



Starlight Message from Gloria Star

Vernal Equinox 2017
Sun Cycle in Aries 2017
Getting Real

It's the time for the seasonal shift in the Northern Hemisphere that's all about action, breakthrough,

and renewal. While the hope of this time might be about fresh beginnings, the cosmic blueprint for Aries 2017 centers upon cycles that signify re-evaluation, review, and reconsideration. In other words, it's time to deal with unfinished business before we can fully realize the opportunity to create something new.

Spring begins at the **Vernal Equinox on March 29th at 6:29 AM EDT**, when the Sun's rays glimmer brightly through the lens of Aries. On this day in the Northern Hemisphere, the hours of light and darkness reach a balance, and then tick toward longer days. The 30-day period of the Sun in Aries reminds us of the cycle of life, as we transition into a period of restoration, and when a more adventurous approach invites impulsive action. This is the time to overcome adversity, and to set records. Sun in Aries invites each person to bring forward their best. Watch for a "Me First" attitude to dominate. While there can be friction between individuality and teamwork, innately we know that both can co-exist, and now is the time to test that theory. Aries likes to lead, and successful teamwork is often sparked by competent leadership.

This year, the Aries cycle gets an extra dose of reality, since at the time Spring begins, the Collective Psyche may be feeling a bit disappointed. Perhaps expectations have been unrealistic? We see this symbolized by the Moon and Saturn conjunct in Sagittarius at the time the Equinox begins. There are remedies for such frustrations, but they are likely to begin with the awareness that personal responsibility will be required, or that the path forward may be fraught with limits, rules and regulations. That can be a bitter pill for anyone reluctant to shoulder the burdens of life, but it does not promise defeat. Just hard work.



Keep in mind that **Venus, the planet of love and values, continues her retrograde which began early March 2017**. Venus Retrograde is a time when relationships are tested to the hilt, especially if there are issues or problems that have been swept under the carpet. Plus, Venus will be under siege from Saturn from mid-April to the end of the month, adding a strong tendency to withhold affection, or to expose issues of honesty and trust in a love relationship. You may be asking yourself, "What am I getting out of this?" Or, "Is this relationship worth it?" Establishing the value of something or someone can be difficult, since what you once thought was your golden egg could turn out to be brass-plated knick-knack. If you're selling, expect to encounter bargaining

and questions about the price. If you're buying, you may very well turn up a diamond in the rough. (Or is that cut glass?) Consult trusted experts. Yes, plenty of questions emerge -- providing an opportunity to clearly consider the worth of anything now. If you're making promises or signing contracts, include an opening for change in your agreement, or define a window for review later on, after circumstances shift that could affect your commitment. Patience can be your friend now.

We're still experiencing the recurring cycle of **expansive Jupiter in an argument with transformative Pluto**. Philosophical and cultural hot buttons are easily activated now. Expect to see a blossoming of power plays -- from the world stage ... to the boardroom ... to the dinner table. This dynamic produces awkwardness. In both your personal and professional life, allow room for differences of opinion while respecting one another. It's definitely time to acknowledge that you can disagree without being disagreeable. (Wisdom recently gleaned from an experiment between two American politicians of different stripes finding a way to work toward resolution and progress.) The challenge of this cycle involves the importance of the evolution of ideals, and the exploration of the relevance of belief systems. Questioning why we believe what we believe can be a strong manifestation of this current energetic cycle.

In the short term, **communication can be especially dicey from March 22nd-25th**, when Mercury, Jupiter, Uranus, Pluto and Eris are entangled in a struggle for dominance. Reaching an agreement during these few days can be challenging, since disparate factions will each want recognition and satisfaction. Those who enjoy being disruptive may have a heyday, and distraction may be more the order of the day. However, **there's hope for common threads or shared interests to emerge when the Sun conjuncts Venus in Aries on the 25th**. Leadership will be especially important.

Launch a new project or take assertive action after **the Aries New Moon peaks on March 27th** (10:57 PM EDT), when momentum begins to increase. Working with others to accomplish shared goals shows greater potential for success for **March 27th-31st**. Even though **Jupiter's Square to Pluto peaks on March 30th**, progress may be in the works. The influence of the Jupiter-Pluto square will continue to be strong until April 10th, so keep in mind that conflicting attitudes and ideals can undermine progress, but the major issues will also be likely to rise to the surface. Question is: what to do with that information?

