



Nine Star Ki Annual Forecast

A Blooming Grove Studio Guide



Nine Star Ki Annual Forecast
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Example Notes:

Depending on your personal annual ki number and when you place your order, your forecast will normally consist of between 43 and 47 pages.

Your 9 Star Ki forecast will always be “on time.” It will begin with commentaries for the year and the month you place your order. If you place your order mid-month, your forecast will include that month, followed by twelve additional months. If you place your order immediately prior to a monthly transition, your forecast will begin with the new month.

NINE STAR KI

As the name implies, there are nine basic cycles in 9 Star Ki. Each cycle, or "house", has its own unique set of energies. The cycles repeat themselves, in the same order, every nine days, every nine months, every nine years and every 81 years (9x9). This forecast concentrates on the yearly cycle and the monthly cycle, because they have a strong influence on personal destiny.

We acquire the Ki energy of the house that we are born into. That is, our Ki number is the same as the Ki number of the year we were born. And, though the energies of our number are not completely actualized until we are 18 years old, we carry the number and the characteristics of our birth-year throughout our life.

Therefore, when compiling this forecast for you, the ki of your year of birth and the ki that you will encounter (as you pass through the different energy cycles), has been taken into account.

The dynamics of some of the houses that you pass through will have a beneficial influence upon your personal ki. You will tend to feel more comfortable, at these times, and you will be more satisfied with the way your life is flowing. Likewise, some of the houses you pass through will have a more antagonistic relationship with the energetics of your personal ki. In these cases, your progress will become somewhat more difficult and stressful.

Besides this positive/negative energy relationship with your personal ki, each house has its own unique characteristics that you can use to make improvements. Therefore, even if you should occupy a house with energy that is antagonistic with your own nature, there are always opportunities. We will point out antagonistic and favorable energy relationships. And we will describe options that harmonize with the ki of the time period.

The intent of this forecast is to advise you of the energy that you will encounter; not to control your life. We all use a weather report as a tool to enhance our activities and plans. We don't allow our weatherman to dominate

General Information (continued)

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How to Use This Forecast:

A quick reading is fine, for a start, but won't help much in the long-term. We recommend that you read this publication at the beginning of every month. There is no need to review the entire document. Just read the information for the previous month and the new month. Occasionally, reread the annual commentary, as well. That way, you'll see that 9 Ki is an ongoing process; that even monthly changes can produce an entirely new perspective and can influence your mood and your progress, in significant ways. It will also give you an opportunity to review; to make connections between your experiences and our description of the ki. As more connections become apparent, your interest will grow and you'll begin to leap backwards and ahead, through the text, with a fundamental understanding of what to look for and what to expect.

At times, your monthly forecast will be provided from two perspectives; by two fictitious monks from the distant past. Kahn is an intrepid young wanderer, decisive and quick to judge (yang). His counterpart, Ignoma is an old hermit whose deliberations are slow, expressive and clear (yin).

Concerning Directionology:

We used to sell 9 Star Ki Directionology Charts. When we moved from paper publications to our new, software based format, we stopped selling the charts. However, you will sometimes encounter brief directionology commentaries in your personal forecasts.

Please remember that there is always some risk in traveling, no matter the direction; strange locations, traffic, your personal alertness and balance, many people with differing destinies and differing ki. For additional details, see the Directionology Lessons at http://www.9starki.com/free_lessons.htm

Our information is based on study and personal experience and we include it because we know it is important, but do not underestimate the value of your health, attentiveness, faith and intuition. A "difficult" direction, for one with balance and clarity, may be superior to a "good" direction, for the careless.

Your Position for the Year- House of 4 Tree

On February 4, 2016, you enter the house of 4 Tree for the entire year (through February 3rd of 2017). The mood of the year will be similar, in many ways, to the previous year (3 Tree- rising energy); however, there will also be several important differences.

Two years ago, you occupied the annual house of 2 Soil (late summer, stagnation). Of all the numbers, 2 Soil exerts the most control over your 1 Water nature. Two Soil is associated with the southwest direction. If you look at a globe, you'll see that the southwest area of most land-masses is a desert region. Difficult for water to flourish. It was definitely not a time for rapid progress, but it was an excellent year to make preparations for the future, to forge friendships and reach agreements. If you utilized that planning phase wisely, you greatly enhanced your possibilities for success in future years.

Last year, you occupied the 3 Tree position (rising energy, thunder). The ki of that annual house was charged with activity. Your 1 Water personal ki deeply supported this opportunity to surge ahead. At times, activity levels were so high that even you were overwhelmed but, in general, you had many opportunities to set your long-range plans into dynamic motion. Three Tree is the ki of early morning; sunrise, new beginnings. Quick decisions and fast reactions were sometimes required for success.

This year, you occupy the annual house of 4 Tree (fruition, inspiration); the ki of late morning. This remains a relatively active time, but the emphasis now shifts to a need for thoughtful deliberation, prior to taking action. Unlike last year, fast responses are not so helpful. A mood of maturity is indicated and, as you will see in the monthly commentaries, below, thoughtful behavior will be a major theme, this year.

This is a natural progression, from 2 Soil (germination) to 3 Tree (rising up) to 4 Tree (strengthening and branching out). Therefore, it is unwise to break away from the process, as it unfolds. Think twice, before you discard

ongoing ventures. The number 4 Tree is mature and strong. The idea, now, is to branch out from the healthy, existing structure, rather than start over with a different seedling.

The same holds true with relationships. It is more important to strengthen and develop existing connections, than to seek new ones.

As was true, last year, your 1 Water personal ki supports your annual position. However, 4 is a bit more nebulous; less concise and exact and more multifaceted. You will need to study the possibilities. If you take notice of small incidents and make corrections before they develop into larger problems, then most of your journey will be smooth. This house is more subtle than the previous year. Consider a farmer who has planted his crop. Now, the fields are filled with green seedlings (inspiration!) but many months remain before the harvest. For success, the young plants require close attention and gentle cultivation.

This is a time when the buds of your previous ventures and projects begin to bear fruit. As such, it is a very inspiring and motivating year. But please remember, if you want to see these fruits mature and ripen, you must continue to nurture them with work, patience and quiet deliberation.

If you have utilized the dynamics of last year's energy well, and you feel that you have made some real progress, then the probability is very high that you will have many positive and inspiring experiences, during the course of the year.

Many 4 Tree people, like Einstein and Shakespeare, are famous for their intricate scientific and artistic contributions. Adopt this "4 Tree mindset". This is a wonderful opportunity to explore your personal inter-connectivity with the universe. Your capacity for analysis and complex thought will be strong. As you can see, it will be very important to remain deeply involved with ongoing ventures, but if you find the time, you may branch out in new directions or broaden existing interests through *quiet study*.

A very important consideration. This year, if you exercise and eat well, you will strengthen your tendencies for successful results, as you pass through

the subsequent houses (for the next 8 years). It is strongly advised that you study healthy diets and lifestyles, then improve your diet and your health.

Your 4 Tree position is associated with the gall bladder and liver. Look for signs of health and weakness in these organs.

A romantic inclination to explore and to analyze the rich universal tapestry. Indulge your mind, but don't fly away from your goals. Ongoing ventures begin to bear fruit and, so, inspire you to keep them alive and strong. Success through maturity, scrutiny and devotion.

April 5 through May 4- House of 6 Metal



World view:
*Full moon over ripe fields.
Steady now.
The king resumes his throne.*

Monthly influence: supporting
General quality: prosperity, solidity



Inner vision:
*Cherry blossoms fill the branch.
Gardener proceeds with loving care.
Indecision bears weak fruit.*

Annual influence: supported
General quality: fruition, inspiration

This month, you can continue to review your progress and the quality of your ongoing projects and ventures. However, the focus shifts away from a karmic viewpoint towards material issues; like tools, possessions, income and other financial matters. The ki of 6 has a controlling effect upon the 4 Tree energy of your annual house but it supports your personal energy. So, while some inconsistencies do exist, this combination flows fairly well. Expect some uneven episodes, as 6's downward, consolidating influence challenges 4 Tree's rising, expanding nature.

