

# Hillary Clinton: Is it Really Her Turn?

by Bill Herbst

*Version 1.2 (21 January 2016)*

*© 2016 by the author, all rights reserved*

Hillary Clinton is the perennial Democratic candidate with a lifetime of political experience (and the scars to prove it, including a history of questions about her integrity). Clinton sits atop a well-funded and well-oiled campaign organization to support her longstanding hope/belief that “it’s her turn.”

While the date and place of Hillary’s birth — October 26th, 1947 in Chicago, Illinois — are definite and easily verified, much uncertainty surrounds her *time* of birth. Numerous times have been claimed by various sources. The two most frequently put forward are 8:00 p.m. and 8:02 a.m. As an astrologer, I’m immediately a little suspicious of “whole hour” birth times, such as “8:00 p.m.,” because of people’s tendency to guess by using an approximate, rounded-off figure. Without question, some babies do take their first breath exactly on the hour, but there’s only a 1-in-60 chance of that. In addition, I’ve never felt that the 8:00 p.m. birth time fit well with what I know about Hillary’s character and life. Looking at that chart invariably leaves me scratching my head.

By contrast, the 8:02 a.m. birth time yields a chart that, in my opinion, corresponds well to my perception of Hillary’s whole life — personal, professional, and public, at least to the extent that events in those arenas are documented and publicly accessible. So, that’s the chart I’ll use for this commentary.

Still, the uncertainty is uncomfortable. I don’t like writing about anyone’s life — especially someone I don’t know personally — when I’m aware that the time of birth may be incorrect. I don’t worry much about the likelihood that a fair percentage birth times are probably off by at least a couple minutes and are therefore technically

incorrect. The astrological systems I've chosen and developed over 40 years don't depend on a birth time that is *perfectly* accurate. Shoot, astrologers don't even agree on what phase of the birth process should constitute the "true and correct" moment from which to erect the natal chart. Is that moment exit from the womb? cutting of the umbilical? first cry? first breath? Philosophically, I lean toward the moment of first breath, since that marks the biological separation from the mother's life-support and the beginning of true autonomy. Once the fluid is forced out of the infant's lungs and the rhythms of breathing begin, we are effectively on our own.

But who can assert with certainty that any particular phase of the birth process is universally correct in all cases? Perhaps the moment of "entry into the real world" varies from one baby to the next?

We might reasonably ask why astrologers even rely on the moment of birth as the basis for our system of personal astrology. Wouldn't conception be a better moment to use? Perhaps, but that time is almost never known with any certainty or precision, and building a system on the bedrock of an event that can't be pinpointed with accuracy is simply impossible.

In part, we use birth because we can. Also, while much is determined at conception and through the nine months of gestation spent in the womb, we are not autonomous through those initial phases of physical, neural, and perhaps even temperamental development.

Finally, there is the vexing question of using "natal" charts to define the core identity of any human being. Where is it written in stone that we all get one chart? Nowhere. Astrology holds, however, that beginnings are critical in understanding the meaning and purpose of any cycle, including the life-cycle. How are we to explore personhood without a reliable reference point? Using a single "natal" chart as a stable anchor that then evolves continually throughout the entire life gives astrologers an elegant way of revealing both the essential character and the changing circumstances of an individual life. While many philosophical or otherwise abstract arguments can be put forward to support that idea, all I want to say in this essay is the

pragmatic fact that, time after time, natal charts work quite well to accurately describe how individuals perceive reality, and to reveal the changing arc of our life-journeys through evolving cycles that activate at particular times.

Critics of astrology (and by that I mean those who believe that astrology has no inherent validity and is nothing but fantasy-based bunk) are fond of asserting that astrologers simply prey on people's susceptibility, and that anyone who "believes in" astrology must be either unintelligent, vulnerable to suggestion, or otherwise profoundly gullible. Almost invariably, however, those critics have not studied the astrological system seriously or in depth. They reject astrology out of hand, believing that it's not worth thoughtful study or research. Obviously, those people aren't reading this essay.

