



Remnant of the wall of Philip Augustus in Paris, which was built around 1190 to surround and protect the growing city. It is still honored, taken care of, and designed into new buildings that are near to it. Many walk right by not realizing it's more than 800 years old. Photo by Eric Francis, 2005.

LIBRA :: Shelter from the Storm

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

THE fundamental confrontation of Libra right now is witnessing what is happening in the world and trying to make sense of it. That's the thing — others can look on and maybe wonder, or be happily dizzy and confused; you want to process what you're experiencing, and organize it into categories and processes that make sense — but it's a little too much. There really must be days when you look out at the world and wonder what the ever-loving fuck is going on. That remains a valid question.

Whatever it is, the more important question is how you're going to deal with the overwhelming inputs, and the appropriate way to meet or match the chaotic energy that's coming at you. This is going to be a study in boundaries: the penetrable and flexible kind; the firm and clearly defined kind; and the energy you need to meet the strange challenges of our moment. And they are strange; but they don't seem so to people whose minds no longer possess the capacity for cohesion.

You do, and you may not yet recognize how helpful that is. Often you feel it in the contrast between what seems like the total degradation of consciousness and language — and the sense that perhaps humanity is going down the drain. That perception requires no stretch of the imagination. What calls for creativity is envisioning some other possibility. And further, you will benefit from seeing the problem for what it is. That too will take some imagination.

Yet what you're blessed with is the capacity to think whole thoughts and understand the need for whole systems. Maybe you're wondering how this is possible when it seems like everything is being blown through a shredder. It's coming from several different directions or aspects of life. Yet there are obvious events that are calling for a closer look where Libra is concerned.

These are spinning the world into a dizzy chaos that most people seem too disoriented to notice. It's a little like the cabin in a jetliner depressurizing and the pilots are going unconscious from lack of oxygen. You, however, have your mask on and can even breathe normally. That does not make your existence perfect; your awareness is telling you how out of balance things are.

And maybe it's an astrological cliché, but balance is important to you. Unfortunately, there is little to be found in the world right now, though the one place you can find it is yourself.

Still, that does not really change the world. But the world is changing, and conditions that predominated in 2025 will change significantly in 2026 and a whole new set of circumstances will present themselves. Most of the moving parts are located across the sky in Aries, your opposite sign pertaining to relationships and the prevailing environment you experience.

Before I get into the specifics of the astrology involved here, a few general statements may be useful. One is that you must respond to the environment rather than trying to change it. Yes, there are forces beyond your control, though you have influence over the decisions that you make. Another is that you cannot tie together all the loose ends in the wider world or even in your personal sphere. There are just too many.

But you can hold to a rhythm or pattern as you move through your decisions and your commitments and always take the most creative way. That means constantly asking what that creative way is, listening to the response, and seeing the potential for problems to spark not solutions, but new realms of possibility. There is a trick to this, which is to use disruptions and interruptions as reminders to assess your course, to review your intentions and reconsider your plans.

It's also essential that you pay attention to your environment, such as by leaving thermometers in various rooms of your home and knowing what the temperature is.

One other thing: connecting with your creative potential is a matter of faith. It doesn't matter how experienced you are, or whether you're more inclined to be confident or insecure. Faith is what gets you from no idea to idea to movement. It will also take faith to not succumb to the chaos that most people seem content to have their minds in, and faith to reclaim yourself if you feel you've been captured.

The Structure of this Reading

Because so much is happening in your 7th place Aries, it's tempting to start there. But I'm going to stick with the approach I've designed for this series and take you through some of the personal assets you have in your Sun or rising sign, then consider your 7th place Aries, and then branch out into a few other houses. I would encourage you to read the 2025 Libra reading in *The Awakening* as it contains a different version of this inventory that I like quite a bit, but I don't want to write it a second time — so this year I'm taking a different approach.

