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LIVING BY STARLIGHT an Astrological Newsletter

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AUTHOR'S NOTES:

This month we will see a number of powerful aspects. There's a Full Moon eclipse in Aries, the Sun and Venus opposite Uranus, and Mercury going into retrograde. The combination may create several difficult situations. I expect some escalation in the ongoing battles in the world. As I discuss later in this newsletter under **Full Moon**, this eclipse will mirror the last lunar eclipse that took place in April 2014, just as the Cardinal Grand Cross completed. Now we will see the results of decisions made at that time. A terrorist attack is most definitely possible, especially around the time of the Full Moon October 8th. The escalation in Iraq and Syria was to be expected. As I said last month, with Mars, god of war, transiting expansive Sagittarius, the acceleration of hostilities was predictable. And with the explosive Full Moon Eclipse, and the aspects to Uranus, this month may be a very violent one.

In our personal lives we should also use caution around that Full Moon period. We can also look back at April and see what issues began for the individual. Those issues may also come to a head this month as we are forced to see things in a spotlight. Eclipses block out much light, sometimes putting the situation into shadows. But other times it will focus attention on the central theme while blocking out any distractions, creating a flashlight effect. It will highlight the important things.

Mercury will retrograde in the midst of all of this energy, so expect a lot of confusion, misdirection, and mistakes. Wars fought on Rx Mercury are wrought with errors. It doesn't mean a reversal of fortunes, as a retrograde Mars would, but it will be a mess. And we can expect some uncomfortable news and events.

The recent climate control protests were the first salvo in what will prove to be a harsh, violent, and unpredictable battle for the future of mankind. The evidence of global climate change is obvious and growing exponentially. As we push further into the Aquarian Age we can expect revolutions of many different varieties. Just as the Age of Pisces was all about religion and, in the west, the Church and its extensive powers, the Age of Aquarius is about corporations and large groups. It's the sign that rules rebellions and insurrections. It is also the sign that rules humanity, not the individual.

The battle between the citizens as a group and the oligarchy that control much of our wealth will escalate with some serious confrontations in the future. But if history is any indicator, it will take years and some horrible ecological catastrophes before the masses will finally rise up against the ruling class. It took more than fourteen hundred years for Martin Luther to begin the Protestant Revolution. The Church was hardly

benign during these centuries, but it took that long for the collective to be prepared to fill the void that would occur once religion lost its commanding control. It also took 3 horrendous crusades, countless wars, and the apocalyptic Black Plague to push it to readiness. There are many historians who believe that the Plague actually helped humanity in ways they may never have reached otherwise. It broke the ranks of the royalty wiping out entire families, shrunk the population of Europe to a more sustainable level, and in a word, cleansed much of the western world, as purely as any massive fire could.

The Church has been replaced by the Corporations, whose power becomes more consolidated and total with each passing year. Has our species learned anything from the past two thousand years or will we just hand ourselves over to the next Big Daddy who promises to keep reality from invading our consciousness too much. Movies like the Matrix and all of the zombie stories are an analogy of what has become of our free-will. Essentially that are all saying that we have given up our desire to control our own lives in exchange for a little peace of mind.

At high tide now Lincoln Road in Miami Beach is ankle-deep in water. Perhaps some fifty years from now when a trillion dollars worth of unprotected real estate is submerged and countless thousands flood the inner nation seeking salvation, the population will take more action than marching and drinking organic beer.

Cataclysm awaits but will it lead to a “dark ages” with unimaginable horrors, ending in a predictable Hollywood version of suffering and depravity? Or to a “golden age of humanity”, where all of the greatest achievements of our flawed species will continue to inspire future generations, with the best of our collective work yet to come? You may very well get a chance to find out in your next incarnation. For now however, we all must do what little we can to push the rising tide away.

NEW MOON:

The New Moon falls on Wednesday September 24th at 2:14 A.M. EDT at 01 degree Libra 08 minutes. Libra is known as the sign that rules relationships, and this month is about connections of all sorts, but it's really about integration and the way that we use our ascendant/descendant to interact with the outside world. Libra is the 7th sign of the zodiac, and thus has to do with 7th house issues. That's why most astrologers reference marriage and close relationships when speaking of Libra energy. But that's a limited point of view. The 7th house is the relationships you have with everyone, even, for example, your waiter in a restaurant. The 6th house ruler in your chart will tell you what your attitude towards servants is in general, and it will color your approach to someone in that position. But all interaction is about the 7th house. This New Moon will highlight your attitude and approach to others. This is an opportunity to redirect your communications and improve how you relate to those in your life.

