A CLASH OF VALUES –
THE DANCE OF THE OUTER PLANETS

By Judi Thomases

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Having stirred up a hornet’s nest with its rare and revolutionary pattern (a transiting square between itself and Pluto), Uranus left cardinal Aries by thumbing its nose at the U.S. Sibley’s natal Pluto in the last degrees of Capricorn, just as transiting Pluto nears a return to its own natal point! We remain with its fallout, trying to determine what it all represents.

U.S. SIBLEY
URANUS AND PLUTO IN HARD ASPECT

Whenever Uranus and Pluto make hard aspects, revolution is afoot. Uranus opposed Pluto in 1792, ushering the violence of the French Revolution, and prior to our Civil War Uranus made a conjunction to Pluto in 1849. In the early 1930s, at the height of the Great Depression, Uranus was square Pluto. We seem to be in a type of civil war without weapons (so far) in our present day, with Uranus and Pluto finishing their square. The latter pattern has affected the entire world, particularly from the Spring of 2013 to January of 2016, and ties in with our nation’s greatly antagonistic political battles.

This current civil war – if it can be called that – reflects a clash of values. On the Left, some of these values include appreciation for the variety and diversity of human experience, honoring and sustaining the planet, and seeing all life and its habitat as one entity. On the Right, some of these values can be described as practical means to safeguard our national culture and identity, economic choices to better the standard of living, and the protection of the Constitution (i.e., the rule of law, freedom, and independence). Who can say if any of these are “bad”? There are also categories that may represent both sides or even neither, such as honoring life (e.g., the entire abortion issue, Blue Lives Matter, etc.); valuing sacrifice especially in regards to veterans; prosperity and healthcare; job safety; the ending of corruption, cronyism and elitism particularly in regards to Congress living by its own laws, which may lead to legislation on term limits; and overcoming the sense of separation which is fundamentally a spiritual concept called, by one of its names, the Great Illusion.

The current intense polarization was initiated during the Vietnam war, from 1955 to 1973, particularly from 1966-67 when Saturn in Pisces opposed Uranus in Virgo, Saturn being the principle of restriction and authority while Uranus is the principle of disruptive change. Forty-two years later, in 2009, when Saturn (in Virgo) again opposed Uranus (in Pisces), the division in America’s culture increased in intensity. There are at present many countries around the world that are experiencing this celestial pattern in similar ways (e.g., Brexit, between the U.K. and the E.U., or Israel versus Poland, or in France with the “yellow jackets” protests, in Venezuela, and in many other places where divisions of values are obvious) but let’s look at our own country primarily.

PLUTO’S DOINGS

Pluto, the little “dwarf” planet (but whose influence, as astrologers know, is profound when triggered in a horoscope, contradicting its size) is about to make its first return since its discovery in February 1930, and since the founding of the United States of America, for we have never before observed a Pluto return in our young nation’s history, Pluto’s orb being 248 years, whereas our country, born in 1776, is a few years short of that age in its founding. So, by 2022-23 we will see a Pluto return on the Sibley natal and progressed Plutos in the second house, at 27° and 29° Capricorn respectively. It may be beneficial that, before Pluto gets to that point, Uranus finished its square to the U.S. Pluto, which aspect remained in effect until early March 2019. However, as is seen in prior histories, sometimes the actual revolution takes place after the exactitude of the aspect.
Pluto represents transformation; it can also represent empowerment. Being the god of the underworld, when it moves through a sign, it probes, digs up, and exposes all the dirt connected to the sign it is in, reaching a maximum reveal as it reaches 15° degrees or midway of that sign, and then spends the rest of its sojourn trying to resolve and cleanse the corruption, sleaze, and disgusting things it finds. “Sunlight is the best disinfectant.” Pluto’s transit through Capricorn affects big business, big institutions (e.g., banks, government), and authority figures (e.g., rulers, presidents, CEOs, and so forth). We can see this...
in effect if we look at Presidents Obama and Trump, the “Deep State”, Venezuelan President Maduro, French President Macron, and Amazon CEO Jeff Bezos, to name a few.

