

Monthly Astrocast

August 2013



Key Events:

New Moon (14:35 Leo): August 6, 2013

Full Moon (28:11 Aquarius): August 20, 2013

Grand Square: August 25, 2013

Retrograde Planets:

Saturn: February 18 - July 7, 2013

(11:32 - 04:49 Scorpio)

Shadow until October 15, 2013

Pluto: April 12 - September 19, 2013

(11:35 - 8:59 Capricorn)

Neptune: June 7 - November 13, 2013

(05:22 - 02:34 Pisces)

Mercury: June 26 - July 19, 2013

(23:06 - 13:30 Cancer)

Shadow until August 4, 2013

Uranus: July 17 - December 17, 2013

(12:31 - 8:35 Aries)

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please share them with a friend!*

--Whobeda

Lunations and Long-term Aspects

This month is another busy one on the astrological scene. Last month we had a rather rare Grand Sextile on July 29 and this time it will be a Grand Square a.k.a. Grand Cross which will actually be embedded within another Grand Sextile, albeit a somewhat loose and liberal one. In other words, the allowable orb for a sextile, which is usually around 3 degrees, is stretched to medieval allowances which are substantially higher, up to 8 degrees when the Sun or Moon is involved. I normally only consider fairly tight orbs but in this case I can see the potential for a lot of energy transference due to the fact nearly all the planets are busily engaged in a cosmic tête-à-tête. Time will tell, of course, but IMHO it's well within the realm of possibility. Meanwhile, give some thought to what happened on July 29 on both the mundane and personal level for reference. Then see if there are similar effects on August 25. More on this month's grand configuration follow, but first the usual lunations.

The New Moon on August 6 is in Leo, your 3rd house of thoughts, ideas, siblings, neighbors and local travel. The lunation is trining Uranus, planet of innovation, brilliance and breakthroughs, over in Aries, your 11th house of friends, organizations, groups, goals, hopes and wishes. This looks like a rather nice aspect that could bring something new and exciting into your life, especially since Gemini thrive on data and information. The Grand Water Trine that began in July is still in effect but fading fast and will be gone soon. While I covered its effects last month I'm going to again, just to make sure you utilized it properly. As an Air sign you're more inclined toward logic and not all that compatible with emotion-laden Water.

Nonetheless, there is something to be learned from it and those energies in which you are deficient or don't have an affinity usually have something to offer to round out your personality. This one comprised Jupiter in Cancer, Saturn in Scorpio and Neptune in Pisces which represent your 2nd, 6th and 10th houses, respectively. These are known as the Substance houses. The 2nd comprises your income and possessions, the 6th your work and service and the 10th is career and reputation, so you can see there's a common theme and natural link between them.

Jupiter is exalted in Cancer where his expansive nature has free reign (or perhaps rein, depending on which metaphor you prefer). He's a benefic planet that seldom does harm except for his expansive effects which can bring trouble when linked with nasty, hard aspects such as explosions and tornadoes. Since Cancer is your 2nd house of finances, needs, pleasures and what you value, an expansion in this part of your life is something you probably live for. Then there's Saturn in Scorpio, your 6th house of work, health, service, people who work for you, and pets. For several months Saturn was retrograde, which occurs every year. The first week of July he went direct which finally brings his retrograde ruminations into your conscious mind. Typically his message is about restructuring or rebuilding something, which in this case will relate to something in your 6th house, and due to the trine with Jupiter, it's likely to bring financial benefits. However, don't automatically exclude your health, which is 6th house along with your

most important possession, i.e. your body, which is 2nd house. Thus, if you're involved in a health situation it could apply and Saturn could relate to structuring your recovery or even a fitness plan.

The final component of the Grand Trine is Neptune in Pisces, your 10th house of career, reputation, public image and status. The link between job and career is fairly clear, especially if you're a Gemini, but may not be what is going on here. It may be but let's consider some of the less obvious possibilities. Anything that might appear in the newspaper or public record is included in the 10th house. Status is very broad and covers just about anything you might post on Facebook. Graduating from school is 10th house and so is getting promoted or fired; starting a business; getting married or divorced; becoming a parent or grandparent or having your last child leave home or first child go to kindergarten. Get the idea?

Neptune is a dreamy, imaginative planet and is in the sign he rules so he is comfortable and highly functional. Neptune can also be delusional and deceptive or idealistic and unrealistic, but in a trine he's hopefully operating in a more positive way. At any rate, bear in mind that his effects are often not tangible, except, somewhat obviously, in the case of such things as tsunamis. Neptune rules all liquids including oil and alcohol, drugs of all varieties, and also overseas travel. Now use your superior reasoning power to tie these three influences together. If nothing comes to mind as fitting this combination over the past month or so consider how it might. I always say use the astrological energy or it will use you, so if nothing has occurred so far, then maybe you need to make it happen, especially since Saturn has only been posigrade for about a month. While retrograde obstacles and delays are common but those should be gradually falling away if they haven't already.

