



Starlight Message from Gloria Star

*Sun in Pisces 2018 Issue
Speaking from the heart...*

The intense issues magnified by the recent eclipses of Sun and Moon have certainly exposed abuses of power in our world. The amplification of human experience shown by the Solar Eclipse in Aquarius brought us face to face with our common humanity ... and also, with what we lack in that regard. The aftermath can leave us feeling unfocused and uncertain. But this is also a galvanizing moment. At the least, we are in need of a period of mutual support and kindness. Call me a wishful thinker, but many of the cycles ahead while the Sun glides through Pisces' territory offer hope. And not a moment too soon.

A reminder: The drum beat of our time is set by Saturn's pace and influence, and a more structured rhythm has emerged over the past few weeks. Of course, there are other cycles providing disruption popping up here and there. Ample signs of the tests offered by the long cycle of Saturn in Capricorn are becoming more clear, too. Time-proven infrastructures can provide much-needed support, with practical realities often winning out. But wear and tear on the outworn and out-of-place conventions and practices will also be exposed now. In fact, in the game of life, this three year period is likely to be filled with the challenge to figure out exactly how the rules of the game are being applied. Or are those rules changing without notice? Perhaps we have not been carefully paying attention! With that in mind, let's look at this period of the Sun in Pisces 2018.

The primary shifting cycle ahead for the next 30 days begins **February 18th** at 12:18 PM EST, **when the Sun's light is filtered by Pisces' imaginative and sensitive qualities.** It's the time to allow dreams to flourish, and to dissolve unnecessary resistance to change. Pisces' influence softens the edges, calms the nerves, and encourages going with the flow. This is particularly noteworthy since Neptune is currently making its slow passage through Pisces, adding depth to the development of intuition and a desire to transcend the ordinary. When operating through its negative expression, Pisces gravitates toward the nearest exit, seeking escape from the harsh experiences of life. *Mercury and Venus are also moving through Pisces until March 6th, further amplifying the essence of Pisces ...cue the music!*

The joining of forces between **Mercury and Venus** is featured while these two are in a wobbly union from **February 23rd - March 21st**, forming their exact conjunction in Pisces on **March 4th** (but remaining in close contact until March 21st). Conjunctions occur when two planets occupy the same space, and the planetary motion at this time brings these planets very close together several times before they both are joined. *During these weeks, mixed and changeable messages will prevail.* Values have a

marked effect upon communication. These two quick-moving planets traveling in tandem are a hallmark for inconsistent ideas and shifting values. Expect economic markets to reflect these ups and downs.

This pairing also forms a particularly significant conjunction with ephemeral Neptune from **February 21st - 26th**. What's so important about that? While these are short cycles in the scheme of things, the contacts with Neptune invite us to employ powerful visionary qualities to resolve issues involving our core values, aided by an enhanced capacity to create an understanding with one another. Mercury and Venus are personal energies, with Mercury providing the connection and commonality, while Venus radiates love, value, artistry and beauty. We use these energies personally to express who we are to the world and those around us. This can also be an ideal time to reach out to support others who could benefit from your reinforcement. If you're looking for the right time to re-set your goals, create a vision board, and work on an artistic project, it has arrived! Use your connection to your inner and higher self to shine a light on your dreams and hopes. Let your message speak from the heart of compassion.



It's also crucial to maintain clarity and define boundaries, since those who might operate from positions of greed and abuse might see your good will and compassion as an opening that would allow someone to take unfair advantage. Fortunately, because honesty is necessary, there's **help from Saturn February 20th - 23rd**, offering support through a focus on what is *real* to help offset what could be a vulnerability.

