

2004 - A "Love" Revolution

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The chart for 2004 has a dynamic T -square between the sun, mars and saturn. This is tremendous tension caused by the polarity of passion and risk with caution and reserve. It is a "driving with the brakes on" feeling which is punctuated with bursts of aggression, followed by a holding-back, cautious planning process. It is the meeting of the **god** of war (mars) with the "god" of structure (saturn). Traditionally, these two planets do not like each other or understand each other!! Yet now, in '04, they must work together.

Ideally,

passion and initiative goes into long-term, highly organized projects which have a tangible, vision able goal. In this sense, we have the metaphor of the take- charge, charismatic, no holds-barred manager who must somehow temper his "temper".

Globally, we are dealing more than ever with war and how to "reinvent" its negative, destructive energy. Because saturn is so emphasized, karma of past efforts is ever-present and we, as planet, will be forced to deal with the legacy of negative uses of power and ego!

To get a broader perspective, we must look at the outer planets and how they impact this mars-saturn tension. The "biggie" is the recent entrance (for 7 years) of uranus into pisces. It got there officially on 12-30, just two days before the start of the year. So a revolution of spirituality is occurring and we have just given birth to this revolution!! This revolution is truly one of the spirit and hard if not impossible to understand through the mind. It can only be comprehended by faith, letting go, intuition and trust --- all qualities streaming into the planet in large quantities. So while outwardly we experience the tensions of the mars- saturn battle, inwardly and globally we begin see it as part of a larger process God is allowing us to see more and more!!

Revolution occurs in fits and starts. It happens to change outdated "rules and regulations" which are hampering our current and future development. In pisces, these "rules and regulations" are coming from old, inhibiting views of religion and faith which are simply no longer workable. Now we find ourselves stepping out on into a limb and jumping off into open space with the faith and trust that God will catch us!! On a interpersonal level, we are doing the same thing in relationships, which are being changed radically to accommodate a new broader view of love and humanity. Interestingly, the release pt. of the T -square mentioned above is in libra -- the sign of LOVE and harmony.

Love then is the key to the revolution of uranus in pisces. But Love on an ego level often creates power struggles, which can lead to war on a global level. We then begin to see that the only way to resolve pain and conflict is through love--- but true "higher" universal love, not ego-oriented personal love. The grace of the process is that it happens to us, not by conscious effort, but through the Grace of God. This process is really emphasized by a remarkable venus-neptune conjunction in the fifth house of the '04 chart. Venus and neptune's merging shows that we must elevate personal love into universal love while still experiencing personal love. To say that this is occurring beyond the ego, is putting it mildly. The ego always goes kicking and screaming and this year is no exception! So we find ourselves stretching and stretching to let go of we "want"

personally, knowing we can only be successful with God's help.

The venus-neptune conjunction occurs in the playful, creative, childlike fifth house. My intuition is that God wants us to have fun in relationships and a big part of the revolution will be that we are "allowed" to have fun, play and live in the moment. This is a very spontaneous, childlike house, full of creativity, elevated by the dreamy, aesthetic combination of venus and neptune. Poetry, music, art and dance will pour o'ut of the wells of our souls and will revitalize us! In fact, where we saw the arts on the "sidelines" before in our mechanized culture, they now take center stage as guides to the ineffable, mystical process of loving God.

As venus is the ruler of the north node of the '04 chart, this stretching into God's arms is even more emphasized and not experienced easily. The south node in scorpio shows where the karma and fall-back positions lie. We have to re- experience in dramatic fashion our old fears, lack of trust and deep sense that we may not "survive". On the positive side, we draw on deep reservoirs of intuition and feeling that are the building blocks used constructively to redefine our role on the planet, within relationships and with God. The north node in taurus really tells the tale! Need I explain???

Ok, since you asked, I will. Taurus, the most earthy, practical, sense oriented sign is a huge part of our learning this year. So although the key lessons are spiritual and mystical, we must ground those lessons into the simplest aspects of our daily lives. "Love" must be very pragmatic and washing the dishes could be the greatest act of love a person can experience. Also, taurus asks us to calm down and trust nature and its rhythms. We have been truly out of touch with those rhythms and this year, in no uncertain terms we have to honor the earth itself and more immediately our personal contact with it. This then is a remarkable year in which we are moving toward the transcendental as it blends with the perfectly mundane.

