

GREETINGS;

Today, January 30, is an auspicious day for all of us, as the New Moon in Aquarius this afternoon coincides with the beginning of the Year of the Yang Horse in Chinese Astrology. Check out the dynamic description of this powerful year at Western School of Feng Shui's [Website](#). This description is very similar in meaning to the powerful changes we expect in western astrology. After 2013, which ground us up into dust, we need to be off and running strong and free. Remember the affirmation on the back of the Daily Word for January and February: I am fearless, strong, and free! This is the second New Moon in January, and it is a message to start over in earnest. The New Moon in Aquarius encourages freedom, friendship and community. Make sure you have all those bases covered. If we wondered whether this is an important time of change, take a look at our recent weather: the energy of astrological trends is always mirrored in weather events, and we are in the time of extremes, which encourage us to find balance.

LANDSCAPING: Please don't clean up your yard till after mid-February, as the dead parts of your plants offer protection from further cold weather. Mid-February is a great time to prune and plant trees and plan ahead for spring in March. Let me know if I can help you in these endeavors.

FEBRUARY ASTROLOGICAL OUTLOOK:

The trends in February actually begin powerfully the last two days of January, first with the New Moon in Aquarius on 1/30 and the Jupiter/Pluto opposition from Cancer to Capricorn on 1/31. Thankfully, Venus will move back into our consciousness on 1/31 as well, having been out of sync since 12/21. If you have had the blahs since then, you will welcome the return of peaceful, pleasure loving and beauty seeking Venus on 1/31. This trio of astrological movement brings us forward, releasing tension and helping us to move into new territory. Plan to be with those you enjoy and trust during these first days of the Chinese New Year of the Yang Horse.

As February begins, we can count on a bit of confusion as Mercury goes retrograde on 2/6 in watery Pisces, moving into air sign Aquarius on 2/12 and going direct on 2/28. As we move out of the feeling sign Pisces into the thinking sign Aquarius, we will dance between feeling and thinking, one non-rational and personal, the other rational and representative of the collective consciousness. The Sun remains in air sign Aquarius until 2/18, when it moves into water sign Pisces, reversing the polarity of the head to that of the heart. This is a theme of the month, as we move into our celebration of heart energy on 2/14. With Mars continuing its lengthy voyage through relationship sign Libra, another air sign influenced by Venus, it will be impossible to ignore problems in existing relationships and to refrain from imagining relationships that are better suited to our needs.

The Full Moon in Leo on Valentine Day (2/14) should bring our feelings about this topic to the surface with a great deal of intensity. The Full Moon is always a time of feeling clarification, but when it occurs in Leo, a dramatic flair is always a possibility. Do not spend this time alone. This Full Moon should illuminate where we are ready to think, see and do things differently, letting our heart show us the way.

The last week of February finds the Sun joining Neptune in Pisces on 2/23, which is magical time for feeling creativity and spiritual growth. You may be very sensitive at this time, so plan time with those who see you clearly and support you in your development. This is an important time in constructing the bridge between thinking and feeling and finding balance between these very different functions. At this time much is happening beneath the surface and like seeds and dormant plants, will bring in the Spring. On 2/26 Jupiter in Cancer moves into a square with Uranus in Aries. This is a powerhouse pattern, as both of the non-rational elements, water and fire (feeling and intuition) may wind up in a combustible event. This is especially true for those with planets in Cancer and Aries, Sagittarius and Aquarius. The theme of this period is freedom to be our authentic self in relationship to those we consider family. Like everything in life, the awareness of this waking dream called life, is more important than any actions we take at this time. Remember Mercury is still retrograde and therefore not a time for permanent decision making or sharing your ideas with others impulsively. On March 1, Mars begins a retrograde period in

Libra, which should further stir the pot of discontent in relationships. Many of us will release relationships that don't serve us or that we have outgrown in 2014, and we are just getting started.

With Mercury going backward (inward) from 2/6-28, this is a month of introspection and planning, as well as reviewing and revising your plans and goals. On 2/16 Mercury in Aquarius gets a boost from Mars in Libra, which should straighten out your confusion somewhat and give you a bit of enthusiasm for the future that is coming toward you. On 2/19, Saturn in Scorpio may put a temporary delay in your path. It is all just a fork in the road, so make note of your awareness and plan to put new ideas into practice in March 2014.

After 6 weeks of moving backward (inward), Venus gets a slow start in Capricorn in February, going it alone for the most part. There is a tendency for all of us to be critical and less than exuberant when Venus is under the influence of practical Capricorn. Fear not, as this period ends on 3/5 when Venus moves into air sign Aquarius and bids us back into relationship with pleasure and friendship again, wiser and truer to our authentic self. In early March Saturn moves into retrograde position, allowing jubilant, generous and fast moving Jupiter to take the lead on 3/6. This is when the Yang Horse really gets out of the barn and on the road to change without so much restraint. We will enjoy this pattern until late July: make the most of it in all you think and do.

Mars is dashing through Libra in February, coming to a pause which occurs for 2-1/2 months every 2-1/2 years. If you have any extra time in February, take a class in anger management and conflict resolution, as those who do not have the skill to manage their anger and aggression will come unwound during March through May, and you will be better prepared to deal with them.

Jupiter is slowly waking up in water sign Cancer so we can get our mojo going again soon. This is especially true for those who have planets in Cancer, Capricorn, Libra and Aries.

Uranus is moving deeper into Aries, urging us to be bold, brave, original and active. Again, those with planets in Aries, Cancer, Libra and Capricorn are feeling and hearing this message more intensely than the rest of us.

Neptune is drifting in Pisces, urging us to look deeply into ourselves until we find our spiritual source of love and creativity.

Pluto continues to move slowly and thoroughly through Capricorn, forcing change where we are reluctant, truth where we have blind spots, and new life where we doubted the possibility. One more time: if you have planets in Capricorn, Aries, Cancer and Libra, you cannot ignore this message. You have a date with destiny.

Overall, February offers us the opportunity to feel and think on a deeper level and to share our feelings and thoughts with those who support us and care deeply about our wellbeing. This is a time of coming together collectively with those who mirror us and expand our awareness. For those who are seekers, this is the best of times. For those who avoid and distract themselves, this is a time of trial.

If I can help you in any way to make sense of your life journey and/or to plan your next phase of development, please let me know how I can assist you. I will be working in my office daily in February so we can all move forward together.

HAPPY VALENTINES DAY IN ADVANCE

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