



## THE SCORPIO LETTER POSTSCRIPT A LETTER TO MY AMERICAN FAMILY

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Hi Everyone!

What follows is my considered opinion on the US election we just saw. On election day I was sitting at home (I had already voted) watching the rain and, like everyone else, wondering who would win. The race was very tight as we saw from the popular vote and it was a cliffhanger until the very end. About halfway through the morning it started to snow, admixed with the rain, and I thought it to be quite symbolic of what was taking place in the US – beauty amidst *il brutto tempo* – and that something out of the ordinary was taking place, shades of Uranus, Eris and Ceres working on the collective consciousness. Then, my computer crashed and I spent the next three days replacing the hard drive and getting it updated. Two machines crashed that day – mine and the Democratic Party machine. The election has indeed placed us at a crossroads and threw a new dynamic in the middle of our normal expectations.

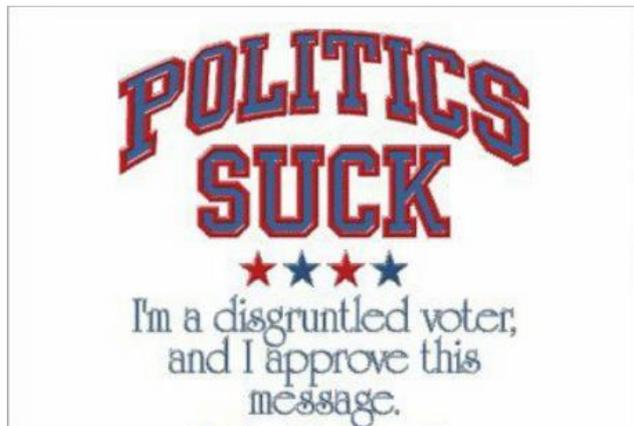


The great majority of people had expected Hillary to win. The next day as I was having breakfast, the news came through that Trump had won and I was reminded of *The Simpsons*....(just imagine the TV series theme song as the clouds part in the opening scene). Remember the episode where Trump was elected President<sup>1</sup> and then Lisa Simpson was elected after his four year term? One of the writers from that show was a little visionary. Some really challenging insight can come through satire and comedy.

Well, now that the election is over, it's no joke. The established order has been dealt a bucket of ice water on their heads and we now have a president that the majority of people never thought would make it to office, and many people either love or intensely dislike.

However, spare a thought here: The vote was evenly split, with Clinton supposedly winning the popular vote by a slim margin – shades of Al Gore vs. Bush in recent memory. There is no true popular mandate for the winner. He now has to try to unify the country if he is to enjoy any real success. In fact the election was almost identical with the Bush/Gore election in terms of figures.<sup>2</sup> Why I say 'supposedly' about the popular vote is because we do not know the whole story yet. The election has been a bigger American version of Beppe Grillo's V-Day<sup>3</sup> in Italy (It's not what you think, and yes, it was a thing) and the Brexit vote in Britain. This American election was a protest vote. It was not about the candidates, but instead it was about the past 30 years of globalism, eroding of sovereign rights, jobs and manufacturing going overseas, the consistent and pervasive disadvantaging of the average citizen, crumbling American infrastructure and about corruption in US politics – and about 'political correctness', an oxymoron if we ever heard one. There is so much we could say about any one of these topics, but we will have to leave most of it for now.

It is a little early to tell what this might all mean, but suffice it to say that a tremendous opportunity has been presented to us in this election, an opportunity to re-make our society and reform our system. I do not think Trump is the man to do it, and in fact, no president will do so. *We* must bring about the change. It will be an ongoing project that will take years, but in the long run will show the soul of the nation and restore our faith in government and our image in the eyes of the world. Yes, many people in other countries look askance at the US these days, and these countries include our closest allies. The US is already a great nation, but we could be so much more. Crises are the mark of opportunity.



The day after the election I posted on Facebook saying, "The people have spoken!" It was a tongue-in-cheek post. As has been the case so many times in the US, about 45% of the registered voters in the US did not even bother to cast a ballot at this election.<sup>4</sup> Apart from being a real shame, it is also irresponsible in a big way and reflects a lack of care about what happens in one's own country. Now, people failed to vote for a variety of reasons, the biggest reasons being apathy, the feeling there was no one to vote for, or resignation. But not voting, like not

making hard decisions, is in fact voting – for disempowerment, for things staying as they are, and for the very things we do not wish to see/happen eventually coming to pass. As for the people who did vote, it was the disgruntled middle-American vote that carried the day, along with the feeling that Clinton would just represent more of the same. Women readers may not want to hear the next bit, but there was a large percentage of women who voted for Trump – just over half – even after the comments he was heard to make about women. It was much the same for minorities and younger voters.<sup>5</sup> The young and minorities swung slightly to Trump away from their normally Democratic base. As was stated in the Scorpio letter, one cannot second-guess a disgruntled American public. The people hath protested! And this protest is only set to grow.

