

Fostering Hope by Lanvi Nguyen.

#### From the Earthquake Zone to the Creative Zone

Somewhere In Between for Libra

By Eric Francis

Those who live in earthquake zones are better off dwelling in light, portable structures. Something like a yurt comes to mind: stable, spacious and in a fairly short time, ready to travel. I reckon that during the past 16 years of Pluto moving through the foundation of your chart, shaking your core perhaps even every day, you've seen the wisdom in this.

Libra wants to live on a strong foundation. Capricorn should be that. It represents mountain ranges, and stalwart institutions in the world that are not supposed to change much. Yet Pluto through Capricorn is the latest (and most intense) of many transits that have rattled the ground you stand on and been responsible for challenging even the notion of having a comfort zone — and that is exactly what a home and security base are supposed to be.

During the transit of Pluto through your 4th place — the ground you stand on, and the walls that surround you — the wisdom has potentially meant some combination of simplifying, carrying less and gradually shedding the considerable responsibility you are inclined to take on. Perhaps you've done what you can to lower your costs, declutter your space, and have fewer people in your life.

Pluto transits have a way of teaching security. And if you have somehow not gone fully into this process, your soul is waiting. You may have a few things to tidy up, and if you're at least willing, you will get it done before the year is over.

During Pluto through Capricorn, in your 4th house (or place), we've seen many seemingly permanent structures crumble, many of them going back generations. There is a force acting on both society and all of us as individuals, undermining what we thought of as reality.

Pluto has been burrowing through the very ground on which you stand, like a mining operation. The vibrations and — perhaps explosions — have often come by way of your family. Transits to the 4th place always influence one's current home as well. And yet there has been a gift, which is your emotional independence, gradually gained, perhaps hard-won. While nobody is an island, you have learned to stand on your own in many ways that may have seemed impossible at earlier times in your life — and which you dearly wanted and needed to do.

Much of this has involved your relationship to your family and, moreover, the way you orient on your family history. When I look back at my own journals, it's amazing to me how much I was working through so years after I was no longer under the direct influence of the individuals involved. Hence, the notion of orientation, and for Libra, family is a powerful one: it is more foundational than perhaps for any other sign.

My question is, what is the ground on which you now stand? Where do you sink your roots? How has your concept of security changed?

In 2008, at the outset of the Pluto-in-Capricorn transit, <u>I wrote for</u> <u>you</u>:

Pluto arriving here begins a distinct phase of your life, one where your emotional independence is the keynote. Pluto wants to set you free from unhealthy emotional dependencies. And Pluto at the same time wants to teach you to feel, as apart from your early conditioning.

You may find yourself shifting or severing ties to family, setting boundaries with the people around you and making decisions that once seemed daunting or difficult. In general, you are about to take big strides toward being your own person, in your own way — and most of all, in your own place or space.

Gaining control over your physical environment is critical with this transit; you will not be in the mood to bargain or negotiate about the "room of one's own" that is perhaps the most familiar phrase in all of feminist literature. Of course, this room is a physical four walls, and it's also an interior space, a space of feelings and sensitivity.

In the most proximate sense, the 4th place is where you lay your head: your bedroom, and other intimate parts of your dwelling place. How that has changed and evolved over the years would make an interesting story, and I imagine you've conducted quite a few experiments.

Then there is the matter of the compartmentalization of your feelings: of keeping your relationships removed from one another, and sharing information on a need-to-know basis, rather than revealing yourself to anyone. You may have fewer but more trusted people, and be less secretive — and also less controlling of others and what they feel. In parallel, you may have learned to feel less controlled by the scripts of your family history, and toxic emotions such as guilt. All of this has gone through the mill of Pluto in the 4th, delivering you into the present moment.

# **Pluto in Aquarius – Your Inner Creative Studio**

Having survived the transformations of Pluto in the most sensitive angle of your chart, and your life, you are now approaching a new experience: living in service of your creative drive.

The astrology is simple enough, on the surface: Pluto is entering your 5th place, which is some hybrid of the art studio and play space. The 5th is a place to share and explore, freed from the constraints of security and family. Once you have a studio, you come and go when you please, and you paint when you want. That is the attitude I suggest you adopt.

