

## **MONTHLY SINCE 1999**

### **ISSUE # 109**

## **LIVING BY STARLIGHT**

### **AN ASTROLOGICAL NEWSLETTER**

**MARCH 2008**

#### **AUTHOR'S NOTES:**

**I will be continuing my lecture series on the financial and political future of America this month. The date, place and time will be forthcoming.**

As we begin this month we must contend with the residue of **Mars in opposition to Pluto**, a nasty and at times destructive force. **This opposition was directly on top of Barack Obama's Venus, ruler of his 7<sup>th</sup> house of partnerships and open enemies, when he got trounced in Ohio and lost the all important Texas primary. Venus rules women in the chart, and with Pluto in opposition to his Venus all year, he is obviously in an all out power struggle with a woman. The Mars energy was sufficient to tip the scales in her favor, at least for the moment.** Even if you aren't running for president you might want to keep an eye on this aspect, especially if you have planets at one degree of the cardinal signs.

I always said this contest would be drawn out to the very end, and it certainly looks that way. None of the three candidates running for president has particularly great aspects. But they only have to have better ones than their opponents.

**We are heading towards the Saturn Uranus opposition.** For those familiar with my writing and lectures you know that this aspect comes on the heels of several other major transits that have led us to the financial precipice we now face. *Please view the "Financial Update March 2008" on my website for further analysis.*

As we approach this ominous configuration we can expect certain things. Because Saturn rules all things related to structure and foundation there will be Uranian cracks in our culture. These will be seen most obviously in the financial markets, but it will become obvious throughout our society this year. **I hope I am wrong, and I won't mind eating crow, but we appear to be heading towards a stock market crash sometime in the next year, possibly as severe as Black Monday, October 19<sup>th</sup> 1987 when the DOW lost 22.6% of its value in one day. It took 20 years for the American markets to regain their relative value. At that time we were heading into a Saturn – Uranus conjunct that would complete for the first time in February 1988.** These two diametrically opposed forces danced around that conjunct for over a year, destabilizing the markets and consumer confidence. Now the opposition completes three times over the next year, testing all that we have learned since the 80's. **We also had Neptune, the great dissolver, in direct opposition to America's Jupiter, ruler of our nation's chart on that fateful day in '87.** This was sufficient to create confusion in the markets, and kick in the computer selling that greatly exacerbated the problem.

**Since Saturn rules all foundations, and Uranus rules sudden and unexpected events, we can probably expect some major earthquakes this year.**

**The price of commodities is exploding, pushing inflation to 70's levels. The banks and bond markets are floundering. Even some *triple A bonds* have been halting their cash accessibility. The stock markets are untenable. The bottom is disintegrating underneath our feet. And the baby boomers are about to begin retiring. The Chinese hold one trillion dollars worth of foreign bonds, most of them American, that at any time they need not necessarily roll over. OPEC retains a strangle hold on our energy supply. The power structure and center of the world's economy could shift in a heartbeat. Sounds like a Tom Clancy scenario, doesn't it?**

**Pluto retrogrades on April 2<sup>nd</sup>** and we begin a period of much internal turmoil. This also does not fare well for the financial markets, all of which are Pluto ruled, as they are the trading of communal funds. This transit could suppress the truth about how bad the decay is, only to have it come out with a vengeance next autumn. I don't believe that most of the people in charge of this mess recognize what we are facing. With half-assed measures and teeny rebates to a public drowning in debt, these strategies sound suspiciously like Hoover politics. And for those of you who don't know their history, his administration was followed by something we ironically call the Great Depression.

**Once Pluto turns back around in September 2008 it begins heading towards the opposition to America's Venus, ruler of the 6<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> houses when you use the 5:12 P.M. birth time and the Koch house system, which I prefer.** No matter what discrepancies a different birth time or house system produce, the results of Pluto in opposition to Venus can be quite devastating and create serious power struggles. **This opposition will complete for the first time in March 2009.**

### **NEW MOON:**

**The New Moon falls on Friday March 7<sup>th</sup> at 12:14 P.M. EST at 17 degrees Pisces 31 minutes.** This is the last New Moon of the zodiac and has much to do with completions and tying up loose ends. There is an ethereal quality about Pisces that should be considered. When dealing with this energy you should rely more on your instincts than your common sense. This month's issues will involve service to others, especially things done in an egoless fashion. Because Mars has just opposed Pluto prior to this New Moon, we are entering this cycle with some left over tension and unresolved competition. The most obvious manifestation is the ongoing Democratic Party contest. But in our personal lives there are plenty of examples of pent up anger and incomplete projects that require attention.

