

Monthly Astrocast

October 2009



Key Events:

Full Moon (11:10 Aries): October 4, 2009

New Moon (24:59 Libra): October 18, 2009

Retrograde Planets:

Neptune: May 29 - November 3, 2009

Jupiter: June 15 - October 12, 2009

Uranus: July 1 - November 30, 2009

Lunations and Long-term Aspects

This month the Full Moon occurs on October 4th in Aries, your 11th House of groups, organizations, associations, friends, as well as your goals, hopes, and wishes. I've often wondered why goals, hopes and wishes are in this particular house and the primary reason I come up with is that these are those things that are dependent on acceptance or help from others. There are some accomplishments that we achieve entirely on our own, but if we require any help, including kudos or other support from others such as accepting and purchasing a product we develop, then those "others" in the 11th House are going to come into the picture somewhere for us to succeed. As has been said for decades, "No man is an island," a statement that summarizes the essence of the 11th House quite nicely. A Full Moon typically indicates a culmination or shift to another phase. Thus, you can expect something in this area of your life to do so this month.

There are various aspects associated with this lunation which further color its influence. The most obvious is a Yod, also known as a Finger of God, which comprises Mars and Mercury at the base and Neptune at the eye. This somewhat unusual aspect pattern that requires a tight orb to be effective typically points us toward something that is going to require a few adjustments or course changes to attain. In this case all planetary members are in the same degree, leaving no doubt that it will have an effect, especially when associated with a Full Moon. Mars and Mercury are sextile, which usually denotes an opportunity. Mars is in Cancer, your 2nd House of finances, possessions, needs and pleasures, and Mercury, your Sign Ruler, is in Virgo, your 4th House of home environment. The most obvious delineation of this particular aspect is an idea that originates or relates to home will present an opportunity to increase your income, enhance your possessions or fulfill a need.

Neptune, to which both of these are connected, is in Aquarius, your 9th House of beliefs, expectations, philosophy of life, higher learning, relocation, legal matters, long-distance travel and other cultures; politics and religion also fall in this house. Neptune generally relates to things that are intangible. It brings dreams, inspiration, enlightenment, and transcendence on the positive side but can also bring delusions illusions. If you're harboring any unrealistic expectations, that would be a textbook manifestation of Neptune in the 9th. Since Neptune is currently retrograde, this could further influence such a tendency since the energy will be even more covert and beneath the surface. This, of course, throws a bit of a wet blanket on any ideas which Mars and Mercury are stirring up. Thus, if you're contemplating something make sure you keep it between the lines of reality. Inspiration is a good thing, but only in its proper place.

This throws an entirely different light on that Mars - Mercury sextile. Mars is about drive and energy but can also represent anger and aggression. He's not particularly well-placed in Cancer, a Water Sign that tends to damper his fiery nature; toss a hot coal in a pool of water and you'll get a lot of steam which can drive an engine if properly managed or inflict a serious burn. For example, if one of your needs or wants is being frustrated, the ideas that generated related to your home environment may not be too friendly. Throw in

unrealistic expectations and the result isn't going to be pretty. There can be a positive and negative manifestation from any aspect; that is where free will comes into play. As a logical Air Sign it behooves you to throw some serious logic at this situation, whatever it may be. Following your 9th House dreams, such as to return to school, take a trip abroad, or relocate, may be the best thing for you since sliced bread. However, if you're ruminating on something less positive, it may not end well. Get all the facts and understand what you're contemplating to the last detail, which will be aided by Mercury's placement in Virgo. Virgo is perfectionistic, however, so guard against that as well if it's feeding those unrealistic expectations. Now is a time when you need to think using both your head and heart, which are appropriately represented by the Sun and Moon, respectively. Also recall that this Full Moon is in that House of goals, hopes and wishes. Make sure they're real.

A few other aspects are waving a yellow flag as well. Another one involving Mars is an opposition to the North Node in Capricorn, your 8th House of transformations, sex, death, and shared resources. The North Node indicates something coming into your life or where you're currently heading. This implies that you're due for an important shift regarding your take on something, but Mars could be holding you back. If it's anger and frustration, give that some thought in that context, that it could be keeping you from progressing at a personal level. Mercury is opposing Uranus as well, throwing a few surprises or disruptions in the mix. Uranus is in Pisces, your 10th House of career, status in the community, and public image, where he's been hanging out for quite a while now so if you've experienced a hectic pace, sudden changes, disruptions and so forth in this part of your life, Uranus is your culprit. He's not all bad, but entirely unpredictable.

Opposing Mercury implies those ideas, thoughts, or conversations originating at home could be related to a change in this part of your life; this, of course, relates easily to that Yod and Neptune in your House of beliefs and expectations. Maybe your current career just isn't doing it for you anymore and you're ready to go back to school, move to northern Idaho, or be the next Andrew Zimmern traveling the world eating weird food.