LIBRA INWARD TORY

I describe Libra as the human blowtorch. You can turn yourself down to invisible but still be lit; and then you can turn yourself up to a temperature that can cut steel and then also turn down a little to make a fine crisp on the *crème brûlée*.

But with Venus as the ruling planet and Saturn as the exalted planet, we don't really have a good image of that blowtorch (though Venus is pretty hot and Saturn is pretty cool, only Vedic astrology considers them a good pairing).

Perhaps you can stretch your imagination and account for John Lennon, Gandhi, Margaret Thatcher, Julie Andrews, Thom Yorke, Will Smith, Gwen Stefani, Bruce Springsteen and many other force-of-nature talents. I consider Libra the sign of the rock star. But nothing from traditional astrology describes this effect convincingly. Or how about Kim Kardashian, famous for nothing except for being famous? Still, by some swamp water-into-wine miracle, she has cultural gravity.

Libras are usually famous for being conversant, convivial, easy to connect with and innately qualified hostage negotiators. But what is going on here?

M87 — A Massive Elliptical Galaxy

Early in your sign is an object that dominates space for many, many parsecs. It is a galaxy many times the size of our own. It is called M87 and it was discovered by Charles Messier in 1781 — the same year Uranus was discovered. In 2019 it was announced as the location of the first ever direct image of a black hole (such are at the core of all galaxies).

To astronomers of other ages, M87 looked like a smudgy star, but really it contains trillions of stars (no, I did not count them myself) with many smaller galaxies in its immediate orbit. It then influences thousands of other full-sized galaxies all around it, called the Virgo Group. This is impossible to conceive of; one can barely imagine what the Sun really is, or Saturn, or even a comet. It is a permanent fixture in Libra as it will be there for an astrological age — 2,000 years.

Few astrologers even know that it's there. It is very much a specialty item, and is one of just three deep space points that I use. This says something about you. I don't know what; maybe you do. Other astrologers have interpreted this point and I'm not totally feeling any of them. So I watched and listened over the years and slowly put it together.

Regardless of "meaning," this point describes you as a kind of center of gravity for much that surrounds you. And it's been with you every day of your life. I know it sounds like a lot to take on — but there it is, right at the entry gate to Libra.

One proposal for its effect is that it can influence everything around it. It is never satisfied. It never feels fully approved of. At the bottom, most human desire is insatiable. It's not just you and it's not just M87 and all that it represents. Humanity is the Hungry I.

And yet if raised to awareness, this can invert into mighty creativity — something akin to infinite creative power. This may

begin with connecting with the beauty of your inner Venus and the discipline of your inner Saturn. But then there is getting into the flow of your own inner power. And that, I think, is the hangup for many people. You may not see yourself as creative, but that inner force can be daunting to experience. Tremendous creativity requires total devotion to nurture and maintain and is in itself demanding.

Here we have a picture of why so many of the most prodigious creative talents are born under the sign Libra, and why there is such tension around that talent. Yet the truth is that most people do not live for their creativity, even if they are born with it in abundance. That requires something else, some other quality. And it requires going deeper than appearances or a "sense of balance," which is usually superficial and does not need to be.

Note to Self

Write this on the wall or your mirror: I am more influential than I realize. Your influence extends far beyond your field of experience or what your senses perceive. You are a kind of organizing principle and center of mass in your environment.

The Exchange Factor of M87

M87 draws toward it everything in its environment. But it's not easy to see this. It — and therefore, you — has influence that is difficult to discern.

I propose that the presence of M87 is why you must practice giving, and giving nearly all the time. That means giving yourself to your own existence, to the situations in your life, and to the people around you. You have a far stronger presence than you recognize. Your state of mind influences everyone around you. Your beliefs influence everyone around you. Your example influences everyone around you.

When you draw energy in, you must be aware of a point of satiation. When this point is productive, it's very, very helpful. When it draws energy in *without self-control or self-awareness*, it can be very destructive. So, like a number of other points now in your sign, you have to make the choice what to do with the properties they offer and be aware that often, these psychic elements have multiple facets.

