

LIVING BY STARLIGHT

AN ASTROLOGICAL NEWSLETTER

BY MITCHELL SCOTT LEWIS

<http://www.mitchastro.com/>

JUNE - JULY 2004

AUTHOR'S NOTE:

Summer's here and the time is right for dancing in the streets.

We are approaching a presidential election that will define this country for the next decade or more. Revolutions in America are won in the courts not in the streets. If Bush is reelected there will be a flood of conservative judges installed during the next four years. If Kerry gets in there will be many liberals placed on the bench. The Supreme Court is packed with very old men and women, not all of whom will be able to stay the course for that much longer. It was Chief Justice Warren's liberal court that allowed this country's push to the left through the 60's and 70's. America has Saturn in Libra in the 10th house which, besides making us feel justified being judge and jury over the rest of the world, demands a balanced society; neither too far left nor right. When we go to extremes in either direction the collective rebels and pushes the society towards the center. This is what makes America the "great experiment"; allowing the voice of the people the power to sway history. The present court is as close to a Libra type split as we have seen. The votes are often very close and compromising. It could easily be tipped in either direction and obviously will be in the near future based upon the results of this election.

With Pluto, ruler of vengeance and transformative changes transiting in Sagittarius, ruler of the law, since late 1995, there have been some fundamental changes in our courts already. Pluto also rules death. Shortly after Pluto entered Sagittarius the death penalty was reinstated in many states.

As Pluto approached an opposition to Mars, ruler of the military, in America's chart for the first of three passes, we had the fiasco in Iraq's Abu Ghraib prison. Mars and Pluto are the two co-rulers of Scorpio, which rules sex. When they are in opposition to each other, all things Scorpio will come into conflict. The abuse was mostly sexual in nature, uncovering the sexual frustration and perversion hidden in our military, and society at large. Following the sexual revolution of the 70s, our cultural pendulum has reverted to a level of uptightness similar to the 50s. We don't openly discuss sex, as we did in that era, we peak at it through gory holes, half hoping it will just go away. This is a big mistake and one that the society at large is paying a great price for. Restriction of the natural order of things builds resentment and internalizes that which should be external. I believe the epidemic number of breast, ovarian and prostate cancer cases in this country is at least partially caused by guilt and restricted feelings causing physical reactions to emotional traumas. Being open and honest about this topic will not lead to the promiscuity of the 70s as some writers would have you believe. If anything it could aid many marriages and partnerships that are in trouble, avoiding the need to find satisfaction elsewhere.

Since Pluto also rules Plutonium, this is the aspect most likely to create a nuclear problem for America during the next year. Watch out for Iran.

NEW MOON:

This month's New Moon fall on Thursday June 17th at 4:27 PM. EST at 26 degrees Gemini 57 minutes putting emphasis on those parts of our lives that Gemini controls including; communications, relatives, neighbors and short journeys. Until the Full Moon in 2 ½ weeks we should all pay close attention to all forms of communications, and don't let problems lay around. They will fester and become more difficult to remedy as time goes by. This is an excellent opportunity to respond to any communication problems clearly and effectively. This New Moon falls in America's 7th house of partners and open enemies. Understanding how to deal with each is perhaps the most important object for our nation right now. Our partnerships have suffered severely over the last few years as Saturn transiting the 7th house tested everything we believed about our allies and enemies. Now it is transiting the 8th house and will judge what we hold jointly with others. This includes treaties, business associations, natural resources and the greater world wide economic picture. Limitations and restrictions will prevail as the testing continues. The price of oil will continue to rise as the terrorists recognize the damage a few bombs well placed near the oil fields could inflict upon the world economy.

MERCURY CONJUNCTS THE SUN:

Mercury, ruler of Gemini will conjunct the Sun the next day, Friday June 18th at 5:24 P.M. EST in that sign shortly before they both enter Cancer. This is a time to complete dialogues, contracts and written material of all sorts. There is a willful attitude when Mercury is combust (near the Sun), which will allow many to express themselves more forcefully than usual. Just make sure you don't overdo it and alienate those around you. Otherwise this is a good time to communicate directly and honestly.

VENUS SQUARES JUPITER:

On Saturday June 19th at 5:28 A.M. EST the planet of love will aspect the planet of overdoing. This is not a difficult square, but certain precautions must be heeded. Be careful of falling head over heels in love with someone blindly before you get to know them. With Jupiter's influence anything can be blown out of proportion. Also be careful not to overindulge in food, drink, sex or other pleasures. You could do some damage to yourself. Otherwise this is a day of unbridled desires with a potential for great fun. Go to a water park today and make some wonderful memories.

