



Hermes Astrology

How to Be Bold

Unleashing the Courage Written in Your Stars

Ranjay Gulati's *How to Be Bold* explores courage not as an innate trait but as a **cultivated mindset**—a series of conscious choices, stories, and strategies that allow ordinary people to act bravely in uncertain or fearful situations. The book offers a psychological and sociological roadmap for transforming fear into action. Astrology, though from a different tradition, offers a **parallel map**—one that identifies the **cosmic blueprint** of how each person experiences fear, responds to uncertainty, and steps into boldness.

When we put Gulati's 9 Cs of courage alongside the birth chart, something powerful emerges: a **practical–spiritual framework** for becoming bolder, not by fighting who we are, but by aligning with our **astrological signatures of courage**.

1. The Mars Principle: The Engine of Bold Action

In astrology, **Mars** rules drive, assertiveness, and the instinct to act. Gulati defines courage as *“the willful choice to take bold, risky action in service of a meaningful purpose, despite fear.”* Mars is that willful impulse.

- **Mars in Fire signs (Aries, Leo, Sagittarius)** tends toward spontaneous courage—boldness emerges in moments of instinct. People with this placement may resonate strongly with Gulati's emphasis on *“stepping up in the moment”*.
- **Mars in Earth signs (Taurus, Virgo, Capricorn)** embodies steady courage—measured, planned, and resilient. Their courage is tied to coping strategies, preparation, and endurance.
- **Mars in Air signs (Gemini, Libra, Aquarius)** acts courageously through communication, intellect, or ideas—mirroring Gulati's insight that *mental stories shape courage*.
- **Mars in Water signs (Cancer, Scorpio, Pisces)** often needs emotional conviction or protection of others to act bravely—echoing the book's theme that courage is rarely individual; it's often fueled by *connection*.

Mars' house placement shows where we are most likely to act boldly—7th house Mars may express courage in relationships and conflict; 10th house Mars channels it into career leadership.

2. Saturn and Fear: Meeting the Shadow of Cowardice

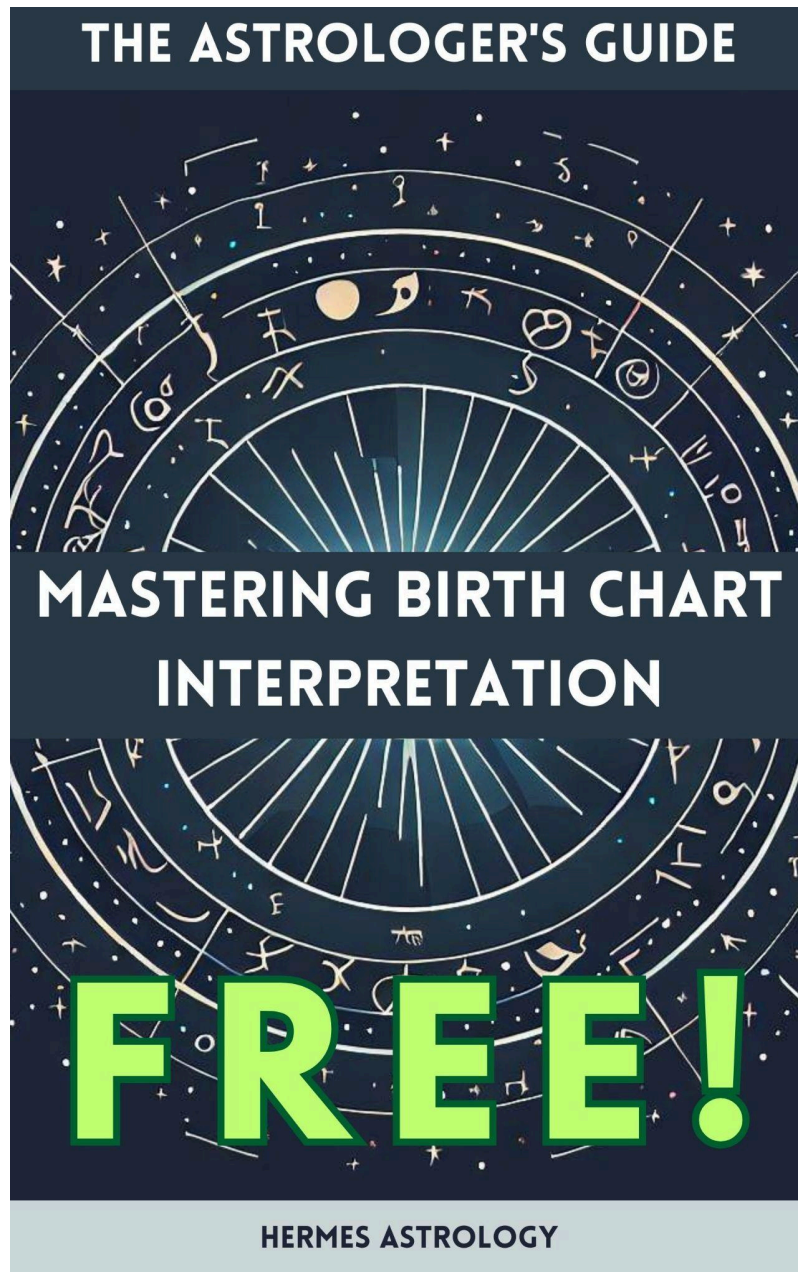
A major portion of Gulati's introduction examines **cowardice**—the natural, often involuntary tendency to freeze or flee. In astrology, this domain belongs to **Saturn**: the planet of fear, limits, conditioning, and the structures we build to feel safe.

