

MONTHLY SINCE 1999
ISSUE # 150

LIVING BY STARLIGHT

AN ASTROLOGICAL NEWSLETTER

JULY 2011

AUTHOR'S NOTES:

We have a New Moon eclipse this month, the third eclipse in a row. Nothing seems to go the way it is planned. There are starts and stops and delays galore. Lunar eclipses effect our emotions and relationships greatly. Solar eclipses, such as this one, seem to have a stronger effect on our business, creativity, and plans. There are distractions of all sorts that create confusion and at times, debilitating circumstances that seem to block out (eclipse) our ability to direct the energy where we want it. Because this eclipse happens in Cancer, events will be difficult to resolve especially those involving the home, family, the past, and other Cancer rules issues. Emotions will be heightened, and you should be careful not to alienate those you wish close. With the light blocked out it is hard to see clearly. Light a candle of love and forgiveness.

If you go to the last page of this newsletter you will see that we have a month of very long Void of Course Moons once again. We experienced this a few months ago, and once more the planets are all at early degrees so the Moon will aspect them and then meander through the rest of the sign unattached. This can be problematic, and we must be careful during these extended VOC Moons. The best way to handle it is to try and make your important decisions, purchases, etc. when the Moon is aspected. We must live our lives, and I don't believe in hiding from the world no matter what the aspects. But some respect is called for. Don't make an important and expensive purchase. Too often I have seen the results; malfunctions, misunderstandings, and often difficulties in resolving the issues. Nor should you make a final decision regarding an important issue. You will not feel the connection to the collective necessary to put things in perspective. Also, personal relationships do not fare well on VOC Moons. That is where much damage can happen. But you can go about your day-to-day business and do just fine.

Jupiter will trine Pluto this month. Last year we had these two in square to each other three times. That put great pressure on several areas of our society, especially things held jointly by the collective, such as pensions, social security, unemployment, Medicaid, etc. This trine will allow us to use the lessons of that square to our advantage. How much we gain from it has to do with how much we as a collective understand about the distribution of wealth and how to create a stable and fair society. As my regular readers know, I have been writing about this issue for some time. The approaching Uranus – Pluto square will shake things up in this area for some time to come. This trine is giving us an opportunity to make some changes proactively now while the energy is positive, in the hope that we can avoid some of the potential pitfalls that would occur naturally. Trines and sextiles allow us to use the power of two or more planets. It doesn't demand it like the hard aspects so, so it is up to the individual or the collective to act upon it. If we do, those squares may be easier to handle. If we don't...

NEW MOON:

The New Moon falls on Friday July 1st at 4:54 A.M. EST at 9 degrees Cancer 12 minutes, and it is an eclipse. This is the third eclipse in a row and we are feeling the effects throughout the society. The stocks have been slammed for weeks. Greece is imploding, and the euro looks very shaky. Damn these eclipses screw things up. Emotions will run high this month and as I said in the author's notes, and you must use caution in your close relationships. The effects of an eclipse can last a long time, especially if it sets off something in your natal chart. If it does, then you must be vigilant and watch your transits for a while. Anything hitting the same planet or point that this eclipse hits could set off the delayed reaction to this and create an event somewhere down the line. There are different opinions as to how long the effects of an eclipse can last, but I have found each situation to be somewhat unique. At the very least caution is called for until the next New Moon, and probably until the next solar eclipse on November 25th.

MERCURY ENTERS LEO:

On Saturday July 2nd at 1:38 A.M. EST the winged god enters this fixed fire sign. Conversations will be more dramatic and flamboyant for a few weeks. Where Mercury in Cancer tended to be emotional and a bit shy, as it travels through Leo it will pick up more attitude and wish to express itself more directly. Remember, Leo rules the stage and the actor in us all is bound to want a soliloquy or two. Take what is said in context and don't assume the dramatics is aimed at you.

