

MONTHLY SINCE 1999

ISSUE # 170

LIVING BY STARLIGHT an Astrological Newsletter

May - June 2013

AUTHOR'S NOTES:

Another new high in the DOW. Another new high in the S&Ps. Another new high in the... Oh please.

On May 20th Uranus will square Pluto. This is an ongoing series of transits that I've been writing about for some time. Pluto rules things held jointly, such as trading markets, currencies, etc. Uranus rules unexpected and sudden changes, reversals of fortune, accidents, and mistakes. It also rules freedom and uninhibited reactions and thoughts. Those of you who have followed my newsletter know that I've been expecting a major correction in the stocks. So far it hasn't happened. But that doesn't change the fact that while the DOW climbs to new heights, the middle class drowns in debt and unemployment.

This square may very well represent the turn-around that I've been waiting for. If the stocks continue to go up after this configuration I must assume we are going to hit 16,000 or more in the DOW. If they reverse now we'll test 12,000 or lower. I believe we reverse. Last month gold took a nosedive that I've been warning about for a year. This isn't a real tradable market. It's fueled by speculation and fear. As the fear of a global collapse subsides the price of gold goes down – sharply. Unless a major crisis occurs soon gold will most likely test \$1,200 an ounce. If it fails there it will go to \$1,000. Next year in April when the Grand Cross hits America's Sun with Jupiter conjunct the Sun, the price of gold will probably shoot up once more. But if it's trading between \$1,000 - \$1,200 when that complex aspect hits, where will it go? Probably it will test \$1,400, which is where it is now. So why hold it if it's not going up? Most people will tell you it's a hedge against the collapse of our currency. Those who believe they will need physical gold and silver to buy their groceries are ignoring the obvious. If the world's economy were to collapse to the extent necessary for gold to be used as money there won't be any groceries for you to buy. There won't be any money to pay the farmers, pickers, truckers, and checkout workers, and there won't be any food. It just doesn't make any sense to me at all. Gold is a dog! I'm bearish on it and have been ever since it reached 1,600 and more an ounce. There was so much speculation in the market that it's taken all this time for the sentiment to reverse. I think it continues to drop in price.

We're in a period of back-to-back-to back eclipses that started with the lunar eclipse on April 25th at 5 degrees Scorpio 46 minutes. This New Moon is a solar eclipse at 19 degrees Taurus 31 minutes. On May 25th we will have the third in this series, a lunar eclipse at 4 degrees Sagittarius 08 minutes. This is a period of unsettledness and change. Anything that has outlived its usefulness in your life will end, including a job,

relationship, ideas, etc. The final effects of these aspects may not be known for some months. Eclipses seem to be effective for a long time, some believe until the next one comes along. The next is another lunar eclipse on October 18th at 25 degrees Aries 45 minutes. It's followed by a solar eclipse on November 3rd at 11 degrees Scorpio 16 minutes. This completes the cycle of the lunar eclipse begun on April 25th in Scorpio. Whatever was begun in April will complete in November. Eclipses are interesting events. They've fascinated mankind since we lived in caves. A number of civilizations had the know-how to predict all eclipses for centuries in advance. Some built their civilizations around these events. They should be taken seriously.

NEW MOON:

The New Moon falls on Thursday May 9th at 8:28 P.M. EST at 19 degrees Taurus 31 minutes, and it's a Solar Eclipse. It's also a Void of Course Moon once again. Each year the 2 ½ weeks following the Taurus New Moon is about 2nd house issues – money, values, and the order of our priorities. This is often a time of year when we reestablish our priorities and direct our energies into a more stable and secure path. This is a time of financial testing and evaluation. There's an old saying on Wall Street *Sell in May and go away*. While this may or may not be the case this year, that saying expresses the fundamental truth about things. This is a time to appraise our attitude about possessions and priorities. Where last month's Aries New Moon was all about new beginnings and assertiveness in projects and relationships, this one is about setting a secure foundation upon which to build and expand. Taurus is known for its patience, and ultimate stubbornness, traits that are often necessary to set down a structure for the future.

