



NEPTUNE & AMERICA'S IDENTITY CRISIS

The astrology behind our confusing era of "fake news", boundary issues, and general political muddle, concluding with some upbeat remarks about an encouraging change in the upcoming energy patterns.

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Many things nowadays are confusing, perplexing, even seemingly insane. The nation is ideologically divided, and each side sees the other as off-the-rails regarding their beliefs, values, and relationship to the law of the land. A monumental aspect pattern is at work that can explain much.

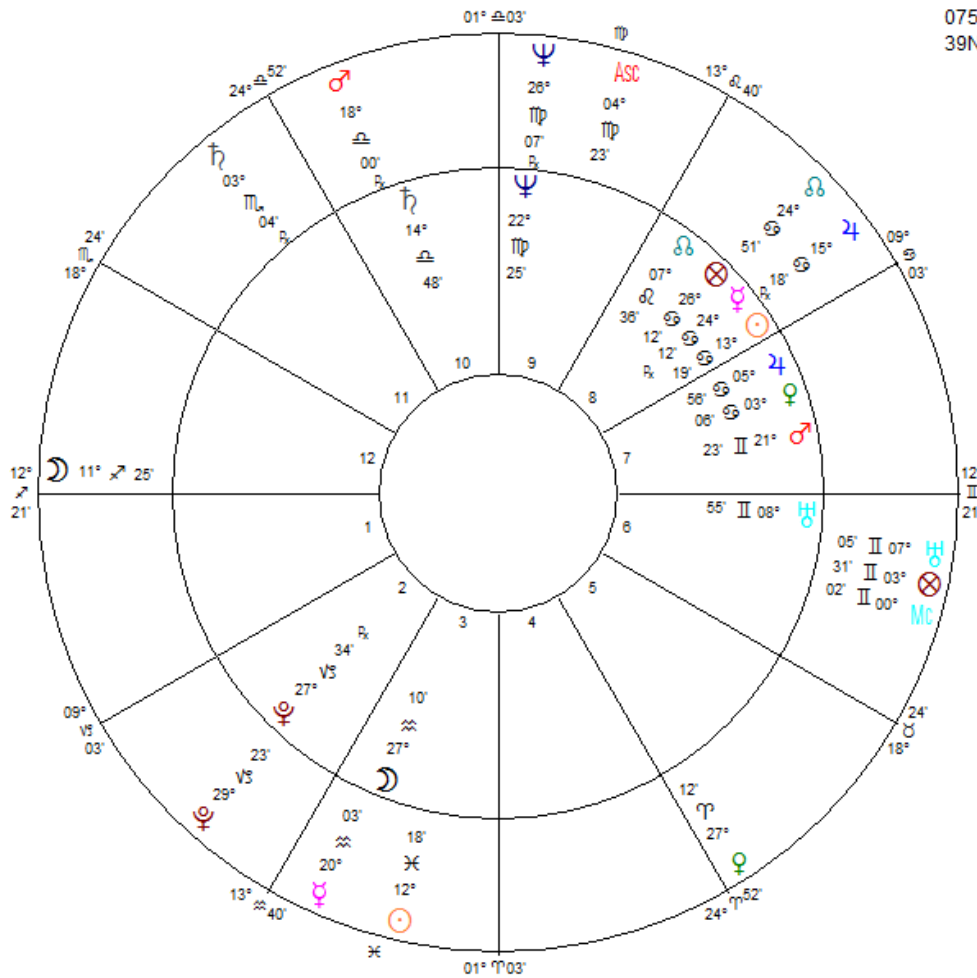
Using the United States' Sibley chart [July 4, 1776, 5:10 PM LMT, Philadelphia, PA], we see a natal Ascendant at 12° Sagittarius. As has been previously discussed in my article entitled "Making a Case for the U.S. Sibley Ascendant" (Dell Horoscope, January 2011), that is exactly the degree that Pluto stationed upon in September 2001, with the World Trade Center attack, a never-to-be-forgotten event in United States history. On that date – 9/11/2001 – Pluto for the final time crossed 12° Sagittarius 37, which activated the Sibley Ascendant at 12° Sagittarius 21. (The article used that event as a powerful rectification proof of the Sibley chart.)

