Astrology of August 2024

Overview of August 2024



Astrological Lammas, the midway point between the Summer Solstice and Autumn Equinox (Winter Solstice and Spring Equinox in the southern hemisphere) is on 7th, the day before the Lion's Gate which is extra potent this year, being 8-8-8.

Before that we have the New Moon in Leo on 4th as Mercury is stationary. Mercury's second retrograde of the year is wholly contained within Augst, from 5th until 28th and may at first glance seem to be the main theme of the month. True, it is likely to be felt more due to starting in Virgo, one of the signs that it rules but this retrograde is more like an outer framework of three weeks within which much more potent things occur, including Lammas, the Lion's Gate and an incredibly potent Full Moon on 19th, with Mercury back in Leo. In addition, Mercury makes some major connections to some of the outer planets during its retrograde and shadow phases either side, meaning that there are three connections to each and these are major catalysts for change.

The New Moon (4th), with Mercury stationary emphasises Mercury's influence this month and the need to look at our inner voice, especially when it is critical and encourages us to speak kindly to ourselves.

The Full Moon on 19th, as I have already said, is incredibly potent and I ran out of room where I make my notes, trying to cover everything involved. With Uranus's presence, it could be shake up time whilst there is another strong influence involving Mars and Venus, the masculine and feminine archetypes of the chart. And this is also the day when retrograde Mercury crosses back over the Sun. Check out the daily astrology for more on this – I don't think I can sum it all up in a sentence!

The Sun moves from Leo into Virgo on 22nd and as we come to the end of the month, Uranus begins to slow before turning retrograde on 1st September.

Daily Astrology of August 2024

As we begin August, we have the Sun in Leo, Mercury is slowing, preparing to go retrograde on 5th, the day after the Leo New Moon whilst Mars and Venus, the masculine and feminine archetypes of the chart are coming into alignments with the Nodes and Uranus respectively. The Nodes, karmic indicators in the chart, are in the signs of Libra (South Node) and Aries (North Node) all year and are bringing energies of war and peace to our attention and this intensifies the energies of 1st and 2nd as these are the two signs that Mars and Venus rule.

Uranus is undoubtedly an antagonist and will want to be rebellious and disrupt the peace and there are some old, unconscious and conditioned responses at play that are patterns we are working on breaking.

Who and what are we doing battle with?

Do we know why?

Is this really an authentic energy or one that we have been conditioned into thinking we should go to battle for?

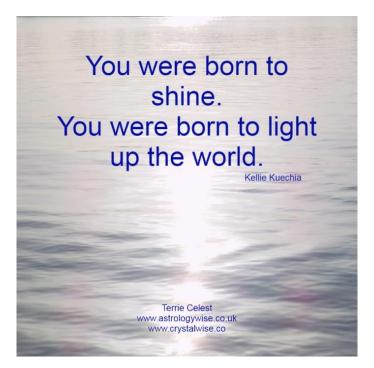
Are we being disruptive because we enjoy creating a bit of drama, embellishing the facts and storying telling, playing to our audience?

There are some deeply embedded old patterns here that might simply be working on an internal level, probably fuelled by outside circumstances.

Are we doing battle with ourselves?

What would it take to find inner peace?

Be the change that you want to see in the world.



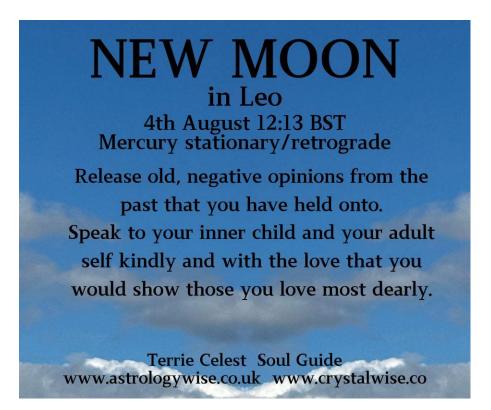
3rd brings us the dark of the Moon before the New Moon on 4th. In Leo, the dark phase, when there is little or no light brings shadow energies to the fore and with the planetary positions, it firmly points us towards looking at our childhood and inner child healing.

