Spotlight On Gemini

By Arie

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)

Element: Air Ruling Planet: Mercury Lucky Day: Wednesday Color: Yellow



The symbol representing Gemini is the twin. Geminis are multi-faceted and are forever changing. You are able to adapt to any circumstance, situation and people without hesitation. It simply comes natural to you. You possess a keen mind. Although you are coquettish and flirtatious, your mind must be seduced before your physical body. You love to talk. The professions suitable for you are travel agent, writer, the communications field or any artistic and creative environment.

(June 22-July 21)

Appreciate and learn from your experiences, Cancer — Whether they are good or bad experiences, because each day you live and each experience you acquire will help you to grow mentally and emotionally. Make an attempt to be more flexible with yourself and others this year.

July 22-August 21)

This spring, Leo, joy returns to your soul. You will find the love and security you have been longing. Your family and friends are closer to you now more than ever. Take a vacation.

VIRGO

(August 22-September 22)

Spring has arrived. It is the perfect season to meditate and discover who you really are instead of who or what you wish to be. Make an effort to be self-sufficient and enhance your personal image. Love yourself. Save money.

LIBRA

(September 23-October 22)

The spring season has much romance and plenty of love for you. It is indeed an enjoyment to receive love; but remember, it also is a pleasure to give love. Any kind of change you want to undergo this month is an advantage.

SCORPIO

(October 23-November 22)

Scorpio, this spring strive to change your lifestyle. Attend an exercise class. Broaden your mind. Renew your wardrobe. Think positive. Do not criticize or condemn anyone, not even yourself.

SAGITTARIUS

(November 22-December 21)

The thorns of the past turn to flowers this spring season. Make an attempt to find inner peace. Liberate yourself from any obligation holding you back and causing you pain. Get plenty of sleep and rest.

CAPRICORN

(December 22-January 20)

Take advantage of the spring season. Your self-assured nature and confidence can be taken as being arrogant among your friends. Attend a meditation class. It will help mentally and spiritually. Try to keep your temper under control. Have patience with those around you.

AQUARIUS

(January 21-February 19)

Enjoy and appreciate everything the spring season has to offer. Stop living in the past. Every relationship takes a bit of giving, sacrifice, and understanding. Do not compare this relationship with your last one. Cultivate patience.

PISCES

(February 19-March 20)

Spring is the season of indulgence and temptation. Before launching into anything you might regret, take precautions. You must learn to take responsibility for your actions.

ARIES

(March 21-April 19)

Your ambivalent feelings toward your loved ones will be resolved this spring. Your source of income may suddenly increase. You may meet someone who will captivate your heart.

TAURUS

(April 21-May 20)

Throughout the spring, Taurus, surround yourself with nature. Be kind and understanding. Respect the rights of all people, including yourself. Pay more attention to your health. You rarely fail if you listen to your intuition.

WOMEN

Finding their niche

Women Mechanics Holding Their Own

By Patricia Tatum

Today's woman wants to get ahead. She also wants to provide for herself and her family. Her job and career opportunities have been widening for years, all of them not in the realm of careers women traditionally are now aiming for.

Women are moving steadily into nontraditional work areas. They sometimes find once they get there, however, the going can sometimes be rough.

Hazel Shay admits in her field men are not used to working with women. She said she was the one who had to adjust when she first started some years ago because her male co-workers were not making the adjustments.

Ms. Shay, a 44-year-old divorced mother of three daughters, is a car maintenance electrician (CME) for the New York City Transit Authority. It is a job involving both mechanical and electrical work on subway cars.

When she joined the system in 1981, Ms. Shay estimates about seven women were working as mechanics. Since then, the women she knew gradually left the system leaving her and one or two others.

Ms. Shay said she was hired initially as a car inspector, a job more physical than CME. Inspectors are responsible for the repair, maintenance and inspection of subway cars. Her present job requires specialized electrical work, but Ms. Shay's mechanical skills also are called for.

She now works out of the 207th Street shop in Harlem where Ms. Shay "builds harnesses"—the main electrical component of subway cars. Her work involves following detailed blue prints and diagrams.

207th Street is a hard shop to work,"
Ms. Shay said. "You meet all types of people. You have to get along with everybody. When I first came here, I was confused and made some mistakes, but I learned to respect my co-



SANDRA THOMAS says she has been mechanically inclined all of her life.



PHOTO by P.A. Tatum

HAZEL SHAY enjoys her work

but says she hopes her daughters

choose different career paths.

workers," who also eventually learned to respect Hazel Shay.

While she said she enjoys her work and gets along well with others, Ms. Shay said it took about two years for her to gain acceptance. She has worked at the 207th Street shop four years.

"I had to adjust. They (her male coworkers) were not making the adjustments," she said with a rueful smile. "I had to learn to ignore a lot of what

was happening around me and not answer to everything I saw and heard."

Then as now, Ms. Shay said she spoke up about safety and other job-related matters. Comments aimed at her personally were ignored. At first, the men were nasty to her. There were some physical instances of abuse, but Ms. Shay said she learned to cope and prevailed.

Part of the coping process was the realization that even though she was working a man's job she was not a man and "there are certain things you just can't do." Lifting heavy machinery is an example.

Also working out of the 207th Street shop is 30-year-old Sandra Thomas. Ms. Thomas said she performs mechanical and electrical work on subway cars and hopes in the coming months to be promoted to Maintenance Supervisor I.

Ms. Thomas said she has been mechanically minded all of her life. Her father, the late James Thomas, was an automobile mechanic forty years.

With the transit authority six years,
Ms. Thomas said she feels good about
her work. "I always wanted to know
what makes subway cars work," she
said grinning.

Like Ms. Shay, Ms. Thomas is a specialist. As a Car Maintenance Group E worker, she said she does "the electrical part of a subway car."

She also started as a car inspector performing the more general and heavy work on car and truck bodies.

Ms. Thomas said she works well with the men around her. She admits the 207th Street shop is different from other locations in the transit authority and it took awhile for her to get used to the shop. Generally, however, her co-workers are helpful.

I'll say about 99 percent of them are too helpful," Ms. Thomas said explaining how she prefers to see if she can perform different functions herself without assistance.

Unpleasantness on the part of her male co-workers has been rare, she said.

Sometimes a supervisor doesn't know how to handle you, but not the group (of men) you work with everyday," she said.