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LIVING BY STARLIGHT

AN ASTROLOGICAL NEWSLETTER

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AUTHOR'S NOTES:

Saturn opposed Uranus for the 2nd time on February 5th. Since then the stocks have dropped like a sack full of kitty litter one more time to test the bottom they put in last fall. So far the 740 low in the S&P's has held, barely. But until this aspect completes in July 2010 these markets will continue to be volatile and erratic. Even after that 2010 date there will be no magic bullet. We should not expect this financial situation to correct itself for quite a number of years. I am not saying that things won't get better and that we aren't stabilizing the foundation a bit, but there is a vicious decay in the underbelly of our system, and until it is ferreted out we will continue to discover sinkholes capable of sucking in banks, industries and individual wealth. How is the average person supposed to make money in this economy? You can't open a small business. Savings accounts don't pay interest, entire industries are collapsing, and the stock market feels more like Vegas than Wall Street. Here's a sobering thought: **The last time Saturn opposed Uranus was from April 1st 1965 – January 7th 1967 for a total of five times. In 1966 the stocks began a sixteen year bear market. It took until 1982 to begin the next bull market.** The situations were much different, of course. There was no stock market crash, just a meandering down and sideways. During that 16 year period there were several recessions, including the one in the early 70's that is often seen as the predecessor of this one.

But that Saturn – Uranus opposition also helped produce the 60's. Although the world has changed so much since the innocent 50's we could never regain the excitement and awe that the awakening of the hippie era brought us. But there is a possibility that the unsettling effects of this aspect could shake up the collective unconscious enough to create a few pearls. Of course, as the old saying implies, they must then be offered where they can be appreciated. And for the moment, most of the pigs are busy cleaning up their sty.

Pluto is settling into Capricorn and will begin to oppose America's so called "money planets", Venus and Jupiter. This is already being felt. Pluto has much to do with power struggles and control issues.

As it approaches the first opposition to Venus, ruler of the 10th and 11th houses, and thus quite influential in money matters, in March 10th 2009, we see the government intervening and taking more control over the banks. This is only the beginning. As Pluto opposes Venus and Jupiter over the next three years there will be more issues of control and potentially a serious power struggle within our government. The split between Republican and Democrat has never been deeper. Jupiter rules the ascendant, and the opposition of Pluto shows the potential for some severe and unsettling events. I will discuss it further as the aspect approaches.

Jupiter will conjunct Neptune three times this year; May 27th, July 10th & December 21st. This aspect will have a major effect on our nation and the world. The conjunct occurs almost exactly on America's Moon, ruler of the 8th house. We can expect a huge rise in inflation and a great deal of confusion about the value of things. I expect an increase in religious and philosophical matters. Also, since Neptune rules music, film and fine art, this could help bring about a mini-renaissance so badly needed now. The combination of these two planets may also, however, increase the fog and confusion surrounding many situations, and a great deal of self-delusion will most certainly accompany it. There is a fine line between genius and fool.

NEW MOON:

The New Moon falls on Tuesday February 24th at 8:35 P.M. EST at 6 degrees Pisces 35 minutes. This is the last New Moon of the astrological year and this month we will be concerned with issues of completion in anticipation of a new beginning. Spiritual matters will be our concerns from now until March 20th as we travel through the 12th sign and delve more into our subconscious. The desire to help others is this sign's greatest strength. This is a good month for charity work or just making ourselves more accessible to those who need us.

MERCURY CONJUNCTS MARS:

On Sunday March 1st at 10:06 P.M. EST this combination returns. We saw this transit last month, and because of the retrograde motion of Mercury this past month we will experience this once again. The same holds true this time as well. There will be a lot of energy being emitted, especially verbally. People will be feisty and quite aggressive in their speech and other communications. Try not to take offense or overreact to what someone says. This can be an accident waiting to happen. Don't let it happen to you. Use extra caution, especially while traveling.

MERCURY CONJUNCT NEPTUNE:

On Thursday March 5th at 4:41 A.M. EST this most confusing of aspects completes. It may be difficult to understand each other, so take the time to clarify things. Confusion, misdirection and mistakes are quite prominent. Accidents are also common, but they would be a result of miscommunication or mental cloudiness. Use caution and pay attention, especially while traveling.

VENUS RETROGRADES:

On Friday March 6th at 12:17 P.M. EST the planet of love begins to move backwards. For the next few weeks it may be difficult to express your feelings towards others. Because this takes place in Aries, a very assertive sign, you may find that some people are inappropriately aggressive. That is because they simply don't know how else to express themselves. If you can communicate and bring out their true feelings, they will stop acting that way. Financial matters may be delayed or misdirected. Take care with all money matters and don't get so caught up in your internal dialogue that you miss things in the outside world.

MARS CONJUNCTS NEPTUNE:

On Sunday March 8th at 8:51 A.M. EST the god of war conjuncts this difficult and at times debilitating planet. Egos will be fragile and easily offended. Try not to provoke others. There isn't a lot of energy in the air and arguments will be tame, but any hurt feelings will be deep and lasting. Because of the lack of energy you shouldn't plan too strenuous a day. The coinciding aspects mentioned below are also low energy transits, so don't expect too much today. It is a time of rest and regrouping.

