

A SOLAR-INFLUX PAUSE: WHAT THAT MEANS

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We are having a relatively quiet Sun these days, as the more-active sunspots have turned away from Earth and are now on the opposite side of the Sun from us. You might think we would get some relief, but not quite yet. Here is what I understand:

The solar influx from flares and CME events can be likened to the flood plain of a river after inundation, in this case by flooding our known and familiar internal landscape with change. When the Sun quiets down and the solar tides begin to recede, you might imagine things would begin to look normal again. Not so. If you have ever seen a river or stream flood, when it recedes, things are not as they were before. The flood tides remove things from one place and makes new deposits in another. Often the course of the streambed itself is altered and there is an entirely new channel. So it is with solar tides and their receding.

As the Sun quiets down for the moment and life begins to return to normal, what we see is not what we remember. Things have changed and often we can't even remember exactly how things were before the solar event began because we have changed too. We not only see new landmarks, but we probably see with new eyes, because (as often as not) it is 'we' who have changed, not just our inner landscape. The object and subject here are interdependent. In other words, both our life landscape and how we see it has changed, which makes it almost impossible to compare or remember how things used to be. We have experienced some change at our core and that changes our periphery. Very few people are aware of this kind of change, yet it happens all the time. We struggle even to get a glance at it. Get the idea?

There is an upside to when the Solar tides recede, once we accept that we can't go back to where we once were or even be sure who it was we were and what we saw before all of this change. And the upside is a surge of what we could call creativity. Perhaps it is just the sense of discovery as we come back into our normal senses and can see more clearly again.

In other words, as the solar tides recede and our mind clears so that we can make out our inner landscape once again, we start to add up all the changes we see and form an impression of what has happened. Hopefully it is more than an impression or a simple knowing that we have been through an experience. Our analytical faculties come back into play as we kind of get our arms around the whole recent experience, and begin to put it into some perspective, to see it from a distance. We start to get a handle on what we went through and develop a view or opinion. This is where the 'creativity' comes in.

Of course, all of this is very subtle, and if some of you are shaking your heads at what I write, I understand and apologize. This is something that most of us have to learn to be sensitive to, and for that to happen, you have to first hear about it. Some of you are hearing about it now,

and may (upon hearing) develop some sensitivity down the road.

As for the creativity, at the very least we are forced to be creative as we try to patch together the Humpty-Dumpty sense of our self we find, some of which may have been shattered or scattered through all the changes that have been taking place. We gradually assume some semblance of a 'normal' self once again, but there are usually (if we don't blindly ignore them) gaps in our memory that belie the differences between what we were then and what we are now. As I like to say, we agree to forget what we find just too hard (or painful) to remember. We patch our self-image together as best we can and just move on.

If this sounds a little rough or down, it is nothing new. We are used to it. There is no explaining some of the anomalies we may come across or raw references to the past that we cannot totally resolve because what we see has changed, how we see it, and even who is seeing. It does not all add up, so we just forget it and move forward with what self-assemblage we can live with, something we can stand to see in the mirror, even if it is a patchwork affair. And it is.

My point here is that when the Sun speaks, we listen, and it is a little more personal than that. The injection of change into our life, in our self, is something we have no choice in. It just comes. The kicker is that this change is an internal change that affects us directly. We change, and here is what needs to be grasped by readers.

We have no choice but to identify with the change the Sun brings as opposed to continuing to identify with who we remember as ourselves before a solar influx, because the Sun 'IS' our inner life in reality. The Sun is the truth of us and unless we ignore the truth, we will find ourselves identifying with what the sun reveals as to who we are. Because of our ignorance (our tendency to ignore change and the truth), we can discover large gaps between what is being revealed by the Sun to us and who we remember we are from the past.

This is the age-old struggle between conservative and liberal, between the status quo and change. The Sun is most liberal. It always brings change and change changes what? The status quo, by definition. When we grasp it is our own identity that is changing, we are getting a handle on the problem. As I have written for decades, this process of identification is the circulation of cosmic information that allows our universe to cohere and continue to exist. Identification is circulation, whenever we identify with anything or anyone. This is a big deal, so please do ask questions if you have any.

The quiet Sun means a chance to start to gather something from this solar experience, perhaps some distance and perspective from what we have been so wrapped up in for quite some time. And this perspective is just a pause, because the solar flare season is not over and will not be over anytime soon. Yet we can come up for air, and pull ourselves together long enough to look around and take notes. We can perhaps see something of what is happening with us, if we will look.

We are getting a break right now. And, depending on what we can see (again: if we will look),

this can be a very creative time. We can be aware of change as it happens, but we have to be aware enough to look.