MONTHLY SINCE 1999 ISSUE # 146

LIVING BY STARLIGHT an astrological newsletter

MARCH 2011

AUTHOR'S NOTES:

With the Sun, Mercury, Jupiter, and Uranus in Aries this month there will be a lot of aggressiveness in the world. The Middle East revolution will continue and a shift of power that began when Saturn opposed Uranus will change the world forever. This is a period of assertive transition, and the balance of power is up for grabs. The Saturn – Uranus opposition that we experienced the past 18 months always results in a reversal of influence throughout the world. The last time we had this was 1965-7, and that era certainly saw a major change in influence. Now that that opposition has passed we will be dealing with Uranus in square to Pluto for the next few years, which will further erode the stability of the status quo and open us up to more unusual and unexpected power struggles. Within our country we have already seen this energy begin its influence on the political front. The Tea Party is an example of Uranus' unexpected events, coupled with Pluto's desire for raw power. As this square comes closer to completion we will see many more examples of its force. Although it doesn't exactly complete until June 2012, these two planets will be dancing together all year. Uranus rules things that are revolutionary and explosive. Pluto rules power struggles, hidden agendas, and plutonium. They will be in orb until 2016. That's a long time to hold our breath.

This month will see the beginning of a new 84-year cycle as **Uranus enters Aries.** It briefly poked its head in this sign last year only to retrograde back into Pisces, now it is completing its entry. This is a very important event in human history. It represents innovation in technological things, and lord knows we have seen more than our share of that lately. But it also represents a shift in direction in collective consciousness. Aries is self-involved and doesn't always see the other guy. Our society is on the verge of turning its back on many things that have been implemented to aid the collective in the past 80 years. With **Uranus entering Aries and the recent deplanetization of Pluto** we will continue to see an assault on our group activities.

I will soon be putting out a piece about the **deplanetization of Pluto** and what that means to our society. The assault on the unions is only the beginning. We can expect more pensions to be raided, attacks on social security, unemployment benefits and anything held jointly by the collective. Humanity is devolving at the same time that our innovations and inventions are evolving.

Jupiter will oppose Saturn on May 28th. This is a moment of restraint, as the world attempts to put a foundation underneath the growth and expansion that is taking place. There will be limitations in most areas.

The markets will most likely pull back, as this opposition almost always means a decline in the DOW. How far down it will go has to do with just how secure the structure is. It is a moment of testing, just as it would be in an individual's chart. **Jupiter's need to expand is in conflict with Saturn's need for slow and steady movement.** This can feel like an implosion, and often produces frustration and irritability. With Libya in a civil war, and half a dozen other nations struggling with their identity, the result could be another huge spike in oil and gold prices. This is an insecure transit, and the world will respond accordingly.

NEW MOON:

The New Moon falls on Friday March 4th at 3:46 P.M. EST at 13 degrees Pisces 56 minutes. This month is about completions and tying up loose ends. The New Year falls on Sunday March 20th at 7:21 P.M. EST when the Sun enters Aries on the spring equinox. This is when astrologers celebrate the beginning of a new yearly cycle. And with Uranus conjunct that solar aspect, this will be a year of continued revolutions in many areas of life, not just political. The arts and sciences are in the midst of a huge jump. The technological explosion of the past decade is the precursor of this time. Remember, aspects are most powerful as they are applying. That can include a change of sign or house as well. Once the planet has settled into the new place it will lose some of its revolutionary energy and begin to assimilate that new energy.

MERCURY CONJUNCT URANUS:

On Wednesday March 9th at 11:05 A.M. EST this restless transit will come along. There will be a lot of mental force being emitted, which can be good or bad depending upon how you use it. People will be apt to be nervous, irritable and quick to judgment. There is a tendency to speak first and think later, so watch your tongue. This can manifest as an accident if it hits your chart just right. But it would be a result of misdirection or impulsive behavior. Try to have some patience.

