

Astrology of August 2025

Overview of August 2025



After many changes in July, August is relatively quiet in terms of changes but is pretty potent in terms of its potential to break out of old patterns and move us forward, with some key days of activations and connections.

We start the month with Mercury, Saturn, Neptune, Pluto and Chiron retrograde with Mercury going direct on 11th, leaving four for the rest of the month. The chart is super intriguing with Uranus (direct) at 0° being a major catalyst as it moves close to Saturn and Neptune which are both retrograding and alongside Venus, with all three at 1° with retrograde Pluto at 2°. Mars (masculine archetype) replaces Venus (feminine archetype) in amongst these mighty outer planets by the time we reach the Full Moon. As Uranus moves forwards it also reaches 1° and then makes connections to Saturn on 12th and Neptune on 29th, making these key days.

With the other half of the planets spread over the rest of the degrees there are again big gaps that create periods where the faster moving planets like the Sun, Mercury and Venus make no connections creating times when we can integrate the big connections. In recent months, with

this cluster of early planets I have pointed out how important the days after the Sun changes signs are as almost immediately it makes a series of connections that have felt like strong activations leading up to the New Moon a few days later. This month that is ramped up several notches with the Sun entering Virgo on 22nd and it then makes a niggly connection to (retrograde) Saturn before the New Moon on 23rd at zero degrees of Virgo and the following day the Sun connects with, in turn, Uranus, Neptune and Pluto, also activating a potent karmic pattern in the New Moon chart and making this a date to note.

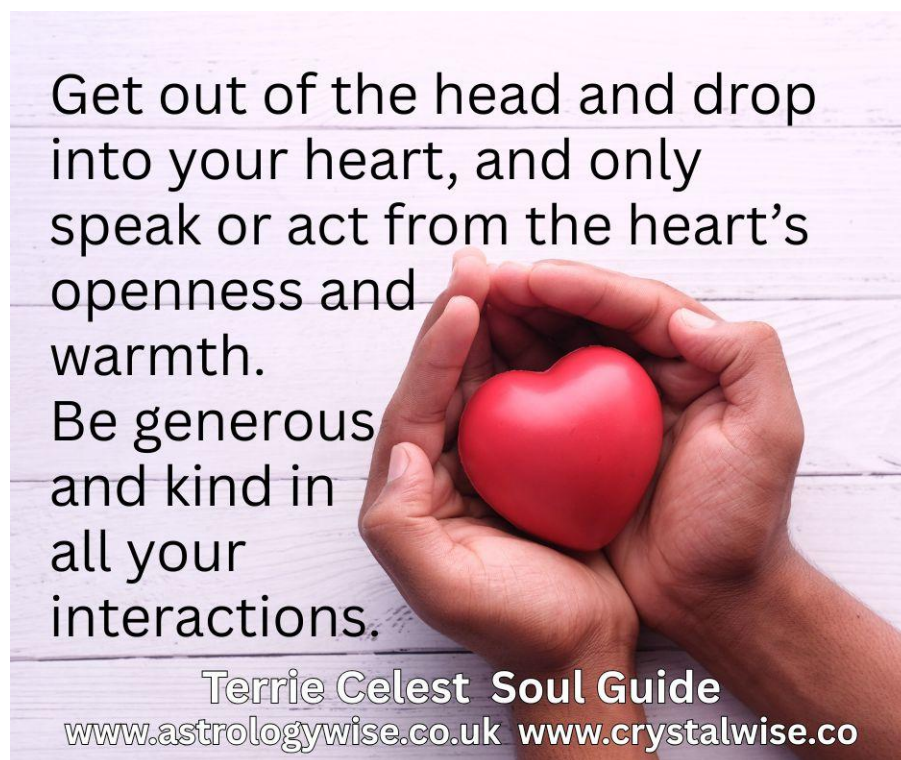
Having changed signs on 31st July Venus makes a series of three connections on 1st, Mars changes signs just after astrological Lammas on 7th and from then to 10th makes its activations either side of the Full Moon on 9th and fast-moving Venus again changes signs on 25th, again connecting to these outer planets on 26th and 27th but in a different way, from the next sign.

