

Square from transiting Uranus to his Moon “the Family rocketed back to national fame when Squeaky Fromme attempted to assassinate US President Gerald Ford.”⁵⁵

Jim Jones was another Moon-Uranus mass murderer with his Moon in Aries and a complicated theory involving issues of race. He spearheaded the largest mass murders/suicides in history prior to September 11, 2001. He was born with a Moon-Uranus Conjunction in Aries. Like many other notorious and shocking individuals with Moon-Uranus contacts Jim Jones’ North Node is also implicated – in this instance tightly wedged between his Moon and his Uranus.

Jim Jones
Natal Chart (7)
 13 May 1931, Wed
 10:00 pm +6:00
 Lynn, Indiana
 40°N02'59" 084°W56'23"
 Geocentric
 Tropical
 Placidus
 True Node
 Rating: AA



With his Moon-Uranus Conjunction in the third house he was pretty fixated on getting his thoughts and feelings out there and on the record. He was able to sway the feelings of his many followers through his public speaking.⁵⁶ Although an atheist and a member of the

⁵⁵ Bugliosi, Vincent with Gentry, Curt. *Helter Skelter — The True Story of the Manson Murders 25th Anniversary Edition*, W.W. Norton & Company, 1994. [ISBN 0-393-08700-X](https://www.wwnorton.com/978039308700x).

⁵⁶ Howard Sasportas, *The Twelve Houses: Understanding the Importance of the Houses in your Astrological Birthchart*, London: Thorsons edition, 1998, p. 177.

Communist Party with involvement in the Civil Rights Movement, he was audacious enough to disguise his secular beliefs in religious garb in order to recruit followers.

It also gave him a particularly Mercurial focus and the Jim Jones mass suicide occurred when Jim Jones' Uranus was exactly Quincunx his natal Uranus and transiting Pluto was opposite his Uranus. At the time the progressed Moon was approaching a Square to his natal Moon.

A Glorious Luminary

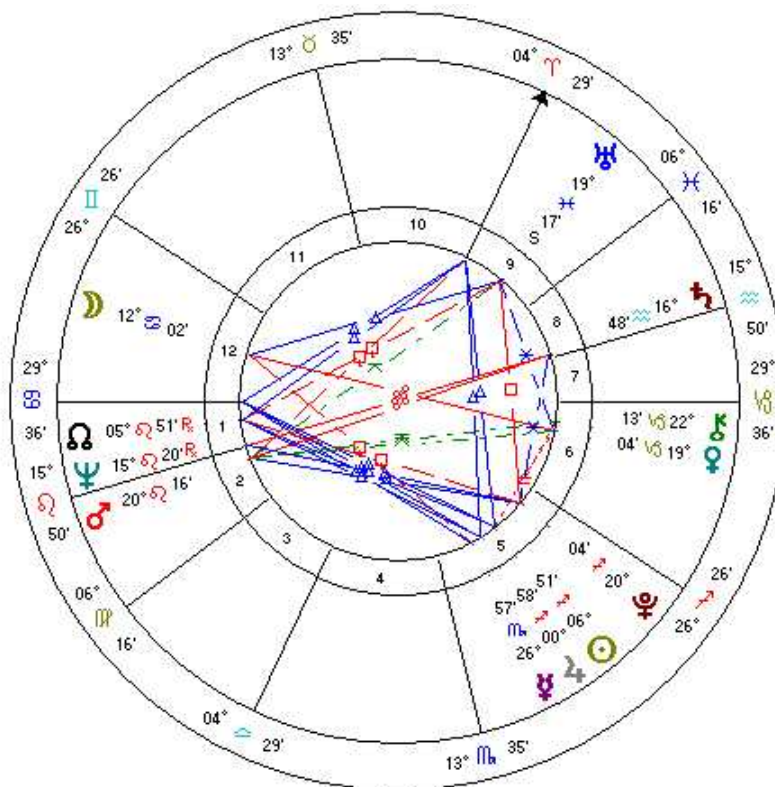
On a more positively creative note, William Blake was an English poet, painter and printmaker. Considered mad by contemporaries for his idiosyncratic views, Blake is held in high regard by later critics for his expressiveness and creativity, and for the philosophical and mystical undercurrents of his work. An avid reader of the bible (particularly the New Testament), but hostile to all forms of organised religion, Blake was influenced by the Uranian ideals and ambitions of the French and American revolutions.⁵⁷

Blake's work was way ahead of his time and he was a progressive and a libertarian in relation to race, gender and class. His works bring together a focus on social and political equality with mystical symbolism and connection to the collective consciousness, so in keeping with the watery Trine between his Moon in Cancer in the 12th house and Uranus in Pisces in the tenth house. With his Moon in the 12th house he may have been learning to let the subjective inner world of emotion and particularly imagination help him to know himself better, while bringing his readers along with him.

