



116. Planetary Reboot—COVID-19 Update

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Future Sense is a podcast edited from the radio show of the same name, broadcast on BayFM in Byron Bay, Australia, at www.bayfm.org. Hosted by Nyck Jeanes and well-known international futurist, Steve McDonald, Future Sense provides a fresh, deep analysis of global trends and emerging technologies. How can we identify the layers of growth personally, socially and globally? What are the signs missed; the truths being denied? Political science, history, politics, psychology, ancient civilisations, alien contact, the new psychedelic revolution, cryptocurrency and other disruptive and distributed technologies, and much more.

This is Future Sense.

Nyck: Good morning to you and welcome to Future Sense here on BayFM 99.9 on this Monday, the 30th of March 2020, although we are recording this in remote locations from each other and from you—remote from the studios of BayFM—and keeping our social or physical distance. So it's a new experiment. We are recording this show on Sunday, the 29th, the day before, so I won't even give you the weather today because you can look out the window and do a better job of that yourself.

Welcome and thanks for being here. I am Nyck Jeanes, and with me, my co-host Steve McDonald. Good morning, Steve. How are you there?

Steve: Good morning, Nyck. It's great to hear your voice, and wonderful to be back here in Australia and on the show again.

Nyck: You are. You've been travelling—you've been around the world, in fact—and got back exactly, really, 24 hours before you would have been locked down in a hotel by the military, so they are now saying.

Steve: Exactly, yes. I am in isolation at home for two weeks because I've been travelling overseas, but I'm feeling great and I'm grateful that I got back before those new restrictions came in for sure.

Maybe I'll just mention very briefly that while I was overseas, I had a couple of meetings around future global systems and the co-ordination of ecological data in particular, and also just general information, as we do through *Future Sense*, about the ongoing global paradigm shift and how that might roll out in the future. So despite all of the restrictions and the

disruption to my travel plans, I did manage to still meet up with the people that I was going to meet internationally, and so I was very happy to have done that, and no doubt the information that we've shared will be valuable to us all in the future.

Nyck: Indeed.

For today's show, of course, we won't be taking texts on the text line because we're not actually in the studio, nor is it today; it's actually yesterday for us. It's pretty weird. Of course, our podcast will still be available from this show in about 24 hours' time at www.futuresense.it. You can check that out, but don't text in today. We're very happy for you to engage with us via our social media platforms as well.

There's a word that's come about in the last few days, or maybe a week or so ago, one of the many memes that are out there regarding this coronavirus crisis, and that is the word "isolationism", which I very much like. In this isolationism, we are in some ways, paradoxically, becoming closer together. New online communities are forming and at least in the streets of Mullumbimby where we live in northern New South Wales in Australia, people are fairly well abiding by physical distancing rules, and certainly there is, in my experience, a calm and loving energy about.

It's unlikely that that's the case everywhere in the world, of course, with some Indians having to walk hundreds of kilometres to get back to their villages from working in cities because of lockdown laws—no transport, little food, hordes of people. By now, most people will be following the news much more than they usually do, and many of those are also following the many alternative sources articulating different theories, conspiracies and interpretations. Perception, as always, is the key.

The result overall, certainly in the way that the response has been configured by government and other agencies, is that there have been many ill-considered knee-jerk responses in sometimes counterproductive directions. Nevertheless, most of us have fallen into lockstep with the regulations and the temperament of government and mainstream media. Aside from how successful governments have or have not been at implementing regimens to deal with the outbreak, on a deeper level in this isolationism, many are considering other dimensions of what is happening—how incredibly disconnected we are from the planet and each other, for example; how we have polluted and plundered in the name of profit and success, destroyed so much; and twisted our own societies and psychologies in so many ways into strange aberrations of their original and often well-intended conceptions.

Something is unsettled deep in the soul of the world.

As we speak of on *Future Sense*, there is evidence enough to suggest we are on the edge of a "momentous leap" as Clare W. Graves called it—a paradigm shift that has never happened before on this planet. This leap is so beyond our ken, no matter how smart we think we are, the most of us can't see it but many can feel it coming, especially in this time. The world is a restless and uncertain place. How quickly that reality has come upon the whole world.

