

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Mother Moon

The Astrology of the Lights

By

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Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

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Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

**This book is dedicated
To my daughter
Iotis**

A great mother!

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Part 1: Astrology of the Lights

This is a book about the meaning of the Moon in the tradition of astrology. Of all the celestial bodies, the Moon is perhaps the one most shrouded in mystery; The Moon is said to somehow be both our mother and our child. This book is about the lunar mysteries.

However, the Moon is an integral part of the Earth system and the Earth an integral part of the Sun or solar system. These three bodies are interdependent, so this book is also about the Earth and the Sun, and the Moon-Earth-Sun relationship.

We can't even speak of an event like the Full Moon (Moon Opposite Sun) without having the Sun on one side, the Earth in the middle, and the Moon on the other, so this work is about all three bodies, only one of which is a planet – Earth.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Before we explore this relationship, let's review what the Sun and Moon stand for in traditional astrology.



The Sun

The Sun is not a planet, but one of The Lights, and is important to us beyond words. It is the source of all light, warmth, and life, and the very center around which the whole solar system of planets revolve. In astrology, the Sun has always stood for the Self, with a capital "S." It has everything to do with what we strive to discover, what we hope to become, and what we treasure in old age. It is the ultimate reference point. The Sun is the entire process of life, and perhaps all that can be said is: The Sun is Shining.

The Sun signifies your identity and self, vital or heart essence. The father, husband, and men. Authorities, especially males, but also kings, presidents, heads of state, employers, and high religious figures.

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The Sun/Earth always represents the future, what you will be or become, in time, and thus your true identify or real self. This is what you look toward and also look up to, so the Sun stands for elders, authorities, teachers, gurus, and anyone more experienced. The Sun is your own future light shining like a beacon in time, and is that part of you that you have not experienced yet.

The Earth/Sun represents your Self or identity, what you look forward to or hope to become in the future, and that which you respect or use as a reference point. In other words, the Sun represents all the changes that still are ahead for you, all of yourself that you have not yet experienced. The Sun, in one's life, is therefore at first usually someone you look up to and respect, often a mentor, teacher, older person - authorities or those more experienced in life - the essence of your future. The Sun burns brightly before us, showing us ourselves as we can or will be, but also too hot for us to endure just at the moment.

Sun Keywords

Self
Being, Existence
Conscious Mind
Realization (self)
Willpower
Will to Live
One's Self
Objectivity
Man, Male, Masculinity
Yang
Authorities
Father
Kings
Leaders, Officials,

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Executives

Objectivity

Vitality

Physical Body

"Elan Vital"

Good Health

Life Force

Heart

Hero

Individuality

Person, The Individual

The Individual

Achievement

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The Moon

The Moon, not even a planet, is the caretaker of Earth, and she spends her time shuttling from inside the earth's orbit to outside, and back. The Moon reflects the light of the Sun, like a great mirror, lighting up the night of our lives, endlessly redistributing the solar light through her phases. She is the great mother, the nurturer, and womb from which all life arises. The Moon holds many mysteries, some of which we will go into in another section. Next to the Sun, the Moon is the most important body in the heavens for us.

The Moon signifies the mother and wife, plus women, in general. Also, your environment, surroundings, background, and history. The womb, embryos, motherhood, fertility, and the tides. Also, the public, masses, crowd. The minds, subconscious, psyche.

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The Moon represents all that is feminine, nourishing, and supportive in life, including the environment from which we came, like motherhood, home, family, childhood, surroundings, and the past. It also represents the world of feelings, emotions, and, the Mind - all meaning, memory, nostalgia, and history. The Moon is the passive force, in that the Moon helps things to pass and be forgotten.

The Moon is whatever has nurtured us, our support system, and the entire environment out of which we came or were born, and thus it represents our mother, our personal past or history, our old habits, etc. The Moon is a mystery, and said to be both our mother and our child. The Moon is our parent, because it gave birth to us, and represents all the formative experiences out of which we have just emerged. It rules all memory of our experiences, it is said that we can see by the light of the Moon, and that it is our child because we can remember and easily see younger persons living now, in the past where we once lived. This is called "looking at the Moon," all those younger souls who are unconscious or 'sub' conscious to our own level.

