

**astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts**

Fishing Guide to the Stars by Kramer Wetzel

2009 — the complete horoscope archives.

**For more info, see:
astrofish.net/book**

ISBN 0-9744983-7-8

**astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts**

Table of Contents:

<i>For the week starting: 1.1.2009</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>For the week starting: 1.8.2009</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>For the week starting: 1.15.2009</i>	<i>29</i>
<i>For the week starting: 1.22.2009</i>	<i>38</i>
<i>For the week starting: 1.29.2009</i>	<i>50</i>
<i>For the week starting: 2.5.2009</i>	<i>62</i>
<i>For the week starting: 2/12/2009</i>	<i>73</i>
<i>For the week starting: 2/19/2009</i>	<i>84</i>
<i>For the week starting: 2/26/2009</i>	<i>95</i>
<i>For the week starting: 3/5/2009</i>	<i>105</i>
<i>For the week starting: 3/12/2009</i>	<i>116</i>
<i>For the week starting: 3.19.2009</i>	<i>128</i>
<i>For the week starting: 3.26.09</i>	<i>138</i>
<i>For the week starting: 4.2.09</i>	<i>149</i>
<i>For the week starting: 4.9.2009</i>	<i>160</i>
<i>For the week starting: 4.16.09</i>	<i>171</i>
<i>For the week starting: 4.23.209</i>	<i>181</i>
<i>For the week starting: 5.7.2009</i>	<i>192</i>
<i>For the week starting: 5.14.2009</i>	<i>202</i>
<i>For the week starting: 5/21/2009</i>	<i>212</i>
<i>For the week starting: 5.28.2009</i>	<i>222</i>
<i>For the week starting: 6.4.2009</i>	<i>232</i>
<i>For the week starting: 6.11.2009</i>	<i>241</i>

**astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts**

<i>For the week starting: 6.18.2009</i>	<i>250</i>
<i>For the week starting: 6.25.2009</i>	<i>260</i>
<i>For the week starting: 7.2.2009</i>	<i>270</i>
<i>For the week starting: 7/9/2009</i>	<i>282</i>
<i>For the week starting: 7.16.2009</i>	<i>291</i>
<i>For the week starting: 7.23.2009</i>	<i>301</i>
<i>For the week starting: 7.30.2009</i>	<i>310</i>
<i>For the week starting: 8/6/2009</i>	<i>320</i>
<i>For the week starting: 8/13/2009</i>	<i>330</i>
<i>For the week starting: 8/20/2009</i>	<i>341</i>
<i>For the week starting: 8/27/2009</i>	<i>350</i>
<i>For the week starting: 9/3/2009</i>	<i>358</i>
<i>For the week starting: 9/10/2009</i>	<i>368</i>
<i>For the week starting: 9/17/2009</i>	<i>377</i>
<i>For the week starting: 9/24/2009</i>	<i>387</i>
<i>For the week starting: 10/1/2009</i>	<i>397</i>
<i>For the week starting: 10/8/12009</i>	<i>407</i>
<i>For the week starting: 10/8/12009</i>	<i>416</i>
<i>For the week starting: 10/15/2009</i>	<i>425</i>
<i>For the week starting: 10/22/2009</i>	<i>435</i>
<i>For the week starting: 10/29/2009</i>	<i>445</i>
<i>For the week starting: 11/5/2009</i>	<i>455</i>
<i>For the week starting: 11/12/2009</i>	<i>464</i>
<i>For the week starting: 11.19.2009</i>	<i>474</i>

**astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts**

<i>For the week starting: 11.26.2009</i>	<i>483</i>
<i>For the week starting: 12.3.2009</i>	<i>492</i>
<i>For the week starting: 12.10.2009</i>	<i>502</i>
<i>For the week starting: 12/17/2009</i>	<i>517</i>
<i>For the week starting: Dec. 24, 2009</i>	<i>535</i>
<i>For the week starting: 12.31.2009</i>	<i>545</i>
<i>The Fine Print:</i>	<i>558</i>

**astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts**

For the week starting: 1.1.2009

"I summon up remembrance of things past."

Shakespeare's Sonnet 30 (line 2).

The year ahead: 2009.

Mercury [Retrogrades](#) Jan. 11 to 21 (Aquarius-Capricorn), May 7 to 22 (One degree Gemini - Taurus), Sep. 7 to the 28th (Libra-Virgo), Dec. 21 to Jan 14 (Capricorn). I hold that there's a theme to a retrograde pattern, and looking at the obvious [symbolism](#) here, starting in Air signs and retrograding back into Earth signs? That's doing the Mercury thing where the planet calls for review, revision, and renewal in matters that are thoughts (Air) realized on planet Earth (Earth). *Thinking makes it so.* The test comes at the end of the year as Mars turns retrograde in Leo and the following year is about Mercury Retrograde in Earth signs. However, this is just part of a larger pattern.

Jupiter basically spends the entire year in Aquarius, and Saturn is (still) in Virgo. Venus RX from Mar. 5 until Apr. 15, in Aries, but tapping the last of Pisces. Mars starts an RX [pattern](#) in Leo, around Dec. 20, 2009 (until March 2010).

**Want to know more?
Astrology chart shop & real, live readings —
order [here](#).**

 ASTROFISH.NET



CAPRICORN

Capricorn: There's a lame [joke](#) about limping [forward](#) and [hobbling](#) into the new year. More than one of my little Capricorn friends will be like that, though, limping, hobbling, walking with crutches, and these can be for real, or they can be imaginary. The challenges are here, and yet, there's also birthdays and there's also, this I like, a quiet sense of optimism, although, I'm sure, at least one of my Capricorn

[astrofish.net](#)

— page 5 —

friends will claim that there is no optimism and there is nothing to be hopeful about. At all.

Jupiter and Mercury slide on into Aquarius but this will bring a little less tension in your own Sun Sign. Still have Mars, and you just better get used to that. Mars is a hot frying pan. You can get burned, or you can cook up something nice. Since Jupiter (and Mercury) are checking out? How about cooking up something good. There's also a sense that the frantic pace is slowing down. Have a good one. Watch out for the Mars activity that winds up with you limping into the new year. Wait, we've already used that lame joke.

**Want to know more?
Astrology chart shop & real, live readings —
order [here](#).**

 **ASTROFISH.NET**



AQUARIUS

Aquarius: [Weird energy](#), that's for sure, huh? Jupiter and Mercury slip on into Aquarius, but that doesn't mean it's time to go full throttle just yet. Jupiter is like a sword, a double-edged sword. Cuts both ways. The upside is Jupiter makes us feel good and brings good fortune. The [problem](#) side is that Jupiter brings the promise of good fortune and the illusion of monetary wealth.

Typically, an Aquarius doesn't fall prey to the [illusory](#) world of make-believe. The challenge as this year stars out is to not spend the promised money until the cash arrives. I've got an Aquarius client, just like week, got a huge check for services rendered (business deal). Check didn't clear for ten days, which meant, although the money was there, it wasn't really there yet. That's what this is all about. The money that's there but not there. Means the Xmas bonus I was hoping for probably won't arrive until next week. The way

not to do this? Send me the bonus now and hope that the check clears. All I'm trying to do is prevent a cascading money domino effect. In Aquarius. Because of Jupiter.

Want to know more?
Astrology chart shop & real, live readings —
order [here](#).



Pisces: I got it as a joke, a gift for my sister. It's a "glow in the dark Virgin Mary," and somehow, the gift never made to my sister. The tacky religious icon has traveled with me for years. After the last migration, the little symbol wound up on my desk.

I think I've been meaning to give that to my sister for several years. But, in a way, I like it, too. The Virgin Mary, or maybe it's Vigen de Guadalupe, I'm not sure, but the little icon carries some extra symbolism with me, the principle of the goddess hidden in plain view, in a frankly patriarchal religion. And I'm not really prepared to debate merits or points about the religions. I could very easily be wrong, and that's just my opinion that it's the image of the goddess hidden in plain view.

Certainly don't want to piss off any fundamentally Christian believers. Not me, wouldn't want to do that at all. This is about hiding something in plain sight. With Saturn and Uranus heading toward that ticklish point again, I'd suggest that even hiding something in plain sight? No matter what you do, I'm sure some authority figure is liable to whack you. Whatever you do, don't invoke the ire of certain staid and conservative voices. But that little icon is pretty cool. Glows in the dark, too. The glow in the dark is just kind of eerie at times.

Want to know more?
Astrology chart shop & real, live readings —
order [here](#).

 **ASTROFISH.NET**

 **ARIES**

Aries: This new year starts a [little rough](#). Not as [smoothly](#) as you would like, It's not without some [benefits](#), it's just that it doesn't get off to a good start, not right away. "So it begins badly, that it?" Aries asks.

No, I just said "not as smoothly" as one would like. There's a bit of a rough patch. This less about the overall Aries situation and more about headway you're just not making at this moment. There's a slowdown, a general letdown, a universal concept that hits between Xmas and New Year's. A kind of ennui, a realization that there's another calendar year and some things haven't improved as much as we wanted them to.

What can you do, now it looks hopeless, and suddenly, I'm writing about a rough patch. "So it's all bad?" That's not the hint. The idea is that it's a good time to slow down the Aries rush to get stuff done. The rough patch requires finesse to negotiate. Just try slowing down for the next couple of days, get everything done.

Want to know more?
Astrology chart shop & real, live readings —
order [here](#).



Taurus: Not many people can truly jump into the new year with the glee and awe percolating in [Taurus](#). But it is that good. There's just one inclination after another that indicates good stuff. So it's there, at least, astrologically, it's all there. The good stuff from the heavens is available, [free](#), for the taking, in Taurus. For Taurus. I suppose, the only point that matters, though, is that this is free, for the taking. The good stuff, the goal, the goals, whatever it is that you're looking for, whatever it is that you seek, that one item, that one destination, it's all there.

Go for it. I suppose, the real key, the way to [start](#) this year? Instead of thinking about what it is you want? Instead of mulling over the decision? Just grab and go. Wrap your hand, or hands, around what it is that you want and give that a good tug. Should fall right into your grasp.

Want to know more?
Astrology chart shop & real, live readings —
order [here](#).



Gemini: The microwave oven is a [miraculous invention](#). I'm not sure who dreamed it up. Who ever came up with the idea of cooking food by banging the electrons together? Or alternating the current between the poles of the electrons in the fat and water? Pretty clever.

From what I've gathered, the microwave oven was a happy

by-product from an auto-didactic engineer working on some other project. And soon it became an industry. The microwave "radar range" cooks food in a very short time. It is the perfect [Gemini](#) tool. Like that fast-cooking oven, though, there is a warning or two. Some flavor is lost. Some portion of food's desirable qualities is lost. Like, say, the burger patty I was about to nuke. For me, it works just fine. I'm dining alone, sitting here, struggling with a way to get message across to Gemini, and I pop the burger in the microwave for a couple of minutes, it pops, sizzles, and the burger is done, more or less, in a few minutes. No mess, no fuss.

But it lacks that appeal of "real smoke flavor," and the greasy meat byproducts in the bottom of a frying pan. Some things in Gemini, as much as you would like it to work like a microwave? Some things are better the old-fashioned way, takes longer.

**Want to know more?
Astrology chart shop & real, live readings —
order [here](#).**

 **ASTROFISH.NET**


CANCER

Cancer: This New Year couldn't come at a better time, not with what's kicking up dust. There's almost a [conspiracy](#) to make my darling Cancer friends take a close and hard look at certain issues. Give [that](#) some consideration. The [Sun](#) is at a halfway point in your chart, sort of like a "half-birthday." That's as good a time as any, probably even better for you, to stop and think about what you want, what you don't want, and what needs to be changed.

Sweeping changes are usually a tall order, the big New Years' Resolutions are soon followed by abysmal failure.

However, the "I'm going to work out EVERY DAY" soon becomes the forgotten wish amid a pile of fast-food take-out containers.

Mars is opposite you, as well as the Sun. Mars is all about picking and choosing the New Years' Resolutions you want to keep. I'd stick with the workout plan, especially considering Mars, but I'd plan to temper that plan with reason, logic and simple physical limits. 7 days a week? Who are you kidding? Two, three or even five for the next month, that should be good enough.

Want to know more?
Astrology chart shop & real, live readings —
order [here](#).

 **ASTROFISH.NET**

 **THE**
LEO

Leo: [Shut](#) up and let it be good. [Sure](#), that's a [twisted](#) humorist at work in your own life, the Leo Life (should be trademarked). Instead of trying to summon up superhuman feats of will power and derring-do, consider sitting back and letting this material roll past you.

I was thinking, January 2nd, 2009, you think you should be on [holiday](#). Here's a hint: no. Go to work. Go to the office, the garage, the shop, go wherever it is that you do that stuff called work. You can stamp a Leo foot and scream at me, but let's be realistic.

Holiday is over, you get to work one day while most of the people call in sick, or some people fail to show up at all, for no known reason, other than, it is the first Friday and it ought to be a holiday. But it's not. I'm suggesting you jump right on in and get to work Get a jump start on the rest of the other fools this year. Finally get one up on everyone

else. You probably didn't really get a lot accomplished, other than look good, which was the point of this exercise, anyway. Means you win when everyone else -- who didn't show up on Friday -- looks like losers.

Want to know more?
Astrology chart shop & real, live readings —
order [here](#).

 ASTROFISH.NET

 VIRGO

Virgo: "Pause and reflect, pause and reflect, well, [Mr. Astrofish \(dot net\)](#), pause and reflect on this!" Sounds a lot like an [irritable](#) Virgo. I'd use a cooing tone in my voice but that would only serve to irritate the already irritable Virgo even more. What's worse, if I tried to act like I was making an attempt to soothe a situation, then I'd be interpreted as a further irritant.

Saturn is backwards but just about everything else is forwards, and we're finally getting some kind of a break, in a number of areas. One of those areas where we're not getting any kind of relief, though? That would be in the "pissing me off" area. Virgo area of being irritable.

Sometimes big, sometimes little, but the hot items are there. In plain sight. Some people, not a Virgo, would suggest that an issue so plainly laid out deserves attention which, if you look at it, is part of the problem because some of these "plainly laid out" issues don't warrant the attention they are getting. Hence the irritable nature of Virgo. The best way to keep from saying -- or doing -- something you might regret later? Pause and reflect.

Want to know more?
Astrology chart shop & real, live readings —
order [here](#).

 **ASTROFISH.NET**



LIBRA

Libra: Since I haven't won a lottery, I've found that time and money are [limited](#) commodities. Since I don't really see a Libra lucky streak in the next few days, or even in the next few weeks, I'd suggest you follow my example, and consider [working](#). Consider, too, that I wasn't very busy last [week](#), last month. And here it is, the beginning of the new year and suddenly I'm Mr. Popular.

I don't have a lot of time to just chit-chat; I don't have much free time to just shoot the breeze. I'm not getting to fish as much as I would like, and you're in much the same boat. Position really, as neither you nor I are going to be in a boat any time too soon. Not a bass boat, anyway, although, I do like the idea. But we're back up against the problem of time and money, not a lot of either. Which means, for the time being, stick to [business](#).

Want to know more?
Astrology chart shop & real, live readings —
order [here](#).

 **ASTROFISH.NET**



Scorpio: "Yes, yes, no." Repeat. "Yes, yes, no." [Repeat](#). I've found that there's a rhythm that goes with the way the

planets stack up for the Scorpio sector. And it's that "Yes, yes, no" beat. Two positive, one negative, a gain of 2 out of 3. Slow, moving forward.

One Scorpio will complain and suggest that it's not 2/3's, it's only one-half because it's 2 forward, one back, yielding an obvious gain of no more than 50 per cent. I can argue the semantic and semiotics of the situation, or the statistics, but there's a stuttering quality to the progress being made. It's lurching forward, maybe not as graceful as a Scorpio would desire, but it is moving in a forward direction.

There will be setbacks, too, I can promise that, but the setbacks, the little challenges along the way, they are nothing more than reminders that the progress is not without a bit of struggle. Originally, I was going to try and suggest a musical allusion, but this bet, the Scorpio music playing? It doesn't have a regular rhythm. That might be the biggest problem of all.

Want to know more?
Astrology chart shop & real, live readings —
order [here](#).

 **ASTROFISH.NET**



SAGITTARIUS

[Sagittarius](#): "Pause and reflect," it's like a theme song for me, or something. Maybe more of the "or something" department. I would hope. I took one look at our charts, and I was glad. I'm not facing any kind of an obstacle, hurdles or any other impediment in the immediate future.

However, there is a select few of the [Sagittarius](#) who will be facing a problem. I feel your pain. I've been there. Stop and assess directions. Not a typical Sagittarius trait, we're more "shoot from the hip," and worry about collateral damage,

**astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts**

like, in another lifetime or something. But for my select few Sagittarius friends, that's not going to work.

Me? I'm done with it. "Been there, done that," and now I've moved on. You can follow me by moving on, if you stop and assess your directions. You know, the usual routine at the beginning of the new [calendar](#) year? What works, what doesn't work, what we can change, what we would like to change, but it's out of our power to change? Need to find that work-around. Which gets back to the "pause and reflect" comment.

**Want to know more?
Astrology chart shop & real, live readings —
order [here](#).**

All Rights Reserved
[copyright](#) (c) 2008, 2009 [Kramer Wetzel](#), for [astrofish.net](#)

For the week starting: 1.8.2009

"With the help of a surgeon he might yet recover, and prove an ass."

Theseus in Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (V.i. 303)

Theseus is referring, of course, to Bottom who is playing in a play (which is inside a play).

Perfect [play](#) for [Mercury](#) being [backwards](#) (Pyramis and Thisbee in *Midsummer's Night*).



CAPRICORN

Capricorn: "How do you [deal](#) with a [Capricorn](#)?" I was minding my own business, for a change, and the girl behind the counter asked me that. Further elucidation was that the Capricorn in question? Being a bit difficult. Always had something nasty to say. Foul of temper. Mean of mouth. Tight with money, too.

Sounds normal, at least, to me it does. Get a Capricorn on a bad day? Yeah, could be like that. My suggestion? Clip this out and hand to anyone you have to deal with in the next few days, but my suggestion?

Despite the apparently gruff exterior of the [Capricorn](#), there's a little, soft, cuddly -- and sensitive -- person there. Don't come down on that Capricorn too hard. Now, the chances of someone listening to [my advice](#) on how to deal with a Capricorn? Not very good. Unless, like I suggested, you cut this out and hand it over.

Since we don't see that happening enough, maybe if you stop and realize that your jokes, jibes and asides? Maybe those don't get properly dealt with, and perchance, my darling Capricorn, the other folk find you a tad grumpy. Appearing. I realize that it's irony and sarcasm. You know

that. But the other people? I doubt it. Oh well, after reading this, you know you can chalk it up to [Mercury](#).



Compare prices

(still cheaper than coffee)

subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)

\$2.95 for 30 days' access.

ASTROFISH.NET



AQUARIUS

Aquarius: I got it, a great analogy. See, [where](#) I live, it just doesn't get very cold in the winter. Every once in a while, we'll get freezing temperatures for more than a few days, but not all that often. About every third year or so, there's a chance of freezing rain and snow, but not every year. Which is why, when I was walking in the historical section, I was marveling at the fireplaces the old, hundred-year-old homes had.

Several manses with two -- or more -- real, working at one time, chimneys. I can't see that this is a real issue though, other than as a holdover from a nostalgic era. The fireplaces are next to worthless about 11 months out of the year, and some years? Only useful if the AC is blowing cold.

However, I'm sure, back in the good old days, these fireplaces were useful for warming the home or something. Maybe for roasting huge sides of beef. Who knows? Think about a fireplace. Think about how it requires fuel to burn.

Think about how the fuel, firewood, has to be cut, gathered, stacked, and saved for the winter months. It is now the winter months. You did have some firewood saved up, didn't you? I mentioned this [earlier](#), didn't I?

The weekly video is [here](#).



Pisces: The new year has started and the silly [season](#) is [upon](#) us. Mercury is backwards, and there isn't a lot that can be done to save you at this time. Not that you really need saving, either.

Point: Mercury is Retrograde.

Point: Mercury is in Aquarius.

Point: Venus is in Pisces.

Point: you're a Pisces.

Like I've suggested, it all points to the silly season being upon us. Outlandish goals, declarations of "true love," and all other manners of silliness? Watch it. If it's not you making the declarations, perhaps someone is foisting this upon your gentle Pisces nature. And that's the problem between the two inner planets, Venus and Mercury, there's a little bit of confusion.

I'd take all of this information and treat this like it was the beginning of what will be a long and tortured silly season. Never underestimate the lack of common sense in other people, [other signs](#). Which is no excuse for this to affect you, but it probably will.

"You did *what?*"

Compare prices
How much do you pay for morning coffee?

subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)

\$2.95 for 30 days' access.



 **ASTROFISH.NET**

 **ARIES**

Aries: One part about corporations that I never [understood](#)? One of the things that I never quite grasped, just as a concept? The fiscal year. "Our fiscal year ends in June." I don't understand that. My fiscal year, my end of the year, and the new year holiday, all coincide

I doubt I could get away with telling my tax man that I concluded my fiscal year in June, or July, or November, or whenever. I'm sure that the tax guy still wants to see my records for the whole year, and I'm sure that what I owe is predicated on what [income](#) actually came in during said calendar [year](#). I'm not going to get away with any kind of fancy finagling to get out of taxes.

If I were a giant corporation with an army of tax advisors, I might get away with fewer taxes. But that gain in less taxes is lost on the army of accountants and lawyers. What's the point? Which is the question you must ask yourself. About taxes? No, that's not the point, the planetary point is about cost. As in, "At what cost," like, what does it cost to pay all those lawyers and tax guys, just to save a few dollars in

taxes? I doubt it's fiscal, and I doubt it's taxes, but weigh out a decision, and think about the cost versus the benefit. Sometimes, it's just easier to pay up.



Taurus: There's one version of [Shakespeare's A Midsummer's Night Dream](#) that's been floating around for close to ten years, in fact, I think I've got it on DVD. I tend to not buy too many movies on DVD but I did like that one version. It was everything a good stage version was, and with the added effects of movie-Hollywood make-believe? Just the right touch of fantasy.

Part of that movie version's success was the classically trained actors. Always a benefit. But then, there's also an element of willing suspension of disbelief, and mix in the fantasy itself. A little myth, a little magic, and it's all entertainment.

We're in the middle of a long, cold winter here. A midsummer movie is what's in order. There's a certain amount of Taurus merry-making that needs to occur. I'm not suggesting a long vacation, a short trip to a summer-like fantasy land is in order. Or a winter wonderland, I mean whatever works for your Taurus self. Personally, a good vacation? Like that movie, just about two hours, five acts, everyone lives happily ever after. Perfect cure for the Mercury [missteps](#).

Or, as Puck would say?

"If we shadows have offended, think but this and all is mended." (&c.)



Compare prices

(still cheaper than coffee)

subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)

\$2.95 for 30 days' access.

 **ASTROFISH.NET**

II Gemini

Gemini: The worst part about the New Year's [tradition](#) of resolutions is the way the [promises get broken](#). It's not so much promises to other people, other than the "other people" might refer to different aspects of the Gemini personalities. This Mercurial period is about breaking promises to yourself. Which, to some, is really worse than going back on your word to someone else because, as a Gemini, you made one -- or more -- of those "This is the year I will (blah blah blah)." And those promises are already crumbling.

Your great ideas, hopes, aspirations and dreams, wishes even, for the coming year? Dashed. Crushed. Smashed to smithereens already. Regulated to the recycle heap like so many leftover decorations. And what's worse? You broke a promise to yourself.

Very few of my fine Gemini friends are standing by what they started with. Very few of them are sticking to their original plans. However, I'd like to suggest an alternative, can we, say, in about three weeks, come back and revisit

those goals, ideas and aspirations? Don't just throw out the whole idea because you've had a momentary lapse in good judgment. Do like [me](#), you can blame [Mercury](#) instead of yourself. Let's make a vow to revisit this in a couple of weeks.



Cancer: I will promise you, in the next week, someone will royally piss you off. I don't mean a slight snide comment. I don't mean an accidental, "Oops didn't see you" mistake. No, I'm talking about the kind of pissed off the likes of which most people have never seen within you. And we probably don't want to see, too. It's not all bad, or, to a certain extent, it is all bad.

I'm not the one getting bent out of shape, enraged, engorged with anger. It's not me. It might not happen, too. But my wager, if I were to bet on this, is that someone will, in the next seven to ten days, really, really, royally, piss you off. Now that you have a clear image of what I'm describing, an irate energy directed at someone -- or something -- who -- or what -- is at cross purposes with your Cancer self?

Consider Mercury being backwards, and consider that there's a really good chance that the root problem isn't what it appears to be. Your enemy, in the next week -- maybe ten days? Even though you're good and steamed? Keep a tight rein on that Cancer ire. Or keep a tight reign on the royally pissed off stuff. There is a time to explode. I'm just saying that now isn't the time.

Compare prices
How much do you pay for morning coffee?
subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)
\$2.95 for 30 days' access.



 **ASTROFISH.NET**

 **THE
LEO**

Leo: I [opened](#) a cupboard and a coffee mug tumbled out. Smashed to itty-bitty pieces on the hard floor. I remember where that mug came from, a special, almost sentimental value to the cup, a small coffee shop in the Hill Country, an independent place with mugs that were hand-fired so no two were exactly alike. I liked that one mug because it was smaller than the rest, more along the lines of an espresso cup. Didn't know I had a sentimental side, did you?

This isn't about sentimental, though, and after all, it was only a coffee mug, and I've already received my use from its dollar value. Sentimental value can't be replaced, but that's not what this is about. That Mercury [situation](#), it's just like that coffee mug falling out of my cabinet. Time to get rid of something. I prefer to think of it as the objects themselves adhering to some kind of natural selection process. However, I do listen when that happens. Or [pay](#) attention. It just means that I had too many coffee cups in the first place. Needed a volunteer. Got one, too, as it leapt out of the cabinet.



Virgo: One Virgo I know, client, really, she's highly amusing when Mercury is backwards. She refuses to do anything. Won't pay bills, won't make calls, won't answer e-mails, won't send me money she owes me. However, I knew this before we had a transaction, and it's just one Virgo. Not all of them are quite that serious when paying attention to [astrology indications](#). Besides, this is only one tiny planet, [Mercury](#), and the rest of the material for Virgo is kind of good.

"Kind of good? That's it? Probably means it sucks! Oh, why do you hate Virgo so much?" Well. Actually. Really.

No, I mean, what I mean is there's a kind of influence, a good one at that, working its way around the chart. It's not in full force yet, but there's going to be a hint, a possibility, something, perhaps an accidental discovery? Maybe one of your miscues works into a new idea? Maybe you do something that surprises you with unlimited possibilities? There's some middle ground here, too.

Between the unlimited possibilities from Mercury-inspired mistakes to the "do nothing at all" attitude, some place in between, there's safe haven for Virgo. Won't last long, but between the two extremes? I'm sure you can find a little bit of peace.

Compare prices
How much do you pay for morning coffee?

subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)

\$2.95 for 30 days' access.



 ASTROFISH.NET

LIB

LIBRA

Libra: First of the new year, [Mercury](#) is [backwards](#), and what we can agree upon, together, you and me? Let's agree that we don't agree about a few things. There's going to be a difference of opinion. Not that this is bad, or problematic, just different.

It's perfectly all right to express your opinion. It's well within your rights to state your case. It's good to let us (non-Libra) people know where your Libra self stands. This can be a personal [issue](#), a work [issue](#), a political issue, ethical, moral, whatever kind of issue. I tend to see this as a more personal kind of point. Now, you know that when Mercury is backwards, communications get all fouled up. Can't fix that.

What you can do is plainly state the problem, address the issue -- as your Libra self sees it at that time -- and then move on to the next topic. Stubbornly refuse to move after you've made your point? Doesn't become you. Besides, with Mercury backwards, the problem I see is that you don't see the whole problem. I am not, in the least, inferring that

you're wrong, misguided or pigheaded. But if you stubbornly refuse to move after you've made your position clear? You could appear that way.



Scorpio: I think I've still got the [tracks](#) I worked with, and I had the original [albums](#) (12-inch vinyl) then the cassettes and finally, the CDs. So I'm sure I purchased at least one of those tracks three times over before I tried it. I was working on a [mash-up](#), layering alternating tracks of music together. [DJ Kramer style](#). Only, I found out just how hard it was to sync the tracks, master the mix and spit it out so that it was good quality creation. I'd found some on a DJ's website, mash-up music, and some of it was pretty [entertaining](#). But that DJ was using lyrical references I could grasp. Enjoy, even. Made the results very entertaining.

While I have the technical grasp, the little software that can mix musical tracks, right here, in my hands, and while I get the fundamental understanding of the process, my results? My efforts, after several hours, were, at best, amusing. I liked what I was doing, but it was also rather labor-intensive. More work than I realized. Which made the other combinations I listened to that much more entertaining. I could see how a lot of effort went into combining, coaxing the pitch to land at just the right place. Getting beats to match. Hard work. More work than I was really prepared to do. I didn't see it through to a final compilation. Mash-up, sort of a gray area for copyrights, I'm sure, is what your week is like.

Now, if you spend enough time on this project, it might be a big hit. Mine? Yeah, well, I'm not a [Scorpio](#), and I obviously didn't work on it enough.

Compare prices
How much do you pay for morning coffee?

subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)

\$2.95 for 30 days' access.



 **ASTROFISH.NET**



SAGITTARIUS

Sagittarius: There is a very simple way to get by. I tend to write for a week at a time, but this might apply for the next couple of weeks. I'm not sure. Check back next week, and I'll see if I've changed my mind. It's a matter of just getting out of the way. Not so much getting out of the way, but not getting in the way.

Side-stepping issues. Avoiding confrontations. Slipping out the side (exit) door when no one is looking.

I stopped by to see a particular retail merchant I know, and there was a hand-lettered sign in her store's window, "Back at 4." Door was locked. Not much of an explanation, but then, some days, not much is needed. I was obviously working on this before Xmas so she was missing a possible Xmas sale. But I also doubt that I would count as much. And as a fellow Sagittarius or a Sagittarius Sister-in-Arms, that little note sticky-taped to the front door of her store? Good idea. A wise move for Sagittarius at this point, Duck out, head out, light out, just get out, out of what? Out of the way.

**Want to know more?
Astrology chart shop & real, live readings —
order [here](#).**

All Rights Reserved
[copyright](#) (c) 2008, 2009 [Kramer Wetzel](#), for [astrofish.net](#)

For the week starting: 1.15.2009

"Take with thee my most grievous curse."

Shakespeare's *Richard III* (IV.iv.188)

Guy was having a [bad day](#). Mercury RX [mistake video](#).



CAPRICORN

Capricorn: I was [bunked](#) down with a buddy of mine, two beds to a suite at this motel. While I prefer to bunk alone, it was just cheaper, and besides, it was a [business](#) junket, and I didn't anticipate any problems. I got to learn a little more about my friend than I wanted to learn, though.

Hotels provide the little in-room coffee maker. My buddy likes fresh-brewed, strong-ass coffee. I like my in-room coffee just normal, I guess. I watched in horror as he opened up the first packet of coffee filter coffee, then the second, then the decaffeinated filter package, too. That's, by my count, three times as much coffee as necessary. That's stronger than most espresso I tend to favor.

That's also too much. Too much information, and that buddy, I doubt I'll ever bunk with [him](#) again. Or, for that matter, trust his home-brew coffee. After watching the way he made hotel coffee, I'm wondering what he would do with the stuff at home, or something besides coffee. I'm all about going along for the ride, but from that point, when you see what the results will be, and if that doesn't work for your Capricorn self? Next time? Get a room by yourself. Or, here, I'll give you my buddy's [number](#), and you can check out his concoctions yourself, if you so dare.



AQUARIUS

Aquarius: There's a concierge [service](#) that I've used from time to time. More as them referring me rather than me paying someone to pick up my dry cleaning, it's just that the two of us are in service-oriented businesses, and as such, seem to run into to each other.

I got to ask a few questions, and I was looking for weird, not normal weird, but really [weird](#). Nothing like "fill a bathtub with champagne, fill a hotel room with girls," no, not like that. Because, basically, that isn't really weird. His story was a client who wanted every Milton Bradley board game available. "We hit, like, fifteen wal-marts, and close to a dozen Toys-R-Us, didn't know there were so many."

Turns out, there were well over a dozen kinds of board games available. Who knew? With the current array of planet influences, I was looking for something that would properly convey the idea that this is a quest, and it's a quest for something out of the ordinary. What it really amounted to, though, was that the real search was for a [Ouija Board](#). If you really need one of those? [I'm available, too.](#)



Mariachis
charge \$500
Per Song
(Musicians are Free-Lance)

Compare prices
(still cheaper than **Mariachis**)
subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)
\$2.95 for 30 days' access.



Pisces: Buddy of mine, in [San Antonio](#), he's Irish. Not sort of Irish, but full-blooded, card-carrying, soccer-paying Irish maniac. As only the Irish can do. I admire the ethnic group called "Irish" because adversity just makes them stronger, meaner, and funnier. Although, after enough beer to drown a normal man, I can't understand my Irish buddy, as his accent gets thicker and thicker. But that's not what this is about, it was a few days before Xmas.

I saw my buddy, in passing, wished him a merry Xmas then asked if he had any Xmas tamales, as I had a dozen or two, in a package under one arm. It's a South Texas tradition, the Xmas tamales. My peers talk about learning this skill at the feet of their grandmother. My peers, much like me, also go out and buy the tamales as making those little corn meal packets of lard and tasty meat nuggets is too labor intensive. Dozen pork/chicken/beef/cheese usually costs three to five dollars. My Irish buddy? He already had some. Even told me about another [place](#) to try, to get some really good ones.

Elements that don't seem to belong to each other?
Sometimes they do.



Aries: I borrowed a friend's car, ran some errands. Wasn't gone long, but in the spirit of Xmas, I decided to hose the little car off. I stopped at a coin-operated car wash, stuck some quarters in, and I rinsed the car off. Matter of fact, I spent five bucks on quarters before I was done, that afternoon. I looked at the gleaming car, then I hopped back

inside.

When I dropped the car back with its rightful owner, she thanked me. I noticed a place where old, dry bird poop was still lingered despite my efforts with the car wash. I figure I spent more than a five bucks on that car wash, trying to do something nice, and repay a favor. I vowed to run the car to a thorough car wash the very next day. Which I did, true to my word. Car wash cost \$20, but there was an army of young people scrubbing, cleaning and wiping the car down, inside and out.

Money very [well-spent](#), left the car with the "like new" smell. And look. I discovered that there are some tasks that are best left to paid professionals. Like that car wash. I wasted five bucks of my own money, and an hour's worth of my time. My loss is Aries gain. Next time? Run it out to a car wash and let someone do it right. Save yourself the time and trouble. Or better yet? Next time? I'll just spend the money on gas. Think about that, too.



Taurus: I was looking at a rather haggard server. He was working the counter at a local place. This must've been a couple of weeks ago. I asked what his problem was, and he told me about his next New Year's resolution: "Don't mix Tequila and Hard Cider." Sounds like sage advice from a young man. I could've told him that, I think. It's not a good idea to mix hard cider with anything, and tequila? It's best by itself. From the looks and the listless, damaged goods attitude, I'm sure I won't be mixing those two flavors, not me, not anytime soon.

This is about prudence. Usually, I can [trust](#) my Taurus friends to be prudent. Therein is the problem, too. While I can usually trust you to be so, usually prudent and cautious,

there's this little kick to the week as the Sun and Jupiter line up. Means you might try mixing types of alcohol or similar -- not well-thought out -- combinations. I'm just saying, if you imbibe, ingest, or otherwise partake, in the next few days? Be prepared for a year-long set of consequences.



II *Gemini*

Gemini: I'm not a journalist, in the sense that I report news. In that sense of the word, like a news reporter, I have no formal training and therefore, I don't represent myself as a qualified, viable source for factual data. [However](#), from bumping and grinding around the web, I've learned a few pointers about facts, and fact checking. "I read it on a website" is the lamest excuse for how to do something. Or why.

News folks like at least three independent, verified and vetted sources for factual data. Three sources, at least. I was looking up a quick point, and I find one article, on the web that answered my question. And I left it at that. Turns out, that web page, and its article? They disappeared. Gone. Or maybe I just couldn't find it anymore. Which was too bad, as that article supported the hypothesis I was working with. But that was the only place I could find supporting and corroborating evidence. Which, really, in the final analysis, that much isn't enough. I need a little more support.

Likewise, my fine Gemini friend, you need more evidence. One web page that supports your cause? One page that points to you being right? Is that enough? And is that web page, alone, enough evidence to support your point? "I read it on a [web](#) page -- it must be true." Mercury is backwards, how sure can you be?



CANCER

Cancer: We had this cold snap, sort of shuttered me inside. For almost a week. I didn't like it very much. I got to sorting through a bin of fishing gear, and then, I would look longingly outside, and see the sun, bright and shiny, and then, look at the temperature reading, and then, look at the wind direction and speed. Mostly speed. Wind gusts over 20 knots? And temperature seemed to hover around freezing? I'll stay inside.

I hate to be a wimp, but I'm over that "battling with the elements" slice of life. Not going to brace the freezing wind for a chance to stand at the edge of lake and freeze my ass off. There's my suggestion. Straight up: consider an indoor activity rather than braving the bracing winds of January. It's less about not confronting an issue, and it's more about just avoiding the issue altogether.

Some points are worth the fight. Some points, though, just how enjoyable is it for me to sit outside in freezing weather? It isn't. So this was a good time to sort through some fishing gear, anyway. Less about the weather, and more about imagining better times.



THE LEO

Leo: Close your (Leo) eyes. Keep them shut for a [moment](#). Imagine something big and wonderful, some event you want to transpire. Some sort of action you'd like to see happen. New Year's all but a distant memory. Resolutions should be a forgotten and discarded item by now.

Instead of that laundry list you started with, the point by

point plan to conquer and rule the world? Or to conquer and rule [Leo Land](#), at least? I'd just like to give you a chance to pick one item, one thing, one possible event, one likely outcome that you would like. Not the whole list, just one. Not a huge one, but a big enough one that it matters to your Leo self.

Be a little selfish with this list, "World Peace," that's too generic. Pick one item, and let's close our eyes and see it happening. There's a weird influence, it's all about Jupiter, Mars and the Sun, and the alignment that will occur in Aquarius.



Virgo: [Traditional astrology](#) is fine for some. I tend to expand on certain themes, and what I was looking at had to do with a surfeit of energy. I was considering that the extra energy was useful, if it was properly directed. That's what this really should be about. It's about how spend what you've got and how to spend it in a wise manner.

When I hear the term "resources," I tend to think of fixed, or fluid, but [tangible](#) items. Like coins, money, gold, minerals and so forth. Land, that's a resource, right? I don't think about energy as a resource, not my personal energy. But that's what this is all about, how you spend your personal time, the good energy that you feel at this moment.

There's a relative paucity of fixed assets (*i.e.*, money), but there's a certain abundance of good drive. The point is to give it direction. It's about managing resources, but I don't mean traditional resources, no, more like how you spend what you've got.



LIBRA

Libra: There's a ticklish point, fast approaching. All I can [suggest](#) is that Mars, frying along in Capricorn, that's going to create some extra confusion. Problems? Not really. Annoying and contributing factors that can turn into problems? For sure.

How you choose to react, that's the critical point. The first reminder is that Mercury is in apparent retrograde motion. Means you might want to listen for the problem and anticipate it, a little. Like , maybe don't just jump when there seems to be an issue. I think some of the issues that crop up in the next few days?

I think they are really less of a big deal than you're going to make them out to be. Less of a problem that it really seems to be. Don't fall for the ([old](#)) management axiom, "Inside every little problem, there's a larger problem struggling to get out."



Scorpio: I saw these on sale, around the corner from here: Mexican Calendars. Just about every taco stand, every real Mexican restaurant, and even a few "gringo" places have these calendars for sale. I'm intrigued by the artwork. Usually, there is a female in various states of dishabille, and by my reckoning, there's about 25-35 percent occurrence of partially clad warrior, saving, sacrificing, bemoaning the fate of the fair maiden.

One in ten chance of a rooster, and probably half the calendars have a feathered headdress figured into the

scene. And there's always a [Virgen de Guadalupe](#). Now's the time to pick up some of this artwork. It's fascinating, bordering on folk art, and stuck between worlds. The [Virgen of Guadalupe](#), she's nominally Roman Catholic.

The feathered [headdress](#) and such? Puro Azatlan. The colors? That's a mixed bag. The artwork can be amazing, can be lurid, can be fetching and fascinating, or it can be just plain provocative. The point is, though, nothing to do with Mexican Calendar Art, it's all about what you can do now, that you couldn't do as little as a few days ago. Like those calendars? They're on sale now. Still got a good eleven and half months left on them, too. That's a good deal.



[Sagittarius](#): The way I understand the tale, the original story about Pandora and her [box](#)? It wasn't a box, it was a jar. Only, somewhere along the line, the author telling the story changed the plot device to a box, and the rest is (apocryphal) history Everyone's heard of Pandora's Box, and I don't know many people outside of a few scholarly circles who've ever heard of Pandora's Jar.

I do know that this week's situation is a lot like a "Pandora's Box," or, if you want to be absolutely true to the original creation myth, Pandora's Jar. Open it? Not sure what will pop out. That's part of the point, too. Mistakes, real and imagined, problems, real and imagined, and the way our Sagittarius [selves](#) are not sure about what we're opening up. Some days, like that jar, or box, ignorance is bliss. Could be a good time to leave it shut.

All Rights Reserved

[copyright](#) (c) 2008, 2009 [Kramer Wetzels](#), for [astrofish.net](#)

**astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts**

For the week starting: 1.22.2009

"O thou side-piercing sight!"

Edgar in Shakespeare's *King Lear* (IV.vi.85)

When he's speaking, Edgar is alluding to [Lear's](#) mad ravings. Mercury RX [mistake video](#).



Compare prices

(still cheaper than Stardust Motel)

**subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)**

\$2.95 for 30 days' access.

 **ASTROFISH.NET**



AQUARIUS

Aquarius: [Loving](#) life and living [large](#)? That's the way it's supposed to be. So if you're not fitting into that description? What can be done to [change](#) your course, your Aquarius destiny? I figure no one but yourself can change the conditions that are around you. Sometimes it's matter of merely seeing the situation in its entirety rather than just concentrating on some of the details.

Can't very well step out of yourself to see a situation in a more whole manner, but it is an idea with merit. Then too, with pernicious Mercury backwards, there's the hint that you might not get the real picture, just a tainted image. That's certainly problematic. Even though we're all dealing with the Mercury thing, I still think that Aquarius can step back and take a grand look over the big scheme stuff. Maybe stop and reassess the new year's goals. I'm not saying that

[astrofish.net](#)

— page 38 —

you're concentrating on too many insignificant details, but that has been a problem. Big picture, go for the bigger picture. Like a world-wide view. Go for a global position.



Pisces: I've always found this to be a bit [strange](#), for the Pisces corner. It's bad and good at the same time. There's a little flying brush with fame that happens, too, as Venus and Uranus make pass at each other. In Pisces. That quick Venus, and the longer, slower Uranus, they have a weird effect on each other.

Ever see one of those couples who seems to fight all the time, and yet, they are all hugs and kisses, at the same time? Not exactly a dynamic I want in a [relationship](#), but for some people, they seem to thrive on disharmony.

That's not a typical Pisces trait, but with this little bump, the relative position in the Moon, being new and all, and that little kick from Uranus and Venus, I'd expect something like a mock dust-up. Not really a huge fight, not a big conflagration, more like a small brush fire. The point that Uranus wants to make, though, and for that matter, Venus as well? That's the area, the point, the place where you want to contain the event. Don't let a small, inconsequential event turn into a huge problem. No need to let a small deal turn into a big deal. Mock dust-up and brush with fame. Don't let this get out of hand.



Compare prices

(still cheaper than Stardust Motel)

subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)

\$2.95 for 30 days' access.

 ASTROFISH.NET

 ARIES

Aries: Planning, prevention, and preparedness. All help me with execution. I'd like to suggest that those three letters, PPP for Planning, Prevention and Preparedness would be rather useful to Aries in the coming moments. Might be the next few minutes, next few hours, next few days, but sometime soon, you're going to need it.

It's matter of being prepared. I spent a lot of time working on computers. I have back up files. I have a workmanlike manner that assemble files and disparate parts of websites. Gets to a certain point, it's just a matter of fitting the right piece of [website](#) stuff into the bigger [picture](#). I had a system interruption the other evening. Took me all of about 30 seconds to isolate, fix and upload a patch. Not much at all. But I was prepared.

I had an emergency back up (rather, it was a work [around](#)) already arranged. Part of this is so repetitive that I'm not sure it really matters that I repeat the message. But a little bit of being prepared for (Aries) emergencies goes a long way in making your life much easier in the coming week.

In my closet, there's a "Hurricane Kit," which has, a [space blanket](#), [flashlights](#), water, [Pop Tarts](#), [beef jerky](#), [Slim Jim's](#), and so on. Always ready. You do have a [hurricane kit](#)?



Taurus: I was listening to a [cover](#) song by the usual suspects. It was an [homage](#) to one of the truly greats in the rock and roll business, and the guys doing the cover? They too, were greats. In a manner of speaking. Just some hard rock history, played out as an earful.

The [homage](#) was lovingly rendered, too, which was a nice touch. When the live cover song was done, the lead singer noted the source, and acknowledged that he wasn't as great as the original artists, but hey, he loved that song. So did I. Can't say I could do a better job, either.

There's a point wherein the [homage](#) is paid, the dues [acknowledged](#), the place where folks being copied have to recognize that the copy, or cover, like the song I listened to, that is a form of tribute. Being copied is a great form of praise. There's a [copyright](#), performance rights kind of issue here, too. But I'm not jumping into that one. Isn't my battle. When someone apes your Taurus moves? Recognize the action as tribute, not a blatant rip-off.



Gemini: One of the few regrets that I have is not having children. No offspring. Not that I miss about 99% of the problems with children, about the only aspect of kiddies that I miss? Movies. When I go, especially if it's like an afternoon matinee, middle of the week? I can usually sneak in and

**astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts**

sneak out, but I always feel a little like a creepy old guy. Which I might be, but not in some respects. Besides, kids make the best kind of cover, best excuse to see some of the patently childish and child-oriented films now out.

I saw one, during the Xmas vacation, and it was such a successful venture, I thought I'd try it again. One of those kid movies wherein my emotions are frankly manipulated. I don't care. No nudity, no hint of impropriety, and it was all done with frankly clean language. Images, too. No exposed body parts, no puerile language and gestures. Remembering that, I hopped over to the multiplex cinema to see another show.

It sucked. I was sorely disappointed. It was a childish, mawkish, never mind, just awful. Waste of time and money, for me. To make matters worse, I was alone so I did look like a creepy old guy. Which I might be, but that's not the question in this situation. As a [Gemini](#), like me, you tried something a couple of weeks ago. It was successful. Try to repeat the process and be sorely disappointed? I'm just saying, you knew that before you went, you read the reviews. Might not be a movie, could be just about any experience, but don't be disappointed if you're disappointed.



Compare prices

(still cheaper than Stardust Motel)

**subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)**

\$2.95 for 30 days' access.



CANCER

Cancer: It wasn't a happy note, not really, but I've got a twisted sense of humor, and I found there to be a certain kind of amusement to be derived from the following New Year's list: 1) get a divorce 2) sell house 3) sell SUV 4) get out of debt 5) get girlfriend 6) get married 7) buy SUV 8) buy house....

I think I left something out, I thought there were supposed to be ten, all total. Guess not. There's a cyclical action here, too. Get rid of one thing, say "wife who costs money," only to replace that with a "girlfriend (becomes wife) who costs money." It's not a pathway that means there will be happiness.

It's cyclical. I can see from the glazed look in your [Cancer](#) eyes you don't get the humor. What it is, though, it's about not repeating, not recurring, not repeating the same action. That's what this is about. I thought the dashed hopes for a new year with those resolutions would help shed a little light on this problem. It's about cyclical actions, and stopping long enough to *not repeat* the parts of the cycle you don't want to repeat.



THE LEO

Leo: I've got a funny mind, plays tricks on me. I was riding shotgun, running an errand with a friend, and I caught a glimpse of a billboard. At first, what I thought it said? "Certificate of Dysfunction." I was going to write it down, and then I glanced at the billboard again, it really said, "Certificate of Distinction."

Those two are on opposite ends of the spectrum, "distinction" and "dysfunction." Personally, I would've been more interested in a product that was certified to be dysfunctional because that would be more in keeping with modern practices.

This is a simple case where [my](#) mind played a little trick on me. Led me down a path some folks might not want to go. And, to be honest, this can be attributed to a [Mercury](#) mistake, as well.



Virgo: The typical "junk" catalog caught up with me, and in an [idle](#) moment, I was in the smallest room, I flipped through the advertising. One item really did tickle my fancy: a steak branding iron. The more I thought about it, though, the less I was impressed. Pretty expensive, and the company only offered, like, letters. Should I get FGS ([Fishing Guide to the Stars](#))? KW for [Kramer Wetzel](#)?

Some variations and themes? I don't know of many dinner portions of steak that would be big enough for the while website name, [astrofish.net](#). See the problems here? The bigger problem, too, is how I like my meat cooked. Either slow-roasted BBQ, which can take up to 24 hours and leaves no room for branding, or the smaller cuts, like, in a nice place? I like it medium raw. A little more rare than just rare. "Wipe its butt and herd it on out here," is how one friend explains it.

I was thinking that I could just brand the steak, be about all I needed. I also realize that one vegetarian Virgo will get upset, but this isn't really about food. It's about that catalog item. It was a great idea. However, other than as a novelty? Would it be useful? Hardly. Think long term about this, about what you're [looking](#) at.



Compare prices

(still cheaper than Stardust Motel)

subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)

\$2.95 for 30 days' access.

 ASTROFISH.NET

LIBRA

LIBRA

Libra: There's the ugly side of [life](#), the ugly side of business, and even in the darling Libra life? There's an ugly side. A special Libra was watching me upload the weekly video. The weekly scopes. The first part was how much work is involved. The other part is how ugly the backside of the [website](#) can be. It's not exactly pretty. It's a long list of files and sub-directories, with weird names, like "xenon" and "archives" and similar [nomenclature](#).

I tended, at one time, to put an "x" at the beginning of the name of a sub-directory since the files would appear in alphabetical order. Made it easier, but it still looks cryptic, and, like that Libra observed, not very attractive. In order to make something nice, there's usually an ugly underpinning. The bottom side of the car, the backside of a horse, the stuff that's hidden for a good reason.

Some of that hidden stuff is coming to light, this next few days. Bad? Hardly. Ugly? Probably. Really bad news? No, just, perhaps, a little more information than you desired.

Like what the website looks like from my end, all the little workers putting up [the web pages](#).



Compare prices

(still cheaper than Stardust Motel)

subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)

\$2.95 for 30 days' access.

 **ASTROFISH.NET**

 **SCORPIO**

Scorpio: I was toying with a "saints" candle I've got here. I wanted to light it up, but I was curious, I couldn't find the candle's wick. I tend to use a lot of those 7-day candles, I'm less concerned with the saint depicted on the cover as the with the color of the candle's wax. Red is passionate, and green helps with dollars flowing towards me, at least, that's the myth as I understand it.

St. Anthony is for lost objects, St. Jude is for lost causes, and so on. There's a myth and mystery with each candle. But this last candle, it bothered me. I couldn't find a wick. I finally dug around in the candle's wax -- I determined the candle didn't have it wick. No string to burn. A safer candle to be sure, but that's not what this about.

We can look at a lot of factors, but I'm tending towards this candle being very symbolic of what's happening with Mercury and Mars. And Pluto, in Capricorn. Yeah, a candle with no wick. Sort of hard to [light that fire](#). Might make for a

little bit of a problem, It's [Virgen](#) of [Guadalupe](#) image on the candle's [wrapper](#). Green wax. Don't know if it means anything at all. Maybe just manufacturing defect. Or maybe a lasting Mercury problem for Scorpio.



Sagittarius: I had this business idea. I started a little [list](#), on the back of an old business card of mine. The list started with the idea, a two word abbreviation. The little list has sat on my desk for a fortnight. I've thought about it. Thought about adding items under the list, thought about what tasks and steps would be next, in trying to achieve the goal of having a goal. And then this gets a little reductive.

What do I [need to do](#) in order to [do what I need to do](#)? What's the goal, direction, purpose, ultimate goal, ultimate direction, short range tasks that can get to the long range direction? First step, what is it? I'm not sure. I'm unsure of the goal, too. This is a riddle, wrapped up in paper and ink, on the blank side of a business card. It's a puzzle. I don't have an answer, but I do have one suggestion, and I'm going to follow it myself.

Instead of wondering what the next step is? How to get to some unnamed destination? I'll stick to a little action. Sometimes, it's less about where we're going, but more about taking steps that feel, look, or maybe appear to be, positive action in the direction that looks to be best.



Compare prices

(still cheaper than Stardust Motel)

subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)

\$2.95 for 30 days' access.

 ASTROFISH.NET



CAPRICORN

Capricorn: I find this [amusing](#), since I've got a number of [Capricorn](#) clients that are all worked up. Can't say this caught you by [surprise](#), or that I didn't [warn](#) you that [Mercury](#) was going to slide back into your sign. Mercury and Mars give the lunar phase a little kick. That's the problem. Or, to me, less of a problem and more like punctuation.

It's like an expression with a little extra enthusiasm. The problem, the amusement for me, is that, while my Cap friends are fired up? Not many other people are as excited. Therein is the trouble. I don't have an easy answer for that. I would like to think that this is because, as a Capricorn, you're ahead of the curve, ahead of schedule, on top of [tomorrow's news today](#). In advance. Got your game on. Whatever the expression is that fits, okay? The only, and it's just a little warning, is that Mercury is still backwards for some. Just be aware that it might confuse issues that could wait until later.

Or [not](#).

astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts

(I'd wait.)

All Rights Reserved
[copyright](#) (c) 2008, 2009 [Kramer Wetzel](#), for [astrofish.net](#)

For the week starting: 1.29.2009

"Hell is empty

And all the devils are here."

Shakespeare's *The Tempest* (I.ii.214-5)

The quote is Ariel -- a spirit -- quoting another character, when that character was abandoning the ship in a tempest.



AQUARIUS

Aquarius: Happy birthday, my [fine](#) Aquarius! Mars enters. This is like slamming on the brakes, and pitching the steering wheel to one side. Since just about every vehicle I drive these days is "power-assist" steering, some of the impact of the metaphor is lost. More fun when it's like really wrestling with a steering wheel, and the rear-drive wheels break loose first, and the back end drifts around towards the front. Like on the ice last night.

In its time, a controlled slide was true piece of artful driving. But in this modern age, with anti-lock, anti-lock-up, anti-skid (anti- "having-any-fun") smart-cars with onboard sensors (onboard fun sensors), all this makes the analogy lost. There's a generation of drivers who've never experienced driving an older vehicle that took a deft hand and strong understanding of physics. Maybe you see this in movies, that's the last time I saw it. Big, fish-tail slide.

That's what this is all about. Big-bodies car, slewing sideways, almost out of control, or, at the very least, appearing out of control. That's Aquarius. If you grasp the physics? If you understand how the force is exerted? You can control this slide. Which is what I'd suggest. Steer into it.

astrofish.net

Boutique Horoscopes
(discount prices)

subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)

\$2.95 for 30 days' access.



Pisces: At the end of this scope, like, early next week? Venus moves from Pisces to Aries. However, for the [duration](#) of the scope? There's the "X" factor. Source for the energy could be the aforementioned Venus. Could be Saturn opposite Uranus (and Pisces in general), could be the natural entropy associated with Mercury's apparent backward motion, or just the relative position of the Sun and the Moon. All that stuff in [Aquarius](#), too.

Which one is it? Call it what you want, there's a little bit of free-floating anxiety and tension. This "angst" or really, to me, it looks more like "angst-light," the free-floating sentiment is looking for a place to take root. The trick, the awful trick of the planets in their relative positions? The idea is to not let this free-floating emotion take hold. Don't give it a chance. Don't invite it in, have it sit down, make itself comfortable in your sign, in your Pisces psyche, no, that free-floating material can go on to take root with other signs.

It's matter of realizing this when the material pops up, in your mind, like that nasty little voice, saying it's something you should be worried about? That's this floater, looking to take root. Don't nurture it. Not now. While this might only be "Angst-Light," it can lead to harder stuff, like [full-blown](#) guilt. I wouldn't let this worry you.



[Aries](#): I was walking home from the post office, the other afternoon. A skateboarder was languidly [cruising](#) down the sidewalk, on the opposite side of the street. Going the same direction, which means, in a moment, he rolled past the point where we would be even. I glanced up from the stack of mail. Ball cap, black jeans, t-shirt, chain-drive wallet, knock-off Chuck Taylors, typical.

The kid, I couldn't tell his age under a shock of uneven black hair, did an attempt at an axel-grind then flip. He failed. Landed flat on his butt. I didn't giggle. I was still across the street, so I didn't see the exact details, but I wasn't laughing at a skater who just fell on his butt. He just kicked the board back over on its wheels, got up without so much as a shake, didn't bother to dust off his pants, put a foot on the board and pushed off with his other foot. Didn't miss a beat.

Fell flat on his ass, didn't phase him a single bit. Take a lesson from that skater that I was watching. Try something tricky? Expect to land on your butt. And even if you do land on your ass? Pick yourself up, don't look back over your shoulder, and put a foot back on the board and push off again. Easy.



Taurus: I quoted Shakespeare's [Tempest](#), a couple of days ago, then I added, "The Tempest, first written around Sixteen Ten, I think." The guy looked up at me, glanced at his phone to see who it was trying to reach him, then glanced back at me. "No way. Tempest was Atari, early eighties."

Clearly, we're addressing different issues here. *The Tempest* I was referring to was a play written by William Shakespeare late in his career, and the play was heavily influenced by, and [never](#) mind. The uncharted land in the play could very well be the "new world" but again, that's a tenuous literary and historical note. The other Tempest was a stand-up video game, with some, at the time, highly advanced vector graphics and a surprisingly adept [game](#) package, again, for its time. These days? Just looks cheesy. But at its time? "State of the art." I also think, in context of the conversation, the point made by the Taurus was supposed to be irony, fully aware that I was quoting a play by an Elizabethan era playwright, and the game was different.

Don't be surprised if the point of the sarcasm, the little jest, joke, or even just *bon mots*? Don't be surprised if they miss. Not the fault of the Taurus.

astrofish.net
Economic Stimulus package:
Compare prices

subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)

\$2.95 for 30 days' access.



 ASTROFISH.NET

II *Gemini*

Gemini: I was doing three things at once, talking to a Gemini, balancing a [checkbook](#), and uploading images to a [website](#). Three things. I suppose I should include the [Gemini](#) chart with that, too, as I'm sure there was a question about that. There were long pauses in the conversation, but I know this one [Gemini](#) -- I didn't have her full attention. She was, like driving, shopping, ordering food, reading a magazine, maybe all at the same time. I worry, a little about the reading magazine while driving, but I'm not in the same city, so I'm not at risk.

At some point, we all have to just worry about ourselves. Which is what I was doing. Which is also what my Gemini friends should be doing. Worrying more about how it is, how it actually is, from the Gemini driver's seat. I was, in the loosest sense of the word, flying copilot for that Gemini, on that afternoon, via the phone. I was on a headset, my fingers doing one thing, my brain concentrating in another arena. I managed to get the books balanced. I think I got most of the pictures put up, and I'm sure I answered a

question for that Gemini. All got done, and I made it look effortless. For me, a non-Gemini, it wasn't effortless. However, as the Gemini week ratchets up a gear? Make it look effortless. Three things at once. No, four. It's easy. Easier once Mercury straightens out, too.



Cancer: I [passed](#) an obvious tourist on the street. She was muttering to her companion, a skinny wisp of a woman, "What are you staring at? Huh!" Yeah, that showed the guy a little. I'll guess. I tend to observe, not stare, although, I've been known to stare at certain items.

I couldn't help but observe that the woman complaining about the guy staring at her chest? The outline of the sheer bra was tightly etched against the thin fabric of the t-shirt, and the outline of every detail of the stitching of the bra was plainly visible. As well as some of the underlying characteristics. Which were hard and pointed at the time, as it was a winter's afternoon, and all she had on was thin t-shirt. Very thin. Translucent. No imagination was what she was complaining about. Plainly visible, even to a casual observer.

Even a glance would reveal, possibly, more information than I really wanted, and that's the point. As a Cancer, you're going to complain about something in the coming week, something really pisses you off. However, if it really bothered you? How about just tossing a light jacket, or just a slightly heavier shirt on, over the problem? Cover it up. Can't complain if you're advertising.

Shouldn't complain if you're advertising.



Leo: [Carpe Noctem](#)! That's a Latin phrase for "Seize the Night." I like because it's a play on words, [visual](#), multi-linguistic joke that works on several different levels, and I know that the Leo will find is amusing, even tantalizing in its duality. Carpe Noctem runs deeper, though than just its purported meaning. The (tropical zodiac) sign of Leo is associated with the Sun. And this is the time of year when the sun is opposite you, and that's why I think, "Seize the night," is an apt phrase to adopt as a Leo motto for the time being.

I don't think you should always "seize the night," but looking at the top-heavy allotment of counter productive material stacked up in Aquarius, I'm just saying that a little bit of different work is called for. A new way of attacking an old problem. A new way of approaching an old issue. Just a different way of seeing how to work more efficiently. Or how to have more fun. Leo is usually a day creature.

Seize the night! Or, if you're usually a night creature? Fish during the day.

•

astrofish.net
Economic Stimulus package:
Compare prices

subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)

\$2.95 for 30 days' access.



 **ASTROFISH.NET**

 **VIRGO**

Virgo: "Live big or go home." It was the motto, I think it was a sports tag line, but I'm unsure of the source. Sure sounds like an [advertising jingle](#). As much as I'd like to imagine my little Virgo friends living large, I just don't see that happening, not exactly. There is a suggestion, though, that there will be a break. In the next couple of days.

This is not a huge break in that, it's not like being tapped to play the star role in a Hollywood Movie with commiserate salary and options, but it is like getting a great second seat to someone great. Back seat. Supporting character. I was called in to work with a Big Name Author, and I got a [smaller](#) name, on the bottom of the book (with Kramer Wetzell in much tinier print).

Way it goes. I use that as an example so my little Virgo friends know that I know exactly how this feels. That's the downside, no living large. However, that part, piece, role, supporting character you get to play this week? It pays better, in the long run, than the main character. Then you're

living large. Live big, and go home? Sure. Just not right now.



LIBRA

Libra: There was a cult-favorite movie, that's where I got this idea. But I've seen this [concept](#) executed in a number of different films, and for that matter, part of a novel, as well. But it works best, in my mind, in a movie. Let's pretend that the movie is about [your](#) life of Libra. The way the cult movie was narrated, a central plot device, news and information, it was all delivered by a radio announcer.

A DJ did most of the narration in the story. As a writer, I'd find that sort of a cheap shot for getting out of trouble, or when I've written myself into a corner? Just have the DJ broadcast, literally, what the next destination would be. The story was natural enough coming from a DJ. Kind of spooky, just portrayed as lips and microphone. Two turntables and microphone. Could be a hit.

The idea I was looking for, what I was trying to chase up for Libra? A narrator. Someone to come along and tell the story, give hints and clues. Might want to do this yourself, *sotto voce*, third-person, even, maybe like a newscaster.



Scorpio: I did an informal study, like, I looked at some of the books on shelf here. I didn't really do a correct or statistically accurate sampling, but I started to think a little. Might be dangerous, in and of itself. I was noticing that a number of literary figures -- characters in books -- a disproportionate number of literary characters talked to themselves.

"I wonder," I said to myself, "is this a verifiable trend?" No one was around, so no one heard me. That makes it safe, right? Maybe. Or maybe this is a case where fiction is stranger than real life. Or fiction might be more true than what's really true.

I don't notice that many people talking to themselves, outside of the indigent and borderline personalities that are typically the inner city homeless. They do talk to themselves a lot. I was wondering if great literary creations are similar. Or, if the people, the writers, are more closely aligned with the homeless, at least, intellectually? "Might be a connection there," I thought out loud.

Actually -- no, really -- I didn't say anything, but I thought it out loud, right? Which means either I'm crazy, or I'm just talking to myself.

What do you do that's crazy? Talk to yourself? Read too many books where characters talk to themselves? My train of thought never really got derailed, but I'd watch out for that, as there's a lingering Mercury influence. Talking to yourself? I'll let you [draw](#) your own [conclusion](#).

astrofish.net
Economic Stimulus package:
Compare prices

subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)

\$2.95 for 30 days' access.





SAGITTARIUS

Sagittarius: In keeping with the web-based theme of "national write a novel month," and "record an album month," this is the time when I'm opening up the scopes -- especially my own, dear Sagittarius, and it's an invitation to write your own scope.

Instead of writing a novel (50-100K words), instead of recording an album (10 songs or 35-50 minutes of original music), all I'm asking from Sagittarius is a short, say, 200 words excerpt for the next month. For February. Four short weeks. That's only about 800 words. Maybe a thousand, as Sagittarius, we're a little long winded.

Couple of pitfalls to avoid: no mention of foreign travel, or even travel in general, no mention of long-lost loves, old flame, no mention of new flame, either. No mention of boss or work. Can't promise love-money-happiness, unless, of course, it's indicated. Easy as can be, right? So get after it.

There's a chance to write your own horoscope and email it to me.

Two points that must be avoided: silly horoscope tropes and sad country/western songs. Both sound the same. So get after it, you get to choose.



CAPRICORN

Capricorn: As Mars gradually slips out of the last, few remaining degrees of Capricorn, entering Aquarius next week? There's one, last, a single simple point that needs to be punctuated. It's like leaving off piece of punctuation, like,

a ([typical](#)) typographical slip, in the [horoscopes](#). Leave out a period, leave off a comma, or confuse the spelling of "angle" and "angel," and see what happens?

The meaning of a sentence, the meaning of the whole horoscope could be thrown off by a simple mistake. So there's a simple piece of punctuation, maybe just typographical error. With Mars in this position, too, it could be a simple error of omission. That's where something got forgotten, like, at the last minute. I left the other afternoon, I had a pager, but I forgot my cell phone. When the pager notified me of an incoming message, I reached for the phone. Nothing there. I'm sure this has happened to you before, but I'm also here to remind you, don't forget. Check to make sure you're not making a similar mistake of omission.

All Rights Reserved

[copyright](#) (c) 2008, 2009 [Kramer Wetzels](#), for [astrofish.net](#)

For the week starting: 2.5.2009

"Thou lily-livered boy."

Shakespeare's Scottish Play (*MacBeth*) [V.iii.15]

MacBeth to the help -- MacBeth himself not afraid of the onslaught of invaders since [MacBeth](#) trusted the [ghosts](#). Didn't end happily for him.



AQUARIUS

Aquarius: Carrot juice and [espresso](#). Must be the airport. Any [airport](#) will do. I suppose, that airports are no more than train station of this century, and for that matter, train stations were no more than carriage stations of the previous, and I'm not sure how much further back I can carry the analogy. Airports and Stage Coach Stations?

While I doubt that most folks purchase carrot juice and [espresso](#) at the airport, after [long years](#) on short flights, I've found that it seems to be the best solutions to whatever it is that ails the situation. Then, too, I was thinking about that carrot juice as I read the label, "100% PURE Carrot Juice, impeller pressed," then it said something about the environment, which, to be honest, I had to question.

It was in an airport, and the juice was in a disposable, non-returnable plastic bottle. The espresso was in styrofoam cup, again, about as far from the eco-friendly stuff as I like, but there are times when it's just easier to not argue. Or think. Pretty much the case in Aquarius. with everything that's hitting, all at once?

Stop. Don't think about it. I'd get your version of carrot juice and espresso, and I'd settle down in the Aquarius version of the airport seating, and I'd resign myself to the fates for the afternoon. Not all bad, just a little different. Whatever beverage, or combination, works for [you](#). Carrot juice and [espresso](#), though, it's a good [one](#).



Pisces: I was [talking](#) fishing and a female client [overheard](#) some of the discussion. Me and a buddy were talking about how to set-up a certain fishing pole/fishing reel combination, especially for skinny water. My buddy looked up, saw the girl listening, and explained, "'Set your drag,' doesn't mean cross-dressing." Perfunctory roll of the eyes. Clearly a case where crossing-dressing and fishing share some words, but the meaning is entirely different, hence the problem, or the raised eyebrows, or, at the very least, it leaves folks wondering a little.

While the woman who overheard our conversation wasn't a Pisces, she could've been. It's the sort of problem that occurs, when everything is lined up in Aquarius, and it's almost -- but not quite -- Pisces time. I'm just suggesting that you can raise an eyebrow, roll your eyes, or do some other silent notion or motion, but I'd keep quiet. There are times when you can make a fuss, and there are times when you can't. This is one of the times to be quiet. Unlike the drag on the fish reel, which was screaming as the line played out.

astrofish.net

Boutique Horoscopes
(discount prices)

subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)

\$2.95 for 30 days' access.





Aries: Happened a few years ago, when I lived in a [real](#) trailer park. [One](#) of the neighbors knocked on the door and entered. I was typing way -- or gazing at the star chart -- trying to figure out how to express the Aries energy this week. Would've been a warm winter day in late January.

"Hey, look at these, which one works better?" It was a question about shoes and outfits. A question I was ill-prepared for at that time. For that matter, it's still a question I'm ill-prepared to answer. "Don't you think matching the shoes would look better?" I think that was my answer. "I don't know why I bother to ask you fashion questions!" She stormed out of there.

I am fashion-[challenged](#). Not that it's an issue, straight-up statement. Never hid that tidbit of [data](#). So the [question](#) is, why are you asking me about a fashion choice? Might not be fashion, might be another type of question, but when you clearly ask the wrong person for an opinion, where does it go? Who are you asking and [why ask them](#), that's the real question. Like, why ask me about fashion?



Taurus: The fashion question came up again, and I was asked about a pair of shoes, like, which pair of shoes went better with the outfit. Job interview or something like that. I think it was a Taurus, this time, the shoe question. I couldn't resist an answer, "Just put on the [red shoes](#), and tap your heels together, three times." My suggestion wasn't met with universal acclaim. "I'm interviewing for a new position. Now. I need help, and [you're](#) all I've got. What do

your precious stars say?"

The star don't say one damn thing. I say a lot. Like, I'm not the one to ask for tips about shoes. I know very little about footwear. Sandals? I can help with that. Cowboy boots? Handmade? Sure, I can point in a good direction there. But colors and so forth? Perhaps I'm not the best judge. There's two parts to the message, just blindly putting faith in "the stars" doesn't work. Requires some effort on the part of the Taurus, too. Then again, I never did understand why so much effort was spent on footwear. I tend towards practical or historical, without a lot of room in between. The second point I was trying to make, maybe it works in the movies, but ruby red pumps? Clicking your heels together three times? Will that [solve](#) a problem?



II *Gemini*

Gemini: There's a [Capricorn songwriter and performer](#) that I'm rather fond of. However, for all the diversity of his canon, he's still only known for about three songs. One, in particular, a local anthem to the point it's been spoofed by other singers and song writers. Kind of a sore point, maybe, with the original artist. In other cases, though, I'd have to wonder.

As a [Capricorn](#), he must appreciate the fact that the songs are continuing to earn him income. As an artist, you have to wonder why those three songs were selected out of a diverse and amazing catalog. What was it that clicked? Lyrical? Musical? As Gemini heads towards the Full Moon, there's a question that no one bothered to ask, or even think of, and I'm here to remind you. Okay, that one artist, he's doing okay, but did he think that those songs would be the "big three" of his career?

How about, every time he plays, he's got to play all three of

those hits? Be a little bothersome, to say the least? As the Moon approaches Full, in Leo, opposite all that Aquarius stuff, consider how a seemingly casual item might become a staple for the next 20 years. Could span all your adult Gemini career. Is that a song you really want to perform for that long? You do know, a Gemini bores easily.

astrofish.net's chart shop

online chart shop & live readings

 **ASTROFISH.NET**


CANCER

Cancer: There's a point where the sense get assailed by almost too much input. First time I walked across the ancient brick pavement in front of a certain "mercado," on the way to the famous Tex-Mex restaurant. I recall that first time, parking a couple of blocks away, the long trudge, the way the scent of fried dough, corn meal, really, and skirt steak, stringy and greasy, on a griddle. The smell, a faint hint of garbage in the background, various animal parts deliciously cooking. The way the colors were so vibrant. It was like stepping into another world, and it was merely a quick trip in a tourist end of town.

Not that big of deal, not now, but that first time, it was sensory overload. I can recall the first time, the sights, the site, the smells, the palpable excitement. Hot grease, lard, tortillas, and even a sweet bakery hint layered over the top, the strong vanilla and cinnamon. There's a sharp, pointed, maybe even poignant experience you're supposed to recall. For me? It was simply walking up that place, the stroll towards -- and through -- the little open air marketplace. Subsequent trips are less memorable, but that first time? Remember it. Cherish it. Recall it. There's a point, a place you want to visit soon.



Leo: Your neighborhood is being [exported](#) to the world. I'm sure you're aware of this. With [inter-web](#) things and phones with cameras, it just had to happen. There's a convergence, where one item is getting cheaper and the other line, where it crosses is that the use is expanding. More people want to know just where you [live](#), and how you live, and what the color was of the [shirt](#) you had on last week. Or this week.

There comes a time when not all of this information is germane or even useful. Still, the sign on the [parking lot](#) next to the restaurant, that sign which is kind of funny? That's on the web some place. Not that it matters, but so is the object of the sign, there's an image of that, too. As The Leo, you love attention. As the Leo, though, you realize that what you had for breakfast isn't that important. It is to you but maybe not to the rest of us. There's an editing effort that's required. What's important. What's not. [Look](#) around, you'll find that you live in an increasingly glass-like enclosure. When do you want to pull the shutters down? Just a little?



Virgo: It wasn't even a paid reading. I was just chatting up a Virgo waitress in a BBQ place. She asked about [Virgo and Virgo](#) for a [relationship](#). Told her I thought it was good. "But he's so anal sometimes, annoys me." I think that the same comment, in a general way, could be said about all Virgo (males). Some of the Virgo females, too. "Oh, no, not me. I'm a messy one," she claimed. The [relationship](#), had a few rocky points as of late, but was basically a sound relationship.

They did belong together, and they can be Virgo-like in the [privacy](#) of their own domiciles. I'd suggest that life is good for most Virgo folks, if, and that's the big "IF" there, you're on the right track. That Virgo waitress and her Virgo boyfriend? They were a hot couple because their expectations were in line with each other. Similar goals, similar destinations, similar ways of arriving at the same goals and destinations. Worked well, even though, if she was messy and he wasn't?

There must be some discord. But what's life without a little strife? Takes all kinds. I suggested that her messy nature fulfilled a need that he perceived, and that's what made it work. Takes all kinds, but there's some give -- and take. What makes the Virgo world go round.

astrofish.net
Boutique Horoscopes
(discount prices)
subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)
\$2.95 for 30 days' access.



 **ASTROFISH.NET**

LIB

LIBRA

Libra: No, it's not a good time, not over-all, but yeah, I'll give a little nod to the Libra side. There's just this kind of infectious attitude. It's like the giggles. Under the covers, on a cold winter's night, under a big down quilt, there's a hint that there's [merriment](#) afoot. Less to do with big deals and

lot more to do with little deals. Can be something as simple as the littlest of functions. I'm always amazed at how little items can mean so much.

Sometimes it's not the big deals, it's the little deals. I tend to be cheap. Not because [I am cheap](#), well, I am, but that's not the reason why I use this as an example. It's not always the big deals, the big-ticket items that make the difference. That's the point. This might seem silly, but there's a new book out, and I picked up a copy for my Libra friend. Book was steeply discounted, so I wasn't out anywhere near the retail price; although, in my defense, I did peel off the price tag.

No, it wasn't the fact that I bought the little Libra a nice book, it was the idea that I remembered who the favorite author was. Made all the difference. It's not big things, it's little things, makes all the difference. That's what will make a Libra smile in the coming week. Just a little gesture. And sometimes, what makes a Libra smile?? In turn, that's a good action to take, as well.



Scorpio: Flight was somewhere, New Mexico, be my guess, but it could be anyplace in my world. There was cold winter wind with tendrils of smoke edging eastward like fog with feathered tips exploring, even caressing, the mountains and canyons. Tickling their ways westward. Eastward. I don't recall.

The sight reminded me of Scorpio, inching along, precipitously, [dangerously](#) close and yet, trying to be as stealthy as Scorpio possible. Kind of a difficult task.

When I was at whatever altitude a commercial jet travels at, over the planet, looking down, I could easily see those long,

smoky tendrils inching their ways along. Maybe pilots see this all the time. It was a rare sight for me. I enjoyed it. And that little tickle, that "no one is watching me" but everyone is? That's the Scorpio thing.



Sagittarius: In keeping with the web-based theme of "national write a novel month," and "record an album month," this is the time when I'm opening up the scopes -- especially my own, dear Sagittarius, and it's an invitation to write your own scope.

Instead of writing a novel (50-100K words), instead of recording an album (10 or more songs, and/or 35-50 minutes of original music), all I'm asking from Sagittarius is a short, say, 200 words excerpt for the next month. For February. Four short weeks. That's only about 800 words. Maybe a thousand, as Sagittarius, we're a little long winded.

Couple of pitfalls to avoid: no mention of foreign travel, or even travel in general, no mention of long-lost loves, old flame, no mention of new flame, either. No mention of boss or work. Can't promise love-money-happiness, unless, of course, it's indicated. Easy as can be, right? So get after it. There's a chance to write your own horoscope and email it to me. Two points that must be avoided: silly horoscope tropes and sad country/western songs. Both sound the same. So get after, **you get to choose**.

Just for the heck of it, I wrote something. Useful, in a way, since it really made me look at the two squares. See attached. A lot harder than I thought it would be.

"First week of February May the road rise up to meet you, may the wind be always at your back. Pluto and Neptune are driving along roads which will intersect at 90° around June 2009. One car is driven by Mr. Illusion; the other by

Mr. Underworld. Sagittarius will find him (her) self under the influence of subconscious forces which seem to challenge all those ruts in the road (habits and relationships, i.e. the old order). The illusion is that the driver is in control; in reality, change will happen and you can either drive along with it or get a rough ride if you fight it. The hard part is the self-doubt that comes along with it, as square Mr. Saturn turns up all too soon in the passenger seat, telling you that you should be doing second gear instead of third and a smoother clutch, please. Don't let him rattle you and make you anxious; you can deal with it just fine. The road will rise up to meet you; the winds of change will be at your back."



The astrofish.net love button.
Push one. See what happens.



CAPRICORN

Capricorn: It's the middle of a long winter month for me. Long winter for me. In a few weeks, the first shoots of spring will begin stirring, south of here. Wildflowers and spring growth starts soon enough, but for now, I'm still forced to wear long pants and customary boots. I was looking at another sad pair of cowboy boots that I must retire. Supple, delicate European Goatskin uppers, hand-crafted in Texas, [handmade](#), and I've owned these custom made boots for over a decade. And they've worn out.

Worn out from wearing and walking, Like a good pair of shoes should wear out. Been resoled a dozen times, and I kept them oiled and polished. But I'm also [notoriously](#) hard on equipment, and the boots are done. There's a tear in the leather, and while I've had the boots repaired a half-dozen times? It really is time to retire. Which is part of what this is all about. Time to retire, like my boots, time to unload, offload, or otherwise load-away a treasured object. I'd like

astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts

to do something special with what's left, but let's face it,
sentimental value doesn't [outweigh](#) closet space these days.

All Rights Reserved

[copyright](#) (c) 2008, 2009 [Kramer Wetzel](#), for [astrofish.net](#)

**astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts**

For the week starting: 2/12/2009

"Doubt thou, the Starres are fire,
Doubt, that the Sunne doth moue:
Doubt Truth to be a Lier,
But neuer Doubt, I loue."

Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, Act 2, scene ii -- original form.

[Valentine's Day. No doubt.](#)



AQUARIUS

Aquarius: It's a poignant [scene](#), a guy looking at a lottery ticket. An Aquarius looking at a lottery ticket. All six of the six numbers line up. Worth millions. Ticket to everything you want to buy. What do you do? I had this framed as first-person movie short, that lottery ticket. All the numbers, for Aquarius.

You're rich, rich beyond your wildest dreams. What do you do? In that [little short movie](#), I saw the guy look at the winning ticket, then slowly tear it up. I said this was a [short movie](#), not real life. However, give it some thought, winning the lottery, trying to [buy happiness](#)? Can it be done? I'm not suggesting that you really win the lottery, or that you tear that ticket up.

I'd like a measly 1% for predicting the win. Not a tithe, like the Church, they get 10%. Nope, just a much smaller fraction. But I do think that, when faced with either money or happiness? Maybe the way an Aquarius should err is on the happiness side of that question. Leave the money question to other, less happy signs these days.



As Seen on TV!

Compare prices

**subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)**

\$2.95 for 30 days' access.

 **ASTROFISH.NET**



Pisces: I hate to [be the one who ruins](#) it all for Pisces, and I've been accused of that very sentiment before. Not the way it is, tough. See, your birthday is almost upon us. Should be a good time Should be fun, should be a lot of good things happening. Only, I'd be doing you a disservice if I promised that right now. Not happening. Not going to happen.

Just slow down, chill out and take it easy. Mars is the player I'm looking at, and Mars is lurking along in the sign that comes before the beautiful, gentle, sweet and delicate Pisces person. So just take it easy. I know, I know, birthdays and parties and so forth? As long as Mars is lurking in Aquarius? Just take it a little easier than you usually do.

Mr. Mars might push and hasten some of your own birthday expectations, like, someone would notice? I tell you what, this is a good year to lower your expectations, maybe skip them altogether, and what? Thank me later. I'm guessing

you wind up with a number of those "I'm sorry I forgot your birthday" cards.



Aries: I never did doubt that Aries would survive and thrive.

That wasn't a [question](#).

But to some folks, let's say, Aries detractors?

Those folks are going to be surprised that you're doing so well. Hang in there, you're special.



Taurus: There's a [motel](#) around the corner from where I live. To say that the [motel](#) itself has seen better days is a bit of an understatement. Before its demise, it was down to renting by the week. I passed by the other evening, on my way back from some business, and I noted that there was the scary chain-link fence up around that motel's grounds.

Due for demolition in the near future, or maybe, a [total revamp](#), but in keeping with local flavor, I'd bet on demolition. Tear down a perfectly useful, if outdated, motor court and replace it with a high rise. But this isn't about replacement value versus redo, it's about a simple image from the front of that derelict motel.

The sign, one of those with replaceable letters? The marquee? It was down to three letter. Used to read, "By the week," and now? Just "EEK." One motel's stationary said, "For a day or a lifetime." That place around the corner from

me? Not a lifetime anymore. In Taurus, I've got to wonder, too, if this is a permanent structure that's being torn down? Eek? Or is our Taurus going to take something old, freshen it up and make it better?

astrofish.net
Boutique Horoscopes
(discount prices)
subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)
\$2.95 for 30 days' access.



 **ASTROFISH.NET**

II Gemini

Gemini: I passed a long line of "power bars" in a local grocery store. The local chains are starting to really be more aware about marketing "organic" and socially conscious foods. Step in the right direction. I picked a up a candy bar -- power bar -- marked "Think Organic!"

I looked at the [fine print](#). Hydrogenated oils and high-fructose corn syrup. While, in the strictest sense, that is material that originated from farm products, there should be two warnings, and neither warning is good. Both those items are probable culprits in the processed food chain, and both are probable areas of concern. And therefore, there's nothing "organic," at least, not in the way it was intended. Then too, as a Gemini, you're probably aware that "organic chemistry" is about carbon rings and perhaps the least "organic" in the marketing sense, of the sciences. For my medical clients -- would-be medical students -- "organic

chem" was the most difficult of the classes.

As a Gemini, none of this is daunting. However, there's still the issue that maybe, like me and that food marked "Think Organic?" Pause long enough to examine the details instead of just believing the [marketing hype](#).



Cancer: I was in line at the post office. I recognized the guy behind the counter. I've exchanged pleasant comments with him a time or two. "I thought you were married." "Used to be" "Now, I am, and you're not." Just an exchange of information. None of it was critical. Just stuff. But a lot of information was conveyed in that short amount of time. [Whole books](#) can address his [issues](#), the [points](#), the fine points, the general [overview](#), and what really transpired.

Then, too, there's the (non-sexual) bond between males. The understanding. The way whole paragraphs', even novels', worth of information can be packed into a few lines. All by what passed in the form a few, terse comments. But this is guy talk. It isn't normal, human communication, besides, I might never see that post office employee again in my life. But it didn't stop a moment's of compassion, at the time.

