

BLAME IT ON THE STARS



ARIES (21 Mar-19 April): The tide comes in, along with it several ships bearing gifts. Nothing your spirit hasn't earned. Who you are, what you do, who returns your calls. The job goes well and could go better, your thinking is less like a pinball machine than it often is, you actually feel an affinity with the horribly normal. Explore the difference between childlike and childish.



LIBRA (23 Sept.-23 Oct.): A good time to put your financial ducks in a row. Long term goals aligned with short term actions. The usual challenge: separating your wants from your needs. Someone needs help and the buck stops with you. Give all you can but remember you can't run on empty. Be discriminating in matters of the heart. Just because it's there doesn't mean it's yours.



TAURUS (20 April-20 May): Great potential to be at your worst. The womb of domestic life becomes a padded cell, imbalance invokes imbalance, you become obnoxious and overbearing. Your way is, once again, the only way and anyone too blockheaded to know power and self righteousness when they see it breathing fire in their face deserves whatever disrespect and abuse they get. Right?



SCORPIO (24 Oct.-22 Nov): Ah, the fast lane again. Center stage, captain of the ship sort of thing. If barked at, don't bite. Avoid becoming part of the confusion, especially at work, and embrace criticism for the truth that's in it. Affairs of the heart go smoothly, firm ground in the eye of the storm. Not that it's much of a storm, unless you trip over your ego. No power trips.



GEMINI (21 May-21 June): Remember how good last month was? You'll want to. No epic tragedies or disasters, just nagging disconnections and dropped balls to stumble over in the dark. And you, you rascal, rise above all of it. You feel fine for the right reasons, people chuck you under the chin, money matters have been much worse. When the going gets weird, the weird flirt and giggle.



SAGITTARIUS (23 Nov.-21 Dec.): Despite your urge, conscious or unconscious, to isolate yourself, you're standing in the center. Your professional life pays you your due, the world is a new oyster, the inner and outer life correspond. Or you could behave badly and short circuit the connections, personal and business, that got you where you are. You're not going to be that stupid, right?



CANCER (22 June-22 July): Energies center on the material world: your possessions and their possession of you. Events encourage deep thought about what you believe and why you believe it. Good for you. Worry less than you want to, be more active than you'd prefer, jump start the future. Remember that conflict arises when someone wants something that's not theirs. Walk away.



CAPRICORN (22 Dec.-19 Jan): Aside from an old acquaintance who isn't one bit more fun than they were when you started avoiding them, a dandy month. Being alone, let alone lonely, will be a challenge it makes no sense to pursue. Do the unlikely, pursue the unthinkable, let your rabbits out to play. If you weren't meant to be having fun, you'd find a reason not to. Don't look.



LEO (23 July-22 August): Springtime for Leos. Fire, intensity, noble obsession: everything a Leo needs to feel alive. What better than to be gutted by an epic love? Recognized as a leader by those who would destroy you? Another chance to bite off more than you can chew. Anything to smile again. Use your head or be ready to embrace things you'll wind up wishing you hadn't.



AQUARIUS (20 Jan-18 Feb.): Call this month a learning experience. Issues of partnership dance in your head. Is anyone the sole proprietor of their life? Will every island please raise their hand? Hone your rules of engagement, come to grips with how you relate to your fellow humans. Being yourself is much more meaningful, and productive, when you know who you are.



VIRGO (23 August-22 Sept.): Your mind is on your work. If we are what we do, then what we do and how we do it should be consistent with who we'd like to be. Step outside and sniff the wind, listen more than you talk, think about what you hear. Patience is a force. Apply it to people who actually believe their ideas are as good as yours. Fix what's broken in your life.



PISCES (19 Feb.-20 Mar): Keep everything honest, watch what you say, avoid long range mistakes. Whatever short circuits arise at work, you can handle them. Just avoid making mountains out of mole hills. The world flirts seriously with you and the intensity is enough even for you. Serious business, strong heart stuff, knee buckling romance. Charge your batteries and play nice.



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(Continued from front page)

John Reed gallivants around promoting his political career. Louise is a nincompoop spouting a bunch of secondhand free love nonsense, and in one devastating glare, Gene looks her straight in the eye and delivers a manifesto: "If you were mine I wouldn't share you with anybody." That isn't movie romance. That is real and wise and true -- that love is not about freedom, it's about desire, which means it's jealous, a force. This is an incredibly handy thing to know when you're 13 and on the verge of woo, though it does make teenage boys seem a little less impressive. Of course, Gene doesn't get the girl, another useful if unsettling fact. But in my own future romances, I always had that line in the back of my head, and it's always been a spark of strength -- not to cave in to the pressure to be casual, not to settle for low-key. When Bill Murray said that films have a life, he implied that films could keep insinuating themselves into our own lives. Watching "Reds" again on Showtime, nearly two decades later, I wondered if I've lived up to the expectations of the teenager who saw it the first time, if I've disappointed her or not. I won't answer that publicly. But I did just rent "Caddyshack" again, and Laura Seitz, wherever you are, rest assured that the candy bar in the swimming pool still cracked me up.

Sarah Vowell is a writer out of Chicago. No, we don't know if she is a Cub fan, but when we first heard her Oklahoma twang on 'This American Life' from WBEZ in Chicago, we fell in love with her attitude and her writing. You can hear her occasionally on 'This American Life', (arguably one of the best radio programs in America, where she is mentioned in the credits as 'consigliere') on Astoria's KMUN on Saturday nights at 9 PM and on KLCC out of Eugene at 1 PM Sunday afternoons. Sarah is also a regular contributor (almost every other Wednesday) to Salon.com, a famous on-line magazine who kindly gave us permission to reprint the above article for our standard \$5 payment. Thank you John S. Williams. We are proud to introduce her to our readers. Oh, and like I promised in the cute little contract you faxed: "This article first appeared in Salon.com, at <http://www.Salon.com>. An online version remains in the Salon archives. Reprinted with permission."

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