

## GREETINGS;

I hope you enjoyed the shift in energy at the Summer Solstice on 6/21 and the Super Moon which followed on 6/23. We are beginning a two month period of unparalleled opportunity and change. I wanted to write the July astrological outlook early before Mercury goes retrograde on 6/26 as your mind and your machines may have an easier time absorbing the information necessary to enjoy and flow with the current of this Summer of Water.

Saturn is in Scorpio for the first time in 30 years, and moves forward on July 7<sup>th</sup>. The slow movement of Neptune in Pisces urges us to dive into the unconscious and, despite its chaos, creative solutions are possible. The entry in June of Mercury, Venus and the Sun (in that order) into water sign Cancer reflects a pattern of energy uniting the water signs and allowing them to create a current of movement none of us living today has ever experienced and never will again. The earth is a fluid body and now we will get to experience the true meaning of this in our personal lives. Time will slow down so we can grow up. On the evening of June 25<sup>th</sup> Jupiter, the generous energy of unlimited opportunity, returns for a one year visit in the sign of Cancer. On 7/13 Mars joins the mix and turns up the heat in the water sign of Cancer. Many of my colleagues have written extensively and rapturously about this two month period which began in mid-June, peaks in mid-July and ends in mid-August. That is why we are advised to slow down, turn inward and pay attention to our intuition, dreams and deepest feelings. This is a time of introspection and feeling, leading to healing and manifestation. We should dive into the unconscious and learn to see in darkness and find a current to take us to a new life.

Sounds daunting, doesn't it? I have assembled a short reading list which I believe will enliven and enlighten us as we move through this period. If you did not read *Quiet* by Susan Cain last year, read it now. A fabulous new book by Sir Ken Robinson, the most popular speaker on TED talks is right up your alley for a summer read. Order ***Finding Your Element: How to Discover Your Talents and Passions and Transform your Life***. Of course, if I can help you in any way or recommend more books or processes to unlock the keys to your dreams, I would be happy to be available.

LANDSCAPING: In my opinion, unless you choose your plants wisely, use great mulch and soil, and have an irrigation system in place, it is getting too late to do much planting. The warm nights are tough on the plants. It is, however, time to make sure your irrigation system is working well and that your trees are pruned around your house so the summer storms do not damage your home. With Jupiter in Cancer, we are obsessed with getting our homes beautiful, protected and functional. I will do a video of my yard soon and send it to you. This was part of my ritual of the Summer Solstice and I was possessed by a desire to make it so lush I would remain in ecstasy when I went outside or looked outside. Let me know if I can help you in any way in your exterior decorating and maintenance. You can still prune and mulch if you do it soon.

## JULY ASTROLOGICAL OUTLOOK

Plan on a Joyous July as the desire to connect with friends and family will be the theme of the month. Being quiet and slowing down is the best rhythm for each of us. The heat of summer and the period of days with excessive light bring us into a new consciousness. With the planets forming a life preserver of feeling, connection and desire for love, beauty and spiritual meaning, we are well positioned to find a current of healing in the summer of 2013. This summer is said to reflect the 1960's Part 2, which can only be interesting. One of my favorite magazines, *The Daily Word*, begins July with an essay entitled "Live Your Boldest Dream". I have been receiving post cards from a local realtor which has an illustration that says "Never Let Go of Your Dreams". I think this is a bit of synchronicity (meaningful coincidence), as Carl Jung might say. As the preponderance of planets in water signs urge slowing down so we can feel, we need to make friends with time, and allow the tincture of time to do its healing work. Jung was concerned that when a culture moved too fast and lost its relationship to the feeling function, it would become addicted to sensation. As I look at the world, I believe we are there if we choose to remain there. July is a month to feel and heal and look backward at how far we have come and see what direction we want to take. As we plant seeds of change, the ones that grow quickly are green-lighted. The ones that don't grow are saying "no" or "not yet". Pushing is a hopeless waste of

energy and we should remember the genius of our national bird, the Eagle, and the symbol of Scorpio where Saturn is revving up for a long lesson in values and conserve our energy and wait for the thermals to take us easily where we are destined to go.

