

INTRODUCTION

Since the beginning of this long awaited 2020, we have been slapped with a global pandemic, countless conflicts and loads of righteous and heated activism. It has not been an easy year, and has certainly had its more than ample share of shock, frustrations and life-altering moments.

Adding to it, on December 21st 2020, a rare meeting between two celestial bodies, the Wood Star (*commonly known as Jupiter*) and the Earth Star (*Saturn*), is set to further mix things up on a global, social and even a personal level. The occurrence as we have all come to be accustomed to, is called *The Great Conjunction*.

The encounter of these two moving stars (as known in Chinese Metaphysics), or planets if you will (as known in Western Astrology), only happens once every 20 years. What makes it so rare this time though, is that the proximity of both the stars are so close to each other, that humans will be able to watch it enfold simply with the naked eye. Believe it or not, the phenomenon would also go on to have ripple effects for the next two decades to come.

If all that sounds really intense, because it definitely is. Fortunately, it is the kind of intensity which is very useful in making big and positive changes in your life if the energies are directed correctly and intentionally. As scary as it may sound, The Great Conjunction is actually a door to new beginnings. After a year of impossible challenges, this cosmic-mash up should rather be a reason to be consciously optimistic about the future!

But, how can you make the most of this energy?

Ahead, we've got everything you need to know, including tips on how to make this your springboard for the year 2021, and a guide to what it means for your animal sign.

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WHAT IS A GREAT CONJUNCTION AND HOW DOES IT WORK?

In Astrology, a conjunction is a meeting or an alignment of two stars. It usually happens when two or more stars (planets) line up at the same angle. Do note that in Chinese Metaphysics texts,"**planets**" are often referred to as "**moving stars**". When they do, their vibrational powers interact, synergize, combine, clash or mutate.

A 'Great Conjunction' (is also known as *The Great Transformation*) on the other hand, happens when the two biggest moving stars meet. In this case, those stars are the **Wood Star (Jupiter)** and the **Earth Star (Saturn)**, aligning AT THE SAME angle. Both the stars are commonly associated and extensively referenced in Chinese Metaphysics subjects like Astrology and Feng Shui.

The Wood Star is a power house for growth, abundance, creation, freedom and wealth, whereas the Earth Star embodies responsibility, order, systems and control. When they are forced into meeting at the same territory, you can expect a power struggle, over the best way to 'rule'.

On a much larger canvas, this astronomical miracle can bring about big change, whether that may be politically, spiritually or culturally. Things can very much change irrevocably, regardless if we're ready or not. Politics for instance, have been predicted to shift towards the progressive and away from the stringent. Race based ideas, will also have outlived their usefulness. It'll be like a changing of the guard, so to speak.



WHAT MAKES THIS MEETING OF THE TWO KINGS OF THE SKIES DIFFERENT?

This meeting is special because it's in Rat palace. This animal sign of 2020 which governs social transformations, humanitarian efforts and justice (being a Cardinal sign), will open people's eyes both to the inflexible disparities which exist within our cultures.

It will also reveal personal responsibilities to help where we can, in whatever way it may be, or doing whatever it is we need to do, as a means to heal ourselves and our communities from a history of traumas. This will also be the start of a new era where people of all sexualities and gender identities will be able to express themselves freely and love who they love without fear, judgement or criticism.

The two stars will meet at 0 degrees in the sky. Rat Zero Degrees represents a completely new beginning. This means that as a society, we get to start from scratch and rethink our approach to life, freedom, equality as well as what it means to care for the common good.

This phenomenon will happen on the Winter Solstice, or Dong Zhi festival in Chinese. The Chinese culture believes that the Winter Solstice is the starting point of a new year cycle traceable back to the Tang Dynasty. This festival in itself is celebrated to mark the balance of harmony in the Cosmos, where from this point, the daylight hours would begin to increase signifying the increase in positive energy flowing in. Ancient Chinese believe this to be an auspicious sign as it means the unhappiness of the past has gone and a new life begins. The philosophical significance of this festive day is symbolized by the YiJing Hexagram "Returning 後". Since antiquity, this day is a great time to ask God for a good harvest and a bountiful year ahead.

