

LIBRA

September 23 - October 23

Monthly Astrocast

January 2009

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

Long-term Aspects

Welcome to 2009, Libras. Much of what you see this month is going to be occurring in your 4th House of home environment and your 5th House of personal creativity and expression, which includes your ego, children, love interests, hobbies, entertainment and speculation to name a few. Generally, this House defines many of the things we do to find personal fulfillment. Our home is often part of this, particularly its appearance. Libras value and appreciate beauty and pleasing aesthetics, so these should be areas that bring you a lot of satisfaction. In keeping with the expression “You finish like you start” bear in mind that these same themes will be running in the background during the entire year due to the locations of the outer planets.

The outer planets include Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, Pluto and the slow moving asteroids such as Chiron and Sedna. These heavenly bodies spend enough time in each sign and therefore each House to have a significant influence. If you’re not terribly familiar with all the workings of astrology, you’re probably confused a bit by the House concept. One of the things astrology tends to do is overwhelm you with too much information, which can make it very hard to sort out and follow. So I’m going to digress for a few paragraphs and give you a bit of background on what I mean when I refer to an astrological House.

There are several different House systems, three of which I refer to on a regular basis. The first one is the Zodiacal House system which begins with Aries as the first House. Then there’s the Sun Sign system where your Sun Sign defines the first House. This

globalizes everyone born under a certain Sign to common Houses, which works quite nicely for such things as these horoscopes. Then there's the House definition based on which Sign was on the eastern horizon at the time when you were born, which determines your Ascendant and your 1st Natal House. If you were born between roughly 6:00 – 8:00 AM, your Sun Sign and Ascendant sign will probably be the same. If you already know what your Ascendant sign is, you should read the monthly horoscope for that sign as well. (If you know what time you were born but don't know your Ascendant, email Whobeda@valkyrieastrology.com for a complimentary copy of your Natal Chart which will give you this information as well as what your Moon Sign is and where the rest of the planets were hanging out when you were born. She'll need your date, time and place of birth.)

The amazing thing is how well they all work. Each yields different information to a different level of detail. And as if this isn't already complicated enough there are many more house systems, each of which uses a different element of celestial geometry to define. Each will shift the boundaries around a bit and Astrologers all have their favorites. Some are better for different things, such as personality definition, synastry (i.e. compatibility), timing events, and so forth. It would take a book to touch on them all so I'll leave well enough alone since you may already be nodding off. So let's get back to the outer planets and what they'll be up to for the next year or so.

Pluto, the planet that's the farthest out from the Sun (as far as we know), just entered Capricorn last November. He'd been there briefly about a year ago, then went retrograde and returned to Sagittarius for a spell. Now he's in Capricorn for the long haul, which will last until November 2024. No, I'm not kidding, he'll be there until the year twenty-two-four. Capricorn is your 4th House of home environment, so for the next 15 years he's going to be running in the background like one of those memory resident programs on your computer. Most of the time you won't realize he's there, then every now and then he'll pop up with a reminder. These will be most noticeable when he contacts one of your Natal Planets.

Pluto is the Zodiacal roto-rooter. If there's anything that's hidden, particularly if it's corrupt in any way, he's going to dig it up and expose it for resolution. This applies to personality elements as well as physical elements, especially when he's in your 4th House of home environment since this includes people as well as your physical abode. Again it will be most apparent when Pluto makes contact with one of your Natal planets. However, since you may not know when that will be, let me pass on a few hints from someone who just had Pluto transiting her 4th House, i.e. yours truly as well as my Virgo son. (And for the record, it was my 4th Natal House and his 4th Sun Sign House, showing once again that both methods work.)

Here are some of the types of things we encountered: Electrical problems; plumbing problems; foundation problems; HVAC system problems, including furnaces, air conditioning, and duct work; rotting of the boards under the roofing material; termites, cockroaches, rats, and scorpions (OK, so we live in Texas, but you get the idea). Anything hidden that isn't quite right is going to make itself known. Thus, during this

time it's a good idea to consider getting a home warranty, assuming you own your own home; mine has certainly paid for itself. I have both Natal Jupiter and Natal Mercury in my 4th House, so it was a target-rich environment and involved conjunctions, undoubtedly the strongest aspect. However, as Pluto cruises through your 4th and makes other aspects to your natal planets you're still likely to see something come along that has Pluto written all over it. Pluto in your 2nd House of possessions does much the same thing.

This is also a time when all sorts of dirty little secrets about household members can come up. If your family doesn't already bear a striking resemblance to a soap opera, it probably only means this stuff hasn't surfaced yet. Give it some time. And you'll have plenty of it. 2024, remember? For this month, if your birthday lies between September 23 – 26 you can expect something to come along as Pluto squares your Natal Sun. Sorry, I don't control them, only report what to expect. Forewarned is forearmed, at least in theory. I'm sure you get the idea, so let's move on to Neptune.

