

## **August 2023 Astrological Outlook**

### **GREETINGS:**

August begins and ends with 2 Super Full Moons (larger than usual and close to the Earth): **8/1** the Full Moon is in Aquarius and on **8/30** the Moon shines in Pisces. Aquarius and Pisces are the last two signs of the Zodiac which means we are starting a new cycle in September with a New Moon in Virgo on **9/14** and a Full Moon in Aries on **9/29**, shortly after the Fall Equinox on **9/22**.

August is a virtual retrograde roundup with Venus, Saturn, Neptune and Pluto retrograde, and Mercury joining the group on **8/23** and Uranus following on **8/28**. To say that this combination is a slow flow is not an overstatement. Carl Jung, who used astrology in his work, said: ***“Who looks outside, dreams. Who looks inside, awakens”***. This is a month of true awakening. After the Full Moon in Aquarius on **8/1**, Mercury, now at home in Virgo, faces off with Saturn in Pisces, reminding us to keep our thinking caps on this month of change. Mercury goes retrograde on **8/23** and moves forward on **9/15**. As we all know, this is a maddening time of surprises and electronic madness. I always call it the time of “car wars”, so I got my vehicles checked out and washed last month. Don’t be surprised if you are floating backward into your past with so many planets retrograde. It is time for do overs and second chances. By the end of the month’s end 6 planets will be whirling backward in this month of time traveling.

### **MAJOR PLANETARY ACTIVITY IN AUGUST:**

#### **FULL MOON IN AQUARIUS (8/1):**

The gorgeous Super Moon in Aquarius is the first moon in Aquarius in 3 years without Saturn stalking the Moon. Instead, we are creating beauty and focusing our attention on relationships and friendships. For many of us it unleashes our inner freedom needs. With the Sun in Leo, warming and brightening our hearts, it is no longer necessary to base our self-worth on other’s behavior, responses and projection. It is “I want to be me” time as Sammy Davis used to sing.

#### **VENUS RETROGRADE IN LEO (7/22-9/3):**

The planet Venus, symbolizing beauty, creativity, values, and attachment to others, makes a turn backward every 18 months, allowing us to update our relationship

needs and finish our creative projects. The planet Uranus offers a shocking lightning bolt of change on **8/9**, allowing us to ask where we have gone astray with relationships and self-worth. In late July Venus turned backward in Leo, where she will join the Sun on **8/13**, moving across the heart of the Sun, a time to know your true value. It is now time to experiment with new ways of being and relating—artistically, financially, and interpersonally. It is time to redefine beauty and desirability. When Venus joins the Sun, it is called Cazimi and allows us to unblock ourselves from experiencing true confidence and pleasure. Ask yourself “what has been obstructing my path to abundance, boldness and more functional, meaning relationships?”

### **NEW MOON IN LEO (8/16):**

With the Sun and Moon in Leo squaring off with powerful Uranus in the mix, it is impossible to stay stuck. As we heal, we are led out of the quicksand into new versions of self-awareness and self-expression. Confidence is high and energy is more creative this month with the Sun and Moon in Leo. We may take steps ahead, perhaps in areas with which we have no experience, and come up smelling of roses. Even though the energy of Uranus may be a bit disruptive, it has the power to sweep the cobwebs away in a positive manner. When cleaning out our old debris, we will increase the fertility of the new soil. With the Sun dignified in its own sign it brings greater strength. We can trust our judgment more. Since the New Moon is conjunct Venus, kindness and goodness surrounds us, bringing opportunity to connect with people on our wavelength. Venus has associations with financial matters, and we may have opportunities to improve our financial life.

### **MARS IN VIRGO OPPOSES NEPTUNE IN PISCES (8/22 – 23):**

Mars is the God of War and Neptune is the God of the Sea. When Mars moves into the world of Virgo he is agitated and impatient. When Neptune occupies his home into dreamy Pisces, where unlimited creativity and magic thrive. **HOWEVER**, these two planets are not friends. Mars is the accelerator of life and Neptune is the Dreamer. To say they struggle does not begin to explain their complexity. This pattern may deflate our plans and our confidence. Insecurity and paranoia may appear. It is time to take a breath and relax and trust that all is unfolding to our benefit. The poet Rumi told us to know that sometime things that happen keep worse things from happening. The late Buddhist teacher Thich Nhat Hanh said:

***“The seed of suffering in you may be strong, but don’t wait until you have no more suffering before allowing yourself to be happy”.***

**MERCURY GOES RETROGRADE IN VIRGO (8/23-9/15):**

Mercury begins his introspective phase in his 2<sup>nd</sup> home in Virgo on **8/23**. With Mars close by in Virgo, mental fireworks may appear. There is an emerging stability as Pluto and Uranus begin a supportive relationship in earth signs Capricorn and Taurus, helping us choose how we want to think and speak, to ourselves as well as to others. I have been told we cannot allow a negative thought to prevail, which is why I have been reading the DAILY WORD daily since 1970. Having a source for positive affirmations is a choice, just as negative thoughts are a choice. Time to choose your mental path. With Mercury retrograde in Virgo it is time to clean house and finish old projects. Over the next 23 days it would be wise to review your assessments and assumptions that form your boundaries with work and relationships.

**FULL MOON IN PISCES: (8/30 - “BLUE MOON”):**

The second Super Full Moon in August is called a “blue moon”. When the people who originally prepared the Almanacs came to full moons, they put a blue pencil circle around the moons. Since Full Moons occur roughly every 4 weeks, some months have two full moons in a month, therefore a ‘BLUE MOON’ occurs. The second Full Moon of August has Saturn in opposition to the Sun and sitting on the Moon. Since the Sun in Virgo concentrates on details, as well as diligence in our self-improvement and self-care, Saturn helps us undergo the hard work necessary to refrain from bad health habits and replace them with a foundation of better habits. As Mercury and Venus move backwards, these personal planets are assisting us in our task of successful return to forward movement re-invigorated and renewed in September.

Wishing you an enjoyable last month of summer and opportunities to practice the 3 r’s of wellness: rest, recreation and regeneration. I am available for consultations in person and remotely on the telephone. This is the turning point of 2023 and time to go within and clean out what limits your opportunities for growth. If I can help you with this important project, let me know.

**NAN**