

SECTION 1

Relationship Astrology

QUESTION 1

Sally : 11 Nov 1964, 7.11am, Gold Coast Qld Australia ASC close to 25 Sag

Rick : 13 July 1942, 11.41am, Sydney NSW Australia ASC close to 25 Libra

Sally and Rick, who reside in Sydney, were married in 2010 after being close friends for 8 years. They believe that their 'marriage was made in heaven' and they are true soul mates. Their philosophy is that even soul mates have to work at relationship issues that arise periodically. They are parents to a 15-year-old son, who Sally adopted in 2001. They both work in the entertainment industry which involves work-related separations at times. They are currently going through a 'rough patch' and have sought a consultation with you.

Using Synastry and the Derived Ascendant or Midpoint Composite Charts: what planetary themes can you identify that demonstrates their devotion to each other and their soul mate quality? What challenges, do they face together? What insights can you give this couple that empowers them and raises their understanding of the pathway they have chosen to travel together?

Introduction

In understanding Rick and Sally's relationship, we begin with considering their individual charts to consider their key characteristics and the qualities they seek in a partner.

We then look at their synastry charts to learn about how they interact, then consider their composite mid point chart to bring another layer of insight into their relationship and its potentials.

Top line summary

Rick and Sally share a deep emotional, psychic and spiritual connection. Overall, their astrology shows they are blessed with an intimately connected relationship which aligns with their sense of being 'soul mates'.

Their pitfalls are a tendency to get over idealistic and emotionally and psychically enmeshed and overwhelmed at times, and practicality may sometimes be put aside in favour of the more spiritual and emotional, and at times dramatic, aspects of their relationship and shared life. They are also learning about balanced give and take in the relationship.

These are areas they can be aware of so they can step back when required and try to see any issues from a grounded and practical perspective. They can then best manage their lives with greatest harmony upon which they can enjoy their close relationship.

Key natal characteristics of each person

As a person can only bring to a relationship as much of any quality as they have developed within themselves, it is crucial to first look at the natal charts of Rick and Sally before looking at how they relate together.

In a woman's chart, we especially look at the sun, Venus and Mars to see what she seeks in a partner and what her love nature is like, as well as activity in her seventh house and the associated ruling planet/s.

It is traditionally held that a woman's sun sign, position and aspects indicate the type of man she is attracted to and his qualities. Sally's sun is in sensitive, passionate Scorpio which has the 'urge to merge' with another, so she desires a man with whom she can have an intimate partnership including a strong sexual connection.

Her sun is in the twelfth house, which is a hidden, mysterious realm that is linked to how we can 'un-do' ourselves. Her sun here also indicates sensitivity to the spiritual realm and a desire to be at one with it.

The boundary-less qualities of the twelfth house, combined with the merging devotion of Scorpio, could make her less aware of her personal boundaries, so she may benefit from some retreat time to reconnect with her self. Otherwise she could tend to get too intertwined with her partner which could be a source of the 'self undoing' associated with the twelfth house.

Her Scorpio sun is conjunct compassionate, spiritual and boundary-less Neptune, further indicating that she can sometimes lose sight of her boundaries in relationship and she may be attracted to spiritual or creative men. She could also feel the possessiveness associated with Scorpionic energy.

Mars indicates what qualities are attractive to her in a man, and with Sally's Mars in Virgo, we can assume she is attracted to healthy, natural and neat men.

Sally has a strong Venus in its own sign of Libra in the beneficial eleventh house. We see she is a charming, lovely woman with a desire for harmonious partnerships.

Her seventh house of marriage carries the mutable sign of Gemini, indicating she likes a man with whom she can enjoy intellectual stimulation and lively conversation.

Rick's key natal characteristics

A man's Venus and how it is placed in his natal chart says a lot about the type of woman he is attracted to, as does his moon. Rick's Venus is in communicative, curious Gemini, telling us that he is attracted to intelligence and liveliness, and someone interesting to talk to. This aligns well with Sally's seventh house cusp in Gemini as she also values these qualities in a partner.

His ascendant is Libra, the sign of partnerships, showing that relationships are important to him. His chart ruler Venus is in Gemini in the transformational eighth house. Although Gemini is generally a lighthearted energy, with his eighth house involved he will seek a certain depth of intimacy and intensity with his partner.

