



Selected Excerpts for Review

For more information, contact The AstroTwins:
(212)645-9120 • astrotwins@astrostyle.com



THE ASTROTWINS' LOVE ZODIAC

The Essential Astrology Guide for Women

DEMYSTIFY MEN AND TRANSFORM ANY RELATIONSHIP

The AstroTwins have been using the zodiac for over 15 years to help couples find the love affair of their dreams. You can have a great relationship with a man of any zodiac sign—the key is to learn what makes him tick. Using this definitive guide to understand his personality, his preferences, and his values will help you decide whether you're in it for the long haul—or not. You'll quickly discover:

- How he courts, flirts, and shows he's committed
- How to tell if he's serious or just playing around
- What turns him on...and off
- How to prep for your first date, his first visit to your place, and meeting his family

...and much more!

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IN EVERY CHAPTER...

You'll learn about the man of each zodiac sign:

HIS MOVES

- How to Spot Him
- How He Deals With... (money, sex, pets, love, meltdowns, etc.)
- What He's All About
- What He Wants in a Woman
- What He Wants from a Relationship
- Sex with His Sign
- Turn-Ons & Turn-Offs
- His Moves
- Interpreting His Signals: What does he mean by that?

YOUR MOVES

- Prep Yourself for...
 - Your First Date
 - His First Home Visit
 - Meeting His Family
- Saying Goodbye

LOVE MATCHER

- Can you find a common language?





Introduction (abridged)

Here's a no-brainer: raise your hand if you've ever felt heartbroken, let down, betrayed or just plain frustrated by a man.

Sound like the makings of a bad country music song, doesn't it? But face it: we've all been there. For every man claiming that women are impossible to understand, you'll find at least five females crying themselves to sleep and wondering why the guys in their life think and act like they do.

Women are relationship-oriented. Whether it's by nature or nurture doesn't really matter—at least not when you're pumped full of adrenaline, every abandonment fear triggered as you obsessively check your cell phone for a call, a text, any contact from Him. We spend so much time on drama, analyzing why he slept in the fetal position instead of spooning us, or what he meant when he said that, we should all win emotional Emmys.

For years, we found ourselves in a common predicament. Here we were, educated and ambitious women who felt totally lost when it came to men! We couldn't understand why our relationship track records didn't match our career success. If we were so smart and self-determined, why did we keep ending up with men who were clearly commitment-phobes? Or sabotaging things with the ones who weren't? Embarrassing as it is, we had to admit: we were total clichés.

We studied human psychology, learned the ways of Mars and Venus, and sat through 40-hour workshops on understanding men. In the course of our exploration, we also discovered astrology.

We began to study the astrological charts of every man we met. We were amazed to discover time-tested patterns. We analyzed current boyfriends, past boyfriends, friends' boyfriends—and the data was consistent. This knowledge began to heal years of heartache (“Ohhhh, that's why he did that!”) and saved us from wasting energy on needless future struggle. Astrology transformed our love lives—and the relationships of thousands of our friends and clients.

Rule #1: Trying to change him is a waste of time

In our opinion, trying to change a guy is a huge waste of time. We think it's better to know exactly what you're dealing with, then ask yourself if you can live with it. Yet, every woman on the planet has tried to reform her boyfriend at some point. And it never, ever works. He either turns you into his mommy (a

job you don't want), resents you for “nagging” him, or leaves you for someone who accepts him as he is...smelly socks, public farting and all.

The real problem? You keep trying to change him—or yourself—instead of changing your approach.

Chances are, you're reading this because you'd love some insight into what makes him tick, what ticks him off, what he cherishes most. You may be blind to the ways that you—yes, you—could already be the woman of his dreams. Simply put, if you don't understand your man, how can you accept him? Love begins with acceptance. It's what we women want, too! (Don't believe us? Ask your cellulite.)

Are you doing the wrong thing with the right guy?

Love and commitment mean something different to each specific sign. In practical terms, what turns on a Pisces ain't gonna rev up a Virgo's engine. But since your Pisces ex-boyfriend loved you in heels and black fishnets, you mistakenly assume your virginal Virgo will get all hot and bothered when you slip on the stockings. (Hopefully, you've at least bought a new pair. Virgos are clean freaks!) Instead, he runs for the hills.

Maybe you're doing the right thing...but with the wrong guy.

See, once you learn the basics—what to expect and not expect from a particular sign—you're free to make choices in your own best interest. There's nothing more relieving than to discover that you're not defective...you're just applying the wrong techniques to someone who could very well be the right person. Or that your nagging suspicion is true: you've been casting your pearls before swine, and it's time to move on to a better match.

We want you to know that regardless of your romantic path, you DO have other choices—of how to react, whom to date, what to tolerate, and how to deal with whatever baggage this particular man brings. Our wish for you? That you have everything you imagined love could bring, in an even better package than you thought possible. Knowledge is power, so go magnetize the perfect man for you. Who knows...he could already be there, just waiting for you to recognize what he's known all along.

The ARIES Man (abridged)

Dates: April 20 - May 22

Symbol: The Ram

Ruling Planet: Mars, the planet of action, energy, and war

Element: Fire—passionate, dynamic, active

Quality: Cardinal

Mission: Passionate Playmates

Natural Habitat—Where You'll Find Him: Reading a great American novel in paperback, surrounded by women on the dance floor, shouting at the TV at a sports bar, leading a youth group through a community service mission, playing or watching violent sports like pro football, hockey, wrestling; competing in an Ultimate Fighting Championship, playing chess or strategy games, expressing himself passionately through writing or speaking, debating politics, leading a military faction, potato-ing on the couch in a wifebeater and boxers

ARIES: How to Spot Him

- Strong brow, often looks like he's frowning or angry
- May walk with his head forward, like a charging ram
- Assertive or dominant body posture that says "I own this place"
- Moves around quickly and energetically
- Powerful, straightforward gaze
- Oozes raw sexual energy
- Nearly naked (wife beater, open shirt, flip flops, baggy shorts drooping off his ass)
- Dressed like an overbuttoned metrosexual schoolboy
- Sarcastic and brusque
- Shouting, bellowing, whooping or cheering
- Pacing around nervously, running his hand through his hair
- Wearing a hat, baseball or trucker cap, or bandana (Aries rules the head)
- Sexy, powerful body and combat-ready stance

ARIES: What He's All About

Want to set the women's movement back to prehistoric times? Drop an Aries man into a room full of educated, self-aware women. Backs straighten suddenly, lashes flutter, hair is gamely twirled around fingers. The virile Knight/Caveman has arrived, victorious from the hunt, slain beast in tow. He's here to protect and defend the fair maidens of the land.

Surely there are some damsels in distress here? The Aries man has a way of "outing" you. His masculinity brings out a primal instinct you have the good sense to be embarrassed about. Thought you were too smart to go weak-kneed over some macho stud, right? After spending years earning college degrees, buying pepper spray and learning to take care of yourself (thankyouverymuch), you're a modern-day version of Xena: Warrior Princess.

Until Hercules shows up, that is. Eons of feminist progress vanish like the dinosaurs. Blame it, perhaps, on your Darwinian DNA. Research suggests that women are still biologically hard-coded to seek out the hardest mate, he who can guarantee our survival in case of flood, harsh winter, or famine. Whether it's with physical or intellectual might, the Aries man is an Alpha male whose presence, like a sonar, beckons this archaic part of the female brain.

Of course, the Caveman must return to his hunt, so the "distressed" damsel must be a good provider herself. She needs to be independent enough to amuse herself while he's off on the hunt, sexy enough to satisfy his all-consuming libido, credentialed enough to support his under-earning bouts, and intelligent enough to compensate for his immaturity. Will he appreciate her? Not to the degree she deserves. In the Aries man's confident mind, there is no such thing as "out of his league." He's an Aries. He always gets the best.

Perhaps that's because he knows he's the best at what he does. It might take him years before he's ready to unleash his unique gifts on the world, but when he does—wow. This proud peacock arrives feathers out, ready to smoke his competition and impress you into a state of weak-kneed awe. If he doesn't do it with raw sex appeal, he uses his intellect, musicianship, jokes, political savvy, quick thinking—whatever he's got. Credentials and prior experience are irrelevant. He strives to assert his individuality, to be his own man. Skim through any industry and you'll find an Aries man who charged in out of nowhere and broke the mold. Democracy: Thomas Jefferson. Fashion: Marc Jacobs. Making beats: Pharrell Williams. Comedy: Eddie Murphy. Environmental awareness: Al Gore. Stunts: Jackie Chan. Babymaking music: Marvin Gaye, Al Green. Late night TV: Dave Letterman. Acting: Marlon Brando. And the list goes on. He's number one. Get it? And like revolutionary Ram Thomas Jefferson, the Aries man holds that truth to be self-evident.

He can come across as a real arrogant prick, but underneath, he's terrified of being anything but numero uno. Aries Marlon Brando once said, "I put on an act sometimes,

and people think I'm insensitive. Really, it's like a kind of armor because I'm too sensitive. If there are two hundred people in a room and one of them doesn't like me, I've got to get out." The Aries man is neurotic this way, constantly threatened and fearful of losing top billing. Because he covers this up desperately, he comes across as either breathtakingly egotistical or trying too hard. This can evoke your violent, immediate dislike of him—but wait. Stumble on a stiletto, and in a flash he's catching you, lifting you back on your feet. You feel weightless, feminine, cherished, (dare we say it?) saved. Whoops. You've fallen in love with the guy you love to hate.

Of course, other men are glad to follow this natural leader. There's a raw, masculine quality that men admire in him; being around his testosterone wellspring makes them feel more manly. He's the ultimate frat boy, a man among men. He can whip ass in a political debate, rock a chess board, hold court at the head of any dinner table with side-splitting jokes and stories. His friendships have a "bromosexual" quality, a back-slapping, circle-jerking camaraderie that no woman will ever fully understand. Picture Russell Crowe in *Gladiator*, Hayden Christensen swinging his light saber as a young Luke Skywalker. These films are probably in every Aries man's personal video collection, as he loves war movies about bands of brothers. Ophira dated an Aries for two years who watched either *Lord of the Rings* or *Gladiator*—sometimes both—every single night before bed. He also won a national Jiu Jitsu tournament without any training. Men adored him.

Still, underneath the Aries man's chest beating, there's also the most exquisitely vulnerable little boy you'll ever meet. He's a heartbreaking angel on a good day, an utter terror when he's off. As the zodiac's first sign, the Aries man is a bit of a paradox. Essentially, he's a "macho baby." While his ruler, warrior-planet Mars, makes him a fierce fighter, he's also the infant of the horoscope. And like a baby, his primal needs and abandonment fears are more immediate than any other sign's. The Aries man may cry for freedom, yet there's a side of him that's as dependent as a newborn. His version of "mother's milk" is to build an elaborate defense system that guarantees he'll never be left in the cold. For example, is octogenarian Hugh Hefner, with his Playboy mansion and three porn-star girlfriends, a sexual renegade? Or is he just making sure that he's never left alone without the reassurance, sexual attention and devotion of a woman? Probably both.

