# THE VIEW AHEAD FOR 2017 & BEYOND

Patterns & Insights

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By Judi Thomases

2017 will truly be a year of new beginnings. **The Inauguration** date of Friday January 20<sup>th</sup> ushers in a new administration. The aspects prior to this date undoubtedly brought confusion, with the United States' progressed Sun square the Sibley Ascendant exact<sup>1</sup> and transiting Neptune on the United States' progressed Sun and also square the United States' Ascendant – a pattern that lingers through February 2018.



Since April 2016 and through the Election, there was no clarity, no clear sense of right from wrong, good from bad, and most of all, real from fantasy. In the nation's chart, Neptune is found in the ninth house of government<sup>ii</sup> and rules the intercepted third house of communications. A lot of the bewilderment or over-idealism regards government and legal matters, for example, the Supreme Court pick, and also the media who distribute all the information. Neptune also rules falsehoods. Everyone was calling everyone else a liar, and we couldn't trust the news media (third house) to sort out truth from fiction!

The aspects for this new period indicate a sea change as the United States' progressed Midheaven moves into a new sign (Gemini) and the United States' progressed Moon moves into a new (the first)

house by March. This has much to do with recognizing and addressing the nation's own needs in terms of its philosophy or belief system – ideals having much to do with freedom (Sagittarius), practical ideas (Moon is ruler of H8 from H3), and creative and enjoyable service (Leo, ruler of ninth, and Virgo, intercepted in the ninth). The focus will be on religions, spiritual centers, universities, entertainment, and the health field. Because the United States' Moon is the ruler of its eighth house, financial issues will also factor in. Whenever there is a change in sign of the progressed angle or personal planet (especially the Sun), a fresh energy is being brought in, and in the case of the United States' progressed Midheaven moving from its 30-year journey through Taurus and ready to enter Gemini on January 20<sup>th</sup> – the exact same date as the Inauguration of a new president – it would seem likely that the complete change in administration would be in favor of the outsider rather than the Washington insider. That, in itself, would seem to indicate Donald Trump or Bernie Sanders over Hillary Clinton. (It is interesting to note that both Trump and Sanders have their progressed Suns shifting into new signs, both entering an entirely new phase of their lives – Trump's into Virgo, and Sanders' into Sagittarius.) The shift from the long Taurean path of the United States' progressed Midheaven indicates a completion of the pursuit of wealth or territory that has been ongoing since 1987, which corresponds with transiting Pluto (from the United States' second house, ruling the karmic twelfth) moving through Scorpio, ruler of the natural eighth house (a money sign) and the concomitant rise of billionaire politicians and CEOs.<sup>IIII</sup> The transition itself is greatly helped by the United States' progressed Midheaven forming a trine to the United States' progressed Pluto in Capricorn H2, assuring a beneficial evolution; however, the United States' progressed Venus square the United States' natal Pluto means that much tension accompanies the process of reform. Happily, the United States' progressed Saturn in the financial sign of Scorpio continues in a long stable trine to the nation's Venus, always an economic safety net.

As of the date of this writing, **the Presidential Election** period itself between late October and mid-November shows great volatility, as our United States' progressed Moon will be opposite natal Uranus, the Moon representing the people and their feelings, and Uranus representing drastic change and turmoil. This will not be an easy time, and turmoil may bring protests, hostile demonstrations, and riots in the streets. By January, transiting Saturn will be square the United States' Neptune and opposite the United States' Mars, a pattern that shows frustration and disappointment, like a painful reality check. Likewise, the United States' progressed Moon, natally from the third house, reaching 11 Sagittarius, still in the twelfth but coming onto the Ascendant (rising), and beginning to square the United States' progressed Sun in the third house and ruling the ninth house of government, shows a pattern of high emotionality and very little harmony<sup>iv</sup>. Whoever wins this Election will be the source of great sorrow for half the people in the country. Disappointment of hard work and cherished goals will be foremost; it will not be a celebratory time.

