

# *The Starfire Messenger*



**A Free Weekly Newsletter**

**From Esoteric Astrologer Maureen Richmond, M.A.**

**Issue #125: July 27 – August 2, 2020**

## **Contents**

**Signs of the Times: From Saturn and Capricorn to Leo and Leadership**

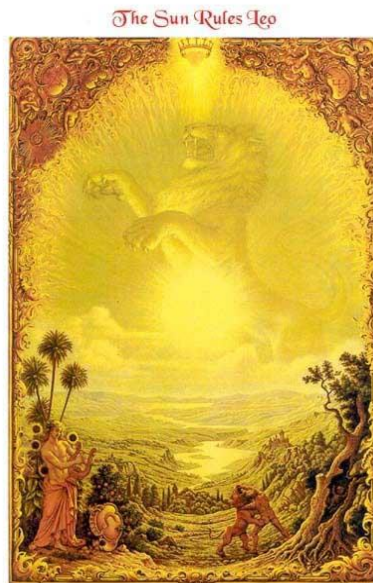
**Analysis and Predictions for the Week Ahead**

“On the reversed wheel, the Saturnian influence exhausts itself in Capricorn and the man is then free from karma...and can then proceed with world service undeterred and held back by no thought of self or selfish desire. He comes then under the influence of Uranus, that mysterious and occult planet. His will is focussed and developed by the Uranian influences and he develops into a leader. He brings about desired changes and produces those new conditions which will help the soul of humanity to express itself more freely.”<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Alice A. Bailey, *Esoteric Astrology*, 138.

## From Saturn and Capricorn to Leo and Leadership



As discussed in recent issues, the power of Saturn as expressed through the present transiting stellium in Capricorn continues to exert a tremendous effect on everyone. This will be the case through the end of 2020, making the remainder of the year a protracted episode of discipleship testing and opportunity.

Opportunity proffered under the influence of Saturn and Capricorn, is, however, not exactly the type of opportunity which might be suggested by the casual use of the word. Instead, esoteric opportunity under the influence Saturn and Capricorn connotes a passage on the discipleship path in which it is possible to starkly perceive the nature of choices presented - usually with personality gratifications ranged on one side, and soul-centered or monadic objectives on the other. Further, it connotes a moment on the path during which it is possible to shoulder increased responsibility for specific developments decreed under the Divine Plan.

In the second half of 2020, such issues constellate into much greater clarity than usual, due to the special astrological energies now affecting all of Humanity. As a result, the second half of 2020 represents an uncommon

discipleship opportunity to face faults and shortcomings, overcome hindrances, and concertedly devote energies to the highest objectives.

As the Tibetan Master has stated, when the spiritual opportunities proffered under Saturn and Capricorn are fully met and their requirements fulfilled in this way, the store of karma is ultimately exhausted, freeing the individual from further self-imposed Saturnian constraints. When this eventuates, the individual comes under the influence of Uranus, planet of occult freedom and power to lead within the workings of the Plan.<sup>2</sup>

Interestingly, the planet Uranus is intimately connected to the sign of Leo,<sup>3</sup> the sign in which the Sun is presently located within the tropical zodiac,<sup>4</sup> and where it will be through August 22. Though not a ruler of Leo,<sup>5</sup> Uranus as an impeller of evolution is signally in keeping with the dynamic potential of fire sign Leo. As a result, the next few weeks with the Sun in Leo hold additional opportunity for enhanced discipleship striving, especially in regard to those aspects of spiritual development and service which are governed by and activated under the influence of Uranus. Appositely, the Tibetan Master specifically connected the influence of Uranus with several important characteristics, including occult knowledge,<sup>6</sup> focused will,<sup>7</sup> ability to produce the conditions which will help the soul of humanity to express itself more freely,<sup>8</sup> leadership,<sup>9</sup> ability

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<sup>2</sup> Alice A. Bailey, *Esoteric Astrology*, 138.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, 297, 304, 306, 307, 538.