It arises in us in myriad ways, as individuals inflected and complexified by our birth, our families, communities and tribes and nations and races and our sexualities, our beliefs and

our values. Everything is shaky and uncertain. The change begun on this planet now is potentially so momentous that collapse of old institutions and structures of education, politics, religion, business and everything else seems somehow inevitable to many. From where we stand today, we are at a key moment in this accelerating process.

So what can we perceive in the current fast-changing situation? What does it tell us of the mood and motivation behind the scenes, particularly in the financial markets, in banking and in big corporations, but also in small business and job markets generally? Are we seeing a reset, a reboot of the economy through this crisis?

Steve: I certainly think that we are in the middle of a planetary reboot at the moment. A lot of people have been posting on social media that they feel like somebody has turned the on/off switch off momentarily and everything's on pause and it's going to be flicked back on again soon; and like a computer we'll reboot and perhaps refresh ourselves—clear our cookies and those sorts of things.

The big story really is this transition from the Scientific-Industrial era to Clare Graves's Layer 6, which is the Humanistic, Relativistic, network-centric way of being human, which is very much community-oriented as opposed to the individually-oriented Scientific-Industrial era that we're leaving behind; and in my opinion, this is a small introduction to what lies ahead, perhaps for the next 10 to 15 years. I think we're going to see a number of trigger points which will progress this massive shift, similar to this one. I think, in hindsight, we'll see this as perhaps one of the less disruptive ones, if you can believe that or not.

There's certainly massive momentum at the moment in this swing between the individual way of living that we're leaving behind and the new communal way which is emerging, and that momentum is shaping everything that's happening. It's something that none of us have ever lived through before. The last time we went through such a values shift of this scale was back in the Middle Ages and through to the Scientific and Industrial Revolutions, which was a period of many, many hundreds of years. As history moves forward, the time frames are being compressed, so we're changing much more rapidly now than we used to back then, and that's primarily because of the speed of our communication technologies.

So none of us have done this before, and even people like me who have spent a lot of time studying the theory around this change—I'm seeing things that I didn't expect to see. One of the really interesting things is the convergence of thinking coming from different value systems.

I've been searching for something, or an event in history, that might give us something to compare this to, and I thought maybe the Second World War was a time when many, many people around the world came together, albeit polarised, on two different sides of the war but with a central purpose, and worked together across many, many different value systems trying to achieve goals. Something similar is happening right now, except it seems pretty much like we're almost all on the same side in this case, which is also somewhat unprecedented, and it's very interesting to see how quickly the whole world fell in lockstep and, pursued these response measures all in the same direction. I think that's quite fascinating.

Nyck: Yes. As you're saying, it's fascinating that the difference between right and left politically, and polarisation generally, has been somewhat set aside for us all to actually fall into line with what seems to be necessary; what we're told is necessary. We're doing that. But I think that it's a great opportunity also, as you're saying with the comparison to a World War II, that there is a great opportunity for new creativity and innovation to emerge much faster in that space as well, isn't there?

Steve: There is Nyck, yes. From a Taoist point of view, just thinking about the sort of fundamental dynamic energies of yin and yang which dance with each other, going into one side, whether the active or passive—the yin or the yang—it will eventually generate the seed of the other, and so we can fully expect that this time of isolation, where we're being forced to be alone and not socialise like we normally do, will generate a great desire for community. So I see what's happening now as an absolute accelerator of this values shift beyond the Scientific-Industrial era. In that sense, it's actually a wonderful opportunity and a great blessing, perhaps in disguise for many people.

Nyck: Now, of course, one of the big issues is how we know what we know, and what we believe or what we ascribe meaning or truth to. That's become even more difficult, and we've talked a lot on this show about the complexity and the overwhelm, the confusion of these times as we transition from the Orange layer—from the Industrial era [Layer 5]—to the layer of Green [Layer 6], the more communal layer. We're seeing that now, very clearly in this space, where people really don't know what's going on, often, and certainly even our governments and authorities also are having trouble making very concise and clear rules and regulations in response to the crisis. So we're really seeing that exaggerated, too, aren't we, this element of overwhelming confusion in the world as a whole?

Steve: We certainly are, and this is where I think Clare Graves's model comes in handy because it really pays to sit back and take a very big perspective on this and look at the overall trend. The overall trend is very clearly that we are coming together as a species on a planetary level, we are working together to overcome a challenge, and we're also thinking about how life might be different once this planetary reboot goes into the next phase and we all start going back to work.

