

FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

BY ROB BREZNY

ARIES (March 21-April 19) The German government sponsored a scientific study of dowsing, which is a form of magical divination used to locate underground sources of water. After ten years, the chief researcher testified, "It absolutely works, beyond all doubt. But we have no idea why or how." An assertion like that might also apply to the mojo you'll have at your disposal, Aries, as you forge new alliances and bolster your web of connections in the coming weeks. I don't know how or why you'll be such an effective networker, but you will be.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) The United States Congress spends an inordinate amount of time on trivial matters. For example, 16 percent of all the laws it passed in the last two years were devoted to renaming post offices. That's down from the average of the previous eight years, during which time almost 20 percent of its laws had the sole purpose of renaming post offices. In my astrological opinion, you Tauruses can't afford to indulge in anything close to that level of nonsense during the next four weeks. I urge you to keep time-wasting activities down to less than 5 percent of your total. Focus on getting a lot of important stuff done. Be extra thoughtful and responsible as you craft the impact you're having on the world.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) What if your unconscious mind has dreamed up sparkling answers to your raging questions but your conscious mind doesn't know about them yet? Is it possible you are not taking advantage of the sly wisdom that your deeper intelligence has been cooking up? I say it's time to poke around down there. It's time to take aggressive measures as you try to smoke out the revelations that your secret self has prepared for you. How? Remember your dreams, of course. Notice hunches that arise out of nowhere. And send a friendly greeting to your unconscious mind, something like, "I adore you and I'm receptive to you and I'd love to hear what you have to tell me."

CANCER (June 21-July 22) In his book *Our Band Could Be Your Life*, Michael Azerrad says that the Cancerian singer-songwriter Steve Albini is a "connoisseur of intensity." That means he's picky about what he regards as intense. Even the two kinds of music that are often thought of as the embodiment of ferocious emotion don't make the grade for Albini. Heavy metal is comical, he says, not intense. Hardcore punk is childish, not intense. What's your definition of intensity, Cancerian? I see the coming weeks as prime time for you to commune with the very best expressions of that state of being. Be a connoisseur of intensity.

LEO (July 23-August 22) There's a butterfly sanctuary at the Como Park Zoo and Conservatory in Saint Paul, Minnesota. It's called the Enchanted Garden. As you enter, you see a sign that reads, "Please do not touch the butterflies. Let the butterflies touch you." In other words, you shouldn't initiate contact with the delicate creatures. You shouldn't pursue them or try to capture them. Instead, make yourself available for them to land on you. Allow them to decide how and when your connection will begin to unfold. In the coming week, Leo, I suggest you adopt a similar approach to any beauty you'd like to know better.

VIRGO (August 23-September 22) Do you ever fantasize about a more perfect version of yourself? Is there, in your imagination, an idealized image of who you might become in the future? That can be a good thing if it motivates you to improve and grow. But it might also lead you to devalue the flawed but beautiful creation you are right now. It may harm your capacity for self-acceptance. Your assignment in the coming week is to temporarily forget about whom you might evolve into at some later date, and instead just love your crazy, mysterious life exactly as it is.

LIBRA (September 23-October 22) Novelist Jeffrey Eugenides says he doesn't have generic emotions that can be described with one word. "Sadness," "joy" and "regret" don't happen to him. Instead, he prefers "complicated hybrid emotions, Germanic train-car constructions," like "the disappointment of sleeping with one's fantasy" or "the excitement of getting a hotel room with a mini-bar." He delights in sensing "intimations of mortality brought on by aging family members" and "sadness inspired by failing restaurants." In the coming days, Libra, I think you should specialize in one-of-a-kind feelings like these. Milk the nuances! Exult in the peculiarities! Celebrate the fact that each new wave of passion has never before arisen in quite the same form.

SCORPIO (October 23-November 21) After analyzing your astrological omens for the coming weeks, I decided that the best advice I could give you would be this passage by the English writer G. K. Chesterton: "Of all modern notions, the worst is this: that domesticity is dull. Inside the home, they say, is dead decorum and routine; outside is adventure and variety. But the truth is that the home is the only place of liberty, the only spot on earth where a person can alter arrangements suddenly, make an experiment or indulge in a whim. The home is not the one tame place in a world of adventure; it is the one wild place in a world of set rules and set tasks."

SAGITTARIUS (November 22-December 21) My general philosophy is that everyone on the planet, including me, is a jerk now and then. In fact, I'm suspicious of those who are apparently so unfailingly well-behaved that they NEVER act like jerks. On the other hand, some people are jerks far too much of the time, and should be avoided. Here's my rule of thumb: How sizable is each person's Jerk Quotient? If it's below six percent, I'll probably give them a chance to be a presence in my life -- especially if they're smart and interesting. According to my analysis of the astrological omens, Sagittarius, this gauge may be useful for you to keep in mind during the coming weeks.

CAPRICORN (December 22-January 19) The French painter Cezanne painted images of a lot of fruit in the course of his career. He liked to take his sweet time while engaged in his work. The apples and pears and peaches that served as his models often rotted before he was done capturing their likenesses. That's the kind of approach I recommend for you in the coming days, Capricorn. Be very deliberate and gradual and leisurely in whatever labor of love you devote yourself to. No rushing allowed! With conscientious tenderness, exult in attending to every last detail of the process.

