

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 is another interesting month from the astrological viewpoint. Last month we had a Grand Sextile and this month we have a Grand Square a.k.a. Grand Cross which is embedded in another Grand Sextile, even though the latter is a bit sloppy as far as the orbs are concerned. Nonetheless, the planets are tied together sufficiently for there to be some transference and stretch the allowable degrees or orbs to viable aspects, at least IMHO. As they say, the truth of the pudding is in the eating so time will tell, both on the mundane and personal level. Take note of the dates involved, July 29 for the first Grand Sextile, and August 25 for the upcoming one and see if anything interesting occurs.

The New Moon on August 6 is in Leo, your 6th house of work, health, pets, service and people who serve or work for you. This suggests something new coming your way in this part of your life. The lunation trine Uranus in Aries, your 2nd house of income, possessions, finances, needs, pleasures and what you value, which suggests a unique form of income that could come to you in a surprising or unexpected way. It could also be something more related to relaxing and enjoying yourself, such as possibly winning a contest at work that sends you on a vacation or cruise. If your birthday is right around March 5 the lunation is quincunx your natal Sun which suggests an adjustment or change of course related to one of those 6th house issues. Another possibility is that you will acquire a new pet which will bring you lots of affection and emotional satisfaction. It doesn't have to be a big deal but it's highly likely something will come your way. As the house that also includes service it could also mean you do something meaningful for someone else, like work on a service project for a charitable organization which brings unexpected rewards.

That Grand Water Trine is still out there but is in its final days. If you haven't felt it or utilized it now is probably your last chance. If your birthday is right around February 23 your sign ruler, Neptune, is conjunct your Natal Sun. This will greatly enhance your Piscean nature an order of magnitude and may make you feel as if you're afloat, in another dimension or perhaps losing all touch with reality. All Pisces may have noticed this energy change which began in April 2011 but came and went for a while due to retrograde motion until Neptune got fully established in your sign in February 2012. Take a moment to reflect on what has been going on in your life during that time and whether you have felt these effects.

Perhaps they've felt perfectly normal to you but others have commented that you are different in some undefined way. Pisceans don't always feel entirely grounded as it is, unless you have an Earth sign (Taurus, Virgo, or Capricorn) ascendant or perhaps Moon. This can be a very destabilizing effect, especially if you don't know what is going on. This is an excellent time to take up something like yoga, meditating, tai chi or some other activity that helps you channel that spiritual energy in a controlled and meaningful way. The Universe wants the best for you and this is part of your cosmic training to get in touch with your true self and connect with unseen forces that can be your greatest asset.

So even though the Grand Water Trine is on its last legs, Neptune will remain in your sign and it's important to understand the effects and how best to use them.

Meanwhile Neptune is trining Jupiter in Cancer, your 5th house of ego definition, creativity, children, romance, entertainment and speculation. Jupiter is exalted in that sign where his expansive and inclusive nature is allowed free reign. Jupiter is the natural ruler of such things as your philosophy of life and is your traditional sign ruler before Neptune came along. This should be a very useful aspect for connecting with your inner self and defining who and what you are. It's possible it will dissolve all ambition and discipline and incline you toward relaxing, playing, daydreaming and generally goofing off except for the final component, Saturn, master of discipline and responsibility, who is in Scorpio, your 9th house of beliefs, expectations, higher education, philosophy of life, legal matters, other cultures, long-distance travel and relocation. Saturn was retrograde for several months which operates at the subconscious level but he went direct in July, at which time these ruminations rise to your conscious mind and direct you toward something that needs to be restructured.

In other words, Saturn can really help you get it together as all that inspiration pours in from the other two planets. Also note that the 1st, 5th and 9th houses are known as the Life Houses which define who and what you are with the 1st your personality, the 5th your ego and creative expression and the 9th your belief system and how you interact with the world. This should thus be a very important and perhaps defining time for Water signs. The trine between Saturn and Neptune will remain for a while to help you get it together if you haven't already.

Jupiter is a bit fickle this month, however, as he is also part of a Cardinal T-square formed as he opposes Pluto and squares Uranus. The latter two have been squaring each other on and off for a while now and causing all sorts of trouble on the mundane scene. In a nutshell, the delineation of these two is an explosive and possibly rebellious exposure of corruption in government and corporations. If you haven't noticed that then you've really been off in Lalaland from Neptune in your 1st house. With all three planets in Cardinal signs taking action is all but guaranteed and thus all the various situations in the news, Edward Snowden's exposure of NSA behavior as well as revelations regarding the IRS here in the USA two obvious examples. Exposure of scandals and such are likely to continue for some time and probably peak again around November 1 when the square is exact again.