There is a very unusual double connection between Mercury and Mars which I don't think I've ever seen before on 15th and 18th (see daily astrology for further explanation) and the Full Moon on 9th is the day after the peak of the Lion's Gate portal and gives us a golden opportunity to reset our minds, release old patterns of thought and outdated belief systems and to foster new, kinder, heart-centred communication.

I have already mentioned that the New Moon is on 23rd, the day after the Sun changes signs and it has a potent karmic pattern. Mars is the planet that we need to connect with to harness this potential, especially with the activations the Sun then makes (see above) as these are either niggly or testing but do feel like initiations. So it might initially seem a bit challenging and the key is to ensure that our minds don't descend into negativity and that we are master of it, not servant to it!

This is the first of two New Moons in Virgo so we will get a second bite of the cherry to really get the benefit of the fresh start that a New Moon usually brings, see daily astrology for more details.

Daily Astrology of August 2025



Having changed signs on 31st July Venus is at 0° Cancer on 1st August and makes a series of three connections to the outer planets that are at the early degrees. Also on 1st, Mercury makes its retrograde pass back over the Sun and the next ten days will be when we feel its retrograde more keenly and any stresses it brings will be more internally experienced, making it important that we are aware of our inner dialogue and don't let that get fixated on negativity or strong opinions. Once behind the Sun, outer communication lessens and we are more consumed with thought.

Venus's connections are challenging ones, adding to the waxing half Moon that day which itself provides a test to that which we set in motion or began to manifest at the New Moon (24th July). Firstly, it niggles with Uranus moving on to a more directly challenging square with Saturn and Neptune, both retrograde, before making another niggly connection to retrograde Pluto on 2nd as Mars also niggles with Chiron.

These two days are likely to bring unresolved hurts from the past back into our mind; times when we might have felt overlooked, ignored, unappreciated, unvalued, unworthy, abandoned or overly-criticised. When this happens it can be easy to revisit, regurgitate, relive these old challenges and to re-experience the hurt and the most important thing

here, is not to get stuck in these or to wallow in repeating what happened many Moons ago. Whatever happened obviously triggered us strongly otherwise we wouldn't still be able to reignite the old feelings and they can serve to show us where we have healing to do and also what our core values are, what we wouldn't tolerate now, what firm boundaries we would put in place. We can see how far we have come by realising that we wouldn't let things unfold the same again, that we would speak up more or act differently to bring about a different outcome.

Look out also for any resonance with feminine energies and how that might have been disempowered and these themes can also echo through a spotlight on finances, another of Venus' themes.

Key to these days is to not dwell on the past and get stuck there, to see the resurfacing of these memories with their associated feelings as a gift and an opportunity to release them, to learn and grow from them, to practise self-care and self-love, to nurture our inner child with what it feels was missing before. Now is the time to parent and nurture ourselves and to love the young versions of ourselves. Drop into your heart, speak and act kindly from there, to yourself as well as others.

The Sun makes a niggly little connection to Jupiter on 4th, which is the planet of growth, expansion, luck and faith and is travelling through sensitive and home-loving Cancer. Childhood memories that bubble to the surface can show us the origins of moments when we shrink into ourselves, withdraw, hurt and discouraged. Many of us as we work towards stepping more into our light and into our purpose, will find a reluctance to be seen, to be in the limelight, to be noticed or centre stage and rather than just dismiss or excuse this as part of our character, it can be well worth spending some time looking for early examples that are unconsciously informing our responses and reluctance now. In particular, look back to your mother or mothering archetypes, or maybe there is an old pattern of being the nurturer and carer and therefore taking a back seat?

Why shouldn't we shine our light brightly and help others on the path as we do so? Heal the past and your courage will naturally resurface with the enthusiasm of a curious child, eager to experience, play and have

fun. Maybe it is simply fun that is lacking, and why shouldn't we enjoy our journey? See how you can make it fun and enjoyable.

