



Starlight Message from Gloria Star

Just what did you mean by that?
Summer Solstice 2017
The Sun in Cancer 2017 Issue

Here in the Northern Hemisphere, especially in New England, Summer is often celebrated as the prize for enduring what can be a punishing chill from winter. Cancer's season

remains the favorite time for vacation and play, and family focus is likely to be a central theme. Wherever you're celebrating the shift of seasons, this point in the cosmic cycle marks a fertile period for active initiation. It's time to get moving, but with Cancer at the helm, that motion is rarely straightforward.

Summer begins when the Sun crosses the Tropic of Cancer, this year on June 21st at 0:24 AM EDT (or June 20th at 9:44 PM PDT). The Summer Solstice also marks the longest day, since after this date, the hours of light begin to recede. A more emotionally-charged cycle emerges during the 30 days of the Sun in Cancer, when heightened sensitivity can lead to more expressive feelings. But do be on alert for what may seem to be increasing manipulation - particularly prominent on the world scene and in the realm of politics. Yes, this is more marked in personal matters, too! Keep in mind that when those emotional "buttons" are pushed, whether directly or indirectly, a situation can be dramatically changed. You may be familiar with the protective shell and tendency to retreat sometimes seen when Cancer's qualities reign. As a result, evasive action is also stimulated now. Perhaps this is one reason we flock to the nest to recharge! Nurturing and domestic activities gain momentum, offering sustenance and an enhanced sense of security.

Mercury -- the planet representing communication, networking, and technology -- is also in Cancer until early July. Just hours after the solstice, Mercury speeds ahead of the Sun -- signaling a time to be more expressive and to say what you actually mean. The tendency of Mercury in Cancer may be to dodge issues that are more difficult or uncomfortable, when in actuality, this is can be an excellent time to explore what's at the core of a plan, project or idea. In fact, while Mercury travels through Cancer's zone (until July 5th), great progress can be made by those who open lines of communication that show a desire to be more inclusive and sensitive. Yet, this cycle also opens the way for communication meant to mislead or misdirect (great for anyone with a magic act!), but also frustrating for anyone preferring logical solutions. Because the impact of communication at this time is more likely to target sensitive psychological triggers, reflecting upon your intentions, and what you really want to communicate will go a long way toward establishing a better understanding.



Cancer's themes are further reinforced when the **New Moon in Cancer arrives on June 23rd** (10:31 PM EDT), and the two days immediately following also show opportunities for compassionate action. It's a time to be more assertive in areas that have personal meaning. However, potential **difficulties can arise from the impulse to rush past reasonable limitations, or to go too far**

with actions, since Mars and Jupiter are out of sync from June 24th-26th, followed immediately by Mercury running into a square to Jupiter from June 26th-28th. *These are clumsy cycles, and can be problematic.* Words and actions alike can be used to make an impact, which could be a good thing, but with these tensions, there is a likelihood of damage, especially when risky choices are made without reasonable caution. Be aware that you may feel that you're running headlong into a situation that suddenly seems overwhelming, and quick decisions can be nerve-wracking.

Mars has been trekking through Cancer since June 4th, and continues to meander along this path **until July 20th**. There can be added sensitivity to the feelings of others, or even to your own inner self. *Of course, the story with astrology is about what happens when we make the choice to act: the cycles themselves have particular characteristics, and we utilize those energies, tapping their qualities to create our life situations. Whether consciously or unconsciously, we make the choices and take the actions that direct the impact of these cycles.* This is especially significant while Mars travels in Cancer, since a situation could be directed toward a different course or an alternative option, taking into account the possible outcome of those actions. You can see how this might offer an advantage if someone wants to steer (or finesse) someone or something toward a particular direction. In other words ... manipulating the situation. For good or for ill? Depends upon the intention ... right?!

