

FERTILITY, INFERTILITY and ASTROLOGY

This is an area that many astrologers have dabbled with, yet little written material exists, and, to the best of my knowledge, hardly any studies have been conducted regarding some of the new infertility procedures and how they can be related to astrology and the so-called *astrological fertility cycle*. In other words, is there any way astrology can be of help? It is a fascinating new realm opening up but like all areas where medicine and astrology intersect, it needs to be approached with **great caution**. Though I have worked with conception charts and related fields for more than 20 years, I am learning something new with every horoscope, and as the medical field pioneers different methods day after day, to the point where a woman can even give birth after menopause...we in the astrological world have to keep step. Thus regard this lecture only as an overture, with the opera still to be written.

First of all we need to divide this topic into three parts:

- 1) **BIRTH CONTROL** as based on the astrological *Fertility Cycle*
- 2) **THE BEST TIME TO BECOME PREGNANT**, based on the astrological *Fertility Cycle*, as well as on the woman's natural ovulation.
- 3) **PREGNANCY CHARTS** based on working with the latest medical techniques in child conception, the fertility cycle and electional techniques.

THE FERTILITY CYCLE:

The ancients established that in a woman's chart there seemed to be a connection between fertility and the **distance of the Sun to the Moon**. Just as the female body goes through a menstrual cycle, so the natal chart seems to indicate those times when a woman is most receptive to pregnancy, namely that moment

approximately once a month when the Sun is at the same distance from the Moon as it is at birth. For example, if your natal Sun is at 15 Cancer 40 and your natal Moon at 23 Scorpio 55, the distance between the luminaries is 4 signs, 8 degrees and 15 minutes. About every 4 weeks (or 29 1/2 days) the Sun and Moon will be at that point where they are separated by said 4 signs, 8 degrees and 15 minutes. degrees and 15 minutes.

Dr. Eugen Jonas, a Czechoslovakian gynecologist and astrologer, worked with this cycle in his astrological birth control clinic for many years and supposedly helped people to conceive as well as prevent conception. This latter theory was particularly intriguing to modern couples who wanted to freely pursue sexual activities without resorting to such intrusive measures as birth control pills or interuterine devices.

1) BIRTH CONTROL

Some astrologers have assumed that if you know the day of your greatest fertility, by adding two or three days before and after, you have secured a fertile period and therefore the remaining days of the cycle should be infertile and safe. **Please understand right up front that this method of birth control is totally unreliable and not recommended.**

a) In today's world where the average woman has taken many artificial substances, from asperin to birth control pills, there are very few whose natural cycle still coincides with her astrological one and the expected 'safe' times may be just when her physical ovulation takes place, therefore hardly a safe time.

b) Even if you are fortunate enough to be in synchronicity with nature, nobody can predict exactly how long it takes the semen to travel up the birth canal to inseminate the egg. At times it can "lay in waiting" in the tubal area for as

long as 48 hours. In fact some doctors report that they know of cases where insemination took as much as 60 hours, thus the safe day count can be way off. In other words, do not use this cycle to ensure birth control.

2) THE BEST TIME TO BECOME PREGNANT

So why do I burden you with all of this useless knowledge? Because the other side of the coin, namely the best time to get pregnant, has proven to be very helpful. I have worked with the astrological fertility cycle for many years and have had lots of positive results. Please understand, this has NOTHING to do with the BIRTH or BIRTHCHART of the child, only with the PREGNANCY. Also in these days of late in life pregnancies, realize that this cycle can only succeed if both parents are physically able to conceive and not in need of any medical procedures.

In the 20 years that I have used the fertility cycle I have had many successes; I have also had failures and more than anything else, I have learned to greatly respect nature and I am sure that if something does not succeed, it is often because it is not supposed to succeed. Therefore I never promise results, I only offer to try and help to the best of my ability. The nicest part of this astrological method is that the client does not have to undergo any medical routine; there are no pills to be taken, no diets to adhere to...the only demand is to have intercourse at a certain time of the day, and that is rarely deemed a hardship. As a result I have been able to make quite a few astrological and psychological deductions which have helped many clients achieve viable pregnancies.

The mechanics of calculating fertility cycles are very easy, ACS will send you the dates and times for one year, some astrological software, (Pathfinder for example) has a "Fertility" program, and if you have nothing better to do, you

can figure it manually, like we did b.c. (before computers!) You can see a sample of my fertility data sheet below. It prints out 13 dates for one year and the time on that day at which the fertility peaks, which of course is the exact moment when the Sun and Moon are equi-distant to their position a birth. Once you have the 13 dates and times, you calculate horoscopes for all of them. Be sure to use the time zone your client will be in for the year, and if the couple travel, adjust the times given accordingly.

Natural ovulation, the time when the egg is ready to be impregnated, lasts about one day; most doctors figure around 20 hours. To be on the safe side, I tighten the astrological period to 12-14 hours or 6-7 hours on each side of the given time. After carefully studying the charts, I consult with the client as to which of the 13 possible days are deemed good, which are fair to middling and which I consider problematic, such as squares from the Moon to Mars, Uranus or Saturn.

The Rules for interpreting a fertility chart are also very simple. This is, in its own way, a type of Electional chart, and since we are dealing with conception, everything is based on the Moon. Primarily, you must check all the applying aspects the Moon makes until it leaves the sign it is in, and secondarily, but not necessarily, the aspects it makes to the natal chart. Avoid squares from the Moon; oppositions are not as bad, but can bring opposing views and occasional strife, so if you can sidestep them, do. Quincunxes are much less bothersome in electional astrology, than they are natally. But they can demand adjustments, something not always easy to make, or some form of reorganization. If I can find a way around this aspect, I will. Since learning is easiest with examples, let's look at a fertility cycle I ran for a client way back in 1976.