One more thing about this Mercury-Venus merger in Pisces: **From February 22nd - 28th, Mercury and Venus also challenge assertive Mars** (traveling in Sagittarius). It's a tangled battle of wits and artistry with the God of War. While you might think that Mars would prevail, and that adopting a "Grin and bear it," posture might be the best way to ride through this time, stop and reconsider. Just in time, there's another power source ready to be activated, coming from the rumblings of **Pluto in Capricorn** that can be easily accessed by both Mercury and Venus during this time. Carefully choose your battles, and yield to your better angels. It's time to stand up. To state your values. To speak your mind. To speak Truth to Power.

In your personal life, this period also favors romantic gestures and declarations of love and affection. However, during the period when Mercury and Venus are in **conflict with Mars from Feb. 22 - 28**, tensions and power struggles are likely to emerge. Dealing with issues can be frustrating, but when approached with an open mind and loving heart, progress can be made on all fronts.

Coinciding with the **Virgo Full Moon on March 1st** (7:51 PM EST), Mercury's communication and Venus' value systems form a powerful, supportive connection with the generosity, confidence, and enthusiasm of Jupiter. The Full Moon adds intensity and arrives with a climactic quality. An extra boost of courage and conviction comes with these energies -- just in case you need it! This could mark the culmination of a significant project, and continues the theme of outreach. Marketing and promotional activities get a boost. Whether personal or professional, it's a good time to make your case, promote your ideas, launch your project, and celebrate your successes.

In case you're wondering, yes, **Mercury and Venus** do continue to travel in tandem on and after **both planets move into Aries on March 6th** (the exact conjunction in Aries does not occur until March 20th!). Expect more direct and impatient communication to ensue. Finance and the economy may also remain in the headlines during the entire Mercury-Venus conjunction period, from February 22nd - March 22nd. In other words: Mercury = Talk. Venus = Money. Or "money on the mind!"

The gas-giant Jupiter continues its cycle through transformative Scorpio, but **Jupiter enters its retrograde cycle on March 8th** (11:46 PM EST), continuing in retrograde until July 10th. Jupiter's retrograde marks a period of *deflated energy*, and this cycle often accompanies revaluations, particularly in the worlds of politics, business and finance. Mixed signals may be prevalent in the early days of Jupiter's retrograde, and so it's important to clarify details of contracts and agreements and to use this time to make modifications. Jupiter retrograde cycle can signify down-sizing on multiple levels. Watch for that shrinking effect in areas like education, publishing, travel & tourism, the courts ... and more. It's also a time when legal and political matters can take an unanticipated turn. Ongoing negotiation or investigation is favored over new actions or proposals. Address issues that may be taking up space, so that when Jupiter leaves its retrograde in early July there will be room for something new.

A tendency for more negative attitudes and potentially snarky communication arises from **March 10th - 14th**, when Mercury, followed by Venus, moves into a square to Saturn. While the desire may be to make nice and seek solutions, stubborn or negative attitudes can taint the process, literally sucking all the air from the room. Worry can also be problematic, and if you find yourself obsessing over things you cannot control, consider taking a break and allowing the dust to settle before you process. This may actually be the time when a relationship, project or process reaches an end, especially if finding common values is blocked.

Clearing away the debris from the past opens the way for outreach, leading to fresh opportunities. **Launch of an important endeavor gains momentum with the Pisces New Moon on March 17th** (9:12 AM EDT). The same day, Mars shifts into Capricorn, bringing an period of greater determination and focus to actions. Fresh ideas may continue to flourish for the days leading up to the Vernal Equinox on March 20th. More about Spring in the next issue of *Starlight Messages!*

Meanwhile, if you're ready to take a look at the shifting cosmic tides and their implications in your life, contact me to schedule a personal consultation.

Peace, light and love,
Gloria



EVENTS:

May 24-30, 2018: UAC 2018: "Celebrating Earth & Sky," Chicago, Illinois. UAC is the largest astrology conference in the world. I'm presenting two lectures, and still have limited openings for personal consultations, so do get in touch if you want to schedule an appointment while I'm there. For more information about UAC 2018, check out the website: www.uacastrology.com.

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