



## A Test of Moon, Moon Synastry in Relationships.

This article should be considered as following on from the test of Sun to Sun synastry, since it turned out that the two sets of findings help illuminate each other. There were initially more difficulties with the Moon, which required getting out a magnifying glass. Careful sifting then revealed a couple of little gold nuggets. Those who have the patience to read on should be rewarded by a surprise. The largest of the nuggets appears to show that, however much astrologers think of the Moon as the primary significator of the feeling nature, it is not the place to seek the kind of love that exists till death us do part. It seems that the stuff they put at the end of movies can only be ignited by the fire of the Sun and that something of its glow can be kept alive, in real life, for decades. Once seen there is the realisation that we have been told about Love, in myth and poetry, for centuries and should have realised the astrological implications long ago.

For those who are now demanding to know why Venus is being ignored, I can say that the lady is being thoroughly investigated and, so far, the evidence is not pretty, (which confirms some long held suspicions). When sufficient testimony has been collected I may then collect sufficient courage to write it up – and upset everybody.

| Moon 'Aspect' | % in Happy | % in Divorced |
|---------------|------------|---------------|
| ♋             | 6.1        | 5.8           |
| ♌             | 22.4       | 32            |
| ♍             | 14.2       | 20            |
| ♎             | 6.1        | 14.7          |
| ♏             | 12.2       | 5.8           |
| ♐             | 24.4       | 8.8           |
| ♑             | 14.2       | 11.7          |

The difficulty in comparing the relative natal Moon positions of couples was simply that there were fewer pairs to test. Many could not provide an accurate birth time, some of the divorced had forgotten as much as possible about their ex, which in a few cases included their age. If there was any doubt about the Moon sign in either they were eliminated. Including in cases where there was a different sign for half an hour at one end of the day and the balance of probability was very high that it was the other of the two signs. (I assumed one degree of travel in two hours, only those cases where the approximation suggested a sign change very close to midnight were double-checked in the ephemeris.) The number of pairs remaining was small, 49 happy pairs and 34 pairs who had divorced. We may consider the results as interesting but more cases are needed before we lean on them hard..

As with the previous test for the Sun the 'aspects' shown in the table refer to the angular relationship between the two *signs* containing the Moon for each pair. They are not aspects in the sense they are usually used by astrologers. (Reasons for this approach were offered in the Sun to Sun test.) The same test, applied to a large random sample, should result in around

<http://karonmeakinbinarystars.net>

8.3% of the pairs with the Moon in the same sign or opposite signs. All the other relationships ought to occur at a rate of about 16.6%. We can see that the results are not in line with chance. (It has to be accepted that the figures may well be affected by the small sample size.) I have avoided converting the figures into ratios on this occasion because the results must be considered preliminary.

**However we see 1) the happy had exactly twice as many trines as squares while, conversely, the divorced had over twice as many squares as trines. AND, 2) the divorced pairs had more than twice as many cases of the Moon in squared signs as the happy, while the happy had more than twice as many cases of the Moon in trined signs as the divorced.** It is not the case that 2) automatically follows from 1), both statements show different things and reinforce each other. These are the kind of results we would hope to see, are they purely luck in a small sample?

(Supposing these figures are representative of general tendencies), although there are double the number of divorced pairs with the Moon in squared signs, compared with the happy, the divorced couples still have less squares than chance. The number of pairs in the happy group with squared Moons is only just over a third of chance, **this tends to suggest that not many people with their Moons in squared signs develop a relationship as far as marriage in the first place.** This is what most astrologers would have expected. Thus far the results appear to show either that we have had an extraordinary amount of luck and astrology is supported here by accident or that it can be seen to work reasonably well, even in a small sample, because some of its principle ideas have some validity.

Nevertheless the rest of the results must also be taken into account, before we get smug, since they may shake up some of our other assumptions. The 'sextile' occurred more often than chance, and more often than the trine, in the happy, so it seems it frequently does work. However, since it was more frequent still in the divorced, and the second most common 'aspect' in that group, it cannot be assumed universally helpful. This is a further reinforcement of the results from the previous article *A Test of Sun to Sun Synastry* and other tests in my book *Binary Stars*. **The conclusion appears to be, once again, that the sextile is not the best aspect for a bond as powerful as a marriage needs to be.** It clearly works well enough that it can attract a pair together. It offers compatibility, lively exchange and a sense of a new creation underway. In a symbolic sense its place in the cycle hints at more to come but its promise is only realised after the square is faced. The pair whose interaction is effectively fixed at the sextile phase may find the energy fizzles out before anything significant is achieved. (One aspect does not make or break a partnership.)