With a big gap in the chart, the Sun makes no more connections until 10th, after the Full Moon.

There is only one minor connection on 5th but it is significant in that it involves retrograde Mercury and is one of only two contacts it is making in this part of its cycle, which is very unusual and puts extra emphasis on them. Venus is its counterpart today and their connection is niggly and the second of three, the first having occurred on 18th July. As Venus was so active in the first two days of this month, this could well provide a moment to reflect, ponder and review those earlier days and matters that were brought to the surface, as well as what happened back in July. They are likely to all link in, in some way, to be a continuation, an evolvment and Mercury's retrograde motion now takes us to the mind, so that we are going to be chewing it over, wondering how things are going to pan out, what options we have, what route forwards we would like to take.

The day after, 6th, Mars reaches the last degree of Virgo and this is going to add a heightened attention to detail and what we perceive as 'wrong', rather than what is 'right' and it is important that we don't let this grow into criticism, of the self as well as others. This is definitely not a time to beat ourselves up over what happened or something we have done in the past, nor to worry about anything that worrying can't change.

Think things over, but keep the thoughts solution oriented, towards what you will do differently in the future, to nurturing the self, looking into the emotional roots of any health concerns, to serving the self rather than falling into old roles of negating the self, whilst doing for others.



7th August 2025 Astrological Lammas

Terrie Celest Soul Guide
www.astrologywise.co.uk www.crystalwise.co

7th August is the astrological point of Lammas and this might be confusing to those of you who celebrated it on 1st, and you might have wondered why I didn't mention it then. The observant amongst you will have noticed that this is so for each of the quarter days and I just mention the astrological point. I've been meaning to explain this for some time and rather than doing so here and making this a much longer post, I finally got around to creating a short blog post which I hope explains it. You can read it [HERE](https://www.crystalwise.co/blog). (If the link doesn't work on the PDF version of this, this is the long address - <https://www.crystalwise.co/blog>)

Astrological Lammas is the midway point between the Summer (Winter in the southern hemisphere) Solstice on 21st June and the upcoming Autumn (Spring) Equinox on 22nd September and is naturally a point at which we can take stock and review our progress since the Solstice and see if we need to adjust our sails to stay on track with our goals or if we maybe need to start afresh and create some new ones.

A few hours before, Mars changes signs and leaves detail oriented Virgo and enters more harmonious and peace-loving Libra which is naturally the home of its feminine counterpart, Venus. Can the warrior planet find its softer nature and expression, the Divine masculine during its six week stay here?

Having changed signs, over the next few days it is Mars' turn to connect with and activate the outer planets which are in the early degrees, and

it's new home should help to bring new perspective and will to move forward with less confrontation and with more love and diplomacy. As these Mars activations begin, we have a powerful day with the peak of the Lion's Gate Portal on 8th, see below.



As we approach the Full Moon on 9th August Mercury is in its last few days of its retrograde, turning direct on 11th and Mars has just changed signs, entering more harmonious and peace-loving Libra, which is naturally the home of its feminine counterpart, Venus. At the beginning of this sign, over the next few days it is Mars' turn to connect with and activate the outer planets which are in the early degrees and these activations occur either side of the Full Moon. 8th August is known as the peak of the Lion's Gate Portal and is a potent day in itself and this year's potential is amplified with Mars making a very helpful trine with Uranus, newly in Gemini.

This shake-up planet promotes change and is always encouraging us to be our authentic selves, and in order to do that we have to discard what is inauthentic! This adds to the Leo (Sun) energies of personal expression, of shining our light out into the world without fear nor dazzling others. With Mars being the planet of courage, motivation, action and will this combination is stimulating and lighting a gentle fire within to improve our world and to find more peaceful solutions. Mars'

natural dynamism is somewhat softened in its new Libran home which is more about love and peace than Mar's naturally confrontational and competitive warrior nature. When the Libran scales get tipped out of alignment Libran energy naturally wants to rebalance it but this can lead to people pleasing and negating one's own needs.