Uranus’ effect brings drastic change and alteration but also originality, innovation, liberation, and the power of the people. If we look back at the origin of the clash – Saturn opposed to Uranus – we can see Saturn as the Old Guard and also as structure, rules, and laws – against Uranus, which is rebellion, novelty, and drastic alteration. Recently, from May 2016 to April 2017, planetoid Eris, named for the Goddess of Discord, kept a tight conjunction to rebellious Uranus in Aries, highlighting all manner of disharmony. And in November 2018, transiting Uranus stayed in a square to the transiting Node in Cancer, certainly adding to worldwide friction.

Even though the dance between transiting Uranus and Pluto, revolutionary as it is, is ending by Spring 2019, we are far from out of the woods because Pluto has yet to form its opposition to the U.S. Mercury in the eighth house starting in February 2020, soon bolstered by Saturn and then Jupiter joining it in Capricorn by December 2019 and March 2020 respectively, triggering the Sibley second and eighth (money) houses. At the very same time, Pluto will conjunct the U.S. progressed South Node. This potent opposition is in effect from February 2020 to November 2021. Additionally, from May 2019 to March 2026, irksome little Eris will square the U.S. Mercury/progressed Node from Aries to Cancer, offering its usual combative discord. Such emphasis will underlie issues such as money for Trump’s wall, power struggles between the President and Congress over the budget and homeland security, perhaps a look at the Federal Reserve, and certainly tax reform. The need for reforms (Pluto) will continue to battle (Eris) against the desire for fresh (Aries) yet disruptive (Uranus) change. We’re in for quite a ride!
In regards to a clash of values, with different elements of the population supporting nationalism versus globalism, this also certainly goes to the issues of conservative versus liberal views. In the Sibley chart, the progressed Moon has been traveling through the first house, which has led to the slogan “America First,” and a great division between what citizens believe is right, healthy, and desirable. It leaves this house in early April 2019. In 2020, four of the outer planets – Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Pluto – are in earth signs, an element that supports conservatism. It’s important to note that, when Uranus moves
into Taurus (one of the most conservative signs of the zodiac) for its eight-year span ending in 2026, it will begin its square to the natal Pluto of the large generation born between 1939 to 1958 who have Pluto in Leo, the generation called War-time, Post-war, and Baby Boomers. This surely echoes a continuation of the long Uranus square Pluto struggle.

On the other hand, youngsters born between 2011-2016 of course have Uranus square Pluto, so they may be the real revolutionaries of the future when they reach their 20s and 30s. The generation born between 1965 and 1980, who are now approaching their Fifties, with Uranus conjunct Pluto in Virgo, are called the Dot-com or Gen X. As I wrote in my February newsletter “Spirit’s Words” (https://wisdompath.com/this_month_channeled_message.html), their task was “to usher in the internet, and monetize it, but also bring forth global mind where everyone is connected to everyone, and all information and knowledge that humans have ever been able to discover, capture, retrieve and store is available to all who can get online.” This is an excellent use of the combo of these two planets!

Values are formed by what pleases you, what you feel is moral and ethical, what you strive to attain. Values, therefore, are mirrored by Venus. Values are also expressed by your beliefs, the rules you live by, and your political persuasion, which are often determined by your ninth house: planets in it, aspects to it, rulership of it. Your North Node also shapes your life’s mission, and thus your values.