Moon Keywords

Mother
Birth
Fertile
Maternity
Womb
Female, Femininity
Wife
Women
Yin
Receptivity

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Emotions
Moodiness
Feelings
Psychic
Soul
Support Network
Nourishment
Nurturing
Environment
The Past
Child
Memory
Childhood
Inner Self
Younger People
Unconscious
Subconscious
Subjectivity
The Public
Audience

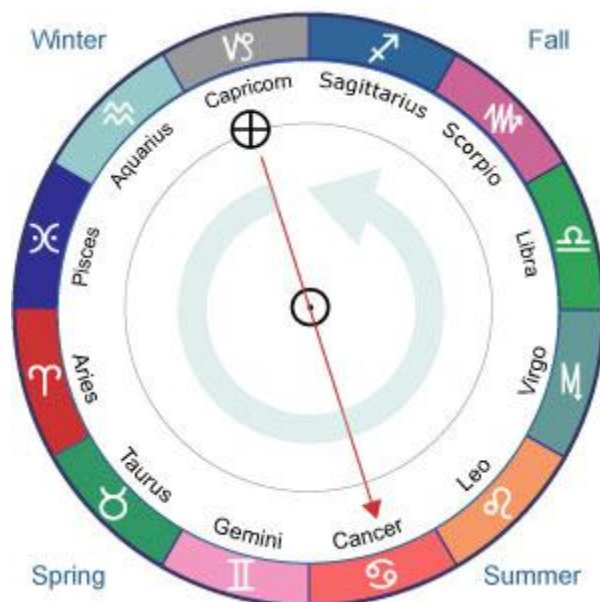
Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights



The Lights: The Sun and Moon

As mentioned above, in the tradition of astrology the Sun and Moon are called "The Lights" and we need to read that as Moon-Earth-Sun in every case. The Earth's central place in all of this is always assumed. At the Full Moon each month, we stand on Earth between the Sun and the Moon.

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What Sign are You?

When we speak of the Sun and the Moon, the astrological "Lights," we mean the Sun in the same way we consider Sun signs astrologically. My telling you that my Sun Sign is Cancer actually says that from Earth on my birthday we see the Sun in the zodiac sign Cancer. When we speak of the "The Lights," the Sun and the Moon, we always mean the Sun-Earth-Moon relationship - the Earth and the Moon as a unit, but in relationship with the Sun.

In other words, most references to the Moon, such as the monthly lunar cycle and orbit involve the phase angle of the Moon with the Earth, and this requires the Sun's position as well – Earth-Sun-Moon.

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The Moon

The Moon is really part of the Earth system. In fact, the Earth and Moon form a binary system that share a common center of gravity which is located within the earth's surface, about 1,060.68 miles beneath the surface of the earth.

It is an interesting astronomical fact that, from Earth's perspective, the relative size of the Sun and the Moon in the sky as seen from Earth are about equal. This is what makes total eclipses of the Sun possible. In fact, there are many facts about the Moon, the lunar orbit, and its relationship to Earth and the Sun that are interesting and call out for us to explore their esoteric meaning.



The Moon as Our Mother

In the history of astrology, again and again, it is said that the Moon is a mystery in that it is both our mother and our child. The Moon is our mother, because (similar to the womb of the Saturn return) everything and every body issues forth or is born from it. The Moon represents the subconscious and un-manifest regions from which all life, literally all "stuff" comes forth. Like an endless cornucopia, the Moon mothers forth.

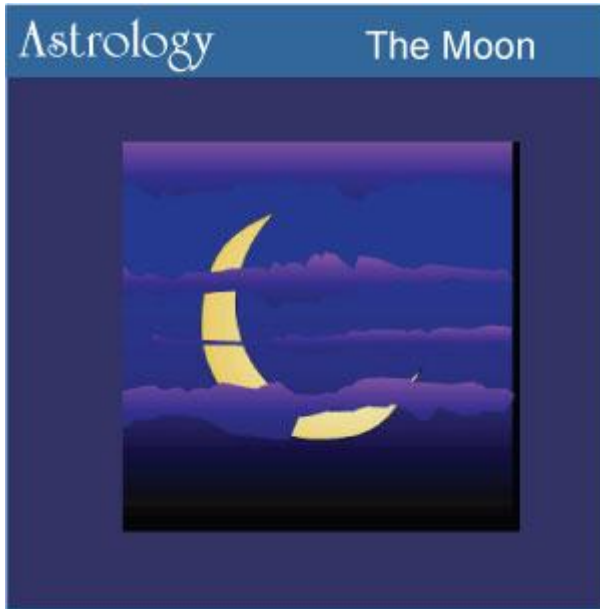
Therefore, the Moon is our support system, all that nourishes us, in the sense that we literally form ourselves and arise from within its womb. There are all kinds of historical paintings, drawings, and text images about life (bodies) arising and issuing forth from the womb of non-manifestation, from out of the great void. In this sense, the Moon is our mother. How then is the Moon our child?



