

Rob Brezsny's Astrology Newsletter

May 15, 2019

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

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In a wheat field, a rose is a weed—even if that rose is voluptuous and vibrant. Translation: it's your sacred duty to identify the contexts in which you can thrive and then put yourself in those contexts.

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CONGRATULATIONS if you've been having any of the following symptoms:

- spontaneous eruptions of gratitude
- a declining fascination with conflict
- seemingly irrational urges that lead to interesting discoveries
- yearnings to peer more deeply into the eyes of people you care about
- a mounting inability to tolerate boring influences that resist transformation
- an increasing knack for recognizing and receiving the love that's available to you

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PEOPLE WHO HATE ASTROLOGY . . .

People who hate astrology assert that consulting a horoscope column or getting a reading from a professional astrologer is not a sound approach to making good decisions about one's life.

The haters never follow up that assurance with a detailed revelation of what ARE valid ways to gather the data and insights and ideas so as to make good decisions about one's life.

Do they know about some Bureau of Acceptable Life Information that can help us determine what is and what is not worth consulting as we chart the course of our destiny?

I don't mean to be glib. I am honestly puzzled by the apparent certainty that there are unambiguous methods.

Would the astrology haters approve of the guidance and inspiration we have gleaned from our high school teachers? From our parents? From our friends? In my opinion, none of them are entirely reliable narrators; they are not to be trusted to deliver 100% accurate and wise counsel on how best to live our lives.

And how about the music of Florence and the Machine, and the poetry of Charles Baudelaire, and the movies of Akira Kurosawa? Is it a big mistake for us to eagerly take on influences from them, allowing their art to infiltrate our subconscious minds and subtly skew and shift our attitudes? Are we deluded?

Or how about the philosophy of the Upanishads or Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel or Susan Sontag? Or the psychological ideas of Carl Jung or Clarissa Pinkola Estes or Erik Erikson? Or the writing of Joan Didion or Pema Chodron or Kurt Vonnegut? Or the social science of Malcolm Gladwell? Or the economic theories of Paul Krugman? Are they all foolproof, unimpeachable sources of wise guidance that we can unconditionally rely on to steer our personal lives in a righteous direction?

of the extra photosynthesis by growing vegetables and fruits that are bigger and sweeter than crops grown further south. During the Alaska State Fair every August, you can find prodigies like 130-pound cabbages and 65-pound cantaloupes. I suspect you'll express a comparable fertility and productiveness during the coming weeks, Leo. You're primed to grow and create with extra verve. So let me ask you a key question: to which part of your life do you want to dedicate that bonus power?

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): It's time for you to reach higher and dig deeper. So don't be a mere tinkerer nursing a lukewarm interest in mediocre stories and trivial games. Be a strategic adventurer in the service of exalted stories and meaningful games. In fact, I feel strongly that if you're not prepared to go all the way, you shouldn't go at all. Either give everything you've got or else keep it contained for now. Can you handle one further piece of strenuous advice, my dear? I think you will thrive as long as you don't settle for business as usual or pleasure as usual. To claim the maximum vitality that's available, you'll need to make exceptions to at least some of your rules.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): "All human nature vigorously resists grace because grace changes us and the change is painful," wrote author Flannery O'Connor. I think that's an observation worth considering. But I've also seen numerous exceptions to her rule. I know people who have eagerly welcomed grace into their lives even though they know that its arrival will change them forever. And amazingly, many of those people have experienced the resulting change as tonic and interesting, not primarily painful. In fact, I've come to believe that the act of eagerly welcoming change-inducing grace makes it more likely that the changes will be tonic and interesting. Everything I've just said will especially apply to you in the coming weeks.

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ASTROLOGY FOR YOUR SOUL

Astrology is not a science. It's an elegant system of symbols, an art form with a special capacity to feed your soul and educate your imagination. When used with integrity, it engenders poetic approaches for deepening your connection to life's great mysteries, not predictions of literal events.

