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LIVING BY STARLIGHT

AN ASTROLOGICAL NEWSLETTER

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AUTHOR'S NOTES:

I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving. During this coming month the most prominent and numerous transits will affect Venus. As you will see, there will be seven major aspects to Venus as it transits through Capricorn and then enters Aquarius later this month. Because we are all caught up in the current economic situation, all aspects to Venus, the ruler of money and values, will be important. We will all be tested in our own way to see what is truly most important to each of us. There will be fluctuations in the stock markets, of course, but also in our *individual markets*, so to speak. The Sun will enter Capricorn towards the end of this lunar cycle, later this month, at which time we will examine the decisions we have made, and begin to build a foundation based on those decisions.

Mercury is in retrograde as we enter this lunar cycle. Although it will go direct on December 13th, its effect will be prominent until the next New Moon on Christmas Eve. The Moon is very much the trigger to the other aspects, and often the effects of a transit linger until the lunar cycle completes. This is one of those times. So while it will be easier to deal with Mercurial issues once that planet goes direct, because we entered this month with it in retrograde motion, it will take until the end of the cycle to fully release.

We are dealing with back to back eclipses, first the solar eclipse on November 25th, and then the lunar eclipse on December 10th. This will be one of those months you may look back upon and wonder "WTF"? Between the eclipses, the Mercury retrograde, and the plethora of transits to Venus, personal relationships should be quite entertaining, and probably very stressful. There will be issues that will require our attention, and some decisions will have to be made as new information is revealed. Because eclipses block out the light and cast a shadow over things, we will be dancing in the dark. The only light will come from truth, compassion, and a desire to move things forward. Talk to each other, and don't be afraid to say what's on your mind. Just acknowledge the force you hold over each other, and don't abuse that power. It is better to be loved than feared.

As my regular readers know, I have felt for some time that the Euro will eventually fail. Its demise should occur no later than the end of 2013, but it may come much sooner. **The Euro began on January 1st 1999 at exactly midnight, giving it a 2 degree Libra ascendant.** It has a weak natal chart and is about to be slammed by the Uranus – Pluto square. In last month's newsletter I gave a detailed account of that chart and its future. This week we saw the most serious crack in the European Union. Germany, the country which is virtually the sole support of Europe at the moment, was not able to sell all the bonds that were put up for

auction. While there is one currency in Europe, the individual members have their own bonds, which reflect that nation's stability. This was an ominous sign. With even France's economy also showing great stress, considerable weight has been placed upon Germany to play "Atlas", and to hold up the heavens on their karmically-challenged shoulders. Without confidence in their bonds, there's little hope for the Euro. Greece, Italy, Spain, etc will prove to be too heavy to hold up anymore. If things play out accordingly, we may witness a chasm in Europe, with the north countries solidifying their local economy, and the Mediterranean nations dropping into a depression, with 25% or greater unemployment, and increased social unrest. The Euro will be discarded and the nations will return to separate currencies, possibly with a smaller version of the Euro involving half a dozen countries. The economies of the southern nations will take decades to stabilize.

The American banks are more exposed to the European problems than many may realize. It wasn't just Mr. Corzine and his MF Global band of gamblers who bet on this long shot. The "Wild West" is alive and kicking in our financial institutions. The U.S. government bailed out the banks after they played roulette with our money, and now the banks are doing it again. What do you think the outcome will be? Our bond markets in Chicago have been acting very strangely in response to the European crisis, according a friend of mine who is working in the pits. We watch the bonds closely, because they represent the ultimate foundation and stability of our economy. We largely finance our debt and our entire society through them (an oversimplification of course). But without stability in the bond market, we are standing on quicksand.

On a more personal note I must say goodbye to a relative, friend and star. My father's first cousin Sid Melton (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sid_Melton) died a few weeks ago at the tender age of 94. Sid appeared in numerous movies in the 1940s, including *The Shadow of the Thin Man*, *Lady Sings the Blues*, and multiple films starring his dear friend Bob Hope. Sid was also a TV star in the '50s and '60s. He played the club owner, Charlie Halper, on *The Danny Thomas show*. He was also a regular on *The Golden Girls* and *Green Acres*. He even appeared in a *Superman* episode. When I was a kid he would come to stay with us periodically, and I was thrilled to go out with him in public where he was often recognized and hounded for autographs. When you come from a show business family like mine, fame is more important than money. If you played the piano or could act the family was far more impressed than if you were President or a CEO. So here's to Sid: May they always remember you and occasionally search for you in internet heaven.

NEW MOON:

The New Moon falls on Friday November 25th at 1:10 A.M. EST at 2 degrees Sagittarius 37 minutes and it is an eclipse. The trouble with eclipses is that the lunar energy does not work in the normal way. Certainly this is a month to expand your horizons, and you should look for ways to increase existing situations as well as opening your mind to new ones. But because it is an eclipse there is a shadow that will cover many events and relationships. We often can not see things clearly during these periods, and it is imperative that you seek that clarity. If lucidity is elusive, then you must wait until you feel more secure in your choices. Mercury went retrograde during the Dark of the Moon, so we enter this lunar cycle with that confusing energy in play. The Sagittarian need for growth is powerful and those with a great deal of Jupiter energy tend to stretch themselves too thin. "Expansion at all costs", is their motto. If used properly and with a

little restraint, there is great potential. Travel may be difficult this month, and you must double check all plans. Any educational endeavors you pursue now may also give you some trouble. The Full Moon on the 10th is also an eclipse; don't expect things to go as planned, but try to bend enough to accommodate alterations as needed.

