

GREETINGS;

Get ready for a fast moving wild ride in February. With the Chinese New Year symbol of the Fire Rooster/Phoenix operating in our lives for the next 12 months, January ends with a bump of energy from 5 of 10 planets in fire signs Aries and Sagittarius. The message is "Be confident, pursue your goals and dreams with enthusiasm, determination and a plan". Until 2/6, all the planets are moving us forward, so take your vitamins and get ready to make progress.

We have 2 eclipses this month: 2/10 is a Full Moon Lunar eclipse in fiery Leo; and 2/26 is a powerful, lucky New Moon in Pisces. With the Sun in Aquarius till 2/18, we are influenced by our love of freedom and connection, as well as events in the collective which make us aware of our values and need for connection. Aquarius is a sign which encourages tolerance and diversity, innovation and reforms, collaboration and connection. Aquarian energy asks us why we are here and what is our vision for the world and our place in it. As we begin the Yin Fire Rooster/Phoenix New Year, we are receiving the feminine energy which supports trusting our intuition and working cooperatively not competitively as we did in 2016 with the Yang Red Fire Monkey. The element of fire is passionate, and can therefore be destructive as well as transformative. It is a time not to be driven by ego needs, but instead to be in balance.

The Yin Fire Rooster/Phoenix asks us to wake up, be practical and plan to protect what is important to us. This symbol was last influencing us in 1957, before many of us were adults and in charge of our own lives. We are wise to step into our unique power center, discern what needs to change and achieve our goals through collaboration, caring and perseverance.

LANDSCAPING: With those thoughts in mind, if you are ready to make your landscape look beautiful and colorful again, I am setting up my Spring 2017 schedule so let me know what your needs are and I will be happy to help you bring some therapeutic horticulture into your life.

FEBRUARY ASTROLOGICAL OUTLOOK

Even though February is a shorter month than other months, it will seem like a rocket ride this year. With Mars in its home fire sign of Aries all month, we will have more than enough desire, determination and courage to review and revise the conditions still pending from 2016, the ending year symbolized by the number 9. We are now in a 1, or beginning, year, similar to 1963, 1972, 1981, 1990, 1999. and 2008. I think if you are old enough to remember those years you will find life took you forward, as it will in 2017. Mars gives us the energy to take charge and leap forward. On 2/3 Venus moves into Aries with Mars and adds creative juices to our bold energy for the next 3 months. Remember, until 2/6 all the planets are moving us forward without restraint so "go for it" big time.

On 2/6 we will begin a 4-month period when Jupiter, the planet of expansion, slows down so we can review, revise and redirect our expansion plans. Since Jupiter is energizing Libra, the sign of relationships, most of 2017, it is wise to look closely at our relationships to see where we have outgrown unhealthy patterns and see if we need to redefine our roles so more balance and mutual benefit occur. The 4-month period from 2/6-6/6 offers us the opportunity to heal old wounds with ourselves and others, reaching a place of acceptance and forgiveness, becoming grateful for the lessons, as well as the experiences with others. Pay special attention to your feelings before and after the Full Moon Lunar Eclipse in Leo on 2/10, which provides a unique opportunity for creative self-expression, realizing where we have held ourselves back and need to become more confident in expressing our unique gifts. This is a time to become playful and enjoy the company of others who are like minded and supportive of our true self. It is a time to take center stage if the opportunity presents itself. The Moon makes wonderful connection with Saturn in Sagittarius and Uranus in Aries, so the bases are loaded with creative opportunity. This is not a time to hide. It is a time to shine and take charge of our lives in a new, more creative way. This is a fated time so do not fail to dream, imagine the best and say "yes" to what comes your way.

Mercury is moving forward again and begins February in Capricorn, entering Aquarius on 2/7 and reaching Pisces on 2/25, just before the powerful New Moon Eclipse in Pisces on 2/26. All of us, regardless of our astrological patterns, are somewhat influenced by these changes, just as we are when Mercury stops and

goes backwards on us 3 times each year. On 2/2 Mercury in Capricorn is influenced by Jupiter in Libra, which is a great day to schedule meetings, solve problems and communicate effectively. Since Mercury is in Capricorn, this is an especially practical assignment and could be a great time to look for a new job. Many of us will be enjoying a sharp, open mind at this time.

On 2/7 Mercury enters air sign Aquarius, which draws us into dialogue with a larger circle of experience and often brings new people into our lives. The mind is at its most expressive and original best at this time. On 2/21 Mercury and Jupiter offer us friendly conversations in sociable situations with groups. On 2/25 Mercury begins a month in watery Pisces, encouraging all of us to trust our intuition more and pay attention to our dreams.

Venus, the planet which makes us aware of our personal needs and values, leaves the last degrees of Pisces and enters Aries on 2/3 where it will remain for the next 2 months. Aries is a fiery sign of self, so none of us could fail to know what is most important and necessary for our self-satisfaction when this period is over. For those of us who are focused exclusively on the needs of others, this may feel like a revolutionary time period. Mark your calendar for 6/3, as the end of this period will make clarity in these matters guaranteed. The first week of June is a time of answered prayers in love, happiness and finances. Our tenacity will be tested but those who choose optimism in the next few months will be rewarded for their choice.

Mars is always the trigger for life's events and February has all the guns loaded with Mars in Aries for the first time in 2 years. For those of us whose life has felt like Groundhog Day from Hell for 2 years, this is a welcome change, as well as challenge. From 2/22-27 Mars encounters Pluto, Uranus and Jupiter, in that order. Pluto can be struggle and or conflict (2/22); Uranus can bring surprise (2/26), some of it welcome, some not welcome; and Jupiter brings balance, fairness and expansion (2/27). Since we also have a total Solar Eclipse during this period (2/26), it is important to monitor your frustration, aggression and actions so you can set your intentions for creative change for the coming year. The New Moon which occurs on 2/26 not only represents a fresh start, but is the final eclipse in the current eclipse series. It is an ending and beginning and an important transition point in 2017. For this reason, many people expect this to be an exceptionally fortunate period for those who prepare and utilize the powerful energy at this time. Pisces is the 12th and last sign of the Zodiac, representing the tomb and the womb simultaneously. Since it is ruled by the boundless spirit of Neptune, imagination is unlimited and our intuition guides us through the fog of the unseen corners of our life. This eclipse is joined by Neptune, increasing its creative spiritual power and combines with the powerful Jupiter/Uranus opposition, as well as a Mars/Uranus conjunction, mentioned above. This is a fireworks factory so be aware of the potential for beauty and destruction at this time. We need to be aware and act quickly with any opportunity/challenge which occurs at this time. This is visionary energy time for those who are open to it, as well as possible shock and awe. Hold on, change is coming like a rocket. I, for one, am already visualizing the problems I want solved, as well as the dreams that I want to realize. This is the time to plant seeds for the harvest to come. This is the time for pain caused by old attitudes to be revisited, revised and released. Courage is no longer optional in this task. GO FOR IT.

I for one am ready for this adventure as the stuck, traumatic period of the past 2 years is definitely something we are all ready to graduate from, with honors, no post graduate work required. If I can help you understand the cycles you are experiencing, provide new insight into the meaning of your life, and/or share tools for progress with you, please let me know. It would be a privilege to share the knowledge and wisdom acquired during the past 50 years, as I have had only one task: developing the consciousness to heal and be healed.

HAPPY VALENTINES DAY FOR YOU AND ALL YOU LOVE. FYI, the Moon is in Libra with Jupiter on 2/14, so it will be a happy day indeed for all who bring energy to the celebration!

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