We could well have old hurts of feeling unloved, unappreciated, unnoticed surface. *What about me?*, is a likely, internal cry that might lie beneath more obvious and surface feelings. In contrast, there can be an old fear of being noticed and wanting to shrink into the seemingly welcoming shadows. Leo needs to shine its light into the world, and we might well be confronted with those parts of ourselves that don't want that to happen.

Whilst we might yearn for success, to be seen, applauded, our talents to be lauded, our social media posts to be liked and our number of followers to increase, this dark of the Moon is likely to show us the bit that whispers in our ear – Yes, but if you did, you'd have all this extra work to cope with, would you manage, you'd attract trolls, more criticism, more hassle, more work, could you cope, do you really want to take on all that extra work? Of course that won't happen, you don't deserve it, you're not good enough, who do you think you are? Noone will really like your work.

You get the picture and the gift in any of these surfacing is knowing what unconscious programming and fears are actually stopping us getting what we really want. We came to be abundant, to prosper, to be happy and to thrive, not just to face our challenges and clear our karma. Abundance comes in many forms, it is not just about finances, and it is innate in us to have all the riches we desire. The truth is, we ARE abundant, we ARE abundance. It is inherent within us, within the Divine spark that lies in our heart and it really is time to dust off that lamp, let our light shine and to feel true joy, happiness and abundance. Make a list of all the things you wish for, journal on how you want your life to be and begin to envision it.

With tomorrow's New Moon, we can begin the process of bringing these wishes to fruition.



August's New Moon is in Leo on 4th. Venus is also in Leo, at the last degree and making niggly connections to both retrograde Neptune and retrograde Pluto, all three of which combine in a karmic, ancestral pattern. Another key component is Mercury, virtually at a standstill before turning retrograde less than 24hrs later, in its second sign of Virgo. Mars will meet Jupiter on 14th and this is beginning to apply pressure.

Although there is still an overall, optimistic air in the planetary movements, this is becoming harder to see as we dig a little deeper into retrograde season and are currently being offered chances to clear deeper layers of the smelly stuff. Image you are in a hot air balloon and it is too heavy to take off, you have to shed weight! And I'm not being personal and talking physical, I'm talking energetic, spiritual, karmic weight that we are carrying unnecessarily.

What baggage are you still carrying from your childhood?

What criticisms, opinions, harsh words or anger is still held in your body and energy field?

Take a moment to think about the negative things that you say to yourself. The ones where you aren't good enough, you're stupid, lazy, won't amount to much, no-one likes you etc. etc. Don't go too deep, this is not about beating yourself up, but noticing how you criticise yourself and then discovering where these have come from. Now think of the earliest time, instance or memory you have of feeling that way. And in that memory, observe whether there is another person involved. Is the negative self-talk something that was said to you, something that you felt after an incident, a comment by a teacher, a parent, how you felt when you weren't invited to a friend's party, a hurtful comment about something you had created?

If it is something that was said or implied by someone else, that is not our truth. At best it could be described as an opinion, someone else's viewpoint. I wonder what that person was going through themselves or what criticisms they were subjected to in their childhood or adulthood that made them comment without kindness or consideration?

You know your name and you also know how damned awesome you are, even if you tell yourself otherwise and continue to repeat negative statements that have just been replayed over many years, maybe over many generations, as many of these are often ancestral patterns. Can you maybe spot the same lack of self-belief, self-love or critical inner or outer voice in previous generations?

If someone were to tell you, assuredly, that your name was something else, you would immediately know and feel that was wrong and would most likely correct them. Even if you decided not to say anything, you wouldn't let it change your opinion of who you are, you wouldn't doubt yourself.

You know your name and deep down you know your true value, worth and beauty too.

Now go back to your piece of paper and reframe those long-held criticisms. Look at each one and find the positive, balancing statement. This isn't about arguing or being defensive, but affirming, clearly and assuredly, positive statements about yourself. The most powerful are those that link us to our I am presence, our Soul and therefore start as many as you can with I AM.

Here are a few suggestions to start you off and take note of those that you find most difficult. It's OK to play around with the wording and find something that sits well with you.

