

July 1999

Celestial Timings

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Freedom is knowing that in every moment you have a choice.

Limitation is not exercising that choice. P'taah

Jupiter and Saturn are still main features in the morning sky all month and both will turn retrograde late next month. Jupiter relates to the principle of expansion and freedom. Saturn relates to the principle of structure and form that either feels supportive or limiting, depending on the choices we make. The above quote reminds us of these two archetypal principles as they dance close together in the sky this year and next. Exercising our power of choice to be current in the moment assists us in preparing for the planetary initiation taking place May, 2000, when the seven visible planets line up, and all but the Sun is invisible to us. Choosing to trust and surrender to this unfolding process facilitates the alchemical transmutation with gentleness and ease. Resisting facilitates greater chaos. This chaos is intended to create the necessary experiences for transmutation to occur. Surrender or resistance, it is our choice.

Night Sky Events

Venus commands the July evening skies. She is growing brighter and setting about 2 hours after Sunset. When July begins Venus is 43 degrees away from the Sun, by the end of the month Venus is within 21 degrees of the Sun. This means Venus is seen much lower on the horizon and will set much sooner after Sunset. As the month begins, Venus is moving closer and closer to the fixed star Regulus, the heart of the lion. July 8-13 Venus is within 2 degrees of Regulus, passing closest to Regulus on July 10 and 11. July 15, Venus, Moon and Regulus form a triune council with the Moon between Venus and Regulus.

Mars is moving away from Spica and is fading in brightness in the Southern evening sky. Watch Mars move closer and closer to the fixed stars Zuben Algenubi and Zuben Alshamali the brightest stars in the Scales. These two stars form a gateway where the planets pass through. Mars will pass by this gateway in August.

Morning Sky

In addition to Jupiter and Saturn lighting up the pre-dawn sky, on July 10th Aldebaran, the eye of the Bull, emerges from Moon's dark, earthlit edge. This occultation is best visible in the Northeast, Mid-Atlantic states, and part of eastern Canada. Washington D.C. will see this event at 4:10 am, Chicago at 3:16 am, and Toronto, at 4:16 am. This will not be visible in Western United States as Aldebaran and the Moon will not have

risen yet. For more information visit web site www.lunar-occultations.com/iota

On July 28 there is a partial Lunar Eclipse. The Earth's shadow will reach 40% of the way across the Moon. Peak times are at 1:43 am Hawaii time, 4:34 am PDT, 5:34 am MDT, 6:24 am CDT. The umbral eclipse lasts 90 minutes before and after. Eastern states past MI, OH, WV, VA to NC has the Moon set before the eclipse gets underway. From ND to TX the Moon sets during the Eclipse. West Coast USA, Canada and most of Alaska can see the entire eclipse. Hawaii observers may be fortunate enough to see Delta Aquarid meteors around mid-eclipse before twilight begins.

Celestial Timings

July 4, Sunday, Mars returns to Scorpio at 9:00 pm MST. Mars turned Retrograde in March at about 12 Scorpio, and opposed the Sun in April around 4 Scorpio. This marked the beginning of a new 26-month quest for the sacred masculine in the Scorpio mysteries. Mars is returning to the area of the Sky where the quest began in April. As Mars retraces this area of the sky, between Spica and Zuben Algenubi and Zuben Alshamali it feels like a reminder to note where our passion truly is. If we are considering a possibility and the answer is not a definite YES!!! then the answer is NO. We are being called to follow our passion, and to trust that when we do, the universe will support us, even if we can't see how at the time.

July 7, Wed, Moon conjuncts Jupiter (2 Taurus) at 10:43 pm MST. This conjunction happened at 27 Aries last month on my natal Venus and on the day of the exact conjunction amazing expansion took place on concrete physically manifest levels for me. This is reminder to note the importance of these celestial events when they are contacting one of your natal planets. So for those with planets, or angles, near 2 degrees Taurus, may find this conjunction is noticeably significant in your world. Jupiter expands, the Moon carries the entire lineage and ancestral wisdom of the archetype of the sign it is occupying. The Moon changes signs every 2 and ½ days, cycling through the entire zodiac in 28 to 29 days. The Moon/Jupiter conjunction in Taurus is expanding the principle of receivership and enjoyment of the garden of earthly delights. This also feels like an opportunity to expand our awareness around how we

value ourselves and find ourselves worthy to fully live and be in the pleasure paradigm.

July 8, Thursday, Moon conjuncts Saturn (15 degrees Taurus) at 8:14 pm MST. Jupiter expands and Saturn provides structure and form for our experiences. Saturn in Taurus has an intent to create structures that support the experience of living in the Pleasure Paradigm. Uranus is exactly square Saturn and the Moon today. Uranus brings change by breaking apart that which has been a certain way to long. We are called to surrender to and let go of all that no longer serves trusting that when we do it takes us exactly where we want to be. Uranus and Saturn are closely square each other from now until sometime next year. So this process will remain active in our So Below reality for several more months. The more we can let go and let it flow the more we will experience the magic of the changes that are taking place. The more we resist these changes the more challenging the events become to force us to finally surrender. It is our choice. Ultimately, we are being reminded to let go of all our attachments to outcome!

