

ASTROBARRY'S 2015:

“What’s NEXT?”

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INTRODUCTION: “What’s NEXT?”

“Okay, awesome... so what’s *next*?”

The presents have all been hurriedly unwrapped (including those so-called “gifts” of socks and scrub-brushes from the most austere, nuts-and-bolts-minded relatives), and the heaps of torn-up wrapping paper are strewn in a mess across the room. The giddy kids are ready to grab their favorite new toys, run out into the back, and see what they can do with these goodies. The well-worn parents turn an exhausted eye to their rest-of-the-day cleanup session, quietly content they’ve made it through another one of *these*—apparently rather successfully, if judging by the little-ones’ happy faces—and longingly lusting for just a couple hours’ nap.

“There *is* something ‘next’, right?”

World-wearied, nerves shot to hell, awaiting “official” word (from some radio broadcast or neighborly door-knock) it’s safe to venture out from the sheltering-in-place. It’s hard not to still tremble a bit when you walk around the place, conditioned to anticipate another aftershock any time, sore, fearful, batted down a couple pegs. You survey the tangible damage: not quite as bad as you’d thought, actually, now that the disturbance has largely passed and you can see, again, through a problem-solver’s gaze. Perhaps a couple weight-bearing beams need repair? Mainly, it’ll require some heavy-duty cosmetic restoration... and a lot of TLC. You know you’re up for the challenge (after a tall steaming-hot cup of coffee, that is). Or at least you *think* you are.

“What could be next after *this*?”

After enough constant rocking and rolling, we begin to believe it’s all we should ever expect. We wistfully pine for those simpler times, long ago by now, when there *wasn’t* a fire to put out, a life to save, a broken dream to sweep aside or sacred cow to slaughter... when we’d simply put in a fair-share of duty, return home after another day’s decent efforts, and sleep soundly through the night. Was life *ever* really like that? It’s hard to accurately recall, actually, so accustomed we’ve become to such accelerated rates of spectacular change. Whether such “simpler times” ever in fact existed, their ideal beckons to us with inspiration: a vision for a clearer future.

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There are a number of emotive tones we could adopt, in trying to make sense of a year-ahead forecast forwardly titled “What’s Next?” That, of course, would depend on the stance we currently find ourselves in—whether cowering in the corner or shaking with impatient excitement, beaten down or toughened up, ready for anything or surprised by nothing. Yet, regardless of the identifying specifics of our own personal Now, the suggestion being blatantly implied is that *something different than this* will imminently happen.

And so begins our glance at 2015, a year of *transition*... coming on the heels of a few years which, when ultimately placed within the full context of our whole life-spans, will have been among the more conspicuously destabilizing, harrowing, or just plain *sucky* for many of us.

From the very first moment Uranus peeped over the border into Aries back in 2010, this rebel-planet has been at direct odds, by astrological square, with shadowy Pluto (in Capricorn since 2008). Without question, this square between Uranus and Pluto has been *the* most impactful astrological feature of the 2010s, a decade we’re now officially halfway through. Astrologers confidently watch the transiting Uranus-Pluto cycle as a reliable timekeeper for identifying notable periods of collective unrest, revolution and transformation. Like clockwork, whenever these two outer planets form a hard angle (i.e., a conjunction, square, or opposition) to one another, we witness one more historically critical moment in the ever-shifting tension between radical personal freedom (Uranus) and the darker undercurrents of human-nature which complicate its expression (Pluto). As a reference point, our previous two instances of Uranus-Pluto hard aspects were the conjunction, at the height of the turbulent 1960s (exact in 1965 and 1966), and the prior square, at the bottoming-out point of the Great Depression (1932-1934).

Uranus and Pluto formed their first exact square in June 2012... and since then, we’ve collectively confronted a host of poignantly symbolic clashes between the archetypal forces these planets represent. Uranus’s instinctive sparks of self-liberatory contrarianism have been that much more fiercely fiery and boldly pioneering, due to its ongoing position in impulse-driven warrior-sign Aries (2010-2019). And Pluto’s been dredging-up of the seamier-and-seedier

drives, complexes, and abuses upon which our structures of authority, respectability, and material success rest, thanks to its extended stay in Capricorn (2008-2024), the zodiac's master-strategist and chief-executive-officer.

Over the past few years, many of our tensest headlines have resonated with these Uranus-Pluto themes—growing income inequality, a renewed dialogue about structural racism, increasing militarization of police-forces, the changing global role of former “superpowers”, rapidly accelerating climate change, major shifts in social acceptance of LGBT equality and marijuana legalization. In each of these examples and countless others, the controversial topic pits those who uncompromisingly demand their rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, even if they must protest or politic or full-on fight for what's innately theirs (Uranus in Aries) against those who seek to resist such anarchic and/or egalitarian mutinies, in order to guard a calculated status-quo from which they profit, if not to further strengthen and consolidate their power in the midst of the resultant social chaos (Pluto in Capricorn).

And those are just the macro-level glimpses. For every upstart surge of freedom-fighters facing off against formidable authorities, on the streets or in public discourse, there have been countless smaller versions of such upheaval in our own lives—inner tyrants overthrown, stifling patterns broken open, disempowering relationships blasted apart, discouraging jobs set free, prohibitive scripts betrayed, daring departures made, all with their heaps of fallout and pandemonium begging for our attention, *now*. Too much Uranus, and you lose your grounding amidst the disarray, rebel without a clear or dedicated cause. Too much Pluto, and you fearfully defer to even-more-menacing grips, *control*, “safe” but soul-sucking.

Few have escaped the Uranus-Pluto square unscathed by its urgent evolutionary pressures... though many of us who bravely leant *into* its brunt, working *with* the potent energies rather than clutching for security, are productively experiencing this life-overhaul (or are well on our way). And those who refused to buckle or bend under these gale-force winds? It's hard to imagine you'd be hanging on by much more than a thread. Didn't you get the memo? It's been consistently clear since 2012: *Evolve, or suffer*.

Just a few months after that initial Uranus-Pluto square, in October of '12, illustrious hard-ass Saturn arrived in Scorpio for the first time since the mid-1980s—and let's just say hosting the

workhorse-planet in perhaps the most intense and demanding sign hasn't made our evolutionary work any *easier*. I probably don't have to tell you that, though: We've all been *living* it. Since Saturn's been in Scorpio, most of us have had our up-close-and-personal meetings with the devils and demons lurking in the dark-corners and back-alleys of our psyches.

Saturn forces us to *dwell* wherever sustained effort is required to meet a goal or fulfill a purpose. Or, if we've been stuck in a tight spot, Saturn needles us to overcome inertia and *un-stick* ourselves. Scorpio's the zodiacal zone where we dispense with niceties and address what's *really* going on beneath our surfaces. It's a sign with deep insight into people's underlying motives, due to its unflinching awareness of our "uglier" sides, and we've *all* got one: the usually-less-conscious parts of ourselves which are selfish, covetous, lustful, domineering, violent, cruel, or some intricate reverse-projected version of one or another brute human drive. Saturn's trip through Scorpio demanded an extended exposure to these part of ourselves... so we might limit their unconscious expression or projection, which we incite by disavowing their existence, and strengthen our capacity to *consciously* tap into them, in a more contained fashion, helping us assert our passions.

Even when purposeful or productive, a mandatory confrontation with one's "darker" or less palatable feelings, drives, and inclinations is rarely *fun*. During my years as a professional astrologer, I cannot recall more vocal grumps and grumbles about *any* other Saturn placement (though, admittedly, I might've been listening too intently to my own echo-chamber). Because Scorpio is traditionally a Mars-ruled sign, our experience of hosting Saturn there has often emphasized typical Martian features: aggression, separation, conflict, desire, pain. Scorpio is also a *fixed* sign, meaning it tends toward slowness, stubbornness, solidity, and stasis. The overall mood of Saturn in Scorpio, then, has felt like a slow-and-painful slog through the mud... dirtying us with the raw or depraved dreck of human nature (ours and other people's), sometimes causing us to sink even deeper in, offering no choice other than to stare it in its scary face while we meditate on *what we did* to end up there.

And all this *at the very same time* Uranus and Pluto are yelling at us, "Hurry up! Revolutionize your life! Throw off those chains! Build your own empire! Evolve, or suffer! Evolve, or suffer!"

Does this describe any of *your* life-experiences over these past few years? Is it any wonder so many of us are yearning for “what’s next”?

So, *what’s next?* In the very last days of 2014, Saturn left Scorpio and entered Sagittarius. Because Saturn spends somewhere between two and three years in each sign, this move in itself is a fairly significant astrological development. More than that, the *tonal* difference between these two signs is pretty pronounced. If Scorpio pulls us down into the muddy underbelly of humankind and forces us to confront our demons, then Sagittarius is our enthusiastic rush to put such protracted darkness behind us, streamlining our painful experience of it into handy truths we can apply later (hopefully to spare us a repeat of the same lesson)... and looking eagerly ahead to *another* invigorating or edifying adventure, a new and exciting chance to see something different, somewhere else, away from here and onto the next. Not only is Saturn’s sign-shift a “next” thing, but Sagittarius, its new sign, is all about “next”-ness.

Saturn in Sagittarius, then, is our lesson in how to responsibly move on to that appropriate next-thing which most interests us... neither dashing haphazardly onward, nor clutching fruitlessly to the past. Among these two extremes, foolhardy haste is definitely the bigger risk where Sagittarius is concerned, in light of its reputation for being ultra-direct, plucky, impatient, and somewhat sloppy with the tedious details. Yet, we can clearly see the *appeal* of such hurried forward motion, after that lagging expanse of heavy Saturn-in-Scorpio energy. Who *wouldn’t* want to move on from a close-encounter with the dark, dirty, and difficult as soon as conceivably possible? (Though that’s a rhetorical question, there *are* folks who qualify.)

For most of us, Saturn’s transit through Sagittarius (which lasts through the end of 2017) will test whether our overeager or impatient thrusts toward some new-and-exciting destination, purpose, or perspective unfortunately get the best of us—or whether we can properly integrate this surge of zeal into our existing life-circumstances, without needlessly creating additional problems for ourselves. If we’re so restlessly intent on getting somewhere else (“*anywhere* but here!”) that we just impulsively zoom away, how can we know whether the place we’re headed will be genuinely appropriate to our interests... or even *safe* for us? What the hell will we do once we *get* there? And what did we *leave behind* in our mad rush out the door? What did we forget to bring along? What critical practicalities were left dangling? What complicating Saturn-in-Scorpio realizations about ourselves are we trying to run so fast and far from?

The threat of overcompensating for Saturn-in-Scorpio's deep dark crawl through the mud, by abruptly jetting off somewhere too far too fast—and facing Saturn-in-Sagittarius's wrath—is only made *more* urgent by two other trigger-happy planets. Not only do we have self-liberator Uranus in Aries (which I already described), but there's also the great-expander Jupiter who remains in Leo through the second week of August—both in action-driven fire signs *and* conspiring together, via trine, through the middle of the year.

That puts a *powerful* emphasis on the fire element during the first half of 2015, which has us behaving as if fuses have been lit and flames are burning under our asses... all while Jupiter's trine to Uranus amplifies our transgressive, anti-status-quo tendencies, and across the two zodiac-signs most commonly associated with unapologetic self-focus. Though this is an unbeatable astro-mix for blasting us out of inaction and toward whatever we choose to be our next-thing, our process of making such choices is likelier than usual to be crude, hasty, short-sighted, or overly simplistic. And that's *exactly* what Saturn-in-Sagittarius is warning us against.

This dynamic comes to a head midyear, thanks to a Venus retrograde (Jul 25-Sep 6) which happens in *just* the perfect zodiac-spot—it starts right at the first degree of Virgo, but mostly occurs back in Leo—to trigger the Jupiter-Uranus trine into *even more exaggerated* expression. Venus first enters Leo in June's opening week and stays through mid-July, moves into Virgo a week before going retrograde, then returns to Leo in early August to stay for another *two full months*. (For comparison's sake, Venus usually moves through a sign in about three-to-four weeks.) During this entire June-through-October period, which includes the pre- and post-retrograde shadows, Venus will conjoin Jupiter and trine Uranus three times. These aspects—especially the conjunction of the two traditional benefics, Venus and Jupiter—help to fuel a rather dramatic sense of excitement about whatever apparently auspicious developments will likely manifest as this time, potentially warming your heart to the point where rational reasoning is overwhelmed.

But Venus retrogrades are notoriously wily and vexing in how they tease us, with seemingly desirable goodies which only *later* reveal themselves to be something *other* than they'd first seemed... whether we don't actually desire them as much as we'd previously believed and/or they aren't quite as "good" as initial appearances suggested. Because Venus mainly rules over our interpersonal relationships, financial dealings, and aesthetic tastes, these are the life-areas

likeliest to yield favorably feverish or frenzied developments before and during this retrograde phase—and such developments would be most wisely treated as speculative, provisional, ambiguous, and/or still subject to examination.

Typical Venus-retrograde expressions often feature an out-of-the-blue appearance of some new romantic prospect, business opportunity, or appealing offer... an alternative to what we're already involved in or what we'd been previously considering, leading us to reevaluate our prior preferences alongside this *other* possibility. Sometimes, a flash-from-the-past (e.g., an ex, a former colleague, "the one who got away") returns for another shot or a chance to resolve unfinished business. Other times, a person who's not our traditional "type" or a friend we've never looked at in quite *that* way before suddenly turns our head, forcing us to rethink what we thought we knew about what we actually like.

The key to maximizing Venus-retrograde's constructive promise, and minimizing the potential for regret? Shrewdly understanding that the *process* of reexamining what and who is ultimately most valuable to you—and *not* the outcome of any particular option or alternative—is the important focal-point of a Venus retrograde.

Factoring in the full astrological backdrop, *this* Venus retrograde could prove to be an exceptionally tricky test of our patience, diligence, and discrimination... especially in light of the interesting astro-synchronicity which has Saturn slipping back into Scorpio during this exact same time (Jun 14-Sep 17), and squaring Venus three times in three months.

At the very height of our being tempted with blood-pumping, thrill-providing, ego-stroking opportunities to leap wildly toward *what's next*, Saturn in Scorpio cautions us *not* to let our hungry hearts or impatient egos override our memory of its recently hard-earned (and painful?) emotional lessons... lest our willful forward-facing eagerness to *finally* dive into something fun, exciting, and brimming with hope unfortunately *blind* us to how we're repeating treacherous patterns.

Making immediately gratifying, but *rash* Venus-retrograde commitments—in breach of Saturn-in-Scorpio's warnings against emotional naïveté, in willing disregard of others' potentially less-good-hearted or not-above-board motives (and/or your own)—could actually *foil* your efforts to

freely enjoy “what’s next” for you, carelessly re-complicating your life in all-too-familiar ways. In light of both Venus’s potential retrograde mischief *and* Saturn-in-Scorpio’s advisements, your most responsible path forward will require patiently hanging in through this midyear circus... and waiting until late September at the absolute *earliest*, after Venus is direct and Saturn’s back in Sagittarius, before confidently proceeding.

By that time, Jupiter will have already left Leo (on Aug 11) and moved on into Virgo, tempering the fieriness with a bit more practicality. That sign-shift will also mean Jupiter has left behind its excessively risk-happy trine to Uranus in Aries... and cruises toward *another* trine, this time to Pluto in Capricorn (first exact in October and continuing through the middle of 2016). This Jupiter-Pluto trine across two analytically-and-strategically-minded earth signs will support us in building, restoring, and/or fortifying a container where we can more solidly *ground* our enthusiasms for what’s next, to support their sustainable growth while tidying up the dangling details.

Plus, this slightly more moderate, down-to-earth vibe can help us slowly begin to devise some constructive plans for cultivating our revolutionized *post-Uranus-Pluto-square* existence. Yes, you are reading that correctly: There *is* an end to the Uranus-Pluto madness in sight. In fact, the *final* exact square between Uranus and Pluto (in the series of seven) occurs on March 16 of *this year*... which is another *huge* reason to spend 2015 asking ourselves, “What’s next?”

Though I’d definitely stop short of saying the Uranus-Pluto square is officially *done*—the aspect remains within a five-degree orb of influence through the end of ’17—its sharpest pressures will actually be *behind* us by midyear, with the energy gradually tapering off over the coming couple years.

Admittedly, it’s pretty hard to visualize what happens *after* Uranus and Pluto are no longer squaring, so *totally* has their disruptive dynamic dominated the 2010s so far. For now, perhaps, it’s enough to accept that the upheaval, uncertainty, chaos, and confusion kicked up by this square’s relentless stresses are *irreversible* components of our present reality. Though the Uranus-Pluto quaking and quivering will start to subside in intensity, all that’s been left in its wake remains strewn across our field, fragments and slivers and shades-of-possibility awaiting our aftermath attention, still needs sorting out. Amidst the disarray lurk tremendous creative

potentials, countless opportunities to rebuild our lives better than they've ever been before. As a reference point, many of the historical developments we associate with the turbulent Sixties occurred *after* that decade's Uranus-Pluto conjunction had already peaked. The intense astrology may have brought the smoldering undercurrents of unrest to a boil, but it was the succeeding "what's next" responses which demonstrated how to accommodate and integrate the revolutionary awarenesses it spawned into progressive efforts, endeavors, and enterprises.

Late in the year, once Saturn's back in Sagittarius to stay, it slides into a square with Neptune in Pisces (first exact on Nov 26)... our first taste of an aspect which will strongly color our *next* year, extending as it does through much of '16. Challenging Saturn-Neptune contacts generally impart a somewhat *disenchanting* flavor, forcing us to balance our idealistic, sympathetic side (Neptune) against what's more realistic or functionally necessary for meeting a goal and/or developing in maturity (Saturn). With Saturn in Sagittarius urging us to move responsibly forward, toward whatever singularly compelling, personally meaningful bull's-eye we've aimed our arrow at, its square to Neptune suggests we might have to dispel a romantic illusion, disappoint an unreasonable expectation, confront the unattainability of a lofty dream or vision, and/or rein in our excessive concern for someone else's circumstances along the way, so we may effectively explore what's next for us. Neptune, meanwhile, reminds our Saturn side not to be too sharp, dismissive, patronizing, or insensitive to those who are emotionally impacted by our single-minded advances, as if *getting* to what's next is an infinitely more important concern than who we dishonor or hurt in the process. Juggling these considerations is more urgently a 2016 task, though we'll begin dealing with it during '15.

* * * * *

As long as I've authored these year-ahead forecasts, I've purposely included myself in their frame. In the introduction to each year's edition, I've walked you through my own lived experience of the relevant astrology... which has included sharing my process of accomplishing a great life-ambition, to write book-length works like the one you're now reading. From the very start of my career as a professional astrologer, I had my eye on the idea to write annual-horoscope books, just like the Sydney Omarr ones I've seen lining the bookstore shelves my

whole life. What better business plan, I thought to myself, than to create a niche where avid readers and fans must buy a new book from you every single year?

As I watched the Uranus-Pluto square approaching with its evolve-or-suffer intensity, I decided I'd consciously choose to channel its unsettling energy into this *major* departure from my own status-quo. I dove into writing *ASTROBARRY'S 2012*, my first-ever book. I figured, between the Uranus-Pluto news and the now-obviously-ridiculous hype surrounding the year 2012 and the end of the world, I'd have no shortage of meaty topics to write about.

Upon finishing that project, I rode high on a cloud of self-pride. After first creating my "astrobarry" entity from scratch and building a loyal readership over many years, I wrote and self-published an e-book and sold a surprisingly (to me, at least) large number of copies—all of my own doing.

By the time I was earnestly underway on my *second* year-ahead forecast, however, Saturn had entered Scorpio... and begun painfully bearing down, by square, on my Aquarius Sun and Venus. As high as I was upon finishing book number-one, I was *at least* as low while writing number-two. Though I once again felt relieved and ecstatic when that second one was complete, I lacked the same proud sense of accomplishment—mainly, I believe, because I hadn't achieved a *new* aim, but merely repeated an already-successful performance.

The idea that, thanks to my success, I could look forward to repeating this *same* performance over and over again, into an endless stream of years-ahead, began to provoke a grim anxiety-provoking feeling of claustrophobia in me, months before I'd even *started* writing book number-three. Writing a book is hard. Writing a book every year is *really* hard. How, I feared, would I *ever* find room in my schedule for other ambitions? new creative projects? *anything else?*

Now, as I put the finishing touches on book number-four, it's become clear I cannot sustain the ambitious expectations I set for myself... not if I value my emotional well-being. In the process of analyzing and interpreting the outlook for this coming year, I was struck by how this "what's next?" theme kept showing up, in large part due to our moving on from two major astrological headlines (the Uranus-Pluto square and Saturn in Scorpio) which were fundamental influences on my year-ahead book project. I will spare you the gory details of this year's writing process,

but let's just say it's continued to be quite emotionally difficult to keep up... with unfortunate trickle-down impacts in many other areas of my life.

I know I cannot go on like *this*, even as I simultaneously fear confessing this truth to you, dear reader. It's probably not the best marketing strategy to so plainly expose my doubts, my limitations, my shifting priorities, my potential to disappoint your expectations. But that's just how I do things, as a conscious act of demystifying the invisible machinations which support these apparent successes, as part of how I rely on my own experiences to help illustrate how the astrology works, as a means for you to get to know the person behind the astrologer and better understand what we may share in common.

Before I ever imagined becoming an astrologer, my singular driving ambition was to write books. Now that I've technically met this ambition, I suppose I need to revise it so it better serves the new me. Yes, I want to write more books—but not the *same* book over and over. I have other things to say, some astrology-related and many not. Over this past year, I both turned 40 *and* lost someone very dear to me who was also 40. The ticking of the clock doesn't afford me the luxury of postponing my ambitions into an indefinite future. I'm ready for *what's next*... or as ready as I'm ever going to be.

I stand on this precipice, surveying my altered landscape, scanning the fragments and slivers and shades-of-possibility awaiting my aftermath attention. Part of me feels like a kid on Christmas morning, eager to rush out into the yard and play with my new toy. The "toy" is my hard-earned ability to write book-length works, and I'm eager to see what else it can do. Another part of me is deeply, thoroughly *exhausted* and begs, with a tone of more-than-slight desperation, for a long healthy rest. There's also the me who's cowering in terror, convinced that, by even *broaching* this topic of my private discontent and shifting ambitions, I'm going to ruin everything I've worked for years and years to build—and that you, dear reader, will never forgive me if I dare to change my end of our implicit agreement.

But the wise overlord among the different "me"s knows I really don't have much choice, if I wish to evolve rather than suffer: I *must* simplify my life, to preserve my health and my heart... and to concentrate on aiming my arrow at that singularly compelling, personally meaningful bull's-eye, while I've still got time.

What's *immediately* next for me remains unclear, though I'm dedicated to moving forward in a different way. Please understand, dear reader. It's not you, it's me.

But enough about *me* already. What's next for *you*?

“

ARIES

Sorry, Aries, it's not *quite* time yet to settle in or settle down... and that's a *good* thing, right?

By *now*, you've probably gotten pretty well-accustomed to this "living-by-the-seat-of-your-pants" vibe. Sure, there's uncertainty, variability, volatility, and all *that* jazz—an astrological energy which indeed persists through 2015—but at least you couldn't dare claim that life is boring.

Besides, among all the signs, you Aries folks are innately equipped to confront the unexpected... that is, as long as you fearlessly follow your instincts, trusting you'll just *know* how to respond when suddenly faced with a swift development, startling crossroads, or immediate need to act. In fact, maybe all these ups and downs, twists and turns, you've ridden out over recent years are simply your crash-course in cultivating greater confidence in your instinctive responses. After encountering enough cliffs, you eventually start to become more and more comfortable with having to *leap*.

Any of you who keep up with your astrology will recognize, of course, we're talking about Uranus's continuing voyage through your sign (2010-2019)... a once-in-a-lifetime period intended to shake up your foundations, disrupt status-quo expectations, inspire risks which liberate you from soul-sucking patterns and positions, and embolden you to unabashedly express your own idiosyncratic individuality. This pressure to break free from any confining containers and commitments has been *so strong*, Aries, it's likely impacted virtually every area of your life. Unrestrained, authentic autonomy remains your Uranian rallying-cry in 2015, too... though, of course, there are *other* considerations to heed all the while.

The *main* complication to Uranus-in-your-1st's call for self-liberation continues to be its decade-defining square to Pluto (in effect since 2010), a protracted aspect of painful upheaval and revolution which has left no soul untouched by the collective disarray it's kicking up. For you, Aries, Pluto's been in your 10th, dredging up any unexamined psychological complexes and unresolved relationships to worldly power and authority (your own and/or of those "above" you), particularly with regards to your professional ambitions and/or public reputation. Your ongoing Uranus-Pluto conflict has forced you to balance the tension between (1) on-the-spot assertiveness, in support of your individuating drives, and (2) a certain degree of self-restraint

and/or earnest engagement with the existing frameworks of “the system”, to shrewdly stay several strategic steps ahead as you pursue longer-term goals.

Despite Uranus’s goadings, you can only assert your autonomous impulses *so far*—if, that is, you’re operating within a traditional organization, have a boss or important clients to answer to, and/or aspire to achieve *anything* that relies on persistence and forethought—before you create Pluto-in-the-10th power-struggles with people or structures who don’t appreciate your disobedient behavior or unruly attitude. Though you may be overthrowing restraining rules or repressive regimes which stifle your worldly potential, this is a subverting which demands a well-engineered game-plan. And hasty or careless moves could easily damage or dash your plans, exposing your cards and/or causing an irreversible change that seriously derails your progress.

Only thing is, if you *don’t* continue challenging the traditional order, so you may keep on positively developing your potential, you’re likely to become increasingly disgruntled, resentful, or angry until you “can’t take it anymore”... and end up acting out your individuating impulses in a more rebellious, petulant, and/or destructive fashion.

After three years of Uranus and Pluto repeatedly forming this square, its final exact peak comes *this* March (though its impact lingers, gradually tapering off into 2017): a ripe “one more big chance” to move radically forward with self-determined steps or emancipatory acts which require an extra astrological push. In fact, the whole planetary scene positions *you*, Aries, in the hot-seat from the middle of February into early April. This is your most potent period all year for summoning the courage you need, taking circumstances into your own hands, and starting shit up.

Still, to use this energy constructively (rather than tempt disaster), you cannot totally ignore the tenacious presence of certain unyielding authority-figures, institutional guidelines for engagement, and/or the rule of law. Again, you *can* challenge the order, but *only* by strategy. Otherwise, you could suddenly find yourself in a really nasty fight, or merely knocked back into submission by the powers-that-be. Purposefully slow yourself back down from mid-April into May, to strategically re-stabilize yourself so as not to lose any ground recently gained.

These ongoing effects of hosting Uranus in your sign, Aries, have blossomed into more *exaggerated* presence ever since Jupiter arrived to your 5th house in July '14. Not unlike the 1st house where Uranus now resides, the 5th deals with self-expression and personal desire... only, instead of the 1st's automatic, instinctive externalization of what we want in a moment, the 5th is more about what we *consciously* identify with, what makes us happy and proud, and how we intentionally present our preferences and predilections as a self-defining statement. That's why the 5th rules our pleasures and pastimes, our creativity and artistry, and our relationships to our children: What better representations of what we truly *love* are there? Jupiter's residence in your 5th (lasting through August) is an energy which encourages you to enjoy *more* of what you love—the activities, the pursuits, the people—as an artful reflection of who you see yourself to be.

Since last September, Jupiter-in-your-5th has been in a flowing trine to Uranus... an aspect that only *further* accentuates this impulse to take unusual or risky self-started steps which would directly provide you *more* of what you want. Even though it's considered to be a *benefic* influence—thus offering you a *better-than-average* chance that your gambles will successfully bring you personal pleasure—Jupiter, at its core function, merely makes things bigger. In trine to Uranus, Jupiter simply *enlarges* all urges to break out, bust free, and do your own thing.

In *your* case, Aries, this Jupiter-Uranus trine could bloat your instinct- and desire-based drives to behave however you want—*regardless* of the turmoil or upset it causes—to a point of blinding self-centeredness, with possible negative consequences to situation which require interpersonal cooperation or a collective mindset. (Please be aware this trine hits its second exact peak early in March, during the height of the “hot-seat” period I described earlier.) While it may *sound* admirable to zealously go after whatever promises to make your heart sing without hesitation or reservation, the truth is, here in the *real world*, it's often unwise to single-mindedly chase your heart's desires at *any* cost. There are *always* tradeoffs we each must make.

Thankfully, Saturn's recent arrival to your 9th (in 2014's final days) can assist you in discerning *which* are the most worthwhile tradeoffs to accept... if, *and only if*, you dedicate sustained effort to those wide-lens, life-purpose questions which *must* be addressed in order to thoughtfully make such judgment-calls. Saturn points to our most pressing work, encouraging us to build solid frameworks and structures to responsibly contain, organize, and manage whichever

sector-of-life is associated with the house it's currently transiting. If we *refuse* to accept our Saturn-designated responsibilities, instead disregarding our excesses or inhibitions in that area, we face likely comeuppance in the form of worsening dissatisfaction, ineffectiveness, trouble, or loss.

In your 9th house until the end of 2017, Saturn now expects you to invest this effort in tightening up your belief-systems, to ensure you're making the most of your limited stint here in this earthly dimension... and *not* occupying your precious time with activities or involvements which you *don't* really care about that much, which teach you nothing new and/or offer little in the way of meaningful experience.

The 9th is your house of "higher meaning", where you step back from the familiar goings-on in your immediate environment and ponder the philosophic, ethical, and spiritual principles upon which your important life-decisions ought to rest. Assuming you treat these matters seriously, your guiding values will not remain static throughout your life. As you continue to expose yourself to unfamiliar people, places, ideas, and adventures, you take in ever-broadening amounts of fresh information—an ongoing process which, if you're a thoughtful and self-reflective individual, will help you continually distill your own beliefs into fairer and more perceptive shape.

It should be apparent how *huge* a help this Saturn-in-the-9th work can be, particularly in light of the exaggerated Jupiter/Uranus temptation to take short-sighted, self-serving actions which could, if you're not careful, propel you *further* from those considerations you find most important (if, that is, you've even bothered to think through such questions at all). One trick for tapping into the 9th's highest insights: Imagine looking back on the span of your life from your deathbed, and contemplating what were the most significant tenets, ideals, allegiances, and commitments you lived by. Which experiences legitimately contributed to this "life well-lived"? Which fall by the wayside in such contemplations, as insignificant departures or pointless wastes-of-energy? What will you say you *stood* for? What might you regret? These are the sort of earnest ruminations that would constitute your obligation to Saturn-in-your-9th. Put in this studious labor, and the understandings you reap will come to serve as evaluative guidelines for assessing the rightfulness of any given impulse—an assessment you'd hopefully make *in advance* of deciding whether to follow it.

If what I've written about Saturn-in-your-9th's expectations doesn't quite make sense (or if you have no damn clue how to identify a "guiding value"), it's on *you* to actively seek out such horizon-broadening perspectives, Aries. You can't see what you can't see if you stay where you are. Foreign travel, continuing education, deliberate cultural-exchange engagements, unusual or exotic topics-of-study, and any such quests for further knowledge are all 9th-house enterprises. Should you feel caught in a singular way of looking at the world, consider one of these types of eye-opening opportunities—not as a playful whim or leisure pursuit, but with an intentionally thoughtful attitude, in service to your own edification and spiritual growth. If you've been thinking about returning to school or venturing abroad, especially if in support of a particular purpose or ambition, Saturn-in-your-9th is telling you to *get serious* about it already. Is it the right choice for you, or merely an escapist flight-of-fancy? Return to your deathbed ruminations, and evaluate accordingly: Maximize meaningfulness, and minimize regret.

Saturn-in-your-9th's ultimate aim is to help you consciously prioritize—and consistently keep in the forefront of your mind—what's ultimately most important to you. As soon as you *forget* what you've prioritized, you flirt with *betraying* your values through careless or heated acts which you may later feel quite badly about. You'll have acted *against* what you claim to believe is right, forsaking your integrity both in others' eyes *and* in your own heart. Leading a virtuous life requires *consistency*. Bending the rules to fit each and every selfish impulse, on the other hand, shows a lack of moral backbone.

There *is* a likelihood, I should add, you'll experience this Saturn-in-your-9th pressure to get serious about life-principle matters as a discouraging *imposition* on your liberties. That's because Saturn is also moving into a square with Neptune-in-your-12th, a potentially disheartening influence which grows stronger toward year's-end (but carries on through much of 2016, too), insofar as it demands you to anchor your most idealistic tendencies into sobering reality. For most Aries types, there are few more critical ideals than *freedom*... and the very notion of *curtailing* your free movement, to wrangle yourself into some confining corral-of-experience and fix your enthusiasms on some single overarching vision for a sustained span, could feel like self-inflicted torture.

Such feelings, however, rest on a fantasy about "pure" freedom which is fundamentally *unattainable*—unless, of course, you shed all your earthly attachments and immerse yourself

into a, shall we say, far less *rational* existence. Any resistance you feel about formulating, then faithfully following, clear ethical guidelines for yourself (a la “since every situation is unique, how could I *possibly* know in advance what my rightful response ought to be?”) also hinges on this suspect fantasy, and should be seen as an energetic “leak” in the armor of your integrity. Please remind yourself that Saturn’s transit through your 9th is only temporary (albeit stretching through the end of 2017). Once you shore up the fundamentals of your belief-system, you’ll be better protected against accidental lapses-in-judgment.

Bear all this mind as you prepare for a rather impish Venus retrograde (Jul 25-Sep 6), stirring up most of its screwball energy in your house of love (the 5th, which I described earlier), where all the flirtatious fun and amorous antics go down. Generally, Venus’s retrograde is renowned for resurrecting unresolved issues in our relationship zone, reintroducing ex-boy-and-girlfriends or the almost-match-that-never-was, throwing seductive alternatives or a deviation from our usual “type” into the scene... all to spur us to reevaluate what, and who, inspires our greatest affection. We can’t accurately determine our preferences, however, *while* Venus is retrograde; we must let the mischief play out, learning as we go but holding off on commitment. As such, Venus retrograde is also a time to avoid major financial purchases or pacts, by the same rationale of not being able to ascertain something’s *true* value.

Because this Venus retrograde lands largely in *your* 5th, Aries, it’s likeliest to raise unresolved issues about whether your dynamic with an existing partner, a flash-from-the-past, and/or a captivating new prospect is providing you sufficient and personally-fitting pleasure. Venus actually spends nearly *four months* in your 5th (minus a brief interval in the second-half of July), first arriving early in June to amplify your personal magnetism and fuel your capacity to have a good time. You’ll be likelier than usual to attract admirers through June and the first half of July—and, factoring in the Jupiter/Uranus influence, just as likely to be able to exploit any adoring attention to *your* desired ends. After the retrograde begins, your 5th house welcomes even more planetary action into August... which could also mean an increasing amount of potential romantic options to choose from. Who’s who, and what’s what? Hard to say exactly, in the Venus-retrograde midst of so many enticing possibilities.

Please note the 5th house is *not* the relationship house (that’s the 7th), but merely rules the lighter, friskier, more playful qualities of love and romance—*prior* to a more significant

partnership developing. While full-on relationships consist of an interpersonal dance of give-and-take, 5th-house love is simply about what genuinely feels good to you. Herein lies your Venus-retrograde danger: You should probably be careful about how *quickly* you fall into a romantic or sexual encounter... particularly if you aren't sure what level of engagement you're looking, haven't confirmed whether you and the other person are on the same page about what you're doing, and/or are already involved, in one way or another, with someone else.

Because Venus (and other 5th-house planets) will also be squaring off against Saturn (who briefly slides back into your 8th during this same midyear moment), this suggests a need to be properly *bounded* on the emotional level, keeping everybody's expectations as crystal-clear as possible. In order to protect yourself from unwanted entanglements and undue psychological peril, *you* are responsible for distinctly articulating your true intentions. This applies in any and every circumstance where the other person might mistake a good connection or passionate chemistry for a more profound intimacy or devoted attachment. And you must demand the same level of emotional forthrightness from them. If, for instance, there's a question you're afraid of finding out the answer to, that's *exactly* what you need to be discussing in depth with them.

Yes, taking on this responsibility *is* likely to "spoil the mood" or create some uncomfortable awkwardness... at least for a few moments, while you compare and contrast your different understandings and get to know each other better. If, in this process, you discover there's a deeper compatibility, that's great. And if instead you hit a wall of conflicting interests, this process may well prove unpleasant as it's happening (i.e., it might spell the harsh ending to a temporarily pleasurable contact), but ultimately constructive. Would you rather wait to deal with this problem until *after* you've gotten in over your head? Don't you remember what you were dealt with in 2013-14, having to extricate yourself from an overly complicated, psychologically-taxing and/or financially-damaging enmeshment? Did you actually *learn* a lesson from that? Think of this whole midyear Venus-retrograde, Saturn-back-in-your-8th drama as a test of this hard-earned relational maturity—and you won't be totally beyond the danger of "slipping backwards" until late September or early October.

At the same time all of *that* is going on, Jupiter will travel out of your 5th and into your 6th during August... a shift that'll support you in boosting your practical everyday productivity. Jupiter's trip

through your 6th house (continuing into September '16) signals an enhanced positive potential in trying out new ways of organizing your workload, carrying out your day-to-day duties, managing your bodily wellness, and getting all your mundane tasks successfully completed. As an astrological influence, Jupiter won't *make* such functional reorientations magically happen, however. Its presence in your 6th simply creates a favorable backdrop, against which you'll find it easier than usual to increase your labor capacity, expand the breadth of responsibilities you can juggle, and adopt sleeker work-habits for improved efficiency and overall health. But *you* must actively take the initiative in these areas, to get this ball rolling. If you do nothing, Jupiter will merely enable you to coast along just fine, with a bare minimum of effort—and that would, regrettably, be *quite* a wasted opportunity.

From October through the middle of '16, Jupiter forms a trine to Pluto-in-your-10th, an *outstanding* aspect for strengthening your professional standing and/or ambitiously marching onward to even greater heights. As we discussed earlier, you've already been grappling with Pluto's forceful pressure to rise in professional power, prominence, and prowess over these recent years. Consider Jupiter's trine, then, as the perfect planetary assistant to concretely help you get that leg up. This Jupiter-Pluto team can't be beat, in terms of sheer concentration of productive potency. But there's really no special trick to harnessing its commanding potential: It's simply a matter of you working longer, harder, and smarter. You'll have to do this work at *some* point, if you want to achieve your goals. You won't find a better period for it anytime soon. (Hell, you might even *enjoy* it.)

October's definitely your best month all year for working your ass off, as both Venus and Mars will join Jupiter in your 6th. Please don't lose sight of the bigger picture, though: With that bevy of 6th-house planets clashing with Saturn-in-your-9th, you might need to deliberately slow your progress or rethink the importance of some facet of your workplan, to ensure all your fervent labor is in fact leading you in a rightful or meaningful direction (rather than being mindlessly invested in trivial tasks or questionable premises). Also, thanks to Neptune's influence by opposition, you could fall prey to daydreamy longings, needlessly telling yourself how much you *don't* want to keep toiling away at this bullshit and/or wishing for it all to disappear. These are phantom distractions, not any real dilemma to indulge with further attention. If you stop and *really* think about it, you'll realize you *do* want to accomplish impressive feats on this earthly plane.

January

Early in January, you'll be expected to model a somewhat cool or detached form of leadership based on what's fair for *all* concerned parties—not merely what *you* want to see happen. Too much undue focus on personal desires, instead of serving the larger group's best interests, is liable to cause upset among your allies. In this case, taking in everybody's feedback before rushing into big decisions is *definitely* the right thing to do... even though that approach will necessarily require more time for integrating all the disparate trains of thought. Mid-month, once Mars slides into your 12th, you must be on guard against acting with unrealistic expectations, escapist motives, and/or unconsciously self-destructive instincts. With that in mind, serving as a respectful, diplomatic facilitator for *others'* exchanges of ideas is a good way to keep yourself out of trouble.

