

BLAME IT ON THE STARS



Aries: Your mantra this month: Be in the world but not of it. The warm winter winds of karma blow through your social life and rattle your IN box. Work isn't work if it's done for the joy that's in it. Yes, your fingers are worn to the nubs. No, it doesn't seem fair. Work without lust for results and the rewards flow faster than you can shovel them. Avoid butting heads with anything that is either larger than yourself or in a position to fire you.



Libra: Congratulations. The universe got together behind your back and elected you host of everything. Paddling against the current only seems like a valid response. Throw yourself into entertaining with the taste and impeccable grace we're all sure you have in you. Balance social opposites, finesse impossible seating arrangements, laugh gaily and sincerely over nothing. You generate harmony the way others are born to dance. God is love and these are the holy days.



Taurus: First, the good news. With any luck, you won't make some bonehead mistake you'll remember the rest of your life. Just because your life is packed to the rafters with the sort of details and concerns that make your pupils pinwheel doesn't mean good won't come of it. Or that life this month is nothing but sackcloth and ashes. It's just not a month to graze on last season's flowers. It would be a horrible blunder to lose track of finances. To the blind, much is sudden.



Scorpio: Everyone's a little unbalanced this month and you're anything but an exception. Good stuff for the most part, just lots of focus and intensity. Money and home life are the arenas. Don't expect people bearing gifts. What you're looking for is investments, new angles inside old geometries. Expect pleasant surprises and eyebrow raising news. In nautical terms, what you're dealing with is a rising tide. As long as you're not afraid to get your feet wet, the water's fine.



Gemini: The trench warfare of your domestic life settles down to negotiations and position statements. Basic issues are resolved and understanding bears fruit. One of the most beautiful of life's nasty truths is that we're all on different paths. Sometimes they head in the same direction, sometimes they fork. They never dead end, even if they seem to. Get out your compass and remember where you were going. All directions lead back home, wherever that was.



Sagittarius: The judge's cards are up and this month gets an 8.5. Your juices are flowing, the magic's working and if possible, you're even more attractive than usual. Magnetic may be the better term. The universe is, at bottom, a mirror. What you see is not just what you get, it's what you are: the reflection of the energy you emit. Shine and the world shines with you. A student once asked the teacher, what is karma? The teacher smiled, spread his arms and answered, "This."



Cancer: The body is the temple of the spirit. Or, in terms of crab people, the shell of the soul. Burn a little incense and check your physical systems. This is the ritual called 'preparing the vessel'. What fills it are close relationships, both at home and in the workplace. Avoid your tendencies to wall yourself off from currents that feed you. Practice saying yes, plan for the enjoyment of others, pass out bits of pleasure like cigars at the birth of tomorrow.



Capricorn: This is the month that demands a good sense of humor. Sadly, you probably won't have one. Your December mantra: and this too shall pass. Not that there aren't some white pebbles on the scales. People of importance don't disguise their love and appreciation. Your ducks are in a row, they're just quacking too loud for you to concentrate. In the I Ching, this hexagram is called, Meditating in a Trombone Factory. Practice patience and whistle a lot.



Leo: You may not be running on empty but you'll probably need your reserve tanks. Nothing horrible or obnoxious, nothing to send you to your room babbling in despair. Just drains on time, energy, and your skill as a diplomat and host. Kids, stray animals, old lovers, new lovers, work associates, your Aunt Tillie from Dubuque. They all want a piece of you and, as a Leo, you're under contract to give it. Take your vitamins, watch your blood pressure and be jolly.



Aquarius: Whoever's in charge of the spotlight this month thinks you have star quality. Your ability to shine in group endeavors is, to mix metaphors, water for thirsty souls. Expect leadership to be foisted on you. Expect to function well. Your Achilles' heel, flaking under pressure and dropping balls, holds up nicely. You'll even have fun directing holiday traffic. The guerrilla war between your intuitive and rational mind turns into a lovely blind date.



Virgo: Fortunately for the rest of the world, you'll have precious little time to fuss and nitpick this month. You are, bless your heart, happiest when you're busy. If you think you were happy last month, this one rolls your socks down. Stop whining. Most of the activity is pleasurable, or will be if you don't worry it to death looking for perfection in the real world. It's the giddy bobsled run into the holidays. We're either busy being born or busy dying.



Pisces: Restless dreams become reality, an unsettled state reflecting your perceptions more than the object/events they perceive. Dissatisfaction with your performance generates either improvement or the sort of fruitless poetic despair for which you're justifiably famous. Check foundations and recognize support when you see it. You're a charming mystery in search of a plot. As any good writer will tell you, plot is character in action. All seeds bear fruit.

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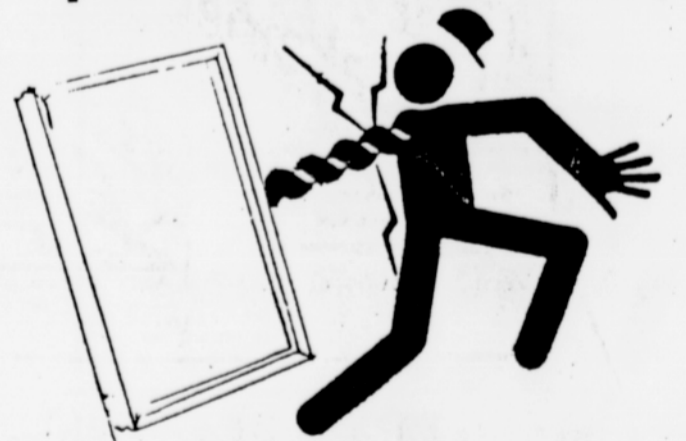
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