Understanding the Shamanic Astrology Script for Your Personal Reading

Welcome to this Introduction describing what you will experience in a Shamanic Astrology Session. This is designed to provide more details of what will be mentioned in the session. This overview covers:

- The philosophy of Shamanic Astrology
- How the chart is revealed through the script
- The cycles and their significance and ways to work with them
- And an investigation into relationships through chart comparison.

Shamanic Astrology is a system sourced by Daniel Giamario in the early 1980’s, continuing to evolve and expand since that time. A Shamanic Astrology session provides clues within an archetypal and mythical framework creating greater awareness for conscious participation with life purpose and Great Mystery. Each reading further activates awareness of your divine blueprint supporting your unique and creative expression.

It is important to note that a Shamanic Astrology session is NOT predictive but rather comes from the premise that we are all in charge of our own choices and destiny. However, the session will provide you with insights, tools, and guidance around What Time Is It For You and therefore assists you in making more conscious choices.

At The Turning Of The Ages our perception of time accelerates and collective confusion is prevalent. Shamanic Astrology provides us with a valuable tool for confirming what we already know, or sense, and assists us in trusting our own inner knowing and inner process. Thus, we can better comprehend and embrace the essence or our soul’s original intent, make informed choices for our personal journey, while also consciously “dreaming the dream onward” and co-creating the New Earth.

The Overview and Philosophy

Shamanic Astrology is designed to assist an individual in taking personal responsibility for their life experience. This system is based on the hermetic principle known as; “As Above, So Below, As Within, So Without!” It is important to understand this is NOT operating from the perspective of Cause and Effect! It operates from the understanding that we inform the mysteries as much as they inform us.

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Therefore, when we understand that the cycles or patterns of the outer world correspond to the inner cycles and patterns of our own psyche we have the power to make more informed choices. These cycles and patterns represent the life journey and the initiations that happen along the way designed to assist us in fulfilling our current life intent. Carl Jung referred to this as ‘synchronicity’, meaning events that happen together in time.

Therefore, Shamanic Astrology operates from the understanding that these mysteries are acausal, meaning that the outer cycles are not the cause of what we experience; rather they are reflections of each other. Indeed, this even goes beyond the patterns of the constellations representing the As Above as they express through us in our So Below reality. This includes the great myths and themes rooted in our culture, and therefore, rooted in our consciousness.

Shamanic Astrology looks at the natal chart as a script, or a blueprint, providing significant clues about our original intent for incarnating. This system looks at the symbols and archetypes of the script, or natal chart, as statements of intent. A human being always has the freedom to choose to cooperate, or NOT cooperate, with their original intent. This means we are not forced to be a certain way but rather have the freedom to choose our life path.

It is also important to note that if we happen to meet twelve individuals, with Sun in Aries, and Scorpio Rising, they will not all be the same. This is because each person brings their own unique creative energy to the archetypes, finding their own way of expressing them that works for them. What is important to know is that even though these 12 individuals are NOT the same from the perspective of Shamanic Astrology they do all have the same intent.

The main purpose of Shamanic Astrology is to give a person the understanding of their original intent, thereby assisting them, through the power of knowledge, in taking command and control of their own life, and giving them a vision of possibilities. These possibilities include a sense of life purpose, empowering the person with the knowledge of what their life purpose issues are.

This is based on the idea that the predominant human motivation is not survival, not power, not sexuality, but is ultimately the quest for meaning and purpose. The quest for meaning and purpose is the real foundation of what drives people. For example, when a person is going through a challenging time it is easier to handle when they have a larger context and sense of meaning. It helps them to forward.

If a person can discern what the underlying meaning is, then they can create a life that has purpose and magic. Without a sense of meaning depression and the feeling that life is not worth living is common. The gift Shamanic Astrology offers includes significant clues about what that purpose and meaning is from the context of the natal chart, or script, and the initiation cycles they are going through.

**This is not Sun Sign astrology** and it does not emphasize Sun signs. The Sun is one of many factors on the natal chart. In the last one-hundred and fifty years an emphasis was placed on Sun signs because it was easy for a person to know their Sun sign.
Before the popularization of Sun Sign Astrology, people who knew astrology gave their Moon sign when asked what their sign was, because the Moon sign is more personal than the Sun sign. This is because the Sun is in a sign for thirty days and the Moon is in a sign for only two and a half days, suggesting the Moon sign is more individualizing than the Sun sign. However, just using the Moon sign is also a limiting approach, because the chart as a whole is important. Extracting any one element from the natal does not adequately identify a person’s life purpose or intent for incarnating.