I say this knowing you may not be an artist (but you probably are in some sense, because the whole matter of aesthetics is so central to the Libra soul). The 5th place, for you, Aquarius, is about pleasure and bold experiments. The sign involved suggests a group, or collaborative orientation. That can help the creative process and it can also seriously hinder it.

What is implied by Pluto's presence is that your creative and risktaking drive will move to the front of your life, and at the same time, you will need to be as independent of the influences of others as possible. If there is to be a group, it will most likely be an audience of some kind. And while collaboration is not out of the question, you will focus the most creative power doing solo work, where you don't have to answer to anyone but yourself.

It was a similar situation ahead of your 4th house Pluto transit: confronting a lingering sense of obligation that you have in many ways learned how to move beyond. The houses describe actual environments that are extensions of each other, one blending into the next. What takes place in one house emerges in the subsequent house.

And so working through the group dynamic at the center of your family life — which falsely made you responsible for what others feel — now extends into your creative life, and to some extent, your overall social life. To be free in any meaningful way means being

liberated, to the greatest degree possible, from any sense of obligation. This includes familial and social obligations, and what anyone might expect of you as a creative person.

To truly be an artist implies breaking consensus. There must be a risk in all true art. Yet art is not the product, it's the process of getting there. Marshall McLuhan, my favorite philosopher, described the artist as a probe. He also described its protective effect, in a way standing guard for all of society. This is particularly relevant to your 5th house transit due to the intensity with which Aquarius is involved with technology.

He wrote, "To have a disease without its symptoms is to be immune. No society has ever known enough about its actions to have developed immunity to its new extensions or technologies. Today we have begun to sense that art may be able to provide such immunity."

A significant element of this transit will therefore involve your relationship to technology, and the influence and impact that it has on your humanity. We live in a time when the thing that makes us human is at stake. We are gradually being transformed into robots. As you tap into this issue, you may find yourself not only disturbed by these developments but also radicalized and determined to do something about it.

At the least, Pluto in Aquarius in your 5th will give you the strength to stand apart from the pressure to conform to any idea that human thought, feeling and potential can in any way be replaced by machine language. And it will remind you over and over again that neither your creative life, nor any other part of your life, is a popularity contest.

You cannot make honest, self-determined decisions based on a committee vote. You alone are responsible for your choices, and that places an extremely low value on the view of those who would seek to influence you without your request for help or guidance.

# Chiron and Eris in Your Relationship House

You must be looking at the world with some bewilderment, wondering how people can stand the chaos of their own minds. You require a sense of order, which you usually find through purpose, whether related to work, creative activity, or a relationship.

Aries is the sign covering your relationship house, the 7th. Aries is self-seeking, and one of the keys to understanding any chart, especially the solar chart, is to study where Aries lands — for you it's a study in seeking other as self, and self as other. Here in the 21st century, all I can say is good luck with that.

One of the reasons that Libra is so relationship oriented is that you have Aries on the 7th. Relationships (the 7th) are how you selfactualize (Aries). Simply put, your relationships are an important vehicle for your process of self-development, even more so than is true for others. I think for many people this instinct is subversive. They use people to find themselves without ever admitting to themselves what they're doing. For Aries this must be at the surface. It's more fun that way. And while Aries is where you seek yourself, the interesting part is that it's so different from yourself. This is not like dating your clone (such as the characters Akbar and Jeff from the Life in Hell cartoon strip). Rather, yours is more a case of opposites attract. This describes a profound mission of self-integration, between Venus-ruled Libra and Mars-ruled Aries. It's not just that opposites attract; your role is to integrate the opposites fully.

Chiron, one of the first "new planets" in modern times to join astrology (discovered in 1977, with books coming out in the early 1980s), focuses awareness of whatever it touches. It's a search beam, the tap on the glass, or the shortness of breath indicating you're in the wrong place.

It can also precipitate crises, including healing crises. Its most distinctive quality is to help people concentrate knowledge, power and confidence around injured places. It is the "shamanic wounding" that nearly all power-holders experience. More than anything, all that is influenced strongly by Chiron must stand out. Its first keyword was "maverick," bestowed by this thing that was part asteroid, part comet and part planet.