I AM STRONG

I AM WORTHY

I AM WORTHY OF LOVE AND RESPECT

I AM CREATIVE

I AM A GOOD PARENT

I AM KIND

I AM ABUNDANT

I AM ABUNDANCE

I AM TRYING MY BEST EVERY DAY

I AM LETTING GO OF ALL THAT IS NOT FOR MY HIGHEST GOOD

I AM ENOUGH

I ACCEPT MYSELF AS I AM

I ACCEPT OTHERS AS THEY ARE

I AM COURAGEOUS

I AM AT PEACE

I AM OPEN TO RECEIVING

I FLOURISH WHEREVER I GO

EVERYTHING IS WORKING OUT FOR ME

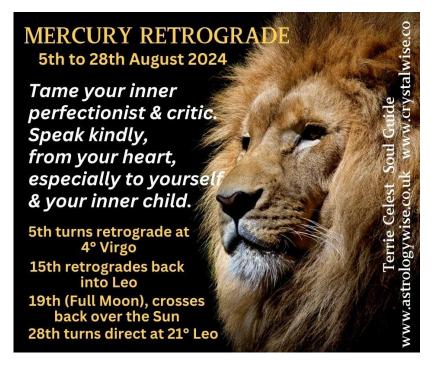
IT IS SAFE TO OPEN MY HEART

IT IS SAFE TO LOVE

IT IS SAFE TO BE EMOTIONAL

IT IS SAFE TO BE ME

I AM BECOMING MORE (insert strength) EVERYDAY



Mercury turns retrograde on 5th August, beginning this apparent reverse movement whilst in Virgo and then on 15th, retrograding back into Leo, where the main action occurs. It crosses back over the Sun on 19th at the very potent Full Moon and makes significant connections to Uranus, Neptune, Pluto and Chiro, all outer planets that have a deeper and more meaningful impact. Mercury will have made these same connections in its shadow period before turning retrograde and will make a third and final connection to them all on its forward motion again, which is when we can really take action or find resolution.

Starting in Virgo, the perfectionist and critical nature of Virgo is likely to be activated and we need to watch out for our thoughts and especially our inner critic. Tolerance levels are likely to be reduced and we can feel niggly, niggled or more likely to tell people what we think of them, or to point out what they are doing wrong or what we think they should be doing!

We need to drop into our hearts and speak with kindness at all times and especially to ourselves and our inner child, whose voice will become louder when Mercury goes back into Leo. She may be feeling the effects of criticism she had as a child and will need reassurance of her worth and value and that she is loved and appreciated, and also that anything that she creates is always of value and does not need approval from others. 14th and 15th have niggly connections to retrograde Pluto and retrograde Neptune respectively, a testing square to Uranus is on 18th and then on 19th, at the Full Moon, Mercury retrogrades back over the Sun whilst contributing to the challenging connection that the Sun and Moon then make to Uranus, so these two days will really test us and are when we will particularly need to watch our mind, thoughts, inner voice and outer communication.

The most helpful of Mercury's major connections is a lovely trine to Chiron on 23rd, the day after the Sun has entered Virgo and this will help with some karma clearing and embracing new patterns going forward.

See the individual days for more details.

Also on 5th, Venus changes signs, leaving Leo and joining Mercury in Virgo and soon after, makes a niggly connection to Pluto which has retrograded back to the very beginning of Aquarius. Both these factors will add to the critical potential of the day and there may be a mismatch with others over what is of value to us. Pluto's contribution is in showing us where the power lies and how we can make changes to transform future instances,

Astrological Lammas, the midway point between the Summer Solstice and Autumn Equinox (Winter Solstice and Spring Equinox in the southern hemisphere) is on 7th, the day before the Lion's Gate which is extra potent this year, being 8-8-8. Between the two days, there is undoubtedly a focus on balance and on 7th we also have the Sun, in Leo, making a potentially helpful connection to Jupiter. On 8th, retrograde Mercury passes back over Venus due to its retrograde. Both in Virgo, this can help us more easily access the head over the heart but we have to be careful that the critical nature of Virgo doesn't colour our interactions.