A ninth-house Uranus can symbolize an evolutionary agenda to break free of externally conditioned beliefs and discover one's own truth. Spiritual freedom is earned through developing conscious awareness of the oppression of religious dogma blindly accepted at an earlier age. Blake was very active in this pursuit.

⁵⁷ Cited on Wikipedia http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Blake on 25/07/11.

William Blake
Male Chart (2)
 28 Nov 1757 NS, Mon
 7:45 pm LMT +0:00:40
 London, England
 51°N30' 000°W10'
 Geocentric
 Tropical
 Placidus
 True Node
 Rating: B



True to his ninth house Uranus (and the Sagittarian emphasis in his chart) Blake poignantly brings together his Moon and Uranus with 9th and 12th house themes in *Proverbs from Hell* when he asserts - *Prisons are built with stones of Law, Brothels with bricks of Religion*.⁵⁸

Noted in his time as quite an eccentric individual Blake nevertheless raised eyebrows when in August 1803 with his progressed Moon conjuncting Uranus in Pisces in the 9th house he was involved in a physical altercation with a soldier. He was charged not only with an assault but with uttering seditious and treasonable expressions against the King. Although later cleared of the charges, according to the soldier John Schofield Blake had exclaimed “Dam the king. The soldiers are all slaves”.⁵⁹

The first documented example of Blake himself experiencing a shock is through the visions which he reportedly saw at the age of four and throughout his life. When he was

⁵⁸ Quoted from William Blake’s *The Marriage of Heaven and Hell* (1790-93 in the wake of the French Revolution) cited on Wikipedia http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Blake on 25/07/2011. This is a series of texts written in imitation of biblical prophecy but expressing Blake’s own intensely personal Romantic and revolutionary beliefs. It was published as printed sheets from etched plates containing prose, poetry, and illustrations and then coloured.

⁵⁹ Cited on Wikipedia http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Blake on 25/07/2011.

approximately nine years old he claimed to have seen “a tree filled with angels, bright angelic wings bespangling every bough like stars”.⁶⁰

A Shocking Portrayal of the Unconscious

It is hardly surprising that Salvador Dali, another Moon-Uranus type, had his Aries Moon tightly conjunct the midheaven and forming an out of sign Square to his Uranus in Sagittarius in the 6th house. It was also participating in a T-Square with his Neptune in Cancer in the 12th house.

Dali experienced an unusual emotional shock in his early life around the time of transiting Uranus entering his seventh house and trining his natal Mars. When he was five years old, he was reportedly taken to his brother's grave⁶¹ and told by his parents that he was his brother's reincarnation - a concept that he apparently came to believe. Uncannily his brother, who was nearly three years older than him and died of gastroenteritis, did so just over nine months before Dali's own birth. Of his brother, Dali said, "... [We] resembled each other like two drops of water, but we had different reflections". He "...was probably a first version of myself but conceived too much in the absolute".⁶² One can hear the echo of his twelfth house Neptune in the family realm of Cancer in this somewhat delusional imagining.

While known for his significant contribution to surrealism Dali was nothing if not audacious. For example when he was expelled from the Surrealist movement for refusing to explicitly denounce fascism, he retorted “I myself am surrealism”.⁶³

