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While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of information in this calendar, we cannot be held liable for errors, omissions or inconsistencies.

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Back in 1984, I met my old pal, Sal, and to this day we support one another's career endeavors and personal journey. As an ace Numerologist, Sally Faubion has provided insights on the year's numbers for many a *Janet's Plan-its*, as she has for the 2016 version.

Who can you count on more than your little brother? Nobody. Walter Booth and his "two peas in a pod" partner, Delia Marshall, once again pitched in to help with proofreading. Not just cause they want to be the second to read the latest calendar.

First to read what I write is Ilene Wolf, my running buddy since '76, the year my whole life changed and she's been there every step of the way. We met in a women's writers workshop that spawned lifelong friendships. She makes me a better writer.

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CONTENTS

<u>Rights & Credits</u>	2
<u>Acknowledgments</u>	3
<u>Using This Calendar</u>	5
<u>Overview of 2016</u>	12
<u>The Weeks of 2016</u>	15
<u>2017 Moon Phases</u>	113
<u>Star Pages</u>	114
<u>Best and Worst Days of 2016</u>	186
<u>Resources</u>	195
<u>Contributors</u>	198
<u>Janet's Services (including coupon)</u>	200

USING THIS CALENDAR

Janet's Plan-its Quick & Easy Instructions

Here's the skinny – assessing a day is as easy as 1, 2, 3!

(1) Day Rating

Days are rated 1 to 5, and there may be additional notations:

1 = very challenging day

2 = challenging day

3 = mixed day

4 = good day

5 = very good day

P = a more powerful version of the applicable number

MR = Mercury is Retrograde

* = see the Star Pages for more information about the day (or a longer period)

(2) The Moon

The sign in which it starts the day is noted. If it enters a condition called Void of Course (which requires greater caution), the time when that begins is listed. The Moon remains void until it enters the next sign, which could be on the next day. Major lunar phases (New, First Quarter, Full, Third Quarter) are shown.

(3) Daily Messages, Weekly Highlights

A brief message (one or two sentences) provides guidance about the energy available each day. Many days are covered in the weekly Highlights, sometimes discussed the week before or after.

More ...

If you want a little more help for your most important activities, see the list of **Best & Worst Days for Various Activities**.

And now for those who wish to delve deeper ...

INTRODUCTION

Like a “cosmic weather report,” this calendar applies to everyone, regardless of zodiac sign. Whatever your level of astrological knowledge, there's guidance here for you. Just by reading the Weekly Calendar Pages, you're using astrology to your advantage. There are other tools to explore further, as well. Read through these instructions to see what's available. Realize that how a day affects your chart and your life can be different than its general nature suggests here. For your most important activities (business start-ups, major purchases, marriage, surgery, etc.), it's always recommended to consult your

astrologer.

Astrology helps us make better-informed selections. It offers an educated guess about the future based on similar conditions in the past. This isn't easy since planetary patterns never repeat exactly and each astrological indication can express in a multitude of ways. All planets and signs have positive and negative potentials. Rather than letting the planets have their way with you, put their energies to work and keep them busy in a manner of your preference. Get in the driver's seat and steer!

Janet's Plan-its™ Quick & Easy Astrology Calendar lists the generic nature of astrological occurrences and possibilities the planets present. As the planets and signs are mentioned, you can use the keywords online in Janet's "[Astrologer's Apprentice Cheat Sheet](#)" (or consult other sources) to arrive at your own speculations in addition to what is presented in this calendar. Some days, the influences apply to your life noticeably. Other times, you may see the described situations happening around you but not to you. When a day doesn't sound so nice, it doesn't mean you're doomed to have a bad experience. The message is a warning to watch out for difficult behavior in others and to monitor your own. This is just information to help you on your journey through life.

To determine your individual impact, consult your natal chart, determined by your exact date, time and place of birth. It's more accurate than any astrology calendar can be, though Janet's Plan-its™ is the next best thing. You could order a report that shows the links to your chart from the moving planets ("transits") and interprets these for you. You might also want to learn to read an ephemeris (you'll find instructions online in [How to Read an Ephemeris](#) and to order an ephemeris, I recommend the excellent ones produced by [ACS](#)).

If you want to understand astrological conditions, learn about "aspects" (see the "Cheat Sheet"). They are spatial relationships connecting planets for varying periods of time. How to Read an Ephemeris describes how aspects are determined. Aspects are most potent when exact and still effectual when close to precise in a range of influence called "orb." They may be described as "tight" (close to exact) or as "loose" or "wide" (almost out of orb). Aspects lie at the heart of astrological forecasting. Even the brief aspects made by the Moon play a key role in astrology.

Look up day or night, often you'll see the Moon, our closest neighbor, our satellite. What an impact it has on the earth! Obviously, the tides are caused by the Moon's gravity. It also has a strong affect on menstrual cycles and child birth. Speeding through the zodiac at a clip of about half a degree an hour, the Moon is the trigger (activator) of influences already in place between other planets. It acts like a match to their tinder. The non-lunar connections between planets set up energies that linger for days (or longer), becoming most active and noticeable when stimulated. The Moon's push is usually most potent only for part of a day. However, lunar phases such as new moons and full moons (especially if they are eclipses) affect a more extended period. The Sun and quick planets like Mercury, Venus and sometimes Mars often spark the effects of

slower planetary combinations over a period of 2-4 days. The weekly Highlights and Star Pages explain these influences.

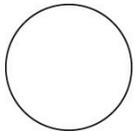
For example, Jupiter and Saturn are square on 5/26 and still close to that aspect in early June in the degree range of 13-14° of Mutable signs. Venus passes the Sun at 16° Gemini (another Mutable sign) on 6/06, creating a T-square which is intense for a few days before and after then. The Moon passes the Sun (and Venus) on 6/04 for a New Moon at 15° Gemini. The effects of the T-square play out through the entire four-week lunar cycle, until the next New Moon on 7/04.

MOON CYCLES



New Moon

The Moon orbits the earth (and thus circles the zodiac from our viewpoint) in about 27 days. A New Moon happens as the Moon passes the Sun, beginning a new cycle that takes on the flavor of the factors present at that moment, extending their sway over the next four weeks. Since the Sun is also in motion, it takes the Moon 29-30 days to pass the Sun again.



Full Moon

The lunar cycle crests at the halfway point, which is the Full Moon. It marks a peak of awareness and often the culmination of a process or trend. Like a New Moon, the effects of a Full Moon are modified by conditions occurring then. The Full Moon's influence starts two or three days before and extends two or three days beyond the date it's exact or much longer in the case of an eclipse. Eclipses are stronger version of New and Full Moons. New and Full Moons are mentioned in the Highlights of the weeks when they occur and are discussed in depth in the **Star Pages**.

Energy shifts at Quarter Moons, which are times to turn a corner. Both types require decisions. At a First Quarter Moon, rely on instincts. At the Third Quarter, let experience and information guide you.

Every two to three days, the Moon changes the sign through which it travels, which gives a general indication of moods, behavior and circumstances (see the **Star Pages**). The calendar's weekly pages tell you the Moon's position as each day starts and exactly

when it changes sign, if it does so that day. If the Moon begins a condition called Void of Course, that time is also listed (see below).



The amount of the Sun's light that the Moon reflects back to earth increases from New Moon to Full Moon, then decreases until the next New Moon. If you want growth in an activity, begin it during the waxing phase between a New Moon and a Full Moon (see illustration above and a list of good dates for new ventures on the **Best/Worst List**). Continue ongoing activities any time. A natural use of the Moon's cycle is to complete projects during the waning phase (after a Full Moon and before the next New Moon). If there's something you want to decrease, begin it during the waning phase. For example, hair shouldn't grow as quickly after a haircut then, and surgery to remove a tumor or reduce tissue is better during the waning phase.

Degrees where New and Full Moons occur get into a groove and repeat from sign to sign for six months or so in "Moon Grooves," Janet's discovery and term. (Read about them and see the current grooves online in [2016 On a Page](#).)

INSTRUCTIONS

Don't be caught unaware — read ahead at least a couple weeks in advance to get a heads up. If some tough weeks are looming, you may want to take certain actions beforehand or plan to wait until afterward.

Adjust for Your Time Zone: Pacific (P) and Eastern (E) zones are listed, adjusted for Daylight Saving Time, when applicable. For Atlantic time, add one hour to Eastern. For Central time, subtract one hour from Eastern. For Mountain, add one hour to Pacific. In many instances, a phenomenon will be listed on one day in Pacific time and on the next calendar day in Eastern time. It may seem like a (P) time is earlier than an (E) time, but they occur at the same moment, just in different time zones. ***NOTE: The information in this calendar is written specifically for the time zones of North America.***

Moon Void of Course: Every two or three days, there's a period lasting from minutes to hours (sometimes more than a day) when the Moon nears the end of a sign and its motivating energy ebbs. Continue ongoing endeavors or complete projects but avoid major purchases or new initiatives after the time listed for the Moon becoming Void until after the Moon enters the next sign.

Day Ratings: Each day is rated as to the stress or ease that the planets present us. A **1** is most difficult; a **5** is smoothest. There aren't many **5s**. It's much more likely for a day

to be challenging than stress-free! The rating is the number between the date and the Moon information the day. The day of the week is abbreviated (SAT = Saturday, SUN = Sunday, etc.). A **C** denotes a calm day with little or no astrological activity. Powerful days (marked **P**) are potent but not necessarily easy, just a stronger version of that day's rating.

Weekly Highlights: These are a must read each week! In fact, read ahead to be prepared for challenging periods.

Retrogrades: An optical illusion occurs when a faster planet passes Earth or when Earth passes a slower heavenly body. From our viewpoint, the planet appears to go backwards through the zodiac for a period of weeks to months, depending on the planet. This motion is called retrograde from Latin for "backward step." When the planet appears to stop to change direction, it is said to be "on station" and exerts an extra dose of its natural tendencies, usually in a very challenging way, for a few days before and after the shift. The effects of the slower planets while in reverse are not usually as noticeable as those of speedier ones, especially Mercury, the quickest of all the planets. Even when backtracking, it can still move more than a degree per day and thus it has the potential to connect to several other planets during its back-and-forth foray. You may not want to start anything new during Mercury Retrograde (days marked **MR**). If you must take action, be careful with all information exchanges, allow extra time to arrive for appointments, and read contracts carefully before signing. Recommendations for other planets' retrograde periods are included in the Star Pages. As the planets zigzag in their trip around the zodiac, they can make the same aspect three times (also explained in the Star Pages). The first time is while moving forward through the degrees where they will soon backtrack. The second time is while they are in backward motion (retrograde). The third time is when they come forward again across their retrograde range. There can be three stages of development of a situation when there are three occurrences of a connection between planets. You can use this for planning. Start an activity or project applicable to the planets' associations at the first instance, make revisions in the midst of the retrograde repetition and finish during the third connection. You may wish to read the articles online about [retrogrades](#) and [Mercury Retrograde](#).

[2016 On a Page](#) (online): This table shows when planets are retrograde, including the station degrees and the time frames (called shadows) when the planets move forward through their backtrack range before and after their reverse motion. There's also a list of the year's New and Full Moon dates and their zodiac degrees. When degrees are close to positions of planets in your birth chart (+ or - 2°), the cycle will affect you strongly. You may also want to check next year by viewing **2017 On a Page** when it's available online.

Star Pages: An asterisk * on a daily line in the weekly section refers you to the Star Pages for interpretations and details about timing. This section provides additional guidance for getting the most from the planets' movements and interactions. Even if you don't understand the astrological terms, read the English parts of the explanations.

Sun Sign periods: The Sun spends about 30 days moving through each zodiac sign, underlying the most simplistic forecasts, which are usually one's introduction to astrology. (There is some validity to such "horoscopes" but the richness of detail and the personal implications are much greater when working with a timed birth chart.) The weekly section lists when the Sun changes sign and the Star Pages give more detail.

Planning with the Planets: When scheduling important activities, aim for days rated **4** or **5** and avoid **1** or **2** ratings. Stay clear of days when a planet changes direction (shown online in [2016 On a Page](#)). See **Best and Worst Days** for various activities. Check daily messages and weekly Highlights for times that sound good for your plans. Avoid the Moon Void of Course (see above). For a complete picture of a given day, read earlier to find what's in effect then. (You may need to go back several months or see **As 2016 Begins**.) Realize that even a **4** or **5** day may not be great if it's during Mercury Retrograde (see above).

Activities Associated with the Planets:

Moon: spend time with family, do something for your home or decor, enjoy cooking or eating

Mercury: make a decision, initiate an important communication, teach, learn

Venus: handle relationship or monetary matters, be with loved ones, treat yourself to something special, make a purchase

Sun: shine, enjoy the spotlight, lead, create, entertain, play, bring out your "inner child," be with children

Mars: do something physical, be assertive, compete, watch out for anger or pushiness

Ceres: nurture yourself or others, garden, commune with nature, enjoy the fruits of your labors

Jupiter: travel, share your ideas, contact those at a distance, handle legal matters

Saturn: get organized, write goals, act with authority, attend to your career

Uranus: bring out your uniqueness, do something different or inventive, help people

Neptune: rest, pray, meditate, spend time in the water (including hot tubs, pools), volunteer

Pluto: release something, clean out closets, attend to investments, enjoy sensuality

Eris: stand up for yourself, confront the competition, make waves, deal with discord or disorder

When working with a birth chart:

Ascendant: (1st House cusp) blow your own horn, seek attention, get a new outfit or hairdo

Midheaven: (MC) (10th House cusp) meet with your boss, go on an interview, enhance your reputation

Your Birthday Influences

Conditions present at your birthday affect you from three months before until nine months after, when your next birthday's factors kick in. Read the Highlights and Star Pages for the week of your birthday. Check the closest prior New Moon. Look at the daily message for your birthday and the day before and after. A **4** or **5** rating signals an upbeat year; a **1** or **2** shows an uphill battle. See if your birthday is on the **Best and Worst list**.

If you have your birth chart

As you read the Star Pages, keep an eye open for your chart's zodiac degrees (+ or - 2°). If they're involved in the aspects listed, the phenomena will apply directly to you. If you know how to determine aspects, you can also see when the year's astrological phenomena hit your chart from different parts of the zodiac.

Ephemeris: This is the name of a type of table showing the planets' daily zodiac positions and other astrological data useful for seeing when planets connect to your chart. (I recommend the ephemerides – that's the plural – from [ACS Publications](#). Such a table might look intimidating, but there are instructions to guide you posted online in [How to Read an Ephemeris](#).)

Janet's "[Astrologer's Apprentice Cheat Sheet](#)" has symbols and keywords for planets and signs. Download it free at AstrologyBooth.com in the Beginner's Topics of the Study Booth. (And please come enjoy the articles and self-study topics on the site!)

A SPECIAL BONUS!

Sign up at the footer of any page on Janet's website: [AstrologyBooth.com](#) to receive Janet's Plan-its daily rating and message free in your email every morning.

COUPON FOR SAVINGS ON JANET'S SERVICES

At check-out, enter Coupon Code **2016SAVINGS** for \$25 off any of Janet's services (not applicable to products). Limit one per customer. Good until 12/31/16.

INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

In ancient times, everyone knew the constellations, planets and moon's phases. These were the basis of stories, myths and songs, a teaching device before books or computers. At night, there wasn't much to do except enjoy the sky and learn from it. Nowadays, few people look up, night or day. But the stars and planets are still there, telling their stories to those who understand them and like a giant cosmic clock, showing us the time.

Astrology helps explain life in general and individuals' lives in particular. My goal is to put the power of astrology into the hands of everyone, rather than only those who study it in depth. Use this tool to whatever level of detail you wish to be able to take advantage of the best moments the planets offer and dodge their difficult times. It's easy – just tap the knowledge of your celestial guide.

OVERVIEW OF 2016

Uranus and Pluto, the two planets most associated with revolution, evolution and transformation, are in a long-term clash. For years, they have been roughly 90 degrees apart in an abrasive connection called a square. Between 2012 and 2015, that approximate relationship became exact (and most potent) seven times. Although there will not be any more precise squares, these two slow-moving planets take their time to get out of range of the 90-degree link.

Astrologers debate what range of influence (called orb) is most forceful for such a powerful relationship. Beyond that range, the planetary link (called an aspect) loosens its grip. My opinion is that 5 degrees from exact can still be quite strong and once there's 10 degrees of clearance, we shouldn't feel the influence that much. Astrologer and historical researcher, Richard Tarnas, uses a 15-degree orb for monumental aspects like this one. After March, 2017, there's a permanent opening of over 5 degrees. There's not a consistent orb of greater than 10 degrees until 2019, or if you use a 15-degree orb, until 2022. In any case, we'll continue to feel the giant push for change for some time to come!

In astrology, each planet has a host of associations. Among the most common for Uranus are surprises, sudden incidents, science and technology (especially everything electronic), freedom, the population as a whole and humanitarian actions. Pluto is related to birth, death, transformation, collective finances and resources, wealth, power (think of Plutocrats) and extremes. Using keywords, their difficult combination suggests situations of sudden death or transformation of the masses. Some of the effects of this square that are likely to continue include fighting for rights, social unrest, income gaps between the rich and poor, extremes in weather and earth changes and roller-coaster

financial conditions. On a more positive note, great leaps forward in technology are also on the docket.

A big shake-up in the next round of turbulence come from Uranus reaching the same degree as the extremely slow dwarf planet Eris, affiliated with discord and chaos. This occurs exactly 6/8/16, 9/25/16 and 3/17/17. The autumn instance is likely to be the toughest, coming shortly after a Full Moon. The following Full Moon, 10/16/16, is at the same zodiac position as both these volatile planets and represents the most potent manifestation of their team-up. Regardless of the signs in which the Full Moons occur, all of them from fall of 2016 until spring of 2017 take place at about 23 degrees. This is the degree where Eris and Uranus unite, marking the entire six months as a time of jangling shocks. At the first conjunction of Eris and Uranus, they are joined by the dwarf planet Ceres. Named for the goddess of fertility, Ceres is affiliated with harvests, the food supply, the earth and abundance. Look for important news that month about crops.

One of the better connections of the current period is Jupiter in a harmonious 120-degree relationship (called a trine) with Pluto (exact 10/11/15, 3/16/16 and 6/26/16). As the solar system's biggest planet, Jupiter amplifies the traits of other planets when it connects with them. This combo may inflate financial markets or currency. It could signal a peak in the income gap. Improved relations between nations, especially regarding trade agreements, are another possibility (Jupiter rules foreign matters). Jupiter's trine to Pluto helps smooth some of the transitions through which we're moving.

When Jupiter joins in difficult planetary connections, it magnifies their problems. It does that in two doses in 2016. When it is in Virgo in the first half of the year, it aggravates a square between Saturn and Neptune. Together, they create a larger and more harrowing configuration called a T-square, which pushes us to round a corner and head in a different direction. This pattern is strong from April through June and is especially potent at the New Moon on 6/04 (and thus for the four-week cycle that follows). Saturn represents authority and the rule of law; Neptune is an amorphous and unbounded energy. Imposing order on confusing situations or dissolving structures are other possibilities with this square. The T-square with Jupiter ups the ante.

In September, Jupiter moves into the next sign, Libra, and by December begins forming a T-square with the fading Uranus-Pluto square. This pattern continues well into 2017. The 45th President of the United States will be elected and take office in the midst of turmoil, possibly even more challenging than the financial melt-down of 2007-2008.

In numerology, 2016 is a 9 year: $2 + 0 + 1 + 6 = 9$ (or $20 + 16 = 36$, $3 + 6 = 9$). This is a number of endings and completion, preparing us for a new cycle that begins in the 1 year, 2017. Numerologist Sally Faubion says, "A 9 year ushers in shifts that help to open the way for major changes in the 1 year. Sometimes a 9 year brings a great humanitarian up-surge. In my circles, it's reported that it will be a time of much greater raising of consciousness. This is the number of 'universal humanitarianism' and we can see flickers of that going on even though there are so many shootings and ISIL, etc. It is

said that when the light begins to shine brighter (like many more souls are enlightened into higher consciousness) that the negative aspects of the world are brought much more out into the light.”

We scream as we careen up and down a roller coaster. When we get off the ride, gasping for air, we exclaim how exciting it was, and most of us want to do it again. Scary experiences are thrilling. They make us feel alive. Well, that’s how 2016 will be. Enjoy the wild ride!

Yours in the stars,
Janet Booth

THE WEEKS OF 2016

Times used in *Janet's Plan-its* are based on THE AMERICAN EPHEMERIS 1950-2050, © 2011 from ACS Publications (see astrocom.com in [Resources](#)).



WEEK: December 28, 2015 - January 03, 2016

Sun Sign: Capricorn

Lunar phase: Waning since Full Moon 12/25/15

HIGHLIGHTS DECEMBER 28, 2015 - JANUARY 03, 2016

To plan for the coming year, it's useful to set a course by reviewing the year gone by. Thursday is appropriate for this, not just according to the calendar, but also since the planets then support a wide-angle view and directional analysis. If conditions seem hairy regarding finances or relationships, the challenges are likely only transitory. From Tuesday night to Thursday (with an echo Saturday morning), the planet in charge of these key areas briefly jolts the waning struggle between two slow planets which have been fomenting major change since 2011. As we move into 2016, their stand-off weakens. If you've accomplished needed revisions in these areas, you've done your work and current situations need not color your decisions for the future greatly. Gut instincts are trustworthy Tuesday and Wednesday. Check what they say and follow their advice since on the same days, your mind leaps to conclusions or leads you to argue with yourself indecisively. Soon Mercury will be Retrograde (see next week's Highlights) and you may change your mind anyway. Many circumstances begin shifting now as three quick planets change signs. As this week moves into the next, a beneficial pattern gives us confidence that our actions will proceed along the path of least resistance.

MON, Dec 28

2

Moon in Leo

Don't be thrown off when some people enjoy shaking things up just for fun or the shock value. Your own pleasure-seeking may divert you from duties tonight.

TUES, Dec 29

2 *

Moon in Leo / Void 9:38 am (P), 12:38 pm (E) / Moon enters Virgo 10:58 am (P), 1:58 pm (E)

Resist reacting impulsively to something said (especially in haste or anger) or to whatever seems amiss in monetary or romantic matters. Have faith.

WED, Dec 30

2 *

Moon in Virgo

Be choosy to whom you offer assistance or from whom you accept it. Integrity and principles are important. Don't rush a decision this afternoon.

THURS, Dec 31

New Year's Eve

3

Moon in Virgo / Void 9:33 pm (P) / Moon enters Libra 10:41 pm (P)

You might follow the Chinese custom: clean house ahead of a new year. It's a good day for helpful gestures and for analysis if you're guided by tried-and-true values.

FRI, Jan 01

New Year's Day

3 *

Moon in Libra (P), in Virgo (E) / Void 12:33 am (E) / Moon enters Libra 1:41 am (E) / Third Quarter Moon (P)

Social interactions from morning 'til night are very pleasant. You may get a little angst comparing your experiences to friends' lives and judging yourself.



SAT, Jan 02

2 *

Moon in Libra / Third Quarter Moon (E) / Void 8:23 am (P), 11:23 am (E)

We may be withdrawn today or want our space, until we perk up for a close comrade. Tonight, we team up to escape via sports or entertainment.

SUN, Jan 03

2 *

Moon Void in Libra / Moon enters Scorpio 11:36 am (P), 2:36 pm (E)

Deep thoughts or discussions reveal what can be done to make improvements or clear the decks for a lighter load going forward. Creativity flows!

WEEK: January 04 - 10

Sun Sign: Capricorn
Lunar phase: Waning until New Moon 1/09

HIGHLIGHTS JANUARY 04 - 10

Probably the most discussed astrological occurrence this week will be the beginning of Mercury Retrograde Tuesday. This is a three-week period (happening every four months or so) of apparent backward motion by the planet related to commerce and all forms of communication and movement on the ground. (If you are unfamiliar with Mercury Retrograde, read Janet's [website article](#) about it.) In this calendar, the daily rating says "MR" on all days when Mercury is retrograde. You can read more about this particular retrograde cycle on [1/05/16 in the Star Pages](#). (This section is a "must read" even if you skip over the "astro lingo.") This one is apt to be turbulent, though there will be some silver linings in its clouds.

Romance and/or finance hit some bumps Tuesday and Wednesday, possibly including confusion, deception or unwarranted sympathy. Thursday and Friday, sarcasm or careless comments could cause a ruckus. Indications at the New Moon Saturday [5:31 pm (P), 8:31 pm (E)] accentuate the ongoing impulse for change mentioned in last week's Highlights. Though its intensity is lessening, the process is not over. Throughout this week, developments prepare us to some extent for what is to come in the next four weeks. Themes and stresses that were strong over the past four to five years are reinvigorated, with a softening touch added now to help bring about a healing or reparations. Systems or procedures can be modified for improvements rather easily. People are in a helpful and responsible mood, for the most part adhering to boundaries and social mores. Practical matters and work- and health-related activities will benefit in the coming lunar cycle from favorable conditions at this New Moon. A word of caution, though, from two factors. With the planet of wide perspectives shifting into reverse Thursday, the tendency around now is to see only our own viewpoint; it's important to keep our eyes, ears and minds open. The little troublemaker out at the edges of our solar system resumes forward motion Sunday and is at a standstill a good week or more before and after, throwing its disruptive weight around with extra force.

MON, Jan 04

3 *

Moon in Scorpio

Whatever hubbub and annoyances are on today's docket end before lunch. The remainder of the day is well-suited for organizing, cleanup or research.

TUES, Jan 05

Twelfth Night

1 P MR *

Moon in Scorpio / Void 9:49 am (P), 12:49 pm (E) / Moon enters Sagittarius 10:57 pm (P)

Morning is the toughest part of the day. Errors and irritations fuel annoyance; trust issues and rivalry mar relationships. Things probably improve by evening.

WED, Jan 06

Epiphany

2 MR

Moon in Sagittarius (P), Void in Scorpio (E) / Moon enters Sagittarius 1:57 am (E)

This afternoon, we get broadsided with more SNAFUs on the love and money fronts, continuing yesterday's woes. By bedtime, we face the hard realities.

THURS, Jan 07

Orthodox Christmas

2 MR *

Moon in Sagittarius / Void 6:45 pm (P), 9:45 pm (E)

Klutziness early could bring a minor injury; slow down, watch your footing and be careful around heat or sharp objects. Tonight, thinking is the more likely problem.

FRI, Jan 08

3 MR *

Moon Void in Sagittarius / Moon enters Capricorn 7:08 am (P), 10:08 am (E)

Temper flare-ups this morning could bite you back Sunday night. Focus on taking positive action according to your philosophies. Make a difference or a contribution.



SAT, Jan 09

2 MR *

Moon in Capricorn / New Moon

A re-orientation is required; let something go and you'll feel more free. If you're experiencing the weight of responsibilities, do something good for yourself.

SUN, Jan 10

1 P MR *

Moon in Capricorn / Void 9:41 am (P), 12:41 pm (E) / Moon enters Aquarius 12:24 pm (P), 3:24 pm (E)

High ideals clash with indisputable facts; discussions take on a sour tone. Still, say what needs to be said and face the consequences, injecting a note of empathy.

WEEK: January 11 - 17

Sun Sign: Capricorn

Lunar phase: Waxing since New Moon 1/09

HIGHLIGHTS JANUARY 11 - 17

Without a little pandemonium, life would be boring. This week will be anything but dull. We may feel like we're on a seesaw as emotions, hopes and expectations spike up and down, sometimes swinging within hours. The week starts without much difficulty. Monday is a good time to re-visit the reality check that arose at the end of last week to put it in perspective. Your worth or special status was being reinforced, which you'll understand by Tuesday evening. However, a competitive situation begins to emerge Tuesday and by Wednesday morning (one of the toughest times of the week), caution is needed to keep pride or judgment from trampling on delicate feelings. There may be an element of suspicion in the atmosphere through Friday; another possibility is that exaggeration blows things out of proportion. Conversely, the true power of an adversary could be underestimated and will be more evident Friday or Saturday. Wednesday night, flip comments sting; what one person considers funny is no joke to someone else. Thursday is the smoothest day - if you have something important to do, try to schedule it then. Tuesday through Friday, we adjust our thinking about how to help others or what aid we require ourselves. The week ends with rivalry attempting to cut into our sense of self-worth, presenting difficulties Sunday which extend into the beginning of next week.

MON, Jan 11

3 MR

Moon in Aquarius / Void 5:10 pm (P), 8:10 pm (E)

We really appreciate the value of friends, especially when we have to swallow some distasteful information. Tonight is good for meetings or gatherings.

TUES, Jan 12

2 MR

Moon Void in Aquarius / Moon enters Pisces 3:55 pm (P), 6:55 pm (E)

The day is rather uneventful but the evening kicks up a lot of dust. Enthusiasm for an initiative falters when we realize what heavy lifting it entails.

WED, Jan 13

2 P MR

Moon in Pisces

Doubts in the morning step aside to open a door for optimism in the afternoon, though it may not be warranted and result in disappointment by night's end.

THURS, Jan 14

3 MR *

Moon in Pisces / Void 8:32 am (P), 11:32 am (E) / Moon enters Aries 6:49 pm (P), 9:49 pm (E)

Practicality and wisdom combine to assess and address what needs to be done, blending warmth and sympathy into the mix. But write nothing in stone.

FRI, Jan 15

2 MR *

Moon in Aries

It's easy to be hoodwinked or intimidated into believing a false premise. Sift through impressions to cull those that don't ring true. Then stand up for your position.



SAT, Jan 16

2 MR

Moon in Aries / First Quarter Moon / Void 3:27 pm (P), 6:27 pm (E) / Moon enters Taurus 9:49 pm (P)

You may have to handle pushy people to keep them in line or be assertive yourself to further your agenda. Respect for authority or expertise is needed in either case.

SUN, Jan 17

World Religion Day (Baha'i)

1 P MR

Moon in Taurus (P), Void in Aries (E) / Moon enters Aries 12:49 am (E)

Stubbornness increases tension amidst disagreements which could span a host of topics, among them values, finances, fairness, feelings, force, secrets and criticism.

WEEK: January 18 - 24

Sun Sign: Capricorn, entering Aquarius 1/20

Lunar phase: Waxing until Full Moon 1/23

HIGHLIGHTS JANUARY 18 - 24

Contentious attitudes at the end of last week taint Monday's landscape. Unless humor or empathy intervenes, caustic comments will dominate conversations. Some people may go overboard in relationship or financial matters Monday, as well, making an adjustment in these Tuesday or, if not then, by Wednesday night. Once the planet in charge of these arenas changes to a more reality-based sign Saturday, we'll be much more practical and grounded. We're heading toward a change of mind, which we may reach as early as Friday. However, it could take until the end of the month after Mercury is in forward motion again. Circumstances this week are apt to have a connection with developments then. Before we can arrive at a new view, we survey what damage is being done by old thought patterns and what improvements can result from an alternate frame of reference. A shock or surprising situation, likely to occur Wednesday or Thursday, may provide the jolt to turn things in a different direction.

The Sun enters Aquarius Wednesday, kicking off a month when we tune in to our uniqueness along with focusing on humanitarian causes. Full Moons are famous for shining a light to bring awareness and we have one Saturday [5:47 pm (P), 8:47 pm (E)]. It occurs in Leo, stressing the importance of personal goals, will power and

persistence. A snag could be getting over a hurt or slight that makes us feel under-appreciated.

MON, Jan 18

Martin Luther King Jr. Day & Civil Rights Day (U.S.)

2 MR *

Moon in Taurus / Void 10:51 pm (P)

Complaints, resentment and arguments test our patience and ability to rise above the fray and maintain composure. Somebody has to be the “adult in the room.”

TUES, Jan 19

1 MR *

Moon in Taurus, Void (P) / Void 1:51 am (E) / Moon enters Gemini 1:14 am (P), 4:14 am (E)

Startling news or an interruption mars the early morning. Evening is stained by passive aggression. Providing service joyfully is the best spin you can put on the day.



WED, Jan 20

Sun enters Aquarius

1 MR *

Moon in Gemini

Everybody's got something to say; not much of it is palatable, being laced with judgments, disputes and defensiveness. In spite of all this, strive to achieve equilibrium.

THURS, Jan 21

3 MR

Moon in Gemini / Void 12:02 am (P), 3:02 am (E) / Moon enters Cancer 5:29 am (P), 8:29 am (E)

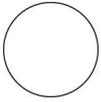
The steam from heated discussions earlier in the week evaporates, replaced by understanding, kindness and support, whether from friends or family.

FRI, Jan 22

1 MR *

Moon in Cancer / Void 10:22 pm (P)

Stress is strongest midday, precipitating a release of emotions. Afterwards the mood shifts; relief, repair or restitution can bring about healing.



SAT, Jan 23

1 MR *

Moon in Cancer, Void (P) / Void 1:22 am (E) / Moon enters Leo 11:22 am (P), 2:22 pm (E) / Full Moon (Storm Moon)

Putting energy into hobbies or creative pursuits helps us feel better about ourselves. At social gatherings, tread carefully regarding sore spots or tender topics.

SUN, Jan 24

Mahayana (Buddhist New Year)

3 MR

Moon in Leo / Void 6:52 pm (P), 9:52 pm (E)

Energy levels are high and you're in the mood to get out and about. Have some fun to put the week's scuffles behind you. See a friend, mentor or advisor.

WEEK: January 25 - 31

Sun Sign: Aquarius

Lunar phase: Waning since Full Moon 1/23

HIGHLIGHTS JANUARY 25 - 31

Mercury ends its backtracking Monday but communications don't get much traction in forward motion for at least a few days. Over the next three weeks, it repeats recent links, prodding us to complete unfinished business or take the third step in a three-step process. This weekend, it reconnects with the two heavy-hitter planets that have been pushing for big changes over the past several years. You might be moved to reflect on the progress you've been making in establishing new rules for your life or trying to live truer to your authentic, unique self. Monday night, Friday night or Sunday night are good times for this.

The string of seven "2" day ratings shows there's no really smooth time this week. The toughest day is Wednesday, hump day, which should be called bump day; it has a mound of too much and overdoing. That evening, work or other commitments cut into social plans. The nicest influence is a sweet blend of affection and sympathy Saturday that promotes warmth and being proactive helping one another. It may aid in balancing idealism with realism in money matters or affairs of the heart. This gets a boost from the Moon Sunday afternoon and evening but another factor then counteracts it. So midday Saturday is as good as it gets this week. Thursday is the runner-up and pleasant enough during the day; as the evening approaches, relationship challenges arise. Still, that day a three-month influence begins singing a song of more kindness and caring in the background, though we won't hear the tune much at first.

MON, Jan 25

Robert Burns' Birthday

2 MR *

Moon Void in Leo / Moon enters Virgo 7:47 pm (P), 10:47 pm (E)

Maybe you can take the day off since no one seems to be in the mood to work and information exchange is stymied. Do what you must and find joy where you can.

TUES, Jan 26

2

Moon in Virgo

Discord or mix-ups in the morning or midday give rise to grumbling. By evening, attitudes improve. Tonight is good for cleaning up and throwing out.

WED, Jan 27

2

Moon in Virgo / Void 4:12 pm (P), 7:12 pm (E)

Morning brings compassion, assistance or the solution to a problem. Later, there's too much that needs to be done. Share the load rather than shouldering it all yourself.

THURS, Jan 28

2 *

Moon Void in Virgo / Moon enters Libra 7:00 am (P), 10:00 am (E)

Take advantage of the harmony and teamwork that set the pace today. Tonight, that's out the window, replaced by a focus on social status and the pecking order.

FRI, Jan 29

2 *

Moon in Libra / Void 5:35 pm (P), 8:35 pm (E)

Projects move along alright if there's good organization and equitable assignment of responsibilities. Tonight's friction might just grease the wheels of change.

SAT, Jan 30

2 *

Moon Void in Libra / Moon enters Scorpio 7:51 pm (P), 10:51 pm (E)

Any difficulties come either very early this morning or this evening. In between, it's pleasant and a good time for enjoying the arts or something escapist.



SUN, Jan 31

2

Moon in Scorpio / Third Quarter Moon

People seem to want their privacy, perhaps to lick wounds from the week and recoup. They warm up a little in the afternoon. Then it's back to doing their own thing.

WEEK: February 01 - 07

Sun Sign: Aquarius

Lunar phase: Waning since Full Moon 1/23

HIGHLIGHTS FEBRUARY 01 - 07

After a couple trying weeks, finally we get some relief! It helps that Mercury is in forward motion again, completing favorable connections from its retrograde repetitions. With the lunar cycle winding down, it's a better time to cash in chips than lay down a bet. Nudging ongoing projects toward completion (rather than starting something new) works well on the high-rated days: Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Rarely do we see three such good days in one week. However they are interspersed with days when progress is impeded. As is often the case, the quick planets make a mixture of positive and exasperating links. The planet of drive and energy and the planet of teamwork and cooperation align, both joining forces with the slow and mighty planet of wielding power to make a difference. Key points to utilize their combination are Wednesday daytime and Friday afternoon into the early evening. Later that night, unexpected circumstances might interfere. Finances and/or relationships may be challenged by a push to do the right, though difficult, thing. This is most noticeable Tuesday and Saturday night, as well as very late Friday night into the wee hours of Saturday morning. A lightning bolt of inventiveness strikes Saturday, although caution should be exercised to avoid ramrodding notions down people's throats. The ideas are big and good and can be fashioned into a workable form; they just need to be sold gently instead of force-fed. Both days this weekend, there's a tendency to rush around with a sense of urgency or impatience, whereas acting with a plan and a sense of purpose will yield better results.

MON, Feb 01

Black History Month begins

5

Moon in Scorpio / Void 4:35 pm (P), 7:35 pm (E)

Any situation or person in need of a make-over is in luck today. Repairs and improvements are easy to implement. Mental focus is strong. Help is available.

TUES, Feb 02

Groundhog Day, Candlemas, Imbolc

1

Moon Void in Scorpio / Moon enters Sagittarius 7:50 am (P), 10:50 am (E)

Sticking to one task is nearly impossible. We drift off on tangents and get side-tracked. Then there are the interruptions. And the whining. No rest for the weary tonight, either.

WED, Feb 03

4 *

Moon in Sagittarius

Set intentions and keep your eyes on the prize; it's within reach. Intelligence, creativity and out-of-the-box thinking make this a great day for meetings and brainstorming.

THURS, Feb 04

1

Moon in Sagittarius / Void 2:04 am (P), 5:04 am (E) / Moon enters Capricorn 4:44 pm (P), 7:44 pm (E)

Unless you have an early morning awareness and shift of viewpoint, you might sleep-walk through most of the day on auto-pilot. Tonight, inflexibility poses problems.

FRI, Feb 05

5

Moon in Capricorn

Vision and inspiration fuel a drive for achievement. We proceed full steam ahead, with a depth of commitment to what matters most to us. Success can't be far behind.

SAT, Feb 06

3 *

Moon in Capricorn / Void 7:54 am (P), 10:54 am (E) / Moon enters Aquarius 9:59 pm (P)

Hopes are high, especially early on, but may not pan out. An unexpected twist threatens to burst your bubble. Perhaps your best thoughts can be resurrected down the road.

SUN, Feb 07

Super Bowl Sunday

2 *

Moon in Aquarius (P), Void in Capricorn (E) / Moon enters Aquarius 12:59 am (E)

Despite enthusiasm and determination to do what you love or be with whom you love, the path is strewn with obstacles and detours or competing needs or interests.

WEEK: February 08 - 14

Sun Sign: Aquarius

Lunar phase: Waxing following New Moon 3/08

HIGHLIGHTS FEBRUARY 08 - 14

The week begins with a New Moon early Monday [6:39 am (P), 9:39 am (E)]. The Aquarius New Moon always ushers in the Chinese New Year. New marching orders pick up where last week left off, in a quandary about pacing. We're prone to overdoing but if we manage resources well and work efficiently, we probably can accomplish the big goals we set. We're not interested in slowing down until Sunday, when we're content to indulge our senses and savor the sweetness of life and love.

Looking back at the past three years, there wasn't a great Valentine's Day among them. Happily, we'll hear a prettier song play this year. The best day to celebrate is on the actual holiday, Sunday. The weekend evenings of Friday and Saturday are not pleasant. Venus is the busiest planet this week, making three very good interactions. However each of these coincides with a difficult link. Monday and Tuesday, hearts seek to heal and be healed but there are judgments to get past. Fortunately, we're willing to let go of anger. (By Saturday, we'll know it's really been purged.) Wednesday, we aim for an optimistic outlook on relationships and encounter discord or rivalry. This requires us to take a different tack, which we manage to do Thursday. Then Friday (especially in the evening), we realize things are not as they appear and we have a tough time figuring out what reality is. Venus can't get us into any trouble over the weekend since it makes no connections to other planets.



MON, Feb 08

Chinese New Year (Year of the Fire Monkey)

3 *

Moon in Aquarius / New Moon / Void 6:39 am (P), 9:39 am (E)

We're torn between emotions and aloofness, seeking a way to blend compassion and practicality. It's more comfortable to maintain some distance, but that might spawn guilt.

TUES, Feb 09

Mardi Gras

2 *

Moon Void in Aquarius / Moon enters Pisces 12:31 am (P), 3:31 am (E)

Empathy is more evident today than yesterday, although we're concerned it may keep us from seeing clearly. Still, we insist on helping others even if it requires a sacrifice.

WED, Feb 10

Ash Wednesday

3

Moon in Pisces / Void 8:25 pm (P), 11:25 pm (E)

Most people float through the day, moving smoothly from one activity to the next with barely a ripple. There could be a bossy type, though, trying to throw weight around.

THURS, Feb 11

3

Moon Void in Pisces / Moon enters Aries 1:55 am (P), 4:55 am (E)

Cooperation, maturity and helpfulness prevail in some corners, while stiff competition reigns in others. If you don't like to play that game, you can walk away.

FRI, Feb 12

Lincoln's Birthday

2

Moon in Aries

We try to make headway but run into obstacles, confusion and unpredictability. We don't lose confidence, yet we may question if we're getting value for our efforts.

SAT, Feb 13

2 *

Moon in Aries / Void 2:32 am (P), 5:32 am (E) / Moon enters Taurus 3:35 am (P), 6:35 am (E)

We're stoic in the face of hurts, knowing where we can turn for assistance, and hopeful we can bring about change. Persistence, adaptability and humor will see us through.



SUN, Feb 14

Valentine's Day

4

Moon in Taurus / First Quarter Moon (P)

It's so easy to find answers and understand situations that we wonder what all the fuss was about earlier in the week. Hugs are shared freely and everyone feels good.

WEEK: February 15 - 21

Sun Sign: Aquarius, entering Pisces 2/18 (P), 2/19 (E)

Lunar phase: Waxing since New Moon 2/08

HIGHLIGHTS FEBRUARY 15 - 21

If you checked only the most common astrological indications, it wouldn't look like much is shaking this week. Of course, *Janet's Plan-its* investigates beyond the ordinary – don't miss the **Star Pages**! We're in the building portion of the Moon cycle and out of range of Mercury's recent retrograde, so the light is green for launching new endeavors. Midday Wednesday, there's a brief window that can be used to advantage for certain kinds of activities (see the **Best/Worst List**). Simultaneous indications in place then present challenges from a financial perspective, though. If a project has budget implications, be sure to work within the prescribed parameters and be careful not to incur cost overruns. (Leave some wiggle room for unexpected expenses.) Another caveat: be conscientious about clarity when recording and exchanging information. The same precaution applies to anything undertaken Tuesday evening or Friday. Relationships may be under some scrutiny and in need of repairs or adjustments this week, especially Tuesday morning and Friday night. Over the weekend is an appropriate time to clear up misunderstandings and put hurt feelings behind us. Monday night and Tuesday, a hard edge stomps on sympathy, cramping tolerance of any weakness. This

stance softens by Sunday and it helps that Venus leaves judgmental Capricorn for the detached air of Aquarius Tuesday night and the Sun enters laissez-faire Pisces Thursday night. Still, some cold, critical comments could crop up Sunday, though they're more apt to be put on hold until next Tuesday night.



MON, Feb 15

***Presidents Day (U.S.), Family Day (Canada),
Susan B. Anthony Day, Nirvana Day***

2

Moon in Taurus / First Quarter Moon (E) / Void 2:54 am (P), 5:54 am (E) / Moon enters Gemini 6:35 am (P), 9:35 am (E)

There's a lot of chatter and not all of it is superficial. We probe beneath the surface for the subtext. Tonight, try to be gentle if a sensitive subject must be broached.

TUES, Feb 16

2 *

Moon in Gemini

Literally or symbolically, if you have to rip off a bandage, doing it quickly causes less pain. Exhaling a deep breath and focusing on a distraction also make it easier.

WED, Feb 17

3 *

Moon in Gemini / Void 8:37 am (P), 11:37 am (E) / Moon enters Cancer 11:24 am (P), 2:24 pm (E)

In the midst of shifting our focus, we can catch a glance of something magical. A wide open view reveals an alternate approach that takes us in a different direction.



THURS, Feb 18

Sun enters Pisces (P)

1 *

Moon in Cancer

The morning is mostly pleasant but by tonight, there are decisions to be made and we're hard pressed to choose the less repulsive of two unpalatable options.



FRI, Feb 19

Sun enters Pisces (E)

2 *

Moon in Cancer / Void 6:36 am (P), 9:36 am (E) / Moon enters Leo 6:17 pm (P), 9:17 pm (E)

We happily do what we're in the mood to and circumvent what we don't want to deal with. Great notions lurk in the ethers, waiting to be plucked and implemented.

SAT, Feb 20

1

Moon in Leo

Some hard truths can't be avoided. Fortunately, we have a strong backbone and the ability to stand up for ourselves as we face facts and plan fair restitution.

SUN, Feb 21

3 *

Moon in Leo / Void 5:17 pm (P), 8:17 pm (E)

The Bard said it best: "to thine own self be true ... thou canst not then be false to any man." Of course, a little sugar and a laugh make the truth easier to swallow.

WEEK: February 22 - 28

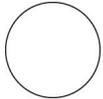
Sun Sign: Pisces

Lunar phase: Waning following Full Moon 2/22

HIGHLIGHTS FEBRUARY 22 - 28

Usually the Sun in yielding Pisces indicates a mellow time. Even the Full Moon of this period in adaptive Virgo is not ordinarily overly stressful. But their positioning at this week's Full Moon [Monday 10:20 am (P), 1:20 pm (E)] accentuates the relentless march toward transformation which has been in progress for at least half a decade now. Issues of the recent past will likely come to a head (again) and require adjustments or tending to people who have been adversely affected. The "rescuer archetype" is typical for Pisces and even more so when the Sun is in the neighborhood of Pisces' ruling planet (as it is this year and has been the past three at the Virgo Full Moon.) They're exactly together Sunday, highlighted by the Moon Saturday night. An additional pair of heavenly bodies aligns across the Virgo-Pisces axis Tuesday, spotlighted by the Moon that night and Saturday afternoon. The weekend is a good time for service or charitable or healing

activities if you don't have space in your schedule for them during the work week. While Pisces time often means confusion or clouded thinking, that tendency is counteracted now by the mental planet in positive relationships with planets that offer grounding, perspective and intuitive brilliance. The strongest emphases on these influences comes at hours when we're not apt to employ them (the wee hours of Thursday and Friday mornings) and in the midst of disruptive or discordant energies Friday afternoon and evening. Friday to Saturday, there is also a special pattern that sends us on a strange but ultimately beneficial sidetrack that should reveal the silver lining of its clouds by next Sunday (3/6).



MON, Feb 22

Washington's Birthday

1 *

Moon Void in Leo / Moon enters Virgo 3:24 am (P), 6:24 am (E) / Full Moon (Chaste Moon)

Nothing goes according to plan today without at least one hitch. Don't add worry to the stress; negative thinking just makes matters worse. Try some yoga or meditation.

TUES, Feb 23

2 *

Moon in Virgo

We try to stay on top of things this morning and have an easier time if we garner some support from associates. Simplify rather than taking on more than you can handle.

WED, Feb 24

3

Moon in Virgo / Void 6:22 am (P), 9:22 am (E) / Moon enters Libra 2:41 pm (P), 5:41 pm (E)

It's one of those "rainy days" for which we've been waiting, a good time to catch up on unfinished business, throw stuff out, clean and organize. A weight will lift off your mind.

THURS, Feb 25

3

Moon in Libra

Conversations flow freely and are productive. People are friendly and cooperative. Any irritations are minor and fleeting, possibly stemming from something that was repressed.

FRI, Feb 26

2 *

Moon in Libra / Void 3:18 am (P), 6:18 am (E)

A very mixed day: some people get into ego-based battles; others collaborate with success. Clarity is possible but confusion is more probable, especially tonight.

SAT, Feb 27

2 *

Moon Void in Libra / Moon enters Scorpio 3:26 am (P), 6:26 am (E)

Hold steady to the helm as the currents try to pull you every which way but straight. By late evening, you might be able to relax and let go of the strains of the day.

SUN, Feb 28

4

Moon in Scorpio

After a small bump this morning, you can make big strides if you believe in yourself and stay focused on your dream. It's also a good day to make a positive difference.

WEEK: Feb. 29 - Mar. 06

Sun Sign: Pisces

Lunar phase: Waning since Full Moon 2/22

HIGHLIGHTS FEBRUARY 29 - MARCH 06

A Third Quarter Moon signals a time to head in a different direction, making decisions based on knowledge and experience. This phases occurs Tuesday with the Moon in sage Sagittarius offering wisdom to balance any confusion or doubts stemming from the Sun in Pisces (still in the vicinity of Pisces' ruling planet). Both signs lend a tendency to drift, though, and sticking to plans isn't easy now but that may be okay. Similar to late last week, we go off on a tangent (most likely Wednesday to Thursday) that seems to take us off track yet in the end brings us right where we should be, which will become clear by Sunday night. Last week's journey was related to learning or communicating about something; this week's touches on relationships, interpersonal interactions or perhaps finances. In any case, there is an odd twist of fate at work that should grease social wheels.

We'll need that boost since simultaneous conditions incline people to be more argumentative than usual this week. It may be that we're just more stand-offish or don't want anyone in our face. Times to monitor yourself to bite your tongue (or let it rip – your choice) are anytime Monday, Tuesday morning, Wednesday afternoon and early and late on Friday. That night, stubbornness adds to the volatility. A civilizing and mature factor Monday likely keeps a lid on ire. Wednesday, a gregarious influence applies a cooperative poultice on the heat. But Friday, some folks are just itching for a fight. The mood and tone mellow considerably after Saturday, when the two planets that got us so riled up shift into more easy-going signs. Sunday is a good day to review the events of the week, see what they taught you and send any remaining negative emotions down the drain.

