

## GREETINGS:

I hope your summer is going well and you are ready for the high energy month of August to begin. The energy surge of fiery Leo is roaring the last week of July as the Sun and Jupiter merge on July 24, expanding our capacity to love and open our hearts. Jupiter is synonymous with generosity of spirit and when it joins with the Sun in Leo, there are no limits to our growth. Additionally Venus, the planet of love and attachment is making contact with Neptune and the Moon in Cancer which is a great time to be with family and celebrate at home. Enjoy the peaceful rhythm of the planets on 7/24. On July 25 Mars leaves Libra after 8 months stirring up our relationships. The mood switches from air which seeks fairness and neutrality to watery Scorpio, which is passionate, not at all neutral and volatile in the extreme. One good thing about turning up the heat, it burns down what it is cooking so we can be clear about our desires. On July 26 a fabulous New Moon in Leo is intensified by Mars and expanded by Jupiter, announcing a 28 day cycle of amazing possibilities. Plan to visualize the biggest desires of your heart and move toward greater risk and throw your fear away. For the first time in 12 years we are all starting over.

**LANDSCAPING:** If you have irrigation, you can still plant for months of enjoyment and it is a great idea to prune trees before late summer, early Fall storms arrive. Let me know if my crew of precision landscape professionals can be of assistance to you in any of these projects. I am also available for consultation if you have your own crew or want to do it yourself. My rate is \$95 for a one hour consultation. I will send pictures of my yard in the next week as it is 99% perfect.

## AUGUST ASTROLOGICAL OUTLOOK:

As mentioned above, the powerful shift of August is preceded by a New Moon in Leo, joining joyous Jupiter, and a powerful energy shift as Mars moves from air sign Libra, where it has been for 8 months, to deep water Scorpio, where the volatility of our feelings is guaranteed. The first half of August has the planets in fire and water signs, which deepens our creative potential and allows our feelings to be expressed. Fire and water energies correspond to the non-rational functions of chaos and creativity. Use them in new ways and grow toward your unlimited potential. With Mars, a fiery planet, in water sign Scorpio, expect to lose the ability to be neutral in relationships. You will know where you stand in all of your relationships. The desire for fairness and compromise is past. Planets in fixed signs Leo and Scorpio energize our passions and move us into decisive action. There are no planets in air in August, which further emphasizes the inability to be neutral. Accept the way you feel and find a way to make your dreams come true. The New Moon on 7/26 joining Jupiter brings us the possibility of dramatic circumstances as the large energies of the Sun and Jupiter in Leo expand the energy of our hearts.

August begins with Venus in Cancer dancing with Uranus in Aries. Expect some fast paced events, full of surprise and perhaps, delight. The stability of Saturn in Scorpio takes over and we feel more sure of ourselves as the day unfolds. Mars plays a strong role in our lives in August, and the Mars/Jupiter square of 8/1 brings expansive feelings of optimism and unlimited opportunity. For all of us who have felt held back the past 8 months, this is a celebratory time.

Mercury moves into the foreground on 8/2 as he joins Jupiter in Leo. If you need to be persuasive, this is the day for it. If you need to keep things to yourself, this is not the day for it. Mars increases the impulse factor on 8/2, so avoid situations and people that you feel conflict with. On 8/8 Mercury and Uranus support original thinking and skill in communication so postpone serious conversations till this day if possible. Mercury and Saturn deepen our understanding on this day as well, so if you need to plan and/or strategize, this is the day for that task as well. Mid-month, on 8/15 Mercury moves into Virgo, the home of its analyzing, problem solving skill base, so take the last half of August to review and revise your plans for the near future. On 8/18 Mercury and Neptune make a pattern of opposition between the Virgo reality and the Pisces dream time possibilities, so take some time that day to dream and then plan. On 8/21 Mercury and Saturn find the balance to put your plans into action

Venus moves through watery Cancer into fiery Leo on 8/12. While in Cancer Venus urges us to enjoy our home and family and when she moves into Leo, she takes on the colors of the Sun, brilliant and social and warms our hearts. On 8/1 Venus in Cancer and Saturn in Scorpio find balance between our

passions and our emotional needs, and later we deepen our understanding of the needs of those closest to us as Pluto in Capricorn brings a different perspective into the equation. On 8/12 Venus enters Leo and joins Jupiter on 8/18. This is a fabulous time to entertain, vacation and/or plan to enjoy whatever turns you on with people who lighten your heart and turn on your creative juices. On 8/26, after the powerful New Moon in Virgo, Venus and Saturn square off and present a more limited point of view for our consideration.

