

A Sea Change: Neptune in Pisces 2011-2026

Jan Detrich

Abstract

This article explores Neptune's position in Pisces over the next fifteen years and attempts to bring the reader into a deeper understanding of its significance within the broader celestial landscape. Whenever Neptune changes signs it is an important milestone; particularly when it enters the sign of its natural rulership. Neptune in Pisces will introduce the world to a new mythos that will contain seeds of enlightenment and liberation. Although it will involve an archetypal trip into the belly of the whale, humanity will learn to navigate the shifting currents of life with greater facility and perchance discover deep and hidden treasure along the way.

Overview

*Another world is not only possible, she is on her way. On a quiet day, I can hear her breathing.*¹

A new cosmic narrative is unfolding and Neptune's ingress into Pisces sounds the final note in the opening act of an evolutionary impulse that began in 2008 with Pluto's entry into Capricorn. Since that time, the advent of all the major planets into new signs, an overarching shift in ray cycles, the dawn of the Aquarian Age, the end and beginning of a galactic year according to Mayan cosmology, accelerating expansion of the Universe,² changes in the heliosphere,³ an increase in solar activity,⁴ and a striking decline in the Earth's magnetic field⁵ indicate that monumental changes are underway throughout the galaxy.

The central and most obvious astrological event taking place this decade are seven Uranus-Pluto squares in cardinal signs which are now building to a point of critical mass that will unfold in shock-waves over the next three years. The full impact of Uranus-Pluto contacts

may not be fully registered in mass consciousness for many years; nonetheless these hard-hitting squares will cause an unprecedented tipping point in world affairs not previously seen in our lifetimes. More recent confluences of these two planetary giants occurred during the Industrial Revolution, the Great Depression and again in the Sixties, bringing radical cultural, social and political change despite the fact that these prior events involved only three Uranus-Pluto contacts as compared to seven in the current cycle. (A more detailed account of this pairing can be accessed in an earlier astrological commentary at: <http://www.esoteric-studies.net/quarterly/Files050410/EQ050410-Detrich.pdf>.)

Although the pressure between Uranus in Aries and Pluto in Capricorn has been building for some time now, it has been leveraged and somewhat tempered by Saturn's position in Libra over the past two years which has offset the tension and strain of Uranus-Pluto with an element of resistance and definite polarization. Worse still is the resulting denial and avoidance of current trends, despite the clear and present danger of world economic, environmental and political instability, which is reflected in a segment of the population who lament the past and would prefer for life "to get back to normal."

This square will climax in a series of seven exact squares from 2012-2015, with the first on June 24 of this year. It is a powerful dynamic that historically shakes things up, upsets the

About the Author

Jan Detrich has been student of astrology and the wisdom teachings for forty years. She is a leading contributor at Soul Source, Center for Conscious Living and a practicing astrologer near Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She may be contacted at: jana-jo9@cs.com.

status quo and shatters existing power structures. Among other things, Pluto in Capricorn represents the accumulated forces of materialism, Wall Street and the material elite, challenged by the mighty force and power of collective movement toward liberation, revolutionary change and new directions arising from Uranus in Aries. The trend toward materialization is ending and all the social, political and cultural unrest, chaos, upheaval, and global disasters are manifestations of a clarion and emphatic call to awaken to a new rhythm, new order and an emerging synthesis. “The Cardinal Cross is responsible for bringing about certain great points of synthesis, as a consequence of both change and crisis.”⁶

A second astrological highlight of 2012 involves a rare, near perfect alignment of Venus-Sun in Gemini and the Earth in Sagittarius on June 5-6. Transits of Venus across the disk of the Sun are among the rarest of planetary alignments, happening in pairs approximately eight years apart and separated by over a hundred years. The last pairing occurred in 1874-1882 and will not repeat again until 2117, the portended year of the arrival of the Aquarian Age, not coincidentally in the Venus-ruled decanate of Aquarius.

The ancient Mayans were acutely aware of the relationship between the Earth and Venus since their cosmological and calendar calculations are based on Venus cycles. Esoteric astrology teaches that Venus is more closely related to Earth than any other planet, serving as Earth’s alter ego,⁷ sister planet and higher correspondence. Moreover, this alignment is remarkable because it brings the respective Soul rulers of Gemini and Sagittarius, Venus and Earth, and the Sun into direct alignment under the auspices of the Full Moon period of Gemini—a time when “the love of God, the spiritual essence of solar fire, reaches its highest point of expression.”⁸

As one astrologer points out, “When Venus lies directly in front of the Sun and in line with Earth the resonances of Venus are highly focused (emblazoned) upon the Earth- inspiring a new level of ‘intuitive awareness’ to permeate Earth and spread in and through human consciousness. This specific transit pair (2004-

2012), because it coincides with the Holy Cross, strongly supports the reintegration and emergence of the Divine Feminine principle in our world--which desperately awaits the guidance and balance of the Goddess.”⁹

The focus of this article and the last major element in the astrology of 2012 is Neptune’s ingress into Pisces. It takes Neptune 165 years to orbit around the Sun so this is only the second time since its discovery in 1846 that Neptune has been in Pisces, the sign of its natural rulership. It is an auspicious homecoming for Neptune whose powers are greatly augmented and amplified in this sign.

