



Federation of Australian Astrologers Inc

2020 Dynamic Exam Question 5

Mandy:

2 December 1980

3:25pm Sydney NSW

Ascendant is close to 16 Aries

Mandy celebrates her 40th birthday this year and although she has a satisfying job as a language teacher and has travelled extensively, she has never married nor had children. Mandy has had long term relationships in the past and always thought she would marry but feels she just has not met a man she could spend the rest of her life with.

Although she has a wide network of friends and an active social life Mandy wonders if she is destined to live alone.

She is at a stage in her life where she thinks she needs to give some serious thought as to her future direction and life without a partner. This also raises the issue of whether to remain childless or go down the path of IVF using donor sperm.

Mandy has never been able to afford to enter the property market and also wonders about being able to provide a stable home environment should she have a child. She is starting to feel increasingly anxious and feels time is running out.

Mandy is at a stage in life when she is starting to re-evaluate her life direction and the previous assumptions she has made.

Using the major Transits and Secondary Progressions including the Progressed Lunar Phase from September 2020 to September 2021 how can you support Mandy in feeling

more comfortable through these uncertain times and assist her in understanding that any changes may be a chance to create a new way of life.

Charts at the end of the essay

Word count 2729

It's very challenging when we suddenly realise that past life choices no longer line up with our changing needs, and that to embrace change might mean disrupting our comfortability for a while. The outer planet transits associated with the mid-life crisis around age 40 will draw attention to this dilemma by challenging structures that were laid down at the first Saturn return to reveal any themes that need refreshing.

It's never too late for change, but when the first flushes of youth have passed it may certainly feel like time is running out - especially if you want to start a family and your biological clock is loudly ticking away in the background.

Mandy celebrates her 40th birthday this year, and finds herself facing this quandary. She is well travelled and has an active social circle and satisfying job as a language teacher, but has never settled down to marriage or had children.

She has reached a point in life where she is unsure whether she will ever marry, and is exploring the option of undergoing IVF and raising a child as a single parent. She is also unsure whether she is able to materially provide for a child, as she has not yet been able to afford to purchase property.

Having to re-evaluate her life direction and previous assumptions has made Mandy anxious, and she is seeking astrological guidance to help navigate through this uncertain time.

To help Mandy find positivity through these changing times I'm going to explain her secondary progressions, progressed lunar phase and transits for the period September 2020 – 21 - with focus on giving her clarity to understand that what she is going through now is setting up opportunity for her to create an exciting new way of life.

Mandy's natal chart describes an independently minded, freedom loving individual, with a probing drive to discover herself through intensive confrontation with life's truths – which she may have explored through extensive travel and connection with people of foreign

3. Candidate 202411

cultures. (Sun/8 Sagittarius) (Mercury conjunct Uranus – Scorpio/8) (Mars/9 exulted in Capricorn, rules ascendant and 8)

Mandy is in touch with the subtle aspects of her psyche - the feelings and emotions of her inner self. Intellectual understanding, although important to her, is not enough – she needs to ‘feel life’, to understand it. (Sun/8) (Mercury/Uranus/Scorpio/8)

A last quarter phase Moon personality suggests an imaginative person who seeks to expose the truth through a deep understanding of subconscious forces. With this phase there is a feeling that time is running out, which causes a business in the personality to ‘make hay while the sun shines’. Her Moon’s nodes however suggest that she should strive to balance her need for freedom and individuality against building creative expression within the home and family arena (south node Aquarius/11, North node Leo/4)

Mandy is caring, and leads a service orientated and socially connected life, putting the needs of others first to maintain harmonious relationships. (Venus disposes the chart – Venus/7) (Libra Moon/Saturn/Jupiter conjunction 6)

With no planetary oppositions active, she needs to objectively reflect off others to understand her own view point. (Moon and 3 other planets in Libra – 6) (Cluster planetary pattern – Western hemisphere houses 6, 7, 8 and 9) This may encourage Mandy to gravitate towards emotionally intense, or compulsive/obsessive relationships, and fall prey to themes of domination/ helplessness, which has most likely caused her personal grief at times, and would not bode well with the energy of her Libra stellium or her need for freedom of mind (Venus in Scorpio in detriment) (Pluto/7) (Venus and Pluto mutual reception) (Mercury/Uranus conjunction)

Mandy is responsible and has an overall need for a peaceful home and emotionally satisfying career, (MC Capricorn, Saturn/6/Libra – exulted) (Moon/6/Libra rules Cancer IC and conjunct Saturn ruler MC) but may have focused on making a living to fund and maintain freedom of enjoyment - with earnings going mostly towards travel rather than setting down roots in the property market or starting a family. (Jupiter/6 rules 9 and squares Mars/9) With an Aries ascendant and Mars in 9, her life’s motto may be ‘nothing ventured, nothing gained’, and although impulsive at times, she has lead a lively and passionate life in the ‘now’, in support of this adage.

