

Musings on Starlight

An Astrological Forecast for February'06 by Amelia Shea

“The fundamental task of humanity during the upcoming decades and centuries is the development of a type of human being able to assume safely and constructively the responsibility which the management of power entails; to assume it with safety for themselves as individuals, not for their own individual or group advantage, but for the welfare of the whole; to assume it freely, consciously, joyously. This must be the way of humans of tomorrow if humanity is to survive.”.....Dane Rudhyar, An Astrological Triptych

When the Sun entered Aquarius in late January it was closely conjunct Chiron the asteroid of the Wounded Healer. Thus this season of Aquarius is strongly tempered by Chiron's energy. In mythology Chiron was a centaur who brought the knowledge of holistic healing (among many other things) to the gods and goddesses. In the end though Chiron died of a wound he could not heal.

People who have Chiron accented strongly in their charts often experience the chaos of life very strongly. And many of these people become gifted healers as well.

The other significant aspect during Feb which will be exact on March 29 and in influence through much of 2007 is Pluto conjuncting the Galactic Center. This astrological event only occurs every 250 years. It is associated with discoveries and intellectual advancements that contribute to the evolution of consciousness and of humanity. The down side of this aspect entails bad storms and war.

It will be a busy month for Mercury the planet which governs thought, communication and travel. Taking extra care with speech and driving is indicated. It's also a good idea to be prepared for occasional thoughtlessness in communication from others which can result in hurt feelings.

The influence of the Jupiter Neptune square will still be prominent this month. This aspect can fuel illusion so take any high flying plans or schemes more seriously than usual. This aspect can be ungrounding as well so staying focused and centered is a good thing to prioritize.

The Chiron Saturn opposition is transiting the nodes of the US chart. This is very important time for the destiny and direction of the United States. Staying well informed about political affairs is a good idea. Neptune governs oil and its square to Jupiter may make it very difficult to understand what is really going on in the realm of gas and oil.

One of the things I find fascinating about Astrology is its evolutionary nature. When events occur that seem sudden or unexpected often when viewed through an astrological lens they appear instead as a process which has been unfolding.

One of the political “surprises” of this week was the victory of Hamas in the Palestinian elections. With a deeper look it is not surprising at all. Hamas has been providing health care, day care, soup kitchens and transportation to the people of

Palestine for some time. One report that I read in the San Francisco Chronicle stated that the reason many people voted for Hamas was because they had provided these very simple and life supporting services. Hamas, in both an Aquarian and a Chironic way, had been functioning as a humanitarian organization serving the needs of the people in the midst of the ongoing corruption of the previous regime.

In many war torn areas people are not concerned as much about ideology as they are about survival. And although the US government touts the importance promoting democracy it's not a high priority if you're starving or your child is dying or if your friends are killed in the process.

Astrologically it is a time of religious wars and in such a time it is important to consider simple humanitarian principles which live outside broad sweeping terms made by religious or governmental leaders. That is what humanitarian Aquarius would have us remember.

Another interesting item in the news recently was a piece which also ran in the San Francisco Chronicle about the "Marlborough Man" of Fallujah. This was the photo taken of a young Marine, James Blake Miller in his battle gear during the United States assault on the city of Fallujah. The photo immediately caught on as a symbol and received wide publication. The Marines have used this photo in recruitment centers.

The irony in all of this and the Chironic part of the story is that the young man himself deeply questioned the morality of his actions in Fallujah. He was raised as a Christian and was taught that killing was wrong. And he pondered whether the US soldiers were killing people who were "insurgents" or people "who were just protecting their homes." This young man who was told by recruiters that he could get an automotive license if he signed up for the military recently received an honorable discharge and is suffering from PTSD. When asked about the photo he mentioned that this was a part of his life he'd like to forget but never will.

Venus has been retrograde in Capricorn and will turn direct on Feb 3. This has been an excellent time to rethink the origin of values. Individual values are determined by many factors; parental, religious, cultural, governmental. Aquarius is a maverick sign as far as values are concerned – it is one of the free thinkers of the zodiac and is concerned with humanity. Aquarians are the visionaries of the zodiac, the community builders and idealists.

We all have a little Aquarius in us and now's the time to break free of outmoded individual values which no longer ring true. And to advocate for values in our individual lives as well as on a local and global scale that improve the plight of humanity.

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