JUPITER TRINES URANUS:

On Thursday September 25th at 2:17 P.M. EDT this very important trine completes for the first of three passes. This brings two of the planets in the Cardinal Grand Cross into a positive aspect, which will allow the

world and the individual to use this energy over the next year to offset some of the difficult and explosive results we are all feeling from that Grand Cross. This is a very positive, but still unrealistic aspect. The difference between a hard or soft transit is mostly a matter of resistance. This trine will let us use the power of each of these unbridled planetary influences without the struggle of a square or opposition. But they are still Jupiter and Uranus, and the force behind them will act out in the ways of those planets.

With the trine we can now change direction in some issues that began or escalated last April during that Grand Cross. Ukraine, ISIS, Israel, Congo, etc... these are all hot spots that were exacerbated by that powerful configuration. In your own life there have probably been some power struggles or explosive situations that may have caused you stress or damage to a project. Now we have a chance to alter the effects and look for a more productive way of dealing with it. Just remember that the nature of these planets does not change just because they are in positive aspect to each other. They still both demand a lot of freedom and loose boundaries. Never tie down a Sagittarius or an Aquarian. They will eventually untie the knots and one day you'll come home to an empty house. Keep that sense of latitude when making plans or trying to repair a relationship and you will have more success.

MERCURY ENTERS SCORPIO:

On Saturday September 27th at 6:39 P.M. EDT our minds go deeply inward. Where Mercury is transiting has much to do with how we communicate no matter what your own natal placement may be.

Communication is a group activity, and you only have any control over your own actions and reactions, not anyone else's. As Mercury passes through this fixed water sign you may find your thoughts and ideas getting bogged down in a compulsive and obsessive circle. It can be difficult to change your mind or open it to new ideas. This placement is better at delving into any subject and ferreting out the truth.

With Mercury in Scorpio about to retrograde back into Libra on October 10th we will only get a taste of the intensity this sign can bring to our thoughts and conversations. Pay attention to the change in tone and content from now until it reenters the sign of the scales. If you're astute you should readily see the difference in how we communicate from sign to sign.

VENUS ENTERS LIBRA:

On Monday September 29th at 4:52 P.M. EDT Venus enters one of the signs it rules where it will stay until **October 23rd at 4:52 P.M. EDT**. While it's in this sign we will all be more interested in relationships. Women (Venus) will wish to project themselves through another and men will want to reflect their image of womankind (whatever the individual sees that as) through the Libra, or 7th house issues. The once a year transit of Venus through this sign often begins new affairs. If they have strength in the composite and comparative charts, it can become a relationship. If not, it's a long weekend in the Hamptons, and when Venus exits this sign, one last date, a few emails, and fade into the background. Enjoy this energy while its here. It makes it easier for couples to find common ground. Libra doesn't like to fight. And Venus in Libra would rather have a big brunch than a big blowout.

THE SUN SQUARES PLUTO:

On Saturday October 4th at 4:03 A.M. EDT this harsh square completes. It will be felt the night before as it applies, and its power will dissipate someone once the aspect is completed, as with all transits. But it will have a lingering effect for the day. With Mercury stationary now and about to retrograde, some people could feel out of sorts and find it very difficult to communicate. The force behind this square could internalize and become frustrating and trapped within. Try to expunge this through physical or mental activity. This is not a good day to sit around and play with your toys.

MERCURY RETROGRADES:

Also on Saturday October 4th at 1:02 P.M. EDT Mercury begins its thrice a year dance. As always, pay strict attention to what you're doing and saying. Until Mercury goes back into Libra on the 10th, you can expect some intense and surprising communications. People may shock you by what they say and the depths to which you are willing to go to explore a subject. While Mercury is in retrograde you can expect surprises, especially as this planet changes direction. People are apt to say things without first thinking them through. This is not a good time to sign important papers, make expensive purchases, or buy anything that has to do with communication or transportation. Don't order your Lear Jet until this planet goes direct. But it's a great time for getting to the bottom of things and exposing any hidden agendas. That's why it can be a surprising aspect.

MARS TRINES URANUS:

On Sunday October 5th at 12:18 A.M. EDT this useful transit comes along. This is a good time to make changes. You won't feel the resistance that often accompanies alterations and you should be able to redirect your energies into productive projects. Because this completes so early in the morning its effects may be limited. But the underlying feeling is one of forward motion and innovation. Look for new ways of seeing your problems and try to approach them with an open mind. You may be quite surprised at what you uncover.

