



*Seen at the artist's squat at 59 Rue de Rivoli, Paris. Photo by Eric Francis.*

# LEO :: Trust Yourself

Inner Light by Eric Francis | [Planet Waves 2026 Annual Reading](#)

**L**EO, THE LION, the Sun, gold and all other signatures of your sign are symbols of power, vitality, strength and value. Yet what is developing in your charts over the next four seasons contains so much fire and so much energy that caution and high awareness are called for. Throughout this Leo chapter my intention is to find out where this strength is coming from and what it's for. It does not exist for nothing; it has a reason for being, and will potentially find its purpose as you experiment.

We are also living in a reactive environment, driven by the digital crisis, dumbed down by phony “intelligence,” which is driving people out of body and out of mind. The environment frequently erupts in violence and, by extension through the global central nervous system to which we are all attached, the engagement with violence as a form of entertainment. These factors of aggression and anger are what you must watch the most carefully, as they are signs of disembodiment. In our time, rage is free-floating and looking for some object to strike.

At all times, you must be aware of your formidable power. Maybe you already are; maybe you have a little clue. Maybe you don't know what the holy heck I'm on about. While the potential exists at all times, the juice ramps up in the second half of the year when Jupiter enters your sign. Before that, you'll experience a series of staged increases in intensity from February through June, which will affect the most noticeable areas of your life.

I know astrology is always promising new and different. But with Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Chiron, and Neptune all involved in sign changes, and Pluto just coming out of one, “new and different” would be the understatement of the year. This is for you especially; as your places involved with relationships, profession, social existence and your view of existence are all involved, there will be no missing this.

And you will have the motivation and the fortitude to experience it fully. You are the capacitor powering your own existence. You are the thing that will be magnified. And along with magnification of your strength, you can expect the magnification of your self-doubts and struggle with faith in yourself, and your tendency to undervalue and over-judge yourself.

With great potential comes great risk, and so like the operators and engineers of a power plant, you will need to monitor yourself and your energy flow, and use your power of observation every single day. In the pages that follow, I will do my best to map this out for you and guide you to the best outcomes. The agenda

comes from you, as does the responsibility for awareness and the power of decision. My role is to provide you with a detailed briefing.

## **Pluto in Aquarius, Your 7th Place**

Of all the many changes in progress, one of the most important has been phasing in since 2023 and took hold in late 2024. That is Pluto in Aquarius, your opposite sign and the one that describes your relationships, your perception of your environment, and the tone of the echo you hear when you shout your own name. The 7th is officially ascribed to matters of partnership and open enmity. Yes, they are in the same house — the one-to-one relationship, however it works out.

Here is the top line and the bottom line of this transit: love is not a power struggle.

Yet you have a big 7th place, covered by Aquarius, itself a sign that represents the underlying patterns of the social environment. This has all been placed under the command of an enormous robot which has various names like "ChatGPT," "Google" and "social media" — and their many cousins whose names we shall not mention but some rhyme with "porno" and others with "dumbing down."

Aquarius is a giant mirror, or resonance field. This is true for you but it's also true for our entire society right now.

It's like an enormous magnet that holds the patterns of its domains and does not like to give them up. The mere presence of Pluto in this sign and this region of your chart describes a rather wild and total change of environment and also of your perception of existence. It's come on slowly, grazing and teasing and slipping in slowly (Pluto made three different ingresses into Aquarius, as opposed to the usual two.) And for society, the themes that it represented were already creeping up on us.

In recent decades, all of the transpersonal and outer planets have made their way through this region of your chart: Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Chiron, Nessus and now finally Pluto. You have not only watched this kaleidoscope go by; you've been trained by it, taught who you are by it, and potentially driven a little bugfuck by it too. And now Pluto is here, as the primary factor, though there are others (centaurs Amycus and Orius) that do not come into our story at this time.

The crucial thing to remember and that nearly everyone forgets is that the social environment is changing rapidly. By "social" I mean the environment of all human interrelations, expectations, communication and bonds of union. The change factor is Pluto, which is concentrating power and disrupting old and even recent patterns. We all see this happening and somehow fail to take notice.

