

MONTHLY SINCE 1999

ISSUE # 190

## **LIVING BY STARLIGHT** an Astrological Newsletter

**February 2015**

### **AUTHOR'S NOTES:**

As I've been saying in this newsletter and other media outlets, there is a good chance we are entering a long term bear market. The events of the past few weeks have certainly been an indicator of that movement. But remember, markets rarely go straight up, or straight down. Even if I'm right, there will be powerful bear market rallies and seeming reversals periodically during this period. Expect a lot of volatility in the markets this year. We've already seen triple digit days up and down, and they will continue to flip the equities back and forth. While America's economy is actually improving, and the underlying foundation of the dollar and U.S. bonds is strong, we are still in an era of globalization. Our interaction with other nations and groups of nations, including China, the European Union, Russia, India, etc. will have an effect on our supportive underbelly. Recession is a strong possibility. The collapse of oil prices is having a serious effect on Russia, Venezuela, the Middle East oil producers, and the price of other commodities, all of which are in some ways interlocked.

As the Republicans take over both houses of congress we are already beginning to see the agenda they have in mind. One of the first things they did was to attack the DODD-FRANK rules put into place after the crash of '08. These rules are there to protect us against the type of derivative trading that almost brought down our economy. Whatever you may think of President Obama, he and his advisors prevented us from collapsing into the worst depression since the '30s. They bailed out the banks, the car industry, and set into play many restrictions that would prevent another collapse. Those restrictions will be torn to shreds by the Republican ruled congress, leaving us vulnerable to the very same disintegration we experienced only a few years ago. With 1% of the population controlling more than 50% of the world's wealth the inequality has become so severe that a counter-balance is almost impossible to imagine.

**Saturn has entered Sagittarius, which is historically a bearish marker for the equities. As we approach Saturn square Neptune the weaknesses in our housing market and banks will become clearer.**

What we are seeing in the equity markets at the moment is only the beginning of a long deterioration of support and confidence. There are many problems in the financial world, and the stock markets aren't always the leading indicators. Remember, these markets react more to psychological influence than fundamentals, but when there are real underlying issues, such as the collapse of the oil markets, we will see a spiraling down effect as fear and reality both point in the same direction.

The two planets that mostly produce fear are Saturn, which brings up trepidation of real issues, such as fear of poverty, illness, aging, loneliness, homelessness, etc, and Neptune, which produces irrational fear with no real explainable cause. As the Saturn-Neptune square comes closer, fear and confusion will abound. When these two are in conflict it is extremely difficult to differentiate between the two types of apprehension. In 2006 Saturn and Neptune were in opposition. In 2004 I began making YouTube videos and lecturing about the coming crisis in the housing markets and the banking industry. I predicted that July 2005 would be the very top of the housing market as Saturn left Cancer. That was the exact top of that market. I also said that the industry would disintegrate under the Saturn-Neptune opposition, which is exactly what happened. Had there been rules to protect the consumer and investor from the chicanery being perpetrated by the banks and mortgage lenders, we would not have seen a world-wide collapse. Some of these restrictions have since been put into place, most notably with Dodd-Frank, but this congress, with its oligarchic perspective and pockets filled with piles of untraceable cash has all intentions of weakening these restrictions until we are, once again, vulnerable to such a collapse. And don't fool yourself – it will happen. And if we do not have leadership willing to stand up to these self-serving interests, we may not escape a depression next time. **Is it possible to avoid slipping into another deep recession? Most certainly. With some common sense and a strong hand on the helm we could keep certain unscrupulous politicians from implementing the seeds of our financial destruction. No matter which party you lean towards, it's imperative that you realize that short-sightedness rarely protects the future.**

Another problem we may face under this Saturn-Neptune square will be in the banking industry itself. There may be a hacking of an American bank or two. Under the Neptunian influence distraction and misdirection can become a problem. If the banks are, in fact, hacked, depending upon the extent of the damage there could be a serious problem. Just imagine if J.P. Morgan Chase's computers were distorted or the information was wiped out. The chaos it would create could take years to sort through. Even if the backup systems worked, it would disrupt our commerce as individuals scramble to assess their personal losses and try to keep the bills paid. This is the focus of World War III, not huge armies crossing borders with tanks.

