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Rico's Cosmic Weather Report for '03

NEW YEAR 2003

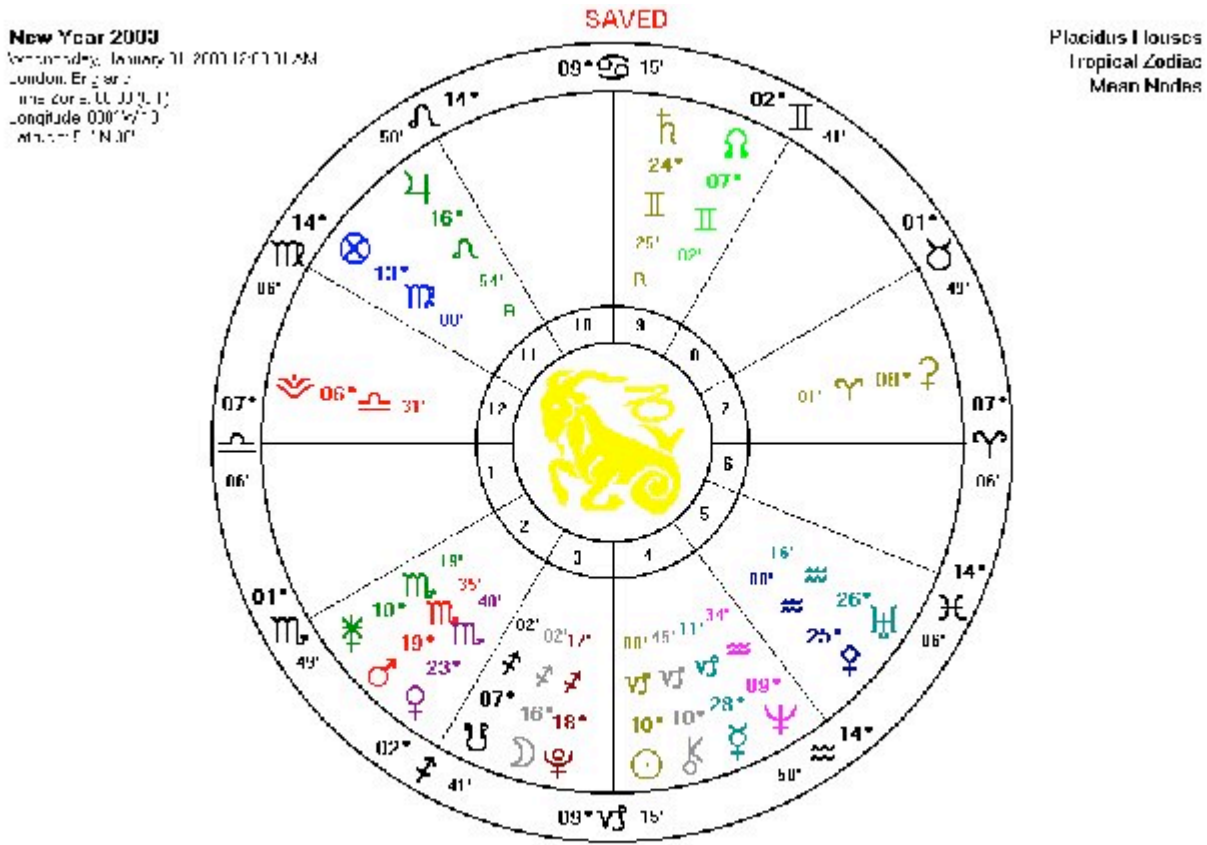
Born of Night (Nyx) and Sleep (Hypnos), Morpheus, divinity of the dream, comes from the Underworld meanings of shape and form. We know of a derivative Morphine who brings synthetic waking dreams. As Dream shapes and forms our Day World, so may New Year's Mid Night give rise to the collective dream of the Year. I have named the New Year's Midnight Sun, which falls to the bottom of the chart each year, at around 10 degrees of Capricorn, the Morpheus point for its dreamlike qualities. New Year's midnight masked ball and long winter's night of the northern hemisphere speaks to me of ephemeral images from our personal and collective underworld. All dressed up in remembrance of the Old and desire for the New, these are the things of which dreams are made.

Remember doing or saying something during the day that re-minds you of last night's dream? And realizing that your present actions are being unconsciously directed by its content? Perhaps the astrological chart for midnight January first is the dream we will re-member this coming 12 months. Lets imagine this is so and take a closer look at this Sign of the Times.