Of course, this whole issue is playing out in a staggered way right across the globe at the moment. China was one of the earliest affected, of course, and is really in the return-to-work phase right now, whereas other countries are yet to face the peak of the virus, so we also need to be mindful of that. I hope that by looking at the big perspective as we do on this show, will give hope to many people and provide some consolation that this is probably going to be more short-lived than has been predicted. We'll go into some details of that shortly.

Nyck: It's very difficult to understand, just the stats, like how dangerous is this COVID-19 virus, for example, and how is it playing out in different countries, and what are the things that perhaps we're not seeing or not aware of enough in terms of how the figures are arrived at?

Steve: Yes. As we've said previously on the show, there certainly were some questionable things in the lead up in the early stages of this outbreak, and we're not likely to really have the facts and know exactly what happened at this point. So it really doesn't, I don't think, make a lot of sense to really dwell on those things, but just perhaps put them aside for the moment and feel assured that with time the truth will be explained and we will understand better how this whole thing has rolled out and why it's happened in the first place.

I think it's fair to say, though, that based on what we know now, in all of the data from all of the countries where they have faced their peak or are approaching their peak at the moment, we can quite safely say that very, very few of us—and I'm talking in the scale of the whole of humanity at the moment—very, very few of us will be touched directly by the virus; a tiny, tiny, tiny per cent—fewer, in fact, than are touched by the regular influenza every year. So that's an important issue and hopefully people can reflect on that and perhaps feel a little bit calmer and safer.

Secondly, most of us have already been impacted by the economic effect of the response, which is being quite transformational, and it's going to be very, very interesting to watch that roll out. So I think for most people and most listeners, the economic impact is actually the main issue here, not the actual virus itself, which is an interesting thought to start with.

Then, as you alluded to there, the data that we're seeing is consistently pointing to the fact that those most at risk are the elderly and people with serious underlying health conditions. The percentage of people who have been seriously affected by a coronavirus who have no underlying health conditions is very, very small indeed. On the data that I've seen, it probably sits at under 1% of those who contract the virus. So there in itself is a good guideline to help people assess how much they are personally at risk, and, I hope, to take appropriate action to prevent themselves contracting the virus.

Nyck: Of course, everybody will be reading about, particularly countries like Italy and Spain, some parts of the United States—New York City, New York state itself, for example—what you find is pre-existing conditions in many, many of those cases. Can you expand a little bit on that?

Steve: Yes. We know for a fact that Italy in general has quite a high population of elderly people compared to other countries. So straight away, they've got more of their population percentage-wise who are at risk from the virus. And secondly, there are a number of reports that there has been variation in the way the data has been reported from different countries. The main issue is, where somebody is in hospital and they pass away and they are tested for

the virus, if the virus is found in their system, that doesn't necessarily, of course, mean that they died from the virus; and we know also there have been reports of people who are quite healthy and who are testing positive, not showing any symptoms at all. So the question is whether somebody died *from* the virus or whether they simply died of another cause with the virus in their system, and there's evidence coming through, particularly from the situation in Italy, that those two categories have been mixed into the same classification as deaths from the virus. If that's correct, this may be one of the reasons why Italy has an unusually high death rate being recorded compared to other countries.

Steve: I did read some very good advice from one of the medical authorities which said that it's really not a good time to bank on data in the middle of a pandemic. So while it's important to take note of the data and to watch the trends and intelligently interpret it, we also should understand that in the middle of the pandemic, mistakes are made. People don't necessarily all follow the same guidelines when they're recording data, and it's only really after the fact that we'll have all the facts.

Nyck: And of course, that doesn't mean, by relaxing around the data in that way that we're talking about to a degree, that we shouldn't do exactly the right thing; that we feel it's true for us and what is given to us by the authorities and governments to do in the light of this, even if it isn't as serious as it would seem to be for some people—what is pushed out there and sort of more fear-driven aspects of the media where that appears.

Steve: Yes, there are some encouraging trends that we'll talk about in a moment, but it's also very important to understand that the reason that these encouraging trends exist—the control measures that have been put into place which people are following for the most part, to stop the spread of the virus—I really want to emphasise that at this point in the pandemic, it's really, really important to follow the advice of the health authorities and government in terms of isolation and all of the cleanliness and hygiene issues that we're being told about. It's only due to the fact that people are doing that now that we're starting to see some encouraging trends. Here in Australia in the last couple of days, the numbers of new cases being reported on a daily basis have started reducing for the first time, and we are probably still yet to peak here in Australia in terms of the cases that we're going to face. So that's really encouraging, but it's only happening because people are doing what they are asked to do, so I can't stress enough that that is very, very important.