MON, Feb 29

Leap Day

3

Moon in Scorpio / Void 11:55 am (P), 2:55 pm (E) / Moon enters Sagittarius 3:56 pm (P), 6:56 pm (E)

Intense feelings seek expression, sparking strange (and quite possibly strained) conversations, kept in bounds by propriety and, this evening, soothed by humor.



TUES, Mar 01

Women's History Month begins

1

Moon in Sagittarius / Third Quarter Moon

Abrasion this morning prompts unsettling self-reflection throughout the day, resulting in a sobering effect by bedtime. Isn't it better to face painful realities than be in the dark?

WED, Mar 02

2 *

Moon in Sagittarius / Void 6:55 pm (P), 9:55 pm (E)

Everything comes out in the open and there's no opting for the easy route or hiding on the sidelines. Be frank and you'll find backing, possibly from a surprising corner.

THURS, Mar 03

3 *

Moon Void in Sagittarius / Moon enters Capricorn 2:01 am (P), 5:01 am (E)

Any glitches come this morning and they're not about something substantive, more a matter of taste. Tonight, warmth and caring permeate the atmosphere.

FRI, Mar 04

The only day of the year that's a command: March forth!

3

Moon in Capricorn

The desire to be in control borders on obsessive, which is useful for cleaning, organizing and planning but annoying if focused on telling others what to do.

SAT, Mar 05

2 *

Moon in Capricorn / Void 8:05 am (P), 11:05 am (E) / Moon enters Aquarius 8:22 am (P), 11:22 am (E)

We reach a turning point, which might seem sudden except that changes have been brewing for a while. We're more apt to sidle away from old ways than saddle new ones.

SUN, Mar 06

3 P *

Moon in Aquarius

We don't like all the responsibilities life assigns us, but if we approach them with the right mindset, we can make the best of them, maybe even appreciating the opportunity.

WEEK: Mar. 07 - 13

Sun Sign: Pisces

Lunar phase: Waning following New Moon 3/08

HIGHLIGHTS MARCH 07 - 13

The past few weeks, we've had several mostly beneficial planetary patterns that brought fortunate circumstances or at least helped us eke something positive out of strange situations. The tide is shifting now toward friction and uphill battles, launched at the forceful Solar Eclipse New Moon Tuesday [5:54 pm (P), 8:54 pm (E)]. Two relatively slow planets are moving into position to instigate a major push in a different direction and are confronted by a handful of planets at the Eclipse (see the Star Pages). While an ordinary New Moon flavors the following four-week cycle, an Eclipse impacts a longer period, at least six months and possibly as much as a couple years. In the near term, there will be a lot of rumblings this week, vocalization of displeasure and calls for change, possibly sparked by some surprising news Monday. There's a feeling that the pendulum has swung as far as it can go one way and must reverse its motion. Just this past Saturday, the planet of anger left a sign of repression – which kept antagonism under wraps or behind closed doors – and emerged into a sign of exposure and fiery expression. Thursday afternoon into the evening is an especially volatile time, as well as Friday night, when eruptions can cause pain. Saturday is the oddball day of the week, when everything seems to go smoothly. Apologies are offered and accepted but it could be a temporary truce. More chafing resumes, as soon as Sunday night.

MON, Mar 07

1

Moon in Aquarius / Void 12:46 am (P), 3:46 am (E) / Moon enters Pisces 11:08 am (P), 2:08 pm (E)

It's always smart to watch your words, advice that's particularly vital today. You might want to dance around a delicate topic, fearing straight talk will just cause more trouble.



TUES, Mar 08

International Women's Day, Maha Shivaratri

2 *

Moon in Pisces / Solar Eclipse New Moon / Void 5:54 pm (P), 8:54 pm (E)

In your heart of hearts, you believe in goodness and hold hope in high esteem. That attitude won't be easy to maintain, but it's your best barrier against discouragement.

WED, Mar 09

2 *

Moon Void in Pisces / Moon enters Aries 11:40 am (P), 2:40 am (E)

When up against forces that try to belittle you or put you in a place of reduced power, it's healthy to be focused on yourself and present strength and your best qualities.

THURS, Mar 10

2

Moon in Aries

We're a bit off balance this morning and then bounce back strong. Good boundaries are needed to withstand the onslaught of antipathy without pride registering a blow.

FRI, Mar 11

2 *

Moon in Aries / Void 10:24 am (P), 1:24 pm (E) / Moon enters Taurus 11:44 am (P), 2:44 pm (E)

People are friendlier to start the day and a lot calmer and more patient than the past couple of days. Still, it could be a difficult evening unless laughter diffuses hostility.

SAT, Mar 12

5 *

Moon in Taurus

Is this the calm after the storm of a roller coaster week or only the eye of a hurricane? We lick wounds and comfort one another, and maybe make progress on projects, too.

SUN, Mar 13

Daylight Saving Time begins

1 *

Moon in Taurus / Void 2:46 am (PDT), 5:46 am (EDT) / Moon enters Gemini 2:03 pm (PDT), 5:03 pm (EDT)

We take it slow most of the day, continuing yesterday's healing. By evening, lively conversations ensue and could get heated if controversial subjects are brought up.

WEEK: Mar. 14 - 20

Sun Sign: Pisces, changing to Aries 3/19 (P), 3/20 (E)

Lunar phase: Waxing since New Moon 3/08

HIGHLIGHTS MARCH 14 - 20

There's enough going on astrologically in this one week to fill an ordinary month! And it's not like we need supplementary activity when the two weeks between eclipses are generally seen as an intense time period on their own. Now we add in quick factors that form potent patterns with ongoing clashes between slow-moving planets. On top of all this, the spring equinox comes Saturday night. Travails associated with a contorted

web, aggravated by the Moon last Sunday, extend into Monday and Tuesday, when the components of the snare become exact. Also on Monday, a different group of planets creates the toughest kind of configuration possible, one that pulls us in multiple directions at once and forces quick decisions without the benefit of reliable information. Wednesday has only one planetary connection (other than two brief lunar links) but it's a doozie: the two planets that magnify matters most join forces to punctuate an already extreme week, but mostly in a good way. A strong alignment Thursday blends tough energies with easier ones, coinciding with reverberations from the Sunday-to-Tuesday difficulties. Friday doesn't have a particular formation although it does feature a couple very volatile planetary contacts and one that has the potential to harm or help (and could go either way). Saturday is a high energy day that might well include a surprise, though it's likely to be a pleasant one. The first day of spring on Sunday presents another dose of friction, however a resilient mellowing influence is in place to offset it.

MON, Mar 14

1 P *

Moon in Gemini

You can get your gripes off your chest or suffer in silence. You wouldn't be the only one complaining. It's hard to find anybody with something nice to say today.



TUES, Mar 15

2 P *

Moon in Gemini / First Quarter Moon / Void 10:03 am (P), 1:03 pm (E) / Moon enters Cancer 5:57 pm (P), 8:57 pm (E)

Sympathy is a little easier to obtain than it was yesterday but everyone's tale seems to be the long version and some people don't have the patience for that.

WED, Mar 16

5 *

Moon in Cancer

Compassion revs into action. Lend a hand if you can. Or if you're the one in need, just ask. Help is available. Heads up: whatever is undertaken gets done in a BIG way!

THURS, Mar 17

St. Patrick's Day

3

Moon in Cancer / Void 9:09 pm (P)

Early-risers, be cautious exercising or commuting: increased accident potential is afoot. Midday is energetic and people mostly cooperate. Tonight, we're in the mood to party.

FRI, Mar 18

2 *

Moon in Cancer, Void (P) / Void 12:09 am (E) / Moon enters Leo 12:54 am (P), 3:54 am (E)

Almost everyone is in a rush, except for the few who care enough to take time to do something the right way. Egos bulge and selfish people may steamroll over the meek.

SAT, Mar 19

4 *

Spring Equinox (P), Ostara (P)

Sun enters Aries (P)

Moon in Leo / Void 1:43 pm (P), 4:43 pm (E)

Excitement and enthusiasm are off the chart. Creativity sparks new ways of doing things and people are willing to take chances. It's a good day to offer or enjoy entertainment.



SUN, Mar 20

Spring Equinox (E), Ostara (E), Palm Sunday

Sun enters Aries (E)

3 *

Moon Void in Leo / Moon enters Virgo 10:39 am (P), 1:39 pm (E)

Many will want to retreat into their own space for some reflection or peace and quiet. The calm doesn't last into the evening, though; there's some kind of work to be done.

WEEK: March 21 - 27

Sun Sign: Aries

Lunar phase: Waxing until Full Moon 3/23, then waning

HIGHLIGHTS MARCH 21 - 27

Don't be fooled by the rather innocuous beginning and end of the week; there will be plenty of challenges and adversity to keep us on our toes. When we're embroiled in difficult circumstances, we discover our strengths and weaknesses. Lots of self-awareness is on the docket now! Some of it no doubt will come from interacting with significant others. The Full Moon Wednesday [5:01 am (P), 8:01 am (E)] is in Libra, the main sign of relationship, and it's a Lunar Eclipse, marking a time for major culminations or conclusions in that arena. The Sun in Aries accentuates our need to be an individual and do things on our own or in our own way. With the Moon in Libra, we have to take others into account and compromise. On Wednesday, the planet of communication joins the Sun, stressing the importance of sharing viewpoints and listening to a partner or

teammate. That requires taking focus off oneself, which many are disinclined to do at present. Adding to interpersonal struggles, the primary planet of love makes three major connections this week. Two are on Friday, when it encounters slow planets that are already in a battle of their own and they form a pressurizing pattern that frequently means a turning point. Its link Saturday prods us to make a break with the past or get rid of or alter what isn't working for us. This can be accomplished in a gentle way and doesn't have to mean a big break-up. All this sounds like a lot's going on, yet we may feel like we're spinning our wheels in place and not getting anywhere. A planet associated with caution and holding back is at a standstill, flipping the switch to backward motion Friday. Sunday we may get a chance to recuperate. Happily, next week will not be anywhere near as hectic as this current and past weeks.

MON, Mar 21

Zoroastrian New Year

3 *

Moon in Virgo / Void 8:55 pm (P), 11:55 pm (E)

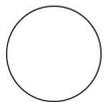
Comments meant to critique could easily be construed as disapproval and end up hurting feelings. You can speak with authority without conveying a sense of superiority.

TUES, Mar 22

3 *

Moon Void in Virgo / Moon enters Libra 10:23 pm (P)

Take your eyes off the grindstone and lift your gaze to see the larger context of how your efforts mesh with others' endeavors, whether in worldly or spiritual work.



WED, Mar 23

2 P *

Moon in Libra (P), Void in Virgo (E) / Moon enters Libra 1:23 am (E) / Lunar Eclipse Full Moon (Seed Moon)

Do you have a solo or duo M.O. (method of operating)? You'll find out which way you're more comfortable and may need to make adjustments accordingly.

THURS, Mar 24

Purim

3 *

Moon in Libra / Void 1:55 pm (P), 4:55 pm (E)

Adhering to principles of fairness and respect, we use tact and possibly empathy in dealing with people who straddle the line between healthy self-interest and selfishness.

FRI, Mar 25

Good Friday

1 P *

Moon Void in Libra / Moon enters Scorpio 11:09 am (P), 2:09 pm (E)

Faced with obstinacy and obstacles, even the most adaptable among us may feel like throwing in the towel on such a difficult and exasperating day. "This, too, shall pass."

SAT, Mar 26

4 *

Moon in Scorpio

Renewed energy and a more hopeful outlook help us recover from yesterday's tribulations. We realize what changes need to be made and proceed in that direction.

SUN, Mar 27

Easter

3

Moon in Scorpio / Void 12:25 am (P), 3:25 am (E) / Moon enters Sagittarius 11:46 pm (P)

We end this week of tension and competition between Self and Other with a turn in the direction of more compassion, putting our feet in someone else's shoes.

WEEK: Mar. 28 - Apr. 03

Sun Sign: Aries

Lunar phase: Waning since Full Moon 3/23

HIGHLIGHTS MARCH 28 - APRIL 03

Although this is the Aries time of year and its themes are very evident, we still have lingering Pisces vibes showing up throughout the week. Signs next to one another in the zodiac have very different proclivities, as do these two. Aries is assertive, pro-active and self-interested while Pisces is passive, reactive and selfless. On a heart level, we're in the Pisces mode: extending sympathy and assistance, looking to provide healing or remedies. Key times for this, although the path is pebble-strewn, are Tuesday evening, midday Friday and throughout the day Saturday. Our thoughts and actions operate in Aries ways: speedy, self-assured, perhaps even brash or argumentative. These inclinations are strongest across the day Monday, Thursday afternoon, Friday morning and night, Sunday night and next Monday. Tuesday a factor of maturity and respect helps us keep impulses in check. A softening condition in place Sunday and next Monday evening may not be enough to counteract the simultaneous disruptive influences. The plurality of "3" ratings this week shows that energies are very mixed; no day is very good nor very bad, although Sunday comes closest to the negative end of the spectrum. A word of caution: many people will be klutzy and accident-prone now. Hurrying only adds to the danger. Best time of the week: Thursday afternoon, when ingenious thinking leads to constructive results.

MON, Mar 28

3

Moon in Sagittarius (P), Void in Scorpio (E) / Moon enters Sagittarius 2:46 am (E)

Morning is a little crazy but we forge ahead with energy, zeal and optimism. Still, a nagging worry or doubt plagues us and we wait for the other shoe to drop.

TUES, Mar 29

3

Moon in Sagittarius / Void 6:55 pm (P), 9:55 pm (E)

Excitement is high but a smart awareness of limitations keeps us from going overboard. Adjustments are needed and made in how much we extend ourselves to help others.

WED, Mar 30

3

Moon Void in Sagittarius / Moon enters Capricorn 10:45 am (P), 1:45 pm (E)

Some people "give 'til it hurts" but most realize a deeper examination should precede commitment. After midday, we get cranking and accomplish a lot, unimpeded.



THURS, Mar 31

3

Moon in Capricorn / Third Quarter Moon

Early on, we need to be careful not to restrict forward momentum by trying to control every little thing. Later, we have the mental vigor to put ambition into motion.

FRI, Apr 01

April Fool's Day

3

Moon in Capricorn / Void 9:39 am (P), 12:39 pm (E) / Moon enters Aquarius 6:37 pm (P), 9:37 pm (E)

Beliefs are tested. Beware slick, fast-talking "sales" types who prey on blind trust, which is in abundance. Healthy skepticism is also present, possibly neutralizing gullibility.

SAT, Apr 02

3

Moon in Aquarius

An experimental approach and willingness to take risks could escalate into the realm of rash action, which might be tempered by considering the impact on people.

SUN, Apr 03

2 *

Moon in Aquarius / Void 4:16 pm (P), 7:16 pm (E) / Moon enters Pisces 10:45 pm (P)

A realistic self-assessment is hampered by unwarranted over-estimation or, on the other end of the scale, comparing oneself to another may cause confidence to fizzle.

WEEK: April 04 - 10

Sun Sign: Aries

Lunar phase: Waning until New Moon 4/07

HIGHLIGHTS APRIL 04 - 10

Self-reliance can be a beautiful thing. Many companies and bosses like it when an employee is a “self-starter” or requires little supervision. These qualities are also useful if one is self-employed or an entrepreneur. However, when it comes to toeing the company line and following orders, such traits may be problematic. The most independent and self-sufficient sign, Aries, is where the Sun is now traveling and where the New Moon occurs Thursday [4:24 am (P), 7:24 am (E)]. The Sun and Moon are in a positive connection (highlighted on Tuesday) with the planet associated with expertise, authority and being in control. This wouldn't mean trouble if it was the only condition present. But the Sun and Moon also step into an ongoing battle between planets that represent fervent self-direction versus submission to those higher in the pecking order. Thus many people will be torn between deciding for themselves and doing what they're told. This conflict may show up as early as Monday and certainly by Wednesday, with follow-ons Saturday and Sunday. An unrelated but similarly challenging factor adds short-tempered aggression to the difficulties Monday, Thursday and Sunday. At least on Monday, a mellowing influence counterbalances the tension. Complications in communication add to our struggles. We have either a plethora of information or not enough and we say too little or too much. This bothers us most from Monday night through Wednesday and again Friday, when we seem to swerve onto the wrong track. Only Saturday is spared these woes. Sadly, it's not suitable for beginning anything important since the Moon is Void all day.

MON, Apr 04

2

Moon in Pisces (P), Void in Aquarius (E) / Moon enters Pisces 1:45 am (E)

There are plenty of punches to roll with, and if you turn the other cheek, both sides of your face may get battered. Still, some will rely on their faith and practice forgiveness.

TUES, Apr 05

3 *

Moon in Pisces / Void 3:33 am (P), 6:33 am (E) / Moon enters Aries 11:46 pm (P)

Confidence and experience help us overcome uncertainty and give us the backbone to shun the easy way. Tonight, patience and sympathy are the glue that binds us together.

WED, Apr 06

2

Moon in Aries (P), Void in Pisces (E) / Moon enters Aries 2:46 am (E)

We're antsy, ready for a different day to dawn. First, though, there are hurdles to get over. That takes an investment of time and/or resources. Sorry, no instant gratification.



THURS, Apr 07

2 *

Moon in Aries / New Moon / Void 7:56 am (P), 10:56 am (E) / Moon enters Taurus 11:10 pm (P)

Haste could do worse than waste on this precarious day. Be careful around heat, fire, electricity and when engaged in sports or other physical activities. Avoid rage, as well.

FRI, Apr 08

Ramayana (Hindu New Year) begins, Buddha's Birthday

1

Moon in Taurus (P), Void in Aries (E) / Moon enters Taurus 2:10 am (E)

We retreat from the recent race to a slower pace, but maybe that means more chances to spot flaws or voice complaints when we see the trajectory isn't pleasing.

SAT, Apr 09

4

Moon in Taurus / Void 2:49 am (P), 5:49 am (E) / Moon enters Gemini 10:59 pm (P)

This lovely spring day is as ideal for enjoying nature's beauty and being soothed by its healing properties as it is for pursuing whatever accentuates your uniqueness.

SUN, Apr 10

2 *

Moon in Gemini (P), Void in Taurus (E) / Moon enters Gemini 1:59 am (E)

Turmoil surrounds us, most of it verbal. Yet some people say the sweetest and most upbeat things (possibly drowned by angry shouts) and others have odd luck.

WEEK: April 11 - 17

Sun Sign: Aries

Lunar phase: Waxing since New Moon 4/07

HIGHLIGHTS APRIL 11 - 17

Strong women or powerful voices for women's issues come to the forefront this week, courtesy of an emphasis on two "dwarf" planets named for female deities. They'll show that they – and women in general – are more than miniature and won't be minimized. The more forceful of the two is the newest addition to our solar system. Remember when it caused such a ruckus a decade ago, prompting astronomers (not astrologers!) to downgrade Pluto? Named for the outcast among the Greek pantheon, Eris, who upset order and fomented arguments, it's slo-o-o-owly working its way through Aries (taking more than a century). Each year at this time, it gets attention when the Sun

passes by (which happens Tuesday). The ruling planet of Aries, at a standstill and shifting to backward motion Sunday, irritates them both Wednesday at the First Quarter Moon. This could raise hackles about the "war on women." Then Thursday, the other dwarf planet, Ceres (promoted when Pluto was demoted), enters Aries, where it will spend about half of 2016. The first degree of any sign is a potent expression of its nature and the first degree of a Cardinal sign affects events on a broad scale. Immediately, on Friday, Ceres gets tangled with the planet of communication and commerce. Expect important news, possibly involving commodities (since Ceres is the goddess of harvest and grains, in particular) or family matters (because Ceres represents Great Mother energy). Another smaller plus for females this week is a harmonious connection Tuesday between the primary planets representing women and men (Venus and Mars, respectively), helping to smooth relations between the genders.

MON, Apr 11

2

Moon in Gemini / Void 11:57 am (P), 2:57 pm

Early on, we might not know whether we're coming or going. Then a lot of talk ensues, some of it fear-based or dealing with hurts, much of it brilliant and groundbreaking.

TUES, Apr 12

3

Moon Void in Gemini / Moon enters Cancer 1:06 am (P), 4:06 am (E)

Caring is demonstrated in a variety of ways from patient listening and kind replies to ardent passion. Empathy is strong, especially tonight, and truth is of utmost importance.



WED, Apr 13

2

Moon in Cancer / First Quarter Moon / Void 8:59 pm (P), 11:59 pm (E)

A feisty mood prevails. You may have a short fuse and get testy when plans are interrupted or goals thwarted. To be happier, focus on solutions instead of problems.

THURS, Apr 14

3 *

Moon Void in Cancer / Moon enters Leo 6:53 am (P), 9:53 am (E)

Perhaps because we feel we have good emotional support, we maintain a hopeful outlook, despite having to take a different and more difficult route than anticipated.

FRI, Apr 15

Tax Day (U.S.)

2 *

Moon in Leo

Stubborn disagreements arise over values and what's best for everybody. With a sense

of resilient self-worth, you can overcome any insecurity and deal with detractors.

SAT, Apr 16

2

Moon in Leo / Void 10:48 am (P), 1:48 pm (E) / Moon enters Virgo 4:23 pm (P), 7:23 pm (E)

Although we exert tremendous effort, no matter how hard we try, we seem to fall short of the mark. Assigning blame is pointless; it's simply not the right time for this attempt.

SUN, Apr 17

2 *

Moon in Virgo

You've got solid ideas. If they're selfless and benefit others, they may get traction, though not right away. If they're focused only on what you want, they won't budge.

WEEK: April 18 - 24

Sun Sign: Aries, changing to Taurus 4/19

Lunar phase: Waxing until Full Moon 4/21 (P), 4/22 (E)

HIGHLIGHTS APRIL 18 - 24

Blossoms are in full bloom when the Sun reaches Taurus. It's the perfect time for Earth Day. Taurus is a sensuous sign – use all your senses to the max. The Full Moon this week [Thursday 10:24 pm (P), Friday 1:24 am (E)] is in Scorpio, the sign of sexuality; there should be a whole lot of lovin' goin' on! It might be make-up sex, though. The planet of romance and relationships (which is also the ruler of Taurus) has a volatile week (and the fiscal front could also be impacted). Monday is relatively calm but tension builds Tuesday, hitting a peak Wednesday night. We try to find the middle ground between extremes but that's not easy. Friday brings weirdness or a strange surprise, though not necessarily bad. Arguments brew Sunday. Partners have a hard time compromising; each wants his or her own way. Fortunately, the Sun in Taurus offers us a bouquet of patience, which we'll need, particularly the first half of the week and again on Sunday. The primary planet of transformation is stopped in its tracks Monday and doesn't ease into motion again very quickly. Thus we may feel like the changes we can envision make little or no progress. The planet associated with blockades and obstacles is entwined with the Moon and Sun at the Full Moon, adding to the frustration. One thing that does seem to work in our favor this week is communication. Those channels are wide open, especially on Monday and Saturday. Monday, as mentioned, has its problems, with an additional snag from people wanting to hurry and skip details. That leaves Saturday as the best day to iron out the wrinkles of the week. Friday night is pleasant but not a time when we want to address anything serious; we prefer an escape instead.

MON, Apr 18

Patriots' Day (MA & ME)

3 *

Moon in Virgo / Void 5:29 am (P), 8:29 am (E)

Even with plenty of confidence, we don't feel like we're making forward progress. It might be we don't have the right tools, skills or knowledge for what's needed now.



TUES, Apr 19

Sun enters Taurus

2 *

Moon Void in Virgo / Moon enters Libra 4:24 am (P), 7:24 am (E)

You're on solid ground and practical in your thinking, but stymied by a lack of cooperation. It's harder to go it alone, however that might be your only option.

WED, Apr 20

2

Moon in Libra / Void 11:13 pm (P)

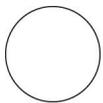
Teamwork is an issue again today, particularly early (when asserting authority hits a snag) and late. Midday, there's a good chance something will get accomplished.

THURS, Apr 21

1 *

Moon in Libra, Void (P) / Void 2:13 am (E) / Moon enters Scorpio 5:17 pm (P), 8:17 pm (E) / Full Moon (P) (Hare Moon)

Adaptability is our saving grace from the pandemonium and conflicts that plague us from morning to night. Civility may stop us from stooping to sarcastic judgments.



FRI, Apr 22

Earth Day

3 *

Moon in Scorpio / Full Moon (E) (Hare Moon)

This morning is an apt time for repair work following yesterday's mayhem. Later, gregarious and gentle interactions are good for social or charitable functions.

SAT, Apr 23

Passover (first day)

3

Moon in Scorpio / Void 2:46 pm (P), 5:46 pm (E)

The best day this week: people are in a helpful mode, willing to share and wanting to make a difference in a positive way. Conditions favor intimacy or dealing with finances.

SUN, Apr 24

Orthodox Palm Sunday

2

Moon Void in Scorpio / Moon enters Sagittarius 5:46 am (P), 8:46 am (E)

We're rushed and anxious, concerned that we can't or won't get what we want and are pursuing with such a vengeance. Few will notice the support right in front of them.

WEEK: April 25 - May 01

Sun Sign: Taurus

Lunar phase: Waning since Full Moon 4/21 (P), 4/22 (E)

HIGHLIGHTS APRIL 25 - MAY 01

There's nowhere to go but to climb down from the hyper perch on which we were poised precariously as last week ended. The coming days are indeed calmer (thought not by a great deal). Still, there's a degree of apprehension Monday morning, all day and night Thursday, and Sunday night; we may act impulsively and unwisely. Confusion and doubt, primarily about relationships or finances, are problematic at these same times as well as Tuesday evening. Trust issues dominate. We begin to have greater clarity and grounding on love and money matters Friday, although we don't like the picture reality is painting. Where we have been too loosey-goosey and permissive, we find we need better ground rules, however now they're harder to institute. Hurts and slights add to the difficulties Thursday and again Friday night at the Third Quarter Moon. This lunar phase usually signals some shifting of gears. In this instance, with the Moon in Aquarius and the Sun in Taurus, we're challenged to break out of a rut or take a risk in an area outside our comfort zone. These two are closely linked with the asteroid that calls for innovation and thinking outside the box to find improvements. There is some good news now. With Mercury turning Retrograde Thursday (and at a standstill all week), the communication blunders one normally expects are oddly missing. In fact, a mix-up Thursday afternoon has a constructive outcome. Patience increases starting Saturday and faith takes a forward step Sunday. Both are required immediately to address lingering worries Sunday night as the week ends with a vibe similar to where it began. Hopefully in between, we learn something about how to cope with unknowns.

MON, Apr 25

1

Moon in Sagittarius

We feel off-kilter to start the day, though we might not be able to pinpoint the cause or figure out the cure. Both regard taking time to be careful: pacing rather than racing.

TUES, Apr 26

2

Moon in Sagittarius / Void 8:51 am (P), 11:51 am (E) / Moon enters Capricorn 4:54 pm (P), 7:54 pm (E)

It's easy to get sidetracked on a tangent unless you're guided by a vision of what you want to get done. Instead of focusing on inadequacies, praise enduring qualities.

WED, Apr 27

Administrative Professionals Day

3

Moon in Capricorn

Concentration is excellent, yet possibly trained on the wrong target briefly early on. Then ambition kicks in and a lot is accomplished – a good day to complete a project.

THURS, Apr 28

International Astronomy Day

1 P MR *

Moon in Capricorn

Practicality and idealism are at odds and thinking is not at its sharpest or quickest. Postpone any major decisions. Attempt to curb wild urges using caution and maturity.



FRI, Apr 29

Arbor Day, Orthodox Good Friday

2 MR *

Moon in Capricorn / Void 12:07 am (P), 3:07 am (E) / Moon enters Aquarius 1:47 am (P), 4:47 am (E) / Third Quarter Moon

After a helter skelter morning, we become more productive in the afternoon. Tonight, we prefer solitude to company, although it will be hard to shut out absolutely everybody.

SAT, Apr 30

2 MR

Moon in Aquarius / Void 7:56 pm (P), 10:56 pm (E)

We enjoy doing our own thing or if we must be with others, let it be like-minded souls. Group activities go fairly well during the day but not so smoothly tonight.

SUN, May 01

May Day, Beltane, Orthodox Easter

2 MR

Moon Void in Aquarius / Moon enters Pisces 7:33 am (P), 10:33 am (E)

A mellow mood starts the day and might see you through to the end IF you don't let

uncertainties get the better of you. (Note the big "IF!") Surprises pop up this evening.

WEEK: May 02 - 08

Sun Sign: Taurus

Lunar phase: Waning until New Moon 5/06

HIGHLIGHTS MAY 02 - 08

Slower planets spend months in reverse; quicker planets back up faster. Long-term Retrogrades are like a background drumbeat, much less noticeable than the adversities that arise during Mercury's three-week or Mars' ten-week backward trek. Currently, we're in the middle of both these shorter-term Retrogrades. When they coincide, we struggle to make even a little forward progress. At least, the Taurus period is well-suited for taking our time. With persistence, we reach the finish line. Along the way, we experience repetitions and opportunities for a do-over with the recurrence of connections these planets made before they switched direction. The most troublesome of these comes Wednesday night to early Thursday morning, echoed as the Moon links to it Saturday night. At both times, we have an anxious sense of urgency (which seems out of joint during this Taurean slow-down) and we rush around, klutzier than usual. Tuesday night, both backtrackers connect with the dwarf planet of nurturing and support, just as the Moon passes by it. This inclines us to seek care and understanding, although we're probably reluctant or unable to verbalize our need for these.

This is a good week to build a sense of purpose in contributing to a meaningful undertaking larger than anything we can do on our own. Tuesday is appropriate for laying the groundwork by surveying the territory. By the end of the week, it's time to commit resources or at least make a plan for that. Friday is one of a handful of 5-rated days this year. The New Moon then [12:29 pm (P), 3:29 pm (E)] is part of a fortuitous pattern that will influence the coming four weeks in positive ways (see the Star Pages). By Sunday evening, we'll feel we know the right heading.

MON, May 02

2 MR

Moon in Pisces / Void 10:08 pm (P)

Morning brings an unidentified, unsettled feeling, or a scattered drifting. By afternoon, we're better grounded and somewhat productive. Evening is time to reflect or recoup.

TUES, May 03

National Teacher Day

3 MR

Moon in Pisces, Void (P) / Void 1:08 am (E) / Moon enters Aries 10:04 am (P), 1:04 pm (E)

Optimism and a sense of possibilities permeate the day as we assess and evaluate priorities. We're proactive getting our needs met and seek those who can supply them.

WED, May 04

3 MR *

Moon in Aries / Void 9:17 pm (P)

Our energy level is high this morning and we're in GO mode to get a lot done. It's easy to maintain focus. This evening, plans shift or are interrupted and we feel stymied.

THURS, May 05

Cinco de Mayo, National Day of Prayer (U.S.), Holocaust Remembrance Day

1 MR *

Moon in Aries, Void (P) / Void 12:17 am (E) / Moon enters Taurus 10:10 am (P), 1:10 pm (E)

The day begins with a hiccup, then derailment off the intended path. You may be calmer from midday on but distractions still impede advancement. Tonight is good for cuddling.



FRI, May 06

5 MR *

Moon in Taurus / New Moon / Void 7:10 pm (P), 10:10 pm (E)

Conceive it and achieve it! Creativity has a constructive outlet. Big ideas find backers, associates come forth to join in the effort, and lines of communication open up.

SAT, May 07

2 MR *

Moon Void in Taurus / Moon enters Gemini 9:34 am (P), 12:34 pm (E)

Some continue to surf yesterday's wave. Others are all talk and no action. A few feel hindered or wronged in some way. Tonight, people are argumentative or easily irritated.

SUN, May 08

Mother's Day (U.S. & Canada)

2 MR *

Moon in Gemini / Void 9:15 pm (P)

Warmth and sentimentality are prevalent this morning, appropriate emotions for Mother's Day. Too bad the mood doesn't linger long. Criticism and bickering ensue.

WEEK: May 09 - 15

Sun Sign: Taurus

Lunar phase: Waxing since New Moon 5/06

HIGHLIGHTS MAY 09 - 15

This is a rather unusual week: all the connections between planets are positive ones, other than those made by the speedy Moon. (It can't help but be in abrasive positions multiple times in any given few days.) That said, one planet (the one that rules growth) is motionless to start the week, slowing us down briefly but not badly. It receives a nice "massage" as it rests via a friendly link from the planet of affection, exact midday Tuesday, just as the Moon strokes them both. Tuesday, a "5" day, is your best bet to do anything important during the current Mercury Retrograde cycle and Sunday, a "4" day, is a close runner-up. (Last Friday, also a "5" day, was very much in the dark of the Moon and not quite as fertile as this week's waxing period.) If you were born with Mercury Retrograde, this is a time of forward progress for you. For everyone else, these days are suitable for ongoing projects and activities; it's just not advisable to begin something new. Thursday afternoon has a quick burst of high energy that stokes creative or athletic endeavors. It's also fruitful for educational or legal matters and helpful in dealing with foreigners or people at a distance (this includes promotion and contact via the internet). Saturday night would be great for a fundraiser or charitable event; generosity and helpfulness are in abundant supply.

Everyone is paying attention to finances now, not just because Taurus is the sign of money. The two planets most affiliated with fiscal matters are in a harmonious relationship, exact Friday night, which is also a lush time for sensual intimacy! The planet of conscious attention interacts with both from Thursday to Friday. Then the Moon enhances these links on Sunday. All these days are well-suited for researching investments, rebalancing a portfolio or figuring out a strategy to retire debt.

MON, May 09

2 MR *

Moon in Gemini, Void (P) / Void 12:15 am (E) / Moon enters Cancer 10:24 am (P), 1:24 pm (E)

Social bonds are strengthened through sympathy and mutual assistance to start the day; we are appreciative and appreciated. Tonight, though, we feel undervalued.

TUES, May 10

5 MR *

Moon in Cancer

A super day for making headway in work, finances, family matters or relationships. Cooperation abounds. Communication is as good as it gets during Mercury Retrograde.

WED, May 11

2 MR

Moon in Cancer / Void 12:34 am (P), 3:34 am (E) / Moon enters Leo 2:32 pm (P), 5:32 pm (E)

Moodiness mars most of the day. A hope is dashed or at least downgraded in the face of limitations. Our outlook may brighten this evening, especially if fun is on the docket.

THURS, May 12

3 MR *

Moon in Leo

If there is a snub early on, it's a small one and self-esteem rebounds, buoyed by the knowledge of one's competency. Tonight, powerful words attempt to budge opinions.



FRI, May 13

3 MR *

Moon in Leo / First Quarter Moon / Void 10:02 am (P), 1:02 pm (E) / Moon enters Virgo 10:52 pm (P)

Self-assurance bordering on cockiness sets up a fall this morning. Then we zero in on examining what's most important or how we can get the biggest bang for our buck.

SAT, May 14

2 MR *

Moon in Virgo (P), Void in Leo (E) / Moon enters Virgo 1:52 am (E)

Innovation helps us see around a corner or get over a hurdle. A strong dose of caution slows us down, although it may prevent a mishap. Tonight, be with those you love.

SUN, May 15

Pentecost

4 MR

Moon in Virgo

Even though it's Sunday, many people have their mind on work and come up with smart notions. Tasks undertaken today are likely to be accomplished without interference.

WEEK: May 16 - 22

Sun Sign: Taurus, changing to Gemini 5/20

Lunar phase: Waxing until Full Moon 5/21

HIGHLIGHTS MAY 16 - 22

The top items of the week are the shift of the Sun from Taurus to Gemini Friday, followed by the Full Moon Saturday [2:14 pm (P), 5:14 pm (E)] and Mercury finishing its Retrograde Sunday. The Sun does not get a warm and fuzzy send-off as it exits the sign of hugs; instead it's in a clash with the planet of caring and support, exact midday Tuesday, just as the Moon scratches them both. Nor does the Sun receive a friendly welcome as it enters communicative and adaptable Gemini. Across from it is the anger planet and they both get into a skirmish with the planet of extremes, which is in a bossy, judgmental sign. Disagreements arise easily and could get ugly. These should be mostly verbal but there is a destructive component present. The resultant difficulties peak

Saturday to Sunday, drawing the Moon into the fray at the Full Moon (see the Star Pages). There may be a preview or forerunner of these altercations late Tuesday night, or fallout from them afterward on next Wednesday morning; the Moon aggravates these volatile culprits at both times but in a less intense way. This will not be a good weekend for travel (local or long distance) nor for international matters. Both are related to Sagittarius and its ruling planet, which is currently in a very challenging formation. In stark contrast to last week, there are only two positive interplanetary (non-lunar) connections this week. The more beneficial one brightens Thursday afternoon with affection and empathy. The other attempts to offer encouragement from an elder or someone in authority Sunday afternoon, but it's pigeonholed between troublesome links and does little good.

MON, May 16

3 MR

Moon in Virgo / Void 2:20 am (P), 5:20 am (E) / Moon enters Libra 10:33 am (P), 1:33 pm (E)

After a productive morning, the afternoon pace slows down due to either a lack of needed information or someone's foot-dragging. This evening, we're lively and upbeat.

TUES, May 17

2 MR

Moon in Libra

It's not that people don't care, but rather what is it they care about? For most of the day, most of us are very involved in whatever we're doing and rather oblivious to others.

WED, May 18

1 MR

Moon in Libra / Void 8:23 am (P), 11:23 am (E) / Moon enters Scorpio 11:29 pm (P)

The independence and self-orientation evident yesterday continues this morning. Later, aid and cooperation can be coaxed, perhaps begrudgingly, accompanied by whining.

THURS, May 19

2 MR

Moon in Scorpio (P), Void in Libra (E) / Moon enters Scorpio 2:29 am (E)

We try to make some changes and get back on course early. This afternoon, caring and understanding provide good medicine and many feel the need for some help or healing.



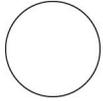
FRI, May 20

3 MR *

Sun enters Gemini

Moon in Scorpio

A different perspective shines a new light, illuminating a range of topics and showing us which way to aim. There's likely some resentment that needs to be left behind tonight.



SAT, May 21

Armed Forces Day

1 P MR *

Moon in Scorpio / Void 4:39 am (P), 7:39 am (E) / Moon enters Sagittarius 11:48 am (P), 2:48 pm (E) / Full Moon (Blue Moon)

Check out the cost or value of something this morning, maybe a repair or enhancement. A vigorous workout or engaging sporting event later helps release tension or frustration.

SUN, May 22

2 P *

Moon in Sagittarius

Not everyone can have his or her way and the more mature or easy-going among us will manage to have a relatively pleasant day. Rigid thinking or strict rules need to yield.

WEEK: May 23 - 29

Sun Sign: Gemini

Lunar phase: Waning since Full Moon 5/21

HIGHLIGHTS MAY 23 - 29

This won't be an easy week but you might be able to eke a little something positive out of it this weekend. First there are bumps galore. One of the year's toughest stand-offs is exact Thursday, accentuated by the Moon then as well as last Sunday and this Sunday. It's likely to cause a bigger problem at the New Moon next week, though. Quick heavenly bodies then knit it together with an even more difficult link and propel the hardships forward over the coming lunar cycle. The planet of peace, harmony, love and affection lines up across from the planet of aggression, self-interest and competition Tuesday, irritated by the Moon early Wednesday and again Saturday afternoon and night. Midday Thursday, the Moon intercedes between them to try to bring some cooperation but other factors don't create an atmosphere of support. We seem to have trouble getting backing right from the starting gate this week. Monday the planet of teamwork gets pushed around by the dwarf planet of nurturance and there could be a continuation of a social disconnect that arose last Saturday morning. Then that dwarf steps on the toes of the planet of anger and irritation Thursday. The more we ask for help, the peskier we seem so we might be better off just handling things on our own. Fiscal matters are also going through the wringer, particularly Wednesday; the two

monetary planets lock horns that night and the Moon exaggerates their effects that morning. Don't let the Moon's position in gentle Pisces fool you about the intensity of the Third Quarter Moon Sunday morning. It highlights an abrasive relationship (exact Saturday to Sunday) between the Sun and a duo of fiery and fiercely independent planets in a pushy sign. It could set us up for a battle of wills where the verbal skills of Gemini are enveloped in a Piscean fog. Our saving grace for the weekend is a talent triangle that helps us stand up for ourselves and get oriented in the direction of beneficial improvements.

MON, May 23

Victoria Day (Canada)

2

Moon in Sagittarius / Void 8:37 am (P), 11:37 am (E) / Moon enters Capricorn 10:34 pm (P)

Everyone's excited this morning, each of us absorbed in a personal venture. Attempts to get people on the same page fall flat. The day ends with a cacophony of complaints.

TUES, May 24

1 *

Moon in Capricorn (P), Void in Sagittarius (E) / Moon enters Capricorn 1:34 am (E)

Plans proceed unimpeded and a social atmosphere prevails for much of the day.

Tonight, we yack and attack before we settle down and become more accepting.

WED, May 25

2

Moon in Capricorn / Void 6:11 pm (P), 9:11 pm (E)

How best to share and meet the needs of many is an issue. It can be resolved with a cool head and an eye toward pragmatism, unless selfish interests intervene.

THURS, May 26

2 *

Moon Void in Capricorn / Moon enters Aquarius 7:27 am (P), 10:27 am (E)

We can hope that appealing to people's friendly nature goads them into agreement. It probably won't on the first try. If there's a "yes," it doesn't come 'til afternoon or evening.

FRI, May 27

3 *

Moon in Aquarius

We're stoic in the face of stubbornness through midday. Then a warm and gregarious mood builds. The evening is quite nice for socializing, group activities or meditation.

SAT, May 28

2 *

Moon in Aquarius / Void 1:19 pm (P), 4:19 pm (E) / Moon enters Pisces 2:06 pm (P), 5:06 pm (E)

People are feisty this morning and the fight doesn't go out of them until well into the afternoon. Flexibility and propriety will likely triumph over egoism, but not gracefully.



SUN, May 29

2 *

Moon in Pisces / Third Quarter Moon

Distrust causes difficulties. Still, use your sixth sense. If something smells fishy, it probably is. This is a time for hands-on verification of facts – they'll come out tonight.

WEEK: May 30 - June 05

Sun Sign: Gemini

Lunar phase: Waning until New Moon 6/04

HIGHLIGHTS MAY 30 - JUNE 05

Few weeks have more happening astrologically than this one (though three weeks from now is on par with this week's intensity). Likewise, our lives are on the go, with ups and downs. Wonderful developments are sure to occur alongside major trials. The year's toughest configuration between slow planets is nearly exact now. Quick planets kick it into action by extending it into an even more difficult pattern at the New Moon Saturday [8:00 pm (P), 11:00 pm (E)]. In the coming four weeks, we'll feel the fallout. We need to address situations that have become overblown and knock them back down to a manageable size. Where we have been too trusting or naive, we get a slap of reality. If we've been too brusque or businesslike, an element of empathy is introduced. It's all about getting back in balance, whether interpersonally or within ourselves. We can bring our best individual characteristics into the process of effecting improvements. A talent triangle involving three planets associated with confidence, self-direction and originality helps offset the simultaneous troublesome formation. Other components of the triangle are the dwarf planet of nurturance and support and a point that shows where to head for our best growth. We encourage one another to live up to our highest potentials. The week begins with a different fabulous triangle. Lingering to the time of the New Moon, it also has an influence in the coming lunar cycle. It leads us to combine practical thinking and well-organized planning and aim these at objectives with a widespread beneficial effect.

MON, May 30

3 *

Moon in Pisces / Void 4:10 pm (P), 7:10 pm (E) / Moon enters Aries 6:09 pm (P), 9:09 pm (E)

This morning, leniency with ourselves or others may lead to unintended consequences.

By evening, we're more protective of our interests and candid enough to "tell it like it is."

TUES, May 31

2 *

Moon in Aries

We see the road ahead clearly and speak up for ourselves with assurance. Something may happen tonight that rattles our resolve and makes us question what sustains us.

WED, Jun 01

2 *

Moon in Aries / Void 8:42 am (P), 11:42 am (E) / Moon enters Taurus 7:46 pm (P), 10:46 pm (E)

Circumstances demand action or a decision. Before rushing into an irreversible response, pause to assess your certainty or the validity of your assumptions.

THURS, Jun 02

3 *

Moon in Taurus

It's important to be sure-footed but early on, you feel wobbly. Wait a little while. Later, you can better sort fact from fiction. You still might want to "sleep on" any major choice.

FRI, Jun 03

2 *

Moon in Taurus / Void 4:02 pm (P), 7:02 pm (E) / Moon enters Gemini 8:01 pm (P), 11:01 pm (E)

Something is blocking us from going after what or whom we care about most. This afternoon, anticipate problems that could emerge soon and head them off at the pass.



SAT, Jun 04

1 P *

Moon in Gemini / New Moon

Caution and fear are problematic; "playing it safe" won't get you where you want to be. Act from love, of both yourself and others, and take a chance based on a leap of faith.

SUN, Jun 05

World Environment Day

3

Moon in Gemini / Void 9:47 am (P), 12:47 pm (E) / Moon enters Cancer 8:41 pm (P), 11:41 pm (E)

It helps to talk through what went on throughout the week to understand it, determine impacts on us personally, and figure out if "damage control" and repairs are needed.

WEEK: June 06 - 12

Sun Sign: Gemini

Lunar phase: Waxing since New Moon 6/04

HIGHLIGHTS JUNE 06 - 12

It's common for humans to think one thing and do another. This week, we'll see a lot of such behavior, with stubbornness or inertia making it worse. This dichotomy poses problems Monday, continues with less difficulty Tuesday afternoon, shows signs of improvement Wednesday night into midday Thursday, only to be troublesome again late Thursday night, and finally take a turn for the better Sunday. You may not be the one displaying a contradiction; instead you may get exasperated by someone else's incongruity. The planetary stand-off prompting this phenomena is exact midday Thursday and gets a shot in the arm Wednesday night and Sunday morning from a factor that helps us see through deception or hypocrisy and set a situation straight. On a hopeful note, most of us are trying to appreciate ourselves (especially Monday) and count our blessings, even amidst some of the biggest challenges we've faced in a while. Thursday and Friday, we easily give support to and receive it from those we love, although we do feel quite capable on our own. Two slow-moving planets team up Wednesday night and infuse us with an extraordinary sense of autonomy along with the will to use our unique traits to advantage. This pair is amplified by the Moon Tuesday afternoon (in a way that makes it hard for us to shine our brightest then) and again Thursday evening (when we easily show off our best light). The planet of affection and value boosts this pair Sunday, bringing approval from others for our brilliance. If confidence has been sagging, it roars back Sunday, revived by faith in oneself. This week has a peak of a key piece of an ongoing "talent triangle" particularly useful for a new start that should prove fruitful. Thursday is the best weekday to utilize it, however its strongest moment comes midday Saturday. See if you can plan an important initiating action then.

MON, Jun 06

Ramadan (first day)

3 *

Moon in Cancer

Speak kindly to yourself; look at all you are and have to offer. A big undertaking beckons that will require a lot of work and possibly some sacrifice, but it's worthwhile.

TUES, Jun 07

2 *

Moon in Cancer / Void 5:18 pm (P), 8:18 pm (E) / Moon enters Leo 11:47 pm (P)

Look within your heart; you'll know which way to go. You may have to embrace a steep path. The wind will be at your back if you prevent fear from getting the better of you.

WED, Jun 08

2 *

Moon in Leo (P), Void in Cancer (E) / Moon enters Leo 2:47 am (E)

We make a minor course correction this morning, most likely spurred by financial considerations. Tonight, smart solutions emerge and inventiveness sparks inspiration.

THURS, Jun 09

3 *

Moon in Leo

Acting solo or on a team as we foster a project, one good idea leads to another as if we'd activated an incubator of synergy. An argumentative discussion may arise late.

FRI, Jun 10

2

Moon in Leo / Void 12:14 am (P), 3:14 am (E) / Moon enters Virgo 6:46 am (P), 9:46 am (E)

Continuing to develop an endeavor, we refine the process, perhaps picking apart the pieces and reassembling them differently. This could get messy: chaos precedes order!

SAT, Jun 11

3

Moon in Virgo

A small misstep is possible early. Afterward, it's smooth sailing all day and evening. Any help you need is there for the asking or you may be the one pitching in to aid another.



SUN, Jun 12

Shavou'ot

3 *

Moon in Virgo / First Quarter Moon / Void 7:47 am (P), 10:47 am (E) / Moon enters Libra 5:33 pm (P), 8:33 pm (E)

Your approach is unconventional (and potentially upsetting to some people) but that won't stop you from making positive changes. Tonight, conversations build bonds.

WEEK: June 13 - 19

Sun Sign: Gemini

Lunar phase: Waxing until Full Moon 6/20

HIGHLIGHTS JUNE 13 - 19

We want to display our best traits but we have to be careful drawing attention lest a

weakness or wound is exposed. One of these might involve loving to hear oneself talk. The Gemini time of year is a natural for discourse. That's a two-way activity requiring listening, too. We can't all talk at once. Well, we can but then we don't truly communicate! Confusion, insecurity and deception muddy the waters this week, starting Monday. This gets our feet wet ahead of the torrent of mixed-up emotions that flood over us Friday and Saturday (when one of the year's most difficult influences peaks). Adding to the disorientation, we keep getting drawn off course (or at least off the itinerary we plotted) and this compromises our feeling of being in control. Those who are nimble can jump through the hoops life presents (which will probably be on a mental level). Our resilience and perseverance are being tested. Some will surrender to forces larger than themselves. Others will vocalize their frustrations vehemently or point their finger, projecting blame on someone else. (Friday and Saturday are the main days for this, too.) A bit of luck comes our way this week, as well, in any of a variety of forms: help, financial aid, emotional support, or affirmation of our talents or fortitude. A warm, maternal energy enters the picture Friday, just when we need it most, to usher in the Cancer period, which begins at the Solstice next week. Thursday afternoon into the evening is the best time frame this week, when a big push can get an endeavor over the finish line or at least a good way toward the goal.

MON, Jun 13

2 *

Moon in Libra

The trick is to keep your balance despite unsteady footing. You may have to go it alone, unless you can determine someone else is reliable. Stick to a plan, if you have one.

TUES, Jun 14

Flag Day

2 *

Moon in Libra

Start the day open to looking at things from various angles. There will be plenty of debating before long and not much seeing eye-to-eye, until finally a compromise arises.

WED, Jun 15

1 *

Moon in Libra / Void 12:00 am (P), 3:00 am (E) / Moon enters Scorpio 6:18 am (P), 9:18 am (E)

People are secretive or hold back, fearing what might happen if they're open and vulnerable. This is unwise. By being so closed off, they can't get or give any help.

THURS, Jun 16

4 *

Moon in Scorpio

When we set aside self-interest and put effort into benefiting everyone, a collaboration builds that can transform any situation. Time or resources invested now will pay off.