February

Lay low through the first half of February, when you're likelier to gain the upper hand by simply watching and waiting. Adopt a publicly neutral stance for the time being, taking careful note as the other players reveal (intentionally or not) where their allegiances rest. Only once you're quietly alone, contemplating everything you've just observed, will all the pieces of *this* puzzle fit together in a way that clearly points to your next steps. Expect a major energy shift later in the month, when both Venus and Mars enter your sign side-by-side, powerfully signaling it's finally *your* turn to assert agency where you've most recently been hands-off. All that meticulous politicking can now give way to direct, decisive action that unmistakably expresses *your* stake in this matter. Don't squelch your fire any longer; it's time to confidently take charge, and let it burn in its fullest glory.

March

March continues on the energetic upswing which kicked in late last month, making its first weeks your single best time *all year* for pursuing self-driven gambles. "Because it makes me happy" is a perfectly sensible reason to risk safety for an uncertain chance to find greater satisfaction—at least from *your* perspective. However, certain individuals may take issue with what they see as your impulsive, self-centered attitude... and could try to pressure you *not* to

rock the boat. Of course your willingness to defy conventional norms, just to follow the beat of your own drum, will threaten those who lack such courageous self-determination. It's not worth trying to explain the thinking behind your life-choices to those with unwelcoming ears, though; let your actions speak for themselves. By the second half of March, you'll find you're already starting to ground yourself comfortably into this new reality.

April

You'll have *a lot* to say in the early days of April... though *too much* unfiltered ranting-and-raving (especially if you're not paying proper attention to who your audience is) may lead to corrective pushback from a boss, mentor, or parent-figure who feels you've disrespectfully crossed a line. That's only a problem if it negatively impacts your standing professionally and/or in the community. Much of your month centers around the need to secure your economic footing, slowly building faith in your consistent reliability (among your peers *and* in your own self-perceptions). That's a large part of why your outspoken irreverence should probably be kept in check, in order to reassure those who sign your paychecks that you're not a loose cannon. If you *do* ruffle any important feathers, you can smooth them over later in April—with copious amounts of congenial small-talk, and no mention of any remotely controversial topic.

May

Throughout May's deluge of social contacts and communications, you may find yourself overwhelmed by the sheer amount of information to process and interactions to participate in. What makes it even *harder* to deal with: the number of conflicting stories and flip-flopping opinions, which leave you wondering where the *real* truth resides. It's smarter to ask clarifying questions (repeatedly, if need be) than to assume you can accurately read between the lines. Once the blanks are filled in, though, you might become disillusioned when a pal reveals an angle to their thinking which you find morally problematic. Sit with your disappointment until mid-next-month before conclusively cutting any ties. Meanwhile, Venus in your 4th through much of May suggests your surest place to find peace is quietly at home; investing your energy *there* will bring immediate rewards.

June

The flurry of back-and-forth interactions from May continues into June, while your patience for those speaking out of both sides of their mouth starts to wear thin. After Mercury goes direct (Jun 11), you'll be in a better position to clearly express any concerns you may be harboring about someone's true-heartedness. It remains to be seen, based on how you each behave within the conversation that follows, whether the relationship can be saved. You probably won't be *that* upset if you've reached the end with them, though, considering you're simultaneously working a charismatic vibe that'll quickly attract new characters to replace those who are gone. As long as *you* are the one driving the fun bus, all kinds of interesting admirers will be eager to hop on board. Domestic strife could break out late in the month; if it does, please understand this may just be the beginning.

July

July looks to be somewhat bumpy or unsettling on the home-front and/or with family members, as you struggle to assert what you want *without* unnecessarily stirring conflict. You're apt to respond poorly if told you're making too big a deal of something or dismissed for wanting to change a long-standing pattern. But too aggressive a tone on *your* part will prevent others from seeing the genuinely caring motives behind your bluster. On the romantic front, don't let your enjoyment of feelgood flirtations blind you to the possibility that you two might *not* be on the same page in terms of "what this all means". It's on you to set the record straight, if they have the wrong idea about your intentions. Near July's tail-end, it'll behoove you to invest extra attention in revamping your work processes. What may first appear as a regrettable reversal-of-fortune could *later* prove a golden opportunity to cut the fat—and to improve your health at the same time, by eliminating certain stress-triggers.

August

Surprising shifts in what—or who—you *thought* you wanted could leave you scratching your head. Have your interests evolved? Is your "type" proving to be something different than expected? Explore the pleasurable alternatives throughout August, with generous enthusiasm for the sweet or steamy moments, but stopping short of serious commitment. Pride could be

your own worst enemy, should you respond defensively to remarks about how your behavior might've trampled someone else's toes. Rather than hastily writing off their feedback, it'd probably serve you to sit with the discomfort it raises... *if* you wish to learn a bit more about how you're perceived. As the month progresses, your mind will increasingly excel at solving problems related to practical methodologies and everyday habits. Stick close to the concrete details-at-hand, rather than falling prey to overidealistic thinking.

September

As September rolls around, you'll be on the tail-end of a Venus-retrograde rethinking of your desires... and eager to zoom ahead with your exciting new interest or rekindle the sparks with a longtime love. Passion is no substitute for the straightforward conversations needed to successfully support a full-on relationship. With Mercury in your 7th through all of September (*and* turning retrograde mid-month), this is the time to sanely flesh out the specific aims you each have, knowing it'll require multiple smaller conversations over a length of time; a single sit-down will *not* do the trick. Be particularly diligent in talking out any potential conflict between (1) how much energy you have to offer to the coupling and (2) how much you must reserve for your own worldly ambitions. As work demands ratchet up near month's-end, you'll get a glimpse of how well you're able to strike that balance.

October

In terms of sheer productivity, October promises to be your year's most effective month for plowing through loads of projects, chores, and duties. While your attentions are so concentrated on your close-up tasks at hand, you mustn't forget that respectfully checking in with the other relevant players is just as critical a facet of the process. It'd be naive to assume too independent a work-style when your efforts impact someone else's job, too. This is also an excellent time to refine your health regimen; making small tweaks to your diet, fitness plan, and/or sleep schedule will prove quite effective. Don't expect dramatic results overnight, though, or your disappointment may unleash an unconscious rebellion. By late October, any extended relationship-related discussions ought to have yielded all the answers you're going to get. Proceed based on what you already know, not what *might* happen later.

November

Through the first half of November, you face pressure to participate in disconcerting exchanges and/or speak unpleasant truths. Though it might seem swifter to bow out and avoid the full brunt of this discomfort, you'll strengthen your tolerance for intense emotion—and, as a result, psychologically *deepen* as a person—by bravely seeing it through. From mid-month onward, you possess the capacity to improve your relationship standing and/or more thoroughly enjoy a certain someone's companionship. Assert yourself in small, smooth moves... all the while, gently stroking their ego and showing them why giving you what *you* want will ultimately make *them* happy, too. Late in the month, you may confront an ethical dilemma or difference-in-values which, for the good of your conscience, you just can't ignore. Speak up in simple, direct terms. There's no room for hedging.

December

Your lips will be especially loose early in December, when you're apt to jump to unfair generalizations based on specific details of *your* day-to-day life which may *not* apply to everyone else. Head-to-head interpersonal conflict is a likely outcome at this time, due to an embroiled Mars-in-your-7th. You *can* work through it... but only if each of you fairly considers the other's point-of-view, rather than glossing over critical nuances. Otherwise, kneejerk reactions to each other's "ignorance" or "cluelessness" could get nasty. As the month advances, you'll regain better control over what you say, rightly understanding how it serves your larger ambitions to "stay on message". But should somebody dare to question your expertise or experience, you may struggle to keep your cool. Before rushing to defend your honor too fiercely, devise a tactical response that won't simultaneously jeopardize your public standing.

TAURUS

Despite your reputation as *the* premier pragmatist amongst all the zodiac tribes, Taurus, 2015 is *not* a year in which you should expect practical concerns to dominate your scene.

From its opening, your '15 is more about continuing to tighten up your interpersonal involvements... ensuring they support you in your ongoing quest to deliberately invest meaning, passion, and discernment in everything you do.

Earlier in the year, while Jupiter's still in your 4th house, your easiest joys and gentlest growth-experiences will come *privately*, from an intentional focus on family, home, and emotional self-care. Later, once Jupiter enters your 5th in mid-August, you'll notice a palpable shift toward *outward self-expression*, increasing your appetite for fun, romance, and creative engagement.

Since last September, Jupiter has been in trine to Uranus, longtime resident of your mystical-and-mysterious 12th house (2010-2019)... inciting discontinuities and disturbances which seem to pretty regularly scramble your understanding of what's happening in your life, often not due to any obvious action *you* took to "cause" such a shakeup. Uranus-in-your-12th is an agent of divine shit-stirring, throwing you curveballs and hairpin-turns not merely to mess with you, but with the higher intention of sparking spiritual reflection, surrender, and faith.

In case you hadn't noticed, Taurus, you've faced an *exceptional* amount of these strange unintelligible conditions over these past few years, forcing you to continually—and often *painfully*—rework the philosophies which you think of as guideposts for making life-decisions. Just when you *think* you've got things "figured out", the Universe (or whatever you call that sage Everythingness) plays another wild-card you must somehow squeeze into your worldview... even though it threatens to muck up your entire sense of "right" and "wrong".

This ongoing perspectival clash is symbolized by Uranus's protracted square to Pluto (in your 9th since 2008), a major astrological friction that has imprinted this whole decade with a destabilizing, revolutionary vibe which affects us all. For *you* specifically, this Uranus-Pluto square has pressed uncomfortably against your consciously reasoned-through belief-systems... creating situations which poke holes or make cracks in any attitude you hold which is too

staunch, seamless, and/or self-important, in order for you to cultivate a greater philosophic *responsiveness* when faced with uncanny encounters, irrational impulses, or other glimpses of the magically inscrutable.

It's very hard to work with any 12th-house planetary energy without intentionally adopting some sort of *spiritual* (for lack of a better term) outlook to process its otherworldly logic. Without a framework that grants holistically-minded respect for those events, urges, and instincts which "don't make sense" according to our conventional reason but nonetheless hold some grip over us, we can too easily try to convince ourselves they aren't *real*, and we'd be best to ignore them or wish them away. To willfully disavow such energy, alas, is to only give it *more* power. That's why the 12th is traditionally the house where we shed our egos, so we may experience transcendent oneness—and where we sabotage ourselves, falling into self-destructive habits or driving ourselves crazy, in an attempt to escape the dissonance between earthly reality and this *other* enigmatic realm-of-being.

All this talk of "otherworldly spiritual realms-of-being" and such is often quite *uncomfortable* for many Taureans, who usually prefer to keep both your feet firmly planted on observably solid ground. While nobody expects you to abruptly abandon your common-sense pragmatism to blindly follow faint enigmatic whims, it *does* serve your evolutionary best-interests to open yourself to the possibility of basing life-decisions on an integrative logic which considers the *intangible* alongside the practical. Because it keeps springing surprises on you that are largely out of your control to stop, Uranus's transit through your 12th presents you little choice other than to *respond by instinct* to what "doesn't make sense". As such, it provides you great practice in advance of Uranus's arrival to *your* sign in 2018-19... at which point you'll hopefully be ready to *choose* to act in ways that may defy conventional reason or practical purpose, when they indeed *feel* like an instrumental step down your path to a truly individuated self.

Jupiter's trine to Uranus from your 4th, then, assists you in fostering the inner assuredness to prioritize what personally feels most self-nurturing in your private life—even when you lack a clear explainable rationale for *why* your soul craves one thing over another. The 4th house represents our domestic sphere, how we take care of ourselves behind closed doors, and the familial relationships which (theoretically, if not in actuality) provide us a sense of emotional security. For those Taureans who *didn't* receive the warmest or tenderest emotional care

growing up (and even for those who *did*), Jupiter-in-your-4th is an astrologically favorable chance to address any deficiencies through positive self-parenting... to invest more conscious attention toward your inner well-being, ensuring your home-life provides a safe environment for supportively tending to your feelings, *whatever* they may be.

“Home” is a concept that both describes the literal dwelling where we live and its geographical locale, as well as our emotional experience of being rooted somewhere, whether in our family-of-origin, a hometown, and/or some other lineage... all 4th-house expressions which can decidedly benefit from Jupiter’s influence, as long as *you* take intentional actions to improve your circumstances and/or expand your engagement in these areas.

With Jupiter-in-your-4th trine Uranus-in-your-12th through July, you’ll enjoy certain mystical encouragements to shirk expectation or convention, in favor of acting on behalf of whichever subjective desires will foster *your* most personally nourishing sense of home. Creating a nourishing home for yourself, meanwhile, gives you a soft snug place to rest as the outside-world twists keep coming at you from left-field. Home is where *your* heart says it is. Nobody else’s opinions or analyses matter much.

This question of what role *other people* should properly play in your life, Taurus, has been a far *weightier* one since Saturn first entered your relationship house (the 7th) late in 2012. Under direct pressure from Saturn-in-your-7th over these past couple years, you’ve had to treat all your significant interpersonal pairings with greater seriousness and responsible consideration. And if you’ve *refused* to be either relentlessly realistic (because passion kept you from thinking straight?) or responsive to the underlying emotional currents (because your true feelings might unsettle a stable arrangement?) in your relational behaviors, you’ve likely hit up against increased discouragement or discontent.

If you rose to Saturn’s challenge during this time, the interpersonal involvements and attitudes which are expressly appropriate for *you* should now be stronger and securer—while the inappropriate ones have hopefully fallen away, or at least diminished in significance. If, on the other hand, you *avoided* your Saturn work, your dissatisfying relational circumstances are only more firmly entrenched in the fabric of your existence. Saturn finally left your 7th late in

December 2014, though does return for a last-stand from mid-June through mid-September this year.

Now, with Saturn in your 8th through much of this year (and into the end of 2017), the logical consequences to how you've behaved in your significant relationships—both the fruitful *and* the undesirable ones—are due to intensify during '15. When Saturn's in your 8th, the shit gets really *real* in any interpersonal associations where your fate's become inextricably tied to someone else's (i.e., not just romantic ones, but also professional partnerships and intimate friendships). The psychological work gets harder. The stakes get higher. The only authentic way to move forward *together* requires fearlessly acknowledging the vast differences between you—in where you come from, what you bring to the table, and what you're actually capable of—and painstakingly negotiating joint strategies which earnestly take these differences into account. Glossing over difference with cheery adages or “the best of intentions” just *won't* cut it.

Diligently meeting Saturn's 8th-house challenges with the *right* partner(s) in tow will, slowly but surely, bring you *real* intimacy, connectedness, and trust—the natural results of being *really* honest, with yourself and with them, about your psychological drives and response-patterns. Through that process, you may mutually decide to take a deeper plunge, getting further “in bed” with each other financially or sexually and/or addressing secrets, taboos, or life-and-death issues together.

As you get real about what's going on between you on a deeper level, the *wrong* partner(s) won't wish to tolerate that intensified level of engagement... and/or you'll have to accept that the differences between you are either too great to bridge, or one of you isn't willing or able to make the necessary concessions. Saturn-in-your-8th can be a very constructive tool for setting, strengthening, and safeguarding personal boundaries, to distinctly distance or disentangle your destiny from those who aren't suitably trustworthy or psychologically compatible. Putting these distinct boundaries in place will also support you in more freely following your own Jupiter/Uranus impulses, unfettered by hindering obligations.

Of course, dare you *resist* Saturn's pressure to get real, Taurus, your life-circumstances are likely to get *real* complicated, messy, and/or frustratingly restrictive, thanks to the impactful grip somebody else's actions have over you. Without taking steps to assert and/or protect your own

interests in such situations, you'll feel increasingly powerless, psychologically impotent, and vulnerable to *their* whims. The longer you passively consent to stay, the more painful it'll be to eventually extricate yourself.

In some cases, even if you've already made moves to get free, you may *still* have to deal with unpleasant aftereffects from prior entanglements (such as financial debt, broken trust, self-inhibition, or residual exposure to abusive behavior). This is unfortunately part of the harrowing process of leaving your past behind. Yet, even in those worst-case instances, Saturn-in-your-8th still carries a constructive message: Never naively underestimate the depths to which humans can plunge, in unconscious response to our wounding encounters with darkness; approach all interpersonal intimacies with this eyes-wide-open awareness.

The middle chunk of your '15 brings these themes together, under the influence of a Venus retrograde (Jul 25-Sep 6) which falls largely in your 4th house. Because Venus is your ruling planet, you Taureans are particularly affected by its retrograde, a jaunty period in which we're prone to attract enticing new associations and/or unresolved business returning for another round, spurring us to reexamine who and what we most prize or prefer. What shows up while Venus is retrograde may *not*, however, be worth what we first believe it to be... and it's therefore shrewd not to form commitments or bet your farm on a future promise during this time. Only *after* Venus is confidently moving forward—in this case, late September or early October at the earliest—can we presume our ability to correctly value a given possibility is once again functioning.

The two life-areas most commonly touched by Venus-retrograde's wily ways are relationships and finances, and you could likely draw intriguing alternatives in either area (or both) which cause you to reconsider your options. Venus first lands in your 4th early in June, brightening your outlook on domestic and/or family concerns and enhancing your potential to attract or attain related improvements, on behalf of your increased inner happiness and well-being. In the context of the 4th-house's connection to "home" which I described earlier, Venus's presence may begin to open up opportunities, through June and into July, for you to aesthetically spruce up your living quarters, cultivate better relations with those you live with, or maybe even upgrade to a more desirable residence or town.

Though that all may sound great, here's where the Venus-retrograde warnings come in: As July gives way to August, you'll need to be diligently cautious both with (1) whose good energy, persuasive words, and/or well-meaning intentions you entrust your domestic satisfaction to, *and* (2) how much money you spend on new furnishings, rent/mortgage expenses, or relocation costs. You might not be seeing these prospects as clearly as you ordinarily would, eager as you'll feel to make *some* critical self-nurturing move... and end up *overestimating* the benefits of a certain individual to your life and/or the economic value of some major expenditure, if not *underestimating* the worth of what you'd be leaving behind.

It's during this *same* period that Saturn slips back to your 7th and into a lingering square with Venus, doubly accentuating the need to be on top of your game relationship-wise. It wouldn't be surprising, for instance, if you encountered a recurrence of some interpersonal challenge you faced during the past couple years (whether through a repeat performance with the same character or a familiar pattern with somebody new), to verify if you've indeed learned your lesson. Just because the passing astrology may make you more prone to brisk action, that doesn't mean your underlying relational needs have suddenly changed.

Are you ready to rashly uproot your home-life, to move closer to a special someone and/or to get the hell away from that "evil monster" at all costs? Are you feeling like your partner doesn't support your latest efforts to tend to your own emotional self-care, dedicate resources to your family, or redecorate your living space? Or are they just trying to curb your financially reckless impulses? The surest answers won't be immediately obvious, though you might *believe* they are. And while the recent appearance of an appealing alternative may have prompted such questions (or others like them), this possibility might *not* be an ideal solution, but merely a mirage divinely sent to spur these reevaluations. Again, please wait until late September or beyond before reinvesting full faith in your discernment.

August also marks Jupiter's departure from your 4th—and, consequently, Jupiter's arrival in your 5th, for a yearlong stay (through September '16) in one of the most beloved happy-places of the solar chart. The 5th house symbolizes what we most enjoy doing, both as recreational activity *and* conscious expression of our individuated self. It governs our personal creative output through the arts and/or in our role as a parent, where we share our unique predilections to the world by showing off what we can make. It's also the house of *love*... not, mind you, of

fully actualized relationships (ruled by the 7th), but of the less-involved, more-purely-fun stages of flirtation and romance, when we're still just freely spreading the amorous vibes. Hosting Jupiter, the greater benefic (or "good-luck planet"), in this house of joy, creativity, and love is truly among the loveliest astro-influences.

Once Jupiter's in your 5th, Taurus, expect a much smoother go at finding personally satisfying ways to spend your leisure time. This is an excellent influence under which to pursue a craft or art-form, explore more playful modes of behavior, and openly offer your spirited participation in whatever inspires delight. All the while, the more fun you have, the more alluring an aura you'll emanate... the likelier you'll attract admirers and prospective love-matches charmed by your fun-loving attitude, and the easier it'll be to effortlessly enjoy one another's company. Plus, Jupiter-in-your-5th provides a wonderful chance for parents (and others who spend a lot of time with kids) to gain more pride, perspective, and sheer glee from your interactions with the children—to everybody's ultimate advantage. In short, Jupiter aims to increase your outward pleasure, by boosting your motivation to do more of what pleases you.

From September onward, Jupiter will move into a trine with Pluto-in-your-9th (which continues into mid-'16), a rousing encouragement to instill your creative expressions and leisure-time pursuits with a more *purposeful* strain of philosophic or ethical intent. You'll feel more enthusiastically driven to ensure your personal preferences and choices speak a meaningful message about what you believe (rather than squandering your "off-time" on activities which teach you nothing or do little to better the world). You may wish to openly share first-person stories about how your own life-principles developed, to actively seek deeper knowledge or foreign experiences that'll expand the breadth of your inspirations, to speak to younger generations on issues of justice or morality, and/or to joyously use a personal platform to advance your mission.

October is your most potent month in all of '15 for meaningfully expressing yourself... and when you put yourself out there as such, you'll *also* increase your chances of connecting romantically with someone who holds congruous values, an aligning life-purpose, and/or a mutual interest in learning from one another's different backgrounds.

One caution: The outward earnestness fueled by this Jupiter-Pluto trine could somewhat *blind* you to how you're being perceived by your wider friend-circle, community of peers or comrades, and/or society-at-large. You may be expressing yourself quite powerfully, yet not fully and clearly understanding how others are *reacting* to your tone or message. Are you assuming you've got more support from them than you do... when, in fact, your outspoken attitude is actively *jeopardizing* your position among them? Are you not seeing how certain allies might feel disregarded or even insulted by your behavior? Or perhaps you haven't noticed your stance is attracting some "strange bedfellows", folks you'd probably prefer *not* to be identified with?

Such a blurred concept of where your strident individualism fits among a greater social whole is one potential consequence of Jupiter's opposition to Neptune-in-your-11th later in the year. Exuberantly purposeful though you may feel, you mustn't allow your emboldened expressiveness to inadvertently cause you to sacrifice connections you cherish or otherwise compromise your social standing. It might be wise, then, to ask a few of your most trusted friends for their perspectives and/or the word-on-the-street opinions, just so you can better understand how you appear from the outside.

By November, Saturn, back in your 8th again, will have begun to square off against Neptune... a sobering reminder of just how *significantly* your intimate involvements impact your role in the larger social framework. This Saturn-Neptune square's influence (stretching through much of '16) carries a sort of "lost innocence" flavor, dashing any idealistic notions you might harbor about being fairly judged by your own actions. In fact, you *are* judged by the company you keep. Those bonds in which you invest energy *do* tie your fate to that partner's or collaborator's—and making naïve or poorly-considered choices in this regard *can* have a disappointing collateral effect on other relationships. On the other hand, by deliberating prioritizing your commitment with someone you deeply and truly connect with, you may be perfectly ready to release those cursory one-dimensional friendships which don't authentically honor this *fuller* you.

It is no accident, by the way, that your relationship to work and career hasn't been mentioned much in this forecast. As far as the astrology's concerned, your professional sector is *not* one of 2015's major themes, though by no means does this imply that *nothing's* going on in that arena.

Simply put, none of the outer planets will directly influence the work-related houses in your solar chart... with the possible exception of Saturn-in-your-8th, who warns about responsibly watching how much financial investment you receive or debt you take on, and from whom.

Therefore, your career life ought to continue pointing you down the same path you've already been on... with any changes to that likely arising *indirectly*, as a natural result of (1) your passionate engagement with the ideals and principles which most matter to you and/or (2) the relationships you commit yourself to, whether they support or hinder the pursuit of your ambitions. Your professional efforts will be most prominently spotlighted right as '15 begins, while, in terms of actual day-to-day work, you'll be at your most productive in the last couple months of the year.

January

Your every move is on outward display through much of January, both your glowing accomplishments *and* any battles you take on. It's especially crucial to remember this early in the month, when you may need to stand firm in your principles, even if yours is an unpopular viewpoint. But that shouldn't require you to throw yourself on a sword and sacrificing your own standing, just to prove your allegiance to the "good cause". You'll attract plenty of positive attention to your external efforts, as long as you communicate your intentions in a fair-minded tone that addresses *everyone's* stakes (instead of seeking to "win" at another party's expense). Those who feel you're legitimately advocating for them as a loyal team-member will gladly return the favor, adding their voices of support... and helping to keep the public discourse on topic, so it doesn't devolve into a heated personality conflict.

February

Enjoy the camaraderie of friend-group hangouts, team activities, and/or community-improvement projects in February's earlier half. It'll feel good *not* to have to continually explain yourself to folks who share similar interests or outlooks... though you'll want to carefully avoid making public remarks about anyone else's personal business. February's biggest challenge involves shielding yourself from undue involvement in other people's melodramatic hijinks. Should you not guard your mood from these influences (particularly later in the month), you may

end up getting overly upset by and/or obsessed with quicksand-like troubles you can't easily escape. Ensuring you're smartly focused on what's relevant to *your* short-term aims—and not what's consuming someone else's life—could require you to take plenty of distance from all the participants.

March

While change is *definitely* in the air during the first part of March, you might feel more like a victim-of-circumstance than a guiding mover-and-shaker. Try your best not to pre-judge these developments. Though they could at first appear to spoil your plans or test your beliefs, you may *later* be pleasantly surprised by the unintended opportunities they create. But if your kneejerk response is to actively fight *against* the changes, you could ultimately shut down this positive potential—without ever understanding what you lost. Be especially open to seeing the upside in any chaos on the home-front and/or bumpy dynamics with a parent. This will likely prove to be one of those silver-lining moments, as long as you can react to the triggering events with this higher consciousness. Your homegirl Venus hits your sign mid-month, granting you an across-the-board advantage in all your dealings. With that in mind, use a soft accommodating approach (rather than sheer force) to attract what you want.

April

Mars heats up your sign all April long, making this your best month all year for initiating actions, taking long-awaited next-steps, and putting *your* desires front-and-center. April's first third (while Venus is also still on your side) is an exceptionally prime time to go public with your self-defined response to March's reshufflings. However, hold back on the self-important declarations-of-independence or statements-of-purpose: Through mid-April, your visibly assertive efforts will do a better job of speaking your truth than your untrustworthy lips. Later in the month, the power behind your words will be palpable to all whose ears they fall upon. But are you giving off the vibe of someone who's utterly unwilling to compromise? Too inflexible a posture could have a direct negative impact on your financial bottom-line.

May

Think of May as one long open-ended conversation, and you hopefully won't get too annoyed about how its threads meander and circle back without any immediate resolution. The main topic-at-hand? Your present economic standing, and all the different possibilities for how to use what you've got to gain more of what you want. Challenge old rigid ideas about what you're good at and not-so-good at, actively seeking others' money-making suggestions *and* their perceptions of your biggest strengths. You must abide by market rules when "selling" yourself, foregrounding those qualities currently in highest demand (rather than stubbornly refusing to "play the game"). Consider pursuing multiple simultaneous scenarios, allowing the best one to rise to the top based on results. Meanwhile, be especially cautious with large expenditures this month, asking and re-asking about every last little detail of the deal.

June

Making a series of confident (but not cocky or irreversible) moves early in June will help push along whatever undecided developments are still hanging over from last month. Because of everything that remains up in the air, your happiest moments will likeliest be found at home, where the outside-world's unsettling stresses can be shut out. A reemergence of familiar interpersonal struggles midway through the month could cause you problems in choosing among various appealing options. Will these pressures from a certain someone assist you in making the right choice? Or will the relationship's demands infringe on your freedom to follow the road less travelled? While there's no obviously easy answer, it *is* possible to attain workable arrangements to meet all these conflicting needs—if you're willing to lay *everything* on the table, and keep discussing it well past the point of discomfort.

July

Expect a busy social calendar (or at least a lot of calls, texts, and emails) throughout much of July. Though you might prefer to lounge around the house, it behooves you *not* to sit out the big events and parties... both to show support to friends counting on you *and* to leave yourself open for serendipitous introductions. A nasty quarrel with a pal, neighbor, or family member could break out mid-month, especially if you claim to "really care" about their situation but instead talk

down to them about it. Nobody wants to be preached at, as if there's only one valid truth which must be unreservedly accepted. Separate your genuine care for this person from the need to press a particular viewpoint, and love them without condition. Toward month's end, an attractive romantic prospect may totally capture your attention. Be forewarned: Soon, your focus will probably be stolen back away by something or someone unrelated. That doesn't mean this prospective love-story is necessarily over, though.

August

Questions related to what *home* means to you and/or what a more *adult* relationship with your family might look like take center-stage in August. Now's your chance to proudly show family members a fuller view of who you *really* are—and letting any problem they have with it stay *their* problem. Don't be surprised if your flagrant lack of modesty or shame shocks them into a “new-normal” way of relating. You may second-guess where (or with whom) you've been living, crave a major overhaul, and/or yearn to return to somewhere you associate with your “roots”. This is an excellent time to consider such changes, but don't commit right away: You cannot accurately gauge the true value of what *seems* so perfect while Venus is retrograde... which is of particular concern when determining fair rental-rates and purchase-prices). Simply observing how a certain option makes you *feel* is enough for now.

September

Within the first couple weeks of September, revelations emerging from within should shed much light on home- and/or family-related questions stirred up last month. You might need to accept there's a *battle* to wage (whether *for* something or *against* someone), as part of freely pursuing what you've discovered your heart deeply craves. No time like the present, therefore, to rally your fighting spirit. Be amenable to timeline shifts, methodological revisions, scheduling snafus, and directional about-faces on the job front, where odd bouts of indecisiveness or confusion will be likelier than usual. Since there's not much *you* can do to alleviate it, you might as well spare yourself the aggravation. And, oh, yeah, remember that “prospective love-story” from a little while back? If you suspect there's genuine promise in it, take the lead in kicking off its next chapter during the month's final days.

October

October's the perfect month to actively explore and/or immerse yourself in whatever will bring you the most pleasure—and, yes, that includes delving deeper into any potential love-affairs or flirtatious dalliances. Not only will you be giving off an ultra-magnetic vibe, but you'll *also* be wielding a go-getter edge to boost your outspoken confidence. If you're hoping for fireworks with a certain someone, this is *the* moment to make the magic happen. Don't ignore pals, however, if they tell you they're worried about *who* this object of your affections really *is*. If you feel you must pick between your friends and your new sweetie (or else keep your dating life secret), that's a *big* warning-sign about the future of this romance. Your work life continues to require a level head, to counteract the ongoing instability caused by unforeseen glitches and/or flummoxing leadership decisions.

November

Your first couple weeks of November present a fitting chance for heart-to-heart talks with that special someone (e.g., love interest, professional collaborator, favorite sidekick), so you each learn more *specifically* about how to satisfy and support the other. Now's your time to ask clarifying questions. As the month progresses, be careful not to prematurely agree to some interpersonally entangling deal—especially if there are certain cumbersome details you're trying to rush past or avoid. On the other hand, don't shut down the potential to go forward with this promising partner. Will it create more complications? Most likely. But the eventual rewards may be worth it, if you're willing to *really work* on your relational dynamic. The lasting chaos at work (and/or with other mundane duties) should *finally* start to yield obvious improvements. Don't lose your cool; it won't be this messy forever.

December

One more culminating month of hard labor will make a *huge* difference in how your job-related unsettledness (and/or ongoing disruptions to your normal routine) turns out. The worst growing-pains come in December's earlier days, but don't throw in the towel. As those wits'-end moments come on, look for solace and replenishment in your closest relationship(s). With Venus in your 7th nearly all month, count on general interpersonal ease and goodwill. Seek

pleasure from your favorite people, as a god-sent *antidote* to a demanding slate of duties. In mid-December, you may need to serve as amplifying mouthpiece for a cause, venture, or viewpoint that's suddenly become a hot (and potentially controversial) topic. Staunchly re-asserting your position could lead to a surprising offer—and/or create unexpected fallout, such as the sudden breakdown of an alliance. Are you strong enough in your beliefs to accept *whatever* comes with them?

GEMINI

Who are you most closely involved with, Gemini?

How content *are* you with your current relationship status, whatever it may be? Which partnership(s), and/or ideas you hold *about* partnering, require more conscious attention or effort, to ensure they're in sync with what you *truly* desire? Where *are* your interpersonal energies going?

2015 is your first year under the weight of Saturn's arrival to your 7th house (which happened in the closing days of '14)... and as such, Gemini, your most pressing personal work centers around your relationship behaviors and attitudes. Over these next three years on Saturn-in-your-7th's watch, it's your job to treat your interpersonal engagements and commitments with more serious intentionality and forethought.

This is *not* the time, therefore, to settle into an ill-fitting pairing, to act casually or inconsistently with someone you actually *want* to be with, and/or to continue down any relationship road without confirming whether the other person wishes to head your same direction. Looming relationship problems you've thus far neglected to adequately address are coming to a head, ready or not.

In case you've gotten the wrong idea, Saturn-in-your-7th is *not* actually bad news for your relationship life—not, that is, if you're willing to take a thorough, realistic look at your present circumstances, and make any necessary adjustments that'll, in the long run, serve your relational satisfaction. It's not uncommon, for instance, for folks to get married while Saturn's in their 7th house: What better symbolic gesture of “taking things seriously” with another person than ritualizing and legalizing the union? How you *personally* experience this transit in your own relationships, Gemini, will be an indicative progress-marker of how seriously you've been handling your relational involvements.

More than any other planet, Saturn's expressions are directly dependent on how deliberately and conscientiously we face our challenges, accept responsibility, and make decisions which align with our sincerest goals and values. Do your work well, and Saturn rewards you with

greater stability, maturity, and wisdom. Shirk your duties to yourself, however, and Saturn lowers the boom... in this 7th-house case, possibly *worsening* your experience of inappropriate relational associations and/or unhealthy behaviors, to the point where you realize you *must* do something differently or else resign yourself to endlessly enduring an unhappy situation.

If you are presently involved in a relationship, Gemini, you're now under increased pressure to soberly assess its rightfulness for you. Cruising along, business-as-usual-style, isn't going to cut it. If you're generally content with the person you're with, you probably should check in with yourself about whether any sides of *your* personality aren't receiving their due acknowledgment or attention inside the relationship's dynamics. After all, you Geminis are *notorious* for only showing certain sides of yourselves to certain individuals, in order to maximize the ease of connection.

If you're more seriously committing to a coupling, you cannot afford to leave part of your authentic being out of its equation. This is the time to bring those less-recognized parts of yourself to the relationship table, despite any fearful reluctance you may have about spoiling the other person's perceptions of you. If they can't accept you in your fullness, why are you so certain it's worth investing your care in them? And if, after examining and/or striving to improve how fully you show up in the relationship, you still feel pretty satisfied, then you may want to consider more explicitly and/or formally affirming your commitment. What else would you be looking for, anyway, if you've already got such a good thing?

As for those of you Geminis who are in a relationship with somebody who, deep in your heart, you know *isn't* right for you... well, do I need to spell this out for you? Yes, yes, I do. Saturn-in-your-7th is a clear call to *get real* with yourself, sooner rather than later. When you choose to stay in the wrong relationship while Saturn's in your 7th, your knowingly inappropriate behavior greatly *displeases* the planetary disciplinarian (also traditionally known as the "lord of karma"). The whole vibe between you two will essentially devolve into a test of *how much* unpleasantness you're willing to endure, and/or a harsh confrontation with *why* you feel you ought to endure it.

Your clever mind cannot conjure enough excuses, justifications, and supposedly valid tradeoffs to sufficiently explain your actions in what's *actually* more of a black-and-white issue than you

might wish to admit. Be especially wary of your judgment if you find yourself disagreeing with trusted friends over your relationship choices, refusing to listen to their feedback and/or shadily sneaking around so as to avoid their comments. The longer you remain in a dissatisfying relationship on Saturn-in-your-7th's watch, the harder it is to extricate yourself... and the more painful a struggle you inflict on yourself.

Saturn holds 7th-house lessons for you uncoupled Geminis, too, the first and most obvious question being: Do you *want* to be coupled off, or not? For the record, there's no objectively correct answer to this. You get to decide for yourself. One possible challenge you could face, in fact, is proudly claiming the truth of your desire to remain single, unattached, and/or actively dating but without a primary committed love-interest. Though Gemini's a sign which may be better equipped to handle non-traditional relationship arrangements than others, you may still feel nervous about risking the social acceptance you receive from certain folks who might not "approve". Yet, you'll struggle to attain genuine contentment without being able to openly and honestly express your inclinations.

If, on the other hand, you sincerely *want* a primary partnership, you must take an unflinching look at why you think you haven't yet successfully achieved this goal. A common Gemini pitfall: overly concerning yourself with which sides of your personality to show off (and which to conceal) in an attempt to woo a certain someone, rather than letting it *all* hang out, without trying to control the image you're presenting, and freely allowing those who *don't like it* to reject you. Another question to ask: Are you unconsciously attracting people who are unavailable and/or situations with built-in limits or partialities? If you yearn for the whole relational enchilada (and not mere scraps), you have to firmly say no to such participations—even if you're really fond of the person. The space-holding "until someone better comes along" mindset is not innocuous, but an actual *impediment*. Don't be surprised if you keep drawing such partially-gratifying prospects until you consciously stop the pattern.

Regardless of your specific relationship circumstances, your '15 outlook offers no shortage of opportunities to meet new people, get better acquainted with casual pals or contacts, and learn more about what your friends or allies think of various topics... especially during the year's first half, when Jupiter and Uranus will still be in trine across two houses of social exchange and

affiliation, an aspect which promotes personal growth and enrichment through risk-taking both in *who* you interact with and *how far* you take the interaction.

Uranus is the more lasting presence, having first entered your 11th back in 2010, stirring your impulses to seek unconventional, provocative, and/or self-liberating input from your friend-circle, community, or wider network. Uranus-in-your-11th wants you to get “something different” out of your connections, whether that involves placing yourself in unfamiliar or unusual social situations, hanging out in environments outside your usual stomping-grounds, and/or attending events or organizational meetings which will expose you to a whole cadre of like-minded individuals. The purpose? Mainly, to inject some fresh blood into your scene, shaking up how you see yourself in relation to larger social groups... in an effort to bust you out of any allegiances or identifications which stifle your true individuality.

When Uranus is in your 11th, you're liable to feel more like a *rebel* or an *outsider* in social groups, which is why you might wish to check out meet-ups or gathering-places where you'll come across others who might share a similar feeling. Naturally, as you explore these social frontiers, some old pals or more straight-laced peers may scoff at your odd behavior and/or strange new friends. This unsettling of the status-quo within any longtime communities is to be expected—and certain alliances might need to break down, so you're freer to experiment with who you are.

Then, Jupiter entered your 3rd house last July, increasing the sheer volume of communications, contacts, and confabs you're engaged in on an everyday basis. Greater benefic that he is, Jupiter promises better-than-usual results when you actively invest sincere energy in a social connection, no matter if it's with a close pal, a total stranger, or any of the town's local colorful characters. Your trademark curiosity and gift for gab are major assets under this influence, Gemini, helping you to foster stronger affinities, glean more information, and further the reach of your network. Taking the initiative to begin conversations, pose engaging questions, spread relevant news, and build bridges between disparate acquaintances or friends-of-friends *will* pay off for you, truly enhancing your life—in ways *beyond* what you might expect. Jupiter-in-your-3rd is also an excellent support to writers, salespeople, or anyone who relies strongly on verbal messaging in their day-to-day work.

The flowing trine between Jupiter and Uranus (in effect through the middle of the year) blends the strengths of these two planets, affording your socially adventurous side a chance to try on different guises and personas... and to grow increasingly comfortable with speaking freely about your self-discovery process, in various discussions with a broad range of folks, each of whom will have a different outlook to share with you.