Why have we seen these swings away from the candidate and party that most people widely expected to win? They have come on the heels of the topics mentioned in the first paragraph above. The young and many Democrats saw the marginalization of Bernie Sanders, for instance, and his ousting as the Democratic nominee, and it left a very sour taste. If there had been honest, unbiased media coverage during the primaries, Bernie would have likely carried the party and we may have had a very different election result. People do not trust the major media outlets any longer, either. And alternative media, meaning internet sources, are very rapidly becoming people's go-to source for news. One of the more alarming things that emerged recently is that 62% of the American public gets their 'news' from social media outlets,<sup>6</sup> Facebook being the largest such. Too much of what we see on Facebook that passes for journalism, though, is full of heavy bias, sensational claims, partial or invented facts or pure fiction. And people eat this stuff up. Otherwise, internet-based news is available from every country world-wide. Aside from the misreporting and fake news, once people begin to see news outside of the major news outlets it does not take long to realize the pro-establishment stance of the major media outlets and the thousands of unreported, yet important events that take place in the world every week. The six major media conglomerates<sup>7</sup> in the US (which own 90% of all 'news' reporting in the US) are now quickly coming to be seen as propaganda outlets, and it is much the same in other Western countries. The media in the US strongly backed Hillary Clinton, sidelined Bernie Sanders and sought to demonize Trump after he became a real threat, and a significant number of people saw through it.

Another reason many people turned toward Trump was precisely because he was *not* ‘politically correct’, that he told things as he saw them – or how he thought people wanted to see them – that he addressed people’s dissatisfaction and promised change. Approximately 40% of the voting public polled (I have read varying figures) wanted *change* at election day. He told a large section of the populace exactly what they wanted to hear, and they bought it. He played the media and those voters like a song, being the media persona that he is. Whether he will be able to deliver on his



promises is another matter, such as re-opening the coal mines in West Virginia, for instance. This being said, his methods and many of his statements go against the higher values of American life and are divisive, witness the hate crimes that are now taking place in the US<sup>8</sup>. I didn’t vote for Trump, as I could not sanction his methods, could not back him because of his record, nor do I believe that he will be able to live up to his promises, and we will get to why in a moment. He offered no plans to back his promises, whereas Bernie Sanders did. People voted for change when Obama was elected, too, but saw little change thereafter in policies that have wage stagnation, jobs going out of the country and more and more money going to the rich. We can list reasons why he did not deliver, either, but they are not exactly what we might think. And ‘the system’ remains intact. Now we have an authoritarian president about to be sworn into office, and we have no idea what he is likely to do.

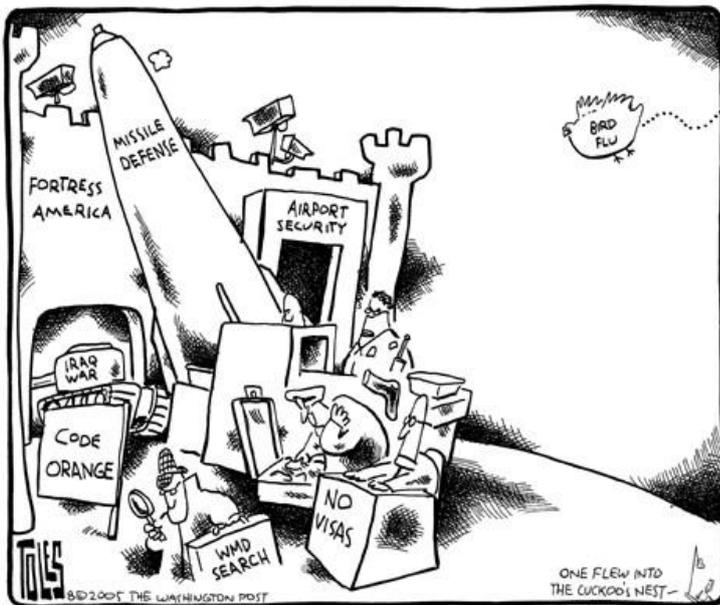
Mentioning Obama, I am not anti-Obama. I voted for him both times, for many of the same reasons people voted for Trump this time. I know die-hard Republicans who voted for him because they didn’t like what the Republicans were representing. Obama has served with dignity and has done a good job for the country on the whole, notwithstanding exceptions. He will be well-remembered as a president, and should be. And for anyone reading this who may have demonized him, things are not all as they seem. Every president these days is heavily conditioned by the system they inherit, and Trump will be no different. Obama’s hands have been tied, on the surface by the Congress. However, the story goes deeper than Congress and there are other things to consider here, which have weighed heavily on Obama and other presidents. And it is not until change comes to these other factors that a president will be able to lead us truly on the road to peace and international cooperation and sharing. As for Hillary, she lost the election partly because she failed to motivate enough people, because of the game-playing of the DNC during the primaries, through misinformation fed to her or her misreading of the public, and I would say largely through voter apathy or refusal to vote. The people who voted for Trump saw her as part of the system that has disadvantaged them. Now she blames James Comey of the FBI for her loss, but she really has only herself and the Democratic party to blame. It’s classic projection and denial when things don’t go well. The Democratic Party has some deep soul-searching to do.

