

MONTHLY SINCE 1999

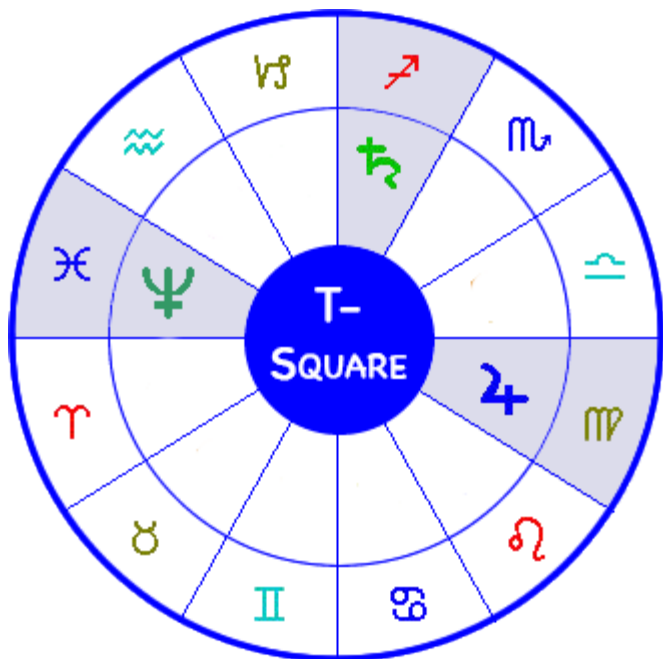
ISSUE # 204

## LIVING BY STARLIGHT an Astrological Newsletter

June 2016

### AUTHOR'S NOTES:

We have been dealing with a seriously difficult aspect all year. **Jupiter is in opposition to Neptune and squared by Saturn. This is a T-Square**, which I consider in some ways the most troublesome of the aspects. While a grand cross is an exceptional amount of energy, it resolves through each of the oppositions and squares. (Many of my readers are aware of the Cardinal Grand Cross we experienced in 2014, the results of which we are still experiencing.) A T-Square is like a three-legged table. It's unbalanced and requires constant attention or it will greatly upset the status quo. Those born with this configuration must stay vigilant throughout their lives and pay attention to their surroundings and try to rebalance situations. Our present political predicament shows that imbalance. It also shows a strong possibility of a third candidate entering the race. In any case, I still predict that Hillary will win.



**On June 17<sup>th</sup> Saturn will square Neptune for the 2<sup>nd</sup> of three passes.** This has been an underlying force that has pushed our world to the brink. Saturn rules stability, reality and the foundation upon which we build. It is responsible for the structure and solidity that we usually take for granted. Neptune cares little for such things. It's a transcendental force that seems to bypass what we call reality in favor of a

higher mindedness and a sense of spirituality that has little to do with structure or practicality. When these two planets are in conflict it implies a need to balance these two diametrically opposed energies and find equilibrium between our need for stability and our desire to escape the limitations of realism. Isn't this exactly what is occurring in our political world? There seems to be a war between what we wish existed and what actually does. On both the left and the right there is a pull towards idealism without regard for the instability that could result. When our ideals are threatened there isn't much room to bend. **Saturn is trying to force Neptune's idealism into a corner, while Neptune is trying to dissipate Saturn's limitations.** In the end neither will succeed unless a compromise is found. Because the primary season has taken place during this ongoing transit it has produced an exasperating situation that will result in at least half of the population dissatisfied no matter what the outcome. Friendships are breaking up over which candidate we favor. Normally rational people are acting irrationally and there seems to be no way out. Hopefully some of this can be resolved and fixed with the separation of this transit. **The last pass of this aspect will occur September 10<sup>th</sup> 2016** before the election, which is why I believe some semblance of order and rational will occur in time for Election Day. But whoever becomes president is inheriting an office that will be fraught with the leftover anger and disappointment this square produces.

Mars goes direct on June 29<sup>th</sup> and it's about time! These Mars retrogrades are very difficult. They only happen once every 2 years, and limit our energy level and ability to fight through the usual battles. This has been a particularly difficult retrograde that has drained us all. Now as it goes direct things will start to move very quickly and there will be a surge of wind at your back that could push you forward with a great deal of force, so be prepared. Although it won't be your nature to do so, use a little restraint until you get used to the rejuvenation and excessive power that will accompany this transit.