(Mercury conjunct Uranus – Mercury rules 3) (Aries Asc, Mars in 9 square Jupiter)

4. Candidate 202411

With this insight into the natal personality I will explain Mandy's progressed lunation cycle, and the aspects between progressed and natal planets during her current crescent Moon phase. The evolving relationship between the progressed Sun and Moon in the secondary progressed lunation cycle will clarify Mandy's active emotional condition, and the current planetary progressions will show changing modes of personal development.

Together these cycles are the lens through which the transits trigger current events to facilitate growth and self-development, in support of her evolving life path. Navigated carefully, these cycles will allow Mandy to embrace change and transcend outmoded structures that may be standing in the way of her self-development.

Mandy's current secondary progressions in 2020/21, are a page within the chapter of a book. The 30 year (approximate) theme of the 'book' is set by the new Moon lunation cycle, within which are eight mini-themed lunation phases described over approximately three and a half years by annual progressed 'pages'.

Mandy's story began in August 1956 with a new Moon lunation that set the back drop for the last quarter phase in February 1978, into which she was eventually born two years later.

Her first new Moon lunation occurred in May 1986 at age five and half years, with progressed Sun/Moon conjunction in Sagittarius in her 9th house (against a natal bi-wheel chart) This could have been when the desire to learn and uncover truth through connection with foreign culture was sparked, as she dreamed of traveling far and wide to unravel life's secrets. (n Neptune/9 rules n 12)

This would have definitely supported the needs of her Sagittarius Sun and Aries ascendant, and set the stage for the next thirty years of life. (1986 p Sun/Moon Sagittarius – natal 9)
(1986 p Sun/Moon trine n Ascendant)

This 1986 new Moon cycle ended when Mandy was 35, and her second new Moon lunation cycle in 2016 set a different backdrop for the crescent Moon phase of 2019 that is still unfolding.

The part of life that the progressed Moon touches will engage our heart and heighten our emotional involvement in that area, and with the 2016 progressed new Moon in Capricorn, and applying to conjunct natal MC, the affairs of career, security and home life are highlighted. There is also a mental readjustment around having children indicated, which will challenge Mandy's public role, self-image and relationships as she attempts to balance career

5. Candidate 202411

against setting down more permanent roots. (2016 Sun/Moon/Capricorn applying conjunction n MC – opposite IC and square Asc/Dsc) (p Mercury quincunx n 5th house cusp)

There will also be opportunity for courageous action that allows Mandy to take what she truly wants out of life (2016 p Mars applying trine n Jupiter) (square in natal chart, this releases tension)

Her philosophies and need for security over this cycle will be increasingly influenced by feelings and sentiments as she starts to consider what feels right for her on an emotional level. This echoes her natal Libra stellium theme. (2016 p Jupiter applying conjunction n Moon - p Saturn applying conjunction n Moon.

I will explain to Mandy that the unfolding crescent phase of 2019 has brought her to a place of anticipation, a cross-road where she is experiencing the changes eluded to in the 2016 new Moon cycle, and she will need to decide in what direction they will take her. This unfolding phase is gathering impetus and making her aware of her future, and the break she may need to make with old ways of life. (Crescent Moon phase)

Her career has reached its peak, but she is restless for change and may have to strike a compromise now if she wants to start a family. (2019 p Sun separating conjunction n MC and quincunx n 5th cusp) (p Mc square n Uranus)

Although there will need to be a lot of adjustments to her life's position in order to facilitate the great task of embarking on motherhood, she is strong and structured enough to do this now if she so chooses. (p Mars trine n Saturn) (p Jupiter applying to perfect conjunction n Moon) (p Saturn applying conjunction n Moon) (natal Moon/6 rules 4)

Mandy's progressions of 2020/21 highlight major change to the way she is seen on her world stage, which will be facilitated by the optimism to move ahead with whatever decision she makes to support the goals of her evolving emotional self. (2020/21 p Moon n 11)

She has the courage to face reality and make the right choice with regards to having IVF and being a single parent – or not, and although her heart and desire are behind her ability to expand through new experiences, I would encourage her to spend time reflecting on this, and not rush her decision. (p Moon Pisces, will ingress n 12) (p Jupiter exact conjunction n Moon and sextile n Sun)

A mountain will however need to be climbed one way or the other once her choice is made, (2020/21 p Mars trine n Saturn) and Mandy may need to assert herself with friends or family that offer unwanted opinions. (2020/21 p Mars square n Venus)