In Shamanic Astrology, all the archetypes of the signs and planets are valid and equally important. For example, the Moon can show up in any one of twelve different signs. No one sign is greater or better and no one sign is worse for the Moon (or any other planet). Whether or not a person experiences their Moon sign as comparatively easy or difficult is based upon what the prejudices of the given culture are. Our current culture has rendered judgments in the past that have supported certain archetypal signs, or ways of being human, and invalidated others.

This means that Shamanic Astrology is a full spectrum approach, presenting the vision and understanding that all archetypal approaches to being human are valid. No one way is better or worse than another. It is time now to know, understand, and validate the full spectrum of human potential, including all the archetypes, and all the different possibilities available to the male and female principle.

This viewpoint is an antidote for patriarchal extremes. Patriarchal astrology elevated the Sun sign as one God above all others, or the elevation of the male principle above every other possibility. It is time to return to an equal balance so Shamanic Astrology looks at the whole horoscope in a polytheistic way. There are many Gods and Goddesses.

One principle, or one planet, does not operate in a healthy way without reference to all the rest. The Sun, Moon, Venus, and Mars, and all the planets, represent the complexity of the entire script, or blueprint.

**The Script**

Shamanic Astrology looks at the horoscope as a symphony of three movements as in a symphony, or a three act play, outlining the original intent. The chart as a symphony or stage play, enacts the first movement through the lineage. The idea here is when a person is born, they are not a blank slate. Everyone comes into this life with a whole series of expectations, habits, addictions, and attitudes that are already present at birth. The Moon position is the primary indicator of past life themes, what tribe a person comes from, what university they have several PhDs from, the family history, and what is written in the genetic code.

Although, past life themes are referred to, this is not literal past life work. We are looking at the past life themes in a mythological way, or as underlying mythos for a person’s life. Whether or not a person has literally had these experiences in past lives is irrelevant, because the stories work.

The idea is that we each have a personal mythology that is represented by the symbols on the horoscope that have to do with lineage. The Moon position is saying what a person was doing in the past, or who they use to be.

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For example, a person with a Capricorn Moon has mastery in the area of the Capricorn archetype or mystery school*. They use to be the Elder, The Wise One, the authority who held it together for others. This means they have come into this life with that training (or impressions) in that version of reality.

This introduction is not designed to go into the meaning of all the different Moon positions, or the meanings associated with the other portions of the script. Rather, this is designed to share a sense of the scope of the script, so when a person receives their reading they have an idea of the kinds of things that will be covered. Knowledge of the Moon allows us to determine the addictions and attachments a person has. It also represents the areas of life where a person, at a certain point, may need to get their power back.

It is important to know it doesn’t matter how perfect a person is with their Moon or lineage; even if they lived the principles of their Moon tribe perfectly – in the current life – it is insufficient to their liberation. Living according to the principles of the Moon is regressive. At best, the Moon is the foundation, the ground one stands on that supports all the current life activity, but without attachment to the old identity.

Interestingly, the only portion of the entire horoscope that has much to do with how a person tends to be when they come into the life, is the Moon. Virtually everything else describes statements of intent. That’s why the Moon position is similar to the more traditional forms of astrology that say it describes personality traits, general characteristics, and qualities a person has when they are born.

**Tools and Equipment**

The second part of the script has to do with the tools and equipment of the current life. There are four symbols that determine what the tools and equipment are. These symbols are Sun, Mercury, Venus, and Mars. The Sun is best understood as the fuel a person burns, or their style of behavior intended to help them get to their current life goals as quickly as possible. The Venus and Mars position are more archetypally significant than the Sun as they have to do with the version of the feminine and masculine a person is working on in the current life.

**Venus and Mars**

The male and female principles are like a twelve-spoked wheel. Each spoke of the wheel is presided over by different Gods or Goddesses, different stories, different myths, and a different set of themes (different mysteries). This is a system of twenty-four archetypes or 12 archetypes for the feminine and 12 archetypes for the masculine giving the entire spectrum of possibilities. Remember, all the Gods and Goddesses, or all the Venus and Mars positions are equally valid and important. There is no judgment about one being better, or worse, than another.

Since the Venus and Mars position are archetype specific they are more dominant than the Sun sign. If the Sun sign is in a different sign than the Venus or the Mars, it is important to first understand the Venus or the Mars. Once the Venus and Mars are understood, then we say they burn the fuel of the Sun. Approximately one out of twelve men have Sun and Mars in the same sign, and approximately one out of three or four women have Sun and Venus in the same sign.