Neptune and Pisces represent mankind’s yearning for spiritual connection and wholeness and the universal longing to rise above material burdens and cares, to quest for something more, to surrender to a higher power, to sacrifice and serve, and to believe and partake of the transcendent through aspiration, devotion, faith and idealism. By blurring the lines between material and spiritual realities, the new era of Neptune in Pisces will cause humanity to float beyond their perceived limitations, potentially giving rise to greater human sensitivity, love, heart-centered altruism, compassion, empathy, spiritual perception, vision, idealism and a much richer and more sacred appreciation for beauty, art, culture and creativity.

For all intents and purposes, the Uranus-Pluto squares are the noisy clashing about between Heaven and Earth, a fiery dance between the crown and the base, spirit and matter and governments and people that is so outwardly evident in the world today. Neptune’s ingress into Pisces adds an undercurrent into the equation that will infuse life on earth with greater sensitivity, a deeper sense of interconnectedness and Oneness, and a vivification of the planetary heart in response to world need. It is a powerful sea change that someday may be remembered, and perhaps even celebrated, as a global shift from the Love of Power to the Power of Love.

The Nature of Neptune in Pisces

*God hath spread out His net over all creatures, so that whosoever wishes to discover Him may find and recognize Him in each one.*¹⁰

As God of the waters, Neptune is very much at home in the oceanic realm of Pisces where just like the sea it is vast, sinuous, circulating, and all-pervading. Given the power and magnificence of the ocean which Neptune epitomizes, it also represents hidden mysteries, depths, and an unbridled rawness that is magically attractive yet equally frightening.

Water is sensitive to the slightest movement; constantly flowing and ever-changing, evoking a sense of impermanence and unrest. Because life is largely water and every life form requires water in order to survive, it is an eternal source of nurturance, commonality, interconnectedness and oneness. Whether it is a baby being born from the womb, or consciousness born from the unconscious, water brings us back to our deepest roots where there was once no separation. It is the supreme universal essence, the mother's milk, which carries and sustains us. It is linked to countless creation myths that view water as the universal source of life itself—the primordial mother of all creation. In the Tao Te Ching, Lao Tzu writes, "The highest good is water. Water gives life to the ten thousand things and does not strive. It flows in places men reject and so is like the Tao."¹¹

Neptune is at the heart of cosmic, solar and planetary life. In ancient formulas, Christ, the ruler of the Piscean Age is "spoken of as Neptune"¹² and "fish," which have long been universal symbols of the Vishnu aspect and the Christ principle. Fish symbolism was common in ancient civilizations and is still prominent in many religions today. The Hindu Goddess Kali is known as the "fish-eyed one" and the Great Mother Kuan Yin is often depicted in the shape of a fish. In the Gospel teachings of the New Testament there are many references to fish symbolism. Jesus of Nazareth referred to his disciples as "fishers of men" and fed the throngs with "five loaves and two fish." The outline of a fish was used to identify early Christians and the secret password "fish" was

utilized to avoid religious persecution toward the end of the Roman Empire.¹³

The glyph for Pisces depicts two fish swimming in opposite directions connected by a band or thread that symbolizes spirit and matter, seemingly separate, yet eternally one. Esoterically, the thread can be viewed and experienced as the immutable life-line known as the sutratma, or as the antahkarana or rainbow bridge, built as a result of an alchemical process of conscious evolution that "blends all types of consciousness, spirit and matter, into one living whole, the ultimate Reality,"¹⁴ which is the supreme goal of Pisces."

Pisces, viewed in light of its polar opposite, Virgo, links the "little fish" (humanity) with the "Great Fish" (The Christ). It connects the intuition with the analytical mind, the womb of space with the womb of time, undifferentiated matter with differentiated matter and the invisible with visible worlds. The Pisces/Virgo axis is also responsible for linking the Virgoian harvest or "House of Bread" with the Piscean Kingdom of God, earthly birth with spiritual rebirth, the process of incubation, gestation and harvesting of the Soul in Virgo, and the process of return and resurrection into the Father's house in Pisces. Neptune's astrological symbol, the trident, signifies the Holy Trinity—Shiva-Vishnu-Brahma—in manifestation, while the holy nativity in Virgo is an earthly facsimile of this same principle.