The Moon as Our Child

As each of us is born from the Moon stuff, we draw around our spirit whatever kind of form or body appropriate. We individuate or extract our self from mother Moon and take on our individual form. We are no longer part of the great matrix or womb from which we came, but at some point have been born and begin to separate from the mother. We are an individual, now separate from our mother, and living on our own.

The Moon then, once separated from us, is something we can remember or look back on. In fact, we can see by the light of the Moon, by the sunlight bouncing off the Moon and illuminating it so that it can be seen. Otherwise, it is lost in the darkness of the heavens.



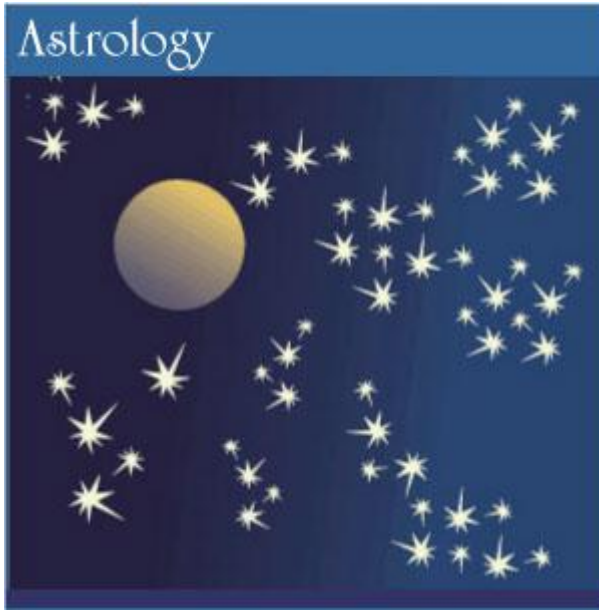
Gazing at the Moon

And as we gaze on the Moon, we are looking at where we, ourselves, came forth from, looking back at the past where once we were. And here is the point:

Life is a process. As we separate from the Moon, the process of the Moon giving birth does not end. The Moon is the womb from which all things emerge, aside from the place and moment we came forth. Looking back on that Moon, we see others, much like we were, now being formed, and in the process of extracting themselves from the womb, just as we once did.

In the Western esoteric texts, the Moon can also overcome or suffocate us, if we cease to individuate and move onward, but instead fall back into her arms. I remember Robert Heinlein's science-fiction novel "The Moon Is a Harsh Mistress." Yes, she can be.

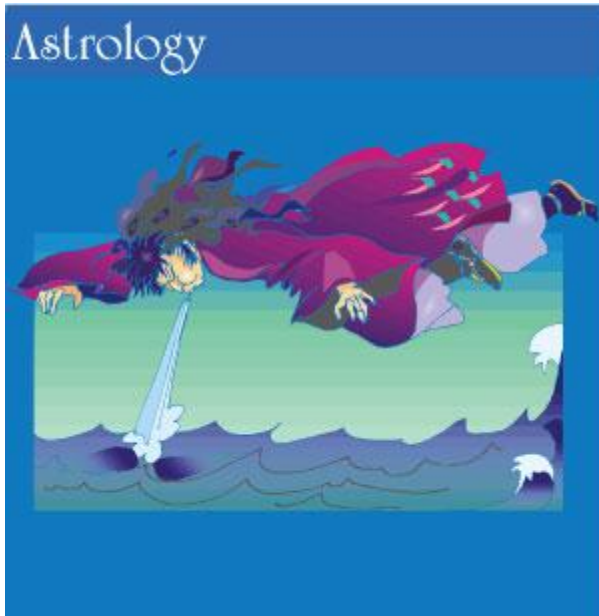
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The Moon and Memory

I am trying to paint here a word picture, and the point is that we not only push forward in our lives, always extracting ourselves from our Moon. In addition, by the light of the Sun, we also often gaze upon the Moon. We look back at ourselves, as we once were, and see younger souls (souls like us) who are now being born, just as we were. By the light of the Moon, esoterically speaking, we can see ourselves young. The process is ongoing, continuous.

