

The Starfire Messenger

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Signs of the Times:

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Newswatchers know that the current opposition of transiting Pluto to the natal Saturn of Donald Trump is already starting to generate effects. In mid-February 2020 as transiting Pluto right now and for the first time in Trump's life begins to tightly oppose his Saturn position, the resistance to his aims and purposes predicted in previous newsletters is in fact beginning to shape up. Two big events this past week demonstrate this

fact: 1) a bipartisan majority in the U.S. Senate just this week voted to limit Trump's power to make war in Iran, and 2) the U.S. Attorney General made surprising public statements in defiance of Trump's wishes, first, admonishing Trump to stay out of the affairs of the Department of Justice, and second, dismissing the investigation of Andrew McCabe, a critic of Trump whom the President had wanted put under pressure. In both the actions of the Senate and the Attorney General, these developments fly in the face of Trump's repeated assertion that he has the legal right to do anything whatsoever and to determine policy autonomously. These two situations counter that assertion. The possibility that either of these repudiations of Trumpian objectives could have happened would have been dismissed out of hand by many just a few days ago, but here they are.

As the astrological factors affecting Trump's chart show, 2020 and 2021 are not at all set to be years in which he rides a greased rail to success. This past week has provided two examples of exactly what that trend will look like. Trump's impeachment acquittal was not the final ordeal that he imagined it to be. Instead, Trump is facing an uphill battle, the astrological indicators say. Recent polling numbers suggest the same, showing all five contenders for the Democratic presidential nomination statistically positioned to not only give Trump a run for his money, but in all likelihood, to defeat him in November of 2020.

Top of mind in this regard is Bernie Sanders, Independent Senator from Vermont and member of the Democratic Caucus with a decades-long history of advocacy for social justice. Born on September 8, 1941 at 12:27 pm in Brooklyn Heights, NY, Sanders is a Sun-sign Virgo with the Moon in Aries and 25 degrees of Scorpio rising. Virgo as a sign connects to the interests of the working people, as well as to matters of health and healing. Here indeed is the astrological origin of his advocacy for a living wage and for a national health-care system which would cover all citizens. His scrappy Aries Moon aptly describes his often agitated tone and his ability to fearlessly get right up in the face of the financial power elites.

Furthermore, if the birth time for Sanders circulating in the astrological community is correct, he's subjectively constituted with more than enough toughness and grit to stand Trump down, for his Ascendant at 25 degrees of tenacious and forbidding Scorpio is tightly square to Trump's Mars at 27 Leo. There's plenty enough animosity between these two positions to indicate an intense battle, Sanders in no way a push-over for Trump. No matter what the birth time for Sanders, the Vermont Senator in any case has Saturn at 29 degrees of Taurus, which position falls in the 10th house of the Trump chart, clearly indicating that Sanders has the karmic circumstances on his side to overcome Trump and to represent a disciplining, restrictive influence on the current President. This positioning of the Saturn from the Sanders chart into that of Trump is particularly telling, strongly stating that Sanders has the upper hand and is in a position by right of wisdom and experience to dictate terms to Trump, and not the other way around. By contrast, Trump's Saturn position placed in the chart of Sanders shows no such thing. Sanders has the greater clout here, the astrological factors show. The evidence of this might be seen in the current polling numbers, which show Sanders defeating Trump by a comfortable margin, should Sanders win the Democratic presidential nomination.

An interesting and perhaps surprising fact about the astrological situation for Sanders is that if elected, he is highly likely to actually succeed in establishing many of the ambitiously altruistic programs for which he now currently advocates. Transiting Pluto in Capricorn making a trine to the Neptune in Virgo and the Saturn in Taurus positions of the Sanders chart during the years 2021 – 2024 say that he will be able to implement his hopes for single-payer, universal medical care, and that he will be able to rectify debt problems, both at the level of the federal government and at the level of the citizens. Further, transiting Uranus in Taurus trine the Sanders Sun in Virgo during 2022 and 2023 adds power to the ability of Sanders to correct financial injustices and make the monetary adjustments he articulates now in the context of the presidential primary and which he

has been advocating throughout his adult life. To say that Sanders is likely to succeed in what many Americans regard as highly radical aims is of course pretty far out, but that's right where the astrology points.

The take-way to keep in mind, however, is that no matter how arrogantly Trump may posture, forces are moving into play which will not support unrelenting hubris on his part. Whether the form these forces take turns out to be Congressional, administrative, elective, or other, they are sure to represent resistance of a type and potency Trump has never yet faced in his present incarnation. Given that Trump has set himself on a course which is inimical to the preservation of the planet, this is a fact of great importance to all. Keep watching, especially now through late March 2020, as transiting Pluto slowly moves into the exact opposition to Trump's Saturn. The signs of the times will make themselves known.