MERCURY ENTERS CANCER:

On Saturday June 19th at 3:50 P.M. EST Mercury enters the watery sign of Cancer and we all will be a little more emotional in our communications. You may find yourself thinking of the past, and often, when this placement occurs people attempt to get in touch with those they've left behind. If you have wanted to smooth things over with someone this is the time to approach them. Expect to hear from those you've lost contact with and be prepared for the memories that will flood your mind during the next few weeks. This is an emotional time and should be used to water your soul with tears of sorrow and tears of joy.

THE SUN ENTERS CANCER:

The Sun joins Mercury in Cancer the next day, June 20th at 8:57 P.M. EST to mark the beginning of summer. People will be more emotional this month and many will want to spend it with family and close friends. Don't be surprised if people react more intensely and take things more to heart. The energies of Gemini and Cancer are quite different. If you have been putting off a project because of a lack of energy you may find it easier to begin now. The cardinal signs (Aries, Cancer, Libra and Capricorn) are the initiators of the zodiac, and often will stimulate us to action.

MERCURY TRINES URANUS:

On Tuesday June 22nd at 6:10 P.M. EST this wonderful aspect occurs between the lower and higher octaves of the mind. This is a great day for inventive or creative activities. Ideas flow and the mind is clear and concise. You can tackle any complex notion with a better understanding than usual. But like all trines and sextiles, if not used properly it will simply pass as a pleasant day with some interesting thoughts. You must actively use this energy for it to function at its highest level.

MARS ENTERS LEO:

On Wednesday June 23rd at 4:51 P.M. EST the planet of ego and war enters the fixed fire sign putting more force behind our egos and putting some of the exaggerated emotions into proportion. While the Sun is in Cancer the world does tend to be more emotional and the desire to stay at home is strong. But with Mars leaving Cancer and entering Leo the desire for romance and games will make late June and July a more exciting time for vacations than usual. I find July with it's abundance of Cancer energy a better time for family and close friends, and August, with its intense Leo energy more suited to travel and foreign sights. This year we will enjoy a more adventurous summer throughout.

MERCURY SEXTILES JUPITER:

On Friday June 25th at 12:45 P.M. EST a positive and useful aspect occurs between these two planets giving us all a feeling of optimism and expansion for a day or so. Use this energy for communicate and short journeys. People will be more receptive to your plans and more responsive to your feelings. It only lasts a day so make the most of it. This is an opportunity to smooth things over. Anyone you have been quarreling with should be more receptive to healing the rift.

MERCURY CONJUNCTS SATURN:

On Saturday June 26th at 8:07 P.M. EST the planet of thoughts and communication will conjunct the planet of restriction, which will project just the opposite energy of the aspect above. This combination of these two aspects will first expand then contract your ideas and projects. If you don't over expand in the first place on the Mercury Jupiter

sextile, then you won't be as troubled by the restrictions of Saturn. Expect a certain heaviness and pessimistic attitude. Don't judge yourself today, as nobody lives up to the standards set by Saturn. If this sets off a sensitive area of your chart you could feel a bit depressed today. It passes quickly so don't give it too much power.

THE SUN TRINES URANUS:

On Sunday June 27th at 8:55 P.M. EST this wonderful aspect occurs and you should try something new and exciting. This is a day of experimentation and exploration. Take a trip somewhere unusual or begin a project that requires much stimulation. Your imagination will be working overtime, make use of it. Once again, if not used proactively this trine will pass as just another nice day with perhaps an unusual turn of events. If used properly this could be an unforgettable moment in your life.

VENUS GOES DIRECT:

On Tuesday June 29th at 7:15 P.M. EST Venus finally goes direct. Since it began traveling backwards on May 17th many of us have been feeling frustrated in creative projects or personal relationships. Now that the planet that rules love and stuff (Americans love stuff, after all) is finally going forward many things that have been delayed can move forward. This is a good time to present creative work to the world. Problems in relationships will be easier to settle and you may find your marriage taking a new leap of growth. While Venus is retrograde relationships tend to be less demonstrative, choosing to hide the love behind a façade. Now you can tell your lover how you really feel, and not be self-conscious in public. Relationships begun now will be more open and communicative. Since Venus is transiting Gemini you can expect a certain amount of duality. It is through direct Mercurial communication that you can handle any problems that arise and clearly understand the two sides of the affair.

