



### **15 degree of Sagittarius: ‘The groundhog looking for its shadow’**

Various ancient folk legends ascribe to different creatures (groundhogs, badgers, squirrels, bears) the magical power of predicting when the cold weather will end and spring begin. The American version of this strange folk tale features the groundhog emerging from its barrow in early February. If, on the day it emerges, the sky is cloudy and the sun doesn’t cast a shadow, the prediction is for a swift end to winter. If, on the other hand, the sun shines, it will create a shadow that will frighten the groundhog, making it run back into the barrow, sign that winter will linger a while longer.

Coming out of the barrow suggests giving conscious expression to hidden thoughts and feelings, and/or making a fresh start in life. While the possible encounter with the shadow, in full daylight, warns that, even when we seem to be fully aware of something, we still need to beware of our own indefinable shadow side. In fact the more brilliant and conscious we think we are the darker may be the shadow we cast.

Positively this image implies the ability, latent within all of us, to sense the physical and psychological ‘weather’ surrounding us, thus making decisions and moves that will affect our future, guided by innate wisdom.

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