

May Review

May saw some intense planetary energies. The Grand Cross of Uranus-Pluto-Jupiter-Mars remains in place, and this was joined mid-month by Venus. Clients and friends continued to experience major life change, some sudden and disruptive, others dazzling out-of-the-blue opportunities, as is the nature of Uranus. The theme of breaking up old stale patterns continues. Ukraine, together with the US, UK, and Germany, continued to be unpredictable, as all of these countries charts are triggered by the Grand Cross at 13 degrees of cardinal signs. It remains to be seen whether this will de-escalate. There has been a military coup in Thailand on May 22nd, a classic manifestation of this aspect which triggered the country's chart.

Uranus-Pluto aspects are historically associated with extreme weather, of which the world has seen much of late. In my book I stated that with Neptune in Pisces, a position of strength for Neptune in the most watery of signs (Neptune in myth is Lord of the Sea), that part of this extreme weather would manifest as flooding. Certainly this was true for the UK this last winter, with the wettest winter on record, but in May the Balkans also has seen enormous flooding which is the worst in 100 years.

After the relentlessly intense energies of the last few months, May ended on the 28th with a New Moon in Gemini, which is much lighter, but also is an opportunity to become even more aware of our thoughts, and how they affect our emotion, health, and reality. I have written quite a long Facebook post about this on May 20th.

June – Month of the Summer Solstice

The Grand Cross that has been in place since the end of last year continues all through June, and is particularly strong between the 13th and the 23rd. Remember historically the Uranus-Pluto part of this has been associated with fundamental and fast moving change, radical new episodes in people's lives. In a world sense, it is reliably associated with uprisings by the people, and overthrowing their governments. We have seen many instances of this since the beginning of this aspect with the Arab Spring in April 2011, most recently in Thailand and of course in Ukraine, which has just had its recent election, having thrown out the previous leader.

One notable feature of June is that Mercury is retrograde for almost all of it, from the 7th June to the 2nd July. Remember that the best use of this is to do things beginning with 're'. Go over things again recheck, review, research – even have some house clearing. Mercury is in Cancer, sign of the home. It isn't the best time to negotiate contracts, or put important documents in the post – I've lost some myself that way. However, hard on the heels of the New Moon in Gemini on May 28th, it encourages us to be very aware of our thinking, attitudes, and perceptions.

We then have the Full Moon at 22 degrees 05 Sagittarius on June 13th at 5.11am UK time. Full Moons are cycles of completion, the area of life being determined by where they fall in our charts. This will be noticed particularly by people born 12-17th September, 12-17th December, 10-15th March, or 10-15th June of any year. Full Moons often bring high emotion with them, but happily Sagittarius always tends to the positive, seeing the glass as half full. This Full Moon continues the theme from the New Moon in Gemini above, as Sagittarius is associated with the connectedness of the universe, and the underlying meaning of all that is. So we move from being aware of our thinking (Gemini) and our attitudes, and how profoundly they affect our emotions and our health, to having the opportunity with this Full Moon in recognizing that we are all connected. Our thinking and our emotions affect other people, we infect each other with our energy. So this Full Moon is another step in the new paradigm on helping us move from separateness to connection, we live in an organic, holistic universe.

I recently was part of a Lynne McTaggart global healing experiment in which many of us across the world attempted to heal an American war veteran from severe PTSD. He found it very difficult to sleep, had many flashbacks, and could barely leave the house. He suffered from a high level of anxiety. Our task in a short meditation (around 15 minutes, from memory) was to increase his alpha wavelength, representing relaxation and feelings of well-being, by 25%. He had electrodes on his head, and on screen we could see his brainwave pattern moment by moment. The results will be published soon, but it was very clear to me that the 'healers', simply through the power of their intention, were having a dramatic effect on this man's brainwave pattern, thousands of miles away. We are all connected.

We have the summer solstice on June 21st. This 'sets the tone' for the next three months. In this chart the Sun is conjunct Mercury retrograde (we need to take care in communications not to be misunderstood), with the Moon in Aries conjunct Uranus, a rather impulsive combination. Mars is square Pluto, echoing the intensity of the April exact Grand Cross. One thing I look for in solstice charts is the path of the planets, if they were to 'leave a shadow' across the earth in their orbits, where those lines would fall. This is known as astrocartography. These are areas of the world that are often 'pulled into prominence' over these three months. Mars and Uranus are falling across Israel, South Africa, Turkey, and on the Russian/Ukraine border. This is an eruptive and unpredictable combination. Pluto falls across Cairo and Kiev, and also through Japan and Indonesia. Pluto is the planet of endings and beginnings, and transformation. It is connected also to governments, institutions and financial systems. This doesn't necessarily mean that all of those countries will be pulled into prominence, but we will observe the news to see which fulfill the symbolism.

On June 27th at 9.08am UK time we have a New Moon at 5 degrees 37 in Cancer. People born between 24-29th March, 24-29th June, 27-30th September, or 24-29th December of any year may feel this most. What emotional cycle is completing in your life, or what needs to be completed? Cancer is a sensitive and emotional sign, associated with how we care for one another. This New Moon forms a wide Grand Cross with Mars, Uranus and Pluto, therefore continuing the theme of our

evolution. As I have often said, Uranus-Pluto aspects are historically associated with a new perception of our reality; for instance, Uranus was discovered in March 1781, moving into aspect with Pluto, and was the first planet to be seen with a telescope. The just-invented telescope opened up a whole new perception of reality by seeing the vastness of the universe and stars. The recent Grand Cross that many have felt so intensely over the last few months is galvanizing a current shift of perception. People are waking up (Uranus) to power of our thoughts and emotions (here we have an opportunity of a new beginning with the New Moon in Cancer) to create a more positive reality for ourselves and others.

Cancer in its less positive expression is one of the most 'clingy' signs emotionally, and therefore is often associated with emotional attachment and neediness. Pluto widely opposing this New Moon asks us to transform such attachments, to stand in our own power and be willing to let go of old ways of being. Cancer is also strongly attached to the past; but if we keep reliving the past, we don't grow. Our greatest growth lies just beyond our greatest fear. Planetary movements bring about opportunities for us. We don't have to take them, but if we do, we'll have a bigger life.

Finally, I have written recently on Facebook how astrology gives us our unique pattern, and is supreme in identifying opportunities for our growth; but it does not determine our level. Our consciousness does that. One way we can use our consciousness more powerfully is to set ourselves specific intentions, consistent with the prevailing astrology of the time. Start with small goals, and build your intentional muscle over time. This is where using astrology as a personal growth tool, together with the understanding of how our thinking affects our whole being, start to move towards a new world of manifesting possibilities.

"Every thought we have is a powerful energy with the power to transform."

Lynne McTaggart