



Hermes Astrology

Designing Your Life Through the Lens of Astrology

Crafting a Joyful Life Aligned with Your Birth Chart

Designing Your Life by Bill Burnett and Dave Evans is a guide that encourages readers to approach their lives like designers approach problems: with curiosity, experimentation, and intentionality. While the book provides practical tools for navigating career choices, personal growth, and life transitions, astrology offers an equally rich framework for understanding the natural tendencies, talents, and challenges inherent in each individual. By integrating the principles of life design with the insights of your birth chart, you can create a roadmap for a life that is not only well-lived but also deeply aligned with your cosmic blueprint.

1. The Core Premise: Life as Design and Astrology as a Map

Burnett and Evans emphasize that life is a design problem: there is no single "right" path, only a series of experiments and choices that lead to fulfillment. Similarly, astrology doesn't dictate rigid outcomes—it maps potential energies, strengths, and challenges.

For example:

- **Sun Sign:** Represents your core identity and vitality. Understanding your Sun's placement in your chart can illuminate what brings you joy and a sense of purpose, which is essential when brainstorming life prototypes or experimenting with new directions.
- **Moon Sign:** Governs your emotional needs. In the book, emotional satisfaction is a key metric for a "well-lived" life; your Moon's placement shows what environments, relationships, and activities nurture your inner self.
- **Rising Sign:** Shapes your approach to the world and how you project yourself. This aligns with Burnett and Evans' emphasis on prototyping—trying different roles and life experiments to see which "persona" fits naturally in various contexts.

By reading your birth chart alongside the life design principles, you begin to see why certain paths feel natural while others feel draining, allowing you to make experiments that are both daring and sustainable.

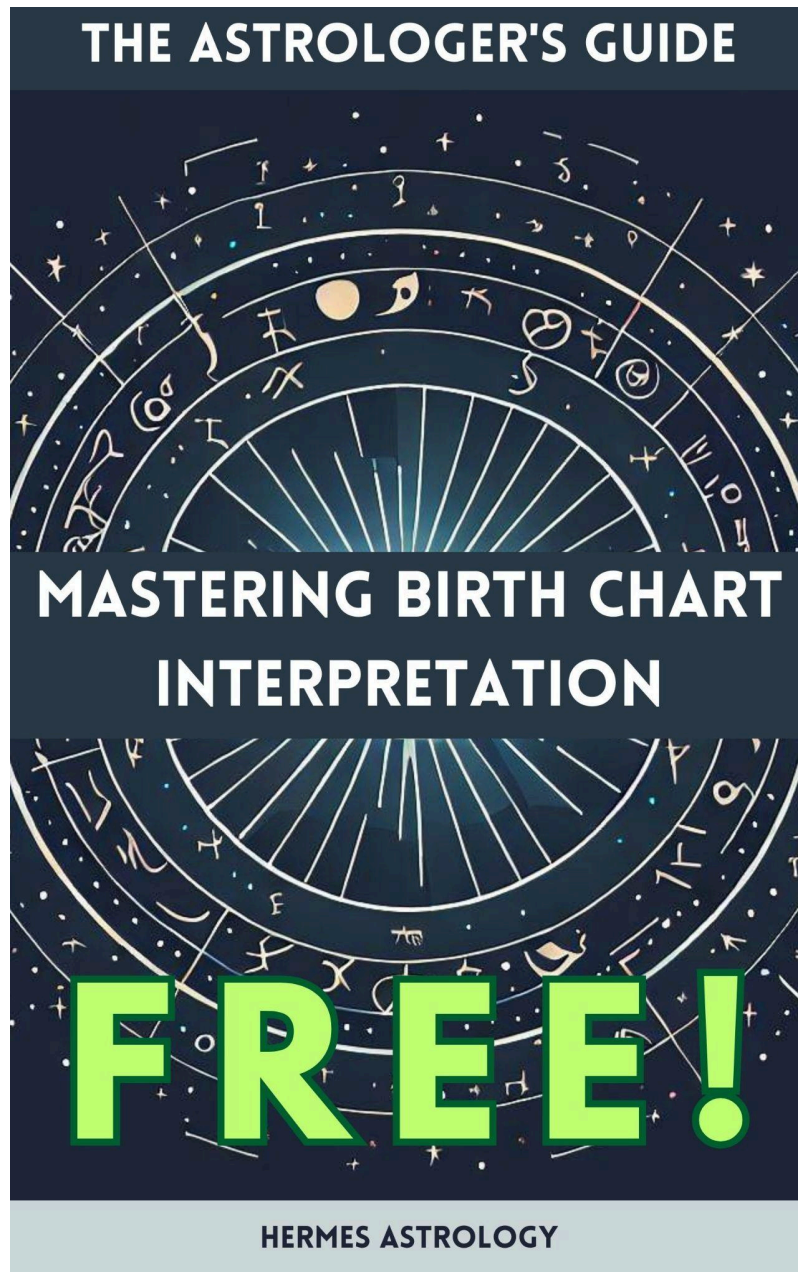
2. Prototyping Your Life Through the Houses