As stated, your personal energy is supported by 6 Metal. You can utilize the ki of 6 in several favorable ways. For example, it is an excellent time to become grounded; to regroup and to collect your thoughts. And this energy combination provides an excellent opportunity to look at the status of your material progress.

Are your efforts paying off? Both energies tend to bring about the rewarding aspects of previously initiated ventures (4 Tree, mature growth; and 6 Metal, consolidation). Therefore, you can receive positive incentives and material compensation, particularly if you have been actively pursuing your goals and dreams. Look for solid proof that your activities are developing and beginning to yield positive results.

This combination of prosperous and successful ki indicates a time of very obvious signs. If you have been working towards the achievement of a specific goal, you will see very distinct indications of your progress that can be mildly rewarding, in a financial way, and very inspiring on a personal level. In this way, you will be enticed to continue to work hard upon the successful completion of your goals.

Six Metal has a very solid, rigid nature. Often, you will find that you must become involved with a very specific set of activities, in order to fulfill your responsibilities and obligations. In some cases, you will feel "locked" into a rigid daily schedule. It is best to go along with the present limitations. Since 6 provides support, most situations will suit your disposition. And, ultimately, they will help you to achieve your goals.

The need to nurture your projects and your dream (4 Tree- oldest daughter) combined with your monthly ki (6 Metal- father) indicates a mood of prudent authority.

Six Metal is the house of harvest, when the rewards of your past plans and efforts come to you. If the harvest is very satisfying, it will confirm your previous course of action. If the reward is meager, it's time to reconsolidate your efforts towards a brighter future. Either way, it will be easier than usual, this month, to maintain a self-sustaining life style. And, either way, you should keep an active hand on your workload and other obligations.

This is not a time of great ideas and new directions, but it is an excellent time for deep, orderly thinking. If your approach is clear and capable, others may seek your advice and, if they do, you will be able to share some keen and helpful observations. It is also a good time to seek advice, but you should appraise what you hear, before taking action.

Your problem solving techniques will be more efficient and more practical than usual. But, in the extreme, you may behave a little too mechanically. Try not to present yourself as being too bland or cold. You will be more successful with a caring, warm hearted approach.

It is important to be careful in any means of mechanical transportation, especially in crowded traffic situations. When traveling, use a little extra caution. Your directionology indicates that all destinations are obtainable; with the greatest resistance towards northwest and southeast and the most freedom of travel towards due east and due west.

Harvesting moments of solid inspiration. Not a time for monumental change. Maintain control with a gentle, constructive hand. Remain active with your goals and dreams. And evaluate the material aspects of your ongoing adventure. Success through warmth, consistency and clear thinking.

May 5 through June 5- House of 7 Metal



World view:

*Five princes enter the palace.
At the banquet some may fall.
Clear thought and tongue prevail.*

Monthly influence: supporting

General quality: pleasure, joy



Inner vision:

*Cherry blossoms fill the branch.
Gardener proceeds with loving care.
Indecision bears weak fruit.*

Annual influence: supported

General quality: fruition, inspiration

This month, the mood is more relaxed and it is easier to use an amusing, creative approach. While it is certainly not advised that you ignore important tasks and obligations, you can incorporate a little more fun, pleasure and social participation into your schedule. Seven Metal *strongly* supports your 1 Water adult number. In essence, your path will be interesting and enjoyable, but you may have to exercise a little extra control over your emotions. While your personal number gets along, quite well, with both the annual and monthly ki, these two energies do not always combine well with one another (Metal controls Tree).

According to Kahn:

You are in the house of 4 Tree (maturation of hopes and dreams) for the year. This month, you will also inhabit the house of 7 Metal. This interesting combination of energies includes some positive and negative aspects.

The negative aspects have to do with the interplay between the dynamics of the two ki forces. Tree energy is more expansive and it indicates a moving forth and a growing out. Metal energy is more condensing and it indicates consolidation and containment. Look for an occasional struggle between the two; such as uneven emotions and "on again - off again" plans and situations.

The positive aspects have to do with the combination of beneficial influences that the two houses can bring about. The house of 7 Metal is a house of ease and pleasure. The house of 4 Tree is a house of inspiration and visible results. Therefore the tendency for personally rewarding experiences and situations is greater now, than at other times.

Don't let yourself become seduced by the pleasures around you. Take advantage of the many joyful occasions that this house offers up, but do keep an active hand in your work. Let's face it, life can be tough, at times, and we tend to overreact when we come to an oasis of pleasure. So, if you really want to enjoy this time, use common sense.

According to Ignoma:

This combination of Tree/Metal is antagonistic, so some uneven conditions can arise. Four is the process of blooming; opening out towards the summer sun. Seven gently settles in, like the final days of a summer resort, before it closes for the year. Beyond this basic disharmony between "opening out" and "folding in", the two elements actually have many similar traits.

Four Tree is associated with success, but not in an immediate, material way. Rather, there is a sense that you are making progress; that events are unfolding as they should. Therefore, this energy is often accompanied by feelings of inspiration; that you are on the correct path, moving towards your dreams. Seven Metal is associated with pleasure and joy; a time to

appreciate the surrounding universe and to celebrate life. This combination of inspiration (4- eldest daughter) & joy (7- youngest daughter) can produce some very heartfelt moments. And you can further utilize this favorable mood.

This is a time to share your enthusiasm and your positive experiences with family, friends and associates; especially, during late morning and early evening. It is an excellent opportunity to socialize in, either, natural or elegant settings. Indeed, it is advised that you set some time aside for quality relationships.

The ki of your annual position indicates failure through childish behavior. The monthly energy implies that you could become overemotional or wrapped up in feelings that are not, necessarily, grounded in fact. Therefore, it is important that you proceed with a mature, practical outlook. Have fun, but don't neglect serious projects. Celebrate, but don't go wild. Romance, but avoid entanglements and jealousy. This is the "season of fruition" when buds begin to develop and bear hopeful signs and results. Tend to the needs of your "garden".

Though your personal attractiveness is now strong, this is only a moderately good time for beginning a long term relationship with a new acquaintance. Four Tree and Seven Metal are, both, fairly expansive energies and somewhat lacking in terms of consolidation and accumulation. Your annual position indicates the bearing of fruit from trees that were previously planted.

The opportunity for warm relations is not isolated to love and romance. It is an excellent time for the expansion of friendships and alliances; from the deepest, devoted companionship to long term business associates. You can utilize 7 Metal's potent capacity for conversation and persuasion to convey your plans, hopes and ideas. This is a good time for meetings and making arrangements.

This is a good time to exercise your creativity; especially, in an area where your skills are strong, or on a work in progress.

In general, this is a good time for travel and to enjoy people, children, animals and all aspects of the natural world. You can combine this 7 Metal sense of pleasure with 4 Tree's more analytical aspects, to learn more and develop a deeper appreciation of the order of the universe. Studying the sciences, the arts and through direct observation.

There is always some caution associated with travel. If you take a journey, please be attentive. Most directions look good. Use a little extra caution when traveling to destinations in the northeast and southwest.

This is a good time to seek help and to bring small tasks to completion.

If you have been following these 9 Ki recommendations, you have remained attentive and busy. Indeed, it is advised that you continue to move closer to your deepest goals. But, the present month provides a way to combine progress and pleasure. Please make use of this opportunity to enjoy your loved ones and your favorite pastimes.