6. Candidate 202411

There is the chance of outbursts and restlessness due to the pressures of change, but Mandy should see this for what it is and remain firm in what she believes is right for her, without being over reactive or trying to please others. (t Uranus quincunx n Moon and Sun Oct 20) (t Mars quincunx n Mercury) (2020/21 p Mars square n Venus)

The solution is at hand and she is capable of exploring her challenges with an open mind which will lead to her enlightenment at the right time, even if this doesn't meet everyone's expectations. (2020/21 p Mercury sextile n Uranus)

This is also the time of Mandy's 'mid-life crisis', when transiting Pluto and Neptune both square their birth positions, which may evoke a restless dissatisfaction within her with regards to what no longer works in her life.

I would explain that although uncomfortable at first, these events will awaken growth possibilities that enliven her life path into a new and exciting direction. If she resists these changes now, she may feel restless and dissatisfied long after the transits have ended.

(t Saturn opposition n North node) (t Uranus square n North node)

Her fading youth will come into focus now too, with an urgency to make change before it's too late. She will however need to make some careful considerations first, and also navigate through any deceptions that Neptune may cast over the process.

Pluto and Neptune not only square their natal positions this year, but Pluto, Jupiter and Saturn also transit Mandy's natal 10th house, reinforcing the message of her 2016 new Moon cycle for transformation, and the need to strike a responsible balance between career/ social standing and home and family life.

Mandy may have good memories and life experiences, but with no children as a legacy, might feel like a 'rolling stone that has gathered no moss'. The things of the world that satisfied her emotional expression before may not be fulfilling now, leaving her confused and listless. (t Neptune in n 12) (t Neptune square n Neptune) (2020/21 p Moon/Pisces in 12)

I would ask her how this may be relevant, and encourage her to take small steps to bring these two areas of life into balance.

Transiting Uranus forms a very strong tetradic Yod with natal Sun, Venus and Moon, indicating a turning point where Mandy will experience a regeneration to areas of her emotions, life drive, and her ability to express love and bond with others.

Personal and material values are undergoing change and she should remain flexible with regards to money matters as her earning ability might be erratic for several years. This should

7. Candidate 202411

be looked upon with excitement though because there could also be unforeseen windfalls, and many opportunities for independence and heightened self-esteem that come along with this. (Uranus ingress 2 June 21)

Mandy is harvesting what she has put into her career, and will need to take responsibility for outer world achievements now (t Saturn10) She has the ability to pragmatically review the affairs of her life and get a good perspective of her long term goals, perhaps even consider purchasing a property, even if this means teaming up with another investor. With luck on her side there could be recognition from superiors for a job well done, which may even come with a pay rise. (t Jupiter conjunct n MC 1-Oct 20 only every 12 years)

(t Jupiter trine n Jupiter, Saturn, Moon - signify natal work life) (n Moon rules 4 – the home) (n Saturn rules MC) (t Jupiter sextile n Sun) (t Saturn trine n Jupiter)

She has the enthusiasm to expand and realise her life goals, or at least find out what they truly are, and although she may feel lost for a while, she should not be discouraged or rush into something just to create change. There is already considerable change underway and she needs time to consider the long term implications of her decisions. (Pluto through 10) (t Jupiter ingress 11 March 21)

Transiting Neptune squares its natal position from March 2021, and through most of the year Mandy may experience an internal crisis of meaning and question the extent to which she has fulfilled her dreams. There may be a shift in spiritual values or even a feeling of worthlessness or disappointment at times due to a tendency to undervalue her achievements up to now. Feeling slightly vulnerable and confused, it's best to avoid intoxicants as she will not have the capacity to cope well with them.

She is changing from one phase of life to another and experiencing an all or nothing quality that demands restructure, and she should allow change to happen naturally so that it does not occur outside of her control. (t Pluto square n Pluto Sep 20-Jan 21)

She could feel like the rug is being pulled out from beneath her as she adjusts old life-governing structures to embrace a refreshing new approach to life, but I would assure her that once her initial resistance passes, she will free herself from some of the burdens that have been holding her back. (t Uranus yod to n Sun, Venus, Moon) (Uranus quincunx Jupiter and Saturn)

She has the assertive self-belief to break old habits and gain new confidence in herself to express who she is and what she wants from life. It may be very liberating to get involved

8. Candidate 202411

with an organisation that works for people's rights now too if she is so inclined. (t Uranus trine n Mars Nov to March 21) (t Mars conjunct n Asc – n Mars rules Asc)