Critics/deniers also insist that astrologers "cheat," i.e., that we use known information about people or cues from our clients to shape the interpretations we offer. They seem to believe that if astrology had any validity at all, it *should* and *must* provide *all* the information we need, without recourse to any external references. That's so absurd a requirement as to be laughable.

I've stated publicly for decades that, while I consider astrology a brilliant method for revealing significant truths about human beings and their lives, it never was and never will be sufficient as a stand-alone system. For one thing, charts contain no context. If we don't have a name on the chart, we don't know what we're looking at — a person, a nation, an event, or simply a moment in time and space. Charts offer little, in any, useful information about social circumstances and nothing at all about the consciousness and maturity of the individuals they describe. All those factors are critical to know, at least a little, if we are to interpret the chart meaningfully (i.e., "correctly") for the subject, which, in this commentary, is a person — namely, Hillary Clinton.

Those omissions (context, circumstance, and consciousness) do not, however, invalidate either the essential truth of astrology nor its usefulness as a tool in understanding. I don't know of *any* system —

either in “science” or regular life — that stands alone and complete unto itself. For example, archaeology relies on geology, chemistry, and biology. Physics is crippled without mathematics, and architecture is simply doodling on a napkin without an understanding of geometry and the forces of gravity. Artists don’t insist that their creativity operate in a vacuum; they call on every resource in their experience to make their art. Astrology is similar. Marc Edmund Jones, one of the godfathers of astrology’s resurgence in the 20th century, defined astrology as “the study of the relationship of everything to everything else.” Amen.

Anyway, the issue that kicked off this whole rant was the uncertainty about Hillary’s birth time. I cannot be sure that I’m using the correct chart. So, when you read this commentary, please take that into account. I’ve been a full-time astrologer for more than 40 years, so I’m well aware which statements I make might be dicey (i.e., based on inaccurate data), and which are dependable astrologically (because they come from a level within the system where time of day is not a significant factor, such as most planetary positions in the zodiac or interplanetary aspects, to offer two examples among many). House positions are always time-dependent, as are certain major transits. Because I have studied and practiced astrology for so long, I always know when I’m on solid ground astrologically, and when I’m taking pot-shots based on an iffy birth-time.

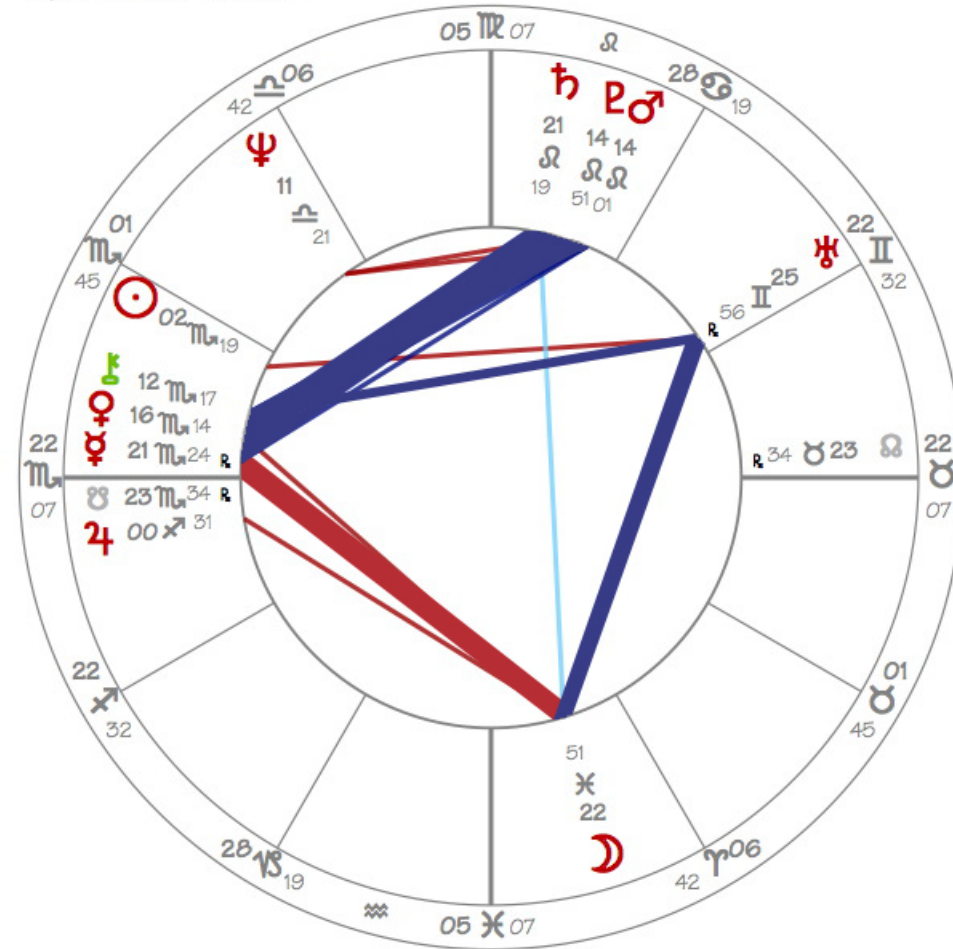
A reader, however, may or may not have a sufficient level of astrological savvy and sophistication to pinpoint which statements are which. So, what I want to say is this: Take this entire essay about Hillary with a grain of salt. I’ll try to make the writing informative and entertaining, but please understand that not everything I write about Hillary may be accurate.

