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

This month the New Moon in fellow Fixed Sign, Taurus, is also a solar eclipse which will be visible along a narrow path through the South Pacific and parts of Northern Australia. Eclipses pack a much stronger punch than the usual lunation due to the precise lineup between the Sun and Moon. A typical conjunction in astrology only means that two or more astrological entities are in the same degree of zodiacal longitude. They are typically separated, however, by varying degrees of declination, which is the vertical measurement above or below the celestial equator, which is simply the Earth's equator extended out into space. For an eclipse or transit of Venus or Mercury across the Sun to occur, however, they have to have both degrees in common, making their connection and thus influence much stronger.

For this one, if your birthday is right around August 12 it will square you natal Sun from your 10th house of career, public image, reputation and status, suggesting something significant is coming your way in that part of your life. Mercury is conjunct the eclipse, suggesting that communications, new or information is a major factor. The eclipse is semisextile Jupiter in the same or partile degree in Gemini, your 11th house of networking, friends, groups, organizations and goals, suggesting the career or status situation will derive from a connection or perhaps relate to achieving a goal, though it will not be handed to you and require some effort on your part to make it so.

Note that Mars is also in your house of career and trining Pluto in Capricorn, your 6th house of work, health, service and pets. In most cases your work or job and career relate to one another and this aspect suggests that if you take action on something hidden or possibly a situation which needs to be resolved at work you can benefit from it. Mercury rules your 2nd house of income, possessions, finances, needs and pleasures so his presence in your career house hints at something there as well. Pluto in your house of work and health will effect a transformation of some sort in this part of your life over the course of his transit which will be most intense when he's aspecting something in your chart. Pluto is also involved in a square from Uranus, a somewhat nasty aspect which will be in effect for a long time, like on the order of a few years.

Uranus is currently trining your natal Sun if your birthday is right around August 3, which helps (hopefully) to make it more beneficial but Uranus by his very nature is unpredictable. He generally relates to sudden change, surprises, innovation, breakthroughs, rebellion and freedom which will show up in your 9th house which includes your belief systems from your expectations to religion and politics as well as higher education, long-distance travel, other cultures and relocation. Thus, his influence could include anything from a sudden transfer to breaking away from some old belief system that no longer serves you, which is actually much of what Pluto would contribute to. You are likely to entirely break away from your current job for something more suited for you during this time.

Saturn in fellow Fixed Sign, Scorpio, your 4th house of home environment, cultural roots, memories, endings and new beginnings is retrograde and working at restructuring something in this part of your life. He is trining Neptune in Pisces, your 8th house of transformations, sex, death and rebirth, debt, shared resources, things you suppress or hide and generally intense experiences that change you in some manner at a deep and lasting level. Neptune can bring inspiration or insights which are simply pipe dreams, though a trine may lean a little more toward the positive side. He is quincunx your natal Sun if your birthday is right around July 28 which hints at an important change of direction.

Neptune is also somewhat of a cosmic solvent, dissolving or evaporating what he touches. He could bring a transformational insight that sets you on an entirely new path during the course of this aspect. However, for this eclipse he is being squared by Venus in your 11th house of friends, groups, goals, and organizations. This suggests some challenges implementing anything that comes your way in the near term, perhaps through not finding the needed support and encouragement you need to proceed or possibly an inability to figure out exactly how to formulate meaningful goals that fit your new direction. Fortunately the Venus square will only last until the middle of this month.

The Full Moon on May 24 is another lunar eclipse but this one is visible in the USA unlike the one in April. Nonetheless, three eclipses in a row, which is actually not that uncommon, can pack a pretty good wallop, depending on how they hit your chart. Note that at this time the Uranus - Pluto square is partile or in the same degree so at its strongest point. Those of you born around August 4th are most likely to see something from this. The trine between Saturn and Neptune is still in effect but now the Sun in Gemini, your house of friends and goals, is squaring the king of the deep and quincunx Saturn, creating a closed loop aspect that could have some interesting effects.

Note that the Sun, Venus, Mercury and Jupiter are all in your house of friends and goals so if you need some assistance from others or to redefine your goals this is an excellent time to go for it. The Sun is highlighting this house, all the more due to being involved in an eclipse. The quincunx to Saturn implies a change of direction, perhaps as you redefine your goals. That square to Neptune suggests that perhaps they aren't entirely realistic, so bear that in mind and use appropriate sanity checks, which could be what brings the adjustment in your direction that ultimately delivers you where you want to be.

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