

MONTHLY SINCE 1999**ISSUE # 92****LIVING BY STARLIGHT
AN ASTROLOGICAL NEWSLETTER
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SEPTEMBER 2006****AUTHOR'S NOTES:**

Saturn opposes Neptune for the first of three passes on August 31st. It will not complete until July 2007. Although this is a monumental moment in our history, there may or may not be an event exactly on that date to herald it. These outer planet aspects work over a period of time. They often need a quicker moving inner planet to set them off. It is these faster transits that create the events. A bomb explodes, a world leader dies, an election changes the power structure of society and bam; in an instant the world is different. There will always be a long-term outer planet transit underlying the circumstances that led up to that point, but it is a single moment that changes things. There are several possible event producing aspects this month as there are every month, including **Mercury opposite Uranus on September 3rd and the Sun opposite Uranus September 5th.** Either of these could create a sharp reaction in the financial markets or a violent situation, or both. We will keep an eye on those dates as they approach. But we don't need another explosion to recognize what is happening in the world. God knows we've had enough. Every time this aspect completes there is a major reversal in power. And the same is true this time.

Saturn rules structure, while Neptune tends to dissolve that structure. Obviously there will be a conflict when these two oppose each other. This aspect was the central point in my recent lecture for S.I.R.E. at the Princeton Club. I have included a few points below, but space prevents me from delving deeper into the subject here. Please return to my website for a more complete dissertation. The notes will be posted in a few days.

This 36-year cycle is fraught with potential difficulties. It usually occurs during or right before a major war. In 1971 we were in Viet Nam. In 1936 Hitler marched into the Rhineland, the Spanish Civil War began; the King of England abdicated his throne, etc. In 1899 the Boer War and the Spanish American War were fought. In 1863 we were in the middle of a little internal misunderstanding here in America. And so on... In fact, Lincoln gave his Gettysburg Address, perhaps the most sobering statement about our nation ever written, while this tug-of-war between reality and fantasy was prominent. Whenever this aspect comes along empires fall, rulers are replaced, society changes. The last time this aspect was in play was 1971-2. In this next election we will see a political reversal in this country to mirror the post - Watergate Nixon era. It was a very volatile and confusing era. For those of you too young to remember it do a little internet research.

Economically, we are heading into a time that has historically shown weakness. In 1971-2 we had double

digit inflation while a recession was going on. The price of oil exploded because an OPEC embargo, we were in an unpopular war, and the Nixon White House was caught spying on the Democratic Party. In 1936 right smack dab in the middle of the great Roosevelt recovery was a recession, just as Saturn opposed Neptune. It was so unexpected that it has always been referred to as "Roosevelt's recession." If history is to repeat itself we are right on the brink of what could be an inflationary recession one more time. All the pieces are in place. We have a **HUGE** deficit, an expensive war, oil prices through the roof, a collapsing housing market, credit card debt that can no longer be included in a bankruptcy, terrible international relations with our fellow humans, and an unhappy population that is about to become much more so as the price of things goes up while their pay checks go down.

Of course it doesn't have to go that way. We could learn from the past and make the changes before they are made for us. We could redirect our cultural consciousness into some sort of compromise of ideology, at least until this passes. If not, there will be a knee-jerk reaction. The house and senate will most likely be controlled by the Democrats, after which Mr. Bush's presidency will be pretty much over. Then we could have a period of stagnation as the power struggle cripples the nation.

NEW MOON:

The New Moon falls on Wednesday August 23rd at 3:10 P.M. EST at 0 degrees Virgo 31 minutes.

Things will be scrutinized this month, and detail is the key phrase. Pay attention to the small matters, there will be many. Try not to be too critical of those around you. There is a tendency to nit pick, which is counterproductive to the otherwise intelligent Virgo energy. Because this New Moon comes on the edge of Saturn – Neptune there will be issues to deal with this month that are concerned with our long-term stability. Since the fall elections are nearing, obviously it is the scrutiny of our political choices that is the central focus. See the details for what they are. Virgo doesn't get caught up in the big picture, it sees the small parts and pieces them together, much like a jeweler.

VENUS CONJUNCTS SATURN:

On Saturday August 26th at 7:38 P.M. EST this difficult aspect completes and I wouldn't plan a party or an important date tonight. This transit is better suited to hard work and austerity than partying or romance. Don't be surprised if you find yourself scrutinizing your partnerships today. This is a restrictive energy that should be respected. Use the aspects to your advantage. If you don't push round pegs into square holes your life will run smoother.

VENUS OPPOSES NEPTUNE:

On Sunday August 27th at 8:19 A.M. EST this confusing transit occurs. With this aspect following the Venus conjunct Saturn mentioned above so closely I would expect a quiet and restrained weekend. This aspect may bring some illusions or disappointment in romance. If you are starting a new love affair now it may have staying power, but there will be some confusion. Give it a bit of time to show the true nature of the relationship before committing too intensely. There is the potential for overindulgences in alcohol or drugs under this aspect, so be careful. But the Saturn influence should hold things at bay.