Nyck: Yes. the isolation that we are experiencing to one degree or another does provide an opportunity, a great opportunity, for self-reflection. I think many of us are already feeling that or thinking that it's a very unusual situation that we find ourselves in, and it is offering us an opportunity for most people, a really different way of living life all of a sudden.

Steve: It really does. It's a reboot and a reset on all scales from individual through to global. I think also, just while we're talking about the data, a number of commentators are coming out and saying, well, you know, there are far more people dying from other things at the moment, including the general influenza, of course—many more people are dying from that than are dying from the coronavirus, and that's true. Of course, there are lots and lots of other things that people die from every day. Here in Australia, an average of 15 people die every day from alcohol-related issues, but there are so many things that we just brush over and we accept and we don't think about. I really believe that this event that's happening at the moment is an opportunity for us to reflect on that and reflect on compassion in general and understanding that every day there are people suffering; there are people dying from things which most of us aren't aware of—things that aren't reported in the media. It's only really that this particular issue—the coronavirus—has been focused upon by the media, that all of a sudden it's in our face and all of those other things that just get brushed aside every day are happening to people all over the place; and there are many, many ways that we could improve the world and improve the health of people generally that we may not think of otherwise. So it's certainly a time to reflect on that and reflect on when we do get back to living life 'normally' once again, what should we do about that? Should we just go back to the way we were or should we take the opportunity to make a change in many, many different ways?

Nyck: Well, as we're saying, and have always said on this show, we are in a process of evolution on this planet—an accelerated evolution—and we are moving towards a significant change in our systems, in our value systems, in the paradigm of how we live on this planet. There is a great opportunity for something else to emerge from here and perhaps that's a deeper meaning behind this.

Steve: Absolutely, and as I said at the start of the show, it's without a doubt accelerating this movement beyond the old way of living, the old paradigm, and that's exactly what we need.

I might just mention now a couple of the encouraging trends which we've been alluding to. The first one is that the UK government has downgraded its classification of coronavirus. This happened on the 19th of March, so just over 10 days ago. It is no longer considered to be a "high consequence infectious disease" in the UK. The UK's public health high consequence infectious disease group made an interim recommendation in January to classify this coronavirus accordingly, and this was based on consideration of the criteria about the virus and the disease, with information available during the early stages of the outbreak and the models that were forecasting potential casualties there. Now that more is known about the virus, the public health bodies in the UK reviewed the most up-to-date information and they have decided to downgrade its classification. So it's no longer a high consequence infectious disease. They have determined—I'm reading this from the UK government website—they have determined that "several features have now changed; in particular, more information is available about mortality rates (low overall), and there is now greater clinical awareness and a specific and sensitive laboratory test, the availability of which continues to increase" (<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/high-consequence-infectious->

[diseases-hcid](#)). So that's certainly good news and that is part of a general trend that I'm seeing right now to reassess the risk that this virus is posing, and, as I mentioned before, the opportunity to reassess it has largely been due to the efforts that have been taken so far to very quickly to contain it. So we mustn't forget that, even though these classifications are being downgraded, we still need to be complying with those directions in order to continue to contain it and continue to overcome the challenge.

Nyck: Absolutely. Of course, that also reveals, what you're saying, that the risks, the actual effects are much more to do with economy and the structure of our systems on the planet as a whole, and for the first time for most people on the planet—for everybody potentially—to actually start to see that, and see that a real transformation of systems actually has to occur on the planet, and this is perhaps not such a big health issue. It is really an issue of our 'system of being' on this earth, on Gaia, and that is now what we're focusing on somehow, or what can be focused on.

Steve: Yes indeed. It's not just a health and economic issue that we're facing here, it's a whole paradigm shift—a whole system change.