In astrology, each of the twelve houses represents a domain of life—relationships, career, self-expression, health, spirituality, and more. Burnett and Evans suggest life prototyping: small experiments to test potential directions before fully committing. The houses in your chart offer a roadmap for where to experiment:

- **1st House (Self & Identity):** Experiment with personal style, self-expression, or leadership roles.
- **2nd House (Resources & Values):** Prototype income streams or financial habits that align with your values.
- **3rd House (Communication & Learning):** Try new courses, public speaking, or writing projects.
- **10th House (Career & Reputation):** Career pivots, mentorships, and skill development are prototypical experiments here.
- **11th House (Community & Goals):** Test group projects, networking, or activism aligned with your passions.

By considering both the astrological house placements and life design experiments, you can see which experiments are likely to resonate most with your intrinsic tendencies and emotional satisfaction.

FREE BOOK



For a limited time, you can receive a free copy of 'The Astrologer's Guide: Mastering Birth Chart Interpretation' by subscribing to our newsletter. Get your free book here:
<https://hermesastrology.substack.com/p/your-free-book>

3. Reframing Problems With Cosmic Insight

One of the book's key tools is reframing: transforming a perceived problem into a design opportunity. Astrology provides a deeper layer to this practice:

- **Challenging Aspects:** Squares, oppositions, and certain retrograde planets often feel like obstacles in life. Life design encourages reframing these challenges into opportunities for growth. For instance, a Mars-Saturn square may initially feel like frustration and restriction, but it can be reframed as a call to develop disciplined action and strategic planning.
- **Transits and Timing:** Burnett and Evans discuss experimentation over time. Astrology's predictive tools, such as transits and progressions, can guide the timing of experiments—when to launch a new venture, when to pause, and when to iterate.

By integrating astrology, you gain a personal temporal rhythm, ensuring that your experiments are aligned with both your natural tendencies and external opportunities.

4. The Odyssey Plan Meets the Birth Chart

Designing Your Life introduces the “Odyssey Plan”: imagining multiple versions of your life five years from now. Astrology can enrich this process:

- **Sun in Fire Signs (Aries, Leo, Sagittarius):** Your Odyssey Plan thrives on excitement, novelty, and creative self-expression. Think entrepreneurial ventures, creative projects, or roles that allow autonomy.
- **Sun in Earth Signs (Taurus, Virgo, Capricorn):** Focus on stability, mastery, and tangible results. Your Odyssey Plan may revolve around building a secure foundation, deep expertise, or career advancement.
- **Sun in Air Signs (Gemini, Libra, Aquarius):** Intellectual stimulation and social connection are key. Odyssey plans may include collaborative projects, networking, or thought

leadership.

- **Sun in Water Signs (Cancer, Scorpio, Pisces):** Emotional resonance and purpose are vital. Odyssey plans may include caregiving, artistic endeavors, or spiritual work.

The chart's Moon, Mercury, Venus, and Mars placements can further refine the Odyssey Plan, highlighting the environments, relationships, and activities that will feel emotionally and mentally nourishing.

5. Mindsets: Radical Curiosity Meets Cosmic Awareness

Burnett and Evans encourage adopting a designer's mindset: curiosity, reframing failure as learning, and continuous iteration. Astrology complements this by providing a lens for self-understanding:

- **Self-Awareness:** Knowing your natural strengths, fears, and motivators allows you to approach life experiments with clarity and confidence.
- **Acceptance:** Just as designers embrace constraints, astrology teaches you to work with inherent tendencies and karmic lessons instead of resisting them.
- **Iteration:** The chart shows cycles, transits, and planetary returns, reminding you that life is cyclical and iterative—perfectly aligned with the life design philosophy.

6. Creating a Well-Lived, Joyful Life

Ultimately, Burnett and Evans advocate designing a life that feels meaningful, joyful, and aligned with your values. Astrology adds a profound depth to this process by showing why certain choices feel natural and why some paths drain energy. By combining life design principles with your birth chart:

- You can prototype life choices that resonate with your cosmic blueprint.
- You can reframe challenges using both psychological insight and planetary guidance.
- You can time your experiments to coincide with cycles of opportunity.
- You can design a life that honors both your external achievements and inner satisfaction.

In other words, life design is about intentional action, and astrology is about intentional alignment. Together, they offer a roadmap to crafting not just a successful life, but a joyful, deeply fulfilling one.

Conclusion

Designing Your Life teaches us to experiment, iterate, and approach life with curiosity. Astrology shows us where to experiment, what will energize us, and how to navigate challenges with awareness. By integrating these two systems, you gain both the practical tools to take action and the cosmic map to ensure those actions are aligned with your authentic self. Designing your life becomes not just a creative exercise, but a journey of self-discovery, empowerment, and joy—one that is fully attuned to the unique blueprint of your birth chart.