Below is the natal chart I’ve chosen to use:

# Hillary Clinton

Sunday, October 26th, 1947  
8:02 a.m. CST  
Chicago, Illinois  
8:02 a.m. CST  
Chicago, Illinois

Tropical zodiac  
Placidus houses  
Moon's True Node



After President Barack Obama's surprising win in 2008 and his subsequent re-election in 2012, Hillary Clinton became the presumptive front-runner of the Democrats for 2016. She has remained in the lead position ever since. When she resigned from her post as Obama's Secretary of State in 2013, she may have done so in part to focus on preparations for the 2016 campaign, which include the ongoing efforts of fund-raising and refining the hierarchies of an organization necessary to mount and run a successful campaign.

This is not to suggest that Hillary's road to the presidency has been easy. No, Republicans have been typically aggressive and dogged in attempting to paint her as incompetent, corrupt, and unethical, mainly in the context of two "scandals" that occurred when Hillary was Secretary of State: first, the 2012 attack on the American diplomatic compound at Benghazi, Libya, and second, the controversy that arose in early 2015 over alleged improprieties years earlier in Hillary's use of a private email server for official government communications.

Whether justified or not, these attacks on Hillary's character and performance are clearly indicated in her chart through the multi-planet square between her Mars, Pluto, and Saturn in Leo and the 9th house, and her Chiron, Venus, and Mercury in Scorpio and the late-12th and early 1st houses. That is an immensely powerful and important configuration implying a lifelong pattern of legal and ethical difficulties shrouded in mystery and confusion, with truth and lies intertwining in a swirling dance of innuendo (which quite likely applies to both the accusations against her and Hillary's responses as well).

The legal and ethical emphasis of that monster square make it obvious why the early foundations of Hillary's career were laid with her education at Wellesley College and Yale Law School. *[Note: Just because a certain area of our charts is problematic or difficult doesn't mean that we avoid it. To the contrary, such conflicted configurations usually draw us as compelling arenas of serious investment and significant accomplishment, however checkered they may reveal themselves to be in our lives. But then, such are the paradoxes of duality in the Tao.]* In her early career, Hillary was a skilled, passionately determined, and very successful lawyer, working on social issues that extended from the rights of migrant workers to the welfare of children, interests that resonate powerfully with a 9th house-12th house square and a 4th-house Pisces Moon, where nurturing and protecting those who are disenfranchised is a natural concern.

The difficult correspondences of the square have plagued Hillary at various points of her public life, however, often pulling her marriage into question. One example from the early 1990s was the Whitewater real estate controversy that both she and then-President Bill Clinton suffered through concerning illegal loans for land and development deals from decades earlier in the 1970s and 1980s (for which the Clintons were accused but never prosecuted).