The second half of 2020 brings the Great Capricorn Conjunction, in which three outer planets – Jupiter, Saturn, and Pluto – join in late Capricorn. This hearkens back to the Capricorn Climax in 1993 when Uranus conjoined Neptune in the third decanate of Capricorn, a pattern considered to be spiritual. It’s interesting to note that people born between 1939 and 1942, who have Uranus and Neptune in a trine formation in the earth signs will benefit from this upcoming great Capricorn conjunction in the third decanate of Capricorn because their charts will enjoy a Grand Earth Trine from all of these afore-mentioned outer planets. It will be fascinating to see if these few lucky senior citizens can enjoy financial benefits such as better interest rates for their savings, tax relief, or find reprieve in other ways even during challenging times. (As a side note, people born from 1943-1945 will enjoy a Grand Air Trine between their early natal Uranus and Neptune when Saturn enters Aquarius shortly afterwards.)

This formation has already begun as transiting Pluto reaches the third decanate of Capricorn; it intensifies with Saturn initially meeting Pluto in May 2019, but really expands in 2020 with the inclusion of Jupiter starting in March 2020. Jupiter conjunct Saturn has the meaning of a new cycle or fresh chance; joined by Pluto, the nation will be undertaking a largescale reformation relating primarily to finances. A Lunar Eclipse at 24° Capricorn on July 16, 2019 conjunct this formation will bring closure to some issue relating to this celestial pattern, while a Lunar Eclipse at 20° Cancer opposite it on January 10, 2020, in an election year, will emphasize the challenge that is demanding to be resolved.

These patterns lead up to the afore-mentioned transiting Pluto opposite the U.S. Mercury, and then conjunct the U.S. natal Pluto/progressed South Node. Quite pressurized over old matters.

LOOKING AHEAD

Following the next presidential election, especially after the next Inauguration, we see a square forming between Saturn and Uranus (shades of 2009!). This occurrence links to the conjunction of Jupiter and Saturn in late Capricorn, beginning in December 2020, indicating some kind of new round. The push for
conservatism, seen by a plethora of outer planets in earth signs, begins to morph into a deeper struggle between traditionalism and progressivism, and may get quite ugly when Jupiter/Saturn move into early Aquarius because a fixed t-square is then formed by three outer planets to a very large portion of the population born with Pluto in Leo. “The fixed signs denote that which is inevitable and unavoidable.”

Uranus is the ruler of the Age of Aquarius so it is an important planet to watch, ruling, as it does, technology, innovation, brotherhood, and drastic change. However, at this cuspal moment in world history, it appears to be entering the New Age – its dominion – with a tough planetary formation. Will traditionalism reign throughout the next presidential administration, or will progressivism take the field?

And what, we may ask, is the other major outer planet – Neptune – doing during these tumultuous times? Thankfully, it’s helping whatever divine mission is afoot... perhaps to add to our confusion (e.g., fake news) causing us to quest for answers, or perhaps to awaken our compassion (in Pisces).

Approaching the Presidential Election period in Autumn 2020, Neptune comes into a sextile to transiting Jupiter/Pluto/Saturn, between 18°-26° of Pisces and Capricorn, forming a Kite with the 1939-’42 generation of senior citizens (who will thus bring some wisdom to the event). This configuration can help Trump’s 24° Taurus Midheaven yet challenge his Saturn/Venus at 23°-25° Cancer. It also aids the U.S. Mercury/Node at 24° Cancer. Neptune and Pluto remain in this nice sextile for years to come, aiding in humanity’s spiritual development. By 2025, Neptune/Saturn, Uranus, and Pluto form an amazing sextile and trine combination to each other in fire and air by 2024. So hopeful!

The spiritual thrust that was seen towards the end of the 20th century has been eclipsed by the divisive and dark emotions now stirred up. It’s hard to predict what outcome will prevail until things settle down much later in this new century, because we must remember that Pluto itself will enter Aquarius by 2023, thus further triggering very challenging patterns to the large generation born with Pluto in Leo, by then aged 65 to 84, including some patriotic stalwarts who may find these energies overmuch, and thus decide to leave Planet Earth!

