

Libra Astrology Studio 2020-21

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Hello Libra and welcome to Notes to Myself, your 2020-2021 Astrology Studio. My is Eric Francis and I am here with some interesting and exciting astrology for you. In this interesting, exciting and somewhat troubled time, though I have to say the world has been in troubled times for as long as I've been watching, which is a while. And although we are in a little deeper than usual – perhaps that's an understatement – we also have the potential to address problems that were not quite as visible in previous times – problems both personal and also collective.

In this first segment I want to introduce your astrology and bring your solar chart up to the present. This is aimed at anyone with a strong Libra signature. That could include Libra Sun or Libra rising, or say for example, Libra Moon or Chiron in Libra. And I'm going to orient the houses using the sign Libra as house number one. So that's what makes it the Libra reading, because that's our point of orientation. And if you are following this in your natal chart just count whole signs as houses. That will be an interesting exercise and seeing how well that works. There are a number of ways to measure and work with the houses. Personally, I use them all simultaneously when I have a timed chart. So, there you go and let's get moving.

The really unusual thing about this long phase of your life is that you've had Pluto moving through your 4th house, Capricorn, going back to early 2008. And what this is about is your whole concept of what makes you feel safe and secure being shaken up and being compelled to reach down in a very deep way to find your own sense of belonging and your own sense of confidence and security and being able to take care of yourself.

When Capricorn is on the 4th house, that is a way of saying that the security matters of the 4th are going to be expressed in the style of Capricorn. The style of Capricorn is a structured and predictable approach to security. And by security, I mean the four walls you live in, your sense of involvement with your family, your financial situation and also your emotional security.

Generally, you do well in structured situations. And this, by the way, is supported by the fact that Saturn is the planet that is exalted in Libra. You'll hear very few people associate Saturn with Libra, but it is. Exalted is a form of rulership. It's almost like being a visiting queen to another country and being treated with the full royal honors.

And so, there is a connection between Capricorn and Libra. That's an important one and there's also a connection between Capricorn and Aquarius, which we're going to get into in a moment. **[4:32]**

To have Pluto going through Capricorn for these years (now we're talking about, I guess if you count 2008, 2009, 2010 and then up till 2020, that's thirteen years. That's quite a while) has been as close to the opposite of grounded, predictable, traditionally based concepts of security as you can get.

In fact, it's been a little bit like living in an earthquake zone. Only when people live in earthquake zones they usually live in light buildings, like tents or yurts. You have been in an earthquake zone though with the heavy, more durable, made of brick type of apparatus as your concept of what makes you feel safe.

And the 4th house is a strange place because it has a lot to do with the past and it has a lot to do with how the past translates into the future. It's almost like needing certain elements of comfort that made you feel safe as a child that don't actually give you any safety as an adult, but they give you the feeling of safety. And also, when things are changing, you always end up having to depend on yourself.

Capricorn on the 4th is saying that you prefer to depend on things that appear to have durability. You're not the type to put money into your mattress. You are the type to want to invest in wise and confident ways. You're a bit risk averse, and that's where Capricorn and Aquarius, the two most important signs in this reading, are going to come in as they express themselves through the Libra chart. **[6:35]**

And so, what Pluto going through the 4th house has done has been to fracture all these concepts of security, to kind of shake them and crack them and have them collapse on themselves. And what this has done over and over again has put you into a position where you simply must learn how to depend on yourself, rather than depending on, for example: the bank being there, or the family being there, or whatever it might be.

And we've been going through a lot of bad stuff since 9/11. We've been going through so far now nineteen years, going on twenty years of nonstop basically disaster capitalism. And this has fatigued and exhausted and stressed out everyone, unless you happen to be in the national security business, in which case the chances are down to the quantum level that you'll be listening to this.

And so that's the long lead into what's been going on now. And more recently in late 2017 Saturn entered Capricorn and that too precipitated shake-ups. And also, simultaneously a process of cleaning up the debris of the past. And then this year Jupiter entered Capricorn and two things happened.

Saturn made a conjunction to Pluto in January, which was like the big one, the big earthquake as we have seen. All the things that are happening right now and that have happened in 2020 all have as their epicenter the very day of the Saturn-Pluto conjunction.

There was an event on that day involving genetic codes being sent out that precipitated this entire global disaster. And this happened in your 4th house, so once again a shake-up.

Then Jupiter came through and is still there and the message of Jupiter is a whole new message that is about you finding the spiritual value in all that has happened. While I don't suggest people court disaster and huge tests, they do come. For most people in life, they'll arrive a few times and those who successfully complete their passage through these tests often discover that they are stronger more capable people who have developed skills and abilities that you did not have before.