**By the way, if you thought the primary season couldn't get any nastier just wait until Mars begins to move forward.**

While I try not to allow my personal feelings to enter into my astrological work and predictions, the stakes in this coming election are so incredibly high that I feel it's necessary to make a statement.

Our world is on the brink of changes that will have long lasting and powerful effects on our planet. Half of America as well as the rest of the world are in the throes of catastrophic weather patterns. The mid-west is experiencing the worst floods and tornadoes in history. The sea levels are rising even faster than most scientists had predicted. The coasts are at risk of being overwhelmed, and there are entire island nations preparing for evacuation in a worst case scenario. And one candidate continues to deny the events and believes that the answer to our problems is to drill more, burn more coal, and virtually do away with the EPA. This is more than just political bantering. It is the most dangerous and foolish approach to a problem that cannot be exaggerated, as it literally implies our very existence.

The next president will appoint at least one, if not two Supreme Court justices whose policies will last for a generation. I know this has been a disappointing election year for many. There isn't that one candidate

that we can all rally around with great pride and hope. But as I said above, the stakes here and now are greater than any individual person or position. The very future of humankind is what we are deciding. If we don't push our species towards renewable energy, strengthening things like the Paris accord, and face the reality of what's happening, there is little doubt that we and our children will pay a terrible price in the very near future. The shore line of New Jersey, Florida, and the gulf coast are all vulnerable to serious irreversible decay – and not in the distant future, but right now. Even if you aren't 100% behind a candidate or their policies, you simply must recognize that this election is a decision that transcends such things as the short term economic or sociological problems we face. Does it make any sense at all to destroy our world for a temporary uptick in employment, or because you don't agree with someone's attitude? All the other issues can be discussed and fought over in the coming years. If we do not make serious changes in our policies towards the environment, none of that will matter. And who we elect this year will have the most dynamic effect on that question.

Happy summer to you all. This is my favorite time of year (I am a Cancer after all) and I hope you all enjoy the sun, surf and games. Take a little time out from your stressful lives and have some fun.

### **NEW MOON:**

**The New Moon falls on Saturday June 4<sup>th</sup> at 10:59 P.M. EDT at 14 degrees Gemini 53 minutes.** This month's focus is on communication and unveiling what is underneath the surface. This can be a very positive period as long as you are willing to see the actualities for what they are. And with Mercury entering this sign of its rulership on June 12<sup>th</sup> we can expect a plethora of information being presented over the next few weeks. In both our personal lives and in the collective we may encounter some harsh facts and be forced to face some difficult and uncomfortable issues. Many truths will be exposed and we will hear some interesting and perhaps confounding news. This will certainly continue to be true about our candidates and the ongoing political process.

Try to make use of this energy and its positive side. This is a month to gather information and put things in a logical order. Travel, especially short journeys will be rewarding and informative. Pay attention to the details and try not to get lost in the bigger picture. Relationships of all sorts are most important, so keep the lines of communication open.

### **THE SUN CONJUNCTS VENUS:**

**On Monday June 6<sup>th</sup> at 5:39 P.M. EDT** this very pleasant and enjoyable aspect completes. While this isn't as powerful a transit as many we will face this month, today there will be an underlying air of ease and tranquility. Try to enjoy this and spend some time in nature or with the arts. It will be most satisfying and could prove a short but useful respite from the harsh reality we normally deal with. This can be a day for romance if it sets off your personal chart, but I usually find it is a good aspect for friendship, creativity and relaxation rather than for the intensity required for coupling. An ongoing relationship will benefit from the gentleness of this energy, but starting a new romance usually takes more Mars energy to stimulate the desire. Either way, try to set aside some time to mediate and relax. Any artistic venture should bring

you much joy and reward.