His moon is strongly placed in its own sign of Cancer and right on his midheaven. This strong moon shows us that Rick is emotionally sensitive, nurturing and intuitive, and that his wife is likely to carry those qualities.

This moon is conjunct his Cancerian sun, indicating he is very focused on nurturing and emotional energies.

With the sun representing the masculine, and the moon the feminine nature within Rick, we see he is motivated to make an emotionally caring connection with his partner.

Rick shows a more fiery and dramatic streak in his sex drive with Mars in lavish Leo. There is an element of the dramatic in his seduction style, combined with Leo's sense of romance. He likes to be proud of his woman.

This side of Rick in relationships is particularly pronounced because his Mars is the ruler of his seventh house of marriage, which has fiery Aries on its cusp.

Rick's chart carries primarily water and air signs, so he is simultaneously sensitive and emotionally attuned, and as well as having a certain restlessness and desire for mental stimulation.

His airy side may help him avoid becoming excessively emotional. With no planets in earth, he may find it challenging to keep his feet on the ground at times, or get to grips with the practical essentials of everyday life.

Synastry chart comparison

Now that we have a basic sense of what each person needs and seeks in their partner, we can look at their charts together to see how they relate.

A key indicator of an emotionally intimate relationship is seen by the strong trine from Sally's Scorpio sun to Rick's Cancer moon. This is a strong connection between them and is a factor in their sense of being soul mates.

"From the point of view of perfection, it should be the man's moon in favourable aspect to the woman's sun...(this aspect) is an excellent one that can withstand very considerable affliction among the other planets...(this aspect) is one of the best indications of radical harmony" (Astrology and Sex, Vivien E Robson, page 90).

Also key in their sense of sharing a soul connection is that their water sign suns closely trine one another. This shows a strong connection and respect between them. 'Having two suns in harmonious signs is a good indicator of compatibility' (Synastry, Penny Thornton, page 92).

Their spiritual connection is further enhanced by several Neptune aspects between each chart.

Since Sally's natal Neptune is conjunct her Scorpio sun in the twelfth house, it already has a significant spiritual influence on her. In their synastry charts, Rick's sun and moon closely trine her Neptune, showing a strong psychic, spiritual and emotional (since both their suns and Sally's Neptune are in water signs) connection between these two people.

"This comparative aspect (sun trine Neptune) can increase romantic feelings and idealism in a romantic relationship but does not in itself guarantee stability or practicality in such a relationship" (The Astrology of Human Relationships, Frances Sakoian and Louis Acker, 1987, page 102).

Further, Rick's Neptune trines Sally's moon, strengthening their psychic connection and mutual understanding. With these Neptunian-moon contacts especially, one or the other could become "exceedingly emotionally dependent on the other" (Synastry, Penny Thornton, p97). There is such a powerful psychic tie between them that it could at times feel overwhelming.

Sally's Mars (ruler of his seventh house) sextiles Rick's Mercury (ruler of her seventh house), indicating another good connection in how they "intellectually stimulate and energise one another...and bring out each other's inventive and

resourceful qualities” (The Astrology of Human Relationships, Frances Sakoian and Louis Acker, 1987, page 170).

This Mars-Mercury sextile can be helpful in how they approach tough times to find ways forward. They could also enjoy discussing ideas about their work in the creative entertainment industry.

One of the more challenging aspects between the two charts is Sally’s sun in strong square to Rick’s Mars, which is the ruler of his seventh house of marriage; “...(this is) one of the most difficult of all comparative aspects...this can produce violent conflicts and disagreements” (The Astrology of Human Relationships, Frances Sakoian and Louis Acker, 1987, page 92).

Rick’s Mars in fiery Leo is conjunct his Chiron in Leo, indicating a core wound around expressing himself and being recognised for it, so it could be that any conflict that arises between the two is related to this issue. Because of his gentle Cancerian nature, he may struggle with the balance in expressing his assertions, and at times feel a passive-aggressive attitude in his marriage.

Sally’s Scorpio sun conjunct boundary-less Neptune in her twelfth house squaring Rick’s Mars could mean disagreements emerge when too much closeness becomes overwhelming to Rick’s need to shine (Leo) as an individual.

