

Monthly Astrocast

July 2013

 <i>Key Events:</i>
New Moon (16:18 Cancer): July 8, 2013
Full Moon (00:06 Aquarius): July 22, 2013
Grand Trine: July 17, 2013
Grand Sextile: July 29, 2013
<i>Retrograde Planets:</i>
Saturn: February 18 - July 7, 2013 (11:32 - 04:49 Scorpio) Shadow until October 15, 2013
Pluto: April 12 - September 19, 2013 (11:35 - 8:59 Capricorn)
Neptune: June 7 - November 13, 2013 (05:22 - 02:34 Pisces)
Mercury: June 26 - July 19, 2013 (23:06 - 13:30 Cancer)
Uranus: July 17 - December 17, 2013 (12:31 - 8:35 Aries)

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--Whobeda

Lunations and Long-term Aspects

This is a very busy month astrologically with not only the usual lunations but two significant aspect patterns that project a significant amount of energy. One is a Grand Water Trine which you probably think is yesterday's news. Granted, the past month there has been one out there most of the time but this one is different. The ones in June comprised a parade of different planets taking that third position, including Venus, Mercury and the Sun. Now, however, Jupiter has come into that position which gives it an entirely different feel as well as duration since all three members are outer planets with two of them in signs where they function exceptionally well. This will be around a bit longer and influence deeper themes as opposed to daily occurrences. The other is a Grand Sextile, which is quite rare and actually will be quite fleeting since one of its components is the fast-moving Moon. Nonetheless, its effect could be far-reaching and worthy of note. But before we get into them, let's see what's going on with the New Moon on July 8.

This lunation takes place in fellow Water Sign, Cancer, your 5th house of ego definition, creative expression, romance, entertainment, children, entertainment and speculation. If your birthday is right around March 7 you are most likely to discover something new in this part of your life. Bear in mind that during this time Mercury is still retrograde, however, which isn't necessarily the best time to start something new. Rather it may come about as you re-examine or reconsider something in that part of your life which may not be working properly. The lunation also forms a somewhat sloppy but viable T-square with that Uranus - Pluto square that has been stirring things up a lot lately, particularly the weather and world events such as rebellions and exposure of all sorts of corruption on the part of governments and corporations.

Uranus is in your 2nd house of income, possessions, finances, needs, pleasures and things you value which can bring numerous disturbances to this part of your life. It is also likely that you will encounter various unique and unconventional situations or people related to this venue. You may earn your income in an unusual way or simply deal with unexpected situations or a series of wacky people. For this lunation Venus is trining Uranus from Leo, your 6th house of work, health, service and pets which implies you may have something come up relative to your work or job that brings this unusual flow of income or people into your life. Certainly not a bad thing.

Pluto is in Capricorn, your 11th house of friends, networking, groups, organizations, goals, hopes and wishes where he's transforming this part of your life. This is a time to get rid of what you no longer need such as false friends, involvement with groups that don't provide you with some benefit, even at the spiritual level, or throw out old goals that simply no longer suit the person you're becoming. Putting these two together in a challenging square results in a conflict that could be as simple as your friends interfering with your ability to earn a viable income. This T-square, therefore, provides you with a fresh look at who and what you are as well as what you need to define yourself versus the influence of others and how it relates to your income and self-worth. There's a good

chance that you're capable of much more than you think but there are circumstances in your life keeping you from your potential.

Your traditional sign ruler, Jupiter, has just entered Cancer about a week before the lunation which brings his expansive energy to this part of your life and also hooks up with that Grand Water Trine. This is good news for your self-esteem and personal development in and of itself. Neptune, your sign ruler, in Pisces, which he rules, is a powerful influence that allows his energy and influence to operate unencumbered. If your birthday is right around February 24 then Neptune is conjunct your natal Sun and this may be too much of a good thing, putting you out there in Lalaland somewhere and potentially unable to function. Hopefully if this is the case you'll be able to make some important discoveries about yourself that help you get a grip on things and on a new path.