This Jupiter-Uranus energy can be a wonderful tool for rising to Saturn-in-your-7th's relationship challenges, helping you expand your field of romantic prospects (and break you away from your typical patterns) and/or gain additional perspective on your current relational situation from other people's feedback. At the same time, too wide-and-undiscerning a cast of characters and/or too frenetic-and-frenzied a social calendar can actually work *against* your responsible interpersonal efforts. How seriously can you be treating a relationship, if you don't have enough focus or time to devote to it? There's only so much of *you* to go around.

You also face possible difficulties in freely indulging Uranus-in-your-11th's wild social risk-taking, if you push it *past* a reasonable level of self-restraint. Uranus remains locked in an ongoing square with Pluto-in-your-8th, a no-bullshit power-player who delivers heavy consequences to those Geminis who too deeply intertwine themselves with folks that are untrustworthy, inconsiderate, greedy, or unkind. If you've already embroiled yourself in such a situation, you may face pushback from that controlling person who *won't* want you out-and-about "finding yourself"; they'd prefer you to stay put and continue serving *their* needs. Freeing yourself from such a tight spot may be that much more complicated and painful, but it's also that much more critical.

Likewise, if you're overly quick or careless in developing intimacies with one of your new best-friends or love-interests, the involvement could lead you into potentially dangerous or financially damaging trouble... not to mention that your saner, more rational friends might distance themselves from your crazy behavior. Again, Saturn's warnings come in clear: Beware of relationships where only *part* of your personality is encouraged to shine. In such a case, please don't ignore your inner misgivings or suspicions. Slow down the rate at which things are developing, so you can get to know each better *before* diving way far into the deep-end.

Your amped-up social rhythms hit their height midyear, starting when Venus first reaches your 3rd house in June and contributes *even more* benefic energy alongside Jupiter, further accentuating the pleasant affability and ease-of-connection you'll likely experience in nearly every exchange you participate in. Venus will actually spend almost *four* full months in your 3rd (with the exception of July's last two weeks), framing an unusually ripe interval for drawing intriguing and energizing people into your life. Here's the hitch, though: Right at the heart of this period, Venus flips into a six-week retrograde (Jul 25-Sep 6), a notoriously mischief-making interpersonal influence which often delivers blasts-from-the-past, shiny new love-prospects, and/or suddenly-more-interested attitudes from familiar faces... all in order to inspire you to more deliberately reevaluate your different relational options.

While Venus is retrograde, we cannot completely trust our ability to discern whether our impressions of others are accurate, particularly if we don't know them well or haven't seen 'em in a while. That doesn't mean we must be suspicious or closed off, just reasonably paced and properly self-contained, so as to reduce the potential for hazardous consequences from falling too hard too fast or brashly making big life-decisions based on sincere-sounding promises or idealistic thinking. As such, it would be unwise to fully commit yourself to any romantic, professional, and/or housemate partnership until late September or early October.

Your specific Venus-retrograde antics, Gemini, will likely be linked to the potential excess of friends, neighbors, lovers, and as-yet-uncategorized characters who could be vying for your attention... and the challenges you might face in determining *who* you want to give it to. For your sanity, you'll need to address the tension between (1) treating everyone as their own unique individual, worthy of their fair slice of you, and (2) having to prioritize certain individuals' greater importance to you, so they don't feel lumped together with folks you barely know. Because each of your conversations, calls, meetings, and dates are liable to absorb *more* time and energy than you might expect, you could easily squander too much of yourself on those which ultimately provide little more than passing entertainment or interest. Meanwhile, diverting your attention *away* from the more significant figures in your life (whether consciously or not) might spur them to speak up for their neglected interests, retaliate in some way, and/or take their leave.

Would such responses from them startle you into better appreciating their presence, and reinvesting more of yourself into those relationships? Or would their unsupportive attitude just punctuate the fact that you've drifted apart and/or no longer share the same level of connection? Venus retrograde certainly would want you to *consider* such questions, but to hold off on forming conclusions or making choices until *after* it's direct.

Interestingly enough, it's during this *same* mid-'15 period that Saturn slips back into your 6th house for a brief spell (mid-June through mid-September), checking in to see whether you really mastered your recent duty to develop and sustain a consistent, purposeful daily routine with your work habits and bodily self-care efforts. Over the prior couple years, you were charged with better organizing the everyday flow of your productive energies... to enable you to accomplish goals which require dedication over time *and* to promote the prime health which allows you to stay active. With retrograde Venus (and other 3rd-house planets) squaring Saturn-in-your-6th, you must be on guard against letting too overactive a social life and/or too strong a focus on relational preoccupations *distract* you from diligently maintaining this practical day-to-day consistency. If you don't practice responsible time-management, Saturn threatens to saddle you with work-related disappointments and/or impaired bodily capabilities, due to having overextended yourself.

Your career (and/or public-life) situation may still be somewhat unclear, confusing, or up-in-the-air, as Neptune continuing its long-term occupation (2011-2025) of your 10th house... which is, in part, why it's so critical to integrate Saturn-in-your-6th's lessons about the grounding value of regular day-to-day habits and routines, to help counteract any feelings of discouragement caused by your not having firm answers to still-open-ended questions about overriding direction. Though you might not know exactly *where* your professional aspirations are leading you, you must still keep yourself constructively working on *some* task or duty each and every workday, in order to stay healthy and vital.

Neptune-in-your-10th feeds your professional idealism and the desire to be of service to others, whether in a helping-or-healing capacity or through dedication to an aesthetic or creative pursuit. But Neptune never speaks the language of reason or rationality. Rather, Neptune *calls* us to a higher mission—one which may *not* be what we previously thought we'd be doing—evoked by feelings of inspiration, compassion, and/or spiritual purpose. We can never be sure

whether we're following divine guidance, or if our rose-colored glasses have deluded us into believing such a "calling" exists.

With Neptune clouding your 10th-house clarity, Gemini, you're essentially wandering through a field of options, feeling around for the right fit. As long as you maintain an earnestly helpful, productive, and compassion-driven attitude to these professional wanderings—without sacrificing your spirit of achievement and recognition to a boss, organization, or endeavor unworthy of your "service"—it's okay to surrender to the uncertainty.

All the while, Jupiter's move into your 4th in August fosters more of an *inward* focus, encouraging you to seek greater rewards from your at-home time... by devoting additional energy and resources to improving your residential environment, and/or through self-nurturing practices which help you attain internal relief and replenishment. Jupiter-in-your-4th (which lasts through September '16) creates a wonderful setting for invest more substantially in family matters and/or domestic considerations, both emotionally and financially—though please be careful to avoid major purchases while Venus is still retrograde. But because Jupiter will oppose Neptune (exact in October), you mustn't rely too indulgently on your improving private life to *escape* from your professional (and/or other outside) responsibilities. It would be really easy to tolerate an undesirable position or poor on-the-job treatment, just because you know everything's sure to feel better once you get home and shut the door... and then *not* seek a role that better utilizes your talents or an employer who's thankful to have you.

The trine which Jupiter forms with Pluto-in-your-8th (also exact starting in October and continuing through mid-'16) suggests, perhaps, you may *need* more time by yourself and/or in an emotionally safe setting, if you're still licking your wounds from recent difficulties or hurts. On the other hand, this Jupiter-Pluto trine could indicate an *intensification* of ongoing complications in an intimate partnership, financial entanglement, or life-and-death matter—a potential ratcheting-up of more serious emotions, exacerbating any traces of powerlessness or overwhelm which might drive you to shun the spotlight and keep a lower profile. If that's your case, please make sure you're not hiding yourself away out of fear or shame. If you *are*, you probably need some outside help.

Saturn also clashes with Neptune-in-your-10th, sliding into a square from your 7th beginning in November... and fueling a tension between (1) how to best address your now-critical relationship challenges and (2) still remain faithfully responsive and devoted to your professional calling. In suitably evaluating any interpersonal involvement, you shouldn't allow your desire to be with a certain individual to overshadow your capacity to invest yourself in a meaningful career, selling out your own aspirations to cater to someone else.

Might "getting more serious" with a certain someone require you to temper your idealistic streak, and to look at your career more realistically? Or do their reductive ideas about life infringe on *your* ability to "find yourself" career-wise, your creative receptivity marred by the weight of their judgments? Is a general preoccupation with relationship intrigue getting in the way of your professional self-actualization? These complex themes dominate your forecast through much of 2016, too... and there are no easy answers for how best to balance your attention to these two primary life-concerns.

January

As January kicks off, a surge of enthusiasm for your "next big adventure" could monopolize your attention. Beware of leaping forward before having all the requisite discussions to better guarantee a successful experience. Impatience is no reason to hastily embroil yourself more deeply than you're ready for. Work through most of the interpersonal details *first*, even if it takes you into next month or beyond. Career (and/or public-community) concerns grow more urgent in the second half of January, as you're pressured to take personal action on behalf of a project or purpose that serves the whole organization. Your approach (which will read as *forceful* even if you don't intend it to) could put you at odds with a colleague who holds contrasting views... as well as create waves with your main squeeze, who'd prefer you to invest that energy in your relationship.

February

You enter February on a career high, with at least one gorgeous opportunity to affiliate yourself with some inspiring vision and/or meaningful venture... a realignment which would ultimately put your ongoing efforts more directly in service to an ideal you hold dear. You can't assess this

situation by pragmatically analyzing potential pros and cons. It's all about how it *feels* in your heart. Once you choose to follow this divine logic, your next-step signs will start to appear; expect symbolic or synchronistic clues rather than crystal-clear information. If you're confused, keep talking out the big life-direction questions with those closest to you. But don't saddle your professional colleagues with endless dialogue that, to *their* ears, just goes in circles. Late in the month, take the lead in planning get-togethers where you and your partner or best friend can get to know each other's circle-of-pals better.

March

Exciting happenings shake up your social scene and/or community of co-conspirators early in March, when at least one self-centered loose-cannon character is likely to behave in a manner that triggers deeper difficulties or re-aggravates a lingering wound. (Are *you* the loose cannon? Or are *you* the triggered one? Both?) Whatever arises at this time mustn't be swept under any rugs... though, in the process of getting *all the way* into it, alliances could shatter beyond all repair. At the same time, you might be startled to discover you're forming a new friendship with someone you wouldn't have expected to like this much. During the month's second half, practice *empathy* in all your professional (and/or public-world) communications, listening *deeply* and speaking your mind only to offer your support for the shared ideals. Refrain from uttering anything that resembles an insult.

April

Within the first week of April, you may be itching to tell a certain "friend" (perhaps a character from last month's drama?) what you *really* think about their latest behavior. There will be no going back once you put words to that tense undercurrent. Are you *sure* you want to go there? With Mars in your 12th through the whole month, you won't have as sturdy a handle on *what* exactly your actions might be stirring up. This is *not* the month, therefore, for bold assertions-of-will... or really for *any* major steps forward. But by mid-April, you *will* have Venus on your side, bestowing upon you a flattering aura and heightened likability. Beware of spoiling otherwise favorable scenarios by letting yourself be pressured to take a side when you'd rather maintain a detached air of mystique. The safest self-defense? Removing yourself from the situation—*without* voicing any nasty sentiments on your way out.

May

May is an incredibly dynamic month for you, offering many chances to discuss what you've previously kept quiet... and to simultaneously try out more than one option for how you'd most like to move forward. Worry less about arriving at distinct conclusions right away: Mercury turns retrograde in your sign mid-month, suggesting this exploratory process will continue into June. It's perfectly okay to change your mind (at least once!) as the month progresses. A financially lucrative opportunity could be afoot, should you find yourself reacting with the gut-feeling sense that it would put your truest talents to good use. Don't allow past disappointments to chip away at your confidence; treat this as a totally unrelated situation. In May's final days, be cautious about pushing your ideas too forcefully upon managers, colleagues, or family-members. You might not see how your presumptuous approach makes it more about *you* than the broader issue-at-hand.

June

The energizing vibe persists into June, when you'll still be eagerly scouting out different possibilities through much of the month. You're coming on strong during the first couple weeks (whether intentionally or not), so don't be surprised if you rub certain people the wrong way. If you attempt to slyly skirt around sensitive topics or unnerving red-flags, using your wiles to evade an uncomfortable truth with a conversational bait-and-switch, you may be able to momentarily distract others' attentions... but the underlying reality will remain as it is. (Who do you think you're fooling, anyway?) On the other hand, your assertive edge is tailor-made for initiating lots of uplifting, happy-go-lucky mixing and mingling. Go out of your way to ensure every last participant feels included, explicitly extending warm greetings to all. As June draws to a close, start readying yourself to address lingering financial concerns (and/or other pressing practicalities) next month.

July

Your July's all about working to build a more stable sense of financial independence, supported by taking measures to *simplify* your economic landscape. This might include devoting every extra dollar to battling any outstanding debts, setting up new income-streams which don't rely

on anybody else's participation or permission, and/or tweaking your marketing strategies so you better differentiate yourself from the crowd based on what makes *you* special. Put consistent effort into this *every day*, not just in a few intense bursts. Don't let pushy peers plant doubt in your mind, should they insinuate you'll get better results by proceeding how *they* would. They aren't walking in your shoes, and can't understand the specific ins and outs of your situation. During the month's second half, pay attention to how you feel about where you're living: Is this your ideal home, or is somewhere else beckoning you?

August

Try to sneak in one more big money-making push during August's first week, even as numerous social diversions are already competing for your focus. This is an extremely busy month, with lots of both new *and* familiar faces (likely including a few you haven't seen in a while) wanting their quality chit-chat time with you. Do you detect any shifts in your affections or allegiances? With Venus retrograde all month, you may notice certain pals no longer fit your present life-path... and/or you might feel strangely drawn to individuals who aren't your usual friend material. Don't burn any bridges or rush into BFF status right away, though; wait until after Venus is direct again next month, to make sure you're not playing tricks on yourself. As far as what's *really* going on inside you? It's probably best to stay mostly silent about the emotional specifics for now. Either privately journal it out, or choose your most discreet confidante to process with.

September

As last month's realizations are either verified or shown to be fleeting-fancies during the first couple weeks of September, you'll finally be ready to move forward with developing or deepening certain relationships (whether friendships or romances)... and to step back from others which no longer hold their former appeal. Don't, however, outwardly define your present desires by speaking ill about what (and who) you *don't* want in your life. It'll likely come across as a (poorly) veiled sour-grapes attack—and, just as likely, come back to haunt you later in the month once Mercury's retrograde. Questions about your living situation come to a head as September unfolds, peaking near month's-end in a potential conflict around domestic issues. If you're at odds with a partner about whether to move, or if clashes with a family-member or

housemate show no sign of ending, you may need to *fight* for an emotionally nourishing home-life.

October

Domestic and/or family issues continue to dominate throughout October, when you must tow a firm line over specific preferences or details which mean a lot to *you*... even when a certain someone tries to make you feel petty for caring so much. Don't let them shame you for wanting things in your home to be "just so"; your comfort takes precedence over their judgments. This is actually a *superb* time to get through to them at last—or to leave behind expectations they'll ever meet your emotional needs. Either option could be fruitful for your personal growth. Ongoing considerations about how much further to go with a coupling that shows great promise (but *also* sort of scares you) should *finally* yield a clearer conclusion by month's-end. Weigh this relationship's deeper demands against the other social commitments you'd have to pull back on. Where's the proper balance?

November

Put together a coherent day-to-day work-plan for yourself as early in November as possible, prioritizing to-dos and brainstorming best-practices up front. That way, you can get tons done as the month progresses, without having to reorganize your agenda every morning. It's also wise since your November grows increasingly festive (and debaucherous?)... with so much merriment to indulge in, you'll be glad you took care of your practical-thinking in advance. Be intentional about injecting a boost of steamy passion and/or silly fun into long-time relationships. But if a romance is still new or hasn't yet advanced to that point (and, let's be clear, love is *definitely* in the air this month), make sure you're both on the same page *before* too many feelings develop. Beware of foot-in-mouth syndrome later in November, when you might take presumptuous liberties and/or too bluntly offer feedback that really requires a more delicate tone. You'll be most vulnerable in professional settings.

December

December's your month for actively pushing to maximize your pleasure, whether by throwing lively parties or organizing pals to playfully participate in the activities *you* like best. Be open to adding some new faces to the social mix. Make any romantic desires clearly known during the first couple weeks of the month; now's the time to find out if you two have any potential. If you've already gone public with a love-affair, you could face unpleasant feedback from an unresolved ex or a friend who wants more attention. Meanwhile, it's a surprisingly pleasant month on the work front, when a good-hearted attitude toward your daily grind will quietly raise your standing in the eyes of a boss or VIP. You might need to voice a difficult truth or hold a tough stance mid-month, when what's *really* going on can no longer be left unacknowledged. Remember: Being *strong* doesn't necessarily mean being vicious.

CANCER

Your 2015 is a logical continuation of the trends and tensions you've been dealing with a few years now, Cancer... so, to a large extent, you already have *plenty* of familiarity with your biggest personal challenges.

To sum it up, you've been under simultaneous pressure *for a while now* (1) to gamble safe-but-stifling career paths or public-community roles, despite the instability and chaos such risks usually carry with them, in order to leap toward that unexpected or less-conventional aspiration which would break you free from any soul-deadening responsibilities or burdens, *and* (2) to challenge whatever disempowering beliefs or domineering partners may be keeping you in a submissive or self-sacrificing stance in your relationship zone, with the aim of "overthrowing" any such interpersonal tyrannies and gaining greater control over where your relationships take you.

Through its duration, 2015 will pose opportunities and openings for you to decidedly *further* your progress in both these areas... with the expectation you'll take any steps necessary to demonstrate you're, at last, *fully on board* with accepting what's irreversibly changed over these recent years. Beyond *this* point, should you still resist the behaviors essential to your evolution in either your professional or relational realms, you can only look forward to escalated or exacerbated expressions of the same disgruntling circumstances you refuse to address. *I know* you see this writing on the wall, Cancer.

The continuance of familiar themes comes courtesy of the now-usual culprits, Uranus and Pluto, two potent planetary energies which have been in challenging square to one another since 2012 (though within an orb-of-influence as early as '10). If you've read my prior year-ahead forecasts or *any* serious astrological analysis during this decade, you've come across regular mention of this Uranus-Pluto square. It is *the* defining aspect of our times—and the symbolic marker of why it feels like the world's gone crazy.

You, Cancer, have been one of the zodiac-signs hit hardest by this two-pronged press to revolutionize and transform, in order to avoid suffering increasing discontentment. Uranus has kept shaking the ground in your career/outer-world house (the 10th), while Pluto's been

dredging up the deeper psychological drives and undercurrents lurking in your relationship world (the 7th). But after what's seemed like an intensely disruptive eternity, Uranus and Pluto will form their seventh and final square in mid-March... not to meet again in such an urgent and powerful way until they oppose during the mid-2040s. Though the Uranus-Pluto square will continue to influence us, to a lessening degree, into 2017, *this* is our last year in the dramatic eye of this storm. As far as both self-liberating professional moves and self-empowering relationship adjustments are concerned, then, *this* is your time to get to it... to make your intentions overwhelmingly apparent... and to put a crowning finish on what you've started, so you can get onto the *next* thing soon.

To best utilize the year's astrological currents, I encourage you to prioritize your career-related (or public-participation) considerations during the first half of '15. Throughout this time, Uranus-in-your-10th will be receiving synergistic support from benefic-giant Jupiter, forming a trine from your 2nd house (which first began September '14). Generally speaking, Jupiter-Uranus trines promote our willingness to take daring leaps of faith, both increasing our urge for "something way different" *and* the likelihood that such radical departures will ultimately work out to our benefit. Falling across *your* 2nd and 10th houses, this Jupiter-Uranus influence promises positive economic growth and/or a marked self-esteem boost... as a direct factor of your willingness to innovate, experiment, and/or distinguish yourself from others by foregrounding what only *you* can do, in that individualistic manner only *you* can do it. Should you try to blend in, hold tight, resist change, or stay safe, however, you'll merely invite forces beyond your control to rattle your outer-world foundations. This *isn't* an appropriate moment to rest on professional security; it's a time to grab for more and/or explore the bold alternatives.

Uranus-in-the-10th isn't merely motivated by risk-taking as a generic principle. Uranus is inciting you to follow your own innovative impulses wherever they're instinctively moved to carry you, provided you're free to assert your unique creative touch in a way that feels uniquely you. (That's why Uranus-in-the-10th has made it so hard to stick with positions, projects, or professions which demand you constantly conform, comply, or concede.) Both Uranus and Jupiter will be occupying zodiac-zones ruled by the *fire* element—Aries and Leo, respectively, the two signs most stereotypically characterized as being "self-centered". Please deploy this fiery energy, Cancer, as a goading inspiration to take more distinctly self-defined, self-promoting actions in your career and financial sectors.

Without question, the first two weeks of March is your most energized moment all year for executing such instinct-driven plunges, with both Venus and Mars conjunct Uranus-in-your-10th. Venus and Mars also trine Jupiter-in-your-2nd, indicating an enhanced potential for lucrative financial gains through self-started ventures and gambles ... provided you're able to confidently stand in the spotlight, talking yourself up and demonstrating your high worth (monetary and otherwise). Of course, this lineup of 10th-house planets squares Pluto-in-your-7th at the same time, suggesting the likelihood that your capacity to boldly chase your own ambitions will be *complicated* by an important character (e.g., your partner, a close friend or colleague) who takes issue with your "selfish" attitude and/or attempts to derail your assuredness with guilt-trips or power-plays. (Or is it your own fear about what they *might* think or do which threatens to thwart you?) Will you just set down your goals, and bow to their influence?

In the midst of all this familiar focus on career and money during the first half of '15, there *is*, however, one very important astrological distinction to consider: At the very tail-end of '14, Saturn shifted into your 6th house—the realm of your day-to-day job duties, mundane tasks, bodily-health habits, and work-ethic you apply to handling them all—where it'll stay through the end of 2017. This is huge news, in light of how Saturn's transiting position points to the part of your life which demands serious attention, responsible self-restraint, and/or sustained effort, to strike your most appropriate balance between expressions that are "too much" or "not enough".

With Saturn having moved into the *other* house which deals with your practical earthly activity, you'll now hold an astrological "missing piece" vital for solidly actualizing your professional and financial aims: a workhorse planet whipping your house of everyday-work into tiptop shape. Nose to the grindstone, then, Cancer: 2015 is your year to *actually do the work*... not in one spectacular show (followed by a less-spectacular tapering-off, dropping-of-the-ball, or attention-span lapse), but *day in and day out*, over and over again, until you attain the sort of stable results which can *only* come from repetition, persistence, and practice.

First and foremost, Saturn-in-the-6th asks you to look closely and critically at your regular routines—your job schedule, your logistical workflow, your mode of managing chores and errands, your sleeping and eating patterns, your physical-fitness regimen—to determine whether you're effectively, efficiently, and healthfully utilizing your productive energies. Saturn seeks to better organize and regulate your relationship to these responsibilities, helping you to

eliminate wasteful steps and indulgent habits which prevent you from functioning as capably as possible.

For you Cancerians who overwork yourselves, refuse to keep a reasonable schedule or appropriate boundaries, and/or regularly experience overwhelm due to the unpredictable shapelessness of the demands placed on you, Saturn-in-your-6th is a reminder to impose self-protective restrictions on how you get things done. If you're exhausted or psychically drained, you just aren't working at your best... and these imbalances *do* build up, to the point where they threaten both the quality of your labor *and* your own well-being.

For those of you who instead *avoid* your responsibilities, get distracted too easily or lack follow-through, and/or struggle to achieve goals, in work or health, which require an ongoing investment, Saturn's essentially telling you to *get your shit together*. Otherwise, your mental and/or physical health is liable to suffer. Regular productivity is as essential to an optimistic mood as regular exercise is to a fit body. You won't want to shirk either of these missions while on Saturn's 6th-house watch.

Yes, Cancer, there *can be* physical-health consequences to Saturn's travels through your 6th during these few years ahead... especially if you've turned a blind-eye to the cumulative effects of any habits which don't support a healthy body. Saturn-in-the-6th often manifests, into a more overt or apparent form, those underlying bodily-weaknesses or health-threats we've indulged or tried to ignore. Under this transit, it's more important than ever to quit any self-destructive vices, moderate your partying, balance out your diet, and/or seek therapies or treatments for lingering symptoms of pain or unwellness.

This *is* an incredibly potent influence under which to consciously restructure your day-to-day practices, to explicitly make room for integrating remedial health-supportive measures into your life... though, to really get on board, you must take a *sobering* look at your current state-of-health, accepting your present-day body may not look, act, or feel like it did when you were younger. Willfully refusing that reality-check at this critical time, on the other hand, will only crystallize any harmful health-patterns—and, likelier than not, hasten a worsening of the resultant bodily deterioration.

On the work front, Saturn-in-your-6th can add a practical, grounding energy to the exciting impulse-driven dynamism stirred by Uranus and Jupiter... but, of course, it's up to *you* whether to diligently return to your proverbial workspace repeatedly enough to cohere your ideas and enthusiasms into an enduring endeavor. You must meet this commitment *on a regular basis*, not only when you're feeling upbeat or energized. There's already enough sense-scrambling career chaos for you to contend with, Cancer. Saturn's now insisting you integrate some *order* into it. Otherwise, all this instability might end up merely begetting *more instability*, rather than eventually steadying into tenable success.

Practically speaking, you should counterbalance work commitments which are too freeform, fluctuating, or inconsistent by imposing a firmer day-to-day schedule on yourself, designating certain clear-cut intervals for productivity and for rest. You'll want to improve your manner of *prioritizing* which items to take care of first, based on their relative urgency or importance (and not just starting with the ones you find easiest or like best). If you work alone or are seeking work, this means you still need to get dressed each morning, head to your designated place-of-work (e.g. that certain table, a favorite coffeehouse, your co-working office), take meal-breaks in a timely fashion, and pledge to invest a set amount of work-hours per shift. Likewise, if you're in a job with a lot of uncontrollable variables, you must compensate by instituting self-organizing structures (at the workplace *and* outside it) which guard your sanity by providing you *some* everyday expectations you can rely on.

Saturn, however, faces a muddling challenge in its efforts to tighten up your duty-driven 6th-house routines: a square to Neptune, longtime resident of your 9th. We don't necessarily experience Neptune's hard aspects with as obviously harsh a tension as others—namely, because the “tension” involves a facet of our lives in which we may be under a delusion, seeing things as we wish them to be rather than as they actually are, and/or sacrificing our own interests in some way.

Since 2011, Neptune's been in your 9th, amplifying your idealism and inspiring you to wander further afield in search of personal meaning or spiritual growth, hopefully keeping you attuned to that awe-some sense that “something greater” exists to help guide us to our highest expression of self. Yet, due to its idealistic wandering nature, Neptune-in-your-9th has also made it harder for you to concentrate your reflective attentions on a *fixed* set of guiding life-principles or

perspective-granting fundamentals... as if, by firmly clarifying what's ultimately most important to you (and, likewise, what isn't) and/or which behaviors qualify as personally "right" or "wrong", you'd somehow shut down your potential to serendipitously stumble into unforeseen spots of enlightening awareness. Therefore, in terms of meaning-seeking and perspective-gathering, you've likely continued to wander.

It should be pretty apparent, then, how a square from Neptune-in-your-9th can potentially *detract* from Saturn-in-the-6th's practical effectiveness. If you're unable to make straightforward judgment-calls about your life's highest moral priorities and non-negotiable values, you'll struggle to determine *where* your productive energies would be most wisely invested. But, on the other hand, if you're too narrow-mindedly focused on earnestly fulfilling all your day-to-day responsibilities, you could feel like you're caught on a hamster-wheel of insignificant (though nonetheless demanding) toil—and not notice how your everyday activities are leading you further and further out of integrity with yourself.

Saturn-Neptune challenges often carry a disheartening tone, as we attempt to reconcile our highest ideals with plain unvarnished reality. For you, Cancer, this challenge entails integrating a set of purposeful, ethical priorities with your day-to-day practical effectiveness; neither concern should be either overemphasized or neglected. Your Neptune-inspired idealism must be kept responsibly in check particularly during the first three months of '15... and you'll be especially prone to bouncing confusingly back and forth between idealizations and reality-checks throughout May. This Saturn-Neptune square's first peak isn't even exact until November (when your potential for careless ethical-lapses is heightened), but with two more Saturn-Neptune squares ahead, this story continues well into 2016, too.

The middle of your 2015 gets a bit wacky, thanks to a wacky Venus retrograde (Jul 25-Sep 6) which will tempt you with lucrative offers and/or promising interpersonal connections that *might* be as wonderful as they appear... or, later, prove to be too good to be true or not quite what you'd thought. Because Venus spends much of its retrograde in your money house (the 2nd), the *financial* facets of this rascally energy are much likelier to materialize. It's standard astrological practice to warn against making major purchases or other financial agreements whenever Venus is retrograde; consider this warning doubly accentuated in *your* forecast, Cancer, due to its 2nd-house emphasis.

Venus first hits your 2nd house early in June and hangs out through mid-July, forming a series of favorable aspects—including a dually-benefic Jupiter conjunction—which leave your money- and career-related options looking pretty nice. At the same time, though, both Venus and Jupiter will square Saturn (who slips back into your 5th house from mid-June through mid-September), indicating a possible conflict between what's financially profitable and what, in your heart of hearts, you really *want* to do. August is the high-point in your Venus-retrograde reconsiderations, when you must compare the appeal of whatever's on the table alongside other alternatives, based both on economic shrewdness *and* your own authenticity-of-self. But you won't know until late September or early October, once Venus is comfortably direct again, where your most financially auspicious fortunes are *really* to be found.

As I mentioned, Venus retrograde can also significantly impact our *relationship* sector, as we find ourselves questioning existing involvements, intrigued by dazzling new prospects, and/or drawn back into unfinished business with figures from our past. And it's right around this same midyear period that your *own* attentions start to shift, Cancer, toward interpersonal matters in a more pronounced way. Any romantic Venus-retrograde reexaminations—old, new, and/or ongoing—are likely to center around whether a given relationship is (1) an expression of true love, but a potential hindrance to your pursuit of further professional development and financial success, or (2) a practically supportive and stable partnership, but lacking a certain *je ne sais quoi*, leaving you feeling uninspired or lifeless. What's most important to *you*? What *tradeoffs* are you willing to make? Again, wait for early October before presuming to see this landscape clearly.

Also in August, during the midst of Venus's retrograde, Jupiter leaves your 2nd house after more than a year and lands into your 3rd, another shift that helps reorient your attention toward interpersonal relations. Jupiter's presence in your 3rd (which continues into September '16) will increase both the quantity of social exchanges you find yourself participating in *and* how much you may choose to say to, and ask of, others. Jupiter-in-your-3rd encourages you to reach out to a wider variety of acquaintances and old pals, and to initiate further contact with potential new friends... to extend your conversations beyond the perfunctory, to share more ideas and opinions and bits-of-information, to actively seek others' feedback on your latest developments... and to reap the most relish and reward from your local cast-of-characters you possibly can.

From August onward, it behooves you to be *very* out-and-about and socially active, exposing yourself as many people's influences, whether fresh or familiar, as possible. And by October, Jupiter will move into a harmonious trine with Pluto-in-your-7th (an aspect which persists extends into mid-'16), bolstering your capacity to positively transform your relationship behaviors, by increasing your contact with a broader range of prospective love-matches *and* promoting your ability to engagingly communicate your thoughts, questions, and concerns (rather than, say, swallowing your truth or silently wondering what's on their mind).

This Jupiter-Pluto trine is a gift for those of you trying to overturn an undesirable dynamic in an existing coupling... as well as any Cancerian whose interpersonal satisfaction has been blocked by un verbalized presumptions, anxieties about speaking up, or other communicative inhibitions. Thanks to this aspect, you can actively reclaim your power in a relationship by choosing to talk openly about issues, interests, preferences, and/or problems you might have previously left unmentioned, let slide, or considered too small or petty to raise. You've probably kept mum out of fear (whether legitimate or contrived) that the other person will become upset, strongly disagree, not take you seriously, or otherwise attempt to minimize your position. Yet, what you're *not* saying still looms large in the relational space you share, infringing on your genuine satisfaction to preserve this admittedly dissatisfying status-quo. Is it worth perpetuating this dynamic with your silence? Freely talking *everything* out, without concern for outcomes, is your best path to interpersonal self-empowerment—and late '15 into '16 is an incredibly favorable time to practice getting comfortable with it.

And if you're looking to meet someone new or take a friendship to the next level, this Jupiter-Pluto influence is a boon for opening these options much wider. Strike up lively chats with strangers. Kick your online dating efforts into high-gear. Enthusiastically ask to meet the friends of your friends, neighbors, siblings, and cousins. Most importantly, be as outwardly *engaging*—both in what you share about yourself *and* what you ask about them—as you can. Though your Cancerian bashfulness could make you nervous at first, you'll get the hang of it soon enough. (Besides, anyone who responds poorly to your natural quirks, kinks, and curiosities is *not* worth investing any energy into.)

For your own longer-term peace-of-mind, however, please *don't* avoid topics which address bigger-picture issues... including religion, politics, or any worldview that could later prove to be a

relationship deal-breaker. In fact, the sooner upon clicking with a prospective love-interest that you raise such core life-principle issues, the better. Why court future heartbreak by growing attached to someone whose values are ultimately incompatible with yours? Fearfully dodging talk about positions, philosophies, and priorities only sets you up to compromise your ethics or abandon something that's supposedly important to you.

January

As your year opens, you'll already be on the spot to *hold your own* against a persuasive partner or powerful pal. Though it might seem *easier* to just let them have it their way, you can't deny that the *fairer* option would involve more back-and-forth negotiations than that. Don't fall prey to their guilt-generating insinuation that *you're* being "the difficult one"; any true agreement requires *both* parties to be on board. It serves your interest to drag out this uncomfortable conversation until those nagging (but nonetheless critical) details are thoroughly addressed... which could take the both of you well into next month. While this necessary up-close focus on the specifics might feel like it's overshadowing the big picture, you really won't want to rush ahead without doing this due-diligence—not if you want your excitement to actually amount to something tangible.

February

You ride into February on a cloud of idealism, which can serve as the perfect inspiration for resolving any interpersonal disagreements hanging over from last month—or lead you to pretend your differences with a certain someone are over and done with (though, in *that* case, they'd be *very likely* to later come back and bite you, with some stupid inconvenience you could've avoided). Give yourself permission to postpone any final resolutions until the second half of the month. Late February is also an excellent time to take self-directed action in your career (or public-world) zone, when a united Venus-and-Mars in your 10th encourage you to bravely risk safe anonymity for a more exciting role on the hot-seat. Don't fool yourself into thinking such risks are only a one-time proposition, however. You'll have to muster that courage on an *everyday* basis, if you want to show the world your ambition's got staying power and *isn't* just a passing whim.

March

On the professional front, March is easily your most dynamic month all year, with potentially lucrative opportunities arising as a direct result of you unabashedly jumping in to lend your talents wherever they might be useful. Don't wait around for new duties or gigs to be offered. If you want more, you'll have to step forward and volunteer yourself. Pluto-in-your-7th warning: An envious colleague could try to block your ascent, or a threatened spouse might discourage your enterprising reaches, in a power-move intended to keep you focused on *them*. Such attempts at undermining you will fall flat as long as you concentrate on *your* goals—and refuse to play into *their* drama. You mustn't keep yourself small just to keep someone else happy. March's second half promises grounding support and fun from your network of friends and community-peers, allowing you a welcome reprieve from the stresses of so much conspicuous self-interest.

April

The professional and financial advantage remains yours early in April, whenever you fearlessly contribute daring ideas from way “outside the box” of how things have always been done. Of course, it's impossible to serve as an *innovator* without also setting yourself apart from the crowd—and some of your less-audacious peers may see your eager leadership efforts as a sign you're no longer “one of them”. It's worthwhile to give the squeakiest wheels among them a fair amount of your attention, to show them that serving your own personal interests needn't disrupt the team-minded camaraderie. But if they insist on questioning your allegiance, you mustn't let it dissuade you from continuing to do your best work. Keep plugging along with your daily grind throughout the month, knowing it's likely you won't start seeing reliably positive results until later in May.

May

Much of May's action could leave you guessing which way is up, as a spotlighted situation appears to repeatedly shift direction due to others' fickleness or indecision. Ride out the day-to-day uncertainty by maintaining consistent self-care rhythms, helping ease any anxiety-related strains to your nervous system. With Venus in your sign for most of the month, you're actually

in a *great* spot to receive favorable recognition and regard from intentions already set into motion prior to these latest mix-ups. The biggest threat? Your own reactivity to what you *think* is going on now, even though your perceptions may not be so accurate. Let this all play itself out with little response on your part—and without forming overly simplistic judgments about anyone else’s cryptic behaviors, as if you understand their motives better than you actually do. There’s no objective “right” or “wrong” in this case.

June

Last month’s out-of-your-hands confusion continues into June, leaving you still unsure about where you stand in the eyes of a central partner or ally. All you can (and should) do is what you’ve *been* doing, while leaving *them* plenty of space to make up their mind. Hard though it may be, you mustn’t take their vacillations-of-opinion so personally. You’ve got to preserve your confidence levels, in order to milk the ongoing opportunities for financial advancement to their fullest. You cannot afford to gamble your practical security by letting anybody else’s dubious perceptions of you chip away at your faith in yourself. Once Mars hits your sign in the month’s final week, you’ll *finally* be in a place to effectively respond to all the recent developments—without as much risk of unconsciously making problems worse by trying to “fix” them. And *this* is just the beginning...

July

July is unquestionably your *feisti*est month of ’15, with Mars sparking more outward self-assertion than you typically display—and maybe even *aggression*, should you hit your last straw with a pushy pain-in-the-ass who won’t stop trying to coerce or control you. This is no time to back down if you have a genuine beef. You should be more concerned with expressing *your* authentic truth than what *their* reaction will be. This invigorating energy can also be constructively used to initiate fresh starts, revive any projects or programs which fell by the wayside, and bust through any lingering inertia. Don’t devise too grand a plan; just dive into the doing. Toward the month’s tail-end, you could find recent financial arrangements or expectations must be revisited. Rather than hastily freaking out, consider this an opportunity to reexamine your own market-value.

August

Money matters dominate your August, as a retrograde 2nd-house Venus forces you to reconsider whether your current income-generating activities are nabbing you a good enough deal. You might have to accept that this paycheck isn't worth the tradeoffs you must make, or confront the fact you're not being justly compensated. While it's certainly an expedient moment to *explore* other potentially better-paying or more personally-satisfying jobs, you'd do best to prolong the negotiations until after Venus goes direct early next month. In the meantime, spend your month immersed in lots of casual fact-finding conversations with folks who hold relevant knowledge about the life-circumstance questions you currently have. Learn all you can about *their* experiences (including how they solved any financial problems). You might pick up a few pointers that'll help you gather more courage to advocate for your own interests.

September

September brings a culmination to any work- or money-related uncertainties which were stirred up in the past couple months. By the second half of the month, you'll have as much info as you need to move resolutely ahead... whether that'll require a shift in roles, a change in pay-scale, and/or a total departure from the organization. You're setting yourself up so that your increasingly productive focus over the months to come will actually *amount* to something. Once your decision is made, be wary of pressures from those who wish you'd backtrack—for *their* benefit rather than *yours*. Sharing your private feelings on the matter will only give them fodder for a guilt-trip. It's better to stay mum about your emotional process, and to keep all your communications with career-affiliated characters at their most impeccably professional.

October

A good chunk of your October is likely to be consumed with social commitments and/or familial obligations, causing the days to slip through your fingers faster than you'd like, as you try to juggle your own responsibilities along with everyone else's draws on your time. Out of respect for the people in your life, it's probably smartest to let yourself be "distracted" by their desire to talk your ear off. You can always catch up on your work later, though you might not have another chance to demonstrate this much respectful interest in their lives while they *clearly* want

your attention. Don't mistakenly assume they want your *advice*, however, just because they're sharing every last detail of their story: You're apt to misunderstand what their critical issues are, due to unconsciously projecting how *you* would handle such a situation onto *their* experience.

