

## GREETINGS:

I apologize for the delay in writing about December, but the combined experiences and energies of October and November sent me down the rabbit hole longer than I would have wished. On the day when we experience the optimistic New Moon in Sagittarius with strengthening energy from Uranus in Aries (12/2), a jolt of optimism, enthusiasm and visionary energy is moving through us and all of our activities for the next few weeks, and if you are like me--not a moment too soon. A word about the past month: it felt like everyone I know, myself included, was being dragged down by the undertow of the unconscious and the deep dark parts of the Scorpio possibilities. Today with the beginning of strong fiery energy, we can choose to rise like the Phoenix bird, after being alchemically changed by the fire. It felt to me like I was on the ark with Noah and we were never going to find land or see the dove of peace. Today is the beginning of a change in that pattern.

Last month I sent instructions to prepare for the Winter Solstice, which symbolizes the return to light in the western hemisphere and is a period of great celebration and looking forward. I hope you have made plans to celebrate this important change. For those who let me know of their intention to be with me during that time, we are full but I will take names for a waiting list should space open up. I can only believe that the quick response from so many of you means you are ready to begin again after the challenges of 2013. I plan to burn a calendar of 2013 so I can remember only the lessons and not the challenges. I was very happy on 12/1 to erase the month of November from my chalkboard with all its dark, wet energy which flooded everyone I know with depression and feelings of hopelessness and a never ending feeling of being stuck.

**LANDSCAPING:** As the weather changes and we enter our marvelous Fall season, it is time to clean, prune, mulch and plant for the wonderful holiday season we will soon enter. If I can help you with any of your needs, please let me know. The trained professionals I collaborate with have a shared experience of over 100 years of experience. I am available for consultations for \$95 per hour if you have your own workers.

**GIFT CERTIFICATES:** In this holiday season, many of us will want to give a gift of an experience of meaning rather than one more object to store. I have gift certificates available for that purpose for \$85 (1/2 hr) and \$170 (1 hr). I first visited an astrologer in December 1968, at a time of uncertainty and change and it planted seeds of growth in me that are still growing. When you decide on your needs, let me know and I can mail the Gift Certificate or you can pick it up at my office.

**HOLIDAY HOURS:** I do not travel during the holidays and work between Christmas and New Year's Eve as needed. Many of my clients who have moved away are in town, as are the children and other relatives of clients who live in Houston, so I do this to accommodate the needs of everyone. Let me know if you want to get a jump on 2014 during this quieter time.

## DECEMBER ASTROLOGICAL OUTLOOK

December offers all of us many challenges and opportunities as the fire sign Sagittarius and the earth sign Capricorn bring us into resonance with optimism, visionary thinking, generosity, self-determination, tenacity and staying focused on our goals. We begin the month on the evening of 12/2 with the bountiful, New Moon of self confidence in the spiritual nature of life and the value of generosity symbolized by the sign Sagittarius. This is the beginning of a period of deeper greater awareness of the difference between truth and reality and taking care of our needs so we can be generous to others. The Full Moon of 12/17 is exploding with possibilities as the planet Uranus starts moving forward in the sign of Aries. Plan something wonderful that day as it is a show stopper of energy possibilities. From 12/17 till 3/2/2014 Saturn, Uranus, Neptune and Pluto are moving forward without interruption. This phenomenon signals a time of great opportunity and a huge role for fate in our lives. The more we know ourselves and align ourselves without authentic self, the greater our successes. Please take time to take an honest look at yourself and your dreams before, during and after this period.

With the beginning of the Sun's entry into earthy Capricorn at the Winter Solstice on 12/21, Venus begins a 40 days in the wilderness period as it moves backward till 1/31. As you may know, Venus makes this pattern every 2-1/2 years, giving all of us an opportunity to know and assimilate the changes in our values, needs and desires in our relationships with others. This is a period which will test all of our relationships, including old relationships which may suddenly return in new and unexpected ways. This is a time when life will remind us of what is important to receive in relationship with others, a form of taking inventory and reassessing. This applies to personal as well as business relationships. Ironically, it is a time when the Stock Market in the US usually goes down. It is not a good time to take on new beauty routines or make changes to ourselves out of dissatisfaction and a distorted sense of ourselves. I always remember that it can be a period of discomfort which brings awareness of what we need to change when it is over on 1/31/14. Sometimes life can bring a season of discontent which prompts major life changes, particularly in our dealings with others. Venus is the love planet, and where there is no love, there is no relationship.