Neptune is in your 5th House of creativity and so forth, as described above. This should be a rather nice visit since Neptune brings a lot of inspiration as well as firing up your imagination. This isn't anything new, since Neptune has been there since the late 1990s and will remain in Aquarius until March 2012, so you have a few years left. Neptune, King of the Deep, shows us a different view of things, as if you're seeing it through a dreamy fog or wall of water. If you've ever stepped into a stream that looked as if it was only knee deep and found the water up to your waist, you can understand that illusions and deception are also Neptunian domains.

Thus, while you can certainly enjoy much of it, you also shouldn't count on taking any of it to the bank. No matter how good that idea may be, you probably aren't going to be able to support yourself through your basket weaving hobby, unless you can live on a pretty meager income. Also beware of scams when investing your money, since speculation is also included in the 5th House. For this month if your birthday lies between October 14 – 17 you may be blessed with some significant inspiration or an experience that gives you a glimpse of something beyond your typical mortal existence as Neptune trines your Natal Sun. You should recognize it when it appears if you're watching. As a logical Air Sign this is outside your usual view of the world so should be noticeable. Don't question it too much and ruin it, it's a gift from Neptune.

Uranus, planet of sudden change, disruptions, unexpected events, rebellion and upsets is in Pisces, your 6th House of work, health, and pets. If work has been hectic and full of surprises and/or you've had any health problems, including personal injuries as a result of accidents, then you've already seen Uranian handiwork. Pisces is in an uncomfortable aspect known as a quincunx from your natal Sun, which usually calls for adjustments. Those being in Uranus' sites this month include those born between October 11 – 14. Expect disruptions galore.

Saturn, the astrological task master, is in Virgo, your 12th House of spirituality, dreams, transcendence, and hidden enemies. Saturn is all about structure, responsibility,

obligations, and authority figures. He's serious and stern and has no problem dishing out hard lessons as required. Furthermore, he just went retrograde, which will bring further emphasis to something you need to be restructuring in this part of your life. This isn't necessarily an area where Saturn has as much work to do as other Houses, but if you've been neglecting this area of your life in any manner, such as ignoring it, maybe it's time to give it some attention. If your birthday is between October 6 – 19, this will be getting your attention between now through May 16, during which time you'll be seeing evidence of what needs to be rebuilt. By mid to late August you should have it in place, if you're paying attention. Remember that the twelve astrological houses define important areas of our lives and we do best when we find balance amongst them all.

During January and February, Saturn will be in opposition to Uranus. The first thing that comes to mind combining the 6th and 12th Houses and these particular planets, is that of health problems that may be related to stress. This looks like a good time to take a good look at how you manage stress and consider getting into something like yoga. Maybe you haven't been feeding your soul like you should. Escape and transcendence can be a good thing when we don't attempt to live there on a permanent basis. Of course with Uranus in your 6th House, there's a good chance that he's going to throw something unexpected or disruptive your way every time you try and escape to your 12th House, but this is when you need it most so set your priorities accordingly.

Mercury will go into one of his infamous retrograde cycles between January 11 – February 1. This will also be in your 4th and 5th Houses. As you probably already know, this is not the time to buy a car or major appliance since electronic and mechanical devices you acquire during Mercury RX are likely to never function properly. Once you take ownership of something, you give birth to it in a figurative sense and imbue it with a "birth chart" that has Mercury RX on it, inhibiting its movement and/or communication capabilities for its lifetime.

I know that sounds horribly weird, but it definitely works. If you've ever had the misfortune to buy a car during such a transit, you know what I mean. Mercury RX is a favorable time for something, however, and that is to rework, re-plan, edit, or generally revise something you've had in work. It's also a favorable time for repairs. So go with the flow on this one and don't try to move forward with anything involving your household or creative endeavors but rather fix anything that isn't quite right between those dates. Trying to accomplish anything contrary to what the planets are dictating is always an exercise in futility, similar to trying to teach a pig to sing, which frustrates you and annoys the pig.

Now that you get the idea of the overall themes to expect over the next few months and even years, let's go to the inner planets, which drive our daily lives a bit more by triggering various events. These include Mercury, Venus, Mars, and of course the Sun and Moon. (If you wonder what happened to Jupiter, he's somewhere in the middle and tends to trigger the big, significant events that definitely tie back into those major, outer planet themes.) One thing to note about January is that it's loaded with minor annoyances and frustrations. This is due to the fact that the planets are all bunched up

between Capricorn and Pisces with Saturn RX across the zodiac in Virgo. This results in aspects that are smaller than the more typical major ones and tend to manifest as static and interference.

Short-term and Daily Aspects

[Please refer to the Daily Astrocast for missing dates. Also, allow approximately a 24 hour window in both directions from the specified date.]