As for the issues that are an assault on our freedoms, there is a shortlist of videos that every American would benefit through seeing, and they are listed below. The first two videos outline the main problems that face us and which have hamstrung or overtly influenced every president in recent memory, especially from the 1980s onwards. The third one offers a perspective on media and the news which is important to consider as we move into the coming presidential term, and which will directly affect Trump and other leaders. They are as follows:

- The secret Government: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=28K2CO-khdY>
- What the 1% Doesn’t Want You To Know: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QzQYA9Qjsi0>
- Julian Assange Interview with John Pilger: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zLx\\_efQRkHw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zLx_efQRkHw)

We will not go into great detail here, as watching the videos will make the situation clear. If you choose to watch them, they are long, but take your time. We have time. There is much to digest if you do not know about these things already. But to start, America's problems, and thus much of the world's, started with two main events. The first was the [signing of The National Security Act](#)<sup>9</sup> in 1947, which gave us the CIA, the united forces of the military and the National Security Council.<sup>10</sup> And thus our troublous journey began. And then there was the introduction of neoliberal economics under the Reagan administration.<sup>11</sup> These same sorts of neoliberal policies were enacted in Australia and the UK at about the same time. It was partly the effects of the NSA legislation against which Eisenhower warned in his farewell address,<sup>12</sup> against which Kennedy warned<sup>13</sup>, and which has remained silent and in the background ever since Kennedy's assassination – until now. There has been a decided shift in attitudes and awareness of these two matters in recent years, thanks in large part to the internet and social media, and it was signaled in fullness in the US by the transit of Pluto opposite the US Sun in 2015, which brought the focus firmly on the leadership in the US and fomented the election we just saw. There is some fascinating astrology in the NSA legislation, though, which shows how we have been misled as a nation.

When the NSA was signed, Neptune was squaring the midpoint of the US Sun/Jupiter conjunction by transit and Mars was conjunct the US Mars, which squares Neptune in the US chart. This placement of Neptune in the US chart is important and tied into this election, as we will outline shortly. In addition, the Sun of the legislation chart was opposite the US Pluto. This gave us the



illusion of greater national security, whereas it has actually subverted it and has given us anything but that (watch the first video, above). With the [enactment of the legislation](#) in the following September the situation is even more revealing. The enactment chart shows the Sun on the US Neptune, squaring the US Mars and with Mars by transit on the US Mercury, showing the completion of the deception of Americans and the belligerent stance that has taken hold of US foreign policy ever since. What this act has actually done is to skew our view of what security actually is, to enable the propaganda machine that has kept us at odds with countries like

Russia, Iran, Cuba and many others, has fully enabled the military-industrial complex and has kept us almost continually in conflicts off and on for the past 50 years. It was at the heart of NATO and has expanded our security state to the point where every electronic communication and internet search is now monitored and stored away in archives. What we have now is a 'deep state' that works away behind the scenes and which pulls the strings of the government that we see. This is what Donald Trump is beginning to be confronted with at the moment, what he claims to want to dismantle at least to a degree, and which has heavily conditioned the domestic and foreign policies of every president since Truman.

