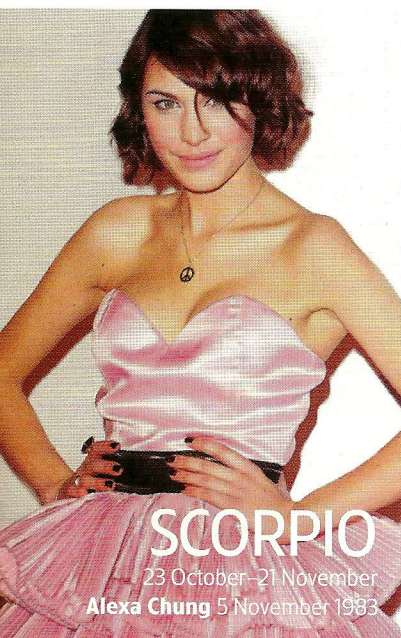


Stargazer

by the celestial *Debbi Kempton-Smith*



SCORPIO

23 October–21 November

Alexa Chung 5 November 1983

'A gentleman doesn't pounce... he glides' – Quentin Crisp. You Scorpions are doing well, aren't you? Mars, Mercury and the Sun are all pitching up in your sign, bearing three priceless birthday gifts. Courage: make an overture, take the next step, fight the power. Communication: ring people up. No hiding, no emails – just you and your charisma. And last and never least, Dangerous Animal Magnetism. Sexy birthday...

ARIES

21 March–19 April

Ghosts? Not our sort, dear. One rarely meets anyone new or charming in the ethers. Ouija boards, séances? Who wants to hear how sorry Uncle Cosmo is for cutting everybody out of the will? Won't do. No Aries puts up with that. Pumpkins and planets going through your Eighth House may get you wondering, though, about inheritances and other people's money – spooky enough? No need to pry. Everyone's spilling the beans. Everyone except you. Your ESP will be keen now; click to download.

CANCER

21 June–22 July

Although there are still pockets of resistance, the celestial auguries this autumn are overwhelmingly in your favour. Fortune, when it arrives, is likely to be bawdy, speedy and sweet. November's one of the rare months when Crabs can – with a bit of buttering up – be pried from their shells and usual haunts. Boujis will wait. Bounce to the Box in New York. Do it up: the Ritz, the opera, the theatres, the full Bolshoi. Is not life grand?

LEO

23 July–22 August

Leos are born rock stars, and rock stars know better than to venture out on amateur nights (Fridays, Saturdays and New Year's are strictly for plebs). This November will be different because more is at stake. Leos are still reeling from the sobering effects of Saturn's long, bruising transit. You've got to go out and show the world what you've got. Normally you'd be chillaxin' at home. This year, that's what the suite, VIP room, rocks and your bottle of Wild Turkey are for.

SAGITTARIUS

22 November–21 December

Overheard on the 94 bus: 'No, darling, it's divine – little rivulets of rain are leaving the shiniest patterns in the dust on the glass. No, I'm not on mushrooms, it's Venus in my sign, sweetie, 18 October–12 November. I see art and love in everything and everyone absolutely adores me at the moment. Awful about Pluto leaving Sagittarius for ever on 27 November. Hate to see the power go to Capricorns. Oh, blast. Here's my stop. Bye!'

CAPRICORN

22 December–20 January

So Pluto goes: 'Hello Capricorn,' and I'm, like, 'Whoa! Aren't you, like, the bad boy busted down from a planet to a plutino, ha-ha?' And Pluto goes: 'Boom! I'm sliding into your sign on 27 November – I'll be getting in your Capricorn face for a long, long time. I bring the power or I take it away. Your call.' So I go: 'Hey. Lucky Jupiter's bigger than you. He's in my sign.' 'Not for long,' says Pluto. 'Don't waste it. Come 5 January, you're mine.'

AQUARIUS

21 January–18 February

Why are Aquarians so brilliant at branding themselves, products or ideas? You're as deft, obsessed and iron-fisted with image control as any Leo, with a twist: it's 'all for the community'. From simple slogans, global dominance and mighty dictatorships are born. Mind your temper. You're in the spotlight this autumn. Opportunities to expand your power and influence are appearing and you are being watched. Paging Mr Orwell!

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19 February–20 March

Taxi! Follow that fantasy. That one! No, that one! What you have on your hands, my finny friends, is a pile-up of unfulfilled scenarios. Fish folk build more castles in the air than the rest of us. It's all good. Einstein had his 'thought experiments' – remember to empty the bin occasionally. November is for foreign adventure, fame and mind-expanding novelties. Unroll the magic carpet and go. Act now, drink deep and slake your thirst.

TAURUS

20 April–20 May

O tempora! O mores! It is time for feasting. A trio of stout-hearted, macho, pushy celestial objects (the Sun, Mercury and Mars) will be in the sign of your Loyal Opposition; you and your admirers may feel crazed with a savage hunger for earthy pleasures. These will include not only sex and all-night dining, but also massages and a variety of things that one strokes, such as bunnies, velvet, cashmere, people's heads and swimming-pools.

GEMINI

21 May–20 June

Wonderful Uranus. It takes us entirely off-track. Negotiating split-second, 180° turns are all in a day's work to famously flexible Geminis but there's a limit. When Uranus starts messing about in your professional and public sectors, as it seems poised to do any minute, lead the charge. New opportunities (freelance, one-shots, science and tech) await. Recast your image and you reshuffle the pecking order – your way.

VIRGO

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Deeper! Harder! Slower! We're talking about books you could be reading, silly. Eschew what Toni Morrison calls 'the pale prose of the mediocre' – Mars, Mercury and the Sun are hitting your Book Box (aka the Third House) hard. It's a rare window to do the greats: *Of Human Bondage*, *The Snows of Kilimanjaro*, *Animal Farm*, *Crime and Punishment*, *Island*, *Lady Chatterley's Lover*, OK? You have questions; here are answers.

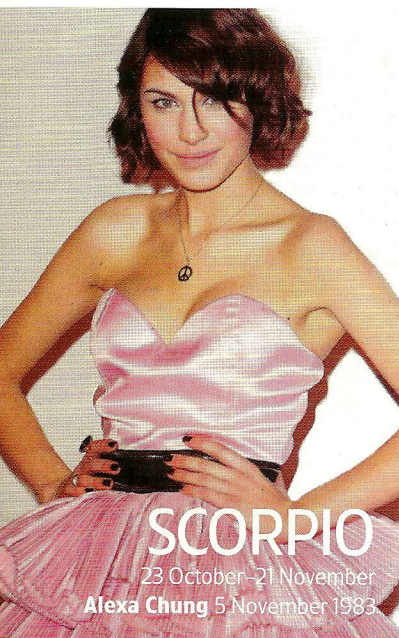
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There's your official birthday, your real birthday (the little gifts you give yourself – no time limit) and the time just before or after your birthday when you relax and say: 'Aha – still here! What now?' Home: make it your Shangri-la, a heavenly haven. Beliefs: strip 'em down. Kindness, helping people – what else? Money and envy: OK, the Russians are rolling in revenue from oil and gas. You'll benefit; watch and learn. Love? 2009.

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