AQUARIUS (January 20-February 18) "Nobody can be exactly like me. Even I have trouble doing it." So said the eccentric, outspoken, and hard-partying actress Talullah Bankhead (1902-1968). Can you guess her astrological sign? Aquarius, of course. Her greatest adventure came from trying to keep up with all the unpredictable urges that welled up inside her. She found it challenging and fun to be as unique as she could possibly be. I nominate her to be your role model in the next four weeks. Your assignment is to work extra hard at being yourself.

PISCES (February 19-March 20) The Dardanelles Strait is a channel that connects the Black Sea to the Mediterranean Sea, separating Europe from Asia. In some places it's less than a mile wide. But the currents are fierce, so if you try to swim across at those narrow points, you're pushed around and end up having to travel five or six miles. In light of the current astrological omens, I'm predicting that you will have a comparable challenge in the coming days, Pisces. The task may seem easier or faster than it actually is. Plan accordingly.

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WOMEN SEEKING MEN

WOMAN SEEKING EITHER

I'm bisexual, so don't discriminate by gender...but I am discriminating. Intelligence, maturity, hi EQ, compassion and wisdom are attractive to me, and I like to think about me. **Savory**, 58, 

POSITIVE, CURIOUS, SECURE

looking for a travel companion and friend who is honest and trustworthy. i'm ready to enjoy life with someone who is fun to be with. **razeberry**, 72, 

LET'S GO HIKING!

I'm happiest out of doors. Liking my life of creativity and friends, but would sure like to add a honey to the mix. Looking for intelligence, humor, compassion and creativity. **magnolia**, 63, 

NATURE, TRUTH, CONNECTION

I take good care of myself and I appreciate others that do. I love nature, walking, water, dancing. I also enjoy traveling. Men generally like me and find me attractive. **sunlight**, 65, %

MEN SEEKING WOMEN

BADBOY GOOD HEART

Im a bad boy with a broken heart. Save me from this and ill be the brightest diamond youve ever seen. Dont toss me away im not trash. **ajriptyle**, 25

THERIOGENOLOGIST

Looking for a, mutually, joyous adventure with a healthy optimistic woman who is financially, emotionally and otherwise secure. Are you open to new ideas and like to have fun? **blueboy**, 58

OLDER MALE ANIMAL

Tall handsome friendly funny fun loving looking for a friend to do fun things with walk and talk get to know each other. **HoundDog**, 61, 

TREE HUGGER

Nice, thoughtful guy looking for a honey: someone to share life with, someone to hike with, someone to cuddle up with, someone to laugh with. **stagehand**, 52, 

MEN SEEKING MEN

RECENTLY MOVED HERE

Looking for guys to hang out with. Movies, coffee, restaurant, road trips. Personality more significant. Let's connect and see! **SilverBelt**, 51

I SAW YOU

PINKY

I saw you in my dreams. Naked except for backpacks. Wrapped in whole wheat tortilla floating through space, with side of avocado. I miss you so much! Love, Pooster **When: Tuesday, January 22, 2013. Where: @ the Buff. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902709**

CHEESE AND WINE

We pair each other perfectly! Your creativity regarding relationships is refreshing. I'm truly happy and hope I induce the same happiness for you for the rest of your life. **When: Tuesday, January 15, 2013. Where: Corner of BFF and Lovers. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902708**

BLAIRALLEYARCADE/ LUCKYNOODLEEXOTICBEAUTY

Mona,love your Big beautiful hair/eyes, tight body, kick ass style.The guy you pin-ball with? Boyfriend? Havent seen you there inawhile.You make a mean old fashioned. BTW sexyrockin glasses. coffee/drinks sometime?? **When: Saturday, December 1, 2012. Where: BlairAlley Arcade/ Lucky Noodle. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902707**

RE:MY PRETEND GIRLFRIEND

Your reply to the "My Pretend Boyfriend" post I wrote was sweet and fitting, but you were responding to an ad that wasn't written for you. Sorry for the confusion. **When: Monday, December 31, 2012. Where: Eugene Weekly. You: Man. Me: Woman. #902706**

CARMELITA

Dont hit on my pretend girlfriend,poser. And honey, Im the worlds forgotten boy, the one whos searchin, searchin... **When: Sunday, May 11, 2008. Where: Some rockabilly party I got kicked out of. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902705**

ROLLER DERBY MAN

Trying out the skates for the first time with the Lane County Concussion guys. Stick with it! Roller derby is fun but difficult. If I can do it, anyone can. **When: Saturday, January 19, 2013. Where: Willamalane Center. You: Man. Me: Man. #902704**

143 5.5.6

J-You are everything that i have dreamed of. To the world you may be but one, but to me you are the world.I cant wait for what 2013 brings us! **When: Tuesday, January 8, 2013. Where: My life of a dream. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902703**

DADDIES@WOW

You; Blonde w/ "Mom" in front of sound-board; shared elevated space. I said; "Have a nice eve. see you soon". you said, "I hope so". I replied,"That would be fun!" **When: Friday, December 28, 2012. Where: Wow Hall. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902702**

SILVER FOX

leaving the library at the same time....one more try ...I hope I'm not imposing- I just want to know who you are! And so does my horse! **When: Friday, November 30, 2012. Where: library. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902701**

J WAITER MCMENAMINS

trying to muster the guts to strike up a conversation, but when you come by i blush and sheepishly grin. Thanks for returning the smiles though, they are much appreciated. **When: Friday, January 4, 2013. Where: Mcmenamins. You: Man. Me: Man. #902700**

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