

LIVING BY STARLIGHT

AN ASTROLOGICAL NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2005

AUTHOR'S NOTES:

We begin this month with the Sun, New Moon and Pluto in the optimistic sign of Sagittarius. This is a time to look forward; try to plan for the spring and beyond. This is a time for transformation and rebirths. The next two lunar cycles will be in Saturn-ruled signs and we will all be a bit more introverted. As we go deeper into the winter, the past seems to get a stronger hold on us. Saturn will do that. Take advantage of the far-sighted energy offered this month and look beyond the limitation. The world is full of opportunities. Often we are too self-involved to see them.

In the 1960's L.B.J. acted as a tool for the collective, which was responding to the Great Alignment of February 1962 in Aquarius. Aquarius rules humanity and is opposite Leo, the ruler of the individual. Johnson had the image of a "Great Society", where everyone could live a fulfilling and productive life. In a very short period of time a massive amount of so-called "liberal" legislature was pushed through our usually slow senate; mostly due to the incredible political clout of that president. But the weight of the war in Viet Nam finally exhausted L.B.J. and he quit after 5 years in the seat of power he had coveted since his youth.

As we get deeper into Bush's second term we can see just how much a tool he too has been of the collective. The Great alignment in Taurus of May 2000 was destined to pull our society in the opposite direction from L.B.J. and his entitlement programs. The Bush administration has been quite vocal and obvious about its desire to turn back the clock to pre-Johnson, and even pre-Roosevelt America. They do not believe in government as parental figure; leave that up to the churches, synagogues and mosques. But he too is growing tired. With Saturn on top of his Ascendant, Mercury and Pluto, all he really wants to do it go home, sit with Laura and have a nice big cup of... cocoa. But he can't, he's got a contract. His support is crumbling; his supporters all have feet of clay. The public is fickle. But the real power is behind the scenes; and as long as the façade can be kept up the general public will never know see the truth. (Pay no attention to that man behind the curtain -)

In an era when the rest of the world is inventing and embracing modes of transportation that are less polluting and less dead-dinosaur dependant, this administration is dismantling AMTRAK; slicing off the Northeastern corridor, the only profitable one, by the way, and turning it over to seven different states to run. The whole purpose of this being one country with a central government is because you couldn't get seven states to agree on anything. If it wasn't for an obscure German clergyman named Waldseemuller, who credited Amerigo Vespucci with discovering these continents, and if Amerigo hadn't signed his first name so boldly across his maps, we would have taken 200 years to agree upon a name. How about Freedonia? This is simply another of so many efforts by this administration and the majority of the Republican Party to erode certain federal control and return it to the individual states; effectively returning us to the loose confederation that began our nation. The problem with that thought process can easily be seen in the remnants of the Gulf States after Andrew, Katrina and the rest of the dance card. After more than ten years many of Andrew's victims are still homeless. These states are too poor to rebuild, and the necessary help isn't going to get to them; this with a somewhat strong central government. Imagine future catastrophes when the states are told to fend for themselves completely? Even after 230 years you have to wonder if this really ever has been one country.

And yet these very same people want control over what you do in your home, with your body and in every other aspect of your privacy. Go figure. The battle for America's future is about to be fought in the Supreme Court, as we always know it would be. The future belongs to the present. We shall make the world of tomorrow. Teach your children well.

NEW MOON:

This month's New Moon falls on Thursday December 1st at 10:01 A.M. EST at 9 degrees Sagittarius 31 minutes. This New Moon tends to bring an optimism with it that is hard to resist. The majority of the holiday season is the time leading up to Christmas, as we shop and decorate. This is Sagittarius' domain; spending and visiting people all over the place. The desire to expand will be the issue this month. No matter if it is your business, your home or your consciousness, bigger will seem better. Of course with the holidays here perhaps you should keep an eye on your waistline. Travel will also be on our minds, as it is a great way to expand your point of view.

MERCURY GOES DIRECT:

On Saturday December 3rd at 9:24 P.M. EST this mischief maker turns around. After 3 weeks in retrograde we can finally get back to our lives. This has been a typical retrograde period with the usual annoying anecdotes. Communication and travel has been a bad joke. Be careful for a few more days, as most accidents occur while this planet is changing direction. Everyone is so concerned with "catching up" with the world that we get distracted and make mistakes, so use caution. Secrets will be revealed as well. Many things that have been delayed will begin to move forward again. This is especially true of any communications or plans that have been put on hold. If you've been waiting for a check, it's in the mail!

