

Monthly Astrocast

August 2011

 <p>Capricorn the Goat ♄ December 22 - January 20 Ruled by Saturn ♄</p>
Key Events:
Full Moon (20:41 Aquarius): August 13, 2011
New Moon (05:27 Virgo): August 28, 2011
Retrograde Planets:
Pluto: April 9, 2011 - September 15, 2011 Neptune: June 3, 2011 - November 9, 2011 Uranus: July 10, 2011 - December 9, 2011 Mercury: August 3, 2011 - August 26, 2011 Jupiter: August 30, 2011 - December 25, 2011

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--Whobeda

Lunations and Long Term Aspects

The first thing you need to note about this month is that Mercury is going to be retrograde again for the majority of the month. As you probably already know, this is NOT the time to buy anything electronic or mechanical, which you may be doing as part of any back-to-school preparations. Considering that Mercury slows down before he actually goes into reverse, even the first few days are questionable and after that, the shadow period lasts until September 10, making it best to wait until then, if at all possible, before buying anything that fits that description. If your car dies, you'd really be better off renting one; if your washer or dryer dies, do to the laundromat. Last year my fridge died during a Mercury RX period and I lived out of an ice chest for over two weeks. A few days after he went direct I bought a new one and while it basically works, it sounds as if it's haunted and things like the freezer handle have a propensity to fall off every now and then. So consider yourself warned.

The Full Moon on August 13 is in Aquarius, your 2nd house of finance, income, possessions, needs and pleasures which should bring a culmination, ending or shift to a different phase in one of these areas. Neptune has slipped back into this house due to retrograde motion which brings his foggy influence back there as well. He can be inspirational as well as deceptive and also has a tendency to dissolve things, so if your finances or income has fit that description for the past several years, then it's going to continue for a while longer, *i.e.* until next February when he enters Pisces to stay for a long time.

For reference purposes, Neptune has been in Aquarius since February 1998 though he slipped back into Capricorn from August through November before entering Aquarius to stay. Financial astrologer, Christeen Skinner, claims that Neptune is the key to wealth while



others claim that Neptune, especially when paired with Saturn, can be like quicksand. So, think about what your finances and income have been doing for the past 13 years and then either rejoice or mourn Neptune's imminent departure come early 2012. If you want to hear what Christeen Skinner has to say you can get a recording of her *Breaking Down the Borders* conference talk entitled "Neptune, Wealth and Prosperity" in the shopping area of the International Academy of Astrology at www.astrocollege.org. The positive side of Neptune is his ability to enhance your visionary capability, the prerequisite to any accomplishment; until you can create it in your mind and set it as a goal, you simply won't get there.

Meanwhile, back at the Full Moon, there are a few challenges to watch for. A disruption or sudden change at home could stir things up this month. You already have Pluto in your 1st house which tends to precipitate some major personal changes, especially as the god of the Underworld transits your natal Sun. If there is anything you need to eliminate from your life which relates both to your home life and a close relationship, some action in that regard

could come your way. This could involve a power struggle with a spouse or other family member which is precipitated by an unexpected situation or perhaps simply the need to break free.

The Sun, Mercury and Venus are all in Leo, your 8th house of transformations, for this lunation, implying whatever is going on will also have a life-changing effect or impact your finances or income. On the positive side, lucky Jupiter is in your 5th house of children, romance, ego definition, creativity, entertainment and speculation which should bring good things your way in this part of your life. His trine to Pluto implies that a personal transformation can have a positive effect in this area as well.

The New Moon on August 28 is in fellow Earth Sign, Virgo, your 9th house of beliefs and expectations, legal matters, politics, religion, higher learning and long distance travel. This will have the strongest effect on those of you born between December 25 - 29 by bringing a change of direction. There is some sort of conflict to deal with which relates to someone close to you and your status, public image or perhaps an authority figure, but for the most part the aspects accompanying this lunation are favorable. Your creative endeavors can benefit greatly from Jupiter's presence and his connection with the New Moon.

Something good is in work between your 5th and 9th house so do the mix and match routine and see if you can figure out what it may be. Pluto and his propensity for personal transformation is also involved in a favorable way, so this may nudge you toward a major shift in your belief system with numerous benefits to follow. Also note that Jupiter goes retrograde the end of the month until Christmas. Jupiter RX typically emphasizes issues related to ethics or your philosophy of life, which especially applies for Cappies.

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