In this way, the Moon is our child, because we are no longer of the Moon, but we came from that Moon. We remember back to then, and the Moon is all about memory, about the past, and about where we came from.



Growing Out of the Group

Perhaps this will be clearer, if I give an example: As kids, we tend to group together. Those of you reading this who have been through what is called "Middle School," the intermediate levels of school, like the 6th, 7th, and 8th grades know well what a fierce rite of passage that is. At that age, we are socially more a pool or a group than we are yet individuals, and individuation is just what happens in those years. As puberty is reached, the first Jupiter return at 12 years of age, but more physically the opposition or halfway point in the first Saturn cycle (15 years of age), we begin to lose our childlike and group-clinging tendency and start to take on some of the characteristics of an adult, facial hair, menstrual cycles, and so on.

The intense peer pressure that rules the group mind of the early teens begins to break down as the more

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independent souls struggle to leave the group and become individuals. The image that many sculptors have worked with is that of an amorphous mass of clay out of which individual figures are emerging. This is a familiar theme.



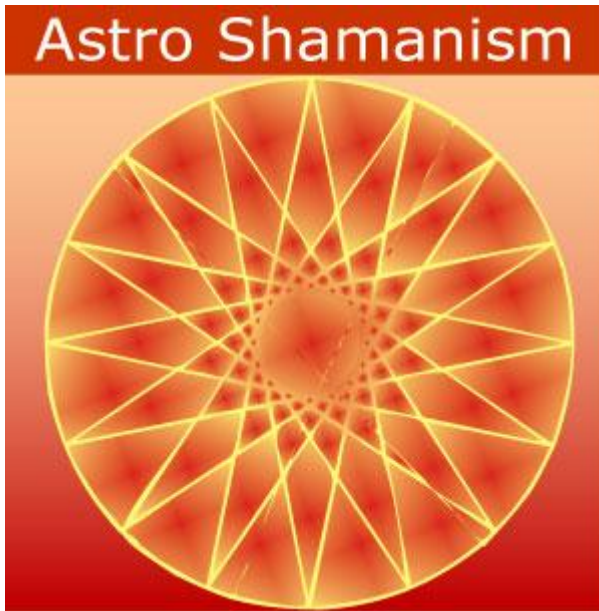
Mother and Child

Perhaps you can see in this image where the idea of the Moon being both our mother and our child comes from. We each go through this birthing process (are born) and we end up as individual adults, sooner or later. We emerge from the group mind, differentiate ourselves, and can look back not only at where we came from, but also see others now as we once were. We are gazing at "our" Moon. If we fall back, if we get too close to the past, to the way we were, we run the risk of getting caught in the Moon mass and stifled.

As an example from my own life: when I used to return to see my parents, wanting to show them all of

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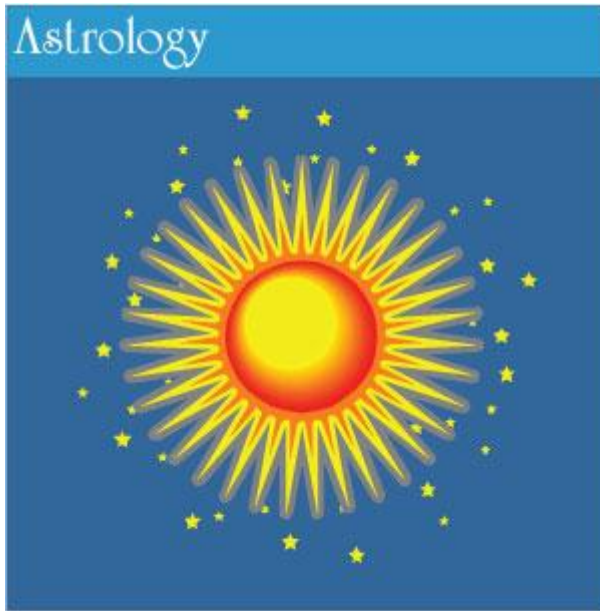
the progress I had made, I would often slip-up and get caught up in my old habits with them, resort to stupid arguments, and having them tell me: "See, you have not changed." This is what I mean when I say the Moon can suffocate or pull us back into what we have struggled to get out of by individuation.