MERCURY ENTERS VIRGO:

Also on Sunday August 27th at 3:31 P.M. EST the planet that rules travel and communication enters this critical earth sign. After several weeks of everyone blowing their own horn in conversations, things will settle down. It will be easier to get to the bottom of things. Leo can display a lot of ego. While Mercury was traveling through that sign it brought out the more verbose nature in us all. Now in Virgo this planet will be more conservative and better with details. There tends to be a picky side to this sign that can undermine its positive sides. Be careful not to be too critical.

MARS SQUARES PLUTO:

On Tuesday August 29th at 7:26 P.M. EST the upper and lower octaves of this Scorpio energy come into conflict. This can be a nasty combination, and you may find that you or someone around you is looking for a fight. Try to avoid it if possible. It is mostly ego oriented and there will be little to gain from confronting things now. Avoid potentially dangerous neighborhoods and try to find a positive release for this energy. If it hits a sensitive spot in your chart there could be a direct confrontation. This may be a bad day in any of the wars humanity is currently engaged in.

SATURN OPPOSES NEPTUNE:

On Thursday August 31st at 5:55 A.M. EST this very difficult and complex aspect completes for the first of three passes lasting all year. This is the aspect the whole world has been waiting for. It occurs every 36 years, and brings sudden, often unexpected changes with it. The last time we had it was during Watergate! Please go to my website for an outline of my August 14th lecture at the Princeton Club on this topic. There will be a tug of war between our fantasies and reality. This is not a good time to buy a house or open a business. I would wait a few weeks until this aspect has passed.

For those personally affected by this transit this is a year of changes and growth, although it may be tempered by the Saturn. Many things are changing. Whenever this aspect comes around, governments by the number change hands. We are entering a very karmic year during which I expect to see serious reversals of power and a deep rooted fear that will encompass the population. Inflation and recessions are common. In fact, I expect both to occur this year tipping the economic scales downward. We are heading into a major recession. Unemployment will rise, the housing market will take a terrible hit, and the price of oil and gold will continue to rise. Commodity prices will also increase, at least until the recession forces a reevaluation. The society as a whole is going through a tug-of-war between reality and fantasy. It happens every 36 years.

THE SUN CONJUNCTS MERCURY:

On Friday September 1st at 12:49 A.M. EST these two conjoin and you can expect that people will be quite willful. Don't waste this aspect arguing. It brings a lot of mental energy with it and there are much better uses. Focus your mind on projects that require your attention.

VENUS TRINES PLUTO:

Also on Friday September 1st at 7:09 A.M. EST this positive and useful aspect comes around. This will put your love relationships in proper perspective. You could develop a close attachment to someone new, or deepen your existing relationship. An affair begun with this aspect has a lot of growth potential. This would be a good day to make financial plans for the future.

MERCURY OPPOSES URANUS:

On Sunday September 3rd at 5:21 A.M. EST this potentially explosive aspect completes. Be careful; if this sets off a sensitive point in your chart it can represent an accident waiting to happen; but forewarned, as they say. People will be nervous, and they may act feisty or irritable. Details get overlooked when Uranus is around. Double check things, and drive defensively. If you feel the need to argue, this would be a day to do so. If on the other hand you wish to avoid verbal confrontations you should be extra cautious with your tongue. People will be looking for a fight.

THE SUN OPPOSES URANUS:

On Tuesday September 5th at 6:54 A.M. EST the volatile energy mentioned above continues. This is also a potentially dangerous aspect. This week shows several days when caution would be advised. There could be an escalation in world events. Try not to make yourself part of it. Use caution while driving, and look out for the unexpected. This could be a very unpredictable day in the financial markets. If the stocks are overvalued they could take a very bad hit.

VENUS ENTERS VIRGO:

On Wednesday September 6th at 2:15 A.M. EST the planet of love enters picky Virgo. People may act a bit critical or distant in love affairs. Don't let it bother you; it's affecting us all. Just don't become too picky or you could cause a rift in your relationship. This transit is usually good for dealing with money matter, as your attention to detail will be very pronounced.

THE SUN SEXTILES JUPITER:

Also on Wednesday September 6th at 9:46 P.M. EST this helpful growth oriented transit completes. This is a good day for making plans to expand anything in your life. Travel is favored, as are all things foreign to you. Relationships should run smoothly, so take this opportunity to clear up any misunderstandings or bad feelings.

