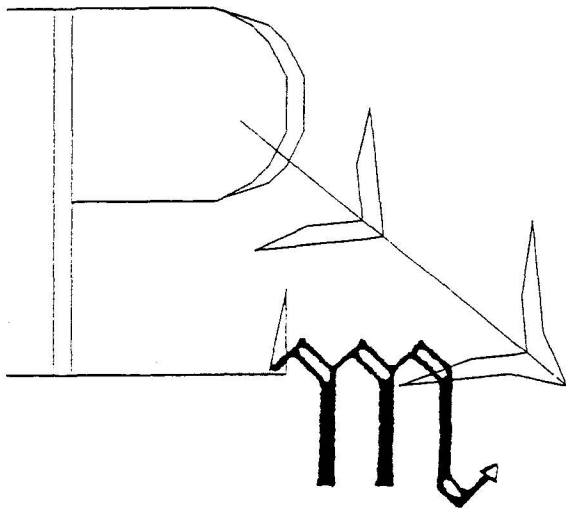




PLUTO IN SAGITTARIUS: THE SEARCH FOR WHOLENESS

©1995 by Duncan Nanney

The thing which is puzzling as one wades through New Age teachings expressed by supposedly spiritually evolved people is that most do not wish to acknowledge the Plutonian energy within us which needs to be experienced sooner or later. Instead of encouraging us to express Plutonian energy as a natural part of our being for the sake of balance and wholeness, we are asked at best to tolerate it like a bad cold we'll get over soon, or at worst to shun it like the Big Bad Wolf - a mirror image of the part of self we don't want to look at; if we do, we will somehow be tempted away from our spiritual path.

Rex Bill's *The Rulership Book* gives us some of the subject matter associated with Pluto: Autopsies, demons, fertilizers, obscenities, pimples, poisons, rats, snakes, stench, etc. Pluto (along with Saturn) is sometimes identified as the "Shadow" - an accurate but nevertheless compartmentalistic title, which if used to define Pluto, makes it difficult to reach out enthusiastically and embrace this planet's energy as a necessary and desirable part of our being. Instead, the word "Shadow," like other Plutonian keywords has negative connotations which inspire fear and discourage integration into the self.

How do we make the Plutonian side of us be something we can actually enjoy? By being willing to take risks to do what is fun, even if we think it is spiritually or socially unacceptable. To do the very thing we keep fearing and resisting (which festers within us endlessly) and finally just going ahead and doing it and seeing if the terrible disaster we think will follow, actually occurs. Would this not be an exercise in instant self discovery? An example might be

the temptation to see an x-rated movie or buying a sexually explicit magazine. Instead of wasting endless amounts of time worrying if a neighbor or guru will see us going into the theatre, by just going ahead and seeing the movie, we may discover that porno movies are boring and silly or that it is possible to expand our sexuality and not lose our spirituality or our acceptance by others in the process.

A good way to understand what the planets stand for is to consider what signs of the zodiac they rule. Our attitudes about Pluto can be more easily revealed if we consider what we think of the sign of Scorpio; the sign traditionally said to be ruled by Pluto. People are rarely, if ever, neutral about this sign. Scorpions are seen by some as sexy, magnetic, and intriguing. To others, it is a sign to be feared as capable of stirring up controversial emotions, temptations, or an awareness of the unknown we are uncomfortable with. And for those of us who are not Scorpions, the thought of acting like we are one is forbidden fruit indeed, a place where we want to draw the line and go no further. There are some who think that to be Scorpionic is to be like Charles Manson. While Aquarius (Uranian energy) can be controversial too, it's in a much more detached and mental fashion than with Scorpio.

We cannot expect to be whole people if we go through life only willing to express or experience the energies of nine planets or eleven signs. Each of the planets (and signs) represent something we all need to be conscious of. To try and omit any of them from our being is to diminish our ability to live life completely and in balance. To completely block out an energy is to ask it to express itself unconsciously - a very dangerous proposition indeed!

With Pluto entering Sagittarius, why not look upon this planet as a means to release us from dullness and one-dimensionalism? By thinking the unthinkable or doing the undoable like daring to tell someone about our deepest insecurity or of the passion we feel towards them, we may eliminate fear from our lives until there is no more darkness to form a shadow. Being a little controversial, is more fun than worrying if we are being "normal" enough or "spiritual" enough. To be controversial constructively isn't robbing a bank or acting like Charles Manson. To be controversial constructively in the spirit of Pluto, is to express the hidden dimensions of our being, like we do on that one special day of the year when we choose to be truly Plutonian - Halloween.

©1995 Copyright by Duncan Nanney. All rights reserved. Duncan has been a professional astrologer for over 20 years. Currently practicing full time in Palo Alto, Duncan is known for an approach to astrology which emphasizes clear, practical language. He has a particular interest in defining life purpose and identifying a central theme for each chart. Duncan is a member of AFAN and is certified by Professional Astrologers Incorporated. He can be reached at 825 San Antonio Rd., #102, Palo Alto, CA. 94303. 415/424-0670