

Cosmic Views

Virgo Ingress

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Saturn Enters Virgo

By Carole Devine

On September 2nd at 9:49 a.m. eastern daylight time, Saturn will leave Leo where it has been since July 2005, and venture into Virgo where it will remain until July 2010. This is a little longer than Saturn usually stays in a sign, but it does dip its toes into Libra from Oct. 29, 2009 until April 7, 2010 before leaving Virgo entirely. Saturn is an outer planet, albeit one of the faster ones, so it affects us both on a personal and mundane level.

On a personal level, we can look to Saturn for major cyclical changes. In a natal chart, if anyone has Saturn in Virgo (born with it there), Virgo rising or the Sun in Virgo, this particular transit will affect them strongly. Saturn was in Virgo around 1949-1951 and 1978-1980. All of these people will be having a "Saturn return" meaning that Saturn is returning to the place it occupied when they were born. It is the end of a very important 28 to 30 year cycle. Usually, the two years just before the return are full of circumstances or indications about what is working in their lives and what is in need of change. It can be stressful if one is not paying attention nor striving to change those things that are stagnant.

If one has Virgo rising, which is based entirely on the *time* of birth, it is the beginning of an important new cycle. The rising sign is the cusp of the first house, and as such, it indicates a new beginning of some kind. Many people change direction at this point having just left roughly two and a half years of retrospection and serious internal dialog as Saturn was transiting the 12th house. Most people are getting their feet wet into a new experience like a new job, new marriage, retirement, expansion into new territory or any one of infinite possibilities. Naturally, there may be a little self-doubt at first until confidence is gained.

Most people know their Sun sign—it's what we mean when we're asked, "What's your sign?" Virgos will also feel this sojourn of Saturn in their sign. Probably at no other time will people feel so tired of whatever has been a chronic source of pain and doubt as they will when Saturn travels through their sign. Edgar Cayce said that Saturn is the planet of change, and so it is. It is also the planet we associate with stoicism and duty, so it sounds contradictory, but when Saturn finally touches particular places in our charts, we get sick and tired of being sick and tired, and finally make the changes we've been stoically resisting. Or we're forced to change. Personally, I call this "cosmic report card time" because rather than starting out deliberately into something new (as it is with Virgo rising), this indicates a time of endings where one finds out how well the last 28 to 30 years have been handled. If nothing happens or you find yourself in better circumstances, then you get an "A" for the cycle, but if you don't like what is going on, it's best to just make the necessary adjustments and not look back.

You'll notice in each one of these the basic urge is to "change" something. All the cycles, too, are 28 to 30 years long. It's usual to have these three cycles in different phases at different times all at once, but if you are a Virgo with Virgo rising and Saturn in Virgo, your changes are not so frequent, but dramatic when they do happen! An example of this would be a Virgo born in 1949 at sunrise. (The rising sign and the Sun sign are the same at sunrise all through the year.) This would be true of anyone with all three of these in the same sign, no matter which sign it is.

Saturn in Virgo on a Mundane Level

Mundane means “pertaining to the world,” and since Saturn is in a sign for over two years, it is considered a generational planet having great impact on mundane affairs. It describes what humanity will “take seriously” for the time it is in a sign. Each sign has archetypal meanings, and it is my belief that when we are each able to assimilate those meanings or energies into our psyche/soul/spirit in equal proportions, we are complete. On a mass level, this could also be true. I think that humanity learns to integrate them by having their attention drawn to circumstances that illustrate them one after another. We are finishing with experiences that are “Leo-like” and now entering a period when we will assimilate Virgo energies. (I can’t help but think of the *Borg* from Star Trek—“resistance is futile.”)

So, what are Virgo energies? Typically, Virgo is “service” consciousness. There is usually a strong critical or perfectionism streak in the typical Virgo archetype, and easy attention to detail. Under Virgo we list: labor, jobs and employment; health, healthcare professionals, medicine; military—all branches (and Rex Bills says Virgo rules Baghdad and Iraq!); restaurants and food services; domestic pets and farm animals; grains, groceries, diaries, grazing land, malnutrition; sanitation—anything having to do with the day-to-day maintenance of life, including offices and office workers. You can expect to see more serious attention given to these areas of life over the next two to three years. We are already seeing food prices rising as a result of gas price increases. Health care is in a critical state, and these are just the beginning signals.

Saturn is our disciplinarian. He shows us where we need to be responsible and steadfast. So, rather than expect disaster, expect to see a more heightened awareness about the necessity to do something about the problems in these areas. Our attention will be drawn to them in many, many ways through popular music, theater, news focus and events.