November

Where before you might've held your tongue or kept a diplomatic posture, you'll be ready to speak your mind more fully as November begins. Don't expect anyone to know what you want unless you *spell it out* for them. And if someone's overstepped their bounds, you mustn't shy away from putting 'em back in their place with a strongly-worded callout. Because your outward exchanges could carry this added edge of intensity, it'd serve you to enjoy *extra* doses of quiet at-home time as a counterbalancing measure. In fact, this is an ideal month for making home improvements, whether in appearance and/or comfort-level, so you can enjoy your domestic environment more thoroughly. However, even your home isn't completely safe from potential conflict: You might have to *fight* for your right to be left alone in peace. Late in the month, beware of carelessly making work-related decisions too quickly; *think everything through*.

December

Squeeze in as much work as early in December as you can, particularly if you have any troubles from late last month which require cleanup. Tensions at home and/or with family members could also hit a peak at this time, threatening to leave you feeling like there's no escape from the drama. Thankfully, with Venus in your 5th through most of the month, you're due for more than a little raucous revelry to lift your spirits... maybe even some amorous canoodling with a new prospect or a second-honeymoon rekindling with your main squeeze. As December progresses, you're in an ideal spot for opening relationship-oriented conversations about what you *really* want from that special someone—and *not* backing off when it gets a bit nerve-racking. Sure, your forthrightness *could* scare 'em off, which would only clue you in to their relational limitations. Isn't it better to *know* who they really are, instead of pretending they're somebody else?

LEO

You enter 2015 on a high note, Leo, thanks to the presence of good-luck Jupiter filling your sign with a wider slice of fortuitous possibility... though it's decidedly *your* job to do something with this astrological mood-boost.

Jupiter first landed in Leo last July, inaugurating a yearlong visit in which a reinvigorated *optimism* about your imminent future potentials has hopefully opened your eyes to *what else* may be in store for you—ideas, involvements, and/or adventures which probably weren't even on your radar just a few years ago. As your year progresses, however, we'll see whether this expansion of possibility will, in fact, result in enduring life-changes... or if the excitement will merely die down once Jupiter moves *out* of your sign midway through August. The efforts *you* take (or *don't* take) will be the main determining factor. Do you intend to actively *work* toward building a bigger and brighter future of your choosing? Or are you content to ride this wave of opportunity wherever it carries you, until this high-tide recedes back to relative normalcy?

Though Jupiter's considered the greater-benefic of the planetary roster and usually welcomed quite warmly, its influence will not *compel* you to action. It helps create an environment where you're encouraged to stretch beyond prior restrictions and self-limiting perspectives, to expose yourself to new experiences and to broaden your vision, as you reach for a fuller understanding of your own capabilities, curiosities, and guiding concerns. But because having Jupiter in your sign naturally expands your interest in nearly *anything* which crosses your path, it'll inspire those upbeat feelings of enthusiasm and engagement—whether or not you're excited about something you'd actually *choose* for yourself.

If you're not deliberate and purposeful in *how* you take advantage of Jupiter's fleeting blessings, Leo, the opportunities that'll *really* enhance or evolve your life are liable to pass you right by. You might not *notice*, though, because your exaggerated excitement about whatever insignificant or garden-variety experience you're having could easily *blind* you to what you're missing. At his least benefic, Jupiter just bloats your sense of self-importance, covering your indiscriminate actions with an overconfident polish, as if to suggest "*this* is exactly what I most want to be doing". But *is* it? One of your biggest struggles this year is to carefully examine what are your *sincerest* personal desires, rather than assuming you know the answer.

Since last September, Jupiter's been in cahoots with Uranus, forming a trine with the planetary rebel who's occupied your 9th house since 2010. Uranus-in-your-9th sparks an eager thirst for outside-the-box knowledge, spurring you to throw yourself into transgressive philosophies, radical social-justice initiatives, dramatic vision-quests or journeys to far-off lands, and/or educational departures from your prior courses-of-study. Over these past few years, Uranus has tempted you to break out of your familiar way of seeing the world... and to fundamentally rattle your understandings by putting yourself in encounters with untraditional or underrepresented belief-systems, teachers and mentors from other backgrounds, or *any* experience which would qualify as genuinely "foreign" to you. Now, with Jupiter aiding and abetting Uranus's itch for the unorthodox and way-out-there, your impulse to bound ahead into uncommon territory is likely stronger than ever.

On the one hand, this Jupiter-Uranus imprint (which extends through the middle of the year) offers you the astrological encouragement to bust open any dull, meaningless monotony you've indulged for too long... and to *finally* give into the wild-and-crazy instinct that's pulling you toward a certain purpose-driven dream, trip, or exploit, pregnant with the promise of *so much more* than what's right here. Jupiter-in-your-1st bestows a blessed energy upon the risks you thoughtfully choose to take, increasing the likelihood you'll reap favorable rewards from daring to so radically change things up. On the other hand, this same influence promotes risk-taking *in general*—even if the risky behavior has been poorly reasoned through, lacks a distinct purpose, provides little insight or guidance to help you better determine your rightful path, and/or creates lots of chaos in other areas of life.

From this angle, the naïve wish that simply "doing something different" (no matter *what* it is) will somehow miraculously rescue you from underlying dissatisfaction or confusion comes with its own dangers. What will you be *leaving behind* by dashing off so abruptly? What questions will remain *unaddressed*? You can't expect to make a truly *fresh* start with a bunch of loose threads, abandoned ambitions, unpaid bills, or broken commitments piling up in your absence.

Uranus has already been contending with these issues, as a result of its ongoing square to Pluto (the earliest effects of which began in 2010)... a massive world-altering aspect that's had all of us in collective turmoil and transformation for years now. Pluto's been lodged in *your* 6th house this whole time, Leo, intensifying your relation to day-to-day duties and obligations,

stirring in you a complex mishmash of strong feelings about the critical role that consistent routines and rhythms play in a healthy, productive life. If Uranus (in combination with Jupiter) has been urging you to find liberating inspiration from experiences and adventures which get you *outside* your typical humdrum life-circumstances, then we might say Pluto-in-your-6th represents your complicated attitudes toward the humdrum itself.

These two planetary drives are in obvious conflict, as it's undeniably tricky to simultaneously crack open your big-picture perspectives on life through out-of-the-ordinary departures from the same-old-thing (Uranus) *and* still concentrate on preserving and/or improving upon a slate of everyday habits that effectively meets your responsibilities and supports optimal health (Pluto). Through the first half of your year, Uranus is clearly in the more advantageous position of this standoff... which is why your daring thrusts toward the new-and-exciting will likely *challenge* your capacity to maintain regular grounding practices.

Try to remember, then, that no matter *what* incredible journey, immersive course-of-study, or fervent cause you devote yourself to, Pluto-in-your-6th still strongly advises you *not* to flake on your obligations, brashly quit your job (unless you've got mega-money in the bank), or ignore your body's needs and limitations. To totally bail on your responsibilities will invite a heightened potential for deeply unpleasant consequences, such as even more work for yourself (to remedy problems or clean up messes you created through inactivity or inattentiveness), conflicts with co-workers or staff who get stuck holding your bag, or physical conditions (like illness or injury) which *force* you into more conscientious habits.

Rather than waiting for unavoidable unpleasantness, you'd be wiser to look carefully at each component of your regular to-do list... to gain a deeper understanding of which items trigger emotional resistance and which engender efficiency, to reorganize your workflow in support of increased health and/or improved mastery of what you're already doing, and to buy yourself space in your schedule for *new* eye-opening involvements. You needn't drop any of the balls you're juggling, in your worthy attempt to enlarge the scope of your life. But to preserve that steady momentum, you must look closely and patiently at all the important factors competing for your time and energy, making no hasty decisions without earnestly considering their day-to-day impact. If you're departing on some speculative adventure and/or trying out a new framework

for understanding your life, you shouldn't prematurely muck up the stable building-blocks of your current existence—not based merely on an exciting but *untested* potential.

As you've probably figured out, Leo, your 2015 is sure to present you with no shortage of enticing opportunities, lucky chances, and fateful shots. Rather than feeling stunted or stuck, your problems are likelier to involve how to most smartly distinguish between (1) what's authentically appropriate to your specific preferences, tastes, and desires, and (2) what merely sounds sort-of, kind-of cool and/or maybe interesting. Because you'll be something of a shining beacon, you can expect to attract a wide range of *all* sorts of people and experiences... so much, in fact, that you *don't* have the luxury of politely accepting everything which comes your way.

In a striking coincidence, just as you're being inundated with possibilities, you're *also* greeting Saturn's arrival to your 5th house (which happened in the last days of '14)... which suggests your most critical struggle, as I mentioned earlier, involves the need to intently assess each and every pastime, pursuit, project, or playtime activity you choose to participate in, to more unequivocally determine what you actually *enjoy* doing. At first glance, you might find this an easy-breezy type of "struggle" (especially under Jupiter's warm influence): Can't you find joy in almost *anything*? Isn't happiness all about appreciating the moment for what it is? Yeah, sure—and not all joys are created equal.

Oftentimes, we may "enjoy" something because it makes someone else happy, because that's where all the action is, because it secures us entrance to a certain scene or identity, because it looks like it *should* be fun or it's how we've *always* had fun, or because it was the most convenient option available. But if nobody else's perceptions or opinions mattered, nothing was to be gained (other than self-gratification, of course), and nothing was off-limits, what would you want to do *the most*? What's the most authentic statement of who you are? What makes you proud? What do you *love*?

The 5th house rules those participations which most purely reflect your individual uniqueness, including any modes of creative expression, sports or games, and/or other leisure-time activities that draw out your true self. The 5th also rules your relationship to children, insofar as your parenting style also exemplifies what you wish to "create" in the world, (as well as because kids

are typically less self-conscious, and more freely themselves, in how they play or draw or dance). Ultimately, the 5th is the house of *personal love*... for what could more accurately exemplify our truest sense of *self* than the people and experiences who most purely inspire warm feelings in our heart. Yes, that includes *romantic* love, too—not the full-on relationships we establish with those we love (which is 7th-house business), but the earlier, less complicated stage of affinities, flirtations, and chemistry. Saturn's presence here (into the end of 2017) pushes you to get more *serious* about any or all of these 5th-house matters.

Saturn-in-your-5th asks you to be more selective in how you spend your personal time, treating these choices with more purposeful intent rather than squandering your off-hours with uninspiring “filler”. What you do for fun, in love, and as creative self-expression actually *defines* you—and, under Saturn's influence, you'll come face-to-face both with experiences you'd be delighted to associate yourself with *and* those which you find boring, unrewarding, or unsuited to your tastes. If you tacit allow yourself to become involved with less-than-ideal options, you're not only using your time unwisely, but *also* signaling to Saturn you aren't especially committed to doing what's truest to your sensibilities. Rather than consciously acting to maximize involvements which satisfy your soul's yearnings, you'll merely go through the apparent motions of “having a good time”... playing the role of easygoing life-of-the-party, while quietly wondering why it's so unfulfilling.

When Saturn's in your 5th, it's actually a lot *harder* to have legitimate fun. You have to really *want* to do something, or the experience will ring hollow or fall flat. The disappointment you're likely to notice, once you discover you now derive less pleasure from a certain activity you *used* to enjoy (or at least *thought* you enjoyed), should serve as a motivation to concentrate your time on those pursuits you're *sure* to enjoy. Though you might feel limited in the breadth of truly gratifying activities, you also have an important chance to strengthen your commitment, improve your skills, increase your confidence, and up your game in those particular participations you really *do* love.

For artists, craftspeople, performers, and players who dearly wish to make their defining statement, Saturn-in-your-5th wants you to know *this* is your pivotal moment to show what you've got, to refine your talents and structure their outward presentation... or to sternly accept you're *not* where you'd hoped to be, and to decide if you really want to continue with it anyway

because you sincerely relish the process (regardless of final-product quality). How vital *is* this to your self-expression?

Saturn-in-your-5th carries significant consequences for your *romantic* life, too, Leo: If you aren't genuinely having a good time with a certain someone, you've got to think twice about whether devoting your ongoing attention to them is a worthwhile commitment. It is not uncommon to cultivate a relationship with someone you find intriguing, entertaining, and attractive... only to find that, over time, the spark fizzles or the fun disappears, leaving you in a stable or safe interpersonal pairing in which you may still care for the other person, yet reap little pleasure or playfulness from their companionship.

Saturn would point out such declines in personal desire or delight are *not* the natural, inevitable result of staying with the same person for a while. You *decide* (consciously or passively) whether to let yourself settle into a less satisfying or scintillating dynamic, effectively compromising your happiness—or whether romantic satisfaction is important enough to *work* on it. Such work might entail purposefully prioritizing date-nights, dressing or behaving more seductively, switching things up in the bedroom, or reviving the activities and attitudes you once enjoyed together, in an effort to recapture that magical feeling. If you honestly believe the romance or attraction with someone is gone forever, then your work should involve *confronting* that reality head-on... maybe even ending your unfulfilling involvement in this stale union, to give your heart *another* chance at love. Such decisions obviously mustn't be treated lightly: Seriously consider what will make *you* happiest, without falling prey to self-defeating guilt about someone else's potential upset. Would they really want you to stick around out of *guilt*?

The array of options for how to make yourself happiest, Leo, comes to its high-drama pinnacle in the middle of '15... with a likely proliferation of *too many* appealing choices, each leading down its own distinct road of possible fates. As if hosting greater-benefic Jupiter in your sign for more than half the year didn't attract enough blessed opportunities, *other*-benefic Venus will also spend nearly *four months* in Leo—an uncommonly long visit (it usually stays three-to-four weeks) caused by spending a good chunk of that time retrograde. Typically, having Venus in your sign delivers a passing sparkle-and-shine to your outward manner, enhancing both your physical and attitudinal powers of attraction, as well as increasing the likelihood that folks will respond favorably to you in nearly any setting. This combination of both benefics in your sign

for an extended period turns you into something of a *magnet* for attention, affection, admiration, and advantage.

Venus first hits your sign early in June, kicking off this especially auspicious interval... and the mood-boosting effects only build from there. The Jupiter-Uranus trine will also be strongly activated at this time, heightening the “you only live once” impulse to take some eye-opening leap beyond your usual frame-of-reference, right at the same time you’re likeliest to *attract* opportunities to do so. As July begins, you’ll be at the apex of your eagerness and ready for nearly anything. One consideration which could temper your excitement later in July: Squares from Saturn (back in your 4th for a quick three-month spell) to 1st-house planets warn you against blindly agreeing to something, based too much on others’ starry-eyed flattery, ego-stroke pandering, or over-the-top royal treatment aimed at sweet-talking you into going forward with *them*. If you don’t wisely seek your self-affirmation from *within* and instead allow their fawning ways to woo you in an inappropriate direction, you could later regret having fallen into this trap.

Though Venus leaves Leo midway through July, it soon returns once in its retrograde phase (Jul 25-Sep 6)—and then sticks around in Leo into the second week of October. Throughout August and into early September, while Venus is retrograde in your sign, you should expect to draw a rather surprising set of no-less-appealing *alternatives* to what you’d previously been considering: a potential love-interest unlike those you usually go for, a reappearing face from your past, a friend who suddenly wants more, an inspiring character who promises (overtly or suggestively) to “take you away from all of this”. It’s standard astrological practice to mention that, during Venus’s retrograde periods, our ability to reliably appraise the value of any certain interpersonal involvement—and, for that matter, any financial deal or offer—is greatly *curbed*.

A main purpose of Venus retrogrades is to switch up how we see our relationships... accentuating dynamics we’ve taken for granted, exposing angles of others’ personalities which we’d overlooked, and/or presenting situations which reveal whether a given association is in sync or in conflict with our other most up-to-date values, goals, and ambitions. The mischief-stirring flirtations, liaisons, echoes from the past, and glimpses of potential futures which materialize during Venus retrograde, then, are often *not* built to last (though, then again, some of them *are*). Nor are they even necessarily what they at first seem to be. It’s the questions,

reconsiderations, and awarenesses activated by Venus retrograde—not the immediate outcome in any specific relationship—that hold all the promise, reaping us a better understanding of what we *really* value most, which then helps inform decisions and judgment-calls made *after* Venus is direct again.

Because *you* are in this Venus-retrograde's spotlight, Leo, you are more likely than most to face such decisions and judgment-calls, thanks to the multitude of options immediately available to you. It behooves you, therefore, to significantly *curtail* your impulsivity while Venus is retrograde... permitting yourself to test, taste, and try out on a *tentative* basis, but stopping short of decisive actions or commitments that'll uproot your life. Not until late September, at the absolute *earliest*, should you proceed with confidence in your ability to see what—and who—you're actually dealing with.

In mid-August, Jupiter will depart from Leo and enter your 2nd house, the sector which rules the money you earn as a result of your efforts. This yearlong influence carries a more *practical* tone, helping you better determine which life-options are actually *feasible* on the material level. From September and into mid-'16, Jupiter-in-your-2nd supportively trines Pluto-in-your-6th... a potentially profitable aspect which suggests that, the harder and smarter you're willing to work on a consistent basis, the fatter a paycheck you can expect to receive. Though Jupiter's known for fostering financial gains while in your 2nd (as long as you concretely *do* something to warrant the extra dollars), it *also* has a reputation for fostering indulgent spending if you don't pay proper attention to where your funds are going.

In order to enable yourself to make the responsible choices that prioritize your fundamental happiness, you'll need to use your resources wisely... embracing a pragmatic outlook which sees money as a currency which "buys" you access to the experiences you desire, and thus taking the *fullest* possible advantage of this Jupiter-Pluto trine's assistance with filling your coffers through intensified work efforts. If you and an intimate partner (whether romantic or professional) are on different pages when it comes to managing your joint finances (i.e., where it comes from, where it goes, what the top-priorities are), you'll have to more clearly and specifically articulate your plans for actively investing in the pursuit of personal bliss. Any interpersonal struggles which arise from asserting what *you* want, while still trying to honorably hold a shared vision, will likely remain highly charged well into '16.

January

Relationship questions dominate much of your January, as you attempt to reach a fair agreement or mutual understanding, in response to the other person's insinuation you're not seeing *their* side very clearly. Is there some truth to that? Chew on the possibility, rather than rushing to defend yourself—and inadvertently proving them right. Devote lots of attention to urgent work demands as early in the month as possible, so you're available to invest in this ongoing interpersonal dialogue without screwing yourself over on the job. As the month progresses, you might decide it's easier to just *give in* to their version of the story, in order to reestablish a blissful connection. If this is a superficial peace, based on holding your tongue or selling out your true desires, don't expect the conversation to be over: Thanks to Mercury retrograde, what you've chosen *not* to share is likely to pop back up again... perhaps at a most inconvenient moment.

February

As last month's important relationship discussions continue into February, you might be rethinking what you'd already said you wanted. Is this a genuine change-of-heart? Or are your romantic tendencies just getting the best of you? Beware of making idealistic gestures which promote togetherness at all costs; any unexamined entanglements are liable to significantly tie your hands. Your freedom to move and grow and change, in ways *you* find most exciting and energizing, becomes an even more pressing need as February proceeds. After having spent too much time in recent years waiting for your shot at "something big", it'd be a shame if you passed up this gleaming shot to radically blast your life's possibilities wide open. If there's some mind-expanding, perspective-shifting journey you're itching to set off upon, you won't find a better moment for committing to the leap.

March

March's first half is a stunningly dynamic time for risky reaches, adventuresome departures, or the embrace of any new direction which promises you meaning or knowledge. Being acutely aware you're at one of those you-only-live-once crossroads should hopefully inspire the courage needed. To set yourself off on the right foot, however, you mustn't ditch your lingering

responsibilities or disrupt any day-to-day habits which preserve your health. Temper your future-focused impatience by providing proper stewardship for what you've already built... especially in the month's latter half, when a boost of professional good-fortune will hinge on your rational-minded reliability. Another duty to uphold in March: Don't pussyfoot around the full truth about your longer-term intentions, telling someone a partial version just to momentarily ease their fears. Such fuzziness will only keep you in this complicated limbo even longer.

April

Early in April, you'll be super fired-up about your latest endeavor, journey, or mode-of-understanding, helping you simplify your priorities even as you indulge one-track-mind thinking. Just because enthusiasm's pulling your attention toward the future, you can't ignore the reality-checks related to unfinished projects, work commitments, or practical limitations. Mid-April onward is a promising time for making significant slow-but-steady progress toward your highest career aim, in the process bolstering your reputation for consistency. You could spoil a big shot or rile an important player, however, by exuding a too-big-for-your-britches attitude (as if you've already earned an honor you, in fact, *haven't*). While Venus brightens up your social-circle involvements through most of the month, take care not to make unfair assumptions about what you all share in common, accidentally whitewashing a distinguishing difference someone else finds quite important.

May

Much of your May is dominated by fluctuating opinions, shifting loyalties, and *lots* of back-and-forth dialoguing (or is it more properly *shit-talking?*) amongst your team, community, and/or friend-group. Though you might prefer to straddle the fence or play both sides, your authenticity may be at risk if you dodge direct questions or remain mum when a clear ethical stand is expected. If certain pals or allies flash a disappointing or unbecoming glimpse of their true colors, don't dismiss it as a fluke or try to cover for their supposed "confusion". File away these insights into their character, for later reference. Though you might (or might not) ultimately forgive them their trespasses, you must *never* forget. In the midst of all this social activity, your month's sweetest moments may likely happen behind the scenes, as you gather a few passing breaths of downtime before a busy few months ahead.

June

Within June's opening days, Venus arrives in your sign to fluff your aura, increase your general likability, and boost your powers of attraction. Because of this mood-lifting shift, you're liable to approach the ongoing social frictions which bleed over from last month with less attachment to a particular outcome. While it remains important to give all the stakeholders a chance to speak for themselves (rather than projecting onto them and/or putting words in their mouths), your ability to look beyond this multi-player muddle—perhaps because your own outlook is presently so bright—gives you some useful emotional distance from their potentially pointed remarks. Of course, it *also* exposes you to accusations of tone-deaf self-centeredness or bloated self-importance. It's easy enough to dismiss any of that with a big "whatever!" But be forewarned: By month's end, someone who's rather displeased with how everything shook out could still have an axe to grind with you.

July

July presents a potent mix of extraordinary blessings and a strange sense of powerlessness... though the frustrating experience of the latter might blind you to the continuing presence of the former. You could feel quite out of control of your immediate fate around the middle of the month, when a certain character pulls some shady maneuver in an attempt to "help" you. Even if they've got the best intentions, you're likely to be angry at their presumptuousness. But too strong or vengeful a reaction on your part will cause far more disruption than their original offense. Your shrewdest approach is to stay on task, refusing to let their meddling scramble your focus. During July's second-half, you'll adopt a more confident mindset toward stabilizing this boat, indicating you may finally be ready to handle practical business. Hold on, though: Before you sign the deal or write any checks, there's at least one rascally development straight ahead, which *could* change everything. (Or not.)

August

With Venus retrograde in your sign all month long (and Mars along for much of the ride), consider your August a crash-course in "too much of a good thing". You'll have no shortage of appealing options and fawning admirers at your disposal (though perhaps a couple envious

naysayers, too)... as well as the assertive edge necessary for effectively claiming your favorites. Are you absolutely certain which—and/or who—you like the best? Don't completely trust your judgment at the moment. The possibility which presently dazzles and delights you the most may *not* be what best serves your material interests, work productivity, or health. Yes, these *are* important considerations. Chemistry in itself is not enough to ensure a successful pairing. For now, relish this process of joyfully surveying your alternatives, while making it clear you're not ready to commit to anything.

September

Though Venus's retrograde ends within the first week of September, it remains in your sign another full month, suggesting you're still in a pretty advantageous position while you continue assessing the various romantic, professional, and/or community-related opportunities available to you. Pay close attention to what emerges during seemingly uneventful chit-chat sessions: Someone's glib remark may reveal their flighty or ungrounded relation to vital real-world concerns. At this point, you cannot risk your own material security or your competent handling of responsibilities, just because you like a certain someone's company. As you arrive at your most sensible next-move near month's-end, it's time to consciously slow down the pace of these developments... in order to get factually solid answers to every last logistical question, tiniest specifics and all. Your economic future will thank you for your diligence.

October

October is your official month for straightening up money matters, whether that requires cutting corners, crafting a detailed spending-plan, reorganizing your accounting methods, and/or hunting for lost nickels and dimes. While you're under auspicious astrology for improving your own financial standing, you could just as easily *lose* ground by partnering with untrustworthy parties or naively taking on needless debt. There's no "get rich quick" scheme that'll substitute for the basic effectiveness of hard work sustained over time. Your recent high of exciting possibilities and passionate promises is giving way to a clear need to proceed by rational design. As part of this comedown, you'll have to say no to something you've been wanting, on the grounds of its utter impracticality at the moment. If it's important enough, you can scrimp and save for a wiser moment.

November

As November opens, your views will be more strongly influenced by subjective moods and emotional desires than reason or proof. One way of shielding yourself from being called out on it? Saying less, while privately chewing things over. Yet, a mid-month upsurge in social activity makes it less likely you'll have the luxury of relative silence. Even when you may be digging the conversational rapport, it'll be hard to resist sharply reacting to a certain individual's attempts at obscuring an important virtue beneath a veneer of "being fair to all sides". By the latter part of November, you'll really have little choice but to bluntly state your uncensored truth, even if it comes off a tad harsh, if you intend to represent yourself accurately. Otherwise, you might end up way too far in bed with someone who's ultimately a moral liability to you.

December

You're still pretty outspoken during the first couple weeks of December, when you're willing to go toe-to-toe with a pal, neighbor, or family-member who's implying you're "being difficult" for pushing your point or not letting something slide. As long as you incur no explicit *financial* risk from holding this controversial stance, feel free to take on the battle. Meanwhile, look for your peaceful respite on the home-front, where you'll have more space to process your righteous emotions without concern for preserving a game-face. Later in the month, don't let holidaytime festivities distract you from putting serious thought into ways to improve the quality *and* quantity of your work in the new year. Though you might prefer to fantasize about almost anything else *but* work, you shouldn't skip this astrologically apt occasion for brainstorming innovations to your habits and practices.

VIRGO

Well, *this* ought to be an exciting one, Virgo!

2015 marks a revitalizing transition-point for you, as you welcome benevolent gentle-giant Jupiter back to *your* zodiac zone for the first time since 2004.

The transit of Jupiter through your home sign is typically considered to be one of the *best* astrological happenings there is, as it reactivates your optimism and opens your eyes more widely to *other* perspectives and possibilities you hadn't previously noticed or seen as available. When Jupiter arrives, it's as if your blinders are removed... and everything around you has a brighter, more vivid and promising tone to it. Once Jupiter's in your sign, Virgo, you'll be in the prime position to reintroduce yourself to the world, bigger and better than ever, eager to explore *what else* you may be able to do, experience, and perhaps *become*.

But Jupiter won't land in Virgo until the second week of August, more than midway through the year... and, as such, your first half of '15 will carry an *anticipatory* energy, pregnant with the feeling that good things are *just about ready* to manifest, but aren't *there* quite yet. This expectant vibe shouldn't be altogether unfamiliar, as it's an expression of Jupiter-in-your-12th, a transit which first began in July of last year. When Jupiter's in your 12th, your most encouraging personal growth is going on *behind the scenes*, on a subtle (or, dare we say, mystical) level, through enlightening awarenesses and spiritual awakenings which help you place any regrets, resentments, or sorrows from your past into a more accepting "everything happens for a reason" context.

With Jupiter's 12th-house influence during the year's earlier months, some of your "luckiest" developments won't occur by deliberate self-assertion, but rather as the natural result of actions already set into motion previously and/or in logical response to other people's deeds and decisions. Even attempting to judge *which* developments should qualify as "lucky" could be a premature effort. Instead, consciously conceive of this period simply as *setting the stage* for your grand re-entrance.

All the while, it's on *you*, Virgo, to continue outwardly disclosing your preferences and pleasures—without concession, mitigation, shame, or apology—regardless of what potential effect it may have on other areas of your life. Pluto's longtime occupation of your 5th house (2008-2024) is a powerful force meant to wrest your underlying desires and creative impulses into visible being, stirring you to acknowledge the mighty grip that what you *really* want has over your psyche.

Pluto's 5th-house stirrings may play out as a compulsion to immerse yourself more completely in a particular art-form, mode-of-expression, or recreational activity, beyond casual participation and toward total dedication... a deep urge to throw your everything into parenting, because you can't ignore the pull to child-rearing and/or the intensifying needs of children you already care for... and/or strong romantic yearnings for a special someone, with whom the passionate chemistry is undeniable. Any or all of these are reflections of a certain characterizing touch which only *you* possess. Nobody else in the whole wide world could bring *your* unique vision of love to this "baby" of yours.

Personal desire is actually a rather tricky category for many of you Virgos to master. Unlike your brethren of other zodiac-tribes (who seem to have no trouble unabashedly declaring "this is what I want" and then *expecting* their wants to be satisfied), you're likelier to assess a potential choice based more on whether it serves a practical purpose, helps you or somebody else fulfill a duty or achieve an important goal, and/or qualifies as an economical expense of your time and energy. "What I want" too often comes second to "what the job requires" or "what the right thing to do is" in a Virgo's mind. Yet, Pluto-in-your-5th has been persistently *mucking up* your usually-clarifying methods for determining where to assign your attentions... luring you away from a purely rational or pragmatic mindset, by heightening the potent appeal of some purely self-gratifying endeavor, encounter, or pastime, to the point where you *just can't ignore it* anymore.

Though such desires may indeed be inconvenient, complicating, and/or at odds with other more duty-driven commitments, Virgo, they'll continue to tug at your heartstrings and beckon for further external acknowledgment until you create a significant role from them in your day-to-day life. According to Pluto-in-your-5th's laws, your own gratification *is* a worthy purpose. Filling your time with activities that bring you joy *is* an important goal to pursue. Tune out these

stirrings altogether, however, and you're passively assenting to move through life like a robot... filling in blanks with acceptable answers, meeting every obligation, but lacking any joy or pride, resentful that everyone else has more fun (even quietly knowing you *pass up* your shots).

The obvious tensions which following your deepest desires may likely spur—especially when, in order to listen to your own heart, you might need to disrupt a prior arrangement or dash someone else's expectations of you—should be plenty familiar to you, as they're signified by Pluto's ongoing square with Uranus-in-your-8th, in direct effect since 2012 (though within an orb-of-influence a couple years earlier). This Uranus-Pluto square is the biggest astrological news of the decade, and has proven itself a constant disruptive pressure on all of us to revolutionize our life-circumstances or face ever-worsening impacts from perpetuating a decaying status-quo.

For you specifically, Virgo, Uranus's position in your 8th has led to an extended *instability*, in terms of knowing exactly where you as an *individual* stand within any interpersonal entanglements (e.g., intimate partnerships, professional collaborations, financial comminglings) which have conditionally tied your fate to someone else's. For every outward expression of individuating desire you've made, then, you've probably had to face an erratic or rebellious countermeasure from the other party... or else just as disruptive a drive from *within* you, a hunger to gain yourself more distance or detachment from this involvement's clutches.

To be clear, Uranus is neither a good or bad influence, merely one that encourages daring experimentation and liberatory risk-taking. And when we refuse to gamble our illusions of security and continuity, for a chance at some appealing unknown? Uranus draws unexpected or unsettling occurrences *to us*, to shake up our life-circumstances and thrust us into a radically different landscape. As an 8th-house influence on you, Virgo, Uranus has been needling you to take wild interpersonal leaps that rattle your sense either of interdependence or autonomy... whether that involves boldly diving deeper into a romantic pairing or other strategic partnership (leaving a messy heap of important questions and concerns you must address together, through an extended process of delicate negotiations and confessions) or, conversely, cracking open an already-intense relational situation to buy yourself greater independence or freedom (though the act of even *attempting* to loosen these strings that bind, if not to altogether disentangle yourself, brings its own unforeseeable chaos).

Your inability to carefully order, arrange, or control *how* such radical reorientations go down—because, of course, the other party's right to have *their* say is the constant variable—can be quite exasperating, particularly for a Virgo like you who'd prefer to put everything in its proper place rather than face ongoing disarray. Yet, *accepting* this disorderly reality is a primary lesson to reap from these Uranus-Pluto square years: To be uncompromisingly true to your heart's desires, you'll unavoidably open a can-of-worms as soon as whoever you're integrally intertwined with starts to react. To bravely grab for more personal satisfaction and joy, you can't help but rattle the psychological foundation of any interpersonal involvements already in place and/or your long-established patterns of self-sufficiency. Trying to attain a tolerable balance between more pronounced self-expression and the corresponding relational fluctuations which ensue is a Uranus-Pluto juggling act you're hopefully getting better at handling over time.

Because Uranus remains in a flowing trine to Jupiter-in-your-12th (which began last September) through the first chunk of '15, your willingness to embrace the instability associated with radically changing the terms of a critical partnership or enmeshing involvement should be *heightened*. As part of clearing your psychic slate of outdated attitudes and attachments, in preparation for enthusiastically welcoming the self-renewal that'll come once Jupiter crosses into your 1st, you must be open to allowing certain identifying bonds to organically evolve... or, if they aren't flexible enough to adapt to an ever-evolving you, to fall away.

Fear of letting things pass—which is nothing less than a willful denial of universal impermanence—will hold you back from taking fullest advantage of Jupiter's gifts, Virgo. In truth, Jupiter's benefic influence is often present when we lose something which has been important to us, but which we've grown beyond. We say our goodbyes both to that experience *and* to the old version of ourselves which it so aptly represents... and, looking back on it later, the loss proves bittersweet, an ultimately self-supporting step in our onward journey to further greatness.

If you find yourself confronted with the possible end of a relationship, please understand that this requisite severing (or at least *significantly* curtailing) of the energetic connection between you could pose *more* of a challenge, due to Neptune's long-term occupation of your 7th. Since 2011, Neptune has brought out your more sympathetic and sentimental side, lowering the discrete ego-boundaries between you and anyone you're involved with on a close one-on-one

basis, affording you an easier ability to intuitively suss out where the other person's coming from... and, as a result, greater compassion for what they might be feeling.

In the grand scheme of your development, Neptune-in-your-7th is helping you transcend the judgments you may instinctively form about how other people handle their life-circumstances (for Virgos are sometimes guilty of believing there are right and wrong ways to do things), increasing your capacity to appreciate *their* different style and approach. For many Virgos, Neptune has brought a softening of your critical or perfectionist tendencies in relational settings. Yet, because Neptune-in-your-7th lowers your interpersonal boundaries and magnifies your compassion for others, you're more susceptible to feeling a partner's emotions as if they were your own—which makes it *harder* to separate yourself from them, whether for a long weekend or the rest of your lives, without sympathetically suffering the hurt, anger, or grief along *with* them. “How selfish must I be,” you might thusly wonder, “to cause *them* such upset?” And therein lies the challenging rub.

Though hyper-romantic Neptune has almost surely brought love to a fair number of you Virgos over these past four years, there are also potential dangers to falling under its spell. As a 7th-house influence, Neptune can lead you to *idealize* another person and/or the relationship you have with them... causing you to overlook certain red-flags or fall prey to the noble notion that, if only you devote *enough* care and encouragement to this coupling, you can help your partner rise to their best self (or even *save* them from their dysfunctional or destructive impulses, if need be). For every true love Neptune has ever inspired, it's left a dozen unhealthy codependent unions and self-sabotaging acts of interpersonal martyrdom in its wake... each a result of prioritizing *feelings* of relational bliss over all other concerns, even when perpetuating such feelings comes at the expense of constructive self-actualization (or requires a certain amount of self-delusion to block out the less-blissful realities).

Remember: It is *not* your life-purpose to sacrifice your ambitions or put your desires on hold, to support, coddle, or attempt to save anyone else, no matter *how* much you care for them. In fact, your vision of them as someone in need of “saving” and/or otherwise dependent on you may not be wholly accurate. After all, Neptune-in-your-7th *can* obscure your clearest view of those you're in relationship with, showing you instead the image of them you expect or wish to see. You might be enfeebling or disempowering the other person *yourself*, projecting onto them

to serve your *own* unconscious need to be the responsible hero. What if they'd actually be *fine* without you?

Enter Saturn, whose recent arrival to your 4th house (during the final days of '14) can help you assume fuller responsibility for your emotional self-care... if, that is, you accept the demanding task of actively *strengthening* your boundaries so nobody else's feelings (or your imagined version of them) hold too much sway over how you choose to nourish *yours*. With Saturn occupying your 4th for much of the next three years, your most serious personal-work is *internal* in nature: to ensure you're treating your own inner well-being with as much diligent effort and attention as you would some professional assignment or interpersonal obligation.

Because the 4th represents your relation to the family you come from (and especially your primary parent-figures), Saturn's presence suggests you may need to concentrate more intently on sorting out these familial bonds, limiting the impact any unsupportive parenting practices (whether past or ongoing) still hold over your sense of emotional security... and, likewise, taking charge of any "re-parenting" efforts which could help you feel more grounded and inwardly peaceful. Saturn wants *you* in the emotional driver's-seat, steering your internal scripts *away* from self-criticality and toward greater acceptance of your infallible humanity, moods and all.

To do so, you'll probably have to behave more conscientiously in your family relationships: taking more control over the tone, frequency, and backdrop of your visits with family-members; refusing to let their undermining or disheartening remarks slide; speaking up for yourself rather than staying silently deferent; and working diligently, bit by bit, to ripen your role in the familiar dynamic from "obedient child" to "full-grown adult". Though you cannot control how family-members may respond to your deliberate behavioral changes, it's on *you* to tow a consistent line in *your* reactions to them. Otherwise, they'll likely try (consciously or not) to subvert your efforts at maturing the dynamic.

This pressure to meticulously assert clear emotional boundaries isn't limited to actual encounters with living, breathing family-members. More often than not, the "parents" we need to draw lines with are actually internalized facsimiles—and *they* are usually even more stubborn, unkind, and unforgiving than the "real" ones. Can you discern between those self-repressive messages in your head which you inherited from your childhood and the true heartfelt voice of

your self-caring conscience? Might be a real challenge at first... until you decide to purposefully *disencumber* your inner dialogue from that pervasive correctional tone.

The 4th house also rules your domestic sphere—where you live in terms of both geographic locale *and* actual dwelling, who you live with, and how cozy and comfortable you feel in your space—so Saturn’s influence is a call to *get serious* about any looming issues on the home-front. If you are presently discontented with your living situation, it’s officially time to do something about it. Saturn-in-your-4th can signal an increasingly urgent pressure to improve the conditions in your home (are there essential repairs you’ve been putting off?), to decisively confront any conflicts with housemates (which might necessarily lead to someone moving out), or to actively search for a more appropriate home-base for yourself (whether in better-fitting lodgings and/or a different town).

In some cases, these household adjustments are critical to carrying out Saturn’s *other* 4th-house duties. You may wish to relocate, for instance, in order to support your task of drawing clearer emotional boundaries with family. Or you might want to find a more spacious, serene, or aesthetically pleasing place for yourself, as part of re-prioritizing your own well-being through such a self-nurturing move... though it’s an act *someone else* might scoff at and/or question on practical grounds. Saturn-in-your-4th asks: Is this where *you* intend to put down roots? Is this *your* real home? If your answer is a resounding yes, then take intentional actions to demonstrate your seriousness—no matter who likes it or doesn’t. And if it’s *not*? Better start figuring out how to remedy this serious plight.

The palpable tide-turn toward *your* exciting moment in the spotlight begins midyear, as Venus approaches its six-week retrograde phase (Jul 25-Sep 6)... an odd affair likely to catch *you*, Virgo, in some of its more trickster-like manifestations. Venus actually enters your 12th house early in June, where it further *heightens* that anticipatory vibe of “good things afoot” which characterizes your whole first-half of ’15. When it finally crosses into your sign midway through July, you’ll feel like you’re *finally* ready to step out and openly claim the attentions, affections, ambitions, and accolades you’ve been quietly attracting and aspiring to. But please *don’t* set your heart or fix your expectations on what *first* manifests at this time... though it could be a difficult temptation to resist, considering you’ll probably really *like* these early glimpses of your imminent good-fortune.