Inner Chart

United (Sibley) States
 Jul 04, 1776
 Philadelphia, PA
 05:10:00 PM LMT
 ZONE: +00:00
 075W09'51"
 39N57'08"

Outer Chart

Progressed Chart
 Feb 01, 2017
 Philadelphia, PA
 12:00:00 PM LMT
 ZONE: +00:00
 075W09'51"
 39N57'08"



At the current moment in time – 2017 – the United States' progressed Sun is at 12° of Pisces in the United States' third house. Therefore, the United States' progressed Sun is exactly square the United States' Ascendant. This is a rare pattern that can indicate deep psychological struggles within the entity, i.e., the nation, leading to a great deal of learning. It is certainly an aspect of inner disharmony.

As is patently obvious, something else is occurring regarding this progressed Sun in the United States' third house. In the current year, 2017, transiting Neptune is crossing the 12° degree of Pisces point, and therefore crossing back and forth over this progressed Sun in the third house, and concurrently squaring the natal Ascendant of the nation's chart. Let's look at this further:

The nation's Sun rules the Sibley ninth house. The ninth house, in turn, rules government and the Supreme Court (among other matters). Furthermore, the progressed Sun is now located in the nation's third house. The third house has rulership over communications including all forms of media (press, social, radio, film, and so forth). With Neptune in the entity's third house, in its ruling sign of Pisces, we can certainly see the phenomenon of "fake news" being brought to the forefront. Can we trust what is being written and told to us? Can we even trust our own ideas?!

Pisces is a spiritual and psychic sign, which is nice... but it is also an emotional water sign. The third house has to do with the lower mind and the construction of thoughts. Neptune tends to be the opposite of practical, realistic, grounded, and actual; it is imaginative, ethereal, non-physical, and partaking of other realms. When Neptune is in Pisces in the house ruling the mind, it is fair to wonder if your thoughts are real, if they are based on reality, if they are not over-imaginative, not fabricated as in a dream. A drawback of Neptune transiting one's progressed Sun is naïveté. When Neptune transits an entity's progressed Sun, there is often confusion, over-idealism, gullibility, and uncertainty. One can feel lethargic, in a fog, or victimized. It is also possible to access universal consciousness, and be quite inspired. But there is a great tendency to experience instability, since the ground underneath you seems to be fluid and ambiguous, and your very identity seems vague, unformed, over-sensitive, and malleable.

When Neptune by transit squares an entity's Ascendant, there is a distinct danger of losing one's boundaries, not knowing where the entity's structure (i.e., walls) are found, or where they are too permeable. The entity can be unrealistic, especially in relationships, deluded, imposed upon, and fooled. Energy is low, losses can be suffered, fraud can be perpetrated upon it, and friendships can be doubtful, even false. Neptune squaring one's Ascendant makes one too impressionable, over-emotional, very vulnerable, and subject to manipulation.

A Sagittarius Ascendant refers to beliefs, philosophy, religion, and a sense of faith. Sagittarius is also known for taking risks and being visionary. In addition to these patterns that are in effect now, and that certainly paint a picture of the nation's current troubles – with Trump's wall, immigration, foreigners, culture clash, and confused internal identity, to name a few – we have more going on:

Natal Neptune in the Sibley chart resides in the intercepted ninth house, and rules the intercepted third -- again, emphasizing foreign matters, legal and government matters, media, and travel; yet in some ways, it can be inspirational.