As we've seen in recent days, terrorism in the form of the individual or the small "cell" is the future solider. They disrupt our sense of stability and peace and will eventually alter our very society, which is really their objective. As our personal liberties are limited by the challenge of intercepting and preventing attacks, we are forced to redefine what those liberties mean. It would only take a few people with a single stolen nuke to change the shape of the world. The current financial situation in Russia is most disturbing. Their economy is crumbling; the wealth of that nation is in the hands of a tiny oligarchy. The further the price of oil drops the worse it will be for a dozen countries, especially Russia with its large supply of nuclear weapons. Some of the terrorist organizations have huge stashes of cash at their disposal. How long will it be before money and devastating weaponry change hands?

The terrorist attacks in Paris took place on January 7<sup>th</sup>, a few days after the Full Moon at 14 degrees Cancer. This was within a degree of where the Cardinal Grand Cross hit in April 2014, and as I said in last month's newsletter, *it represents a dangerous moment. We can expect more hostility and serious power struggles to*

*emerge this month.*

I also wrote:

***Mars is setting off the Saturn-Neptune square this month. This will be the beginning of a period of about a year of serious confusion and frustration that will play out as more terrorist attacks and misdirection. Both Saturn and Neptune will limit Mars' ability to respond. Saturn will limit Mars' actions and restrict the collective ego from acting in its best interests. Neptune will make it almost impossible for Mars to respond in a constructive and assertive way. The result will be an ineffectual response to violent actions and threats. Of course, these aspects will also limit the ability of all groups to respond in a war-like fashion, so many terrorists will be equally frustrated in their attempts at creating havoc. All of this will result in more tension and a lack of resolution to many issues being created on the world stage.***

### **NEW MOON:**

**The New Moon falls on Tuesday January 20<sup>th</sup> at 8:14 A.M. EST at 00 degrees Aquarius 09 minutes.**

There is an explosive quality about Aquarius that can be displayed in world events, personal relationships, or the financial markets. With Mercury about to retrograde tomorrow the energy throughout this lunar cycle will be influenced by that retrograding motion. We should all use caution and keep our eyes open. This month will be heavily Uranian, with the New Moon, the Sun, Venus, and Mercury in this sign. The retrograde motion of Mercury will add to the intensity of so many planets in this undisciplined fixed air sign.

### **MERCURY RETROGRADES:**

**On Wednesday January 21<sup>st</sup> at 11:54 A.M. EST** the winged god of mischief begins its backward motion in the erratic sign of Aquarius. Expect serious difficulties in all things electronic, including cell phones, computers, and all the other devices we have become addicted to. Back up your important information, and takes steps to secure your phone, tablets, and other toys. Aquarius rules technology and electronics, so that's an obvious place to expect trouble. But it also rules the higher octave of the thought process. I like to say that Gemini & its ruler Mercury rule the RAM of the brain. Aquarius & its ruler Uranus rule the hard drive. When there is conflict between the signs or their rulers, such as when Mercury retrogrades in this sign, we can expect some difficulty in the interaction between the two. Short circuits are common, and an inability to retrieve information can also be expected. Don't be concerned if there's a gap between your thoughts and your ability to put them into action. We may see some exceptional difficulties in the internet. Hacking or some other interference is likely, so use caution with your personal data. Do NOT buy a new computer, cell phone, or other electronic gadget until this transit completes. Misunderstandings and errors will abound, so double check all communications. **There is also a strong possibility that transportation will be disrupted in various places, either by technological problems, accidents, or through terrorist attacks.**

### **THE SUN SEXTILES SATURN:**

**On Friday January 23<sup>rd</sup> at 12:24 A.M. EST** we will all be more realistic and structured in our dealings with the world. This sextile can be used to our advantage, but it requires attention to the actions. They will not

force themselves upon us like the conjunct, opposition, or square tend to do. If you can focus this force where you need it, you should be able to get a lot done in a short period of time. People will be inclined to work together rather than in conflicting ways. But with Mercury in retrograde communication may be difficult and misunderstandings could offset any positive results. Caution and attention to detail will help a great deal.

### **VENUS ENTERS PISCES:**

**On Tuesday January 27<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 A.M. EST** Venus enters the sign of its higher octave. There will be a feeling of empathy and universal love for a few weeks. This doesn't imply that personal feelings will not be present as well, but many of us will experience a more self-less and unassuming kind of emotion. Romance may be more about service to the other person than self satisfaction. Struggle against this and you will feel very out of sorts. Give in to the energy and you may have a sense of self-satisfaction and humanity.

