

The Starfire Messenger



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From Astrologer, Folklorist, and Pagan Philosopher

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Signs of the Times: Jupiter Conjunct Pluto in Capricorn

November 12 signals the final conjunction in the sign of Capricorn for the momentous year of 2020. Throughout the year, the transiting stellium of Jupiter, Saturn, and Pluto in Capricorn has claimed and retained center stage as the dominant astrological influence of the time. As with all astrological influences, Capricorn and the Saturn archetype on which it is based manifest in a variety of ways. Both Capricorn and Saturn symbolize time, the process of maturation, age, experience, wisdom, and justly earned authority.



However, these same two symbols can also connote hesitation, fear, contraction, retreat, isolation, repression, oppression, mental rigidity, timidity in the face of obstacles, close-mindedness, obtuseness, and abject stubbornness. These are all characteristics of the dark underside of the Saturn archetype, flowing as it does from the Greek deity of Chronos, God of Time, endings, and limitations, restrictions, law, authority, attainment, achievement, and power.

Here Chronos is pictured as time defeating youth and innocence.



These Saturnian characteristics of time and wisdom are not always bad. For example, when the sun of righteous goodness shines and everything works just right, Capricorn and Saturn may express in the world as perfectly sane adult responsibility, morality, ethics, accountability, attention to excellence and achievement, admiration for and

unswerving pursuit of worthy goals, and authentic respect for the wisdom of time and tradition. By contrast, when the night of ignorance shrouds the promising sky and human thinking shrinks to a shadow of itself to become extreme and inflexible, Capricorn and Saturn may show up as stingy, exclusive, elitist, disdainful, unforgiving, judgmental, puritan, comfort and pleasure-denying, cold-hearted, callous, and even intentionally cruel mind-sets and behaviors.

This year, the primary face shown by the Saturn and Capricorn archetypes to the world has been that of the harsh taskmaster, the single-minded strict parent who, once convinced of the power of his or her authority through a successful assertion of power over the child, clamps the mind shut like a steel trap, and unquestioningly assumes that unflinching and uncompromising painful punishment is the crown of all means for demonstrating wise and effective parenthood. We've all heard of the father who beats his son mercilessly with the strap at the woodshed, believing this will build a strong ethical character. Many national and local leaders have followed precisely that pattern, believing that stiff and unrelenting punishment is the best chastisement for the errant behavior of independent thinking. Many have therefore erred egregiously on the side of excessive control by subjecting populations to severe restrictions, penalties, imprisonment, and ominous threats of forced medical interventions.

All this came in response to the presence of a respiratory virus which is 99% survivable for the bulk of the population, and which, for example, in the U.S., has accounted for the death of no more than .07% of the population. Such a crushing response to a mild and passing condition is equivalent to slapping a stiff moral lecture with indefinite home grounding on a seven-year-old child for the shameful offense of having caught a cold on the playground. As anyone with a shred of empathy and life experience would know, shaming a child for having caught a cold will accomplish nothing toward healing the body. In fact, it just might drive the trouble

deeper, piling hurt, resentment, and seething distrust on top of bodily discomfort.

Never mind that obvious insight, many world leaders have said. They have closed their minds to scientific debate, instead privileging only a few voices emanating from the international business cartels which most stand to profit financially from the hobbling and even mandatory closing of small local businesses. Many government figures have closed their doors, their minds, and their eyes to facts, figures, and points of view which indicate that authoritarianism is not necessarily the most effective path to quality of life and national productivity. They have closed the circle of the wagons, putting up a defensive barrier enclosing themselves and their secretive advisors against the public and dissenting scientists. This has been particularly the case in the United Kingdom, Australia, France, and Spain, but really nowhere on the face of the Earth has been spared this Capricornian onslaught in the form of governmental rigidity.

