Monthly Astrocast

May 2013



Key Events:

New Moon/Solar Eclipse (19:31 Taurus): May 10, 2013

Full Moon/Lunar Eclipse (04:08 Sagittarius): May 25, 2013

Retrograde Planets:

Saturn: February 18 – July 7, 2013
(11:32 – 04:49 Scorpio)
Pluto: April 12 – September 19, 2013
(11:35 – 8:59 Capricorn)

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--Whobeda

Lunations and Long-term Aspects

The New Moon this month is also a Solar Eclipse in fellow Fixed Sign, Taurus, your 4th house of home environment, memories, cultural roots, endings and new beginnings which, especially with an eclipse, implies the start of a new cycle. The 1st, 4th, 7th and 10th houses are known as "angular houses" which represent significant areas of your life. This is where action often begins or occurs that prods you in a new or different direction. Eclipses are stronger and longer lasting than the typical garden-variety lunation so between these two you are likely to see something interesting come of it. If your birthday is right around February 8 you can probably count on it. This eclipse path of visibility crosses most of the South Pacific and the northeastern part of Australia where its effects will be intensified. This eclipse along with the two lunar eclipses, one last month and one later in May, is 15 South in the Saros series which has the general theme of a release of tension according to eclipse guru, Bernadette Brady.

Pluto continues to plod along through your 12th house of inspiration, visions, dreams, enlightenment, institutions, seclusion, confinement, hidden enemies and self-undoing with a special message for you if your birthday is right around January 31. He is also moving into another exact square with trouble-maker Uranus in your 3rd house of thoughts, ideas, local travel, siblings and neighbors which could unearth an issue of some sort in this part of your life. If you have any self-defeating behaviors of which you're unaware now is the time to identify them. Uranus is also the planet of innovation and genius but generally speaking this aspect isn't particularly favorable. Be particularly careful with your daily commute and local travel by driving defensively and not taking unnecessary chances. Also if you have a sibling or neighbor you don't think you can trust, watch your back as well. If nothing else, don't give those individuals a stick to beat you with, if you take my meaning. Be on your absolutely best behavior and don't tell them anything you don't want spread far and wide.

Neptune continues his glacial-speed trek through your 2nd house of income, possessions, finances, needs and pleasures as well, a placement that you need to be aware of. It's been said by at least one astrologer, Christine Skinner, that Neptune is the planet most responsible for delivering considerable wealth. This, of course, in this house sounds rather nice. However, Neptune is also the planet of delusions and deception so you need to make sure you have both eyes open to assure you're seeing things clearly. On the positive side, Neptune does enhance dreams and visions and if you're a believer in "thoughts become things" and that visualizing what you want will eventually deliver it to you then this is extremely helpful.

For this eclipse, however, Neptune is being squared by Venus, natural ruler of money and pleasures, who has just slipped into Gemini, your 5th house of romance, ego definition, children, speculation and entertainment. I would say this throws a rather significant caution flag for all of these areas, especially if it involves money. Taking chances at this time is pretty risky business, whether it's an emotional or financial matter. Jupiter is in your 5th stirring up lots of activity and the last week of this month when Venus and

Jupiter are conjunct then some serious luck could come your way, particularly for those of you born right around February 10 - 13. However, for the sake of this eclipse, keep both feet on the ground and forget those rose-colored glasses.

Neptune is also being trined by retrograde Saturn in your 10th house of career, reputation, status and public image. Saturn retrograde typically operates on something in your subconscious that needs to be restructured which in this case probably relates to your career or status. This could bring some help in visualizing what you want to be when you grow up, particularly if you're not happy with your current job situation. However, that square to Venus may present a problem of some sort. Maybe you'll find the job of your dreams but it won't pay enough or maybe it will require additional schooling or training which is expensive or maybe you don't have the confidence you need to pursue it. Whatever the apparent showstopper is, don't take it too seriously. By July when Saturn goes direct you're likely to get things figured out. The Saturn transit is hitting those of you born right around January 27 so if things seem bogged down right now that is likely to be the reason.

Another aspect with this eclipse worth noting is a wide by viable trine between Mars and Pluto. These two are generally recognized as malefic planets so when they're in trine it only means their energy exchange is harmonious and not necessarily good. Mars is also in Taurus, sign of his ancient debility, where he operates somewhat like a car driving through mud. This suggests that there may be some difficulties getting that new endeavor off the ground which may relate back to your subconscious or perhaps someone deliberately trying to hold you back. You can use this energy to your advantage, however, if you identify it and deal with it properly. It will be a challenge of some sort but that doesn't mean you can't kick butt getting past it.

The Full Moon/Lunar Eclipse on May 24 occurs in Sagittarius, your 11th house of groups, goals, networking and friends. Aquarius rules the 11th house in the Zodiac so it has special meaning for you. Lunar eclipses tend to operate more on the emotional level while solar is more likely to bring events and situations. Nonetheless, an emotional blast can also spur you to action. If your birthday is right around January 23 watch for an opportunity of some sort that will relate to your 5th house which includes romance and children as defined earlier. By this time the Sun is in Gemini along with Venus and Mercury, who are in partile (same degree) conjunction which bodes nicely for gathering information related to love or money. True Lilith is in there, too, which could offer a chance at independence, especially if you're a female and born right around February 8, reinforcing the effects of the solar eclipse.

This eclipse forms a T-square with Neptune which could bring more delusions. Be cautious with those 5th house matters and make sure you're seeing things clearly. Your friends may mean well but don't automatically trust anything important they convey or suggest. That Uranus - Pluto square is in the same degree and therefore quite strong so keep an eye on that energy as well. There's a closed loop aspect that could bring a challenge with potential for positive results that is most likely to be felt by those of you born right around January 25. Even though there's a T-square by transit your natal Sun is

positioned such that you can use it in a more positive way if you put some effort behind it. A change of course with your status or career is possible but delays or obstacles are likely which you'll have to overcome. Friends or networking may be of help but remember to run any such advice to ground first.

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