Because Venus goes retrograde a mere week after entering Virgo, *then* slips back into your 12th by July's end, you unfortunately can't trust that any goodies which have shown up—offers, opportunities, a favorable reception from professional contacts or romantic prospects—are indeed worth what they immediately appear to be. Through August and into early September, a number of positive potentials may seem to blast off too unsustainably fast or far or, just as spectacularly, unravel or melt down before your very eyes. Respond to all these developments with a very light touch, without presuming to know which of these outcome(s) is ultimately most favorable to you.

You mustn't get too anxious about *this* lack of certainty, though. With Jupiter finally landing in Virgo during the midst of this Venus-retrograde madness, it's far likelier than usual that things *will* work out to your advantage. But what should you *do* while all this is happening? Simply ensure you're an ongoing participant in all discussions which impact you, providing sincere feedback on what you believe would make the relevant operations run most smoothly and effectively... *without* worrying too much about who will agree with your thoughts (or take offense to them), or even whether they'll properly understand what you're saying. Think of it as a basic exercise in getting your intentions on the "official" public record.

By early October, once Venus is both direct again *and* headed back to your sign, you'll have a much more thorough understanding of which promising possibilities are *really* on the table (and which were merely a fantastical mirage)... and, with a further bump from mid-September's solar eclipse in your sign, you'll be ready to formally launch that Next Big Chapter, in which you boldly go after *whatever* your heart desires. Your initiative, audacity, and personal appeal will be at their strongest from late September into early November, qualifying *this* as an undeniable power-period for you—not merely within the context of 2015, but in the broader scope of your entire life's trajectory.

By October, Jupiter-in-your-1st and Pluto-in-your-5th also slide into a trine, creating a potent synergy across the two most self-focused houses. This is about as clear an astrological missive as you can get, advocating you adopt a more unapologetic and unwavering show of courage, resolve, and (yes) self-interest. Jupiter's trine to Pluto remains in effect through mid-'16, with Jupiter staying in your sign until next September. In other words, this power-period extends through a sizable chunk of *next year*, too. If ever there were a divinely-ordained occasion for

putting *your* dreams, drives, and designs *first*, this is pretty much it, Virgo. And you need no reason *other than* your own enthusiasm, interest, or desire.

January

Inaugurate your year with full-steam-ahead productivity, investing a double-dose of earnest everyday effort into your work duties, household chores, and/or personal-health endeavors during the first couple weeks of January. As the month progresses, you'll happily notice a smoother groove developing in your day-to-day rhythms... though, even still, you may need to continue tweaking your processes or schedule into February. A key partnership could show stress later in the month, particularly if your approach to addressing a problem is to "suck it up" and give the other person what they want—all while you grow increasingly resentful for not raising your objections. Or are you unconsciously picking a fight based on a totally subjective worry you've projected onto them? Take them at their word if they claim innocence; you may need to look *inward* for the solution to your upset.

February

There's an extra sweetness in your primary relationship(s) as February opens, allowing you to more thoroughly enjoy one another's company... and/or helping to smooth over any sore feelings from recent disagreements. But don't gloss over any tensions you two haven't *really* resolved (because you're afraid they may be irresolvable?). Later in the month, as the astrological heat starts rising, whatever you avoided will return with a fiery vengeance. However, if things are going well interpersonally, you'll notice the intimacy between you start to intensify... in direct proportion to how emotionally open and vulnerable you're willing to be. Constant changings-of-minds or reshufflings-of-priorities on the work front could take their toll on you. To keep a good attitude about it, begin each day with few specific expectations about what you're going to get done—and, at each day's end, flatly *refuse* to bring your work home with you.

March

An “all-or-nothing” urgency pervades your interpersonal life through March’s first half, when you must weigh a moment’s heightened feelings against a fuller view of what you *really* want. This is less a moment for self-sacrifice... and more a chance to hold out, even if it’s a gamble. If you daringly express your deepest desires and get a positive response, this will be a *huge* win. And if the response isn’t so welcoming? It’ll be a major bummer (from which there may be no coming back), but at least you’ll know what *isn’t* possible within the container of this coupling—and that knowledge will be an insightful support for your positive evolution in the months to come. Regardless of this situation’s outcome, you’ll experience greater philosophical clarity by the later part of the month: Once you stand unwaveringly behind an important principle, you immediately simplify certain life-questions for yourself.

April

Though you may still be embroiled in an emotionally-charged dialogue as April begins, think of it as a wrap-up more than a re-opening of negotiations. You already *know* your truth about this situation, and have (hopefully) set your mind on moving forward with those beliefs intact. Throughout the month, you’ll possess the strength-of-character to stubbornly hold this line, no matter the pressures you face. But *too* stubborn an insistence on one way of seeing things could blind you to an opportunity that falls *way* outside your framework of “what makes sense”. Professional advantages open up once Venus reaches your 10th in April’s second week, though they’ll require on-the-spot flexibility to claim. Nervousness about jumping in too quickly could be an inhibiting factor... or is it healthy caution? Don’t let a certain someone (with *their* own stake in your decision) convince you one way or another.

May

What you’re accomplishing out in the world—particularly *professionally*—is a central concern through much of May. Choices abound, though you might feel quite fearful about entertaining departures from “The Plan”. Rather than attempting to whip yourself into shape, take a kinder-and-gentler approach. Reassure yourself it’s okay to try new things, even if just to explore your curiosities. Concentrate on testing the waters with fact-finding discussions and meet-the-

players introductions, instead of closing any deals. With Mercury flipping retrograde mid-month in your career house (the 10th), you shouldn't expect a full understanding of the terms and conditions until later in June. Find comfort in your social connections, surrounding yourself with trusted pals and/or increasing your participation in group activities or community programs. Beware of creating undue tensions by insisting everyone follow *your* lead.

June

Your latest career- and/or public-sphere efforts reach a critical point during June's first weeks. It's time to lay your ambitions on the table, in a tone both confident *and* still amenable to compromise. A mutually winning agreement will likely require you to bend on certain personal preferences, on behalf of potential future returns which cannot be clearly glimpsed from here. Should you proceed on faith? That depends on whether you find this whole prospect sincerely *interesting* in itself (regardless of eventual outcome), or if it's merely a means to an (uncertain) end. Because there's no obviously "correct" answer to these questions, the best method for choosing your next step won't be an *analytical* one, but more *meditative* in nature. Spend enough time by yourself, relaxing your mind and connecting with the Universal Mind (or whatever you call it). The rightful insights will effortlessly emerge.

July

There's a trickster quality to your July, as your feelings vacillate between "just about ready" and "still not quite there". The first half of your month will be imbued with eager anticipation for positive developments on the verge of manifesting. Your behavior toward friends or colleagues may be somewhat edgy or impatient, due to this preoccupation. You'll make it far worse by acting like your concerns are more important than anyone else's, or as if your imminent success will somehow set you apart from the crowd. Give off an uppity attitude, and the pushback could get nasty. Once Venus reaches your sign midway through July, it'll *seem* like everything's finally coming up roses—and, to a certain extent, it *is*. But what first looks to be favorable attention or a fortunate turn may *not* be what you think. With Venus going retrograde and heading back into your 12th, you'll need to *stay tuned* another few months to *really* see what's what.

August

More weirdness pervades August, and the burden's on *you* not to hastily react based on first impulse, wishful thinking, or perceived risk. It'll be *way* too easy to mistake mirages for the real deal. Most of the month's actions (including some which may appear to threaten your standing or create chaotic fallout) will be carried out by *other people*, leaving you to essentially watch it all shake out. Don't veer from this hands-off role or try to be a hero: You'll *cause* more problems than you fix. Earlier in August, please refrain from offering personal opinions or substantive feedback. Though your participation in the conversation is expected, you honestly *don't know* what to think quite yet. Later in the month, you can say a bit more... but be sure to craft it to your particular audience, making it likelier they'll vibe with what you're telling them. Believe it or not, with benevolent Jupiter now in your sign for the next year, this *will* work out to your benefit—eventually.

September

Once Venus return to direct motion a week into September, that “just about ready” vibe kicks back into high gear. Only *now*, you're preparing to play ball on a markedly different playing-field. Through the earlier part of the month, you remain in the lead-up phase. Questions about what resources you've got at your disposal and/or how much it'll all cost may temporarily stump you, since the most “responsible” approach is in some conflict with what you *really* want. Aim to figure it out by the middle of next month. Mid-September's solar eclipse in Virgo is your cosmic invitation to set a vision for how you'd like Jupiter to help you grow during the months ahead... though it'll require unapologetic self-interest on your part, even if it upsets someone's expectations or rattles a relationship's foundation. Come the month's final week, thanks to Mars, you'll be in the driver's seat at long last.

October

Without a doubt, October's your best moment all year to make things happen just as you'd like. All those months of watching and waiting have been leading up to *this*, a concentration of astro-energies perfectly suited for asserting initiative, pushing endeavors ahead, and fighting against what- or whoever might stand in your way. With both benefics Venus *and* Jupiter alongside

Mars in your sign, you're highly likely to receive good results and a warm welcome. With each step forward, you could feel anxious or guilty about the impact your self-serving actions have on a certain individual (whether a spouse, partner, or collaborator). But will you *help* them by holding yourself back? Be on guard against self-sabotaging martyrdom. Financial decisions you *finally* reach by mid-month could cause a few bumps near month's-end, especially if you divert funds away from a *shared* priority to more effectively organize around an *individual* goal.

November

A lively momentum continues through the first week of November, as you catch up with pals and social contacts, spreading the good word about all your recent developments. Filling them in does *not*, however, give them a say on where things are headed. Sparks could fly, if they don't take too kindly to being kept out of the decision-making process. Yet, to forge your own path during this fortuitous growth-period requires a fair degree of *independence*. Nailing down practical details—particularly where money or ownership is concerned—grows increasingly critical as November progresses. Though you're well-positioned to earn a bigger piece of the pie, you mustn't come on too strong, as if all you care about is personal gain. Use an extra dose of charm to woo those who hold the purse-strings, so they know this isn't just about a quick buck. Late in the month, resist jumping to conclusions in household conversations or family disputes.

December

Be prepared for a possible battle between competing interests in December's opening couple weeks. Though you may possess certain advantages over the other party, you shouldn't fool yourself into believing your edge is a result of your analytic ability or superior perspective. Your stance is more subjective and driven by personal desire than you may care to realize—not that there's anything wrong with that. Please be clear you'll score victories with strength or bravado, not logic or reason. Watch your tone mid-month, when your proud declarations could dangerously straddle the line between passionate and pompous. Blow off steam with lots of friend-dates, neighborly gab-sessions, giggly chit-chats, and long-overdue reconnections with relatives. Even though you're just casually catching up, these simple exchanges of social energy will nurture your soul more deeply than you'd expect.

LIBRA

2015 shouldn't be *quite* as disruptively action-packed as your '14 likely was, Libra... though I'd stop short of describing it as easy or calm.

Going into one more year in the crosshairs of the world-gone-crazy square between Uranus and Pluto, your version of "business as usual" has seemingly become a nonstop clamor of interpersonal instability and stormy internal transformation.

In one situation after another, you've been put on the spot to react with behaviors that *subvert* your unconscious self-suppressing, other-people-pleasing tendencies... in an emboldened effort to more fervently fight for your *own* emotional contentment. Along the way, you've hopefully revolutionized your interpersonal response-patterns. Otherwise, your psychological inability to firmly stand up for yourself has only *intensified* the feeling of inner powerlessness, causing you to grow ever more resigned or resentful. There's unfortunately been little "in-between" ground: Either you've improved your capacity to be unashamedly self-supportive, or you're feeling less empowered than ever.

Though '15 brings another exact Uranus-Pluto square (in mid-March), it will be the *final* one of this series of seven (which began in June 2012)... and then, this generation-defining astro-event will *at last* start gradually waning in effect, dissolving into the annals of history over the succeeding couple years.

This first-half of your year, thus, offers you one more *major* Uranus-and-Pluto-triggered chance at intently revolutionizing your life-circumstances, Libra: an unmistakable opening to work *with* the likely chaos, to resolutely channel it toward *your* desired ends, *even if* your emotionally-tenacious stand startles, upsets, and/or estranges a certain someone.

Rather than cower in fear that such self-determined changes will lead to discouraging losses, please look at your evolutionary process through a slightly longer-range lens: Good-luck Jupiter will arrive to your sign in September 2016, ushering in a yearlong boon for you Librans across all zones-of-life. Leading up to this exciting shift, you therefore can be less focused on immediately making lots of new things happens—and, instead, concentrate on continuing to

loosen any outdated bonds and attachments which still hold you back from feeling constructively self-directed. Don't lose sight of Jupiter's imminent arrival, especially in those low moments when you're left to wonder where all the *easier* opportunities have gone. They're coming your way, I swear.

Meanwhile, Pluto persists in his slow deep travels through your 4th house (2008-2024), an ongoing confrontation with internalized wounds, demons, guilt-trips, or terror-traps which prevent you from properly nurturing your own emotional well-being. Pluto-in-your-4th is your urgent call to excavate the psychological ground which undergirds any inner tyrannies to which you're meekly subservient... to better understand the roots of inherited shame, spite, dread, or undue deference to sacred-cows, allowing you to deconstruct whatever punitive prohibitions or manipulative mind-games have impacted your ability to be tender and caring toward yourself.

Many folks use Pluto's 4th-house transit to engage in powerful therapeutic self-healing, whether with professional help or through lots of private soul-searching, in order to untangle their ideas of emotional security from the messages they swallowed under parental pressure and/or learned through experiencing trauma. The light at the end of Pluto-in-your-4th's long dark "tunnel"? Taking on *total command* of your internal landscape, as the unchallenged authority on what'll best support you in feeling safe and cared for. Nobody else can know better.

Because the 4th rules your relationship to your family-of-origin, Libra, Pluto's prolonged presence there suggests a big part of your internal healing likely involves a significant *overhaul* in your dynamics with your parents, parent-figures, or other formative familial influences. Before you're able to competently claim the power to dictate your most effective self-care standards, you must successfully "dethrone" those family-members (or other up-close-and-intimate players) who were formerly in charge of tending to your emotional needs... regardless of whether or not you'd say they did a good job.

To be your own adult, your inner well-being cannot be reliant upon living up to anyone else's rules for rightful behavior. You must be willing to disappoint, displease, and/or flatly defy the guidelines you were indoctrinated to obey—no matter *how much* you may still love and honor those who raised you—or you'll always remain under their thumb, terrified of following your own heart any time it veers from the conventional family-approved wisdom. Such an overhaul is a

necessary step in your evolution, Libra, whether or not the triggering family-members are living or still serve a vital role in your life. Though you might choose to engage the actual characters in potentially difficult dialogue which would flip the customary dynamic on its ear, the harder influence to overcome will be the meaner-and-madder *internalized* versions of them you've created.

The 4th house is *also* a symbol of your residential life... and Pluto urges you to see your domestic domain as a reflection of how far you're risen in assuming power over your inner well-being. Domineering housemates or less-than-nurturing living circumstances, for example, are obvious illustrations of your continued willingness to subsume your own comfort beneath others' louder-mouthed demands or a just-tolerable-enough status-quo. Taking control, in this context, may necessitate a literal overthrow of domestic power through a relocation, either of yourself and/or the offensive housemate.

Sometimes, a residential move is actually the *strongest* self-care step you can take. The geographic distance it opens will help you better separate from familial coercion, *and* you get to self-select where to live, based on your own unapologetically subjective preferences about what most authentically feel like home to *you*. Once you can confidently claim agency in choosing a suitable home for yourself, Pluto-in-your-4th powerfully reinforces the roots you intentionally plant there.

Over these past few years, Pluto's square to Uranus-in-your-7th has singled out your closest one-on-one *relationship(s)* as another significant battleground for your burgeoning efforts at self-determination. Thanks to Uranus's longtime occupation of your 7th (2010-2019), the age-old stereotype of Librans as so strongly relationship-centered that you're agreeably accommodating *to a fault* has been turned upside-down. Uranus incites us to go against the grain, to express our most unexpected and/or radically individualistic impulses, in an effort to ensure we're as free as possible to be our unique selves. As a 7th-house agent in *your* life, Uranus refuses to settle for too smooth, stable, or stifling a vibe in any important interpersonal coupling.

Uranus-in-your-7th has wrought a continuing pressure for you to reinvent your concept of a successful relationship, Libra, so it affords you greater independence—and, thus, ample personal space to experiment with different ways of being in the world, motivated more by self-

interest than interpersonal compromise or compliance. With Uranus-in-your-7th, you've likely been riding a relational rollercoaster, as you rebel against expectations and assert non-conforming desires, causing a periodic (or perpetual) feeling of interpersonal unsettledness rather than any sure-footed assurances. Perhaps it's even led to a full-on breakdown or breakup, if that relationship's structure couldn't survive the turmoil of a breakthrough.

And if you've passively *refused* to stir the relational pot, in hopes you could cruise along without any major bumps or twists? You've probably been on the receiving end of *someone else's* inconsistent feelings or erratic actings-out, leaving you constantly on edge and in reactive mode. Uranus wants to see how much chaos or uncertainty you'll endure before you finally *crack* and do something crazy. Of course, you could just *choose* to make a game-changing move and altogether avoid this "cracking"... but, alas, some people need to be *pushed* out of their comfort-zone.

If you're not mindful, this explosive mix of an at-odds Uranus and Pluto *can* rouse you to be disproportionately defiant or senselessly contrary in critical interpersonal situations. Due to the fact that you're waging an epic battle for emotional self-determination *at the same time* you're trying to innovatively switch up how you act in relationships, you could inadvertently fall into uncooperative attitudes which recklessly *overcompensate* for past feelings of powerlessness. In the most extreme instances of such unconscious projection, you end up behaving toward your partner or a close companion like a rebellious teen might—only *they* probably aren't the appropriate target for your rash disobedience. Try your best not to unfairly use your personal relationships to play out inner power-struggles, thumbing your nose at someone else's "authority" or enacting misguided "revenge".

Your potential for interpersonal turmoil is further heightened by Uranus's trine from Jupiter-in-your-11th, an aspect which took effect last September and continues into the middle of '15. The 11th house represents your wider network of friends, peers, colleagues, and like-minded allies, those with whom you share common interests, values, and/or a sense of community. Having Jupiter move through here is an encouraging invitation to *expand* your social scene, with the promise of making new chums, developing your connections with casual acquaintances, and/or actively upping your participation in groups or causes where you feel you authentically *belong*. By Jupiter's watch, this is an exceedingly auspicious time to reach beyond your usual social

milieu and toward some fresh influences. The ultimate longer-term rewards from these newfound associations could far *surpass* what you might imagine.

In combination with Uranus, Jupiter's 11th-house presence suggests deliberately broadening your social involvements will positively support your ongoing efforts to change the rules in your closest one-on-one partnership(s). Common sense tells us, of course, you're far likelier to meet someone who shakes up your ideas about relationships when you cast a wider social net, expose yourself to more folks who are better aligned with your ideals, and further your frequency and level of engagement with these fledgling pals so they introduce you to *their* friends, too. You might meet an insightful ally whose own relational circumstances are similar to what you're striving for, and who'd therefore make a perfect sounding-board to bounce your evolving thoughts off of... and/or a promising romantic prospect who fits your newfound lifestyle or emerging identity like a glove.

One risk with this Jupiter-Uranus effect: Don't be so rash or hasty in cutting off an existing romance, friendship, or affiliation just because "someone better" came along, especially if you haven't adequately attempted to talk out your problems. Though the new-and-exciting relationship feels new and exciting *now*, that doesn't automatically mean it's a suitable substitute for what you might be prematurely throwing away.

This brings us to Saturn's latest challenge for you, Libra, now that it's made the transition into your 3rd house (as of 2014's last days). How much personal *truth* do you regularly disclose in your typical day-to-day communications? Do you consistently speak forthrightly, accurately sharing what's indeed on your mind? Or do you choose your words more obliquely, cagily, and/or manipulatively... evading too much personal revelation, smoothly changing subjects when your discomfort arises, preemptively posing questions to the *other person*, both to keep yourself off the hot-seat *and* collect information on them which you might later deploy for some purpose? Do you use your proficient conversation skills to thoroughly process all the relevant angles of a certain issue, or do you use them to steer the discussion to safer territory (if not to altogether short-circuit it)? Saturn, in your 3rd through the end of 2017, asks you to look more closely at your methods of social exchange.

If you're one of those Librans who relies on superficial small-talk as an avoidance technique, to save you from sensitive topics or intimidating interactions, Saturn-in-your-3rd serves as a warning against too much self-shielding insincerity. As long as you can be predictably counted on to offer blandly unresponsive or distancing answers, opinions, and remarks while Saturn's breathing down your neck, it'll become increasingly unrewarding (and thus pointless) for others to continue investing in interactions with you. After all, they're not getting to know you any better. They're not finding out more about what you two share in common, or how you're different. And they're not being offered the chance to actually support you, with encouragement or feedback or a receptive ear, because they have no idea what the hell's *actually* going on with you. Such "friendly" dynamics are merely perfunctory in every way, with the appropriate niceties and automated responses... and, as such, provide diminishing returns over time, both for those who'd seek to connect with you *and* for your own connection-hungry heart.

On the upside, Saturn's 3rd-house residence provides a structuring incentive for you to strive for more deliberate *directness*... to improve the *authenticity* and *seriousness* of what you communicate (rather than saying whatever will put the listener at ease or get 'em off your back), as an earnest effort at sharing more specifying details about yourself. The harder you work on refining your communication style, the more effectively you'll represent your ideas, interests, and inclinations—and the clearer an impression you'll make on those you interact with. Part of this work might include: correcting assumptions or misperceptions others might hold about you, rather than letting them slide; offering unsolicited opinions, without worrying about whether others will agree; meeting others' intimate confessions with engaged follow-up questions or a similarly heartfelt share; and/or sticking around in awkward conversations longer than you ordinarily would, without backpedaling from comments you made which might've fed that awkwardness.

As you cultivate greater confidence and comfort in your capacity for conversational straightforwardness, you'll find yourself better prepared than ever to *finally* broach any long-undiscussed, neglected, or swept-under-the-rug topics with friends, family-members, neighbors, or anyone you've been holding your tongue around. Saturn-in-your-3rd indicates *this* is your critical time to address what's been left unspoken, opening or restoring a progressive dialogue where there's recently been only passive-aggressive silence or superficiality. Letting this critical moment pass by, meanwhile, will merely harden the disingenuous "peace" into firmer being, crusting your exchanges with ever-more-hollow-sounding sentiments which gloss over all the

unresolved questions and concerns eating away at your insides. Why allow a potentially fixable relationship fall into disrepair without earnestly *trying*, at length, to discuss the issues at stake?

When your ruling planet Venus goes retrograde midway through the year (Jul 25-Sep 6), it'll behoove you to put these toughened-up communication skills to work... to help you shrewdly navigate the influx of new best-friends, colorful local characters, surprise guest-stars, and/or pals from days-gone-by who are liable to show up at this time. Venus spends nearly *four* months in your 11th house, from early June through early October (with a brief interval in your 12th during the July's last-half), adding to the expansive effect Jupiter already injected into your social life.

In the weeks leading up to Venus's retrograde, you can expect an enjoyable increase in both how many events, group meetings, and/or get-togethers are on your calendar *and* how many folks, both fresh faces and old standbys, you're interacting with. While you should feel free to revel in the comradely vibes, the new ideas and rallying causes, and the energizing upswing all this social activity presents you, you should probably stop short of forming agreements, commitments, or future plans based on this hike in shared enthusiasm.

Once Venus turns retrograde near the end of July, then returns to your 11th, you'll likely witness a shifting-of-alliances and/or second-guessing-of-loyalties within your social circle... a sort of "second act" to the preceding weeks' social dramas, during which more information emerges and/or a surprise scene-stealer shows up, revealing a whole *other* angle that could leave you thinking twice about who's who. Please don't rush to take sides or figure out where you stand. As long as Venus is retrograde, your discernment about the specific *value* any certain friendship or social-affiliation genuinely holds in your life will be somewhat unreliable. It could prove terribly unwise either to bind your fate to someone else's *or* to cut ties during this time.

Spend the duration of Venus's retrograde—through August and into early September—letting all the different personalities gossip and dicker and lurch this way and that, observing and noting what they say and do, but reserving your own final judgments. If you're wondering about the practical details or ramifications of someone's suggestion, don't hesitate to ask them questions about it. Though you needn't overtly expose your own particular concerns (unless a pushy character puts you on the spot), you also can't afford to jeopardize your own self-interests—

especially if money is involved—just to go along with the crowd and/or not alienate a friend. Making financially short-sighted decisions or senselessly self-sacrificing tradeoffs, due to real or imagined peer-pressures, would be a regrettable Venus-retrograde goof.

Only *after* Venus is happily back in its direct-motion groove can you safely rely on your character assessments of the main players. Please, therefore, wait until late September or early October before confidently moving forward with cementing an alliance, dedicating yourself to a collective endeavor, delving further into a burgeoning friendship, or walking away from outdated or unbefitting relationships. By then, you'll have seen enough evidence to demonstrate whether a given individual or group is truly in sync with, and supportive of, your efforts to more independently determine your own best path... or whether there are just too many holes in their logic, instances of their actions betraying their words, or reasons to believe their motives aren't compatible with yours.

It's during this same midyear period that Jupiter heads into the murky otherworld of your 12th house, essentially disappearing from view in preparation for your exciting rebirth later in 2016. From this August into next year, Jupiter's growth-fostering influence impacts you in a subtler fashion, quietly fostering a mellower and more accepting perspective on your past, along with a closely-guarded cards-to-your-chest optimism about what's soon to come down your line. Once Jupiter slips behind your 12th-house veil, though, you could periodically feel as if your "luck" has gone missing... even as you must preserve faith that it *is* working its magic backstage, in cryptic or confusing strokes, helping you become as open and receptive as possible in advance of '16-'17's more *obvious* rewards.

By September, Jupiter-in-your-12th will be trine to Pluto (an aspect lasting into mid-'16), only accentuating the likelihood that, during the year's closing months, you'll best support your evolution by purposely spending more time alone or behind-the-scenes than you usually prefer. It's only by plainly *removing* yourself from direct contact with others' motives, agendas, and persuasive pressures—and sitting in reflective solitary retreat, face-to-face with your true feelings—that you can *really* hear what your heart's telling you, without outside voices convoluting or contaminating your simplifying lucidity.

Beware, however, the relative invisibility of any immediately recognizable and reassuring signs that you're "actually getting somewhere"—other than the faint (though no less credible) inner knowledge your time *is* indeed coming—could cause you to feel a bit *lost* in your work, as if your day-to-day efforts are being misdirected or wasted. It's not an accident that career-related issues have merited barely a mention in your forecast: As far as your '15 is concerned, overarching questions about professional ambition, direction, and reputation just *aren't* as pressing a focus as other areas... though that's not to imply *nothing* will happen on this front.

It's important you strive to maintain a reasonable regular routine, to ground you in healthful productivity, rather than falling prey to sloth (because you worry that nothing you're doing "matters") or exhausting yourself by trying to meet unsustainable expectations. When you're feeling anxious, aimless, or adrift in your everyday work, please don't swallow these feelings of uncertainty and just stoically push on. This is yet another chance to practice talking about a sensitive topic with people who can help keep you on track, with support and guidance. The interpersonal connection will feel reassuring, even as your ideal job-improving "solution" (if there *is* one) may continue to elude you a little while longer.

January

There's no excuse to be overly demure or diplomatic as January begins, when the onus is on *you* to demonstrate where your own interests or desires diverge from your friends' or teammates'—even if it leaves you feeling like the "sore thumb" or "squeaky wheel". Though certain parties' reactions could be initially unpleasant, you'll gain greater personal comfort with standing out (as well as some welcome acknowledgment from an admirer or two) as the month rolls on. If you later discover you went too far in singling yourself out, it's perfectly fine to reframe your stance in a more moderate tone. From mid-January onward, you may need to throw yourself totally into your work. Take care not to overtax your system by keeping an unreasonable schedule or skipping meals. Also, don't forget to check in with key colleagues throughout the process.

February

Vital work demands and/or bodily-health strains continue to consume much of your attention early in February. It's to your *clear* benefit to stay on the ball with these responsibilities, even if you feel the pull of social influences tempting you away. In your personal life, don't trick yourself into prematurely believing you know what you want. Keep talking it all through with a variety of pals until month's-end, to help unpack any hasty assumptions and more thoughtfully consider your alternatives. Later in February, relationships become a hot topic, as you have a chance to dive head-first into something new and exciting... and/or to flip an existing dynamic on its ear by pushing back hard against a partner's self-centered behavior. Everyone's willingness to temper their fiery emotions with careful dialogue will determine whether or not this latest relational development has staying-power.

March

Interpersonal fireworks—whether wildly inspiring or feverishly frustrating—are still popping off through the first weeks of March, when a now-or-never vibe pervades your whole relationship life. You may have to dig deep, in order to overcome familial pressures and/or private preoccupations which might otherwise hold you back. In talking yourself through the pros and cons, advocate for whatever will *expand* your social world rather than shrink it. Mid-month, beware of wishful or overly idealistic thinking, when it comes to getting a certain job or task done right. It's better to ask for guidance than to hurry through with questionable methods. During March's second-half, as a certain novelty wears off and you start coming down from the high, you'll receive a reality-check about how much emotional intimacy a partnership can favorably bear... especially once you're brave enough to confide a secret or share your less-pretty side.

April

Though spirited relationship discussions continue into early April, the stakes are now much higher... and it's therefore much more critical to tow a hard line than to compromise (especially where sensitive matters are concerned) and risk potential future losses. Be wary of the other party's efforts (conscious or not) to manipulatively play to your internal guilt-complex. For fresh perspectives, ask your most self-confident friends what *they'd* do in your situation. You might

veer toward the so-called “high road” midway through the month, but don’t let your presumed high-mindedness inspire you to leave questions unasked and/or release a certain someone from accountability, just to get this over with already. To protect your own interests from being bulldozed by this powerful character, you may instead have to *ratchet up* your intensity.

May

Throughout May, your mind should be swimming with new ideas for how to broaden your knowledge and/or gain more experience. But not all “new ideas” are *good* ideas, especially if they aren’t grounded in a fair amount of logistical realism. You won’t capably support this evolutionary impulse by ducking your duties or overstepping appropriate limits, just to try something different. Leave your possibilities open, inviting lots of problem-solving discussions with anyone bold enough to shoot holes in your romantic theories. Though the feedback could be hard to hear, think of it as a gift... even if you later choose to ignore it. Venus shines in your career house (the 10th) from May’s second week onward. Later in the month, you may have to overthrow an inner demon and/or reject a pushy person’s self-serving input, in order to take advantage of what intuitively feels most promising.

June

Questions about which path to take and/or which purpose to prioritize are still shaking out through much of June, as each option has its own legitimate pros and cons. One important consideration that could tip the scales: Who are the other players involved? If you’re enthused by the chance to spend more time with these folks, to learn from them, and/or to work together toward a common goal, that’s a huge plus. Yes, it’s totally fine to choose one thing over another because you prefer the people. Just don’t sacrifice your own practical needs (such as a fairly consistent schedule which supports healthful habits) because certain teammates function better with more erratic rhythms. As June draws to a close, you’ll kick off a renewed forward push on the career (or outer-world) front, putting your ambitions front and center. A domineering boss or competing character might not like your upstart attitude, however.

July

Early in the month, turn to the social synergy among pals or peers to keep your spirits high. You'll want the support, as you assume a more conspicuous role professionally and/or on the world stage, striving extra hard to put your defining touch on what's now materializing. By mid-July, tensions with those who'd prefer you to politely sit by, following orders and preserving the status-quo, will hit their breaking-point. Give this standoff your all, if you sincerely care about what you're fighting for. Though victory is not guaranteed, you'll strengthen your self-confidence by flexing your muscles to defend what you believe is right. During the month's second half, you could be somewhat unclear about who's *really* got your back—and who may be talking shit behind it. Don't act on any suspicions right away. This is only *part* of a larger story, which continues into next month and beyond.

August

Prep for rascally reorientations in your social scene, with Venus retrograde in your 11th through all of August. Allegiances may form, fluctuate, or break down as fresh personalities arrive, former players return, and/or revealing information emerges to expose a different side of someone you *thought* you knew well. While it'll remain to be seen who ends up on which team, you must stay attuned to what best protects *your* interests (materially *and* in terms of self-esteem). In the meantime, leave open the potential for these shifts to add an exhilarating spark to your personal life, delivering a new friend or romantic prospect. As August proceeds (and everyone's still acting wild-and-crazy), you'll find yourself easing deeper into wait-and-see retreat. In the months to come, you can count on these withdrawals-from-view to become more frequent... and more *fruitful* as a means for identifying *your* truth, distinct from others' influences.

September

As September begins, you'll finally be rarin' to make your own big moves in the ongoing friend-group drama or community restructuring. Wait until the month's second week (after Venus is direct), then act in support of those teammates you trust and cherish the most. If other iffy acquaintances or unproven allies fall away, so be it. You might face pressure to explain the rationale behind your conclusions... but, try as you might to come across as calm and reasonable, your statements will sound more emotionally loaded (or hostile?) than you intend.

Even as this intensity threatens to blow your cool cover, at least your supposed “misspeaks” express how you *really* feel. Mars lands in your 12th during the last week of September, inaugurating a phase of relative inactivity: This is *not* an appropriate moment for forward steps or assertive actions, even if you feel defensive or retaliatory urges. Your best attack for now? Quietly planning a better-timed “attack” for later.

October

Though October is not without its bumps, the month’s strong 12th-house influence suggests your main actions should mainly involve *following through* with developments already set into motion, rather than starting anything new. You’re still on the hot seat, as far as having to answer to unfriendly challenges or hold a clear focus in response to others’ attempts to reframe the conversation to *their* advantage. Yet, on another level, you’re already done articulating your boundaries. Now, it’s just a matter of allowing all the other variables to fall into place as they will. Think of this as a slate-clearing, in preparation for a future *without* any out-of-alignment social attachments bleeding over from the past. Despite the uncomfortable “limbo” feeling which could permeate your month, please still meet all your existing responsibilities like a champ.

November

Screw on your practical-thinking cap as the month opens, prioritizing activities which will re-secure your footing in response to these destabilizing few months. During the second week of November, you’ll notice your outward self-possession starting to return... and your ability to court others’ good-favor restored to its charismatic best. You may now feel free to make your desires plainly apparent, to actively grab for opportunities you long for, and, if need be, to forcibly stand up for yourself in any pending conflicts. Certain partnerships could experience strain, as a result of your adopting such shameless self-assertiveness. Consider it *constructive*, as long as you’re both willing to try new ways of relating which better accommodate your rising independent-streak. That means pulling no punches in speaking your truth, especially near month’s-end: Too tactful, diplomatic, or indirect a tone will just feed others’ imprecise or incorrect perceptions.

December

During December's first couple weeks, you might need to step up the force behind your efforts—maybe even to the level of *aggression*—if a stubborn antagonist or patronizing partner refuses to take you seriously. Should an all-out war break out, remind yourself you're fighting for your self-determination. If you surrender without trying, you'll remain under the thumb of someone else's arbitrary whims. December can be a financially profitable month, provided you stay a few calculated steps ahead of the other players, chess-game-style. Your smartest moves may not provide immediate gain, but instead lay necessary groundwork for a future income-hike. Don't act surprised if a family member pulls one of their "old tricks" around the holidays. Instead of reacting indignantly, use *their* loaded language and twisted logic against them, deftly beating them at their own game.

SCORPIO

With 2015's arrival comes the welcome news that the roughest times are *behind* you, Scorpio. Or *mostly* behind you, anyway.

This relieving development is courtesy of task-mastering tough-guy Saturn having *finally* left your sign behind in the last days of '14, after traveling through Scorpio since October 2012 and whipping the members of your zodiac-tribe into optimal shape.

You *did* notice the “whippings”, right? Here's hoping, then, you're coming out the other side in sleeker fitter condition than you went in... rather than bitterly brandishing the welts and bruises, with nothing constructive to show for it.

Saturn's transit through one's home sign (i.e., the 1st house) is never an easy experience, though that doesn't necessarily mean it's awful or pointlessly cruel. Saturn's astrological job is to strong-arm us into handling whatever zone-of-life it's impacting with greater authenticity, responsibility, and conscientiousness... willingly taking on the work (whether it demands physical labor, interpersonal honesty, philosophic forethought, and/or psychological self-examination) necessary for attaining appropriate balance in that arena. No reckless excesses, no repressive inhibitions. When Saturn moves through your 1st, the most critical of all the houses, the “zone-of-life” he intends you to tighten, tone, and take more seriously is nothing less than *the very manner in which you move through the world*.

That's why you've been under significant pressure, over these past couple years, to put forth the most genuine, capable, and mature version of yourself possible. Your relative success at this endeavor (or lack thereof) has played a *huge* role in the types of people, problems, and/or opportunities you've most recently attracted. Do they symbolize old clarity-muddling patterns which don't serve you? Or have you noticed a *different* shift, toward encounters and experiences which better align with how you see yourself, what you're working to attain, or who you intend to become? Saturn presents you with the clearest, most logical results of your chosen deeds and decisions, stubbornly refusing to deal you the “right” circumstances until you've demonstrated you can utter a firm no to the “wrong” ones.

Saturn-in-your-1st's main challenge has involved your need to find a suitable middle-ground between (1) living purely by emotion and passion, which permits you to reach very-high highs but *also* poses a constant threat of engulfing your entire life in giant messes once those highs come down, jeopardizing your capacity to attain the sort of practical aims which rely on a certain self-restraint, and (2) concentrating so intently on attaining such "practical aims" or meeting mainstream expectations that you *ignore* the urgent emotional wisdom your heart holds. You've had to carefully steer your ship through this narrow passage, Scorpio, so as not to collide with the walls of either extreme, reeling yourself in and/or letting self-imposed limitations go.

This is not merely a review of some past event, alas. As I warned in my opening, the Saturn-spawned "rough times" are mostly—but not *completely*—behind you. Saturn *will* slip back into your sign for a brief three-month spell, between mid-June and mid-September. (More about that in a bit.) Only *after* that's come and gone can you truly kiss Saturn-in-Scorpio goodbye, at least until the early 2040s.

For much of 2015, though, Saturn will be in your 2nd... an earthy house which governs how you take care of your material needs, as well as the resources at your disposal to draw upon in bolstering your sense of material security. According to basic fortune-telling astrology, the 2nd is the house of *money* (or, more properly, the money you *earn* from your own efforts, rather than that which other people or institutions *give* you). Of course, the symbolism runs much deeper than that. The 2nd also represents your sense of *self-worth*, insofar as you must *believe* you hold a certain value in the world if you expect anyone to pay you a commensurate sum in cold hard cash (or other prize-packages).

To look more closely and carefully at your monetary outlook as Saturn now insists you do, therefore, is to simultaneously examine the skills, traits, and tools you possess—*not* with either a too self-critical or too self-aggrandizing tone, but as a shrewd economic analyst would, both (1) hunting for lost opportunities, underutilized potentials, and wasteful investments, *and* (2) dispelling any idealistic or illusory notions about what'll *actually* bring in the bucks. You must actively work on strengthening your confidence in those "resources" you now possess which are, in fact, quite practically valuable. Meanwhile, you'll face a sobering reality-check anywhere you've overestimated your functional capacities. Did you write any "checks" which, with your current resources, you're unable to "cash"?

