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LIVING BY STARLIGHT an Astrological Newsletter

OCTOBER – NOVEMBER 2013

AUTHOR'S NOTES:

Mercury will retrograde this month in Scorpio. Many secrets will be revealed and issues involving sex, death, and joint financial holdings will come to light. Don't be surprised by the intensity and depth of conversations during this period. The usual caution is called for. Try not to buy a new phone, computer, car, or airplane. You'll have major difficulties with it. Back up your important files and double check everything. While this aspect can cause many problems, it's a good time to grab someone's attention. You may be able to get your screenplay read by someone who is usually too busy to take the time. During the retrograde everything slows down and we have an opportunity to direct our attention where we want it, rather than where the world's demands place it.

The government has been shut down by the extreme edge of the Republican Party just as the Uranus-Pluto square completes once more. I'm not surprised, and my regular readers shouldn't be either. This is a very powerful aspect that has been affecting our society for the past two years. It won't complete until 2016, so let's get used to it.

As I've been writing for the past few months, **the Saturn-Pluto sextile that we've had this past year has completed**, and with its passing goes some of the stability and structure that's held our fragile situation together. **Now Saturn has gone into an inconjunct to Neptune.** Those of you who've attended my lectures on financial astrology through the years know that it usually takes a negative aspect between Saturn and the outer planets to drive the stock markets down sufficiently to be considered a correction or severe dip. That's what we're dealing with at the moment. The stocks have been down most of the past ten sessions. However, that inconjunct is completing now and there is a chance that we could see at least a temporary solution to our current difficulties.

Uranus will square Pluto November 1st and it may take until then to solve the issue. We're dealing with the coming debt-ceiling quagmire, and the inconjunct has created distraction and a cynical perspective. Obamacare is the rallying cry for many who believe it will destroy our society. Foolishness. That's what they said about Social Security and Medicare. My prediction is that not only will the Affordable Care Act be a success morally and spiritually, once they work out the kinks, it will be a huge financial success in the long run, paying for itself the same way that Social Security does. This will add 20-30 million people who haven't been in the system, offer comparative prices, and lower the cost of health care for all of us. No longer will you be held hostage by a few insurance companies. (Whatever happened to the doomsday prophets who predicted that Social Security would be bankrupt and pull our nation into a financial catastrophic tail spin?)

For those of you who believe this is the idea of left-wing entitlement crazed democrats, here's a little history:

In 1974 Richard Nixon, with the help of Senator Edward Kennedy attempted to institute socialized medicine. Nixon actually first proposed the idea in 1947 after losing two brothers to tuberculosis due to their poverty. In the 90s Clinton used Nixon's blueprint to attempt the same thing. This isn't a new idea, it's very old. And it has waited too long to become a reality. Many modern societies have some form of socialized medicine. It's the only way to ensure a healthy society. You're not just making sure poor people are healthy. Money doesn't save you during a plague. The influenza pandemic of 1918 killed many more people in its first 8 months than the First World War did in 4 years. The estimates put the numbers at about 50 – 100 million dead from 1918-20. That was about 3-5% of the world's population. What made this so deadly and insidious was that while the flu usually kills the very young, very old, and very sick, this flu killed predominantly healthy people in the prime of life. It apparently compromised the immune system and causing those with the strongest immunity to suffer the most. At the time, America was mostly a rural nation, so we only lost about 500,000 to the pandemic, much fewer than Europe, Asia, and India. Today we are an urban nation with many more people living in close proximity to each other. If we were to experience anything like that without a defensive health system in place, there would be thousands of sick and dying laying outside of hospitals begging for help. What would that do to the rich and healthy? Would they be immune, or suffer the fate of the rich and royalty of the dark ages when the Black Plague appeared on the shores of Italy and killed indiscriminately?

NEW MOON:

The New Moon falls on Friday October 4th at 8:34 P.M. EDT at 11 degrees Libra 56 minutes. Libras live for relationships, and much of the energy this month will be concerned with beginning new ones or working through an existing relationship. Not everyone is going to find the love of their life right now, but it may be pointed out to you just how alone you've been and what the potential would be with a partner. This isn't just about romantic connections, although Libras do love to be involved with someone. This is also about business partnerships, close friendships, and other entanglements. Take a look at your life and see if you'd be better off with a new relationship, ending an existing one, or if in fact you prefer the solo path. In any case, this New Moon will stir up those thoughts.

