

## GREETINGS

In April, the Sun moves through the second half of the sign Aries, the fiery action sign of decisiveness and assertiveness. This is the time for all of us to get serious about an action plan for the year, while at the same time embracing uncertainty, the rhythm of 2009. The Full Moon on 4/9 intensifies our feelings about relationships as the Moon enters Libra. The New Moon in April, on 4/24, is in the fixed earth sign of Taurus, signaling new beginnings in matters we value. The first half of the month is fueled by fire, and the second half by earth energies. Combined, this has the effect of a steam roller, so get ready to rock and roll.

Two planets change direction this month. First, Pluto slows down and moves retrograde on 4/4 in Capricorn. That should take some pressure off those with planets in Capricorn, Cancer and Scorpio for the next six months. Take advantage of the respite and get as far forward as you can imagine. On 4/17, Venus moves forward at 29 degrees Pisces, which should give a boost to those with planets in Pisces, Taurus and Libra. Generally, the stock market drops during Venus retrograde periods, but this cycle has so far been the reverse. Remember, this is the year to embrace uncertainty.

Mental planet Mercury starts the month in feisty Aries and moves into more gentle, stable Taurus on 4/9 at the Full Moon. On 4/11 Venus and Pluto make a supportive triangle, which usually improves finances and relationships matters, especially for those with planets in Taurus, Capricorn, Scorpio and Libra. On 4/17 Mercury and Saturn make a supportive trine as well. This pattern balances the mind, helps us to concentrate and satisfactorily reorient our priorities, particularly for those with planets in Gemini, Virgo, Capricorn and Taurus. On 4/22 Mercury is expanded by Jupiter, which brings a boost of optimism and creative opportunity. This is a great day to present new ideas and have discussions about long standing problems, particularly for those with planets in Sagittarius, Aquarius, Gemini, Virgo and Taurus. Just after the New Moon, on 4/25, Mercury and Neptune blend expansively, so plan some time for creative imagining on this day, especially if you have planets in Sagittarius, Pisces, Gemini, Virgo and Taurus. If you are planning a blow out party, this is the day for it.

Venus begins the month in backwards motion in Aries and starts forward on 4/17 in Pisces. It will be more than two years before we have this pattern again, and we all have more clarity on what we value and want to spend our energy and money on. Many relationships changed permanently over the past 6 weeks. On 4/3, just as Pluto is slowing down, it bashes Venus, which makes most of us feel depressed, hopeless, overwhelmed, and/or broke. It will pass, so be gentle with yourself. On 4/21 Venus joins Mars in Aries and the passion and sparks will fly, particularly for those with planets in Aries, Taurus and Libra. This is a great love and money making aspect for all of us, so plan accordingly. On 4/24, at the New Moon, Venus moves into Aries with new fire and new possibilities. Make sure you have a financial plan at this time, as you will have lots of enthusiasm for the next few weeks.

Mars is the ruler of Aries and lingers in Pisces until 4/22. This tends to increase feelings of fear and insecurity in those who struggle with those issues, so plan relaxing, mindless activities or you will drive yourself and others nuts with your neurosis. This is especially troublesome on 4/4 as Mars opposes Saturn, a time when accidents and arguments need to be avoided, particularly with those who have some authority in our lives. It is important to avoid feelings of being a victim at this time. Remember, this is also the day when volatile Pluto slows down and turns around, which may make many of us feel like we are hit by a truck. My plan, to stay home and lie low. The other challenging day is 4/15, which is the day Mars and Uranus oppose each other. This is a very aggressive, impulsive pattern, so avoid those who push your buttons if at all possible. These patterns will be especially troubling to those with planets in Pisces, Aries, Scorpio, Aquarius, Virgo and Capricorn, half of us, so probably all of us. On 4/22 Mars re-enters the sign it is most comfortable in, Aries, and all of us should feel more assertive, decisive, passionate and re-energized, especially those with planets in Aries. One note of caution, however, on 4/26 Mars

and Pluto struggle, which is the third pattern of struggle in April. Some people think this causes severe weather, war and other types of conflict. Practice non-violent communication this month.

In general, life should improve if we maintain optimism, take action and balance it with regeneration. This is the most active change month so far in 2009. I will be in the office for personal consultations if you have challenges or questions you need to discuss. Please call 713/520-1551 to schedule your appointment.

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