Where Saturn sits in the natal chart reveals:

- **The fears and inhibitions** we must face to act courageously.
- The kinds of *uncertainties* that trigger our defensive reactions.
- The places in life where we hesitate even when our Mars wants to act.

Gulati notes that fear doesn't make us weak—it makes us human. Saturn teaches the same lesson: fear is not a failure but a **gateway to mastery**. A person with Saturn in the 10th house may fear public failure but can become exceptionally bold once they build inner authority.

FREE BOOK



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<https://hermesastrology.substack.com/p/your-free-book>

3. The Ascendant and Identity: Courage Begins with Self-Story

The book emphasizes that courage grows from the **stories we tell ourselves** about who we are and how we fit into the world.

Astrologically, this aligns with the **Ascendant (Rising sign)** and **the first house**—the lens through which we interpret experience.

- A Leo rising may tell themselves, *“I was born to shine,”* and feel called to act boldly in visible ways.
- A Virgo rising may need to cultivate courage through skill and competence, aligning with Gulati’s **Comprehension** and **Coping** strategies.
- A Scorpio rising might define courage through loyalty and intensity, thriving in situations where stakes are high.

Your rising sign is the narrative ground zero. It is the **personal mythology** that determines whether you interpret uncertainty as a threat or as an invitation to grow.

4. Jupiter and Meaning: The Boldness of Purpose

Throughout *How to Be Bold*, Gulati repeats a key idea: courage is easier to access when tied to a **worthy purpose**. Astrologically, **Jupiter** represents this purpose—our beliefs, values, faith, and the higher cause that gives us strength.

- Jupiter shows **what inspires courage** and where you’ll find your *why*.
- Jupiter in the 9th house often links courage to philosophy, travel, or truth-seeking.
- Jupiter in the 5th house might find boldness through creativity or self-expression.
- A strong Jupiter aspecting Mars amplifies conviction-based action.

This resonates with Gulati's story of frontline workers and leaders who act boldly not because they lack fear but because their **sense of mission is greater than the fear**.

5. The Moon and Emotional Safety: Coping with Uncertainty

Gulati highlights uncertainty as a major courage-killer. He describes how people cope with the unknown through belief, community, and rituals. Astrologically, the **Moon** governs our emotional regulation—how we **self-soothe** and find safety.

- A Cancer Moon may retreat to nurture before acting.
- An Aries Moon may take action to dissolve fear quickly.
- An Aquarius Moon may intellectualize uncertainty to reduce emotional overwhelm.

By understanding the Moon's sign and aspects, we discover **how we instinctively handle fear**—and can then adopt strategies that support rather than suppress our emotional responses.

6. The Nodes and Destiny: Boldness as Evolution

Gulati writes that courage can be trained and chosen. In astrology, the **North Node** represents the soul's growth path—where we must **choose boldness** to evolve. It often involves moving out of the comfort zone represented by the South Node.