And Jupiter moving through Capricorn making a series of three conjunctions to Pluto – the third one will be in November – is about claiming the spiritual value of all that you have been through. And it is about recognizing the value that you have found in actually taking great strides toward being a more self-reliant person. Someone who depends upon yourself and not upon the structures and the relationships of the past in order to be who you are growing into, essentially. It's a little bit of a glimpse of the future. **[10:23]**

Now, all of what I'm saying today is leading toward a shift of planets going into Aquarius. Remember that. Before I get there I want to complete this section by talking about some of what is going on in Aries and the ways in which the things that are going on in Aries, which is your opposite house, opposite sign, emphasizing both relationships and relationship partners and then also serving as a general description of the immediate environment that you are in.

All of the houses represent environments. They represent the environments that you move around in and also environments that you contain. So, there's kind of an outer match to an inner reality going on. And the 7th is the most accessible of the twelve houses because it's the one that we're wandering around in as we relate to people, to partners, as we engage in relationships,

conflicts, love affairs, business partnerships, and general encounters throughout the course of the day.

A lot of that is going on in the 7th house, particularly where the people are known to us. It's less about anonymous people and more about the people we are the closest to. But I've found that the 7th just kind of describes the world that we find ourselves in. It's the house of smile and the world smiles with you – in terms of that immediate mirroring of relationship. And you know if you're feeling bad one day people are picking on you and all this. That's all 7th house stuff.

And one thing that has been happening for your whole life, but also in recent years is that you 7th house has been activated. And one of the things that it has been activated by is Chiron, which arrived in 2018 and made its final ingress into Aries in 2019 and by Eris which has been in Aries pretty much as long as any of us have been alive.

If you're 90... I've got Betty Dodson's chart somewhere. She's 91. I think that she has Eris in Pisces. But pretty much the rest of us have Eris in Aries. I think she was born in 1929. She may even have Eris in Aries. You've got to be on the old side to have Eris in Pisces. So we're at the point now where everyone's got Eris in Aries unless you live in that town in France where everyone drinks that one kind of wine and lives to 115 years old. **[13:28]**

What Eris has reflected to you is an environment that through the course of your life has become increasingly chaotic. This is a social environment and a relational environment. The increasing chaos in the relational environment reflects the breakdown of structure and form in the Capricorn environment, which for you is an emotional environment and one that comments on family structure.

So we might say, if we wanted to sound like 1980s conservative talk show hosts, we could talk about the "breakdown of the family" and the "breakdown of traditional relationships." Well

that's all actually been happening, and it has nothing to do with immorality; it has to do with change – most of which is being instigated by being surrounded by electricity.

Being surrounded by electricity sure is cool. I can get you this reading in high fidelity, instantaneously. I'm recording this now at 2:31pm; it's gonna be in your inbox at 6 o'clock. I mean that's quite amazing. No postage necessary. The reality is, though, that electricity is destabilizing.

So there's a destabilizing effect going on in the 4th house of Pluto, going through the 4th, and then the whole story of your relationship environment is one where it is becoming increasingly challenging to find stable and structured relationships or even people who have a concept of a stable and structured relationship. The younger you are, the harder this gets.

People who are born, say for example, in the 1990s, who are now in their mid-20s – some of you are in your late 20s – that's how old the Beatles were when they retired. That's, you know, collecting some life experience. People born in the 90s have Uranus and Neptune already in Capricorn, creating not only a sense of destabilization but no conscious recollection of when society seemed like a stable place.

There was, at the same time, a movement towards more traditional structure in families, although that was in some ways a reactionary movement. In my estimation, it went a little too far in terms of creating a generation of people who are reluctant to go too far: to go too far from home, reluctant to experiment and take chances too much. One thing we can say about people born from the 1990s forward is – even in the 80s this was heating up – a kind of risk aversion that limits experience. **[16:44]**

Meanwhile, while that is going on, one shake-up after the next is going on in Capricorn, the 7th house environment, Aries, your immediately reflected environment, is becoming increasingly difficult to even understand, to get a grip in.

Another thing happening, since the 1990s, is that so many facets of our relationships have taken up residence on the internet, in the digital environment, which is archived, where every communication transaction is controlled and where people can simply delete each other. They don't have to actually coexist with one another in a physical geographic locale.

To have a meeting, there's not the risk required of actually being face to face with this person, which some people think is wonderful, but I think that the rewards are much less when relationships are exclusively confined to online environments, particularly loving relationships. It's possible to do great work with people, but there's a real signal loss when it comes to intimate partnerships.

For one thing, you can't eat together if it's, for example, long distance. I think that this over-reliance on things like online dating, which has been an obsession since around 2000, I would say, has made it difficult for people to relate to one another, and just to connect in a sincere way.

This is something very important to you, this ability to relate to your fellow humans, your ability to be present with people. This electronic influence, this rising digital tide – now we live at the bottom of it like SpongeBob SquarePants and all of his friends who live at the bottom of the ocean.