My client (chart #1) had been married for 2 years. She had worn an inter-uterine coil which had led to bleeding. Once it was removed, somehow she could

Pathfinder Fertility Chart for:

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M,

March 6, 1951 02:48:00 AM (8)
LOS ANGELES SPECIAL, CA 118:W:15:0-34:N:4:0

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08-24-1976 at: 03h27m20s

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09-22-1976 at: 13h45m33s

*

10-21-1976 at: 23h45m58s

*

11-20-1976 at: 09h52m11s

*

12-19-1976 at: 20h11m06s

*

01-18-1977 at: 06h50m41s

*

02-16-1977 at: 18h14m21s

*

03-18-1977 at: 06h53m23s

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04-16-1977 at: 21h02m14s

*

05-16-1977 at: 12h20m27s

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06-15-1977 at: 04h01m43s

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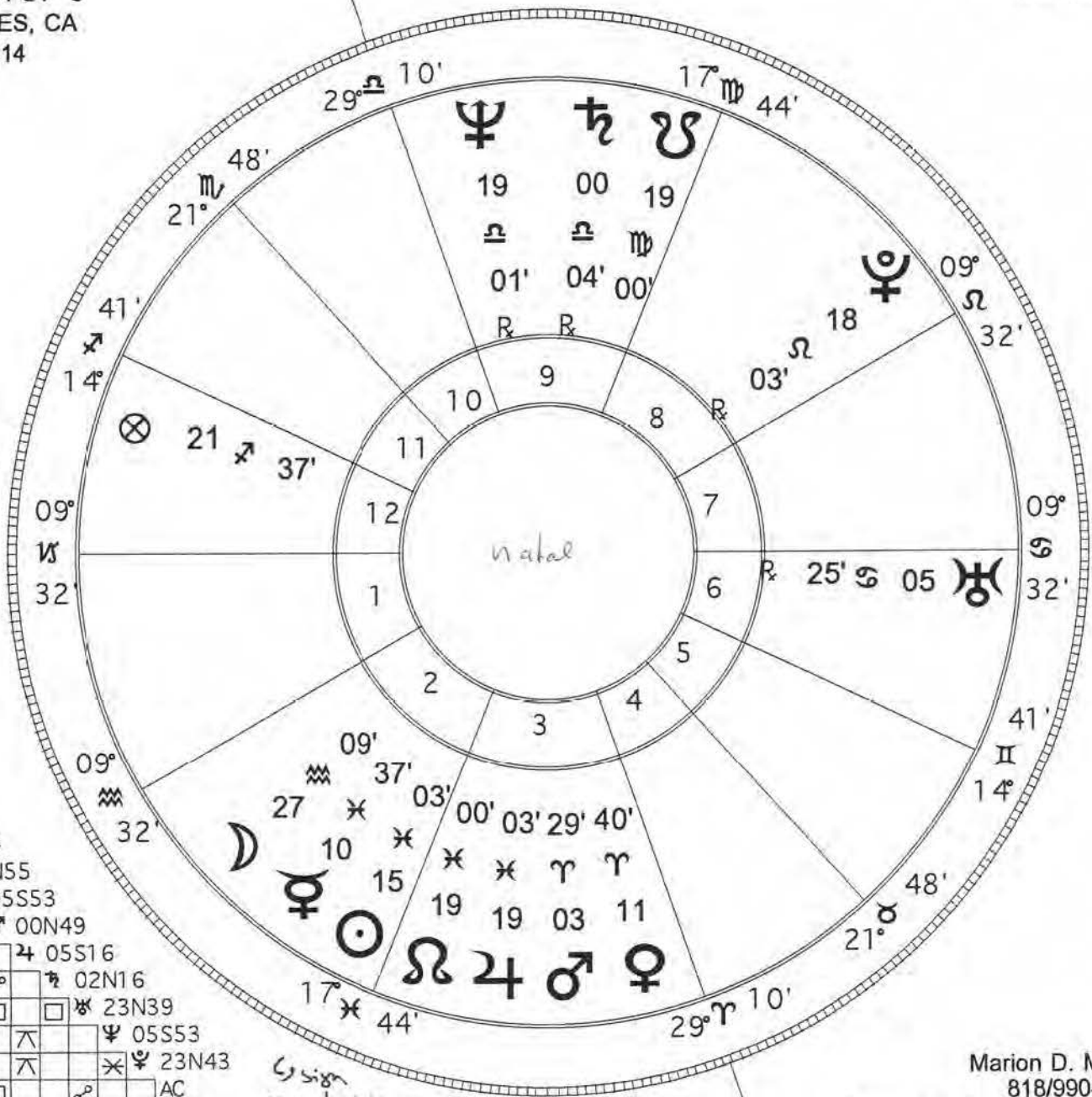
07-14-1977 at: 19h21m09s

*

08-13-1977 at: 09h55m37s

March 6, 1951
 02:48:00 AM PST 8
 LOS ANGELES, CA
 34N03 118W14

Geocentric
 Tropical Zodiac
 Koch Houses



D 14S18

☐	♀	09S24
☐	♀	03N55
☐	♂	05S53
☐	♂	00N49
☐	♂	05S16
☐	♂	02N16
☐	♂	23N39
☐	♂	05S53
☐	♂	23N43
☐	♂	AC
☐	♂	MC

sign
 my subsign.

Only Earth on Asc. - 0 angular

Client's name
 Birth Name
 Profession
 Nationality
 Home Phone #
 Fax Phone #
 E-Mail
 Educational Degree
 Eye Color
 Handedness
 Race
 Married
 Children
 Notes -1
 Notes -2
 Source of Data
 Classification(Rodden)

American
 nurse practitioner
 Ph.d.
 blue
 lt
 white
 yes
 2
 from BC
 AA

Asc 10° 13' 13"
 MC 10° 13' 13"
 ♀ 12° 12'

Marion D. March
 818/990-1010
 Pathfinder Astrology System

♂ 0° 3' 3"
 ♀ 12° 12'

♂ 19° 19'
 ♀ 18° 18'
 ♀ 15° 15'

Last Modified Date: 11-27-1991-@-15:02

not seem to get pregnant. She had also moved from California to Switzerland, which had added physical and emotional stress, often a reason for not being able to conceive. As I do with every client, I **also** counseled that she **follow** her **natural ovulation** with a temperature chart (or whichever way her doctor suggested) and that she take advantage of that day as well. The procedure was very successful and got **pregnant with the third date given**, October 21, 1976 and had a **healthy baby boy** born July 10, 1977.

