



"Don't be concerned about being disloyal to your pain by being joyous."

- Pir Vilayat Inayat Khan

+ + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +

PLEASE BRING STRANGE THINGS

Ursula K. Le Guin says:  
Please bring strange things.  
Please come bringing new things.  
Let very old things come into your hands.  
Let what you do not know come into your eyes.

Let desert sand harden your feet.  
Let the arch of your feet be the mountains.  
Let the paths of your fingertips be your maps  
and the ways you go be the lines on your palms.  
Let there be deep snow in your inbreathing  
and your outbreath be the shining of ice.

May your mouth contain the shapes of strange words.  
May you smell food cooking you have not eaten.  
May the spring of a foreign river be your navel.  
May your soul be at home where there are no houses.

Walk carefully, well loved one,  
walk mindfully, well loved one,  
walk fearlessly, well loved one.  
Return with us, return to us,  
be always coming home.

+ + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +

SUBSCRIBE TO RECEIVE THE FRESH DELIVERIES

Tell your friends and family: Subscribing to this free weekly newsletter  
is a good way to ensure that they see the Free Will Astrology horoscopes  
every week, and right on time. Subscribe here: <https://bit.ly/AstroRSS>

+ + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +

"THIS GHOST FLED FROM ME"

"I overcame myself, the sufferer; I carried my own ashes to the  
mountains; I invented a brighter flame for myself. And behold, then this  
ghost fled from me."

- Friedrich Nietzsche, translated by Walter Kaufman

+ + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +

HOW TO GENERATE INTELLIGENCE

"I don't care about someone being intelligent; any situation between  
people, when they are really human with each other, produces  
'intelligence.'"

—Susan Sontag

+ + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +

SACRED ADVERTISEMENT

This perfect moment is brought to you by those pine trees whose seeds are  
so tightly compacted within their protective covering that only the intense  
heat of a forest fire can free them and allow them to sprout.

+ + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +

IMAGINE THE ANGELS OF BREAD  
by Martín Espada

This is the year that squatters evict landlords,  
gazing like admirals from the rail  
of the roof-deck  
or levitating hands in praise  
of steam in the shower;

this is the year  
that shawled refugees deport judges  
who stare at the floor

and their swollen feet  
as files are stamped  
with their destination;

this is the year that police revolvers,  
stove-hot, blister the fingers  
of raging cops,  
and nightsticks splinter  
in their palms;

this is the year  
that dark-skinned men  
lynched a century ago  
return to sip coffee quietly  
with the apologizing descendants  
of their executioners.

This is the year that those  
who swim the border's undertow  
and shiver in boxcars  
are greeted with trumpets and drums  
at the first railroad crossing  
on the other side;

this is the year that the hands  
pulling tomatoes from the vine  
uproot the deed to the earth that sprouts the vine,  
the hands canning tomatoes  
are named in the will  
that owns the bedlam of the cannery;

this is the year that the eyes  
stinging from the poison that purifies toilets  
awaken at last to the sight  
of a rooster-loud hillside,  
pilgrimage of immigrant birth;

this is the year that cockroaches  
become extinct, that no doctor  
finds a roach embedded  
in the ear of an infant;

this is the year that the food stamps  
of adolescent mothers  
are auctioned like gold doubloons,  
and no coin is given to buy machetes  
for the next bouquet of severed heads  
in coffee plantation country.

If the abolition of slave-manacles  
began as a vision of hands without manacles,  
then this is the year;  
if the shutdown of extermination camps  
began as imagination of a land  
without barbed wire or the crematorium,  
then this is the year;  
if every rebellion begins with the idea  
that conquerors on horseback  
are not many-legged gods, that they too drown  
if plunged in the river,  
then this is the year.

So may every humiliated mouth,  
teeth like desecrated headstones,  
fill with the angels of bread.