It is crucial then that we find practical ways to live on the planet and to solve our problems. This is the nature of an earth sign north node!! To trust simple practical modes of loving life, nature and our physical bodies. So I also look for any earth in the chart of the year that will further help us to do this. I immediately see jupiter in virgo in the 12th house. With the exception of the sun (which is always in capricorn in a yearly chart), jupiter is the only earth sign. It is "nice" that it is jupiter as it gives us enthusiasm and faith in abundance for practical "virgoan" tasks. I have the sense that one of the best ways to ground ourselves this year will be through improving our physical and mental health by actual tasks ie vitamins, exercise, diet etc. In fact I think we will have great enthusiasm for these tasks! But even more importantly, we ground ourselves via service to others. Any act of service, no matter how small will take on major significance as that act is a metaphor for Love for God and for the mystical process which envelopes our consciousness.

In the past God was remote, and now He is right here with us. We feel Him more immediately in the mundane, in the good and the "bad". We will find ourselves serving and helping others who we formerly thought of as bad, evil or beyond redemption. Similarly we receive love and service on our "worst" days and in times of our "worst" sins. This is a huge part of the Uranus in Pisces/Neptune in Aquarius spiritual revolution.

God forgives the unforgivable and shows us that everything is a part of His Divine Plan.

Challenges? You betcha! Plenty of them in heaps and bundles But we see them largely in terms of that karma of the south node in scorpio and its rulers mars and pluto. Whew! Mars is in aries and pluto is in sagittarius -- both fire signs!! Intensity will be magnified this year exponentially as well the desire to express our impulses quickly for better or for worse!! In addition, pluto is finishing up the aries decanate of sagittarius! It is as if there is no peace (north node in taurus) without war (aries, pluto in this aries decanate), another part of the Divine paradox which both plagues and graces us!!

There is no question that impulses to act will be highly triggered while all kinds of danger signals will be going off. But too the impulse to act can be a good thing as in the pure warrior or athlete who risks all in the moment of combat or sport. The real danger will be a loss of perspective and objectivity -- seeing the big picture. In many ways, the guise of impulse and impassioned (if flawed) motives will be in information itself. Mercury is in the same sign as pluto and so pluto's power and intensity melds with the "messenger" planet. Here we will get all sorts of "prejudiced" information labeled in noble terms. It will be a flood (which of course we are already seeing) of power mixed with media, language and computer blips. It will be hard to stand back and see the larger Truth beyond the charismatic messages.

Again karma is stepping in as mercury is retrograde. It is as if we are replaying old messages on a tape recorder so we can hear them more clearly and loudly!! The volume is being turned way up to rock concert levels and beyond. We must get tired of this volume if we are to hear the TRUTH more calmly and quietly

Indeed it is a **mercury retrograde year**-- a year of reviewing old ideas, concepts, thoughts, religious principles and information. We cannot go forward until this review takes place. And as just stated, it will be an intense, active process! !

The icing on the cake is that the moon is in the last astrological minute of aries. This is a void of course moon (in addition to mercury retrograde) so we must simply BE, MEDITATE and WATCH. A void of course moon is a zone of silence and in the silence comes ineffable wisdom. It cannot be gained through any effort or activity and when attempted through these veins, it evaporates. It is extraordinarily powerful as the moon is at 29 degrees 59 minutes, the very verge of the next sign!! So we experience all the feelings of war, passion, and intensity, and personal interest while in a meditative state which will not allow us to "come out of it" until we perceive the peace on the other side of war (taurus).

Interestingly, there will be trigger points this year to the moon, the first of which will be by Mars on **February 3rd** (a few weeks away). While we need to "meditate" as a key theme, it won't be easy on that date!! We will want to express every feeling of anger, passion, rage etc. spontaneously and immediately. But we will find no ego result with this void of course moon, only a random sense of confusion which leads us back to that meditation. A second trigger occurs on April 19th when there will be a partial solar eclipse falling exactly on this moon's position!!!

Because a solar eclipse is also a new moon (sun and moon merging), the degrees of both the sun and the moon will be exactly on the moon of the year. So, while we complete our "war-impulse" karma in a meditative state, we are also eclipsing old emotional triggers which cause "war-impulse" in the first place. The exactness of this eclipse leads me to believe that April will be a true turning point in 2004!!

Remember that in fact there is nothing to be done this year. Despite all kinds of dramatic events stimulating our senses, the Uranus in Pisces revolution tells us, we can only watch them as if they were intense dreams, which they are!! The cosmic is overshadowing the mundane, no question, and we will get this message in spades. As noted earlier, this message will come quite often in the form of poetry, drama, music and meditative arts. We watch "war movies" which are subtitled by Rumi and are choreographed by God Himself (or maybe Elvis). Are we dreaming, waking or dreaming? We never know for sure, the ideal state!

The only reality is God -- all else is temporary, and illusory. This is a message not just for 2004 but for all years. And God goes beyond time, space and measurement and touches us in the most intimate, personal ways. He is our constant companion.