FRI, Jun 17

2 *

Moon in Scorpio / Void 6:52 am (P), 9:52 am (E) / Moon enters Sagittarius 6:34 pm (P), 9:34 pm (E)

Resolve is strong as the day dawns but apt to dwindle, especially if we question ourselves. Empathy isn't a sign of weakness yet some think they have to talk tough.

SAT, Jun 18

1 P *

Moon in Sagittarius

A feisty mood predominates, exacerbated by a propensity to blunder and blurt. Even if we mind our Ps and Qs, we can trip over something or get caught in misstatements.

SUN, Jun 19

Juneteenth (U.S.), Father's Day (U.S. & Canada), Orthodox Pentecost

3 *

Moon in Sagittarius

Laughing at ourselves is the best way to get through the day. It's that or complain and cry, which we may end up doing before all is said and done. Exercise to burn off stress.

WEEK: June 20 - 26

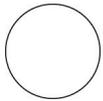
Sun Sign: Cancer

Lunar phase: Waning following Full Moon 6/20

HIGHLIGHTS JUNE 20 - 26

A Full Moon at the Summer Solstice is a very special happening indeed! These two items look concurrent on the calendar but actually the new season's start is almost twelve hours later, so technically the Full Moon is in the last inches of spring [Full Moon Monday 4:02 am (P), 7:02 am (E); solstice 3:34 pm (P), 6:34 pm (E)]. This portends a season when many situations reach a culmination or perhaps an ending, having run full course. In between these phenomena, the communication planet forms a tense configuration with a current enormously challenging combination and this reverberates for the next three months. (See 6/18 in the Star Pages.) Expect an intense, tough day with some big news. Throughout the week, a lot of reorientation is going on as the directional indicators interact with three planets and of course, the Moon. Tuesday, we think we know our heading. Wednesday, we vacillate or quickly change perspective. Friday, a new path opens up and over the weekend, we become more certain and determined. A pairing of dwarf planets (exact Tuesday) adds to our desire to serve ourselves by having our own way or pushing a personal agenda. Across the week, these two participate in a talent triangle with one of the directional pointers and factors that signal value or worth, growth or progress, uniqueness or inventiveness, and creativity or leadership. It's possible to make significant steps forward in individual endeavors, though walking over others to get where one is going could seem expedient.

Many people will manage to be self-directed in a nice way or perhaps what they're pushing is a project of service to others. Early in the week, we're reluctant to promise more than we can deliver. Then confidence builds and by the end of the week, we blow our own horns.



MON, Jun 20

Summer Solstice, Litha

Sun enters Cancer

1 P *

Moon in Sagittarius / Full Moon (Dyad Moon) / Void 4:02 am (P), 7:02 am (E) / Moon enters Capricorn 4:55 am (P), 7:55 am (E)

We see that a situation has multiple facets, not just two sides. A multi-pronged approach is needed to address it, one that includes honesty, wisdom and empathy.

TUES, Jun 21

International Day of Peace

4 *

Moon in Capricorn

You tick through your To Do list like clockwork, with precision and efficiency. People are forthright about whom they support; you'll know who's with you in your corner.

WED, Jun 22

2 *

Moon in Capricorn / Void 1:57 am (P), 4:57 am (E) / Moon enters Aquarius 1:08 pm (P), 4:08 pm (E)

Vacillation and second-guessing make decision-making tough, especially if you have to balance others' needs with your own desires. Don't make too big a deal of an issue.

THURS, Jun 23

3 *

Moon in Aquarius

Taking good care of yourself is the number one priority. Some type of healing, repair or improvement is in order this morning. Later, your social circle shows it appreciates you.

FRI, Jun 24

St. Jean-Baptiste Day (Quebec)

3 *

Moon in Aquarius / Void 8:48 am (P), 11:48 am (E) / Moon enters Pisces 7:30 pm (P), 10:30 pm (E)

The day begins with abrasion and ruffled feathers that are quickly smoothed by friendly flattery and gregarious cooperation. Afterward, common goals drive our efforts.

SAT, Jun 25

2 *

Moon in Pisces

We prefer solitude or at least seek the company of sympathetic or jovial souls, limiting contact with those who get in our face or offend with their arrogance or self-importance.

SUN, Jun 26

4 *

Moon in Pisces / Void 12:55 pm (P), 3:55 pm (E)

You're capable of making big changes or breakthroughs, buoyed by certainty in your views. However, don't rush. Watch your step; the potential for injury lurks unseen.

WEEK: June 27 - July 03

Sun Sign: Cancer

Lunar phase: Waning until New Moon 7/04

HIGHLIGHTS JUNE 27 - JULY 03

After last week's hectic pace, this week seems much calmer. The planet associated with speed and activity comes to a halt, changing its direction Wednesday. It locks horns with the Sun that same day, shining a light on our lack of movement or even motivation, which continues as the Moon aggravates both these heavenly bodies Thursday. It's hard to conquer inertia to get anything going; we push and push but nothing budes. Then Sunday, the communication planet tangoes with the barely moving action planet and we hear a lot of talk about how not much is happening. We can use the stillness and pause in commotion to assess what's worthwhile doing and what's wasted effort. Thursday is the main time we're moved to do this, extending into Friday on a smaller scale. Monday is an appropriate day to take some time out to contemplate or discuss what requires healing or how to move past injuries. A natural turning point in a process of improvement is reached then as the asteroid affiliated with repair returns to forward motion. Simultaneously, it receives a shove from the planet ruling minds and mouths. Wednesday, that planet closes out its visit to a very communicative sign and wades into emotional waters, so the clock is ticking to reach some important conclusions by mid-week. The week opens and closes with strong doses of emotion and understanding; a warmth envelopes us with a sense of being protected. However, in between (primarily Friday and to a lesser extent, Tuesday night), we're aware of the need to draw some boundaries around how much we extend ourselves for others versus what we need to reserve for our own needs.



MON, Jun 27

3 *

Moon Void in Pisces / Moon enters Aries 12:08 am (P), 3:08 am (E) / Third Quarter Moon

We're aware of close bonds with loved ones or humanity at large. Strong feelings could overly affect thinking without adequate boundaries, which would limit any damages.

TUES, Jun 28

3

Moon in Aries

We're raring to go from early on and race through our paces. We relish challenges and competition as chances to prove ourselves. By tonight, though, we run out of steam.

WED, Jun 29

2 *

Moon in Aries / Void 12:46 am (P), 3:46 am (E) / Moon enters Taurus 3:03 am (P), 6:03 am (E)

Today, we stop in our tracks, which is good since we're starting to see circumstances differently and our feelings shift. By tonight, the need for modifications is obvious.

THURS, Jun 30

3

Moon in Taurus / Void 5:19 pm (P), 8:19 pm (E)

Use solid criteria to evaluate the return you're getting on investments of time, energy or funds. The answers will help you make adjustments, set limits and possibly pull a plug.

FRI, Jul 01

Canada Day

2 *

Moon Void in Taurus / Moon enters Gemini 4:44 am (P), 7:44 am (E)

In the midst of all the running around you're doing and the din of surrounding chatter, take a few moments to savor something sweet or appreciate all that's good in your life.

SAT, Jul 02

3 *

Moon in Gemini / Void 8:43 pm (P), 11:43 pm (E)

Conversations open doors and in particular, talks with family members can be very revealing. Watch your words tonight, though; careless comments could cause harm.

SUN, Jul 03

3

Moon Void in Gemini / Moon enters Cancer 6:20 am (P), 9:20 am (E)

Some people hold back, either just plain shy or gun-shy about confidences and secrets that need protecting. Yet exposing vulnerabilities deepen bonds. Tenderness abounds.

WEEK: July 04 - 10

Sun Sign: Cancer

Lunar phase: Waxing following New Moon 7/04

HIGHLIGHTS JULY 04 - 10

There is considerable focus now on how much (or how little) people are willing to assist others versus what they do for themselves. Most factors presently incline us to be helpful and caring but there is still a sizeable dollop of self-interest lingering from patterns in place for most of June. This would work out fine if altruism provides sufficient pleasure but there are always some who resist any reason to be charitable. We all seem to have a talent for being useful now; the question is, to whose benefit. And it's possible the answer is you can help both others and yourself. Our heartstrings are definitely pulled for underdogs, a long-term theme with brief spikes this week on Thursday and Friday and next week, Saturday to Sunday. The New Moon Monday [4:01 am (P), 7:01 am (E)] has strong overtones of generosity, echoed Saturday. A similar sentiment tries to emerge Thursday but concurrent counteracting influences diminish it. It's hard to find a clear-cut smooth time this week that is easy to use for something important. Monday is mostly good but the majority of businesses are closed. (This would be a favorable day to open a restaurant.) The best time comes during the wee hours of Saturday morning when there's a strong luck factor. This might be of benefit to gamblers, West Coast night owls or East Coast early birds. Saturday night is close to stress-free but still not advisable for a wedding or business opening. It's good for travel, though. Wednesday afternoon is fairly safe for most activities. Thursday is the most intense day; we're likely to see some turns and maybe a market dip. If so, Friday the downward trend continues.



MON, Jul 04

Independence Day (U.S.)

4 *

Moon in Cancer / New Moon / Void 11:29 pm (P)

A slight undercurrent of worry or self-doubt is overshadowed by our keen desire to bond with like-minded souls. We wear our hearts on our sleeves and our good nature beams.

TUES, Jul 05

2

Moon in Cancer, Void (P) / Void 2:29 am (E) / Moon enters Leo 9:28 am (P), 12:28 pm (E)

When surrounded by situations suffering from poor organization or leadership, keep your spirits up with encouraging self-talk. Tonight, escapist entertainment is calming.

WED, Jul 06

Eid al-Fitr

3 *

Moon in Leo

This morning, we're ambitious, hustling to accomplish goals. We're more relaxed in the afternoon and in a mood to schmooze. Later, we prefer our own company and thoughts.

THURS, Jul 07

2 P *

Moon in Leo / Void 5:06 am (P), 8:06 am (E) / Moon enters Virgo 3:41 pm (P), 6:41 pm (E)

A shake-up early calls values into question and people could change their positions after some investigation or explanation. Tonight, we train a critical eye on work or home.

FRI, Jul 08

1 *

Moon in Virgo

The day starts upbeat. Quickly, concerns prick optimism's balloon. We have trouble figuring out how to protect our interests or pocketbook. Imagination fuels misgivings.

SAT, Jul 09

3 *

Moon in Virgo / Void 8:28 pm (P), 11:28 pm (E)

On this mostly nice day, complaints are few but not entirely absent. Some people are disappointed about love or money. Others are busy bees, helping out and being useful.

SUN, Jul 10

3

Moon Void in Virgo / Moon enters Libra 1:32 am (P), 4:32 am (E)

Emotions run high and need a constructive outlet. We feel off-balance or unsupported. Humor (possibly sarcastic) or a philosophical approach saves us from slumping.

WEEK: July 11 - 17

Sun Sign: Cancer

Lunar phase: Waxing since New Moon 7/04

HIGHLIGHTS JULY 11 - 17

Emotions pour out as the week commences, continuing from last Sunday. It's not easy

to make sense of them. There's frustration at not being able to act on feelings. We might be blocked by decorum, the dictates of someone in a position of authority or even our own self-imposed standards. The Third Quarter Moon that night is a good time for a significant other to comfort us and bring us back to center. By Tuesday, we round a corner, though we're still tender and wary. We sense that changes are needed to have more harmony and joy in our lives and we take steps in that direction. Wednesday to Thursday, conversations further elucidate our support needs and what can be done to address them. Overnight, our outlook shifts and inner strength begins to increase. Thursday, our efforts make headway, whether forging forward on our own or sharing the load in a cooperative endeavor. Buoyed hopes are brought down to earth Friday but we're undaunted and determined to try harder, despite some frenzied developments then and Saturday. We'll be shaking our heads, bewildered, but things will likely turn out okay in the end. After a bumpy morning Saturday, the clouds start to lift, at least a little, though there will still be some sourpusses Saturday night. It's a mixed day, Sunday, with great potential for patching up misunderstandings from the week. Certain people may have to eat some crow, washed down with a cup of patience.

Thursday is easily the best day this week. Any activity you initiate ahead of the Moon going Void has excellent growth potential. Markets are likely to rise. If you're investing, jump in at the opening bell or the night before. Don't be surprised if there's a downward bounce Friday, which could present a buying opportunity.



MON, Jul 11

2 P *

Moon in Libra / First Quarter Moon

Realizing we need to straighten something out, communication is front and center, perhaps expanding on threads that began yesterday. Logic tries to trump emotions.

TUES, Jul 12

1 P *

Moon in Libra / Void 8:01 am (P), 11:01 am (E) / Moon enters Scorpio 1:52 pm (P), 4:52 pm (E)

More discussions follow on topics of the past two days. Misunderstandings are difficult to clear up, yet we try to find consensus, perhaps in a cheery or diplomatic way.

WED, Jul 13

3 *

Moon in Scorpio

There are hurts that need soothing. Digging beneath the surface unearths a treasure of understanding, which is therapeutic and enlightens minds from a different angle.

THURS, Jul 14

Bastille Day

4

Moon in Scorpio / Void 3:22 pm (P), 6:22 pm (E)

A positive and sunny mood brightens the whole day. We're full of energy and motivation and we enthusiastically do what we need or want to do, finding little or no resistance.

FRI, Jul 15

2

Moon Void in Scorpio / Moon enters Sagittarius 2:14 am (P), 5:14 am (E)

Fun beckons you to come out and play; work stands in the door. Instead of getting an attitude, challenge yourself to blow through your assignments like a fast machine.

SAT, Jul 16

1 P *

Moon in Sagittarius

Closed minds must quickly adjust to an early surprise and rally support. A moment of harmony arises before arguments resume. Tonight, getting physical shakes off stress.

SUN, Jul 17

3 *

Moon in Sagittarius / Void 1:57 am (P), 4:57 am (E) / Moon enters Capricorn 12:33 pm (P), 3:33 pm (E)

The closeness of emotional bonds brings healing. We need to take care not to cancel benefits through judgment or criticism. Maturity triumphs. Hugs all around in the end.

WEEK: July 18 - 24

Sun Sign: Cancer, changing to Leo 7/22

Lunar phase: Waxing until Full Moon 7/19, then waning

HIGHLIGHTS JULY 18 - 25

A couple occasions this week force us to admit errors and then do what we can to rectify them in rapid succession. The first instance comes Monday night, probably in the form of inadvertent comments. The second time, Wednesday, most likely involves a financial transaction or a delicate relationship matter. In between, the Full Moon [Tuesday 3:57 pm (P), 6:57 pm (E)] brings many situations that have been brewing over the prior several days to a head, accompanied by a measure of bedlam or the unexpected. The dwarf planet of chaos and discord changes direction the same day, so expect some extra craziness. The Full Moon forms two configurations, one of the smooth variety and one tough, bringing a mix of benefits and challenges. There's apt to be an important focus on the U.S. economy since this Full Moon occurs at exactly the degree of the country's Pluto, the planet most associated with finances, markets, budgets and expenditures. The Sun's time in Cancer comes to a very emotional close, right up to Thursday night, when we make some adjustments in response to changing

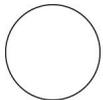
conditions. The Sun moves into Leo early Friday but that doesn't dry feelings up by any means. (An hour earlier, the Moon starts a two-day stint in a Water sign.) Saturday, we need our sensitivity to soften stubbornness when views differ as to how to be supportive or show respect. Someone will be humbled before the night is over. The week closes Sunday with a burst of energy and desire for activity and enjoyment, though not necessarily agreement as to what form that should take.

MON, Jul 18

2

Moon in Capricorn

Get a grip on your thoughts today to keep them from drifting toward worry or negative expectations. (You don't want those to manifest!) Focus on accomplishments.



TUES, Jul 19

2 P *

Moon in Capricorn / Full Moon (Mead Moon) / Void 3:57 pm (P), 6:57 pm (E) / Moon enters Aquarius 8:10 pm (P), 11:10 pm (E)

Fasten your seatbelt and maintain control at the helm; today's a wild roller coaster ride of ups and downs! An open, playful attitude helps you laugh or learn along the way.

WED, Jul 20

2

Moon in Aquarius

Call on friends to come to your side as you process a hurtful experience regarding a relationship or financial matter. You'll soon see it as a valuable, sobering lesson.

THURS, Jul 21

3

Moon in Aquarius / Void 6:56 pm (P), 9:56 pm (E)

The air is electric with thoughts waiting to be snatched: a good day for meetings and brainstorming. Stimulation comes in all varieties, inspiring you to do things differently.



FRI, Jul 22

Sun enters Leo

1 *

Moon Void in Aquarius / Moon enters Pisces 1:35 am (P), 4:35 am (E)

Issues presented at the Full Moon are up for discussion again but now we have a more understanding perspective on them, which doesn't necessarily prevent disagreements.

SAT, Jul 23

2

Moon in Pisces

We'd like to snap our fingers and admiration would appear like magic. But esteem stems from being valued for what one does. Tonight's a time to lick your wounds.

SUN, Jul 24

Parents' Day

3

Moon in Pisces / Void 12:06 am (P), 3:06 am (E) / Moon enters Aries 5:33 am (P), 8:33 am (E)

We're on the go, preferring to do what pleases us personally rather than having to satisfy someone else's wishes. It's easier to point this out frankly than to be diplomatic.

WEEK: July 25 - 31

Sun Sign: Leo

Lunar phase: Waning since Full Moon 7/19

HIGHLIGHTS JULY 25 - 31

It's a lightweight week as far as planetary interactions go, no big heavy crescendos and barely a small shake of the tambourine. We need some softer music and a chance to catch our breath after last week's Full Moon peak. There could be a little craziness, though, since the planet of surprises changes direction Friday. Whenever a planet appears to stop, it exerts extra force for several days before and afterward from the degree where it sits. If that makes a connection to your chart, you'll notice it! (Check the Star Pages.) At least as this one pauses, it receives a nice hello from the communication planet overnight Tuesday to Wednesday. On either of these days, there could be unusual, though pleasant, news. It's a fairly good week for speaking our piece, particularly Monday night or Tuesday night, when it's easy to do so. Other possibilities are Thursday morning or Friday, but there's greater difficulty at these times. We tend to hold something back or we're too aggressive in conveying what we have to say. We push in a gentler way Sunday and still get our point across. The perennial competition between wanting to play versus needing to work is a theme this week, popping up strongly late Tuesday and again Thursday to Friday. The Sun in Leo advocates for creativity and joy but it has a run-in with big work-related factor at these times. Venus is also in Leo promoting pleasure, but Mercury shifts from Leo to Virgo Saturday and turns our minds to employment matters for the next couple of months. A brief wonderful window from morning to midday Wednesday is the highpoint of the week.

MON, Jul 25

3

Moon in Aries / Void 11:19 pm (P)

Resistance to proposed changes impedes progress early on. Then cooperation and communication improve through the evening, though someone may try to hog attention.



TUES, Jul 26

3

Moon in Aries, Void (P) / Void 2:19 am (E) / Moon enters Taurus 8:37 am (P), 11:37 am (E) / Third Quarter Moon

Putting care into a project takes patience. We're only able to muster that in spurts. We'd like an audience for our war stories but little details demand our attention tonight.

WED, Jul 27

4

Moon in Taurus

We're inspired this morning and by midday, we get into a flow where things all fall into place. Later, a compromise is necessary, after which there's a happy ending.

THURS, Jul 28

2

Moon in Taurus / Void 8:13 am (P), 11:13 am (E) / Moon enters Gemini 11:17 am (P), 2:17 pm (E)

We stick to our guns as the day begins and that could lead to a tussle. By afternoon, there's greater flexibility yet no compromising where principles or rules are concerned.

FRI, Jul 29

1 *

Moon in Gemini

Some people aren't sure which way to go and without a definite destination, they drift, bothered by uncertainty. Those who are certain are rigidly so and disagreeable to boot.

SAT, Jul 30

3 *

Moon in Gemini / Void 4:46 am (P), 7:46 am (E) / Moon enters Cancer 2:09 pm (P), 5:09 pm (E)

Self-reflection reveals areas for improvement. The process isn't one of berating but rather a way to take better care of oneself, nicely accompanied by healthy comfort food.

SUN, Jul 31

2

Moon in Cancer

Domestic activities are appealing, as is spending time with family, perhaps working on something together. You like your way best, but be adaptable about the method.

WEEK: Aug. 01 - 07

Sun Sign: Leo

Lunar phase: Waning until New Moon 8/02, then waxing

HIGHLIGHTS AUG. 01 - 07

Fresh inclinations emerge this week, sparked by a new month and a New Moon, along with a couple of planets changing signs. Just ahead of the New Moon Tuesday, the planet of action re-enters a sign it occupied in the spring and moves us beyond an immersion in emotions into a wider perspective and more adaptable mode. Friday, the planet of attraction shifts to a new sign, prodding us to see value in duty more than in enjoyment and to pay attention to the little things. These two planets are at odds, peaking Saturday night and felt strongly Sunday night when the Moon amplifies their clash. We struggle to balance the big picture versus the details and to laugh off trivialities rather than nitpick. Both these planets have a run-in with the planet of release and transformation. Wednesday night, Friday and Sunday night are times they push us to let go of something or someone. It's a two-step process. First we have to address what has seemed too big to handle. Then we need to attend to a situation we may have deemed too small for the effort. "Nothing is too small to know, and nothing is too big to attempt." (Sir William Van Horne) A triangle that brings odd detours finishes out the week, assisting us to escape traps that have hindered our pursuits. The weekend also features the planet of conversation and awareness setting into a ongoing skirmish between two slow planets that have us questioning how to implement what we envision and not succumb to fears of failure or of success. This may be a big topic for discussion Thursday afternoon to evening as well as on Saturday to Sunday. The New Moon [Tuesday 1:45 pm (P), 4:45 pm (E)] is not involved in any major configurations, so perhaps the month to follow will be noteworthy only for being neither difficult nor easy. Its sign, Leo, entreats us to revel in activities that delight us. Summer always seems so short – carpe all the diems of August!

MON, Aug 01

Lammas, Lughnassad, Civic Holiday (Canada)

3

Moon in Cancer / Void 5:44 pm (P), 8:44 pm (E) / Moon enters Leo 6:12 pm (P), 9:12 pm (E)

You want to concentrate on your plans, but someone needs help. Your sense of responsibility moves you to step forward, even if that means sacrificing goals for now.



TUES, Aug 02

3 *

Moon in Leo / New Moon

After a grumpy start to the day, we realize there's no use complaining. If we adjust to a more mature and responsible attitude, we'll accomplish much and gain a sense of pride.

WED, Aug 03

4 *

Moon in Leo / Void 9:13 pm (P)

Full steam ahead! A powerhouse of energy is on hand to devote to your agenda. Tonight is great for fun with a loved one, as long as you laugh off any differences.

THURS, Aug 04

2 *

Moon in Leo, Void (P) / Void 12:13 am (E) / Moon enters Virgo 12:34 am (P), 3:34 am (E)

Support for our ideas comes to our aid and discussion among co-workers is fruitful. But before evening arrives, cooperation dries up, replaced by criticism and judgment.

FRI, Aug 05

2 *

Moon in Virgo / Void 8:20 pm (P), 11:20 pm (E)

Watch out for crabby people pointing fingers and sidestep any projection aimed your way. By tonight, you'll need a good laugh and you'll have no problem finding the humor.

SAT, Aug 06

1

Moon Void in Virgo / Moon enters Libra 9:56 am (P), 12:56 pm (E)

Everyone's having trouble seeing eye-to-eye, whether it's friction between the old and young or men and women. Somewhere there must be common ground or compromise.

SUN, Aug 07

Friendship Day (U.S.)

2 *

Moon in Libra

Keep your sunny side up and stick to the middle road to maintain harmony; extremes can tip you off balance. Nothing is as bad as you might imagine or be warned about.

WEEK: Aug. 08 - 14

Sun Sign: Leo

Lunar phase: Waxing since New Moon 8/02

HIGHLIGHTS AUG. 08 - 14

Just as we catch our breath from one Mercury Retrograde, another is about to start on 8/30. This week, Mercury enters the back-up degree range. Circumstances now set wheels in motion for what is to come over the next two months. Communication matters are smooth the first part of this week, getting touchy on the weekend. Friday night and Sunday, expressions of caring get twisted around; we may be critical unintentionally when trying to help. Wednesday is the best bet if you have something important to convey or find out.

A key indicator for big improvements (even if they come about the hard way) has its third and final peak Friday, boosted by the Moon Wednesday night. There are health implications to this; some people will find conditions dating back to last autumn clear up or conclude around now. Another factor from late last year and earlier this year is close to exact again now (although it won't be precise). It shows a need to shake up the status quo or clamp down on anything that has gotten out of control. Of course, this involves the planet of order, exerting extra force as it halts to return to forward motion Saturday. Also Friday, the planet of finances and relationships connects abrasively with it, triggering the connection as it finishes its push for changes. This points to our hearts and wallets as the arenas for modification. We'll have our focus on these issues commencing Friday, when the dwarf planet of discord joins in the fray (amplified by the Moon that morning). Sunday, the money and love planet gives a push to the planet of confusion and illusion. That's when we dispel misimpressions or unveil deceptions and get a grip on reality. Similar to what's happening with communication matters, the beginning of the week showed good promise for our fiscal accounts and displays of caring, and then things go downhill by the end of the week. Next week will be better on both counts.

MON, Aug 08

2

Moon in Libra / Void 10:41 am (P), 1:41 pm (E) / Moon enters Scorpio 9:51 pm (P)

There doesn't seem to be much cooperation, no matter from whom you seek it. But all you need is just one person to give you support or a hug and that wish is granted.

TUES, Aug 09

3 *

Moon in Scorpio (P), Void in Libra (E) / Moon enters Scorpio 12:51 am (E)

You have razor-sharp insight into how pieces fit together as a whole. Contact those who can further your goals. People are more receptive this morning or evening than midday.



WED, Aug 10

4 *

Moon in Scorpio / First Quarter Moon / Void 10:22 pm (P)

Investigations or deep discussions prove beneficial. You discover what work is involved in building toward long-term objectives and if any personal changes are required.

THURS, Aug 11

2

Moon in Scorpio, Void (P) / Void 1:22 am (E) / Moon enters Sagittarius 10:24 am (P), 1:24 pm (E)

Morning and afternoon, we feel like we're in the dark. Then tonight, something hidden comes to light. We see clearly what we need to do and we want immediate action.

FRI, Aug 12

1 *

Moon in Sagittarius

It takes extra effort to be grounded today. Energies are scattered to the four winds and we drift off course easily. Try starting out with affirmations and intentions to be focused.

SAT, Aug 13

1 P *

Moon in Sagittarius / Void 10:37 am (P), 1:37 pm (E) / Moon enters Capricorn 9:11 pm (P)

While we have respect for convention and norms, there's an important place for the new and unusual, too. Figuring out how to honor both simultaneously is a challenge now.

SUN, Aug 14

2

Moon in Capricorn (P), Void in Sagittarius (E) / Moon enters Capricorn 12:11 am (E)

A judgmental side emerges and it's mostly aimed inward. We search for an encouraging word to bolster wavering self-approval and by tonight, we find empathy and praise.

WEEK: Aug. 15 - 21

Sun Sign: Leo

Lunar phase: Waxing until Full Moon 8/18, then waning

HIGHLIGHTS AUG. 15 - 21

In general, people watch out for their own interests. This trait is amplified during the times of year when the Sun moves through Aries (in spring) and Leo (now). A Full Moon by definition highlights the sign opposite the Sun, bringing out contrasting traits. Hence this Thursday's Full Moon [2:27 am (P), 5:27 am (E)] in Aquarius reminds us that we're part of a community of humankind, the concept of "it takes a village." However, in the current era (2011 - 2019), the ruling planet of Aquarius happens to be in the most self-oriented sign, Aries, drawing our attention back to ourselves. As it turns out, this is the most active planet this week (cooperating with the Sun Tuesday) and in a very harmo-

nious relationship with the Moon and Sun at the Full Moon. Another super-autonomous dwarf planet is traveling with the individualistic Aquarian ruler this year (spotlighted Monday), adding to the focus on ourselves. So we're getting mixed messages and we'll likely be torn between doing for others versus concentrating on personal desires. We keep this in balance until Sunday (hands down, the toughest day this week). The Moon is in Aries then and Aries' ruling planet gets into the first of two scrapes with the Aries duo (the second is next Tuesday). Fortunately, the Sun (the main indicator of the Self) is in two minor connections Tuesday to Wednesday that emphasize humility and selfless service. The relationship planet, which prompts us to interact nicely with others, tunes us in to our helpful side Tuesday and assists us in making positive changes Wednesday. (That's also a good day for financial transactions.) Friday, there's some kind of hurt we need to get over. Talking through issues will do the trick, especially when consulting someone older with wisdom and experience.

MON, Aug 15

2

Moon in Capricorn / Void 7:45 pm (P), 10:45 pm (E)

We've had enough with the "same old, same old." We've got to try something new but we're not ready to abandon caution. A calculated risk or break from tradition is okay.

TUES, Aug 16

3 *

Moon Void in Capricorn / Moon enters Aquarius 4:52 am (P), 7:52 am (E)

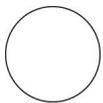
Interactions with friends or fellow members of an organization take center stage. There may be issues about who's in charge or regarding who's giving or getting assistance.

WED, Aug 17

4 *

Moon in Aquarius

Everything seems to fall into place with hardly any effort. We handle matters efficiently, concentrating on what is of highest value or most importance. Friends are "there" for us.



THURS, Aug 18

3 *

Moon in Aquarius / Full Moon (Corn Moon) / Void 2:27 am (P), 5:27 am (E) / Moon enters Pisces 9:34 am (P), 12:34 pm (E)

After a hectic morning when plans get chucked, we surrender the notion that total control is at all possible. Then we mellow out and commiserate, supporting one another.

FRI, Aug 19

2 *

Moon in Pisces

If you go with the flow, it follows the path of least resistance, though that might not be your preferred direction. With imagination, you can make good use of where you land.

SAT, Aug 20

3

Moon in Pisces / Void 5:21 am (P), 8:21 am (E) / Moon enters Aries 12:18 pm (P), 3:18 pm (E)

It may be hard to get motivated this morning or just very tempting to laze around and take your time. By afternoon, energy levels rise and tonight we're really revved up.

SUN, Aug 21

Senior Citizens Day (U.S.)

1 *

Moon in Aries

Whatever you're intent on, you're driven with persistence to reach the finish line. Be careful not to over-exert and hurt yourself. End the evening with a nice bath or embrace.

WEEK: Aug. 22 - 28

Sun Sign: Virgo

Lunar phase: Waning since Full Moon 8/18

HIGHLIGHTS AUG. 22 - 28

The Sun enters Virgo as the week kicks off [Monday 9:39 am (P), 12:39 pm (E)]. Already, a lot is going on in this analytical and selective sign associated with health, work and service. For the past year, the most beneficial planet (Jupiter) has been moving through Virgo. (See **Long-term Influences**.) Before it leaves Sept. 9, it's joined by two quick planets this week. First comes the sign's ruling planet (the planet of the mind and mouth) on Monday. Then on Sunday, the second visitor is the planet of relationships and finances. This trio smoothes communication and aids cooperation, especially regarding higher education, contact with foreigners or legal affairs. Interactions with co-workers or service providers are pleasant and harmonious. A good time to use these energies is Wednesday morning to afternoon, when the Moon gives these planets a friendly boost. It's better to lay low when the Moon interferes with their blessings Friday afternoon to evening. The dwarf planet of nurturance has a couple nice connections from Friday night to Sunday (amplified by the Moon Monday night) that add a supportive atmosphere and generally fruitful working conditions to the beginning and end of the week. A factor that calls for adjustments in relationships and shoring up weak bonds or repairing hurt feelings may sprinkle some rain on the happy parade Wednesday evening and Friday.

The planet of action and anger also presents us with challenges. It has a run-in early Tuesday with the planet of suddenness and surprises (increasing accident potential).

Wednesday morning, it joins the planet of restrictions and practicality, which puts on the brakes. Overnight Thursday to Friday, it squares off against the planet of dreams and avoidance. We'll feel these influences most Thursday morning to midday and Sunday evening as the Moon aggravates these grating links. The other connection that tests us this week occurs Monday evening (magnified at the Third Quarter Moon Wednesday night), when two planets of strong will push us to make a change or let go of something.



MON, Aug 22
Sun enters Virgo

2 *

Moon in Aries / Void 4:48 am (P), 7:48 am (E) / Moon enters Taurus 2:19 pm (P), 5:19 pm (E)

With extraordinary motivation, you can stay focused on objectives and not succumb to minor distractions. Late in the day and tonight, you'll be more grounded and productive.

TUES, Aug 23

3 *

Moon in Taurus

For the most part, we're slow and thorough, taking time to do things right on the first attempt, perhaps too slow trying to be perfect. A sudden action can spoil our efforts.



WED, Aug 24

3 *

Moon in Taurus / Void 12:38 pm (P), 3:38 pm (E) / Moon enters Gemini 4:40 pm (P), 7:40 pm (E) / Third Quarter Moon

The day begins with progress and well-coordinated labors, favorable for healing or improvements. This evening, teamwork breaks down and emotions get bruised.

THURS, Aug 25

1 P

Moon in Gemini

From chaotic morning to exhausted night, we're pulled every which way. Heart-wrenching decisions must be made along the twisted route, as self-doubt claws at us.

FRI, Aug 26

Women's Equality Day

1 *

Moon in Gemini / Void 5:30 pm (P), 8:30 pm (E) / Moon enters Cancer 8:06 pm (P), 11:06 pm (E)

Your head is screwed on better today than yesterday. Even so, questions swirl through your mind and tug at your feelings. Listen to the inner voice; intuition steers you straight.

SAT, Aug 27

5 *

Moon in Cancer

Optimism buoys spirits. It's easy to bond and share a vision. We enjoy interactions at home or with family, though a work-related function tonight could be equally pleasant.

SUN, Aug 28

2

Moon in Cancer / Void 11:23 pm (P)

We need nurturing and hand-holding to see silver linings in today's crazy clouds. Plans – if there were any – go awry. More likely, we scrape along by the seat of our pants.

WEEK: Aug. 29 - Sept. 04

Sun Sign: Virgo

Lunar phase: Waning until New Moon 9/01, then waxing

HIGHLIGHTS AUG. 29 - SEPT. 04

It's hard to get moving or know just what to do as the week begins. We're at the end of a lunar cycle when energy winds down anyway. The planet of motion and motivation is at a turning point and snagged in a pattern that dilutes resolve or distracts us from goals (see last week's Highlights). Mercury is motionless, turning Retrograde Tuesday; hence, we hesitate to make up our minds or take a position, whether verbally or in writing. The dwarf planet of nurturance is also at a standstill, turning Retrograde Wednesday without any fanfare. This may bring feelings of abandonment or at the least, reduced support. Of course, the major event of the week is the Solar Eclipse New Moon Thursday [2:03 am (P), 5:03 am (E)], which shifts our energy into a higher gear and sets new targets in our sights. However, there are plenty of obstacles to overcome before we can make any headway. With so many choices and conflicting or incorrect information, decision-making suffers. We're surrounded by people in need and we can't possibly fix all their predicaments, despite our sympathy. From Wednesday to Friday, our strength may seem to be drained or strained by being pulled in multiple directions. The connections at this New Moon (see the Star Pages) present mixed-up marching orders and we'll be wavering for weeks or months to come. That said, there are windows of clarity, such as this Saturday, when it's easy to settle on an approach, at least temporarily.

MON, Aug 29

2 *

Moon in Cancer, Void (P) / Void 2:23 am (E) / Moon enters Leo 1:11 am (P), 4:11 am (E)

Even decisive people are in a quandary, presented with opposite courses of action. Our minds are highly analytical and best used for detailed assessment and evaluation.

TUES, Aug 30

2 MR *

Moon in Leo / Void 9:20 pm (P)

Rumination on a situation won't necessarily produce an answer or a remedy. We're just as muddled today as we were yesterday. But tonight, we might have a brilliant insight.

WED, Aug 31

1 MR *

Moon in Leo, Void (P) / Void 12:20 am (E) / Moon enters Virgo 8:22 am (P), 11:22 am (E)

You likely could use a hug and a word of confirmation or kindness but finding warmth isn't easy. People are standoffish or perhaps busily absorbed in their own activities.



THURS, Sept 01

1 P MR *

Moon in Virgo / Solar Eclipse New Moon

After a groggy start, even once the fog lifts, we still have trouble seeing the road ahead. We want to make a change but something's blocking us, maybe wilting confidence.

FRI, Sept 02

3 MR *

Moon in Virgo / Void 3:13 pm (P), 6:13 pm (E) / Moon enters Libra 5:56 pm (P), 8:56 pm (E)

A glimpse of something nearly incomprehensible and much bigger than you puts things in perspective and gives you a glimmer of hope. This evening is great for socializing.

SAT, Sept 03

4 MR

Moon in Libra

Serenity and harmony embrace us. We know what's most important to us and we can easily make commitments. Expressions and/or tokens of affection are offered.

SUN, Sept 04

2 MR

Moon in Libra / Void 5:30 pm (P), 8:30 pm (E)

Being part of a team is appealing today, whether it's sports-related or for a charitable function. This evening, though, disagreements or disappointments spoil the ambiance.

WEEK: Sept. 05 - 11

Sun Sign: Virgo

Lunar phase: Waxing since New Moon 9/01

HIGHLIGHTS SEPT. 05 - 11

We're between eclipses now, considered a most intense time. Perhaps electromagnetic fields are stronger. At the least, the energy that builds after a new moon eclipse is at a higher volume and its eclipse full moon crescendo is more forceful than a normal full moon. A couple major astrological happenings this week add to the power. Early Friday, the planet of growth and expansion, as well as luck and opportunities, changes the sign where it's traveling. It leaves Virgo after thirteen months and enters Libra for the next thirteen. Health, work and service have been the arenas for our outreach and stretching. Our focus shifts to teamwork, partnership and romance as our doorways to a bigger range of experience. The second key phenomenon of the week comes Saturday morning. It's the third of three occurrences of an abrasive connection that tries to make us softer where we're too hard and harder where we're too soft. Of course, each planet (and sign) in astrology is affiliated with a whole range of matters. This pairing also puts attention on commitment to caring, government "charity," religious mandates and the dichotomy between reality and fantasy. The Moon emphasizes this duo Thursday afternoon into the evening in an uncomfortable push/pull that may make heads spin. Tuesday, the planet of values works to bring out the best of this challenging planetary clash. We try to appreciate the balancing act of being in control while simultaneously allowing the unknown and mysterious to play a role. Also on Saturday morning, Mercury returns to the most precarious repeating connection of its Retrograde cycle, one that brings awareness of injuries and weaknesses. We might notice the difficulties more on Friday, when the Moon adds to their woes or on Wednesday morning, when the Moon stimulates the positive possibilities of this link: figuring out improvements and repairs.

MON, Sept 05

Labor Day (U.S. & Canada)

1 MR

Moon Void in Libra / Moon enters Scorpio 5:38 am (P), 8:38 am (E)

Without much of a nudge, you can unpack emotional baggage and gain a sense of greater freedom. You may aim for Zen detachment or simply reject entanglements.

TUES, Sept 06

3 MR

Moon in Scorpio

We work on making needed changes to get back on track after last week's vacillation. We see progress, although the morning may put us through minor mental gymnastics.

WED,

Sept 07

3 MR

Moon in Scorpio / Void 5:42 pm (P), 8:42 pm (E) / Moon enters Sagittarius 6:20 pm (P), 9:20 pm (E)

Probing uncovers important pieces of a puzzle and brings them to light. The revelation may not be pleasing, however healing the end result is. We reluctantly accept reality.

THURS, Sept 08

2 MR

Moon in Sagittarius

There are rumblings and disruptions early on. We know we should put our foot down, but we don't want to be a spoilsport or risk disapproval. Silence is equal to condoning.



FRI, Sept 09

2 MR *

Moon in Sagittarius / First Quarter Moon / Void 5:51 pm (P), 8:51 pm (E)

A new era of improved cooperation is dawning but you can't tell by what happens today. Self-interest reigns and damaging comments slip out. Do you make them or take them?

SAT, Sept 10

1 MR *

Moon Void in Sagittarius / Moon enters Capricorn 5:55 am (P), 8:55 am (E)

A thick skin or a crutch of support is needed to withstand judgments, even if they're delivered with tact. Our vulnerabilities are showing and sensitivity doesn't win points.

SUN, Sept 11

Grandparents' Day (U.S.), Patriot Day (U.S.)

2 MR

Moon in Capricorn

Calmness, maturity and inner strength help you understand and accept the boundaries and limits that make interactions run more smoothly. Make any critique constructive.

WEEK: Sept. 12 - 18

Sun Sign: Virgo

Lunar phase: Waxing until Full Moon 9/16

HIGHLIGHTS SEPT. 12 - 18

We can get ourselves into trouble by opening our big mouths any time really, but especially during a Mercury Retrograde. We're even more susceptible to such a blunder during the current cycle, which happily is half over Monday night. The tendency to blurt is exacerbated by factors that might lead us to unwittingly hurt someone or, at the least, come off as less than supportive. These conditions began lining up last weekend and continue this week, particularly Monday evening, Tuesday and Thursday. Things come to a head at the Lunar Eclipse Full Moon Friday [12:05 pm (P), 3:05 pm (E)], which ought to be a doozie (see the Star Pages). The person who gets injured in the end is oneself. Arguments are hard to sidestep now so if you become embroiled in one, watch what you say and try not to burn any bridges. Fuses are short and rashness increases Friday through Sunday. An additional fly in the ointment from this Sunday to next Tuesday comes from the planet of partnership entwined in an already difficult combination. Be careful with your significant other or you could end up singing "You Always Hurt the One You Love." We are able to demonstrate affection though, quite ardently in fact, and possibly with a surprise thrown in.

Donning thick skins to start the week, we become aloof with the Moon in Aquarius Monday evening through Wednesday evening. When the Moon moves through Pisces Thursday and Friday, we become ultra-sensitive. With the Moon in Aries on the weekend, we're more likely defensive and some people will be downright antagonistic. The hyped-up energy then can be channeled into a physical outlet, maybe passionate love-making (which could turn out to be "make-up sex"). Wednesday morning is the best time of the week to do anything important and is quite good for meetings and athletics. Saturday afternoon is the second best window during this volatile week, with a decent prospect for maintaining decorum and accomplishing goals but only if impulses are kept under control.

MON, Sep 12

Eid al-Adha

2 MR

Moon in in Capricorn / Void 3:00 am (P), 6:00 am (E) / Moon enters Aquarius 2:28 pm (P), 5:28 pm (E)

A lack of direction impedes progress most of the day. There's a lot of talk about who should help whom, but it doesn't translate into action. This evening, avenues open up.

TUES, Sep 13

1 MR

Moon in Aquarius

Seek or offer support early and often because discouraging words tend to dominate conversations and we need our friends. Counter denunciation with a hope or a joke.

WED, Sep 14

3 MR

Moon in Aquarius / Void 8:31 am (P), 11:31 am (E) / Moon enters Pisces 7:23 pm (P), 10:23 pm (E)

Get a move on. The first part of the day is the best for decisions or new undertakings. Inspiration and intuition provide impetus. Let your individuality and uniqueness shine.

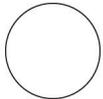
THURS, Sep 15

National Hispanic Heritage Month begins

2 MR *

Moon in Pisces

We don't have a good handle on what's happening, yet we may still have to act. Things aren't as good or bad as they seem and maybe with effort, we can make them better.



FRI, Sep 16

Constitution Day (Citizenship Day) (U.S.) observed

2 MR *

Moon in Pisces / Lunar Eclipse Full Moon (Harvest Moon) / Void 12:05 pm (P), 3:05 pm (E) / Moon enters Aries 9:22 pm (P)

No use feeling sorry for yourself; we're all in the same beat-up boat, trying to stay afloat. Some will reach out a hand. Others go by the motto "every man for himself."

SAT, Sep 17

Mexican Independence Day,

Constitution Day (Citizenship Day) (U.S.)

3 MR

Moon in Aries (P), Void in Pisces (E) / Moon enters Aries 12:22 am (E)

Sometimes survival does require putting yourself first. This doesn't have to be crass and can be done with class by respecting social norms. It still might feel selfish, though.

SUN, Sep 18

2 MR

Moon in Aries / Void 1:10 pm (P), 4:10 pm (E) / Moon enters Taurus 9:58 pm (P)

In the balancing act between self-interest and concern for another, especially a significant other, most people come down on their own side even if they feel guilty.

WEEK: Sept. 19 - 25

Sun Sign: Virgo, changing to Libra 9/22

Lunar phase: Waning since Full Moon 9/16

HIGHLIGHTS SEPT. 19 - 25

Normally the beginning of the Sun's visit to Libra marks a time of amiable collaboration and teamwork. This is the sign of love, marriage, equality and tranquility. However, it

seems many people have swallowed a self-centered concoction. The ruling planet of Libra is in this sign at the start of fall [Thursday 7:21 am (P), 10:21 am (E)] but only remains there another twenty-four hours. Then it moves into to a sign of emotional ups and downs. It's battered from last Sunday throughout this week in a series of difficult run-ins that serve us heaping helpings of egocentrism (last Sunday), doubts and deceptions or at least misimpressions (Monday and Wednesday), overstepping boundaries (Tuesday, Wednesday night and Saturday night), falling short of providing needed assistance (Tuesday and Wednesday night) and curt or cutting comments (Wednesday night and Friday). From Saturday night to Sunday, we get a stew of leftovers from the week's main courses, with uncooperative stubbornness on the side and topped off with discord for dessert. Since factors present at the start of a season have a lingering influence over the following three months, we're likely to have long-lasting nausea unless we can coat the irritations with a shot of positive thinking and a giant dash of humor. Fortunately, we can. The planet of the mind finishes its backtrack just ahead of the equinox. Immediately before and after its stopping point, it's refreshed by a friendly link with the planet of transformation and release, which is also paused to return to direct motion next Monday. Letting go of negativity starts us on a better path forward. The Sun also helps us weather the week's waves. It's in a brief lucky triangle Tuesday to Wednesday with the dwarf planet of support and the planet of maturity and respect. Then it joins the planet of laughter and philosophical perspective in the midnight hour Sunday night. We end this topsy-turvy week jolted, but with a slightly more optimistic mindset.

MON, Sep 19

3 MR

Moon in Taurus (P), Void in Aries (E) / Moon enters Taurus 12:58 am (E)

Affection is easily expressed, yet it may be misunderstood, in an attempt to make up for recent slights or abandonment. Doing something helpful is appreciated more than hugs.

TUES, Sep 20

3 MR *

Moon in Taurus / Void 8:32 pm (P), 11:32 pm (E) / Moon enters Gemini 10:53 pm (P)

Faced with a situation that seems unfair, we try to find a way to rectify or work around it. Patiently talking through options and letting go of judgment changes the trajectory.

WED, Sep 21

International Day of Peace

1 MR *

Moon in Gemini (P), Void in Taurus (E) / Moon enters Gemini 1:53 am (E)

It won't be easy but we can take a clue from today's holiday, the *International Day of Peace*, to look past the agitation and confusion to see the potential, and need, for unity.



THURS, Sep 22

Autumn Equinox, Mabon

Sun enters Libra

2 *

Moon in Gemini

An appreciation of harmony aims us toward more tactful communication. It's not enough, though, if we gloss over people's pain and concentrate on personal ambitions.



FRI, Sep 23

3 *

Moon in Gemini / Void 12:57 am (P), 3:57 am (E) / Moon enters Cancer 1:33 am (P), 4:33 am (E) / Third Quarter Moon

A change of heart and shift in thinking begin to lift us out of the funk of the past week or more. We have increased empathy for each other's plight and get in the mood to help.

SAT, Sep 24

3

Moon in Cancer / Void 6:42 pm (P), 9:42 pm (E)

Time with family or handling needed cleanup or repairs at home consumes most of the day. Later, barring a compelling personal reason to go out, staying in sounds better.

SUN, Sep 25

2 *

Moon Void in Cancer / Moon enters Leo 6:48 am (P), 9:48 am (E)

Cooperation is sorely lacking and egotism abounds. "Let a smile be your umbrella." A sunny disposition might see you through the downpour of criticism and craziness.

WEEK: Sept. 26 - Oct. 02

Sun Sign: Libra

Lunar phase: Waning until New Moon 9/30

HIGHLIGHTS SEPT. 26 - OCT. 02

As last week closed out, we began to shift gears. We continue this week, especially regarding long-term goals and commitments to or from others. Monday and Wednesday

are the key days for these efforts, with a wrap-up Sunday morning. There may be adjustments in expectations, possibly to downgrade lofty ambitions. We seek nurturing and support with varying degrees of success, the most difficult times coming Wednesday and Thursday, followed by improvement starting Friday. We struggle with whether to exhibit tenderness or toughness Monday and Thursday. By Saturday, the softer approach emerges as the preference and we see evidence of that on Sunday and next Monday.

A no-nonsense get-down-to-business influence comes on board Tuesday for six weeks. It keeps us on a practical path, focused on the tasks at hand. By the middle of next week, we see the wisdom of reducing the scope of objectives to a more realistic level, with hints in that direction this Monday and Friday. Size is a key theme for the coming lunar cycle since the New Moon Friday [5:11 pm (P), 8:11 pm (E)] occurs near the planet of broad expanses and grand gestures. A New Moon in Libra ordinarily inclines us toward moderation and the middle road; we'll need a shove from pragmatism to get to that route. Another nudge comes from a harmonious connection (exact Monday) between the Sun and the ruling planet of Libra, helping us get in better balance. It also increases our appreciation of ourselves and our relationships, though there is a brief bumpy moment Thursday when interpersonal hurts surface and need a salve. We arrive at understanding and forgiveness sometime between Saturday and next Monday. Communication is all-important in the process. Half-truths or seemingly protective "white" lies do more harm than good; respect and affection deserve honesty.

MON, Sep 26

1 *

Moon in Leo

We're generous, but only to a point. We may have to put our foot down if there are too many demands on our time or resources. There's only so much help we can give.

TUES, Sep 27

3 *

Moon in Leo / Void 1:52 am (P), 4:52 am (E) / Moon enters Virgo 2:43 pm (P), 5:43 pm (E)

Our morning energy can't quite steamroll us through the day until we resume our productivity this evening. Try to give yourself a break from obligations mid-afternoon.

WED, Sep 28

2

Moon in Virgo

As has happened frequently in recent weeks, energies are easily scattered or you're torn between competing duties. Try to prioritize and work down the list methodically.

THURS, Sep 29

1

Moon in Virgo / Void 3:05 am (P), 6:05 am (E)

Tears flow with good reason. Someone feels undervalued (at best) or verbally attacked (at worst). Though a good cry can be cleansing and healing, an apology is in order.