Next month, you'll occupy the house of 8 Soil (revolution) a time for making adjustments and improvements. So, it is wise to make preparations and to plan ahead. If important projects are already under way, think about activities that could further enhance their success.

Fruition and pleasure. A dream achieved without joy, is no dream at all. Hard work is imperative, but is useless without its counterpart. The steadfast gardener tends the crops and bends to smell the roses. Success through persuasion, warmth and balance.

June 6 through July 6- House of 8 Soil



World view:

*Waking in deep contemplation,
the laughing monk shouts
the true name of the mountain.*

Monthly influence: controlling

General quality: revolution, change



Inner vision:

*Cherry blossoms fill the branch.
Gardener proceeds with loving care.
Indecision bears weak fruit.*

Annual influence: supported

General quality: fruition, inspiration

In May, it was advised that you plan ahead for this period. The 4 Tree energy of your annual position controls the ki of 8 Soil. Likewise, 8 controls your Water-nature. The only supported component is favored 4 Tree, and that's fairly good news for you. Yet, you should expect at least a few uneven events and conditions. There are always some antagonisms between Tree's robust, rising energy and Soil's grounded stability, but 8 is the most active of the Soil-types and, so, provides some harmonious undertones. Given your overall location, in time, this house can be of great benefit.

According to Kahn:

Being in this annual house of 4 Tree suggests a taking on of responsibility for those activities and ventures which you have previously placed in motion. Indeed this is a time when your activities blossom and begin to mature. It logically follows that any changes, that would carry you away from your growing ventures, should be avoided. But the house of 8 Soil is a time of change. And so we can see the nature of this antagonism between the house of the month and the house of the year.

Stressful situations can further intensify the wish to make major changes in your life. However, if you do launch off in new directions, you risk sacrificing the current status of your hopes and dreams. So, if you have been working hard towards building a better future and your efforts are starting to pay off, be very careful when altering the course of your life. Be certain that any new plans or changes include the ongoing maintenance of your growing ventures.

This is not to say that you should not initiate or experience change. In fact, this is a great opportunity to modify your plans and activities, in order to

achieve greater success in the future. However, if you are already experiencing success, make changes that will enhance your current ventures, not destroy them.

According to Ignoma:

Yes, the supported years. The time when your personal energy appreciates the annual ki-flow. They pass by too quickly and are often ignored; taken for granted. Should we be so foolish as to disregard even the worst years, much less the favored ones, when all have endowed us with life? You are nearly three-quarters through your two-year journey in Tree. Quickly indeed.

Have you been straining hard to begin new adventures, forge ahead, make improvements and to advance closer to your important goals? Good. You have utilized the ki correctly. But have you pushed your life forward at the cost of ignoring the beauty that surrounds you? Perhaps some adjustments are due. Eight Soil is change.

Or, have you been enjoying the wonderful adventure of life in every possible way, with no forceful effort, this way or that? Good. Every moment is to be cherished. But it may be some time, again, before you have this opportunity to make such active progress. Perhaps a little focus is required. Eight Soil is change.

Soon, you will enter a sequence of years that, while having their own unique options, will not be so good for rapid progress. Since 8 Soil supports dynamic change, you are free to make last-minute arrangements. Consider wrapping up loose ends. Bolster long-term projects in a way that will enhance their strength and productivity, as they proceed through the coming months and years. This ki combination is good for setting out in new directions, but think twice (think thrice!) before you discard existing opportunities, in favor of a new activity. Also, keep the approaching annual ki in mind. You only have a few months to get new ventures up and running. That could require a lot of focus, at the expense of your other obligations.

It may be useful to view this period from a broader perspective. Please don't assume that this is your final chance to make important changes or that, after you leave this annual position, all progress will cease. That is simply not

the case. If you remain devoted, your projects will continue to develop, over time, and new options will surely arise. However, your new annual position will require your attention, in other areas. So it is important to stress the value of the present time, because of its broad capacity for making improvements and helpful modifications. There is no need to rush new ideas online, unprepared. Indeed, it is more beneficial just to stay involved with the process. Consider your options calmly, and make *practical* enhancements, where you can.

This is a good time to review your progress. You can look at the positive and the negative that has stemmed from your plans and activities, over the course of the past two years. Think about what you can do to reduce the influence of the negative and to increase the yield of the positive. Consider your attitude, your approach and your plans (inner change).

As you fine tune existing conditions, you can watch the results with an attentive, devoted eye. If negative responses appear, you have probably been a bit too forceful and have implemented too great of a change. In this case, you can back off a little or, even, restructure conditions back to where they were. If positive effects are noted, then stay with it and help your dream to grow in this more beneficial way.

It's still not too late to reap important rewards from changing your diet. Remember, improvements to your health, this year, will tend to have a lasting influence.

If your projects are well organized and moving along in good working order, you may want to consider taking a vacation. For best results, proceed in a considerate, mature fashion, not so loud or spontaneous. However, if your absence may jeopardize your long term progress, then it is clearly best to remain involved with your work. Your directionology indicates that all destinations are available, but with a fair degree of resistance towards the northeast and southwest.

A struggle between the need for consistency and the necessity for change. Too much rigidity will leave you unprepared. Too much change will extinguish your progress. Striking a balance. Success through clarity, analysis, and clean diet.

July 7 through August 6- House of 9 Fire



World view:

*Sunlight on the path.
The child discovers a fortunate way
between enlightenment and confusion.*

Monthly influence: controlled

General quality: brilliance, fame



Inner vision:

*Cherry blossoms fill the branch.
Gardener proceeds with loving care.
Indecision bears weak fruit.*

Annual influence: supported

General quality: fruition, inspiration

The energies of, both, your monthly and annual positions are expansive (yin). Their tendency is to relax, open up, spread out and to dissipate. The cycle of support begins with your personal ki, then flows through 4 Tree and then terminates in Fire energy, so 9 Fire is now very strong. Your 1 Water adult number shares an antagonistic relationship with Fire; however, you maintain the controlling influence. So, you must make a conscious effort to proceed in an organized, methodical way. This is especially true for individuals living along the equator or in the Northern hemisphere.

Nine Fire is generally positive. It tends to generate fortunate outcomes and is associated with the summer season. As such, it is warm, friendly and outgoing. But, in the extreme, 9 is chaotic, flamboyant and potentially explosive; causing distractions. Just as the summer season carries the children away from their organized studies, so Fire can move you further from existing projects and responsibilities. Even if you maintain a regular schedule and remain faithfully involved with your responsibilities, Fire has a way of introducing diversions.

Since a main theme for the year, is to *follow through* and to nurture existing ventures, Fire's distracting nature can be counterproductive. But, if applied well, it can also provide illumination, public approval and a little fun!

The whimsical, dancing qualities that generate random conditions also provide the opportunity to observe new methods and possibilities. New events appear and, though they may not be long lasting, you can study them to learn if they harbor ideas and information that could improve your progress. Distractions become possibilities! The trick is to become involved enough to gather new options, but not so distracted that you lose course. Don't try to grab the flames, just observe them. Illumination.

Fire's flamboyance provides another opportunity. If your present activities require public notice, or the special recognition of a particular person or organization, you can receive their attention. This is an excellent time to advertise your business, products, services, ideas or skills. Since the present energies are expansive, your thinking and behavior can appear to be more superficial, more scattered than usual. Therefore, it is wise to organize your approach before you actually present it. Remember the annual theme of success through maturity.

If it is clear that your responsibilities will be met, you can use a portion of this time period for relaxation, travel and fun. Nine Fire's random diversions also have a fortunate, productive side. Entertainment! But, even in fun, it is advised that you maintain a simple, mature approach. If you chase after every possibility for enjoyment, you'll become exhausted.