The rays related to Pisces are the First, Second and Sixth Rays; the three primary rays in the lives of exalted beings such as Hercules, the Buddha and the Christ.¹⁵ Pisces expresses the Second and Sixth Rays via its orthodox rulers, Jupiter and Neptune, and the First Ray via its Soul and cosmic ruler, Pluto. In the glyph for Pisces, the single line that connects the two fish intersects them both depicting Pluto's role in cutting out or destroying hindrances to essential divinity and from a higher perspective portrays the pressure and tension of "focused immovable Will" which is required on more advanced stages of the path. This particular kind of tension is defined as "the identification of brain and Soul with the will aspect, and the preservation of that identification—unchanged

and immovable—no matter what the circumstances and the difficulties.”¹⁶ The entire process of conscious evolution climaxes and is consummated in Pisces when “Venus reunites the severed lives but with no binding thread”¹⁷ thereby making one whole or enlightened which, of course, is the reason that Venus is exalted in this sign.

As an expression of the Sixth Ray, Neptune presides over the sixth plane or astral plane which corresponds to the buddhic plane or plane of intuition. Mars, the other Sixth Ray planet, is indicative of the personality force which aligns with Neptune on the astral plane to draw forth some of the “best and worst features of which the intense devotion to material things and the intense devotion to spiritual values are dramatic instances.”¹⁸ On the astral plane, Neptune acts as the all-inspiring muse; encouraging, purifying and uplifting the lower nature in the direction of spiritual life and wholeness, and in its lesser, distorted expression, amplifies the self-created agony of the astral life with overwhelming confusion, fear, glamour, suffering and pain. Agni Yoga teaches that “the solar plexus is the antechamber of the temple of the heart,”¹⁹ thus Neptune opens the way to the realization of unconditional Love and the Christ principle. We are taught that “the Law of Love is the law of the astral plane. It aims at the transmutation of the desire nature, and links it up with the greater magnetism of the love aspect on the buddhic plane.”²⁰

The water and earth signs, Venus, the Moon and Neptune are associated with the divine feminine. Neptune’s thirteen moons correspond with the thirteen lunar cycles of ancient times. The letter “M” is the thirteenth letter of the English alphabet and is rooted in the thirteenth letter of the Hebrew alphabet, “mem” (meaning mother). “M” is considered a sacred

[T]he Uranus-Pluto squares are the noisy clashing about between Heaven and Earth, a fiery dance between the crown and the base, spirit and matter and governments and people that is so outwardly evident in the world today. Neptune’s ingress into Pisces adds an undercurrent into the equation that will infuse life on earth with greater sensitivity, a deeper sense of interconnectedness and Oneness, and a vivification of the planetary heart in response to world need.

letter because it symbolizes water, where all life begins. This association is iterated in the English words for the female gender such as mother, mom, mama, mammary glands, and menstruation, and some of the most powerful feminine archetypes in the world, the Virgin Mary, and Mary Magdalene.²¹ This association holds true in other languages too. The word for mother in French is “mère” and the word for the sea is “mer.” In Spanish, mother is “madre” and the sea is “mar.”

Along with Virgo, the three water signs convey a brief, symbolic history of conscious development from mass consciousness in Cancer to the embryonic birth of the latent Christ child in Virgo, Soul testing and fitness in Scorpio, leading to the Soul-infused world server in Pisces. This symbolic journey is also reflected in the interplay between the shared astrological planetary rulers of these signs. The esoteric ruler of Virgo, the Moon, veils Neptune which is the esoteric ruler of Cancer and the exoteric ruler of Pisces. Pluto is the Soul ruler of Pisces which in turn is the exoteric ruler of Scorpio. As American author and activist, Mary Antin writes: “We are not born all at once, but by bits. The body first, and the spirit later; and the birth and growth of the spirit, in those who are attentive to their own inner life, are slow and exceedingly painful. Our mothers are racked with the pains of our physical birth; we ourselves suffer the longer pains of our spiritual growth.”

The sacred feminine represents Universal Motherhood, the Holy Mother, Mother Earth and the Divine Self within. It expresses the divine qualities of unconditional love, immanence, compassion, wisdom, beauty, gentleness, patience, acceptance, forgiveness, nurturance, kindness, intuition, empathy and healing. Past patriarchal models of religion have long

suppressed the feminine principle, subjugating matter and relegating this divine eminence to imprisonment or bondage which is a Piscean theme. Although past censorship was considered a part of the Divine Mother's holy sacrifice, the new era of Neptune in Pisces will work to exalt and restore the sacred feminine to its natural position in the divine matrix. In so doing, we will come to know that all is divine and that spiritual life includes both material and non-material dimensions.