This is not the way you expect things to be and I don't think it's the way that you are the happiest. I don't believe that it's an easy environment for you to be in because you want sensory data, you want real information about people. How, if you're even gonna be friends with someone, or date someone in some way, or potentially be in a long-term relationship – how they look, how they present themselves to you, says a lot; it gives real information.

I would put it in my proposal that this is not superficial, that you are able to pick up on cues about how people handle themselves and carry themselves and how they dress, what do they wear on their feet? how do they smell when you get near them? It all matters. All of this is now filtered out and there's a whole bunch of people who think they live in a better, safer world because everything now has this huge translation device, known as the internet, in between them and everyone else. **[20:36]**

I think that this really either starts to change or comes into a stark contrast when Chiron arrives in Aries in early 2018. This lights up the situation, as Chiron tends to do. Chiron tends to be kind of a search beam. Chiron tends to precipitate awareness, and when precipitating awareness doesn't work, Chiron tends to precipitate a crisis, if we ignore what Chiron is saying.

Chiron arrives in early 2018, around March I believe, and it's a wake-up call that this whole disembodied reality is just not a good thing. You're likely to have picked up on that directly because it arrived in your chart in one of the two most direct places a thing can arrive.

The first one is in your sign, and then the second, which is almost as powerful – really we could flip a coin as to which is more direct influence, is Chiron in the 7th house. A thing in the 7th house, and in this case Chiron, this kind of radical, transformative awakener. I would suggest, first of all, noting the way things have gone for the past two years.

The way to work with Chiron, in the 7th house, is to treat every situation as an occasion for healing. Chiron in the 7th house can have a number of manifestations, one of which is it can create crisis in a relationship. It can also create a conscious opportunity for healing in a relationship. It can also indicate relationships with healers arriving in your life. This is a very important facet of Chiron in the 7th. It can also represent relationships with teachers and mentors arriving in your life. **[23:04]**

One of the least described facets of Chiron is its emphasis on mentorship; it is a direct form of teaching, usually involving the teaching through experience by experienced people. It is not necessarily a formally structured relationship. It is possible to have mentors that exist in fleeting relationships or that don't seem to be so.

As a journalist, I've taken many of the people that I write about as mentors and teachers. If I find someone who is any way wiser than I am, or has special knowledge that I'm interested in, or has even said one thing to me – just one thing – that woke me up in a certain way. Gary Null said one thing to me at the end of a radio interview that just rang a bell in my mind and that bell is still ringing 25 years later. They are mentors also.

What Chiron in the 7th house is doing is putting you in a position to pay attention to all of your human encounters, to all of your relationships, no matter how technically down on the totem pole they may be. This would include people who you pass in an elevator. It would include people that you are encountering, like let's say, for example, in retail environments. It is a calling to honor every relationship as a relationship, to bring your full attention to all matters of the 7th house. By the way, this includes people with whom you are existing in some form of conflict. Conflict relationships can be profoundly teaching, and they are the *most* important opportunities for healing.

One of the things that Chiron did when it first arrived in Aries, was it made aspects (squares; 90 degrees) to planets that had just arrived in the very beginning of Capricorn. What that did – in particular with Pholus and Quaoar, which are interestingly related to tribal matters, matters of tribe and family. We see a lot of tribal stuff going on in Aries but there are important planets that relate to the family of origin and to the tribe all the way back to it's origins: way, way, way back – that came from the Pleiades type of stuff, or whatever – in Capricorn. There has been this accentuated kind of connection between your relationships and some very deep matters of family history.

These are fantastic opportunities for growth, learning, and resolving conflict. And also for figuring out what relationships you have really exist in the present and what relationships are the right ones for you. And what to do with and about all your human encounters. **[26:58]**

[BREAK 28:50]

We left off from talking about this really impressive contact point between Chiron entering Aries in early 2018, and Pholus and Quaoar. Pholus is a centaur. Pholus is like a 70 year one, I think. Then Quaoar is a 286-year Kuiper object. It's kind of like Pluto, a little further out. It's of a slightly different variety. Pholus and Quaoar both relate to the distant past. That's fascinating to have two bodies making a conjunction, related to the distant past in your house of the distant past. The 4th is considered the ancient house of fathers. You have Capricorn there. Capricorn has a maternal spin and a paternal spin; it's got a little bit of both. The 4th and 10th can switch places; Capricorn and Cancer can switch places. Really when we are talking about the 4th, we are talking about the father's line and the father's estate.