VENUS ENTERS CAPRICORN:

On Saturday November 26th at 7: 36 A.M. EST the planet of love and possessions enters this restrictive and conservative signs. Until December 20th when Venus enters Aquarius, people will be a bit more reticent with their emotions, and frugal with their cash. This is a good time to make a budget or invest for the long-term. Don't expect an instant return on your money, but rather put it where it will do you the most good in years to come.

VENUS SQUARES URANUS:

Also on Saturday November 26th at 9:28 P.M. EST this most erratic combination completes. Emotions will be fickle and people will be easily bored. This is not a good aspect under which to begin a new relationship. It will not be stable and could turn ugly. Existing relationships may also be shaken up if this hits your natal or composite charts. Keep an eye on your money. This is an easy-come easy-go type of aspect. Don't gamble today. This and the following Venus transits will affect the stocks. Expect violent ups and downs this week, and a reversal of direction on Thursday.

VENUS TRINES JUPITER:

On Sunday November 27th at 4:23 P.M. EST this positive and sociable transit comes along. This is not as powerful as the Venus square Uranus or the Venus conjunct Pluto. But it will bring a day of pleasantries and ease to most relationships. It is a temporary respite in a month of stressful aspects. Use it to your advantage. Travel of all sorts will bring much pleasure, and this afternoon would be a wonderful time for a late brunch or other social gathering.

VENUS CONJUNCTS PLUTO:

On Thursday December 1st at 8:50 A.M. EST romance will take a decidedly intense turn. Feelings will deepen, and compulsiveness will abound. It is important to try and keep your perspective. Emotions may be over the top, and a slight misunderstanding could turn into a battle. You may discover that you have deeper feelings for someone than you realized. If so, you may wish to wait until this moves out of orb before acting upon your feelings. The compulsive attitude this brings may cloud your judgment. If you still feel this way tomorrow you can then respond. This may be an interesting day in the markets. This configuration often affects the commodities severely, and the stock and bonds will also be influenced.

THE SUN SQUARES MARS:

On Friday December 2nd at 8:08 A.M. EST this difficult and potentially dangerous aspect completes. This is an argument or fight waiting to happen, and if it sets off your chart it could happen to you. Caution is called

for. Try to control your temper and don't take the bait if someone is looking to do battle. This will bring a great deal of energy, and if it can be directed in a positive way, this will be a useful and fulfilling day. If not, it will be a frustrating and irritating one - free will, and all that.

THE SUN CONJUNCTS MERCURY:

On Sunday December 4th at 3:52 A.M. EST this willful aspect is present. Most of us will be communicating with a lot of force. How you say something may be as important as what you say. Mercury also has to do with the bond market and soybeans (which often trend in opposite directions). I would look for a sudden move or a change of direction in both.

MARS OPPOSES NEPTUNE:

Also on Sunday December 4th at 6:19 P.M. EST we must deal with this difficult and confusing transit. Neptune tends to dissolve Mars' energy and ego. When these two combine in your natal chart, you may feel stifled or weakened. It can lead to minor physical problems such as infections or feelings of lethargy. We can expect some of the same in the collective. This is not a good day for confrontations or arguments. You may not have your usual oomph, and the fog that surrounds all Neptunian transits will make it difficult to make decisions. It is better to wait until this passes out of orb in a day or so before committing to any important course of action.

VENUS TRINES MARS:

On Monday December 5th at 10:08 A.M. EST the male and female planets go into a positive trine. Things should flow well between the sexes. This is a good day for any interaction, or for coming to a compromise. Trines aren't felt as strongly as conjunct, square and oppositions, but the balance this aspect offers can be used to your advantage in any relationship, whether social, work-related, or casual encounter.

URANUS GOES DIRECT:

On Saturday December 10th at 2:05 A.M. EST this erratic planet turns around. Issues involving personal freedom will come to the forefront. Group activities will also be prevalent, and collective projects that have been delayed will begin to move forward. Expect some difficulties with all technological devices as this planet turns around. With Mercury about to change direction in a few days as well, there could be some chaos. Back up your files and protect your electronic life.

FULL MOON:

This month's lunar peak also occurs on Saturday December 10th at 9:36 A.M. EST at 18 degrees Gemini 11 minutes and it is an eclipse. Communications will take on a more serious and important role in our day to day existence for a while. Pay attention to what you are saying and what others are saying to you. There will be little, if any, restraint while this is in orb, and the truth will come out. Any secrets that have been weighing on your mind will most likely be discovered now or when Mercury goes direct on the 13th. Ideas may seem to come from out of the blue. Follow those you think are interesting. But don't expect resolution for

several months to any situation you begin or examine now. Eclipses take some time to unwind.