<sup>4</sup> The tropical zodiac is the frame of reference used by most western astrologers, and is also the frame of reference used by the Tibetan throughout his dictations to Alice Bailey. For more information on this topic, request the Maureen Richmond essay, *The Use of the Tropical Zodiac in the Writings of Alice Bailey and the Tibetan Master*, available free in pdf.

<sup>5</sup> However, Uranus is said to be veiled by the Sun, which does rule Leo at the esoteric, esoteric, and hierarchical levels. That being the case, Uranus could be said to function as the veiled ruler of Leo.

<sup>6</sup> Alice A. Bailey, *Esoteric Astrology*, 307.

<sup>7</sup> *Ibid.*, 138.

<sup>8</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>9</sup> *Ibid.*

to acknowledge and manage group and organizational relationships,<sup>10</sup> and readiness for initiation.<sup>11</sup> Ultimately, wrote the Tibetan, Uranian influence is central to full spiritual, esoteric, and occult unfoldment under the influence of Leo.<sup>12</sup> These are thus the Uranus-driven developments which are possible under the influence of Leo.

This fact suggests that against and coterminus with the restrictive, pressurizing influences associated with Saturnian testing and opportunity, there now exist astrological energies feeding into a markedly different aspect of spiritual development, for under the activation of Leo, the planet Uranus awakens all seekers to greater personal and collective potential. Specifically, for the next few weeks, that greater potential exists in the areas of occult study, development of the will, creativity, leadership, group interaction, and deliberate preparation for initiation. Surely this adds a meaningful dash of fire and light to the seemingly grim prospects under Saturn and Capricorn, for even in the midst of the constraints and limitations imposed by the tests and discipleship opportunities presented by Saturn and Capricorn, there now sounds the call of Leo, Uranus, and the potential for expressing greater leadership toward the ideals of the unfolding Aquarian Age.

### **Analysis and Prediction for the Week Ahead**

Throughout the week of **July 27 – August 2**, the Moon is in waxing phase as it prepares for the dramatic Sirian Festival and Full Moon of Leo on August 3. The lead-up to that important event is primarily structured on four noticeable aspects made by transiting Mercury in the week of July 27 – August 2: square to Mars, opposition to Jupiter, trine to Neptune, and opposition to Pluto. These Mercury aspects sequenced throughout the

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<sup>10</sup> Ibid., 538.

<sup>11</sup> Ibid., 306.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid., 309.

week indicate that meaningful mental developments are assuredly on the way, as is the reception of important information both by telepathy and by conventional communication technologies. Intellectual projects will benefit from clarity of thought, even though there may be ponderous questions at hand, and interpersonal communications will be increased and intensified. At the same time, the pace of life is certain to accelerate, with more travel, communication, interaction, and social movement in the picture than has been the case of late.

**Monday July 27** features two strong astrological influences. First, the forming sextile between transiting Jupiter and Neptune becomes exact today, with Jupiter at 21 degrees Capricorn and Neptune at 21 degrees Pisces. Here is a calming and spiritualizing influence which will do much to soothe disrupted emotions, heal the body, and knit the social network back together after many weeks of fractious influences. Still and second, the potential for further disagreement and contention exists, as Mercury makes its final square to Mars today, with Mercury at 16 degrees Cancer and Mars at 16 degrees Aries. This will bring to a conclusion a period of controversy, confrontation, irritation, mental vexation, and agitation which began with the retrograde square of Mercury to Mars in early July, pitting individual liberty against group pressures to conform. But it will do so not without further outcry and volatility. Diplomacy will be much needed today. Fortunately, the generosity of the Jupiter-Neptune sextile will go far to uplift all and bring about a larger perspective, making it possible to forgive past transgressions, overlook small problems, and find ways to meet the needs of those concerned. Many who have felt excluded from the majority rule will be led to find workable solutions for recent worries.

