

LIVING BY STARLIGHT

AN ASTROLOGICAL NEWSLETTER

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AUTHOR'S NOTE:

Ah, the elections. And what can one say? Politics is a dirty business, and the more at stake the more people are willing to get into the mud-ring and start wrestling. How much is at stake this time? I would say, starting with the Supreme Court and working our way down to the attendant in the bathroom at the White House, just about everything. Half of the country will not be happy with the outcome, no matter what. We are in a war of ideology and the stars are lining up just so to make sure it is a peppy war at that.

The chart of Election Day when compared to the chart of America is an astrologer's dream come true. There are more conflicting aspects and signs of conflict than can be covered in this newsletter. I will be discussing it this coming Tuesday at the Princeton Club in greater length. This will be a dead heat election down to the last minutes. Many races will be too close to call and there is a strong possibility of unknown outcomes including, once again, the presidential race, until Uranus goes direct on November 11th. That date used to be called Armistices Day; the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month having been chosen to officially end the First World War so people would realize just how close they came to ending civilization as we know it. And as history shows, we learned the lesson well.

So who wins the election? Well, both candidates have terrific aspects hitting their charts. Kerry has transiting Jupiter in the 10th house denoting prominence and a promotion of some sort. Of course just running for the office has promoted him to a position of renown he couldn't have accomplished any other way. Now he can write books and tour the circuit for millions of dollars. Either way the Jupiter did its job for him.

Bush has Jupiter conjunct his natal Jupiter usually not a time when one gets fired. After all is said and done, I must unfortunately disagree with many of my fellow astrologers who are predicting a Kerry victory. Too many pointers are still saying Bush, but this will be the beginning of the fight to define America for the next several generations. Even if Bush wins the collective will finally understand what is going on and rebel. If Kerry wins, events will force his hand towards pulling us to the right, despite his best efforts.

The coming health problem that I forewarned about 15 months ago in my last lecture for S.I.R.E. has been greatly exacerbated by our government's incredible short sightedness. This could also be a factor in pushing our culture's direction towards the conservative. If there really is a pandemic of Influenza, SARS, or avian flu, just to name a few, there will be much less socializing, shopping, dining out, etc. I have been writing about the possible effects on the mutation of viruses even since Uranus entered Pisces, ruler of infectious diseases. How ironic that they can't get enough vaccine? When it comes to creating havoc, humanity at its most vicious is a picker next to nature. The influenza epidemic of 1918 killed more people in 8 months than the 6 year slaughter in the trenches. And the most bazaar aspect of it is; that it mostly killed completely healthy people in their 20s 30s and 40s. Children and seniors for some reason were immune. So even if they had a vaccine back then and a shortage happened they would have given the available doses to the wrong part of the population. You just gotta laugh, you know?

NEW MOON:

This month's New Moon occurs on Wednesday October 13th at 10:48 P.M. EST at 21 degrees Libra 06 minutes. As we head towards this most important election the collective will be searching for balance, the key phrase associated with this sign. Relationships will continue to be in the forefront of our lives, and any new liaison begun this month, especially before the Full Moon has a good chance of success. Pay attention to your partner in any ongoing relationship or things may become confrontational. Anything lacking in the relationship will be pointed out. It is up to you to fix it.

MERCURY ENTERS SCORPIO:

On Friday October 15th at 6:57 P.M. EST the ruler of thought and communication enters this often misunderstood sign. Many secrets will be kept, at least until Mercury enters Sagittarius on November 5th when everybody will spill the beans. For the next few weeks people may display a tendency towards compulsion. There will be a feeling of black and white in conversations often requiring an all or nothing response. Think before you answer or you may regret your words. This transit will allow us to get inside ourselves and clear out old misconceptions and left over tension. However, the depth of thought many of us will experience can be somewhat disconcerting if you are not aware.