VENUS ENTERS SAGITTARIUS:

On Monday October 7th at 1:54 P.M. EDT the planet of romance, money, and pleasures enters the most expansive of signs. Sagittarius has little use for boundaries. While Venus is traveling through it, it would behoove us to keep a sense of control or limitations. This is a very pleasurable transit, and where it falls in your personal chart will show how you can best experience that good feeling. But keep an eye on your finances. It's very easy to overspend. Also pay attention to how much you are consuming in general. Overeating, spending, drinking, and carousing are very possible.

MERCURY CONJUNCTS SATURN:

On Tuesday October 8th at 3:39 P.M. EDT this wet-blanket completes. Most of us will feel tired and find

communication difficult. This isn't a good day for an important conversation, unless the purpose of the talk is to lay down rules and restrictions of some sort. I wouldn't plan a first date, or go to a Broadway matinee. The cast will also feel the repression this aspect creates and probably won't give the best performance. This is a good day for dealing with paperwork or anything that requires close attention to details. Travel will be fraught with problems. Go see the autumn leaves tomorrow after this passes.

VENUS SQUARES NEPTUNE:

Also on Thursday October 10th at 5:06 A.M. EDT this very unrealistic transit comes along. Confusion and misdirection will be common, especially in close personal relationships. With Venus already in Sag this will just add to the overdoing and lack of boundaries. Because this completes so early in the morning, caution is called for on Wednesday night as this is applying. Remember, transits are most powerful as they are approaching. Once they have completed they lose most of their influence. If you fall in love under this aspect you should really give the relationship some time to prove itself before committing too much of yourself.

THE SUN SQUARES JUPITER:

On Saturday October 12th at 11:09 A.M. EDT we have even more expansion and lack of control. This is a very useful square if used properly. The problem is that most of us don't. We see this as a great way to make things grow quickly and without regard for future consequences. When dealing with Jupiter you must put in even more limiters to prevent an inappropriate overexpansion. While this square is going on you feel as though you can handle anything that the world throws at you. And you can - until the square passes. Then you'll find yourself trying to juggle half a dozen things when your skills really only allow you to handle three. At some point they will all come tumbling down.

MARS ENTERS VIRGO:

On Tuesday October 15th at 7:05 A.M. EDT this ego-ruled planet enters critical and detail-oriented Virgo. The tendency towards pickiness is strong. You must try not to act in a nit-picky or demanding way. This aspect is good for dealing with details, but Mars really isn't interested in that. It's the god of war and wants to act, not think. It will take some self-control to use this aspect to your advantage. You'll have to work with the excessive force of Mars in a controlled and intellectual way, rather than the physical expression Mars is used to. But if used properly, this can be a very positive and productive aspect.

VENUS TRINES URANUS:

On Wednesday October 16th at 6:04 P.M. EDT this exciting and adventurous aspect completes. Rules go out the window when Uranus is involved. We are seeking the unusual and trying to expand our concepts of what is correct. This trine will allow us to express our independence without destroying relationships. It's a quick passing event that lasts through the afternoon, but it can result in a number of positive ways. You may meet someone very interesting and wish to pursue the connection. Because this is a trine, there is a good chance that it will be productive and exhilarating. However, even in positive aspects, Uranus isn't all that stable or looking for longevity. Enjoy this aspect for what it is. Let it help you look at people, relationships,

and other things differently. Never be afraid to get into the water. Just wear a life-preserver.

FULL MOON:

This month's lunar peak occurs on Friday October 18th at 7:38 P.M. EDT at 25 degrees Aries 45 minutes, and it's a Lunar Eclipse. We have a lunar eclipse followed in a few weeks by a solar eclipse. They always run in pairs. Probably afraid to travel alone. This Aries Full Moon requires our attention and respect. This can be a feisty energy that likes to express itself physically. Use caution today, and try to avoid confrontations. We may see a number of incidences, including some violent outbursts. Because this is an eclipse, its effects will not be completed for some time. Whatever you begin now will take some time to come to fruition.

MERCURY RETROGRADES:

On Monday October 21st at 6:29 A.M. EDT our favorite thrice-a-year transit completes. As always, pay attention to details, double check everything, and expect delays. Back up your files and have your car checked out for trouble. Retrograde Mercury is a great time to catch up on things that you've been too busy to pay attention to. Go through those old emails and answer the ones you let slip through the cracks. You may come up with an old friend or business situation that could help you in the long run. Expect difficulties with cell phones, computers, and all forms of communication. Travel is especially difficult, but if you have the attitude that you're on the road just to be there, not to get anywhere, it can be a wonderfully freeing and pleasant time. A leisurely drive upstate with no agenda may result in discovering a quaint little inn you never would have seen while Mercury is direct. Also, if you pay attention to what others are saying, you will uncover some great truths. Also secrets tend to slip out during these periods, so keep your ears open and guard what you say.