The Full Moon in Aquarius on 8/10 is the second super-moon of 3 this summer. The Moon is close to the earth which is why we have such a beautiful Full Moon to gaze at again in August, and also in September. As you may remember with the first of these Super Moons in July (7/12), it is hard to sleep and emotions are running wild. It is a great time to socialize as people are more naturally extroverted at the Full Moon. The Moon in Aquarius is in an air sign, so for some people this will be a time of clarity and coolness in this month of volatile passions and emotions. Turn within if you need answers to questions and seek out wise counsel if you need to make decisions. The two days before and the two days after the Full Moon offer us the ability to see more clearly where we are coming from and where we need to go. The Supermoon generates greater gravitational pull on the earth, as well as on our physical and emotional bodies. This Full Moon requires balance and integration between the energies of Leo and Aquarius. The energy of Leo is symbolic of our individual, unique divine spark, and the energy of Aquarius is symbolic of the power of community and collaboration. This Full Moon highlights our potential to be an agent of change and imagine using our individual gifts in service of the greater good for all. Saturn is driving alongside this Full Moon from Scorpio principals, urging us to focus, prioritize, establish healthy boundaries and achieve our goals with hard work, discipline and integrity. Saturn also highlights the illusion of fear (false events appearing real), showing us where we give our power away and sabotage ourselves by letting the Shadow energy drive us in the wrong direction. This is a great time to find innovative solutions to long term problems. With the Moon in Aquarius we need to listen to our inner guidance and trust ourselves. This is a powerful time to ask Spirit to use us for the greater good of all.

The New Moon in Virgo on 8/25 shines her light on our capacity to heal on all levels. This New Moon is opposed by Neptune in Pisces, which always brings a fascinating curve ball into the game of life. Since Venus and Uranus are closely connected to this New Moon, the power of love and freedom to be ourselves is part of this equation. Whatever helps the heart feel heals us at our core. Understanding that the love we seek is hidden inside our own hearts is a powerful message. Rumi said the lovers do not find one another on the path, they are in each other all along. Jung gave us a powerful image of the inner partner inside each of us and when we experience the inner marriage of our outer and inner selves, life gives us greater peace and fulfillment as a consequence of the joining of all of our selves. The blending of the mental energies of Virgo with the creative heart energies of Leo bring about the realization of our true potential

We can't leave the month of August and all of its drama and creative possibilities without more discussion of the role of Mars. Mars is the warrior energy, the trigger for all action and after 8 months in Libra, where Mars is held back and feels frustrated by the lack of opportunity to move, the transition to Scorpio and all its feeling possibility is a powerful change of pace for all of us. On 8/1 Mars and Jupiter do yoga together in a powerful strengthening pose of expansion. On 8/7 Mars and Neptune enhance our creative potential for imaginative action and on 8/25 Mars and Saturn join together which is always a struggle between fire and ice, the moveable and the unmovable. Please be careful at this time and avoid all risky behavior, go slow, and avoid anything and anyone where the appearance of trouble is sensed.

With the outer planets Uranus, Neptune and Pluto all retrograde, the movements of Saturn, Jupiter and Mars are especially important to our understanding of the rhythm of life. By December 2014, Saturn and Jupiter will both be in fire signs allowing us to pick up speed. As Uranus turns direct in fire sign Aries on 12/21 at the New Moon/Winter Solstice, the bases will be loaded for us to hit home run in 2015. The seeds we plant in August will bear fruit in ways we cannot imagine, so we have to trust and act on our deeper desire nature.

If you need help in your planning or sorting so you can maximize your options, I will be in the office working most of August. My twins will be back home in Spring and I will work longer hours with the exception of August 14-15, when I will be in Galveston at Moody Gardens for some vacation time.

ENJOY THE JOURNEY

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