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## LIVING BY STARLIGHT

AN ASTROLOGICAL NEWSLETTER

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### AUTHOR'S NOTES:

Now aren't we having fun? Between an earthquake and a hurricane, the east coast of America is just waiting for the next shoe to drop. Why is all of this happening? Well, America's chart is getting slammed. Uranus is in square to Pluto in the sky, and this aspect is hitting America's planets quite heavily. Pluto is in opposition to Venus and Jupiter, the so-called money planets, while Uranus is in square to those two planets. **This will continue to put pressure on us for the next few years in several areas.** Uranus rules all things explosive, and Pluto represents power and the use and abuse of it. **When Uranus is as active as it is in our country's natal chart, you can expect a number of volatile occurrences, including natural disasters.** We should see several potentially catastrophic events in our country, such as earthquakes, tornadoes, more hurricanes, etc. Irene came while Mercury was changing direction. I have always said that the turn-around is the most difficult part of any retrograde and the time for most caution. As Mercury went direct the hurricane lost much of its power and was downgraded to a tropical storm, as I had predicted a few days before. It was still a mess, and if I hadn't put my car in a garage on Saturday, the rather large tree branch that landed right where I had been parked would have done some serious damage. Had Irene hit NYC while Mercury was still retrograde it would have been a horror.

What bothers me most is the inclusion of Pluto in the mixture. **Pluto goes direct this month** and heads towards the opposition to Jupiter once again. **It completes the opposition for the last time this coming November, and if we can avoid any major problem until then, America may be able to avoid some of the worst of this square for the moment.** However, the Uranus – Pluto square will still continue in the sky until 2015, when it afflicts America's Sun. This can represent hidden agendas, long-buried animosity, and vengefulness. **Pluto rules plutonium, and the shadow, or dark side of humanity, as expressed by any repressive government, particularly embodied in Nazism. Control is the main issue for this planet, and with it in square to Uranus, the planet of sudden and unexpected change, we will see some interesting and explosive power struggles.** Washington is already deeply engrossed in this tug-of-war. These individuals whose charts are being affected by this square will also become acutely aware of this energy. In the collective, this will be displayed out in public. Uranus has little regard for boundaries or social graces. Over the next few years, our nation will be pulled back and forth across the aisle, creating an even deeper chasm. **Compromise will be difficult to find, and we probably will not regain our center until after 2015. While this may be disturbing to our individual lives and society in general, without an occasional shake up we would not move forward.** This is a time of testing to see what we really want and need as a culture, and the instability this will create must be settled down. The only way to finally do that will be to work together – forced compromise. If we handle this aspect properly, America will be a stronger and

more resilient place once this passes. If we do not, this country will be pulled apart by partisanship and inequality. If the Republicans regain the White House in 2012, a very strong possibility, the draconian societal measures they will attempt to implement will eventually lead to riots and areas of martial law. You can not stand on the backs of the middle class forever. Eventually even the most complacent will be fed up.

We will see more nuclear events, such as happened in Japan. They may be accidents when Uranus brings its unstable force to bear on Pluto, or it may be an attack of some sort with an explosive (Uranus) device. This will help create the atmosphere of repression that will eventually lead to change.

### **NEW MOON:**

**The New Moon falls on Sunday August 28<sup>th</sup> at 11:04 P.M. EST at 5 degrees Virgo 27 minutes.** The devil is in the details, as they say, and this month will be all about paying attention to the little things. Virgo can be a bit picky and perhaps too detail oriented, but nothing escapes the demanding eye of this mutable earth sign. Intellectual pursuits are this month's main issues, and you will not get away with the kind of half-assed explanations that worked under Leo energy. Relationships will be examined in minute detail, and you had better have a good answer for anything that comes up during those conversations. Your partner will not be terribly forgiving, and if your facts don't match up you are looking at some serious grumpy time.

### **JUPITER RETROGRADES:**

**On Tuesday August 30<sup>th</sup> at 5:18 A.M. EST** the biggest planet begins to move backwards. Any plan or project that has been growing at too quick a pace will slow down now. In general many things will begin to de-escalate as boundaries are reset and we all begin to define what expansion means to us. Whenever a planet retrogrades the energy of that planet is internalized and we experience its force on a more personal level. Since Jupiter is all about growth and enlarging anything it gets near, the expansion should now take place in the unconscious, both personal and collective. We are entering a period of slower growth in the outside world. This doesn't mean that we can't get our business done, or that we can't expand things. It's just that the real expansion is taking place within, and the outward manifestations are only that – examples of the changes going on within us.