In July 1978 had a gynecological checkup and was told that her uterus was dropping and that she had the choice of an operation or another pregnancy which would enable the doctors to fix the problem at the time of birth. She opted for pregnancy and contacted me. [**Natal chart** **here**]

Printout of fertility days and times for , one year starting August 1978:

Fertility Chart for Monte Carlo, MONACO:

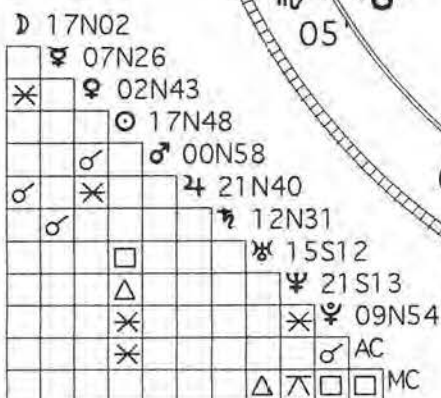
08-02-1978 at: 11h40m14s (-1) (-1)
09-01-1978 at: 03h38m04m (-1) (-1) 29 1/2
09-30-1978 at: 19h52m44s (-1) (-1) 29 1/2
10-30-1978 at: 10h33m08s (-1)
11-29-1978 at: 00h56m28s (-1)
12-28-1978 at: 13h46m19s (-1)
01-27-1979 at: 01h09m43s (-1)
02-25-1979 at: 11h22m40s (-1)
03-26-1979 at: 20h42m16s (-1)
04-25-1979 at: 06h31-47s (-1) (-1)
05-24-1979 at: 15h29m21s (-1) (-1)
06-23-1979 at: 01h27m30s (-1) (-1)
07-22-1979 at: 13h19m54s (-1) (-1)

The first chart on this list is for August 2, 1978 at 11h40m14s am MET (-1 zone) for Monte Carlo, Monaco, her new place of residence. My computer program automatically accounts for daylight time, some programs do not. Please watch out for those time changes. **(See fertility #1)**. Although computers and software programs are most reliable, we who input the data are humans and as such do err.

PLEASE, make sure that the distance between Sun and Moon is the same as it is

Suggest 4-6 am

Very Good



Client's name
Birth Name
Profession
Nationality
Home Phone #
Fax Phone #
E-Mail
Educational Degree
Eye Color
Handedness
Race
Married
Children
Notes -1
Notes -2
Source of Data
Classification(Rodden)

2024 * 9 * 3

$\mathcal{D}$ in her u. 7th π her $\mathcal{D}$

① 2H (3 wks or more) 14 - in total 2H

about as perfect a D as you can find in a fertile channel
for instance G-8 hrs before 11:40. But don't wait too long
since D-2 is good for pregnancy

Last Modified Date:

Husband out of town!

Fertility #1
 September 1, 1978
 03:38:04 AM Zone -1DT
 MONTE CARLO, MONACO
 43N45 007E25

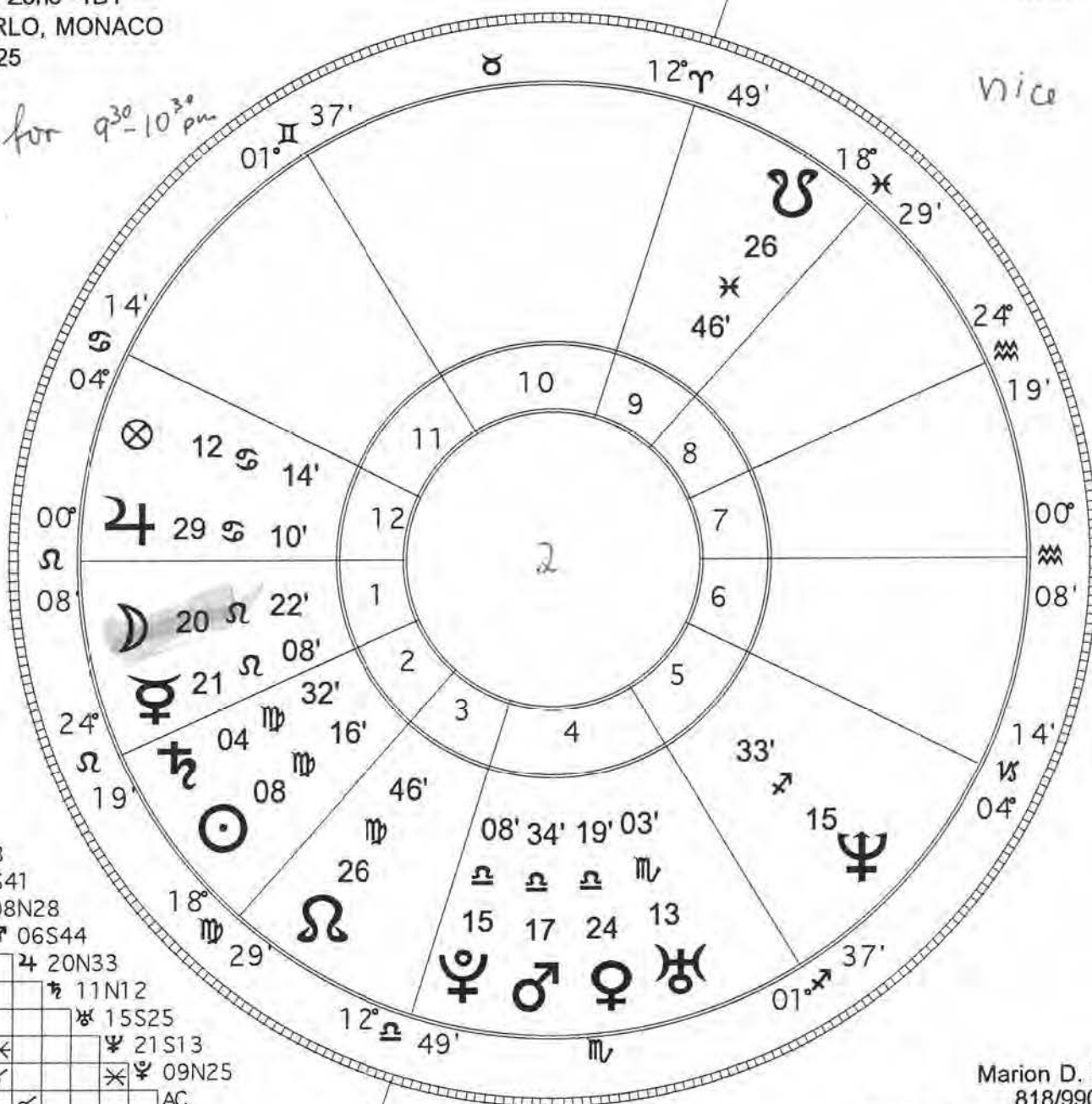
Geocentric
 Tropical Zodiac
 Koch Houses

try for 9³⁰-10³⁰ pm

nice

D 11N43

♂	♀	13N28
✕	✕	♀ 11S41
		☉ 08N28
✕	✕	♂ 06S44
	☐	♂ 20N33
	♂	♂ 11N12
	✕	♂ 15S25
△	△	♂ 21S13
	♂	♂ 09N25
	☐	♂ AC
	♂	♂ MC



Marion D. March
 818/990-1010
 Pathfinder Astrology System

Client's name
 Birth Name
 Profession
 Nationality
 Home Phone #
 Fax Phone #
 E-Mail
 Educational Degree
 Eye Color
 Handedness
 Race
 Married
 Children
 Notes -1
 Notes -2
 Source of Data
 Classification(Rodden)