Neptune cycles

*Know that the river has its destination.*²²

Neptune represents the generational mythos of a given time which can be traced through history. Whatever sign Neptune occupies literally "floods" the world with a particular archetype. This will be doubly so with Neptune in Pisces since they are synonymous and interchangeable in so many ways.

Neptune's most recent sojourn through Aquarius from 1998-2011 inundated the airwaves with commercial use of the internet along with a plethora of information technology infrastructures that included social networking, telecommunications networks and devices, streaming video, cable, email and even programs for remotely controlling cars or for viewing the workplace and home from a distance. Neptune in Aquarius literally catapulted the world into cyberspace. In 1998 when Neptune entered Aquarius (in the same year Google was birthed) there were about one million internet users worldwide. Today that figure is estimated to have grown to one and a half billion.

Modern mythos and culture is powerfully driven by Neptune. We worship, deify and adore all that is ruled by the sign that Neptune is transiting at any given time. When Neptune was in Aquarius, technology was the god of the moment, generating an entire pantheon of revered technological wizards, such as Steve Jobs, George Lucas, Bill Gates and Mark Zuckerberg—the high priests of this time.

Due to the high frequency nature of Neptune, its power is easily and often distorted as it impacts the material plane, resulting in fantasy,

delusion, escapism, addiction and deception. Alongside the wonders and benefits of the internet, Neptune in Aquarius brought about massive problems related to global and personal security, identity theft, and computer fraud, computer hacking, spamming, copyrighting and licensing issues. A number of other more negative manifestations have developed, ranging from excessive use and/or dependency on the internet, to a whole range of abhorrent behaviors such as addiction to pornography, internet stalking, and elaborate virtual realities that have drawn millions of users into a full time fantasy life. Under Neptune in Aquarius, we have experienced stolen elections, deadly wars based on pretense or illusion, a suspicious housing bubble burst and Wiki-leaks, all of which had the potential to be watershed events, but vanished instead in the sea of Neptune in Aquarius information overload.

Over the past fourteen years, Neptune in Aquarius, a sign characteristically friendly but necessarily aloof and detached, has insidiously crept its way into the very fiber of the way we communicate to the point that we don't really speak to one another anymore; we text. We don't write letters, we email. More and more people have become engulfed in the virtual world, adrift from their friends and family. Paranoia is driving the use of cell phones in younger children who now text while sitting right next to each other; who prefer to play online games rather than going outside to play or make new friends, all of which have hampered healthy social development and created a kaleidoscope of new social problems. As much as we are linked up and linked in virtually, we are isolated, disconnected and out of touch with the natural warmth of interpersonal relating, which Neptune's journey through Pisces may very well alter or amend.

Since Capricorn is oriented to outer structure and Neptune's job is to dissolve form and structures, Neptune in Capricorn (1984-98) at best was an ill-fated union from the very beginning. Nevertheless, this union had its rewards. The crowning achievement of this period was the fall of the Berlin Wall which ended a twenty year Cold War, marking the reunifi-

cation and end of WWII in Europe. Conversely, it brought a collective love affair with ambition, big business, merchandising and the stock market, marking the glory days of capitalism and consumerism; a time that idealized wealth and ownership; a time when money and securities (even false ones) were venerated.

The movie “Wall Street” released in 1987 during Neptune’s reign in Capricorn, archetypically portrays the excess and greed that dominated this period. Walter Gecko, the main character of the film, a financial tycoon, delivered the infamous line “Greed is Good” in the movie which could be construed as “Greed is God.” We are still reeling from the aftershock of over-consumption, fake money and credit issues that arose during this period. Not unlike the fall of the Roman Empire, with Pluto’s position in Capricorn since 2008, we are seeing the demise of the same banking institutions and corporations that captivated the world and reigned supreme when Neptune was in Capricorn.

Spiritual renaissance has been a major theme of past Neptune in Pisces cycles. Many major religions such as Confucianism, Shintoism, Jainism, Taoism, and Baha’i came into being under the influence of Neptune in Pisces, as did the Crusades, the first printings of the Bible and the Diamond Sutras, and the early beginnings of the Franciscan Order. Under the mystical spell of Neptune in Pisces, human consciousness turns to spiritual matters and that which will give deeper meaning to life. Era upon era of this confluence is marked by a revival of spirit and a visitation of new spiritual energy in mysterious juxtaposition with humanity’s unspoken need for the numinous and transcendent. Phases of spiritual crystallization or drought often precede transits of Neptune in Pisces, inadvertently fueling an enthusiastic, almost fervent response to the new wave, causing it to spread like spiritual wildfire.

