



BLAME IT ON THE STARS

BOBBY LEE ZODIAC



Aries: Smile, boobla. The long hours toiling in your version of the salt mines should, or at least could, pay off this month. Headbutting the status quo notwithstanding, life's a matter of sweat equity -- sowing, reaping, skipping school whenever you can. Keep your eyes open for lessons unlearned, trips untaken, unbridled fun to be had. If you're not looking for a fling in the hay, staying home would be a great idea late in the month. Yes, a whoopee alert.



Libra: Your metabolic lust for balance can lead to pain and sadness this month. Your January mantra: Confusion is often the shortest path to clarity. The closest you get to harmony is singing in the shower, so do it as often as possible. Stand on the edge of the sphere of your universe and look back to the center. Yes, my little dumpling, it's all still right there where you left it. In fact, a case could be made we never left it at all. Isn't that nice?



Taurus: The solstice is past, the days lengthen, and there you are with the Harvard Classics. Dogs of any age can learn new tricks and this month's a good time to expand your repertoire. Dummy up and feed the data bank. If someone sends you a plane ticket, pack your toothbrush and go. Saying no can be more expensive than saying yes. Speaking of which, someone comely will whisper attractive propositions in your ear. What exactly are you waiting for?



Scorpio: Peace and quiet, the banes of your existence, are the nature of the times. While you gnash your teeth and fidget, bear in mind that power is not activity, it's force unexercised. What could turn into terminal mellowness is punctuated by random humans dropping by, frequently without calling. This can and probably will drive your reclusive side over the edge. Reactions are actions, bucko, and dynamiting one's social network is a tough act to follow.



Gemini: Okay, so the year's off to a crummy start. Nobody said life's always fun, only that it's always interesting. The lathes of heaven grind us all, cupcake. Just count yourself fortunate you're up to the task. On the bright side, you and your partner have a strong wind at your back. Makes you realize love and work are Siamese twins, right? Pencil out plans together, hunker down and wait for the tides to change. Snivelling and snarling only seem like options.



Sagittarius: No, you're not hallucinating. The forces of nature are stirring your pot. If you were fudge, you'd be approaching critical temperature. That's not shortcircuiting you're feeling, it's Brownian motion -- the dust motes of your karma congealing into tomorrow. Pluto, the spiritual godfather of the zodiac, moves into your spare bedroom. Yes, time for the next level. Unless, of course, you buckle. You don't want to know what happens after that.



Cancer: It's high noon for the Crab People. The only real worry you have this month is triggering jealousy among the lame and afflicted. Your love life (which has had, for some time, all the substance and constancy of a lava lamp) begins to shape up. The most important question is not what do I want, it's what do I need. Find a place by the fire that warms without burning. Be at ease and receptive, trust your crap detector, and repay kindness with love.



Capricorn: The quiet uproar of the past few months is replaced by an easygoing order. Nothing ties loose ends like right thought, unless it's right action, and nothing is truer than that right work is always rewarded. You've done good, kid, and those closest to you let you know it. It's a time for bold plans. Bold, as opposed to stupid. Concentrate on turning your innate talents into influence and, ahem, cold cash. Escaping success is your only real problem.



Leo: Those wishing to keep you down this month should come early and bring a large mallet. Yes, honey, the energy's that good. Not that you should fling yourself in front of trucks, but you can leap tall buildings and swan dive into your karma. A Leo on top of her or his game is nobody to bet against and you just filled your flush. If you'd rather not be mauled by serious suitors, lock yourself in the bathroom. It's that kind of month, you lucky dog.



Aquarius: The annual bobsled run to your birthday begins. The holy days are, as always, a scramble. But, unless your karma really reeks, the month will hardly be a poke in the eye with a sharp stick. For once, your friends and associates recognize what a sterling human being you are and how much your presence means in their lives. You're the water bearer, friend, and as anyone who's ever been thirsty will tell you, it's a holy function. Keep the faith and don't spill.



Virgo: A year that bodes great lessons and fundamental changes starts softly. The nurture of home and hearth, that sort of gig. Ignore the outside world at every opportunity and cleave to what's close at hand. The small joys of partnership and householding are pleasures denied to kings and queens. Worry only about what can be changed and remember the only thing worth changing is your attitude. Perseverance furthers and nothing succeeds like faith.



Pisces: Stop gloating. For life to get much better, you'd have to be twins. Venus and Jupiter dally lasciviously, chucking you under the chin. Nothing but death could keep you from enjoying levels of success most of us find embarrassing. Look for a major change midmonth, probably at work. The sense of impending havoc is nonsense, no more than resistance to change in inertia. The rising waters only drown those who refuse to play at the next level. Compende?

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Israel Zangwill

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