### **THE SUN CONJUNCT URANUS:**

**On Saturday March 8<sup>th</sup> at 3:19 P.M. EST** this exciting and potentially explosive energy completes. Issues of personal freedom and self expression are most important. We will all seek the unusual and adventurous under this aspect. Because of the erratic nature of Uranus you can expect some surprises and sudden changes in your direction. Go with the flow. You may find something new and exhilarating that will change your attitude. But proceed with caution. This aspect can also represent misdirection and resulting accidents if it sets off a sensitive part of your chart. The less rigid you are the less chance of this manifesting negatively.

**MERCURY CONJUNCTS NEPTUNE:**

**On Sunday March 9<sup>th</sup> at 4:53 A.M. EST** this aspect occurs and confusion reigns supreme. This completes early in the morning, so unless you work the night shift, you can expect this to manifest somewhat the night before. Double check all paper work and have some patience with your communications. People will be confused, and a little clarification will go a long way towards avoiding major problems. Be extra careful while traveling, especially if you are driving late at night.

**VENUS ENTERS PISCES:**

**On Wednesday March 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:51 P.M. EST** the planet of love and possessions enters this spiritual sign. Relationships can be quite confusion while this planet transits here. Without realizing it we will all be seeking a more universal type of love, which is quite nice in itself, but can cause havoc in your personal life. There is a difference between loving your mate and loving humanity. Both are important and have their place in your consciousness. Don't confuse the two. Any relationship begun now will have a calm and spiritual quality about it. But it may not be as exciting or physical as you would hope for. Also be careful with your money for the next few weeks. It is difficult to have a clear sense of values when Venus travel through this Neptune ruled sign.

**VENUS SEXTILES PLUTO:**

**On Thursday March 13<sup>th</sup> at 3:07 P.M. EST** the desire for a deeper kind of relationship will increase. While Venus transits Pisces, the need to understand and empathize with others will strengthen. This sextile will allow us to delve into the undercurrent of any coupling, especially one of an intimate nature. But all relationships, no matter their definition, will be affected. This is a good time to get to the bottom of things and really examine what is going on. You can more easily change the direction of a relationship when these two are in a compatible aspect, such as now.

**MARS SEXTILES SATURN:**

**On Friday March 14<sup>th</sup> at 5:24 P.M. EST** this is a good day for any type of hard work that requires long periods of attention. Use this energy to your advantage by finishing up any projects that linger. Working with groups should be easier than usual as the ego (Mars) is not being challenged by the Saturn, but rather is being supported.

**MERCURY ENTERS PISCES:**

**Also on Friday March 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:46 P.M. EST** the planet of thought and communication enters this water sign. You may find that people begin speaking with a gentler and more pleasant voice than of late. But, as with all Pisces or Neptunian energy, you must be careful of misunderstandings or confusion. Do not assume you are understood by others, and if you do not understand what is being said you must ask for clarity. The way that Pisces tests us is through misdirection. If you clear up the fog you can not only avoid many pitfalls, but get a better understanding of this strange energy and use it to your advantage.

### **VENUS OPPOSES SATURN:**

**On Saturday March 15<sup>th</sup> at 4:17 P.M. EST** this reality based aspect completes. Everyone will be a bit more cautious and concerned with the truth about things. This is a good day to shop, as you will be more frugal and less apt to splurge. In relationships we will tend to stick to the tried and true. This is not a good time for frivolous partying or coupling. Any relationship born with this aspect in the chart may have great staying power, but probably won't be very exciting. There is a time in life for all things. Perhaps this is the time for you to settle down?

### **VENUS TRINES MARS:**

**On Sunday March 16<sup>th</sup> at 4:21 A.M. EST** the male and female planets create a positive aspect. It will be easier to relate to the opposite sex, and if this sets off your chart you could meet someone today. In general people will be less cranky and aggressive. This is a good aspect for a party or other social function.

### **MERCURY OPPOSES SATURN:**

**On Monday March 17<sup>th</sup> at 5:47 A.M. EST** we will all be concerned with work. This is a very focused and productive aspect during which anything that requires attention to detail will work out well, but only if you actually do the work. This is not a time for parties or frivolity of any sort. Complete your tasks and use your time properly. You could get a lot of work done in a short period of time. If you waste this day you will regret it tomorrow when the work piles up and you don't have the concentration to do it.

