

WHERE YOU'VE BEEN: 2005 ECLIPSES				
4/08/05	Solar	19 Aries 06	12 th house	no major, hard aspects within 4 degrees
4/24/05	Lunar	4 Scorpio 13	6 th house	conjunct Neptune, square Midheaven
10/03/05	Solar	10 Libra 19	5 th house *	conjunct Venus
10/17/05	Lunar	24 Aries 07	12 th house	no major, hard aspects within 4 degrees
Important years in this cycle: 2000/01, 1991, 1986, 1982, 1972/73, 1967/68, 1963/64, 1958/59.				

eclipses in the 12th and 6th houses:

crisis in spiritual service

Let the great soul incarnated in some woman's form...go out to service, and sweep chambers and scour floors, and its effulgent daybeams cannot be muffled or hid, but to sweep and scour will instantly appear supreme and beautiful actions, the top and radiance of human life, and all people will get mops and brooms; until, lo! suddenly the great soul has enshrined itself in some other form, and done some other deed, and that is now the flower and head of all living nature.

— Ralph Waldo Emerson "Spiritual Laws"

After the hectic activity of eclipses moving through your first house, this is a time of recuperation and healing. If you've pushed too hard with eclipses in your first house, this may be a time when you become sick or otherwise find yourself in a position of having to rely on others--or on faith. If you initiated or ended a relationship while eclipses were moving through your seventh house, this is the time when you must learn to live with the day-to-day consequences of that decision.

It's not uncommon to experience health problems and work upheavals during this cycle, but the real challenge lies in acknowledging your craving for solitary contemplation while simultaneously engaging in life-sustaining activities (work,

household maintenance). Ideally, you will learn to immerse yourself in work as a kind of spiritual journey, instead of envisioning your spiritual journey as something that occurs in a vacuum, apart from the everyday world.

for reflection...

Did you make a major decision about an important relationship in your life last year? Did you marry, divorce, get engaged, move in with someone, break up?

This year you must adjust to a new routine--one that includes or excludes a partner. Consider what adjustments you were making to your routine in the previous years of this cycle. Were you learning to compromise with a new partner? Negotiating time together? Were you learning how to live alone after a breakup? You may find yourself coping with some of those same issues now, even if your circumstances this time around are completely different (for instance, you might be adjusting to a new spouse, whereas before you may have been recovering from a breakup).

What was the state of your health in prior years of this cycle? Were you tired, burned out? Since the most recent year when this cycle was in effect, have you initiated some kind of health regimen that actually improved your health? This year, while eclipses are in your sixth house, you are again compelled to heed your body's messages. **This is one of the best cycles for instituting positive changes in the way you treat your body.**

Are you happy with the way you are spending your days? Do you greet each morning with a sense of purpose and at least some enthusiasm for the tasks you face? If not, what can you do this year to bring your daily work more in line with your spiritual impulses, with your life's larger mission?

Looking back at previous years in this cycle, you may be able to identify the pivotal turning points that led you to the place where you now find yourself - **your sense of productivity, and of physical and spiritual purpose today** are in some way related to decisions you made then.

**meditation for eclipses in the 12th and 6th houses:
g r o u n d h o g d a y**

I was in the Virgin Islands once. I met a girl. We ate lobster and drank pina coladas. At sunset we made love like sea otters. That was a pretty good day. Why couldn't I get that day over and over and over?

-- Bill Murray as Phil Connors, Groundhog Day

What would you do if you woke up every morning and lived the same day over and over again? This is the conundrum faced by weatherman Phil Connors in the movie *Groundhog Day*. On assignment in rural Pennsylvania to cover the famous groundhog Punxsutawney Phil as he emerges to predict the arrival of spring, the misanthropic Connors finds himself waking to the same bad song on the radio and walking through a day of the same lame conversations and boring situations.

When eclipses fall in the 12th and 6th houses of your chart, you may feel very much like Phil, especially in the first part of the cycle. Every day feels like a bore and a chore, a series of mindless routines with no guiding sense of spiritual purpose. Or at the other extreme, each day is a fog of great intentions and beautiful dreams that evaporate in a haze of dirty dishes, disconnected electric service, and the car you forgot to get repaired. It's hard to save the world when you can't even find your car keys.

The sixth house represents the everyday routines that comprise a good third of our lives; the twelfth house represents the dream state where we spend another third, while we sleep. A third of our lives lived in drudgery, without a sense of spiritual purpose, is the stuff of nightmares, as Phil Connors discovered. But all that spiritual purpose must be balanced with a healthy approach to the minutia of daily life.