MARS OPPOSES JUPITER:

On Sunday December 4th at 7:47 P.M. EST the planet of ego opposes the largest planet in our solar system. This is an optimistic aspect, although it tends to overdo things. You can get a lot of work done today, just don't let your ego get out of control. People will tend to be more socially aggressive than usual. This could also represent a large military operation somewhere in the world.

THE SUN SEXTILES NEPTUNE:

On Wednesday December 7th at 2:37 A.M. EST this very positive aspect completes. This is especially good for psychics and artists of all sorts, although we will all be a bit more attuned to the universe. It allows us to get in touch with our spiritual side and communicate from the ethereal plane. If you've been stuck on a project you may find an unusual way out of the difficulty. Follow your instincts more than your intellect.

MARS GOES DIRECT:

On Friday December 9th at 11:04 P.M. EST this aggressive planet will begin going forward after having been in retrograde since October 2nd. This had been a frustrating few months for many people. Projects and relationships seem to be put on hold as we deal with the internalization of the ego drive and the force it implies. Don't be surprised if people become more assertive and even a bit aggressive during the next few weeks, as this energy is once again projected out into the world. If you aren't sure how someone feels about you it will be forthcoming.

MERCURY SEXTILES VENUS:

On Saturday December 10th at 4:59 P.M. EST this pleasant and useful aspect occurs. Now that the winged god is running forward again, this aspect may go a long way towards smoothing over any rough spots left over from the past few weeks. When Mercury retrogrades, many truths are revealed; not always in a pleasant or patient way. Once it goes direct, as it did December 3rd, we often have to deal with those truths; finding the proper place for them in our lives. You may wish to revisit those issues today. Perhaps you can find a gentler way of explaining your side.

MERCURY REENTERS SAGITTARIUS:

On Monday December 12th at 4:19 P.M. EST Mercury leaves Scorpio and, once again, enters this expansive sign. Now we can get back to the optimistic and farsighted attitude we felt back in November

before this planet retrograded back into Scorpio. Many things that have been delayed will expand and generate interest. This is almost like Mercury going direct. It will give us a second boost of energy this month. People do tend to exaggerate while Mercury is traveling here, so make sure you know what's real and what isn't before you commit to anything.

VENUS ENTERS AQUARIUS:

On Thursday December 15th at 11:00 A.M. EST the planet of romance enters this exciting and unusual sign. Love will be erratic and exhilarating for a few weeks. Just don't expect continuity in romance. You should give a new love plenty of time to prove itself before you agree to any obligation. Because Venus will retrograde on December 24th we will be dealing with this erratic energy on and off for several months. Watch you money; with Aquarius energy it could be easy come, easy go. The same is true with your heart.

FULL MOON:

On Thursday December 15th at 11:15 A.M. EST the Moon is full at 23 degrees Gemini 48 minutes. As with all things Gemini, there is a duality to this energy. The same force that can produce a moment of intellectual focus can also create an atmosphere of nervousness and distraction. In fact, as is the way with this sign, both can coexist simultaneously. Be careful while driving or handling any machinery. Your focus may not be where you would like it. With Mercury having recently reentered Sagittarius, you can expect to hear the unbridled truth from most people. If you don't want to know; don't ask. With the Sun – Pluto conjunct already applying (see below) there will be an underlying tension that could even respond violently during this lunar peak.

SUN CONJUNCT PLUTO:

Also on Thursday December 15th at 11:09 P.M. EST this powerful coupling completes. The day or so leading up to this may be fraught with incidences of anger or pressure. Try to avoid confrontations until this has passed. This could be a very active day in the stock markets. This often is a major turning point. If the markets are over bought or over sold they will respond in a knee-jerk fashion and reverse direction. Any bad news about the economy and holiday sales will resonate on Wall Street. If you can avoid shopping this day, I would suggest it. There will be no way to avoid this energy completely, but throwing yourself into the furor will serve nobody. Have a nice lunch far from midtown; shop tomorrow.

JUPITER SQUARES SATURN:

On Saturday December 17th at 12:15 A.M. EST this complex aspect comes along. Jupiter wants to expand; Saturn wants to contract. When they are in square there is an often unfulfilled conflict that can confound the individual. Then it occurs in the sky the same tug-of-war will occur. In general this is a day or so when we all should pay attention to limitations and recognize the need for a strong foundation beneath all growth. If this hits your chart, especially your Mars or Venus, you may feel out of sorts for a few days and not know which way to go. Relax and wait. Once this passes the path will be well lit.