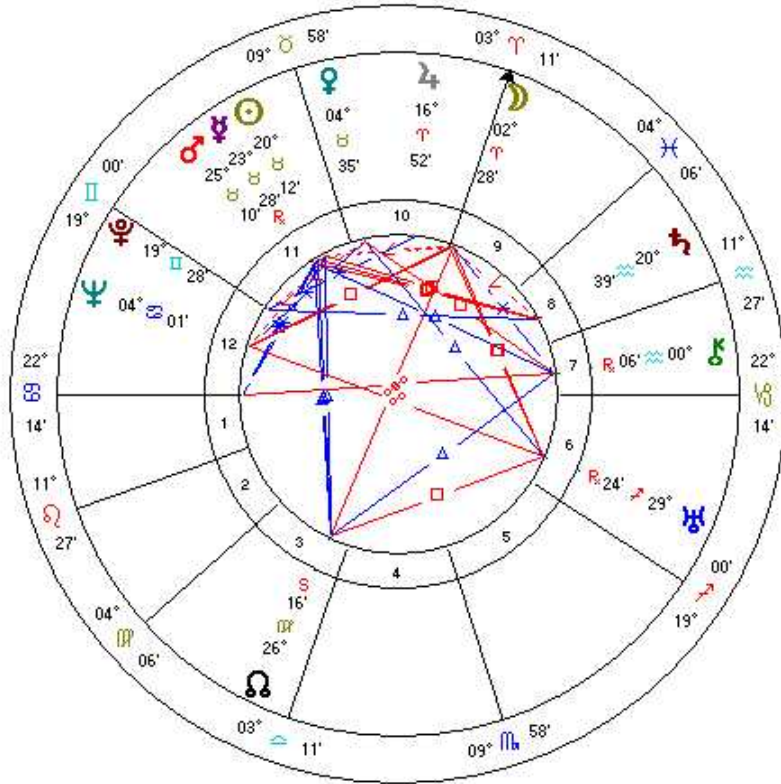
⁶⁰ Gerald Eades Bentley and G. Jr. Bentley, *William Blake: The Critical Heritage*, London: Routledge, 1995, pp. 36-37.

⁶¹ Dali also has Mars opposite his Uranus.

⁶² Salvador Dalí, [*The Secret Life of Salvador Dali*](#), London: Vision Press, 1948, p.2.

⁶³ This assertive statement is consistent with his Moon on the Midheaven in Aries and echoed by Cancer ruling his first house.

Salvador Dali
Male Chart (10)
 11 May 1904, Wed
 8:45 am UT +0:00
 Figueras, Spain
 42°N16' 002°E58'
 Geocentric
 Tropical
 Placidus
 True Node
 Rating: B



Reflective of the Moon so closely aligned with his Midheaven and how much his work seems to document in a creative way deep aspects of his psyche, his ninth house Moon was seeking adventure though diving into the unknown, comfortable in following his heart through his work. This placement goes some way to explaining his almost hypnotic effect and his sensitivity about and intense need for recognition.

In 1936, Dali took part in the London International Surrealist Exhibition. Demonstrating a ninth house Moon enthrallment with the exotic, his lectures, entitled *Fantomes paranoiaques authentique*, were delivered while wearing a deep-sea diving suit and helmet. He had arrived carrying a billiard cue and leading a pair of Russian hounds, and had to have the helmet unscrewed as he gasped for breath. Demonstrating the connection between his Aries Moon right on the Midheaven and Uranus in Sagittarius in his sixth house of work, he commented: "I just wanted to show that I was 'plunging deeply' into the human mind".⁶⁴

⁶⁴ *Current Biography Yearbook* ([ISSN 0011-3344](https://www.issn.org/0011-3344)) The Bronx, New York: H.W. Wilson Company, 1940, p.219.

In the same year he was in the audience at a screening of short surrealist films timed to coincide with the first surrealism exhibition at the Museum of Modern Art, an exhibition which featured his work. He was in the audience and knocked over the projector in a rage halfway through the film. "My idea for a film is exactly that, and I was going to propose to someone to have it made," he said. "I never wrote it down or told anyone, but it is as if he had stolen it." Other versions of Dali's accusation are more poetic including: "He stole it from my subconscious!" or even "He stole my dreams!"⁶⁵⁶⁶ Once again he was demonstrating his Moon-Uranus tendency to be direct and spontaneous without taking time to reflect or strategize.

Mae West

Mae West shocked the world of sexual politics and sought a very different form of freedom from oppression. Perhaps she was most famous for her witty and indeed shocking metaphorical leaps such as "Is that a pistol in your pocket or are you just glad to see me?"⁶⁷

Born with a Moon-Uranus Conjunction in Scorpio in the sixth house, it is fitting that West shocked the conservative world through her work on the theme of sex.⁶⁸ This was a lifelong signature for West with such a theme reinforced, through the ruler of Uranus, Aquarius, being positioned on her Midheaven. With the Moon in the sixth house your heart is said to live or die by the daily investment you make, making it particularly pertinent that the work one does and what one is working towards are about which one cares. Her natal Moon in Scorpio suggests that she would have craved the truth, the depth of experience and the wholeness of life as she sought the deep-down guts of Life's Truth⁶⁹ and in a transformative way that honoured the union of the Moon and Uranus.

