

The Element of Water

Pisces, Cancer, Scorpio

Feelings - I feel, therefore I am

- ⊕ the simplest/most unshaped of all the elements. Temperature can alter its shape; objects impose their shape upon it
- ⊕ the most enigmatic of all the elements. Most primitive in that it is furthest from the rational realm of human thought.
- ⊕ inhabits the water - no other signs can live there and survive. Air - the absence of animal; Water - the absence of human.
- ⊕ structures, theories and principles of differentiated human thought are not the mode of operation for this ambiguous sign.
- ⊕ move like the realm of nature - with instinct. At home with that which is non-rational, unexplainable and sometimes magical.
- ⊕ motivated by feeling(s).
- ⊕ basic attitude to life - what is felt is real. Simply because what is felt is something that is terribly intimate and subjective, its reality is apparent only to the person experiencing it.
- ⊕ never very good at explaining themselves to people and usually don't try to, relying upon instinct instead to get them through. Can rarely tell you why they've done something - i.e. in rational terms.
- ⊕ do not tend to think conceptually but imagine things in pictures. Most gifted in areas other than logic.
- ⊕ most important thing in the world is feeling and, in particular, the objects of feeling which are usually human beings. Relationships are the life and breath of the water sign, which fears aloneness and isolation more than any other element.
- ⊕ need constant contact with other people, the constant flow of feeling and the security of love and relationship. For many, others are the most important thing in life. A water sign who has withdrawn is a sad creature.
- ⊕ imagination is very strong. Water signs can create their own world and be quite content. They are sensitive, perceptive and profound, fearing anything which may disrupt the peace of the nest.
- ⊕ changes all the time with a rapidity which other signs - in particular, Air - find upsetting. Most are moody (not always a problem). Feelings flow - so too do Water signs.
- ⊕ not consistent in their mood. Feelings are like water - flow and shift, taking a new shape depending upon what it meets. Water is not consistent - nor are these signs.
- ⊕ moods don't bother Water - they're used to it. Ups and downs are not frightening neither are anger, fear, love or hate. But these things can be very distressing for other types, who can't cope with their own changing emotions.



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- ⊕ Water is an incredibly subtle element. Nothing is simply black and white. Water can see past the facades and through them. To water, people are complex and must be taken as they are, not as one would ideally like to think they ought to be. In this way, the water signs are the most realistic of all - about human nature, that is. They know that no person is wholly one thing.
- ⊕ tend to react instantly to others and often cannot explain why. Often seen as silly or irrational as a result. Most know, however, that their views are not universal, and will own up to the fact that it's their feeling - "I just don't like him/her/it, and that's all".
- ⊕ feelings have their own logic though and, in this sense, Water is as complex as Air or any other element. The values of Water are just as complex, subtle and carefully built as those of other signs, it's just that the process doesn't take place in their heads. It takes place in their gut.
- ⊕ Water often doesn't know why they feel like they do. They just do. The figuring is done inside through processes which defy the intellect, although they're usually right in their assessment.
- ⊕ usually possess very good taste - in abundance. Don't react well to offensive behaviour/things.
- ⊕ Water and Air see things very differently. For Air, the idea is everything and feelings must be subordinated to it. For Water, the feeling is everything and the idea must be bent to it. Air therefore tends to be more liberal in its politics and Water more conservative. Each can be excessively so. The two signs just see different sides of the coin.
- ⊕ Water sees what is here and now - the reality of the pain, suffering, loneliness, dreams and needs of other human beings. Air sees what ought to be, what should be and what - from an idealistic point of view - might be.
- ⊕ Water operates much more on the smaller scale of things, generalising when hurt/slighted and applying the "truism" to all.
- ⊕ Water is usually well-acquainted with the darker side of human nature. Given that they're naturally sympathetic, people unburden themselves and Water learns a lot of secrets.
- ⊕ acutely sensitive to all the undercurrents of feelings within a person, whether they're spoken or not, Water has a strange ability to feel what someone else feels and enter into his emotional state with ease. For this reason, Water signs make wonderful priests, doctors, counsellors and teachers. The gentle touch of Water never pushes or prods, it just shows empathy and understanding, and opens hearts. It has to be a direct personal contact though - Water is not too good at discussing things in abstract. Show him someone who is in trouble though and he will always respond.
- ⊕ Water tends to have a problem with reasoning. It is not a very objective element, finding it hard to see beyond the garden wall and can be unreasonable and unfair. This can be infuriating to Air signs. Water will quite blatantly set one standard for themselves and another for everyone else and you can't debate or argue with it because they can't argue - it just is and everyone knows it.
- ⊕ Water knows there are many aspects of truth and can therefore bend the truth depending upon the side of the apple you bite.



