

Astrology of the New Millennium: The Y2001 Chart

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One of the fundamental issues we are faced with as we enter the new millennium is the question of when it actually began. Many celebrated the dawning of the new millennium on January 1, 2000. Others argue that the year 2000 marked the last year of the first millennium and that the new millennium actually begins January 1, 2001. Regardless of what viewpoint we subscribe to it is clear that in the collective consciousness both dates are equally important. After studying the astrological charts for each event last year, I concluded that we could gain invaluable guidance by seeing the Y2K chart (January 1, 2000) as a preparatory or initiatory event for the Millennium Chart (January 1, 2001). Specifically, the Y2K chart represented to me the inevitable breakdowns and transformation that preceded the major breakthroughs that we will experience as we enter the new millennium.

In comparison to the millennium chart, the Y2K chart had many more challenging or stressful planetary aspects. It is the challenging aspects; the squares and oppositions that create dynamic tension and compel us into action. There is no question that the threat of Y2K technological breakdown mobilized a great deal of people into action. The next step, though, is to look at what the Y2K experience mirrored to us in terms of the deeper psychological and spiritual changes that we are being asked to make.

One of the side effects of the Y2K preparation was that it brought people together in a massive cooperative effort. To me this is at the heart of what the Y2K experience was all about. We were asked last year to go of our separateness and sense of isolation. We were also asked to channel our will power into humanitarian causes that care for or defend those in need. In the Y2K experience we saw this cooperative effort illustrated through thousands of people's desire to learn how to interact with others in an egalitarian manner.

The Y2001 Chart: Jan 1, 2001

The Y2K chart and experience revealed the changes that we have been asked to make on the personality level to prepare for the new millennium. As we let go of our sense of separateness and isolation and begin to trust our deepest wisdom, we can begin to open to the deeper spiritual potential of the new millennium. In the Y2001 chart, this spiritual potential is symbolized by our longing or desire for unity or oneness with spirit. With the moon in Pisces in the 6th house (squaring Chiron, Ceres and Pluto in Sagittarius in the third house), we are addressing and healing the core thoughts that keep us from experiencing this oneness on a day-to-day basis.

The call with these aspects is to address our issues around abandonment, whether on the level of personality or spirit. All abandonment issues ultimately have an underlying spiritual basis. If we are worried about being abandoned by our loved ones on some level we are worried about being abandoned by spirit, as well. The core issue is trust. Do we really trust that we are supported and unconditionally loved by the universe, god, spirit? Do we have a deep and abiding sense of connection to the divine feminine energy that is always loving and supporting us?

Intimate connection to the loving grace of the divine feminine is both the challenge and the promise of the Y2001 chart. The moon in Pisces is in a grand trine with the north node of the moon in Cancer and Pallas in Scorpio. This powerful water element trine speaks to our awakening to the healing power of the divine feminine or goddess energy. In addition to Pallas in Scorpio (the healer) in the 2nd house (representing our core values) we have Mars, the planet of will, in Scorpio as well. What this indicates is that we are learning now to dance with the healing force is both power of the serpent; our fundamental life force. The paradox is that this life force is both creative and destructive, light and dark. Our job is to fully accept and express this power as it manifests through us in the form of our creativity, sexuality, passion, power and emotional intensity. As we learn how to channel this power in appropriate ways we become willing conduits or transmitters of the divine feminine energy on this planet.

Opening to Surrender

To fully develop our connection with the power and grace of the divine feminine requires that we learn about surrender, which is another theme of the Y2001 chart. Many people are scared of tapping into the energies of the divine feminine because they are so powerful and sometimes overwhelming. Equal amounts of people worry that they would misuse these powers if they had them. What is being asked of us in the new millennium is that we learn to align the personal (Mars) and the divine (Neptune). In the Y2001 chart, Mars squared Neptune challenges us to surrender our personal will and power so that it can be guided by spirit instead of ego. The opportunity, both personally and collectively is to see that "our" power is not really our own but a reflection of a creative and collective power that flows through us. Opening to the power of surrender represents a major shift of being because the dominant paradigm on this planet for so long has been around control as a method of manifestation. The new paradigm of surrender suggests that we can exercise the same degree of will, intention and focus that we always have. The difference is in the attachment to the outcome. By letting go of our attachment to the results of our actions we let go of control and allow spirit to support us in manifesting. Deepak Chopra calls this "the law of least effort." We could also call it learning how to go with the flow. Regardless of what we call it, surrender is a gift of grace. It allows us to intimately connect to the loving guidance of the divine feminine in every area of our lives.

Staying Centered and Being Grounded

One of the greatest challenges of the new millennium, as we increase our sensitivity, energy and awareness, is to remain centered and grounded in our own experience. Increased empathy and compassion also lead to increased vulnerability. Increased energy demands that we develop circuits that are capable of handling the increased wattage. Increased intuition requires sensitivity and diplomacy as we share our awareness with others. With the Sun and Mercury in Capricorn in the 4th house of the Y2001 chart we are being asked to develop a strong sense of center and personal integrity. If our boundaries are weak, we may need to strengthen them so we are no overwhelmed by the feelings we pick up from others. If our boundaries are too strong, we may need to evaluate if it's still necessary to keep others at a distance. Either way the challenge is to develop an inner and outer strength so that we can remain grounded as our awareness increases.

Finally, we are being asked to resolve and let go of any resentments or anger that may have accumulated as a result of unconsciously merging with the emotions of others in the past (Mars square Neptune, sesquisquare Moon). if we have unresolved fears of merging on a personality level

we will also have fears around merging on a spiritual level. Deep within each of us is a longing for unity and oneness with spirit. Along with that longing exists the fear of losing ourselves to the other. By letting go of the past we step into the present deeply rooted in our sense of who we are and where we stand. With that knowledge we can open ourselves up to serve others without the fear of losing ourselves.

Y2001: The New Frontier

We are being called to radically shift our awareness into a whole new paradigm of understanding. The shift is from third dimensional thinking; time, space, matter, to multi-dimensional thinking. It is time now to let go of our resistance and open to new ways of perceiving reality.

Many of the radical earth changes that we are seeing are mirroring to us the need to shift our perception. As we change and begin to shift, the planet itself will no longer have to take on the role of the catalyst for our growth and we will see a restoration of balance and harmony on our planet. 'What can we do to shift our perception? We can begin by taking our place as planetary healers by stepping fully into our unique gifts and forms of service. We can begin by surrendering to the flow of universal energies that are always available to support us in developing our highest potential or power. And we can let go of the illusion that we as individuals don't make a difference.

We each have a calling or spiritual destiny that is essential to the whole; to the healing of the planet. As we step into full awareness of this truth we receive increasing guidance from the masters that have come before us. The only thing that prevents this guidance from happening is our illusion of separation; the belief in the limitation of third-dimensional reality.

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In addition to his astrological, counseling, and life coaching practice, James lectures and teaches classes and seminars on personal & spiritual growth. He is the author of "StarWatch," a monthly astrological column, featured in the Seattle, Washington based newspaper and "The New Times." James is a Leo with a Taurus moon and Cancer rising and currently resides near Santa Cruz.

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