Most people do not like to give. Most artists do not give away their work. They pile up paintings, songs, interviews, photographs or whatever, with some sense that giving them away diminishes their value. With M87, the reading is elemental: you are here to give what comes through you and what it seems you have created.

Note to Self

Self-aware growth involves embracing the contradictions you contain, and holding them consciously as you work through them, integrate them and tap the sources of energy and motivation that they contain. Creativity is not usually born out of a state of balance; it's usually the result of turbulence and that is why most people avoid it. But they are also avoiding using their experiences and their feelings in constructive ways — and as a result must shut down. But you have way too much energy to suppress right now.

Kagara: Storm of the Gods; Dance of the Gods

A slow-mover has entered Libra. I've worked with it somewhat when it was in Virgo, though now the alignment with the Aries Point (cardinal axis) and M87 brings it to center stage. There are two inflections to Kagara: the battle among the gods, and the dance of the gods. I realize these are different cultural stories, and I am taking some interpretive license as an astrologer. And, you usually want two or more sides of the story.

In either inflection, there is some turbulence, movement and change. It should not be a difficult choice whether you want a divine mating dance or endless conflict. Most people do not see this choice. They only believe in drama and turbulence.

There are many ways you can express yourself. You have the opportunity to go large with this, or to make the experience introspective. It may be a source of cleansing, renewal, personal power — or of destruction. The combination of Kagara with M87 in Libra is unprecedented, like many things happening now; and it will last for only a year or so. Storms contain tremendous energy and so too does dancing.

I will come back to this but the Saturn-Neptune conjunction at the other side of the Aries Point, right in Aries, is another unprecedented factor. So this is a time in your life when every thought, and every action, and every relationship, matters for real. Recognizing this is the essence of free will.

The Kagara/M87 pairing is going to take an opposition from Saturn and Neptune in early 2026 and this is a major event in your life. I will come back to it when we get to Aries and matters of environment and relationship.

Logos: The Mind of Reason

Logos is your superpower. More than anything, I'm working with this factor. It is vitally important for you and for the world right now. A slow-moving point beyond Pluto, Logos entered your sign in 2014 and reaches a peak in 2026. In the most basic terms, Logos is about the ability to reason and then communicate your thoughts. This includes the ability to use words to express ideas and concepts.

There has been so much garbage piled on the back of Logos (mostly by the Catholics, who for some reason obsess over it) that its simple meaning is easily lost. It's also being degraded by a mental environment and a psychic state of society where words

and ideas are collapsing under the pressure of what is falsely called “artificial intelligence.”

You have the real thing, and though it may seem daunting, it will help you stand up to the world around you.

The way to do that is to reason and be reasonable — and sadly, not expect the same thing from others. Some will have it available; some of them will utilize this ability and others will not. It’s not fashionable; using your mind these days is a little like staying in your beach chair at a pool party where people are gleefully jumping in the water and drowning.

To hold your mental state open and connect with your ability to reason is the ultimate in maintaining balance amidst all manner of tumult, confusion and misunderstanding. Your chart describes people around you who may be stressed out, experiencing too much change too fast, and sometimes not able to hold it together. You will have to be the voice of reason at times.

You will surely have to develop the skill of coming up with good ideas and letting people close to you think they came up with them on their own. (This is sometimes called the doctor-nurse game. The nurse makes a suggestion in such a way that the doctor thinks it’s an original masterpiece.)

The challenge here is that the present mental environment does not really support being mentally balanced. Even people who seem to hold it together can be a mess in certain facets of their lives and need much more support than they are getting. Which leads to the idea that you need to make sure you’re supported. Some of this will come from other people; they are mostly likely to be creative collaborators.

The creative elements of your life are under some of the best aspects in many years and are a source of internal power for you (footnote Pluto in Aquarius and other transits).