The number of pairs with a 'conjunction' were close in both groups. Since there is only half the chance of the Moon in the same (or opposite signs) as the other 'aspects' the numbers of them should automatically be half as high. **There are too few 'conjunctions' to draw conclusions but I cannot resist mentioning that those in the divorced were in Libra and Taurus while those in the happy were all in Capricorn. Marriage is a construction of society, intended to keep things orderly and ensure**

**titles and estates pass in the right direction. It is also a thing intended to endure. A Capricorn Moon is also assured of a welcome from Juno.**

The number of cases of Moon opposite Moon is higher than chance in both the happy and the divorced. In the happy pairs it occurs with the same frequency as the 'sextile', despite being half as likely to occur by chance. **This suggests that, with the Moon, opposites do attract; unfortunately, the relatively high number found in the divorced suggests it does not follow that the attraction is always durable.**

The 'semi-sextile' appears well above chance in both groups. It occurs at almost exactly twice chance in the divorced. This would seem to prove it to be very undesirable, except for the fact that there are a fair number of pairs in the happy group (about a third over chance,) who find no problem living with their Moons in adjoining signs. (For the Sun both the happy and divorced had figures close to chance. This suggests that it is not significant where the Sun is concerned.) **The figures for the Moon imply that large numbers of people marry with the 'semi-sextile' 'aspect'. Suggesting, whatever it represents, goes unnoticed or is small enough to be tolerable at the outset but can cause difficulty later. In the test around 3 couples who had it failed, to every 2 that were happy.** So it appears somewhat undesirable but often isn't. What a relief to have found something to stop all the scientists leaving us early.

Some of the confusion is clarified by going deeper and looking at *which signs* are involved. **The happy have**; 3 cases of man Capricorn Moon / woman Sagittarius Moon. In a total group of 49. If my logic is correct, chance dictates that there should only be three such pairs in every 432. Yes it may still be a fluke but there are no men with a Capricorn Moon (*whose wife had her Moon in an adjoining sign*) in the divorced. In the happy there are also two pairs of man Scorpio / woman Sagittarius Moon. That makes 5 cases where the man's Moon is debilitated and the woman's is in Sagittarius. We should probably note that the women's Moons are ruled by Jupiter, who I have offered up as the primary significator for Husband in *Binary Stars*. Put simply, she wants him and will follow his lead. She accepts a measure of compliance but note that, in exchange, in all 5 cases she has a man who is comfortable with, and potentially good at, breadwinning. The Scorpio Moon men offer emotional depth in addition. There is also one Capricorn / Aquarius Moon pair. He is still breadwinner, (she may be too) neither are excessively emotional, both are Saturn ruled and therefore, however different, they are essentially comfortable with the same things. Two cases are Aquarius / Pisces Moon. He is still Saturn ruled and, given they remained happy, one assumes this is a man who accepted the generally perceived role of husband and did the breadwinner bit and, she is also comfortable with rule by Jupiter, which translates to rule by her Husband. **In 7 out of 11 pairs in this 'inconjunct' Moon subgroup the woman has Moon ruled by Jupiter (5 in Sagittarius) and 6 men out of the 11 have Moon ruled by Saturn, (4 in Capricorn).**

Two additional cases are him Virgo / her Libra Moon. Typically he will work and be faithful, she wants marriage. The final example is him Taurus / her Gemini. He will also probably earn steadily. Evidence suggests Gemini (and Aquarius) work better in relationships in practice

<http://karonmeakinbinarystars.net>

more often than their reputation suggests (Why? is a digression outside the space available here.) 9 out of 11 men have Moon in earth. It should be borne in mind that since the happy group had to have been married *at least* 20 years they are of an age when the traditional male, female roles were more expected and acceptable than they may be to younger couples.