I think that's what this is really about, that moment of compassion. Might be someone you never see, ever again. Might be a co-worker, compatriot, or similar brothers-in-arms. Might be a passing moment. Pick and choose compassion, if only for a moment, and even if, only, like, in a guy way.



Leo: The ability to [absorb](#) -- and then [discard](#) -- data is a vital [quality](#). The problem with being a Leo? You'll absorb and then forget to discard. That means you keep holding onto stuff you need to unload. Useless data. Unimportant and sometimes insignificant information. Material that you'll agree, stuff that needs to be clipped and tossed.

If you were editing someone else, you wouldn't hesitate to suggest that it get thrown away. However, this isn't about what you're doing for someone else, this about Leo looking out for Leo. And it's less about material possessions and more about information. Can be data that is contained in some notebooks, or on disk, or in a computer's memory. However, as I was twiddling with your Leo chart, I kept thinking about thoughts.

Sometimes it's just tidbits of information ticked away in your brain. Absorb and then discard. That's what this is all about. Absorb the information that is useful and needed. Then discard the parts you don't need any longer. Absorb and then discard.

[astrofish.net](#)

Boutique Horoscopes
(discount prices)

subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)

\$2.95 for 30 days' access.





Virgo: It's a strange sight, a couple of adolescent male bass, guarding a nest. I don't know if they really are adolescent or not, but I'm guessing, in the creek's clear channel water, that's what they were, looked to be between fifteen and twenty inches long, Maybe not quite twenty inches, but close. One was bigger, and this seems like it's a little early to be thinking about Bass and Spawning Season. But in South Texas, it's not unheard of.

Look, this a lot like the spawning season for Bass, and you're like a guy bass. The guys do all the work: they males sweep out an area in clear, shallow water for the eggs to be deposited, then the guys guard the nest, and then, when the little fellers are born, up to 4,000 (or more) in a single hatch, the guys are effective parents for a few days. Unlike any place else in nature, the males do all the work. Except lay the eggs, but even then, the guys are used to help that process, too.

This isn't about the reproductive cycle of Black Bass in area lakes, though, this is about doing all the hard work and not getting any credit. No sooner do you settle down on a next to guard those eggs and some fisher person comes along to taunt you. Are you going to take the bait?



Libra: According to the [ancient oracle](#), the [old](#) Greek way of doing this, you have a venerated elder spokesman, like a state elder, who is out to get you. In fact, it is a secret that this person is out to undermine the good will and gentle graces of Libra. So much for the old-fashioned way of doing

this.

At the very least, I did repeat what an ancient [oracle](#) would've said at this time. Let's get a little more current, though and this has a lot to do with supervisors, bosses, employers, or "guys who write/sign the check" around here. More like that they are in a bad mood this week, this weekend, on into next week. Only stays that way for a week, maybe ten days max, but from this date until then, you're dealing with at least one such person.

In [traditional](#) astrology, it's supposed to be an older male figure. However, I tend to see it as a gentle authority who might -- or might not be -- a little brusque and harsh this next few days. Worry about it? Why? Whatever can you do? The best course of Libra action is to not get flustered or let your feelings get hurt by some criticism that seems a little out of place. It will blow over in a few days. Don't get your delicate little Libra feathers ruffled, it will all smooth over soon enough.



Scorpio: One of the tricks to backing up a trailer, or boat on a trailer, or trailer that's going to have a boat on it, one of the little tricks is to use the mirrors. "The mirrors are on a boat?" No, the the mirrors on the truck. This isn't really an issue with most of the trucks I deal with as they rarely have a camper shell on their beds. But every once in a while, there will be a difference.

Maybe it's a load of stuff in the truck, maybe it's like a horse trailer that's taller than a boat trailer, maybe it's, like, a utility trailer. So my friends who are accustomed to turning around and navigating the truck while backing up? That means they are in a problem zone. I'll agree that turning around while backing up is the best way to do it, but then,

**astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts**

there will come a time, when you have to be able to use the mirrors in order to navigate.

It's important to be able to do it both ways. I'm not saying you're backing a camper into the lake to load a boat, no, that's not the message, but if you're like me, used to using the mirrors? Consider turning around to see where you're going. Or, if you're like me, and used to turning around? Try the mirrors, first.

astrofish.net

Boutique Horoscopes
(discount prices)

subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)

\$2.95 for 30 days' access.



 **ASTROFISH.NET**



SAGITTARIUS

Sagittarius: In keeping with the [web-based theme](#) of "national write a novel month," and "record an album month," this is the time when I'm opening up the scopes -- especially my own, dear Sagittarius, and it's an invitation to write your own scope.

Instead of writing a novel (50-100K words), instead of recording an album (10 songs or 35-50 minutes of original music), all I'm asking from Sagittarius is a short, say, 200 words excerpt for the next month. For February. Four short weeks. That's only about 800 words. Maybe a thousand, as Sagittarius, we're a little long winded.

Couple of [pitfalls to avoid](#): no mention of foreign travel, or even travel in general, no mention of long-lost loves, old flame, no mention of new flame, either. No mention of boss or work. Can't promise love-money-happiness, unless, of course, it's indicated. Easy as can be, right? So get after it. There's a chance to write your own horoscope and email it to me. Two points that must be avoided: silly horoscope tropes and sad country/western songs. Both sound the same. So get after, you get to choose.

"I don't know why I bother, it's been a rough week, and now, you won't give me [anything](#) to work with. It's just that money is tight right now, I still have a job, but we're getting by on less and less each week or so it seems and the price of gas keeps going up, it was down last week, but still, I hope you're happy about that Mr. 'I live in Texas,' and besides, it's just not getting any better. How about something hopeful? How about saying 'You'll win the lottery' this week? Maybe that's what I'll write, I'll win the lottery. Then I can send you some money. But I'm not sure I would since I should charge you for writing this horoscope."

See how easy it is? Just need a few more to fill out the next few weeks.



CAPRICORN

Capricorn: I borrowed a girlfriend's car the other afternoon. [Cold winter's day](#) in South Texas. I had to go down to the [big super sporting goods store](#) and pick up some fishing supplies, and that little car made it a lot easier. Just meant that I had to top off the tank with gas, and then pick up my friend when she got off work. I'm used to the mean streets of downtown, at rush hour, even, on foot. As a pedestrian, I know my way [around](#) pretty well. But driving? I get a little more timid.

I was stopped, at a red light, and I was calling one last

client, while I waited on traffic. It was very close to five PM. Phone to my ear as I tried to edge around the corner, peek and see if it was safe to take a right turn on red after a stop. The guy behind me was impatient. Several less delicate monikers come to mind. He couldn't see the incoming traffic, so he had no way of knowing if it was clear. Or not. And I was on the phone, and I was lawfully stopped a red light. And he was in a hurry. His problem, no? He honked at me.

I left my phone message, peered again in the twilight, and turned. Slowly. He roared around the corner, pulled up alongside, then slowed for the next traffic light. We pulled up abreast of each other, me, him, and a cop. Rude doesn't pay, just serves to irritate others. And getting in a hurry? That doesn't pay, either. Finally, planning to kick some stupid driver's butt? Like me? That is false bravado when there's a cop next to you. Maybe try and be more like me, a little timid. Works better.

All Rights Reserved

[copyright](#) (c) 2008, 2009 [Kramer Wetzels](#), for [astrofish.net](#)

**astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts**

For the week starting: 2/19/2009

"A coward, a most devout coward; religious in it"
Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night* [III.iv.369]

Viola is in disguise as a page, a guy named Cesario, and Fabian is telling Sir Andrew about the boy. Girl. Boy playing a girl playing a boy.

[Confused?](#) It's a good play.



astrofish.net
Boutique Horoscopes
(discount prices)
subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)
\$2.95 for 30 days' access.



[Pisces](#): I was reading the instructions. "Vary the speed and retrieve of your [top-water lure](#). Whether you take long pauses between pulls of your rod tip or rip your lure across the water surface with erratic action, top-water lures will call up fish in almost any condition. You just have to find the speed and cadence that will turn them on."

While this is liberally copied from the back of a package for a certain brand of top-water lures, I got to thinking about Pisces. There's some really good instructions, right there, in the short form taken from a brand of top-water lure that I use.

It's all about changing the pace, the changing the way you present and operate the same kind of material. Sometimes, it could be as simple as the gait in your walk, slow and roll to a troll. Been known to work wonders, no matter what you're fishing for.



Aries: I learned a new [trick](#), from one of the guys. We were discussing gas station hot dogs and I was [inquiring](#) about the best of the local ones. "Valero, used to be Diamond Shamrock, they always have the best." Down the street. The trick, so it seems, was to pick up the hot dogs, two for a dollar, and slide them out, add chili and cheese then slide the mystery meat tubes back into their respective sleeves. Worked like a charm.

"The girl, she'll look at you, but they didn't see, so it's like a chili-cheese dog upgrade." I did mention that the chili and cheese was there, next to the hot dog grill, for making nachos? The chili and cheese product were for making nachos, not the hot dog grill. One of those tubs of mystery, cheese-like yellow stuff. Chili resembling stuff, too. Not sure of the source. However, as an idea for [road food](#), as a way to get by, or just as a slightly on the sly upgrade? The idea has merit.

Now, I'm just repeating what I've observed, or what I heard, I'm not admitting that I ever did this myself, but consider some idea. Consider if you can get away with the hot dog upgrade. Or whatever it was that you were thinking about.



Taurus: Buddy of a mine, a young [Taurus](#), had a great solution to a problem. Phone solicitations? Have phone sex with them. "No man, it really works," he was saying. "Soon as they start with a pitch? Counter with 'what are wearing?' and just take it from there."

As one might expect from [Taurus](#), he give a visual demonstration about how he was going to coo and moan into a figment phone. It was a good act. Maybe that's why the idea was a good idea, at the time. Sounded good. The added visual effect of him, cavorting, caressing, and otherwise comforting an imaginary phone receiver? The audience, there were a couple of us, we all liked it.

I could easily imagine attempting to perform the same actions, next time a I get a sales call. The problem is, for one, I don't get that many sales calls, and I don't think I can do the same delivery that the Taurus had. He made it sound sexy -- and uproariously funny -- all at the same time. Sexy and funny. Taurus. That works. Doesn't work for a non-Taurus person like me.



II *Gemini*

Gemini: As a [Gemini](#), you can thrive on the soap opera version. Listen, a friend explained, "Tune in on Monday and Friday, Monday is the new stuff, and Friday is a weekly recap, all you need. Monday and Friday."

So, as Gemini, you need to the soap opera version of the story. Might try explaining it that way, too, just the digest. Enough drama to make the story and plot believable, in as much as a soap opera might be believable; however, the précis needs to just cover the facts. Which is kind of what's going on this week, just do the soap opera version of the story, Monday and Friday.

Monday is new problems and Friday is recap. Keep it short. Doesn't sell a lot of air time in between, but then, as a Gemini, you understand that the shorter version, just the *Soap Opera Digest*, you grasp how that is better.

astrofish.net
Boutique Horoscopes
(discount prices)
subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)
\$2.95 for 30 days' access.



 **ASTROFISH.NET**

69

CANCER

Cancer: Cold winter night. Last month, no, really, there were some really [cold](#) nights. I was up in the middle of the night to use the bathroom. Not an uncommon experience for anyone. However, there was enough ambient light streaming through the high window, I opted not to turn on the regular light. As I sat in the cold, I wondered about a heat source, besides myself. If I reached up and flipped on the light, it instantly felt warmer in the bathroom. The bulbs in the fixtures, I use the low-energy things, so there really isn't a perceptible, measurable temperature change. However, if the light floods the bathroom, the emotional sense is that it gets warmer. Has nothing to do with the real temperature, it's all an emotional, psychological event.

Try it some time, with the light on, it feels warmer. Similar to what you can do this week. Turn on your Cancer light bulb. You and I both know, in our Cancerian heart of hearts,

that the real difference has nothing to do with outside influences. The actual temperature gradation, the way it really doesn't go up a verifiable, can be registered on instruments, amount? But the emotional component? That's where the secret is. I figured this is out while sitting in a dark bathroom, just so you don't have to sit in a dark bathroom, all alone, and cold. Just turn on the light. The real and perceived changes? Makes all the difference.



Leo: It was a [cold](#), gray day. As one local [singer](#) puts it, "Nashville suicide weather," but I wouldn't be so bold as to borrow liberally from Robert Earl Keen (Jr.) Or I might. But the weather was relatively cold, gray, and not even the barest hint of sunshine. In south Texas, that means I should be wearing long pants. But I wasn't. I was in shorts.

There's a kind of stubborn denial, a point where a body knows, in its bones, that's it's not going to warm enough for shorts, but there I was, in complete and utter denial. One guy took a glance up from his desk, "Man, I get cold just looking at your feet." I just nodded, might've shivered a little, but I was moving too fast too worry about it. I was bound and determined, in the face of uncertain odds, that I was going to wear shorts because it was, for sure, going to warm enough to justify my decision.

Never did. I just looked stupid and cold. Little white chicken legs, freezing my ass off. Who's fault? Mine? I could blame the weather men, because, I'm sure, one of them predicted sun. But that's the problem with the Central Texas weather guys, and, for that matter, the weather itself, too hard to predict. However, I will predict, in the next week, you're going to imitate my actions, and in the face of freezing, sleeting and otherwise cold weather, you're going to try and

wear shorts. (I didn't say it was smart move, but *The Leo* must be humored.)



Virgo: Curl tail on crawdads.

Not straight.

That's all I got. The problem being, it's such a cryptic note, I can't even figure out what I was trying to convey. I seriously doubt that a six-word message will properly convey all the necessary data; however, it was worth a try. If anyone was going to tease out the meaning, I'm sure it would be a Virgo. I'm pretty sure that this had to do with two items. One, all the plastic baits I buy, the crawdads all have "curly tail" as part of the package. Then, as I got to looking at crawdads served in a big old heaping pile, a local Cajun/Louisiana favorite, I noticed that the little critters, after they are boiled, they all have curled tails. 'Course some of that spice they use? Strong enough to curl anyone's tail. Not the point.

Or was it?



Libra: There's this one Libra I know, she's a lovely young lady. She's also got a huge tattoo that spreads up one arm and across her back. It's variations on a theme, and what I saw in it the first time was sort of a "green man" motif. Or *leitmotif*, really, the way I saw it. Had to do with the color of her olive skin and the shape of the figure's face, and the way it was hidden in the leaves, and all in all, a remarkable piece of skin art.

Just good art, but on flesh made it better. Added a certain kind of a sense of being alive, as an extra level of meaning to the green man. Or green woman, I suppose, as the face was sort of androgynous, could go [either](#) way. Which is why I was thinking about that artwork. Then, too, there was her reaction, the first time she showed me the tattoo.

Permanent artwork, rather well done, but she was no longer in love with the artwork. Or the idea of tattoo that weird old guys like to look at. The real point was about a tattoo, while I liked it, she no longer was enamored of the artwork. Kind of tough, too, can't just erase a tattoo and certainly not one that expansive. The first time she rolled up her sleeve, she had a kind of resigned note in her voice. Careful about making decisions that might not last as long as the results of that decision.

astrofish.net
Boutique Horoscopes
(discount prices)
subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)
\$2.95 for 30 days' access.



 **ASTROFISH.NET**

 **SCORPIO**

Scorpio: I was shopping the other afternoon. Big sporting goods store, [local](#) chain, sort of. There is an aisle dedicated to soft plastic baits. Rubber worms, what it looks like, in all colors, Watermelon Seed and Chartreuse Pepper Flake are

some of my favorite, Pumpkin and Bubble Gum, are up there, too.

What I bought was a simple. I bought two packages of weighted hooks. And I bought two packages of a certain kind of plastic bait that I like. Magic bait. For me, this is the best bait in the world. Works in any number of places when nothing else works. It's a combination of soft plastic with enough of tail so that it looks like it swims, and the correct jig-head to put the plastic on. Mounted up right, this is a killer combination, just have to make sure it's the correct color. Out of that myriad of selections, and I'll admit, there's a "bubble gum/orange" which looks tasty to me, but out of the huge assortment, I just bought the one I know that works. Clue: stick to [basics](#).



Sagittarius: I was in Las Vegas for a [friend's wedding](#) last [weekend](#). The evening after the wedding and its reception, just as we were all headed out, as the party scattered to the cardinal corners of the compass, I stopped at a familiar-looking slot machine. I popped \$40 in. 45 minutes later, after "working that thang," the machine coughed up \$400. Good return on a less than an hour of play. Work. Play, really. Penny machine, in case one thinks I'm untrue to my Sagittarius (cheap/broke) roots.

The following morning, at Caesar's Palace, similar machine coughed up over \$800 -- again -- in pennies. I checked my charts, the winning streak wasn't due until Friday afternoon. But it was a Friday the 13th. Alas, all that ill-gotten gain is gone, sadly, donated back to the same casino that made me rich. Easy come, easy go.

Winning is easy, losing with [grace](#) is more difficult. I'd

suggest leaving the bitterness aside for the next few days. Monday is the day when it "all changes."

Sagittarius: In keeping with the [web-based theme](#) of "national write a novel month," and "record an album month," this is the time when I'm opening up the scopes -- especially my own, dear Sagittarius, and it's an invitation to write your own scope. Instead of writing a novel (50-100K words), instead of recording an album (10 songs or 35-50 minutes of original music), all I'm asking from Sagittarius is a short, say, 200 words excerpt for the next month. For February. Four short weeks. That's only about 800 words. Maybe a thousand, as Sagittarius, we're a little long winded.

[Couple](#) of pitfalls to avoid: no mention of foreign travel, or even travel in general, no mention of long-lost loves, old flame, no mention of new flame, either. No mention of boss or work. Can't promise love-money-happiness, unless, of course, it's indicated. Easy as can be, right? So get after it. There's a chance to write your own horoscope and email it to me. Two points that must be avoided: silly horoscope tropes and sad country/western songs. Both sound the same. So get after it, [you get to choose](#).



CAPRICORN

Capricorn: I was [looking](#) at some stuff on sale, it was camouflage pattern outer wear. With [pink](#). Be perfect for this one girl I know. Except, work with the details here, it was pink camo, sure, on sale, sure, and the sizes left? I would do an eyeball estimate and suggest that it would work just fine, but when I checked the tag itself? XXL. I can just see how that would play out, "Oh cool, Pink Camo! Wait, who is this for? That's not even close to my size. I hope you didn't think I would wear this?" Then anger.

In some situations, it's better to be safe than dead. I doubt you're in a sporting goods store where the pink camouflage

is on sale. I doubt you're thinking about picking some camo items for girlfriends. I do know, though, that the phrase, "Better safe than dead," that will mean something to you. Err on the side of caution this week. Err on the side of extreme caution, if possible.

I don't care what I think about how cute she might look in pink camo, I don't think it's the right time to buy and give. "Here, this is a belated Valentine's gift." Tiny women really don't like receiving the opposite size. Works in reverse, too. I know, and I lived to tell about it. Are you feeling lucky?



AQUARIUS

Aquarius: It's a basic customer service [issue](#). The point of the issue was I was, indeed, breaking the rules, or [attempting](#) to bend them, a little, in my favor. At three minutes after 9 PM, on a fateful and not really cold winter night, I needed one last ingredient for a [baking](#) project. Or rather, my girlfriend needed one last ingredient. I hastened myself in her car to the local store. It's about a ten-minute march for me, but after dark, on a cold evening in February, I opted to borrow her car.

Three minutes, so it's now six minutes after nine PM. The store is a high-end, downtown store, and I wouldn't shop there, except that it's horribly convenient. They have the good stuff, at the good stuff prices.

It was a comic scene, me, standing outside the door as the owner took one look at me, indicated the time the store closes on the window pane, and he pulled the shutters down. As local, resident, frequent shopper, paying the higher price, I wanted a little better service. Like opening back up long enough for me to grab one item. However, as [businessman](#) who's been beset with folks asking that I work impossible hours, I understand the situation from his

**astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts**

perspective, as well. I should've been about ten minutes early. There was a happy ending , but it didn't involve the over-priced grocery where I don't shop anymore. Which was the solution. Too much of something, too much one way or [another](#)? Just stop. Or bad customer service? Don't [go back](#).

astrofish.net

Boutique Horoscopes
(discount prices)

subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)

\$2.95 for 30 days' access.



All Rights Reserved
[copyright](#) (c) 2008, 2009 [Kramer Wetzel](#), for [astrofish.net](#)

For the week starting: 2/26/2009

"Sir, if you spend word for word with me,
I shall make your wit bankrupt."

Thurio in Shakespeare's *Two Gentlemen of Verona* (II.iv.
38-9)



Pisces: I like [watching tourists](#). And while I can't say, for sure, that the guy was a tourist, I'm betting he was from "out of town," [and](#) I'm pretty sure he was in strange territory. He was with, what seemed like, a girlfriend. Pretty. Slim. Blonde. Very blonde. Might've been a young wife, as the pair was acting like a young couple. I can't say I recall whether there were telltale wedding rings, but he did have, at one time, his hand on the small of her back.

Again, no [big deal](#), I took it to be gentle show of tender affections. Sun-kissed blonde, got an image? Slim, to the point of being too narrow for some guys. It's that fetching, waif-look found on super-models and similar ilk. A voluptuous brunette rolled by. Jeans a little too tight, a little too revealing? Maybe, the flash of dark eyes under dark lashes, accentuated by heavy -- and dark -- eyeliner. Almost caused that guy to have whiplash, his head snapped so suddenly.

There was, I observed, the briefest flutter of the brunette's lashes, and then she had a coy, downward glance. He was, obviously, quite taken with the larger woman with the dark hair. Guys are, regrettably, very predictable. We tend to want whatever it is that we don't have. As a Pisces, think about that statement, and think about whether you're happy with what you got.

ASTROFISH.NET: Now open for [Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner and Supper!](#)



Aries: It's a "look," a fashion that I never really got too comfortable with, not until [recently](#). Usually, not always, but usually, it's a young lady, and the jeans are designer, or, at the very least, the expensive. Nice outfit, casual but dressy. Or just casual. Aggressively casual, in that tasteful and expensive way. It's a look that is best reserved for the [young](#).

The crowning element, though, is a pair of flip-flops. Jeans that cost more than I would be willing to spend, even on a whole suit, then just wear flip-flops, cost all of about a dollar. High-fashion and [low-brow](#). One of those looks I should be [comfortable](#) with, and yet, there's a bemused element of mirth, a sly snicker that the look evokes. I understand the comfort level, as I prefer nothing but bare feet or, at the most, sandals myself, so I like the idea.

It's just the expensive, designer stuff on top of cheap plastic sandals, that's what I wonder about. Spend that much time, effort, and (apparently) cash? All to flop around in cheap beach sandals? I don't know. Think about the comfort level, and sometimes, the best -- most comfortable -- doesn't have to cost that much. I think those sandals are all of about two dollars at the beach. Might not go with the rest of the outfit, but who cares? Me? I don't count in this question.

astrofish.net's chart shop

online chart shop & live readings



Taurus: It's the [end](#) of February. [Resources](#) seem to be stretched a little too thin. The poor [Taurus](#), seems like there's just one last element left, and it seems that the last piece is being used up. Ahead of time. Seems like there's something in short supply. Cash, liquid resources, rain, no rain, something. Dry land. What it looks like to me is a personal drought.

This will vary from person to person, but this isn't like, a long-term affliction. It's just that the short-term material kind of looks a little bleak. Not really, but sort of seems that way. Hinting around that it appears that there's not a big traumatic event, but bunch of little ones? That's what this looks like. It's not so much "bad" as just "not wonderful."

This is also a temporary situation, as there will be a lift, [eventually](#), and other planet influences will lay in, but at the moment, yeah, sucks. Less of a black cloud over your head as a black cloud over yonder, and it seems to be moving this way. I watched just such a storm front, and while it looked bleak, the thunder and lightening never happened in my neighborhood. The heavy layer of black clouds, [scudding](#) along, but no, not right here, overhead. Which is what it's like.



II *Gemini*

Gemini: I went out to a different lake the other afternoon. Not a place that I know much about. Not that it would stop me from fishing there, as there were at least two guys out on one of the docks, and a couple of boat trailers in the parking lot. Means fishing was occurring. Don't know much about the catching, but the active act of putting a line in the water was going on, fishing to some. Not necessarily catching, per se, but certainly fishing. And fish I did.

I tried top-water, bottom-hugging, in-betweeners, movers,

shakers, non-moving, [floaters](#), sinkers, and live bait. Nothing even caught any attention, near as I could tell. There's an old adage, "A bad day fishing is better than a good day at work." While I'm inclined to agree, I was a little disappointed. Not so much as a nibble. I didn't even hook a stump, or old tire, nothing.

What does my lack of success have to do with [Gemini](#)? It was new body of water to me. A new place to fish. I had to observe local customs, figure out what the regulars used in order to be productive. I was just weeding out what didn't work. That's really what this is all about. Trying to figure out what doesn't work so in about 7 to 10 days, you're primed with what does work.



[Cancer](#): I've mentioned this trick before, and I thought, after looking at your [personal stars](#), that I'd mention my little trick. Again. My (Apple) [e-mail program](#) added a signature file to every outbound e-mail. One of the various quotes I used for years, from Shakespeare's [Midsummer Night's Dream](#), "Love looks not with the eyes, but with the mind. (And therefore winged Cupid is painted blind)." One of the girls, or, sometimes, a boy playing a girl, to be [historically](#) correct, and never mind. It's a female character.

The point is that I used that quote in e-mail [correspondence](#) for years. Got mistaken a few times. The program added one of my random quotes at the end of each outbound mail, not like I chose that individually. However, in a certain context, it could be construed as a romantic overtone as a closing comment. What's even more important? Understand how true the quote is. Your Cancer mind is doing some serious roving, and next week kicks off into a good time. But until that time arrives? Don't confuse a random Shakespeare quote with the real world.

"Sir, if you spend word for word with me,/I shall make your wit bankrupt." ([Opening quote](#))

astrofish.net's chart shop

online chart shop & live readings

 ASTROFISH.NET

 THE
LEO

Leo: "They hate me." Plaintive wail of a [particular](#) Leo. And I'd like to suggest, no, "they" don't hate you, it's just not a good time. Mars, in concert with a host of planets in Aquarius is opposite you. Oppositional energy has to be dealt with. You can make this a lot worse by pouting, and insisting that everyone, especially "them" are all out to get you.

I can't think of any reason why anyone would really want to hate the Leo. But this isn't about "them" against "us," here in the Leo camp. It's about how you feel. And you do feel, or will before too long, that "they" all hate you. Hardly the case, for real. [However](#), that's not going to stop the pressure from being applied, and at least once, in the next few days, you're going to want to [call me](#) and tell me I was wrong. Or right, they all hate me. Save yourself a phone call. No one hates you that much. The problem is that their little pea-sized brains can't understand that you're right. Maybe they will wake up to that fact, one day. Won't happen this week, hence the Leo and Leo-sized problem. Some days, hey, if it makes you feel better, think what you want. But keep it to yourself.

Weekly (Monday) update is [here](#).



Virgo: One of the hardest life lessons we have to learn is what [bridges](#) to cross and which ones to burn. I'd like to think that me, in my capacity of working with stellar ([astrological](#)) influences, that I can help discern just which bridges need to be burned and which ones need to be crossed. As a Virgo, though, you're tempted to [question](#) my judgment about such matters. I'm not offended.

However, I will offer a bit of advice, the bridge you're about to burn? Might want to think about that a second time. Look carefully. Look closely. What -- a hasty assumption made upon cursory evidence -- a first glance might appear as fodder for the fire? Might want to think twice about that. Might be less fuel, and more like bridges for crossing.

I'm not saying that some questions, valid Virgo questions, have to boil down to burn or cross, but there is the suggestion that maybe, just maybe, this isn't a time be waving around a torch. Or even a disposable lighter. Matches. No, none of that. We can make this life lesson easy, or we can make it difficult. It's your call, but I'm suggesting, at the very least, not yet with the matches.



Libra: It's all about making a decision. Or, better yet, it's about making a decision to make a [decision](#), soon. There's a chance, like, early next week, when it's a good time to buy. Between now and then? Shop. It's not about whether or not you can find the perfect item, for some, it would be an article of clothing, and for me, it was a certain fishing reel. Anyway, the point is to shop. Watch, wait, perhaps you can

go into the big store and fondle what it is that you want, or, in my case, I looked it up [online](#). I was patiently waiting on a certain brand's sale.

Sooner or later, what I was looking for, I just knew it would go on sale. That's what this is all about looking, searching, [seeking](#), and waiting. What I learned, while I was waiting on that particular item to go on sale? I learned about the brand, the company's history, how much retailers usually charge, and so on. Trivia is sometimes useful. In the meantime, I -- slightly obsessively -- kept checking circulars, mailers, and websites. Waiting on the deal. You have a chance, the price, the steep discount, shop wise, shop smart, and wait. Next week. Should make you happy.

astrofish.net's chart shop

online chart shop & live readings

 ASTROFISH.NET

 SCORPIO

Scorpio: I was watching a National Geographic/Discovery/History channel special on "[Dia de los Muertos](#)," as it is celebrated in parts of [Mexico](#). I watched, maybe 15 minutes of the special before I clicked off. I watched, amused and horrified, as the customs of each little town were trotted out for the camera crew.

A (white person) with a microphone was asking questions in English and Spanish, and the replies, they seemed to me, to be slyly satirical. I wondered, as one village displayed its apparent custom, I had to wonder, if there was signal, like the whole village was in on the scam. "Look, (pale people) with [cameras](#) and lights. Make up a rich ethnic tradition, fast."

Here, in my village, astrofish.net, it's a rich ethnic tradition

to send \$100 bills to the author, every March 1. Like "Day of the Dead," only we call it "Fish Day." The mailing address is on the [website*](#), in case you're wondering where to send the money. Like those "natives" on TV, like me, you can start your own tradition. I'd look at the first part of next week as the time to launch this idea. I'm not about to belittle the native customs, that's not what this about. It's about someone coming along and trying to make a theatrical experience to appease the tourists. But don't forget, send money:

*astrofish.net
PO Box 830657
San Antonio, TX 78283



SAGITTARIUS

Sagittarius: I've spent a lot of time [coastal](#) fishing. I've seen dolphins, off and on, quite a bit. But it wasn't until I was watching a movie star recite data about sea-mammals that I learned: female dolphins vocalize three times as much as male dolphins. As nature is a reflection of human life, I had to wonder, do female humans vocalize three times as much as males? I'm not sure.

When I'm [working](#), I tend to [talk a lot more than the client](#). But I'm being paid to talk, and I hardly consider myself a fair representation of the population. I don't make a good demographic sample. I don't make much of anything ordinary, not that it matters, I'm used to it. I can't seem to fit the "norm," no matter where I am. Not that it matters.

As a Sagittarius, we've got a couple of influences (Sun in Pisces, Mars/Mercury in Aquarius, Venus in Aries) pushing the Sagittarius "talk" button. Stop. Think about those numbers, three times as much, think about how, as humans, we consider that nagging. Are we going to be a Sagittarius blowhard and nag this week?

astrofish.net's chart shop

online chart shop & live readings

 ASTROFISH.NET



CAPRICORN

Capricorn: I suppose there's some sense of [irony](#). On the back of a friend's little, I guess it's a station wagon kind of car, there's a sticker. "Trust god/clean house." Which is made even more funny by the car itself. It's a wreck. One fender is crumpled, one door is caved in, and the interior has never been cleaned. Ever, or so it would seem.

"No, see, there's a filing system, here. I can tell when something got tossed in the back seat from the location to whatever i was eating that week." Or month, to judge from the looks of things, but then, that's my mind wrapping an idea around a friend's car, and I shouldn't be judgmental.

Different systems work for different people. Which doesn't address the irony of the bumper sticker. That's kind of the point, too, what needs to be done, and for that matter, what doesn't need to be done. I like the advice, I'd amend it a little to make it more amenable to my own sensibilities, and add a plural definition of gods, but that's just my way of seeing this. The part about clean house? Kind of important. Not in a big way but in a little way. And in the case of the car with its filing system I don't understand? Maybe just run the outside of the car through a car wash? The message, whatever it is, doesn't have to be taken too literally. Or maybe it [does](#).

astrofish.net's chart shop

online chart shop & live readings



AQUARIUS

Aquarius: "I can't remember, am I the good one or the [evil](#) one?" Client looked at me, halfway through a reading. An Aquarius, actually. Of course. Perfect question, as it can be an ambiguous area, especially [now](#). There's an urgency foisted upon the poor, hapless Aquarius as a result of having Mars fry along.

Not to mention other, sundry influences, too, but basically, there's that Mars energy. It works at cross-purposes to to the basic Aquarius plan. Hence the problems, and here's my solution: borrow from my client. Borrow -- shamelessly -- from another Aquarius.

As innocent as you can sound, practice saying, "Wait, I can't remember, am I the bad one or the good guy?" With the kind of celestial pressure cooker going in your sign? I'd like to think that you embody the qualities of the evil genius while still keeping a grander outcome that is much for the better in mind. [Good or bad](#)? How about a little of both?

All Rights Reserved

[copyright](#) (c) 2008, 2009 [Kramer Wetzel](#), for [astrofish.net](#)

For the week starting: 3/5/2009

"When thou art old and rich
Thou hast neither heat, affection, limb, nor beauty
To make thy riches pleasant."

The Duke in Shakespeare's *Measure for Measure* (III.i.36-8)
Exercise time, for Venus, moving in apparent retrograde
fashion. Pop your name into a [search engine](#) of [choice](#), like
[this](#).

SXSW extended dance mix [notes](#).



Pisces: "[Beware](#) of the Ides of [March](#)." I, [seriously](#) now, shouldn't use that line, each and every year. However, this year, in Pisces, that line has a certain amount of resonance. It's less about a big problem that one needs to be wary of, and more like a little problem. I doubt the Senate will appear or that civil war will erupt, or armies will go marching back and forth across the stage in a mock battle.

What I remember from that play, where the "[Beware of the Ides of March](#)" line comes [from](#)? Anyway, I doubt that it's any one, big hairy thing. I suspect, though, that this month is a turning point of sorts, and by the time you read this, in the first week of March, you'll realize a little about what is going on -- namely, Venus is backwards. That's part of it.

The message from Venus to your sweet Pisces self ought to be one of watching out, looking out, and being a little more [circumspect](#) at this time. Get a good offer? Maybe an offer too good to be true? While I've seen wonderful things happen to and for Pisces, yeah, I'd be little careful with that, just yet. And happy birthday, that's going okay. Just worry about large groups of men wearing toga-party attire.

ASTROFISH.NET: Just Add Water!



Aries: I [stopped](#), if you have to know, I was on the way back from the lake, fishing, and anyway, I stopped at a Wal-Mart on the south side of town. Needed a grocery item or two, and I wanted to see if they had any (inexpensive) fishing weights, as I'd just left a few behind.

Never having been in a Wal-Mart Superstore on the south side of town, on a Sunday afternoon, it was a shock. There's a certain "fear factor" shopping at wal-mart, on a laconic weekend afternoon. Outright frightening, in a sense. The people, might be me, but the customers seemed, to me, other worldly. Spooky space aliens? Maybe. Maybe something else, too.

Size and fashion, and while stereotypes play a part in this? Those stereotypes are in place because of my afternoon experience that bares out those very examples. I grabbed the meager grocery items and I skipped the fishing aisle, as I was unnerved. Not yet, but almost, Venus is going backwards in your sign. Relatively speaking, this is a short retrograde pattern. Still, Venus, backwards? Fear factor.

[Figure it out.](#)



Taurus: "Are you a [musician](#)?" I looked up at the woman asking the question. "No, I mean, I've seen you in here with all these skinny girls, I just figured you were some kind of [musician](#)." Yeah, go with that. I'm not a musician, and the "skinny girls" were clients, in varying stages of [astrological triage](#). It's the incipient onset of Venus going backwards, and yes, I realize that this looks like something else, but it's

not.

The parade of distraught and disheveled females, that's not so unusual in my line of work. The love planet, Venus, starts a backwards pattern. The bigger problem -- for Taurus -- is this backwards pattern commences in the middle of the sign preceding you, and basically stays in that sign for the next few weeks, sort of like a stalled car. Which might explain a lot. It's not that you don't want to move, it's not that you can't move, it's not that there isn't some movement going on, it's just that Taurus, for the time being, is stuck in a lane of traffic wherein the car in front of you is stalled. Hence the problem.

There isn't really a good solution. I'd just slow down, and realize that if you shift lanes? The lane you were in that was stopped? It will start inching forward while the lane you just jumped to? It will grind to a halt.



As Seen on TV!

Compare prices

**subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)**

\$2.95 for 30 days' access.

 **ASTROFISH.NET**

II Gemini

[Gemini](#): I was on a commuter flight, probably heading towards [West Texas](#), and probably for work. Rough "winter"

weather. Not exactly winter to some, but by my provincial standards, winter-like enough. That's not the question. It's a commuter airline, at least, to me it is. And what was supposedly a routine landing was fairly routine. I doubt it was due to an inexperienced pilot, I think it was just more a combination of a strong side-gust of wind, and the loaded plane, and anyway, the aircraft made an "assertive" contact with the landing strip. The runway and the jet's wheels got to know each other in a forcible situation. Jarring.

One of the overhead bins? Door fell open. There was some joke the flight attendant made. Me, I wasn't bothered. See, after flying around West Texas a lot, I'm used to that kind of landing -- the desert southwest -- the American southwest, it's rough like that. Usually at sun up and sundown. This is about assertive contact. Not so much that the contact damages you, but this impending Venus RX? It's like that landing. Can't say you haven't been warned now. Make sure tray tables are in an upright and locked position for the duration. Or is that seat backs?



Cancer: One of the potentially most damaging [phrases](#) to come out of the last decade of self-help? "I need to do this for me." Yeah, like I needed to buy a new fishing pole that cost several hundred dollars -- for my mental health. I'm sure that will work with the tax guy, the accountant, or even the IRS.

I would like to suggest, at times when we want to pamper our Cancer selves, we don't need to hide behind self-help crap talk in order to be honest about what is really going on. I wanted this -- whatever it is -- because I wanted it. Not because I needed to do this for me. That's just so much male bovine byproduct. It's justification for an action that, in reality, might not be that good for ourselves.

There's a 2-month window wherein you're tempted to use just such an excuse. I want to be brutally honest, call it what it is. Not what you want to hear. I got that new fishing pole because I wanted one that was just like it. Not because I deserved for my mental health. Same thing applies to Cancer. Couple of months of this stuff, too, so watch the justification. Not that I don't do well with denial myself, but really.



Leo: Anger and depression, both are results of Mars and its pressure. I was looking at the pop-psychology crap, and I found out that anger is depression that is outwardly expressed. Flip that around, and I've always thought that depression was anger that was repressed, turned inward. Same crap, and gets a little elliptical, now doesn't it? Oh that pisses me off.

I'm sure you're familiar with this sense of frustration. It's a case where you -- The Leo -- and me -- the astrofish.net guy -- we can both see the clear [solution](#) here. You're right. Simple, straight-up answer. However, there's a problem, too. Mars is going to confound that answer. You may be, indeed, correct, but no one seems to understand. Me. I do. Hence the anger. Or depression, because, basically, it's the same thing.

And it's caused by Mars. And letting this crap get to you? Waste of good, Leo-like energy. Mars wants you change something. Turn the fancy tables on Mars, now, and change how you choose to react. Anger? Depression? Why waste a perfectly good [rant](#) on that? Save your ire, for a later date, and save it for a more deserving target.



As Seen on TV!
Compare prices
subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)
\$2.95 for 30 days' access.

 **ASTROFISH.NET**



Virgo: Buddy of mine, [Virgo](#), bought a new truck. Under a certain astrological [influence](#), I suggested that it wasn't a [good time](#) to purchase a new vehicle, but hey, it was made in Texas, and he doesn't believe all this astrology stuff anyway. Three months into the new truck's life, it needed a warranty job on some undercarriage part. Buddy was without a truck to tow a boat for a few days -- we didn't fish.

Six months later, truck had another three-day trip to the dealership, another warranty recall. Minor, but not a problem. This went on for the life of the truck, every three to six months, it would spend a few days at the dealership, having some minor part replaced. Free of charge, but still, a few days with no vehicle. Inconvenient, at best.

Between Venus backwards, and basically the [Sun/Uranus](#) stuff up and coming, then too, Saturn in your sign, it all points to slowing down. Some of the plans won't come to fruition as fast as your Virgo self would like. It's like that

truck, every few months, back to the dealership and us, left waiting.



LIBRA

Libra: There's a point with Libra, and what I tend to look for, in a Libra? Peace, harmony and beauty. Not wishing to sound like the sullen, [shallow](#) lout that I am, I've found that Libra (sun sign people) tend to be better appointed than the rest. There's an inherent flair and eye for beauty. [Pretty things](#).

The packages wrapped by a Libra, just as a casual [example](#), are nicely done, perhaps a little better than anyone else. The bow on the top is crisper, the wrapping paper is seasonal correct, and card is held in place with a tiny piece of double-sided tape. It's a little Libra touch. Doesn't matter if this is Pisces birthday gift, the previous holiday (Valentine's), upcoming [Aries](#) birthdays, or what, the [Libra](#) package is generally wrapped nicer, a little prettier than anyone else's. I've come to expect that from a Libra.

What you need to be aware of? For the next ten weeks or so? Venus has a pattern. And you're not going to like this pattern, not at first. Your usual good Libra decisions are going to suffer. Not quite as well-appointed. Not quite dressed right. The labels on the packages don't line up quite right, out of the right colored ribbons. Or no two-sided tape. Something doesn't stick.



Scorpio: Ease on down. Try it, for a change. You've been banging away at a certain problem, throwing a lot of time, money, energy, precious few resources left in your [Scorpio](#)

arsenal of tricks, and whatever it is? That project, that problem, that persistent issue that won't seem to budge? Instead of charging at it, trying to force the issue? Ease on down. Approach it sideways. Sneak up the left side. Or the right side, doesn't much matter.

It's a simpler, easier way to approach finding a solution. And let's talk about finding a solution instead of beating it into submission. Subdue with brute force? My fine Scorpio friend, that's just not working, now is it? Not going to be working for at least another week, so instead of wasting any more of your precious time with this problem, instead of getting a bigger hammer, which won't work this time, try my idea. Just give it a spin.

Come up beside the problem, put an arm around the problem, and whisper something in the problem's ear. So to speak.



As Seen on TV!

Compare prices

**subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)**

\$2.95 for 30 days' access.

 **ASTROFISH.NET**


SAGITTARIUS

Sagittarius: There's a great [rush](#) and [torrent of words](#) that comes spilling out of my mouth. Like, I want to say this

about that, and that about this, and you don't understand, and yes, I do understand, and this huge gush of verbiage? Sometimes I can't find the right word for the correct expression. Hence the problem, and me, being who I am, I try and make up for effective communication with volumes.

Can't say the exactly right thing? Try a bunch of things that are nearly right. Or sort of close. Or kind of in the same area as the right word, but might not be quite right. Or might be wrong. Perish the idea that I would ever deliberately say the wrong thing; however, I have been known to say the best possible thing at the worst possible time.

Look at where Venus and Mars are: Venus, backwards, in Aries ([compatible](#) fire sign), and Mars, almost out of [Aquarius](#) (compatible air sign). But Venus is moving into a retrograde pattern, and there's no reason to keep trying to appeasing people who really don't want to listen to our voluminous quantity of words that are close to accurate, close to right, close to the correct answer, but not quite. Close works in certain situations. But heaping near miss upon near miss? Not a good idea. I'm just saying....



CAPRICORN

[Capricorn](#): A buddy of mine works at a large, well-known corporation. I'm unsure of his current job-title, unless I'm being paid, I don't pay much attention to position and economic woes associated with someone else's work. Since it's a large, well-known company, with thousands upon thousands of employees, the offices have network firewalls. Sites like my [websites](#), [astrofish.net](#), are banned.

Apparently, I'm less about productive company output and more about wasting time. Which might be true, but I'd like to think otherwise. However, I'm not [bothered](#) that certain

[sites](#) are blocked. A large number of the sites that I've linked to, in the past, those are blocked from the big corporate sites as well.

Time wasting, useless and frivolous, or, at the very least, nothing to do with big business and earning income, that's true, nothing directly applicable on the [website](#), here. But follow my thought, here, put off the mind tingling, acerbic, acetic games we like to play in Capricorn -- like reading my stuff, put that off until you've got some free time. Priorities. Got to work with the priorities.



AQUARIUS

Aquarius: In the 1968 classic movie, "[Bullit](#)," Steve McQueen drives a GT 390 Mustang. I might have the designation wrong on the car, but I'm pretty sure it was a '68 390 Mustang. Probably a Shelby, too, but don't hold me to my car trivia that might be older than me. The really bad guys were driving a Dodge Charger, probably a 440. The Mustang out-handles the Charger, winning the race, as it were. 9 minutes and 21 seconds of ground-breaking car-chase cinematography.

The lighter, leaner machine, driven by a driven character who bets on integrity instead of office politics, wins. Sort of, anyway. The role paved the way for other loner-cops (who adhere to strict, internal ethics) to help keep our world safe from crime. And then, there's the streets of San Francisco, always a popular image as cars go flying through the air. The leaner, more adroit machine wins the day.

Think about that [symbolism](#), not to mention it probably sold a few cars. Smaller, lighter, not as big a motor, but better handling? More skillfully driven? Think about that as we try to negotiate the last part of this Mars stuff with the onset of

**astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts**

Venus problems. Big charger? More nimble mustang? Who wins? Which car will you emulate?

astrofish.net

Boutique Horoscopes
(discount prices)

subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)

\$2.95 for 30 days' access.



All Rights Reserved
[copyright](#) (c) 2008, 2009 [Kramer Wetzel](#), for [astrofish.net](#)



For the week starting: 3/12/2009

"God made him, and therefore let him pass for a man."

Portia in Shakespeare's *The Merchant of Venice* {I.ii.52-3}



[Pisces](#): Once I get south of [Interstate 10](#), I have this personal feeling that the [hotels](#) all turn into [motels](#), and I feel like the places are all [cheap](#), damp, dank, dark, and a little musty. I don't have any [evidence](#) to the contrary, and from that I can make this observation. I realize that this born out mostly by my personal [observations](#), and one might expect, I tend to prefer seedier establishments due to my pecuniary nature.

South of Interstate Ten? It's coastal prairie or just coast, and I was thinking about this while I was in just such a motel, along the coast. There's an ever-present aroma, a faint smell, except, at that one place it was pretty strong, but there's always the hint of wet carpet. Could be a function of time, placement, proximity to swimming pools and and beaches, or just out-dated plumbing. Doesn't much matter.

Drain was [slow](#), in the shower. The ceiling over the shower was peeling in a corner. Part of this, though, is about hotels in a warm, damp environment, regardless of the season. Part of this is also about [perceptions](#), and how my perception is colored in a direction. Careful, my little Pisces friend, as you tend to let yourself be coerced, manipulated, pushed, shoved, or gently nudged in one direction with one

belief -- or observation. And it might not be true. [Evidence](#) to the contrary, notwithstanding.

ASTROFISH.NET: From the Land of 1100 Springs



Aries: A couple of years [ago](#), a nice girlfriend gave me a beautiful Hawaiian (print) shirt. At first, I wouldn't wear the shirt, since it was gift, and it was so nice, I mean this is one of those shirts that defies description, a really pretty print. But after a few years, despite its sentimental appeal, I liked that girl, I realized that shirts are meant to be worn. Besides, sitting on a hanger in my closet?

What's up with that?

It's much nicer to have someone ask where I got the shirt, and then the story about the nice girlfriend who obviously has better taste than me, how she gave the shirt as a gift. Just a little touch like that. But wearing the shirt also means that I have to wash the shirt, and even though I'm washing it on a gentle cycle, it's still getting washed. I'm afraid the print will fade. The memory won't though, and I think that's part of the point. Some objects, some items, some things in life are meant to be used rather than savored. Is it time to stop hoarding in [Aries](#)?



As Seen on TV!

Compare prices

**subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)**

\$2.95 for 30 days' access.

 **ASTROFISH.NET**



Taurus: "I swear, Kramer, one of these days, like, a [spaceship](#) will be overhead, a beam of light will shine down and you'll go up in it." And? I left it with an expectant pause. "And I'll say, 'That figures.' I knew you were from outer space. Or just [Austin](#), not sure which." Sets a tone, now doesn't it, I'm either from some distant planet, maybe an alternative reality, or I'm just from Austin. Can't tell for sure.

I was more amused by the commentary rather than upset, but coming from a Taurus, it sounded serious. Hence the problem. Was it serious commentary? Or just a wry joke, at my expense? Me, being who I am, didn't bother me in the least. In fact, I kind of took it as a compliment, and I'll let it go at that. But that's not necessarily the way it is.

I doubt that there's gong to be an alien abduction in Taurus. Or even around Taurus, not this week. But I don't doubt that there's a similar feeling that I had, was it a put-down? Or was it a good-humored nudge? As far as me being swept up into an alien craft? Probably not likely. As far Taurus,

getting backwards compliment like that? Probably going to happen. Thank the person.



II *Gemini*

Gemini: At some [point](#), I've been at this business of writing horoscopes for a long [time](#), but at one [point](#), I started to correlate other horoscopes with my own. I tend to look for hopeful ways out of situation, solutions instead of just saying, "There's a problem here." The particular was a cute Gemini with a retrograde Venus in her natal chart. Therefore, when Venus is backwards like it is now, that one person does well. Really well.

Only, the other [horoscopes](#) she was reading? Dire warnings about not undertaking any new action, for, like, the next six weeks. By that symbolism, it should be no new action this year, since if it's not one planet, then it's another that is exerting an untoward influence on Gemini. I doubt that will work, in the Gemini real world. The solution is the try about six different solutions. Keep in that Gemini mind, the idea that some of those efforts will not be adequately rewarded. But some of them will. Out of six tries? Three miss. One nearly hits and two are good. That's about a 50/50 success rate and in these days and times? That's better than average. Which is what I expect from a Gemini, no matter what the planets are doing.



69 CANCER

Cancer: I've used a variety of broadband services, cable, DSL, cellular, and so forth. These days, I'm pretty much just on a cable modem, as it seems fast enough and it works well often enough. Had a few problems at first, but they've been good so far. There was a problem the other day, and I

called tech support since nothing I was doing could punch through to a network. No inter-web stuff.

I was mildly irritated when we "power-cycled" the cable box. In plain language? Unplug the box, let it reset, cool off, time out or whatever, and then plug it back in. Power up. Everything came back. What embarrassed me, was the solution was one I could've done myself without having to call for help. It also got me to musing about clients, and in particular, Cancer folks.

Wouldn't it be nice to just unplug a person for a few days? Then plug them back in, and that person would return to his -- or her -- original settings? Be nice, I know. I could use that on a few friends, too. Regrettably, there is no such setting on humans. Or humanoid people we encounter. Especially not this week. You can do an imaginary reset, but that doesn't work well.

"I'm going to walk out the door, then I'm going to walk back in, and we'll have an adult conversation about this issues, okay?"

(It was a nice try; got to say that much.)



Leo: The "[Chupacabra](#)" is a [mythological](#) beast. First reported about 1995, it's lived in [myth](#) and imagination ever since. Just [outside](#) of Cuero, TX, a rancher claimed to have found a body of the mythical critter. Which, in turn, generated T-shirts, websites, hype, more hype, more tourist trade, international awareness of Cuero (TX), and pseudo-science out the wazoo.

As a reader of the night sky, not like I have a lot that I can say about the pseudo-science. Nope, not me. However, this

isn't really about the Cuero Chupacabra, which, after two DNA tests, it turned out the carcass was a hairless coyote, no, none of that matters. I liked the way someone built it into a frenzy, an example of the power of myth-making. One theory holds that the real creature is Space Alien Vampire. I would wonder why those aliens travel this far just to have goats, but that's me. I can suggest that cabrito is good stuff. Myths, and the stories we tell ourselves, all of this is important to Leo. However, despite sporadic eyewitness accounts, I'd also be aware of what is clearly myth, the land of make believe, and what's real.



As Seen on TV!
Compare prices
subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)
\$2.95 for 30 days' access.

 **ASTROFISH.NET**



Virgo: The beginning of the year, I'm usually rather [busy](#) at first, then the business drops off. I'm also -- apparently -- allergic to something in the air in the middle of the winter. Near as I can tell, and I've traced this back through my travels, we used to get this thing called "valley fever," when I lived in, well, they called themselves the "The Valley of the Sun." Alternately, I've heard it called "cedar fever," but it's much the same thing to me.

When a certain airborne pollen reaches a particular saturation point, besides sniffles and such, my body reacts as if it were fighting a flu. Not always pleasant, it's like being sick, only not really sick. Physical health, not mental health, this isn't about whether I'm [mentally](#) stable. I found one kind of OTC pill that worked pretty well. Until I read the [warning label](#). That scared me since the label inferred that the medicine might make me sleepy, drowsy, or it might make me hyper-active.

Sleepy or excited? To me, it's the far ends of the spectrum, but what do I know? I was just looking for the February relief, over-the-counter style. I'm not on any other medication, and every winter, about this time, I need something. So I didn't think it was a big deal. I just never read the warnings, and I didn't know I was endangering my mental health. I'd suggest that you do what you've always done, and I'd suggest, like me, you can read those labels for entertainment, but I wouldn't take the warning - wouldn't take the warning too serious.



LIBRA

[Libra](#): The question? "Do these jeans make me look fat?" The [answer](#)? There isn't one. If I say, "Of course not," then I'm lying. And if I say, "Of course," then I must be lying too, and insensitive to woman at certain time in her life-cycle. Most guys groan. No right answer. It has been suggested to me that there are several right answers. I gave up on trying, though. "Does this look all right on me?"

Imagine a Libra asking that question. Imagine a female Libra asking me that question. Consider the source. Consider that I'm doing my best to color-coordinate black t-shirt with black shorts, and that's about as far as I can go. Maybe asking me about a fashion question isn't such a good idea. However, given that Venus is backwards, opposite

you, asking for help in some manner isn't such a bad idea. Only, consider who you're asking for what. Asking [me](#) for fashion [advice](#)? Not such a good idea. Ask me for [astrological advice](#), I'm good with that.

More so than ever, though, this is a good time to make sure your Libra self consults with outside assistance before doing something you might regret. At least, you can return the item, can't you?



Scorpio: I passed this one sign, a [street](#) sign, a one-way street sign, several days in a row. I was walking and my direction, every time I came upon the fallen indicator? I was going against traffic. With earbuds and sunglasses, I'm sure I looked like everyone else. That's not what the issue is. The city, or whatever municipal arm that is responsible for signs? I'm sure they should get right out there and fix that sign. Maybe they haven't been alerted. I should put them on notice. Except, to me, it was a very fetching image.

I tried to take the [picture](#) a couple of times, but there are [limits](#) to what I can do with a phone-cam, or even my regular point-and-click devices. The image was seared into my mind. Cloudy day, rainy day, sunny day, winter day, summer-like day. This was just, like, last week. I got home, and started thinking about a fallen one-way sign and Scorpio.

If there isn't a sign there to show that the street is one-way, does that mean you don't have to obey the law? Sticky question. I'm no lawyer, but I could play one [on-screen](#), however, I would suggest that it's still illegal to go the wrong way on that one-way street, even if there is no sign right in front of you. Much as you would like to bend the rules, or say there are extenuating circumstances, it's still

against the rules. And common sense would suggest you don't really want to head the wrong way, even if there is no sign.



SAGITTARIUS

[Sagittarius](#): One of the methods I use for dealing with known obstacles is [fishing](#). No, wait, I'm going some place with this. Follow the idea, I've got a sticky problem, an issue, some hardware in life that isn't cooperating, or even operating the way it should. Could be a client, a computer, or a girlfriend. Could be any number of obstacles that we all face. And here it is, the recurrent problem, back in front of our Sagittarius selves again.

What to do.

I figure it's time to grab a pole and bucket of some bait, or just a tackle box with a few, choice lures, and head on down to the lakeshore. I'll forget about the problem for a little while. I'll let the problem seethe, and bubble, and toil and trouble, around in my brain while I'm actively looking at the water, judging the conditions, seeing if I can fool one more fish, just this time. I'll pay attention to water and cover, weather, location, precipitation, all of the factors, and I'll do a little guessing about what's going to attract fish.

Forget the problem for the time being. Then, when I'm packing up, tired and sunburned, I'll think about the problem, and I'll come up with an alternative solution to whatever the issue was. Actively [not thinking](#) about the problem, that's the [secret](#).



As Seen on TV!

Compare prices

**subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)**

\$2.95 for 30 days' access.

 **ASTROFISH.NET**



CAPRICORN

Capricorn: "There's humor, then there's 'Kramer's Humor,' just smile and nod like you understand." I was in a small group, and we were conversing. I'd made one of my oblique, and to me uniquely humorous, comments. I was met with the "deaf and dumb" look. I'm used to it. I've wrought puns in three languages, crossed borders between profound and profane in a single breath, and -- unbeknownst to me -- offended whole nations. All before breakfast, too.

So the comment, its roll of the eyes, and the way the conversation flowed right around my little verbal miscue? None of that bothered me. But I'm not a Capricorn. You're going to drop one in the middle of the conversation. Like me, a funny one. And like me, no one around you will see the humor, ironic and satiric points. Belabor the point? Stress the humor? Try and explain the multifaceted points? No.

Sometimes, like me, it's just easier that we be quietly amused by ourselves. Pity the fools who don't get it. Don't

try and hammer the point home. No need to belabor the point of the barbed joke. No reason to get carried away trying to show how the humor worked on several levels. No, they missed it.



AQUARIUS

Aquarius: "You know, [you speed up](#) in the fog." An [Aquarius](#) explained it to me. I don't know how true it was, but I've watched, over the years, and I can see how it feels like it's true. Which doesn't make it a fact, just a casual [observation](#) about driving. But it stands to reason, when, in a fog, we speed up a little, try pushing the limits on the speed limit to get out of the fog faster. Which only stand to reason, since it's probably what I do.

Next time I'm driving in fog, I'll try slowing down more, and we do get fog around here. I tend to see the "clouds on the ground" when I'm headed out to the lake before sun up. But then, that could just be me, at that early hour.

Do you speed up in a foggy [situation](#)? I don't know, I've never conducted serious, double-blind studies to verify -- or debunk -- this information. Probably not going to happen. Think about the supposition, our little hypothesis, and think about that in Aquarius land. Are you interpreting a common myth as straight up fact?



As Seen on TV!

Compare prices

**subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)**

\$2.95 for 30 days' access.

All Rights Reserved
[copyright](#) (c) 2008, 2009 [Kramer Wetzel](#), for [astrofish.net](#)

For the week starting: 3.19.2009

"He that depends

Upon your favors swims with fins of lead

And hews down oaks with rushes."

Shakespeare's *Coriolanus* (I.i.174-6)

"As seen on TV" -- again. The Program is "Wife Swap" on ABC, the tentative air date is April 24, at 7 PM. See local listings for [details](#).



Pisces: There's stoplight, not far from where I live, and the sign under the [stoplight](#), it's a left-hand turn lane, the sign says, "No left turn on red." I never did get that. I thought that was the law, the rules of the road, the instruction set, as observed by all. Apparently not, or why would the city be required to put up a sign that stated what should be obvious?

Red light means stop, at least, it means stop in the [rule-book](#). Without engaging in a discussion about the various signs that the [Apocalypse](#) is upon us, I would turn my Pisces attention to what the sign says. It's a referring to the rules of the road. Now, as a good Pisces, you tend to think of these rules as mere guidelines that you sometimes can break with impunity.

The problem is, as Aries begins to get started? While I'll agree that you should be able to get away with ignoring the rules? The problem is that the one morning, you get in a little hurry, you sort of avoid that one rule? You go ahead and ignore the red light? There's a cop, two cars back. And you can't get away with the "I didn't see the sign," because, after all, it was right there. You may not always have to follow the rules to the letter. This week? Doing so prevents problems.

ASTROFISH.NET: Now with X-Factor!



Aries: I was teaching, coaching, a friend. It was all about how to handle a fishing rod, casting, some of the finer points of that. He'd seen me at work, and I made the task look easy. Effortless. Like I knew what I was doing. I watched him a little, and I was about to offer some coaching, some suggestions on technique for using a spinning rod.

Then I realized: I don't know what I am doing. I just sort of do it. Pick up a fishing pole, point, aim, click. Or just throw. I tend to use whatever kind of reel is mounted on the pole, and I can't say I have a favorite. I like whatever works. So when it came to me giving a "hands on" instructions, all I could do was talk a little bit around the issue.

Finally, my Aries friend "got it." "Oh man, this is like golf, they can coach you but you just have to do it." Right. Exactly.



Taurus: There's a sense that payback time is here. Last week, week before, I was scanning the newspaper and I found that a certain chain of sporting goods stores had a certain brand of plastic bait steeply discounted, "while supplies last." That's a retail signal that the chain is moving old product off the shelves and its time to make way for new baits. The spring colors have arrived! A girlfriend remarked about my apparent excitement then made some comment about me mocking her about her spring fashion excitement.

Clothing styles is one thing, but new colors, new scents, new styles of bait? That's important! Shouldn't mock me for that. (Insert tired roll of the eyes.) As a Taurus, you can be in either position, excited about the new kinds of wiggly plastic bits that are now available as the bass are breeding in Texas, or exasperated that an apparently grown man can get all excited about colored plastic wiggly bits. Or, what's worse, are you going to mock me for mocking you for getting all excited about the spring fashions? There are good times to point out inconsistencies in a person's judgment, like mine in this example. Maybe, I'm not saying for sure, but maybe, as a Taurus, you should not mock us just yet. Although, getting excited about new bait is really sort of stupid to some [people](#).



II *Gemini*

[Gemini](#): I know that music might not be your "thing," but I had a [question](#). How many great harmonica solos can you think of? I happen to know of two, but I know of them only because they are both loaded on my iPod. To be brutally honest, they are both rather dated, too. I mean really old. Older than some of my clients.

I'm sure that the current versions of these two harmonica songs have been [digitally remastered](#), and are available as [downloads](#). As a Gemini, you should appreciate the harmonica. Small enough to slip into a pocket, I mean, some phones are larger than the typical B-flat mouth organ, the most common of instruments. It's capable of blues, rock, bluegrass, folk, and probably gave birth to some of the more current derivative forms like hippity-rappity. Or whatever that is, the 6/8 beat that doesn't add up and that I can't dance to (I'm wrong ethnicity and gender, two strikes against me).

So it's really two questions, great harmonica solos, and can you carry a harmonica in your pocket, at least, this week?



Compare prices

(still cheaper than Stardust Motel)

subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)

\$2.95 for 30 days' access.

 **ASTROFISH.NET**

69

CANCER

Cancer: I used a special kind of [bait](#) when I fish around here. I call it "minnows in a bag," although, to be honest, it's really just a standardized bag of "sort of" preserved minnows and that [secret](#) sauce that fish crave. I like it because it's a durable container, the minnows work almost as well as real, live minnows, and the preserved ones are not "fishy" in appearance or aroma. Means they generally keep pretty well in the enclosed plastic bag with patented "flavor-fresh" technology. Zip-lock. No water, no aerator, no problem.

I'm not sure how much I trust that baggie, though, to really hold freshness, once it's been opened. I'm not too sure about any of that. I'd prefer to leave the bait, if I'm not using it immediately, on the shelf at the store. So what are the chances that I bought some bait, and now, everything kicking off the way it does? What are the chances that I miss a good chance to fish, just because I bought some fresh bait? For Cancer, this can mean something more than

just bait and fishing, but that's the best example I could come up with. You're ready to go, only, it seems like that was the wrong preparation.



Leo: Off and on, for many years, I've used an antique roll-top desk as my main work surface. [Workshop](#). Space from whence I generate whatever I'm pleased to refer to as [work](#). There's an even dozen cubbyholes, not quite envelope size, on either side. Those [pigeonholes](#) collect bits and pieces of paper. Bills, notes to self, correspondence, stamps, tiny figurines, occasional fishing gear, just all sorts of crap gets collected.

Now, you may not have a similar arrangement, a roll-top desk, but you do have places on your work surface, where crap accumulates. Important material, the remnants of daily life or the artistic expression, one, the other, both. In the coming week, if I were really more regal and Leo? I'd start going through the various miniature piles of "stuff." Some of it is very important. Some needs immediate action. Some needs to be tossed. It all needs to be sorted and reordered. Cataloged and summarily thrown away? Sure, that could happen. Saved for future reference? Sure, that too. Place and point for everything. I'm imagining, though, you've got situation, like my desk, and I'm seeing this week, now, while the Moon heads towards Aries, as a time to clean up. Sift through that material, I think there's some real Leo [gold](#) hidden within.



Virgo: "Man, you know, what I should've done? I should've just popped that guy in the mouth!" Sure. [Sounds](#) plausible.

Also sounds like, to me, that Mr. Mars is in Pisces, which is opposite your Virgo self. And it also sounds like Mars creates frustration, temptation, and possible physical activity. Not necessarily good, either. I'm not saying that you should restrain yourself and refrain from popping that guy in the mouth, I'm just suggesting that you hold that thought. Maybe hold that punch, too. Wait, I'm suggesting that you refrain from hitting him. It. Her. Whatever.

Mars spurs us to activity. But sometimes, just taking action for the sake of taking some action? That's not always right. Doing it just because you're sure that you have to do something? That doesn't work well. The problem being Mars makes you strike first then think about the action, consequences and possible ramifications. Mars can be harnessed to work for you, but the first point is to keep from making that first, instinctual strike. Or counter-strike. Just because you're right doesn't mean you're right.

astrofish.net
Boutique Horoscopes
(discount prices)
subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)
\$2.95 for 30 days' access.



 **ASTROFISH.NET**

LIB

LIBRA

Libra: In one of the *Henry IV* plays, there's a character called "Hotspur." He's hot, indignant, rash, brave, foolish. He's a [slave](#) to honor. Misguided and stupid, too, at least in

one reading of the play. He runs off to face certain doom, and while he knows it's a lost cause, he still goes down, fighting.

Hotspur is a good guide for Libra. Look at his mistakes, the rash, brave, foolish, loser that he was? Take heed from Hotspur. There are times when those are admirable qualities, but this isn't one of them. Seasoned, tamed, rational thought process are what's required.

Stop. Look. Listen. Think. Consider, too, that your normally good judgment is currently clouded by Venus in her relative position (backwards, Aries) and think about how your judgment isn't as good as it usually is. I'm not saying that you should -- or shouldn't -- but I am saying it's time to stop and ask for assistance instead of trying to go it alone.



Scorpio: What has your immediate attention? [Seriously](#), right now, what's predominate? Romance issue? I've warned you about that before, especially with this kind of [influence](#), that's really less of an issue than you're making it out to be. So what's the real issue? It's about work, and it's about how you organize your work. I got in a frantic way, not unlike your Scorpio self, and I decided it was time to reorganize the fishing gear.

What I did: took everything out of one tackle box. Spread it all around the on the floor. Put all that stuff back in the same tackle box, back in the same place, pretty much. Nothing leftover. Didn't throw anything away. Didn't move, clean or modify much. If anything at all. But I felt better. Next time I use that gear, I know where it is, what's there, and where it's supposed to be. No problem.

What I accomplished is more like rote busy work, but

there's a method here. I'm suggesting that there's a task, something as simple as merely ordering and reordering something that you use every day? Might seem like busy work, but getting something prepared for work? You'll be surprised what joy there is in the simplest of (Scorpio) tasks.



Sagittarius: Stay on topic. Simple, three word [command](#) to help our Sagittarius selves stay [focused](#) in the next seven days.

There's a minor disturbance, and like we are? We tend to jump off and follow whatever seems like the most promising line of inquiry at the time. However, the way we get easily distracted?

That's the problem and staying on topic, keep pushing forward even though there's a bright and shining object over here to the right? Even though there's that? Or even over there, to the left? Maybe back there, or up there, and it's easy to understand that we're more susceptible than ever before to being derailed.

That's also why, just staying on topic? That's the secret.



As Seen on TV!

Compare prices

**subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)**

\$2.95 for 30 days' access.

 **ASTROFISH.NET**



CAPRICORN

Capricorn: Ever read the labels, especially, like, on food? I was wondering about this as I prowled the aisles of the grocery store. There's a local chain, big chain, and they have a couple of attributes I like. First off, they have a sister-arm that is the same as the fancy places, only not as fancy, and consequently, not as pricey. Fancy without being "whole-paycheck" priced.

That wasn't where I was shopping, the other characteristic I enjoy is that the local stores tend to reflect the neighborhood. Less "national, standardized" crap, and more local crap that better reflects local populations. Nice, in a way. Almost thoughtful. Maybe it's a big corporation, but, at least, they seem to act like they care. I picked up a couple of packages of cheese. Cheddar cheese. I wondered. One was labeled "aged" while the other was just regular. Is it chemically aged? Is it older? Or because it's been on the shelf longer, it costs more? I didn't understand any of that. I was about to check the ingredients, but something else caught my eye.

I never did get to ask the right questions about the age of the cheddar. Is it old enough to drink? Vote? As long as we have Aries starting out with a whimper? Look at the labels. Ask the questions I'm afraid to ask because, after all, with Mars and so froth? You are new and emboldened. Let me know what you find out.



AQUARIUS

[Aquarius](#): It's an interesting look, saw it the other morning: Shorts and a scarf. Long, woolen (looking) scarf. Shorts and sandals. Fetching young lass, I'm sure. Maybe a tourist, maybe a local. Maybe someone who just got a new scarf and was itching to show it off, no matter what the weather.

The March days, around here, they can be like that. Cool to cold in the morning, warm to hot in the afternoon. Or maybe warm in the morning and cool in the afternoon, depends on the patterns at the time. Predicting the weather is hard. [Predicting](#) that you can combine very casual summer attire and something like a winter scarf, for that fetching Aquarius "look?" That's easy to see. Understand that some people might openly mock you for a choice you make. That doesn't mean that you won't be comfortable. Or right.

All Rights Reserved

[copyright](#) (c) 2008, 2009 [Kramer Wetzell](#), for [astrofish.net](#)

For the week starting: 3.26.09

"Tempt not too much the hatred of my spirit,
For I am sick when I do look on thee."

Demetrius in Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*
(II.i.211-2)

One of the hotly debated sources for Shakespeare's play,
[The Tempest](#), the most obvious source? Inspired by Sir
George Somers voyage to America in 1609.



[Aries](#): We were supposed to [go fishing](#) a few [weeks](#) back.
Didn't make it. Weather turned sour, and while any day
[fishing](#) is better than a day not fishing, I've gotten a little
older and -- I'd hope -- wiser. Cold north winds whipping in
at 40 knots? Not really fishing weather to me. I'm tough,
but not that tough.

We just scheduled a time when it was a little more
hospitable. Which, around here? Won't be more than
another week or so. In Aries land, it's matter of
understanding what is going on, what you can do, what you
can't do, and what makes for a more pleasurable
experience. Sometimes, just putting off a trip -- or just an
[experience](#) -- for a few days? That buys all the time in the
world. What happened? Cold weather let up, it was nice out,
and the fish were just coming off their beds. Made for
hungry fish and good, clean fun.

ASTRFOISH.NET: Aged to Perfection.



[Taurus](#): Regular as can be, just as the sun will rise again
tomorrow morning, and the first crescent moon begins to

[poke](#) through? Regular as the celestial clockwork, my little Taurus friends are going to be frantic. This is due to a combination of influences.

First off, Venus, the planet oftentimes associated with Taurus? Venus is backwards. In Aries. The sign that comes before you. Then too, the Sun is in Aries, the sign that precedes you. So sure as can be, my Taurus friends are freaking out. There's a tension, a sense that "something's about to happen!" And what will it be? This is actually the normal tension that comes, the accepted free-floating anxiety that hits right before some astrology event occurs. There's a very palpable sense that something is about to happen.

[What?](#)

Taurus birthdays are around the corner, but they don't begin for another few weeks. Herein is our problem. The planets go a long way in explaining the source of the trouble, now, as to a [solution](#)? Understanding the point of origin for this anxiety, this pressure? That's the start. There's an emphasis on something you can't put your hand on. The intangible is what's the problem. Comprehend that sometimes you can't put your hand on it, sometimes, there isn't anything to reach out and touch? Exactly. The discomfort is a fleeting influence.



As Seen on TV!

Compare prices

**subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)**

\$2.95 for 30 days' access.



II *Gemini*

Gemini: There's a good time to push your point across, a good time to reiterate the points you're trying to convey, and then, there are times when you should just pause. I didn't say stop. I didn't say "Whoa, hold up there, big feller." That's not it. What I'm suggesting is a [simple](#) pause. Certain fishing techniques call for a pause in the process.

With Venus in apparent retrograde motion where she is? Relative to Gemini? A pause is what's important. I was watching a fishing video, and the (big name Gemini bass fishing champion) explained that he lets the fishing line go slack while he lets the (certain type of lure) bait sink to the bottom. Watch the fishing line, though, and pay close attention. A simple twitch can mean a strike, fish and photo-op.

The point though, the way he was describing it, being Gemini and all, is how one must maddeningly just let this drift to the bottom. Pause. Pause and watch, but don't do anything until all movement ceases. Which, if you think

about it, is a pretty difficult task for a Gemini. But pause, a well-timed pause will net bigger fish.



Cancer: Where I live, there's a [clash of cultures](#). The different [backgrounds](#) and ethnic striations blend and breakdown. Then, too, there's the bizarre. Just plain freaking bizarre. Saw this the other evening. It was Cadillac, maybe 20, 25 years old? The kind that was sort of boxy, in a silky Cadillac way, and that wasn't so weird. The car had a lift kit. Not a small lift kit, but the wheels and axles were separated from the frame by a good two feet. So it was a, I'm guessing, I never paid too much attention to the various makes and models, but I'd peg it as a mid-1980's Caddy. With a good 24-inch left kit.

To say it was odd? Understatement. However, go back to the idea that my home is in a place where more than several cultural mores happily co-exist. Consider, too, that vehicles can still be an art form, rather than just a way to get from one place to another. While it's not a style I'm exactly conversant with, the idea of two-foot lift kit, on an old-school Caddy? Sort of intriguing, in a weird way. Just plain strange, [items that probably don't belong together](#). Which means, of course, someone will stick those [disparate items](#) together. How you react to what you see? I just chased the car down, took a few pictures and admitted I was envious. As it was a cool mechanical project.



Leo: It's a fishing T-shirt: I make my own stink-bait. As a [novelty item](#), I'm sure that sold one or two t-shirts. As a chick magnet? Not so much. I know exactly one person, one

of my friends, his name isn't "bubba," and he would willingly, even with pride, wear just a such a t-shirt. Only person I can think of.

In fact, if he weren't a married man, he'd think the shirt was a chick magnet. He does make his own stink-bait, and I think that was the secret he kept from the woman who eventually consented to be his wife. I'm unsure of the details, but if I have my facts more or less right, he does the stink-bait in the backyard, in the fall, and then, he keeps his stuff in a special refrigerator, just for stinky stuff, in the garage. It is a good catfish bait, and it's been known to work as a surf bait, as well. But that's not the point, the deal was that t-shirt.

Like I said, I know exactly one person who could get away with wearing one of those. But that's about it. As you come up with a funny tag-line, a t-shirt idea, or even a recipe for stink-bait? Think about application, and think about alienating friends, family members and neighbors -- consider that before you put it into production.



Virgo: I managed a bar, well, several, but I'm thinking about one that was properly a nightclub. For a while, every week, regular as clockwork, I would have to call a carpenter repair the plaster over the men's urinal. Patch it up, throw a coat of paint on it, and the next week? Same thing.

What we did, me and that carpenter, eventually? Instead of sheet rock, we pulled out part of the wall one Monday morning, and replaced it with three-quarter inch plywood. Then texture and paint, and it looked just like the sheet rock. Stopped the problem with manly men punching holes in the bathroom wall.

Okay, normally, I'd think that Virgo folks would be smart, like us, and replace the weaker material with something besides sheet rock. Only, not now, I'm worried that you've been punching holes in the sheet rock. All I'm warning you about? People just like me who eventually get just smart enough to replace that sheet rock with plywood.



As Seen on TV!

Compare prices

**subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)**

\$2.95 for 30 days' access.

 **ASTROFISH.NET**



LIBRA

Libra: I sat down, over some espresso at a coffee shop, to chat about a Libra and her chart. I asked if she'd been argumentative lately. She assured me hadn't. I asked if she was combative. She assured me she wasn't and that launched into a fifteen minute discussion about how she wasn't wrong, and how she hadn't been arguing with anyone. Especially not me about how she wasn't arguing.

I tried to end-run the problem, but my efforts were in vain. The point is, the Aries opposition, not to mention Venus and the assorted lunar phases? Just makes you more prone to argue. Like that "reading," which was less of a reading and more of one-sided conversation about how she wasn't arguing. "Hey baby, it's your nickel."

Before you even consider [sending me a note](#) explaining how you haven't been taking anyone task, before you dispute my claim, before you antagonize a situation, consider that the planets are stacked against you. You might feel wronged and you might want to right an injustice. Stop. I'm not saying you shouldn't, but I am suggesting we all wait until the planets are nicer and you can get your way -- without [arguing](#).



Scorpio: One of the [books](#) I wrote, I had to [wonder](#), I thought it was just a crime/thriller novel. Turns out, going back to look at the text, later, with a critical eye, I could see that the book was about an unresolved father/son issue, played out against a backdrop of murder, mayhem and death. With a little sex heaped on top. Have to have that for a thriller. Or tension, anyway.

The [book](#) is headed towards print, so I won't give away the ending. Which will drive most Scorpio people crazy since there's one thing you want to know, "How does it turn out?" I'm not saying. What was good, when an editor wanted me to re-write a few passages? I had a chance to get in and dig around in the text, and I wondered if I knew what I was writing about when I wrote it.

Some of the sub-plot, sort of the story within the story, I didn't intentionally put that there, but it was there, plan as day. I'm not saying that you have to trust your instincts, but I'd be more cognizant of the process. *The Scorpio process*. Don't argue with what works. Like that novel with elements I clearly never intended in there? Somebody finds it? Don't worry.



SAGITTARIUS

Sagittarius: I kept thinking to myself, "There's got to be a nice way to [show](#) this stuff off." I've got an arcane collection of coffee (and tea) making apparatuses. Since shelf space is limited, like, bookshelf space is reserved for books, I don't know what to do with all the coffee paraphernalia I've collected.

Started with a simple French Press, which I used for years. Then I got another, slightly fancier model, then a smaller one, just perfect for a single cup in the afternoon, and finally, a larger glass one, then, a larger metal one, all of the same sort of mechanical devices. Then, I've got couple of very nice tea pots, and a couple of real espresso makers, the stove-top variety. The little silver-colored espresso makers are cute, but I doubt I'll ever use them again. Still, as a collection goes, it is my collection, and I do enjoy it.

Most of the various pots and coffee makers have intrinsic value. Sentimental value, of sorts. So I've been toying with ideas on how to put this all out and on display. But then, there's a problem. The first issue would be a visitor would assume that I could make coffee for a guest. Not likely. The second problem is dusting, that much stuff on display would require some dusting, regularly. Not one of my strengths. So again, what I finally decided to do? Nothing. Not always a strong Sagittarius action, but there are times when considering a problem, and [addressing](#) the problem? Sometimes, do nothing is wise course of action.

ASTROFISH.NET: All Bills Paid!



CAPRICORN

Capricorn: This is not going to be your "summer of love," unless, of course, there are bigger factors at work in the Capricorn chart. I mean, larger factors than what I'm looking at. Not all bad, just less than wonderful, and that means, on a purely interpersonal level, there's going to be some Capricorn mistakes. That's where I earn my keep, as the astrology guy.

The mistakes are due, right now, to the Sun and wayward Venus in Aries. In a couple of weeks, Venus will no longer be wayward and the Sun will be in Taurus. By then, Mars will be in Aries, and we're back to the problems. The real trick, the cheater's way around this kind of an astrological problem, the way to make this work for you?

Do nothing. Avoid conflict.

None of this works out to your favor, and what's worse, it's really easy to get bent out of shape about an issue that really isn't an issue. The problem is, it won't be until later that you see how it was an issue not worth making a big deal out of, like I've suggested, later. And later in the Capricorn game plan doesn't work. Since you're liable to get all worked up about some perception of a problem? I'm not saying bury the problem for forever, but for the this next few days? Maybe sit and stew about it, quietly, to yourself.



As Seen on TV!

Compare prices

**subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)**

\$2.95 for 30 days' access.



AQUARIUS

Aquarius: I learned something about [food photography](#) the other [afternoon](#). There are no ends of macaroni in pictures. Same for spaghetti. I'm sure that this kind of food photo styling can extend beyond simple pasta photographs, but think about it. How hard is it to arrange all the noodles in the plate so that no ends, no butts, are showing? Something I'd rather not puzzle out.

I got off about the food photo issue because this week is like a puzzle, only, it's on a more important level that just ends of macaroni not being visible. Or maybe it's not really more important than that. Next time you see a magazine ad or a TV commercial and there's a steaming heap of noodles? See if there is an end visible. As I understand, I don't know, I haven't tried myself, but as I grasp the concept, it's a lot harder, a lot more difficult than it seems. All right, what does this have to do with Aquarius? Everything. At some point, in the coming days, there's a puzzle. Like making it so no ends of the macaroni are visible. Something like that. Are you up to the task? I think so. Besides, how hard can it be?



PISCES

Pisces: It's an old NASCAR tradition, but [peanuts](#) -- in the shell -- are considered bad luck. Not just bad luck, but there's a whole superstition that relates to peanut shells and how they make engines break, cause crashes on the track, and the list just goes on and on. Urban mythology, and I would guess, relatively modern mythology would find the root source and the connections.

Stock car racing, in its various forms, isn't really that old as a sport. It's not like [golf](#) or soccer, as far as duration goes. The idea of bad luck, especially bad luck stemming from a simple peanut shell? Eludes normal thinking. But car racers, particularly stock car racers, that's a strange combination of folk wisdom, low-tech and high-tech. Can't argue with success, and if keeping peanut shells out of the pits is all it takes? Good for them.

In Pisces land, there's something as simple as avoiding peanut shells, not a big deal, and yet, while some people will laugh at you for your apparent backwoods superstition? You know that whatever it is, you understand that it works. It's okay to be laughed at, as long as it brings you a little luck in the coming days. I figure you're going to get a lucky break anyway, doesn't hurt to go rub the lucky charm -- or avoid the nuts -- whatever it takes.

All Rights Reserved

[copyright](#) (c) 2008, 2009 [Kramer Wetzel](#), for [astrofish.net](#)

For the week starting: 4.2.09

"If heaven have any grievous plague in store
Exceeding those that I can wish upon thee,
O, let them keep it till thy sins be ripe."
Shakespeare's *Richard III* [I.iii.217-21]

[March](#) of [progress](#).



Aries: Comes a point in a person's [life](#) when a mistake or two is [warranted](#). I might be wrong, but I'm going to have fun being wrong. Does the punishment fit the crime? Maybe not. Does it matter? Sort of depends. But what I was looking at, there's a chance to be wrong, but a chance to be wrong in a [spectacular](#) -- and possibly quite fun -- way.

No Aries likes to be incorrect. Hate to misjudge a situation. I'd rather you not have to make a few mistakes, but there's a hint that the mistakes will occur. Good or bad? The way I see it? The way the planets line up? Or don't line up as much as they are slightly misaligned, but lined up on your Aries self? It's all about a bad judgment call. That being posited, this misjudged action that results in an error? All bad? Not really. This is one that looks like a lot of fun.

A mistake, but fun nonetheless. It's the kind of mistake I'd willingly make myself. Sometimes the rewards justify the errors.

ASTROFISH.NET: Dark-roasted, premium blend.



Taurus: I've written [several](#) novel-length manuscripts. As an exercise, it was wholly satisfying. At least one

[manuscript](#) was with an agent, might get published one day. There was a pertinent discussion between the agent and myself, about the original version of the story, and that agent wanted to see the outline. I didn't have one. I had a general direction, sort of a mind's eye view of what would happen, but I didn't really have a plan.

No outline. I had a scrap of paper during that one novel's writing, and that backside of an envelope had the rudimentary names and figures about who was related to whom. That was about it. Novel might read like that, too. Not that it matters. I didn't have much of an outline to follow, other than a vague mental image.

As you progress through this next week, unlike me, I want you to stick to the plan. The outline. The plot, in excruciating detail, for [Taurus](#)? You already have an idea. I'll suggest that the first order of business is to fill in the plot holes. Flesh out the bones of the story, and make an outline for the next 3 weeks. Make a plan. Stick to your plan. There's an outline, a series of steps that you want to take -- the route from here to there. Starts with a plan. Outline. Something.