The most recent transit of Neptune in Pisces (1847-1861) birthed the Spiritualist Movement.²³ Although it began under false pretenses—with the Fox sisters faking contact with the afterlife—spiritualism became a global sensation with millions of followers. The Spiritualist Movement provided a platform for the

Theosophical movement which soon followed when Neptune advanced into Aries. (Seeds that are germinated in Pisces are often born in Aries.) In *The Theosophist*, H.P. Blavatsky writes, “The founders of the Theosophical Society were mainly veteran Spiritualists who had outgrown the movement and felt the necessity to investigate the laws of mediumship.”²⁴

Many spiritually-minded people and visionaries are born with Neptune in Pisces. Annie Besant, C.W. Leadbeater, Rudolf Steiner, Alan Leo, Sigmund Freud, Nikola Tesla, Vincent Van Gogh and Johann Bach were just a few of the brilliant progeny of this placement. Numerous enlightened public figures rose to renown under the influence of Neptune in Pisces. Christian mystic, Bernadette Soubirous, commonly known as St Bernadette, received nineteen apparitions of the Virgin Mary at a grotto in Lourdes, under the auspices of a Neptune in Pisces transit in 1858. And a large number of impressionistic artists, born with Neptune in Pisces, went on to launch the era of impressionistic art once Neptune ingressed into Aries, a sign of new beginnings.

Other discoveries during past Neptune in Pisces transits involved the first photograph, the first uses of anesthetics (ether) in surgery, Louis Pasteur’s discovery of pasteurization, Darwin’s Theory of Evolution and the founding of the nursing profession by Florence Nightingale. Upon its discovery in 1846, Neptune was exactly conjunct Saturn in Aquarius in the eighth house, suggesting the beginnings of an alliance between spirituality and science. Such an alliance came to pass in the 20th century with revolutionary discoveries of quantum theory by Max Planck (born with Neptune in Pisces), and the Theory of Relativity that was developed by Albert Einstein (with Sun in Pisces). Because of these discoveries, mankind has moved from mere faith and belief in the transcendent to a degree of concrete understanding about the universe that we live in.

Neptune in Pisces will thin the veil between spiritual and material reality drawing forth a rich supply of spiritual treasure that will involuntarily inform and enlighten many shadow aspects of the world. It will stimulate and

thereby open the collective unconscious, revealing ‘inconvenient truths’ that have been festering for centuries. In the book, *The Pulse of Life*, astrologer Dane Rudhyar explains,

In Pisces, the individual must go through the Eternal Feminine. This is the eternal Chrysalis, which is as nothing, yet which contains all potencies of renewal. It is the realm of metamorphosis and that of psychic glamour; the world of rapture and that of eternal mist; openness to God and mediumship to the phantasms of a decaying past; the martyr's sacrifice and the ghastly Inquisitions which fed sadistic frustrations under the mask of religious work.²⁵

As the “end zone” of astrology, the twelfth house, Neptune and Pisces have long been a kind of dumping ground for many of the ills of society—the things we collectively prefer not to deal with or really look at, which is why they have long been associated with prisons, asylums, secret enemies and self-undoing. Hence Neptune in Pisces will open Pandora’s Box, exposing many aspects of society that have kept us disassociated from ourselves and each other. Psychologically this will bring a variety of hidden aspects of society out of the closet and into the light of day. Secrets, perpetrators and victims, the suffering and downtrodden alike, will move to the forefront of human consciousness. Hidden issues around sexuality, bullying, addiction, genital mutilation, crimes against humanity, prisons and a plethora of other “skeletons” will be exposed and redeemed in light of newer understandings.

This potent boost of Neptunian energy will undoubtedly cause mankind to turn inward. Higher value will be placed on the “introverted life” in contradistinction to past emphasis on outer striving and material accomplishment. Humanity will seek greater depth and an open-ended encounter with the numinous. New understandings about the inner worlds and the collective unconscious will emerge, generating new approaches to human psychology. There will be renewed respect for the sanctity of our bodies and the “matter aspect” in general that will give rise to more humane and natural approaches to birthing, sexuality, and consump-

tion. There will be increased respect toward Mother Earth, and for good or ill, there will be a resurgence of interest in psychism, divination tools and arts.