The New Moon has another aspect pattern that is generally less friendly than the Grand Trine. This one is known as a Cardinal T-square and Jupiter is tying both together, perhaps in a slightly fickle manner. However, as the master of a dual personality, you can probably relate to this better than most. The T-square comprises Jupiter, Pluto and Uranus who are residing in Cancer, Capricorn and Aries, respectively, and comprise your 2nd, 8th and 11th houses, also respectively. I've covered your 2nd as your money house already, so this implies a lot going on there, especially since Jupiter is not alone. Your 8th is where transformations occur. It also includes death and rebirth, sex, shared resources, debt, things you suppress and intense, life-changing experiences. Pluto is accidentally dignified in this domain as the modern ruler of Scorpio, 8th house of the zodiac, so he is very much at home. Pluto relates to eliminating things you no longer need, exposing and clearing corruption, healing, power and control to name a few. This implies that in order to accelerate or improve your income you may have some old issue lurking in your psyche that needs to be resolved before that income flow can commence.

Uranus in your 11th house of friends, groups, organizations, goals, hopes and wishes is likely to bring surprises in this area. He may also represent uniqueness in this part of your life, the need for freedom or even some form of rebellion against the status quo. It's possible that something unexpected in this part of your life will set off the need to resolve

that other issue. T-squares aren't always easy but they do tend to be motivating and help you accomplish what needs to be done. Without them, life would be too easy.

As noted earlier, Mars is in Cancer where he is in fall. He can manifest as a temper tantrum or simply represent action so laden with emotion that it is either impulsive or swimming in circles. If this sounds familiar with regard to your finances then you've already met Mars. Venus is sextile Mars but this won't last long since it's already fading. Nonetheless, watch for an opportunity to get Mars on the right track with some sort of action related to your income or perhaps some other need through something related to your home environment. Maybe this is about saving money instead of generating it. Or maybe someone in your household can contribute or serve as a motivating force. It could even relate to an urge to beautify your home, if perhaps you have more money coming in. Mercury, your sign ruler, is in Cancer as well. This implies thoughts about money and could be somewhat emotional in nature. He's unaspected, though, which implies a lot of random thoughts that may not have anywhere to go.

The Full Moon on August 20 is in fellow Air sign, Aquarius. You may have already noticed that there were no planets in Air signs the first part of the month, which could have left you figuratively gasping for Air. This lunation may have a touch of déjà-vu given that the July Full Moon was also in that sign, making this a Blue Moon. So you have at least a lunation in an Air sign plus Venus has moved into Libra, sign of her dignity, which may bring some relief. The Grand Water Trine is gone for the most part but the T-square remains, so everything I said related to that still applies. Meanwhile you have a Full Moon in your 11th house of friends, groups, goals, hopes, wishes, organizations, networking and so forth which suggests an ending, culmination or shift to a new phase. This, of course, could relate to whatever is going on financially.

Your sign ruler, Mercury, is conjunct the Sun in Leo, your 3rd house of thoughts, ideas, siblings and neighbors, so things could be popping there which require juggling with existing goals or group activities. Venus may also have a few clues if you're caught in some sort of do-loop. Libra is your 5th house of ego definition, creativity, children, romance, entertainment and speculation and is semisextile Saturn in your house of work. This implies that incorporating some of yourself or creativity into your work could be helpful, even though it will take some effort. This, in turn, can bring about a shift in direction relative to your career or something else in your 10th house. This could be the final result the Universe planned all along for you with that Grand Trine.

On August 25 that Grand Square occurs along with another Grand Sextile. Bear in mind that there are planets in 8 of the 12 signs which represents a tremendous variety of energies, all of which are connected in one way or another except for lone wolf, Mars, who's still lost in Cancer trying to figure out what to do. The Grand Square has actually evolved from the T-square described above but has been joined by Venus who is fortunately in her home sign and likely to provide some positive input to the situation, even though some degree of conflict is likely. The implications for Gemini is that your creativity reigns here, that it can somehow mitigate the other issues, even though things might get worse or even gridlocked first.

A Grand Sextile comprises six sextiles, an aspect that typically brings an opportunity. Thus there is the potential for six of them! However, it's not that easy. Also present in this configuration are a couple mystic rectangles, aspect patterns that incorporate two sextile and two oppositions. Often what they bring are mutually exclusive choices, having to give up something in order to get something else, or generally not being able to have your cake and eat it, too. In other words, whatever presents itself you're not going to be able to take everything, you'll have to make a choice. You cannot have door number 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6, only one or possible two, if you're lucky. The Sun and Mercury are conjunct in Virgo where Mercury is exalted and dignified and thus at top efficiency. Virgo is your 4th house of home environment, cultural roots, memories, and new beginnings which brings focus to that part of your life.

However, both are opposing Neptune in your 10th which implies a balance between reality based on facts and practicality versus dreams. I'm a real fan of dreams and think we should all follow them. If this sounds illogical, then I recommend Dr. Robert Anthony's "Secret of Deliberate Creation" program for which you'll find a link above. I never promote anything on this site that I can't vouch for and I can credit this program for many good things in my life, so you may want to check it out. You may be surprised to discover that not everything in the world is logical.

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