Saturn-in-your-2nd *does* demand a no-nonsense, ultra-responsible attitude toward your finances. Throughout this period (which lasts into the end of 2017), you have far *less* leeway in how you manage your money—on both the income *and* expenditure sides—than you otherwise would. When Saturn's in your 2nd, every single dollar must be legitimately earned. Not a *single* thin dime more. That means if you're welcoming a flourishing income-flow (or some other positive economic trend) as a result of your own efforts during this time, you've undeniably *worked* for it. Be confident, then, you can bank on this enhanced earning-status for a long time to come... provided you keep up the good work, of course.

At the same time, you must practice your due-diligence with regards to where your money goes, in order to ensure you're consciously spending on the items you need or want the most. By Saturn-in-the-2nd's logic, every expense is a resource-allocation. Is it a purposeful one? Will you get the maximum bang for your buck? What returns will you reap from this investment? Perhaps this goes without saying, but I'll say it anyway: If you intend to make *any* large purchase under this influence, you'd better be *damn sure* you really want it, you're getting a smart deal on it... and you can actually *afford* it.

Saturn's occupancy in your 2nd through much of 2015 provides helpful *grounding* to two other planets, Uranus and Jupiter, which had already been heating up your work-and-career zone. Uranus has been the longer-term influence, rattling your 6th house since 2010 (and staying into 2019) with impulse-driven inclinations to break yourself out of confining day-to-day work patterns... with the goal of better syncing up your required duties and tasks with rhythms that'll optimally support *you*, as a unique individual, in your best bodily health and productive well-being. Then, in mid-'14, Jupiter danced into your 10th, ushering in a positive yearlong expansion of professional (and/or public-involvement) opportunity, a time in which you're becoming better able to seeing a *much wider* potential for yourself on the world stage than prior limiting perspectives might've suggested.

Since last September, Jupiter and Uranus have been in synergistic trine to one another, fueling a rather advantageous thrust to shirk convention and risk comfort, both in relation to your everyday work-habits *and* the greater ambitions toward which they're carrying you. Jupiter-in-your-10th is considered one of the *best* transits for cultivating career growth, whether through an increase in position, authority, or public esteem and/or exposure to a new set of interests or

responsibilities, affording you easier access to fortunate breaks which can develop your professional capabilities further. Jupiter won't *make* amazing things happen, though. It simply fosters an environment where the actions *you* take will produce faster, fuller results.

In trine to Uranus-in-your-6th, Jupiter points a clear path to cultivating this career growth: By freeing yourself up to work in a more independent and/or unorthodox fashion every day, you'll be able to harness your physical energies more effectively and efficiently, allowing you room to try out methodological experiments and innovations... which will *then* help publicly define you as a daring go-getter and self-starter, a beaming reputation that'll open *even more* doors for you. This Jupiter-Uranus trine remains in effect through July, framing your first-half of '15 as especially auspicious for taking your professional destiny into your own hands. (Mid-February through early April is your *hottest* period for conducting the actual in-the-trenches work of subverting your routines.) All the while, Saturn-in-your-2nd cautions you *against* stymieing your income with these independence-declaring moves or spending too much startup money on speculative efforts.

In addition to this harmonious trine to Jupiter, Uranus must also contend with *another* major planetary aspect... one that's much more difficult and potentially disruptive, but isn't especially unfamiliar to you. Since 2012, Uranus has endured a series of exact squares to Pluto, a powerfully uprooting aspect which has collectively left us in the midst of radical collective transition. As I've been repeatedly reporting, this Uranus-Pluto square is *the* defining astrology of our times... and explains why, for so many of us, life has felt unusually or overwhelming chaotic. At the same time we must bust out, by individuating instinct, in *one* area-of-life (Uranus), we're *simultaneously* charged with mining the depths of our unexamined root-complexes and response-patterns in a *contrasting* zone (Pluto). Not an easy juggling act for anyone.

Pluto's been in your 3rd house since 2008, forcing an intense self-reflective overhaul in how you handle your (supposedly) casual moment-to-moment interpersonal encounters and exchanges. Let's be frank, Scorpio: You've never been much of a fan of "casual". Most Scorpios hold a healthy disdain for the shallow and superficial, seeing such behavior as a frivolous avoidance of what's *really* happening, on the heart-and-soul level, at any given moment. But one of the most profound lessons to take away from Pluto's lengthy trip through your 3rd is to *not* mistake an

interaction's trivial-seeming *content* for the overall triviality of the *interaction* itself. Beyond whatever meaningless words are being batted around during an interaction, there's always a simultaneous exchange of attention, intention, and emotional connectivity which bears its own subtle meaningfulness.

Many of us feel deeply anxious or awkward in social settings, not knowing how to comfortably and openly engage in real conversation. So instead, we shoot the shit about passing weather-fronts, the weird neighbor down the street, or the latest Kardashian scandal. That doesn't automatically make us superficial *people*, nor does it make us worthy of disregard or contempt. Pluto-in-your-3rd presses you to rethink such judgments, to deepen your consideration of what other people need and want from their perfunctory exchanges with you... and to transmute any scorn for surface pleasantries or small-talk into better recognition of the genuine value in "dancing the social dance" with other people.

In practical terms, Pluto-in-your-3rd infuses your communicative acts with a more ardent, powerful tone. Or, to highlight the devilish irony, Pluto's here to remind you that no "casual" encounter *you* participate in is *truly* casual. If you're being outwardly polite while inwardly harboring dismissive or derisive thoughts about the other person, your attitude *will* bleed through. Intentionally or not, you'll convey the idea that you find the exchange unimportant; therefore, don't act surprised when you're met with strikingly intense negative reactions from folks who take it personally (justifiably so, in fact).

On the flip side, don't underestimate the potent impact of consciously concentrating your undivided attention on whomever you're interacting with, treating each individual as a meaningful member of your social sphere—even if you don't even *know* them, even if they're just sitting next to you at a café or providing customer service at the bank, even if you've got a million other ("more important"?) things on your mind. A genuine smile, purposeful eye contact, five mere minutes of your time: seemingly minor interpersonal offerings such as these can totally transform someone's whole mood for the better, and not only theirs, but *yours* too. And if you're still resistant to the idea of indulging superficialities, then don't. There's nothing stopping you from putting forth your version of *real* conversational content, intense honesty and all. As sure as some folks most certainly won't like it, those who *do* could find resonant wisdom or life-changing power in your passing words.

The square between Uranus-in-your-6th and Pluto-in-your-3rd, then, is an ever-jarring reminder *not* to discount the importance of honoring the individuals affected by your daily habits and work-processes with sufficient purposeful communication. The danger you face in light of all the fiery self-empowering dynamism in your work-and-career zones, thanks to Jupiter-and-Uranus's trine, is forgetting the role that *other people* play in your relative success (or lack thereof).

Though so fierce a focus on creatively tapping into your productive professional potentials can leave you feeling rather *impatient* about having to “slow down” and check in with other relevant players, you mustn't treat these essential info-sessions as a skip-worthy step or useless waste of time—not if you want these players to *support* you, rather than attempt to undermine you (because of the animosity your bad attitude engendered in them?). Consistently and thoroughly providing *everyone* the proper heads-ups, as well as ample chance to ask their questions and present their feedback, will better ensure you receive their cooperative goodwill... *and* their best suggestions, too.

As if there wasn't *enough* astrological energy already being funneled toward career and work concerns, Venus's arrival to your 10th in June kicks off an unusual *four*-month visit (minus the last two weeks of July, when it pops into your 11th)... in advance of a six-week retrograde (Jul 25-Sep 6) which suggests the likelihood of a few hairpin turns on the professional front, with ultimately-quite-favorable promise for you, Scorpio, *if* you don't jump the gun or naively assume a fantastic-seeming opportunity or offer is everything you wish it to be.

Venus retrogrades often bring mischief along on their ride, flashing us glimpses of some exciting advantage, lucrative shot, and/or intriguing interpersonal connection which turns our head, inspiring us to reevaluate what and/or who best pleases us. Do our current involvements still provide the same profitable promise or gratifying delight they once did? Is this glittering alternative better attuned to our truest preferences or proclivities? Sometimes, a retrograde Venus will even bring back an affiliation or affair from the past... to resolve the unfinished business and/or test how our tastes have changed (or *haven't* changed, as the case may be).

But what you attract while Venus is retrograde may *not* be all it appears. Or it could prove merely a *fleeting* prize, showing up mainly to spur your own reevaluations. That's why it's standard astrological practice to advise *against* banking your future on any presumed outcome

until *after* Venus is direct again, when you can more accurately assess the actual worth of what materialized while it was retrograde.

This is crucially important to keep in mind, Scorpio, as positive career (and/or outer-world) circumstances will likely be developing quickly from June and July into August, your high-drama peak of 10th-house activity *and* the heart of Venus's retrograde. You could find yourself caught between two (or more) appealing options, reflecting on a possible directional shift, dazzled by a prominent honor or high-stakes deal, and/or suddenly attracting a surge of public recognition. Though there may indeed be prospects with *real* lasting promise for you on the buffet table, you must be on guard against being blinded by money, prestige, or renown—especially if you're tempted to abandon a true passion, put on airs or affectations to "fit the part", or invite excessive complications into your life, just for the big bucks or flashy position.

In an interesting synchronicity, Saturn will have backpedaled into Scorpio (as I mentioned earlier) *right* at this same time, confronting the mischievously retrograde Venus and other 10th-house planetary players with a reality-check, in the form of challenging squares from your 1st... warning you *not* to sell out your authentic self for the salary, the title, or other ego-padding perks. To proceed with your utmost mindfulness, then, it's wise to wait until early October (once Saturn's out of Scorpio again *and* Venus has moved beyond its retrograde shadow) before making agreements or signing deals, just to ensure whatever's glittering really *is* solidly golden.

The same rationale applies to your relationships, too, whether professional, personal, or romantic: While riding high on your beefed-up public profile, you're liable to attract new admirers, sudden notice from folks who'd never looked at you in quite *that* way before, and/or renewed interest from old flames wowed by your latest triumphs. There's nothing wrong with enjoying the attention or affection (provided you're not betraying an unaware partner), but you probably shouldn't form any quick-fire commitments or abruptly walk out of existing couplings during Venus retrograde. Plus, Saturn-in-your-1st's square to Venus cautions you against living by passion alone, urging you to take care to integrate *pragmatism* into your relational attitudes.

We haven't spoken much about relationships so far, Scorpio, though that's not meant to imply either wonderful or terrible news on that front. Rather, it's simply that your unmistakable focus—at least through the entire first-half of '15—is *obviously* on more material, practically

productive, job-and-career-related issues. Or at least the astrology *favors* your focusing on these areas... though, of course, you retain the free will to *choose* where to direct your attentions.

If you're behaving in a successfully self-supportive fashion in your closest interpersonal relationships, they should be helping to *simplify* and *stabilize* your day-to-day existence... rather than creating any extra hassles, headaches, or unmanageable drama. Tellingly, your best moment for intentionally investing energy into, as well as appreciatively relying upon, your most solid partnership(s) is from mid-March into April, during the *height* of your busiest work period. Whether you're able to draw some much-needed sanity from any given relationship—or whether it just *adds* to your stress levels—should tell you a whole hell-of-a-lot about the role it's functionally playing in your life.

Once Jupiter crosses into your 11th house midway through August, it'll be to your strong advantage to get more openly and visibly out in your community... to network with friends-of-friends and like-minded contacts, attending any gathering or event where you're likely to come into contact with compelling people who share your interests... and to intentionally increase your participation in organizations, social causes, or team activities, feeding your own enthusiasm for this valued activity by surrounding yourself with folks who are just as pumped-up about it. Jupiter-in-your-11th (which extends through next September) is a favorable influence on your social affiliations, encouraging to reach out more generously with your camaraderie and companionship, both to folks you already know and respect *and* to prospective new allies or pals.

Jupiter will also form a flowing trine to Pluto-in-your-3rd (an aspect that lasts into mid-'16), promoting your capacity to identify *which* new social influences would best fit your life in a more lasting role... as a direct result of your willingness to be patient, sincere, and engaging during your introductory exchanges. Thanks to this Jupiter-Pluto trine, you'll have a much easier time at establishing *genuine* conversation with fresh faces or fledgling friends than usual—and a quicker knack for repelling folks who aren't appropriate for you.

You can also use this energy to assist you in getting beyond any excessively romanticized notion you might have about someone who *could* be a possible love-match. As evidenced by

Saturn's square to Neptune-in-your-5th (which forms near the end of '15 but extends through much of '16, too), your need to stay responsibly attentive to practical matters can be dangerously *compromised* by letting your romantic side override your discriminating self-management. Should you find yourself falling for someone, please be sure to have *very specific* discussions about how you each manage the mundane details of your lives. Though your heart might yearn to ignore any concerns about this person's functional maturity, your own practical job-and-money future cannot afford such wishful denial.

January

Your January could begin on an emotionally unsettled note, but don't let this private agitation leak out too noticeably, lest it cause you needless complications on the professional front. Throughout the month (and *especially* early on), you might have to expend extra effort to actively steer your friendly chats *away* from topics which trigger you, just to ensure everything stays relatively casual and pleasant. Keeping your personal sensitivities on the down-low is also a shrewd self-protective strategy. It behooves you (and your pocketbook) to play up your reliability, rather than giving off an erratic or moody vibe—even if that's how you're really feeling. Your hyper-romantic side comes out to play during January's second-half, inspiring you to follow your heart towards people and/or participations which bring the warm fuzzies. Just don't proceed so idealistically that you leave practical considerations unattended to.

February

The early days of February glide in on the same starry-eyed "in love with love" vibe which started building late last month. The desire to bask in this blessed bliss (whether it's a life-changing romance, a pleasure-filled pastime, or a creative renaissance) above all other concerns will be irresistibly tempting. Make the most of these sublime circumstances, but please stop short of offering noble declarations or wishful promises. This is *not* the month to speak well-meaning words for which you'll be held accountable later. Later in the month, the sudden need to confront urgent work demands and/or a bodily condition will likely snap you out of your dreamy bubble. You don't have the luxury of postponing your response to this critical development. Act *now*, while you have an unusual amount of agency in steering the response toward whatever will best secure you the solidest foothold.

March

March's first half won't afford you much downtime, as constant activity on the work-front requires you to be on your toes each and every day. This is one of your most pivotal periods all year for exploiting professional opportunities to their fullest. Don't shy away from taking big risks, if you instinctively feel the job could be done better another way. Here's your golden chance to demonstrate your innovative leadership by jumping in where nobody else will. Midway through March, once Venus hits your relationship house (the 7th), you can enjoy a smoother dynamic with that special someone—as long as you consciously create a clear divide between your personal and professional commitments. Your off-hours commingling should provide a grounding respite from outside stresses. Why soil it with poor boundaries? Keep your work worries at the workplace.

April

With Mars in your 7th all month, you're liable to come off relationally assertive and self-assured—or, in some cases, rather pushy or aggressive. Career-wise, use this energy to ensure that those in charge are well-aware of your latest triumphs (instead of just assuming they noticed), but be careful not to disrespectfully challenge their authority. In personal relationships, don't blindly default to stubborn resistance when the other person suggests you try something different. That doesn't mean, however, you should automatically *go along* with their suggestion either, just to prove your loyalty (or shut 'em up). Your wisest approach would be to leave the options open, testing out the alternatives without immediately rushing to a yes or no. Focusing on what you might *lose* could be blinding you to what you may simultaneously *gain*.

May

Expect little reliable clarity during May, an interpersonally messy month in which vacillating versions of the story will play out depending on what day it is. Invest extra effort in *not* getting too angry, should a certain someone keep changing their mind. (Is that someone *you*?) Maybe this lingering uncertainty is a sign you've been overlooking some issue that's dear to your heart. Don't let impatience tempt you into prematurely drawing a hard line while this conversation's still in progress, though. Unrealistic ideas about how "this type" of relationship is "supposed to" go

will only increase your anxiety. Often, it *does* take this much negotiation to reach a mutually satisfying conclusion. Talk yourself through the protracted process with heartfelt reminders that you want to do the *right* thing, not just whatever will bring the quickest relief.

June

Much of June will likely be spent forging the agreement(s) necessary to resolve whatever was stirred up last month. This is your shot to say *everything* that's been on your mind, even if you fear it'll hurt their feelings. You'll have nobody to blame but yourself if this "resolution" (ahem) is based on anything less than total honesty. Your professional efforts will be in the spotlight throughout the month, framing this as an excellent moment for collecting the benefits you've been working all year to earn. Wait until mid-June to make your pitch for a bigger role or more money. If you get gratifying results, you'll be incredibly eager to leap into the next stage of this journey. And if you *don't*? You'll probably be just as eager to see *what else* the world might hold in store. June's final days will have that "no time like the present" feel, inspiring forward-reaching hope.

July

Impressive career possibilities (and/or other outer-world opportunities) remain at your fingertips as July begins, whether through an expansion of your existing position or the opening of a new door. Yet, just because you're honored to be seen as such a worthy contender, that doesn't necessarily mean this particular offer is ideal for you. Don't let yourself be so dazzled by the recognition that you betray a life-principle you hold dear, just to chase an ambition. With this newfound respect, you have the power to stand up for what you believe... though drawing attention to this inconvenient ethical question could rattle certain colleagues who'd rather you play by their rules. If you can't shake that funny gut-feeling after multiple attempts at earnestly talking out your discomfort, you might not be able to continue down this path much further—especially if you want a clean conscience.

August

August is tailor-made for reconsidering what you truly value in your public and/or professional life, to ensure the success you're working hard to achieve is indeed a contribution you'll be proud to make. Don't accept lofty rhetoric or too-good-to-be-true promises at face value. You might need to get forceful with your due-diligence, refusing to back down with your cutting-edge propositions and challenges until you're confident the power-players appreciate your fighting spirit. If they expect you to sit quietly and do what you're told, however, they've got the wrong idea about you. Because you're riding high on this bright potential, you'll probably need to seek out reality-checks from trusted pals or peers. Take their feedback to heart, to give yourself a fairer understanding of when to hold firm and when to back down. Increasingly, you'd be wise to rely on these outside opinions to keep you on the straight-and-narrow.

September

Chances are, a good bit of last month's external uncertainty will come to an illuminating head during the first half of September. A critical factor in tipping your scales one way or another will be the relative competence and collegiality of other team-members. Are these people you genuinely wish to join forces with, or are they merely a "necessary evil"? This is a potent juncture for deliberately stepping *closer* to those you consider like-minded allies—and for walking away from those who *aren't* on your same page. If you think you'll be able to glide along in fake solidarity with folks you don't respect, think again. Your capacity to make pleasant small-talk will be thwarted throughout the month, as your truer feelings will slip out in conversation despite your attempts to be politely non-descript. Stay quiet, rather than offering supposed "compliments" (of the back-handed variety?).

October

October's a month for letting your friends and teammates carry you along, rather than trying to lead the charge. Whenever possible, delegate any task which would require you to stay on script or deliver an official message. With your communicative skills still somewhat inhibited, you'd serve better as "the brains behind the operation", privately sharing your observations with only your closest confidantes and then inviting *them* to groom the ideas for public consumption.

Conflict with a key collaborator could erupt if they've fudged a detail that's more important to you than it is to them, and/or if they represent the group's consensus in a manner you find inaccurate. You might struggle with trying to explain your problem to them until late in the month... and even then, the conversation could veer off into unexpected territory, potentially leading to an explosive disclosure. If *you* don't want to be the one explosively disclosing, cut off talks as soon as you feel your emotions riling up.

November

Get the unexpressed truths off your chest earlier in November, when the words will come more easily than they have in a while. You may not receive the response you were hoping for, but don't assume this is the end of the story. The other players will need space to process the multiple layers over time. If you hastily judge their first-reactions or get pushy with follow-up questions, you'll corner them into a defensive stance that works to your major disadvantage. Say what you've got to say, then step back. In the latter part of the month, shift into a more financially strategic mode. You might have to temporarily hold your tongue, in order to protect your standing or keep yourself in the running for a lucrative prospect. Take a conservative watch-and-wait approach. Others' actions could set you up for a gain—if you don't step in and inadvertently mess it up.

December

Even *with* benefic Venus on your side through much of December, you face an elevated risk of indulging reckless or self-destructive behavior if you don't take enough healthy cool-off time for yourself. Your volatility will be most extreme during the month's first couple weeks, when you may feel so fed up with all your duties—and/or with having to constantly provide obligatory status-updates to the other stakeholders—that you make some rebellious “fuck it!” move. Perhaps this will prove to be a personally fortuitous step, freeing you up from that endless sense of burden? It'll be hard to know as it's happening. Mid-month, beware of how strongly an “innocent” remark could hit a pal or family-member; don't say it if you don't *really* mean it. Put your powers of persuasion to good use late in December, actively recruiting colleagues or community-members to support your big '16 plans.

SAGITTARIUS

Congratulations, Sagittarius! As of 2015, you've reached a critical "make it or break it" segment in your journey. Your number-one rule: Don't take this news lightly.

In the closing days of '14, Saturn crossed the zodiac-border into *your* sign for the first time in a long while—his last visit to Sagittarius was 1985-1988—and is officially ready to *straighten you out*. But are *you* ready? I sure hope so. Saturn does not play around. Shit's about to get *real*.

While I certainly don't mean to frighten you with that last sentence, it *is* important for you to accept that having Saturn in your 1st house is a signal to *step up*, with greater personal accountability and mindfulness, in pretty much *everything* you do. Coming on the heels of Saturn-in-your-12th's last couple years of preparatory "psychic-housecleaning" work (which, more often than not, probably felt like a spotty mix of unspecific mood-swings and annoying limbo-like delays), you've hopefully cleared the back-corners of your consciousness of any residual resentments or disappointments, outdated perceptions of yourself, or traces of other people's emotional junk. And now, you've reached the time to roll up your sleeves... and dedicate wholeheartedly to the tangible work of presenting this new-and-improved version of yourself to the world.

As you probably know, you Sagittarians have a reputation as energetic, forward-thinking adventurers... eager to learn and to teach, to dialogue and debate, to enthusiastically explore the many exciting opportunities available to those who boldly seek, and to unapologetically maximize the time and energy you devote to activities and endeavors you find meaningful and/or important. Along with those favorable traits attributed to you, however, come the less-flattering flip-sides: Because of your undeviating focus on only what you find most immediately compelling or thought-provoking, you Sagittarians are often rightfully accused of acting impatiently, rushing straight to the heart of the action while overlooking certain smaller details and/or sloppily handling whatever doesn't interest you, and lacking thorough follow-through once you've become bored.

In other words, while you're usually in no short supply of enthusiasm and vision, Sagittarius, you may sometimes lack the careful, persistent diligence necessary to solidly *actualize* what you

enthusiastically visualize, in a form that can endure *beyond* the point when its novel appeal starts to wane. Now, here comes Saturn, asking you to concretely demonstrate whether you actually walk your talk... to prove you're practically reliable and responsible enough to *do* what you've said you're going to do, to *act* in alignment with your stated principles, and to *stick around* when a larger goal requires your ongoing day-in-day-out commitment to handling uninteresting, yet absolutely *essential*, tasks.

Are you legitimately *accomplished* in the ways you seek to be, or just full of hot air? By the time Saturn's done with you, at the end of 2017, the answer will be obvious.

Perhaps the biggest lessons Saturn-in-your-1st holds for you will revolve around consistency, perseverance, and attention-to-detail. Saturn's job is to help us establish a proper equilibrium wherever it's influencing us. It expects us to rein in our excesses and unpack our repressions. Because Sagittarius is a sign ruled by Jupiter (the expansive gas-giant), you're far likelier to need Saturn's *reining in* of your rash impulses to jump *all the way* into an exciting involvement or undertaking before thinking it through... though, for those of you who *have* held yourself back from taking decisive action and/or feel as if you're frozen in place, Saturn expects you to actively examine whatever self-sabotaging inhibitions or instinctive fears may be blocking you from forward progress.

Saturn seeks to interject a pace-slowng, situation-assessing *pause* in your natural response-patterns, buying you a chance to ask qualifying questions and properly consider any potential red-flags or missing-pieces—*before* you make any choice which might create an unanticipated mess for you and/or prematurely shut the door on a promising opportunity. That's not to say, of course, you shouldn't trust your intuitive instincts. Rather, to increase the likelihood that an instinct-driven action will ultimately lead to your desired end, it should be prudently balanced with reasoned forethought.

Intuition may point you in a certain direction or inform you whether something feels right or wrong. Yet, its insights won't spare you the painstaking work of mapping up a strategic plan for what to do once you reach the next stop, so you can preserve that "right" feeling (instead of pissing it away with spotty attention or careless guardianship) and keep yourself on track. Should you repeatedly *skip* that planning step, you might be able to keep cruising through life

just fine... but, at the end of the day, you'll have very little to *show* for yourself, as lasting legacy or meaningful contribution. Didn't we already talk about how you Sagittarians are so strongly driven to do meaningful things? The drive, in itself, isn't enough to "mean" much of anything—not without *results* which measurably illustrate your intent.

Saturn is not a *bad* guy, however. Its presence in your sign can add a helpful *structuring* influence to your life... provided you intentionally choose to curtail certain moment-to-moment freedoms, in the act of purposefully prioritizing *where* to channel your exuberant energies. Saturn's transit through your 1st is the ideal moment to reflect on which aims, enterprises, and identifications are most central to your visibly embodying who you strive to be. Once you've straightened out your priorities, though, it's on *you* to stay aligned with them—and to, therefore, responsibly *limit* how much attention you invest in *anything* not directly relevant to these predetermined purposes. To prevent premature burnout, you'll also have to *moderate* the magnitude of your investments... meting out your efforts in digestible amounts over a span of time, instead of letting a particular preoccupation absorb so much energy, in a single spectacle of dedication, that you ultimately exhaust both your capabilities *and* your interest-level.

If you follow these judicious, sustainable methods for meeting *whatever* opportunity the world presents you with, Sagittarius, Saturn will reward you with a more competent and trustworthy self-image... as well as the earned wisdom to better discern between practically workable ideas and unrealistic pie-in-the-sky notions.

And if you *don't* heed Saturn's get-it-together pressures? This next period of your life is liable to bring you disappointing developments and unpleasant consequences—symbolic expressions that poignantly (or painfully) point out the natural results of hasty decision-making, sloppy handling-of-responsibilities, and/or a fickle attention-span. Of course, each sobering example of things not working out as you'd hoped, due to your careless or overeager behavior, is a teachable moment... a chance to swallow your pride, learn from the experience, and do it better next time around. But should you continue creating too many setbacks, letdowns, or flashes-in-the-pan for yourself by refusing to realistically ground your enthusiasms, it'll really start to chip away at your optimistic outlook. If you don't develop the constructive habits necessary to back up your intentions with concrete action, Saturn will only accentuate the hollowness of your hopeful-sounding sentiments, damaging your credibility in the process.

A great irony of Saturn appearing in your 1st house *now*, Sagittarius, is the fact that both Jupiter and Uranus have already been *fueling* your passion for something new and exciting for quite some time... which means that, right as Saturn's expecting you to seriously focus on your top priorities, you're actually experiencing a palpable *surge* of creative curiosity and imagination. Uranus has occupied your 5th house since 2010, stirring you to proudly display your personal peculiarities and quirks more openly and obviously, purely for the purpose of enjoying yourself in the unique fashion only *you* can. Uranus-in-your-5th inspires you to try out different art-forms, leisure activities, and modes-of-expression, as a means to playfully shirk convention and experiment with new ways to have fun. Then, mid-last-year, Jupiter moved into your 9th, a planet/house pairing ideally suited to Sagittarians, fostering an increasing awareness of the vast expanse of mind-opening experiences this world offers the bold-and-brave... and encouraging you to broaden your own horizons, whether through foreign travel, further education, and/or other adventurous immersions in topics-of-study or areas-of-interest beyond what's familiar.

Working together, in trine to one another since last September (and through the middle of this year), Jupiter and Uranus have presumably *flooded* your system with exciting ideas for how to move your life forward, in ways you'd find both entertaining *and* meaningful. In fact, I'd be shocked if you *haven't* noticed this multiplying of potential game-changing choices now spread out in front of you, daring you to leap toward one or another of 'em. But you can't do *everything*, can you? Nor can you assume that whichever possibility seems hottest or more immediately engaging at the given moment will necessarily prove to be the one which offers the most insightful life-lessons, the most practically useful experience, and/or the most promising long-range potential.

And what about the goals you'd cherished *prior* to this creative rejuvenation, Sagittarius? How do *they* fit with these latest enthusiasms? What's most important *overall*? Which steps ought to come before which other steps? Must something fall by the wayside so you can fully concentrate on the highest priorities? Saturn anticipates you'll thoroughly address all these questions before jumping in or jetting off. Otherwise, Jupiter-and-Uranus's door-opening exploits will mainly open your door to a whole bunch of *chaos*.

For a few years now, Uranus has been squaring off against Pluto... a collectively-disruptive, world-revolutionizing aspect that, in *your* life, has foregrounded an ongoing clash between (1)

what you most *want* to do, out of pure personal desire, and (2) what you *need* to do, to both satisfy your immediate material needs *and* nurture a more fiercely self-supportive attitude toward financial matters. Pluto, in your 2nd house since 2008, forces you to confront any unconscious attitudes toward money which could, if left unexamined, lead you to *demonize* the accumulation of wealth and/or *resist* the necessary task of building a materially secure future for yourself.

Rather than suggesting you value monetary gain for its own sake, Pluto-in-your-2nd wants you to understand money as a potent means to more gratifying ends, a foundation which can support you in following your principles and/or pursuing your bliss *without* needlessly jeopardizing your functional self-sufficiency. If you ignore material reality and dash ahead on vision and faith alone, it's like putting the cart before the horse. What's going to fuel your continuing progress? How will you pay your way?

Good news on this front: Midway through August, Jupiter will enter your house of career and public-life achievements (the 10th) and, soon after, moves into a synergistic trine with Pluto-in-your-2nd (which extends into the middle of '16). Jupiter's arrival to your 10th inaugurates a yearlong period of increased luck, growth, and opportunity in your professional zone (and other outside-world settings)—the most auspicious, expansive, reputation-boosting phase you've enjoyed in this realm in over a decade. Sure, Jupiter-in-your-10th facilitates an easier go and better results when you effectively assert ambitious efforts under his influence, but it won't just hand you any proverbial keys-to-the-executive-washroom without you having *done* something to make it happen. From that context, Saturn's constant reminders to stay shrewdly focused on becoming your best self should serve you quite well, hopefully motivating you to utilize Jupiter-in-your-10th's favorable career potentials to your absolute fullest advantage.

While Jupiter's benefic impact on your 10th does, of course, require you to reach beyond prior restraints and restrictions (whether circumstantial or self-imposed), your best results are likelier to come incrementally, by intentionally taking each modest, carefully-engineered step at a time... rather than, say, brashly overstating your skills or experience to clinch a massively expanded role with a very steep learning-curve, then saddling yourself with an anxiety-provoking load of responsibilities you might struggle to bear.

I purposely point this out, in light of the *ample* amounts of spirited idealism and creative verve which the *other* astrological influences will be simultaneously feeding. Though you probably *could* catapult yourself to a dizzyingly impressive spot on enthusiasm and positivity alone, that doesn't necessarily mean you'd be able to *maintain* it. This is the danger with Jupiter-in-your-10th gains: They sometimes prove unsustainable once Jupiter *leaves* your 10th. You'll achieve far more *lasting* rewards by grounding into each modest advance *before* bounding into the next, building your success more slowly but solidly.

Jupiter's trine to Pluto, meanwhile, urges you not to gloss over the *financial* motives related to your career-expansion efforts, as if to imply your aspiring eyes are only fixed on earning yourself more honor, authority, or renown—regardless of whether you're being appropriately compensated for this higher achievement-level. Part of Pluto's purpose in your 2nd is to bolster your confidence in those specific skills, traits, and talents you possess which are tangibly valuable (i.e., practically exchangeable for money on the open-market). Before you can expect others to pay you more handsomely for your contributions, you must strongly believe that what you uniquely bring to the table is indeed *worth* a higher rate.

It's *central* to your ascent that you explicitly include economic considerations in your analysis of any prospective professional opportunity... and that you're willing to hold out for what you're deservedly worth, even if it means passing the whole thing up. Saying yes to an impressive position or prestigious title without negotiating an equally-satisfying compensation package, on the other hand, imprints on you a self-destructive message that material concerns just aren't very important to you—even though they *are*, in fact, an integral ingredient of responsible self-care.

Such financial questions will be especially ripe during this midyear period, when Venus goes through its six-week retrograde (Jul 25-Sep 6) around the same time Jupiter's set to enter your 10th. As a factor of this retrograde, Venus will actually spend nearly *four months* in your 9th (as opposed to its typical three-to-four-week visit), beginning in early June. But by mid-July, right as it's about to flip apparent direction, Venus tiptoes over into your 10th and stays there through its first retrograde week, before retreating back into your 9th. As such, there's a *high* likelihood you'll be riding a peak-wave of optimistic vision into a *very* favorable-looking career opening

through July's second-half. Only, it'll remain to be seen whether it's *really* as favorable as it seems, or if looks are deceiving in this case.

Because Venus's retrogrades are infamous for tilting the angle from which we determine how personally *valuable* an interpersonal association or financial proposal actually *is* to us, what may *at first* appear to be a lucrative offer from a credible character could *later* prove to be something quite different. This doesn't necessarily mean, however, that all Venus-retrograde manifestations are decidedly suspect... merely that it's shrewd to prolong any relevant contemplations and negotiations until *after* Venus is direct.

This creates a lag during which more concrete information can emerge, as a result both of you directly posing the crucial questions *and* of the other players showing more of their cards. Rather than fixate too closely on whether any certain option will ultimately work out, please understand it's the extended reevaluation process itself that will yield Venus-retrograde's most valuable rewards. Cultivating your capacity to discerningly vet a potential opportunity for its farther-reaching practical ramifications, though it may delay its exciting progress, is an appropriate task on which to concentrate your hyped-up energies.

As retrograde Venus rascally backpedals across your 9th through August and into September, you'll be especially receptive to *other people's* big-picture perspectives and enthusiasms, allowing you to get a taste of the alternative motives and principles which underscore *their* purpose. Their spirited engagement could serve as an apt jumping-off point for your own Venus-retrograde reexaminations, inspiring you to reflect further on these *other* priorities you've perhaps left out of prior thoughts, helping you better identify which driving ideals are ultimately most important to you. But if, instead, you take their zealous conviction as gospel and sign yourself up based on these captivating declarations alone, you can't be exactly sure *where* this flaming-arrow will shoot you—or whether it's anywhere *near* the bull's-eye you'd previously targeted for yourself.

Saturn will briefly return to your 12th (mid-June through mid-September) during this same midyear interval—and, in the process, squares off with these 9th-house planets—to issue you a warning *against* repeating the type of complicating missteps you've made in the past. Should you bow to the temptation to idealistically throw yourself into yet another adventure, without

taking the necessary measures to shield yourself from undue involvement in others' distracting dramas, you could end up accumulating *even more* sidetracking chaos (and the psychic detritus which comes with it) to sort out... and *right* at the critical moment when you're *supposed* to be building the new you atop a clean slate. So, does *this* exciting adventure belong under the category of "others' distracting dramas" or not? It'll be hard to say for sure while Venus remains retrograde—though you still bear the responsibility for conducting a thorough analysis during that time. You're safest to wait until early October, once Venus is solidly direct *and* Saturn is in Sagittarius again, before *signing on* to anything.

Once Saturn's back in your 1st, it moves in to form a square with Neptune-in-your-4th, an aspect which first becomes exact in November but stays in effect throughout much of '16. Hard Saturn-Neptune contacts usually carry a vibe of *disillusionment*: the rose-colored romanticism represented by Neptune (the "-illusionment") is tensely subjected to a conflicting strain of Saturn-style realism (the "dis-"). With Neptune in your 4th house—which rules your private emotional life, as well as your domestic sphere and your relationship to the family you come from—the "romanticism" you must likely confront deals with how much conscious emotional self-care you devote to your inner well-being. Saturn-in-your-1st insists you work on becoming your best self possible, but that's a much more challenging task if you're too quick to discredit or ignore your subtler emotional needs, as if what happens behind closed doors and/or only affects *your* feelings isn't worthy of much regard.

Allowing Neptune to cloud your awareness of what's going on inside you *also* bears the potential to undercut potential career gains, as symbolized by its opposition to Jupiter-in-your-10th (exact in October). When you lack the secure emotional foundation to know you're okay no matter *what's* going in your outside world, you can be that much more susceptible to seeking *external* validation... putting you at greater risk of accepting an ill-suited or poorly-paying position, just so you can inflate your public image with the social capital of a "good job". Other possible dangers associated with this Jupiter-Neptune opposition would include pursuing certain career ambitions to please family members (whether in actuality or in your imagination), agreeing to relocate to a place you really don't want to live for purely professional purposes, and/or ignoring that *something doesn't feel right* about a given opportunity because "everything looks good on paper".

Saturn, too, wants you to sensibly contain any excessively self-sacrificial tendencies inspired by Neptune-in-your-4th. To stand outwardly in the full truth of who you are *does* bring a corresponding chance of disappointing familial expectations, whether or not your parent-figures are currently vital influences on you... and even if it's just your internalized version of them continuing to pull on your inner compass. To carry off the formidable feats that Saturn demands of you out in the world, you'll need to feel you can rest on your home-life as an emotionally replenishing sanctuary, a place of comfort that genuinely eases your stresses rather than adds to them. If you have work to do in this area, it should begin in earnest by the end of this year... and persist through much of *next* year as well.

January

Straight out of January's gate, you'll want to walk the right side of that fine line between launching spirited conversations and adopting an uncalled-for argumentative tone. It doesn't serve your social game to insist on the righteousness of your perspective—yes, even if you *are* right—by pushing a disagreement to the point of relational upset. Your challenge is to express yourself honestly and forthrightly without being overbearing or dismissive, to convey basic interpersonal respect regardless of who's on the receiving end. Later in January, you could face frustration with a family member or intimate friend who expects more from you than you can comfortably provide. It's on you to preserve enough emotional energy for yourself, though asserting your own needs may spark a conflict. Hold firm to your desired boundary, but stop short of cheap retaliatory shots you might later regret.

February

Keep practicing communicative patience throughout February. Certain conversations you *thought* were over and done with may still seem unresolved to the other parties involved. While you should feel free to say everything that's on your mind, don't act like you're put out by the effort it takes. Seeing this through will help *everyone* understand each other better. Household and/or family-related challenges early in the month demand a compassionate heart, not a stern lecture... but compassion doesn't necessarily mean playing into anyone's emotional manipulations, especially if you're giving up something that really matters to you. Later in February, a stimulating leisure-time pursuit—whether it's some form of creative expression, a

new way to play, and/or an enticing romantic prospect—suddenly starts taking up a *lot* of your attention. Are you becoming too engrossed too fast? Or would you regret not giving this your all?

March

Bravely going after what you want—for no other reason than *that's* what'll make you happiest—should be your number-one aim during those crazy first weeks of March. This is not just a matter of selfish desire, but also of guiding *principle*: What constitutes your version of a life well lived? Years from now, are you likely to look back upon this choice as having provided you a major learning experience? One sobering consideration you mustn't overlook: responsibly preserving and promoting your material security, no matter *what else* is going on. Mid-month, take care not to coddle any oversensitive or hysterical characters with insincere reassurances, just to get 'em off your back. Only the truth will set you free. Use March's second-half to re-ground yourself, recommitting to a consistent fitness regimen and/or returning to on-the-job or at-home tasks which got neglected in the recent shuffle.

April

Keep up with the steadying day-to-day rhythms you began last month, as April is your perfect time for committing to efforts which promote productive work habits and bodily well-being. Don't distract yourself from this practical purposefulness, even as your mind may be more rebelliously concerned with where the fun's at. If you can persevere through mid-month's ill-timed temptation to ditch the mundane details for something bold and exciting, you'll have an even sharper focus and more force behind your actions... particularly once you recognize that the harder you work, the more security and self-assuredness (not to mention cold hard cash) you will earn. When your nose *isn't* to the grindstone, savor the heightened ease of interpersonal connection, courtesy of Venus in your 7th from April's second week onward... but don't use your relationship commitments as an excuse to shirk your own responsibilities.

