

GREETINGS;

As we eagerly await the return of our mental faculties today (2/28) as Mercury starts to move forward once again, it is one step in a dramatic process of change which begins on 3/1 with a New Moon in Pisces, ideal for new beginnings in spiritual pursuits, creativity, and social connection to others. In the 3rd of 6 months of a season of retrograde planets, March begins with Mars going retrograde in Libra on 3/1 and Saturn going retrograde on 3/2. Luckily for all of us Jupiter, the joyous, jubilant energy of unrelenting optimism becomes the line leader of change on 3/6. March will begin a period of radical change for all of us, and be life altering for many of us. Spring arrives on 3/20 following a Full Moon on 3/16. March brings a second New Moon on 3/30 in Aries so the second half of March will be even more dynamic than the first half of the month. Hold on to your sanity if you can.

In such interesting times, it is helpful to have more self-knowledge and tools to improve relationships. I re-experienced the discovery of one of these tools in February: the Enneagram. If you want to take the test to determine your type please go to www.EnneagramWorldwide.com and if that inspires you to learn more, contact Judy Wilbratte at info@the9types.com for class information.

LANDSCAPING: As we all know it is time to clean up, replant and enjoy an early Spring. If I can help you with any of your landscaping needs, please contact me and I will put you on my schedule. As a Texas Master Gardener, organic specialist, and native plant expert, I enjoy designing landscapes that are unique to our area. I have experts in installation, tree work, irrigation and hardscapes available to work with me in garden design. If you want a consultation and prefer to do it yourself or have good help already available, I charge \$95 for an hour of my time.

MARCH ASTROLOGICAL OUTLOOK

If you noticed a shift in your orientation and energy in the past week or so, you have not gone mad. On 2/18 the Moon's nodes, which are the points of intersection between the sun, moon and earth, slid backward into Aries/Libra where they will remain until 11/2015. As I mentioned in recent emails, Mars is energizing the sign of relationship Libra (12/7/2013-7/25/2014) for an unusually long time. We are all compelled to look honestly at our relationship with ourselves and therefore with others, as our need for balance in giving and receiving is being remodeled for the first time in 2 decades. This explains why so many of my friends and clients are shedding friends and moving toward activities where they can meet people who mirror their emerging energy rather than what they have outgrown the need to express. As Mars intensifies the energy of the North Node in Libra for the next 5 months, we will feel the need to reject the go it alone message of compulsive self-sufficiency "Me", and exchange it for the interconnected, interdependent "We". Although this will be uncomfortable for many of us, it is an upgrade in terms of wellness and maturity. We are, after all, primates, and therefore designed to be in a 50 person support community of human beings. This is not the "Alone Together" world of electronic communications, but the face to face, heart to heart, soul to soul world of real attachment, which brings up feelings of vulnerability and desire simultaneously. Many of us will reduce the strife in our relationship life and seek compromise, balance, harmony and peace in our relationships with others. This shift suggests a movement from aggressive individualism to a more socially minded, cooperative mindset. In April we will have eclipses on 4/15 and 4/29 which may shine a light on how these issues will affect us personally.

As we begin the second month of the Year of the Horse in Chinese Astrology, we will see more of the promise of its nature. The year of the green wood horse is a springtime energy bringing new life and good fortune, and it was last seen in 1954, so for many of us it will be a welcome blessing. The Year of the Green Horse is a fruitful year of promise and offers us the opportunity to realize the attainment of our heart centered goals. The spirit of this horse is able, energetic, hardworking, bright, friendly and warm hearted, symbolizing the return of Jupiter into fire sign Leo on 7/16 where it will remain for 12 fortunate months. In December Saturn enters fire sign Sagittarius for 2-1/2 years which will enable an even better outcome for those of us who boldly risk sharing their genius with others.

Another pattern worth mentioning is that of Jupiter and Uranus which released their tension on yesterday (2/26) after pushing and pulling on our nervous systems for the month of February. If you felt like one of

the Stretch Armstrong Dolls which my children played with years ago, these two planets were pulling you in opposite directions and most of the people I know had trouble with focus, sleep and disposition for all of February. Most of us thought it was a terrible Mercury retrograde period (which did not help), but thankfully we are moving toward a period of less internal tension so we can concentrate on reaching and redefining our goals.