As if all this weren't enough to describe the perplexing and challenging happenings occurring regarding the new administration, policy issues, legal contests, and the news in general, the United States Sibley chart has an activated progressed Moon. This progressed Moon at the date of this writing (February 2017) indicates that the Moon is moving onto the nation's Ascendant at 12° Sagittarius. Furthermore, Neptune's transit of 12 degrees of Pisces in the third house is thus not only squaring the nation's Ascendant but simultaneously squaring the nation's progressed Moon. This brings vulnerability, bereavement, and listlessness to a certain portion of the population, with the sense of weird loss, disappointment, anxiety, and lack of mental clarity. It also brings peculiar domestic changes.

Adding to, and maximizing the entire pattern, we find that the Sibley natal Moon is in the third house of media and communications at 27° Aquarius. Activity of a progressed Moon coming onto an entity's Ascendant will emphasize the matters related to its natal house, in this case, the third: brooding, focusing on ideas, plans, contracts, and dealings with the nation's neighbors (i.e., Mexico and Canada).

It would seem as though this pattern brings to the forefront (quite cosmically deliberately) all the issues that we are now dealing with: *ninth house* – immigration, religion, foreigners, courts; *Sagittarius* – same; *third house* – media, communications, neighbors, travel. All these are interwoven and entangled for a certain length of time until the issues can be resolved. Neptune will remain at 12° Pisces, back and forth, until February 2018, thus returning again and again to square the United States' Ascendant/progressed Moon, and cross the United States' progressed Sun. Thus, a type of insanity reigns!

To make matters worse – if that can even be considered! – transiting Saturn from the Sibley chart's tenth house squares the nation's Neptune in the ninth house from now through November 2017, causing a difficult test and delays in sorting through the legalities, while forcing Americans to think more realistically regarding everything that has been mentioned about Neptunian matters, ninth house matters, third house matters, and Sagittarian matters. Additionally, during the same time-frame transiting Uranus squares the United States' Mercury and progressed Node, bringing distress regarding other matters most likely of a financial nature, since Mercury is found in the eighth house where the United States' Sun also resides, the ruler of which is the afore-mentioned Moon. (Matters involving second and eighth house issues – the province of finances – is another whole ballgame, and can be addressed in a different article at another time.)

Transiting Saturn and transiting Uranus and also transiting Jupiter, all in late fire and air signs, will thankfully all serve to greatly support the United States' Moon in late Aquarius, allowing us to hope for maturity, open-mindedness, and some joyful resolution to these severe challenges that are upon us but that are not meant to defeat us. Neptune, remember, is the spiritual planet of inspiration and of otherworldly assistance. Perhaps as a nation, we will somehow find the path from the current muddle towards a higher view of these troubling issues, and work our way through them.

It's encouraging to remember that the nation's progressed Sun is not static as in a natal horoscope, but is moving, progressing every year, and quickly moves out of 12 degrees in 2017, with all the disturbance that's implied, to 13 degrees of Pisces by 2018. Thirteen degrees of Pisces means that our Sun then trines its own natal position, a very blessed combination. It brings to a peak the inherent talents and potential of the United States, and can easily open our consciousness to the essential nurturing spirit (Cancer) upon which we were founded.

We will still face confusion up to the very last period of 2017 as our progressed Moon begins its square of – what else!?! – natal Neptune, from the first house to the ninth house. We will be protected in our crucial mission but challenged further, to the utmost degree, to reconcile beliefs and ideology with actual happenstance in daily life and on the ground. Idealism can be beautiful but it can be dangerous. Realism can be protective but it can be stifling. A happy medium must be found because the long-term survival of America is essential to the unfoldment of humanity's cosmic purpose.

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Judi Thomases is an astrologer, psychic, and channeler. Many informative articles and podcasts (radio shows, talks, etc.), as well as her two books, "Wisdom's Game" and "The Wisdom Keys", and other items to purchase can be found on her website, www.WisdomPath.com. She lives in Delaware, and is available for consultations by phone or in person: judi@wisdompath.com. Her newest endeavor, MetaMeet, a salon to discuss metaphysics while teaching concepts from her books, is underway. Sign up for her free newsletter, "Spirit's Words", on her website.