### **MERCURY OPPOSES MARS:**

**On Thursday June 9<sup>th</sup> at 1:01 P.M. EDT** this powerful but quick moving configuration will put a lot of mental energy in the air. This is an argument waiting to happen. Try not to let it happen to you. If there is something that must be discussed and you've been avoiding it, it may force itself and become hard to sidestep. But if there is a discussion that may be troublesome but can be delayed, I would suggest you wait until this passes. Accidents are also very possible mostly as a result of hidden tension and an explosive attitude. There is a lot of buried anger and frustration. Use caution while traveling and don't get upset over little things. If you're feeling angry, you shouldn't get behind the wheel of a car. There will be a lot of mental energy, as I said, and if you can direct it into projects you can get a lot of work done. Just be aware that you may be speaking with more aggression than you realize.

### **VENUS SEXTILES URANUS:**

**On Sunday June 12<sup>th</sup> at 11:12 A.M. EDT** this interesting aspect will give us all a different perspective on romance and creativity. This is not a day to follow your usual routine. Get out into the world and explore. People, events and the arts will offer you an opportunity for something unusual and exciting. You may meet someone quite different from your usual friends. The more you're open to some new experiences the better the chance of a new encounter. Look for something different in your creative ventures as well. A trip to a museum, a jazz club or some other interesting venue will prove very enjoyable.

### **MERCURY ENTERS GEMINI:**

**Also on Sunday June 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:22 P.M. EDT** Mercury enters the sign of its rulership until June 29<sup>th</sup>. Things will move very quickly and you need to stay on top of it all. Information will abound and ideas will come at you nonstop. This is a very active and productive transit, but it can get a little out of hand. So slow yourself down and be careful not to take on more than you can handle. Communications of all sorts will be quick and plentiful. When a planet transits the sign of its rulership there is an exaggerated sense of what that sign is all about. As such, expect a lot of information to be presented quickly, and relationships to be in the forefront of your life. People often don't realize how much Gemini, its ruler Mercury, and the 3<sup>rd</sup> house have to do with all interconnections between people. I often say that the definition of a relationship is two people talking. What they do while communicating will define what the relationship is, but it's the very fact that they are expressing themselves to each other that makes the connection valuable. Travel is favored, especially short trips. Pay attention to the small details. Because the New Moon was also in this sign, it will add even more impetus to communications of all sorts.

### **NEPTUNE RETROGRADES:**

**On Monday June 13<sup>th</sup> at 4:43 P.M. EDT** Neptune begins its yearly backward motion **until November 19<sup>th</sup>**. This is a time when we will all internalize our deepest spiritual feelings. This is a good time to create works of art, but not the best time to present them to the world. While I don't believe retrogrades prevent

success, there are stronger and weaker periods for our projects. This is a time of creativity and reaching an inner understanding of our personal goals. Rewrite your novel, clean up the lyrics of a new poem or song, or finish your painting. But I'd wait until Neptune goes direct before opening your play or releasing your album. This is a great time to walk on the beach, take mediation classes, or seek any kind of spiritual guidance. I learned to meditate many years ago while Neptune was in retrograde, and I've found it to be one of the most positive and life enforcing things I have ever done.

### **THE SUN SEXTILES URANUS:**

**On Tuesday June 14<sup>th</sup> at 3:54 A.M. EDT** this positive and inventive aspect will give us all a chance to step outside the box for a short while without trepidation. This is a day to explore the world and look for new input, relationships and events. Do something outside of your usual routine; don't just follow the same path. Uranus wants new and exciting, and the sextile allows us to use the energy of the two planets together without conflict. This completes early in the morning, so its effect will be felt more the night before, but it will set up the energy for Tuesday even as its power wanes. Try to look at your situations and problems from a new perspective. You may discover a solution you hadn't considered before.

### **VENUS ENTERS CANCER:**

**On Friday June 17<sup>th</sup> at 3:39 P.M. EDT** this lovely planet enters one of the most emotional of signs where it will stay until July 12<sup>th</sup>. While in this sign relationships will be more about feelings and less about intellect. This will be a time to enrich our closest connections, including friendships and family relationships. There is a strong attachment to the past and those people who stimulate your sensitive side will probably be the ones you'll wish to spend time with. If you need to reach someone you've been having difficulty expressing yourself to, go for the heart. Just be careful not to be too sappy. There is a tendency with Cancer to overdo the feelings and not leave much room for discussion. This is a very creative placement, especially for poets, musicians, and the like. This is a good time to redecorate or beautify your home or office.