The backwards movement of Mars in Libra which begins on 3/1 may slow down the aggression and impulsivity for many. This is an opportunity to use aggression in a more mature, peacekeeping manner. It is a time for strategy and skill, which are attributes of power rather than force. It is a unique time to use and develop our Charm Alarm capabilities. As previously mentioned, the Mars retrograde period is the 3rd of what seems like an endless loop of inner planets urging us to review our course so we are better prepared for the big changes of 2014. Since this pulling in motion occurs in the sign of relationships, Libra, we need to review our relationships as the life changing energies intensify in April, particularly on 4/21/22, as we experience Uranus in Aries pushing on Pluto on Capricorn for the 5th time in this cycle (6/2012-3/2015). It is like the two goats locking horns, so find a peaceful place to be as this energy builds. I have found that when Mars is retrograde, people that are not successful at managing the instinct of aggression, resort to the feeling expression of anger more frequently. Until Mars moves back into forward motion (5/19/2014), I urge you to avoid difficult, conflictual people and circumstances whenever possible. Since that is almost impossible, learn to breathe deeply, talk less, and be tentative when dealing with their defenses.

On March 2 Saturn moves backward in Scorpio until 7/20. This should take some of the pressure off of those with planets in Scorpio and help all of us lighten up and enjoy life more. The message of this seemingly never ending cycle is that what we value should not be limited to the material world, but should also include what we feel but cannot always see. The transformation energy offered to us brings endings so we can experience new beginnings. If life has been heavy and challenging for you in the past 2 years or so, it should lighten up, particularly with Jupiter coming out of retrograde on 3/6 after many months of rest. Jupiter is the symbol of peaceful, easy, rapid change and unlimited opportunity for unexpected good. I call it the Santa Claus planet. It is now moving forward in the sign Cancer, so all the family and residence issues you have dealt with in the past 8 months should improve without too much struggle. Plan social and travel activities with friends and family for the Spring, as circumstances and attitudes improve with greater ease. For those with planets in Cancer and Capricorn, this is a huge opportunity period. In traditional astrology, Saturn and Mars are considered challenging and Jupiter is connected to ease and opportunity. While Jupiter is the line leader in the planetary show, we all will benefit from planting seeds and taking reasonable risk.

The 2 New Moons (3/1 and 3/30) and the Full Moon (3/16) are especially powerful periods of changing energy this month. With 3 planets changing direction within days of the first New Moon (3/1) we will be in more flux than usual, urging us to be ready to act quickly on our new perspective of life. The New Moon in Pisces on 3/1 is closely joined with Neptune in Pisces, giving a bit of magic and dreamtime experience to the first 2 weeks of March, particularly if we concentrate on what fosters our spiritual growth. The Full Moon in Virgo (3/16) urges us to re-unite head and heart and be practical. It urges us to watch our thoughts for an understanding of our inner truths. This is the time to cultivate detachment prior to action. As in all Full Moons, it is a time of celebration of how far we have come. It is the last Full Moon before the Spring Equinox arrives on 3/20, which is the period of renewal we all have been waiting for.

The Aries New Moon of 3/30 may be the most powerful New Moon of 2014 as it joins Uranus, the planet of awakening and radical change. This combination urges us to attune ourselves to our authentic gifts and plan the next step on our path. We need to update our beliefs and views to align with our future. This is a launching time for all that we dream of. The warm fire of this pattern is the thermal to take us farther than we can imagine, without so much effort and struggle.

March is a momentous month of change and opportunity for all of us. We realize the power of this time as we look backward at the weather of the past 3 months, the political struggles around the world, and the amazing and interesting experiences we have participated in during the Winter. The planet Mercury quickly moves from Aquarius to Pisces after the Full Moon (3/17). The first two weeks of March we have

the slowing down effect of Saturn on the mind (3/11) one more time and the creative flow of energy from Mars (3/14) which encourages direct, original thought and speech. On 3/22 Mercury joins Neptune for a fabulous dream time and a period of spiritual clarity. On 3/26 Jupiter joins Mercury in one of the most optimistic days this year. The mind is a terrible thing to waste, and it is returning to the sanity, clarity and creativity it lost in February.

Venus enters air sign Aquarius on 3/5. Mark your calendar, as it is the first time pleasure loving Venus has been out of super realistic, hardworking Capricorn in 4 months (as if you hadn't felt this). A better time will be had by all. Venus in Aquarius urges us to spend time with friends, make new friends, and join groups of kindred spirits so we can be mirrored and feel a resonance with our authentic self.

For those who follow astrology, there have been some dire warnings about this year, as well as frightening ideas about the month of April. Being older and having endured and healed from many unbelievable events, I probably do not think it is bad as I have heard others say. This is a very fated time and we need to be careful and aware of ourselves and the details of our heart's desires. I do not believe we can accomplish this task alone, so in this important time, if you find yourself confused or frightened by the strange waters of the season, or if you are interested in a personalized map of the future, I am available for personal consultations. I find that I enjoy sharing my tools with others more than ever. Perhaps in my 70's the Crone Archetype is guiding me forward.

ENJOY THE JOURNEY AND DON'T FORGET TO DEVELOP A LIGHT HEART AND LAUGH.

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