Children who are brought up where there are never any disagreements can struggle when conflict arises, not knowing how to handle it and can lack, through having had no example, the skills to express themselves and their needs, to debate and find resolutions and compromise and can be fearful of upsetting the peace.

Follow your intuition, any sudden urges to do something different, innovative or even radical that might shake up inner or outer peace or supposedly balanced energies, as keeping the status quo does not allow for positive change or for positive skills of discussion, diplomacy and compromise to develop.

Early on 8th, a few hours before the Full Moon, Mars will move on to oppose retrograde Saturn and this is where old fears are likely to arise, especially if the previous Uranus connection has emboldened us to do something unusual or unexpected. The fear could be about the reaction of others, if we have done 'the right thing' (Libra can be very indecisive) or, if we initiated something we might now doubt ourselves and whether we have the courage and/or the ability to see it through.

Mars goes on to then oppose retrograding Neptune a few hours after the Full Moon, finishing its series of activations of the outer planets with another lovely trine with Pluto on 10th, so, as with all these series of activations we are currently experiencing, the energies evolve from the first activation with each subsequent connection.

FULL MOON

9th August 2025
08:55 BST

We have a golden opportunity to reset our minds, to release old patterns of thoughts



and outdated belief systems and to foster new, kinder, heart-centred communication.

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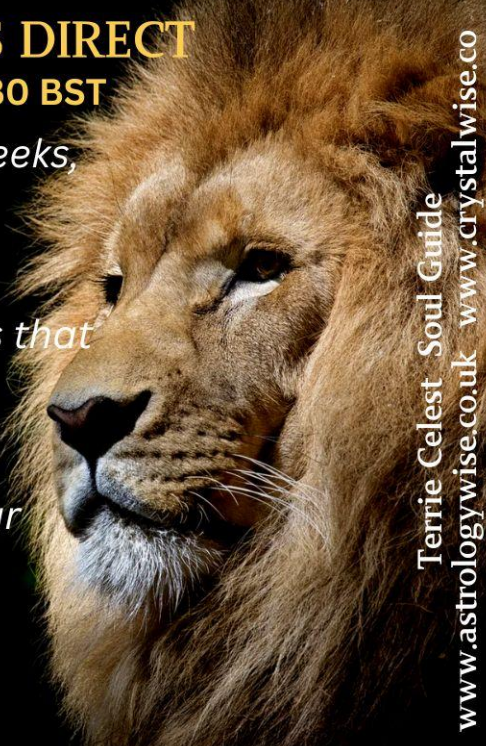
August's Full Moon is on 9th at 08:55 BST. We have the Sun in Leo and the Moon in Aquarius, Mercury is slowing, preparing to go direct on 11th, Saturn, Neptune, Pluto and Chiron are also retrograde but the star of the show, the real focal point and point of action is Mars, newly in Libra, which is currently in the middle of a series of activations to the outer planets.

At the Lion's Gate, in itself a potent point the day before, Mars had a very helpful trine to Uranus, the *revolutionary* planet of change and the only outer planet that is direct at the moment. A few hours later and before the Full Moon, Mars moved on to oppose retrograde Saturn and then it opposes retrograde Neptune which is close to Saturn, a few hours *after* the Full Moon and finishes this sequence of activations with another very helpful connection with retrograde Pluto, the *evolutionary* planet of change on 10th. It is these two helpful connections to the planets of change, joining with Mars that combine in a Grand Air trine and then a kite shape is formed. Energetically I see this like a bow and arrow and here the 'firing line' is the opposition between Saturn and Neptune at one end, sending the energy out through Mars on the opposite side of the chart and releasing the old. We have a golden opportunity to reset our minds, to release old patterns of thoughts and outdated belief systems and to foster new, kinder, heart-centred

communication. This could spark a collective belief that peace is achievable and we can all live in harmony.

The point in the chart at which Mercury will go direct represents a need to gain a vaster perspective on what we are able to do, to set aside 'I' and any negative ego and to embrace 'we', the energies of the collective as well as realising that we are mere blots in the vast time of this planet and are here for the equivalent of a nanosecond, however we all play a vital role and contribute to the greater whole and should embrace our time here as a gift and an opportunity to work *with* others and the planet.

