

Rob Brezsnys's Astrology Newsletter

April 24, 2019

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See a pretty version of this newsletter: <https://bit.ly/YourJoyousVictory>

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What you may need is a more curious and mysterious sweetness.
A wilder, stronger sweetness. A sweetness that shatters illusions.

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HOMEWORK

Homework: Diminish any predilection you have for shuffling,
drooping, mumbling, wallowing, pigeonholing, and pussyfooting.

Practice your gliding, flowing, leaping, skipping, twirling, undulating,
reverberating, galloping, and rub-a-dub-dubbing.

Become an expert at rumbling, romping, rollicking, cavorting, and
zip-a-dap-doodling.

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WANT TO GET YOUR ASTROLOGICAL CHART READ?

If you want your personal chart done, I recommend a colleague
whose approach to reading astrology charts closely matches my own.
She's my wife, RO LOUGHAN. She's at <http://www.roloughan.com>.

Ro utilizes a blend of well-trained intuition, emotional warmth, and
technical proficiency in horoscope interpretation. She is skilled at
exploring the mysteries of your life's purpose and nurturing your
connection with your own inner wisdom.

In addition to over 30 years of astrological experience, Ro has been
a licensed psychotherapist for 17 years. She integrates psychological
insight with astrology's cosmological perspective.

Ro is based in California, but can do phone consultations and otherwise
work with you regardless of geographic boundaries.

Check out Ro's website at <http://www.roloughan.com>

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A GOOD COURSE OF STUDY

A good course of study: how to find and attract the challenges and
difficulties that best serve your quest for liberation and build your
compassionate intelligence.

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MANIFESTO

We are dissident bodhisattvas rebelling against all those forces
that feed fear and ignore love.

We are spiritual freedom fighters rising up to protect nature and
foment peace and demand justice.

We are subversive mystics stoking the cool blue fires of poetry and
lobbying for the liberated imagination.

We are militant ecstasies invoking the transformative powers of pleasure to sanctify and beautify our one and only Earth.

We are mutinous purveyors of grace who redistribute the wealth so that all creatures may have the means to thrive.

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GROUNDING SPIRITUALITY

Authors of new books periodically ask me to write blurbs endorsing their work. Since my own schedule is so busy, I rarely have time to oblige. But I made an exception for Jeff Brown and his new book **Grounded Spirituality**. Here's what I wrote:

Jeff Brown is an iconoclastic visionary about intimate matters. There aren't many of those around, since most modern geniuses seem devoted to seemingly more glamorous and critical matters like artificial intelligence, 3-D printers, and smart chips implanted in our brains.

But the truth is—at least in my view—revolutionizing the ways we do our inner work and craft our intimate relationships are among the most important actions we can take to transform the world. And Jeff provides potent ideas to help us do just that.

His rigorous imagination is in service to creating a more emotionally intelligent culture. When I read his words, I get riled up in all the best ways. He disrupts my habitual thought grooves, which inevitably leads to unexpected healings and inspirations.

These days the word "soul" gets carelessly bandied around by many lazy and sloppy thinkers, but Jeff is not one of them. He is reverent and impeccable, an astute connoisseur of the soul and its needs.

Jeff's book is here: <https://tinyurl.com/y67pqkbz>

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ACTUALLY, AMERICANS ARE NOT DUMB ABOUT SCIENCE

"Hey, didja hear about those scientifically illiterate Americans? People so dumb, they think the sun revolves around the Earth? People who are getting dumber and whose lack of knowledge leads them to have misguided opinions about science policy?"

Not true, according to three sets of data — Pew's, Miller's and the National Science Foundation — that suggest our national grasp of scientific fact isn't too shabby. In reality, Americans have pretty decent scientific literacy.

Read the article: <https://tinyurl.com/y4edch9c>

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HARNESSING DAYDREAMS?

In his book **The Storytelling Animal: How Stories Make Us Human**, literary scholar Jonathan Gottschall muses on the crucial role that imagination plays in our lives.