The month of July begins with the Sun, Mercury and Jupiter floating through the water sign Cancer, ruled by the Moon and representing our security needs and attachments, as well as our home and family circumstances. The Moon takes a shape of a sword cutting us loose on 7/8, the day Saturn starts moving again in Scorpio. Mars enters Cancer on 7/13, and turns up the heat until it leaves on 8/27. We will either cook up something new and wonderful, or we will burn out the impurities in our lives, as well as the people who deter us and are toxic to our needs and desires

As we know Mercury went retrograde on 6/26 and does not go direct until 7/20. This provides some confusion, difficulty and a degree of the unexpected and perhaps the unacceptable in our dealings with others, particularly with those we have challenges with. Travel is an adventure and machines go nuts, particularly the electronics. It is not a good time to sign documents or make long term decisions. It is a time to lighten up, play more, rest more and review and revise anything that is irritating you. Keep your sense of humor and do not push against the current or you may not like the result. It is time to float, laugh and keep moving. Mercury the mental catalyst does not make much noise in July. If you, like me, had a crazy June, it was trickster Mercury stirring up trouble, so we might not notice the pattern of July, as we feel as if it has been going on for weeks already. The general rule is that the trouble Mercury brings resolves when the planet returns to the point when things got unsteady. Mark your calendar for August 3, as that day marks the beginning of a return to a new normal.

Venus spends most of July in Leo, where the fiery royal sign invites us to love and play as much as we can. If you have planets in Leo, this is an especially wonderful social time for you. Enjoy it as Venus moves into Virgo on 7/22 and puts us all back to work and trying to keep up with our tasks. On 7/1 Venus and Saturn square off just before Saturn gets moving in Scorpio. If you experience a setback or a disappointment on this day, shake it off, as it is very temporary. On 7/7, just before the New Moon, Venus and Uranus form a pattern of originality which will provide unexpected opportunity and solutions to old problems. After Venus enters Virgo on 7/22 and urges a return to productivity, it may scare or inspire us or some of both on 7/26 when it opposes Neptune in Pisces for a short period. All is back in balance by 7/30, as Venus and Pluto provide balance for anything that concerns us in ways we may find mysterious and surprising.

The Full Moon of 7/22 occurs as the Sun enters Leo and the Moon enters Aquarius. This is a time to celebrate and enjoy life as Mars and Jupiter dance together in Cancer for the first time in 12 years and the only thing we have to worry about is what Mae West often said, and I paraphrase: "Too much of a good thing can be wonderful!" Mars is a bit of a troublemaker this month, urging impulse and anger as an action fuel. It is far better to be proactive rather than reactive. If you know those who have not mastered this skill, it is best to avoid them this month, and do NOT try to have a serious conversation or resolve conflicts with them. Postpone those activities until August 3, or reap the consequences. Mars is in madcap Gemini till 7/13, and that is like gasoline on a fire for those with worry, fear and over sharing as a mental lifestyle. Martin Seligman, the author of "Learned Optimism" cautioned that getting too realistic leads to pessimism, and I totally agree, as the cure for all of these habits is selective denial, or as I call it "the Scarlett O'Hara Syndrome", which lets us not think about it today. I also remember hearing that the mouth is the steam bath for the Soul, and when we talk too much we don't have the energy for the action of change. When militant Mars enters touchy, feeling Cancer, which often causes us to take things too personally; we need to talk our feelings through with those who are objective, not the people we are struggling with. On 7/20 Mars, Saturn and Neptune form a Grand Trine in water and we may be suddenly aware of the truth, so this is a great time to brainstorm with a trusted advisor or journal so we can see what our inner self needs. On the Full Moon of 7/22, as mentioned above, Mars and Jupiter join together and take us on a roller coaster ride of feeling. On 7/27 Mars and Pluto oppose one another, which is not a day to take risks of any kind and on 7/31 Mars and Uranus square off from Aries to Cancer. As you all know, I am not much of a predictive astrologer, but I take this aspect of danger and difficulty very seriously and would be remiss if I did not warn you to be VERY CAREFUL on this day.

All in all, for those of us who have prepared, and those who are willing to put their lives in sync with the rhythm of feeling, attachment and quiet as a form of self-dialysis, this is the time of extreme opportunity and manifestation which begins a 12-month cycle. The boat is sailing and we don't want to miss it. It will be quite a journey for those who are willing and we will have many stories to tell when it is over next July.

If I can help you in any way, please let me know. I will be out of the office till July 5, celebrating my 70th birthday with family. I am NOT EVER retiring, so don't worry. I feel great and am very healthy, which is my not so secret religion, but I must have a screw loose or a case of unlimited optimism as I am having my twin 13 year old granddaughters stay with me for 3 weeks in July so they can attend camps and classes and be part of the Houston Zoo Crew, so I will not take any late appointments in July as I am their driver and want to enjoy this rare opportunity.

A WISH FOR A JOYFUL JULY AND A GREAT INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION.

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