Mandy should be mindful not to over focus on her ideas and overlook the finer details. Keeping an open mind to constructive feedback from those that she trusts would be beneficial in helping her gain some perspective. (t Jupiter square n Mercury) (t Uranus quincunx n Sun April/ May 21) She should also be careful not to throw caution to the wind and rush into a relationship purely because she is anxious to have a child. (t Uranus opposite n Venus – Oct 20, April/May 21) (2020/21 p Mercury sextile n Uranus)

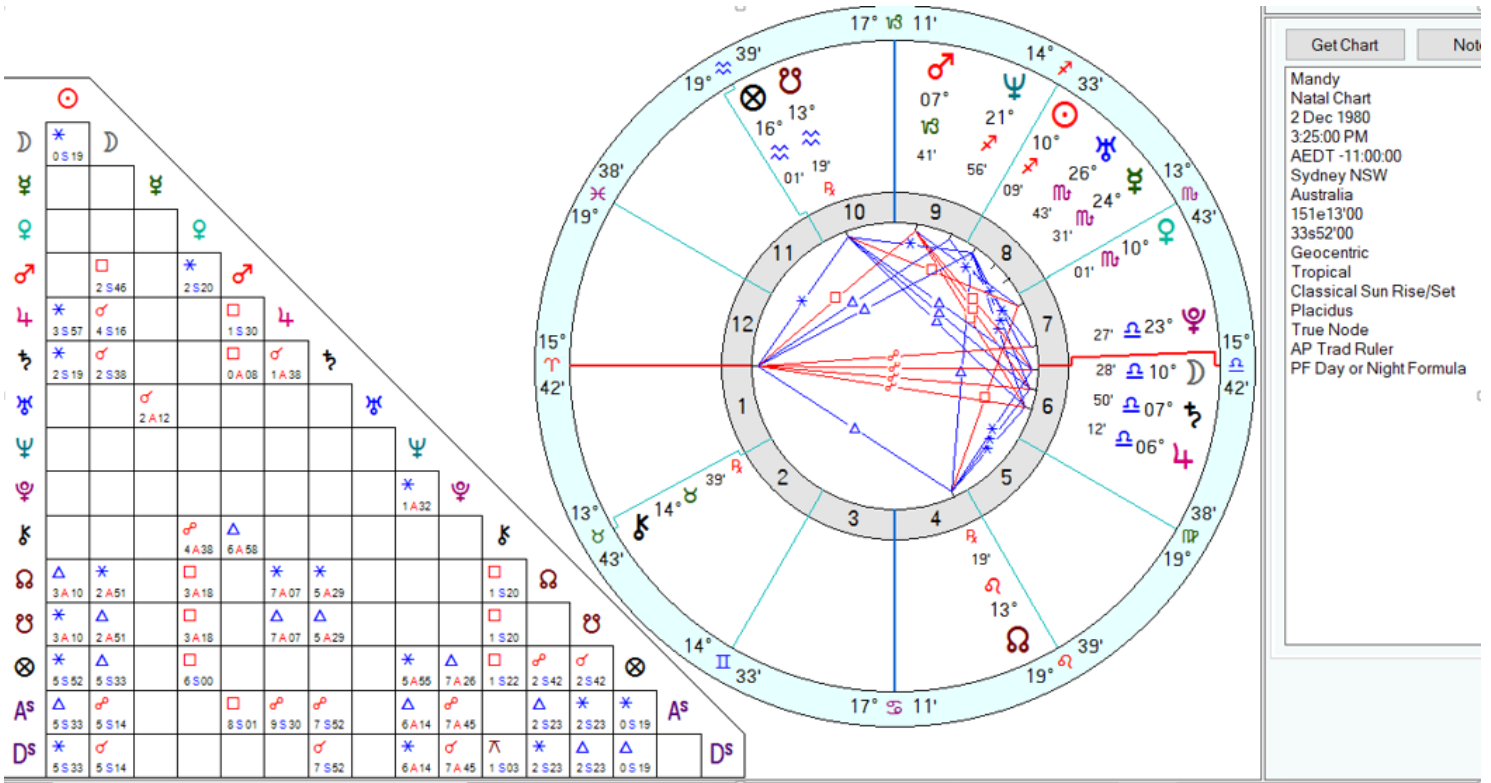
I would council Mandy to consider doing some meditation or inner work, which would make a profound difference to the way she experiences these trying times. Perhaps the study of philosophy might also evoke self-enquiry and help heal any mind blockages that she may have. (t Pluto sextile n Mercury/ Uranus 8) (2020/21 p Moon n 12)

This is a time for Mandy to acknowledge her accomplishments and understand that she is free to do what suits her, as long as she is willing to take responsibility for her actions.

