

TREASURY HORROR- SCOPE

Our resident stargazer has some timely zodiacal advice for treasurers



ILLUSTRATION: IAN DICKS

Aquarius: 20 Jan to 18 Feb
Liquidity-conscious Aquarians should be selling everything. Absolutely everything. Today, now, before markets get even worse. If markets dip, sell everything you own. If they bounce, sell anything you don't own. Let those foolhardy Leos have it all.

Pisces: 19 Feb to 20 Mar
A great month for eager-to-please Piscean treasurers to reach out and form value-adding relationships with the CFO, business unit managers, non-executive directors and a whole range of other stakeholders. They want to work with you, not against you. All you have to do is ask them nicely.

Aries: 21 Mar to 19 Apr
This is the month to walk into your CFO's office and ask what his or her succession plans are. Don't knock, just walk in.

Taurus: 20 Apr to 20 May
Planet Jupiter is square with Taurus at the moment. What better excuse for Taurean treasurers to go rampaging about the place like bulls in a china shop, proclaiming

themselves Gods of Finance. Go for it!

Gemini: 21 May to 20 Jun
This is a great time for Geminis to ensure that the treasury strategy and the business strategy are totally aligned. Two halves of the same whole. But don't change the treasury strategy: instead, tell the rest of the business to fit in with what treasury is doing. They will thank you later.

Cancer: 21 Jun to 22 Jul
Markets are going sideways. Let those pathetic Aquarians and Leos slug it out. This is not your battle.

Leo: 23 Jul to 22 Aug
Buy everything, lionheart! Be brave! You're in it for the long haul, so buy in rising markets, buy even more in falling markets. Buy the lot. Borrow as much as you can and buy, buy, buy. Take those wimpish Aquarians for everything they've got.

Virgo: 23 Aug to 22 Sept
With the threat of a new euro crisis, UK election uncertainty, wobbly economies in Asia, Russia

in meltdown and the prospect of a new Washington fiscal cliff as Obama faces Capitol Hill stalemate, risk-averse Virgo treasurers are officially permitted to spend the entire month in bed. Stay home, lock the doors and windows, draw the curtains, unplug the television and pull the duvet up over your head. No, really.

Libra: 23 Sept to 22 Oct
Librans like things to be in perfect balance. This is not going to be your month. Your treasury management system is going to randomly delete the digit '6' wherever it occurs. Try not to cry.

Scorpio: 23 Oct to 21 Nov
The CFO, business unit managers, non-executive directors and a whole range of other irritating stakeholders will pester you this month about how they can form value-adding relationships with treasury. As a Scorpio, you have a sting in your tail. Use it.

Sagittarius: 22 Nov to 21 Dec
For focused, goal-oriented Sagittarians, this will be a

great month to invest in a new 'state-of-the-art' treasury management system with all the bells and whistles. But then, isn't every month? Besides, the system you bought six months ago is now obsolete. You deserve the best. Go on, treat yourself.

Capricorn: 22 Dec to 19 Jan

Some people see goat-like stubbornness as a weakness. Capricorns see it as a strength – especially this month when every Tom, Dick and Harry banker, tax adviser and IT consultant will be queuing up outside your door to sell you their latest snake oil. Just say no. After all, it's your favourite word. ♠



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