JOEY YAP'S GREAT TRANSFORMATION GUIDE



With the Great Transformation (Conjunction) and the DongZhi Winter Solstice in sync, the effects of both are amplified, making the event a perfect time for making wishes! There is a proper technique to this of course. Start by writing down CLEARLY what you want to most manifest in the coming year. Clarity is the secret to the success of the wishes. The more vague the wish is, the less chances of it being granted. When clarity is obtained, then proceed on to do a Fire Ritual/Meditation and or prayer. In Chinese homes, many would do their usual prayers with incense and joss-sticks. Other cultures are free to use whatever they like, maybe even a candle, perhaps to direct the wishes.



HOW CAN I USE THE GREAT CONJUNCTION TO HELP ME?

The Great Conjunction represents a time for you to relinquish old habits that have held you back and make way for new opportunities or methods of doing things. If you are resistant to change, the whole thing can feel uncomfortable. You see, change is going to happen. Like it or not. Allowing it and embracing it will bring you good fortune. Resistance on the other hand, can only bring about frustrations and more setbacks.

If you are open to change, you will be able to make incredible progress toward the dreams you've held onto for a long time. The strength, vitality and growth of the Wood Star, as well as the practicality and support of the Earth Star will team up and help you accomplish your amazing goals. Those goals may have seemed unreachable in the past, but right now, they're very much within your grasp.

For best results of your wish, you would first need to gain absolute clarity. Write down what three big things you have always wanted to achieve. Think about what 'needs to be done', whats blocking you from achieving it, who can help you and what skills/know-hows would you need, in order to achieve this. Then, 'ask for help' in all the areas you need assistance in. Put in the work towards this calling and spend as much time as you can in 2021, working toward it.

Both the Wood and the Earth Stars will bring professional achievements and status. This is the right kind of energy to channel toward career success. Whatever you decide to pursue will have The Grand Duke's accelerating force to boost your growth in that area. Besides that, the solid support and fundamentals of the Earth Star will ensure your results are sustainable in the long run.

JOEY YAP'S GREAT TRANSFORMATION GUIDE



As with everything in Astrology, you have got to put in the work, to attain the most out of it. The power of the conjunction cannot be 10 X a zero. If you roll up your sleeves, buckle up and meet the stars halfway by doing the work, then the results will be truly magical.

If you like, you could also light a candle on the day of the conjunction, face towards the SouthWest 1, and make a solid clear wish, to maximize the good-natured parts of this cosmic alignment. The Great Conjunction will affect the Rat, the Dragon, the Monkey and the Snake most intensely, but the other animals will also get an added boost from it. There are many ways in which everyone can use this energy to their advantage.

Below, you will find a short how-to guide for your animal sign.

PAGT YOUR ANIMAL SIGN







YEAR OF BIRTH

Rats will be experiencing the deepest shifts under the conjunction since it's occurring in this animal sign.

This time, it will be all about realization, reassessment and refinement of who you are and what you need from life. You're tired from helping everyone else this year, and now you need to help yourself. Reframe those nay-saying thoughts in your head, and learn to be kinder to the ugliest parts of yourself. Expect to be very energized this month, happy-go-lucky and eveready to take on everything the world has to offer. Make the most out of all the inspiration and confidence coming your way. You know what you want, and now is just as good a time as any, to go out there and get it!



TE: OX YIN EARTH



YEAR OF BIRTH

For Oxes, you probably have made the most interesting use of this very abnormal year, so try and keep that burst of innovation flowing!

You will be motivated under the conjunction to expand your horizons and not limit yourself by sticking to what you already know. Financial reward is waiting for you when you embrace your creative innovative side. You're taking a lighter approach to life these days, which is a good thing. You may be normally used to productivity and work-orientation, but taking this step back to think clearly, is what you need to do for you right now. As a matter of fact, do not be surprised if you even find yourself daydreaming more than often, when this conjunction goes down!







YEAR OF BIRTH

1902

1914

1926

1938

1950

1962

1974

1986

1998

2010

Tigers still find themselves struggling from not being able to do the whole 'wanderlust' thing.