You may also encounter the need for business travel, at this time. Whatever your journey's purpose, it is best to proceed well rested, with an organized schedule. Your directionology indicates that all destinations are possible, but with some extra resistance towards the southeast and northwest. The most favorable directions are due east and due west. Please remember, the ki can't make you invulnerable. Always travel safely.

Striking a balance between fun and obligation. Even your most entertaining moments should be tempered with shades of thoughtfulness and maturity. A simple diet of whole grains and vegetables, combined with a regimen of light exercise, will help to keep your judgment clear.

New possibilities appear. Most can slow or improve your progress, depending on the way you respond. Think before you act. Follow through where you must, but not to the extent that you ignore your moment in the sun.

August 7 through September 7- House of 1 Water



World view:

*New moon sets below the lake.
Wind and wave. Peril and distress.
Inner strength calms the surface.*

Monthly influence: harmonious

General quality: depth, darkness



Inner vision:

*Cherry blossoms fill the branch.
Gardener proceeds with loving care.
Indecision bears weak fruit.*

Annual influence: supported

General quality: fruition, inspiration

Quiet, harmonious inspiration. You enter your home position for the month. Water is the most yang ki. As such, it is associated with potential (hidden) energy and, therefore, inner strength and self exploration. Four Tree is yin and expansive. It is associated with branching out, maturity and, therefore, intelligence and intricacy; analytical connections and the exploration of the exterior universe. Clearly, this is an excellent time for investigation, speculation and for making intuitive connections. You may choose to direct your attention across the light-years, or inwardly, in self contemplation.

Water supports Tree. Because 1 Water is your personal ki and the energy of the monthly position, your 4 Tree annual house receives a double boost and 4 is the predominant number. Generally, this is a favorable combination but, even though the monthly ki matches your own, don't be surprised if you encounter some turbulence along the way. One Water is associated with midnight, darkness and winter. Everyone who enters the 1 Water position cannot help but to feel down and wistful for brighter days, at times. So, you can expect your comfort to be occasionally intruded by a longing for greater things. And that's fine! It will help to make you more aware of your deepest aspirations.

One Water is deep, with strong energy that is usually hidden beneath the surface. Therefore, it is advised that you explore the depths with gusto, but also with some caution and respect. Also, the ki of 4 Tree is expansive and, in the extreme, can become scattered and impetuous. So, it is important to think situations through, before you provide an active response. Use your head and watch out for mistakes.

The expansive energies of the previous month give way to conditions that are quieter, cooler, but less fortunate. The public eye has turned away and

you are free to settle into a more reserved, private mood. But, don't expect to spend all of this time period in comfort and relaxation. New complications will arise. While new conditions will not necessarily be overpowering or even disagreeable, they will require additional time and attention. Also, as stated above, your more active annual ki will be dominant, so business and social obligations can be demanding.

It's important to pay attention to details. First, because yang 1 Water tends to generate small (yang) issues. Secondly, this combination of 4 Tree and 1 Water can be very subtle. Left unattended, small issues can bud into larger difficulties. So, please do remain alert and get involved with little problems, as soon as they surface. Since you know there will be a tendency to become diverted by details and side issues, try to keep your regular schedule as simple, focused and as streamlined as possible.

This quieter time provides a good opportunity to review experiences from the previous month and to analyze them in a less superficial, more intuitive light. This is a reflective, spiritual house and an excellent occasion to restructure your feelings and thoughts, by utilizing the advantage of this deeper perspective.

Your annual position in 4 Tree (fruition) indicates that you will likely hear positive news and encounter inspiring signs that your efforts are beginning to succeed. However, 1 Water is not so good for receiving fortunate news. It is a time to walk alone and to count upon your inner strength, rather than signs from the outside world. Knowing that, you can proceed peacefully, quietly and thoughtfully, towards your goal.

It is now easy to be misunderstood. Since your annual position requires that you follow through with existing projects and ventures, there are times when you will simply have to communicate your plans and arrangements. So, it's important to think before you act and then to present yourself in a mature, practical way. When you speak, be certain to enunciate your words clearly.

This is not a good time to make mistakes; especially, concerning ongoing projects and ventures. Again, think before you act.

This is a superb opportunity to review your progress if you look beyond this time period. Look for quiet, inspirational signs that you are progressing in a positive direction. How are your successes interrelated? Look for the underpinnings, the common ground that defines your progress. The decisions and actions that have generated positive results.

This combination of 1 Water (inner strength, spiritual growth) and 4 Tree (analysis, inspiration) can open many doorways for self development, through quiet reflection, religious study, meditation and prayer. If you schedule some quiet time, you'll be able to reach some keen and insightful conclusions.

The usual recommendations for the house of 1 Water apply. Use extra caution when traveling near large bodies of water, or on wet or icy roads. Avoid the excess consumption of liquids and other calming, cooling foods. Eating potatoes, eggplant, tomatoes and related products can cause lethargy, especially when you're in the 1 Water position. For enhanced intuition, eat whole grains, like brown rice, millet and whole oats.

Because 5 Soil occupies the central position, this month, travel in every direction is somewhat more difficult; however, with a little added caution, your directionology indicates that all destinations are obtainable. The most favorable directions are due east and due west.

An opportunity to turn within, to resuscitate in solitude. Pruning your feathers, collecting your thoughts, watching with keen eyes. Remain deeply involved but don't get caught up. Prioritize. Success through reflection, thoughtful action and clarity.

September 8 through October 7- House of 2 Soil



World view:

*Patient, steady the Ox proceeds,
begins to pull with others now.
The way becomes clear.*

Monthly influence: controlling

General quality: planning, gathering



Inner vision:

*Cherry blossoms fill the branch.
Gardener proceeds with loving care.
Indecision bears weak fruit.*

Annual influence: supported

General quality: fruition, inspiration

You leave your home position and enter the house of stagnation. Two Soil maintains firm control over your 1 Water personality; however, the 4 Tree ki of your annual position overrides Soil. In this case, 2 is not so overbearing. Four Tree is expansive, branching in many directions. On the other hand, 2 Soil opposes sudden change and rapid progress. Because 4 Tree controls 2 Soil, most situations will be fairly easy to manage. Still, you can expect some resistance. Although it can be frustrating, 2 Soil offers some very beneficial opportunities, if you know where to look.

Tree favors the physical accomplishment of goals. It is a very active energy, therefore it provides an opportunity to initiate new ventures, make repairs, resolve problems and to travel. Last year, you occupied the very vigorous 3 Tree position. Then, in February, you entered 4 Tree; a time to bolster and build upon your new projects and initiatives.

Your footpath through Tree has been marked with differing monthly energies. Some steppingstones were better for quiet reflection or observation. Others were clearly designed for decisive action and rapid progress. Next month, you will occupy a "double Tree" position (a 3 Tree month in a 4 Tree year) a time for active growth. The present 2 Soil period provides an excellent opportunity to make arrangements, to acquire the necessary tools and, in general, to prepare for action. When planning, please keep in mind that it will be best to become involved with activities that are consistent with projects already underway. In other words, be very careful that your strategy does not weaken existing possibilities for success.

Though it was more beneficial to initiate new projects and ventures, last year, next month offers a reasonably good opportunity for decisive action; especially if your plans harmonize, well, with present conditions. Next year,

you will occupy the central position in 5 Soil. Your sense of authority and control will be strong, but 5 Soil favors balance and stability, not rapid progress. And 5 will pose some unique challenges, as well. So, it is important, now, to focus on your goals and move as far ahead as possible. Please don't misunderstand and feel that you must now prepare to leap forward, towards all of your greatest ambitions. Just consider the possibilities for practical expansion.

Remember, this month is a preparation phase. Indeed, there is a strong sense of consistency and steadiness to this time period. Limit most of your activities to communicating, organizing and making practical arrangements. Wait until next month to make your move. For now, thoughtful, consistent behavior will provide its own rewards.

