

Rob Brezsny's Astrology Newsletter

February 11, 2015

+

Here's a pretty version of this newsletter: <http://bit.ly/1789SA5>

+

My book *\*PRONOIA IS THE ANTIDOTE FOR PARANOIA\**  
is available at Amazon: <http://bit.ly/Pronoia>  
or Powells: <http://bit.ly/PronoiaPowells>

Below are excerpts.

"Everyone carries with them at least one piece to someone else's puzzle."  
So wrote Lawrence Kushner in his book, *\*Honey from the Rock.\**

In other words, you have in your possession certain clues to your loved  
ones' destinies -- secrets they haven't discovered themselves.

Wouldn't you love to hand over those clues -- to make a gift of the puzzle  
pieces that are most needed by the people you care about?

Search your depths for insights you've never communicated. Tell truths  
you haven't found a way to express before now. More than you know, you  
have the power to mobilize your companions' dreams.

+ + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +

You understand that you can never own love, right? No matter how much  
someone adores you today, no matter how much you adore someone,  
you can't force that unique state of grace to keep its shape forever. It will  
inevitably evolve or mutate, perhaps into a different version of tender  
caring, but maybe not.

From there it will continue to change, into either yet another version of  
interesting affection, or who knows what else?

Are you making any progress in getting the hang of this tricky wisdom?

+ + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +

I invite you to act like a person who's in love. Even if you're not currently  
in the throes of passion for a special someone, pretend you are.  
Everywhere you go, exude that charismatic blend of shell-shocked  
contentment and blissful turmoil that comes over you when you're  
infatuated. Let everyone you meet soak up the delicious wisdom you  
exude. Dispense free blessings and extra slack like a rich saint high on  
natural endorphins.

+ + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +

Imagine that the merger of you and your best ally has created a third  
thing that hovers near you, protecting and guiding the two of you. Call  
this third thing an angel. Or call it the soul of your connection or the  
inspirational force of your relationship. Or call it the special work the two  
of you can accomplish together. And let this magical presence be the  
third point of your love triangle.

+ + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +

"For a relationship to stay alive, love alone is not enough. Without  
imagination, love stales into sentiment, duty, boredom. Relationships fail  
not because we have stopped loving but because we first stopped  
imagining."  
- James Hillman

+ + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +

Gertrude Stein defined love as "the skillful audacity required to share an  
inner life." It suggests that expressing the truth about who you are is not  
something that amateurs do very well. Practice and ingenuity are  
required.

It also implies that courage is an essential element of successful intimacy.

You've got to be adventurous if you want to weave your life together with another's.

+ + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +

"You are my inspiration and my folly. You are my light across the sea, my million nameless joys, and my day's wage. You are my divinity, my madness, my selfishness, my transfiguration and purification. You are my rapsallionly fellow vagabond, my tempter and star. I want you."

- George Bernard Shaw

+ + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +

Whenever I write about romance and togetherness, I attract a storm of complaints from readers who are solitary. "How dare you imply that everyone has or should have a partner!?" is a typical protest. "I'm quite content being alone!" is another.

Let it be known that I do not believe your happiness depends on having a spouse or lover. What I do suspect, though, is that your soul needs some sacred relationship in order to thrive, whether it's with a good friend, a beloved animal, a beautiful patch of earth, the Divine Wow, or anything that's not you.

Whenever I invite you to seek deeper, wilder communion, feel free to interpret it as a call to explore any kind of intimacy that draws you closer to the secret heart of the world.

+ + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +

"The Orgasmic Roots of Pronoia" is one of the few NC-17-rated pieces in my book. If I published it here, it might get censored, so here's a link: <http://bit.ly/OrgasmicRoots>

NSFW! PROCEED WITH CAUTION! This material has graphic references to love, lust, tenderness, bliss, and rapture.

+ + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +

Are you in quest of an Intimate Ally? A Soul Friend? A Wild Confidante?

Check out Matchmaker.com via Free Will Astrology's link: <http://bit.ly/SoulMatch>

Look for a Co-Pilot, Co-Conspirator, or Collaborator . . . an Agent to represent you or a Disciple to worship you . . . a Secret Sharer who'll listen better than anyone or an Amazing Accomplice with whom you can practice the Art of Liberation.

+ + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +

MORE PRONOIA RESOURCES:

Ten Breakthroughs in the Science of a Meaningful Life  
Scientists find that gratitude makes us financially smarter, mindfulness reduces racism, a little sadness makes for healthier people, and compassion for birds could help tackle climate change.