### **SATURN SQUARES NEPTUNE:**

**Also on Friday June 17<sup>th</sup> at 11:23 P.M. EDT** this difficult aspect will make its 2<sup>nd</sup> completion. **We will have this configuration one more time on September 10<sup>th</sup> 2016.** Saturn is in retrograde now, and only pulls back a little over a degree from this square. So in effect we are going to be dealing with this aspect from now until it completes for the last time this fall.

We have been living under the influence of this square for more than a year. This transit has been one of the reasons for the confusing and infuriating political situation in this country. It has also been the reason our financial markets are so perplexing and lethargic. Until this completes for the 3<sup>rd</sup> and final time in September we will be dealing with its power.

Just to go over this again, Saturn rules our structure, stability and the foundation upon which we build and expand. Neptune rules the spiritual and ethereal side of life and has little regard for what we call reality.

They are quite opposite in their purpose, but I have found that when used together properly we can do amazing things. I have clients with these two planets conjunct, and many are very successful in the arts, business, or very talented in the health field. That's because Saturn can bring Neptune's fantasies into focus and create a reality where Neptune's powers can be displayed and used successfully in the outside world.

But there are many people born with these two in conflict who never get out of their own way because they've never learned to compromise. If you can focus and use the Saturn energy to your advantage, you can make something exceptional. But you can't allow Saturn to completely quell Neptune's influence or you will extinguish the wondrous Neptunian talents. Of course a square is different from the conjunct and implies an internal struggle from its inception.

For the week applying to this transit we must all use caution and take pains to double check everything and make sure there are no mistakes or misunderstandings, especially in business. Expect even more bad news to come out in the political arena, and for more irrational animosity. It might be wise to avoid certain discussions until after the election.

### **FULL MOON:**

**This month's lunar peak occurs on Monday June 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:02 A.M. EDT at 29 degree Sagittarius 33 minutes.** Last month's Full Moon was also in Sagittarius at 1 degree 14 minutes. Whenever there are two Full Moons in the same sign it implies that there are issues involving that sign that need to be resolved and require our attention. This sign is all about growth and expansion, but also about overdoing and taking things to extremes. Certainly we are seeing those effects in our society now in many areas, especially in our political landscape. Where last month's lunar peak involved the beginning of this issue at 1 degree, this month's is all about the completion of the lessons at 29 degrees. Sagittarius rules the law. We can expect resolution to some legal matters that affect us all.

This may be a particularly intense day with Mercury setting off the Saturn – Neptune square and the Sun entering Cancer. Because of the tendency Sagittarius has to blow things out of proportion, it's important to try and keep things in perspective. The Mercury transits that immediately follow this Sun – Moon opposition will create an atmosphere of low energy with a lot of confusion. It will also bring up issues about the past. If you allow your feelings to overwhelm you it would be easy to get into difficult discussions and make decisions that aren't based in reality. With the power of this Full Moon involved, it would be wise to let things go until this energy dissipates.

### **MERCURY OPPOSES SATURN & SQUARES NEPTUNE:**

**Also on Monday June 20<sup>th</sup> at 10:56 A.M. & 1:11 P.M. EDT respectively** Mercury will set off the ongoing Saturn – Neptune square that completed on the 17<sup>th</sup> (see above). For a day or so you can expect much confusion and low energy. Moods will fluctuate and it may be quite difficult to communicate your ideas and say what's on your mind. Both Saturn and Neptune bring up difficulties in dealing with reality, but in much different ways. The opposition to Saturn can make many of us feel restricted and

unable to express our inner feelings. The sense of reality can overwhelm you, and you may find it hard to see the optimistic and outgoing side of things. When aspecting Mercury, Saturn can limit the flow of ideas and slow down your thoughts. The square of Mercury to Neptune will create an atmosphere where it's hard to separate fantasy from reality. Of course, this is the problem we've been dealing with under the Saturn – Neptune square, and the quicker moving planets such as Mercury simply exacerbate that issue. While Mercury is in conflict with Neptune you may find your thoughts scattered and unfocused. You may hear what you want to hear, and not what is said. It's important to double check things and clarify whatever is creating confusion. Luckily these Mercury transits only last a day or so. If possible don't make any permanent decisions today. Wait until this passes and then examine the situation anew. Use caution while traveling. There could be problems with directions or even mechanical difficulties.