Even notes on the back of an old [envelope](#).



As Seen on TV!

Compare prices

**subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)**

\$2.95 for 30 days' access.



II Gemini

Gemini: I received a new credit card about three weeks ago. Venus was [retrograde](#). After I called the automated activation number, I tucked the card away. Three days later, I got a sales call from the card company, wondering if I was happy and would I like to apply for extra credit protection? No. The next day, I had another call, wondering if I was happy and if I would like to apply for extra credit protection, in case I was injured at work, they would pay my balance. Or minimum payment. Again, I wasn't interested since I'm self-employed, that negates their useless offers. Third day? Another solicitation. I am not happy. Calling me on my work number, and starting with "Are you happy with the new card?" Doesn't work for me, not three days running.

I grabbed the card, looked up the customer service number, and I was about to call and cancel the card when I realized, the sweetest revenge? I would do nothing. The pay freight on a bill, they pay for paper and postage, and the accounting overhead, and I won't ever use the card. I'm fighting back against annoying corporate behavior by costing them money. Granted, in the grand scheme, I'm not a big liability, but I have to fight back. This is a clear [example](#) of how doing nothing can serve to fight the power. Granted, I'm only one person, but if enough people were to passively, tacitly send a message? Enough Gemini doing nothing? There is a way that passive resistance can work. Make a -- passive -- stand, Gemini.



69 CANCER

Cancer: Warn, beg, plead, wheedle, whine? [Cajole](#) and coerce? Finally, if nothing else seems to work? [Flattery](#) and [bribery](#)? There's a huge amount of cardinal energy, and since you forgot, [Cancer](#) is a Cardinal Sign. Maybe the best Cardinal Water Sign, ever, but you can't use that line now.

There's a pronounced excitement, but that doesn't necessarily mean that's it's all good. Or bad, for that matter, not all bad, either. That's not what this is about, though. Or is it?

I started out, trying to get a handle on the energy, how to best describe what's going on, and what's happening in the Cancer psyche. And, more important, what to do with that energy. Hence the long list of suggestion, from begging, and groveling to demanding. But I'd suggest, just a suggestion, more like guidelines than rules, but for the next seven to ten days? As the moon gets full? Try my approach. *Appear* to be begging. *Appear* to be groveling. *Appear* to be secondary.



Leo: Now. Simple answer to the Leo [question](#). The answer? **Now**. One word answer. Simple, direct, forward. No questions asked. That approaching and very active Full Moon? Yeah, that's part of it. [Jupiter](#) in [Aquarius](#), opposite you? That's part of it, too. [Aries](#) Sun and [Venus](#)? You guessed it, that's part as well. Makes "now" good for Leo.

How good? Stop spending, retail therapy is no longer a [Leo](#) attribute, or not these days. That's not part of the "now" symbolism. But other than that? How about feeling good? How about realizing that you're happy with some aspects of your Leo life? How about realizing that there is some material that is being covered, quite nicely, *thank you very*

much, and that it is okay. It's a matter of being happy with what's there. Now.

astrofish.net
Boutique Horoscopes
(discount prices)
subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)
\$2.95 for 30 days' access.



 **ASTROFISH.NET**

 **VIRGO**

Virgo: Timing might be [everything](#), and from what I've seen of my fine Virgo friends? Your timing is off. "It's just a step to the right," as the song goes. So you take a [jump](#) to the [left](#). A step should be about 18 inches, so you jump about three feet, in the other direction. This, to me, is timing issue. In a few more heartbeats, in a few more seconds, or, maybe half a beat earlier, you'd be moving in the correct direction. But your timing seems to be off. Way off. There is always a (good) chance that I'm wrong, and your timing might not be off at all.

I'm willing to risk my own errors for the sake of life in Virgo land to be better. But I'm suggesting that I might be correct about the little issue with timing. It's Mars, in as much as it can be anything, and Mars makes you hasty, specially when Mr. Mars is in the sign that is opposite you. Therein is the problem. To gain some perspective on the timing issue? How about adding, perhaps, half a beat to everything that you're doing? Just count to one, or three, and fifteen, and

see if that doesn't give you a little extra time. Helps correct the timing issue.



LIBRA

Libra: A Libra lass was explaining about a boyfriend issue. Seems that the boyfriend was trying to turn a simple task into an arduous trek. I liked the guy. I [could do that](#), too. Never met him, just liked the way he was taking a simple matter, tasked to him by a Libra girlfriend, and he was making this more difficult than it needed to be.

The Libra looked at me, "Know what I told him?" I shook my head. "It's groceries, not the space shuttle." I liked that line. I hope it proves fruitful for your Libra self in the coming week. There's a task at hand that needs to be assigned to someone. It's not that difficult, or complex, or even complicated. But never underestimate a non-Libra ability to turn the [simplest](#) of chores into a monumental effort. Which means, that delightful Libra? That little quip? We get to all use that again, this week. Substitute as need be, but now you have the general way to deal what the planets deal you.



Scorpio: It was a young lass, a Scorpio, and I was intrigued by her tattoo collection. One, in particular. A winged heart, or a heart with wings. And a scroll through it. On the scroll in the heart's center? Three letters: MOM. Yes, and I've always wanted that kind of tattoo. Heart, on an arm, with the letters, MOM. I think I'd prefer a slightly different location, more like the biceps rather than where that one Scorpio lass had it but still, I like the idea.

You get a great idea, like that tattoo, and you're a [Scorpio](#),

you want to implement this great idea. Maybe this particular cycle isn't the best time to take matters in hand and get that new ink installed on your body. While I found it to be a fetching design on a fetching Scorpio with classic, Scorpio allure, I'm suggesting that maybe, just maybe, this isn't the time for such a permanent decision. As the Moon gets fuller and fuller, the ideas in the Scorpio mind get wilder and wilder. Instead of getting inked, maybe now is a good time to draw the design. Maybe draw it with a pencil, so you can change what needs to be changed.



As Seen on TV!

Compare prices

**subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)**

\$2.95 for 30 days' access.

 **ASTROFISH.NET**


SAGITTARIUS

Sagittarius: There's a road, or a sign that points to a road, and this is back roads territory. While I never stopped and got a [digital](#) image, I can't help but think about that sign, "Possum Hollow Road." It's an official highway sign, so it's a real place. While the setting is somewhat rural, it does beg a comparison. Compare that name with what urban, national, international people think about Texas. Sort of fits.

A caricature that's not an exaggeration. Such places really do exist. I might take a [picture](#) next time I pass it. Or might not, as it's on the back way to a favorite fishing place. Can't

be giving away all the [secrets](#). Herein is what's important, as the moon gets full, what secrets do we keep and what secrets are no longer secret? The location of "Possum Hollow Road" might be available on the inter-web thing with maps and satellites and all. Or might not be. The department of transportation might not have an active catalog of all their signs. So the location might still be a secret. Or I might have misspelled the name a little, as I can't be giving away all my secrets. What secrets do you, as a Sagittarius, need to keep?



CAPRICORN

Capricorn: "[Sight fishing](#)" is one of the skills I'm not terribly good at. When I [lived](#) on the lake, I had several years to practice and while I never got good at it, I understand the theory well enough. The point with sight fishing, when I can see the fish? There's a good chance that the fish can see me, as well. Hence the problem. Bait selection, bait presentation, equipment, all of that is more important than usual. Then, too, there's the absolute precision required to land the bait, whatever you're using, right on that fish's nose, so to speak. At least that much, I'm reasonably good at. Practice.

The other afternoon we were on a lake, and we were sight fishing. Wrapping up a good morning, just more fun than anything else, some late spawn action, and the sight fishing was more annoying to the Large Mouth Bass instead of being particularly productive for us (the guys fishing). I tried several different [combinations](#), nothing seemed to work. I didn't worry about it. I was having fun, and I have to wonder, grown males, in an expensive, high-powered bass boat, throwing expensive plastic at stupid fish who just ignored us.

We were flipping and pitching to no avail. Sure was fun. We

spent several hours, "honing our skills" and yet, we never caught a fish. Makes you wonder. I was sore, sunburned and happy, the next morning. Just because I didn't catch a fish, just because Capricorn doesn't catch what you can see? Does that make the exercise any less fulfilling? I dropped on jig right on top of the wee Big Mouth's nose. He sniffed and avoided it. I jiggled it. It looked good enough to eat. Still, while I was watching, nothing happened.



AQUARIUS

Aquarius: As retrograde [Venus](#) makes a right angle to Mr. Pluto, who, "oh by the way," is also turning backwards? All this creates a weird dynamic. See, you're stuck in the middle of this mess. You didn't start it, you're not destined to finish it, but at this moment, you're right in the middle. Therein is the problem.

I don't have an easy solution, but I'd see you as a [peace maker](#). The one in the middle. I get an image of volleys of projectiles flying over your head, from the left, aimed at the right. From the right, aimed at the left. I'm not saying that this is all that bad, but the point is to keep your head down. These projectiles: bullets, missiles, rocks, even hardened animal excrement? It can go over your head. The problem starts when you stand up and hold out your hands, trying to make peace. I'm all for the peaceful solution where we all sit down and [talk](#). But I'm also very much in favor of your Aquarius self staying out of the line of fire, while you're [stuck in the middle](#). You can make peace. But I'd suggest you keep your head low while doing so. No need to catch any of the hurtling projectiles yourself.

Compare prices

(and bring your own beer - we don't care!)

subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)

\$2.95 for 30 days' access.



 **ASTROFISH.NET**

 **PISCES**

Pisces: Mars, Mars, Uranus, Venus backwards, and so on.
What does it mean?

I had a special fishing pole, a Shakespeare ultra-light graphite trigger pole with small Ambassador reel on it. Strong monofilament line, and tiny "root beer" colored piece of plastic. Tiny plastic, lightweight pole, strong line. I landed a good bass with that setup. Surprised me, boating a good six-pound bass with a tiny bait. But that's what this is about, with the planets like this.

Sometimes, what's most fun, is the lightweight approach. Makes for a more epic struggle. The fishing reel, the part that winds up the fishing line, I had the drag set kind of light. That one fish, she would spool out some of the line, A truly epic battle of man to fish. Fun. Almost lost the fish, though, before the required photos. It was the fun part of the set-up, the lightweight gear. Almost couldn't hold a big fish. Which was why it was fun. How you go at what the planets are dealing up this week? Up to you. A spirited,

astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts

sporting chance is what you've got. You might be the fish,
or you might be the fisher-[person](#).

All Rights Reserved

[copyright](#) (c) 2008, 2009 [Kramer Wetzel](#), for [astrofish.net](#)

For the week starting: 4.9.2009

"I see thou art not for my company."

Shakespeare's *Titus Andronicus* [III.ii.58]

Sort of an IRS [note](#). "As seen on TV" -- again. The Program is "Wife Swap" on ABC, the tentative air date is April 24, at 7 PM. See [local](#) listings for [details](#).

Sneak preview: astrology [lecture](#), live, [half-hour video](#) of the "astrology" class.



Aries: As we hit the tail-end [stretch](#), basically, the last third of [Aries](#)? As we coming sliding in here, there's some immediate action and reactions to watch out for. The Full Moon, once it's over? Then you have to slow down and take it easy.

Careful with the reaction time. Normally, an Aries is better than most at correct response on the first try. I'm just suggesting, once the moon is no longer full? Slow down that action. Maybe don't react so fast. Maybe stop before you engage your mouth. Maybe, how does that term go?

I've seen it in the movies, never in real life, "You have the right to remain silent." What this is about, as soon as this next weekend is over? Remain silent. Don't react, overreact, or let your mouth make a promise that you can't fulfill.

ASTROFISH.NET: Clearance [Priced!](#)



Taurus: A friend of mine ran a [website](#) for years. Just a [blog](#), really, and not always a [tasteful](#) one, at that. The

problem being, considering the time, age and other factors? My buddy was rather ephemeral about his end of the upkeep. He just trusted that anything he wrote on a website would be backed up someplace. Some of it was good, some of it was bad, some of it was just awful, but then, there's never any accounting for the taste of the American public.

However, he didn't pay the bill one month, and then, the company that owned the site's physical location? They tossed it and his material.

Six years worth of collected ranting and raving, six years of WTF and assorted other vulgarities, and he was distraught. Shaken.irate. Hell hath no fury like a wounded [author](#). The problem in this story? The reason everything got erased? He didn't pay his bill. Wasn't like it snuck up on him, but with computers? It's hard to imagine that begging for a little leniency would work. It didn't. Not a problem, from my point of view, an expensive lesson from his point of view.

As a Taurus, there's a lesson just like this, staring you in the face. You can one, not pay the bill and suffer the consequences, or two, just pony up and pay on time? The latter has the desirable effect.



As Seen on TV!

Compare prices

**subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)**

\$2.95 for 30 days' access.



II Gemini

Gemini: It's a favorite [Salvador Dali](#) quote I found: "The least one can ask of a sculpture is that it does not move." Which is particularly amusing [back](#) to back with his sculptures. But even without his sculptures, or his amazing canon of surrealistic art, the quote itself stands on its own.

We -- here in the Gemini section of the sky -- can spend untold hours analyzing that quote, and even a cursory [search](#) about its [author](#) will yield some good results. Which opens up an even more adventuresome avenue for the Gemini brain. Always trying to keep you occupied, in a good way. But the idea is, that sculpture, like a Gemini, should appear to move even if it is stationary. Which is part of what this is all about. There's a time to get up and move around. Then, there's a time when you shouldn't get up and move around.

I keep thinking of a Gemini as a pinball in a pinball machine, not to mix [metaphors](#) here, and I keep thinking that this is a time to be a little more stationary. Like a sculpture. Like Dali's suggestion. It's the least we can do.



69 CANCER

Cancer: This is a little convoluted, but you can get a good mental [image](#), I hope. There's vacant, like an alley, passage between two older buildings. Not quite downtown, but close enough. Not high-rise, but more than a few floors above street level. As I was cruising along, I didn't notice anything other than a hasty plywood partition erected alongside the sidewalk. However, on the return leg of the trip, I T-boned into that alleyway, and only then did I notice that there was

an additional message, hand-lettered, "Caution: High voltage."

When I was skirting alongside the plywood barrier, I didn't see the printed message. It's about perspective, and looking at something, could be an apparent barrier, and not seeing the whole thing. Because it was immediately to my left, I missed the "high voltage" warning. It wasn't until I approached that obstacle, the plywood barrier, from another angle that I was able to discern the message and meaning. Sometimes, with mars thusly arrayed in your sign, it takes a different approach to fully comprehend the total impact of the scenario.



Leo: I was sitting in the front seat of a little car (hybrid, actually) and a girlfriend was driving me someplace. I'm sure were discussing important matters. Exit ramp off the freeway, rush hour traffic, we roll to a stop. Suddenly, in the April afternoon, there's another car nudging up beside us, trying to squeeze in next to us. It was a one-lane exit ramp. The roadway, at the traffic light split into a left and right turn, and the road was ONE LANE until the traffic light. What the lady next to us was doing? Clearly illegal.

Since she was on my side, I offered to roll down the window and calmly address the issue. Better yet, I could roll down the window and without shifting my position, I could easily bang on the hood of that car, next to us. My friend, she didn't think either solution was a good idea. The light changed. The cars all eased forward. The lady next to us honked. I was disgruntled and upset but I kept quiet. After all, wasn't my car, wasn't me that would have to face consequences later. Wasn't my car that could get run off the road. Wasn't me who would be attached to the license plate number, and so on. Which is why, even though you

**astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts**

rightfully think you should make a scene? Might want to reconsider who catches the fallout from the [battle](#).

astrofish.net
Boutique Horoscopes
(discount prices)
subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)
\$2.95 for 30 days' access.



 **ASTROFISH.NET**

 **VIRGO**

Virgo: In strict, structuralist terms, in as much as [astrologers](#) can have such definitions, this is a little loose. But [Mars](#), [Uranus](#) and [Venus](#) all get "kind of close" to each other. Late degree of [Pisces](#) is the point that's affected. Opposite from late Virgo. Means y'all feel it, for sure.

It's not bad so much as understanding that there is a concerted effort to shove your finely tuned Virgo self off in a new direction. That's kind of a problem, too, since most of the Virgo folks with whom I have dealings, they all like "safe and secure" instead of "shoved off in a new direction."

I'd like to provide safe and secure, but I can't. Not now, not in Virgo. The planets are laying out a pathway that needs to be followed, if only for a little while. Due to the unscrupulous nature of of the [planets](#) in this play, there might be a false clue, or [red herring](#). Deal with it. Or better yet, if the first avenue fails to be the correct route? Don't be

afraid to backtrack over where you've been. Do like I do, "I meant to do that," is what I say.



LIBRA

Libra: Great T-shirt I saw [recently](#): "It's such a nice a day, please don't foul it up." Well, to be honest, those aren't the words exactly, but it's close enough for a G-rating, which is what we all strive for. Especially with a Libra horoscope. Which is what I'm after. I looked at your chart wheel, the I looked at the planets a [second](#) time, then I thought about it all, then I thought about a tourist, wearing the proper version of that shirt.

The slogan, a little harsh, but then, it's a correct sentiment. Matches the way you feel. Matches, also how this week will go. The first, and easiest solution? Just get out to a tourist destination, or the t-shirt store in the mall, or a [similar venue](#), and get that very shirt. Second solution, perhaps a little more viable for the gentle and delicate Libra folks? Like having a merry song on your lips? Like having a quick verbal riposte, the sarcastic come back, at the ready? That t-shirt's slogan, at the ready, you are now armed and prepared for the week ahead. I've given you a quick response to a situation that will, like as not, occur. Now you're ready, if need be, with a quick answer.



Scorpio: While this type of indecision is generally reserved for another [sign](#), I'm seeing it crop up in [Scorpio](#). Next few days. Not normally known as a sign that [would](#) waffle on a point of procedure or protocol, I see that as being the central focus of the next couple of days.

**astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts**

Well, maybe. Sure, that could be it. Or it might be something else entirely. I'm not sure. The undecided questions and unavailable answers aren't really so bad. That's exactly the point. What I'd do? I'd heartily endorse you waffling. I'd suggest that you try that term, "Maybe. Or maybe not." There's a point where you're sure of the important part of the decision process, but there's not enough data to draw a conclusion about less important material. It could be as simple as a color selection for bait. You're like me, looking at a tackle box full of brilliant hued objects, and you're trying to decide, "Should I use a chartreuse trailer on that neon orange jig?"

Sure. Or maybe a clear one, or a black and blue one, or maybe, there's a different color that should work best. It might not be a big deal to other people, but this moment of indecision in Scorpio? I'd embrace it. I'd allow that extra momentary pause while you decide. The others can wait? "Oh, I don't know, what do you think would be best?"



As Seen on TV!

Compare prices

**subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)**

\$2.95 for 30 days' access.

 **ASTROFISH.NET**


SAGITTARIUS

Sagittarius: March weather in South Central Texas? Warm. Or cold. Wet. Or dry? Sort of depends on the moment. Not real predictable. Which is why I had this exchange with a girl making my afternoon coffee, "Usual? Double on the rocks?" There was a wind, temperature had dropped, it wasn't exactly cold, but cool, anyway.

"No, make it cappuccino, double, non-fat milk." Change up. Not a big one, but it stopped the little girl making the coffee, if only for a moment. Always nice to change, even if it's just a minor change. That's what this is about, too, could be a little shift in the afternoon weather, could be a major shift in the [Sagittarius atmosphere](#), but a [break](#) with [routine](#) is called for. It's that simple. Either our Sagittarius selves break with routine, or it will get broken for us. I tend to prefer that we break it ourselves with no outside assistance. Just makes it a little bit more enjoyable. But we should break with some part of the daily usual, just for the sake of good form.



CAPRICORN

Capricorn: It's weird, but then, it's [not](#) weird. I was with one of my fishing buddies, and his wife, her children, they are all clients. So I've seen the charts and I [understand the dynamics](#) of the family. Not an issue. Until, as a perspicacious [Capricorn](#), you grasp, "her children," and "his wife" are separate.

Yes, the kids are from a previous engagement, marriage, long story, but the important facts, see, that guy, my buddy? He raised those kids as if they were his own. While he's not the biological parent, for all intents, intense, and purposes? He is. Legally, too, I think. Very much a none-issue these days. I was watching, though as he talked to one of the kids, and the kid just figured my buddy was "dad," with all the weight, especially in positive, supportive,

loving and caring manner, that the term carries. So that's what I mean by it's weird, but then, it's not.

Capricorn is face-to-face with a similar type of [situation](#) and [feeling](#). If you're like me, and if you just accept the package as a [complete](#), self-contained package, then you're good. If you try to analyze it too much? Take it apart, or worry that even though the children don't belong -- genetically -- to my buddy, the son, at least, is starting to look like his "dad"? Yeah, work with that and don't think that it's all too strange. It is, but here in Capricorn? It isn't.



AQUARIUS

Aquarius: Sign up at a local [diner](#): "It's tough to pay \$1.25 for a steak, but a 50 cent steak is even tougher." I wonder how much of that is nostalgia and how much of that is real? Was there ever a 50 cent steak? Did it have fries and salad at that price? Was it tough skirt steak? Or was it a nicer cut? I'm still wondering about the price and has inflation gotten that bad in such a short time?

The place where the sign was up, it's less than a 100 years old. While that might be relatively old by [local business standards](#), I realize, in a global [perspective](#), it's not that old. There's a message, though in the antique marketing. Coded into that slogan, there's a hint that the stuff that is more than twice as much isn't always worth more than doubling the price. Which is the point. That's exactly what you have to consider as you hit this week's stars. Is the more expensive item, is it a luxury item? Is it really worth more than twice as much? One might say, there's a lot at stake in Aquarius.

astrofish.net
Economic Stimulus package:
Compare prices

subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)

\$2.95 for 30 days' access.



 **ASTROFISH.NET**

 **PISCES**

[Pisces](#): I can't promise exactly when, but if you'll look -- just a little further than the next two days? You'll see that there will, indeed, be a big break for [Pisces](#). I can't suggest just -- or exactly tell -- where this happens. Is it romance? Career? The big lottery win? A small win? Maybe a calculated bet that pays off? Or doesn't pay off? Sort of depends on what and how you're playing this.

It's simply a matter of looking a little further than than you're used to [looking](#).

A little more far-ranging? Sure, that will work. The [point](#) has to do with what's near and in your face, and what's the long-term destination. The next few days seem to go from bleak to bleaker. I can't prevent that from happening. However, I can easily look about ten days further down and see that there's a decent break. The problem once the full moon washes out? The folks are lining up to be pretty tense about stupid stuff. Again, I can't stop that. What I can do is suggest that a looking farther down the line, should make it

astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts

okay. Or better, anyway. Two days? Ten days? Something like that, or maybe someplace in the middle.

All Rights Reserved

[copyright](#) (c) 2008, 2009 [Kramer Wetzels](#), for [astrofish.net](#)

For the week starting: 4.16.09

"The silence of pure innocence
Persuades, when speaking fails."
Shakespeare's *The Winter's Tale* [II.ii.40]

"[As seen on TV](#)" -- again. The program is "Wife Swap" on ABC, the tentative air date is April 24, at 7 PM. See local listings for [details](#). Fire up the TiVO and open a can of mockery.



Aries: "Search and rescue" practice. I'm guessing, it was Austin Search and Rescue, and I'm also guessing it was adverse training [conditions](#). It was a few weeks ago, on the lake, with near gale-force winds. Almost a red flag day, as in, no boats. We'd been fishing, bit of luck, and there was thunderous drone of a helicopter for the last hour. Finally figured out it was one pontoon boat, or a zodiac, and one guy in the water, and one guy swinging from the end of a rope. The guy on the rope was casually being ducked into the water.

Appropriate fishing joke here? "Big enough bait?"

Yeah, for what? The guy on the end of the rope and the guy in the water, it wasn't going so well as the pilot, the rope hanger, the [floater](#), I'm not sure who but someone wasn't getting the signals correct. Why it's called training, I'm sure. And therein is the lesson for the rest of my Aries friends. It's all about practice in proper conditions. I liked seeing them train in a high wind situation. More realistic. More likely to be real. And it never hurts to be prepared.

ASTROFISH.NET: Graveyard shift now open!



Taurus: "Hog Eye Bait House" is a real [place](#). It's in Austin, along the eastern fringe, but Travis County nonetheless. Inside, water-dogs, earthworms and minnows are for sale. The sign outside says "Tackle - Bait - Notary - License." The addendum to the sign? "Fishing Reel Repair." That portion is truly hand-lettered and on the side.

Your Taurus birthdays begin at the beginning of this next week. That's good. However, given that Mr. Mars is in Aries? We've got a problem here. I want your birthdays to be extra special good. I have no idea why there would need to be a notary at the bait stand. I can't even fathom the logic, but then, when discussing places that sell "[Beer](#) - [Bait](#) - [Ammo](#)," logic doesn't always play a hand in the equation. But I do know that checking with the bait stand will reveal much information.

What the fish are hitting on. What the merchant has in overstock and needs to be unloaded. What's good, what is purported to be good, and other bits of trivial information that, or might not be, useful. I tend to think that every bit of local lore, useful or otherwise, is good. Matter of [understanding](#) and filtering the data. So as a way to get ready for the birthday week? Birthday month? Stop and ask directions. Maybe pick up some minnows while you're at it. Or water-dogs, those things work great on that lake.



As Seen on TV!

Compare prices

**subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)**

\$2.95 for 30 days' access.



II *Gemini*

Gemini: There are certain moments that remain forever etched in my memory. "No, I don't want it yesterday, I wanted it before I knew I wanted it." Or something like that. It was Gemini telling me about the lack of patience. Anticipation. The insistent desire for immediate gratification, and sometimes, "Immediate isn't fast enough."

Yes and that's our lesson this week, in Gemini. You're going to learn this the easy way or the difficult way, and how that works is up to you. It's a slow lunar cycle, the beginning of bad solar cycle, and it's also the onset of Mercury deal, too. No, not that bad, but individually, these subtle cycles wouldn't be too awful. Collectively?

There's going to be a cranky Gemini or two. What can you do? Chill. Cool it. Freeze. Stop. Better yet? Follow one of my plans: I keep my own counsel. Means I keep some things to myself that I would normally talk about. I keep my mouth shut when I would normally vocally address an issue. This could be a person. This could be a person who has some kind of authority over your Gemini destiny. This could be a

person who is -- seemingly -- standing in your way.

Keep quiet. I think that the obstacle is really a bridge, but that won't be apparent for a few more days, like maybe a dozen days.



Cancer: I live at home, and I have my "writing space" at home, and for that matter, I have a home office. Been like this for years. So when I read a business journal that preached "no more than 22% of your office knick-knacks should be personal," I was worried.

My trivial office items include a broken fishing pole. A lure that I'll never wet again. A series of tackle boxes with a dizzying array of gear for a variety of situations, from pond to ocean. And just about every water body in between. So I fail to grasp the concept of not too many pieces of myself around the office space. I believe it's important, though, to note that I seldom -- if ever -- meet clients personally in my "office space." I do a number of phone consultations here, so it has to be comfortable for me. But no, I don't have bland decor. A black velvet Elvis. A cow skull. Aforementioned fishing gear. A good luck cat.

Now, think about it. If you're a cube dweller, or office denizen, do you have a lot of your own personality reflected in the space? And is that good?



Leo: When I'm on the Texas Gulf Coast (Coastal Bend, Third Coast, Redneck Riviera), fishing off the dock, the pier, the water-break, or edge of the harbor? One of the most

common fish to catch is a "hardhead," which is a nice term for Tourist Trout, again, a nicer moniker for a fairly trashy fish: catfish.

The flesh eaters do well on the garbage on the bottom, and as such, are a viable part of the ecosystem. However, the spikes or dorsal fins have a neurotoxin and can be painful. Not usually deadly, just uncomfortable. I was [with](#) a Leo buddy and he was remarking how we hadn't had any of the tourist trout. His pole wiggles. He sets the hook. In he reels the only trash fish that day. Catfish. "Did I make that happen?" he asked. Well, actually, yes, he mentioned that there none so one shows up. I'm not saying that you're going to catch a catfish, the saltwater version of bottom feeders, but you know? Careful what you wish for. Careful what you put out there, as it has a way of showing up in your Leo boat.



[Virgo](#): One of the old-fashioned words for Saturn is "constraint." I was thinking about this definition, Saturn and your Virgo self, as we watched a guy back a new boat into the water, on a trailer, fire up the motor and have the boat go no where fast. Didn't budge. He got out, pulled the boat and trailer back up the ramp, unhitched the back tie-down straps, then backed the trailer into the water, fired the motor up again and floated free.

"I'd laugh at him," my buddy was saying, "except I've done that myself. New boat owner, you can tell." Yeah, and so? I'm not saying you should buy a new boat, although, if the wife approves, it's a good idea. However, as a suggestion? When you get ready to launch a boat, especially a nice bass boat, or even a local bay boat? Think about all the stuff that needs to be released before you back it into the water. You know the drill, right? Hate for someone to be laughing at

you. Or smirking, anyway. Even if we've all done the same thing, too.



As Seen on TV!

Compare prices

**subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)**

\$2.95 for 30 days' access.



LIBRA

Libra: I was on the front decking of a [bay boat](#), shallow-minded water craft, designed for slipping up on big game redfish and speckled trout. I wanted to grab something from a front locker, and when I stood up, as I opened the locker, I knocked a fishing pole loose from its holder. And into the water the pole went.

I've fished with this guy before, and if I didn't hurry and grab the pole, there would be me in the water -- it wasn't deep, maybe a foot and a half -- but I'd be fishing for the pole. I executed a heroic duck, twist, turn, lunge, and I saved the pole. In the blink of an eye, I saw the handle as it was slowly sinking, not more than two or three inches in the seawater, the brackish bay water, and my move was noted by all.

"Never seen you move that fast, Kramer." Old guys, we have our chops. But it's not about chops or moves. It's about prevention. A good horoscope can help with some

prevention, that's what I mean. You're going to be opening a locker, on a bay boat, or fishing -- or something -- and you could, if you're not careful, knock a pole in the water. In some cases, this isn't a big deal, but with fishing poles that can cost upwards of \$500, it is a big deal, and it can be a costly mistake. So when you're buffeted by the winds of chance? Exercise caution when opening that locker. I'm not saying you will knock a pole in the water, but without a quick save? Could get [expensive](#).

 **ASTROFISH.NET**

 **SCORPIO**

Scorpio: I've worked West Texas a [number](#) of times. I love the land, the feeling of openness, the warm and gregarious denizens, and best of all? Boot hooks at the airline security check point. I was coming through the check point, and I tend to wear sandals when at all possible, just for this reason, but it was in March, and I had on boots.

While I didn't need the boot hooks, I was tickled to see them. For all our universal [sameness](#)? There are certain little items that stick out and make places like West Texas unique.

You're a Scorpio, I'll assume, and you are unique. Might not be some big thing, and it might not be something you would notice, or most people would notice, but there is something that sets you apart, the best of the [fixed water signs](#). I'm not sure it's just as simple as boot hooks past the checkpoint. I'm not sure what sets your Scorpio self apart from the rest. Gregarious? Kind? Warm? Whatever it is, use it.

 **ASTROFISH.NET**


SAGITTARIUS

Sagittarius: "Are you a musician?" The girl at the check in counter asked as I checked bags. "Why? Do I look like one?" I had to ask. "Your case, the stickers, you know, you look creative." Yeah, like a guitar player. But I'm not. This isn't a case of mistaken identity, either.

The question itself, I find amusing after so many years in Austin, the local version was, "Are you that guitar player?" Which I'm not. But this isn't about mistaken identity. This is about assumptions. Long hair, kind of goofy, suitcases that looked artistic? Sure. But hastily jumping to the conclusion that I'm a musician? Bad move. I've long lamented this common mistake and assumption.

As the planets unravel some, as the week gets longer? Or shorter, depends on the point of view? As the planets do their thing, remember that mistaken assumption, "Are you a musician?" Or its older sibling, "Are you that guitar player?" As a Sagittarius, and as the butt of the joke so often? Don't make the same assumption and mistake.



CAPRICORN

Capricorn: Listening, as I do from time to time, gives me wonderful stories. Veracity is not assured.

I was reading a mother/daughter/granddaughter combination, and the birth time was the question.

The following tales ensued, "See, the bathroom was leaking, and Mom got here because I told her my water had broken, and the toilet was broken, and she saw the water all over the bathroom floor and"

I believe the rest of the story can be filled in as panic even though mothers tend to know how to handle situations that

children don't know how to handle. How are you going to handle the panic?



As Seen on TV!

Compare prices

**subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)**

\$2.95 for 30 days' access.

 **ASTROFISH.NET**



AQUARIUS

Aquarius: [Joe Ely](#) is a local [singer](#)/songwriter. [Aquarius](#). Part of the legendary band, the [Flatlanders](#) (the band's name came from their origins: Lubbock, Texas). Joe is a remarkable performer in his own right, too, and I've seen him several times. One of his better known songs is "Me and Billy the Kid," and I like that tune, but almost as good as the song? The back story from the stage one time. Seems that Joe Ely went and visited a Billy the Kid Museum in New Mexico, I'm guessing Lincoln County.

According to the [introduction](#), he was very unimpressed with what he saw and he wrote his own [version](#) of the tale of Billy the Kid. Just more modern myths in the making. Which is what this week is all about. What stories are we telling our Aquarius selves? What can we do to make the story better, improve on the impact of the myth? Personally, I like the tale he told, and I have no way of knowing if the stage banter was true, but as a story, as personal [Aquarius](#) myth?

It felt true. Isn't that all that matters, at the end of the [show](#)?



Pisces: West of here, sort of "over the hump" of the Texas Hill Country, there's the northern terminus of the Chihuahu Desert. Along the I-35 corridor, the definition of "light rain" means measurable precipitation. On the other side, like on into West Texas, a light rain is what I would call mist. Fog, even. Heavy dew. For places that are both within the same state, geographically, the definition of weather can change dramatically.

So I'm seeing, due to the planets, a light rain in the Pisces morning, with the astrological portents clearing in the afternoon. How this works: that definition of "light rain" can vary from person to Pisces, all depends. Depends on where you're at, and it depends on how you define "light rain."

Clearing in the afternoon? That should be obvious to all.

All Rights Reserved

[copyright](#) (c) 2008, 2009 [Kramer Wetzel](#), for [astrofish.net](#)

**astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts**

For the week starting: 4.23.209

"Take heed, lest by your heat you burn yourselves."

Shakespeare's *King Henry VI, Part II* (V.i.160)

April 24, 2009: ABC: "Reality" TV [Program](#):
[Wife Swap](#), [special](#) guest [astrologer](#).



[Taurus](#): Happy birthday, Taurus dear. The answer to the next [question](#)? No. The question after that? [No](#).

I worked along [a sales guy](#), and he explained, the theory, get three yes answers? Then he can sell anything. "How you doing?" Good. "Interested?" Yes. "Good price?" Yes. Then he's got a sale. He will, so I've gathered, formulate target-specific questions to get those three affirmations before moving in for the kill. Slick salesman. Good at what he does. Which is the problem with Taurus these moments. This week. The birthday thing? Keep running into negative answers. "No," and "can't do it right now," and "like to but can't," are the typical answers.

I've graciously warned you that this isn't how to make a sale. I've pointed out that there's a time and place for all this material. Now might not be the time, and now might not be the place. Doesn't mean that there shouldn't be substantial mirth in the Taurus corner, it's just that it's going to feel a little lonely. And when you do encounter the two negative answers? Don't belabor the point. The other people will come around to understanding you're right. A little later. Which doesn't mean you shouldn't have a good birthday party.

Mars, and by the end of this scope? Venus are both [kicking](#) around, trailing you a little, poking their way through Aries. Just slow down and enjoy.

ASTROFISH.NET: Now with more protection!



II Gemini

Gemini: The more things [change](#)? The more they change. Am I right? Or what? It can be argued that I have journalism background, having, in my time, worked for an actual newspaper. And having seen, at one time, my words carried in two, three newspapers that I'm aware of.

However, mostly? I write for electronic distribution. The web. It's a different [medium](#), [too](#). Tends to be a very Gemini form, as well. Short, sweet, to the point. Well, usually. Limited amount of meandering to and fro, Readers tend to scan rather than seek depth in a particular article. And it's good the break material up into bite-sized chunks, easier to digest?

Get any ideas? So I'm little long-winded here. But the deal is, with the Sun in your (solar) 12th House? Long as the Sun is in [Taurus](#)? Think along the lines that life is like a long [web page](#), or long [web page article](#). You have to scan it, read forward, read back wards, quick, check out another sign, then come back to what you were originally doing. All about how you approach the single, most important problem.

Weekly Video short is [here](#).



69 CANCER

Cancer: Some of my fishing [pictures](#) are not really public/publish [quality](#). My hair will be a knotted mess from riding around in a boat. Psuedo-dreadlocks, as an example. Then, too, I dress for comfort when fishing. I might have on a shabby (but warm) pair of sweat pants with an artful opening in a bad place for the camera. Still, I was comfortable. Or the color combination, shirt, hat, over-shirt?

**astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts**

Not that my color combinations have ever been good, but since I let a certain girlfriend select the clothes, it's helped.

Still, for fishing? Count on it being bad. Plaids, stripes and Hawaiian print, if I can work it all in. Underneath the mismatched but entirely utilitarian attire? I'm comfortable. That's what is most important. And that is an image I want my fine Cancer friends to embrace, hug and other wise get cozy with.

Style, fine Cancer style? Yeah, that's gone for the time being. Mars -- and Venus -- in Aries? Ruins your sense of style. But this isn't about style, this is about what it feels like on the inside. Comfort. I had a Hawaiian shirt, a striped flannel shirt, and plaid shorts. Picture is probably still buried in fish pictures, some place on the website. Despite the incredibly bad image the clothing makes? I was toasty warm, but not hot, on that afternoon. With a fish in my hand. Matter of perspective.



astrofish.net
Boutique Horoscopes
(discount prices)
subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)
\$2.95 for 30 days' access.

 **ASTROFISH.NET**

 **THE
LEO**

[Leo](#): When they were on sale, I bought a several lots of blank CD's. On the spindle, it was 50 blanks for \$4.99. Even

[astrofish.net](#)

— page 183 —

with tax, that's right at a dime apiece for blanks. I use these to record [readings](#). The problem I've had with the cheap blanks? I mean, when I saw that sale, I bought a bunch, but the problem is that the failure rate is pretty high. [However](#), on sale? At roughly a dime each? I can live with a failure rate that is pretty high because even the aggregate cost is still low. Savings I can pass on to the customer. Even if the failure rate was as high as five in every spindle of 50? That's ten percent. That's still doable, especially from the cost to performance issue.

With the failure rate that high and the "no returns" [policy in place](#), "all sales are final," it's okay. I still save money, my customers and clients save money, and we're all happy. The failure rate this week is less than 10%. Just like those cheap spindles of blank CDs, you're seeing two, maybe three fail out of every 50. Is that such bad odds? The only problem? The ones that do fail? There is no recourse. Strict, "All Sales Final" [rules](#).



Virgo: I've [noticed](#), over years, any time you have a 50-50 chance of getting something right, there's a 90 per cent probability you'll get it wrong. I'm not saying that it's an infallible rule, but as a guideline, it seems true more often than not. There are some small influences in your favor. There are some other questions and answers, other influences, that might not be as favorable.

That's why, with a 50-50 shot at something? You can easily guess the direction. By no means does this doom your next few days, it's just that there's a point, a place, a time, when there's going to be the probability question. There's chance you can get this right. There's a chance you can answer correctly. There's hope. And you know, in your Virgo mind, [as well as I do](#), that, despite the best [guessing](#), there's also

a chance that you will call "heads" when it land "tails."
That's almost certain.



LIBRA

Libra: [Ceviche](#) is a Mexican name for a simple dish. It's [supposed](#) to be raw sea fish, onions, peppers and a healthy amount of lemon (or lime) juice. The citric acid "cooks" the fish. I've prepared this at home with fresh seafood, I've had it in Mexico -- probably where I was introduced to the dish -- and I've had it locally. Because it does involve raw seafood, I tend to be a tad bit picky about the places where I'll have this kind of a meal. Although it's an appetizer, I've found that it a good dish of Ceviche Salad can serve as a light meal.

The place where I had this borders on being fancy or really fancy, and I wouldn't order drinks there, but for a quick meal, maybe chips, hot sauce and some Ceviche? Yeah, works great. The deal is, despite the Mexican (or really Tex-Mex) trappings, the place aspires to be fine cuisine. The dish is served with a couple of avocado wedges on one side, limes wedges round out the presentation, and there was a few kernels of popcorn.

Sounds really weird, raw fish, lime juice, onions, peppers and popcorn. Popcorn? It added crunch, added flavor, and added texture. It was the perfect addition. For that scoop of raw fish, there was about six popcorn kernels. Strange, but true. Mars, and Venus are moving opposite you. Add popcorn to the menu items. Add something, add something a little different. Might seem odd, but your [Libra](#) tastes will thank me.



Scorpio: I've heard the plant called a [number](#) of names, "[Confederate](#) Jasmine," or "Southern [Jasmine](#)." It's a flowering vine that creates the strongest aromatic scent when it flowers. In the spring. Like now. Sort of funny plant, broad, dark green leaves, vine that holds like [Vise-Grips](#), and then the flowering aroma. It's heady and thick, a scent that sends a clear message, like a fresh spritz of perfume. When I had this stuff growing at my place in Austin, I had a small problem with Yellow-Jackets as the flowering plant seemed to attract them by the horde.

So the flowers and the springtime scent? All good. The downside? Insects. Stinging insects that are obnoxious and little [aggressive](#). I passed a building here, old house I think, and they had the Confederate Jasmine clinging and covering a side of the house. The smell is delicious, especially now, in the spring. However, I'm reminded, although it's tempting to run my fingers through the leaves? I'm reminded of previous encounters with the wasp-waisted hornets. Which does not mean I can't enjoy the scent, the aromatic background the spring offers, just means I'll be careful and alert as I enjoy it. No need to piss of a hornet's nest.

Enjoy the good stuff, like the Jasmine, or whatever it's called. Just be wary. Look, don't touch?

astrofish.net

Boutique Horoscopes
(discount prices)

subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)

\$2.95 for 30 days' access.



 **ASTROFISH.NET**


SAGITTARIUS

Sagittarius: Old adage to which I've hewn extensively? "Anything said in Latin sounds smarter." Consider that as I hand out a useful phrase from my own collection. "Gustatus Similis Pullus" is a handy Latin phrase, means, in doggerel Latin, "Tastes like chicken." The cooks among us will savor the phrase. I'm not sure what is cooking, but the phrase, in Latin, might just be handy.

Possum and Raccoon come to mind, as does Catfish and Squirrel. Not that I know anything about that, or what roadkill would really taste like. But there is always the misconception. Reminds me of time I was pulling out with a buddy, we were headed out in the pre-dawn hours to fish. A neighbor was scrapping something off the road. The comment my buddy made, not really suitable for this medium, involved a local restaurant, obvious roadkill and scraping breakfast from the surface street. Or the street's surface.

I had to assure him, "Gustatus Similis Pullus," although I doubt that really mediated the cause. Look: you've got a

handy Latin phrase to use, as needed to help ease our Sagittarius way through the week. Some people don't get it. Which is why we can use the Latin version.



CAPRICORN

Capricorn: Do you know what an Aglet is? That's the plain or ornamental covering on the end of a shoelace. What is this, Capricorn [trivia](#)? Sure. Useless data that might pay off if you were on a game show of some kind. "Okay, Capricorn, what is an 'Aglet'? For the winning total?" Now you know the answer.

I'd like to think that I can provide this [information](#) before you need it, but in a convoluted and twisted world in which we live? You probably needed the answer last week. Doesn't do you a lot of good this week. You missed the jack pot because you weren't paying attention. But now that I do have your attention, what you can do with this? It's a good, and yet oddly stressful period, starting on the [beginning](#) of this scope. By the end of the next week, you'll have handle on this. It's just that in the between time?



AQUARIUS

Aquarius: I've got a small stereo system in my office. It was an inexpensive [arrangement](#), more as a stop-gap [measure](#) than a permanent solution, and what's odd, is how it's stuck. What was a temporary deal has become, more or less, a permanent solution. Good thing I spent a little more than I thought it justified, so I got a good cheap one. Which is what this is really all about. I'm not in favor of the disposable lifestyle, or disposable lifestyle adornments, however, in this situation, I was figuring this would be a good, disposable deal.

To my pleasant surprise, it was a longer-lasting, more useful set-up. What I did was plug an iPod into the portable stereo and as such, it now has many long hours of preprogrammed music, change a play list and get different material, classical, rock, alternative Texas country folks rock, Spanish-language techno, opera. Never can tell what I'll be listening to. It's about cheap and easy solution to a complex problem, and how the cheaper, easier alternatives seem to work out better. Some question, Aquarius questions this week, some of those questions don't need complicated (and expensive) answers. Sometimes good and cheap works, and like my music player, good and cheap not only works, but works well in the long haul, too.



Pisces: Dressed up, slicked down, ready to go? [Good](#). No one wants to [play](#) along? Too bad. The planets are not having a laugh at you as much as your expectations have gotten the best of you. It's not bad, just not as wonderful and amazing as you expect it to be. It's matter of riding herd on the Pisces hopes and dreams a little bit. Corralling that wonderful imagination of yours. I'm not saying you shouldn't dream big, no, that's not the question.

If you can dream it, then it could happen. But the timing, and that's what this is all about, the timing isn't that good. I fished about three times last [week](#). I caught fish on one trip. That's the way it goes. Out of three tries, success just one day. But then, stop and think about those numbers, fishing, three times? Three days off for fishing? That's not bad at all, that's good. That's great even. So despite not really being successful with the the catching of fish, I was fishing, and therefore, well, it's all good, right?

Kind of depends on how you want to see what's right there,

and what you expect to see. At least on of those days I fully didn't expect to catch any fish because it was an experimental bait in an experimental location, and I thought it wouldn't work, so I met my expectations. But then, as an [astrologer](#), I know how to manage my expectations with the planets. All I'm saying, depends on how you judge the relative merits of success and failure. And all depends on what you expect out of the deal.

astrofish.net
Boutique Horoscopes
(discount prices)
subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)
\$2.95 for 30 days' access.



 **ASTROFISH.NET**

 **ARIES**

[Aries](#): Nothing would be nicer in the [Aries](#) chart than a degree of peace and serenity. Too bad it's a relative thing, that peace and serenity, because, by my standards, there's a degree of peace, prosperity and harmony due in the Aries quadrant. The point is, though, to use this direction, this little cosmic shove? Put its energy in motion in a direction that you want.

There's the [peaceful, easy feeling](#) from the ingress of Venus. There's the activity associated with Mars, the nominative planet for [Aries](#), and there's always the lunar cycle, just starting to warm up. Spring has sprung, locally. Pretty much it. Not as hot as it will be, and there has still been a few rain

astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts

storms to help ease this, but the onset of summer is in the very near distance. Likewise for Aries. Get ready for a warm [season](#), location notwithstanding.

All Rights Reserved

[copyright](#) (c) 2008, 2009 [Kramer Wetzel](#), for [astrofish.net](#)

For the week starting: 5.7.2009

"Smatter with your gossips, go."

Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* [III.v.171]

Mercury is [retrograde](#), starting its [pattern](#) in [Gemini](#) but slipping [backwards](#) into Taurus before the end of the [week](#).



[Taurus](#): As Mercury moves in its [retrograde](#) pattern, it's happening right on top of your Taurus [self](#). This [means](#)? This [means](#) you're going to get a good dose of the usual "Mercury is retrograde" mayhem going on. Swirling around you. A veritable feeding frenzy of activity, all occurring in -- right on top of your Taurus head. Maybe not literally on top of your head, but close enough.

Okay, this horoscope is like the sign, "Low Bridge Ahead," and the top of your Taurus head is like my head, we share a unique way of finding the low beam. The "watch your head" comment couldn't be more appropriate. That's the warning.

Got it? Whether you choose to observe this [warning](#), whether you select the warning from the plethora of choices you're getting these days? Up to you. I'm not saying you have to stop. I'm not saying you have to slow down. I'm not giving you that guidance. With Mercury in apparent backwards spin, though? Think about the sign, the "Low Clearance," the "low beam ahead," the "duck your head, fool," comment from me. I can see comedy here, as you listen to me, turn around and run smack into the lower object, the low beam, the low bridge, just as you turn around and laugh at my advice. [Me](#)? I can [blame Mercury](#).
ASTROFISH.NET: Texas gold in every one!



II Gemini

Gemini: "This is bad, very, very-very bad," my little Gemini intoned, all serious and not up in my face. The relative paucity of embellished responses from that Gemini was more frightening than any previous histrionics. Worrisome, too, and not in a fun way. The Gemini Sign is affected in the -- relatively speaking -- 12th House manner with this planet's influence, the whole Mercury thing. As such, there are memories, dreams and reflections that will crawl up from a deep well within the Gemini psyche.

Nightmares, worst-case scenarios, best-case gone bad, and similar "creatures of the shadow side" will begin to emerge. How do you deal with this? Me? I'm amused. I'll listen while tales of woe and pain, trouble and strife, thwarted love, and hopeless situations, which, in the back of the Gemini brain, go from bad to worst. Nothing's so bad, that a little obsessing about the worst-case scenario can't make it a little worse, huh? That's the problem with the Gemini 12th House. And Mercury. "When (Gemini) brains attack"?

**Summer sale:
new lower price!**



CANCER

Cancer: Mercury is retrograde, basically, for the duration, in your 11th solar House. But what does that mean? It would indicate, to me, that this is a time when you're forced into a role that you're not exactly comfortable with. Like public speaking. Me? I like public speaking, I have a couple of jokes, not good jokes, just bad jokes, but that warms the

crowd up. Then it's into the material.

If I had to tell the truth, I'd admit that I'm a little nervous when I get up to speak. But I'm also pretty much over it. I can't afford to use any of the tricks that I've read so often, "Imagine your audience is naked." Oh please, we'd get nowhere really fast. So I can't say that advice works. But there is a trick or two, I tend to pick out a person, usually a Scorpio, in the rear of the audience, and I tend to pick on that one person.

First off, Scorpio's appreciate the wit, and secondly, the Scorpio's can take a little heat. Unlike a Cancer, who, at this time, can't take a little heat, or even, if I catch this wrong, you Cancer folks can't even take a joke.

What's worse, this Mercury Retrograde pattern focuses its attention on you, like, when you're doing something like giving a little presentation. Do not hesitate to ask, "Is there some spinach stuck in my teeth?" Do so before you go on stage. Which you will. With the spinach, no doubt. Or something.



[Leo](#): Mercury "backs" itself into [Taurus](#), and that's your 10th House. More or less. Less, really since, unless you're a [Leo Ascendant](#), and even then, have to be a early degree and depends on which house system you use, but anyway, this is about your Leo self and dealing with Mercury backing up in a fixed sign.

Nominally, there should be a career setback at this time. I look at one of my Leo friends, and it's not so much as a career setback, as that Leo is pretty much freelance, and as such, there's a slow decline in freelance work. Which means that it's time to tend to other matters. Freelance is mostly

about hustling and [marketing one's self](#). And that's what this time is about, maybe get back and look at some of the marketing ideas.

Underground -- cheap, no thrills marketing is a good idea at this time. However, there's a big warning, too: no astro-turfing. Look up the definition of that term and then be careful about doing just that. Looks bad when you praise [yourself](#). With Mercury in its present [position](#)? I'd go really easy on the marketing efforts.



Compare prices

(still cheaper than coffee)

subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)

\$2.95 for 30 days' access.

 **ASTROFISH.NET**

 **VIRGO**

Virgo: [Mercury](#) is -- basically -- [retrograde](#) in your [9th](#) House. More or less. And as a Virgo, you'd like a certain amount of precision, which I can't offer at this time, due to Mercury's unstable location. It's backwards in place where I would urge review and reassessment. I'd spend time going over material that you previously covered. I'd look at material that you think you know by heart, only to discover, if you do review that stuff, you'll find someone snuck in and put extra words in there. Extra meaning. Stuff you don't recall from the last time.

There's almost a sense of wonder and merriment that comes from accidental discovery like this, as there's a strong academic kind of flavor to this. Not that it's bad, it's just that Mercury will confuse certain issues, and I'd think about going back and looking at all that material you covered before.

Look: I have this happen all the time, horoscopes go to an editor, then fact-checking, then a final edit. Then, there's always one or two mistakes that I have to correct -- after the scopes have rolled over. A philosophical attitude helps. Go over material you previously covered.



LIBRA

Libra: While the Mercury Retrograde pattern commenced in Gemini, for the bulk of this planet pattern? It's going to be in your 8th (solar) House. Means that your earning potential takes a hit. Or that your stock portfolio sees a (temporary) decline in value. Or whatever it is. I didn't have a portfolio, other than an old briefcase with a few pieces of paper in it. Not exactly a well-stocked portfolio bursting at the seams with blue chip stocks.

Only chips I've seen? Cow chips. So I can't exactly say that this is going to hit our Libra selves just like that. But there is a monetary issue that's burning its way through the Libra symbolism at this point. What you do, how you react? I'd suggest caution.

That which begins at this time tends to not work out, or just takes longer to work out, fraught with mistakes and miscues. Let me help a little, let me suggest you slow it down some. I'd suggest that this is just temporary earning setback, too. Not like a long-term problem, so be patient, see if there isn't a core course correction for the good ship Libra in a few weeks. About four.

 ASTROFISH.NET

 SCORPIO

Scorpio: I've used this tale before, but it so fits with Scorpio, and Mercury being retrograde in the sign that is on the opposite side of the wheel from you -- Taurus. Mercury is retrograde in your 7th House, more or less. I'm inclined for less rather than more, but that's the way the number crunchers would like this to stack up. What this is like, it's like a certain fish I used to catch. Same damn fish. It was a little earlier in the spring, a bass, a girl bass, and she was bedding at one spot, and I used to annoy her -- or tempt her -- I was never sure which one, and I caught that same fish a couple of times.

Not exactly a quick a study. What that fish lacked in mental agility, she made up for in "Bass Attitude." Which is why that's a favorite fish, but don't get sidetracked. Same bait, a Power Worm with a Tail, same time, over and over. When your significant -- or insignificant other -- baits you with the same bait, and your Scorpio self keeps biting on the bait? Can't say I didn't try and warn you, first. With that one kind of bait? I think it's the action of the tail that always gets my attention.

astrofish.net

Boutique Horoscopes
(discount prices)

subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)

\$2.95 for 30 days' access.





SAGITTARIUS

Sagittarius: Mercury is [backwards](#) in our collective (solar) 6th House. Means [what](#)? Means there's trouble with work. Problems, maybe not big problems, but stupid little problems with whatever employment we have going on. I set a meeting for a client, agreed on a time and place and the client didn't show. It happens. But it was a thin week, and while I have plenty I'd like to be doing, I'd also like to be earning some income.

In my example, I had a chance to talk with a certain lady friend I'd been meaning to have a long conversation with, and that was nice, so I didn't mind the client ditching me. Too much. But then, I was a little more circumspect before setting up another meeting with that client. She showed the second time, punctual, and I even got a tip. Which didn't really cover my lost time, but I tend to make sure no time gets wasted. In two hours, I made a little more than what I would normally make in an hour. I know it's boring to talk about dollars and billings and so forth, but this is a good example of doing what it takes. Might not be making our full measure of dollars, but somehow, it all works out.



CAPRICORN

Capricorn: This is easy for me, as I [draw](#) upon my Sister's wealth of creative endeavors to find out how to deal with [Capricorn](#) and [Mercury Retrograde](#) in the [Capricorn's 5th House](#). Sister, what she does? What I do, actually, is I send her, for birthdays, Xmas, and the like? I'll have some blank "journals" or sketch books that I found on sale. I stockpile them. I'll hand her one of those. She, like the Gemini that she is? She'll record every blessed detail about what

happens when Mercury is backwards. In verse, story, myth and picture. Mostly images that, to my untrained eye, looks like scribblings and undecipherable code.

To me, last time I looked, it was eerily [reminiscent](#) of cave markings, the stuff left behind by the earliest settlers. Again, it doesn't make sense to me, and while I don't really care -- I do but I don't -- it works for her. What happens, at least 80% of that recorded material is crap. Call it what it is. However, in that dross? There will be a few gold nuggets, truly worth the effort. It's matter of saving it all, then, in about three weeks? Then you can go back over the material and decide what's junk. And what's not, after all, as an Earth Sign, you should be able to mine this one for gold. Or silver, platinum, whatever precious metal you're looking for.



AQUARIUS

[Aquarius](#): An Aquarius friend was [trying](#) to sell her place. We [picked](#) a good time to list the place so it would get the optimal [exposure](#), and to stack the astrological cards in her favor. ([Usual rates apply](#).) She then went about "staging" the house. There was a fresh floral bouquet in the living room, along with a small whiteboard, "Welcome to YOUR new home!" Cleaned, pressed, bed made, sheets folded, towels hung with care, &c. Then, at the last minute, before the buyers would show up? My Aquarius friend, Mercury is backwards in your 4th House, would be lounged, splayed out, sprawled across the couch, in front of the TV, with a bag of a certain kind of chocolate cookie (with a [creamy](#) center).

No water and the bouquet sagging, the little whiteboard rent asunder. From immaculate to slob in less time than it should take. Problems? Not really, just hustle around and pull it all together, in haste. Close but not quite. As long she kept the place clean, no callers, but when she let it go, they would

show up. It's a matter of getting caught -- at home -- and not the way you'd like to get caught, a little cookie crumb at the corner of your mouth, "Huh? Show it? Now!" Get the idea? Doesn't matter what you do, you're timing is off. I can blame Mercury, can you? Better consult me before you sell or stage.



Compare prices

(still cheaper than coffee)

subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)

\$2.95 for 30 days' access.

 **ASTROFISH.NET**

 **PISCES**

Pisces: Mercury is heading backwards into your 3rd House. More or less. Actually, I wouldn't care about the house placement for Mercury and your Pisces self, as I tend to figure this is one you're all but immune to. The only problem, see, the 3rd House is about communication, I don't mean, like, long-distance telephone, no I was thinking more like the guy you sit next to at work? The person who sells me a coke in the afternoons? The guy who nods to you as you enter the building?

The (Pisces) girl who makes good iced espresso? All of these are normal, daily interactions that involve some communication. And all of these daily interactions are subject to mistakes, misunderstanding, and -- what did you expect -- miscommunications. Last time, for me, what

happened? "You want a triple, right?" No, I prefer a double, just enough to get through, but I wound up with a, like a double-double espresso, on ice. No wonder my hair is curly. Bad mistake? Not really, sleep is way over-rated.



Aries: As Mercury [moves](#) into a [retrograde pattern](#), in your [second house](#), it would suggest there's a [review](#) process approaching. I was trying to combine a bunch of my fishing gear. To that end, I had the tackle spread all across the living room. I had saltwater swimmers mixed in with freshwater sinkers, and the lures weren't happy.

I kept thinking I was going to take some extra bait to the ocean, or bay, next time I went, and what I had in mind was the straighten out a big mess of fishing tackle. I got all the stuff spread out, then separated, then all stacked up nice. Then I forgot what I was doing, wandered off to the [post office](#), came home, slipped out of my sandals and nearly punctured a toe on the fishing gear I'd left out. It's matter of starting -- and finishing -- one project at a time. What I wound up doing was just scooping up the gear, and dumping it all back into a gear bag. Which means I'll have to sort through the mess again [before](#) I can go fishing.

All Rights Reserved

[copyright](#) (c) 2008, 2009 [Kramer Wetzell](#), for [astrofish.net](#)

For the week starting: 5.14.2009

"You [three-inch fool](#)"

Shakespeare's *The Taming of the Shrew* [IV.i.23]

Mercury [Video](#).



[Taurus](#): I can get by in [border patois](#), but I took French in college, which is another [question](#) that really deserves [no](#) good [answer](#). [However](#), one of the little tricks that's common around here? I watched as a person (not a Taurus) borrowed a Taurus phone and then set the language to Spanish. Wouldn't be too much trouble for me, I would just say, "Hola" in stead of "Hello." I'm not sure what that would do the spelling of my various contacts. Some? It wouldn't matters as a number of my friends and immediate contacts have Spanish/Mexican surnames, proper names, last names and so on.

Yet, as that Taurus? The software switch that changed everything to Spanish -- on the [phone](#)? That was a mean trick, largely undeserved in my opinion. That's the sort of practical joke that you're looking at, as this week goes careening by.

Before you react to harshly? Let's say someone makes your phone speak Spanish? Just answer with a "Hola," instead of a more traditional greeting, maybe just jabber in Spanish with the trick's perpetrator. More than one way to fight back, you know. As far as the target? I'm pretty sure the target of the prank is going to be a Taurus. [This week](#).

"Hola?"

ASTROFISH.NET: Based on a true [story](#).



II Gemini

[Gemini](#): "Man, why do you use [THIS](#) post office? There's always a line here, I mean, I can never mail anything here. What's up with THAT?" Gemini buddy, not named Bubba, complaining as artful and eloquently as [possible](#), and I'm sure the complaint was more because I was taking my valuable attention away from the [Gemini](#) problem and addressing my own concerns. To be sure, there's usually a long line with only one or two postal workers manning the retail counters.

However, the post office is right by the freeway, ease of ingress and egress, all that matters. Besides, after his complaint? We walked in, no line, and to hammer home the point? I walked straight up to a window and bought a roll of stamps.

Several salient facts to be observed? No need? No line. No pressing business? No line. No hurry? No line. I opened up the mail box, nothing was there. No problem, just a routine stop, not a big deal. Didn't really need to buy stamps, have half a roll at home, but there was no line, and it [shut up the Gemini](#). The problem being, as your [Gemini](#) self sets out to prove a point? You'll find the proof isn't there. The way this works, though, if you're in a hurry? The bigger the hurry? The longer the [line](#).

**Summer sale:
new lower price!**



69 CANCER

[Cancer](#): I was dining, the other evening, with two female friends. Tex-Mex, not that it matters. And a Libra and Capricorn, not that it [matters](#), and an Aries waitress, again, not that it matters. One had puffy tacos, the other had a Texas Special, which was a chicken taco, along with a guacamole taco -- all platters tend to be accompanied by the requisite rice and beans.

The waitress served my friends, and since I had an identical order to one of them, the waitress assured me she had written it down, only the cook only fixed one, and mine was on the way. I acted out of place, as only I can, and the waitress looked at me with a steely gaze, "Look, it's not [1935](#) anymore, women get served first."

In part, I was [joking](#). In part, I didn't care, and in part, it didn't matter as I could have freely availed myself of the food on my friends' plates. You'll recognize that all the cardinal signs are represented in this example. Except for the most important, that would be [Cancer](#). And that means you're getting served last, forgotten, abandoned. Just how are you going to deal with it? I served up the lines and I was comically put in place, just like I was feeding the material from a comic script. Consider it as a chance to be the perfect foil. Might be a chance to be perfect something else -- like me.



[Leo](#): The song I [heard](#), on the radio, the other afternoon? It was lonesome cowboy drinking song. "I don't remember, do I drink because she (complains) or does she (complain) because I drink?" Might have the actual lyrics wrong, as I was navigating in traffic and flipping the truck's radio button. But I liked what I heard, and I tried to make a note, nearly taking out a small sedan full very pale people.

Made me think, though, that song, about binary questions. Does the Leo drink because there's a person complaining about the drinking, or does the complaining cause the drinking? Simple question, too. If you think about it. Pause and think. Just such a sad lament is a useful outlet for the Leo person about now. One causes the other, one paw washed the other paw. Or something akin to that, correct?

It's about cause and effect, push this button here, see what happens. With a [Leo](#), with [The Leo](#), push the button, and there's a very predictable response. With Mercury backwards and swapping positions with the Sun, it's time to pause and think. That song, while I don't think it's the actual situation, it does pose a pretty good variation on thematic elements, and those self-same elements are worth Leo consideration. Drink because she complains? Or does she complain because The Leo drinks?



[Virgo](#): I was waiting in line to board a crowded plane. Going some place for [work](#), I'm sure. There was, I'm assuming, a couple. The guy was macho enough, except that he had, slung over his shoulders, a very pink backpack. Monogrammed letters, probably not his, but still. This is like a guy carrying a woman's purse. Not a man-purse, or a 'man bag,' but a woman, to whom he is (apparently) otherwise engaged. Carrying the pack. As a couple I understand how this works, and as an observer, I feel a little sorry for the guy.

Maligned, picked upon, put out, and then forced to be a packhorse for his wife. But is it really all that bad? The guy looked well-fed and well-petted. Attractive woman with him, not carrying her backpack, and the idea was that this was a well-managed arrangement. The single guys, the macho guys, they will suggest -- it's -- like -- a rule or something

-- not to carry the woman's purse. Or her pink backpack. However, I'm sure there's no shame in the pink backpack because, odds are good, he was going to be sleeping with the owner of the pink backpack. Which is what this is all about.

There's a gradual shift, a little give and little take. Is it really that bad? Cowboy up bubba, grab that pink pack.



LIBRA

Libra: There's a line from a [song](#), about, "The boys from Silver City," [which](#), if my geography is right, is that town on the southwest side of New Mexico. Or [West Texas](#). Then, another song, it's about the, "The boys from Port O'Conner," and I know that one, down south side of Texas. Wouldn't be a big deal, except the songs describe, in very short lines, real cowboys.

Not make believe but real, in the saddle, [working](#) cowboys. At one transfer point, I sat across the way from three real cowboys, and I kept thinking of the lyrics to those songs. Real cowboys. Jeans tucked into their boots, big buckles -- trophies -- won in real rodeo events. I took a stab at talking fishing with the guys, but like cowboys of legend, these were manly men of few words.

Except about a certain fishing trip and the "big one," which is tale just about every fishing person has. My favorite Libra fishing story is a picture, straw hat, light blue fishing pole, holding up a huge (relatively speaking) speckled trout (Gulf Coast Trout). Biggest fish that one weekend. Mars is opposite you. As such, a more taciturn approach, like those cowboys, that kind of quiet example might be the best way to lead towards your bragging [rights](#). As a Libra.

Weekly Video ([Monday](#), more or [less](#)) is [here](#).



Scorpio: It was a girl in a [short dress](#), leggings, heavy socks and over-sized cowboy boots. Might have had two sets of heavy wool socks on, in order to accommodate the boots. Looked like a nice outfit, in that "I've not altered or bought anything new" look. The colors, sort of tan or earth-tone yellow, maybe an ochre or something, mustard-like? The colors all fit and were tied up with a wide, brown belt with what looked like a fake-gold buckle. Who knows? Never got a chance to ask the woman. And she was a tall one, too.

Not that it matter, but I would've liked to ascertain her sign. I'm sure, due to the garish clothing, she wasn't a [Scorpio](#). Then again, with the current [influences](#)? I'd wonder about that. Maybe a Scorpio is the only sign with enough intestinal fortitude to carry off a weird combination of elements, and make it all work well. Doesn't matter, that was winter wear, and it's pretty firmly summer now. Haven't seen much cold lately. Don't plan to, either.

Consider the tasteful array of elements that don't fit together. Consider combining, and then, like the over-sized cowboy boots? Consider a second pair of socks to make sure there's a snug fit for this week. Can't be too [careful](#) with Mercury [backwards](#).



Sagittarius: When I did the last [run-through](#) of all the material for this week's [scope](#), I was sure that I had everything in place. No [misplaced](#) modifiers, no punctuation that was missing, no points left unanswered. All nice, neat, correct, plausible and in some cases, very wrong.

Mercury is in apparent retrograde motion -- that much is correct. [Backward](#) in Taurus, which, strictly speaking, puts it backwards in our collective Sagittarius Sixth (solar) House. Which means, sure as can be, check the comments section, this week's horoscopes will receive undue attention, undue censure and undeserved ire for something being incorrect. The problem isn't the scopes themselves, or, for that matter, the problem isn't me, but our Sagittarius selves would do well to understand that the bulk of the folks out there will find fault with us. For whatever reason, a typographical mistake, a misplaced decimal point, wrong punctuation, something relatively minor?

That's going to incense a large group of people. I've warned you about this. I've warned me about this. We all understand that this isn't really about whatever the perceived sleight is about, it's about other folks and frustrations that get vented in Sagittarius [working](#) arena.



CAPRICORN

[Capricorn](#): I was in a resort hotel, [apparently](#), I wasn't at the only [convention](#) in town. One of those long banks of elevators? There was a group of merry, intoxicated males making their way towards the yawning gape of an elevator door. A straggler hurried into the scene, "Hey, HEY, let me in, too!" They all crowded into the one elevator, the door shut, opened again, then shut.

Drunken laughter ascended unto the heavens. I have no idea, I didn't get a good look at the badges they were all wearing. Oh, come on, I don't really care what the organization was. The drunken antics can be amusing. Or annoying, and after a long day of work? I just [skipped](#) riding in that first elevator. Another one opened, and it was blessedly empty as I rode up to my room, in the quiet and

[solitude](#).

Mars in Aries? You get to make a choice. Are you going to take that first elevator? Or are you going to wait, like me? My waiting paid off in that I wasn't annoyed, agitated, or, worst of all, I didn't get into a fight with some drunken jerk who wouldn't even remember me the next day. Or why he thought he had to kick my ass in front of all his friends on a crowded elevator. Why invite misery when it's not necessary? A way to avoid this problem? Wait for the next elevator. Next bus. Next train, next something.



AQUARIUS

Aquarius: It's time to [think](#) about making a [decision](#). Not a little decision, but a big one. However, as you well know by now, Mercury is [backwards](#) and as such, now isn't a good time to render a permanent decision. I always enjoy the folks who admonish dire threats about this kind of time frame, and while I agree in principle, the way [individual astrology charts](#) play out, that makes a big difference in this approach. Which gets back to my original point, there's a big turning point, a crossroads, fast approaching in the Aquarius life and times, and now is the correct time to think about that decision.

What to do, where to go, how to approach this approaching point that's calling for some change. Convolutated, at best. There are myriad of choices to make. This is like trying to figure out exactly which limb and branch a specific leaf fell from. I was using the tree as an example because it's spring time, and the blossoms and all, and never mind. It's about seeing -- and understanding -- how a decision down here at the base, in the trunk itself, how that -- looks like a binary question -- how that answer can stem into a plethora of pathways. What are you going to do? That's why I was urging, especially since there are a couple of weeks left to

go? Think about the possible permutations and consider the various avenues. Think before you jump aboard one of these.

Weekly Video ([Monday](#), more or [less](#)) is [here](#).



[Pisces](#): When I fish in clear water, visual appeal is important. I have to use a bait that looks like something the fish wants to bite. When the water is all churned up, especially, like, coastal fishing, smell is a lot more important than looks. The dark, muddy water, full of silt and sand? Fish can't see very much, but they do have an acute sense of "smell," or whatever the underwater equivalent is called, and that will [guide](#) them right to where I've got a piece of smelly bait and a hook.

The waters around [Pisces](#) -- at this point -- are muddy. Doesn't mean you can't get what you're fishing for, but it does mean that a change is called for. A different technique. I'd suggest dead shrimp. What I usually start with, and from there? It's up to you, how creative you want to get. Wait, the dead shrimp are what I use for fishing, perhaps you're looking for something besides big fish? Might mean a new scent, a new flavor, a new way to package what you've already got.

Personally, I still think it's the scent, the aroma, that works best. Since the waters around you are turbulent, stirred up, and a bit muddy? Try with something that will punch through the muck. Dead shrimp, that's my idea, but I'm not sure, something new to add some fresh scent to help you.



Aries: A friend of mine, the neighbors flooded her place. Aries, you know how water can extinguish a fire, huh? Something I didn't get, a Fang Sway fountain and water shut-off and so on. When I stopped by, at the appointed hour, the "water reclamation process" was well underway. There were a half-dozen big fans situated around her apartment. Big blowers, making a lot of noise. "Let's get out of here," was -- I think -- what she said.

We left.

"Life in a wind tunnel, what are you supposed to do?" Personally, I prefer water-tight trailers as the only high-water problem would be floating away. The wind tunnel, the Aries with water-soaked carpets, and the effusive use of "I'm SO sorry," that just doesn't always work. The Aries, though, infused with Mars energy this week? Maybe it's like living in a wind tunnel, which is what her apartment felt like. While I didn't accurately predict the neighbor causing a flood, I did suggest a little caution, and I did say it would be like life in a wind-tunnel. Which it was. Is. Mars, you know?

All Rights Reserved

copyright (c) 2008, 2009 Kramer Wetzel, for astrofish.net

For the week starting: 5/21/2009

"The complaints I have heard of you I do not all believe;
[but] I know you lack not [folly](#) to commit [them](#)."
Shakespeare's *All's Well That Ends Well* (I.iii.8-10)



♊ Gemini

[Gemini](#): I met this old guy, once. I mean, he was old. Been retired for many, many years. Had a thick Louisiana [accent](#), which set him [apart](#) from the local, native speakers in Texas. While Louisiana might just be a few hundred miles east? It's worlds apart. Not that it matters, just is. As I got the old guy to talk, he was easy to listen to with his Louisiana lilt and the southern cadence as defined by language of place, the longer he talked, the more I liked what I heard. I can't imitate a Louisiana accent, I can't reproduce it, I can merely acknowledge it.

He was an oil field worker at one time, and he spent many long years in South Texas and West Texas, yet he retained his native accent. All the years, all the miles, and I'm sure, at one point, a lot of chiding, but still, he was a deep Louisiana native. Better yet, he was still respectful, even when I should defer to his advanced age. I never could tell if he was playing me or being genuine. Either way? Worked. With Mercury backwards, in a sign that precedes you? I can't tell, no one can tell, if you're genuine, coy, or playful. Respectful or sarcastic? Can't tell. Don't assume that the Gemini message -- your message -- is getting across. Don't [assume](#) that we can figure out the nuance of the Gemini accent.

ASTROFISH.NET: Clearance [Priced](#)



Cancer: "Global warming! Gun control! Starvation! Rampant disease!" **Sounds** just like one of my Cancer clients, rambling on and on about how this is the end of the world, for sure, and how this means all those bad things are going to happen, right now, in her life. With no hope. While I'm not in the habit of **selling** hope, I would point out that the Sun is in Gemini all this week (and the next three weeks). Mercury won't be backwards much longer, and Mars/Venus will move out of Aries before too long.

But this week? All those odds are stacked against you. And that means the feeling of doom will be pervasive. Doesn't mean that there will be doom and gloom, just that it will feel like that. **Devastation**. Doom, dum-dum. If you understand that this is trick of the planets? Then you can actually mine some of this miserable feeling material as a source for deep-seated fears. Embrace those fears. Then maybe consider preparations.

Marshaling your resources in the face of the adversity outlined above? Kind of hard to accomplish in a single week. But over time? Like the next couple of weeks? A little preparation makes what you've got? Makes that stuff last longer. Which is what this is all about.

**Summer sale:
new lower price!**

 **ASTROFISH.NET**

 **THE
LEO**

Leo: I watched, **horrified**, as a friend, a Leo, made a huge **mistake**. However, as a Leo, the Leo, I couldn't well interject and suggest otherwise. What I did was step back. I watched, in abject horror, as the Leo friend took a situation that was bad, and through typical Leo statement, dramatic influence and other elements, made the situation go from

bad to worse, to abysmally awful. This was an example, every inch of the way, the Leo was justified in the response, only, it was a situation wherein the Leo -- categorically correct -- made a bad situation worse.

From bad to worse to the worst. So the Leo was right, letter of the law, karmically, whatever method of judging? Correct. The Leo was correct. Did that justify the response? No. It's a matter of being right and being alone. "Well, I was right, wasn't I?" Yes, the Leo was right. And other than [me](#), standing beside the Leo? No one else was going to join the fray. There is time to be morally indignant. Then there's a time to know that you're right, but you don't have to smite us with your Leo might. I know you're right. You know you're right. All that matters, right?



[Virgo](#): When guys hug guys? [Normal](#), all heterosexual males hug other, all normal, heterosexual males? It usually involves a slap on the back, and that slap can be strong enough dislodge the spine of the person being slapped. There's a solid "thunk!" Just trying to show that we're normal. It's also indicative of a deeper emotion, usually a little bravado on top of a small amount of unfamiliar intimacy as evidenced by an embrace. Which is the reason why there's a solid slap to accompany the hug. It's like punctuation, and I've watched this behavior amongst many of my "manly" friends.

There's a level of intimacy I'm not sure that some guys are familiar with. Doesn't bother me, as I've moved across so many boundaries, very little in personal interaction will surprise me. Or upset me. Saturn is embracing your Virgo self these days. I'd suggest, like that hug I just described? I'd suggest that [Virgo](#) slap [Saturn](#) on the back, give a little of extra bravado, and see if that doesn't help you slug,

muscle, and otherwise get you through the problems this week.



LIBRA

Libra: [Stop](#). [Mars](#) and Venus oppose you. [Stop](#). Mercury is backwards in Taurus. [Stop](#). That's three "[stop](#)" symbols and by now you should have a grip on this stupid planetary [pattern](#). It's about slowing to crawl, then stopping, then pausing, then holding still long enough to understand, [grasp](#), and internally accept what the [message](#) is. It's about accepting certain situations, accepting certain limits and understanding that there are some things in life that don't make any sense.

"Why [do](#) we have to do it this way?" That's the common question I've heard, and the answer? [Because it's the way it's always been done](#). There comes a time when the bureaucracy wins. It's that simple. I know, and you can easily see, that there is a way around this, perhaps route or method that would appear to require less energy. Maybe a way that seems a lot more efficient. While that might be the case, an while that might fit our situation here? That doesn't mean it's the way we're going to do this. There's an accepted process, for whatever reason, and for now, even though we both know that your [Libra](#) idea is good? Let's just do it the harder, more arduous, and time-proven way. Just for now. [Humor](#) us.

**Summer sale:
new lower price!**



Scorpio: Start with unbridled optimism. Sprinkle with hope, add a dash of encouraging news. What have you got? Looks a lot better than what you've been looking at lately, doesn't it? The problem being, this mixture of hope and optimistic outlook? It needs to be leavened a little. Perhaps a teaspoon of Scorpio reality? I think that's the right mix. But that's also the clue, on how to get by this week.

Just use a teaspoon. Not a tablespoon. Much smaller quantity. This mix is heady brew and there's just one item that seems to be missing, and personally, I'm not a Scorpio so I can't say that I tried this, but I'd suggest a shot of tequila, too. A little Scorpio reality, measured by the teaspoon, and maybe, just maybe, for medicinal purposes only, a shot of tequila.

Different concoctions work different ways, and the tequila might be regional influence. But that steaming mug of hope? Seasoned with a small dose of Scorpio real world knowledge? Maybe a shot of hard liquor will help. Or something similar. Me? I just get a second shot of espresso. But I'm not a Scorpio.



Sagittarius: I'm tired of Mercury being backwards. Seems like this one has drawn down for longer than it is supposed to. And it feels like I've had more than my share of stupid little "Mercury is backwards" problems, too. Unjust. Unfair. Unjustified in aggression and response, too. People snapping back at what was clearly an ironic statement. Biting sarcasm rather than people playing nice. Just not fair. I could whine some more, too, but then I start to sound like the people that I'm complaining about. However, this all does highlight our issues this week.

Folks just don't get it. Our Sagittarius good humor and

jovial ways are sorely put upon in order to keep everyone happy. At one point, we have to decide for our [Sagittarius](#) selves, when are we going to quit sacrificing our own selves for the sake of others? At what point do we decide that we've had enough, and we change the pattern?

Alas, I don't think we'll be able to accomplish that [change](#) this week. The planets are still stacked against us. More like a single planet is stacked against us, that would be a recalcitrant Mercury backwards in Taurus, and the Sun (and Moon) in Gemini. Against us? Well, not exactly in our favor. However, all that Sagittarius luck, that could come into play, for one, bright, shining moment. Maybe this week. Just maybe.



CAPRICORN

[Capricorn](#): A buddy of mine had an abscessed tooth. He used alcohol to numb the pain and eventually, once his jaw got swollen, he decided to go to the [hospital](#). He could change only when the pain to change was less than the pain to remain. Either that, or the fact that he couldn't eat. I think that got him to the hospital. So his mouth was wired shut for a few weeks.

Towards the end, though, he got so tired of liquid (non-alcoholic) support, he finally unwired his jaw himself, and had a burger. From a cheap franchise place. In turn, that re-infected the tooth, and the inflammation flared up and he was back in the hospital with tubes in his arms and mouth, and he almost died. From a hamburger. From a cheap, international chain. He lamented his fate, his second brush with death was far more harrowing with emergency medicine, and the already infected jaw, and surgery, and a scars and everything.

Makes a good story, to hear his version. True story. He is

smart enough to not leave out how he unwired the jaw himself -- no mean feat -- and then it was that burger that almost killed him. At the tail end of the Mercurial Period and as Mars, the Moon, Venus all skate through Aries? Stop. Think about how much pain my buddy had to endure, all for a silly burger that wasn't that good. Is it worth killing yourself for a burger like that? Maybe leave the Capricorn mouth wired shut.

**Summer sale:
new lower price!**

 ASTROFISH.NET



AQUARIUS

[Aquarius](#): I think I was on flight somewhere, but this could be in any number of [settings](#). Just a little bit of a conversation, overheard. "Here, take this (aspirin) with the vodka." Might be, more like, "Here, wash this pill down with a shot of vodka," but the intent is clear, one might cancel the other. Or the two might work in collusion, and provide the much sought after relief.

I'm not sure which one works better, the aspirin product or the alcohol. Personally, I would stick with plain aspirin, but that's me, and no one asked me. While I can't condone mixing substances that might -- or might not -- belong together, the combined effect might just work. It's like you've got a headache. Not a bad one, not a mean one, just a headache. And it's one of those that seems to linger. And hold on. Not so bad that you have to sit in a dark room for hours at a time, but still.

That headache? I'm not sure what's going to be the real cure. Is it the aspirin? Is it the "hair of the dog" remedy? Is it something in between? Is it the combination of drugs and alcohol that works? I'm not sure. However, and I'm not your

real doctor, so I'm not really prescribing this, but as an idea, that comment I overheard? "Here, wash that (aspirin) down with a shot of liquor," that kind of sentiment is what works. That kind of idea is how to alleviate [Mercury's](#) pain and move your self forward.



[Pisces](#): I have a great idea. It's [bumper](#) sticker. You can make this, [sell thousands](#), get really rich, and then you can cut me in on the profit. I'm not asking for much -- just one per cent, that's 1% -- off the top. The idea itself? It's a simple bumper sticker, "*This is my other car.*" That's it. I can see a roll of the eyes, a muttered comment, "That will never sell," but I should remind you, no one has ever gone broke underestimating the American public's ability to buy, consume, and other wise spend hard earned dollars on [stupid stuff](#).

Suddenly, I look like a bright guy, huh. Then why don't I rush this into [production](#) and make a lot of money? I don't have the time. I can either write [horoscopes](#) or write tag lines for bumper stickers. As a [Pisces](#), you'd rather pay a small fraction of all the money you're going to make rather than going out and buying one of these from someone else. Sell or buy, which end of this would you rather work? The other idea, in a similar vein, "This is it./This is my other car." Layout and design, typography and color [selection](#)? I'll leave that up to you.

You have some choices. You have some ideas. I've given you a few pointers. What's stopping you from taking the world by storm? You might have been handed the next big idea. Are you going to make an effort to use it?



Aries: "[Communication Breakdown](#). It's always the same," now isn't it? [Where have I heard that before](#)? Divinely inspired lyrics? Or lyrics that have a strong message for the moment? In Aries, there's going to be a breakdown in communications. Simply put.

The worst of the Mercury stuff is long over, but that doesn't stop the problem. Nor is that going to alleviate the immediate problem that you're rushing, headlong, into a situation wherein you might not ought to be rushing. At all. I'm not saying that you're in too big of a hurry but that's about it. Mars is fuel, and Mercury is like a little added fuel, so that means you're doubled up on combustible material. That doesn't mean you've go the right direction picked out. Which what I'm trying to warn you about. Slow it down, don't jump on the first line that comes along.

Understand that there's a high probability that there will be a problem with communication. Like a "[Communication breakdown](#). It's always the same, "now isn't it?"

**Summer sale:
new lower price!**



Taurus: There's a place I tend to favor, a little [coastal cuisine](#) kind of a kitchen, down on the Gulf. Bay, really as the back patio opens to a bay. But the idea is the same, and anyway, the grub is good. Best food for miles, a combination of Continental and Coastal, with a pleasing

touch of Texas thrown in for good measure. On the bar at this place, there sits a huge Espresso Machine. A giant, hulking beast, the old school kind of coffee beast with tubes and handles, pressure gauges and spigots, all manners of plumbing encased in gleaming chrome and flashing jet black siding. Looks like it could handle a space-shuttle launch, or cold fusion, or both.