In July, you occupied the 9 Fire monthly position; a time to discover new possibilities and life options. In August, you passed through the house of 1 Water, a time to assimilate your new experiences; to compare your 'wish list' with your deeper goals and aspirations. This process of discovery and evaluation brings you to the present, in 2 Soil, where you now have the opportunity to plug new ideas into your ongoing strategy. In other words, you move from considering options in your head, to actually incorporating them into your plans.

It is important to mention 2 Soil's capacity for social progress. Nearly all plans involve more than one person. For example, imagine the number of people required to build a house, even if it will be inhabited by a single individual. And don't limit your imagination to carpenters, plumbers and electricians. Think about the eventual mail delivery, lawn and garden care, insurance; the community. The point is, a dynamic project is an ongoing entity, requiring various contacts and services, as it grows. The present time period provides a very powerful avenue for sharing and defining common goals. If you need to contact someone, now is the time to do it. This is an excellent opportunity to provide and to receive advice.

A good way to get 4 and 2 to work together, is by understanding their true nature. Traditionally, 4 is represented as the 'eldest daughter', a thoughtful, devoted soul, with a sharp wit and romantic inclinations. Though she watches over the household with care, she has many other interests and can grow

impatient. Two Soil is the 'mother', even more devoted but also worried and more consistent. Both provide a nurturing influence, from a differing point of view. Eldest daughter is approaching the summer of her years. Mother has seen her summer.

If you can envision placing these two characters in the same house and then exploit the qualities that they hold in common, you will have a better idea of how to proceed. This warm nurturing, devotion to the important domestic issues and the close attention to ongoing projects, provides inspiration and motivation, simultaneously.

But, as 4 Tree daughter pushes for more freedom and questions 2 Soil mother's approach, we can anticipate some interesting disagreements!

As mentioned, both 2 and 4 can be consistent and nurturing, in their own way. Two Soil is compared to an ox, steadily plodding along, pulling its load towards the goal. Four Tree is more interested in details, like a farmer, carefully examining the young crops and helping them to mature. Indeed, it would be a mistake to ignore this inclination to be thoughtful and steadfast. For best results, your approach should be conservative and adult-like; in your general behavior and in the way you present yourself to others.

This is an excellent time to study your favorite interests and to deepen your understanding; especially, if you can teach or share your findings. It is a good time to enjoy an existing romance.

Your directionology indicates that all destinations are obtainable, but with considerable resistance in all directions towards, and nearby, the northeast, northwest, southeast and southwest.

Immediate success is not likely, but your efforts begin to bear fruit. Positive signs appear, inspiring you to move closer to your goals. This is not the best time to set the plow aside, but don't expect rapid advancement. Plan, accumulate the tools and prepare for next month's opportunity to forge ahead. Success through consistency and maturity.

October 8 through November 6- House of 3 Tree



World view:

*The dragon surmounts the sky,
humble, hopeful, adaptable.
The dawn of a new adventure.*

Monthly influence: supported

General quality: thunder, rising sun



Inner vision:

*Cherry blossoms fill the branch.
Gardener proceeds with loving care.
Indecision bears weak fruit.*

Annual influence: supported

General quality: fruition, inspiration

The time of self study and preparation has come to an end. Now, you are reintroduced to the full element of Tree energy, like a shooting star across the morning sky. Well, maybe that's a slight exaggeration! In any case, this is the beginning of a two-month period of peak energy. If you have made good use of the previous houses, you now stand ready to take decisive action.

This is a good ki combination. Your personal number supports 3 and 4 Tree. Also, 3 Tree supports 4 Tree. Since annual 4 Tree is the ultimate receiving partner, it predominates. That's important to know, because it is a good signpost on how to proceed. Monthly 3 Tree is associated with the rising sun, early morning and birth. Annual 4 Tree is late morning and development. So, the principle guideline is "Support existing efforts actively. If existing efforts are running smoothly, you may initiate new tasks and ventures". (In some cases, you'll be able to bend that rule.)

There is a certain "one-sided" aspect to this time. It is all Tree. This lack of other ki elements can produce a narrow viewpoint, like a horse moving forward with blinders. Again, if you have made good use of the previous houses, your outlook will not be so one-sided. In this case, you will be acting on previous work that was formulated when you occupied Metal, Fire, Water and Soil, and you will be "injecting" those previous actions and plans into the present time period; creating a well-rounded approach.

Have you ever had a great idea that didn't seem so good, the next day? Perhaps the idea is just as good, but the ki has changed, causing you to see it in a different light. This month, don't revise your strategy, unless you

first give it careful thought. This is a time for fast action, but not in a blind, reactionary way. You can expand your household, or even build a new one but, please, do not abandon the existing foundation unless you have a powerful reason.

Next month, and in following years, you will have opportunities to initiate changes and to make important improvements. However, generally speaking, this month offers a peak opportunity for dynamic progress. Get involved with the struggle to reach your goals.

Remember to remain involved with and to nurture previous projects, that have not yet reached successful completion. Indeed, this will be a busy time. So, if your plate is already full, be cautious about adding more tasks and responsibilities to your daily schedule. Don't spread your activities so thin that you lose effectiveness in any given area.

Since you occupy the 4 Tree annual position, maturity is always an issue. Think of it like this: No matter your location or profession, your real job is to enable new endeavors to proceed towards maturity while maintaining a state of maturity, yourself. What does that mean? Well, if someone asks your opinion, you don't provide a quick, emotional response. Instead, you give it some thoughtful consideration. If a tool or appliance breaks down, you don't automatically throw it in the trash. If a new venture begins to falter, you don't abandon it, unless you are certain of the long-term consequences. New ideas, like seedlings, require cultivation.

Clearly, this is not a time for emotional outbursts. But, the ki of your monthly house increases this possibility. Repressed Tree energy is going to come out, one way or another. It is much better to let it flow out, in a constant stream of organized activity, than to allow it to arise, uncontrolled.

This month, travel is a definite possibility. Your directionology indicates that all destinations are available, but with some extra resistance towards due east and due west. The paths of least resistance are due north and due south. Remember, no matter the house you occupy, travel always implies some extra risk. Remain attentive on the road.

For best results, maintain a clear focus on your goals and keep your activities prioritized. Be optimistic. This is a time for moving ahead. Use it. Take part in those activities that promise to generate a greater, brighter life.

Moving quickly in an active house. Pay attention or you could stumble! Too much work, at times, but forward motion is obvious. One eye on the details, the other eye on the goal. Success through attentiveness, flexibility and optimism.

November 7 through December 6- House of 4 Tree



World view:

*Cherry blossoms fill the branch.
Gardener proceeds with loving care.
Indecision bears weak fruit.*

Monthly influence: supported

General quality: fruition, inspiration



Inner vision:

*Cherry blossoms fill the branch.
Gardener proceeds with loving care.
Indecision bears weak fruit.*

Annual influence: supported

General quality: fruition, inspiration

This energy is similar to the previous month. The major difference is that events, in the daily world immediately around you, will not be quite so forceful or active. The expansive ki of this "double" 4 Tree position is well supported by your 1 Water personality. If you remain thoughtful, rested and use a mature approach, you should be able to make excellent use of this time period.

The ki of 4 Tree is associated with success. While this is not the best time to reap the harvest of your efforts, it is definitely a period for celebrating your progress. You'll encounter several signs, showing how your life and your important projects are unfolding in a productive, beneficial way. This is especially true, if you have been working hard on a specific task or venture. While the material rewards may not be so great, the inspirational motivation can be very strong.

Four Tree energy is associated with late-spring. The very active work, like plowing and planting, is finished. Now, the small seedlings are beginning to

mass out, in large green rows. The blossoms have fallen from the trees and the branches are heavy with young fruit. However, most of the produce is not ready to harvest. A time of attentive cultivation and careful nurturing is ahead. All of this strong, new growth bears the promise of a great harvest and you are inspired to work hard, towards that bountiful future.

