# 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

*If you enjoy these monthly horoscopes and find them helpful, please share them with a friend!*
*--Whobeda*

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

The New Years starts out with a New Moon on January 1st, which also means there will be two of them this month. Of course this only reflects how goofed up the Gregorian calendar is with the totally illogical number of days assigned to the months based entirely on the ego of ancient Roman emperors. Needless to say a calendar based on how Earth actually interacts with its cosmic environment, e.g. the Mayan's, wouldn't have this problem. But I digress.

This lunation takes place in fellow Earth sign, Capricorn, your 5th house of ego definition, creativity, children, romance, entertainment and speculation or what is sometimes dubbed the "fun" house. Of course having your "fun" house in stuffy Capricorn explains a lot about Virgos who often have the most fun when they're working or producing something. You are not the type to go out and party for the sake of partying or even enjoy doing absolutely nothing. The Sun and Moon are accompanied by three other planets in that sign, providing an even more interesting blend of energies coming forth from this New Moon, which usually indicates something new. These include Pluto and Mercury which are both conjunct the lunation and Venus retrograde. Pluto in this position implies a number of possibilities. Perhaps whatever comes your way will not be entirely new at all, but a rerun from the past such as getting back with a previous lover or a new start for an existing project. Pluto is all about power and control so that could be a factor or involve some sort of transformation. Pluto also rules elimination, purging and cleansing which implies getting rid of any obstacles or things holding you back. Mercury is your sign ruler, bringing clarity of thought and new ideas to the situation. Mercury also rules your 10th house of career, reputation, public image and status which implies whatever is going on may impact that part of your life as well. If your birthday is right around September 4 this lunation trines your natal Sun which will bring its energy into your life in a harmonious manner and have a stronger effect.

Venus retrograde typically relates to what you value in some way, often bringing about some changes to your priorities. One thing that Virgos value is precision, accuracy and perfection in general but this is not always a virtue. There are times when being a perfectionist blinds you to things that have value in other ways. As someone who was raised by two Virgo parents I can say with some degree of authority that my mother's efforts to make me "perfect" backfired for a number of reasons. First of all "perfection" is entirely subjective and secondly it undermined my confidence because I grew up thinking that nothing I ever did was good enough because it could always be improved. This can create tension as well as a lot of disappointment in relationships and also deprive you of the satisfaction of achievement, both your own and that of others'. Life is a journey and an ongoing process as reflected in the sentiment to not forget to smell the flowers along the way. So redefining your values may mean you need to lighten up, both on others as well as yourself. Give yourself permission to be imperfect and embrace who you are, exactly as you are at this moment.

This lunation is party to an aspect pattern known as a Cardinal Grand Square, which is typically loaded with tension. It's a bit sloppy, however, especially in Virgo terms since the degrees of the planets in their respective signs are not the same. Mars is the closest and he's in Libra, your 2nd house of income, finances, possessions, comforts, needs and pleasures where he's in a square with that New Moon quartet comprising the Sun, Moon, Mercury and Pluto. Mars is all about taking action and going after what you want. However, when he's in Libra he can be inhibited somewhat as he sorts through all the options, especially for a Virgo who wants it to be perfect. Mars in the 2nd house can sometimes bring problems with your possessions, as if they're under attack. It's also possible that you want to move forward with a major purchase or making more money but something is holding you back, perhaps an ego or confidence issue. Mars is separating from an opposition with Uranus in Aries, your 8th house of transformations, sex, death and regeneration, shared resources and debt. Uranus in this venue can bring a variety of surprises in this area but he is also the planet of breakthroughs and freedom which usually have positive connotations. Nonetheless, it's an opposition so there will be some challenges involved.

Jupiter is retrograde in Cancer, your 11th house of friends, networking, groups, organizations and goals. His usual expansive effects are shifted a bit with him retrograde, sometimes focusing on ethics issues or perhaps your attitude, beliefs and expectations in this area. He's in wide but viable opposition with the lunation quartet which suggests some obstacles to overcome with expanding something in this part of your life. Nonetheless there are some mitigating forces involved. First of all, Cancer is a Water sign which generally gets along fairly well with Earth signs such as Virgo. If your birthday is right around September 9 then Jupiter is sextile your natal Sun which should bring an opportunity your way. Jupiter is also trining Saturn in Scorpio, your 3rd house of thoughts, ideas, siblings and neighbors which is great and perhaps even perfect for putting together a disciplined and organized plan to pursue what you want in spite of the challenges.

The Full Moon on January 15 is in Cancer just downstream from Jupiter. A Full Moon usually indicates an ending, culmination or shift to a new phase which will relate to this part of your life which is the 11th house as defined in the preceding paragraph. The opposition between the Sun and Moon is mitigated by Saturn who is being trined by the Moon and sextiled by the Sun forming an aspect pattern known as a Triangle of Potential the meaning of which in this case being that with disciplined thought and so forth you can leverage this lunation to your advantage. Your sign ruler, Mercury, has moved into Aquarius which is excellent for communications with others, particularly those at work or related to healthcare or fitness. Mercury and Uranus are sextile, bringing innovation and perhaps that breakthrough you've been hoping for. If your birthday is right around September 16 your natal Sun also forms a Triangle of Potential with the Full Moon, thus placing you in the position to take charge personally.

Venus is still retrograde and squaring Mars, bringing up those value assessments again and their relationship to taking action on either your income or perhaps a major purchase; hopefully your major appliances, vehicles and other expensive items are behaving

themselves and not failing, left and right. This aspect can actually help you figure out what you need the most and it may not be that new car or whatever else you're coveting at this time. Challenges are still out there but the means to confront them successfully is there as well.

The New Moon on January 30 is in Aquarius, your 6th house of work, health, daily activities and pets as noted earlier. Mercury is getting ready to leave that sign and is thus on the cusp of your 7th house which includes relationships. This suggests that something new may arise with regard to your work or job with some implications that it comes about through word of mouth from a friend or colleague. The quincunx from the lunation to good ol' Jupiter in your house of friends and goals likewise hints at a change of direction due to a connection though it could also indicate moving toward a goal. Uranus is being sextiled by the New Moon which implies it could be unexpected or come about quickly plus have an important impact on your life. If you're having doubts about your ability, reread what I said earlier about confidence and perfectionism. From what I've seen of Virgos you are way too hard on yourself. What you consider average or nothing special is usually far superior to what others produce. If you weren't capable then the opportunity probably would not have occurred.

Those of you born right around September 2nd or 3rd are most likely to experience an important change at this time as the New Moon and Uranus form a yod with your natal Sun, an aspect pattern that often indicates a fated situation or event that brings about an important change of direction. Venus is still retrograde and conjunct Pluto which should help assess your abilities and situations, perhaps allowing you to shed some self-doubts. Pluto is opposing Jupiter, indicating pursuing a new goals is probably going to require that you let go of something from the past and also is likely to involve your values in some way. It may not be a piece of cake but should be worth it in the long haul.

Copyright © 2013 Valkyrie Astrology All Rights Reserved

*What will this year bring? Find out with a*

*Solar Return Report*!