THE SUN ENTERS SCORPIO:

On Wednesday October 23rd at 2:10 A.M. EDT we enter the most misunderstood sign of the zodiac. Scorpio rules the 8th house or rejuvenation. It's through this sign and its house and planetary rulers that we recharge our batteries. There is a tendency to hide a lot under Scorpio influence, so don't expect everyone to be aboveboard. This is a time to delve deeply into any subject that comes up. Relationships will take on a more serious tone, and superficial answers will no longer suffice.

MERCURY CONJUNCT SATURN:

On Tuesday October 29th at 4:48 P.M. EDT this aspect completes again. Because of the retrograde motion of Mercury it will square Saturn again as it did October 8th (see above). When there is a triple pass of any aspect it shows that there are important lessons to be learned from the transit. We all should use this period to put things in order, view our lives in a serious and unemotional way, and focus our attention where it is most needed. This isn't a time of frivolity or games. You should not waste your efforts now, but make sure all of your energy is aimed in a useful and meaningful direction.

URANUS SQUARES PLUTO:

On Friday November 1st at 7:13 A.M. EDT this extremely powerful square completes once again. As my regular readers know, we are in the midst of a multi-year period when this square will complete many times. It is the underlying reason for our government's shutdown, as well as the ongoing troubles in Syria, Egypt, etc. With the outer planets we don't always experience the transit on that particular day so much as feel it's an ongoing event. But today the Moon is in Libra where it squares Pluto and opposed Uranus. This will add a personal flavoring to the Uranus-Pluto square. We need to be cautious and temperate while this is in orb. It's possible that there will be an event today. Where it will occur would take too much time to figure out. But I would suggest avoiding most obvious places where something involving the collective could happen, thus drawing you into the fray. Remember, some people in the World Trade Center had fine aspects on 9/11. The energy of the collective is simply stronger than that of the individual. As you will see below, there are quite a number of inner planet connections to this square today. They will fuel the force behind that square and bring it down to the personal level. Caution is advised for a few days surrounding this square.

THE SUN CONJUNCT MERCURY & THEY BOTH SEXTILE PLUTO:

Also on Friday November 1st the Sun sextiles Pluto at 1:02 P.M. & conjuncts Mercury at 4:19 P.M. EDT. Mercury sextiles Pluto at 6:46 P.M. EDT. The Sun and Mercury set off the Uranus-Pluto square. This will bring the issues of that transit out into the open. It will influence our governmental problems, power struggles of all sorts throughout the world, and issues involving personal relationships. All afternoon as these quicker moving transits complete we'll feel the effects of the underlying stress that square is creating. While most of these are positive sextiles, they will increase our awareness of the tension within our society. Because Mercury is involved, communication will be important and many of us will express our deep-rooted fears about the state of our culture.

DARK OF THE MOON:

The next New Moon falls on Sunday November 3rd at 7:50 A.M. EDT at 11 degrees Scorpio 16 minutes, and it's a Solar Eclipse. 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 Daylight Time:

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.

October 5th 6:28 P.M. – October 6th 4:33 A.M.

October 8th 12:54 A.M. – 8:21 A.M.

October 10th 6:11 A.M. – 11:17 A.M.

October 11th 8:04 P.M. – October 12th 2:00 P.M. *** Moon is void almost 24 hours

October 14th 4:28 P.M. – 5:06 P.M.

October 16th 3:15 A.M. – 9:18 P.M. *** Moon is void all day

October 18th 7:38 P.M. – October 19th 3:27 A.M.

October 20th 5:02 P.M. – October 21st 12:14 P.M.

October 22nd 8:35 P.M. – October 23rd 11:36 P.M. *** Moon is void 24 hours

October 25th 4:13 P.M. – October 26th 12:12 P.M. **Moon is void almost 24 hours

October 28th 8:26 A.M. – 11:45 P.M. ***Moon is void all day

October 30th 10:48 P.M. – October 31st 8:22 A.M.

November 2nd 8:47 A.M. – 1:35 P.M.

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

November 3rd 11:23 P.M. – October 4th 3:14 P.M.

November 5th 11:48 A.M. – November 6th 4:44 P.M. ***Moon is void 24 hours

November 8th 2:39 A.M. – 6:30 P.M. ***Moon is void all day



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