Now, there is urgency to bring the story back to yourself. I know, Leo is always accused of being self-centered. But I have not found this to be true more than for anyone else, and besides, your ruling planet the Sun is in fact at the center and is also the heat that warms and illuminates mostly everything (geothermal heat is also important, but that too originates with the Sun). And it happens that there's a remarkable metaphor for geothermal power that is currently prominent in your sign. So your warmth and strength are coming from both inside and outside.

As I move through your reading, I'll keep coming back to "the Pluto factor" when describing the potential for response from your environment, including partners. It contains an enormous bout of power and it's the thing to watch at all times. It can be difficult to see, as the mythical Pluto wore a helmet of invisibility and many astrologers have noted that Pluto acts as an unconscious influence — that is, until you're aware of it.

Also regarding your 7th house, Aquarius, I will be working with the idea that the ground field is more important than the figure. That is, does Pluto affect Aquarius, or is Aquarius producing the

effects of Pluto? Like the visual of the vases and two faces looking at one another, it can be either. Yet our culture has a strong bias of seeing the figure and ignoring the background.

### **Note to Self**

When Pluto is in your opposite sign, that's a primary focus of your astrology and in many ways defines your existence. It's a presence to be aware of all the time. Because Aquarius is involved, you have the personal dynamic of the 7th place coupled with the social dynamic of Aquarius. So the effect is magnified.

## **FOCUS ON YOUR 1st HOUSE - LEO**

### **Jupiter Meets Vulcanus**

Before there were any planets discovered beyond Neptune (back even when Pluto was unknown), a set of eight hypothetical planets were created by some German astrologers. Nobody really knows how they did this. I have done my best to find out; there are no sources in English and the whole process is extremely sketchy. It's one of those mysteries.

These hypothetical points only exist in mathematics, in computer programs, in the minds of astrologers, and in a few scattered books. The imaginary planets are not supposed to work, but they do. Nobody really understands why, but let's not let that stop us. My early teacher Dave Roell taught me respect for these points, and I have followed them ever since. [Here is a summary.](#)

One such point is called Vulcanus, which takes 633 years to orbit the Sun in a perfect circle (more than double Pluto's orbit and considerably longer than Eris). It advances just over half a degree a year and is currently at 5 degrees of Leo (fairly new to your sign, in the long run). Vulcanus represents "all that is mighty and powerful, strength, intensity... if a sentence has the word mighty or powerful in it, the planetary signature will have Vulcanus in it."

Or said another way: unlimited energy, coming up as if from the center of the Earth. That's about you and it has been for a while. The result might be a feeling that by some miracle you have exceeded your human capacity. And there might be other times when you don't know your own strength.

The Pluto factor (and others) say it's crucial that you not have your strength used against you. It may be difficult to see the times and places when that is happening. You'll need to have it be a conscious mode of thought all the time, a kind of situational awareness. It reaches into your personal relationships, and also the ways that the people around any potential partner (whether personal or business) influence him or her. So you will really need to become a student of these dynamics. And remember: they are personal as well as social in the larger sense.

Keep in mind that Pluto opposing Vulcanus is a tense setup. It is two forms of power that are meeting head to head. And they do so across the most personal angle of your chart, the one that represents you and your relationships. You will be living with this tension for a while, and the potentially exciting part of it involves these two points making contact. Yet as this happens, we get a little twist...or rather, a dramatic amplification of the setup.

### **Jupiter Conjunct Vulcanus and Opposite Pluto**

In July, Jupiter returns to your sign for the first time since the summer of 2014 and prior to that, the summer of 2002. When it gets there the first thing it's going to do is line up with Pluto in your opposite sign Aquarius and Vulcanus in your own sign. Jupiter will magnify the dynamics surrounding Vulcanus opposite Pluto; and it will make them more personal.

Jupiter is close to us, visible in the night sky. It is part of normal waking consciousness. Pluto and Vulcanus are not; Jupiter brings them closer and makes them seem more tangible, palpable and real. This would be one thing if Pluto, the unstoppable force, was not fixing its gaze on you through your house of relationships.

Factors in your own sign might give you the idea that you could stand up to anything, though I am here to urge caution.