FRI, Sep 30

4 *

Moon Void in Virgo / Moon enters Libra 12:52 am (P), 3:52 am (E) / New Moon

It's time to turn a corner about something that's been bothering us a couple weeks or more. If we can be big-hearted or big-minded about it, we can move past it with grace.

SAT, Oct 01

Navaratri begins

3 *

Moon in Libra / Void 10:43 pm (P)

Judgments mar the morning but compassion can drown out condemnation, especially if fairness is taken into consideration. Tonight, seeing another's viewpoint is eye-popping.

SUN, Oct 02

Al-Hijra/Muharram (Islamic New Year)

3 *

Moon in Libra, Void (P) / Void 1:43 am (E) / Moon enters Scorpio 12:43 pm (P), 3:43 pm (E)

An aimless start to the day offers a chance to relax and unwind, perhaps including a social element. The level of activity perks up this afternoon and tonight we're still rolling.

WEEK: Oct. 03 - 09

Sun Sign: Libra

Lunar phase: Waxing since New Moon 9/30

HIGHLIGHTS OCT. 03 - 09

We're past eclipse season and into a new, milder lunar cycle. You can see from the day ratings, this will be a better week than many: no **1**s, just 2 **2**'s, 3 **3**'s, a **4** and a **5**! (There is not much discord between the planets but then there aren't many connections becoming exact this week.) Mercury is not retrograde and the Moon is waxing, making this week well-suited for new ventures and, with the Sun in Libra, forming partnerships, business or otherwise. Monday is probably the best day for this even though it's a **4** rather than a **5**; just avoid the morning. The Moon in Scorpio is savvy about finances and the Libra Sun is moving into a positive connection (exact Tuesday) that's favorable for commitments and shared responsibilities. A factor (exact last Sunday) that puts us in touch with helpful people is boosted by the Moon midday Monday. The two planets most

affiliated with money matters are in a harmonious relationship, exact on Wednesday and emphasized by the Moon Monday afternoon into the evening. Saturday, though a 5 day, has the Sun coming out of an abrasive link (exact Friday) with the planet associated with shared finances, intimacy and procreation. Late Saturday night, the Moon emphasizes this scratchy combination. If you plan to open a business that day, the safe time is the afternoon. A caution to keep in mind throughout the week comes from a clash between the planets of action and growth, inclining us to overdo rather than simply do whatever we undertake. This connection is exact Wednesday afternoon and amplified by the Moon early Tuesday morning and very early Saturday morning (perhaps more potent late Friday night). Communication takes a turn in the direction of cooperation and diplomacy starting Friday. This should smooth all interactions and aid teamwork over the next two-and-a-half weeks.

MON, Oct 03

Rosh Hashanah, World Habitat Day

4

Moon in Scorpio

After a hiccup in communications early, the day is flawless. We have a keen sense of the value of objects and relationships. We share willingly, respecting boundaries.

TUES, Oct 04

3

Moon in Scorpio / Void 6:04 pm (P), 9:04 pm (E)

Morning and evening may see some disagreements or head-butting. In between, we accomplish a lot, aided by good planning, collaboration and minding the details.

WED, Oct 05

3

Moon Void in Scorpio / Moon enters Sagittarius 1:26 am (P), 4:26 am (E)

An optimistic attitude permeates the day before irritability mars the evening. We have the energy for high productivity but might dilute it by an unachievably long TO DO list.

THURS, Oct 06

3

Moon in Sagittarius / Void 11:26 pm (P)

Motivation is strong to start the day and we jump into projects with vigor. Sticking to them is the trick. A care-taking duty may sidetrack us in the afternoon or evening.

FRI, Oct 07

2 *

Moon in Sagittarius, Void (P) / Void 2:26 am (E) / Moon enters Capricorn 1:40 pm (P), 4:40 pm (E)

We question authority and balk against arbitrary categorizations or harsh rules, especially if fairness is involved. Words resonate far and wide. There may be big news.

SAT, Oct 08

5

Moon in Capricorn / First Quarter Moon (P)

Inspiration greets us as we arise and we follow our dreams, grateful to receive help along the way. Determination and ambition are strong, lasting until evening.



SUN, Oct 09

2

Moon in Capricorn / First Quarter Moon (E) / Void 9:51 am (P), 12:51 pm (E) / Moon enters Aquarius 11:33 pm (P)

Get going early and enjoy the pleasant morning before the day goes downhill. People tell others what they should or shouldn't do and are met with feisty resistance.

WEEK: Oct. 10 - 16

Sun Sign: Libra

Lunar phase: Waxing until Full Moon 10/15 (P), 10/16 (E)

HIGHLIGHTS OCT. 10 - 16

Indecisive Libra time is hard enough; this week, the challenge is enormous. It's normal to have moments when our head tells us one thing, our heart says another and we don't know what to do. Well, this isn't a moment, it's a whole week! Our thinking clashes with our values or attractions late Monday. Immediately on Tuesday, both are magnified, enlarging our dilemmas. The Moon spotlights our quandary that evening (and again late Friday night into early Saturday morning). Since last week, we've been fighting the inclination to overdo whatever we undertake. That struggle now inflates our head-heart conflict, making our choices all the more difficult. Thursday, we lean more toward facts and logic yet we're still unsure of our course as reason conflicts with impulse. Friday, we're quite confident we have solid information and are thinking well as the indicators of thought and reality interact smoothly. However, this is not an advisable time to commit to irreversible positions. Surprising circumstances or developments come along on Saturday, when shock and chaos rear their ugly heads and take center stage at the Full Moon that night [Saturday 9:23 pm (P), Sunday 12:23 am (E)]. Simultaneously, the planets that signal mental matters and turnarounds grate against one another and there we go, changing our mind again. Sunday, there's a stand-off between the planets of love and action; our sentiments struggle to catch up to where our plans are shifting. We may be in limbo for a while yet. Next week, confusion plays a major role and more changes are headed our way.

MON, Oct 10

Columbus Day, Native Americans Day (SD), Thanksgiving (Canada)

3

Moon in Aquarius (P), Void in Capricorn (E) / Moon enters Aquarius 2:33 am (E)
The day begins with high hopes and lofty ideals that are dealt a blow by afternoon. As much as we want to accept what seems to be the case, something doesn't feel right.

TUES, Oct 11

Ashura

3 P *

Moon in Aquarius / Void 4:49 pm (P), 7:49 pm (E)

We vacillate on this up-and-down day that includes plenty of inspiration and healing but still leaves us wondering if we care too much or too little. Friends steer us right.

WED, Oct 12

Yom Kippur

3

Moon Void in Aquarius / Moon enters Pisces 5:43 am (P), 8:43 am (E)

Aid is offered, though pride may make us reluctant to accept it. A wise path opens before us and we can start along it for at least a few steps before it veers suddenly.

THURS, Oct 13

3 *

Moon in Pisces

Motivation is strong to start, even if we have to go solo and be our own support system. The climb is steeper than we thought. We find we do need to turn to someone for help.

FRI, Oct 14

4

Moon in Pisces / Void 12:13 am (P), 3:13 am (E) / Moon enters Aries 8:08 am (P), 11:08 am (E)

We're re-energized, setting our sights on long-term goals and plans. Ambitions may be lopsided, though, whether relying too much on others or on ourselves to pull the load.

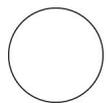
SAT, Oct 15

Sweetest Day

1 P *

Moon in Aries / Full Moon (Blood Moon) (P) / Void 9:23 pm (P)

New information comes to light. Yesterday's strategies come into question and we return to weighing options. Intuition and first instincts serve us better than scrutiny.



SUN, Oct 16

1 *

Moon in Aries, Void (P) / Full Moon (Blood Moon) (E) / Void 12:23 am (E) / Moon enters Taurus 8:04 am (P), 11:04 am (E)

After a choppy morning, we try to get into a comfortable routine but still feel unsettled. Extreme emotions tug at us and unanswered questions haunt us into the evening.

WEEK: Oct. 17 - 23

Sun Sign: Libra, changing to Scorpio 10/22

Lunar phase: Waning since Full Moon 10/16

HIGHLIGHTS OCT. 17 - 23

Many couples will have a rough week, especially at the beginning. Continuing the theme of last Sunday's Full Moon, relationships are strained by the personal needs or desires of the individual partners. In addition, the planets that represent men and women are having a fight themselves. On Tuesday, the indicator of females has a run-in with the planet of power and domination; Wednesday, it's the male-related factor's turn (though in an easier connection). It may seem like the woman has the upper hand briefly before there's a shift in favor of the man. (This applies to a hetero twosome, obviously.) For anyone (not necessarily regarding a relationship), these conditions enhance the forces for survival and self-determination, superseding the normal Libra drive for cooperation and sharing. The harmony planet, Libra's ruler, finishes its visit to a sign of extremes and stubbornness Monday. On Tuesday, it switches to a sign of flexibility and adaptation, which helps smooth interactions but not enough to prevent all friction. The Moon stirs the pot Tuesday morning and Friday afternoon, when there could be a continuation of the chafing that arose at the beginning of the week. Adding to the difficulties, communication is hampered the second half of the week. Thursday, we have to contend with surprise and chaos; we could be in for a shock. Friday, there's confusion about the direction in which to head and how far to go. If we've overestimated, we'll know by Sunday. Thursday, we encounter obstacles to obtaining support from those in authority or leadership. People jockey to determine where they fall in the pecking order. The Third Quarter Moon Saturday highlights this turmoil and Sunday, the planet of communication gets embroiled in the fray. Conversations are not apt to provide much backing, particularly if judgments are expressed. Another wrinkle enters the picture at the end of the week: our openness to others is tarnished by misperceptions, trust issues or projection.

MON, Oct 17

Sukkot begins, National Boss's Day

2

Moon in Taurus / Void 7:47 am (P), 10:47 am (E)

Motivation to accomplish goals is strong, in theory at least. But in practice, it's hard to maintain focus on objectives and easy to get distracted, probably by someone in need.

TUES, Oct 18

1 *

Moon Void in Taurus / Moon enters Gemini 7:30 am (P), 10:30 am (E)

People are very vocal about what they think should be done or how to go about it. Opposing values lead to disagreements, especially tonight when hackles are raised.

WED, Oct 19

3 *

Moon in Gemini

Not much can budge us from concentrating on our target. If somehow we get side-tracked, we redouble our efforts, plowing ahead with energy that lasts until late.

THURS, Oct 20

1 P *

Moon in Gemini / Void 4:17 am (P), 7:17 am (E) / Moon enters Cancer 8:28 am (P), 11:28 am (E)

Nothing seems to go as expected or wanted, putting us in a surly mood. Worse yet, we don't find help or even sympathy. We might as well weed since we can't pick flowers.

FRI, Oct 21

1 *

Moon in Cancer

Discussions loop around in circles, going nowhere. Heads may be spinning, too. People are testy, especially when they meet with opposition, which is more likely than not.



SAT, Oct 22

Make a Difference Day

Sun enters Scorpio

1 *

Moon in Cancer / Third Quarter Moon / Void 12:14 pm (P), 3:14 pm (E) / Moon enters Leo 12:34 pm (P), 3:34 pm (E)

Early morning dreams swirl with images spawned by yesterday's whirlpool. When we look for a shoulder to lean on, we find others are also dizzied and need to be shored up.

SUN, Oct 23

2 *

Moon in Leo

Bouncing ideas off a reliable advisor can help as you try to get clear about your needs. Start with a wide-angle view, then narrow the lens to pinpoint parameters and answers.

WEEK: Oct. 24 - 30

Sun Sign: Scorpio

Lunar phase: Waning until New Moon 10/30

HIGHLIGHTS OCT. 24 - 30

Although the Sun has left Libra, love and partnership are still very much on the front burner. One reason is the year-long passage of the planet of learning and growth through this sign, which began 9/09. We're midway through a month when it has a reinforcing exchange with Libra's ruling planet. But these bolstering factors are buffeted this week as the primary planet associated with all kinds of relationships goes through the wringer. Wednesday, it starts six weeks of traveling beyond the ordinary path of the Sun and planets, riding abnormally low in the sky. This promotes extremes and unusual conditions. Furthermore, it's jostled by disruptions and discord Monday, then enveloped in fog of apprehension and indecision as competing duties vie for attention Tuesday to early Wednesday. It gets a shot of hope Wednesday but the buoyancy is short-lived. Thursday, the dwarf planet of nurturance gives it the brush-off, repeated Saturday evening when the Moon scratches them. Fortunately, that day we're able to don a thick skin of protection. The partnership planet is also related to monetary matters and they have parallel difficulties this week. We experience unpredictability, worries and questions about how to meet needs (our own or others'). There are hard realities to face. The planet of awareness enters the sign of investments and shared finances Monday, adding to our focus on this arena for the next three weeks. It ends the week in a favorable connection that promotes imagination and generosity, propelling a spiritual outlook over the four-week lunar cycle that begins at the New Moon Sunday [10:38 am (P), 1:38 pm (E)]. Another key feature then points to introspection as a way to find wounds that need healing or identify personal upgrades we wish to make.

MON, Oct 24

United Nations Day

2 *

Moon in Leo / Void 5:21 am (P), 8:21 am (E) / Moon enters Virgo 8:16 pm (P), 11:16 pm (E)

Brace yourself for some type of upset in either social interactions or financial transactions on this lively and stressful day. A creative outlet should cheer you.

TUES, Oct 25

1 P *

Moon in Virgo

Grumbling and complaining elude self-absorbed ears early on. Later, empathy emerges, possibly accompanied by assistance. A myriad of details call for attention.

WED, Oct 26

2 *

Moon in Virgo / Void 11:33 am (P), 2:33 pm (E)

A shift in attitude re-orient us regarding affections or fiscal matters, though it's tough to get input or feedback this morning. By afternoon, we see progress and improvement.

THURS, Oct 27

3

Moon Void in Virgo / Moon enters Libra 6:51 am (P), 9:51 am (E)

A pep talk gets you moving. Once in motion, momentum builds. Innovative ideas are inspiring. The problem is, there's only one person to implement them: you, on your own.

FRI, Oct 28

3

Moon in Libra

Once we put a hurt behind us, we find cooperation. Sharing the load accomplishes tasks more easily. Insistence on particular methods could put up a roadblock, though.

SAT, Oct 29

1 P

Moon in Libra / Void 3:09 am (P), 6:09 am (E) / Moon enters Scorpio 7:01 pm (P), 10:01 pm (E)

Caution keeps us from taking crazy chances when we're tempted by impulsive desires. We get the short end of the stick when obligations to others distract us from our goals.



SUN, Oct 30

4 *

Moon in Scorpio / New Moon

Fresh inspiration gives us a new lease on life. We see the road we want to travel and determination wells up. We know who can help us. We may need to make amends first.

WEEK: Oct. 31 - Nov. 06

Sun Sign: Scorpio

Lunar phase: Waxing since New Moon 10/30

HIGHLIGHTS OCT. 31 - NOV. 06

Every so often, it's healthy to have a new dream for yourself, a new heading. It's also good to examine what your fantasies and fears are. The same planet is associated with both the negative and positive ramblings of the mind. This week, it's strongly highlighted, as is (by association) the sign it rules, where it happens to be traveling for a decade or more. The power of imagination will be on display, primarily Tuesday and Thursday and to a lesser extent, Friday afternoon. Tuesday, we can be playful and bring creativity to exploring our vision. Techniques like automatic writing or drawing, asking questions with a pendulum or throwing the Tarot cards open us to inner realms. However on that day, we might find something surfaces from our subconscious that is irritating or taps into anger. If so, this is an opportunity to acknowledge negative emotions and hopefully release them and learn from them. The other two times are likely to yield a smoother search. A related theme now is laying fears to rest. We have the mental fortitude to face the need for changes Wednesday to Thursday, although we may have to do this on our own without a sounding board. Over the weekend, we gain an increased appreciation for what makes us different, seeing it as an asset rather than a liability. Such a realization could be spawned by a discouraging blow Friday, though. Sunday, healing words come along to reinforce our favorable self-assessment.

Last week, the planet of relationships and finances traveled a rough road. This week, it's not emphasized until Friday, when we need to address a weakness or injury. We might employ an innovative approach or take a risk Saturday. Still, there will be wrinkles remaining Sunday.

MON, Oct 31

Halloween, All Hallows Eve, Samhain

5

Moon in Scorpio / Void 7:44 pm (P), 10:44 pm (E)

Inner strength and the resolve to make positive modifications lead us to improve a situation, take steps toward better health or make long-range financial plans.

TUES, Nov 01

All Saints' Day, Dia de los Muertos

2

Moon Void in Scorpio / Moon enters Sagittarius 7:43 am (P), 10:43 am (E)

Be in touch with your beliefs and expectations and acknowledge your anxieties. This will aid you in adjusting your aims. It may turn out you need to leave something behind.

WED, Nov 02

All Souls' Day

3

Moon in Sagittarius

Early-risers may encounter irritation or impatience. We're upbeat and productive for much of the day. However, we feel burdened and no one can lighten our load.

THURS, Nov 03

Guy Fawkes Day (U.K.)

3 *

Moon in Sagittarius / Void 3:35 am (P), 6:35 am (E) / Moon enters Capricorn 8:05 pm (P), 11:05 pm (E)

Enthusiasm energizes us, providing drive as we delve into personal pursuits. This competes with an equally strong call to be selfless and sacrifice on behalf of others.

FRI, Nov 04

3

Moon in Capricorn

A disappointment this morning might throw you, but it won't be long before you get back on track. Much can be accomplished this afternoon and help might even be offered.

SAT, Nov 05

3

Moon in Capricorn

Like-minded associates cooperate, making headway on shared goals and exchanging productive ideas. But this evening, harmony collapses and disagreements halt activities.

SUN, Nov 06

Daylight Saving Time ends

3

Moon in Capricorn / Void 1:56 am (PST), 4:56 am (EST) / Moon enters Aquarius 5:55 am (PST), 8:55 am (EST)

A bad taste is left in mouths from last night's turmoil. With kind words, friends come to the rescue, putting a salve on hurt feelings. A wound may be too deep for an easy fix.

WEEK: Nov. 07 - 13

Sun Sign: Scorpio

Lunar phase: Waxing until Full Moon 11/14

HIGHLIGHTS NOV. 07 - 13

In the body, pain is a warning that healing is needed. Similarly, on an emotional level, when something doesn't feel right, it signals where to look with an eye toward making a change. In our work, mistakes or failures lead to altered tactics. Arguments between partners expose areas where common ground may be sought. Financial problems present opportunities to cut losses or re-direct assets. This week, we'll see all the aforementioned and more; it's a time for adjustments across the board. The Scorpio period is known for transformation, endings and beginnings, and spiraling to a higher level. Like the snake shedding its skin, we leave behind what we've outgrown. But it can be difficult to wriggle out of our old ways. Scorpio's ruling planet is a featured player every day this week except for Thursday, and then a planet in Scorpio picks up the slack. The week begins and ends smoothly but in between, there are some rough days.

Support that seems forthcoming Monday fritters over the next two days. Wednesday, plans don't turn out as anticipated, sparking annoyance. Thursday, we have a chance to recoup and set matters in better order, only to see more problems crop up Friday, exacerbated by antagonism. By Saturday, we know something's got to give and that's when attitudes finally evolve. Sunday is the calm after the storm.

Three quick planets change signs, adding to the rapid shifts. The action planet adopts an inventive approach and spurs us to operate collaboratively, beginning Wednesday. Saturday, the indicator of values starts to lean toward more conservative tastes. It's the relationship factor, as well, emphasizing commitment and respect over the coming four weeks. The same day, communications are scheduled to commence becoming more open and optimistic, although that may not be apparent right away.



MON, Nov 07

4

Moon in Aquarius / First Quarter Moon

We feel strong and powerful, confident in our individual talents and expertise. We're also in a good space regarding social ties, collegial cooperation and mutual support.

TUES, Nov 08

Election Day (U.S.)

2 *

Moon in Aquarius / Void 5:54 am (P), 8:54 am (E) / Moon enters Pisces 1:45 pm (P), 4:45 pm (E)

Questions fill your mind. Is someone more interested in selfish concerns than having your back? Which values are most important? For whom should you feel sympathy?

WED, Nov 09

2 *

Moon in Pisces

The proper direction and course of action are under scrutiny from morning until night and possibly the source of arguments. Impressions and instincts steer the way well.

THURS, Nov 10

3 *

Moon in Pisces / Void 3:16 pm (P), 6:16 pm (E) / Moon enters Aries 5:45 pm (P), 8:45 pm (E)

Shine a light for others to see in new ways, viewing a situation differently. This yields adjustments based on sound principles. Tonight's high energy is good for athletics.

FRI, Nov 11

Veterans Day (U.S.), Remembrance Day (Canada)

1 *

Moon in Aries

Not only aren't people on the same page, they're not even reading from the same book! Civility is strained in the midst of heated discussions until maturity finally prevails.

SAT, Nov 12

Sadie Hawkins Day

3 *

Moon in Aries / Void 4:45 am (P), 7:45 am (E) / Moon enters Taurus 6:24 pm (P), 9:24 pm (E)

Impulsiveness starts us on a strange route early, but we don't stay on it for long. Then we turn to repairing damages from yesterday's spats and rebuilding alliances.

SUN, Nov 13

4

Moon in Taurus

We feel well-grounded and more certain of the path forward; even if the going is slow, it will be steady. We see clearly changes we can effect and how they'll make a difference.

WEEK: Nov. 14 - 20

Sun Sign: Scorpio

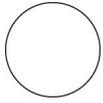
Lunar phase: Waning after Full Moon 11/14

HIGHLIGHTS NOV. 14 - 20

A quick mind and a rapid-fire tongue are often an asset yet sometimes a drawback. We'll see which way they operate this week. The planets of mind and speed cooperate with one another Monday night and Tuesday (with a brief reprise Saturday morning). Wednesday through Friday, each is embroiled in disharmonious connections with other factors that signify rashness, injury and indifference. Part of that influence comes from the dwarf planets of nurturance and autonomy joining forces, inclining people to be more concerned with their own agenda and well-being, ignoring others' plight. After a minor preview Thursday morning, empathy finally comes onto our radar screen Saturday, when it combines with generosity to make a contribution. Communication is especially convoluted and unfocused Thursday and Friday, which is part of a larger problem as we struggle from Tuesday to Friday to enlarge our viewpoint. We try to see not just all trees but all forests. This is perhaps too immense a task and by Friday, heads are swimming. This leaves the task to sturdy hearts for stilling the whirlwind on the weekend.

The week begins with a rather nondescript and mild-mannered Full Moon early Monday [5:52 am (P), 8:52 am (E)]. The norm during Scorpio is to connect with deep emotions and Full Moons are ordinarily a time for feelings to dominate. However, the Moon offers a steadying hand when it is in Taurus and keeps us focused and practical. There are no

upsetting planetary patterns in place at this Full Moon and the strongest links the Moon and Sun make are soothing ones to an indicator of healing and repair. We'll need this help, and a nice Taurus hug, to handle the turbulence over the ensuing days.



MON, Nov 14

2 *

Moon in Taurus / Full Moon (Snow Moon) / Void 5:52 am (P), 8:52 am (E) / Moon enters Gemini 5:23 pm (P), 8:23 pm (E)

We take our time today, lingering to enjoy the pleasures of our senses and the company of those whom we appreciate. Later, the pace picks up and we become more cerebral.

TUES, Nov 15

3

Moon in Gemini

It would be easy to succumb to being frantic and scattered this morning unless we keep our eyes on a distant point, as is taught in yogic balance poses to maintain equilibrium.

WED, Nov 16

2

Moon in Gemini / Void 2:58 am (P), 5:58 am (E) / Moon enters Cancer 4:57 pm (P), 7:57 pm (E)

The early part of the day, we rush around but seem to get nowhere. Then jarring news throws us for a loop. Tonight we seek compassion and understanding from a friend.

THURS, Nov 17

2 *

Moon in Cancer

We look far and wide for kindness and end up with little to show for our efforts. A warm moment this morning is overshadowed by brusque business-like exchanges tonight.

FRI, Nov 18

1

Moon in Cancer / Void 2:02 pm (P), 5:02 pm (E) / Moon enters Leo 7:14 pm (P), 10:14 pm (E)

A moody and upsetting day begins with a crabby and confusing morning. We question motives and beliefs, others' and our own. A relieving "happy hour" can't come too soon.

SAT, Nov 19

3 *

Moon in Leo

We have a better handle on where we'd like to head and who might help us get there.

Our sense of optimism lifts for the first time in days. Hopefully it's not based on illusion.

SUN, Nov 20

3

Moon in Leo

Our spirits and energy level soar. We want to do something fun and exciting this afternoon. Tonight, we're content just to chill or be creative in a productive way.

WEEK: Nov. 21 - 27

Sun Sign: Sagittarius

Lunar phase: Waning since Full Moon 11/14

HIGHLIGHTS NOV. 21 - 27

The Third Quarter Moon phase in the wee hours of Monday morning is the Sun's last activity in Scorpio before it enters Sagittarius that afternoon. The Moon is in the last inches of the sign where it's traveling, Leo. Both signs are in the persistent (and stubborn) Fixed sign category, urging us to hold on to something. But the nature of a Third Quarter Moon is to nudge us to do something differently instead of staying the course. We must go around a corner or deal with matters that are at cross purposes. In this case, we're tested to see if we'll continue or give up what has been developing since the New Moon on 10/30. At least we should be cognizant of lessons learned if the choice is to let it go. It's likely that boundaries or commitments are involved and now is the time for conversation or investigation. A blessing is that we feel an unseen guiding force or we have spiritual principles to steer by.

A firm, though gentle, stimulus for change takes center stage this week. In situations that have reached an extreme, conditions must shift or be corralled in some way. There might also be plans that require negotiation to find compromise between multiple parties. In personal lives, the key arenas involved are careers and relationships, and where these two conflict. In worldly affairs, legal matters and economics are the competing areas in need of balancing. The main turning point comes Thursday from a stand-off between two slow planets, accentuated by the Moon that night. (This is the second Thanksgiving in a row when a major, heavy planetary connection is exact.) The next morning, when the indicator of fiscal matters joins in the mix, we'll discover the price that must be paid for our choice. Monday to Tuesday, conditions come to our awareness that point to the need for adjustments. By Wednesday, it's crystal clear what should be straightened out. The weekend brings discussions of just what to do to make improvements or breathe fresh air into stale approaches.





MON, Nov 21

Sun enters Sagittarius

1 *

Moon in Leo / Void 12:33 am (P), 3:33 am (E) / Moon enters Virgo 1:34 am (P), 4:34 am (E) / Third Quarter Moon

Critical analysis is a razor-sharp tool when wielded well. Today it aims at excising excesses and exposing egocentrism. It can equally come to the aid of those in need.

TUES, Nov 22

3 *

Moon in Virgo / Void 9:41 am (P), 12:41 pm (E)

We're industrious this morning. It's a good time to confer about plans. A wide-angled view is instructive, builds consensus and points toward modifications or improvements.

WED, Nov 23

3 *

Moon Void in Virgo / Moon enters Libra 11:42 am (P), 2:42 pm (E)

We can easily put our finger on facts and see truths. Confidence is strong, along with will power, to propel us forward with a sense of purpose. Cooperation is also at hand.

THURS, Nov 24

Thanksgiving (U.S.)

2 P *

Moon in Libra

Along with all the goodies, the holiday table is set for a good debate. Values and judgments are bandied about in a spirit of open-minded inquiry, with a tone of civility.

FRI, Nov 25

2 *

Moon in Libra / Void 5:52 am (P), 8:52 am

It's hard to agree on what's most important. By staying calm and centered, you won't be provoked when agitators push buttons. Instead, you can be a peace-keeper and helper.

SAT, Nov 26

3 *

Moon Void in Libra / Moon enters Scorpio 12:01 am (P), 3:01 am (E)

Research reveals the source of problems and brainstorming finds fruitful solutions. Tonight is well-suited for entertainment, romantic fantasies or creative pursuits.

SUN, Nov 27

First Sunday of Advent

2

Moon in Scorpio / Void 1:48 pm (P), 4:48 pm (E)

People are forthright, possibly even blunt, rebelling if someone tries to tell them what to do. However, if shown the wisdom of a request, they'll change their tune and go along.

WEEK: Nov. 28 - Dec. 04

Sun Sign: Sagittarius

Lunar phase: Waning until New Moon 11/29, then waxing

HIGHLIGHTS NOV. 28 - DEC. 04

No planets are passing through Scorpio now and you might think that type of energy has passed us by for this year. However, it may seem like we have a hangover or must undertake a do-over regarding the transformation and release that this sign signals. It's not that Scorpio's ruling planet is particularly emphasized (beyond participating in an imprecise stressful pattern and receiving a quick nod from the Moon Monday afternoon and Friday morning). Instead, other conditions create a similar feeling by throwing us into reorientation mode. We adjust goals and leave certain parts of our past behind as we envision a new dream for our future and seek a stronger bond with our spiritual side. These are themes at the New Moon Tuesday [4:18 am (P), 7:18 am (E)] and thus for the coming four weeks. They'll likely resonate with the lunar cycle coming three months down the road, kicking off with a solar eclipse on 2/28/17. We'll have another chance then to develop our sense of connection to a higher power and a greater whole. At this time, we have better luck working on our confidence and self-reliance. These improve when we set clear guidelines for ourselves and adhere to our philosophies. We'd like to achieve a balance between self-concern and focus on others but support is spotty. We get some cooperation Tuesday night, Thursday evening and to a degree on Saturday. The remainder of the week, the backing offered may be due to pity or accompanied by resenting the imposition. On a brighter note, there's a lucky triangle from Wednesday to Thursday that's great for creative communication (fiction, poetry, lyrics, etc.) and pumps up imagination and optimism. Wednesday morning and Thursday evening are well-suited for making travel arrangements, especially to spiritual retreats, beaches or cruises. Other good uses for the energy are applying for higher educational programs and initiating legal actions concerning discrimination, mistreatment or medical malpractice.

MON, Nov 28

1

Moon Void in Scorpio / Moon enters Sagittarius 12:46 pm (P), 3:46 pm (E)

When we step back and view the big picture, it's easy to see what's excessive or bogging us down. Try to streamline by discarding the unimportant or superfluous.



TUES, Nov 29

1 P *

Moon in Sagittarius / New Moon

By crossing paths with people whose perspective is different from ours, we take a new look at where we're coming from and headed. They prod us to think outside our box.

WED, Nov 30

3 *

Moon in Sagittarius / Void 8:08 pm (P), 11:08 pm (E)

This morning, we're invigorated with desire to play to our individual strengths and we take bold steps. Tonight, we wonder if what we did will actually work in our favor.

THURS, Dec 01

World AIDS Awareness Day

3 *

Moon Void in Sagittarius / Moon enters Capricorn 12:52 am (P), 3:52 am (E)

A pause is in order to assess relationships, particularly those related to our work, to see if we're getting or giving the help required. Tonight is the best time all week. Enjoy!

FRI, Dec 02

1 *

Moon in Capricorn

Guilt-tripping is a motivator but certainly not a pleasant one! "Shoulds" lurk around every corner as annoying obligations impinge on our freedom, unless we can serve selflessly.

SAT, Dec 03

2

Moon in Capricorn / Void 2:16 am (P), 5:16 am (E) / Moon enters Aquarius 11:44 am (P), 2:44 pm (E)

We burn off some steam this morning; anything physical or athletic will do the trick. Later, we need our space, perhaps to the point of seeking total solitude tonight.

SUN, Dec 04

3

Moon in Aquarius

A sunny disposition lifts spirits, at least part of the day. Yet there's a nagging feeling in the background that a disruptive influence may intrude at any time, throwing us off kilter.

WEEK: Dec. 05 - 11

Sun Sign: Sagittarius

Lunar phase: Waxing since New Moon 11/29

HIGHLIGHTS DEC. 05 - 11

Before the year draws to a close, you no doubt have some important tasks or projects to push along toward your goals. This is a good week for progress on most fronts, as you can see from the day ratings. Inventiveness is pumped up Monday morning and Tuesday. Confidence and initiative are strong Friday. Discipline, ambition and determination come into play Saturday. However, that day finances and relationships could be bumpy. They head in a new direction beginning Wednesday, when their planetary ruler shifts to a different sign. Communications are smooth for the most part. The one factor that could add a wrinkle in this regard occurs early Wednesday and is activated by the Moon Thursday night. It's partially counterbalanced by positive indications peaking Thursday morning that put us in touch with people who can help us on our path. The cautions are to avoid haste or a stubborn insistence on what you *think* you know (you might not be right). Why double your difficulties by rushing *and* conveying incorrect information? Imagination and use of imagery, symbols, art or entertainment improve messages Friday to Saturday, especially in the evenings, possibly continuing to Sunday morning. Because we're in the waxing (growth) phase of the lunar cycle and Mercury is Direct (in normal forward motion), a 4-rated day like Sunday (morning through afternoon) is a good choice for launching a new venture. The Taurus Moon brings persistence and a focus on practical outcomes. The dwarf planet related to nurturance and harvest comes to a standstill Friday. It's wise to leave a day's leeway on either side and not "plant seeds" from Thursday to Saturday. Wednesday, it gets a boost from the planet of action and beginnings, magnified by the Moon very early Monday morning. These are not good days for a start, though, due to the Moon being Void of Course. You can, however, use these times to propel ongoing activities, maybe adding a new twist or facet to them.

MON, Dec 05

3

Moon in Aquarius / Void 3:23 am (P), 6:23 am (E) / Moon enters Pisces 8:31 pm (P), 11:31 pm (E)

Camaraderie and stimulating exchanges of tips and how-to's contribute to meetings or gatherings, especially early in the day. Tonight, a dream may lead to a breakthrough.

TUES, Dec 06

Saint Nicholas Day

3

Moon in Pisces

Holding a vision of intentions strongly in mind prevents being thrown off by unexpected interruptions (though one may bear good news). Later, activities among friends go well.



WED, Dec 07

Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

2 *

Moon in Pisces / First Quarter Moon / Void 6:05 am (P), 9:05 am (E)

People bristle when rules or demands are thrust upon them. A gentle approach works well – or even better, an offer of mutual support, delivered amiably or with humor.

THURS, Dec 08

3

Moon Void in Pisces / Moon enters Aries 2:15 am (P), 5:15 am (E)

Wisdom, intelligence and extrasensory perception blend well and yield good results this morning. But this evening, we encounter resistance and an argument might ensue.

FRI, Dec 09

3 *

Moon in Aries / Void 5:06 pm (P), 8:06 pm (E)

Big plans are afoot on this high energy day. We manage to accomplish some individual objectives and act in concert with others, as long as no one hurries and steps on toes.

SAT, Dec 10

Human Rights Day

3 *

Moon Void in Aries / Moon enters Taurus 4:41 am (P), 7:41 am (E)

We're calm, bordering on sluggish at times. Or perhaps we're just pacing ourselves, conserving energy. Sensual relaxation (a massage or long bath) would be nice tonight.

SUN, Dec 11

4

Moon in Taurus / Void 8:04 pm (P), 11:04 pm (E)

Our drive is strong early on and we dive into our tasks. Innovation inspires answers or improvements. Momentum keeps us rolling all afternoon, but no later. Steam runs out.

WEEK: Dec. 12 - 18

Sun Sign: Sagittarius

Lunar phase: Waxing until Full Moon 12/13, then waning

HIGHLIGHTS DEC. 12 - 18

Can you detect an increase in the decibel level of conversations? The enthusiasm and boisterousness of the Sagittarius Sun-sign period fuses with the chattiness of the Moon moving through Gemini as the week begins. Everybody has something to say, all at once! In addition, situations come to a head at a Full Moon and it's not always a time of beautiful blossoming. A culmination usually involves some amount of stress. This week

is no exception. Most people will be anxious Monday, striving to press past obstacles that arose last week and were evident by Saturday. Fresh problems (most likely of the financial or interpersonal variety) could crop up then, too. We work to address them ahead of Tuesday's Full Moon [4:06 pm (P), 7:06 pm (E)]. Brave types will take a risk, which should pay off if they don't second-guess themselves. We'll be working on self-esteem midweek out of necessity. But any barbs (self-inflicted or stemming from a loved one) receive a salve Wednesday evening; forgiveness is offered and accepted with the Moon in kind Cancer. Thursday morning, something hidden or repressed comes crashing into our awareness, necessitating action or a decision. Upset emotions reverberate the rest of the day, leaving us pondering our uncomfortable sense of insecurity. Friday is less jarring but just as joyless. Only extreme will power can combat a tangent that tries to sway us from our target. Finally Saturday, hearts lift and hope returns. It's a nearly perfect day, getting better as it goes along, ideal for creative or fun pursuits, athletics and competitions. We shine at our best. Sunday puts our feet back on the ground, where there's work to be done. It's well-suited for cleaning and organizing as well as repairing, discarding or recycling what's broken or unused. We try to get everything ship-shape and ready for the holiday week ahead.

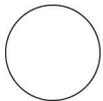
MON, Dec 12

Mawlid al-Nabi (Muhammad's Birthday)

2

Moon Void in Taurus / Moon enters Gemini 4:41 am (P), 7:41 am (E)

Our energy soars but we have a hard time channeling it in only one direction, hence a good measure of it dissipates. Mostly we want to fly solo but we might have to team up.



TUES, Dec 13

3 *

Moon in Gemini / Full Moon (Oak Moon) / Void 9:57 pm (P)

Morning is productive, although overly ambitious plans cannot be completely achieved. If this leaves you feeling unsuccessful, give yourself a pep talk and a shot of moxie.

WED, Dec 14

4

Moon in Gemini, Void (P) / Void 12:57 am (E) / Moon enters Cancer 4:09 am (P), 7:09 am (E)

Whatever we do, we do with feeling. Domestic activities or family caregiving duties may dominate much of the day. Empathy, understanding and helpfulness bless the evening.

THURS, Dec 15

1

Moon in Cancer / Void 1:37 pm (P), 4:37 pm (E)

Moodiness won't work in your favor as you try to put out the myriad of little fires that

flare around you. They say for every problem, there's a solution. They don't say where.

FRI, Dec 16

1

Moon Void in Cancer / Moon enters Leo 5:15 am (P), 8:15 am (E)

Tenacity is today's byword if you want to triumph over distractions; concentration is easily broken. Tonight, a slight may be sloughed off as a joke but it's not funny.

SAT, Dec 17

5

Moon in Leo

We feel like nothing can stop us today from doing what we need to do or pursuing what we want; all the lights are green. Like the Energizer Bunny, we keep going and going.

SUN, Dec 18

2

Moon in Leo / Void 8:55 am (P), 11:55 am (E) / Moon enters Virgo 9:52 am (P), 12:52 pm (E)

Who turned yesterday's cup of happiness over and drained it? People are irritable and hard to please, detailing their complaints, which are not small and are a little weird.

WEEK: Dec. 19 - 25

Sun Sign: Sagittarius, changing to Capricorn 12/21

Lunar phase: Waning since Full Moon 12/13

HIGHLIGHTS DEC. 19 - 25

Just in time for the holidays, Mercury turns Retrograde Monday. That could result in many gifts being returned, most likely because the givers had strange notions about what constituted a suitable present. Holiday traffic tie-ups might be worse than usual so allow extra time to get where you're going. The backtrack begins with Mercury in an abrasive connection with the planet of anger and impatience, but the irritating effects (consisting of whining more than yelling) should wear off after Thursday morning (and may have begun to appear last Sunday). Winter starts officially at the solstice Tuesday [2:44 am (P), 5:44 am (E)]. Expect a crazy season, both in terms of weather and human behavior, since the planet of unpredictability is in the spotlight then. It's accentuated in both positive and negative ways. We'll experience another bout of extreme pressure for change, in line with the tumult of the past several years. But it's not just discontent; there's a push for efforts to bear measurable fruit. Endeavors in which we invested time and energy over the summer come to the fore again, after sliding to the side during autumn. A strong and difficult pattern between slow planets in action-oriented signs forces decisions. (This is in effect for several weeks from late November to early January.) We're torn between pursuing personal objectives versus collaborating toward common goals. With a little work, we can find a balance. In any case, we're well-

organized and ambitious, using our time efficiently. We find ways to employ our unique traits to advantage. An exciting combination enlivens Christmas day. The planet of love and abundance forms a favorable triangle with factors that indicate lucky surprises and rewards for good behavior. Santa's granting wishes for those on the "Nice List."

MON, Dec 19

2 MR *

Moon in Virgo

Frustrations mount early on when it takes two tries to do tasks. In addition to getting sidetracked, confusing input requires a second look. Tonight, things are a bit clearer.



TUES, Dec 20

1 MR

Moon in Virgo / Third Quarter Moon / Void 5:56 pm (P), 8:56 pm (E) / Moon enters Libra 6:40 pm (P), 9:40 pm (E)

Multi-tasking complicates matters and we're overloaded with details. If we juggle too many balls, one is bound to fall. This evening, we need to iron out relationship wrinkles.



WED, Dec 21

Winter Solstice, Yule

Sun enters Capricorn

1 MR *

Moon in Libra

Coming from a place of compassion, we strive to make things different and better, but it's an uphill battle. At least, we're more centered and grounded than we've been lately.

THURS, Dec 22

1 MR

Moon in Libra / Void 11:31 am (P), 2:31 pm (E)

A shining moment of hope and progress midday is sandwiched between morning gripes and competing interests later on. Support is lacking. Tonight, we're weary, wary or both.

FRI, Dec 23

3 MR

Moon Void in Libra / Moon enters Scorpio 6:32 am (P), 9:32 am (E)

A sense of renewed energy motivates us throughout the busy day. Still, we may need to adjust expectations. Much can be achieved, especially if we press on into evening.

SAT, Dec 24

Christmas Eve

4 MR *

Moon in Scorpio / Void 11:22 pm (P)

Inspiration is sprinkled like fairy dust, coating every activity with a sparkle. Leave room in your jam-packed schedule; a wonderful, unexpected development is sure to pop up.

SUN, Dec 25

Christmas, Hanukkah begins

3 MR *

Moon in Scorpio, Void (P) / Void 2:22 am (E) / Moon enters Sagittarius 7:19 pm (P), 10:19 pm (E)

Conditions are ideal for sharing gifts and spreading joy. We appreciate each person's distinctive characteristics, praising accomplishments. Those at a distance are in touch.

WEEK: Dec. 26, 2016 - Jan. 01, 2017

Sun Sign: Capricorn

Lunar phase: Waning until New Moon 12/28 (P), 12/29 (E), then waxing

HIGHLIGHTS DEC. 26, 2016 - JAN. 01, 2017

What a week this is! We'll be inspired and on the go. Mars, the planet of action, energy, sports, competition, assertiveness and confrontation, is strongly featured every day except Friday. (Even then, it kicks off the day with a minor highlight.) We often think of the period between Christmas and New Year's Day as downtime. Many people enjoy time with family or play with new toys. Some go on vacation, either to winter wonderlands or warmer climes. That's very appropriate now with Mars in Pisces, winter's Water sign (think frozen precipitation and ice), and it's associated with beaches (Pisces' ruling planet is Neptune, god of the ocean). Mars approaches Neptune all week, arriving Saturday night, just in time for New Year's Eve. Libations are also Pisces- and Neptune-related, as are escapes and entertainment. Such a big dose of Mars might be good for our work if it was in a more ambitious sign. Pisces is not praised for concentration or high energy. That said, this emphasis could be a driving force in a Pisces-ruled business (such as the oil and chemical industry, liquor stores or bars, and anything related to items substituting for something real: wigs, prosthetics, false teeth, etc.). Mars has a mixed week interacting with other planets. Monday, it exacerbates a volatile stand-off, exact that day, between two slow planets that could bring upsets in relationships or big shocks in any situation. Thursday, Mars has a run-in with the dwarf planet of chaos. Factors on both days signify sudden movements or reactions, increasing accident potential. (These are not good days for risky sports activities.) The links Mars makes on

Tuesday and Wednesday are more harmonious, favoring creative expression and short journeys. But Wednesday is also the day when a difficult connection becomes exact that could bring injury or restrictions. Conditions then play out over the coming four weeks since the New Moon occurs overnight Wednesday [10:53 pm (P)] to Thursday [1:53 am (E)]. The planet of largeness poses problems currently, too, as a result of overdoing or even "too much of a good thing." With Mercury Retrograde, we also have "what was I thinking?" experiences. So a word of caution is in order, as are Happy New Year wishes!

MON, Dec 26

Boxing Day, Kwanzaa begins, Christmas Day observed

2 P MR *

Moon in Sagittarius

Hot heads need to chill. Irritations subside and arguments are averted if we present a friendly face, extend sympathy and realize everyone wants admiration and respect.

TUES, Dec 27

4 P MR *

Moon in Sagittarius / Void 5:45 pm (P), 8:45 pm (E)

We try a new tack to achieve mutual assistance. Those who are working find congenial cooperation and a good day for meetings. Tonight, contrasting opinions cause friction.

WED, Dec 28

3 MR *

Moon Void in Sagittarius / Moon enters Capricorn 7:12 am (P), 10:12 am (E) / New Moon (P)

Clarity in communication would make all the difference but some people beat around the bush, trying to protect feelings. They sense, correctly, that candor may cause pain.



THURS, Dec 29

3 MR *

Moon in Capricorn / New Moon (E)

It takes a well-timed swerve to stay on track after a jolt this morning. The rest of the day is consumed trying to calm folks down post shake-up or straighten out the crazy mess.

FRI, Dec 30

2 MR

Moon in Capricorn / Void 12:07 am (P), 3:07 am (E) / Moon enters Aquarius 5:29 pm (P), 8:29 pm (E)

If you can turn your back on worries and "act as if" everything is okay, that's half the battle. With no needs or expectations, you can't be let down. Freedom is empowering.

SAT, Dec 31

New Year's Eve

Moon in Aquarius

2 MR *

There might be a snag early on. Then it's time to gather with friends, whether to laugh about life's foibles and help each other heal or relax and enjoy your favorite diversions.

SUN, Jan 01

New Year's Day

3 MR *

Moon in Aquarius / Void 11:59 pm (P)

Yesterday's convivial atmosphere continues most of the today, although a compromise for the sake of a relationship may be required. Tonight, with wisdom we confront reality.

WEEK: Jan. 02 - 08, 2017

Sun Sign: Capricorn

Lunar phase: Waxing since New Moon 12/28 (P), 12/29 (E)

HIGHLIGHTS JAN. 02 - 08, 2017

At the beginning of the year, many people want to clear the deck and start fresh. At the very least, it's a new fiscal period, bringing a chance to implement budget modifications. The planets give us a push in that regard this week, right from the get-go Monday morning. There's a desire to reach completion and then round the bend in another direction, signaled by the planet of personal finances entering a different sign early Tuesday. Our feelings will impact monetary decisions more than usual in the coming month. By Thursday, we run into a snag regarding investments, taxes, insurance, inheritance or joint money matters. This is not the day to get locked into commitments. Careful investigation presents more reliable information than emotion-based choices can offer. Saturday, we're well-grounded and focused on figuring out what's what but our thinking is still not to be trusted totally. Mercury is motionless, returning to forward movement Sunday. Likewise, we would do well to still our minds and wait. We may not be able to, though; an unexpected situation Sunday demands attention and a judgment made then will come under scrutiny next Tuesday or Wednesday. We'd prefer the easy way out but it's probably not best in the long haul. Relationship matters are running on a treadmill similar to financial affairs, with uncomfortable question marks or unsettled, and unsettling, conditions. So much is in flux! Maturity and experience can keep us from going too far afield, although these are tested at the First Quarter Moon midday Thursday, when we wish we could just take off and flea. By Sunday evening, we settle down but only a little. It still seems like there's another shoe to drop.

MON, Jan 02

2 MR *

Moon in Aquarius, Void (P) / Void 2:59 am (E) / Moon enters Pisces 1:57 am (P), 4:57

am (E)

Our vision of the future is dampened (at least to a degree) by malaise and aversion to the hard work required to rise to our highest potential. A little shock acts as stimulation.

TUES, Jan 03

3 MR *

Moon in Pisces

Hard edges soften when we look through a sympathetic lens. People reach out to one another with offers of assistance. Tonight, though, the cold shoulder might return.

WED, Jan 04

1 MR **

Moon in Pisces / Void 8:14 am (P), 11:14 am (E) / Moon enters Aries 8:20 am (P), 11:20 am (E)

A shift in outlook restores levity and attempts to put suffering in the rear view mirror. A energetic afternoon is productive for anyone in the mood to do what needs to be done.



THURS, Jan 05

Twelfth Night

1 MR *

Moon in Aries / First Quarter Moon

We're antsy and anxious, feeling pressured by obligations that impose on our autonomy. This evening is not restful; our blood continues to boil, to our detriment.

FRI, Jan 06

Epiphany

3 MR

Moon in Aries / Void 10:41 am (P), 1:41 pm (E) / Moon enters Taurus 12:18 pm (P), 3:18 pm (E)

Insecurity or uncertainty mars the morning, then disappears like morning fog, replaced by affectionate support and quiet self-assurance. We hail what and whom we value.

SAT, Jan 07

Orthodox Christmas

4 MR

Moon in Taurus / Void 6:23 pm (P), 9:23 pm (E)

Slow and steady wins the race and we enjoy our leisurely pace as we proceed with grace. We're thorough, too, not just scratching the surface but going long and deep.

SUN, Jan 08

1 *

Moon Void in Taurus / Moon enters Gemini 2:06 pm (P), 5:06 pm (E)

In our heart of hearts, we're connected to the greater whole. But right in front of us, there's a disconnect; we feel isolated, excluded, judged – or actually, misjudged.

2017 MOON PHASES

Dates based on Eastern (E) time zone.

(For dates in *italics*, the lunar phase occurs on the *prior* day in Pacific (P) time zone.)

Eclipses are shown in **bold** type.

Read about Moon cycles in **USING THIS CALENDAR.**



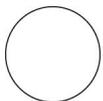
NEW

1/27, **2/26**, 3/27, 4/26, 5/25, 6/23, 7/23, **8/21**, 9/20, 10/19, 11/18, 12/18



FIRST QUARTER

1/05, 2/03, 3/05, 4/03, 5/02, 6/01, 6/30, 7/30, 8/29, 9/27, 10/27, 11/26, 12/26



FULL

1/12, **2/10**, 3/12, 4/11, 5/10, 6/09, 7/09, **8/07**, 9/06, 10/05, 11/04, 12/03, 1/01/18



THIRD QUARTER

1/19, 2/18, 3/20, 4/19, 5/18, 6/17, 7/16, 8/14, 9/13, 10/12, 11/10, 12/10

STAR PAGES

Introduction to the Star Pages

The Star Pages will fill you in on some important astrological details, month by month. Check the keywords in Janet's ["Astrologer's Apprentice Cheat Sheet"](#) for more about planets, signs and aspects. NOTE: The abbreviations for signs used here are the same as for the year [On a Page](#).