MERCURY SQUARES URANUS:

On Sunday December 18th at 8:13 P.M. EST we have the third pass of this aspect, due to the recent retrograding of Mercury. There has been a feeling of nervousness in the air for the past month or so. It has created or exacerbated several world events and helped make the period of retrograding Mercury even more annoying than usual. On this last pass there is the chance of some very difficult problems involving transportation and communications. Accidents will abound and it would be wise to avoid unnecessary travel for a few days. This last pass will, however, finally release this energy and allow things to settle down. We should all be feeling a bit calmer once this completes.

MERCURY TRINES SATURN:

On Wednesday December 21st at 6:27 A.M. EST this useful aspect occurs. This is a good day for any

arduous mental tasks. If you have left any work unfinished this is a perfect time to clean up the mess. Travel should be fairly smooth, taking into account the time of year.

SUN ENTERS CAPRICORN:

On Wednesday December 21st at 1:35 P.M. EST we enter the Cardinal Earth sign, and winter officially begins. I remind you that each time the Sun enters a cardinal sign we change seasons. These four signs; Aries, Cancer, Libra and Capricorn, represent the initiators. And so as we begin this most trying of seasons let us remember that one of Capricorn's most useful lessons is that of patience. The winter is a time of rest and regrouping. If you don't fight against the forces of life you own time here will go that much more smoothly. It's winter; do wintry things; like going to the Caribbean.

VENUS RETROGRADES:

On Saturday December 24th at 4:36 A.M. EST this planet of love and beauty begins its journey backwards. Because it falls on Christmas Eve this year, we may all find ourselves grateful for much different things than usual. I'm afraid it takes more than a few showings of "It's A Wonderful Life" to remind us that this time isn't about stuff; it's about feelings and people. When Venus retrogrades we all feel a little less concerned about things. But don't worry; everyone will still enjoy all the goodies. We just might find ourselves in periodic moments of silence for those less fortunate.

CHRISTMAS DAY SUNDAY DECEMBER 25th

The Moon is void of course all day from 10:52 A.M. EST until 9:04 P.M. EST (see the last page of this newsletter).

MERCURY SEXTILES NEPTUNE at 12:30 A.M. EST. The day will begin on a positive note. Communications will be sensitive and the Libra Moon, even though it is void of course, will lend a pleasant atmosphere to the celebrations. Because of the void moon we can expect that things will not work out as planned; but that might be just fine. The unexpected is often quite entertaining. The Moon will square Venus, but not until 11:42 P.M. EST. The energy should be good all day. Enjoy; and Merry Christmas.

MARS SQUARES SATURN:

On Tuesday December 27th at 7:08 P.M. EST this rather unpleasant aspect comes along. This could be a day of frustration and limitations, especially if it hits a sensitive spot in your chart. I wouldn't push the envelope today. Wait until this passes before striking out on a new venture. You may not have the energy necessary to complete it. Also, be careful of accidents and ego problems. People will be feeling the restrictions of Saturn and some could easily respond with anger or aggressive behavior.

SUN SEXTILES URANUS:

On Thursday December 29th at 1:05 A.M. EST this positive aspect hits as we approach the end of the lunar cycle. Look for unusual solutions to problems as well as different or exotic entertainment. The prosaic will not excite you today.

DARK OF THE MOON:

The next New Moon falls on Friday December 30th at 10:12 P.M. EST. The day or so leading up to it 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. 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. Each month we are offered a chance to clean house, so to speak.

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:

December 2nd 10:17 A.M. – 8:42 P.M. ***moon is void all day

December 4th 1:56 P.M. – 10:36 P.M.

December 6th 4:58 P.M. – December 7th 12:44 A.M.

December 8th 11:16 P.M. – December 9th 4:02 A.M.

December 11th 5:50 A.M. – 8:46 A.M.

December 13th 1:46 P.M. – 2:59 P.M.

December 15th 12:11 P.M. – 11:01 P.M. ***moon is void all day

December 16th 7:33 P.M. - December 18th 9:18 A.M. *****moon is void 38 hours**

December 20th 8:08 P.M. – 9:39 P.M.

December 22nd 11:30 P.M. – December 23rd 10:26 A.M.

December 25th 10:52 A.M. – 9:04 A.M. ***moon void all day

December 27th 2:27 A.M. – December 28th 10:01 P.M.

December 29th 10:01 P.M. – December 30th 6:35 A.M.

Mitchell Scott Lewis

November 2005

New York City

(212) 726-3814

<http://www.mitchastro.com>

Copyright 2005

All Rights Reserved