1. Mindfulness can reduce racial prejudice -- and possibly its effects on victims.
2. Gratitude makes us smarter in how we spend money.
3. It's possible to teach gratitude to young children, with lasting effects.
4. Having more variety in our emotions -- positive or negative -- can make us happier and healthier.
5. Natural selection favors happy people, which is why there are so many of them.
6. Activities from positive psychology don't just make happy people happier -- they can also help alleviate suffering.
7. People with a "growth mindset" are more likely to overcome barriers to empathy.
8. To get people to take action against climate change, talk to them about birds.
9. Feelings of well-being might spur extraordinary acts of altruism.
10. Extreme altruism is motivated by intuition -- our compassionate instincts.

Read more: <http://tinyurl.com/my953gu>

(Note: I endorse these because I like them. They are not advertisements,

and I get no kickbacks.)

Please tell me your own personal nominations for PRONOIA RESOURCES.

+++++

FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

Week beginning February 12

Copyright 2015 by Rob Breznsny

<http://FreeWillAstrology.com>

Grammar key: Asterisks equal *italics*

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): How many desires do you have? Take a rough inventory. Identify the experiences you continually seek in your quest to feel relief and pleasure and salvation and love and a sense of meaning. You can also include fantasies that go unfulfilled and dreams that may or may not come true in the future. As you survey this lively array, don't censor yourself or feel any guilt. Simply give yourself to a sumptuous meditation on all the longings that fuel your journey. This is your prescription for the coming week. In ways you may not yet be able to imagine, it is the medicine you need most.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): The German word *Nachkussen* refers to the kind of kiss that compensates for all the kissing that has not been happening, all the kissing that has been omitted or lost. If it has been too long since you've kissed anyone, you need *Nachkussen*. If your lover hasn't kissed you lately with the focused verve you long for, you need *Nachkussen*. If you yourself have been neglecting to employ your full artistry and passion as you bestow your kisses, you need *Nachkussen*. From what I can tell, Pisces, this Valentine season is a full-on *Nachkussen* holiday for you. Now please go get what you haven't been getting.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): I hope you have someone in your life to whom you can send the following love note, and if you don't, I trust you will locate that someone no later than August 1: "I love you more than anyone loves you, or has loved you, or will love you, and also, I love you in a way that no one loves you, or has loved you, or will love you, and also, I love you in a way that I love no one else, and never have loved anyone else, and never will love anyone else." (This passage is borrowed from author Jonathan Safran Foer's book *Everything Is Illuminated*.)

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): "We assume that others show their love in the same way that we do," writes psychologist Amy Przeworski, "and if they don't follow that equation, we worry that the love is not there." I think you're on track to overcome this fundamental problem, Taurus. Your struggles with intimacy have made you wise enough to surrender your expectations about how others should show you their love. You're almost ready to let them give you their affection and demonstrate their care for you in ways that come natural to them. In fact, maybe you're ready RIGHT NOW.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): I'd like to bestow a blessing on you and your closest ally. My hope is that it will help you reduce the restlessness that on occasion undermines the dynamism of your relationship. Here's the benediction, inspired by a Robert Bly poem: As you sit or walk or lie next to each other, you share a mood of glad acceptance. You aren't itchy or fidgeting, wondering if there's something better to be or do. You don't wish you were talking about a different subject or feeling a different emotion or living in a different world. You are content to be exactly who you are, exactly where you are.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Want to infuse your romantic interludes with wilder moods now and then? Want to cultivate a kind of intimacy that taps deeper into your animal intelligence? If so, try acting out each other's dreams or drawing magic symbols on each other's bodies. Whisper funny secrets into each other's ears or wrestle like good-natured drunks on the living room floor. Howl like coyotes. Caw like crows. Purr like cheetahs. Sing boisterous songs and recite feral poetry to each other. Murmur this riff, adapted from Pablo Neruda: "Our love was born in the wind, in the night, in the earth. That's why the clay and the flower, the mud and the roots know our names."

+++++

PLEASURE IS HOLY?

Assume that your drive to experience pleasure isn't a barrier to your

spiritual growth, but is in fact essential to it. Proceed on the hypothesis that cultivating joy can make you a more ethical and compassionate person. Imagine that feeling good has something important to teach you every day.

For inspiration in practicing this approach, tune in to your Expanded Audio Horoscopes. They're four-to-five-minute meditations on the current state of your destiny. The cost is \$6 per reading, with a discount for multiple purchases.

For another few weeks, you can also still listen to my Long-Range, Big-Picture explorations of your destiny in the coming months.

Go here to register and/or sign in: <http://RealAstrology.com/>

They're available on your tablets and smart phones as well as your computers.

You can also listen over the phone by calling  
1-877-873-4888

"Your Expanded Audio Horoscopes seem to have the effect of activating my inner teacher. Thanks!" - Eleanor A., Toronto

"Your audio horoscopes calm me down when I'm too manic and pep me up when I'm down."  
-Arthur T., Cleveland, OH

+++++

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Is there any sense in which your closest alliance is a gift to the world? Does your relationship inspire anyone?