Mars, the masculine archetype rules Aries on the opposite side of the chart where Saturn and Neptune are currently residing and Mars is therefore in its feminine counterpart, Venus' natural home and this brings an opportunity for a rebalancing of masculine and feminine energies. Can the warrior planet find its softer nature and expression, the Divine masculine during its six week stay here?



MERCURY GOES DIRECT
11th August 2025 08:30 BST

*Over the next two weeks,
as Mercury recovers
the ground of its
retrograde, begin to
put in place changes that
you have
identified, embrace
new, positive beliefs
about yourself & your
capabilities & step
forwards with
courage & renewed
inner strength.*

Terrie Celest Soul Guide
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On 10th we have the culmination of the lovely connection between Mars and retrograde Pluto which was part of a series of activations by Mars (see recent astrology) and also prevalent at the Full Moon and finishes this sequence off nicely, although we also have a niggly connection between the Sun and the Nodes and Mercury is coming to a standstill,

preparing to go direct the next day. This is emphasising that old karmic patterns can be released especially patterns of thoughts and outdated belief systems and we have the opportunity to foster new, kinder, heart-centred communication. We can find the courage to speak up - before we can change the outer world for the better, we have to change our inner world, our thoughts.

As Mercury begins to move forwards again we should begin to feel these new energies percolating, if not coming through flashes of inspiration to see and do things differently.

The point in the chart at which Mercury goes direct represents a need to gain a vaster perspective on what we are able to achieve, to set aside 'I' and embrace 'we', to set aside differences and embrace and welcome our fellow companions on this planet at this time.

JUPITER

Offers opportunities, but we
have to act on them...
put your name in the hat, you
can always take it out again!



Terrie Celest
www.astrologywise.co.uk
www.crystalwise.co

12th is a key and powerful day for change and expansion in August, with Mercury having just gone direct, Venus meeting Jupiter (you can see them together in the sky at dawn) and one of two potentially helpful connections this month between two of the big, outer planets, retrograde Saturn with Uranus, which is the only one of these outer planets that is direct at the moment. This is making it the instigator, the activator and with its nature, you could even call it the protagonist.

The Nodes, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune have all changed signs this year and the latter three, together with Pluto are all in the first three degrees of the chart. Very intriguingly, many of the potential combinations of these get very close to being exact and then move apart due to retrogrades and I have got through a few pens charting these and musing at their – nearly, not quite – combinations. However, this month, we do have Uranus on its forward motion connecting firstly to retrograding Saturn on 12th and retrograde Neptune on 28th, both of which are in Aries and themselves doing a very close dance which doesn't become exact until next year.

Both of this month's big Uranus connections are the sort that we have to tap into, they hold potential, potential for change with Uranus involved, but we can often experience the clash between the nature of the two planets first, we can see their different personalities and how they don't get on and the trick is to then seek out how we can blend those, to find how they *can* work together. I remember an astrology teacher who has Saturn and Uranus combined in her chart and she described herself as 'A sane weirdo' and could explain astrology in a very practical, level-headed way that made sceptics open their minds to the possibility that there might be something in it.

Blending these two's strengths means blending the past and future, finding a practical way forward with new, innovative ideas and to be able to plan how we will achieve those. Finding the wisdom and learning from past experiences we can take what is pertinent and authentic to us to forge a new future. We can mix the weird and wonderful with cool practicality and let go of fears and any patterns of limitation as we open to the possibilities of things that have never before seemed possible or even come on our radar.

Adding in the Venus/Jupiter conjunction, Jupiter brings luck and expansion whilst Venus is not just about how we connect to others (close relationships) but is also self-worth, values and finances and this can signal a new phase where we meet new people and finances improve, but, we do need to take advantage of opportunities presented to us. A phrase I like to use for this is – *Put your name in the hat, you can always take it out again!*

Mercury came close to making a niggly connection with Mars before it went retrograde and whilst it did so, Mars has kept moving forwards and changed signs so now that Mercury is direct and edging slowly forwards these two connect twice in three days! This is very unusual, how can this happen?