With a sparkling white blanket of crystalline water covering magical Moab, I decide not to go dance and make noise at the Club Rio this year, but to slip under my own covers and suffer Nyx and Hypnos to lure me into their midnight depths. As I balanced between December's finale and January's two-faced beginning (the month named for Janus, the divinity who looks both ways -- at once! -- before crossing) images of years and maybe even lifetimes gone by mixed with strong emotional longing for future full-fillment. I thought of how I have often slipped awkwardly past this yearly mile marker with the aid of alcohol and narcotics and I wondered if this is due to my fear of birth and death, of the drugs my mother was given at my entrance into this world, the drugs she was given at her exit from this world. Ah Helen, bright shining Helen, are we riding tonight on your orphan train from New York to South Dakota . . . and Troy? Do you dwell with the shades in America's underworld? Are you sending me tonight's dream message? Mother . . .

I awoke to a wonder-full cloudy/foggy morning and welcomed my unremembered dreams to guide me as I begin to write this New Year's astromessage . . . A talk on the phone to Parvati, She of the Mountain's allurement and duality's subtlety, who helped me to come around . . . We talked of last night's chart for the coming year . . . of how midnight Sun in the Mountain Goat's sign places the Scales on the rise. Our lives are in the balance on this day and year and so lovely Venus is the usual New Year's ruler. Venus, who can bring beauty but also jealous rage, is in the sign of the

ScorpionSnakeEaglePhoenix, injecting the sting of passionate transformation to our desires for security. Powerful Beauty is with Her fiery lover Mars and his Great Mother Juno is also under this same roof, making for extra intensity. Homeland security will be a very big deal this coming year.



Lovely Venus is involved in two other prominent group encounters. Along with Mercury the Messenger, Venus points a Finger of God at Patriarchal Saturn who lords over the chart from on high. The volcano of planets from Scorpio to Aquarius erupts through this Lord of Time and Karma spewing flames to distant shores. Lady Luna together with Pluto, God of the apocalypse are still in opposition to the chart's over-seeer Saturn, suggesting undermining or underworlding of the old power structures. (Pluto in far-shooting Sagittarius opposite the World Trade structures of Twin Saturn is almost a too literal 9/11 enactment of this dynamic). The Moon's nodes are still nearby to provide extra dragon power to the explosiveness.

Venus and Mars also provide a leg to the unstable fixed T-square table that includes the Aquarian transformers Neptune, Pallas Athene and Uranus on one side and Giant Jupiter on the other. Structures unstable will be either brought down by Gaia or propped up by this fourth direction. Will Gaia's Green Party play a more important role or will Gaia Herself simply shrug? Ceres in Aries could help put up a good fight for her organic

fields.

The subtle but profound energy represented by the midpoint between Pluto and Neptune is still close to the Morpheus point bringing deep sea dreams and throwing more of the covers off the Procrustean Bed. It seems clear to me that more of the actors are losing their masks at Morpheus' Grand Ball, but what will we find when more masks drop? King George II appears to be on top of the poles at this time but as Saturn the ruler of the Morpheus point moves into his sign of Cancer this next year, chickens may come home to roost as the Lord of Karma returns.

Shifts happen this next year as Uranus sails into Pisces, Jupiter gets a bit more self-conscious in Virgo and the Nodes back into Scorpio/Taurus. Uranus/Neptune will create a mutual reception that puts emphasis on the transition from Great Age of Pisces into Aquarius. I am seeing a new 7-year era of technology that sinks into the collective unconscious in preparation for Neptune's return home in time for 2012. (Portentously, when Pluto also closes in on the Morpheus point). Who will you vote for, mind control or mind expansion? Jupiter in Leo will have given us some great lessons before entering more careful Virgo. Leo is the star, but there are many stars in the universe and Jupiter himself is a potential star. So while Jupiter continues to shine in Leo, let your light shine too, but do not forget the other stars and potential stars in your local galaxy.

Another light in the Night Sky, Vesta, guardian of the sacred flame, carrier of the sacred water and baker of the new year's sacred bread is a rising star in the East. Heralding Morpheus' way into the Day World, She promises a new dawn to come for those who can keep their light lit through the dark night. Meanwhile, back at the ranch, the midnight Sun's exact conjunction with Maverick Chiron could mean everything from lost doggies to deep profound healing, but also holds out a ray of hope that the heavy Karma of late will be lifted.

For All Our Relations, Peace and Love, Let It Be in 2003, Rico