⁶⁵ "Program Notes by Andy Ditzler (2005) and Deborah Solomon, 'Utopia Parkway: The Life of Joseph Cornell (New York: Farrar, Straus, and Giroux, 2003)". Andel.home.mindspring.com. http://andel.home.mindspring.com/cornell_notes.htm. Retrieved 22/08/2010.

⁶⁶ Dali also of course has both Neptune and Pluto in his 12th house.

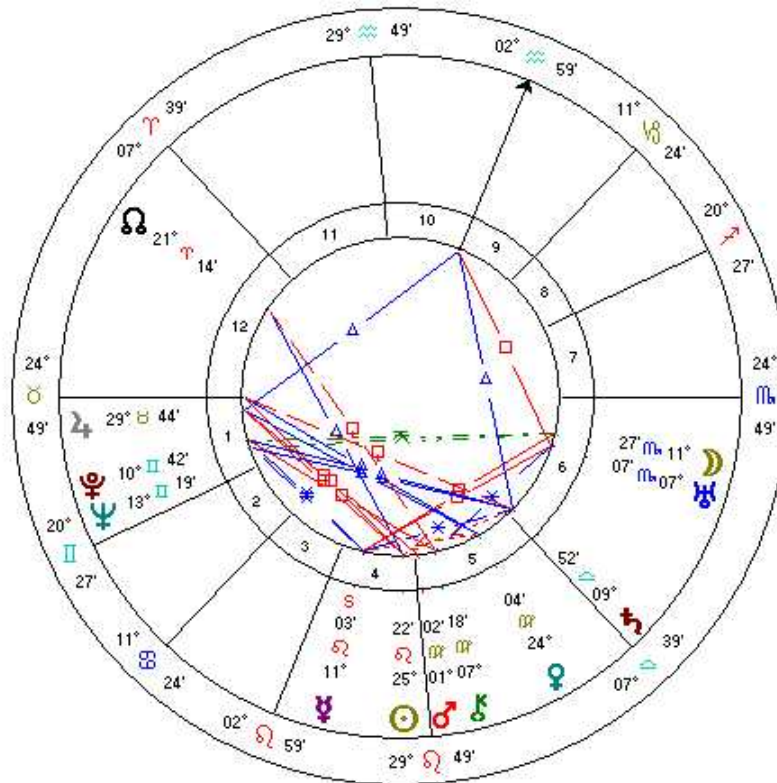
⁶⁷ Fred R. Shapiro and Joseph Epstein, *The Yale Book of Quotations*, New Haven, Connecticut, U.S. : Yale University Press, 2006, p.809.

⁶⁸ A quincunx between Pluto in the first and her Moon-Uranus Conjunction in the sixth house would have reinforced the strong Scorpionic themes in her chart.

⁶⁹ Amy Herring, *Astrology of the Moon*, p. 37.

Drawing on Scorpionic themes her first starring role on Broadway was in a play entitled *Sex* which she also wrote, produced and directed. The notorious production was not well received by city officials the theatre and was raided with West and crew arrested.

Mae West
Female Chart (9)
 17 Aug 1893 NS, Thu
 10:30 pm EST +5:00
 Brooklyn, NY
 40°N38' 07.3"W56'
 Geocentric
 Tropical
 Placidus
 True Node
 Rating: B



Some of her quick witted famous give away lines were:

Marriage is a great institution. I'm not ready for an institution yet.⁷⁰

When I'm good I'm very, very good, but when I'm bad, I'm better.⁷¹

It ain't no sin if you crack a few laws now and then, just so long as you don't break any.⁷²

Those who are easily shocked should be shocked more often.⁷³

⁷⁰ Bill Swainson, *Encarta Book of Quotations*, Macmillan, 2000, p.980. ISBN 0-312-23000-1.