* * * * * TYPES OF DATA LISTED IN STAR PAGES * * * * *

- 1) Time frames when a planet (other than the Moon) is traveling through a sign and its influence there.
- 2) Beginning and end of Retrograde and Direct motion - see the year On a Page for further explanation.
- 3) Dates of important aspects. Aspects show links between planets' influences. They occur when the planets are separated by certain fractions of the circle of the sky, measured by degrees - see the Cheat Sheet keywords or [How to Read an Ephemeris](#). The date listed is when an aspect is exact. That's when its strength peaks, although it's strong for a while before and after it's exact, sometimes mentioned here or in the weekly Highlights. Dates are noted when aspects occurred before or will occur again (if they repeat due to Retrogrades).

After each star is the number of the day of the month. Sometimes the same moment is on adjacent calendar days, late night in Pacific time (P) and after midnight Eastern (E). In that case, both the (P) and (E) dates are listed. NOTE: There may be more than one entry for a particular day.

While anyone can utilize these recommendations to advantage, the impact from a particular planetary influence is felt most personally when a part of your chart is touched by a degree discussed (within 2° of the same sign or any sign of the same Mode – see the Cheat Sheet).

Things are always on the move in astrology, so keep abreast of the planets' zodiac positions. The slow-moving outer planets (from Saturn out to Eris) don't change signs often. In 2015, Saturn switches to a different sign. As usually occurs, Jupiter passes through parts of two signs this year. Ceres visits three. The quicker planets – Mercury, Venus and Mars – shift signs frequently (except when Retrograde). The Sun's sign changes once a month, like clockwork.

The Moon circles the zodiac in 27 days, changing signs every 2-3 days (see the Weekly

Calendar Pages). Just as the Moon reflects the Sun's light, people's emotions and responses reflect the influences of the Moon's sign.

Typical behavior when the Moon travels through this sign:

Aries

fast to react, sometimes in an angry way but this passes quickly, focused on oneself, need personal attention

Taurus

security-oriented, calm (slow to enrage), self-indulgent (fond of sweets), need affection

Gemini

distrustful of emotions (more thought-oriented), talkative especially about feelings, flexible, changeable

Cancer

more attuned to a 6th sense, moody, attached to family, safety conscious and security-oriented, interested in food

Leo

brave, dramatic, creative, stubborn, strong-willed, need attention

Virgo

nervous, health conscious, practical, helpful, communicative, critical, analytical

Libra

diplomatic, just, conflict-averse, rational, indecisive, need companionship

Scorpio

extreme, over-reactionary, determined, harsh, need an emotional outlet, interested in intimacy and sex, act on survival instincts

Sagittarius

easy-going, restless, drifting, inconsistent, optimistic, philosophical, bookish, adventurous

Capricorn

rather unemotional, thick-skinned, play things safe, matter-of-fact, need recognition

Aquarius

unpredictable, humanitarian, usually friendly but possibly cool and aloof, filter feelings through intellect, need space

Pisces

easily moved, empathetic, charitable, escapist, need to believe in something or someone

As 2016 Begins ...

Here are the positions of the planets (and the Moon's Nodes), noted from the farthest out to the innermost.

Eris in Aries [1926 - 2048] With an orbit three times farther out than Pluto, taking 556.7 years to circle the Sun and the zodiac, chances are almost everyone you know has Eris (named for Mars' bitchy sister) in Aries. This is the period of history of the rise of women's power. We could speculate a culture-wide affect for generations in which the Aries traits of aggression, self-centeredness and haste add to Eris' attributes of disorder and discord. We might all try slowing down and becoming more conscious of others. The positive side of Eris in Aries is strength, confidence and independence. In 2016, Eris is at 22-23° of Aries. If it connects to something in your chart, perhaps you'll have an especially stressful year in which you must learn to accept and adapt to some level of chaos in your life.

Pluto in Capricorn [2008 - 2024] It's likely entire systems will be discarded and slowly rebuilt on new ground. Pluto's extremes impact Capricorn's arena of conformity and may lead to authoritarianism. Personally, we'll feel the weight of responsibilities and obligations more than ever. Pluto can help us let go of a need to be in control or act maturely. Using keywords, you could translate this as death (Pluto) of the boss/father/old man (Saturn, ruler of Capricorn). Expect a big transition in how the elderly are treated.

Neptune in Pisces [2011-12 until 2025-26] Many people experience a greater sixth sense and develop more respect for psychics, including medical intuitives. Art, music and dance develop in extremely imaginative ways. What we glamorize as a culture shifts to being more emotion-based than intelligence-based, as was the case during Neptune's visit to Aquarius. The techno geek held sway then; the next hero is likely to be the mystic or healer. We pay increasing attention to our oceans and sea-life, as well as the seafood supply.

Uranus in Aries [2010-11 until 2018-19] The planet of unpredictability and technology in the sign of conflict and armaments may bring surprise attacks and inventions of high-tech weaponry. Aries is also the sign for sports and competition, so expect new types of exercise equipment or computer games. Unrest or anxiety is likely on a group or individual level. You might reinvent yourself or become more your true self. Spontaneous outbursts are possible, especially if you have chronic anger issues or a strong temper.

Chiron in Pisces [2010-11 until 2018-19] This indicator of repair or healing is powerful in the sign of health, spirituality and charity. All these arenas are slated for attention and improvement now. The down side: sometimes difficulties have to be painfully experienced before solutions are sought. Look for significant medical discoveries and increased sympathy for people on the lowest rungs of society's ladder. More focus will be on water quality and availability as well as the condition of the world's oceans, especially since Neptune (ruler of the seas) will be in Pisces even longer than Chiron.

Saturn in Sagittarius [12/23/14 - 6/14/15; again 9/17/15 - 12/19/17] The planet of organization, structure, commitment and planning is in the sign of higher education, legal matters, foreign travel and interactions, and widespread information sharing. Saturn's mature influence may calm divisiveness and antagonism in legislatures and government. Expect consolidation in international businesses, more regulation of internet commerce and increased standardization of educational methods and materials. Individuals are apt to be more flexible about boundaries; usually the spirit of the law is respected although we may not feel compelled to follow it to the letter.

Jupiter in Virgo [8/11/15 - 9/09/16] This transit helps us enjoy our work more. We can handle a plethora of details well. Benefits follow where Jupiter moves. Virgo represents labor conditions and the work force. Expect an increase in union participation and bargaining. Virgo is an Earth sign and related to health, so we'll turn our attention to the health of the earth and its inhabitants. Virgo is also a sign of service and assistance, while Jupiter indicates international affairs. NGOs will play a greater role in improving the lot of people in challenged areas.

Ceres in Aquarius [10/27/15 - 1/28/16] This period is the time to increase your group affiliations and add to your circle of friends and acquaintances. You'll find encouragement and support is a two-way street with them. Applying an intelligent approach to any situation helps it flourish.

Mars in Libra [11/12/15 - 1/03/16] Libra is opposite Aries (the sign Mars rules) and Mars doesn't get to be its usual independent and assertive self now. We offer cooperation instead of being defensive. Physical vitality might be low and we accept aid more readily.

North Node in Virgo, South Node in Pisces [10/09/15 - 4/28/17] The Nodes stimulate us to aspire toward the best qualities of the North Node's sign and move past the most challenging traits of the South Node's sign. Both Virgo and Pisces are service-oriented, marking that as a key theme throughout 2016. Virgo entreats us to be grounded, efficient, useful, conscientious and self-perfecting. Characteristics of Pisces to attempt to eliminate are spacing out, drifting, letting things slide, laziness or laissez-faire-ness.

Sun in Capricorn [12/21/15 - 1/20/16] The bottom line is at the top of our list and we value efficient means to our intended ends. We're willing to do our duty, whatever form it takes, especially if it helps us up the ladder toward success. Hard work seems worth the effort.

Venus in Sagittarius [12/30/15 - 1/23/16] Optimism in romance is much easier than earlier this month. Significant others are supportive and beneficial. Better possibilities are ours for the taking in social and/or financial matters. Connect with people far and wide, whether in person or via mail, phone or the internet.

Mercury in Capricorn [12/09/15 - until 1/01/16; again 1/08/16 - 2/13/16] Mental acuity results from concentrating on one item at a time. Focus is easy to achieve, but at the

cost of tenderness. Some turn a cold shoulder toward weakness, in themselves or others. Get organized in your communications and say things simply.

Long-term Influences

Uranus square Pluto

These two slow planets related to change and evolution have been roughly 90° apart since 2011, wreaking havoc on financial markets and prompting many uprisings. They made seven exact squares from 2012 - 2015. The roller coaster ride continues off and on over the next couple of years at least. People buck the system and feel that the status quo has got to go. Quick-moving planets often amplify the effects of this square. Fortunately, like a saving grace, Chiron intercedes (see next two paragraphs) to ensure that even the most turbulent clouds have silver linings. These two are within 5° of an exact square until mid-May, when they go beyond that range, returning to it at the end of November. **Jupiter in Libra forms a T-square with them** from then through the end of March, 2017 (including both the Winter Solstice and Spring (2017) Equinox). This puts extra stress on relationships, including between nations (Jupiter rules foreign interactions). Jupiter's magnifying effect ups the volume of the big changes promised by the Uranus-Pluto square, even in its waning years.

Uranus conjunct Eris

In the 120 or so years that Eris spends in Aries, this is the second of two rounds of conjunctions between Uranus and Eris. The first was 1927-1928, when Eris was newly entered into Aries. (That was around the time that women got the vote in England and not long after their enfranchisement in the U.S.) This aspect may spark protests or rallies by women or for the benefit of women. It signals a natural time for innovations that could help anyone be more independent. See 6/08 - 6/09.

Ceres conjunct Uranus and Eris

Ceres spends almost half of 2016 in Aries. This occurs in two parts since it moves into Taurus and then returns to Aries by retrograde. In the first part, Ceres teams up with Uranus and Eris (already traveling closely together) near the Summer Solstice (see **Seasonal Synopses**, as well as 6/21 & 6/23). In the second part, Ceres is conjunct Eris twice, once while retrograde and a second time after returning to forward motion. It is not conjunct Uranus again but does come within 1° for about a month leading up to the Winter Solstice. As a trio, they're involved in several important aspect patterns: a Quintile Triangle in June (see 6/18) and T-squares at the 10/16 Full Moon, the 12/13 Full Moon and 12/29 New Moon. Their combination could bring about important developments in agriculture or in the electricity and power industry or for women and families.

Chiron semisextile Uranus

Traveling about one sign apart for more than a decade, Chiron (an asteroid nicknamed the "wounded healer") is in this mildly positive link to Uranus. Chiron in Pisces wants to gently nudge us toward gradual modifications whereas Uranus in Aries prefers to shock us into awareness. Together they bring improvements (Chiron's forte) for the populace

as a whole (Uranus's purview). They are in an exact semisextile 26 times between 2009 and 2021. By the time this link is over, each planet will have changed its sign. In 2016, this aspect occurs on 8/09 and 12/10.

Chiron sextile Pluto

This aspect was strongly in place from 2011 to 2015. There are no more exact occurrences, however it remains within an effective range a while longer offering its benign restorative influence. Pluto specializes in transformation; Chiron, in repairs. Frequently Pluto brings destruction ahead of reconstruction. Chiron points to hurts we need to process. Operating in concert, they build anew on what's outworn or injurious. They are within 5° of this sextile 10/09/15 - 4/03/16 and 11/22/16 - 2/26/17. During both periods, the speedy heavenly bodies (Sun, Mercury, Venus) activate this sextile by being conjunct Pluto and sextile Chiron. Additionally, they are sextile Pluto and conjunct Chiron in March 2016. The Moon forms quick Fingers of God with them each month during these time frames when it passes through the middle of Leo. There are three particularly potent times this year. The first is 2/03 - 2/09, when Mars in Scorpio is first sextile Pluto and then trine Chiron. (See the New Moon on 2/08.) The second comes in March around the 3/08 Solar Eclipse (which extends their influence) and the evening of 3/12, when they're in a brief Grand Trine/Kite. (Jupiter's trine to Pluto on 3/16 increases the effects of this sextile, as does Jupiter's opposition to Chiron on 2/23.) The third (less powerful) time is when Venus passes through the midpoint between Chiron and Pluto on 12/23. Occurring so close to the Winter Solstice propels this influence throughout the season.

Jupiter opposite Chiron

Chiron in Pisces is highly effective for remediation, personally and globally. Frequently, Chiron brings an injury or exposes a weakness before the cure can take place. Jupiter's job is magnifying a situation so that it must be addressed. Jupiter in Virgo fosters an interest in improvement and works well in any important aspect to Chiron, which offers solutions. Although an opposition is often thought to be a negative aspect, it isn't necessarily; it just means very different approaches are taken. Virgo analyzes and criticizes while Pisces understands and accepts. This first occurred 11/03/15 and reoccurs twice in 2016: 2/23 and 8/12.

Jupiter square Saturn

These two medium-speed planets began their current 20-year cycle in 2000. They are three-quarters of the way through at this square, which motivates us to adjust the balance between growth and consolidation. The perennial forest-trees dilemma is a key motif in any stand-off between planets in Sagittarius and Virgo: the big picture and the puzzle pieces need to be seen in perspective. This aspect, exact 3/23 and 5/26, plays a major role in a T-square at the 3/08 Solar Eclipse and in a Grand Cross (involving Neptune) in early June, including at the 6/04 New Moon. These two form this aspect every couple of decades but it doesn't often coincide with another heavy outer planet contact like this with Neptune (see below), making it all the more challenging for us to determine our way forward.

Saturn square Neptune

Last together in 1989, these two join again in 2026 in their 37-year cycle. The opening square was in 1998; their opposition was in 2006 - 2007. This closing square first happened in Nov. 2015 and recurs twice in 2016 (6/17 and 9/10). Saturn gives form to Neptune's dreams but manifesting a vision isn't easy during a square; it takes a lot of planning and hard work. Neptune may try to wash out Saturn's grip on control or sense of duty. This is strongly accentuated by the 6/04 New Moon and the 9/01 Solar Eclipse New Moon.

Jupiter opposite Neptune This aspect occurred only once, in mid-September, 2015. However, it is close enough to exact to have a noticeable influence as it forms an imprecise Mutable T-square with Saturn from April through June, 2016. Trust issues mar operations in service situations. People either expect too much or have a misguided notion of what is realistic. Health conditions may hit a crescendo. The tendency for projection is magnified, making it important to respect boundaries and focus on real, rather than imagined, conditions.

Saturn trine Uranus

This aspect is more active in 2017 than this year. It does have a remarkable start, though, with a potent and positive planetary pattern at Christmas-time (see 12/24 - 12/26). These two began a 44-year cycle in 1988 in Sagittarius, reaching their first trine 2002 - 2003. After passing the halfway point of the cycle in 2008 - 2009, Saturn is in Sagittarius again. This second trine is in the same part of the zodiac where they joined 29 years ago, a Saturn cycle. This is their normal pattern. (The first trine occurs near the degree where the next conjunction will be.) With this aspect, key technological and social developments are propelled to a higher level. The "cold war" between USSR and USA began to unravel around the time this cycle began. Perhaps at this trine, the recent chilled relationship will improve. It was not long after the conjunction that digital cellular phones came into usage and now almost everyone has one. Another leap forward may be just around the corner.

Neptune semisquare Eris

This aspect was within a 1° orb for more than half of 2015, in two periods: 1/25 - 4/05 (exact 2/26) and 7/22/15 - 1/27/16 (exact on 9/08/15 & 12/21/15 (P), 12/22/15 (E)). Neptune can cause confusion on its own, worse now in its long stay in Pisces (see As 2016 Begins, above). When it clashes with the dwarf planet named for the goddess of discord, imagine the difficulty to keep things straight! Neptune represents the down-trodden while Eris incites intimidation. We need to be vigilant about power-tripping and help those who suffer at the hands of abusers.

Out of Bounds Planets

The signs form the circumference of the zodiac belt, which also has a width defined by the earth's 23°27' tilt on its axis relative to the Sun. Planets sometimes ride higher or lower in the sky than the Sun's apparent path. Such an "out of bounds" planet doesn't play by the rules, going too far in whatever it represents.

Mercury [6/28 - 7/9] We over-think situations or speak too little or too much. Instruments and communication devices may not work correctly.

Venus [6/11 - 6/29, 10/26 - 12/03] There's too much love or not enough, or it stems from the wrong reasons. Fiscal matters may be grossly out of balance, such as a decrease in income or increase in expenses.

Mars [8/08 - 10/29] People are more rash, impatient, selfish or angry than usual. Skirmishes escalate. Energy levels are off the scale.

Ceres spent almost a year out of bounds 12/27/14 - 12/25/15 and is not out of bounds one day in 2016.

None of the outer planets are out of bounds in 2016.

Mutual Receptions

This condition blends the effects of two planets that are in the signs ruled by each other.

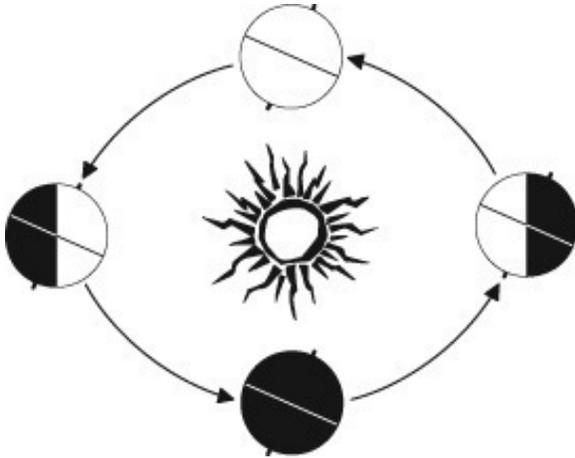
Mercury and Venus [5/24 - 6/12] Mercury is in Venus-ruled Taurus as Venus visits Mercury-ruled Gemini. People are attracted to each other's mind and find ideas appealing, wanting to implement the best and profit from them.

Venus and Jupiter [10/18 - 11/11] Jupiter visits Venus-ruled Libra starting in September. Then Venus passes through Jupiter-ruled Sagittarius. Their blend expands social circles and opens doors for new relationships and fosters a love of learning and travel. Nations tend to get along better under this influence.

Mars and Uranus [11/08 (P), 11/09 (E) - 12/19] This is the third of four periods that Mars travels through Uranus-ruled Aquarius during the seven-plus years Uranus is in Mars-ruled Aries. Individuals have a stronger need for freedom. People act quickly without deliberation or hesitation. Intuition and initiative work together to give a positive push to endeavors. Potential drawbacks to this aspect are jumping to conclusions and thinking you know everything.

Seasonal Synopses

Factors present at the start of a season set the pace for the entire three months to follow. These analyses of the inception charts cover challenges and opportunities we may encounter. (Also see the weekly Highlights when seasons begin.)



Both the spring and autumn equinoxes in 2016 are parts of pairs that occur in lunar cycles that begin with an eclipse. It's not uncommon to have this happen in pairs, repeating after a gap of nine years. In eclipse cycles, the intensity level is kicked up a notch and events or developments during the season may be more dramatic.

If you are not well-versed in astrology, you may want to check the keywords in Janet's ["Astrologer's Apprentice Cheat Sheet"](#) as you read these synopses or just read the parts in English.

Winter [12/21/15 - 3/19 (P), 3/20 (E)] Practicality is prominent with pragmatic Earth signs dominating at the solstice. There's a Grand Trine between the Moon in Taurus (a stabilizing factor), Jupiter in Virgo (beneficial for the work force) and a Mercury-Pluto pairing in Capricorn (boosting commerce). Chiron in Pisces and Venus in Scorpio (Water signs) expand the Grand Trine into Kites, bringing emotions into play in a balanced way and adding a loving, healing touch. A Kite means that many things fall into place effortlessly. But there are challenges. Finances and relationships suffer from strange conditions and detours due to a Venus-Jupiter-Eris Finger of God. A Venus-Ceres-Moon T-square foments friction in families. This occurs in Fixed signs, so stubbornness adds to the difficulties. Neptune's final semisquare to Eris a day after the solstice brings another season with discord and mayhem. Mars being opposite Eris and sesquiquadrate Neptune contributes an angry edge and fuels the fires of religious zealotry. Uranus, Pluto, Mercury, Mars and Eris in a loose T-square push us into action. The question is whether we'll plan first, taking only calculated risks. Mars in Libra wants us to have a collaborator, rather than go it alone, but Uranus and Eris in Aries are fiercely independent.

Spring [3/19 (P), 3/20 (E) - 6/20] The first sign of the spring is a Fire sign (by definition) so it's always season of action and adventure, even more so this year. Four heavenly bodies besides the Sun are also in Fire signs. Three of them form a loose Grand Trine: the Moon in Leo, Saturn in Sagittarius and Uranus (as well as Eris) in Aries. We'll be on the go and hopefully able to harness all the zeal fruitfully. Saturn works best with a plan but Fire signs mostly act on the fly. Mars, a fiery planet, in Fire sign Sagittarius inclines us to spread our energy thin by trying to do too much. There are no planets in Air signs

to steer us with logic and so many planets in Water signs (four plus Chiron and the South Node) that we react primarily on an emotional level. Mercury in Pisces lends a psychic quality but its proximity to Chiron also means that what we don't see clearly can hurt us. Venus close to Neptune in Pisces colors perceptions, leading us to be unrealistic about possessions, money or love. A Sun-Moon-Pluto Quintile Triangle gives us luck in making significant changes and aspiring to a higher level of development. Along with the Grand Trine, this builds self-confidence and willingness to try something new. A little risk can yield a big reward. This is the first of two spring equinoxes in a row occurring in a lunar cycle beginning with a solar eclipse – see comments above in the introduction to Seasonal Synopses.

Summer [6/20 - 9/22] Coming right on the heels of a Full Moon, this is a powerful start to a season. A Quintile Triangle involving multiple factors is in place for days before and after the Solstice (see 6/18). It's fortunate for a wide range of matters associated with the various components of the pattern, most notably for bold action and leadership to implement a service-oriented or work-related project. Finances must be carefully considered in the process, however. There's a tendency to be optimistic about fiscal matters with the Sun close to the money planet, Venus (just 3° apart). But Venus, though part of the QT, is **out of bounds**, which can present problems. In addition, the Moon in Capricorn (its weakest sign) is opposite Venus and the Sun and those are its only aspects. The Moon rules Cancer, the current sign of the Sun and of this season. This sign placement indicates caution or frugality as an impediment, not only now but over the coming three months. A strong conjunction of Uranus and Eris in Aries provides almost too much confidence and courage, bordering on rash impulsiveness, and certainly an overload of self-concern. Ceres joins these two and steers some of their rattling tendencies into a force to help grow something new or use inventiveness and bravery in the support of a positive cause. Venus's natural other-orientation along with the Moon in Capricorn's decorum and maturity may be able to keep the Aries selfishness in check.

Autumn [9/22 - 12/21/16] For the second autumn in a row, the equinox occurs in a lunar cycle beginning with a solar eclipse (see 9/01 and comments above). The most important influence is the Saturn-Neptune square, officially over 9/10 but still close to exact. The Nodes align with Neptune and square Saturn (see 11/03 & 9/26), all forming a T-square with motionless Mercury, which ends its Retrograde hours before the equinox. Confusion, or at least a lack of clarity or reliable information, will adversely impact most people and situations off and on in the fall. Extra effort is required to get things organized and manageable. Mutable T-squares occur throughout August and September. The equinox Moon in Gemini is also in a Mutable T-square, across from Mars in Sagittarius, both square Chiron in Pisces. Watch out for people applying principles to their personal advantage and talking out of both sides of their mouth. This will likely backfire and end up hurting them after damaging others. Jupiter enters Libra earlier in September and greets the Sun as it arrives. (See the New Moon 9/30.) Pluto is the lone ranger, with only one aspect and a good one at that, a trine with Mercury that repeats three times due to Mercury's retrograde (see 8/10). With new thought patterns, we can create meaningful change.

Winter [12/21/16 - 3/20/17] The ordinary ambition and nose-to-the-grindstone tendencies of the Capricorn Sun are softened by its sextile to Mars, at its gentlest in Pisces. Empathy enters the picture and a mellow delight in relaxing supplants a need to keep busy and be productive. We're conflicted when it comes to relationships. The Moon in Libra supplements Jupiter in Libra's interest in partnership, teamwork, cooperation and diplomacy. But with the Sun semisquare Venus in Aquarius, there's a cool or distant element present. Aquarius is a sign of friendship rather than passion. People want breathing room. Venus is the only planet in a Fixed sign, posing challenges to persistence and completion. It's at the potent 15° mark, midway between equinoxes and solstices and simulating their power and broad applicability of influence. This portends significant wide-ranging developments on the economic front and not necessarily in a negative way. Venus is in a harmonious triangle, trine Jupiter and sextile Saturn (ruler of the solstice sign, Capricorn), which should promote steady, if slow, growth. Mercury is retrograde at the solstice, requiring greater attention to communication throughout the winter season. Its proximity to Pluto in Capricorn points to a focus on confidential information and research. These two are in the middle of a T-square with Jupiter opposite Uranus, Eris and Ceres in Aries (see **Long-term Influences** and Star Pages for 12/25 and the 12/29 New Moon).

DECEMBER, 2015

Also see "[As 2016 Begins...](#)" above.

All the planets have periods of apparent backward motion, called retrograde - see [2016 On a Page](#). (Only the Sun and Moon move forward through the zodiac continuously.) Mercury is getting ready to spend three weeks in reverse in January. On 12/19, it enters the range of degrees where it will back up. Usually there are three stages of development of a situation when there are three occurrences of a connection between planets. You can use this for planning. Start an activity or project applicable to the planets' associations at the first instance, make revisions in the midst of the retrograde repetition and finish during the third connection.

DEC 19, 2015

Mercury (14°37' CP) conjunct Pluto (14°37' CP) [again 1/22/16 & 1/30/16] Ideal for deep thinking and research, we want to get to the bottom of a situation or topic and master the information. Capricorn promotes a reality-based approach; facts matter. In personal communications, we may come off as cold-shouldered or matter-of-fact. (See 1/22/16.)

DEC 20, 2015

Mars activates the Neptune-Eris semisquare, which is exact in just another day.

DEC 20, 2015

Mars (22°18' LI) sesquiquadrate Neptune (7°18' PI) This takes some of the fight out of us and inspires a "live and let live" attitude. We take a round-about route rather than a direct approach. Without this softening influence, the next aspect immediately below would be much more volatile.

DEC 20, 2015

Mars (22°20' LI) opposite Eris (22°20' AR) This stand-off poses difficulties for relationships or teamwork. Mars is usually more mild-mannered (for Mars) in Libra but when in conflict with discordant Eris, disruption and disagreements are likely. Coming on the same day as Mars is sesquiquadrate Neptune (see immediately above), misunderstandings are the likely source of disputes.

DEC 20, 2015

Mercury (16°34' CP) square Uranus (15°34' AR) [again 1/20/16 & 1/31/16] You know what you're trying to say but the words come out of your mouth differently. (You may be thinking faster than you can formulate syllables.) Be careful not to seem like a know-it-all or you'll ruffle feathers. Eye-hand coordination may be off.

DEC 21, 2015

Mercury (17°11' CP) sextile Chiron (17°11' PI) [again 1/18/16 (P), 1/19/16 (E) & 2/03/16] (This comes on the heels of Mercury bumping into the square between Uranus and Pluto (see 12/19/15 & 12/20/15, above) and may repair rifts that begin then since Mercury now kindles the sextile between Chiron and Pluto (see [Long-term Influences](#)).

A smart, realistic perspective offers solutions and keeps us from causing problems due to misperceptions or misinformation. Kind, healing words are offered.

DEC 21, 2015

Winter Solstice – See Seasonal Synopses.

DEC 21, 2015

Sun enters Capricorn [until 1/20/16] A focus on work and career, coupled with conscientious effort, helps us achieve goals and win appreciation on the job. We care what people think about us and strive to maintain a good reputation.

DEC 21 (P), 22 (E)

Neptune (7°20' PI) semisquare Eris (22°20' AR) [before 2/26/15 & 9/08/15] Typically a slower planet wields more power. That's Eris, in this case. It operates with better results in difficult aspects, according to astrologer Thomas Canfield, who researched its role in American History. (See his **Yankee Doodle Discord** and his new book, **Eris in Signs, Houses, Aspects.**) Positive actions inspired by Eris are standing up for independence and personal strength, and fighting for women's rights and equality. When embroiled with Neptune, strong beliefs and feelings come to the fore and people (especially women) who have been bullied or mistreated are likely to raise a ruckus or provoke push-back. By the third instance of an aspect, the hard part is usually over. This occurrence comes with a little agitation due to harsh aspects from Mars (see 12/20/15, above) and Mercury (see 12/25/15, below).

DEC 25

The planets have some strange Christmas presents for us: a Full Moon with Uranus on station and Mercury triggering the Neptune-Eris semisquare that was exact on the solstice. Happily, Mercury is also trine Jupiter.

DEC 25

Mercury (22°19' CP) square Eris (22°19' AR) [again 1/15/16 & 2/07/16] Watch your words; they can stir up trouble. (Look up the myth of Eris for a good example of that!) Being overly cautious might lead you to miss an opportunity, yet you don't want to jump on something without a proper vetting. People may be testy or argumentative.

DEC 25

Mercury (22°24' CP) semisquare Neptune (7°19' PI) [again 1/14/15 (P), 1/15/16 (E) & 2/08/16] (Neptune and Eris were just semisquare on 12/21 - 12/22/15 (see above) and now Mercury gets into a tangle with them. Although this aspect leaves the 1° orb range on 1/26/16, Mercury's third aggravation of these planets on 2/08/16 keeps the coals of this aspect's fire hot.) Clarity eludes us and deceptions plague us. Things are not as they seem (and the interaction with Eris makes them all the more chaotic than this aspect would be on its own). Try to verify information and don't just take someone's word for it.

DEC 25

Full Moon [3°20' CA] Expect a certain amount of craziness due to Uranus exerting extra influence because it's ground to a halt (see 12/24/15, above). It's a planet of individuality in a solo sign, Aries. Mars, the only planet in the sign of relating (Libra), has a me-first quality and lines up across from the most independent dwarf planet, Eris. Luckily, these self-oriented tendencies are counterbalanced by several factors. Cancer, the sign of the Full Moon, promotes family closeness and expressing warm feelings. A harmonious triangle formed by Mercury trine Jupiter (see next entry) with Venus in between them sextile both, opens hearts and pours out generosity. Venus in Scorpio stimulates passions and a desire to make a positive difference. Jupiter and the North Node in Virgo, prompting us to help in a big way, combine with Venus in a Finger of God triangle pointing at Eris. This type of pattern is famous for one weird thing leading to another and then turning out all right in the end. In this case, social awkwardness, a faux pas or possibly an insult result in a better understanding between people, even if this is precipitated by an altercation. All's well that ends well.

DEC 25

Mercury (22°57' CP) trine Jupiter (22°57' VI) [again 1/14/16 & 2/06/16] You could literally translate this as "big head" from keywords and some people might be big-headed. More likely, we see things from a wide-angled view and seek information from a variety of sources. Contact with those at a distance should be pleasant. This is a favorable combination for conducting commerce (ruled by Mercury), especially import/export (because of the foreign influence of Jupiter). Most businesses will be closed for the holiday but the internet is always open and Jupiter rules the world wide web. This aspect increases our appreciation for humor and puts us in an optimistic frame of mind.

DEC 25

Uranus (16°33' AR) turns Direct [Retrograde since 7/26/15; Direct until 7/29/16] The past five months, we've turned inward to seek a spark for self-development. While Uranus is Direct, our individuality is recognized and promoted by others. When Uranus is Retrograde, we sometimes rebel against our own advice to ourselves. When it's in forward motion, we're more likely to revolt against other people's orders.

DEC 29 (P), 30 (E)

Venus enters Sagittarius [until 1/23/16] See "**As 2016 Begins...**" above. This is a sweet note upon which to bring the year to a close and begin a new one.

JANUARY, 2016

JAN 01, 2016

See "**As 2016 Begins...**" above.

JAN 01 - JAN 05

Quintile Triangle (see "**[Astrologer's Apprentice Cheat Sheet](#)**")

The Sun, South Node and Mars form a Quintile Triangle from 1/01 (P), 1/02 (E) to Jan. 05 (see below). While this configuration is in process, Mars changes sign, shifting us from being highly concerned about what others think of us to being on a mission for

change no matter the cost.

JAN 01

Mercury enters Aquarius [until 1/08; again 2/13 - 3/05; this is a two-part visit due to Mercury going Retrograde] Mercury barely steps into Aquarius before it turns tail and heads back to Capricorn, going Retrograde 1/05 – see below). New topics of interest arise. People are more curious about metaphysics and anything labeled “New Age.” Mental fertility and intuition are strong but so are opinions. We gravitate toward group learning opportunities and discussions.

JAN 01 (P), 02 (E)

Sun (11°14' CP) quintile Mars (29°14' LI) It's possible to be strong and resolute while also being attentive and caring. This aspect blends both stances nicely.

JAN 03

Mars enters Scorpio [until 3/05/16; again 5/27 - 8/02] (Mars moves through Scorpio into Sagittarius, where it goes Retrograde 4/17/16, then backtracks into Scorpio for a second visit. Once it's Direct, it re-enters Sagittarius.) This is the time to make changes and discard what isn't working in your life. With Mars' anger tendency added to Scorpio's explosive side, sensitivities easily escalate into arguments. Physical activities (workouts, sex, etc.) are more intense. Beware of going to extremes.

JAN 04

Sun (13°25' CP) quintile South Node (25°25' PI) If there's an area in which you are too lenient for your own good (or someone else's), this aspect will help you nip that tendency without gravitating to an overbearing opposite pole.

JAN 05

Mercury (1°3' AQ) turns Retrograde [Direct since 10/09/15; Retrograde until 1/25/16] This backtrack asks us to revisit practical concerns after considering non-mainstream views. Ideally, we'll enjoy the best of both once Mercury returns to forward motion. Most of this back-up, Mercury is in Capricorn; only the beginning few days are in Aquarius. The implication is that before we can pursue a forward-leaning agenda, we need to straighten out matters and get better organized. That's easier said than done since among the repeating connections Mercury makes in this cycle are prods to the already-challenging friction between Neptune, the planet of doubt and ambiguity, and Eris, the dwarf planet of chaos (see 1/15). Mercury also crosses paths with Pluto (see 12/19/15, above) in its dissipating square with Uranus (see 12/20/15, above), and has a run-in with Capricorn's ruling planet, Saturn (see 1/11). However, assistance is offered by positive links with Jupiter and Chiron (see 1/14 and 1/19). See **Long-term Influences** regarding Chiron, Uranus and Pluto.

JAN 05

South Node (25°20' PI) biquintile Mars (1°20' SC) The urge to purge from Mars in Scorpio is softened (but not eliminated) by sentimentality, so you'll kiss those mementos goodbye before you throw them away. Mars' intensity in Scorpio could be diluted

momentarily by the ease with which we drift off-course from the South Node in Pisces. However, it's more likely that with the Capricorn Sun in this Quintile Triangle, we'll be driven by goals or a sense of duty.

JAN 07

Jupiter (23°14' VI) turns Retrograde [Direct since 4/08/15; Retrograde until 5/09] For the next four months, we may feel less optimistic and expansive, needing to rein ourselves in and stay grounded. Some will experience backsliding or challenges in the areas of higher education, travel, media, promotion and legal affairs. Re-examine your philosophies. Try to create your own luck rather than wait for breaks from other people.

JAN 08

Mercury re-enters Capricorn [before 12/09/15 - 1/01/16; until 2/13] This the second part of Mercury's visit to Capricorn, when it attempts to finish its business in this sign. See "[As 2016 Begins...](#)" and comments on 1/05, above.

JAN 09

New Moon 19°13' CP The Moon and Sun are moving toward a trine to Jupiter (4° away). They're 4° past a conjunction with Pluto and 3° degrees past a square to Uranus. As it has been doing throughout the past several years, Chiron smooths the edges of the Uranus-Pluto square with its semisextile to Uranus and sextile to Pluto (see [Long-term Influences](#)), as well as to the Moon and Sun. These aspects are interpreted in the weekly Highlights for Jan. 04-10. The net effects are repair of recent injuries and a feeling of moving away from hardship toward hope. A Finger of God pattern is formed from a sextile between Ceres and Eris, both of which are quincunx Jupiter and the North Node. This puts humanitarian caring into assertive action.

JAN 09 (P), JAN 10 (E)

Eris (22°18' AR) turns Direct [Retrograde since 7/19/15; Direct until 7/19/16] There's likely to be more disorder and disruption when Eris is at a standstill for a couple weeks on either side of its change of direction. Once it's moving forward again, we're better able to assert our independence, handle disruptions and deal with competition.

JAN 14

Mercury (23° 49' CP) conjunct Sun (23° 49' CP) By definition, Mercury Retrograde is half over when Mercury passes the Sun. When these two team up, it's an appropriate time to look within and examine your own thoughts and self-talk. It would be wise to get input from someone else before making major decisions.

JAN 14

Mercury (23°9' CP) trine Jupiter (23°9' VI) [before 12/25/15; again 2/06/16] See 12/25/15, above.

JAN 14 (P), JAN 15 (E)

Mercury (22°55' CP) semisquare Neptune (7°55' PI) [before 12/25/15; again 2/08/16] See 12/25/15, above.

JAN 15

Mercury (22°18' CP) square Eris (22°18' AR) [before 12/25/15; again 2/06 (P), 2/07 (E)] See 12/25/15, above.

JAN 18 (P), 19 (E)

Mercury (18°9' CP) sextile Chiron (18°9' PI) [Before 12/21/15; again 2/03/16] See 12/21/15, above.

JAN 20

Sun enters Aquarius [until 2/18 (P), 2/19 (E)] Humanitarian urges surge and friendships flourish each year when the Sun visits Aquarius. We have a strong need to be part of a group, even if the result is to affirm our individuality and the unique contribution we can make to the whole.

JAN 20

Mercury (16°50' CP) square Uranus (16°50' AR) [before 12/20/15; again 1/31/16] See 12/20/15, above.

JAN 22

Mercury (15°47' CP) conjunct Pluto (15°47' CP) [before 12/19/15; again 1/30/16] (See 12/19/15, above.) Powerful speech emerges when these two planets are in a favorable link. That happens in three sets of three in 2016, all in practical Earth element signs (see comments on 4/17 & 8/10). This is an excellent indicator for the wise use of shared resources.

JAN 23

Venus enters Capricorn [until 2/16] We're more serious about partnerships and seek assurances from a significant other. The importance of boundaries may be demonstrated by people crossing the line. We tend to be frugal or at least aim for a bargain on purchases. This is the right time for budgeting and long-term financial planning.

JAN 23

Full Moon (3°29' LE) The Moon and Sun do not form any aspect patterns at this rather dull full moon. Their only tight interaction comes from minor aspects with a non-planet, Chiron (the Moon by sesquiquadrate, the Sun by semisquare). This may reduce the fire of the Leo Moon, which is already held in check by Leo's ruler, the Sun, in a cool Air sign, Aquarius. Venus is highlighted by occupying 0° Capricorn, one of the four power degrees of the zodiac. It may act as a bit of a wildcard since it's technically unsuspected. This could mean some important financial developments that have a wide impact. Venus does make a biquintile with the Moon and a sextile with dwarf planet Ceres, which bring warmth to interpersonal relations that Venus in Capricorn would not ordinarily offer.

JAN 25

Mercury (14°54' CP) turns Direct [Retrograde since 1/05; Direct until 4/28] Once

Mercury is in forward motion again, mix-ups in communication subside and we address mistakes or resolve issues that arose during the Retrograde, primarily during the exiting shadow period through 2/14 (see [2016 On a Page](#)). It should be easier now to connect with people with whom we've recently played phone or email tag.

JAN 28

Ceres enters Pisces [until 4/14] People feel "we're all in this boat together" and pay attention to their milieu and environment. Empathy levels increase and kindness pays off. The ocean as a source of food comes under discussion.

JAN 29 (P), JAN 30 (E)

Mercury (16°2' CP) conjunct Pluto (16°2' CP) [before 12/19/15 & 1/22] (Similar to the Mars aspect on 2/03, Mercury stimulates the wide sextile between Chiron and Pluto with this aspect and the sextile on 2/03.) See 1/22, above.

JAN 29 - FEB 09

Mercury and Mars trigger the sextile between Chiron and Pluto, which is officially over but still operates significantly from time to time when quick planets connect to these two. (See [Long-term Influences](#).) This is the third occurrence of these aspects from Mercury as it finishes its passage through the recent Retrograde range (see 12/20/15 - 12/21/15, above) and the only time that Mercury and Mars act in concert. The combination put a focus on renovations and repairs via lively and possibly heated discussions, though probably not nasty arguments because Mercury and Mars are sextile.

FEBRUARY

FEB 03

Mars (16°10' SC) sextile Pluto (16°10' CP) (This aspect activates the wide sextile between Pluto and Chiron – see 1/29 - 1/30, above & 2/09, below.) We strive to do things differently and better. With a little effort, we see good results. This is a good time to discard what is no longer needed or helpful in your life.

FEB 03

Mercury (18°53' CP) sextile Chiron (18°53') [before 12/21/15 & 1/18 - 1/19/16] See 12/21/15 and comments regarding 1/29 - 2/09, above.

FEB 06

Mercury (23°9' CP) trine Jupiter (23°9' VI) [before 12/25/15 & 1/14/16] See 12/25/15, above.

FEB 06 (P), 07 (E)

Mercury (22°22' CP) square Eris (22°22' AR) [before 12/25/15 & 1/15/16] See 12/25/15, above.

FEB 07

Venus (18°33' CP) semisextile Sun (18°33' AQ) [before 9/07/15] Other than a conjunction, this is the best aspect possible for Venus and the Sun. Although a semisextile is called a minor aspect, it's pretty major between these two. It occurs twice four to five months apart when Venus is the Morning Star, before and after it swings out to its greatest distance from the Sun (up to 48°), and likewise twice when it's the Evening Star (see 9/27). The Sun in Aquarius prods us to be different from others while Venus in Capricorn shows the value of conformity. The contrast is not vexing; we find ways to satisfy both urges.

FEB 08

Mercury (22°24' CP) semisquare Neptune (22°24' PI) [before 12/25/15 & 1/15/16] See 12/25/15, above.

FEB 08

New Moon (19°15' AQ) The Moon and Sun clash with Mars (18°40' SC) in a tight square in Fixed signs. In the coming four weeks, people will have a strong drive to go after what they want personally, probably in a pushy way. The Aquarius period is a good time to express individuality and Mars adds an independent streak. Furthermore, the Moon and Sun are in a Finger of God, sextile to Uranus and Eris in Aries, and all of them quincunx Jupiter. Aries and Jupiter also like self-direction and freedom. The tricky part of the pattern comes from the sign Jupiter occupies, Virgo. Its sense of duty and dedication to work and helping others doesn't mix easily with so much desire to go off and do one's own thing. Chiron in Pisces is at the release point of the pattern, opposite Jupiter. If we could view what needs to be done as part of spiritual service or participation in something bigger than ourselves, then we can pride ourselves on the personal contribution to the cause that we are able to make. (This trend will become stronger as the North Node in Virgo reaches Jupiter and the South Node in Pisces joins Chiron later in the year.) Mars and Chiron are trine and both are sextile a Venus-Pluto conjunction in between them, forming a harmonious triangle that leans the overall energy in a more positive direction. As Mercury and Mars have recently done, Venus now nudges the Chiron-Pluto sextile (see comments for 1/29 - 2/09, above). A sense of social duty and commitment to something larger than ourselves brings us into cooperation with others (and possibly large organizations) to accomplish some form of betterment.

FEB 08

Chinese New Year: Year of the Monkey (Fire element) [until 1/27/17 (1/28 in China)] The Monkey sign in Chinese astrology is equivalent to the western zodiac sign of Leo, a Fire sign. The Chinese Fire element has a Mars quality to it, as well. Self-motivation and self-sufficiency are key themes. Together, this sign and element elevate energy levels. People are very active, ambitious, adventurous, creative and innovative. Some people will just seek thrills and easily burn out, losing interest and moving on to something new without finishing what was begun. The curious and clever features of those born in the year of the Monkey extend across the board now.

FEB 09

Mars (19°14' SC) trine Chiron (19°14' PI) [again 6/12 & 7/17] We're relentless in wanting to help the underdog or bring about some type of healing. Innovation and problem-solving are strengths we contribute to such endeavors.

FEB 13

Mercury re-enters Aquarius [until 3/05; here before 1/01 - 1/08] See 1/01. In this longer visit of Mercury to Aquarius, we'll have many chances to use our wits to advantage. Mercury is well-placed in Aquarius, the sign ruled by Uranus, said to represent a higher octave of Mercury. Their Quintile Triangle with Mars (see 2/17 - 2/19 below) is an appropriate time to launch scientific or altruistic projects, though not ventures intended to be money-makers (because of adverse Venus aspects). A further word of caution: even with this QT, communications aren't 100% smooth due to other difficult Mercury aspects at the time.

FEB 16

Ceres (7°25' PI) semisquare Eris (22°25' AR) (A minor aspect between two dwarf planets might not seem worth mentioning. However this one is important since Neptune is still in range of its recent semisquare with Eris (exact in late 2015), highlighted this week with this aspect and as Ceres joins Neptune Feb. 21 – see below.) Kindness may make some people seem wishy-washy or enabling, especially in contrast to decisive and assertive types who want everyone to act tough. The best use of this combination is leading the way in proactive assistance.

FEB 16

Venus enters Aquarius [until 3/12] (Following right behind Mercury, Venus will repeat Mercury's aspects rather quickly, reinforcing them.) Social contacts increase in importance and add value in some way to our lives. We enjoy group activities or being with friends, although our connection feels more intellectual than emotional now.

FEB 17 - FEB 19

Quintile Triangle between Mercury, Mars and Uranus. This is a particularly good exchange of energies since Uranus rules the sign Mercury is in and Mars rules the sign Uranus is in. Minds are clicking on all cylinders and inventive ideas abound. This is a good period for humanitarian acts and social protests. (See individual aspects below.)

FEB 17

Mercury (4°51' AQ) quintile Mars (22°51' SC) Thoughts are easily put into action. Passionate words move people to make changes. On Feb. 17, the Moon amplifies the Quintile Triangle via rapid quintiles/biquintiles to the three points. Wait until after the Moon Void of Course finishes to utilize the power of this configuration. The first two hours after the Moon enters Cancer, it is in the zero degree, one of the four power points of the zodiac, yielding popularity of anything begun then and spreading its influence far and wide.

FEB 18

Mercury (5°46' AQ) quintile Uranus (17°46' AR) A talent for seeing things differently is

on display. Expressing one's uniqueness comes easily.

FEB 19

Sun enters Pisces [until 3/19 (P), 3/20 (E)] You're inspired to delve more deeply into your spirituality or the arts. Identify with people in need or who've been mistreated, and take the lead in assisting them. At the Pisces time of year, we tune in to our dreams (both the day and night varieties) and appreciate what's unseen.

FEB 19 - FEB 22

Quintile Triangle between Mars, Uranus and Venus

Unusual methods of evaluation produce answers quickly. People outside of the mainstream of society advocate for change and take leadership roles. Relationships break out of old molds but in a friendly way. Uranus as the planet of the non-ordinary is an indicator of same-gender relationships, while Venus represents women and Mars, men. Thus LGBT issues should see some positive attention with this QT. (See individual aspects below.)

FEB 19

Mars (23°49' SC) biquintile Uranus (17°49' AR) [again 5/30 & 8/03, part of Mars' Retrograde cycle] This aspect is part of two Quintile Triangles now. In the first, with Mercury 2/17 - 2/19, leaps are likely in technological matters; research and discovery yield results. In the second QT, with Venus 2/21 - 2/22, enhanced by collaboration, the value of the R&D is demonstrated. The Mars-Uranus cooperation spotlights the talents of individuals to help effect changes and spark new approaches. Simply being oneself and playing to one's strengths and convictions leads to good outcomes.

FEB 21

Ceres (9°12' PI) conjunct Neptune (9°12' PI) Loving warmth with a maternal or parental quality blends with compassion and understanding in a healing embrace. Forgiveness is enhanced. Imagination is fertile.

FEB 21

Venus (5°55' AQ) quintile Uranus (17°55' AR) This is a good time for networking and social events. Experiment mixing together people you know from different arenas in your life for cross-pollination.

FEB 22

Full Moon (3°34' VI) Although the seventh and final precise occurrence of the Uranus-Pluto square was almost a year ago, it is still very close to exact and remains powerful. Just ahead of this Full Moon, the Sun passes halfway between these two culprits, fanning their coals into flames. The Sun is semisquare Pluto the afternoon of 2/20 and semisquare Uranus the night of 2/21. It also approaches a semisquare to Eris (exact 2/26) and a conjunction to Neptune (2/28), amplifying the Neptune-Eris semisquare, still in orb after its last occurrence at the winter solstice – see **Seasonal Synopses**). Of course, the Moon in Virgo, as it opposes the Sun to create the Full Moon, also sharply aspects all these planets at the Full Moon. Disputes over how to implement needed

changes feature various leaders claiming their vision is best and berating their opponents. People have difficulty agreeing on what the facts are, and without that as a basis, solutions are elusive. The Full Moon also spotlights an important aspect exact the next day (see 2/23 below).

FEB 22

Venus (7°09' AQ) quintile Mars (25°09' SC) The opposite genders get along well and partners of any orientation find that the intimacy of their bond deepens along with the willingness to let each person have the space and freedom to express his or her uniqueness.

FEB 23

Jupiter (20°2' VI) opposite Chiron (20°2' PI) [before 11/03/15; again 8/12] See **Long-term Influences**. Although this aspect has the potential to help bring about repairs, it needs assistance from other planets to tilt it in that direction. A speedy trigger comes from Venus in a harsh semisquare to Chiron (2/20) and sesquiquadrate to Jupiter (2/21) with the opposite effect: imbalances or lack of funds impedes progress in restitution. Furthermore, Venus's associations (finances and relationships) can suffer from unrealistic expectations or divergent styles. Happier help comes from the Finger of God forming now (see the next entries), which has Jupiter at the apex and Chiron at the release point.

FEB 26 - FEB 27

Finger of God between Mercury, Jupiter and Uranus (Jupiter is quincunx Uranus on 3/06 – see the next two entries and 3/06.) Beneficial aid is achieved through Intelligent discussions and a willingness to take risks. As with all Fingers of God, the route is not direct and has some detours along the way.

FEB 26

Mercury (18°8' AQ) sextile Uranus (18°8' AR) Flashes of inspiration and looking at things from an unusual angle produce favorable outcomes. Synapses may be firing so quickly it's hard to get the words out of your mouth as soon as they come to mind.