You now have Chiron moving through Aries, your relationship house, which is also the place where you experience most of the everyday environment as you walk around the world. The 7th includes intimate partners, business partners, and any focused entity who qualifies as "the other" — including (from ancient astrology) open enemies.

Chiron transiting the 7th can have a diversity of effects. It will bring unusual people into your life; some will be elders and if you are fortunate, you will meet an important teacher.

While this transit has been brewing since 2018-2019, it comes to a very sudden peak on April 7, as it's the focal point of an unusual total solar eclipse. The fact of such an eclipse in Aries is outstanding enough. Events in Aries carry extra influence, though this is personal for you: it represents some opening, transformation, or shift in your relationship life and in your wider environment.

Yet this eclipse is conjunct Chiron, representing the first major peak of its transit through Aries. I've worked with Chiron since my first days as an astrologer and I am wondering what this would be about in the 7th house. It is, at a minimum, some kind of rite of passage for you; some kind of coming of age. It may represent a test or transition in a relationship.

At the very least, it will be a proving moment, where you see what you've been missing, not just about a current relationship but about your lifetime trajectory in partnerships of all kinds. Now would be a good time for a review, going all the way back to your first relationship, no matter how young you were.

# Aries 7th House, Act II

Let's bring Eris into the picture. This broadens the scope of the discussion considerably — making it far wider. It's about the total environment in which you find yourself. You may have noticed the

world is going insane. You may be wondering why. At the expense of being simplistic, digital conditions — the entire world swallowed by the internet — is boiling the humanity out of people. Living in a world of robots — algorithms, artificial intelligence, virtual and enhanced reality, and the rest of it — people are becoming robots, which means inhumane and mechanical. And living in a fantasy world.

Just imagine if you could take people's souls, gather them up and put them in a basket, and drop them into a deep fryer. That is the effect of digital conditions on most people. Some can handle it better than others — most cannot, and they don't know it.

Please test a theory for me. To the extent you have struggled in your relationships in recent years (depending on who you are, the past five to 15 years), the issue was that the person could not figure out who they were; or they had no interest in doing so. You could see who they were, and they could not.

Another condition that may have emerged is that people are sick — literally, ill, with a significant mental or physical condition.

Aries has been the scene of the digital revolution, as it has impacted both the individual and collective sense of self. How people tend to define themselves not only affects the psychic condition of society. It IS the psychic condition of society. And right now we are in the midst of either total upheaval, destabilization, or identity based on wounding and trauma.

Chiron in Aries is the very sigil of identity politics. It was around most recently from the late 1960s into the early 1970s, when a million empowerment movements by allegedly oppressed minorities were all the rage. Empowerment movements based on identity are always an attempt to claim the strength of a supposed injury, which often emphasizes the injury and not the strength.

We live in a time of total destabilization of the mind, and that is the real injury. Yet to address that would require a therapy movement, not bathroom equity or screaming about sexism on Twitter. The solution to the digital problem will be found in another dimension, though at least we can use the digital realm to spread the message. But it's not the place to have the meeting, the healing session or the encounter group.

There's another influence in Aries, which is Eris. That's been around since you were quite young; it started in 1922. So we know little else; it's as if Aries is entirely fused with the fragmenting influence of Eris. Yet Eris, as does Chiron, contains the seeds of wholeness-making and the quest for sanity. As these two points close in on one of their rare conjunctions (exact 2025-2026 and heating up now), you are likely to notice an effect in your relationships.

The power to choose people remains one of the most important abilities you have. Remember that it takes you about two years to get to know someone (Mars rules Aries, and that is the length of its orbit). Consider who you've been observing for a while and notice how they are developing. Keep track of their commitment to healing. This includes their tendency to help, or to use, others.

I suggest applying extra caution with anyone who presents themselves as some kind of abuse survivor. As a primary identity, its sole purpose is to manipulate others. To identify as a survivor is not to seek healing; it's to exploit wounding.