Appendix:

Here's a practical table mapping **each of the 12 astrological houses and major planetary placements** to specific life design experiments, following the principles from *Designing Your Life*:

House / Planet	Life Domain / Focus	Suggested Life Design Experiments	Astrological Insight
1st House / Ascendant	Self, identity, first impressions	Experiment with personal style, leadership roles, or public persona projects	Your rising sign shows how you approach the world; experiments here help refine self-expression and confidence
2nd House / Venus	Finances, values, resources	Test different income streams, budgeting methods, side hustles aligned with values	Venus here shows what brings comfort and value; align financial experiments with what feels rewarding
3rd House / Mercury	Communication, learning, daily interactions	Take courses, write blogs, join discussion groups, public speaking	Mercury shows your thinking style and communication strengths; experiment with intellectual growth and social connection
4th House / Moon	Home, family, emotional foundation	Prototype living arrangements, family projects, self-care routines	Moon placement reveals emotional needs; experiment with environments that nurture you
5th House / Sun	Creativity, self-expression, joy	Try hobbies, art, performance, or passion projects	Sun placement shows where you shine; experiments in this area energize and boost confidence
6th House / Mercury / Virgo influence	Work routines, health, service	Test productivity systems, wellness routines, volunteering	Helps identify which routines and service roles align with your natural efficiency and energy

7th House / Venus	Partnerships, collaborations, relationships	Experiment with different relationship styles, team projects, mentorships	Venus here shows relational values; tests help refine what supports harmony and growth
8th House / Pluto / Mars influence	Transformation, shared resources	Explore investments, deep collaborations, psychological growth	Encourages experimenting with intense experiences
9th House / Jupiter	Learning, expansion, travel	Try new philosophies, online courses, cultural experiences, travel	Jupiter here expands perspective; experiments broaden horizons and worldview
10th House / Saturn / Sun	Career, reputation, public impact	Prototype career paths, leadership roles, public projects	Saturn here emphasizes responsibility; testing career directions aligns ambition with structure and mastery
11th House / Uranus / Jupiter	Community, goals, social networks	Engage in networking, activism, group projects, innovation labs	Supports testing group dynamics and social impact initiatives
12th House / Neptune / Moon	Inner life, subconscious patterns	Experiment with meditation, journaling, therapy, retreats	Neptune/Moon here help uncover hidden patterns; experiments explore self-awareness, healing, and intuition

How to Use This Table

- 1. Identify Your Strengths and Needs:** Look at your planets and houses; note which areas feel energizing versus draining.
- 2. Choose Experiments Aligned with Your Chart:** Start small—like a side project, hobby, or course—to “prototype” that area of life.

3. **Iterate and Reflect:** After trying an experiment, reflect: Did it feel authentic? Energizing? Worth expanding?
4. **Time Experiments with Transits:** For bigger experiments (career changes, relocations), check planetary transits for timing and support.

This table turns astrology into a **practical, actionable framework** for life design. It lets you approach life experiments with both strategy (Burnett & Evans) and cosmic insight (astrology).

Life Reset Reading



Are you ready for a fresh start? The Life Reset Reading is your cosmic roadmap to transformation, offering a deep dive into the celestial influences shaping your life. This reading is designed to help you break free from old patterns, navigate life's crossroads, and embrace the new opportunities awaiting you.

We begin by exploring your natal chart, the unique blueprint of your soul's journey, to uncover the core themes and lessons that have been woven into your life from birth.

During the reading, we'll dive into key areas of your life that may need a reset:

✨ Career & Purpose (💼): Discover the astrological influences impacting your professional life and uncover the most auspicious times for making a career shift or pursuing new opportunities. We'll explore your Midheaven (♌) and 10th House to reveal the career path that aligns with your soul's purpose.

✨ Relationships & Love (💖): Understand the dynamics of your romantic and personal relationships through your Venus (♀) and Mars (♂) placements. Whether you're seeking new love, healing past wounds, or reigniting passion, this reading provides insights into the timing and nature of your relationships.

✨ Personal Growth & Well-Being (🌱): Explore the areas of your life where growth is most needed. We'll look at your Ascendant (♈), 1st House, and the placement of Jupiter (♃) and Saturn (♄) to understand the challenges and opportunities for expansion, discipline, and personal fulfillment.

✨ Financial Outlook (💰): Gain clarity on your financial potential by examining your 2nd House and the influences of Venus (♀) and Jupiter (♃) on your wealth and resources. Learn when to take risks and when to be cautious in your financial endeavors.

This reading is a transformative experience that empowers you to take control of your destiny. By understanding the cycles of the cosmos, you can align your actions with the universal energies, creating a life that reflects your true self. Whether you're at the beginning of a new chapter or seeking to close an old one, the Life Reset Reading offers the clarity, guidance, and inspiration you need to make bold, confident decisions.

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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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