



# A Realist

By:

**Ross Rugdee**

My choice of studying accountancy probably stems from the fact that I pride myself in being a realist. Since young, I always made sure to have a game plan set before I dive head into any challenges. Many have told me that inside this youthful body of mine hides the mind of

an old man. Sure, I enjoy myself in activities that warrant a good sense of humour and free spirit, but when it comes to the reality of life, I'd rather be prepared.

Perhaps this manner of thinking is the foundation of my prediction for the Chinese Zodiac of 2009. My focus for the various animals will be based on planetary caution each Zodiac sign have to bear in mind, as well as the hurdles needed to overcome in order to achieve success and accomplish life in 2009.

To start off, the **Ox** will have their focus on progress. You will attempt to build up knowledge and expertise in your field, perhaps even new vision. Yes, your mind is willing but the circumstances involved are challenging. Accept that these are the situations that must be overcome and never give up! There is a possibility of your assistance required overseas, or a foreign matter you are involved with being faced with delays. You will find many people with the knowledge refraining from providing help to you because of their own situations, so just make good with what you have and be more self-reliant.

Dipping your paws into empty pockets will make you as a **Tiger** realize that resources are scanty. More demands than supply are pressuring you, and to add to that, you need to be cautious about partnering with others. The ideals behind the project might be fantastic to look at, but the funding might not be there to sustain the impetus of common interest. Much squabble might ensue over the use of reserves so make the necessary footwork in dealing with the accountant, banker or professional taxman. Scaling down your budget and discarding

dangerous situations would be good steps to take during 2009. The quicker you perform a clean cut into the problem, the faster the situation will be healed.

The **Rabbit** will grow suspicious of whether his or her partner is pulling along his or her weight when it comes to responsibilities. You will find others taking a more conservative approach with you, but do not misinterpret this as a personal grudge against your person. There will be straight answers to questions you may not necessarily like, but they are imperative for you to get real. Instead of feeling down and offended by the honesty that rings with each response, use the information gathered to galvanise joint interest. This reality check might just be what you need to go with the flow and help yourself. It would be in your best interest to lower expectations of love and be content with plain and simple togetherness.

The health of the **dragon** will be the key question of the year. Someone you love very much might be taken ill, or you might face testy colleagues running cross wires to the scheme of things and care little for the consequences that might prove dire to you. Lots of fingers maliciously directing blame to you, and this might burn you sorely. Bear in mind that 2009 brings about heavy, tough and oncoming responsibilities. Make sure you stick to your route instead of sparring with others along the way. Redirecting your focus on health, just remember that “a stitch in time saves nine” and cutting costs just might affect you in bigger, more expensive ways in the long run.

Almost to the extent of wearing out their thinking facilities, the **Snake** will have much to ponder on in 2009. Things just seem so clear, yet still present so many obstacles in the way of solution. There is a deep realization and understanding with regards to children, loved ones and friends undergoing troubled times. Mentally, you can equate and measure out the pros and cons. It's just a matter of whether you can channel this advice to the necessary recipients. Try to steer away from a complicated love life, for it will prove to be more than you can possibly bear. In a manner of speaking, be the psychiatrist who analyses the issues faced, and not the patient who is lost and confused in his or her thoughts.

The home and domestic issues concerning the family will be the main concern for **Horses** in 2009. There might be discussions as to whether to downgrade to protect financial reserves. Many family members and relatives might turn to you as a pillar of support who can provide consul and handouts. Yes, it is not going to be an easy time for the Horse, for these help seekers will condemn you if your help is inadequate, or condemn you anyway for not helping! Best way to handle this is to give them a story worse than their own situation. Expect tension towards family members and close ones. There might be lots of breakdowns in the home, and repairs are necessary to sustain the harmonious domestic life.

The **Goat** will strike out with ideas and communication. If you are out of a job, perhaps you might want to consider lowering your expectations for this year? Take on a job that might pay you lesser, but use this job as a stepping-stone to practicing tolerance! This is vital when discussing one's thoughts with others. It is too easy to cut people out of your life, but it only leads to you feeling lonely and out dated with the rest of the world. Find that balance to gain insight, unity and trust. Lots of automotive woes potentially occurring on the horizon due to sudden unwanted expenses. Be cautious if you are dealing with business interstate or in regional countries.