For those of you who are into homeopathy, by the way, just to take a two-sentence side track, the essence of having Capricorn on the 4th reminds me of the remedy Calc. Carb. (Calcarea Carbonica). Maybe check it out. It's the one related to the security of the father's house, and you *want* this. This is an important thing for you to have and it's an important thing that's been challenged. There's a parallel remedy to Calc. Carb. While Calc. Carb. is the long-term state, the immediate or acute state is Belladonna. The immediate eruption of a kind of a red hot rash or anything that comes on quickly. These two states: this long term need for grounding, confidence and security and then the quick onset may have found an expression in this relationship between these Capricorn slow movers and Chiron arriving in Aries.

[31:13]

The central idea here is that your relationships have to go through a process of finding the present. We humans do a lot of bringing the past into our present relationships. Humans like to live driving in the rear-view mirror, particularly in Western culture.

There's a very funny picture in one of the McLuhan books of a rear-view mirror with a horse and buggy in it, as if a car is driving down the road and a bunch of Amish people are driving right behind them in the rear-view mirror. Typical McLuhan humor. We need to both not look in the rear-view mirror.

Also, rather than dragging the past into our relationships, actually figure out what's going on in the past, what we're seeking in the past and what that is about. Why is the past so influential? One of the reasons it's so influential is we never actually reckon with it, address it, forgive it, think of it, strive to heal it in some way. Therefore, we keep doing it; we keep repeating the same mistakes over and over again or we tend to. Chiron in the 7th may very well have stirred this up.

There is another factor here that you may have heard me mention in different readings. I find with astrology, that the more times I hear about the same thing, the easier that it is to understand. So, I'll bring this into the reading because I think it definitely belongs here. The planet involved is Salacia.

There's a few things I want to put on your resources page and one is a Salacia article, the other is a Millennials reading. I'm going to put the entire product in open access, called "Understanding Millennials". Even if you are not a Millennial, maybe you have kids who are. It talks about the astrology of the 80s and 90s. It's very similar to now.

The thing Salacia brings in is the whole notion of the need for sexual maturity and sexual healing. It's sad to say, these are not really a thing in our society. You can't really find much conversation that is about sexual healing and sexual maturity.

There was a radio show introduced on Serious FM a couple years ago like "Sex With Suzie" or something like that. She's this kind of Valley girl who got her PHD in something or another and she's supposed to have this open and frank sex talk radio show. I got sick of listening because every time somebody would call up and talk about a problem that was a pretty good chance was emotionally rooted or based in communication, she would send them to the doctor for hormone tests. It's like, gee, I mean, we could probably resolve that in one therapy session. Maybe two, okay. **[35:10]**

Our entire society is so misled around sexuality that it's challenging and difficult to get a handle on how to even conceive of a question. With Salacia and Chiron in your 7th house in Aries, this focuses the whole matter of sexuality and relationships.

Sexuality as a way of learning who you are and your partner going through their own scenario of learning who they are and then the need to have a form that is consciously related to the healing process. You know this is not even a conversation that everyone can handle.

There are a lot of partners in relationships that just would rather not even bring up that issue at all; it makes them uncomfortable. There are many partners who don't really even know their counterpart's sexual history.

One of the things this is suggesting: the Chiron-Salacia conjunction that I believe was exact in 18/19 – still close enough to matter, that is occasionally provoked or activated or stirred up by transits, as it is right now. The Sun is about to make oppositions to all these things. Is that if you are in a relationship that there be the conversation about the total sexual history.

That is part of the healing process within the relationship. There are elements of sexual healing that happen in relationships and elements of sexual healing that happen outside of committed,

bonded partnerships and that facilitate those partnerships but mostly they facilitate your relationship to yourself. In the partnership, the single most important thing you can do is have the sexual history conversation.

This would include everyone you've ever had sex with, how you felt about it, everything you've experimented with and how you felt about that, sexually transmitted infection history, and a kind of inventory of what you want. You may find, and most people do, that this radical honesty approach gets a lot of crud out of the way and allows there to be a deeper and more honest exchange.

[38:16]

The reality is that your relationships are all now under the influence of Chiron in Aries. They're all under the influence of Salacia in Aries. This is going to manifest in different ways.

We happen to be very sensitive in our society to the fleeting, passing glances, potentially being profoundly meaningful or deeply offensive and the reality is everyone is carrying around all of their unfinished business with them at all times. Everyone brings all their unfinished business of the past into every relationship. I don't have to dare anything to say that a lot of that unfinished business of the past involves unresolved sexual relationships, sexual injuries, and unexpressed, unexplored sexual desires.

So the third part of that direct retelling of history, ending with what you want, could also include all the things you might be reluctant to say like company for example, subject matter surrounding sexuality, subject matter surrounding fetishes or what's called fetishes, and many other kinds of things. It will facilitate healing to do this. There are also going to be important parts of this sexual healing process that are all your own or between you and a specific mentor, teacher, or let's say a specially designated friend who you count on for being open minded. **[40:15]**

Let's continue the discussion of Aries a little bit here, and bring that into the immediate present. The thing about Aries in the immediate present is the presence of Mars, and here is yet another example of one transit that ties the whole thing together. This is especially interesting and I'm really curious to see what happens over the next few weeks as Mars makes the aspects I'm about to describe.

