



# Transformational Astrology

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER

2006 by Henry Seltzer

The Astrology of August and September features a tide of numinous transformation, as all three of the outer planets are implicated, plus taskmaster Saturn. We do well to be prepared for anything, and for the unexpected epiphany most of all. We are transitioning toward a new phase of cosmic awareness on this planet both as a society and as individuals, transcending the mistakes of the past in our interpersonal relations and in our treatment of our planetary environment. These late summer, outer-planet configurations may bring us just a bit closer to our essentially high ideals. As well, Mercury is just now pulling out of its retrograde shadow, winding down a period of intense reflection and reconsideration, as it re-enters Leo on the 10th, and gets back to where it started. Saturn and Neptune are opposed to each other throughout August and into September, and triggered most dramatically at the time of the Leo – Aquarius Full Moon on August 9th. Uranus is also important in this period’s grand scheme, since Jupiter trines it from Scorpio, along with Venus at the very beginning of the month, while at the time of the August Full Moon, the Sun aspects it along with Saturn. Interestingly, the Virgo New Moon that marks the astrological transition between monthly periods exactly opposes the Uranus / Neptune midpoint. August is therefore a most magical month.

September adds the impact of two eclipses. These more than usually powerful lunations take place on the 7th and the 22nd of the month. The Lunar Eclipse Full Moon of September 7th conjuncts trickster Uranus making it especially significant. Transformative Pluto is also activated at this time in early September, so that there is a fundamental metamorphosis that we are being lead toward, especially after Labor Day when Pluto stations, turning to direct motion. We can choose to go gracefully, or with

resistance more painfully, but the bottom line is that the changes being thrust upon us at this time are in our own ultimate best interest and that the meaning of life itself is change. The Solar Eclipse in the last week of September signals new beginnings and, since it occupies the very last degree of Virgo, a last chance to get it right in terms of our understanding of the perfectibility of our mission statement and what compromises may have to be reached for the sake of practicality, looking forward.

While Saturn is concerned with the ordinary limitations of daily life and maintaining the status quo, numinous Neptune goes beyond all that and Uranus, the cosmic trickster, likes to shake things up in totally unexpected ways. Saturn and Neptune, opposed as they are in the skies right now, ask us to consider the mystical implications of the everyday physical world all around us from which we draw sustenance, and conversely to accept it that our high ideals may suffer a dose of realistic disappointment from time to time, without allowing that simple, understandable and commonplace occurrence to bring us down. “Tomorrow I begin again” could be our attitude. The constant interpenetration of the real and the supernaturally unreal form an important polarity of life here below that keeps the heart of it beating. We constantly go back and forth between dwelling in the multiplicity and dwelling in the One, but it is all wonder. As the poet says, from wonder into wonder, existence opens.

## ARIES (MARCH 20-APRIL 18)



You are stepping out with verve and style these days, but with purpose also, allowing it to matter what you do and don’t accomplish. Your mission would seem to be one of service to others and ultimately to yourself as well, as you attempt to fulfill your highest purpose for this lifetime, taking in the cosmic information available to you and running with it. A rearrangement of attitude works wonders. This has everything to do with the transformation of your impulse to show up in the world no longer from a motive of any form of self-aggrandizement, but simply from recognizing what the universe requires of you and doing the next right thing from moment to moment.

## TAURUS (APRIL 19-MAY 19)



You are coming to some startling conclusions regarding the arc of development that your life course must follow, as your period of transformation of your values and your cherished beliefs continues into this bi-monthly cycle. Digging down into your core substance to try to find the gold ring of solid security opens you up to the surrounding universe in a big way. Communicating these feelings to others around you is difficult but necessary as you strive for a better perspective on your experience. The last week of August may represent some kind of climax for you. On into September you find yourself coming into a new way of being in the world, a way that allows you to shine to your fullest advantage while serving others around you at the very same time. It’s a win-win that allows you to re-invent yourself in the process.

## GEMINI (MAY 20-JUNE 19)



You are coming into a new way of thinking about your situation these days. Your work in the world is a tremendous source of inspiration for you right now, as you further explore the meaning of your life and the direction that it has recently been taking. Partnership with others has its darker and more mysterious side for you lately, as previously unknown and hidden parts of yourself are revealed through your interactions with others. Connecting in this way can be transformative for your own understanding of a deeper process within you. You are coming out of a period of re-examining your values and taking inventory of the resources necessary to accomplish expanded and extensive plans, and as you do you may feel a sense of wonder and renewed possibility. These are definitely exciting times to be living



through, the more so if you allow yourself to relax and just enjoy the ride, without judgment or any form of preconception.

### CANCER (JUNE 20-JULY 21)



This bi-monthly period represents yet another new beginning for you. You may find yourself idealizing relationships with significant partners in your life as a goal and perhaps also as a means to your own self-discovery. Exploration of your communication style and how you put your best foot forward in connecting with others can lead you to new concepts of service to those around you, and to your own highest purpose for yourself, moving forward. You are ultimately concerned at this time with issues of self and other, of where you stop and the other begins, and how to set appropriate boundaries without walling yourself off altogether. High ideals and blissful illusion have their drawbacks but they have their advantages also. An overly cynical assessment may have just as much danger of running aground on the reefs of circumstance as an overly optimistic one.