### **THE SUN ENTERS CANCER:**

**Also on Monday June 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:34 P.M. EDT** summer officially begins as the Sun enters this most emotional of signs. I always laugh when people tell me that astrology is irrelevant and has nothing to do with our culture, when it's all around us. Each of the seasons begins when the Sun enters the four cardinal signs. The sign of Cancer is all about friends and family. It has much to do with the past, and there is a tendency to get caught up in unfinished business, especially dealing with familial issues. Old patterns of behavior and attitudes you thought you had left behind long ago may resurface and require another examination. Spend time with your closest people this month. This sign is about deeper connections and our sense of family, however we define that. When the Sun is transiting Leo next month it will be more about romance and games.

### **MERCURY SQUARES JUPITER:**

**On Wednesday June 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:59 P.M. EDT** this positive but excitable transit will lift us out of the doldrums left over from the Mercury aspects we experienced a few days ago (see above). This is a good day for communication and travel, but a word of warning is required. Your thoughts will move quickly and information will come at you at a very fast pace. It may be difficult to keep up with what is being said and written. Also, Jupiter has no sense of boundaries and it's easy to blow things out of proportion. With this square many of us will not have our usual filters and may say exactly what's on our minds without thinking things through. As such it's advisable to take things with a grain of salt and not overreact. If there is an important issue to discuss, try to use some restraint and be succinct in your presentation. Also, while travel will be enjoyable and help expand your consciousness, there is a chance for mistakes. So double check all plans and directions, etc. Also, if you're driving you must pay strict attention to what's going on around you. It's very easy to become distracted under this square's influence, which could lead to accidents or other complications. A little extra care will help avoid any problems.

### **JUPITER TRINES PLUTO:**

**On Sunday June 26<sup>th</sup> at 8:10 A.M. EDT** this useful trine will help bring some issues into focus. This combination will allow us all to make advances in projects that involved other people. The few days leading up to this trine will be a good time to move ventures forward and get help from those who have a

vested interest in the outcome. This energy works better with groups than individually, so if you can work with people to achieve a common goal you will find this more rewarding. This is the third and final pass of this aspect, and I'm sorry to see it go. It has been one of the transits that have helped stabilize the stock markets and world events. With its passing we may see some of the underlying stability falter because we still have one more pass of Saturn square Neptune completing in September without this supportive trine.

### **MERCURY SEXTILES URANUS:**

**Also on Sunday June 26<sup>th</sup> at 10:31 P.M. EDT** our thoughts and communications will be fast and furious. But because this is a positive sextile it will be easier than usual to control your ideas and responses. This is a day to explore new concepts and to step outside of your usual routine, especially if this sets off your personal chart. Seek out unusual input. If you usually like classical music, perhaps today you should listen to jazz. A day at the beach or an amusement park might be just the thing to shake you up a little. There's a great big exciting world out there, and this would be a good day to see some of it.

### **MERCURY ENTERS CANCER:**

**On Wednesday June 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:24 P.M. EDT until July 13<sup>th</sup>** Mercury will enter this most emotional of signs. For the next few weeks communications will be more passionate and expressive. People will be speaking from the heart more than the mind. With the Sun and Venus already in this sign many issues involving family, good friends, and the past will come up. If you have an important matter to discuss it would probably be best to address it on a personal level rather than from a strictly business or "reality" perspective. If you need to reach someone you will do a better job putting it in an emotional context.

### **MARS GOES DIRECT:**

**Also on Wednesday June 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:38 P.M. EDT** Mars finally turns around. Because of the orbit of Mars it only retrogrades once every two years. I find it to be one of the most difficult of retrogrades. Our collective energy level has been lower, and many people have been complaining of tiredness and a feeling of lethargy. Now as Mars turns around you may find that many people are suddenly energized and anxious to get things done. This is often the reaction when a planet goes direct, and with Mars it's often exceptionally so. After several months of restrictive energy flow we all feel like jumping up and running a little wild. Well, that's fine as long as you're paying attention. There's a lot to catch up on, and since it's summer many of us will want to get into the game and enjoy the glorious weather and activities this season offers. Just use some restraint for a few days until you get used to the increased vitality and liveliness this will present. With a little caution this will be an extremely positive and vivacious time. Egos will abound and be more prominent, so expect others to project a more direct and even pushy side. The best thing to do is just let them act out and sidestep anything that rubs you the wrong way. Chances are you are also acting in more of an aggressive manner than you realize. Don't worry; it will all fall into place soon.

