

October 2010 Libra Forcast Good Time Oatmeal By Joseph Banks

Would that I could bring Libra to you. The Aphrodite eye of wanton little Sylphs who find new places in the ocean of air washing between these green mountains. Sylphs who susurrus down the waving arms of highland virgin hemlocks heavy with seed. Old Ones who have no shape but choose direction in this Appalachian air, thick with the dust and mites and motes and pollen and seed and germ and sperm.

These oldest mountains my pretty ones know as they sway to the call of the cloven hoofed keeper of holly and oak and twisted old apple trees over standing stones sucking at pale chicory and yellow stamens of St. Johnswort and the dark black cohosh down where the moss cools at noon and children hear little dances in the bracken only to come home wild and crooked to the twisted eyes of parents captured in the fiery asphalt towns of gasoline and Styrofoam and factories and pesticides and herbicides and gang related homicides and television rides to money that buys only more painted iron and plastic.

If I could speak of the wild-eyed Venus of the winds who knuckles and bends the rooty junipers growing at the saddle just below the rocky bald. If I could speak to you of Libra I would speak of fine rich air and beauty; of the ruby throats on the seven imps in the silver pot in the old glass bowl on the stump of oak at my bedside. Old beyond wisdom; beautiful so as to rip the eye and rend the heart are the Old Ones who lay down their purple cloak on these my hills. Stunning beyond our mind's ability to sing these beings; arrayed in voluptuous battalions of shiny little folk, great armies of writhing fertile waves these hot fecund libidinous ones who breathe into our lungs into our blood and through our souls. The EquiNocturne of the earth and sky into the orgy of chlorophyll and blood as the season turns and so Her bright eye gazes down on life and death and love and sex and pitiful graspings for power by the rash of human life which sucks from Her uncaring breast the oil of the forest the ancient lizards roamed.

The taste of Libra on the tongue is the tiny dab of nectar from the honeysuckle of your youth.

One of the basic precepts of astrology is that outer planet transits are longer lasting and more life changing than the inner, or "personal" planets. The outer planets may be defined as Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto. There are no major aspects between the outer planets which come to a peak during this month of October. However, for the past several months we have been living under a virtual train wreck of slowly moving outer planet effects as they squared off against and opposed each other.

To describe this month in the broadest sense we can say there will be a gradual release of tension as this train wreck eases off. The alignments have been the major substance of my past several columns, available on my website www.goodtimeoatmealastrology.com. We are now looking at the results, on a personal level, of some difficult challenges to growth which peaked, for many of us, around the Full Moon Equinox in late September. We may

still be having repercussions, extending for some months into the future, but the major process of change has already begun to coalesce in our daily experience.

Being human, we each probably made some advances in personal growth while, in some areas; we may find some missed opportunities. Using our free will, we have changed our realities for better or for worse in various areas. From one point of view, everything that happens is “perfect,” but if we find ourselves suffering or unhappy in some way, the idea of “better or worse” does have some meaning. One effect of the inability to adapt to the changes demanded by the natural impulse of our soul toward personal evolution is the onset of some illness. Our work and play at life is far from complete. The inexorable process of the vigorous creative expression of the soul continues to offer healing and opportunities to improve our lives.

So much for “predicting the past.” Lets look at the coming month. The first two days of October find a fast moving Mercury opposing Jupiter and Uranus. Oppositions frequently involve other people and result in a process of decision making. Grand schemes and sudden opportunities from unexpected sources abound. Confidence is high, sometimes a bit too high for our ability to sustain. Take care to broaden your horizons while not biting off more than you can chew. There is a challenge to embrace the world in a new way by being presented with experiences providing new data. This may result in a change of opinion opening the way to some synchronistic creative expression of a part of us we previously repressed.

On the flip side, an unbalanced response may lead to an overly optimistic or even arrogant attitude which some others may find uncomfortable. There is the possibility of an overexcited mental state leading to a rash decision resulting in a sense that the proverbial rug has been yanked out from under our feet. Plans may change unexpectedly. We may be nervous or have trouble sleeping due to some unpleasant news. Flexibility is demanded, along with some patience, if we are to maintain our composure.

Mercury leaves earthy Virgo and cavorts into the air sign of Libra on the third day of the month. The previous focus on practical concerns turns to a focus on relationships. Mercury in Libra can be confused at times because it becomes easy to see both sides of every story while multiple options present themselves. There is a certain conviviality and lightness involved in personal and business transactions. Unnecessary conflicts may be avoided due to a desire to keep things light and “nice.”

The New Moon turns at 2:45 PM EDT at fourteen degrees of Libra on October seventh. Here we find a politely romantic Dark Moon with a sultry sexiness lurking just below the surface. Mars and Venus, ruling the sexual and creative element in our relationships attend the Midheaven. I nominate this for the Lover’s Moon of the year as the next two weeks will tend to provide some opportunities for romance and passion. Those of us born in October and November will be especially vulnerable to the unpredictable arrows of Cupid’s random fancy. Pisces and Cancer folks will find love and affection more readily available than usual. If you were born between the first and tenth of November, you

occupy the bullseye for this pleasant energy. “It’s a marvelous night for a moon dance, with the stars up above in your eyes....”

October 18th and 19th will afford us a good time to hold our ideals in our mind and to take positive action to make them real. Things may be a bit dreamy, as Neptune is involved. Creative inspiration will combine with easy opportunities to make peace love, and reconciliation a part of our experience. Here is a great time for poetry, art, service to others and renewing our sense of oneness with nature. By the afternoon of the 20th, Mercury has zipped through Libra and enters the watery depths of Scorpio. Things get deep now, and heavy. We seek to present the bottom line first in our communications.

The Full Moon, at 29 degrees of Aries, opposing the Sun in the same degree of Libra, brings the previously mentioned romantic and aesthetic seeds of the New Moon to a point of fruition. There may be decisions to make involving our children. We will look to the future. Our friends and peer group associates will help us in the process of decision making about what to leave behind and what path to follow. Luna is full at 9:38 PM EDT on October 22nd.

At about 8:30 AM EDT the Sun enters Scorpio, a very intense sign with the qualities of both decay and rejuvenation. The leaves fall from the hardwoods, becoming the protecting mulch covering the sprouting of the green seed fusing next year’s flower into bloom. Scorpionic healing involves the release of old detritus so that new growth may occur. Scorpio brings the awareness that there can be no concept of light without a direct experience of darkness. Were it not for the realization that death lies ahead for us all there would be no appreciation that each day of life is precious.

The month ends with a mild conjunction of the Sun to Venus. Another indication that possible romance and the appreciation of beauty and harmony is presented. Overall, there should be a slow release of tension with fewer crises on a personal and global scale. May we beat our swords into plowshares. There is always hope.

Key words for Libra are diplomatic, peaceful, artistic, fair-minded, balanced

New Moon is on October 7th at 2:44 PM EDT @ 14 degrees of Libra

Full Moon is on October 22 at 9:37 PM EDT @ 29 degrees of Aries

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