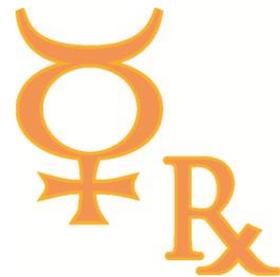
Infrastructure takes center stage beginning **April 6th** when **Saturn enters its retrograde**, lasting until the end of August. This is the time to employ wisdom gleaned from lessons already learned. During Saturn Retrograde, business, education, and all things we equate with framework, organization and systems are up for review. Now, it's more comfortable to eliminate, rather than add to, as a means of creating a more streamlined manner of operation. Reinforcing supports and rebuilding foundations can be successfully accomplished. Hierarchy is reworked during Saturn Retrograde, sometimes in a detrimental manner. **Also, Venus (still in her retrograde cycle) is traveling in a tense square with Saturn from April 6th-8th**, with a reminder about the cost of desired repairs or changes. How to pay can become a major issue! If you're concerned about keeping



your job, consider its relevance first (its relevance to your life, and to the business). This can be an excellent period to reshape the priorities and focus of your life path.

We will certainly see these energetic cycles manifesting in the realm of business and politics. The astrological dynamics point to the potential for **over-exaggeration or over-reach from leaders and others in positions of authority when the Sun opposes Jupiter and squares Pluto on April 7th & 8th**. It's important to consider the intention of words and actions. This underlies the necessity for each of us to think or research before reaching a conclusion, since the story beneath the surface may require more attention. Tweets and headlines will likely be insufficient. In other words, read the whole story!

Just to add a bit of complexity to what may seem like a shaky picture, **Mercury Retrograde starts April 9th** (7:15 PM EDT), continuing until May 3rd. If you're planning to sign *major* agreements or contracts, take action before April 7th, or wait until after May 3rd. The exception to this would involve signing an agreement that the parties intend to alter or renew at a later date. Expect communication to be more convoluted during this retrograde cycle. Travel, technology and transportation are likely areas of breakdown or unreliability. And, since Venus is also retrograde until April 15th, reaching an agreement on the value of something might be problematic, since Mercury's antics add the potential for missing details or conflicting facts. Real estate deals may be especially disappointing, and will be much more gratifying after May 3rd. If you can postpone finalizing business agreements now, taking action later, satisfaction with the deal is likely to be greater.



Still, there's ample momentum involving ongoing projects or negotiations continuing until the **Libra Full Moon on April 11th** (at 2:08 AM EDT). The Full Moon peaks just after the Moon crosses Jupiter, and Venus conjuncts Chiron in Pisces, adding a dash of extra harmony and grace, especially in situations in need of positive reinforcement. It's a time to call on good will, and to open to the potential for love to bring healing. Passover begins during this lunar phase, just in time for the cycle of Venus to shift, with Good Friday and Easter occurring when Venus stations (stands still) and then turns direct. This is the perfect time to mark a cosmic cycle through ritual or contemplation. Consciously focus upon the true essence of love, and allow your heart to open to the experience of giving and receiving love.

Venus leaves her Retrograde on April 15th, and for the following week will remain in a square to Saturn, indicating that relationship, economic and monetary issues can still be tense. It's one of those times when the cost may be more than you want to pay for what you want, especially if those wants are not in harmony with your needs. I'm thinking that the cosmos has a sense of humor, given that this friction occurs around Tax Day in the USA. A feeling of resentment or negativity about paying taxes may be at a peak, thanks to Venus hamstrung by Saturn. For most taxpayers, the obligation (Saturn) is certainly not welcome! But that sense of obligation arises on the monetary front in general with Venus & Saturn in square aspect. Get finances in order. Set a budget that provides a solid foundation for your plans. This is *not* a good time to increase debt, but it can be an excellent time to pay off loans or eliminate old financial obligations. Expect a more conservative approach to the economy to be the order of

the day during most of April. You'll want to review your budget again, later in the year, when there is more flexibility and confidence on the monetary front.



Get in touch when you're in need of a personal astrological consultation to explore how these and other cycles are working in your life. By the way, I still have a few openings for personal consultations while I'm in Seattle at the end of May, if you want to see me when I'm there.

Blessings, Light and Love,
Gloria

EVENTS:

May 25-29, 2017: I will present the Opening Keynote Address and two lectures at the upcoming **NORWAC** (Northwest Astrology Conference), in Seattle, WA. To learn more about this event, check out the conference website: www.NORWAC.net. If you wish to arrange an appointment, please contact me directly.



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