Another significant aspect in their synastry charts is Sally's Venus in a strong square with Rick's moon. This aspect in synastry generally indicates a friction or confusion in understanding each other's moods and feelings.

However, with Sally's natal Venus being in rulership in the 'marriage' sign of Libra, and Rick's moon being so nurturing, this Venus-moon square would probably be relatively positively expressed and help them work through issues.

The downside might be a tendency to encourage mutual self-indulgence in emotional matters and possibly in pleasurable or romantic pursuits at the expense of life's practical matters. Also it could be that Sally, with her Venus in Libra's desire for peace, may give in to Rick's emotional sensitivity as shown by his Cancer moon.

Another challenging aspect is the weak square between Sally's Mars and Rick's Saturn. This aspect in synastry charts is considered very challenging, indicating that they "are likely to make unreasonable and inconsiderate demands on each other...(this aspect) in marital relationships is likely to experience difficulties" (The Astrology of Human Relationships, Frances Sakoian and Louis Acker, 1987, p252).

Sally's Mars makes a tight square to Rick's Uranus, indicating some volatility and instability in the relationship. With Rick's Saturn and Uranus in his eighth house of other people's money and sex, this Mars-Uranus square indicates they could experience volatility or even unpredictable changes relating to these matters.

Sally has an adopted son, who is represented in her eleventh house*. Sally's Mars is in Rick's eleventh house - which also represents her son in his chart** - and thus issues around the child may be a source of conflict at times. Further, Sally's Saturn is in Rick's fifth house indicating he has responsibilities he needs to handle relating to Sally's children.

We see an essential compatibility between them in that Sally has a fire sign rising, and Rick has an air sign rising, and they are in almost exact sextiles, showing their personalities as very compatible.

Further, they both have suns in water signs, so we see they have a lot of scope to connect with harmony and depth.

** The eleventh house is the realm associated with adopted children because if we turn the chart, the eleventh house is the fifth house (children) from the seventh house of 'the other'. **In Rick's chart, Sally's son is represented by his eleventh house for the same reason.*

Element-wise, Sally is quite balanced where as Rick has a lot of water and air. This could make Rick at times emotionally unpredictable as he may simultaneously experience both sides of the emotional/detached coin or flip between them. Sally's balance of elements may help even the keel with Rick's water/air emphasis.

Sally's minimal cardinal energy means she may not be as willing to drive changes and is likely to be more fixed or mutable in how she approaches life. Rick is very cardinal with more will to make changes. At times these different approaches to life could raise issues in the partnership.

Planets in each other's houses

Both Sally and Rick's Jupiters are in each other's seventh house of marriage, indicating their relationship is beneficial to both. This brings a spiritual or philosophical and a rather grand outlook to their relationship. They may feel they can accomplish anything together and probably can! They already realise they are a 'match made in heaven' and this Jupiterian influence is in good part behind that.

Also significant is that Sally's strong Venus is in Rick's twelfth house, indicating a close psychic link that helps them be compassionate with one another. With the

mystical energies in the twelfth house, this set up also indicates they can get in touch with these energies together. This may also help them feel psychically connected when physically apart.

Antiscia

Rick's Jupiter at 7 degrees Cancer is exactly conjunct the antiscia point on Sally's North Node at 23 degrees of Gemini. Antiscion points are the mirror image to each other, and act like a conjunction; so with Rick's exalted Jupiter on Sally's beneficial North Node which is right on the cusp of her seventh house, this is another very positive connection and suggests a karmically blessed relationship.

Composite chart

In alignment with Rob Hand's technique for analysing composite charts in his book *Planets in Composite* (which all references in this section source from), our exploration of Rick and Sally's relationship begins with studying the placement of their composite sun and moon.

The sun and moon placement by house shows the most important issues in the relationship, and the aspects they make show us how they will deal with them.

Rick and Sally's composite sun is in Virgo in the eleventh house, which is an excellent position for relationships as it is the house of friendship and indicates they share mutual hopes and dreams (p90).

Conjunct this sun is their composite Mercury in Virgo, indicating the importance of their friendship and that they enjoy communicating and mentally stimulating one another.