After the enthusiastic New Moon of 12/2 our mental energy gets a blast of optimism as Mercury moves into Sagittarius and we are jolted into a more joyful mood, which always makes life better, as we change the channel on our feelings from Scorpio where all the regrets, doubts, and self-hatred live to Sagittarius where joy, generosity, spiritual understanding and optimism rule. Make the most of this time from 12/4-24 to make things happen for you in alignment with your best self. It is a time to give freely and get more than you can imagine in return. I always think of Sagittarius energy as the Santa Claus syndrome in action. On 12/10 Mercury and Uranus connect and bring a jolt of originality into the optimism dance. Plan something wonderful at this time. On 12/24 Mercury moves into Capricorn and urges a balance between hope and reality. The last 3 days of December have Mercury meeting Uranus, Pluto and Mars, which sounds like a horrible headache to me. Do not argue with anyone during this time, especially yourself. Find ways to relax and be around uplifting, kind people and circumstances as an antidote to this 3-day period when the crazies come out of the woodwork like rabid dogs.

After agitating and aggravating all of us to death in November, Mars leaves Virgo and enters Libra on 12/7, which is yet another positive change we can look forward to in early December. Mars will remain in Libra until mid-summer, after a period of retrograde motion from 3/1-5/19/2014. Mars is the planet of action and always is a trigger for change, particularly when in one of the Cardinal signs, Libra, Capricorn, Aries or Cancer. Usually Mars remains in a sign for 1 month, so the 7-plus months Mars will remain in Libra, will be an additional activator for our relationship decisions. Mars will show us where we are not getting our needs met and will cause us to clean house in the relationship department, making way for change where possible and endings where necessary. Those who have planets in peaceful Libra will have a new decisive strength available to them as well as a bit of a temper. Those with planets in the other cardinal signs Capricorn, Aries and Cancer will have their lives stirring in other areas. For Capricorn this is a strong career period. For Aries, challenges in relationship with others who will be more demanding. For Cancer, the family will provide challenges. In the early morning hours of 12/25 Mars and Uranus explode, so make sure you are safe in your bed asleep during this time. On the evening of 12/30 Mars and Pluto square off which is another violent confrontation pattern. Stay away from those who push your buttons and leave if necessary to protect your sanity. As mentioned above, Mars and Mercury make peaceful communication a challenge on 12/31 so this is not a time for partying with those who find peaceful interchange an impossibility. The last 3 days of December ask us to slow down, take no chances, and hunker down and bring in the year 2014 peacefully. January 1 brings a New Moon in Capricorn and we should be ready for an active 2014.

Jupiter remains slipping backward in home loving Cancer in December and brings a peaceful balance to our lives from 12/11-13 as Saturn in Scorpio and Jupiter in Cancer form a harmonious triangle of the generous Jupiter and the stable Saturn energies bring us hope for the future and our growth in it.

Saturn continues to move slowly with determination through Scorpio. Thankfully, after 12/4 it is the only planet in Scorpio until next year. We all feel lighter knowing we have a year to recover. Saturn leaves Scorpio on 12/23/14. Mark your calendar now so you can give out a sigh of relief in advance. We are all growing in ways we never expected and discovering strength in ourselves that we never imagined. A

new study in resilience shows that 50% of us are naturally resilient, but only discover it when we are tested. That is the uncomfortable comforting fact about growth and all of its pains.

Uranus wakes up like gangbusters at the Full Moon of 12/17, rattling our cages in every way possible, urging us to be our authentic selves, even if it shocks us, and it will. We will find new ways of being ourselves and surprise everyone with our enthusiasm and originality.

Neptune is drifting slowly in Pisces awakening us to our dreams and spiritual nature

Pluto remains in Capricorn making the hard truth of life impossible to ignore. We are all finite and infinite and we need to factor that into all we do.

All in all, December is full of challenges and opportunities which are intertwined in a delicate balance. We will all continue to grow and be reminded that growth and comfort do not always co-exist. We will be reminded that failure is not the opposite of success. It is part of the training for success. I am sure you all know that the holiday season brings up stored cellular memories of disappointment as well as joy. Being around people whom you have unresolved or unresolvable issues with activates these memories unconsciously. Please be gentle with yourself as you navigate this minefield of sadness. Go slower, be more peaceful, have an attitude of gratitude and surround yourself with safe people who love and appreciate you as you are. Life is not a performance for others. I have my books which remind me of the best in myself as well as going to movies which lift us up and I kept the recent concert Barbra Streisand returns to Brooklyn on PBS to watch when I need to lift myself up out of the madness of life. I also have dozens of sermons from Joel Osteen to watch and rewatch so I don't get affected by negative emotional states. Know that friends and counselors with whom you can be honest with your true feelings are worth a million dollars to your mental and physical well being. Another tool for uplifting thoughts can be found here – [26 of the Worlds Most Powerful Quotes](#). Please enjoy your December and make it a December to remember. If I can help you in any way, let me know.

BEST WISHES FOR A HAPPY HOLIDAY AND HAPPY NEW YEAR.

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