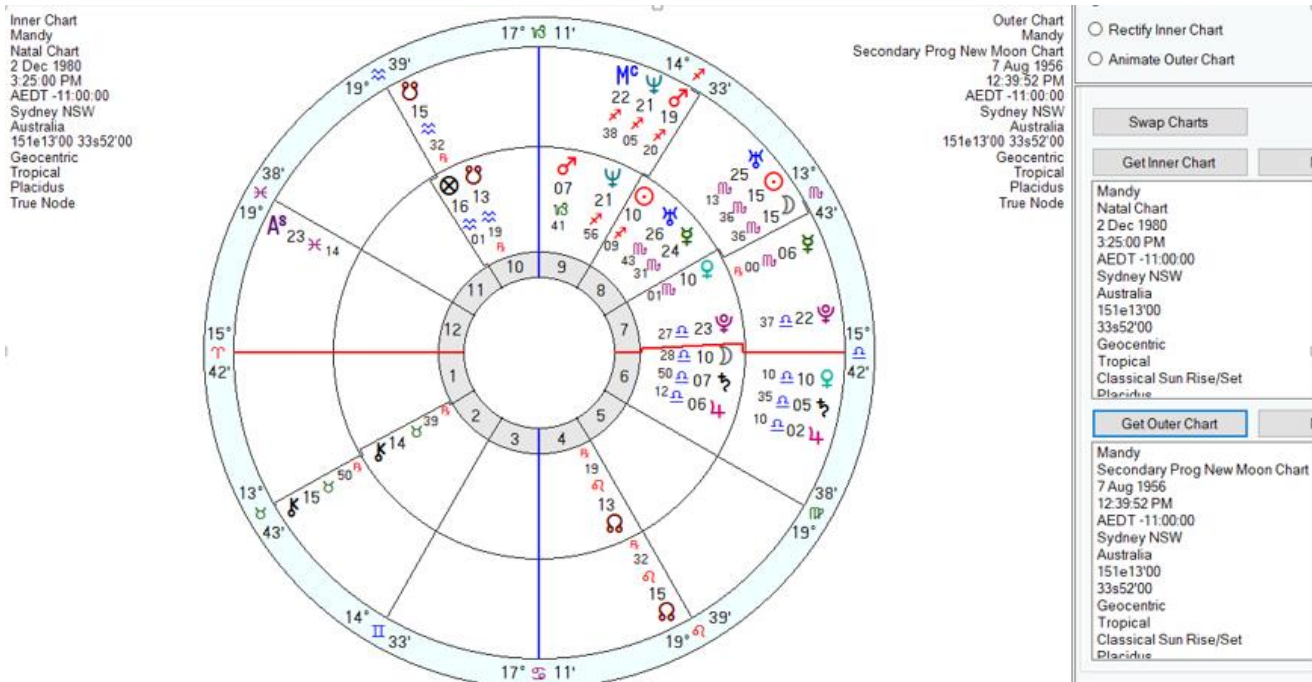
Embracing this period with an attitude of excitement and imagination will allow Mandy to receive the opportunities that are available to her, and enter her second phase of life with self-reliance and a new set of rules.