But when I dine there, at that place? That one restaurant with the good food? "The Espresso machine doesn't work." I've heard that a dozen times. One evening, I got a slightly more truthful answer from one waitress, "The machine works, but it makes a lot of noise, and it's, like, a major pain to make Espresso."

So if you want a real Espresso-based drink, go to the Starbucks down the road. The place, this one joint? It's more for food than beverages, and certainly, not for coffee-based drinks. It's matter of knowing what works, and what doesn't work. While I figure that a little cup of espresso, after a fine-dining meal would be great? The owner, the staff, maybe they know better and maybe they accept the [limitations](#). Which is what this is about for Taurus.

All Rights Reserved

[copyright](#) (c) 2008, 2009 [Kramer Wetzels](#), for [astrofish.net](#)

For the week starting: 5.28.2009

"[Your mind] is like a barber's chair that fits all buttocks: the pin-buttock, the quatch-buttock, the brawn-buttock, and any buttock."

Shakespeare's *All's Well That Ends Well* (II.ii.16-8)

Mercury ([eventually](#)) un-[retrogrades](#) itself while Mars enters Taurus after this weekend. In [Aquarius](#), Chiron/Neptune/Jupiter, all line up. This horoscope is best if used by 5/28/2009.

astrofish.net

Curious? Appearances and schedule

 ASTROFISH.NET

II *Gemini*

[Gemini](#): I have a theory about ghosts. I was thinking about this concept because I saw show in a [refurbished](#) old theater, of which, there are many in my world. Grand old palaces with ornate carvings and moldings, and gilt-gold picture frames, and what should be deep, plush, red carpet. I'm sure many of these old theaters have ghosts. Not that I could sense any, but there are ghosts there. Sometimes, though, I wonder if the feeling of a ghost is nothing more than strong emotional response to something seen, viewed, or heard in the theater.

Like, it was such a sad version of [Hamlet](#), many years ago, that the person in that one seat, felt so tragically sad, the emotional color is left behind. Kind of like the lingering aroma of perfume, even after the person wearing it has left. It's that lingering, emotional scent, that's what I was working on for Gemini. Mercury is not so much backwards, and we're not so much out of the Mercury hole yet. Then, too, there are birthdays. While that should be a good thing, the lingering scent is like that old theater seat, that position, and there's still a lingering something. Could simply be a

ghost. That energy, that wraith-like spook that you think you might see? For real. The ghosts are there. Just because we don't believe in them doesn't make them any [less](#) real.

ASTROFIH.NET: Locally [grown](#). 100% [Made](#) in the USA.



[Cancer](#): I've got an [image](#), I took the original picture with a phone's [camera](#), not really a good source of pictures. [Except](#) that it was a good [source](#), as the phones' cameras have proven to be valuable do to proximity and ubiquitousness. The image is small post-it note, a on [yellow](#) sticky note-sheet, you know the kind, right? The note is plain and simple, "Wait here for me."

I was in an office building, meeting a client for some lunch, and I passed one unnamed office with that note on it. I snapped a quick picture. I used the image on the website for a while, then I forgot about it. I was sorting through old images instead of writing a Cancer scope, and I thought about the relative placement of the Sign of Cancer, the Mars and the Sun, and that note.

"Wait here for me." I'd like to suggest that the note makes a good concept to wrap this next couple of days around. It's about stopping long enough to let everyone else catch up with you. It's about pause and reflect. It's about stopping long enough for everyone else to get on the same page what you're on. Imagine that I'm using a little yellow sticky note. I'm posting it on the front door of the Cancer section of the heavens. "Wait here for me."

**Summer sale:
new lower price!**



[Leo](#): Very simple axiom, part of this week's message: Less is more.

Three words, a subject, a verb-thing and an object. Apparent contradiction, too. "Less is more." It's the new Leo mantra.

Between [Mercury](#) and the Sun, and the position of Saturn in Virgo? Less is more. Unload and reduce the clutter. Streamline the Leo life. Less is more. Mars moves into a position where it will square the Leo energy. Less is more. Think along those lines.



[Virgo](#): As a [Virgo](#), you're real good about not taking the credit for good [deeds](#). Oh, you do the good deeds, and you're the responsible party, but you're also smooth in that way you don't always get credit for making everything work well. Which is our problem this week. No matter how many good deeds you've done, unaccounted for, except, maybe, in a giant ledger in the sky? All those good deeds get passed over, and you make one, tiny, almost infinitesimally small it can't be detected? One little mistake? And look what happens: all those good deeds are quickly forgotten.

I feel your pain. Been there, done that, which is also why I'm less modest about good deeds these days. "Remember all the times I was early?" Yeah, but, late just once? This is kind of a problem as it hits you as all wrong. In the grand scheme, it's all according to plan, but individually, and when this happens this week, in Virgo? You're going to be more

than a trifle upset. All the good works? Forgotten. One small, almost unnoticed, miscue? You'd think it was a major felony. A federal case. There are two solutions: one, be extra careful, but as a Virgo, you already are. The second choice? Maybe be a little more quick to point out the good deeds you've done. Might ameliorate the effects of the one, single mistake.



LIBRA

Libra: I had this Libra [girlfriend](#), and the planets remind me of several pleasant [exchanges](#) with her. She used to buy clothing from a catalog, but after a couple of tries, she discovered it wasn't for her. Clothing in the catalog looked good. The numbers matched what was delivered, but, apparently, the clothes didn't fit quite right. There's just no substitute for going into a store and trying stuff on before one buys it.

I mean, the the pictures, the models and so forth? That looked great. And the numbers, the size ordered, the size of stuff she usually wore? All that matched up. I was privy to this information because, on more than one occasion, I was stuck with package delivery pickup service. There are a number of items that can be [shopped for online](#). There are [number](#) of items, like, for me, I know what size to buy in [shirts](#) and [T-shirts](#), so it's easy, for me. For her, for Libra, in general? Nothing beats a little hands-on lesson. Which is the sad part of the tale, and how I never had hands on with her, but that's another story for a different time.

For shopping, or anything, [face-to-face](#), is important, hand-on, try it out before you buy it. What this week is all about.

astrofish.net

Curious? Appearances and schedule



Scorpio: This horoscope goes live on 5/28/2009 at 1:00 AM, your mileage and time zone might vary. As a Scorpio, you've got about two days, from that point, a little less than 48 hours to get it right. I'm not sure what it refers to, but you've got a little less than 48 hours to get something cleaned up.

Whatever [symbolism](#) that can be pinned on Mercury? All I'm saying, make the [call](#), do the deed, take whatever steps you can to get this done. 48 hours from the moment this scope hits the wires.

Timing is critical on this one, see: Mars moves into Taurus. Opposite you. What was left unattended, what was supposed to be dealt with, but the single item you avoided? That's going to be thrust in front of you, in a public way, in the near future. As a trigger point, about the time Mars lines up opposite your Scorpio stuff?

Bang.

Whatever you were avoiding? In your face. So you have a chance, a single window, deal with now, or it will be dealt with, possibly in a publicly humiliating way, in the next 30 days. Two days, on your own, or thirty days, in an embarrassing fashion. Your call.



Sagittarius: As an "artist," I find the *Mercury Retrograde* periods as particularly fertile [territory](#). [Fertile](#), occasionally [febrile](#), maybe fevered, hot as it's been lately, but still, it's

rich hunting ground for [material](#). As such, I haven't wasted the last few weeks. The problem is adding structure and form to the wild imagination and material that's surfaced from the imagination, especially in the last few weeks.

The next few days are all about adding some kind of form and function to what the last couple of weeks were all about. There is a wealth of material, and quite a few mistakes, and all of that can be combined, the deal is, the point being? Trying to impose form and organization in a place where chaos is [rampant](#)? Yeah, that's a the Sagittarius challenge, and it's only more and more "interesting" with the advent of the full moon. The [lunar phase](#) is just the icing on the cake, but it's matter of trying to figure out where all this material fits. It does fit, but only a good Sagittarius will be able to [figure out](#) what it means. Might take a few days. No hurry.



CAPRICORN

[Capricorn](#): I set out the other afternoon, I had several rather specific, [destinations in my mind](#). I wanted to stop by the bank, the post office, and a coffee shop. Which coffee shop? Doesn't matter, any of the good ones I know would work. There are two or three I tend to favor, not because the coffee is remarkable, but more because the help is entertaining and engaging in a fun way. So that was the agenda I had. Easy. Relatively speaking, sort of open-ended. Not unusual, sort of like a normal afternoon.

While it looks like I was just rambling alongside the river, just meandering down mean, city streets, aimlessly wandering the downtown districts, I had, in my mind, specific goals and destinations. It's how all of that was tied together, that's the secret. Or not a secret, but that's where I built in some flex, or some flux, or some pointedly pointless travel time. Extra time to wander. Extra time for

the muse to percolate and do what muses do.

Extra time for the odd [image caught](#) on the [camera phone](#) that might, or might not, be an idea for a horoscope. Perhaps it was something important, or maybe, it was just stray piece of fluff on the [sidewalk](#). Does it [matter](#)? Yes [and](#) no. As Capricorn, it matters that you see yourself spending time aimlessly wandering around, and you understand how that could be a waste. That -- typically Capricorn -- voice in your head, remind you that you're wasting time, and that your valuable time could be better spent elsewhere. However, like me, you can really benefit by having a little extra cushion of time built into the schedule. Follow my lead on this one, accomplish the goal, but leave a little space for wandering around and feeding your [muse](#), in between times.

**Summer sale:
new lower price!**

 **ASTROFISH.NET**



AQUARIUS

Aquarius: [Movement](#) and [action](#) are sometimes the best way to get a fish's attention. There are various "swim baits" offered, most them have a boot-like structure at the tail end. When this kind of plastic bait is dragged through the water, it looks like a fish's tail, swimming in a hurry to get away away from a predator. I don't know who thinks these things up, but it works. Or works pretty well.

It's an action item, as in it's a bait that has to be worked. It's not something that can be just tossed into the lake and hope that a fish finds it attractive, a "swim bait" has be in motion to be effective. The way the planets stack up? This is a week for a "swim bait" in Aquarius. An action item. Something that requires you to work a little? And if you're

wiling to use the swim bait? I'll suggest you land a big one, whatever it is that you're [fishing](#) for? By the end of the [week](#).



[Pisces](#): I'm very involved with the "artistic [process](#)." I've written [essays](#), [books](#), and [blog](#) articles about it. I can describe the magic. I can [work](#) with it. I understand the process, but, like any other kind of [muse](#), I know I can't contain it. It's magic, really, and magic that can't be duplicated as the mechanics of the process vary from person to person.

However, what you can do, as a Pisces? Make room for the magic to occur. Whether you're trying to get the [creative juices](#) flowing or even if you're just trying to make ends meet a little better. It's a matter of making space for the magic to happen. In my example, it's all about the creative process, the magic that artists work. There's an accidental nature to making the process work. Respect that. Make room for the weird, wacky and wonderful to occur. It's sometimes, not so much a matter of looking for it, as letting it find you. That's what this about, letting it find you.



[Aries](#): I read this, recently, in [sensationalist](#) news, "...and their agent declined to comment at this time."

Figure out for yourself which celebrity scandal that fits. This isn't about the news itself, it's about their agent's reaction to the news reaction to whatever was the perception of what happened. That's convoluted. As an Aries, you like to get straight to the heart of the matter. Mars is graciously

leaving your sign, Venus lingers, and Mercury is backwards. How to handle this kind of energy as the moon moves closer and closer to full?

Instead of a terse, "No comment" comment? How about a more loquacious but equally effusive and evasive, "In light of the media's spin, we must decline to comment on that particular issue at this time." In the press? About the situation? It merely gets reported that you declined to comment, not that you didn't have an answer, but until this Mercury thing gets sorted out properly? Maybe "Declined to comment," is the best answer for an [Aries](#).

astrofish.net

Curious? Appearances and schedule

 **ASTROFISH.NET**

 **TAURUS**

Taurus: There's a particular [song](#) cycle that I get hung up with, a [trilogy](#) about life, death, [Texas](#) and taxes. Don't confuse the items. I was thinking about the song's real meaning, as I was looking at your chart. Sort of bugging me, hearing tiny pieces of the song in my head while examining the Taurus astrology chart. One version of the cycle is frankly [elegiac](#). Then, having seen the original writer perform, out under the stars on an Austin evening in May, I wonder if it was originally ironically elegiac, instead.

Good poetry, good verses to a song, good lyrics, hell even a horoscope done right? It should be [available](#) on [more](#) than one level. Which was the point of the song, and hearing the original, by the original author, made a big difference. I could see how the lyrics had more hope than the eulogy version, as recorded by others. Which is the problem, see, there is hope here, in the Taurus chart, especially with Mars making haste towards you. How will you package this?

astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts

Ironic? Irony with a twist at the end? Frankly sad and lamentable? I'd go for the subtle humor, see if that doesn't serve the dry Taurus best.

All Rights Reserved

[copyright](#) (c) 2008, 2009 [Kramer Wetzel](#), for [astrofish.net](#)

**astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts**

For the week starting: 6.4.2009

"I am a kind of burr; I shall stick."

Shakespeare's Measure for Measure [IV.iii.138]

Chiron/Neptune/Jupiter aligned [perfectly](#).

[Gemini](#): **L-W-P**: *Loud White Person*. Doesn't take much of an imagination to fill in the blanks on this one. But the person who offered up the term, actually, she was Gemini and she was of obvious anglo heritage, but her observation, from a "person of color," it was well-received. I'm afraid I've been a LWP from time to time. Not often, but I'm sure it could happen. Be [easy](#) enough to [see](#).

The fact that other races have a category for this might be a bit disturbing. That a few letters can accurately and completely describe some of my friends, again, I should be disturbed, but I'm not. As the stars unwind a little and as the planets describe their arc and orbits, as they are all supposed to? My fine little Gemini friends are going to be motivated to talk. Talk a lot. Only, if you're not careful? You're going to wind up with a label like LWP. Again, in some settings, this isn't so undesirable. However, in some settings, yes, it is a bad thing. Consider that term, the label, and think about that before you open your mouth.

ASTROFISH.NET: This product [made](#) with 100% Inner Child Labor

[Cancer](#): I depend on my native [environments](#) to serve me up with a veritable plethora of good material. In that way, I tend to regard where I live as a significant other, so to speak. Or as a way of looking at a situation. There's a sense of place and its concomitant sense of wonder and accompanying amazement that goes with living in a bizarre place. [Keep Austin Weird](#), like that was some kind of challenge? Central Texas, then the [gateway](#) to South Texas, all just as bit as weird as Austin.

Most of Texas is odd, and that's being politic.

So I depend on where I live for visual, aural, and sometimes gustatory clues in the weird. Like me, there's a sense that the "weird side of life" in [Cancer](#), it's being served up by a unique person. Traditionally, this would be the old worn trope, "A tall dark handsome stranger," but please, half of you are male, and you're not looking for a guy. Handsome? Possibly. Dark? Debatable. Stranger? Open to interpretation. As a Cancer, though, this is the week to open to a different, outside influence. Strange? Probably. Good or bad? Sort of depends. But be open to the assistance that comes from a weirdly different person. Or [place](#).

[Leo](#): I had a [painful](#) lesson, last Xmas. I'd done a holiday album, actually, more like a [visual](#) celebration of the last year, and all the big events -- big fish, little girlfriends, and so forth -- from the last year. With the computer, I turned it into a video album and from there, I burned it as a DVD. I was thinking about this, I had a lot of fun making the [video](#). I enjoyed the experience. My [experience](#) wasn't well-received. It was, to a certain extent, but not that big of deal. It was about half an hour of a favorite Leo topic: Me! Well, except it was me and some fish and BBQ, and not a lot else. But if I were a Leo, it would've been a bigger hit.

My immediate family was marginally impressed. My Sister was intrigued by the details, and she was going to start burning some of her professional work in a similar way. But the content itself? After the first thirty seconds? Not of interest to a lot of people. Therein is the problem. Just because it [amuses](#) us? Which it will, that doesn't mean everyone is in awe.

I'm not saying don't do it, but I would suggest that you lower your expectations on how other audiences will receive whatever the Leo project is. I'm just trying to save you Leo pain. (Leo pain is greater than normal peoples' pains, duh.)

[Virgo](#): [Focus](#). [Focus](#) is very [important](#). Ever since I started to play with [digital images](#), I learned way more than I ever

wanted to learn about taking photographs. I learned about focal points, focus, and -- the beauty of digital photography -- I tossed a bunch of mistakes. Lots. Tons. Out of every hundred images, maybe two or three would be superlative, and those? Usually by mistake.

Composition, color, contrast, reflections, shadows, colors, always the best were [mistakes](#). Not the "picture of my foot" mistakes, but not exactly planned and properly executed shots, those were the kinds that turned out best. Always have. I feel we should always respect the accidental nature of good art. Which doesn't mean that we shouldn't make efforts to learn, explore, plan and execute the more traditional routes.

Given where your planets are? I'd suggest that focus is important, only, it might not be the laser-like, microscopic, detail-oriented focus you've got on one item. It might be adjacent. It might be nearby, but it might not be the one item you're so focused on. Just be willing to explore the accidents, when, if, they occur. A light adjustment to your focus point might result in better Virgo trajectory.

[Libra](#): Cruise. This can mean a cruise on a cruise ship, although, unless they offered fishing, I don't understand why anyone would go on a cruise ship. Or it could be a cruise in car, but with the price gas what it is, that's not like a luxury option. What I was thinking of, more along my lines, I'll cruise [around](#) in sandals and shorts, checking out various things.

Go the bank the post office, pass a restaurant, maybe a coffee shop or two. When I was much [younger](#), my pedestrian ways would include a large drink, icy cold coke in a small bucket: brown, fizzy, artificially sweet liquid. In fact, I would sometimes go out, just for the purported purpose of fetching up just such a beverage. I'm not saying that you should be headed out, intent on getting a large diet coke, nor, for that matter, an iced shot of espresso, another one

of my current favorite flavors. But cruising, in some capacity. That's what this is about. You're in cruising mode these days. Single, alone, with company, with a whole crew, an entire Libra entourage?

Or just by yourself, like me, just a quick walk, to get something to drink, ostensibly. However you package it, it's a good time for you to be cruising. Keep your eyes open, too.

Scorpio: I was meeting with a professional for the first time. Another professional, I should say. After all, I am a professional astrologer. Anyway, on the intake form, I listed my occupation as "Writer." The guy asked, "So what do you write?" I answered, "Horoscopes." Like, "In the paper?" In so many words, yeah, like that, only, not in the newspaper, just online.

And his wife? "She's a, what-do-you-call-it, early November." I call it Scorpio, you can call it what you want, but don't forget the birthday. And the November Scorpio folks can look to the October Scorpio folks and figure out how this will play out in the coming weeks. What's happening with the early -- like October -- Scorpio folks, what with Mars and Venus opposite them?

It's the trigger point, not always good, but there's some good that can be teased out. It's matter of understanding that the symbols of Mars and Venus, active and passive love, those symbols are exerting influence on the Scorpio psyche. Choose and choose carefully. The early Scorpio folks have this now, and the rest of Scorpio? This whole Mars/Venus thing is just heightened and intensified by the Sun in Gemini. Two of everything. Means it will be twice as interesting. Choose and choose carefully. Wisely.

Sagittarius: A friend, another "psychic reader," was asking me some questions. While the Sun is in Gemini, it's opposite from Sagittarius. What this creates is a frantic sense that

there's something we should be doing -- [RIGHT NOW!](#) And along with this frantic energy, there's substantial [lack](#) of focus. I'll be scattered.

Fortunately, I spend a lot of my working time with a computer screen in front of me, and as such, oh what did ever do before the world wide web when we needed to kill time? Which was the answer to the question, oddly enough. Or the question was the answer. It's matter of understanding that all of Sagittarius types might come a little unglued in the next few days.

More a function of the Sun in Gemini than anything else. And being a little unglued, is that really so bad? So the question was how to work with this energy, and what I found, was a way to to use all the weird little things that I link to and click on? That was one example of a productive, work-related use for the web. It's entertainment. Now what was the question?

[Capricorn](#): I was reading a review of a recent comedy film, and to paraphrase the reviewer? "If you want to shut off your brain and have some fun, then this is brilliant farce." What it amounted, that review, was it claimed that the film in question wasn't highbrow with deep meaning and metaphors for modern life, no, none of that.

The movie was slapstick and [low](#) comedy. Some scatological humor, visual gags, pratfalls, and the like. Not really intelligent humor, not mind candy to tickle the brain, just funny stuff. Not over-the-top funny, just dependable, shut-your-brain-off material. In other words, don't worry about the details.

That's the kind of escape you're looking for, too. You want to get away and instead of some deep-rooted message, look for something light. Spend two hours away from the drudgery of your brain. Something like that would go a lot

further towards your mental health than just about anything else. And after all, isn't that what this is really about?

[Aquarius](#): Behind the [post office](#) in San Antonio, I use that PO because of [ease](#) of highway access, anyway, behind the post office is an old warehouse district. Behind, maybe between the post office and the warehouse area, there's a creek. Or native aquaduct, or [acequia](#). It's part drainage ditch, part active creek, part 400 year-old engineering project. Might be older than that, as the ditches were originally laid out by the first native settlers, the indigenous populations. Anyway, the SARA truck was there, San Antonio River Authority.

It was the wildlife sampling team, as they had a bucket of minnows. They also had a water snake, poor creature was caught up in some trash of some kind, looked like 15-pound test Big Game fishing line. To me, anyway. I'm unsure of how that fishing line, if that's what it was, made its way to the creek. I'm also unsure of how the snake caught itself in the mess. But watching the rescue workers, animal wildlife experts, work? That was nice. I stood off to one side and offered unsolicited, friendly, time-worn advice about dealing with water snakes. Most water snakes are harmless. No pits, not a triangular head, when its mouth was open to strike, there were no fangs and the inside of its wee water snake mouth was pink. Not poisonous. They knew that, the rescue handlers.

I was just an annoying passer-by. I'll see that water snake, or its family, from time to time when I pass through to collect my mail. I hope the wildlife survey went well. Those rescue, wildlife survey, or whatever SARA workers? That's an Aquarius model to follow for the coming days. Rescue, and don't worry about the person -- like [me](#) -- or people, audience or whatever, off to the side, offering [commentary](#). Just keep doing what you know how to do.

Pisces: I was in a name brand [coffee](#) shop, one of those chains that's become so universal, and anyway... I was in one of those, and there was the nicest Pisces girl waiting on me. Woman. Whatever. I never claimed to be politically correct, and besides, at some point, women like being referred to as girls, however, at that juncture in the Life of Pisces (TM applied for), I doubt that she wanted to be known as a girl.

Anyway. I made polite conversation and mentioned that I liked Pisces just fine, and she tidies up the cashier stand, and said, "Yeah, one of these days, I'm going to come to your house and I'm going to just crumble up a muffin on your floor, see what they say to that." Made me think about Pisces and your planets. Given the Moon and the Mars/Venus situation? As it all unfolds? There's a situation like this, and you can easily appropriate that one Pisces line, "One of these mornings, I'll just come over to your house and crumple a muffin on the floor, see how they like that."

Notice that it's not exactly grammatically correct, like the direction of the sentence changed halfway through. First it was "I'll come to your house," then, watching as I carefully scooped up the change and flopped a dollar in the [tip jar](#), "and how THEY like it." Change direction. As befitting a Pisces. However, there's another side to this as well, at the work place. How are you going to deal with that? I'd use an approximation of her line, see if that doesn't help.

Aries: There comes a point when you stop [freaking](#) out about things. What things? Could be any number of problems, or sources of ire, or areas that cause a warp in the "Aries Time/Space Continuum." There comes point when the pressure isn't so much. There's a time and place, and what I'm looking at, see, Mars is moved on. Venus moves on, too. Mercury is gone. Sun's in Gemini now. All adds up to a place where you can relax.

At least one frantic, much put-upon [Aries](#) will point out that

there "oh so many" different issues that are [popping](#) up and not getting put in their places. All I'd point out, and this is a general (and gentle) admonition, "Slow down." Some of these so-called "issues" just really aren't that big of a deal.

Then I hear an Aries [with](#) a [rejoinder](#), "But...."

But nothing. Stop. No more pressure. And some of this material, if it doesn't get covered right-[freaking](#)-now? Does it matter that much? "But I need it resolved, like, right now!" Does the matter really need to be resolved, or can you wait a day or three?

[Taurus](#): I was walking, busy city street, and a female friend was with me. "I wish you'd quit hitting me," she said, in a plaintive tone. I'm substantially taller than the girl I was with, and she would then veer into my shoulder, "Stop that," she'd playfully say. I was the butt of the joke, here, and I had no recourse. Such is the sad state of affairs for males, in this day and age.

No way to get back, no way to prevent the attack, and not much I could do. "Ow, you're hurting me," she playfully tagged me again with her shoulder, causing me to stumble. What can I do? Grin? Looks kind of silly to say that a woman close to a foot shorter than me, a Taurus, was hitting me. Who would believe me? She was playing some kind of a game, I think it was like touch football, only, the rules were a little different. She could all-but-tackle me, but I couldn't tag her in any way. Doesn't sound terribly fair, now does it? It's not. However, let's point out, I am nearly a foot taller. So I'm not at a physical disadvantage, other than I'm not nearly as attractive as this one girl is.

This is a case, though, where size doesn't win, at least not in the short run. For our afternoon walk, while she was hitting me, veering into me, and otherwise being the aggressor? Consider I was like the Taurus in this scenario. I'm just going to take the slight bumps and jabs because, in

astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts

the overall view? There's no need to strike back. Take the little shoves and figure where this can lead.

All Rights Reserved

[copyright](#) (c) 2008, 2009 [Kramer Wetzel](#), for [astrofish.net](#)

For the week starting: 6.11.2009

"A merry message. We hope to make the [sender](#) blush at it."

Shakespeare's **Henry V** [I.ii]

 ASTROFISH.NET

II Gemini

[Gemini](#): Happy birthday to many fine [Gemini](#), and that one who will not be named, but he won't shut up. So typical of Gemini, huh? Won't be quiet even though we'd all like to celebrate his birthday, he just won't let us get a word in sideways. Pretty much a tough call, that one. So that one Gemini is going to have a difficult time since he won't let the rest of us do anything nice for him, for his birthday.

But other than [that](#)? There's lots of hope in Gemini land. The portents have turned the corner, and really, it's more like Mercury getting settled up and firmly in your sign that's so good, but call it what you want, the portents, as of this week, they all point to good portents. Or something

What it is? Mercury, while still lagging behind, it's catching up. That starts a process that paves a way forward, from this week onward. It's getting better moment by [moment](#). There's still a pesky lunar phase, but I' like to think that the Gemini (Sun is in Gemini) can outweigh the moon phase.

ASTROFISH.NET: Flat [Rate](#), act now!

 ASTROFISH.NET

69 CANCER

[Cancer](#): I had a little upset stomach kind of a [problem](#). Went to the family doctor I use. He wrote out a clear set of instructions, take these pills he prescribed, then drink lots of clear fluids, dry toast, jello, water, and the rest is easy to understand. What amazed me was that the prescribed diet

was clearly written. I could read and understand every letter of every word.

I would think the legend holds, that doctors have the worst handwriting. I should've been a doctor, by that definition. I use a keyboard, much faster and easier. Clearer, too. But this isn't about an upset stomach, or my doctor's handwriting, this about conveying a message in the clearest, most concise format available. Is it going to be a handwritten note? And if it is a handwritten note, will it be a clear note? How are you going to get the point across in the most effective manner available? [Me](#)? If I were [Cancer](#)? I'd use a computer. Simple, easy, the note doesn't have to be a more than a few lines. Concentrate on clear, [concise](#) communication. With [keyboard](#). Or handwritten. But if it's hand-lettered?

Make sure it's legible.



[Leo](#): "[Remember](#) when you sold me that unit? Said it was the best available? You lied." Simple, straight up question and answer. Something I've heard recently and something I expect to hear from Leo -- not about [me](#), mind you -- but I'd expect to hear something like this. I'd like to help prevent this from happening. I'd like to make it so you don't have to parrot that quote. Here's how: examine the details. Look it up. Run it through a [search engine on the inter-web](#).

Do a little background check. That situation, it was a good unit, for what it was. [Unfortunately](#), that decision was based upon faulty information. I'm not saying that you're getting faulty information, but a casual, off-hand recommendation? Just check into it a little. Delve a little deeper than just one person's remarks. Look behind the scenes, dig a little, like I suggested, a quick search with a search engine might save

a pile of troubles later.

I'm all about saving you trouble, but as a [Leo](#), you've got to work with me, because the situation varies from person to person. Leo to Leo, and even though I'm Leo-centric, not all the world is. I'm not sure what it is that you're looking at buying. I'm not sure if this is a big ticket item or a little one. But whatever it is? Research. Thank me when I saved you some money.

astrofish dot net -- subscribe to the current scopes

 ASTROFISH.NET

 VIRGO

[Virgo](#): "Safety is as simple as ABC (Always Be Careful)." I realize this is a sentiment that usually shouldn't have to [hammered home](#) to the Virgo, but the banner was flying over a local industrial site, and I'm sure none of the workers noticed. It was one of those motivational banners, about three feet wide and a dozen feet long. Huge thing, flapping in the summer breeze. "Simple as ABC," yeah, some copywriter got [paid](#) a huge amount of money to come up with that stuff. Then a sign printer got paid a huge amount of money to print up the first banner, and when that first banner was ripped asunder by the local winds, another banner was printed up, with the holes already pre-drilled. To let the wind through. The banner I saw.

From a single, simpering banner to three or more people employed in the making of said banner, it's a long and arduous trip. It's okay, too, because as a [Virgo](#) you are careful, and you always are careful, and that's not a point that needs to be hammered home. Or is it? That banner was up for a reason. Recent accident on the job site? Recent inspection that revealed safety standards were sub-par? Some worker did an amateur surgery with a piece of heavy equipment? Who knows? Maybe the banner was just an idea

from upper management. Can't tell in a big industrial complex. But the point is clear, even though it seems like I'm a simpering fool, especially to a Virgo: Always Be Careful.

Simple as ABC. It's a Saturn thing.



LIBRA

Libra: One of my fishing [buddies](#), he didn't get it, not at first. I always checked with his [wife](#) before heading out to fish. Asked her if he could join me; made a big deal out of the asking. See, his wife would fix sandwiches for us, for our "play date." "It's so cute, you boys going out to play together." And she'd pack a lunch, Not just any lunch, either, she's a world-class cook. Thick-sliced roast beef sandwiches with just enough hot mustard or horseradish, or both, and home-made styled bread.

Just good stuff. A couple of packages of gourmet-styled potato chips, maybe some designer coke to go with it all. Cookies, probably homemade, for dessert. All packaged up, tucked into a cooler, ready to roll. And he wonders why I usually "check with the wife" before asking him if he wants to fish? Kind of a no-brainer on my part. You've got something that you've gotten used to doing, a way you approach a certain situation. Go with what works. Like me, asking his wife if he's free to fish.

Sort of a no-brainer, when you think about it.



Scorpio: Did you [know](#) that the new "Goji" berries are really [alternatively](#) known as Wolf Berries? So much for new

age hype about anti-oxidants. And what we call "Kiwi Fruit?" That's really a Chinese Goose Berry. So names and naming conventions vary. It's about thinking, and in this case, it's about Scorpio thinking.

"No, those are Goji Berries, very good for you." Same thing as Wolf Berries, so my sources [explained](#) to me. Check it out yourself, ask a grocer, or look on the [inter-web thing](#). This about getting to the [bottom](#), and this also about a naming conventions.

I rarely, if ever, take aspirin. I tend to ask for Tylenol, although, I prefer the [Bayer](#) "aspirin" compound for minor pain relief. Naming conventions. If something is called something else, does that change what it is? My favorite coke is Diet Dr. Pepper; although, the fake sugar stuff gives me a headache and I tend to shy away from it except for a special occasion. But I call it coke, even though it is a competing brand. Names. What are the names you use, and what do the names really refer to? Important questions for a Scorpio.

[astrofish dot net -- subscribe to the current scopes](#)

 ASTROFISH.NET


SAGITTARIUS

[Sagittarius](#): I saw a [T-shirt](#) the [other](#) day. "If you want to speak, please raise your hand." I [smiled](#) at the shirt, then I thought of something witty to say to the woman wearing the shirt. Then I thought, "Why not follow my own advice?"

If you would like to speak then please raise your hand. Otherwise, and until acknowledged? Shut up.

That simple. If only I could always follow my own advice. But silence is about [two bucks a minute](#) these days, and I suggest we invest in a little Sagittarius Silence. I know

you've got something to say, and I sure as can be have something to say and yet, like the shirt suggested? Let's just raise our hand and wait to be told that it's okay to talk.

Or *better*, it's okay to ask questions.



CAPRICORN

Capricorn: A buddy of mine sent me an e-mail with possibly damning news in it. I fired off a quick response, then I deleted the message. Then I undeleted it, and I filed the e-mail in the "take some action" folder. Then I let it sit. This wasn't anything that implicated me directly. Really, not even indirectly. In fact, I didn't have a horse in that race. To take that analogy one step further? I didn't have a horse. At all. No dog in that fight. No dog. Not even a cat.

It's a matter of I wasn't part of any of this, other than being made aware of information. And sometimes, that's all we get, information.

As a Capricorn, you're going to have material cross your path, a web page, a website, an e-mail, a text message, maybe just a plain postcard. Data in, data out. That simple. I did store the message because it wouldn't take up much room in a digital sense. But I stopped at that. No action was required. I'd like to suggest, before you get all fired up and start writing letters to editors, and setting up a way to answer a question, I'd suggest you stop.

Do you have a horse in this race?



AQUARIUS

[Aquarius](#): I joined a buddy on a boat; we were bass fishing. I had maybe, four or five poles with me, a couple of them were "bait cast" types, and the first cast with one of them resulted in a big snarl of fishing line. I just set that pole aside and didn't use it the rest of the day. I had used that very pole not two days before, and I'd used it for a while, so I was familiar with its intricate eccentricities. Kind of like me, huh.

When it wound all snarled up at the first of the day? Instead of struggling with the fishing line, instead of creating an issue? I just set it aside. I could deal with it when I got home, when I got on shore, when I got someplace besides the boat. I was in the boat to fish. I had a, maybe, half-dozen choices in fishing poles. There's no need to get worked up about the first choice.

Just because -- I did it -- let's admit that -- just because the [first choice](#) in hardware was, ahem, "tied up?" Doesn't mean that I couldn't enjoy the day. Once or twice, that morning, I had situations where the pole that was knotted with snarled fishing line would've been my first choice. However, the time -- and frustration level -- didn't warrant me sitting in the boat, wasting time sorting out my first mistake of the day. Time -- and place -- to deal with problems. Do what's in front of you, like me, you don't have to fix that problem right now. As an addendum? When I got home? I put new fishing line on the pole and reel, better, stronger, and less likely to snarl again. All for the best.



[Pisces](#): Sometimes the cheapest [arrangements](#) make for the most fun. I have a fishing pole, it's marked, its sale price? \$2.95. What kind of pole? Cheap. Cheap, mostly lightweight fiberglass, probably assembled in a third world country by child labor. Originally, it was a \$15.95 pole. Marked down to

\$5.95, then further discounted to a mere \$2.95. A girlfriend, at the time, bought the pole for me.

She dug out the the three singles and pulled the 13 cents out of her purse, "Here, let me get that one for you." Can't say she never did anything nice around fishing equipment. I tend to use the pole at the [coast](#), as it's really a disposable pole, and it still has that price wrapper on it. I added a very cheap, matching, spinning reel, bringing to the total coast to almost 12 or 13 dollars. I used that pole, almost exclusively, the other day, fishing. Must say that I certainly got my money's worth from it.

The odd part? The fishing line, a special, extra-limp, super-strong brand of braided miracle fishing line? The line cost more more than the pole and reel, together. Not that it matters to me. Not that it's problematic, just the way it is. I was thinking about that pole, and the whole day, fishing, basically with just that pole? How much fun it was? That's part of what this is all about. Fun and games. Cheap. Or true happiness?

Does it really have a [price tag](#)?



[Aries](#): I've encountered these [bosses](#) before. It's the kind of boss that's out of town, on business, or pleasure, but has to call in and check a few minutes before five. You're at the office, doing nothing, and you have to wait until that call because he will call, that boss, and check, and it will be three minutes, five minutes before quitting time.

I found a way to work around this sort of benign micro-management: long lunches. Show up late, take a two-hour lunch and that leaves the late afternoon slot wide-open. Besides, the boss, when he's away (assuming it's a 'he,'

adjust as needed to fit your scenario), there's always plenty of time to get stuff done. And there's a project you were left with, and now is a good time look after that. Then too, there's the relaxed pace you can [work](#) at. It's just the timing of that phone call, [usually](#) comes right at five minutes before quitting time. There's no way around that. Plan accordingly. Long lunch?

[astrofish dot net](#) -- [subscribe to the current scopes](#)



[Taurus](#): [Aesthetics](#) are [important](#), and particularly to a [Taurus](#). And especially now. Pay attention to the [details](#) of the arrangements. Sometimes, it's not the big things but the little things. Tiny, almost miniscule details, matters that might make a person think that you're a [Virgo](#)? That's the sort of stuff that matters. "God is in the details," who first observed that? Doesn't matter. It's the point I'd like to get across.

Mars/Venus are frying/floating through your sign. Means the [best](#) of both worlds, but it's matters of putting that planetary influence to best use. [Details](#) matter. Punctuation is important. Grammar, too. And color selection. I've even got some questions -- I'll save for a Taurus -- about fabric selections for this week's horoscope upholstery.

As a Sagittarius, I'd just throw an old blanket down. But that won't do, not here in Taurus. Like I said, it's all important, and there is no better time to manage all of this than now. Right now. Be [benevolent](#) with your Taurus management style.

Style of management, too.

All Rights Reserved

[copyright](#) (c) 2008, 2009 [Kramer Wetzels](#), for [astrofish.net](#)

For the week starting: 6.18.2009

"There is the glorious planet Sol
In noble eminence enthron'd and spher'd
Amidst the other."

Shakespeare's [*Troilus and Cressida*](#) [I.iii.92-4]

Summer Solstice is rapidly approaching. June 21, mark the day. (What the [book](#) says). Coming soon: workshop in old [San Antonio](#).



II *Gemini*

Gemini: Your [birthdays](#) are over as of this [weekend](#). Not all bad, [except](#) that [Mars](#) and [Venus](#) lag [behind](#) you. In [Taurus](#). Still. Can't do [anything](#) about that. What you can do is realize that there's still that feeling, it's just a feeling, and it's still gnawing away at a corner of your mind. Like a little rat, or maybe, like an insect of some sort, eating away at some point in your brain, making you think that you might be losing grip on reality. Which you might, but that's not part of the question, not really. The Gemini brain is a many-faceted wonder. Loosen up on just one corner of the firm grip you have on certain portions of reality

That's not such a bad way to look at this. Besides, it's only one little corner, not the whole brain that's going. There's a point, too, where this will be the touchstone of a new idea. Of course, at some point in the next few days, I will promise you're going to feel like you're going mad. Nuts. Insane. Clinically around the bend. Whatever you want to call it. However, that little point will shift, and the critter gnawing at the corner of the brain fragment will go away. Eventually. All a matter of how you look at it. Occasionally, there are brain cells we are willing to sacrifice. [Gemini](#) brain and all, you've got plenty to spare. I [think](#).



Cancer: Summer hits June 21, more or less. More than less, as that's the Summer Solstice by my reckoning. Starting point for the Sun Sign Cancer, birthdays start and we have to just hold it down for a moment.

In the USA, July 4 is a big, wild party. Birth of the country, insert advertising, patriotic jargon here. Wave the flag. But seriously, it's also a major excuse to party. Point is, not until your specific Cancer Birthday arrives, though, do you have license from astrofish.net/your astrologer, to party down. Then you can let loose. Until the actual date arrives? Chill and enjoy watching summer unfold.

Or around here? Watch the tourist fry in the heat.



Leo: Far be it for me to be the one who would question a Leo's aesthetics, I mean, it really shouldn't be my call. But it is. This next few days? Mars/Venus are still romping along in Taurus. Good taste. Leo, also a Fixed sign, under pressure from those same planets. Therein is the problem. If you're buying clothing for me, given my lack of good tastes, it won't be a problem. But if it's a question about taste, beauty, style, and so forth? Maybe this isn't the time to make such a judgement call.

In a few weeks, your taste will be back to being the best, as it should be, as Leo is the best. And tastes best, too. That's a different question, though. No, the deal is to put off answering tough questions. You normally have a great eye for design. You normally have the very best tastes. The

problem is that the Mars/Venus square is going to make life little tougher than usual. Not that bad, just less than best decisions pop up at this time. It is a problem. How much of a problem? "Which one looks better? This? Or this?"

Answer honestly and toss in a [disclaimer](#), just to make sure you're understood.



Virgo: The West Texas Plains are [lonely](#), at best. Lots of open spaces, not a lot of [material](#) to hold it all down, or, for that matter, looking with an [artist's eye](#)? No a lot of material to stitch together an [image](#). Lots of open space. Spaces. Yet there's a very real serene beauty to a whole lot of nothing. The sky itself, the horizon, the individual blades of grass, the occasional tree, leaning over in the wind, it all adds up.

Then too, towards the Panhandle, there's [Llano Estacado](#), the "Staked Plain." Or, to some, the enchanted prairies. I suppose, it's all about how one sees it. The center of the Texas West Texas Plains is "Hub City" Lubbock. I can recite a half dozen artists, [some you would recognize](#), who came from Lubbock.

Perhaps the city and its region has produced a disproportionate number of great artists because of its remote location. Maybe it's something in the water. Perchance it's something in the air, but on some days, that would tend to be a lot of eastern New Mexico. Or perhaps it's that feeling of solitude that makes it easier for artistic expression to find its soul. Very few Virgo friends are currently in Lubbock, TX, on the edges of the high prairie, but that doesn't stop this from being a source of inspiration. Weekly Video ([Monday](#), more or [less](#)) is [here](#).



LIBRA

Libra: There's a certain point, I get used to the absolute quiet and [stillness](#) of home, and some [coffee](#), and it doesn't take much to startle me. A loud noise, a neighbor's car door slamming, not much to jostle the spirit. Top that off with maybe about a half a cup too much coffee, and I would appear just a little edgy, a little jumpy, perhaps a tad nervous to some people.

I get to a point where I'm so intent on what on the [screen](#) that I miss what's happening around me. Clouds blew in the other afternoon, and if I had been paying attention by looking out the window, I would've been aware that there was about to be a thunderstorm. But I wasn't. I was blissfully typing along, probably working on something you've already [read](#).

Loud crack of thunder. I jump up. Heart races. I can joke and say I soiled myself, but in actuality, I think there was general tightening of the muscles, not the reverse. The next couple of days, for my better Libra friends, they are going to be like that morning. Me, all wrapped up and then, a sudden [jolt](#). Same thing happens to you. Outcome? Depends. But I'd watch out for the sudden jolt. Try and act like you knew that was going to [happen](#).



Scorpio: I was ordering an afternoon espresso in a certain chain of coffee shops. I [looked](#) at the counter help. She didn't know my name. She didn't know my [order](#). She wasn't new, so she said, but then, she allowed as how she wasn't good with names. Neither am I. However, she did get

the order right, and I did get my espresso, it's just it wasn't the way it usually was. No, the drink order was right, it was done correctly, it's just I missed my usual banter with the [Sagittarius](#)/Scorpio/Leo/Gemini....

This is about things being the same, but not being the same. This is about the usual order and then, the unusual order. This about how items are all in the right place, only, they're not. It's about confusion and regimen. Order and chaos. Entropy, really, more than anything else. You'll find, just like I did that fateful afternoon, the order isn't right. It's not like it used to be. Not that it's bad, just [different](#). And how we work with that? That's what's so important.

"Okay, so you're new to me, so what's your birthday?" (New counter help was a Scorpio; just made me seem that much more odd.)



[Sagittarius](#): I've learned not to look askance at gifts. They might appear from a variety of places, but I don't begrudge the gift. It was an Xmas card. From an international chain. Not that this is any big deal, someone gave it to as an tip/gift at Xmas time. Only way I know that is because it was festooned with Xmas images. I don't know how long I carried that card around, as of now? Six months. Maybe longer.

Might be left over from two or three xmas seasons past. Who knows? Who cares? I do. Well, I hope I [wrote](#) a thank you note. I just rediscovered the card, so what I did was go and cash it in, and much to my surprise, I found a few bucks on that card. Good for a lot of certain kind of product at a certain chain's outlets. Cool stuff. All from a card that's been around for I don't know how long.

We like little surprises like this. We can also, as our collective Sagittarius selves sally forth unto the week, then weekend, then early next week? We can look forward to just such a little object, a tip, a gratuity, a small gesture that means that much more now? It [happens](#). Like Xmas. Only, in June.



 **ASTROFISH.NET**



CAPRICORN

[Capricorn](#): I was listening to some [blues](#). It was a pair of [skinny white](#) guys singing and playing the blues. I wasn't going to mention color or size, except that one of the songs included some high-strung, acoustic picking. Not a usual blues sound, and I thought about the thin, reedy sound of the guitar, and I thought it sounded skinny, which it did, and then I thought about the performers, and I noticed they were thin. And white. Very white.

Almost pale to the point of translucent. I, perhaps erroneously, associate delta blues with a coffee color. Someone who's really been downtrodden, and feels the blues. Which is why skinny white guys didn't seem to add

up, not at first glance. But listening, looking and digging? It makes more sense. The back story, yes, they have lived it , and yes, they do know the blues. But it's matter of listening, looking and digging before I can render a value judgement.

Same thing for my little Capricorn friends, listening, looking, and digging a little before making a [hasty](#) judgement.



AQUARIUS

[Aquarius](#): I'm not much on [violence](#). I've lived in violent places, and I've seen my share of the results of abhorrent physical violence. I have a few scars myself. So this is way more on a allegorical level rather than a real, physical level. You need a slap to the back of the Aquarius head. A simple, it's really just a tap, on the back of your head, just a reminder, like the kind given by superior, maybe supervisor, or a spouse.

Significant other, somebody needs to [bounce](#) an open palm across the back of your Aquarius head. "What were you thinking?" That's not going to work. That's the point. It's about thinking versus dreaming. Dreaming is good. What I scoured off the inter-web thing, people who dream tend to be brighter. The more you dream, the bigger the brain. However, and you knew there was a problem, there's a "foot in reality" motion here. Need to get a little grounded. Which is why I was favoring the slap to the back of the head.

Slap you out of that Aquarius dream state long enough to get a clue.



[Pisces](#): I think the town is [Lubbock](#), (Lubbock -- Texas). There was a [logo](#) where the double letters in the middle of the town's name were turned into cowboy boots. Little letter "b," it could be done. I might have the wrong town, or for that matter, the wrong logo, but the suppositions fit the facts. [Close enough](#), anyway, and certainly close enough for a Pisces.

I'm looking at a number of [influences](#), and all I really want to do is insert a dose of color into the Pisces mind. Into the day-to-day existence in Pisces Land. In what's happening around you. Made me think of that logo, if I had it right. While modern and post-modern advertising know-how and theory suggests that a simpler logo is better, that slightly ornate name with two cowboy boots in the middle? The fancy stitching on the uppers of the boots?

Maybe the colorful pattern of the boots against a drab lettering? Adds that special (something), like a special sauce, and it's just what is needed to make the Pisces week look attractive. I'm not saying you need new shoes. Or a little spice. Or a little colored pair of cowboy boots. But the idea is that it's time to add something, a little spice, of one flavor or another, to make it all work right. Like that pair of [boots](#) in the middle of the town's name, just as an added attraction.



[Aries](#): I was [walking](#) the other morning. Hot summer's day, or will be soon [enough](#). The city [streets](#) smell like heat. Hot [pavement](#), the aroma of car exhaust lingers after the morning rush hour, and the nascent aromatic blend of fossil fuels and partially spent hydrocarbons wafting gently on the air. Then I passed a garden. It's next to a [gallery](#), and the garden is well-kept. It had been freshly watered that morning, maybe against drought restrictions, but whatever.

It smelled like rain. More than rain, it smelled like water on hot pavement. As a [city boy](#), I can identify that smell. Hot, wet asphalt. Usually find this next to some kind of urban oasis. That smell, it has to do with what's happening with Aries. It's right under your nose. Open your eyes, quit looking way down the road, and start looking at what's right in front of you. For me, it took the smell of summer, cool water evaporating from hot pavement to realize that it was there, right under my feet, so to speak.

Don't look to far away to find the secret for today.



[Taurus](#): After this weekend, or at the end of the weekend, sort of [depends](#) on how you [divide](#) the days, the Sun will shift into Cancer. Mars and Venus are still loping along in Taurus, and Mercury is trailing the Sun. Means Mercury is in Gemini. Adds a double-tap to the weekend, then adds a little punch to the beginning of next week. Adds up to three hits.

"Are these good hits, or what?" [Perspicacious](#) Taurus, always there with the questions. Sort of depends on how you roll with what's going to be thrown at you. It's easy to argue, it's better to negotiate, and it's best to just be clearly right, from the start. While I'm sure you're right, and I'm sure you have the moral high ground in this dispute, I'd watch it a little. There's a time that requires immediate action, and there's a time that requires a pause before you act. I'd suggest the pause. I was working a trick worm through the water, a favorite lake, and I wasn't getting much action.

I tossed the worm (attached to a fishing line, attached to a reel, attached to a pole) back in the lake and let it pause.

astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts

Then I let it pause a little longer. Then, I let it pause for a third beat. A third [second](#), a third (some measure if time). That was the secret, the last pause.

Took the bait (six-inch "bubble gum" colored-worm).

All Rights Reserved

[copyright](#) (c) 2008, 2009 [Kramer Wetzel](#), for [astrofish.net](#)

For the week starting: 6.25.2009

"Stand fast;

We have as many friends as enemies."

Shakespeare's [Coriolanus](#) [III.i.287-8]

Coming soon: workshop in old [San Antonio](#).



CANCER

Cancer: I call it "[foraging](#)." It's part of the [art of travel](#), like arriving [someplace](#), either local or far-flung, and discovering that there is [something](#) missing. Toothpaste. Shampoo. Soaps, lotions, emulsions, and so on, or, when I used to record with audio cassettes, blank tapes. Can be big stuff, can be an important omission, or it could be a minor item like a toothbrush.

Part of the art of travel, though is learning how to make do with local customs and mores. What is hygienic in one place isn't exactly sterile in another place. Which is why, there's both an art and style that's required to be good at this. Do you have what it takes? You can be foraging for office products, food, snacks, entertainment. I'm pretty sure you're above having to search for food and shelter, but there's an art to that kind of existence, too. However, sometimes it's a little simpler than that.

It's birthday time in Cancer. Means it's time for a party. Times are a little tight around here, so how you line up for that party? That's up to you. I'd suggest we [start](#) with a little foraging. In one form or another. It is a perfect Cancer-person activity.



Leo: I'm a big fan of [ghost signs](#). These are [shadowy remnants](#) of, like, a building's former occupant. There are a number of "Kress" signs that I encounter, on top of, I'll guess, what used to be a Kress Building. One of the more famous ghost signs, it's in downtown Austin, an old hat place. I'm not sure if new construction has obliterated the view or not. But ghost signs are amusing, and trying to capture their true nature is an elusive hunt.

Sometimes, more modern artists have covered the old signs with graffiti, planned -- or unplanned -- artwork. In part, this is part of what makes a good [ghost](#) sign, something somewhat obscuring the original image. The texture of the old paint on the bricks and mortar, that's part of the symbolism, too. Then there's the faded quality, or, close to where I live, an old/faded sign on a now empty building.

I'm sure the old warehouse will be an upscale loft or tony new studio space for a celebrated artist soon enough. I just wish they would leave the old signs in place, as there's something historical, maybe nostalgic about the old signs. There a symbol, buried in a ghost sign, that will have impact for Leo, in this next couple of days. Won't last long, and like the sign, [the symbolism might be faded](#). But you're supposed to look for it, and not where you normally [look](#), too.

ASTROFISH.NET: Last [Resort](#)



Virgo: I picked this week's introductory Shakespeare quote, "Stand fast; We have as many friends as enemies"

[Coriolanus](#) [III.i.287-8] -- that quote? It has you in mind. Who do you count as friends? Who do you count as enemies? And are the enemies really enemies? Or are there merely what appears to be enemies?

In that play, the Roman general switches sides because he feels betrayed. Then it gets ugly. What I'd watch for, at a time like this, with Saturn riding right up on your tail end? I'd watch who you openly declare as an enemy, and who you want to declare war on and I'd be careful. Some of your friends well, not me, as I am your friend, but some of your [friends](#) might not be willing to stand by you whereas some of your enemies? Never mind, at some point, next few days, you will feel like they are all out to get you. Can't be helped. While I can be counted upon as a friend, that doesn't make all your friends friends.

As it is said in Coriolanus....



LIBRA

Libra: I was transferring images to a website, one of my little [side-projects](#). I was looking, as I've trimmed the images down to be a manageable size, I was noticing that some of my pictures wouldn't even fit on single-sided diskette. [Remember](#) those? How about floppies? Remember those? In this digital age, I was thinking, I've got these images trimmed down to web-scalable size, and yet, by the standards I was raised on, these images might not even be transportable.

It doesn't really matter that much, as the images are just for fun, as that website is, and then, I don't care if the bigger version of the pictures turns out to be larger than single -- or double - sided floppy disk. I've had few people complain about being able to see the material. No complaints about the size of the files. This all about the

yardstick -- the way we measure -- how our Libra selves are going to judge ourselves. What measurement was huge in its day, but in the exponential growth of computer crap, is now nothing?

The question is, what device, what yardstick, what measuring tool are you using, to judge your own, [internal](#) Libra growth?



www.astrofish.net
This space for lease

 **ASTROFISH.NET**

 **SCORPIO**

Scorpio: There are several schools of [thought](#) about how the Scorpio brain apprehends and learns information. Some would suggest that the Scorpio brain learns from facile, tactile input. Touch, feel, figure it out. There's another branch that suggests the Scorpio learns best from "reading the book," as there's a wealth of information that can be ingested then put to use, after the manual has been read.

I suppose, as an adjunct to the "book learning" branch of the Scorpio learning tree, I'd add the observation part. This is one I've seen, although less and less these days. The observation portion of the Scorpio learning system stands aside and lets someone else try -- and fail -- while the good Scorpio makes note of what doesn't appear to work. That last part, let someone else try and fail? Let someone else see how wet the paint is? Let someone else find out if "danger: electrical current" really means that's it's dangerous voltage? All I'm suggesting, from my point of observation?

Use the Scorpio observation method and let other people rule out the errors before you try.



SAGITTARIUS

Sagittarius: In my [past](#), there's a [link](#) I have with BMW motorcycles. There's a narrow window of time that I have a working knowledge of valves, timing chains, points, settings, statistics and so forth, all wrapped up in my head. Probably not as much now, but it's there. Was there. So there's a very visceral reaction that -- the throaty sound of a "half a VW bug" makes. It's an old, long outdated, design for a motor. And I've certainly not kept up, so I am way out of date on my material.

I came across a [badge](#), and it reminded me that I was, at one time, a big fan of the "Airplane Motors." The cry was, in its time, "Airplane Motors Forever!" Look at the acronym: [AMF](#). I'm dredging up seriously deep memory banks, like turning over the earth in a farmer's field, or better yet, compost that been dormant and fermented for several years. This is about the deep and dark past, and link to the present and then, looking ahead to the immediate future.

There's no tie-in, immediately available between the motorcycles I used to ride and wrench, and the next week. But dredging memories can yield some pretty good stuff, and there's at least one useful idea that's been dormant for a long time, and now is the time to turn that over, and see what happens.



CAPRICORN

Capricorn: There's a [picture](#) I took, I can't place the exact [time](#), but it was almost ten years ago. Took it with [prototype](#) of the now ubiquitous "phone-camera." Twilight,

low-light conditions. Didn't turn out that great, but then, I've found that I've been able to use that image, over and over, time and again.

It's partly humorous, at least, to me it is, and it's partly apocryphal. The sign is a [pawn shop sign](#), from place in West Texas. The sign reads, "Tie the knot today, wedding rings and shotguns, on sale now."

Is it humorous? I would hope so, especially in the acerbic, arcane Capricorn way. The humor derives from this being an unusual Valentines' card image. This is spring time, most near summer. Jupiter is starting backwards in Aquarius, right on top of a Neptune alignment. Weird. When I snapped that shot, years ago, I didn't know it was a big deal.

Small picture, many miles, many smiles. You get to encounter a similar image. Might be a person, might be a place, might be an [encounter](#). Don't worry that all you have is a cell phone camera -- or whatever -- you'll be surprised how long the results last.



AQUARIUS

Aquarius: There's a short appendage of the US Interstate Highway that goes from *San Antonio* to *Corpus Christi*. It's about 120 miles long, and it's good highway, but the south Texas countryside is pretty barren. There's not a lot to see between the two towns. There are ranches and rivers, although, in drought conditions, empty stream beds and dull brown acreage rather than lush ranch land.

Heading down to the coast to go fishing, I've noticed this several times, but I finally got around to making note of the name and place. It's around Mile Marker 49 and there's a ranch called, I can't make this up, "Weed." There are stoner

jokes, weed jokes in [general](#), and then, of course, ranch jokes, too. Agricultural jokes abound. I know nothing about the ranch, only the name and approximate location. Which doesn't stop me from thinking about a bunch of humorous material in here with which to work. Doubt I'll do that.

Like I said, it's around fifty miles north of Corpus Christi, on the Interstate. Go check it out. With Mars and Venus approaching a tension point with Jupiter and Neptune, I'd watch for certain items to crop up. That's the reference to the ranch and the agricultural jokes, all wrapped in one. I'd also be careful about what items you use to run away. A trip to the coast, or the lake, for fishing is good.

A trip to a ranch for weed, not so much.



[Pisces](#): "Forgive me, dear lord, but I couldn't resist." It was a quick prayer to whatever deity might be upset with me. I was with my sister, and I couldn't resist, I had a piece of crisp bacon on my plate and I waved it, literally, under her nose. It was sibling rivalry at its finest. I couldn't resist the temptation of tempting her. She deserved it. For what crime was she being punished?

I don't know, Vegan, in an omnivore world? Too much [Left Coast](#) diet? Something, I'm sure. Besides, it was an opportunity that presented itself, and those come so rare these days. I couldn't keep from doing it. I was begging forgiveness as soon as the idea popped into my head. Which didn't stop me from wafting and waving a piece of perfectly fried, cherry-smoked bacon in front of her. I don't think it was one of my finer moments as a human. However, as the older brother, I do believe it was a finer moment. Depends on the way we judge ourselves. Then, too, I did beg forgiveness, even as the thought was occurring, and before

I actually did the deed.

As a Pisces, what's giving into temptation and what's clearly a situation that can't be avoided, no matter what the cost?
Bacon?



Aries: I'm figuring, as an [astrologer](#), that I get an out. My [limited](#) warranty on horoscopes does not extend to include improper handling by clients. You read this stuff, my fine Aries friend? You read this then do not heed my advice? I can't be blamed for the [outcome](#).

Mars -- like -- Mars, the Aries planet? Fixed in Taurus, and that means your action should be concentrated and focused. There's a scattered kind of quality that I've observed lately, with my Aries friends. That scattered energy need direction.

Focus. Imagine that you're like the lens on a big camera, and we're rotating you around. Focus. One thing. One item. One task. One thing at a time. If you try too much at one time? Don't blame me.



www.astrofish.net
This space for lease



Taurus: Most Taurus [folks](#) can be incredibly [patient](#) people. Some of the kindest, gentlest, easiest to get along with folks that I know. However, this is the last kick you get from the Mars and Venus thing, and it's not like those two are going to leave you alone without a fight of some kind. There will

be one more hit, one more tap, one punch. It's a planetary punch, so I'm not too worried about what the immediate action will be. Whatever the immediate action is?

You're going to be rushing back and forth, over here, over there, hither and yon. Rushing, [rushing](#), rushing. I get dizzy just thinking about trying to keep up with you. And I'm not that opposed to action. But sometimes, if you would just watch it a little, I mean, just slow down for a moment. The planets keep pushing you, mostly, it's the stationary/backward slant to Jupiter, imagine that Jupiter energy pressed hard against the Mars and Venus thing? That's what the immediacy comes from. However, you can win, but you've got take charge of yourself. Direct this energy in one direction.

Running all over the place? *We just get dizzy trying to keep and then it takes longer to get done.*



II *Gemini*

[Gemini](#): I was walking along with a Gemini buddy, and we were in one of those warehouse stores. No, they don't sell warehouses, it's a place where the fixtures are like out of a warehouse because, what they save in fixtures, that savings? Supposedly it gets passed along to the [members](#). My little Gemini friend was going on at length about an irritable problem, about irritable something syndrome, and so forth. We passed one of the young ladies handing out free samples of food, or food-like processed material.

I'm not sure what it was. Fish? Crab? Cheese? I've developed a way of grazing through places like this. The female handing out the food certainly caught my buddy's eye. I've seen her before, but that's a different tale. She's a little heavy-set, Latin origin, obviously, with hazel eyes, and smattering of freckles across the bridge of her nose. He was

smitten, my Gemini buddy. (She's Capricorn, not that it matters one bit.) He chatted, his whole irritable whatever syndrome a distant memory. She flirted right back, up to and hinting, but not divulging any actual details. Other than he should try some of whatever it was she was pimping out.

I think he bought a bag of it, "In the freezer, look for it," and I think he thought it was going to win him points with her. Might have. More important? That got him off talking about whatever was the perceived Gemini "rant du jour." I think of that woman as a bright shiny object.

If you're down? Find some bright, shiny object to draw your Gemini attention away. And if you're happy? Keep playing with that -- whatever -- whomever -- it is.

All Rights Reserved

[copyright](#) (c) 2008, 2009 [Kramer Wetzels](#), for [astrofish.net](#)

For the week starting: 7.2.2009

"Come what come may

Time and the hour runs through the roughest day."

Shakespeare's *MacBeth* [I.iii.161-2]

July 4th [holiday](#), the Full Moon, Venus shifts from [Taurus](#) to Gemini, but what does it all mean? A good place to find out: [workshop](#) in old [San Antonio](#).

 ASTROFISH.NET


CANCER

Cancer: [Happy birthday!](#) Isn't it [nice](#), there's a big party, all but promised, complete with fireworks, and music and dancing, and probably, if it suits you, lots of drinking. Know what? I'm all for it. Get someone else to cart you around, and just go and have some fun. It's overdue. You should over do it, too.

It's not so much that your stars are aligned, as it's just that they are not misaligned. I can't make anything perfectly good, not at this point. But I can suggest, come on, it's not going to be that [bad](#).

Birthday time. Party time. Play time. Skip [work](#). It's less about what you do with what's going on and more about doing something with what's going on, to make it going on. Or something like that? I realized it gets a little circular, and maybe not in a good way, but this is about having some fun. Party. Shake that groove thing. Get your boogie on. Whatever expression works. Cowboy up. Get it?

Word.

ASTROFISH.NET: Horoscopes exceed normal boundaries. [Caution advised](#).



Leo: The single, largest [problem](#) in Leo life, or *The Leo Life*, as it should be [recorded](#), is that no one gets it in July. Early part of July, like now? July 4th, long weekends, parties, fireworks, all sorts of stuff, red, white and blue, and so on? It's a party, but you're the wallflower. You're the one who gets left out. You're the one who they forgot to send an invitation to. You're the one, bad form if you ask me, who gets dropped from the [mailing](#) list.

Accidentally. Happens this week, right around July 4th celebrations. Worst possible event, you get overlooked. Reminds me of a particular Leo, too, she was busy trying to tell me she wasn't a typical Leo. "Why, there's a good chance I'd be out there with a shovel, shoveling manure, as be the center of attention -- not a typical Leo." I don't argue with Leo people, it's not worth it. But, she did have the fancy French-style nails. Long nails. And matching toenails.

astrofish.net

Boutique Horoscopes
(discount prices)

subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)

\$2.95 for 30 days' access.





Virgo: "You're a [writer](#), maybe you can help me, see, I've got this idea for a [book](#). Novel, maybe a screenplay," and then she proceeded to tell me story that sounded just like a Mexican [telenovela](#) -- the Latin version of the prime-time soaps. It was a sprawling epic that crossed years and countries, with an exotic backdrop and dashing characters. And it was certainly not my area of expertise, fraught with heartache, abandon, sprinkled liberally with [tequila](#) as well. I listened.

The Virgo shopkeeper might have a winner. I doubt I'm the person to take her tale and turn it into a script. Not my deal, but then I know what my limits are. Which is what this is all about. Know what your limits are, my dear Virgo? Know what you can, and for that matter, can't do? While I understand the process, the details with this particular project doesn't suit me. I mean, she's a fetching woman and all, but no, it's not a project that's right for me. I'm just here to remind you as the summer pauses and yawns once, what you've got to do is assess a project, situation, offer, and think, is it right for me?

Stick to what you know you can do.



Libra: As I walk around one of the older neighborhoods, I've noticed that most of the homes have fair-sized [porches](#). To be [expected](#), architecture that predates now ubiquitous air-conditioning. Porches that are attached to homes owned by elderly folks, most of the porches have a blue ceilings. I thought this was some sort of nod towards painting the roof

to look like the sky or something. There's really a more practical application, although, I can't tell if this an old wives' tale, [urban myth](#), or scientific [fact](#).

The blue ceiling on porch is supposed to keep the mosquitoes away. It's a simple gesture that might be more effective than any other kind of bug repellent, and possibly much safer for humans, pets, and the environment altogether. It's also a simple [gesture](#). You're going to paint the ceiling of the porch anyway, and blue keeps the bugs at bay, worth a try. As the Sun slips through Cancer, you're going to find there are a few irritants in the Libra life. Something as simple as blue paint might solve that problem.



[Scorpio](#): Great place to eat, right around the corner from me, a little "[Taco House](#)." The last time I had a breakfast [taco](#) there, cost a dollar, and there was as much bacon, like, almost a half pound of bacon, plus the eggs, all wrapped in a huge home-made flour tortilla. No wonder I complain about weight. I used to order two of those breakfast [tacos](#) but I've found that just one will suffice. It's a matter of learning the limits and working within the known limits of what I can get around.

They throw in killer hot sauce, too, but I tend to skip that -- it gets messy when driving someplace. I tend to only hit that [taco](#) place for breakfast tacos to go, only, like, when I have an early roll out for fishing or travel. Or travel for fishing. Taken some experimenting, but the best item to order is the bacon and egg (mix) breakfast taco. I mean, for [road food](#).

It's matter of finding and then sticking to, what you've found that works best for your Scorpio self. This isn't about

that place I like for breakfast tacos, I mean, the place is good for lunch, too. But know what your limits are. And stick to the self-imposed Scorpio limits. Like one breakfast taco. It's big enough to be a meal for a whole day, I mean, really. And that's enough.

A promotional banner for Amazon MP3. The left side has an orange background with the text "50 MP3 ALBUMS" in white and "\$5 EACH" in a green circle. The right side has a black background with white text: "Listen On Any MP3 Player, Including the iPod®" and the Amazon logo. Below the text is a green "Shop now" button and a "PRIVACY" link.

 **ASTROFISH.NET**


SAGITTARIUS

[Sagittarius](#): I'd like to pretend that the world doesn't revolve around me. I'm an anglo male, so in fact, I sometimes feel like the world does revolve around me. But I also know better. (Everything is dependent upon [The Leo](#). But that's a different notion entirely.) This is about my business and the slump I tend to hit in the middle of the summer, starting, well, right around the First of [July](#), and this downturn extends until close to the end of the month, like, about the time Leo starts.

It's just a slowdown, not major recession or anything like that. This won't apply not across the boards completely to every Sagittarius, but there's a sag, not a Sadge. A gentle downturn, earmarks of a recession, some problem of some kind that indicates there's not enough of something. In my case, it's usually not enough money and folks who want money from me. I'm not feeling sorry for myself, as I have more than enough to keep me busy, like dodging the bill collectors. But there's this general slow time.

My work is [seasonal](#), and I attribute the slowness to the seasonal variation in my business. Doesn't affect me. Bothers some folks, though. I look at a stack of books I've been intending to read, a little free music I've been meaning to download and listen to, and some photos I've been

meaning to clean up. Plenty of items to keep me busy. Not to mention fishing. It's summer vacation. Act like it.



CAPRICORN

Capricorn: I've got a buddy, another writer, and he figures that every artist must be tortured. There should be pressure, internal, external, outside forces of great [magnitude](#), causing consternation and strife. Almost like this was an uphill walk. Both ways. In the snow. Barefoot. Which is kind of funny, to me, as it's summer time and I haven't worn regular shoes, I don't wear regular shoes, but I haven't worn anything but sandals for the last couple of months.

"No, it's got to be hard, difficult, a tough road." My life, the Capricorn life, it's difficult enough without creating unnecessary obstacles. Like uphill. Both ways. Barefoot, I'm good with that part, but here in the Northern Hemisphere, most of the places I [tend to go](#)? I could enjoy being barefoot. Which part of what this is about, don't make any of your life more difficult that it needs to be. And if there's something that can add a degree of [comfort](#)? Might want to look at that. Makes the whole process a lot easier.



AQUARIUS

Aquarius: Give [me](#) a few days, and you'll feel the pressure easing up. And all except for that one [particular](#) Aquarius, things are slowing down. There's always one, and that one, against all odds, [unlike](#) 99 per cent of the rest of you, that one will be hitting it big this week. But the rest? The traditional view when Jupiter slows and turns [retrograde](#), especially when it's in your sign?

**astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts**

There's a commiserate slow-down in the personal good fortune you've had lately. If you haven't had any good fortune lately? Then this is time for it to slow down, and maybe you can figure out what part of about the "getting lucky (with Jupiter)" isn't working and how you can rectify this slowdown. Just for yourself. Still, there's always that one, an Aquarius, who, against all odds, hit it big this week. I'd like one percent. That's all, just one percent.

astrofish.net
Boutique Horoscopes
(discount prices)
subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)
\$2.95 for 30 days' access.



[Pisces](#): I got to poking around in my music files. I've got a separate disk for nothing but music files. Usually, I'm less of the "download/steal" generation, and I'm more of the "rip it from a CD I've got" group, just to be clear here. Anyway I was poking through the files and what I noticed, there was tendency, in my loosely organized music files, to group material together that might not be grouped thusly.

I seemed to get a lot of material that defies [conventional](#) musical taxonomy, too. Some of it is pure country, other material is pure rock. There's always a [smattering](#) of classical, as well. Then the sub-genres of music, I started to see that a lot of the material, it's less "country" or "C & W,"

and more along the lines of what is currently addressed as "Americana." A little of this, a little of that, country, folk, rock, and what was once the old "Austin" sound. Defies being shoved into a single category, mixing various ethnic & musical flavors to generate a singular sound. A [Mexican](#) horn section, Marty Robbins guitar. All in a convenient, easy to not-grasp package. I was thinking about this genre-bending material because that's what is required in Pisces. Now.

It's not so much about breaking the rules as embracing a little change, or a new, possibly unheard, [ethnic flavor](#).
Blend it in, see what pours out.



Aries: I [ordered](#) a single double shot of [espresso](#). "What's the name for the order?" The (Aries) barista asked. Actually, I think she was just the counter help at that moment. I asked her birthday, why I know she was an Aries. "[Kramer](#), no relation to the guy on TV." She nodded, misspelled my name, and handed the cup to the cook. "I understand, my name's Thelma, I get that, too."

So she's an Aries, she gets jokes about her name, and she feels my pain. Be nice if all the Aries out there could be a little more sympathetic. Or empathetic. It's one of those ways of feeling what I'm feeling. However, I doubt that "Thelma" suffered like I have, with abuse and catcalls, comparisons and slander, all because of my name. My first name, Kramer. I can also see that I'm not getting any sympathy from the Aries at this moment. Okay, I'm tough guy, I can take, I'll just suffer silently by myself. However, as Venus shifts and as the Sun warms the sign of Cancer? Think about feeling, at least, like, feel sorry for, someone who is suffering.

Show, or at the very least, pretend to show, some kind of sympathy or empathy, when the time presents itself.



Taurus: I can't think about the [July 4th weekend](#) without thinking about [Willie Nelson](#). Taurus. And the originator of the serious Fourth of July Picnic. It's been an institution for almost all of my lifetime, if not longer. Willie's been doing a Fourth of July party for quite some time. Adversity, change, and [the man's myth](#) exceeds the reality of the situation. Not that it matters.

The myths about Willie are larger than life, although, as it turns out, there was some truth to a number of the [tales](#). I've read a couple of pieces about him, and then there was a book penned by him, read that one, too. He's better as a songwriter. However, that doesn't stop the train from rolling along, or the tour busses and entourage out there, on the road again. Which is the suggestion for Taurus, for this weekend.

Get back on the road again. In one form or another. Mars is still here, and he's pushing you on down that lonely road. On the road again. Ask [yourself](#), a musical question, [What Would Willie Do?](#)

astrofish.net

Boutique Horoscopes
(discount prices)

subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#)

\$2.95 for 30 days' access.



 **ASTROFISH.NET**

II *Gemini*

Gemini: The opera crowd tends to be a little on the odd side. Coming from someone who spent so much time in Austin, TX ("Keep Austin Weird"), it's not like I can really comment on *weird*. But I will. I'd expect black tie, in various forms, to be popular. I tend towards the "Uvalde Tux," which is nothing more than one of my tuxedo jackets, a winged tux shirt, bolo tie, complete with jeans and boots. So it's not like I have a lot of room to be judgmental. But the guy was dressed, like he stepped out of certain Stevie Ray Vaughn album and video.

Flat, wide-brim felt hat with a low circular crown, shirt, jeans, bolo, so far, so good, lace up knee-high moccasins, again, good move, and a big pancho. Looked like a brown wooly blanket with a hole in its center. What's up with that wardrobe choice? At the opera? Maybe in a SRV look-alike contest, or as an homage to the greatest blues guitar god, ever, sure.

There's a point where you want to stick out, a little. There's a point where you want to declare your Gemini individuality.

astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts

[Individualities](#). But looking at Mars and Venus, and tracking changes in your psyche? This isn't the time to make wardrobe choices -- or any other kind of decisions about displays.

Like fashion, maybe now is time to try and blend in, instead of showing off your normally excellent [tastes](#).

All Rights Reserved

[copyright](#) (c) 2008, 2009 [Kramer Wetzels](#), for [astrofish.net](#)

**astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts**

For the week starting: 7/9/2009

"O time! Thou must untangle this, not I;
It is too hard a knot for me to untie."
Shakespeare's *12th Night* [II.ii.31-2]

Coming soon: workshop in old [San Antonio](#). Questions are always free, some answers require a cash deposit. The [e-mail line](#) is always on, "31" (24 and 7).

 ASTROFISH.NET


CANCER

Cancer: Because it's the birthday time for [Cancer](#) folks, I'll let this one ride out a little further than I should. But I'll warn you, too, that once the weekend is over, even though there are still more birthdays, there's also going to be some mighty upset people. Upset because the holiday didn't go their way, the parties didn't work out, firecrackers weren't timed right, and the list goes on.

As a decent Cancer person, you can look at the litany of complaints and you will realize that this is [about](#) misplaced expectations. Other people and their wild expectations that result in shattered hopes. See, as long you've got birthdays, like in your birthday month? I don't see you getting your hopes too high. Realistic makes it much more [enjoyable](#). It's just, after this [weekend](#), the other people you deal with aren't going to be as happy as you are. Sorry about that.

What are you going to [do](#), after the weekend is over, [Cancer](#)?

 ASTROFISH.NET


THE
LEO

Leo: I was trying to come up with a [good idea](#), something to help appease my [Leo](#) friends. Something to be of assistance. It's the dog days of summer, well, not really, but

almost, and there's just no relief in sight. Been a hot summer, huh?

Once this weekend is [over](#), it seems like there is no break for a Leo, no easy route for the good Leo that you are, to take to see an end to this misery. Are you bad off enough now? Have I thoroughly ruined your day? "But wait, there's more!" [See](#), it's the prelude to Leo. It's the final moments of the symphony that will be grand and beautiful and wonderful, fulfilling and uplifting. Soon.

This [weekend](#) is a taste, a hint, and next week? The hint goes way. But wait, there's more! Much, much more! It will get better. It just hasn't happened yet. This is a good time resign yourself to playing "support person" for whatever it is that is going on. You're the host, hostess, but not the invited guest. Not yet. In another week, I promise, your turn is fast approaching. What can you do in the meantime?

Please be patient, [Leo](#).

ASTROFISH.NET: Now with more UV protection



[Virgo](#): The Inter-web thing is a bad place. I got to looking for [something](#), which triggered a search through some medical website which then got me looking at diseases. Suddenly, I had one of those diseases. Then, the further I read, my hands got sweaty, my palms itched, I was running a fever, it was hot in here, I was cold, my feet smelled bad, and the symptoms then got worse. I fixed myself some more coffee then worried about what I was doing to myself with caffeine, and I stopped, but then I was paralyzed.

I finally shut the computer down and walked away. All better now, the disease symptoms cleared up. It's all a matter of what you're exposing yourself to, and in this case

I wasn't exposed to any infectious diseases, I was just looking at pictures and reading the descriptions. You're in a state, next couple of days, where you can be a little influenced by what you see, what you hear, [what you read](#), and if I had less morals, I'd suggest you send me a pile of money. Unfortunately, you don't have a pile of money. It's how you deal with your selectively suggestive Virgo nature. What you do with that, over the next couple of days? See a way around this, Virgo?

(click for site [index](#))



LIBRA

[Libra](#): "See [this](#)?" an older gentlemen rubbed his smooth pate, the hairless portion of his crown, "I call it, 'privilege.'" He smiled back at me. I think, it was the waiting room at the doctor's office, not me visiting, and, for that matter, not the bald guy, either. We were both waiting on respective patients. Casual and polite conversation. I'm always interested when the old guys start to talk. There's a gentle nature, well, this one old guy, he had it for sure. I liked the way he [pitched](#) it.

He threw his weight around without throwing his weight around. And he was making the best of his situation. I can only hope that I make it to his station in life, and I can only hope that I can be as polite as he was. And I can only hope that I'm as charming and engaging in a non-threatening way. And I'm really good with calling that bald head "privilege." As the week gives way to weekend, and that gets into the next week? Use your privilege, like that old guy. You can make your point, being stately and elegant, can't you, Libra?

50 MP3 ALBUMS \$5 EACH Listen On Any MP3 Player, Including the iPod® amazonMP3 Shop now PRIVACY

♏ ASTROFISH.NET

♏ SCORPIO

Scorpio: As promised -- I have delivered, am I right? Or What?

I can just see, there's always one Scorpio, and she's going to suggest she likes the other answer instead of admitting that I have delivered the promised Scorpio respite and peace. But after this weekend, the proffered and promised peace arrive. There's still a few stray firecrackers that are going to go off around you. The only problem with that, the firecrackers, they always sound like small arms fire.

This, being Texas and all, I'm sure I've got more than one friend who is armed and ready to return the fire. That's what I would really watch out for, in Scorpio. Do you really want to return the fire? Do you want to escalate a fight, it was just a drunk with a few firecrackers, do you really want to start another argument? I know you can finish it, but that doesn't mean you have to come down so hard on someone, now do you, Scorpio dear?

♐ ASTROFISH.NET

♐ SAGITTARIUS

Sagittarius: Any town, or most towns, anyway, there's a venue called "The White Rabbit." Or a band, I mean, it's a musical thing. Sometimes, it's an "alt-country" venue -- or band. Sometimes, it's Death Metal. I'll imagine that it can quite cross the scope of modern, post-modern, punk, post-punk, post-punk-post-apocalypse, and just about any other

genre one would choose.

It's not much of a [literary](#) reach to figure out from whence the name came. Roots and meanings, though, that can be the subject of much interpretation. I was just curious, as I've recently passed through three different towns, different feelings to each city, and each city boasted of having a place called, "The White Rabbit." In each place, a bar in one place, a live music venue in another, and finally a band on the third town, the sentiment was different.

One place was "metal," and another was "country," and the band itself was, I think, [Atomic-Polka](#). I don't even know what is. Not sure I want to know, either. The point is to see the similarities, the names, and see the differences, the genre. Then don't get too caught up in the way the game plays out. The music, I would think, that would be the place of note.

Again, the clue to handling all that Gemini (Mars & Venus) energy, look for the similarities. Not the differences.



CAPRICORN

Capricorn: It was a [brilliant](#) spring afternoon. I'd hitched a ride in the back of a buddy's bass boat, and we were fishing. He finally got tired, wore out from the early start. He started to pack up his gear. Me? I was so happy to be in a boat, on the water, I didn't care. I was merrily fishing my little heart out. By then I was tired and sloppy, and it was well past the hour we should've headed for BBQ and home.

It was also a rare day when I was having so much fun putting bait in water, I didn't care. I didn't care that I wasn't catching much, pictures are on the website by now. Didn't matter that I wasn't doing particularly well, I was just having some fun. I eventually snarled the line on two fishing

reels, and I was about to reach for a third, when I started to think. The first snarled line was an indication it was time to call it quits. Time to pack it in. I was tired and sloppy and no good could come of that. I didn't pack it in. Second line was an indication, my buddy was in the front of the boat, piloting the trolling motor and not doing much else. He'd already stowed his gear, and he was waiting on me to hit the wall, lose a pole, something. I shook my head at the second fouled reel. "Professional overrun," he snickered at me.

Yeah and as a [Capricorn](#)? You can do like me and try to keep going, but the secret is to know when the fold up and go home. I think I feel asleep in the truck, riding back to Austin.



AQUARIUS

Aquarius: Don't be resting, thinking it's all over and done. There's a lack of forward motion, but that doesn't mean you can act. Sometimes, just taking one step in the general direction of a goal? Sometimes that's all it takes to get the show on the road again. In the last week or two, in the past, now, no use dwelling on the past, but in the past, there's been a setback, and that's generated a general feeling of unease in the world of [Aquarius](#).

A let down, a step backwards, somethings. "Oh why bother?" It's common enough question, now. See, now is the time to bother. You keep saying "setback," and all I see -- I'm not Aquarius this week -- is a brilliant lateral move. If hitting this obstacle head-on doesn't work? Consider a way around the side. Consider looking at another route to get to the top, another road, perhaps a route that is longer but less arduous? There's an easier way to get this worked out.

Side step, circumnavigate, lateral, sideways, call it what you want, but sneaking around the side will yield some Aquarius forward motion.

Well, eventually, it will give it up.



Pisces: The way I understand it, a diptych is one of those painting, usually an old one, like a book, only, it's painting that's hinged in the middle. The two leaves can have a single image that stretches across both panels, or it can be two halves to a single a story. I'm sure the option are [limitless](#). I just like the idea of the hinged pieces. Something that takes two halves and makes it a whole.

Similar in that the two items are bound together by the hinge, and then, the idea the visual representation could be something as well. There are two halves to this week's message, plain and simple, and the question for Pisces, are the two halves [connected](#) by something, or does this appear to be separate items, with no apparent hinge binding this together?

If there is no binding, what can a Pisces to do, to help install that hinge? Huh, Pisces? Two options? Maybe that's, "Huh. Pisces."

(click for site [index](#))



Aries: It rained the other evening. Wasn't much of a thunderstorm, just a little rain. I woke up once, heard the gentle drops of water splashing against the bedroom

window, and I rolled over, went back to sleep. The next morning was unseasonably cool for a Texas summer. Almost cold, even. And all I wanted to do was stay in bed. Which is what you want to do as of now.

If there was a way I could recommend that, I would. Well, I can recommend it, but I think employers and family members might get upset. There's bacon to fry and eggs to gather, and you know the rest of how that works. What I'd be extra careful about in the next couple of days? That tendency to roll over in bed, first thing in the morning, and that urge to get just a little more sleep. Hit the snooze button one more time? My suggestion, as a way to look at the next seven days?

Don't hit the snooze button. Up and at it, early. Roll out early, hit the bricks and [keep on trucking](#). [Aries](#).



Taurus: The essence of [Taurus](#), the way I see it, there's a very epicurean approach inspired by [Venus](#). There's commiserate quality that deals with a subset of that Taurus epicurean flair, the auditory ability. Whether it's the ability to make music or merely as a person who appreciates the music, there's always that element that desires only the very finest. Which is the quest, for this week, in the sign of the (sensual) bull.

The search is for a particular [flavor](#), maybe a certain sound, maybe it's like a snippet of song you heard on the radio, and you're stuck trying to identify the album and artist. Or perhaps it's something that felt good, and you're not sure where it was that you saw it. Or felt it.

