

MONTHLY SINCE 1999

ISSUE # 193

LIVING BY STARLIGHT **an Astrological Newsletter**

June – July 2015

AUTHOR'S NOTES:

Because of the placement of the planets we have reached the end of the extended Void of Course Moons that we have encountered for most of the last year. For the time being we will not be seeing such long Void periods, which will make things much easier to deal with. This New Moon is also the last Void of Course New Moon in this cycle, so we will see many projects and ideas begin to move forward in a more constructive and accessible fashion.

New York City has always been a microcosm of the nation. We are in the middle of the worst land grab since the Native Americans were cheated out of their ancestral homes. The expansion of luxury buildings at the cost of neighborhoods and affordable housing has grown to cataclysmic proportions. The rate of new building is the highest it's been in fifty years. And virtually none of it is aimed at the middle or working class. Rent stabilization expires tomorrow and the Republican majority in the state senate isn't budging. No matter what the outcome of this current battle is, it may be just a matter of time before the landlords finally push all rent-control out of this once great, diversified city. And without some form of rent-control the future of the soul of New York is not even up for grabs. There will never again be a folk revival, a jazz center, or a world of struggling artists that the West Village had been for a century.

But this isn't just a New York situation, or even a matter of Republican vs. Democrat. This is a national, in fact a worldwide problem that is creating a chasm between the classes not seen since the so-called gilded age of the 1890s. It has become so expensive to live in many American cities that we can expect to see displacement of citizens numbering in the thousands as families who had lived in neighborhoods for generations are being priced out. Boston, San Francisco, L.A., Austin Texas, Nashville, and many other big cities are going through a redefinition based solely on wealth. But it's here in New York that the results can be most readily seen.

Neighborhoods in Manhattan such as Little Italy, the East Village, Soho, and others have been transformed in a few short years into homogenized replicas of each other. Brooklyn 'hoods have been gentrified and placed out of reach for any but the upper few percent. Even Chinatown is cracking under the weight of cash being poured in, with the resulting destruction of the flavor and ethnicity only to become another rich man's area with \$5 a cup coffee shops, overpriced salons, and cupcakes that cost what a decent lunch used to go for.

When I first came to New York many years ago, I moved into a 4th floor walk-up for \$200 a month. I learned the trade of bartending, as I put together my band and was able to survive while playing the local clubs and heading out onto the road in New Jersey, Connecticut, Long Island, etc. All of that is now just a fading dream. There are very few clubs for struggling bands to showcase. On the Upper East Side alone there were half a dozen wonderful bars with live music such as J.P.'s, Home Bar, Friends, Dr. Generosity's, and Eric's where I met many of the most famous musicians, actors, and movie stars. The rents have gone up so much there's no chance of the kind of places we had then ever returning. Nobody could afford to open them, and the musicians who made up the "New York Sound" couldn't afford to live in any of the 5 boroughs. It's sad, and it's frightening to realize that the arts have suffered so very much through the advent of the internet and the inability for anyone who isn't born with the proverbial silver spoon in their mouths to even attempt to create the kind of music my generation had a plethora of.

The last week of this lunar cycle contains a number of difficult transits. We have the Sun opposite Pluto, then the Sun in square to Uranus, Venus square Saturn, and finally Mars and Mercury opposite Pluto. That is a week to pay attention and avoid confrontations as much as possible. We may see some trying world events take place that will create more stress to our already tension filled world. The financial woes Greece is experiencing aren't going away. How the European community deals with this issue will have a powerful effect on the stability of the Euro. Is Putin really ready to tweak NATO, or is he just blustering? I don't believe he has any intention of creating a serious standoff with the West. But sometimes things escalate without much provocation by either side. It is towards the end of this lunar period that we are most likely to see some troubling events take place.