You should try to keep yourself discouraged as the end of the year approaches. There are chances you would experience greater frustrations under the conjunction because of your incessant need to self-improve and make progress in your work life. You need to communicate and connect regularly. The global climate isn't great, but there is an itch for adventure as well as exploration, and you need to scratch it. Slow down, take some time away from the world, social media perhaps, from all the doom and gloom. Buckle up though, things will get real fast, real soon. In other words, whatever change that is awaiting for you, believe it is meant to be, and embrace it, for there will no longer be any delays. This new energy could be your fresh start, and it's time to get excited as you embark on this new chapter of life.



卯 RABBIT YIN WOOD



YEAR OF BIRTH

1903

1915

1927

1939

1951

1963

1975

1987

1999

2011

Your changes under the Great Transformation will be rather personal.

Old wounds would resurface, and you will find the need to heal as well as to let go of them. Memories will always stay with you, whether positive or negative. But what's important is deciphering if you've left anything positive behind, or if you're merely holding onto things which no longer resonate to who you are as a person. You focus on a lot of philosophical thinking, and while you're good at going deep, this Great Transformation will challenge you to step outside your comfort zone. Now is the time to embrace your carefree spontaneous side. Yes, believe it or not, it is perfectly okay to not be so serious all the time! Who knows, you may even enjoy how much lighter you become ;)



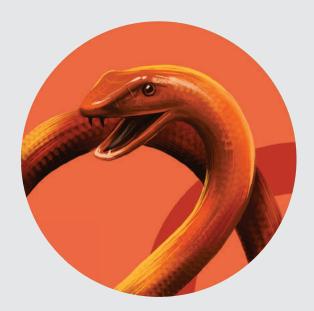
YEAR OF BIRTH

The conjunction will call Dragons to think about other people, whether they are family, partners or friends.

But the alignment of the stars will also teach you that in order to be more brave in your relationships, you must first learn to look after you. Your inner child is now coming out to play, and you have to let it. Explore your needs, your dreams and learn how to make you top priority. With this, an abundance of self-love will flow, attracting healthy, intimate and romantic connections. You are not a stranger to emotions and alot of those have been weighing you down this year. Thanks to the Great Conjunction, being a fellow Water Sign of the Rat, you'll be able to breathe relief. You will feel mentally centered and ready to tackle any and every conversation which may come your way.







YEAR OF BIRTH

Under the Great Conjunction, snakes will become known to have a clear meaning and practical approach to dealing with conflict.

Helping others is your strong suit, but keep in mind that, that very aspect can be draining in more ways than one. Mental well-being should be your utmost priority right now. Your career and health path is illuminated, which signifies a calling to breathe in a calm mind, and be easier on yourself as well as others. Making these changes, will help you achieve a better shift and clarity in your purpose. Your head will be full of ideas and if you're an entrepreneur, this will bring inspiration for your next big thing. If you're single, you will then be urged to travel or visit somewhere new. Luck will be on your side, for you will be at the right place, at the right time.



午 HORSE YANG FIRE



YEAR OF BIRTH

1906

1918

1930

1942

1954

1966

1978

1990

2002

2014

It's a hard knock life and many horses probably got knocked right off their game in 2020, because of the clash with the Grand Duke.

It was a year of feeling an inability to connect with others. But fret no longer, for the Great Conjunction will help better the relationships you have had, and those you have missed. You may even feel a strong sense of freedom under the Great Transformation and experience a quantum leap in relationships, whether it's professional, romantic or personal. Try to avoid routines and be more open to embracing the unexpected in life. 2021 will be the year you say adios drama and HELLO peace of mind!







YEAR OF BIRTH

The Great Conjunction is about connecting with others of your own efforts, instead of shifting your entire weight onto them.

Learn to stand on your own two feet and you will find new opportunities in your personal life. Things can be scary, but try and embrace the shift in energy, respect boundaries and stop being a control-freak. It's a nostalgic month, but leave the past in the past and don't beat yourself up for the mistakes you've made. 2020 has been a year of learning and what a wild ride it was. You gained self-reflection, self-realization, and those are gifts in itself. Plant the seeds you collected, start visualizing what you want, who you want to be and transform as the stars do.