Note to Self

Social support comes through creative activities, such as playing music, making art and other social stuff that is not merely entertainment or partying but rather which has a focused and structured purpose.

Makemake: Beware of the New Religion

New gods are always replacing the old ones. This is the original marketing scam. They are always in the hands of people and usually demand the same things. If they were really gods and not human products, they would not need to be replaced, nor could they be. Makemake is a reminder to stick with the original, and I don't mean your bar mitzvah or confirmation. I mean what makes you the person you are.

For example, the original is reading and writing, not the trillion dollar plagiarism machine that requires you do neither.

I cannot emphasize the importance of creativity to Libra as an innate state of being. Yours is a Venus-ruled sign and you are a natural-born artist. I don't necessarily mean that you can draw folds in fabric or sculpt something perfectly. I mean that you are very close to what you express, you have a knack for pattern recognition, and you are a lover of beauty.

People not under the influence of Venus-ruled signs often have no idea what they are missing, and you have no idea what it means to be missing it. The difference is that bold. The new gods are like drop ceilings with fluorescent lights as compared to a stamped tin ceiling, a canopy of trees, or the beauty of the sky. The fake gods include fake plastic trees, and fake plastic anything. Whatever it is, you want the real thing.

The problem with the old ideas and ancient sources of inspiration is that they get stamped out by new bullshit technology. If material things, they might cost more and be more difficult to

find; and others might not be so impressed and therefore the pleasure might be yours alone.

My reading of Libra is that you like old ideas, substances and products that work. Not old for the sake of an antique, or vintage, but old as in old but good, like well-maintained cast iron pans, solid and well-made furniture (especially cabinetry).

But old, mostly, is the concept of what a person is, and who you are as a person. This is going to be very important in personal relationships. You respect traditional courtship and want to get to know people. The world has become a brothel without walls; most of the internet is porno. And while Libra is the most important sign for understanding all forms of sexual relationships, you have a strong preference for what builds meaningful association and family of choice.

One of the new gods is that *everything is a pointless game*. This is never going to work for you. And if you like games, you prefer the kind perhaps with some luck factor, a high skill factor and moderate personal risk.

Note to Self

You are affected by the dominant technology of society whether you use it or not. The technology itself is not the primary issue; the state of mind that it creates is. And that is the infectious thing, the vector of consciousness that establishes the psychic framework of society at any time, which makes impressions for generations after.

Zeus: Directed Energy

There is a point that's been working its way across your sign for a while. Like the M87/Kagara pairing, it is now making full contact with major events in your opposite sign Aries.

It's one of those hypothetical points that most astrologers would assure you are total bullshit. I would say put all of them in a room with the people who think that astrology itself is total bullshit, and let them work it out for a few centuries while you and me read the chart.

This thing is called Zeus and it takes 455 years to go around the Sun in a perfect circle. It's been in Libra since...let's see, I have to check an actual book for this...since approximately 1993. You were either much younger then, not born, or both. Now, that said, 1993 was one of the biggest astrological years of the entire 20th century (the extremely rare Uranus-Neptune conjunction happened in Capricorn). It was a turning point for many people and it may have been one for you, especially on the home front.

And in that very year, Zeus entered your sign. Zeus is directed energy. That is, it represents the capacity to direct your energy and plenty of it to use. This is a point of true inner authority — if you master it. It's named for the king of the gods himself.

This, too, is a superpower. It is especially so given its current aspect pattern — exactly opposite Chiron and Eris in Aries, which I will describe in more detail in the relationship section. Eris is a focal point of maximum chaos that Chiron is seeking to quell and get a handle on.

What you bring to that experience, whether for others or as it affects your own life, is the ability to aim your mind precisely. Just remember you have this thing on your side. Yet you also must enter a relationship of mastery with your own energy, will, strength and power. We will come back to this when we discuss Aries. And that is now.