"The average daydream is about fourteen seconds long and we have about two thousand of them per day," he says. "In other words, we spend about half of our waking hours—one-third of our lives on earth—spinning fantasies."

I have a theory that to the extent that we are aware of these facts, and to the degree that we formulate intentions in response to them, we can harness our daydreams to enhance our creativity, productivity, and usefulness.

Maybe you could become aware of some of those times when you are semi-consciously spinning out tales and scenarios, and redirect all that colorful energy into visualizing a successful outcome for a project you're working on; or into visualizing the resources you

and African rhythms. In the early years, his creations sold well, but by the mid-1980s his commercial success declined. For a decade, he floundered. His fortunes began to improve after a spectacular meditation session. Santana says he was contacted by the archangel Metatron, who told him how to generate material for a new album. The result was *Supernatural*, which sold 30 million copies and won nine Grammy Awards. I mention this, Cancerian, because I suspect that you could soon experience a more modest but still rousing variation of Santana's visitation. Are you interested? If so, the next seven weeks will be a good time to seek it out—and be very receptive to its possibility.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): "Expergefactor" is an old English word that has fallen out of use. In its original sense, it meant something that wakes you up, like an alarm clock or thunderstorm or your partner's snoring. But I want to revive "expergefactor" and expand its meaning. In its new version, it will refer to an exciting possibility or beloved goal that consistently motivates you to spring out of bed in the morning and get your day started. Your expergefactor could be an adventure you're planning or a masterpiece you're working on or a relationship that fills you with curiosity and enchantment. In my astrological opinion, the coming weeks will be an excellent time to identify and fine-tune an expergefactor that will serve you well for a long time.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): We live in a cultural moment when satire, sarcasm, cynicism, and irony are prized as supreme emblems of intelligence. If you say that you value sincerity and earnestness, you risk being considered naive and unsophisticated. Nevertheless, the current astrological omens suggest that you will generate good fortune for yourself in the coming weeks by making liberal use of sincerity and earnestness. So please try not to fall into the easy trap of relying on satire, sarcasm, cynicism, and irony to express yourself. As much as is practical, be kindly frank and compassionately truthful and empathetically genuine. (P.S. It's a strategy that will serve your selfish aims quite well.)

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): "Most people don't find their creativity," mourned Libran author Truman Capote. "There are more unsung geniuses that don't even know they have great talent." If that describes you even a little bit, I'm happy to let you know that you're close to stumbling upon events and insights that could change that. If you respond to the prompts of these unexpected openings, you will rouse a partially dormant aspect of your genius, as well as a half-inert stash of creativity and a semi-latent cache of imaginativity.

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PRAYERS FOR YOU

An interviewer once asked me if there's any special ritual I do before writing my weekly horoscopes. I told her that I say a prayer in which I affirm my desire to provide you with these three services: 1. that what I create will be of practical use to you; 2. that it will help you cultivate your relationship with your inner teacher; 3. that it will inspire you to tap into and use the substantial freedom you have to create the life you want.

If you ever want more inspiration generated in that same spirit -- beyond the horoscopes you're reading here -- keep in mind that every week I also create EXPANDED AUDIO HOROSCOPES for you. They're four-to-five-minute meditations on the current state of your destiny.

These forecasts are different in tone and format from the written horoscopes you read here in the newsletter. They're longer and more leisurely in tone.

To listen to your Expanded Audio Horoscope online, go to <https://freewillastrology.sparkns.com>

Register and/or log in through the main page.

You can also listen over the phone by calling 1-877-873-4888.

