

## FEATURE STORIES

### Giant python: Indonesians eat huge snake after man defeats



**reptile** A giant python in Indonesia met an unfortunate end when it was eaten after it lost a battle with a local man. Security guard Robert Nababan encountered the snake on a palm oil plantation road in Sumatra's Batang Gansal district on Saturday. Mr Nababan tried to catch the python, reports say, which was 7.8m (26ft) long. It attacked him, and man and reptile fought until Mr Nababan killed it with the help of some villagers. The guard survived with serious injuries. The python was not as lucky as Mr

Nababan - its body was strung up for display at a village, before it was chopped up, fried and eaten. Mr Nababan told Indonesian news outlet Detik: "I tried to catch it, my hand was bitten, and I managed to wrestle it." The 37-year-old did not give an exact reason for why he tried to catch the python, but said there were villagers who could not cross the road because of the snake. Varying reports say he was either trying to keep scared villagers safe or that he wanted to clear the road. Local police told AFP news agency that the python had sunk its fangs into the guard's left arm and nearly severed it. He was taken to a hospital in Pekanbaru city, where he is still recovering, said Elinaryon, head of the Batang Gansal district government. The official, who like many Indonesians goes by one name, told the BBC that Mr Nababan's hand was badly injured and that doctors "might have to cut it off". "Really tasty! He said giant pythons were common in his area, a remote district of Sumatra. "[There are] at least 10 sightings of them a year. In the dry season they come out looking for a drink, in the wet they come out to take a bath in the rain." "There are usually lots of mice in the palm oil plantations and that's what they are hunting." Mr Elinaryon said it was inadvisable for people to tackle the giant reptiles. "You really shouldn't try to do that... of course the snake, if you try and kill it, is going to get really angry and that's when it fights back!" He was not surprised that the python was eaten. "I have heard from friends that they are really tasty. I mean it's a 7m snake - that's a lot of meat!" "The blood, some people believe, has healing qualities and can be used in medicine." In March another encounter with a giant snake turned out differently, when an Indonesian villager was found dead in the belly of a python. *BBC*

### Las Vegas shooting: Paddock's girlfriend denies knowledge of attack

The girlfriend of the Las Vegas gunman who shot dead 58 people on Sunday has said she had no idea what her "kind, caring, quiet" partner was planning. Marilou Danley's comments came hours before police suggested Stephen Paddock had been living "a secret life". They said he may have been planning to escape instead of shooting himself dead, but did not give further details. It is not yet known why he opened fire on an open-air concert, committing the worst shooting in modern US history. But he said Paddock's motivations and whether there were any possible accomplices remained a mystery. The FBI's Aaron Rouse said so far no link to terrorism had been found but they would continue to "look at all avenues" without "closing any doors" because it was "an ongoing investigation". "We don't understand it yet," Sheriff Lombardo told reporters, but questioned whether he could have accomplished his plan by himself. "You've got to make the assumption he had to have some help at some point," he said. Ms Danley, who spoke to the FBI on Wednesday, expressed shock at the "horrible unspeakable acts of violence" Paddock had committed. US authorities named Ms Danley a "person of interest" in their investigation and said they had made contact with her shortly after the shooting. Ms Danley voluntarily flew back to Los Angeles from the Philippines on Tuesday night to speak to the FBI, just over two weeks after Paddock had surprised her with a "cheap ticket" to enable her to visit her family. While there, he wired her \$100,000 (£75,400), explaining it was to buy a house. "I was grateful, but honestly I was worried it was a way for him to break up with me," she said. "It never occurred to me in any way whatsoever that he was planning violence against anyone." Her sister earlier told Australian outlet 7News that Ms Danley "was sent away... so that she will not be there to interfere with what he's planning". Paddock checked into a suite in the Mandalay Bay Hotel on 28 September, reportedly using some of Ms Danley's identity documents. US President Donald Trump, who visited the city on Wednesday, said "America is truly a nation in mourning" in the wake of the mass killings. Hundreds of people were injured in the attack. President Trump praised the emergency services who battled to save as many as they could, despite the danger to themselves. "When the worst of humanity strikes - and strike it did - the best of humanity responds," he said as he applauded injured officers. "In the depths of horror, we will always find hope in the men and women who risk their lives for ours," he added. Mr Trump said he was in the "company of heroes" after visiting the first responders. "Words cannot describe the bravery that the whole world witnessed on Sunday night," he said. "Americans defied death and hatred with love and with courage." Will the attack prompt more demand for gun control? The shooting has prompted calls for reform to US gun laws. *BBC*



## HOROSCOPE - NOVEMBER 2017

### ARIES: BIRTHDAYS FROM 21 MARCH to 20 APRIL

**General Highlights:** Oh boy, is November an exciting month for you! The planets are transiting in your deepest houses this month, and it is time for a change. Get ready, Aries. You are in for a wild ride! Jupiter has finally settled into his position in your eighth house of transformation and regeneration, and will stay here until next November of 2018. This is a serious time of death and rebirth. While "death" may not mean physical death around you, a spiritual or emotional death is in the air. You may be holding onto ideas or things from the past that the Universe wants you to let go of. With Jupiter, the house of good fortune, in this particular house, you will be able to see how quickly you can bounce back. Understand that Jupiter in the eighth house is an excellent omen, yet a time of great change. What are the big aspects in your life right now? What are your core beliefs about yourself and others? If there are old energies, over the next year, you will be releasing them and entering into a time of renewal.



