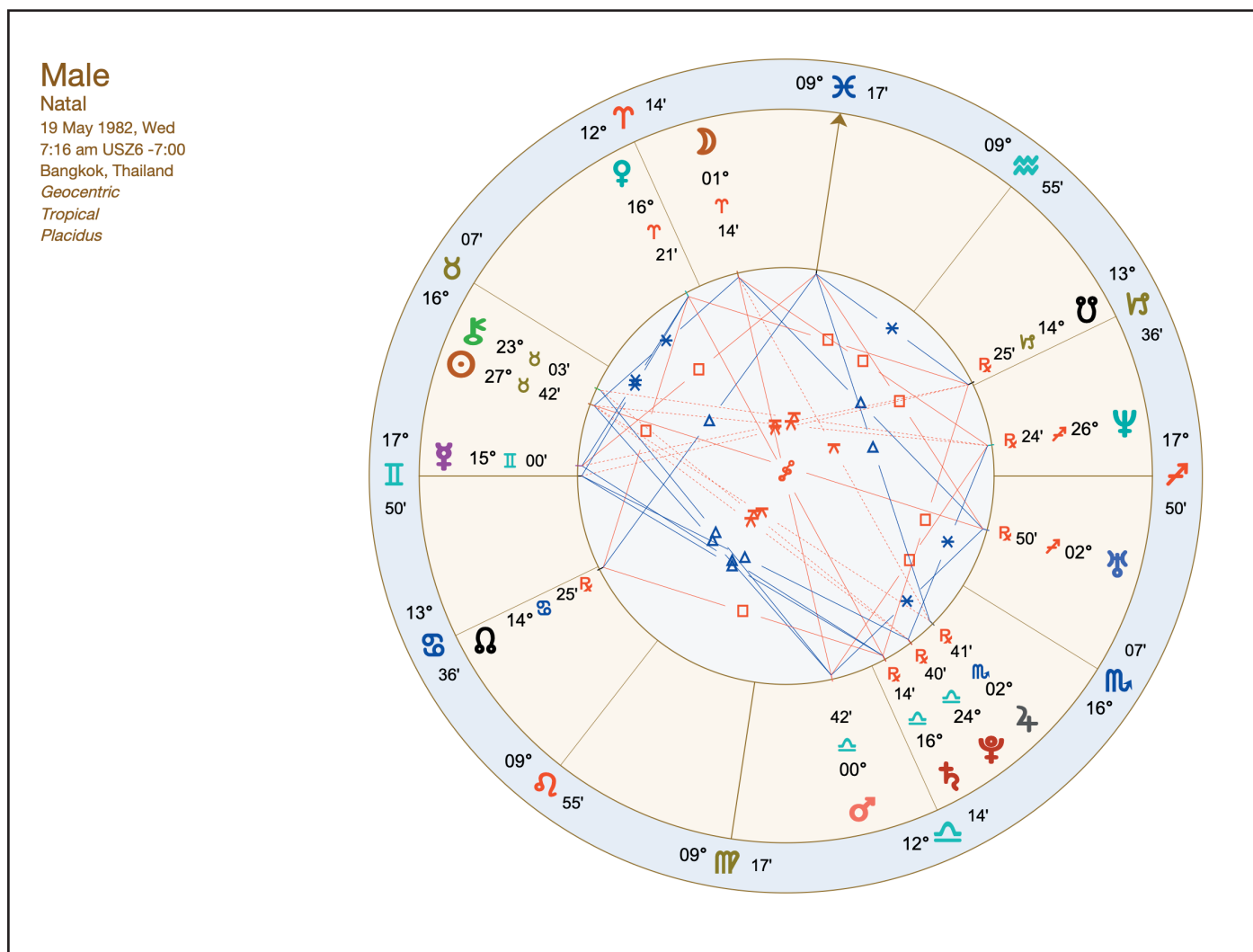


Section 1, Question 2

Male: Born May 19, 1982 at 7.16am in Bangkok, Thailand.

ASC close to 18 Gemini

With the Nodal axis across the 2nd and 8th houses forming a Grand Cross with the Venus/Saturn opposition, concisely discuss the challenges this male may experience in the pursuit of his soul purpose and destiny (include signs, aspects, houses, and dispositorships/rulerships).



The Grand Cross is regarded as a challenging configuration in a natal chart. Involving four planets in different elements can give the individual a feeling of being pulled in four different directions, bringing up frustrations and obstacles. It is an aspect pattern that highlights challenges this male may experience but which also has the potential to be solved creatively in his pursuit of his soul purpose and destiny. This paper discusses these potential challenges by exploring the mode of the Grand Cross and the four key planets involved - the Nodes of the Moon and the Venus/Saturn opposition by sign, house, aspects and rulerships.