☉ 20° 22' ♉

(make sure to avoid ☐ ♉ = 7° or 14 hrs prior)

☉ ♉ 47° ♉ (7 months)

☉ in n. 8th of ☉ (past 6 hrs)

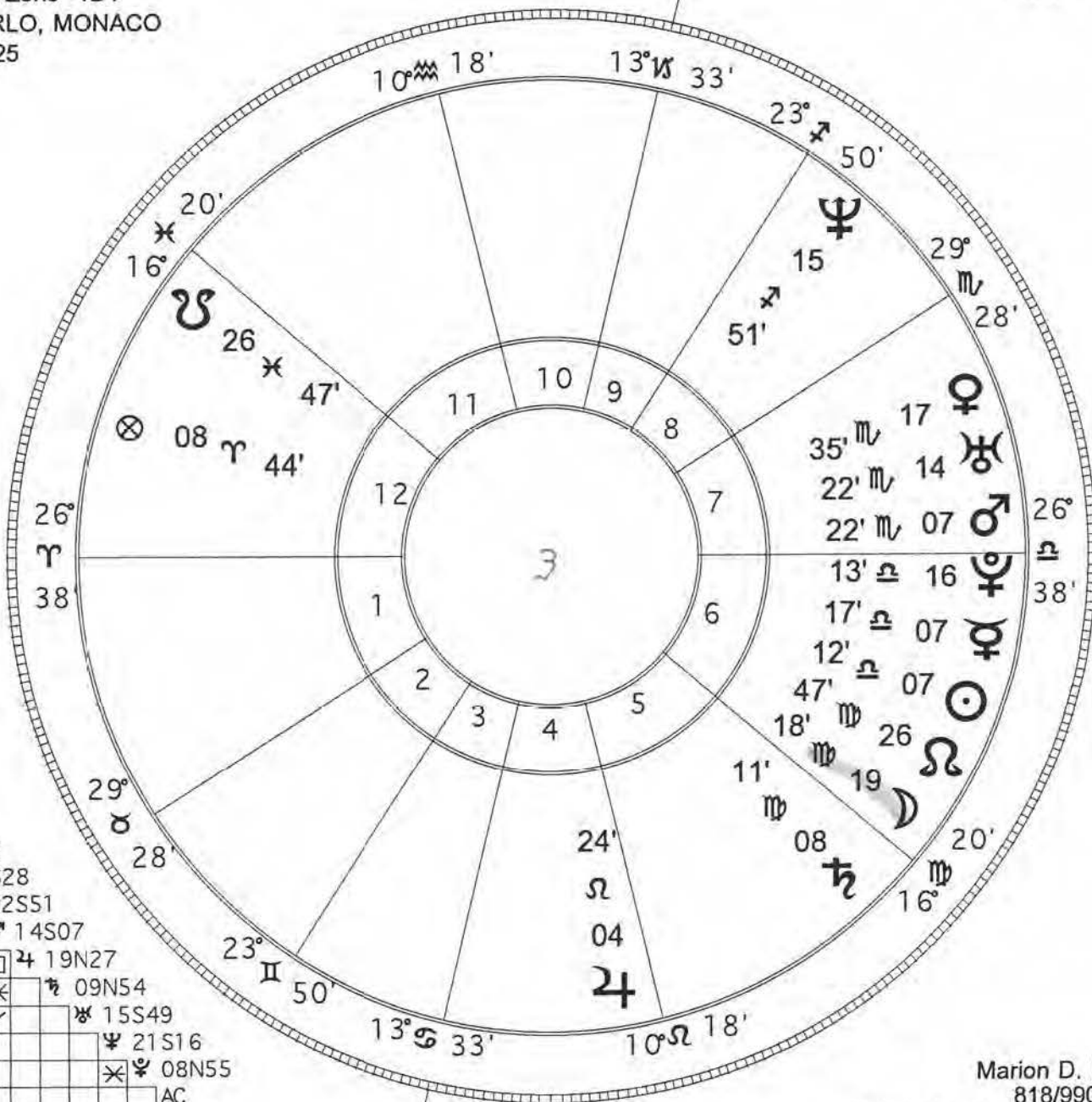
observe ☉ ☐ ♉ (7° or 14 hrs earlier)

she did not feel pregnant

Last Modified Date:

Fertility #3
 September 30, 1978
 07:52:44 PM Zone -1DT
 MONTE CARLO, MONACO
 43N45 007E25

Geocentric
 Tropical Zodiac
 Koch Houses



D	03N35
☐	♀ 01S42
☒	♀ 22S28
☐	♂ 02S51
☐	♂ 14S07
☒	☒ 4 19N27
☐	☒ 09N54
☒	☐ 15S49
☐	♂ 21S16
☐	☒ 08N55
☐	AC
☒	☒ MC

Marion D. March
 818/990-1010
 Pathfinder Astrology System

Client's name
 Birth Name
 Profession
 Nationality
 Home Phone #
 Fax Phone #
 E-Mail
 Educational Degree
 Eye Color
 Handedness
 Race
 Married
 Children
 Notes -1
 Notes -2
 Source of Data
 Classification(Rodden)

19 my void - try earlier
 try for 2x ♀ (less than 2° or 3 3/4 hr)
 erect new chart

Last Modified Date:

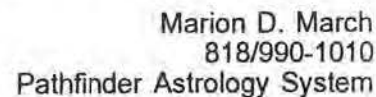
in the natal chart. 's natal separation is 17 degrees and 54 minute minutes. It should be the same in every fertility chart you calculate for her. The distance from the Moon at 21 Cancer 51 to the Sun at 9 Leo 45 is 17 degrees 54 minutes. (A 1 minute difference can exist, because most computers do not print out seconds for the Sun or Moon, so it is automatically rounded up or down, which can account for an occasional 1 minute disparity.)

