

Musings on Starlight

“Capricorn brings about situations which by their nature test our ability to be our own person. It requires that we think in terms of the family of man – not our family; the world economy- not our own bank account. Capricorn requires that we consider all the repercussions of our choices and that tests our morality and dedication to ourselves as human beings.” Boots Hart

January is regarded as a time of a new beginning in the western world. In the rush to move forward with new intentions, an important component is often overlooked – the need to grieve for the losses of the year past. Seeing clearly what we have lost and setting aside time to allow ourselves to feel and rethink our losses helps us to move forward in a way that is more clear. There is much wisdom available along the way.

Individual loss has a broad range- the loss of a pet, the loss of a favorite pen for writing, cancelled plans, having to let go of something or someone we love. In the Tarot deck the Death card symbolizes the profound transformation which often follows loss of some kind. Waite's deck shows a painting of a skeleton in knight's armor seated on a white horse. Below him lie a dead king, two children and a priest – signifying that death or death/life cycles come to us all regardless of social status. Behind them in the distance a ship sails down a river symbolizing the continuing emotional journey following life's transformational events.

As we set our sights on all that the New Year holds for us it's valuable to also set aside some moments to reflect on what the losses- little and big – have meant to us this year.

The two big astrological events of 08 will continue to be big players in 09. The Saturn Uranus opposition continues to rattle what many considered to be reliable foundations – visible in international economic events, the stock market, and the ponzi scheme. In the old texts* Uranus was regarded as the “hand of god.” The Tarot's Tower card depicts lightning (governed by Uranus) striking the top of a castle with its two royal occupants – king and queen- falling from the heights. They had built the castle as a monument to their own power by closing the top as opposed to allowing the light from a higher force to enter. Thus they were thrown from the heights by “the hand of god” in a shocking way. Their sense of authority was challenged and destroyed due to their lack of ethics. The shocking revelations about the lack of ethics in the financial world along with their widespread and very difficult ramifications are likely to continue this year.

The Saturn Uranus opposition also has very personal ramifications for each of us

depending on where it falls in individual charts. This would indicate the areas of life which have become too rigid or are in need of a new more evolved form.

Pluto often known as the Reaper recently entered Capricorn and will continue to challenge what's hidden and in need have reform in government and in the corporate world. Pluto's entry into Capricorn also has a very personal meaning for each of us depending on where it is transiting in your chart..

The other big news for 09 is Jupiter's transit through the sign of Aquarius starting on January 5. Jupiter governs optimism, hope and excess and Aquarius, humanity. Jupiter's transit through this sign will help buttress and improve the nation's economy and will help with large scale programs for rebuilding the infrastructure and putting people back to work. Jupiter also governs wisdom and with the Aquarian influence we are likely to see success in reaching out to other countries and cultures in an effort to solve problems and build a better world. Under certain conditions Jupiter can be associated with protection and guidance. Check to see where it is transiting in your chart- it is here that expansion can occur in the upcoming year as long as excess is reigned in.

Chiron and Neptune have been travelling together and this year Jupiter will conjunct them. The Chiron Neptune conjunction occurs roughly every 100 years. The Neptune Chiron conjunction is about healing significant wounds in order to be able to move forward in a more enlightened direction. The conjunction also encourages us to live out our highest expectations. Old fears and wounds often stop that movement. Now is the time to bring those blockages out of the closet for another look. With Jupiter's influence there is an opportunity for evolutionary leaps- both personally and collectively. Without clear vision and intention though it could be a time of legendary illusion. Saturn in Virgo will help temper realistic expectations. Jupiter will move up to the conjunction in late April but the influence will be felt before that time.

Most of the month will be good for artistic and spiritual work with Venus entering Pisces on the 4th. Venus will be within orb of a conjunction with Uranus from the 17th through the 29. This aspect is known for love- at first sight experiences as well as unconventional and unexpected love affairs. On the 19th through the 29th Venus will be making an opposition to Saturn so that more sobering aspects of any relationships formed under the influence will come to light. Saturn in opposition to Venus can bring lessons around financial matters as well as karmic love affairs. Needless to say responsible financial management and a frugal approach to spending will be called for as Pluto transits Capricorn.

Through the 5th Mars will continue to conjunct Pluto in Capricorn. This gives considerable drive and ambition to set goals, make plans and meet challenges.

On January 11th Mercury will station retrograde at 7 degrees of Aquarius. Mercury will be retrograde through the end of the month. During this retrograde period Mercury will aspect several planets making this an excellent month for learning new things.

The Sun will move up to a conjunction with Jupiter on the 24th but its influence will be felt through from the 17th through the 30th. This is a good time to focus on growth and expansion. Take some time to envision how you would like to expand the various aspects of your life.

We are heading into another eclipse period now – with the upcoming solar eclipse on the 26 at 6 degrees of Aquarius followed by the lunar eclipse on 2/9. Time can seem distorted during eclipse periods. Check your chart to see where this eclipse is falling – that part of your life is up for some evolutionary changes.

I will be offering brief (15 minutes for \$30) consultations on how the upcoming eclipses impact on individual charts. Please give me a call if you'd like to book some time.

*Many of the old astrological texts are stored in the Vatican.

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