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The majority of people have an individualistic feature that requires an understanding of the archetype of the Venus or Mars as something separate from the Sun (meaning their Venus and/or Mars are in a different sign than the Sun).

**Remember, rather than being statements of how a person is, these are statements of intent,** the directional flow or tendencies, or what a person is learning about in the current life. As mentioned before, twelve people with Venus in Scorpio may not all be the same, but they do all have the same intent.

Astrology in this form cannot be proven by mechanistic, linear, scientific methods, because intent can not be quantified. Otherwise, correlations could be made about people with Mars or Venus in Scorpio, such as they will all end up becoming nuclear physicists, or they will always have a particular sexual style.

For example, men with Mars in Scorpio, either, desire to develop the qualities associated with Mars in Scorpio, or they are already in the process of developing these qualities. However, due to factors already mentioned (as well as ones yet to be mentioned) these men are not all the same.

Spiritual psychology can’t be quantified in a mechanistic, left brained, logical, rational way, because it is dynamic and progressive, and needs conscious awareness to activate it.

Next on the script is Mercury having to do with what a person is learning about in the area of communication, cognition and perception of reality. This aspect may not be covered in a first time reading unless there are important transits to Mercury or there is time left at the end of the session to cover it.

**The Ascendant and Other Angles of the Chart**

The third part of the script or symphony is the synthesis. It also describes the main mystery school or archetypal energy a person is here to learn about in the current life. This is the most individualizing and important part of the script and why we need to know the birth time. The birth time is needed to know the chart angles, or the Ascendant, Descendant, Midheaven and Nadir.

The reason this is the most individual aspect on the chart is because the angles change degrees about every four minutes, and change signs about every two hours. It is the angles of the chart that describes the uniqueness of each person.

Without the exact birth time about seventy-five percent of the script, or blueprint, is accessible, such as what tribe a person is from, who is the emerging God or Goddess, etc. what yoga or practice will help a person to get to their current life goals most quickly. (The yoga or practice is described by the Jupiter position.) These are important things to know. However, these factors are not individualistic enough to define what it is that makes a person truly, clearly, a separate, unique human being.

The angles of the chart deal directly with experiential astrology or what is rising, what is setting and what is at the highest point of the ecliptic. The Rising sign (what is coming up over the eastern horizon) is the primary symbol of a person’s current life mystery school*, life purpose, or the Personal Identity Project.

*This concept is described by Cayelin K Castell in her book *Shamanic Astrology: A New Map of the Soul*.
The Midheaven (or highest point on the ecliptic) symbolizes the Right Livelihood Project. Historically, the astrological mysteries have viewed what is coming up over the eastern horizon, and what is directly over head at the time of birth as the most important symbols of a person’s fate or destiny. Hence, the comparative high level of importance to those issues are also associated with Shamanic Astrology.

The Rising Sign or Ascendant reveals the enlightenment path for the current life. This is not an attempt to define spiritual enlightenment, as it is an issue beyond duality and difficult to define. Rather, this is about acknowledging the reality of different people have different paths to reach their place of self-actualization, or total freedom. In this system, no one path is better or more important than any other.

Shamanic Astrology recognizes twelve distinct paths with infinite variations on how to fully achieve mastery of that specific path. The following are a few brief examples that are limited to the rising sign only. All the other factors on the chart are important for a comprehensive picture.

- **Libra Rising** suggests a person can’t truly reach enlightenment without experiencing some form of nonhierarchical, conscious equal partnership. It is the process oriented path of relationship.

- **Scorpio Rising** requires the person to master life force energy. It is a tantric path, that includes feeling the feelings, especially passion.

- The **Sagittarius or Aquarius Rising** path requires the development of the virtues of detachment and cosmic overview as they explore expanded states of consciousness and objective awareness.

- **Capricorn or Cancer Rising** are householder paths. Capricorn is developing responsible administration of their domain or community and Cancer is developing responsible nurturing of the family or projects that further sustainability for the next seven generations.

These are examples of how different people have different legitimate paths leading them to their own state of freedom or comprehensive self-actualization.

The idea is to answer these questions; “What is my contribution? What is my soul’s intent for this life? What God or Goddess am I learning about and here to express in new ways? What is my dharma, or what practices and activities take me to my goals more quickly? What is my unique, individual creative self-expression?”

**The Outer Planets as Strategy**

In Shamanic Astrology, the outer planets represent the strategy. The dynamic aspects (squares, oppositions, and conjunctions a.k.a hard aspects in other systems), and the outer planets (Saturn, Chiron, Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto), define the strategy employed by an individual to WAKE UP.

