

LIVING BY STARLIGHT

AN ASTROLOGICAL NEWSLETTER

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July - August 2004

AUTHOR'S NOTE:

Last summer I lectured at the Princeton Club in New York City at the invitation of SIRE - the Society for the Investigation of Recurring Events, on the topic of Saturn's transit of Cancer for the first time in 28 years. Its journey through each sign lasts 2 ½ years. Saturn rules the opposite sign of Capricorn, and is said to be in its detriment while in Cancer. This is a brief synopsis of what I discussed.

The last three times Saturn was in this sign there was the slaughter of millions of Armenians by the Turks in 1917, the European Holocaust in the 1940s, and the murder of millions of Cambodians by the Pol Pot regime in the 1970s. This time the world is sitting by complacently while the Sudanese government sanctions the murder of as many as one million black Muslims. It isn't just the mass murders that seem to coincide with this aspect, it is the lack of concern that the rest of the world seems to feel while each of these holocausts has occurred. Other governments were well aware of the events leading up to the massacres of 1917 and the 1940s and did nothing to stop them.

As our power of instant communication increases more of the population becomes aware more quickly. Now our knowledge is almost instantaneous. There is no excuse for complacency. **Saturn is a very harsh and unbending energy. Cancer rules our emotions.** While this planet transits this sign every 28 years the world seems to get a little colder. The human family feels the brunt of this chill and turns a blind eye each and every time. What is the lesson here? Are we to simply continue to repeat the same atrocities over and over again with no clear understanding of our responsibilities? **Saturn is the planet of responsibility and maturity.** Cancer rules family and home. The human family gets an opportunity to mature and take responsibility for its members once every 28 years. Wouldn't it be nice if we got it right this time and didn't have to go through this again in 2032?

Saturn was in this sign during the 1st and 2nd World Wars, and the "Viet Nam police action". It takes a group of coinciding negative aspects to create any war. But to have conflicts as large and long lasting as our World Wars apparently needed the coldness of Saturn visiting humanity right in our own home.

Every time Saturn has transited this sign in modern history, we have suffered inflation. The first two times during the 20th century, we had war-related inflation, a common occurrence, as a result of the 1st and 2nd World Wars. The 3rd time was in the Nixon administration during the winding down of the Viet Nam War when prices should have stabilized, but didn't. This time we are seeing the same pattern repeat once again. The price of oil, which I predicted would set new records, is doing just that. Gold priced have climbed over \$100 an ounce in price in the past 2 years to temporarily settle around the \$400 mark. And the cost of everything seems to be spiraling out of control. This will continue for at least another year as Saturn continues its journey through this sign. If we don't get a handle on it now, it will set the financial pace for the next decade or more.

The only thing unwavering throughout has been the housing market, which is ruled by Cancer. Saturn rules structure and stability, and while it is in this sign, it is in the home that most of our nation's financial stability it placed. It has been a long time in coming, but the interest rates will soon be forced up as a result of the inflation, and many people will not be able to afford the price of their mortgages, especially those with a second home. You will find many banks in the house owning, rather than mortgage holding, business, something they do not do well. This may not happen until Saturn leave Cancer in 2005, but it's on the way.

Saturn doesn't like change. It would prefer to stay in an uncomfortable situation than move on to newer, unknown circumstances. This is especially true while in the sign that rules America. (We were born on July 4th 1776 at 5:12 P.M. in Philadelphia, Pa.) This is one of the many reasons why I believe the Republicans will keep the White House this year.

We re-elected Nixon in 1974, with Saturn in this sign, then threw him out when Saturn left Cancer.

NEW MOON:

This month New Moon falls on Saturday July 17th at 7:24 A.M. EST at 25 degrees Cancer 13 minutes. The Cancer New Moon is extremely family oriented, and events, projects or trips planned this month should involve family or friends to be enjoyed to the fullest. Next month's Leo New Moon is more romantic and playful. Expressing your feelings towards others will be easier than usual now. Just don't let your emotions runaway with you if you tend to be overly sentimentality.

Because the New Moon is so late in the sign it immediately goes Void Of Course afterwards. This has been true of the New Moons for several months and will continue until September when the pattern is broken. When the New Moon is Void of Course it throws off the energy into a sort of unattached place, making it difficult to stay on track and complete things. If you have been feeling frustrated for the past few months, as though everything you attempt seems to go astray, that is the effects of this aspect. Since we can't live in a vacuum, we must deal with this effect. A great deal of concentration and effort will help offset this. However, if you go about your business in your usual undisciplined fashion you will find your plans and projects either incomplete or else heading in directions not foreseen, often leading nowhere.