THE SUN OPPOSES URANUS:

On Tuesday October 7th at 4:57 P.M. EDT this explosive aspect completes. This is the prelude to the Aries Full Moon Eclipse we will see tomorrow. Not only is this eclipse in one of the most dangerous signs (Mars-ruled Aries is known for its explosive temper), but it squares Pluto and conjuncts Uranus shortly before its opposition to the Sun (Full Moon). We also will have Venus in square to Pluto adding to the high energy and compulsive nature of these aspects. **For the next few days caution is most definitely called for.** This series of aspects coinciding with that Full Moon eclipse is a warning sign. We are in a very explosive and precarious period at the moment, and there could be some violent and explosive situations.

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FULL MOON:

This month's lunar peak occurs on Wednesday October 8th at 6:51 A.M. EDT at 15 degrees Aries 05 minutes, and it's an eclipse! This transit requires respect. Any Full Moon in Aries should be approached

with caution. Because this is an Eclipse as well, it's imperative that you move carefully and not act in a reckless manner. This Full Moon will aspect Uranus and Pluto and bring up issues that began last April during the Grand Cross. As Mars is now transiting in Sagittarius, we are seeing escalation in several troubled areas including the Middle East. There could be a serious attack under this influence. But it doesn't have to come today. An Eclipse's pressure lasts months. There could be something in the planning stage that will be carried out over the next few months. The next New Moon on October 23rd is also an Eclipse (they come in pairs). The last Lunar Eclipse was on April 15th, just as the Grand Cross was at its peak. The situations in Ukraine and with ISIS both became known shortly after. Eclipses seem to work within their own timing. Often the effects of one eclipse we herald an event under the next one. I expect some major world events under this Eclipse that will herald back to the events that took place in April.

VENUS SQUARES PLUTO:

Also on Wednesday October 8th at 1:31 P.M. EDT this intense square will add to the feelings we are all carrying around. This will add a more personal layer to the energy. Many issues involving love and possessions will come to a head. There could be some hidden anger or frustration that comes out. If you're involved in a personal financial matter, it would be best to deal with it and clean it up in an open and honest fashion. If not, it may come back to bite you on the ass. Be careful how you speak to your closest people, especially in a romantic relationship. There is a tendency to overdo and examine things to a ridiculous level, thus removing all illusion and romance from the situation. It's not necessary as long as you are honest and open about your feelings.

MARS TRINES JUPITER:

Also on Wednesday October 8th at 4:43 P.M. EDT this trine completes. This is a positive aspect that can be used to push your projects and agendas forward. It comes on the tail of the Full Moon Eclipse and the negative aspects to it. It's tempting to see this trine as a way to avoid any difficulties that Eclipse may present, but that would be foolish. This is energy that can be used to your advantage, or it can be wasted on unrealistic expectations. You can get a lot of physical work done now and should project this energy into your work and obligations.

MERCURY ENTERS LIBRA:

On Friday October 10th at 1:27 P.M. EDT Mercury retrogrades back into Libra until November 8th. There's a desire to avoid conflict at all costs, but that would just be sticking your head in the sand. This is an opportunity to find balance and compromise in relationship issues. Try to listen to what's being said under the surface. Libra hates direct confrontation, and will try to avoid it. But if you don't say what's on your mind, there can be misunderstandings and things may be left to fester only to come out in a more explosive fashion once Mercury gets back into Scorpio. Be honest and direct, and then deal with the circumstances.

THE SUN SEXTILES JUPITER:

Also on Friday October 10th at 7:18 P.M. EDT this positive aspect will bring us a breath of fresh air. This is

a good day to socialize. Most of us will feel like getting out and expanding our consciousness anyway we can. It also favors travel and anything that is educational. This will bring an optimistic approach to most issues, and you can use this positive energy to improve your relationships, expand your thoughts and ideas, or just to enjoy the day. With Mercury just entering Libra once again most of us will not be looking for arguments, but would rather compromise and find a compatible solution to any problems that arise.

VENUS OPPOSES URANUS:

On Saturday October 11th at 5:10 A.M. EDT this erratic and changeable energy will present itself. This is a time to try new things and break free from some of your old and worn-out ways of looking at your life and your relationships. Any new connection that begins under this transit should be approached with caution. Uranus is so changeable that it's very difficult to build a strong foundation while it's active. For a day or so before and after this aspect you can explore new or unusual connections with others. Just don't assume that the relationship will be stable or long-lasting. This is a good time to examine different forms of art. Jazz, modern paintings, computer art, or anything that frees your mind and allows you to see things from a new perspective will be rewarding.