### TAURUS: FROM 21 APRIL to 21 MAY

**General Highlights:** Dear Taurus, your November will be quite an interesting month. The majority of the planets are in your upper half of the hemisphere, signifying a serious focus on a career in your professional sector. You will also enjoy a plentiful love life, given that Venus enters your seventh house during the month. While you will be enjoying the fruits of your labor in a financial sense, it is important that you pay attention to your health this month, as you may experience small bouts of illness throughout coming days. Overall, Taurus, you are in for another excellent month, thanks to these lucky planetary alignments! On the 6th, Mercury enters your eighth house of transformation and renewal. Mercury, your communication and financial planet, will encourage you to reevaluate the ways in which you manage your finances.



### GEMINI: BIRTHDAYS FROM 22 MAY to 21 JUNE

**General Highlights:** Jupiter is well into your sixth house of work and responsibilities this month and will remain here until November of 2018. He is wise and makes sure the work you are doing in your professional and personal life goes well. This kicks off your path of service and dedication throughout the entire month, dear Gemini! Venus will begin in your fifth house this month. The fifth house is the sector of self-expression and creativity. Venus here makes for a wonderful alignment, as her beautiful and vibrant energy will inspire you to be the most stunning version of yourself! Your path here is aimed towards creation in a feminine essence. Anything you touch with seemingly be more beautiful simply by your influence. Venus wants you to be as passionate in your creations as you are in your relationships. Let yourself go and express yourself to the fullest! Whatever your creative outlet is, make sure you take time every day to practice your art.



### CANCER: BIRTHDAYS FROM 22 JUNE to 23 JULY

**General Highlights:** Jupiter remains in your fifth house of freedom and self-expression, and he will be here until November of next year! You can look forward to his good fortune and intellect leading you into creative endeavors that may mean more than just artistic expression. You may find that you learn great lessons from delving deeper into your expressive nature. There is also a possibility here for your artistic passion for becoming more than just a hobby. Over the course of Jupiter's cycle in this house, you may be presented with opportunities to do your passion for monetary gains. If you have been shifting your career focus, this may be a sign for you to commit to your art as a professional path. Take your time to consider the options, and know that the Universe has your back, dear Cancer! The Sun will be in Scorpio, your fifth house, until the 22nd of this month. This alignment denotes an air of pleasure and fun. You may feel the need to go on an adventure, be silly, or do something that is a little daring!



### LEO: BIRTHDAYS FROM 24 JULY to 23 AUGUST

**General Highlights:** You will have an interesting month, dear Leo! Your energy will greatly focus on your personal life. Most of the planets are in the western portion of your chart, influencing your personal and domestic matters the most. This month also focuses on dealing with the past. The stars encourage you to examine issues in your family and close relationships, and understand how the present is a reflection of your past choices. Since last month, Jupiter has been in your fourth house of family, roots, and all things domestic. Jupiter is the planet of expansion and good fortune. He will be here until November of next year. This is an extremely lucky alignment for you. This planet influences your desires to grow your family unit and get back in touch with where you came from. This will inspire a deeper sense of identity and a desire to move forward in some way. You may find yourself getting ready to move again, or investing in a place that will be your new home for the long-term.



### VIRGO: BIRTHDAYS FROM 24 AUGUST to 23 SEPTEMBER

**General Highlights:** Lovely Virgo, you are predicted to be quite studious and curious during the month of November! Most of the planets are shifting from the eastern to the western part of your chart, and this is an opportunity to delve into more intellectual pursuits. Jupiter remains in your third house until next November. Jupiter is the planet of good fortune. In the third house of communication, you are strongly influenced by the intellectual drive. You may crave learning something new and challenging. It's not uncommon for Jupiter in this house to encourage people to learn a foreign language. You may also become involved in writing, reading, research, and heavy analyzing of a specific subject matter. This could present itself within your professional sector, but as this sector remains empty all month, these pursuits will most likely take place during your free time. Because Jupiter brings his good luck with him.