Another very telling difficulty was Hillary's tendency to remain in denial about her husband Bill's recurring pattern of covert extra-marital affairs, which finally exploded in the Lewinsky scandal that sullied Bill Clinton's second term and eventually led to his impeachment by the House of Representatives (although he was acquitted by the Senate). Hillary stood by her husband staunchly during and after the ordeal, all the way through publication of her 2003 memoir, *Living History*, but her personal reputation suffered from that willful, stubborn denial, which didn't pass the sniff test for many people. A certain naïveté surrounding love is expected in Hillary's chart, however, for reasons I will detail later in the essay.

All in all, that powerful square in her chart represents the major stumbling block to fulfillment of Hillary's longstanding ambition to be President. I write about that configuration in Hillary's chart first because it is so boldly provocative in symbolizing Hillary's major strengths and weaknesses.

In terms of core personality, Hillary's natal chart has a Scorpio Sun in the 12th house, a Pisces Moon in the 4th, and Scorpio Rising with Mercury on the Ascendant. On the one hand, Hillary Clinton is an immensely powerful and passionate woman, a tough-minded and tireless worker in her commitment to make the world a better, safer place. The underpinning to that commitment comes from a deep empathy with the sufferings of others and broad sympathy for those who are least able to protect themselves from the world's cruelty.

On the other hand — and quite paradoxically — Hillary can also be very naïve and even gullible, especially with regard to those she loves. The exact Venus-Saturn square in her natal chart implies her

long marriage to Bill Clinton has been both a powerful alliance between two deeply ambitious people and a source of long suffering for Hillary. I doubt that Hillary regrets the marriage, since it fits her chart so well, but I'd wager that Bill has been the primary beneficiary, and that Hillary has too often been left out in the cold.

In fairness, her marriage is not the center of Hillary's chart or life. Personal family is more important, especially through her love for her daughter, Chelsea. Symbolically, however, personal fulfillments take a back seat to more transcendent concerns. At the core of Hillary's chart is the 12th-house Scorpio Sun, indicating a central life-journey that is transpersonal in nature. The most fundamental arc of meaning in Hillary's life is to transcend her own ego, becoming more and more selfless in her motivations, so that she considers the greater good before her own wants and needs. In very real ways, Hillary is a servant of the collective who seeks to correct the injustices of civilization. She starts out as an idealist, however, and ends up as a pragmatist.

The downside of a potent 12-house emphasis in a natal chart has many possible expressions, among them isolation involving loss of personal identity, either forced (such as in imprisonment or hospitalization) or by choice (such as in spiritual retreat to an ashram or monastery). If the 1st house in natal astrology represents our entry into the earthly world through natural and spontaneous self-expression outward into the external environment, with each successive house enlarging the arenas of experience, then the 12th house symbolizes the final level, that of universalization and transcendence — leaving behind the personal ego and identity. Viewed from the opposite perspective, the 12th house represents the experience that naturally *precedes* birth into selfhood, metaphorically implying life in the womb. Both unconsciousness (as in sleep and dreams) and super-consciousness (as in pure, receptive intuition through psychic abilities or meditative states) are included among possible 12th house experiences.

This is immersion into the realm of archetypes, whether as myth and fantasy, "spiritual" realization, or loss of coping abilities, such as can



occur in mental illness. The 12th house often corresponds to literal or emotional isolation, as well as the presence of factors in the life that are hidden from view, sometimes kept from personal awareness, and other times as masked from public view. The 12th house includes possibilities for inspiration, heartfelt devotion, and illusion (as self-deception, intentional deceit, or gullibly believing the lies of others).

People with a strong 12th house emphasis may appear normal, but they're not. They straddle very different worlds, with one foot "in reality" and the other foot "somewhere else." That somewhere else may be literal and tangible, or it may be metaphorical and largely invisible. In the extreme, 12th house types can be saints or martyrs, profound truth-tellers or compulsive liars, and the chart itself won't confirm which. Finally, 12th house people are difficult to know well or accurately, since they are often not what they appear to be.