This male's Grand Cross is in cardinal mode, a pattern that involves a high level of energy moving quickly as one dynamic force, possibly leading to challenging situations. It can create an assertive and impatient temperament. Acting impulsively, without hesitation or without thinking things through could result in either bad timing, reckless decisions or confrontation (cardinal mode). This mode reflects skills in initiation but lacks in perseverance, where the individual may rush to get something done quickly, but without the efficiency or effort to do it properly. Developing persistence and more control in tackling tasks and goals, and focusing on one obstacle at a time could help this male from feeling overwhelmed. Engaging in vigorous activities which release excess energy and tension could also be beneficial. By learning to be co-operative, considerate and developing patience and an awareness of others could help him overcome challenges in relationships.

As he deepens his awareness for others, he can become more intune with his soul purpose and destiny represented by the North Node. With a placement of Cancer here, it indicates a destiny around nourishing and caring for one's emotional self, family or wider community, and to embrace being cared for by others. This male is learning to nurture and validate his own and others' emotions (Cancer North Node) which may feel uncomfortable (Capricorn South Node). He may experience difficulties in recognising and expressing his feelings and showing vulnerability (Capricorn South Node). A serious outlook of life and constant effort in striving for goals (Capricorn South Node) can be released, giving way for more joy. With a South Node in Capricorn, letting go of restrictive, judgemental attitudes may be challenging, along with having a sense of responsibility for others. By letting go of control and perfection, he is allowing others to be responsible for themselves. Holding space for others and taking on a loving, supporting and caring role, will help him align with living his soul purpose.

With this male's North Node in the Second House/South Node in the Eighth, cultivating a feeling

of independence by using his own resources and talents may be important within relationships. This can give him stability, and a greater sense of empowerment and self value, allowing him to be more open when it comes to intimacy and releasing feelings of needing to attach to another in order to survive.

Saturn as Ruler of the South Node in Cancer, and squaring it as part of the grand cross enhances the need for him to let go of control. Saturn in Libra likes to control and organise others, relating responsibly in order to achieve harmony. This placement may also have a fear of commitment in partnerships. Libra, deposited by Venus (Saturn in Libra) is the planet in opposition to an exalted Saturn exacerbating the challenging conflict within relationships. This male may feel restricted in expressing himself creatively (Saturn 5th). By allowing himself to lighten up and have fun, loosen his grip on control and shed responsibility for others, his relationships can become more harmonious.

Venus, in it's detriment in Aries expresses affection impulsively and energetically but values independence making intimacy hard to achieve in relationships. Despite this challenge, this male may seek happiness with friends and within groups, having the desire to enjoy relationships (Venus 11th). Showing affection and feeling an appreciation for others through creative expression and a greater love for humanity (Venus Rules 5th, 12th) is part of his destiny to feel contentment.

The Venus/Saturn opposition can indicate a restriction or fear around feeling loved, the ability to show affection or expressing love for others. This male may have felt unloveable as a child or developed a strong fear of being abandoned. "In all Venus/Saturn contacts there never seems to be enough love and affection, enough emotional support, or in reality enough hugging."¹ With Saturn opposing Venus, he may want to feel in control of his relationships and fear showing any signs of vulnerability or intimacy. Inwardly directed (Saturn in retrograde) worries and anxieties to do with feeling unloved, indicates they may not be true in reality but created by a diminished sense of self-worth (Saturn/Venus opposition). By developing self love and compassion he may begin to realise that he is worthy of being loved. He may find it easier to express love when feeling more secure and stable in a relationship, creating a balance of give and take (Saturn in Libra, Saturn/Venus, North Node 2nd/South Node 8th).

Any flowing aspects to planets in the Grand Cross pattern can help with creative solutions for

¹ D HEBEL, *Celestial Psychology*, Aurora Press, Santa Fe, N.M, USA, 1985, p.26.

overcoming challenges. Saturn trines the ascendant while Venus sextiles the ascendant, both flowing aspects indicating an attractive, charming outward persona with the energy and drive to succeed. Others will be attracted to this personality which may contradict his own idea of being unloveable, giving him confidence. The North Node trines the midheaven in Pisces suggesting purpose through a career by developing compassion and artistic expression. This male's potential in a compassionate public role is further emphasised by the Moon, depositer of the Cancer North Node placed in the 10th house of career.

In summary, the challenges this male faces are most likely to effect his relationships. The cardinal mode suggests more co-operation and an awareness of others is apparent. Expressing emotions more effectively (Cancer North Node, Saturn/Venus) and nurturing self love and compassion can help him overcome fears around abandonment, and feeling unloveable (Venus/Saturn). Allowing more joy and fun into his life, letting go of the need to control and trusting and opening up in relationships are all part of his destiny/soul purpose to feel and give love more freely.

Word count: 1042

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