

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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them with a friend!*

--Whobeda

Lunations and Long-term Aspects

This month is another one with some very interesting astrological phenomena other than the usual lunations. Last month there was the Grand Sextile on July 29, which is a fairly rare occurrence. You might take a moment to think about what happened on that day, on both the mundane and personal scene to get some idea how that energy affected you, because there's going to be another one on August 25 which will also have a Grand Square a.k.a. Grand Cross. More on that below, after the usual lunation report.

The New Moon on August 6 is in fellow Fixed Sign, Leo, your 4th house of home environment, memories, cultural roots, endings and new beginnings. Watch for something new in this part of your life which may come as a surprise based on the trine from the lunation to Uranus in Aries, your 12th house of inspiration, spirituality, enlightenment, dreams, visions, confinement, seclusion, institutions, hidden enemies and self-undoing. Uranus is unpredictable by nature so this could be just about anything, especially combined with the ambiguity inherent in the 12th. It could be anything from discovering your house is haunted to inspiration derived from a memory related to your childhood or a past life.

The Grand Water Trine that formed in July is still in effect but not for long. I described it last month but will again as a reminder so you can utilize its energy if you haven't already before it's gone. Earth signs (Taurus, Virgo, Capricorn) are naturally compatible with Water signs (Cancer, Scorpio, Pisces) which is easy to remember when you consider that Earth stabilizes Water and Water nourishes the Earth. This is an easy and harmonious connection of signs that are deeply emotional and comprise your 3rd, 7th and 11th houses which are known as the Social Houses. The 3rd includes neighbors and siblings, the 7th close relationships like your significant other and close friends and relatives, and the 11th is friends and other groups. These houses are where you learn to relate to others and establish boundaries. Jupiter is in your 3rd house which is Cancer where he is exalted. In this friendly Water sign his expansive and inclusive nature knows no bounds. This house also includes thoughts, ideas and local travel so these areas will be affected as well. This is an excellent time for brainstorming and getting together with siblings and neighbors. You may also find yourself doing a lot of local travel.

Saturn, the next component, is in your polar sign, Scorpio, and your 7th of close relationships which also includes business partners, business professionals, competitors and open enemies (as opposed to secret enemies who reside in the 12th). Saturn came out of retrograde the first week of July after several months of doing the backstroke, during which time it can feel as if you're making no progress, stuck in the mud, and beset with obstacles. Now that he's direct the call is for restructuring or rebuilding something in this part of your life. If you have any brothers and sisters or even if you don't you're probably aware that just because you grew up together doesn't mean you're close as an adult. If that occurs, then this person is included in your 7th. Same goes for neighbors. Sometimes you don't even say hello to each other or even know their name where in

other cases a neighbor can be your best and closest friend. So perhaps a neighbor will graduate to a more influential part of your life.

The final component of the Grand Trine is Neptune in Pisces, sign of his dignity. He's going to be there for a long, long time, so spend some time thinking about how that influence may show up. Pisces is your 11th house of friends and such but also goals, hopes and wishes. This suggests that a sibling or neighbor may introduce you to a new friend who becomes important in your life or perhaps this aspect pattern simply encourages you to get out more and interact with those around you, which should be a positive experience. Neptune is inspiration but can also be delusional. In this Grand Trine his energy is likely to be more positive but while he transits your 11th you need to realize that his influence can be very inspirational for your goals it can also be unrealistic. Being too idealistic when it comes to group interactions or friends is another possibility. If your birthday is between April 25 - 30 be sure to watch for opportunities through networking.

The New Moon also has a somewhat less enchanting aspect pattern known as a T-square which comprises Jupiter, Pluto and Uranus. Pluto and Uranus have been squared off from each other for quite a while. This aspect will wax and wane until 2015. It was last exact from mid-May to early June, during which time all sorts of things occurred on the mundane scene including massive tornados and the explosive exposure of corruption in various sectors. Pluto in Capricorn will continue to dig up all sorts of dirty little secrets in the government and corporate world and Uranus in Aries will make it sudden, explosive, and often related to breakthroughs, rebellion and freedom from oppression. So that is the basis of this T-square which will endure beyond when Jupiter, the third party, moves on as the faster-moving planet of the three. Jupiter is generally benefic and tends to expand anything he touches. Thus, in a T-square he's not necessarily benefic but makes something bigger and more exaggerated than it really is, which could fit with some of the scandals lately, i.e. "much ado about nothing."