The oceans and the element of water will reveal great mysteries and healing properties, and advances in marine biology, oceanography and aquatics will come to pass. There will be a growing interest and use of energetic, radiatory and subtle healing practices, and greater attention will be given to the psychological benefits of emotional integration, emotional intelligence and coherence.

As a demonstration of the divine feminine, inner life and spiritual practices such as meditation, yoga, dreams, and psychology will be venerated and popularized in the coming cycle. Arts, poetry, music, films and other activities involving creative imagining and visualization will move to the forefront, and wisdom teachings on compassion, empathy, non-attachment, non-dual reality, transcendence and an emphasis on resurrection will all be a part of the new life curriculum under Neptune in Pisces.

This new era will hasten the end of the Piscean Age and replace negative manifestations of organized religion with a more wholesome and synthetic universal perspective. It will introduce aspects of the new world religion pertaining to Transcendental Mysticism, Occultism, and Religion²⁶ to the awakening public and bring us collectively into a deeper understanding of the inner-workings of the human and collective psyche.

We are told “in the new world order, spirituality will supersede theology; living experience will take the place of theological acceptances. The spiritual realities will emerge with increasing clarity...dynamic, expressive truth will be the keynote of the new world religion.”²⁷

Neptune in Pisces in the World

*If I am to know God directly, I must become completely God, and God I, so that this God and this I become one I.*²⁸

Consciously or unconsciously, whenever we loosen our grip on material reality during sleep, contemplation, yoga, meditation or the like, we enter Neptune and Pisces domains.

These life-renewing and restorative acts are but doorways to the inner world and divine inspiration. To be in touch with the deeper and higher aspects of Neptune is to be in relationship with the heart God, the Mother of the World; that boundless, limitless and vast expanse of which we really know so very little.

Human beings and the entire planet are repetitiously, symbolically and physically being bathed in these universal waters of Life. At times we literally drown in these waters and yet we rise up to live again and again. Under multiple Neptune transits one person had a significant dream experience that illustrates this point quite poignantly. The account begins:

I am sobbing and sobbing like I have never sobbed before as I try to explain to my daughter and healer friend about what has just happened to me; but I am crying too hard to speak. Eventually I explain that while I was walking along the edge of the highest tier of a three-tiered mountain (each tier had its own beautiful turquoise lake just below the path I was following), I proceeded to fall into the water. Although I am an excellent swimmer, I began to drown and frantically struggle to keep from drowning. Then suddenly, I am conscious that I am drowning and began to surrender into the experience, realizing how easy it is to breathe under water. As I breathe deeper, I sink deeper and deeper until all fades out and I seem to die. Then abruptly I am startled and awakened by the fact that I am standing on the second tier—and that I have lived! Rather ceremoniously and with precision the entire process begins all over again on the second tier...and then repeats once again on the lowest, third tier.

This dream portrays many things but tends to highlight the Piscean theme of resurrection and “dying in order to live.” It also teaches the im-

portance of heeding our inner guidance and breathing through our struggles as a means of life support. Neptune is our spiritual teacher, instructing us in how to swim and navigate the many currents of life. Humanity’s experience begins with an oceanic feeling of floating and being rocked as part of the gestational experience within the womb,

which is a metaphor for what is to come. When the dam breaks, we burst forth into new experience and although we seem to be at the center of that experience, we gradually learn that we are one with the life that sent us. As Eckhart Tolle said in one of his daily reminders, “You are not IN the universe; you ARE the universe, an intrinsic part of it. Ultimately you are not a person, but a focal point

where the universe is becoming conscious of itself. What an amazing miracle.”

If the past is a measure of the future, there is cause for both hope and caution over the next fourteen years. Because Neptune and Pisces are unitive by nature, this placement will flood the world with a unifying sensitivity and compassion that will be heartening. However, as Neptune floods the astral plane it will inadvertently result in much pain and suffering. In speaking to his disciples, Master D.K. says:

The astral plane is in a great state of turmoil today...caused by an increasing descent of the Christ energy from the buddhic plane into the astral plane—a necessary aggregation of spiritual forces of a strength sufficient to create a reservoir of this energy of which the Hierarchy can avail itself as it proceeds towards externalization. Of that force (which is astral-buddhic in nature) disciples such as yourself can take advantage. It carries the qualities of “embodied light,” sensitivity to the new incoming vibration, and protective pliancy—I know

Over the next few years Neptune in Pisces will soften the hard edges of crisis and change arising from the Uranus-Pluto squares by bringing people together in mutually supportive ways to challenge the old order. Moreover, when Saturn ingresses into Scorpio in the fall of this year it will trine Neptune in Pisces, inspiring vision, insight and constructive solutions to the problems that society is awakening to and being forced to face at this time.

not what other word to use. It can only be used by working disciples; therefore work, my brother, and let that penetrating energy find a channel through you.²⁹

During the journey through Pisces, Neptune, as represented by the Christ, will draw nearer to humanity and humanity will draw nearer to Him. His nature, which is ultimately Love, will be magnified and glorified as a principle of coherence. Love is the paramount universal language that every human being experiences on some level, even in its most rudimentary forms. It is the motivating power of the universe and the underlying motive of creation and the great unifier and interpreter that sees beyond the surface to the heart of every matter.