The strategy is designed to assist a person in reaching their current life goals the most quickly. Dynamic aspects from outer planets to inner planets or the angles of the chart can indicate excruciating wake-up call situations. If a person has very few if any dynamic aspects they have a chart that is considered to be a coasting path.
Some people have highly melodramatic lives and are constantly at the effect of extreme and dramatic events that are designed to create a reaction or a response due to the intensity. These are often Saturn Pluto type strategies that force change and growth.

**There are NO Bad Aspects**
In this system, there are no “bad” aspects or judgments of either positive or negative, about any strategy. Shamanic Astrology suggests that the strategy is designed to facilitate someone in waking up and understanding life in ways that the average person may never be aware of or know. This may be extremely challenging and difficult to go through and yet it is also facilitates growth and empowerment.

**Initiation Cycles**
In a Shamanic Astrology session the first step is to look at the basic elements of the script, and then look at the strategy. After the investigation of the strategy, it is time to look at the initiation cycles. Often, the main reason many individuals choose to get an astrology reading is because of the changes and challenges of the cycles, or timings they are currently experiencing.

Shamanic Astrology views the cycles as a natural process and these cycles are supportive when a human being consciously participates with them. This means that if a person knows what cycle they are in, and they know how to work with that cycle, they will then gain maximum benefit from it.

For example, there are times in every person’s life when all the doors are closed and forward progressive movement is not happening. This is a time when there are far better things a person could do than continuing to try or force things to work in the middle world.

Conversely, there are timings when all the doors are open, but if you don’t know that, they might just kick back, take it easy, and miss the opening, miss the opportunities. Remember, no cycle, in and of itself, is good or bad. All cycles have a reason for being.

Again, when we know and understand what initiation cycle we are in, we can benefit. It helps to know that there are certain cycles that produce events that are seemingly beyond ordinary reality. These experiences are designed to produce a certain type of initiation.

When we know we are in one of these cycles, we can consciously give ourselves permission to experience the intent of the cycle. One of astrology’s greatest contributions is to identify what cycles we are in, the intent of the cycles, and how to consciously participate with those cycles!

For example, there are cycles that are totally confusing meaning it is a time for a walk-about, a time for vision quest, a time when it is completely okay to not know. Conversely, there are cycles when it is time for to be clear and focused, and take some kind of specific action.

There are some cycles that are free spaces. Admittedly these are rare however, a free spaces is a time when a person is closer to conscious free will than any other time meaning as astrological initiation cycle is not creating additional growth challenges.

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Phases of the Cycles

Cycles have a beginning, middle, and end. Knowing what cycle we are in is liberating in our understanding of what process we are undergoing. Knowledge of the precise astrological points of the cycles gives us specific dates we can use in a ceremonial way. These dates do not necessarily indicate some amazing event scheduled to happen to a person from the outside.

Rather, knowledge of the timing allows a person the option of letting the universe know, they know what is going on. Then they can consciously choose to cooperate with the cycle taking place in and around them. It’s a process of consciously co-creating with universal intelligence. When this takes place the inward and outward cycles move into alignment.

This information is not only important, but useful with reference to relationships. For example, two people who have been in a long lasting stable and happy relationship may be confused when one partner (or both partners) moves into a new cycle.

The person going through one of these cycles is no longer the same. However, knowing a cycle has a beginning, middle and end, helps us to understand the process and intent of the cycle. It helps us know the cycle will end and ordinary reality will return, ideally having been transformed into something even more wonderful.

Relationship Comparisons

Relationship comparisons are another important area to look at and often are done in follow up sessions as there is only so much time to cover all your personal information in an initial session. If relationship is the biggest question in your life right now we can take a brief look at that in your first session.

Many people getting a reading have questions either about their relationship, about a new person in their life, or their lack of relationship, and what they can do about it. Shamanic Astrology looks at what a person is attracted to, and what the chart indicates relationship intent is. It is important to know these are two completely separate issues.

The ascendant/descendant axis describes why a person wants to be in a relationship, or what the relationship intent is. These are similar to the characteristics looked at by cultures who did arranged marriages, or marriages based upon family history, class, and/or economic status.

There are many different possibilities for relationship intent. Shamanic Astrology recognizes and validates each of these. Another portion of the horoscope has to do with romantic love and physical attraction or connection with the ‘magical masculine’ and the ‘magical feminine’. We are all wired to be attracted to a certain kind of person. About two-thirds of the time what we are attracted to and our true relationship intent are drastically different.

Many of the difficulties people have in relationship are due to this reason. In fact, the great majority of the time when relationships do not work, it’s not because one person lacked merit, and it’s not because one or
both partners didn’t know a lot about relationship. The reason it didn’t work may have been because they had a different intent for relationship. This is why it is important to understand the principle of ‘sacred marriage’.