Or, like me, when I was shopping with a certain Taurus, she would stop and feel the clothing. Running the fabric between

her fingers, "No, this one isn't soft enough, it will scratch."
What she said. That's the Taurus point, it's all about the quest. It's the search and this week is all about looking, seeking, striving.

I didn't say you'd actually get there, but I did suggest you look, [Taurus](#).



II *Gemini*

[Gemini](#): In my usual [pedestrian](#) ways, I was walking, in Austin (TX), and I was passing an apartment complex with one those lawn crews working. I've seen this before, noted it before, but it just applies to [Gemini](#) at this point, I can't help but wonder. Anyway, one guy drives a mower, another pushes a hedge trimmer, and another guy runs a leaf blower. The guy blowing the leaves and lawn clippings around? He was running the blower down a dirt pathway.

Crushed gravel, really, but still, a leaf blower on the dirt? It worked, sort of, I mean it also generated a cloud of dust, but I wasn't sure that it mattered. He was intent on his task, which was generating a cloud of dust, but he was herding the leaves and lawn clippings into the gutter, which, I guess, was the point. It just struck me that -- this was Austin no less -- there must be an easier, more eco-friendly way to handle this kind of task. As a Gemini [you have to ask](#) yourself if there is an easier way to handle what you've got to do.

Is there a simpler way to get what you want done, this week, [Gemini](#)?

All Rights Reserved
[copyright](#) (c) 2008, 2009 [Kramer Wetzell](#), for [astrofish.net](#)

For the week starting: 7.16.2009

"She is too mean to have her name repeated."

Shakespeare's *All's Well That Ends Well* [III.v.60]

 ASTROFISH.NET


CANCER

Cancer: Typically, when I see one of Shakespeare's plays, on film or on stage, the production values vary, and there's usually one outstanding performance. I don't mean good, I mean a great delivery of a particular character. One actor or actress that outshines the rest of the cast.

Reminds me a slightly experimental version of Hamlet, with a female in the lead's role. A stronger than usual character, a good surprise for a summer stock stage. I think that actress went on to make it big on stage or screen. From the humble beginnings as summer stock on stage to Broadway and Hollywood? Sure, it happens.

I'm not saying that this is a "for sure" occurrence in Cancer, but the way this starts to line up? The moon, especially, and pay attention to your moods? There's a chance for a big break. Happens early next week. Look, it might seem like it's not a big deal, and it might seem like you're not really preparing for the role of your lifetime, and you might not even be getting on the summer's stage. But you are getting ready to make a large stride forward. From humble beginnings? Sure.

ASTROFISH.NET: Snake farm -- next exit.

 ASTROFISH.NET


THE
LEO

Leo: It's one of those sights, maybe sights and sounds, that I figure can only be experienced in the dead of the summer's heat, in the middle of a Texas city. By July, late

July, the cicadas are buzzing. Apparently, the little critters spend 17 years underground, emerge and then are annoying with their sounds for their lifespan of three days. But it's more than just a cicada's buzz, the incessant humming, a vibration, sort of, like a noisemaker.

Every so often, one of these bugs will get caught in the beak of predator. I'm thinking, like a Grackle or Blackbird, maybe a Jay. So on a still, hot summer afternoon when the heat is like a wool blanket, a wet, wool blanket, no breeze and the humidity just seeping into the bones, there will loud buzz, and a bird goes flying through the air with a cicada, still making its noise. The bird itself, that isn't usually a loud animal. It's the payload that makes the incessant noise.

It's either disturbing and unsettling in its noise, or it's an observation about the circle of life. That circle, if that's what this is really about, that circle? It's about to be completed. But I'd watch, just once, as in the next couple of days, one time, if you're not careful, you're going to feel like that cicada does, in the mouth of a [predator](#).

- 1 [PDA magnetic card reader](#)** Magnetic card readers for PocketPCs & Laptops on sale \$99.00
www.TokenWorks.com
- 2 [Car Insurance: Free Info](#)** Insurance advice, tools, articles & quotes. Find what's best for you.
autos.yahoo.com

Ads by Google

 ASTROFISH.NET

 VIRGO

Virgo: There was a Shakespeare [quotation](#) I didn't recognize. From a play I'm passing familiar with, no less. I looked up the quote, couldn't find it. I searched online. Couldn't find it. I searched through my [textbooks](#) I've got, reference manuals, so to speak. No luck finding that quote. I did a search through my electronic versions of the works of [Shakespeare](#). No hits.

I can't remember the exact location where I first saw that quote, and its attribution. But I didn't write it down, and I did go looking, trying to find a source. Character, act number, scene number, something. Nothing. I'm beginning to think it was a manufactured quote. Not that it's unusual, I make stuff up all the time.

What's the number? "37% of all experts are fake." *Or 42% of all statistics are made up on the spot?* Not that I would resort to anything like that, and I've had my chances. There are two points: one, my butt is covered because of what's in the [fine print](#), and two, just because there's an attribution, that doesn't mean it is factual.

 ASTROFISH.NET


LIBRA

Libra: One of my clients had a little heart problem. [Older](#) guy, so it wasn't like this was such a big deal, but he was rushed to the hospital, his wife a frantic mess. He had, like, one artery almost completely blocked. They did that tube-

thing-insertion-stint, I'm unsure of the details, I heard "balloon" and "stint," so maybe he got a stint at the hospital blowing up balloons. Anyway, he's all better, by the third day, he was making bad jokes again. The staff was ready to get him out of there.

When trying to isolate the source of his trouble, it was simple. "My old family recipes, for, like, everything? Usually starts with 'melt four sticks of butter,' and I wonder." I'd wonder, too. This is about examining a portion of your life you never thought about looking at. For my buddy, it was delving into his family's recipe books, finding the source for his current health problems. A little lifestyle change was all that was required for my buddy. He has changed his diet, walks more like I do, and, the real secret, he's found joy again. I'm not sure if it's the diet or the joy, but one of those two, that's what this is about.

Or digging through your [family's cookbooks](#) to discover the source of the [problem](#).



Scorpio: It is always [good to learn](#) to discern between hype, hyperbole, marketing, and true fact. A real [fact](#), that should, like, be etched in stone. Myth and [metaphor](#) have their places, like I'm anyone to comment on that, but this isn't about me, this about Scorpio. And the facts. The hard facts. The hard, cold facts. Or the hard, hot facts.

Been a warm summer, but it usually is by now. The facts are simple. Straightforward and don't make this an issue when it's not. Stick to the facts. Not the [suppositions](#), not the [ideas](#), not the goals, but the facts. It's all about where you actually are right now, as opposed to where you think you should be, or where you think you think you should be, and then this gets a little convoluted. With all that Gemini

energy, there's a push, and all I'm saying, figure out what's what.

Facts? Etched in stone That simple. Anything that's not a solid fact? That's okay, but treat the unknown accordingly.



Sagittarius: Bookstore, chain [bookstore](#), near [me](#), that branch closed. Had a big going out "Closing this week" sale. I shopped a few times, trying to clean up on stuff that might be there. I got a few good deals. Then, when everything was marked at 75%, I picked up a few more deals. I was able to buy books that I wouldn't normally buy. Junk reading, mostly, and with the sales sticker on the cover, I didn't mind. 50% or 75% off cover price?

I could abandon one of those novels, like, hand it to friend with no [expectation](#) of every getting the novel back, and no worries, either. Hadn't cost much, didn't expect a lot out of the book. I could tell from the lurid cover art that it probably wasn't my kind of a novel. Not that it matters. I have a stack of these, I call it "airport reading," although, I'm [less](#) in airports these days.

Still, there's something appealing, in the middle of a hot [summer](#), there's something appealing about picking up discount deals. Might not be a bookstore that's closing, could be something else. Although in my mind, as much as a hated to see the bookstore go, it was a chain, and there will be something else around here soon. I hope. It's a good time to shop for deal, and, for that matter, make some excellent Sagittarius [discoveries](#) in the deals.



CAPRICORN

Capricorn: I've [heard](#) that putting two credit cards, or any cards with magnetic strips, back to back, like, in your [wallet](#)? I've heard that it transfers the data between the cards. Like the one card thinks it's another card? This can effectively and completely scramble that magnetic strip. This only happens, so I've been [assured](#), if the magnetic strips are either next to each other, like on opposite sides of the cards, or worse, next to each other, like the backs of the cards are facing.

The magnetic strip can erase the data from the other. Transfer, erase, or hopelessly mess up. Therefore, so I've been told, it's better to carry cards in separate pockets. I'm unsure of how true this is. Sounds a lot like an *Urban Myth*. I haven't [bothered](#) to check it out, though, but after hearing a tale about a friend who knew guy, who knew this girl, whose brother knew some dude, "And it really happened to him. No, I'm not just making this up."

However, this isn't about how you carry credit cards. It's about the source of the tale. The circuitous route for that sourc? Fact or fiction? Plausible, neat, maybe wrong? What is the actual source for the facts used to construct this information? That's what is so important in Capricorn, for Capricorn, these days? Get to the [bottom](#). Did you really know the guy this [happened](#) to? Did that really [happen](#)? The two credit cards erased each other?



AQUARIUS

Aquarius: Local place advertises a great [breakfast](#) menu. *Wieners con Huevos* and *Frensh Toast*. I am unsure of the

[source](#) of the spelling for the second part of that and the first? The first actually makes a little historical sense, given the context.

Part of the original immigrants in the area were [German](#) settlers, fresh from the old country, and they brought the European ideals, tools, menu choices. Items like sausage. So the eggs and wieners makes sense. Sort of. I just thought it was an unusual combination to see on a placard outside a restaurant, but then, around here? [Who's going to notice weird?](#) Not like it will stand out or anything. Which is good for Aquarius, because, for the time being, I'd look at not standing out.

I know that you are a separate breed unto your own selves, but that's not the question. With the current ebb and flow of planetary influences, I'd just watch it. No need to draw undue attention to your Aquarius selves. I'm just saying, this isn't the time to let the world know where you are. This isn't a time to stand out. This is a time to blend in, like with the *Wieners and Huevos*.



Pisces: "Fish worship, is it wrong?" That's the musical question. Or a [T-shirt question](#). I found the question on a T-shirt, in the Pacific Northwest. I was thinking about Pisces, and I was wondering how a decent Pisces might react to that shirt. The reactions, in my mind, go from amused to alarmed, with a sprinkling of folks who really don't have a sense of humor? Maybe one Pisces in that batch? Failing to see that it's meant as a humorous caption, not as true worship.

Although, if you've ever seen me and my fishing buddies, you might think differently. Early part of next week is

greeting a new moon. Seems like there are just an awful lot of people a little depressed by the current lunar cycle. It's not really that much of an influence, it's just that there are certain issues that have popped up. Stuff needs to be dealt with. Instead of avoiding the material that needs your help? Wade right on in and lend a hand. Then, as the first of next week dawns bright and wonderful? See if there is a little fish worship going on. Not that it's undeserved, either.



Aries: I was walking behind some tourists, on [San Antonio's famous River Walk](#). "Do you think there are fish in there?" Water's pretty dirty, "I don't know." I'm a fisherman, I do know. In the springs that bubble up near the convention center, there are two pools that hold fish, mostly black drum, some carp and really, I've seen them, black bass.

But that's upstream from where we were. What I thought about saying, "You know that tilapia you had last night? Where do you think it came from?" I've found that such little comments are best kept to myself, though.

Like me, you've got a funny, perhaps a little sarcastic, comment running through your [head](#) these days. [Probably](#) several. I'd like to suggest, like me, you keep those to [yourself](#).



Taurus: I tend to have a couple of [Shakespeare reference tomes](#) that I use. [However](#), there is one that I use more frequently. Not because I'm particularly fond of it, it's just that the material is the perfect blend, for me, a cross between high-brow academic and accessible for the [rest of](#)

[us](#). I'll read a short section, maybe get a thumbnail sketch on a particular play, maybe do a tiny amount of background research before seeing a play. I've found that it helps, sort of highlights major themes, minor themes and gives me a background to build. Good stuff.

That one author, though, he has a [bias](#). He's a firm believer in his own words, and his own [interpretation](#). He's sure he is the ultimate authority and what that author states, I'm sure, he believes should be treated as gospel. I can live with that. He's tenured and a senior, and I'm not even sure he's still working. Although, I can't imagine that he'd quit. Still, when I work with his material, I can plainly see his angle. His bend. His personal belief system shines right through.

Works for me. The other insights are valuable enough, and I know what he believes in, and it's not like this is hidden. It's in plain view, right out in the open. Not hidden. This is important when dealing with this week's energy. Understand the bias, understand the other person's point of origin. That helps. Like that one reference? Helps to know what the guy believes in. Makes it a lot easier to understand what's [extemporaneous](#), and what's rooted in personal belief. Consider point of reference.



II *Gemini*

Gemini: There's a line from a song, a [Robert Earl Keen](#) song. [Local](#) singer/songwriter, "It all comes down to living fast or dying slow." That was playing when I was looking at Mars and Venus, in Gemini, all week long. Actually, those planets will be here for longer than that. But at the very most, I'm concerned with Gemini for the next seven days.

Moon moves from [Taurus](#), through [Gemini](#), aligning briefly with the aforementioned planets, Mars and Venus, and then the Moon moves onto [Cancer](#), and the Sun will, by the end

astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts

of the scope, be headed into Leo. Along with the Moon. There are two parts to Gemini, the Twins. Well, really, there are a lot more parts to Gemini, but for [this example](#), let's do the two thing. And there are two points to the song's lyric, "living fast or dying slow." In as much as you're a typical Gemini, you're part of the living fast crowd. However, for the duration of the Moon's cycle? Ever think about the slow part? I'm just saying, until we get launched into Leo proper? Think about the slow part.

All Rights Reserved

[copyright](#) (c) 2008, 2009 [Kramer Wetzel](#), for [astrofish.net](#)

For the week starting: 7.23.2009

"'Tis a lucky day, boy, and we'll do good deeds on't."

Shakespeare's *The Winter's Tale* [III.iii.86]

Questions are always free, some answers require a cash deposit.

The e-mail [line](#) is always on, "31" (24 and 7).



[Leo](#): Happy best of birthdays to the best fire sign there is. Best. Best to you.

My coffee [proclivities](#) are [well-known](#). I tend to favor a [dark roast](#), in a small demitasse -- the [coffee](#) should be strong, black and hot. [Espresso](#) is perfect, especially if it is good. What's important is the concept of the demitasse. It's a little cup, about an inch in diameter, maybe an inch and a half tall. Most typical Americans, over the years, our [coffee cups](#) have gone from small to medium, to extra-large. The [quart-sized](#) jug of coffee is commonplace these days.

In Leo, to commemorate your birthday, I'd like to suggest you go the other way. The espresso cup. The tiny size. The really good [coffee](#) can be savored this way, not gulped down as go juice. Yes, it's your birthday time, and yes, this bodes well for the immediate future, and yes, the next year is looking pretty good. Just one thing to add, though, as this next couple of days begins, consider the [espresso](#) cup way of sampling life instead of our usual half-gallon sized [mug](#). Best wishes for a happy year, and great birthday party.



[Virgo](#): I was having some early dinner with a Virgo friend. [She's](#) recently taken up the habit of walking in the

afternoon. Usually after work, she'll take a short stroll, by my standards, around the block. She was telling me about that, one evening. She was describing a portion of sidewalk, near her house, where the city is doing some reconstructive work of one sort or another. Water lines, gas lines, or, as I always suspect, just digging stuff up to make a mess.

"The sign said, 'sidewalk closed,' but no, I had to try and walk around it." She slipped, fell, and the worst damage, I'm sure, was to her Virgo pride.

Thus ends this week's homily. Or does it? Is there coded message in my [little Virgo](#) friend's fall? Since it was merely a few days ago, she wasn't hurt, not physically. Not real damage there. She did scrape her knee a little, but that was more blood and swearing than actual injury. What can be done to prevent you from scraping your Virgo knee? If the sign says, "Sidewalk closed," then use the other side. Heed the warning, however [banal](#) it might seem.

ASTROFISH.NET: Free toppings with select [horoscopes](#).



LIBRA

[Libra](#): Reality can be so ugly at times. And as a Libra? You tend to appreciate the prettier, finer things in life. The bigger planets line up to provide you with a nice view for most of the coming week. Most of the week is pretty, and nice, and all lines up the way a good Libra would want it line up. There is just one unsettling jolt that occurs, and it will probably happen early next week, like Monday or Tuesday, but it could happen any time in the covered seven days.

That jolt? It's not so much bad as it is ill-timed. Right comment, wrong time. Right judgement, wrong hour. Wrong answer but at the right time. You get the [image](#)?

How to prepare for this? Practice being quiet. That can help

alleviate the pressure from the problem. The right (action) at the wrong (time) can't really be prevented. But you can prevent the simple little comment from turning into a bigger problem. That's what this is about. Nip it in the bud, so to speak. Maybe nip it in the bud by not nipping it in the bud.



Scorpio: Some [signs](#) respond well to teasing. Some signs can take [sarcasm](#), gentle chiding, and metaphorical rebuke without any trouble. Scorpio, although you're the finest wit when it comes dishing this sort of material out? Yeah, not so good when you're on the receiving end. Which is a very plain caution for the coming week, as the days unfold?

You're going to get teased. Not by me; I know better. But you will find that you're the butt of an office joke, a silly prank, a point of mockery and mild derision, something. Normally, this wouldn't be a big deal. Normally, you would laugh this off. Normally, this jest wouldn't hurt. But this is not a normal time, and as such, means there's trouble. You can take a slight and internalize the pain. Only a good Scorpio can do that. Internalize and vow revenge. Pledge that you will not rest until the perpetrators, the Scorpio detractors, the people who inflicted this pain, you will not rest until they are brought to justice.

Whoa. What I'm trying to prevent is a bad situation escalating out of control and become worse and worse by the moment. Go back to the original problem, the gentle mocking. Normally, you would just laugh it off. Try that instead of eternal vigilance and *revenge*.



[Sagittarius](#): I was in line at the grocery store, I had just a couple of items in a basket, like peanut butter and sardines, and I was headed towards the "6 items or less, cash only" express line. In front of me were two little girls, I'm guessing, between the ages of 14 and 16, probably, it's a guess, not old enough to drive yet. The little girls had on appropriate summer wear, and they were getting a single can of coke, each, and a bag of chips, to split. And they were both giggling and making big eyes at the checkout boy.

I say "boy" in a referential manner because, it's a guess again, he wasn't much older than the two young cuties making eyes at him. The girls giggled, and dug around for some change. I think it was a Big Red, a Dr. Pepper, and Pork Rinds. He wasn't completely oblivious to the attention he was receiving. If it had been me? At that age? I would have been clueless. I might still be, but that's not what this about.

Or is it? [Mars](#) and [Venus](#) are warming, frying, and giggling their way through [Gemini](#), opposite our [Sagittarius](#) selves. I tend to regard the Mars and Venus influence as a harmless flirtation, like what happened in front of me at the [check-out](#) line. Perfect example. Action required by our Sagittarius selves? None.



CAPRICORN

Capricorn: I was in a little cafe in West Texas. One menu item caught my eye, piqued my fancy, and made me wonder. I ordered it. It was "fried green beans," and they, not surprisingly, lightly battered and flash-fried so the beans themselves were almost "al dente" in texture. With a light batter covering, of course. Much healthier than french fries, I'm sure. Tasty, and little bit of a surprise.

But it was Capricorn waiter, and while he did take credit for the idea, I'm unsure of the authenticity of his claim. However, it did present an idea for Capricorn in general, with what's going on, consider items that usually don't belong together, and consider trying that out. Towards that end, there's already a place that does "chicken-friend bacon," and the "[deep-fried twinkie](#)" is also old news. And unless you're a fry cook, maybe veer away from the "fried" category. But do consider combining elements that usually belong together, see what you can come up with. It's time for Capricorn fry solution.



AQUARIUS

Aquarius: At the main post office, or the main post office that I tend to [use](#), there's a big sign, several, in fact, that say, "Box Up Time 10 AM." Means that the mail is supposed to be in the all the mailboxes by ten in the morning, right? I live in a [relaxed neighborhood](#). I live with relaxed rules. So does that post office. It was almost noon, when I wandered in to grab whatever might be in the mailbox, and I could hear, behind the wall, like rats scurrying around, the postal employees were still laughing, joking, and putting mail in the slots. Just as a point of order, my box hadn't been filled yet.

I'm not at the top of the list, like, I wouldn't start on my end, but then, maybe I would. However, it wasn't a big deal. Bills and magazines about all I get there anymore, and I wasn't in a big hurry to see any of that. Not a big deal anymore. But it was a good example of how there's a more relaxed pace going on around you, and while the tempo clearly doesn't keep up with your Aquarius ideals? Works for the other 11 signs. Consider us the "lesser 11," if you will. We're not moving as fast as you think we should. We're not going to be moving as fast as you think we should. And if you have a problem with that? Then we have problems. I

know, like, at my post office, the deadline for daily business is 10 AM. Doesn't mean that anyone but an [Aquarius](#) will be able to make that deadline. Can't say you weren't warned when nothing occurs in (an Aquarius) timely manner.



Pisces: Summer is upon us, here in South [Texas](#). There was one day, I walk on a regular basis, and there's a dog in a yard I pass. Dog usually barks at me. One afternoon, last week, if I recall rightly, might've been the week before that, the dog, it was a hot afternoon and I was busy about some business, the dog, it looked up at me when I passed that yard. Didn't bark. It was just too hot for the dog to be bothered to bark. I'd take a lesson from that dog.

Especially for my [Pisces](#) friend. As the summer heat wears on and on, as the humidity creeps higher and higher, there are days when, like that dog, you just shouldn't be bothered. The problem is, a usual suspect, like myself, will pass in front of you. Not a big deal. Someone you would normally bark at, again, as it is supposed to be, and this summer, in the late in the month of July? With where the planets are these days? Maybe don't bark. Whatever it is that you used to do? You can be like that dog and decided that it's just too hot to bark.



Aries: [Mars](#) and [Venus](#) don't always have to be about communication, but those two [lovebirds](#) are in [Gemini](#) at this moment. All week long. Have been. Will be there for the rest of this week, anyway, and that's the cause of the Aires consternation. The Gemini placement, for Aries, sort of in general? It's about communication. Doubled. Tripled. Even

four-fold now. That's the source of the problem, and I would hope, with Mars and Venus working in harmony, this would be about pretty communications. But maybe it's not.

That's where the "delete" feature on modern keyboards is handy. That's why the "draft" button on your email program is useful. Good time to draft some correspondence. Bad time to send it. Good time to story-board a movie. Bad time to film it. Good time to choreograph the new dance routine. Bad time to open the show. Any of this making sense? I hope so, you're veritable fount of ideas, I'm just suggesting, go slow on implementation.



[Taurus](#): It was a great Red Cross/local EMS/EMT T-shirt. I think the shirt was from some kind of a fund raiser, but I never saw the front of the girl's shirt. I was too busy trying to make note of the text on the back. "Fish with dynamite/ Barbecue in your canoe/Dive in the shallow/Run on the pier/Clean fish/with a chainsaw." It was, of course, that last one which first caught my attention.

Cleaning fish with a chainsaw.

Not sure I could do that, even if I wanted to. Then, too, it's matter of understanding what the shirt was about. It urged those activities in a totally [ironic](#) manner. Best way to get the attention of the local emergency group, whatever it was. When I looked at your chart, for this coming week, I thought of that t-shirt. Just the back of the shirt, never saw the front. I don't know what group it was for. But I thought about the urging, the suggestion, the lopsided grin, the way I would make those suggestions in way you'd understand, for sure, that I didn't mean it.

The real suggestion is to do no such activity that might be

construed as dangerous. No pointy sticks, no fishing hooks, none of that. You're more prone to making a simple blunder at this time, and I'd like to see that you don't have to call the emergency services.



II Gemini

Gemini: New lease, new branch, new leaf, fresh growth. All of that. And more, much, much more. You're long overdue for a break. You're long overdue to finally catch up and even, dare I suggest it? Get ahead? Sure. It could happen. Well, I'd like to think it could happen. Will happen. Is happening now.

See, the week starts with a new moon, boom. In Leo, double-boom. Like a double-barreled shotgun, unload one, right after another. Only, in [Gemini](#), there's already the twin threat of [Mars](#) and [Venus](#), and compound that with the [Leo](#) kick? Means that it will happen. I'm not sure what it is that is supposed to happen, I'm not sure what is taking place, but whatever it is, there's a four-fold trigger effect, each single element compounding and multiplying the intensity of the effect. Launch, take-off, renew, fresh growth, healing. It's one, or more of those elements. Combine and do with it as you see fit.



69 CANCER

Cancer: Need to give me another week. Just that simple, I need another week to make everything start to work out better. I can't seem to get anything lined up right for my little Cancer [friends](#), not at this moment. Close, but not that close. I'm in the area of being right, but I'm not right yet. Like me, you're in the arena, you're just not on top of it.

**astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts**

There's something amiss. You're close but not quite close enough. Good, but not great. It's all about getting a little more time. Time to get whatever "it" is, out of your way. Time to move, room to move. Something. Anything. It's a matter of patience, and when I mention patience, I'm always a little worried.

Some folks [seem](#) to think that it means there will be a chance and space for them to enjoy being patient. What really happens, though, is some kind of insistent, have-to-deal-with-it-now, issue crops up. First hint, imagine, I was walking past a line of cars stalled at a traffic light, some smart ass started to blow his horn, hoping that would move things along. It didn't. Just irritated everyone. Except me, as pedestrian, I was moving faster than the line of traffic. This week, when I go walking past you stuck in line of cars? Blowing your horn is only going to make it feel a little worse -- for you.

All Rights Reserved
[copyright](#) (c) 2008, 2009 [Kramer Wetzel](#), for [astrofish.net](#)

For the week starting: 7.30.2009

"Your affections are
A sick man's appetite."

[Shakespeare's *Coriolanus*](#) [I.i.76-7]

As noted in the [travel and appearances](#) schedule, I **will not be in Austin** for the August 22-23 event. Scheduling [conflict](#) with El Paso, and the guest shot on [Wife Swap](#) - haven't mastered being in two places at once. However, other arrangements [can be made](#).

 ASTROFISH.NET



Leo: One of my fishing buddies, as we would get close to where I lived at the time, he would always admonish, "Get ready to tuck and roll, buddy." Which is what I was thinking of, the words, the command form, for Leo, when I looked at your chart. Except, it's not in the same vein, that my buddy meant it, close, but not quite. He was usually getting ready to push me out of the truck's cab while we were towing a boat, and we'd be tired from fishing our little hearts out, all day long. Part jest, part [serious](#), because, after all, he was towing a boat.

I got off thinking about this as I watched while Venus leaves Gemini and scoots on into Cancer, getting closer to [Leo](#). Full Moon, too. All of it. The Leo, you are THE Leo, has to be light on his (or her) feet. Paws. Get ready to run a dodge pattern. Get ready to tuck and roll, part of a birthday pattern, then spring back up.

ASTROFISH.NET: Drive-Thru Horoscopes!

 ASTROFISH.NET



Virgo: I have a [weird](#) fishing [arrangement](#) that's been particularly effective lately. It's an "ultra-light" set-up, only, with most of the ultra-lights, the pole is about four feet long. This one? I've got an eight-foot [Crappie](#) pole (B&M), but the rest of the arrangement qualifies as "ultra-light." Makes it a lot more fun when I hook into a fish, big, or, for that matter, small. Makes it easier and the whole thing is super-sensitive. Kind of like Virgo with this approaching full moon and all. Super-sensitive.

Which, for this kind of fishing, I mean, I use it for one situation only, it works great. So there's a correct application of your super-sensitive status. Find that one situation and work with it. To me, that arrangement I've got? I use that like fly-fishing, only, with a little more backbone. Same thing I'd expect out of a Virgo. Super-sensitive, and yet, strong enough to haul in the big fish. Which is what this is really all about, and it doesn't matter what you're angling for, either.

 ASTROFISH.NET



LIBRA

Libra: It's the way the green algae covered the surface of the river. Dog days of summer, a few [weeks](#) ago. The [river](#) was stagnant, and there was a serious algae bloom. The way the stuff grow on the surface, like mold, and the way it [appeared](#)? Looked like sculptured shag from an era gone by. I wasn't about to set foot in that soggy mass, and while it was eating all the oxygen and and causing the water to become unbreathable for the fish? It still looked nice. In a weird way. Like a carpeted river. Or creek.

A [carpeted](#) river would be perfect for that Libra sense of aesthetics. However, in this case, the algae bloom was due to a river that was stopped at both ends, without a lot of flow in between. Which was the problem, then. As of this week, it's as if someone has magically let the water start

flowing again. While I'd like to take credit as the guy who worked the flood gates in the life of Libra, I can't really take that credit. However, I can suggest that, now that there's movement, you do [something to take advantage](#) of that. The current is strong and getting stronger. Use it. Don't fight it.



Scorpio: It's a dessert [issue](#). The part of the meal that's usually sweet, comes after the main course, but before the coffee, cigars and cognac? I've had this kind of a promise before, and it wasn't until I bravely tried the dessert at this one place, local place, that I found it was as good as they said it could be.

I've been let down a number of times with pancake (crepe), caramel, ice cream, and stuff kind of dessert. Several place have advertised, one restaurant had rather provocative and enticing menu picture and evocative image, but alas, the dessert didn't live up to the image or the billing. However, this one place, kind of seedy? Not exactly the best looking place on the block? Not as well lit? Maybe wouldn't go after dark? Or, in my case, not too long after dark? That's the spot. Turns out, the dessert was as good as they said, Not only did it live up to it's billing, it fulfilled the wish of many years, it was that good.

As the stars keep rolling, and life keeps on moving along in Scorpio, I can't promise that every day will be good. But one day, out of the next seven, you're going to hit that spot, like the dessert that I'd be searching for? Not only does it live up to its purported reputation? It exceeds expectations. One out of seven, this week.

[\(site index\)](#)



SAGITTARIUS

Sagittarius: I was watching, as one of my neighbors, a shapely blonde with carved, muscled calves, she opened up the front passenger door on her car. Leaned in, and she picked up a watermelon. Carried it inside. She had on earphones so any comment from me wouldn't be heard. Nor, for that matter, do I know her well enough to make such a comment, but what I thought? "Hey, nice melon." I didn't say it.

With the approach of the full moon, then the tangible insanity that comes with the full moon? As the tides shift and the moon start to wax? Don't wax poetic. Don't make a comment, puerile and vaguely sexist, like I was.

You can be like me, you can think such thing, *but you can't say them*. Well, you can say them, but there might/will be less than desired consequences, like a metaphorical slap in the face to a physical assault, or it could go so far as a lawsuit. None of that is desirable. Can easily be avoided, too. Shut up. Think it? Sure, way we're wired, our Sagittarius selves, about two paces away from the gutter, generally erring on the side of bad taste. But just this once? Instead of giving it voice? Just think it.



CAPRICORN

Capricorn: I took a long afternoon walk, perhaps a little longer than I wanted. I returned a couple of mobile phone calls. I was chatting amiably with one client and I noticed that dark clouds were scudding overhead. Coastal weather, or coastal clouds, or whatever, it's sea breezes, offshore, billowing much-needed moisture inland. Only, since I was

out longer than I thought, it looked like, if I skipped the post office portion of the trip, I could make it home dry.

Only, me, being [who](#) I am, I couldn't skip stopping by the post office and I was chatting away, when the first of the big rain drops hit me. It wasn't much of a rain storm, just a little sideways action. By the time I got home, I was wet on one side, but dry on the other. Phone was safe, [mail](#) was soaked. All junk mail anyway.

This is about choices and decisions in the [Capricorn](#) world. Me? Soaked by a summer's shower? No big deal, almost enjoyed it, no damage, other than my wash and wear look got washed an extra time. All about how you decide to deal with what's up ahead. It's like a summer squall. Duck into the post office, and loiter? Sure, that's an option, although, maybe not for me, not at that post office, I might get in trouble for lurking in there. But you're Capricorn. You've got a chance to make a clean getaway, or escape getting soaked. When the weather is turning against you? Maybe skip that last spurious stop. Get on home ahead of the [storm](#).



AQUARIUS

Aquarius: In case you haven't ever figured it out, [coffee](#) varies from [bean](#) to [bean](#) as to [strength](#). I'm sure that it's possible to chemically analyze each and every coffee bean to determine just the exact amount of active ingredients in each and every cup of coffee, but I'd rather not. I know that there's a "naturally low in caffeine" bean from the central highland of Mexico.

I know that another strain of bean that produces [substantially](#) higher caffeine content than most. But I never measured it myself, and part of the equation is the roaster's

craft, too. The full moon, that unfolds in Aquarius, like in the next five days or so? That's like switching from the naturally low in caffeine stuff to higher octant coffee. Sometimes it's subtle, like you don't realize that you're suddenly infused with more energy, and more drive, and other times? Less subtle. From almost supine and dormant to wide-awake and almost too alert, in a matter of minutes. That's noticeable.

The full moon will be like that extra-strong coffee. Whether it's subtle or quick, though, now that you know it is coming? You can make a choice. I'd suggest the subtle approach, but that just might be [me](#).



Pisces: I was chatting with a local cook. Client, [actually](#), but it was off the clock, sort of, as I just been to eat at the place where the cook worked. I was noting how the food, a certain steak dish, had been just a wonderful experience, the flavor, texture, and that something special (that I couldn't identify) aura. I made a passing comment about the influence of Uranus (in Pisces) and more to the point, Saturn (opposite Pisces in Virgo), and how this was having an impact on that cook. Which meant I got the secret ingredient.

"It's Dr. Pepper. Dr. Pepper flank steak, figure it out." So that's the secret stuff that works so well. That's the ingredient that is *so secret*. Plain old coke from a bottle, with all its sugary goodness. [Dr. Pepper](#) is a Texas original, too, which might explain the flavor that's different. I grew up in the shadow of a Dr. Pepper plant, which might explain some things about me, but this isn't [about me](#), this is about secrets, and revealing just enough. With the full moon fast approaching? You get a chance to reveal something. Need I point out, though, that I got the name of the secret ingredient -- Dr. Pepper -- I never got the rest of the recipe.

Follow my [Pisces](#) cook's lead on this: reveal enough, but not too much.



[Aries](#): The first time it happened, I was devastated. The second time, I was hurt, but not too distraught. The third time? I just shrugged, hit the "rewind" [button](#), then started over.

It was a software error, a glitch, a [problem](#) in the way I clicked with the mouse thing or the way I hit the keyboard, or [something](#), who knows? And by the third time? Who cares. I lost, last time the software "blew up," I lost, maybe part of a [horoscope](#) I'd written, not that much as I tend to save every time I walk away from the keyboard or when I hit a natural stopping point. Like after every (full stop). One time, I lost a whole article, but I was able to recreate the text fairly well. One time I lost almost a month's worth of accounting material.

I've gotten a little more careful and what with automated backup utilities, it's almost fool-proof. Never underestimate the [arrogance](#) of the [fool](#), though, and never assume that something foolproof is really foolproof. We keep coming up with better and better idiots.

That's the lesson, the fail-safe, the automated backup, the foolproof (something) that isn't so? Good chance you'll hit it this week. The real question is how you [choose](#) to react.



[Taurus](#): I was listening to some local musician, probably categorized as "country and western," which begs a joke I'll

avoid. As I was [listening](#) to the song, I had to wonder, it was story, a tale, about a sad, sad situation. And what I was wondering? Just how was that singer singing with his tongue firmly planted in his cheek? It had to be tongue in cheek, right? No one would really stand for that kind of action and reaction, not what was described in that song, no, no real person would tolerate that kind of behavior.

So I had to wonder, whether this was a humorous -- and sad -- song, or was is just a funny song, with sad frame around it? Was the singer genuinely sad or was it really that bad? There comes a moment in the song, and it's either laugh or cry. To this day, me, I'm vastly amused by the song, or a similar kind of song because I see that it's over-the-top, hyperbole, if you will, and I will, and as such?

It's got to be humor. No one can sing a song that sad for that long, and really believe all that bad stuff happening. Got to be humor. But then, that's also the way I'm wired, and that's how I see it. So we've got a situation, much like that song, and you're [unsure](#) of how to handle it. Appear straight-faced, but, in an allegorical way? Keep your Taurus tongue firmly planted in your cheek.



II *Gemini*

Gemini: The [inter-web](#) is a pretty cool way to waste time. Or useful [research](#), although, on some days, I'm not sure I can tell the difference. Research, wasting hours looking up names, places, [translations](#), apocrypha, just about every little fact, real or imagined, it's out there.

Someone has a website, or a portion of a website, dedicated to -- insert something [here](#). List me as a fan. Regrettably, it's made it impossible to run trivia questions for door prizes here because answers, or purported answers, are as easy as typing the question.

Sort of takes the fun out of it, and if it's not fun, then I'm not interested. However, that's a cautionary tale in two parts for my [Gemini](#) friends.

One: if it's not fun? Then maybe you're not as interested as you thought (Aquarius influence).

Two: research or procrastination? (Aquarius influence). You get to decide, but I'd be a little careful about research that winds up being more like a curious romp on the inter-tubes rather than an actual fact-finding mission. Which it was, when you started.



[Cancer](#): There's a [Venus ingress](#) this week, but other than that? Not a lot of real activity. Hot Mars is behind in airy Gemini while the Sun is roasting along in Leo. Doesn't leave a lot left over for the gentle Cancer influences. But that's where we start.

It's a matter of utilizing those influences, finding the right avenue to let that planet (Sun's a star, so it could be argued starry) influence work for you.

Stuck.

In.

The.

Middle.

You're stuck in [between](#) two objects that are roasting away in their comparative locations. Here in [Cancer](#)? Cool as can be. I was out, by the side of a lake, the other afternoon,

astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts

just sweating and moaning about the [local heat](#). I imagine Cancer is kind of like that, only, you don't have to complain. Focus your attention outside of your current location. Drawing your attention away from the present surrounding helps you escape that heat which seems to be on either side.

All Rights Reserved

[copyright](#) (c) 2008, 2009 [Kramer Wetzel](#), for [astrofish.net](#)

**astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts**

For the week starting: 8/6/2009

"Daffodils begin to [peer](#),
With heigh! The doxy, over dale."
Shakespeare's *The [Winter's Tale](#)* [IV.ii.1]

As noted in the [travel and appearances](#) schedule, I will not be in Austin for the August 22-23 event. Scheduling conflict with [El Paso](#), and the guest [shot](#) on [Wife Swap](#) - haven't mastered being in two places at once. However, [other arrangements can be made](#). Questions are always free, some answers require a [cash](#) deposit. The [e-mail line](#) is always on, "31" (24 and 7).



[Leo](#): [Leo](#), no, really, Leo really is the best. Taller, stronger, louder, more ferocious, more kind, more generous. Yeah, [especially more generous](#). Only, unless you're [sending money](#) to [me](#)? Stop with generosity. I mean, I can use the cash, but this isn't about [me](#). It's about you. Well, to be sure, I mean, honestly, yeah, I could use a little [extra money](#).

But this isn't about me, a non-Leo. This is about you, a Leo. **The** Leo, actually. Not *a* Leo. The Leo. All about you. And money. So unless you're ordering something from me, trying to arrange a reading with me, or anything like [that](#)? Maybe just want to drop a dollar in the old tip jar? Unless you're doing that, I'd like to suggest that you hold off.

Put that over-the-top Leo generosity to rest for a few [days](#). No need to impress ungrateful charlatans. Those people who miss it? Let them just miss it. Their loss. Don't make it your loss, too, by throwing dollars at a [problem](#) that money just can't solve. I realize that might seem stupid to some, but there are some issues that can't be addressed by dollars.

ASTROFISH.NET: Like a **Mullet** -- [business](#) in the [front](#), [party](#) in the [rear](#).



Virgo: There was an inter-web [picture thing circulating](#), hit my [virtual mail box](#) a few days ago. [Don't](#) ask as I didn't keep it, and I won't forward it. It was a picture of mother bird with one of her feet was on one baby bird's head while that mother bird was feeding another baby bird. The caption? "How to tell you're mom's favorite." I sent it along to my sister, more as a joke than anything else. The moment she opened her email, she called me, she's a Gemini like that?

"See?" she exclaimed, "I always knew your were the favorite child!" Immediately on the defensive, I was busy pointing out to her that I sent her the image and that was because I always felt like she was the favorite child. Depends on which one of us you talk, but the other one always got the better treatment. Which isn't exactly true, as our parental unit strove to keep everything equal.

That doesn't stop the point, how each of us thought it was the other who had the coveted position and enviable attention. Two halves of the same side. Which is what this is all about. Consider the point of perspective when you start bemoaning the fate of [Virgo](#). [The other half, the other side](#), the other one? They have it better -- right now -- or so it seems.

ASTROFISH.NET: Now with [more protein in every bite!!!](#)



Libra: I was [describing](#) a [situation](#) to a friend, and her response? "Oh, I'd like to be a fly in the wall when that happens!" Which is the perfect response to Libra's

questions. Instead of trying to second guess a situation, instead of trying to manipulate the energy around you to get this all to work out okay? Why not just sit back and enjoy the show?

There comes a time when no action is preferable to action. And there also comes a time when enough players are on the field, all you have to do is stay out of the way. It's not a challenge. It's not action that directly requires your hand in it. All that is going to be necessary, for your Libra self to enjoy the next few days? Watch.

Watch as the players (non-Libra) get worked up, worked over, worked out. Looks like a lot of work. Tremendous amount of effort being [expended](#). Lots of coming and going, and "He said she said," and "she said he said she said" [activity](#). Look. Listen. Wait. Better off? Be amused.

The secret behind *The Secret* [Click Here!](#)



Scorpio: Tangents, it's all about [tangents](#). Tangents are angles, something comes at your sideways, or, better yet, you get a weird notion and that pushes you off sideways. It's not direct. Scorpio likes direct. Scorpio likes all the facts that can be discerned. My fine Scorpio friends like to dig for all the data available, maybe get something extra on the side and then plot and plan a carefully executed action.

Given what's happening, [skyward](#), down here, on the planet? It's all about tangents in [Scorpio](#) land. You get a great idea, it leads to another idea. The plan needs to be modified. Then it hits, the tangential point, that's the great idea. Never mind what we started with. See how this works? It's like a pool hustler, working a table. Now, the question is, are you the one banking the shots? Are you the one being hustled? Or are you, in good Scorpio fashion, the

hustler? I'd usually bet money on you, but I'm not sure, can you bounce off that sideways and land on your feet?



SAGITTARIUS

Sagittarius: I've been trying to cut back on [caffeine](#) these days. To that [end](#), I've switched to couple of different kinds of [herbal tea](#). I grabbed one package of tea, and I wanted to make sure it was caffeine free, so I had to head in the other room to find some [reading glasses](#), because the reading glasses, like tea and coffee, come in different strengths, and I needed the stronger ones to read the fine print on the tea package.

Stay with me here, [the glasses](#) are a result of looking at a computer's screen for too long, and by the time I got around to the [Sagittarius](#) scope, I was tired, my eyes were tired, and I've been trying to cut back on the dosage of caffeine I get each day. There are a myriad of obstacles listed, the coffee, the tea, the stupid tea's packaging, the computer's screen, the other room where the stronger reading glasses were located, just one item right after another.

Mars is frying along in [Gemini](#). There will be obstacles. How serious? Some days, the easiest answer is to just skip the decaf and get a regular cup of [coffee](#).



CAPRICORN

Capricorn: It's come [this](#), has it? I was looking at [Mars](#) in [Gemini](#), visible as a "morning star" this week, and I was wondering about [Capricorn](#). [Leo](#) is a fixed sign, where the Sun's at now. Venus is past her critical degree with Capricorn, in [Cancer](#). Leaves a little bit of nothing going on.

Not entirely, because what I was doing? Mucking around with the icons on the computer's desktop. Arranging them in a more artful and pleasing, yet oddly enough, more productive array. Just an idea I had. Like Capricorn, great idea.

If you just stop and take a little time to make the steps more suitable then, you can get your work done quicker, right? Only, and I realized this too late to save me, but it's never too late to save a Capricorn: don't spend too much time creating shortcuts to save you time wherein the shortcut takes longer to create than the time you would save if you just acted instead of mucked about with making it better by making it shorter.

Sometimes, the easiest way to get through this is to just follow that straight path right through the middle.



AQUARIUS

Aquarius: "It is the client's responsibility to insure that proper paperwork is on file before getting a reading." I had to modify the original lettering to fit my fine print/Terms of Service/EULA better. And it does. I've been billed and promoted in a number of different ways. How astrology works, my version, anyway, is that I start with a birthday. Have to have a place to start.

Start at the beginning, seems to work best. Now there's a Full Moon* with its concomitant fallout and associated agitations.

Start at the beginning. Don't try and jump in mid-stream and just sail forward from that midway point, no, not going to work. You might have to halt what the project is, but you'll find, in time, I was right: it's better (faster, smoother, more efficient) to start at the beginning rather than trying

**astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts**

improvise from some kind of a halfway point. Tempting as it may be to just pick up and pitch in with where everyone is at this moment?

Start at the beginning. Thank me next [week](#), when you realize that saved you a lot of time and maybe a costly mistake or two.

A horizontal banner advertisement for Mighty Leaf tea. On the left, the text reads "Mighty Leaf. Tea Drinkers Rave 'Best Tea Ever'". In the center, there is a circular graphic with the text "Overall Rating 5 out of 5" and five green leaf icons. On the right, there is a small image of a tea bag and a red button with the text "SHOP NOW".

www.MightyLeaf.com

Ads by Google



[Pisces](#): "We stopped to look at the menu at this one place?" Buddy of mine, was describing a recent [trip](#) to the [big city](#). "The prices? We looked at this menu, and I was sure that the prices were, like page numbers." This one buddy, I can never tell, is he really that rustic, or does he just play a part? Like a role, he's adjusted to, and it's easy for him to act like raw, unlettered and untutored -- possibly unprincipled -- individual.

I'm comfortable with him whether it's an act or for real. Some days, [Pisces](#) and all, I'm not sure if he knows the difference. Like method acting, only, he's not acting, it's for real. So I don't know if he really believed that comment about the page numbers and prices, or not. But it was a trip to the big city, and that is what I would expect.

That city? Sky-high prices. His tastes? Commiserate with that kind of pricing, and to be fair the way those menus are laid out? Could very easily be page numbers. But it was prices, and how to take [this](#)? It's either humor, or, it's not. There's a [Pisces](#) element that is really pushing towards the top, demanding attention The problem being, is this a joke? Or is it a serious issue? Like me and my humorous friend,

astrofish.net

I'm not sure whether you should take the situation seriously. Although, it might require some serious Pisces attention.



Aries: I [worked](#) with one Aries girl, and we worked out a [plan](#) that saved her under the dire influence of Mars in [Gemini](#). Whenever she felt like calling her ex-husband and either getting back together or yelling at him, she would write me an [email](#) instead. Because she felt both/all three, several times. This was several years ago, the last time Mars was in Gemini. Saved a lot of trouble for her, and eventually I was able to bill her for my time.

Costly mistakes were avoided by communicating with a third party rather than the object of the Aries ire. Or object of the Aries [attention](#). Lust. Love. Hate. One of those. Not that the feeling are that far apart, either. That prevented the darling Aries lass from getting hooked up again with an ex who would then turn the recurrent fling into a major firestorm of [epic](#) proportions because that's what happens with a passionate Aries. All I did was provide a valuable, impartial (not that impartial, mind you, I *like* Aries) place to vent, listen, rant, rave and otherwise prevent an unfortunate recurrence of romance.

It looks like a good idea at first, my excellent Aries friend. An that's where it stops. Just because it looks like a good idea, at first, that doesn't mean you should pursue this whole-heartedly. It's that first communication, one where you're mad then sad, then happy again? It's that pesky Mars in Gemini doing it to you.



Taurus: I like art museums. Modern Art art museums, as well as various flavors of American, Pan-American, North American, and Western American art are also exciting. I've toured many museums, from the classics in France and Italy, to the moderns on each of the American coasts as well as the local stuff. To this day, one of the museum collections I saw that had an impact on me and my world view? It was "Mexican Calendar Art, 1930 - Present." Title might be a little off, but I'm sure I got the essence of the display right.

Consider though, that I am male, and there will be something of a prurient element in that calendar art. Sometimes it wasn't too overt, but it always seemed to be there. Might be part of the whimsical and disposable nature of the art, used for a monthly calendar, maybe a yearly image, and then tossed. Kind of like horoscopes, huh. This isn't about that, though, don't know why you let me get sidetracked.

I've been to some museums, seen the house collection and remained remarkably uninspired. That will happen from time to time, there will be a museum, or a traveling exhibit, something, and it doesn't do a lot for me. I fail to have an "art experience." Doesn't ring my bell, doesn't leave me profoundly sad, or happy, or changed in any way, other than I regretted the price of admission and the fact that it's an hour or two I'll never have again.

It's about making the effort, and when it does happen, when you hit that museum experience that doesn't seem to do it for you? Consider, too, that you've made a good faith effort to be enlightened, ennobled, and so forth, and that sometimes, like the rest of the week, that's the way it goes.

Show up. See what happens. It could turn out to be great if you lower your expectations.



II *Gemini*

[Gemini](#): "I've dated four Left-Handed Libra guys. [Never](#) again!"

Okay. Got that [message](#) loud and clear. It was a question about signs, and then, when that little [Gemini](#) spouted that, I could easily read the symbolism. Didn't even have to do her chart.

There will be a fifth (and sixth) Left Handed [Libra](#) guy along. Sure as can be. The question is, did the Gemini learn to leave them alone? Which of course, begs a question about what your Gemini lesson is, and whether you've learned not to touch the hot plate. Or the left-handed Libra guy.



69 CANCER

[Cancer](#): I [walked](#) into a [coffee shop](#). Could be a bar, could be a restaurant. Could be a bakery, for all I care. In my example, when this happened, it was a coffee shop. The [counter](#) help [nodded](#) at me and passed a cup, with my name on it, to the girl at the coffee making machine. She just nodded at me. I mean, this was early on a summer's morn, so it's not like I had to be greeted otherwise. In their own way, that crew was doing exactly what they were supposed to do. Before any money changed hands, I was being tended to.

However, there wasn't like humanity in that morning's transactions. I didn't feel like I was welcomed. More like, "Oh look, here's Mr. 'skinny double dry short cap' for

breakfast again." Which wasn't the case at all, just that I looked a little surly. [Surly](#) to bed, and you know the rest? And they were merely reacting to my appearance, not what was warmly going through my brain.

The expected salutations and felicitations weren't there. They might have been, if you [pause and consider](#) that my drink was expertly prepared and happily served. But I didn't get the cheery "hello!" As a Cancer, you walk in and expect a certain degree of salutations and warm greetings. Doesn't happen. But you do get the required coffee kick start. What part of the expectations aren't met?

All Rights Reserved

[copyright](#) (c) 2008, 2009 [Kramer Wetzel](#), for [astrofish.net](#)

**astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts**

For the week starting: 8/13/2009

"I have said too much unto a heart of stone."

Shakespeare's *12th Night* [III.iv.203]

Opening quote, fits with the way the moon's phase feels.

[But what does it mean? Read on.](#)

As noted in the [travel and appearances](#) schedule, I will not be in Austin for the August 22-23 event.

Scheduling conflict with El Paso, and the guest shot on [Wife Swap](#) - haven't mastered being in two places at once; other arrangements can be [made](#).



[Leo](#): [Hurricane](#) seasons starts at the end June, but it's usually late [July](#), or even [August](#) before the [Gulf of Mexico](#) gets [churned](#) up. It varies from year to year, as the severity of the hurricane [season](#). Yet there I was, one afternoon, in a coffee shop, looking at the TV monitor, watching as an intrepid reporter was buffeted about by gale-force winds. Then I watched, at a restaurant, while a similar reporter was blown about by gale-force winds. That evening, on a neighbor's cable TV, I watched as yet another reporter was reporting about the effects of gale-force winds. Nothing changed.

I couldn't do a thing to change the course of that natural event, other than hope that it hooked up here to leave some water behind. We could use a little rain. Doubt that will happen. But there I was, stuck, watching it on TV, a natural disaster of possibly [epic](#) proportions, unfolding. Because there were reporters and electricity and video feeds coming from the very eye of the storm, I doubt it was all that serious. But I couldn't stop watching. Which is the problem, there's nothing we can do in Leo land, but if we don't budge, we'll just sit here and watch that hurricane all day and all night. While nothing happens. Or while there's nothing we can do about it. That one [hurricane](#)? Got a few clouds. That was it. [Guess](#) we're too far from the coast.

Weekly Video ([Monday](#), more or [less](#)) is [here](#).



Virgo: Just a tip. [Sort of applies](#). Not that I have any personal experience with either, but I'm just suggesting, as an idea, a concept? There's Freddie Mercury's old band, Queen, and one of the rock'n'roll greats? "[Fat-bottomed Girls](#)," and as an aside? A local barroom brawler and [crooner](#) did a sophomore cover of that tune, equal if not better than the original. However, let's go back to the original and its title. Good song, rock classic, and it's good one to use for setting the mood. Yeah, like two guys, in a bass boat? Towing the boat to the lake? Home from the lake? Yeah, a couple of guys, we can rock out to that song.

Either version, original or the local flavor one. However, that's also something wherein what we're doing is just fine, as long as [wives](#) and girlfriends aren't around. The WAGs don't take kindly to our version of the song, or the emphasis placed in certain parts. Not that it matters, and not that it applies, or doesn't apply, to said WAGs, it's just the thought. Fit the song to the deed, and fit the deed to the song. We're much better off with another local favorite, later, when we're home, we can put on other music. Time and place. Fit the actions to the music.

[And the](#) other way around, too.

ASTROFISH.NET: Coffee [consistently](#) good!



LIBRA

Libra: My over-all "[weirdness quotient](#)" isn't what it used to be. [Although](#) I always thought I was perfectly normal, especially in towns like Austin and San Antonio, as I [traversed](#) Texas, I found that I did stick out in other places.

Won't even mention how I look in California or the East Coast. The question isn't about my weirdness quotient, though, it's about your Libra "weirdness quotient."

Where do you stand with that? On the *south side*, either [San Antonio](#) or [Austin](#), I didn't stand out. At all. Summertime wear, like shorts and sandals, that doesn't evoke a single raised eyebrow. My choice in shirts and shirt styles did garner an observation from one of my friends, and an octogenarian, but she was the only one who's ever noted anything. So weirdness and weirdness quotient arises with location, gender, and age. Plus a whole host of other factors, I'm sure, like a simple cultural bias. But that's not what this is about.

Where does your own, internal "weirdness factor" factor in? And is it time to ramp up that quotient by just a degree or two? Maybe so. It's the long, hot summer days in [South Texas](#). Warm it up with your strangeness, although, I would tend, as a Libra, to make the change have something to do with attire. Dressing differently? Trying to raise the bar on what some people call strange? Make your Libra self stand out with statement. Be aware, though, of the weirdness quotient in your [neighborhood](#), don't want to go too far.



Scorpio: Ever [watch](#) a well-oiled (people) machine work? I was thinking about certain [Starbucks](#), and when it was/is operating at peak efficiency. There is a greeter/retail person, two cashiers, then three people manning the machine that makes the espresso. Cups with labels come at them, and the little workers are busy pouring, frothing, blending, concocting and doing whatever it is that they all do back there.

On a slower day, the order taker will take my money then

ask me what's up with (insert sign here), then make the drink, early mornings is [Cappuccino](#) and mid-day is ice tea or [iced-espresso](#). But it's that rush hour efficiency I was thinking about. All the little wheels moving, all the pieces of the puzzle fitting together like it should, the wheels of commerce rolling right along. Capitalism at its finest, I'd like to think.

Now, into that well-oiled set of humanity working and producing? Imagine, here we are in Scorpio's chart, then there' a tourist, in line, in front of you. Me. Anyway, the tourist stops, pauses, looks at the big menu board with it's variety of choices, and goes, "I'm not sure what I want." You can hear the machine begin to slow down. You can hear the wheels grinding to a halt. All of a sudden, seven people feel the rhythm interrupted. Six workers, and me. You. Two messages: one, if you're ordering? Plan ahead and be ready to say, "Grande Half Caf Mocha Blueberry Nonfat with lo-cal whip." Got it? Work it out before you get to the head of the line. Two? If you're behind that person? Make a polite suggestion. "Ask for a large cup of coffee."

The secret behind *The Secret* [Click Here!](#)



SAGITTARIUS

[Sagittarius](#): Fishing in August is a real drain on luck. A day fishing in August can be supremely lucky, with a lot time spent catching fish, or it can be really frustrating with no time spent catching anything. To some, that would be daunting. To me, after all, I am a [Fishing Guide to the Stars](#), any day spent fishing is better than just about any other activity. Or inactivity, sort of depends. It's about perceptions and goals.

What's the real target? When I'm headed out on the lake to fish, I'm there for relaxation and enjoyment, perhaps some camaraderie, perhaps some solitude. Fish? Purely a

astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts

secondary objective. Time on a boat, time in the water, time on the water, time spent messing around with fishing tackle, time spent casting, talking, joking, all of that is important to the experience. The real amount of time spent catching fish? Sort a distant fractional portion of the trip, now isn't it?

I'm headed out to [fish](#) in the next couple of days. I have no intentions of catching fish. That's just a little bonus, kind of a perk on top of the trip. Stick to what the real objectives are, and you'll find, I'll find, our [Sagittarius](#) selves won't be let down.

- 1 [Your Free 2010 Horoscope](#)** A Free guide far better than any Astrology report. It's Amazing.
[Life-Answers.com](#)
- 2 [Match.com® Official Site](#)** Someone You Can Love is Nearby. Browse Profiles and Pics for Free!
[www.Match.com](#)

Ads by Google

 ASTROFISH.NET



CAPRICORN

[Capricorn](#): I've collected a lot "[stuff](#)" over the years. Working in the circles that I've worked, my odds and ends might be a little different from some people. I've got a set of runes carved out of some rare and exotic ebony wood. Or zebra wood. Or maybe it was pine painted to look exotic. Whatever it was, it worked. I would toy with the runes as a system of divination for a little while, and eventually, I just left them in their bag, on a shelf. Just, like I said, an odd tool that I collected, along the way. I don't know much about the runes, not really. It's not my area of specialization.

However, as a someone who [works](#) with [symbols](#) and such, it was an important tool for me to be aware of. That, and the runes I got? Really cool looking, all burnished wood and all. **That.** *And all that.* Just, some items defy description. I'm not a big fan of the runes, and I find some of the material a little suspect. That doesn't stop me from being fascinated with the tools of the trade. And if I need a way to jog open a closed mental portal? I can always consult the runes. Shake them up, pull a couple of them out, see what the wood chips say. Well they don't [say](#) anything, but I can see what can be read into the various symbols.

It's all about reaching for a different tool. Me? I don't ever really use that tool, but I do have one, a set of runes, just in case, and secondarily? I've made an effort to expand my horizon. While I tend to prefer to read the [night's sky](#), [astrology](#), that doesn't mean that it's the right tool for everyone. What [tools](#) haven't you thought about using?

 ASTROFISH.NET



AQUARIUS

Aquarius: I took a [plunge](#) when I was working on your horoscope. Free-fall. No net. No reserve. No back-up. [If I fail](#)? I miss by a wide margin and this really doesn't [work](#). And at this point that's the message. Take the plunge, go

without a safety back-up. Try it without hope or succor, and jump. [Might as well jump.](#)

Hope this (Aquarius) parachute opens. It will. Of that I am sure. Mostly sure. But like me, in as much as I'm saying, "Go ahead and do it," there's the single caution, and I know I will hear (more likely read) from that one Aquarius who fails. 99 soar, one drops like a stone, guess who'll get blamed for that? I will. I'll take it, too, because the other 99 are flying! [Or something.](#) I was doing this horoscope without a back-up, no warnings, no room for margin or error. Try it some time. Works well. I mean, just go ahead and jump. Might as well jump.

The secret behind *The Secret* [Click Here!](#)



[Pisces](#): One of the most egregious errors I've encountered, and believe me, I've seen some mistakes, made some, but that's not important now, no, one of the biggest [mistakes](#) was getting what was wanted.

There's a stated goal, an aspiration, something devoutly sought after. That's good. Getting it? Especially when there is no chance in (whasotever) of getting it? All right, so the rules of the game are understood, right? Enough questions already? Good. There's a stated Pisces desire, a goal, and what's worse? What if it were to happen?

What if you were to get just exactly what you were wishing for? How would that work out? I'm not saying it will happen, but in one form, or another, perhaps an ancillary wish? That's what's happening.



Aries: Northeast Texas, like, close to the corners of Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma and Texas? That's a tail-end part of the "tornado belt." Doesn't get that kind of action as often as other parts of the country, but they do get a share of twisters. Thinking about that because I thought I saw one, on the news. Might have been in a paper, or online, who knows? None of my news sources are particularly reliable.

I thought I saw mention of funnel cloud in that area. Better yet, that meant rain, The big, "God is speaking to me tonight" kind of thunderstorm. The earth shakes. There's a pyrotechnic display without parallel. Good stuff. High winds, hot dust, cool, refreshing rain when it finally starts? And that soothing rain, starts with big, wind-blown droplets that sting like gravel, but eventually, as the front of the front moves through? It all settles down. Steady, thirst-quenching rain. Let me explain -- we got stormy Aries weather.

Once the front gets blown through? There's something refreshing, like that steady rain, starts early next week.



Taurus: I've spent so much time in Texas, crisscrossed the state several times a year for longer than I care to recall, so I think I know a thing or two about several destinations. Lived up and down the corridor as defined by a single sliver of interstate highway. East to West, North to South, been all over. Been every where. Man. I should write a guide book of some kind, about all the off-beat, weird and just plain

strange places that I've been. Good food, good sights, good fishing. But there's the conundrum, too, because anytime I make a good location, [a good place known](#), seems like it gets all popular and then there's an influx of undesirable tourist-types, and then the place goes to heck in a hand-basket.

Which is not a desirable outcome. So some places I tend to keep secret. This is about what to [broadcast](#) and for that matter, what not to broadcast. Some things in the Taurus life should be left well enough alone. I'm not saying that you shouldn't confide in a few, close friends. I'm just suggesting that you limit the broadcast. Narrow-cast rather broadcast, if only for the next few days. Might save yourself, and better yet, might save a favorite spot from being discovered.

The secret behind *The Secret* [Click Here!](#)



[Gemini](#): "Return to the [scene](#) of the crime." That is the key phrase that I teased out of this week's planet mess. It's not really a [mess](#), but there's point that needs to be revisited. With the marvelous inter-web thing, it's possible to visit certain locations, in a virtual state. Perhaps that's the best way to "return to the [scene](#) of the crime." It's about going over a past mistake, and seeing what can be done differently when presented with the same problem.

Or better yet, be more adaptable and embrace the Gemini-like [behavior](#). When presented with an eerily familiar set of circumstances, like a previous problem, only different? Then try a new approach. The hammer might have worked one time but if you look, that Gemini hammer shattered a lot of what you were working on just to get what you wanted accomplished. Therefore, after you revisit the problem and solution, maybe you could try a different tactic, employ a

different tool, maybe not try to use force, when a little cajoling will work much better.



Cancer: [Coffee](#) can't cure everything. Can't fix problems that seem to [broken](#) beyond repair. But [coffee](#) can help. This is where an idea, a symbol, a [concept](#) can be stretched, teased and then used, to help make the Cancer (Moon Child's) life better. What [I'm all about](#), making life in Cancer good.

The solution? [Coffee](#).

I'm not saying it has to be "coffee" [coffee](#), more than one person I know can't stand the taste of coffee. Then, too, it's less about the caffeine in [coffee](#), and it's more about what it can represent. [Coffee](#) break? Or, in some cultures? [Tea](#) time? Either one works. As a Cancer, you're ready for [a break](#). In the coming few days, it will help immensely if you can schedule a coffee break. Tea time. Whatever kind of moment when you pause, refresh yourself and gain much needed time to ponder a position that you've assumed.

Coffee break works for me, but I've been in the habit of an afternoon break for a coffee beverage for a long time. [Iced espresso](#), a little double shot of coffee juice on the rocks, in the middle of a [hot](#) summer's day? That works. Or a tall, sweaty glass of ice tea, that too, works. Adjust as you need to, but work in some extra time for a break like that, whatever the excuse, and see if that doesn't find you with much-needed fresh perspective on solving that dilemma you're facing.

The original point and question. *Take a break.*

All Rights Reserved

[copyright](#) (c) 2008, 2009 [Kramer Wetzell](#), for [astrofish.net](#)

[astrofish.net](#)

astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts

For the week starting: 8/20/2009

"And thou a natural coward without instinct"

[Prince Hal](#) in [Shakespeare's Henry IV, Part 1](#) [II.iv.470]

Change is underfoot. Don't [follow](#) Sir John Oldcastle (Falstaff).

Questions are always free, some answers require a cash deposit. The e-mail [line](#) is always on, "31" (24 and 7).

 **ASTROFISH.NET**



[Leo](#): I was [traveling](#) some [place](#). Probably a commuter flight, probably not more than half an hour of [air](#) time, but this really doesn't matter. This is about the flight attendant. "You were asleep so I didn't get a drink order, would you like anything to drink?" From years of travel, I've grown accustomed to napping through the safety instructions as the plane taxis down the runway to being fully asleep when the jet lifts off.

It's part of my "[Sagittarius](#), I like to [travel](#)" skill set. What I thought was so sweet of that one attendant, in this day and age, to ask if I wanted something after I woke from my catnap. I glanced at her name tag, not staring at her chest. Underneath the tag, there was a second appellation: *trainee*. How nice. Which also explains why she was extra nice to me. I'm just an irascible old fart, really. I politely demurred the proffered request, despite my sleepy nature. When you're awakened, gently, not gently, however it works? Try and be nice. Like a kitten, an apt example, for a Leo, the Leo, to act like. Like me, politely demur. Best way [to work](#) this week's energy, I'm [telling you](#).

 **ASTROFISH.NET**



Virgo: Beethoven's Symphony #5, *Allegro Con Brio*. Sets a [tone](#). Sets a very specific [tone](#), and the opening refrain? Hear the leitmotif and I'm sure you'll recognize the tune. It's about starting over and then, just as you get all excited? Slowing it down.

I could be [completely](#) full of organic male bovine by-product.

Or, maybe, give me a chance [here](#), I might be onto something. Hard to get all up and classical in my location, down at the southern tip of Texas. Hard to guess I might be onto a theme that would apply to Virgo at this time, but yeah, I kept seeing that small piece from the that particular symphony play a role in the coming week. Weeks, as there's a ten to fourteen day theme here. Hear.

ASTROFISH.NET: Next Week! [Full-Frontal](#) Astrology!

 ASTROFISH.NET



LIBRA

Libra: I was looking at a map of [Florida](#), and from what I could [tell](#), most of Florida is, like, about twenty feet in elevation. That would be twenty feet above sea level. On one weather [website](#), I was noticing that storm surge for a hurricane was expected to be 9-12 feet. That means, if I'm doing this right, half of that state would be flooded. One big wave all it takes.

Reminded me of a time I was sitting in a shoreline place, having some fresh seafood, Texas coastline. "You're hurricane proof here, aren't you?" I asked the waiter. He looked at me with that, "I can't believe you're asking me" look. "We're four feet about sea level." That's all he said.

There's an [approaching squall line](#), you can see it over the water, like, in that seaside place -- or on the map. Tracking a hurricane? Maybe that. I live just a hundred miles north of

the hurricane zone, high ground, safe place. The [heavy weather](#) doesn't threaten me. But as I was looking at that Florida map and then, the Libra planetary arrangement, I was thinking, for my Libra friends, "Isn't it time you moved to higher ground?" Easiest way to [weather](#) the approaching squall line.



[Scorpio](#): Ever see someone do [something](#), just to irritate you? It's as if they've taken a page from the [notebook](#) on how to effectively anger Scorpio, right, and then put that idea into motion. Might not be big things, could be a whole series of small events, too. Red light after red light? Speed limits, cops, *editorial writers*, [horoscope authors](#), any number of folks, and any number of sources of material that crosses the Scorpio purview in the next couple of days? Pisses you off.

No one knows better than me that an irritable Scorpio is not a good thing.

Not at all. And while I can't fix that, I can do something about you. I can warn you. No one, not in his or her [right](#) mind, no one would ever try and piss off a Scorpio. Not on purpose. Therefore, look at the situations. Look at the people. I'm not saying that everyone is innocent, no, that's hardly the case, but as you watch events and behaviors stack up against you? You have to wonder if they really are doing this just to irritate you. Or is it something a little deeper?

All that Aquarius stuff is going to grate on the already slightly frayed Scorpio nerves. Don't let it get you down. Sometimes, I know you'll find this hard to believe, but sometimes? A coincidence is just that: coincidence.



[Sagittarius](#): In front of the county [courthouse](#) in downtown San Antonio, there's a [historical marker](#) that notes the first settlers in the area were from the Canary Islands. North of San Antonio, there's a swath of land that was settled in a frankly German terms, with names that sound like they come from the old country. New Braunfels and Fredrickburg are two names that come to mind. There were Irish and Scottish defenders at the Alamo.

The hint, for [Sagittarius](#), is that this is a giant melting pot with a plethora of ethnic backgrounds. "Native" can mean a lot of different things. However, native is also the sanest and safest approach to the next week. Doesn't matter much what the natives are doing, when you're in a particular locale? Imitate the natives. Blend in, fit in, and [partake](#) as if you were on your own home grounds. Go native, whatever that means.

ASTROFISH.NET: Next Week! [Full-Frontal](#) Astrology!



[Capricorn](#): I was driving a friend's car to pick her up at work. I had to cut through a large parking lot, two actually, and each lot was virtually empty. It was after quitting time, if I recall rightly. Which I might not but that's not the point. I did a slalom course, like a tiny parking lot racer cutting between the pylons, only, I was just avoiding the speed bumps. In doing so, I crossed various parking lines, violated a few parking spaces, and I moved slow.

Moved slowly. Which was the point of the speed bumps. I just didn't go over the bumps, I went around them. I'd like to think I was just [scrubbing](#) the sides of the tires to improve traction, and what I was doing was avoiding the undercarriage damage by working the little car's suspension in another way.

It's not really a sports car, but with my [sunglasses](#), I felt sporty, if only for that dash, which was more of a saunter, through the parking lot. I cleverly avoided the speed bumps. Required a little more work on my part. Which is what this about. Avoiding the problems? Might take a little more work, but I'd try and figure a slalom course for the [Capricorn](#) -- navigate *around* the speed bumps up ahead.



AQUARIUS

Aquarius: Not that I'm [allowed](#) to make a judgement call about this, not me, but there's a sense that there's a certain element of procrastination running around in the [Aquarius](#) astrology chart. I'm, this is [a stated fact](#), pretty much in the school of thought, that if I can put it off until next week? I will.

Why bother doing today what can be easily accomplished a (much) later date? Don't worry about the rising water, it's always possible to drain the swamp next week, right? That's my thinking, anyway, never mind the alligators. Should've thought of that last week? I did. And I summarily dismissed the thought.

While procrastination is a way of life for me? I'm not suggesting that you adopt this as a lifestyle choice for Aquarius. Well, maybe procrastination is a good lifestyle choice, but maybe, not right now?



Pisces: There's a certain amount of [routine maintenance](#) that's required to keep Pisces running as a clean, [lean](#) machine. Some kind of regular work I was thinking less of workout and more along the lines of regular check-up. Only,

that sounds medical, and that's not really the issue not the way I see it.

"So it's not physical, and it's not mental, then what does that leave?" The ever smart Pisces response. I wasn't anticipating that. I can't pin it down, what the issue is, not across the board for all Pisces.

What I can nail down, for sure? There's an issue. Needs a trifle bit of regular work. Could be as simple as a drop of oil on a pocketknife's hinge. Or, like always a fishing metaphor: there's a brand of fishing reel I tend to favor and it's relatively easy to disassemble one of those reels. One of my reels was making a strange noise. I pulled it apart, couldn't see anything wrong, put it back together.

Fixed. Even though it wasn't broken. Weird noise was gone, too. *Routine maintenance, all it takes this week.*

ASTROFISH.NET: Next Week! [Full-Frontal](#) Astrology!



[Aries](#): The sun sets and Jupiter [rises](#). [Venus](#) and Mars are [morning](#) stars. The moon reaches the [halfway](#) mark as of next week. And [Aries](#)? As your planet -- Mr. Mars -- shifts from Gemini to Cancer -- and opposes Pluto -- there's a sense of urgent urgency in Aries. Here's the big secret: there is no urgency.

There's nothing that has to be dealt with this minute, right away, have to do this at this very moment. It just feels that way. Doesn't mean that it's really a big deal. In fact, in the course of the next few years, we'll all see this again and again, about every two years for the next dozen years. However, that doesn't stop you from rushing headlong, possibly flinging yourself into the gaping maws of a

perceived problem, and shouting, "Now! Now!"

Stop. Nothing's that urgent. It might appear that way, in the next few days, and next week? Monday? Might seem like it is terribly important.

Stop. Nothing has to be done right away. It might seem that way, but just pause for a breather. Take a pill.

Stop. A well-timed pause can save you years of heartache and headache.



Taurus: There comes a time, happening in [Taurus](#) right now, anyway, there comes time when the easiest way to get your message across is to repeat it three times. It's simple, really, the [message](#) you've got to convey is clear and concise -- obfuscation isn't an issue. That's not the point. The problem is that no seems to be listening, or, for that matter, hearing your clear and concise point.

It's not that the message isn't clear, it's not that there is anything confusing, it's just the other party doesn't seem to get what you're saying. Hence the need to repeat the message three times.

This gets annoying, at first. But since you've now read about this issue, the need to repeat the message three times? Now you realize that the problem really isn't your fine Taurus self, but the other party, the listening party who isn't listening clearly? Now that you've got that through your mind, you understand that all you have to do is patiently explain your point, three times over.

Same words. It's like a rehearsal, then a dress rehearsal,

then the real deal. Three times. Think of the first two as practical practice.

Reverse Phone Look-up: [Click Here!](#)



[Gemini](#): My sister is a Gemini. My [Gemini](#) sister asked me for [directions](#). It was about her [website](#) or something. I made a direct comment, no obfuscation, about how to solve the problem. For the next three days, though, all I heard from her was "problem problem, problem, and problem." On the fourth day, she told me she had affected a work-around solution to her difficulty. It was the exact solution, the same steps, to the letter, that I'd made several days earlier. Only, it was now her idea, and guess what? My idea solved her problem.

As the older brother in this situation, I can hammer home the point that I came up with the solution first. Sort of a waste of my time, though, and in her Gemini heart, she knows I'm correct. Or, I can preach a little and suggest that even though I know I'm right? I don't have to prove it. Now, the clearest lesson her, for Gemini? When a solution is proffered? Go ahead and take it. Unless you [like complaining](#) and bemoaning the odd fates, I mean, sure, then you can avoid the [obvious](#) solutions. The second point, flip this around, look at my side, where I offered up an answer, right away, and the Gemini took it, three days, and internalized it as her own. Either way, though, the problem was solved. I just wondered why it took an extra three days to figure out that I had the right answer, the first time.

ASTROFISH.NET: Next Week! [Full-Frontal](#) Astrology!



Cancer: In Austin, [on the lake](#) there, used to be Town Lake, now it's Lake Lady Bird, the University has a rowing team. Rowing regatta, point and case, each spring. Along come the rowers, the muscle-bound types. The boats usually have the teams' names and the team rowers, too.

There are the one-seater, two-seater, then the four and nine seater boats. Slim little crafts, slicing through the calm waters of the lake, and the occasional fishing buddy, to muddy the scene. But mostly I was thinking about the row boats and teams. Slim crafts and when a team is pulling together, it looks like poetry, sliding gracefully across the water's glimmering surface.

Mars is going to interrupt that image. Like a power boat jetting through the graceful lanes of the row boats? There are two ways to address this action. One would be to get all upset and file a complaint with the city, the sponsoring organization, or call the police. Something. There's a second idea, just an off-chance that the wake from the jet boat? Can you surf one of those row boats down the wake? Just an idea, turn a liability into an asset?

All Rights Reserved

[copyright](#) (c) 2008, 2009 [Kramer Wetzel](#), for [astrofish.net](#)

**astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts**

For the week starting: 8/27/2009

"The general so likes your music that he desires you, for love's sake, to make no more [noise](#) with it."

Shakespeare's [Othello](#) [III.i.11-3]

The clown to a group of musicians. Like [something](#) from a band the other night.

Upcoming: Lecture/workshop, one-stop astrology class: [in El Paso](#).

[Virgo](#):

Happy Birthday! Some of my dear little Virgo friends are doing pretty well by now. It's been a long year, and if I were to glance back, I'd be glad that it's pretty much behind us. But there's still a little bit of work on the horizon that needs your Virgo attention.

Some concentrated effort, between now and the end of September? I'll promise some good results.

This week? There's a small party [brewing](#), a smaller than usual Virgo birthday celebration.

That's okay, with a smaller party? You can enjoy everyone.

ASTROFISH.NET: Next Week! [Naked](#) Astrology [Readings!!!](#)

Libra:

I was looking through an [older text](#), a book I'd used many years ago. Truthfully, I was really looking for [something](#) else, but that one text caught my attention. I had post-it notes, some blank, some with cryptic notations, all making references to a topic that I could no longer fathom. Pretty interesting stuff, from a localized archeology purview.

I wasn't even sure what some of the old notes referenced. Not that it matters. I left the post-it bookmarks in place, along with the scribbled notes. Might mean something to me at some point. Might not. The notes, the bookmarks, the text itself, none of this takes up too much shelf space. It's easy to store, even if I don't know exactly what I was

looking at -- at the time.

That's kind of what this week is like, a little delving back into the Libra [Library](#). A little look at where you've been, and whatever it was that you were looking for. Or maybe not what you were looking for, but what you find? It's what you're were supposed to find. Some [days](#), like this week? It's less about what you were looking for and more about the journey and process of [discovery](#).

ASTROFISH.NET: Next Week! [Naked](#) Astrology [Readings!!!](#)
[Scorpio](#):

In a history book I was reading, I found a reference to the first use of a railroad explosive as a guided missile. It was a railroad engine, packed with explosives, and sent down the track into the enemy territory. Civil damage, infrastructure damage, and casualties, all from a tactical point of view? Successful that first time. Pioneered in the Mexican Revolution in 1911. What the book said. I'm not sure. However, it does make a good antecedent. Historically, anyway.

Then too, the celluloid and television versions are dramatic. However, as a really valid form of war, I doubt it's useful these days. Too easy to disrupt. As I was looking at the Scorpio charts for the coming week? I was thinking about the term "train wreck." And from that term, you can easily see how I got sidetracked with the historical footnote about the exploding trains. Which is how I got to my warning for the Scorpio friends.

While it's relatively easy to derail that train, packed with explosives, that doesn't exactly defuse the situation, and there's still a problem. The best way to avoid the train wreck, train explosion scenario? Get far, far away. If you can't stop it, and if you can't prevent it, then why hang around and wait for the inevitable?

Sagittarius:

The Moon motion suggests it's party time. The relative position of the Sun Sign [Virgo](#), placed against out Sagittarius relative points, though, suggests it's more a time for reflection. We can do both, reflect back on our last few years and party at the same time. Although, just an idea, I'd tend to make this a little more somber kind of a party. Could just be me, too, but I'd stop and think about what it is that we're going to think about.

Reflection is one kind of an action, or really, since it can be all mental, reflection can also be a kind of inaction. That's the problem. Pause long enough to reflect, pause long enough to make an educated guess about a problem, pause long enough to plot a couple of past points, and see if that doesn't make a new trajectory a little more clear.

I'm [Sagittarius](#), too, and I tend to see the bright side, the upside, the good news. As long as we're taking a moment to pause and reflect, with that Virgo influence hanging over our heads, as long as we're waiting? Plot carefully. Like, if, see, if you can detect a downward spiral? See what can be done to prevent that from going from bad to worse. If there's an upward spiral that could send you into outer-space -- too quickly? Again, think about a course correction, Then, as long the moon is lending it's energy, make those necessary [corrections](#). Action, not inaction, after the pause and reflect. Call it all a "Virgo thing."

Capricorn:

A lot of [research](#) has been done on Mars. Astronomical, cosmology, [exploration](#), and so [forth](#). Makes it a better understood planet. However, in my terms, when Mars moves into a position where it opposes the Capricorn slice of the chart? There's a different kind of energy. There's friction, there's sleepless nights, there's tension, and sometimes, there's a quietly bubbling kind of anger. Only, there's not always a source of the frustration, and with Mars in this mix?

Sometimes the outrage is greater than the original

infraction. Herein is the caution, and I'd like to think, a solution as well. When that anger boils up, stop. Use a little Capricorn brain power to ascertain the exact and precise nature of the problem. Just a generalized "over there," and "that thing," those types of expressions don't cut it. With typical Capricorn precision, it might be necessary to slice through the Mars-infused haze in order to pinpoint the source of the problem.

Instead of outlandish and grossly inaccurate statements? Use a little bit of Mars for inspiration, move towards detecting, isolating and getting an accurate read on the single source of the discomfort. Be a much better way to use that rather than pointlessly blasting everybody.

ASTROFISH.NET: Next Week! [Naked](#) Astrology [Readings!!!](#)

[Aquarius](#):

There is an image, I've passed on the way to the post office, maybe a [hundred](#) times. I've tried to [capture](#) this [image](#) with a [phone camera](#). A cheap digital camera. An expensive digital camera. And I've published some of my efforts, but I'll admit, freely, that I never quite caught what I could see with my mind's eye as I passed this particular scene.

It's in an empty field, next to a railroad right-of-way, backing up to an abandoned, or very under-used, light industrial center. Typical of what one might expect to find laying in just such a field. No big deal. I've tried when the grass is green and lush with spring rain, I've tried when it was brown with the winter's cold, and most recently, I tried with the dry, straw look of an August Sun in South Texas. I have never successfully captured that image. Doesn't mean I haven't tried, cheap camera, phone camera, expensive camera, tripod, in passing, sunset, sun rise, mid-day. Cloudy, sunny, I think I tried them all. Every possible combination.

To me, I have never succeeded in accurately capturing the feeling that I get from this particular image. Doesn't mean I haven't tried. There's a pervasive sense of loneliness

combined with some sense of abandonment sort of rounded out with hope for the future, but maybe, a sense of the past, too. That's the best way I can describe the image. Maybe if I use real film. Or maybe, it's an image that I can never capture with a camera. However, as an [Aquarius](#), you know that you have to try and grab that image, no matter how elusive it might appear to be.

[Pisces](#):

There comes a point when covering up [spontaneous artwork](#) -- there comes a point where the cover-up is more [artistic](#) than the artwork that's being covered up.

I was thinking about a spot where there was a gang-related tag on a building, and then, the way the graffiti was painted over? Much nicer than the original paint, and nicer, too, than the tag's artwork. While I'm certainly no art critic, I know what I find pleasing to my eye. And after all, that's all that's really important, to me, anyway. Which is sort of what this is about, this week.

This next few days. Inadvertent art is a beautiful thing. Can't set out to make it happen, and sometimes, in the urban landscape, the cityscape of the Pisces soul, there's a piece of ugly graffiti that's been artfully hidden. Respect and enjoy the accidental nature of how this works. It's not the first pass or the second pass, but sometimes, that final time when you're trying cover it up.

[Aries](#):

I'm going to deviate from the original script [here](#). Not that it's a [problem](#) for me, to skip the instructions, but I'm going to nimbly jump from one bit of the script to the next, with no follow through. In other [words](#), you're getting a [horoscope](#) that wasn't scripted this way. It's not according to the "the plan," and frankly, the way things have been going, maybe "the plan" wasn't such a good idea. Although, at the time, it did seem like a good idea.

The deal is that you've got change your direction. You've got to change the way you perceive what is happening, and

you've got to make a significant course correction.

Now.

Look it, see, my fine little Aries friend, there's got to be some changes. You got stuck doing it one way, and then, here's a chance to change, that one way doesn't seem to work. It's more arduous than it needs to be. The longer you put off this simple change? The harder it gets. At this point, you've created more work than is necessary. It's a simple solution to what's been a complex problem.

ASTROFISH.NET: Next Week! [Naked](#) Astrology [Readings!!!](#)

Taurus:

I was [looking](#) at your chart and I was thinking about the best way to express the energy [contained](#) therein. I was working on a [theory](#) that fit with a Fixed sign (Taurus) and the way that Jupiter is in Aquarius, making a tension angle to Taurus. Then, too, the Full Moon, and it just goes on and on. I was thinking about that, and then I got to thinking about a certain situation that has changed, irrevocably and forever, never going to be the same, not ever again. I was thinking about that one example then I realized, the little mental gymnastics I got into?