July 11, Sunday, Moon crosses the Summer Solstice point of zero Cancer at 10:27 am MST. Now is a good time to remember the intent you set in place at Solstice and to reenergize it. This also begins the Cancer New Moon window.

July 12, Monday, Venus enters Virgo at 8:16 am MST. Mercury (9 Leo) begins Retrograde at 4:26 pm MST and the New Moon (20 Cancer) takes place at 7:24 pm MST. Venus is entering the realm of the High Priestess who is dedicated to her sacred work and to co-creatively weaving the sacred web of life in harmony with all realms and dimensions. Mercury is beginning an inward deepening process retreating back over the same area of the sky it just crossed. This is a three week process that will take us into the month of August. This is an excellent time to dive into creative pursuits and not such a good time for logical, linear left brain thinking activities. Avoid elective surgeries, signing contracts, and beginning new ventures that require detailed linear focus. During Mercury Retrograde it is common for normal left brain type communications to break down. Loosen your expectations, spend time allowing your self to just be. Nurture yourself from the place of valuing who you are, not for what you produce but rather for how you show up in the world and express your love. The New Moon is in Cancer reminding us of the importance of responsible nurturing. True responsible nurturing begins with nurturing ourselves and our passion. Then from a place of fullness and wholeness we can truly responsibly nurture others. This New Moon also features a Grand Cross of planets in fixed signs. The fixed signs do not mean stuck or unmoving, rather they refer to a concentrated focus of energy. The type of focus that has the ability to see something to completion. Mars is 3 Scorpio, Jupiter is 2 Taurus, Neptune is 3 Aquarius and

Mercury is 9 Leo. These energies are often challenging and can feel confusing, however it is exactly these challenges that produce beneficial growth and change. Again Neptune is providing us with full access to the field of all possibilities if we choose to engage it.

July 14, Wednesday, Moon conjuncts retrograde Mercury (still at 9 Leo) at 3:10 pm MST. This may be visible in the evening sky just after Sunset with a low horizon and a very tiny crescent Moon. Uranus is opposite Mercury bringing unpredictable changes designed to break up what has been in place too long. This is not a judgement of good or bad, it is simply time for something to change. Mercury retrograde in Leo asks what are the beliefs that prevent me from truly loving myself? What are the beliefs that inhibit me from showing up, with ease and confidence, knowing that I am truly a divine being? These are the beliefs that are now being excavated and brought to light. If there are no longer any of these types of beliefs lurking about, then the question Mercury in Leo asks, is how I can I show up with a greater sense of self-love and self-confidence? How can I more fully communicate the divine being that I am? How can I empower others to do the same?

July 15, Thursday, Moon conjuncts Venus (1 Virgo) at 5:38 pm MST. This is the last Venus/Moon conjunction before Venus turns Retrograde on July 29, 1999. The crescent Moon is visible close to Venus in the western just after Sunset. The Moon carries the ancient wisdom of the lineage of Virgo, the high priestess, the one who knows how to honor life as sacred and co-creatively participate with the co-creative weaving of the web of life. Venus represents the evolving, emerging feminine principle and she has the opportunity to integrate this wisdom within the current archetypal expression of the feminine begun in January, 1998 in Capricorn. The emerging Capricorn mysteries at The Turning Of The Ages anchors the new operating manual for humanity in harmony with all life. Virgo reminds Capricorn to honor the new structure and form as sacred.

July 20, Tuesday, Moon and Mars (6 Scorpio) conjunct at 7:54 pm MST. This is the fourth time Moon and Mars have met since Mars began its Scorpio quest in April. Mars is rapidly approaching the area of the sky where he stationed and began his retrograde journey. Thus, Mars is still retracing an area he has crossed twice already in the past several months. This area of the sky features the fixed star Khambalia, located on the foot in the constellation of the Virgin Priestess. It is thought that the name is rooted in old Coptic and means 'Crooked Claw'. According to Dr. Eric Morse in his book, *The Living Stars*, he feels it connects to the symbol of the Swastika which originally had to do with secret knowledge available to us only if we know how to access it. It also links to the root word Shambala which is a name for a place that refers to Heaven on Earth and is a symbol for the secret of life. Moon and Mars are

meeting with Khambalia, suggesting we can access this secret knowledge by actively opening to receive the energies being transmitted at this time.

July 22, Thursday, Moon and retrograde Chiron (28 Scorpio) conjunct at 2:41 pm MST. Juno (26 Scorpio) returns to direct motion late the night before. Sun enters Leo at 11:44 pm MST. Chiron, Moon and Juno are gathering in council reminding us that this is a potent timing to again consciously work with healing the split around sexuality and spirituality. We can also include the money mysteries and the death mysteries. Juno going direct indicates a shift from a deep inward process that will now begin to integrate externally.