The Aries man has a reputation of having anger issues. Indeed his temper and demeanor can be fierce and intimidating. But what's behind anger? Usually, pain and a sense of powerlessness. Now let's go back to the image of the baby, the innocent. When he loves for the first time, the Aries man will hand you his entire heart, whole and beating wildly, with full trust. He has no idea that anything bad could possibly happen. He believes—he trusts the outcome purely, without a single, tarnishing thought. Like a child playing in traffic, he doesn't see the cars or imagine they could hit him.

There's a saying that fools rush in. The Fool is the first card of the Tarot deck. It depicts a merry, spirited young man on the edge of a cliff, carrying a small hobo sack. The Fool is so enraptured in his blissful adventure, he's unaware that his next step will send him plummeting right off the mountain. The Aries man begins each venture as this kind of "fool"—throwing himself headlong into the flames, with utter faith that he's fire-proof.

Then—uh-oh. He gets burned. He sneaks downstairs to catch Santa Claus and sees his mother putting gifts under the tree. The woman he thought would be his wife has been cheating on him. Worst of all, EVERYONE KNEW BUT HIM. Now, he feels like a different sort of fool. The kind that's an idiot, a sucker. And this sucker punch knocks the wind right out of Aries. As the saying goes, the first cut is the deepest. He may never fully recover from this primal wound.

That's when the Aries man creates his "ego defense" to protect himself from reliving that pain. He might become a player, seducing and dumping women ruthlessly. He might swear himself to celibacy (so wrong for the sign with the highest libido), fall into drug abuse, even suffer a nervous breakdown. He can become tough, suspicious to the point of paranoia, obsessed with never getting "played" again. Aries Alec Baldwin was exposed to the media shouting into his pre-teen daughter's answering machine that she was a "rude, insensitive little pig." What really happened? She didn't return his calls and he was HURTING. Everything is pure and undistilled for the Aries man—his pain, anger and outrage. He takes everything personally. He shouts, he pouts, he broods, he kicks over the Monopoly board because he's losing. Our Aries uncle Sami, visiting New York from Tel Aviv, stewed for a week because he paid (gasp) three dollars for two tomatoes. "In Israel, I get a BUSHEL for one shekel," he spat, invoking the open-air market where shoppers bargain for produce. "What does this guy think—I'm stupid?"

What really hurts the Aries man more than paying retail at a Korean deli, though, is denying his voracious, innocent spirit its lifeblood: adventure. Now, he's abandoned himself. He longs desperately to give his heart fully to life—to love and express his passion—every moment. So his heart continues to beat wildly, but rather than leaping through his chest, it now flings itself against an ironclad fortress, against the steely armor of a knight who once threw off his helmet and charged onto the battlefield naked.

So how does the zodiac's Superman regain his powers after a nasty clash with Kryptonite? As we write this on March 21—the first day of the Aries cycle and Spring—we're reminded that trees blossom even after the hardest winters. When the Aries man allows his heart to thaw, he can heal into a powerful force of nature. Often, it takes the unconditional love of someone he admires—a person who believes in him with the same purity that he lost—for the warrior's courage to return.

The TAURUS Man (abridged)

Dates: April 20 - May 22

Symbol: The Bull

Ruling Planet: Venus, the planet of beauty, art and romance

Element: Earth—grounded, realistic, wants material security

Quality: Fixed

Mission: A Wife for Life

Natural Habitat—Where You'll Find Him: At a French restaurant lingering over steak frites, sipping red wine at a bar, performing as the lead singer in a band, shopping at an upscale department store, playing an extreme sport, relaxing with friends and family, writing or downloading music, analyzing art at a gallery, preaching about his favorite topic in a booming voice, pacing nervously, soaking up beautiful scenery, sleeping soundly on a pillowtop mattress with 600-threadcount sheets, smoking a cigar, riding or fixing a motorcycle, driving a sports car, hosting a massive dinner party, belting out Frank Sinatra tunes at a karaoke bar, swaying with eyes closed to his favorite CD, leading a political rally

TAURUS: How to Spot Him

- Stylish dresser, either a debonair metrosexual or a total rock star
- Metrosexual Taurus favors suit jackets and button-downs with jeans
- Rock star Taurus may dress in all black
- Defined chin and strong jaw
- Thick or long neck, broad shoulders
- Soulful eyes, intense gaze
- Deep, booming or throaty voice
- Full head of hair, often styled distinctively
- Leather shoes, accessories—even leather pants
- Stocky or solid build, often short (but acts like he's seven feet tall)
- Thick or stubby fingers
- Walks with his chest puffed out
- Strong, forceful gestures and an air of authority

TAURUS: What He's All About

So you're looking for a guy who's loyal and stable. Trouble is, you're afraid that spells B-O-R-I-N-G. With a Taurus, it can go either way. The Taurus man is who he is, and you should either love him or leave him alone. He's a creature of habit who loyally sticks to his deep-rooted opinions, favorite restaurants, and creature comforts. He loves his family and craves a conventional lifestyle, complete with kids and a 30-year mortgage.

So where's the excitement? You have to be ultra-present to find it. Taurus men can appreciate life's simple pleasures like no other sign. They live in the now and soak up every delicious moment. Are you grounded enough to join him? If you're like most multitasking women, being present can be a challenge. Date a workaholic Capricorn if your career eats up all your free time—he'll understand. Or, if you need to "process" your day instead of leaving it behind, a Virgo will listen to you kvetch. Taurus wants to spend quality time as a couple.

The Taurus man loves art and culture. His sign is ruled by Venus, the planet of beauty and creativity. But he's an earth-sign, which makes him a realist. He may burst your bubble when you share your heartfelt dreams, but take a deep breath and listen. Taurus can provide a necessary dose of reality and structure. He'll champion your creative ambitions, as long as you're willing to be practical. Count him out if you plan on standing in a 10-mile line for American Idol auditions, or hitchhiking to Hollywood to be "discovered." He doesn't believe in overnight success. Taurus makes small, concrete steps toward a goal, and he'll help you map out yours.

A note to women who like to change your boyfriends: don't bother. Many women find power in leaving our mark on a man, being the one who helps him "see the light." Your shrink calls it codependence, but that hasn't stopped most of us from turning our relationships into Boyfriend Boot Camp. Setting up reform school for a Taurus guy is an utter time-waster. The Taurus man doesn't believe in change, and it makes him queasy. He told you exactly who he was from the start. Therefore, changing would be a lie—and he can't stand liars.

With his stubborn personality, Taurus will only change unless there's a damn good reason—like his family or loved ones will be threatened if he doesn't. Saving your relationship? Only worth it when kids, property, or joint investments are involved; in other words, when his life as he knows it is at risk. Taurus values the security of a stable life over a fleeting romance. He won't make a move without asking himself, Is it worth it?

Do you think that people constantly grow and evolve? The Taurus guy is not your match. He believes that what you see is what you get. If optimism, spirituality, and faith in the human spirit are among your core values, try a Sagittarius or a Gemini. The Taurus man will only snort and roll his eyes at your "childishness," infuriating the crap out of you.

Taurus is a provider. His sign rules material comfort and daily income, and that's his focus. If you're the kind of woman who brings home wounded birds, go thee and mother an

Aries or a Scorpio. Taurus is fine with you bringing home a paycheck. But make no mistakes: he brings home the bacon. You may realize it's the 21st century, but that means squat to his traditional sign. He'd rather you buy yourself something pretty with your earnings than spend them on the rent.

Love being spoiled? Taurus is your soulmate. Shameless gold-digger? Grab a shovel. If you're a 50/50 girl who wants to pay her own way, though, forget about dating this sign. You'll feel like you're setting the women's movement back 200 years every time the check arrives. And he'll feel like a castrated schmuck if he lets you pay it. Go split the bill with a budget-conscious Virgo or an equality-minded Aquarius.

If your conscience bothers you but you want to stick around, give him gifts. Cashmere scarves, leather wallets, Godiva chocolate, a CD box set—he'll take 'em. Taurus men want the best of everything. Rip off the price tag and pay for gift wrapping. Pick up groceries or gourmet treats, and he'll happily indulge, too. As long as he doesn't see the receipts, he shouldn't mind.

Taurus is a fixed sign, which is exactly what it sounds like—a guy who's "fixed" in one place and doesn't budge. It's the frustrating side of his loyal nature. Sometimes, you need a partner who keeps you guessing, or whose nomadic spirit gets your own life out of a rut. If you find constant surprises and change exciting, try one of the four ever-evolving "mutable" signs: Gemini, Virgo, Sagittarius and Pisces.

If you long for more excitement from your Taurus, be careful what you wish for, though. The Taurus man is stable 95% of the time, but when he's hotheaded, watch out. He's the sign of the Bull, and as you know, a threatened Bull charges. The angry Taurus morphs from Zen-boy into a hyped-up rage machine, hell-bent on destroying whatever's in his path. During these rare but frightening spells, he will repeat himself endlessly, refer to himself in the third person, punch walls, or shout at the top of his lungs. (We'll get into this more later. But if you sense the volcano's about to explode, run.)

Your Bull can also be a bulldozer. When the Taurus man pushes, you'll need the strength to push back. That means knowing and accepting yourself enough to stand for your beliefs. Otherwise, you'll feel like you're dating a dictator (Saddam Hussein and Adolph Hitler are both on the Taurus roster). Know thyself and thy boundaries. A woman who asserts her limits without putting him down will win the Taurus man's heart and his respect.

The GEMINI Man (abridged)

Dates: May 21-June 20

Symbol: The Twins

Ruling Planet: Mercury, planet of communication and the mind

Element: Air—intellectual, changeable, social

Quality: Mutable

Mission: Meeting of the Minds

Natural Habitat—Where You'll Find Him: Writing a screenplay or novel, closing a deal, talking smack, behind a camera, in a DJ booth or a recording studio, arguing both sides on a debate team, buying and “flipping” properties, engaged in intense conversation, at a comedy club, reading yet another book, watching crime shows or cartoons, annoying people by reciting movie lines, pushing someone’s buttons, attending a gallery opening or book-signing, browsing shelves at a bookstore or library, stirring up a political debate, downloading or writing music, working with his hands, channel-surfing at home, hopping on his bike or in a roadster and taking off on a day trip, IMing or chatting online for hours, refilling his antidepressant prescription, dancing at a club while people watch in awe

GEMINI: How to Spot Him

- Eyes that twinkle and dart around, taking everything in
- Looks like he just told a lie, heard a private joke, or knows some privileged information that he’s dying to share
- Nervous gestures and speech, contrasting with a laid-back, come-to-daddy posture
- Dimples and a boyish, pretty face
- Long, well-shaped fingers and nice hands
- Strong forearms with pronounced tendons and muscles
- Long, lean torso
- Gender-bending outfits that somehow make him look even more manly
 - May dress in a stuffy, overly formal way: sweater vests, watches, button-down shirts, shiny leather shoes
 - Carries around a notebook or messenger bag holding his laptop, script, half-finished novel, etc.
- Evades personal questions and keeps conversation in realm of ideas and theories

GEMINI: What He's All About

He's two, he's three, he's four boyfriends in one!