A common perception of Hillary is that she's something a cold fish, with a personality that lacks warmth. Besides the 12th house Sun, that comes from the Venus square to Saturn and Pluto in Hillary's chart, which implies a certain cool reserve in expression, and sometimes a stodginess or lack of grace. Under the surface, however, affection and personal love are even more important for people with strong Venus-Saturn connections than for those without them, but the extra weight carries a seriousness that is not free-flowing. Venus-Saturn types may *seem* distant or unfeeling and perhaps less charming than many other people because they are not light-hearted or easy-going where love is concerned. Much rides on success or failure in love, so they play their cards closer to the vest. Still waters run deep, however; Hillary's involvement with anyone she cares for is powerful and possessive. Where love is concerned, she he doesn't let go easily.

Hillary's Scorpio Mercury, located less than 1° away from the Scorpio Ascendant in the 8:02 a.m. chart, and in exact square to her 9th house Saturn in Leo, indicates deep ambition around development of rational faculties, in part because of insecurity surrounding intelligence and a high sensitivity to failure. In matters of intellect, Hillary is the classic overachiever. Her Mercury-Saturn square is not a

configuration of natural brilliance, but instead an indicator of dogged persistence and the willingness to work overtime at mentality. Hillary always does her homework to make sure that she is well-prepared. As with the Venus condition surrounding love, however, Hillary's mental and verbal self-expression may often seem more calculated than spontaneous.

What do the significant transits in Hillary's chart over recent years tell us about where she's been prior to this election campaign?

In late 2012, Saturn conjoined the Sun in Hillary Clinton's natal chart (for the third and presumably last time). This transit — the Saturn-Sun conjunction — signaled the beginning of her third cycle of life-purpose definition, development, and expression. Typically, that transit indicates a period of extreme inner pressure. Soon after, in March 2013, Neptune conjoined the nadir of Hillary's chart (the lower part of the vertical axis, called the *Imum Coeli* — Latin for "lower heaven" — the point in the chart that is directly underfoot). The vertical axis in natal charts describes our status and security. Neptune passing over either end of that axis is a once-a-lifetime event of great significance. In Hillary's chart, that transit lasted through January 2015, defining a period of significant vulnerability for Hillary in both the public and private sphere.

During those two years, the controversy surrounding the attack on Benghazi gave the Republicans a lot of ammo. Then another controversy arose in early 2015 concerning Hillary's use of a private server for official emails years earlier when she was Secretary of State, but Hillary has weathered the continuing storms and remained the front-runner for the Democratic Party nomination. With the exception of Bernie Sanders, whose presence in the campaign was largely symbolic, at least initially, Hillary has no other effective opposition among Democrats. She will presumably be her party's nominee, although Sanders is now mounting a serious challenge.

What does Hillary's chart tell us specifically about this year's campaign and her chances in the November election?

2016 is a year in Hillary's chart marked by a very low-key pattern of active cycles. Only one Chiron transit and one Jupiter transit (both to her natal Moon in Pisces) could be considered energetic indicators, but neither of those is particularly strong or critical. Both fall in the moderate and middling ranks in the overall hierarchy of planetary activations. All her other long-term transits active in 2016 are either minor or relatively smooth and stable.

This is markedly unusual and doesn't happen very often in people's charts. In a normal year in anyone's chart, a certain number of cycles will activate through long-term transits that are provocative, powerful, and challenging. The numbers vary, of course, from just one or two such critical indicators that take center-stage in the interpretation of that year's journey for the person, all the way to ten or more such potent transits whose overall implication is the inevitability of altered energies and circumstantial challenges.

The current condition of Hillary's chart is at the other end of the scale, where the lack rather than presence of powerful influences is the critical fact from an astrological perspective.

Among the serious questions for anyone assessing Hillary's chart in this election year is whether the current low-key and "quiet" pattern of active cycles in her chart enhances or diminishes her chances of winning the presidency. That question has no clear or easy answer, and it could conceivably lean either way.

People who know a little bit about astrology are often anxious regarding the activation of powerful cycles in their charts. They're typically fearful that the onset of such transits will bring difficulties that upset their lives and limit their happiness. I try to reassure my clients that, while this is sometimes true, it is often not the case at all. No one really wishes for a life where nothing happens, and provocative outer-planet transits, including even those of that notoriously harsh taskmaster Saturn, bring opportunities for positive change in the form of "help from the universe." Sure, such transits may feel "uncontrollable," but then, so much of life is actually well beyond the limited ability of our wills and egos to dictate events and

shape outcomes. That fact alone does not imply that we will suffer disaster or other negative consequences when powerful major transits fill our charts.