That was the perfect example. It's about getting stuck with an old thought, a situation that's been analyzed and dissected to a sub-atomic particle level, and nothing's changed. [Outcome](#) won't be any different, and anyway, that's history, can't change it now, right? Put that thought process aside. See, it's all about day-dreams. Night dreams, fantasies -- one of those. And it's about not spending too much time in dream land. Options, there are some options, and it's matter of taking some of those options -- now. Less day dream, more [reality](#).

Gemini:

Ever watch a movie, [or a TV show](#), and on the screen, the character walks from one room to another, and the shirt is instantly clean again? Or the pattern on the shirt varies

from scene to scene? One time, it's a striped shirt, and in the next scene, same suit, or same color suit, but the shirt is broadcloth with no pattern?

There's a whole bunch of web pages dedicated to such [problems](#) on screen. In literature, Western Literature, I recall a cowboy who got off his horse on page 158 and [dismounted](#) the same horse on page 160 -- without ever getting back on. This is called, I believe, "continuity." Fast shot TV or low-budget movies? This is a fairly common problem. First novels, or sloppy [horoscopes](#), can be a problem here, too. But that's not what this week is about. This week is about you, the Gemini, finding loopholes and glaring inconsistencies in a number of places.

Important note: Have [fun](#) with it.

[Cancer:](#)

There's a fine line between [madness](#) and [genius](#). Equally, there's a fine line between brilliance [and insanity](#). More over, there's a delicate point, a balance between [trash](#) and [treasure](#). Sadly, I'm guessing that you're going to step over one -- or more -- of those fine lines. This week. Now when it comes to matters of taste, decorum and style, I [obviously](#) don't have much room to be a judge. I tend to err on the side of bad taste and poor judgment: I almost revel in it.

Well, truthfully, I do celebrate my lack of good tastes and my exceptionally bad judgment. But that's me. I'm not sure you want to infect this on your own career, your friends and family, your loved ones. No, might not be the time to inflict and infect us with your poor judgment calls. I'm not saying that you *always* have this sort of ill-timed, ill-conceived, perhaps ill-mannered ideas, but you know? With Mars and so on? Maybe this week isn't the time for it.

The Leo:

Against a [stark](#), [bright](#), [South Texas sky](#), [blue](#), with that faded [corn-silk blue](#), there's the heat. It comes in waves, and then, the faintest amount of gulf coast moisture seeps in, too, and that adds warmth to an already hot day. The

**astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts**

grass is mostly brown, but last month's scant rain, it left vestigial shards of green at the base of the grasses.

Hot [summer](#) in the city. Hot summer at the edge of the escarpment. Hot summer on the prairie. Just how it all goes. This is the dogged days of Leo-time. The only respite, and it's not very much, is the morning star.

Arise early, my fine Leo friend, and in the East, there's a single planet visible. Venus. She's in Leo, right now, and that early morning light, from that star, first thing -- last thing -- before sun-up? Sunrise is your time. Most of my Leo [friends deplore sunrise](#). I'm with them on this, unless it involves a [fishing pole](#). Then sunrise is a beautiful thing. But no, despite what you think you want, you're best in the pre-dawn cool. Best time for you. Avoid the heat and realize that Venus is the only cooling agent. Use that wisely.

**astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts**

For the week starting: 9/3/2009

"He'll be as full of quarrel and offense/As my young
mistress' dog."

Shakespeare's *Othello* [II.iii.46-7]

Iago -- [plotting](#) to get him drunk. [Perfect](#) for [Mercury](#)
turning [retrograde](#).

 ASTROFISH.NET

 VIRGO

[Virgo](#): [Happy birthday!](#) You're the one who was [looking](#) at [me](#), the other day. I was in warehouse store, you know, the place the size of a warehouse with no [marketing](#), just cheap stuff, usually by the pallet? "I was looking at you, not many guys have long hair, I thought you were my neighbor...."

Might've been a pickup line, but judging by the delivery and appearance, I'd guess it was more likely just a kindly comment, and maybe, just maybe, she thought I was her neighbor. Although, to be honest, the part about "not many guys have long hair," that sort of bothered me. But not too much. Plenty of guys have long hair, although, in a town filled with suburban mansions and mini-mansions, not a lot. Apparently.

I suppose, too, it depends on where one keeps circles. Guys with long hair, or bald, or, in my case, someplace in between? Lots of us. Depends on where you look. Depends on what you're looking for, too. It's the Virgo birthday time. I was shopping for a few groceries by the pallet. Buy the pallet. All depends on what you're looking [for](#), too.

ASTROFISH.NET: Back to School [Special!](#)

 ASTROFISH.NET


LIBRA

Libra: I [watched](#) -- or [saw](#) it again in rerun -- the movie "[Giant](#)." Famous, possibly, as [James Dean's](#) last [movie](#). Or some other [trivia](#). The movie really is great, although, it's hard to sit through several hours of it, all at once.

One of the trivia bits? Filmed in [Marfa](#), not part of the Texas oil patch. However, when I was last [flying](#) over the oil patch, I could see row after row of wells, holes punched in the ground to extract mineral goodness. Or heinous fossil fuel, one of those. But this is about one of the first post-modern movies, and how it was set one place without oil but that didn't stop the myth from exploding.

Giant is (to me) a great film. Myth-making, too. But like man-made modern myths, there's also a problem. Mercury is starting his backwards pattern in Libra. What's myth, what's myth-making, and what's actual fact? And now, for the foreseeable future, are these points getting confused?



Scorpio: The "[Brush](#) Land" of South Texas is really part of the northern reaches of a [Mexican desert](#). As such, it's arid land subject to occasional torrential floods. And the vegetation has adapted to this environment. It's tough cactus, mesquite, and ranch grasses. Plant life that can go for weeks, months, even [years](#) without water, and then, suddenly, a hurricane blows ashore, and the place is inundated. Then it's green.

All right, here's the deal: it's like that South Texas [vegetation](#), now, in Scorpio. Nominally a water sign, there's a little problem with Mercury. And since this is a problem? It's like that adaptable plant life. Be a little more willing to bend to exigencies of the current conditions, because, I'll promise this: in three weeks, or less, it will change.

Maybe it will rain soon. Water signs like that.



SAGITTARIUS

Sagittarius: "Here, let me [anoint](#) you with Blueberry Oil," a friend was saying, "it'll bring money to you." I was referring to a [work situation](#), and what my friend was doing, she was referring to Bayberry Oil, an essential oil from the Aromatherapy tool [box](#). I guess. I'm not entirely sure, I'm not conversant with that arena. I asked for clarification, about Blueberry Oil, which evoked a hasty chuckle, had something to do with pancakes for breakfast, I'm not sure.

However, according to lore and [myth](#), Bayberry is used to attract clean money. Does it really work? I'm too broke to say that it really works, but that won't stop me from trying a little nudge. As a Sagittarius, we're used to broad, sweeping strokes. We'd also be willing to try Blueberry Oil. However, just as a way to see the coming few days? Try something less than huge. A gentle [nudge](#). Maybe some Bayberry Oil, just a little dab.



CAPRICORN

Capricorn: I'm -- [depends](#) on the area and arena -- usually a catch and release [fishing](#) kind of guy. Towards that end, when I lived on the lake in [Austin](#), I once caught the same fish six times in less than two weeks. Same fish, same bait, same location. What that fish didn't have in brains, she sure made up in attitude. And attitude is everything?

I think it was dumb fish with lots of fight, or [maybe](#), to a

fish, getting a ride up into the sky is, like, a rush. I always guess the fish is trying to figure out why food is pulling so stoutly. I was thinking about that experience as I was wrapping up some thoughts about your week. Which one are you going to be? Are you going to be the same fish in the same place biting the same plastic worm? Or are you like me, fishing in the same place and catching -- and releasing -- the same fish, time and time again. Which is why I'm catch and release as it makes [catching](#) again a fun sport. But which one are you?



AQUARIUS

[Aquarius](#): This didn't really [happen](#), but I can imagine it [happening](#). Follow along, you'll see what I mean. Imagine my Aquarius buddy, calling me up, "Dude, no, dude, I just met a chick, is it good? Do I have a chance?" Actually, no, because the rest of the conversation is, "What's her name?" "I don't know," says the Aquarius. "And her birthday?" Which is what I would normally ask. "Don't know," the Aquarius buddy replies.

No name, no connection, no birth data, first off, my [services](#) are next to useless, although, I could look at a chart for the moment of meeting, but that's not what this is about. It's about pertinent details. Hope spun up out of the airy figments of imagination and the barest threads of a perceived connection that [might](#) -- or probably won't -- amount to anything. Might never even see that woman again. The chick. Whatever. It's about not trying to make something out of nothing. While I might, on certain occasions, be able to spin something out of [nothing](#)? As an [Aquarius](#)? With Mercury in Libra? No, this isn't a time to take that flight of fantasy too far.



Pisces: Just kind of, "[Watch](#) you back," that's the [easy](#) version of what's going on, since, it's, in part, Mercury's fault. The longer version is more of a balance between divergent energies, but mostly, it's because these days are Virgo days. Virgo Sun Sign means that the Sun itself is opposite where your Pisces self is. Creates tension, causes minor irritations, makes things seem a little more difficult.

This is compounded with Saturn's presence, again, in Virgo, and exacerbated by Mercury starting a retrograde pattern. Therein is the problem. The solution, as I see it? Watch your back. I'm not saying that someone will necessarily come after you, or that there is a real threat, no, that's not it.

It's about, this is Mercury stuff, little mistakes that get blown into big mistakes. Easiest way to [avoid](#) this? Watch your back.



Aries: I'm not going to tell you again, you've got to be careful. Mercury is [backwards](#), in an opposing Cardinal sign. That's problematic. Mars is in another Cardinal sign, that's problematic, too. Pluto is opposite that Mars, sort of loosely and fading away, but also in a Cardinal sign, which would be, I hope you guessed it, problematic. The odds are against you. Maybe not so much against you, more like you have one or more areas that are, at best, problematic.

I've found, over the years that's easiest to repeat the answer to an Aries question, to reinforce the answer? I need to repeat the answer at least three times. That gets it

across. Makes the message strong enough to pierce the Aries hearing, and finally, sink into the Aries mind. Three times to make a point. The planets are trying to make [a point](#). The planets are trying to get something across. Review the [Mercury notes](#) I've [got](#), review, revise, rethink, rework, review (again), retrench, rebuild, and finally, review (yet again).

These aren't big obstacles, at least none that look insurmountable, not to me, I don't see any huge problems, what I do detect is problematic. Patience, time, a willingness to review the process, and a willingness to review the work itself, could make that less of a problem. Blame Mercury; however, it could be a host of other planets, too.



Taurus: Yeah, I don't know why [school](#) starts now, or, for that matter, why we call this the end of summer (vacation) since it's hardly cool out at all. Things just kind of roasting along, like normal. But that's hardly how a good Taurus will face the extreme problem. The extreme problem, this could be like one of those extreme sports, too, like extreme skateboarding or a rerun from last winter, extreme snowboarding, or better yet, from last spring, extreme bass fishing, although, I don't think I've ever seen that one. It could happen. However, that's not what this is about.

It's about excess and over-abundance, too much exuberance in the face of a difficulties. That's kind of a problem, it's almost like you're too eager to tackle the problem. Stop. Mercury, Saturn, and so forth? There's that cool, icy edge to the Taurus personality. I'd suggest that we all embrace that cool, icy edge. Might take more than one [mention](#) to make the point, too. But use that cool, icy edge to the Taurus personality. Face the upcoming adversity, it would seem to be extreme, face that with the cool, calm

exterior. That cool an icy edge. The opposite of panic and end-your-face enthusiasm. No, be cool, almost to the point of ice cold. Even though it's still nominally an extreme summer here.



II *Gemini*

Gemini: Mercury is [backwards](#) in an air sign. While it's not backwards in your sign, you are an air sign. As such, there's a little bit of pressure from weird places doing strange things to the [Gemini](#) psyche. Along with comical outcomes, as long as you don't mind being the butt of the joke. Which you are. Regrettably. Or not, as long as you like being the funny one.

This is like an extended, long-winded, running-gag joke that you're the object of attention. It's funny at first, you can laugh it off. But as this progresses? It gets a lot less funny. Your Gemini patience is wearing thin. When you realize what's going on, though, make sure that you're prepared for the running gag, over and over again. You know, once was funny, three times, a chuckle, but returning every day for the next week? Not nearly as funny as that [first](#) time. Or even the second time.



69 **CANCER**

Cancer: I like [myths](#) and [lore](#). And while this is a tale I've never researched, verisimilitude counts. The city of [Las Cruces](#), in southern New Mexico, named for the site of an ancient battle. After the battle, a number of graves were erected, and the turn in the road became known by that marker, "Turn at the crosses." Hence the name Las Cruces.

The Crosses. Personally, I think its name is derived from the interstate system because the north-south I-25 crosses that great southern route, the east-west I-10. Hence the name, Las Cruces.

I'm also a minority with some of my myths. I'm not a minority when I point out that Mars is setting up and frying through your delicate water sign self. And I'm not minority when I warn you about taking on burdens that might be too large for you to bear. There's another joke, too, but I'll leave that to your own imagination.



Leo: I was [sitting](#) on a restaurant's patio. Afternoon, not too hot, not in the shade as the clouds scudded by. Not really rain clouds, but enough cover to make outside, on the patio, bearable in the late summer afternoon. I propped my feet up on chair and sipped a beverage, toyed with a phone, something. Suddenly the sun burned through the clouds, or the light breeze shifted cover, something occurred, weather-wise. I was sitting in hot sun.

Know what that feels like, my dear Leo friend? I could sit there, sweat, cuss, and [bemoan my fate](#), or, what I did? I moved. I just swapped positions with my feet. I was under the shade of a small trestle or something, dappled sunlight still warming me, but at least I wasn't in the hot seat any more. Just sort of scooted around. Beat the heat. All I'm saying, to avoid the hot spot this next few days, what with Mercury and all? Move. Maybe not move, maybe just sort of slide over a little. Scoot around, adjust your fine Leo self so you are more comfortable, and certainly, this is [important](#), out of the way.

All Rights Reserved

[copyright](#) (c) 2008, 2009 [Kramer Wetzell](#), for [astrofish.net](#)

[astrofish.net](#)

— page 365 —

**astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts**

For the week starting: 9/10/2009

"Thou wear a lion's hide! Doff it for shame,
And hang a calfskin on those recreant limbs."
Shakespeare's *King John* [III.i.128-9]

[Mercury](#) indirect. [Questions](#) are always free, some answers require a cash deposit. The e-mail [line](#) is always on, "31" (24 and 7).

 ASTROFISH.NET

 VIRGO

Virgo: My first [instinct](#), looking at your chart. Right now? My gut reaction was to tell you to [hold on](#), as it will be better in another few days, like about ten days. Ten days from the beginning of the [horoscope](#). However, I realized that "Just hold on," that's absolutely the worst advice I can dole out. And if I were being paid, or if I were paying for this advice? I'd suggest that "Just hold on," is the wrong way to see this energy. This is clearly a "Just let go" kind of situation.

The most common expression is "Let go and let god," but that has a frankly victimized tone to it, and I'm not thinking that you're a victim these days. However, there is an issue, a situation, and the easiest way to resolve this problem? The difficulty? The quickest and most expedient route through this mess?

Let go. Instead of holding on? Instead of grasping and then feeling your grasp slowly slip away? Instead of that? Just release the issue. You'll find that it's easier now. The stars and planets (and the Moon) are going to align in such a way as to assist you in this endeavor. Let it go. Quit trying to hold on.

ASTROFISH.NET: Now **Certified!**



LIBRA

[Libra](#): I was looking at the Libra chart, that [Mercury](#) and a host of other influences, and my mind started to [drift](#). I was thinking about a singer/songwriter I knew. He made a CD. Played gigs. Toured around, was on the radio and then slipped into obscurity. I looked him up. He was back on an oil rig in West Texas, making money to cut another CD. He didn't quite have what it took to be big, although, to his credit, as an artist, he was plugging away successfully. More or less.

When the money ran out, money dried up? He went back to roughnecking, only other work he knew. Which, in its time, can be good money except that it can be hard on a body. But he was banking cash so he could get back out, tour and promote another CD. And work on material. Working alone isn't always bad. Being the only one in charge isn't always bad. Doing it all by yourself? That isn't always bad. Consider that, as an artist, that old boy will have complete control over his own music [production](#). Which might be better. Or [worse](#). However, with this influence? A time out of some sorts, like his six months on an oil rig? Might be a good idea.



[Scorpio](#): I tend to [slip](#) into allegory and [metaphor](#) to [explain](#) what's [happening](#). And that usually [works](#). But with Mercury [retrograde](#)? I'm a little unsure that my intended message will get across to the Scorpio friends. It's about change.

See, I was telling this one Scorpio, a female, that she would

be best served if she changed one thing. I won't mention what the change was, it's not like it was a really big thing. It was but it wasn't. Just one change. I've been insistent, for the last seven, maybe ten days about this change. I finally gave up, because, well, I know no Scorpio will change unless the change is deemed proper. I finally quit nagging that one Scorpio.

Two days later, bring me up to almost two weeks? She made the change. Like it was her own idea. Like I had nothing to do with it all. Since I liked the change? And since I'm not a Scorpio? I just let it go. However, I don't know that the singular difference would be that big of a deal. Except that it was, as long as it was, or appeared to be, her idea. *If only I'd thought of that before.* Anyway, to spell out the message: there is change underfoot. In Scorpio. With Scorpio, and maybe, just maybe, this isn't of your own choosing. Pretend like it is, if need be. But see about implementing the [changes](#).



[Sagittarius](#): I got a "thank you" note from someone. Not quite anonymous, but almost, just an e-mail note. The part that bothered me, though, was not knowing what I did that deserved the thanks. In my own mind, I can spin up a number of reasons that I should be thanked, but I doubt most of the [reasons](#) have anything to do with the real world. Not that I've ever claimed to have more than the thinnest, most tenuous grasp on consensual reality such as it is. Never mind that now.

I keep seeing people getting all whacked out for no reason. Well, for no apparent reason. And rather than let that ruin my day, or, for that matter, any Sagittarius day? I'd let it all slide. Easiest way to work around what's going on. Someone isn't doing what our Sagittarius selves know is the right way

to accomplish the task. Hardest course of action? Don't correct that person. They have to [figure out](#) that the paint is, indeed, wet. Or the plate is hot. Or the contents might scald. While I like to hear, "Wow, you were SO right!" -- I'd settle for a nice thank you.



CAPRICORN

Capricorn: Where I live, on the *south side*? [Latin Rhythms](#) can often times be heard wafting in on the gentle summer breeze. I can't tell a Cumbia from Durangoese from plain border music. I can, sort of, identify Norteno's [elctronica](#) variation, Nortechno, which is a obviously the happy marriage of *Norteno* and *Techno*. Imagine, it's mariachi music looped like mash-up and DJ dubbed. I got sidetracked with music because I was swaying to the music -- probably a neighbor who, last time I talked to her, she was learning Spanish, and listening to the Mexican Radio was a quick way to assimilate.

When I borrow a car, I tend to listen to a predominately Spanish channel, not because I understand one word, but because I like the flavor it lends. On hot afternoon window down, rolling through the hood? Yeah, that's what should be on the radio. It's also a language I don't really understand too much. Makes it better, while Mercury is backwards. Try it. It's less about understanding a culture and more about picking up stray pieces of conversations that make no sense. But they do, at least, for the next week or two. Or, like me? I get to make up what I want, since Mercury is retrograde. Write your own Capricorn Mercury Music. Retrograde musical tales.



AQUARIUS

Aquarius: New rule, for Aquarius? "If the facts don't conform to the situation, then the facts must be changed." This isn't a hard and fast rule, although, in my family, it's been treated as such, But this isn't about family dynamics. This is about Aquarius and the coming week. Weeks. Next few days. One of those, anyway.

The trick is, that what you think you know? While you know what you know? You don't know everything, and more information will become available. So the facts aren't all facts, not just yet. The situation requires that you be willing to learn a whole new way of perceiving this situation. You could very well have some errors in what you've been told. You could have observed a measurement wrong. That could easily change the outcome of the situation. Which, if you go back to my original premise?

If the facts don't support the situation, then the facts must be changed. I've seen it work for a number of years, and I see no reason why you shouldn't borrow this from tidbit from my family to help you in the near future, like the next 7 to 10 business days.



PISCES

Pisces: If you would only [pay attention](#), especially in the last 3, maybe 4 months? You can see where this is going. Saturn is providing punctuation to a Pisces problem. I know, you think that both letter P should be capitalized because it's a big problem, or it seems like a big problem. And yes, it is a big problem, but then, it's not really.

The [foundations](#) of your faith might have been shaken, but is that really [bad](#)? There's tremendous amount of unstable energy that is out to rock the hand that feeds it. Run-on sentences, dangling modifiers and mixed metaphors are a specialty of [mine](#). That's part of the problem, even now. The other part of the problem, even though you're normally really good at divining what the message means? You haven't figured out what the last couple of months was really about, not yet. Therein is your trouble. You might, if you seek some outside assistance, you could very well figure out this time around. But remember, Mercury -- along with Saturn/Moon/Sun &c. All of those might confuse you a bit.



Aries: Mercury is a retrograde, still in Libra all [week](#), and Saturn/Sun conjunct oppose Uranus turning [retrograde](#). Venus [opposes](#) Jupiter, too.

Aries: From what I've gathered, there's supposed to be an [arc](#) to a story's line. Problem, conflict, resolution, reconciliation. Some sort of catharsis should occur at the conclusion. Bad guy gets his just desserts, the good guy gets the fair and virtuous girl, and they all live happily ever after. "Curse, I'll get you yet," mutters the bad guy, as he's doomed to live in a self-perpetuating hell. What he deserved.

But that's the way it goes in the story, whether it's a horoscope like [mine](#), a story, a [novel](#), a movie, even a TV show. However, you knew this would happen, rarely -- if ever -- does real life make as much sense as a piece of fiction. The average sitcom has to wrap up in under 23 minutes. Not a lot of time for background and character development. Hence the problem. Hence the problem in

[Aries](#). There's arc and there's resolution, but counting on this to work out like a book? Is that even reasonable?



[Taurus](#): It all depends on your [ability](#) to to turn a small and [relatively](#) insignificant item into a [big deal](#). The pressure really isn't on your Taurus self so much, but there is pressure, just elsewhere. How much you let this pressure get to you, that's the real issue.

I was reeling in a small spoon-type of fishing lure. Lake, around the corner from me. I felt something tap the lure, that's what we say, "I felt it tap it." But there was a strike so I just pulled the lure up and looked. It had been through a school of bait fish and the shad had tried to eat the lure, which, obviously, was too big. But the little fish had gotten itself hooked.

Must've been a Taurus. Or was it me, acting like a Taurus? Here I was, making a big deal out of a fish that wasn't much longer than the lure itself. Which is what I'm warning you about, making big deals out of little deals. [Don't](#). Save us all the trouble.



Gemini: I'm not much up on the current theories, like the *chaos explanation*. I don't really get that, but the last time I listened while a pundit expounded exponentially about the "[Chaos Theory](#)," I was intrigued. Sounded just as plausible as any other theory I'd ever heard. But I always thought that chaos was supposed to be utterly random and almost

malicious. Apparently, after listening to that one proponent, there's an underlying schemata. Which, I suppose, makes it less chaotic since, as long as there's an [underlying](#) plan, it's not truly random.

This can devolve into a tautology.

Or we can see how the chaos and chaos theory has an impact on the Gemini life at the moment. In part, this is Mercury's apparent retrograde behavior, but then, too, there's another, possibly more important, influence. Saturn, and Saturn is triggered by several instances and occurrences. Saturn's relative motion and symbolism is more important than what's kicking with little Mercury, too. More so than ever before? Attention to spurious details, most important, especially for Gemini.



Cancer: I chronicled this in another [place](#), the difference between a [local band's](#) promotional [material](#), and the actual fact. The fabricated backstory, here's a part I always liked, "The singer was a child TV star in Mexico City...." What makes the story even more amusing, to me, anyway, the whole band was from a small coastal town in Texas, all from the same neighborhood, not really far-flung stars of long dead mediums.

All fabricated. None of them were from New York, or Europe. Or anything. All from the Nueces Strip -- Rio Grande Valley (Texas Side). Not a big deal. The stage banter used to include some of the fabrications, too, and that's a problem. Now on the band's website.

See, if there's something you've fabricated, an outfit cut from the whole [cloth](#) of your imagination? The approaching oppositions will render illusions clearly what they are. I'm

not saying it's bad to fabricate a [backstory](#), but it doesn't hurt to clearly identify the [fiction](#) as just that: [fiction](#).



[Leo](#): I have a small office, more like a corner rather than a real office. I can [crank](#) up the music in here. That's good. I can rock out. Again, this is a good thing. I can dance. That's [bad](#). I can dance and not be seen. Good. There's a plus and minus to every action and concomitant reaction. It's a matter of doing so safely. When the law reads, "In the privacy and safety of your own home," that means, the sub-text that is implied? It's means you're supposed to do so with the blinds closed, the door shut, or the lights out. Or any combination of such matters that will prevent the neighbors from being able to watch.

I'm a white male and straight: no rhythm and poor fashion sense. Way I goes. So when I decide to rock out? I make sure that the drapes are drawn. No windows are open. Makes for a better experience. For me, for the neighbors, for assorted innocent bystanders who might casually glance in the window. As the mighty Leo? Yeah, you usually want to be on display. As the result of a number of influences, this next couple of days? Maybe not the center of attention is better place to be. Like me rocking out.

All Rights Reserved

[copyright](#) (c) 2008, 2009 [Kramer Wetzels](#), for [astrofish.net](#)

For the week starting: 9/17/2009

"The excuse thou dost make in this delay
Is longer than the tale thou dost excuse."
Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* [II.v.33-4]

Juliet is addressing the Nurse, and Juliet wants news of Romeo. Quickly. Ah, young love, tragic young love and dysfunctional families. [Dysfunctional](#) literary families, that is.

[Questions](#) are always free, some answers require a cash [deposit](#). The e-mail [line](#) is always on, "31" (24 and 7).



[Virgo](#): There's this one [Virgo](#), and between [Mercury's pattern](#) and Saturn, the two line up now, there's this one Virgo who needs to hear this. Or read, it really. When I'm tying a lure onto a my fishing pole, when I'm attaching a piece of fishing hardware -- usually ends in a myriad of hooks -- I've learned to leave a small amount of fishing line as "extra." This tail end stuff?

What happens? With monofilament line, as the line itself is stretched by a big fish? That tiny little bit of fishing line -- the tail end -- gets sucked back towards the knot. It's little bit of slack in a supposedly steady-state environment. As it turns out, the knot isn't so much a fixed object as it's a moveable one. More fluid dynamics and less physics, although, there is an element of both when a big fish hits the end of the line. So if you tie a knot, or make a similar "steady-state" [arrangement](#)? Leave a little slack in the process, just, like, you know, in case.

astrofish.net

Curious? Appearances and schedule

 ASTROFISH.NET



LIBRA

Libra: Birthdays begin next week, and that's good news. [Mercury](#) slides [backwards](#) out of your sign, again, this is good news. No one seems to get it, that's the downside, as you knew, I would give two good news and then one bad news. And that part, the "no one seems to get it" part? That's a big problem. It's not like you changed your birthday or anything like that, it was on the calendar all year long, same birthday, same place, no change. But people seemed to forget.

I can't run around and personally remind everyone it's the Libra time, fast approaching, and I can't run around and remind everyone that a thoughtful action would be well-advised, and I can't run around and remind everyone that this doesn't have to be expensive, just thoughtful. But no one's listening to me. And, for that matter, it's going to feel like no one is listening to your fine Libra self, too. Therein is the set up and the problem. The solution? Sometimes there isn't a viable solution. Sometimes, like this week, you have to face the facts that the planets have decided to keep your birthday off the books for the time being. What I used to do? I used to inscribe every calendar I found with the the notation, "Birthday is coming," but I'm not sure you want to do that.

 ASTROFISH.NET



Scorpio: I was thinking about coastal fishing, getting up towards that time when I can head down for some [Big Red](#) action. I looked over at my tackle box, and I thought about that, too. What's there. What's not there. In the coastal box, all I keep, basically, are hooks, weights, leaders and so

forth. Rigging material. I think there might be a few corks, or floats really, as the corks aren't made from cork, but that's a small matter and not germane to your [horoscope](#).

What I was thinking about, I've a couple of gold spoons, a few silver spoons, and two topwater lures that are made for salt/ocean/bay fishing. The rest of what's in that box is just salt terminal tackle, and, of course, a filet knife, and bait knife, and you get the picture? Sure you do. Tools for coastal fishing, for me. I've carried those two topwater lures for a while now. I'll use them each time, but when nothing hits them, I'll revert back to live bait. Sometimes, nothing works better than just plain old "fresh dead" bait. Or live bait, whatever the conditions call for.

But I'll keep those lures, and I'll try, I'll give them a spin, each time. Just practice? Or maybe, perhaps this fall? Maybe this is the time when one of those will work. It's all about trying in the repeated face of adversity before going back to what works. Have to be willing to try before resorting to stinky dead bait that always works.



[Sagittarius](#): Comfort food varies from person to person, and, I'd guess, comfort food also varies within cultural bias. Then, too, there's the [question](#) of diet and healthy diet, although, when a food is part of a mental health diet, I can easily overlook regular dietary concerns. Then, too, there's another point, where healthy diet and comfort food can intersect.

Sort of. I've found that a fat-free sorbet, usually a fruit flavor, I've found I can live with that instead of dairy ice cream. Not as much sugar, and certainly no dairy, in fat-free sorbet. Some brands seems to be more "ice-cream-like" than other brands. Matter of experimentation. Have to

sample a number of kinds until the right balance is found. As I've aged, so has my taste in comfort food. From Chicken Fried Steak, to Chicken Fried Chicken (looks like CFS), and from rich, creamy dairy ice cream to fat-free sorbet? These are little changes but effective ways to deal with that craving for comfort food.

Why worry about comfort food and Chicken-Fried-Steak? There's a Sagittarius hunger, these days, prompted by Mercury and Saturn. Need comfort food. Only, looking closely at the planetary arrangement? Need comfort food you can live with.

astrofish.net

Curious? Appearances and schedule

 ASTROFISH.NET



CAPRICORN

Capricorn: Word for the week: [grandiloquent](#). Had to look it up because it sounds better than it [defines](#). Not that it's a problem, either way, just sounds really good. I liked the way it rolled off my tongue as I was writing this. However, I think it can more be applied to my [Sagittarius self](#) rather than Capricorn. You're sitting kind of in a good spot, and I was hoping I could use a big, fancy, two-dollar word to convey my enthusiasm and impart you with a hopeful outlook.

To be sure, there's going to be a small problem or two, you know, Mercury and its usual hijinks, But it's not without me trying to make a broad, sweeping statement about how life in Capricorn will suddenly look up, later this week. The aforementioned Mercury? Sure, that brings in its own list of problems. But you were warned, and you did pay attention, and now life is okay. Right? I hope so.

As I am going to try and make some general comments about everything is going to be okay. There will yet be some minor Mercury-infused issues. But over all? Grandiloquent. That's my word for [your week](#) and I'm sticking to it.

 ASTROFISH.NET



AQUARIUS

Aquarius: This is kind of a typical "Mercury is backwards" [story](#). Came from a client the other afternoon. Instead of a [reading](#), as originally scheduled the client was feeling ill and headed to the Doc in a Box. In an out in less than half an hour, fast prescription. Quick diagnosis, and the client thought she was headed home to rest. Just a summer flu or something. She called again, a few minutes later, wondering if we could do this on the phone. Sure, but did she really want to cradle a cell phone for the whole hour?

See, the (almost) drive-thru "doc in a box"? That was quick. Half an hour. The wait to get the [prescription](#) filled? More than an hour. So she suddenly did have time to kill. Since she was ill, and I didn't think it was such hot idea, or a cool idea, to go ahead with a reading while she waiting in a pharmacy, I just politely declined and sought to reschedule. However, as an example, this is what can pop up. Feeling great, off to see the wizard (me). Then a little flu finds you. Not life-[threatening](#), just a little down. Then, fast doc visit? Two-hour wait for meds. See how that works? Typical, and sort of what this next couple of days [will hold](#).

 ASTROFISH.NET



Pisces: "So this is bad, right?" No, not really. "But Mercury is in apparent RX motion, is now opposite Pisces, in Virgo." Well, in a word, yes. "So this is bad?" Not as bad as it's been. The way I see it, once the Sun and Mercury swap

positions, then the Pisces "solar-Mercury-protection" (it's secret blend of natural oils and polymers) that starts to kick in again.

Life gets a little better. There is a single issue, and you know exactly what I'm talking about, and that single issue still needs attention. That's the selfsame issue you blatantly ignored [my advice](#) about last spring, recall that? You ignored me, you ignored what I said, and look: it's back! Now.

Now, you have the benefit of time, experience, and a little bit of cunning. Use those skills. Don't try ignore the issue any longer, that's just not working. Work around it. Work into it. Work your Pisces magic and weave a little spell that seems to heal up the old rift, patch up differences, and regain what feels like a certain amount of control over your own destiny. It's an illusion, but so much of the Pisces life is an illusion, who can tell? You and I know that it's not as bad as it's been, and there's still one little item that needs to be addressed.

astrofish.net

Curious? Appearances and schedule

 **ASTROFISH.NET**

 **ARIES**

Aries: The only real respite is that [Mercury](#) moves [backwards](#) from Libra into Virgo. And there's a Virgo -- Sun/Moon/Mercury alignment. It's the kicker to a new start. Only, this isn't a new start, just a good, false start. While, as a typical Aries, you wouldn't want to have anything to do with a term like, "False start," these aren't normal times. Therefore, I'd like to suggest that you get started on a new project, and keep in mind, that the direction, flavor, and tone of that new project might change.

Will change.

"Direction, flavor and tone? What's left? Why start?"

The start is more symbolic than really a serious start, as the planets want you to get rolling on something. Just realize that the idea will mutate, and this more about [process](#) and less about [destination](#). Which might seem odd to an Aries, but as a concept? Give it a try. Remember: Mercury is backwards as of yet, and it will change.



[Taurus](#): Music may be the food of love, but but when it's too [loud](#)? It can be a distraction. The music can be a distraction, not the food love, or love itself. The way the planets are moving, and their indications, are all about good things and distractions. This is like a tender moment between your Taurus self and a significant other? Only to have that tender moment punctuated by the hard-hitting bass line of a passing motorist. One of those motorist who spent way too much money on a sound system and insists on sharing the latest vocal/dub/rap hit with everyone within a hundred yard radius.

I tend to enjoy such punctuation, and I've been known to roll a window down, just to make sure I get the full effect of whatever musical item is being heard. To be sure, though, most of what is heard? All I'll get is a bass line, and that's it. Thump-thump. Sounds a little like helicopter rotors, or similar heavy machinery, warming up. Or slowing down. Still, the way I like to see, hear, this kind of an interruption? It's like percussion punctuation. So when that seemingly tender moment is enhanced by a surreal soundtrack? Understand that Mercury is backwards and that's going to dub a line to your normal Taurus noise.

Might not seem welcome at the time, but don't be too hasty to judge that aural experience.



II Gemini

Gemini: I was packing for a September [trip](#). Supposedly, it's still summer-like in most of the [places I travel to](#).

Supposedly, it's really still summer. Supposedly, I can get by with nothing more than shorts and shirts, sandals and so forth. And after a summer spent on the road, shuttling from one place to another, I'm used to life in a suitcase.

Backpack, really, or a shoulder bag. Suitcase is only used for some flights. So when I packed, it took me all of about thirty seconds to round up clean shirts, clean shorts and throw [everything](#) into a bag. I'm quick like that.

The problem is, when I get to where I'm going? I'll discover that I forgot to pack flyers, papers, a book to read, business cards, blank CDs, pens, ink, and/or any number of personal toiletry items that I might -- or might not -- need. This my life, traveling. Takes a toll, too, except that I enjoy the travel. New vistas, new people, a fresh perspective on old problems, all good. Because Mercury is backwards yet, and because it's slipped into Virgo? Guarantee that you're going to forget one "mission critical" item when you're packing. Like me. Check your list twice, maybe three times. Can't assume that you've got everything that you need, just because you think you've got it all covered. Busy times, business times, and forgetful Mercury. Just check your list, just to humor me. See if you -- like me -- forgot anything.

astrofish.net

Curious? Appearances and schedule



CANCER

Cancer: There's a particular restaurant, right around the corner from here. I like the place. Food's great, if not exactly healthy. However, judging by the apparent size -- and girth -- of the patrons? I'd guess that the food's really good. I can't afford to eat there too often as the food isn't exactly the healthiest by my definitions. But cultural disparities, as much as I enjoy them, are in place. I'm just another "gringo loco," and that's never bothered me.

I was thinking about what the griddle at that one place must look like, It's been there for dozens of years, probably good and worn out. Which is why the food's so good. Which is important. It's a griddle that's been seasoned by long years of frying bacon, and refrying beans, and whatever else is prepared on a griddle. I think that adds a kind of seasoned flavor to any food that comes off that hot metal skillet, and that's what this is about.

Food that's almost been tempered on the grill. That's how I like to think about it. Mars is in your sign, even now. And Mars is like that griddle, and you're like that griddle, too. Still cooking after all these years. Which is what it's about. Mars is merely seasoning you a little, Like that hot metal surface upon which food is prepared.



THE LEO

Leo: I have a friend, lives next to the old trailer park in Austin. The trailer park that's now a hole in the ground. God bless progress! Where would be without it? The familiar echo of construction equipment, pounding away? That noise. As I turned a corner on the footpath and made my

way towards the apartment building? Across the parking lot, through the chain-link fence? There was a backhoe, pounding away. There was some kind of a bit on its hoe, and the operator was driving that bit down into the ground. Then, once the bit was positioned? He'd jack at it with the full weight of the machinery, eventually lifting himself and the backhoe into the air for a few feet.

I'm a [guy](#), heavy equipment can fascinate me. Which it did. For a few moments.

Then, after watching work go on for a few moments, I got tired, and continued on my way. However, for the rest of the morning, we could hear that machine pounding away. Reminded me of Mars, in Cancer, pounding away. Can't escape it, and can't get away from it. Mars is just tearing up that Cancer pavement, like that backhoe. Pounding way. The problem, in Leo, is listening to the incessant pounding. There really isn't much of a solution, other than, like me, you can be become fascinated by the effects of the work. Or the workers. Or the workers' equipment. Something is pretty interesting, no?

All Rights Reserved

[copyright](#) (c) 2008, 2009 [Kramer Wetzels](#), for [astrofish.net](#)

For the week starting: 9/24/2009

"Sell when you can, you are not for all markets."

Rosalind in Shakespeare's *As You Like It* [III.v.60]

Mercury direct. Questions are always free, some answers require a cash deposit. The e-mail [line](#) is always on, "31" (24 and 7).

Upcoming: Lecture/workshop, one-stop astrology class: [in El Paso](#).



LIBRA

[Libra](#): Yeah, happy birthday to the start of the Libra crowd. Got a good start going. How [good](#)? Yeah, well, not as good as I would like, and for that matter, not as good as you would like. However, there's a start and the [symbolism](#) for this week's planet mess can be categorized as "getting much better as the week progresses."

Simple enough to sum up, and hard to see how this plays out, as there's a little tension from various spots. The tension isn't necessarily bad, [per se](#), but it's not altogether easy, either. And as a lovely Libra, you'd like it to be a lot easier. I'd like it to be easier, too. Which it will be, in a few weeks, as the sun progresses through your sign. However, this isn't going to get your week off to a smooth start. Weekend. One of those, or maybe, both, neither one seems to start smoothly. However, give this time, step back and act magnanimous, act like you intended to take to long way around, act like the detour and delay was part of your plan.

[Doing so](#)? Makes it easier to deal with the exigencies of the planet problems and also makes it seem to go smoother, which was the plan all [along](#).

ASTROFISH.NET:
"To err is human,

To forgive is divine."
(Neither is corporate [policy](#).)



Scorpio: I'd popped back [home](#) for a few moments, and I was typing something on a keyboard, probably [answering](#) your e-mail. I kept [hearing](#) the faintest echo of noise, like there was a TV on in another room, only there's not really another room and there's not really a TV. Only it was music. I plugged my phone and let it sync, then I typed some more [e-mail answers](#).

Or maybe I was surfing for something. Looking up an arcane bit of trivia, who knows? I kept hearing the faintest echo of music. I looked down, and I noticed, for one, I hadn't taken the earbuds off the phone. And for two? The music was still playing; although, I thought I'd switched it off, like I commonly do. Finally, I did note that the music was cranked up so loud that the tiny earbuds were almost, barely audible. Might be a problem, playing music that loud, and I know, when I started out, that the individual portable musical unit (iPod) probably wasn't that loud. But over the course of a hot September afternoon, music gets turned up and it wasn't until I was in the relative quiet of home that I noticed how loud it was.

As Mercury turns itself around, will you listen? What will happen? How will you realize that the music is up so loud? It's matter of watching for the tell-tale signs, maybe not the big rolling noises, but the more quiet [symbols](#), as we get turned around with Mercury. [Listen](#).

Mercury RX trilogy
[9.7.2009](#), [9.14.2009](#), [9.21.2009](#), [9.21.2009](#).



SAGITTARIUS

Sagittarius: Pause. Reflect. Redirect. Three words that can give us, me and my Sagittarius brethren, three simple words that can keep us out of a lot of trouble.

The most important in that list of commands is the first one, "Pause." Stop -- that might be a more direct way to explain it. But there's a strong hint that we're about to rush off and do something we might regret later. If we'd only stop before and think before we rush out and say/do/act on that idea?

Can save a world of heartbreak and pain, sorrow and woe. It's mostly the Saturn/Venus/Mercury alignment that is the source of our trouble. Then, too, there's the idea that "It's better to beg forgiveness than ask permission," which, I'm sure, you've heard a time or two?

Yeah, well, sometimes our luck can be counted on getting us out of trouble. This isn't one of those times. Instead of banking on luck, instead of counting on charm and wit to rescue us? Little thought, a simple pause, that might make all the difference.



ASTROFISH.NET/book
books in print/amazon/digital &c.



CAPRICORN

Capricorn: I've got an easy [solution](#) to [Mercury](#) woes: post-it notes. At one time, the post-it note was unique. These days? Yeah, not so much, really, I mean, it's pretty common and the handy little notepads with some sticky on them?

Available from a variety of manufacturers, from a number of sources I think I saw them for sale at a convenience store, down the street from here. Next to Beef Jerky and Pork Rinds, probably.

Now, by the end of the week, we're all but done with Mercurial Woes, such as they have been, but that's where the idea of the post-it note comes in handy. Even though the actual influence of Mercury is starting to dissipate? That means it's time to capture the good points to the Mercurial Woe, find a way to put that to use.

[See](#), I'm suggesting, in the last couple of days, you've had a brilliant idea. Or two, but I'm only banking on one. That idea was written on a post-it note and stuck up on the computer's monitor. Or a similar location, whatever works for your Capricorn self. Then, that note slipped off. Glue didn't hold, something happened, a burst of Mercurial wind made the note fall. In the next few days, you'll happen across that note. Plan to get it in gear quickly. Idea from a note that slipped past the Capricorn purview? That's what works, as we dog ourselves out of the Capricorn mess.

Create your own energy. [DIY Solar Power!](#)



AQUARIUS

Aquarius: I went fishing, about a month ago? Dog days of August. Not a good time to [fish](#). Think I had fun, but that's about all I remember, I'd have to check the [website](#) for more details of whatever it was I was doing. I was thinking about fishing as the coming month looks to be good for that. Mercury isn't going to be backwards much longer, and all that's left from that Mercurial event is a little backwash.

How you want to deal with that backwash, how you choose to make use of the flotsam and jetsam that's left behind? That's strictly a choice thing on the part of Aquarius. Only

suggestion I can make? Timing. Time and distance, will help give you a little break here. Don't rush. Don't be in a hurry. Last time we fished, my buddy was disgruntled and ready to call it day before the sun had reached its zenith. To be sure, we weren't, like, catching a lot of fish. There were more boats on the lake than fish we'd caught. Which spoke to something, I'm not sure what.

As we lazily motored back towards the boat dock, lunch, and the rest of the real world, I suggested one more cast, just sort of drift through a place close to the dock -- a little inlet, and off the point there, I caught the only fish for the day. Wasn't that big of a fish, but it was a fish. And therefore, I was happy. But that fish was caught with more patience and less skill than most. Which was the point for Aquarius, whether you're fishing for Bass, like I was, or angling for something else.



ASTROFISH.NET/book
books in print/amazon/digital &c.

 **ASTROFISH.NET**

 **PISCES**

Pisces: Tangible, growing excitement, you can [feel](#) it. It's there, all right. You know that this is going to be good. There's an abundance of trigger points, about three, and while this won't line up with each and every Pisces at precisely the same moment, there is -- by my count -- three times in the coming week when these hit.

Trigger points are good, the way I see it, and as my loyal Pisces friend, I would hope that you see it my way. I'm just trying to help. Which is what the planets are doing, too, they are trying to help. There's a point, an issue, an item, a thing, but I'd go back to that original idea that it's a point, an issue, and the planets are trying to help. Trying to get

you on the right path. Trying to help you see the whole picture, not just part of the [image](#), and making it so you can get a better understanding of what's at stake.

What counts. What doesn't count. What is important. What isn't important. It's all about not fighting. It's all about seeing the complete package, not just the parts that you want to see. While I'm the first to admit, I'd rather only see the good parts? As a Pisces, with this kind of influence, with trigger points hitting twice, thrice? Sort of hammers home a point. Sort of makes the message unmistakable, no?



Aries: I've got a buddy, he's a pilot -- Air Force pilot. No big surprise. He noticed that I have a collection of [French Press](#) coffee makers. He called it a "press pot" coffee maker. Seems they work well on US Air Force cargo carriers, and seems to be the pilot's preferred coffee brewing method. Besides, of course, the purist's point of view that a French Press makes the best cup of coffee. What was interesting to me, though, was the guy refused to call it a "French Press," which is odd, because the apparatus is frequently marketed as such.

I didn't quite get, or I pretended not to get, my buddy's studious avoidance of the term "French." Must be a military tweak. [However](#), I mean, I respect the military, I didn't push the language point. But I've learned, the hard way, more often than not, when to back off, when not to make a point, when to not press my own issue, be it language or some other point.

My little Aries friend? As much as it's funny to harp on a point, like the nomenclature of a piece of coffee brewing equipment, or some other point? Don't. There's a time to press the point across, and then, there's a time to let it

alone. Let it alone for the time being. Just because Mercury will no longer be retrograde? That doesn't mean this is a good time to get hung up on semantics.

The [secret behind *The Secret*](#).

 ASTROFISH.NET



Taurus: [Earlier](#) this month, I've got a client who is both Taurus and waiter. He was going to get a [reading](#), but something happened to his income. Right at the first of September, his income was cut in half, maybe two-thirds.

Is this a recession? Not really. He is dependent upon tourist traffic at the particular place where he works. While that's not the only source of his income, it does represent more than half of his extra cash. Cash he would [spend on me](#). When he cancelled, I explained that Mercury was backwards and I'd hear from him before the end of the month.

The end-of-the-summer slump is over, the tourists are back and things are picking up again in Taurus. The indication is, though there is more money coming in; Mercury left you in a bind at work. Plan on spending the next week getting out of that bind and back on (Taurus) top.



ASTROFISH.NET/book
books in print/amazon/digital &c.

 ASTROFISH.NET



Gemini: [Stop](#). Right now, just stop.

Halt. Do not proceed any [further](#). [Wait a minute](#). Take five. Give it a pause for the cause. What [cause](#)? The Gemini

cause. Point: Mercury -- the Gemini planet -- was in apparent retrograde motion. Mercury is heading out of its retrograde pattern. Stop.

Halt. Wait a minute. Give it pause long enough to figure out what the message from this last event was. Overall picture, the total scene, what stands out, good and bad, in the last three (3) weeks? Then, connect that theme, good or bad, to Mercury. In this coming week, there's a final point where Mercury, Uranus, Saturn, all of that gets tangled up. Makes a point. Hammers that message home. Get a jump on this by figuring out what the theme is, what the symbolism, what the message is supposed to be about. Themes, very important, and it will differ from Gemini to Gemini.

The inherent theme is obvious, if you just pause long enough to consider it.



Cancer: Common occurrence: I wandered over to the trailer park's laundry room to do a load of dirty clothes. Mostly shirts and shorts, no big problem, just kind of tired of sniffing my way through the dirty clothes to find something clean to wear. I emptied the laundry basket, packed two machines and started to feed my quarters. I must speak to the management about that, at some point, coin-operated is so archaic. Besides, for what they charge in rent? It should be free.

I paused, looked at the second machine as the water was rushing in, and I peeled off my shirt. My sweaty, stinky shirt. I tossed it in that second load, and I wandered on homeward. The outside late September air was almost cool. Not really, but almost. For a minute, I thought I got a chill, and I shivered for a second. Like me, you're going to shiver for a second, although, I doubt it's because you're half

naked in the evening's twilight. I doubt you threw your shirt in the laundry and you're standing outside, looking up at the moon, as it gets bigger and bigger, and I doubt you're cold even though it's still a warm night.

But you're going to get that shiver, that hint, that suggestion that the seasons are turning. But as Mercury corrects its errant path, you're going to find that little problems are less of an issue. Might be a small shiver down your spin, like me, but are you really cold? Or is it just not as blistering hot as it has been?



Leo: Mercury is going to make one, last punctuation mark. This whole Mercury Retrograde pattern has had an effect on you, and like I've suggested, there's one, last mark it's going to leave. Is this good or bad? Sort of depends on how willing you are to let bygones be bygones. Depends on how willing you are to let the past be the past. Also depends on how willing you are to let someone else stand in the Leo spotlight for the next few days.

Here's the hint: let that other person, the other sign, stand in the Leo's spotlight, fame and accolades that were for your Leo self? Let some other sign take the credit right now. Let this sort of go. I realize, as a good Leo, the good Leo, you don't let things go completely. I'm good with that. I'm not asking for much, just about a week's time. Let it go, or pretend to let someone else take the credit, for this next week.

Payoff for Leo? You get full credit, not just a nod, and you get richly rewarded. Just not this next few days. Let it slide. For now.



ASTROFISH.NET/book
books in print/amazon/digital &c.

♈ ASTROFISH.NET



Virgo: There are three or four planets I'm concerned with. While Mr. Mercury ceases his retrograde pattern, there's a little kick to everything about it, courtesy of Mr. Saturn. On the opposite side? Uranus, adds a small punch to the Mercurial tricks. All the while? Venus is loping along in the beginning of the Virgo, the early stages, as it were.

The players are set. But what does this mean? There's a perfectly ordered idea, a plan, if you will, in your Virgo mind. You've worked out the contingencies, figured the odds, played around with the numbers, sketched out the ideas, and yes, it should work. Only it won't. No matter how well you figure, there's always something that pops up, goes away, is miscommunicated, or -- a personal favorite -- "they didn't follow my instructions." It is going to work out, but no one is going to follow the Virgo plan. In fact, none of your efforts are liable to be recognized.

All Rights Reserved

copyright (c) 2008, 2009 Kramer Wetzel, for astrofish.net

**astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts**

For the week starting: 10/1/2009

"His gift is in devising impossible slanders."
Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing* [II.i.123]
Beatrice describing Benedick.

Shiner "Bocktoberfest." Shiner Beer, 100 years old.

Upcoming: Lecture/workshop, one-stop astrology class: [in El Paso](#).

Questions are always free, some answers require a cash deposit. The e-mail [line](#) is always on, "31" (24 and 7).



Libra: I pulled a big fish in, on some relatively light tackle. As the I fought/played with the [fish](#) and got it closer to the craft, I got excited and I lifted the fish up, just ready to flop it into the fishing boat. Should've used a net. "Oh, man, that one was big!" Of course it was huge -- it got away.

Brings us to this week's message. Have to be [careful](#), don't get too excited and you won't lose the big fish. However, if you do pull a stunt like me? There's no sense in berating yourself, over and over, for a simple error in judgment. We all make them, from time to time. Since, on that trip, it was early in the day? No problem, caught some more fish. Which were boated with a net.

Everyone learned from my experience. Which, in all honesty, I knew. But there comes a point where you learn from the mistake and then, instead of calling it a mistake? Call it a learning experience. Then too, another part of this issue? Can't dwell in the past. You can glance back to make sure you don't make the exact same mistake again, but you can't dwell on it. Not allowed for now.



ASTROFISH.NET/book
books in print/amazon/digital &c.

 ASTROFISH.NET

 SCORPIO

Scorpio: There's a quality that I tend to admire in a Scorpio, that ability to twist anything around to suit that particular Scorpio's situation. However, while I admire that quality, there's catch to it this week. I say, "Push?" And you pull. I say "Duck?" And up you jump. The normal response, "It seemed like the thing to do?" That doesn't work so well.

I'm not against Scorpio, no, rather, I'd just like it to be a bit easier for you. In order to make it easier, you have to follow the guidelines, the follow the hints, and hope that person giving the hints and directions understands what's going on. Instead of trying to use some kind of reverse-reverse psychology, with healthy ironic flavor, I'm being pointed and clear. The directions, oh, just consider them as suggestions rather than rules, okay?

Those are all about specific directions which your good little Scorpio self should follow. The directions are clear, too. "Push," means to exert pressure away from you. "Duck" means to lower your Scorpio brain so you don't get hit on the head. It's very simple. We're crawling out of a little bit of bad spot for Scorpio and the easiest way to avoid problems? Follow the proffered advice.

ASTROFISH.NET: Family-owned and operated since 1993!

 ASTROFISH.NET


SAGITTARIUS

[Sagittarius](#): I was looking at some over-the-counter medication. Stuff I keep on hand to relieve symptoms of illness, and really, it's more a comfort to have the meds on hand than to use those OTC pills. However, as I was feeling like I might need them, I checked on the label of the pills. I wanted to see just exactly how many I should I take in 24-hour period, and I was surprised.

My best estimate? My best guess? I was doubling up on the dose of that stuff. Which probably isn't a good idea. Or maybe it is, as dizziness could be a side-effect. Or maybe I'm already a little dizzy. This really isn't about drugs, though, it's more about reading the instructions. Following the directions. While it might sound like fun to mix and match medications to amaze your friends, it's not always a good idea to play around the brain's chemistry. As a [Sagittarius](#), we have, at best, a tenuous grip on reality as it is?

Which is why I'm suggesting, just as a suggestion, just for the next couple of days? Try reading the instructions. Try following the directions.



CAPRICORN

Capricorn: Here's a hint: get a jump start on the new year. If I were more a [self-aggrandizing](#), [self-promoting sales](#) jerk, I'd suggest you look at a [transit report](#) for next year, just to figure out when you've got your hot times, and then I'd suggest you plan and prepare. But that's a lot of work, leafing through page after page of material just to determine what's going to happen next year. And why are we concerned with next year?

Should you be concerned about next year? Yes. There's a point, has to do with current employment at this moment in space and time, and at this very point, this instance, in the

next few days? You've got a chance to start making progress towards next year. Little changes? Or big changes? Kind of depends on your happiness quotient, your rating, and how you stack up against that internal Capricorn measuring stick.

Perhaps the most judgmental of all, huh? The internal Capricorn voice.

Anyway, this is about making some plans for the future, based upon where events are right about now.



ASTROFISH.NET/book
books in print/amazon/digital &c.

 **ASTROFISH.NET**



AQUARIUS

[Aquarius](#): For me, I keep this list short, as short as possible. It's a list of things I should do. Usually, it's things I should do right away, too. Here's my little kick-in-the-pants for my excellent Aquarius friends: look at your list. Take the top item? If you can, just accomplish that one goal. Just get it done, just do it. If that to item is not doable? Then skip to the next item on the list.

It's about priorities and how you choose to go about getting things done on your list of things that must be done. Or should be done, or should be done to improve the quality of your life. Or some other entity (spouse/boss) requires your excellent Aquarius action. It's about doing what is right, doing what may not be the most comfortable, it's about doing the proper thing, finding the best course of action to knock that top spot down a notch -- or three.

There's all this nice stuff floating along in Aquarius. It's just that you can get a little distracted, and then, you want to do

something else, and then you forget all about what you're doing in the first place, and you wander off to go have a beer with friends (or some kind of similar [pursuit](#)). Which is the problem. Stick to the top items on the list of things you'd rather not do, but if you get them done, at least one? You will feel much better.



Pisces: I was kicking around an advertising term to use for my own [horoscopes](#). I was going to call it "affordable fun." I liked the way the term rolled off the tongue, I liked the sound and implications. Better yet, though, I like the way this works for [Pisces](#). It's what you're looking for, these days. Affordable fun. There is such a thing, you know?

A [subscription](#) costs less than -- insert your own suitable metaphor.

The examples I grew so fond of? [Downtown parking rates](#). I had numerous images of how much it costs to park in a spot by the courthouse. From five bucks right on up to a dozen dollars -- or more. I don't know if that's what you're looking at, either, for affordable fun. I'd be looking for stuff that is cheap, or even [free](#), if at all possible, I'd be interested in a cheap fun. Some diversion that doesn't cost a lot, if anything at all. I was thinking about grabbing a fishing pole, early next week and hitting a few of the local ponds. That's cheap fun, for example, right? Affordable fun for Pisces -- however you work that.



Aries: This is an exercise for this week -- get a piece of paper, a blank piece of paper. Put a large letter A in the

center of the paper. Good. All done?

What's going is you just graded yourself. You just gave yourself an A. You can add a plus if you would like, but as an Aries, superlatives are not always required. You passed with flying colors, you're good to go. As the next few days arrive and depart, there's going to be some judgment and grading.

Instead of worrying about what others think about? Just consider what you've done, where you are, and how far you've come. Look at where you're at -- right now.

What does this have to do with anything? It's all about where you're at, how you're doing, and how you react to being graded. When some outside forces start pushing on you? Look at that piece of paper from the start. Internally, you know, I'm right, you deserve the best grade. Or really good one.



ASTROFISH.NET/book
books in print/amazon/digital &c.

 **ASTROFISH.NET**



Taurus: Something triggered my brain, as I was looking at the Taurus charts, for the beginning, for the end, and even some for the middle of the next couple of days. One word. I couldn't escape this one word, it just seemed to fit: Circus.

It looks like there's a circus going on in Taurus. In the main ring, there's one act, on the side, there's another act, and on the other side, a juggling act. It's really a three-ring circus in Taurus. What are you going to do with that? There are any number of plausible solutions for Taurus. However, I have a much better idea. Instead of trying -- and possibly

failing -- as the Ring Master? Be part of the audience. You'll enjoy the show much more, and there's always something to watch.

There will be a Gemini, trying to back up and correct a previous mistake. An Aries will be blithely banging his or her way forward, through the obstacle rather than around the obstacle, and then, here in Taurus? Trying to manage and juggle three acts at one time? Whatever for? While Mercury is no longer backwards, there's still a bit of leftover tension -- in other signs. Sit back, and observe. With that implacable Taurus calm? Sit back and watch. Or do like me, and be greatly amused.



Gemini: [Listen](#) to me: [Mercury is not retrograde](#).

Got that? No more using *that* excuse. Now, as this week unfolds, as we hit a full moon, then the full moon fallout? You're going to feel, your little Gemini brain will lie to you, and tell you that Mercury is still backwards because you keep running into the same kinds of problems you've had for the last four weeks now. I'm amused by my Gemini friends and family. I am amazed, at times. Like now.

Like, if you'll go back and look at some of my [previous advice](#), you'll see I warned you -- adequately -- about what happens if you skip a step or take an apparent shortcut, or avoid cleaning up a little mess that needed to be cleaned up. While I'm all in favor Gemini keeping his or her hands clean? While I'm all in favor in finding the most expedient route to get through from here to there? Anything you skipped, ducked, or avoided? In the last four weeks? Something you were supposed to do and didn't? Yeah, it'll be back to bite you. From my non-Gemini perspective, all I can say? I told you so.



CANCER

Cancer: Been some time since I've traveled to this particular West Texas [destination](#), but what it amounts to? It's about 40 minutes via commercial jetliner, and it's about a six, maybe even eight hour drive. That's a long way. Part of the problem is the location of the interstate and part of the problem is where I live, and part of the problem is I really don't enjoy a six or eight hour drive like that.

If I have time to wander, [meander](#), stop for the view, stop for a coffee break, stop and eat some local food, stop for a chicken-fried steak, stop for BBQ, stop for coffee again. Stop and get some ice cream? I could take, two, maybe three days to get there and I'd come home a different route. But I can't afford that much time on the road and the trip, what with all those stops? It gets a little more pricey than I'd like.

It's a matter of weighing destination versus time and factoring in enjoyment of the travel itself. Time meandering and wandering? That's good. I enjoy that. It's the rest of the stuff that detracts from the proposition. You get an offer. Does it justify the trip? Does the expense, in both time, money and spirit, wait, only two things, time and spirit? Is there enough money? Or is it more difficult than it's worth? Only you can decide that. But I'd look at this next offer long and hard before taking another plunge.



ASTROFISH.NET/book
books in print/amazon/digital &c.



Leo: I've lived in Austin too long. I like my steak really rare. I don't eat meat all that often, but when I do, I like it very rare. In fact, I'd be happy if they just sliced a little piece off the cow, then sewed the flap of leather back in place, thereby not really hurting the cattle, certainly a lot less painful than hamburger, that's for sure.

So I lived in Austin too long and I have different set of values as a result of prolonged exposure to that "Austin water." Swimming in the Barton Creek will do that. This isn't really about how I like my steak, though, it's about adapting to a new environment. It's about how you change to get along in a new place. Or don't change, that, too.

Adaptation is important. Not always a Leo characteristic, but there is a chance to change. A chance to grow. A chance to look at an existing situation from slightly skewed perspective, and maybe, just maybe, you get new handle on the old problem. Or you get a new way to pitch the old idea. Or, there's a more apparent way to effectively deal with what used to be a problem, only, it's less of a problem because you have a new way of looking at things. Like me, living in Austin too long and exposed to that cold water.



[Virgo](#): Across several mythologies, the morning star is the bringer of life. Or bringer of glad tidings and/or various good things. The morning star, Venus and Mercury, align with that taskmaster, Mr. Saturn.

There's a sense of destiny, accomplishment and still, a little

**astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts**

bit of hard toil still ahead. Anyone who promised you a free ride, a cheap way around the problem, or a [solution](#) that was too good to be true? Guess what. It was too good to be true. Saturn and his friends will light that up, even now.

Simply put, you've still got a bit of hard work ahead, and that's going to be highlighted in the next few days as those three line themselves up. Cosmic message, or just a forgotten task? [Depends](#).



ASTROFISH.NET/book
books in print/amazon/digital &c.

All Rights Reserved

[copyright](#) (c) 2008, 2009 [Kramer Wetzel](#), for [astrofish.net](#)

For the week starting: 10/8/12009

"The sight of lovers feedeth those in love."
Shakespeare's *As You Like It* [III.iv.36]

Mercury direct. Upcoming: Lecture/workshop, one-stop astrology class: [in El Paso](#). Questions are always free, some answers require a cash deposit.



LIBRA

Libra: Basically, where I live? [Weather](#) doesn't demonstrably cool off until after [Halloween](#). Just a point and arbitrary indication on the [calendar](#). However, as I was looking at your birthday chart, yes, it's your birthday time, Libra dear, I was thinking about the weather and so forth.

Because of where I live, I can only describe a local weather pattern. But follow this trend a little, the talk and promise of cooler weather, shorter days, longer nights. It goes with the fall weather, and the coming seasonal shift, that's all about things cooling off. When I talk of cooling off, though, I'm talking in a good way, like I won't sweat as much as I would September. Or the bugs aren't a bad as they were last month, and suddenly, it feels a little less summer. In a good way. That's what this about, the natural [progression](#) and how it's getting a little cooler out, at least around here it.

ASTROFISH.NET: Now with *even more* antioxidants!



Scorpio: I was listening to a song on the radio. "It hit me like a [ton of bricks](#)," the signer sang. Which, in the empty corridors of my mind, I examined the term, "Ton of bricks."

As opposed to, say, a ton of "organic male bovine by-product?" While the smell might be different, I'd guess that the metric tonnage, the actual weight? A ton delineated a single weight amount. So a ton of bricks doesn't weigh any more than a ton of rocks, or sand, or a ton of organic male bovine by-product.

Does it really matter whether you're hit with a ton of bricks or a ton of something else? Not really. While I doubt it's ton of bricks that hits your Scorpio self, I don't doubt that you get a sudden realization in the coming few days. Whether it hits like a ton of bricks, or a ton of something else? I'm not sure how the measurement differs. But I warned you.



ASTROFISH.NET/book
books in print/amazon/digital &c.

 **ASTROFISH.NET**



SAGITTARIUS

[Sagittarius: Reflections](#). That's what this is all about. I took a picture one time, I was supposed to be shooting "[water](#)" as a thematic element. It was a puddle, near where I live. I didn't even notice it at the time of the picture, but the puddle's surface reflected something else, like clouds or street lamp, something. *It was not an intentional process on my part.*

I have a reputation of being interested in [fishing](#) even in puddles, if I think they might hold fish. Which is what this was about, at the start, just puddles that might -- or might not -- have fish in them. But it's matter of looking back at one piece of work and realizing that there's another image reflected in its surface.

The [accidental](#) nature of art can't be diminished. Which is what this is really about. Allow for the accidents to happen.

That's the whole point. There might be a reflection or an image reflected in the surface of something as simple as a puddle. Don't look too hard, either, allow for the serendipitous, inadvertent nature to work its magic.



CAPRICORN

Capricorn: It's really weird how [distractions](#) can present themselves. Work tasks that seem to be labor-intensive, fun events that seems to take more time than they should? While it's always pleasant to waste time like this, it was one afternoon, I had an appointment for a reading with a client, and I was fishing.

I thought I'd allowed enough time to get from the lake back to the house and hook up the phone line and recorder and all. I didn't. What really happened? I was late from fishing because, there was this one, he wanted to be [caught](#), but he didn't, and he would nibble the bait, just a little, and then stop. So I spent too much time having too much fun chasing a fish that didn't really want to get his picture taken, which is why, in all honesty, I was late for that reading.

Which is why I'm warning about just such distractions.



AQUARIUS

Aquarius: Jupiter turns and starts its forward motion in the next week or so. While it isn't much, it is, in a way. Jupiter is all about luck. Luck is one of those elements that can never be quantified. Therein is the problem, as your luck is improving. Try taking that luck to the bank. I've yet to find a teller who will let me deposit luck.

However, there's a good shot at something that will fall your

way, your fine Aquarius way. In order to make this happen, though, whatever it is? You can help this along with a gentle nudge. Just a nudge. Don't get all pushy and stuff. Let this flow, just consider giving it a little, gentle, direction. Like, in your favor. Just a simple bump, sort of poking it with a toe or something. Nudge it your way.



ASTROFISH.NET/book
books in print/amazon/digital &c.

 **ASTROFISH.NET**



[Pisces](#): I was talking to a guy from Houston. We were talking about past hurricanes, floods and other natural disasters, just odd weather patterns, that Houston falls prey to. Just the usual weird stuff, and odd stories. His best one, related from a (highly reliable narrative) friend of a friend? "I knew I was in trouble when I woke up and the bed was floating in the bedroom."

It happens. Not like there wasn't adequate warning that a storm was approaching, or that it was going to flood, as it rained steady for three days. Nope, none of this was that unusual, either, not given the time and place. Houston is close enough to the Gulf of Mexico, and Houston is used to rain of torrential proportions, so none of this was that odd. I'm like a weatherman, and I'm warning you that there's a band of low pressure or high pressure, or something. After looking at the Pisces chart, though, I just figured you won't mind my warning until the bed is floating. Then you can say it. ("Houston, we have a problem.")

 **ASTROFISH.NET**



[Aries](#): I stepped out in the fall afternoon, and after a cursory glance out the window, I figured I would need a flannel shirt to go with shorts and sandals, as it looked cool out. I opened the door, stepped outside, and I reversed my decision immediately. I opened the door again, tossed the flannel shirt inside, locked, turned, left. That simple. It looked cold. It wasn't. Wasn't even slightly chilly. Wasn't even close.

October, after the [fall equinox](#)? Should be chilly, right? Not here. Not on a day like last week. Not even cool. This is about expectation, and I expected cold. Or cool. I do believe it dropped below 70 degrees, *yeah, right*. Like about 1 (one) degree below. As I suggested, not enough to make a noticeable difference, not really. I was basing my expectations on what I saw, looking out the window.

Reasonable enough, but there are times when an Aries empirical decision must be based solely on observed phenomena. Whether it's the weather or something else, test for yourself, first. Then make a decision. Unless, like [me](#), you don't mind turning back after you found out the first assumption was wrong.



Taurus: I was [fishing](#) at [one](#) lake, kind of close to me. Sort of [favorite](#) spot, on certain days, like most of the days in October. There's a dock, administered by the park department, the nominative rulers of the park. Overlords. Trusted servants, something. Anyway, the dock was closed. There was a sign up, and there was chain link fence in front of the dock's entrance, the ramp at the trail's end.

The dock was going to be repaired, and until further notice, no one was allowed on the dock, order of the park's administration and violation was considered trespass. I

watched as a couple of guys swung out around the chain link fence, crawled onto the dock and ambled out towards the end, fishing poles in hand. A few minutes later, a park ranger came by and just parked. He waited until he was noticed, then the guys came back, and crawled back around the fence.

I'm not exactly sure, as I wasn't going to risk the ranger's ire, but it looked like he checked the boys' fishing licenses and then seemed to write a ticket. Probably for trespass. I'm not a Taurus, but if I played one, like on TV? I'd handled that differently. The fence? The sign that says, "Don't go there?" I wouldn't go there. Pay attention to the signs or suffer the consequences.



ASTROFISH.NET/book
books in print/amazon/digital &c.

 **ASTROFISH.NET**

II Gemini

[Gemini](#): As Jupiter moves from a retrograde pattern to a more forward and direct pattern, in a compatible air sign, I just figure life gets a little smoother for the Gemini. It's not like this is without a problem or two, and it's not like this going to be smooth and better right away. Over the course of the next week, though, it gets a little easier.

I used to fish one place in [particular](#). For one, it was close and convenient, and for two, I know the structure and terrain. I knew what to expect. No big surprises there. Which is what this is about. While it might seem that I've caught all the fish at that one spot, I'm pleasantly surprised that there are still more fish to catch. Same technique, same place, sometimes, the same fish. Other times, it seems like there are new fish, but who am I to talk about this?

There are days when repetition is the bane of the Gemini existence. Then, too, there will be days, like in the next week, when that repetition is just the opposite, it almost feels refreshing. It might be refreshing. I'm thinking that me and my Gemini self will head out to the old familiar place this week, just as Jupiter turns around, just to see if there any new fish, or old friends.



Cancer: Mars was just a prelude. At the end of this week, Mars will be at the very end of Cancer. He, Mr. Mars, made his way all the way through your sign. As a student of the stars, I'm inclined to suggest that this is a pretty big hint about what's up ahead for the next couple of years.

Mars is just like "meat tenderizer," that dubious product that was popular at one point. The last time I read the ingredients, that "meat tenderizer" was nothing more MSG and salt. I think the secret was applying the tenderizer with a kitchen mallet. I'm sure any number of hammer and mallet corollaries will come up, too. I think it was less about what was in the substance, and I figure it was a lot more about how it was applied, with a hammer, or hammer-like tool. That would soften up just about any kind of meat. Feels like you've been through the same process, too. Tenderized. Salted and then beaten? Maybe left in the oven to roast?



Leo: Subtle doesn't work particularly well with any Leo, and as **the Leo**? Certainly not. Subtlety is best left to folks who don't want to be Leo. And you're a Leo, **The Leo**, and as

such, you want to be a Leo. **The Leo**. Which is the problem because this is a time that is all about subtle indications.

There's a whole world of innuendo, delicate little observation, nuances, and other subtle indications about what's happening. It's a matter of working with the tiny, delicate indications rather than the usual broad, generous strokes. As **the Leo**, you're used to big statements in bold print. Think about another way of approaching this energy, though, small statements in [fine print](#). Or lots of small statements, each with slight color gradient, affecting a gorgeous hue.

Get the image? It's not about big, it's about small. It's not about loud, it's about quiet. It's not about directing attention at yourself by banging a loud gong, it's about catching their eyes with a gentle saturation of a variety of [images](#). Small: it's the new Leo large.



ASTROFISH.NET/book
books in print/amazon/digital &c.

 **ASTROFISH.NET**

 **VIRGO**

[Virgo](#): We were just emerging from a fine meal in a little downtown diner, and as we emerged, me and a date, the crowds pressed against us. Lots of fall traffic, nominally, the fall, but in South Texas? On a weekend? Felt like a festive and restive weekend crowd, like late summer.

The damp air pressed against us. We were moving with the crowds, and we got in behind, I'll assume, a tourist. She was wearing, or she smelled like, I'm not sure which, something that was either high-powered bug spray or perfume. Not sure which it was. Could be a problem, too. [Vermin repellent or male attractant](#)? Which was it supposed

astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts

to be? I'm unsure, but the appearance and rolling gait would suggest attractant.

And who in their right minds would find that particular odor [attractive](#)? There are some bug sprays that have a kind of perfume in them, so as to be aesthetically pleasing and still functional as an insect repellent. Might've been one of those. My date offered, she was sure it was bug spray. Since I've used most kinds of bug spray, I'm thinking perfume. Either way, it did, or maybe didn't, work. Bug spray or perfume this week?

All Rights Reserved

[copyright](#) (c) 2008, 2009 [Kramer Wetzel](#), for [astrofish.net](#)

For the week starting: 10/8/12009

"The sight of lovers feedeth those in love."
Shakespeare's *As You Like It* [III.iv.36]

Mercury direct. Upcoming: Lecture/workshop, one-stop astrology class: [in El Paso](#). Questions are always free, some answers require a cash deposit.

 ASTROFISH.NET



LIBRA

Libra: Basically, where I live? [Weather](#) doesn't demonstrably cool off until after [Halloween](#). Just a point and arbitrary indication on the [calendar](#). However, as I was looking at your birthday chart, yes, it's your birthday time, Libra dear, I was thinking about the weather and so forth.

Because of where I live, I can only describe a local weather pattern. But follow this trend a little, the talk and promise of cooler weather, shorter days, longer nights. It goes with the fall weather, and the coming seasonal shift, that's all about things cooling off. When I talk of cooling off, though, I'm talking in a good way, like I won't sweat as much as I would September. Or the bugs aren't a bad as they were last month, and suddenly, it feels a little less summer. In a good way. That's what this about, the natural [progression](#) and how it's getting a little cooler out, at least around here it.

ASTROFISH.NET: Now with *even more* antioxidants!

 ASTROFISH.NET



Scorpio: I was listening to a song on the radio. "It hit me like a [ton of bricks](#)," the signer sang. Which, in the empty corridors of my mind, I examined the term, "Ton of bricks."

As opposed to, say, a ton of "organic male bovine by-product?" While the smell might be different, I'd guess that the metric tonnage, the actual weight? A ton delineated a single weight amount. So a ton of bricks doesn't weigh any more than a ton of rocks, or sand, or a ton of organic male bovine by-product.

Does it really matter whether you're hit with a ton of bricks or a ton of something else? Not really. While I doubt it's ton of bricks that hits your Scorpio self, I don't doubt that you get a sudden realization in the coming few days. Whether it hits like a ton of bricks, or a ton of something else? I'm not sure how the measurement differs. But I warned you.



ASTROFISH.NET/book
books in print/amazon/digital &c.

 **ASTROFISH.NET**



SAGITTARIUS

[Sagittarius: Reflections](#). That's what this is all about. I took a picture one time, I was supposed to be shooting "[water](#)" as a thematic element. It was a puddle, near where I live. I didn't even notice it at the time of the picture, but the puddle's surface reflected something else, like clouds or street lamp, something. *It was not an intentional process on my part.*

I have a reputation of being interested in [fishing](#) even in puddles, if I think they might hold fish. Which is what this was about, at the start, just puddles that might -- or might not -- have fish in them. But it's matter of looking back at one piece of work and realizing that there's another image reflected in its surface.

The [accidental](#) nature of art can't be diminished. Which is what this is really about. Allow for the accidents to happen.

That's the whole point. There might be a reflection or an image reflected in the surface of something as simple as a puddle. Don't look too hard, either, allow for the serendipitous, inadvertent nature to work its magic.



CAPRICORN

Capricorn: It's really weird how [distractions](#) can present themselves. Work tasks that seem to be labor-intensive, fun events that seems to take more time than they should? While it's always pleasant to waste time like this, it was one afternoon, I had an appointment for a reading with a client, and I was fishing.

I thought I'd allowed enough time to get from the lake back to the house and hook up the phone line and recorder and all. I didn't. What really happened? I was late from fishing because, there was this one, he wanted to be [caught](#), but he didn't, and he would nibble the bait, just a little, and then stop. So I spent too much time having too much fun chasing a fish that didn't really want to get his picture taken, which is why, in all honesty, I was late for that reading.

Which is why I'm warning about just such distractions.



AQUARIUS

Aquarius: Jupiter turns and starts its forward motion in the next week or so. While it isn't much, it is, in a way. Jupiter is all about luck. Luck is one of those elements that can never be quantified. Therein is the problem, as your luck is improving. Try taking that luck to the bank. I've yet to find a teller who will let me deposit luck.

However, there's a good shot at something that will fall your

way, your fine Aquarius way. In order to make this happen, though, whatever it is? You can help this along with a gentle nudge. Just a nudge. Don't get all pushy and stuff. Let this flow, just consider giving it a little, gentle, direction. Like, in your favor. Just a simple bump, sort of poking it with a toe or something. Nudge it your way.



ASTROFISH.NET/book
books in print/amazon/digital &c.

 **ASTROFISH.NET**



[Pisces](#): I was talking to a guy from Houston. We were talking about past hurricanes, floods and other natural disasters, just odd weather patterns, that Houston falls prey to. Just the usual weird stuff, and odd stories. His best one, related from a (highly reliable narrative) friend of a friend? "I knew I was in trouble when I woke up and the bed was floating in the bedroom."

It happens. Not like there wasn't adequate warning that a storm was approaching, or that it was going to flood, as it rained steady for three days. Nope, none of this was that unusual, either, not given the time and place. Houston is close enough to the Gulf of Mexico, and Houston is used to rain of torrential proportions, so none of this was that odd. I'm like a weatherman, and I'm warning you that there's a band of low pressure or high pressure, or something. After looking at the Pisces chart, though, I just figured you won't mind my warning until the bed is floating. Then you can say it. ("Houston, we have a problem.")

 **ASTROFISH.NET**



[Aries](#): I stepped out in the fall afternoon, and after a cursory glance out the window, I figured I would need a flannel shirt to go with shorts and sandals, as it looked cool out. I opened the door, stepped outside, and I reversed my decision immediately. I opened the door again, tossed the flannel shirt inside, locked, turned, left. That simple. It looked cold. It wasn't. Wasn't even slightly chilly. Wasn't even close.

October, after the [fall equinox](#)? Should be chilly, right? Not here. Not on a day like last week. Not even cool. This is about expectation, and I expected cold. Or cool. I do believe it dropped below 70 degrees, *yeah, right*. Like about 1 (one) degree below. As I suggested, not enough to make a noticeable difference, not really. I was basing my expectations on what I saw, looking out the window.

Reasonable enough, but there are times when an Aries empirical decision must be based solely on observed phenomena. Whether it's the weather or something else, test for yourself, first. Then make a decision. Unless, like [me](#), you don't mind turning back after you found out the first assumption was wrong.



Taurus: I was [fishing](#) at [one](#) lake, kind of close to me. Sort of [favorite](#) spot, on certain days, like most of the days in October. There's a dock, administered by the park department, the nominative rulers of the park. Overlords. Trusted servants, something. Anyway, the dock was closed. There was a sign up, and there was chain link fence in front of the dock's entrance, the ramp at the trail's end.

The dock was going to be repaired, and until further notice, no one was allowed on the dock, order of the park's administration and violation was considered trespass. I

watched as a couple of guys swung out around the chain link fence, crawled onto the dock and ambled out towards the end, fishing poles in hand. A few minutes later, a park ranger came by and just parked. He waited until he was noticed, then the guys came back, and crawled back around the fence.

I'm not exactly sure, as I wasn't going to risk the ranger's ire, but it looked like he checked the boys' fishing licenses and then seemed to write a ticket. Probably for trespass. I'm not a Taurus, but if I played one, like on TV? I'd handled that differently. The fence? The sign that says, "Don't go there?" I wouldn't go there. Pay attention to the signs or suffer the consequences.



ASTROFISH.NET/book
books in print/amazon/digital &c.

 **ASTROFISH.NET**

II Gemini

[Gemini](#): As Jupiter moves from a retrograde pattern to a more forward and direct pattern, in a compatible air sign, I just figure life gets a little smoother for the Gemini. It's not like this is without a problem or two, and it's not like this going to be smooth and better right away. Over the course of the next week, though, it gets a little easier.

I used to fish one place in [particular](#). For one, it was close and convenient, and for two, I know the structure and terrain. I knew what to expect. No big surprises there. Which is what this is about. While it might seem that I've caught all the fish at that one spot, I'm pleasantly surprised that there are still more fish to catch. Same technique, same place, sometimes, the same fish. Other times, it seems like there are new fish, but who am I to talk about this?

There are days when repetition is the bane of the Gemini existence. Then, too, there will be days, like in the next week, when that repetition is just the opposite, it almost feels refreshing. It might be refreshing. I'm thinking that me and my Gemini self will head out to the old familiar place this week, just as Jupiter turns around, just to see if there any new fish, or old friends.



Cancer: Mars was just a prelude. At the end of this week, Mars will be at the very end of Cancer. He, Mr. Mars, made his way all the way through your sign. As a student of the stars, I'm inclined to suggest that this is a pretty big hint about what's up ahead for the next couple of years.

Mars is just like "meat tenderizer," that dubious product that was popular at one point. The last time I read the ingredients, that "meat tenderizer" was nothing more MSG and salt. I think the secret was applying the tenderizer with a kitchen mallet. I'm sure any number of hammer and mallet corollaries will come up, too. I think it was less about what was in the substance, and I figure it was a lot more about how it was applied, with a hammer, or hammer-like tool. That would soften up just about any kind of meat. Feels like you've been through the same process, too. Tenderized. Salted and then beaten? Maybe left in the oven to roast?



Leo: **Subtle** doesn't work particularly well with any **Leo**, and as **the Leo**? Certainly not. Subtlety is best left to folks who don't want to be Leo. And you're a Leo, **The Leo**, and as

such, you want to be a Leo. **The Leo**. Which is the problem because this is a time that is all about subtle indications.

There's a whole world of innuendo, delicate little observation, nuances, and other subtle indications about what's happening. It's a matter of working with the tiny, delicate indications rather than the usual broad, generous strokes. As **the Leo**, you're used to big statements in bold print. Think about another way of approaching this energy, though, small statements in [fine print](#). Or lots of small statements, each with slight color gradient, affecting a gorgeous hue.

Get the image? It's not about big, it's about small. It's not about loud, it's about quiet. It's not about directing attention at yourself by banging a loud gong, it's about catching their eyes with a gentle saturation of a variety of [images](#). Small: it's the new Leo large.



ASTROFISH.NET/book
books in print/amazon/digital &c.

 **ASTROFISH.NET**

 **VIRGO**

[Virgo](#): We were just emerging from a fine meal in a little downtown diner, and as we emerged, me and a date, the crowds pressed against us. Lots of fall traffic, nominally, the fall, but in South Texas? On a weekend? Felt like a festive and restive weekend crowd, like late summer.

The damp air pressed against us. We were moving with the crowds, and we got in behind, I'll assume, a tourist. She was wearing, or she smelled like, I'm not sure which, something that was either high-powered bug spray or perfume. Not sure which it was. Could be a problem, too. [Vermin repellent or male attractant](#)? Which was it supposed

astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts

to be? I'm unsure, but the appearance and rolling gait would suggest attractant.

And who in their right minds would find that particular odor [attractive](#)? There are some bug sprays that have a kind of perfume in them, so as to be aesthetically pleasing and still functional as an insect repellent. Might've been one of those. My date offered, she was sure it was bug spray. Since I've used most kinds of bug spray, I'm thinking perfume. Either way, it did, or maybe didn't, work. Bug spray or perfume this week?

All Rights Reserved

[copyright](#) (c) 2008, 2009 [Kramer Wetzel](#), for [astrofish.net](#)

For the week starting: 10/15/2009

"Moderate lamentation is the right of the dead,
Excessive grief is the enemy of the living."

Shakespeare's *All's Well That Ends Well* [I.i.59]

[Mercury](#) direct. The e-mail [line](#) is always on, "31" (24 and 7).

Upcoming: [Lecture/workshop](#), one-stop astrology [class](#): [in El Paso](#).