January 2: A new creative idea that could mean some extra income or other benefits may get squashed or postponed due to one of those hidden nuisance-type events around home such as a sneaky appliance or forgotten appointment. Don't give up on the idea, just put it aside until another day.

January 4: In spite of the chaos at work, you're viewed in a positive light that could even bring some financial benefits. These in turn will help pay for those home repairs. True, you'd rather spend it on something more entertaining, but this is better than using that burgeoning credit card.

January 5: Pursuing that creative idea or planning to do something fun will probably be frustrated today by either your health or something coming up at work that requires your attention.

January 6: Mars is in your 4th House of home environment for the entire month, which will bring a lot of energy to this part of your life. It can also bring arguments, which Libras hate, or accidents or breakdowns. Today he's the culprit messing with pursuing those plans to escape or sign up for that yoga class.

January 8: You're probably really wondering how you can find the time to pursue your spiritual health or escape the mundane when you don't even have time for what you like to do for entertainment. Don't give up, but find a way. Saturn RX will actually help in this regard and be doing so until May 16.

January 9: The Sun is highlighting your home environment in a positive way until the 19th when he goes into Aquarius. Something unexpected but probably fortunate may initiate a new project around the house today.

January 10: Frustrations with a creative project at home or at work are out there today, possibly due to budget constraints.

January 11: Full Moon today in Cancer, your 10th House of career and reputation. This implies that something in that part of your life will culminate in some way or enter a new phase. Mercury goes retrograde today, so take note and don't expect to progress with those creative projects or other 5th House issues; time to go back and review and redo. On the positive side, you may have a breakthrough today on how to incorporate that growth in the spiritual area into your home life. Where they're a will there's a way.

January 12: Expanding those 5th House projects is hitting a figurative wall due to something at home that has crawled out of the woodwork. This is a natural part of its evolution so don't let it get you down. Don't believe everything you see or hear today either as delusions are a possibility.

January 15: There may be something about your usual choice for entertainment that is keeping you from attaining those spiritual heights. Think about it.

January 17: Unexpected obstacles are out there today in pursuing that 5th House activity, be it a hobby, a child, or romantic interest. Work or health issues are probably the cause.

January 18: A creative brainstorm or other significant event is there today regarding the revision of that 5th House situation. Take it and run with it, backwards of course.

January 19: The Sun goes into Aquarius today, shedding more light in your 5th House. Entertainment will be on your mind in some form, but again something at home is going to surface and interfere. Work or money issues will arise as well.

January 20: Today should be the coup de grace for determining what you need to do to fix or rework that dilemma. If it doesn't make itself known, find a few moments of quiet to look for it.

January 21: Money issues are interfering with expanding that pet project are out there again. Don't take those home problems personally, it's just your time to deal with stuff like that.

January 22: Today will be hectic between surprises at work and possible problems at home. For example, you may decide to take the day off to make some headway on something at home, but get called into work for something that sprang up. An unexpected health issue could also get in your way.

January 23: More surprises at work or with the construction or assembly of your pet project. These should be of a positive nature, however, maybe even some financial assistance.

January 24: Today will be a busy, hectic day. If you've been trying to get someone's attention with your creative pursuit or pet project, today is a good one to do so. You may be inspired to move forward and get things done around home, but be careful as accidents are possible if you try to do too much or are careless. Take your time and do it correctly. Your income from work or pet project may be keeping you from that spiritual goal, so take an objective look at your priorities. Perhaps you're working overtime because you need or want the money, yet then you don't have time to spend it or work on your pet project. Balance again is the key. Nonetheless, there are opportunities out there today to set something in motion there at home. Just remember Mercury is still in reverse. More unexpected or disruptive events are likely again either at work. This could also be a health issue, like getting a cold or flu just when you need to be working the hardest.

January 26: Another busy day in the cosmos. New Moon today in Aquarius, giving further energy to new things to come with your creative pursuits or anything else you're dealing with from your 5th House. This will get your head and heart in synch with it and help you focus on what you want to accomplish. Don't forget those spiritual goals, however, as they aren't going to let you forget them, even if you try. Be careful of being deceived, particularly regarding what you think will work or something of a financial nature. Opportunities for getting something squared away at home or finally fixed are favored, which will be a satisfying victory. If you're trying to move forward too fast, make sure you're you don't trip over any misperceptions or miss something along the way.

January 27: Moving forward with those revisions with renewed energy is possible today. With Mercury due to go direct in a few days, the timing is perfect. Keep an eye on those priorities regarding things you need to be doing at home or with your family versus your personal pursuits, regardless of how inspired you may be. Work or your health may interfere with an event relative to your children, one that feeds your ego, or that advances that creative stuff. What's new, right?

January 30: Expect another annoyance today between what you want to do versus what you should do. If you've been trying to ignore those spiritual issues by replacing them with your creative endeavors today is a good day to face the music. They are not the same and deserve to be addressed separately. Saturn will give you until May 16 to get it all figured out.

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