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- ⊕ some Water signs are charmingly infantile about the world of abstract ideas (e.g. the helpless female), knowing nothing about more complex/airy subjects - it's all top heavy or boring. Can sometimes fail to see that society is made up of individuals, not a conglomerate whole. Can therefore be pretty irresponsible in their loyalties and logics (e.g. continuing to support someone who's done wrong irrespective of their inequity, unlawfulness, etc) simply because this person has always treated them well/kindly.
- ⊕ Water can focus too much on opinions rather than rational thought. Very good at gossip and bigotry as a result.
- ⊕ biggest problem in relationships is that Water can see nothing but the relationship, which can suffocate the other person involved. Can be clingy, possessive and annoying for other signs, not because it is in reality but because they themselves can't respond or receive the gift graciously. Sometimes, however, Water can be a little cloying, trapping/limiting the other - even making their partner responsible for their happiness.
- ⊕ Water just needs to be needed. The best of them is brought out by someone else's need. Literally capable of sacrificing their lives for a loved one, whereas Air would sacrifice for an ideal. Tends, therefore, to be very gullible - whatever a loved one tells them is real. Often underestimate their own intelligence as a result.
- ⊕ can get clingy when others decide to move away/apart. Can place heavy obligations on others and no one likes to feel guilty. It's therefore important for Water to learn to let go once in a while. Even more importantly, Water needs to learn to take for themselves once in a while, to restore the balance once more.
- ⊕ put another way, Water has a tendency to generate guilt in others because it gives so much on a feeling level. It can be very good at emotional black-mail. Water is the master of this art.
- ⊕ Water will always be there if you need but can feel rejected when you're not in need. If Water isn't needed, his lifeblood isn't reaching him. May therefore leave the relationship, only to find it all again somewhere else.
- ⊕ Water tends to be fascinated and attracted to Air signs as they admire Air's detachment, coolness, urbanity, distance and aloofness. Water often mistakenly sees Air as a secretly emotional child who really just needs a lot of love. This is true but can be really off-putting as Water starts to smother.
- ⊕ without Water, there would be no human relationships, no love. Too much, however, and you drown.

The Element of

Fire

Aries, Leo, Sagittarius

Doing, Action, Deed - I create/do, therefore I am

- ⊕ brings light into darkness
- ⊕ cannot be contained: volatile, unpredictable, dramatic, incomprehensible
- ⊕ just do it! Don't think, muse or feel.
- ⊕ shapes things out of possibilities - manifestation, action & deed.
- ⊕ mythologise everything - the world is a stage and no one plays the part with as much panache.
- ⊕ can be drama queens and are prone to exaggeration. Need to inject colour into the grey - not interested in the pragmatic. Take this away from them and they're crippled.
- ⊕ egocentric and insensitive as a result of the poetry they need in things NOT because they don't care.
- ⊕ cannot bear to be imprisoned.
- ⊕ less likely than the other signs to be able to explain themselves to you.
- ⊕ great instincts but rarely know how or why: can't explain it.
- ⊕ great intuition and trust in the future. Have problems coping with the everyday world / reality and can be victim as a result.
- ⊕ hate imperfection in the body and the self which can lead to hypochondria. Often don't identify with their body at all.

The Element of
Earth
Taurus, Virgo, Capricorn
Being, Existence - I just am

- ⊕ real. Realism. Reality.
- ⊕ reliable, factual, present: not interested in why, how, what was, what could or what might be. It just is.
- ⊕ tends to be interested only in what works. Pragmatic to the end. Focused on what is going on at the moment and how to master it, with the aim being to build security and safety out of chaos and how to apply their skills to carve out a life that's productive, useful and full.
- ⊕ interested in reality and the facts of things. Prove it. Tangibility and rational explanations. A very methodical sign.
- ⊕ usually healthy - quite in touch with their bodies.
- ⊕ actualise their desires. Good at investing in anything. Understand the process and that everything comes of age. Very patient.
- ⊕ dogmatic. Can be narrow-minded, possessive and over-simplify. Can be compulsive order-makers.
- ⊕ can't always see the beauty in things - too focused on the factual.
- ⊕ fears disorder and chaos, building bastions so as to eradicate randomness, movement and change. Cherishes what is known, familiar and trustworthy. Safety is in numbers - Earth tends to steer towards the popular and socially acceptable.
- ⊕ can lack imagination/intuition, sometimes never coming to release the empty space within. Can lose/miss a sense of purpose in life and/or being part of a larger whole. Too busy getting on with what must be done and being practical.
- ⊕ responsive but can be old before their time.
- ⊕ often harbour an unspoken longing for the spiritual and can be fascinated by the paranormal. Tend to value only that which they know and perceive - "because this is what I feel, this is what you must feel"; "because this is what I know, it must be what you must know". etc

The Element of
Air
Gemini, Libra, Aquarius
Thought, Logic, Intellect - I think, therefore I am

