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## LIVING BY STARLIGHT AN ASTROLOGICAL NEWSLETTER

MAY 2010

### AUTHOR'S NOTES:

**Saturn opposes Uranus this month for the 4<sup>th</sup> time.** Do we have a stock market crash this month? No. The aspects this transit is making to America's chart and the NYSE chart are rather benign. When we had the first two crashes in late '08 and early '09, this opposition was creating great stress to those two charts. **This is probably the top of these markets for the moment,** but that is not the same thing as a crash. **In July 2010 the last pass of the Saturn – Uranus opposition will once again be in a stressful position with Pluto adding to the tension.** That time has a much better chance of another big dip than now. The markets are stuck in a range, as will usually happen **when Pluto, ruler of all shared markets, and Saturn, planet of restriction are in square** as they are now. As **Saturn moves back into Virgo** this month and away from that square, we may move out of this trading range for a few months. But if we are going up or not is the question. **The last time Saturn was in Virgo** the banking industry was in collapse. Now I expect to see many more failed banks, more pressure on the F.D.I.C., and big issues being raised in several areas of communal wealth. The government will continue to take the role of Saturn and place limitations upon the banking and trading industries. There will be more controls put in place, and more resentment between the two parties.

What we are seeing could be called the beginnings of the 2<sup>nd</sup> American Civil War. **The great T-square of 2010, with Uranus-Jupiter conjunct opposite Saturn, all squared by Pluto,** is powerful enough to create some violent or extremist reactions in the collective. We have seen the beginnings of this extremist attitude in the reaction to the health care overhaul. I could see the Republicans walking out of the Senate and House one day. How far this spilt in our collective will go I don't know. This is the problem with the two-party system. Almost always about half the population is unhappy with where the country is going. When you have the type of stressful transits we are seeing now, this discontent will manifest more in world events. Assassinations are quite possible, and I will be studying various charts, some obvious others not so. Not since we experienced similar aspects in the 60's has the population been so vocal and active. Of course, this time it is primarily the right that is revolting (no pun intended). It is good to know that we aren't all

quite dead or asleep. A little stimulation can actually be quite rejuvenating to the collective. I just hope the left has enough left to push back.

**On this 4<sup>th</sup> pass of Saturn opposite Uranus**, the political right has shaken off its cloak of objectivity. Uranus demands truth and uninhibited expression of freedom. It was the Great Alignment of 1962 in Uranus ruled Aquarius that led to the "60's". Now it is the Great Alignment of 2000 in the conservative sign of Taurus that has led to this era – whatever we wind up calling it. **Saturn is stability, Uranus is instability. Something's got to give. You add Pluto**, ruler of vengeance, power struggles and hidden agendas, and you've got the makings of a real problem. As we approach that July date we will see an escalation of hostilities, both internal and external. **Venus and Jupiter in America's natal chart are being whacked.** These are the so-called money planets, and I don't believe we are anywhere near a financial recovery. First of all, **Pluto will be opposite America's Jupiter on and off until November 2011. Uranus will be in square to our Venus and Jupiter until February 2013.** It will take at least that long for real stability to return to the world markets. The problems in Europe, especially Greece will not disappear overnight. They wanted a world economy and globalization, and so we are all interconnected.

**I would like to thank the nation of Iceland for giving us that volcanic eruption just in time for the Saturn – Uranus opposition.** These are the kind of events we would expect when the planet of sudden explosions is in direct opposition to Saturn, ruler of stability, foundation and the very earth we stand upon.

**Mercury retrogrades this month.** As many of you know, this is a thrice a year event during which as much mischief as can be laid upon your door will be. Difficulties in communications, travel, computers, cell phones etc. will abound. As our society becomes even more addicted to these devices, we can expect more trouble on these retrogrades. The anecdotal events that have occurred during retrograde Mercury periods are wonderful and should be documented. A book just about these moments in history might be quite funny and enjoyable. **One year, not that long ago, on a single retrograde, all of the e-z-passes in New Jersey stopped working, the main computer at the New York Post Office crashed, the New York subway Metrocard machines crashed and all 36,000 had to be reset manually, and the Swiss, renown for their timepieces, set all of the state clocks ahead two hours instead of one on daylight savings day.** So, keep your eyes open. Expect delays, don't schedule things too closely together, and don't purchase any new device dealing with electronics, communications, transportation or other associate issues unless it is absolutely necessary. Remember, many things may break down during this time, so you

may have no choice. Take the replacement warranty for a few extra bucks. Preparedness is everything in life and astrology.

