

The Starfire Messenger

A Free Weekly Newsletter

From Astrologer Maureen Richmond, M.A.

Issue #116: May 25 - 31, 2020

Contents

Signs of the Times: Two Faces of the Seventh Ray

Analysis and Predictions for the Week Ahead: Run-up to June Full Moon

Two Faces of the Seventh Ray

“This is the dawning of the Age of Aquarius,” sang the Fifth Dimension in their spiritual rock anthem which took the record charts of 1969 by storm. As the lyrics of this iconic soundtrack to the cultural revolution of the 60s and 70s claimed, the Age of Aquarius was to be a golden age of “harmony and understanding, sympathy and trust abounding, no more falsehoods or derisions, golden living dreams of visions, mystic crystal revelation, and the mind’s true liberation.” Accurately encapsulating the esoteric doctrine in regard to the Age of Aquarius, the Fifth Dimension’s rendering of predictive vision powered the hopes and dreams of a generation and more.

Indeed, the Fifth Dimension’s *Age of Aquarius* was more than a pipe-dream. Instead, it was an articulation of values and ideals sensed intuitively by many. The lyrics to this song captured and embodied the inner knowing of millions who understood that the right direction for Humanity lay in the embrace of diversity, dignity for all, a recognition of

Humanity's oneness with the cosmic environment, and the consequent unfolding of the advanced metaphysical powers of the mind. It even featured and dwelled upon the inspiring connection of Humanity with celestial being, in particular, with the stars of constellation Aquarius.

While cynics may have thought the Fifth Dimension's outrageously popular song nothing other than a marketing gimmick, the truth is quite different. In actuality, the very social, cultural, and spiritual values enshrined in the lyrics of *Age of Aquarius* accurately mirror what esoteric doctrine holds in regard to this period of time. Many spiritual sources characterize the expected Age of Aquarius as a period of time which will bring the full unfoldment of Humanity's spiritual abilities, much improved human relations, just conditions for all, advanced methods of energy healing, and a gentle relationship with nature and her kingdoms.

Said by the esoteric teachings of Alice Bailey and the Tibetan Master to have begun in June of 1945, the Age of Aquarius is expected to run for about 2100 years, the average length of any astrological age. Though other spiritual and metaphysical traditions offer different dates for the beginning of the Age of Aquarius, the information presented in the writings of Alice Bailey is quite clear on this point, assigning the starting point for the Age of Aquarius in middle 1945.

Astrological ages are measured by the very slow migration of the vernal equinox point against the backdrop of stars in deep space. Due to natural astronomical factors, this very slow migration of the vernal equinox point proceeds backwards through the signs of the zodiac, for example, from Pisces to Aquarius. A new age begins when the vernal equinox point eventually occurs in front of the stars on the western edge of any constellation, signifying a shift of emphasis from the themes of one constellation to the next.

The moment of this shift depends heavily on the location of the borders between constellations. Just exactly where the borders lie between

constellations is a matter which has been debated by astronomers for centuries, as star groupings perceived in distant space occur in widely diverse sizes and shapes. Yet, star maps for such purposes exist. Thus, when the Tibetan Master states through the writings of Alice Bailey that the Age of Aquarius began in middle 1945, the inevitable implication is that the Planetary Hierarchy of which he is a member has in its archives star maps indicating constellational boundaries which yield the date of June 1945 as the moment in time when the vernal equinox point came into visual alignment (from Earth's perspective) with the stars on the western edge of the constellation Aquarius.

It was at this point, according to the Tibetan Teacher, that a new influence began streaming toward Earth. Called the Seventh Ray in the Bailey teachings, this ray is one of seven vibratory frequencies which all together represent the full functioning of Deity. Again according to the esoteric teaching, these seven vibratory rates or rays originate in the seven stars of the Great Bear or the Big Dipper, the Great Bear itself being the head center of an immense cosmic being beyond the scope of human understanding.

Circulating with the realm of creation, the rays interpenetrate everything, expressing through stars, planets, and kingdoms, such as the Human Kingdom, the Animal Kingdom, the Vegetable Kingdom, and the Mineral Kingdom. The seventh of these rays is said by the Tibetan teacher to fulfill the function of bringing spirit and form into relation with one another, the linkage by which "the highest and the lowest meet." It is a magical potency manifesting as the Violet Ray, also known as the Ray of Order and Ceremonial Magic, a power which has the ability to establish divine order and organization, to inspire the coordination of units into cooperative endeavors, and to lead the way in the use of thought and word in the creation of new world culture honoring the rights and dignity of all.