Let Vulcanus find expression through the many facets of life that Jupiter offers. The most important form of power is knowledge, wisdom, intelligence and the ability to make informed decisions.

There is also the matter of working together. Pluto in Aquarius will eventually get around to the necessity of collaboration rather than going head to head, or blow for blow. To get to that point of synergy and shared effort, you will need to put some thought into any situation where potential conflict arises, especially if you feel the pinch of circumstances outside of your control.

This applies generally to any potentially confrontational situation. You must become the master of ratcheting things down, not up. This can take a number of forms, including negotiating, taking leadership in difficult situations, and learning how to stand up to people when they are making no sense — without turning them into enemies.

### **Varuna, the Omniscient Ethical Judge**

Since 2016, an important factor has been transiting your sign. This is Varuna, discovered in 2000 and the first planet beyond Pluto to get anyone's attention (meaning the attention of astrologers, and even astronomers, who at the time of its discovery were focused on Jupiter and Saturn).

Varuna is the oldest of the Vedic (Hindu) deities, the all-knowing and merciful creator and upholder of heaven and Earth. More to the point, he is the omniscient ethical judge. This includes being the enforcer of contracts. It's about having a sense of justice, and being true to your commitments.

You have probably never heard of it, though I've been watching it carefully for a quarter century and especially the decade it's been

in your sign. Gradually, every Leo is coming under its influence. And this is about fairness.

To give you a sense how important astronomers thought this discovery was, it was granted minor a planet number (20000) to match its year of discovery. Back then, there was no Eris. If anyone had heard of anything beyond Pluto, it was probably Varuna (and very few people did).

Here is the Wiki description of its namesake:

In the early [Vedic](#) era, Varuna is seen as the god-sovereign, ruling the sky and embodying divine authority. He is also mentioned as the king of [asuras](#), who gained the status of a [deva](#), serving as the chief of the [Adityas](#), a group of celestial deities. He maintains truth and [rta](#) (pronounced *ritta*), the cosmic and moral order. He was invoked as an omniscient ethical judge, with the stars symbolizing his watchful eyes, or spies. Frequently paired with [Mitra](#), Varuna represents the magical and speculative aspects of sovereignty, overseeing the relationship between gods and humans.

At a certain point the territory of Varuna is reduced — left out is the phrase “omniscient ethical judge” — as if the whole ethical thing was a little too much. That is the thing to keep in mind. From this, some astrologers came up with the theme of “demotion.” I translate this as “the equalizer,” a force of nature that can, at times, level the field, and provide an advantage to those who did not have one previously. There is also the question of how much responsibility you really want. But the real key to Varuna seems to be its relationship to what has not already arrived on the physical level.

Though I was familiar with the concept of *rta* (pronounced *ritta*), Sanskrit for the unmanifest, I did not know about the Varuna connection. The *rta* is the implicate realm of all possibility; the source of all potential. Varuna is considered an oceanic god,

which fits these descriptions. Think of it as being behind everything, the ground of being, that which creates all that you see. It is about potential.

On Earth this has much to do with agreements. Everything seems to be based on them and most transgressions arise from the violation of agreements. Varuna says keep your promises. Honor your contracts. Be fair with people. Do this for its own sake, not for fear of the consequences. Set an example of how to be in a world where waking life has largely been taken over by fraud. We still live in the world of people where many don't want to pay the newspaper delivery boy his 86 cents a week. Well, that is not you and I have news: nobody may care but you.

Varuna is your guardian angel. It says walk gently on the Earth, and stay in contact with your purpose.

### **Note to Self**

In an environment where ethics and morals are seen as irrelevant, it's possible to think that you cannot actually succeed if you have any. But for you especially, this is dangerous. You are being held to a higher standard. Where are ethics needed except in situations where people tend to act in ways that violate them, and those violations are rewarded?

### **Bienor Enters Leo**

A centaur planet called Bienor (in the class of Chiron, 67-year elliptical orbit) is about to enter Leo. This is Bienor's first appearance in Planet Waves.