The Jupiter-Pluto conjunction in Capricorn on November 12 again feeds this crushing power dynamic with the inflation and exaggeration typical of Jupiter and the tremendous covert impact of Pluto. Jupiter is the largest planetary body in the solar system. Whenever it acts, matters are enlarged. For his part, Pluto as God of the Underworld carries on undercover, in hidden places, more by implication than overt assertion, though he is also given to coercion and overpowering the opposition. Both are at work now, taking government schemes to vast Jupiterian extremes and forcing conformity on intimidated civilians. As this conjunction shapes up, stories of forced quarantine and mandatory militarized covid testing are streaming into independent news feeds. Other stories detail the detention camps which have already been constructed in certain countries for this purpose. The looming threat of military forces used against civilians is of great concern. Many citizens throughout the world think that cooperating with the mandatory testing regime is harmless and plan to step up accordingly, some even angry at those who take exception. Others

see enormous potential for abuse of civil liberties and worry how far this scenario is intended to go. There is no question that under a Jupiter-Pluto conjunction in Capricorn, the potential for the exercise of extreme authoritarian power is very real.

What comfort there may be in all this hails from astrological timing considerations. It's simple: the Jupiter-Pluto conjunction in Capricorn will not last forever. Instead, it will be powerful for the entire month of November, but after that, its impact will begin to lessen. Then around the Capricorn Solstice of December 2020, Jupiter and Saturn move into Aquarius, dramatically shifting the nature of the dominant astrological influence. Where Capricorn is elitist, Aquarius is group-oriented, and this single difference is set to instigate a significant shift in the ideas and concepts which appeal to both the population and world leaders. As unlikely as it might seem just now, it can be said that when the Jupiter-Pluto conjunction in Capricorn begins to separate and hence dissipate, and when Jupiter and Saturn enter Aquarius, world leaders will subtly shift away from their current obsession with sharply curtailing and restricting all human liberties. Why this will happen remains to be seen, but that it will happen is an astrological certainty. The world will not attain to Utopia in the blink of an eye, but it will indeed benefit from a less monolithic approach to the problem of managing something closely akin to the common cold.

Daily Analysis and Prediction for the Week Ahead

The week of November 9 – 15 promises high times and major developments in spite of the fact that the Moon wanes for most of the week. Look what's in store:

1) Venus opposite Mars, activating intense interactions throughout society and opening the door for powerful romantic attractions,

- 2) Sun trine Neptune, setting up a current of relaxation, serenity, relief from recent tensions, and pleasant dream-like experiences,
- 3) Mercury, now direct, returns to Scorpio, thus bringing content to mind from the unseen realms,
- 4) Jupiter conjunct Pluto, a major influence indicating that the whole world is now passing through a lesson about the nature of collective, political, and even personal magical power,
- 5) Sun sextile Pluto, a strengthening influence conducive to physical, social, and spiritual healing,
- 6) Sun sextile Jupiter, a helpful influence inviting optimism, hope, positive expectations, and generous gestures,
- 7) Mars stationary direct, ending a two-month period of disruptions and hindrances to progress and yet at the same time, the growing intensification of inner urges toward autonomy, self-actualization, and independence,
- 8) New Moon, signaling the rise of renewed physical, emotional, and mental vitality,
- 9) Venus square Pluto, decidedly complicating the social scene, and
- 10) Venus square Jupiter, inciting to overindulgence and exaggerations.

Monday November 9 opens the work week with the Leo moon nicely sextile newly-direct chatlog Mercury 4 – 6 am CST, setting the scene for meaningful conversations. Then the Moon enters Virgo at 7:30 am CST, inclining the mind toward matters of inventory, category, sorting, and labeling. It's a good day to get organized, especially 9 – 11 pm CST while the meticulous Virgo Moon trines genius Uranus in settled Taurus. The whole day benefits from a meaningful dose of positive magic as the Sun in mystery-seeking Scorpio trines ethereal Neptune in mystic Pisces. Relaxed

attitudes make it possible to enjoy the moment, which is laden with interactive potential as Venus in Libra makes the exact opposition to Mars in Aries. Attractions at the levels of mind and emotion hit the scene.

