

# LEO

July 23 - August 23

## Monthly Astrocast

January 2009

<b>Key Events:</b>
Full Moon : January 11, 2009
New Moon: January 26, 2009
<b>Retrograde Planets:</b>
Saturn: December 31 - May 16, 2009
Mercury: January 11 - February 1, 2009

### *Long-term Aspects*

As we move into a new year I thought that I'd provide an overview of what's going on out there courtesy of the outer planets. These include Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, Pluto and some of the slower moving asteroids such as Chiron and Sedna. These spend enough time in a particular House to provide a significant influence that is going to show up in the big picture as an ongoing theme.

I realize that Houses are one of the most confusing elements in astrology. There are twelve of them, which are described on the Houses page, along with the fact that there are numerous House systems, which adds to the confusion. To keep it simple, the House system I use for the purposes of these horoscopes is the Sun Sign system. In other words, whatever House your natal Sun occupies is the 1<sup>st</sup> House.

If you have a copy of your Natal Chart, however, and know your Ascendant, which defines the boundary of the 1<sup>st</sup> House, it's going to be different unless you were born roughly between the hours of 6:00 – 8:00 AM, in which case it's likely to be the same as your Sun Sign. If you know your Ascendant, then it's a good idea to read the monthly horoscopes for that sign as well. If you don't know your Ascendant, but know your time of birth, email Whobeda for a complimentary copy of your Natal Chart, which will also indicate your Moon Sign and where the other planets were when you were born. If you don't know your time of birth, you're out of luck as that determines the location of your Ascendant, which is the astrological sign that was on the eastern horizon at the moment you were born.

The beauty of astrology, however, is that the Sun Sign method works reasonably well, even though it has limitations. It will at least give you a general overview of what's going on, though your natal chart will work better for finding specific details, particularly the timing of events. That said, let's see what the "outies" are up to these days for Leos.

Pluto went into Capricorn at the end of November and he'll be there until November 2024. Yes, that's twenty-twenty-four, fifteen years from now. Obviously that is a very long time for a visit; this guy is moving in to stay for a while.

This is certainly not a period of time for which you want to hold your breath or await something to happen in this area. It could happen this month or in 2023. One possible time to watch would be when Pluto connects with your Natal Sun. That will start this month for those of you born between July 23 – 26 and continue for the better part of the year since Pluto obviously moves like molasses in January, with the trek further interrupted by retrograde motion sending him back and forth across this point in your chart three times. Actually, this all started about a year ago, so you've already been through one retrograde cycle. The good news is that for you folks, once you make it through this year, he'll be on his way, though there's no telling what other planets or House cusps he'll encounter along the way.

Capricorn is your 6<sup>th</sup> House of work, health and pets, so that is where Pluto will be exercising his effects as the zodiacal roto-rooter. If there's anything in this part of your life that's hidden or needs to be cleaned up or cleared out, you can rest assured that it's going to happen sometime in the next fifteen years. Now is when you'll be taking a long, hard look at your work, though bear in mind this is not the same as your career. Your career is your life's work or how you'll be remembered whereas this is what you put together and do on a regular basis. Sometimes they're the same, but not necessarily.

For example, if you spend your day asking "Do you want fries with that?" but are an aspiring artist, your day job is 6<sup>th</sup> House and your pursuits as an artist the 10<sup>th</sup>. If there's anything hidden related to your work itself, it will likewise come out. Your insights into such things will also be increased. For example, if you work as an auditor, you'll enjoy figurative x-ray vision during this time; same for forensic work of any kind. If you're a researcher it will also be of great benefit. Pluto transits are transformational and are famous for cleaning things up that have been swept under the rug.

Your health and health habits are also included in the 6<sup>th</sup>, but your body itself is a possession and included in the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Sorry if this is confusing, but that's the way it is with astrology. If it were simple everyone would be an astrologer, right? At any rate, if there's something regarding your health that needs attention, it's going to come out at this time. If you've been neglecting it, you're going to find out the effects and have to deal with them.

Remember that Pluto is about both death and regeneration. He may tear the heck out of something, but after that it can heal and regenerate. It's the time in-between that can be a bit uncomfortable. A Pluto transit typically lasts for 2-3 years. If you're an August Leo

you don't have to worry just yet, though you might start seeing harbingers of things to come immediately.