May

Plan on some bumpy one-on-one conversations in May, with both Mars and a Mercury retrograde stirring up your relationship house (the 7th) through much of the month. You'll do the other person—and the coupling itself—a major disservice by attempting to bridge a genuine difference in thinking with a single hurry-up-and-clear-the-air session. This issue is *not* likely to be resolved right away... and, in fact, *your* best outcome will come from dwelling in the uncomfortable uncertainty a while. Rather than acting like you're not affected by this, consider confiding your most sensitive feelings or deepest fears, creating intimacy out of your vulnerability. Later in the month, when you reach the part of the discussion where the idea of *giving up* something valuable on *their* behalf triggers a fierce self-protective streak, you'll know you've hit psychological pay-dirt: What threatening menace from your past is this bringing up? How might you respond *differently* this time around?

June

Dangling disagreements and unanswered relationship questions hang over into June, though you should definitely see some productive progress by the middle of the month. What will help you move beyond the hurt feelings, offended sensibilities, or unwillingness to budge? Your growing enthusiasm about the future, which hopefully imminently includes some new thrilling adventure or intriguing journey. Use that forward-focused perspective to keep you on the high road, and to inspire visions for an outcome that'll serve *everyone's* greatest good (if it's possible). But on the same token, don't let it inspire you to turn condescending or dismissive in your attitude toward those unwilling or unable to get beyond their forceful emotions. In June's closing days, expect increased intensity in lingering standoffs wherever a tense issue was previously dealt with only superficially. Hollow words or perfunctory apologies cannot adequately address deeper hurt.

July

During the first half of July, the full brunt of any logical consequences to having embroiled yourself in some complicated partnership—whether wonderful *or* regrettable—will likely come home to roost. If you've weathered this storm and come to a deeper understanding, the

cathartic relief will add a re-energizing spark to your dynamic. If the outlook is grim, however, do your best not to lob any dirty bombs that'll leave devastating damage in their wake. In trying to maliciously hurt someone, you may harm your own interests, too. Once Venus lands in your 10th in mid-July, professional good-fortune will be shining down on you with an appealing offer or favorable recognition. But before you start devising lots of future plans based on this honor, you'd better slow down: Venus is turning retrograde, and all that glitters may or may not be *real* gold.

August

August welcomes good king Jupiter to your career house (the 10th) for a yearlong broadening of your professional horizons. Yet, before you can accurately assess the true longer-range fit of any existing role or new opportunity, you'll first need to reexamine the fundamental priorities which motivate you. Otherwise, you could get caught up in the glitz and glamour of an impressive title or position... and end up limiting your growth potential or betraying your integrity. Looking back from later in life, this moment will represent a *major* crossroads in your attitude toward what you're doing out in the world. Aim to maximize a sense of meaningfulness—and minimize the possibility of regret. Spend all month noticing how each alternative makes you *feel*, rather than basing your decision solely on prestige or pragmatics. But don't *announce* you're weighing your options. Limit your public conversations to impersonal practical topics, while reserving life-purpose questions for off-the-record settings.

September

If you thoughtfully reflected on your possibilities over the prior month, you'll likely arrive at a much clearer understanding of your guiding values during the first weeks of September... which should *also* help simplify many of the as-yet-unsettled questions about professional next-steps. Even still, you may face an internal struggle against some self-defeating belief you aren't worthy or capable enough. Don't allow these phantom remnants of past disappointments to sap your courage or weaken your resolve. All month long, be diplomatic and cool in communicating your exciting intentions to friends or colleagues who could balk or brood about your brash self-interest. You might need to reveal the details gradually, stretching these persuading conversations out over time. By September's last week, you'll *finally* be ready to take assertive

steps forward in your career. But begin slowly, with a super-precise surefooted move or two. No overeager false-starts, please.

October

October's your month to turn recently-refined intentions into concrete actions which support your professional (and/or public-world) evolution. Now that questions of personal purpose have been answered and/or uncertainties about a specific opportunity ironed out, all that's left to do is the actual work. Because you must flex underutilized muscles in order to climb to these new heights, please be kind with yourself about what you don't yet know. Let your confidence grow with each small-but-stable victory, rather than unfairly expecting mastery straight out of the gate. Meanwhile, you're still finding your way with the latest cast-of-characters or among peers struggling to adjust to your change-in-position. You'll probably have to turn up your sweet-talking, and consciously strive to win their good favor. If they're *still* resisting your charms late in the month, though, you could lose your patience—and defensively lash out at their veiled undermining.

November

Though doors have opened and you're experiencing a lot of personal growth, you could find it hard to shake the elusive sense of disbelief or unworthiness which may pervade your November. This Saturn-Neptune influence (which lingers on-and-off during much of next year, too) requires you to balance ongoing forward-facing *courage* with ample inward *self-nurture*. Rather than curtly browbeating yourself over your persistent moodiness or self-doubt, take a gentler attitude: Talk yourself up, instead of putting yourself down. Say relatively little about these churning feelings to others, at least through the middle of the month. You'll be able to know *by feel* which friends have got your back—and which are shit-talkin' behind it—without much outward discussion. In November's closing weeks, you can start sharing more openly once again... though you shouldn't tell certain people "everything's cool" if it's not.

December

As December opens, any continuing tensions with insincere allies or questionable teammates will likely erupt into all-out conflict. If you've been holding your tongue and/or granting them the benefit of the doubt, you're probably *past* that point now. Though you should feel free to speak your uncensored truth, try not to go so far that you threaten your professional standing or compromise the larger organization's reputation. By the middle of the month, you'll have to start thinking more practically... and prioritize the responsible (and financially conservative) long-view over impulsive desires to ditch duty for a good time. Ignore—or call out—any supposed friends who'd judge you for choosing your own long-term security over a more obviously popular option. With Venus arriving to your sign in the last few days of the year, expect your 2016 to kick off on quite an enjoyable note.

CAPRICORN

Your past few years have been *anything* but casual or easy-going, Capricorn... though, I promise, when you look back at your life from way farther down this road, you'll reflect on this phase as having been a *critical reorientation* in how you show up to the world.

2015 doesn't bring any complete departures from this trajectory you've already been on. No, life *isn't* likely to, suddenly and miraculously, lighten up and afford you every easy leg-up you could possibly want. After all, Pluto's *still* in your sign—and *still* scuffling with Uranus-in-your-4th, though their *final* exact square (in a series of seven since June 2012) rolls through in mid-March.

This life-changing astrology will take a while longer before it sinks into all your cells, or allows more than a passing moment away from the hot-seat. Yet, if you safeguard your sanity and psychic well-being with enough diligence, this year will mark the beginning of a subtler process of releasing attachments from your past... in an effort to “catch up”, on the emotional-consciousness level, with all the big shifts which have recently reshaped your life (and will continue to come).

Pluto's extended visit to your sign (2008-2024) is nothing less than a total game-changer, Capricorn, whether you've already faced a major life-overhaul or are still resisting the inevitable. You cannot forever dodge the unavoidable inconveniences and painful stretches such transformations bring. Pluto's role in your 1st house is to gradually chip away at any false fronts, superficial impressions, or self-repressing personas which you might (intentionally or not) put forth... forcing you to confront the underlying truth of your authentic personality, which may be less friendly-and-accommodating and more willful-and-determined than you've previously acknowledged. But how else can you stand in your fullest empowerment, un-self-consciously, if not by letting your genuine opinions, responses, and desires shine through?

Pluto-in-your-1st aims to destroy all outward self-images and -identities which fall short of presenting you in an accurate light. Naturally, this visible breakdown of your pleasant-and-polite exterior brings its more-than-fair share of awkward encounters and off-putting reactions. Your former capacity to successfully plaster on a calculated smile or unrevealing mask-of-neutrality

has been breached by Pluto's slow leaks of brute honesty, Capricorn. When you feel unsupportive, antagonistic, competitive, envious, or judgmental about someone's actions or attitudes, you're far less capable of *hiding* it. (Even if you think you're doing a pretty good job, you're probably *not*.) And when you see your *own* position as strong, competent, well-considered, wise, or superior in any way, *those* sentiments will also protrude from your expressed manner—whether you intend them to or not.

Is it any wonder, then, you've likely been attracting more and more exchanges where someone else acts like they're challenged, offended, intimidated, intrigued, or unsure of quite how to respond to your increasingly *formidable* strength-of-personality? You *are* becoming that much more powerful, Capricorn, little by little over time. Those who genuinely respect or admire you will become *more* impressed by your gutsy transformation (though they could act a bit sheepish around you, if they fear your advances make *them* look even *less* "together"). Those who benefit when you hold yourself back and/or are threatened by how your increased empowerment reflects on *them*, on the other hand, are apt to project their discontentment onto you... treating you with active disinterest, mistrust, or flagrant antipathy, in an attempt to discredit your threatening self-assuredness and/or vie with you for dominance. Meanwhile, you're still learning how to most maturely wield this newfound power, so you can proceed, unencumbered, toward further greatness—*without* scaring off worthy allies or drawing rivalrous clashes from folks you don't wish to fight.

Over these recent years, Pluto's been in direct square with Uranus-in-your-4th, suggesting a key component of your ongoing self-empowerment process requires a radical disruption of your inner emotional patterns... perhaps some breakaway act which releases you from long-internalized family pressures and/or creates more space for yourself on the home-front. The 4th house symbolizes how we take care of ourselves privately, reflected in the state of our domestic life *and* of our internal landscape, and how we've learned to do so from our primary parent-figures. Because Uranus is a *liberator*, its impact on your 4th drives you to distinctly separate yourself from any inhibiting familial dynamics, restraining household situations, or self-defeating messages you feed yourself.

If you don't feel fundamentally free to advocate for whatever best nurtures your own emotional security—a peace-of-mind which *must* start from the inside out, at home, with an

uncompromised declaration of independence from any threats to self-determination—you remain enslaved by the “good kid” role you were indoctrinated to play.

Much of the discomfort Pluto-in-your-1st stirs, as you continue to receive peculiarly intense or unwelcoming responses from those rubbed wrong by your powerful presence, is directly linked with the corresponding Uranus-in-your-4th rejection of certain messages you were taught (likely by your parents) about how to properly behave toward other people... messages which likely prioritized well-mannered protocol over unapologetic authenticity. Now, as your Pluto-influenced demeanor grows less carefully manicured, you have little choice but to detach your feelings of self-worth from such inherited behavioral guidelines.

As you behave more like an emotionally independent adult among family-members, your relationships with them will change—though you can’t control whether they’ll mindfully rise to embrace this evolution or merely act out in indignant resentment at your daring to do things differently. As you refuse to endure under-nourishing or disagreeable living arrangements (because your personal comfort *is* a worthwhile consideration), you’ll be ready to remove yourself from unsuitable environments or unfit housemates. To promote such self-liberating advances, you might even opt for a full-on *relocation*, to a new residence or an altogether different town, ushering in a fresh start that’ll support you in (re)learning what it *really* means to “take care” of yourself.

Saturn’s recent arrival to your 12th (during 2014’s final days) will also play a significant part in clearing your slate of undue attachments to the past, as I alluded to earlier. Whichever house Saturn transits points us to the area of life that demands our extra-attentive focus, consideration, and the most conscientious actions possible, demonstrating our intent to treat it with the utmost seriousness. But when Saturn reaches the 12th as it has in *your* chart, Capricorn, the “work” we’re charged with is somewhat vague, elusive, and (dare I say it) *spiritual* in nature. Because the 12th is the last house in the chart-wheel before the cycle begins again with the 1st, it represents a universalizing culmination of all experiences—our relationship, essentially, to all of existence and its infinite interconnectedness—and nothing less.

Wrapping your head around what “responsible” Saturn-in-your-12th behavior should look like can be a tall order... not to mention a rather *mystifying* one, especially for folks who typically

approach responsibilities with a commonsensical bent (a la “what can I do to fix this?” or “how do we move this along?”) In the 12th, there are no straightforward answers or calls-to-action. Nobody besides you will know whether you’re “doing your work” because it involves a behind-the-scenes tidying-up, a private reorganization between you and the Divine Everythingness.

The goal? To attain your rightful balance between (1) too ill-defined a psychic boundary between your present-moment consciousness and the undifferentiated amalgam of others’ emotional junk, your residual feelings from painful points in your history, and the ever-present sorrow and anguish of the universe-at-large, and (2) too coolly pragmatic or materially self-serving a worldview, in denial of the invisible (but no less “real”) psychic strings which unite us all into one interdependent whole.

Functionally, it can be hard to know what to “do” to meet Saturn-in-your-12th’s expectations. There’s often an inescapable *limbo* feeling that arises when taskmaster Saturn is charged with a “task” that, by its very nature, is inscrutable and otherworldly. The 12th always exists at a certain *remove* from the earthly preoccupations of the other eleven houses, calling on us to adopt a non-rational logic and/or literal retreat from outward activity, in order to attain perceptive insight into our most up-to-date soul-material. Whatever else has accumulated in the far recesses of our awareness (i.e., detritus from our old hurts, traces of others’ psychic ills) now must be acknowledged and cleared out.

The 12th house is more about *being* than doing. Thus, fulfilling your 12th-house duty to Saturn requires you to spend more time alone in intentional inactivity, willingly welcoming the limbo, engaging in meditative or ritual practice which seeks to return you to your core-of-self... and, in the process, to strip away any unconscious recurrences or outmoded scraps from former versions of you.

Saturn’s transit through your 12th could also carry curious strains of melancholy, discouragement, or dread—potential mood-depressors which may bear *little* direct relevance to the actual circumstances you’re experiencing at that moment. Think of such temporary downswings as a productive “burning-through” of the natural emotional residue from disappointments, resentments, and woes left over from events and experiences now behind you. You shouldn’t try to push away these last throes of sadness or grief; instead, allow them to

wash over you, and then to pass on. You won't want these interloping hangers-on to still weigh on you once Saturn rolls into your sign in late '17, contaminating your clean slate with outdated garbage.

Beware, therefore, of any urge to *escape* the unpleasant feeling-echoes reawakened by Saturn-in-your-12th. This Saturn brings explicit warnings against relying too heavily on alcohol or drugs, interpersonal codependency, or other intoxicating influences which numb your emotions into non-existence... as well as against imposing any supposed survival-techniques based on stoically sucking it up and/or dissociating your better-composed self from unwieldy moods you'd rather not deal with. Such distancing shortcuts actually contribute to a potentially destructive split-consciousness, wherein you're only able to "keep it together" by disavowing a significant chunk of your emotional reality or medicating yourself into robotic compliance. Rather than clearing any slates, you'd instead be further *clouding* your consciousness with distancing subterfuge—and, in your regrettable desperation to avoid your feelings, end up flirting with addiction and/or jeopardizing your sanity and safety.

Interestingly, Jupiter's presence in your 8th (which began last July) actually *increases* your openness to those intense interpersonal participations which naturally draw *more* complications into your life. Jupiter-in-your-8th eases your path to greater intimacy, presenting you with promising opportunities to deepen your involvement in a romantic partnership, professional collaboration, or other close coupling. By daring to trade pure autonomy for an enhanced joining-of-forces at this time, you're likelier than usual to welcome heightened relational chemistry or passion, a more thorough and nuanced understanding of one another's underlying drives and complexes, and maybe even a boon in lifestyle or financial standing. But such rewards *also* bring a corresponding need for more psychologically-demanding negotiations and admissions, to ensure all parties get their fair say in how to look after what you've created together. Your life-circumstances will now be even more delicately intertwined with someone else's. Are you emotionally brave enough to collect on this promise, knowing the most delicious goodies come with a few independence-impeding strings?

If you're a bit perplexed by what sound like conflicting threads of advice, it's understandable: Jupiter's encouraging you to let a certain partner(s) deeper into your life, while Saturn's pushing you to tighten up your psychic boundaries and take more time in retreat. To address *both*

planetary pulls, you must come to see any present-moment opportunities to open yourself up to fuller intimacy (Jupiter-in-your-8th) as a chance to *update* your psychological capacity to engage in more intricate, complex interpersonal dealings... and to simultaneously *neutralize* any instinctive reservations or fears, flashbacks from prior instances when your efforts at intimacy caused you pain (Saturn-in-your-12th). Though you can never protect yourself from the risk of getting hurt whenever you share so much with someone, the only way to grow more interpersonally skilled and forthright is by continuing to invest your all in those relationships with promising potential. The other choice—to keep yourself “guarded” from anyone else’s ability to hurt you—is a somber, solitary path.

Through the earlier half of your year, Jupiter continues its harmonious trine to Uranus (an aspect which first formed in September ’14), directly linking the defiant impulse to assert independence from internalized family pressures and/or emotionally-restrictive self-talk (Uranus-in-your-4th) with your willingness to dive more intensely into tricky interpersonal territory, risks and all, to flex your relational muscles and grow in applied human knowledge (Jupiter-in-your-8th). This Jupiter-Uranus trine could inspire you, for instance, to move in with an intimate partner or enter into some other financially-enmeshing and/or psychologically-complicating agreement... a move which might go *against* what you were taught to believe about “looking out for yourself” by tightly sheltering your own interests (economic, emotional, or otherwise) from outside influences. This type of interpersonal risk carries the hope of immeasurable emotional satisfaction, an intangible asset not adequately addressed by the businesslike concepts of self-care you were likely fed.

Please be careful *not* to take such risks merely as a *reactionary* ploy, intended (consciously or not) to spite the constrictive upbringing you endured and/or the parent-figures responsible for it. Behaviors motivated utterly by rebellion (rather than autonomously-determined desire) are still indentured to the same repressive strictures they seek to rebel from—only by *dis-identification* rather than identification. Don’t let pure defiance drive your significant life-choices, Capricorn.

Midyear, a particularly puckish Venus retrograde (Jul 25-Sep 6) brings even more attention to your 8th house, adding what appears to be *another* appealing advantage and/or *alternative* entanglement to your plate of collaborative possibilities. This, consequently, could create further confusion about *how much* attention, passion, or money to invest in admittedly

speculative ventures, and/or *who* to invest it in or with. As June bleeds into July and August, what may *at first* have seemed like a reasonable amount of risk to assume could start to take on a less-reasoned life of its own: one spirited conversation feeding into another, opportunities spiraling off into multiple possibilities, your willingness to partner up in *one* context begetting *more* partnership offers, all colluding for a “snowball” effect where quick decisions may be expected *before* you’re clear on exactly how deeply they’d expose you to unforeseen variables.

Because Venus retrograde rattles our capacity to accurately assess something’s *value* to us—both relationally and in financial matters—you’re advised *not* to formalize any binding agreements, borrow or lend money, or blindingly trust someone’s “good word” with critical matters during this period. That’s not to say all options which present themselves while Venus is retrograde are automatically suspect. Their appearance *at this time* is meant to spur further self-inquiry into your driving motives and desires (i.e., what most-valued *payoff* is behind your impulse to join forces with one or another party)... but *not* to yield an eventual outcome right away.

With all the excitement ricocheting around, you could easily neglect to stay focused on your own stake in this matter... especially if the continuing developments present a noticeable *departure* from your original aims, some dubious new character enters the scene, and/or your partner’s negotiating tone starts shifting in ways that make you nervous. Don’t jump to conclusions in any direction, though. Go straight into the heart of any anxiety-provoking questions, both in dialogue with the other player(s) *and* by paying careful attention to how thoughtfully they consider you in their actions.

Despite feverish pressures to hurry your decision-making process, it’s worthwhile to intentionally hit the brakes on these intensifying involvements... with the understanding that final judgment-calls would be wisely postponed until late September or early October. All the while, rest on your most trusted friends and colleagues (who *aren’t* embroiled in these machinations, that is) as your sounding-board, relying on their feedback to give you a clearer idea of what your circumstances look like from the outside. If multiple true-blue pals issue a caution or imply that certain choices will alienate you from an affiliation you cherish, you should take heed. How sizable a chunk of your social identity are you willing to wager on this?

At the same time all of *that* is going down, Jupiter makes its way into your 9th in mid-August, where it inspires you to look *beyond* the specific character-driven dramas you may be immersed in... and toward a more high-minded examination of what *really* matters to you, which guiding principles motivate your major life-decisions, and how you understand the concept of personal integrity. This shift offers you a perspective reset, a bit of heady distance from the free-wheelin' fervor, fear-fueling fast pace, and competing personality-styles which had been impairing your ability to see the forest for the trees.

Jupiter-in-your-9th helps resituate your current crossroads within the holistic context of your life's overall meaning, reminding you to consider the "big questions" about where you're headed alongside whatever immediate passions have consumed your attention. In your 9th, Jupiter goads you to see just how much our wide world has to offer... and to your expand your own vision of what's possible, encouraging you to travel, explore, study, or set off on any adventure which would broaden your philosophic views, bringing you ever closer to reassuringly feeling like you consistently "do the *right* thing" in your life.

By October, Jupiter will move into a synergistic trine with Pluto-in-your-1st, supporting your ongoing self-empowerment process with a rallying 9th-house renewal-of-optimism and broadening-of-perspective. This Jupiter-Pluto trine (which continues into mid-'16) is an amazing tool for powerfully propelling yourself toward whatever eye-opening experiences will add to your knowledge-base, increasing your competence at articulating the *purpose* behind your firm stands. Of course, since Jupiter's most basic archetypal role is simply to *make things bigger*, its Pluto trine also threatens to increase your potential to frighten, trigger, or overpower those who lack the same level of self-assuredness and/or don't share your worldview. The more confidently you ground yourself on your own rightful path, the likelier you are to (intentionally or inadvertently) exude a self-righteous or self-important attitude toward those who diverge or disagree.

Furthermore, if you allow Jupiter-in-your-9th (in cahoots with Pluto) to monopolize your mindset or mobilize you too unilaterally behind a particular mission or belief-system, you'll unfortunately reduce the likelihood of "accidentally" stumbling into fortuitous exchanges or surprisingly meaningful small-talk. If you're single-mindedly intent on pursuing the purpose you've predetermined to be "most important", you won't be very open to influences or interactions

which might distract you from said purpose... even though they may provide you an insightful angle, a valuable shade of subtlety, or a passing human connection which you would otherwise never have benefited from.

This underlying conflict—between (1) proceeding by strong, driving purpose and (2) leaving room for detours, diversions, and interferences which might ultimately prove moving, motivating or meaningful in unanticipated ways—opens into a vaster spiritual questioning, persisting through much of '16. As you foster more certainty about the ethics and ideals you most cherish, and allow these self-defined values a greater role in the judgment-calls you make, how will you *ever* be exposed to situations which constructively unsettle or challenge your certainty? The more you “know”, the less you’ll know about what you *don’t know*.

January

Early in the month, don’t neglect to acknowledge what a powerful impact you make, or you could be sideswiped by somebody’s strange reaction to you “innocently” look out for your own interests. Be compassionate about how they may feel threatened, but don’t take it on. Having it out over *this* is not a worthy expense of your time. Your energy’s better spent finessing your longer-term financial outlook, a task which could productively consume your attention well into February. This will entail *lots* of back-and-forth negotiations, as you balance economic independence against the lucrative potentials which may be possible by partnering up and/or borrowing additional capital. Allow such conversations to meander, even as the seeming lack of focus could annoy you. It’s far smarter to over-discuss the details than to skip steps... and discover you have very different understandings only *after* the commitment’s made.

February

Financial discussions and thought-processes from last month bleed over into February... with alternate scenarios and fine-print specifics floating around (and around), but not quite cohering into an obvious game-plan. One thing *is* clear: It’s on *you* to soundly protect what you’ve already got. Too brash or direct a rush to address the most challenging issues, though, and you might spook the other players. Think of this protracted back-and-forth as a rapport-building dance. You lead, then you follow, but please *stay on the beat*. Your attentions could abruptly

shift in the second half of February, as a home- or family-related situation suddenly takes center-stage... and/or you reach your wits'-end with everyone else's drama, and feel an urge to disappear. Taking all the time you need to handle this personal business is a no-brainer. (And if you *don't* take it, you'll be edgy and resentful as hell.)

March

Expect a whirlwind of destabilizing activity during the first weeks of March, when you may be roused to take an emotionally rebellious action which flies in the face of the stable-and-serious impression you strive to cultivate... and/or to react to startling developments in your family and/or domestic life which require a change in your strategic plan. Rather than worrying about how to "clean it all up" as quickly as you can, consider how there might be unexpected (and potentially profitable) benefits to be found by lingering in the "mess". From mid-March onward, you'll be hungry for some simplifying fun, to counteract the recent madness. And there could be one more surprise in store, but this one's a goodie: You'll be wielding uncanny magnetism near month's-end, sure to attract those who'll want to join you in having a little fun—or possibly something *more*.

April

You might still be struggling to wrap your head around last month's disruptions during April's opening days. If you truly want relief, you must avoid taking that aggressive tone which only further inflames others' tempers. Look for silver-linings on the work front, where you'll happily juggle multiple items, drawing much satisfaction from staying busy and productive. If you run into puzzling resistance on a given task, don't let it trip you up—and don't waste a bunch of time seeking input or solace from others. Just shift gears, and turn to something else. Your personal drive to enjoy life on *your* terms only intensifies as April advances, making this a great time to move forward with creative projects, to invest more energy into a favorite pastime, and/or to pursue prospective love-matches with added verve. Whenever someone else is involved, please be ready for *more* of a response than you might've expected, whether for better or worse.

May

May is all about dutifully meeting your everyday obligations, whether pressing job-related matters, bodily-health needs, and/or other mundane chores. Only problem is, what's most urgently demanded of you is likely to change from one day to the next, making it very difficult to effectively schedule your work. One possible contributing-factor: a heightened chance of crossed-signals and mixed-messages in your communications with the other players involved. Though you probably won't be able to organize things for *your* optimal efficiency, you *can* control how much you let the loose threads impact your mood. Thankfully, Venus is in your relationship house (the 7th) through most of May, promising a sweeter and lovelier vibe in your closest interpersonal dealings. Later in the month, however, your capacity to stay open-hearted could be compromised when you react like your right to self-determination has been threatened... though the actual "threat" may not be as menacing as it feels.

June

Much of your June will be consumed with pushing through, tidying up, and moving on from any disarray recently kicked up by continual befuddling shifts in your work-plan. While you might still lack clear directional focus during the month's first couple weeks, you can make up for it with a sheer concentration of effort. At this point, it's just about getting the job done as satisfactorily as possible, to free yourself from the hovering burden. Though certain aspects of the work may fall short of your standards and/or disappoint your crankier colleagues, you should still take pride in having stuck with it. It's a favorable month for getting more intimately involved with a partner, either romantically or in professional collaboration... even if you feel yourself getting spooked by the self-exposure. Once Mars hits your 7th in June's final week, you could find yourself at odds with a character you feel is being presumptuous or shady.

July

July's developments will take you to the root of any looming relationship issues which, up until now, have only been superficially addressed. This is no time for pat responses, passive-aggressive digs, or insincere attempts at peacemaking. You'll have better-than-usual access to what the other person is *really* saying... which can either help you gain greater compassion for

their viewpoint *or* enable you to use that psychological knowledge against them. But if you win by that *latter* method, you're setting up a dynamic where you dominate... at *their* expense. Is that your vision of a happy partnership? The impulse to defend yourself may be an unconscious echo from past disempowering events (a parent trying to control your every move?), rather than a fair response to an actual attack. To truly understand what's going between you, look more deeply into your own psychological history. Don't think you've got it all figured out, though: This process continues another few months.

August

Throughout August, Venus's retrograde raises complicated questions about *what you'll gain* vs. *what you must give up* when intertwining yourself so totally with another person. Though your kneejerk reactions may cause more worry about any expected sacrifices, the astro-climate strongly encourages you not to discount the favorable upsides: What might you attain from joining forces, which could *never* be attained on your own? It's a prime moment for reconsidering the value of such relational tradeoffs... as well as whether *this* particular individual is well-suited to the intense level of engagement. Opinions from neutral friends, colleagues in the field, and outside experts can be extremely insightful, though their feedback might not be what you'd hoped to hear. Though you may remain unclear about whether this *particular* joining-of-forces is right for you, you *do* know which principles and ethics you hold dearest. Does this involvement align with those values?

September

Within the first half of September, you should receive enough illuminating clues to determine whether you'd like to invest further in this joint venture—or if your heart just isn't in it anymore. Regardless of your choice, you still ought to appropriately pace this transition from where you've been to where you're heading, in respect to the strong feelings on all sides. While you may be mentally eager to get to the next chapter already, your psychological well-being requires you to do your interpersonal due-diligence. Wait until the very end of the month to start decisively moving forward, and be gentle with yourself if you're freaked about letting go of the past. All month long, you face professional (or public) pressure to stay on message, tow the party-line, or communicate with unflappable tact... even as you must bite your lip to *not* share your truer

position. Even the *slightest* insinuation of controversy will call your loyalty into question, requiring *a lot* of compensatory sweet-talking to fix.

October

A very different vibe emerges during October, if you're following the call to what's most personally *meaningful* to you. Leap into a new or refreshed commitment to learn, explore, and evolve, by exposing yourself to ideas and experiences far outside your familiar comfort-zone. This astrology is ideal for eye-opening travel adventures, engaging courses-of-study, and a deeper immersion in spiritual or philosophic thought. You might struggle to explain your latest passion to friends or family-members who "don't get it", though it's still worth an earnest try. Your "official" outward communications remain under scrutiny through the month, especially in career-related settings where an overconfident stance is liable to displease a boss or important figure. This underlying tension between self-possession and professional deference comes to a head later in October, when your inner rebel tries to steal control of your tongue. What'll happen if the rebel triumphs?

November

November kicks off your most dynamic career period of the year, providing you an increased capacity to make ambitious strides on a high-profile project and/or fight for greater responsibility or recognition. All the while, lots of attentive eyes will be fixed on your every move... which means, no matter the stressful demands you might struggle to meet, it's critical to keep up proper appearances. The month's first-half is an excellent time for reaching out to your social network, to recruit support and vent frustration to those you trust and respect. From mid-month onward, though, you should probably hold back a bit more from sharing what's on your mind: Your latest ideas aren't fully formed and could accidentally come off rude or harsh, impairing the listener's ability to grasp the actual content. Just one more reason to affix a pleasant veneer, and steer away from conflict.

December

Last month's career (or public-world) dynamism continues into early December, arguably a pivotal peak in any ongoing frictions between your aspirations and the structures-of-power (or a certain figurehead?) opposing your ascent. Remember: Actions will speak louder than words. By the middle of the month, you'll have a better idea of whether you can achieve your goals in this current professional situation—or if a departure may ultimately prove necessary. Only *now*, after the shit's hit the fan, should you feel free to speak your full truth aloud. Be forewarned your words will carry great power, with the potential to strongly inspire those who admire you... and just-as-strongly *repel* those who find you arrogant. Give yourself plenty of chances to decompress, by basking in all the love from your friend-circle: These folks don't give a crap about your worldly standing. They adore you just for being you.

AQUARIUS

What role do other people presently play in your life, Aquarius?

Are you participating in relationships which fuel an enthusiastic vision of what you could accomplish as a part of a pair? Or have you *outgrown* certain interpersonal dynamics, in the process of evolving as an individual and coming to see a broader potential for yourself?

Are you learning to be a better partner, by nurturing a greater capacity for compromise and a more intentional “togetherness” mindset? Or have you just become overly accommodating and acquiescent to *someone else’s* needs and desires, at the expense of feeling like you get equal say in what happens between you?

Relationship questions such as these will be of primary concern throughout your 2015, Aquarius, as personal-growth-maven Jupiter continues its travels through your 7th house (which represents how we form our significant one-on-one couplings)... then, midyear, skates into your 8th (where things get deeper, dirtier, and/or more intense in intimate partnership) to find out just *how far* you’re willing to go relationship-wise. As if that’s not enough, you’ll *also* welcome a potentially devilish Venus retrograde (Jul 26-Sep 5) smack dab in this same sector of your chart, suggesting your relational attitudes and inclinations will be up for review, thanks to the perspective-flipping arrival of some alluring new prospect or familiar flash-from-the-past.

These astrological factors conspire to get you thinking more openly and optimistically about how your interpersonal involvements can best *complement* you, as you stretch further toward the life you most dearly want—and about *who* would be your most supportive companion(s) to have alongside you on this journey, as well as *who wouldn’t*.

Jupiter first reached your 7th last August, kicking off your best year in over a decade for expanding your standpoint toward relationships, those in which you’re already involved and/or those you might wish to pursue... for drawing *new* interpersonal influences into your life (including, potentially, individuals who bring a refreshing outlook or inspire you to think bigger), as well as enhancing your connection with characters you’re interested in getting to know

better... and for opening yourself up to opportunities which just wouldn't be available without joining forces with someone else.

Because Jupiter as an archetypal actor doesn't *make* things happen (but merely creates an environment in which our efforts are helpfully nudged along), it's on *you*, Aquarius, to actively utilize this astrological support to your desired interpersonal advantage. You're not likely to meet new people, for instance, if you don't take the initiative to place yourself in situations where these "new people" would be found. Nor can you expect much growth in existing relationships (or in your attitude toward relationships in general) as long as you keep behaving the same way you always have.

When you *do* choose to put yourself more widely out there or try out different relational tactics, Jupiter-in-your-7th will ease your efforts along, giving you faster and more encouraging results than you'd receive during other phases of your life. But should you do *nothing* differently, Jupiter "eases" your experience of *that*, too... making less-than-ideal interpersonal circumstances just tolerable enough to further enable your passivity. "Is this *really* so bad?" you might ask yourself. At its *least* helpful, Jupiter-in-your-7th merely fosters a lazy or inattentive mindset toward relationships, greasing your slide down the path of least resistance—and leaving your interpersonal fate to drift along as it has been, unexamined, with no evolutionary intent.

Jupiter's trine to Uranus-in-your-3rd (which began last September and continues through mid-'15) adds further incentive to shake up your manner of relating, spurring you take greater moment-to-moment risks in how you choose to communicate. Planetary rebel Uranus goads us to stand unashamedly in our uniqueness, no matter how strange or jarring others might find it, in order to liberate us from any soul-sucking role which confines us to "what's expected". In your 3rd house, Aquarius, its energy seeks expression through your everyday social exchanges, whether with close friends, casual pals, or folks you don't even know.

Under Uranus-in-your-3rd's influence, your efforts to break through the conversational ice with startlingly authentic declarations, unexpected disclosures, and/or an abrupt dispensing with shallow formalities will help other defiantly odd or rebellious types recognize you as a kindred spirit. At the same time, you may shock those stuffier or more traditional characters you

encounter, due to your willingness to shirk convention on behalf of personal freedom. Though you might endure a few awkward moments when such folks don't exactly welcome you with open arms, at least you'll find out pretty quickly that they don't groove with your offbeat sensibilities, saving you from a fruitless social investment. You never know, though, whether your conversational audacity might *later* spark further reflections or a shift-in-thinking in someone who, on first contact, merely balked at your unorthodoxy?

Together, this planetary duo provides you excellent astrological support in attaining a more gratifying experience, both in new *and* existing relationships, through cultivating a freer and less guarded tone in your communications. You'll get to know your partner, a romantic prospect, and/or any interesting character *way* better by zealously broaching controversial topics, confessing little-known facts about yourself, or encouraging them to share stranger or more outrageous details than they ordinarily do. And it's definitely in your favor to explore any random introductions to friends-of-your-friends, other people's neighbors or relatives, or alluded-to contacts who might prove to be a "missing link". Devoting an hour or two to such uncertain interactions is really no skin off your teeth. The worst-case scenario? You waste a bit of time, maybe walk away with a good horror-story to share with pals. Meanwhile, the possible *benefits* (you learn something! you make a new friend! you fall madly in love!) seem well worth the gamble.

Uranus *also* remains in an ongoing square with Pluto, the aspect of collective-turbulence-and-upheaval which has greatly impacted us all since its earliest effects first emerged in 2010. In *your* chart, Aquarius, Uranus squares Pluto-in-your-12th, feeding an indistinct strain of fear, mistrust, or panic about what potentially unpleasant or disastrous consequences *might* manifest as a result of adopting more free-spirited social behaviors. Beneath such fears resides the primal awareness that, yes, it's true, not everybody *will* take kindly to you—not merely due to some choice you might make, but because human nature dictates we *won't* all get along. Not *ever*.

None of us appeals to everyone, not if we're being our genuine selves (rather than a watered-down version produced for bland likability). Each step you take toward greater authenticity, then, carries with it an increased probability you'll *repel* those folks displeased, disturbed, or disgusted by your fuller self-expression. Left to its own devices, Pluto-in-your-12th will *magnify*

your worries about how stupendously awful it would be to face such resistance, rejection, or outright animosity... as if to disavow the harsh reality that, if we're leading honest lives, we *all* at some point deal with the upsetting feelings which arise from being judged, excluded, or attacked by those who don't like us. As long as we cower in terror of such reactions—to the point where we actually *hold ourselves back* from doing as we wish—we only *fuel* the power such fears have over us, indulging a constant anticipatory dread that's *far worse* than those few moments of fleeting hurt an actual rejection would bring.

In light of Pluto-in-your-12th's paranoia-prone influence on your unconscious, I must add this: Jupiter's fortunate impact on your relationship life might not express itself in a way you'd initially categorize as "good fortune". Sometimes, under Jupiter-in-the-7th's watch, we actually *lose* a significant relationship... but only because we've *grown beyond it*, as a natural result of our own evolution, and can now envision a grander future than it can contain. Though partings-of-ways are typically upsetting no matter the circumstances, those which occur while Jupiter's in your 7th usually bring a retroactive "best thing that could've happened" feeling, once the shock wears off and your heart starts to heal. This is an important insight to bear in mind, especially if Pluto tries to convince you that *any* potential loss is automatically devastating, and to therefore avoid them at all costs.

And now that Saturn's in your 11th (as of very late in '14), it's also time to willingly embrace the positive potentials from thoughtful *discernment* in determining who to publicly align yourself with. Between now and the end of '17, you're under increased pressure to turn a critical eye to your social affiliations... to deliberately solidify your place among the community of chums, colleagues, and teammates you've chosen to identify yourself with, and, at the same time, to draw clearer dividing-lines separating yourself from those who *aren't* legitimately "your people".

While Jupiter and Uranus broaden your exposure to new characters and nurture your connections with folks you already know, Saturn warns against rushing to assume a solidarity or like-mindedness with anyone unless, and until, it's been consistently verified over time. There's a marked distinction between (1) opening yourself up to fresh social influences, on a speculative or experimental basis, and (2) confidently wagering your social position on allegiances not yet fully vetted. You *will* be judged by the company you keep, Aquarius. Please don't naively think otherwise.

With Saturn pressing down on your 11th, it's of utmost importance to actively affirm whether certain friends, allies, and/or organizational affiliations are appropriately aligned with the ideals you wish to live by. While it's not essential to agree with everyone in your circle on every last matter, there *is* a point-of-no-return beyond which obliging someone's conflicting beliefs or worldviews becomes a personal *liability*. If you find their attitudes, opinions, or behaviors are poorly thought out, embarrassing, and/or morally objectionable, you must think twice about *why* they're part of your scene.

To best support the sort of social dynamics you're striving to actualize, you should instead invest *more* energy and attention in those who sincerely share your vision... while *limiting* your investments in anyone who disrespects, undermines, or is full-on hostile to your identifying values.

On the same token, if *you* behave in ways which unsettle or offend longstanding friends, dishonor commitments you've made, or betray the known ethics of a group you associate with, you should expect to be on the *receiving* end of Saturn's 11th-house pushbacks. There *are* consequences to asserting too radical an individualism, particularly if it calls your dependability into question or threatens to subvert the team unity. You can't assume you'll preserve your relationships or continue to "belong" once your actions are seen as suspect, contentious, or inhospitable to the collectively-agreed-upon cause, tone, or purpose. But before hastily concluding everyone else is full of shit and burning down once-valued bridges, you may want to consider (through private reflection or circumspect discussion) whether they *might* have constructive feedback worth taking in. You *did* respect their opinions, once upon a time.