Word count - 2729

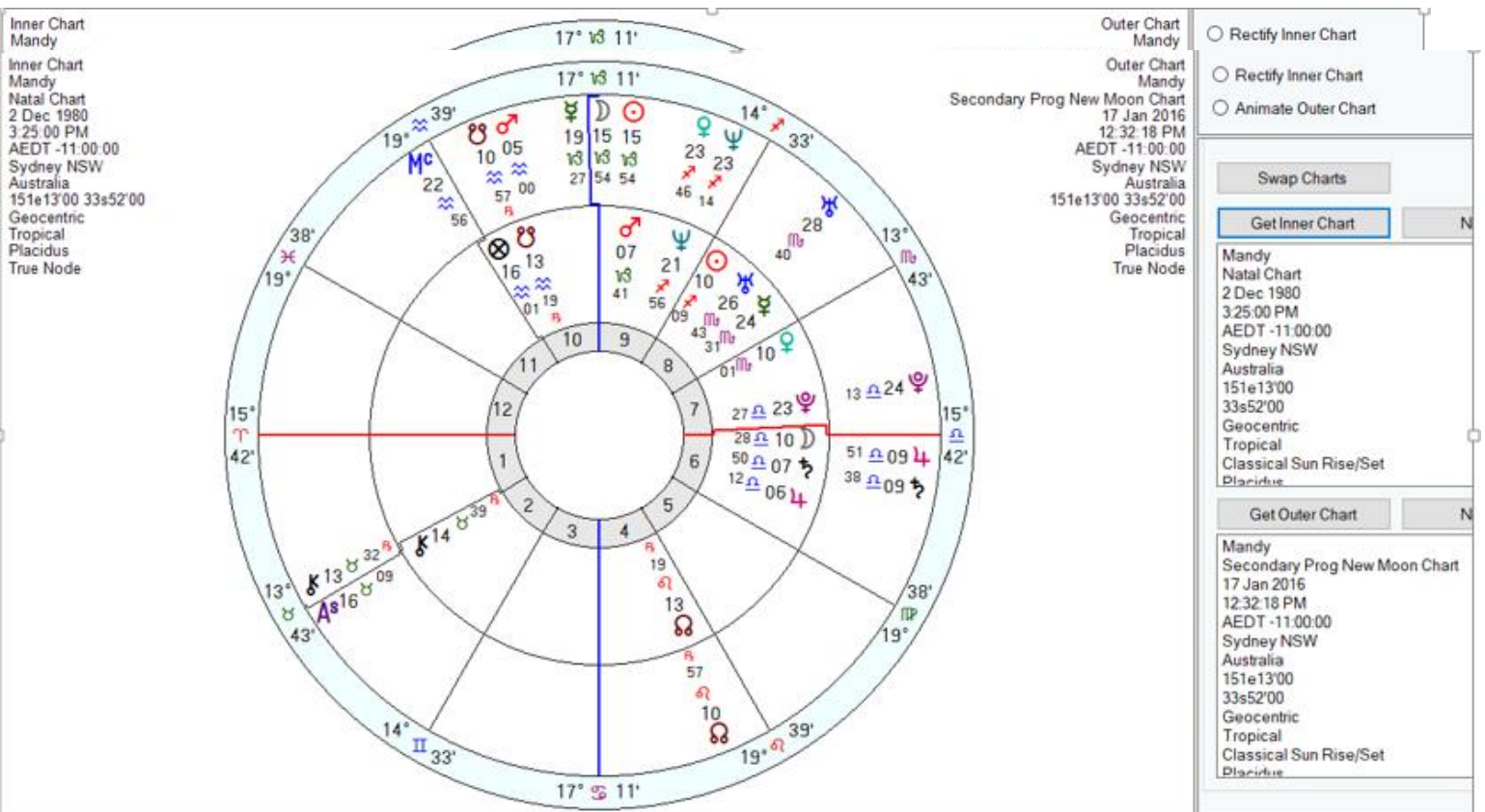
Mandy's Charts for this essay
Natal chart



New Moon of 1956 and natal - started the cycle in which she was born (born during last quarter phase)