FULL MOON:

The lunar peak this month hits on Friday July 2nd at 7:09 A.M. EST at 10 degrees Capricorn 54 minutes just in time for the holiday weekend. The emotional intensity of the Cancer and Capricorn Full Moons can't be over exaggerated. There could be overwhelming feelings released and perhaps an emotional trauma or two. The Moon will oppose Saturn at 3:17 P.M. EST that same day putting some more pressure on relationships. Try to avoid direct confrontation with your lover unless there is something you both have been avoiding that needs resolution. As with all Full Moons you must give this one it necessary respect and avoid dangerous situations.

MERCURY ENTERS LEO:

On Sunday July 4th at 10:52 A.M. EST Mercury exits Cancer and enters the fixed fire sign. There will be a more assertiveness in most people's speech for the next few weeks. You can expect less emotions and more ego and directness from most. Although Leo is a fire sign and as all fire signs, tends to be a bit aggressive and active, it is a fixed sign and leans towards stubbornness and inflexibility. Be careful you don't display those characteristics or you will find others blocking your decisions. After all, they will also be under this fixed energy and be just as stubborn as you. Be the one who bends and you will accomplish a great deal more. This can be a very creative time especially for those in the performing arts. Expect to see some exciting performances this summer.

SUN SEXTILE JUPITER:

On Monday July 5th at 2:58 P.M. EST this wonderful aspect occurs. Take advantage of its growth potential and try to expand any project or ideas you have been mulling over. This should be a very pleasant and productive day, perfect for a picnic or other holiday activity. If this is a working holiday for you, you have the ability to produce a great deal of work and more any project forward. If you choose to enjoy it with the family, it has the potential to be a great day, so enjoy it either way. This could be a very memorable holiday weekend for many.

SUN CONJUNCTS SATURN:

Reality returns on Thursday July 8th at 12:37 P.M. EST. This can be a sobering aspect as Saturn represents structure and stability and the Sun represents the will. The need to put down a foundation wherever it is missing will be emphasized at this time. Following the holiday week that just past, this could feel like a wet blanket kind of day. What you decide now will have impact in about 6 months when the Sun opposes Saturn and your decisions are tested. This includes business, relationships, creative projects, etc. Make your choices carefully and with the long term in mind. If the stock market is over bought this could be a very bad day, as the same need for foundation and balance is applied on a grand scale. If the prices of the indexes are in fact representative of the present economy this will just be a sideways day. You can expect

the energy level to be generally quite low in any case.

MERCURY CONJUNCTS MARS:

On Saturday July 10th at 7:50 P.M. EST the god of war joins the god of travel and communication. In other words, be careful how you talk and drive. There will be a great deal of energy behind your words. With this conjunction happening in Leo you can expect theatrics and an overabundance of ego in your encounters with others. Pay attention and get out of the way of the force. You do not want to confront it directly. You must also be aware of your own energy being pushed out and try not to overwhelm others. This is a day to dance around the issues, though I'm quite sure many of us will be involved in some sort of confrontation. While driving, be on the defensive. When this type of explosive energy is active it is much more likely someone could have a temper tantrum. You don't want to be on the receiving end of it, especially when they have a 2 ton vehicle in front of them. Also, do not speed. The potential for confrontation with an authority figure is quite possible.

MERCURY SEXTILES VENUS:

On Sunday July 11th at 4:30 P.M. EST this very pleasant and creative aspect completes. Use this energy for creative projects of any sort. The written word will respond particularly well under this influence, so write that email or letter to your old friend. Speech will also take on a soothing tone, so take this opportunity to mend fences, further an artistic venture or catch up with people.

MERCURY OPPOSES NEPTUNE:

On Tuesday July 13th at 7:32 A.M. EST this rather confusing aspect occurs. While Mercury is in orb to Neptune it is difficult to say what's on your mind. Complications in all sorts of communication are prevalent and you must be extremely careful to explain yourself to others. Likewise, if you don't understand what someone else has said, get it explained or you will make mistakes based on miscommunication. Be careful while traveling and double check all plans. Leave extra time to get to the airport or train. Although this can be confusing, it can also be quite creative for the artist. Often one person's problem is another's solution.

