

GREETINGS:

We can all begin to breathe easier this month as a number of positive astrological changes bring a release of trying circumstances which began in late Spring. Each of the outer planets has a particular life lesson to teach us, some easier than others. In May Saturn led the pack bringing tests and challenges which we naturally avoid. In July and August a series of eclipses rocked our world, and in September, Pluto woke up and put unbelievable pressure on our lives, especially with a particularly wicked Mercury retrograde period which ended 9/29. When Mars entered Cancer on 8/25, it stirred up our feelings of fear and negativity to a rolling boil. Thankfully, on 10/13, as Mercury returns to the point it went haywire, Jupiter, the planet of expansion, optimism and opportunity, finally moves back onto the scene, moving through the astrological sign of Aquarius, bringing about a collective sigh as we finally move forward.

Fall, which began on 9/22 as the Sun entered Libra, the sign of balance and fairness, begins a 3 month period of second harvest and ripeness, as a new cycle of birth, death and rebirth begins. The planets enter the more rational signs of earth and air, and the turbulence of fire and water recede, particularly after fiery Mars leaves emotional Cancer on 10/16, energizing us creatively to know our heart's desires and manifest them more directly.

October begins with a Full Moon on 10/4, known as the Harvest Moon. Hopefully you have been planting positive seeds during the past few challenging months. If so, they will bear fruit at this time. At this time the mental energy represented by Mercury is off balance from its opposition from Uranus (the shock jock of planets), so try to keep your composure and don't reveal more than you plan at this time. It will be tempting to be reactive rather than proactive, so put your plans in place.

The first week of October finds the planet Mercury moving back through Virgo, joining Saturn on 10/8 for the third time in this cycle. This is a pattern of a very steady mind, one that problem solves with attention to every detail. The solution to whatever has been challenging you may seem clear at this time. This is a great time to make long term decisions, particularly if you have planets in Virgo.

On 10/9 Mercury joins the Sun in Libra, the social sign of balance, pleasure and relatedness. We will all benefit from pleasant time with others. On 10/10 Pluto may offer a challenge to plans we are making, but there is always a new solution on the horizon.

On 10/13 Jupiter moves forward in Aquarius bringing optimism and creativity back into our lives with a refreshing burst of enthusiasm, just as Mercury passes the point it went wacky last month, promising a more optimistic, easier to digest time for all of us. Two great patterns occur on 10/20 and 10/24, the first with Mercury and Jupiter, which promises a rush of great ideas and wonderful opportunities to connect with others, and the second with Mercury and Neptune, increasing our creative, imaginative forces and for some of us a period of true psychic opportunity. On 10/28 Mercury enters Scorpio for a month long period of assimilation of all the new changes.

Venus begins the month in Virgo finishing up the polishing of solutions to what aggravates us relentlessly. On 10/9 Venus and Uranus form a pattern of opposition, which is not a day to take chances financially or in relationships. On 10/13, Venus and Saturn join forces, which makes us calmer and more realistic. On 10/14, Venus joins the Sun and Mercury in Libra, encouraging us all to seek peace, harmony and social connections eagerly. On 10/15, Pluto tugs at Venus, bringing a pattern of real or imagined loss, which is restored on 10/28, as Jupiter and Venus form a pattern of unusual harmony.

At month's end, Saturn finally leaves Virgo for a few months and enters Libra (10/29), which should help those with planets in Virgo and Pisces relax and regenerate after years of challenges. Those born between September 22 and October 22 will now have 2-1/2 years to review their lives

for the first time in 30 years. Since this is the first time in years that Saturn is in a Cardinal Sign, life should speed up for all of us.

As I am sure you can understand by reading this month's outlook, things should move forward with speed and relief for most of us. If you have a need to process what has happened in your recent past so you can release it, or if you are still in a problem solving mode, I am available for a personal consultation. Please call my office to schedule your appointment by calling 713/520-1551.

BREATHE DEEPLY THE POSITIVE WINDS OF CHANGE.

NAN HALL LINKE, M.A.