I have an article here (<https://thehill.com/policy/healthcare/489774-birx-cautions-against-inaccurate-models-predicting-significant-coronavirus>) which is covering an announcement by the White House coronavirus task force coordinator, Dr. Deborah Birx, who: "cautioned on Thursday against models that predict alarming increases in coronavirus infections and deaths in the US. Speaking at a White House press briefing, she singled out a recent study in the United Kingdom that originally predicted 500,000 people would die from the virus in the U.K. That estimate has since been revised down to predict 20,000 deaths in the UK", so that is a remarkable decrease and good news to hear, of course. She said: "the data the US government has collected does not show that 20 percent of the US population would be infected with the virus, cautioning against any predictions that say so." So this is really encouraging news to see—the government taskforce leader in the US coming out and just saying that actually, we overcooked the estimates up front and we're looking at the data as it progresses, and we can now see that it's really not posing the serious, serious risk that we thought it was. Although we still need, of course, to take precautions, we can take some comfort in the fact that we're not likely to see these massive figures—casualty figures—as were originally predicted.

Nyck: Yes. I think, also, that would be one of the reasons, perhaps, why President Trump today declined to close down New York State and New Jersey and parts of Connecticut, which he was flagging earlier today. Perhaps that's something that's moved through the system—that knowledge that you're just speaking of there.

Steve: I think so. I mean, it has come as a terrible, terrible shock to First World countries because we're just not used to this kind of thing, and it doesn't take much to spook us. It's a fact that, certainly in Australia and other Western countries—probably many, many countries around the world—our health systems have been on the edge even before this virus arose, and it really didn't take much to push them over the edge and to sort of exceed their capacity, or at least look like it was going to come close to doing that. This is a result of the old paradigm thinking around efficiency—the Scientific-Industrial way which is about making things as efficient as possible. While that is great if you are focusing on profits for shareholders and saving money, it's really not good if you want a sustainable system because the system has no slack to adapt at all.

Nyck: Well, it doesn't account for any instability—any major instability like this—that arrives in the system, does it? It just can't cope.

Steve: No, that's right.

I've got a little rain shower passing by here, Nyck. Can you hear that at your end?

Nyck: I have rain at my place, too. We're only probably three to five kilometres apart, so I'm getting rain as well. It's nice. A bit of atmosphere.

Steve: Beautiful. I hope it's not too noisy for the listeners out there.

Nyck: It's a bit like pirate radio today. It's fun.

Steve: It is, exactly.

Just back to Dr Deborah Birx in this article. I'm reading this from a website called www.thehill.com. It's interesting she said that: "there's no reality on the ground where we can see that 60 to 70 percent of Americans are going to get infected in the next eight to 12 weeks." She is an HIV/AIDS expert from the State Department who was brought out to coordinate the federal government's response to the coronavirus, and she noted that "19 of the 50 US states showing a persistently low level of cases despite reporting early infections." This report is from the 26th of March, so it's just a few days old.

Nyck: She says actually that 40 percent of the country have extraordinarily low numbers as they're testing.

Steve: That's right, and also at the same time, she's noting the New York situation which seems to be an epicentre of outbreaks at the moment and obviously needs some special attention.

The study that Dr Birx was referring to in the UK was announced by Professor Neil Ferguson from Imperial College London, and he was recently shown in the media—it was actually a report by the *Daily Mail*, which some people might not regard as one of the best sources, but they had an actual video of Dr Ferguson talking to a parliamentary committee (<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-8153613/Could-coronavirus-crisis-EASTER-Advisor-confident-NHS-remain-capacity.html>). Professor Neil Ferguson is director of the *MRC Centre for Global Infectious Disease Analysis at Imperial College London*. He was the person who initially announced the possibility of half a million deaths in the UK and recently in this discussion with the House of Commons committee, he downgraded that to around about 20,000.

Nyck: A massive difference.

Steve: It's great to see somebody admitting there that the original estimates were wrong and giving an accurate estimate given the current data. He also said during that discussion that despite fears of a lack of ICU (Intensive Care Unit) facilities in the UK, he is personally confident that the *UK National Health Service* will remain within capacity and that demand will peak in around about two to three weeks and then decline.

This is an emerging trend that we're hearing now from multiple sources, that we in the West may see a peak of cases within the next two to three weeks and then a decline—an easing off of the pressure during the month of April—and this seems to align with the astrological data as well. Nyck?

Nyck: Indeed. We do need to take a break, so let's come back on that after some music and some announcements here on BayFM.

You're tuned to *Future Sense*. It is Monday, the 30th of March in your time; we are recording on Sunday, the day before, at remote locations. The podcast will be available in a day or so at www.futuresense.it, and via social media. Stay tuned, here on BayFM 99.9.