How do I consider those rare periods where our transit patterns are quiet? I think of it this way: Life is allowing us to chart our own course, to test ourselves and find out how much we've learned. Have we integrated our life experiences and become at least relatively conscious about how to conduct our lives? If so, then a period of no provocative or challenging transits is the perfect time to confirm that.

Another, more poetic way of looking at this is to assume that the Gods are stepping back, taking a break from their all-too-frequent manipulation of our lives to see just how well we can do on our own. That's mythic rather than literal, of course, but you get my drift.

From either of those perspectives, Hillary's chart indicates that 2016 is a year when she is in charge of her own fate. Hillary may be less than the perfect Master of her Destiny (at least that would be my guess, given human frailty), but she will operate within her own powers and limits.

The lack of significant planetary activity doesn't imply that Hillary will be bullet-proof (metaphorically) or immune from gaffes and other difficulties. She isn't immune from any of life's twists and turns. But Hillary has prepared for this election for a long time, and her transits don't indicate any built-in wild-cards to alter her plans.

Could the quiet pattern of her transits indicate that she will have diminished impact or be passed by another candidate who's riding a super-charged rocket? Maybe, but that's a wild-card that no one can predict with certainty.

Early on during husband Bill Clinton's first term in 1992, Hillary took charge of his healthcare initiative, and it turned into a debacle. Many people in important positions on Capitol Hill didn't respond well to Hillary's sometimes blunt ways of trying to influence them, and they torpedoed what could have been a triumph for Bill Clinton's

Presidency and a feather in Hillary's cap. I don't know if Hillary simply ran into the sclerotic attitudes of a Good Ole Boys club that wasn't inclined to respond favorably to a powerful woman in charge, or if she was feeling her oats prematurely and assumed more authority than she'd earned, thus alienating Congress and the health insurance industry by trying to ramrod change with bull-in-a-china-shop tactics. Both factors may have been at play to some extent. Whatever the combination of factors, however, the whole endeavor was shot down rather quickly.

The country was probably not ready in 1992 for serious reform of the healthcare system to something as sensible as single-payer (obviously, it still isn't, since *everything* in America seems to be about profits, more now than ever before). But Hillary certainly didn't succeed in moving the powers-that-be even an inch in the direction of an overhaul. Quite the opposite. Resistance stiffened into entrenchment. That was more than two decades ago, however, and Hillary has learned a thing or two since then. This year, Hillary gets to discover whether she's learned the right things in the right ways during the intervening two decades.

*Is Hillary ready to be President?* Yes, without any doubt. *Is America ready for her?* I don't know. Time will tell.

If Hillary is elected, what can her chart tell us about her life in the years of her initial term as President? Two potent Saturn transits in 2017 and one critical Uranus transit in 2018-2019 highlight Hillary's next four years.

Very soon after the November election, in mid-December 2016, the period of calm and relative ease in Hillary's chart comes to an end. Two major Saturn transits begin at that point, both of which indicate serious pressures on her psyche for nearly the entire year to follow, all the way through mid-November 2017. Saturn will form a last-quarter square to her natal Moon, while simultaneously opposing her natal Uranus.

The Saturn-Moon transit is the three-quarter mark of Hillary's current Saturn-Moon cycle. That 29-year cycle is about providing need-fulfillment — literally, by building ways to extract from the environment whatever we cannot create from within ourselves but must have if we are to survive and prosper. Food, clothing, shelter, air — these are all human needs. Symbolically, the Saturn-Moon cycle includes defining and addressing one's own needs, but also responding to the needs of others. Hillary's Pisces Moon in the 4th house implies that she sees the world as one large family and feels deeply that protecting the young, the weak, and the helpless is our responsibility. This is where her deepest, most profound feelings merge with her power and passion.