Do the two of you serve as activators and energizers, igniting fires in the imaginations of those whose lives you touch? If not, find out why. And if you are tapping into those potentials, it's time to raise your impact to the next level. Together the two of you now have extra power to synergize your collaboration in such a way that it sends out ripples of benevolence everywhere you go.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): The poet Rainer Maria Rilke said that people misunderstand the role of love. "They have made it into play and pleasure because they think that play and pleasure are more blissful than work," he wrote. "But there is nothing happier than work. And love, precisely because it is the supreme happiness, can be nothing other than work." I'm sharing this perspective with you for two reasons, Virgo. First, of all the signs in the zodiac, you're most likely to thrive on his approach. Second, you're in a phase of your astrological cycle when this capacity of yours is at a peak. Here's how Rilke finished his thought: "Lovers should act as if they had a great work to accomplish."

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): About 2,600 years ago, the Greek poet Sappho wrote the following declaration: "You make me hot." In the next ten days, I'd love for you to feel motivated to say or think that on a regular basis. In fact, I predict that you will. The astrological omens suggest you're in a phase when you are both more likely to be made hot and more likely to encounter phenomena that make you hot. Here are some other fragments from Sappho that might come in handy when you need to express your torrid feelings: 1. "This randy madness I joyfully proclaim." 2. "Eros makes me shiver again . . . Snake-sly, invincible." 3. "Desire has shaken my mind as wind in the mountain forests roars through trees." (Translations by Guy Davenport.)

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): In the TV science-fiction show \*Doctor Who,\* the title character lives in a time machine that is also a spaceship. It's called a Tardis. From the outside, it appears to be barely bigger than a phone booth. But once you venture inside, you find it's a spacious chateau with numerous rooms, including a greenhouse, library, observatory, swimming pool, and karaoke bar. This is an excellent metaphor for you, Scorpio. Anyone who wants your love or friendship must realize how much you resemble a Tardis. If they don't understand that you're far bigger on the inside than you seem on the outside, it's unlikely the two of you can have a productive relationship. This Valentine season, as a public service, make sure that everyone you're seriously involved with knows this fact.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Love and intimacy come in many forms. There are at least a billion different ways for you to be attracted to another person, and a trillion different ways to structure your relationship. Maybe your unique bond involves having sex, or maybe it doesn't. Maybe

it's romantic or friendly or holy, or all three of those things. Do the two of you have something important to create together, or is your connection more about fueling each other's talents? Your task is to respect and revere the idiosyncratic ways you fit together, not force yourselves to conform to a prototype. To celebrate the Valentine season, I invite you and your closest ally to play around with these fun ideas.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Anais Nin wrote the following passage in her novel \*A Spy in the House of Love\*: "As other girls prayed for handsomeness in a lover, or for wealth, or for power, or for poetry, she had prayed fervently: let him be kind." I recommend that approach for you right now, Capricorn. A quest for tender, compassionate attention doesn't always have to be at the top of your list of needs, but I think it should be for now. You will derive a surprisingly potent alchemical boost from basking in kindness. It will catalyze a breakthrough that can't be unleashed in any other way. Ask for it!

+++++

Homework: Proposed experiment: Carry out an act of love that's unique in your history. Testify at [FreeWillAstrology.com](http://FreeWillAstrology.com).

+++++

#### NEED TO CHANGE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS?

To join or leave the email list for this newsletter, or to change the address where you receive it, go to:  
<http://www.freewillastrology.com/newsletter/>

Once you do join, check all the below points to make sure you'll actually receive the newsletter:

1. Add my address, [televisionary@comcast.net](mailto:televisionary@comcast.net), to your address book so that the newsletter won't be treated as spam and filtered out.
2. Adjust your spam filter so it doesn't treat my address as a source of spam.
3. Tell your company's IT group to allow my address to pass through any filtering software they may have set up.
4. If my newsletters don't reach your inbox, look in your "Bulk Mail" or "Junk Mail" folder.
5. The problems may not have to do with anything you do, but may originate with your email provider. It may be using a "content filter" that prevents my newsletter from ever reaching you at all. If you suspect that's the case, complain. Tell your email provider to stop blocking my newsletter from reaching you.

P.S. I totally respect your privacy. I'll never sell or give away your address to anyone.

+++++

Submissions sent to the Free Will Astrology Weekly Newsletter or in response to "homework assignments" may be published in a variety of formats at Rob Breznsny's discretion, including but not limited to newsletters, books, the Free Will Astrology column, and Free Will Astrology website. We reserve the right to edit such submissions for length, style, and content. Requests for anonymity will be honored with submissions; otherwise, reader names, screen names, or initials will be used. Please be sure to note your preference when sending to us. We are not responsible for unsolicited submission of any creative material.

Contents of the Free Will Astrology Newsletter are Copyright 2015 Rob Breznsny

+++++

