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## Friends & Lovers: Synastry Evaluation of Partnerships

My abiding awareness around partnerships of any kind is that, once we find ourselves in one, we should find or develop the deepest reverence for its presence and purpose in our life. There is nothing random or accidental about it, regardless of how easy or how difficult it may seem. That being said, all manner of observation and clarity can be gained by examining, not only one's own chart, but the chart of any individual we find ourselves in any form of relationship with. We can discover not only the "what" of a relationship, but also the "why".

Beyond the separate analysis of each chart, evaluating the synastry of two or more charts yields a unique elemental breakdown of the myriad components that relationships are constructed from. We can readily determine areas of friction and potential growth as well as the domains that are graced with a complimentary fluency and ease. We can even look into the past life history of the two people in question which may be seeking continuity, healing or completion in the present lifetime. This can effectively prepare us for things that we are probably destined to encounter in another. These experiences, when consciously encountered, become vitally important in the development of our awareness of self and soul.

## Better than a background check

The level of fear that unfortunately pervades most human interaction these days has inspired a whole new era of self-protection. People are now going as far as to run financial and criminal background checks on potential partners, employees, tenants and even casual dates. Though there is certain information to be gained by these practices, we may need to acknowledge that we have collectively abandoned the most important and incisive tool we possess in determining final judgment about another...our *intuition*.

Almost anyone can look good on paper. That is, paper other than an astrological chart. This is where we find evidence of traits and behaviors that even the person in question might not know about. From broad characteristics to the finest nuances, we can assess the raw materials that an individual is working with. What they have done with these raw materials, however, needs to be evaluated through the faculty of our personal awareness and intuition *in the present moment*. This is where the support of astrology must yield to the personal authority of trusting our own senses. We can form an effective alliance between our natural perceptive skills and astrological insight when evaluating another that goes well beyond getting a second opinion from a friend.