Their sun sextiles their composite Scorpio ascendant, which Hand says indicates a shared enjoyment of social exchange with others and that their friends are an important part of their relationship (p114).

There is a square from their sun to their composite Jupiter in the seventh house, indicating a huge amount of energy is flowing in their marriage – this needs an positive and creative outlet or it could result in restlessness and instability.

Their composite Jupiter sextiles their midheaven (conjunct Venus in Leo), which indicates they have a lot of energy for their marriage and use it well to shine on the world stage of the tenth house.

Their risk with this great set up is a tendency to be restless and overextend themselves. Thus, patience and temperance are wise qualities for them to cultivate. Fortunately they have Jupiter in steady and patient Taurus to help them.

According to Hand, the composite moon “represents the medium through which the sun’s energy expresses itself...(in a composite chart) the moon indicates how well the relationships acts as a medium of emotion expression for the two people” (p121).

Their composite moon is their most significant composite point because of the influential aspects it makes with several other planets. There are some challenges evident, but also opportunities for them to deepen and transform their emotional connection.

Their moon is in Aries in their sixth house of day-to-day work, service and health. This is a dutiful house which is about what we need to do on a daily basis such as chores, serving others and caring for our bodies and pets.

They may have a purpose in this lifetime related to service or health in some way that could be restrictive; perhaps they are compelled to help someone or something and this involves many day-to-day duties and responsibilities, which

could relate to health issues or pet care. Or that one of them feels they must carry too much of the sixth house burden of meeting the day-to-day needs of life.

Hand suggests one partner may feel subordinated by the other with this placement (p125). "One person may feel like a doormat for the other; he or she is likely to get tired of that position and revolt against the other." (p125)

The way forward is for both partners to strive to be more equal in giving and receiving.

With the planet of restriction and responsibility, Saturn, in detriment in Aries and conjunct their moon, we see a further level of constriction and responsibility – or at best a structured and mature approach to day to day duties and service or health matters.

This set up can indicate an emotional barrier between them. There is danger of them over-analysing their relationship as warned by Hand (p141). At best, they can use this analytical approach to help them understand the relationship in order to deepen it.

They also have a strong square from their moon to their composite Uranus, indicating some volatility in their emotional connection. The positive side is a creative explosiveness that could help them re-invent their marriage.

Their moon also strongly opposes their composite Neptune, which Hand says can bring difficulties due to confusion about what the relationship's true nature is.

Hand explains this Neptune-moon aspect can bring about two forms of illusion; a saviour-victim relationship where one saves the 'victim' who in turn wants to be saved. Ideally, the couple should try to relate as equals to avoid this tendency. Or, they may each have very different views of the relationship. One may idealise the relationship and the other might take advantage of that. As a couple they both need to apply as much detachment and objectivity as possible to avoid these pitfalls (p150).

Further complicating their moon is a strong trine to their composite Pluto, indicating an emotional intensity and transformational energy – this could make it difficult for them to detach emotionally. Hand says it can produce a very meaningful and significant relationship but it will sometimes be hard to avoid being too emotionally involved with one another (p153).

They also have a strong trine from their composite moon to their Mars, again pointing to strong emotional involvement with plenty of passion. Bringing extra love and affection to their moon is a weak trine to their composite Venus.

Their composite ascendant is in Scorpio, which is apt considering the rest of their astrological indicators of a close and intense relationship. The downside of Scorpio includes possessiveness and obsessiveness, manipulative tactics, brooding, and suspiciousness. In the light, it is deeply devotional, passionate, loyal and able to merge at deep levels including sexually.

The modern and traditional ruler of Scorpio, as the composite chart ruler, are Pluto and Mars respectively. They are exactly conjunct in Leo in their composite tenth house. This is a very strong set up and indicates a shared life direction or higher purpose, and one that involves intensity, transformation and power.

Summary

Rick and Sally have a deeply intimate relationship, with a strong psychic, emotional and spiritual connection. Along with the beauty and passion of this connection, they also have some challenges with their levels of emotional intensity and the balance of give and take.