If you want to find out more about 8-8-8 and to tap into its energies, check out my blog and see the epic crystal grid I created which initially included 33 powerful Lemurians!

You can read it HERE

Things might not go to plan on 9th and 10th and if that is the case, we need to release our frustration and annoyance and accept that what will be, will be. Probably, the Universe has a plan that we are completely unaware of and is gently manoeuvring us to where we need to be. Maybe it is delaying us for a reason, maybe our rearranged travel plans mean that we miss an accident or the extra time gives us an opportunity that we will miss if we are stuck in our negative inner dialogue.

Trust that everything happens for a reason and we might have no idea, at that moment in time, what that might be. If you can't change it, don't sweat it and definitely don't sweat the small stuff over these two days.

Building in the background, Mars will be meeting Jupiter on 14th and we might begin to notice an increase in masculine expression, whether that is assertiveness, impatience, anger or in our stress levels. Meeting in Gemini, this can ramp up our nervous system and feeling that we have too much to do or too little time could add to this, so it is important to try to keep calm, be as organised as we can without being rigid to change, don't take on extra responsibility and to let go of what we sensibly can't do.

We might need to ask ourselves what is really important, and this can actually be a gift here, and help us to realise where we need to concentrate our efforts.



The waxing half Moon is on 12th August, being the midway point between the previous New Moon on 4th and the upcoming Full Moon on 19th. This half Moon marks progressing into the next phase of the Moon and can test our New Moon intentions. The upcoming Full Moon is very potent and today can show us how we can access deep emotions and how they are the link between the head and the heart. It is important to acknowledge how we are feeling and not to squash those emotions back down. Unresolved feelings might try to bubble to the surface and might surprise us, and again, they need to be expressed, not ignored.

If anger is rising, that too is a valid response and emotion and shouldn't be supressed either, nor should it be expressed destructively. Physical activity, even running on the spot or doing some star jumps, especially if we put the anger into them, can help to dissipate it.

One of the best ways to dissolve anger is laughter, try it!

With Mars and Jupiter meeting on 14th, we will probably have felt this tension building for a couple of days at least and it can peak beforehand. The stressful, busy, scattered, talkative and even gossipy nature of Gemini will be ramped up by Jupiter's expansive, boundaryless energies and will be exacerbated by Mercury, Gemini's ruler, making a niggly connection with Pluto, bringing power and control issues into the mix.

The power, of course, lies within us and with these energies, within our mind. When we realise the power of our thoughts and that we can actually have control over them, it is very empowering and can be a major turning point in our lives.

Mercury retrogrades back into Leo on 15th and then makes another niggly connection, this time to Neptune and this combination never helps with clarity and is likely to throw up some illusion or disillusion from our expectations, which we probably didn't verbalise, not being met.

The Sun and Chiron are our hope with this and shine a positive light on an old karmic wound, and can help us to spot and change an old karmic pattern. This will probably tie in with the other connections, and point us towards changing how we view things, have we respond mentally and could well involve thought patterns and beliefs inherited or imprinted in our childhood.

With Mars moving on to make a challenging connection with retrograde Saturn on 16th, childhood issues could centre around authority figures and especially the father, father figures or the archetype of the father, and there could well be some idealism to release if our expectations of what a father should be like, weren't met. Again, stress through feeling overloaded could rise, in which case we need to look at how we can be more organised and prevent this happening again.

The nervous system is likely to be ramped up over these 2-3 days and doing what we can to keep ourselves feeling calm and in control in the first place are vital, equally, if levels do rise, to do what we can to lower them and not blame others.



18th to 21st need to be considered together, there is so much going on, and equally, tonnes of potential. Let's first of all see what we have on each day. Skip the next five paragraphs to bypass the astrological detail and go to the interpretation.

On 18th there is a testing connection between retrograde Mercury and Uranus which is the second such connection, the first was on 21st July when both planets were direct.

On 19th I ran out of space with the number of connections and goings on. I'll try to keep it simple. Two testing triangles are key features in the Full Moon and the Mercury/Uranus connection the day before forms one exact side of one of those triangles. Mercury then retrogrades back over the Sun and these two are then together at one point, with the Sun then squaring Uranus and the Moon, which naturally opposes the Sun at a Full Moon forma a second point which then squares Uranus at the third.

