

# Musings on Starlight

August gets off to an interesting start with a Solar eclipse at 9 degrees of Leo on the 1<sup>st</sup>. For many people it will represent a significant evolutionary turning point. It is a time when inspiration from higher realms is more readily accessible so make some extra time for contemplation. Pay attention to any significant intuitions. Planetary influences are harmonious for their integration over the next few days.

In general August promises to be a highly charged and volatile time. Mars is transiting in opposition to Uranus for much of the first part of the month. Take extra care with impulsive behavior and expect to encounter it in your interactions with others. In relationships and on the work front tempers can be short and nervous systems strained so be prepared for that.

With the strong Leo influence all month there's a tendency to take events personally but what is really called for is a stronger level of detachment.

Extra caution is indicated with driving, the use of fire etc as it can be a more accident prone time due to impulsiveness. Lightning is governed by this influence and so we are likely to see more powerful lightning about us.

Daily respite in the form of meditation or a quiet time will be restorative.

For the second half of the month Mars will move up to a square with Pluto. This is a warlike aspect and indicates that power struggles and saber rattling are on the rise- in our personal lives, on the work front and in the world. It can indicate an uptick in violence. Cultivate inner peace and strong boundaries.

There's a lunar eclipse on August 16 at 26 degrees of Aquarius. This eclipse conjuncts Chiron and the North Node. It can bring up an old wound for another revision/round of healing. It also triggers the awareness of the need to solve global problems in a cooperative egalitarian way. Networking with likeminded individuals is the best way to bring about change now.

Because of the North Node involvement this eclipse symbolizes a time of new beginnings. Also an excellent time for artistic work/the evolution of artistic projects. If you have significant placements around that degree (26 Aquarius) you may be able to see your path ahead with more clarity. Kindred spirits who help you find your way may become more visible.

Venus enters Virgo on August 6, Mars is in Virgo through the 19<sup>th</sup>, Mercury enters Virgo

on the 10<sup>th</sup> Saturn is in Virgo all month. Use this pragmatic energy to make a list of short and long term goals and get to work on them. Break what needs to be done into small parts and proceed steadily. Acknowledge progress incrementally.

The Sun enters Virgo on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. Mercury will enter Libra on the twenty eighth ushering in a better time for conversation, negotiation, reconciliation.