

# *The Starfire Messenger*



**A Free Weekly Newsletter**

**From Astrologer, Folklorist, and Pagan Philosopher**

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### **Final Days of the Jupiter-Saturn Cycle**

The Jupiter-Saturn cycle is one of ten major planetary pair cycles. With twenty years intervening between successive conjunctions of these two planets, the Jupiter-Saturn cycle is a medium-length synod (or planetary pair cycle) with a definite effect on both individuals and society. **At present, the current Jupiter-Saturn cycle is in its final days.** The most recent conjunction of Jupiter and Saturn occurred in May of 2000. Since that time, the two bodies have progressed through the entire range of major planetary aspects – waxing sextile, waxing square, waxing trine,

opposition, waning trine, waning square, and waning sextile. On December 21, Jupiter and Saturn will come once again into exact zodiacal conjunction, signaling the absolute end of the twenty-year interval which began in May 2000 and the absolute beginning of a new twenty-year cycle of personal and collective endeavor.

As is the case when any cycle comes to a close, the energies of the moment reflect the themes of closure, collapse, dissolution, loss, disconnection, disappearance, termination, abandonment, bewilderment, processing of past events and trends, evaluation of past deeds, karmic results, conclusions, and even death of trends, organizations, and orientations. It can be no other way, for “as above, so below,” and as a major cycle terminates, it inevitably brings the consequences of all that has transpired within it. This can be a bitter and extended moment of self-facing within the individual and within society. Yet, the Jupiter-Saturn cycle is only one of ten major planetary pairs, and therefore does not control the totality of life. No single planetary pair cycle can claim to do that. Still, the Jupiter-Saturn cycle is indeed powerful, both for individual persons and for society as a whole. Thus, as the current Jupiter-Saturn cycle comes to a close and is in the very final days of its existence, we can’t help but feel the corresponding energies. Just as this major cycle reaches exhaustion of that which was impelled by its most recent conjunction, so we may feel exhaustion in some area of our lives. We may feel at a loss, uncertain, disinterested in prior passions, on the brink of major change, despondent, hopeless, or despairing. Society may enact bleak themes, implosions, perseveration on endings, disintegrations, weaknesses, gloom and doom, and a sense of inevitable tragedy.

As anyone can see, these desultory themes are tied directly to the very final moments of a closing cycle. Also evident is the fact that such themes are not permanent, but rather a passing moment. The passing moment is of course significant, however, and should be experienced fully. Indeed, as a major cycle ends, it is time to grieve for that which is passing

out of existence and to face both the good and the bad contained within the departing cycle. Yet, it is not necessary to abdicate all hope and throw ourselves into the pitiless jaws of total negative expectation.

The temptation to do just that, however, is extremely strong. Consider this: a cycle of twenty years' duration is approximately 260 times as strong as the monthly lunar cycle, there being approximately  $20 \times 13$  lunar cycles in twenty years. Think how low one often feels right before the New Moon moment. One often has low physical energy and lacks motivation at that point in the monthly lunar cycle, no matter one's age, gender, or situation. The body wants to sleep and the mind does not want to deal with anything complicated or challenging. Other people are withdrawn and unresponsive. Nothing seems to be happening. Efforts to reach out toward others earn no more than sand which slips through one's fingers. Then when the New Moon moment arrives, a new wave of energy emerges, enthusiasm returns, others come back to life, and the normal interactions of life resume.

**In the first week of December 2020, we are all in a low spot like that which occurs right before the New Moon, only multiplied by about 260.** So that's a deep-down bad feeling for a bit of time, isn't it? Yes, it is. What does it feel like? It feels empty, lonely, hopeless, sad, cold, withdrawn, uncertain, full of worries, dark, quiet, and drained of all color and excitement. That's not an amusing or even minimally comforting scenario. What's happening with this energy, we might ask. The answer is that the greater creative life forces of the universe are working on us to bring an end to that which must be released and to detach us from the dominant patterns in self and society that have ruled or conditioned the last twenty years. Thus, the energies of the very end of the Jupiter-Saturn cycle serve to undermine and pull the supports out from underneath everything which got its start in or near May 2000. The projects, points of view, hopes, dreams, intentions, objectives, and momentums which had their origin at that point in time are now crumbling and dissolving at the

psychological and even physical levels. This is not a particularly cheerful thing to experience.

What exactly, we might ask, needs to be released? Answers to that question might be had by looking at world events transpiring right before and after the May 2000 conjunction of Jupiter and Saturn, which occurred at 23 degrees of the sign of Taurus, a sign connected with financial power, unswerving determination, and even bull-headed stubbornness. Today's cyclic detritus has its roots in points of view and actions taken at the conjunction of Jupiter and Saturn in late May 2000. So let's see what happened way back when Jupiter and Saturn formed their most recent conjunction. Here are a few tidbits. May of 2000 saw Vladimir Putin become "the first freely elected" president of Russia. Shortly thereafter, in June 2000, Putin brazenly imposed strict authoritarian measures on his country. In international business, the big news was that Bill Gates and Microsoft had finally been called on the carpet in U.S. federal court, sharply censured, and significantly fined for predatory business practices. Right around this same period, a mysterious computer virus invaded computers world-wide and caused extensive damage. At the same time, in science, the human genome was deciphered, an accomplishment hailed as glorious, but one which would come back to bite the hind-end of humanity toward the end of the cycle.