It will benefit them to have some time apart to reconnect to their personal energy. They are advised to cultivate objectivity, groundedness and practicality regarding their relationship and shared life, as their passionate emotional relationship could at times sweep them away from practical management of life. They can also focus on creating a healthy balance on giving and receiving.

The challenging aspects in their relationship are relatively mild compared to the deeply intimate ties between them in many areas, so although they may encounter struggles at some points as any relationship does, they are equipped to overcome them.

Word count – 3276

References

The Astrology of Human Relationships (1973) Frances Sakoian and Louis S Acker, Perennial Library – Harper and Row Publishers

Astrology and Sex (1963), Vivien E Robson, W. Foulsham & Co. Ltd

Synastry (1982), Penny Thornton, The Aquarian Press

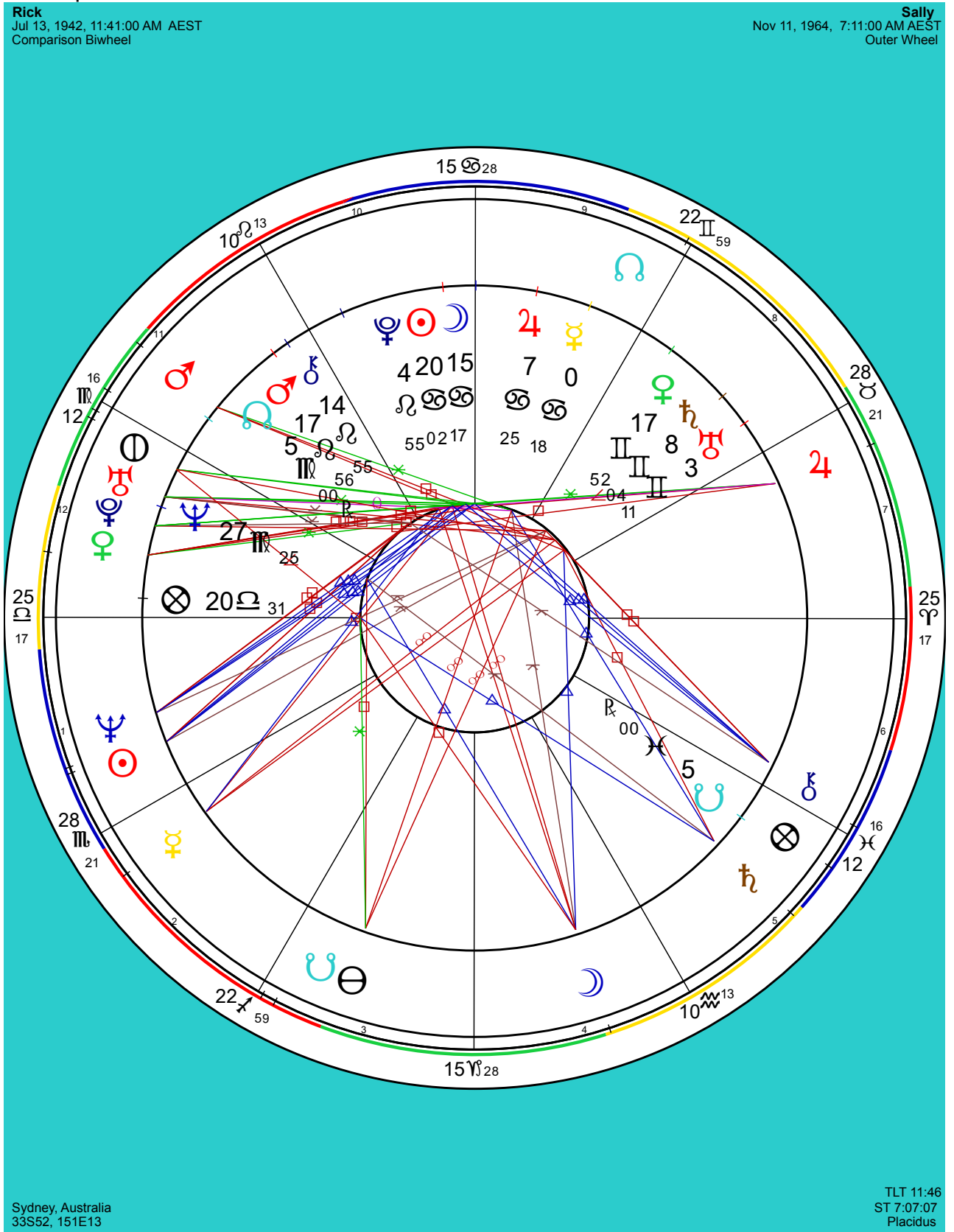
Planets in Composite (1975), Rob Hand, Para Research