Note to Self

At one end of your sign is M87 and at the other is Zeus. Both represent massive concentrations of energy that must be directed consciously — more consciously than most people think is possible. And this “consciously” business has to happen in an environment when everything is being reduced to a muddy brown mashup of ideas and degraded language. One core skill in “precisely directed energy” will be using your words with care and intention and studying how they land with various people. In our world, having access to your words is the essence of sanity.

AROUND THE HOUSES

Aries: Cosmic Mirror of Libra

Aries is the seat of identity. It is where people seek and often find themselves. This is true for the solar chart and the natal chart. I can explain every sign just by describing where Aries lands in the context of that sign. In your situation, Aries is located in your opposite sign, which makes it the 7th place or house.

Aries therefore represents your relationships and your experience of your environment. It is also a cosmic mirror, and for you this is vital because you are looking right at Aries all the time. The essence of any sign is the integration of the opposite sign.

This helps explain why “Libra is the sign of relationships.” It can be extremely other-oriented. But the most important relationship is with existence itself. Having Aries as your 7th helps you orient in a world mostly full of people whose mantra is “I, me, mine.”

In our age, Aries has another extremely important value that will go over the heads of most people.

It is the primary crime scene of the transformation that has happened to humanity and to all of us as individuals as the

electronic communication age has taken over — this is the story of the so-far century-long transit of Eris through Aries.

That takes the tale of humanity out of the print era, from the early days of commercial radio through the present A.I. crisis. This is not the kind of thing written about in astrology readings; I am sure I'm the first to enter this territory. As an astrologer, my role is to explain the relationship between you and your environment as described by astrology.

And it is described rather beautifully, even if the result is not so beautiful. What we see with Eris through Aries is the destabilization of not just identity but inner orientation; of contact with one's inner being and sense of existence. Without these things it's impossible to relate to others.

Humans do not understand why they are so disoriented now, nor do they seem to notice much. So your own ability to observe the problem may seem vastly disproportionate to what others are either not noticing or just blithely accepting. But here we are.

There have been two major peaks of Eris in Aries, within recent memory. One was the conjunction of Uranus and Eris in 2016, which was the incomprehensible chaos at the time that Trump and MAGA first rose to power. People are still wondering how this happened.

That was probably a point of turbulence for you, and it's likely you didn't really understand what was happening or why. It's even less likely that you would think you were struggling under the influence of the digital environment having transformed everything and everyone that you previously knew.

The second is the current conjunction of Chiron and Eris in Aries. That finds a counterpart in the 1971-72 conjunction.

Chiron in Aries

Chiron passing through one's 7th place — relationships and the environment generally — is always challenging. In a sense it compels attention on one's relationships, which are always about the wider relationship to one's surroundings.

I suggest you make a chronology from 2017 to the present and see what these years have been about, starting with the time right before Chiron entered Aries. We live right next to the memory hole, the place where everything that has happened is forgotten. (This is a term from Orwell's novel *1984*).

A chronology can tell you more than astrology; though astrology can point to the need for understanding your timeline and also help describe the meaning of certain events.

So the question is, what became of the relationships that you were invested in as Chiron entered Aries? What do you think was affecting the people in your life, and what was affecting you?

Chiron's first role is to heighten awareness. For you, as a 7th house feature, it will drive you to connect and seek common ground and common language with others. And yet the whole idea of "ground" is something that is, in itself, collapsing. So the question now is, on what ground do your relationships stand?

It seems essential that the people in your life be aware of this group of issues and relationship themes. Imagine you lived with a family and a partner on land that you knew was below the flood line — and a lot of rain was coming. You would certainly talk about it. And if you didn't that would be a little odd.

However, we may all agree that floods happen. We don't have words for floods of technology wiping out our ability to relate to one another in the ways that we used to. But now it's possible to see the crisis and to see what was done to us and the world. It's

possible to observe that most people simply do not feel safe in their own skin or in their own society.