VENUS SQUARES JUPITER:

On Tuesday July 20th at 4:57 A.M. EST the lower and higher benefic planets create a 90 degree angle, and unlike most squares this can be a pleasant aspect. It does leans towards lethargy and overindulgences, as Venus loves stuff and Jupiter overdoes everything. Don't expect to get a lot of work done today, but if you can relax and avoid the pitfalls this can be a restful time. Just don't over eat or drink.

If you meet someone now you could fall head over heels in love on this aspect. It tends to make us optimistic and expansive, just make sure your paramour is who and what you think. Under this aspect you could fool yourself into believing whatever you wish. Self delusion in love is not a pretty picture.

I wouldn't try to redecorate or design anything under this aspect. Your ideas could be too outlandish, and your sense of boundaries out of whack.

THE SUN ENTERS LEO:

On Thursday July 22nd at 7:50 A.M. EST we enter the fixed fire sign and the month of games and romance begins. Take advantage of this energy to enjoy yourself and explore your romantic life. If you are in an ongoing relationship you should plan a frisky, romantic vacation. If you are single you might want to travel alone. Romance is harder to attract when you are in a crowd. Leo is the fixed summer sign and this month is the most summer-like of all, so play and enjoy the best season of them all. This month you should plan a vacation without the extended family, if possible. Take your spouse or lover on a love-filled roller coaster ride. Just make sure you strap yourselves in.

MARS TRINES PLUTO:

On Sunday July 25th at 5:49 A.M. EST these two similar energies produce a very useful and productive aspect is created. When the two co-rulers of Scorpio work together there is much that can be done, especially involving other people's resources. If you are planning to work in a group project or using monies held jointly with another, this is a perfect time to begin. Anything started with this aspect in the chart will do well particularly if it isn't a solo venture. This is also true of romantic relationships. There is sexual compatibility in the air, and those lucky enough to connect with this aspect in orb have the potential to build a strong sexual bond.

MERCURY ENTERS VIRGO:

Also on Sunday July 25th at 9:58 A.M. EST the planet of communication and travel enters this critical earth sign, and people will be paying much more attention to detail. Any papers or contracts written during the past month while Mercury was in Leo should be scrutinized now. You will find plenty of errors. People will tend to be a bit more critical and picky than usual. Watch your own tongue. You may be acting this out more than you realize.

VENUS OPPOSES PLUTO:

Also on Sunday July 25th at 10:55 A.M. EST the planet of love opposes the ruler of the underworld, and any problems in relationships will be exposed around this time. Be careful of acting compulsively and if you begin a new coupling you should expect a certain amount of struggle and intensity. The affair will tend to be rather black or white;

an all-or-nothing sort of thing. Be careful of digestive problems if this aspect sets off your natal chart. This combination of aspects might represent a problem in the financial markets. With the Full Moon approaching, I wouldn't be surprised by a building up of tensions in the world markets this coming week. If you are trading, watch your positions carefully.

VENUS SEXTILES MARS:

On Tuesday July 27th at 4:31 A.M. EST the male and female planets create this positive aspect and the two sexes will have an opportunity to communicate on a common ground. Venus is transiting Gemini and wants to talk. Mars is in Leo and feeling its Cheerios. Allow the female side space to speak and the male side room to strut and roar, and you will find things getting along swimmingly. Any affair begun now will have a strong sense of its sexuality and communicate well on that level.

FULL MOON:

This month's lunar peak is on Saturday July 31st at 2:05 P.M. EST at 8 degrees Aquarius 51 minutes, and it's a traditional "Blue Moon"; a second Full Moon within a calendar month. All Full Moons must be respected, and the Aquarius one can be exceptionally explosive, so use extra caution, especially while traveling and around electrical devices. You may have some difficulty with electronics or computers. Make sure you back up everything important on your hard drive! The Moon opposes Neptune at 10:37 P.M. EST and its added confusion could be enough to create a situation.

MERCURY OPPOSES URANUS:

On Sunday August 1st at 6:50 A.M. EST the two octaves of the mind are in opposition, and this can very easily lead to accidents, verbal outburst, or even explosive situations, particularly involving travel vehicles. It is possible we could see a problem of some magnitude involving planes, trains, or automobiles. Drive defensively and avoid potentially unstable circumstances with people or inanimate objects. Of course if you've been in a relationship for any length of time it may be difficult to tell the difference between the two.