The degrees of 21 – 24 are highly significant in the world chart during this period: no less than three outer planets – Jupiter, Saturn, and Uranus – are within this range by January 2017, in Libra, Sagittarius, and Aries, respectively. The Mercury station retrograde last April (2016) was at 23 Taurus, the Mars station retrograde last June (2016) was at 23 Scorpio, and the Lunar Eclipse last September (2016) fell on 24 Pisces in the Scorpio decanate. (The latter three events made favorable aspects to the United States' Mercury, which must be interpreted as being helpful to the nation despite the intensive political struggles.) Which of the candidates or President-Elect have planets or angles at these degrees and how are they impacted by them?

### The Candidates

Inauguration Day on January 20<sup>th</sup> 2017 gives Saturn at 23 Sagittarius, just past **Hillary Clinton's** 8:02 AM<sup>v</sup> natal Pisces Moon at 22 Pisces 51 – not a happy feeling. She has a tight natal t-square between her Saturn at 21 Leo, her Descendant/North Node at 22 and 23 Taurus, and her Mercury/Ascendant at 21 and 22 Scorpio; this t-square was supremely activated by transiting Mars during the July 2016 Democratic Convention, undoubtedly indicating a bitter fight with her rival. The triumvirate of Jupiter, Saturn and Uranus are helpful to her on Inauguration Day, Jupiter semi-sextiling her Ascendant, Saturn trining her natal Saturn, and Uranus sextiling it. Her progressed Moon at 14 Libra in her eleventh house, in a perfect sextile to her Mars and Pluto conjunction, is very supportive, too. However, transiting Saturn in her second house is opposed to her progressed Uranus in her eighth house, surely some kind of financial blockage or debt. There remains the looming threat of indictment over financial shenanigans regarding the Clinton Foundation that might be in play by this time. Or it could indicate a self-esteem (second house) issue. Her Solar Arc Uranus meeting her Midheaven in mid-2016 while her progressed Pluto squares her progressed Midheaven around the same time can throw her a curve or at the very least present a terribly pressured and quite unpredictable period. Might she even not be the Democratic candidate by November 2016?



Following 2016's end and through the New Year week, Saturn is just past an opposition to **Donald Trump's** natal Sun at 22 Gemini and a previous conjunction to his Moon at 21 Sagittarius. This indicates blockage, sadness, high "unfavorables", or a health issue for Trump as well, but might also show a great responsibility laid on him. On Inauguration Day, Saturn quinqunxes Trump's natal Saturn in his eleventh house, requiring adjustments to his goals. On Inauguration Day itself, Jupiter at 22 Libra makes an exact trine to Trump's Sun in his tenth house and a square to his Saturn in his eleventh house. Because his Sun is in the tenth house ruling his Ascendant, this Jupiter pattern is very favorable for success. Since his Saturn is in detriment in Cancer, Jupiter represents the stronger player and thus has the dominant effect. Also, his progressed Moon is exactly on his natal Venus at 25 Cancer on Inauguration Day, a lovely aspect for happiness. His progressed Sun, reaching his natal Ascendant at 29 Leo, and then moving into the first house is highly significant of an even larger profile or presence on the world stage in this year of his life. Twenty-nine degrees of Leo is conjunct the fixed star Regulus at 28 Leo 26, the star ruling kings and royalty. Quoting Theodore White in his recent and very interesting article called "President Donald Trump: Get Used to It"vi, in which after emphasizing his astrological neutrality (and offering some fascinating hidden truths about Washington D.C.'s architectural and magical topographical lay-out designs), he asserts "It will be difficult for some people to accept this, but Donald Trump was 'destined' by his nativity to run for the presidency of the United States." Some anti-Trump sentiment has held concern for his egotistical bravado and possibly bullying temperament; however, his progressed Sun moves into Virgo, the sign of modesty and service. So it should be interesting to see how that plays out. Transiting Mars at 23 Pisces on that day trines his Saturn, which is favorable for sensible long-term planning.