Love is not merely for the elite but for everyone. Whether one is a light worker or savage matters not to love, for love eventually finds a way to reveal its radiance through every living thing. We have all witnessed many levels of love in the world. We have stood in the presence of the heartless, the heartbroken, even the despicable, and have witnessed the miracle of love as it dissolves barriers and disarms selfishness, pain and differences. There is no greater, accessible power for our immediate use. Love heals, redeems, uplifts. Love includes all, values all and sees the sacred in all. It is the supreme factor of coherence, the glue which holds Spirit and Matter together.

In Rays and Initiations, we are told “where real love exists, it will produce the lessening of the personality will, the evocation of the sacrificial egoic will, and a constantly growing capacity to identify the group with the will or purpose of the Monad.”³⁰ We are also told that only love can open the door to the Way of the Higher Evolution and that “nothing else will open it.”³¹

Each time we say the second stanza of the Great Invocation the “Heart of God” is evoked through the planetary heart center, Hierarchy, that great transmitting agency of love. And yet how seldom are we a consciously willing instrument of love; or how often, do we really speak of love? It is almost as if we presume the presence of love without really acknowl-

edging it out loud and unreservedly. But if love were already realized, why is true love the aspiration of every initiate? As disciples we are the hands and feet of God. It is our dharma to be extensions of love, and wisdom will be the effect of our loving experience.

In *Discipleship in the New Age, Vol. II*, the Tibetan tells us that “too much has been written about it; too little understood; too much has been talked about love and not enough has been realized as to the task confronting Hierarchy as it transmits love. Love is the energy which must reach the hearts of men and which must fecundate humanity with the duality of loving-understanding—that is what is expressed when love and intelligence is brought together.”³² “Love governs the way into the life of Hierarchy and it is the foundation for all approach to, and appreciation and acceptance of truth.”³³

The thirteenth commandment that was given two thousand years ago, “Love one another” is far from being fully realized, but we can do our part and join Members of the Hierarchy in Their great endeavor. Love is the cosmic principle of Oneness. As we assert this fact we can support Neptune in Pisces in healing the world.

Conclusion

Over the next few years Neptune in Pisces will soften the hard edges of crisis and of change arising from the Uranus-Pluto squares by bringing people together in mutually supportive ways to challenge the old order. Moreover, when Saturn ingresses into Scorpio in the fall of this year it will trine Neptune in Pisces, inspiring vision, insight and constructive solutions to the problems that society is awakening to and being forced to face at this time.

Simultaneously, as Saturn enters Scorpio it will be in mutual reception to Pluto in Capricorn, strengthening and augmenting global changes with the value of shared responsibility. The first exact aspect between these two planets occurs just days after the portended end of the Mayan calendar, indicating a new beginning in the way we operate and do business which will promote responsibility and accountability, not only in the area of finance,

but in governance, politics and environmental sustainability.

Although the past two thousand years under the influence of the Piscean Age has done little to draw forth the sacred treasure of Pisces, perhaps Neptune's second journey through Pisces since its discovery will inform and enlighten us in new ways, causing humanity to symbolically "rise from the dead" once again. As past associations with the lower tendencies of Pisces, suffering, martyrdom and powerlessness on the cross of matter phase out, and the power to resurrect life grows, it may bring the revelation of a new world order to life.

The initial ingress chart for Neptune in Pisces, with six planets in Aries, supports and reinforces the idea that a new mythology around Neptune and Pisces is emerging that will be more closely allied with the Will of God or Life aspect. We are taught that the higher aspect of the energy of Pisces "is awareness of the group, of the whole and of the universe,"³⁴ so perhaps this new phase of our evolutionary journey will ultimately deepen our identification with the Oneness of all life.

The nature of Neptune will be abundantly expressed during its transit through Pisces and, undoubtedly, it will be a daring sea adventure that will require skillful navigation. Like the sea, Neptune in Pisces represents forces of nature beyond our control that cannot be tamed or contained, but can be worked with co-creatively. If we can allow these mighty currents to move us and guide us in the direction of universality and lift us above the chaos of the astral plane, we may eventually come to know that we are our brother's keeper only in the sense that we ARE our brothers and they are us.