Daily Analysis and Prediction for the Week Ahead

The Moon is in waning phase through the upcoming week, with New Moon taking place on **Sunday February 23**, thus indicating that here is a week in which we tie up loose ends, finish old projects, let go of unnecessary involvements, and turn to our inner centers. Further, Mercury shall have just turned retrograde as the week begins. These two influences working together suggest that events around us are likely to slow down and take a slightly different course than previously projected. Interests, ideas, and agendas of the recent few weeks may fall away temporarily, to be replaced with fascinating things to be found along the detours of life for which retrograde Mercury is so legendary. Letting go of objects and attitudes no longer needed and reckoning with matters of the past are likely pastimes this week. At the same time, however, there's a distinctly uplifting influence coming into focus as transiting Jupiter in authoritative Capricorn makes the sextile to transiting Neptune in merciful Pisces, exact on Thursday February 20. This arrangement will bring into play a great spiritual understanding for all and a recognition that kindness, beauty, and

love really do matter. Adding more constructive energies to the week is an exact trine between Mars in Capricorn and Uranus in Taurus, bringing into play this week energies that will support and help with all artistic, creative, architectural, innovative, and progressive efforts. Thus, even with retrograde Mercury in the picture, the events of this week can all work out for the best if we keep open minds, stay true to our spiritual values, look for gems and jewels in places we'd not thought of previously, stay close to soul purpose, and apply our talents.

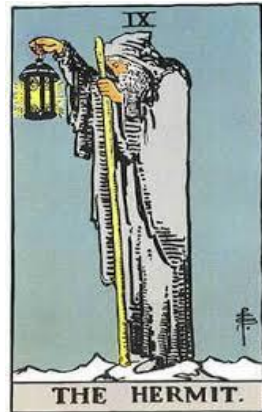
Monday February 17 looks to be a quiet day with only the Moon in Sagittarius square Neptune to color the situation. Moody or dreamy states of mind take over. Pressurized rush and hurry lose their grip on many.

Tuesday February 18 is all different from lazy Monday. Now, the Moon enters strict Capricorn and makes a conjunction to vigorous Mars, newly in that sign. Now we feel an urgency about major life responsibilities, goals, and duties. Time must not go to waste, we think. The Sun enters Pisces just before 11 pm CST, signifying the start of a month-long subjective impact of the fish archetype, telling us to swim with the current of Divine Love and flow right into our good that way. Still, there are specific spiritual duties for which we are responsible, says the Capricorn focus.

The same Capricornian theme holds for **Wednesday February 19**, which features the Moon in duty-and-honor-bound Capricorn conjunct imperial Jupiter in that same sign. Rank, place, influence, and personal status matter today. We do best if we focus on those parts of our life plans which we can accomplish today. We must be rulers in our own kingdoms of dominion if we are to feel right. Self-discipline and right aspiration are important keys for today.

Thursday February 20 brings in even more powerful Capricornian messages about high standards and personal achievement as the Moon in Capricorn conjuncts Pluto and Saturn in that sign, focusing our awareness on the key structural elements of our lives. We ask ourselves if we have our priorities organized correctly. At the same time, Jupiter in Capricorn makes

the exact sextile to Neptune in Pisces, opening the doors into higher consciousness and elevated spiritual realms. We see and glimpse exemplars on the angelic and master levels, guides and teachers who have surmounted the human condition and stand like the classic mountain hermits above, throwing light on the way.



Still on **Thursday February 20**, the Moon enters Aquarius shortly before 2 pm CST, shifting attention to friends, organizations, associations, and inventive approaches. Mars in Capricorn moves to trine Uranus in Taurus, making for ease of social connections and helping along every endeavor which joins professional or life goals with payment and compensation. Money is earned, payments made, agreements concluded, contracts signed.

Friday February 21 brings the exact trine of Mars and Uranus in earth signs Capricorn and Taurus, thus opening doors for solid remuneration and satisfying recognition of talent. At the same time, the Sun in Pisces moves toward a sextile with Uranus in Taurus, brightening the moment with positive indications and promises of congenial understandings and financial assistance. Solutions materialize even where it seemed like none such could occur. A bit of magic circulates.

The exact sextile between the Sun and Uranus takes place on **Saturday February 22**, indicating that situations and circumstances are becoming

more flexible and accommodating, generally and widely. We see opportunities and exciting options where before only locked doors and steel walls stood.

Flexibility and adaptability are much in evidence on **Sunday February 23** as well, as the Moon moves into fluidic Pisces to conjoin with the Sun there for New Moon moment, which takes place at 9:32 am CST. We get a new vision of life and see ways to grow and change. Venus in Aries squares Jupiter in Capricorn, highlighting the role of the individual in contrast to that of authority and amplifying the theme of mercy, tolerance, and forbearance. The Venus-Jupiter square also hints at overdoing in the indulgence department, however, so we ought to hold on to our self-discipline when *too much* tempts. The Moon conjuncts retrograde Mercury in Pisces, dissolving old problems from the past through prayer, forgiveness, letting go, perspective, and non-possessiveness. We set aside the petty and open ourselves instead to do the Higher Will.



Chapel at Camp Mitchell

Petit Jean Mountain, Arkansas

Photo by Maureen Richmond