During the presidential primaries this year Jupiter was transiting across the US Neptune and activating an eclipse that had taken place there (13 Sep 15), and thus the natal Mars/Neptune square of the US. This Mars/Neptune square is a highly idealistic placement and is frequently found in the charts of religious and spiritual leaders, giving the appearance of the person being divinely inspired and giving a real ability to move the hearts and minds of people. It is one of the biggest indicators of the energy conditioning the personality of the US.<sup>14</sup> It is also part of the pathway to the soul of

the nation because that energy is also closely linked with the energy of the soul of the nation, which is love and wisdom. The energy which the aforementioned square contributes to a curious mix of materialism along with a tendency to self-immolate over ideals, which is what many people with whom I have spoken seem to think America is undertaking with the election of Trump. As an indication of this, America was enthralled with Bernie Sanders and Donald Trump this electoral cycle. Many people were also appalled with Donald Trump. In a way (bigly) that transit empowered Trump, because the US Neptune completes a t-square with Trump's full moon axis.

So, we can read this in at least two ways: Either Trump is here to expose the illusions that have beset the US as an iconoclast (his Sun/north node/Uranus conjunction sits hugely on the US Mars), or he has used that Mars/Neptune in the US chart to propel him into office – probably a combination of both. Many Americans have a grand illusion of Trump, as witnessed by the numbers of viewers of his show *Celebrity Apprentice* and the number of people who see him as successful businessman. Anyone who thinks that Donald Trump is going to get into to office, though, make sweeping changes to the established order, 'drain the swamp' and make all of our lives better in the process is very likely to be quite disappointed. We see evidence of it already with his would-be cabinet appointees,<sup>15</sup> with his back-tracking on things like the total repeal of Obamacare (which would be silly anyway, even though it needs to be re-worked) and his huge, beautiful wall, which is now looking more likely to be a fence in many places. Here are a list of some of the things we will likely *not* see under a Trump administration:

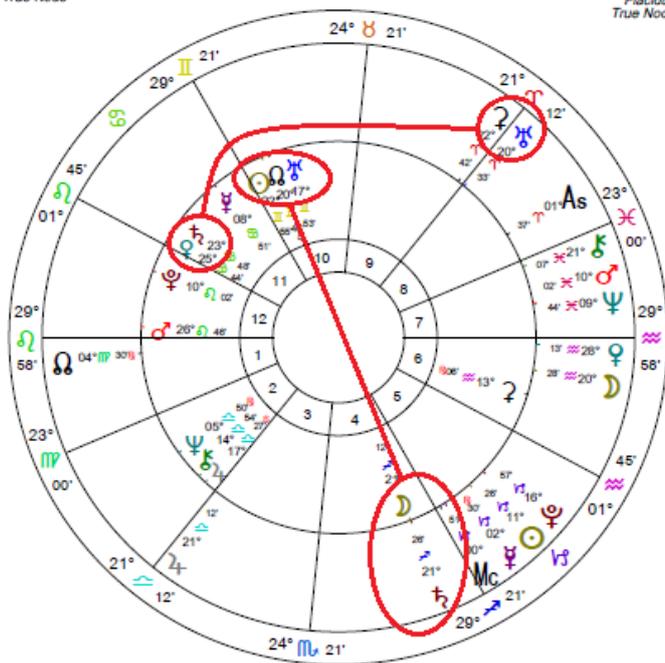
- The Wall, at least in fullness (and Mexico would not have paid for it, anyway. We'll pay for the fence.) I like Pink Floyd's version of *The Wall* better, anyway.
- The prosecution of the Clintons, or Hillary going to jail. That would expose too many Republicans' complicity in the same sorts of dealings, plus the fact that it would invite counter-investigations into Trump's dealings. It would also be badly perceived both in the US and abroad.
- The mass deportation of immigrants (immigrants built this country and we are descended from immigrants). We need those immigrants on the whole. Trump would also face a huge fight on that one from Democrats and advocacy groups.
- Massive infrastructure projects (the Republicans are yawning over this one) However, immigrants would be perfect for those projects. It is much more attractive to Republicans to focus on business, to repeal Obama's gains and to roll back public programs.
- Term limits on Congress (Why would they vote for that?)
- Increased taxes on the 1% (probably quite the opposite, through tax breaks)
- The breakup of the media conglomerates. They *made* Trump and he knows how to play them. This also applies to his fanciful 'opening up those libel laws'.<sup>16</sup>