Finally, Hillary's greatest rival, **Bernie Sanders**, has his North Node at 22 Virgo in his tenth house which will receive a square from Saturn on Inauguration Day. That can be an indicator of an obstacle to his career path. For instance, he may earlier simply have not had enough delegates to win the nomination. But he has Saturn applying to a trine to his natal Mars at 23 Aries, having moved into his second house. It would seem that he has a role to play regarding financial matters and bold creative movements. Some feel that Bernie ("Feel the Bern") Sanders is the spearhead for a new crusade or revolutionary movement, certainly activating the concerns of the Millennials. Transiting Saturn also sextiles his Venus at 22 Libra in his eleventh house, where transiting Jupiter is sitting, so he is greatly liked now. Bernie has his progressed Ascendant moving into a new sign – Aquarius – and he also has his progressed Sun moving into a new sign, from Scorpio to Sagittarius; these may be indicators of a new life path for him regarding his humanitarian philosophy. Many have opined that his campaign, if nothing else, brings a fresh thrust to transform the country's values and economic approach.



Post-Election, post-Inauguration, what do we see that's going on for the nation?

#### The Nation, Post-Election

February 2017 gives us a Jupiter station retrograde at 23 Libra. This squares the United States' Mercury, meaning lots and lots of plans, a surfeit of news stories, a desire for harmony and consensus but a poor period for communications and reaching hard decisions. Late February also gives us a Solar Eclipse in Pisces close to transiting Neptune, and right on the United States' Solar Arc Jupiter/Solar Arc Sun which are in the third house. This is quite favorable for a new start for good news, for more compassion, and for third house matters such as revamping transportation (the auto industry, trains, roads, bridges, and so forth). The spotlight will be on a positive direction for media outlets, too.

Transiting Pluto in mid-Capricorn, coming from the second house of possessions, ruling the twelfth house of karma, has been traveling through its own (natal) second house and has finished squaring the United States' Saturn at 14 Libra and opposing the United States' Sun at 13 Cancer. Thus we felt a period of limited resources or financial squeeze. As Pluto does not get back to these degrees, we may finally have more access to resources or can make better use of them. This might very well go towards reducing the trillion dollar\$ debt that has been incurred, and eliminating waste and surplus through recycling. However, Pluto remains in a square to the United States' progressed Mars in the tenth house, an aspect which always brings anger, tension, and aggression. Since the second house is involved, this could call for revamping the whole financial system, whether it be financing for vested interests, corruption, or even The Federal Reserve. There are already intimations of such, as in the following headlines: "The Federal Reserve is at the Heart of the Debt Enslavement System that Dominates Our Lives" (posted on the internet<sup>vii</sup> 11/24/2014); "Breaking News: Florida Passes the Term Limits Convention" (posted on the internet 2/2/2015) viii. The latter is pertinent because of the public's perception of exorbitant Congressional salaries, and rigged elections via super-funding. In effect, the war between opposing beliefs will still be waged very much over money<sup>ix</sup>. It even gives a hint about which winning candidate would most likely strive to reduce the nation's debt and overhaul its financing structures – a conservative, a business-as-usual, or a progressive? Along with a nod to humanitarian values, this pattern seems to favor a conservative (dynamic aspects to Capricorn).

In April 2017, transiting Uranus continues its long square of the United States' Mercury, just touched upon in the 2016 summer months after the two Conventions and leading up to the Election. "Uranus square Mercury" can always be upsetting as far as news or turmoil about the way things have been done. Mercury is found in the United States' eighth house, actuating a financial twist as Uranus moves back and forth over the cusp of the fifth house, from the fourth to the fifth. It would seem that the old way of doing things will not endure. The Uranus-Pluto celestial square may be waning but Uranus is just beginning to square the United States' Pluto in the second house, yet another indication of a revolution in the economy or in corporate America. Emphasizing this, we find progressed Node conjunct Mercury in H8.