**Uranus is about to enter Aries.** This represents the beginning of a new cycle in technological advancements. **The last time this planet crossed the Aires point was in 1926.** There were two events that year that heralded the new cycle. Farnsworth patented a new invention he called *television*, and movies started to talk. That was the year *The Jazz Singer* was released. *Because of the depression and the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War, by the time TV came into vogue Farnsworth patents had run out and he got one of the great screwings of all time.* Some of the results of this current aspect include the resurgence of 3D movies, and the beginnings of 3D TV (which, by the way, will probably be a flop and could cost billions to the several companies that are investing huge sums into this invention.)

*Now for the local news:*

That cancerous growth known as the Second Avenue subway has claimed yet another group of victims. This time, because of blasting that Con Ed swore wouldn't damage any buildings, an entire block of walk-ups has been forcibly evacuated due to structural instability. An entire block, hmm, seems somewhat opportunistic, doesn't it? The residents have been told they will be relocated temporarily until the buildings can be shored up, then they can move back in. (Let's all have a cynical, knowing chuckle about that one.) These people will never come back to the buildings some have called home for decades. The buildings will be condemned and torn down, to be replaced by another over-priced, badly built, exclusive high-rise, complete with gym, laundry room and private police force. This is a case of theft, plan and simple. These people couldn't successfully be moved under eminent domain, so they are being bullied in another way. The entire purpose of building this subway is to exploit and explode the population on the Upper East Side, taking away all of its charm and livability. As I have said in this newsletter before, our mayor simply wants these walk-ups torn down and replaced by buildings owned mostly by about a dozen real estate families. I long ago realized that America isn't a democracy, but a plutocracy. Still, with a city placed on so little land to be divided among so many people, having a small handful of power-brokers owning such a huge piece is almost middle-age European in its mentality. It is a cabal. Did you know that if you sue your landlord, or he sues you, your name is placed on a list that most landlords check before renting to you? Even if you are in the right and win the case, the chance of your being given a lease by any landlord in New York City diminishes tremendously. Once placed on that "black-list" you are a pariah – some say for 7 years, others say forever. It is criminal, unconstitutional and just plain disgusting.

Mike Bloomberg, the great builder, probably sees himself as a modern day Robert Moses. Well, despite a well-earned reputation as a brutish and often blind-sided ego-maniac with more power than mayors and governors, and little regard for anyone else's opinion, the end result of Mr. Moses work (some say despite his efforts) was a revitalized and renewed city with housing for hundreds of thousands of working and middle class people. What do you think the end result of Bloomberg's years in office will produce? More housing for the beleaguered middle-class, or an expansion of the plutocratic financial kabala that already controls the destiny of this city and its inhabitants? Mr. Bloomberg's idea of urban renewal is to add to the already enormous wealth of his real estate friends and strip the city of any affordable housing still left. He believes New York should be a city of the rich, period. But without a solid middle-class to support all of this, there will be disaster in our future. Second Avenue will be raped straight down the line. Block after fragile block will be condemned by the city and replaced by, well, you know.

What is being done to the Upper East Side right now is simply criminal. There are dozens of small businesses that have gone bankrupt, with no aid from the city what-so-ever, most of them family owned. Lord knows how many residents will eventually be uprooted and removed. The inundation of vermin is taking over the entire neighborhood. Buildings as far away as East End Avenue and Fifth Avenue are combating huge increases in the population of cockroaches, mice and rats. This is only the beginning. This will continue for years to come, and the end result will be, as I have said for years, a useless piece of crap tinker toy subway that will run about 30 blocks and then dump everyone back into this already overcrowded, rotting transit system. It will only benefit the few New Yorkers who live in the Upper East Side and work in midtown. The only other group it will benefit is the landlords, a dozen or so companies that will reap billions, if not trillions in profits. Rather than spend this much needed money to improve, or at least maintain our decaying system, the M.T.A. is cutting bus lines, subway lines and firing hundreds of token booth operators who act as a modicum of comfort and security, and putting that money into this subway. Bad, bad choices. As long as greed wins out every time, humanity doesn't stand a chance. They have tried to build the 2nd Avenue subway 6 times since 1925. Every single time they have had to stop because of a recession. (Look it up! It's quite fascinating.) This subway does not belong here, and the universe has done everything it could to prevent it. Yet here we are in the midst of the worst "recession" in 70 years, and the damn fool says to push on.

