



GOODTIME OATMEAL ASTROLOGY

Month of April 2011

Seen holistically, the universe is a *process* composed not so much of *things*, but rather, *events*. Everything is cyclic. There is the basic cycle of birth, growth, death and rebirth. Last summer's goldenrod bends to the winter ground and decays, nourishing the sprouting of the seeds to grow next year's blossom. As indicated by the occult symbol of the serpent, Ourobouros, swallowing its own tail, the cycles are self-perpetuating and infinite in number. Just where one cycle ends and another begins is sometimes difficult to tell. It can vary depending on the relativity of your perception.

Aries, the first sign of the zodiac, does indeed symbolize the beginning of a new yearly cycle. Ruled by Mars, and being a fire sign, Aries tends to give a strong constitution and the ability to initiate bold action wherever it is found in our charts. As Aries begins at the Spring Equinox, the days are now just beginning to be longer than the nights. If we let the day force symbolize action and the night force symbolize self-reflection, we understand the Aries tendency to instinctive action that gets things started. Aries is not necessarily concerned with putting the finishing touches on an existing project. It's a lot like building a house; those who lay the initial foundation are often not the ones who do the roof and final paint job.

Aries is the fiery spark which initiates sprouting in the seed. Taurus, the next sign, is the fertile earth which supports the young plant in its further growth. The Aries instinct is purely ontological. No other sign has such a vital relish for the simple fact of Being. "I am" is the joyful cry of Aries, and the force of that joy breathes new life into the world.

I love the directness of Aries, which is free from ulterior motives and circuitous intentions. Aries people are generally poor liars because they are too busy living life to take the time and caution to lie well. While blunt honesty can be seen as undiplomatic, we can enjoy the fact that we always know where we stand with a person who has strong

Aries qualities. Exceptions do exist; usually due to a Pisces Mercury and the Moon in a water or earthy sign such as Capricorn or Scorpio. The fire of Aries doesn't naturally take to earth or water signs.

One of the amusing takes I've heard on evolutionary astrology was that a soul begins its human development as an Aries and finishes up (after 12 lives, I suppose) as a Pisces. This would put those of us who are Virgos and Libras about halfway through the process. While all Pisces people are wise saints, ready to move on to something else. The person who told me this was obviously just beginning their astrological studies. They also happened to be a Pisces.

Well, if one is going to toot one's own horn I imagine during the bold sign of Aries is the best time to do it. In the past several months' columns, I have unfortunately been roughly accurate in several predictions. There was mention of a rapid and rather spasmodic increase in tectonic plate drift, resulting in possible tsunamis along the "Ring of Fire" which runs from Japan down through the straits of Singapore, then curls Eastward to lie off the coast of Australia. It extends at least as far as Hawaii and is the most tectonically unstable area on our planet. The continents have always been drifting and will continue to do so. I believe the pace will continue to quicken and this is just the beginning. Note the tsunamis in both countries mentioned above.

Then there is the BP Gulf oil disaster. Months ago, it was indicated that the problem was not really fixed, that there would be a corporate controlled media cover up, and that oil was continuing to seep from "somewhere, possibly from cracks and fissures deep on the ocean floor." It has been repressed by our censored mass media, but there has been the very recent discovery of a huge oil slick over one hundred miles long in the large area down current from the BP oil rigs.

The mention of "large numbers of people rising to identify with groups pressing for social change" especially in opposition to unequal economic opportunities resulting from Plutocratic government situations was boldly illustrated by the under reported but socially important events in Wisconsin as, for the first time in U S history a state government building was taken over and peacefully occupied by members of the working class.

And how 'bout those cardinals? Not to mention the ducks and the geese and the blackbirds and the doves and the many other avian species worldwide which appear to have mistaken themselves for over populated lemmings. I had an interesting perspective on this as I sat in my old house high on a mountain in the Appalachians and for the only time in my life watched the robins refuse to migrate. They just stood out there in the bitter cold and deep snow all winter long with the cows and donkeys we have. I'm an old mountain man and I asked a number of older mountain men if they had ever seen anything like this. "Nope. Maybe this is the aflockalypse...."

One speculative guess about this is that maybe the birds' migration radars were confused by a changing ionosphere polarity. I never thought I would live to see the day when an

actual pole shift may be imminent. Geological records indicate pole shifts have occurred before. We are reaching a peak of solar flare activity which will increase through the year of 2012. Flares affect our ionosphere dramatically. There is an EXTREMELY slight chance that a big solar flare may be directed right at the Earth. If so this will indeed be an E.L.E, or “extinction level event.”

Omigosh, did I just mention an E.L.E and the year 2012 in the same paragraph? So now I am compelled to say a few words about eschatology. “Eschatology” is a fancy word used to describe the very broad spectrum of speculation, opinions and beliefs about “The End of Days” or such thing as the Christian Rapture. There are more and more folks these days making a lot of money and gaining recognition by talking about alleged Mayan prophecies concerning some sort of dramatic global event on December 21st of 2012.