On the bright side, though, in the Spring and Fall of 2017 transiting Uranus contacts the United States' progressed Venus in the fifth house several times, which can bring fresh technological energy into the entertainment industry, for instance innovations in special effects or in a virtual reality experience. This boost to originality in Hollywood is also enhanced by the United States' progressed Uranus in H6 sextile to the United States' Node in Leo H8 – money will pour into these exciting inventions. Transiting Uranus during this timeframe is also sextile the United States' Moon at 27 Aquarius; a nice combination of Uranus and the Moon lends itself to openness, humanitarian efforts, and dealing with one's neighbors. (Did anyone say "Mexico"?!) The melting pot regarding immigrants can find a better way to integrate the needy or the seekers; however, it would require it be more of the traditional American way rather

than a foreign culture superimposed upon our lifestyle, i.e., the harmonious sextile. If immigrants refuse, for instance, to adapt to our culture but insist on imposing imported edicts such as Sharia Law, that would probably not fly.

During 2017, Saturn's transits in late Sagittarius in the United States' first house, sextiling the Moon and trining progressed Venus, will serve to calm things down. The madness of 2016 will give way to a steadier pace, a more realistic approach to different philosophies, maybe even (we could hope) a waning of ISIL's terrorist actions, at least on United States' soil. Tied in with that, between 2017 and 2018, United States' Solar Arc Mars, having reached 20 Aquarius, begins to trine natal United States' Mars at 21 Gemini. It seems likely that under the new administration there would be a rebuilding of military strength. Solar Arc Mars is in the third house, which can have to do with vehicles, such as tanks and drones as well as the usual array.

Between 2017 and 2018, the United States' Solar Arc Moon, having reached 26 Libra in the eleventh house, will begin to square the United States' Pluto in the second house. This can bring a struggle regarding the nation's goals, especially in terms of its resources. It can also pit organizations with humanitarian goals strongly against government or corporate rules. The Moon represents feelings – these feelings show intensity when pitted against Pluto. Things that are hidden or secret will want to be "out-ed". The idea of spending billions of our money or resources on matters that are not kind or favorable to our own citizens will be greatly frowned upon or rejected.

Between 2017 and 2018, the United States' Solar Arc Pluto reaches a conjunction with United States' progressed Neptune in the ninth house, and begins to trine its natal position in the United States' second house. This would indicate a period of positive transformation regarding the nation's finances, its laws, and Congress itself. From 2018 to 2020, with transiting Pluto ready to oppose the United States' Mercury in the eighth house, there will be a mighty need for reevaluation of financial regulation, handling of resources, and plans, discussions and ideas regarding better usage of our own and the world's materials. With the double whammy of a natal Pluto opposition Mercury, and transiting Pluto opposition our Cancerian planets, we have felt this pressure for years, and America must spearhead the drive to conserve or recycle, or in some other way cut costs about the incredible and thoughtless splurging of natural assets.

Through it all, transiting Neptune is just hanging out on the United States' progressed Sun at 12-14 Pisces. Undoubtedly, our hearts must open, and we must turn to a spiritual direction to see us through turbulent times because otherwise we remain very confused. Neptune resides natally in the United States' ninth house, and rules the intercepted third. In an individual's chart, there would be no question that the person was psychic or open to the paranormal. On the Great Seal of the United States, the floating eye at the top of the pyramid has a specific message according to Paul Foster Case's wonderful essay on the subject<sup>\*</sup>: the need for divine help before we can complete the mission of the United States, which is to bring about true brotherhood on planet Earth. *E Pluribus Unum*. ("Out of the many, one.") On Facebook, for example, there have been many pleas (appropriately) to bring God back into our lives, or keep "In God We Trust" on our money and in our courts.