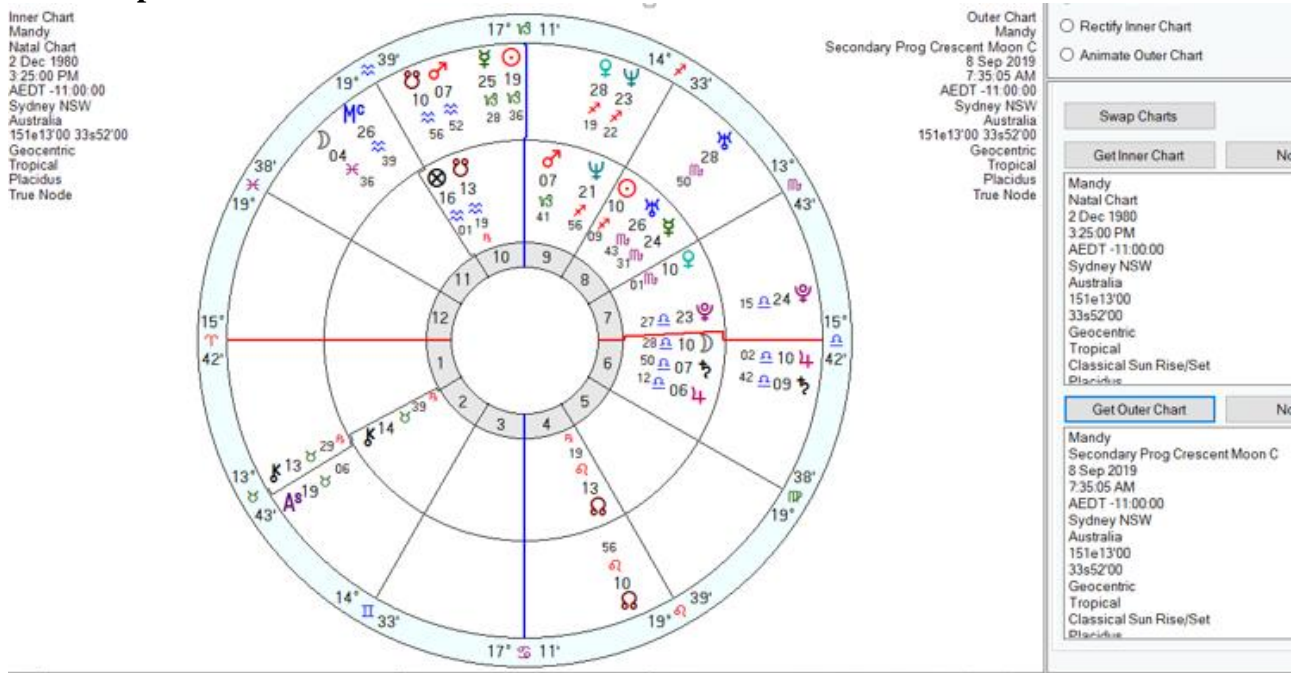


First New Moon Lunation Cycle of 1986 and natal



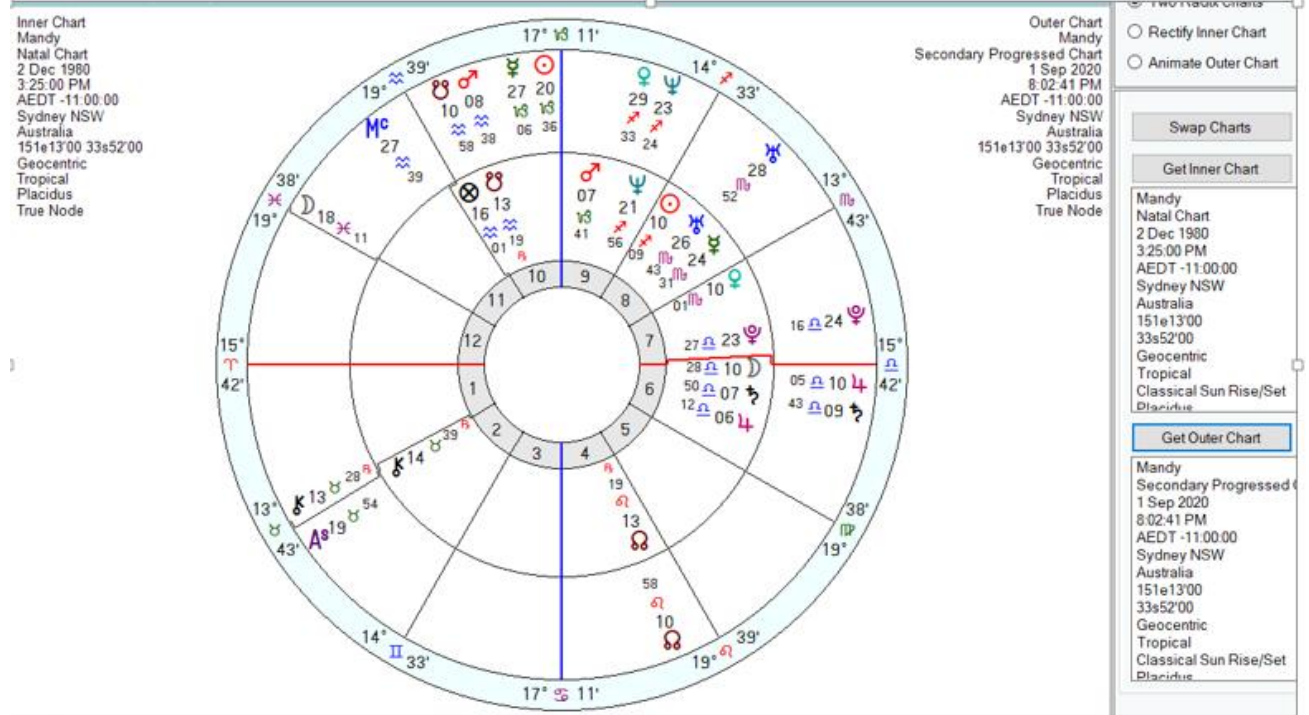
Second New Moon Lunation Cycle of 2016 and natal