The stock markets continue to go sideways, as I've been predicting. We are in a bearish market, but the amount of money being produced has prevented a collapse. The first chance of that happening is in the fall when Saturn squares Neptune. Saturn rules the banks and the housing market. Housing sales and new home startups has fallen double digits and will continue to show weakness throughout the rest of the year. We have grown so dependent on our banks that the thought of them folding (as almost happened in 2008) is too frightening for most to even consider. The amount and degree of hacking has grown to ridiculous proportions. Virtually all U.S. government workers apparently have had their personal information stolen. WTF? If the government can't keep their social security numbers secure what chance do the rest of us have?

Have a wonderful month and enjoy the summer. It's too short and too sweet to be wasted. The world is always falling apart, and yet it's still here. Go visit the ocean from whence we all came and say hello to your past. Cancer rules the oceans, and this is a good time of year to dip your toes into the waters of life. Mitch.

NEW MOON:

The New Moon falls on Tuesday June 16th at 10:05 A.M. EDT at 25 degrees Gemini 07 minutes. Once again we have a Void of Course New Moon. As I said in the Author's notes above, this is the last Void of Course New Moon in this cycle. As such, this will still be a month of some frustration and a feeling that things are not attached or directed in the way we had hoped. That doesn't mean that all of your plans will falter. Just

that it will require more attention to detail and a clear sense of what you expect from a situation.

The Gemini New Moon is all about communication, as you would expect. Relationships of all sorts will be most prominent as we attempt to get our point across. There will be that Gemini sense of duality that comes with that sign. Don't be surprised if things take a sudden turn into a new direction during the lunar cycle.

THE SUN ENTERS CANCER:

On Sunday June 21st at 12:38 P.M. EDT we enter this most emotional cardinal water sign. This is the beginning of summer, as all of the cardinal signs begin each season. This month is all about family and attachment to the past. Security is most important to Cancers and the strength of our connections to each other, as well as our financial foundation will be on most of our minds. This is a time for mediation and inner communications. Family issues will require our attention as the more emotional side of our personalities become prominent. Love relationships that begin now will tend not to be frivolous, but have depth and attachment that may be difficult to let go of.

JUPITER TRINES URANUS:

On Monday June 22nd at 9:43 A.M. EDT this extremely positive and useful transit completes. This has been an underlying theme that has helped keep the foundation strong, even as the financial and societal issues around us continue to deteriorate. Now that this has completed it may be more difficult to avoid dealing with the Greek meltdown, the situation in Ukraine, and the weakened equities markets. If we are in a bear market and heading towards a recession, the completion of this aspect may herald the slow, steady decline.

MERCURY SQUARES NEPTUNE:

On Tuesday June 23rd at 2:09 P.M. EDT this very confusing square will present us with problems in communication and transportation. This is not a good day to take a trip. All sorts of issues could arise and it may be hard to find your way. If you must travel, double check all itinerary, directions, and connections. It also isn't a good day for important conversations.

MARS ENTERS CANCER:

On Wednesday June 24th at 9:33 A.M. EDT most of us will become more emotional. The ego is taking a decidedly poignant position in the interaction between people. Those born with Mars in this watery sign know full well how difficult it is to separate the ego and the emotions. For a while we will all be more easily set off and angered, but it isn't a rage of logic, rather a temper tantrum based on feelings. Much more difficult to control or work with. Until August 9th when Mars enters Leo use caution in all of your personal relationships. Either you or the other person could misconstrue the purpose underneath the actions, and blow things into an emotional tempest in a teacup.

VENUS TRINES URANUS:

On Monday June 29th at 2:26 A.M. EDT this positive and exciting trine will complete. Because it occurs so early in the morning, most of us will miss the peak. But its effects will be felt for several days as Venus

approaches the conjunct to Jupiter in Wednesday (see below). This is a day for seeking out the unusual and exciting, not for sticking to our usual routine. Boredom is the worst thing that you can allow. Get out and explore the world. Converse with strangers (but don't get into their car). Take in some different artistic venture, such as an unusual form of music, art, or theatre.

VENUS CONJUNCTS JUPITER:

On Wednesday July 1st at 3:51 A.M. EDT this most pleasant of all aspects comes along. It will be felt the evening before, and throughout the day. Try to enlarge your perspective about relationships and friendships. This is a time to enjoy the pleasures of life and to let go of the limitations you usually put on yourself and your interaction with others. Travel, entertainment, or any social get together will be very enjoyable. Just be careful not to overindulge in rich foods or drink. It's easy to forget yourself and drink or eat too much only to suffer the consequences once this passes.