I believe that America is the arena or platform for the great transformation of humanity. I believe that the New Human, struggling to be born in a climate of chaos, must overcome such profound divisions in order to reach the spiritual realization of actual oneness. I believe we are in a time of birth pangs, and that even if there be conflagration or destruction, America, as the phoenix (eagle, transformed) will rise again as a nation that embodies e pluribus unum. Never have we seen such extreme division except for the Civil War. America, with Mars in its seventh house, seems to need an enemy with whom to clash, and having resisted foreign wars recently, it is at war with itself. Will this profound challenge be overcome? Will we reach a new point of changed values where we all can hold the same set of them, the same shared beliefs and desires? Pluto, after all, is rebirth. The greatest transformation is always towards love!

For those of us with a good heart, who love the ideal that America represents, let’s pray for that eventual reality.
PLUTO/SATURN IN THE HOUSES OF CAPRICORN

Pluto regards a metamorphosis, a reconfiguration of one’s life which may take years because it is a process, not a quick matter. When Pluto moves through an area of your chart, it is a major transformational period in which you may be torn from a bad situation. In the sign of Capricorn, issues about work ethics, your social position, and your relationship with authority – for good or for ill – rise up. On a larger scale, this pattern brings disruption of political patterns, perhaps leading to improvements in corporate or government administration and organization.

The sign of Capricorn emphasizes hard work, long-term realistic goals, and useful tangible results with a focus on security through order, structure, regulation, and rules. Saturn, Capricorn’s ruler, when in this sign is serious, reserved, persistent, ambitious, patient, moderate, hardworking, and austere. If success is reached, it may not be retained. There is discontent, and sometimes despondency. When Saturn and Pluto join up, there are psychological issues, especially regarding father figures or authority figures, which need to be addressed and released if they bear old fears. This would be a period of opening up, becoming more self-aware, going through an inner reevaluation, and raising consciousness. Negatively, there can be insecurity, resistance to change, suppressed feelings, losses, challenges and pressures. It is not a good time to invest, or begin a new large-scale project.

This configuration is anything but lighthearted! Pluto represents deep psychological transformation while Saturn represents constraints and self-discipline. How will this extremely impactful combination of planets play out in your chart?

IN THE FIRST HOUSE

You may wish to have a makeover affecting your appearance or your behavior, not just for cosmetic reasons but based upon a deeper inner change. You will probably be more serious, responsible, thoughtful, and considerate. You can be calm and even grave, very diligent, well prepared for an uphill climb regarding your personal needs. Frugality will be important. You may have a drive for power but struggle with self-doubt or an identity crisis. In certain cases, the physical body may be subject to injury or a rare circumstance of violence. It will be important not to neglect your grooming, and to avoid any whiff of scandal. You may feel alone or exiled, but can project an aura of mystery.

IN THE SECOND HOUSE

There can be anxiety over money, with the possibility of financial loss or not much gain. There may be gain or loss through a benefactor, father, or employer. Prudent investments that are conservative or thrifty can be benefit. There will be delays and obstacles in taking advantage of opportunities. Budgeting is important, but you must avoid being overly possessive with material goods.

IN THE THIRD HOUSE

There can be difficulties with siblings or neighbors; also, disappointments regarding literary efforts or studies. It is not a good time for travel or purchasing a vehicle. Thinking patterns can change, from the positive ability to master your thoughts about everyday matters versus negative thinking such as brooding or dwelling on death (morbidity). You can develop greater concentration, become more
contemplative, and use therapeutic means of communicating to release fears or gloom. It is a time to be tactful and introspective in all communications.

IN THE FOURTH HOUSE

There can be family discord, or loss regarding property, but the focus may well be on heavy responsibilities such as taking care of elders. Issues from childhood, if difficult, may come to the forefront. You may remember abuse. There can be separation from a father figure, or a change of residence, yet there can be a gain of property. Your own, or a family member’s, illness may need coping.

IN THE FIFTH HOUSE

Problems may arise through children, your love life, or through gambling or speculation. Creativity comes slowly, and your output needs to reflect new and deeper meaning. Overindulgence in pleasures can bring trouble but this may be a good time for a smart investment. An older lover can arrive.