Gemini is the sign of the Twins, as you know. With his multiple personalities, he makes monogamy feel like a gang bang. You never know who he'll be at any given moment—but then, neither does he. Gemini is ruled by impish, quick-thinking Mercury, the planet of communication. Like an Intel processor, his mind and mouth move at the speed of giga-hertz. Mercury is the “messenger,” and the Gemini man is a lightning rod for new ideas, trivia and information. He's like the interplanetary newsboy, getting the first crack the morning headlines and shouting “Extra! Extra!” as he trumpets them to the world.

With his observant nature, the Gemini man can mirror and mimic like no other. Mike Myers channeled his Gemini “shape-shifting” abilities into his Austin Powers series, playing both Powers and his rival, Dr. Evil. It was like a big-screen tableau of the Gemini man—embattled with his own inner demons, saving the world while at the same time plotting its demise.

“I'm at least four different types of people—and those identities can be hard to juggle,” admits Bryan, a Gemini publicist who's married with a four-year-old son. “I could be the obnoxious potty-mouth with Group A, then in Group B, I'd be the studious bookworm. I used to go out of my way to make sure those groups never intersected. I was afraid I'd shock people.”

Among his magnificent panoply of personas, we've seen a frequent recurrence of Old Man Gemini and Gender Blender Gemini. Your Gemini can morph from tattooed club kid into a stuffy, vest-and-pocketwatch wearing curmudgeon who just wants to read a novel or go fishing. Other Gemini men make an art out of melding the genders in their style and expression. (Witness: Prince, Dave Navarro, Lenny Kravitz, Andre 3000, and Fall Out Boy's Pete Wentz who inspired the term “guyliner” for his propensity for lining his eyes with a kohl pencil.) This is the guy who can look smokin'-hot wearing lace and heels. Even former New York City mayor Rudy Giuliani hits the town dressed in drag every Halloween, leaving people wondering—just what the Gemini man loves! As long as you're still guessing, he's still free to flit among characters and identities.

He never wants to be tied down to anything, least of all an identity. The Gemini man often speaks in “you” or refers to himself in the third person—almost like he's talking about somebody else. He makes an excellent entertainer, and a memorable politician, like Geminis John F. Kennedy and Clint Eastwood.

Gemini has an active, restless mind that must be managed. Trapped by his own turbulent thoughts, “analysis paralysis” can cripple him. Too much of this fragmenting can take a toll on his mental health. Depression, even bipolar disorder, can afflict this

sign, and a good therapist can be essential. Many Gemini men turn to anti-depressants, alcohol or other addictive escapes from their inner woes. He'd do well to avoid Happy Hour and plant his ass in the self-help, neuropsychology or metaphysical section of Barnes and Noble. Consciousness work does the Gemini man wonders. Once the Gemini man becomes a master of his mind—demystifying his knee-jerk reactions and learning to track his impulses—he can use his intellectual force for great things. Meditation or martial arts can also be useful; anything that decelerates his impatience and helps him “be with” his thoughts instead of running away from them.

He's an excellent student, luckily. Mercury makes his brain a sponge for facts. The Gemini man's nimble fingers fly through a search engine, and he'll find you the most obscure data in half the time of a trained librarian. Don't ever challenge him to a crossword puzzle competition, unless you plan to lose.

Gemini rules communication, and this silver-tongued chap can turn quite a phrase. His gift for stringing together words can land him a career in writing, speaking or media. Three of the most celebrated rappers—Tupac, Biggie Smalls, and Kanye West—are all Geminis admired for their creative wordplays, not to mention their extravagant egos and fearless trash-talking. Who can forget Gemini Donald Trump's curt dismissal on *The Apprentice*: “You're fired!”

The Gemini man may earn a reputation as a liar, which is not always true—although in some cases, it certainly fits. It's more like double talk. Words are his toys, and he tends to use them too lightly. His penchant for playing the devil's advocate gets him in hot water, and he loves debate. Conversations with him can feel like the ultimate mind-f**k. Believe it or not, he doesn't always realize he's doing it. The Gemini man means what he says...when he's saying it. He just forgets a few minutes later, or changes his mind, and that's where all the trouble starts. George Bush Sr., a Gemini, famously promised “Read my lips: no new taxes,” then proceeded to hike taxes two years later.

Mischief has a way of finding him, and the trademark twinkle in his eye suggests he may court it, too. In his youth, Gemini can be quite the troublemaker, dabbling in shoplifting, sports betting, petty theft and drugs. His curious mind is quicker than most, and he thrills at discovering just how much he can get away with. Mark Wahlberg, now a serious actor, reinvented himself from his earlier incarnation as Marky Mark, the trou'-dropping Calvin Klein underwear model and cheesy rapper with a long criminal rap sheet.

The mature Gemini man learns to honor his personality shifts, whose onset can be swift and sudden. Pity the Gemini man who grew up in a home that either had too many rules, or lacked discipline. He needs permission to be his own person (or people, as it were), but he also needs healthy boundaries (if only to experiment with testing them). He thrives with tolerant, mellow parents who repeatedly answers Gemini's favorite question—“Why?”

In the end, the Gemini man's abundant sense of wonder is still his best trait. While he can be maddeningly immature or indecisive, his eternal youth also makes him a fascinating seeker. He may never settle down for long, but he continuously evolves along with the world, which is so refreshing. Sure, he may watch Cartoon Network and eat sugared cereal well into old age. But he can also chase a morning of Lucky Charms and Sponge Bob with a well-chosen Cabernet and tickets to an off-off-Broadway opening that he found on an obscure culture website. If variety is the spice of life, Gemini is one of the zodiac's most well seasoned men.

The CANCER Man (abridged)

Dates: June 21 - July 22

Symbol: The Crab

Ruling Planet: The (ever-changing) Moon

Element: Water

Quality: Cardinal

Mission: Domestic Bliss

Natural Habitat—Where You'll Find Him: Running the family business, cooking a gourmet dinner, sampling Cabernets at a vineyard, helping friends decorate their homes, hosting an elegant party, cheering on "his team" at a sports bar, sightseeing at historical ruins with an out-of-print guidebook tucked under his arm, hand-engineering an elaborate art project in the basement or garage, rocking out at an indie concert, huddled with friends at his favorite dive bar, camping out (with his two dogs) at a lakeside cabin, leading a troupe of Boy Scouts on a wilderness venture, coaching a youth soccer team, the lone straight guy at a bachelorette party or Girl's Night Out event, attending a charity dinner for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, training for a triathlon, sailing around the harbor on his boat

CANCER: How to Spot Him

- The Crab's most sensitive spot is his chest, and the Cancer man often walks with his puffed out—at once offering you his heart and shielding it
- Buying everybody shots at the bar—he wants you out of your shell before he'll come out of his
- Preppy-conservative: button-down shirt, sweater, vest, or blazer (Mr. Rogers meets captain of the Varsity Lacrosse Team)
- Metrosexual clothes like slightly tight shirts, revealing his (often well-defined) pecs
- Round "moon-like" face or physique
- Baseball cap and ratty college T-shirt, flip flops — the sentimental value wardrobe he won't let go of
- Holding court among a gaggle of girls
- Soft, nurturing gaze...if he likes you; a cold, distant one if he doesn't
- Standing in a huddle with a group of guys, usually his frat brothers or childhood friends
- Actively involved with a pool table, video game, or pinball machine —crabs love to play games
- Listening quietly and intensely to a friend over dinner, with a sympathetic, "there, there now..." look on his face
- At a coffeeshop with his laptop, a well-worn notebook, or dog-eared novel
- Browsing for hours at a used bookstore or indie video shop
- Dumpster diving for goods to sell on e-Bay; dragging a curbside furniture find up five flights of stairs
- Rushing to the DJ booth to fix a power outage during a party
- Milk-fed features: creamy skin and rosy cheeks
- Strong, forceful gestures and an air of authority

CANCER: What He's All About

Paging the guy in aisle seven of Williams Sonoma! There's a sale on chafing dishes and copper core sauté pans. What's that? You already have a full set? Ohhhh, you're looking for an espresso machine to surprise your girlfriend. She doesn't have a tricked-out kitchen like you do. I see. You must be a...Cancer?

Okay ladies, let's talk straight here. We're officially in the post-post-feminist era, or something like that. We can't keep track. The point is, there's a good chance that right now you're a successful, working woman, and that whole Betty Crocker thing is actually just a crock of shit. You don't have time to cook and clean and wipe up baby drool—at least not on your own. You don't need a husband. You need a wife.

Enter the Crab. Dinner's on the table (or reservations have been made), the kids are nodding off to his classical music collection, and he's already painting your picket fence white. A trip to Pier One or Pottery Barn is like foreplay to your little Crabcake. He'll do the dishes, the laundry and you. Does it get any better than that?

Cancer is the sign that rules women and femininity. Domestic bliss is his number-one mission. His idea of nirvana is a cozy, well-appointed home filled with art, music and an ever-expanding brood. (Bonus points if you cook together, since this emotional eater loves food almost as much as he loves you.) Home, family and security are his top priorities—along with Taurus and Capricorn, he's a major “family man.”

So where's the downside? Well, he can be sensitive, even whiny. Oh, who are we kidding? On bad days, he's a total bitch. His sign is ruled by the Moon, which causes his moods to fluctuate with the tides. That's right—just like yours. You'll have as many Kotex moments as you will Kodak moments with him. Were someone to conduct a study, the Cancer man could prove that “male PMS” is no myth.

Although he loves to be around women, sometimes the Cancer man is the “woman.” Want to find out? Just push his buttons. He reacts in all the stereotypically feminine ways, taking every slight personally, wondering “what she meant by that,” and stewing in a funk. He gets easily attached to his possessions, too. One Cancer friend loved a certain style of Adidas flip flops so much, he wore them for years. After scouring eBay (they finally fell apart), he bought five pairs, which he estimates will last him for the next 20-30 years.

Girlie as he can be, the Cancer man will defend you like a gallant knight. He's fiercely protective of his loved ones. In the animal kingdom, the mothers are often the most ferocious, and like a mama bear, he'll tear a limb off anyone who messes with his clan. In rare cases, the Cancer man's pent-up frustrations can erupt in a fearsome or violent rage. (Sylvester Stallone, Harrison Ford and OJ Simpson are born under this sign.) As a kid, he might even have been the neighborhood punk. It's not easy being as sensitive as Cancers are, and like an angry crab, he may pinch anyone who gets too

close. This guy definitely needs lots of emotional outlets: martial arts, sports, the stock market, or beating up a pinball machine—something he can “conquer” when he feels out of control.

Loyal to his crew, he’s a band of brothers kind of guy. In college, the Cancer man is often a frat boy—though we suspect it’s because he just wants to secure housing for himself. As the sign that rules family, he needs to belong to one. Until he can start his own, he’ll fashion a pseudo clan by going Greek, joining a sports team or arts club, visiting the same bar every night, or getting jumped into a gang. There’s a doggedly patriotic quality to the Cancer man. Gone too far, he can be xenophobic, like George W. Bush. Is it any surprise that a Cancer president would be preoccupied with “homeland security”?

