

\*\*\* This article was first published in Mark Lerner's magazine, *Welcome To Planet Earth*, in the *Scorpio* issue, in 1990. I decided to do only minor editing to maintain the article's original format. This article discusses the water houses as contained within the confines of the traditional chart, or counter-clockwise way of counting the houses.

I did want to encourage the reader to investigate the **Past Life Chart** I have discovered. The reason being that my new [Past Life Chart Wheel](#) is composed of the houses counted in a clockwise order. The **Past Life Ascendant** is born from the traditional 12<sup>th</sup> house. The water houses in the traditional chart become the fire houses in the past life chart! What are more on the unconscious level in this life, trying to become conscious, were powerful fiery, spontaneous parts of our identity in past lives. If you take a close look at the **Past Life Chart** you will notice the traditional water houses not only become Fire, but the Air houses convert to Earth, the Earth houses turn into Air and the traditional Fire houses become Water.

## **The Water Houses:**

### **Labyrinths of the Unconscious**

When I was eight years old, I had a vision of my death. I closed my eyes trying to go to sleep. Suddenly, I saw my tombstone. I felt a strange chill go through my body. I realized that my life would not last forever! It was years later that Astrology showed me what I had experienced at age eight. This was my eighth house natal Sun making its presence known to me.

The water houses (4,8 and 12) are each unique expression of the unconscious forces. Our normal frames of reference can get disoriented. The conscious mind can feel like a stranger in a strange land. Key planets in our birthchart placed in these houses can indicate our emotional patterns. Transits and progressed planets moving through these houses can symbolize bold new emotional expressions coming into our consciousness. Life may never be the same. People can select to deny or repress their intuition and remain in limiting comfort zones. Individuals can choose to follow a new inspired vision.

The **4<sup>th</sup> house** is the fostering of intuition. It is the essence of establishing psychological roots. Family and a tribal orientation color a sense of belonging. A desire for closeness with lovers, parents, children, nature and even pets are born in this house. The intuition rests upon our feelings of inner security.

The "*light*" of the 4<sup>th</sup> house is a sense of inner strength. It is possible to show the courage to care and nurture. In Western society, this is the most undervalued of the four angular houses (1,4,7 and 10). Lip service is given to the importance of family in America. Women have been pushed into the role of the caretaker. Men are still hungering for the emotional depths of the 4<sup>th</sup> house in many instances. Staying at home to raise children is not rewarded properly in our paternalistic society. The 4<sup>th</sup> house can easily be sacrificed to career success. In big business it's important not to let the 4<sup>th</sup> house interfere

with the visible 10<sup>th</sup> house. When both of these houses are integrated a balanced life can occur.

The “*shadow*” of the 4<sup>th</sup> house is a loss of roots. The game plan (10<sup>th</sup> house) can lack a meaningful foundation (4<sup>th</sup> house). Individuals can lead lives without emotional clarity. People can be hijacked by an outer show of success. Emotionally disoriented people can be too dependent on others. The developing of intuition can be lost to a maze of inner confusion. One can find the “*dawn*” of the 4<sup>th</sup> house by tuning into security needs. Some individuals can make peace with themselves by making inner needs visible. Letting others get close to one’s emotional nature can free a blocked consciousness. Showing vulnerability can start a healing process.

The **8<sup>th</sup> house** in traditional Astrology is referred to as the house of death and legacy. I see the 8<sup>th</sup> house as the end of old cycles. The birth of new consciousness is possible.

The 8<sup>th</sup> house is the midwife of intuition. Compulsive addictions can be healed by the birth of a regenerated intuition. People can transform their psychological patterns. A desire to pierce through the veil of our self-created illusions can bring the insight to embrace life’s deepest mysteries.

The “*light*” of the 8<sup>th</sup> house in my opinion is **Cosmic Composting**. People can take the pain of the past and replant it into new growth for tomorrow. Individuals can take the same intensity that got them into trouble and channel it into a more positive direction.

The “*shadow*” of the 8<sup>th</sup> house is a repressed intuition. Emotional bankruptcy can lead to compulsive power urges. Individuals can be prone to giving away power too easily. The 8<sup>th</sup> house can show a person projecting his or her finest qualities onto others. Some people project their worst behavior onto others! The denial of individuality can attract nihilistic people into our lives. A fear of our own power can bring people with manipulative tendencies. That which we repress in the 8<sup>th</sup> house often comes into our lives in a big way! Facing these hidden fears can begin the process of an illuminating new rebirth or “*dawn*”.

The **12<sup>th</sup> house** is the faith in intuition. It is here that individuals can transcend a lack of self-acceptance. People can make peace with their past through a new inspired vision.

In the 12<sup>th</sup> house, the “*light*” can manifest in the form of a person tapping into the essence of intuition. The conscious mind can be exhilarated by a deeper recognition of the unconscious. A person can find the faith to dream a new dream. The intuition can be the healing potion for a life with a lost sense of purpose. People can discover new abundance. A spiritual awakening can occur.

The “*shadow*” of the 12<sup>th</sup> house can be dreams that lack a sense of reality. Surrendering to divine discontent a pattern. Nothing in life is satisfying. Too much search for perfection can lead to setting impossible standards for self and others. Intuitive clarity can be lost in a sea of self-delusion. People can try too hard to save those lost to addictive experiences. A lack of faith in self or a higher power can bring helplessness. Escaping into substance abuse or sensuous appetites helps to deny the reality of one’s current circumstances. What is the “*dawn*”? It is having the determination to press forward with solid feet and clear vision to put the goals into motion that bring a sense of inner and outer fulfillment.

The water houses are fascinating territories. They contain our dreams for the future, the inspiration of the present and the memories of our past, the past of this life and from previous incarnations!