

# The Outer Planets and Inner Life



**Volume Two:**

**Outer Planet Aspects to Venus and Mars**

**Donna Cunningham, MSW**

## EBOOKS BY DONNA CUNNINGHAM, MSW

**About Donna Cunningham:** For 45 years, Donna's background in astrology, social work, and healing has made her an internationally respected author of many books, articles, and advice columns. See samplers and order ebooks here:

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THE OUTER PLANETS AND INNER LIFE, V.2  
Outer Planet Aspects to Venus and Mars  
2014 Edition by Donna Cunningham, MSW

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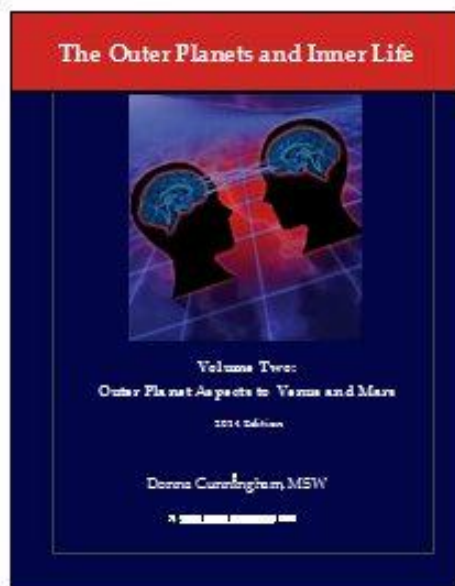
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## **The Outer Planets and Inner Life, Volume 2: Outer Planet Aspects to Venus and Mars. 2014 edition**

**About this Book:** Here, we learn about the love lives of people who have the outer planets strongly woven in with the primary relationship planets, Venus and Mars, or with the relationship houses—the 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup>. We'll identify persistent relationship patterns for each of these outer planet influences.

We'll explore the ways people with these chart factors try to satisfy their need for intimacy while still satisfying an equally strong urge to participate in the evolution of our world. Integrating these transpersonal concerns into personal relationships is difficult, so finding and maintaining a true

partnership tends to occupy the person's attention for much of their lives.

### **Here are some Excerpts:**

In my astrological practice over the past 38 years, I've seen thousands of people with each major Venus and Mars aspect, but let's use Venus square Neptune as an example. The details may vary considerably, but the over-all dynamics tend to be the same, as are the results. Maybe the bohemian earth mother in New York's Soho district with Venus in Cancer square Neptune in Libra tries to nurture the sensitive artist. He smokes pot daily and can't seem to paint any more but won't marry her because he's married to his art.

Perhaps the gal in the trailer park with Venus in Sagittarius square Neptune in Virgo loves a biker who does speed. He's always on the road with his motorcycle gang and only visits her in the middle of the night when the rest of the gang has passed out and he's wanting a little loving.

Then, for contrast, there's the socialite with Venus in Capricorn square Neptune in Libra whose 40-year-old lover works 70 hours a week and drinks himself insensible to unwind. He's out of town on a business trip and forgets her birthday, and he won't commit until he makes his first million. Then he finally makes the million, but devastates Ms. Venus-Neptune square when he ups and marries a 23-year-old trophy wife instead.

As you can see, the details are very, very different. The sign and house of Venus have everything do with who plucks at our heartstrings—why the one with Venus in Capricorn

goes for up-and-coming executives, while the one with Venus in Sag can't resist biker after biker.

Yet, how different is the bottom line? All three of these individuals with Venus-Neptune squares wind up repeatedly getting involved with men who can't commit, who have an addiction or two, and who aren't there in vital ways that leave the woman feeling drained, used, and unloved. As crucial as the details admittedly are to the individual, the **pattern** is what is instructive.

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Outer-planet types can be seen in terms of the *roles* they play out for the collective. Those with Venus aspecting the outer planets are often attracted to people who fill those roles and may form partnerships with them. Roles associated with Uranus, for instance, include rebel, eccentric, maverick, gadfly, tekkie, theorist, agent for social change, and member of the counterculture.

People with Mars strong tend to be leaders, competitors, warriors, and advocates. The areas of life where Martian types express leadership qualities or become advocates depend on the particular outer planet involved and its issues.

Those with Mars in major aspect to Uranus (or Mars in Aquarius) would be apt to exercise leadership and take action in Uranian groups or situations, often becoming political activists or being on the leading edge in politics, the arts, academia, or technical developments.

Roles for Neptunian types include the creative or performing artist, spiritual leader or follower, psychic, dreamer, or service professional. When Mars is in major aspect to Neptune (or in Pisces), the individual may feel called to advocate for the disadvantaged or embrace a particular spiritual teaching or vision. (The song from *Man of La Mancha*, "The Impossible Dream," comes to mind.)

