

GREETINGS;

As I write the September astrological outlook for the second time in 24 hours (the first one was eaten by a computer virus), I believe it is metaphor for the challenges of August, with its weather from Hades and the longest Mercury retrograde period in recent memory (8/2-26). Somehow, the chaos of August has leaked into September, in spite of all my efforts to solve problems during the Mercury retrograde period.

Fortunately, the Moon became new in Virgo 8/28, two days after Mercury went direct, sending the trickster packing till the period from 11/24-12/13. If we are smart, we will all get as much done successfully as we can before the next detour in the road appears on 11/24. With planets in Virgo and Libra this month, peace and order can be restored if we can find a place in ourselves to claim our optimism and self determination. As August ended, Jupiter slowed down in Taurus, giving us a chance to evaluate our progress since 6/4 and revise where necessary, so we can have a prosperous, productive 2012. Jupiter in Taurus asks us to look at what we value and how well it is serving us and make adjustments where necessary. Jupiter starts moving again on Christmas day 12/25, after the next Mercury retrograde period rearranges our thinking, so embrace uncertainty, as Deepak Chopra advises and keep your sense of humor handy.

LANDSCAPING; As September begins and Fall approaches on 9/23 with the Autumnal Equinox, Houston will cool off and rain will return and we will have a long time to enjoy the beauty of our once again green city. If you need help with design, planting, cleaning up, adding new grass, irrigation, tree work or building patios or walkways, please let me know and I can help you. I will send out pictures in the next few weeks of my yard which is fully planted with color and survived the heat and drought wonderfully, as well as another yard I planted years ago which has no grass. Having studied horticulture, organics, native plants and having access to native nurseries and growers has helped me with plant selection. The freezes of the past two years and the drought and heat of the past two summers was better than any course I ever took in proving which plants are worthy in these conditions.

SEPTEMBER ASTROLOGICAL OUTLOOK;

September is always a time of change of seasons and moving into a more active period. With the Sun, Venus, and later Mercury (9/9) in Virgo, we are all guided to solve our obvious problems carefully, and to notice what has been aggravating and irritating us for longer periods of time. Now is a great time to make room for solutions and seek out those who are more knowledgeable to help us. Health matters are in need of attention in particular. Jupiter remains in Taurus and Pluto beginning to get going again in Capricorn (9/16), which brings 50% of the energy in an earth sign triangle. That is a "bases are loaded" pattern, which benefits those with planets in Taurus, Virgo and Capricorn most, but for those of us who can emulate their strengths of dependability, tenacity, and excellent problem solving skills, we all should have a productive month. The Full Moon in Pisces on 9/12 is the Harvest Moon, with added energy from Venus and Mars. Please plan attend or create a social function on this date, as the propensity to have a great time with wonderful people is almost guaranteed.

The next change will occur at week's end, as Pluto moves out of hibernation on 9/16. This will cause those with planets in Capricorn and Scorpio to move forward in their careers and the realization of goals. The second full week of September is a peaceful, enjoyable time and prepares us for the arrival of Fall on 9/23, as the Sun moves into peaceable, sociable Libra, at which time our need to connect with like minded people intensifies. The New Moon in Libra on 9/27 is challenged by Uranus and Pluto, in what is known as a T-Square. This aspect is anchored by planets in signs Libra, Capricorn and Aries, with the balancing coming from sign Cancer. This can change lives suddenly and new opportunities abound for those who do not hesitate. The last time we had a similar pattern was early April. This is Part 2 to that time period. If problems arose then, now is the time to solve them. If dreams seemed to die at that time, now is the time to resurrect the dreams and put them into manifestation.

Mercury, our mental messenger, begins the month in Leo, and moves quickly back into Virgo, retracing the path which began on 8/2 and starting a new journey on 9/9. The day before Mercury and Neptune create an explosion of creativity and/or delusion, as Mercury moves back into grounded Virgo. It could be a "flash of genius" or a fantasy, but those with planets in Leo, Aquarius, Gemini, Virgo and Pisces will be most affected. A still mind is the gift of the second week of September, as Mercury and Pluto form a supportive trine on 9/12 and Mercury and Jupiter follow suit on 9/14. This is definitely the best time this year to solve problems and figure out the causes of your troubles so you can plan to eliminate the causes swiftly.

Mercury enters Libra peacefully on 9/25 and explodes with energy from volatile Uranus on 9/27 at the New Moon. This could bring about sudden change in awareness and/or tension and change in your relationship life, especially for those with planets in Libra, Aries, Aquarius, Virgo and Gemini. On 9/28, Pluto joins the mix and takes over, sometimes with drastic consequences, particularly for those with planets in Gemini, Virgo, Scorpio and Capricorn. The first 3 weeks of September are much easier than the last week, so store up for whatever assignment shows up the last week of September.

Venus begins the month in Virgo, which encourages wellness, helpfulness and preparation for life's challenges, particularly for those with planets in Virgo. On 9/14 Venus enters Libra, which intensifies the nature of Venus, to enjoy, to love, to care about and for others. Challenges to this ideal occur for the remainder of the month. First from Uranus on 9/17, which can bring about misunderstandings, conflict and need for separation. Then, on 9/18, Pluto gets into the mix with powerful new awareness, which may be somewhat painful, and on 9/29 Venus joins Saturn in Libra, which is not pleasant for anyone. This pattern signifies reality that bites, truth that is incontrovertible and endings of goals and relationships that no longer serve our deeper needs. This is especially true for those with planets in Libra who have been dealing with relationship changes since October 2009, when Saturn moved into Libra for the first time in nearly 30 years and spends nearly 3 years rearranging the relationship lives of all of us, especially those with planets in Libra

Mars, the madman of the zodiac continues to stir up feelings and neuroses from the transit of Cancer until 9/18. This fiery planet visiting the sign of feelings may have invigorated those with planets in Cancer, but most of us are very overstimulated on a feeling level by this combination. Fortunately, on 9/18 Mars moves into fire sign Leo for a month, bringing a need for celebration,

creative activities and lots of social activities. It is indeed a colorful time, especially at the Autumnal Equinox on 9/23, as Uranus balances the fire of Leo with the warmth of decisive Aries. All of us, especially those with planets in Aries, Leo and Sagittarius will enjoy this day.

Jupiter rests in Taurus till 12/25; Uranus rests in Aries till 12/9 and Neptune rests in Aquarius till 11/9. That means that this cycle is influenced by Pluto and Saturn, which indicates it is time to get to work on our lives with passion and confidence. Generally speaking, September is a nice beginning to a period of cooler and shorter days, so looking forward should be a pleasant activity.

If you need help resolving problems or understanding your patterns, I am available to help you with a personal appointment. Enjoy the Labor Day holiday and the changes to come.

NAN HALL LINKE