To enrich your progress and allow your dream to flourish, you must tend to the important requirements in a loving, nurturing way. If you ignore your "garden" now, you may be left with only a handful of weeds, when harvest comes. So, please take the time to follow through with any important issues that are under way.

You are, once again, reminded to present yourself, voice your opinion, create your schedule, socialize, and take action in a *mature, thoughtful way*. The farmer does not dance carelessly in the green rows.

This is a bright and active house and a good time to develop an existing romance. Indeed, all of life takes on a more romantic, mysterious flavor. It is also an excellent opportunity to realize the dynamics of your connection with the greater universe. Four Tree is associated with analytical thought. As such, it's an interesting time to study the physical sciences, like geology, astronomy, math and physics.

It is better to keep working on projects that were initiated while you were in a previous house, rather than to start off in a whole new direction. Since you are approaching your final days in the annual Tree position, this is an excellent time to look back, over the course of the last two years. If you have been working with the ki, you will be amazed at how much has been accomplished!

Stay focused on the details and don't behave so spontaneously that your opportunities become too expansive to manage. Chaotic thoughts and actions can impede forward motion. A simple diet of whole grains and vegetables, combined with a regular regimen of light exercise, will help to keep your judgment clear.

Your directionology indicates that travel is possible in all directions, with nearly zero resistance towards due north, due south, due east and due west.

Inspiration and the motivation to carry on, with hope and with joy. Some obstacles narrow the way, but love and thoughtful dedication prevail. Finalizing your forward motion. Organizing your progress for future success.

December 7, 2016 through January 4, 2017- House of 5 Soil



World view:

*Nature does not have to insist,
Can blow for only half a morning,
Rain for only half a day.*

Monthly influence: controlling

General quality: the axis, karma

Inner vision:

*Cherry blossoms fill the branch.
Gardener proceeds with loving care.
Indecision bears weak fruit.*

Annual influence: supported

General quality: fruition, inspiration

For nearly two years, you have been exposed to the raw, rising ki of the morning. Your 1 Water personality supports Tree energy. Although, at times, the Tree experience can be taxing for anyone (including Tree personalities) this has been a generally bright and positive journey. If you have maintained balance and have moved with a clear plan, most conditions have been interesting and hopeful. Most importantly, if you have been actively pursuing your goals, the ki of Tree has aided in your success, by opening new doors, generating new ideas and providing the energy for forward momentum.

This month, you will begin a "cooling down" process. Tree's active challenges will subside, but so will the availability for rapid progress. Now, it is time to deal with the results of your past actions, the ideas and events that you have initiated.

Furthermore, this month provides a "sneak preview" of coming attractions. In early February, you will enter the 5 Soil annual position for the entire year. Since you now occupy 5, for the month, you can begin to get a feel for the approaching ki. Next year, you will encounter many people, places and events that are associated with your past. The present month will not unfold your karmic experience to the same depth and extent as the coming year. But, it will allow you to get a taste of the times and help you get an idea of the shape of things to come.

When you enter this house, you enter the position of the center, the axis upon which events pivot. This is a very karmic time for you. People, thoughts and situations which are directly related to your past tend to gravitate towards you, now. You can wisely use the time you spend in this house by carefully observing the happenings around you, including the way you feel inside, and then to learn from them.

If you throw a stone into the center of a pool, it will create ripples in the water. As time passes, some of those ripples will return to the center. In like manner, glimpses of your past thoughts and deeds return to you now and they carry with them the repercussions of their actions. You can learn a lot from these subtle (and sometimes not so subtle!) messages and you can use them to make adjustments to your future thoughts and actions. If you are having feelings or experiences that are not to your liking, this is a good time to use your insight to develop methods to reduce, or avoid, these negative issues in the future. It is also a good time to see how past activities have brought about positive situations and how to bolster these same positive circumstances, through your future efforts.

You also occupied this position, last March. Because you are now nearing the conclusion of your two year journey through Tree, your karmic insights, concerning your progress will likely be more thorough. However, the general comments from March do apply:

- 1) The mood of this time period will depend, mostly, upon the quality of your own past efforts and decisions.
- 2) This is an excellent opportunity to observe the status of your ongoing efforts; to determine your shortcomings and your areas of success.
- 3) This will continue to be a very active time period.

This is an excellent time to gain an impression of your future, by reviewing your past. It is not, however, the best time to begin new activities. This holiday season, you can utilize this ki combination well, through thoughtful reflection and by sharing moments of personal inspiration.

Five Soil's mode of centralization and stability suggests that this is not the best time to travel but, with a little caution, you may proceed with moderate success. Your directionology indicates the most favorable destinations are due east and due west.

This month and in January, you will have the opportunity to follow through on existing efforts, to reorganize your approach and finalize small projects.

Reviewing your progress in the house of the dawn. People and events begin to travel in your direction, as you move away from dynamic action and into the center. Analysis and reflection generate a deeper understanding of the path.

January 5 through February 3, 2017- House of 6 Metal



World view:

*Full moon over ripe fields.
Steady now.
The king resumes his throne.*

Monthly influence: supporting

General quality: prosperity, solidity



Inner vision:

*Cherry blossoms fill the branch.
Gardener proceeds with loving care.
Indecision bears weak fruit.*

Annual influence: supported

General quality: fruition, inspiration

The energy of spring (Tree) continues to cool down as your new annual house approaches. This is especially true for people in the Northern Hemisphere, due to the seasonal influence of winter. Your personal ki is supported by 6 Metal and 6 controls 4 Tree. Tree fades considerably, but does not entirely disappear.

Again, you enter a time that is not so strong for rapid progress or new beginnings. We return to the theme of following through, with thoughtful maturity; managing and nurturing your *ongoing* ventures. Through experience, you have grown familiar with the mood of this annual house and, so, know how to deal with and relate to its energy. Therefore, you can pass through these final months, in Tree, with a sense of competence and, perhaps, a little social flare. Keep responding to problems with thoughtful maturity and maintain a practical approach.

You also occupied this house, last April. Here are some helpful comments from that time:

- 1) It is an excellent time to become grounded; to regroup and to collect your thoughts. And the ki combination provides a great opportunity to look at the material status of your progress.
- 2) Look for solid proof that your activities are developing and beginning to yield positive results.
- 3) If you have been working towards the achievement of a specific goal, you will see very distinct indications of your progress that can be mildly rewarding, in a financial way, and very inspiring on a personal level.
- 4) In some cases, you will feel "locked" into a rigid daily schedule. It is best to go along with the present limitations. Most situations will suit your disposition. And, ultimately, they will help you to achieve your goals.
- 5) The need to nurture your projects and your dream (4 Tree- eldest daughter) combined with your monthly ki (6 Metal- father) indicates a mood of prudent authority.
- 6) It will be easier than usual, this month, to maintain a self-sustaining life style.
- 7) If your approach is clear and capable, others will seek your advice and, if they do, you will be able to share some keen and helpful observations. It is also a good time to seek advice, but you should appraise what you hear, before taking action.
- 8) Your problem solving techniques will be more efficient and more practical than usual. But, in the extreme, you may behave a little too mechanically. Try not to present yourself as being too bland or cold. You will be more successful with a caring, warm hearted approach.
- 9) It is important to be careful in any means of mechanical transportation, especially in crowded traffic situations. When traveling, use a little extra caution. Your directionology indicates that all destinations are obtainable;

with the greatest resistance towards northwest and southeast and the most freedom of travel towards due east and due west.