The other triangle involves retrograde Saturn in opposition to Venus with both squaring Mars which is still close to Jupiter, having passed over it on 14th. Saturn and Jupiter squaring is a major connection.

It is not unusual to have this type of challenging configuration (a triangle called a T-square) but usually, with three planets involved, the three

exact pairings that they make usual come into alignment on different days as the planets reach different degrees, but here, one occurs on the 18th and then all the rest on the day of the Full Moon. Only Jupiter squaring Saturn occurs after the Full Moon, but only by about three hours, so energetically, the majority of these energies are building beforehand and Mars and Venus don't exactly square until 23rd.

In the night sky of 20th we can see the Moon and Saturn close to together. The Moon has moved on a sign from the Full Moon and in some parts of the world, still at 97% full, will be seen to pass in front of Saturn between 04:27 and 05:22, cloud free skies allowing. Energetically, this is going to have a similar impact to an eclipse, but with only the Moon and not the Sun, involved. During the day of 21st, the Sun reaches the last degree of Leo, a powerful point when Leo expression is ramped up and the Sun and Neptune have a niggly connection.

Ok, let's try to pull this all together and see what we are in for. Well, in weather terms, expect stormy skies for sure and in cooking analogies, this could feel like a pressure cooker building up steam with the potential for tensions to rise to boiling point before bursting forth as the energies need release. Venus and Mars are the feminine and masculine archetypes and their square will highlight their duality. Any battles we feel we need to fight need to be for the greatest good of all, of a spiritual, not physical nature, and to actually be passive, not aggressive or confrontational. Think in terms of peaceful protests rather than anger, rage, fighting and confrontation,

Uranus brings the potential for breakthroughs and although in tense connections, these, like the tension needed on an arrow, can help to propel us forward in the right direction, if we don't resist the much needed change that it will be presenting us with.

It took me a while to realise that all of the first eight planets are involved, and I don't' recall seeing that before. The first seven, those that early man would have been able to see with the naked eye, align with the seven stages of Soul alchemy, the Soul's transformation from lead into gold and I feel this Full Moon offers huge potential for personal and collective growth.

Fear is one of the biggest challenges we face in our human lives, if not the greatest and we can see it permeate so many areas of our lives, and to fuel many peoples' negative reactions and actions. It can equally disempower us, holding us back from stepping into our power, from shining our light out into the world. It stops us from being authentic and keeps us small in many ways.

We now have an opportunity to see those ingrained fears for what they really are, self-imposed limitations that take us out of our heart and close off an open heart. The biggest limitations in our life are those we place on ourselves through our thoughts about ourselves. They are not reality and not what we came to do. We came to shine and to empower others as we do so, so that they shine their light too.

Yes, there may be some chaos, things may be turned upside down, more limitations and fears shown to us, but that is exactly the catalyst that is needed for us to say – *no longer, enough is enough. I am no longer dimming my light, I am no longer letting my fears limit me from being all that I can be.*

Think your light isn't strong enough to make a difference?

One light might not be noticeable, but what if there were a hundred, or a thousand, or a million??

On 22nd, the Sun leaves Leo and enters Virgo, where Venus already resides and where Mercury began its retrograde before going back into Leo, where it is now just behind the Sun. A few hours after this change, it makes a niggly connection to retrograde Pluto which is at the beginning of Aquarius. Both these, through their current signs, have connections to the mind and will link back to, and continue to evolve the potent energies around the Full Moon. Pluto is a key component and catalyst for change, but is more evolutionary than revolutionary Uranus who was active at the Full Moon, hence this feeling like it is continuing the change Uranus put in motion.

Pluto is associated with power and control and whilst it can be difficult to make changes with this niggly type of connection, it will at least, highlight areas where there is an imbalance of power or where we need to dive deep into our unconscious processes to find the underlying antagonist to any discontent that we feel.

What needs to go?

What do we need to let go of?