LIBRA

Libra: Still plenty of Libra birthdays left to celebrate and still plenty of good times in Libra. The [catch](#), if there were one, would be the relative position of the moon especially when that's balanced against the Libra Sun. It's not that you're unhappy, it's just that a [number](#) of people seem to be intent on ruining a perfectly good week.

There's a small window that [opens](#) up at the end of the week, at the beginning of the weekend. That's good. There's also a suggestion I have, as the fall starts to finally arrive in full force: rest. This is a time, I know, birthday weekend and all, but this is a time to rest and recuperate. Get ready for what's up ahead. Maybe get a chore or two out of the way.

Odd as it may sound, you're better off without the crushing hordes around you. That Libra "entourage" you're used to having follow you around? Perhaps, I won't say for sure, as it varies from [person to person](#), Libra to individual Libra, but getting away from crowds? If only for a little while? Like this weekend, or maybe, next week? Call it a birthday getaway? You'll be much happier and more recharged, fresh and able to handle all the new challenges, once we get this behind us.

ASTROFISH.NET: Now with the all-new [5G Network!](#)



Scorpio: "Treat kids to a steady diet of eggs, worms and wooly buggers." That was a (western state) Department of the Interior, or exterior, really, or [fish and game](#), one of those -- some government agency. State, federal, something. It was an image of young child holding up a fishing pole with a trick worm on the end. The rest of the ad wasn't nearly as clever, "Take a kid fishing."

There are two guides, real fishing guides, that I know, and those two guys are good with kids. Other than that? I'm not sure. After about half an hour of a kid being fidget-prone, irascible, irritable and ADD? I get ready to use the kid itself as cut bait. Who would know? One of the guides is an older man, and he has that infinite grandfather type patience.

The other is a young guy, and he was explaining that it's easy, just have to have the kids doing things at all time. Kids need activities, at all times. Hard to imagine how that would work in a fishing boat. He had some tricks, I'm sure. Maybe there's a surcharge for kids. Now, imagine that you're a Scorpio, not hard, and imagine that you've got a boat full of kids, maybe more difficult to get a clear image of, and now, finally, imagine that you've got activities for them. Figure a way to keep the kids in the Scorpio boat happy for the next few hours. All it takes.



Sagittarius: Retrofitted farm house with its AC and [water heater](#) next to each other? I was walking in my neighborhood, and one of the homes is much older, possibly [historic](#), a farm house. Just shotgun-style, be my guess,

turn of the last century, wood on pier-and-beam support. Looks like it was lovingly redone a number of times. Included [Central Air and Heat](#), I'd guess. The hot water heater itself, that was a clear addition some years ago, as there was some effort made to conceal the appendage -- although -- the water heater's [storage](#) shed looked like it was attached to the house some years later.

I realize it's mid-October, but here in South Texas, we're still kicking in AC. Which was running and it was early in the morning, and I thought about a hot shower which brings me to the whole point, wondering why the AC and the water heater were so close to each other. Seems like they would work in opposite direction, one for hot water, one for cool air.

The intricacies of household engineering might not be a strong suit with me, especially when this is applied to an older building. Not that it matters much. Or maybe it does. Both units were at the rear of the house. I was just thinking, though, wouldn't it be easier to put each unit at opposite sides of the rear of the house? Keep the hot side hot and the cool side cool? Is there a step in the Sagittarius land where we can take similar action? Separate hot from cold?



ASTROFISH.NET/book
books in print/amazon/digital &c.

ASTROFISH.NET



CAPRICORN

Capricorn: I was talking to a neighbor, originally, from Houston. I'd asked how he dealt with [Houston weather](#), in its excess. "It wasn't ever that bad, until, about two, maybe three hurricanes ago?" I nodded, not really remembering which one, "I woke up and the bed was floating. Time to

move, what I thought."

I'd have to agree with that -- pretty [clear indication](#) that it's time --high time-- to move. I'm not saying that your bed will be floating in the aftermath of a tropical storm. I'm not saying that you're moving, either. I'd be attendant, though, in a perspicacious manner, waiting and ready for a clear sign. This is one that's not too subtle. A clear indication that you should go one way or another, or particular issue.

That issue, I doubt it's about Houston weather, but I'm suggesting that there is a pretty clear message from the [Universe](#) about which way to go. Maybe you and your bed frame get washed [out the door](#), again, that's just one example, but I'd take that a clear indication of which way you should be going.

[Reverse Phone look-up!](#)



AQUARIUS

[Aquarius](#): We'd been looking at boats, me and fishing buddy. More idle speculation rather than really shopping. Eventually, we decided that none of the boat dealers had what we were looking for, not all the parts we wanted and needed. Right size, wrong console arrangement, right console, wrong motor and hull, and so forth.

What's boats got to do with Aquarius? Hello, Aquarius, it's the sign of the [Water](#)-Bearer.

Boats bear us on water? Might be a stretch, but I'm going some place with this. It's about looking at disparate parts and realizing that no off-the-shelf, no pre-manufactured product is going to work. Sometimes, it might be easier -- better -- just to buy the parts and build your own. This could be a car, a house, a fishing boat, a pleasure boat that doubles as a fishing platform, or any other kind of a large item-

purchase. Instead of tire-kicking, complaining and bemoaning the lack of original thought in the design process, why not just buy the right parts and build yourself a keeper?



Pisces: I stop and talk to cops, as often as I can. The setting for this question and answer game was San Antonio's [Riverwalk](#). I asked the SA PD what was the weirdest question, not "Where's the Alamo," but weirdest question from tourists? "There was this bunch of little old ladies, asked where Dirty Dick was."

There is a place called Dirty Nelly's, an Irish-themed bar. And there is a place called Dick's Last Resort, a dive themed diner. "It was just this image of little old ladies, you know?" The cop asked. Depends on how weirdness falls on your "weird-o-meter." Mine is set [pretty high](#), but that's too much time in Austin itself, nothing is ever going to be too strange. Which is why I tend to ask the guys in uniforms for help on this one.

That wasn't the best, response I've gotten, but it's probably one of the better ones. Then, too, it was a pair of [officers](#) I'm not used to seeing. Some cops know me, I'm -- apparently -- a memorable character. You can be like me, a memorable character, you could be the cop on the spot, being quizzed about the most memorable questions, but most of all, I suspect, you're going to be like the gaggle of little old ladies, looking for a misnamed restaurant. Or bar. The real question, was that an intentional misnomer, or did they do that on [accident](#)?



ASTROFISH.NET/book
books in print/amazon/digital &c.



Aries: I was [out-of-town](#), on [business](#), of course, and I was watching a seriously road-weary road warrior. [Business suite](#). No tie, but the collar looked like it had been recently tied up tight. The guy was frazzled. As he settled down to a meal in the coffee shop, he asked if he could get a steak and salad, nothing more. No bread. No veggies, nothing. Steak and salad. Then he unlimbered two smart phones.

He picked one up, scrolled through the list of messages. Said something to himself, and set the phone down. He then picked up the second phone, typed a text message, said something to himself again, and looked at the first phone. He said something to himself again. I checked, no earpiece. He wasn't on some kind of hands-free ear-thing. He was talking to himself.

I know how it is, around 11 at night, dog tired from work and yet, there's still one more thing. The question is, do you want to be the one talking to yourself? The work is good, but there's a frantic push that you don't have to make so frantic.



Taurus: I watched a [young](#) man, just headed out to the lake to fish. He was dressed in fresh khaki cargo shorts and a light colored, long-sleeved "fishing" shirt. I was amused. I have a similar, if not identical, shirt. The difference is, when mine has the sleeves rolled up, there's a mess. I try to be neat and tidy, but the sleeves -- the little epaulette-like appendage for holding the sleeves rolled in place? Yeah, I never get the sleeves right, but that little strap works fine to

keep the long sleeves short.

I spend lot of time fishing and consequently, I don't spend a lot of time worrying about what I wear when I fish. I tend towards loud print shirts that are actually kind of cheap and cheesy, but that's my style -- or lack of a [style](#).

I was thinking about my lack of style because of the relative position of Mars -- going into Leo -- and Jupiter -- in Aquarius -- and you. The way it looks to me, you can spend a lot of time, folding and primping those sleeves so that they match up and look right. Or you can be a little more like a me, a little more slovenly, but by the time that kid got to the lake, I'd been fishing for over an hour. Tightly wrapped and correct in appearance? Almost to the point of having starch in your shorts? Or loose and unkempt, but just as fluid as needs be? You get to make the call, one way or another.



[Gemini](#): "[Chinese dragon](#) or English dragon?" The guy asking the question was a tattoo artist and the question was, I suppose, valid. In a way. The person was about to get inked, a permanent kind of deal, and all that was for sure was a dragon. Year of the dragon? Maybe. "Chinese or English, the English ones have wings, Chinese looks like a snake." Now I know the difference, and after a snippet of conversation, that was about all I wanted to know. Wasn't me getting inked, either.

As the weekend marches closer? There's a sense that you've got this great idea, only, like the person getting the [tattoo](#), you might not have thought the whole idea all the way through to its logical and eventual conclusion. Dragon is good, tattoo is good, the two combined is good, as well. But maybe do a little research, or sketch out an idea to sketch

out before you just wander into the tattoo parlor and start asking for a ink. As a side note about timing? Next week? I mean, if you were going to do something permanent, next week? After this scope is up? Be a good time to get that work done.



ASTROFISH.NET/book
books in print/amazon/digital &c.

 **ASTROFISH.NET**



CANCER

Cancer: It was advertising on a taxi, for a certain brand of restaurant. However, I liked the advertising even if I'm not fond of that chain's food. "Taxi crab." Which, just as a name, in and of itself? Be perfect. A cab I could call when I wanted someone to gripe all the way to the airport. A cab I could call when I had relatives arriving in town, or some friends, and I had to arrange for a ride from the airport. Not that I would deliberately take such action, but I'm sure you can see where just such a service would be a good idea.

How about you get called upon to give someone a ride? And you don't want to, it takes too much time, it's inconvenient, something? "Oh, you need a lift in my Taxi-Crab?" Think about it, just one way to make it all better. Or make it worse by making it better. I tend to get crabby if I don't get enough sleep. That's why I was thinking about the Taxi Crab. And I'm loathe to get up at odd hours of the night to help out friends -- I could just call the Crabby Taxi. Or the Taxi Crab. It's an idea. As we hit the last quarter moon and as we see Mars exit Cancer? Think about that idea, you can use, just give me a little credit for applying it to your sign. Perfect, no?



Leo: One [B-movie](#) ruined the whole effect. I was thinking about a chainsaw sound, as the powerful (and noisy) two-stroke motor starts up. But I wasn't thinking about that, compared with the movie franchise of a similar name. I was thinking more along the lines of getting right to it, and then, as I thought about that and Leo, **the Leo**, I was thinking about the sound of a two-stroke motor. Less and less these are these seen on chainsaws and more and more on leaf-blowers.

The local yard maintenance guys? They all have standing orders to halt the leaf blowing when a pedestrian passes. That's the rule. Often broken or abused, but I can't say I complain since I know what hard work like that is all about.

Mars is churning its way into Leo. While I liked the imagery of the sound of a chainsaw, starting up? I'm not sure that it conveys the right scenario, not anymore. Just one movie, then the franchise, ruined it all. Way it goes. However, with the advent and introduction of Mars into your quadrant of the sky? Imagine that it sounds like that chainsaw, [starting up](#).



Virgo: One of my favorite flavors of tea is *Lapsang-Souchong*. It's a smoky flavored tea, and I don't know the details of its source, treatment, or why it tastes like it does. I was in a resort and I got a "to go" cup of the tea. The little tea bag tag was snapped under the lid, looked like any of the usual solo-serve coffee cups that, at one point, were quite ubiquitous. I sipped at my tea and something tasted

wrong. Eventually, after it steeped and cooled, I pulled the plastic lid off the cup.

The tea tested like it was supposed to. It's woody and wood-smoked, with hint of roasted rice, and the image of the Oriental-wood cut art with a sparse mountains described in a single pen stroke? Yeah, all that from a simple sip of tea. The important part, though was the lid. For some reason, under the coffee cup's top, that tea didn't taste right.

Could be an emotional factor, a physical property, my own imagination, or any other number of causes.

Does it matter? Yes and no. Maybe. Sort of. All I did was discard a simple restraint, and that changed the flavor, the taste, perceptions, and most important, my enjoyment. Simple change yet made a whole world of difference. "So I'm supposed to take the top off my coffee cup?" Yeah, if that's what it takes, it could be that easy. Or something else. Some minor restraint. Some minor impediment to you getting all the Virgo pleasure you want and deserve.



All Rights Reserved

copyright (c) 2008, 2009 Kramer Wetzel, for astrofish.net

**astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts**

For the week starting: 10/22/2009

"God grant we may never have need of you."
Shakespeare's *Richard III* [I.iii.76]

Questions are always free, [some answers](#) require a cash [deposit](#). The e-mail [line](#) is always on, "31" (24 and 7).

Two-hour class, in one handy [video](#).

Barefoot Astrology - Video Tutorial - [order here, order now!](#)

 ASTROFISH.NET

 SCORPIO

Scorpio: Finally, I heard a new one. It was a news [crew](#), looking me over. "You UC?" The reporter asked, in some kind of verbal shorthand. "You see?" I queried [back](#). "Under Cover." "No ma'am," I said to the young lady, "I'm a guitar player."

My voice was dripping in [irony](#). Might've been [sarcasm](#), I'm not sure. She just nodded, knowingly, "Cool. Musician." She assumed I was on an undercover assignment. Wish I knew what it was. I wish for a lot things, like world peace, better economic times, and a different tone to politics. I can't change any of that.

However, I can mess with a reporter by answering stupid questions with stupid answers. Hello Scorpio. This is about you. This is about someone looking at you and assuming that you're undercover, or something. I merely perpetuated that reporter's mythology, but that doesn't speak well for fair and balanced journalism. I'd suggest, birthdays and all? I'd suggest you have some fun with the answers, like I did.



ASTROFISH.NET/book
books in print/amazon/digital &c.



SAGITTARIUS

Sagittarius: Puffy clouds. Moisture clouds. Rain clouds. White, cotton-ball looking clouds. The underside of some of the clouds? The parts that seem most visible? Looked like a cotton ball that was used to wipe up a spill -- flat and dirty. Still, the clouds, looking at the clouds, guessing moisture and weather?

Okay, here's how this breaks down: we can watch the weather, got a less than half and half chance of being right. We can look at the clouds ourselves, and there's a better chance we can guess at the meaning and weather portents. Or best? We can go out. Doesn't much matter if it's rain, wind, clouds, or even a freakish clear day, sitting on our backsides -- guessing -- won't tell us what ten minutes of experience will tell. That's kind of the point.

Looking at the clouds, I'm good at guessing the weather. Looking at charts, I'm good at guessing astrology weather. Nothing beats getting out and feeling what its like outside. Less time predicting for Sagittarius. More time "doing" for Sagittarius. Better that way. However, it does look like rain, now that I think about it. Better be a little prepared for onerous weather events, but still, that doesn't mean you shouldn't get out.

[On Writing a Short Story](#)



CAPRICORN

Capricorn: Can you allow for freakish weather and strange weather patterns? I live in South Texas, and yet, I have to be adaptable to weird weather. Nominally, while it's supposedly fall, it's still warm here. Cool nights with the

trailer's windows open, snuggled up under a heap of blankets and warm afternoons, suitable for such pursuits as walking, hiking, and fishing. However, what usually happens, it doesn't get really "cold" until after All Saints Day, or [Dia de los Muertos](#). Or [Halloween](#). Just a recurring memory, I've acquired, over the years.

There's usually one cold front, an almost arctic blast of air that funnels down from Canada, but by the time the cold air gets here? It's really more a cool front than outright cold. But the weather can be either way, and what I was worried about, for Capricorn, was either a freakish hot spell, or a nightmare-like cold front. One or the other, occurs this week. In your astrological face. I'm not saying hot or cold is better than the other, no, that's not what this is about. But what will happen, if you want warm weather, it'll be cold, and if you want cold weather, it'll be warm. I'm just serving as an early reminder as to what the week ahead will hold.



Aquarius: For starters, I don't recall [where](#) I was, where I was going, or what the deal was. I just remember the scene. It was a normal enough guy, walk along, pair of headphones on. Normal enough, right? Plugged into a Walkman, a flash media player, iPod, iPhone, i-music, whatever. I saw the guy again, in another turn, he might've gotten on the same bus I was riding, the same train, the same plane. I don't recall. Might've been on the hike and bike trail.

The headphones had a standard headphone jack, plugged into a small adaptor, plugged into an Apple iShuffle, or mini-iPod, or whatever that clip-sized one is called. Not much bigger than a postage stamp or two. Maybe the the size of a squashed roll of stamps. Not very big. Smaller than one ear-piece to the headset. Which is why it was funny, in an off-

beat manner. The source was smaller -- way smaller -- than the place the noise was played.

Music. Don't know what he was listening to. In Aquarius, there a care a couple of [elements](#). I was considering the truly ironic and bizarre notion that the source was much smaller than the headphones, when I realized that could be taken more than one way. Which might be the point, too, to what's going on. Before you pause to ridicule someone, think about the situation, the appearances, and then, consider, wouldn't yo like to be able to hear the music more clearly?



ASTROFISH.NET/book
books in print/amazon/digital &c.

 **ASTROFISH.NET**

 **PISCES**

[Pisces](#): Tourists are an interesting lot. I passed a pair of guys, and they heard the faintest strains of a bagpipe player, marching his way through a highland tune. That bagpipe player? I've always wanted to ask if he knows "Freebird." He's of Latin cultural heritage, and he plays bagpipes in front of the Alamo.

The tourists, though? Their comment? "Must be an Irish bar around here, I hear bagpipes." That's a "non sequiter," as in, it doesn't logically follow. Bagpipes are Scottish. Guys in kilts. Scots. [Hadrians's Wall](#)? Scots defeated the Romans? Crazy people? I mean, the Irish are pretty good fighters, too, and each grouping claims the finest whiskey, but this isn't about whiskey, or fighting, or history. Or even Mexicans playing bagpipes.

No, this about silly [associations](#) that are patently wrong. "Bagpipes, must be Irish." I tend to beleive that my readers

are educated, aware and not typical or average, and as such, you would laugh at the "Irish - Bagpipes" association. But you do have a choice in the next few days, you get to pick, which one are you? Quietly laughing to yourself, openly mocking a patently false association, or being laughed at for that statement?

[On Writing a Short Story](#)



Aries: I learned the art of "[photo](#) within a [photo](#)" by making a mistake. I'd taken a [digital](#) image of a [puddle](#), the theme for the piece was "[water](#)," and puddles are more common than huge expanses of water, so it was a puddle, and when I tweaked the puddle's image on my computer, just basic crop and color saturation, I noticed the reflection became more striking.

Which launched a whole new career of "puddle" images which gave way to a [mirror-reflection category](#) of images. Kind of interesting, in its own way. The first time was an accident, pure and simple. The second and third time, it was a little more intentional, but still, there's an accidental nature to the way the pictures work out. I was taking a picture of a fetching bumper sticker on a car, and the photographer, the artist, me, I was caught in a the window's reflection. Kind of cool, in a slightly weird way. Not that it matters, either. This is about the accidents turning into something interesting. But you have to look and observe what you're doing, my fine little Aries friend to see this happening.



Taurus: I've been in this situation twice now. Fishing with a guide, and we're out on the bay, Texas Gulf Coast. Got about a half-dozen lines in the water, and one of the lines starts moving -- fish on! And then, the fish decides to make a long run for it and and that fishing line, Berkley Big Game line, I've watched as the fish is intent on snarling the lines as best as possible.

Me and my fishing buddies? I concentrate on reeling in the big fish and the buds, they are responsible for unknotting any mess. Not always a pretty sight. Can be problematical. Tangled fishing lines, especially on warm fall day in the Gulf? Part of what happens. The measure of one's maturity, ability, enjoyment, and approach to life? How we all get along with untangling those lines, after the fish is in the boat. Was a big fish. Had it for dinner that night. Tasty.

The same guide, I've seen tangled lines with him before. Some days, he's short tempered. Other days, like the day I was thinking of, he was waxing philosophical and grinning, like it's all a part of the job. Which it is. You're lines are going to get tangled. Either, for real (four reel), or as a metaphor. It's how you deal with the problem, that's the test. Us guys in the boat? While the first idea was just cut everything, about ten minutes of patient, "where does this one lead?" Got it all worked out. Eventually.



ASTROFISH.NET/book
books in print/amazon/digital &c.

 **ASTROFISH.NET**

II Gemini

Gemini: As a Gemini, you are normally a bit flighty by nature.

Like a honey bee, you know, spreading pollen from one

flower to another.

Or like a hummingbird, delicately vibrating up to the sugar water and then buzzing off to another feeder, in another state.

Gemini is inspired by sitting in my friend's backyard, such as it is, in [El Paso](#) (TX) watching the hummingbirds buzz at their feeders.



Cancer: I understand the beauty of the [sunset](#). A late October sunset, coming up from the [Texas Coast](#), the western horizon ablaze in the radiant colors of the sun's death notes at the end of the day? Really, very attractive. Pretty. Amazing, sort of like "god's paint set," only it's not paint by numbers. What I don't get? I was driving and we passed a large truck, looked like it had family in it.

The driver, a male, and the front passenger, female, were busy with cell phones, taking pictures, or maybe movies, of the sunset. There is a time to do that. Pull over, get out of your car, it's almost Halloween in Texas, and that means it's still warm enough that you don't need overcoats and such, and then take the pictures.

Stop the vehicle. Get out. I, for one, am guilty of [taking pictures while driving](#). However, I tend to not do that anymore. Makes for erratic [driving](#), which then tends to cause much horn honking and finger language. Which I would suggest we all make an effort to avoid. How to do this?

Okay, my fine Cancer friend, you see something that you want to get a [picture](#) of. Something you want to admire. Something that makes you want to stop and act. It's quite

all right, I've checked your chart, it's alright to stop and act on it. It's not alright -- no way -- to keep driving and trying to take a picture. Or movie. Or whatever they were doing with their cell phone. Do you get the [image](#)? Do one thing, handle one task, at a time.



Leo: Some days, it pays to be furtive and sneaky. Some days, it pays to be quiet, and sulking around the corners, sticking in the shadows and pretending to be, well, for lack of better words, *Ninja*-like. You know, clad in black, head-to-toe? Just the barest slit for your eyes, camouflage and subterfuge? Got a good, if sneaky, image of all that?

There are times that call for just such clandestine and secretive, quiet skills from a Leo. This isn't one of those times. Be right, be wrong, but be known. You don't have to yell, you don't have to scream, but whatever point it is that you want -- or need -- to make? Make it. Make forcefully, and, as I like to suggest, "unquiet."

Subtlety is lost. Forget trying to be kind and quiet. It probably won't work. Worse, you have valid point. And if your valid (Leo) point gets skipped? If you don't make an effort to be heard, then it **is** your fault. So skip being quiet. And even if you're not right? Never hurts to be [wrong](#) in the loudest [voice](#) you've got.



ASTROFISH.NET/book
books in print/amazon/digital &c.

[On Writing a Short Story](#)



Virgo: Buddy of mine is a [Virgo](#). No surprise. He's managed to get through the last couple of years, wrestling with Saturn, without too much a toll on his soul. "No good deed ever goes unpunished," he was telling me last week. He's a late degree Virgo Sun, and guess what? Saturn has finally arrived to take its toll.

The master must be answered.

Which develops into a debate as to whether one is a master of one's own fate or if life, as we know it, is just left up to random chance and the odd planet influence? Does the debate really matter? Not at this point.

Look, like my buddy, there's one obstacle, one hurdle, one goal, one "something in brackets goes here" that you, as a Virgo, you need to finish. Need to do. Need to get from here to there. One task or job. One good deed. One item. Finish it. This week. Get it done. It's that simple. No questions. No dithering around and pretending to work, either. Stick to that one, single goal. Destination. Task. And no [surfing the web](#) to avoid this, either. You can read your horoscopes later.



Libra: I'm always afraid that the "Onset of Scorpio," that [phrase](#)? It sounds like a disease. Anyone who's ever dated a [Scorpio](#) and lived to tell? They will suggest it is like a disease. Maybe terminal and maybe one you can't ever get rid of all the symptoms. Me? I wouldn't know. I have a healthy respect for Scorpio and their ways.

As Scorpio commences, there's a gradual shift and small sense of relief occurring in Libra. There's a less frantic time. Less pressure. Less worried about some kind of stupid details that you really should let someone else worry about. It's as if something has been lifted from your hands, and it's now out of your (good) Libra control.

The point is to let the process work itself out. This isn't about you or your Libra self, near as much as this is about something that's completely out of your control. As such? It's not worth fretting, worrying, or getting worked up over. At all. [Skip it.](#)

Find a nice Scorpio and wish them a happy birthday.

[On Writing a Short Story](#)

For the week starting: 10/29/2009

"I can hardly forbear hurling things at him."

Shakespeare's *12th Night* [III.ii.78-9]

Saturn moves into Libra and Saturn squares Pluto. First of many.

Barefoot Astrology - Video Tutorial - [order here, order now!](#)



Scorpio: Last spring, I'd tried to hit a day for fishing that was going to accommodate several [friends](#). Balance the moon against three other schedules, line up on a weekend, and pray for fish. Got it good, so I thought. I guessed wrong. Hit the full moon on the very day we hired a boat to drag as around the mud flats. No fish. Probably lots of fish at night, just none in the day time. At all. Sort of a bad break, and I got ribbed for that, a little. However, in my defense, and as a Scorpio, I'm sure you'll understand, it was the balance point.

Three different buddies, wives and girlfriends, that's up to to six people, and myself, that's 7, and a guide, that's 8, and now it's gotten to the point that it's completely unmanageable. Which was the problem I faced, last spring.

As a Scorpio, and with the highest of Scorpio holy days approaching (either your birthday or Halloween), there's a point where you can't make everyone happy. Question is, how many people should you try to appease? The correct answer is 1 (one). That's all. That's all that really matter. Instead of trying to accommodate a group, that's not going to work. I'd suggest, if, like me, you wanted to fish? I'd suggested you pick a day that's good for you. Next week? Looks good, Tuesday or Wednesday, hit that time/tide/lunar calendar for what's best. Best for you and fishing, anyway.



SAGITTARIUS

Sagittarius: I pulled on one of my cowboy hats, I have several, and a pair of vintage cowboy boots. That was it for Halloween. Not much of a leap. There was a point, though, since this all about what the planets are doing to us, right now, and how we feel about what's going on, and what we're going to do about it?

As little as possible. Whether this is for Halloween or whether this is for something else, doesn't much matter. There's that last-minute, minimalist effort that is required, but do so in a quiet way. Great time not draw attention to ourselves, and that's what this is all about. No need to try and ham it up for glory, fame, and eventually, ridicule. Nope, not our Sagittarius selves, no, not this weekend.

While it's a good time to play, party and do whatever the holiday dictates? It's not a good time to act like we must be the center of attention, and it also not a good time to lavish (unnecessary) resources (no expensive costumes) holiday merry-making. I'm not saying you shouldn't have some fun, but do so in refined manner, taking one step back out of the people who are the stars right now. Not us. We're stars, but the quiet and demur type. For now.



ASTROFISH.NET/book
books in print/amazon/digital &c.



CAPRICORN

Capricorn: I tend to be a private person, at least private about some things in my life. I had a string of luck, when I

was living on the river in Austin, I had string of luck that meant I caught, repeatedly, a ton of little fish. I would take phone-camera images and post them in my web journal (code name: [xenon](#)).

I got a call from long-lost and forgotten love of mine, an ex-wife, really, and she was mocking me. Not like it's hard to do, I'm an easy guy to mock, apparently. But she mocked my little fishes. I'll admit, they weren't manly fishes, but then, on some days, even a little sunfish on a small, gold hook is better than nothing. *I was fishing*. However, my pride was wounded. Shortly thereafter, I quite posting images of [smaller fishes](#).

There's a time to live life out loud, and there's a time to make bold pronouncements, and there's a time when even little fishes are bragging rights. However, like that old flame mocking me? There's also a time not to lay yourself open to ridicule. Slow up, pause, reflect, decide on how much is too much. Too much [information](#), in this day and age? Makes you wonder. I'd like to see you slow down, just a little, on letting out too much information. Stick to [basics](#). And watch what you make available. Never can tell when someone will come along and mock you.

[On Writing a Short Story](#)



AQUARIUS

Aquarius: Proceed with [caution](#). It's [Halloween](#), or [Samhain](#), or [Dia de los Muertos](#), or [All Saint's Mass](#), or [something](#). [Party weekend](#). Go slow. Proceed with caution. There's, like, a ton of good stuff all stacked up in Aquarius, around Aquarius, and there's just one caution: [caution](#). It's the traditional, hits close to a full moon, year-end harvest celebration. Depends on one's religious beliefs, how to approach this.

I'm not saying one is better than the other, not me. It's just that there's an air, an expectancy, a sense of "something good about to happen" for Aquarius. Don't blow it. Don't jump when you should just sit there. Let the pace, as determined by the natural order of the events, let the pace proceed at its stately and elegant rate.

"Jumping the gun" is an expression that refers to a time when there was a starter pistol, and getting a head start, a too-hurried approach, that's called "jumping the gun." And that's exactly what I'm warning my little Aquarius friends about. Don't. Jump. The. Gun.



Pisces: Coastal fishing is a fine sport with excellent rewards, in that, well, along the Texas Gulf Coast, a "grand slam" is Sea Trout, Redfish (Red Drum) and Flounder. I've angled for that trilogy several times. Been an elusive target, for many years now. I hear about guys getting it all in one day, and I read about it -- frequently. But no, it's a goal I have yet to reach.

I did, by accident, happen to get close, the problem being, I didn't have evidence of all three on my line. No proof means that there's no way to substantiate the claim. My word, about a fishing topic, isn't really sufficient evidence. Besides, I wanted that "Texas grand slam" as my version of trophy. Just the images, too, I would have those fish prepared and consumed.

Weather's a little suspect, but there are still some good days for fishing. Might not be the big "Texas Grand Slam" that you're chasing right now, but there's some goal. While I won't promise that you win the prize, attain the goal, I will promise that this is an excellent time to pursue that desire. Not just good, excellent.

[On Writing a Short Story](#)



ASTROFISH.NET/book
books in print/amazon/digital &c.

 ASTROFISH.NET



[Aries](#): I was listening to one of my Aries buddies argue a point. My buddy, he was eloquent. Had facts and figures, bulleted talking points, all at his command. It was like he rehearsed some of this material ahead of time. He was only about two beers into an argument, so he was still quite lucid. But then, this one Aries buddy, he tends to be frank and upfront, and still, he can win arguments with an impressive command of rhetoric and facts.

Only, in this argument -- I have insider knowledge -- my Aries buddy was wrong. Didn't stop him from presenting a brilliant argument, well-put-together case, and making his points in gentle yet forceful manner. Wrong. Artfully assembled. Still wrong. I'm not being stubborn, I just happen to know more than he did about that one topic -- the benefits of liberal arts education. Still, I was more than impressed by the artifice of the argument. Any outsider, just listening to my Aries buddy's points? Impartial outsider would award the victory to my buddy. He was still wrong, though, and I never played that trump card.

Which one are you going to be? Impressively, persuasively wrong? Or, like me, the (non) Aries? Right but silent. Think before you answer.

[On Writing a Short Story](#)



Taurus: I get blamed for some occurrences that are clearly [not my fault](#). But for a price, I guess, I have to accept the blame. "You told me to 'go fishing' and I could've closed this big deal at work! It's your fault!" Which means my allusion to "fishing" and work was wholly lost on that individual. Too bad, so sad. Besides, it was a good day to fish. Maybe not a great day, but perhaps that one person will understand my banter a little more clearly.

Or not. But this isn't about a good day to fish or a big deal at work, or anything along those lines. It's about being blamed for something that's clearly not your fault. You're not guilty. Palpable culpability obviously lays with someone else. Doesn't mean, like me, you won't get shouldered and burdened with the associated guilt. Or that some person will point a finger at your fine Taurus self and say, "He did it!" (Or, "She did it!")

Just as advice, while this little game of finger pointing and blame storming is floating around your Taurus self? Duck. Be someplace where they can't find you. Works better than any amount of sidestepping after you've been fingered as the culprit -- even though you and I know you're not guilty.



Gemini: Life -- Gemini life right now -- it's a giant buffet table. Last time I was in Las Vegas, one of the girls I was with, she absolutely refused to eat at the (free) buffet. It was part of the package deal, and free food is a good deal, and she was resolutely unable -- unwilling -- to dine, as she put it, "At the community trough." Hardly how I'd look at it,

but then, that's me, and I'm not a Gemini, although, I'd like to think I were handsome enough to play one on TV. Not going to happen. What? Either the trough food or [me on TV](#).

However, life is like a buffet and the trick (or treat) is to sample. *Do not gorge.* [Sample](#) a little of this, and little of that. Load the Gemini plate up with whatever looks good; however, in no case are you under any obligation to finish every sample. It's like the archetypical candy treats passed out at this sacred All Hollow's Mass, the namesake for the holiday. Grab a bunch of the bite-sized candy. Don't bother with the full-size, or the stuff that looks too healthy, but sample. Like a hummingbird, sample all the candies on the tray. In the bag. Sample all the stuff that looks good, on this buffet table of life. Just know, in good Gemini fashion, when to push back from that buffet table laden with sticky goodness.



ASTROFISH.NET/book
books in print/amazon/digital &c.

 **ASTROFISH.NET**

69

CANCER

Cancer: I ran across an expression, it was "pocket culture." I didn't research this, I didn't look it up, I just adapted to the Cancer horoscope. To me, the definition of "pocket culture," what first sprang to mind was [El Paso](#), TX and its [immediate](#) environs. Cross the state line into New Mexico, and the culture changes, most demonstrably, the cuisine. South of El Paso? Ciudad Juarez. Again, different culture entirely.

While [sandwiched](#) between these two, there's an idiom, cuisine, cultural bias and language that appears, all on its own. It's, to me, a "pocket culture." Not big enough to make a demographic blip on the sociologist's radar, but enough of

a difference to be noticeable to alert observers. I'm not sure where you're at, while you're reading this. But look around. Note some of the local variations.

Pocket culture. With the relative movement of Mars and so forth, there's something, I'm not sure the exact details, but there's something you should pay attention to. It's right in front of you, and probably, using my definition, an inherent part of the local (Cancer) pocket culture.



Leo: There are two totally different astrological aspects I'd look at. First, it's Mars. In Leo, frying along. Mars is "just fixing to" square the Sun and Mercury, in Scorpio. Not there yet. But almost. Second? That Saturn and Pluto thing, hitting the cardinal signs, and hitting the "Start" or better yet, "start NOW" buttons. The action of Mars plus the minor irritation that results from the Sun in Scorpio? Or is it that Pluto and Saturn are at a tension angle? Call it what you want, but there's a little too little Leo and far too much "other stuff," which precludes you getting what you want.

At least, as a Leo, you're not going to get what you want -- not right away. Doesn't mean it won't happen, but then, maybe it will happen at a better time. Not now. The energy is there, but there's also a sense of minor frustration. Not major, just minor. Small. Miniscule. In a normal setting, this would fall well below your Leo-level of tolerance. Wouldn't bother you a bit. Hence the problem. This time, this week, it does bother you. Best course of action? Just remember that this is going to annoy some other (non-Leo) people worse than it will bother you.

Let it slide. Justice will be yours, *eventually*.



Virgo: Halloween is particularly good time for my little Virgo friends. Usually, anyway, and I wouldn't get too caught up with all the details, but this is a time of year when the fantasy can run amok. Which is exactly the point, as this week. Saturn slips out of Virgo, but Mars isn't in Virgo yet. This one of the times to to do the ultimate Virgo Expression of Self, the Slutty Librarian.

The inner tramp needs an outward [display](#) to overcome the basic, and often times false, [impression](#) of Virgo's as being "uptight." Might be "wound tight," as I'm unsure of the correct expression. But now, more so than ever before, this is a time -- I'm looking at planetary charts and energy -- the Virgo come out of the Virgo shell, and express a more provocative side. Yeah, it's [personal](#), and yeah, I've known a Virgo or two, and yeah, I like the idea of the tramp/tart/dominatrix alternating as a librarian/geek/nerd. Work out the details anyway that fits with your personal fantasy.



ASTROFISH.NET/book
books in print/amazon/digital &c.



LIBRA

Libra: Saturn enters the tropical zodiac sign of [Libra](#) this week. And in doing so, at the same point, Pluto squares Saturn. Not exactly a happy place. Bad? No. Unfortunate? Sort of depends. There's a point wherein you say to your Libra self, "Self, we've had about all we can stand, and we can't stand anymore."

That's where you make the stand because you can't stand what you've been given, the hand you've been dealt, or the unfair treatment at the hands of the planets.

I'd quit fighting, this one. I'd quit pushing. And I'd suggest you stop pushing on a doorway that is clearly marked "Pull."

There is a way through, around, and dealing with this kind of energy. Figure out what's the most broken part of this problem. I'm not suggesting trying to fix everything, not all at once, just isolate a single issue, a particular part, just one piece of the puzzle. Let's just turn our Libra (Saturn and Pluto) infused energy towards that one (thing). Tend to just that. Then wait. Let's see what else develops. Halloween suggestions? All black. Try the "Lord of the Underworld" gig. Like one namesake for that [planet](#).

[On Writing a Short Story](#)

For the week starting: 11/5/2009

"Music, moody food of [us that trade in love](#)."

Shakespeare's *Antony and Cleopatra* [II.v]

Saturn Square Pluto exact this week. Venus enters Scorpio.



[Scorpio](#): Grease the wheels. Grease the skids. I really don't think that skids are used much, not anymore, except perhaps, in remote locations, so that term, "grease the skids," it's kind of pointless. A skid is a long, usually flat piece, either wood or metal and either a rail or a plane, and greasing the skids meant that -- are you even paying attention?

It's all about making room, in a nice way, for some good Scorpio progress. I'm not being difficult here.

Straight up and simple. Make nice. It's your birthday, everyone else should be making nice to you. In order to make this happen, a situation where everyone is nice, polite and kind to Scorpio? (Ask me, and I'll tell anyone, they should always be nice to Scorpio.) To make room for this to happen? The little Scorpio slice needs to give this a push, a shove, or just "grease the skids" so folks can be nice to you. Smile. Even if you don't man it? Still, smile. Make room for the other people to be nice to you, especially when they find out it's your birthday.

Barefoot Astrology - Video Tutorial - [order here, order now!](#)



[Sagittarius](#): "You draw blood. I write horoscopes. It's what I do. It's what you do." It was a nurse-like person, a [Scorpio](#), actually, and she was efficiently, and without too much extra pain, sampling some of my blood. Routine, nothing to worry about, just the doctor checking up on something. It

was early and as the nurse-like technician was digging around in my arm looking for a vein? I was not grimacing and making light conversation.

"Yeah, Scorpio's are cool," I said. She hit the vein, blood flowed into the tube, and I looked her up and down. She was the first to hit the mainline in the first try, and I hope that portends well for the blood-work. However, I wonder if my (attempt) at polite banter was also a cause of some extra irritation. Venus, Mercury, Sun, stacked up in Scorpio. Some days? Some days it's better if we just keep our Sagittarius mouths closed. I mean, I still got the bruise from that little needle. Perhaps our [light](#) and breezy way isn't always appreciated, especially now, all that Scorpio influence.



CAPRICORN

Capricorn: By the time I wound up in a trailer park in South Austin, I had developed a lifestyle wherein I was somewhat removed from doing readings in my own domicile. Other than phone, readings, I never invited any clients over for readings. Not in the trailer itself. Means I've got a private side to life. There's what the public [sees](#), and there's what goes on behind closed (aluminum) doors.

You're a Capricorn. You have a private side of life. Some of your public life is starting to invade, infect, or interject into your private life. While I'm a firm believer in no firm rules, a good boundary or barrier is [required](#). When I lived in South Austin, I considered the edge of that trailer park as the edge of "my world" and the "outside world." Made for a clear line of demarcation. No problems with people showing up at odd hours requesting my professional services -- no one knew where I lived.

I'm using this as an example to get a point across, a valid

Capricorn point about the line. Could be a line in the sand, a line chalked on a grass playing field, an invisible boundary around a trailer park. But there's a line, and as a Capricorn, this is one of the times it's best to respect that line. Could be your line and it could be us you're saving yourself from.



AQUARIUS

Aquarius: Fishing in October (last month) -- along the Gulf Coast -- it was a typical scene. Had my allotted (slotted) Reds, three in the cooler, and then, late in the afternoon, a fishing pole bent over, the line went singing out against the reel's drag, and it was a big one. Nice, big Red. Got her in the boat and bemoaned the fact that we already three in the cooler.

However, the fish and game laws are there to protect the species, and as such, actually help. Only that means I was going to have to let the biggest one go. Instead, buddy I was fishing with, he grabbed the most recent previous catch, the gills were still working on that one, and after about thirty seconds in the bay's warm waters? That little one swam off.

The big one, I'm sure there's a picture on a [website](#) someplace of me with the big Red, he was dinner that night. Those Redfish, really, Red Drum, they are a hearty species of fish. But that one we let go? What's he going to tell his friends? "One minutes, I'm eating this good shrimp, landed right in front of me, then I'm pulled up into an alien space ship, white light and voices? Then it's cold. Cold and dark. Suddenly, I'm back. Jaw's a little sore, too, must be that shrimp."

You get a second chance. You get an opportunity to live, swim and tell about it. Stick to the facts, though, and think

before you start eating shrimp again -- or whatever bait it was that caught you.

Barefoot Astrology - Video Tutorial - [order here, order now!](#)



Pisces: I was standing in line, waiting on an icy coffee beverage to be prepared, as is my custom on a [sunny](#) afternoon. The young lady -- woman -- making the drink was bantering and relating a recent experience involving dancing, nightclubs, and men.

"I told him I wasn't going to (dance with) him, and he insisted on buying me a beer anyway," she said. I had a small audience. "Look," I replied, glancing to my right, "guys are just stupid." Two girls next to me giggled. I shrugged. Sotro voce, I added, "I should know; I am one." A fleeting blush, a giggle, a hand over one mouth, something whispered. All in good fun.

What it means for Pisces? You can be the guy or the girl, but if you're not careful, just because someone [says](#), "No," that means you keep trying harder. Me? I'd just, as an outside observer? I'd suggest you give up. Some girl tells me "No?" I'll take it as a no, and leave it go.



Aries: There are certain items, and I just can't make this stuff up. I passed a (big-name oil company) station. The block letters advertised the price of a pack of cigarettes, the prices for various grades of gasoline, and then, on the sign in removable letters? "Fresh Turkey Legs." I'm thinking, I didn't have the stomach, or heart, to investigate. I'm

guessing these are like the turkey legs sold at various events through the south and west. I don't know if ya'll get such things in other parts of the country. We do. [Turkey legs](#). Big old drumstick. Good food. But at a corner gas station and convenience store? I can't even begin to fathom the details. Unless it was a joke, and in that particular neighborhood? Probably not a joke.

Here's the scenario: you see this kind of a sign, odd and oddly enough, not odd. This isn't about turkey legs, it's about seeing something that's plainly out of place and yet, for some reason, not out of place. Action, reaction and the Aries course? Nothing. As long as Pluto and Saturn are tight? Realize that it's absolutely weird and strangely enough, not that strange. Instead of having a grand freak out? Maybe just take a picture with your phone, then send that along, and not worry about it. Too much.



Taurus: I live in a widely diverse neighborhood. While it is principally classified as "Hispanic," don't complain -- I don't make up the demographic terms -- the actual bloodlines are much more entangled. Towards that end, while I'm used to the aroma of [cooked meat](#) (BBQ) wafting on the afternoon breeze, or the smell of tortillas hot on the comal? What caught my attention was a very "German" smell of hot apple (strudel, pie, filling, jam) with a layer of burnt, caramelized sugar.

I never claimed to have an accurate nose, except for catfish bait. However, that one afternoon, wind was out of the south-southwest, and the gentle zephyrs carried that aroma. Strong enough to create an impression on me. Strong enough to override the usual (and delicious) Latin cuisine. Strong enough to make me wonder. Strong enough to puncture my sinus membranes -- get an image here?

That's what's happening to Taurus, you get a strong, perhaps pungent, punch that, at first, might seem incongruous. It's not. Appreciate the differences, whether it's cultural or something else.

Barefoot Astrology - Video Tutorial - [order here, order now!](#)



II *Gemini*

Gemini: Historically, the local lakes aren't any good fishing, not during November. But that's just according to the history, local lore and myth. While some lore and mythology is based in fact, other sorts of historical data might suggest otherwise.

I'll admit, it's a hit or miss proposition, but time it right, and this only makes sense, the big fish are fattening up for the winter's nap. Winter, such as we get it. About two or three days of intensely cold weather.

What's it going to be, my fine little Gemini friend? Are you going to look at the almanac, and just leave the fishing until later? Or are you willing to give it a try, despite what some of the predictions are? Just as a casual guess, from what I've seen lately? Go ahead consider giving it a try, doesn't matter what you're fishing for, and I'm not promising that there will definitely be some return, but I think, just eschew common wisdom for a little while. See what you might catch, even tough, traditionally, this isn't a good month for Gemini fishing.



69 **CANCER**

Cancer: I stopped at a certain chain of coffee shops to get an afternoon shot of caffeine. I like my coffee like my women, cold and bitter, and oddly refreshing on a warm winter afternoon. The coffee was served in an Xmas cup. This is wrong. This wrong on so many levels, I don't even know where to begin. Xmas starts the day after Thanksgiving.

There will be no Xmas candy, no Xmas color, no xmas anything until the day after Thanksgiving. I don't care what mess the economy is in, the state of the world, anything. It's just plain wrong to have stockings hung with care in late August. Wrong. Not mildly wrong or slightly incongruent, no, it's just wrong.

That Xmas cup reminded me of another experience. "Would you like to try a new Pumpkin Latte?" No. It was 80 degrees, I'm not interested in a "warm winter drink" when it's hot and sunny. Again, this wrong. I want the bucket of ice, tea, which only makes sense. I can't combat stupid national chains with no sense about marketing in warmer climates. I can't stem the tide of Xmas crap that starts in July. I can warn my little Cancer friends that there's a battle, and I'm sure you agree with me, about what's right and what's not.



[Leo](#): Consider this a dress rehearsal. Consider this a dry run. Consider this Leo Exercise Week. Consider not taking this too much to heart? By that, what I'm suggesting is that you don't get so wrapped up in the final outcome of just one project, don't bet the farm and at this point, I'm out of stupid cliché expressions for you.

It's more like this all about practice and getting a process fine-tuned. The [problem](#) is that you think this is the real deal. It's not. I was at the lake the other afternoon. I had a certain fishing pole and certain reel, not particularly well-suited for that lake, not that it matters, but what I was doing was working it out so the next time I'm confronted with similar water and similar situations? I'll be ready. Hone my skills, as it were, instead of really fishing. What this is about, too. Mars is in your sign, Sun &c., is in Scorpio. Tension. Jupiter, across from you in Aquarius. More tension. It's like the walls are closing in. Again, more tension. Consider this practice and exercise rather than final form.

Besides, I did hook two small perch with that arrangement, not that it matters, it was just an exercise.

Barefoot Astrology - Video Tutorial - [order here, order now!](#)



Virgo: I've joked about this one [Taco House](#) close to me. Only open for breakfast and lunch, the food itself is wonderful. Absolutely amazing cuisine. Just plain, basic Tex-Mex/Mexican fare. Personal fave? "Steak and Enchilada Plate," runs about four dollars, might be a little higher now, but not much.

The steak is a miniscule piece of mystery meat with the bejeebers grilled out of it. There is no "Rare-Medium-Well-done" to this thin slice of beef (or beef-like substance). Not really something I'd want served any other way besides "really well-done." There's always the roadkill joke about the food, but I'm not so sure that it's really a joke. Nothing I want to know. The enchiladas that go with that "steak" plate? Mexican Cheese wrapped in a red-corn tortilla, covered with a chili sauce that's hot and good. More like a beef stew, rather than a sauce.

The point is, though, do you really want to know, what exactly is in the meat or the sauce? Not really. No, trust me, even the Virgo people I've taken to this one place, they all agree, no, really, some things in life are better left unknown. As this next few days progresses and as we get on into November the full moon and so on? Yeah, ask yourself, "Virgo self, this a really good deal, do I want to know what kind of animal this came from?"



Libra: I've rigged different fishing poles and different fishing lines for a variety of situations. As I got to poking at your Libra chart, I thought about a particular surf-like fishing rig I've used on a lake, lake's just south of here.

astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts

Used this set-up with remarkable success, which is funny, since it's a salt-water (allegedly) arrangement. What I do is put a heavy sinker on the line, then, anywhere from one to three feet up from that sinker? That's where the hook goes. Big weight, on the bottom. Bait, live, fresh dead, or artificial? Up from there. Number of different names for this kind of [arrangement](#), too. Call it what you want, but something to anchor your Libra self, whatever that is, and then, you float something tasty, just above the anchor. Easiest way to deal with Saturn and Pluto, anchor and float.

Barefoot Astrology - Video Tutorial - [order here, order now!](#)

For the week starting: 11/12/2009

"Life is as tedious as a twice-told tale vexing the dull ear of a drawsy man."

Shakespeare's *King John* [III.iv]

New Moon, Sun in [Scorpio](#), fast approaching. The pre-sale is still on, [video is about to ship](#).



Scorpio: Local sports are always a big deal, and I might be mistaken, but there was a local high school team, probably from a remote West Texas town, the team's name? *The Possums*. The problem being, with a name like that? Like the "Poteet Possums?" Or wherever it was? When that team played at home, the home field advantage, they were great.

I'd like to think it was a Scorpio-like team, because they would be sneaky and good. I mean, you know, sneaky, like clever. The home-field advantage, I'm sure. The problem with the team? Like many of the smaller West Texas towns, there's a sizable amount of travel involved in order to compete. What I'm warning Scorpio about? Travel. Careful in the next few days. You know what happened to the Possums when they went on the road? They just got killed.

The Video - [Barefoot Astrology](#)

Buy Now



Sagittarius: Theory holds that this is a good time for [Bass Fishing](#), the month of November. The lakes are cooling off, and the fish are foraging for winter, in as much as we have winter down here. The phase of the moon, this weekend? Particularly good for fishing, although, it doesn't look like

the weather will be too compliant. Hence a little dilemma.

Fish? Hunt? Or other activity? I'm in favor of the other activity, in as much as I would prefer to be out-of-doors? Not always able to get the weather, the Moon's phase and the wildlife all cooperating. Which is the problem. Three things to do. Only enough time to do two of the three. Or one of the three. Pick and be careful, choose which one is most important at this time. Pursue that objective. Might get a chance to do the others, too, but stick to one, at first. See where it goes.

The Video - Barefoot Astrology

Buy Now

 ASTROFISH.NET



CAPRICORN

Capricorn: There's a special kind of operating mode that I've found very helpful. "Are you sure you want to do that?" I'll ask. Then, I'll affix a steely, steady, beady eye stare on the person. I won't repeat the comment, but it's a way to punctuate the "Are sure you really want to do this even though the consequences might be totally disastrous for you" -- punch that expression up some.

Punctuate with the look.

The deal is, that look? It's totally ironic, as that action is completely okay with you, with me, and with the other person. It's just good, though, especially with a new moon occurring during the terms of this scope, it's just a good idea to make sure that there's plenty of time to pause and consider actions that might -- or might not -- have consequences. What kind of consequences? Could be serious, you know. Which is the point to stop and ask that question, appropriately punctuated.

The Video - [Barefoot Astrology](#)

Buy Now

 ASTROFISH.NET



AQUARIUS

[Aquarius](#): I got a catalog in [the mail](#). I was reading it, like a magazine, full of out-of-doors people doing outdoorsy activities. Snow. Warm coats, mittens, gloves, long underwear, wool socks, heavy footwear, and I realized, as I gazed at this cold weather gear? I have no intention, none whatsoever, of landing in a place where I need that kind of cold weather attire. Ever again.

That catalog is wasted on me. I looked for a little while then realized I was wasting my time. Not going to happen. If I have to wear [long pants](#), a sweater, and maybe a sports coat? That's about as much cold weather gear as I want to own. Or need to own. I have a winter coat, and yes, I do have some shoes I could wear, but I live in a close-to-tropical climate, and I just figure, that's where I'll spend my winters, here at home. No need to get all dressed for freezing weather, not if I can avoid it.

Which I can. It's a matter of choice. So the next time I get a catalog full of winter-wear, I'll just toss it before I bother wasting time looking at people bundled up in colorful layers of expensive under and outer wear. This is about cutting out one action. One item, one piece of inbound information that is no longer required. For my Aquarius self? Obviously, it was the cold-weather catalog. Might be that, or, quite possibly some other item you no longer need. Save time by not bothering with it.

The Video - [Barefoot Astrology](#)

Buy Now



Pisces: Ever figure you just a few degrees off? That's what this feels like to me. Not in a bad way, but you thought it started at 7:30 and when you get there, 5 minutes early? It started at 7:15, and you're late. Just a few degrees off. Plan on a fishing trip with me, and we agree to meet at 7 AM. You show up at 6:30 AM and wonder where I am for half an hour.

Fortunately, if you want to [belabor](#) the point, I have a copy of the e-mail confirmation for 7. Only if you want to push the point, though. However, these are just examples of how you feel a little off, a little different, a little at odds with the rest of the world, or, as I posited at the beginning of the scope? A few degrees to one side of center. Not good, not bad, not horrifically wrong, just a little one side. It isn't bad, it isn't good, it's just understanding. [Understand](#) how you're just a little off to the side of the main action.

Is this bad? Not really, as the bad stuff will go flying right over you and miss your sweet Pisces self completely. As long as you stand off to one side, just by a few inches, feet, just a couple of degrees off center.

The Video - [Barefoot Astrology](#)

[Buy Now](#)



Aries: Local taco stand, more a restaurant than a true taco stand, this one place has some of the finest green salsa I've ever had. It's a strong salsa, typically, green salsa uses "green tomatillo tomatoes" as a base. But this one place?

Jalapeño peppers are the base for the green salsa. Yeah, baby, it's hot. Really hot. Subtle yet strong and fiery. Maybe not so subtle but creeps up on you.

Does me, anyway. Why I like it. However, I've found that I have to ask for the green sauce. Usually, the waitress sees a white (person) like me? We'll get served the milder red sauce. I make a quick point to ask for the "salsa verde" and it's all good. Quick and easy. You would also guess, after dining there, off and on for over a year, that the staff would recognize me, and from my tips, remember to bring me the good stuff. The hot stuff. Then again, this scenario gets repeated, maybe every week or two, and I have to ask for that Jalapeño salsa.

While you would think, as an Aries, that folks would learn what you like? Not so sure that's going to happen this week. Doesn't hurt to let them know what you want. Exactly what you want.



[Taurus](#): I was in a buddy's truck, coming in from the lake, and I pulled through a certain brand of coffee shop in order to acquire an afternoon beverage. I pulled through Starbucks to get something to drink. "Would you like a nice Hot Chocolate or a Skinny Pumpkin Spice Latte?" The nice counter girl asked through the speaker. I got a tall ice tea, no water, lots of ice. The ice melts, waters it down and it's palatable.

It was also close to 85 that afternoon. Might've been about a week or [two ago](#), might've been just yesterday. That Texas weather in the fall, it's funny like that. Warm days, cool nights. I was sweating and sunburned. No, I didn't want hot coffee, hot chocolate, and I had to wonder, out loud, at the wisdom of offering just such fare. "Hot coffee?"

"Well, it was cool when I came in this morning," the girl said, then stuck her head out the window a ways, "but I can see it's warmed up a lot."

She giggled and squirmed back in. Because I was being difficult with my cranky old man question about efficacy of hot beverages on a sweaty winter afternoon, I tipped the usual amount. Only proper. I pay for my insolence. You're a Taurus. You're going to get hammered with either weather, a question about the weather, or a cranky old man asking curmudgeon-like questions. Hopefully, he's nice like me and leaves a tip. But just as a warning? Might not be me.

The Video - Barefoot Astrology

Buy Now



II *Gemini*

Gemini: What some people, let's pretend these people are non-Gemini, consider the easiest, most expedient route to be a straight line. I'm good with that. I can see how that would appear to be the most direct way to get from here to there. From Point A, to Point B, the purported destination.

However, you're a Gemini, and you're going to use the advance Gemini warning system to alert you to upcoming weather and unforeseen issues. Road hazards, traffic patterns, delays and concerns. The way around it all? What most folks don't understand that the easiest, most expedient route seems a little circuitous to some.

From the starting point, you go up, then to the left, then veer to the right, then take a detour down this side road, and finally wind up where you set out to be. Long way around to outside observer. The point is, though, it was actually shorter since you avoided a few obstacles. So even though it doesn't seem like a shorter route? Use your

Gemini senses to pick the way to get here from there. Don't listen to other people, not now. Might seem like more work, but for you? Not really.

The Video - [Barefoot Astrology](#)

Buy Now

 ASTROFISH.NET


CANCER

Cancer: One of the guides with whom I fish? He gets all worried when I wear sport sandals instead of, like, tennis shoes. The biggest problem? In his mind, anyway? Crabs, loose on the deck of the boat. We'll pick up some crab from time to time, and use it as bait. Late in the year, like now? Reds are running good. Cut crab makes an excellent bait. Both Reds and (Speckled Sea) Trout love the tender flesh. Great bait. But that means there's a good chance there's a real blue-shell crab loose on the boat's deck, from time to time. With pincers. With crab claws that exert hundreds of foot-pounds of pressure with sharp claws.

It's not so much dangerous as uncomfortable. Which is why that one Captain always shakes his head at my choice in footwear. However, to me, the danger is minimal, not like I'd lose a toe or anything, worst thing that might happen? One of those crabs would threaten me.

Now, imagine that this week, like me, you're going fishing. And like me, you're thinking about sandals. Unlike me, though, you think about those crab pincers, and you opt, after reading this horoscope, you choose close-toe footwear, in the name of safety. Good move. I can get away with tempting the crab's claw. Not sure you want to play the same game, not if you don't want the pain.

The Video - Barefoot Astrology

Buy Now



Leo: I've got a picture, some place on my [website](#), has the original Starbucks logo. From a single storefront in Seattle. The image, that original logo? Looks like, to me, an artistic representation of a woman's naked breasts. Exposed, out there for all to see. I was thinking about that because I liked it, but my obviously male and prurient tastes are transparent.

That logo was sanitized for some, more universal or whatever. However, that's not what this is about. That original logo reaction? The mere suggestions that naked breasts were on a cup's sleeve, or signs across the country? Across the globe? That really irritates some people. Others, like me, are amused, or attracted -- or whatever.

It's a polarizing effect. Much like what you're experiencing at the hands of the planets. Either you like it or you don't. Not much middle ground here in Leo. If you don't like it? Why? If you do like it? Same question. Might not be the original Starbucks logo, either, could be any number of issues. But you get the idea. Instead of just being opinionated, dig for the reason, source, and cause of that Leo opinion.

Hint: there really aren't any [wrong](#) answers.

The Video - Barefoot Astrology

[Buy Now](#)



[Virgo](#): "Ear-worm." That's when a lyric gets stuck in your head. Or, in my case, it's part of a lyric. Just a brief, slightly garbled version of a few lines of a song. Powerful verse, to me, at one time. Sort of means something now. But I got to the point where I was annoying friends and even some innocent bystanders, inflicting my useless attempt at singing the lyrics, or the brief portion of the refrain that I remember, and while that's momentarily entertaining, even to the point that, as Virgo, you might giggle or smirk at the idea of me singing to friends and strangers?

Like karaoke, only without the benefit of being all liquored up? Yeah, it's an [ugly](#) sight. I realize that, now.

Anyway, like that ear-worm, like that persistent and repetitive refrain? With silent musical accompaniment? Yeah, that's what this is like. Now, as a solution? I've got one Virgo fishing buddy, and what he'll do is merely burn me a CD with the song on it. He won't try to sing. But that's his solution. Most of us? We'll probably try to sing. Can't say I didn't warn you.

The Video - Barefoot Astrology

Buy Now

 ASTROFISH.NET



LIBRA

Libra: I like tourists. I like [questions](#). In San Antonio, I always [feel like a tourist](#). However as a native Texan, I understand San Antonio's importance as a [historical shrine and a birthplace of freedom](#). I tread on hallowed ground with the requisite amount of reverence. But the other tourists, they're a funny lot. I'm constantly amused, and one of my favorite answers, when asked where I'm from? "I'm from up north," I'll drawl, "Austin." 60-70 miles north. Different land, but that's not what this is about.

**astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts**

It's about tourists and weird questions. As a Libra, you're feeling the effects of [Pluto square Saturn](#) and just what that means to you. You will, sure as can be, encounter, a smart aleck like me, who's "From up north." Think that's bad? Wait, that's just the effect of Pluto in Capricorn. The effect of Saturn in Libra? One more question, not from me, but I've heard this before, "Why did they put the Alamo in the center of downtown San Antonio?"

The Video - Barefoot Astrology

[Buy Now](#)

You're regular, if you'd like, you can sneak-peek at the [upcoming](#) format. Way too many features to list, but a couple of high points include:

	astrofish.net - horoscopes &c. Podcast 12.29.2009 December 29, 2009	POWERED BY FEEDBURNER
---	---	-----------------------

[↑ Grab this Headline Animator](#)

Feeds in your email, or wherever you read them. However.
Whomever.

For the week starting: 11.19.2009

"We, ignorant of ourselves
Beg often our own harms, which the wise powers
Deny us for our good;"
Shakespeare's *Antony and Cleopatra* [II.i.v]
Questions are always free, some answers require a cash
deposit.

The e-mail [line](#) is always on, "31" (24 and 7). Barefoot
Astrology instructional video is [here](#).

The Video - [Barefoot Astrology](#)



Scorpio: I've seen [turkey](#) processed and prepared a
number of different ways. Having a birthday like I do, that
-- intermittently -- falls on T-Day, I've seen more done with
Turkey than I would rather think about.

Here's the deal: [deep fried turkey](#) caught on, then the
[dangers](#) were revealed. Not that it would stop any of my
friends, but that's not what this about. It's about the best
way I've ever had turkey and for my Scorpio friends? A
simple suggestion. The best way I've ever seen the mighty
Thanksgiving Bird fixed? Green Chile Enchiladas. It was a
New Mexico treat, as that's the best source I know of for
Green Chile. Use that stuff in everything, but one [fall](#), I
caught it just when the Hatch (NM) crop was coming in. It'd
been dry that year, which makes the peppers meaner.
Better as far as I was concerned.

The only time I've had a truly "hot" turkey, although, I'm
still hoping for a Cajun/Louisiana bird some day. Look at
your chart, last day of Scorpio, then it's all onto new stuff.
Lingering Venus and the Cardinal pressure. Think about new
ways to cook the bird. Maybe a new recipe. Maybe a new
spin on an old-style dish. [Let me know](#) what you cook up.



SAGITTARIUS

Sagittarius: What if there really was a [secret conspiracy](#) to keep the public in check? What if there really was a secret body of knowledge and some sort of evil cabal was in charge? What if there were state secrets that could change the world forever -- and what if that was not a good direction for change?

Lot of "what if" questions these days. I'm just figuring that Sagittarius is in a secret-revealing mood. Not mode, as I'm not sure it's time for us to reveal all our secrets. But it is a good time to think about our secrets, and it is a good time to think about revealing them. Toy with the idea.

Would the greater good be served? Maybe, just maybe, I know, it's the beginning of our birthdays, the holidays, everything going on, but still, is it time for the great secret to be unveiled? Maybe not. Okay, I'll tell one secret: 3-inch, salt and pepper curly-tail on a weedless 1/4-ounce jig head. Secret bait. Always works.

The Video - [Barefoot Astrology](#)



CAPRICORN

Capricorn: Time and local [traditions](#) vary, but there's always a "rite of passage." As Thanksgiving looms closer, and as the Pluto/Saturn thing becomes more [apparent](#), I couldn't help but think of certain rites of passage. The first girlfriend (or boyfriend), first date, first kiss. First beer, first fishing trip. It's mid-November, in Texas, it's also the first deer-hunt.

Don't worry, I don't hunt. But these are merely examples of

rites of passage. The only real warning, as this week unfolds, what with the moon's condition? I'd watch for the term, "Right of passage," as compared with "rites of passage." One is ritual. One is earned. One is irrevocable. And the last one? Might not have anything to do with this. Don't confuse "Rites of Passage" with "Rights of passage." It's a small point but an important distinction for Capricorn.



AQUARIUS

Aquarius: In my times, I've [seen](#) some pretty interesting fishing rod repairs. Or fishing gear, in general, I've seen some strange attachments, editions, and a few just plain weird set ups. One of the more bizarre that I've encountered was at a garage sale in old East Austin. It was an expensive model of fishing pole and reel, just a "push button automatic," and I fear that the fishing line was older than me, not to mention the antique nature of the hardware.

What interested me, though, was the way the rod tip had been attached, for a second or third time. I know how easy it is to break fishing rods, having done so myself, on a number of occasions. There's a certain "snap" sound that goes with it. What I was looking at, though, was the rod tip itself, about six inches of busted plastic, and then, wrapped around the tip, holding it adjacent to pole, wrapped in old-style electrical tape, the broken tip. Snap. Then the tip, hastily re-affixed to the pole, and it's been like that, maybe longer than I've been around.

A temporary fix with really long-lasting [results](#). That's what this is about. You'll hear a "snap" kind of sound in the next few days, like a fishing rod tip being broken. How you fix that? Careful, might last longer than you think.



Pisces: I answered my mobile phone, "Saddlebags." The call was from a buddy, and he wanted to know where I was at that very moment. Something to do with plans and trips, and getting a drink later, a cup of coffee, and I'll bet, he also had a girlfriend figured in the equation. Somehow. His version, anyway.

I looked around, I was with a girlfriend, in a mall, in a store, in a mall, someplace in Central Texas, but could be anywhere on the planet, for all I care, and all I saw was [saddlebags](#). Wasn't a good collection, or for that matter, a manly collection of saddlebags, but that's what it looked like to me. The walls were lined with all types and shapes, mostly leather, although some had cloth trim, and at least one had fake-fur trim, which, of course, makes no sense on a saddlebag, but then, they didn't ask me for help.

My duty was to stand by idly, or carry bags. Either way, I finally stumped my buddy. He was busy trying to figure out which Western Tack store I was in. He didn't catch on a quickly. It's all about changes, big changes, little changes and naming conventions.



Aries: I just wish this stuff would hold off. Regrettably, the Xmas push is here. So far, I've received the link and/or video to "The House with Trans-Siberian Flashing Lights" -- at least -- a [dozen](#) times thus far. Cool. It was cool, the first season or two. It's boring, and at this point, mildly annoying, anymore. Seen it. Don't need to see it again, but thank you [forwarding](#) me the link and/or the video. But

please, don't repeat sending it to me again.

That's the problem in Aries land, either you're sending -- [or receiving](#) -- the same message over and over. Once was fine. Twice, okay, that's tolerable. By the third time, it gets a little boring and by the fourth or fifth time, it's annoying. Six or seven times? And you get my point, don't you?

"This is SO Cool!!! You Have to WATCH THIS!!!!" Thanks. No thanks, but thanks for thinking of me. Get the point, my fine little Aries friend? [Stop](#). You're either sending or receiving, and my guess is you're about to forward that link to my e-mail address. Please, think about the children. "But it's Xmas spirit!"

The Video - [Barefoot Astrology](#)



Taurus: After I finished my six or seventh [book-length](#) manuscript, I found out the hardest part about being a writer? The most difficult part of writing isn't the writing itself, it's the rest of the business. It's -- relatively speaking -- easy to write. But that's less than ten percent of the job. The other ninety percent? [Promotions](#), [publicity](#) and public relations. Much harder work.

I was thinking about this example since that's what's happening in the Taurus slice of the heavens. It's about the supporting roles and the other pieces that make the way this all fits together. The fun stuff? For me, that's the writing, but for you? The fun stuff is whatever it is, but that's not the point. There's still plenty of fun stuff around. It's the rest of the toil that's required. Just as an idea, here we are, holidays looming on the horizon, and there's still some career stuff that needs [attention](#). Pay attention now to make sure everyone is pleased. (Still waiting on that literary agent to get back to me, too.)



II Gemini

Gemini: Some folks will encourage an attention to detail at times like this. Look after the little pieces, and then the bigger pieces all fall into place. It's a nice idea. Doesn't work.

That attention to detail? That looking at the smaller parts and pieces? You're missing a bigger point. The short version of the scope? Quit obsessing about minute details.

The longer version? You keep looking at the [smaller](#) and [finer points](#) until you're working -- in typical Gemini fashion -- on microscopic level. Then it's a sub-atomic level. Fine for [theory](#), but there's a point your missing, up here, in the real world. That attention to detail? Skip it for the duration of this horoscope. Now, make a note to yourself to come back and thank me since you did get to see the big picture. Write it down, you know, part of a list of items that need to get done.



69 CANCER

Cancer: I was reading a coffee (aficionado) website. There was a short article, had to be humor, about how to make coffee if a coffee-maker wasn't available. The usual ingredients, the coffee grounds, then a coffee cup and boiling water, and then straining the grounds out with a strainer. Just seemed like a lot of extra effort to get a cup of morning brew. I used to only drink specialty coffee, and I've outlasted a variety of coffee makers, and I've outlasted a variety of coffee shops, too.

I do prefer fresh roasted then fresh ground coffee, but the

rest of the details are [subject](#) to what's available. Think about it: headed out at "oh-dark-thirty," for fishing or hunting? Doesn't much matter what the coffee source is, as long as it works. What was amusing, and the point about that "do it yourself" coffee making process was the depth of the process to get a single cup of coffee.

Coffee beans (ground), hot water, container, that's all that's really needed. I prefer, just a [choice](#) these days, but I prefer to have the grounds strained out, but that could be me. I was thinking about this and that -- hopefully humorous -- coffee process because it seemed like it was taking a simple task and making it that much more difficult. Which is what this all about. Don't. One word: don't. Or, the longer version? Don't take a simple process and make it unnecessarily more difficult.



Leo: [Robert Earl Keen](#) is a [regional](#) favorite. Locally, he enjoys real "rock star" status. Although, apparently, he's not as widely known outside of Texas. Not that it matters, either, because part of the problem is he defies typical taxonomy. I was listening to a custom play list I've got of a sampling of a long and storied career. I pulled songs from a half-dozen albums, and when I was looking at them with my music/media player?

Each CD was labelled in a different way. Rock, Blues, Country, Folk. Yeah, well, no wonder his music isn't more universal, the folks outside of this area don't know what to call it. Reminds me of another Capricorn with a similar problem, [Jimmy Buffett](#). But this isn't about Capricorn musicians, this is about Leo. Notice that the example are real people whose work defies being shoved into a single category.

Other than being Leo? (THE Leo?) Other than that? Stay away from striated and opinionated categories and classifications.

The Video - [Barefoot Astrology](#)



[Virgo](#): [By the end](#) of this horoscope, it's time to bust out the Xmas Album. I collect material and put together a play list and burn a couple of "Kramer Xmas Holiday" CDs for friends and enemies. Couple of important pieces to consider, I've gotten to where I use the [Cheech and Chong](#) clip, highly recommended, and the Robert Earl Keen "Merry Christmas From the Family" song. Run DMC, "Christmas in Hollis," too. Variety. One year, I found a number of xmas mash-ups, and I dropped them onto the CD's tracks.

Some people do Xmas cards, some do Xmas letters. Me and one cousin, "Hi Brad," we make Xmas CDs. All depends on what we're in the mood for, too. I was thinking because I was looking at the way the stars fall for Virgo? Planets, really, and the line up is a time. Time to think about one Xmas chore, item, choice, pleasant experience? Something. One of them. Like the Xmas music CD? Could be as simple as that. I thought about the xmas music and Virgo, really, it was last week's quote, but you get the idea, last [week's idea](#), this week's project. A little thought and preparation can help go a long way towards a festive holiday time, all the other influences included.



[Libra](#): [Scorpio](#) is a strange time (Northern Hemisphere, European Traditions). It's the beginning of the long winter

nights. The spookiest of times, too. What happens though, as Scorpio closes? There's a point where you wake up one cold winter morning and you see the bright (cold) winter sun? Bright light, perhaps a little weaker sun than we'd all like, but still, it's clear and crisp, the leaves have fallen and it's all good.

Winter clothes, or fall outfits, or, for [some of us](#), just long pants, but still, you get the idea?

There's a sense of rejuvenation, a spirit of rebirth at the onset of winter. All I'm suggesting, though, for the Libra friends and family? Enjoy the bright spots. Could be as simple as the way the leaves skitter on the sidewalk in the fall's breeze. Could be the crisp feeling the air. Could be the afternoons at the lake when we can still fish. Could be a lot of individual influences, but I tend to suggest we all find the brilliant little spots of light, wherever it falls.

The Video - [Barefoot Astrology](#)

For the week starting: 11.26.2009

"Now join your hands, and with your hands your hearts."
Shakespeare's *Henry VI, Part III* [IV.vi.39]

Weekly [video](#), or as an [audio file](#).

Happy Thanksgiving Day.

Barefoot Astrology instructional video is [here](#).



SAGITTARIUS

[Sagittarius](#): I was talking with the counter help at a local coffee shop. The kid was lounging against the cash register, calling out the orders, and his hat -- company hat -- the bill was turned slightly sideways. His demeanor was relaxed and confident, and yet expressly casual, as well.

I happen to know, it's his birthday this week. His attitude is exactly how all of us [Sagittarius](#) types should approach this week. With that hat cocked slightly to one side, we look rakish and yet, still in line with local rules and regulations. Lounging yet working hard. It's not easy to be busy and relaxed at the same time. With T-day and all that? Casual yet refined and uncouth. All about attitude.

That's what this is about, too, attitude. That kid, he was relaxed, and yet, in charge. He has a countenance that suggests open and friendly, yet, although no prison tattoos were visible, he posture indicated that there should be some. Maybe. Maybe not, but attitude is everything. As this week unfolds, moon gets full, and us, we Sagittarius brethren and sistren? Attitude. Relaxed yet cocky and sure, maybe a little full of male bovine organic by-product, but still. Tough, you know?



CAPRICORN

Capricorn: Ever swear, up and down, that you would never, ever do [something](#)? I made such a proclamation several years ago. Many years ago. Swore I would never, ever wear those stupid-looking "zip on" long pants that turn into shorts. Just stupid stuff. Can't be warm, can't be cool, looks geeky, at best, and looks geeky in a way that I'm not prepared to address. Only, as it turns out, a buddy found some those on sale, instead of the ridicules high price for a pair of shorts, or even pants, those "zip-off pantloons" were on sale for under ten bucks.

The advantage of a [going out of business sale](#), I guess. So I wound up with a pair. And I wore them fishing the other afternoon. And it wasn't nearly as bad as I thought. I did have to listen to a small amount of ridicule from the back of the boat, but after a spell, as the bright fall afternoon in Texas warmed up? I zipped the leggings off, and I was in proper shorts. Pictures up on the website, I'm sure. Me, fish, shorts. This isn't about that, though this is about breaking solemn vows. Which vows are you looking at breaking? Are you sure? Better question, does it result in something more than just ridicule?



AQUARIUS

Aquarius: I use cheap, digital cameras because I'm hard on [equipment](#). I don't mean that I intentionally throw the camera around, either. It's just that riding in my pocket, a camera will get sat on, dropped, bounced off the bottom of the boat, and so forth.

Then, too, there's a camera I keep in the girlfriend's car.

Again, a cheap, almost disposable camera, just so that there's one ready, just in case a [picture](#), or [image](#), or scene, presents [itself](#). What's fun, sometimes, I'll retrieve that old camera, been riding around in her car for a while, and I'll see if I've got anything on it. Like bait in a trap, only it's digital media. See if there's anything on that kind of medium. More like a small as she's not too large. The [files](#) are sometimes wonderful. However, sometimes, there is nothing but under or over, exposed images of family and friends. Not really good stuff.

The last time I [looked](#), I found close to a hundred pictures, at 10 megabytes per picture, and each image was grainy, out-of-focus, unclear, and basically worthless. Tossed them all. What I love about [digital](#) mediums. Which is what this is about, too, for Aquarius. [Experiment](#). Try. Go [hog-wild](#). Give it a spin, give it a test, leave the camera behind. Expectations? That's the secret. What do yo expect? I was hoping for a few [good shots](#), but then, I also understand that some of this might [not](#) turn out [too well](#). And that's not a problem.



Pisces: "Have a good day," the plaque read, "unless you have other plans."

Kind of how I feel about the way the week [unfolds](#) for Pisces. Yes, it is Thanksgiving, and yes, certain areas of life are in upheaval, and yes, there's a certain amount of stress that's not realistic, and yes, there is a step or two you -- the Pisces -- can take to make this easier. There's an urban myth about the effects of turkey meat and how it has a higher than usual quantity of vitamin and amino acids that cause drowsiness. The point is, this is more myth than reality.

Sure, who hasn't had the typically American [over-sized](#) feast and pushed back from the table, headed for a stupor-induced coma? Sure, not uncommon at all. But the cause, is it really the main ingredient, as alleged? Turkey? Or the candied yams, or the two servings of pie, one Pumpkin, one Pecan? Or the jellied cranberry sauce? None of that? Sure the turkey is the culprit? Jams, breads, stuffing, vegetables, and so forth? None of that? The idea -- my goal -- is to get you think around the main problem, or what we all assume is the main problem, and look at the stuff that litters the sides. Therein is the source of the problem, and here's the first step to clearing up this problem, Pisces perceptions.



[Aries](#): It was really simple. When I went "home for the holidays," I took a couple of extra shirts. I was planning on being nicely attired for the big T-day repast, and I knew I had [work](#) to do before hand.

There will always be family chores, sometimes fun, sometimes not. Sometimes dirty, sometimes not. For this holiday weekend? Carry a spare change of clothes. I'm not sure what you're going to be asked to do. I'll bet it's messy. Or maybe it's not really messy, but somehow, as an Aries, you turn this into a messy task. All in good fun. Still, carry -- at the very least -- a spare shirt. You can always change your shirt and look presentable.



[Taurus](#): "That guy just flipped you off! Go back there and kick his backside! Now!" I suppose to get the real impact of the statement? There should be three exclamation marks (!!!) after the last statement. Drive home a point. I suppose

you can be either person, the irritated person flipping someone off, but that's really not advisable.

Or you can be the irritated person demanding I stand up for what's right, and that I go back to start a physical altercation, or, here's the best bet. Be me. I just got flipped off. I tapped on the brakes of the car I was driving and the guy behind me honked and flipped me the bird again. The cop behind him turned on his lights. There are days when a little tolerance? It pays off in a big way. That's what this is about.



II *Gemini*

Gemini: My sister is a leftist, left-leaning, radical vegetarian, performance artist, based in California. Nut and fruits jokes apply. There's the therapy of the moment, fruit of the month, and obscure Northern California belief of the week. Then there's a holiday in Texas. I'm not saying we're part of the Bible Belt, not here, but we're certainly a notch on it, and while that's not bad, it does bother the left-leaning sectarians like my sister. Then, too, there's the [food source of choice](#), mostly animal and animal by-products. Maybe with a side-order of grease? Yeah, always fun at family holidays.

Imagine, then, if you will, here's our typical Gemini -- my [sister](#) -- and the typical family holiday gathering, and she's talking out of one side of her mouth about animal rights and the other side is chewing on a piece of honey-glazed, salt-impregnated, spiral-cut ham. Doesn't get more processed, or in her eyes, unhealthy, than that. Instead of worrying about the problems like this? Instead of the apparent unresolved issues that crop up from this kind of holiday behavior? Don't worry. Better yet, as the Sun (Mercury and Venus) slip through Sagittarius? Opposite you? Really, don't try to resolve this kind of apparent contradiction.

It's a holiday with the family! *And only three weeks to Xmas!*

The Video - [Barefoot Astrology](#)



Cancer: [Torture](#) season has arrived. It's all about food, and after a while, I've gotten to the point where I find this pure torture. It's that sweet and sickening aroma of pies, cakes, and cookies. Which, in moderations, is fine. But everyone is on this "do it better at home" kick. Which is okay, I guess, but then, it turns into a kind of torture.

Death by cookie and cake? It could happen. I'm sure that -- I can't name the part -- some part of my body is screaming as it tries to digest an overdose of sugar. It's almost like this is a toxic season. Have to watch that. So it's all about baking and making holiday treats, holidays and merriment on a budget.

I groaned when a client showed up with a plate covered in foil. More Xmas goodies. Already. I have yet to find a way to pass on the gifts of food, or food-like substances. Hence the name, the torture season. Now that we've established that this is the torture season? How can you, as a Cancer (or Cancer-flavored) person, what can we do about this season? My single suggestion is healthy treats with no added sugar or salt. But that's just [my idea](#).



Leo: For about a decade, maybe longer, there was a theme running in [country](#) music. At least, it was theme [reiterated](#)

across with a number of local artists: cover songs. But not just any cover song, a classic rock song, only, with each band, the song would have peculiar imprint. The fiddle with one group, the high-nasal twang of one singer, the bar-room brawler tone of another.

Cover songs. Not traditional versions of cover songs. As Thanksgiving comes and then goes? Think about the way to cover some material in a uniquely Leo manner. After a fashion, in a way that has it's own Leo imprint, and make it unmistakable. For some? This would be a strict vegetarian repast for the big meal. Little late for that news, but still, think about it. Make it "yours" in a way no one else can. Mars -- in Leo -- gives you the extra edge. Use that edge to leave it marked like no one else can do it. "Hotel California" by the [Gypsy Kings](#).

The Video - [Barefoot Astrology](#)



[Virgo](#): Hot Curry Beef Jerky. I can't make this stuff up. I ran across this in the local grocery store. Famous chain and a local produce. And I'm guessing that the jerky was locally produced. Tough, stringy beef, maybe not suitable for anything but jerky. Then, this batch was seasoned with the usual peppers, I'm sure, but there was also a heavy dusting of curry. Which, to me, was weird. Even to me, but I'll admit I live in an insular world and maybe this is a common flavor elsewhere. I just found it odd. Tasty, too.

So here's the hint: with what's going on? In [Virgo](#) land? Think about "Hot Curry Turkey Jerky." I'm not sure that this is the ultimate tip, but it's best I can do at this moment. The trick, with what's happening in Virgo? Think about what's ordinary, and then think of a way around what's ordinary. The pedestrian, pedantic material you cover every day?

Change the way you look at that material. Maybe combine a few elements and see what you come up with.



LIBRA

Libra: The holiday madness and insanity is upon us.

Can't escape that, and there's a certain sense that the only calming voice, a voice that speaks of reason and simple assuredness?

Doesn't seem to be available right now.

It is, but only if you listen [closely](#).

I think, look, between Saturn and Pluto? There is a strong desire, a big push, like the "Black Friday" marketing game afoot? How much do you want to give into that urge, and is it a real desire, or is your fine Libra self being manipulated by advertising? Xmas is now only three weeks away.



Scorpio: I can recall one family Thanksgiving Day spread. Made me think of Scorpio. There was a Turkey, a roast beef, stuffing, cranberry sauces, and the, what seemed like acres and acres of vegetables. Three generations of my family were there. Maybe four, as it's a hazy memory. However, imagine, if you will, the long dinner table, the wretched excess of the holiday, grandparents, grandchildren, and the stuff in between?

Then imagine, with all this activity, the prayer, the offering, the talk? Off to one side of the big table? There's our Scorpio, quietly watching as the family fireworks,

astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts

generations baiting other [generations](#), the kids, the flame-throwers, the food. Most of the all, the excessive food. And Scorpio, off to one side, as quiet as can be. Watching.

That's the hint for the coming week. T-day and all. Off to one side, watching, maybe taking notes, but most of all? Keeping that Scorpio mouth shut. Let others do the talking. It's no reflection on your Scorpio self that others seem to talk more than you. Listen, watch. And good news: Xmas is only three weeks away!

**astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts**

For the week starting: 12.3.2009

Barefoot Astrology instructional video is [here](#). Just in time!
The new book, *The [Portable Mercury Retrograde](#)*, is now
[available!](#)

"I think thou never wast where grace was said."
Shakespeare's *Measure for Measure* [I.ii.18-9]
Lucio to a gentleman -- speaking on the subject of saying
grace.

Kramus Day, either Dec 5 or 6, depends on tradition, a day
when the devil (Krampus) roams the streets, punishing evil-
doers. Or so goes my version of the Austrian myth. Barefoot
Astrology instructional video is [here](#).



[Sagittarius](#): I was standing in a long line, waiting on some
[morning coffee](#). Ahead of me, at least ten minutes' worth of
patrons. I mumbled something about [tourists](#). That coffee
shop, they should have two lines. One should be labelled
"Local," or "R" for Regular. The second line? "FT," for
"French Tourists."