Fortunately, he’s also concerned with yours. If you want the kind of guy that understands women, cares how you feel, and will stay by your side in exchange for being your macho-yet-motherly hero, the Cancer man has a cozy spot waiting in his shell.

The LEO Man (abridged)

Dates: July 23-August 22

Symbol: The Lion

Ruling Planet: The Sun—center of our universe

Element: Fire—passionate, dynamic, active

Quality: Fixed

Mission: Hunting for a Lion Queen

Natural Habitat—Where You'll Find Him: Producing, directing and starring in his own independent film, swept away in a romantic escapade, running for President, sipping drinks in the V.I.P. section of a hot dance club, starting a high-powered company, planning the New World Order behind his computer, teaching himself how to speak Russian or another language, playing Dungeons 'n Dragons, at a comic book convention, spending his last five dollars on cookies, eating dessert, in the front seat of a death-defying roller coaster, in the ivory tower of a university; at a lecture, poetry reading or spiritual workshop; holding court as the host of his own blowout birthday bash, behind a camera directing a film, on his way to an audition, at band practice, scribbling song lyrics in a worn moleskin notebook, reading classic literature, getting his chest and back waxed at a spa, getting a mani-pedi and massage, singing karaoke tunes on top of a bar

LEO: How to Spot Him

- Intense eyes with a piercing gaze
- Small catlike nose, or a prominent nose that makes him look tough and sexy
- Resembles a lion or a cat
- Powerful body with sinewy limbs
- Distinctive mane of hair—either thick and full or early baldness
- Wearing 007-style sunglasses at dusk
- Being the opposite of everyone else: the only quiet guy in a noisy room or the loudmouth breaking the silence
- Chest thrust out proudly
- Being the teacher's pet or eager follower of anyone he admires
- Flamboyant clothes—somebody was buying those fugly patterned shirts from Chess King. Mystery solved!
- Surrounded by a gaggle of women who just might be strippers, escorts, or a bunch of his ex-girlfriends
- Oversized coats and hats—the king needs his cape and crown
- Reading Tolstoy or a historical biography with a furrowed brow
- Dancing flamboyantly and gracefully in tight clothes—rhumba, cha-cha, merengue (think: Leo Patrick Swayze)

LEO: What He's All About

The Leo man has a way of commanding attention, even without trying. Just walk into a room and see where your eyes fall first. The Leo man is the loudest, most animated person—laughing boisterously, brandishing a beer as he makes obnoxious jokes, starting a fight when someone challenges his supremacy. Or, he's a regal, quiet hottie smoldering on the sidelines, brooding and pouting until you notice him. Either way, he's impossible to ignore.

Leo is ruled by the Sun, the center of our solar system. Is it any wonder his sign has a reputation as being egotistical or self-centered? Like planets in orbit, everything revolves around this guy. In worst-case scenarios, he's a pompous narcissist driven by his own hedonistic desires. At best, he's a playful cub with boundless energy who needs constant action, attention and entertainment.

Leo's zodiac symbol is the majestic Lion. King of the jungle he is—and he knows it. Whatever Leo does, he must rule at, or else he quickly loses interest. He plays to win, and he's not shy about bragging when he does, even if it makes him look arrogant. When he was awarded an Oscar for *Titanic*, Leo director James Cameron proclaimed, "I am the king of the world!"

The Leo man has so much in common with his iconic animal, that we turned to the wildlife experts to help you understand him better. Here's how the pros help us explain your Leo:

Wilderness Behavior # 1:

Social groups of lions, called prides, are composed of one to three males, two to fifteen females, and their offspring. (Animal Planet)

Wait a second, is there a celebrity here? Why are all those women gathered around that guy? It's just Leo, holding court with all his female friends. Most have either slept with him or hope to at some point, but there's no need to get vicious. He's got plenty for everyone.

With his high sex drive, monogamy is not a natural state for the Leo man, though he's capable of it as long as you've got the sex drive of three women. If anything, he tends to be a serial monogamist, never without a warm body by his side for long.

Wilderness Behavior # 2:

When males are forced to leave the pride that they were born into, they form small bachelor groups and roam.

The Leo man is pack leader among his male friends, too. As much as he adores women, he needs a roving band of brothers: his drinking buddies, Dungeons 'n Dragons crew, or Sunday football crew. With his back-slapping bravado and infectious laugh, he makes every guy feel like "the man." After co-writing *Good Will Hunting*,

Leo Ben Affleck and his Libra buddy Matt Damon became such a tight unit, they inspired tabloids to coin the term “bromosexual” to describe their bond.

Wilderness Behavior # 3:

Lions live in a matriarchal society. The lionesses work together to hunt and rear the cubs. (San Diego Zoo)

There’s no need to dumb down or dim your own lights with Leo. The Leo man is well aware of your power, and he embraces it. He’s more than happy for you to play Supermom; in fact, he expects you to have a stellar career and be an amazing mother. There’s nothing he loves more than a strong woman who can handle it all.

Wilderness Behavior # 4:

The males protect the territory and get to eat first; the lionesses do most of the hunting. While they do eat more than the lionesses and bring in far less food (they hunt less than 10 percent of the time), males patrol, mark, and guard the pride’s territory. (National Geographic, San Diego Zoo)

Yes, he’s still king of the castle, even if you make twice as much as he does. As self-appointed head of his household, the Leo man is incredibly protective and will destroy anyone who messes with his clan. He tends to have a strong sense of entitlement, which occasionally will make you want to kick his ass. He’s prone to overindulgence, too—on food, alcohol, cigarettes, and other hedonistic pleasures. Leo Sean Penn smoked four packs of cigarettes a day before he quit at age 40.

Wilderness Behavior # 5:

Lions usually hunt at night and spend almost twenty hours a day sleeping or lounging with their playful cubs.

The Leo man is an excellent, hands-on dad who loves to get down on the floor with the baby, and takes great pride in raising his children every step of the way. He has non-stop energy for playtime. The Leo man is far from lazy in most cases, but he can certainly do things at a languid pace, according to his own timeline. This leisurely, catlike way is part of his charm. Most Leo men are night owls. Leo Barack Obama wrote his biography at night while his family slept. He likes to build his empire after dark, when most of his enemies are sleeping.

Wilderness Behavior # 6:

They generally stalk and chase their prey, killing with a bite to the neck—although they can also kill with a single back-breaking swat of the paw.

Ferocious Leo has a fighting spirit like no other sign. He’s always ready to take down an enemy, whether with a verbal assault, his fists, or simply by proving his doubters wrong. The Leo man pursues his goals with the same warrior spirit and

unflappable confidence of a jungle king. Leo Arnold Scharzenegger was once an unknown Austrian bodybuilder who was mocked when he said he wanted to be an actor. According to childhood friends, “Ahhnold” often said his goals were to move to America, become an actor, and marry a Kennedy. He accomplished all three, and even became California’s governor. Leo Andy Warhol’s pop art was ridiculed, but he became an international icon with museums devoted to his work. It could not be more appropriate that we’re writing this chapter on the cusp of the 2008 elections, as Leo Barack Obama is a contender for the presidency (who but a Leo would name his book *The Audacity of Hope*?). Robert Redford was a punk who stole hubcaps and lost his college baseball scholarship because of drunkenness. He became an actor and director who established the Sundance Film Festival. Even Robert De Niro supposedly walked out of a movie theater at age 17 and announced to bewildered friends that he was going to be an actor. When Leo sets his sights on a goal, he gets it.

Wilderness Behavior # 7:

A male’s loud roar, usually heard after sunset, can carry for as far as five miles (eight kilometers). The roar warns off intruders and helps round up stray members of the pride. (National Geographic)

The Leo man is incredibly vocal about his beliefs and values. Being a natural leader himself, he often gets involved in politics. The Leo man is highly critical of leaders he doesn’t like, and intensely supportive of candidates in whom he believes. Everything has to be a grand declaration for Leo: his favorite sports teams, bands, authors and historical figures.

Like a cat with nine lives, the Leo man recovers from every setback with an impressive resilience. He dives headfirst into everything he does. If he can’t do it passionately, why do it at all? While he may be underestimated, it only makes him more determined to show you what he’s all about. The Leo man never really gives up. Don’t be surprised if you look up one day and see his face or his company splashed across a billboard. What do you know? He did it. He made his dreams come true after all.

The VIRGO Man (abridged)

Dates: August 23-September 22

Symbol: The Virgin

Ruling Planet: Mercury, planet of communication and the mind

Element: Earth—grounded, traditional, stable

Quality: Mutable

Mission: Master and Commander

Natural Habitat—Where You'll Find Him: Cleaning and organizing, driving around for hours lost in thought, saving a damsel in distress, arguing a point, hosting a party at his home, reading a book, solving a crossword puzzle, watching CNN, engaged in an intimate one-on-one conversation, hiking or doing something outdoorsy, tending a garden or plants, at a family event, holding a baby, gossiping, analyzing a situation, worrying, rolling a joint, working out, juicing or shopping for organic ingredients, in the kitchen, mixing up a home remedy for a sick friend, visiting elderly relatives in the hospital, on the phone, helping wherever help is needed

VIRGO: How to Spot Him

- Soulful, puppy-dog eyes
- Cute baby face—often looks younger than he is
- Nice hands with well-shaped, long fingers
- Neat, well-tailored, usually preppy or simple style
- Wearing gear from a high-end outdoor line (Patagonia)
- May wear glasses
- Moves with precision, quick on his feet
- Geometric or severe hair—crew cut, angular spikes, or perfectly smooth bald head (he may even cut his own hair!)
- Often well-built and fit, especially in the arms, chest and pecs
- Heading to the bathroom at a pre-scheduled time, newspaper tucked under his arm
- Making or carrying a list
- Scribbling his ideas in a notebook or on scraps of paper
- Shopping for vitamins and supplements to add to his collection
- Scents and sensibility: shopping for aromatherapy kits, bath goods, soaps, hair care products, essential oils
- Taking care of animals or a garden
- Planting his own herb garden or crops

VIRGO: What He's All About

If you don't make passes at men who wear glasses, you might miss out on Virgo. And you will be missing out. With his handsome baby face, sexy voice and thoughtful gaze (think: Virgos Ryan Phillippe and Hugh Grant), intelligent Virgo is the guy that will truly listen to your rants, your dreams, your big ideas. He loves a woman with vision. Although he may shoot back a sharp opinion or judgment, his feedback is honest and often hits the mark. The Virgo man is one of the best listeners around.

Virgo's zodiac sign is stereotyped as a neat freak, a nerd, and anal retentive. Indeed he can be all of these things. But don't let his minimalist décor, starched and dry-cleaned shirts arranged by color and perfectly folded "tighty-whitey" briefs frighten you. Virgo still lives on earth, and he's far less likely to blur the lines between fantasy and reality than signs like Aquarius or Leo. If anything, Virgo is a hardcore realist, even a cynic. He might indulge in escapist hobbies, but if anything, it's because he needs a break from his constant worrying. And while he's fastidiously clean, he's also a pack rat. The Virgo man hates to waste, and doesn't like throwing anything away. He might need it someday! Our Virgo friend Kevin is constantly finding stuff, repairing it, and selling it on eBay.

