

# Confrontation and Empowerment: Expressions of Saturn & Lilith in Capricorn

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## Introduction



The first term of 2018 was astrologically marked by several planets traversing the sign of Capricorn, figuratively represented by the mountain goat with fish feet. Mars, during his passage at the beginning of the year, made a conjunction with and activated Pluto, who has been in this sign since 2008. The zodiacal warrior also activated Saturn, newly arrived in the tenth sign of the Zodiac, of which he is the ruler, on 21 December 2017.

However, in 2018 the transits for this sign were not only made of masculine energy. Between November 2017 and August 2018, Lilith also transited through Capricorn, where she is dignified and reaches a position as a guest of honor. What energies have been activated by these transits? How do they influence the collective and the personal spheres? How can we interpret the results of these transits in the social sphere?

In this study, we focus on some perceptible points of the passage of these two energies - Saturn and Lilith - through this zodiacal segment and compare the possible consequences of these transits, on both collective and individual levels. After all, the two "archetypes of the shadow," in Jungian terms, probably have more to tell us about their stay in Capricorn than a hasty analysis could reveal to us. The objective is to analyze how these energies can articulate during their passage through Capricorn and what impacts they can bring to the human psyche at the collective level.

For this, we briefly summarize the archetypes in question, analyze the behavior of each one of them in Capricorn and move on to the analysis of the influences that both can create from this Capricorn transit in 2018, based on three current examples: The murder of Councilwoman Marielle Franco in Rio de Janeiro on March 14, the approval of the referendum on abortion in Ireland on May 26, and the approval of the legalization of abortion by the Argentine Chamber of Deputies on June 14 - followed by the rejection of the matter by the Argentine Senate at the exact time of Lilith's entry into Aquarius (Aug. 8).

## 1 Saturn at home: discipline and authority

The arrival of Saturn to the sign of Capricorn in December 2017 was followed by several analyses that pointed to the upsurge of conservatism and the dangers of excessive seriousness and ambition. If Saturn is the organizer of our concrete yet internal experience, the widespread fear of his methods, which promote learning through suffering, has been exalted by astrologers and feared by clients seeking astrological guidance. Almost total lay friends in Astrology asked me frightened how they could pass through the transit of Saturn in Capricorn without suffering many setbacks, which demonstrates the power of these images in the collective.

Among astrologers, there is already almost a consensus that Saturn can be viewed both as a heavy burden and as a solid foundation for skill development and learning<sup>(1)</sup>. In other words, the experiences provided by this planet can create constructive or obstructive structures, serving as a springboard or a barrier to personal growth. The demand for concentration, responsibility and focus to obtain concrete results in the different areas of life through which Saturn passes may be a proof considered almost insurmountable by some. In any case, the rewards are usually observed after the long, arduous and complex process of work and effort.

Assuming the role of Grand Master, of the fallen angel who plays an educational role<sup>(2)</sup>, of the critical father<sup>(3)</sup> or of the SUPEREGO<sup>(4)</sup>, Saturn leads to an isolation in those areas where he is transiting in the natal chart. In transit, it brings the quality of the maturation time of the issues that are in motion in each house. The "Lord of Time" closes the cycles, clears up the mess, throws away what no longer

serves a purpose and which is accumulated in the corners gathering dust. As Arroyo points out, the planet makes evident the importance of time for the internal process to be fully realized, especially because it presents a high educational potential, specifically in relation to patience, moderation, temperance, duty and work.

Liz Greene mentions Jung in his approach to Psychological Astrology, stating that Saturn represents the SHADOW, that is, the characteristics that we have and that the superego tries to hide at all cost, and therefore end up being projected onto the other [\(5\)](#). Somehow, therefore, the challenge of Saturn is in the lessons that the subject needs to learn in order to fully develop from the psychological point of view. More than establishing true external limitations, therefore, Saturn projects the contents that are present inside the individual onto external reality, so that he himself can develop all his potential.

Upon reaching the sign it governs, the planet can show itself in all its fullness. Feeling comfortable in the Capricorn territory, Saturn has space (and time!) to work on the themes of materialization, ambition, discipline, authority and social recognition. Objectivity, focus on results, reason, prudence, solidity and an unbreakable determination emerge naturally in this territory. The Amaltheia goat, which Jupiter fed himself in the time he grew up until he was old enough to dethrone his father [\(6\)](#) Saturn, according to the myth, symbolizes perseverance.

Capricorn is the archetype, therefore, of pragmatic and rational behavior, organized, stable and determined towards the goals set. Responsibilities, especially public or with others, and duty, as well as honor, are Capricorn themes. Authority, seriousness and public recognition of these qualities appear to be essential.