As you know, Mars is retrograde in your opposite sign. Mars arrived in July, made a conjunction to Chiron quite early on in its journey. I think that was on Bastille Day. Then it went all the way out and went retrograde September 13th or something. It made or began a retrograde journey. This has been very challenging because it, to me, represents the possibility that other people in your life have been going through *huge* dramas that actually don't relate to you. They're not actually about you, but because they are happening immediately in your environment, potentially in your face, they can seem like they are all about you.

My Gestalt therapy take on this transit is that it is your opportunity to recognize what is you and what is not you; what is about you, and what is not about you; and to know that there is a thing called inter-subjective reality where something is happening to another person but you also have some idea that this is in some way about you. I would propose not being too codependent about that.

In the first analysis, give people the opportunity to go through their thing, their learning process, their drama, their experience of themselves and their life and their other relationships and not take that on as your material in the first instance. That you be a witness to it.

Now the way that we know that it is not really about you, is that in addition to what is happening in your 7th house, which it could be about you, the planet involved is the ruling planet of Aries, the ruling planet of the 7th house: Mars. So that is an indicator that it is about the other person since Mars is the planet that most

accurately tends to represent other people in your life. Observe the situation without getting dragged in. This is one of the most important lessons in all of life. **[43:46]**

We live in a world, right now, where you might as well change the name of our planet to "dragged in" because everybody seems to want to get dragged in. We are talking about a 1st house/7th house self/other relationship. We could also change the name of our planet to "polarize" because everyone seems to just think the thing to do is to get polarized.

This is about electricity. This is about digital. This is about an astral level of reality which digital is a synthetic astral plane that is being confused with reality like many confuse the delusions of the natural astral plane with reality.

Digital is very compelling because, you know, if I walk down the street and get a California roll, I'm going to make a digital transaction, chances are. Even if I don't make a digital transaction, the whole thing went on through a computer system that communicated between the cash register and the sushi bar, which are exactly ten feet apart. So everything is being filtered through this digital dream, therefore it becomes highly polarized, therefore we live in this delusion that this digital polarized dream is in some way reality, when it's not.

The thing to do with that is to turn on your power of observation and to postulate different approaches. For example, I'm not saying that the drama that a person is going through doesn't involve you. What I am saying is, first, observe for a while and do a kind of an analysis from the viewpoint of "this is that person's thing, and I'm going to do my best to not take this seriously," even though it may have an impact on your life, to take a step back a little bit and get a little more perspective and distance on it.

Now for you, you might want to look at the pattern of your relationships and how the events of let's say the Summer of 2020

forward, maybe from the Spring of 2018 forward, reflect on the overall pattern of your relationships. You might find a tremendous benefit in understanding things as part of a pattern. **[46:14]**

A couple of other ideas here. Mars rules Aries and, therefore, represents your relationship partners but Mars does something else interesting in your chart as well, which is that with Libra on the 1st house, Mars rules your 2nd house. Your 2nd house, Scorpio, is: your value system, your sense of self value, your sense of self esteem, your sense of self worth, the money that you have in the bank, any movable objects that you possess, the tools of your trade, your vehicle might be a different one but it's certainly a movable piece of valuable property, how you feel about and use all of those things all commingled in the 2nd house. What you've got, and how you feel about it – those too, are ruled by Mars.

This is a point of complication for a 7th house transit because you potentially are judging the dramas of another person only seeing them through the lens of your self-worth and your self-esteem. That is not gonna be too helpful and it's a reason to have a time to get a measure of distance on this. The other way to work with the 2nd house ruler Scorpio/Mars retrograde in the 7th, is to use the changes, the dramas, whatever you want to call them, the person, the experiences, as a way of testing whether their experience and their approach to their experience matches your values.

You have an underlying constitution. You have an underlying set of principles that regulate your life, whether you are aware of them or not, whether you are in contact with these things or not, whether you have faith in these things or not, whether you discover your sense of true value and how to connect with your sense of true self worth, there is a constitution that you have got. One of the things these kinds of bumps and grinds in relationships creates contrast, where you can see "Ah, that's them, and this is me. That's how you would handle that. This is how I am handling that." **[48:02]**

One other bit with Mars retrograde, maybe I'll have more to say about it in a little while, is that it is about to make early in your birthday season. (So it is part of the signature of your solar return chart set.) Is the retrograde of Mars in the 7th into Capricorn planets. The first thing that retrograde Mars is going to do is make a square against Saturn in your 4th house.