Charts

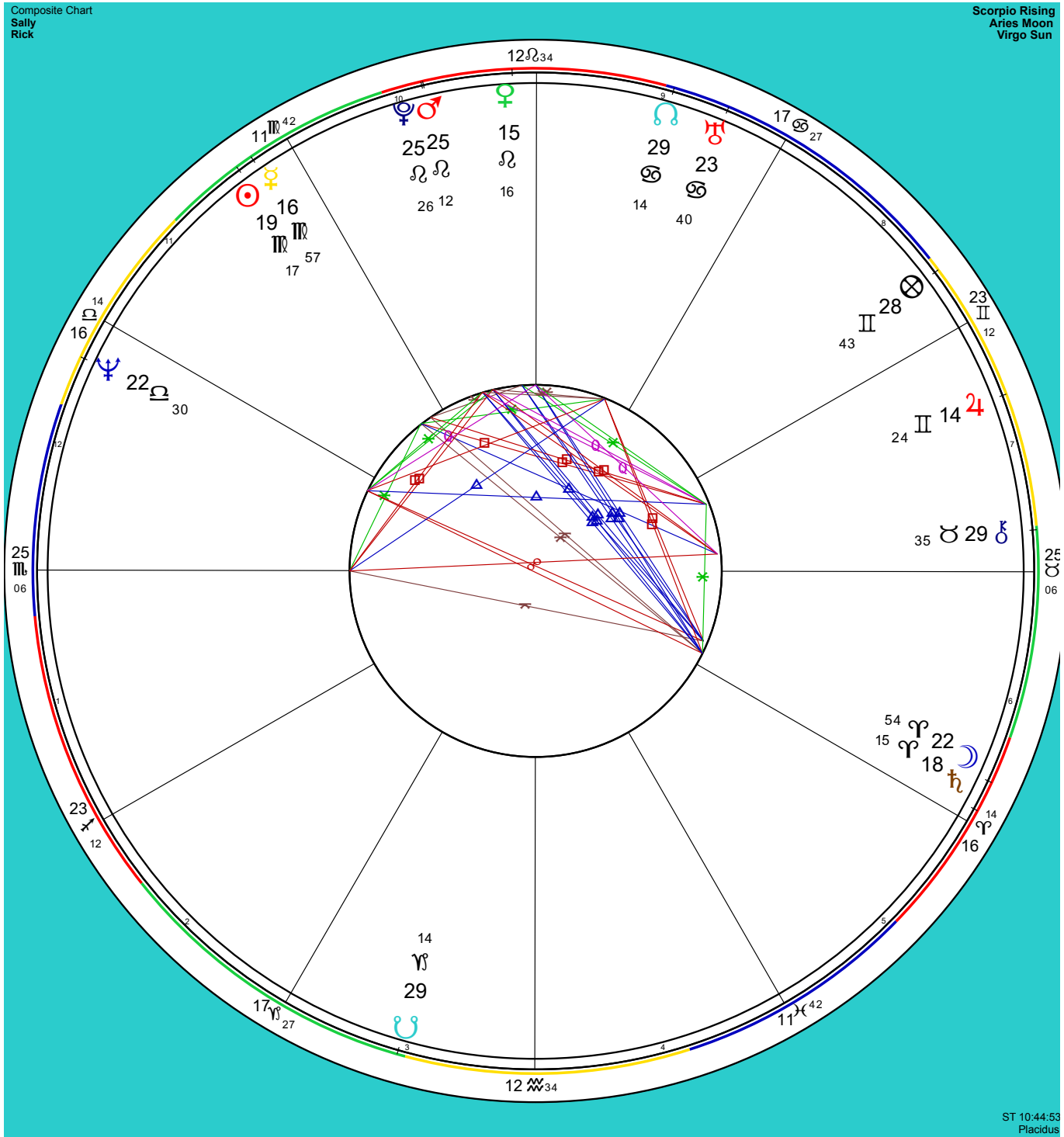
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- Comparison biwheel
- Synastry comparison biwheel
- Natal charts of Rick and Sally