Adjusting position and possessions will be the tricky part for **Monkeys** in 2009. Where once upon a time, the carefree Monkey could go round shopping and spending like it was his or her birthday... That financial power is gone. Any investment entered into now will beget little returns. Deny the motto of less responsibility for more gain, because 2009 is a challenging year and you need to be happy you are gainfully employed instead of always making fuss and ending up without even a corporate status. Learn to give service with a smile and stop finger counting.

The **Rooster** finds him or herself in a soul-searching phase, with new starts and personality issues. It is a grave period for the Rooster, and he or she has to tread carefully and avoid being bogged down by personal circumstances. It is good to consider such issues in the process of being wiser but too much will just age you to the extent that it takes you the entire sunset to reach the door! Your connections will be pragmatic, realistic and very hard headed. If you do things for your good, and not for your want, you will achieve what you intend to. Try to look at interests that are old and recycled for there are benefits to be had in such avenues. For the architectural Roosters, this has potential to be a great year of achievements.

It is coming to the end of a cycle for the **Dog**, and this is definitely not going to be easy. Be careful about falls, bone injuries, leg problems and circulatory functions in health, for health will be a major issue in 2009. What is to be will be around, and what is not meant to be will part from you. Some relatives might kick the bucket or certain old situations could need you to unplug the support as it has exceeded its use by date. Change is a must for the Dog to keep up with new realities, and this period of time might be one in which you will be seriously thinking of moving away or wrapping up some aspect of your life to start something new.

Where once the **Pig** found social groups fun, exciting and even inspirational... There is now a dissipation in the group formula of cohesive union. Everyone has scattered and are moving onto different goals and ideals. There will be little time to cluster together, and some old friends might even move on to better life or the other world. Whatever it is, a new perspective can be drawn from you about how short life can be, and drive you to be serious in planning your interests. If you miss out on this opportunity, you are most likely to miss out on even more in

2009. Lots of your friends most probably will come to you for handouts, and when they need your divine assistance in certain matters that affect only them.

With sheer determination, the **Rat** has his or her sights towards the serious future outlook. You want to put in more hard work so that ambitious ideas for the future can be realised, and for that purpose you want to become calculative. This might lead to more work, less income, or bigger sales, but lesser profit type scenarios. However, this way would be the smartest and surest way to your goals. 2009 will present a clear picture of what the future is like, can be, will be and even how extremely bad it could possibly be. Be octopus-like at work, having your tentacles manage all factions of the corporate wheel. Without such flexibility, you might be prone to depression, suppression and even poor health. There is no alternative to being positive in times of rough circumstances, but you just must break through in terms of business abilities.

With my predictions, I want to firmly highlight the issues of each Chinese Zodiac in this year of 2009. There are many issues troubling the world, issues that have been reiterated much too often to the disdain of the world. To portray such idea, I shall recollect a story I heard recently on the radio.

*One fine day, this old lady opened her door to find herself face to face with a vacuum cleaner salesman. "Good day, madam! I have something that could revolutionise the way you clean your home, and make things easy for you!" Annoyed, the old lady tried to turn him away. "I have no money! Times are hard... Maybe you should come back when the economy picks up!" Slamming the door, she tried to go back into the kitchen but heard the relentless knocking on the door and felt obliged to answer it once more. It was the salesman again, and with a determined face, he asked her for a chance to display the wonderful power of the equipment, while frantically throwing horse manure onto her carpeted floor. "If I cannot clean your carpet into a spotless patch, I will personally eat what's left!"*

*The old lady, completely stunned by what the salesman had done, cracked into a smile with his last sentence. "Well, dearie... I hope you have a great appetite... Because I was unable to pay the bill, they cut off the electricity supply yesterday."*

Hope this story puts a smile on your faces! Happy Year of the Ox!

[ross@royalastrologers.com](mailto:ross@royalastrologers.com) – Singapore: 9677 7254 - Perth W. Australia: 0423 948 111