The Virgo man can be an intellectual or he can be a jock, but whatever he does, he strives for excellence and mastery. This is the zodiac's most detail-oriented sign, and he's all about patiently developing his technique. Remember Virgo Keanu Reeves in *The Matrix*? Many Virgo men excel at martial arts for this reason. At times, he may take things way too seriously, or go too far striving for perfection. Virgo Michael Jackson, with his plastic surgery addiction and mask-wearing kids, is an example of what happens when this sign's neurotic tendencies go too far.

A couple months ago, we visited our longtime friend Bill, an archetypical Virgo. Bill and his Scorpio wife Zora live in a beautiful Chelsea loft, which Bill purchased for peanuts in 1977, when New York was pronounced a hopeless war zone. Gifted with Virgo foresight and craftiness, Bill renovated the loft from floor to ceiling, transforming it into a gorgeous space worthy of an *Architectural Digest* spread. Decades later, they still live in this art and light-filled space, now on one of New York City's prime blocks. A couple years ago, Bill stripped the floors and laid new ones by hand. Detail-oriented to a fault, and a proud control freak, the Virgo man takes extreme pride in what he builds.

That particular evening, Bill had just returned from the gym (Virgos can be fastidious about health and fitness). He served himself a bowl of pasta and joined us in the sitting area. Then, he did something very curious—and totally Virgo. Carefully selecting two sheets of *The New York Times*, he folded them crisply and placed them on the hardwood floor under his feet. Then he tucked into his spaghetti carbonara and ate it "safely," so that any stray pasta might fall on the Sports section rather than his oak planks.

Virgo is the sign of the helper, and he's at his best when serving others, making a difference, or being productive. He can't stand sitting still with nothing to do. If he's

lounging, you can bet he's watching TV with a critical eye, or reading five different books. Like Gemini, Virgo is ruled by Mercury, planet of communication and the mind. He loves to analyze things, and can be rather bull-headed, even forceful, when making a point. Yes, the Virgo man can be preachy, and he keeps a soapbox handy for his anti-smoking or anti-whatever tirades. At times, he can get a bit of a God complex, and his rants will be too much to take.

He can also be hilarious. Mercury gives Virgo a quick, impish mind and linguistic gifts. Witty repartee is his specialty, and he can make the cattiest, snarkiest comments. He also makes a great journalist or social worker, since his whole essence in life is striving to understand, to analyze, to make sense of everything. Regimented to a tee, he may even schedule his bathroom time (Virgo rules the intestines). One Virgo man we knew planned his meals around when the office john would be the least crowded. We kid you not!

Being an earth sign, the Virgo man loves to commune with nature. Organic foods and hemp products can compete for shelf space with his vitamins, supplements, books and building supplies. His weekends may be filled with nature hikes or river rafting trips. In college, we knew a tree-obsessed Virgo who collected seeds from the nearby nature trail and actually grew full-size trees in his dorm room!

Then, there are others ways that the Virgo man brings the outdoors inside. Can you say...pothead? The Virgo man can be found packing bowls of marijuana and lighting up, especially when he's anxious (which is most of the time). Nervous by nature, it can take a joint or three to relax this dude. With his green thumb, his cannabis may even be homegrown. (What—it's cheaper that way!) Of course, they don't call pot a gateway drug for nothing, and sadly, some Virgos can lapse into addiction, like Virgo River Phoenix. This man is prone to stress, and he needs to manage his—namely by turning off his mind. The Virgo man always suffers from a terminal lowgrade anxiety. Therapy, tai chi or meditation can help Virgo build essential coping skills. Many Virgo men are practicing Buddhists, or highly spiritual. Chanting his "oms" and going Zen are far better than working and drinking himself into the ground.

If you're comfortable with his tics and hangup—or if you're bad at setting limits for yourself—his regimented lifestyle could be a steady source of comfort. Your life might become a lot less public or social, but sometimes, spending time in an insular world for two can teach you a lot about love's finer points. With Virgo, that's where the best parts of life reside.

The LIBRA Man (abridged)

Dates: September 23 - October 22

Symbol: The Scales

Ruling Planet: Venus, the planet of beauty, art and romance

Element: Earth—grounded, realistic, wants material security

Quality: intellectual, changeable, social

Mission: My Fair Lady

Natural Habitat—Where You'll Find Him: At a networking mixer, befriending strangers at the bar, ballroom or salsa dancing, following his favorite band around the country, at a stadium watching a sports event or concert, organizing his file cabinet, getting fitted for a custom suit; shopping for brand-name clothes, household goods and grooming products; organizing his dress shirts by color, living at home until his mid-20s, taking his sweet time to do anything, listening to music dreamily, ambling through a gallery or museum, philosophizing about life at a coffeeshop, wooing everyone with his natural charm, driving somebody home from an event, offering a sharp opinion or criticism, elegantly dressed at a wine tasting, dining at a large, airy restaurant

LIBRA: How to Spot Him

- Deep, adorable dimples (at least one)
- Impossibly cute, even pretty, face with soft features
- Well-maintained physical fitness—never bulging muscles, but well-defined shape
- Dressed to the nines, with everything coordinated
- Dressed like a cute, Andy Warhol emo boy: button-down, round glasses, linen trousers, a tie
- Taking photo after photo with his expensive camera equipment
- The only guy in the nail salon/home décor department/Pilates class
- Tastefully selecting jewelry or an outfit for his wife or girlfriend
- Handing out his business cards at a corporate networking mixer
- Grossly overtipping the valet or concierge to make himself look and feel like “the man”
- Flirtatiously attempting to charm every woman he meets, even those half his age
- Wearing upscale accessories that nod to his semi-developed spirituality: a sterling silver Om necklace, a Kaballah red string, a Hebrew “chai” pendant
- Wearing quirky accessories that maintain he’s still “down with the people” even though he’s gone corporate: a tie designed by Jerry Garcia, patterned socks or boxers
- Playing wingman to a charismatic but less classy friend
- Kissing the CEO’s ass in hopes of getting ahead

LIBRA: What He's All About

Picture, if you will, a pastoral scene from the idyllic 1950s. A perfect little nuclear family, all dressed in their crisply-ironed Sunday best, piles into the family automobile for a pleasant drive through the country. Cruising along the new Route 9 at a gentle 15 mph, Father pulls over occasionally to point out the wildflowers and dairy cows. The children crowd at the window to see. Hours later, the family completes their ten-mile journey to the next town, where they'll stop for hamburgers and milkshakes, perhaps stroll down the new Main Street. The family's in no rush. It's Sunday in the glorious new suburbs, and life is grand.

That sweet, bucolic glow of simpler times past is the essence of the Libra man. He's all about leisure, harmony and the first blush of Spring. His lens on the world is set to soft focus and warm tones. While few of us even notice the roses, he stops to smell them all. Daydreaming is one of his favorite hobbies, and he has quite an imagination.

Life must be beautiful around a Libra man. And if it isn't, he's the first to notice—and comment. Actually, he can barely tolerate discord. This man has keen senses, especially for colors, scents and sound. American Idol judge Simon Cowell is the quintessential Libra. He considers his harsh contestant critiques a public service: he's saving the planet from bad music. To Libra, ugliness is the ultimate pollution.

A social Air sign, the Libra man thrives in human interaction. Whether he's an investment banker or a bricklayer, he's the guy you want to put in front of the customer. All dimples and savoir-faire, he brings a courtly flair to even the most mundane occasion (although his occasional blunt remarks may offend). The Libra man can and will talk to anyone. Drop him in a networking event or an annual board meeting, and he lights up the room. Sit next to him at the local bar, and he'll treat you to cocktails and conversation.

The Libra man excels in presentation. His desk may be a disaster zone, and his private paperwork could be fraught with frantic scribbles. However, when he turns in a finished product, it's excruciatingly neat and impeccable. Of course, it may be hours past due—or perhaps he stayed up all night hand-lettering a cover for his monthly expense report. For this reason, Libra can unfairly be branded a procrastinator.

Au contraire. It just pains him to produce anything that's less than aesthetically perfect. This is the man who needs a workshop—if only to hide his unfinished projects that he's dawdling over. To Libra, symmetry is bliss. One Libra friend makes sure the spines of his entire books are all lined up perfectly, pulled away from the wall at the exact same distance. He'll spend hours arranging his shelf, instead of reading!

Libra brings these same discriminating standards to his looks. Okay, he can be a vain little pretty-boy about his clothes, hair and shoes. This uber-metrosexual dude is often mistaken for gay—and will gladly accept compliments from every queen on his finely-tailored wardrobe. Many Libras love to dress like old-fashioned gentlemen:

custom suits and ties, designer shoes. He cleans up nicely, and often speaks in a harmonious tenor pitch, neither too high nor too low. Moderation is his sweet spot. He's not a top or a bottom; he's a middle. Indeed, he often finds himself playing moderator or diplomat, the peacekeeping fulcrum between two warring factions.

As talented as Libra can be at settling conflict, he'd rather avoid it. In his typical "man of leisure" style, Libra will spend hours at the gym. He can be very disciplined about fitness and diet, and he likes to do the whole workout circuit with proud precision. Afterward, a soak in the Jacuzzi, a sauna, maybe a massage—he's never in a rush. Marathons and triathalons are right up his alley. With his raging sweet tooth, the Libra man can pack on pounds, and if he gets out of his workout habit, his whole life gets thrown off balance.

Although the Libra man is a total softie, if push comes to shove, he's got bite. He can be delightfully snarky—and you'll love meeting the bitch that lives within every Libra man, as long as the claws aren't aimed at you. He's cattier than a teenage girl. With his adorable dimples and pretty features (think: Zac Efron, Matt Damon), he probably has lots of admirers. This guy was born to steal teenage hearts and pose as a pin-up centerfold.

If you're looking for Prince Charming, Libra could be your guy. Debonair Libra is ruled by Venus, the planet of beauty and love. Of course, he may act like a spoiled little prince who demands his way. But he's just as eager to spoil you in return, which can make his fussiness worth all the trouble.