⁷¹ Ralph Keyes, *The Quote Verifier: Who Said What, Where, and When*, Macmillan, p.244. ISBN 0-312-34004-4

⁷² *The Hollywood Reporter*, Vol. 397, 2006, p.197

⁷³ Jone Johnson Lewis. "Mae West Quotes". *About Women's History*. URL:

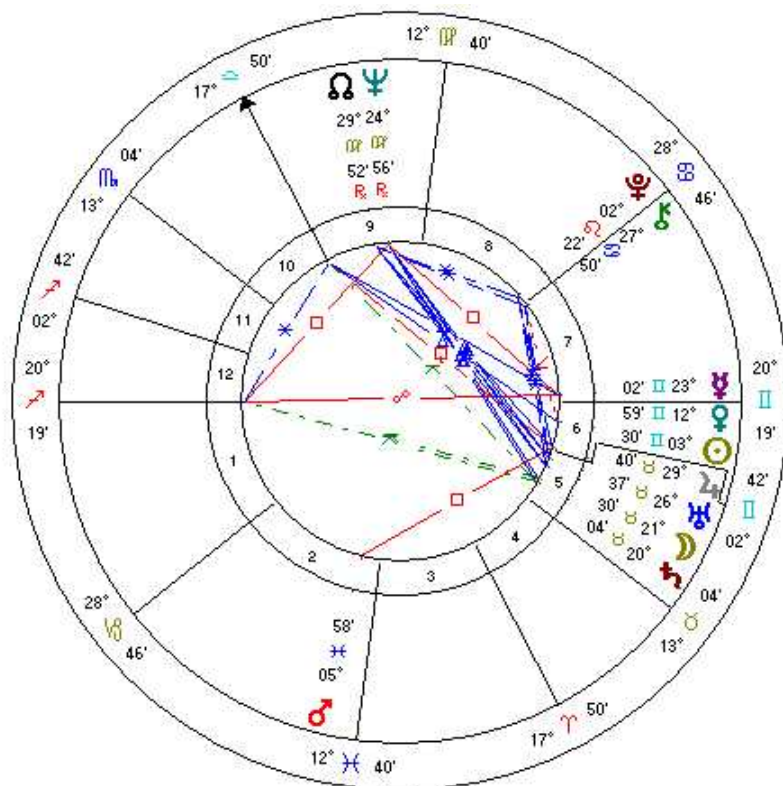
http://womenshistory.about.com/od/quotes/a/mae_west.htm. Date accessed: 3/01/12.

The Shock of the New and the Electric

Bob Dylan has a Moon-Uranus Conjunction in the fifth house of creativity in Taurus and in a tight Stellium bookended by Saturn and Jupiter. He has made his greatest impact through his song writing. Arguably Dylan powerfully demonstrates the heart of an artist.⁷⁴

Dylan with his Moon in Taurus does not like to be pushed. He is well known for fighting back verbally when he feels that he is being hounded, especially in his younger days. The connection with Uranus in his chart is quirkily evident through his highly unusual singing voice.

Bob Dylan
Natal Chart (6)
24 May 1941, Sat
9:05 pm +8:00
Duluth, Minnesota
46°N47' 092°W06'23"
Geocentric
Tropical
Placidus
True Node
Rating: AA



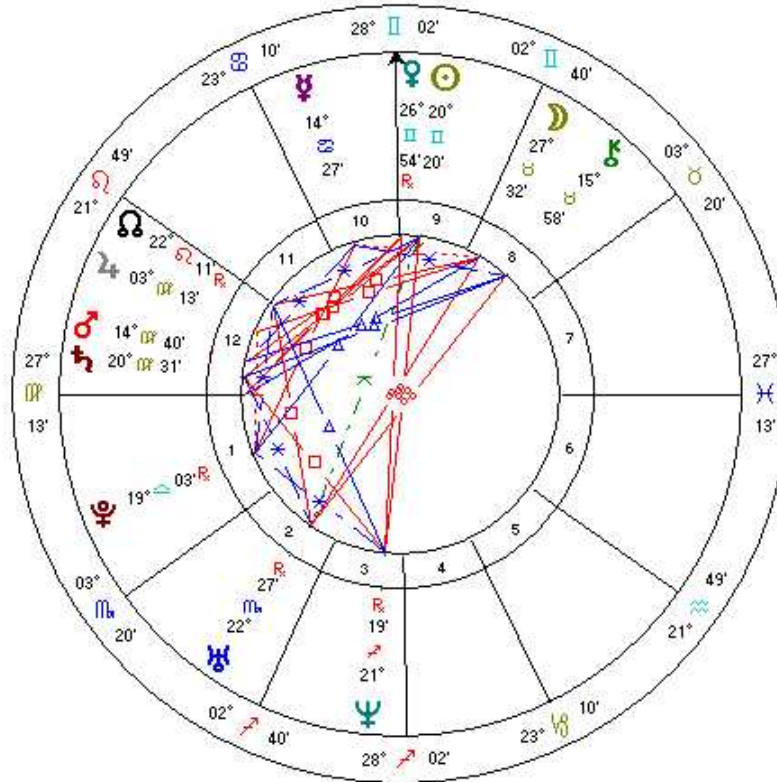
After shocking his audiences with his sudden move from folk to electrified music he shocked his fans once again at about the time of his Uranus Opposition by becoming a born-again Christian. In his typically Uranian rebel voice he said in response (and true to the Trine to both the Moon and Uranus from Neptune in the ninth house):

⁷⁴ Amy Herring, *Astrology of the Moon*, p. 19.

