

As far as astral events go, the early new year is space-jam packed with interplanetary action. Jan. 3 and 4 bring the Quadrantids meteor shower (up to 40 meteors per hour at the peak), and Jan. 6 hits the horizon with a new moon, with Venus at its greatest western elongation — the best time for viewing the love planet — and even a partial solar eclipse. So what does this space situation mean for you? Read on...

Aries (March 21-April 19)

Take a deep breath, Aries, and fear not, you can make it through another year. Even though it's going to be a big one. You'll be tested and you'll triumph. You'll also be challenged and fail. But zoom out a bit. A little further. That triumph? It had downsides. That failure? Without it, those great unseen future accomplishments and joys would never happen. So step into this year with the eye of a mountain peak, of a soaring bird, of a star. Keep a vast perspective.

Taurus (April 20-May 20)

Oh, you stubborn bull. Take it easy. You have plenty on your plate as it is (and this year is wide open with potential baggage) so don't plow over everyone in your path...you'll just have to pick up their baggage, too. Don't get frustrated at ideas. The reality of the future hits soon enough, and it's never exactly as you anticipated. Be easy on yourself, on others and on your presumptions — let yourself have a light load. It's only January.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

Whether or not you're a goal setter, you have visions. This will be a year of fruition for you. If you're awake. Stay sober to reality. Sit down with some paper and write. What do you want to see happen? What don't you want to face? What do you not want to have happen but know you need? Clearly establishing these lines will help you conquer the precious moments when they cross your path. Don't miss them this year. They're already making their way toward you.

Cancer (June 21-July 22)

OK, crab. Loosen your grip. Come out of your shell. These two actions are key this year (and throughout your life, but hey, you gotta start some time; make a resolution). Let others be themselves, and let go of some of your neuroses. OK, OK, start small, let go of one thing you thought you'd never be able to set free. I see you! You're still holding on! Let it go. And then try stepping a little further out of a comfort zone. It'll open up worlds.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)

Instead of snarling, growling, and plowing your way through life, use that inner roar to get creative. That's in there, too! And sometimes we just need to transfer the energy to blow our own minds. Instead of being loud or overbearing in an outward, active way, get vibrant, bold, bright in your creative sphere; splash some paint on something...use words in a wild way. Write a poem. Seriously, it's in you. Let it come out.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

What's going on in your love life? Step outside and look at Venus. While you're at it, look at all the stars. They're glorious right? And you aren't that huge. Significant you are indeed...and precious, yes. But those small things that have you in their grip? Try loving that person you thought you never could.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct.22)

Balance, balance, balance. Your mind, their mind. Your mind, their mind. You tend to rely only on yours. Can you take on someone else's perspective? Just for a moment? Try the one you can't stand, can't understand. Try to embody it for a minute. This year has you shape shifting a lot. Or rather, this year will transform you if you allow yourself to be transformed. Embrace the perspectives of others.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

Save it for a rainy day. Or save it for those “just in case” scenarios. Try not splurge or you’ll sting yourself. And while you’re at it, Scorpio, save some energy, too. Don’t let those emotions get the best of you, and don’t hide them all inside either. Find a healthy way of soothing yourself — walking, sketching, clay, poetry. These are creative outlets that don’t deplete you and don’t hurt the wallet.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

This might be very hard for you, but please let that child come out to play sometimes. Being a grownup is important, indeed, but we all have parts of ourselves that have yet to grow up. These parts need attention, too. This year, make it a point to make routine dates with this little you. This is a year for healing, for playing, for making friends with a small, silly, sometimes sweet, sometimes sad side of yourself.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Do you have patience? You will need it. Fortunately, you have discipline, and you work hard. Put these to good use generally, of course, but specifically, work hard and work strategically to cultivate patience. How? Life offers myriad ways every day. That annoying person? Give them time. Want to be irritable? Nip it in the bud. Want that thing NOW? Don’t grab it. You get the idea.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

See two paths in front of you? Which one would you normally take? Would you normally take the one others wouldn’t normally take? Cool. See anyone standing nearby? Take them along with you down that less trod trail. It’s nice to bring a buddy, and it’s nice to show someone a different way. Now, think you can do it without being condescending?

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)

Desert fish, this year brings you some water. Proverbial water, but the real kind, too. Really relax into this comfort. It'll restore — and store you up — for times to come when you have to be out of your element again. For now, enjoy it. And enjoy the rest of the fish you find in your orbit. Don't be too afraid of the lions, and tigers and bears, either. They can't swim as well as you.