### LIBRA: BIRTHDAYS FROM 24 SEPTEMBER to 23 OCTOBER

**General Highlights:** Jupiter has been in your second house since last month and will be there until November of 2018. You might as well be swimming in money! Jupiter brings his good fortune with him into this house of values and finances. You will see extraordinary monetary gains throughout the year. While you may not be seeing anything coming in quite yet, the planets are making this happen for you behind the scenes. Pluto, your financial planet, is moving forward and has been since September. This only adds to your luck in finances and income. You are one lucky Libra for the next year! Venus starts off in the first house at the beginning of the month. The first house is where your identity and personality reside. You will notice that you emphasize beauty overall, and aim to please those around you. While you may feel a little vain this month, Venus is also your planetary ruler and she would never lead you astray from your truth!



### SCORPIO: BIRTHDAYS FROM 24 OCTOBER to 22 NOVEMBER

**General Highlights:** Dearest Scorpio, this month is quite fabulous for you! Many planets are in your sign at some point during the month, and you can look forward to feeling on top of the world in many aspects. Any planet in your first house shapes your personality in a big way. You are even more yourself this month for sure! This includes the emotional drama of being a Scorpio, but there are many positive attributes to these ups and downs. Jupiter has been in your sign since last month, and he will remain here until November of next year. Jupiter in Scorpio is passionate and intense. You may even feel more psychic or tap into your intuitive abilities at this time. You will attract people from all walks of life who are in need of guidance and healing. While your intensity of emotion remains fierce, Jupiter ensures good luck in your emotional ups and downs. You will benefit greatly from allowing emotional and spiritual transitions to happen, and trust that the Universe is on your side!



### SAGITTARIUS: BIRTHDAYS FROM 23 NOVEMBER to 23 DECEMBER

**General Highlights:** The Sun begins in your twelfth house this month. The Sun, which symbolizes your ego, has an extremely interesting alignment when in the house of the subconscious. You would rather be unheard and unseen while doing good deeds and being selfless towards others. Your compassion will be called upon during this time, and you will do anything to help the ones you love. On the other end of the spectrum, the Sun enters into your sign, first house, on the 22nd of this month. The Sun in the twelfth house is the opposite of the Sun in the first house. Matters will shift from working behind the scenes to assist others helping yourself get what you want! With Aries as the ruler of the first house, his action-oriented energy will make you driven and motivated to achieve your desires. While you are very focused on yourself, try not to get too worked up about what others think of you. You are going through your own process, and the Universe supports you the whole way!



### CAPRICORN: BIRTHDAYS FROM 22 DECEMBER to 20 JANUARY

**General Highlights:** You are in for quite a serious month, dear Capricorn. Most of your planets are in the eastern hemisphere of your chart, which contains the first three and the last three houses. It is now the time to exercise your free will the most. You will be very self-motivated and assertive this month, taking action where it matters the most. Jupiter has transited into your eleventh house since last month, and he will remain here until next November of 2018. This is an auspicious alignment for you, dear Capricorn! Jupiter will work to expand your circle of friends and open you up to deeper friendships. You might find opportunities for making money by joining alliances with a friend in a skill that you both share. Your personal achievements are also important in this sector, and Jupiter assists you in fulfilling your desires for the future. You may take a sudden interest in science, especially astronomy and physics, as these are more "other-worldly" than the other hard sciences.



### AQUARIUS: BIRTHDAYS 21 JANUARY to 19 FEBRUARY

**General Highlights:** Jupiter has been in your tenth house since last month, and he will remain here until November of 2018. While this planet of good luck is in the house of career, this does not mean you will see results without putting in the effort. The theme in this alignment is that you create your own luck, and the harder you work, the more success you see. Jupiter's influence here will show you how to excel in what you are doing in your profession, but you must do the work on your own! You will be wise to include your colleagues in projects, as any luck you accumulate through your dedication will rub off on them. They will love you for it! The Sun begins in your tenth house, your career sector, this month. You will crave recognition in your job, and will work extremely hard to become more of a leader in your vocation. Your determination to succeed will be noted here by your employer.



### PISCES: BIRTHDAYS: 20 FEBRUARY to 20 MARCH

**General Highlights:** Jupiter has been in your ninth house since last month, dear Pisces. He will stay in this sector of philosophy and worldly pursuits until November of next year. With an increasing urge for freedom and expansion of cultural knowledge, you may feel inclined to book a trip soon. Travel for you may happen over the next year, so make sure to save up for your adventures! You may also be exploring new religions, cultures, and philosophies through reading and other intellectual sources. Jupiter's influence in this sector is a positive aspect. You are hungry to learn all that this world has to offer and exert your independence. Because of your desire to seek knowledge and new experiences, your enthusiasm will be contagious, and others may want to follow your lead. Your emotional and intellectual freedom can be just as liberating as your physical freedom, so be open and honest with yourself and others about your ideas. Express yourself, and swim away, dear Pisces! Venus begins in your eighth house of regeneration and transformation.



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