申 **MONKEY YANG METAL**



YEAR OF BIRTH

1908

1920

1932

1944

1956

1968

1980

1992

2004

2016

The conjunction is the right time to expand your mind and harbour new skills.

Monkeys will find themselves reaching new heights with all their ideas, and with it unlock so much wisdom as well as intellect. You will find yourself becoming experts in the things you're good at, simply by exploring the depths of your mind and getting out of that box of things you thought you already knew. The occurrence will bring you fantastic news, so keep both your heart and mind open, as change my friend, is very much just beyond the horizon.



西 ROOSTER YIN METAL



YEAR OF BIRTH

1909

1921

1933

1945

1957

1007

1969

1981

1993

2005

2017

With the Rooster, it would seem that your biggest problem is being stagnant in the past months.

When the Great Conjunction takes place, you may even feel an over-pondering of 'what is the purpose of my life?' conundrum. But, Roosters should expect changes, because that is what will happen for them in their career lives. Whether it's fresh new ideas or a gut feeling where they believe they should be somewhere else, doing something else. Don't overthink, you are not a pressure cooker, and instead keep focus on taking one step at a time. The alignment of the stars will have you buzzing with new ideas. For matters of the heart, things could have seemed sort of stuck in the past, but quit worrying your little mind, because things are about to turn right around. In the upcoming months, you will make smarter decisions and revel in all the benefits which will follow.



DOG YANG EARTH



YEAR OF BIRTH

1910

1922

1934

1946

1958

1970

1982

1994

2006

2018

Those who are of the Dog animal are people who are rather confident-in-self and have strong personalities.

They're even accurate most of the time. However, with the Great Conjunction happening, there will be a change in how Dogs relate to others. You will find yourself transforming and challenged to further assimilate with the people who surround you. As much as you cherish individuality, you would need to share yourself with others and learn to work with a team, as a means to accomplish everything you've got planned for the upcoming year. The Great Conjunction will certainly work in favour for you, but the question is, which areas of life would you want to see growth in? Love or Career? Nevertheless, keep in mind that whatever you put your mind to, the chances are success. It would very much appear that the stars (and planets) have your back;)







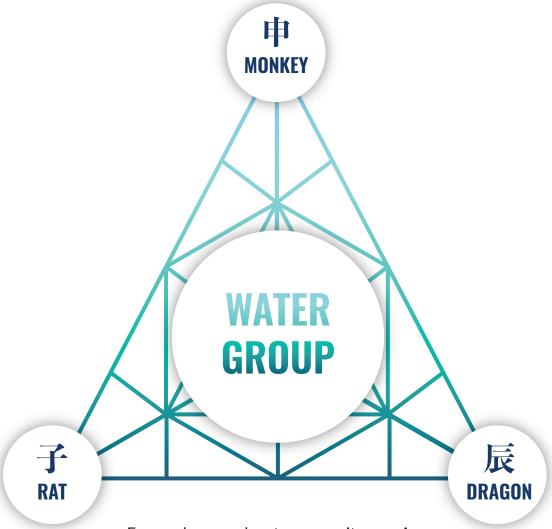
YEAR OF BIRTH

Pigs will feel the vibrational energy under the conjunction and it will awaken their natural mystical side.

You will experience big shifts to the way you view things, whether it may be spiritually or religious beliefs. Remember to keep your feet firm on the ground as you will be presented with great opportunities and support from others, to make your dreams come true. Pigs are water signs, so you may be feeling a tad bit uncomfy in the beginning, from all the wood and earth energies swirling in the cosmos. But, this is also a door to self-improvement and embracing your light, much fun side, open and walk through it. In the next two months, you should expect unexpected growth in both your personal and professional life.