IN THE SIXTH HOUSE

Health will be of concern, possibly dealing with sickness or physical afflictions. Health will depend on your emotional state, along with a vigorous sex life. The digestion can be poor. Insect bites can be problematic. Reinvention in the workplace, if possible, is beneficial but there may be trouble with coworkers. This is period in which you can become a healer, or attend to your fitness... but not obsessively.

IN THE SEVENTH HOUSE

You must deal with partners or enemies. It is a good time for marital counseling, especially if you feel the partner is constricting. Issues with a spouse can be about lack of intimacy, coldness, or litigation. It can be a time when your enemies are overcome or destroyed. It is excellent for collective bargaining.

IN THE EIGHTH HOUSE

The life force is powerful. Your psychic abilities come to the forefront, and an interest in the afterlife can arise. This is a time to rethink your estate planning, Will, or investments. You can receive unsolicited bequests, but it can bring financial difficulties through a partner or after marriage. Important matters regarding a death, a sexual partner, or joint assets must be addressed.

IN THE NINTH HOUSE

Rethinking your faith or spiritual path is necessary. There can be a complete religious conversion, but also fanaticism. You can go back to school to get retrained. You can take an interest in the occult, or inspirational modalities. It is not a good time to travel, especially in foreign lands in which xenophobia or bigotry can arise. It is good for scientific or philosophical inquiry, but unhelpful for legal matters or in-law problems.

IN THE TENTH HOUSE

You can weigh a career shift that includes a drive for power and public recognition, but there can be delays or obstacles, even financial ruin or treachery bringing failure or discredit. This is a period to shoot
for practical goals by being persevering and industrious, and avoiding liability. Don’t use other people for your own gain. Opportunities may be blocked.

IN THE ELEVENTH HOUSE

The focus can be on hopes and goals, which become more serious and deeper. This affects friendships, especially from the past. Some friends, if false, must be dropped. Gains can be gotten through older and thoughtful friends, and loyalty is a must. You need to be cautious in associating with, or joining a group or organization. There can be frustrations regarding your goals. This is a period of strong demands in which you can attract powerful admiration or hatred.

IN THE TWELFTH HOUSE

Secrecy, guilt, self-pity, and confinement can work against you. In some cases, there can be harassment or karmic sorrows. This would be an excellent time for therapy or service to mankind – a serious effort to help others. You must avoid being taken advantage of through sympathies or compassion, thus leading to self-undoing. Wisdom and restraint can be gotten during this period.

Judi Thomases is an astrologer, psychic, and channeler. Many informative articles and podcasts (radio shows, talks, etc.), as well as her two books, “Wisdom’s Game” and “The Wisdom Keys”, and other items to purchase can be found on her website, www.WisdomPath.com. She lives in Delaware, and is available for consultations by phone or in person: judi@wisdompath.com. Her newest endeavor, MetaMeet, a salon to discuss metaphysics while teaching concepts from her books, is underway. Sign up for her free newsletter, “Spirit’s Words”, on her website.

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1 Ever since the rectification of Pluto transiting the Sibley Ascendant at the time of “9-11”, and Neptune transiting the U.S. Moon at the time of Obama’s election, and the Sibley’s progressed Moon square the U.S. Ascendant while in the third house (“fake news”), it makes no sense to me to use any other natal horoscope for our nation. See my article in my archives ("Making a Case for A Sibley U.S. Ascendant", Dell Horoscope Magazine, 2011).

2 This would be a topic for an entirely separate article.

3 Think of recent passages of Pluto in each sign, such as Pluto in Scorpio in the 90s (AIDS), or Pluto in Sagittarius in the aughts (Church pedophilia).

4 The Diurnal Chart, by Ivy M. Goldstein-Jacobson, AFA’s Today’s Astrologer, December 2018