Neptune is another planet that moved in to stay. He's been in Aquarius, your 7<sup>th</sup> House of one-on-one relationships since the late 1990s and will be in that sign until March 2012. Neptune is good for your imagination, dreams, and achieving transcendence, but he's not big on reality. When Neptune is opposite your Natal Sun he's going to enhance your imagination, but the bad news is that you may also be delusional, idealistic, and unrealistic. These charming attributes will be challenges for those whose birthdays lie roughly between August 13 – 16.

If you're in this group and people have been giving you a lot of weird looks or asking you on a regular basis if you're out of your mind, then Neptune is having his way with you. What you need to do is enjoy the imagination part and use it to find a way to increase your spirituality or means for alleviating stress, such as getting into yoga or meditation. Leos tend to be very creative, so enhancing your imagination can be a good thing. Just make sure you give the litmus test to anything that's tripping the line between reality and fantasy. Earth Sign friends are usually good for this type of sanity check, provided they'll be honest enough to tell it like it is.

Next in line is Uranus, planet of disruptions, disturbances, rebellion, the unexpected, and surprise events. Uranus is currently in Pisces, your 8<sup>th</sup> House of sex, death, other people's resources, and transformations, where he's been since March 2003. He won't be moving out until March 2011, so here's another one where you'd better not hold your breath anticipating his departure. This implies that there will be many surprises in your life during this time that will have a deep and long-lasting effect on whom and what you are. Every time he makes contact with one of your natal planets, something is probably going to happen that relates to the House it's in (time to look at your natal chart again) to the point that you wonder "Why me?" or "What's wrong with me?" or "Normal people don't have so much crap in their lives!" This can be very nerve-wracking, to say the least. Nonetheless, Fire Signs like a little excitement plus they like attention and story telling, so exploit the positive side the best you can. Having a good sense of humor helps as well.

Those experiencing heavy activity in this area will be those with birthdays between August 10 – 13 as Uranus throws an uncomfortable quincunx to your Natal Sun. For some of you born right around the 10<sup>th</sup> or a day or so before, this crap has been going on since around May 2007. The good news is that for you folks, it's almost over this month. For the rest of you it probably started around March 2008 but should be over by March 2009. This, of course, is contingent on it not contacting any other planets in your Natal Chart anytime soon. The variance in times is due to retrograde action, so don't take it personally.

Saturn is next, who's the antithesis of Uranus. Saturn is all about stability, structure, responsibility, obligations, discipline, and authority. He's also good at instituting delays in attaining something we really want. He's a stern task-master and has no problem

making you miserable to make a point. Saturn is cold and solemn, which definitely isn't something most Leos are accused of unless they have some heavy-duty Capricorn influences, like an Ascendant and/or Moon.

Saturn is currently right next door in Virgo. Planets in the sign next door to our Natal Sun tend to provide annoyances and nuisances. Virgo is your 2<sup>nd</sup> House of possessions, finances, pleasures, and also your body. If you've been the slightest bit irresponsible in any of these areas, you can count on Saturn doing his astrological best to set you on the straight and narrow path.

On December 31 he gave us a sterling example of his dark sense of humor by going retrograde. This will further send his lessons home, similar to when you had to write "I will not talk in class" five hundred times when you were in the fourth grade. During this time you need to take your head out of the sand and look this part of your life square in the eye. Accept your stripes and figure out what you need to do to be more responsible. If you don't take care of your possessions or spend too much money or abuse your body through improper diet, you have painted a target on yourself for Saturn to find as if he were a heat-seeking missile.

This retrograde cycle will last until May 16, when he will take it out of reverse. By that date you should have a good idea of what's wrong and what you need to do to correct it. From that date until mid to late August you'll be restructuring this part of your life and if you do it properly by then you'll be able to move on and lead a more stable life, at least in this area.

Of particular interest for January and February is the fact that Saturn is opposite Uranus. As you can see, the planets are already antithetical. Saturn is all about stability, structure, and responsibility while Uranus is about change and rebellion. While Saturn is retrograde, however, some change is obviously appropriate. Also note that Saturn is in your 2<sup>nd</sup> House and Uranus in your 8<sup>th</sup>. These both relate to money and finances in some way as well as pleasures. Saturn is trying to bring more responsibility to your spending and money habits and Uranus is trying to stir up your life so that you see things through different eyes. So, in this case, this could be an effective combination. Daily blips to this combo will be addressed in the daily and short-term aspects noted below.