Crescent phase of 2019 and natal

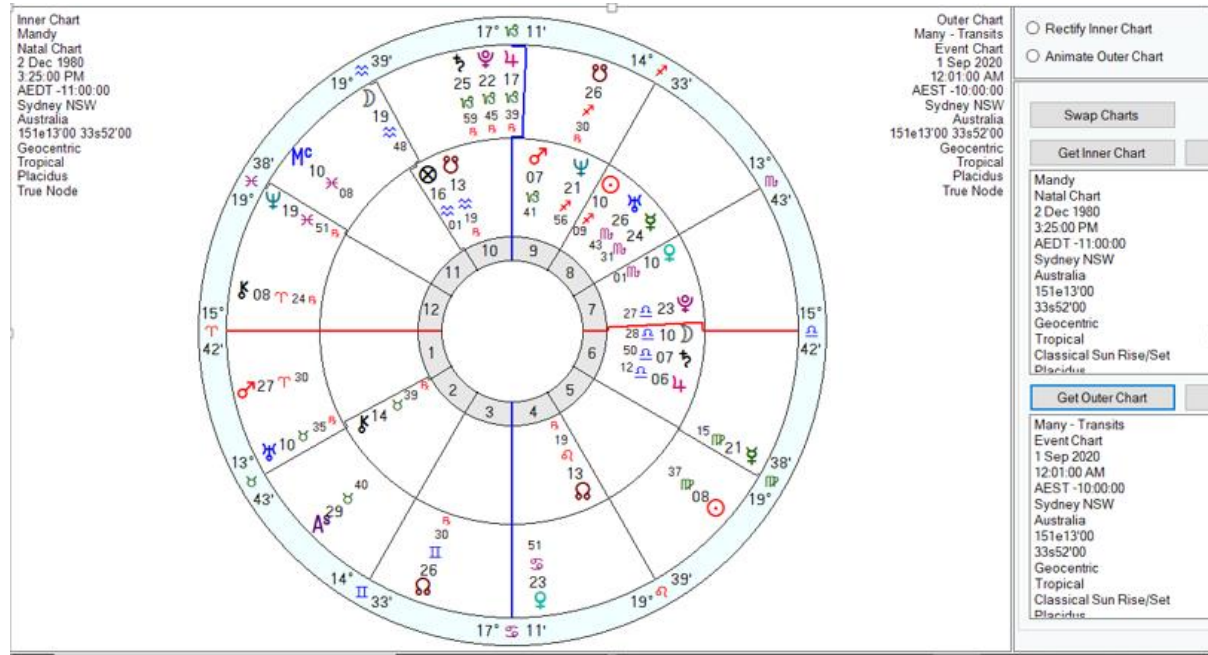


11. Candidate 202411

Progression/natal chart for 2020/21



Transit/ natal for 2020/21



Bibliography for this essay

Greene, Liz & Sasportas, Howard. The Luminaries. Red Wheel/Weiser. 1992.

Steven Forrest, The Inner Sky: How to Make Wise Choices for a More Fulfilling Life (Borrego Springs, CA: Seven Paws Press, 2012).

Deborah Houlding, The Houses: Temples of the Sky (Bournemouth, England: The Wessex Astrology Ltd, 2006).

Marks, Tracy, The Art of Chart Interpretation: A Step-by-Step Method of Analyzing, Synthesizing, and Understanding the Birth Chart / Tracy Marks, Revised and Expanded Edition, (Lake Worth, FL: IBIS PRESS, 2009)

Greene, Liz, Saturn - a New Look at an Old Devil, 2011.

Tompkins, Sue, Aspects in Astrology: A Comprehensive Guide to Interpretation (London: Rider, 2001)

Herring, Amy. Essential Astrology. Llewellyn Publications, Woodbury, Minnesota, 2016.

Pelletier, Robert. Planets in Houses: Experiencing your environment. Para Research Inc. Rockport, MA, USA. 1978

Jajo Banzhaf & Anna Haebler, Key Words for Astrology, Samuel Weiser, Inc, PO Box 612, York Beach, ME

Linda Reid, Astrology Step by Step, Canopus Enterprises Pty Ltd, Wynyard, Tasmania.

Astrology software – Janus, Version 5, Astrologyhouse.com

Rex E. Bills, The Rulership Book, American Federation of Astrologers Inc, Rural Road, Tempe, AZ

Gail Fairfield, Choice Centred Astrology. Ramp Creek Publishing Company, Smithville, IN

Carol Rushman, The Art of Predictive Astrology – forecasting your life events. 1st ed. 2002.

Christine Shaw, Predictive Astrology – A practical guide. Llewellyn Publications, Woodbury, Minnesota. 2001.

Robert Hand, Planets in Transit – Life Cycles for Living. Schiffer Publishing, 4880 Lower Valley Road, Atglen, PA 19310 USA. Exp 2nd ed.

Steven Forrest, The Changing Sky - Learning Predictive Astrology. Seven Paws Press Inc, Borrego Springs, CA. 2nd ed.

Bernadette Brady, Predictive Astrology – The Eagle and the the Lark. Red Wheel/Wiser, LLC, 500 Third Street, Suite 230, San Francisco, CA 94107. 1999.

13. Candidate 202411

Robert Pelletier – Planets in Aspect, Understanding your Inner Dynamics. Para Research, Rockport, Massachusetts. 1980.