The transit will last about four years, and Bienor will be in the first degree of your sign when the Sun enters on July 22. Any centaur planet brings an acceleration of events. It's close to the Sun right now, moving through the zodiac quickly. It will spend about four years in Leo, from July 2026 through July 2030.

Bienor represents amazing strength. Discovered in 2000, it has an unstoppable quality to it. This is a theme of your astrology right now, and reason to be cool, pacing yourself and testing out the new territory that you are in. However, the spirit of “be all you can be” must take precedence over too much caution.

This is a matter of knowing when to apply the brakes and when to push the accelerator.

### **Note to Self**

The kind of strength you need is about persistence and wisdom, not brute force. There exist some examples of how not to do things, and we have yet to see how those stories end. However you are your own person and must make your own decisions despite examples or social pressures.

### **Mental Health Factors in Relationships**

Not enough is said about the ways that the mental health of partners affects one another. Relationships are dynamics, and the state of one partner directly affects the other(s).

Your astrology this year includes the alignment of Hygeia, Psyche and Aphrodite in Leo. This is in your solar return chart. I think it describes feelings and actions that are considered normal but which are also disturbing to one’s peace of mind, and the balance in relationships. That would start with feelings of competition and jealousy.

These are merely the outer expressions of insecurities that have much deeper roots, and which are rarely properly addressed. The reason they are not addressed is because the resulting emotions and behavior are considered “normal” and acceptable; you can pay to watch them on Hulu.

Psyche has a faithless quality; it is also the illusion of the psychic wound that cannot be healed. Its counterpart is Eros, a male

figure; in this pattern it's conjunct Aphrodite, a female figure. This implies a trust injury to the feminine side of the Leo nature.

Two thoughts here: first, it's amazing anyone can trust anybody right now. The dominant theme of the world seems to be about betraying whoever and whatever you can. This would seem to be the core lesson of all relationships. Trust is going to be learned through making and keeping agreements. This is very difficult where there have been repeated injuries to trust. So that is the factor that must be addressed first.

Second, trust is not about male or female. We are all in the same boat on the same river. Anyone who says this is about one sex or the other is running a political agenda that does not include you. All political speech is rooted in lies. The human condition is social. It's about running relationships and communities, not about running corporations, states and nations.

### **A Summary: Matters of Strength and Trust Predominate**

You are moving an astonishing amount of energy, or rather, it's moving through you. The forthcoming Jupiter, Pluto, Vulcanus alignment opens up the tap in conscious and manifest form. Remember that Vulcanus is energy qualified by the idea of *directed*.

Bienor adds additional raw strength and the caution to use it carefully. Pluto cautions about blowback from misusing your power.

Varuna demands ethical impeccability, and also, a sense that you are tapping into something deeper than yourself. That really means "tapping into something deeper than your limited concept of yourself."

The Psyche factor adds the question, "How is it possible that I'll ever really trust anyone again? I've been hurt so many times, especially by my own faithlessness."

## Note to Self

It is crucial that you build relationships on faith, trust and agreements, and assess them on the basis of whether the agreements are kept.

## **An Opposition Dynamic**

The main setup of your chart is an opposition dynamic. Pluto in Aquarius is now or will be opposed by Jupiter, Bienor and Vulcanus. Opposition dynamics are tense, and they seek expression in other places in the chart. This is much like water will go around an obstacle or a dam. However, before we get there, let's take a deeper look at Pluto in Aquarius. Then we will check out where some of this opposition pressure might vent. By the way, a similar condition exists for Aries, Libra and Aquarius. You might find additional clues and strategies in those readings.



*Thank you for believing our publicists. Don't forget to leave a tip!*

## **Social Dynamics of Pluto in Aquarius, Your 7th Place**

The 7th place — the relationship house — is one of the most prominent because we walk around looking at it and living inside it all day. All houses represent environments. But the most prominent environment is who and what you see when you open your eyes and look directly ahead of you.

Pluto will influence your personal relationships and it is already doing so. You are seeing that people in your life have power, and you may not like that fact. But the truth is, they always did. This is why agreements and understandings are so important. Also it's vital that you know when you're in a discussion with one person, or with one person who represents a group, or a group of people. When someone says "we," who are they talking about?