This is a complicated New Moon. It's an eclipse, which indicates that new projects and beginnings will be prominent, also that things may not play out the way we hope. Eclipses block out the light, so there is a feeling that we are in the shadows and not seeing things clearly. Eclipses also have much to do with hidden agendas. Often when we encounter a series of eclipses, such as now, things do not go as planned. The best way to handle this is to not have too many preconceived notions or goals. If you are too rigid and unbendable you will find it difficult to change direction as new information comes to you.

Because the Moon goes Void of Course immediately after its conjunct to the Sun, there will be surprises and sudden shifts in projects this month. We have had a number of New Moons immediately go VOC lately, and it sets up the energy for the lunar cycle. You must bend with the wind and take things in stride. This is not a time to set your goals in stone. They may require adjustments or even a whole new restart. As we know from our day to day studies of the VOC moons they rarely turn out the way we had expected. The less attached you are to a fixed or inflexible attitude or goal the better you will handle this. Take things in stride and keep an open mind.

THE SUN CONJUNCTS MERCURY:

On Saturday May 11th at 5:10 P.M. EST this willful aspect completes. People will be very direct and opinionated. This is a good day for conversation, but you should expect a strong attitude from the other person. The truth will be revealed, and people will say what's on their minds. But objectivity is not easy to

achieve. Most of us will have our own perspective and hold fast to it. If you have something important to say, you should say it. But be prepared to hear what the other person has to say as well.

VENUS SQUARES NEPTUNE:

On Monday May 13th at 4:48 P.M. this difficult and confusing aspect completes. Relationships will be the focus of that confusion and you may not be seeing the other person clearly. Don't make any permanent decisions, especially regarding an intimate one-on-one connection until this passes. Use caution when ingesting alcohol or any drugs (legal or illegal has no bearing here). There is a tendency to overdo things and if this square sets off your chart there could be digestive problems or a bad reaction to what you have ingested. This can be a creative aspect, and it could inspire the artist in us all. But even so, any work that is done under this transit will probably have to be rewritten once this passes. The spark of creativity this brings also surrounds it with fog and misdirection. Take the seed of the idea, nurture it under Saturn aspects and you will create a piece of work that is inspiring and has a good foundation. The old saying that art is 1 % inspiration and 99% perspiration is very true, as you will find if you attempt to present the world with a half finished piece of work created under this type of aspect.

MERCURY ENTERS GEMINI:

On Wednesday May 15th at 4:41 P.M. EST Mercury enters the sign it rules. For the next few weeks we will all be more concerned with our intellectual pursuits and will deal with our issues in a direct fashion. Communications will be forceful and people will say what's on their minds. But because this is Gemini there may be a lot of duality in what is being said. Mercury does quite well in this sign, but it isn't always clear what path to take. Be bold and honest with others and you will reap the benefits of this transit. But if you keep blinders on and don't pay attention to what is going on in the undercurrent you will miss some very important signs and signals. Short journeys are favored. They will help open your mind to new ideas and ways of looking at things.

MERCURY SQUARES NEPTUNE:

On Saturday May 18th at 3:20 A.M. EST this most difficult aspect completes. Where the square of Venus to Neptune will create some confusion about relationships, the square of Mercury can create a problem for all communications and thoughts. This is a very tough aspect for business or anything that requires a secure structure. Information will be hard to come by and you may be making decisions based on faulty or incomplete knowledge. Conversations will take a very interesting and often unreliable twist. Don't make any permanent decisions while this is in orb. If you've been waiting to have that important conversation, you should wait until this is done before attempting it. You won't understand what the other person is saying, and it will be very difficult to ferret out the truth. This is one of the most deceptive transits and it can create more difficulties than solutions.

THE SUN ENTERS GEMINI:

On Monday May 20th at 5:10 P.M. EST we enter the mutable part of spring. Things will change rapidly while

the Sun transits this air sign, not just the weather. Gemini is all about relationships, communication, and the part of the brain that reasons things out. Of course, not all Gemini's are reasonable, (lord knows!) but communication is part of the nature of the sign, and they will discuss things. Try to bring things out into the open and look at them realistically. Once you know what someone else thinks you can react to it as you see fit. Without that information you're just guessing and you may risk much on a hunch.