### **THE SUN TRINES JUPITER:**

**On Friday September 2<sup>nd</sup> at 11:59 P.M. EST** this optimistic and outgoing transit will complete. The desire is to expand things, as Jupiter likes to do. This should be a good evening for socializing or any sort of entertainment. Even though this is a trine, there will be a tendency to overindulge and push the envelope. Try to keep things in perspective. Travel will be most enjoyable and enlightening.

### **MERCURY OPPOSES NEPTUNE:**

**On Thursday September 8<sup>th</sup> at 11:27 A.M. EST** this most confusing of transits comes along. Whenever these two planets are in conflict communication is very difficult. Information is misleading, incomplete, or downright wrong. Misunderstandings abound, and it is easy to overreact to something you hear or see, only

to discover once this passes that you didn't have correct knowledge to begin with. Try to clarify things, or wait until this passes and then have that important conversation. Use caution while traveling. The confusion this creates can translate into problems with transportation, such as; misdirection, mistakes, and even accidents.

### **MERCURY ENTERS VIRGO:**

**On Friday September 9<sup>th</sup> at 1:50 A.M. EST** Mercury enters one of the signs it rules. This planet does very well in this detail-oriented sign. Communication will be direct and careful, and attention to detail will help guarantee less errors or misjudgment. There is a tendency to nitpick, and we can miss the bigger picture while caught up in the details. With the Sun and Venus already in this mutable earth sign there will be a plethora of this energy for a few days. Use its meticulousness to focus on the little things. You will find mistakes you had previously missed, and should be able to avoid misunderstandings.

### **MERCURY TRINES PLUTO:**

**On Monday September 12<sup>th</sup> at 1:27 A.M. EST** we will be extremely focused in our thoughts and conversations, and will feel a need to delve deeply into any subject. Superficiality does not work when these two energies combine. Because this is a trine, it can be used more easily and we should be able to direct this where we need it. Anything important discussion will fare well now. You will be honest and reach for a deeper truth, without the stress of a conjunct, opposition, or square. But you should be ready to hear some things you may not like. Even though it is a trine, and the information will come more easily, the depth of this combination will stir up some hidden things.

### **FULL MOON:**

**This month's lunar peak also occurs on Monday September 12<sup>th</sup> at 5:27 A.M. EST at 19 degrees Pisces 17 minutes.** This is a question of faith and acceptance. Pisces, and its ruler, Neptune, live on a different plane. It doesn't always feel logical or secure, as we are often asked to take things on trust alone. A crisis of faith is common when this sign is dominant. But remember that Neptune brings a lot of confusion, misdirection, and misinformation, which makes that faith so much more important. Just don't overreact to things until you know all the facts. Expect a lot of confusion in travel and communications. If this aspect hits your chart there could be a health issue.

### **VENUS ENTERS LIBRA:**

**On Wednesday September 14<sup>th</sup> at 10:40 P.M. EST** Venus enters one of the signs it rules. The planet of love does very well in this air sign. Libras live for relationships and with Venus here there will be many opportunities for us all. An existing relationship could heat up. Or there could be a new love on the horizon. Balance and peace is what Venus seeks, and when it is traveling through its home sign there is a better chance of achieving some stability in our relationships.

### **PLUTO GOES DIRECT:**

**On Friday September 16<sup>th</sup> at 2:33 P.M. EST** our favorite non-planet reverses direction. While in retrograde

the power of Pluto has been somewhat limited. Many of the power struggles that have gone on in the undercurrent will now be brought to the surface. This will include personal situations as well as governments, corporations, etc. Steve Jobs is resigning just as Pluto changes direction. Washington will begin to address the chasm that exists between the two political points of view. Libya's revolution is changing power in that country as well. We will see more reversals of power in our culture and our relationships.

### **VENUS OPPOSES URANUS:**

**On Saturday September 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:06 A.M. EST** this strange combination completes. Because this falls so early in the morning it will have less of an impact than it could. It may be influential the night before, especially in the wee small hours of the morning. This brings up unusual and erratic feelings. Infatuation is a common response but don't expect any relationship that begins now to be stable or secure. Usually these are quick moving transient encounters. Keep an eye on your money as well. It could be easy-come easy-go.

### **VENUS SQUARES PLUTO:**

**On Sunday September 18<sup>th</sup> at 9:07 P.M. EST** romance will now be viewed as a power struggle. The infatuation of yesterday has turned into a battle over where to have dinner. We will all be viewing our relationships from a perspective of control. Who has the power in this relationship, and how are they using it? Those are the questions you will be asking today. Because of the Uranus – Pluto square taking place in the sky, these two planets will be aspected in close proximity, especially by the quicker moving planets. So expect some radical changes in temperament and attitude.