Meanwhile Jupiter in your 9th is likely to bring these events and situations to your attention in such a way that you review your philosophy of life. If you trusted your government before you may be inclined to rethink that during this transit. There is likely to be clashes between what you believe versus what you are seeing. With Mars in Cancer just leaving the T-square you may be quite angry or action-oriented due to these insights. When Jupiter and Mars were conjunct during July this inclination would have been ever stronger. Mercury is in Cancer as well, further driving the thoughts and information into opinions. This could result in a different view of someone in your life with whom you may have disagreed at one time. You may even find yourself drawn to a group or

organization that embraces your new beliefs or perhaps find a new friend through similar means.

The Full Moon on August 20 is in Aquarius, your 12th house of spirituality, dreams, visions, enlightenment, inspiration, transcendence, seclusion, confinement, hidden enemies and self-undoing. If this sounds familiar it's because last month's Full Moon was also in Aquarius, which is somewhat rare. There are thirteen lunar cycles each year, however, which makes this inevitable at some point. It is sometimes referred to as a Blue Moon. A Full Moon brings a culmination, ending or shift to a new phase, which fits in nicely with everything else going on in your life. All of the information pouring in will affect you at the spiritual level and create a new phase. By this time the Grand Water Trine is gone but the T-square remains so your new belief system is still in the process of forming. Venus is in Libra, sign of her dignity and rulership and your 8th house of transformations. She is quincunx Neptune which indicates a change of direction with the semisextile with Saturn showing an opportunity which will require some effort on your part. Nonetheless, this should be a good thing which is well worth the effort. The Universe is taking you by the hand and leading you to a higher plane of existence. You may feel like Indiana Jones in "The Last Crusade" when he stepped forward into what appeared to be empty space then found a pathway materializing before him. As it was in that movie, it should be a good thing.

The Cardinal Grand Square/Cross on August 25 represents a tremendous amount of cosmic energy. There are planets in 8 of the 12 signs of the zodiac and the only one that isn't connected is Mars, in his fall in Cancer. An unaspected planet typically represents a wildcard and unpredictable energy. Mars in Cancer can be anything from a temper tantrum to being so overwhelmed by emotion that taking action is difficult or overly impulsive. If Mars aspects one of your natal Planet this will stabilize his energy but not necessarily in a favorable way. If your birthday is right around March 19 he will trine your Sun, so monitor your behavior carefully and don't do anything you might regret later if it has any shade of negativity. Not surprisingly, the Grand Cross comprises the T-square between Pluto, Uranus and Jupiter described earlier with the addition of Venus in Libra, your aforementioned 8th house of transformations, sex, death and rebirth, debt, shared resources, things you suppress and intense experiences. Venus is well-behaved in this sign and could deliver the lessons of that T-square to your core being for integration.

A Grand Sextile comprises six sextiles with the typical interpretation of a sextile being an opportunity. However, there are also oppositions all over the place with the Grand Square plus some resulting in a few Mystic Rectangles. That aspect pattern often brings an either/or situation where you can't have your cake and eat it, too. It's not necessarily unfortunate, only limited to one choice or the other. For example, if you want that promotion you may have to move. The Sun and Mercury oppose Neptune from practical Virgo, your 7th house of close relationships including your significant other, close friends and relatives, business partners, cliental, competitors and open enemies (as opposed to hidden enemies which reside in the 12th). This individual(s) could be a sanity check for what you want to do. When any Water sign is somewhat lost in emotion often an Earth sign person you trust can help you find land again. An opposition seeks balance and

compromise which polar signs excel at providing. Venus is opposite Uranus which has financial implications. Uranus is the planet of freedom and independence and maybe this opposition is telling you that sometimes that isn't possible, that accepting help is appropriate to achieve you goals. Pluto is in your 11th house of friends, organizations, goals, hopes and wishes and suggests a transformation in this part of your life, even though it won't necessarily be easy. Nonetheless, life changes in a new direction are written all over the cosmos for Pisceans these days and the position of the planets is supportive at this time for your success. As they say in show business, break a leg.

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