Chiron represents an individuating force. It is you defining yourself and also experiencing the effects of this same drive on others who may or may not be able to withstand it; who may or may not care. However, this is a conversation you will benefit from having on a regular basis with someone.

The world is running low on conversations right now. We all seem to still be texting one another. That is getting old.

Note to Self

The themes of Chiron include radical individuating and being an outcast of some kind. They also include one-to-one teaching (mentorship), and a drive to commit yourself to healing. You are living through an extended phase where the focus must be on relationships. Many matters may have been raised from past eras in your life. However, the real question of Aries is: who are you and who are you becoming? Relationships are often a mirror of that knowledge, but they can only go so far; and they can be a distraction.

Attention Mounts: Chiron Conjunct Eris

We are now in the midst of a kind of ultimate confrontation between the chaos, insanity and faux tribal behavior of Eris in Aries, and the powerfully individuating quality of Chiron. The energy here is a little like a ferry boat going with the current being slammed into reverse and suddenly going against its own momentum and against the current at the same time.

You are looking at this all the time, and you're likely to be feeling it. Pretty much everyone is caught in the maelstrom, which is a cyclonic storm at sea. It's also from the title of a story by Edgar Allen Poe, which Marshall McLuhan used to describe the much

simpler media environment of the TV era. Here is a quote from the 1841 short story:

“Here the vast bed of waters, seamed and scarred into a thousand conflicting channels, burst suddenly into phrensied convulsion-heaving, boiling, hissing-gyrating in gigantic and innumerable vortices, and all whirling and plunging on to the eastward with a rapidity which water never elsewhere assumes except in precipitous descents.”

We now live in an exponentially more chaotic environment. I would encourage you to pause for a moment and consider this; the maelstrom was where McLuhan said we were 60-plus years ago. Today the waters have risen and there is no escaping the technological environment nor its effects on the human condition.

The narrator of the story survives by focusing on one thing. He is spinning around and around on the verge of drowning when he thinks to cling to a trunk. And in this way he not only witnesses the storm from inside its bounds but against all odds, he survives. Chiron is providing you this focusing power, but you must know the difference between the highly focused Chiron state of mind and the chaotic, tribal, messy Eris state of mind — which is the product of digital. Chiron is the response; it is the drive for healing and self-awareness.

I suggest you use this to focus your awareness on people and activities that will help you concentrate your mind and your abilities and stay afloat until somehow the storm passes and the waters recede. We cannot count on that happening any time soon. So therefore the work has to begin with you.

Yet you have a special tool to help you focus. That is Zeus in Libra, which is exactly opposite the Chiron-Eris conjunction. Zeus is the ultra-slow-moving hypothetical point. It is something in your mind and your awareness alone. And that is the ability to direct your energy. I don't mean this in some airy-fairy way. I don't mean reiki. I mean if you're holding a laser, a sword, a

high-powered rifle, nunchucks or a pen; or if you're a martial arts master; what you do is direct your will and your awareness as a fully conscious act.

That does not translate to attack. It translates to applied awareness, utilized all the time. Part of that awareness is a theme that should be writ large as a 7th house idea: situational awareness.

Note to Self

Chiron conjunct Eris is the ultimate break-free aspect here in the psychic mire of the digital age. You are experiencing it through your relationships, in the world, across the dial from your Sun, Moon or rising sign. It's important that you take full ownership of this and not see it as something outside yourself. There are people who will serve as examples and as teachers; the ones you want are interested in taking part in human society and are not too cool for school. You will recognize them because you can relate to them in words you both understand.

Saturn, Neptune and Dancing With M87

A few chapters back I introduced you to M87, which is trillions of stars that look like a little smudge in the sky. It resides in Libra and is about to be met by the second of the twin conjunctions, Saturn and Neptune. Events in astrology gain power for being rare. By my best count this is the fourth Saturn-Neptune conjunction in Aries since 1 B.C., and the first ever to take place on the Aries Point. By ever, I mean, I understand that no such event is recorded in the past 6,500 years; and now it's happening. And this unprecedented event aligns with one of the most prodigious known points in the universe, which happens to be in your sign.