The Sun

Now we have looked a little bit at the mystery of the Moon, but really we have only presented one half of the equation. If you remember, it is always the Moon-Earth-Sun, and we need to bring the Sun into this discussion.

Just as we pointed out that our life here on Earth needs to keep an appropriate distance from our Moon, less we fall backward, the same is true with the Sun. We cannot get too close to the Sun or, like Icarus, we will be burnt by the solar rays. The Earth in our astrology chart is always somewhere between the Moon on one side, and the Sun on the other, located at just enough distance from the Moon to remain an individual and just enough distance from the Sun to feel its warmth, but not be burnt up by the solar rays.



The Self an Father

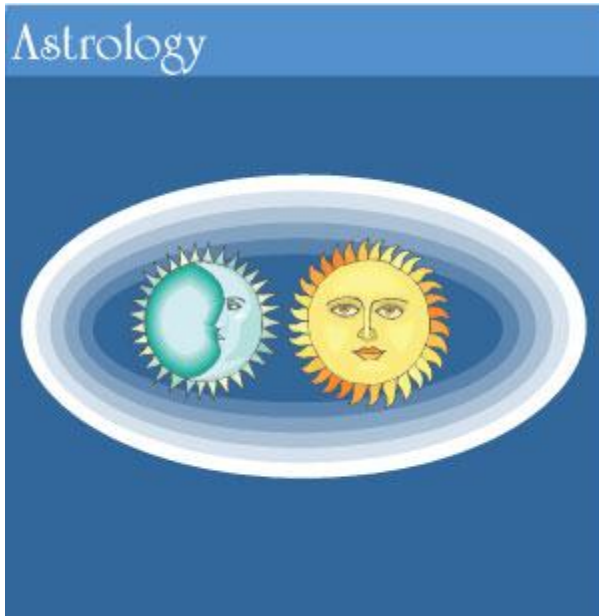
If the Moon represents, our mother and where we came from, then the Sun represents the father principle and where we are going, what we will become – our end result. In the tradition of astrology, the Sun represents the father, the mentor, the one in authority, what we look up to, what we hope to become, and, in general, our future. We come forth from the Moon and we go toward (and eventually into) the Sun.

The Sun is also said to represent the Self, and everything about us that is future oriented, what we will become when all is said and done, how we will turn out. When we have finished taking all the changes possible to us, the Sun (our Self) is what remains, our potential realized.

By this point, you should have the idea that this Moon-Earth-Sun relationship is all about how we are

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balanced between our past (the Moon) and our future (the Sun), not too far and not too close. We are strung out between the past and the future, the Moon and the Sun. Our life on Earth is always somewhere in the middle of these two extremes. We keep our distance from each one. That distance makes life possible.



The Sun and Moon

When the Moon is strong, we remember and are pulled toward our past, perhaps getting caught up in reverie and old habits. If the Moon is too strong, we lose out on our future, and remained mired in the past. When the Sun is strong, we put all that behind us and surge toward the future, coming ever more into our own, but perhaps risking burnout, if we move too far, too fast. The balanced or middle way is the way of even growth.

As astrologers, you already know how to examine the positions of the Sun and the Moon in the astrology chart, their angular separation or phase angle, and measure how strong or weak these two bodies are in the nativity. Is the Moon so strong that it keeps one from the future? Is the client drowning in their past? Or is the Sun too strong and scorching the every attempt to get ahead before it can amount to

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anything? These are examples of how this esoteric knowledge of the Sun and Moon can be used to advantage.

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The Solar Mysteries



Our Self and Sun

In this modern era, the esoteric traditions of the West and the East are being examined and compared. For the most part, Western thinking is becoming aware of Eastern thought and, rightly so; we are going to school on that. This difference between these two views, East and West, is perhaps nowhere clearer than in the concept of the Self.

Here in the West, the concept of the Self has been, and still is, considered important, if not central to our thinking. I would vote on "central," and it is very much a love-hate sort of thing.



The Sun as Self

On the one hand we are, from childhood onward, exhorted to get to know our Self, to find or discover our Self, and above all to “be” our Self. At the same time, we are told by almost every spiritual and religious persuasion to not be selfish, to not think of our Self too much, or not think only of our Self, but rather to think of others. In fact, we are asked to put the needs of others above those of our own self. And then we wonder about schizophrenia. What is this all about?

