

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 one with unusual astrological configurations. In addition to the usual lunation there is a Grand Cross a.k.a. Grand Square which is embedded in another sloppy but viable Grand Sextile if you use medieval orbs which stretch modern limits a bit. The term "orb" in astrology describes the number of degrees allowable to still count an aspect. In other words, if Venus in Taurus is at 8 degrees and Mars in Cancer is at 5 degrees, then the orb is 3 degrees and allowable for a sextile. When it gets more than 3 degrees it gets weaker and actually iffy, but when there are so many planets tied together there's a certain amount of transference which can stretch it a bit. Orbs have gotten tighter in modern times largely due to the accuracy now available in our trusty ephemerides and of course astrological computer programs, without which many of us would be in a different line of work. Trust me. Calculating a chart by hand is no picnic.

The New Moon on August 6 is in fellow Fixed sign, Leo, your 10th house of career, reputation, public image and status. This is an excellent time to start a new endeavor in this part of your life. Remember that "status" is as pervasive as what you might post as such on Facebook. It covers anything that might be found in the newspaper or in the public record. If you got promoted or, conversely, fired. If you received an honor or got arrested. If you graduated from school or your business went kaput. "Career" also includes what you'll be known for, your highest achievement. For some people it could even be a hobby or avocation as opposed to your "day job." It's the person you are out before the world, winner or loser.

The lunation trines Uranus in your 6th house of work, service, health, pets and people who work for you. That is a nice combination for a pleasant surprise coming your way with regard to your job and career path. Uranus in Aries can be like spontaneous combustion. He's the modern ruler of your 4th house of home environment, cultural roots, memories and new beginnings, so that is likely to tie into things as well. However, Uranus has a dirty little secret. He's doing some two-timing that you need to keep an eye on, but more on that a bit later. First, let's take a final look at the Grand Water Trine which is in it's final stages.

Saturn is in your sign and on your natal Sun if your birthday is right around October 29. He just came out of retrograde in July which is a good thing because now his energy is all about rebuilding and restructuring something related to your life. Saturn transits aren't always easy but they're always productive. He is trining Neptune in Pisces, your 5th house of ego definition, romance, children, entertainment, creativity, and speculation. This is the astrological "fun house" and Neptune can bring a fantasy element that can help you escape your stressful life through any of the items listed above. However, bear in mind that everything there may not be real. It could be an illusion, delusion or may disappear at any time. But inspiration and enlightenment are there like never before. The final component is Jupiter, who shares Uranus' dirty little secret. Nonetheless, Jupiter is usually a benefic planet who's in the sign of his exaltation, i.e. Cancer, where his expansive, inclusive nature is at its peak. Cancer is your 9th house of beliefs,

expectations, philosophy of life, higher learning, politics, religion, other cultures, long-distance travel, relocation and legal matters. The 1st, 5th and 9th houses are known as the Life houses, the ones that define who and what you are. An easy emotional flow through these venues should feel good, even though the Neptunian element could create an illusion. Self-actualization during this time, however, should have been favored.

So now let's see what Jupiter and Uranus are up to. The Uranus - Pluto has been around for a while and will likewise be with you on and off for a few more years. It will be exact again on November 1, when the Sun is in your sign. Pluto, of course, is your modern sign ruler, so hold extra meaning for Scorpions. That is a good thing because no one can manage Pluto's potentially dark energy like you can. Especially with Pluto slowly making his way through your 3rd house of thoughts, ideas, siblings, neighbors and local travel. Scorpions excel at ferreting out other people's secrets with your built-in x-ray vision and Pluto gives that an additional boost. Your Water sign intuition is already strong and this makes it stronger still, particularly for those of you born right around November 2.

Pluto is also about eliminating things you no longer need, exposing hidden corruption as well as power and control. He is transformational by nature so something related to your 3rd house is likely to undergo major changes during this transit. The square to Uranus adds an explosive quality since his placement ties in your house of work, health, service, employees and pets. You may uncover all sorts of surprises that others don't appreciate. An erratic task load, unpredictable schedules, or even job hopping is possible at this time. The good news is that Pluto is in a relatively friendly Earth sign with which Scorpio has a certain level of affinity. No so Fire sign Aries, which suggests adjustments and course changes are likely but you will see the opportunities and act on them in a fortuitous manner.