- North Node in Aries asks for *independent action*—learning to be bold alone.
- North Node in Capricorn encourages *responsible leadership*.
- North Node in Gemini asks for *courage through communication and curiosity*.

This mirrors Gulati's idea that courage isn't innate—it's cultivated over time through **deliberate action in the direction of growth**.

7. The 9 Cs and the Zodiac Archetypes

Gulati’s courage-building framework—the 9 Cs (Coping, Confidence, Commitment, Connection, Comprehension, Calm, Clan, Charisma, Culture)—finds beautiful echoes in astrological archetypes:

Gulati’s C	Astrological Archetype	Description
Coping	Saturn, Virgo, 6th House	Building resilience and risk strategies
Confidence	Leo, Sun, 5th House	Self-trust and authentic expression
Commitment	Capricorn, Saturn	Dedication to purpose
Connection	Cancer, Venus, Moon	Support networks
Comprehension	Mercury, Gemini	Meaning-making
Calm	Pisces, Neptune	Emotional regulation
Clan	4th House, Cancer	Communal courage
Charisma	Leo, Venus	Inspiring others
Culture	10th House, Jupiter	Creating collective courage

This mapping shows how **every zodiac archetype contributes to courage** in its own way. Boldness is not the domain of just Mars—it’s a symphony of planetary energies.

8. Transits and Timing: Courage Has Seasons

Just as Gulati reminds us that courage can be situational, astrology shows that **transits and dasha periods** (in Vedic astrology) reveal *seasons of boldness*.

- A Mars transit to the Ascendant may trigger decisive action.
- A Jupiter return may bring expansion of purpose and mission.
- A Saturn return often forces us to confront fears and **step up**.

Understanding your cosmic timing helps you align bold decisions with moments of **maximum energetic support**.

9. Courage as Co-Creation

Finally, *How to Be Bold* emphasizes that courage is **not about becoming fearless**, but about working with fear consciously. Astrology doesn't erase fear either. It gives language and timing to it, helping us understand **what kind of courage we are here to embody**.

- Your **Mars** shows how you fight.
 - Your **Saturn** shows what you fear.
 - Your **Jupiter** shows why you act anyway.
 - Your **Moon** shows how you cope.
 - Your **North Node** shows where courage leads you.
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Conclusion: Boldness Is Written in the Stars

Ranjay Gulati shows us that courage is an act of **meaning-making and choice**. Astrology shows us the *pattern* of those meanings,

offering insight into why certain fears paralyze us and others ignite our bravery.

When we combine Gulati's practical playbook with astrological wisdom, we don't just learn *how to be bold*—we learn how **we** were meant to be bold. Courage stops being a vague aspiration and becomes a **personalized path**.

As Shakespeare's epigraph in the book reminds us, "*All things are ready, if our minds be so.*" Astrology shows us how our **minds, hearts, and stars** can align to make that readiness real.

About the Author

Welcome to Hermes Astrology, where precision and meticulous attention to detail are the cornerstones of our practice. We believe that in the intricate dance of the cosmos, the smallest nuances can hold profound significance. Our commitment to accuracy and detail ensures that every insight and revelation we offer is a reflection of the celestial intricacies that shape your life.

Our Approach

At Hermes Astrology, we take pride in our unwavering dedication to providing you with the most precise and comprehensive astrological guidance. Our approach involves a deep dive into the cosmos, meticulously charting the positions of celestial bodies and their subtle interplay.

The Pursuit of Precision

We recognize that every birth chart is a map of your life's journey, and as such, we treat it with the utmost reverence. Our pursuit of precision is not limited to the basics; it extends to every aspect of your chart, including rare planetary configurations and fixed star influences. We believe that even the most seemingly minor celestial events can have a profound impact on your life's trajectory.

Detail-Oriented Readings

Hermes Astrology is built on a foundation of unrivaled attention to detail. When you consult with us, you can expect in-depth, insightful readings that leave no aspect of your chart unexplored. We unravel the intricacies of your personality, relationships, and life path with meticulous care, ensuring that our insights resonate with your unique experiences.

Experience the Difference

Discover the difference that precision and detail can make in your astrological journey with Hermes Astrology. Whether you seek clarity on your life's purpose, guidance in relationships, or insight

into your career path, our astrology practice is dedicated to providing you with a profound understanding of your celestial blueprint.

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