

GREETINGS;

I hope you are looking forward to the passionate energy of April and we embrace Spring, the season of renewal and new beginnings. All of us are starting over again. As I write this looking out on flowers and trees in my own amazing backyard, listening to fountains and birds, I am very aware of this process. Thank all of you for your kind words concerning my sadness after the sudden deaths of two of my best friends on Christmas Day and Valentine's Day. Both are irreplaceable and had a profound influence on my understanding of the healing process, both personally and professionally. With our early warm Spring and the religious celebrations of renewal, we all should be grateful for the opportunity to begin again.

LANDSCAPING; With everything in bloom after a warm winter and an early Spring, we have concerns about water due to drought and low rainfall. I bought a fabulous drought tolerant tree this past summer and am enclosing pictures of some of the possible choices I can plant for you in this email. Mine is putting on leaves and will bloom all summer- and I left it in a pot to really test it. Let me know if I can help you with clean up, design, irrigation, tree work or any other exterior decorating needs. I can consult with you or provide full service landscaping services. My fee for consultation is \$95 for an hour, which can be applied to any services I provide. Enjoy the pictures!

APRIL ASTROLOGICAL OUTLOOK;

The first half of April is dynamic and fast paced. The second half of April slows down and is a lesson in reality and limits. I am planning to be more active in the first half of April with the strong energy from fiery Aries with the Sun, Mars, Venus, Mercury and Uranus in that sign. It is a time of decisiveness, recommitment to goals and self-mastery. We have an excess of energy which will move us forward if we are prepared and practice habits of determination and confidence. It is the "I want what I want when I want it time", a period of urgent desire. The New Moon in Aries before dawn on 4/10 is combined with Mars and Venus which should blast all our obstacles into another galaxy with ease. Plan something to accomplish on this day. As planets leave Aries and move into Taurus, we are moving to a period of greater limitation. First Venus (4/15), then the Sun (4/19) and then Mars (4/20) move into fixed earth sign Taurus and begin the struggle with the limits of Saturn in Scorpio, culminating on May 1 when this period releases its tension pattern. Historically, this pattern shows a correction in the US Stock Market and with money issues in particular. This is not a time for speculation for any of us. The Full Moon on 4/25 occurs with a Lunar Eclipse and a struggle with Saturn in Scorpio. Plan something joyful for this day as it will be a welcome antidote to anything else which drags you down. In mid-April (4/12) Pluto begins a retrograde period until late September, which usually portends sudden drastic change, particularly around weather and financial matters. With so many planets in Aries, Taurus and Gemini, we are all urged to handle our personal matters in a timely and well planned manner, as that will serve as the foundation for the growth opportunities of the late Spring and early Summer of 2013.

After 3-plus weeks of crazy energy in late February and March when trickster Mercury went wild in Pisces, we reach the point of realignment on April 5 as Mercury goes back to the point it went its own direction taking many of us into a fine March madness. Fortunately, the duality of Pisces energy gives way to the clear self-determination of Aries on 4/13. As we know, Mercury is the winged messenger of the air and doesn't feel at home in water. Some of us actually felt like death in February and March. On 4/20 Mercury joins Uranus for a Flash of Genius moment. If you have a problem you cannot figure out, this is the time to put your attention to solving it and speak with those who can help you. Original thought prevails, particularly for those with planets in Aries. On 4/21 Mercury and Pluto square off for a deeper understanding of what is on your mind. These consecutive days (4/20-21) it would be a great idea to take some time to reflect and plan for future success and problem resolution.

Venus, our source of pleasure and connection with others, as well as our creative potential, is active in Aries the first two weeks. On 4/7 Venus and Mars dance together bringing charisma our way and/or releasing it from us as a magnet for what we want. This is definitely not a day to be in hiding, particularly for those with planets in Aries, Taurus and Libra. Please plan to use this magnificent pattern to feather your nest or sell yourself successfully. On 4/15 Venus enters Taurus, where it is free to express the love

of beauty, serenity and dependability. For those with planets in Taurus and Libra, this is a time of knowing yourself more fully. On 4/22 Venus and Saturn form an opposition pattern which sometimes brings struggle with others over money and possessions, as well as emphasizing the difference in personal values with those we are connected to. It is especially intense for those with planets in Taurus, Libra, Scorpio and Capricorn. This is not a time to speculate with money or to allow yourself to be vulnerable with others who are not on your wavelength. Fortunately, this pattern releases shortly as Venus and Pluto form a balanced triangle on 4/24, so save the decisions and conversation for this day or thereafter.

Mars, the energizer of action is alive and on fire in April, moving through Aries for the first time since April 2011. If you have been feeling stuck or on a treadmill for the past two years, you are not imaging it. Make plans to get everything in order this month. Mars leaves Aries for Taurus on 4/20 so decide and make action plans before the slowdown occurs on 4/20,. Mars is in great rapport with the Moon in Sagittarius on 4/1, joins Venus on 4/7 and the Moon on 4/10 as it becomes a New Moon. Mars joins the Sun on 4/17 for a high energy day. Some people become impatient and release their anger when Mars is in Aries. This is the shadow side of the warrior principle. The mature side of the warrior archetype is discipline, leadership, self-determination and courage. All of us have this resource available to us if we choose. The mature warrior is the peacemaker, as they have outgrown the ego's need to fight for control of other people and outer circumstances. It is true power, the opposite of force. From 4/20-5/1 we will all be tested in this principle as the energies of Mars and Saturn form an opposition pattern. It remains to be seen whether strength and courage (Mars) or fear and duty (Saturn) will prevail in our belief systems and circumstances. It will be an interesting time for all of us.

Jupiter, the fast moving growth source is moving through Gemini giving those with planets in Gemini a wild ride and no choice about change and growth.

Saturn, the planet of limits, maturity and lessons is moving backward slowly in Scorpio, urging those with planets in Scorpio to find the eagle in themselves, even if they first have an encounter with the serpent and/or the Phoenix bird, the three symbols of their archetype.

Uranus, the somewhat violent changemaker is moving toward a standoff with Pluto on 5/20/2013, the third of 7 times, the last occurring on 3/16/2015. This is a radical change pattern which occurs once in a lifetime, so make the most of it.

Neptune is drifting through early Pisces bringing creative and spiritual energies not felt for centuries.

I wish you much success with so much energy in Cardinal signs of action in the first 3 weeks of April. As the month draws to a close we should all slow down and get more practical and realistic and enjoy life more. If I can help you in any way in understanding yourself or your life challenges, please call my office at 713/520-1551 to schedule an appointment. I have a new receptionist, Tamara, and I am letting her make all my appointments now.

ENJOY THE BEAUTY OF THE EARTH. WHATEVER WE APPRECIATE APPRECIATES.

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