THE SUN SQUARES SATURN:

Also on Saturday July 2nd at 8:18 P.M. EST this difficult transit completes. This is a day for serious thoughts and paying attention to responsibilities and obligations. There will be little time for frivolous actions as we attempt to accomplish as much as possible. This is a low energy transit and many of us will feel its effects. Don't put too much on your plate, you may not have the strength to get to it all. Prioritize and choose the most important issues to deal with. This is not a day to plan a party.

VENUS ENTERS CANCER:

On Monday July 4th at 12:17 A.M. EST the planet of love and possessions enters this most emotional of signs. People will be more attuned to each others needs, and love will be expressed in a more touching and poignant way. Relationships begun with this placement have a loving undercurrent, unless Venus is afflicted to an outer planet or Mars. This is a good time to begin repairs or redecoration in the home.

MERCURY SQUARES JUPITER:

On Tuesday July 5th at 2:09 P.M. EST this chatty aspect comes along. There is a tendency to talk first and think afterwards. You can expect some lively conversations, and a few disagreements. Things will be blown out of proportion, so keep things in control. This is a good time to begin a trip, but distractions are very possible so use caution while traveling. There will be an optimistic, and somewhat unrealistic atmosphere today.

JUPITER TRINES PLUTO:

On Thursday July 7th at 9:53 A.M. EST these two important heavenly bodies create a positive aspect. This is an opportunity to expand projects and ideas. Some issues of collective wealth will be resolved in a fair compromise. Europe may be able to stabilize for the short term under this trine. This should be good for the stock markets, at least temporarily, though I am still quite bearish for the long run. The problems that face us are much deeper than any trine can work through. We are dealing with our financial issues on a month by month basis, no differently than an overstretched couple with three children.

VENUS SQUARES URANUS:

Also on Thursday July 7th at 5:45 P.M. EST this square completes. This is a day to look for the unusual and exciting things in life. Boredom is a real problem, and some of us will look to stir things up just for the thrill of it, especially in personal or romantic relationships. This may be a day to try something new with your lover. But make sure you are both on the same page. A new relationship begun now may be exciting, but it will be tempestuous and unstable as well. Be careful with your money; it could easily disappear without realizing where it went. Unusual things will be more appealing, but before you spend a fortune on a faux leopard outfit, get a few other opinions; and better yet wait until this transit passes. If you still think it's the cat's meow (sorry!) then buy it.

VENUS OPPOSES PLUTO:

On Friday July 8th at 8:30 P.M. EST intensity in all relationships is pretty much guaranteed. Where the square to Uranus brought out the adventurous side in us, this will bring up issues that are deep and unresolved. And tension that is hidden beneath the surface will most likely show itself today. Arguments in a relationship are not only necessary but healthy. If you have something to say you have better get it off your chest before it festers into something bigger.

VENUS SEXTILES JUPITER:

On Saturday July 9th at 2:07 A.M. EST this most pleasant and enjoyable aspect completes. It happens early in the morning so its effects will be felt more the night before as it applies. Since this is a Saturday night there could be some heavy partying going on. Enjoy, but watch the booze and substance intake. These two planets know no boundaries, especially where pleasure and indulgences are concerned.

URANUS RETROGRADES:

Also on Saturday July 9th at 8:36 P.M. EST the planet of innovation begins its yearly backward motion. Inspiration will come on an internal level until December 10th. This is a good time to examine the workings of your inner self and see what new and unusual solutions to your difficulties you can come up with. Computers, smart phones, and other devices may have some troubles now. If a new gadget is introduced you can expect some major difficulties.

VENUS SQUARES SATURN:

On Wednesday July 13th at 3:37 P.M. EST this wet blanket completes. This is not a day for a social gathering or for any sort of entertainment; unless that is the business you are in. This is a day of work and austerity. There is no time for nonsense, only for obligations. If this hits your chart you may feel withdrawn and uncommunicative. You also may find yourself examining your relationships. Don't make any permanent decisions regarding a connection. You are only seeing things from that saturnine harsh side and are not as realistic as you believe. Seeing only the negative side of things is as bad as being overly optimistic and only seeing the positive. This is a good day to make a budget.