**Tuesday July 28** is all about the magic and mystery of the Scorpio Moon as it makes a string of harmonious aspects: trine Mercury, sextile Jupiter, trine Neptune, sextile Pluto, and sextile Saturn. All this unfolds from 4 am to midnight CDT, making the entire day a pleasant experience of peace overtures, understandings, better ways to handle matters, and all sorts of

reliefs from prior anxieties, even if some unsettled feelings remain from yesterday's Mercury-Mars square. Positive social connections in environments structured for healing and processing of repressed negative images will take shape. Much hurt from the past will be released from the emotional-astral zone, to the greater good of all. Therapies of all kinds give benefit. We find we are able to let go of the non-essential.

**Wednesday July 29** is primarily conditioned by the Moon's presence in inspirational Sagittarius as it makes the trine to the Sun in talented, can-do Leo. We get a burst of positive energy as a result, making it possible to profit from the spiritualizing Jupiter-Neptune sextile, which is still in effect. Presenting ideas in a hopeful or optimistic light works well today. Discussions and interactions proliferate under the forming opposition of talkative Mercury to expansionist Jupiter, exact tomorrow. Words flow.

**Thursday July 30** sees a flurry of communication and travel activity as Mercury makes two exact aspects today: opposition Jupiter and trine Neptune. Now located at 20 degrees Cancer, Mercury opposes Jupiter at 20 degrees of Capricorn, sparking interest in history, ancestry, customs, heritage, and local history. Intensive discussions around these themes bring into focus bits and pieces of news we needed to gather. It all works rather well, for Mercury at 20 degrees Cancer is also exactly trine Neptune at 20 degrees of Pisces today, casting a comforting and cooling mist over the super-heated northern hemisphere landscape and bringing psychic peace throughout the globe. Agreements are reached between important representatives of the people, religion, and relief organizations. We are able to hear the music of the spheres and to connect with the higher worlds in meditation, contemplation, and nature reverie. Creative artists of all stripes thrive in an atmosphere rich with imaginative overtones.

**Friday July 31** sees the Moon ease into subdued Capricorn, cooling down the enthusiasm which had run high for a couple of days there, but also creating solutions in its own way. Especially helpful in this regard is the

period 10 pm – midnight CDT, when the Moon in earthy Capricorn trines Uranus also in earthy Taurus. From the high moments earlier in the week, we come down to Earth and get organized for the new trends ahead. But big developments are in the wings, for tomorrow Mercury opposes Pluto, and we are given powerfully compelling reasons to re-make our opinions.

**Saturday August 1** puts a big focus back on the power of Capricorn, as the Moon conjuncts both Jupiter and Pluto in that sign from 7 pm – 1 am CDT the next day, and Mercury at 23 degrees Cancer opposes Pluto at 23 degrees Capricorn. We see the necessity and inevitability of re-organizing our minds and environments. A turning point is reached in which self-discipline and determination call the shots. We are all about duty, obligation, and commitments, and appropriately so. We strive to excel.

**Sunday August 2** is conditioned by readiness for radical inner and outer changes as the Sun at 11 degrees of Leo makes an exact square to Uranus at 11 degrees of Taurus. Autonomy and intellectual independence rate high on the priority list at this time, while at the same time, anomalous occurrences bring breakthroughs in consciousness and understanding. We are motivated to follow the callings of our own inner voices, distinguishing ourselves from both our past and the from any recent sense of aimlessness. All of a sudden, we are galvanized by an urgent sense of purpose. The energies of the vital Sun and electric Uranus combine in fixed signs to create drive and determination. No goal seems unmanageable. We feel we must forge ahead, just as the Moon waxes rapidly now toward exact full phase. Luna enters Aquarius at 1:11 pm CDT, flying toward exact opposition to the Sun, which will occur at 10 at 10:59 am CDT on Monday August 3, with the Sun at 12 degrees of Leo and the Moon at 12 degrees of Aquarius. At the same time, we feel Mercury moving towards opposition to Saturn, exact on Monday August 3 from 28 degrees Cancer to 28 degrees Capricorn, again confirming our minds in seriousness of purpose and focused application of Will, a First Ray characteristic associated with both Saturn and Capricorn. We concentrate on priorities.