After sinking to the depths of depression and self-destructiveness, Phil Connors eventually decides to make good use of his time. Instead of greeting people with

a dismissive snarl, he makes an effort each day to make someone's life better. He masters the piano, learns ice sculpture, and perfects a hundred small, gracious, happy habits that transform each predictable day into something poetic and fulfilling. In respecting the sixth house aspects of life – treasuring each day, no matter how ordinary, and using it to the fullest – he finds twelfth house enlightenment.

This eclipse season, you face the same challenge. What can you do today – no matter how seemingly small or insignificant – to move your life into closer alignment with your most cherished beliefs? How can you better organize the practical challenges of modern life to provide more space for the things that really matter to you? And how can you – like Phil – find a way to bring love and spiritual purpose to everything you do, and everyone you meet, in the course of each day?

eclipses in aspect* to natal planets

** conjunction, opposition, or square within 4 degrees of orb*

eclipses in aspect to venus: crisis of values

Money is a singular thing. It ranks with love as man's greatest source of joy. And with death as his greatest source of anxiety.
-- John Kenneth Galbraith, *The Age of Uncertainty*

What are you worth? What do you value? **Because it is a cycle that compels you to evaluate your self-worth and most cherished values**, eclipses in aspect to Venus often mark moments of crisis in your closest personal relationships. Perhaps you're in a relationship with someone who doesn't value you, or maybe you find yourself for the first time in a relationship that is loving and genuinely nurturing. Either way, you find yourself wondering: Do I deserve this treatment?

Because of the association of Venus with money, this is also a time of reevaluating your relationship with this resource; maybe you pay off your debts completely, or perhaps you overspend to make yourself feel more valuable. If

you have spent yourself into a financial crisis, this is a turning point when you have the opportunity to change direction and take control.

eclipses in aspect to neptune: crisis of faith

It's fear of being afraid that frightens me more than anything else.
-- Jerome Cady, U.S. screenwriter, *The Purple Heart*

Eclipses to Neptune force you to examine your blind spots, to get rid of outmoded beliefs or circumstances, and to see clearly. **Neptune only harms you if you're fooling yourself**—as with the wife who ignores the signs that her husband has strayed, and then is confronted with the indisputable evidence. Or, the man who is disillusioned by his womanizing guru.

What are you afraid of? What is the subject, situation, or type of person that fills you with dread, from which you repeatedly look away? Within that fear there is potential enlightenment that can only be yours when you conquer your nameless, faceless, intangible terrors and look life straight in the eye. It requires a certain amount of faith to step into the shadows and confront your worst fears, and **faith** is something you may question during this cycle. It may help to remember that Neptune's influence is like the process of cleaning a wound: you have to wash away what is already dead and toxic in order for the wound to heal.

eclipses in aspect to the midheaven/IC: crisis in direction

The reputation of a man is like his shadow; it sometimes follows and sometimes precedes him, sometimes longer and sometimes shorter than his natural size.
-- French proverb

Eclipses in hard aspect to the MC/IC axis intensify the message of eclipses falling in the 10th and 4th houses. This often marks a time of **relocation** (IC) or of some significant development in your **career** (MC). Often these transitions will not go smoothly initially, but will eventually work out to very positive advantage! Expect transitions in relationships involving **authority figures**, including

employers, parents, or, if you are a parent yourself, your children (with you, hopefully, in the role of authority figure!).

Since this axis has an inherent tension with the 1st and 7th houses, some of these important developments may be directly connected to your **self-image** (first house) and your **intimate relationships** with others (seventh house). An example might be moving to a new city (IC) because your partner (seventh house) has accepted a new job there.

The Midheaven (MC) describes **how we become known in the world**, and this is not always a deliberate or conscious process. During this cycle you may suddenly achieve some level of fame – or notoriety! – that makes you reevaluate and take more deliberate steps toward crafting an image that is more in keeping with your true self.

Take a moment to recall the major events, themes, and feelings of the following years... Years when solar or lunar eclipses aspected similar planets and houses of your natal chart as the eclipses this year. Use the paragraphs on the preceding pages of this section to help stimulate your memory about general areas of life that may have been in a state of flux during these years.

In the words of Mark Twain, "History doesn't repeat itself, but it does rhyme." Cycles of astrology sometimes require us to dig deep to find the connections between seemingly unrelated events. Often, two entirely different kinds of events at very different stages of life can nonetheless awaken very similar emotions — in the case of eclipse cycles, these are often emotions of apprehension or its twin: excitement.

1958/59 (Your ages: _____)

1963/64 (Your ages: _____)

1967/68 (Your ages: _____)

1972/73 (Your ages: _____)

1982 (Your age: _____)

1986 (Your ages: _____)

1991 (Your age: _____)

2000/01 (Your age: _____)