Pluto is rearranging the domains of social existence, though its presence in Aquarius describes something that's been happening for a long time. *Aquarius represents the social dynamics of digital conditions* — in other words, how people behave collectively when they are transformed by exposure to digital technology. Aries represents how people conduct themselves and are conditioned to behave (and think of themselves) as individuals. They are closely related.

To see what this looks like, we only need to study the events of 2020 and 2021, when Aquarius and its ruling planet Saturn were under enormous pressure. We think of those years as a "pandemic" and not "a massive social experiment." Whatever your position on the claim of a viral outbreak, the social experiment cannot be denied. By the end of 2020, people were denying their blood relatives places at the holiday table based on fears about personal survival. This is shadow Aquarius.

We saw this continue into 2021 as people were pressed by the electronic media and also by social pressure to take an injection that no member of the public properly understood. This continued

throughout Saturn in Aquarius, which lasted from late 2020 into 2023. Now we have the direct influence of Pluto.

One must admit — especially in hindsight — that society getting people to turn against their parents, children, siblings, close friends and even spouses was impressive (to me it was astonishing, and struck a deep wound to family and friendship from which few have recovered).

If you value your personal sovereignty, your right to make decisions about your body, and your right to make up your own mind, it will be worth studying the events of 2020 and 2021 to see what is really going on under the shiny surface of digital life and its latest advance. Under Pluto in Aquarius conditions, these dynamics will only increase.

I have identified three modalities of Pluto in Aquarius, which you will seem to experience through your environment and through your relationships. You are potentially on either end of the stick.

1. The group tries to pressure the individual to go against his or her best interests. It seems to have a mind of its own apart from the previous opinions or views of the people involved.
2. The individual stands up to the group, either by doing what he or she wants, or overt resistance. Individuals can influence groups, though it's difficult because the dynamics of the group specifically evade personal responsibility.
3. The group transforms itself into something new. I am still looking for examples of this.

The darkest shade of Aquarius is how people will do anything — go against their own values, betray others, take part in genocide, or whatever — when they have the notion that others will reject them if they do not. This fear is the thing to watch for. Usually, the pressure to conform is disguised as some claim to be supporting “the common good” or “the greater good.” When you

encounter that phrase or that concept, that's the time to walk in the other direction. It always conceals a deeper agenda.

Therefore, from the perspective of having interviewed many people about how they felt about what they were pressured to do in 2020 and 2021, including some who considered themselves very strong and ardent individualists, I would say this: Please, don't do anything because people are pressuring you. Don't do anything that you don't truly believe is the right thing. Don't let anyone do anything to your kids that you know or even suspect is not good for them.

### **Private Relationship Dynamics**

This deeper agenda can manifest many ways in private, one-to-one relationships. Under political pressure and under digital conditions, there is an unspoken idea that the personal is political.

This is a phrase that came out of the radical feminist movement of the late 1960s, penned by someone named Carol Hanisch: *the personal is political*. When I interviewed her many years later, it seemed she did not understand what it meant. However, what I realized is that I had it backwards. I thought it was a statement of personal responsibility in community matters. What it really means is that any personal action can be dragged in front of the "community" for trial by public opinion.

Therefore, keep your relationships off of social media. They are not public property. I suggest you make an agreement with your partner about this and ask for, insist on or demand your privacy. You are probably not a public figure. What you say or do in your own home is not public property. The food you eat is not public property, nor are your children, your critters, or anything else that exists within the bonds of an intimate partnership or your own home.

Pluto in Aquarius can magnify any private event to public proportions. Be mindful of this. Digital conditions insist that you do not have a private space in your consciousness, a private life or any privacy at all. Anything — anything — that enters the public domain is politicized. And now any public authority or its A.I. can examine your social media feeds to decide what kind of person you are. If you want to see where things have already arrived, check out an episode of the Netflix series *Black Mirror*. It's not an exaggeration; it's a close look at the underlying psychology of technology and its effects.