This, to me, looks like a security challenge. It looks like a thing that is going to make you question whether you are really safe in this situation. You are protected and you don't need to project danger onto the situation or any form of aggression onto the situation. Know someone is just doing their thing, someone is just going through their thing. The square of Mars is real.

Then there will be a conjunction to Eris, that's a kind of revelation. While this is going on, I would suggest that you note the thing that makes you nervous about people. What is that thing that makes you nervous about people? This can relate to men or to women, the piece is the oscillating apogee or the black moon Lilith. I've sometimes delineated that point: the thing about women that makes other women nervous.

With that in mind, let's just expand that to the thing about people that makes you nervous about them. Everyone's got a few of those things that like, "I don't like when people do that, I don't like when anyone is gonna hit a kid," for example. To me, that would be like, forget it. You're gonna strike a child or animal? You are gonna really? No. Whatever that thing is, a certain attitude, somebody who might steal, somebody who might lie, whatever it might be – know the thing about others that makes you nervous and leads you, in a sense, to categorically not trust them. Just know what that is. Be real with yourself about that. Honor that value that you hold. **[51:50]**

[BREAK 54:22]

I'd like to begin this next session which focuses on the Jupiter – Saturn conjunction coming in your 5th house, plus a bunch of time

with Jupiter in the 5th and even longer with Saturn in the 5th, which leads into Pluto in Aquarius in the 5th house. For all the signs that are going to experience this Pluto in Aquarius thing, the 5th may be the best place to get it. But anyway, we'll come to that.

The 5th house, in your case, Aries/Aquarius which are closely related, is the place where we are supposed to have fun. It is the house of exciting sports, breathtaking gambling. It is the art studio. It is sex in the style of teenagers, meaning for fun and experimentation. It is the house of the casino and various games of chance and speculation. You have Aquarius on this house. Aquarius is not so into all those risky things, inherently. It tends to cool off that house. It tends to want a more structured approach.

It is wise to be cautious with matters of the 5th house because they can lead to deeper things. Playful sex can lead to pregnancy. Gambling can lead to losing your house. Bungee jumping can lead to the bungee cord breaking, although I haven't heard of that. There's probably all kinds of injuries that have happened from bungee jumping. There's always a risk involved in the 5th and it's not just a theoretical risk.

Part of what's going on in the 5th is the possibility of a kind of a spiritual undertow: one thing leading to another and not necessarily being a positive place. But that's not any reason to sit in your house, you know, wrapped in duct tape with a gas mask on waiting for the next Anthrax attack, as we were advised to do in 2001, when they tried to do the same thing and tried to get us all to sit in our houses. **[57:04]**

Here comes the 5th house for you and one quality of Aquarius in the 5th is that it is digital. There is some art that's made today that's not digital. Pottery is still made using a wheel or pouring ceramics into a mold. Actual painting, the kind with brushes and paint is not digital – it can be digitized later. Most photography is

digital now, though some few freaks still run around with a Polaroid or film camera.

You have a digital influence on your 5th house. This is worth visiting in with someone who is man of the house – Marshall McLuhan, the only deeply comprehensive philosopher of media, who lived long enough to be a consultant to computer companies. He died in 1980 but not before he was consultant to IBM and understood what was coming. The reason I trust him is he said things like, "there will come a day when the destiny of every stick of gum is tracked by computer." That's pretty spot on.

The message that he had, that I want to convey to you as you are about to undergo the full activation of your creative potential, because that's what these transits in the 5th house are going to bring. They are going to bring the activation of your creative potential, your full artistry, whatever that might be. Now remember that the transits, particularly trines, which this is (your Sun to your ascendant) is a statement of potential. It's not a guarantee of any kind. I imagine that you'll want to make the potential, real.

There are some monstrous Libra artists, incredibly talented. Some of my favorite rock stars of all time are Libras. They really know how to turn it up and beauty is inherent. This is the thing that's also not very Aquarius, because in many ways, concepts of beauty are not necessarily germane to Aquarius. Other things must support the concept of beauty. In your case, it's inherently Libra that supports the concept of beauty. With Libra, anything can be beautiful. Horrible things can be beautiful because that aesthetic is always going to be present and that concept of balance and the golden mean and all that. **[1:00:30]**

One problem we have is that we are working with tools so powerful that extend our central nervous system to the degree of profound sensitivity – too much sensitivity, that people turn them off. All tools extend the body and the nervous system. They extend vision, touch, feeling, the ability to reach people, they

amplify the voice, transmit the voice over long distances, and so on. One of the problems is that this sensitivity, which includes extending the eyes, the ears, the sense of touch, is overwhelming and so it gets people high for awhile and then they cut off.

