

Musings on Starlight

"The future enters into us to transform us long before it happens." Rilke

The Sun is transiting through the constellation of Sagittarius until the Winter Solstice 12/21. Sagittarius is the sign of the Archer - the one who aims high - and it governs open horizons - both outwardly through travel and exploration and inwardly through the world of ideas and beliefs. Several planets move into the sign of Capricorn this month, conjuncting Pluto and the North Node. This is a time when destiny can play a strong hand.

Mercury enters Capricorn on December 1st conjuncting Pluto and the North Node thus igniting one of the major themes of December - personal and collective transformation. This aspect reminds me of the Woody Allen movie when the main character goes to answer a knock at the door to find the Grim Reaper. It is a time to consider the deeper meaning and significance of our lives. One way to do that is to look at how we prioritize the use of our time and energy and how that might differ if we had only a short time to live. It is also a good time to examine and transform any thought patterns that have outlived their usefulness.

Venus re enters Scorpio on December first also. The sign of Scorpio is ruled by Pluto and passions run high under this influence which is in effect all month long. Projects related to the Venusian side of life - making things more beautiful and pleasurable can start to move forward if they have been stuck.

The New Moon this month is on December 5 at 13 degrees of Sagittarius. One of the Sabian symbols of this New Moon is "**The human soul in its eagerness for new experiences, seeks embodiment.**" This is a good time to honor your soul's journey and revisit your life from that perspective. The soul's journey is interwoven with our sense of mission in the world in a larger sense. Fate often plays a hand in these matters.

On Dec 6 Uranus goes direct conjunct Jupiter. Pay attention to events and thoughts that occur from the 4th to the 8th as information can come to us two days before or after a planetary station. We are able to access information from higher planes more easily at this point in time. When things feel stressful, difficult or problematic, take a higher spiritual perspective.

In Susan Cooper's book *The Dark is Rising* she describes the life of a small boy who played a role in the fate of the earth at a critical time by accessing information from a parallel spiritual world where he could see the struggles more clearly and symbolically. He goes back and forth between the two worlds unwinding the quest and the riddle as events evolve. Symbolically this is similar to the time in which we live in terms of how our individual lives interweave with the awakening underway on the planet.

On December 7th Mars enters Capricorn and conjuncts Pluto and the North Node. The Moon at this time will be the same degree as the upcoming eclipse in January at 13 degrees of Capricorn. This catalyzes the eclipse energy earlier and more strongly this month. Eclipses are evolutionary and represent the closing of one chapter and the opening of another. Pay attention to where this degree falls in your chart - it is that area of life which is being affected.

December 11 Mercury stations retrograde at 5 degrees of Capricorn conjunct Pluto and the North Node. Life comes us fast under these types of influences. This is a good time to meditate on the future and pay attention to how the future appears. This degree is associated with the Deep Water Horizon oil spill in the Gulf and governs significant events that defy containment and challenge us to rethink the future use of the earth's resources. Jupiter and Uranus provide the inspiration and innovation to find a new way.

Pluto in Capricorn is also bringing to light corruption, ill intent and malice in big business, government etc for several years to come. This is a process which is calling for transformation and reformation in terms of values.

Mercury will travel retrograde from 12/11 through 12/30. Leave extra time for travel under this influence. Make reservations and sign any agreements before 12/11 if possible to avoid the need for readjustment in the future. Make any necessary repairs to the car or the computer before the 11th. Back up important information. Take extra care with communications during the retrograde period as it is easy for communications and travel to go awry.

There is a Lunar eclipse at 29 degrees of Gemini on the Winter Solstice. This eclipse will be visible after midnight 12/21 in North America.

“Faith is not merely a way of knowing; it is also a way of participating.” Robert Ellwood

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