The Tibetan Teacher has indicated the Age of Aquarius is powered by this ray, which is associated with Uranus, the mainstream astrological ruler of the sign Aquarius.¹ Symbolic of modern advances in understanding, the functioning of the higher consciousness, awareness of energies, and interest in electricity and magnetism, Uranus also carries the energies of the Seventh Ray, with its pronounced powers along the line of magical manifestation through the union of spirit and matter. Hence, the Age of Aquarius is also the Age of the Seventh Ray, and both point toward a potential leap in human functioning.

Powerful Seventh Ray vibrations therefore began to infuse Earth in the middle portion of the twentieth century, a bit more than twenty years before the Fifth Dimension put into words and melody their paeon to the influence of constellation Aquarius. This Aquarian and Seventh Ray influence has worked on Earth Humanity ever since, powering technological innovations, leaps forward in consciousness, and evolution of social values. On the good side, the radiations of Uranus and the Seventh Ray have led to a greater awareness of the Human Family as one whole group rather than many distinct nations, as well as to near-instantaneous communication across the globe, similar to the action of telepathy.

Yet, as with all celestial influences, the energies of Aquarius and the Seventh Ray can be misinterpreted and clumsily applied by the human mind. This is the dark face of the Seventh Ray. When the Seventh Ray is misunderstood and misused in this way, instead of congenial social relations, it manifests as intense social pressure to conform. Instead of the magical uses of thought and word for constructive creation, it manifests as thought and word used for creation of false images and spin-doctored illusions. Instead of spurring on the mental and intellectual freedom of all, it becomes the attempt of some to constrain the intellects and interests of

¹ In the esoteric astrology of Alice Bailey and the Tibetan, the signs represent the constellations of the same name.

others, as in censorship. As the Tibetan has stated clearly, the Seventh Ray in its distorted face manifests as government by force, as is practiced in dictatorial regimes.²

This point is of great relevance in our world today, in which there are to be seen far-reaching draconian measures applied by governments the world around. This trend toward authoritarianism alarms and concerns many, as does its extension to quasi-governmental multinational corporations, who, through their immense economic clout, have become powers in the world often operating on a platform similar to that of governments. One of the reasons this issue has arisen so forcefully is that a number of astrological activations are presently conducting the Seventh Ray into the region of Earth experience.

These astrological activations result from the passage of major planets through signs of the zodiac distributing the Seventh Ray. Prominent among these is Capricorn, said by the Tibetan to distribute the Seventh Ray (as well as the First and Third). Through the sign of Capricorn now transit Pluto and Jupiter, thus adding focus and intensity to the Seventh Ray component of Capricorn, and thus further allowing opportunity for the misuse of this ray and its propensities. Transiting Saturn will add its weight to the situation when it returns temporarily to Capricorn from July through December of 2020. Jupiter will also remain in Capricorn through December of 2020, while Pluto remains in Capricorn through 2024, and the Seventh Ray Age of Aquarius is set to run for some two thousand years yet. Thus, the potency of the Seventh Ray to do good or ill lingers in the picture for quite some time.

Even so, the positive potential of the Seventh Ray presents itself just as forcefully. According to the esoteric doctrine of the Tibetan, the Seventh Ray figures centrally in the process of formally taking the next step on the path of conscious evolution, or initiation. As long as the powerful Seventh

² Alice Bailey, *Esoteric Psychology I*, 26.

Ray impact conditions Earth experience, this will be the case. Thus, even though serious misuses and distortions of the Seventh Ray are disturbingly plain for all to see, the day of opportunity remains. Spiritual seekers and servers who align themselves with the higher component of the Seventh Ray stand to benefit both themselves and the world.

