

Happy New Year!

We've survived 2010, even if we are literally or metaphorically, bruised and bumped! It was a tempestuous year at best, and most of us have been deeply marked by its passage. Though we are not quite done with bumps and bruises, for now at least things get a bit easier as Uranus finally turned direct on December 5th, 2010. January will provide us interesting passage, though not always an easy one.

We'll be dealing with the New Moon Solar Eclipse at 13 Capricorn on January 4th. Following this is the 29 degree Full Moon at 29 Cancer on January 19th. 29 degree Moons are bone-shakers. Look back at Oct 22, 2010 when we had 29 Aries Moon, or 29 Taurus on Nov 21, 2010, or 29 Gemini Moon on Dec 21, 2010. Ask yourself what was happening around those dates. They were significant for all of us, and those events may well tie to this full Moon.

The 29th degree is the most powerful degree for all of us. It is the last chance to learn and accept the lesson a planet is attempting to deliver, before it enters the next sign. It's huge. It's angels singing, lights shining and gifts raining down upon you....or the earth trembles beneath your feet and the deepest pit of hell opens just for you. Even better? It's OUR choice! We can accept the lesson and move forward...or we can ignore it and wait to see what's behind curtain number 2. Like I said, big stuff! The 29th degree is our last chance to work through emotional and toxic wounds and to do right by ourselves and others. Don't let this pass without acting.

From a planetary standpoint, it is more correct to say 2011 actually begins around January 22nd when the planet Jupiter moves into the sign of Aries. Jupiter will pay a whirlwind visit to Aries, lasting only 5 months. This accelerated motion seems to capture the character of the times ahead. The pace will be FAST, particularly during the first half of the year. We may envision the energy of Jupiter in Aries as an uncompromising force, raw in its expression, and highly charged emotionally. There is a surge of adrenaline, and a powerful eruption of creative energy; it is a birthing process, hurling us into newness and action. A new phase of your life is now actively in the making!

This particular cycle receives considerable support from a series of other planets joining Jupiter in Aries, creating a peak event when by the April 2nd new Moon, 7 planets will be aligned in this sign. It is not possible to remain indifferent under such a concentration of energy and the answer is to act. People will be highly inspired to take action, change, and follow their truth. This is not a time to succumb to anxiety or insecurities—it is about risk and action. The need for autonomy and breaking away from any form of external control will be tremendous, and nearly unstoppable.

Then on January 25th, we have Saturn turning retrograde in Libra until June 12th. This

will find us reassessing our relationships, and reexamining how we interact with friends and loved ones. Relationships will change. Some will strengthen and grow, but we will also find ourselves severing ties with those who negatively impact our balance. This retrograde will have us looking for more balance in our lives.

Saturn retrograde produces the rules and regulations by which we guide our lives, our sense of responsibility, and our limitations. It allows us to define boundaries for ourselves by saying "no". When Saturn is retrograde, this capacity does not function properly, making us insecure and unable to accurately assess what can realistically be expected in any situation. The most common flaw is the tendency to say "yes" when we should say "no", especially in activities and relationships ruled by Saturn.

We can safely assume that the signs Aries, Libra, Cancer and Capricorn are on notice. These are the Cardinal signs and were all the highlighted signs of the first Grand Square we've ever witnessed. There are no historical guidelines about a Grand Square, so we are all watching, waiting to see what happens! Since July 2010, the Grand Square set up these signs have been in the thick of it, and we are expecting major life changes to occur: marriage, divorce, jobs gained or lost, births, life paths changed. Life shaping events are happening to these signs now.

One small piece of happy news for Pisces and Virgo is that during the first week of January, Jupiter and Uranus will conjunct at 27 degrees of Pisces. Thus the nonstop battering taken by Pisces and Virgo will stop, however briefly. They can look for some good news this week, and about time too, some would say!

A few key dates for January:

Jan 1: Happy New Year! With the most recent Mercury retrograde behind us, we are finally starting to pull out of the shadow. The Moon is in Sagittarius, so it's likely to be a quiet day, and perhaps a bit somber. We may find ourselves with a loved one on our minds. The new Moon solar eclipse is 3 days away, so be aware of new opportunities or possibilities. New seeds are being sown.

Jan 4: New Moon eclipse is today, and you may wake up feeling more positive and optimistic than you have in a while. A square between Venus and Neptune may lead to a small power struggle with a loved one, but it's nothing lasting. With Jupiter conjuncting Uranus happy surprises are in store for Pisces and Virgo people. Romance is in the air, but watch for active Mars to set minor spats in motion. Emotional buttons can be easily pushed today, try not to be too reactive.

Jan 10: A shocking energy, though not ALL bad, with the Moon moving into Aries and stirring up intense emotions. The Moon is conjuncting Jupiter/Uranus, so happy surprises are likely as well as sextile Venus, making love front and center on our minds.

The night however, takes on a dangerous edge as the Moon squares Uranus, bringing out the criminal types. If you are female, please heed my words and DO NOT walk alone on this night. Please have a companion to walk with. Couples, watch your words and tones. Lines can be crossed verbally, and words once spoken cannot be unspoken.

Jan 14: Mars is at 29 degrees Capricorn and Jupiter is at 29 degrees of Pisces. With two planets at this intense degree, Pisces/Virgo and Aquarius/Leo are front and center to the fireworks! At the least, this will be an emotionally intense day for everyone, but these four signs need to hold on tight! Try to remain flexible and don't expect too much of others. Everyone will be under terrible strain. Watch for road rage, drive safely, watch the other guy! Accidents will abound. Tempers will be flaring for the next 5 days so try to stay calm and work through your stress.

Jan 19: A full Moon at 29 Cancer brings wounded emotions to the surface...again. Time to deal with what has been repressed for too long. Cancers and Capricorns will be at the center of the vortex, and as both are known for repressing emotions, the next two weeks should be a wild ride. These two signs will be like spewing volcanoes for at least two weeks, with every toxic, mean, wounded emotion coming straight to the surface. Just try to stay out of the line of fire as Cancer/Capricorns try to work through their emotional wounds.

Jan. 22: Today, Jupiter moves into Aries! Things will start to go more smoothly for you, doors open, opportunities drop in your lap. For the next 5 months dear Aries, you are the cosmic favorite! Lucky you! The Moon is trine Mercury to day so Pisces/Virgo will be very busy with communications, emails, phone calls and the like. Tonight, be patient and nonjudgmental with a loved one.

Jan 25: Saturn turns retrograde today. The Moon spends the day in Libra, but moves to Scorpio tonight, making Saturn's movement just that much meaner! This is a heavy day, energy wise with Aries and Libra carrying the lion's share of the load! Jupiter in Aries will soften the blow for Aries people, but it will still be a very karmic day. Today we will get what we deserve.

Enjoy what should be a busy and exciting month!

Cheers.