### **Note to Self**

Electrical and in particular digital conditions eliminate privacy by eliminating the idea and the notion that it's possible within you. Yes they raid your personal data and turn you into an algorithm, but the effect is internal, not sitting in the cloud. It's about an invasion of your interior space, which then turns inside out. Usually people collaborate with this. I suggest that if you value your privacy and want to have an inner life, that you cut off all forms of participation in this shadow Aquarian scam. Proceed with extreme caution. Your life is your life.

### **Air Signs and Fire Signs: The Opposition Seeks Outlets**

The opposition structure across Leo and Aquarius will seek outlets in the other air and fire signs. Fortunately, these areas of your existence and your consciousness are looking good and will provide ways to express yourself creatively.

Let's go through a few of them in short form, starting with the easiest — Uranus in Gemini, your 11th place. This is "the other kind of social," where you move freely in your environment with others more or less as equals. Nobody has a gun pointed at anyone. Nobody has any power to hold over anyone.

Once you get outside of your immediate circle of friends who think they know you through and through, you will find that the

situation is a little chaotic and that there is freedom in the chaos. The braindead mandatory tribal behavior is arising from the digital and A.I. environments but it's revealed to be extremely fragile when challenged by something like a friendly person, a kitten, an interesting piece of artwork, or food prepared by a human being.

Uranus in Gemini says stick to small groups rather than large ones; small social events rather than mass events; and concerts that are small enough to meet the performer. If you're a Taylor Swift fan that's probably going to present a challenge, but so too will the \$20,000 ticket and travel.

A mass is a heap of people such as football fans in a stadium who know when to stand up at exactly the same time or the same people watching someone (a woman whom we are told can play the guitar) wiggle for several million dollars an hour (approximately \$3 million per hour, according to some sources such as *Forbes*). You don't have a place there, or anyplace remotely on that scale. That is not what your chart is about. At such an event you would be the person at the top rim of the stadium with the All Access Pass and a 1,000mm lens all by yourself taking amazing photos of the whole spectacle.

I suggest you be part of groups where you understand the influence you have on them and that they have on you. You are looking for an exchange. Remember that a group is *several individuals, or people who are actively interested in individuating*. This is a tall order under digital conditions, though the environment is getting overheated enough that it's starting to reverse on the individual level.

Under the influence of Uranus, your previous social circles are going through a shakeup. Keep yourself visible and where others can find you and you're likely to make fast friends, particularly starting midyear.

## **Aries in the 9th Place — Religion and Spirituality**

My theory of Leo is that the study of self, and the development of the self, are your true spiritual path. You don't need any book or church authority telling you how to act or who to be. Being yourself is the ultimate spiritual goal, especially if it involves a concept of growth and an idea of self-actualization. You could sum that up as "becoming increasingly true to yourself."

It is also a journey of conscious self-discovery. In the style of Aries this does not need to be facilitated by a guru or presenter or the Great Shaboinky himself.

Carl Jung was fond of saying that religion was a substitute for direct religious experience. Since few people understand what direct religious experience is, please allow me to make that even simpler. Religion is an excuse for not being real with yourself. Anybody who is honest with themselves and sincere generally does not need religion. And anyone who is sincere is a lot more likely to have a direct experience of nature or of the universe or of existence or whatever.

There is a lot happening in Aries right now. Nothing like it has ever happened within living memory; you would have to go back to the mid 19th-century for something comparable and you're probably not old enough to remember that.

### **Note to Self**

As I scan the internet, I notice that "self-care" has been reduced to a purely physical experience, usually devoted to pushing back aging. But the real work, and the real benefits, must be invested in your progress of emerging as who you are in this time of cultural and personal change. The obsession with nutrition and exercise is good as far as it goes, which is only so far. Your chart is insisting that you deepen your level of inner awareness.

## **Thing One: Chiron and Eris — *Gnothi Seauton***

Two rare conjunctions are happening. Both are already underway, though the older of the two is Chiron conjunct Eris. This has been developing for a long time.

Eris has been in Aries since the 1920s, with a diversity of peaks between then and now. Chiron has been in Aries since 2018 and is now in a major crescendo. They are opposing forces of nature.