Positively speaking, Saturn-in-your-11th asks you to concentrate more intently on those social affiliations and involvements which *have* proven to support you, signaling your appreciation and devotion. Rather than leave trusty pals or dedicated allies wondering whether you take them for granted, make a distinct point of expressing your fondness and fellowship. The more purposeful attention you funnel toward those connections you value most—lending a hand to their undertakings, going to their events, standing behind them when they speak out, spending lots of time together—the stronger a sense of community and camaraderie you'll build. And by increasing the seriousness of your participation in any social-action initiatives, common-interest groups, networking organizations, and/or team activities which feed that "part of something

bigger” feeling, you’ll further cement the vital role this participation plays in your life... and help nullify any phantom anxieties about whether you’re “all alone in the world”. (You’re not.)

Once Venus traipses into your relationship house (the 7th) in early June, the deliciously-disorienting midsection of your year kicks off. During the weeks building up to Venus going retrograde near July’s tail-end, you’re apt to hit an especially lovely stride in your interpersonal dealings, whether through greater flow in an existing pairing and/or the blossoming of a new connection. Though you may be eager to progress this involvement to its next level of intimacy and/or formalize some deepening commitment once Venus reaches your 8th in the middle of July, the astrology distinctly warns you *against* going too far too fast.

Venus retrograde is a notoriously *dubious* influence under which to evaluate the true worth of any relational association or financial agreement... and yet, during this time, you’ll be *more* tempted than usual to dash brazenly into such destiny-enmeshing affairs, with just a handful of spirited conversations and “a good feeling about it” to justify the leap. Please consider stalling any decisive next-steps—especially if money’s at stake and/or your independence will be markedly curbed—until late September or early October.

Through August and into September, you may actually attract *additional* appealing options: another head-turning romantic prospect, potential collaboration, or alternate path; a seemingly “better” offer; and/or the reappearance of some former lover or yet-to-be-fully-explored partnership possibility. Rather than succumb to indecision or confusion, give yourself total permission to *not immediately know* which choice best suits you. By keeping things as wide open as possible, you leave room to continue reflecting on which values rank highest on your priority-list... all while the various other players provide telling glimpses of their true colors, either affirming your trust in them or providing you a much-needed reality-check.

During this same midyear phase, Saturn slips back into your 10th (where it spent the prior two years) and into a square with Venus (and other 7th-house planets), presenting you a concrete measure by which to weigh the value of these different relational options. Saturn’s recent transit through your 10th forced you to take a cold hard look at your present level of career achievement and satisfaction (and/or your status in other ongoing outer-world participations)...

...serving to validate the success and respect you've earned, and/or to accentuate where you've fallen short in the effort, consistency, or talent necessary to accomplish your chosen goals.

Saturn's return to your 10th is something of a *test*, then, as to whether you've constructively integrated this no-bones stance toward your career (or public-life) ambitions. Are you still aligned with your rightful responsibilities and appropriate aspirations? Saturn's square to your 7th bespeaks of the potential *conflict* between readily pursuing a given relationship and staying responsibly focused on your longer-term professional aims. You may need to temper your interpersonal eagerness, if it indeed competes with pressing obligations or threatens to soil your hard-earned reputation. If you're caught between different relational scenarios which each hold their charm, you should thoughtfully examine whether one or another of them better supports you in your onward-and-upward efforts—or, conversely, proves a distracting hindrance to achieving your fullest success (a logical red-flag).

When Jupiter simultaneously shifts in your 8th, midway through August, it significantly raises the stakes in any intimate partnership (personal, professional, or otherwise)... making it *that much more* crucial to assess how deeply you want to embroil yourself with this other party. The 8th house is where we toss what we've got into the pot of joint-resources, along (presumably) with what *they've* got, essentially melding our destinies together more inextricably. The aim, of course, is greater gain for all participants: intensified passion, a closer connection, more money, consolidated power from combining the complementary skills, knowledge, and experience you each bring to the table.

With this increased potential for gain, however, comes a corresponding increase in risk of headaches, hassles, and complications. Once you're in the trenches with someone else, your ability to make decisions and take actions is always bound by *their* participation and discretion. Lots of intricate negotiation is frequently necessary, therefore, before any attack-plan can be mutually agreed upon.

Jupiter-in-your-8th heightens your openness to diving into such scenarios, even knowing full well about the inevitable intricacies. Jupiter also suggests your willing involvement could ultimately prove quite personally advantageous... not only in terms of deepening your interpersonal intimacy and/or improving your economic standing, but also *psychologically*

speaking. By immersing yourself in circumstances which bring you up-close-and-personal with someone else's attitudes and approaches to sensitive life-issues, you end up having to examine your own contrasting motives, assumptions, and blind-spots alongside theirs. Until you're forced to confront how *their* unique temperament and lived-history have molded in them a remarkably *different* orientation to things like money, power, and conflict-resolution, it's way too easy to assume *your* manner of addressing such item is more universal—and, naturally, *correct*. Only by having to hammer out methods for integrating *both* your styles, suggestions, successes, and sticking-points can you reach this better understanding of the peculiarities of your psychic makeup.

By October, Jupiter will land in a trine to Pluto, linking your participation in such relational entanglements to your larger process of demystifying any compulsive fears. This Jupiter-Pluto trine (which is in effect through the middle of '16) is your invitation to “befriend the shadow” by explicitly using your intense interpersonal circumstances as a training-ground for bravely addressing the very questions or concerns which most frighten you. Though your inner idealist might prefer not to concentrate on the “darker” aspects inherent to human relations, you'd be foolish to pretend there aren't potentially distressing consequences to following Jupiter's lead into risky intimacies.

To properly protect yourself, you *must* ask the difficult questions and present your full unfiltered truth—and you must be fearlessly prepared to cut your losses and move on, should you be unsatisfied with the responses you receive. Accepting this level of responsibility for total psychological authenticity, regardless of *what* effect it may have on a given relationship (including utter collapse), is the most productive way to channel this Jupiter-Pluto energy. Should you dodge such uncomfortable confrontations, however, be forewarned you'll be setting yourself for possible disappointment... or worse.

You're at particular risk for financial setbacks, due to Jupiter-in-your-8th's opposition to Neptune, which exacerbates its ongoing romanticizing influence over your *other* money-related house (the 2nd). Under this aspect, you face an exaggerated likelihood of undervaluing what *you* personally bring to the joint-resources pot and/or selling your self-serving interests short, in a wishful-thinking show of goodwill to the other players. You Aquarians already hold a somewhat starry-eyed outlook on financial matters as it is (because your visionary brilliance

allows you to see past the contrived hollowness of material concerns? so what?), but the astrology swells this sort of impractical thinking to a dangerous level, fueling a rather misguided belief that everyone's needs will just be magically met.

Looking to Saturn-in-your-11th for guidance, then—since Saturn squares both Jupiter *and* Neptune, from the second-half of '15 and well into '16—perhaps your greatest tool for warding off such idealistic excesses is, in fact, your network of friends and colleagues. Please listen to them if they express worry or doubt about a certain involvement you're enmeshing yourself in. If you've entrusted them to watch your back, don't be so quick to write off their concerns... unless you're so overwhelmingly secure about the rightfulness of your deepening enmeshment that you're willing to let these other friendships go. And if you find yourself sneaking behind people's backs and/or editing how much you share with them about what's *really* going on, that's a clear sign you're doing something you *know* you shouldn't be.

January

You'll cruise into 2015 already on an energetic high, with Mars continuing to rally you to take matters into your own hands—whether or not everyone's pleased with the sharper edge you're wielding. But if you want to further an agenda of your choosing, there's little you can do to altogether avoid others' pushback. Try, therefore, not to obsess about possible collateral consequences. As January develops, you're likely to welcome increasingly reassuring feedback and/or fawning praise from those who appreciate the free-thinking individuality you express. Don't let it go to your head, though: With Mercury retrograding in your sign, you could accidentally speak in a way that reeks of self-importance. On the money front, refrain from diving gung-ho into potential income-streams that don't fairly compensate you, just because you're honored to even receive the offer at all. Slow down, and crunch the data.

February

Watch your mouth early in February (while Mercury's still retrograde), when an offhand comment could drive a wedge between you and a friend and/or unfavorably set you apart from the group. Financially speaking, actively assert an openness to exploring different possibilities, but don't commit yourself. Once the astro-energy dramatically shifts midway through the month,

a swift increase in the volume of communications flying every-which-way will yield you more insight into the different personalities involved. Use your conversational adeptness to skillfully get answers to lingering questions—*without* making anyone feel they're being grilled. The remainder of February offers countless social opportunities to reconnect with old pals, meet some new folks, and join up with other like-minded souls. Take the initiative, rather than waiting around. Consider this a prime chance to figure out where you best fit among this changing cast of characters.

March

A hyper-dynamic rate of interactions and exchanges persists through the first couple weeks of March, your best moment all year for taking big social risks. Introduce yourself to intriguing strangers. Pose engaging, open-ended discussion topics. Offer cheeky anecdotes about who you are, and ask to hear some in return. You just might connect with someone who'll expand your horizons or brighten your outlook... *well* into the future. Take care not to lead with your worst fears, or you could inadvertently project them into the fledgling relationship. Beware of undue financial idealism mid-month, when hopeful expectations must be balanced against market forces beyond your control. March's second-half beckons you to enjoy the creature-comforts of home. Invest some creative effort into improving its aesthetic beauty and sensual feel, and you'll immediately reap restorative mood-benefits.

April

Though another busying round of social activities erupts in early April, you could feel torn between putting yourself out there and hiding behind closed doors. Meet your obligations, and don't leave anyone hanging if they're expecting to hear from you. Beyond that, feel free to spend as much private downtime as you crave. You could really *need* the additional solitude, considering the month's heightened potential for family squabbles, domestic unrest, and/or swells of internal discontent. While opportunities for light-hearted fun and casual flirtations increase as April proceeds, you may still fall prey to edgy or brooding tendencies. Rather than sharing all the gory details of your emotional landscape, it's probably better to keep it largely to yourself for now. You're apt to sound "unreasonable" to certain ears, so why expose your vulnerable emotions to those who'd urge you to feel otherwise?

May

Throughout May, you'll have no shortage of appealing choices for how (and with whom) to enjoy your leisure hours... so many, in fact, you could find your attentions split or your mind continually changing about what (or who) you want most. No need to choose one over another, at least not for the time being. Certain closed-minded chums, however, might not share your idea of a good time. Don't sell yourself out trying to straddle some fence, just to avoid their unfair judgments. Those who aren't genuinely supportive of your unique approach to life aren't true friends. In the midst of all this maddening fun, don't neglect your financial responsibilities. Day-to-day work should flow fairly well until mid-month, when mixed signals or altered plans threaten to throw it all into chaos. Resist obsessing on worst-case scenarios. Instead, follow up on each problem by talking it out with the relevant players.

June

Continuing questions about your personal preferences (what makes you happiest? what feels most authentically *you*?) persist into June—and only become that much *harder* to resolve because you're quite likely to get *whatever* you decide you want. Once Mercury's direct again mid-month, you can start narrowing in on a decision. Relationships should go quite smoothly, with Venus blessing your 7th house through most of June... a marvelous time for attracting romantic interest from fresh faces, and/or taking existing friendships "to the next level". Ask pals for introductions or fix-ups. Accept every invite to gatherings and events, especially if the crowd's likely to be socially conscious or creatively engaged. Push the chit-chat to playfully provocative places. All the while, keep your irrational fears about what *could* happen in careful check. In the month's final week, expect an uptick in daily demands on the job and/or with other mundane responsibilities.

July

Your first week of July is a fine moment to put the clarifying finish on any relationship-oriented discussions still hanging over from the last month or two. Use this easier rapport to address the different angles of the issue, rather than glossing over certain points because "everything seems okay now". Much of your month will be dominated by a heavier workload, a more focused

investment in bodily-health, and/or the drive to overhaul your schedule for career-realignment purposes. You must fight back any pessimistic panic that you'll *never* get past these critical challenges; just keep taking one more step each day. Talking out the specifics of what's currently on your plate, meanwhile, will only be helpful up to a point: After you've vented some stress, you should promptly return to the grind. Once the venting-sessions veer into irrelevant topics or gossipy distraction, you'll only be wasting valuable time.

August

Squeeze in one more big work-related push in the month's opening week, to help stabilize your current position while you've still got some focus left. August promises to be an interpersonal rollercoaster, with Venus retrograde in your relationship house (the 7th) the whole month long. Don't be too shocked if some wild-card factor—the return of someone from your past! a surprising discovery about your current partner! the appearance of *another* new player who tempts your imagination!—raises reconsiderations about what makes for your best match. This astrology encourages you to actively ponder the relational alternatives... without betraying existing agreements or rushing to commit based on chemistry alone. Venus retrogrades notoriously blind us to the *true* value of a connection. Will this prove fleeting or illusory? Or is it the real deal? As things intensify toward month's-end, notice whether you're already making undue self-sacrifices to fuel the togetherness vibe. If so, that's a big problem.

September

September's the month when you're likely to decide or find out which direction these latest interpersonal happenings are headed. Either intimacy will quickly build (due to you sharing special moments, sensitive material, or valuable resources with one another), or the glaring differences will become achingly apparent. There's no going back to earlier moments when things were casual or carefree. Don't dodge difficult conversations or questions you're afraid to have conclusively answered, but keep the preachy judgments in check. As talks proceed, your perspective is likely to evolve. Now's the time to get *really* specific in negotiating the trickier aspects of this relational dynamic. If you let certain details slide now, you'll set a questionable precedent for what you're willing to give up. You might want to think twice if a trusted friend expresses concern about how fast or far you're going with this.

October

Early in October, as you further explore the promising potentials in your deepening partnership—or, if things went a *different* way, as you continue trying to extricate yourself and move on—it'll prove highly valuable to seek outside feedback from pals about whether they believe your current trajectory is in line with your values. Even if you don't like what they tell you, *take it all in* (rather than, say, throwing a tantrum and storming away). You're at a critical juncture this month, where you must inevitably make certain tradeoffs in order to hopefully gain much more. But just as the possible payoffs of this involvement are far *greater* than what you could reap on your own, the possible *risks* are just as great. This is no time to willfully ignore what others can see. Integrate these insights into your still-evolving thoughts about life-principles and purpose. If, over time, you *still* don't jibe with certain friends' opinions, you can address the developing rift later.

November

Your public declarations (particularly in career-related contexts) take on added importance through the first half of November, when shrewd-but-sincere communications can help position you as someone who truly means business. Talk up your visions for future growth, the ideals that drive you, and/or why this is such a meaningful endeavor. You might just cinch yourself a chance to go somewhere you've never been. Privately worried you're not worthy or qualified? Bah. Treat this as a learning experience. Later in the month, sharp words among pals or peers could suddenly reveal you *aren't* on the same page (if you ever were). Be careful about rushing to apologize, forgive, or move past it: This might not be an isolated incident, but clear evidence this alliance is hitting a wall. Your self-confidence cannot afford to take unnecessary smackdowns from so-called friends.

December

Within the opening week of December, you should already be garnering favorable effects from last month's public communicative efforts. Use the remainder of the month to leverage these advantages, in order to bank even *more* professional goodwill. Any ongoing debates regarding your allegiance and/or principles also come to head early in December, when you're willing to

go to great lengths to make your point overwhelmingly clear. But by mid-month, the optimal window for interactive dialogue closes... and you'd do better to regroup your thoughts (and release the pent-up anger you're likely holding) on your own, in relative retreat. Even when directly asked what's on your mind, resist the temptation to reveal your latest contemplations and conclusions, as they're not yet formed enough to accurately articulate.

PISCES

2015's astrological shifts impact you in a *major* way, Pisces... with both Saturn and Jupiter landing in new signs, and putting *you* on the hot-seat in both your career *and* relationship sectors.

In the very last days of '14, Saturn moved into your 10th house, the chart-zone that symbolizes your professional (and/or public-life) ambitions, what you outwardly accomplish over a span of time, and the responsibility or esteem you earn for yourself as result of your ongoing efforts. When lord-of-karma Saturn hits your 10th (where it'll stay through the end of '17), you receive a "progress report" as to where you are along your outer-world-achievement trajectory... glimpses which clearly indicate your relative successes, stalls, and/or letdowns, as an incentive to either claim fuller ownership of your earned authority or soberly appraise what needs to be fixed or addressed. It's time for a *serious* reality-check on the career front, Pisces.

If you are legitimately happy, secure, and engaged in your present professional position, please know it's no fluke. If this status-summarizing snapshot shows gratifying results, reassuring recognition and rewards, and/or a promising path laid out in front of you, you've earned every bit of it—and it's solidly yours to bank on and build upon. No easy victories or lucky strokes occur on Saturn's watch, merely the natural outcome of actions *you* set into motion.

Therefore, it would be a slap in Saturn-in-your-10th's face to indulge any self-effacing messages or unjustifiably cynicism about your professional future if the evidence suggests otherwise. This is your moment to stand confidently in your rightful success... and to begin slowly and tentatively exploring the additional aspirations you could pursue, leveraging your current accomplishments as a leg-up. And if you *resist* accepting your due credit, clout, or bounty? You might ask yourself why you bother striving so hard, if you don't allow yourself to enjoy the deserved fruits of your considerable labor.

Those of you Pisceans who *aren't* feeling especially successful, stimulated, or en-route to somewhere interesting, meanwhile, are now confronting Saturn's challenge to straighten out your career circumstances. More often than not, Saturn-in-your-10th illustrates where you've hit some sort of *wall* in your professional efforts. By paying close notice to what manifests, you

must figure out what the “wall” is, what it means to your current professional standing... and whether it can be climbed, circumvented, or blasted through.

An increasing sense of boredom or discontentment, for instance, probably suggests you need to challenge yourself with new responsibilities or a different gig. If you’re struggling to advance or aren’t getting the acknowledgment you feel you deserve, you might have to confront that your present position affords you no room to grow, whether due to an unresponsive boss or other institutional obstacles. Or is it that you’re not working hard and/or smart enough? It’s worth considering whether to strengthen your dedication or improve your methods, perhaps through additional mentorship or training.

In some situations, your “wall” may be an immovable road-block: If you’ve taken a certain occupation to the far-edge of your abilities or interest-level, and/or if you’ve been trying to pursue a career you’re just not well-suited for, this may be your moment to accept the stinging truth... and start looking for an altogether *different* path.

If your Saturn-in-the-10th reality-check proves disappointing or discouraging, please don’t allow it to freeze you in your tracks, Pisces. Though you might need some time to lick your wounds and reassemble a game-plan, you must gather every bit of strength and stamina you can muster—and bravely *refuse* to let a setback stop you from making your way in the world. Saturn’s role is to test our fortitude, resilience, and level of personal responsibility. As a 10th-house influence, Saturn wants you to prove how tough and determined you are to climb your chosen mountain. Will you buckle under this pressure to confront whatever *hasn’t* been functioning to your professional benefit or liking?

Rather than an insurmountable challenge, this task of figuring out how to move forward can be an *amazing* learning experience... if, that is, you’re not afraid of trying things you may not know how to do, and of getting a little dirty, sweaty, and tired in the process. Maybe this “sobering reality-check” is just your reminder to get going with what you’re *really* meant to do. Life *is* short, and time is of the essence.

With growth-inspiring Jupiter still in your 6th house (since July ’14), the first half of your 2015 is actually an excellent period to *increase* the volume of work you take on, regardless of whether

Saturn's bearing encouraging returns or disheartening difficulties. The 6th is another job-related house: It rules the day-to-day tasks and duties you're charged with, and how you carry them out. Hosting Jupiter in your 6th, then, indicates an expanded capacity for productive labor—whether that means you will have more energy, manage longer hours or a lengthier to-do list, or become a better multi-tasker—along with a more optimistic attitude toward your daily routine.

Not only that, but for the remainder of Jupiter's time in your 6th, it'll also be in a positive trine to free-spirited Uranus, longtime resident of your 2nd house (2010-2019) and continuing agent of financial *volatility*. As I'm sure you've already discovered, Uranus-in-your-2nd leaves your relationship to money in dynamic flux—not in predictably better or worse shape, just generally unstable. Obviously, Pisces, it behooves you to behave accordingly: Instead of banking on a smooth surefire stream of income, you must integrate an awareness of this instability into your economic analysis, regulating your spending as best as you can... and squirreling away any extras for the next unexpected bump.

Though Uranus-in-your-2nd may make it harder for you to *count* on a certain projected income, it *also* opens up opportunities for you to proactively shake up your financial life, through speculative self-started initiatives that put your one-of-a-kind skills or talents on the market. And with an auspicious Jupiter trine to support the risk, you're likelier to get favorable results—if, of course, you dutifully invest the extra 6th-house efforts essential for grounding it with daily attention.

This Jupiter-Uranus energy is ideal for motivating you to put in the double-shifts required to simultaneously hold down your “regular” job *and* create a second income-source using do-it-yourself tactics, for instance, putting your economic potential more decidedly in your own hands. Such a dual-action strategy also dovetails nicely with Saturn-in-your-10th's call to seriously address your longer-term professional aspirations, helping you keep one foot responsibly in the present while letting the other step carefully toward the future. (This also saves you from taking unwise financial gambles to chase an unproven possibility, a more perilous expression of this energy.) Bearing in mind Saturn's heavy career pressures, it'd be a shameful waste *not* to use Jupiter-and-Uranus's advantageous impact to advance your everyday work-and-money situation while you've got the chance... and *before* your attentions get hijacked later in the year.

These dynamics hit a dramatic peak midyear, once Venus arrives to your 6th house for an unusual *four-month* visit, in conjunction with its wild six-week retrograde (Jul 25-Sep 6). When Venus first shows up in your 6th early in June, it'll only *add* to the benefic imprint made by Jupiter's presence... and further accentuate the profitable consequences to amping up your productive efforts. During the succeeding weeks leading up to Venus's retrograde, plan on keeping yourself exceptionally busy and on-task, with the understanding that strides you make *now* could serve to propel you onward for some time to come.

One potential hindrance: If you haven't recently checked in with yourself and/or other relevant players about whether your labors are still aligned with the overall vision or premise of the project, you could squander some of your hard work on useless steps, outdated initiatives, or wrong priorities. Don't be so blindly focused on the details that you neglect to consider the driving big-picture perspective.

Once Venus is retrograde, you're still quite likely to be swept up on a wave of hyperactivity—only, under the retrograde's mischievous influence, you may find the specifics (i.e., what you *feel* you ought to be working on, how best to do it, and with whom) are prone to strange focal-shifts. Venus retrogrades are notorious for flashing us hints of glimmering relationship prospects and/or financial opportunities (whether new, out-of-the-blue, not our “usual type”, or a reminder of the past) that cause us to rethink what's ultimately most personally valuable... though we cannot safely assume what we're seeing is exactly what it appears to be, or whether it will continue to appeal to our tastes once Venus is direct again. We can let ourselves enjoy this exposure to attractive alternatives, but would be shrewd not to presume our attraction to them will endure beyond the retrograde (nor, for that matter, that it *won't*). Your conscious reevaluation process itself is what's most important.

As a 6th-house influence, this Venus-retrograde's shenanigans are apt to spill into your day-to-day work life, potentially inspiring you to reconsider whether a particular job, place-of-employment, or slate-of-duties is as worthwhile to you as some *other* possibility dangling in your face. Maybe your “side business” starts to show rapid-fire growth, or a position opens up in another department or somewhere your friend works. Perhaps you see a better financial opportunity where the compensation is structured differently (e.g., hourly vs. salaried, commission vs. set pay-rate), or you're catching a whiff of someone else's enthusiasm about

their work and want in. You might even use these alternatives to inspire less-drastring innovations in your existing role. While any of these scenarios could open you up to increased job satisfaction, you shouldn't wager your everyday security on good tidings, excitement, or faith. You can't be certain what's the most lucrative or practically sustainable option until late September or early October, after Venus is reliably direct.

The 6th house *also* rules your physical health, a reflection of how dutifully you care for it on an everyday basis, along with all the *other* mundane "jobs" which require regular attention. As a result, you may be prone to suffering bodily ailments or imbalances from all the planetary action your 6th will see during the first three-quarters of '15. The likeliest contributing-factors to such manifestations: erroneously thinking of yourself as tireless due to your increased capacity to stay busy, breaching your body's reasonable limits, and indulging in excesses of food, alcohol, exercise, or sleep/sleeplessness.

Jupiter-in-your-6th is also known to "expand" the proportions of latent health problems which had already been developing, but which only *now* become significant enough to detect. From this angle, Venus's 6th-house retrograde may circumstantially present a chance to reevaluate your slate of daily responsibilities through a lens of intentional health-improvement... allowing you to consider alternate types of work, a different schedule, or other specific changes which would better accommodate your body's natural rhythms or pressing needs. Instead of fearfully fixating on what's gone wrong, these two 6th-house benefics would prefer you to focus on the positive potential for ending up even *healthier* than you were, once you give these improved habits enough of a chance to start working.

Midway through August (and smack in the midst of Venus's retrograde), Jupiter will depart your 6th... and cross into your 7th, the one-on-one relationship house, where it'll stay through September '16, kicking off your best year in over a decade for positively evolving your interpersonal attitudes and behaviors. Because the arrival of the "good-luck planet" to the relationship house is often hyped as incredibly awesomely super-amazing news, please don't go into this transit with unrealistic expectations: Jupiter-in-your-7th will *not* miraculously deliver a dream-lover to your doorstep, nor magically resolve any problems you're experiencing in an existing partnership. Jupiter merely facilitates a more-favorable-than-usual atmosphere in which

the steps *you* purposely take are likelier to bring desired results. Without you initiating action, nothing will happen.

Therefore, if you're looking to meet someone while Jupiter's in your 7th, it's still *your* job to put yourself out into the world so you're available to be met. Better yet, since Jupiter's influence motivates you to up your relationship game, you should be more specifically targeted about *how* you put yourself out there, based on the *type* of pairing you're looking for. If you're hoping to improve a current relational dynamic, it's also on you to *engage in the work* required to break the dissatisfying pattern... work which will involve lots of precise personal disclosures, detailed negotiations, and results-oriented agreements that give both of you a fair chance of addressing what's not working.

Be aware, though: Jupiter is in *your* 7th house, not the other person's—and it enriches your relation to relationships *in general*, not any particular interpersonal situation. *Your* most “fortunate” relationship-related growth might, in fact, include a separation or breakup. It's not that uncommon to experience a loss on Jupiter's watch, to clear the way for something else... but it's the type of loss that, after the initial shock and pain have subsided, we look back on as having been an important catalyst for further positive developments.

Right at the moment it's readying to turn retrograde, in mid-July, Venus sneaks over the border into your 7th... and sits *right* on the edge of your relationship house as it stand stills, and through the first full week of its retrograde, before slipping back into your 6th. Considering this occurs alongside Jupiter's once-every-dozen-years entry to this same 7th house, it's *highly* likely you'll encounter *some* sort of promising interpersonal twist during this July's second-half. But as I've told you, relationship developments which happen while Venus is retrograde are often not *quite* what they first seem—though that doesn't mean the eventual outcome will necessarily disappoint, as long as you don't respond to these early inklings as if they're the whole story and prematurely commit, consequently causing upset in other relationships or zones-of-life.

Post-retrograde Venus won't return to your 7th until early October... and with both Venus *and* Mars conjoining Jupiter later that same month, it's safe to conclude that whatever *appeared* to be starting up as early as June or July won't *really* show its true colors until October.

Once Jupiter's settled in your 7th, it'll form a trine to Pluto (which continues into mid-'16), adding an extra magnetic potency to your increased capacity for attracting new relational involvements, provided you don't mute your authentic identity by trying to fit where you don't belong. Since 2008, Pluto has been in your 11th, making it increasingly difficult for you to blend into just *any* crowd or feign social compatibility with groups of folks who *aren't* really for you. Pluto-in-your-11th essentially strong-arms you into unabashedly claiming your truest social allegiances and affiliations, at the potential expense of other less-suitable connections.

Though it may feel uncomfortable to so demonstrably "choose sides" or curb your investment in people who don't share your interests or values, the consequence of *not* doing so could be worse: If you passively let friends' or colleagues' inappropriate, unbecoming, or offensive behaviors slide by, your tolerance will read as a tacit endorsement of their attitudes or actions—and it will reflect on you, causing potentially irreparable damage to your standing among those folks who really *do* share your ideals.

This Pluto-in-your-11th willingness to be *unambiguous* in who you keep company with (even though some people may judge, resent, or dislike you for it) actually helps you make the improved relationship choices Jupiter-in-your-7th encourages. If you're hanging out with people most suited to who you genuinely wish to be, the relational prospects you meet through them are *also* likelier to be suitable matches. And if you've surrounded yourself with trustworthy friends, you can more confidently rely on their supportive feedback about potential dates or mates.

Pluto's been in a collective-rattling square to Uranus for a few years now, laying down the terms for whatever urgent revolutionary changes each of us has had to confront so far in the 2010s. In *your* life, Pisces, you cannot ignore the direct connection between your daring to take independently-focused risks in how you tend to your own financial and/or practical self-sufficiency (Uranus-in-your-2nd) and the increasing social-circle polarizations between who *really* has your back and who's instead reacting to your evolving character with doubt, discouragement, envy, or competitiveness (Pluto-in-your-11th).

Anyone who's counted on you to act a certain way to fulfill *their* expectations or desires is liable to be *upset* you've opted to reroute this dynamic to more intently serve your needs first. The

more self-directed and self-serving you become, the less pleased those who'd prefer you to keep taking care of *them* will be. The trick, especially for a Piscean, is to understand that self-actualization is the greatest gift you can give to the world... and that self-sacrifice as a primary tactic for helping others actually *diminishes* the power of your contribution, merely using your own deprivation as a codependent salve for someone else's without actually *reducing* any suffering.

The backdrop against which to understand your propensity for forfeiting personal aims and desires for others' benefit, Pisces, is the ongoing transit of Neptune through your sign (2011-2025). Considered your modern planetary ruler, Neptune's position in your 1st has only *exaggerated* many of the traits associated with your sign—sensitivity, sympathy, intuitiveness, idealism—both to your potential benefit *and* detriment, essentially making all Pisceans “even more Pisces” than usual.

In emotional and spiritual terms, Neptune's influence invites you to more faithfully follow your heart wherever it may lead you... and to provide an exceptional dose of compassion, solace, and support to those who need it most. But on the *practical* level, Neptune-in-your-1st softens the perceptible impact of your distinct personality, making you quite susceptible to other people's projections, appearing to them as they *want* to see you (or as they *fear* to see you) rather than as you actually are. And because you may care for them or prefer not to rock any boats, Neptune aids you in playing to their perceptions and portraying yourself in whatever guise they prefer... an unfortunate act, even with the best of intentions, that both misrepresents your truth *and* sets you up for self-sabotage.

Neptune's potential dangers are starkly mapped out, through both an opposition to Jupiter-in-your-7th *and* a square Saturn-in-your-10th... suggesting both the favorable interpersonal-relationship growth (Jupiter) *and* the serious career-related work (Saturn) which are your primary 2015 themes could be *undermined* if you assert too vague, ambivalent, or accommodating a version of yourself.

How discriminating *can* you legitimately be in your relationships, Pisces, if you're so willing to bend and sway and sell out your distinguishing marks, in acquiescence to the other person or the “blissful” sanctity of the coupling? And how unwaveringly intent on pursuing your ambitions

will you remain, when it requires you to correct someone else's misperceptions or say no to their agenda so you can follow yours? These huge life-questions—which ultimately ask you to find a proper balance between unabashed self-interest and compassionate service—remain incredibly relevant well into '16 and beyond.

January

Though it might *seem* like you're supposed to dive straight into productivity as soon as the new year starts, it's better to take the first days of January at a slower pace. Rely on your peers or pals to keep everything afloat, while you reserve a bit of extra backstage time to yourself. Once Mars hits your sign two weeks into the month, you'll receive the energy-boost you need for returning to normal activity levels. But don't let your overeager impulse to "get things going again" lead you to make thoughtless moves which jeopardize a goal you've worked hard for, overstep someone else's authority, or reflect poorly on your good professional name. Be especially careful not to prematurely remark upon a new development that's largely out of your control, at least for now. Despite first impressions, this *could* end up working to your advantage... if you give it a fair chance.

February

Promising opportunities continue to congeal as February begins, but you've got to keep your outward excitement (and any impatience) largely in check, meeting your usual everyday duties as if nothing else is going on. A central piece to this reputation-strengthening challenge is demonstrating how impeccably you can keep any off-the-record information publicly under wraps. As such, it behooves you to remain relatively mum throughout the month. Once you feel the astrological tides palpably turning during February's second half, it's time to kick your own proactive efforts into high gear, in order to ensure you'll have a sufficiently significant influence to help shape the type—and size—of role you may be playing. This is your chance to make a pitch to the folks-in-charge: Play up your biggest strengths, without being shy about what you think they're worth. You're likelier to disappoint yourself by passing up this "go-for-it" moment (and always wondering what could've been) than by taking the risk.

March

The potentially life-altering activities which have been building since '15 began *finally* hit their crescendo in March's first couple weeks, when you may need to *act fast*—and, in the process, sign on for a whole bunch more work—to claim your golden goose. Be aware that choosing to put your own interests *first* (rather than sacrificing yourself to keep others happy) could create an uncomfortable distance with friends threatened by your ascent or peers seething with envy. Don't buy into their shaming shenanigans; it's *more than okay* to focus on yourself. Later in the month, after some of the crazier twists-and-turns have played out, you'll better see how you're fitting into this altered landscape. And then, at last, you can start talking out all the practical details about what's happening, with any- and everyone who might have a supportive ear or an interesting insight to add.

April

Stay on the edge of your seat early in April, when your quick responses and on-the-spot decisions could make all the difference in furthering your economic standing. You won't have the luxury of halting the negotiations, in order to check with certain colleagues about whether *they* support you in this endeavor. You've got to follow your self-serving instincts, even knowing it might jeopardize those alliances. (But are they *really* "allies" if they don't genuinely want what's best for you?) Despite the growing urge to safely squirrel yourself away at home as the month progresses, you must keep up appearances and maintain a dutiful eye on your professional obligations. From mid-April onward, expect *a lot* of loaded conversation (and unkind gossip?) within your community or social-scene. It behooves you to remain an active participant, if only to keep yourself up-to-date—and less vulnerable to the nastier insinuations which might emerge in your absence.

May

Much of May's activity centers around family squabbles and/or unrest in the domestic sphere, though the main narrative is likely to twist and turn (*at least* once, if not *more*) over the course of the month. With that in mind, leave yourself open to simultaneously entertaining multiple sides of the story, without hastily committing to any. You cannot, however, let your outside-world

responsibilities slip no matter *what else* is going on at home. Though you may be privately juggling various emotional responses, there's really only *one* right way to preserve your public standing. Don't forget to leave some time for play, as you're liable to attract favorable responses—and flirtatious attention—from letting your hair down and whooping it up. As the month develops, so too might the chemistry with a prospective love-match. Not *all* your friends may approve, though, perhaps because they think it's an impractical pairing... or maybe due to their own jealousy.

June

Lingering domestic and/or family-related issues reach a certain resolution during June's opening weeks, due to a renewed call to address this problem yourself, with your own two hands. Discussions about every last little detail, however, may drag on all month long. Don't let yourself be relegated to a second-fiddle role by someone who's "all talk, and no action". Your willingness to do the actual work buys you the authority to lead, rather than follow. You can also reap advantages on the career front from carrying this positive work-ethic over to your day-to-day job duties, too. Aim to accomplish *a lot* this month, when you're likelier to enjoy the productive vibe... a boost which, in turn, allows you to work longer and harder without feeling drained. Toward month's-end, you could suddenly find yourself compelled to pursue a particular pastime, mode of creative expression, and/or person of romantic interest. How badly do you want this? Enough to go out and *grab* it?

July

Your practical efforts continue to roll smoothly along in the early part of July, though you may hit a stumbling block around the middle of the month, requiring you to revisit the fundamental premise driving the whole project. This tale is far from over, though. In your personal life, a powerful swell of desire builds to a mid-July peak, rousing you to upset social expectations and/or reject certain people's strong opinions, in order to follow your heart. If potential romance is on the table, you could feel yourself slipping into an easy dynamic with this special someone... so much so that this feels like the most natural thing in the world. Are you being too blindly idealistic about it? You'll find out over the next couple months when, just as you're

starting to invest more into the relationship, you must abruptly redirect your attention to other pressing matters.

August

There's an impish energy to your August, with the order of your days continually varying as you experiment with changes in job duties or work methods, a new health regimen, and/or different ways to organize your time. The ultimate goal? To ensure your routines are well-matched to your own unique rhythms, to improve both your efficiency *and* your well-being. Though this is *also* still an excellent time for relationship-building—growth-guru Jupiter arrives to your 7th this month, to stay for a full year—you must be careful not to sacrifice good habits or diligent attention to your practical needs, especially at this stage of the game. You'll be particularly susceptible to other people's influences, allowing them to sway you into seeing things *their* way... at the potential expense of what you *know* is right for you. Don't write off such lurking tensions as "minor"; they're likely foreshadowing a much bigger threat to your self-determination.

September

You'll spend much of September settling into a sleeker day-to-day swing, as you integrate newly redefined practices with what's already proven to produce tried-and-true results. The more time and energy you save yourself, the greater the space for testing out a few extra money-making initiatives. As your collaboration or romantic involvement with a certain someone deepens, discussions about your respective places within the wider community (or the world-at-large) intensify. Though the process of unpacking your differences in affiliation or belief could cause you anxiety, these talks must be given ample time to unfold. (Expect them to continue through next month, too.) Be very suspicious, therefore, of any impulse to "let things go" in hopes of re-attaining that peaceful easy feeling. Don't sell yourself out to rescue a relationship. By the last week of September, you might need to battle the other person just for the right to be heard.

October

Throughout October, you remain wrapped up in trying to balance your own needs with the desire to show consideration and care to a certain individual, whether in a loving coupling, professional partnership, or close friendship. Precisely *because* these interpersonal dynamics presently feel so ripe and promising, you're under heightened threat of bowing to their every request... giving inch after inch until you're stunned to realize they've taken at least a mile. Negotiations about the "little shit" are, in fact, where any larger power-struggles will play out, which is why you *mustn't* allow such issues to slide (as if to prove you're not "high-maintenance"?). You'll also get to each other a whole lot better by spending more togetherness time with one another's pals and peers. Pay attention to how your other-half behaves around *their* people, while listening carefully to what *your* people have to say about them.

November

Earlier in November, it's worthwhile to deliberately step *outside* the specifics of your immediate situation... to think longer-term about what's most important to you, and to reflect on whether the path you're now headed down will lead you there. Rather than quietly holding these thoughts to yourself, in hopes your partner or sweetie shares similar values, describe your vision for a meaningful life to them. The sooner you find out whether you two are in sync big-picture-wise, the better. If you *are*, you'll immediately enjoy an increase in intimacy as a result of having shared with each other on this level. In the last two weeks of November, your public reputation and/or professional authority demands you speak the unabridged truth, without mincing words or trying to downplay any challenging angles. If you fudge the facts in an effort to spare someone upset or save their ass, you'll only be compromising your integrity.

December

Keep up your straight-shooter attitude on the career front through the beginning of December, when you can bolster your own profile by demonstrating you're an independent thinker. Exchanges could get tense in any situation where *your* destiny is inextricably entwined with someone else's, but you two still disagree about next-steps. Consider their viewpoint seriously, but don't give in if a cherished principle is at stake. December's a great time to travel with a

loved one, and/or to explore some perspective-broadening interest that excites you both. You might need to put an unpleasant colleague or antagonistic friend in their place near the middle of the month... though if you use too snide or nasty a tone, you could jeopardize your connections with *other* involved parties, to your own detriment. Express your complaints reasonably, with plenty of supporting details but absolutely *no* name-calling.