

Musings On Starlight an Astrological Forecast for December '05

by Amelia Shea

*“Whose woods these are I think I know.
His house is in the village though;
He will not see me stopping here
To watch his woods fill up with snow.
My little horse must think it queer
To stop without a farmhouse near
Between the woods and frozen lake
The darkest evening of the year.”*

In his poem *Stopping by the Woods on a Snowy Evening* Robert Frost refers to the journey of Sagittarius – the journey towards the Solstice, the return of the light or the birth of the “light of the world” in Christian terms at Christmas. Sagittarius governs philosophical systems or belief systems which lend depth and meaning to life’s journey and the confrontation with darkness.

Pluto has been in Sagittarius since 1995 and this placement astrologically symbolizes a time of religious wars. In his book *An Astrological Triptych*, Dane Rudhyar writes about it this way, “In a great many cases the expansive and social characteristics hide a stubborn drive toward the achievement of social, religious or managerial results at the expense of human values. Social goals are found to be more important than the welfare and freedom of individuals. A religious leader may be willing to destroy personalities in order to ‘save their souls’ according to his concept of salvation and spirituality. A nation is preserved but millions in it die of hunger.”

We are seeing this dynamic in operation in the daily headlines. Pluto’s role is always eventually cathartic and the information which is being exposed now will lead to reform. But in the interim there is always a journey through darkness.

The religious warring has left many people feeling rudderless and wondering what the role of religion plays in their personal lives as well as on a global scale. December is a good month to turn inward and explore these issues more deeply.

The predominant aspect throughout December is the fixed T square between Saturn in Leo, Neptune in Aquarius and Jupiter in Scorpio. Mars now retrograde in Taurus will continue on and off to impact on the T square turning it into a grand cross. All of this indicates gridlock and pressure. The signs most affected by this aspect are Aquarius, Scorpio, Leo and Taurus. These aspects beg the question of how we handle stress, challenges and obstacles and suggest new opportunities for innovative and creative approaches.

Mercury turns direct on Dec 3 and Mars turns direct on Dec 9 ending its retrograde period which started October 1st. Mars will now move direct and its influence will be felt more strongly after the eclipse by the Moon on Dec 13. This may help with moving projects forward and implementing plans which have been fermenting since early October. Mars is not happy in Taurus however so expect slow steady progress.

Chiron will enter Aquarius on Dec.5. Chiron is the asteroid known as the Wounded Healer and in Aquarius will lend a much needed humanitarian approach to matters of

love (in a universal sense) and the use of resources. This will also help with the continued growth and effectiveness of grassroots activity.

Wherever Chiron is in a chart shows where wounding has occurred and where healing can be a source of rebirth and rejuvenation.

The journey to the Solstice or the return of the Light is a reminder that the light has an inner dimension as well as an outer one. In her poem *The Buddha's Last Instruction* Mary Oliver writes,

“‘Make of yourself a light,’
said the Buddha
before he died.”

Good words to remember this December.

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