Interestingly, at the absolute end of the present Jupiter-Saturn cycle, back in the news are authoritarianism, viruses, genetic engineering, and the ubiquitous influence of one Bill Gates. The karma of events which took place around May 2000 is now on view for all to see. Gates got his hands slapped royally at that time; now he's back on the scene demanding obeisance, adoration, and obedience from the entire world population. Hm, could be something there to think about. The practice of unchecked authoritarianism got a boost in May of 2000; at the end of the cycle, it's running amok on the planet. Genetics surged forward back at the Jupiter-Saturn conjunction in reproductive Taurus; here at the end of the cycle,

information about genetic behavior is now used as a portion of lucrative vaccination technology, the long-range physical consequences of which not even scientists are confident.

The astrology of the moment suggests that the greedy business paradigms and power-hungry models of thinking, believing, and acting which were generated at the last conjunction are now coming up for painstaking societal review, with the imperative coming from universal consciousness levels that it is time to let go of that which emerged and served pecuniary intentions twenty years ago. The theme of letting go pertains for each of us individually as well. For the way to figure out just exactly to what such a general directive pertains, those who know their birth times can insert 23 degrees Taurus into their charts and study the implications, for the activation of May 2000 is now coming due for complete evaluation. The position of 23 degrees Taurus by natal house is likely to show the inner needs and intentions which drove the last twenty years of efforts for the individual. Now we must ask: What parts of our dreams, intentions, and objectives from that time have already been fulfilled? Which can be released? What interest or orientation is dissolving at the current time? How are we changing? Of what can we let go, and how can we do that gracefully and knowingly? That's what the final days of the Jupiter-Saturn cycle command us to consider, as this period of time does the difficult work of dissolving the concretized structures of thinking, perception, and action which flowed from the needs and orientations of a prior moment in evolution.

**These are the themes we should mull on until December 21** when the matters of the current Jupiter-Saturn cycle die their final death and a simultaneous rebirth of new trends emerges.

## Daily Analysis and Prediction for the Week of December 7 – 13, 2020

The Moon wanes throughout the week, allowing for a gradually decelerating pace of life until the New Moon on December 14. This week thus tends to be quiet and non-dramatic. The Sun squares Neptune, an introspective and reflective influence, on December 9. December 10 sees Venus sextile Pluto and the Sun trine Mars, positive indicators sure to bring good cheer and encouraging developments in the personal sphere. Then Mercury squares Neptune on December 13, making for a sentimental, dreamy, imaginative, and mystical period on the weekend. As Neptune, the god of the oceans and big waters acts, wet weather is likely at the same time. Further, with Neptune accented, everyone should beware of manipulative attempts to convince the public of cockamamie schemes.

The Moon is in dutiful Virgo on **Monday December 7**, making squares to Mercury and the Sun in Sagittarius and Neptune in Pisces, thus highlighting internal struggles as the pragmatic argues against the mystical. Logic and intuition thus duke it out today. We would like to express and explore freedom, but the calls of duty and responsibility are insistent. The masses struggle with the question of whom to believe.

**Tuesday December 8** has it all together though, as the Moon in mindful Virgo makes the sextile to Venus in discerning Scorpio and trines to the Capricorn powerhouse of Pluto, Jupiter, and Saturn, making everything rock along perfectly well from 2 am CST through 5 pm CST. The Moon enters Libra at 6:01 pm CST, shifting attention from the tangible goods of earth sign Virgo to the abstract considerations of air sign Libra.

We are feeling the psychic hypersensitivity of the Sun-Neptune square by **Wednesday December 9**. Sirens from spirit call us to float high and long in the fields of dreams and imagination. It's a good thing to be doing just now. But even so, don't let down the guard of the mind. Sleazy types are promoting scams out and about, trying to pull wool, and gloss over nasty things with sweet words. Buy it not.

**Thursday December 10** is packed with action. The Moon is highly active, opposite Mars and square Pluto, Jupiter, and Saturn, disturbing emotions and discomforting all. At the same time, transiting Venus in magnetic Scorpio makes the exact sextile to potent Pluto in historical Capricorn, bringing into focus all efforts to revive and rejuvenate interests and orientations of the past. Healing is facilitated as well, on both physical and emotional levels. The Moon enters compelling Scorpio at 7:59 pm CST, far intensifying all transformative potential. The Sun in cheery, outgoing Sagittarius trines irrepressible Mars in endlessly energetic Aries, improving physical vitality.

**Friday December 11** carries some of the good from Thursday forward, adding sudden insights while the Moon in Scorpio opposes Uranus in Taurus 7 am – 8 am CST.

Emotional peace and notable relief from recent stress and strain take over on **Saturday December 12**, as the Moon in Scorpio makes a soothing trine to Neptune in Pisces, a sextile to Pluto in Capricorn, a conjunction to Venus, and sextiles to Jupiter and Saturn in Capricorn. All this unfolds 1 am – 8 pm CST, making for a long, pleasant interval with many positive potentials. Yes, Mercury is squaring Neptune at the same time, so we are mystified and bewildered about something, but it's not too bad. We might like to get lost in poetry, fiction, film, photography, music, or dance, where razor-sharp perfection is not required. We dream, emote, and empathize for a time, and it is good. The Moon enters Sagittarius at 8:39 pm CST, shifting attention to higher mind, systems thinking, mythic archetypes, and major theoretical models.

The same themes carry right over into **Sunday December 13**, the absolute end of the current lunar cycle. Energies turn within. Rest and sleep beckon. A wild new life wave begins tomorrow with the solar eclipse New Moon at 23 degrees Sagittarius. For the moment, we are content to burrow. Mercury squares Neptune and we have no taste for splitting philosophical hairs.