

## GREETINGS;

For those in Texas, the never ending winter has passed and the April showers that created a feeling of being in the rain forest have given way to sunny, beautiful days - for now. May, when the Sun moves through the fixed earth sign Taurus, is a mixture of merriment, madness and a bit of magic. As we enjoy the return of the birds and the blooming flowers, life is beginning again in a new way, and we have an opportunity to witness our changes in the past year, take stock of our progress, and move into the future, paying attention to the clues and cues leading to our natural path of growth and authenticity.

May begins with a powerful Full Moon in Scorpio. Full Moons bring to light to the dark, and expose what has been hiding in our unconscious so we can decide to delete old programming that no longer serves us. This Full Moon is intensified by the presence of expanding Jupiter in Leo, creating a 3 legged table called a T-square. This wobbly table energy falls over into Aquarius, so those with planets in Aquarius may experience the greatest awareness of the need to make new choices based on an expanded view of reality. It is time for the breakdown of long standing patterns. It is time to evaluate our motivations and determine whether we are motivated by love or fear.

Again, Mercury goes into a 3-week review period on May 18, during which we can review, revise and revisit all that matters in our lives. Since Mercury will occupy its own thoughtful, curious, original sign Gemini from 4/30-7/8, we will have 2-1/2 times the norm to think about life, change and choice. Mercury moves forward on 6/11 and moves to the point of its backward motion on 6/28. Hopefully we will all enjoy this Mad Hatter's Tea Party and learn to laugh and enjoy a lighter heart and more of the 3 R's, rest, recreation and regeneration. The Mercury retrograde period is an inner directed time in which it is helpful to double check details and data and delay large purchases and signing of contracts. In Houston, which is a Mercury ruled city, it is a mass of traffic hell and car wars experiences. Plan ahead and give yourself extra time in all you do, and know that everything ends, nothing is permanent and life has a way of taking care of itself if we can surrender and pay attention.

Mars is fierce this month as this red planet of unlimited energy moves through Taurus until it enters Gemini on 5/11, making it harder to have a cool head and zipper our mouths. Mars in Gemini during a Mercury in Gemini period will fertilize the tendency to have a monkey mind. Seek the opinions of others during this period and realize you are too close to most of your life situations to make an objective determination. Since Venus moves into Cancer, the sign of personalizing everything from 5/7-6/5, it will be nearly impossible to remain neutral.

Jupiter is a bright spot in this equation as the journey through Leo which ends on 8/11 will give us more practice in knowing and honoring our desires than we have experienced in 12 years. Follow your heart's desires and life will be easier for you, but not necessarily for others in your world.

The New Moon in May occurs on 5/17-18 in Taurus just as Mercury is going retrograde. This is the call to value ourselves and our gifts and needs, even when those in our world do not understand and agree with our choices. Give yourself permission to surrender to a new level of abundance, accepting your desires, express gratitude for what you now have, and be excited about what is coming into your life.

With so much happening, now would be a great time to consider an astrological consultation to help you navigate these changing times with information specific to you.

## MAY ASTROLOGICAL OUTLOOK;

As mentioned in the summary, above, Mercury has an interesting energy pattern this month, living in Gemini land, and going haywire on 5/18. At the Full Moon on 5/3, Mercury opposes Saturn which makes us more than a bit serious and deepens our understanding of our lives on a more profound level. The facts won't be as important as the issues we are dealing with. On 5/9 Mercury and Neptune embrace and make us intuitive, creative and have a strong desire to escape the harshness of the world we live in. Plan something wonderful for this day of escape. On 5/18, make sure all of the repairs in your life have been made and that you don't need to buy appliances, cars and electronics for the next 3 weeks. When in

doubt, wait, and when you have no choice, buy warranties. On 5/27 Mercury moves back and joins Mars for a day of impulse, anxiety, anger, or decisiveness, or in some cases, all of the above. Plan soothing activities with soothing people on this day. As mentioned above, again on 5/29 Mercury and Neptune take us into dream time creativity and need for escape.

Venus begins the month of May in air sign Gemini and a good time will be had by all who are willing. On 5/7 Venus moves into water sign Cancer, where the feeling function rules. Venus in Cancer encourages us all to look at our closest relationships, especially family and review our living arrangements. On 5/16 Venus and Neptune combine in a very harmonious way, so have friends over and enjoy your home, or spend time with healthy family members or friends who are true family. On 5/21 Venus opposes Pluto and there is an element of struggle, awareness and possible disappointment to deal with. On 5/25 Venus and Uranus electrify one another with awareness and change. On a positive note, new circumstances may know on our door at this time, and we may get rid of the old to make way for the new.

Mars seems to me a bit like the Mad Hatter at the Tea Party. Mars is very determined while moving through Taurus the first 10 days of May. Take advantage of getting everything you need done in May during this period. From 5/13-15 Mars in Gemini is opposing Saturn in Sagittarius in a virtual tug of war between fast and slow, confidence and fear. Slow down, step back and seek the advice of a wise elder: slow and steady wins the race. From 5/24-26 Mars combusts the Sun which is a hot mess for some of us. Adding to the equation is the presence of Neptune which inflates the situation with dreaming as well as magical solutions. We may stumble into a puddle and need to see what bubbles up. Longing for perfection and being under the spell of our ego ideals leads to disappointment, discontent and feelings of sadness and frustration.

To sum it all up: May is a mixed bag of frustration, opportunity, challenge and change. If I can help you through these changes, which I am experiencing as well, let me know. I will be working at my office when I don't have landscaping jobs scheduled.

LANDSCAPING: It is finally time to make a gorgeous landscape for yourself to enjoy during the growing season of the next 6 months. It is no longer raining like crazy and it is not hot as Hell yet. I have a fabulous group of Precision Landscape Professionals who can help you with design, planting, clean up, irrigation and drainage, tree work (which is especially necessary since we had a wet winter and early Spring and we don't want diseased or dead trees this summer or Fall. I do personal consultations for design at the rate of \$95 for one hour. Let me know if I can help you make beauty and order part of your Spring/Summer desire package. I will be filming my yard and photographing it so you can get inspiration for your projects.

BEST WISHES FOR A MAGICAL MAY.

NAN