### **VENUS OPPOSES PLUTO:**

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**On Thursday June 30 at 11:29 P.M. EDT** many of us could be rather intense in our relationships. This opposition will demand that we dig deeply into our closest connections and unearth any hidden agendas or desires. You may uncover some truths that you hadn't been aware of, so be prepared to hear exactly what the other person is feeling. This may produce some anger or frustration, but it's all for the purpose of cleansing and expunging anything that has been creating limitations and preventing further growth. Remember, Pluto's domain is the elimination of waste, and Venus rules coupling, as well as our financial situations. So you can expect some clearing out in our most personal contacts. It also may represent some sort of purging in our financial markets.

### **VENUS SEXTILES JUPITER:**

**On Friday July 1<sup>st</sup> at 3:18 P.M. EDT** this exceptionally positive and enjoyable transit will complete. This should be a day or so when most people are easy to get along with and seeking expansion in their personal lives. This is a great time for any socializing or entertainment. Don't sit in front of a computer. Get out and see the world. Take in a movie, a show, or a day in the sunshine. Share these things with those you love. Sometimes this combination can lead to a romantic encounter, but this must set off your personal chart to have that strong an effect. A party, dinner, or other interaction with people will be enjoyable and fulfilling.

### **THE SUN TRINES NEPTUNE:**

**On Sunday July 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:02 A.M. EDT** this positive and spiritual transit completes. This is a subtle energy, and you may not even realize you are under its influence unless you pay attention. This is a good day for mediation, a long walk, or seeking a deeper truth through conversation or thought. This is a very creative energy, and if you're involved in an artistic endeavor this may give you some new ideas. Insights of all sorts may be uncovered. Take some time this morning to internalize your thinking and allow your mind to wander where it may go. You could be surprised by the flow of your thoughts and philosophy.

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

**The next New Moon falls on Monday July 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:01 A.M. EDT at 12 degrees Cancer 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 lunar cycles 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 5<sup>th</sup> 12:47 P.M. – 11:41 P.M. \*\*\*Moon is void 12 hours

June 7<sup>th</sup> 8:18 P.M. – June 8<sup>th</sup> 2:47 A.M.

June 10<sup>th</sup> 3:14 A.M. – 9:46 A.M.

June 12<sup>th</sup> 10:47 A.M. – 8:33 P.M. \*\*\*Moon is void all day

June 15<sup>th</sup> 3:01 A.M. – 9:18 A.M.

June 17<sup>th</sup> 9:52 A.M. – 9:34 P.M. \*\*\*Moon is void 12 hours

June 20<sup>th</sup> 7:02 A.M. – 7:55 A.M.

June 22<sup>nd</sup> 4:57 A.M. – 4:08 PM. \*\*\*Moon is void 12 hours

June 24<sup>th</sup> 11:48 A.M. – 10:30 P.M. \*\*\*Moon is void 12 hours

June 26<sup>th</sup> 3:55 P.M. – June 27<sup>th</sup> 3:08 A.M. \*\*\*Moon is void 12 hours

June 29<sup>th</sup> 3:46 A.M. – 6:03 A.M.

June 30<sup>th</sup> 8:19 P.M. – July 1<sup>st</sup> 7:44 A.M. \*\*\*Moon is void 12 hours

July 2<sup>nd</sup> 11:43 P.M. – July 3<sup>rd</sup> 9:20 A.M. Moon is void all night

July 5<sup>th</sup> 2:29 A.M. – 12:28 P.M.

July 7<sup>th</sup> 8:06 A.M. – 6:41 P.M. \*\*\*Moon is void 10 hours

July 9<sup>th</sup> 11:28 P.M. – July 10<sup>th</sup> 4:32 A.M.

**June 2016**

**New York City**

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