Note that good ol' Mars is in this game as well, throwing a trine to Uranus. Trines are harmonious aspects that indicate an easy flow of energy. This is usually a good thing, but not necessarily. Mars and Uranus contain a lot of energy that can be difficult to control. Be wary of being too impulsive or this could explode. Again, throw all the logic a good Gemini can muster at this one. This is not to say that anything bad is about to happen, only that you need to think about everything that is going on as carefully and logically as possible. This is also not to say that following your heart or genuine inspiration is a bad thing, either. Just make sure you are fully cognizant of what you're about to do. If you feel good about it, then go for it.

There are a couple more aspects to consider, then it's entirely up to you to throw it all together and synthesize the data. Saturn, planet of wisdom, restrictions, structure, and delays, is squaring Pluto. These are another pair that are typically viewed as astrological "bad boys." Few if any people look back on experiences related to these two as their fondest memories or the high point of their lives, unless they're masochistic by nature.

Saturn is in your 4th House as well, which will bring seriousness, hard work, responsibility and obligations to the fore in this part of your life. You're probably nodding your head, that this part of your life hasn't exactly been a cake walk the last year or so. The good news is that Saturn is about to move on, at least for a while, since he'll no sooner get comfortable in Libra when he'll go retrograde and make a brief encore, but we'll worry about that next April and May.

Pluto, who I usually refer to as the Zodiacal Roto-Rooter, is in Capricorn, that 8th House of transformation mentioned earlier with respect to the North Node and something coming into your life. It just so happens that Pluto rules the Zodiacal 8th House of Scorpio, so he's very much at home doing what he does in this particular House and he's going to be there for a long, long time. Again, this is not a bad thing unless you're too resistant to his promptings. If there are ruptured sewer pipes that need to be repaired, a dead rat between the walls, or something you've been ignoring that desperately needs attention, Pluto is not going to take "No" for an answer. The Universe is pushing you toward a major change in some area of your life, which may even be on the mental plane such as your attitude. How painful or disruptive this is will be entirely up to you and how you handle it. Progress should be viewed in a positive way because we're better off when all is said and done. At this time Saturn and Pluto are trying to get your attention about something that will nudge or possibly boot you in a new direction.

There is one remaining aspect to look at which is another quincunx, implying a change of course, between Venus and Jupiter. Mars, Saturn and Pluto may be considered "bad boys" but these two are the "good guys." Rarely do they turn against you, except perhaps to make you over-confident or a bit of a buffoon. Venus is also in your 4th House of home environment, bringing her blessings to that venue to help counter some of that other crap you've been dealing with. Jupiter is in Aquarius, which is where Neptune is, your 9th House of beliefs, and it just so happens that Jupiter rules the Zodiacal 9th House so he's quite happy in this venue. Very happy, in fact. So even though you need to keep a close eye on Neptune throwing any delusions your way, Jupiter is trying to get you to expand in this area of beliefs or other pursuits you may be considering at this time. Venus is telling you that things on the homefront are getting better and Jupiter is saying that expanding your beliefs and opinions are a good thing and together they're telling you to change course or make some adjustments.

Top this off with the fact that the Sun is in fellow Air Sign, Libra, your 5th House of creativity, where he's bringing emphasis and focus to your ego expression, speculations, entertainment, children and lovers, and you should be able to start figuring out how all of this is supposed to come together. If your birthday is within a day or so of June 2nd or if your ascendant is right around 11 degrees Gemini, this Full Moon will form a very beneficial Triangle of Potential for you and put you in charge of your destiny, which of course is where you belong anyway. Bon Chance. It looks like a very significant lunation that will give you a lot to think about, something Geminis do extremely well. I have every confidence you'll find the right answers.

As if that's not enough to digest for October, now let's take a look at the New Moon, which occurs on October 18th in Libra, your 5th House of creativity. I don't know about you, but I can already see how this will be a natural follow-up to whatever is going on with that Full Moon we just looked at beneath an astrological macro-lens. A Full Moon is a culmination and a New Moon brings something new, in this case to your creativity, ego expression, entertainment, speculation, children, or love life. The 5th is usually a rather pleasant house that contributes to our self-esteem. An aspect pattern active in this lunation is a Triangle of Potential (ToP) between Saturn, the North Node and Uranus. This one isn't as tightly configured at that Yod in the Full Moon, but it looks relevant nonetheless.

The apex of the ToP is with the North Node, which is in your 8th House of transformations as noted earlier. This is the astrological entity who's in the figurative driver's seat. It's sextile Uranus, planet of change, and trine Saturn, planet of stability, though those two planets are duking it out in an opposition. This, of course, figures, since they're antithetical anyway. In other words, Uranus is about sudden change, disruptions, rebellion and such and Saturn is about stability, responsibility, structure and authority. Thus, if you're going back and forth between these two relative to keeping things at home the way they are versus big changes in the career or status area, the answer lies in transformation. Maybe a major disruption is exactly what you need or, conversely, maybe you've been fantasizing and you really need to appreciate what you have and stay put, counting your blessings. And guess who gets to decide which way to go? You do.