Any entity with Neptune in the ninth house and a Sag rising aspires to an elevated belief system, perhaps something mystical. And then, acting towards that lovely Libran Midheaven, aspires to achieve balance and harmony. Looking at the tri-wheel of natal, secondary and solar arc progressed wheels, there is much to do with home, homeownership, family, and country, and the protection thereof for our

whole nation (Cancer). But this new period puts an emphasis on communications, interactions, care for one's neighbors, and reliance on new and positive ways of thinking about our challenges (loaded third house, sparkling as it does with Venus, Jupiter, Sun, and even Fortuna contributing to new ideas and better approaches).



In 2017, Jupiter will be in Libra, for the most part in the United States' tenth house. This should restore our image and status in the world's eyes, as a role model for harmony, so long as we don't do things in a Sagittarian burst of excess. Jupiter square our Cancerian natal planets brings attention to the foods we eat and their nutritional value. This coincides with the current snowballing grassroots movements against GMOs and Monsanto.

Additional pleasant aspects for this period show a restoration of America's core identity (progressed Sun trine natal Sun), a positive growth and rebuilding cycle (progressed Ascendant sextile natal Jupiter), and an increasing likeability, especially of each other, as the harshness of prior years abates (progressed Venus sextile natal Moon).

In general, it looks as though we are primed for great changes along with the new administration, changes that could impact laws regarding Congress and government, such as term limits; and discussions, plans and changes addressing our role in the world, our use of resources, and our caretaking

of citizens, such as wounded veterans or people who are in need of food programs. There may even be deep changes in the taxation system. The country's huge debt might be addressed in practical terms but also in realistic positions as a humanitarian nation. We might also struggle to find the means to embrace suffering immigrants while enforcing rules that contribute to their integration into the American Way of Life.

There is much speculation here, but it is based on astrological patterns that can be found easily by any small effort. If we find ourselves with a new outsider as our leader, this may also usher in novel approaches and, best of all, a healing of the anger and polarization that Americans have been feeling for years.<sup>xi</sup> Conversely, with cardinal squares and oppositions we may remain continuously polarized and greatly challenged to live up to our stated ideals.

#### Overview

It should not be forgotten that the symbol of the American Eagle is a Scorpionic image tied in with the phoenix. The phoenix rises from its own ashes, having been immolated in the fires of trauma. It would seem that America has the potential now, no matter how beleaguered, how disrupted, how pulled apart we have been, to find it in ourselves, perhaps through that spiritual avenue, to be reborn, same as the old, but in a whole new way. A whole new step on the journey of the Great Experiment that is the United States.

In the broadest overview that can be mustered, in order to reach true brotherhood (i.e., one people worldwide) perhaps the last step towards this ideal is the vast migration and forced integration of Middle Eastern peoples and beliefs with Western civilization. It has taken war, persecution, and terrorism to catalyze this exodus, whereas previously in history things such as drought or famine have been at the root. This pooling of races, cultures and beliefs is being propelled not only in America but throughout Europe. Certainly, the melding of humanity is an evolutionary but very difficult necessity.

#### Message from The Brotherhood

Request from author to her guides, The Brotherhood of Light Workers: *Please give me something along the lines of America's future, the energy patterns, what choices we can make or what guidance should we follow.* 

BOLW: The words "pressure" and "stress" are being trumpeted because the flavor of the times warrants these feelings. Underneath those words is a larger word, "FEAR", which drives people's behaviors, causes lack of sleep, and adds to the vulnerability to disease.

Fear is the overarching feeling of these times. So let us examine this. Fear arises when one doesn't feel in control of events as though one is carried along and buffeted, hither and there, in a maelstrom. Fear arises when the world seems threatening, when one's security might be removed, or when one worries that those who are dominant will foist toxic rules upon one's life and lifestyle. Fear is the result of the feeling of helplessness, and it permeates many aspects of one's world and one's daily life. Underlying bravado or even disinterest, an era of anxiety will cause many results including anger, lethargy, confusion, impulsivity, and even self-sabotage.

So the overriding question is: is there an antidote to the current worldwide sense of insecurity?