From 1996 through 2009, during the first half of her current Saturn-Moon cycle, Hillary built certain structures in her life designed to fulfill her own and others' needs. She worked to shape the power and privilege she had achieved by mid-life so as to maximize her abilities to protect others who were at risk of deprivation or harm. This included accepting the post in Obama's cabinet of Secretary of State during this anxious epoch of America's post-911 sensibilities, where "homeland security" has become an enlarged factor in government's role. Hillary didn't shirk those responsibilities.

From 2010 through 2016, her Saturn-Moon cycle has been in the full phase, which is analogous to autumn with its harvest of whatever was planted the previous spring and tended through summer. 2017 represents the transition in that cycle from autumn into winter. Astrologically, that means letting go of the past. Whether one's efforts to meet personal needs and respond to the needs of others were successful or not, the transition at the last-quarter phase change tells us that it's time to detach from the past by letting go of concerns about what we did over the previous 20 years to fulfill needs and how well we did it.

In some ways, this is about the ego attachments we feel about our achievements. It can also mean letting go of any frustrations we feel about what we didn't achieve or remorse about mistakes we made along the way. If a farmer grows a successful crop, he may bask for

awhile in the satisfaction, congratulating himself on his skill as a farmer. Conversely, if he suffers crop failure for whatever reasons, he may feel remorse. At some point, however, the time comes to let go of those judgments and get on with the inner preparations for next spring's planting. That's what winter is for symbolically — letting go of the past, recharging batteries, and preparing for the coming spring. Every astrological cycle conforms to this sequence: plant in the spring, tend in the summer, harvest in the fall, then let go of any judgments concerning the past seasons during the winter so as to create a clean inner slate for dreaming up and concretely planning next year's crop.

The last-quarter transition is the notification that it's time to let go of the past, which involves identifying our attachments to whatever happened and cutting loose those judgments. During the last-quarter Saturn-Moon transit, all our successes and failure around need-fulfillment over the past two decades parade before our eyes. Circumstances may provoke memory and awareness of our attachments, or inner prodding may illuminate them. Either way, our work becomes clear, however difficult it may be, given the very human tendency to associate self-judgments with identity, and thus cling to them as if they were the measure of who we are. To move forward on our life-journeys, however, we must let go of those judgments and attachments.

Like all major Saturn transits, the last-quarter transition is likely to be a challenging process for Hillary, in part because of the pressure to emotionally revisit all her successes and failures from earlier in the cycle, but the outcome is intended to free us from the past so we can prepare for the future. In fairness, last-quarter "notifications" are the easiest of the four major transitions within any Saturn cycle. Recognizing that some part of our lives is worn out and blocking our growth makes it easier to let go.

Simultaneously, Saturn will move into opposition with Hillary's natal Uranus. This is as contradictory as it gets: Saturn is steady and stable; Uranus is unpredictable and changes suddenly. Saturn is

conservative, tied to traditional wisdom and the status quo; Uranus is radical, revolutionary, and iconoclastic to the point of willful defiance.

The Saturn-Uranus cycle symbolizes many experiences, among them the hard work of fleshing out and earning our individuality, so that our independence is visible and effective in the world. The halfway point in the cycle is the transition into the full phase (or harvest) after working for 14 years to establish our identity as a unique and independent person. From this point on, we are no longer *establishing* our independence by practicing at it; we have to *be* independent.

The ten months of the transit are characterized by little support from others and usually corresponds to situations where forces that support the status quo confront and challenge our personal authority, especially our power to act freely. We feel constrained. Should we surrender or fight back? Conform or defiantly resist? In one situation after another, we find ourselves challenged and on our own. The astrological advice is clear: Don't give in. Don't surrender. Fight for your independence and success.

If Hillary is President during these two Saturn transits, she will have to prove her mettle all over again as conservatives mount fierce resistance to her leadership. That's not surprising — power struggles will be unavoidable for whoever is elected — but Hillary's chart highlights that confrontation throughout 2017 as very meaningful in her life-journey.

Later, from June 2018 through February 2020, Uranus will oppose Hillary's natal Sun in Scorpio/12th house. Of all the many hundreds of transits that occur in our charts, this one is in the very top rank of most important astrological events. The Uranus-Sun cycle activates for the first time somewhere between birth and age 20. After that, it re-activates about every two decades. This will be Hillary's third major Uranus-Sun transit and perhaps her last, unless she survives into her late 80s.