And we could go on. Do we get the idea? So, for anyone crying over Hillary's loss, protesting or rioting over Trump's win, or wringing their hands over the threat to world safety and security, get over it and use this election as a force for motivation! It is time to roll up one's sleeves and get to work. Trump was elected and we have to hold his feet to the fire on his campaign promises, those which would truly benefit the average American. He also needs to be held to account for his more destructive policies. We can also cooperate with him if he really does decide to do something good for the American people. He is not going to be the cataclysm many people think he will be nor the great savior that others think. We will get through the next four years, and probably be much wiser and more activated from the experience. He may even surprise us in a good way. I have serious

doubts about that, and it's too early to tell on that score. But, there is nothing like a good crisis to motivate a person. As to why I do not see the above points coming to pass or as claimed in his campaign, this will be largely the result of a resistant Congress and an outraged public, on both sides of the aisles. Members of Congress are not limited to two terms in office, for instance, and around 75% of the country is made up of young people, women and immigrants, which is a large liberal-leaning base. Plus, members of Congress can be re-elected time and again if they have the support of their constituents, and that is where a big problem lies for Trump. Members of Congress are not going to risk their seats over policies by Trump that they see will not sit well with their voting base. And this leads into the astrology for Trump, which supports the points just made.

<p><b>Inner Wheel</b>  <b>Donald John Trump</b>          Natal Chart          Jun 14 1946, Fri          10:54 am EDT +4:00          Jamaica, NY          40°N41'29" 073°W48'22"          Geocentric          Tropical          Placidus          True Node</p>	<p><b>Outer Wheel</b>  <b>Donald John Trump</b>          Event of Jan 1 2017          Transits Chart          Jan 1 2017, Sun          11:12:57 am EST +5:00          Jamaica, NY          40°N41'29" 073°W48'22"          Geocentric          Tropical          Placidus          True Node</p>
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President-elect Trump has many obstacles in front of him. His astrology over the next months is quite difficult. I am not wishing him ill here. The astrology is very clear. He will have Saturn on his Moon (a very sobering transit and emotionally very difficult) and opposite his Sun (another difficult transit and a big ‘reality check’) starting in a few weeks, and that will last through to the middle of next year. The Saturn opposite his Sun will be a test of his leadership. He will find that he has to relinquish many of his more fondly-held sentiments, will have to adjust his outlook, will have to be more accommodating and conciliatory and what he should end up with is a more realistic and less bombastic attitude. If he fails to learn the lessons of Saturn’s transit, life will be very hard for him. The gauge of which way he leans with this transit and thus for his term in office will be this: If he is indeed soul-inspired, he will look inward, withdraw somewhat

from public displays and seek to purge his inner demons. If, however, he is more or less personality-focused, he will rebel and rail against the restrictions he now faces, blame everyone else for his failures, become belligerent and appoint people as ‘attack dogs’, seeking to agitate the voter base that elected him to more strident action. There are already signs of that with his appointment of Stephen Bannon<sup>17</sup> as his strategy manager.

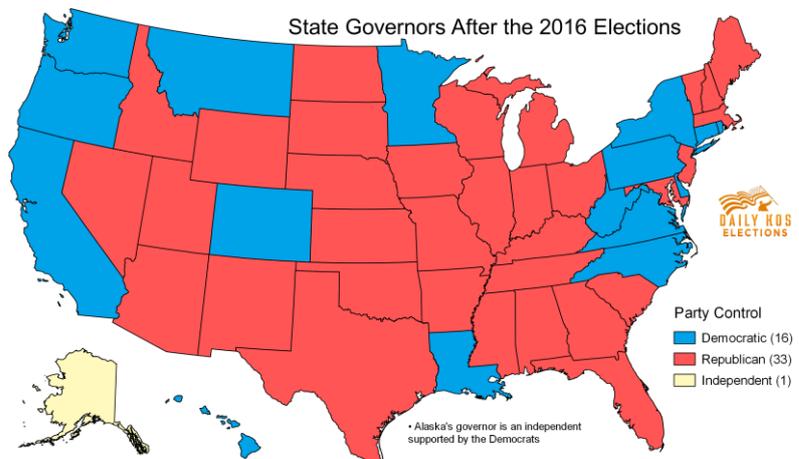
Saturn will also be squaring an eclipse (14 Jun 12), which adds to the gravity of the transit. The eclipse squared his natal full moon axis. His 11<sup>th</sup> house (groups, friends, hopes and wishes) and 12<sup>th</sup> house (institutions, secret enemies and self-undoing) will both be activated by this transit. He will be in the balsamic phase of his progressed moon (in itself a difficult time for most people) until almost the time his term finishes, and the solar arcs that saw him into office will be on their way out in 2017. His second year in office, if he makes it that far, looks to be quite belligerent and/or filled with missteps, with solar arcs of Uranus to his Mars and Mercury to his Uranus, highlighting foreign relations and travel overseas as well as his 7<sup>th</sup> house of litigation, contracts/partnerships and enemies. At the same time, Uranus will square his natal Venus/Saturn conjunction by transit. However, also at that time Saturn will be transiting trine his ascendant. If he gets what he needs from the Saturn transit over the next months – and that’s a big ‘if’ – then the period just described might just be a new contract for the country, giving him the energy and will to push it through.