### **MERCURY TRINES MARS:**

**On Tuesday March 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:38 A.M. EST** this positive aspect completes. This is a good day for communication of all sorts. You will have oomph behind your speech, and can converse with assertiveness, yet not be aggressive. This trine will allow you to focus your thoughts and words. It is a good time for any sort of presentation or public performance.

### **THE SUN ENTERS ARIES: HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

**On Thursday March 20<sup>th</sup> at 1:49 A.M. EST** the Sun enters Aries and the New Year begins. This is the date I have celebrated as the beginning of the cycle for many years. January 1<sup>st</sup> is such an arbitrary moment – taken from a Roman pagan holiday it has little to do with the beginning of anything, except three months of winter. But the first day of Aries is the first day of the zodiac, spring and the year. This is a time to make new plans with the full sense of hope that the new buds on the trees should give poet, prince and pauper alike.

### **THE SUN SQUARES PLUTO:**

**On Friday March 21<sup>st</sup> at 4:36 A.M. EST** this intense aspect completes shortly before the Full Moon. Be careful today. The combination of energies is stressful and just looking for places to manifest. People will be feeling feisty and angry. Try not to give them a reason to direct it towards you. Because of the approaching Saturn – Uranus opposition, I am watching carefully for aspects of potentially destructive force in our society.

This is one, and its close proximity to the Full Moon makes this a very dangerous day. The financial markets could take a major hit leading up to this.

### **FULL MOON:**

**This month's lunar peak occurs on Friday March 21<sup>st</sup> at 2:40 P.M. EST at 1 degree Libra 31 minutes.**

Any issues regarding relationships will be brought to the surface now. If there is hidden tension in your marriage or partnership you could be forced to deal with it during the next two weeks as this Full Moon wanes. Although Libra is a gentler energy than many other signs, you should still give the Full Moon respect and move cautiously for a day or so. We could see some interesting activity in the financial markets this week.

### **MERCURY CONJUNCTS VENUS:**

**On Monday March 24<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 A.M. EST** this conjunct occurs. Speech and other communications will be lighter and not very aggressive. This is a good day for any important conversation, especially if you are trying to smooth things over. In general people will not be looking for a fight. But if you have a bone to pick with someone and don't want the issues pushed aside by a momentary good mood, you may wish to wait a few days before having that conversation. For the most part this should be a day of easy and breezy communications.

### **MERCURY SEXTILES JUPITER:**

**On Thursday March 27<sup>th</sup> at 2:56 P.M. EST** this optimistic and expansive aspect completes. This is a good time to make plans for the future or to enlarge the scope of your ideas or projects. Just be careful not to expand too much. Communications of all sorts will be active and generally positive. But with Mercury about to conjunct Uranus, people could be a bit jittery or overly anxious. Arguments are certainly possible, even with this positive energy in play. But if you focus on the optimistic undercurrent this creates, you can sidestep many of them and even redirect some disputes into compromises.

### **MERCURY CONJUNCT URANUS:**

**Also on Thursday March 27<sup>th</sup> at 4:08 P.M. EST** this exciting and energetic aspect occurs. Thoughts and communications will be fast and furious. The pace of the world will speed up and it is possible to have an accident or just move so quickly that you miss some important information. Try to slow your mind down and focus on your immediate environment. Be careful while traveling, especially if driving or walking. This can be a very positive and creative energy if you pay attention and avoid mistakes. People may be a bit abrasive and more direct than usual.

### **VENUS SEXTILES JUPITER:**

**On Friday March 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:54 P.M. EST** this wonderful energy completes. This is a nice day for any social activity. If you are meeting for drinks try to get there before this aspect completes so you can enjoy it to the fullest. Any social gathering should be quite successful and pleasant. The only problem is the tendency

towards self indulgence, so try to keep things in perspective. Because Venus sets off the Jupiter – Uranus sextile this could be a very interesting few days. Look for the unusual in romance.

### **VENUS CONJUNCTS URANUS:**

**Also on Friday March 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:58 P.M. EST** this strange energy comes along. This is the type of aspect that can bring on a sudden romance or a winning lottery ticket, if it sets off a sensitive point in your chart. But it could also be easy come easy go, so try to show some restraint. Look for exciting and new types of entertainment. You may become attracted to someone from a much different background from your own.