Sometimes this identity is concealed behind "helper." So pay attention to them as well and get a sense of where they are coming from. If they say the word "trauma" more than once per hour, that's probably too much. Once per day is too much; once may be enough.

My sense of your astrology is that you're growing weary of all of this, and need a more creative approach. This impulse is coming from other elements of your astrology, and Pluto will be giving you some boldness.

In 2024, Chiron and Eris come within two degrees of a conjunction for the first time since the identity politics mess began in 1970 or so. This is just a warmup for the events of 2025 and 2026, which will be propulsive for the entire culture. The eclipse conjunct Chiron is a warmup. You will know everything you need to know from what happens around the time of that event. The mark of successfully using Chiron is one of the distinctions of making progress in good therapy: you use what you know.

The people you want to be around are bold about being themselves, even if that's not what they call it. They are their own creative project: self as art, and also able to relate. You are entering a time in your life when ideas will lead the way; notice the people who love ideas and learn what you can from them.

You're probably bored with people whose primary thing in life is how hurt they are. I'm not suggesting that you withdraw compassion, but rather determine where you seek your reflection and your true counterpart.

#### Jupiter and Uranus in Taurus, Your 8th Place

Let's try a new house, the next one, which is the 8th. Another relationship house, this one is covered by Taurus. The 8th is a house of strong attachments, which matches Taurus as the sign of strong attachments.

This is also a money house; it's "the second of the seventh," which is to say that the 2nd house relates to money, so the house after any other house is the financial aspect of the earlier one. So the 8th is the money house of the 7th, which means money that comes to you through marriage. It also covers money that comes to you through inheritance in any form.

And in what may seem like twisted logic, the 8th is a rather potent house of sexuality. Traditionally this is the sex of the marriage bed. However, people with a strong 8th are the types who get the sexual attention of adults when they are young, and tend to drip with a potent, magnetic attractiveness throughout their lives.

Uranus has been working this territory for a while — right around when Chiron showed up in Aries. It will be difficult to distinguish the effects of the two transits except through careful evaluation of the subject matter involved, and for both, it's relational. But the 8th will have more of the money and sex flavor, and the 7th will have more of the relationship psychology and growth flavor.

There can be some really unusual and intense sexual feelings when Uranus is in the picture, of a kind you've never felt before and that can seem really weird to muggles. Taurus is physical, Uranus is energetic, and it comes on fast. It also hints strongly at a group dynamic. Under this influence you might do things you would not ordinarily do, but which seem like the thing to do at the time. Make peace with any such decisions; they may in fact have been the right thing for you.

Uranus in Taurus through the 8th is a transit that can easily shake up the status quo of a committed relationship. It's the kind of thing that can come from the outside (meaning by way of a partner or circumstance), and also reflect something you were feeling inwardly. So the effect of this transit is that something may have happened but which you did not do.

Now, if we take this transit in the context of Chiron moving through your 7th, there are multiple indications of an entirely new frame of reference in your relationship life. I know that unwanted or unexpected changes can be painful, though this really has the mark of liberation.

As of last year, there is a new factor in the 8th, and that is Jupiter. First off, this is a transit that is likely to increase your cash flow, particularly through a relationship or legitimate investments (rather than speculative ones, or anything with gaming). For example, stock is an 8th house investment and cryptocurrency is more like a 5th house investment. At the moment both are leaning in your favor, especially with Jupiter in the picture.

Just weeks after the big eclipse conjunct Chiron, Jupiter and Uranus form a conjunction. It's hard to say something bad about Jupiter conjunct Uranus in Taurus. Sure, there are some people who are going to take risks that are too big. This conjunction calls for some modesty and restraint, but with that and some intelligence, it's a winner. It's difficult not to consider this setup manna from heaven in some way. And it's likely to represent a boon of some kind, or a long-awaited windfall. You may be looking at the reward for a commitment well-honored and well-lived. I think you will recognize the results when you see them. They may not be only material; this is an aspect of 'great meetings' and the 8th is a portal for others into your life. Make sure that you understand the nature of your commitment to them. If there is a contract involved, know what you're signing. Make sure that if there is an easy in, there is an easy out.

Speaking of, this may be an opportunity for you to liberate yourself from a commitment that you do not want, and in the process, get yourself into a better situation.