Since the annual 4 Tree energy is weaker, but still available, this is an excellent opportunity to make use of some of its qualities that may, to date, have been ignored. Four Tree generates an interesting blend of analytical investigation and romance. This can be easily seen in the works of William Shakespeare, a 4 Tree individual. His profound genius exudes a careful blend of lyrical poetry, combined with complex plots and interrelationships. Other famous 4 Trees lean towards one end of the spectrum or the other; either analysis (Albert Einstein) or romance (Paul McCartney). But, in either case, the complexity of their work is obvious.

When you occupy the 4 Tree position, you take on some of its mood and personality. You "get a little Shakespeare". So, this time lends itself to the study of life's complexities, and you can apply it to just about anything you want! You can study physics, psychology or astronomy. Learn more about the Nine Star Ki magic square. Write an epic poem. Study love relationships or enjoy the subtle details of your own. The possibilities are, literally, endless. Wake up your brain.

Since you are approaching your final days in the annual Tree position, this is an excellent time to look back, over the course of the last two years. If you have been working with the ki, you will be amazed at how much has been accomplished!

Soon, you will enter the house of karma and power. Your adventure in Tree will come to a close. The atmosphere will alter but there is much, yet, to experience and to learn.

Standing on the ridge of the mountain. The road winds below, through farmlands, pastures, cities and forests. Reaching beyond the horizon. A good road. A road that you have traveled. The cool breeze brushes your neck. You look over your shoulder. Another road leading into a mystery. You turn. You take the first step.

Your New Position for the Year- House of 5 Soil

Starting February 4, 2017, you enter the house of 5 Soil (karma, the axis). You will reside in this house until February 4, 2018.

For the past two years, you have occupied very active houses; 3 Tree (new beginnings) and 4 Tree (elaboration). During that phase, you had many opportunities to make personal headway and to develop new initiatives. Now, it is time to assume the role of the observer and to take stock of your progress. An observational role could imply a passive, uninvolved outlook. Please understand, at times you will be very busy and you'll need to become deeply involved, in a very devoted, hands-on way. But, do take the time to "draw back" from the situation and assess it from a larger view. The point being, you now occupy the house of karma. It will be easier, than usual, to see beyond the momentary importance of an event. To see where it stems from. To comprehend how it interrelates with other circumstances. And to understand how it will unfold in the future.

Five Soil occupies the central position of the 9 ki square. As such, it is the position of stability, balance and control. All of the other numbers revolve on its axis. Five Soil gives definition and shape to the other numbers. They cannot exist without 5, and 5 cannot exist without them. Every nine years, an individual number will return to the center. This is a beginning and an end. An intersection, in time, that is the sum total of all of the activities, ideas, emotions and experiences of the past 9 years. This is a very powerful and mysterious house.

The mood shifts. Your 1 White Water personality shares an antagonistic relationship with 5 Yellow Soil. In the wheel of time, Soil rules Water. In particular, 2 Soil is especially adept at challenging your depth and your flexible nature. (You occupied the 2 Soil house, three years ago.) Five Soil is not quite as overbearing but it can cause frustration. Being the ki of the center, the axis, 5 seeks balance and stability, whereas your personal nature seeks to flow as it will. So, we see a certain tension between these two energies.

In this case, it's at least comforting to know that most challenges will not arise from the ki relationships. Water has an inner strength that can bear this level of control. But be aware, no matter their ki, all individuals who enter this house are subject to the lessons of their own karma. This is the convergence point of every repercussion, from all decisions and actions made in previous houses. You are standing at the crossroads.

Your personality will become more decisive and you will radiate a greater sense of authority, than usual. Your ability to manage will be strong. But, you will also feel more restricted, at times, by the course of events. Indeed, it is recommended that you allow yourself to become as centered as possible; to observe conditions as they unfold. It's time to study your karma. Your personal status is under review. And you are, both, the recipient and the judge of your past thoughts, outlook and actions.

At times, you will likely experience situations that tend to stir up an emotional outlook. In this case, try to study your feelings, rather than reacting spontaneously. Quick responses to old, worn-out emotions could cause more complications than results. Instead, determine the source of your emotional patterns, from an objective viewpoint, and gain a better understanding of yourself, in doing so. Let there be no mistake. This is a time for self reflection, not self indulgence.

The house of 5 Soil can be of great benefit to you. When you occupy the number 5 position, you dwell in the center; the axis of your personal timeline. Many events and circumstances, both positive and negative, will come your way. It is important to know that these events are the result of your past thoughts and actions, particularly those thoughts and actions which occurred during the previous 9 years. Since your present circumstances have such a direct bearing on your past, you can learn a great deal from them. Fortunate situations indicate appropriate and balanced past activities. Unfortunate predicaments stem from poorly executed actions and bad judgment.

To ignore this excellent opportunity for self evaluation, is to reduce your self knowledge and, thereby, narrow your own options for success in the future. Therefore, this is not a good year to set out on a new adventure, to relocate, or to travel. Rather, this is a time to remain as still as possible and to learn. However, it's important to realize that life goes on. You aren't

expected to abide in motionless meditation for the entire year. Depending on your personal situation, your health and your profession, you will be quite busy, and a practical degree of work, play and travel cannot be ignored. Just keep the karmic mood of the times in mind. Strike a balance between your daily projects and 5 Soil's inclination for deep reflection and stability.

The ki of this annual house can reveal a great deal about who you are and why your life has become what it is today, but this is far more than an interesting education. The point is, once you realize what your successes and failures stem from, you can make corrections in the future. In years to come, you can repeat and reinforce positive aspects (actions, emotions, attitudes) and reduce or eliminate the negative ones. Positive patterns will then prevail and so will the positive results and repercussions.

Eat simple, balanced foods. It is very helpful to rely on naturally sweet "Soil Foods" like millet, steamed onions, winter squash and cooked cabbage. Avoid candy and all simple sugars. Keep your home and work environment orderly and clean. It is best not to make any major purchases, when in this house. However, if you run across an item that will prove to be of invaluable help, you may proceed. In this day and age, it's no easy task to live like a monk and you're bound to encounter some extremes and extravagances. That's okay! But, if you simplify your approach to a *reasonable* extent, then you'll reap more of the important learning experiences that this house has to offer.

In general, the more positive karmic repercussions will appear during the first half of the year (February through July), the more negative issues will appear during the second half (beginning around late July / early August). Remember that this is the house of karma and that all of these events can tell you a lot about your own past. If you have been living in health and balance, the negative influences will be mild but, even then, some uneven events will become manifest, in order for you to understand and to grow. One Waters should exercise a little extra caution, all year, by thinking first. If you're a very active person, then gage your actions. Move with thoughtful consistency.

Your 5 Soil position is associated with the pancreas, stomach and spleen. Look for signs of health and weakness in these areas.

Patterns forming in the pool. Ripples striking ripples. New vibrations. A stone's throw becomes a symphony of resonance and reflection. Difficult to see a single purpose or a common theme. Holding still. The surface calms and only the larger waves remain. Ahhhh. There it is. A primary decision that has changed your life, your progress, your ambitions. But not your dream. Look! Over there. Another pattern. The symphony begins to reveal its secrets and you have become the composer.

February 4 through March 5- House of 7 Metal



World view:

*Five princes enter the palace.
At the banquet some may fall.
Clear thought and tongue prevail.*

Monthly influence: supporting

General quality: pleasure, joy



Inner vision:

*Nature does not have to insist,
Can blow for only half a morning,
Rain for only half a day.*

Annual influence: controlling

General quality: the axis, karma

The solid, pragmatic conditions of the previous month fade, relaxing into a favorable and pleasant outlook, but the background mood becomes denser, the atmosphere thickens. For the past two years, you have occupied annual houses that were well supported by your personal ki. Now, the annual influence controls Water. However, it is early in the year; therefore, most events stem from the more positive roots of your karma. Certain aspects of this ki combination can trigger profoundly emotional feelings and situations. Indeed, this is an excellent opportunity to study the karmic nature of your emotional world.