URANUS SQUARES PLUTO:

Also on Monday May 20th at 6:21 P.M. this intense transit will complete once again. We've been discussing this square for the past year or more. It's a very powerful configuration that has had much to do with the way our society is moving. With each completion of this square our foundation is being tested. Pluto rules the trading markets. As you know, I've been predicting a major correction in the stocks, and so far they have continued their climb to new highs. Let's see what this square does. This is a moment of insecurity and a lack of a strong foundation. Many of us will feel as though we are standing on quicksand.

MERCURY SEXTILES URANUS:

Also on Monday May 20th at 11:46 P.M. EST this positive aspect will complete. Thoughts will come quickly and you may find some unusual solutions to your problems. Keep your ears open. You may hear some useful and different ideas. Conversations will be stimulating and exciting, and creativity will be heightened. Travel, especially short journeys will be very rewarding.

MERCURY CONJUNCTS VENUS:

On Friday May 24th at 7:54 P.M. EST this very pleasant aspect comes along. Most people will be sociable and easy to get along with. Of course if someone isn't that way to begin with this won't be strong enough to change their personality. But for the most part conversations will have a light and breezy air about them. Conflicts will be easier to solve if you just smile and apologize. Creativity will be stimulated.

FULL MOON:

This month's lunar peak occurs on Saturday May 25th at 12:25 A.M. EST at 04 degrees Sagittarius 08 minutes, and it's a lunar eclipse. Sagittarius can blow things out of proportion, both good and bad. They rarely have a sense of limitations or boundaries, and can step over lines without realizing it. Keep an eye on how you present things to others. If you keep them in proper perspective you can avoid the pitfalls. If not, this Full Moon eclipse *could* lead to some exaggerated situations or problems. If this eclipse hits your chart directly, anything that has outlived its usefulness in your life may end now. But try not to throw out the good with the bad. The effects of an eclipse can last for months, and it may be some time before you realize just how the decisions you make under this aspect has affected your life.

THE SUN SQUARES NEPTUNE:

On Sunday May 26th at 6:27 A.M. EST this very confusing and debilitating aspect arrives. Its effects will wane as the day goes on, but there will be enough lingering to warrant a warning. Nothing will be as it seems

the night before or shortly after this aspect. Confusion reigns supreme, and con men are working overtime. There will be a feeling of insecurity and a lack of will power many of us may experience. It may be difficult to complete things or to stand up for your position. This is not a day to confront someone. Neither of you will know what the hell you're talking about and one or both of you may feel badly about the outcome. Leave sleeping dogs lie. Don't stir up trouble, and if some finds you, try to sidestep it (also good advice if you're walking where that sleeping dog walked before his nap.) This insecurity will affect the world stage as well, and the markets usually take a bad hit when the Sun and Neptune are afflicted.

MERCURY CONJUNCTS JUPITER:

On Monday May 27th at 3:56 A.M. EST a more optimistic and far-sighted attitude will prevail. This can be exuberance, warranted or not. Because this brings up such unbridled enthusiasm, some call this the aspect of the con man. We want to believe what we're being told when Mercury is around cheerful, Sagittarius's ruler, sometimes even when the evidence strongly suggest otherwise. And coming on the heels of the Sun conjunct Neptune mentioned above, I would be careful. Use a little caution and don't take everything at face value. But certainly make use of the optimism and fun this aspect can produce. Travel is most favored by this combination, and it's a great day to begin a long journey. It's also a good day for a heated and open-minded discussion on almost any subject.

VENUS CONJUNCTS JUPITER:

On Tuesday May 28th at 3:29 P.M. EST this most enjoyable of all aspects completes. This is a very sociable and outgoing transit and it allows us the ability to interact without the usual fears and restrictions. Of course, if you have serious difficulties communicating or socializing, this isn't going to suddenly change your personality. But most people will be open to chatting and sharing enjoyable activities. Jupiter has little, if any, restraint, and Venus is all about pleasures. So use a little caution around rich food, alcohol, and other endorphin releasing agents. Love *may* be in the air. But this aspect is about all close relationships, including friendships. If love does show its face make sure you're seeing the real situation and not what you want to see. Again, Jupiter's exuberance is wonderful and can break through walls that normally block us, but it isn't always there for the long haul. And you could be disappointed with the outcome. Enjoy yourself, but keep your eyes open. If it's real, it'll still be there tomorrow.