### **JUPITER SEXTILES URANUS:**

**Also on Friday March 28<sup>th</sup> at 8:14 P.M. EST** this powerful connection between the planet of growth and the ruler of personal freedom opens a door of perception for the enlightened to reach beyond their casual boundaries and experience a bit of life on the fringe. The sextiles are positive aspects that require you be proactive in order to take advantage of their potential. This is a moment of expansion and optimism in our society can help stimulate our collective imagination, something we have sorely needed of late. This will not be powerful enough to offset the bad undercurrent of our financial markets, but it might be a respite in the downward spiral. The NASDAQ (ruled by Uranus) may do particularly well for a few days.

### **THE SUN SQUARES MARS:**

**On Sunday March 30<sup>th</sup> at 3:22 A.M. EST** this nasty square completes. People will be out looking for a fight as this transit approaches. Be careful the night before. Arguments, fist fights and accidents are all possible when these two square. And since this occurs in the cardinal signs it could play itself out in the home or your closest relationships. Try to sidestep the trouble if possible.

### **PLUTO RETROGRADES:**

**On Wednesday April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 5:23 A.M. EST** our diminutive de-planetized friend begins its yearly turnaround. Much will be hidden from now until September. It may be difficult to complete things having to do with partnerships, inheritances and possessions held jointly with others. As I said above, this does not fare well for the financial markets, all of which are essentially Pluto ruled, as they are a trading of communal funds. As this planet has recently entered Capricorn, its retrograde motion will return it briefly to Sagittarius where we will be shown one last group of lessons regarding that placement. This will most likely result in another rise in oil prices, at least for the short term. This will bring up difficult issues regarding social security, pension funds, government and corporate bonds and all other jointly held resources. Once Pluto reenters Capricorn in November 2008 it will remain there until 2023 – 24, and restructure our entire financial foundation. What we are seeing now is only the first leg of the transformative changes to our foundation that one would expect from this non-planet's travels through this earth sign.

### **MERCURY ENTERS ARIES:**

**Also on Wednesday April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 1:45 P.M. EST** Mercury will enter this fire sign and communications will

become more assertive and direct. People may tend to be a bit feistier and easily angered. Try to sidestep the unimportant arguments, but face the necessary ones head on you will be able to clear the air. Aries has little use for subterfuge, preferring to deal with things directly and honestly.

### **MERCURY SQUARES PLUTO:**

**Also on Wednesday April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 4:53 A.M. EST** this difficult aspect completes. Talk about temper tantrums! You can expect people to push aggressively at every opportunity. This completes early in the morning, and it will wane as the day goes on. But I would still give it plenty of respect for a day or so.

### **DARK OF THE MOON:**

**The next New Moon falls on Saturday April 5<sup>th</sup> at 11:55 P.M. EST at 16 degrees Aries 44 minutes. The day or two leading up to it will be a particularly low energy period. If you tend to be emotional this may be a very trying time each month.** I have found that people with prominent moons or a Cancer Sun, Moon or ascendant respond to the cycles of the moon more intensely than others. 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 further 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:

March 7<sup>th</sup> 2:03 P.M. – March 8<sup>th</sup> 9:23 A.M.

March 10<sup>th</sup> 7:09 A.M. – 12:14 P.M.

th

March 12 1:26 P.M. – 1:54 P.M.

March 14<sup>th</sup> 4:23 P.A.M. – 4:36 P.M.

March 16<sup>th</sup> 2:58 P.M. – 9:04 P.M.

March 18<sup>th</sup> 2:39 P.M. – March 19<sup>th</sup> 3:25 A.M.

March 20<sup>th</sup> 3:28 P.M. – March 21<sup>st</sup> 11:45 A.M.

March 23<sup>rd</sup> 8:42 A.M. – 10:06 P.M.

March 25<sup>th</sup> 8:36 P.M. – March 26<sup>th</sup> 10:11 A.M.

March 28<sup>th</sup> 9:21 A.M. – 10:43 P.M.

March 31<sup>st</sup> 12:54 A.M. – 9:34 A.M.

April 2<sup>nd</sup> 5:14 A.M. – 4:55 P.M.

April 4<sup>th</sup> 5:43 P.M. – 8:27 P.M.

**Mitchell Scott Lewis**

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**New York City**

**(212) 726-3814**

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

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