### **MERCURY SEXTILES URANUS:**

**On Wednesday January 28<sup>th</sup> at 12:03 A.M. EST** this positive aspect between the two levels of thought will complete. This is an important moment with Mercury retrograde in Uranus-rules Aquarius. Although this completes at midnight, it still will have a positive effect on all communications and thoughts. Some of us may feel jittery or find it difficult to sleep. If so, focus your attention on something constructive and you may be surprised at the ideas that come to you.

### **VENUS SQUARES SATURN:**

**On Friday January 30<sup>th</sup> at 3:23 A.M. EST** this difficult transit comes along. This can be a hard aspect for personal relationships. If you're not getting along with your significant other, it may be best to delay a date until tomorrow after this passes. If this sits on your personal chart you may be grumpy, or even a bit depressed. But it passes quickly, so don't give it more power than it deserves.

### **MARS SEXTILES PLUTO:**

**Also on Friday January 30<sup>th</sup> at 8:36 A.M. EST** this positive, but intense transit will take over from the Venus square Saturn that precedes it. This is a search for power and control, but because it's a sextile it can be used in a proactive and positive way. It's easier to get groups working towards a common goal. While egos will somewhat watered down by Mars' transit through Neptune, they won't be completely powerless. Under the energy of this sextile it will be possible to direct your energy into a focused and effective force.

### **THE SUN CONJUNCTS MERCURY:**

**Also on Friday January 30<sup>th</sup> at 8:45 A.M. EST** a strong sense of willfulness and mental control will be present. If this sets off Mercury in your natal chart you will feel a surge of cerebral power and ambition. Be careful how you speak to others or you could create resistance to your ideas. We will all tend to be more direct, and with Mercury in retrograde it will be easy to let secrets out or to express something you hadn't planned on sharing with others, so be careful what you say and how you say it..

**VENUS CONJUNCTS NEPTUNE:**

**On Sunday February 1<sup>st</sup> at 12:36 P.M. EST** this confusing transit will add havoc to relationships. While Neptune will create misunderstandings and misdirection towards another planet whenever it is present, it may prove more even more difficult here. Neptune is considered the higher level of the Venus energy, especially in intimate relationships. It will offer us a chance to act in an altruistic and compassionate manner, but it can also make it hard to separate the personal from the collective, creating a fog around relationship issues in general. But because this conjunct takes place in Neptune-ruled Pisces it will be even more difficult to see things clearly. Many people will act in inappropriate ways, believing they are working for a higher good. But in effect they may just be muddying the waters and creating complexities where they don't really exist. Because Venus also rules the 2<sup>nd</sup> house of money and values, there will be problems in financial matters as well. Be careful how you handle your cash and debit cards. If you're not sure about a purchase I suggest you wait until this passes and then review the issue. You may find that you really don't need the item and were just reacting to a whim. Although it isn't easy to do, if you can be more self-less and work towards helping others, this can be a productive and satisfying transit.

**THE SUN SEXTILES URANUS:**

**On Monday February 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:29 A.M. EST** we will all have a chance to make changes without the usual resistance we often encounter. Alterations of direction and attitude will be easier to implement, and it may be possible to move things in a new direction without struggling too hard. But all sextiles (and trines) must be used proactively or we won't gain the most from them. If you are willing to look at your life with an open mind and honestly reflect upon your decisions, you could redirect your energy and put yourself on a new path.

**FULL MOON:**

**This month's lunar peak occurs on Tuesday February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:09 P.M. EST at 14 degrees Leo 48 minutes.** This is one of the showiest of the Full Moons. Leo rules the stage and acting in general, and there will be a tendency to overdo things or act in a broad and arrogant manner. This will be especially true if it hits your chart in a personal way. In years past we have had some big snowstorms around this transit, and hopefully that won't be the case now. As pleasant as snow is in small doses, or in a lovely Vermont setting, blizzards wreck havoc on the working person and society. With the Sun about to oppose Jupiter on Friday, (see below) it wouldn't surprise me terribly if we did experience something blown out of proportion. Certainly a giant winter storm would fit that bill.