MERCURY ENTERS CANCER:

On Friday May 31st at 3:07 A.M. EST the intellect and the emotions become intertwined. **The winged god will retrograde June 26th, so Mercury will stay in Cancer until August 8th.** That's a long time for it to remain in any sign. For the next 2 ½ months we will be dealing with this placement. People will speak more emotionally, and you may find that some who usually have a good handle on their feelings seem to be losing it more than normally. When a person is used to separating their thoughts and their feelings it's disconcerting to suddenly find that it's more difficult to do. The interaction between the emotions and the intellect can become disorienting. Much of the problem is in the interaction with others. They seem to be more emotional, so you respond in kind. After several months of this it'll be interesting to see how much this way of relating

lingers within some relationships. Also, with Mars about to enter Gemini (see below) we will be dealing with even more emotions and ego coming through our speech and thoughts. It should be an interesting few months.

MARS ENTERS GEMINI:

Also on Friday May 31st at 6:39 A.M. EST the planet of ego enters this Mercury ruled sign. As I said above, this will add some more fuel to the mix. Tempers will flair, especially in communications. It will be very difficult for some people to keep their egos out of their relationships, and this is a problem. With Mars here it may be as much a matter of how you say things as what you say. With Mercury in Cancer thoughts, ideas, communications are all running high emotionally to begin with. Putting Mars in Gemini will add that extra energy to make sure there are enough spats and confrontations to make the point. **Do not go looking for fights. The universe will bring us all plenty to choose from.** Any battle that you can walk away from is probably not worth the hassle. But if these transiting planets are hitting your personal ones, you may find your back against the wall on several fronts at once. Pick and choose your battles carefully based on priorities. This is not the time to waste on petty issues. This placement is very good for any type of intellectual work. There will be a lot of energy and staying power, and the one place our egos will flourish is in our work. This is also good for any communications that require a direct and honest approach. There's no room here for B.S. Only to get to the heart of the matter.

THE SUN SEXTILES URANUS:

On Saturday June 1st at 9:46 P.M. EST this exciting transit comes along. This is a day to explore the world and take chances. A roller coaster, new cuisine, or a new relationship will all suit the need. Don't tie yourself to a computer today, unless you're writing Science Fiction. Get out into the world and see what's being offered. You may be pleasantly surprised at the options you encounter.

VENUS ENTERS CANCER:

On Sunday June 2nd at 10:13 P.M. EST this most romantic of transits begins. When Venus travels through Cancer there is a feeling of home in our love affairs and closest friendships. A relationship that begins now will have the feeling that you've know each other for a long time. And perhaps you have. I don't believe it's accidental that certain transits occur when our most important relationships, jobs, and choices occur. If you love someone, now is a good time to tell them. They'll be more receptive to you and if there is something there this may help it along. But this won't create a relationship where there is none. That falls under the heading of the Sun conjunct Neptune we discussed earlier.

MERCURY TRINES NEPTUNE & SATURN:

On Monday June 3rd at 3:18 P.M. & 9:22 P.M. EST this pair of trines completes. Early in the day creativity and intuition will reign supreme. The trine to Neptune can be a very imaginative and artistic transit. Allow your imagination some room to move and you may discover some new or interesting thoughts. Once that trine is complete and we approach the trine to Saturn thoughts will become more reality oriented. Any creative spark

that was ignited during the first aspect will now be scrutinized and we will buckle down to make something real and lasting out of the inspiration. Even in a trine Saturn has little use for the ethereal and wants something structured to hold on to.