MERCURY ENTERS PISCES:

Also on Sunday March 8th at 2:56 P.M. EST the planet of communication enters the last sign of the zodiac. Pisces is a more passive sign, and communications will be hidden, low key and maybe quite confusing. For the next few weeks you must use caution in your conversations and writings. Make sure you understand others and that you are understood. Don't take things for granted.

THE SUN OPPOSES SATURN:

Also on Sunday March 8th at 3:53 P.M. EST this final aspect completes this trio of low energy transits. This can be a very discouraging opposition when you feel as though everything you try to do is blocked by the world. Don't expect to accomplish a great deal today, although if you can focus your attention you may be able to do a lot of grunt work. This is not a very inspiring energy so don't look for genius. It is a day to rest, examine what you have recently done, and to prepare for the next advancement.

FULL MOON:

This month's lunar peak occurs on Tuesday March 10th at 10:38 P.M. EST at 20 degrees Virgo 40 minutes. Virgo is the auditor of the zodiac. Anything that requires attention and examination will be the focus today and until the next New Moon. With Saturn in this sign, the banking industry continues to be the focal point of this energy. Be careful not to act in a picky or overly critical manner. It is easy to become caught up in the detail of things and lose sight of the bigger picture.

VENUS SEXTILES JUPITER:

On Wednesday March 11th at 8:35 A.M. EST this wonderfully enjoyable aspect completes. It only lasts for a few hours, so try to take pleasure in the energy. People will be more receptive and open to new ideas and pleasures. This is a great morning for socializing, so plan a breakfast with someone.

THE SUN CONJUNCTS URANUS:

On Thursday March 12th at 9:26 P.M. EST this potentially disruptive aspect comes along. This is an argument or an accident waiting to happen. The energy is erratic and unstable, and people will react to it, especially if it sets off a sensitive point in their charts. Sudden events are common, so be careful.

MARS ENTERS PISCES:

On Saturday March 14th at 11:20 P.M. EST the god of war enters this most unwarlike of signs. Ego will be a bit wishy-washy for the next 6 weeks or so. People may be easily offended as they don't seem to have their usual self-defense mechanisms in place. There may be a tendency to skirt issues rather than face things head on. That, of course is a bad idea, as things tend to fester in this sign. It is better to get things out into the open than hold them in. This can be a very energetic time for artists of all sorts. If you are involved in a creative project, use this energy to advance things along.

MERCURY OPPOSES SATURN:

On Wednesday March 18th at 11:59 P.M. EST this difficult and oppressive aspect completes. This will be a day of low mental energy and it may be difficult to communicate your ideas. It can be frustrating, but if you use this force to focus your attention on work or detail oriented activities this can be a very productive day. Traveling may be difficult, and there could be a number of traffic problems, so leave extra time.

THE SUN ENTERS ARIES:

On Friday March 20th at 7:44 A.M. EST we begin the cycle anew. HAPPY NEW YEAR! Yes, those of you who follow my work know that I celebrate this day as the New Year. It is the only one that makes sense. Anyway, we are now in Aries, and the zodiac begins again. This is a time to initiate the plans you have been making these past few months. People will be more assertive and directed in general. Mars is still in Pisces, so some issues may be more difficult to commence until April 22nd when it enters this sign of its rulership.

MERCURY CONJUNCTS URANUS:

On Sunday March 22nd at 1:02 A.M. EST this erratic and often upsetting aspect completes. The conjuncts are the most powerful of the aspects, and this represents the lower and higher mind conjoining. Ideas and communications will come quickly and suddenly. Arguments and disagreements are common. The need for everyone to say exactly what is on their minds may make for some interesting communications. Be extremely careful while traveling. It is quite easy to be distracted for just a moment, and with this suddenness of this energy you simply do not want to be caught off guard. Mercury rules the bond market, so there may be a violent and sudden move in the futures.

THE SUN SQUARES PLUTO:

On Monday March 23rd at 2:34 P.M. EST this intense aspect completes. This is not a time to go looking for trouble. There will be plenty around for everyone, and it will find you. Try to avoid direct confrontations with people. Frustrations will abound, and tempers will be hot. This will be an active day in the equity markets.

MERCURY ENTERS ARIES:

On Wednesday March 25th at 3:56 P.M. EST our speech and other communications will take on a much more aggressive role. The desire to assert oneself is becoming more prominent, and with the Sun and Venus already in this sign you can expect a more direct approach to things from most people. Venus is still in retrograde, so it will be difficult to express emotions. But your intellect will have more self-confidence, so talk

things out.

DARK OF THE MOON:

The next New Moon falls on Thursday March 26th at 12:05 P.M. EST at 6 degrees Aries 08 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:

February 26th 1:09 A.M. – 4:24 P.M.

February 28th 12:52 P.M. – 10:33 P.M.

March 2nd 5:43 P.M. – March 3rd 2:59 A.M.

March 4th 9:11 P.M. – March 5th 6:07 A.M.

March 6th 7:29 P.M. – March 7th 8:24 A.M.

March 9th 3:56 A.M. – 11:34 A.M.

March 11th 1:48 A.M. – 2:46 P.M.

March 13th 6:39 P.M. - 8:22 P.M.

March 15th 8:43 P.M. – March 16th 5:21 A.M.

March 18th 1:47 P.M. – 5:19 P.M.

March 20th 4:06 P.M. – March 21st 6:06 A.M.

March 23rd 8:10 A.M. – 5:08 P.M.

March 25th 12:53 P.M. – March 26th 1:03 A.M.

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