When Mercury turns direct on 11th August, it will be at 2° and Mars at 4°. When both are at normal speed, Mercury is much faster but here it took several days for Mercury to get going again and begin to pick up speed, during which time Mars was the faster of the two and 'catches up' with Mercury early on 15th at 5°. Mercury then gets back to its normal pace and in turn catches Mars back up so that they connect again on 18th at 7°.

This is the type of connection that we have to take advantage of, to tap into the potential to blend the positive nature of the two, although initially the differences between them often show up and can feel challenging and difficult to resolve or find compromise. It might be interesting to think back to 18th July when Mercury went retrograde and to remember what plans we were making, what felt as if it was moving forwards only to backtrack or grind to a halt. Whilst Mercury rules the mind and communication, Mars is the planet of action and combining the two inspires us to do something, not just think about it! It could be that we were trying to change thoughts patterns or create new habits but they fell by the wayside or we lost enthusiasm. This was just a time for the Universe to do some reorganising in the background as we were reviewing and gathering internal motivation again.

Mars is now in Libra so this connection is much more harmonious and as long as we co-operate with others and blend our skills, we can find a better way forwards.

It will be very interesting to see how these two days connect and themes evolve between them. On 15th, Mars is more dominant with Mercury more active on 18th.

The waning half Moon is on 16th as Venus makes a nice connection to the Nodes. This halfway mark between the Full Moon on 9th and the upcoming New Moon on 23rd offers the chance to check how we are doing with any intentions we set at the Full Moon and Venus's connection helps us spot and begin to change an old karmic pattern

involving relationships, finances, values or self-worth. This could include how we value ourself and changing old patterns of putting others first and neglecting our own needs. Family matters might come to the fore and karma might involve our mother, the mothering archetype or women in general. If you struggle with being vulnerable, this is an opportunity to release some of that control and to learn that vulnerability is actually a strength.

Saturn is retrograding and now reaches zero degrees of Aries, a potent point of initiation and self-awareness that takes us back to when it first entered this sign on 25th May. We are learning where and how we can take responsibility for ourselves and are spotting which old behaviours are just ingrained patterns that we have inherited or previously identified with, but are no longer relevant to us.

This half-way testing point also comes in the middle of the two connections between Mercury and Mars and feels as if it is helping to adjust the sails.

On 18th Mercury and Mars unusually make the second of two connections (see previous posts for more details), the first was on 15th and Mercury is the activator today, strengthening the mind and communication and helping us to reset old thought patterns that we have been wanting to change. With Mars now past the cluster of planets in the early degrees, it makes no more connections until 4th September so it is up to us to not only put our ideas into action now but to feed and nurture them to keep them going, as enthusiasm and motivation might drift off and doubts might creep in with Mars' current home influence.

We have a lovely trine building to be exact on 19th between the Sun and Chiron and this will definitely bring help with clearing or healing deep karmic wounds. An opportunity that we thought was lost can resurface and what we thought was a failure can be seen in a new light as we reevaluate what success is and whilst things didn't turn out the way we planned or hoped they would, we realise that the Universe knew what it was doing all along!



On 22nd the Sun reaches the end of Leo and then enters Virgo for the next month as we reach the dark of the Moon before the New Moon a few hours later, just after midnight (BST) on 23rd. Ramping up the Leo energies at the last degree, look out for strong opinions, feeling that you are right about something or feeling that you know what someone else should do and avoid overdramatising or getting involved in other peoples' drama. We might spot people 'strutting their stuff' and puffing themselves up out of an over-inflated sense of ego; look to the collective for those in positions of power playing this out.

