

Planetary Forecast for July 24-30, 2006

In review... Monday's warnings of a "feisty and energetic" Aries Moon and the "death, decay, and destruction" presence of Pluto seems like an understatement in hindsight as Hezbollah militants and Israel continue to hammer it out. With international stress overload, now would be a good time for weather to cooperate, but Neptune's presence in Air sign Aquarius suggested otherwise. Sure enough things have been highly combustible water-wise; a 7.6 earthquake in Indonesia spawned a deadly tsunami at Java. As the week progressed quakes struck China and Ecuador. China also experienced massive storms in the south that have claimed over 178 lives in subsequent flooding. And here in the U.S. tropical storm Beryl formed off the coast of North Carolina. With all of this chaos, isn't it almost amazing that the shuttle Discovery returned safely to earth? But remember the warning with Mercury retrograde to check and double-check things before progressing with any trip or plan? NASA and the shuttle crew made numerous repairs before and during the flight, thank goodness. My Tuesday guess that we'd be feeling more sensitive and reactive for the next few weeks takes shape as Americans complain about the delay in their evacuation from Lebanon. And speaking of cruise liners...Crown Princess, the massive ocean liner christened by Martha Stewart last month experienced a "steering problem" upon leaving her Florida port and listed dangerously. Water flooded several upper decks, glass shattered, furniture tumbled and dozens were injured, two critically. On Sunday two teens were struck by lightning and two are injured. Mercury mistakes, Mars accidents, Neptune water, and Uranus impulsiveness/daring...no dull moments for us earthlings.

This week... Monday, July 24th, Cancer moon will conjunct with Mercury (also in Cancer) at 5:07 a.m. EDT. Dialogues should go well for those speaking from bonded hearts, and the impulse to extend the weekend will be strong. However, for those who are in slash-and-burn mode, Pluto and Moon will quincunx at 9:50 giving ample opportunity to burn bridges and cause more pain and grief. Again—watch "the other guy" when in any form of transportation. The last aspect of the day is at 8:24 p.m. EDT as Moon roars into Leo, who loves high drama and being noticed. This should be delightful for many, but considering world conditions and the unfortunate Jupiter square tomorrow, things could be dramatic for some in a negative way.

Tuesday the 25th brings the New Moon at 12:31 a.m. EDT as Leo Moon conjuncts with Leo Sun. Double Fire energy if you know what I mean. In fact, almost the whole day belongs to Fire and while that could also mean sudden action and lots of spontaneity in a good way at work or with romance, watch for more news of burning and explosions—both the environmental kind and those for attacks. New Moons are the time to begin projects and proceed with plans, but with Moon squaring with lucky Jupiter (in Scorpio) at 3:00 p.m. EDT and Mercury *still* in retrograde, go ahead and *think* about them, but rethink venturing forward now. It might end in failure. This is echoed at 10:18, by a Moon-Saturn (also in Leo) conjunction telling us to honor the lessons we've learned and don't cross boundaries that are none of our business.

Wednesday the 26th brings another early start with Leo Moon in a quincunx with Uranus (in Pisces). No, Fire and Water aren't speaking the same language. Since this is followed by a Moon-Neptune (in Aquarius) opposition at 9:19 we could be dealing with some weather-related event or accident in the air or at sea. The Fire energy continues through the day with an 8:32 p.m. EDT trine between Moon and Pluto (in fiery Sagittarius). While this can sound foreboding and it may be for some, it's also an opportunity to resolve something had gone awry. A 9:50 Venus (in Cancer)- Jupiter (in Scorpio) trine suggests Water-Water energy could successfully quell some of the heated goings on that have been causing upheaval lately, and more opportunity for rain. Hopefully, it will happen where things are the driest.

Thursday, the 27th Moon enters Virgo at 7:36 a.m. EDT. The only other aspect of the day is Virgo Moon in conjunction with Mars (also in Virgo) at 1:48 p.m. EDT. Earth-Earth energy brings the accelerated and disciplined momentum to take care of tangible needs—housing, sustenance, and details of all kinds. We need this low-key break. Although not as exciting as other aspects, it's vital to our survival on many levels and keeps us from feeling like we're drowning from data and chore/project lists.

Friday the 28th at 3:31 a.m. EDT Gemini Moon sextiles with Saturn (in Leo) voicing the command that rules must be obeyed and contracts honored. At 6:34 Moon then squares with Uranus (in Pisces) nixing any impulsiveness or sneak attacks. Sure sounds like more overseas issues. Dialogues could be problematic. The trine at 3:03 p.m. EDT between Moon and Neptune (in Aquarius) bring Air-Air harmony and ideas should be flowing, but whether they're based in good logic or lasting commitment is the question. Sorry to sound like a broken record, but although Mercury goes direct at 8:39, it will be moving so slowly, we still aren't feeling the benefits, so results are iffy.

Saturday, the 29th brings a 2: 15 a.m. EDT sextile between Virgo Moon and Mercury (in Cancer). Dialogue and planning is busy, busy. The only other aspect of the day is the Moon-Pluto (in Sagittarius) square at 9:05 a.m. Sabbath or no, things could get grim in the Middle East and on the home front, words spoken now can't be taken back. Make sure you mean them. Moon shifts into Libra at 8:27.

Sunday the 30th, Libra Moon sextiles with Leo Sun at 11:23 a.m. EDT, then Venus (in Cancer) trines with Uranus (in Pisces) at 2:19 p.m. EDT. Has a breakthrough been found in the Middle East? Romance-wise expect a surprise or a sudden "hug" from someone who means the world to you. For the rest of us, even a pause in all of the international stress/bad news would be welcome.

Light a candle for those less fortunate,
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