This is especially significant when **Mars moves into an opposition to the intensifying power of Pluto, exact on July 2nd**. Cycles involving opposing planets show a need to establish *balance* between the energies. In this instance, we're dealing with Mars (action and assertiveness) taking aim at Pluto (power and transformation). In some ways, this tug of war suggests standing up to power, but it also shows the vulnerability of ill-conceived actions. Because the approach of this cycle can be volatile, clear awareness makes a huge difference. Personally, sharpen your awareness! Failed expectations could become the fodder for vengeful actions -- something that might gain momentum with the help of assertive Mars ignited by transformative Pluto. But on the political or world stage, this is also a more potentially volatile time. Yet, with clear intentions and a balanced approach, this could be the perfect time to eliminate an outworn situation standing in the way of progress or healing. There's more:

Heads Up! **Avoid high-risk situations from June 23rd - July 3rd**. Be particularly alert when driving or boating, and watch out for the other guy. Additionally, if you're involved in legal actions during this time, best to do and say as little as possible to avoid shooting yourself in the foot, so to speak. Don't take the bait unless you can examine it carefully! Following this period, **over-exaggeration or promising more than you can deliver can lead to trouble while the Sun squares Jupiter from July 3rd - 6th**. (Plus, Jupiter is weakened in a difficult contact with Neptune.) Tap into increased sensitivity and intuitive awareness potentially available during this time, and listen to your inner voice before you speak or act, especially when dealing with significant

relationships or issues. Calmer qualities emerge on July 6th, bringing potential for more peaceful circumstances for a few days.

As you might anticipate, the **Capricorn Full Moon on July 8th/9th** (12:07 AM EDT on the 9th) can be fairly productive, although intense, with Pluto's restorative and transforming qualities linked with the Moon. There's a higher potential for those who are power-hungry or power-abusers to feel more emboldened -- and whether that's positive or negative depends upon the intention and choices being made. For everyone, consider this a good time to address issues that are in need of attention or resolution. Getting to the core shows promise, although adjustments and compromise will play a significant role in the outcome.

There are times when clarity is simply difficult to maintain, and when impulsive actions seem to have a life of their own. **In mid-July, from the 15th-18th, a series of short cycles involving Venus and Mars warn against jumping to conclusions, and also suggest that a more cautious approach to love, money and finance might just save your hide.** Flirtations might be enjoyable, but don't take it to the bank ... at least not yet. With love-focused Venus in a Neptunian fog, it's more likely to see what you wish to see than what is really there. Pretty nice if you're in the theater being entertained. Not so nice if you think you've just fallen in love. Or if someone offers the "deal of a lifetime." Really? Adding to the fun and games, action-packed and passion-drive Mars is experiencing electroshock from Uranus: *impulse to the max*. A there's one more little disruptor: the Sun squares Eris, marking a period when discord may run rampant. What to do? Keep your valuables safe, be alert to scams, allow a few days to review and verify before you give away the farm. Oh, yes ... keep an eye on the weather forecast.



Despite these foggy circumstances and potential mass confusion, Venus and Jupiter forge a happy, uplifting bond from July 17th- 20th, adding support and comfort to what may seem to be a spate of bad luck. This pairing brings an opportunity to reach out to connect with those whose values harmonize with your own. This is the time to ask yourself what you truly love, and to affirm the ideals that shape your choices. Seek beauty and truth.

Then, just before the end of the influence of Cancer upon the Sun's rays, the Sun shifts into a blocking square to disruptive Uranus on July 20th. It's one of those days when we all might be shaking our heads, muttering the mantra of our current time, "What the heck?" (Substitute your favorite expletive.) Those in positions of leadership may be the most unpredictable. Actually, it's nothing really new. Perhaps the unexpected element will be a positive, more humanitarian change of focus. If we each try that, the resonance could work wonders.



You're probably hearing a lot about the upcoming Lunar and Solar Eclipses happening in August. More details about those cycles in the next *Starlight Message*. This year, the Total Solar Eclipse will be visible for the longest period when it's path crosses the USA during daylight hours, and many people are planning Eclipse Viewing events to take

advantage. Whether or not you're in the path when the view lasts longest, the impact of the eclipse depends upon how it connects with your personal natal chart.

If you're ready to schedule time to review how these cycles, the upcoming eclipses, and other cycles are working in your life, do get in touch. Meanwhile, enjoy the gifts of the season, and the time you share with those you love and appreciate.

Bountiful Blessings,

Gloria

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EVENTS:

October 21, 2017: Lecture presentation in Portsmouth, NH. Details still in process!

May 24-30, 2018: UAC 2018: "Celebrating Earth & Sky," Chicago, IL. UAC is the largest astrology conference in the world, and offers an amazing opportunity to experience astrology, attend classes, and meet others who "speak the language!" I'm presenting two lectures at UAC next year. There will be limited time for personal consultations while I'm there, so do get in touch if you want to schedule an appointment. Details to follow.