THE SUN TRINES NEPTUNE:

Also on Wednesday July 1st at 5:10 P.M. EDT this creative and empathetic trine comes along. This isn't a very event oriented aspect, but on a subtle and subconscious level it can do some good. We will all be a bit more empathetic for a few days. This increases our feelings of sympathy and compassion. It's also a good time for any creative projects. Meditation and any inner awakening will have depth and bring us some lessons in selflessness. It doesn't last too long, and its effects will be tempered by the Full Moon which occurs later today. But try to be creative or at least take in some form of artistic endeavor.

-

FULL MOON:

This month's lunar peak occurs on Wednesday July 1st at 10:20 P.M. EDT at 09 degrees Capricorn 55 minutes. The Capricorn Full Moon is unlike most. It's not as explosive or disturbing as many of the other lunar peaks. This is all about the sense of security and foundation you feel regarding your life. If there are gaps in your security you will feel them most severely now. Don't ignore those feelings, but don't blow them out of proportion either. If your life is stable, this will pass without much fanfare. But if it isn't, you may find yourself tense and feeling unsettled. Don't ignore any feelings of instability. Look at things in a realistic light and try to figure out how to make them stronger and more secure.

MERCURY SEXTILES URANUS:

On Tuesday July 2nd at 2:50 P.M. EDT the mind will move quickly and in unusual directions. This and the Mercury sextile Jupiter mentioned below will create a few days of excessive mental activity and a desire to increase our understanding of how the world works. This is the lower and higher octaves of the mental process working in tandem and it will allow many of us to see the connection of things in a new and exciting manner. Don't sit in front of a computer today. Try to find the time to get out and explore the universe. Today and tomorrow travel will be enlightening and educational. Get out and see the world.

MERCURY SEXTILES JUPITER:

rd

Friday July 3 at 8:54 P.M. EDT this very positive and expansive transit will open our minds to new and different ways of seeing things. Mercury is setting off the Jupiter-Uranus trine and showing us ways to increase our mental activity. Anything that enlarges your point of view will be helpful. Travel is certainly favored, as is education, communication, and planning for the future. We can all see further down the road now and aim our energy and talents in the direction we wish them to go.

THE SUN OPPOSES PLUTO:

On Monday July 6th at 11:36 A.M. EDT power struggles will be prominent. Many of us will feel this energy, especially if it hits a sensitive point in your chart. This can be a difficult day with a lot of hidden anger and agendas. Expect some opposition to your plans and ideas, but be careful. You shouldn't respond to every disagreement or argument. Pick and choose your battles with care and only take on those issues that are important enough. If you are feeling angry you should try to find ways of releasing that tension or it will seep out of you in the most inappropriate ways. Avoid dangerous situations and if you see that someone else seems to be holding in some anger, try to avoid them.

MERCURY ENTERS CANCER:

On Wednesday July 8th at 2:52 P.M. EDT our thinking will become more emotional and less rational. After the extended period of Mercury in Gemini due to the retrograde motion it's time for us to let the mind rest a bit. The emotions and the intellect will be intertwined for the next few weeks, so don't assume people are being lucid. There is some difficulty separating the two when Mercury is in this watery sign, so try to find a balance between your thoughts and your ideas. This is a good placement for artists and any creative endeavor. It's easier to reach deeply into relationship issues, so if there are things that must be discussed on that level, this will be a good month to do so.

MARS TRINES NEPTUNE:

Also on Wednesday July 8th at 6:43 P.M. EDT this interesting transit completes. This isn't much of an event-oriented aspect, but rather an internal one that will allow us to subjugate the ego for the good of the collective. If there is a project that involves others this is a day to move it forward. You'll find that most people will find compromises easier than usual. This is a good transit for any creative work, especially if it's a collaborative effort.