In analyzing **Chart #1**, we see that the Moon will conjunct Jupiter, sextile Venus and Mars - about as perfect a Moon as you can find in a fertility chart. Intercourse should be alright anytime within 6 to 8 hours before 11:40 am, but not after lest you want to miss the Moon/Jupiter conjunction, a great aspect for a pregnancy. Though this was my favorite chart for the year, 's husband was out of town...

Chart #2's Leo Moon will conjunct Mercury and sextile Venus. Very nice. The only difficult aspect, a square to Uranus, would take place 14 hours earlier and could easily be avoided. All was well, but did not get pregnant, not at that time or during her physical ovulation which was one week off from the astrological cycle.

Chart #3 has a Virgo Moon which is Void of Course, since neither the conjunction to the North Node or quincunx to the Ascendant can be counted as planetary aspects. We have to try and get the Moon back to 17 Virgo 30 where it will sextile Venus. 1 degree 50 minutes should be a bit less than 4 hours, thus we'll erect a chart for 4:00 pm. (See Chart #3a) Now the Moon is at 17 Virgo 18 and will sextile Venus before it leaves the sign. Whereas there was a large time window in charts #1 and #2, we are more restricted in chart #3 where intercourse should be completed before 4:00 pm, yet not so early as to catch the square to Neptune at 15 Sagittarius 52, which takes place at 1:15 pm. did

Geocentric
Tropical Zodiac
Koch Houses



$\gg 17 \text{ mg} \times \phi$

on cusp of n. 9th $\phi 24$

avoid $\square$ to ϕ

here we have to be careful $\gg \square \phi$ is at 1^{15} pm so
 I suggested a "norm"

she did not get pregnant

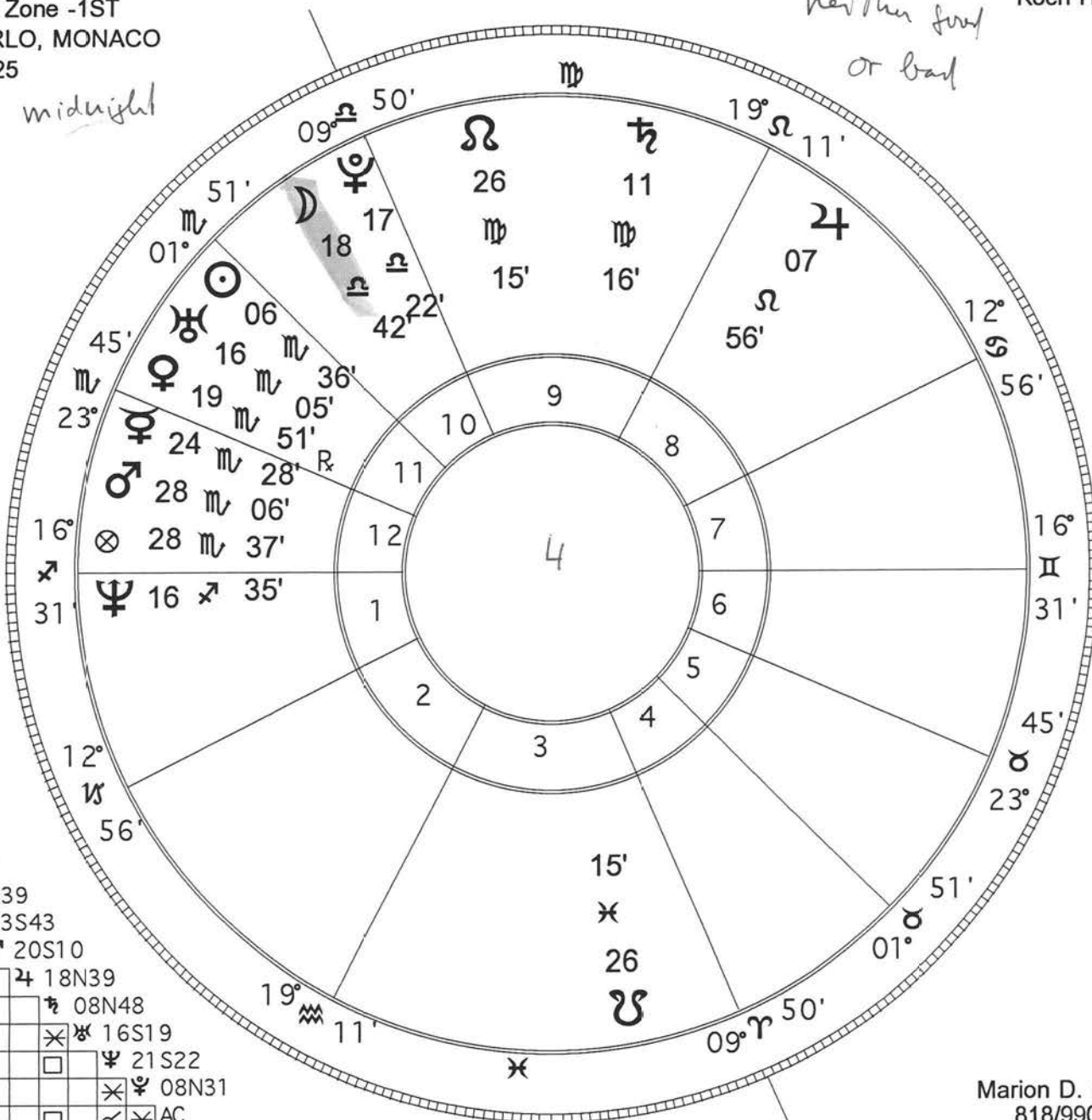
Last Modified Date:

Fertility #4
 October 30, 1978
 10:33:08 AM Zone -1ST
 MONTE CARLO, MONACO
 43N45 007E25

Geocentric
 Tropical Zodiac
 Koch Houses

try for midnight

neither good
 or bad



D	05S30
☐	♀ 20S41
☐	♂ 23S39
☐	☉ 13S43
☐	♂ 20S10
☐	♂ 18N39
☐	♂ 08N48
☐	♂ 16S19
☐	♂ 21S22
☐	♂ 08N31
☐	♂ AC
☐	MC

Marion D. March
 818/990-1010
 Pathfinder Astrology System

Client's name
 Birth Name
 Profession
 Nationality
 Home Phone #
 Fax Phone #
 E-Mail
 Educational Degree
 Eye Color
 Handedness
 Race
 Married
 Children
 Notes -1
 Notes -2
 Source of Data
 Classification(Rodden)