SUN SQUARES SATURN:

On Tuesday October 19th at 9:25 P.M. EST this difficult aspect occurs, creating a very serious atmosphere. Business takes precedent over pleasure, and getting things done will be more important than having a good time. Use common sense and show restraint. Remember, "Discretion is the better part of valor," is a very Saturn type of saying. The energy levels will be quite low, so don't plan any strenuous activities. This is often a very bad day for the stock markets. Restrictions of all sorts will be felt, so don't push the envelope. Wait until this aspect passes before trying to expand things.

VENUS SQUARES PLUTO:

On Wednesday October 20th at 5:25 P.M. EST the planet of love will conflict with the planet of compulsion. It is important to watch these Venus-Pluto couplings, as there is a tendency towards obsessive behavior, especially where love is concerned. Any relationship begun during this aspect will have some built in power struggles. This transit may set off the power play in an ongoing relationship as well, so be careful for a day or so. Try not to overeat or drink, as the assimilation of sugars can be difficult if this aspect hits a sensitive part of your chart. Since Venus also rules our relationship with money and things of value, be careful not to act out this compulsion through inappropriate spending, or purchasing something expensive on a whim only to regret this action later.

SUN ENTERS SCORPIO:

The Sun joins Mercury in the fixed water sign Scorpio on Friday October 22nd at 9:49 P.M. EST making us all a bit more compulsive about things. Try not to overreact. Issues involving other people's resources and joint ventures will come to a head during the next month. Make sure you understand what is yours and what belongs to others. This includes emotional issues as well. Partnerships and joint financial ventures will often do well during this period, however, any type of one-on-one relationship now it will teach you much about these issues and could point out ways to improve how you react to others.

MERCURY SQUARES NEPTUNE:

On Saturday October 23rd at 6:20 P.M. EST these two diametrically opposed energies create a conflicting aspect, making things quite confusing for a day or so. Mercury rules our thought process, and Neptune is renowned for its ability to create a fog around anything it touches. I would not make any important decisions until this aspect passed. There will be a lot of illusions circulating so give it time for the fog to clear before committing. This is not a good day to schedule an important talk; there is too great a chance of misunderstanding.

NEPTUNE GOES DIRECT:

On Sunday October 24th at 7:57 A.M. EST this illusive planet turns around, and this is good news for artists or any sort. If you have been waiting to display your work, this is the time to showcase it. In all of us, the fantasy world we take for granted has been somewhat restricted of late. It will be easier to make your dreams come true. Just be careful what you dream. Since Neptune rules drugs of all sorts, it is interesting that Vioxx was recalled during the retrograde action, causing a pull back in the drug companies stocks. It's also interesting that the influenza vaccines were also recalled during the retrograde. Now that Neptune is going forwards again, there could be some solution planned to deal with this potential crises. I just hope it isn't a half-assed Neptunian illusion being presented to the public.

SUN TRINES URANUS:

On Monday October 25th at 9:49 P.M. EST this positive aspect occurs, allowing us an opportunity to make changes more easily than usual. Ideas flow freely and unusual concepts now seem to make sense. Look for an atypical approach to a problem and you may just find a solution where you least expect it. Plan any type of different event. The common place will seem particularly boring today.

VENUS SEXTILES SATURN:

On Tuesday October 26th at 12:48 P.M. EST love and discipline come to terms for the moment, and although this isn't a very exciting aspect, it does put a foundation where affections are concerned. Any relationship begun with the aspect has a good chance for longevity. So if you are in it for the pension, this may be the time for you to find that special someone. You may be a bit more frugal than usual. If you need to make an important purchase, doing it while this aspect is in orb will help you make the fiscally correct choices.

SATURN SEXTILES PLUTO:

On Wednesday October 27th at 1:12 P.M. EST these two powerful forces work together positively giving us a chance to direct the energies towards long-term solutions. Coming so close to the Full Moon in Taurus, this aspect may help us avoid some physical or financial confrontation. Use this time to consider the ultimate affects of your actions in all areas of your life.