And, to the best of my knowledge, Robert Moses never once told New Yorkers what they could and could not eat, drink, smoke or do. First it was cigarettes, then how much alcohol people should be

allowed to drink when they go out. Now it's salt – SALT! We are made up of 98% salt water. Can you imagine if they start spot testing? "We're letting you go, Ms. Frumpkin. Your urine test came back positive for added salt." The lengths to which some people will go in an attempt to control people would be comical, if I lived somewhere else. So Bloomberg thinks he's Robert Moses? I don't think so. Maybe Grandma Moses.

Of course, in the long run none of this will matter. Humanity is racing as fast as it can towards its inevitable end. Life has existed on this planet for hundreds of millions of years. Mankind has only been here for about a minute, yet we are responsible for the extinction of thousands of species, and have tipped the scales of nature so far off kilter we will eventually end our own species. We seem incapable of working together as a unit to solve our problems. There is a piece of garbage twice the size of Texas floating in the Pacific. Ships have to be informed of its location so they can circumvent it, and scientists have warned of its potentially disastrous repercussions. Yet there it remains, unpublicized, with no plans to deal with it. The international community has simply turned a blind eye to it and hundreds of other time bombs waiting to explode. The Brazilian government is guilty of the worst kind of offenses. As custodian to one of the few remaining rain forests in the world, this sinister, backward and collusive government is in the process of stripping the forests down to the ground as fast as is humanly possible. They are building dams that will destroy the inhabitant of their indigenous people, burning the old growth at a rate that should shock and anger every thinking person in this world. And the results? Brazil is currently considered one of the great investment opportunities in the world. That's capitalism for you. If we can make a buck betting on our own demise, so be it.

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### **NEW MOON:**

**The New Moon falls on Monday April 14<sup>th</sup> at 8:29 A.M. EST at 24 degree Aries 27 minutes.**

This is the first New Moon of the year. It's a good jumping off point for new projects and ideas. There is a sense of freshness and optimism, and we should all try to make use of this energy. Things are always growing old and dying, and being born and renewed. Throughout our lives we see the cycles clearly, if we bother to look. And we are part of those cycles whether or not we can recognize our place in them. As the winter gives up its last frozen hold on the earth and steps aside so that spring may bloom again, we are all given a reminder of the fragility of our lives and the need to grab each and every new moment and make the most of it that you can. Astrology is very much a matter of learning to flow with the universe and not work against it.

### **VENUS SEXTILES JUPITER:**

**On Saturday April 17<sup>th</sup> at 4:43 P.M. EST** this wonderfully pleasant transit completes. This is a good day for socializing and enjoying things. Plan an afternoon party or perhaps a first lunch-date. This isn't a patricianly disciplined energy, so don't plan a big work day. You will probably prefer to sit outside and have a long and leisurely meal. With Mercury about to retrograde tomorrow, it is already slowing down and we will all feel some lethargy and muddiness. Relax and enjoy the day. The confusion will begin soon enough.

### **MERCURY RETROGRADES:**

**On Sunday April 18<sup>th</sup> at 12:06 A.M. EST** the winged god begins its backward motion in the sign of Taurus. Whatever house this transits in your chart will show you the areas of your life that you may have some particularly difficult moment. Try to avoid the difficulties I mentioned in the author's notes. I have found retrograde Mercury periods to be especially good for important conversations or for getting someone to pay attention to something they usually wouldn't have the time or patience to view. Of course, getting them on the phone or catching up to them may be hard. This is also a good time for introspection. Your thoughts are more internalized and you won't be as easily distracted by the outside world. Of course that internalization is also what can lead to accidents, mistakes and other external issues, so be careful throughout this aspect.