He also Uranus and Eris transiting square to his natal Venus/Saturn conjunction from now through much of next year. That natal conjunction points to his penchant for appointing people who have been loyal to him rather than more qualified people. It is quite difficult for him to let people in close, and the people who are close have his ear for life. In his Chinese astrology he has the Dog in his year pillar, which values loyalty almost to the exclusion of other factors in its more personal expression. This administration will be a big test of his loyalties. He can be very warm with his inner circle, to whom he retreats in times of stress. And he can be vociferous with people who offend him, as we have seen, indicated by the Mars/ascendant conjunction, and added to by the natal conjunction of Orcus with his Sun/Uranus conjunction. This latter can be a very punishing and demanding combination. He is going to have to open up, or things will go very badly, very quickly. And if things do go bad, it will likely happen suddenly and/or unexpectedly. These factors are again a calling from his higher Self to be there for the people of the nation as a whole rather than his voter base or for self-interest, also for self-discipline, and for allowing in other points of view. We can all pray that his higher Self prevails.

Don't get me wrong – I am not necessarily anti-Trump. But the astrology speaks volumes. If he is indeed guided by something higher than what he exhibited on the campaign trail and in his past dealings with people, then this intervening period could well draw out the Leo higher path indicated by his ascendant. I stand by statements I have made about him in the past, but people can and do change. Right now he shows no signs of it, but Saturn has a way of pulling people around. I agree with many of the policies Trump has enunciated: greater sovereignty for the people and the country, change of the dynamic in Washington (although I would argue for positive change rather than slash and burn), doing away with the TTP and TTIP, a new look at NAFTA, rebuilding infrastructure, reducing student debt, raising the minimum wage, and so forth. But the ends do not justify the means if they disadvantage people or harm large groups. If we have indeed averted a wider war, moved toward less belligerent relations with Russia and wind up defeating Daesh with Russian cooperation, then that may well be one of his greatest achievements. However, many people are quite suspicious of his connections with Russia, and not without reason, and Europeans are especially nervous, still having strong memories and sentiments about Russian occupation after WWII. It is a path that should be tread very carefully, and in close consultation with the nations that would be most affected.

Two of the many things that are especially concerning about Trump are his attitudes toward women, aside from equal pay for equal work, and minorities – scrapping Roe v. Wade and deporting millions of immigrants, for instance. And if anything ever happened to Trump, then how would a 'President Pence' be on such matters? Women and minorities are right to be very concerned.

Leaving women's health matters up to the states would disadvantage women to a large degree, especially given the very conservative leanings of many states. And many states installed Republican governors at this election, gaining even more leverage. The incumbent governor of South Carolina has stated she is 'giddy' at the prospects<sup>18</sup> of a Trump presidency and Republican control of the government. If this sort of issue is



of concern to you, make a donation to Planned Parenthood, for instance. If you want to show your displeasure, make your donation in 'honor' of Mike Pence, or your governor. 20,000 people already have done so since the election.<sup>19</sup> This is the type of activism that changes things for the better.

As for immigrants, meaning Mexicans largely, only a few states would be greatly affected, such as Florida, Arizona and California, removing a significant portion of their work force. Migrants tend to do the jobs that Americans do not necessarily want anyway. But all minorities and immigrants would be affected, not to mention the resentments generated. And a wall sends a very bad message and is symbolically terrible, not to mention the fact that it would do virtually nothing to stop illegal immigration. Just ask the Israelis how their wall with the Palestinians has gone. That's a long border with Mexico – over a thousand miles (that's roughly a couple thousand kilometers for readers in other countries). A few tunnels here and there would make it laughing stock. And forget a wall keeping drugs out of the country.

But here is a point that we see very little reported in the news and in social media: Much of what we see coming out of the US media of all types is partisan, highly emotionally charged and seldom productive of anything that we might call cooperative and unifying. On the news, if we can call it that, there is a constant stream of negativity and violence. The causes of the problems in the US are leveled at both sides of the political fence whereas both sides are equally at fault. The vitriol and sneering I see on social media is at times sickening, and this on both sides, too. Why do there have to be 'sides'? However, in this election cycle of the US there was a common message, and it was primarily about economics – the economics of running a household. This is where the major parties missed the mark. We have been sold certain narratives about race, immigration, party loyalties, rich and poor, enemies and allies, etc., for many decades and this is used to keep us from unifying. Divided, we can be controlled. We are starting to see through it, which is quite encouraging, but we need to keep the pressure on for that one. There is far more that unites us as a nation than divides us. "Not my President!", for instance – well, Trump *is* our president. Accept it, and work harder for change if you don't agree with him. I know what the sentiment expresses, but it's the wrong message. It only plays into the old narratives. What we need is to hold people to account, and for that we need to circulate *accurate* information across the board.

