
Grim Reaper meets the Lord of the Underworld

the story of Saturn and Pluto

by Bob Marks
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How not to get reaped by the Grim Reaper. Saturn and Pluto, the planets of fun and cheerfulness—if you think that having one of them hitting something sensitive in your chart brings a lot of problems, just wait until they both start hitting at the same time...

By the way, I'm a Capricorn Sun Sign and I have felt over the past couple of months as if I had Pluto transiting square my Sun. I had Pluto square transiting my Sun back in 1980 to 1982. I got into group therapy. I made great progress. Pluto is good for elimination. But with Saturn and Pluto opposite each other as they were recently, all Capricorns felt overwhelmed. And drained. And all the Scorpios I bumped into felt depressed and blocked. That's one area where Sun Sign astrology *does* work. Now, what about the world? How does this affect the world?

There's one thing about the world: Saturn rules Murphy's Law: If something can go wrong, it will. Or, as soon as you start giving a lecture, people start coming into the room. Little things like that. I am a Capricorn; I like something nice and solid. People will say, "Oh this Saturn-Pluto. It does this. It does that." To me you have to have a

horoscope. How come some Saturn-Pluto aspects, when they get together, sometimes nothing happens and other times everything seems to fall apart? You have to have a horoscope. So here is a horoscope for a Saturn-Pluto opposition. [See the Appendix for all charts, *red.*] And by the way, those oppositions can be vicious. We all know what happened on September 11, that was within a month after the Saturn-Pluto opposition in August 2001.

THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Look at Chart One for the Saturn-Pluto opposition in 1769 for Boston, Massachusetts. It is not enough to look at an opposition by itself. You have to have a chart. The same opposition was occurring in China and India. What was going on in China and India at that time? Also, if you look at the whole cycle, if you get a conjunction or an opposition

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to everybody's attention in 1981. Look, what do we have in this chart. The fifth house is love and romance. What's the first planet? Saturn. Party. Party. Party. Oh, at a distance. The sixth house has Uranus there. By the way, there is Saturn and Pluto sitting in the fifth house. So no one could have sex anymore.

AUDIENCE: *That was also the year when the Marines were blown up in Beirut.*

BM: We are talking about *major* wars. There are always people being blown up somewhere around the world.

AUDIENCE: *There was international terrorism on a very personal level like we have now; there was also the spread of personal computers.*

AUDIENCE: *The Internet.*

BM: No, the Internet didn't start then but the advent of the Personal Computer began. I got a PC in 1981. Actually, Microsoft was founded in 1975. That's when Uranus went into Scorpio. Uranus, the planet of electricity, going into Scorpio. Transformation. Scorpio rules group values and, of course, that started changing group values.

MOSCOW, USSR—1982

Let's look at the November 8 chart for Moscow because that was the last one. It is chart number 19. That set the tone. Again, remember that YOD. The Chiron-Pluto-Saturn and Neptune. It is now pointing to the ninth house, the house of foreign places, the house of religion. What degree is Chiron in? 25° Taurus. Any fixed stars there? Algol. What does the name Algol mean? It comes from Arabic, El Ghoul. It refers to the head of the demon—Medusa's head. It is supposed to be a battle with subconscious forces. And by the way, the ninth house—at that time we were giving missiles to the Mullahs in Afghanistan. Chiron, you know, the one who

got wounded with a poison and who could not be healed.

Algol is also on the cusp of the ninth house. Mars is at the bottom of the chart square the rising sign. Well, we apparently avoided a war but were sowing the seeds for another.

AUDIENCE: *It brought an end to the Cold War.*

BM: That's right and now we are getting together with the Russians.

AUDIENCE: *We've gotten together with them before.*

BM: I know, there is something between those two countries. They're Scorpio. They'll always come back. When they seem to be dead, they always come back. They actually do better when they're almost dead.

NEW YORK CITY—2001

The next chart is number 20. Now we are coming to the present era. There has been a lot written on the events of September 11. Well, this was the opposition that set it off. There was a lot more too. Back in 1993 and 1994, myself and a lot of other astrologers were saying watch out for religious violence and terrorism, because Pluto is entering Sagittarius and it is going to stay there for around twelve years. Within a week after Pluto's entrance into Sagittarius, into its initial entry, there was a poison gas attack in the Tokyo subways by fanatic Buddhists. How Plutonian can you get? The Lord of the Underworld. The Tokyo subway. The poison gas and religious fanatics who want the world to end. They always want the world to end. It doesn't quite work that way. They think, "The world ends. We are going to go to heaven. And we'll be happy. And we don't have to stay down here and work..."