FEB 27

Mercury (19°32' AQ) quincunx Jupiter (19°32' VI) Unconventional ideas must be examined to see if they hold up to standards of practicality and utility before being approved. It isn't easy at first glance to see how all the pieces of the puzzle will come together into one coherent whole, but they can.

MARCH

MAR 02 - MAR 03

Finger of God between Venus, Jupiter and Uranus (Jupiter quincunx Uranus 3/06 – see below) This is an advantageous configuration for the activities of groups and associations, especially service organizations, as well as friends helping friends.

MAR 02

Venus (18°23' AQ) sextile Uranus (18°23' AR) People are socially outgoing and open to collaborating in shared activities, whether in small or large numbers. It's more comfortable to relate with some breathing space or in a more superficial way than to engage in vulnerable one-to-one intimacy.

MAR 03

Venus (18°56' AQ) quincunx Jupiter (18°56' VI) We're moved to lend a hand in a humanitarian way, yet it's harder to accept some people. Acting in a spirit of fellowship may require suspending judgment or overlooking certain standards.

MAR 05

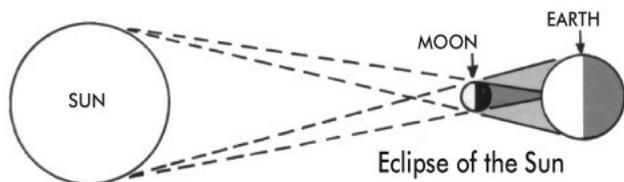
Mercury enters Pisces [until 3/21] Our sympathy and understanding increase and we're more amenable to benefitting others in charitable and humanitarian ways. Imagination is strong as are the tendencies for projection and worry.

MAR 05

Mars enters Sagittarius [until 5/27, going Retrograde here; again 8/02 - 9/27] We reach far and wide, wanting the world, but we may try for too much and miss the mark. Though we're confident we can juggle multiple tasks at once, they will each turn out better if we slow down and concentrate on one thing at a time.

MAR 06

Jupiter (18°33' VI) quincunx Uranus (18°33' AR) [before 11/05/15; again 8/13] (Part of two Fingers of God: see Mercury 2/26 - 2/27 and Venus 3/02 - 3/03, above.) Growth or other benefit comes through taking a chance and trying something beyond your usual realm. Conversely, if you're usually the kind of person who lives on the edge, now is a time to be more discriminating and practical.



MAR 08

Solar Eclipse New Moon (18°56' PI) At least twice a year, we have a solar eclipse, which is a super powerful new moon that generates a highly-charged impetus for something new in areas associated with the sign in which it occurs, modified by other factors in the eclipse chart. Eclipses occur in the signs where the Nodes travel, emphasizing the journey of growth the outline for us. At this eclipse in Pisces, the Moon and Sun are joined by four other heavenly bodies and the South Node in the sign of the fishes. Their closest neighbors are Chiron on one side and Ceres on the other, neither of which is a full-fledged planet. Chiron, nicknamed the "wounded healer," indicates a shamanic "suffer and triumph" theme; something gets worse before it gets better. Ceres typifies "great mother" energy, nurturing and supportive. This is a lunar cycle to kiss

boo-boos and make them better. The South Node close to Chiron may mire us in our wounds or conversely (and hopefully) assist us in letting go of and moving past old hurts. Further away from this grouping, earlier in Pisces, Mercury approaches Neptune, the ruling planet of the sign. Their blend brings sympathetic communication and visionary ideas for healing and stokes the fires of imagination. Across from the Pisces foursome, Jupiter and the North Node in Virgo inject practicality and grounding into the mix. Pluto in Earth sign Capricorn is trine the Virgo planets and sextile the Moon-Sun quartet, adding to the potential for transformation in a realistic way. (This is the primary time in 2016 that the fading Chiron-Pluto sextile is highlighted.) The biggest challenge comes from Saturn in Sagittarius making a tight T-square with the Pisces-Virgo opposition (see **Long-term Influences**). We're always pulled in multiple directions by a T-square and the propensity to get scattered is stronger when one occurs in Mutable signs. We have a hard time employing Saturn's focus when it's in such a far-reaching and spread out sign as Sagittarius.

MAR 09 - MAR 13

T-square from Ceres to Jupiter and Saturn See 3/09 & 3/13 below. Jupiter and Saturn will be in a square for a while (exact 3/23 – see **Long-term Influences**). Following on the heels of the T-square with the Moon and Sun at the Eclipse (above), Ceres moves into the Eclipse degree and makes a similar configuration. A good employment of this T-square could be manifesting (Saturn's specialty) the creative potential of Pisces in a useful (Virgo) way. (This T-square expands 3/14 - 3/18 – see below.)

MAR 09

Ceres (16°12' PI) square Saturn (16°12' SG) So many people need assistance all around the world, it's hard to know where to start. This is a good time to "think globally, act locally" and choose one cause instead of spreading yourself too thin.

MAR 11

Mars (2°8' SG) semisquare Pluto (17°8' CP) [again 5/20 (P), 5/21 (E) & 8/03 (P), 8/04 (E)] In the repeating aspects of its retrograde cycle, Mars scrapes against the Uranus-Pluto square. (Also see 3/18, below.) A "live and let live" attitude collides with a stern approach based on rules and regulations. Mars in Sagittarius doesn't have enough muscle to stand up to the weight of Pluto in Capricorn, but flexibility might help us scoot out of the way of any oncoming mass.

MAR 12

Venus enters Pisces [until 4/05] Compassion and artistic sensibilities increase. Fantasies abound and are natural now, but delusions in romance or finances take vigilance to avoid. Some people will be self-indulgent in their addictions, such as gambling, shopping, eating, smoking, drinking or self-medicating. Others will be philanthropic.

MAR 13 - MAR 15

Venus joins in the snarl with Mars, Uranus and Pluto. See individual entries below.

Cooperation suffers when personal desires compete with larger social needs. Since people react impulsively across the board with Mars in Sagittarius and Uranus in Aries, and because Venus and Pluto are the primary monetary indicators, a wild ride in financial markets is a strong possibility, especially on Monday, March 14, when Mercury (planet of news and commerce) and the Moon (emotions) are in a Grand Cross with Jupiter and Saturn.

MAR 13

Ceres (17°37' PI) opposite Jupiter (17°37' VI) In a T-square with Saturn (see 3/09) and a Grand Cross (see 3/18). An all-bracing approach to caring clashes with a desire to discriminate as to whom to help. (See South Node conjunct Chiron on 3/18.)

MAR 13 (P), MAR 14 (E)

Venus (2°10' PI) semisquare Pluto (17°10' CP) In relationships or finances, strict guidelines are apt to impose limitations where boundaries are lax or absent.

MAR 14 - MAR 17

The impending Jupiter-Saturn square was recently turned into a T-square by Ceres (see 3/09 - 3/13). Now Mercury does likewise (square Saturn 3/14; opposite Jupiter 3/15), as do Chiron, and the Nodes (see 3/18). This configuration is described above in the explanation of the Solar Eclipse on 3/08.

MAR 14

Venus (3°8' PI) square Mars (3°8' SG) A desire to merge seamlessly with a partner is diluted by scattered energies turning attention in too many directions. Quick reactions about fiscal matters may cause problems.

MAR 15

Venus (4°2' PI) semisquare Uranus (19°2' AR) The unexpected arises, disturbing the peace. Individual motives conflict with universal needs. Sights stem from lovers acting aloof or distant.

MAR 16

Jupiter (17°13' VI) trine Pluto (17°13' CP) [before 10/11/15; again 6/26] Motivation is heightened to excel in our work, succeed in business or career endeavors, and make a difference in some area. There's a greater tendency to go overboard or to extremes when either of these planets is active; when combined, double that.

MAR 18

Venus (7°41' PI) semisquare Eris (22°41' AR) Doubts about a partner or jealous feelings might cause problems in a relationship. They could stem from insecurity. If there really is a rival, the inclination is to avoid confrontation about it but that would clear the air.

MAR 18

South Node (21°29' PI) conjunct Chiron (21°29' PI) The South Node shows what

comes easily but can become a trap because we get comfortable and don't push ourselves to try what's hard. The down side of Chiron in Pisces is a sense of suffering and being a victim. With this conjunction, some people will be whiners and look to others to save them. A better use of the energy is to find easy ways of bringing about healing. Another positive feature of Chiron in Pisces is using imagination to solve problems, and that might be smoothed by the team-up with the South Node. As these two join forces, they are very close to Mercury and Ceres. All four are featured in a Grand Cross 3/14-3/15 with the Moon and the Jupiter-Saturn square (exact 3/23), as well as a Mystic Rectangle with the Moon and Pluto on 3/17.

MAR 18

Mars (4°12' SG) sesquiquadrate Uranus (19°12' AR) [again 5/05 & 8/23] These two rambunctious planets spell accident potential when they grate against one another, especially when both are in fast-paced Fire signs. Together they double the self-orientation either would stimulate on its own. We feel no need to consider others; we just proceed on our chosen route, even if we head the wrong way or step over someone else.

MAR 19 (P), MAR 20 (E)

Spring Equinox – See [Seasonal Synopses](#).

MAR 19 (P), MAR 20 (E)

Sun enters Aries [until 4/19] As nature awakens from winter hibernation, people are motivated to be more physically active and to initiate new projects. The drive to distinguish oneself from the pack heightens. This is a natural time to exhibit leadership tendencies. Impatience also increases and many are in a hurry.

MAR 20

Jupiter (16°42' VI) biquintile Eris (22°42' AR) [before 10/31/15; again 7/04] The usual caution signaled by Virgo, magnified by Jupiter, is counteracted by Eris's brash chutzpah. Virgo often indicates "analysis leads to paralysis," but this aspect promotes decisive action. The Virgo piece then points to the helpful nature of what will be done.

MAR 21

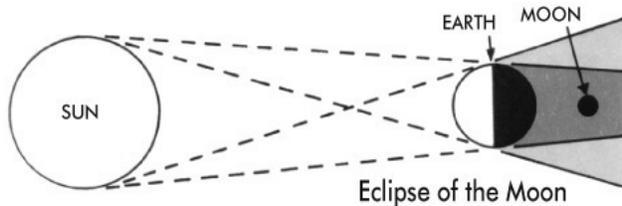
Mercury enters Aries [until 4/05] This is a time to be forward and forceful in communications, though be aware that you could come on too strong for some people's tastes. Your speech may be quicker than usual and you're more prone to jumping to conclusions or sparking arguments.

MAR 22

South Node (21°15' PI) conjunct Ceres (21°15' PI), North Node (21°15' VI) opposite Ceres It may seem easier to put up with oppressive circumstances or an abusive relationship than to do the work to get out of a painful situation. Getting help from someone who's outside the picture is recommended.

MAR 23

Jupiter (16°24' VI) square Saturn (16°24' SG) [before 8/03/15; again 5/26] This aspect is a mismatch between the forces of increase and decrease. It could express as progress running into a wall or being stymied in some way. Alternatively, what has been carefully put within boundaries breaks free or outgrows the container. If this aspect occurred all on its own, it would be hard enough. Instead it comes packaged in a T-square with not only Chiron, but the Nodes, Ceres and Mercury, which joins the action 3/14 - 3/17. The Moon turns the T-square into a Grand Cross on March 14 to kick off the party. At the next square, these two are involved in a different T-square (see 5/26).



MAR 23

Lunar Eclipse (3°17' LI) Since the equinox, Mercury has entered Aries, approaching the Sun, which it passes several hours after this eclipse. Both move toward a trine to Mars in Sagittarius. (Mercury forms this aspect on 3/24, the Sun on 3/26). The Libra Moon opposes the Sun and Mercury and sextiles Mars. Their blend brings cooperation and good communication, which can be put to constructive use in creative endeavors. A possible downside is too many leaders and not enough followers, so a team tactic works best. This eclipse occurs less than two hours after one of the year's most important aspects, the Jupiter-Saturn square (see above and **Long-term Influences**). Together they herald a major shift in our approach so that we can better live within our limitations and appreciate the importance of delegation, realizing that in large undertakings, small details make all the difference. Saturn appears motionless (poised to reverse direction on 3/25), which adds more force to its ability to step on the brakes. A tight conjunction in Pisces between the South Node, Ceres and Chiron has, at best, a therapeutic affect and nurtures us with soothing support. A potential negative manifestation is sympathy or lethargy that enables the continuation of a bad situation (see 3/18, 3/22 & 3/24).

MAR 24

Ceres (21°50' PI) conjunct Chiron (21°50' PI) On its own, this aspect offers encouragement and understanding that can work wonders to bring about improvement. However, it comes packaged in a conjunction with the South Node (see 3/18 & 3/22), which can hold us back from doing what's needed to head in a direction of growth.

MAR 25

Saturn (16°24' SG) turns Retrograde [Direct 8/02/15; Retrograde until 8/13] Over the coming four months, we backtrack to address obligations we've overlooked or avoided. We look to ourselves for the standards to apply to our lives, rather than accepting other people's notions of right and wrong.

MAR 25

Venus forms a T-square with Jupiter and Saturn (which are square 3/23): **Venus (16°9-24' PI) opposite Jupiter (16°9' VI) and square Saturn (16°24' SG)** We're torn between two options regarding finances and/or relationships: expand or contract. Dreamy hopes and wishes inspire a large agenda, which collides with practicality. You have a better chance of getting what you want if you aim within realistic parameters and exercise patience. Since this occurs when Saturn is stopped in its tracks, it could be weeks before we feel like we're making any progress.

MAR 26

Venus (17°21' PI) sextile Pluto (17°21' CP) We lighten up about matters that we've been taking very seriously and become softer about rules. Still, in our closest relationships, we do want to give and receive assurances of commitment.

APRIL

APR 03

Mars (7°51' SG) sesquiquadrate Eris (22°51' AR) [again 4/28 & 8/21] As we seek to satisfy personal desires, we encounter competition and discord. If we can convince ourselves we like a good fight, the battle will be easier. In fact, this aspect is apt to entice us to enjoy the fray.

APR 05

Venus enters Aries [until 4/29] Go after your heart's desires, whether in the form of a relationship or a material acquisition, though attractions or flirtations may pass quickly. Be proactive in social matters and fight for fairness, equality and individual rights.

APR 05

Mercury enters Taurus [until 6/12, going Retrograde here – see 4/28] We may absorb information slowly but our retention is greatly enhanced. Pay heed to monetary matters and pragmatic concerns. A good way to ground yourself is to roll up your sleeves in the kitchen, studio, workshop or outdoors.

APR 07

New Moon (18°4' AR) Our old nemesis the Uranus-Pluto square (less than 3° from exact now) will not go quietly into the good night. The Moon and Sun at this New Moon are half a degree past a square to Pluto as they approach Uranus, 2° away. This creates an extraordinary push for a fresh approach and turning over a new leaf. (Check which house in your chart contains the degree of the New Moon for a clue as to where you want to do something different.) Such an emphasis on an arduous long-term aspect might bring bigger hassles except that the Moon and Sun are also in a favorable trine with Saturn, putting up a barrier against extremes. Jupiter's biquintile with Uranus (exact 4/10) also applies to the Moon and Sun, raising hopes for smooth transitions and providing talent to assist in that regard. But Eris isn't far past Uranus, less than 5° from the Moon and Sun, and could well disrupt any plans.

APR 10

Jupiter (14°29' VI) biquintile Uranus (20°29' AR) [before 10/09/15; again 7/09] (This occurrence is not part of a Quintile Triangle, but the next one is.) Benefits spout from this positive connection from the planet of increase and good fortune to the planet that acts suddenly and out of the blue. Happy surprises often result when these two are in a positive aspect. International relations go well and technological advances emerge.

APR 14

Ceres enters Aries [until 7/16 (P), 7/17 (E); again 10/13/16 - 2/04/17] Ceres is a planet of bounty and growth. In the sign of spring, it prompts us to set wheels in motion for new projects and bravely try things we haven't done before. Taking risks should pay off, however be sure to give some forethought before jumping in. Ceres begins its foray into Aries with an immediate semisquare from Mercury on 4/15 (see below), which repeats as part of Mercury's Retrograde cycle.

APR 15

Mercury (15°21' TA) semisquare Ceres (0°21' AR) [again 5/03 (P), 5/04 (E) & 6/17] A slow and thorough examination of what best supports our efforts is recommended, rather than proceeding to implement an idea too quickly. Otherwise, resources may be wasted.

APR 17

Mercury (17°29' TA) trine Pluto (17°29' CP) [again 5/12 & 5/30] In the first Mercury Retrograde cycle of 2016, Mercury was conjunct Pluto (see 1/22). In the next cycle, Mercury will trine Pluto again (see 8/10). Since a year's three Mercury Retrograde cycles occur about a third of the zodiac from one another, it's not uncommon for Mercury to contact a slow-moving planet via harmonious aspects for three consecutive cycles. (See comments on 4/28 for Mercury turning Retrograde. Also read about the Grand Trine/Kites on 5/10 and 5/30 - 5/31.) This occurrence may be more introspective or a time of keeping information close to the vest because Pluto has ground to a halt, turning Retrograde 4/18 (see below). Confidentiality is required now.

APR 17

Mars (8°54' SG) turns Retrograde [Direct since 5/19/14; Retrograde until 6/29] A retrograde occurs as a planet passes closest to the earth, when we draw its qualities into ourselves or apply them personally. Mars is a planet of anger; when backwards that hostility is easily directed inward. In the Sagittarius portion of the Retrograde, we might be able to laugh off our foibles or take a philosophical approach them. When Mars re-enters Scorpio (5/27), we're more inclined to dig deep to discover the source of the aggression and eradicate or ameliorate it. On the international stage, old disagreements may resurface during the Sagittarius part of Mars Retrograde.

APR 18

Pluto (17°29' CP) turns Retrograde [Direct since 9/25/15; Retrograde until 9/26] This shift can be subtle and go unnoticed, showing its effects more in retrospect. It signals a turning point, perhaps on a deep inner level, when we begin to re-assess values and

resources, ours and other people's, to determine what's most important. The backward journey of Pluto is a time to be our own force for change in our lives, rather than expecting outside influences to turn our lives in a new direction. Financial matters may be strained around the time of the directional changes. With Pluto Retrograde in Capricorn, we re-examine the power structure of organizations and corporations to see what internal changes are needed. In our personal lives, we re-visit what we need to eliminate or move past, or what we can invest to further our careers.

APR 19

Sun enters Taurus [until 5/20] Our delight in nature and beauty is at its height, and we're creative in a tangible way (arts and crafts, gardening, etc.). Our practical side takes priority, with a focus on finances and possessions. This is a good time to seek and give physical affection.

APR 19

Mercury (19°47' TA) trine North Node (19°47' VI) & sextile South Node (19°47' PI) [again 5/10 & 5/31] As repeating aspects of the upcoming Mercury Retrograde cycle, this pair of links prods us to assess our current heading and see if adjustments are needed to be more in keeping with our values. We examine if services we give or receive are adequately compensated and if our needs are being met or how we help others meet theirs.

APR 21 (P), 22 (E)

Full Moon (2°31' SC) Saturn is highlighted again at the April Full Moon, as it was at the April New Moon. At the New Moon, Saturn had a smooth connection with the Moon and Sun; at the Full Moon, it has a rough one. The Sun moves about 15° from New Moon to Full Moon, and in this case the distance from the Sun to Saturn shifted from 120° (a trine) to 135° (a sesquiquadrate). The Moon has cruised around the zodiac to oppose the Sun and is 45° from Saturn (semisquare). Two weeks can make quite a difference! Whereas Saturn showed its helpful side at the New Moon, giving form or providing guidelines, at the Full Moon it's a strict enforcer of rules and standards. It might erect walls. The Uranus-Pluto square is not configured with the Moon and Sun like it was at the New Moon, so Saturn poses the biggest challenge and it's not as momentous. That said, the dastardly duo does have Venus in its snare. (Venus squares Pluto 4/19 and conjuncts Uranus 4/22.) This will likely pose problems for relationships and/or finances. The other, more minor, connections the Moon and Sun make are semisquares and sesquiquadrates with the North and South Nodes. This means we're struggling to decide on the best direction now, as well as trying to let go of what holds us back and take brave steps toward something that's difficult but beneficial for us to do.

APR 28

Mars (8°7' SG) sesquiquadrate Eris (23°07' AR) [before 4/03; again 8/21] See 4/03.

APR 28

Mercury (23°36' TA) turns Retrograde [Direct since 1/25; Retrograde until 5/22] This should be a fairly easy Mercury Retrograde. It takes place entirely in the sign of Taurus,

which Mercury doesn't rule and which as a sign is in smooth positions relative to the two signs Mercury does rule: semisextile Gemini and trine Virgo. Lessons may center on habits (under the umbrella of Taurus) and whether thinking is seen as stubborn on the negative side or as persistent on the plus side. Mercury's repeating aspects are very positive as it forms a Grand Trine in Earth signs with the North Node in Virgo and Pluto in Capricorn, expanded into a Kite by the South Node in Pisces. In Mercury's zigzag, this occurs three times: 4/17 - 4/19 (see 4/17), 5/10 - 5/12 and 5/30 - 5/31. Mercury Retrograde often amplifies the trend of the markets at the beginning of the backtracking. If the markets are heading up, they go up more; if heading downward, then further down they go. Mercury Retrograde doesn't usually mean a change in direction. Taurus is a sign of money and valuables, so this "easy" Mercury Retrograde should be good for finances.

APR 29

Venus enters Taurus [until 5/24] Venus' love of beauty and desire for material security are strongest when she sashays through this sign that she rules. Attend to accounts, add to possessions, spruce up your home or garden, and enjoy all the good things in life, especially physical expressions of love. Taurus likes to get to the finish line.

MAY

MAY 04 (P), May 05 (E)

Sun (15°07' TA) quincunx Saturn (15°07' SG) (The influence of this aspect extends for four weeks since it's present at the 6 New Moon – see below.) It isn't easy to be patient and stay grounded when enthusiasm and/or ambition makes us want to leap ahead to the grand outcomes we envision. But we know that anything worthwhile takes time.

MAY 05

Mars (6°53' SG) sesquiquadrate Uranus (21°53' AR) [before 3/18; again 8/23] See 3/18.

MAY 06

New Moon (16°41' TA) Although the Nodes prod us to adjust our heading in the strongest fashion when in a "hard aspect" (conjunction, square or opposition) with a planet (or two), they still have some influence when in a "soft" aspect (sextile, trine), especially when they are part of an aspect pattern. The nicest kind of configuration is a Grand Trine and we have one(though imprecise) at this New Moon. The Moon and Sun in Taurus are trine Pluto in Capricorn and the North Node in Virgo, all Earth signs. The Moon and Sun are sextile the South Node in Pisces, extending the Grand Trine into a Kite. Across the course of May, each of the quick-movers – the Sun, Venus and Mercury – forms a Grand Trine/Kite with Pluto and the Nodes even though the trine/sextile from the Nodes to Pluto is not exact until 6/16. (See 5/07 - 5/08, 5/13 - 5/14 and 5/30 - 5/31.) The Sun is moving into position for this formation as the Moon comes by at the New Moon. The fortuitous conditions of the Grand Trine/Kite play out over the coming four weeks of this lunar cycle. (If the pattern touches your chart, it should be a good month for you.) There is a good chance this positive configuration will help boost market

averages and improve financial matters in general, at least for the first half while Mercury is still Retrograde (see 4/28). By the end of the cycle, however, any benefits could easily be counteracted by the monumental negative impact of the T-square from Jupiter to Saturn and Neptune. In early June, Venus (the planet ruling Taurus and money) and the Sun turn this T-square into a Grand Cross. Another aspect to note at this New Moon is a quincunx from the Moon and Sun to Saturn, advising us to stay within reasonable limits and to stay on a practical path when we're tempted by high hopes to stray.

MAY 07 - 08

Grand Trine in Earth signs Sun-Pluto-North Node); South Node makes it a Kite

MAY 07

Sun (17°23' TA) trine Pluto (17°23' CP) We take pride in doing a thorough (though probably slow) job and handling practical matters well. We work hard to bring about positive outcomes.

MAY 08

Sun (18°46' TA) trine North Node (18°46' VI) & sextile South Node (18°46' PI)

Inspiration and creativity blend with pragmatism and a helpful attitude to accomplish the tasks at hand or help those in need.

MAY 09

Jupiter (23°8' LI) turns Direct [Retrograde since 10/12/15; Direct until 2/05/17 (P), 2/06/17 (E)] It's easier to grow and enhance development when Jupiter is Direct. Pursuits are smoother in higher education, legal matters and long distance travel or communication with those at a distance (including the media and the internet).

MAY 09

Mercury (19°25' TA) conjunct Sun (19°25' TA) [next similar occurrence 9/12] This is the halfway point of Mercury's back-up, an appropriate time for self-reflection and taking stock of matters you wanted to review and revise during the Retrograde.

MAY 10

Grand Trine in Earth signs between Mercury, Pluto and the North Node, expanded into Kites by the South Node and the Moon in Water signs. See 5/10 & 5/12.

MAY 10

Mercury (18°40' TA) trine North Node (18°40' VI) & sextile South Node (18°40' PI) [before 4/19; again 5/31] We continue to explore how to refine our objectives to have more practical and positive outcomes. This could require one step back before taking another forward since Mercury is Retrograde (and the normal direction for the Nodes is also the opposite of ordinary planetary motion). (See 4/19.)

MAY 12

Mercury (17°20' TA) trine Pluto (17°20' CP) [before 4/17; again 5/30] Both Mercury

and Pluto are Retrograde now and we may experience déjà vu in regard to financial or career matters, addressing a situation that we thought we handled in mid-April. There should be improvement by taking a second look, thanks to the Grand Trine/Kite these two form with the Nodes (see 5/10).

MAY 13 - MAY 14

Grand Trine in Earth signs (Venus, Pluto, North Node); South Node makes it a Kite. Venus and Pluto are the two money planets, although Venus is also a love planet and Pluto is associated with sex and emotional intimacy. Here they harmonize with the Nodes, which are indicators of our directional heading as well as points that put us in contact with people who are instrumental on our path. Relationships are aided by this pattern, especially concerning shared finances.

MAY 13

Venus (17°19' TA) trine Pluto (17°19' CP) Fiscal matters go smoothly and shoppers easily find high value at an acceptable price. This is a good time to research investment instruments. People are more attracted to physical expressions of affection than usual.

MAY 14

Venus (18°27' TA) trine North Node (18°27' VI) & sextile South Node (18°27' PI) We're in a helpful mood and go out of our way to do nice things for people we love. We realize the value of services we receive and happily reward those who provide them.

MAY 20

Sun enters Gemini [until 6/20] Like social butterflies, everyone's flitting from one event or gathering to another, hearing stories and telling their own. Speech is dramatic. Mental or verbal originality is widely evident.

MAY 20 (P), MAY 21 (E)

Mars (2°13' SG) semisquare Pluto (17°13' CP) [before 3/11; again 8/03 (P), 8/04 (E)]
See 3/11.

MAY 21

Full Moon (1°14' SG) (This is a true "Blue Moon" according to the original use of the term for a third full moon in a three-month season containing four full moons. The word "blue" came from "belewe," an old English word meaning to betray. Each full moon had a name and a place in its season. If there was an extra full moon in winter, it affected the timing of Lent and Easter. (Easter is always the first Sunday after the first full moon of spring.) The "betrayal moon" (the third of the season) was too early to be the Lenten Moon and needed a different name or Christians would have had to fast an extra month until Easter. No one wanted to do that! The modern usage of "blue moon" for the second full moon in a calendar month slipped into the vernacular due to a misunderstanding of the original definition by the author of an article in an astronomy magazine in 1946. Since full moons are no longer called certain names according to their season, this other definition was easier to understand and it stuck.) The key features of this full moon are Mars' proximity to the Moon in Sagittarius and the harsh aspects from these two and

the Sun in Gemini to Pluto. Gemini and Sagittarius are Mutable signs, which incline us to drift off course or enjoy a meandering tangent. Pluto in a grounding Earth sign like Capricorn tries to keep us on track but the tough aspects are an impediment. Mars is Retrograde, adding to the downside of this tangle. Any movement is more apt to be backward or sideways than forward. In addition, there is an imprecise (but exact within 3°) T-square in Mutable signs from Jupiter opposite Neptune with both square to Saturn (see **Long-term Influences**). Our energies are either at odds or they're scattered and dissipate. Two other drawbacks: Mercury is at a standstill, turning Direct in a day, and Uranus has no aspects. An unaspected planet acts like an unpredictable wild card, which is already Uranus's nature!

MAY 22

Mercury (14°20' TA) turns Direct [Retrograde since 4/28; Direct until 8/30] We've stopped to smell the roses long enough and want to get a move on! In a Fixed sign like Taurus, there's a lot of inertia so it takes a few days around this station to shift gears and slowly move forward again. Mercury is halted at one of the "cross-quarters" degrees, where the Sun passes halfway between an equinox and solstice. Similar to the power of the degrees where the seasons change (the zero degrees of Cardinal signs), the exact middle (15°) of Fixed signs signal influences with far-reaching effects. There could be important financial developments around now (Mercury is related to news and Taurus to finances).

MAY 24

Venus enters Gemini [until 6/17] People are youthful, playful and flirtatious, possibly leading on more than one partner. Some may even find both genders attractive. Concepts and words are appealing and tact in conversations should come easily.

MAY 26

Jupiter (13°41' VI) square Saturn (13°41' SG) [before 8/03/15 & 3/23] (See 3/23 above. Part of Grand Cross 6/01 - 6/04, described below.) A square calls for a modification and this one asks us to find the right balance between expansion and consolidation. This is the third repetition of this aspect, which first occurred in Fixed signs last summer. The 2016 iterations are easier to navigate because these planets are now in Mutable signs, which are less resistant to change. But the road is never smooth. At each occurrence, these two are in a thorny knot with other planets, forcing us to try harder to learn our lessons. Saturn is in the sign ruled by Jupiter but the usual jovial optimism of Sagittarius is weighed down by the serious, take-care-of-business nature of Virgo, where Jupiter is traveling. That should make work-oriented Saturn's heart sing. They'll cooperate best when we're motivated to achieve our goals. It will be an uphill slog to get there, though.

MAY 27

Mars re-enters Scorpio [until 8/01; here before 1/03 - 3/05] See 1/03.

MAY 27 - JUNE 09

Quintile Triangle: North Node & Jupiter; Mars; Eris, Uranus & Ceres. This is the

second time Mars and Uranus connect in a QT (see 5/29 - 5/30). This triangle has three points of what would be a 5-pointed star: (1) Mars; (2) the North Node and Jupiter; and (3) Ceres, Uranus and Eris, which are forming a triple conjunction (see 6/08 - 6/09, 6/21 & 6/23). This pattern starts 5/27 - 5/30 (see below) and more components of it are exact just before and after the New Moon (6/02, 6/04; 6/07, 6/09). Later in the month, around the summer solstice (see 6/20 - 6/22), Mars passes the baton to Venus (see 6/17), which then occupies a fourth point of the star and makes a similar QT. (Soon after, the Sun and Mercury do likewise.) Mars rules the sign Uranus, Ceres and Eris are in and is well-placed in Scorpio (which it ruled before Pluto's discovery). Even though Mars is Retrograde, this QT gives us a friendly nudge to propel us toward constructive developments. We're willing to take risks, though not wild ones since the North Node and Jupiter in Virgo keep our wits about us.

MAY 27 (P), MAY 28 (E)

North Node (17°45' VI) quintile Mars (29°45' SC) [before 3/16; again 7/23] We probe beneath the surface to understand motivations (our own or others') in order to do our work better or offer help efficiently. We know what adjustments are needed to make a meaningful difference.

MAY 28 (P), MAY 29 (E)

Mars (29°25' SC) biquintile Eris (23°25' AR) [before 3/01 (P), 3/02 (E); again 8/01] Eris is said to operate better in difficult aspects and this is an easy one. A biquintile represents a talent and in this case, it's fighting one's battles well. Mars in the final degree of Scorpio likely requires letting go of anger or selfishness in order to be valiant and admirable. Eris values truth, overpowering Scorpio's secretive side and tendency to hide.

MAY 29 (P), MAY 30 (E)

Mars (29°5' SC) biquintile Uranus (23°5' AR) [before 2/19; again 8/03] This is a repeating aspect in Mars' Retrograde cycle and the second time these two are in Quintile Triangles (they won't be in another). See 2/19. The other components of the QT aren't exact for a few more days. The strongest power of this pattern manifests 5/27 - 5/29. Our best personal qualities come to the fore and we let our uniqueness shine.

MAY 30 - MAY 31

Grand Trine in Earth signs (Mercury-Pluto-North Node); South Node makes it a Kite. (The Nodes do not make exact sextile and trine to Pluto until 6/16 but these aspects are close enough now for this configuration to be potent.) Now that Mercury is Direct, we have a better understanding of what's involved in making advantageous modifications and moving our agendas forward.

MAY 30

Mercury (17°3' TA) trine Pluto (17°3' CP) [before 4/17 & 5/12] See 4/17.

MAY 31

Mercury (17°33' CP) trine North South (17°33' CP) & sextile South Node (17°03' CP)

[before 4/19 & 5/10] See 4/19. This finale of repetitions of favorable aspects during Mercury's Retrograde cycle should bring insights that confirm we've made alterations and are now on the right path.

JUNE

JUN 01 - JUN 04

Grand Cross in Mutable signs (A key feature at the New Moon 6/04 – see below.) If you're going to have a Grand Cross, the hardest pattern in astrology, better to have it in the most flexible type of signs, Mutable. However, any Grand Cross pulls us in too many directions and the Mutable signs are the most prone to drifting off course. We're in the midst of a slow T-square between Jupiter in Virgo (which the North Node is approaching), Saturn in Sagittarius and Neptune in Pisces (which the South Node is closing in on). (See Long-term Influences.) Their aspects are not exact now but "close enough" as quick Sun and Venus interact with them just before the Moon reaches them for the New Moon. These speedy heavenly bodies in Gemini fill in the "empty leg" of the T-square and expand the configuration into a Grand Cross. (Each of the aspects is listed separately.) Jupiter was opposite Neptune only once, in Sept. 2015, but is still "in orb," about 2° from exact. The Jupiter-Saturn square is technically over, too (see 5/26). They are a little more than 1° past that aspect. The most challenging of the components, the Saturn-Neptune square, is virtually upon us, exact 6/17, right when Neptune is at a standstill, turning Retrograde 6/13. Though the Saturn-Neptune square will have another potent run-in at a New Moon (the Solar Eclipse on 9/01), that time won't include Jupiter or Venus in the mix and will not be a Grand Cross, only a T-square. So this is probably the more important emphasis of the Saturn-Neptune square.

JUN 01

Sun (12°0' GE) square Neptune (12°0' PI) The best this aspect can offer is creativity and inspiration. We need to be careful we don't fool ourselves about our capabilities. Leaders may be reluctant to show sympathy lest it be seen as a sign of weakness.

JUN 02

North Node (17°27' VI) biquintile Eris (23°27' AR) (Part of Quintile Triangle with Mars and Uranus – see 5/27 - 6/04, above.) Being pushy and self-assured moves us past self-criticism and out of the Virgo "analysis leads to paralysis" trap, prodding us into action.

JUN 02 (P), 03 (E)

Venus (12°0' GE) square Neptune (12°0' PI) Insecurity about a relationship or finances throws up a roadblock. Trust issues pose problems. Fear and faith are two sides of the same coin, which many people need to flip now.

JUN 02 (P), 03 (E)

Sun (13°7' GE) opposite Saturn (13°7' SG) There is more than one side to any story. Thinking we're "right" and someone else is "wrong" only makes a disagreement worse. Maturity lobbies for seeking common ground or at least suspending a need to control.

JUN 03

Venus (13°03' GE) opposite Saturn (13°03' SG) Rules in a partnership can cause difficulties or keep things straight. Examine if these are working in your favor or not. It might be time for a change or to be more adaptable.

JUN 04

Sun (14°14' GE) square Jupiter (14°14' VI) Internal dialogue about perfection (or the lack thereof) could drive a person nuts. A better question to ask yourself might be: "what's serving me or how am I being of service?"

JUN 04

Venus (14°17' GE) square Jupiter (14°17' VI) Lovers could be critical of one another or analyze how well they're communicating. The imbalance is uncomfortable if one person does more of the heavy lifting in the relationship.

JUN 04

North Node (17°20' VI) biquintile Uranus (23°20' AR) Follow your personal star (or instincts) to tweak your heading. You know what your strengths are and what to utilize to get where you want to go.

JUN 04

New Moon (14°53' GE) Does there need to be anything more going on than the Mutable Grand Cross? (See 6/01 - 6/04, above.) Well, there are two more configurations and we'll be glad there are: a Quintile Triangle (see 5/27 - 6/09 above) and a Grand Trine (though imprecise) between the North Node, Pluto and Mercury. It's a blessing to have nice patterns like a QT and Grand Trine balance a grueling combination like a Grand Cross. They add talent and luck to help us use the Grand Cross constructively. The Saturn-Neptune square in particular presents an opportunity to put dreams into concrete form, even though the path is an uphill battle. The Gemini trio (Venus, Sun and Moon) in square to the Virgo duo (Jupiter and the North Node) ordinarily would make it difficult to assemble the pieces of our puzzle into a coherent whole. That's where the Grand Trine makes the difference, since the Virgo twosome is in both patterns. And the Node is in all three! The practical Earth signs help us stay grounded and on task instead of drifting off course. Jupiter usually inclines us to bite off more than we can chew but Mercury in Taurus wants us to keep things simple and basic. Chiron must feel lonely - it's the only heavenly body not in a strong pattern at this New Moon.

JUN 06

Venus (16°35' GE) conjunct Sun (16°35' GE) This type of conjunction with Venus in Direct motion (a "superior conjunction") occurs about every year-and-a-half. Ordinarily, it supports peace and bodes well for love and money matters. However, this time around, these two are snagged in a Grand Cross (see 6/01 - 6/04, above), which happens to occur at a New Moon. The next four weeks may be bumpy for hearts and wallets as we question our values and our worth. What we should invest in a situation or a

relationship? What are we receiving in return?

JUN 07 - 13

Quintile Triangle between Mars, Ceres and Jupiter (This contains components of a larger longer-term QT – see 5/27.) Ceres is named for the fertility goddess of Rome (Demeter in Greece, the Great Earth Mother) and Mars is in Scorpio, a get-things-going force in the sign of reproduction. Mix these together nicely with Jupiter's growth potential and this is a great time to "plant seeds" for the future, especially since this is the waxing portion of the lunar cycle. A prime window of opportunity comes as the Moon passes Jupiter in the afternoon of 6/11. This QT should help those who are trying to conceive a child. See components of this pattern on 6/07, 6/09 & 6/13.

JUN 07

Mars (26°28' SC) quintile Jupiter (14°28' VI) Resources are committed to accomplish great works. We are selective yet we manage to settle on smart thinking and then muster the motivation to get the ball rolling.

JUN 08 (P), 09 (E)

Uranus (23°30' AR) conjunct Eris (23°30' AR) [again 9/25/16 & 3/17/17] This sounds like a volatile conjunction but these planets don't get into trouble with other planets at their meet-ups. Their biggest threat (and it's a mild one) is an opposition from Venus as the Moon joins them on 9/18, a week before their next conjunction. It's almost as if the other planets just stand back and say, "Leave these two alone." They both inspire solo activities by their nature and they're in the most self-sufficient sign. Likewise, this motivates people to do their own thing their own way, not needing anyone else's approval or assistance.

JUN 09

Mars (25°49' SC) biquintile Ceres (19°49' AR) [again 8/27] A take-charge attitude blended with strong will power prepares the ground for something wonderful to germinate. Projects already in process benefit from a revised approach or cross-pollination.

JUN 12

Mars (25°9' SC) trine Chiron (25°9' PI) [before 2/09; again 7/17] We're determined to make revisions and improvements, particularly in our health, finances or intimate relationships. We bring understanding and a gentle touch into the boudoir.

JUN 12

Mercury enters Gemini [until 6/29] Curiosity drives us to learn something in every activity. There's a lot more talk than usual, and more traveling in the local area. Increased contact with neighbors or siblings is likely.

JUN 13

Ceres (21°2' AR) biquintile Jupiter (15°2' VI) (Part of Quintile Triangle – see 6/07, above.) The best way to show you care is to take action or help out in a substantive way. Lighten someone's load; give him or her a break.

JUN 13

Neptune (12°2' PI) turns Retrograde [Direct since 11/18/15; Retrograde until 11/19]
When Neptune is Retrograde, our personal connection to the Divine is more important to us than what others subscribe to. Some may question their faith (or even their belief in themselves) but this is part of the process of re-affirming it. Now is a time when our busy lives remind us of the need for downtime. Around the time a planet changes direction, it has extra thrust and not usually in a positive manner. Neptune frequently bewilders us or undermines our sense of autonomy; we feel like just one drop in a big ocean.

JUN 13 - JUN 19

Finger of God between Sun, Uranus, Eris, Ceres and Mars This pattern typically takes us on a winding road to a destination we didn't intend, though we may appreciate it once we arrive. With these planets in combination, a strong sense of purpose works hand-in-hand with originality, assertiveness, and creativity to prompt changes in how things are done. There may be false starts and detours that make the journey take longer.

JUN 13

Sun (23°32' GE) sextile Eris (23°32' AR) Be forceful if you need to be and certainly speak up to tell hard truths. Exert leadership and take no guff. Enjoy the battle.

JUN 14

Sun (23°41' GE) sextile Uranus (23°20' AR) Stand apart from the crowd and do things your own way. If you must work with others now, try to take the lead and steer the ship.

JUN 14 (P), JUN 15 (E)15

Sun (24°33' GE) quincunx Mars (24°33' SC) It's tough to know how much you can push the envelope but you definitely want to make an impact and alter a situation. Mix persistence with flexibility.

JUN 16

North Node (16°42' VI) trine Pluto (16°42' CP) & South Node (16°42' PI) sextile Pluto (These aspects are part of two Grand Trine/Kites, first with Venus on 6/30, then with Mercury 7/06 - 7/07. They also interact nicely with Jupiter 6/24 - 6/26.) We have an urge to be of service, either in an everyday way or in a spiritual sense, or possibly both. We're led to people or situations where we can make a difference. We may need to use discernment to decide where best to offer assistance or who is deserving of our aid.

JUN 17

Venus enters Cancer [until 7/11 (P), 7/12 (E)] Love of home, family, tribe and nation are of utmost importance. Nesting instincts are also strong. Attention turns to decorating or increasing the value of properties. It's natural to be emotional about relationships and exhibit a caring, protective side. Be careful how feelings affect monetary matters, though.

JUN 17

Saturn (12°2' SG) square Neptune (12°2' PI) [before 11/26/15; again 9/10] See **Long-term Influences**. (This aspect is part of T-square with Mercury – see 6/20) Like a heavy-weight prize fight, this powerful aspect will go many rounds before it's done with knocking some sense into our belief systems. Worries and fears may block progress as easily as skepticism threatens faith. Saturn in Sagittarius wants to bring us clarity and a wide perspective. Neptune in Pisces can easily surround us with fog or distort images so that we don't see clearly. Our "third eye" may see better than our "own two eyes."

JUN 18 - JUN 25

Quintile Triangle: Venus; Jupiter & North Node; Ceres, Uranus & Eris (The North Node was biquintile Eris on 6/02 and Uranus on 6/04, and now Ceres on 6/18. All of these aspects occur less than a degree from their position when Venus moves into a triangle with them 6/21 - 6/22, just as Ceres exactly conjuncts Eris and Uranus, which were conjunct 6/08 - 6/09. Jupiter is not biquintile the Aries trio until July.) Coming at this powerful time of the year (at the Summer Solstice), these influences are propelled through the following 3-month season. The potent triple conjunction of Ceres, Uranus and Eris in Aries prompts us to be fearless in going after what we want, no matter the competition. It stimulates our ingenuity and blended with Venus and Jupiter has lucrative potential for a good pay-off. The involvement of the North Node keeps us on the right track and puts us in contact with people who can help us along the way.

JUN 18

North Node (16°36' VI) biquintile Ceres [22°36' AR] Everything falls nicely into place when you aim in the direction of getting the support you need or giving reinforcement to others. Don't be shy about asking.

JUN 18 (P), JUN 19 (E)

Mars (23°51' SC) quincunx Uranus (23°51' AR) [before 2/05; again 7/14] (This is the last component of the Finger of God that began 6/13.) Being thorough and reaching the finish line is your goal but that could get thwarted by interruptions or unplanned needs that arise suddenly. Stay on track as best as you can, calling upon your unique positive traits to propel you.

JUN 20

Full Moon (29°32' GE) (This is the fourth Full Moon of the spring season, meaning the prior Full Moon was a Blue Moon according to the traditional definition. See 5/21.) The Moon and Sun are not strongly involved with other planets at this Full Moon. Their closest contact is a fading T-square with Chiron (with an orb over 4°). We may be making some adjustments to bring about improvements, repair or healing, perhaps in regard to communications, especially at a distance (due to the Sun being at the last degree of Gemini and the Moon at the final degree of Sagittarius). Mercury is 3° from the Sun, which is not uncommon and underscores the importance of using all our senses. The big action now and still at the Solstice in two days, centers on the nearly exact Saturn-Neptune square, which Mercury turns into a tight T-square on the day of

the Full Moon (see next two entries). Jupiter and the Nodes are a little off from exactly forming a Grand Cross out of this T-square, but close enough (within 5°) to have an impact. This likely magnifies the import of the information exchanges around the time of this Full Moon (even preceding it), pointing to international affairs as a possible arena for tension and a clash of beliefs and principles. There's also a significant Quintile Triangle in effect that involves three planets, two dwarf planets and the North Node (see 6/18 - 6/25, above).

JUN 20

T-Square as Mercury activates the Saturn-Neptune square (exact 6/17) Mercury brings awareness and open discussion of matters related to the other planets it contacts. In this case, we can't help but look at requirements and/or limitations associated with going after our dreams. Another expression is seeing how escapism or lack of dedication undermines ambitions or being in control of a situation. We want clarity but encounter ambiguity.

JUN 20

Mercury (11°51' GE) opposite Saturn (11°51' SG) Self-talk, or comments from others, point out the importance of putting everything in its place and finding the best order for the steps to proceed toward a goal. Obtaining needed input takes time and effort.

JUN 20

Mercury (12°01' GE) square Neptune (12°01' PI) Mental sharpness slumps. Beware of "spacing out," inattention or simply the fuzzy thinking that comes from not having had enough sleep. There may be some difficulty in meditation, prayer or creative writing.

JUN 20

Venus (3°48' CA) quintile Jupiter (15°48' VI) A caring heart combines with a big desire to be helpful and works to advantage either giving or receiving assistance. Another expression is artistic talent, especially for creating something both useful and beautiful for the home.

JUN 20

Summer Solstice – See [Seasonal Synopses](#).

JUN 20

Sun enters Cancer [until 7/22] People are more sensitive and emotional when the Sun is in Cancer. It's natural to put feelings into action, conveying lots of care. Our attention is on nutrition and enjoying culinary originality. People get into being homebodies and may have a greater interest in heritage and nationality.

JUN 21 - Jun 24

The following aspects are part of a Quintile Triangle - see comments for 6/18 - 6/25, above. The conjunctions have import beyond the context of the QT.

JUN 21

Venus (4°28' CA) quintile North Node (16°28' VI) Maternal or familial affection is put into service. We are instinctively drawn in a direction that is positive for our spiritual growth.

JUN 21

Ceres (23°34' AR) conjunct Eris (23°34' AR) [again 11/17 & 12/31] The best way to drive a situation forward is through assertiveness and independent action. "God helps those who help themselves." Passion about desires is relentless.

JUN 22

Venus (5°34' CA) quintile Eris (23°34' AR) Love of self prods us to act on our own behalf, though probably in a considerate way. This may extend beyond personal benefit to that of one's family, tribe or nation.

JUN 22

Venus (5°40' CA) quintile Ceres (23°40' AR) We're forceful in promoting growth or nurturing a person or a situation. We have luck in selecting the best kind of "fertilizer."

JUN 22

Venus (5°57' CA) quintile Uranus (23°57' AR) Originality and inventiveness have good potential to yield a profit (but do see the warning in **Seasonal Synopses**). If now is not the time feasible for an expenditure, perhaps it is a chance to assess what action will be prudent down the road.

JUN 23

Ceres (23°58' AR) conjunct Uranus (23°58' AR) [only exact once but within 1° orb of exact again 11/22 - 12/21] Each of us has something unusual and wonderful to contribute now. We value our uniqueness and have the self-assurance to parlay what only we can offer into an endeavor that will sustain us for some time to come.

JUN 24

North Node (16°17' VI) conjunct Jupiter (16°17' VI) & South Node (16°17' PI) opposite Jupiter (This happens once every 7 years or so.) Setting our sights high and expanding our sense of possibilities, we have a lot of hope about our goals. There won't be much resistance and it might feel like a guardian angel or spirit guide is protecting us, helping us escape any traps or sidestep pitfalls.

JUN 25 - JUN 28

Quintile Triangle: Sun; North Node & Jupiter; Eris (Although the Jupiter-Eris biquintile is not exact until 7/04, this aspect is only a little over 1° now. It will interact more strongly with Mercury 7/01 - 7/03. The North Node, Jupiter and Eris are elements of a larger QT – see 6/18. Now the Sun occupies the degree where Venus was just days ago.) Using will power, leadership or creativity, we pursue our objectives with enthusiasm and bravery. We want tangible results and won't compromise to achieve them.

JUN 25

Sun (4°15' CN) quintile North Node (16°15' VI) Our sense of purpose is clear and we will work tirelessly in that direction. We take pride in our endeavors.

JUN 25

Sun (4°21' CN) quintile Jupiter (16°21' VI) We see ourselves in our best light and are optimistic about our prospects. Our caring and helpful nature is on display.

JUN 26

Sun (5°35' CN) quintile Eris (23°35' AR) (Uranus and Ceres, close to Eris, are on the edges of this quintile, adding to the power of utilizing one's individual best qualities.) We don't mind doing things on our own, though it would be great to have followers add to our efforts. Still, we're quite self-sufficient and capable of taking care of ourselves and our needs.

JUN 26

Jupiter (16°29' VI) trine Pluto (16°29' CP) [before 10/11/15 & 3/16/16] See 3/16, above.

JUN 27

Chiron (25°15' PI) turns Retrograde [Direct since 11/28/15; Retrograde until 12/01/16] This is a time to address old hurts and put them in a current context to see the lessons learned. Look inward for healing and wisdom rather than receiving these from external sources.

JUN 29

Mercury enters Cancer [until 7/13] Feelings intrude into our thinking and logic may elude us at times. Discussing or journaling about emotions brings insight. Our minds are on home or family issues and there could be news on this front. ESP is enhanced.