- Martin Espada

+ + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +

MORE PRONOIA RESOURCES:

Compound in Sea Sponges Can Stop Cancer and Kill Herpes – And Growing Them Would Benefit Indonesians  
<https://tinyurl.com/y5xvt5vb>

Malnutrition Across India Has Plummeted By 60 Million–And Most of Asia Has a Similar Success Story  
<https://tinyurl.com/y57ttaq6>

The Largest Urban Rooftop Farm in the World is Now Bearing Fruit (and More) in Paris  
<https://tinyurl.com/y4d2krc2>

Photographer Captures Dazzling Images of a Lightning Storm Dubbed the 'Night of a Thousand Forks'  
<https://tinyurl.com/y5w3oqk2>

+

For a lot more pronoiac resources and ideas, read my book \*Pronoia Is the Antidote for Paranoia: How the Whole World is Conspiring to Shower You with Blessings\*

Available at Barnes & Noble: <https://tinyurl.com/PronoiaBN>

Available at Amazon: <https://bit.ly/Pronoia>

A free preview of the book is available here:  
<https://tinyurl.com/PronoiaPreview>

+++++

FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

Week beginning August 20  
Copyright 2020 by Rob Brezsny  
<https://FreeWillAstrology.com>  
Grammar key: Asterisks equal *italics*\*

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): "Magic lies in challenging what seems impossible," says Leo politician Carol Moseley Braun. I agree with her, but will also suggest there's an even higher magic: when you devise a detailed plan for achieving success by challenging the impossible, and then actually carry out that plan. Judging from the current astrological omens, I suspect you're in an unusually favorable position to do just that in the coming weeks. Be bold in rising to the challenge; be practical and strategic in winning the challenge.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): "Joy is a mystery because it can happen anywhere, anytime, even under the most unpromising circumstances," writes author Frederick Buechner. What he doesn't say is that you must be receptive and open to the possibility of joy arriving anywhere and anytime. If you're shut down to its surprising influx, if you're convinced that joy is out of reach, it won't break through the barriers you've put up; it won't be able to land in your midst. I think this is especially important counsel for you in the coming weeks, Virgo. PLEASE make yourself available for joy. P.S. Here's another clue from Buechner: "Joy is where the whole being is pointed in one direction."

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): "I transformed stillnesses and darkneses into words," wrote Libran poet Arthur Rimbaud. "What was unspeakable, I named. I made the whirling world pause." In accordance with current astrological potentials, I have turned his thoughts into a message for you. In the coming weeks, I hope you will translate silences and mysteries into clear language. What is unfathomable and inaccessible, you will convert into understandings and revelations. Gently, without force or violence, you will help heal the inarticulate agitation around you with the power of your smooth, resonant tenderness.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): "Your desires, whether or not you achieve them, will determine who you become," wrote author Octavia E. Butler. Now is a fertile time for you to meditate on that truth. So I dare you to take an inventory of all your major desires, from the noblest to the most trivial. Be honest. If one of your burning yearnings is to have 100,000 followers on Instagram or to eat chocolate-covered bacon that is served to you in bed, admit it. After you're through tallying up the wonders you want most, the next step is to decide if they are essential to you becoming the person you truly want to be. If some aren't, consider replacing them with desires that will be a better influence on you as you evolve.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): If you can manage it, I recommend taking a break from business-as-usual. I'd love to see you give yourself the gift of amusement and play—a luxurious sabbatical that will help you feel free of every burden, excused from every duty, and exempt from every fixation. The spirit I hope you will embody is captured well in this passage from author Okakura Kakuzo: "Let us have a sip of tea. The afternoon glow is brightening the bamboos, the fountains are bubbling with delight, the sighing of the pines is heard in our kettle. Let us dream of evanescence, and linger in the beautiful foolishness of things."

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Rapper Eminem advises us, "Never take ecstasy, beer, Bacardi, weed, Pepto-Bismol, Vivarin, Tums, Tagamet HB, Xanax, and Valium in the same day." What's his rationale? That quaffing this toxic mix might kill us or make us psychotic? No. He says you shouldn't do that because "It makes it difficult to sleep at night." I'm going to suggest that you abide by his counsel for yet another reason: According to my analysis, you have the potential to experience some wondrous and abundant natural highs in the coming weeks. Your capacity for beautiful perceptions, exhilarating thoughts, and breakthrough epiphanies will be at a peak. But none of that is likely to happen if you're loaded up with inebriants.

+++++

LOVE YOUR LIFE!

How's your fight for freedom going? Are you making progress in liberating yourself from your unconscious obsessions, bad habits, and conditioned responses? Are you turning out to be the hero of your own life?

