

Musings on Starlight

An Astrological Forecast for July '06 by Amelia Shea

"Who looks outside dreams, who looks inside wakes."...Jung

The Sun entered the constellation of Cancer the Crab on the Summer Solstice and will travel through the sign of Cancer until July 22. Cancer governs the Fourth House in Astrology which symbolizes the inner core from which we act. It is the inner place where we go to retreat when life feels daunting. The sign of Cancer rules digestion and it is here that we process events to place them in perspective and give them deeper meaning. James Hillman the Jungian analyst wrote, "between us and events .. there is a reflective moment -and soul making means differentiating this middle ground."

The sign of Cancer rules the home and it is to home and family that we often turn for comfort and reassurance. Cancer also governs ancestral lineage, the influence of family lines and early home conditions. Cancer is ruled by the Moon and thus people governed by this sign often experience fluctuations in moods and energy levels. The Moon in the Tarot deck symbolizes psychic ability or "other ways of knowing" and Cancers often rely on this ability. Most of the people I have met with a Cancer Moon have prophetic dreams.

Mercury which has been traveling through the sign of Cancer entered Leo on June 28 and will station retrograde on July 4. Mercury will then back up and remain retrograde in Cancer until July 29. Mercury retrograde is notorious for causing glitches with communications and travel -make sure computers are backed up and expect technical difficulties.

Retrograde Mercurys are also a good time to rethink and review. It is an excellent time to revisit issues related to early childhood and family in general. Mercury in Cancer is widely trining Jupiter in Scorpio and Uranus in Pisces providing an opportunity for expanded thoughts and revelations about this area of life. Mercury in Cancer is also a sensitive placement and openings of the heart are possible. It is a good time to enjoy and be grateful for the people in our lives -family or extended family.

Saturn and Mars are in Leo although that fractious conjunction which caused frustration during much of June has passed. Mars will enter Virgo on July 23.

Jupiter will turn direct on July 6th. Jupiter in Scorpio governs spiritual beliefs and systems as well as the justice system. Under this influence we may see groups joining together to bring more peaceful and just resolutions to conflict ridden areas.

Pluto the Lord of death and resurrection continues to transit the Galactic Center and now squares the Nodes newly in Pisces and Virgo. Both Pluto and the Nodes have to do with destiny and squares create inner tension that demands action for resolution. The people most personally affected by this have planets in the late degrees of Sagittarius, Gemini, Pisces and Virgo.

The time that the Sun travels through Cancer is a wonderful time to appreciate our natural home this beautiful planet. Pluto squaring the Nodes and creating a fated time is clearly seen in the concerns over global warming and climate change. Al Gore's film *An Inconvenient Truth* is going a long distance in educating the apparently quite curious public about the fate of the earth and the critical time we live in.

I recently saw interviews with both Al Gore and Robert Redford (who is working to create coalitions to push for more renewables). In the interviews they both remained

optimistic - Gore saying that he has worked in Washington for a long time and has seen how things operate at a snail's pace but can move very quickly with the right impetus. Robert Redford stated that he had hope for the future (once the current gang in Washington is out of power) because many solutions are possible with people who prioritize leadership in environmental matters.

In my work with the New England Coalition (which works to promote safe and renewable energy) I have been inspired by the work of the long time activist Raymond Shadis. He often reminds us to remember why we do the work we do. We do it he says because we love our home - the rivers and trees and rolling hills. It is described well in this poem by E.E. Cummings,

"i thank You God for most this amazing
day:for the leaping greenly spirits of trees
and a blue dream of sky:and for everything
which is natural which is infinite which is yes ."

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