There's a lot of resistance to change right now, which is a combination of fear, and people being stuck in fixed patterns. Note that two of the signs/houses with the most activity are fixed, and that means change is imminent. You can afford to not be afraid of movement, transition or progress. There is an honesty and directness to your transits — and a precision. They make sense, in theme and timing. It's up to you to use them well.

## Unholy Spiritual: Goddess of Fecundity, Sedna

First, a brief sidebar about how we got to Sedna. It's exemplary of the special age of astronomy and astrology in which we live and practice the art of reading the sky. For me, the developments in planetary science are among the honors of being an astrologer at this time in history.

The most distant planets past Neptune are named for fertility and creation deities. Members of the closer group, including systems like Pluto — which crosses inside the orbit of Neptune — are named for deities of death and or the underworld.

Those are called Plutinos, and they have a 3:2 orbital resonance with Pluto. That means for every three beats of Neptune (165 Earth years), we get two beats of Pluto (248 Earth years).

Then there are the rest of them, whose orbits start at around 290 years (the first-ever being QB1/Albion at 290 years) out to the top of this section, Sedna, being 11,400 years. There is no orbital resonance to Pluto; they do their thing, though many are clustered in the 300-year band. These are called "classical Kuiper objects." Here is the story of the discovery of that region, which began with QB1/Albion in 1992. They are also known as "Cubewanos," which is to say, Q-B-1-o's.

Astronomers are funny people, by which I mean they are often intuitive and humorous, especially the really smart ones I've met. If you ever meet an astronomer who does not like astrology or astrologers, go somewhere else. Those at the top of the field tend to be much more open-minded, even if they think we're a little nuts for writing articles like this. Charlie Kowal, the discoverer of Chiron, was a close friend of Zane Stein, who wrote one of the first books about Chiron.

They should like us. As I said to Jane X. Luu, the co-discoverer of QB1/ Albion, and therefore of the Kuiper Belt, besides you, your colleagues, and a few backyard astronomers, astrologers are among the only people who really, truly care about what you do. There are not so many astrologers in this small group, but the ones who are here are rather devoted.

In return, Mike Brown of Caltech, one of the great planetary discoverers of our day (who brought us Eris and Quaoar, among others), wrote a now-famous article called <u>I Heart Astrologers</u>.

I woke up one morning and it was in my inbox, with a note from Mike asking, "What do you think of this!?" I was one of its peer-reviewers. Mike, a Gemini, wrote that astronomers and astrologers are twin souls, looking at the sky for meaning. We just have slightly different motives for doing so.

Mike (and his colleagues), it turns out, discovered something beyond the Kuiper Belt, and that was Sedna. Like Gerard Kuiper, the Dutch-American astronomer who had anti-predicted the region that is now named after him (and got something for nothing — his name on the region of space he didn't think was there), Mike anti-predicted what is called the Scattered Disc. Then unlike Kuiper, he personally found it — in the form of Sedna. You can read an article by him wherein he explains that he has no idea how this thing <u>got into an 11,400-year</u> <u>orbit</u>.

Now you know these things. They are scientific facts and spiritual metaphors. Welcome to astrology at its best. Let's talk about Sedna changing signs in a few months — for the first time since 1966.

# Sedna and Jupiter Enter Gemini

In a year of unusual things happening, one of them takes place in the house associated with your philosophy of life. That is the 9th place, which for you is Gemini. (That suggests you have twin philosophies, or always see two sides of the issue. This describes the famous Libran ambivalence.)

This started as being about the church, the clergy, higher education, the higher courts, big libraries and all things foreign.

Covered by the sign Gemini, it is the region of the chart where we find out about someone's idea of the meaning of life. And in our rarified year of the unusual manifesting before our eyes (the eclipse conjunct Chiron, for example), Sedna is moving into Gemini. This is a deep influence — the Inuit (Eskimo) goddess she's named for lives at the bottom of the Arctic Ocean.