We are about to learn a lot about it.

And, this is also about you. But what does that mean?

Well, I'm not really sure, and to some extent I will need to synthesize something useful. The meaning of the conjunction will have a relationship to the context of your life. You will have some unusual perceptive ability and also see options materialize that you had no concept were possible.

You have some clues from the near-miss conjunction that happened in mid-2025, when Saturn and Neptune came within one degree of one another. So, once again, querying history for data: what did you experience? Where were you on Jan. 1, 2025 and where are you today?

Who were you and who were you with? What was the transition or the transformation? Most significantly, how did you work with your environment and how were you transformed by it? The date of the near miss was July 16-17, 2025. What do you remember about those days?

Events in Aries, as they pertain to you, are about your relationship to your environment. This includes the human environs. So this comes down to *who and where, and how you adapted or grew.*

I have a hunch that for you, Saturn meeting with Neptune will bring some focus and some calm. To me it feels like a lens that will help you gather the light rays coming at you and see the world in a different way. However, there is nothing automatic about this transit, which may feel like the weather changing every single day.

Note that the exact conjunction happens once only, on February 20. This is just one month ahead of the third of three Chiron-Eris conjunctions, which takes place March 19. You are going to have a very busy few months right in that window.

Use all of your Libra power to stay in communication with both yourself and everyone in your life. And know where to place your

focus: on something meaningful, and creative, that you want to manifest. Even if you're dealing with wrinkles or complications at the time, focus on what you want and what you want to create. Invest in the people with whom you are simpatico.

However, I would suggest this. Your relationship to yourself is the single most important one for you to be aware of. Do not let others distract you from focusing on your own growth and inner process at this singularly important moment in this lifetime. There will be plenty of opportunities for disruption. I suggest you think of this time as a moment of your greatest potential ever. You may not feel this, but I suggest that even so, you act as if it's real.

Note to Self

Anyone who wants to express themselves in some way just about always experiences the diversions and the distractions of the 'outer' world. Then there are times when the conditions of the world make self-expression an essential feature of existence. And you are now in one of those moments.

Air Sign Events: Aquarius and Gemini

The oppositions from points in your sign to those in Aries have a compressed feeling. It's as if there is some intense energy contained and it has nowhere to go. So when you have that kind of scenario, the thing to look for are trines and sextiles. And it happens that you have some trines to work with. Since your reference sign is Libra, that takes us to Aquarius and Gemini.

These are points of expression, where you can both vent energy in constructive ways and also have fun recreating yourself. They describe many options and places you can explore new territory in yourself and in the world.

Aquarius: Your Inner Art Studio Comes to Life

The only people not interested in having an art studio are the ones who have either never had one or never visited one. It's a place dedicated to the creative process, whatever that might be about. An art studio is the true room of one's own. While this describes an astrological event, you may be moved to create an outer representation — an actual room.

Aquarius is the 5th place of Libra, that of pleasure and play, and that is where we find the nascent Pluto transit. The 5th is about a blend of daring and fun. There is always some risk, or some inner dare, and Pluto will push it.

Aquarius on its own creates and holds patterns, whether psychological, social or in some other way environmental. Pluto will seek to disrupt or shift those patterns, and will add passion, obsession and a drive to violate social norms — all essential to real creativity and inner freedom. By that I mean the kind that takes you where it will and that you don't need to push.

In fact once you're into that state of mind, the world ceases to matter. No inspiration is needed; you just go with the stream of existence. And the more intense you experience the external world as being, the better having a viable, open creative outlet is going to feel.