MERCURY GOES DIRECT:

On Tuesday December 13th at 8:43 P.M. EST this mischievous little devil turns around. Many accidents and embarrassing situations seem to occur while Mercury is in the process of changing direction. Cars and computers have problems, misdirection is common, and secrets are often revealed. Extra care is called for in all things that involve communication or transportation. Once this reverses direction, it will be easier to deal with these issues. But because we began this month with Mercury in retrograde, its influence will continue until the next New Moon.

VENUS SQUARES SATURN:

On Sunday December 18th at 9:18 A.M. EST this rather dour transit completes. Venus is where we give and receive pleasure, and Saturn is the most restrictive planet in the zodiac. It is difficult to express one's needs, or to find the passion or joy we usually experience while they are connected in this way. This is not a good day for a party or an important romantic date. Saturn is not very sociable. However, if you are on a budget, this would be a good day to go Christmas shopping. Your attention to price and detail will be good, and you may find some terrific bargains.

THE SUN SEXTILES SATURN:

On Monday December 19th at 11:26 A.M. EST this productive transit will take over. This is a good day for paperwork, making plans, or laying the foundation down for any new venture. Get the grunt work out of the way today. The markets should be stable this morning. Beginning tomorrow they will take a ride on a fast train, most likely to the up side for a few days.

VENUS ENTERS AQUARIUS:

On Tuesday December 20th at 1:26 P.M. EST the planet that rules love and possessions will enter this erratic, Uranus ruled signs. People will tend to be a bit more fickle than of late. Boredom will set in more easily, and you may wish to experiment a bit to alleviate the tediousness. The financial markets should continue to be volatile, and with the Venus square to Jupiter completing tonight that will be discussed next, we can expect some interesting movement.

VENUS SQUARES JUPITER:

Also on Tuesday December 20th at 9:21 P.M. EST this combination of the two benefic planets will create an atmosphere of growth and the search for pleasure. This is one of the most indulgent of all the aspects. Jupiter overdoes everything and has little regard for boundaries or limitations, and Venus want to please whatever area of life it is affecting. If this sets off your chart, you can overdo food, drink, sex, or shopping. Do use a little caution, but it's a fun aspect, so enjoy it too.

VENUS SEXTILES URANUS:

On Wednesday December 21st at 2:57 A.M. EST this energetic transit will complete. If the energy can continue, this will be an up day in the markets. But being so near the Dark of the Moon this may be tempered a bit. If romance took an unusual and exciting twist last night, give it some time to prove it's stability before committing too much of yourself. Sometimes it's the unexpected that we need to shake us up enough to try something new.

THE SUN ENTERS CAPRICORN:

On Thursday December 22nd at 12:30 A.M. EST we enter Capricorn. This is the time of year to solidify things and strengthen the foundation. Put your projects and plans in order and make sure you are on concrete footing. The first day of each cardinal sign is the first day of that season. Now we are truly in winter. But remember, this is the shortest day of the year. From here on, it gets lighter, not darker. If you will see that we are reaching towards the spring, perhaps the cold won't seem to be as harsh. The warmth is just an arm's length away. It's a lot like love. If you continue to reach out, some day you just may find someone else reaching back. But if you pull your hand back, you will always be alone.

THE SUN TRINES JUPITER AND SQUARES URANUS:

Also on Thursday December 22nd at 9:33 A.M. EST and 5:15 P.M. EST respectively these two aspects complete. This will be a day of shifting moods and a reversal of fortunes for many. I expect the markets to change direction during the trading day, to the down side. We are at the end of the lunar cycle, and although Mercury went direct December 13th, because it retrograded right before the last New Moon its influence has lingered. On this coming New Moon it will finally relinquish its hold.

The next New Moon falls on December 24th at 1:06 P.M. EST, so Christmas Eve and Christmas Day should have a sense of refreshment and renewal. Enjoy your holidays, whichever ones you observe. But do celebrate life.

DARK OF THE MOON:

The next New Moon falls on Saturday December 24th at 1:06 P.M. EST at 2 degrees Capricorn 34 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:

November 26th 7:06 P.M. – 10:04 P.M.

November 28th 6:01 P.M. – November 29th 2:02 A.M.

December 1st 6:27 A.M. – 9:45 A.M.

December 2nd 1:06 P.M. – December 3rd 8:51 P.M. ***Moon is void for a day

December 6th 6:13 A.M. – 9:34 A.M.

December 8th 6:40 P.M. – 9:52 P.M.

December 11th 5:52 A.M. – 8:26 A.M.

December 13th 11:05 A.M. – 4:48 P.M.

December 15th 8:20 P.M. – 10:58 P.M.

December 17th 9:29 P.M. – December 18th 3:06 A.M.

December 20th 4:49 A.M. – 5:33 A.M.

December 22nd 4:49 A.M. – 7:03 A.M.

December 24th 6:36 A.M. – 8:47 A.M.

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