Hers is a long and sordid tale of how a beautiful young girl ended up down there without her appendages: her fingers, toes, arms and legs all became the whales and dolphins and porpoises. As I understand it, these also became seals and sea-lions. If the Inuit people eat it, and make coats out of it, it is because Sedna gave it to them. Hence, she is a goddess of creation.

In the myth, Sedna is not betrayed by her father (as some believe). Rather, she was refusing to get married, rejecting her suitors and preferring to brush her hair. Her father marries her off to someone who ferries her off in a little boat, but turns out to be a demon in disguise. Her cries for help account for the creation of the Arctic winds (they had to come from something). Her father responds and goes to help her, but it's too late. Her demon fiancé is pushing her into the ocean, whacking her fingers with his oar as she tries to cling to the side of the boat. She plunges down into the freezing water, and as her appendages break off, they turn into all of these other creatures — the ones that feed the people.

Astrologers who take interest have pretty much formed a consensus that Sedna is about the environment. Let's work with that. The concept relates to global warming. Brown and company tend to name things to call attention to the location and condition of the people who provided the deity figure. The ice caps are melting, and strange things are happening with the weather. (I would assert that we don't know why. Where I am sitting was once under a mile-thick sheet of ice, and my Subaru was not here to help melt it.) But speaking of, the last time Sedna was entering Gemini, the ice caps were retreating.

Your 9th house is covered by Gemini. Your spirituality is inherently social. It's not about an old man in the sky directing human affairs. It's represented by two little kids speaking their own language (the *idioglossia*, or secret language of twins). Gemini is the environment in which people speak, do business on the local level, and relate to their brothers and sisters. (The Bible early on has a story of one brother murdering another; it weighs on humanity, and people with that mythology get into a lot of wars.)

Earlier in this reading, I described the fraught mental environment being pushed on us by digital technology. It is one of a very few sources of the insanity in our society, and it's doing a great job making the others possible. 'Spiritual' is just another term for 'mental', though the concept is wider, embracing the numinous and concepts beyond the usual capacities of the mind (that said, I think trigonometry is a miracle).

Sedna's ingress into your 9th place represents a deepening of your spiritual values, your sense of purpose, and your mission. It's something very distant coming to visit you in the house of things distant, which relate to your philosophy of existence. This is about seeing yourself as part of something much larger, where both elements are essential to the relationship. In other words, ideas do not exist without someone to think about them. And you are here to do just that.

Soon after Sedna enters Gemini, and soon after Jupiter makes a conjunction to Uranus in Taurus (expanding your earning potential) and soon after the Moon and Sun form an exact conjunction to Chiron (shifting your sense of self, and altering all of your relationships in some way), Jupiter enters Gemini. The first thing it does is make a conjunction to Sedna.

Anyone wondering what Sedna in Gemini is about will have a proving moment when Jupiter forms a conjunction to it on May 27. Jupiter enlarges whatever it touches. It's perfect that we get this magnifier right in the first days of Sedna's Gemini excursion, which lasts until 2066.

On its own, Jupiter transiting your 9th place would imply opportunities for international travel, an expansion of your spiritual life and your ideas about creation, and the twins learning about five other languages.

When you consider what this grouping of events is about, remember the unusual properties of Sedna and her role as a goddess of fecundity — of abundance. Note her involvement with environmental conditions. Remember that your awareness is an environment.

Consider the sequence of events as they unfold into your birthday season: the eclipse and conjunction of Jupiter and Uranus in April; and Jupiter and Sedna in May. This is all about your world opening up to you. And this comes with responsibilities.

## The Matter of Authority and the Double Standard

Society is in an authority crisis right now. Its manifestations include mass swaths of the population ready to do/inject what they are told; others taking over as cult leaders (and the cult being the fundamental unit of social order); and others who seem lost and angry but use the word "freedom" a lot. Many are not sure if they are waiting for Jesus or the next Hula-Hoop.

This is all part of the 'digital revolution' and the collapse of structure associated with Pluto's trip through Capricorn.

Thankfully, you have strong inner guidance, and people in turn count on you for this quality. As you know, it is gradually emerging in your psyche through an ongoing maturing process, driven by the *need rather than the preference* to speak up and do the right thing. Your response to the various circumstances calling for your guidance has included a drive for excellence; this keeps you honest. Excellence implies integrity.