If taken to extremes, however, these characteristics can lead to authoritarianism, in an attempt at total control over others and the situations experienced, in the inflexibility and narrowness of horizons. Effort is praised over talent, the fulfillment of duties is always more important than pleasure, emotional rigidity does not tolerate challenges to one's own values, the different does not fit into the pragmatism and utilitarianism of the routines designed to achieve the goals. After all, what Saturn fears the most is the possibility of public derision, so zeal for his own image and respect for his own authority can become a Capricorn obsession.

## 2 Wild Dignity: objectivity and maturity

If Saturn represents contention, continuity, structure, slowness, authority, effort, reason and, why not, the masculine, the other archetype that we analyze in this work - Lilith, or the Black Moon [\(7\)](#) – speaks of rebellion, rupture, chaos, immediacy, freedom, pleasure, emotion. In a word: the feminine. Through the dichotomy between Lilith and Saturn, the complexity of the human psyche is perceived.

Lilith, with all her savagery and insubordination, also transited through Capricorn throughout the first half of 2018 (more precisely, from November 2017 to August 2018). In the nine months she spent in the sign where she is dignified, she also brought to the surface contents of the unconscious, the archetypal shadow that affects all humans, individually or collectively.

Adam's first woman, raised together in what became known as the "primordial man," Lilith would have questioned the fact that she always stayed down during intercourse, demanding a more equal treatment for her sexual desires and impulse, according to the myth. According to Hurwitz, part of the Jewish tradition and also of the Sumerian tradition, as well as the Babylonian myth of Lilith, is connected to the archetype of the Great Female, which includes the great mother and the seductive Anima. The articulation of this myth in the psyche of contemporary subjects translates a universal problem, according to the author: the confrontation with the dark feminine.

Sicuteri, on the other hand, informs us that the myth contains, briefly, the entire historical process of repression of the characteristics attributed to this wild feminine - or, from a psychological perspective, to the deep unconscious. As Engelhard describes it:





*Lilith, therefore, is always (re)actualizing herself in the search to rebalance, within the cultural self, the unilateral deviations caused to the subjective, to the intuitive, by the repressive force of the patriarchal dynamism. It erupts like a volcano, which casts its incandescent lava and black smoke at great distances, causing astonishment, shock, suffering, fear and pain, causing a rare spectacle of beauty and fear, but also renewing, transforming and fertilizing the world around it, removing what it oppresses and paralyzes(8).*

For Barbara Koltuv(9), Lilith, therefore, is always (re)actualizing herself in the search to rebalance, within the cultural self, the unilateral deviations caused to the subjective, to the intuitive, by the repressive force of the patriarchal dynamism. It erupts like a volcano, which casts its incandescent lava and black smoke at great distances, causing astonishment, shock, suffering, fear and pain, causing a rare spectacle of beauty and fear, but also renewing, transforming and fertilizing the world around it, removing what it oppresses and paralyzes(10), both authors affirm the importance of the process of bringing Lilith to consciousness, to integrate it into lived experience. As Koltuv points out, Lilith is the instinctive, primal level of life, biological, vital aspect(11).

Deeply connected to the sensual expression of desires and impulses, of bodily sensations, Lilith can be seen as the female counterpart of Saturn, despite the antagonisms mentioned between the two archetypes. There is an affinity between the two, as Delphine Jay points out, for whom "both represent disciplinary circumstances that force realistic attitudes: the first emotionally, the second materially. (...) Lilith's effect limits negative emotionalism, just as Saturn limits the disorganization of material issues. Both are control factors at the deepest level"(12).

The author highlights that, from a collective and social point of view, Lilith's demands consist of a period of an impersonal approach to life. If there is emotional immaturity of the person, the pattern represents the denial of discipline. On the other hand, on a more positive level of awareness and operation of this energy, there is the possibility of mental, intellectual and artistic impulses in a deeply creative approach(13).

While the Moon, or White Moon, is domiciled in Cancer, Lilith is dignified exactly in Capricorn. According to Jay, the positioning of this archetypal point in the chart represents where and through which energies we manifest emotional objectivity or lack thereof. Thus, if operated on a "naive" level, according to the author, Lilith's energy becomes disruptive, destructive, frustrating. However, if there is sufficient awareness of her and greater emotional maturity, her creative and motivational potential can be expressed with ease(14).

Emotional maturity and detachment, objectivity and direction of vital energy are characteristics found in Capricorn. The fact that Lilith is dignified in the same sign that is ruled by Saturn is, therefore, another factor of approximation between the two archetypes.

### 3 Possibilities for integration or confrontation?

Whether from a spiritual or mythological point of view, or through the psychological approach, the relationship between these two energies can give rise to a process of conscious integration of dual aspects of the unconscious. The essential point is the need for conscious acceptance of the shadow, on its feminine and masculine faces, so that the characteristics are totally integrated into the psyche and can constitute the subject in its totality. I believe that this possibility of integration was amplified when the two were transiting at the same time in Capricorn.