Juno, Queen of heaven, Rainbow Goddess, triple Moon Goddess, Divine Mother, protectress of women, and Goddess of sacred marriage, or conscious equal partnership is joined with Chiron the wounded healer. When Juno is healthy she represents the highest expression of womanhood in her "perfected state as bride and consort." (Demetra George, *Asteroid Goddesses*.)

Juno and Chiron have traveled together for several months now, assisting in focusing on healing all our relationships with self and others, particularly around the issues of sex and money. Basic to both these issues is how we value ourselves, what we perceive is our self-worth. Sex and Money are both external manifestations of life force energy. Our experience of sexuality and money in the world provide us with important clues about our perceptions and beliefs in how we value ourselves. Our relationship to money and our self-worth are directly linked to how we co-creatively experience our world. The way our culture has taught us to relate to money has contributed to a lack of self-worth that often is linked to our greatest wounds. Healing these wounds is essential to experiencing a state of wholeness within and without. This triune council reminds us to look within and notice how we are relating to ourselves, to our sexuality and to money.

Synchronistically, the Sun is moving into Leo today. The Sun is our fuel. It is what energizes our experience in the world. In Leo it is energizing radical, radiant self-love and self-confidence, that when healthy operates from the knowing that each and everyone of us is a divine being. This fuel then is an ally in working with healing the wounds around sex, money and self-worth.

I am seeing an image of the Shaman Sorceress Queen of Heaven in her strength and sovereignty counseled by the ancient ones, guardians of the mysteries of magic and manifestation. And they are co-conspiring to weave healing magic that allows us to remember our value, our worth, and the treasures we each carry for the benefit of all. I see that as we remember, we open to receive the abundant support of the universe, and it flows gently, easily and freely. So be it!!!

July 23, Friday, Moon conjuncts Pluto (8 Sagittarius) at 11:49 am MST. We have another triune council with Moon, Pluto and the fixed star Antares, the heart of the Scorpion. Again we are working with the energy of the heart, life force, passion, serpents, dragons, the dragon priestesses, and the ley lines of earth and sky. (For more info see the Celestial Timings Archives on the web site www.ShamanicAstrology.com)

July 25, Sunday, Moon enters Capricorn at 8:09 am MST. Zero degrees Capricorn is marking the galactic alignment where the Winter Solstice is aligned with the intersection of the Milky Way Galaxy and the ecliptic (the path the planets follow). This alignment can only occur approximately every 26,000 years. (See *A Shamanic Look At The Turning Of The Ages* by Daniel Giamario on the Shamanic Astrology web site or in *The Shamanic Astrology Handbook* for more details) The Moon passes by this alignment once each month giving us an opportunity to visually connect with where the alignment is occurring in the sky and to ceremonially work with this activation. This is a potent dreaming point where we have an opportunity to consciously dream the dream onward and to notice how the dream is dreaming us.

July 26, Monday, Retrograde Mercury conjuncts the Sun (4 degrees Leo) at 8:48 am MST. When Mercury is traveling with the Sun it is not visible in the sky. In Shamanic Astrology this is seen as being in the underworld. The underworld is a place of initiation, requiring us to surrender and trust the process that is taking place. Mercury has to do with our beliefs and how we communicate them to the world. What beliefs are we being asked to surrender? Neptune is also nearly exactly opposite Mercury assisting in the dissolution of the worn out beliefs that do not support radical, radiant self-love.

July 28, Wednesday, Aquarius Full Moon partial Lunar Eclipse (5 Aquarius) at 4:25 am MST. Chiron (27 and ½ Scorpio) goes direct at 12:30 pm MST. This Full Moon opens an eclipse window that will remain active until the Total Solar Eclipse on Aug 11. The Grand Cross in fixed signs is again present at this Full Moon Eclipse. I feel the emphasis this time is on expanding our vision of how we want to live in this world. The old vision described in the bible as God creating man to have dominion over the Earth is no longer working. At the rate we are going this biblical vision is taking us toward certain destruction. It is time for a new vision where we begin to see our place in the grand design and how we can co-creatively participate in a way that supports all of life, instead of destroying it. It is time for humanity to fully embrace the concept of conscious equal partnership where we honor and acknowledge the importance and gifts of every living thing including our own. No one part of the web of life is more or less important than any other part. The new vision then, includes seeing how all parts contribute to the whole, and seeing our part in a

whole new way that contributes to and supports the web of life.

July 28, Thursday, Venus (5 Virgo) goes retrograde at 6:41 pm MST. This marks the final integration phase of the current cycle of Venus. Venus begins a new cycle next month. Currently, Venus is completing her Capricorn integration. (See the Shamanic Astrology Web Site article on Venus in the articles section.)

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