One characteristic of 2024 is things that have been long in building coming to fruition. One development in your life took hold for you around 2002, with the world still in the chaotic aftermath of the Sept. 11, 2001 incident.

The transit I'm describing is the movement of a special point called Kronos through your 10th place, Cancer. The 10th is a very important house, as it describes your mode of action, what you do, and what you want to be known for. By 'special point' I mean that it is conceptual and has no planetary body. I put it into nearly every chart.

Kronos, which orbits the Sun in an astounding 521 years (more than twice the duration of Pluto), sets a high standard and, ideally, leads by example — rather than authority (but both are possible).

Meanwhile, for the past five years, you've been under a kind of opposing influence, which is Chiron in Aries, which we have discussed. Chiron has a maverick quality while Kronos describes compliance — but also aspires to excellence.

We now come to a new peak moment of this journey: the square of Chiron and Kronos. This may put you in the position of holding others to their own rules. While the deeper goal of Kronos is to be exemplary, there are times when the authority factor must come into play: in other words, on one or more occasions, you will be called to actually take charge of something slightly outside your usual realm of influence.

You would be right to question why taking action is any of your business, and you should come up with a pretty good answer.

There must be some compelling community interest. You are at the point where your responsibility no longer ends at the threshold of your home or place of work. Your realm of influence is expanding, and that expansion will test the progress you've made during these troubled years.

This transit will demand that you follow your own rules, whether they are your personal code, your spiritual principles, the written laws of your community, or corporate by-laws. The rules are going to come in handy this year — and you will be their interpreter in both letter and spirit. You set your own policy, though to live outside the law you must be honest.

## Logos: The Language of Understanding

Let's end with a factor in your sign. It's speaking to other factors in Aries and Capricorn, but I'm going to keep it simple here — this aspect structure could be a reading of its own, and maybe I'll get there.

The Libra factor is Logos (a Cubewano, orbiting the Sun in about 307 years, discovered in 1997). The root of the word logic, Logos is the ability to put ideas into ordered thought and express them in words. This implies at a minimum a flexible but disciplined internal mental structure of some kind.

This notion is the very antithesis of the digitally-induced mental and spiritual chaos implied by events of the past generation in Aries, Capricorn and Aquarius, back to the origins of "postmodernism." Under postmodern philosophy, you can write a book, cut it up, throw it on the floor and rearrange the paragraphs randomly — and think it makes perfect sense. And it might, if there is a strong pre-existing conceptual framework to reassemble it. Someone might think throwing a rock

through a window is art; if you can see the logic in that, you might be able to explain it as such.

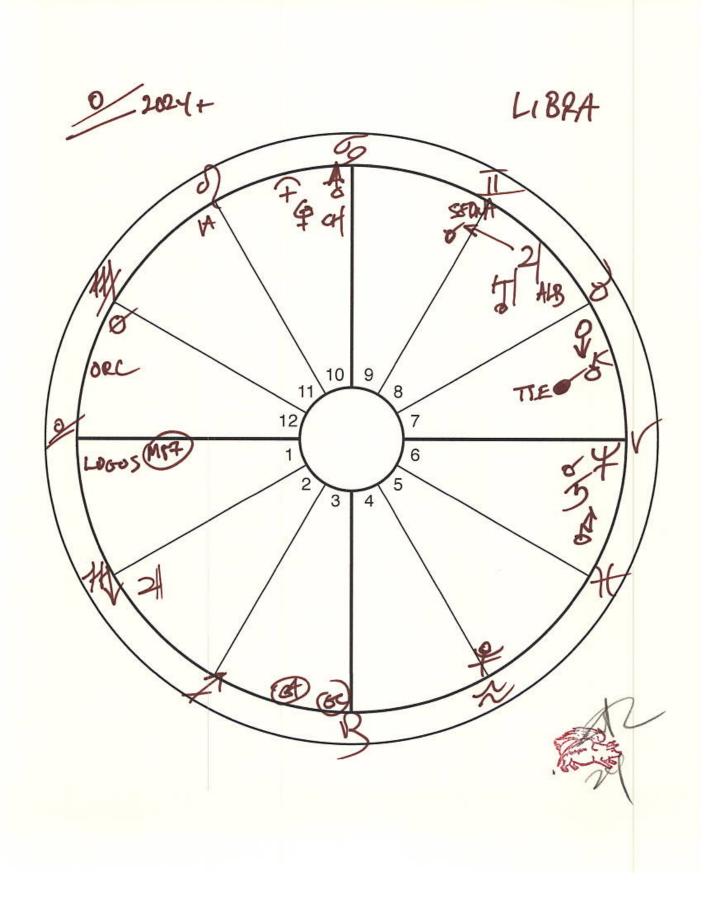
Logos at least would provide a kind of camera frame to tell a story within. For many, toxic chaos is a kind of comfort zone, and a place of retreat from a world where anything means anything. Yet this is often angry and dishonest.