JUN 29

Mars (23°3' SC) turns Direct [Retrograde since 4/17; Direct until 6/26/18] Mars has been backtracking a fifth of 2016. Now it slowly creeps forward, picking up speed, but will take about three months to get back to its normal pace. When it's Direct, we're more comfortable being bold and pursuing our desires. As it exits the back-up range from now until 8/22, it finishes the purging it promoted while in Scorpio (1/03 - 3/05 & 5/02 - 8/02) and will re-apply forward momentum to the expansion it began when in Sagittarius earlier (3/05 - 5/27 & 8/22 - 8/22).

JULY

JUL 01 - JUL 04

Ceres, Saturn and Neptune in hard aspect triangle (Although the Saturn-Neptune square is not exact now, it's within 1° orb as Ceres forms hard aspects with them in a triangle that has no official name.) We're conflicted about showing or accepting support. It's easy to display a tough or self-oriented stance. Our softer side isn't comfortable with

that, but no one wants to appear wimpy or possibly be taken advantage of.

JUL 01

Ceres (26°10' AR) sesquiquadrate Saturn (11°10' SG) [again 10/20] This aspect expresses with a parental quality that smacks of tough love. Respect is valued above nurturing and coddling is eschewed.

JUL 02 - JUL 04

Quintile Triangle composed of Mercury; Jupiter; Eris & Uranus (The 5° Cancer position was the location of Venus 6/21 - 6/22 and the Sun 6/25 - 6/26, when they formed a QT with Jupiter and Eris. The North Node and Ceres are just out of range to be part of the triangle. The Jupiter-Eris biquintile is exact now and the Jupiter-Uranus biquintile is exact 7/09.) This pattern is in effect at the USA's "birthday," applying its influences for the coming year to matters of the nation. In addition, the USA's Jupiter is at this degree, a key indicator of the country's abundance. Mercury rules commerce, Eris relates to competition, Jupiter brings in an international component and Uranus shakes up the mix. Themes related to trade agreements and imbalances are highlighted. China's chart is also touched. (It's chart ruler, Uranus, is at 5° Cancer.) For individuals, this configuration inspires self-realization "ah-ha" moments and increases the ability to assertively state wants and capabilities. This is a good combination for brainstorming and meetings.

JUL 02

Mercury (5°16' CN) quintile Jupiter (17°6' VI) Smart, practical thinking blends well with instincts and leaves room for sympathy and caring. We make good use of "emotional intelligence."

JUL 02

Mercury (5°36' CN) quintile Eris (23°36' AR) We enjoy arguments, debates or any lively discussions, especially when they give us a chance to expound on what we care about. Some of what is said is likely to be controversial or antagonistic.

JUL 02

Mercury (6°12' CN) quintile Uranus (24°12' AR) Feelings enter into discussions in surprising ways and people intentionally make shocking statements. Bright ideas are likely to emerge.

JUL 04

Ceres (26°55' AR) semisquare Neptune (11°55' PI) Some people are too busy addressing their own concerns to lend a hand to a neighbor, much less a stranger. "Charity begins at home" is their motto.

JUL 04

New Moon (12°54' CN) The tightest aspect for the Moon and Sun is a trine with Neptune, upping the volume on psychic impressions and awareness of suffering. "Bleeding hearts" will bleed all the more and helping those most in need will be high on

the priority list. Pluto is across from the Moon and Sun (3-1/2° from exact), adding to the desire to make a difference and bring about changes. A loose Grand Trine (2-5° orb) between Venus, Mars and Chiron in Water signs reinforces sympathetic leanings and ESP, inclining us to act on our instincts and be innovative to effect improvements. There could be some struggles to get the best out of this Grand Trine since Neptune is also receiving a semisquare from Ceres (see above). Jupiter sits at the midpoint between Mars and the Sun-Moon pairing, buoying optimism but perhaps contributing to overloaded schedules. Since this is the USA's birthday, the implications are hopeful for improved foreign relations, which come under Jupiter's purview. Jupiter is in a tight trine with Pluto and is out of the range of its prior square to Saturn and opposition to Neptune. The Water Grand Trine implies the country will take better care of people who are suffering.

JUL 04

Jupiter (17°37' VI) biquintile Eris (23°37' AR) [before 10/31/15 & 3/20/16] (Part of Quintile Triangles with Venus, the Sun, Mercury, Uranus and North Node - see entries 6/18 - 7/09) See 3/20.

JUL 06 - JUL 08

Grand Trine: Venus, Mars, Chiron This was in the works at the 7/04 New Moon and now becomes sharper in focus.

JUL 06

Venus (23°22' CA) trine Mars (23°22' SC) It's easy to act on our feelings and show how much we care. The desire to give or receive nurturing is amplified. The genders get along well and this aspect definitely has a sexy side yet it can also point more simply to an active social schedule.

JUL 06

Mercury (15°27' CA) conjunct Sun (15°27' CA) (Mercury is clipping along at more than 2° per day now and quickly surpasses the Sun. They were 3-1/2° apart just two days ago at the New Moon. Mercury is also out of bounds so on a day when it joins with the Sun's power, there may be just too much of what Mercury proffers.) Minds are on overdrive and there's so much talk going on, you can hardly hear yourself think. Still, your thoughts may be mostly centered on yourself and your life. Tomorrow that will change.

JUL 07

Mercury (16°13' CA) opposite Pluto (16°13' CP) (This may not be such a difficult opposition since the North and South Nodes are a mediating influence. They were sextile/trine with Pluto on 6/16 and are sextile and trine with Mercury and the Sun in the wee hours of today.) Forces beyond our control loom large and must be acknowledged. The importance and impact of words is strongly demonstrated. There is another chapter in the news today about issues that were mentioned at the New Moon.

JUL 07

Sun (16°12' CA) opposite Pluto (16°12' CP) Power struggles among leaders capture

attention. Individuals deal with pressure from those “up the chain of command” from them. There may be a stand-off between caring versus expediency.

JUL 08

Venus (25°11' CA) trine Chiron (25°11' PI) (Part of a Grand Trine with Mars – see 7/06.) The healing power of love cannot be ignored. Partners may try an innovative approach and improvements in relationships are easier to achieve.

JUL 09

Jupiter (17°37' VI) biquintile Uranus (23°37' AR) [before 10/09/15 & 4/10] (Part of a Quintile Triangle 7/02 - 7/04 with Mercury and Eris (which is currently conjunct Uranus – see 6/08 - 6/09) and a larger QT of longer duration – see 6/18.) See 4/10.

JUL 11 (P), JUL 12 (E)

Venus enters Leo [until 8/05] We're generous and dramatic in our affections, as well as loyal and steadfast. All forms of entertainment delight us and some people will yearn for the spotlight and benefit by being in it.

JUL 13

Mercury enters Leo [until 7/30] Our playful side emerges, along with lots of creativity. It's easy to communicate with children and to express joy. People speak dramatically and might be stubborn or self-concerned in their thinking.

JUL 16 - JUL 17

Grand Trine: Sun, Mars, Chiron At the New Moon, Venus was moving into a Grand Trine with the Mars-Chiron trine (exact 7/17). It formed the configuration more precisely 7/06 - 7/08. Now the Sun moves into position to form this pattern. Any Sun-Mars combination stokes our fires, even in Water signs! Emotions drive us now and Chiron signals the objective: doing things differently and better.

JUL 16

Sun (25°0' CA) trine Mars (25°0' SC) We put heart and soul into what we do as we aim to make a difference. We aren't afraid to take the lead and pour on the steam.

JUL 16 (P), 17 (E)

Ceres enters Taurus [until 10/13; again 2/04/17 until 4/29/17] (This is a 2-part visit since Ceres goes Retrograde here 8/31.) The planet of fertility in the sign of earthly delights is perfect for projects and investments to flower. Creative (and procreative) urges are strong. Get your hands in the dirt, on some art materials or even on someone else's body.

JUL 16 (P), 17 (E)

Sun (25°4' CA) trine Chiron (25°4' PI) A caring touch goes a long way toward improving any situation, especially if it comes to the aid of those in need. When we pass good energy along, it circles around back to us. The healer is healed.

JUL 17

Mars (25°4' SC) trine Chiron (25°4' PI) Helping someone else makes us feel good about ourselves. We take pro-active steps to effect repairs, whether in the emotional or physical realm.

JUL 19

Eris (23°38' AR) turns Retrograde [Direct since 1/10; Retrograde until 1/09/17] When Eris is Retrograde, we can learn by looking into how we undermine our own efforts or bring disorder into our lives. When it's Direct, we're more likely to notice how disruption comes from sources beyond ourselves.

JUL 19

Full Moon (27°40' CP) A Full Moon often signals an end; this one definitely does, with the Moon turning Void after its opposition to the Sun. The hubbub takes place in the days and hours leading up to the Full Moon and crests ahead of it. The Sun's in a Grand Trine with Mars and Chiron (see 7/16 - 7/17), which the Moon expands into a Kite now. It brings some grounding (probably not enough) to the highly emotional Water-sign configuration. The Moon also turns the Sun's squares to Eris (7/15) and Uranus (7/16) into a T-square, possibly stopping some people from flying off the handle. Here we have one of the best formations possible coinciding with one of the toughest. The Moon rules Cancer, the Sun's current sign, and both are associated with feelings. As always, the Cancer Sun period has its Full Moon in the opposite sign, Capricorn, the most thick-skinned of signs, creating a natural tension between trying to hold back feelings and letting them flow. The Water Grand Trine turns the faucet on fully and the Capricorn Moon can't contain the outpouring. The Uranus-Eris duo channels the stream in some unusual or unlikely way and the energy is all the more volatile with Eris on station (see above). Perhaps there's a sudden outburst. At least, that can clear the air. Releasing genuine feelings (even if they're angry) facilitates healing.

JUL 22

Sun enters Leo [until 8/22] Fun and innovation take center stage, whether with children or by letting our inner child out to play. Romance and risk-taking are appealing. Go after your heart's desires with unwavering determination.

JUL 29

Uranus (24°30' AR) turns Retrograde [Direct since 12/25/15; Retrograde until 12/29/16] Benefits come from re-assessing friendships and group affiliations to see whether they promote or hinder one's individuality. There is an increased need to be more authentic or to develop uniqueness. We re-examine ways to do this.

JUL 30

Mercury enters Virgo [until 10/7, going Retrograde here] As you pay close attention to your work, don't get lost in details. Those who tend to be conscientious about serving others might put themselves on the back burner. Health is on our minds.

AUGUST

AUG 02

Mars re-enters Sagittarius [until 9/27; here before 3/05 - 5/27] See 3/05. After 8/22, Mars enters a portion of Sagittarius that it has not recently occupied and we'll have a sense of new adventures and possibilities.

AUG 02

New Moon (10°58' LE) The Moon and Sun have only three tight aspects and are in no official formations at this New Moon. They are quincunx Neptune and trine Saturn, somewhat aggravating the square between these two (exact 6/17 and again 9/10, now more than 1-1/2° in orb). The sense of purpose associated with the Sun and its sign, Leo, are somewhat undermined by the quincunx with Neptune in Pisces and its laissez-faire and laid back approach. The trine to Saturn, urging us to step up to the plate, may be able to compensate for whatever is lacking in motivation from Neptune. (Their square does promote an internal conflict about avoiding responsibilities.) Mercury forms a wide T-square with Saturn and Neptune at the New Moon (one that will not be repeated in its upcoming Retrograde cycle). This brings attention to the matters of the square as Mercury makes its exact squares to Saturn (on 8/06) and to Neptune (on 8/07). The other aspect the Sun and Moon make now is a sesquiquadrate with Chiron, pointing to a need for some kind of healing in regard to a matter of ego or getting one's way.

AUG 03 (P), AUG 04 (E)

Mars (0°33' SG) semisquare Pluto (15°33' CP) [before 3/11 & 5/20 (P), 5/21 (E)] See 3/11.

AUG 05

Venus enters Virgo [until 8/29] Social niceties and etiquette are important. Appreciate refinement and when care is given to details. Try to avoid being critical in relationships. Be selective in accepting social invitations, choosy about partners or friends, and careful in finances.

AUG 05 - AUG 07

Finger of God: Sun, South Node, Pluto (The Pluto-South Node sextile was exact 6/16 and is moving out of range but still only about 1-1/2° from exact, thus the Sun can connect to each component within 2 days.) The South Node is a place of releasing what holds us back from our progress. Pluto is also a force for elimination. The Sun represents will power and determination. This combination is helpful for taking the reins and forging ahead, free and clear of prior obstructions. Since it's a Finger of God, the way this comes about may be a little strange and round-about. See next two entries.

AUG 05

Sun (14°3' LE) quincunx South Node (14°3' PI) Awareness helps lead to action and this aspect helps bring it from either, or both, the conscious and subconscious levels. Being compassionate to oneself permits forgiveness of mistakes or frailties.

AUG 07

Sun (15°29' LE) quincunx Pluto (15°29' CP) We might be more interested in receiving praise than taking responsibility. Rising to meet one's obligations or fate breeds respect.

AUG 08 (P), AUG 09 (E)

Jupiter (23°36' VI) quincunx Eris (23°36' AR) (Part of a Finger of God with Mercury, Uranus and the Moon at the Full Moon on 8/18) The magnanimous side of Jupiter is not easily blended with Eris's self-interest. The mismatch of Virgo and Aries points to incompatible approaches: Virgo is methodical; Aries glosses past the small points. A positive expression of this combination is using fearless assertiveness to accomplish goals, whether in one's work or in service to others.

AUG 09

Chiron (24°27' PI) semisextile Uranus (24°27' AR) [see Long-term Influences; before 15 times 2009-2015, most recently 11/25/15; again 12/10 & 9 more times 2017 - 2021] (The semisextile is called a minor aspect but this one plays a big role in mitigating difficult links for Uranus over two decades. For instance, as Uranus was in its square with Pluto 2012 - 2015, Chiron was sextile Pluto, quite tightly most of the time and at least loosely. When Uranus receives a nice aspect, Chiron sometimes does as well, though it may receive a hard aspect. Jupiter is opposite Chiron 8/12 and quincunx Uranus 8/13. This is one of the tougher types of simultaneous aspects Chiron and Uranus will have in their semisextile. A fourth planet can join in the inter-aspects, as the Sun does 8/16 - 8/17, when it's quincunx Chiron, trine Uranus and semisextile Jupiter. The Sun takes the sting out of the Jupiter-Chiron opposition by means of the lowly semisextile.) Unusual situations present opportunities to make improvements. Healing comes about in surprising ways.

AUG 10

Mercury (15°25' VI) trine Pluto (15°25' CP) [again 9/20 & 9/23, on either side of Mercury's Direct station 9/22] (Mercury has extra power when it's in the sign it rules, Virgo. However, it's heading into a Retrograde, which is more problematic when it takes place in a Mercury-ruled sign. Fortunately, this is a positive aspect that it makes three times.) The power of thought to bring about change is demonstrated. Words are forceful and used for good. We may focus like a laser beam on what needs to be eliminated or transformed. This is an excellent indication for research or handling confidential matters.

AUG 12

Jupiter (24°20' VI) opposite Chiron (24°20' PI) [before 11/03/15 & 2/23/16] On its own, this aspect could mean we go too far in trying to help and over-do or dilute our efforts by spreading ourselves too thin. Because this occurs interlinked with other aspects, the influences are channeled into a better expression. The involvement of Uranus indicates an extraordinary manner of providing assistance, or it could simply mean aiding the masses. The Sun brings creativity and/or leadership into the process (see 8/16 - 8/17).

AUG 13

Jupiter (24°25' VI) quincunx Uranus (24°25' AR) [before 11/05/15 & 3/06/16] (This

time, these two are part of a Finger of God at the 8/18 Full Moon – see that entry. They also combine with Chiron and the Sun in a trapezoid-shaped pattern that has no formal name – see entry immediately above and 8/09.) See 3/06.

AUG 13

Saturn (9°47' SG) turns Direct [Retrograde since 3/25; Direct until 4/06/17] Putting things into clear form and understanding the rules of the game are easier when Saturn is Direct. People are better at responding to external authority and conforming to objective standards, relying less on personal judgments.

AUG 16

Sun (24°12' LE) quincunx Chiron (24°12' PI) There's little glory in sacrificing oneself for the sake of others but that's what is called for here, maybe along with some humility.

AUG 16

Sun (24°22' LE) trine Uranus (24°22' AR) One's best unique traits are on display and are used in positive ways.

AUG 17

Sun (25°18' LE) semisextile Jupiter (25° 18' VI) We put a lot of heart into helping and do things in ways to have a maximum effect. (See 8/09 & 8/12, above.)

AUG 18

Mercury (23°33' VI) quincunx Eris (23°33' AR) [again 9/10 & 10/02] (See Full Moon, below.) Some people register complaints or express dissatisfaction in an abrasive way. Others find they can be more assertive than usual in stating what assistance they need or can offer.

AUG 18

FULL MOON (25°52' AQ) The Sun is at the height of its power in Leo and would ordinarily wield more weight than the Aquarius Moon. However, the Moon is part of the most important feature at this Full Moon, a Finger of God it creates via quincunxes to Mercury and Jupiter in Virgo and Eris and Uranus in Aries. (The non-lunar components spread out over ten days from 8/09 - 8/19 and the Moon joins them together now.) The Moon in Aquarius tunes us in to our bond with the family of mankind and sparks our desire to care for all people. The ruling planet of Aquarius is Uranus, now in self-oriented Aries with autonomous Eris. The Moon's sextile with them doesn't necessarily entreat us to abandon personal pursuits for the sake of the greater whole, but it may show a way for individuals to make their unique contributions to a common cause. Mercury and Jupiter in Virgo lend a strong work ethic and desire to be of help. In their quincunxes with the Aquarius Moon and Aries duo, the Virgo twosome can slow down progress due to their attention to detail. They are at the apex of the triangle and thus show where the humanitarian input from the Moon and Uranus (not so much from Eris) is expressed, namely in widespread service that employs a strong communication functionality. Achieving the connections to provide aid (potentially internationally, with Jupiter involved) comes in a round-about manner because that's how Fingers of God

operate. The Sun's strongest aspects are trines to Eris and Uranus, adding strong will power and creativity to the mix and indicating support from leaders. The Nodes are closing in on Neptune (a little more than 2° apart now) and they give a nudge to the Saturn-Neptune square, creating an imprecise T-square with them. This configuration will be much closer to exact at the Lunar Eclipse Full Moon on 9/16. (See that entry.)

AUG 19

Mercury (24°6' VI) opposite Chiron (24°6' PI) [again 9/10, 10/01] (This is the most challenging of the repeating aspects Mercury makes during its Retrograde cycle.) Words can hurt or heal. At the least, they point to weaknesses that need work.

AUG 19

Mercury (24°19' VI) quincunx Uranus (24°19' AR) [again 9/09 & 10/02] We tend to doubt our intuition and hesitate to jump to conclusions. We want all the facts before we accept a premise or claim.

AUG 21

Mars (8°32' SG) sesquiquadrate Eris (23°32' AR) [before 4/03 & 4/28] See 4/03.

AUG 22 - AUG 29

Conjunctions of Mercury and Venus with Jupiter Slower Jupiter is in the last weeks of its visit to Virgo as speedy Mercury and Venus converge and overtake Jupiter. When the two prime "benefics," Venus and Jupiter, join forces each year, it's generally a good time (see 8/27). This year, Mercury joins the party and since this speed demon is slowing down to turn Retrograde on 8/30, all three are within five degrees of one another for more than a week, including at the 9/01 Solar Eclipse. The part of your chart where the last five degrees of Virgo are located shows area(s) of your life presenting fortuitous opportunities and where conversations regarding such matters will prove advantageous.

AUG 22

Mercury (26°13' VI) conjunct Jupiter (26°13' VI) [again 9/02 & 10/11] (These two were part of a Finger of God with the Moon, Uranus and Eris at the 8/18 Full Moon – see that entry.) We think big with this combo but in Virgo, it might mean a tendency to over-analyze and worry more than usual. We should be able to see both the forest and the trees. This is a repeating aspect in the Mercury Retrograde zigzag and makes us examine some of the big issues in our lives with a second or third look.

AUG 22

Sun enters Virgo [until 9/22] We're patient, polite and humble (except when taking pride in a job well done). Helping comes naturally and great care can be given to all the little things. Most of us shy away from big risks. Watch out for Virgo's down side: analysis leads to paralysis.

AUG 23

Mars (9°16' SG) sesquiquadrate Uranus (24°16' AR) [before 3/18 & 5/05] See 3/18.

An extra wrinkle for this occurrence is Saturn's nearly exact sesquiquadrate with Uranus. (The aspect was exact three times from 2014 to 2015, most recently on 10/22/15. Currently it is less than $1/2^\circ$ from exact but it will not recur.) This feature may quell the outrageous potentials of the Mars and Uranus combinations, as well as making it more work for us to use the best possibilities of their aspect. Mars triggers the Saturn-Neptune square, too, and even though Neptune and Uranus are not in a semisquare, it may feel almost like they are due to Mars connecting to both of them. See 8/24, 8/25 - 8/26 and the Solar Eclipse 9/01.

AUG 24

Mars (9°52' SG) conjunct Saturn (9°52' SG) The ancient astrologers called these two the prime "malefics" (mischief makers; literally, bad-doers). Modern more psychologically-inclined astrologers don't berate them so much. Their conjunction ordinarily means we tend to be more serious about our actions or slow down. However, since they're in upbeat and humorous Sagittarius, this is a lighter variation. In Sagittarius, Mars's energy is all over the place so Saturn helps us channel it with focus. Certainly we'll act on principles and fight for what we believe in.

AUG 25 (P), AUG 26 (E)

Mars (10°49' SG) square Neptune (10°49' PI) Mars pushes us to express our anger or take action, while Neptune inclines us to avoid confrontations and escape responsibilities. We'll see which impulse is stronger. Both are in Mutable signs, which are prone to drifting or getting sidetracked.

AUG 26 (P), AUG 27 (E)

Mars (11°20' SG) biquintile Ceres (5°20' TA) [before 6/09] These two planets are now in different signs than when they formed this aspect in June, when Mars was Retrograde. They were in a fairly tight QT then with Jupiter and now are almost in a QT with Jupiter again (and with Saturn) but the pattern is too stretched out over time and degrees to really qualify.

AUG 27

Venus (27°21' VI) conjunct Jupiter (27°21' VI) This is an annual event, except in years (like 2015) when Venus is Retrograde in Jupiter's neighborhood and passes it three times. It signals a time to open our hearts and wallets with acceptance and generosity. In Virgo, it's an excellent time for creating beautiful handcrafts or useful works of art, as well as for volunteering for charitable organizations.

AUG 29

Mercury (29°0' VI) conjunct Venus (29°0' VI) Our thoughts and conversations center on financial or relationship matters and delve into details. We're cooperative and can negotiate well, although the Virgo location of this conjunction inclines us to be critical. On a more positive note, a very helpful nature also expresses.

AUG 29

Venus enters Libra [until 9/23] Fairness and equality are top values now, and we want

relationships to be on an even keel. People act with more gentility and diplomacy. Romance flourishes.

AUG 30

Mercury (29°5' VI) turns Retrograde [Direct since 5/22; Retrograde until 9/22] This Retrograde takes place entirely in Virgo, one of two signs Mercury rules. Mercury Retrograde is more challenging when it occurs in a Mercury-ruled sign. Since Virgo is an Earth sign, we'll pay attention to a lot of practical matters and deal with objects. Virgo likes cleanliness, making this a good period for a full-blown tidying of your residence and/or office, streamlining for greater efficiency. If you're worried you'll be sorry you threw something out, set discards aside in a box for a couple months and if you still don't need them after the shadow is over, then out they go!

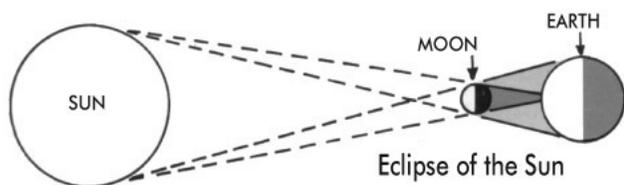
AUG 30

Jupiter (28°1' VI) quintile Saturn (10°1') The normal big versus small and forest versus trees dilemmas are a bit mixed up with this blend. Jupiter represents the wide-angled view but it's narrowly focused Virgo. Saturn, the constrictive influence, is in broad-based Sagittarius. But the aspect is not one of conflict; rather, it indicates a talent. So we're able to zoom in and out on situations and understand how everything fits together. We can utilize the higher principles shown by Saturn in Sagittarius via performing service (ruled by Virgo) in a big way (as is Jupiter's inclination).

AUG 31

Ceres (5°24' TA) turns Retrograde [Direct since 9/14/15; Retrograde until 12/09] Nurture yourself instead of looking to others for your care and emotional support. This is a good time to review your finances or insurance coverage with an eye toward making improvements.

SEPTEMBER



SEP 01

Solar Eclipse New Moon (9°21' VI) An Eclipse only occurs when a New or Full Moon is close to the Nodes. In this case, the North Node in Virgo is a little more than 3° from the luminaries, entreating us to work on our flaws to achieve greater perfection. Across from them, the South Node is only 2° from Neptune, inciting us to release our fears. Saturn is about to square Neptune for the final time (9/10) and has just been passed by Mars (8/24), which squared Neptune 8/25 - 8/26. The Nodes were square Mars 8/29 and will square Saturn on 9/26. Altogether, these aspects create a powerful T-square in Mutable signs, bearing some similarity to the Solar Eclipse on 3/08. (The Nodes will be in an even more precise T-square with Saturn and Neptune at the Lunar Eclipse in two

weeks.) We'll find it hard in the following four-week cycle to stick to any one path. Frustrations with past choices or future prospects spur us to turn in a different direction but we should be careful not to go too far. Mars is **out of bounds** currently and we could easily approach extremes. Further challenges come from Uranus, which is only 1° past its sesquiquadrate to Saturn (which was precise last year). Uranus is moving into a semisquare with Neptune (1-1/2° from exact) and the Moon and Sun connect to all three. Uranus introduces an unpredictability that upsets Saturn's need for control, Neptune's faith and the Moon's sense of security. On either side of the Eclipse, the Sun is sesquiquadrate Uranus (8/31), square Saturn (9/01) and opposite Neptune (9/02), leading our self-assurance to wobble or making us question our sense of purpose. After the Nodes and the Sun are conjunct on 9/04, we'll have a better idea of our adjusted heading. Still, major decisions might be best postponed until Mercury resumes Direct motion. The saving grace is Pluto in a loose trine to the Moon, Sun and North Node and sextile the South Node. In Capricorn, it provides some badly needed focus and in its role as the transformer, helps us move through the ups and downs, seeing them as part of the process of evolving.

SEP 02

Mercury (28°34' VI) conjunct Jupiter (28°34' VI) [before 8/22; again 10/11] See 8/22.

SEP 09

Jupiter enters Libra [until 10/10/17] Relationships are mirrors where we see our projections reflected back to us. They aid our growth process now. Some people will experience an overabundance of relationships or full social calendars while others will have one intense relationship that opens up a whole new world for them. Jupiter is a planet related to laws and Libra is the sign of justice, stressing these themes for the next year. Diplomacy is natural to Libra while Jupiter is associated with foreign places; international relations are in the spotlight. This is especially important 9/09 - 9/13 while Jupiter is at the zero degree of Libra, a sensitive point with the potential for far-reaching impact. There may be important news, especially concerning international waters or water rights since the Saturn-Neptune square occurs during this period (see 9/10). Saturn governs rules and Neptune is associated with the ocean, bringing up the issue of the laws of the sea.

SEP 10

Mercury (23°8' VI) opposite Chiron (23°8' PI) [before 8/19; again 10/1] See 8/19.

SEP 10

Saturn (10°24' SG) square Neptune (10°24' PI) [before 11/26/15 & 6/17/16] See 6/17. The main variation on the themes of the earlier occurrences of this aspect is the connection Uranus makes to Saturn and Neptune (see the 9/01 Eclipse entry).

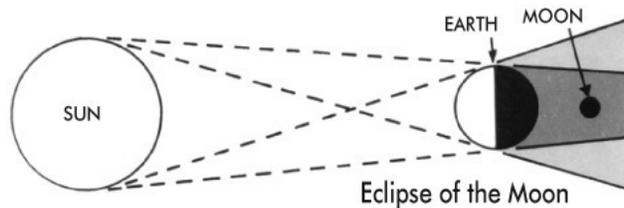
SEP 15 - SEP 21

Quintile Triangle: Sun, Ceres & Saturn The Ceres-Saturn aspect on 9/15 sets the stage for the quicker Sun to aspect both of them 9/20 - 9/21. The harmonious alignment of this trio stokes the fires of confidence and brings respect for one's knowledge and

support for one's creativity, possibly in a monetary form.

SEP 15

Ceres (4°39' TA) biquintile Saturn (10°39' SG) We take good care of our things and valuables. An investment related to learning is wise.



SEP 16

Lunar Eclipse Full Moon (24°20' PI) For anyone who hasn't learned the lessons of Mutable T-squares yet, there are two at this eclipse to give you another chance. Of course, one features the current Saturn-Neptune square, which the Nodes are converging on. The Nodes are exactly square Saturn 9/26 but it will take a while (until 11/03) for the Nodes to be precisely square Neptune since like the Nodes, it is also in Retrograde motion now. Saturn can help us carefully plan and schedule our steps to reduce the amount of drifting that the Mutual impulse promotes. Though the Moon and Sun are more than 12° from the Nodes, the Moon's sign shows which Node is more strongly featured: the South Node in Pisces. It takes a lot of effort to fight the urge to avoid what is difficult. The other T-square is formed by the Moon less than 2° from Chiron with the Sun opposite them and all three square Mars, which is **out of bounds**. Flare-ups of anger, impatience or selfishness upset situations where people are trying to be of service or do their work. Our sympathies lie with those in need and this may interfere with what is in our own interests. With Mars trine Uranus, we're drawn to unusual activities. Another expression of this connection is doing things in groups or with friends. Venus is nearly opposite Uranus and is sextile Mars, pointing to involvement with those of the opposite gender. However, a significant other may be unavailable or busy with his or her acquaintances. Eris is closely conjunct Uranus and participates in the aspects with Mars and Venus, suggesting there may be love triangles or that we enjoy competition. Experimental risks could pay off.

SEP 20

Sun (28°6' VI) biquintile Ceres (4°6' TA) Now is the harvest time of year and this aspect is perfectly in keeping with the theme, indicating fruitful bounty from our efforts. A talent for stretching a dollar and being efficient adds to profit. "Waste not, want not." In personal relations, we are more apt to give and receive support than criticism.

SEP 20

Mercury (14°56' VI) trine Pluto (14°56' CP) [before 8/10; again 9/23] See 8/10.

SEP 21

Sun (28°59' VI) quintile Saturn (10°59' SG) Take care of the little things and the big

things will take care of themselves. Work-related matters get a lift from this aspect. They need it, considering that Mercury is at a standstill (see next entry) and all the day's other aspects are harsh.

SEP 21 (P), SEP 22 (E)

Mercury (14°49' VI) turns Direct [Retrograde since 8/30; Direct until 12/19] Communication suffers for a few days around the stations (stopping points) of Mercury. You may be waiting for a call back, return email or piece of regular postal mail longer than you think should be necessary.

SEP 22

Autumn Equinox (see **Seasonal Synopses**), **Sun enters Libra** [until 10/22] Relationships are foremost on our radar screen. Social obligations keep us busy, to the detriment of personal objectives. Seek balance in your life and harmony in your soul.

SEP 23

Mercury (14°55' VI) trine Pluto (14°55' CP) [before 8/10 & 9/20] See 8/10.

SEP 23

Venus enters Scorpio [until 10/18] Your level of passion increases for people and things you desire. Any insecurity you might have about love or money is more likely to surface now. Extremes are possible in fashion or spending; this is not when you stick to the middle road.

SEP 25

Uranus (23°16' AR) conjunct Eris (23°16' AR) [before 6/08 (P), 6/09 (E); again 3/17/17] See 6/08 - 6/09.

SEP 26

North Node (11°19' VI) & South Node (11°19' PI) square Saturn (11°19' SG) This is a time to modify objectives and assess what help is needed to achieve them, shifting gears if necessary. We're pressured not to take the easy way out and motivated to face hard realities.

SEP 26

Pluto (14°56' CP) turns Direct [Retrograde since 4/18; Direct until 4/20/17] Financial matters involving more than one person's money (banking, investments, insurance, inheritance, grants, etc.) function more smoothly when Pluto is Direct. Examine motives in order to better understand the foundation of situations. It should be easier to proceed with letting go of what's outworn in our lives.

SEP 27

Mars enters Capricorn [until 11/08 (P), 11/09 (E)] It's time to get organized and focus on achievement. Ambitions and concentration help us reach our objectives. It's easy to be pragmatic and practice patience.

SEP 27

Venus (5°6' SC) semisextile Sun (5°6' LI) [again 3/03/17] (See comments on 2/07.) Venus rules the sign the Sun now occupies. If Libra's scales are tipped, the Scorpion's stinger might come out. This aspect generally indicates harmony or moderation, though. So instead of experiencing extremes, perhaps we'll journey below the smooth surface favored by Libra to plumb Scorpio's depths and secrets.

SEP 30

New Moon (8°16' LI) Libra is the sign of relationships, enhancing our focus on these in the month ahead. It's ruled by Venus, currently in Scorpio and semisextile the Sun (see 9/27). Venus as the Evening Star encourages us to believe in romance but it's not so lovey-dovey in Scorpio, spoiled by insecurity about being loved or extremes of affection instead of balanced feelings. Because it's close to the degree where the 10/30 New Moon occurs, Venus-related events in this lunar cycle will play out further in the next one. Venus in the sign ruled by Pluto approaches a sextile to Pluto (exact 10/05), both conditions indicating a time to purge liaisons that have served their purpose. Saturn occupies their midpoint, though, putting a roadblock in the way or at least slowing down the process. In addition, Venus is trine Neptune (exact 10/01), so there may be trust issues between partners or teammates. Mars (still **out of bounds**) is trine Ceres exactly, showing we're willing to expend energy to grow assets or have something tangible to show for our efforts. In the sign Mars rules, Aries, the ongoing conjunction of Uranus and Eris is very tight (see 9/25). The T-square (in effect since early August) between Neptune, the Nodes and Saturn, now has the Nodes less than 1° from an exact square to Saturn. (See 9/26 and autumn in **Seasonal Synopses**. Note: Mercury has now left the pattern.) The Moon and Sun play into the Saturn-Neptune square via a sextile to Saturn and a quincunx to Neptune. This adds complexity to relationships; we know we should honor commitments but wish we could escape their burdens. Both Saturn and Neptune are planets associated with karma. Any misdeeds now between lovers are likely to have consequences.

OCTOBER

OCT 01

Mercury (22°10' VI) opposite Chiron (22°10' PI) [before 8/19 & 9/10] See 8/19.

OCT 02

Mercury (23°1' VI) quincunx Uranus (23°1' AR) (The Moon makes a brief Finger of God with these two the afternoon of 10/04, which is a good time to use research in novel ways.) See 8/19.

OCT 07

Mercury enters Libra [until 10/24] Fairness is on our minds. Social conversation is easy, aimed at keeping the peace by using negotiating skills. We're easily able to conceptualize and understand abstractions and we enjoy a lively debate.

OCT 11

Mercury (6°52' LI) conjunct Jupiter (6°52' LI) [before 8/22 & 9/02] (Although Mercury has left its Retrograde range, this aspect occurred twice during that cycle. Both planets have now entered different signs.) Brilliant thinking and bright conversations enrich collaboration. Partners or teammates open up and share ideas. Traveling in pairs, whether local or long distance, is fortuitous, as is striking alliances with foreigners.

OCT 13

Ceres re-enters Aries [until 2/04/17; before 4/14 - 7/16 (P), 7/17 (E)] See 4/14.

OCT 15 (P), OCT 16 (E)

Full Moon (23°14' AR) When the Sun is in Libra, the sign of the significant other, the Full Moon is in the opposite sign, Aries, the sign of oneself. This emphasizes the perennial "I-Thou conflict" that is a central theme in relationships. The scales definitely tip now toward the self-oriented side since the Moon in Aries is fortified by independent Uranus (a little over a degree away) and autonomous Eris (only 1/6 of a degree away). This is the first of seven Full Moons at 22° +/- 1°, all within 2° of aspecting Uranus and within 1° of aspecting Eris. What an intense period this will be! The Lunar Eclipse on 9/16 was at the edge of the degree range for this Moon Groove, although the Moon and Sun were not in strong aspects with the Aries pair (semisextile and quincunx). This Full Moon packs such a wallop that it really is the kick-off for the roller coaster period of discord and rapid shifts that concludes with the 4/11/17 Full Moon at 21°33' Libra, opposite Uranus and Eris. (The Sun will be in Aries conjunct these volatile planets.) Many partnerships will go through a shake-up; not all will survive. With the dwarf planet Ceres in the neighborhood of Uranus and Eris throughout this Groove, a key factor in relationship health will be how nurturing and supportive mates are to one another. Ceres is currently 6° away, but it's Retrograde and conjuncts Eris twice more in the coming months (see 11/17 & 12/31). It comes within 1° of a conjunction to Uranus for a month, 11/22 - 12/21. A turning point is likely to come around the 1/12/17 Full Moon in Cancer, when the Moon and Sun form a T-square with the Aries trio. It would be smart for anyone in a serious relationship to look within and examine what he or she wants for himself or herself within the context of the union, realizing that some level of compromise is necessary to get along with a partner. Mars, ruler of Aries, is nearly conjunct Pluto at this Full Moon (see 10/19), signaling a time to either transform self-interest or to let go of selfishness. If an argument arises, it may clear the air and help bring about change. Mars is also in a tight semisquare with Venus (exact the same day as the Full Moon), disturbing harmony and increasing the probability of spats. The genders don't see eye to eye.

OCT 18

Venus enters Sagittarius [until 11/11] We're optimistic about romance and anticipate better possibilities in social and/or financial matters. Connecting with people far and wide, whether in person or via mail, phone or the internet, is enjoyable.

OCT 19

Mars (15°3' CP) conjunct Pluto (15°3' CP) We push toward our goals with strength and determination. The urge to do something constructive is irresistible. We're able to

make needed changes.

OCT 20 - OCT 22

Sun, Ceres and Saturn in a tough triangle (with no particular name) composed of hard aspects (see below). The Libra Sun usually fosters friendly cooperation, however in this combination there may be strings or conditions attached or a feeling of kowtowing to someone up the ladder.

OCT 20

Ceres (28°17' AR) sesquiquadrate Saturn (13°17' SG) [before 7/01] (At the prior occurrence, these two combined with Neptune in a tough triangle. This time around, the Sun does that honor, which is less stressful than when Neptune was involved.) See 7/01.

OCT 20 (P), OCT 21 (E)

Sun (28 24' LI) opposite Ceres (28 24' AR) A personal agenda interferes with providing backing to another person. Caretaking is more likely seen as an imposition rather than a joy or an honor.

OCT 22

Sun (28°19' LI) semisquare Saturn (13°19' SG) Pride fuels achievement but at the expense of fun. We may feel thwarted in our expression if we have to conform to restrictive parameters.

OCT 22

Sun enters Scorpio [until 11/21] For the next four weeks, try to change your life in some way, applying will power and intention to move past blocks and obstacles. Begin a new chapter with a greater sense of control. Tenacity won't let anything get the better of you.

OCT 23

Mercury (27°42' LI) opposite Ceres (27°42' AR) It's difficult to find the right words to convey support. People may not be interested in someone else's opinion or input anyway.

OCT 23

Jupiter (9°27' LI) quincunx Neptune (9°27' PI) (See Venus aspects to these two on 10/25 - 10/26 below.) Problems arise when something is nebulous and hard to pin down or so big you can't take it in all at once. The way forward is unclear or obscured by fears or fantasies.

OCT 23

Mercury (28°35' LI) semisquare Saturn (13°35' SG) Cat got your tongue? We try to be so careful to say just the right thing that we stymie the flow of conversation.

OCT 24

Mercury enters Scorpio [until 11/12] Our minds may be on survival matters, finances, sex or reproduction, and our thinking is affected by deep feelings. We have a sharp understanding of motives (including our own) and what makes people tick.

OCT 25

Venus (9°24' SG) square Neptune (9°24' PI) Money seems to run through our fingers or resources are spread so thin they become too diluted to be of much use. In love, dissembling or outright deception leads to distrust.

OCT 26

Venus (9°45' SG) square North Node (9°45' VI) & South Node (9°45' PI) Some people may experience a shift in relationships, gravitating more toward letting things slide rather than doing the work required to maintain harmony and cooperation. Others are drawn into connections where it seems that karma is playing out with matters beyond one's control that seem destined.

OCT 25

Venus (10°5' SG) sextile Jupiter (10°5' PI) An optimistic outlook on love and/or finances lifts spirits. Social interactions are enjoyable. Life is good.

OCT 30

New Moon (7°44' SC) The Moon and Sun are together with Mercury and all three are sextile the North Node and trine the South Node and Neptune, which are tightly conjunct (see 11/03). We seek answers and direction. We look within ourselves, delve into inspirational texts or pray to a Higher Power as we try to adjust our heading. The conjunction between Ceres and Eris is widening as both square Mars and all three are sesquiquadrate the North Node in a nameless hard-aspect triangle. This pushes us toward efficiency with a feeling of "let's get down to business and get this over with as quickly as possible." There's little joy in our work. But we can make improvements and offer meaningful assistance with Mars sextile Chiron. The Chiron-Uranus semisextile softens the square between Mars and Uranus. If injury results from klutziness or sudden movements, at least the impact will be mitigated or healing will come easily. Relationships and finances may experience extremes during this lunar cycle and the next since their overseer, Venus, is **out of bounds**.

NOVEMBER

NOV 03

South Node (9°19' PI) conjunct Neptune (9°19' PI) & North Node (9°19' VI) opposite Neptune Worries are a trap from which we now want to escape. This is a time for our dreams to propel us toward our goals. We may feel as if we are doing our spiritual work. (This axis is part of T-squares in Mutable signs throughout the fall – see Autumn in **Seasonal Synopses**, as well as the 9/16 Lunar Eclipse Full Moon and 9/30 New Moon.)

NOV 08 (P), NOV 09 (E)

Mars enters Aquarius [until 12/19] (See **Mutual Receptions**.) You're likely to act on what you "know" to be true (even if it's just your own opinion). Take a stand for a friend or for humanity's sake, or serve in a leadership position in a group to which you belong.

NOV 10

Saturn (15°25' SG) semisextile Pluto (15°25' CP) [This occurs only once.] Put structure(s) in place, even if loosely, to move toward achieving objectives. With a little effort, you can get around confining boundaries or bend restrictive rules.

NOV 11

Venus enters Capricorn [until 12/07] This is a time to clarify what your most important values are, as well as organize finances and straighten out any kinks in your social life or relationships. You're more likely to be practical than sentimental and consider the impact of decisions in the long-run.

NOV 12

Mercury enters Sagittarius [until 12/02; again 1/04/17 - 1/12/17; this visit occurs in two parts because Mercury returns here when Retrograde] Minds are quick and intuition is strong, though our attention span may be shorter than usual. Reading and learning (perhaps a new language) are appealing. This doesn't have to mean books and the library; the internet is a rich source of information.

NOV 14

Full Moon (22°38' TA) The Sun is in Scorpio, a sign of deep feelings that could flood or drown us, especially at an emotional peak like a Full Moon. Fortunately, the opposite sign (in which the Full Moon occurs) is Taurus, where the Moon is said to be "exalted" (operating in a very positive way). This Earth sign keeps our feet on the ground and guides us to be practical and bear our values strongly in mind. A healing is going on since the Moon is sextile and the Sun is trine Chiron in Pisces. We seek solutions and think outside the box. Mercury in Sagittarius Mercury is sextile Mars in Aquarius. These are both forward-leaning signs and their combination lends us a broad view and inspires inventiveness. The Sun is still loosely in a quick Quintile Triangle with Mars and the North Node that was exact 11/11 - 11/12 (not described above). This builds rapport between leadership and the rank and file. Friends work well together on creative projects. Venus is still out of bounds (see comments at 10/30 Full Moon).

NOV 17

Ceres (22°46' AR) conjunct Eris (22°46' AR) [before 6/21; again 12/31] See **Long-term Influences** and 6/21.

NOV 19

Neptune (9°14' PI) turns Direct [Retrograde since 6/13; Direct until 6/15/17] After months of turning to ourselves for spiritual guidance, we incorporate input from others in matters of faith. We find it easier to trust people when Neptune is Direct.

NOV 21

Sun enters Sagittarius [until 12/21] The sky's the limit! Stretch yourself upward and onward. It's a good time for travel, study, law, journalism, contact with those at a distance or anything that increases our knowledge and understanding.

NOV 21

Jupiter (15°14' LI) biquintile Neptune (9°14' PI) (This aspect is not part of a Quintile Triangle right now but neither of these planets will have moved much by the end of the month when Mercury makes a QT with them. We need this beneficial energy to counteract some difficult combinations – see the next entry.) A generous spirit and open heart move us to assist those in need or contribute to charitable organizations. We'd love an escape or adventure, especially if it includes the ocean. If this isn't feasible, a virtual substitute might suffice, such as a travelogue, movie or book that transports us to another realm. Reading spiritual works is inspiring and revealing.

NOV 21 - NOV 25

As the Sun enters Sagittarius, the sign's ruling planet, Jupiter, takes center stage. It's moving into position to square Pluto (exact 11/24) as the Sun comes halfway between them, semisquare to each (11/21 - 11/22). Venus joins Pluto and is square to Jupiter (11/25). The Sun and Venus are roughly semisquare for several weeks surrounding that exact aspect on 12/14. (There's no official name for such a triangle – maybe it should be called "semi-tough" in honor of the semisquares.) This mixture forces reality down one's throat and it's hard to swallow it. We assess what's most important to us as we prioritize in order to use limited resources to best advantage. It would be easier if we didn't have to take others into consideration but we do. Jupiter's position in indecisive Libra makes it harder to commit to a plan of action. However, we benefit from clear thinking and offer reliable input as Mercury sextiles Jupiter and semisextiles Pluto on 11/22 and then joins Saturn on 11/23. From this point through the first ten days or so of January, Jupiter forms a Cardinal T-square with Uranus and Pluto (even though these two are not precisely square – see **Long-term Influences**). At times, Jupiter is closer to an exact square to Pluto (see 11/24, below). Other times, it's closer to an exact opposition to Uranus (see 12/26, below).

NOV 21

Sun (0°16' SG) semisquare Jupiter (15°16' LI) Confidence dips, especially if a significant other is disparaging. If we've set too big a task for ourselves, we tend to put it off.

NOV 22

Sun (0°42' SG) semisquare Pluto (15°42' CP) We need will power and perseverance to stay on track. There are distractions or we may be overburdened with too much to do.

NOV 22

Mercury (15°43' SG) semisextile Pluto (15°43' CP) The wisdom of maturity comes to our aid. Youngsters who haven't earned their degree from the "school of hard knocks" can tap into the well of knowledge of elders or experts.

NOV 22

Mercury (15°23' SG) sextile Jupiter (15°23' LI) A circumspect approach yields best results. With eyes wide open, our vision stretches in all directions. We maintain optimism no matter what the challenges.

NOV 23

Mercury (16°53' SG) conjunct Saturn (16°53' SG) Facts don't lie but people might twist them and if they do, we see right through the ruse. We're able to put on blinders and focus on one thing at a time. This isn't always the case when Mercury is in Sagittarius. Thank Saturn's proclivity for concentration and setting limits.

NOV 24

Jupiter (15°46' LI) square Pluto (15°46' CP) [again 3/30/17 & 8/04/17] Too much is too much! We need to restore order and balance. Of course, this doesn't happen with a simple snap of one's fingers, though sudden circumstances could drive home the necessity for change. We need to commit to prolonged effort. It's challenging to triumph over a tendency to procrastinate. Something must be eliminated in a big way. (See comments for 11/21 - 11/25, above, regarding Jupiter.)

NOV 25

Venus activates Jupiter-Pluto square Just as the slow, long-term Jupiter-Pluto square commences (see 11/24, above), Venus dances by Pluto. This instigates a brief mini-crisis requiring a decision about finances or a relationship. Something or someone needs a breath of new life or to be put out of misery.

NOV 25

Venus (15°47' CP) conjunct Pluto (15°47' CP) Affections are strong and run deep but commitments may be going through changes. New circumstances enter into existing relationships, shifting how power is shared. Regarding possessions, this is a good time to throw out what's no longer useful or to renovate what's in disrepair.

NOV 25

Venus (15°53' CP) square Jupiter (15°53' LI) Imbalances in partnerships lead us to consider alternative approaches. Disagreements, especially about finances, arise but are handled maturely. Still, a feeling of unfairness is hard to shake.

NOV 26

Mercury connects to Chiron-Uranus semisextile Chiron is semisextile Uranus again on 12/10. They're close enough to that aspect now to receive nearly simultaneous aspects on the same day from quick Mercury. A bit of painful news can be turned into inspiration and bring about a healing. Ingenuity and intuition provide answers.

NOV 26

Mercury (20°40' SG) square Chiron (20°40' PI) Talking through a problem reveals potential solutions but only after weaknesses are exposed and dissected. A superficial glossing over of difficulties might leave a situation worse off.

NOV 26

Mercury (21°0' SG) trine Uranus (21°0' AR) Conversations are witty and take quick turns, bringing up bright ideas. This is an excellent aspect for learning or teaching, especially anything high tech or metaphysical, including astrology.

NOV 29

New Moon (7°43' SG) A planet halfway between the North and South Nodes (which are always opposite) is said to be “at the bendings” and represents a turning point. The Sun occupies this position twice a year, rarely at a New Moon! This adds punch to the process of the shift. The Sun is receding from the North Node, where we approach what is difficult, and approaching the South Node, where we get rid of what holds us back. Since the South Node is traveling with Neptune this fall, what we need to chuck is fear and insecurity. The key feature of the Sagittarius New Moon is the T-square the Moon and Sun make with Neptune and the Nodes. The coming four weeks are an ideal time to re-orient ourselves with a new vision. Sagittarius gives us the hope to go after it. Work on it for three months and it will get a big boost around the time of the Solar Eclipse New Moon on 2/28/17. (Neptune and the South Node are a degree from where that occurs.) Ceres is re-joining Uranus and Eris in Aries (see **Long-term Influences**) as this trio receives a square from Venus and a trine from Mercury. Such a blend gives us some kooky ideas that aren't very practical; it's not the right time to plant crazy seeds. We're inclined to be careful about expenditures anyway with Venus still close to Pluto in Capricorn. But the T-square they make with Jupiter and Uranus could signal a sudden, unplanned expense and it might be a whopper since Venus is in the extreme condition called **out of bounds**. Be careful making decisions because Mercury is out of bounds, too.