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What do we need to change?
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Retrograde Mercury is a key player on 23rd and 24th, which we will look at together. On 23rd, it has a very favourable connection to Chiron and the most helpful during its retrograde. The second of three connections, their first was on 19th July when both were direct. Chiron went retrograde on 26th July and Mercury on 5th August. Their final contact on 2nd September will have Mercury direct but Chiron still retrograde.

Venus and Mars, the feminine and masculine archetypes of the chart, and the only pairing not to be exact from the T-squares in the Full Moon chart, become exact on 23rd and then they both move on to connect with Chiron on 24th, and Mars also connects with Mercury which is in the last few days of its retrograde and will only retrograde back roughly another degree in that time.

Whatever arises, there will be a karmic flavour to and will show us a deeply ingrained pattern that we can now break. There is help to look more at negative masculine expression and the rebalancing of masculine and feminine that is needed could range from our own expression, to how we react differently to males or females, how we react to aggression or anger, or how we feel either has an advantage or disadvantage. Do we feel we had less opportunities as a child than the opposite sex? Did we feel undervalued or an injustice?

It is our inner child that needs healing, so don't dismiss any childhood memories that surface and note any negative feelings as they will hold the key.



The Waning half Moon is on 26th August, marking the halfway point between the previous Full Moon on 19th and the upcoming New Moon in Virgo on 3rd September and helping to mitigate the challenge this brings, we have a lovely connection between Venus and Uranus building to being exact early on 27th, as Mercury is slowing..

Remember the two potent and challenging triangles in the Full Moon chart? Venus has moved from one to connecting to Uranus which was in the other, so it feels as if it is helping to bring some resolution and some positive feminine empowerment. In Virgo, Venus can fall into a service role and negate its own needs, always putting others' first and Uranus here could help us to see our own value, the value in spending time and energy on ourselves and how we can then be of greater and higher service to the world.

Look for feminine themes and look for unconventional and unexpected solutions or expressions that you would never have previously considered.

Mercury is slowing, so ensure that your thoughts stay positive and focused on what is right, not what is 'wrong'. Everything is exactly as it should be, even imperfection is perfect!



Mercury turns direct on 28th August although the not so good news is that Uranus is beginning to slow, preparing to start its retrograde on 1st September and there is a challenging opposition between Venus and Neptune as Venus reaches the end of Virgo.

This combination could cause a bit of inner tension, mostly in the mind and the truth could be hard to see. We may, mistakenly, believe we can see it, but I would avoid any major decisions on this day, as there are mists that we are unaware of that are obscuring parts of the picture, like a mass of cloud obscuring part of the horizon, you can't see everything.

Today's ingredients are the perfect recipe for noticing what isn't perfect and so we need to avoid being critical ourselves and not to react if we feel criticised. Concentrate on what IS right, and look at the overall message, as if you were annoyed at misspellings and bad grammar in some text. Look past that and realise it is not everyone's strength, it doesn't lessen the message and it does not make the writer less in any way.



Venus, leading the chart, leaves Virgo and enters Libra on 29th and just over an hour later, makes a favourable connection with Pluto, whilst the Sun has a niggly connection to the karmic nodes.

Libra is Venus's home and here she loves all things beautiful, harmony, and peace but can fall into over-compromising to keep the peace. This is the energy of a lover, a romantic, a pacifist, someone who doesn't want to do battle and will avoid conflict but can therefore supress anger which spills out passively. It brings us the archetype of the feminine and will assist with diplomacy and anything where we want to bring some peace. On a personal level though, we do need to make sure that we are not falling into the role of peace at any cost or becoming a people pleaser.

Venus will be closing in on the South Node and meeting it on 4th September and discourse with the critical nature of the Sun today could further evolve then. Again, focus on what is right and not what you perceive to be 'wrong'. See and accept that we all have different viewpoints and different ways of doing things. Different, not wrong.

August ends with Uranus coming to a standstill before going retrograde on 1st September and Mars makes a niggly connection with it as it does so. This is a recipe for inner stress building which can often show us what isn't working or what we have outgrown. Uranus is prompting change, showing us what we need to leave behind but there can be a reluctance to do so.

What are we hanging on to as it brings us a (false) sense of safety and security?

What comfort zones are we too familiar with and are resisting changing or stepping out of?

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All times and dates based on BST.