The cost is \$6 per sign on the On the Web. (Discounts are available for bulk purchases.) You can also access them for \$1.99 per minute by phone

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"I always feel like I know myself better after listening to your

audio 'scopes."
-June R., Austin, TX

"Your audio horoscopes calm me down when I'm too manic and pep me up when I'm down."
-Arthur T., Cleveland, OH

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SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Do you know the word "sfumato"? Its literal meaning in Italian is "smoked." When used to describe a painting, it refers to blurred borders between objects or fuzzy transitions between areas of different colors. All the forms are soft and hazy. I bring this to your attention because I suspect the coming weeks will be a sfumato-like time for you. You may find it a challenge to make precise distinctions. Future and past may overlap, as well as beginnings and endings. That doesn't have to be a problem as long as you're willing to go with the amorphous flow. In fact, it could even be pleasurable and useful. You might be able to connect with influences from which you've previously been shut off. You could blend your energies together better with people who've been unavailable.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): "You have a right to experiment with your life," declared author Anaïs Nin. I agree. You don't necessarily have to be what you started out to be. You can change your mind about goals that you may at one time have thought were permanent. I suspect you could be at one of these pivot points right now, Sagittarius. Are there any experiments you'd like to try? If so, keep in mind this further counsel from Nin. It's possible "you will make mistakes. And they are right, too."

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You have one main task to accomplish in the coming weeks, Capricorn. It'll be simple and natural if you devote yourself to it wholeheartedly. The only way it could possibly become complicated and challenging is if you allow your focus to be diffused by less important matters. Ready for your assignment? It's articulated in this poem by Rupi Kaur: "bloom beautifully / dangerously / loudly / bloom softly / however you need / just bloom."

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): When the forces of the Roman empire occupied the British Isles from the years 43 to 410, they built 2,000 miles of roads. Their methods were sophisticated. That's why few new roads were built in England until the eighteenth century, and many of the same paths are still visible and available today. In this spirit, and in accordance with astrological omens, I recommend that you make good use of an old system or network in the coming weeks. This is one time when the past has blessings to offer the future.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): "I'm not enigmatic and intriguing enough," writes a Piscean blogger named RiddleMaster. "I really must work harder. Maybe I'll start wearing ankle-length black leather coats, billowing silk scarves imprinted with alchemical symbols, and wide-brimmed hats. I'll listen to Cambodian folk songs and read rare books in ancient Sanskrit. When someone dares to speak to me, I'll utter cryptic declarations like, 'The prophecies will be fulfilled soon enough.'" I understand RiddleMaster's feelings. You Pisceans need mystery almost as much as you need food. But I believe you should set aside that drive for a few weeks. The time has come for you to show the world who you are with crisp candor.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): In the U.S., the day after Thanksgiving typically features a spectacular shopping orgy. On "Black Friday," stores sell their products at steep discounts and consumers spend their money extravagantly. But the creators of the game *Cards Against Humanity* have consistently satirized the tradition. In 2013, for example, they staged a Black Friday "anti-sale," for which they *raised* their prices. The coming weeks will be a favorable time for you to try something similar. Is it possible you're undercharging for your products and services and skills? If so, consider asking for more. Reassess your true worth and seek appropriate rewards.

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Homework: Compose an exciting prayer in which you ask for something you're not "supposed" to. FreeWillAstrology.com

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NEED TO CHANGE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS?

To join or leave the email list for this newsletter, or to change the address where you receive it, go to:
<https://FreeWillAstrology.com/newsletter/>

Once you join, check these points to ensure you'll actually receive the newsletter:

1. Add my address, televisionary@comcast.net, to your address book so that the newsletter won't be treated as spam and filtered out.
2. Adjust your spam filter so it doesn't treat my address as spam.
3. Tell your company's IT group to let my address pass through any filtering software they have set up.
4. If my newsletters don't reach your inbox, look in your "Bulk Mail" or "Junk Mail" folder.
5. Problems could originate with your email provider. It may be using a "content filter" that prevents my newsletter from reaching you. If you suspect that's true, complain. Tell your email provider to stop blocking my newsletter.

P.S. I totally respect your privacy. I'll never sell or give away your address to anyone.

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Submissions sent to Rob Brezsný's Astrology Newsletter or in response to "homework assignments" may be published in a variety of formats at Rob Brezsný's discretion, including but not limited to newsletters, books, the Free Will Astrology column, and Free Will Astrology website. We reserve the right to edit submissions for length, style, and content. Requests for anonymity will be honored. We are not responsible for unsolicited submission of any creative material.

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