Years ago they....said I was a prophet. I used to say, "No I'm not a prophet" they say "Yes you are, you're a prophet". They used to convince me I was a prophet. Now I come out and say Jesus Christ is the answer. They say, "Bob Dylan's no prophet. They just can't handle it". ⁷⁵

Two Australian Moon-Uranus Victims

Azaria Chamberlain
Female Chart (12)
 11 Jun 1980, Wed
 1:15 pm - 10:00
 Mount Isa, Australia
 20°S44' 139°E30'
 Geocentric
 Tropical
 Placidus
 True Node
 Rating: A



Schapelle Corby and Azaria Chamberlain both have or had their Moon in Taurus opposing Uranus in Scorpio, with Shapelle's Moon in the seventh house of the other. Azaria's Moon was in the eighth house, and her death by dingo was the only theme she was known for in her shocking, short life. Both constellated shocking themes which occupied the public imagination, particularly in Australia, with guilt or innocence⁷⁶hotly debated.

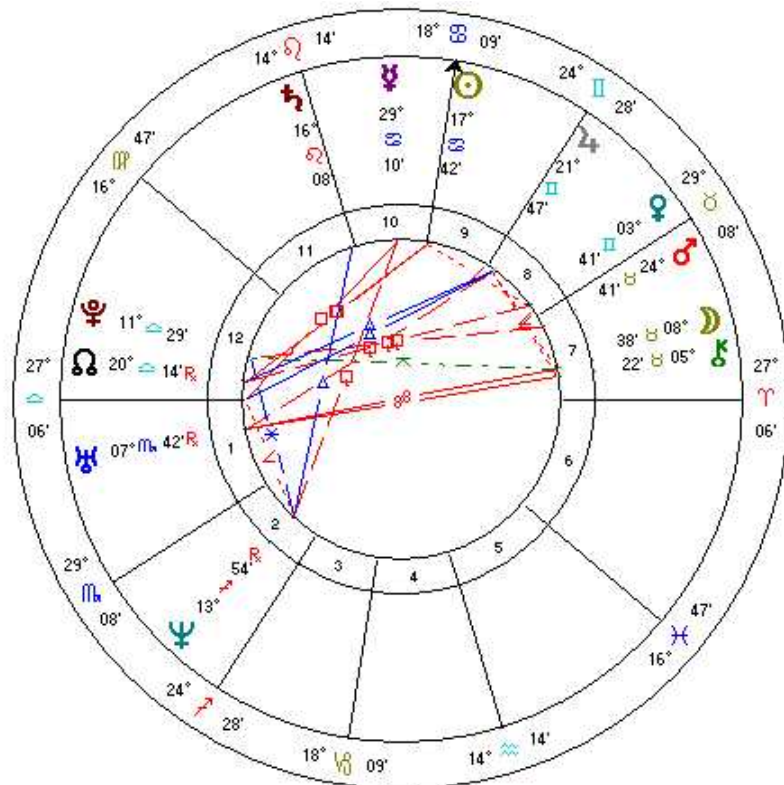
Schapelle Corby was born with an exact Opposition between her Moon in Taurus in the seventh house and Uranus in Scorpio in her first house. The Moon is also conjunct Chiron and she is carrying a lot of wounding that appears to be misplaced from others, including from her family. She has to date served approximately seven years of a 20-years sentence

⁷⁵ Bjorner (June 8, 2001). "Omaha, Nebraska, January 25, 1980" (<http://www.bjprmer.com/DSN05347%201980%20Second%20Gospel%20Tour.htm#DSN05410>). *Bjorner's Still On The Road*. Retrieved September 11, 2008.