VENUS SEXTILES MARS:

On Friday July 16th at 12:43 P.M. EST the male and female planets create a lovely sympathetic aspect allowing these two forces to work together. This could be quite a weekend with the combined energies of these three aspects hitting today all on the Dark of the Moon.

MARS OPPOSES NEPTUNE:

Also on Friday July 16th at 6:26 P.M. EST this interesting aspect occurs. There could be a lot of drinking or drugging done this night. If you have a tendency to overdo things please be careful about ingesting too much of any intoxicating substance. Almost anything could happen when these diametrically different forces oppose each other. Egos get watered down and sometimes people respond quite angrily, especially if alcohol is involved. Mars rules the ego and Neptune is the most egoless of the planetary energies. When connected these two do not see eye to eye about the world.

VENUS TRINES NEPTUNE:

Also on Friday July 16th at 7:31 P.M. EST the lower and higher octaves of love enter a positive coupling. As if to complete a circus of comedy love of a higher type will be the need tonight. That added to the frustrated egos caused by the aspect above and you could find a lot of unsatisfied people in the bars. Of course, those that truly are seeking a higher kind of experience may find just that. This is a wonderful aspect and could bring out the best in anyone, especially after 6:26 P.M. when Mars completes its opposition to Neptune. This is the Dark of the Moon, which for those regular readers know, represents the end of matters, the completion of things, not a new beginning. Anyone trying to start a relationship during this time is in for an unpleasant reality check in a few days anyway. To attempt to push-start something at the lowest energy of the month is foolish. This day is for meditation, painting, making love to your partner or just watching the sunset.

MERCURY TRINES PLUTO:

On Saturday July 17th at 2:24 A.M. EST also on the Dark of the Moon this useful aspect comes along just in time to settle out minds and allow that meditation I spoke of before. This will complete the aspects before the next New Moon. It gives us depth of thought and a desire to understand the truth.

DARK OF THE MOON:

The next New Moon is on Saturday July 17th at 7:24 A.M. EST. The few days preceding is the end of the lunar cycle, and has little energy for anything but completions. Spend your time finishing up anything that is incomplete, don't try to initiate new projects on a waning moon, it just won't work out. Once the New Moon hits you begin new projects or attempt a new approach to an existing problem.

People often misunderstand this time of the month. If you have been living in a situation or involved in a relationship that is intolerable or has outlived its usefulness this would be the proper time to move on with your life. If you have been working on a project that is almost complete but you seem to lack the energy for the finality, you must push during these low energy days to end the matter once and for all. If you don't, when the New Moon arrives it will bring this "dead" energy along with it and conflict with the newer force being presented. Often people, ideas or situations remain long after they have outlived their usefulness in our lives. Each month we are offered a chance to clean house, so to speak. Take advantage of it by finalizing anything in your life that needs completion.

Below is a list of times this month when the Moon is Void of Course and neither important decisions nor purchases should be made during these periods. The Void of Course Moon is a time when we should try to center ourselves and deal with spiritual matters not materialistic ones. Any decisions made on the VC Moon will not turn out the way we had expected.

The Moon is Void of Course from the time it makes its last major aspect in a sign until it enters the next sign. For example, if the Moon squares Mars at 27 degrees Aries and then has no more aspects until it enters Taurus it will be Void of Course for three degrees or about 6 hours. The aspects used are the conjunction, sextile, square, trine, and opposition.

All times are Eastern Daylight:

June 17th 4:27 P.M. - 10:37 P.M.

June 20th 6:46 A.M. - 11:05 A.M.

June 22nd 3:54 A.M. - 10:10 P.M. *** moon is void all day

June 24th 1:19 P.M. - June 25th 6:50 A.M. *** moon is void over 12 hours

June 26th 7:41 P.M. - June 27th 12:13 P.M.

June 28th 8:57 P.M. - June 29th 2:15 P.M.

June 30th 10:52 P.M. - July 1st 2:01 P.M.

July 3rd 10:24 A.M. - 1:22 P.M.

July 4th 10:15 P.M. - July 5th 2:26 P.M.

July 7th 1:29 P.M. - 7:03 P.M.

July 9th 8:51 A.M. - July 10th 3:51 A.M. ***moon is void all day

July 11th 7:29 P.M. - July 12th 3:45 P.M.

July 14th 8:33 A.M. - July 15th 4:40 A.M. ***moon is void almost 24 hours

Mitchell Scott Lewis

June 2004

New York City

(212) 726-3814

<http://www.mitchastro.com>

Copyright 2004

All Rights Reserved