The ‘sacred marriage’ is when a man walks through life with the magical feminine on his arm at all times, regardless of who he is with or whether he is with anyone at all. The ‘sacred marriage’ for a woman is when she walks through life with the magical masculine on her arm at all times, regardless of who she is with or whether she is with anyone at all.

The ‘sacred marriage’ includes owning and taking responsibility for the inner masculine or inner feminine. Then, it doesn’t matter anymore if a person has a successful relationship or not, because they are now complete, autonomous, and sovereign, on their own. However, once the sacred marriage takes place, some people will be on a path of relationship and others will not. The script helps to sort this out.

The people who have the most difficulty with relationship are almost always the ones who have outer planet strategies that require them to do the sacred marriage.

These same techniques of chart comparison also work in helping to sort out the circumstances with parents, brothers, sisters, friends, coworkers and business partners. However, as mentioned earlier, for the purposes of a first time 70 to 90 minute session there is only time for brief comparison work with one person. Please note there is an additional $15.00 charge per chart for comparison work due to the extra preparation time.

**Conclusion**

How can we truly live in freedom unless we KNOW all the possibilities for human expression? For example, if a person has as their distinct color or life purpose expression of turquoise blue, and they are born into a family that only sees red and white, what happens to turquoise blue?

One possibility is they may be totally ignored and therefore do not receive any validation or feedback for how well they are doing with turquoise blue. Or perhaps a person is born into a family or culture that punishes them for being a different color even though it is the color they legitimately are.

Magic happens in our life when three things are in exact alignment. One, it is the right timing. Two, we have our tools together. Three, our desire is in alignment with what the original life dreams are, or is legitimately part of our script. If those three things are present, life is magical. If any one of those three things is not in place, then at best we must be patient, while expanding our self awareness.

**The Turning of the Ages**

Collective humanity is at the end and beginning of entire 26,000 year cycle. The exact alignment happened in May 1998 with the alignment of the winter solstice point on the Galactic Cross. At the end of a cycle, everything speeds up and is recapitulated. The origination point is nearly 26,000 years in the past.

This means all of the dreams and visions each of us has had on our personal time track are reaching completion. The dreams we have dreamed are now to be fulfilled. That’s why it is so important to be in touch
with what the original life dreams are. We are also dreaming the dream onward into the next cycle. Conscious (and unconscious) dreaming, at this time, is seeding the next 26,000 years.

**How You Can Consciously Participate**

One way is to know your script, and your timings. Because we are at the end of a 26,000 year cycle most of the principles of traditional astrology, either do not work, or are irrelevant. They represent, or speak of, issues that are not of any particular use to people at this time. In the midst of this speeded up phenomenon we need tools to tune in, as fast as possible, to the original life purpose issues.

Equally important is using the astrological timings with as much awareness as possible, so we are consciously co-creating with the intelligence of the universe.

**This version of astrology works best as dialogue.** The more you can share and bring to the session the more depth that comes from it, and the more insight you will get. The exactness and precision of this process operates directly from the amount of feedback that takes place. It is the soul to soul encounter, it is not an abstraction, or something that can be done on a computer.

Through the soul to soul encounter, the Gods and Goddesses, and symbols and myths, come alive. They are cellularly and consciously enlivened, and this assists us on our journey. This is a journey of discovery. It is about discovering how the archetypes and symbols express through you?

Myths and stories tell us how the archetypes and symbols expressed in the past. Now they are evolving and seeking new expression through each of us. We are the living, evolving archetypes and myths! Shamanic Astrology supports this process of discovery by providing greater understanding and awareness that empowers us to find creatively fun and fulfilling ways to live our divine destiny.

And so it IS!

*The term Mystery School in this context describes the direct experience of the soul’s journey exploring and discovering certain archetypal expressions that further self-awareness and self-discovery in all aspects of life including spiritually. In this context the Mystery Schools are not about secrets available only to those who are initiated into certain teachings but rather the direct experience of life itself.

Another way to think of mystery is “my story” as in living the story or experience of one's personal life. The mysteries (archetypal patterns) you are here to explore, investigate and help evolve are the stories we are rewriting, revisioning and recreating at this Turning of The Great Wheel of Time.

Another way to view this is the Native American Concept of Great Mystery or Great Spirit or the creative force behind all creation. Ultimately we are all here to co-create with “Great Mystery” (a.k.a. Great Spirit) and the archetypal mysteries schools are one way to understand that co-creative process.