



Buck resting in the garden next door, last week in Hudson. Photo: ATM

AT Mann December 2011 Newsletter

To start, I experienced yet another validation of astrology's sometimes uncomfortable and too accurate correlations with 'reality.' While being aware that transiting Mars was close to squaring my inflammatory natal Uranus, on Thanksgiving Sunday at noon I set out to drive to nearby Woodstock. At a particularly difficult intersection, the driver in front of me pulled out to turn right. I looked back at the oncoming traffic and accelerated, only to realize too late that she had slammed on her brakes. That was that, and the shock and agitation characteristic of this aspect made itself well known. However it is always a difficult call to make pre-emptive decisions.

This is a flagrantly powerful time for many reasons. Firstly, very early morning on the day after Thanksgiving there was a solar eclipse at 2° Sagittarius, given additional power by its trine to Uranus in early Aries, a square to the critical Mars in Virgo, and the psychic and unclear square to Neptune and Chiron. The combination of the Moon eclipsing the Sun's light and energy, and the fact that Mercury had just gone retrograde forces us to look deeply (back) into past patterns with a view to learning something new about ourselves, and with Neptune involved, we might even overcome recent misdiagnoses or misperceptions. Events during such times are messages we should try to understand, take in, and apply to existing and long-held patterns.

This highly combustible combination focuses on the *foreign* qualities of Sagittarius, as evident in the Egyptians fighting for their liberty from their military rulers, the Syrians, and OWS, where we are struggling with the 1%. We also must reclaim our own philosophy of life, worldview, and deeper psychology, all of which are changing before our eyes. Can you feel it? Cosmic unrest and isolation are characteristic of such planetary connections approaching the major Uranus/Pluto square. Beside this, Mercury retrograde forces us to clarify communications, to delve back into or analyze our recent behavior, and to try

and understand the (myriad) ways in which we have been deceiving ourselves, and 'right the boat.' Writing it down can often help.

Since eclipses occur in pairs, it is only natural that on the morning of December 10th the Gemini Moon will eclipse the Sagittarian Sun, the two mutually square that damned Mars, again. We don't get away with anything! Together with Uranus going into direct motion the day before, which accelerates all processes, there is a lot of soul searching and exploration of new horizons happening these days. Ideas that have been brewing can now come to the surface, and it could be an inspiring time all around, providing you can separate the signals from the noise. Added to the mix, on December 13th Mercury goes into direct motion, which opens channels of communication and makes agreement much easier to come about, and flushes out the confusion and intransigence of the retro time.

Following this is the solstice on Dec 22nd, when the dark Sun enters Capricorn, a time that presages the end of the Mayan calendar exactly a year from now. This well-studied event seems to be stimulating activity, as for instance the OWS movement, having gone inside/underground, as it were, will foment the radical changes that are so necessary to correct our current sick puppy world. The pragmatic Capricorn energy will focus on the financial sector that so abuses the rest of us, owns the politicians, and is the primary vehicle of the corporate world. Maybe it truly is the end of an era awaiting a rebirth.

While as isolated individuals we feel relatively powerless, when collective forces coalesce, without really knowing how or why, a great amount of positive change can begin to come about. I know that this is a lot for you to think about, but do realize that you are not alone. We are all in it with you

Consider giving readings to those for whom you care (as well as you yourself) as the holiday season approaches. (They are biodegradable!) I am available for Life Time astrology readings, Astro Updates with precise details of your coming year, as well as tarot readings with my Mandala Astrological Tarot deck. Call me at (518) 822-0882 and we can discuss it. Need a website designed? Check in.

We are close to reaching the fundraising stage of our documentary film about meditation and neuroscience with His Holiness the Dalai Lama, so if you are intrigued (as I am), give me a ring and we can discuss it. We are excited and already beginning to sketch out the script of the programs.

Have a great holiday season, lots of love, and be in touch Tad/Alden



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