Marshall said two things about what an artist is, that really have stood out for me. One of them is that the artist is someone who extends and then does not shut down. The thing about an artist is that they stay awake. They remain with their feelings. They remain with what they are doing. They are able to handle being overwhelmed because when the juice gets turned up they are able to go with it and stay there. That is going to be important to you.

One of the reasons I call Libra the "human blowtorch" is that if you've ever used a small blowtorch, you know that you can turn the thing way down to a little tiny flame and still have it on burning a trickle like a pilot light. It's there and you could even put it out with your fingers if you wanted to, but it's still lit. Or you could turn it up. You can melt metal or make flambe; you know, Baked Alaska is made with a blowtorch. Or you could make stained glass or do like really intense things. Libra has that quality.

I have long pondered what that's about in some ways and why this need to turn way way way up and then go all the way down. The balance principle of Libra does not like sustained intensity but is able to do it, is able to get there and knows when the time comes to turn up the juice. **[1:03:27]**

My favorite example of the Libra rock star theory is Bruce Springsteen. He knows how to turn the juice up and then dial it way back and play the deeply touching sentimental ballad and then how to go full throttle. His birthday is tomorrow (September 23rd). He's born with Sun, Ceres, Neptune, South Node, Mercury Retrograde and the Moon in Libra. He's the Libra rock star poster child of them all.

I would suggest that you experiment with your ability to handle sustained intensity, sustained input and output so that you don't have to do so much dialing back. And when you do dial back, that you remain sensitive, that you remain aware of your senses. That you not cut off. That's the problem. This digital technology helps us extend and then cut off. It's understandable why we do that.

So work with this principle, because it's coming and you are going to be in a position to really do some fantastic experiments, possibly come up with some incredible inventions, whether it's a creative invention or concept or story or movie or just something you like to do. To gain in the process, real experience as a creative person, in whatever it is that you do. Marshall McLuhan, the first thing that makes someone an artist is that they are able to handle the extension of the nervous system and not have to chop it off.

Second is pattern recognition. This is the ultimate gift of the artist. They are able to spot the patterns and to not be dissuaded that there is something wrong with doing so. It is an essential piece of, let's say, a survival tool and thrival tool as well, to be able to work with pattern recognition in our time in history.

[1:06:21]

Speaking of pattern recognition, that is a perfect interpretation of the aspect that's exact in today's Equinox chart which is Mercury in Libra, in your sign, 25 degrees – 24 and change degrees, opposite Eris. This influence of psychic chaos, psychological chaos, and personality chaos, and that speaks to both being able to handle the intensity by approaching it directly.

There are times to take a direct approach. There are times to take a circumspect approach. There are times to take a walk around the perimeter of the thing that you want to know what's inside of and there are times to get out the fence clipper and cut the fence. There are times to call the person and get let in. There are various ways to get in there.

There are definitely times you want to look right at something and say, "what is *that* thing?" That is one of the messages of the Equinox chart is to look at it and say, "what is *that* thing?" and listen for the answer and come up with proposals. It's not that you're going to have one right answer immediately when there's a chaos pattern. You're not going to have one right answer right away. Here we have an example of how to handle this intensity.

The other way to deal with chaos is to experiment with pattern recognition in the chaos. This might be more circumspect. It might require looking at things from different angles. Pattern recognition involves things like puzzles, I believe. There are strategies for how to assemble a puzzle. When working with the puzzle, we don't have the box. We don't even know what the pieces are going to look like when they come together so there's not so much to be gained from thinking you have the whole picture and were slowly assembling that. **[1:08:28]**

Okay, some little last thoughts. I've got a few moments here. A pretty condensed process on the beginning of the reading.

Let's talk about this extraordinary conjunction of Venus and Vesta in your 11th house in Leo. I did a YouTube video on this. Let's include the video on Venus/Vesta where I talk about different aspects of sexual healing that will be relevant to the discussion earlier on in this about what is sexual healing and how do you handle it both with and without partners.

The Venus/Vesta conjunction in Leo takes place in one of the most visible places in your chart, where you serve as a community example. You are seen by the community. You are related to by the community.

Venus is the planet that has classical rulership of your sign, so it's a very relevant and descriptive, I think, a beautifully descriptive planet of Libra and vice versa. If we study Venus, we find out a lot about Libra. If we study Libra, we find out a lot about Venus.

The conjunction to Vesta is first of all, a service orientation. I'll leave most of the sexual healing and healing of shame in the video. There are more details in there, especially in like the last approximately 15-20 minutes of it.

The second thing is that you provide an organizing principle in your community; you are a point of orientation around which others are able to organize their concept of the social group, and their sense of their personal identity, socially. Additionally, you provide a kind of a beacon. Venus and Vesta are both *bright* influences. Vesta is the most luminous of the asteroids and Venus the most luminous of the planets. They are together. Vesta is a fire goddess, so there is a taking care of fire.