FULL MOON:

This month's Sun Moon opposition occurs on Wednesday October 27th at 11:07 P.M. EST at 5 degrees Taurus 02 minutes. The concern here is with our financial security, both as individuals and as a collective. The aspects surrounding this Full Moon are positive, so this may prove a constructive time rather than a destructive one. If this sets off a sensitive point in your chart you may have to deal with a financial issue you have been avoiding. Try to take care of it before the next New Moon. Don't bring old business into a new month. The next week looks fairly calm and constructive until November 4th when the energy changes radically.

VENUS ENTERS LIBRA:

On Thursday October 28th at 8:39 P.M. EST Venus enters the sign of its rulership. Now is the time to fall in love, redesign your present relationship or redecorate your home. For the next few weeks the relationship area of our lives will be more active and, for many, more enjoyable. Any coupling begun with Venus in this sign, unless it is badly afflicted, will contain a sense of balance and fair play. Look around you; you may notice how affectionate everyone seems to be. Even innocent flirting will have more panache than usual. This looks like a good month to go long Cotton.

ELECTION DAY: NOVEMBER 2ND

MERCURY TRINES SATURN:

On Tuesday November 2nd at 1:01 P.M. EST the ruler of thoughts creates this useful aspect to the planet of discipline. Use it or lose it! This is a good day for arduous mental tasks. Try to complete projects that you have been putting off, and use this day to organize your life. When the Sun squares Neptune in a few days, you will long for the clarity of this aspect. Use this one to prepare for that rather confusing one. Since this is Election Day there will be plenty of grueling mental work going on. Does this chart bode well for the incumbent or the challenger?

MERCURY ENTERS SAGITTARIUS:

On Thursday November 4th at 9:40 A.M. EST the winged god enters the opposite sign of its rulership. The over expansiveness of Sagittarius can overwhelm detail oriented Mercury with its grandiose schemes and outlandish ideas. The most important things to watch out for with this placement are: overreacting, over thinking, and overdoing. More con artists are born with Mercury in this sign. The problem is that we all want to hear the optimistic B.S. that Sagittarius lives on. Well, it sure beats being depressed, but you must put things in their proper perspective, something this sign isn't all that good at. People will be more outgoing and talkative. Just don't believe everything they say.

SUN SQUARES NEPTUNE:

Also on Thursday November 4th at 12:35 P.M. EST this aforementioned aspect hits. Neptune lives to confuse us. It is the way it teaches us how to distinguish between reality and fantasy, which is fine, as long as you don't get caught up in the illusions. This can be a very confusing aspect, with many misunderstandings. Coming on the same day as Mercury enters Sagittarius I suggest you make yourself very clear when you speak, and if you don't understand someone else, have them clarify what was said. Don't assume anything today. This is often a very bad day for the stocks, as confusion often breeds fear.

VENUS CONJUNCTS JUPITER:

Also on Thursday November 4th at 9:10 P.M. EST this coupling comes along to complete a rather active day. This is a

typical gambler's aspect. Usually this aspect is very positive, and if it hits a point in your chart it could represent a bit of luck; either financially or perhaps in love. Certainly the desire for relationships will be stimulated in many of us. But this can also be an aspect of overindulgences, especially with food, drink, drugs or sex. It comes on the heels of the Sun (ruler of the will) square Neptune (ruler of drugs and alcohol), and could be a problem. Keep an eye on things.

MERCURY SQUARES URANUS:

On Saturday November 6th at 10:17 A.M. EST the lower and higher octaves of the mental energies are in conflict. Disagreements and mistakes will be rampant. Arguments can explode over the smallest of incidences, so try to avoid confrontation whenever possible. We can expect a lot of problems with technical devices, especially computers, TVs and cell phones. This is the kind of aspect that would knock out cable TV for an entire city, or bring a satellite crashing down. You and I can save ourselves much grief by choosing not to get directly involved with this energy.

