



*Montauk, NY. Photo by Eric Francis*

## The Awakening for Virgo **Of Sovereignty and Self-Discovery**

By Eric Francis

**A**N IMPORTANT PHASE OF YOUR LIFE IS ENDING: Amidst many other developments, Saturn and Neptune are leaving your primary zone of relationships, your opposite sign Pisces. They are entering Aries, another crucial sign in your relationship zone, which represents the financial and sexual consummation of your collaborations.

It's also the place where you tend to either lose yourself in a relationship, or find yourself. It is fair to say you will be doing a fair amount of one or the other for a while — but that ultimately, discovering yourself in your entirety is inevitable. So you might want to start with this as your concept.

Meanwhile, two vividly influential planets form a conjunction in Aries: Chiron and Eris. This will stir up your need for independence like nothing has before, unless you lived through the early 1970s. By independence, I mean the full awakening to who you are and what you want despite any relationship situation or contractual obligation that you may be invested in. What you know about yourself is one thing; what you might do about it is another.

There is a distinct tension that is fundamental to your life in recent years, which I will do my best to describe, without knowing you or what you've experienced. Astrology provides a metaphor and you will get to determine whether it's relevant and what it stands for.

Put simply, that tension is between needing or wanting to be in a relationship, and needing or wanting a measure of independence within that relationship. I will develop that theme extensively below; forgive me if I seem to elaborate too much — it's a delicate topic and I want to make sure I've covered at least the basics and some of the nuances.

## **Tension Between the Digital and the Physical**

There is another tension in your intimate relationships that is worth considering, given the nature of the times: the polarity between the real you and the "digital you" in relating to others. The real you has been transformed by the digital environment. When we beam back into the physical world, we are taking more and more of the digital world (and its expectations) with us — and those do not work very well in the physical.

The digital is a space of extreme polarities, opinions taken as fact, and whole bandwidths of seeming existence where others do not matter very much. Digital is also generating a LOT of anger, which is a result of being pushed out of body.

By this, I mean that the various tethers between consciousness and body are being badly messed with by digital. This creates a situation where you (and everyone else) feels like you need to find out who you are. Be aware of this. The cheap and ineffective way to "try to find out" is to go on the attack. This is a kind of self-actualization impulse that does not do anything constructive or positive. All it does is drive people apart.

I'm not suggesting you want to do this, but it's a quality of the environment, like salt is a factor near the ocean. So you need a better way, and that better way is to relate to people in a loving and grounded way.

In one of my experiences of finding a brilliant fortune cookie, I cracked it open and read, "Be resolutely who you are. Be humbly who you aspire to be."

Ok, with those things said, let's go back in time, and trace a certain process in your relationships from around 2011 to the present. This may be revealing of what you experienced during that time, which leads right up to the present moment.

## **Neptune and then Saturn in Pisces**

Neptune is the planet of dreams and creativity, and of both spirituality and delusions. When it's involved in your relationship zone — for you, Pisces, your 7th place — the result can be a feeling of isolation. What I have found, though, is that this is often an illusion, by which I mean the feeling is not representative of one's true reality. But it's convincing, and it has an emotional and psychological effect.

At best, relationship conditions can be confusing and at worst, you may be infiltrated or deceived in some significant way. Neptune in the 7th can also indicate the presence of people who are mentally unstable (which will depend on other aspects and tendencies, though that potential rises as a probability).

Then, complicating matters, you may decide in retrospect that you should have known all along. This is typical of a Neptune experience. Yet what is potentially as concerning is looking back over a time when you felt lonely and isolated and realizing that there were people around you and you were actually in good company. So what exactly was the issue?

There are a few possibilities. Neptune in Pisces has arrived at the very peak of digital conditions taking over and has rearranged us down to our brain cells and nervous systems. Digital conditions are isolating for anyone who grew up in the actual world of birds, bees, trees and "hey, you're friendly; let's go out for a beer."

There is currently a thick haze over every social environment, and every social encounter; the sky has gone from clear and sunny to weird and cloudy after those airplanes flew in a crisscross pattern all morning and sprayed that garbage on us. While we do get to have more fun with digital tools and toys, the fog is still thick and it distorts who we are to one another.

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