The SCORPIO Man (abridged)

Dates: October 23 - November 21

Symbol: The Scorpion

Ruling Planet: Pluto the planet of transformation

Element: Water

Quality: Fixed

Mission: Soulmate Patrol

Natural Habitat—Where You'll Find Him: Soaking up the arts at an indie concert or snooty gallery opening, geeking out at a computer conference, rebalancing his energy at a yoga or spiritual retreat, behind the velvet rope of a restricted V.I.P. area, at home (with his kids), in front of his computer at 3AM, working after hours in a dark studio or lab, at band practice, working at the office after everyone's left, hiding from the world in a secluded waterside cabin, deep in nature, sitting at the bar or the corner booth of a trendy restaurant, obsessing over an ex or love interest, plotting his next major life quest

SCORPIO: How to Spot Him

- Hypnotic voice
- Hawklike eyes and a slightly protruding brow—his “shield” for gazing intently at the world
- Medium-length, nimble fingers
- Finely structure face, usually heart-shaped
- Dark sunglasses
- Carrying equipment—he's the guy with the drumsticks, guitar, tripod or three laptops strapped to his body
- Effeminate, flowy gestures which occasionally make you question his sexual orientation
- Lurking presence—he's the guy at the bar who hasn't taken his eyes off of you
- Standing with crotch thrust forward, probably pointing at you
- Preppy Scorpios like P. Diddy dress in fussy white sneakers (and may carry a toothbrush to clean them periodically)
- B.O. assault! Grungy Scorpios like Matthew McConaughey and Ethan Hawke give new meaning to “bring in the funk” ...but his pheromones might just turn you on
- Streaker alert! He's prone to random acts of public nudity
- Charming chubster: he's the guy with the big belly surrounded by a gaggle of admiring girls half his age

SCORPIO: What He's All About

Do you long for the predictable? Fear the unknown? Then stop reading now. The Scorpio man is a complex, often confusing creature who thrives on life's extremes. There is no such thing as moderation with this intense, all-or-nothing guy. He's as infuriating as he is addictive, fascinating yet exhausting—a sexually and domestically gifted man-boy who can put the “ho” in “homemaker.”

He's also one of the most creative signs in the zodiac. This man has a knack for stamping everything he touches with his own personal flair. Although he can obsess on a subject, his powers of concentration are unrivaled. What Scorpio lacks in breadth, he makes up for in depth. The Scorpio man will plunge into his passions, studying and experimenting until he's a walking encyclopedia on the topic. Mastery is his ultimate goal.

It's said that there are two types of Scorpios: the Scorpion and the Eagle. The first is the “lower” form of Scorpio—the vengeful, easily threatened ground-dweller with a deadly sting. When Scorpio overcomes this darker nature, he can achieve spiritual elevation and become a powerful, world-transforming force. Like a soaring eagle or hawk, he gains a sweeping command of the world beneath him. Rather than control, he uses his power to elevate others to their highest spiritual plane.

To truly understand the Scorpio man, just study a really “butch” lesbian. She looks like someone you'd never want to cross in a dark alley. She intimidates the hell out of you. But underneath the sneers, leers and pomade, there's a woman in there.

Et tu, Scorpio. He's an emotional water sign, uncontrollably rocked by his powerful feelings like a ship on stormy seas. It's why his closest friends are usually women—and contrary to his sign's reputation, he's not actually sleeping with them (at least, not yet). Although he can be caustic and cranky, he can also be deeply compassionate—a best-girlfriend kind of listener who cuts to the core of your issues with a single, laser-like observation. Scorpio rules psychology, and he understands human nature well.

Of course, you'll always feel a bit exposed as you share secrets with a Scorpio. Emotionally naked is more accurate. He's always undressing you in some way, and he has a gift for getting you to show your hand while he keeps his cards close to his chest. Be careful what you wish for, though. In typical extreme fashion, he can be as self-absorbed as he is silent. It's easy to find yourself playing therapist with a Scorpio man, and once you start, you'll regret it. He can be a bottomless, obsessive pit of need. It's best to let him work out his own issues.

There's a dark side to this guy, and he can be a real energy vampire when he fixates on negative thoughts. He needs to do a lot of “processing” to unsnarl his turbulent emotions. He may do it privately: reading spiritual books, calling psychics, or channeling his powerful emotions into music, art or sex. Or, he'll navel gaze out loud, assum-

ing his audience is as fascinated by his emotional landscape as he is. (Usually, they just want to sleep with him, and hope he'll finally shut up and get naked.)

Although he may "settle down" domestically, the Scorpio man is on a lifelong inner quest. Satisfaction equals death in his mind, because it means he's stopped growing. Yet, he's always seeking the very thing he doesn't want: an easy answer. As a result, there's a tortured air to the Scorpio man—at least, until he learns to set ever-higher goals for himself and rest in between.

Channeling his angst into a creative project is highly cathartic, and essential to your relationship's survival. The Scorpio man is always obsessed with something—be it his job, his guitar, his fitness, or balancing his checkbook. Every Scorpio guy we know has his "thing," and his hobbies will often cut into your quality time together. Forget about him cheating on you; his camera or computer will be the real "other woman." Scorpio is a night creature, so he can keep late hours, and is often most productive while the rest of the world sleeps. The woman who keeps him knows how to lay down the law while still giving him room to roam.

If you want the bills paid while you live out your caviar wishes, a Taurus or Capricorn is your guy. Scorpio is no sugar daddy. Though he talks a good game, the Scorpio man is not necessarily a provider. In fact, he's happy to play stay-at-home dad, since he cherishes his sacred alone time. Scorpio is the sign that rules other people's resources, so he's best off with a corporate expense account—or your checkbook. If you bring home the bacon, he'll make a breakfast fit for kings. He can be surprisingly tight with his own cash. Even wealthy Scorpions are busy investing, so don't expect regular Madison Avenue shopping trips with this guy. He wants you to have your own passions, pursuits and bank account.

If you need constant togetherness, switch to a Leo or a Cancer. You'll need to have your own life to survive Scorpio's erratic schedule. If you're a secure woman who craves excitement, he's got plenty, though. Scorpio is a curious prowler who loves nightlife, arts and culture. He remains eternally young and hot, and often gets hotter with age. He may eat or drink too much, but he usually takes good care of his body—and he'll take even better care of yours. This guy will take you on mental, spiritual and sexual adventures you'll never forget. Like riding a roller coaster, you'll feel on the edge of losing control, but the highs can be thrilling, too.

The SAGITTARIUS Man (abridged)

Dates: November 22-December 21

Symbol: The Archer

Ruling Planet: Jupiter, the planet of luck and expansion

Element: Fire—passionate, dynamic, active

Quality: Mutable

Mission: Lust for Life

Natural Habitat—Where You'll Find Him: Backpacking through Central America with a single change of clothes, growing his hair long, at a university, outdoors, planting a garden, cracking jokes, publishing a tell-all magazine, writing a novel at a coffee shop, strumming an acoustic guitar, preparing a feast for 20, meditating in a semi-fruitless attempt to get Zen, at a network marketing convention, waxing philosophical about his favorite political cause, devouring books and newspapers, sitting in front of his computer until 4 a.m. working on his latest mega-project, taking a spontaneous road trip, at the airport catching an international flight

SAGITTARIUS: How to Spot Him

- Dressed like a nerdy schoolboy or a dirty hippie (shirtless in overalls, threadbare camping or hunting clothes)
- Carries a worn backpack or messenger bag filled with books and projects
- Always looks like he's smiling or deep in thought
- May have long hair, even a ponytail or dreadlocks
- High forehead, laughing wide-set eyes
- Powerful legs, strong thighs and a firm booty that sticks out
- His idea of "formalwear": sporty-casual and comfortable, like a Kenneth Cole button-down shirt, khakis, and Timberlands. Would rather hang himself than wear a necktie—he doesn't see much difference between the two anyway
- Holding court and spouting his philosophies to anyone who will listen
- Walks faster than any other human you'll meet
- Cracking up the room with outrageous jokes and stories
- Fearlessly talking politics with anyone who will listen
- Clowning around with wild gestures and physical comedy
- Talking animatedly with his hands
- Tripping over his own feet, bumping into people, knocking stuff over by accident

SAGITTARIUS: What He's All About

So you don't like your men easy, except in the sack. Welcome to Sagittarius. He's cocky, outrageous, and brashly outspoken. He can be a total sweetheart one minute, a pigheaded jerk the next, volleying between breathtaking arrogance and paranoid insecurity. His jokes are hilarious, always teetering on the edge of offensive—if not completely over that cliff. For some reason, he always gets away with it.

Sagittarius rules the higher mind, and this guy knows that he's smarter than most of the planet's population. He may seem to be smirking at the world, as though he's above all the tiresome "little people" with whom he must wearily share this mortal coil. His know-it-all nature makes him a natural director—and a control freak. He usually wears many hats at once, and can be a jack of all trades, collecting one new hobby or career path after the next.

Like a plaid vest paired with a polka dot tie, the Sagittarius man is bound to clash with everyone at some point. He may charm the pants off your parents and friends, but he'll never shy away from discussing politics, religion, or other explosive taboos with them. In fact, he may even bring up those topics, usually at the worst possible times. Like Pinocchio, he can't tell a lie. Honesty and authenticity are his virtues. Alas, they're not always appreciated, especially since he doesn't bother dressing up his brutal version of the truth with a tactful delivery. Like the Archer that rules his sign, his arrow flies straight at the mark.

The Sagittarius man needs the "Three P's" to be happy: productivity, purpose, and pursuit. This guy absolutely hates to stand still. Settling down is not in his vocabulary; he'll sleep when he's dead. He thinks he's wasting space on the planet unless he's working, producing, and making moves. Our father, a Sagittarius, dreams out loud about winning the Lottery. What would he do with his millions? Instead of working seven days a week, he plans only to work three.

We love this *People* magazine story that epitomized the Sagittarius man's love of elbow grease. Like so many celebs, Sagittarius Kiefer Sutherland served jail time for a DUI. Rather than hole up in his cell, Kiefer cheerfully folded laundry and served meals to his fellow convicts. After finishing, he reportedly asked the guards if they had anything else for him to do, inspiring them to call him a "model prisoner."

When life hands a Sagittarius man lemons, he opens an international lemonade franchise. He's a true visionary, and nothing short of an empire can satisfy his hungry soul. He loves to dream big, and he needs to be surrounded by limitless possibility. If he can't get his hands on something to mold, he'll dig up the dirt himself and start from scratch. In fact, "start-up" could be his middle name.

The Sagittarius man prefers having total control over his destiny, and is usually at

least six months ahead of the curve. He has vision, an ability to see through the veil of reality far into the future. This is the guy who's dismissed as "crazy," only to resurface years later as a multinational sensation, heralded as a genius. Nostradamus, the famous Medieval prophet who supposedly predicted Hitler and 9/11, was a Sagittarius.

Like the Archer that symbolizes him, Sagittarius must always have a distant target, something huge to pursue where he can leave his indelible footprint. When a Sagittarius man believes in something, nothing can stop him. Some of the grandest visionaries are Sagittarians: Steven Spielberg, Walt Disney, Jay-Z, Mark Twain, Shintaro Tsuji (the creator of the Hello Kitty brand). He's always restlessly seeking his Next Big Thing. Without it, the zodiac's alleged optimist can become a total drag. He'll complain to anyone in earshot about how horrible his life is, obsessing until things go his way again. Everything the Sagittarius man does, he does on a giant scale. When he gets in a funk, he thinks it should be declared a national crisis. He's absolutely unreachable during these times, and the best of your advice will fall on deaf ears. He stubbornly insists on finding the solution himself, even if it takes twice as long.

Meanwhile, you want to kick his ass and scream, "Do you have any idea how privileged you are?" He doesn't. The Sagittarius man is one of the zodiac's luckiest sign, and he's accustomed to getting second, third, twentieth chances. That doesn't mean he doesn't fail; in fact, he falls flat on his face many times. Lucky for him, he's ruled by Jupiter, the planet of fortune and opportunity. Just as he's about to drown, the universe magically throws him a lifeline. It happens time and again.