Mercury goes retrograde from January 11 – February 1. Remember to avoid buying anything electronic or mechanical during that timeframe unless you enjoy lemons. Mercury RX is good for something, however, and that is for reworking revising, rethinking, editing and so forth. Mercury is in your 7<sup>th</sup> House of relationships and then backs into your 6<sup>th</sup> of work, health and pets during this transit. Apply the re-do principle to those areas accordingly as there is undoubtedly something that needs to be corrected in one or both of those areas.

*Short-term and Daily Aspects*

January 2: Expect to find out something that could amount to a dirty little secret regarding one of your relationships or perhaps related to your job or health. Something to do with your day job could also cause an irritation of some sort in one of your relationships. This could be a promotion, overtime that doesn't fit your schedule, or something like that.

January 4: Something good is going on in your 8<sup>th</sup> House of sex, death, other people's money and transformations that is going to create an opportunity to unearth something at work or with your health. Maybe you'll inherit some money, allowing you to quit or even buy them out and be the CEO. You never know.

January 5: Today it looks like there could be some unexpected irritations involving an intimate relationship. No telling on this one.

January 6: An argument or confrontation at work is a possibility today that could cause you to get the wrong impression regarding a relationship. [NOTE:--Bear in mind that for this entire month Mars is hanging out in your 6<sup>th</sup> House of work, health and pets. This is a lot of energy than can turn on you, even though it also helps your drive in that area as well.]

January 8: Conversations with your significant other or someone else close to you regarding your financial situation and how to fix it are favored today.

January 9: Something unexpected may happen with your work or health today that changes you in a significant way. There's a slight opportunity for something cool like a raise, but don't get your hopes up too much and set yourself up for disappointment.

January 10: Conversations with someone close to you regarding something of an intimate or transformational nature will occur today.

January 11: The Full Moon occurs today in Cancer, your 12<sup>th</sup> House of inspiration, dreams, hidden enemies and transcendence. This will close a chapter in one of these areas or perhaps start a new one. Mercury goes retrograde today, so remember not to shop for anything electronic or mechanical. It's very likely that something that meets this description is going to go on the fritz, but if at all possible opt for a repair instead of buying a new one. If your only option is to replace it, see if you can wait until after February 1<sup>st</sup>. This should be a good day on the job with some positive actions that could affect your finances.

January 12: Conversations with someone with whom you have a close relationship has the potential for exposing hidden information today. Don't let your imagination fill in any blanks, however, because the likelihood of seeing things incorrectly is high.

January 15: More conversations with someone close to you about finances. Expect some tension and friction.

January 17: This will be rehashing the same issue as you attempted to discuss on January 5.

January 18: Expect to have an important conversation with someone close to you about your work or health situation.

January 19: More information continues to surface about work or your health, which will be the topic of conversation again today. Those close to you may provide some interesting perspectives.

January 20: Conversations about relationships and some of the challenges involved will be highlighted today. Try to maintain an open mind and listen.

January 21: More irritating conversations with a significant other that look like further discussions regarding sex or debt, both volatile subjects these days. Health issues will be an item of discussion as well.

January 22: Those work or health issues are still eating at you and causing deep considerations regarding your options.

January 23: Expect a surprise today related to either love or money.

January 24: Today will be a busy and hectic day. Significant events related to one or more relationships are out there as those work or health issues tie into your financial challenges, but possibly in a positive way. In other words, developments in one area may be pointing toward answers in the other. There may be a conflict, however, between your financial goals and another path you believe you should take at this time. Getting along with members of the opposite sex is favored today as you consider the various options available with your current dilemma, though there is still tensions surrounding them.

January 26: New Moon today in your 7th House of close relationships, indicating a new relationship or new phase in an existing one. Your view of things will tie in strongly with those financial issues. There is also a possibility that taking care of yourself properly is an issue as well. It's important to see your relationships issues clearly and based on reality today. Remember this will not come naturally with Neptune messing with your expectations of others. Work and/or health issues still predominate.

January 27: You may come under verbal attack today or encounter unfavorable information that makes you feel that way. Again, be objective about your expectations of others as you may be expecting an ideal that doesn't exist. Significant occurrences with one or more relationship are out there as well and have the potential to change you.

January 30: Solving your relationship problems which relate to the fact it has reached a new level will help resolve the issue with your possessions, finances, or even your body. Not all the disagreements are about money and so forth, some of them are more fundamental at the personality, interaction and communication level. Improve one area and the other will follow.

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