Yes, but it takes effort and will not come naturally to the human species as it exists now. For the antidote to fear requires faith in a larger, benign plan, in an intelligence directing that plan, and in the potential to put aside self-centered interests and adopt a love for the other.

When threatened with personal destruction, how does one learn to love one's fellow human?

It requires a deepening of energy, an understanding of the way inside to your core where your heart lives. You must reach your heart. In your heart there is love, faith, and trust. Trust of a greater plan; trust of your self's ability to thrive and be creative within that plan, and genuine caring for the other. It is essential that enough fear builds up, not only in yourself, but in all people everywhere, that the harder direction is then chosen – the direction of love. Strength is required to be truly loving and assured. Strength on many levels. There can be no foolhardy idealism and no shirking of tasks. Each individual must accept a personal role in the change, or shift. Global patterns work best when they are expressed as individual effort. The sensible must be connected to the pure, the strength to the heart, and the love for others to the quality called trust. Then the era will shift, and it will seem as though a drowning man reaches a surface and can breathe easily once more.

We speak in terms of long-range outcomes and not immediate change, for evolution is a process, and this is its behavior of this moment.

<sup>ii</sup> The ninth house rules the courts, the tenth rules the president, and the eleventh rules Congress.

<sup>iv</sup> Astrologers can use these predicted events, if correct, as rectification proof for the Sibley chart, because it's the Moon and angles that change the most with different birth times.

<sup>v</sup> A different birth time for Hillary has also been broached: 8:00 PM. This would give her a 29 Pisces Moon square a 29 Gemini Ascendant, a far less formidable, persevering, and secretive pattern than we have seen exhibited by her, but also a pattern that would be less impacted by transiting Saturn during this period. (Yet the secretive email brouhaha certainly fits a double Sun-Ascendant in Scorpio profile – always a battle between the Devil and Angel sides of the nature!)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>i</sup> "Making a Case for A Sibley U.S. Ascendant", by Judi Thomases (Dell Horoscope Magazine, 2011 Yearbook). After 9/11 – one of the most transformative events in the nation's history – when Pluto had just stationed direct exactly on the Sibley Ascendant, it's hard to see how any astrologer can ignore the rectification proof for this birth time. This article will offer further predictions that can be used to verify the Sibley chart, or not.

<sup>&</sup>quot;" "The next thing we need are term limits and the end of golden parachutes. Being a politician should not be a job you retire from." (internet posting)



<sup>vi</sup> www.facebook.com/theodore.white1/posts/10154140239149872

vii www.theeconomiccollapseblog.com

<sup>viii</sup> "The Florida Legislature just made history. It is the first in the nation to make the call for the Term Limits Convention to term limit Congress. When 34 states have signed on, we can finally take our Congress back from career politicians."

<sup>ix</sup> "Those leading us have conspired together through agreements, influence, legislation, the courts, the press, the educational system and finance to rearrange the system to their own advantage.... And who owns and who controls these information sources? Power and wealth." –Jim Dauerty, Letter to the Editor, News-Journal, 4/28/2016

<sup>x</sup> "The Great Seal of the United States: Its History, Symbolism and Message for the New Age", by Paul Foster Case, 1935 (Builders of the Adytum). *"The wise men who established our republic knew that the time would come when the work of men, which is represented by the unfinished pyramid, would have to be completed by a power higher than man."* 

<sup>xi</sup> The strange astrological patterns during the last eight years –Saturn opposite Uranus, the Uranus-Pluto square in cardinal signs, and Neptune conjunct the United States' Moon – all contributed to a unique combination of gullibility, polarization, and revolution that was, in effect, ordained by the Cosmic Director. For what reason? Perhaps it was a cautionary tale that America not fall into traps, weaken, and lose its divine mission. It was our Dark Period. For sure, we will never do that again!

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from her books, is underway; it may eventually be offered as a webinar series. Meanwhile, sign up for her free newsletter, "Spirit's Words", on her website.