Combining these three into a tidy interpretation according to the houses involved for Bulls comprises your 3rd, 9th and 12th. The 3rd, as noted earlier, is thoughts, ideas, siblings and neighbors as well as local travel and the 9th is your belief system including your philosophy of life, religion, political leanings, foreign cultures, long-distance travel and higher education. With these two in opposition it suggests that new and expansive ideas coming your way may clash with your existing beliefs and require that you examine them closely, get rid of anything that no longer fits, and transform them accordingly. Uranus in your 12th can bring flashes of insight or spiritual experiences that set off this entire process. Actually, it can start with a thought or inspiration, which is really irrelevant. What's important is how you process and assimilate the information, which may not be an easy process, especially for a Fixed sign. You don't particularly like change and this implies exactly that. You have some time to work this out, however, and the Full Moon as well as the upcoming Grand Square may lend some assistance.

Your sign ruler, Venus, is in Virgo, where she is in fall and perhaps too critical or lost in detail to function properly. Nonetheless, she is trining your natal Sun if your birthday is

right around May 9. She is also sextile Mars in your 3rd, i.e. Cancer, but Mars is in fall in that particularly sign so this could constitute either the blind leading the blind or perhaps simply some commiserating. Virgo is your 5th house of ego definition, creativity, children, romance, entertainment and speculation, so this is actually a pretty nice place for her to be house-wise. Mars in your house of thoughts could provide motivation to pursue new creative ideas or this could be entertainment and fun with family and friends. Think positive and use it in the best way possible, perhaps planning a get-together.

The Full Moon on August 20 is in fellow Fixed Sign, Aquarius, your 10th house of career, reputation, public image and status. If this sounds familiar, it's because the July Full Moon was also in that sign, making this a Blue Moon, or the second one within the same sign within a month. Some look at a Blue Moon within the same calendar month but since our modern calendar is such a trainwreck I like to think of them as more relevant when they occur in the same sign. By this time the Grand Trine is gone and that T-square persists, so all its effects are still active. If your birthday is right around May 19 your natal Sun forms a T-square with this lunation which could bring some challenges your way which relate to home and career or status.

Remember that status is quite broad and encompasses anything that could appear in the newspaper, public record, or Facebook, for that matter. With Mercury conjunct the Sun, some sort of news or information related to home is likely, or this could also constitute an ending or new beginning of some sort. By this time your sign ruler, Venus, has moved into Libra, sign of her dignity which is a nice improvement in her energies. This is your 6th house of work, health, service, people who work for you, and pets. She is connected with Saturn, implying some rebuilding or restructuring of your work or projects which will involve a relationship in some way and probably bring about a change of direction. This could involve fulfilling one of your hopes or goals or come about through networking. Maybe all that socializing will pay off here.

The Grand Square/Cross on August 25 starts with the T-square involving Pluto, Uranus and Jupiter but becomes a Grand Square when none other than your friend, Venus, moves into position. Review what that T-square is doing for you and factor in something good at work causing a bit of a deadlock or tension. Houses involved are 3, 6, 9 and 12 which for you also involve all Cardinal Signs which are prone to action. Think keywords like thoughts, work, beliefs and inspiration or, given this is a Grand Square, perhaps deception, hidden enemies or an unexpected revelation that sets everything in disarray. The Sun and Mercury are opposing Neptune which spotlights your self-expression but sets it against either your goals or perhaps information from others which isn't accurate. This could be a time when you find out that a child or romantic interest has not been entirely honest with you, perhaps through a friend, or conversely, someone starts some gossip. Venus is opposing Uranus which suggests sudden revelations or could be a blast of creativity.

The Grand Sextile is wide but viable given so many other aspects tying the planets together. This means there are virtually six sextile which imply six opportunities.

However, there are also some mystic rectangles which comprise two sextiles and two oppositions which often means the need to make a choice where they are mutually exclusive, meaning you can't have your cake and eat it, too. Another possibility is something good comes along but you have to give something up to take advantage of it. There is bound to be a lot going on, especially when you consider that 8 of the 12 houses have a planet in them, thus imparting energy to that many houses and therefore parts of your life. At the least, take note of what happens this day for future reference. The only planet who's not connected with any others is Mars, who will tend to be a wildcard, especially since he's still in the sign of his fall. Frustration and being overly emotional regarding what to do is likely. Fortunately, as a Taurus you probably aren't too impulsive by nature, unless you have Mercury in Aries. Nonetheless, weigh everything in a logical manner, don't believe everything to see or hear, and see how this plays out for you. Based on the degrees where the planets reside, you're most likely to notice something if your Sun and/or various other planets are between 3 - 12 degrees. For your Sun to be in that range you would be born between April 23 - May 3.

Bon chance.

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