One thing about you taking care of your creativity and sexuality is it's something that's going to happen in the public eye. It's not really a private matter. Most of the really exciting things that happen to you, and the more positive and productive ones, and the ones where you step out of all of these outmoded relationship patterns.

One of the messages of all this Mars stuff in Aries in the retrograde and one of the things Chiron is telling you is you may not be a fit for the conventional concepts of relationships. But that's *fine* because there are so many other concepts of relationship that you can take part in, experiment in. We live in a world of options and where there's a lot of people in where we have the opportunity to find and communicate with one another. Remember this really counts the most if you bring the relationship into the most human and physical expression possible. **[1:12:09]**

You stand as an example to people. You stand as a teacher who demonstrates what is possible. As such, you provide an organizing principle for the community. An organized principle is like a thing to find the space, whether it is psychic space or physical space.

I think of the hearth as being the organizing principle of the home. Or let's say the architect designs the home around the concept of a courtyard. The courtyard is the first thing that goes in. Obviously, the landscape or any modifications to the courtyard are the first things that go in and then everything is designed to have some sort of access to the courtyard from one angle or another.

You know, the kitchen might face into the courtyard or the dining room might open to the courtyard. There might be a bedroom that opens to a pool. There are all kinds of possibilities. There might be a second floor with a terrace overlooking... The courtyard becomes the organizing principle.

You may live in a home where the workspace is the organizing principle of the home. It may be the living room. Whatever that is, the architectural organizing principle is the thing that is represented by Vesta and this extends into psychic and social space. This is the thing to work with.

The other thing to work with is to remember that you are that organizing principle and this is going to bring people into your life because you are this visible kind of high up object that is bright and beautiful and visible and noticeable and that is accessible that bestows a blessing.

The most important thing that you can do in terms of setting an example for the community around you and for the pleasure of existence is to honor creative fire as the organizing principle of your psychic space and of your time. That you're tending the flame, you're honoring your gift, you're honoring your beauty. The honoring of your sexuality is the most important thing you can do for yourself and as an example for others.

There are not many people in this world who set an example of not only honoring their beauty, many people do that and a lot of them are really insecure but some of them are not. However, also honoring the message that you send sexually, which could be a

message as sex "symbol," but also recognize that you are a desirable person. People want you, they see you, they notice you. It is not necessarily that they all want to have sex with you but there are plenty of people who do and even if that is not the case, how you handle your desire and those who desire you sets an example for many, many people. **[1:15:33]**

Whatever may have been the case in the past, you are well positioned to be this visible person. It is not every year that Venus is in Leo at your solar return and furthermore, it is very rare that Venus is in an exact conjunction to Vesta on such an important day as the Libra Equinox and the Sun entering your sign. There is a special message there. Part of that message is to honor the mystery of all of this and there is a special message to honor your part in helping fulfill a deficit by being an example of what is possible.

One of the most serious deficits we have in our society, and this means all of Western society, one of the most serious problems we have is the lack of exemplars who can just show us what is possible. We have a lot of people doing things that other people are doing, and a lot of people chasing people that are doing the things that other people are doing, and a lot of groupies, and a lot of Instagram fame and all this stuff; but what we really don't have are too many people who set an example for how it is possible to be graceful in this world of chaos and judgment and difficulty and challenge in a time of so many bad things happening.

You are in a position to do this. One of the *most* important things you can do is to set the example of being comfortable in your sexuality, which means being conscious of issues surrounding guilt and shame. It means being graceful in all matters of sexuality and sexual healing and the ways that these things manifest socially.

Our society is fantastic at being absolutely devoid of grace when it comes to handling matters of sexuality and very quickly turns it

not into an opportunity for healing but into an opportunity for judgment, which only facilitates further transgression.

You are an example of grace and of healing and of allowing your light to shine in the world in all of its forms: creative, artistic, loving, amorous, and someone who is holding the light up for society in a profoundly troubled time. People are looking to you. They are looking to you and trusting you, as someone who is, for example, capable of setting your own needs aside and just being a helpful person. That is a beautiful position to be in. It is one calling for the most profound exercise and expression of trust.

[1:18:57]

On that note, I will leave you for today. I'm going to put some resources together here. I'm going to include the YouTube video on the Venus/Vesta conjunction and a whole bunch of other things. Those will go together. I will get this into your hands as soon as possible.

Thank you for your business. For your trust. For being willing to participate in these ideas that are centered around being a person who is growing and loving and thriving and who is devoted to the healing of our planet and all its people and critters.

If you need to get a hold of me, email: efc@bookofblue.com or efc@planetwaves.net. Lots of love for you and bye for now.

[1:20:47]

[music outro]