As the idea that we are inextricably interwoven and greater than our individual parts begins to dawn on more of humanity; as we begin to release thick layers of personal desire, cherished self-orientation and the need to be constantly validated and special, we will begin to liberate ourselves from the chains which bind us. Lines of demarcation will definitely soften under Neptune in Pisces, but it will be up to those Soul conscious individuals and groups to

channel this vast energy into a divine work of art for the benefit of all mankind.

-
- ¹ Arundhati Roy, *War Talk* (Cambridge, Mass: South End Press, 2003).
 - ² http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Accelerating_universe (accessed January 3, 2012).
 - ³ <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews-northamerica/usa/3222476/Suns-protective-bubble-is-shrinking.html> (accessed January 5, 2012)
 - ⁴ <http://arstechnica.com/science/news/2006/03-3086.ars> (accessed January 5, 2012).
 - ⁵ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geomagnetic_reversal (accessed January 5, 2012).
 - ⁶ Alice A. Bailey, *Esoteric Astrology* (New York, NY: Lucis Publishing, 1951), 350.
 - ⁷ *Ibid.*, 129
 - ⁸ Alice A. Bailey, *The Rays and the Initiations* (New York, NY: Lucis Trust Publishing, 1960), 88.
 - ⁹ <http://www.lunarplanner.com/HCpages/Venus.html> (accessed January 21, 2012).
 - ¹⁰ Meister Eckhart, *The Nearness of God Sermon*, <http://www.ccel.org/ccel/eckhart/sermons.v.htm> (accessed January 24, 2012).
 - ¹¹ <http://www.wussu.com/laotzu/laotzu08.html> (accessed March 3, 2012).
 - ¹² Alice A. Bailey, *Esoteric Astrology* (New York, NY: Lucis Publishing, 1951), 220.
 - ¹³ Jan Detrich, *The Age of Aquarius*, <http://whenthe-soulawakens.org/jan-detrich-on-thesetimes-320.html> (accessed January 3, 2012).
 - ¹⁴ Alice A. Bailey, *Discipleship in the New Age II* (New York, NY: Lucis Publishing 1983), 266.
 - ¹⁵ Alice A. Bailey, *Destiny of the Nations* (New York, NY: Lucis Publishing, 1977), 39.
 - ¹⁶ Alice A. Bailey, *The Rays and the Initiations* (New York, NY: Lucis Trust Publishing, 1960), 45.
 - ¹⁷ *Ibid.*, 130.
 - ¹⁸ Alice A. Bailey, *Esoteric Astrology* (New York, NY: Lucis Publishing, 1951), 218.
 - ¹⁹ Helena Roerich, *Heart* (New York, NY: Agni Yoga Society, 1932), 99.
 - ²⁰ Alice A. Bailey, *A Treatise on Cosmic Fire* (New York, NY: Lucis Publishing, 1979), 569.
 - ²¹ http://www.opednews.com/butler041704_jeferson_feminine.htm (accessed February 7, 2012).
 - ²² Uncle John, Iroquois Elder as shared by ChoQosh Auh-Ho-Oh, a Chumash teacher, at the Y2K conference in Oakland, California, in February 1998.

-
- ²³ <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spiritualism> (accessed January 15, 2012).
- ²⁴ <http://www.blavatsky.net/blavatsky/arts/Drift-OfWesternSpiritualism.htm> (accessed January 15, 2012).
- ²⁵ http://www.khaldea.com/rudhyar/pofl/pofl_p2-s12p2.shtml (accessed March 16, 2012).
- ²⁶ Alice A. Bailey, *Externalization of Hierarchy* (New York, NY: Lucis Publishing, 1985), 55-56.
- ²⁷ *Ibid.*, 202.
- ²⁸ <http://www.ccel.org/ccel/eckhart/sermons.v.html> (accessed March 22, 2012).
- ²⁹ Alice A. Bailey, *Externalization of Hierarchy* (New York, NY: Lucis Publishing, 1985), 749.
- ³⁰ Alice A. Bailey, *The Rays and the Initiations* (New York, NY: Lucis Trust Publishing, 1960), 33.
- ³¹ *Ibid.*, 328.
- ³² Alice A. Bailey, *Discipleship in the New Age II* (New York, NY: Lucis Publishing 1983), 158-9.
- ³³ Alice A. Bailey, *The Rays and the Initiations* (New York, NY: Lucis Trust Publishing, 1960), 46.
- ³⁴ Alice A. Bailey, *Esoteric Astrology* (New York, NY: Lucis Publishing, 1951), 471.