Dennis Kucinich

It’s highly unlikely that Mr. Kucinich will win the presidency, but he is an interesting character. Born on Oct. 8, 1946 at 5:53 p.m. in Cleveland, OH, he has Aries rising and a full seventh house. There is no doubt that he is compassionate and sensitive to people’s needs with his Moon in Pisces in the 12th house, Neptune opposite the Ascendant and the Moon trine Venus, but he is a very impulsive person in many ways. Jupiter is located between Mars and Mercury showing quick response both mentally and physically, and although in Scorpio, they are in the seventh which can be secretive and evasive when taken together. He is not as sure of himself as he seems since Saturn and Pluto in the fifth are square the trio above. The problem is that these all echo Bush’s entrenchment in his decisions no matter how obvious it becomes that they need changing. He won’t want to look weak. He is intelligent, though, and able to be very innovative—perhaps a little ahead of his time.

Elvis: Thirty Years Ago

The first 45 rpm record I ever bought was *Heartbreak Hotel* by Elvis—probably around 1956. I would play it over and over. I was a teenager in the 50’s and like so many others, swept up in the music of the time. By the time he died, I was raising four sons on my own, and the last thing I had time for was researching Elvis’ chart. But now there is time, so let’s look back on August 16th 1977, thirty years ago today, as this is being written.

Elvis Presley was born on January 8, 1935 at 4:35 a.m. in Tupelo, MS. He was destined to be successful in whatever he did as witnessed by a stellium in the second house trine the MC and Pluto in the eighth sextile the same point. Even though he didn’t like being alone, he really was a loner. Saturn conjunct the Moon in the third shows a very responsible, albeit guilt ridden person with a serious mind and a bit of a hermit. His Moon was in Pisces, which accounts for his remarkable generosity and religious bent. He did not face his darker side directly, though. The ruler of the 12th, Pluto, was in the 8th and quincunx Saturn in the third within a degree. This is a kind of “disconnect” between the unconscious and conscious mind. If something felt uncomfortable, he’d find ways to ignore it. He collected information all the time, however, and was probably an avid reader.

Scorpio on the 12th and the ruler in the 8th is a deep, intense unconscious driver of behavior which he, himself, probably did not understand. With Pluto opposite Sun, Mercury and Venus,

there were times when he was probably obsessed with any ghost that haunted him and did whatever it took to quiet it—particularly since Pluto and the Capricorn stellium were also square Uranus (the source of his uniqueness)—he did things *his* way.

Drug problems would be a challenge since Neptune was square the ascendant and with the Moon in Pisces, the desire to escape would have been strong. Granted, Neptune trined the Sun and sextiled Jupiter, but the square to the Ascendant would be stronger.

Those days in August

He was 42—one of the vulnerable middle years—when the outer planets come to places that aspect their natal positions. This is an age of transition. Transiting Uranus had passed an opposition to its natal position, transiting Neptune has just passed a square to its birth position and would have traversed it again, Saturn was opposing its own place and Pluto was well on its way to squaring the position it held at birth. In the best of times, this is a period of self-doubt, examination and possibly regrets.

The previous eclipses in April 1977, were at 14:17 Libra and 28:17 Aries. These were on his Mars (which Pluto was transiting), conjoining his Uranus—and the progressed Uranus within 3 minutes— and square his Nodes, Pluto and Venus, the latter of which had been or were about to be in square or opposition aspect by solar arc Neptune.

Six months before his death, Elvis' progressed Sun changed signs; it went from Aquarius into Pisces, the escapist sign. When he died, it was only 12 minutes from his progressed Saturn. Something was going seriously wrong in his life, and he was concerned about money (Saturn ruled the second).

Also, five to six months earlier the solar arc ascendant was opposing Pluto, but these things stay active for as much as a year. This literally can mean “death of the body.” Solar arc Neptune was opposing Uranus within 11 minutes and seven months earlier squaring the Part of Fortune. This part is a midpoint of the Sun, Moon and Ascendant, so it's a sensitive point that energizes all three at once. With Neptune the trigger, it would have increased the desire to escape. Uranus ruled the third house, the conscious mind, and with Neptune opposite, his thinking would have been confused, disoriented and lacking focus even without the drugs. Neptune had been transiting the ascendant for months, as well, and was retrograding back over it within a degree when he died, so this descent into drugs was hard to resist. Even solar arc Venus had just completed a square to the ascendant and was then approaching an opposition to Neptune to be completed in about two years, but transiting Neptune was about to trigger it then.

In addition, secondary progressed Mercury was retrograding back over his Saturn, where it had been before, adding depression to the mix. It had been there for awhile. Pluto was within a degree of transiting his Mars which in turn, was opposing the midpoint of solar arc Moon and Saturn. Extreme frustration must have fueled the escapist tendencies. Saturn was approaching an opposition to itself, and the Sun had conjoined the transiting Saturn three days earlier.

And last, the transiting Jupiter, ruler of the whole chart, was within one minute of being quincunx his Venus. The quincunx is separative. Since Jupiter is the ruler of the ascendant and represents the body, when it makes this aspect a person can separate *from* his body.

Karmic events are so often shown by the nodes of the Moon. They had just finished squaring his natal sun days before—often the signature of a major event.

The stress on this man was enormous near the end. It would have been very difficult for anyone to withstand these aspects!

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