Nyck: Welcome back to *Future Sense* here on BayFM 99.9, and on our podcast, broadcast around the world through www.futuresense.it or through your favourite podcast platform. You're with Nyck Jeanes and Steve McDonald here, broadcasting on Sunday, in fact. We're recording this at distance from each other and a distance from the station itself, as there are currently no live broadcasts coming out of BayFM.

Before the break, we talked about the astrology of this time. Of course, for some people this is absolute bunk still, and good on you; and for some people, this is really meaningful and important. It's such an interesting reflection at this time.

This coming week, and through this whole period, has been an incredible period for astrology itself—for astrologers. On April the 5th this week, Jupiter will be exactly conjunct Pluto at 24 degrees Capricorn. This is, in fact, the first time since 1894 B.C. that these planets, Jupiter and Pluto—and Saturn, which is also there—have been conjunct in Capricorn, and in fact, the next time will be in 2755, 600 years from now. So this is a pretty rare event in itself, and it's why astrologers are particularly focused on this year as a key year of transformation possibilities.

Jupiter-Pluto conjunctions typically expand the vistas of discovery and magnify things on cosmic and microcosmic scales, but the presence of Saturn suggests there will be some element of contraction and limitation, which is clearly happening right now—it's right there as a reflection in the astrology. I'd like to make it clear that I certainly don't believe that the planets actually cause things. They're a reflection; they're a book you can read, or a mirror, to see these movements of planets; movements of energies.

So as Jupiter, Pluto and Saturn transit through Capricorn, they also bring this sense of maturity and responsibility cultivated through acceptance of natural cycles of change—and change more broadly. Jupiter and Pluto in Capricorn are under rulership of the slow and steady Saturn, and that brings us tests that temper the potential excess and inflation of Jupiter. We can feel that right now, this containment of the desire to keep doing what we were doing before, to go out anyway, to indulge in things. Whatever you might be feeling, it is really a time to settle inwards. The difficulties or crises we endure will bring, in fact, revisioning of what needs to be nurtured and developed and what needs to be shared and let go.

This week, also—particularly tomorrow, Tuesday, the 31st of March—Mars joins Saturn in Aquarius. Saturn's just slipped into Aquarius. It's almost like the beginning—the true beginning—of the Aquarian Age, if you want to stretch it a little bit. But Saturn moves back into Capricorn because it's not over yet. We've got a whole year of this, at least right now—this energy, this conjunction energy in the sky. But Mars joined Saturn in Aquarius, and this is a bit of an opportunity, a bit of a glimpse, I predict this week, of a bit more direction for us somehow; a bit more certainty, perhaps. That's a bit hard to say that, really, but I feel that that's what's coming this week. It's also true that Jupiter's first union with Pluto is this week, but then due to what's called retrograde, for the planets appear to move backwards, there are two more conjunctions in June and July of the planets; and then in the week of the presidential election.

So we're seeing, really, a cycle that's reflected in the stars that is really linked into world events that we already know are happening. There's a lot going on and I think to understand via astrology that there is a great opportunity in the depth and the persistent contraction and expansion that you might be feeling out there. Certainly I think that's exactly what's happening—there's a great feeling of expansion; at the same time, there's a necessary contraction that's occurring in order for us to learn the lessons.

Steve: I did notice Nyck, that there are a lot of Pluto alignments in the next couple of weeks, with different planets. So it sounds like we're in for various spikes of intensity within the next week or two. Would that be right?

Nyck: Well, it's certainly the conjunction between Mars and Pluto also. That occurred actually last Monday, already, and that was the first one. So we're in that bracket at the same time, that's true. We're locked down and we're having to negotiate the relationships that we are experiencing. For many people, that's like a holiday perhaps, and a retreat; and for other people, it might be like absolute hell. We don't know where you're at, but the best thing to do, I think, in this space, is to try and relax and regard this as a retreat from your normal self and your normal reactions, if you can do that.

There's a number of other factors going on here—yes, there's a lot of stuff in the sky. It's a fascinating time astrologically—if you're into astrology—that's for sure.

Steve: A busy time. There are a couple of different sources—one is Professor Neil Ferguson I just mentioned, who is predicting a relief within two or three weeks or so. Also, Martin Armstrong and his computer algorithm was predicting a shift in the economic circumstances around the 8th of April, so I'm guessing that shows up somewhere in the astrology as well—that there might be an easing of the pressure or at least a change of some sort, sometime between the 8th of April and the next week or so after that.