MERCURY ENTERS ARIES:

Also on Wednesday March 9th at 12:47 P.M. EST the winged god crosses the world point and enters the first sign. Because of its retrograde motion later this month, it will stay in Aries until May 15th, much longer than usual. For the next few months people will be assertive and direct in their communications. Patience will not be readily available, so plan accordingly. It's a good time to begin any new ideas or plans.

URANUS ENTERS ARIES:

On Friday March 11th at 7:52 P.M. EST Uranus crosses the world point. I don't know if we will see further events exactly at this time, but there certainly is a change happening in the energy around the world. As I said above, this is the beginning of a new 84 year cycle and the introduction of some exciting and unusual discoveries. Inventions will continue to come at a rapid pace, perhaps too fast for many to absorb. We are living in future shock as it is, and I'm afraid it will just get worse. There is no time to plan or to look back when Uranus is active. You must deal with the here and now and hold on tight. The ride will be entertaining, but scary.

MERCURY SQUARES PLUTO:

On Sunday March 13th at 1:30 P.M. EST this testy little aspect will complete. People will be searching for the deeper meaning in things, and you won't be able to get away with a superficial conversation where a more meaningful one is needed. This can be an argumentative aspect, and power struggles are always in the air when Pluto is afflicted. Say what's on your mind, but be careful how you say it.

MERCURY CONJUNCT JUPITER:

On Tuesday March 15th at 9:27 P.M. we will all be more expansive in our thoughts and communications. There is a tendency to speak first and think later, so a little awareness would be a good idea. Travel of any sort is favored, and if this sets off your chart you will be quite busy, probably with short trips and errands. We are all looking to enlarge our perspective now, and with Mercury going retrograde at the end of March we will see this conjunct complete twice more by May. There is a lesson to be learned about seeing the bigger picture and how we fit into it. This combination is often distracted by larger issues and there can be a problem with details. So pay attention to the little things or your mistakes could upset an otherwise positive moment. This is certainly an optimistic and sociable transit, so plan some event that will allow people to communicate.

MERCURY OPPOSES SATURN:

On Friday March 18th at 9:55 A.M. EST this heavy aspect comes along. This can be a few hours during which communication of all sorts will be difficult. Don't plan an important meeting this morning. Wait until later in the day or better yet, tomorrow. There won't be any time for frivolity, and most of us will be dealing with serious or business oriented issues. When Saturn afflict Mercury it is easy to only see the negative side of things. Don't let Saturn's pessimistic influence puts things out of proportion. This passes in a short time so just wait it out. Travel may be very slow and disruptive today.

FULL MOON:

This month's lunar peak occurs on Saturday March 19th at 2:10 P.M. EST at 28 degrees Virgo 48 minutes. The Moon will then oppose Uranus at 4:45 P.M. EST and caution is certainly called for. Virgo is very interested in the detail of things. It is a sign especially suited to jewelers, craftsmen, and anyone who uses their hands in a detail-oriented career. For a few weeks until the next New Moon we will be concerned with the little things.

THE SUN ENTERS ARIES:

On Sunday March 20th at 7:21 P.M. EST we begin the New Year. This is the date astrologers celebrate as the beginning of a new cycle. The spring equinox is what we call the Aries Point, or World Axis Point. It has many names, but the bottom line is that this is when things start afresh each year. This is a time of initiation and assertion. Plans and projects should be started or pushed forward. Because the Sun conjuncts Uranus tomorrow, this will be a particularly exciting and unusual solar cycle (year). We can expect the unexpected.

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THE SUN CONJUNCTS URANUS:

On Monday March 21st at 8:25 A.M. EST this explosive combination takes affect. This could be a day of sudden and unexpected events. We may hear some startling news or a hitherto hidden revelation of some sort may become public knowledge. This is a fight or accident waiting to happen. If it sets off your chart you could be involved. Pay attention to the here and now and don't be distracted. The suddenness of Uranus is its most dangerous side. Be prepared for anything. This is often an explosive day or a reversal of direction in the stocks.