We have all noticed at some point that many people and society itself seem to be “in a trance.” They chirp this casually, like they know what they’re talking about. Really, they read it on the renowned *Psychology with Tea and Biscuits* blog and then kept scrolling. But that bit about the trance followed them deeper into their own trance and bobbed up sometime later.

The trance. We’ve all noticed it, like when you’re in a restaurant and everyone is scrolling away. A nuclear bomb could go off and they would keep scrolling.

The trance is sometimes attributed to TV or to social media, the ‘news’ feed, or to A.I. It’s sometimes attributed to the WiFi or the 5G system or the wonky state of mind induced by the injection or whatever.

For the purpose of Eris in Aries, it’s all the same thing. It’s the fogged over, semi-tribal, we all think the same way and are proud ‘individualists’, I don’t know what the heck is going on or where I am type of trance — the mental effect of the digital (or TV) environment. This actually goes back a century to the age of radio.

There are occasional moments when everyone seems to get dragged deeper and other moments where some seem to wake up; we are now in a wake-up kind of moment.

And that is about Chiron, the focusing agent, the healer, the maverick, trying to get the attention of whoever will listen. It worked somewhat in the early 1970s. There were some excellent effects (amazing, relevant music and awareness of injustice) and some terrible ones (the antiwar movement divided into a thousand little movements all singing the song that goes by the melody, "Me, Me, Me." This is the third scale degree played over and over again.)

Right now, at this moment, millions of people think ChatGPT is their therapist and millions of others think it's their boyfriend or girlfriend and millions of others think it's a paralegal. Then they will become like ChatGPT and finally think they ARE ChatGPT and that is the trance that knows no awakening for the next 10 lifetimes.

So while you're figuring out the social environment and the power dynamics of your relationships, remember that it all begins with self-awareness. That is your "religion." That is your "spiritual path." That is your "quest." And that is your oracle. It is a fact that at the entrance to the Oracle at Delphi were the words *Gnothi Seauton*.

As you do this, remember: you will be going into territory that nearly everyone else avoids, and that will come with pressure for you too to avoid that same thing — self-knowledge. The entire high-tech industry and lots of other industries are trying to get you to go back to sleep. Many people who claim to be awake are faking it (it's not the kind of thing you brag about unless you're full of shit) and others are trying to sell it for the cost of dinner and two tickets to that show where the lady wiggles.

### **Note to Self**

The first thing you might notice as you awaken is everything you might have been missing. This is not about the world but about your relationship to yourself. The contemporary concept of what I would call "awakening" is about seeing all the alleged injustice

out there, and about which you can do very little. It is a counterfeit of personal evolution, always about others, always about the past, and always outside of your sphere of influence. You are experiencing an inner awakening, which is likely to bring increased curiosity about yourself, but with very little promise of external reward or validation. You may feel things you're not interested in. You may discover things you don't want to know. Keep an open mind. They may prove to be very helpful.

## **Thing Two: Saturn and Neptune**

Cue the Breaking News ticker — this is pretty new, though we had a dry run during the middle of 2025. Saturn and Neptune form a conjunction every 36 to 37 years. They will now be forming one in Aries, which has only happened three times since the days of Jesus, Joseph and Mary; and which has never happened in the first degree of Aries. That is called the Aries Point.

It's a kind of portal from the individual out to the collective. It's the point where collective events have significant personal impact. "The world crashes into my living room," as David Byrne wrote in the 1985 Talking Heads song "[Television Man](#)."

The combination of Saturn and Neptune, added to Chiron and Eris, will help ensure that you don't miss the events of your 9th house. You know how spirituality is. Read a book here, go to a workshop there, get a reading here and there, and you're all set. All your self-actualization needs are met!

Well, not really. However, given the emotional, political and financial stress of our times, and the constant shocks associated with the instability of society, the concepts of personal or spiritual have in a sense ceased to exist. So how do you know you need to pay attention?

Simple: if you feel angry, frustrated, isolated or like your life is meaningless and/or going nowhere. These are not circumstantial

situations. They are innate, existential, and relate to the inherent meaning of your existence. The ego is easily hypnotized out of the spiritual needs of the deeper self, and this is done either through excess and gluttony in the case of tech billionaires, or fear and guilt in the case of ordinary folk.