Nor does he remember how unsympathetic he when you were in the same boat and he just barked, "Get over it already." He has little tolerance for other people's drama, and zero recognition of his own. Thank God he rarely stays down forever, even if his sulking seems to last an eternity. When he snaps out of it, the "disaster" suddenly strikes him as hilarious. He laughs at himself for being so heavy-hearted, and gives a colorful recap of his foibles to anyone who will listen. The national crisis has now become standup comedy material.

If he can't laugh at himself (which is rare), Sagittarius waxes philosophical, turning each negative experience into wisdom once it's solidly behind him. Once he's "been there, done that," his tough-love stance softens. The Sagittarius man makes an excellent coach and motivator. He'll encourage you to pull through with his infectious, can-do attitude.

It's that very attitude that keeps the frazzled, frustrated friends of Sagittarius coming back for more, even when he's pushed them over the edge. His indomitable spirit, fearless irreverence and honesty make a rare and refreshing cocktail. Thus, Cirque du Sag is usually worth the price of admission.

Our wise Libra uncle asked us, "Do you know the difference between being a friend, versus being friendly?" As Sagittarians ourselves, we love a good riddle.

“A friendly person,” explained Uncle David, “tells you what you want to hear. A friend tells you the truth.”

Amen, brother. And that is where the magic happens with a Sagittarius man. Even though he’s spilled coffee on your laptop, told your staunchly Democratic boss that he thinks George Bush was a godsend to the U.S. (at the company Christmas party, loudly, just before bonus season), and shafted you with the bill at your own birthday dinner, it was all somehow done with good intentions. In his own special way, he could be the best friend you’ll ever have. If you want a man who respects your mind and individuality, and can crack you up like nobody else, Sagittarius is your guy.

The CAPRICORN Man (abridged)

Dates: December 22 - January 19

Symbol: The Mountain Goat

Ruling Planet: Saturn, the planet of discipline and restriction

Element: Earth

Quality: Cardinal

Mission: The Ultimate Trophy

Natural Habitat—Where You'll Find Him: Commanding a board meeting like a five-star general, rock climbing, winning a long-distance relay, starting a successful business, studying a complex form of martial arts, in the V.I.P. lounge of a club or sports event, practicing his hobby/craft/obsession to absolute perfection, at the gym for an early morning workout, photographing beautiful women with a top-of-the-line camera, sleeping until 4PM on the weekend, walking down the aisle with a model or younger woman (for the third time), in bed until 4PM recovering from a high-rolling Friday night, brooding at home in a private melancholy funk, at a burlesque show or strip club quietly dominating the room; shopping for, entertaining and taking care of his family, surrounded by grade school chums who knew him when, serving his nation in the military, racing around in a sports car, playing poker with his buddies, traveling alone through South America or Southeast Asia

CAPRICORN: How to Spot Him

- Long face with striking bone structure
- Stoic expression that is nearly impossible to read or interpret
- Handsome, manly jaw, like a cartoon superhero
- Eyes that constantly gaze out into the distance (goal-oriented Caps are always thinking, "What's next?")
- Flat, expressionless voice that belies a hilariously deadpan sense of humor
- Athletic build—even wiry or chubby Capricorns have decent muscle definition
- Sexily disheveled hair rifled with "product"
- Expensive jeans and designer sneakers—this guy pays good money to look like a rockstar
- Small tattoo peeking out under his shirtsleeve, revealing a private freaky side
- The hulking stance of Lurch, the Franken-servant on *The Addams Family*
- The good-looking prepster hanging with the geeks and freaks—loyal Capricorns never dis their childhood friends
- "Come to Daddy" stance that draws you to him inexplicably
- Somewhat shy, but obviously confident energy
- Tracking gaze—if he wants you, he'll quietly stake out your every move
- Thoughtful listener...he'll ponder what you have to say then offer wise feedback

CAPRICORN: What He's All About

It's 9:00. Do you know where your Capricorn is?

Before you file a Missing Persons report, call the office. Chances are, he's hunched over his desk, engaged in his number-one priority: work. Capricorn rules the zodiac's tenth house of career, success and structure, and he can be quite the Company Man. Armed with a ten-year plan, he's always doggedly pursuing his goals—or at least, trying to figure out where he's headed. Without direction and a dream, he's lost.

It's said that life doesn't really start for this "old-soul" sign until he turns 40. Until then, he's often elbows-deep in projects and ventures, or good old-fashioned preparation. He's painfully aware of hierarchies, and needs to be high on the totem pole. If he can't be in the top percentile, he'd rather not play. Capricorn is a born manager. He takes pride in playing the gatekeeper, being "the guy who doesn't need anyone, but who everyone needs," as one Capricorn frames it. This man needs to set regular goals, break everything into measured steps, then cross them off his to-do list. One Capricorn we know plans to retire early and tour the world by yacht. A couple others bought their fantasy car (a Porsche, in both instances) after turning 35. There's an ascetic quality to this guy; he'll nobly "go without," then reward himself for reaching a big goal.

If he's not at the office, chances are he's in some solitary state, absorbed in thoughts of "Where am I going? What should I do next?" A master strategist, life is his chessboard, and he makes slow, careful moves. In fact, the Capricorn man usually loves chess, baseball, or war stories—anything that requires strategy and calculation. The Capricorn man is a back-to-basics guy who can be a bit of a loner. He'll happily ride off into the sunset on his motorcycle, pausing for brief comfort, then venturing down the endless road again. There's a Marlboro Man or the Lone Ranger quality to this sign.

Capricorn rules the teeth, jaw and bone structure, and his are often prominent, giving him a striking face and dazzling smile (think of Caps like Kevin Costner, Mel Gibson, Denzel Washington, and Elvis Presley). His ability to stand still and let you come to him lends him a charisma that drives women crazy. At times, his lankiness can make him gawky and socially awkward. Vegetarianism is not advised for this sign. He needs to keep meat on his bones!

Fortunately, he has a great appetite for life's pleasures, especially food. Will he let himself indulge? Depends. Capricorn is ruled by Saturn, the sign of discipline, restriction and repression, and he can be as restrained as he is greedy. We know a Capricorn man who took a vow of celibacy. Another has kept a 20-year pledge not to drink liquor—and he's not even an alcoholic! As he explains, it gives him a sense of honor and dignity to keep his word. Capricorns love that patriotic stuff.

And yet, how Capricorn can be a slave to his senses! In some cases, Capricorn men develop obsessive-compulsive disorders as a result of this inner conflict. He's like the

metaphorical fox jumping for the grapes, but never reaching them. Oddly, it's his own hand that keeps snatching the grapes away. Much as the Capricorn man yearns to reach his goals, he struggles with deep self-doubt, which is only worsened by his massive pride. Inches before the finish line, he may hesitate and sabotage his victory. Capricorn is the sign of public image, status and glory. He'd rather quietly fail than be seen as a fool.

The Capricorn man is the most complicated simple person you'll ever meet. But-toned up as he appears, there's a pent-up wild man in there. Hang out with him for a while, and you'll feel his restless intensity. He bottles up everything, and his repressed emotions can manifest as an alter ego (picture Capricorns like Marilyn Manson or David Bowie's "Ziggy Stardust" persona)— as if emancipating himself from his self-created prison. Out of nowhere, he might even break into insane physical comedy, leaping over couches. Like Capricorn Jim Carrey, this guy can contort his face, voice and body into unbelievable forms.

As an earth sign, he's a dyed-in-the-wool realist, and at times, a skeptic. Like a cantankerous Doubting Thomas, he scoffs at serendipity and demands hard evidence of every miracle. It's hard for him to trust anything he didn't fashion from the sweat of his own brow. Yet, he of little faith desperately needs something to believe in, and later in life, he can become quite spiritual. Until then, his God is in the rules, order and laws of life. He likes to clearly learn the playbook before he even considers improvising.

His earthbound existence seem be dour, but it also helps him view life as a divine comedy. When he's not worrying (or perhaps because he worries so much), he has a surprisingly silly sense of humor. His rich, booming laugh is infectious. He can be an amazing storyteller, and is far more observant than he appears. Although he takes himself far too seriously, this is the guy who will help you lighten up and laugh at yourself. One friend, a singer-songwriter married to a Capricorn, was pulling her hair out over how to finish a set of lyrics. As she launched into a tirade, her Cap husband looked her squarely in the eye and said, "Wanna f--k?" After singing a different kind of chorus with him, she was able to return to her studio and complete the song.

That's the magic of a Capricorn. What he lacks in speed, he makes up for in wisdom and patience. If you let him be your rock, he'll gladly provide you with a safe, happy landing on his shores.

The AQUARIUS Man (abridged)

Dates: January 20 - February 18

Symbol: The Water Bearer

Ruling Planet: Uranus, the planet of originality, surprises and rebellion

Element: Air—intellectual, changeable, social

Quality: Fixed

Mission: Romantic Revolution

Natural Habitat—Where You'll Find Him: Auditioning for a TV pilot, working the special effects on a movie set, playing basketball, lifting weights, screaming at the umpire at a baseball game, coding a website at 4 a.m., hamming it up at karaoke, drinking beer (at a sports bar or strip club) with the boys, on a selling spree at a trade show, on a spiritual pilgrimage in South America, studying quantum physics at a retreat, inventing a new school of thought, dancing naked at Burning Man, studying with a guru, taking his family on an adventure vacation, performing improv at a comedy club, coaching a high school sports team, playing chess, running for political office

AQUARIUS: How to Spot Him

- The life of the party, he's on a first name basis with everyone at the bar
- Sporty style—he's usually wearing jeans and sneakers (thought be bright orange)
- Can't sit still, drumming his fingers, pacing around, and making other nervous gestures
- Pentagonal jaw
- Boyish grin and a mischievous twinkle in his eyes
- Warm energy—he's the cool, popular guy who's nice to everyone
- Clowning around, making faces, cracking up everyone around
- Talking fast with his hands
- Schmoozing in a "let's make a deal" kind of way
- Edgy jock—he may be wearing a baseball cap but he's probably got a few tattoos and \ earrings too
- Strong hands, nicely shaped fingers
- Leaning forward, engaged in conversations
- Loud, contagious laugh

AQUARIUS: What He's All About

Okay, here's a riddle: what do you get when you mix the boy next door with a mad scientist, a jock, and an alien? Answer (drumroll): an Aquarius man!

On the outside, he looks like your perfect pop star or boy band frontman: dimples, cute face, square jaw, perhaps a tattoo to flaunt his rebel edge. The original Mr. Popularity, he's funny, flirty, successful and well-liked without even trying. This is the dude most likely to end up in a Teen Beat centerfold (think of Aquarians like Justin Timberlake and Backstreet Boys' Nick Carter). He could sell ice to Eskimos. In fact, there have been more U.S. presidents born under the sign of Aquarius than any other, including memorable leaders like Abraham Lincoln, FDR, and Ronald Reagan.