Nyck: Yes, well, as I said, the movement of Mars and Saturn together in early Aquarius before they slip back again, or before Saturn slips back, indicates that in the first week and into the second week of April, that's for sure. The full moon is on the 8th of April and the first conjunction of Jupiter and Pluto that's really significant there, on the 6th. So I think all those—because Jupiter really gives an opportunity for a different way, like a bit of a light at the end of the tunnel.

Steve: Yes, absolutely, and even full moon, obviously—that's the full intensity there, and it eases off after that.

Nyck: Precisely.

Steve: That's cool.

I had a phone call yesterday from my good friend Chris Caldwell who's a psychologist from Melbourne. Chris has been on the show, of course, a while back now I suppose, talking about psychology, and I took the opportunity to ask him for a Freudian analysis of the panic toilet paper buying. I thought he did a wonderful job of responding. He said, you know, in mainstream society, and particularly old paradigm, we make such an effort to hide our shit. I

guess we see this also in the whole selfie thing, where people take selfies of themselves in wonderful circumstances and they never take selfies, of course, when they're struggling; and all of a sudden we're faced with the possibility that we might not have the paper to wipe our shit away, and so it might come out in public, we might get caught, and everybody's panicking about that. Doesn't it makes sense?

Nyck: Yes, it does. It's funny you should say that, because there's another piece I didn't say about the astrology here, which is: "If you act at this time in a ruthless, extreme, self-righteous or self-obsessed way, you're likely to face powerful forces acting against you, including trouble from superiors, government authorities, all the law", and it's the key here, because clearly we do have to actually step into line here; and to one degree I think we're doing a fairly good job, certainly in my experience with people in my reality.

Steve: Yes, and it is a time to reflect. It's a reboot; it's a reset, and in a way, this is a gift of time for us to be able to stay home, and I guess for some, work from home; for others, maybe you've got some time on your hands. But it really is a great time to reflect on how you have reacted or responded to this global crisis that's emerged, and whether you change anything or whether you go and do the same things again and just reflect on life in general.

When things are disrupted—when life is disrupted—it creates space for change to happen. I often use this analogy of a child's toy made out of Lego blocks, and if you want to change it into something new, you've got to pull the blocks apart to make the space for building something new, and that's exactly what's going on for us at this moment. Our normal way of living is being pulled apart, we're being given space, actually, to reflect on how we might like to rebuild that when we get the opportunity to do it. How will we move forward from here as communities, from family level to global level—the global community? And what will we create next? Will we just resume life as it was, or will we choose to do things differently?

Nyck: And I think that notion of creation is really important, that this space gives us an opportunity to create, whatever that means for you; to take the pieces of that Lego apart and to rebuild something differently and maybe do something, or start something, that you always wanted to do. Maybe your great passion for life that hasn't been fulfilled might arise in this time. You might have opportunity to do that, or to at least begin that; to work with other people in different ways that you might be locked down with or that you're communicating with via the net, for example. I think that's a really important point here, is that human invention, human creativity has a chance here to be stimulated in a situation where, theoretically, we would be afraid, but we don't need to be afraid.

Steve: No, and in line with the general big picture value shifting trend, as we've been saying on this show for over two years now, one of the things we really need to do is to build more resilient communities and returning to a communally-focused value set. It's all about rebuilding community and building communities that are, as best can be, self-supporting;

relocalisation of everything, even down to food that's grown locally in farmers markets and those sorts of things, and living in harmony with nature. This is a little wake-up call showing us that, yes, we actually need to do that and there is some urgency to it; and this won't be the first disruption. This is the first of many to come, I believe, over the next 10 to 15 years.

Nyck: Yes.

You are tuned to Future Sense here with Steve McDonald and Nyck Jeanes on BayFM, 99.9 or on the podcast that you're listening to, edited a day or so afterwards. Thanks for joining us here. Thanks that all of those listeners out there in the world, and thanks also, I just need to say, to BayFM who've been doing a very good job of reconfiguring itself under very difficult circumstances, and many of us are broadcasting from home or other locations. It's kind of exciting. It's a bit like pirate radio, and again, it does give an opportunity to be creative in a different way, so to take that on, whatever that means for you.

Steve: We'll come back in the second half of today's show to talk about the economic impact of this planetary reboot.

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