Dis 42 void (just x to ♀ + ♀ + ♂) fills in n. 9H & ♀

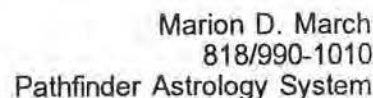
4 hrs earlier ♀ ♀ + then it would ♂ ♀ ♀ is a? in pregnancy
 it stands for procreation
 and reproduction
 BUT very intense

at 13 ♀ rising

she did not try
 for some reason
 felt ill or something

Last Modified Date:

Geocentric
Tropical Zodiac
Koch Houses



D 17S45

	♀	22S22							
	♀	19S47							
		⊙	18S39						
	♂	♂	20S03						
♂	♂	♂	♂	4	19N57				
△	□				♀	08N29			
✕					♂	17S35			
	♂				□	♀	21S39		
□	✕				✕	♀	08N29		
		□	□	□				AC	
	△	♂				△			MC

09 +

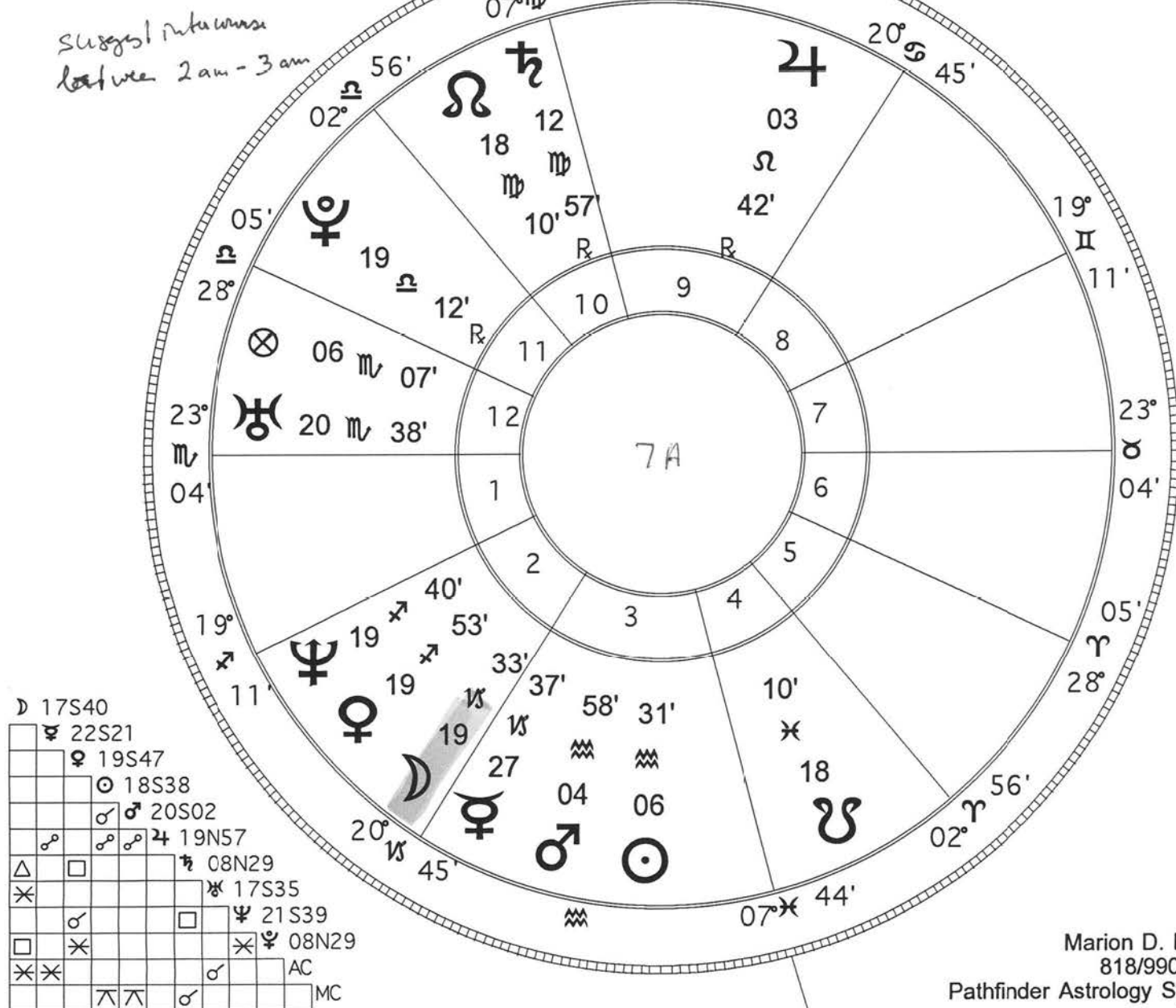
218 15 33 $\frac{0.2}{1 \times 3.14}$ (24/10) 55

3 in natal 1st
□ 4 × 2 ♂ 3x

we must avoid $\square$ if at all possible
it becomes exact at 2¹² am or 1 hr after forthly
erect a new chart. But careful not to go too far past
v. of eyes more than 6 hrs past the point

Last Modified Date:

Geocentric Tropical Zodiac Koch Houses



Marion D. March
818/990-1010
Pathfinder Astrology System

Client's name
Birth Name
Profession
Nationality
Home Phone #
Fax Phone #
E-Mail
Educational Degree
Eye Color
Handedness
Race
Married
Children
Notes -1
Notes -2
Source of Data
Classification(Rodden)

2 19 12 33 * 7 1 5 0

2 in 1st σ^0 H_2

① must aspect very far ($13^{\circ}-14^{\circ}$)

rule of vs is $\frac{1}{2}$ / $\frac{1}{5}$ at 13 mg L⁴ at 20 $\uparrow$ (7 wks or months)
 turned out to be wrong. she could not sit for 4 weeks
 at 8th month it was over (2x3rd, I guess)

Also became conceptor / pregnancy chart

Last Modified Date:

MARION D. MARCH
16188 ROYAL OAK ROAD
ENCINO, CALIFORNIA 91436

November 20, 1996

Dear,

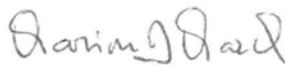
Enclosed is the list of the 13 dates when your astrological cycle is in effect. Please note that the exact times for intercourse are given and unfortunately it becomes **very important** to stay within the parameters of time given. This is particularly significant since you have not gotten pregnant so far, and that your natal horoscope has an approaching Moon/Sun square, which repeats at every fertility cycle; this square could indicate difficulties in becoming pregnant, and it is my job to avoid it by looking for a bit earlier times. That was not always possible, and therefore there are three occasions where I had to go past the fertility moment and give you two different times for the same date. Thank God this is not a prescription where you take pills, or get shots, so I hope that intercourse twice in relatively close proximity, is not too hard a chore.