Finally, watch what happens very carefully. If you supported Trump, hold him and his administration to account if he fails to deliver, rather than constantly poking fun and saying "Nyah! Nyah!" at more liberal voters. Karma can be hell, as we are seeing. The same holds true for liberals. If you voted for Clinton and are disappointed, do something positive about it instead of protesting. Get in touch with the voter base, change the party, support your causes and make certain that people like Bernie Sanders get nominated for the next presidential race. Such a person would probably win next time. The corporate interests have descended on Washington in the wake of Trump's victory, seeing their opportunity. Trump's most trusted advisor is his son-in-law, a would-be billionaire<sup>20</sup> with some similarities in background to Trump. What we are starting to see is that Trump will be



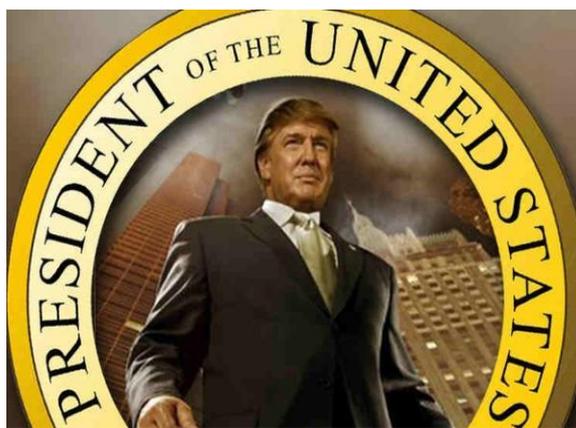
leaving the running of the country to the people to whom he is delegating authority, and it is a strange mix. There is also quite a lot of infighting between them at the moment.<sup>21</sup> Trump's story in office will be written by this cabinet in large part and his trusted advisors. We need to know more about Jared Kushner, for instance, and the views that motivate him, as well as for all the other appointees.

There is so much we could say here, but there are a couple of other points to be made before we close this out. Firstly, Pluto in Capricorn has done a good deal to bring us to this place, exposing the undercurrents of society and especially the power players in governments and places of power, breaking down the more crystallized attitudes in society and so forth. It will be in Capricorn until 2025, so we still have a ways to go on this path of remaking our society. It opposed the US Sun a couple of years ago, starting in January of 2015, and brought the issues that we are addressing now more strongly into focus, as well as the more pronounced need for changes in our leadership as a nation. Then, there is another cycle at work here, and this one that should be a cause for hope. It is a 60-year cycle from Chinese astrology.

If we look back at 1956, 1896 and 1836, then a pattern emerges, especially regarding US presidents. In 1956 we had the election of Eisenhower to his last term. In 1896 we had McKinley and in 1836 we had Martin van Buren. The thing that marks these men is not so much what they achieved, but the presidents who came after them four years later – Tyler, Teddy Roosevelt and JFK. Most Americans only know of John Tyler<sup>22</sup> through the campaign slogan “Tippecanoe and Tyler, too!” , if they know of him at all. All of these presidents were their own man – independent, often going against the established order and largely progressive. Tyler is not remembered today, but Kennedy and Roosevelt certainly are and they are two of the most beloved of the US presidents. Conservatives should note that if the 60-year trend continues, there will be a progressive in the White House in four years, one who will work to re-level the economic landscape and return power to the people. And Roosevelt was a Republican.