Positively this can bring us courage to be seen and shine our light and make us more heart-centred but this confidence can fade as Virgo energies, much shyer and self-effacing, come to the fore. When the Sun is in Virgo old service energies can surface and our attention gets turned to health, small details and everyday matters. We focus more on what isn't right rather than what is, and whilst this ability can be brilliant for a proof-reader, it can turn to criticism that can be turned outwards or inwards and robs us of joy and enjoying what IS 'perfect'. I encourage those with strong Virgo influences to embrace the phrase, '*Perfectly Imperfect!*'

So with this dark of the Moon occurring just hours into Virgo it could plunge us into negativity and if we don't put the brakes on it could sink deeper into despair, noticing everything that isn't how we would like it to

be and beating ourselves up for things that we feel guilt or shame about. The dark of the Moon show us shadow energies where the deepest of healing can take place and where we least accept ourselves. Don't get lost in the shadows, know that the New Moon is soon coming and the light will chase away the shadows whilst we can note those areas that we would like to do some clearing and healing on.

NEW MOON

in Virgo 23rd August 2025 00:23 BST

**Mastery of the Mind.
Make sure you are
the Master
and not the servant.**

Terrie Celest
Soul Guide
www.crystalwise.co
www.astrologywise.co.uk



August's New Moon is in Virgo on 23rd and a few hours before, the scene is set with a testing square between Venus and Chiron which will likely bring up issues around attachment and material possessions, family, what we feel is our safe space, cave to retreat into or our home.

The Moon's 28 day/ 1° cycle gradually takes each New and Full Moon back a couple of degrees each month so we eventually reach a point where a New or Full Moon occurs at zero or 1° meaning that there can be another at the end of that sign; this is astrologically what we call a blue Moon, with two New or Full Moons occurring in a sign, not with two occurring in a man-made calendar month. This is the first of two New Moons in Virgo with the second occurring on 21st September and will also be a Solar Eclipse.

These double Virgo New Moons also change the order of the Moons when the Sun is in a sign. Currently, when the Sun enters a new sign

each month we first have a New Moon followed by a Full Moon and from September's Sun change it will be a Full Moon before the New Moon, more on that next month. Two New Moons in the same sign also means that we get a second shot at embracing the new energies, although the Solar Eclipse next time changes the emphasis and Saturn will have retrograded back into Pisces, reactivating the end of the karmic wheel.

This month, with the Sun newly in Virgo, it will immediately start connecting with Saturn, Neptune, Uranus and Pluto which are all at zero and 1° and these connections are at best niggly and at worst, challenging. Retrograde Saturn's contact comes first a few hours after the New Moon and is of the niggly variety and the next day the Sun moves on to a challenging square with Uranus (direct) then to two more niggly connections with Neptune and Pluto, both retrograde. At the moment, every time a planet changes signs, it makes a series of connections to these powerful outer planets and due to the signs each are currently residing in, all four are either helpful or challenging and I have described these as a series or sequence of activations. Normally we would associate the energies of a New Moon with new beginnings but these challenge that somewhat as they are going to bring the muck to the surface first. However, I was given the word 'initiations' for these and believe they are part of this double act of Virgo New Moons as next time, the first two will be challenging with the second two changing to very helpful.

I had to make a conscious effort at this point of typing to stop the analysis and the theory which we could continue for a long time, and bring it back to being in the moment, dealing with what is in front of us, bringing our thoughts to rein and steering them towards hope and a clearer future. For now, we have to trust the process, difficult, I know, when the muck is getting stirred up and when we feel issues directly affecting us. What we need to avoid is getting stuck in a train of worry or negative thinking that the Virgo energy can take us down. One of Virgo's Soul themes is Mastery of the Mind and that pretty well sums it up and keeps it simple. For these few days, make sure you have control of your mind, that it is your servant, not your master.

Mercury comes out of its shadow on 25th meaning that it has reached the point at which it went retrograde so from now on it is traversing 'new ground'. This means that the themes that we were working on before

and during the retrograde will have been reworked as far as they can for now and we can either leave them behind if they are no longer valid or move forward with the upgraded version.