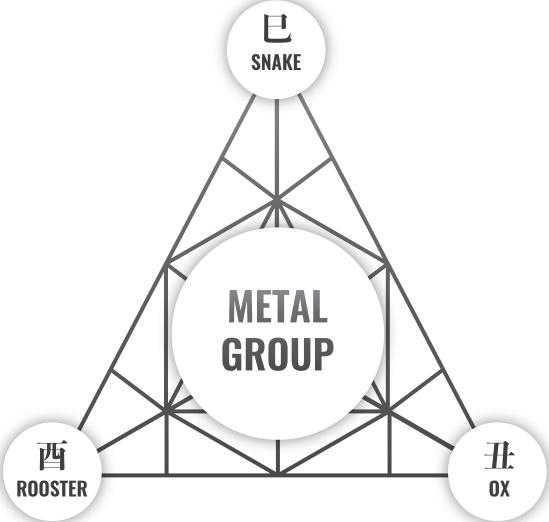
HOW THE 4 ELEMENTS WILL BE AFFECTED BY THE GG





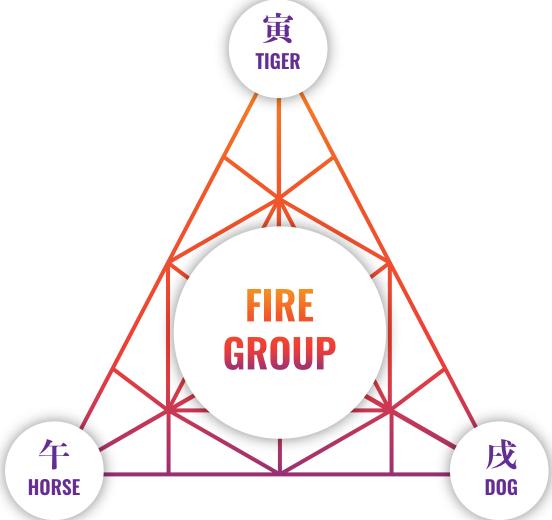
Fun and new adventures await you. A new look, new destinations, new people in your life, new creative projects or even a new trip can lead to huge insights. If you have been playing it safe and small, this new energy will help you dream bigger than you have in ages, but things can get uncomfortable should you be conservative. You will be surprised with just how much you receive if you are just willing to be bolder. Treat the process like an adventure (maybe treasure hunting). Old patterns, routines will be broken and new beginnings will occur. Are you afraid, or excited?





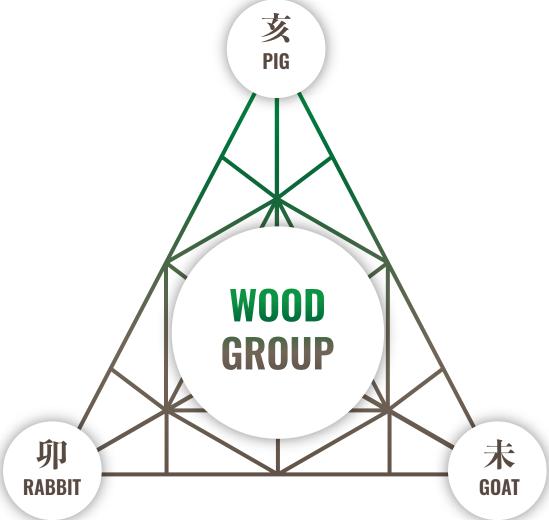
Your career will take a huge leap forward. New positions will be available, but you would require more courage to step up, whether it's from a raise, a new position or lots of good reputation. The Great Conjunction can raise your popularity and your profile. It will give you the authority and recognition you deserve. But will you be scared to live up to it? Growth helps you get more prestigious gigs/roles which will affect your career for many years to come. You would need to get out of your comfort zone to truly appreciate the benefits. You will need to have substance on which you build your good name. But if you don't, simply yap and are too afraid to move forward, this astronomical phenomenon will herald a very difficult as well as painful time for you.