Positive Seventh Ray Characteristics

- Order, Organization, Planning
- Geometrical Arrangement of Forms, Sacred Geometry
- Regularity, Rhythmic Action, Ceremony and Ritual
- Stability, Grounding
- Practicality, ability to direct and manage physical resources
- Magical capacity to manifest by way of thought and sound
- Connection with the Mineral Kingdom
- Freedom from sectarian bias, engagement with broad cooperation
- Group Consciousness, Coordination, Collaboration

Analysis and Predictions for the Week Ahead:

Run-up to June Full Moon

During the week of **May 25 – 31, 2020**, the Moon is in waxing phase. In fact, this period represents the lead-up to the important Full Moon of June, known around the world as the Festival of Goodwill. Esoteric teachings reveal that the Full Moon occurring when the Sun is in Gemini proffers special opportunities for spiritual alignment and telepathic communication with the Elder Guides of the Planetary Hierarchy. The Full Moon of the Gemini period will occur on **Friday June 5**, with the Sun at 16 degrees Gemini and the Moon at 16 degrees Sagittarius, the exact moment of Sun-Moon opposition being 2:12 pm CDT on June 5. The June Full Moon of 2020 is astrologically notable in that it is a lunar eclipse, with the eclipse axis precisely square to Mars at 16 degrees of Pisces. This configuration is

sure to bring palpable spiritual intensity into the picture. The current week constitutes the preparation and lead-up to that power moment.

Monday May 25 features the waxing Moon now in Cancer, thus emphasizing links to familial roots, ancestry, lineage, tradition, history, and custom. At the same time, transiting Mars in Pisces makes the precise sextile to transiting Uranus in Taurus, bringing uplift and encouragement to all, especially in the areas of creativity and spirituality. Imagination gets a positive work-out today, especially 9 – 10 am CDT when the Moon in Cancer makes a sextile to Uranus and a trine to Mars, setting the stage for sudden intuitions and valuable understandings. Burdens are lifted and a stunning look into the future clears away emotional debris and dark worries.

Tuesday May 26 continues the Moon in Cancer themes of domestic and familial interests, providing peaceful healing and restorative vibrations in the home, family, and group circle around 9 am CDT when the Moon trines Neptune. Then there's a bit of an encounter with troubled issues from 3 – 9 pm CDT while the Moon opposes Pluto and Jupiter in forbidding Capricorn. Serious matters take central stage. The past comes up for re-evaluation, while duties and responsibilities press. Concerns loom large.

Wednesday and Thursday May 27 and 28 represent a change of theme, for these two days are conditioned by the Moon's presence in bold, dynamic Leo, setting the stage for encounters with individuals and situations where talent and power matter. The going is a smidge on the rough side 5 am – 5 pm CDT while the Moon opposes Saturn and squares Uranus, setting creative types at odds with one another and bringing out resistance and revolt generally and abroad. The drive for personal autonomy is strong, usurping other considerations just now. Inside of that interval, Mercury enters Cancer for a two-month stay in the sign of home, family, ancestry, and tradition. This two-month presence of Mercury in Cancer will include a retrograde period running from late June through early July. Hints of the

inner and outer changes characteristic of Mercury retrograde begin to enter the picture. We find that plans and circumstances begin to shift and change.

Friday May 29 comes under the influence of the waxing Virgo Moon. Interest in projects and surroundings grows, and we are successful in gaining mental clarity, especially just after 9 pm CDT when the Moon trines Uranus. Practical concepts gel in mind at this time.

Saturday May 30 provides a preview of an important coming astrological influence. On June 13, transiting Mars in Pisces will conjunct Neptune also in that sign. Today's lunar action stages a sneak preview of what that's all about when the Virgo Moon opposes both Mars and Neptune 2 am – 7 pm CDT, bringing stark awareness of psychic tensions in the individual and the collective. Later, the Moon trines Pluto and settles matters nicely.

Sunday May 31 starts out with the power of the lunar trine to Pluto, 00 hours – 4 am CDT, imparting strength and stability to mind, emotions, and body. Then the Moon enters Libra at 9:38 am CDT, pointing attention to matters of relationship, negotiation, and partnership. Teamwork, cooperation, and mutual understanding emerge just after noon CDT when the rational Libra Moon trines sober Saturn in objective Aquarius. This is all to the good, and we feel clear and confident. Communications subsequently get a little frazzled just after 4 pm CDT when the Moon squares Mercury newly in Cancer, and kicks up many questions about logistics, the reliability of information, and other troublesome details. Even so, now is the time to keep everything in perspective, for next week is the important Full Moon period, best used for dedicated upwards alignment. We'll have our hands full for doing just that, as next week while we prepare for and experience Full Moon, Venus and the Sun square Mars, suggesting that environing conditions of Humanity will be in a bit of an uproar. Now is a good time to get in practice for that coming condition.