

Astro Report, Lammas 2010

Sun in Leo, upcoming new moon in Leo on Tuesday

The upcoming New Moon in Leo is all about taking action and making changes—whether we think we're ready or not.

BIG DEAL NEWS! This is the end of the week astrologers have been on about all year, the week when six planets converge on the first degrees of Aries, Libra and Capricorn, and the Moon arrives in Cancer to activate the famous cardinal grand cross. Did you notice the increased tension last Friday/Saturday when Mars entered the picture and the Moon was in Aries and activating the T-square? 3pm–11pm tonight is the most intense period; we are right in the thick of it! Emotions could very intense; wait out the storm—it will last for several hours, and then it will be gone. (Speaking of storms, this also is a prime period for high winds and tropical cyclones.)

There are more noteworthy aspects this week to the bigtime cardinal cross. These aspects make the need for honesty, equity and integrity in all our relationships a big priority. Pluto is policing our exchanges and is willing to come down hard on those who continue to behave in a less than honorable manner. Venus, Mars and Saturn in Libra are promoting tact and diplomacy for all they are worth—if you do have something to say, please remember to steer clear of finger pointing and to put as much kindness into your words as you can. It is difficult to have a “meaningful dialogue” when yelling at the top of your lungs.

VENUS AND MARS. For a short time—Mars last week and Venus starting tonight and for the next week—both of these planets have joined with Saturn in Libra, lending their influences to how we show up in interpersonal relations. Now's a good time to compromise; try it, you might like it.

For the next week or so, Venus is calling the shots. Cultivate diplomacy, beautify your surroundings, schmooze with social connections, and discover a new fashion statement. Find something beautiful to appreciate or do. This is a good time to make concrete plans about financial matters (e.g., investments, budgeting, purchases, etc.), although this will work best if you do some serious research first, rather than simply going for whatever seems to “feel good.”

Appreciation is key right now; with both Mars and Venus influencing Saturn in Libra, you're going to know, in your heart and gut, which relationships are working for you and which should really be kicked to the curb. This is the time,

when you're negotiating anything, to focus on the real win-win solution. It helps if you're honestly committed to both sides winning—not just you! When you balance your interests with those of the other people in your life, harmony is the happy result—inside and out.

VENUS OPPOSES URANUS on the 7th, making relationships, social interaction, material resources and emotional balance unpredictable or unstable, as Uranus the Awakener does its shakeup thing. You may act out of character, you may experiment or be reckless in relationship, social or financial matters—which could be liberating or disturbing, exciting or upsetting.

Venus opposes Jupiter on the 9th, your desire for pleasure may be wide open. Increased desire for delightful tastes and sensations could become overindulgence that may not be in the best interest of your health. Spending, too, can become impulsive and easily outgrow your budget. It's a fine line between pleasure and excess.

VENUS SQUARES PLUTO on the 10th, capping all of these influences. We can purge, change, and transform any of the Venusian elements of our lives—relationships, money, negotiations—to a new and much more pleasing form in concert with upcoming New Moon. This is a real opportunity to bring forward your most valuable talents and skills, to birth them along with the powerful 'start' energy of the New Moon—good luck!

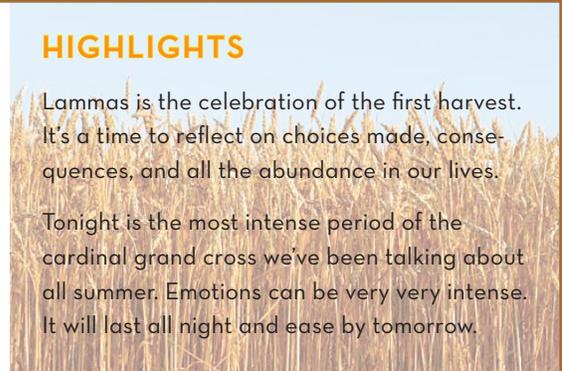
UPCOMING MERCURY RX. Mercury retrograde begins on August 20. As usual with Mercury retrograde, caution lights are flashing around communications, machines, electricity, connectivity, transportation, detailed plans and schedules. In Virgo, trouble happens when folks are so focused on their little corner of the world, the details under their control, that they don't understand the larger reasons for what they are doing. Mercury retrograde is a fantastic time to review, revise, rework, revisit, rewrite. As Mercury goes backward, so does our attention.

Blessed be.

HIGHLIGHTS

Lammas is the celebration of the first harvest. It's a time to reflect on choices made, consequences, and all the abundance in our lives.

Tonight is the most intense period of the cardinal grand cross we've been talking about all summer. Emotions can be very very intense. It will last all night and ease by tomorrow.



Raven of the Redwoods, when not preparing and delivering astro reports for her coven, rocks her other life as a business and personal coach, empowering transformation in clients dealing with all kinds of life and career and creative transitions. She works with maidens, mothers, and crones, with a special emphasis on women in the third third of life. Raven says: “Change is hard. I make it easier.” You can read about Raven's work at MagnoliasWest.com—where she is owner, coach and Chief Inspiration Officer—or start a conversation with her at sue@MagnoliasWest.com