This square has recently become a T-square which is where Jupiter comes in. As already noted, he's in your 9th house of beliefs and so forth. He could exaggerate the effects of Pluto and Uranus but its possible it won't be a bad thing, especially with him part of that Grand Trine. However, he is squaring Uranus which can inflate his disruptive nature and Pluto is likewise trying to control him so he doesn't get too carried away. You may be oscillating between a sense of control and a sense of confusion during this time. This will probably continue for a while. Mars, your traditional sign ruler, is also in Cancer where he is in fall. Mars likes to take action and in an emotional Water sign he may be tangled up in emotion or even provoke a temper tantrum or two. He will encourage taking action on your beliefs but this will be done with emotional overtones which are not always positive, depending on how impulsive they might be.

He's been in a sextile with Venus for a few days, which will be of short duration, but could bring an opportunity through a friend or group association which ties in with your goals. Venus is in fall in Virgo, however, so we have two planets that aren't functioning at their best. There are some implications for meeting someone or it could simply relate to a goal. It could even relate to a trip, if you have one on your bucket list. They may

both be in detriment but with a sextile there is still something good lurking there is you watch for it.

The Full Moon on August 20 is in fellow Fixed sign, Aquarius, your 4th house of home environment, cultural roots, memories and new beginnings. A Full Moon typically brings an ending, culmination or shift to a new phase. If this sounds like deja-vu from last month, you're right since the Full Moon in July was also in Aquarius, which doesn't happen very often. If your birthday is right around November 21 this lunation creates another T-square with your natal Sun which suggests a conflict between home and career. Mercury is conjunct the Sun, facilitating communications where your career and status is concerned. Venus has moved into Libra, which she rules, and represents your 12th house of spirituality, dreams, visions, enlightenment, imagination, seclusion, confinement, institutions, hidden enemies and self-undoing. She is in cahoots with Neptune so be sure to find some time for quiet solitude and meditation which can help you draw information from your subconscious and help with any issues you may be struggling with at this time. The T-square described earlier is still there but the Grand Water Trine is gone.

Then on August 25 a Cardinal Grand Cross occurs. Many of the players are familiar, *i.e.* Pluto, Uranus and Jupiter in their T-square which Venus turns into a Grand Square or Cross. She moves quickly so it won't last very long. Nonetheless, this could be some sort of gridlock even though opportunities await for Scorpios. If you don't like your job and are thinking about a career change, this could be a time when you recognize what your fondest desire for earning a living happens to be. However, it may also entail a major change to your finances or even going back to school in order to accomplish it. That's okay, once you know what you want it's easier to get there. If nothing else, check out the link above to Dr. Robert Anthony's program which is all about helping you visualize your way to attaining what you want. He's excellent or I wouldn't promote his program on my site.

Of course the Grand Cross is only part of what's going on this particular day in the cosmos. The planets are in eight of the twelve signs of the zodiac and connected in a variety of ways, albeit loosely. When there are as many aspects as there are at this time you can expect some transference. When you have six sextiles that spells opportunity even if they aren't as close as modern convention dictates. There are some mystic rectangles in there which often bring at least two things your way which are mutually exclusive. This is when you can't have your cake and eat it, too. You're likely to encounter at least one "either/or" situation, but the difficult may lie in deciding between them because they're both favorable. Not a bad place to be, actually.

Nonetheless, there are some oppositions to deal with which usually are a call for balance. The Sun and Mercury are conjunct in Virgo, sign of Mercury's dignity and exaltation so thoughts and plans relative to your goals should be clear. However, the opposition to Neptune could bring in some delusions. This is where you need to make sure you don't get too carried away with illusions, even though a little inspiration is helpful. The Moon is opposing Saturn which suggests you may get some opposition from someone close to

you regarding what you want to do. On the other hand, they may have some valuable input that can help solidify your plans. There's a tremendous amount of energy out there which implies things could be bouncing off the walls. Keep your cool, use your Scorpio x-ray vision and use it to your advantage.

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