Saturn and Pluto are still pushing you toward a transformation, making sure you don't get caught in a loop of indecision, which would be quite likely given that Libra is where the New Moon occurs. Libra strives for balance and to be totally fair, so you could get entirely lost in the pros and cons and effectively do nothing. That does not look like what the Universe has in mind. Pluto and Mars are in a quincunx with Mars now in Leo, your 3rd House of thoughts, ideas, siblings, neighbors, and short journeys. Mars is much happier there than soggy Cancer and will be firing up that active, Gemini brain of yours there in the 3rd House which is Gemini's Zodiacal homebase. All this thought energy is going to help effect that transformation Pluto has been pushing for all month.

Interestingly enough, there's another ToP out there between Mars, Saturn and the North Node, but this time Saturn is in the driver's seat. As noted earlier, Saturn is all about your responsibilities and obligations at home. Thus, if you were considering blowing that off, this will make sure that you put it in its proper place. The good news is that the sextile between Saturn and Mars will give you plenty of thoughts and ideas to work with on how to handle this and Saturn's trine to the North Node implies that whatever it is that's supposed to come into your life at this time will do so. You will be able to find the balance necessary to essentially have your cake and eat it, too. It really doesn't get much better than that. And I haven't even touched on the positive aspects out there, yet.

The New Moon system which by definition comprises a conjunction between the Sun and Moon is quincunx Uranus, indicating a new change of course or adjustment to your

career or status. In addition, the New Moon is trining Neptune in that 9th House, which appears to be putting down that yellow caution flag for a green one. However, this is all dependent on you doing the math and getting everything figured out such that it benefits everyone in your life, not just you, which could be a tendency with the New Moon in the egocentric 5th House. That is why it's actually a good thing that Saturn and Pluto are expressing their opinion, making sure you have all the facts as you make what could be an important decision. If your birthday is right around June 15th this New Moon will be very influential, so pay close attention to what is going on in your life right now and recognize the need for change.

In my experience, Mercury-ruled Geminis like to stay busy and get bored easily. I don't think you have to worry about that this month.

Daily and Short-term Aspects

October 1: The month starts out with a Yod between Mars, Mercury and the asteroid, Chiron, known as the "wounded healer." This is likely to bring something to your attention such as a disappointment or other less than enchanting experience related to your beliefs or expectations. While this may be unpleasant, it's intended to jump-start everything else going on this month for you. If we're perfectly content we don't move forward or progress, so this is a good thing. Really.

October 4: Full Moon as described above.

October 8 - 9: Expect an influx of information or a brainstorm related to your responsibilities at home. If there's a conflict between your career and your home life or family, concern for you family will be an issue at this time along with the possibility that some changes are in order. An "Aha" moment or other form of enlightenment is likely. Mercury goes into Libra on the 9th, stimulating your creativity and thoughts regarding everything from your children to your self-expression and speculation.

October 10: Focus and attention on your creativity and so forth will be expanded today according to your core beliefs or other possibilities. Think positively. Something from your past that you've been ignoring or some other issue will surface and require attention before you can move forward.

October 12: Jupiter comes out of retrograde, bringing any ruminations related to your beliefs or their expansion to the surface. The motivation to do something related to your finances or other needs as they relate to home responsibilities will be present as well.

October 13: The rewards of meeting your obligations will be apparent today. That motivation that started yesterday will be even stronger.

October 14 - 15: Venus goes into Libra on the 14th. Venus rules this Sign, making her feel very comfortable in that environ. This will bode well for your creativity, children and any romantic interests along with enjoying yourself today or pursuing speculations of

some sort. Something unresolved from the past or other hidden issue will surface that requires attention.

October 16: Mars goes into Leo, where he's much more functional than his previous abode. This will help fire your thoughts and ideas or desire to leave the house and get out and about. An occurrence of some description will trigger thoughts of a career or status change that will take your imagination on quite an excursion.

October 18: New Moon today as described above.

October 20: Ideas pertaining to creative ways to expand upon your belief system, education, location or cultural boundaries will be profuse today.

October 23 - 24: The Sun goes into Scorpio on the 23rd, bringing emphasis to your 6th House of work, health and pets. Recognizing something that should or could change will come to your attention and suggest a change of course related to your career or status. If you don't recognize everything that falls under "status" check what comprises the 10th House. Inspiration is available to assist you if you invite it by listening.

October 28: Mercury goes into Scorpio, bringing news and information pertaining to your work or other projects that keep you occupied. It could also bring information pertaining to your health, if applicable. Your creativity is working hand in hand with expanding your beliefs and horizons; pay attention. Give a lot of thought to how you feel about your job and whether you feel stuck or ready to go to a new level. If you've been ignoring something, now is the time to address it if you want to move forward.

October 29: Saturn goes into Libra, bringing the benefits of perseverance and hard work to your creativity. If there's something you want to bring to fruition, this will help you put some structure behind it and start building its foundation. Negative thoughts or obstacles to your current ambitions could arise, either related to your job or health. Whatever it happens to be, it's not insurmountable so buckle down and figure out how to get around it.

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