



Starlight Message From Gloria Star

The Sun's Cycle in Leo 2023 Searching for Immortality

As we cross the gateway into Leo territory we are met with a powerful quality of light that provides potential for greater illumination. That light radiates from within and pulses through the human spirit as

inspiration, love and passionate creativity. During the Sun in Leo cycle, we have greater access to the experiences we identify as love.

On **July 22nd, 2023** (9:33 PM EDT), just before the Sun enters Leo, the planet **Venus turns retrograde**. The Venus retrograde cycle will infuse the cosmic scheme with questions and challenges regarding our value systems. Questions like, "what do I love?" "Who do I love?" At the core, we are seeking to find the ways we show love – and this begins with self love and acceptance. It all sounds so easy in the beginning, particularly during the days that may be filled with passion-driven processes. This is not only about relationship with other people. It is about allowing the heart to lead the way in our work, creativity, artistry, and unique self-expression. Here we are... with Venus, the planet of love, moving backward. It's time to review and honestly assess how we truly feel about life itself.

Before we look at the Sun in Leo cycle, let's start with what we might see from this retrograde of Venus. First, yes, it's likely during the next few months that there may be encounters with loves from the past, or perhaps even an opportunity to become involved with your creative passions that may have lost their luster.

The Sabian Symbol for the Zodiac degree Venus occupies when she turns retrograde (the 29th degree of Leo) is: **A MERMAID HAS CLIMBED TO THE ROCKY SHORE OF A BLEAK COAST, SHE AWAITS THE PRINCE WHO WILL BRING HER IMMORTALITY .**

This image certainly inspires many potential stories, infused with plenty of questions. Questions like, “why does she require a prince?” or “why immortality?” I invite you to play with this image, with the idea in mind that it is time to question what it means to love and to be loved.

Venus retrograde exposes our attachments. Is it time to release attachments to a place, a person, or something once precious? Perhaps what was once in harmony is no longer healthy, or has outgrown its use or purpose in your life. This cycle marks an excellent time to “cash out,” especially when what was once worth holding onto becomes more of a burden or leads to unhealthy results.

Then, on to more practical matters, do keep in mind that Venus Retrograde is the time to get rid of what no longer has true value in your life. In the world of retail, you might find a great deal, but keep your wallet in your pocket until you have checked it out! The economy continues to be a key issue now, but this is a good time to concentrate on honoring true values that strengthen our collective and individual financial well-being.

When the **Sun shifts into Leo’s territory on July 22nd** (9:50 PM EDT), transformational change adds to the picture. The Sun has been traveling in opposition to transformational Pluto for a few days, and this power-focused duo colors this year’s Leo cycle. Those in roles of leadership may be more self-focused, making it easy to see what’s behind their words and actions. However, power, rightly used, can become restorative and healing, and this can signal a time to employ leadership in ways that will truly make a difference. Be aware of who owns the spotlight now ... and why.

The Sun’s cycle in Leo also marks a month of potentially playful, dramatic and creative expressions. It’s the perfect time to enjoy sharing the talents of others, and to make the best use of the spotlight, should you be in it! This can be a time when you make headway in the creation of your legacy ... what you are leaving behind. In some ways, it’s the time to manifest your immortal self – the part of you that continues throughout the cycles of time. Considering the Venus retrograde period, you might also be wondering about questions of loyalty, and where your own loyalties are centered.

On **August 2st the Full Moon in Aquarius arrives** (2:32 PM EDT), marking the time when situations that may have been in process reach a climax. The days surrounding the Full Moon can be a positive period to share with those who share the circle of your life, and to enjoy the experience of being with your friends. It’s time to celebrate unconditional love, and to find the best ways to let that energy grow in your life.

Mars travels through Virgo's territory from July 10th – August 27th, marking a time to get things done. Mars in Virgo invites us to put plans into action! At the time of the Full Moon on the 27th, there's a quality of promise growing exponentially when Mars experiences extra energy from expansive Jupiter. Now is the time to let the world know you're here, to have faith in your dreams, and to see your hopes manifesting. Do you have contracts to sign or projects to begin or complete? Do your best to prioritize and then take action before the Sun leaves Leo on August 23rd.

Just at the very end of the Sun in Leo cycle, Mercury stands still, and then enters **Mercury Retrograde on August 23rd at 12:39 PM EDT**. This retrograde will continue through mid-September. This does give us a hint about best times to take action, since the retrograde of Mercury inevitably manifests through detours. Make room in your schedule for the unexpected, and focus on unfinished business from late August through mid September. This can be a good time to be involved in an ongoing project, to spend time with family or others who hold a special place in your life. Sometimes Mercury retrograde signifies a period when experiences like travel can be repeated in the future. If you want to return to a place, consider traveling during mercury's retrograde! Just make sure you have a back-up plan, or potential options, and leave room for changes. The same holds true with other actions. That's one reason why ongoing projects or negotiations often fare well during the retrograde.

When you're ready to explore how these cycles and those upcoming are manifesting in your life, please do get in touch and we will find a good time to schedule. Currently, my earliest opening in my client consulting schedule is mid-September.

May you and those who share the circle of your life experience true blessings!

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