I’ve been a student of Mesoamerican archeology for years. I’m no expert but neither am I a novice. The Mayan writings are zooglyphic; a complex amalgam of phonetic and hieroglyphic symbols. In 1993 a couple of archeolinguists from the Netherlands, both with difficult sounding names, broke the code on the Mayan language. We can now decipher every word. We have an abundance of Mayan texts available. The Spaniards did much damage, mostly by book burning, and time has taken toll but much remains. **THERE EXISTS NOT A SINGLE CLEAR AND DISTINCT RECORD OF ANY ESCHATOLOGICAL MAYAN PREDICTION INVOLVING THE YEAR 2012.**

The confusion relates to one bit of stone found near the base of a temple built in the late post classical period; near the end of the failing empire. It states that on Dec. 21st(or 23rd, their calendar was actually not entirely accurate, contrary to urban legend) “something”(word scratched out) was supposed to happen relating to maintenance on the temple. The experts find the words closely corresponding to directions found on many other such temples giving a future date when the structure was scheduled to be re-limed with plaster and a big re-dedication involving “the nine Descended Ones” was to occur. This may be quite a big party date but certainly has no connection to a “prophecy of the End of Days” The nine descended ones are almost always invited to the said parties.

Now, concerning the non prophesied but entirely possible pole shift: were this to happen today, you probably would not even notice unless you were navigating by an old fashioned magnetic compass. The red “north “ needle would simply swing to the south. You see, it is the MAGNETIC POLARITY of the poles which shifts. Significant, but effecting little noticeable change in our ordinary activities.

I know a lot of folks don’t believe me. Eschatology, after all is a bit like witch burning. It’s exciting and terrible and quite addictive. This beast will be hard to put to rest. After December of 2012, it shall rear its head again in some form. I hope I’m still around to see what happens next.

Lets move on to the astrological weather. Through the first week of April, peaking on the second and third day, Mars will conjunct Uranus. Here we have a very explosive transit which may generate a crisis involving the continuing struggle with the Japanese Uranium

based nuclear reactors. The event, if it does happen, will be unexpected, sudden and possibly explosive.

April's New Moon occurs on the 3rd at 10:33 AM EDT. New Moons are a good time for new beginnings. Both Jupiter and Saturn are involved. The stock market may be volatile during the period. There could be some confusion in our personal lives about when and how to expand. Then again, we may have difficulty in figuring out how to consolidate our positions or even to simplify our operations. The Lunation is in the 14th degree of Aries.

More flashpoints in the Middle East may suddenly heat up. Mars rules war, Uranus rules airplanes and radar. Put the two together and you have an increase in attacks on air defense positions with the possible shoot down of another NATO jet by a radar guided missile.

As previously indicated, more earthquakes and tsunamis are possible. So far California has been stable. The Edgar Cayce Foundation is currently filing suit against the government of California for its stubborn refusal to collapse into the Pacific (take a joke, folks). Basically, "earth changes" are due to speed up.

I predict some really weird anomalies to occur which baffle all the experts. Civilian air traffic this month will be a bit chaotic with the very remote possibility of an accident due to electronic failure or extreme heat or flame. I'll try not to be a storm crow. Take care.

On a personal level, this is an extremely intense time when you will feel ready to burst with energy. You may also feel aggressive, restless, pent-up, and ready to take any risk. However, this is not a good time to be taking chances. The best way to handle the volatile energies of this transit is to take up a safe but energetic sport, or to channel your energies into an intensely demanding hobby or work project. Avoid dangerous pursuits. This will take a great deal of self-discipline, but you will be glad of the time taken in restraint. This energy can be put to good use when channelled into constructive outlets. This transit affords the opportunity to discover any deep desires that may have been buried during the demands of daily living. At first these may surface as an overwhelming need to do everything at once. The idea is to show restraint while enjoying the enlivening effect of the transit.

Mid April will be a bit erratic. Personal conflicts are indicated around the 11th, followed by a general feeling of optimism from the 12th through the 15th.

The Moon turns Full on April 17th at 10:45 PM EDT The Moon is in late Libra while Sol occupies the opposite position at 28 degrees of Aries.

For Moon gardeners, note that neither the New nor Full Moon is particularly fertile. Indicating early May as a better time to plant seeds or seedlings.

The Sun enters Taurus at 6:17 AM EDT on April 20th. Where Aries is bold and brazen,

Taurus is solid and comfortable. The Bull is not easily manipulated except by issues of survival, sensuality, or guarantees of an increase in the general comfort level of life.

The last nine days of April should be a time of stability in our personal lives with a few opportunities for some money making and a bit of romance, especially during the last three days of the month.

Note, however, that the outer, transpersonal planets are stressed, reflecting social changes, political corruption and dispute, and probably more violence on the global scene. We're still on the crazy unsettling ride of the transit of Uranus through fiery, impetuous Aries.

May all your take offs and landings be of equal number.

Key words for Aries are: inspirational, courageous, enthusiastic, original and independent.