

The Astrology of Dylan McDermott – “The Play’s the Thing”

By Debbie Keil-Leavitt

The tragic yet powerful news that Dylan McDermott’s mother’s death was deemed a murder after many years, with the re-opening of the case of her death at son Dylan’s request, a look at his powerful birth chart reveals this amazing story as clearly as such a script being written for him. Mythic astrologers would tell you that indeed, the script was written.

Dylan’s mother died, ruled an “accidental suicide” when he was only five. Her boyfriend told police that he had been cleaning his gun, she picked it up and accidentally shot herself. A look at Dylan’s very intense Scorpio chart indeed shows such a major “scene” in the play that is his life. One of my wonderful astrology/mythology teachers, Wendy Ashley told me that she had learned that we are all characters playing a role in our personal myth or play. “But we are born into the middle of the second act.”

So when we look at our lives and consider soul mates, fate and free will, we should consider that we are actors in a role, yet we are really powerful “A list” actors who not only have a say about how we are directed in a scene but can even demand “re-writes” of the script if we have made our character so rich that the words previously written for us are no longer valid. Clearly the strong Scorpio, Dylan McDermott has earned the right to re-write the lies about his mother’s death to a more truthful portrayal of her and her life.

Dylan’s chart ruler, Mars is on his career Midheaven with theatrical Neptune and his self-expression Sun in powerful Scorpio. The Midheaven and Mars all oppose Ceres, the new asteroid planet who represents the tragic yet powerful Mother figure Demeter who loses her daughter to the Underworld God Pluto. Earth Mother Demeter traveled the planet, sobbing and destroying all vegetation in her grief until her daughter, Persephone, now Queen of the Underworld was returned to her for part of the year.

While such an aspect doesn’t have to indicate a mother murdered by her gangster boyfriend, there is usually at least some sense of loss around a child, parent or lover, at least for a period of time. Dylan’s other “mother symbol” in his chart, the Moon repeats this theme. Dylan has his Moon in Gemini also in the 4th house of the home and mother squaring Pluto in Virgo in his 8th house of death and rebirth. Pluto rules gangsters, and there is usually something “under the surface” about his activities. So at the time of his Mother’s death, it was ruled an “accidental suicide” with very little inquiry beyond the word of her boyfriend.

The “wounded healer,” Chiron is part of Dylan’s Moon-Pluto aspect at 2 Pisces along the powerful and karmic nodal axis in his chart, so Dylan’s compassion for his mother, plus the powerful strength that is shown in his chart has grown from this childhood wound, and has allowed the story of his mother’s life to be re-written to a more truthful conclusion.

May Mrs. McDermott's spirit rest with this revealing work by the authorities at the request of her son, and might Dylan know peace that justice has finally been served. His sister Robin indicated that she was relieved to know that her mother didn't leave her and her brother at her own hands, but those of someone else.

Look for the powerful Mr. McDermott to show us even richer facets of his acting abilities from the freeing aspect of this event, and may it also bring him a new peace and richness to his life. Let's all applaud this courageous performance on his part.