VENUS ENTERS PISCES:

On Sunday March 27th at 2:53 A.M. EST the planet of love and possessions enters this most unrealistic of signs. Venus rules personal love, while Pisces rules universal love. The two are not mutually exclusive, but they do have a hard time coexisting, especially if there is jealousy. Love can become foggy and unclear, and misunderstandings in relationships are common. Double check all financial situations and be careful if you go shopping. Don't take all of your credit cards.

THE SUN SQUARES PLUTO:

On Monday March 28th at 8:11 A.M. EST compulsiveness will prevail. An obsessive attitude is common with this square, and you should expect people to delve deeply into situations. Nothing superficial will satisfy and we can all expect to hear some things we may not like. Power struggles are expected, but pick your battles carefully. You don't have to respond to every challenge, but a few may be necessary for your personal growth. Stay out of dangerous neighborhoods and don't stick your two cents in where it doesn't belong.

JUPITER OPPOSES SATURN:

Also on Monday March 28th at 5:56 P.M. EST this complicated energy will finally complete. We have been seeing the results of this opposition for weeks. It has held the society in a sort of limbo, as Jupiter's desire for growth is restricted by Saturn, and Saturn's need for limitations has been tested by Jupiter. If we can learn to use this combination correctly there is almost nothing that can't be accomplished. The realistic Saturn combined with the optimistic Jupiter allows us the ability for sustained and focused expansion. But it often leads to frustration and confinement. This aspect is one of the reasons almost every state in the union is scrapping the barrel to find enough money to pay its cops, firemen etc. Once this completes and Jupiter heads into Taurus we may see a temporary bottom in the markets, and possibly a more realistic attitude will prevail; at least until the next crisis.

MERCURY RETROGRADES:

On Wednesday March 30th at 4:48 P.M. EST our thrice a year thrill ride begins. Until **April 23rd** when this goes direct the usual warnings apply. Don't buy anything that has to do with communication or transportation, such as electronic equipment, a car, boat, plane or interstellar transporter, or even a new clock radio. Chances are good that it just won't work right. You can expect difficulties with all of these types of devices.

Back up your important files.

MARS ENTERS ARIES:

On Saturday April 2nd at 12:51 A.M. EST Mars enters the sign of its rulership. While in Pisces the god of war tends to lose some of its power, with the exception of the occasional sea battle. Now it enters Aries and begins a new cycle. There will be more ego energy and a stronger sense of purpose. Try to get used to this energy as quickly as possible so you can make the most of its journey. Mars will conjunct Uranus right after the next Aries New Moon on April 3rd, and we may see an explosive month. The sooner you understand this force the easier it will be to use to your advantage.

DARK OF THE MOON:

The next New Moon falls on Sunday April 3rd at 10:32 A.M. EST at 13 degrees Aries 30 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 5th 11:34 P.M. - March 6th 12:14 A.M. March 8th 11:04 A.M. – 12:52 P.M. March 11th 12:26 A.M. – 12:31 A.M.

March 13th 9:11 A.M. – 10:29 A.M.

March 15th 6:05 A.M. – 3:33 P.M

March 17th 3:59 P.M. - 4:53 P.M.

March 19th 2:10 P.M. - 4:03 P.M.

March 21st 2:35 P.M. – 3:17 P.M.

March 23rd 4:06 P.M. - 4:45 P.M.

March 25th 9:25 P.M. – 9:57 P.M.

March 27th 11:17 P.M. – March 28th 7:00 A.M.

March 30th 6:22 P.M. – 6:38 P.M.

March 31st 9:43 A.M. – April 2nd 7:16 A.M. *** Moon is V.C. for almost 48 hours.

Mitchell Scott Lewis March 2011 New York City (212) 726-3814

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