**The divorced pairs** who had Moons in adjoining signs included: Three pairs with man Gemini / woman Cancer Moon - In a group of 34! There were no men with a Gemini Moon (*whose wife had her Moon in an adjoining sign*) in the happy. It seems to me that (as a very general rule) it is easier for women to express Gemini than men. This is not a comment on gender differences but the roles the sexes are allotted by society. Women tend more often to typically Geminian occupations, they are more often part-time, while they juggle the shopping, the school run, family and social diaries and so on. Men are more often tied to one place for longer hours and more years. **Interestingly we find it is Moon, in rulership, in Cancer (paired with what may be the man who gets bored,) which failed most often in this group.** There were no cases of either men or women with a Cancer Moon and a partner with Moon in Gemini or Leo in the happy. **The Moon in detriment worked most often in the happy.** (Comments on the lunar nature and preoccupations, which may be relevant, will follow after the section on the 'inconjunct' Moons.) Two pairs had man Aquarius / woman Pisces Moon. This pattern also appears twice in the happy group. Further comparison of these four couples' charts ought to suggest the other factors that appear to be significant in tipping the results in one direction or other. The same has to be said of the Scorpio / Sagittarius pair and the Taurus / Gemini, which appear in both.

Two cases had *women* with a Capricorn Moon, one each with an Aquarian and Sagittarian Moon husband. Although the woman with the Capricorn Moon finds it easier to be at peace with Juno she is likely to be frustrated by the traditional role of wife. Where this type of woman is seriously thwarted from pursuing her own career the Sagittarian style man is not always best suited to take the yoke of Saturn from her. A man has a far better chance of a healthy outlet for Capricorn, which is helpful because its skills are expected of him, whether he has any of the sign in him or not. Irrespective of other chart factors, what may well have increased the tendency of certain pairs to divorce with the same Moon signs as the happy couples is that the divorced were, on average, much younger. Expectations have changed and divorce is easier. A woman with a Capricorn Moon may now choose career over family, without automatically being branded abnormal and a Gemini Moon man can leave without becoming a social outcast because his children will have no shoes.

One case was Virgo Moon man / Leo Moon woman. This man will usually put in the effort but he may not make enough and also be romantic enough for the woman, who generally requires a lot more than someone steady with whom to share the Libran path. The final case is Aries Moon Man / Pisces Moon woman. At worst she wants him, he wants out, or he charges ahead and she follows, without either thinking to bring lunch and a parachute. After three or four such adventures something rather nasty tends to happen, which can alter life's direction.

**It was surprising to discover that pairs with 'inconjunct' Moons were almost 3 times more common in the happy than the divorced.** This 'aspect' occurred at about half chance in the divorced, while there were about half as many again as

chance in the happy. We cannot claim this is a fluke of a small test if we also wish to tell everybody that the results for the square and trine appear to support astrology. So is there a reasonable theory for why the 'inconjunct' appeared to be either no disadvantage to a relationship because it was the most common in the happy or even an *advantage* because it was also uncommon in pairs who divorced? The first possibility might be that the happy pairs had their Moons in Taurus and Libra, both ruled by the appropriate and lovely Venus. Two out of 12 cases in the happy fell into this category. Technically that is twice chance but it will not do to get excited about a test of 12, particularly as 2 out of the only 3 cases in the divorced were also Taurus / Libra. Aries / Scorpio, also have a common ruler, it occurs once in the happy but not in the divorced. The inconjunct with a common ruler WAS shown to occur much more often in the happy than the divorced when tested in natal and wedding charts in *Binary Stars* but we need more cases or experience to prove it also assists in Moon, Moon synastry.

What we do have here are 3 cases of man Cancer Moon / woman Sagittarius Moon. Plus 1 Man Cancer Moon / woman Aquarius Moon. In all four pairs he is happy with things domestic and the role of father. Two cases are him Leo Moon / her Pisces Moon. **Again in the happy, in 5 out of 12 cases she is symbolically ruled by her Husband, which suited everybody fairly well in times gone by.** Note that for the happy pairs the most commonly paired signs in the 'semi-sextile' category included men with Moons *opposite* from the men in the most commonly paired signs in the 'inconjunct' category. They were: Man CAPRICORN Moon (woman mostly Sagittarius) or Man AQUARIUS Moon (woman Pisces) for the semi-sextile. Man CANCER Moon (woman mostly Sagittarius) or Man LEO Moon (woman Pisces) for the inconjunct. **The common factor in a significant number of the successful cases with the semi-sextile and inconjunct 'aspect' is that the woman has her Moon ruled by Jupiter.**

We cannot prove it here but our knowledge of the symbols implies that the repetition of certain pairs of signs and rulers, in two such small groups, is not just due to chance clustering, in a small sample and therefore irrelevant. These results should tell us something about the tenets of astrology or something about relationships or both.