NEPTUNE RETROGRADES:

On Friday June 7th at 4:26 A.M. EST Neptune begins its yearly backward motion. A planet retrogrades when it's on the opposite side of the chart as the Sun. When Neptune goes backwards it internalizes things that are very much internal to begin with. Our creativity, spirituality, feelings of charity and generosity are all Neptune's domain. So are drugs and alcohol. When this planet retrogrades there is a strong desire to understand what it represents and to incorporate its meaning into the individual. Dreams and fantasies tend to be heightened, and creativity often comes from a deeper place. Your poems, songs, and paintings may be more revealing and of a richer texture. But it's best to wait until Neptune goes direct before offering that work to the world at large. While Neptune is retrograde it will be more difficult for others to appreciate what you have created.

MERCURY OPPOSES PLUTO:

Also on Friday June 7th at 6:01 P.M. EST this intense aspect completes. People will be speaking from a deep and unyielding place. Arguments are very possible, and there could be hidden rage behind the words. We won't be satisfied with superficial answers and will dig deeply into any subject that arises. Pluto likes to ferret out secrets, so don't be surprised by what comes out in a conversation. This is a compulsive aspect and it may be difficult at times to let go of something that's been bothering you. As this passes you may either become fixated on a single idea or problem, or you may finally be able to push some unwanted obsession from your mind.

MARS SQUARES NEPTUNE:

Also on Friday June 7th at 7:58 P.M. EST this difficult and strange combination follows on the heels of the Mercury opposite Pluto mentioned above. This square can leave you feeling badly about yourself if it hits your chart. Mars doesn't do well with ego-deflating Neptune and there could be some confusion or just a feeling of weakness and insecurity. Many people will be feeling the effects of this transit, and avoiding misunderstandings and confusion is very important. Make sure you express yourself in a direct and honest fashion. If you bring everything out into the light there is less chance of misunderstandings.

DARK OF THE MOON:

The next New Moon falls on Saturday June 8th at 11:56 A.M. EST at 18 degree Gemini 01 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.

For information regarding personal readings please contact me at: mitchastro@aol.com.

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:

Please note: In response to requests from a few readers I have added a few VOC Moons into the next lunar cycle for those who need to make plans before my next newsletter is released.

May 9th 8:28 P.M. – May 10th 5:21 P.M. *** Moon is void almost 24 hours

My 12th 9:32 A.M. – May 13th 5:57 A.M. *** Moon is void almost 24 hours

May 15th 8:14 A.M. – 6:38 P.M. *** Moon is void all day

May 18th 12:34 A.M. – 5:33 A.M.

May 20th 12:48 P.M. – 1:07 P.M.

May 22nd 3:35 A.M. – 4:55 P.M. *** Moon is void all day

May 24th 9:55 A.M. – 5:49 P.M. *** Moon is void all day

May 26th 6:22 A.M. – 5:28 P.M. *** Moon is void all day

May 28th 2:40 P.M. – 5:48 P.M.

May 30th 7:57 P.M. – 8:30 P.M.

June 2nd 12:30 A.M. – 2:33 A.M.

June 4th 2:09 A.M. – 11:53 A.M.

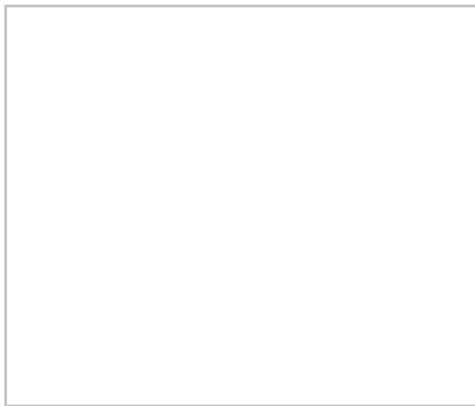
June 5th 9:25 A.M. – June 6th 11:32 P.M. *** Moon is void 1½ days

Due to popular request I have included below several VOC moons in the next lunar cycle:

June 9th 4:29 A.M. – 12:16 P.M.

June 10th 5:15 P.M. – June 12th 12:58 A.M. *** Moon is void 1½ days

June 14th 7:14 A.M. – 12:26 P.M.



May 2013

New York City

(212) 726-3814

<http://www.mitcastro.com>

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