In other times you could kinda let this slide. But not with two rare conjunctions urging you to wake up and pay attention to your existence and how you feel about it.

### **The 9th is About Longterm Vision**

One of the very most important topics of the 9th place is your longterm vision for yourself. It is getting difficult to have any foresight right now. This is part of the society-wide crisis.

Issues like the constant slam of negative or catastrophic world events, massive debt of governments and many individuals, environmental contamination, resource depletion and a warming planet — all of them constitute the causes of our stolen future.

This much activity in your 9th place is saying: you must have a vision for your life. You must have some sense of what is possible and some idea that you can make it happen. This is going to take discipline. The sense of potential must come from you. You must provide the ideas and also the inspiration and the drive to create and live out some real vision for yourself.

### **Family Hunger Games in the 6th**

People say they want enlightenment but what they really want is to be an adult. No factor prevents adulthood like the family. And it would seem that you have some work to do along your healing journey involving your relatives, mostly meaning your family of origin and their immediately surrounding kinfolk. I will bring this up briefly here and merely call your attention to the matter.

Maybe you got lucky and had amazing parents who supported you. Most people did not and they also don't know it. Many parents are jealous of their kids. I just heard a story today from an old friend whose father was a blood-red conservative ideologue. My friend won a case before the Supreme Court, preventing discrimination against transgender people. He was the lead attorney. His father could not even bring himself to congratulate his son. And this is a mild expression of what people put their children through.

Any lingering disturbances in your family constellation are going to be stirred up by Saturn moving through Aries. No matter how old or how young you are, this is the time to deal with them. You had some great relatives but there were some who infused the family with alcohol and/or a mean-spirited and vindictive quality. Even if it was generations ago, this is still having an effect.

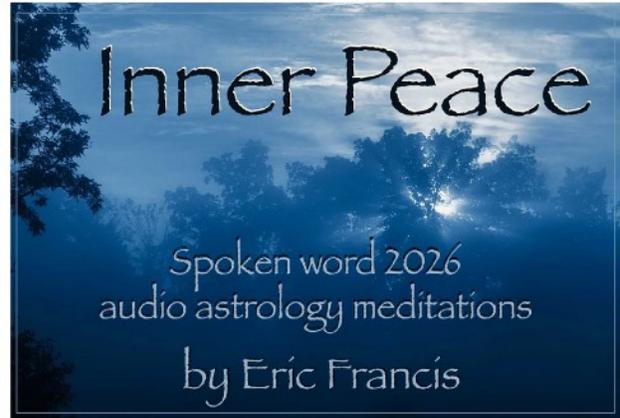
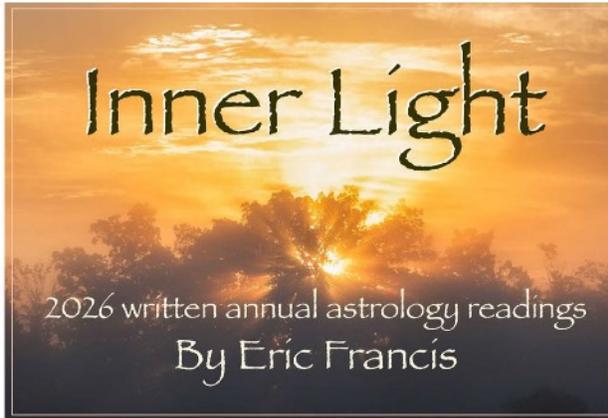
Trusting yourself means not blaming yourself for family *mishegoss*. It means not taking on the bald dysfunctions of people almost surely lacking all self-awareness (and not being fooled by those who talk a good or even mediocre line). Be honest about the damage that was done, vow to never do that to others, and commit to your own healing. Those initially involved are unlikely to be interested. This is not about them, and it never was. It's about you and your relationship to yourself.

You must trust yourself because there may not be anyone else to trust, and if there is, you will have to have confidence in your choice to have faith in someone else. So it all comes back to you. And then, as you find your own center, you become the center of something much better in the lives of the people around you. Yet know that trusting yourself happens one decision at a time. There is no other way.



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