### **THE SUN SEXTILES NEPTUNE:**

**Also on Sunday April 18<sup>th</sup> at 4:17 A.M. EST** this spiritual transit comes along. This is a subtle energy and you may miss it altogether, as it completes so early in the morning. But if you are up this late, you may find your creative juices flowing nicely. This will stimulate feelings of charity and compassion.

### **THE SUN ENTERS TAURUS:**

**On Tuesday April 20<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 A.M. EST** we enter the fixed earth sign. Taurus is notoriously stubborn, like the bull that depicts it. But it is also a loyal and unwavering sign that wants to put roots down and build upon its foundation. All of the earth signs are interested in building, although Virgo, being the mutable one, is more apt to wish for changes and movement. Taurus wants little of that, and for the next month or so things will move slowly and meticulously, so don't try to rush it. Use this period to put down a foundation.

### **VENUS SQUARES NEPTUNE:**

**On Friday April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 3:55 P.M. EST** this interesting and somewhat confusing aspect occurs. Do

be careful of eating or drinking too much, and of overspending. There is little if any discipline in this energy, and if it is hitting a sensitive point in your chart you may be somewhat unrealistic at the moment. All new romances begun today should be viewed again tomorrow. This can be a very creative force, and if you are active in the arts this could be a great day for your projects.

### **VENUS SEXTILES URANUS:**

**Also on Friday April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10:07 P.M. EST** this Venus aspect completes due to the correlation of Neptune and Uranus' orbits. This will stir our desire for unusual and experimental things, ideas and people. Sudden romances can be sparked, or a smoldering one can suddenly come to life. Once again I advise some caution in our consumptive behavior. It will be easy to eat, drink or spend too much. But it might be a lot of fun. Once this completes Venus will begin to trine Saturn and it will probably be time to go home.

### **VENUS TRINES SATURN:**

**On Saturday April 24<sup>th</sup> at 3:45 A.M. EST** we will all become more sober and realistic. This may be when the hangover starts. This completes early in the morning, so once again many of us may miss it. If you wake up and suddenly decide you want some changes in your relationships, you can be sure this aspect is applying.

### **VENUS ENTERS GEMINI:**

**On Sunday April 25<sup>th</sup> at 1:05 A.M. EST** the planet of love and possessions enters the sign of the twins. People will be chatty and flirty, and you can expect women in particular to be outgoing and quite communicative. Don't take everything at face value; there will be more than a bit of duality in relationship issues. Talk things out and you will get the information you need.

### **MERCURY SQUARES MARS:**

**Also on Sunday April 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:41 A.M. EST** this difficult aspect completes. This is an argument or accident waiting to happen. People will be a bit feisty and susceptible to bad moods. If it sets off a sensitive point in your chart you could have an incident. Use extra caution while traveling, even on foot. The potential for accidents is great, and all it would take is a momentary distraction.

### **THE SUN TRINES PLUTO:**

**Also on Sunday April 25<sup>th</sup> at 11:43 A.M. EST** this more positive aspect completes. Underneath that stressful Mercury – Mars square is this trine offering an opportunity to delve into subjects in a

deep and revealing way. Squares are stronger than trines and will demand your attention, so you must focus on this aspect in order to make use of it. Try to find constructive changes within the framework of your life and situation. Don't expect to alter the universe, just tweak it a little bit around the edges. All Sun – Pluto aspects have to do with power, people in authority and transformation of the relationship. This trine allows a certain amount of change to occur easily and without the usual struggle.

### **SATURN OPPOSES URANUS:**

**On Monday April 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:27 P.M. EST** we experience the 4<sup>th</sup> of these transits. The markets are going up, how come? Because this is not making negative aspects to either the NYSE or America's charts. Remember, we are viewing the potential reversal of things on each of these passes. That reversal can be positive or negative. There is still an underlying sense of insolvency and instability, and that is not about to leave for a while. The last pass of this opposition in July will be the telling one. As I said earlier, the explosiveness of the political right has taken this country by surprise, but as is often the case, it didn't shock astrologers all that much.