As you probably know Neptune is inspirational, dreamy, enlightening, connected with other dimensions including the collective consciousness and prone to idealism and compassion. The trine to Jupiter can channel this into your ego and help you know yourself better than ever before. It can also enhance your creativity tremendously. Saturn, the final component is in Scorpio, your 9th house of beliefs, expectations, higher learning, philosophy of life, other cultures, long-distance travel and relocation. He has just barely come out of retrograde which is when his message starts to come into your conscious mind so you can restructure or rebuild something in this part of your life. As you reinvent yourself you may do so with an entirely new set of beliefs and your place in the world.

That Grand Trine will have all three components in the same degree of their respective signs on July 17 (July 18 on the other side of the International Dateline or IDL), indicating their energy will be at its peak during that time. This is an excellent time to contemplate it's influence and gather input from the Universe. Mars is conjunct Jupiter which is a call to action, even though some of them may have a detrimental effect on your wallet. Mercury is still retrograde so this is still not necessarily the time to move forward on a new path but it is good for figuring out what that path may be. A complete renovation of your social life and goals may be called for, perhaps leaving it behind entirely. This could conceivably hold you back from making needed changes. Consider what you really need and want at your core and what needs to be done to pursue them.

The Full Moon on July 22 is in nextdoor neighboring sign, Aquarius, your 12th house of inspiration, dreams, visions, the collective consciousness, spirituality, confinement, institutions, seclusion, hidden enemies and self-undoing. A Full Moon usually brings an ending, culmination or shift to a new phase so look for that in this part of your life. The Grand Trine is still in effect and Mercury is now direct so you can take action now, provided you've figured out where you want to go. Venus has entered Virgo, your polar sign and 7th house of close relationships which should bode nicely for meeting and interacting with those close to you. Listen to your intuition and see if it directs you toward one particularly person who is very influential in your life at this time. The Sun is transiting Leo, your 6th house of work, which highlights this part of your life. If you

need a job, calling in a favor may be beneficial. You still may be struggling with letting something go or too much influence from your friends, but this is a time to assert yourself, find your own unique identity and set out on your own path. Money challenges are still possible and it's possible that the jobs you can get at this time do not deliver the income you need, even if you like them. If you feel obligated to stay where you are, perhaps because the person you're working for is a friend, this is a time to believe in yourself and go after something more suitable, even though there will be some challenges. Additional education or training is likely to be required, but this should become available and be relatively easy for you to understand.

That Grand Sextile on July 29 (July 30 on the other side of the IDL) comprises a flow of energies that is served well by simply looking at the [chart](#). Even if you're not an astrologer, you can get some idea of the symmetry and interaction of the planetary energies. As you can see it resembles the facets of a cut gemstone. It not only retains the Grand Water Trine but now also includes a Grand Earth Trine, a combination that suggests emotional security and stability. Astrologically Earth stabilizes Water and Water nourishes Earth. There are also three aspect patterns known as Mystic Rectangles. These often indicate the need to balance or choose between two opportunities that are mutually exclusive. With this many of them in force at once it could be like going to an elegant buffet with all your favorite foods only to be given a saucer for a plate which you can fill but once. You may have so many things to choose from at this time that you don't know which way to go first and wind up with nothing.

Looking at the three oppositions may provide some indication of what you'll need to balance. First of all, what you want or need may need to be balanced out with the people closest to you. You need to take care of yourself but not to the exclusion of everyone such as your significant other, business partners, or anyone else important in your life. Another is your identity and who you are at the core and/or becoming versus friends or groups, which may no longer be good for you or perhaps consuming too much time and energy.

Last but not least, new information coming in may have an emotional element that conflicts with existing beliefs. Rebuilding your belief system is now in force and you may not always feel comfortable with what you're discovering along the way. Your head and heart may be at odds with each other as well given that this occurs at the time of the last quarter Moon when the Sun and Moon are squared off from each other. Remember that emotional stability and security are at the core which can best be attained with the proper balance in all part of your life. At any rate you might want to ponder what the energy feels like. Because of its rather short duration due to the involvement of the Moon you may want to do so at the time it's in effect which is 18:39 GMT which translates to 1:39 p.m. EDT, 12:39 p.m. CDT, 11:39 a.m. MDT and 10:39 a.m. PDT. Those of you in other countries will need to figure it out for yourself or drop me an email and I'll let you know.

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