⁷⁶ Of course in the case of Azaria it was her mother's guilt or innocence which was so hotly debated.

in a notorious goal in Bali for allegedly attempting to import a large amount (4.2kg) of cannabis in her boogie board. At the time of her arrest (8/10/2004) she was experiencing the progressed Moon's return to its natal place. This young, good looking beautician from the Gold Coast shocked Australia with her arrest and has arguably been driven insane through the shock and injustice of her ordeal since.

Schapelle Corby
Female Chart (5)
 10 Jul 1977, Sun
 11:55 am AEST - 10:00
 Brisbane, Australia
 27°S28' 153°E02'
 Geocentric
 Tropical
 Placidus
 True Node
 Rating: A



I would conclude that it is fairly obvious that she is innocent, a victim of a corrupt legal system in Indonesia and corruption within the Sydney airport security system, after a close reading of her biography.⁷⁷ In fact as recently as July 2011 a Queensland woman claimed the drugs found in her boogie board may have been planted by a Queensland baggage handler who feared that his supervisor might find his 4.2 kg marijuana stash.⁷⁸

Although she was initially presumed innocent, with initial allegations that the drugs had been planted in her boogie board by corrupt baggage handlers in Australia, sympathy for

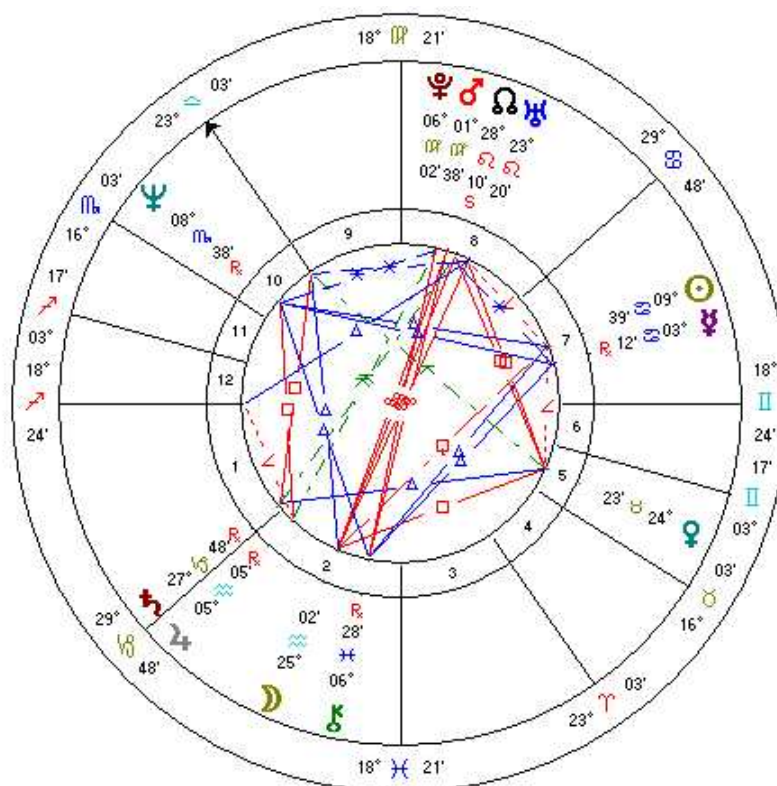
⁷⁷ Schapelle Corby with Kathryn Bonella, *Schapelle Corby: My Story*, Sydney: Pan Macmillan Australia Pty Ltd, 2006.

⁷⁸ Cited on <http://news.ninensn.com.au/national/8267509/new-claims-in-schapelle-corby-case> on 4/01/12.

her case soon evaporated when it became clear that she came from a criminal family with drug connections.

Diana, Princess of Wales

Princess of Wales, Diana
Natal Chart (3)
 1 Jul 1961, Sat
 7:45 pm -1:00
 Sandringham, England
 52°N50° 000°E30'
 Geocentric
 Tropical
 Placidus
 True Node
 Rating: A



Finally the Moon-Uranus contact in Diana, Princess of Wales' chart is particularly interesting. Her sudden death is thematically in keeping with the placement of Uranus in her eighth house, which is also the house in her chart that is ruled by the Moon. This opposed her Moon in Aquarius. With the Moon in the second house she didn't appear to have an objective way to measure her own value⁷⁹ and it could be argued that the associated self consciousness that she demonstrated was part of her imperfect charm that seduced the world. With Leo intercepted in her chart and with Uranus conjunct the North Node in Leo she shook up the British monarchy to the point of threatening the death of the