For assistance and inspiration, tune in to my EXPANDED AUDIO HOROSCOPES.

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://RealAstrology.com>

Register and/or log in through the main page.

+

The cost is \$6 per sign online. (Discounts are available for bulk purchases.)

You can also access them by phone at 1-877-873-4888. The cost is \$1.99 per minute. Each forecast is 4-5 minutes long.

+

"Your Expanded Audio Horoscopes provide me with the Rest of the Story. I'm not necessarily a believer in the scientific accuracy of astrology, but I do think you've got a lot of practical wisdom to impart."  
- M. Tennenbaum, New York

"No one knows more about me than me. But you're right up there near the top of the list of people who do understand something about how I tick. How is that possible?"  
- R. Goren, Albuquerque

+++++

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): "Everyone who has ever built a new heaven first found the power to do so in his own hell," declared philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche. That's a rather histrionic statement! But then Nietzsche was a Maestro of Melodrama. He was inclined to portray human life as a heroic struggle for boldness and liberation. He imagined us as being engaged in an epic quest to express our highest nature. In accordance with your astrological potentials, I propose that you regard Nietzsche as your power creature during the coming weeks. You have a mandate to adopt his lion-hearted perspective. And yes, you also have a poetic license to build a new heaven based on the lessons you learned and the power you gained in your own hell.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Here's some knowledge from author John le Carré: "In every operation there is an above the line and a below the line. Above the line is what you do by the book. Below the line is how you do the job." According to my analysis, you have, at least for now, done all you can in your work above the line. That's great! It was crucial for you to follow the rules and honor tradition. But now it's time for a shift in emphasis. In the coming weeks, I hope you will specialize in finessing the details and massaging the nuances below the line.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): "We never know what is enough until we know what's more than enough," said Aries singer Billie Holiday. I don't think that applies to everyone, although it's more likely to be true about the Aries tribe than maybe any other sign of the zodiac. And I'm guessing that the coming weeks could be a time when you will indeed be vivid proof of its validity. That's why I'm issuing a "Too Much of a Good Thing" alert for you. I don't think it'll be harmful to go a bit too far and get a little too much of the good things; it may even be wise and healthy to do so. But please don't go waaayyyy too far and get waaayyyy too much of the good things.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Taurus author Honoré de Balzac (1799-1850) took many years to write \*The Human Comedy\*, an amalgam of 91 intertwined novels, stories, and essays. For this vast enterprise, he dreamed up the personalities of more than 2,000 characters, many of whom appeared in multiple volumes. I bring this to your attention, Taurus, because I believe that the next 15 months will be an excellent time for you to imagine and carry out a Balzac-like project of your own. Do you have an inkling of what that might be? Now's a good time to start ruminating.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Not until the 19th century did humans begin to take organized actions to protect animals from cruelty. Even those were sparse. The latter part of the 20th century brought more concerted efforts to promote animal welfare, but the rise of factory farms, toxic slaughterhouses, zoos, circuses, and cosmetic testing has shunted us into a Dark Age of animal abuse. I suspect our descendants will look back with horror at our barbarism. This problem incurs psychological wounds in us all in ways that aren't totally conscious. And I think this is an especially key issue for you right now. I beg you, for your own sake as well as for the animals', to upgrade your practical love and compassion for animals. I bet you'll find it inspires you to treat your own body with more reverence.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Cancerian literary critic Harold Bloom bragged to \*The New York Times\* that his speed-reading skills were so advanced that he could finish a 500-page book in an hour. While I believe he has indeed devoured thousand of books, I also wonder if he lied about his quickness. Nonetheless, I'll offer him up as an inspirational role model for you in the coming weeks. Why? Because you're likely to be able to

absorb and integrate far more new information and fresh experiences than usual—and at a rapid pace.

+++++

Homework: Meditate on the possibility that you could gain personal power through an act of surrender. FreeWillAstrology.com

+++++

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.

+++++

Submissions sent to Rob Brezsny's Astrology Newsletter or in response to "homework assignments" may be published in a variety of formats at Rob Brezsny'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.

Contents of the Free Will Astrology Newsletter are Copyright 2020 Rob Brezsny

+++++