# Monthly Astrocast

*January 2014*




***Key Events:***

New Moon (10:57 Capricorn): January 1, 2014

Full Moon (25:58 Cancer): January 15, 2014

New Moon (10:55 Aquarius): January 30, 2014

***Retrograde Planets:***

**Venus: December 21, 2013 – January 30, 2014**
**(28:58 – 13:37 Capricorn)**
Shadow until March 5, 2014
**Neptune: June 7 – November 13, 2013**
**(05:22 – 02:34 Pisces)**
Shadow until March 5, 2014
**Uranus: July 17 – December 17, 2013**
**(12:31 - 8:35 Aries)**
Shadow until April 3, 2014
**Jupiter: November 7, 2013 – March 6, 2014**
**(20:30 – 10:26 Cancer)**
Shadow until June 2, 2014
Pluto: April 12 – September 19, 2013
(11:35 – 8:59 Capricorn)
Shadow until January 11, 2014

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*--Whobeda*

***Lunations and Long-term Aspects***

The New Year starts out with a cosmic bang with a New Moon that is loaded with conflicting energies. This will have less impact for Gemini, however, than it will for Cardinal signs such as Aries, Cancer, Libra and Capricorn. Of course any planets you may have in those signs may be affected and bring some challenges but at least your natal Sun is relatively safe. The aspect pattern glaring from the chart (which you can see at the link above for the New Moon on January 1 is a Cardinal Grand Square which involves seven of the ten planets (including the Sun and Moon which are called planets for simplicity sake) used in astrology. Cardinal signs square each other which implies conflict plus these are the ones that tend to be the most action-oriented. For starters, the lunation itself in Capricorn is accompanied by both Pluto and Mercury who are conjunct the Sun/Moon pair. This brings their energies to bear as well and considering that Mercury is your sign ruler is worth noting as well as the fact that he's the ruler of Virgo, you4th house of home environment, cultural roots, memories, endings and new beginnings. Capricorn just happens to be your 8th house of transformations, sex, death and regeneration, debt, shared resources, things you suppress and intense experiences. If you birthday is right around June 2 this lunation quartet is quincunx your natal Sun and likely to bring some changes into your life.

Pluto is the natural ruler of transformations and the modern ruler of the zodiacal 8th house, Scorpio. He is accidentally dignified in the 8th so his energy blends well with the matters included in that house. So these two planets tied in with the New Moon both have important implications for a life-changing situation coming your way. This won't necessarily be bad but will make a difference and is likely to take you in a slightly different direction. Of course these planets are not entirely autonomous since they are tied into others, i.e. Uranus in Aries, Jupiter in Cancer and Mars in Libra to create that Grand Square, so they also have influence from their respective houses. Uranus is in your 11th house which includes friends, groups, organizations, networking, goals, hopes and wishes. He's the planet of disruptions, disturbances, surprises, rebellion, independence, innovation and breakthroughs. He's unpredictable by nature and at the least will bring about a lot of unexpected events and situations that upend any stability you thought was there. Thus, something coming up suddenly in that part of your life is likely to contribute to the change in direction.

Opposing Uranus and also squaring the lunation quartet is Mars in fellow Air Sign, Libra. This is generally a good thing since Libra trines Gemini, bringing harmonious energy your way. This is your 5th house which includes your ego definition, creativity, children, romance, entertainment and speculation or what is sometimes considered the "fun house." Mars is slightly inhibited in Libra, which tends to tone down his aggression and propensity for independent action. This trine to your Sun Sign encourages you to move forward with those items identified with the 5th house. The opposition to Uranus in the 11th implies that your friends or group associations may not be supportive or you may have to juggle the time and energy spent between your own projects versus what goes on with others. Mars is in square with the lunation quartet which indicates that

whatever change is coming your way will bring some challenges in pursuing your own endeavors as well.

Jupiter, the final member of the Grand Square, who is a bit out of orb compared to the others, is in Cancer, your 2nd house of finances, possession, needs, comforts and pleasures. Cancer is the sign of his exaltation where his expansive nature is comfortable and uninhibited. However, he's currently retrograde which internalizes this energy and makes his influence more of a philosophical nature. This suggests that you may be considering changes to your income or perhaps thinking about what you need the most out of life. This will also be affected by this lunation and create the need for balance as well. It looks as if nothing is going to be simple and you are going to have to juggle a variety of things like never before. Of course no one can multiplex like a Gemini, however, so you may simply find these challenges entertaining and keep you from being bored with so much going on.

The final and only favorable aspect in the lunation itself is a trine between Jupiter and Saturn in Scorpio, your 6th house of work, health, daily activities and pets. Saturn is all about hard work and discipline and this trine can be very useful in organizing and structuring your schedule, time and energy, particularly as it applies to your work. If you have health issues to deal with this can be favorable as well since the 2nd house where Jupiter is located also includes your body as your first and most important possession. This aspect can help you find pleasure in your work as well and if you're pondering what you want to be when you grow up this can assist with that quest as well.

The Full Moon on January 15 occurs in Cancer, your 2nd house of income, possessions, pleasures and so forth which suggests an ending, culmination or shift to a new phase of something in this part of your life. An ongoing factor since the solstice that is running in the background of all this is Venus retrograde, also in Capricorn, your house of transformations. This occurs every few years and more information on the effects can be found here. In general you will be pondering what you value most in life. Venus RX can also become the warrior goddess and go after what she wants with a vengeance. Venus rules your 5th house of ego and creativity and your 12th house of spirituality, by the way, so these are likely to be affected areas. Maybe you've been busy "shoulding" on yourself and doing what everyone else thinks you should as opposed to what's in your heart. All of this can help you find your authentic self and have the courage to stand up to these other influences and follow your own path and its destiny.

This lunation, which is an opposition between the Sun and Moon by definition, is in an aspect pattern known as a Triangle of Potential with Saturn. This indicates that Saturn is the key to mitigating any conflict involved with the lunation. As noted earlier, Saturn is the natural ruler of discipline and organization so once again this appears to be your best recourse, to set your goals and priorities in synch with what you value most and then stick to it, come what may. Mercury has moved into Aquarius, another fellow Air Sign, and your 9th house of beliefs, expectations, higher learning, philosophy of life, other cultures, long-distance travel and relocation which suggests new or information coming

your way from one of those areas. If your birthday is right around May 29 this will have a stronger effect.

This month has a second New Moon thanks to the goofed up Gregorian calendar which is based on the ego needs of ancient Roman emperors as opposed to the relationship between the Earth, Sun and Moon as it should be. This lunation occurs in Aquarius and trines your natal Sun if your birthday is around June 1. This, as noted above, is your 9th house of beliefs and such which suggests new factors coming into your philosophy of life. The lunation is sextile Uranus, suggesting an opportunity for change that involves either your goals or group associations in some way, even though this could impact your needs or income in some manner. Another change of direction is implied which may be precipitated by the conjunction between Venus retrograde and Pluto which could help reveal what you want the most out of life and demand acknowledgement.

The start of a new year presents the opportunity to look back on the previous one, assess your progress, and make some decisions regarding what you want to pursue in the coming twelve months. These lunations will provide some useful energy toward figuring that out by identifying what means the most to you and helping you prioritize your busy life in a way that puts you in control of where you want to go with your life while still juggling various obligations.

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