We have briefly talked on the telephone about this *Astrological Fertility Cycle* but I would like to put much of it in writing for your better understanding: The comments at the end of each date (i.e. nice, o.k. or NOT good) mean that a pregnancy or chances of getting pregnant are nice, or o.k. or whatever. "Ify" applies mainly to astrological phenomena which leave me in doubt that at that point in time any pregnancy could take place, regardless how hard I may try to help. NOT good means just that, though you might get pregnant, chances are not very good for an easy pregnancy, in fact there could be complications. Since this occurs only 4 out of 13 times, you have enough choices with 9 others dates to choose.

There are a few thoughts I usually like to pass on to my clients. Some men love to be part of this game and have no problems performing 'on cue.' Others will participate but feel kind of silly, in which case it might be fun to make this a real event, like a celebration with wine and good food or whatever occasion it may be, depending on the time involved and what seems fun to you and your hubby. Some men hate all of this, in which case it may be best NOT TO TELL YOUR HUSBAND until afterwards and let him be happy or surprised that you are the initiator.

Since you have never had an abortion and have not been medically examined, thus not aware if either you or your husband have any possible blockage, please see a doctor as soon as possible should you not get pregnant, especially after the June date. There are so many specialists in this field nowadays and they can give you all kinds of options. So please let me know how you fare with the above 'easy' method, and should that not work, I'll try and help you with the next step. In the meantime please call me should you have any questions.

Good luck


Marion D. March

Subj: Pursuit of Fertility..

Date: 96-06-05 10:16:32 EDT

From:

To: MARIONMARC

Hello Marion-

I just wanted to say that I enjoyed reading your article on Fertility, Infertility and Astrology Part 1 on Astronet, and was glad to find it. I had read Part 2 in Aspects Magazine, and found it helpful in understanding more about this issue from the astrological perspective. I have undergone the medical infertility process itself, and was unsuccessful at it, and even worse, sorely lacking in the emotional resolution aspect of the treatment itself, particularly in light of a "cause unknown" diagnosis. Of all the good advice in your article, the best in my opinion is the respect for nature, if it is not supposed to happen it wont approach! The real tragedy of the infertility issue for those who are not successful is the reconciliation and healing involved so one can move beyond the issue successfully in light of constant reminders within our culture, society, and families. We need more coping strategies in this regard that are effective. My way was to approach it from a broader understanding in an objective way, and astrology for me has been not only very healing, but a way to focus unemotionally on the issue, while the emotional internal healing process continues, and as all grief processes go- happens in time and time alone. It is a wonderful thing for the astrologer to put the focus on acceptance of the natural process, when there are so many external sources as doctors, families, etc. presenting the next option to consider which only delays the healing process. It is very hard to finally say..NO MORE..and live with it forever. But it can be done, and I know because I've done it. Life is so short, and when we make ourselves miserable with this ONE issue, we miss so much of what is all around us to appreciate in the here and now! So I just wanted to say..keep up the good work..help your clients with the healing process, and I will be looking forward to more on the topic by the best astrologers and how they best recommend healing the issue!

Best Regards- and Thanks Again:)))!!

not get pregnant.

In **Chart #4** the Moon is at 18 Libra 43, where it will semi-sextile Venus and Mercury, nothing else. Semi-sextiles are not considered major aspects in this type of astrology, thus the Moon again would be considered void of course. About 4 hours earlier it sextiled Neptune and the Ascendant, but then its first aspect would be a conjunction to Pluto, not my favorite aspect in other type of election charts as Pluto's intensity can be a bit overwhelming, but acceptable in pregnancy where Pluto stands for procreation and reproduction. None of these aspects are bad enough to discourage a pregnancy, nor good enough to encourage it - I consider this a neutral chart, not particularly good or bad. opted not to try for another reason.

We don't have time to discuss all 13 charts, suffice it to say that in **Chart #7** the Moon at 18 Capricorn would sextile Uranus and conjunct Mercury, after making a square to Pluto. In order to avoid that square, intercourse should take place after 2:45 am (**See Chart #7a**) but before 7:00 am, since not more than six hours should elapse after the the actual high point of fertility. got pregnant and had a healthy little baby girl on October 12, 1979.

Odds and Ends You may run across charts with lots of nice lunar action and then suddenly a troublesome Uranus square or Saturn opposition. Remember, this is not the chart of the future child but of the actual pregnancy. Unfortunately I have learned that difficult Saturn and Uranus aspects can show up as troubled pregnancies. Therefore I take quite a bit of time to discuss possible options with my clients and leave the final decision to them. Sometimes just being very careful at certain times (no stepladders, swan dives, mountain treks) is all that's needed. Please realize that you, the astrologer, are there to advise and to help, not to live the client's life.

Of course I discuss all 13 charts with my client, including potential problems. We also talk about the fact that some men have problems performing on command at a specific time. I usually advise her not to share the time schedule with her mate or I may suggest that they have a party or somehow celebrate the event, anything to avoid stiffness or embarrassment.

Basically I pay very little attention to anything but the Moon in the chart, but once the client becomes pregnant, I try to ascertain a few other clues regarding the pregnancy. In chart #7 & 7a, for example, the Moon is in Capricorn therefore Saturn assumes greater importance. One of its more difficult aspects, a square to Neptune, takes place within 6 3/4 degrees, translating into 6 3/4 days, weeks or months. I do tell my client about such aspects, recommending less strenuous activities or whatever the case may be. With 's nothing happened after 6 3/4 days or weeks, but in her 7th months the baby had shifted and for nearly 4 weeks she had trouble sitting comfortably.

Can we predict the baby's gender?

Two questions I hear again and again: "Can we predict anything about the baby from the conception chart?" And "Can we predict the baby's gender?" After carefully comparing about 95 birth and conception charts, not an in depth study of thousands, but enough for a start, I must say that I see NOTHING that links one chart with the other. Not the conception Moon to the natal, the Ascendant to the luminaries or any other links between the conception chart and the birth chart of the child. All we can see is the actual nine months of pregnancy.