It's meant to open your mind to the mythic patterns that underlie the surface-level interpretations of what you're all about, not compete with scientists' logical analyses of why things are the way they are.

ASTROLOGY IS NOT A SCIENCE! Nor is depth psychology, mythology, dream interpretation, or poetry. It makes as much sense to criticize astrology for not being scientific as it does to deride a Kandinsky painting because it isn't the binomial theorem. We need both: the mytho-poetic and the logically analytical.

If you ever want more information and inspiration generated in this spirit -- beyond the horoscopes you're reading here -- keep in mind that every week I also offer 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. They tend to bring out more of the patient counselor in me, and have a bit less of the poet.

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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"Your Expanded Audio Horoscopes seem to have the effect of activating my inner teacher. Thanks!" - Eleanor A., Toronto

"Your expanded audio horoscopes are the next best thing to actually having you here next to me to remind me who I really am." - Alyssa R., Des Moines, Iowa

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SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): There's a certain problem that has in my opinion occupied too much of your attention. It's really rather trivial in the big picture of your life, and doesn't deserve to suck up so much of your attention. I suspect you will soon see things my way, and take measures to move on from this energy sink. Then you'll be free to focus on a more interesting and potentially productive dilemma—a twisty riddle that truly warrants your loving attention. As you work to solve it, you will reap rewards that will be useful and enduring.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Author H  l  ne Cixous articulated a poetically rigorous approach to love. I'll tell you about it, since in my astrological opinion you're entering a phase when you'll be wise to upgrade and refine your definitions of love, even as you upgrade and refine your practice of love. Here's Cixous: "I want to love a person freely, including all her secrets. I want to love in this person someone she doesn't know. I want to love outside the law: without judgment. Without imposed preference. Does that mean outside morality? No. Only this: without fault. Without false, without true. I want to meet her between the words, beneath language."

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Capricorn author Henry Miller wrote that his master plan was "to remain what I am and to become more and more only what I am—that is, to become more miraculous." This is an excellent strategy for your use. The coming weeks will be a favorable time to renounce any tendency you might have to compare yourself to anyone else. You'll attract blessings as you wean yourself from imagining that you should live up to the expectations of others or follow a path that resembles theirs. So here's my challenge: I dare you to become more and more only what you are—that is, to become more miraculous.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): London's British Museum holds a compendium of artifacts from the civilizations of many different eras and locations. Author Jonathan Stroud writes that it's "home to a million antiquities, several dozen of which were legitimately come by." Why does he say that? Because so many of the museum's antiquities were pilfered from other cultures. In accordance with current astrological omens, I invite you to fantasize about a scenario in which the British Museum's administrators return these treasures to their original owners. When you're done with that imaginative exercise, move on to the next one, which is to envision scenarios in which you recover the personal treasures and goodies and powers that you have been separated from over the years.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): "I hate it when people tell me that I should 'get out of my comfort zone,'" writes Piscean blogger Rosespell. "I don't even have a comfort zone. My discomfort zone is pretty much everywhere." I have good news for Rosespell and all of you Pisceans who might be inclined to utter similar testimony. The coming weeks will feature conditions that make it far more likely than usual that you will locate or create a *real* comfort zone you can rely on. For best results, cultivate a vivid expectation that such a sweet development is indeed possible.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): According to humorist Dave Barry, "The method of learning Japanese recommended by experts is to be born as a Japanese baby and raised by a Japanese family, in Japan." As you enter an intensely educational phase of your astrological cycle, I suggest you adopt a similar strategy toward learning new skills and mastering unfamiliar knowledge and absorbing fresh information. Immerse yourself in environments that will efficiently and effectively fill you with the teachings you need. A more casual, slapdash approach just won't enable you to take thorough advantage of your current opportunities to expand your repertoire.

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Homework: Describe what you'd be like if you were already the person you'll be five years from now. Write 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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