### **MARS ENTERS LEO:**

**Also on Sunday September 18<sup>th</sup> at 9:51 P.M. EST** Mars enter the fixed fire sign. Theatrics of a forceful and directed nature will be present. Arrogance is very possible, so try not to be overly pushy or demanding. Mars does well in all the fire signs, and here it can act uninhibitedly and without the restrictions it faces in some signs. Those born with this placement are quite aware of their egos and how to express them. We can all learn a little bit about that while this transit takes place.

### **THE SUN ENTERS LIBRA:**

**On Sunday September 23<sup>rd</sup> at 5:05 A.M. EST** we enter autumn. As I often remind my readers, the start of each of the four cardinal signs begins the four seasons. Astrology is prominent throughout our culture in ways we often don't realize. This is one of the examples. The first day of Aires is the first day of spring; first day of Cancer is the first day of summer, etc. Libras live fro relationships, and while the Sun transits this sign it is personal interaction that matters most. Those in a relationship will become more involved in its day to day function. If you are single you may find yourself thinking more about hooking up with someone.

### **MARS TRINES URANUS:**

**Also on Sunday September 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:25 A.M. EST** these two explosive energies create a positive aspect. If you use this trine properly you should be able to accomplish a great deal of work. Egos will be prominent, but

because this is a trine you should be able to keep it in a proper place. Take the initiative in life and be willing to try new things.

### **MERCURY ENTERS LIBRA:**

**On Sunday September 25<sup>th</sup> at 5:09 P.M. EST** Mercury joins the Sun and Venus in this relationship oriented sign. Communicate with your partner or anyone you with whom you have a strong connection. There is a lot of information to be acquired from relationships, and you should mine your connections for all the knowledge you can. Remember, we get into relationships for many reasons, perhaps the most important of which is to learn about ourselves. If you are looking for self-awareness, you need look no further than the people closest to you. Our clearest mirrors are the eyes of those who love us.

### **THE SUN SQUARE URANUS:**

**Also on Sunday September 25<sup>th</sup> at 8:16 P.M. EST** this potentially explosive square completes. This is an argument or an accident waiting to happen. Care is called for, and you should not take this aspect lightly. Watch your temper as this approaches and try to avoid confrontations. If this hits your chart, you should use extra caution. Between the time this begins to apply and the completion of Mercury opposite Uranus mentioned below you should be careful with your conversations and interactions with others. It is too easy for Uranus to act out in a surprising manner and put you in unexpected situations that you may not have time to prepare for.

### **MERCURY OPPOSES URANUS:**

**On Tuesday September 27<sup>th</sup> at 2:31 A.M. EST** arguments will abound, people will be nervous, and accidents are very possible. It will be very easy to start a fight now and you could easily walk into a confrontation without realizing it. If used properly, this aspect can open your eyes to new ways of looking at the world, and new solutions to your problems. But it is a nervous energy, and you can expect some unexpected news. Restrictions of any sort are antithetical to Uranus, and boundaries are not usually respected, so do try to respect each other's. Mercury has much to do with the bonds and with soybeans. I expect either a reversal in the direction of these markets, or some information that will be startling and affect them.

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

**The next New Moon falls on Tuesday September 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:09 A.M. EST at 4 degrees Virgo 00 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:

August 29<sup>th</sup> 6:15 P.M. – August 30<sup>th</sup> 2:25 P.M.

September 1<sup>st</sup> 1:35 P.M. – 2:48 P.M.

September 3<sup>rd</sup> 3:42 P.M. – 5:03 P.M.

September 5<sup>th</sup> 8:31 P.M. – 10:03 P.M.

September 7<sup>th</sup> 4:35 P.M. – September 8<sup>th</sup> 5:42 A.M.

September 10<sup>th</sup> 1:32 P.M. – 3:26 P.M.

September 12<sup>th</sup> 9:45 P.M. – September 13<sup>th</sup> 2:49 A.M.

September 15<sup>th</sup> 1:11 P.M. – 3:25 P.M.

September 18<sup>th</sup> 3:09 A.M. – 4:06 A.M.

September 20<sup>th</sup> 12:34 P.M. – 2:53 P.M.

September 22<sup>nd</sup> 9:22 P.M. – 9:55 P.M.

September 24<sup>th</sup> 10:40 P.M. – September 25<sup>th</sup> 12:49 A.M.

September 25<sup>th</sup> 3:47 P.M. – September 27<sup>th</sup> 12:51 A.M. \*\* Moon is void 1½ days.

**Mitchell Scott Lewis**

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**New York City**

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