I don't know if they were all French. I don't care, I just
think, in the spirit of [cooperation](#), that there should be a line
for those of us who frequent the store on a regular basis,
perhaps account for more revenue than any amount of
those darn French Tourists. I'd like to think that me, us
regulars, we should be cut out from the herd and we should
be treated with a special kind of respect.

Birthday time in Sagittarius., We shouldn't be lumped with
the "French Tourists." However, there will be days in the
next week when we are shuffled into a line with all the rest
of [humanity](#) instead of some regal status. Deal with it.

I still like my idea of two lines better.



CAPRICORN

Capricorn: I know you've seen this image, a [moving montage](#), in [countless films](#) and TV shows. It's the full moon, with clouds either covering up the moon, or the reverse, clouds blown away to reveal the full [moon](#). Insert some creepy music, and we're good to go, the stage is set.

I've tried, for years, to catch that same image, the moon, the clouds, and the limits of my technology, *i.e.*, [cheap camera](#) equipment, has made it hard. Then, too, when the moon is in this phase, like, this week? I'm more interested in fishing local lakes, which means, I'll be rolling out early, which means, I won't get time to stay up late and wait for the clouds to move in and out of the moon's light.

Balance is what this is about. How bad do I want that image of the [moon](#)? Not so bad that I'm willing to forgo getting up early for fishing, although, some mornings, this week, moon's still up. Not quite the same. No, it's about balance, and as a Capricorn, you have to realize that some things, like video footage of the moon and clouds, some things in life just aren't going to [happen](#) this week.

Just in time! The new book, *The [Portable Mercury Retrograde](#)*, is now [available](#)!



AQUARIUS

Aquarius: I was just wondering, if you don't have it done by now? Then give it up, probably not going to happen. Or maybe it will. All depends.

But as I was looking at Jupiter, Mars, and the relative position of the Lunar phases? I was wondering what I could

do that would help you along. It's matter of figuring gains and losses, and where you stand. And what seems to be most important? When to stop. If it doesn't work? I can save you a lot of pain in the future. I can save you from banging your head against a fixed, immoveable object. This is three month-long cycle that is approaching. You've had all the good stuff.

Now it's time for the hard work. Or cut your losses. Personally, if I find that one bait isn't working, I switch to another approach. Last time I was out on a bass boat, a few weeks ago, I had four poles rigged with different arrangements. Covered every conceivable situation. And when one didn't get any attention? Switch. Stop fishing that way. Try something different.



Pisces: December in South Texas rolls in some weird weather. One Thanksgiving, I mean, the day before Thanksgiving, I was swimming in Austin's Barton Springs -- it was that warm in the late fall. Another time? I've got a picture on a boat with ice crystals forming around me while I'm holding up a small fish. Frozen fish. Well, frozen fisherman, anyway. Which is what this about. Can't ever tell.

Last couple of days were either clear and slightly cool, and I was in typical beach attire. Or they might've been cold. Long pants, boots, coats, all of that. Kind of depends. You're Pisces. The fickle nature of the weather? The fickle nature of the Pisces planets? About the same. In either scenario, though, I like the extremes. We had snow one Thanksgiving. I was shirtless and shoeless fishing on a different T-Day.

We're getting ready for a weird as can be [holiday season](#).

Instead of preparing you for either hot or cold? I can't do that with aplomb. However, it will be good, if you're willing to adjust and adapt. Just do like I do and marvel at it -- don't complain.

Just in time! The new book, *The [Portable Mercury Retrograde](#)*, is now [available](#)!



Aries: I was looking for a little perk for my sister for Xmas. Not a big deal, I just know she likes art supplies and hand toys. To me, a hand toy is something like a pen or pencil. So I saw this ad, a mention in an arts magazine, about a kind of pencil, mechanical pencil, but with the look and feel of charcoal. Or real wood. Or whatever. I've used mechanical pencils for years, usually for rough-draft notes and calendar events.

So I looked at this pencil I was thinking about getting for my sister? I found it online in a catalog. That super-cool pencil was over three hundred dollars. Work of art, for works of art, I'm sure. But as a gag gift? Yeah, way out of my price range. However, it's a good example of a train of thought, derailed at the end.

Happens in [Aries](#). Soon. Good idea, possibly more ideas stem from that one idea, but the original thought? Way too much. Way too expensive, way too difficult, way too something. Don't let that stop you, but don't carry it to an extreme. Just a caution, not a mandate. No, I'm not buying that pencil. I'd suggest you not make a purchase like that, as well.



Taurus: This is the beginning of the long, slow, backward crawl. It's not all bad, nor is it "the end," but as the approaching holiday season looks a little bleak for Taurus? Relax. I'm here for you. Sort of. [A little](#).

Eventually, we're going to hear a giant, rewinding sound. It's like a cosmic video tape is being rewound, or spun backwards, while the audio track is still tracking. Backwards. What's going to happen is Mars is going to take a backward swing from late December until early March (2010) -- all in the sign of [Leo](#).

So what I'm looking at, as this is a tension angle for Taurus? I'm looking at you getting ready for this, a little ahead of time. You've been feeling the effects of Mar in Leo for a while, but this is the point when it starts to slow down, in relative terms. No, Mars is still orbiting the Sun at its predictable rate, it's just that it looks like it's starting to go slower than usual. Has been for a little while, but now it's worse. Or better.

See: you can use this to your advantage. Pre-plan. Stop now and make a hasty "emergency" plan for matters. Then, unlike the usual Taurus Way? Allow some fluidity in that emergency plan.

Just in time! The new book, *The [Portable Mercury Retrograde](#)*, is now [available](#)!



Gemini: Here's the secret: make a list. Make a list of lists that you need to make, if need be. Gets a little reductive, I

know, but hey, we're working with the planets and their energies. And you are a Gemini, and there is a lot of material just kicking and the holiday madness is taking its toll. Already.

I hate it when that happens, but at least one local retailer was starting Xmas crap last summer. Worse, you and me, [Gemini](#) and its influences, we've studiously avoided all of this holiday merry-making. So far. Now that it's December? Denial is over. Need to make a list of everything you want to accomplish, Or gifts, cards, whatever it is that you send out? Give away, whatever? However you choose to celebrate that it's the end of yet another year? Looking forward to next year?

My great secret, before you forget, about the lists and all? Write it down. Write it down on a piece of paper. Very analog. Pencil and paper. Or, like me, I prefer a sticky note. Just a quick note about that one great idea to make all of this work better. Sticky note, paper, pencil. Fastest solution to the holiday (Gemini) problems.



[Cancer](#): I've been on the electronic inter-web thing since its inception. Or very close to the beginning, anyway. So I've learned a few tricks. Pitfalls (and pratfalls). What to avoid. What's really free and what's got a price, and what might be legal, and what probably isn't legal but I can get away with, anyway.

There can a be lack of enforcement with certain standards. Then, too, there is artwork that the artist clearly states is not copy-protected. Meant to be disseminated across the viral landscape of the web. What it amounts to? I have, on occasion, grabbed various forms of digital media and used it myself. Can't copyright ideas, and for that matter, some

material is advertised as freely available for download and repackaging.

The reason I'm going on and on about [digital rights](#), artists' rights and the slice of Cancer sky? It's a matter of repackaging something that, [quite possibly](#), is in front of you. I was thinking about this as the Xmas season rolls around and I was thinking of doing an Xmas CD again. Just scrape a few songs off the inter-web, drop them onto a CD burner. Easy. Cancer solution to a problem? Now fixed.



Leo: Mars is your friend. Make nice with Mr. Mars. Mars is not so much burning through Leo as he's more like roasting along. The comfort level is labelled as "various," in the Leo side. Mars makes you a little itchy. You can scratch the itch, or, you can find some [astrological balm](#) to help ease that painful burning and itchy sensation.

Personally? I'd suggest the astrology balm -- non-toxic, hypoallergenic, and not habit forming. What Mars wants you to do is cut back on rest and relaxation. Towards that end, I know it's a "bad thing" to say to a Leo, never mind, the Leo, but figure that you're just not going to need quite as much sleep as you usually get. Not that it's bad, just the way it is.

There are other activities that are similar to sleep and equally restful. Late on a winter's night? I like reading. Way into the wee hours of the morning. Staying awake with one or more of the books that I wanted to finish before the end of this year? Perfect activity for Leo. That's just one example of astrology balm for that persistent Mars rash.

Just in time! The new book, *The [Portable Mercury Retrograde](#)*, is now [available](#)!



Virgo: Fishing at this time of the year is just strange. Not this weekend, but shortly thereafter? Be a good Lunar Phase for winter fishing. Here's the tip: local lakes? Water "turns."

What happens is the water column gets reversed. Fish who were feeding in the shallows move out to the deep water. The deep-water fish move up the column to the shallow water. It's all upside down. There's no pattern to it, either. Which is the problem. Unless, of course, you're a resourceful Virgo fisher-person. You're reading this, guess that answers that question. About you being a resourceful Virgo fisher-person.

As the lakes "turn," the fastest way to fish is to try everything. There's not going to be a pattern. There's not going to a predictable bait, which will work for sure. In fact, last week, week before? We were all over that one lake, and we caught them in deep water, shallow water, wet water, dry water, and no two fish were caught the same way. Best chance? Fish next week. And as soon as one bait works? Change.



Libra: for xmas, two, maybe three years ago? Someone was kind and thoughtful, that person gave me a can of [illy Espresso Coffee](#). Fine Ground. Italian Espresso Coffee. From coffee's motherland. Well, sort, in a manner of speaking. Home to the original Espresso Generation, if you believe all that coffee mythology.

Except, see, this isn't my coffee. Besides, it's been sitting in

my cupboard for years. Literally. Two, maybe three years? Thoughtful gift. Anyway, I was desperate, broke and it looked like a viable option. It was, sort of. I mean, it's good coffee, and it's been vacuum-packed, so it's fresh. Would've been a lot better if I used a filter coffee maker or if I really had an espresso machine. But I don't. And I don't want one, that would take the myth and mystery -- the real-time [magic](#) -- out of going to a coffee shop.

However, for a morning cup of coffee, out of a French Press, it was good. I'd like to suggest, for Libra, like me, there's something that's been hanging around. You can use that item. Might turn out better than you think. That coffee itself was good, and now? The old tin can is an even better souvenir-type of adornment.



Scorpio: Because of the combination of my [last name and my first name](#), I've met with -- all my life -- the assumption that I'm of Jewish extraction. While I admire that faith, no, I'm from a long line of High Lutheran Germans on one side and Scottish Presbyterians on the other. I was raised Methodist, but my current faith is largely Neo-Pagan. And, for that matter, the last church service I attended was Lutheran, but the last church I prayed in? Catholic. [Old-school Catholic](#). Really old school.

Mission Concepcion is the oldest un-restored church in America, the current structure, if I read it right, dates back to 1720, or 1755. It's a good afternoon stop on my sight-seeing tours in [San Antonio](#). The mission itself is [photogenic](#), and then, the added bonus, it's been holy ground for a long time. Good place to stop and pray. In my case, I think I was praying to a number of gods, but according to the local faith, I was probably praying to their saints. Not that any of it matters.

astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts

Comes a time and place where the only answer is prayer. While I prefer a setting like a centuries-old cathedral, just about any setting will work. For me, it's like a small pilgrimage, not a big, but a short haul to the [Missions](#), and a time to stop and pray. I'm not saying that you have to go to church, or make a grand pilgrimage, but a little homage to your own, internal [Scorpio belief](#) system will work wonders.

For the week starting: 12.10.2009

"You have as [little](#) honesty as honor."

Shakespeare's *Henry VIII* (All That is True) [III.ii.271]

Wolsey to Lord Surrey, who, with others, has accused him of treason.

The official Xmas card is [here](#).

Barefoot Astrology instructional video is [here](#). Just in time!

The new book, *The [Portable Mercury Retrograde](#)*, is now [available](#)!



SAGITTARIUS

[Sagittarius](#): Xmas Tamales are a local tradition. [Personally](#), in keeping with the spirit of the season, I think the tamales should be served with both red and green sauces. But that's [just me](#). Properly, a tamale is a kind of dough -- usually masa flour and lard -- wrapped around beef or pork, or maybe peppers -- then wrapped in a corn husk.

Properly prepared, these are the most amazing culinary treats. However, the actual preparation takes some work. It's labor-intensive cooking. Unlike most of my cooking, which doesn't involve labor on my part at all. I've got one client who bemoans the fact that the tamale-making is a dying art. Towards that end, I got to sit in on an afternoon of patting dough, wrapping, and then wrapping in corn husks, and I promise, I will never, ever say anything mean about anyone in the kitchen (cocina) ever again.

My hands were raw, my shoulders ached, and I was deaf in one ear from a radio ceremoniously tuned to a Tejano (mostly Spanish) station. This is an experience I suggest every Sagittarius try, tries according to gender and local custom, but I also [suggest](#) we try this just once. I still have flour in one ear from [that](#).



subscribe [here](#)

 **ASTROFISH.NET**



CAPRICORN

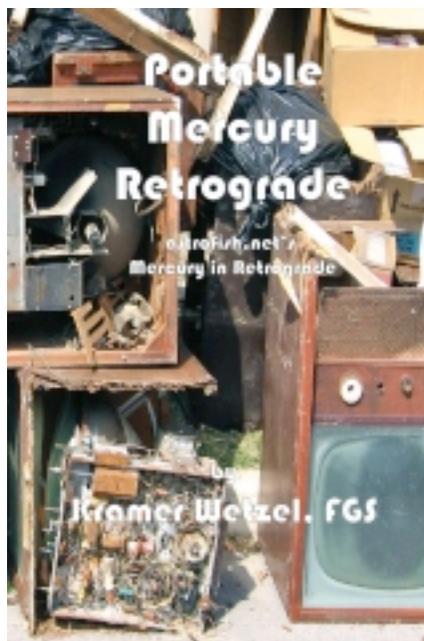
Capricorn: "Weirdest [question](#)? You know this place used to be a strip bar, right? So some guys come in here and ask when the girls will be dancing."

Answer to my query at a coffee shop that I've been known to frequent. I didn't know the history, which might make it funnier. Or not. But I was amazed. Coffee shop. Coffee shop patrons. Coffee shop employees. Not what I would expect to see dancing. However, that guy behind the bar, running the

**astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts**

coffee machine, he was droll, a little dry and slightly laconic.

Could be a Capricorn. (Truth was, he is another sign, but for the sake of the horoscope, let's call him a Capricorn, as he does have a Cap Moon.) It's a lazy day in the middle of December. It's a coffee shop on a slow afternoon. Some weird guy is asking inane questions. Humor him. Better yet, tell the truth. Tell the absolute truth when this kind of [question](#) comes up. Or any question. No need to embellish it, the straight facts are funny enough as they stand. Won't fix everything but will be a much-needed bright spot.



[Portable Mercury Retrograde](#)

Kramer Wetzel

[Best Price \\$8.99](#)
or Buy New [\\$8.99](#)

[Privacy Information](#)

[astrofish.net](#)

— page 504 —



AQUARIUS

Aquarius: I started this plan a few years ago. I noticed that my favorite computer company would release new models after the first of the year. So instead of getting something "in time for Xmas," I would just hold off.

As an Aquarius, looking at a couple of influences, like, Jupiter conjoin Neptune, I'd suggest you put [everything](#) off until after the first of the year.

The delay is good for you. Then, too, there's that long-running [Mars question](#), but that's not really the issue at this moment. Except for one particular Aquarius (hello darling). My original thought about the Aquarius chart this week? Make a "wish list" of what you want for xmas. Keep it private. We'll revisit that list in a few weeks when (1) the fog has lifted and (2) the infernal holidays are over.

Ready for the new year?

Three options come to mind:

- 1) [astrofish.net/book](#) Books are always good...
- 2) [BarefootAstrology.com](#) video...
- 3) [Readings & Astrology Chart Reports](#) (on sale now)...



PISCES

Pisces: I got the weirdest [anonymous](#) e-mail.

"Get a job. Get a car. Get a haircut, you idiot."

I was mildly disturbed at first. Then I laughed. How long has it been since I've encountered "hair antagonism?" Hair bias? Persecution about my choice in hair length? This bothered me for a few minutes. I dismissed it, and while the note was

**astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts**

slightly toxic, I just figure it's a lot better to keep someone else up at night, fretting about my hair length, much better for someone else to be offended than for me to take offense at the note. That's also a message for my little Pisces friends.

Be bothered because someone sent you an anonymous note that was meant to inflict a little pain? Does it really bother you? Or, by ignoring the note, does it cause more pain for the sender? Yeah, happy holiday to the anonymous note sender.



[subscribe here](#)



Aries: There's a particular [picture](#) I want to take. It's a highway sign, at the edge of the giant Interstate, and I'm a little reluctant to just stop, hop out of the rent car and snap a shot, not with rush-hour-like traffic whizzing past me at twice the legal speed limit.

To [me](#), that sign is quite symbolic, [enigmatic](#), and a source of [personal inspiration](#). However, it's not worth it to me, even though that rent car was insured, it's not worth it to me to risk my own life. I'm not worried about the rent car. Some crazy Texas driver plows into the car, I got that "end to end" coverage. No problem. Car is paid for.

Only, I'm stuck with no car and the unusual question of why I was stopped by the side of the busiest and most dangerous section of freeway. Try explaining that to an adjustor. This goes through my mind every time I pass by without getting that picture. The danger -- common sense -- outweighs the artistic value of an image. Common sense should weigh a little more heavy on the Aries [question](#) of the day.

Ready for the new year?

Three options come to mind:

- 1) [astrofish.net/book](#) Books are always good...
- 2) [BarefootAstrology.com](#) video...
- 3) [Readings & Astrology Chart Reports](#) (on sale now)...



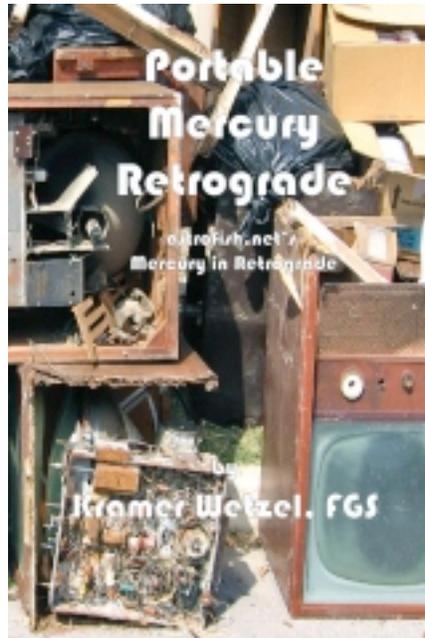
Taurus: Two words come to mind and this really hits hard in the Taurus Camp. Consternation and Obfuscation. Don't confuse the two, either. One is about that scowl etched in

the lines on your pretty Taurus face. The other is about confusing and apparently contradictory information coming and going to the Taurus communication center.

"I want this, no I want that, no I need this, no you need that."

That's a single set of commands. And the problem. It's not a single set of commands, it's multiple calls for different actions, and none of it makes any kind of plain, logical sense. The way it should. Because nothing seems to make sense and because you're left with a sense of consternation -- resulting in that worried, pensive look? The first tidbit of advice, hear me out on this one, stay away from the easy way out.

Then too, this is a good time to avoid the sins of gluttony. I [realize](#) that's a tough pill for a Taurus to swallow, but it's simple. Turn that look of consternation into a look of "avoidance," like, you're avoiding the sweet stuff. I'm not suggesting this for a long time. I'm not suggesting such abstinence for the whole of the month, nothing nearly so drastic. However, while there's this confusing material floating around? Back off. Might not be the sweet stuff, could be any number of enticing situations. Black coffee -- Decaf. That will be a good reason to scowl. And that's as good an answer as anything.



[Portable Mercury Retrograde](#)

Kramer Wetzel

[Best Price \\$8.99](#)
or Buy New **\$8.99**

[Privacy Information](#)

 **ASTROFISH.NET**

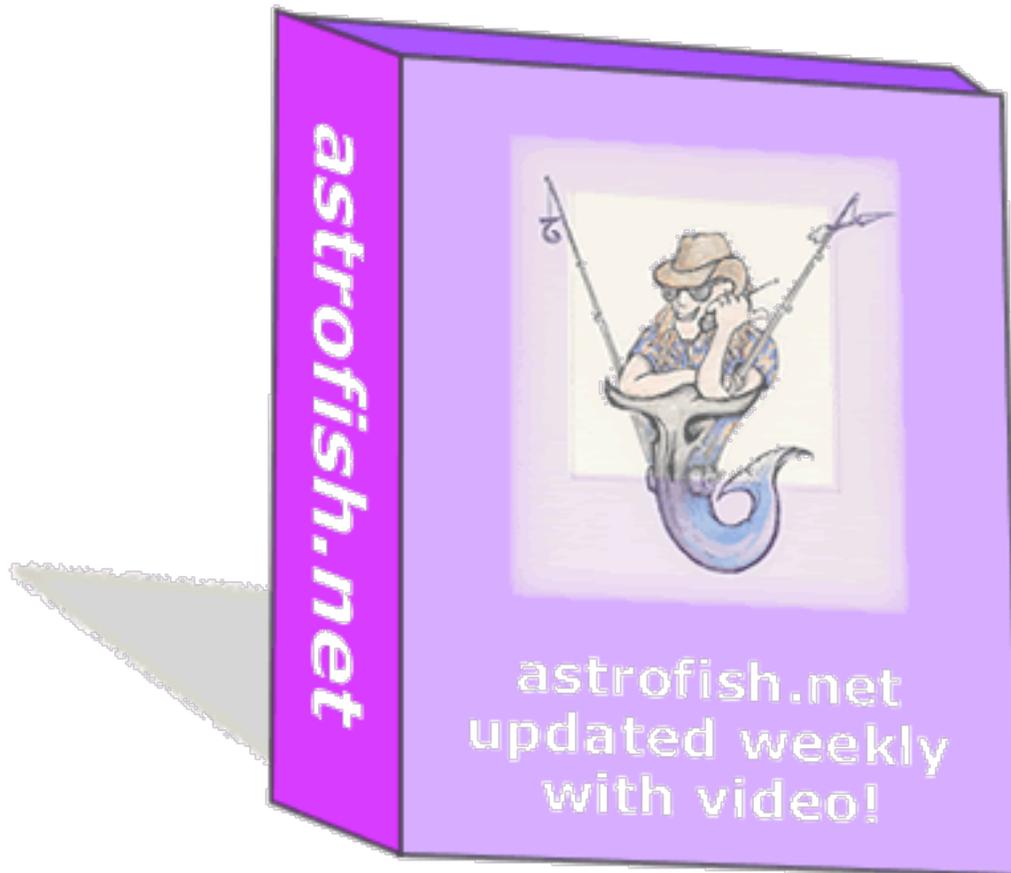
II Gemini

[Gemini](#): As the Sun, Moon and Venus move opposite from Gemini, there's a sense of something going on. Kind of like an intense pressure in the back of your head, only , you're not sure where it is all going. It's like there's a a certain amount -- more so than usual -- undecided energy that is hunting for a direction. Only, it can't seem to find what it's looking for.

[astrofish.net](#)

Feel tired? Lay down for a quick nap? Eyes spring wide open. Drink a strong cup of coffee, and then, have to go lie down for a quick a nap. See, it's all going backwards. It's that energy of opposition, and it is exerting an undue amount of mixed up material. I know, it's like throwing blueberries, yogurt, granola, natural apple juice and some carrots, all in a blender. Then hitting blend. With no top on. Those blueberries, even when frozen? It's a mess. A big one. Not that I have any experience with this, either. Nope, not me.

But this is a Gemini thing, like that [push-pull](#) energy, like the blender with no top? To keep from making a mess of the week's frantic energies? Just consider putting lid on it. Like that blender, if you can't find the real top? Any kind of make-shift cover works. Even better if there is a tight seal.



subscribe here

 **ASTROFISH.NET**

69

CANCER

Cancer: The *Christmas Crush* is on. How much are you going to let this get to you? The pressure only gets more and more pronounced as the next few weeks flow by. It's this next three to five days that are the worst.

After that? Can you discern what's internal pressure, that voice -- or voices -- inside your Cancer head instead of what's outside pressure? The next few weeks? That's outside pressure. Marketing, advertising, family, friends,

astrofish.net

neighbors, the [odd](#) astrologer, "Here, let me show [this deal](#)...." But the next couple of days? That's inside pressure.

Differentiate between those sources. Inside, outside, Cancer pressure from within, market forces from without. Big difference. Perhaps, the best clue to surviving the next few days? Figure out the actual source of one of those voices.

Ready for the new year?

Three options come to mind:

- 1) [astrofish.net/book](#) Books are always good...
- 2) [BarefootAstrology.com](#) video...
- 3) [Readings & Astrology Chart Reports](#) (on sale now)...



Leo: Xmas [shopping](#) time. What to do. Rhetorical question.

I heard myself with one of my best lines ever, as I was talking to my Sister, "Whatever you do, don't go in the dollar store hungry."

I liked the ring to it. I liked the imagery that went with that. 99 cent stores, dollar stores, they have been long favorites of mine. There is a myriad of crap available. Mostly junk. Abandoned materials, last year's cool stuff, now sadly out of fashion. Fashion items, now, sadly out of fashion and never destined to be "retro chic." Stuff that was cheap before? It's really cheap in there.

There are a couple of warnings, like check the expiration dates. Matter of fact, I wouldn't buy any food in such a place, but that's just me. Which is why I had my suggestion, and this from my own, personal experience, I'm just suggesting, going shopping, especially on the cheap? Not a good idea to handle hungry. This is actually Leo-specific advice. The Mars pattern will be unfolding, and we've long since talked about this, right? There are sometimes the

tinest of preparations -- like snacking on something before shopping.



[subscribe here](#)

 **ASTROFISH.NET**

 **VIRGO**

[Virgo](#): My voice mail beeped and I checked the number. It was terribly annoying, and this is the third time now, some automated sales call. Sounded different from the usual pitch, but I've heard it twice before, and now it's just more annoying. I traced the number back to a call center/office in North Austin. Then I tried to see what I could do to file a complaint since my number was on the "do not call" list,

[astrofish.net](#)

and then, I was seeing what I could do, legally. Sue. File a complaint. Better yet, the next time I got a call, and I got shunted into the automated calling tree, automated sales tool?

I just left the phone on the desk, and I started typing a [Virgo](#) horoscope. About how to deal with annoying calls. I just let the guy who was taking notes on the other end? That just burned up their time, and the company's money, and I'm not nearly as aggravated anymore.

There's going to be a source of ire and aggravation in the next few days. I can foresee that, for Virgo, happy holidays. Finding an appropriate way to deal with it? That's what I'm good for. Like I suggested, do something that annoys them back, some action that is equal. Equally painful, in a time-wasting way.

Ready for the new year?

Three options come to mind:

- 1) [astrofish.net/book](#) Books are always good...
- 2) [BarefootAstrology.com](#) video...
- 3) [Readings & Astrology Chart Reports](#) (on sale now)...



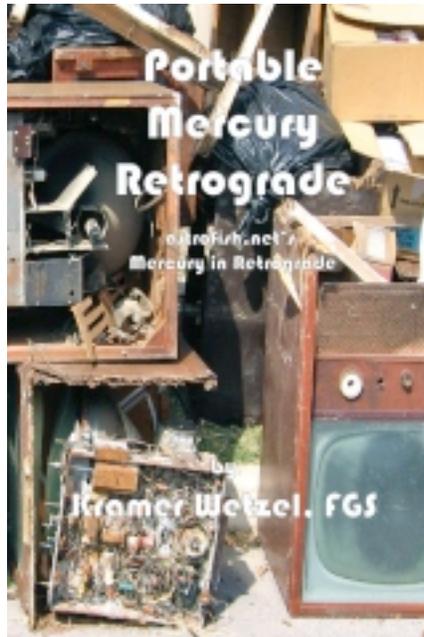
LIBRA

Libra: I found a batch of classic Xmas cards. I'm not one who sends these things out, but I couldn't resist these cards. "Merry Christmas and have a great 2004!" On the inside of the card, there was a note about "I have to stop shopping at the discount warehouse." As time goes by, those cards get funnier and funnier, something that ages well. Then again, some of my jokes don't age so well, and that might be a problem.

There are two points, really, to this week's message: cheap is better and cheap can be funny, and you're a Libra, so cheap will be important. The second is more about my

**astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts**

humor, and when the joke wasn't too funny the first time? Don't flog it again and again. Well, I will, but then, I get predictable results. My results don't have to be the same for Libra. Stop. Doesn't work? Stop.



[Portable Mercury Retrograde](#)

Kramer Wetzel

[Best Price \\$8.99](#)

or Buy New [\\$8.99](#)

[Privacy Information](#)



[Scorpio](#): The *Butterfield Overland Trail*, as I've been [told](#), ran through Texas -- Dallas to Abilene, down to Ft. Davis, and west to [El Paso](#). Part of that route is still Interstate

[astrofish.net](#)

— page 515 —

Highway.

What's more important, though, is what's missing from that route. Austin. San Antonio. The whole eastern flank of the Texas Hill Country. No stagecoach line through there. At least, not the famous, East to West line. I wonder if the folks realized, back then, once they got to [El Paso](#)? They were closer to California than the eastern edge of Texas? Never mind. This about that route that goes diagonal across the mid-section of Texas.

Let's just pretend that Scorpio is the lower section, like Austin or San Antonio. Austin, the state Capital. San Antonio, all the military might. Scorpio, Austin, San Antonio, Houston, even, all bypassed. That's the way this going to go. You're going to feel like a piece of history is being routed right past your Scorpio self. At times, this might be a problem. Then again, at other times, this isn't.

[Scorpio](#): *let's sit this one out.*

For the week starting: 12/17/2009

"Get you gone, you dwarf!
You minimus, of hind'ring knotgrass made!
You bead, you acorn!"
Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* [III.ii.328-30]
Ah, yes, gentle Lysander with the love potion in his eyes,
vexing and cursing his former love. But wait, it all works out
by the last act, I [promise](#). However, as [Mars](#) turns
[retrograde](#) in Leo? It's only Act III.

Weekly [video](#), or as an [audio file](#).

Mercury RX trilogy
[9.7.2009](#), [9.14.2009](#), [9.21.2009](#)

Just in time! The new book, *The [Portable Mercury Retrograde](#)*, is now available! Barefoot Astrology instructional video is [here](#).



Sagittarius: Wrapping up the last of the [birthdays](#), and I thought I heard a chuckle. It was quiet, self-assured, almost like a satisfied smirk of a chuckle. Yeah, that was what I heard. Here in [Sagittarius](#). Smirk. Satisfied chuckle. Not a giggle, not quite that [flippant](#), more like a little bit of a noise that echoes, doesn't really say, so much as it [reverberates](#) with a gentle, "I told you so."

That's the good news. Should be one of us, doing our little chuckle, this week. However, the way it works, there's a one-in-ten chance that you're getting laughed at. Didn't pay attention to my [good advice](#)? Oh well, it's not the end of the Sagittarius world. Still, most of us have listened, have learned, and are ready to move forward, or, less like moving forward, and more like staying in the same place, but not losing any ground. Which is what this is all about.

I stopped at a Mega-Wall-shopping place. I was looking for

a tacky, inexpensive gift. Sort of a last-thought kind of thing. Which was what got me where I was. The good news? I found what I was looking for. The painful part? Standing in line with all the rest of the shoppers loading up on [crap](#). Wasn't a "needed" item, so I was good with my position in line. No hurry. Satisfied smirk, and I had a chance to catch up on tabloid gossip.



CAPRICORN

[Capricorn](#): The end of this [scope](#) points to the beginning of [Capricorn](#). The beginning of Capricorn reminded me it's high time to buy some fireworks.

Local ordinances [vary](#). However, here, in parts of Central and South Texas? Fireworks are less of a privilege and more of a right. Not that there's much difference, and in the eyes of the law, I'm sure there is a difference, but amongst some of my friends? It's all fun and games with explosive toys.

That's also the caution as the beginning of Capricorn arrives. It's with a big bang. "Bang!" Or, better yet? BANG!!! Got an image of this? Where's the point to worry? As the first few minutes, first few days of Capricorn approach, there's a sense that you want to change some aspect of your life. In a big way. Drastic change. Go slow. Take it easy. There will be a big eruption. Are you a cause, or are you an observer? That's your call this week, at the beginning of the holiday week. [Personally](#), I'd opt to be the observer.



AQUARIUS

[Aquarius](#): Young Aquarius couple I know, they were thinking about getting a new car. First [suggestion](#), has nothing to do

with astrology, just wait until the new year rolls in and we get closer to Aquarius time.

Common sense, last year models will be on a [bigger](#) sale, and even this year, well, new cars, what can I say? But that wasn't the point. The female of the two, both Aquarius now, the girl explained that, if he ever bought her a mini-van, that was grounds for immediate divorce and forfeiture of everything. Boy would be out on the street, all alone. No hope. All because of a mini-van.

What was the deal? "I would look like a mom in one of those." She is a mom. But apparently, a safe, more fuel-efficient vehicle didn't go with what and how she saw herself. However, I'm back to the advice. Whether it's a new car, or something else? Big ticket items? Or even small items with big price tags? Not now.



Pisces: Some of these days are my favorite. Make no mistake, it's certainly cold enough to warrant flannel pajamas at night. It's just, for a few days in [December](#), here south of the 31st Latitude Line, it's warm and sunny. We'll get a few days when I'm perfectly at home, dressed in my warm flannel sleeping attire, fine until I open the door and sally forth unto the afternoon.

I tend to get up early and work, toil away in private until noon. Then I'll greet the rest of the day. And I'll do so in shorts. Won't be often, but there will be a few days in December when I'm perfectly comfortable in shorts. I'd like to think I'm getting a jump on the tan lines for the new year. Which is what I want you to get a jump on, too.

Pisces dear. The new year? Yeah think about it. Think about what's up ahead, and think about what you can do now, to

help pave the way for the [future](#). I'm not sure you're in flannel sleepwear, or, for that matter, excited by the prospect of greeting the high noon, comfortably clad in beach wear. Yet there's a momentary bright spot, varies with each location and what makes you happy, but you'll find it, amid the holiday excess. A quiet moment for a Pisces? Pause Pisces Pause then see what we can do for net year.



Aries: I have a buddy, he's a good food guy, go-to fellow for BBQ advice, beer advice, bourbon advice, the important things in life. Beer, bait and ammo.

The problem being, I [mistyped](#) his URL one afternoon. I was a [little off](#). I thought I typed the web address to "the fat guy dot com" but I missed a letter, or transposed a digit. The results were alarming. What's worse? I clicked on those results. Spun me off into a very frightening world. Scared me, possibly scarred me, too.

Although, I'd like to think I'm jaded enough that nothing on the web can scare me anymore, as I just discovered, I was wrong. But it's also like a train wreck, can't watch, but can't look away.

In Aries, there's a chance for a happy mistake. A chance that a mistake like I just made pays off with a new-found, juicy piece of useful of information. The problem being, like me, you might also found yourself wandering down the long corridors of fear and angst. Careful with your [typing](#) -- or where it might take you.



Taurus: I kept thinking I needed to add a new set of speakers to my computer's arrangement. I saw some speakers, about two weeks ago, in the discount office supply place. A nice set of add-on speakers, and they were [sale priced](#). Ten bucks. I thought about it, then, and I decided it wasn't a good time to buy.

I went back a few days later, and the speakers I wanted, for ten dollars? Gone. [Whole shelf was empty](#). They did have an attractively priced boom-box/satellite speaker system, but again, that felt like a marketing "bait & switch" con. I decided that I'll suffer along with the minimalist output that I've got.

I set a [threshold of ten dollars](#). I wasn't willing to go over that. I bought nothing. And I'm happier for it.

All about limits, best if those limits are self-imposed, and then, success when sticking to those limits. Set a point, a goal, a price point, some kind of well-thought-out but arbitrary limit. Or goal. Then stick to that limiting factor. Helps if you use your own [guidelines](#).



Gemini: "Man, if you only, like, you did [this](#)," a Gemini buddy was talking to me, "in writing? I'd read that. You're very funny."

I wasn't trying to be funny, which might be a problem. I didn't bother explaining that. As far as writing like I talk? I'd like to think that I do.

A little long-winded, at times. A little circumlocution. Obtuse? Sure. Oblique? I'm sure, that, too. Allegorical jumps that fall short? Yeah, I know, I know. However, I try. I'd like to think that my verbal presentation and my written presentation is identical. Probably not. But I'd like to think so.

Now, as a Gemini, is your verbal presentation the same as your written? [Audio/Video](#), all the same? As Mars appears to spin backwards in its orbit, while in the tropical [zodiac sign](#) of Leo? Consider how your presentation is. Words match up to your presenting skills?



[Cancer](#): I was watching a girlfriend do some holiday [baking](#). I was there for entertainment value, I'm sure, although, I might've been just a food taster, I'm not sure what my role was. However, watching that girl work away in the kitchen, checking a recipe book, then looking for ingredients, then sifting flour, I thought the most about the sifting flour and Cancer.

I jotted down a note, since I'm not party of sifting anything very often, I thought the action was appropriate. For a Cancer sun sign. There's a motion that goes with sifting, and that motion has a lot to do with holiday baking and how to deal with Mars in its apparent retrograde pattern. As I understand it -- this doesn't involve fishing poles or fish so I could be all wrong -- sifting the flour fluffs it all up. Like one cup of flour, sifted, is more like a cup and half? [Something](#) like that. Mixes easier, bakes better. Something. Sifting. That's what this all about. A gentle sifting action will help make the next few days a lot easier.



Leo: I was talking to a guy who was working the morning shift in a coffee shop in downtown Austin. "Weirdest thing ever happened? I caught a guy smoking pot in the bathroom, one of the homeless? He told me, 'No way! I'm not fool for the city!' I called him [Foghat](#) after that."

Caught smoking pot in the bathroom. Not a good place to be, not if you ask me. Not a good move on anyone's part, but the best part of the response? That poor guy behind the counter. First, he had to throw the guy out. Then there's the legal ramifications of smoking -- anything -- in a building. I can see a headache happening for Leo, just thinking about all the problems. However, the easiest way around the problems? Give them a name. Give them a humorous name -- something that might be evocative of rock and roll legends, maybe classical allusion, maybe pop culture, something. Name it. Claim it. Watch it go away (the problem).



Virgo: I found myself with the [same picture](#), time and [again](#), and what I was trying to figure out, why I kept taking that picture of that [place](#), [object](#), [sign](#), item -- a thing -- [over and over](#) again.

What I was attempting to do, what my goal was, what I was striving for? I was trying to capture that one image that truly portrays the object in question. I've found that taking the same picture, over and over, with different hardware, different software, different lighting, different time of day, all of that helps.

It's looking for that one image that can really [evoke](#) emotions. What is the distilled essence of a particular [thing](#)? As a Virgo, you've got a sharp eye for detail. And yet, you also understand the subtle nuance of long shadow, the deep shade of an afternoon, how even the midday sun is low on the horizon in the middle of the winter (Northern Hemisphere). That brings about a finer appreciation for the hunt for that one, perfect shot of something.



LIBRA

[Libra](#): "Those aren't real pop tarts, are they?" I could say that the girl addressing me could easily be termed a "pop tart," but I don't think that's how this is going to go. She was complaining, eloquently and gently, that my choice of breakfast pastries wasn't so hot.

It's fishing food. It's hurricane [supplies](#). It's pop tarts only they were called "toaster pastries" for some knock-off [legal rule](#). "But the strawberry, it isn't, you know, strawberry colored." Which was a minor let down. And the [flavor](#) wasn't that full-on "artificial strawberry flavor," either. Color wasn't right, flavor wasn't strong enough, just wasn't that good, all unnatural product the girl was used to. I ate the parts she didn't. Tasted fine to me, sort of a combination between cardboard, saw dust, sugar and jam that has no natural ingredients.

Frame of reference is very important. During the festival times, it's more important than ever to make sure that our little Libra friends don't -- like I did -- lose that point of reference. Fake stuff is supposed to taste like fake, sugary, gooey goodness. With preservatives, I'm sure.



Scorpio: There's a kind of perverse pleasure to be found in the way the planets and the Xmas material all plays out. It's fun, in a weird way, and only a good Scorpio will truly appreciate the material herein.

Starts with a certain amount of [pressure](#), and if you will just stand off to the side a little, none of this pressure will get you. It's like being in the first couple of rows at Sea World. Too close? First row, second row? Might get splashed, especially if the animals are rambunctious today. This week. Which they are.

But as a good Scorpio, you heed my advice, and you stand off to one side? Or, like in the Sea World example? You make sure you're out of the splash zone? You will be okay. It's winter time here, and while some of the days have been down right warm, not every day is like that, and that sea world water is cold. Wet and cold. Not really welcome. Stand off to one side? Don't sit front and center? See how this [works](#)?

For the week starting: 12/17/2009

"Get you gone, you dwarf!

You minimus, of hind'ring knotgrass made!

You bead, you acorn!"

Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* [III.ii.328-30]

Ah, yes, gentle Lysander with the love potion in his eyes, vexing and cursing his former love. But wait, it all works out by the last act, I [promise](#). However, as [Mars](#) turns [retrograde](#) in Leo? It's only Act III.



Give the holiday gift that
keeps on giving:

subscribe to the current
weekly scopes [here](#).

\$2.95 for 30 days' access.

Mercury RX trilogy

[9.7.2009](#), [9.14.2009](#), [9.21.2009](#)

Just in time! The new book, *The [Portable Mercury Retrograde](#)*, is now available! Barefoot Astrology instructional video is [here](#).

 **ASTROFISH.NET**



SAGITTARIUS

Sagittarius: Wrapping up the last of the [birthdays](#), and I thought I heard a chuckle. It was quiet, self-assured, almost like a satisfied smirk of a chuckle. Yeah, that was what I heard. Here in [Sagittarius](#). Smirk. Satisfied chuckle. Not a giggle, not quite that [flippant](#), more like a little bit of a noise that echoes, doesn't really say, so much as it [reverberates](#) with a gentle, "I told you so."

That's the good news. Should be one of us, doing our little chuckle, this week. However, the way it works, there's a one-in-ten chance that you're getting laughed at. Didn't pay attention to my [good advice](#)? Oh well, it's not the end of the Sagittarius world. Still, most of us have listened, have learned, and are ready to move forward, or, less like moving forward, and more like staying in the same place, but not losing any ground. Which is what this is all about.

I stopped at a Mega-Wall-shopping place. I was looking for a tacky, inexpensive gift. Sort of a last-thought kind of thing. Which was what got me where I was. The good news? I found what I was looking for. The painful part? Standing in line with all the rest of the shoppers loading up on [crap](#). Wasn't a "needed" item, so I was good with my position in line. No hurry. Satisfied smirk, and I had a chance to catch up on tabloid gossip.



CAPRICORN

[Capricorn](#): The end of this [scope](#) points to the beginning of [Capricorn](#). The beginning of Capricorn reminded me it's high time to buy some fireworks.

Local ordinances [vary](#). However, here, in parts of Central and South Texas? Fireworks are less of a privilege and more of a right. Not that there's much difference, and in the eyes of the law, I'm sure there is a difference, but amongst some of my friends? It's all fun and games with explosive toys.

That's also the caution as the beginning of Capricorn arrives. It's with a big bang. "Bang!" Or, better yet? BANG!!! Got an image of this? Where's the point to worry? As the first few minutes, first few days of Capricorn approach, there's a sense that you want to change some aspect of your life. In a big way. Drastic change. Go slow. Take it easy. There will be a big eruption. Are you a cause, or are you an observer? That's your call this week, at the beginning of the holiday week. [Personally](#), I'd opt to be the observer.



AQUARIUS

[Aquarius](#): Young Aquarius couple I know, they were thinking about getting a new car. First [suggestion](#), has nothing to do with astrology, just wait until the new year rolls in and we get closer to Aquarius time.

Common sense, last year models will be on a [bigger](#) sale, and even this year, well, new cars, what can I say? But that wasn't the point. The female of the two, both Aquarius now, the girl explained that, if he ever bought her a mini-van, that was grounds for immediate divorce and forfeiture of everything. Boy would be out on the street, all alone. No hope. All because of a mini-van.

What was the deal? "I would look like a mom in one of those." She is a mom. But apparently, a safe, more fuel-efficient vehicle didn't go with what and how she saw herself. However, I'm back to the advice. Whether it's a new car, or something else? Big ticket items? Or even small items with big price tags? Not now.



Pisces: Some of these days are my favorite. Make no mistake, it's certainly cold enough to warrant flannel pajamas at night. It's just, for a few days in [December](#), here south of the 31st Latitude Line, it's warm and sunny. We'll get a few days when I'm perfectly at home, dressed in my warm flannel sleeping attire, fine until I open the door and sally forth unto the afternoon.

I tend to get up early and work, toil away in private until noon. Then I'll greet the rest of the day. And I'll do so in shorts. Won't be often, but there will be a few days in December when I'm perfectly comfortable in shorts. I'd like to think I'm getting a jump on the tan lines for the new year. Which is what I want you to get a jump on, too.

Pisces dear. The new year? Yeah think about it. Think about what's up ahead, and think about what you can do now, to help pave the way for the [future](#). I'm not sure you're in flannel sleepwear, or, for that matter, excited by the prospect of greeting the high noon, comfortably clad in beach wear. Yet there's a momentary bright spot, varies with each location and what makes you happy, but you'll find it, amid the holiday excess. A quiet moment for a Pisces? Pause Pisces Pause then see what we can do for net year.



Aries: I have a buddy, he's a good food guy, go-to fellow for BBQ advice, beer advice, bourbon advice, the important things in life. Beer, bait and ammo.

The problem being, I [mistyped](#) his URL one afternoon. I was a [little off](#). I thought I typed the web address to "the fat guy dot com" but I missed a letter, or transposed a digit. The results were alarming. What's worse? I clicked on those results. Spun me off into a very frightening world. Scared me, possibly scarred me, too.

Although, I'd like to think I'm jaded enough that nothing on the web can scare me anymore, as I just discovered, I was wrong. But it's also like a train wreck, can't watch, but can't look away.

In Aries, there's a chance for a happy mistake. A chance that a mistake like I just made pays off with a new-found, juicy piece of useful of information. The problem being, like me, you might also found yourself wandering down the long corridors of fear and angst. Careful with your [typing](#) -- or where it might take you.



Taurus: I kept thinking I needed to add a new set of speakers to my computer's arrangement. I saw some speakers, about two weeks ago, in the discount office supply place. A nice set of add-on speakers, and they were [sale priced](#). Ten bucks. I thought about it, then, and I decided it wasn't a good time to buy.

I went back a few days later, and the speakers I wanted, for ten dollars? Gone. [Whole shelf was empty](#). They did have an attractively priced boom-box/satellite speaker system, but again, that felt like a marketing "bait & switch" con. I decided that I'll suffer along with the minimalist output that I've got.

I set a [threshold of ten dollars](#). I wasn't willing to go over that. I bought nothing. And I'm happier for it.

All about limits, best if those limits are self-imposed, and then, success when sticking to those limits. Set a point, a goal, a price point, some kind of well-thought-out but arbitrary limit. Or goal. Then stick to that limiting factor. Helps if you use your own [guidelines](#).



Gemini: "Man, if you only, like, you did [this](#)," a Gemini buddy was talking to me, "in writing? I'd read that. You're very funny."

I wasn't trying to be funny, which might be a problem. I didn't bother explaining that. As far as writing like I talk? I'd like to think that I do.

A little long-winded, at times. A little circumlocution. Obtuse? Sure. Oblique? I'm sure, that, too. Allegorical jumps that fall short? Yeah, I know, I know. However, I try. I'd like to think that my verbal presentation and my written presentation is identical. Probably not. But I'd like to think so.

Now, as a Gemini, is your verbal presentation the same as your written? [Audio/Video](#), all the same? As Mars appears to spin backwards in its orbit, while in the tropical [zodiac sign](#) of Leo? Consider how your presentation is. Words match up to your presenting skills?



[Cancer](#): I was watching a girlfriend do some holiday [baking](#). I was there for entertainment value, I'm sure, although, I might've been just a food taster, I'm not sure what my role was. However, watching that girl work away in the kitchen, checking a recipe book, then looking for ingredients, then sifting flour, I thought the most about the sifting flour and Cancer.

I jotted down a note, since I'm not party of sifting anything very often, I thought the action was appropriate. For a Cancer sun sign. There's a motion that goes with sifting, and that motion has a lot to do with holiday baking and how to deal with Mars in its apparent retrograde pattern. As I understand it -- this doesn't involve fishing poles or fish so I could be all wrong -- sifting the flour fluffs it all up. Like one cup of flour, sifted, is more like a cup and half? [Something](#) like that. Mixes easier, bakes better. Something. Sifting. That's what this all about. A gentle sifting action will help make the next few days a lot easier.



Leo: I was talking to a guy who was working the morning shift in a coffee shop in downtown Austin. "Weirdest thing ever happened? I caught a guy smoking pot in the bathroom, one of the homeless? He told me, 'No way! I'm not fool for the city!' I called him [Foghat](#) after that."

Caught smoking pot in the bathroom. Not a good place to be, not if you ask me. Not a good move on anyone's part, but the best part of the response? That poor guy behind the counter. First, he had to throw the guy out. Then there's the legal ramifications of smoking -- anything -- in a building. I can see a headache happening for Leo, just thinking about all the problems. However, the easiest way around the problems? Give them a name. Give them a humorous name -- something that might be evocative of rock and roll legends, maybe classical allusion, maybe pop culture, something. Name it. Claim it. Watch it go away (the problem).



Virgo: I found myself with the [same picture](#), time and [again](#), and what I was trying to figure out, why I kept taking that picture of that [place](#), [object](#), [sign](#), item -- a thing -- [over and over](#) again.

What I was attempting to do, what my goal was, what I was striving for? I was trying to capture that one image that truly portrays the object in question. I've found that taking the same picture, over and over, with different hardware, different software, different lighting, different time of day, all of that helps.

It's looking for that one image that can really [evoke](#) emotions. What is the distilled essence of a particular [thing](#)? As a Virgo, you've got a sharp eye for detail. And yet, you also understand the subtle nuance of long shadow, the deep shade of an afternoon, how even the midday sun is low on the horizon in the middle of the winter (Northern Hemisphere). That brings about a finer appreciation for the hunt for that one, perfect shot of something.



LIBRA

[Libra](#): "Those aren't real pop tarts, are they?" I could say that the girl addressing me could easily be termed a "pop tart," but I don't think that's how this is going to go. She was complaining, eloquently and gently, that my choice of breakfast pastries wasn't so hot.

It's fishing food. It's hurricane [supplies](#). It's pop tarts only they were called "toaster pastries" for some knock-off [legal rule](#). "But the strawberry, it isn't, you know, strawberry colored." Which was a minor let down. And the [flavor](#) wasn't that full-on "artificial strawberry flavor," either. Color wasn't right, flavor wasn't strong enough, just wasn't that good, all unnatural product the girl was used to. I ate the parts she didn't. Tasted fine to me, sort of a combination between cardboard, saw dust, sugar and jam that has no natural ingredients.

Frame of reference is very important. During the festival times, it's more important than ever to make sure that our little Libra friends don't -- like I did -- lose that point of reference. Fake stuff is supposed to taste like fake, sugary, gooey goodness. With preservatives, I'm sure.



Scorpio: There's a kind of perverse pleasure to be found in the way the planets and the Xmas material all plays out. It's fun, in a weird way, and only a good Scorpio will truly appreciate the material herein.

Starts with a certain amount of [pressure](#), and if you will just stand off to the side a little, none of this pressure will get you. It's like being in the first couple of rows at Sea World. Too close? First row, second row? Might get splashed, especially if the animals are rambunctious today. This week. Which they are.

But as a good Scorpio, you heed my advice, and you stand off to one side? Or, like in the Sea World example? You make sure you're out of the splash zone? You will be okay. It's winter time here, and while some of the days have been down right warm, not every day is like that, and that sea world water is cold. Wet and cold. Not really welcome. Stand off to one side? Don't sit front and center? See how this [works](#)?

For the week starting: Dec. 24, 2009

"At [Christmas](#) I no more desire a rose
Than wish a snow in May's new fangled shows,
But like of each thing in season grows."
Berowne in Shakespeare's *Love's Labor's Lost* [I.i.105-7]
Mercury is backwards in Capricorn -- roughly the end of the
year -- until January 15, 2010, in fact.



CAPRICORN

Capricorn: Happy [Birthday](#)! Sure do love me my Cappy buddies. Especially these days. Yawl all full of that happy, [freaky](#), holiday thing. I don't get it. Whatever is apparently normal for Capricorn, that isn't so. Whatever is usually a dour outlook? Again, not happening.

There's a weird kind of mirth spreading, and I'm not sure you feel it at the onset of this week, but as the days roll by, it gets weirder and weirder, and you feel more, well, for lack of a better analogy, you feel more like it's a holiday. Which it is.

I'm not sure how you care to [celebrate the shortest](#) day of the year, the end of the year festivals and I'm unsure of your personal choices. But there is something to it, whether you're Jewish, Neo-Pagan, Zoroastrian, monastic, Buddahist, [Taoist](#), Stoic, or Christian. Or something. The gentle happiness is there, in your sign, in the form of Mercury and Venus.

How you choose to toy with [us](#), the rest of the people who are not Capricorn? That's up to you.



AQUARIUS

Aquarius: I was reading a web [article](#) about productivity tips for web programmers, which, in general, would be any kind of a programmer, and more to the point, anyone who works at a desk, or a computer screen, for any length of time.

The author of the article was discussing various methods to stay on top of work and ways to be [productive](#). While this was supposedly only for programmers, I was getting a lot of useful tips. My favorite was "Drink coffee and take a 15-minute nap," which could be expanded and expounded any number of ways.

We're in the middle of a dismal [holiday](#) season. It's almost over, and in the next day or so, the worst is done with. If you haven't covered it by now? Take a nap, drink a cup of coffee and it will all be better soon.



Pisces: I have one image, a photograph, it's really a scene that I keep trying to capture as an image, and I never get it right. Local Tex-Mex place of some fame, more noted for its festive atmosphere rather than a particular high-quality food. Typical fare, enchiladas, tacos, rice and beans, fajitas, flour tortillas made by hand, all the [right stuff](#).

Like I've already inferred, this one [place](#), it's not noted for a particularly outstanding cuisine; however, it shines like a mighty beacon due to the ambience. There's a feeling of joy that pervades the place. Been in a single family's name for close to a hundred years, same location, always open, and usually friendly.

It's the atmosphere that matters. I'd note that Xmas trees, strings of Xmas lights, and foil trailers adorn the place year-round. There's Xmas trees of some variation, mostly artificial, that stay up, again, year round. It's attitude and

tacky decorations, and for some reason, this is how the magic happens. Xmas crap, decorations, and silly out-of-place symbols? All good, all good a for a Pisces way of looking at the next week. It's joyful, in some weird way.

Mercury RX trilogy

[9.7.2009](#), [9.14.2009](#), [9.21.2009](#)



Aries: This season -- it's growing on you, isn't it? I'm liking the new, [leaner](#) look. Just as much frivolity and yet, there's a thinner, slightly more hungry look to the eyes. What works, what doesn't work, and that's the question.

The answer? I can't answer for every, each and individual Aries [chart](#). But as a whole? As a [Christmas](#) (or whatever year-end holiday you're celebrating) suggestion? Leaner, thinner. More thinking, less money. More meaning, less mean. More love and consideration, less dollars. It's really less about dollars and dollar volume, anyway, and it's more about what can be accomplished with what you've got.

A little thinking goes a long way towards stretching the Aries stuff further along. An Aries once gave me a small chapbook of poetry, actually, handcrafted. Much like my horoscopes, only, maybe a little more touching. Was for her, anyway. And that's exactly what I'm talking about, something personal. Personal and [handcrafted](#). Goes a lot further than store-bought gunk.



Taurus: Short shorts and fuzzy boots. Neither was really appropriate.

No, really, I saw this the other day at the mall. Girl -- woman -- had on short shorts. Maybe not the best fashion choice for her body type. I silently applaud the idea that she is confident enough to wear such revealing attire; however, I just wished she'd covered up more of the exposed flesh. Which goes with the fuzzy, furry boots. Again, a fashion item that has merit, only, on a day in Texas when I'm wearing cargo shorts and sandals?

The furry, fuzzy boots might not be the best idea. The short shorts -- I'm sure -- kept her thighs cool, but the boots? While stylish in Alaska? Might not be the [best](#) bet here. Again, I could be deemed judgmental. It's not like I have a lot of wiggle room myself in either department, the body shape or the style decisions.

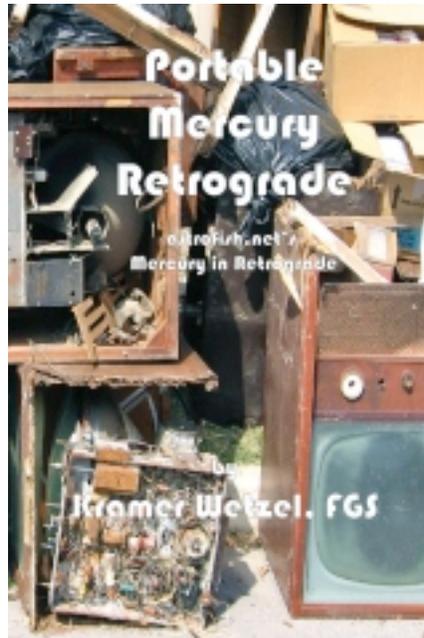
Nevertheless, as we're going into the Xmas day and its associated [fallout](#)? Mars and so forth? Think about those fashion choices. Maybe give it a second thought.

The Portable Mercury Retrograde
astrofish.net's Mercury in Retrograde

Mercury goes retrograde three-four times in a calendar year. Warnings, dire threats, problems, and some solutions, in this handy [tome](#).

Pitfalls, pratfalls, guidelines, remedies and foibles of the human spirit. *The Portable Mercury Retrograde* sets out to dispel some of the errant mythology about the phase of Mercury and how to best harness these disparate energies.

Published source: [Available NOW \\$8.99](#)



[Portable Mercury Retrograde](#)

Kramer Wetzel

[Best Price \\$8.99](#)
or Buy New **\$8.99**

[Privacy Information](#)

ISBN:1449911501

EAN-13: 9781449911508

Also available:

Buy Now (eBook/PDF file): \$2.95

 **ASTROFISH.NET**

II Gemini

Gemini: I found some mash-up [music](#) that was truly Xmas at its finest. Speaks to a certain generation, as the music

[astrofish.net](#)

crossed the lines in good taste. There was material from the Charlie Brown Xmas Special, classic rock, head-banging stuff, with a nod to 20-year old disco music.

[Confused](#)? Layer in some traditional holiday song, and then crank the volume up. All good, and all weird, and for a single moment, all I could think, how Gemini. I can't duplicate or even, for that matter, find the source for this particular collection of mixed music. However, it's just how it's going in Gemini land.

There's a lot of material that demands to be [sampled](#). How you do that? I'd think about that mash-up stuff. As this holiday pressure mounts? Layer in what you can. Mix and mash. See if you can't combine a variety of beats to get a coherent theme going, to match the Gemini mood. Moods.



Cancer: I hate [holiday](#) food. It's always rich, and just one cookie, not to mention the whole meal with dessert and everything? Don't even count calories. It's all bad. Terrible. However, the smell of the food cooking? Nothing beats going over to a see a certain friend, and she'll be making holiday cookies. Or holiday sweets, or roasting or baking, or -- I don't know -- kitchen stuff.

The sun goes down way before it should and in the early eery darkness, that kitchen light is like a beacon beckoning unto me. Have to answer it. My interest has found a new use, too. She cooks and I get to run up to the store to buy a half dozen eggs, or a package of sugar, or, last week, some [Mexican Vanilla](#) from a local market. While I'm, obviously, of anglo heritage, that doesn't mean I can't appreciate the flavor. Like me, I'm sure, you have a dour outlook at the beginning, or at some point, in this next week, and like me,

you get wrapped up with the simplest of details that bring joy. Happy holiday!



Leo: Christmas is a [weird time](#) of year, and I ducked out for a little breakfast. Not that it's unusual, I'm almost a regular at this one spot, around the corner from a girlfriend's place. Mexican food, or Tex-Mex, or whatever that cuisine is called, infused with corn flour, peppers, redolent with spices and the hint of lard. Cops eat at this one place. Frequently.

It wasn't odd to see a a half dozen motorcycle cops there, and then, at the other other end of the bare dining hall? There was a table of detectives. Badges. Guns. Plain clothes. Only, plain clothes don't make them look like they're not cops. Something, other than the gun and badge, something just screamed "cop," and maybe not in an amusing way. Only it was, to me. Amusing.

I have nothing to hide and nothing to [fear](#). What amused me, too, I was stuck in the middle, between the good cops and the others, [watching the detectives](#). As a mighty Leo, you're like me, a couple of days before Xmas, looking at the cops look at each other. And there's always one or two nervous patrons. Not you, right?



Virgo: "[House](#)? I mean, I like some '[house](#),' but I'd was hoping you'd put on something that had, I don't know, like, actual lyrics." Stuck in a car with me, short road trip, long commute, call it what you will. It was me, and I had control of the car's sound system. Little car. Not really good enough to produce the deep bass necessary for D and B, or, for that

matter, hard rock, but not bad.

Generations apart, I fear, was the real problem. The discussion did cross a varieties of styles and genres of music. Due to a variety of influences, I have a working knowledge of a select grouping of artists and musical types.

Weird, might be a better way to address my trivial assembly. Then there's the personal tastes and differences there, too. I'm figuring, though, there's one last point a Virgo needs to make, and that's what my fellow traveler was trying to indicate, you know, *more message with the message*. Sit back, like that little car? Delivery system isn't optimal, but it's better than nothing, and the music, without words? Maybe that's a point for conversation rather than signing along.



LIBRA

Libra: [Rolling](#) through the 'hood in a 7 series BMW, oh yeah. A friend of a neighbor needed someone to drive a car over to another friend's place, it's like this, there were too many cars and not enough drivers.

So that's how I wound up behind the wheel of a 7 Series. I was rolling through the 'hood, doing my best imitation of a young, urban youth. Culturally, I'm not sure I pulled it off. Then too, I flipped the station to the local Rock station. Again, might be a small problem with the image I was hoping to portray and what folks really perceived.

A mid-size pick-up came up fast behind me, as I was rolling along a few miles under the speed limit. Truck pulled up close, rode my bumper for half a block, then backed off. One, I wasn't moving any faster, and apparently in no hurry, and two, the car I was driving cost -- that car was probably more expensive than my trailer in Austin. So I've

owned homes that cost less than the value of that friend's car.

There's always the cost factor before that truck tried to assert [territorial](#) privileges. All about perceptions, too. I'd forgotten what it was like to drive an expensive car, how that changed the way people perceived me.

Perceptions can be shifty. All I'm going to say about that. And have happy holiday!



[Scorpio](#): Alongside the freeway in Austin (Austin, TX), there's the (self-proclaimed) "World Famous Christmas Store." I find it amusing as it's open year-round. Gets busy at one time of the year. I'm sure it gets busier as the season draws to a close, and then, the day after Xmas, I'm sure that there's a [big sale](#).

But the due date on the Scorpio Scope is the day before Xmas, Xmas Eve. What are we going to do with that and the Christmas (world-famous) Store? There should be a profound sense of glee in Scorpio land. There's a simple sense that something good is about to happen. It's that Christmas spirit, devoid of, or resplendent with, all the trappings of the holiday merry-making. It's about the full moon that's coming up, and what that signifies. Individually? To Scorpio? Not much. There's a "Scorpio Flavor" in the air, though, and that's what's important. enjoy it. Revel in it. Embrace it!



[Sagittarius](#): One of my neighbors, in the old trailer park, one of the neighbors was burning a scented candle. Not so bad. Outside. Not such a bad idea. Spiced rotten apples. Horrible scent. That candle caused me to sneer and tear as I walked by. Awful stuff. Personally repugnant. The girl? She's a lanky [Gemini](#), the kind that always sets a Sagittarius heart a-flutter. Or some part of our Sagittarius bodies.

But the smell? The rotten candied apple aroma? With nutmeg and pumpkin pie and what all else? Terrible. Way it goes. Every season, there's one smell, one flavor, one sense that gets offended. In my example, my Sagittarius example, it's that Gemini girl and her stupid scented candle. Which, I might add, she finds "Delightful." No accounting for tastes, and just proves no one ever got hurt underestimating the American public.

I won't promise it's a simple scented candle that annoys you, but it could be something quite similar, a holiday trinket, a scent, a display of wretched excess, who knows? When this sets us off, when this offends us, what is the correct course of action? I tend to just wrinkle my nose a little, then let it slide. Easiest thing for us to do this week. Merry [Xmas](#) (or Merry [whatever](#)).

All Rights Reserved

[copyright](#) (c) 2008, 2009 [Kramer Wetzel](#), for [astrofish.net](#)

For the week starting: 12.31.2009

"The devil it is that's thy master" Lord Lafew in Shakespeare's *All's Well That Ends Well* [II.iii.244]

(Problems with registration &c.? [E-mail.](#))

2010, the year in [preview](#):

The calendar [new year](#) means that there's a fresh start available. A new way, put the best foot forward? With Mercury and Mars in an apparent backwards motion, though, well, I wondering what that step will be like.

Mercury started a retrograde [pattern](#) weeks before the year's end, and that pattern holds up -- in Capricorn -- until 1/15/2010. Again -- in Taurus -- 4/18 to 5/10. And continues -- in Virgo -- 8/20 to 9/12. The pattern's completed in December, when Mercury goes retrograde in Capricorn -- but backs into the last third of Sagittarius -- 12/10 to 12/29. For more about Mercury Retrograde, [see the text](#).

Venus has a retrograde pattern starting in Scorpio, but in the long six weeks? Backs down into the last part of Libra, 10/9 to 11/17.

One of the most important [planet](#) patterns, [to me](#), is the long Mars retrograde, started before Xmas '09, and continues until March 10. However, to make sure that Mars spikes the ball on this one? Mars appears almost stationary at Zero Degrees Leo for the first part of March. Mars backwards isn't bad, *per se*, but the [weekly scopes](#) detail ideas on how handle the resultant energies.

Jupiter hits Pisces 1/18 making fast tracks all the way to Aries 6/6, then appearing to go backwards from 7/22 until 11/17. Jupiter doesn't make it back into Aries until 1/2/2011.

Saturn appears to retrograde -- starting in Libra -- from 1/13, entering Virgo 4/6, and finally appearing to move forward again 5/29, entering Libra again 7/22.

The patterns, in a big way? Here's an [overview](#), by signs:



CAPRICORN

Capricorn: Graham Crackers were an invention of a Rev. Graham, as part of a diet that was supposed to help suppress carnal urges. The name is owed, in part, to the original ingredient, which was "Graham Wheat," or, as it

might be known today? "Whole Wheat," coarse, ground whole wheat. Except, the modern version of the Graham Cracker is usually bleached and processed flour, quite unlike its originator's intent. Then, too, the folks I know who follow a similar regimen to what that Rev. Graham was suggesting, those folk do it for the benefits of the healthy lifestyle choices, which oddly enough, includes increased libido. Just the opposite of what Rev. Graham was baking for, more than a hundred years ago.

With the "Earth Element" centered Mercury Cycle, like last year and going through this coming year? What you set out to do and what the net result is? Two entirely different critters, be my best bet. What was intended to mitigate the urges? That original Graham Cracker? Eventually, over time, it served to become a, well, to this day, in the grocery store, there, on shelf, the Graham Cracker Pie Crust.

So much for health food that gets rid of sexual urges. Between two basic influences, one would be Mercury and the other would be the effect of [Pluto](#) on the Cardinal qualities, between those two, you keep trying to go one way, and yet, forces greater than yourself, like the American buying public, they push you in an entirely different direction. Like the original idea behind the cracker and what it is now.



AQUARIUS

Aquarius: Mars entered Leo in October of '09. Mar is in Leo until June of '10. Mars is hammering home a point to your little Aquarius self, and at some time, you might be receptive to whatever the Mars message is. At one point or another, Mars will exert an energy on your Aquarius self. How you adapt to this? Understand that Mars is in the sign opposite your fine Aquarius self. As such Mars is like, okay, I had this one girlfriend. She would would ask a pointed question with definite destination in mind. "So the stars say 'yes,' don't they?" My answer? No.

She would rephrase the question, all the while still pushing for that answer she wanted to hear, not what lay there in the chart in front of us. "So the planets do line up with an opportunity, right?" Probably not. "But there's a one in ten chance, right?" More like one in a hundred was my answer. "But there is a chance, right?"

I can only [read the stars and charts](#). All I can answer is what I perceive to be obvious. The answer was "No," straight on down the line. This isn't about what's right or wrong, or what answer you're seeking, it's about listening to Mars. Or listening to me talk about Mars. An what's up ahead.

We can make this relatively painless, or your [Aquarius](#) self can turn this into an epic struggle. The deal is that Mars won't change his tune, like I didn't. The answer is still the same, as Mars opposes you and Mars rolls backwards and forwards, and what all. The strictest term I could use? Cowboy-up. Or, better yet, *Aquarius up!* Walk through it now, or this will hang on your poor Aquarius head for the rest of the year. Or until June, anyway.



Pisces: I was in a girlfriend's kitchen, making my famous "[Roadkill Chili](#)." I've published [directions](#) elsewhere, and I've got variation of the recipe up on the website. It's basically stew meat and peppers. I prefer "fake salt" to real salt, as there's the question of potassium chloride versus sodium chloride, and properly prepared? My chili recipe is relatively healthy.

While I was in the girlfriend's kitchen, I grabbed some "fake salt," only, I read the label incorrectly. I interpreted it wrong. I thought it said "fake salt," and it was really labelled "light salt." Half and half. Half potassium chloride, half sodium chloride. Maybe it's not a big deal, but to me, it is. It affects the flavor. My recipe is tuned for the *real fake salt*,

not real salt. If I was using real salt, I'd use a lot less. I discovered this after I'd measured a heaping tablespoon into the chili pot. The chili needs either a little bit of real salt, or a heaping tablespoon of fake salt. I prefer, I tuned that recipe for the fake stuff. That little bit of extra salt, although no one else could taste it? I could.

What's going on this year, and it will hit worse in the fall, you're going to [encounter](#) a situation where you might make the mistake, like the imbalance with the amount of salt in the stew, could be that simple, and yet, it could also ruin a whole pot of chili. There are steps to take to prevent this from happening. It's easy to blame [Mercury](#) and Mars for being in an apparent retrograde motion, but that's not the point. It's how to deal with that kind of reluctant energy. Big kettle of chili simmering on the stove? Read the ingredients, follow my recipe, but don't just blindly dump stuff in, hoping it will turn out. While that change in salt didn't affect what that girlfriend thought about the delicious flavor of my chili, it bothered me. I knew. You know, too. "Light" and "Fake" are two different labels. Read the instructions. Read the label.

Look before you dump.



Aries: One of the ways, especially in person, when I'm trying to describe Aries energy? The metaphor I use, with appropriate gestures, is, "Shoot from the hip." Usually, it's both an apt analogy as well as an accurate description of energy, and that's our problem this year.

There's a "Cardinal Cross" appearing in the heavens. The big issue is "authority" as symbolized by Saturn. Factor in a tension angle from Pluto and then, add that dollop of Jupiter luck in the middle of the summer, sort of adding an emotional (hopeful) kick? Stop and think about that before shooting from the hip. Maybe a better way to see this?

Imagine them fishing guys on TV, and how they pull a fish up out of the water for the money shot? Last time I tried that, to swoop in and lift the fish up? Big old Red Drum. Busted that light line clean in two. My problem? I didn't wait on the net, I kept horsing the fish. My fault. Too hasty, too eager, too ready. As this year starts, let's begin by thinking about the big one that got away because I acted too rash. Don't follow my example. You will, I promise, see a big fish swimming towards the boat with your Aries hook in the fish's mouth. Wait and use the net. Not really a good year to trust, "Shoot from the hip."



Taurus: I just bought a new (electrical device) because the old one was worn out. Or shorted out. Or I lost it. Or, after Xmas? I wanted a new one. On sale, cheap. Cheaper than before. That's the compound effect of Mercury in (apparent) Retrograde Motion alongside Mars, backwards as well. The deal with Mars? Mars entered Leo in October and doesn't leave until next June.

Leo is a fixed sign, a fire sign, but fixed nonetheless. And Taurus? Earth sign. Fixed as well. Softly pliant yet stubborn as can be. Which one? Either. But this is about Taurus and the effect of Mars pushing and pulling, in some fashion exerting pressure, on Taurus. Which is why I was talking about the (electrical device) I bought. After [Xmas. Big sale.](#) Worked well for me. However, the sales girl? She had an accessory she thought I really needed. I liked the idea, but the accessory wasn't on sale. I skipped that purchase. What I did? After I took the (electrical device) home and toyed with its features? I discovered that I did, indeed, want that one accessory the sales girl pushed off on me.

What's important, though, was I waited until I unpacked and tried the (electrical device) before I bought the accessory. Simpler, easier, better choices. As Mars fries

along? Consider sticking to the basic plan first, before you add the [accessories](#). There's a time for that, but don't do it, not at first.



II *Gemini*

Gemini: I've got an aging aunt, lives here in town, not really an aunt, but you know, for the sake of harmony? Just call her an [aging aunt](#). She's a big Texas Longhorn fan, having both graduated from that hallowed institution and endowing a chair. At the close of the regular college football season, she developed a strange way -- to me -- of watching the games. She would, like a good Gemini, listen to the game on the AM channel because the sport network would have detailed analysis between plays.

She'd still watch the game on TV, usually, but the audio was off. Tracking two different lines like that? Same game but two very different forms of data input, the TV and the AM Sports Talk Radio. However, as we look at the retrograde planets and the way Mercury is just generally messing around? Got a good picture here? Consider that, especially as a Gemini, the way the planets are? Two sources of data. At least two data streams feeding the Gemini mind -- preferably, the streams are supposedly reporting the same game. Event.

Whatever data that the Gemini needs. Make sure you've got at least two streams of incoming information. AM radio is a little scratchy to my ears, but the vigor of the announcers, it's great. Not always objective, either, but that's not what this about. Just think that you need a minimum of two identical data streams. Watching the game on TV and listening to the radio guys.



Cancer: I was walking along the edge of the creek [here](#). Trail. Whatever. I noticed an "office lady" coming around the bend. I was dressed in typical December attire, shorts and a ragged t-shirt, and my well-worn walking [sandals](#). I had on my iPod, and she had the tell-tale white earbud wires dangling, too. I nodded at her, and she plainly said to me, "That was very considerate of you." She just kept on trucking, too.

What was considerate? What did I do? I didn't move off to one side, I mean I didn't walk down the center of the trail like I would if I knew I was alone. But I didn't make any other allowances for her. I was also momentarily struck by her appearance, the pencil skirt, the expertly coiffured hair, the studied and casual outfit that was all business, all the time. Relaxed yet not leisurely pace she was keeping as she passed me going the other way, and the way I looked back, over my left shoulder, to check out what she meant. Or look at the skirt's form-fitting shape. Implied shape. I wandered along the edge of the creek a little further.

There's a big office building there, and workers typically take afternoon strolls. I suspect there's a company incentive, too. I was befuddled, and since we're dealing with Mercury and Mars retrograde, I was seriously befuddled as to what this woman meant, like, was she kind, considerate, sarcastic, snide? I walked at least another mile or so and my phone rang, and I pressed the ear piece microphone to answer, and I was walking along, talking to a client about arranging a reading time, apparently, though, looking like I was talking to thin air. And it never occurred to me, that she might've been on a phone, and that the moment might not be directed at me. Never occurred to me. Make sure it really directed at you before you do like I do and grasp at hasty (faulty) conclusions.



[Leo](#): A little south of the Alamo, [in the Alamo City](#), on a street called South Alamo, or just off that street, there's a quaint restaurant called *Mad Hatters*. As both [tourist](#) and tourist guide, I liked the place because it offered a Tex-Mex breakfast while utilizing linen napkins. Just an odd combination. Then, too, while I find the standard menu a little pricey for my own tastes, *Mad Hatters* does have, as its literary antecedent would imply, High Tea.

Last time I was there, High Tea cost less than \$20. Compared with High Tea that I've had in places like San Francisco and [London](#)? That's cheap. Not "inexpensive," comparatively speaking, dirt cheap. Tea quality wasn't quite as good as the British, but the fresh baked goods were every bit on par with other High Teas I've been served. Proper finger sandwiches, proper scones, and so on. Good tea kettle; although, offering to substitute coffee for tea is a little unorthodox.

High Tea in South Texas? Weird. Mars backwards, as a point and detailed example? Mars entered Leo last October and Mars will be in Leo until next June. It's about looking for the best possible solution to a Leo problem, and it's all about looking in the least likely places. Like High Tea -- South of the Alamo. No, really, it's good.

Be willing to try, experiment and be pleasantly surprised. However, like I discovered the hard way, the regular menu at that one place is a little on the expensive side, at least, to me it is. More than I would be willing to spend, normally. Except, of course, for High Tea. This time, this whole "Mars is backwards in Leo" thing? It's all about going over old ground, looking over places you've already explored, and seeing what new angles there are. Unexpected (and cheap) delights in the oddest of places. Sometimes? No further than a little south of where you're at right now.



Virgo: I live in Central Texas. South Texas. One of those. Below the 31st parallel. While we do get snow, ice and occasional freezing weather, that's not the standard. There will be a cold day. Days when the icy north wind send temperatures plummeting close to freezing. However, most of those days, it will warm up enough, during daylight hours, so that even a light jacket isn't necessary. One reason I love where I live, I like the subtropical climate.

I get a catalog from a well-known outdoors brand of clothing and equipment. There are cool pictures and images of models frolicking in the snow, wearing heavy, outdoors, branded clothing. Smiling, sipping coffee around the snowboards. Cute little hats and goggles, and boots. The company must sell a lot of furry socks, fuzzy hats and totally cool "all-weather" jackets, coats, scarfs, and just imagine the rest of the winter line.

I looked at the catalog when it arrived. One heavy winter coat caught my attention. Over a period of days, I referred to that coat's picture, read the paragraph describing the coat and I thought about it. Then I got rational. I have no place to store such an article of clothing, as I already have two heavy winter coats. There are -- at best -- a few days in the year when I could really wear such an item. Cold days like that? I tend to huddle near the space heater and not go out -- at all. Both points argue against me buying another heavy winter coat, albeit a cool-looking one that would portray an outdoorsman image, a rugged yet jovial image. Probably, looking at the picture, make me look ten years younger, too. Hide the winter weight.

Stop.

What I can do? I can stop wasting time wondering if I buy a new, very expensive, casual winter coat. I want to know, every Virgo wants to know, will this matter? If I order now?

I might get to wear it once before the weather warms up. Last two winters? I haven't even needed to get out either of my winter coats. All about choices we have. As this year unfolds, as we look at the planets that are going retrograde, have been retrograde or will be retrograde? Think about that item you're so sure you need. Do you need it, really? Better yet, follow my example, I tossed that catalog in the trash.

Saved me money and time.



LIBRA

Libra: In the last month or two, you've received a little extra notice. Publicity. Attention. Accolades, and, for that matter, furtive glances in your Libra direction. All of this is a function of Mr. Mars entering unto the Libra Eleventh Solar House.

But Mr. Mars, he's slowed down, turned around and now headed in a backwards motion. That means the attention, accolades and other positive reinforcements that you've gotten lately? Probably going to stop. Might have already ground to a halt. Might feel like you're slipping in the polls. Might feel like you liked the undeserved attention, and now that it's all gone? You feel like you would like it back. Where's that spotlight now? And how come the positive attention never netted any financial rewards? I just report on the planets, I try not to be judgmental. Well, I am judgmental, but then, I'm only human. No, that's not what this is about. It's about that attention that seems to be directed towards everyone except your Libra self.

Given that both Mercury and Mars are backwards? Maybe it's okay that the attention is going some other [place](#). This will last longer than just the Mercury Retrograde period, but this is combination of energies is going to drive you insane, if you let it. Which, after reading this, you'll understand that

maybe it's not as important as you originally thought. And that is the point. It's okay if they all pass you by right now.



Scorpio: I'd like to harken back to a time, at least a hundred years ago. Follow with me, my favorite Scorpio and let's go back to a time when Scorpio was ruled by Mars. Only ruled by Mars. Mr. Mars was the Scorpio ruler.

The reason I want to dredge old ([astrological](#)) history is because it's got a big influence in the coming weeks. Months, even. In the very near future, Mr. Mars will make a "square" to your Scorpio elements. I'm sure you've got more than a single Scorpio element in your chart. So it doesn't much matter, whatever Scorpio elements are present? Going to be affected by this Mars flavor.

One of my neighbors was grilling steak on a little portable grill. Offered to grill one for me. I don't turn down free food, not in this day and age, so I acquiesced. He asked me how I liked it, and as it turns out, I'm a fan of "charred on the outside, cool and raw on the inside." He called it, "Pittsburgh Rare." If I were manning the grill, I'd cook my steak so it was seared on the outside and still cool on the inside, as the heat and searing cooks the flavor inside. It was dark and my buddy handed me a paper plate with a smoldering piece of flesh. Steak. I cut into the steak. It was more along the lines of "well-done." Close to "Beef Jerky." Just a little shy of "straight carbon." "How you liking that?" My neighbor inquired. "Mmm, good!" My reply. Here's the point, okay, Mars, like that grill? Too hot. And like that grill, which was too hot, Mars can overcook a situation. Look at how I elected to deal with my situation: I lied.

Not really, as I wasn't lying about the fact that I liked free steak, and I liked it was a generous cut, and I enjoyed my neighbors companionship. The fact that in the wan winter light he couldn't grill a piece of meat correctly? I opted to let

that slide. There are times when it's appropriate to stand and fight. This -- think about Mars and that grill -- is not one of the times to stand and fight. As Mars swings ponderously around in Leo, another fixed sign, like Scorpio, think about what Mars is doing. Over cooked? So?



Sagittarius: I love the **Spring**, especially in Central Texas, all full of life and greenery and Bluebonnets, plus a host of other wildflowers, all blooming. Or maybe I like **Summer** best, as the heat index drives most of the non-natives into the AC, leaving more fish and more fun for me and my native friends. The early mornings, the cool crisp right before sunrise, the late nights fishing, it's my favorite time. Or maybe it's the **Fall**, when the summer's heat is just wearing off a little. Or maybe, my favorite time of the year is now, in the middle of the **Winter**. Cold nights, long, dark, cold nights that require either flannel pajamas or someone nice to snuggle with, and yet the days can be warm enough for shorts and sandals.

To be really honest? The best time of year, for [Sagittarius](#)? For the coming year? The best time of year is now. The season doesn't matter. More time spent in the moment and less time spent worrying about the others? That's the way we want to approach this. This coming year has some pronounced high points. High points that remind me of a few days in this last month.

Warm enough in the day time that I can get by with my casual look, shorts and sandals and yet, winter nights cold enough to require heavy flannel sleep-wear. The real point, though, is more to be in the moment. The moment, as of the beginning of the calendar year, it's cold and dark here. Days are gradually getting a little longer, but not so much that you'd notice. The little trick to making the most of this next year, with all the planetary influences figured in? What

astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts

is our favorite time of year? [Right now](#). Holds true for the next 11 months.

**astrofish.net — Fishing Guide to the Stars
2009 — last of the naughty aughts**

The Fine Print:

Now entering the environmentally sensitive Edward's Aquifer recharge zone. Post Office, Feed & Tackle. We don't call 911. Like any driving directions or map, you should always do a reality check and make sure the road still exists, watch out for construction, and follow all traffic safety instructions. It's free – use it at your own risk and don't blame us if it doesn't work out exactly like you thought it would. Please take crying babies to the lobby. No talking during the movie. A gratuity of 17% will be added to parties of 5 or more. Sorry, no split checks. Guaranteed not to turn rancid. Horoscopes are for outdoor use only. Penalty for private use. Gone crazy – back later. Caution: do not over tighten the nuts. Easy for the novice user. Don't make any sudden moves and nobody gets hurt. Please take a number. If you find any keys please bring them to the snack bar. Before using, connect and charge the battery. Faculty parking only. No dogs – keep it clean. No snow cones here. Not to be removed until delivered to consumer. Please lower antenna. Counter line forms here. Boxmail is complete when light is flashing. Repeat offenders will be towed. Ginger Rogers did everything Fred Astaire did – only she did it backwards and in high heels. Stand clear of hazard areas while engine is running. Do not open inboard fan cowl until leading edge slats are retracted and deactivated. Parking in rear for misplaced husbands. Turn off cellular phones, pagers and personal electronic devices while fueling. Beware of pickpockets and loose women. Beer – pool – dancing. Turn right after RR tracks.