Tuesday November 10 goes on similarly, still in the glow of all that trining to Neptune and Venus-Mars pairing. Wild hopes and dreams are ok. Sometimes it's best to give the imagination free run. That takes place 2 – 4 pm CST while the Moon opposes imagistic Neptune and we are let loose in the fields of memory, dreams, and sacred space. Then a nice interval for serious tangible productivity emerges 3 – 5 pm CST while the Moon in thoughtful Virgo makes a sextile to the Sun in clairvoyant Scorpio, and then trines to both Jupiter and Pluto. Meanwhile, Mercury returns to Scorpio at 3:55 pm CST, revealing matters deliberately concealed during October and early November.

Wednesday November 11 comes on quietly with the Moon in Virgo trine Saturn 4 – 6 am CST, settling mind and emotion in peaceful, regular routine. The Moon then enters aesthetically-inclined Libra at 10:09 am CST. By now we are really feeling the Jupiter-Pluto conjunction, exact tomorrow, but strong upon us throughout the entirety of November. We know we should be concentrating on our own projects and objectives. Of course, the world situation also looms dramatically. Now is the time to work rituals, which are Pluto sorts of things, for psychic protection and for the riddance of things unwanted and pernicious.

Jupiter and Pluto come on like gangbusters **Thursday November 12**, drilling right down into our psyches with the message that inner psychic power from the Earth and the Olde Religion wait just under the surface for activation. Sweet understandings emerge 5 – 6 pm CST as the Libra Moon conjuncts lovelady Venus. Then it's back to power dynamics 10 pm to midnight CST as the Libra Moon tangles in squares to Pluto and Jupiter, thus drawing our attention ever more dramatically to the themes of collective and personal power flowing from the present Jupiter-Pluto conjunction. Of course, the Capricorn archetype highlights the doings of

governments, politicians, and ruling agencies today, some for good, some for not so good. Governments and other predators may threaten, but now is the time to ask how we can mobilize the inner strength and magical potency waiting within us to combat attacks on personal worth and liberty.

Friday November 13 sees the Moon enter Scorpio at 10:19 am CST, setting the stage for New Moon on November 14. Today moves us in that direction with a blast of enchanting psychic revelation 5 – 6 pm CST when the Moon conjuncts newly direct Mercury in x-ray vision Scorpio. On top of that, energies are agitated and intense today, for bellicose Mars goes direct at 15 degrees of confrontational Aries, doing so at 6:36 pm CST, setting off all manner of urgent developments. We suddenly realize the proper life path and direction to follow, this very minute. The epithet *do it now* emblazons itself across the mental sky. Then to add fuel to the motivational fire, the power-packed, tenacious Scorpio Moon opposes impatient Uranus in *I want that* Taurus 10 pm to midnight.

Was that enough? No. There's more. The Sun in Scorpio makes its annual waning sextile to both Pluto and Jupiter, exact on **Saturday November 14**, thus inviting cosmic and terrene healing forces into the psychic envelope of place and location. We feel the strength of the earth elementals, the gnomes, and the fairies working in and through us if we like. Now is an excellent moment to commune with nature. The Moon trines Neptune and makes sextiles to both Pluto and Jupiter, further adding to the positive vibes and good developments 2 pm to midnight CST. Within that frame, the coup de grace comes with the New Moon in the 23rd degree of Scorpio at 11:07 pm CST, hailing the birth of a new impulse to action and understanding. As is evident, this day promises much in the way of healing the harms and hurts of recent tensions.

However, Venus squares Pluto and Jupiter now, complicating the social scene. We see that particularly on **Sunday November 15**. Difficult topics come up for study. Still, the Moon enters upbeat Sagittarius 9:47 am CST, casting all eyes to the possibilities which lie beyond.