Also on 25th Venus leaves Cancer for Leo and this sign change means that this is its second turn this month to interact with the outer planets, all four of which are now either at zero or 1°. Having last changed signs at the end of last month, Venus started this month connecting in turn to Uranus, Saturn, Neptune and Pluto in niggling or challenging contacts. With Uranus the only one of these to be direct and the others retrograde, the order has changed and this time, with Venus in a more favourable sign we have in turn, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune and Pluto with Mercury and Jupiter sneaking in a minor niggly contact between the first two and all these contacts cover 26th and 27th with Mercury adding a niggly connection to the Nodes at the end. So it's not all plain sailing, high tides and favourable winds, but it mainly is with some adjustments to make to the sails as we go, making sure that we are keeping on course and not letting minor upsets blow us off course.

This is Saturn's last contact in Aries before retrograding back into Pisces on 1st September and it is at a potent point at the beginning of the zodiac that relates back to the position of the Sun at the Spring Equinox (20th March) and also Saturn's first few days in this sign from its ingress on 25th May. This is a powerful point of initiation and self-awareness and we are learning where and how we can take responsibility for ourselves and are spotting which old behaviours are just ingrained patterns that we have inherited or previously identified with, but are no longer relevant to us. It will be Valentine's day next year before Saturn re-enters Aries so we have a bit of reworking to do first.

Over these two days Venus will again turn our attention to its themes that involve our connections (close relationships), finances, values and self-worth and we will probably see the themes that arose at the beginning of the month evolving nicely with these more helpful connections in a new sign.

Early on 29th and building on 28th we have the second major connection this month between the cluster of outer planets in the first two degrees. Saturn and Neptune both entered Aries earlier this year and are now retrograding and on 12th Uranus connected with Saturn and now does

the same with Neptune. As I said with the earlier connection, these are the types that we need to tap into to try to find a positive blend of the two planets energies which might at first seem incompatible, *ne'er the twain shall meet*, comes to mind. I looked up the origin of that and it comes from Rudyard Kipling with the beginning of the quote being – *East is East, West is West* and my mind immediately said, *Well both North and South are in between the two, depending on which way around the circle/compass you go, or if they are a straight line, there is always a middle?*

This is the sort of outside of the box thinking that Uranus promotes, not accepting the status quo or what has been done before and encouraging us to find what is authentic to us and with Neptune here, more spiritually aligned with us. By the time Neptune has finished its retrograde at the end of Pisces and cleared the last dregs of karma that is holding us back, we can step forward again into our new spiritual selves, discovering our Soul intentions in this lifetime and finding the most authentic path forward. Uranus now can help us to see the potential and stir the pot to bring the old to the surface for clearing and the new into our vision to work towards.

This combination could also act as another step on the path of revealing truths and with Uranus' involvement, they can surprise, if not shock us. It is unconventional, future-oriented and can throw things up in the area like a tornado, and we later have to sift through the debris and see what we want to salvage, but as the revolutionary planet of change, when it picks us up and puts us down somewhere unexpected, it is fast-tracking us to where we need to be and often where we have resisted going as we stayed in our comfort zone! If we don't take the steps forward that our Soul is prompting us to take, Uranus will take us there and then we have to sort it out afterwards!

August ends with the waxing half Moon, midway between the New Moon on 23rd and the upcoming Full Moon on 7th September which will also be a Lunar Eclipse. A few hours later there is a very helpful trine between Mercury and Chiron which will highlight an old karmic energy associated with the mind, our thinking or communication and that includes with Spirit/the Divine. The theme I gave for the New Moon was – *Mastery of the mind. Make sure you are the Master and not the servant*, and there is a need for freedom of expression and free expression now.

We may now find the courage to say things we have held onto for eons, secrets that we now realise we were misguided in keeping as we were trying to protect someone when it is not our responsibility to do so; responsibility, blame or judgement might have been misplaced as a result of others only knowing part of the story. If we are holding onto things in our mind, we either need to let them out, as safely as possible of course, or get a good old-fashioned school teachers' blackboard eraser and scrub the board clean for good!

And the choice is ours.

Dates and times based on BST

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