FULL MOON:

This month's lunar peak occurs on Friday July 15th at 2:40 A.M. EST at 22 degrees Capricorn 28 minutes. Issues of responsibility and obligations will be prominent for the rest of this lunar cycle. Many of us will spend this month looking back at the past and trying to correct mistakes or find the right path for the future. The Cancer – Capricorn axis is the one most concerned with family, the past, home, and security. Wherever we feel the lack of that foundation, whether it is the absence or a good relationship, the lack of financial security, or the inability to make commitments, is where we will feel the brunt of this Full Moon.

THE SUN ENTERS LEO:

On Saturday July 23rd at 12:12 A.M. EST we enter the 5th sign of the zodiac. Leos are the children of the chart (some would say “of the corn”). This is the most playful of the signs and I have always said that when the Sun is in Cancer you go away with the family. When it is in Leo you leave the kids at home. This is the time for romance and games, playfulness in love and friendships. Go to the beach with your boogie board and pretend we are 16 again and it is all in front of us. There is nothing but the here and now, and this is a good time to remember that.

THE SUN TRINES URANUS:

On Wednesday July 27th at 3:44 P.M. EST allow this trine to take affect. Personal freedom is an issue today, so don't tie yourself down to the computer. Allow some time to roam and explore the world. Innovations will come to many of us, but because Uranus is retrograde it is the inner voice we should be listening to.

VENUS ENTERS LEO:

On Thursday July 28th at 10:59 A.M. EST love will take a more dramatic turn. Women in particular will tend to be quite outgoing and assertive. But love in general will take on a more playful atmosphere. Plan some entertaining activities with your partner or friends. If you aren't in a relationship, this is still a very sociable placement and you will enjoy the company of those you are closest to.

MERCURY ENTERS VIRGO:

Also on Thursday July 28th at 1:59 P.M. EST Mercury leaves Leo just as Venus enters. For the next few weeks we will all be more detail oriented. If that is not your nature, then you may find yourself struggling to

keep up with those who are used to this type of energy. You may miss the bigger picture and only see the details, so try to step back a bit before making decisions. If you only see the trees and not the forest you may not recognize how far you have to go to achieve your goals. This placement can result in a critical or picky attitude, so try not to be too demanding or fastidious.

-

DARK OF THE MOON:

The next New Moon falls on Saturday July 30th at 2:40 P.M. EST at 7 degrees Leo 16 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:

July 1st 7:37 A.M. – July 2nd 5:43 P.M. *** Moon is void 1 ½ days

July 3rd 12:26 P.M. – July 4th 9:15 P.M. *** Moon is void 1 ½ days again!

July 5th 8:19 P.M. – July 6th 11:54 P.M. *** Moon in void 1 day

July 8th 2:29 A.M. – July 9th 2:31 A.M. *** Moon in void 1 day

July 10th 9:05 A.M. – July 11th 5:47 A.M. *** Moon is void 1 day

July 12th 8:21 A.M. – July 13th 10:14 A.M. *** Moon is void 1 day

July 15th 2:40 A.M. – 4:30 P.M.

July 17th 8:23 A.M. – July 18th 1:13 A.M. *** Moon is void all day

July 20th 7:15 A.M. – 12:25 P.M.

July 22nd 5:34 P.M. – July 23rd 12:58 A.M.

July 25th 9:12 A.M. – 12:34 P.M.

July 27th 8:35 P.M. – 9:11 P.M.

July 28th 7:03 P.M. – July 30th 2:16 A.M. *** Moon is void 1 ½ days

Mitchell Scott Lewis

July 2011

New York City

(212) 726-3814

<http://www.mitcastro.com>

Copyright 2011

All Rights Reserved