Because 7 Metal strongly supports your 1 Water adult number, this is an excellent way to enter your new annual house. You can grow accustomed to 5 Soil's mood of control and karma, while in the light of your monthly position's more nourishing influence. Please make good use of this time. Examine the changes in the world around you. You will not always have 7 Metal at your side and, before the year is through, you'll have to make good use of more tricky ki combinations. Proceed with a little extra caution, as you adjust to the new annual surroundings.

By your monthly house, the emphasis moves away from materially oriented issues, but still retains a physical aspect. Now, the focus is upon the physical body, the voice, the skin, touch, sensations and, more deeply, all sensory stimulation.

The ki of 7 is an interesting mix of creativity and organization. Several of the most famous Impressionist and related artists were number 7 Metals (Claude Monet, Edouard Manet, Berthe Morisot & Pierre Bonnard). Creatively gifted, to be sure, but certainly their works would never have achieved acclaim, if the painters had not been well organized in their execution and in their social interaction. From this perspective, we see that success can only be achieved by balancing order and self expression. Which end of the spectrum best exemplifies your approach? Are you more closed in and pensive, or maybe a bit too spontaneous?

Generally speaking, do you feel that your approach is well rounded and on track? Or, do you feel that something, or someone, is missing from the equation?

People and events move towards you, providing insights concerning ways to improve the impulsive, passionate side of your life. This is not, necessarily, the best time to take action. But, it is an excellent opportunity to observe, to study your own responses and to reach some conclusions about your long term emotional growth. If you have managed to integrate sensory and practical needs well, in the past, then most situations will be balanced and fulfilling. If you find it difficult to satisfy your longings, without causing complications in the material world, then you can evaluate the conditions and determine where work will be needed, in the future.

Naturally, it is a perfect time to study your love relations and to better understand the strengths and weaknesses of your own role. But, please do not limit your observations to romance. This is an excellent occasion to appraise your creative success, family happiness, feelings of self-worth, and all other aspects of your emotional relationship with yourself, and with the world around you.

Being in the 5 Soil position (authority and politics) you are often *surrounded* by people or issues requiring your active participation and organizational

skills. And the 7 position indicates a time of increased *support* from others. Therefore, this is an excellent opportunity to gain acceptance, receive aid and to promote your ideas.

It is a very good time to pay tribute to those individuals who have, over the months, provided valuable services. Compliments and letters of approval will be well received, as will your kind words of encouragement.

You can well utilize 7 Metal's supportive qualities and 5 Soil's capacity for organization, to bring small tasks to completion.

Generally speaking, it is important to keep an active hand in your duties and obligations, but it is recommended that you set some time aside for reflection and relaxation. Activities like walking in the park, visiting friends, romantic encounters, playing with children and pets, and creative projects can be very rewarding. Make arrangements for enjoyment, but don't try to force good events into being.

Because you've just entered your new annual position in 5 Soil (the center), this is not the best time for traveling about. If you must take a trip, your directionology indicates that all destinations are possible, but keep it as short as possible. This month, the most favorable directions are northwest and southeast. However this year, all directions will offer at least a little resistance. The present time is no exception.

Next month, you will enter the house of 8 Soil (revolution). Since you occupy the annual 5 Soil position (the center, balance), it will not be the best time to initiate life altering changes. However, it will provide a fair opportunity to make moderate improvements, in your work and home environment, and for new realizations, within. Also, there is a strong likelihood for revolutionary changes, stemming from your karmic past. You can use the present time to prepare for small projects and to anticipate upcoming events. Organize!

A time to reflect on the long road to personal fulfillment. Realizing that material satisfaction goes just so far. Comparing what waits beyond the door with what you want to be waiting there. People and signs move towards you. New realizations arise. Success through optimism and objective evaluation.

March 6 through April 4- House of 8 Soil



World view:

*Waking in deep contemplation,
the laughing monk shouts
the true name of the mountain.*

Monthly influence: controlling

General quality: revolution, change



Inner vision:

*Nature does not have to insist,
Can blow for only half a morning,
Rain for only half a day.*

Annual influence: controlling

General quality: the axis, karma

For the first time in more than 2 years, you are controlled by both the ki of your monthly and your annual position (Soil overrides Water). Normally, this would generate only mild to moderate inconvenience but, because you have grown accustomed to a relatively wider margin of freedom, this time period could be very frustrating. And, as advised last month, you should probably exercise a little caution until you become familiar with the overall mood of this house.

Take heart. You have a lot going for you. Generally, you're riding on positive karmic waves. Also, you can actually use one of the controlling factions (8 Soil) to acclimatize to these new conditions. Even though 8 Soil controls your personal energy, it promotes change. The other Soil numbers (2 and 5) control Water by generating stagnation and arresting your flow. Being the agent of change, 8 *stirs* Water, sending you in new directions. This could push you off-course but, if you make an effort, you can utilize 8's influence to move in *positive* directions; to make improvements, to adapt. But please do realize that you should remain attentive and involved. If you don't, you could experience setbacks.

The better your focus and your sense of direction, now, the greater your likelihood for success. Remain warm and caring, but use your inner strength and firm resolve.

This is the position of karmic change. It's an excellent time to watch for changes in your progress, relationships, location, plans or feelings. New directions, physical or mental, have special meaning. For example, if a certain portion of your life has been empty, something or somebody can appear, to fill the void. If you have been overindulgent in a certain area, it may now become more difficult to find satisfaction. Do not expect your problems and

weaknesses to be suddenly cured (*though, in some cases that could happen*). Instead, be aware of the changes and try to understand why they have come about. What has driven you to this point?

Once you uncover the need behind the change, then you'll have something to build upon. Remember, this is your life long karma. Some solutions and improvements could be very quick. Some may take years. The point is, to be aware of the process. Many individuals could pass through this time period, unconcerned with the changes happening around them, and learn nothing. So, if your head becomes turned in a new direction, pay attention. Consider the potential advantages and the hazards.

This year, you occupy the 5 Soil, central position. As such, it is the house of power, control and balance. Therefore, this is not a good time to initiate life shaking changes, on your own. You will have enough to deal with, as it is! However, small improvements can be made. For example, you could change office procedures, reorganize your daily schedule or start exercising more often.

Because Soil is now so abundant, the other ki energy-states are scarce. Therefore, your outlook can become narrow; too one-sided. In this case, it's helpful to rely upon friends and experts; people who can share their advice and provide new perspectives.

You can begin to manage the karmic nature of your annual position, in the following ways:

- 1) Think about the situations, personal encounters, challenges, feelings, successes and failures you now experience.
- 2) Look back. Make connections between these experiences and your past.
- 3) With your long term goals in mind, determine which aspects you would like to carry with you, into the future, and which elements you would rather avoid or discard.
- 4) Begin to develop the outlook and plans that will enable you to construct a happier, healthier, more dynamic future.

Of course, you will not be able to understand and empower all aspects of your life, overnight, but now is an excellent time to begin the formulation of new plans. The ki of 8 Soil will promote this process.

The energy of 8 suggests travel and new directions. But, the more centered ki of your annual house indicates success through stillness. Therefore, this is not the best time to make travel arrangements. However, *if the necessity arises*, you can proceed with a little extra caution. In this house, people are often sent to a karmic destination, where incomplete issues from the past can be resolved. Be attentive and plan ahead. Your directionology indicates that the most favorable destinations are northwest and southeast. All other directions impose a fair degree of resistance.

A turning point. You are called to seek greater balance. Looking down the different hallways and corridors. Thinking about decisions in the past and the best possible choices for the future. New challenges arise. Success through optimism, honesty and reflection.