Monthly Astrocast

December 2011



Key Events:

Full Moon/Lunar Eclipse (18:11 Gemini): December 10, 2011

New Moon (02:34 Capricorn): December 24, 2011

Retrograde Planets:

Uranus: July 10, 2011 - December 9, 2011

Jupiter: August 30, 2011 - December 25, 2011

Mercury: November 24, 2011 - December 14, 2011

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--Uhobeda

Lunations and Long-term Aspects

The Full Moon/Lunar Eclipse on December 10 occurs in your sign, Gemini, and is likely to have the most noticeable impact on those of you with birthdays within a day or so of June 10. Remember that eclipses are lunations on steroids and thus have a much more powerful influence which can appear before the actual eclipse or several months after. The degree of the eclipse can become a "hot spot" which is triggered by subsequent planetary transits. A lunar eclipse is typically noticed more on the emotional plane whereas solar eclipses tend to bring events and situations for us to act upon.

During this eclipse Mercury, your sign ruler, is retrograde, which you have probably already noticed. Mercury is currently retrograde in your 7th house of relationships. This includes your significant other, close friends and relatives, business partners, and business professionals with whom you interact on a one-on-one basis, such as your attorney or financial advisor. Moving forward during this time is usually an exercise in futility. In other words, trying to fight against a planet's energy typically is like teaching a pig to sing: it frustrates you and annoys the pig. On the other hand, Mercury retrograde is helpful (believe it or not) for a variety of things, which in this case are going to involve someone close to you in one way or another. Mercury retrograde is favorable for revising, reviewing, reworking, reconsidering, redesigning, reinventing, rethinking, recovering, and probably just about anything you can add the prefix "re" to, implying you're doing it over.

This can work together with Jupiter, which is also retrograde in nextdoor neighboring sign, Taurus, your 12th house of spirituality, enlightenment, inspiration, seclusion, confinement, institutions, hidden enemies and self-undoing. Jupiter tends to be more philosophical and introspective while retrograde rather than expansive making this a favorable time for contemplation of matters that fall in your "Angels and Demons" house, which may tie in with any relationship issues which are pleading for a reset. Jupiter stations direct Christmas Day, at which time you should arrive at some new conclusions which will influence your spiritual side. Depending on where Pluto falls in your individual natal chart he is also encouraging dealing with anything which hasn't been resolved. He is in your natural 8th house of transformations where he is accidentally dignified, giving him additional power. Pluto can also be about letting go of something you no longer need or sometimes power struggles. The 8th house comprises sex, death and rebirth, shared resources and debt as well as transformations in general. There is a good chance that Pluto, Jupiter and Mercury are working together in this effort. Think about the houses involved and how they tie together for clues on how this applies to you and your situation.

There are three closed aspects in this eclipse which also distribute cosmic energy in a specific path. One that isn't connected in a trine from Mercury to Uranus in Aries, your 11th house of friends, groups, organizations, networking and goals. This combination implies a sudden need to revise something which relates to one or more of these areas. However, this may be the trigger for other considerations. One aspect pattern which

directly involves the eclipse Sun and Moon is Mars, which is in Virgo forming a T-square to the two luminaries. Mars in Virgo is meticulous and can become angry or frustrated when things go wrong. Virgo is your 4th house of cultural roots, home environment, memories and endings. A T-square tends to be a stressful aspect pattern which is tying you as an individual, one or more close relationship, and Mars' energy and desire to move forward into a potentially tense situation. For example, you may want to move forward on a remodeling project but your significant other is against it. Or you may want to start a partnership but activities at home demand so much time you can't fit it into your schedule. You may need to use Mercury retrograde to rethink and re-plan accordingly.

Another closed loop pattern known as a triangle of potential is formed by Jupiter, Saturn and Neptune. Saturn is exalted in Libra, your 5th house of ego development, creativity, romance, children, entertainment and speculation. Saturn is generally



considered a malefic planet but he functions well in Libra where the fairness, balance and objectivity of that sign direct his discipline and responsibility in a favorable manner. He is opposing retrograde Jupiter in your 12th house, suggesting a tug-o-war between the philosophical justification for a new creative project or perhaps spending too much time on creative efforts as opposed to your spiritual development. Neptune in Aquarius, your 9th house of higher learning, beliefs and expectations, religion, politics, long-distance travel and legal matters is in soft aspect to both Saturn and Jupiter and can thus mitigate the opposition. Neptune can bring inspiration and enlightenment as well as insights into your beliefs and expectations which of course drive your priorities, helping you establish the proper balance.

The last closed loop doesn't have a specific name that I'm aware of but involves the Moon, Mars and Venus. The Moon is in your sign and signifies your emotional nature or what is in your heart. The square with Mars suggests a conflict of some sort at home, perhaps something you need to do but your heart isn't in it at this time. Venus, however, is trining Mars, which may lend a hand. Venus is in your 8th house of transformations and is the ruler of your 5th house creativity and so forth as well as your 12th house of spirituality. This implies that she can tie these two areas together in a manner that changes you in some way. Venus is quincunx the Moon, an aspect which suggests an adjustment or change of direction which will represent the compromise needed to navigate any difficulties.

If your birthday is right around June 5th the lunar South Node is conjunct your natal Sun. The nodes can bring major turning points to your life. The South Node often implies something going out of your life as something new comes in, perhaps a person, considering that the North Node is in your 7th house of relationships. Watch for this as well because it will be significant.

The New Moon on December 24 is in Capricorn, your 8th house of transformations and so forth as noted earlier. This, also, implies a new phase in your personal evolution as an individual. If your birthday is right around May 24 this will have an even stronger influence toward effecting a change of direction. The triangle of potential described above is still in effect due to the fact that it comprises outer planets which move slowly. Breaking away from a goal or organization may develop suddenly or some other disruption that has a strong impact on you personally.

However, this has the potential to provide input that relates to those spiritual ponderings and considerations. If there are any conflicts between your beliefs and your connection with the collective they are likely to appear at this time as well. For example, if your religious or political beliefs conflict with some aspect of your spiritual essence, you will need to resolve that in order to progress. There is a rather strong likelihood that this will not be a minor shift but one which redirects your life in a significant way. This month's lunar energy is very much on the mental and spiritual plane even though it clearly relates to the people in your life. Use your strong analytical abilities to sort it all out or moving forward will encounter numerous obstacles.

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