### **FULL MOON:**

**This month's lunar peak occurs on Wednesday April 28<sup>th</sup> at 8:18 A.M. EST at 8 degrees Scorpio 07 minutes.** Scorpio is known as the sign of death and rebirth. Its corresponding 8<sup>th</sup> house is where we rejuvenate and refresh our lives and our attitudes. But it is also a very intense and deep energy that will not be satisfied with superficial answers. Whatever is going on in the collective will be uncovered now. The Saturn – Uranus opposition is continuing to demand it, and this Full Moon will set the stage for the next 2 ½ weeks. Ferret things out and be willing to face the truth, no matter what. I think this aspect will shake the markets out of their recent trading range. This could be a very active few days, possibly a serious downturn in the markets. But it won't be the crash. If it comes, it will be this summer.

### **THE SUN CONJUNCTS MERCURY:**

**Also on Wednesday April 28<sup>th</sup> at 12:44 P.M. EST** this common conjunct occurs. This is a day of willful exchanges and forceful communication. There is a strong desire to get things done and most of us will have a busy schedule. Because this coincides with the Full Moon I would suggest a little extra caution, especially in your verbal exchanges.

### **MERCURY TRINES PLUTO:**



**On Monday May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 8:07 A.M. EST** it will be easier to get to the bottom of things without the usual stress. Delving deeply into any subject will produce rewarding results. Trines must be used proactively or they will just pass us by. Try to use this one to uncover any hidden agendas or for extrapolating necessary information.

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

**On Tuesday May 4<sup>th</sup> at 9:09 A.M. EST** this feisty and stressful transit will complete. There will be a lot of energy in the atmosphere, and if you can handle it, you can get a great deal accomplished. But this is a difficult aspect to control. This is a day to avoid confrontations whenever possible. People will be looking for arguments and even physical altercations are quite possible. If this sets off a sensitive point in your chart you could be easily angered. If you are feeling this energy, use extra caution when dealing with others, and do not get behind the wheel of a car. Accidents are quite possible, and would be the result of suppressed tension.

### **VENUS SEXTILES MARS:**

**On Friday May 7<sup>th</sup> at 5:55 P.M. EST** the male and female planets form a positive aspect. An after-work date may be quite enjoyable. All social activities should run smoothly, and there will be a temporary truce between the sexes. Creative ventures will also produce positive results.

### **MERCURY GOES DIRECT:**

**On Tuesday May 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:27 P.M. EST** Mercury begins to turn around. Things will be confusing and seem to move very fast. For the next day or so you should use extra caution in all communications and travel. The thrice yearly retrograde Mercury can do its most damage while reversing direction. Things will become confusing and delays are quite common. Most people feel the reversal occurring and attempt to catch up on things almost immediately. The best way to handle this is to move slowly and deliberately for the first day or so while this planet changes direction. After the world is used to its new course you can then jump in without fear. Things that have been delayed for the past few weeks will begin to move forward once again.

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

**The next New Moon falls on Thursday May 13<sup>th</sup> at 9:04 P.M. EST at 23 degrees Taurus 09 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:

April 14<sup>th</sup> 3:23 P.M. - 6:54 P.M.

April 17<sup>th</sup> 12:57 A.M. – 2:08 AM.

April 19<sup>th</sup> 6:21 A.M. – 7:39 A.M.

April 21<sup>st</sup> 10:07 A.M. – 11:42 A.M.

April 23<sup>rd</sup> 11:35 A.M. – 2:24 P.M.

April 25<sup>th</sup> 2:20 P.M. – 4:16 P.M.

April 27<sup>th</sup> 3:45 P.M. – 6:28 P.M.

April 29<sup>th</sup> 8:39 P.M. – 10:36 P.M.

May 2<sup>nd</sup> 4:08 A.M. – 6:00 A.M.

May 4<sup>th</sup> 3:07 P.M. – 4:51 P.M.

May 7<sup>th</sup> 2:37 A.M. – 5:34 A.M.

May 9<sup>th</sup> 4:12 P.M. – 5:29 P.M.

May 12<sup>th</sup> 12:12 A.M. – 2:48 A.M.

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