Tom Jacobs points out that female energy is therefore interested, focused and concentrated on BEING. "It brings the experience for itself and knows the world for itself." While male energy DOES, since it is interested, focused and concentrated on CONTROL and DIRECTION. So, "shape the feminine



energy. "In this way, the masculine observes the feminine as something out of control, energy without focus, unproductive, and seeks to give an instruction, structure, discipline and basis to this energy that simply is [\(16\)](#).

If saturnine energies have, among other functions, to shape and constructively channel Lilith's disruptive energies, in what other sign would this be better executed than in the persistent and disciplined Capricorn? In what other position could Saturn be so firm in its purpose as to provide viable options of action for Lilith's rebellious creative energy?

In turn, if it is up to Lilith to break the resistances and inhibitions of Saturn, in order to amplify the spontaneity of the subject's psychological expressions, where would she be safer than in the sign where she is dignified, because she is in her "natural" point of dominion, the summit in relation to the Earth? As Jacobs points out, agreeing with Jay, when she is in Capricorn, Lilith emphasizes the function of maturation, not only in relation to work, but also in the way things should be done. The purpose of this position is to develop a firm and stable relationship with one's own instincts [\(17\)](#).

During Lilith's passage through Capricorn, accompanied by Saturn, who remains there until 2020, we witnessed a social effervescence of discussions on feminine and feminist themes, women's rights and issues related to sexuality, such as abortion and acceptance of the diversity of sexual expression.

Three paradigmatic cases of this theme are analyzed below. The first of these is the popular approval of the right to abortion in Ireland on May 26, through a referendum that achieved more than 60% of votes in favor. With a strong Catholic tradition, the country had been discussing the issue for years, and from the joint mobilization of dozens of entities and social movements linked to the issue, finally the approval of abortion was embodied in a formal political decision - in the form of authority, therefore. In this example, we can see the creative force of the feminine who does not accept to submit to an authority external to her own body succeeding in breaking the rigidity and saturnine authoritarianism based on tradition and the deeply patriarchal institutions that are the Catholic Church, Justice and Parliament.

In the chart of the referendum, which considers the time of disclosure of the result, in Dublin (18h17), Pluto (21°01' Capricorn) is with Lilith (22°04') in House III, where Saturn (8°00' Capricorn) and Mars (3°46' Aquarius) are as well. It can be seen, therefore, that Lilith's insubordination and creative capacity were directed towards pragmatic and collective purposes by Plutonian and Saturnine energies, closely related to unconscious impulses and to themes that are considered social taboos. Saturn is in almost exact opposition to Venus (8°33' Cancer) in House IX, indicating that values connected to the feminine can reach the political and philosophical sphere, and the institutions themselves, which end up influenced by a world view from a perspective of women's autonomy.

An interesting point is that the campaign in favor of abortion rights highlighted the testimonies of women who went through the experience in a traumatic way. The discussion was stimulated by a recent case of death of a 17-year-old adolescent, prevented by the legal system of that country from having an abortion. Venus in Cancer in House III probably emphasized the discourse of empathy and care that opposes prejudice against women who suffer abortion, just as Saturn contributed to the legal formalization of public opinion, while Mars in House III helped in the efficient communication of new values for the collective. The Moon (1°57' Scorpio) together with the ASC (2°23') and in opposition to Uranus (0°34" Taurus) also shows the strength of feminine autonomy and of the decision about one's own body as an instrument of profound change in social directions.

The second case analyzed is the approval by the Argentine Chamber of Deputies of the bill legalizing abortion in Argentina on June 14. After 23 hours of session, the proposal was adopted by 129 votes to 125 with one abstention. Of these votes, 50 Argentine women parliamentarians voted in favor and 49 against, which shows the division of opinion on the subject. At the time of approval, thousands of women celebrated the decision in the streets of Buenos Aires [\(18\)](#).

The chart analyzed is that of the time when the decision was rendered (9:52 a.m.), with the counting of the votes of the parliamentarians. Unlike the Irish case, in Argentina it was the legislators who were responsible for the approval. Pluto (20°40' Capricorn) remained together with Lilith (24°09'), but this time both joined the DC (19°31' Capricorn) to emphasize the weight of the other in individual decisions,





revealed by the male votes that defined the vote. Mars in Aquarius in House VII (8°18') indicates that the moment of action was that, and the face-to-face commemoration of the thousands of women shows the physical manifestation, in the form of a crowd, of female autonomy. Saturn positioned in House VI (6°48' Capricorn) reveals that the process of construction of the proposal by the Legislative House, which lasted 13 years, was long, laborious and demanded effort from those involved in the decision. Also noteworthy is the opposition of Moon and Mercury, sets in Cancer in House XII (3°28' and 3°33', respectively), to Saturn. Emotion and

rationality, affection and the ability to communicate come together in a pragmatic deliberation that involves and brings to the surface different aspects and traumas of the collective unconscious, among them the memory about the adoption of children of activists murdered during the dictatorship by the military.