This is quite an aspect pattern. We've had it in pieces so far, and by northern late winter / southern late summer, we will have it at full strength. The pattern will initially be Saturn + Neptune opposite M87, with the main outlet being the trine from Pluto. While these transits will last a while, they will never be as focused as they will be in early 2026 into the spring, so catch the initial momentum while it's there.

Pluto in your 5th place describes the willingness to take a risk of some kind. Ideally this would be a creative one, and the risk factor is defying what you think is acceptable or would make for

good appearances. That's the thing you finally get to burn and allow yourself a measure of actual freedom.

Most people think of this as a luxury or privilege; I suggest you think of it more as oxygen and sunlight.

The Uranus Factor

There is more. In late April, Uranus takes up residence in Gemini. It's been there briefly, but not like this. The trine from Libra opens up yet another flow of ideas, experience and raw energy. While the 5th place is like an art studio, for you Gemini is the 9th place — the world of ideas, and the widest horizon of possibility.

This is "the world as art studio." It's also restless and calling you forth into the world with an itch you may have never experienced. And the way may open up: Uranus in the 9th (along with Sedna) describes an expanding field of possibilities and adventures. This particular transit is supported by many other factors, yet the most significant is the one that you personally bring: the source that exists within you.

Uranus in the 9th place is saying don't worry what other people believe, or what you think they believe. It's a total waste of time, since beliefs tend to be based on nothing and you are going to be drawn into an actual experiment of living that can take you far and wide. Any opportunity you have to go somewhere new, or be around unfamiliar people, will teach you a lot.

What matters the most is what you believe. That is the main thing that will govern your life — so keep an open mind.

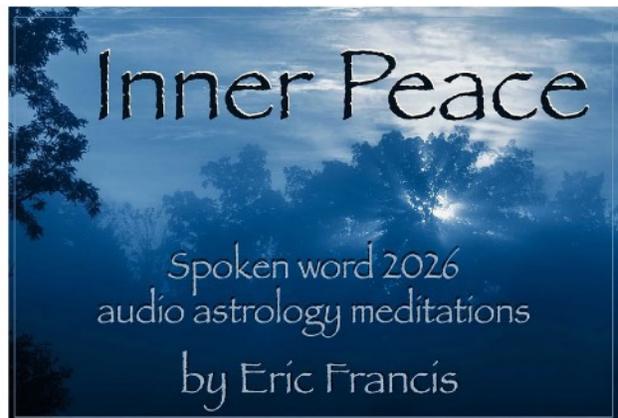
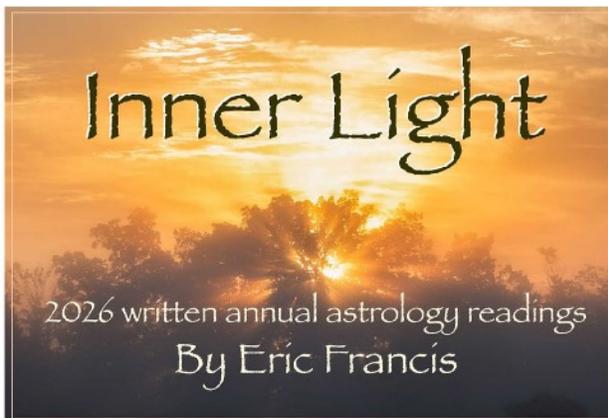
Sedna is the reminder to know where you are at all times. It's the reminder to maintain environmental and situational awareness. There will be times you need to blend in; and if so that's the thing to do. Other times you can stand out and make an impression; you don't need to do much.

Don't Look Back

If this seems like extraordinary astrology, it is. I suggest you go forward without doing much review, comparison, or reflection: take experience in real time. Venus retrograde at the end of the year will offer you plenty of opportunity to check back in with yourself, and to take stock of what you've done, where you've been and what you've created.

Until then, you are welcome to live like you were born free. Because you were, and you are. And you are embarking on a whole new adventure.

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