⁷⁹ Amy Herring, *Astrology of the Moon*, p.56.

monarchy as a respected institution by the British. She apparently opened her heart to the world while exposing the lack of heart in the current British monarchy. Fittingly she is noted for saying in a public broadcast that "I'd like to be a queen of people's hearts. "

This shocking theme has enabled and encouraged a wide ranging exploration starting with life in my own mother's womb. Along with the previous theme of unconventional, it has explored the lives and lasting impact of some groundbreaking, inspiring individuals, as well as a few who have wrought havoc on the world. The shocks described in this chapter have stretched from the pre-natal period to the ongoing legacy of some who are long deceased e.g. William Blake. This is also the first chapter of this thesis to include a focus on the lives of men, all of them famous. It draws a thread back to the first chapter in that some of the shocking events that it describes are also weird, particularly the metaphorical resonances of the violent shocks perpetrated or inspired by Charles Manson and Jim Jones.

Conclusion

In a display of synchronicity I wrote this thesis during the course of a Uranian transformation in my life from public servant to budding astrologer. During the course of penning this tale, I glimpsed the mysterious and magical elements of astrology and was visited by the gods, mainly through my dreams, while exploring the three aspects of Moon-Uranus connections that particularly interest me. Through this process I have been able to deepen my understanding of both what draws me apart and what connects me with my family, my tribe and the human race. At all times the wonder of astrology kept me enchanted.

Chapter one addressed the theme of weird. This is both the most personal chapter of my thesis as well as providing the vehicle for an exploration of the mythology associated with Uranus. I argued that while Uranus is *interesting* in and of itself, its association with the Moon makes this also particularly weird. As this is the theme of the Moon-Uranus tale that I relate to most intensely, it was almost inevitable that my astrological illustration of it focused entirely on my own life experience.

Writing the second chapter helped me to more fully understand the thread that brings together the unconventional women in my family. It also allowed me to make thematic connections through the archives of women who have made or are currently making a significant contribution in the public realm through writing, acting, singer song writing and activism. I viewed this through the lens of what I have come to learn about my own interest in increased control over reproduction, unconventional approaches to the question of motherhood and challenging gender roles. I was able to see how connected this is with the conversation between the Moon and Uranus that is my astrological birthright. It was with great excitement that the connections were there for the picking and were so coincident with the charts of women who I have long found interesting, and whose birth details have been put together on the Solarfire chart database. I was also interested to see the connections that were there with my own interest in race equality.

Finally the theme of shocking proved to be another rich source of exploring Moon-Uranus themes through the lives of some very groundbreaking, creative and indeed shocking individuals, who have experienced and/or initiated shocks that have reverberated throughout the world or at least more broadly in their own communities.

In a somewhat different way I found a sense that in exploring the theme of shock one is entering into another dimension, and I was able to relate profoundly and deeply to this theme through knowledge of my own shocking intrauterine experiences and their echoes in my rational life.

Through this thesis I have done my best to pen a coherent Moon-Uranus tale to draw the themes together, while addressing a disparate topic where emotional disconnection meets synapse like connections.

List of Natal Charts

Name	Source	Accuracy
Gil Dwyer	Solarfire Gold	Father's Diary
Elna Nilsson	Solarfire Gold	Unknown time of birth
Nell Malone	Solarfire Gold	Unknown time of birth
Joie Elwyn Malone	Solarfire Gold	Unknown time of birth
Germaine Greer	Solarfire Gold Database	A rating
Marie Stopes	Solarfire Gold Database	AA rating
K D Lang	Solarfire Gold Database	AA rating
Katherine Hepburn	Solarfire Gold Database	AA rating
Violette Szabo	Solarfire Gold Database	B rating
Charles Manson	Solarfire Gold Database	AA rating
Jim Jones	Solarfire Gold Database	AA rating
William Blake	Solarfire Gold Database	B rating
Salvador Dali	Solarfire Gold Database	B rating
Mae West	Solarfire Gold Database	B rating
Bob Dylan	Solarfire Gold Database	AA rating
Azaria Chamberlain	Solarfire Gold Database	A rating
Schapelle Corby	Solarfire Gold Database	A rating
Princes of Wales, Diana	Solarfire Gold Database	A rating

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Bugliosi, Vincent with Gentry, Curt. *Helter Skelter — The True Story of the Manson Murders 25th Anniversary Edition*, W.W. Norton & Company, 1994. [ISBN 0-393-08700-X](#).

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