SUN OPPOSES NEPTUNE:

On Thursday August 5th at 11:08 P.M. EST this confusion and at times debilitating aspect completes. This adds to my suspicion that there could be a major dip in the stock markets during this period. Neptune isn't interested in material things and often ignores our pleas for stability and sanity in exchange for enlightenment. Unfortunately we do live in the material world, so don't let Neptune's fog confuse you into making bad choices. Much of its power comes from the ability to bewilder us. If you try to make important decisions during any Neptune transit you may not choose the best option. The energy level will be particularly low today so I wouldn't plan any strenuous activities.

JUPITER SQUARES PLUTO:

On Friday August 6th at 5:22 P.M. EST this compulsive and at times, overwhelming aspect completes. Some people will lean towards obsessive behavior if this sets off a sensitive part of your chart. Ambitions are high, so don't be surprised if someone, even you, demonstrates a strong desire to get ahead. Just don't let that drive replace common sense. And watch out for a ruthless side showing itself.

VENUS ENTERS CANCER:

On Saturday August 7th at 7:02 A.M. EST the planet of love enters this family oriented water sign creating the potential for close, emotional encounters. There is sensitivity in this sign that affects whatever planet is transiting at the time. When it is Venus, we tend to look for warmth and companionship in our relationships, rather than fast times and promiscuity. Don't get me wrong; with Venus in this sign relationships between partners can be quite remarkable. It's just that Cancer requires some degree of emotions to complete the coupling. If you are not the romantic type and prefer quick liaisons, this is not the month for you. Wait until Venus enters Leo on September 6th.

MERCURY RETROGRADES:

On Monday August 9th at 8:33 P.M. EST our trice a year mischief maker starts going backwards. From now until September 2nd our lives will be topsy-turvy as communications and transportation problems abound. Since August is a high level travel month we can expect more than the usual anecdotal events. You must leave plenty of extra time while journeying and triple check all plans. Most of the fun occurs while the planet is first retrograding and when it is getting

ready to turn back around in September at the end of this transit. You may find problems with computers, cell phones, cars, walkie-talkies, etc. Try not to purchase any item involved in communications or transportation, including those items mentioned above as well as TVs, VCRs, etc. while this is going backwards. You should avoid signing any contracts. Once this changes direction you will find the mistakes you missed before. But as all aspects have a positive side this one makes our conversations, once we can connect, very deep and revealing. In fact secrets have a nasty habit of coming out on the retrograde or right afterwards.

MARS ENTERS VIRGO:

On Tuesday August 10th at 6:14 A.M. EST the god of war and ego enters this most critical of signs. After its outlandish behavior in Leo, this planet could use a little self-critique. Rather than roaring out their disapproval, people will be more subtle, though no less aggressive. Watch your tongue. It will be easy to show displeasure without realizing it. And try not to be so critical of yourself or others. You will no longer be able to bully your way through situations. Details will be noticed and we will be called upon to account for our actions.

SUN TRINES PLUTO:

On Wednesday August 11th at 8:16 P.M. EST this very positive and useful aspect occurs. If you need other people's resources today is the day to ask for them. Projects involving partners or groups will fair well, and anything requiring a long range projected plan should be started now. If you are involved in any sort of cognitive therapy you could have some important insights.

VENUS TRINES URANUS:

On Friday August 13th at 6:55 A.M. EST another positive and quite exciting aspect comes along. If your love life has been dull or routine lately, this could stir things up; either with a new lover or a bit of innovation in an existing relationship. No matter how strong a love is, there are times when anything can become boring. Look for unusual entertainment today, and plan something out of the ordinary. If you do feel a bit jaded in your romance it is up to you to spice things up, and this aspect will give you the right energy for just such a change.

DARK OF THE MOON:

Because the New Moons have been late in each sign the past few months, the period before has been rather extended and more intense than usual. From Friday August 13th until the New Moon Sunday August 15th at 9:24 P.M. EST will be a low energy period. Spend this 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:

July 17th 7:24 A.M. - 4:56 P.M. *** moon is void all day

July 19th 2:50 P.M. - July 20th 3:44 A.M.

July 21st 5:48 P.M. - July 22nd 12:39 P.M.

July 24th 5:54 P.M. - 7:08 P.M.

July 26th 6:48 A.M. - 10:48 P.M. *** moon is void all day

July 28th 11:06 A.M. - 11:57 P.M. *** moon is void all day

July 30th 7:21 A.M. - 11:54 P.M. *** moon is void all day

August 1st 4:51 P.M. - August 2nd 12:34 A.M.

August 3rd 10:58 P.M. - August 4th 3:59 A.M.

August 6th 9:59 A.M. - 11:26 A.M.

August 8th 8:46 P.M. - 10:33 P.M.

August 10th 3:59 P.M. - August 11th 11:20 A.M.

August 13th 6:17 A.M. - 11:30 P.M. ***moon is void all day

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July 2004

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