NOV 30 - Dec 01

Quintile Triangle: Mercury, Jupiter, Neptune (See 11/21, above.) In this fantastic combination, expansive ideas and imagination merge with good communication and cooperation to make magic possible. Coinciding with Mars trine Jupiter (see 12/01) and coming in the waxing lunar phase, this should be an ideal time to start a large, collaborative creative project. However, challenging aspects involving Venus and the Sun this week mean the financial prospects of ventures begun now are not optimal. At least, avoid sinking money into it at this point.

NOV 30

Mercury (27°16' SG) quintile Neptune (9°16' PI) Hopes might be unrealistic but that doesn't mean they can't provide inspiration. Reaching out to those at a distance who could use help or sympathy is a natural now; you'll know just what to say.

DECEMBER

DEC 01 - DEC 03

Mars, Jupiter & Saturn mini-triangle (Although Jupiter is not exactly sextile Saturn and won't be until 8/27/17, they are within a degree of this aspect now as Mars is first

trine Jupiter (12/01) and then sextile Saturn (12/03), forming a fortuitous pattern that has no special name.) Growth opportunities abound and plans are easily implemented with the help of friends or a group. Enthusiasm and intelligence aid any and all efforts.

DEC 01

Chiron (20°40' PI) turns Direct [Retrograde since 6/27; Direct until 7/07/17] The past five months were a time to address our internal wounds and be our own inspiration for improvement. Going forward, we can seek such support externally and more easily provide it to others, as well. As both Neptune (which turned to Direct 11/19) and Chiron advance rather than retreat, health matters are more apt to improve.

DEC 01

Mars (17°1' AQ) trine Jupiter (17°1' LI) High energy contributes to handling a hefty load easily. We take the initiative to get the balls in the air and we have the persistence to get to the finish line.

DEC 01

Mercury (29°1' SG) quintile Jupiter (17°1' LI) (Part of a Quintile Triangle with Neptune – see 11/30, above.) We reach out to those dear to us (whether they are near or far away) for input and alternate perspectives. We can also pump them up with our cheerfulness.

DEC 02

Mercury enters Capricorn [until 1/04/17; again 1/12/17 - 2/07/17] We're drawn to science and facts, being assured by their reliability and solidity. This is a good time to get paperwork and files organized and systems streamlined as we close out the old year and prepare for the next one.

DEC 03

Mars (18°2' AQ) sextile Saturn (18°2' SG) (See comments above regarding 12/01 - 12/03.) Saturn channels the natural drive of Mars in a constructive manner. We put our own brand on what we do, thanks to the individuality of Aquarius. Both signs are quite independent, as is the proclivity of Mars and Jupiter (with which these two now blend) so we don't want to take orders from anyone but we happily accomplish tasks we set out for ourselves.

DEC 07

Venus enters Aquarius [until 1/02/17 (P), 1/03/17 (E)] Socializing is appealing, especially with people who are intellectually stimulating or who share our values. In close personal relationships, though, we might want some breathing room. We surprise ourselves when our esthetic tastes differ from our usual choices.

DEC 09

Ceres (21°8' AR) turns Direct [Retrograde since 8/31; Direct until 12/16/17] We have a better chance of receiving abundance than when Ceres was Retrograde. When we feel that our "cup runneth over," we share more and are rewarded with additional bounty.

We're also able to express our nurturing side more easily when Ceres is Direct.

DEC 10

Mercury (9°21' CP) sextile Neptune (9°21' PI) [again 12/26 & 1/23/17] If our sympathies are aroused, we look for productive ways to put them to use. We have good judgment about whom to help. If we require assistance, we're clear about just what we need. As Mercury zigzags, its repeating aspects give us three chances to adjust and refine our notions about our work or spirituality or both.

DEC 10

Chiron (20°42' PI) semisextile Uranus (20°42' AR) [multiple prior occurrences, most recently 8/09; will occur again many more times, next 7/29/17] See **Long-term Influences** & 8/09.

DEC 13

Full Moon (22°26' CA) What a lot of energy and so much going on in Fire and Air signs! Are we full of hot air? Maybe. There's an Air Grand Trine between Jupiter in Libra, Mars in Aquarius and the Moon in Gemini, turned into a Kite by the Sun and Saturn in Fire (Sagittarius). The attempt to rein our wild horses has been a developing theme this fall with Saturn as the lasso tossed at the galloping planets in Aries: Uranus, Eris and now (again) Ceres. With the Sun about to join Saturn and the Gemini Moon across from them, this Full Moon is our test as to whether we run free or let someone ride us. The Sun, Moon and Saturn are also in a T-square with Chiron in Pisces. Some people will experience this as suffering, others as a healing from their wounds or improvement of their weaknesses. An important key is what we tell ourselves, how we spin the stories of our lives. Another is if we can maintain a positive attitude. Optimistic Jupiter is not only lifted by the Kite but also snared in a Cardinal T-square with Pluto and the Aries trio. That can wear down one's hopes by having to douse weird flare-ups. We may think we've got our wits about us with Mercury in Capricorn, but it's semisquare Mars in Aquarius, which may tempt us toward impulsive action. A better use of their mixture is to break out of confining mental habits and do things differently.

DEC 19

Mars enters Pisces [until 1/27/17 (P), 1/28/17 (E)] There's a tendency to sidestep arguments and any appearance of anger is more likely an act of passive aggression than a direct confrontation. Some people may feel like they're swimming against the tide. Put energy into spiritual or artistic pursuits and fight for the underdog.

DEC 19

Mercury (15°8') turns Retrograde [Direct since 9/22; Retrograde until 1/08/17] You're probably used to the Mercury Retrograde drill by now, with an idea of what to expect and watch out for. Mercury doesn't quite reach Pluto before turning tail. Once Mercury Retrograde is over, it does catch up with Pluto and we'll get better organized.

DEC 21

Winter Solstice See **Seasonal Synopses**.

Sun enters Capricorn [until 1/19/17] A focus on work and career, coupled with conscientious effort, helps us achieve goals and win appreciation on the job. We care what people think about us and strive to maintain a good reputation.

DEC 24 - DEC 31

Half Kite (and more) (A "Half Kite" is not an official name of a pattern in astrology but that's what this triangle is, in essence: an opposition joining three sextiles that overlap in two trines. The "and more" refers to Chiron connecting with all the players in the Half Kite.) Several slow planets are at 20° of various signs and already interconnected as quick Venus hits 20° and rings their chimes. Jupiter is opposite Uranus (exact 12/26), while Saturn is trine Uranus (exact 12/24) and nearly sextile Jupiter (close now but not exact until 8/27/17). On 12/25, Venus aspects all three, as well as making a semisextile to Chiron, which is square Saturn (exact 12/28), quincunx Jupiter (exact 12/31) and semisextile Uranus (exact 12/10). Things are crazy but mostly in a good way, just a lot going on. There's plenty of cooperation when working toward shared goals, especially if roles are clearly defined and nobody is assigned an unfair or unachievable portion.

Dec 24

Saturn (20°33' SG) trine Uranus (20°33' AR) [again 5/19/17 & 11/11/17] The current cycle between these two began in 1988 in late degrees of Sagittarius, almost a complete Saturn cycle ago. Our lives have changed exponentially since then, in social matters (such as greater acceptance of non-mainstream lifestyles) and equipment we use every day (household gadgets, personal computers and the like). Uranus rules modern inventions and computers while Saturn is the natural business planet. Their combination affects technological developments and high tech companies. Practical ingenuity is in the air. Sagittarius is a sign related to long distance communication, the internet and foreign affairs. Expect some leaps and bounds in these arenas. In personal relationships, people want a more loosely defined commitment without so many restrictions.

DEC 25

Venus (20°24' AQ) trine Jupiter (20°24' LI) Everyone is friendly, though some may seem only superficially so, without a deep underlying warmth. Others may have a wandering eye. Fiscal matters receive a boost.

DEC 25

Venus (20°33' AQ) sextile Uranus (20°33' AR) Social interactions go smoothly, including in groups or organizations. There could be a change of plans – for the better. Some people will have a pleasant financial surprise or find a great buy when shopping.

DEC 25

Venus (20°39' AQ) sextile Saturn (20°39' SG) Normally these two in a positive connection promote deepening of relationships. However, both are in very independent signs. Thus a little breathing room in relationships is appreciated. When maturity and respect are pleasant, time apart won't hurt a bond.

DEC 26

Tough triangle between Mars, Jupiter and Uranus Venus is not the only planet to link to the Jupiter-Uranus opposition; Mars does, as well, but not so pleasantly. On the very day the Jupiter-Uranus opposition is exact, Mars shows up on the scene to stir up tempers. This is not a good combination for international relations, signified by Jupiter (the planet of foreign matters) in Libra (the sign of treaties and partnering).

DEC 26

Mars (5°33' PI) sesquiquadrate Jupiter (20°33' LI) A sense of suffering at the hands of others may only be imagined but feels quite real. It helps to go out of one's way to be considerate, using kid gloves if necessary.

DEC 26

Mars (5°33' PI) semisquare Uranus (20°33' AR) This aspect has high accident potential, or on a lesser scale, klutziness. Precautions are in order, including slowing down and being mindful.

DEC 26

Jupiter (20°33' LI) opposite Uranus (20°33' AR) [again 3/02/17, 9/27/17 (P), 9/28/17 (E)] When in harmony, these two bring lucky surprises. An opposition usually indicates supersized tension or weirdness between two or more people, especially when the signs involved are Libra and Aries, the signs of relationship and independence, respectively. Both planets are freedom-oriented so this is likely to signal a hard time for lovers. At the second occurrence next March, Uranus is close to Eris, drawing that complicating chaotic energy into the equation.

DEC 26

Mercury (9°37' CP) sextile Neptune (9°37' PI) [before 12/10; again 1/23/17] See 12/10.

DEC 27

Mars (6°26' PI) conjunct South Node (6°26' PI) We opt for the easy way out of conflicts or dilemmas when doing the hard work is probably better in the long run. We may have grace or things fall into place if we're in tune with our spiritual journey or listening to our guides. The down side is feeling trapped or downtrodden.

DEC 28

Saturn (21°1' SG) square Chiron (21°1' PI) [again 4/30/17 & 11/02/17] Establishing viable means of assisting those who are suffering takes extra time and effort. Situations requiring repair or improvement could go unnoticed and unattended until the problems are so evident they can't be missed. It may be that people are just busy being ambitious or conscientious. When sympathy is finally offered, help may come with strings attached.

DEC 28 (P), DEC 29 (E)

New Moon (7°59' CP) A New Moon with the Moon and Sun in Capricorn generally

promotes order and progress, but the luminaries are only a degree away from Retrograde Mercury. This means that even after Mercury turns Direct on 1/08/17, a hangover effect plays out for the remainder of this lunar cycle until the next New Moon 1/28/17, just when Mercury exits its retrograde "shadow." Something must be reviewed and revised before we go forward. All three are sextile Mars, ordinarily putting a fire under our butts. However, Mars is tightly conjunct the South Node (see 12/27) and less than 2° from Neptune (see 12/31), both conditions that contribute to backsliding. With such a number of planets (including some slow-movers) intertwined in abrasive connections, complex and difficult circumstances are bound to result. In addition to the aspects from 12/24 to 12/31 already outlined (see comments above and below), Ceres and Eris are near enough to Uranus to be drawn into the fray, as are the Nodes. These factors increase interpersonal friction and pose challenges to being warm, loving, charitable or service-oriented. The main spine of the web is the Jupiter-Uranus opposition (exact 12/26), which is close enough in range to square Pluto and create a hefty T-square in Cardinal signs. This requires decisions (possibly split-second) and spurs action. In December and January, Ceres is again near the degree where it was at the Summer Solstice, after being retrograde for most of autumn. It provides a more positive avenue of expression for the Uranus-Eris conjunction, which on its own might act primarily as a shocking alarm clock (see 12/31, below).

DEC 29

Uranus (20°33' AR) turns Direct [Retrograde since 7/29; Direct until 8/02/17 - 8/03/17] The past five months, we've turned inward to seek a spark for self-development. While Uranus is Direct, our uniqueness is recognized and promoted by others. When Uranus is Retrograde, we sometimes rebel against our own advice to ourselves. When it's in forward motion, we're more likely to revolt against other people's orders.

DEC 31

Ceres (22°32' AR) conjunct Eris (22°32' AR) [before 6/21 & 11/17] (See 6/21.) Fearless autonomy cultivates confidence and individuality. Women support one another in their drive for self-expression and self-determination.

DEC 31

Jupiter (21°5' LI) quincunx Chiron (21°5' PI) People want to be there for each other but the way they go about it is awkward. Using diplomacy and tact would be wise since even kind words can be misinterpreted as pity or an insult.

DEC 31, 2016 (P), JAN 01, 2017

Mars (9°44' PI) conjunct Neptune (9°44' PI) Mark Twain had the perfect motto for this aspect: "Do not put off until tomorrow what can be put off till day-after-tomorrow just as well." If inspired, you will take action, but it may not be directly aimed at a well-defined goal.

JANUARY, 2017

DEC 31, 2016 (P), JAN 01, 2017 (E)

Mars (9°44' PI) conjunct Neptune (9°44' PI) See the last entry for 2016, above.

JAN 02 - JAN 03

Venus enters Pisces [until 2/03/17] We tend to daydream, perhaps about wealth or maybe a warm beach. Romantic fantasies are appealing while getting a realistic grip on relationships is not easily achieved. Creative juices flow and we appreciate art, music, dance. We seek entertainment or other forms of escape.

JAN 03

Mercury (0°31' CP) sextile Venus (0°31' PI) (Mercury is at one of the four power degrees of the zodiac, promoting popularity, and the Moon is in the waxing phase. These are auspicious conditions for new ventures. Mercury rules commerce and Venus rules money, so a good aspect like this between them bodes well for businesses, new or ongoing.) Communication is smooth, with a blend of sympathy and practicality. If you need to "sweet talk" someone into giving you a "yes" answer, this is a good day to do so. Paint a pretty picture in words and be sure to point out how what you propose fits in with the other persons goals.

JAN 04

Mercury re-enters Sagittarius [until 1/12; before 11/12/16 - 12/02/16] See 11/12. Our mental energy may be scattered over the next week or so as Mercury comes to a halt in Sagittarius and turns Direct on 1/08.

JAN 05

Venus (2°5' PI) semisquare Pluto (17°5' CP) People have on their thick skins; their body language shows they're not open (arms crossed). This is not a good day to ask for what you want. Instead, examine how you can cut back expenses and be more fiscally conservative.

JAN 08

Mercury (28°51' SG) turns Direct [Retrograde since 12/19/16; Direct until 4/09/17] When Mercury is in forward motion, we have an easier time getting our points across. At a station time like this, Mercury is at a standstill and we feel like we're getting nowhere. It takes Mercury a few days to really get moving again. By the time it returns to Capricorn (on 1/12), it begins to pick up speed.

JAN 08

Venus (5°48' PI) conjunct South Node (5°48' PI) Our hearts go out to those in pain or distress and we may be more likely to donate generously now. We cross paths with people with whom we have some kind of karmic contract. In some cases, that may bring tests or payback.

JAN 09

Eris (22°32' AR) turns Direct [Retrograde since 7/19/16; Direct until 7/20/17] There's likely to be more disorder and disruption when Eris is at a standstill for a couple weeks on either side of its change of direction. Once it's moving forward again, we're better

able to assert our independence, handle disruptions and deal with competition.

JAN 09 - JAN 10

Venus activates the looming Jupiter-Eris opposition (exact 1/17) See comments above in **Looking Ahead to 2017**. Discord or chaos has adverse impacts on relationships and finances in a big way.

JAN 09

Venus (6°59' PI) sesquiquadrate Jupiter (21°59' LI) We overspend almost unconsciously unless we make an effort to pay attention. In relationships, we tend to overlook the other person's faults or misdeeds, possibly to our own detriment. Better boundaries are needed.

JAN 10

Venus (7°32' PI) semisquare Eris (22°32' AR) Sensitivity is heightened at the same time as self-involvement turns focus inward, resulting in feelings being easily hurt. Brusqueness causes rifts. If we rush financial decisions or while shopping, we won't be happy about our expenditures.

JAN 12

Full Moon (22°27' CA) The Moon and Sun (naturally opposite at a Full Moon) square off precisely perpendicular to the Jupiter-Eris opposition (exact 1/17), spotlighting its influence. Together, they all form a Grand Cross in Cardinal signs, a pattern that generally means action can't be avoided and decisions are thrust upon us. The Sun in Capricorn contributes common sense and the Moon in Cancer provides good gut instincts that we can trust. Since Jupiter in Libra contributes to indecisiveness, trying to figure things out using only logic would slow you down. Better to go with your first reaction than to waste precious time weighing and balancing options. Once again, Chiron has to run interference with opposing factors. It's trine the Moon, sextile the Sun, quincunx Jupiter and semisextile Eris. It helps us see around barriers and find innovative solutions. The South Node is precisely halfway between Pluto and the conjunction of Eris and Ceres (exact 12/31). Reproductive rights or techniques are likely to be in the news. People employ strange ways to show they care and try to make a difference.

JAN 12

Mercury re-enters Capricorn [until 2/07; here before 12/02/16 - 1/04/17] Mercury in Capricorn usually means we think things through carefully, but not necessarily when it's Retrograde. Now that Mercury is Direct, we'll work on straightening out any messes that occurred the past several weeks. Go step by step and invest whatever time it takes to get everything in order.

JAN 17

Jupiter (22°32' LI) opposite Eris (22°32' AR) [again 2/22 & 9/09] This aspect indicates a key theme for much of 2017. It may signal a time of broad international conflict (Eris loves a battle) or conversely, the negotiations to resolve differences and find agreement between opposing parties (Libra is the primary sign of diplomacy). Individual objectives

or selfishness can cause problems in relationships or team activities. People come together in support of causes for greater autonomy, particularly for women. We fight for fairness.

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2017

Our seemingly endless journey of transformation courtesy of the Uranus-Pluto square is now in its last throes (see **Long-term Influences**) but it's not done yet. In early 2017, the orb of their separating aspect shrinks to the lowest range it will achieve from here on (just 2°). Jupiter in Libra, slowing on either side of turning Retrograde in early February, spends from January through March opposite Uranus in Aries and roughly square Pluto in Capricorn in a Cardinal T-square. (See comments for the New Moon 12/28 - 12/29, above.) Whatever progress comes in 2017's first quarter will occur in fits and starts.

The axis of the North and South Nodes splits the Uranus-Pluto square down the middle, forming a triangle of tension that lacks an agreed-upon name. It's composed of opposition, semisquare and sesquiquadrate aspects. The Nodes jangle Jupiter, as well. The pattern occurs over the course of January and February and is especially strong at the 1/28/17 New Moon. This combination may help us on a collective level to be more focused about implementing changes in ways that have a wide impact. When quick planets act as triggers to the pattern, the large broad scale difficulties come crashing into individual lives. Here are some particularly precarious times as the configuration is strongly activated: by Venus 1/05 - 1/09, by the Sun 1/07 - 1/11, by Mercury in two parts 1/29 - 1/31 and 2/25 - 3/01, and by Mars 2/21 - 2/27. Eris, on the edges of the triangle, gets drawn into the mess by Mars and Jupiter 2/22 - 2/27. That time frame might be a time of increased international turmoil, not recommended for foreign travel.

Every couple of years, Mars reaches the sign of its greatest Marsiness, Aries. This occurs in 2017 from 1/27 (P), 1/28 (E) to 3/09. Venus is on Mars' heels, entering Aries 2/03, but before reaching Mars, it turns Retrograde 3/04. (This is ironic since March 4th is the only day of the year that is a command: "march forth." This was in a children's riddle book.) So for about five weeks, these two are traveling companions in the sign of fresh starts, impatience and assertiveness. If a new romance blooms, it could be a flash in the pan and fizzle out as quickly as it heated up. Similarly, financial investments may have a short life; on the plus side, this is a good factor if you want to get in and out of a deal quickly or have a speedy turn-around. Old loves might return during the Venus Retrograde (for 40 days following 3/04) and it's a natural time to go back to tried-and-true trading strategies. Venus accompanying Mars on most of its transit through Aries could keep aggression from reaching a peak. Venus adds a diplomatic tendency. But Mars is still Mars and in Aries, the potential for conflict is heightened. Our competitive urges ascend, as well, so this should be a month or so of stiff competition in sports. In the past several years, Venus and Mars were simultaneously in Aries multiple times: in 2009 (4/24 - 5/31, 2011 (4/22 - 5/10), 2013 (3/22 - 4/14) and 2015 (2/21 - 3/16). But this is not common. It happened before back in 1985, and after 2017, It doesn't happen again until 2041! Arguments arising during the 2017 occurrence may hark back to the recent instances. Some partners may go through recurrences of former experiences.

*For more about 2017, follow Janet's blogs and watch her LOOKING UP astrology show, both of which are available at **AstrologyBooth.com**.*

2016 BEST AND WORST DAYS

“Best” and “worst” are relative terms. You might think of these dates as “better” or “worse” than other days of the year for the activities specified. In light of other factors in place, sometimes “best” is “as good as it gets,” which still may not be perfect. Every attempt was made to find at least one “best” and one “worst” for each month in each category.

To put a date into context or to select a particular part of a day, see the weekly Highlights, daily messages, [2016 On a Page](#) and the Star Pages, including **Mutual Receptions** and planets Out of Bounds. As usual, take precautions when Mercury is Retrograde, especially for activities related to these planets. And of course you wouldn't undertake important action when the Moon is Void. **USING THIS CALENDAR** explains Void Moons and what to consider if your birthday is on this list.

In many cases, only part of a day is better or worse for a type of activity. The parentheses after the date point you to morning (morn), afternoon (aft), evening (eve) or a combination, such as morning and afternoon (morn & aft). “Worst” days are warnings that these activities are likely to run into problems if undertaken then. (A “not” time frame on a Worst Day means that activity is not the worst in that period.) These time frames apply to time zones in North America, from Atlantic (one hour earlier than Eastern) to Pacific, and they take Daylight Saving Time into account. An asterisk (*) alerts you to check (and thus avoid) the Void Moon times on that day for beginning something. Ongoing activities are okay to continue during a Void Moon.

After the type of activity, the planets and signs associated with the arena are listed in brackets. If you know additional activities associated with these factors, these dates apply to them, as well. See Janet's [“Astrologer's Apprentice Cheat Sheet.”](#)

See comments regarding NEW VENTURES at the end of this section.

For your most important activities, you may want to have an astrologer select an optimum time based on your personal birth chart – one of Janet Booth's specialties! This list represents the next best alternative. No guarantees are implied, however.



PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES, SPORTS, COMPETITION, RISK-TAKING [Aries, Mars]

BEST: 1/21, 2/17, 3/19, 3/26, 4/22 (eve), 5/03 (eve), 5/04 (morn), 5/12 (aft), 6/11 (aft), 6/12, 6/19, 6/26 (morn), 6/28 (aft), 7/14 (aft), 7/21 (not eve), 7/25 (eve), 8/03, 8/20 (eve), 9/14 (morn & aft), 10/14 (morn & aft), 10/31, 11/15 (aft & eve), 11/20 (morn & aft), 12/01 (eve), 12/17 (aft & eve), 12/23 (aft), 12/27 (morn & aft)

WORST: 1/17, 2/04 (eve), 3/07, 3/10, 3/11, 3/13 (eve), 4/03, 4/04, 4/10, 4/13, 4/17, 5/04 (eve), 5/05 (morn), 5/17, 5/18, 5/21, 5/25 (not morn), 6/01, 6/04, 6/18, 6/29, 7/07 (eve), 7/19, 8/21 (aft), 8/25, 9/01 (morn & aft), 9/04 (eve), 9/13, 9/15, 9/21 (morn & aft), 10/16, 10/20, 10/29 (morn), 11/01, 11/05 (aft & eve), 11/09, 12/18 (morn), 12/19, 12/21, 12/22 (aft), 12/26



FINANCES, PURCHASES, INVESTMENTS [Taurus, Venus]

BEST: 1/08 (aft), 2/05, 2/10, 2/14, 2/25 (morn), 3/12, 3/26, 4/09* (Moon Void), 4/22 (eve), 4/23, 5/06, 5/10, 5/12 (aft), 5/15, 6/06 (morn), 6/09 (eve), 6/12, 7/06 (morn), 7/27 (not eve), 8/17, 8/23 (eve), 8/24 (morn), 8/27, 9/03 (morn), 9/23 (aft & eve), 9/27 (eve), 9/30 (aft & eve), 10/03 (aft), 10/28 (morn), 11/07, 11/13, 12/11 (morn & aft), 12/25 (morn), 1/03/17 (morn & aft), 1/06/17 (eve)

WORST: 12/31/15, 1/05, 1/06, 1/10, 1/17, 2/12, 2/13 (morn), 3/13 (eve), 3/25, 3/29 (eve), 4/08, 4/15, 4/20 (eve), 4/24, 4/28, 4/29, 5/17, 5/22, 6/01, 6/03 (eve), 6/04, 7/08, 7/12, 7/20, 8/13, 8/14 (morn & aft), 8/31, 9/11 (morn & aft), 9/20, 9/21 (aft & eve), 9/29, 10/16, 10/18, 10/25, 10/29, 11/24, 11/25, 12/10



**COMMUNICATIONS OF ANY SORT, LOCAL TRAVEL OR TRANSPORTATION,
NEIGHBORS, SIBLINGS [Gemini, Mercury]**

BEST: 1/14, 2/01, 2/06 (morn), 2/25 (morn), 3/12, 3/17 (morn & aft), 4/23, 5/10, 5/12 (aft), 5/15, 6/05 (morn), 6/12, 7/02 (eve), 8/10 (morn & eve), 8/24 (morn), 9/02 (aft), 10/14 (morn & aft), 10/30, 11/15 (aft & eve), 12/08 (morn), 12/28

WORST: 12/30/15 (aft), 1/10, 1/16, 1/19, 1/20, 1/25, 1/29, 2/16, 3/07, 3/13 (eve), 3/14, 4/03, 4/08, 4/10, 4/11, 4/15, 4/28, 5/08 (not eve), 5/22, 5/29 (not eve), 6/01, 6/04, 6/15, 6/18, 6/20, 6/22, 7/07 (eve), 7/12, 7/29, 7/31, 8/06, 8/12 (aft & eve), 8/25, 8/26, 8/30, 9/12 (morn & aft), 9/21, 9/22, 10/15, 10/18, 10/20, 10/21, 10/23, 10/26, 11/11, 11/17, 11/18 (morn & aft), 12/18 (morn), 12/19 (morn)



REAL ESTATE, DOMESTIC/FAMILY MATTERS [Cancer, Moon, Ceres]

BEST: 1/14, 1/21, 2/01, 2/03 (morn & aft), 2/10, 2/14, 2/29 (morn & aft), 3/12, 3/16, 3/31 (aft & eve), 4/09* (Moon Void), 4/23, 5/04 (morn), 5/06, 5/10, 5/12 (aft), 5/15, 5/20 (not eve), 6/02 (eve), 6/11 (aft), 6/16 (eve), 7/04, 7/09 (eve), 7/14, 7/27 (not eve), 8/03, 8/10 (eve), 8/23 (eve), 8/24 (morn), 8/27, 9/23 (aft & eve), 9/27 (eve), 9/30 (aft & eve), 10/8, 10/30 (aft & eve), 10/31, 11/13, 12/11 (morn & aft), 12/14 (morn & aft), 12/17 (aft & eve)

WORST: 1/02, 1/22, 1/23, 1/27, 1/29, 2/02, 2/04, 2/18, 2/20, 2/22, 2/26, 3/02 (morn), 3/13 (eve), 3/14, 3/25, 4/04, 4/08, 4/21, 5/02 (morn), 5/08 (not eve), 5/18, 5/22, 5/25 (not morn), 5/29 (not eve), 6/01, 6/04, 6/07 (morn), 6/15, 6/18, 6/22, 7/07 (eve), 7/08, 7/16, 7/19, 8/22 (morn), 8/25, 9/21, 10/9, 10/15 (morn), 10/22, 10/25, 10/29, 11/17 (eve), 11/18 (morn), 11/24, 11/25, 11/28, 12/15, 12/22 (aft), 12/26 (morn), 12/30



ART, CREATIVITY, ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN (or your inner child) [Leo, Sun]

BEST: 1/14, 2/03 (morn & aft), 3/03 (eve), 3/06 (eve), 3/19, 3/26, 4/16 (morn), 5/06, 5/12 (aft), 6/06 (morn), 6/09, 7/09 (eve), 7/14, 8/03, 8/27 (morn), 9/30 (aft & eve), 10/4 (aft), 11/20 (morn & aft), 11/23 (aft), 12/04 (morn), 12/09 (aft), 12/17 (aft & eve), 12/23 (aft), 12/27 (morn), 1/07/17 (morn)

WORST: 1/16, 1/23, 1/27, 2/20, 2/26, 3/08, 3/18, 4/13, 4/15, 5/17, 5/21, 5/25 (not morn), 5/29 (not eve), 6/01, 6/04, 6/08, 7/07 (eve), 8/21 (aft), 8/31, 9/01, 9/09 (morn), 9/13, 9/15, 9/26, 10/17, 10/21, 11/21, 11/29, 12/16 (aft & eve)



EMPLOYMENT, SERVICE/SERVERS, HEALTH [Virgo, Mercury]

BEST: 1/14, 2/01, 2/06 (morn), 2/14, 2/25 (morn), 3/12, 3/17 (morn & aft), 3/26, 3/31 (aft & eve), 4/09* (Moon Void), 4/22 (eve), 4/23, 5/06, 5/10, 5/12 (aft), 5/15, 5/20 (not eve), 6/02 (eve), 6/11 (aft), 6/12, 6/16 (eve), 6/21, 6/24 (eve), 7/04, 7/09 (eve), 7/27 (morn), 8/10 (morn & eve), 8/17, 8/23 (eve), 8/24 (morn), 8/27, 9/27 (eve), 10/03 (aft), 10/14 (morn & aft), 10/30, 11/13, 11/15 (aft & eve), 12/08 (morn), 12/14 (morn & aft), 12/28

WORST: 12/30/15 (morn & aft), 1/10, 1/16, 1/19, 1/20, 1/25, 1/29, 2/16, 2/22, 3/02 (morn), 3/05 (aft), 3/07, 3/14, 3/18, 3/29 (eve), 4/03, 4/08, 4/10, 4/11, 4/15, 4/28, 5/02 (morn), 5/08 (not eve), 5/22, 5/29 (not eve), 6/04, 6/15, 6/18, 6/20, 6/22, 7/07 (eve), 7/08, 7/12, 7/29, 7/31, 8/04 (eve), 8/06, 8/12 (aft & eve), 8/14 (morn & aft), 8/22 (morn), 8/25, 8/26, 8/30, 9/1, 9/12 (morn & aft), 9/21 (aft & eve), 9/22, 10/15, 10/18 (aft & eve), 10/20, 10/21, 10/23, 10/25, 10/26, 11/11, 11/17, 11/18 (morn & aft), 11/29, 12/18 (morn), 12/19 (morn)



RELATIONSHIPS, PARTNERSHIP, ROMANCE [Libra, Venus]

BEST: 1/08 (aft), 2/05, 2/10, 2/25 (morn), 3/26, 4/22 (eve), 5/10, 5/15, 6/06 (morn), 6/09 (eve), 6/12, 7/06 (morn), 8/17, 8/24 (morn), 8/27, 9/03 (morn & aft), 9/27 (eve), 9/30 (aft & eve), 10/03 (aft), 10/28 (morn), 11/07, 11/15 (aft), 11/23 (aft), 12/25 (morn), 1/03/17 (morn & aft), 1/06/17 (eve)

WORST: 12/31/15, 1/05, 1/06, 1/10, 1/17, 2/12, 2/26, 3/13 (eve), 3/23, 3/25, 3/29 (eve), 4/20 (eve), 4/21, 4/24, 4/28, 4/29, 5/17, 6/01, 6/03 (eve), 6/04, 6/14, 7/08, 7/12, 7/20, 8/13, 8/14 (morn & aft), 9/04, 9/11 (morn & aft), 9/20, 9/21 (aft & eve), 9/29, 10/16, 10/18, 10/25, 10/29, 11/24, 11/25, 12/10, 12/15 (morn), 12/22 (aft), 12/26 (morn)

MARRIAGE [Libra, Venus]

Similar to beginning a new venture, the ideal conditions for a marriage chart are during the waxing (first half) of a lunar cycle, avoiding a Moon Void of Course and harsh aspects. Only use a date when Mercury is retrograde if both partners were born with Mercury Retrograde. For a partnership, you also benefit from a day with favorable aspects to Venus or a planet in Libra. Such a day is rare, indeed! That's why the list is short. It's wise to get both partners' birth time and work with an astrologer to find a suitable date and time. Sometimes a day that's not great on its own brings out the best in a couple's charts. Even on recommended days, certain hours are better than others. You may choose to get legally married at a good time and re-enact your vows and have your reception when convenient, even if it's on a less than ideal day.

BEST: 8/17, 9/30 (eve, *after* New Moon), 10/03 (aft), 11/07 (morn or eve), 11/15 (aft & eve – even though this a day after the Moon is officially full, it's still in the Full Moon phase). Of these, the very best is 10/03 (aft). If the partners have the signs Virgo or Capricorn prominent in their charts, 6/11 (aft) is also good. **IF** both partners are born with Mercury Retrograde, these are excellent dates: 5/10, 5/15, 9/03.

WORST: See Worst Days for Relationships.



BUSINESS, FINANCES, RENOVATION, PROCREATION (also see Career, Finance and Partnership, if applicable) [Scorpio, Pluto]

BEST: 1/04 (aft & eve), 2/01, 2/05, 2/28 (aft & eve), 2/29 (morn & aft), 3/06 (eve), 3/12, 3/16, 3/26, 3/31 (aft & eve), 4/23, 4/27 (eve), 5/06, 5/10, 5/12 (aft), 5/15, 5/20 (not eve), 6/11 (aft), 6/16 (eve), 6/21, 6/26 (morn), 7/14, 8/10 (morn & eve), 8/17, 8/23 (eve), 9/06 (eve), 9/07 (aft), 10/03 (aft & eve), 10/08 (eve), 10/30, 10/31, 11/07, 11/13 (eve), 12/11 (morn), 12/23 (aft), 12/24 (morn & aft), 1/07/17 (morn)

WORST: 1/22, 2/02 (morn & aft), 3/10, 3/11, 3/13 (eve), 3/25, 4/07, 5/04 (eve), 5/21, 5/25 (not morn), 6/10 (not eve), 6/15, 7/07 (eve), 7/31, 8/21 (aft), 9/11 (morn & aft), 9/26, 9/29, 10/15, 10/18, 11/24, 12/15 (morn), 12/21



EDUCATION, PROMOTION, LONG DISTANCE TRAVEL, CONTACT AT A DISTANCE (includes online), **LEGAL MATTERS** [Sagittarius, Jupiter]

BEST: 1/08 (aft), 1/14, 2/01, 2/03 (morn & aft), 2/06 (morn), 2/14, 2/25 (morn), 3/12, 3/16, 3/19, 3/26, 3/31 (aft & eve), 4/22 (eve), 4/27 (eve), 5/03 (eve), 5/04 (morn), 5/06, 5/10, 5/12 (aft), 6/02 (eve), 6/11 (aft), 6/23 (aft), 6/24 (eve), 6/26 (morn), 7/04, 7/09 (eve), 7/14 (morn), 8/10 (eve), 8/24 (morn), 8/27, 9/02 (aft), 9/03 (morn & aft), 9/07 (aft), 9/30 (aft), 10/10 (morn), 10/28 (morn), 11/07, 11/15 (aft), 11/20 (morn & aft), 11/23 (aft), 12/01 (eve), 12/09 (aft), 12/17 (aft & eve), 12/25 (morn), 12/27 (morn & aft)

WORST: 1/07, 1/10, 1/17, 1/27, 2/02, 2/16, 3/01, 3/02 (morn), 3/05 (aft), 3/08, 3/13 (eve), 3/14, 3/25, 4/25, 4/28, 5/02 (morn), 5/08 (not eve), 5/22, 5/29 (not eve), 6/01, 6/04, 6/22, 7/08, 7/16, 8/04 (eve), 8/12, 8/13, 8/22 (morn), 8/25, 9/01, 9/08, 9/10, 9/15, 9/21 (aft & eve), 9/26, 10/21, 11/09, 11/11, 11/17, 11/21, 11/24, 11/28, 11/29, 12/15 (morn), 12/26



CAREER MATTERS, ORGANIZING, PLANNING [Capricorn, Saturn]

BEST: 1/08 (aft), 2/05, 2/25 (morn), 3/06 (eve), 3/19, 3/31 (aft & eve), 4/02 (eve), 4/27 (eve), 5/04 (morn), 5/06, 5/10, 5/12 (aft), 5/15, 5/20 (not eve), 6/21, 6/23 (aft), 7/24 (eve), 8/10 (morn & eve), 8/17, 8/23 (eve), 9/03 (morn & aft), 9/30 (eve), 10/04 (aft), 10/08, 10/14 (morn & aft), 10/31, 11/13 (eve), 11/20 (morn & aft), 12/11 (morn & aft), 12/17 (aft & eve), 12/24 (morn & aft), 12/25 (morn), 12/27 (morn & aft)

WORST: 1/10, 1/16, 2/16, 3/05 (aft), 3/08, 3/13 (eve), 3/14, 3/25, 4/29, 5/02 (morn), 5/04 (eve), 5/08 (not eve), 5/25 (not morn), 5/29 (not eve), 6/01, 6/03, 6/04, 6/17, 6/20, 6/22 (morn), 7/07 (eve), 7/08, 7/19, 8/04 (eve), 8/12, 8/13, 8/22 (morn), 8/25, 9/01, 9/08 (aft & eve), 9/10, 9/12 (morn & aft), 9/21 (aft & eve), 10/09, 10/20, 10/21, 10/29 (eve), 11/09, 11/24, 12/15 (morn)



SOCIALIZING, MEETINGS, COOPERATION, FRIENDS [Aquarius, Uranus]

BEST: 1/11 (eve), 2/25 (morn), 3/19, 4/22 (eve), 5/27 (eve), 6/05 (morn), 6/09 (eve), 6/12, 6/23 (aft), 6/28 (aft), 7/21 (not eve), 7/25 (eve), 8/03, 9/14 (morn & aft), 10/10 (morn), 10/19 (eve), 11/07 (eve), 11/15 (aft & eve), 11/20 (morn & aft), 12/17 (aft & eve), 12/25 (morn)

WORST: 1/22, 2/02 (morn & aft), 3/05 (aft), 3/07, 3/13 (eve), 4/29 (morn), 5/04 (eve), 5/25 (not morn), 6/01, 6/18, 7/08 (morn), 8/04 (eve), 9/04 (eve), 9/21 (morn & aft), 10/25 (morn), 10/29 (morn), 11/05 (aft), 12/22 (aft), 12/26



CHARITABLE, SPIRITUAL, HEALTH [Pisces, Neptune, Chiron]

BEST: 1/14, 1/21, 2/10, 2/14, 2/28 (aft & eve), 3/03 (eve), 3/06 (eve), 3/12, 3/16, 3/17 (morn & aft), 3/26, 4/05 (morn)* (Moon Void), 4/09* (Moon Void), 4/12 (eve), 4/22 (eve), 4/23, 5/10, 5/15, 5/20 (not eve), 5/30 (not eve), 6/16 (eve), 6/21, 7/14 (eve), 7/27 (morn), 8/10 (eve), 8/23 (eve), 8/24 (morn), 8/27, 9/23 (aft & eve), 10/03 (aft), 10/08 (morn), 10/30 (aft & eve), 10/31, 11/13, 12/11 (morn & aft), 12/14 (morn & aft)

WORST: 1/05, 1/06, 1/13, 1/16, 1/27, 2/12, 2/23, 3/01, 3/02 (morn), 3/07, 3/13 (eve), 3/14, 3/18, 3/25, 3/29 (eve), 4/03, 4/04, 4/10, 4/11, 4/28, 5/22, 5/29 (not eve), 6/01, 6/04, 6/13, 6/15, 6/17, 6/20, 6/22, 7/08, 7/12, 8/04 (eve), 8/12, 8/14 (morn & aft), 8/22 (morn), 8/25, 9/01 (morn), 9/04, 9/08 (aft & eve), 9/10, 9/15, 9/21 (aft & eve), 9/29, 10/17, 10/21, 10/25, 11/18 (morn & aft), 11/29, 12/01 (morn)

NEW VENTURES, activities or projects are best begun during a waxing moon and out of the way of Mercury or Mars Retrograde and their stations. Within such time frames, look for days with good ratings or messages applicable to your needs, especially if you can't easily utilize one of the days listed.

Some stellar days are: 3/12, 6/11 (aft), 7/14 (before the Moon Void), 10/03 (aft & eve), 10/08 (see comments below) and 12/11 (morn & aft). IF you have Mercury Retrograde natally, other good days are 5/6 (*after* the New Moon) and 5/10.

The waxing lunar cycle in October (following the 9/30 New Moon) holds the most promising prospects for launching an endeavor. See highlights for Oct. 03 - 09 for an explanation of the recommendation of Oct. 03 (rated **4**) and Oct. 08 (rated **5**) as top-notch dates.

On Oct. 08 in the 48 continental states, using a time of approximately 2:45 pm (daylight time), Capricorn is rising with its ruler Saturn in the 11th House. This is a strong sign for enterprises and ambitions. The chart ruler's position is in an area of the chart that represents the value of or income from a business or an organization's undertakings. Mercury, ruler of commerce, is together with Jupiter, planet of growth, luck and prosperity, in the 8th house of collective financial matters. This bodes well for investors; shared resources, risks and rewards; and any joint ventures. These planets in concert aid in all forms of communication, promotion and getting a message out. In Libra, this pair promotes teamwork and partnership, seeing eye-to-eye and sharing a big load. The Moon in business-oriented Capricorn is midway between Mars (powerful because it's

exalted and out of bounds) and Pluto, a pair that spurs construction and building, literally and figuratively. There's a caution flag, though. The money house features Neptune and the sign Pisces, with the South Node and Chiron there. This can mean a karma of losing money *unless* there is a reward, righteously deserved, for being part of something greater. Self-serving endeavors won't attract a following or magnetize success. Another possible drawback is the Sun square Pluto, which could signal power struggles in leadership. The Sun in Libra should engender collaboration but the ambition of driven Pluto in ladder-climbing Capricorn can spur pursuits along selfish paths.

When you consult an astrologer about a specific date, these kinds of observations would be customized to your chart.

RESOURCES

These are some of Janet's favorite website resources listed in the **Links** section of the **Study Booth** at AstrologyBooth.com.

Watch **LOOKING UP**, Janet's show on astrology on West Hartford Community Television. Episodes are [archived at WHCTV.org](http://archived.atWHCTV.org). Click on the Watch tab, then Video on Demand. Scroll down to Looking Up. Or access the show from Janet's homepage, AstrologyBooth.com.

[NASA's Astronomy Picture of the Day archive](#)

This link brings you to an index of wonderful astronomical photos with their explanations, containing lots of links to other great pics. This is really magnificent! Plan to stay a while when you visit. (If you visit again, hit your refresh button to get the most recent photos.)

Dietrech Pessin has a wonderful weekly radio show in Boston with a free podcast on her website, lunar-shadows.com, where you will also find her brilliant book, *Lunar Shadows III The Predictive Power of Moon Phases and Eclipses*. In it, she explains her discovery of the connection between related moon cycles. An excerpt of her tables appeared in prior print versions of *Janet's Plan-its*.

Another Boston astrologer with an online radio show, where Janet has been a guest, is Chris Flisher (ChrisFlisher.com), who also has a YouTube channel with his weekly forecasts. Chris is an artist, as well, specializing in bright celestial-themed mandalas, shown in [his online portfolio](#).

Tap the knowledge of medical astrologer, Diane Cramer (dianecramer.com), for help in health matters or to learn from her four books on medical astrology. In prior print versions of *Janet's Plan-its*, she's written an article on bodily associations and health indications for the signs.

For the best ephemeris (table of planetary positions across time), order from [ACS](#), an imprint of Starcrafts Publishing (astrocom.com). This company is run by astrologer and Wicca High Priestess, Maria Kay Simms, who contributed an article about the eight phases of the Moon to prior print versions of *Janet's Plan-its* calendars, drawing from her book *Moon Tides, Soul Passages Your Astrological Cycles for Personal and Spiritual Development*.

Looking for top-of-the-line monthly forecasts for the Sun signs? I highly recommend Susan Miller's astrologyzone.com. Sign up to receive your daily horoscope via email.

An excellent resource to learn about the Mayan calendar and daycount is *Jaguar Nights* by Gevera Bert Piedmont (JaguarNights.info) This is the name of both her annual calendar and a companion book covering the existing base of knowledge thoroughly and adding significantly to it with her own insights and the unique techniques she's developed. She offers an individualized report (based on the date and year of birth) which outlines personal power days for setting intentions, receiving manifestation of those intentions, and letting off steam.

Astronomy, mythology and history converge in the book *When the Dragon Wore the Crown*, a groundbreaking look at cultural trends across multiple millennia. In his column, Athena's Web (athenasweb.com), astro-historian Don Cerow has for decades explored (among other things) the astrological Great Ages. He graciously wrote an excellent article, *The Age of Aquarius*, specifically for the 2013 Janet's Plan-its.

To learn about a different way of seeing Venus and working with its influences, check out *Venus Star Rising: A New Cosmology for the 21st Century* by Arielle Guttman (sophiavenus.com), Sophia Venus Productions, Santa Fe, NM.

If you enjoy astrology blogs, check out Beth Turnage, a full-time writer, blogger and astrologer specializing in career and relationship astrology. In 2008, she started blogging [Astrology Explored](#) and created [Astrology Media Press](#) in 2010, a collection of astrology blogs on different topics. Her horoscopes are published in online magazines such as e-Financial News. Like Janet, she's an active member of the Astrological Society of Connecticut. She can be reached at starrynightastro@aol.com.

LOOK UP YOUR ASTEROIDS!

Here's a [list of lots of asteroids](#) and their numbers. Look up a name that interests you and note its number. Then go to [this site](#), where you can find out the zodiacal position of that asteroid at a given date and time. It's cool to see how names and places plug into your chart! Input birth data, converting the time to Universal Time (GMT). Sort by Name, select Tropical zodiac and Geocentric coordinates (probably the defaults). List your chosen asteroid numbers, separated by a comma. The longitude and latitude are required and you can look that up with another click. (These should be on a printout of your chart or you can get them when you calculate your chart (for free) at alabe.com.) You'll get a long list that you'll have to scroll through to find the ones you asked for. Happy hunting!

Expand your study of astrology or network with other astrologers through membership in national or international astrology groups, such as:

AFAN (the Association for Astrological Networking) - AFAN.org

NCGR (National Council for Geocosmic Research) - geocosmic.org

ISAR (International Society for Astrological Research) - ISARastrology.com

Read intriguing online articles at mountainastrologer.com (website of the excellent magazine, *The Mountain Astrologer*) and StarIQ.com.

Look up famous people's charts and read their biographies at astro.com/astro-databank. Click in the top box that says "search in www.astro.com."

Want to do some stargazing? Check out SkyandTelescope.com, the website of Sky & Telescope magazine, for helpful reports about how to find what's up there, along with fantastic photos of the planets and stars, stars, stars. EarthSky.org is a delightful blog about astronomy with beautiful photos and recommendations for what to see in the current night sky.

Clever celestial tee-shirts and books (not just for children) are for sale at Zodiacts.com, where you'll also find a fun video introducing the signs and blogs about each New and Full Moon.

Janet's a fan of astrology's sister science, numerology, inspired by her multi-decade friendship with **Sally Faubion**, a professional numerologist from San Francisco, CA. Her book, *Motivational Numerology And How Numbers Affect Your Life*, introduces her unique numerological technique, the Wizard's Star, a color-coded snapshot of a person's numbers. On her website, sfnumber.com, you can order her book, get your Wizard Star interpretation based on your name and birth data, or buy Sally's apps: "CosmicMates" (rating relationship potentials), "Forecast Wheel" (a guide to dreams), "Pet Names Analyzer" (self-explanatory), and "House Numbers" (what these mean, along with guidance for buying and selling properties).

CONTRIBUTORS



Janet Booth has been interpreting the planets' movements for over 35 years for students of astrology, the public and a growing international clientele. She has a gift for making a complex science simple to understand as she brings her knowledge of astrology to teaching, writing, consulting and broadcasting. Her entertaining and information lectures are in demand nationwide. Janet has a BA in Behavioral Studies from Drew University and astrological certification from the National Council for Geocosmic Research (NCGR). Her "second family" is the Astrological Society of Connecticut. A member since 1978, Janet was their president at the millennium. Since 2000, she's written her *Janet's Plan-its* calendars and produced and hosted LOOKING UP, a monthly program about astrology on West Hartford Community Television (WHCTV.org). She blogs at her website, AstrologyBooth.com, and you can follow her on Facebook (Astrology-Booth and JanetsPlan-its). This is Janet's 16th calendar.

Bryan R. Bonina, a visual artist and graphic designer for 29 years, designed another fabulous cover for the 2016 *Janet's Plan-its*. He's been a key colleague and consultant throughout the history of the product – about half of his professional career – and an invaluable and loyal friend since 1992. Bryan's freelance business, Always Amazing Results ~ A Marketing & Communications Company, LLC, is based in Farmington, CT. (bryan_r_bonina@sbcglobal.net)

Ray Pioggia, a professional photographer, is the master behind the lens who created Janet's business portraits for the calendar and her website. (He's also a talented guitar-playing singer-songwriter.) Ray and his wife, artist Laurie Tavino, own and operate Lauray Studio & Gallery in Suffield, CT (lauraystudio@yahoo.com).

Ilene J. Wolf, MS is a nationally recognized consultant in the field of emotional wellness and recovery. She founded the nonprofit Healing Emotionally Abused Lives (HEAL),

emotionalheal.org, and contributes to various internet communities. Her personal coaching practice, Healing Wolf Tracks (healingwolf.net), is a resource for anyone in transition or transformation. In recent years, when not editing material for *Janet's Plan-its*, she's been producing videos on recovery and wellness. To learn more about her unique and proven tools and strategies supporting emotional healing and well-being, she can be reached at jjwolf2007@sbcglobal.net.

JANET'S SERVICES, INCLUDING COUPON

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Star Party
Gift Certificates (digital or beautiful greeting-card style)

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Thanks for using Janet's Plan-its!