MARS SQUARES SATURN

On Sunday November 7th at 12:02 A.M. EST this nasty aspect completes. This is the quintessential ego-crushing wet-blanket. Mars doesn't do well when restricted by grumpy old Saturn and often people respond with irritability and a short fuse. The better you know yourself the easier it will be to defuse this energy. If you are not aware of what makes you tick, you could overreact and alienate those around you. Saturn is just getting ready to retrograde, and we will all feel the affects of its force. Avoid situations that get you angry.

SATURN RETROGRADES:

On Monday November 8th at 1:54 A.M. EST the planet of structure and stability begins going backwards. Until March 22nd 2005 when Saturn goes direct you must make absolutely sure that anything you are attempting to build, such as a home, a business or a partnership, has a strong foundation upon which to place it. If at all possible, I would wait until that date to open a new business or start a new home. If you already in the process of building, it is perfectly proper to continue until completion. It is the beginning process that requires a direct Saturn. If you have no choice but to begin now, just make sure of what you are doing.

VENUS TRINES NEPTUNE:

On Monday November 8th at 5:58 A.M. EST this lovely and creative aspect occurs. This will be a productive few days for artists and all people associated with the arts. It is also a nice day to rejuvenate your fantasies. Each month offers us respites from the battle. This is one. Take a few hours off for a long lunch, or go to a show.

MARS ENTERS SCORPIO:

On Thursday November 11th at 12:11 A.M. EST the god of war enters one of the signs it rules. There could be a flair-up of hostilities as this energy takes hold. Expect people to be rather blunt in their dealings and don't take it personally. You are also displaying a certain tension whether you realize it or not. Sexuality will be exhibited more blatantly than usual.

MERCURY SEXTILES JUPITER:

On Thursday November 11th at 11:31 A.M. EST a more optimistic and jovial attitude will prevail. If you have a presentation to make, this would be a wonderful aspect to be working under. We can all expect an increase in communications of all sorts.

URANUS GOES DIRECT:

Also on Thursday November 11th at 2:11 P.M. EST the planet that rules elected government, technology, electricity and personal freedom begins to change direction. Anything in those areas of life that has been delayed should begin to move forward now. This includes personal choices we have made about our lives but seem unable to motivate them into action. There could be a delay in the outcome of elections until this date. That could mean races in the senate, house, etc. or maybe again a delay in deciding who is the president. Once this planet goes forward we will know a great many things. Since this aspect occurs on the Dark of the Moon, it will be the end of matters and bring to a conclusion anything still left up in the air. Uranus is the ruler of all things volatile and this could possibly set off an explosive situation of some magnitude.

DARK OF THE MOON:

This is a particularly important Dark of the Moon, as there are matters to be decided in our society that will have a long

lasting effect upon us all. Uranus, the ruler of electoral government, will begin to move forward after 5 months of retrograde action. The end of this lunar cycle is truly the end of matters for a lot of things. 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 Wednesday November 10th at 11:05 P.M. EST until the New Moon Friday November 12th at 9:27 A.M. EST will be a particularly 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:

October 14th 10:22 A.M. - 2:10 P.M.
October 16th 11:43 A.M. - 4:58 P.M.
October 18th 11:46 A.M. - 7:07 P.M.
October 20th 5:59 P.M. - 9:38 P.M.
October 22nd 8:20 A.M. - October 23rd 1:13 A.M.
October 25th 1:17 A.M. - 6:24 A.M.
October 27th 8:24 A.M. - 1:37 P.M.
October 29th 5:50 P.M. - 11:11 P.M.
October 31st 8:21 P.M. - November 1st 9:53 A.M.
November 3rd 9:00 A.M. - 10:32 P.M.
November 6th 3:45 A.M. - 10:00 A.M.
November 8th 1:32 P.M. - 6:23 P.M.
November 10th 11:02 P.M. - 11:05 P.M.

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