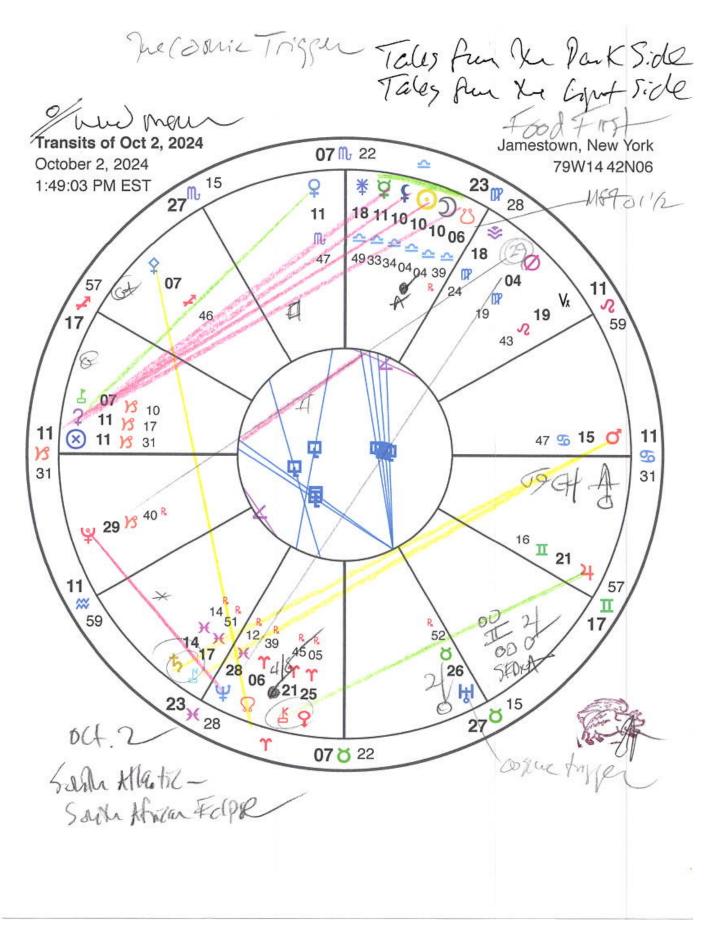
One could make a good argument that the thing under assault is the Logos generally, which wants to maintain some semblance of order of ideas. There is no ability to conceptualize "truth" in an expressive way without Logos. I don't mean absolute truth; I mean describing something basic or quoting someone accurately. Logos is the context in which we may orient ourselves in reality. It's a mode of reflection where it's possible to understand something, in the most basic sense.

To think this way in our time is taboo, though with Logos working its way through Libra, you are the embodiment of common sense. This, too, is an organizing principle: the *sensus communis* or common receptor of the senses, from which we make sense of the world. That is your most important role right now.

And this includes putting into words that which cannot be easily spoken of. It is about not being a crazy person, not making up stories, not randomly declaring the world flat with no basis, but describing your honest understanding in a way that others may also understand well enough to consider to the degree of having a conversation. We live in a time when ever-fewer people are able to conduct a basic conversation. And you are here to help lead the way back to a place where we can.

I know this is a tall order, but you are up to it, and you have a lot of help right now. That — and we are counting on your sanity.





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