In closing, I think we elected the wrong man this time around, because the Democratic Party sidelined Bernie Sanders. It's easy New Age speak to say, “The Universe gives you exactly what you need.” No, there is a way of grace and then there is a way of hard knocks. People make choices. Sometimes they make bad choices. But now we have to deal with what we have. Donald John Trump is President-elect. Bernie Sanders and Donald Trump both spoke to middle America, the people who struggle every day, who see prices rise all the time and their wages stagnate or go backwards, who have to decide whether or not their paycheck this week will buy their medication or pay their rent, or put food on the table. These are the people who elected Donald Trump. These are also the same people who elected Barack Obama two times because he promised change. These are the same people who would have elected Bernie Sanders had he been the Democratic candidate, not to take anything away from Hillary Clinton or Trump. We have before us a true opportunity if we can stay away from partisanship. Forget the figure in the White House. It's about the common person now. We might disagree on how to reverse the trends of the past 30 years, but the change that is happening now is only set to grow in momentum. And the world watches us with great interest and not a little trepidation now. What happens in the US will spread and has already had effects. During this holiday season as we spend time with family and friends let us speak to each other and really *listen* in turn, and in that, may we find our common ground. Let that then motivate us to create the better society we desire for ourselves and as the legacy to future generations. Parties divide us. Communities unite us.



Blessings,  
Malvin  
16 Nov 16

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**Figure notes:**

Simpsons picture from: <http://www.hollywoodreporter.com/live-feed/simpsons-writer-who-predicted-trump-876295>

The National Security Act cartoon from: *The Washington Post*: "One Flew Into the Cuckoo's Nest" 2005

Trump picture from: <https://todaysinfo.net/13-reasons-why-donald-trump-will-make-the-best-president-ever/>

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<sup>1</sup> <http://watchcartoonsonline.eu/watch/the-simpsons-season-11-episode-17-bart-to-the-future/>

<sup>2</sup> <http://edition.cnn.com/2016/11/11/politics/popular-vote-turnout-2016/>

<sup>3</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Five\\_Star\\_Movement#V-Days](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Five_Star_Movement#V-Days)

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.electproject.org/2016g>

<sup>5</sup> <http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2016/11/09/behind-trumps-victory-divisions-by-race-gender-education/>

<sup>6</sup> <http://www.journalism.org/2016/05/26/news-use-across-social-media-platforms-2016/>

<sup>7</sup> <http://www.businessinsider.com/these-6-corporations-control-90-of-the-media-in-america-2012-6?IR=T>

<sup>8</sup> <http://www.nbcnewyork.com/news/national-international/Array-of-Hate-Crimes-Reported-Day-After-Trumps-Election-400711591.html>

<sup>9</sup> The act was signed shortly after noon on board an airplane on the tarmac at Washington National Airport.

<sup>10</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United\\_States\\_National\\_Security\\_Council](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_National_Security_Council)

<sup>11</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Neoliberalism#United\\_States](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Neoliberalism#United_States)

<sup>12</sup> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OyBNmecVtdU>

<sup>13</sup> [https://www.jfklibrary.org/Research/Research-Aids/JFK-Speeches/American-Newspaper-Publishers-Association\\_19610427.aspx](https://www.jfklibrary.org/Research/Research-Aids/JFK-Speeches/American-Newspaper-Publishers-Association_19610427.aspx)

<sup>14</sup> The US personality is ruled by the 6<sup>th</sup> Ray (devotion/fanaticism or high idealism). Both Mars and Neptune transmit this Ray.

<sup>15</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Proposed\\_cabinet\\_of\\_Donald\\_Trump](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Proposed_cabinet_of_Donald_Trump)

<sup>16</sup> <http://www.politico.com/blogs/on-media/2016/02/donald-trump-libel-laws-219866>

<sup>17</sup> <http://www.thedailybeast.com/articles/2016/08/22/steve-bannon-trump-s-top-guy-told-me-he-was-a-leninist.html> and <http://www.dailywire.com/news/8441/i-know-trumps-new-campaign-chairman-steve-bannon-ben-shapiro> among others. He is not seen in a favorable light, to put it mildly.

<sup>18</sup> <http://edition.cnn.com/2016/11/15/politics/gop-governors-donald-trump/>

<sup>19</sup> <http://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/20-000-people-have-donated-planned-parenthood-mike-pence-s-n685076>

<sup>20</sup> [http://www.nytimes.com/2016/07/05/us/politics/jared-kushner-donald-trump.html?\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2016/07/05/us/politics/jared-kushner-donald-trump.html?_r=0)

<sup>21</sup> [https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/trump-putin-talk-of-strong-and-enduring-relationship-president-elect-prepares-to-meet-today-with-vice-president-to-discuss-cabinet/2016/11/15/081b2f40-ab2f-11e6-8b45-f8e493f06fcd\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/trump-putin-talk-of-strong-and-enduring-relationship-president-elect-prepares-to-meet-today-with-vice-president-to-discuss-cabinet/2016/11/15/081b2f40-ab2f-11e6-8b45-f8e493f06fcd_story.html)

<sup>22</sup> <http://www.history.com/topics/us-presidents/john-tyler>