In modern Western astrology, virtually in all traditions, the identifying of the Self (whatever we might agree that is) with the Sun is standard. The Sun, at least in standard geocentric astrology, is considered synonymous with the Self. A legitimate question might be: are we talking here about the Sun as in “sun sign” astrology (where Earth sees the sun in the sign

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opposite where it is) or are we speaking of that great fiery orb, the center of the solar system?



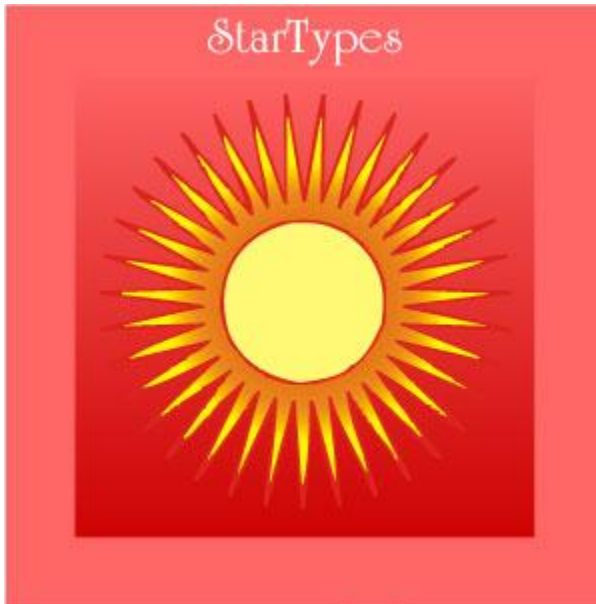
The Western Sun/Self

The answer in my understanding is: both. The Sun as the Self is a standard correspondence in Western astrology. This is not so in the East, and we will get to that in a moment. For now, let's say more about this Western astrological identification of the Sun as the Self, and the Sun having to do with self development and the like.

The Sun, so most astrological definitions go, is who we are in essence, our very Self. It is also our goals, who we are aiming to be, what we will become in the future, after we finish going through all our major changes. We will end up there. The Sun is as much into the future as the Moon represents the past. I won't spend a lot of time on the common definition of

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the “Sun as Self,” as most of you already know this or can Google it in a few minutes.



The Essential Self

I want to return to this dichotomy of the Sun as being who we are in essence, the essential Self we will (or are trying to) become, and the endless admonitions on every side to not be selfish. How can we be asked to find or discover ourselves on one hand, but to not be “self-ish” on the other. Which is it?

Well, the answer, of course, is both, and this is the source of the confusion here. It would seem that, no matter how we try to be unselfish, every road of inward discovery leads to our Self. It is our Self that is somehow “in there” and stands like the proverbial guardian on the threshold. When we try to find our selves, and to look inward, we come across no other than our Self. That is what we have been told to find. And yet, we are told not to take our Self too seriously,

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not to get too enamored or attached to our Self, and to try to put thoughts of our Self out of our mind, or at least on the back burner. Hey, don't be so selfish!



I Think I Am

I have gone to paint the sunrise in the sky,
To feel the cool of night warm into day,
The flowers from the ground call up to me,
This Self I think I am is hard to see.

The Self in the East

Now, let's take a break and look at the Eastern concept of the Self. For the most part, there is none. The Self does not play a prominent part in Eastern astrology or, for that matter, in their psychology or philosophy. Moreover, where it does appear, the Self is pegged straight away as an illusion, something that has no substantial reality – a phantom.

Instead of being told not to be selfish, in the Eastern philosophy, we are told, instead, to examine the Self and to see what it is. For example, Buddhist poetry is filled with images to the effect that the Self is the only

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cloud in the otherwise cloudless sky of our mind, and is the *single* greatest factor in our not seeing the true nature of the mind. In this tradition, in a very real sense, the Self is equivalent to ignorance – to our ignoring the true nature of the mind.



Eastern Psychology

In Eastern psychology, the Self is considered but an illusion, what these philosophers call a “composite,” meaning it has no true existence, but is (roughly speaking) a particularly ingrained collection of mental habits that we become attached to and continue to identify with. It is this habitual identification or “identity” that here in the West, we call our “Self.” Only here in the West, although self-examination is often advised, there is no methodology as to how this might be done. It is more like a punishment, than a direction.

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In the East, they don't identify. This is not to say that they do not have the experience of what here in the West we call our self, but rather that this "self" is considered not only "nothing substantial" in itself (so to speak), but only a stepping stone to actually discovering the true nature of our mind, albeit a rather large stone.