The Uranus-Sun opposition corresponds to sudden, unpredictable, and surprising changes of direction in our life-journey. We realize where we have sold out our integrity to conform, where we have “gone along to get along.” We must stand up and become who we truly are. Compromise with others is a natural and correct part of life, but not always. As with all Uranian transits, the provocations toward independence may come at us from outer circumstances that require us to change strategies or tactics or from within us as willful decisions to radically alter our course. Typically, both directions will apply over the period of the transit, in this case, about 20 months.

For Hillary, with her Scorpio Sun, the question will be how to use her power — at what levels, in what ways, to what extent, and for what purposes. If she is President at the time, the transit will almost certainly correspond to major events for the country, although the particular manifestations of what might happen are impossible to foresee, given that Uranus is, by its nature, unexpected and unpredictable.

Over the course of America’s history as a nation, ten Presidents among the 43 who have served underwent one of the four major Uranus-Sun transits while in office — four first-quarter squares, four oppositions, two last-quarter squares, but no conjunctions. I’ll include the list of all ten below to illustrate some of the various ways that Uranus-Sun transits can correspond to real-life events:

- In 1806, after a successful first term that saw America nearly double in size by the Louisiana purchase, President Thomas Jefferson underwent a Uranus-Sun opposition during a factious and conflicted second term that was beset by difficulties, so much so that he effectively retired from public life following the end of his Presidency.
- In 1825, President John Quincy Adams underwent a Uranus-Sun opposition. His single term was marked by extreme opposition to his policies from a hostile Congress. His presidency was considered unremarkable, and Adams’ legacy was shaped more by endeavors later in life, after he departed the White House.

- In 1839, during the third year of his single term, President Martin Van Buren's chart had a Uranus-Sun first-quarter square. He lost his bid for a second term and remained fairly obscure in the pantheon of American Presidents.
- During his one truncated term as an unelected President who inherited the job after Lincoln's assassination, Andrew Johnson was undergoing a Uranus-Sun opposition when he was impeached by the House of Representatives (but later, after the transit ended, he was acquitted by a single vote in the ensuing Senate trial).
- Ulysses S. Grant, elected initially in 1868, was re-elected President in 1872 during a first-quarter Uranus-Sun square. His entire second term was marked by recurring scandals.
- After surviving one of the most salacious and dirty presidential campaigns in American history, Grover Cleveland was elected President in 1884 during a Uranus-Sun opposition. He lost his bid for re-election in 1888, but then returned to win the 1892 race and served another four years, the only President ever to have non-consecutive terms in office.
- Dwight D. Eisenhower had a last-quarter Uranus-Sun square in 1953-1954 that began the same month as the negotiated truce that ended U.S. military involvement in the three-year undeclared war in Korea.
- President John F. Kennedy's chart contained a first-quarter Uranus-Sun square at the time of his assassination in November 1963.
- The most recent Presidents to undergo a Uranus-Sun transit while in office were Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford. Nixon's last-quarter square occurred in 1972, as the revelations about Watergate heated up, leading to the subsequent Senate investigation, whereas Ford's first-quarter square was active in 1973, when he suddenly became President following Nixon's unexpected resignation.

These ten examples may not be sufficient to constitute a definitive or "scientific" sample, but they are, in fact, all we have, and they do offer a range of possibilities from which we may glean some sense of what Hillary may face if she becomes President.

Certainly, Hillary's chart is no less provocative over the coming years than Donald Trump's. As President, either candidate will face significant shocks, surprises, and challenges. This is to be expected, of course, since it comes with the job and also reflects the tenor of our times. The indications from both their charts, however, leave a question hanging in the air: *does either Hillary Clinton or Donald Trump realize what might await them in office?*

While I have no doubt that both Clinton and Trump want the job, I can't help but wonder if they're truly prepared for the events and pressures that may await them. However turbulent the year of the campaign might be, an old phrase quite likely applies:

*"You ain't seen nothin' yet."*