FULL MOON:

This month's peak occurs on Thursday September 7th at 2:42 P.M. EST at 15 degrees Pisces 00 minutes, and it is a lunar eclipse. Coming so close to the Saturn – Neptune opposition with Neptune being the ruler of Pisces, this Full Moon eclipse may very well bring some startling news or event. I can not overestimate the importance of that aspect. Be careful during this aspect, especially where drugs or alcohol are involved. And don't believe everything you hear. The deceptive powers of Pisces are well documented. On a Full Moon in that sign we all could inherit some of the wisdom, spirituality and other, less productive

tendencies that come along with it.

MARS ENTERS LIBRA:

On Friday September 8th at 12:19 A.M. EST the god of war enters the sign of its detriment. Mars doesn't do too well in this Venus ruled sign. For a few weeks people may be a bit wishy-washy and not show their aggressive nature as readily. Mars loses some of its punch in this sign, which may be good temporarily for the world, and wars may cool off a little bit. But there is an underlying frustration that people born with this configuration often express. When you don't have a direct release for your tension, it can do more harm than good. We may see a short respite from aggression, but it will most likely be followed by an even greater force. In the meantime use this period to promote better relationships with people. You may find some combativeness within a marriage, as Libra rules all one-on-one relationships. Face the problems directly and you can work them out. Try to circumvent them and you will create much bigger problems down the road.

MERCURY SQUARES PLUTO:

On Saturday September 9th at 7:59 A.M. EST this aspect completes. From the night before into this morning you should be careful of how you talk to people. You may find that there are many looking for an argument. Why should it be with you? But on a positive level there is a strong desire to get to the bottom of things. You could have a very important conversation under this aspect, though it may not be easy or pleasant.

MERCURY ENTERS LIBRA:

On Tuesday September 12th at 4:58 P.M. EST Mercury leaves Virgo and enters agreeable and easy going Libra. Conversations will be more pleasant for a few weeks. Relationships will be forefront in most people's thoughts. There is a tendency not to want to fight or confront things, which may result in some important issues being ignored. Once Mercury enters Scorpio in a few weeks those issues will return with added fuel.

MERCURY CONJUNCTS MARS:

On Friday September 15th at 3:01 P.M. EST this coupling completes. You may be surprised by the sudden forcefulness in people's attitudes and tone as this aspect approaches. Anyone with a grip will voice it now. If it isn't you, there's no reason to be the recipient if you can avoid it. Be careful while driving or traveling in general, even walking. This aggressiveness can easily be expressed behind the wheel of a car with potentially dangerous results.

VENUS CONJUNCTS URANUS:

On Saturday September 16th at 1:00 A.M. EST love takes a sudden and erratic turn. People tend to be very flirtatious and impulsive. Affairs may begin or end on a moment's notice. If you fall in love tonight my advice is to give it a few days to prove it isn't just a flash in the pants, as my uncle would say. Creativity could abound; this would be an interesting time for a performance or creative endeavor, especially if it involves freedom of expression, such as jazz or improvisation in any form. You won't be satisfied with the mundane.

Seek the unusual and you may find the Magic Theatre.

THE SUN SQUARES PLUTO:

Also on Saturday September 16th at 11:33 P.M. EST a more sever energy expresses itself. There is compulsiveness when Pluto is involved, and this aspect can make people rather belligerent. Don't get caught up in arguments that lead nowhere. Try to keep things moving. The 'chi' of the world gets stuck on this type of transit, which often leads to a feeling of frustration that seems too difficult to suppress and too intense to let out. Have patience and wait. Once it passes there will be a feeling of relief as the next aspect takes over.

VENUS SEXTILES JUPITER:

On Tuesday September 19th at 7:28 A.M. EST this most wonderful of transits refreshes us all. Relationships will be easy going and optimistic. There is a feeling of hope in the air. This only lasts a day or so, and it is most effective the night before. Any love affair begun now will be lucky and have a chance for growth and expansion.

DARK OF THE MOON:

The next New Moon falls on Friday September 22nd at 7:45 A.M. EST and it is a solar eclipse. 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.

Note: All aspects are most powerful and effective as they apply. Once the transit has completed its force is lessened. The more it separates the weaker it becomes.

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:

August 25th 3:00 P.M. – August 26th 3:01 A.M.

August 28th 4:01 A.M. – 3:56 P.M.

August 30th 4:41 P.M. – August 31st 3:01 A.M.

September 2nd 3:49 A.M. – 10:34 A.M.

September 4th 10:24 A.M. – 2:15 P.M.

September 6th 5:29 A.M. – 2:56 P.M.

September 8th 5:01 A.M. – 2:23 P.M.

September 10th 4:52 A.M. – 2:30 P.M.

September 12th 4:58 P.M. – 4:59 P.M.

September 14th 12:00 P.M. – 10:53 P.M.

September 16th 8:31 P.M. – September 17th 8:15 A.M.

September 19th 8:16 A.M. – 8:07 P.M.

**** Because there are two New Moons in a row in the sign of Virgo there are only 12 V/C moons this month instead of the usual 13.

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August 2006

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