Here in the West, this same self is considered by many somehow the goal and point of all our inner searching and discovery, that is: Self discovery. We seek to find ourselves. There any number of books out there on how to find ourselves or how to find out true Self. Self discovery is way more than just a cottage industry. It is a way of life, spiritually speaking, here in the West.



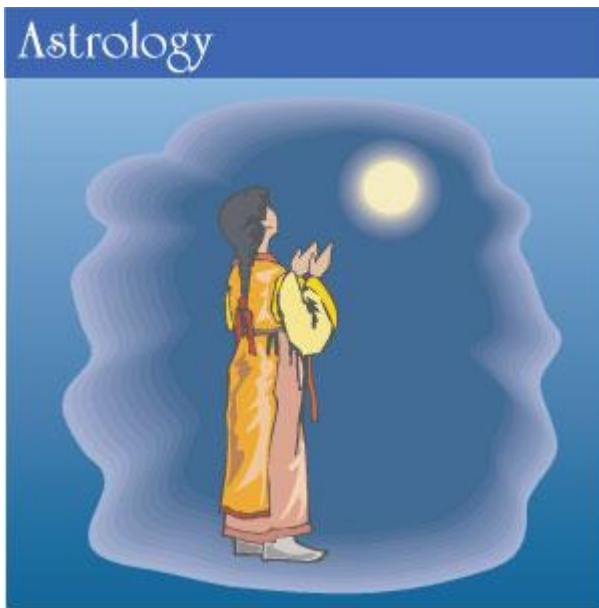
Seeing the Self

I assume that we can agree on how here in the West the Self is enshrined on the one hand, and banned (love of self) on the other. I covered that earlier. Let's look more closely at the Eastern view of the self as a composite, as something that has no true existence. This lack of existence of the self has some more important ramifications, when thoughts of life after death are involved, as a composite self can, by that very token, have no personal future. This has to be one of the stumbling blocks that keep the concept of a Self so close to us.

As I have written in other books, it is a real misfortune that the idea of meditation here in the West amounts to something like relaxation therapy, while in the East meditation is a very precise journey into the nature of the mind, step by step. Yes, it is true that beginning meditation requires that the mind be quieted or

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calmed, but this is not the end result or goal of meditation. Calmness is not the primary goal of meditation, but just a preliminary step. In other words, until the mind is calm, we can't see beyond the endless activity of our mind into its true nature. Since most that meditate here in the West never manage to calm their minds, then the successive steps remain mostly unknown to us, thus the popular concept that meditation is (somehow) just relaxation, trying to calm down.



Pointing Out the Mind

In the East, when the mind is calmed or quieted down, the teacher proceeds to give what are called the "pointing out" instructions, and this pointing out is considered the next major step in the process of examining the mind or meditation. There are probably endless ways that the nature of the mind can be pointed out.

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And be clear that pointing out the nature of the mind is not the end result of meditation instructions, but just the next step after the mind is quieted enough to work with. When we grasp the true nature of the mind, that is not enlightenment, but just the beginning of real meditation practice. A common analogy in the tradition of meditation is that what the teacher points out to the student is like pointing out a wild stallion in a herd running in a field. The stallion is all covered with dirt and matted hair. It is wild-eyed and has never been tamed, much less ridden. The teacher points out the stallion and says “This is yours!.” You see it for the first time.

The pointing out is of the stallion, and is not anything more than that. We first have to become aware of the stallion before we can gradually tame it, much less ride it.



Are You Your Self?

The pointing out instructions result in the student becoming aware not only of how wild and unruly the mind is, but of the various obstacles that impede or block us from knowing the true nature of the mind, and perhaps chief among these obstacles is the ego or Self, the very same self that here in the West we are so familiar and enamored with, and yet so schizophrenic about.

This great Self and Sun is shining now in the darkness of our mind. It is everything we think of and everything (seemingly) we have ever known. When we think, we think of and with our Self, this great central source of our identification. It is who we think we are, who we refer to, and who we (as far as we now know) have always been. Who else is there?

In other words, when we go to look into the true nature of the mind, this sense of Self is just inside the

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door waiting for us, the guardian on the threshold. We can't get around it, because we think we ARE what we would be trying to get around. It is, after all, our Self.

Who You Are

If who you are is who you will be,
And who you will be will be who you were,

Then:

Who you are is not who you are or who you will be.