Plutonian types tend to focus on healing, reforming, and restoring those parts of individuals (or society as a whole) that are seriously damaged or dysfunctional. When Mars is in major aspect to Pluto (or in Scorpio), warrior instincts can be strongly aroused by abuses of power or of trust, by actual or perceived threats to survival, or by the need to root out and heal what is creating dysfunction — whether this is in an individual or in the collective.

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**Glitterati is a good term for people with Venus-Uranus aspects, as they so often have a dazzling style all their own.** Unconventional, mildly to moderately shocking, they attract notice and stir up controversy, but may wind up being trend setters, once the buzz they've created dies down. They shake up the status quo but get away with it, because they do so with a unique brand of charm other Uranians may lack.

As their hormones calm down, some of them go out of style, having enjoyed their 15 minutes of fame. Others with this aspect have the genius to keep reinventing themselves and remain on top—Sean Connery, Robin Williams, and Robert Redford are still big names because their talents keep evolving in ways that capture the public imagination. Then there are the few—Elvis Presley, Liz Taylor, and Princess Diana—who are such unforgettable, one-of-a-kind luminaries that they'll remain legendary long after their time.

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In lists of famous people with Venus-Pluto aspects, you find many who married well in order to do some dynasty building. In researching the charts of the wives of presidents and politicians, I was fascinated to see how many of them had Venus in combination with Pluto—so many that I dubbed it the First Lady Aspect.

Those who have it include Pat Nixon and Betty Ford with the trine and Eleanor Roosevelt, Hillary Clinton, and Maria Shriver—first lady of California—with the square. Many British Royals share the aspect—Elizabeth II, Charles, Philip, Sarah, Duchess of York, and Prince Edward's wife, Sophie Rhys-Jones. British Prime Minister Tony Blair has the trine, and by all accounts his wife has been an excellent support in his career.

One superb use of a Venus-Pluto aspect is as a heart healer on a professional level. Self-help guru John Bradshaw, who taught so eloquently of the shame that comes from growing up in an alcoholic household, had Venus and Pluto conjunct in Cancer in the 3<sup>rd</sup> house.

Psychologist Arthur Janov, who also had the conjunction in Cancer in the 3<sup>rd</sup>, the house of communication, developed a technique called The Primal Scream—a quite literal expression of the aspect. Betty Ford's dedication to helping people recover from addiction can be seen in her close trine between Pluto in Cancer and an exalted Venus in Pisces.

For all of us, love can be a healing vital force in transforming ourselves, so there are those with Venus-Pluto aspects whose loving hearts help heal those who are fortunate enough to encounter them—Dr. Phil McGraw, for instance. That possibility is realized when love heals rather than rescues—empowers rather than enslaves. People who are able to do that are the Venus-Pluto folks who love you and then let you go—it is those who love and then take hostage that represent the more troubled side of these aspects.

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Women whose charts have Mars-Pluto combinations are in an unenviable position. They yearn for a certain kind of power—usually, the capacity to transform what they discern to be inequitable in their surroundings, especially abuses of power and betrayal of trust. When it arises from painful personal experiences, as it often does with this aspect, their anger over corruption can be strong. Yet, should they be too vocal, they're labeled, not just as angry but as mad, perceived as dangerously, contemptibly unfeminine, and they even risk retribution

by the powers that be. One reason many people respond negatively to Hillary Clinton's political ambitions is her Mars-Pluto-Saturn conjunction in Leo.

The magical power of attraction that is typical of a Mars-Pluto aspect can draw in either positive outcomes or negative ones, depending on the focus of attention. If the mind continually dwells on grievances and projects negative thoughts, then that considerable power will magnetize exactly the negative outcome that is being projected. As this loop recurs over and over, the negative outlook is reinforced—“There, you see, I knew it would turn bad on me.”

However, if the individual with this aspect focuses attention on a desired goal and is convinced that the desire will manifest, then there can be an almost instantaneous and seemingly magical manifestation of the goal—**PROVIDED THERE'S NO UNDERLYING AMBIVALENCE TO COUNTERACT THAT DESIRE**. That second clause is the trick, and considerable soul searching may be required to dialogue with parts of the self that oppose or subvert the goal.

### More about the Trio of Outer Planet Books

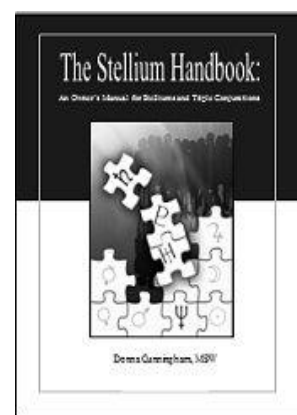
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