As to predetermining the baby's gender - the answer is yes and no. If you look at the conception chart (#7a) of January 27, 1979, you will note that the Moon was in Capricorn, a 'female' sign astrologically speaking. If insemination takes place while the Moon is in Aries, Gemini, Leo, Libra, Sagittarius or

Aquarius, all masculine signs, the baby should be male, while in Taurus, Cancer, Virgo, Scorpio, Capricorn or Pisces, the feminine signs, it should be female. But, as previously stated, we do not know when insemination takes place; it can take the semen more than 48 hours to fertilize an egg and in that time span the Moon may have entered the next sign. The answer at best is "maybe," but it was the reason _____ did not try intercourse on October 30th where the Moon was in Libra, a male sign. Though she would have welcomed any child, since they already had a little boy, she was hoping her second child would be a girl.

Some technical facts you may note in scanning a series of charts for one year: The Moon is always in the next sign, and always a bit earlier than the time before. (21 Cancer in August, 20 Leo September 1st, 19 Virgo September 30th, 18 Libra 43 in October, etc.) This is the normal pattern for fertility charts. This cycle we used went from Moon at 28 Cancer to 17 Cancer. These technicalities are significant when working with medical procedures.

Sometimes of the 13 "fertility" dates that occur in a one year period, only one or two are really favorable. This unfortunately can happen and, in fact, once I had to tell a client that the year she had chosen had but one 'good' date.

As I mentioned before, the astrological fertility cycle and the actual ovulation are often at different times. In fact sometimes the astrological cycle coincides with the woman's menstruation. I came across this phenomena early on in handling fertility charts. A 30 year old client had tried to get pregnant for one year. Two of the dates I figured coincided with her menstruation. She and her husband had intercourse and she got pregnant. The doctor to this day does not understand how it could possibly happen. I don't know the answer, but I have since urged many of my clients not to let anything stop them. After all, it can't hurt and it may work, it has twice already in my limited practice.

In the seventies and early eighties I calculated many successful fertility charts, but in those simpler days, before complex conception methods became popular or affordable, I also had some failures. Some clients came back two or three years in a row without good results. I felt terrible for them, especially since doctors in those days offered little help and the fertility cycle was like their last chance. Then one day, actually my first case was in 1983, a client wanted to know if I could help astrologically to assure an in-vitro fertilization, since the cost each time was \$10,000 and so far two in-vitros had failed to bring the desired results. And this brings us to:

3) PREGNANCIES THROUGH NEW MEDICAL PROCEDURES

What I have learned since 1984 is relatively uncomplicated - the medical procedures are awesomely difficult, the astrological methodology is very simple.

Medical: Approximately 5 million Americans of varying socioeconomic profiles suffer from infertility, meaning they have been unable to conceive a child after one year of unprotected, regular intercourse.

Of those 50% to 60% can get pregnant by procedures that are neither invasive nor exotic, such as finding their ovulation periods, limiting or eliminating their use of alcohol, cigarettes, medications and drugs, and, of course, using the astrological fertility cycles. The other, more serious problems, turn out to be low male sperm count, tubal blockage, infrequent ovulation, cervical chemistry hostile to sperm and age of the mother to be. Fertility drugs have been around for a long time, but there are so many new approaches.

One of the most often performed procedures I have worked with is **Artificial Insemination** (Inseminating the woman with her partner's "washed" sperm) which costs between \$1000 and \$4000.

In Vitro Fertilization (the woman's egg is removed from a ripe follicle,

fertilized in a dish in the laboratory, allowed to divide and reinserted into the woman's uterus) is next in popularity. The cost is very high, anywhere from \$6000 to \$15,000 per treatment.

GIFT AND ZIFT [Gamete and Zygote Intrafallopian Transfer] (In GIFT the egg is removed, immediately mixed with washed sperm and reinserted into the woman's fallopian tubes in hopes that fertilization will occur. In ZIFT a fertilized embryo is returned to the tube). Add another \$1000 or so to In Vitro cost.

There are many variations within these procedures (*intra-uterine insemination, intra-tubal insemination, subzonal insertion aka SUZI*) and new ones added on a daily basis, but all of the ones I have worked with so far, depend on the woman's ovulation dates. In fact I rarely see the male mates or spouses involved. They have been relegated to the sole task of producing the sperm, and into a tube at that, without the fun of sex.

The Astrological Methodology: In 95% of the cases I have seen, there is a 48 hour window where the patient can decide for herself when she wants to have the procedure done. These 48 hours are the only time span we, the astrologers, have to work with. Obstetrics has become such a specialized field that most obstetricians work in pairs and either are located right next to a clinic or they have laboratories on their premises. This means they can do whatever needs to be done at any time of the day, and in some cases, night. Most of my clients, none of whom were emergency cases, have given me a 14-hour day (from 6:00 am to 8:00 pm) to choose from. In the 50-plus cases I have dealt with so far (not a lot as far as research goes, but enough to give food for thought) **the closer insemination was to the astrological fertility date, the better the results.**

Quite a few times I was able to convince my client to skip a month, realizing that her natural ovulation was moving toward the astrological peak day. This

happens rather frequently, since many women ovulate every 27 to 28 days, while the astrological cycle varies between 29 and 30 days. I do not try to find the best time of the day to implant until the doctor actually orders my client to be ready (usually 24 hour notice), otherwise I would duplicate a lot of work.

Another intriguing bit of learning came with the realization that it does not seem to matter when the eggs are taken from the ovaries or when the husband's sperm is added, it does not even matter when the eggs become fertile, the moment that checks out time and again, regardless which of the many procedures may be used, is when the fertilized egg is implanted.

In Joan McEvers' and my latest "The Only Way to...Learn About Astrology" series, Volume 6 on Horary and Electional Astrology, I have one chapter dealing with fertility and infertility, and for additional learning you will find quite a few sample charts out of my client file. Suffice it to say that when you are looking at this 48 (or however many) hour window, you are really dealing with an electional pregnancy chart, governed by the same rules as discussed before when dealing with fertility cycle dates.

Again, the Moon is the basically the only important factor to consider. Try to get your client to enter the clinic or doctor's office past any difficult aspects to Saturn or Uranus - difficult signifying particularly a square, but I even like to avoid a conjunction, opposition or quincunx to certain planets when dealing with clinical procedures. I just as soon live without challenging lunar aspects to Mars (cutting, surgery), Uranus (sudden changes, separation) or Saturn (difficulties, delays, limitations); but I have had both positive and negative results with aspects from the Moon to Pluto. That is one planet that needs more research than my few cases can offer. Neptune squares can result in allergies or poor reactions to drugs, but not always.