

# Monthly Astrocast

*August 2011*


<i>Key Events:</i>
Full Moon (20:41 Aquarius): August 13, 2011
New Moon (05:27 Virgo): August 28, 2011
<i>Retrograde Planets:</i>
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.

Of course Virgos, of all people, know the effects of Mercury RX since it's your sign ruler; likewise Gemini. I have a Virgo ascendant and it definitely does bad things to my ability to think clearly and function. Now is when you really need to concentrate on the positive side and use the energy productively. Starting on a new endeavor is difficult but redoing or revising an old one, doing repairs or maintenance, editing, rethinking or redoing are all favored. This is a very good time to finish up any old projects that simply need to be gone over one more time to meet your perfectionist expectations.



The Full Moon on August 13 is in Aquarius, your 6th house of work, health and pets. Since a Full Moon typically denotes a culmination, ending, or shift to a new cycle or phase, watch for something like that in this part of your life. For example,

you may finish up a project at work, complete a diet or something similar. There are a few challenges associated with this lunation to watch out for. First of all, Mercury is retrograde at this time and opposing Neptune. Mercury is in your 12th house of spirituality, enlightenment, dreams, inspiration, institutions, confinement, seclusion, hidden enemies and self-undoing, a.k.a. the "angels and demons" house. This implies rethinking something in this part of your life where you may not have had correct information. Also watch out for deception on the part of anyone at work who may want to undermine you. Check your work even more carefully than you usually do and keep an eye on anyone you don't particularly trust.

Pluto is in fellow Earth Sign, Capricorn, your 5th house of creativity, ego definition, children, romance, entertainment and speculation for the long haul. Pluto is typically viewed as one of the astrological bad boys, but can actually have a very positive effect. He helps with eliminating anything you no longer need and all sorts of transformations. If your birthday is right around August 29 you can look forward to some very beneficial

action as far as 5th house activities are concerned. For example, any old, supposedly dead creative ideas could make a glorious comeback that has a significant impact on your belief system. Speaking of which, those of you with birthdays around September 2 can expect your horizons to be expanded in some way. There are some conflicts out there, as always, which may come about suddenly or in a disruptive manner. This might interfere in something you're trying to do in a frustrating way and may also involve a friend or associate, perhaps that same person you need to keep an eye on.

The New Moon on August 28 occurs in your Sign and if this is your birthday or very close to it, it will be on your solar return chart and in effect for the entire year, which could make it very interesting. The aspects associated with this lunation are generally quite favorable. A major change in your outlook could bring about a shift in direction of where you thought you were heading. Whatever has been going on with regard to your belief system will have a personal impact which will be favorable. About that same time you will probably also experience deeper understanding of what really makes you tick. If you've been a little unsure of where you've been headed, this should give you something to build on as you start a new cycle.

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