Inside, this dude is anything but vanilla. Just observe him for a while. He crackles with kinetic energy. He's twitchy and nervous, and can't sit still. His eyes dart around, taking everything in. He might even move in robotic, jerky ways—or like a futuristic wind-up toy. He knows he's a little offbeat (or extremely so), and he usually embraces it with good cheer. As a boy, he might have been a prodigy, at sports, performing, computers or something else inventive. Either that, or he just lived on his own special planet, the family's adorable extraterrestrial.

Aquarius is governed by Uranus, the planet of originality, revolution and sudden events. Like his celestial ruler, the unpredictable Aquarius man never truly follows convention. Rules were made to be broken—or at the very least, given a modern makeover. Like Aquarius comic Chris Rock, he's known to blurt out a shocking comment that either cracks you up or stuns the room into silence. Still, even his rudest and most outrageous stunts are for a higher purpose. Ashton Kutcher, an Aquarius, brought celebrities down a well-deserved peg with his MTV show Punk'd. This equality-minded sign turns sacred cows into steak dinner.

While you might find some Aquarius men in fringe lifestyles, like spiritual communes or polyamorous clans, for the most part this sign changes the system from within. He participates in conventions like marriage, or he'll hack it a corporate job, bringing his own vision and radical approach. Nothing can be done by the book with this guy. To Aquarius, history is meant to be made, not repeated. As one Aquarius man puts it, "I want to take a quantum leap from my parents' generation."

Aquarius is also the sign of friendship, groups and casual connections. He has a million friends and makes them easily wherever he goes. Everyone is his "buddy" or "brother." Our Aquarius friend Chris is aptly nicknamed The Mayor. Even while running his own technology company, Chris took a job at Starbucks, partly for health benefits, but largely because he needed doses of human contact. While cheerfully handing out lattes, shoveling snow and wiping tables, Chris developed a warm bond with all his customers, who found his genuine smile as addictive as their venti Frappuccinos.

The Aquarius man has a way of making everyone feel like his best friend.

One-on-one is where the Aquarius man struggles to find his beat. Although the “enlightened” Aquarius makes an excellent partner, not all of them make peace with those strange sensations known as feelings. The notion of intimacy and connection freaks him out at first, and it can turn him into a neurotic, hypersensitive mess. Derek, an Aquarius actor and comedian, jokes, “When do I talk about feelings with a woman? Uh, when I’m unconscious?” He’s only half-kidding.

The Aquarius man’s ability to detach from his emotions is also his gift. It allows him to stay focused on his vision of a better tomorrow, rather than get discouraged or distracted. Thomas Edison, an iconic Aquarius, had 10,000 failed experiments before he invented the lightbulb. (Lucky for Edison, Aquarius rules science and electricity.) In one of his most famous quotes, Edison said, “I haven’t failed. I’ve just found 10,000 ways that won’t work.”

That inspiring, can-do attitude is incredibly exciting to be around, though you may never feel fully secure. Thomas Edison also said, “Show me a thoroughly satisfied man, and I will show you a failure.” Settling down is not in the Aquarius man’s lexicon. He needs to continuously evolve and expand, and he’s on a lifelong quest to do that. This astrological nomad is a collector of experiences and a wise teacher of what he’s learned. As the sign of humanity and society, his soul is charged with an obligation to give back what he’s learned, leaving the world better than he entered it.

If you want a guy who will nurse your emotional wounds, hire a male psychiatrist or date a water sign. And if you don’t make your Aquarius man talk about his feelings (unless he wants to—then it will be a very long night), his feminine side will slowly emerge. Before you know it, the class clown will become quite a sap. He’ll cook you amazing dinners with exotic ingredients, serenade you at rush hour in the middle of a commuter-packed business district, or set up an elaborate night of sexy surprises.

If you crave a life of adventure and discovery, Aquarius will gladly take you on his vision quest—as long as you let him steer the spacecraft. You never know which galaxy you’ll end up in, and he may not either—but getting there will be half the fun. So if you’re a student of life, why not develop a crush on the cute boy making paper UFOs and solving the string theory while break dancing or standing on his head?

The PISCES Man (abridged)

Dates: February 19-March 20

Symbol: The Fish

Ruling Planet: Neptune, the planet of fantasy and illusion

Element: Water—sensitive, intuitive, receptive

Quality: Mutable

Mission: Drowning in Your Love



Natural Habitat—Where You'll Find Him: Downloading music, at an underground bar or concert, watching movies; getting moved (even to tears) by the beauty of art, poetry, music, film, nature; escaping into his own fantasy world, reading, drawing, snuggled on the couch with his girlfriend, on the beach, surfing, swimming, boating, overindulging on food and drink, taking care of someone in need (a sick parent, a homeless runaway teen), at the seediest spot in town, walking the streets after dark courting danger, getting pierced or tattooed, playing “foot” sports like ice hockey, skateboarding, or soccer; on a romantic date at the theater or opera, drowning in emotions and self-pity, hanging out with a bunch of female friends, shoe shopping, cooking, martyring himself for a family member or girlfriend

PISCES: How to Spot Him

- Luminous, soulful eyes—almost like a fish
- Preppy Pisces is perfectly put together, dapper in a jacket and/or button-down shirt or fisherman sweater
- West Coast grunge, rocker, skater/surfer-boy look that he secretly spent hours perfecting
- Tattoos, piercing, other torturous rituals that signify his twin devotions to style and suffering
- Making sharp, sarcastic jokes and comments
- Intensely engaged in a provocative conversation
- Wearing a tortured, helpless expression
- Bleary-eyed, sexily disheveled, and drinking coffee at noon
- A bad-boy, devilish look that says, “I’m about to misbehave—big-time”
- Shamelessly hitting on woman after woman
- Trying a new stunt without a helmet
- Directing a video shoot or the set up of an art installation
- Surrounded by a gaggle of women, totally engaged in the girl talk
- Playing with his iPhone while successfully carrying on a conversation

PISCES: What He's All About

The magical, mystical Pisces man is a complicated creature—a riddle, a romantic and a tortured soul in one. It's said that Pisces embodies every single astrological sign. As the zodiac's last sign, he's an old soul with hidden layers of talent and depth that can take years to comprehend. Although his sensitivity torments him (is he too fragile for this world?), he's as serene as a wise, elderly person who's surrendered to fate's master plan. Rather than grasp for control, like his opposite sign Virgo, he greets it all with an amused half-smile—and occasional daredevil antics—knowing there's only so much he can do. He moves like the ocean's tides, in slow, rhythmic cycles, guided by a divine whisper that only he can hear.

The best way to understand the Pisces man is to study the astrology “glyph” that symbolizes him. Pisces is represented by two fish swimming in opposite directions—one toward security, the other toward freedom. You're never sure if he's coming or going, and neither is he. This man is a walking paradox. He champions women's rights and listens to your traumas with compassionate non-judgment. Minutes later, he remarks how ugly someone's shoes are—then heads home to read a dirty magazine. Still, the contradiction doesn't occur to him. He's many people in one, a walking kaleidoscope who can fluidly shape shift between patterns and personas. He means all of it—and none of it. (Are you starting to feel a little bit insane? Welcome to the world of Pisces.)

The Pisces man's trademark feature is usually his eyes. Either round and luminous, or small and beady, they have a look of inner knowing, and even a touch of sadness. Whether any of this pain and depth is actually going on in his mind, who knows. But sensitive Pisces is always feeling something. An emotional water sign, the Pisces man takes everything personally. If a homeless man shouts insults at him, he'll wonder, “Was it something I did?”

Creative and highly attuned to the arts, the Pisces man's soul responds to music, art and poetry. Pisces rules the feet, and he may be light on his, a gifted dancer, or excelling in sports like soccer and ice hockey. He can be a divine “channel” for the arts, like Pisces mega-composer Quincy Jones. We know a Pisces man who never took a piano lesson in his life, but could just sit down at the keyboard and play—sonatas, jazz, the most intricate compositions just naturally flowed from his fingertips. He was an incredible, intuitive cook as well, preparing expertly seasoned roasts without ever having cracked a cookbook.

The Pisces man is a true romantic. Still, as sappy as he can be, he has a dark, even violent sense of humor. Even when his jokes are self-deprecating, they're unsettling, because you're always left wondering if he's really kidding. He loves to walk that provocative edge. No coincidence his ruler, Neptune, carries a pitchfork! There's a part of Pisces that seems to enjoy pain and suffering. Daredevil Johnny Knoxville, creator of

the MTV stunt show *Jackass*, is a Pisces. He famously did a motorcycle backflip up a dirt hill, only to fly off and have the bike land squarely on his crotch. After recovering from (ugh! shudder) a torn urethra, he proudly continued with more insane self-torture—in that irresistibly cocky Piscean way.

No other sign can embody such saintly highs and gutter-dwelling lows as Pisces. In fact, Pisces is associated with the Christ figure, resurrection and life after death. This generation's iconic Pisces martyr was Nirvana's Kurt Cobain, who once said, "If you die you're completely happy and your soul somewhere lives on. I'm not afraid of dying. Total peace after death, becoming someone else is the best hope I've got." Cobain exhibited the dark side of Pisces that can sink to the lowest depths of depression, drug addiction and despair. After a happy childhood was disrupted by his parents' divorce, Cobain was bounced between relatives, even homeless for a while. He was in and out of rehab, then died of a suspected suicide, his body loaded with heroin.

The Pisces man can be so emotionally fragile that he falls into extreme living, both inviting death and defying it. Pisces is the ruler of jails, hospitals, rehab and mental institutions—any kind of enforced isolation from society. If he's not careful, he may write his name on the walls of these places. Or, he may simply choose to live as an "outsider" to some degree. He always needs to rebel against someone or something, even if he becomes a multimillionaire or a mainstream success doing so. Too much reality clips his angelic wings, and cuts his cord with the divine. Explaining his band's name (and the Pisces earthly experience), Cobain said, "Punk is musical freedom... In Webster's terms, 'nirvana' means freedom from pain, suffering and the external world, and that's pretty close to my definition of Punk Rock."

The Pisces man is often accused of being lazy, another misperception. Indeed, he can move sluggishly, or seem to lack any kinetic energy. He may even begin to think of himself as a victim of life—"Why does this always happen to me?" After all, he was sitting in the exact same position, wallowing in self-pity, when that plum job went to his rival, or his wife left him, or the IRS chose him for an audit.

Coincidence? Look closer. In our society, we prize action and movement. We think a body must be in motion, doing things, to produce a result or reach a goal. Not so for Pisces. Ever do a visualization exercise? You imagine what you want, focus your intentions and will it to happen. With Pisces, this happens all the time, though on a less conscious level. The Law of Attraction asserts that one must only imagine a course of events, and he will draw them to him like a magnet. The more powerful the imagination, the faster these events manifest. Who blurs the lines between his fantasy and reality better than Pisces, ruler of the imagination? Like the powerful ocean tides, or a sweeping undertow, he pulls everything to him, good and bad. Don't be surprised when you find yourself in this force field, inexplicably drawn into his charms, feeling a little unsure whether you'll drown in his depths or be healed by his mystical, comforting embrace. As with all things Pisces, it will probably be both.

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