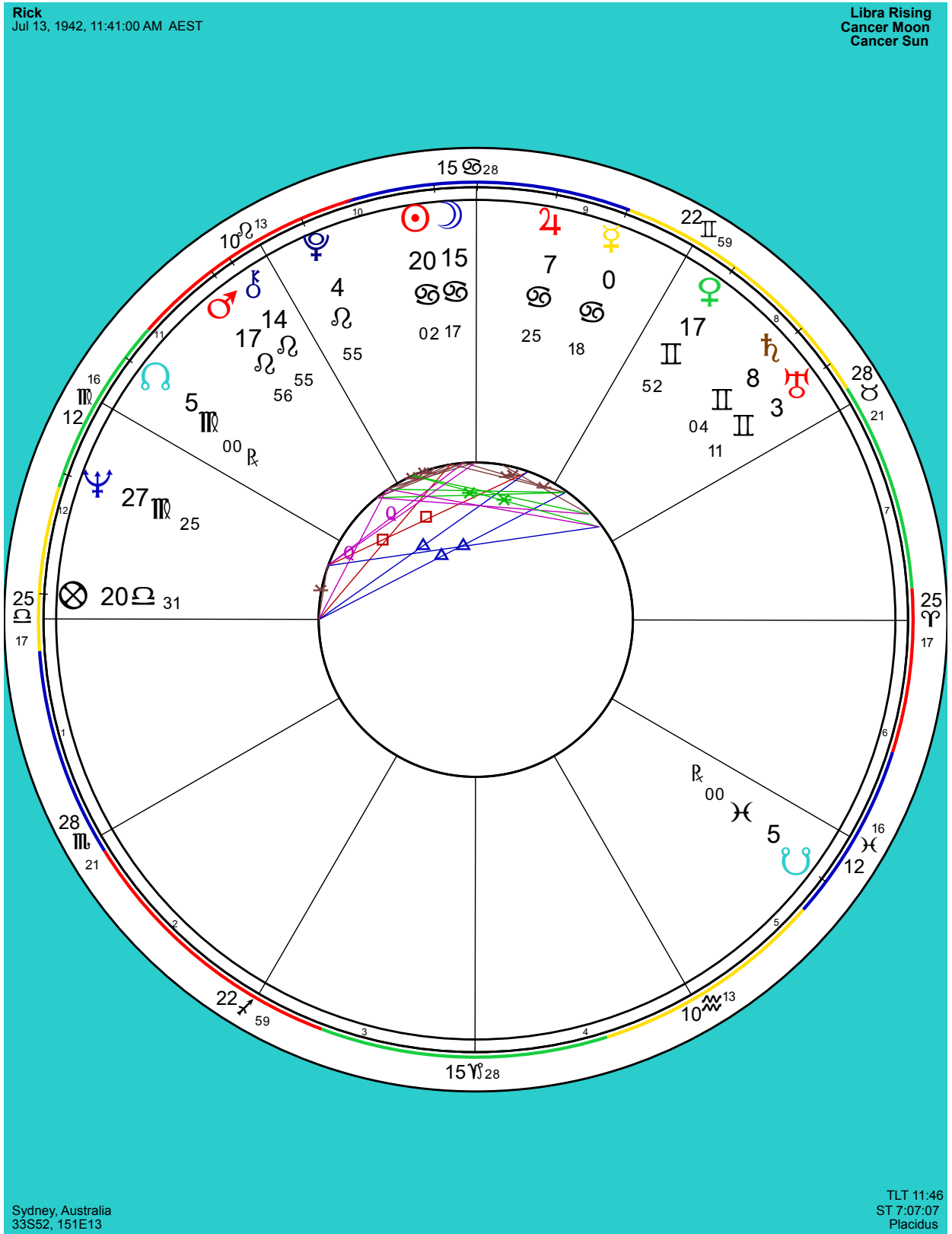
• Comparison biwheel



- Synastry comparison biwheel

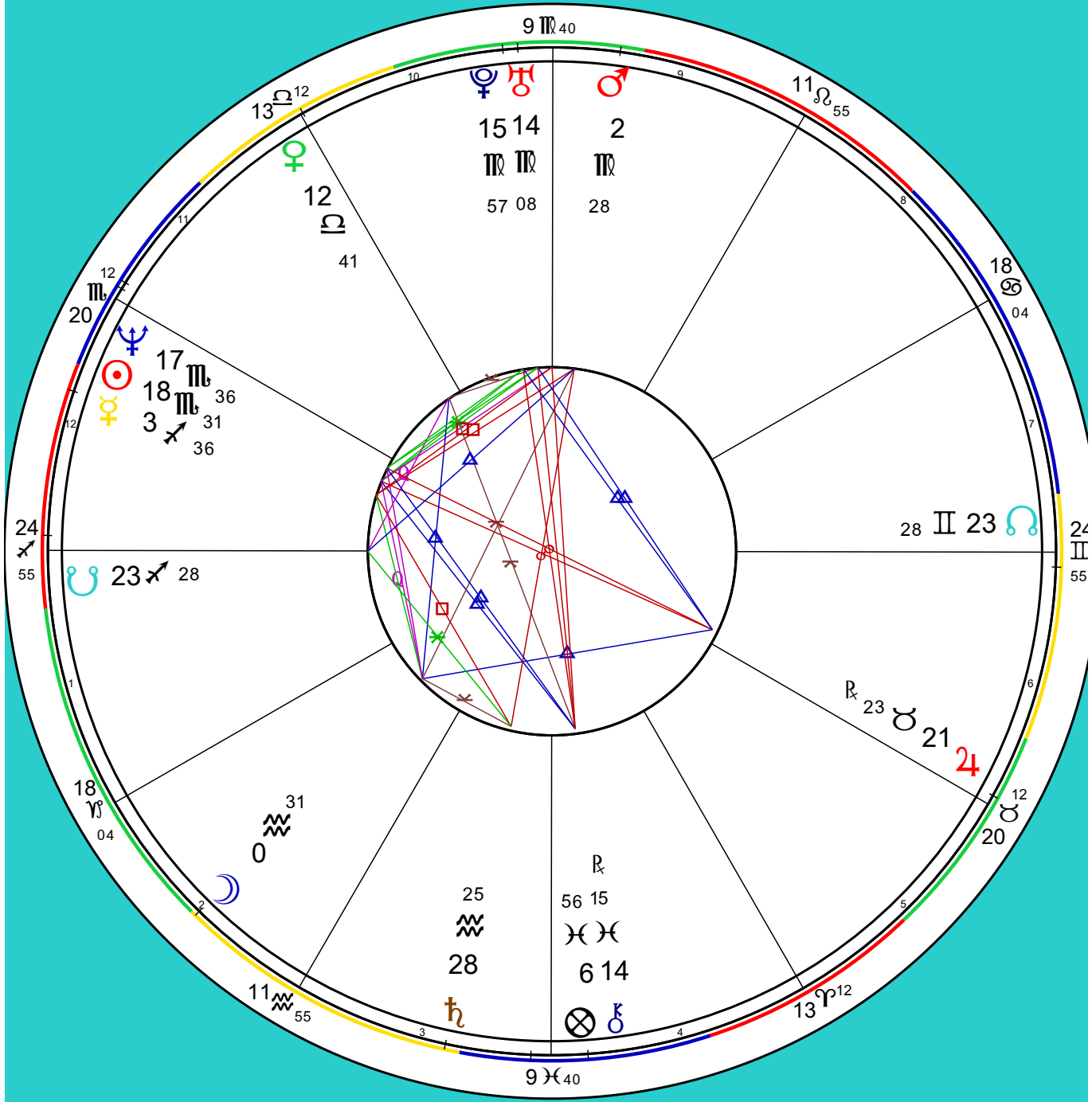


• Natal charts of Rick and Sally



Sally
Nov 11, 1964, 7:11:00 AM AEST

Sagittarius Rising
Aquarius Moon
Scorpio Sun



Gold Coast, Australia
27S58, 153E25

TLT 7:2
ST 10:44:53
Placidus