The third case analyzed occurred on March 14 in Rio de Janeiro and poses a threat to female authority and public recognition of women who are prominent on the national scene. This is the murder of Councillor Marielle Franco, in Rio de Janeiro, in March 2018. Here, one perceives the shadow manifesting itself in all its strength, with the silencing of a discordant voice and traditionally relegated to a position of social inferiority that obtained recognition in political life, a space traditionally and mostly occupied by men. The denial of the prominence and public status of authority to a black woman - that is, doubly stigmatized - is done through the greatest violence that can be suffered by a human being: murder.

The chart of the moment of the crime, estimated at 9:30 pm, has Saturn (8°13'), Lilith (14°00') and Pluto (20°55') positioned in Capricorn. Saturn and Lilith are in House II, accompanied by Mars in Sagittarius (28°28'). Pluto is already in House III, and the worldwide visibility of this crime should be highlighted, which led to reactions from foreign organizations and governments for the investigation and punishment of the culprits. Violence against women and femicide are issues present in the daily lives of many countries, especially in Brazil, for centuries. There's nothing new about that. However, I believe that this example MATERIALIZES Lilith's taboo so vehemently and acutely that the global repercussions are more than justified. The fact that the North Node is conjunct the MC in Leo (14°30' and 14°24', respectively) supports this interpretation. Perhaps the only collective learning of such a terrible fact is the public repercussions that can motivate some social change, such as the increase in the number of female candidates in the 2018 elections.

For no other reason, in fact, the persecutory and defamatory reactions against the victim remained on social networks and in places of public opinion for several days after her death. The reaction of the shadow archetype of Saturn (House II) and Pluto (House III) in Capricorn was so violent that the physical death of a body considered as threatening to patriarchal social structures was not enough, because it was sexually free and politically empowered. A torrent of cursing, criticism and slander - most of them regarding her physical appearance, sexual expression, social origin and political positions - was poured onto Marielle's lifeless inert body, which embodied Lilith with all the power that the archetype could give her.

Sexually free, autonomous, powerful, intelligent, beautiful, of poor origin, black: her identity represented much more transgression than Saturn and Pluto, embedded in the values, and the Brazilian public opinion, mostly male, could bear. In this case, the abortion proposed by Lilith did not come as an aggressive possibility of choice for oppressed bodies: it came as a violent interruption of a life process and creation of new identities that promised much fruit.



#### 4 Brief concluding remarks

The three examples analyzed demonstrate the possibilities of materialization brought by Lilith's transit in Capricorn. It is possible to identify in them the shadow and the most destructive aspects that a clash between Lilith and Saturn can bring, while at the same time showing the creative possibilities that a

mature encounter between them would achieve. Lilith's transit through Capricorn had its amplitude elevated with the presence of Saturn, raised to a collective world scale, in both situations described.

In the national case, the power of the masculine has been imposed through brutal violence, which generally reveals a deep imbalance between feminine and masculine<sup>(19)</sup>.

In the Irish case, the realization of women's rights has promoted the empowerment of women in a highly traditional and patriarchal society through a discourse based on the qualities of the feminine represented by Lilith: empathy, sensitivity, autonomy of the body, respect for female sexuality, acceptance of women's pleasure and freedom.

The Argentine case is more ambiguous. Just as there was the possibility of empowering women and their autonomy, the holding of the debate internally in parliament, with great pressure from the Catholic Church - which is the highest authority in Argentina - and the refusal of the Senate to approve the legislative change shows the power of saturnine structures to conduct and shape public opinion. The pressure of unconscious internal tensions was also present, highlighting the debate on the adoption in the (dark) times of the Military Dictatorship.

The internal confrontation with Lilith can transform her, teaches Hurwitz. The internal dialogue begins and the archetype loses some of its darkness, compulsion and savagery. I think that's also the case at the team level. The maturity demanded by Capricorn means the detachment of internal motivations in the Cancerian way. In other words, it demands that the subject detach themselves from their own emotional perspective, giving an objective place to the other in their considerations. This movement seems to have been achieved by the Irish and Argentinian collectives to some extent by seeking empathy and negotiation with the male side, but still seems far from hegemonic on the Brazilian scene.

I want to emphasize that a constructive relationship between the archetypes of Saturn and Lilith can lead to the integration of two essential dimensions of the human psyche: the masculine disciplinarian, who is interested in growth, and the feminine wild, who loves creative expression. At the same time, if the conscious, whether collective or individual, denies the reconstruction effort demanded by this process, persisting in an emotional perspective of disintegration and opposition of these two dimensions of the shadow, the result can be catastrophic for the psyche itself. And also for society.