**MERCURY SEXTILES SATURN:**

**On Thursday February 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:40 A.M. EST** this transit will help us all focus our minds and aim out attention where it will be most useful. This isn't a very flamboyant transit, and you may not even recognize its presence, but there will be clarity in thought and action. This is a good day for organizing and cleaning up your paperwork. Even though this is a positive sextile, when Mercury and Saturn are in aspect there can be a tendency to concentrate on dour or negative thoughts. Stay optimistic and don't get bogged down in heavy ideas. You may feel like spending some time alone, especially this morning. It's a good day for important

conversations, particularly regarding business issues, but not so much for personal or emotional ones.

### **SUN OPPOSITE JUPITER:**

**On Friday February 6<sup>th</sup> at 1:20 P.M. EST** we will all be prone to overdo things or blow issues out of proportion. Try to keep things in perspective and don't take on more than you can handle. You may be able to juggle things for a while, but once this aspect begins to fade you could find yourself overwhelmed. This is usually a positive aspect, and if you keep a good balance it will work to your advantage. Many of us will be optimistic, and it should be easy to get a group together for any sort of social activity. But keep an eye on your attitude. Arrogance and inappropriate aggression is very possible. Jupiter just wants more of whatever is being offered. Staying within realistic limitations should ensure a positive and fulfilling day.

### **VENUS SEXTILES PLUTO:**

**On Sunday February 8<sup>th</sup> at 12:51 A.M. EST** we will all be looking for a deeper understanding in our relationships. There's a strong desire when Pluto, the planet of compulsive thoughts and actions, is in aspect to Venus. Because this is a sextile it's easier to use this force to enhance and explore our feelings. But it's still an obsessive energy, and most of us won't be satisfied with superficial or incomplete answers.

### **MERCURY GOES DIRECT:**

**On Wednesday February 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:57 A.M. EST** Mercury finally goes direct in Aquarius. Things will happen quickly, and it's very easy to become overwhelmed or lost in the details. You could lose your perspective and make mistakes. Secrets tend to come out while this planet is in the process of changing direction, so keep your ears open and your mouth shut. Anything that has been delayed should complete now. If the check is in the mail, it will probably show up soon. If the check was never sent, you'll find that out now as well.

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

**The next New Moon falls on Wednesday February 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:47 P.M. EST at 29 degrees Aquarius 54 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](mailto: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.

January 21<sup>st</sup> 8:45 P.M. – January 22<sup>nd</sup> 7:48 A.M. \*\*\*Moon is void 12 hours

January 23<sup>rd</sup> 6:13 A.M. – January 24<sup>th</sup> 8:31 A.M. \*\*\*Moon is void 24 hours

January 26<sup>th</sup> 9:23 A.M. – 11:37 A.M.

January 27<sup>th</sup> 9:18 P.M. – January 28<sup>th</sup> 5:36 P.M. \*\*\*Moon is void 24 hours

January 30<sup>th</sup> 4:24 A.M. – January 31<sup>st</sup> 2:09 A.M. \*\*\* Moon is void 24 hours

February 1<sup>st</sup> 8:37 A.M. – February 2<sup>nd</sup> 12:41 P.M. \*\*\*Moon is void 24 hours

February 4<sup>th</sup> 12:31 A.M. – February 5<sup>th</sup> 12:46 A.M. \*\*\*Moon is void 24 hours

February 6<sup>th</sup> 5:09 P.M. – February 7<sup>th</sup> 1:44 P.M. \*\*\*Moon is void 24 hours

February 9<sup>th</sup> 6:58 A.M. – February 10<sup>th</sup> 2:05 A.M. \*\*\*Moon is void 24 hours

February 12<sup>th</sup> 12:32 A.M. – 11:46 A.M.

February 14<sup>th</sup> 10:15 A.M. – 5:24 P.M.

February 16<sup>th</sup> 3:17 P.M. – 7:13 P.M.

February 18<sup>th</sup> 6:47 P.M. – 6:48 P.M.

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

February 19<sup>th</sup> 6:01 P.M. – February 20<sup>th</sup> 6:13 P.M. \*\*\* Moon is void 24 hours

February 21<sup>st</sup> 7:36 P.M. – February 22<sup>nd</sup> 7:28 P.M. \*\*\* Moon is void 24 hours

February 23<sup>rd</sup> 9:57 P.M. – February 24<sup>th</sup> 11:54 P.M. \*\*\*Moon is void 24 hours

**January 2015  
New York City  
(212) 726-3814**

**Copyright 2015**  
**All Rights Reserved**