VENUS SEXTILES JUPITER:

On Tuesday October 14th at 4:33 A.M. EDT this wonderful transit completes. It arrives in the wee small hours of the morning, but its effects will be felt the night before and throughout today. This is a very pleasant and easy-going transit that favors all personal relationships and social activities. You should plan to spend some time with close friends or a lover. This is a very creative aspect, and all artists should take advantage of it.

THE SUN SEXTILES MARS:

On Wednesday October 15th at 3:19 A.M. EDT this useful and positive transit will complete. This also comes in the early morning, and the peak of its energy will most likely be missed, unless you're a night owl. But the effects will carry over and allow us the opportunity to get a lot of work done. The ego and the will are working well together, and we can advance our ideas and projects without any conflicts. If this hits your chart you will probably feel a jolt of energy and enthusiasm.

THE SUN CONJUNCTS MERCURY & MERCURY SEXTILES MARS:

On Thursday October 16th at 4:40 P.M. EDT & 9:49 PM respectively these two aspects complete. This is a good day for communication and getting things out into the open. This follows the two positive aspects mentioned above and will bring us a few days of optimism and enthusiasm. It's followed by another positive pair of aspects, so try to use this period to improve your relationships, communicate your feelings, and get your financial and personal issues in order.

VENUS SEXTILES MARS & MERCURY SEXTILES JUPITER:

On Monday October 20th at 1:19 A.M. EDT & 4:38 P.M. EDT respectively this very positive pair of transits

will complete this period of easy-going and pleasant communication and thought. These are mild aspects that won't demand our attention as the conjuncts or oppositions do. But if you focus on this energy you can use it to your advantage. This is a good day for any communication and for expressing your most inner feelings. There is an optimistic feeling in the air and you should be able to project that positive attitude easily.

THE SUN ENTERS SCORPIO:

On Thursday October 23rd at 7:57 A.M. EDT we enter the fixed water sign. With the Sun and Venus (see below) entering Scorpio right before the Scorpio New Moon, we will feel a surge of energy associated with that sign. This is a time to make changes in the deepest levels of consciousness. Nothing superficial will suffice. You can expect many people to respond in a black-or-white manner and to take things to task rather intensely. All the fixed signs tend to be stubborn, and Scorpio is no exception. Try not to hold too tightly to your opinion. And don't let things fester in the unconscious. It's much better to get them out into the light of day and then decide how to respond.

VENUS ENTERS SCORPIO:

Also on Thursday October 23rd at 4:52 P.M. EDT Venus enters this Mars related sign opposite its ruling sign of Taurus. This is a difficult placement for Venus as its generally congenial nature is put to the test of expression in a secretive and controlling sign. Relationships will be more intense and it will be harder to just let things slide. Be careful not to act in a demanding or unbending manner. Try to find compromise and balance in your personal relationships.

DARK OF THE MOON:

The next New Moon falls on Thursday October 23rd at 5:57 P.M. EDT at 00 degrees Scorpio 25 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 Standard 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.

September 26th 8:39 A.M. – 10:29 A.M.

September 28th 4:31 P.M. – 6:50 P.M.

September 29th 11:29 P.M. – October 1st 12:41 A.M. *** Moon is void for 2 days

October 2nd 12:18 P.M. – October 3rd 4:00 A.M. *** Moon is void all day

October 4th 2:32 P.M. – October 5th 5:24 A.M. *** Moon is void all day

October 6th 3:38 P.M. – October 7th 6:07 A.M.

October 8th 10:20 A.M. – October 9th 7:44 A.M.

October 10th 8:49 P.M. – October 11th 11:51 A.M.

October 13th 1:58 P.M. – 7:30 P.M.

October 15th 7:27 P.M. – October 16th 6:29 A.M. ***Moon is void all night

October 18th 9:10 A.M. – 7:08 P.M. *** Moon is void all day

October 20th 11:30 P.M. – October 21st 7:12 A.M. *** Moon is void all night

October 23rd 1:22 P.M. – 5:10 P.M.

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

October 25th 12:11 P.M. – October 26th 12:40 A.M. *** Moon is void all afternoon

October 27th 12:18 P.M. – October 28th 6:03 A.M. *** Moon is void all night

October 29th 11:01 P.M. – October 30th 9:52 A.M. *** Moon is void all night

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New York City

(212) 726-3814

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