- ⊕ the realm of the intellect: judgment, evaluation, rational, logical, lover of truth (as they see it).
- ⊕ can cling stubbornly to beliefs, intellects, reasoning and ideals.
- ⊕ the least tangible sign of all - volatile, clear, breezy, shifting, transparent, abstract.
- ⊕ only element with no animal signs at all. Air is the thinker of the zodiac - the most human of all. Can be very creative as a result.
- ⊕ process all into evaluating experience and can see viewpoints other than their own. Prepared to cope philosophically in any number of ways.
- ⊕ will try to reason than go into battle. Great adherent to the code of integrity and honesty in all human dealings. Values fairness above all.
- ⊕ rarely narrow-minded or spontaneous in their reaction. Needs to assess carefully and must have explanations for things.
- ⊕ logic before the feelings: analysis and explanation before expression of emotion. Rational not non-rational/non-head stuff.
- ⊕ good at ordinary chit-chat but not good at how s/he feels. Good at how s/he thinks s/he thinks s/he feels.
- ⊕ very good at considering the needs of others. Not so good at the every-day/smaller picture. Partners can feel abandoned/alone, neglected and ashamed of their own demandingness as a result.
- ⊕ Air is reason, logic, system. Everything must make a coherent pattern. If it doesn't, Air will either try to make up a new one or refuse to acknowledge it as a reality at all.
- ⊕ expecting him/her to accept something without understanding is hopeless. If s/he doesn't understand, s/he can become very frightened.
- ⊕ the one thing Air finds perpetually hard to understand is the human being - feelings, needs, whims and fancies.
- ⊕ try very hard to be sentimental and of their feelings, often because they are very scared of being seen as cold/unfeeling.
- ⊕ not always present: here one minute and off the next. Can leave others feeling alone. This is very hard if you are in love.
- ⊕ represses emotions s/he cannot deal with. Just blanks them out and is no more aware of them than you are. Feelings just vanish into the vault and the surface is left appearing smooth and glassy.

The Element of Air

Gemini, Libra, Aquarius

Thought, Logic, Intellect - I think, therefore I am

- ⊕ can make others feel distinctly irrational, crude and bloody-minded in the face of all their reactivity.
- ⊕ the element of Air masks an intensely emotional nature which positively terrifies the pants off this element. If s/he's lucky, it will remain unconscious for a long time but the longer s/he leaves it blocked, the worse the explosion will be. It is inevitable - nothing dies that isn't lived out; psychic energy doesn't die just because you don't like it.
- ⊕ a lot of sensitivity behind Air's sanguinity, which allows the Air person to be much more easily hurt than others and much more deeply wounded, causing him/her to be more inclined to words, emotional dependence and a profound need for tenderness and sympathy which s/he cannot, for the life of him/her, ask for in any straightforward way.
- ⊕ other elements will tell you when and how they feel. Air will not and often cannot. Telepaths can increase the pressure s/he is put under and embarrass him/her immensely. Need to be patient. No one blushes like an Air sign.
- ⊕ emotionally, Air signs are children yet the most sophisticated in the realms of thought. Air's naiveté is quite touching. S/he can be as enchanted with things as a child and just as trusting, with a great purity of emotion.
- ⊕ Air can be as egocentric, dependent, cranky, clingy and over-sensitive as a child can be. A very good sulker. Moody.
- ⊕ always tells the truth - as s/he understands it. Doesn't lie but doesn't necessarily know the truth either. To ferret the truth out, however, often means s/he must become aware of how s/he feels, his/her own emotions - the last thing in the world s/he wishes to admit experiencing. It just isn't civilised.
- ⊕ love affairs with Air can be difficult unless you're an emotional telepath although, once they give their heart, they tend to give it forever. Can give it and not know it though, leaving the relationship too long or too late as a result.
- ⊕ Air's feelings run deep and strong - so strong that they terrify him. A child's feeling nature - naive, intense and not very flexible. Not very sophisticated in the realm of feelings, despite the degree to which he can chat, flirt and make light of things.
- ⊕ really have all the vulnerability, sensitivity and neediness of a child in an adult's body. Usually Air is not aware of the depths to which the emotions can reach. Can therefore appear surface/unwarm and give the impression that they're treating everyone else (including loved ones) with polite interest but no more/nothing special. If you can ease them out of this gently, they are capable of very delicate and very deep feelings.
- ⊕ Air signs are incurable romantics in the emotional realms and truly incapable of using the feelings to manipulate things. They're just a child (innocent thinker) after all.

For more information, contact Fran Davidson via <https://www.psychicandenergywork.com.au>

Bibliography:

- L. Greene 1989, *Astrology for Lovers: The Classic Guide to Love and Relationships*, Thorsons (and imprint of Harper Collins Publishers), London.

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