### LEO (JULY 22-AUG. 21)



Adventures in intimacy are coming your way. You might almost feel a sense of isolation in your journey as you explore a new contract with yourself and your world and make your birthday wishes into more of a concrete reality, although at the same time you are also very aware of relationship considerations. You may catch yourself idealizing helpful partners in your life, or becoming disappointed that the interaction doesn't always live up to its high promise. You might feel the pain of being brought down to the real in these and other matters, especially around the time of the August 9th Full Moon, as you look more deeply into your day-to-day interactions. You and your world are starting to shine with an entirely different light, a new dawn. Your values are also shifting along with your intentions for meaningful connection. Although it's true what they say, that "nothing gold can stay," the remainder of a cosmically powerful connection can still count for quite a lot.

### VIRGO (AUG. 22-SEPT. 21)



You are in the world these days all right, but in some ways just barely. You are spending the first few weeks of this bi-monthly period in a state of contemplation, preparing for your next incarnation. Since your ruler Mercury has just changed directions and is once more flying straight, you are possibly still reeling from recent revelations and changes to your current plans and goals. Transformation at the very core of your being informs your world as you enter into an entirely new phase following the New Moon in your sign that takes place on August 23rd. Surprising interaction with others also provides food for thought as you are in fact seeking a greater sense of cosmic purpose for your life at this time. Don't be surprised if you awake one day to quite suddenly discover that you have found it.

### LIBRA (SEPT. 22-OCT. 22)



You are riding the waves of change, and getting quite serious regarding your prospects, visioning new possibilities. The first two weeks of this bi-monthly cycle represents your best chance to make up an entirely new future for yourself, so choose wisely. Your infectious optimism may be catching. Something in your communication to others is changing deeply these days and this new form of outreach in turn informs your exploration of your world and your place in it. You are also likely to be entering into a period of contemplation following the New Moon from the last week of August. You may be finding new direction for yourself later in September after spending a few weeks wandering your private desert. There is a huge mystical component to your wild imaginings at this time, and you cannot fail to think large, to expand existing resources and to feel a compassionate sense of unity with your fellow beings. Be sure of what you want, and then go ahead.

### SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 20)



You are reaching for a hard peak of success these days, but your accomplishment is not without its soft fuzzy underbelly. In spite of a major achievement orientation you are more open than ever to the magical possibilities of your situation. You are also very community-minded right now, transforming in the ways that you connect to friends and other groups as you go for the gusto in your social interactions. You might almost be accused of being full of yourself if it weren't for your compassionate outreach to the social matrix surrounding you. In the last week of August and on into September you have the best chance all year to vision new possibilities for yourself going forward. A mystical truth is likely to be revealed following the Full Moon eclipse on the 7th of September that will totally rock your world.

### SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 21-DEC. 20)



Mystical madness may be your strongest suit these days, in spite of all your best efforts to tread the straight and narrow. In the course of this bi-monthly cycle you find yourself caught between opposing forces of deep internal reflection and a superbly realistic approach. As in Yoga, you find yourself stretching. You are transforming in your concept of just who you are, exactly, and how that translates into your public statement. There will be surprises and cosmic epiphanies, flashes of deep inspiration at the very core of your being, as you strive at the same time to find the proper outer world manifestation to match newfound inner awareness. Inner and outer are but two sides of the very same coin, and the coin is in spin. Will it come up heads versus tails or a touch of both?

### CAPRICORN (DEC. 21-JAN. 18)



Your concept of your future is changing rapidly. Compassionate connection with intimate partners is a deep mystery, and one that reflects on your own situation. Living for others rather than for yourself will get you only so far but it is perhaps difficult to escape the pattern. New information that comes to light has you thinking things through in surprising ways and then fitfully describing new life directions to others, as the mood occurs. Something mysterious seems to be pulling on you from the very depths of your being, hard to define, impossible to describe. The bigger question is, what does it have to tell you regarding your evolutionary journey into greater wholeness? The closer you get to another the more you realize that the most important connection that you have is with your own inner process.

### AQUARIUS (JAN. 19-FEB. 17)



You are sailing through mighty mystical waters lately. Partnership concerns are paramount for you at this time but that doesn't mean that you are intended to neglect your own development. You are on a powerful roll with your outer presentation, based in part on a better grasp of your own motivation, although the ins and outs of this support may be more than a little confusing. Your life direction is changing somewhat rapidly these days, and consistently. You are moving into a more holistic orientation, losing your rough edges, like a boulder tumbling. What seems almost like no overt progress is actually a secret river of change that bubbles up from time to time into surface layers of your psyche like an underground spring rising. Just when you least expect it you have once again found your center.

### PISCES (FEB. 18-MARCH 19)



Your outer world presentation is beginning match shifts of inner awareness in a difficult but entirely necessary exercise for you these days. It's best not to resist the flow. You are entering into a new self-concept with the flashes of inspiration coming rather suddenly at times, and that includes the role that significant partners play in your life's tapestry. Especially in the last week of August and on into September you are likely to find yourself exploring your interaction with others. You are also getting serious about finding your dharma, your true vocation, as you emerge from the tunnel of circumstance, riding the waves of recent changes in attitude toward who you are, and how you show up in the world. An other-orientation makes sense for you right now, almost as a form of spiritual practice, as you strive to concretely enable a path of service to others based on the compassionate embrace of all of nature, and not to forget, of yourself along with it.

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