

out in the stars

Sept. 30-Oct. 13

by Charlene Lichtenstein
Special to Q-Notes

Although every month should contain national coming out celebrations, it is only in October that we mark an official day. That being the case, let's not waste any time dallying in our rancid closets. There are five retrograde planets careening through the cosmos this month, so as we remove our chains, let's be sure to smash 'em to smithereens.

ARIES (March 21 - April 20)

The planets provide all queer Rams with outer directed energy. The secret to your success lies in stern, old retro Saturn which seems to diminish your self-confidence, but, in fact, provides you with incredible strength and fortitude. Don't let naysayers get you down; get out there and show the world what pride is all about. Try showing it in black leather chaps.

TAURUS (April 21 - May 21)

There is a feisty tiger in your tank when both aggressive Mars and volcanic Pluto stoke the flames of romance and passion in your chart. Some proud Bulls may charge through china shops in their lusty quest for fulfillment and the need to make up for lost time. Good thing too, cousin; sometimes you have to break a few plates to get yourself served.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

Geminis yearn for connection and are one of the most sociable signs of the zodiac. Now, queer Twins seek soulmates with a vengeance and strive for transforming connections. Venus provides the extra spark if you've found the right match. First impressions go only so far; retro Saturn and Jupiter promise center stage, but deliver the rear balcony.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

This time allows a breath of fresh air to waft through your relationship with your family. Use this planetary transit to your greatest advantage, friend. Proudly say what needs to be said and do what needs to be done. Retro Saturn causes a few contretemps between friends, but it's just the way the planets remind you that even your pals need attention now and then.

LEO (July 24 - Aug. 23)

Happy surprises are in store for proud Leos who recognize the value of a strong and committed partnership. That means, of course, that you cannot always have your way or be the center of attention all the time, try though you will. Career plans do not go as smooth as expected as retro Saturn provides a little lesson in every professional misstep.

VIRGO (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)

Any restrictions placed on your ability to come out to family shatters with a vengeance

in this open and out period. Both Pluto and Mars demand a revolution in no uncertain terms. Good, I hate oppressive power structures. Queer Virgos often try to please everyone else and, in the process, compromise themselves. Turn over a new leaf cousin; there's a gem underneath.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)

Retro Saturn and Jupiter provide a few lessons in the importance of careful planning and, when that fails, maintaining a great sense of humor. Make a fairly compelling case for whatever you want when Mars and Pluto crown you the great gay orator and seer. Hey, why not make the case for all of us? Take it to the streets and storm the barricades. Watch that first step... oops!

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)

Gay Scorps are tickled pink as the sun moves into their sign on the 24th. Not only does retro Jupiter turn up the heat on any jolly gay time, but Uranus and Neptune offer some much needed surprises at home. All this retrograde energy concentrates in your most personal areas — self, sex, family — so speak softly and carry a big stick. Hey, watch where you point that stick, bub!

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 22)

While it's hard to drum up any enthusiasm for an old favorite sideline, rainbow Archers can implement new plans and dreams. Maybe you're too fixated on what's old and stale. Maybe it's time to break out and try something new. Use that fabulously big mouth of yours to talk to all and sundry and gather fresh ideas. Speaking of fresh, change your socks.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23 - Jan. 20)

Queer Goats get back to the basics when Pluto and Venus demand that you give back to our community in both time and energy. Karma is calling, compadre! One good turn deserves another; retrograde Neptune and Uranus go direct mid-month, delivering a well-endowed benefactor to your doorstep. Be sure to keep your eye on the bottom line as you grab for assets. Ahem!

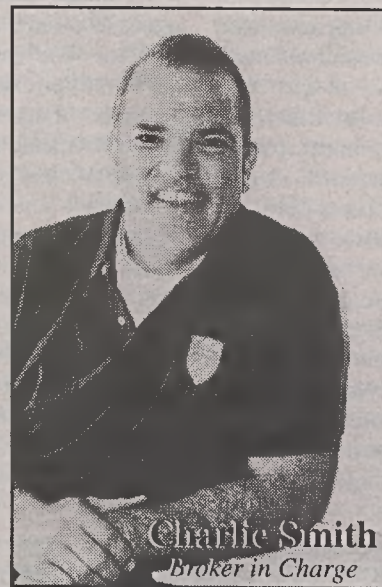
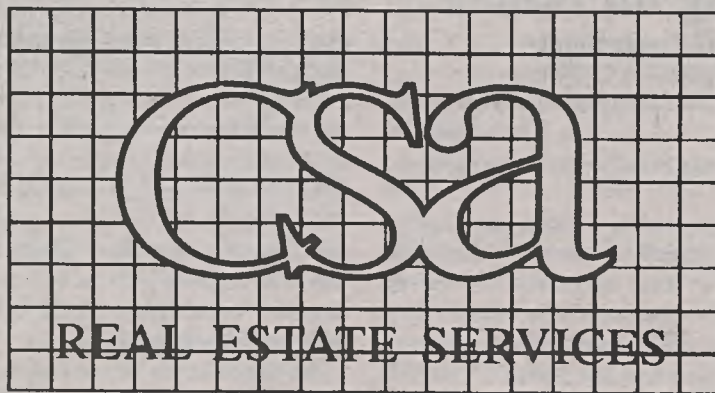
AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)

You may not mean what you say, but you're charming as heck anyway. Aqueerians must capitalize on their personality when chance meetings with strangers provide happy, expansive and surprising results. And don't forget your compadres; Pluto continues to transform and affirm platonic social outlets. Everyone into the social swirl...swimsuits optional!

PISCES (Feb. 20 - Mar. 20)

Retrograde Saturn and Jupiter in league with aggressive Mars gives all rainbow Fish a good reason for substantial changes around the house. A new broom sweeps clean, cousin, so wield it with zest. Meantime, Pluto tears down and then rebuilds long-term career goals. Go for the top of the heap and remember to institute partner benefits after you throw the bastards out. ▼

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