Your relationships and networks are about to shift. New people are coming in so that the old can move out. Better relationships, networks and connections are coming your way. The Great Conjunction will help you find your kindred spirits, in a new social circle. If you want to learn, a mentor or nobleman will be in sight. If you need to open up doors, a new connection can be established. But, these will only happen if you extend your hand and be willing to connect. Some people come into your life to teach you, and these are one of those times. Question is, are you open to learning, or too egotistical to do so? Be open to learning from the people you admire and don't be shy about asking them for help. You could even help others transform their lives by lending a hand when they need it. Share your story, knowledge and be helpful to others.





Healing is coming your way. Under the influence of the Great Conjunction, you'll rethink what you share with others versus what you keep to yourself. Healing can take place where once there was hurt, but you have to be willing to let go and be open to change. Learn to understand and redirect your emotions. Your heart will feel more whole than it has felt in a long time. There will be a possibility of moving to a new place which will feel like a sanctuary, and maybe even find a lover with whom you can be vulnerable, share your love or even start a new spiritual journey with. This conjunction will teach you that it's safe to open up and learn to trust again.

THE STAR OF BETHLENE



The Great Transformation, or **Great Conjunction** which happens every 20 years in frequency and 400 years in proximity, has also often been likened to the mighty and well-known **Star of Bethlehem**.

Some time ago, during the period when the infant Jesus was born, 3 wise men, from Babylon, travelled to Jerusalem and Bethlehem to visit the child, who would then come to be known as the Saviour of the world. They were said to travel by foot all the way to his birthplace in a manger, merely from the guidance of a bright star in the sky, known as the Star of Bethlehem.

Since being interlinked, astronomers have come far and wide to decipher the words in the Gospel of Matthew, from the bible. There has been speculation as to what that bright light in the sky could have been, and even if the Magi were astronomers themselves, from being able to understand the cosmos.

According to Matthew, the Magi saw the astronomical event as a foretelling of Christ's birth. There has been debate among scholars as to the historical accuracy of the event. Was it all just a bit of pious allegory to show that the destiny of Jesus was written in the stars? Or were the theories justified?



A few assumptions which came up with regards to what was it which guided the Magi to baby Jesus were:

HELIACAL RISING (螺旋升頂)

A heliacal rising happens just before sunrise, when a constellation or star (planet) appears in the sky. For example, the first appearance of the Metal Star (Venus) as the morning star. By itself, the star wouldn't have been significant, but when paired with another bright star, such as the Wood Star (Jupiter), it made sense. A theory explored, this was said to have occurred around the time of 2BC, but King Herod was predicted to have died in 4BC, meaning this option was probably less likely.

A COMET (彗星)

Comets are essentially spectacular and ethereal in appearance, or in lay people terms, 'big dirty snowballs flying through space'. When they come close to the Sun, the ice melts, and the solar wind blows this material out into space. A tail of matter comes off the comet, and it is then pointed away from the Sun. Astronomers noted that a comet which happened in 5BC was in the Southern sky as seen from Jerusalem, with the head of the comet close to the horizon and the tail pointing vertically upward. However, the writers of the Gospel of Matthew would have known the difference between a comet and a star, and specifically noted the event as a star, if it had been one. Besides that, comets were also known to bring bad omens instead of good ones. So this possibility was also very much unlikely.

A NOVA

A Nova is the birth of a new star, and new stars are oftentimes brighter than the Metal Star (Venus) or the Wood Star (Jupiter) in the sky. Those who did believe this theory, stated that this new star would have been positioned directly above Jerusalem, and was how the Magi followed it. However, a nova would have left a remnant which could be observed, as Novas often do. But there wasn't one which was dated to the time of Jesus, so nope, probably not this too.



A TRIPLE CONJUNCTION

A triple conjunction was an event in which the two stars (planets), Wood Star (Jupiter) and the Earth Star (Saturn), would meet in the sky three times, in a short period. It would happen when there was an alignment between the Sun, the Earth, the Wood Star and Earth Star. The occurrence is tremendously striking and has also said to be one which only happens every 900 years. So, many believed that if it happened in Babylon 2000 years ago, it would have been very significant, and possible.

Based on all the assumptions which the astronomers studied, the best possibility of what the Star of Bethlehem was, was probably a triple conjunction. It was after all, the most likely and viable explanation for the occurrence 2000 years ago.





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