THE SUN SQUARES URANUS:

On Sunday July 12th at 10:53 P.M. EDT this powerful and dangerous transit comes along. The next few days hold several difficult and uneasy transits that require a great deal of awareness. This is a day to use caution in all things. Arguments are common, so be careful how you communicate. Accidents and injuries of all sorts are also possible. You must pay attention to what you're doing. The main difficulty with Uranus transits is that things move quickly and erratically, so it's easy to be distracted. Most accidents are a result of not looking where you're going. You may also find that many people are tense and irritable. If you're feeling that way, you must work it off through any sort of physical activity. Just be careful while doing so. This is a

day to act defensively and try to avoid anyone's anger or frustration. This is often a transit that sets off the stock markets, usually to the down side. I've seen triple point drops in the DOW many times when this aspect is around.

VENUS SQUARES SATURN:

On Tuesday July 14th at 2:48 A.M. EDT this rather dour transit completes. This isn't a day of sociability or easy interaction. Most of us will prefer to be alone or be caught up in our own thoughts and projects. Because this completes in the wee small hours of the morning its effects will probably not be noticed all that much, unless you're up and about at that time. This is followed by Mars and Mercury opposite Pluto mentioned below, so this is another few days of tension and frustration. Use caution and pay attention to what's going on.

MARS OPPOSES PLUTO:

On Wednesday July 15th at 10:08 A.M. EDT this powerful aspect will create an atmosphere of stress and irritability. Mars will conjunct Mercury on July 16th, so I will write about that aspect in next month's newsletter. But as that conjunct approaches, each of the two planets will oppose Pluto. This is a day to avoid direct confrontation, and to find positive ways to release the pressure. Physical activities will help, but you must be careful while doing them. If this sets off your personal chart there could be an accident or reaction from someone else that is forceful. This is a day of power struggles, as with most Pluto afflictions, so don't take the bait if someone tries to drag you into an argument that isn't necessary. Be especially careful while traveling. Distractions and accidents are certainly possible. Drive defensively and if you're feeling angry let someone else take the wheel.

MERCURY OPPOSES PLUTO:

Also on Wednesday July 15th at 7:38 P.M. EDT this last aspect before the New Moon completes a week of some rather difficult energy. Communication and transportation will be rough. Speak softly, if you can, and don't take everything that is said to you personally. Egos will be prominent and it may be hard to avoid confrontations. Do the best you can and let things slide whenever possible. I expect the stock markets to take a bad hit this week, and it may be prolonged over several days. Some disturbing news will come out that could effect the collective thinking. It's quite possible that there will be a military confrontation somewhere in the many hot spots that currently exist, including Ukraine, the Middle East, the China Sea, Korea... There are so many confrontational issues at the moment that it's possible there could be more than one. Let's hope not.

DARK OF THE MOON:

The next New Moon falls on Wednesday July 15th at 9:24 P.M. EST at 23 degrees Cancer 14 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 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.

June 16th 10:05 A.M. – 6:51 P.M.

June 19th 1:52 A.M. – 2:23 A.M.

June 21st 12:09 P.M. – 12:59 P.M.

June 24th 1:12 A.M. – 1:41 A.M.

June 25th 7:22 P.M. – June 26th 1:57 P.M. ***Moon is void almost 24 hours

June 28th 9:50 P.M. – 11:21 P.M.

June 30th 2:18 P.M. – July 1st 5:11 A.M. *** Moon is void 12 hours

July 3rd 6:38 A.M. – 8:21 A.M.

July 5th 8:31 A.M. – 10:23 A.M.

July 7th 10:36 A.M. – 12:37 P.M.

July 9th 9:47 A.M. – 3:49 P.M.

July 11th 5:52 P.M. – 8:16 P.M.

July 13th 11:31 P.M. – July 14th 2:14 A.M.

July 16th 7:24 A.M. – 10:15 A.M.

July 18th 5:41 P.M. – 8:47 P.M.

July 21st 6:06 A.M. – 9:23 A.M.

June 2015

New York City

(212) 726-3814

Copyright 2015

All Rights Reserved