Another possible reason why the 'semi-sextile' and 'inconjunct' occurred frequently in the happy, despite having a poor reputation is that neither are Ptolemaic aspects. There is some evidence presented in *Binary Stars* that these two aspects should not be ignored but that they may not be significant until they become close. Those who count an aspect using a whole sign, which is all we have considered here, are generally traditionalists and therefore, one assumes, do not use these 'lesser' angular relationships. **It may be that the whole sign aspect approach works better than is now generally believed - but only with Ptolemaic aspects.**

**Another possibility is that the aspect between the two Moons is less important than between some other body or bodies.** The clear tendency of the happy pairs to have trined Suns suggests that this is the aspect of choice. Although the results here suggest that between the Moons the 'trine' is certainly more desirable than the 'square', we also see that the 'bad' 'inconjunct' occurs at exactly twice the rate of the 'trine' and almost twice the rate of the sextile (and four times as often as the 'square') in the happy. The 'bad'



'semi-sextile' is very close behind the 'inconjunct' in frequency. **The results for the trine and square do make sense, the happy clearly have more trines and the divorced more squares. The results for the sextile tend to repeat those for the Sun and help clarify the nature of the aspect. But these two moderately difficult aspects are the most frequent 'aspects' between the Moons in the happy, which is NOT the case for the Sun. This suggests that the relationship between the Suns is more important than that of the Moons.**

If a pair have trined Suns then in order that they also have trined Moons then both have to have a natal Sun, Moon trine, or both have Sun conjunct Moon in the same element or one has to have a trine locking into a conjunction in the other, all in the same element. This kind of thing is not going to be too common. Therefore, if the two Suns are happy, as it seems they often are, then the two Moons will have to fall where they fall. The results for the Sun to Moon synastry (which should be presented soon) also tend to support the idea that the positive Sun to Sun relationship is more helpful - if it can be had, than either Moon, Moon or Sun, Moon.

Individual case histories should flesh out and test theories but it may be the case that the Moon is less critical in relationships than we have believed because, however much it supports and has shaped us, the Moon is not who we are, it is merely from where we have come. And it can be given way too much power. Moonlight tends to be spent sheltering indoors, where we learn what our families like and expect and we are trained to like and expect it too. It is only after the Sun rises that we can see the world is bigger, and has more options, than we have been told. Once awake we realise there is another life we might make for ourselves. The internal Sun then creates a personal vision of the possible and the desirable. The internal Sun, if it is not impeded, knows or should come to know itself through what it loves. Only then can it create some concrete form of itself in the external world. The Sun, the Heart and Love have always been connected in myth and symbolism. Why have we never properly seen that being given freedom to express the personal Sun, unhindered by the other, and honestly offering the same to the other in exchange, is the fundamental heart of the pair bond?

Once the bond is formed a new home and family usually follows. A new symbol of Moon will evolve, which the pair share. Something of its character can be seen in a wedding chart where there is one but it will exist in the ethers if there is not. The two natal Moons may then gradually be left behind, conveniently hooked onto and describing two, separate, primary families. Notice the debilitated Moon did better than you would ever have thought? This is the pair who are less influenced by family. God has been good enough to decree that a couple can thrive without necessarily understanding the in-laws. In fact if the relationship the two lots have with each other can be described by the inconjunct the pair have got off lightly. The natal Suns of the couple have more need to be well aspected because they will always have to continue working together, there is not the equivalent handy, external host to attach to the Sun, as there is with the Moon. The worst boss is not around, to be used as the excuse for every Mars square Sun 24/7, for ever. The worst families are there for Moon = Pluto / Uranus. Every time.