So, who are you?



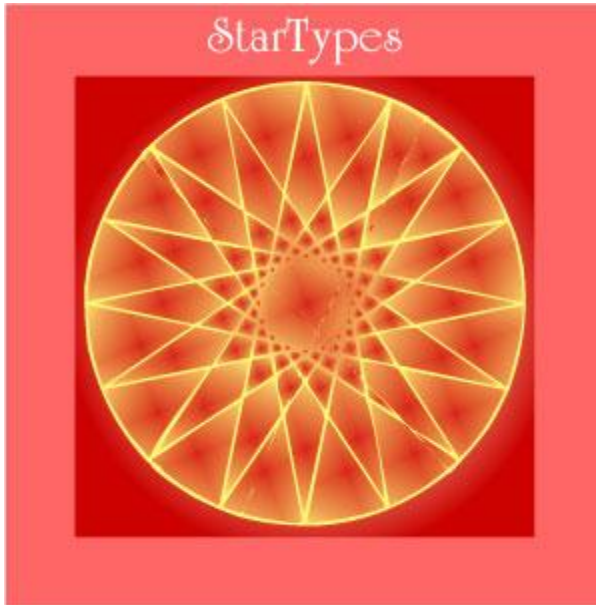
Sunrise in the East

Again, in the East the Self is said to be nothing but a composite, meaning it is a collection of god knows what, accumulated since god knows when, that we think of as ourselves. We have become habitually attached to our Self. In fact, we have almost completely identified with it, at least to the point that we feel that everyone has a self, and thus all the references to “selfishness,” etc. that we have mentioned earlier on.

This sense of Self is so ingrained in us that we can't just see it for what it is. At the same time, we can't see through or past it, because it literally takes all our attention; it distracts us just about all of the time, forcing us to consider it as our main focus or filter. We can't see beyond the self to the true nature of our mind, if for no other reason than we think we “are” the Self.

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The Asian approach to dealing with the ego or Self is not through a frontal attack. You don't run at it head on. Wrestling with the self just draws more attention to it. Instead, a gradual and more sidewise approach is usually offered, one that takes time and patience on our part. This is not the place to go into it here, but in general, what happens next is that the mind (and self) is examined very carefully to determine what it is or is not.



The Concept of the Self

This concept of the Self is a lot like the old game of “Pick-Up-Sticks,” where a bunch of sticks are tossed on the ground, and become a tangle, with sticks pointing every which way. Then, stick by stick, each stick is removed, being careful not to disturb or upset the remaining pile. Gradually, all the sticks are removed, until there are none left.

Examining the mind is something like this. With the help of a qualified teacher, and with a lot of looking at the mind on our part, little by little, the dense nest of our “Self,” becomes increasingly transparent, until such time as we actually can begin to see through it to the nature of the mind itself. In other words, we not only don’t need the Self to see the true nature of the mind, but the Self is the chief obscuration that prevents us from seeing that nature.

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I probably have given you a little too much detail here, but the point is that what we refer to as our Self is never going to find anything (other than itself), much less lead us to knowing the true nature of the mind. It hogs our attention, and its endless activity is itself what clouds the mind from true insight. That, in general, is the problem.



Beyond My Expectations

Looking at the mind,
It's not what I'd expect.
Expectations can't define,
And you can't expect to find.
That's the nature of the mind.

Beyond the Heart Center or Sun

This has been a bit of a long-way-around to get back to how this relates to the Sun, as used in astrology. The Sun is, of course, a quintessential part of astrology, ancient or modern, in the East and in the West. However, we should note that much of Asian astrology is lunar based, rather than solar based. In other words, in Tibet, no one would know or care

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about your birthday (solar day you were born). Instead, they would want to celebrate your Moon day, that is: the lunar day (solunar angle, like 4th Quarter, etc.) you were born in the solunar cycle. But that is another article.

My goal here is to point out something about the nature of the Sun and Self, and that this entire Sun and solar system itself is a construct, something in front of us, that shields or covers what is behind it. That is one of the deepest mysteries: What does the Sun cover or stand for? What stands behind the Sun?

In the foregoing, I have tried to give you enough information so that you could perhaps begin to examine and pick apart this Self or Sun or at least develop an awareness that this great shining Sun or Self is nothing in itself, simply a construct, an illusion, although a very convincing illusion indeed.



Earth or Heart Center

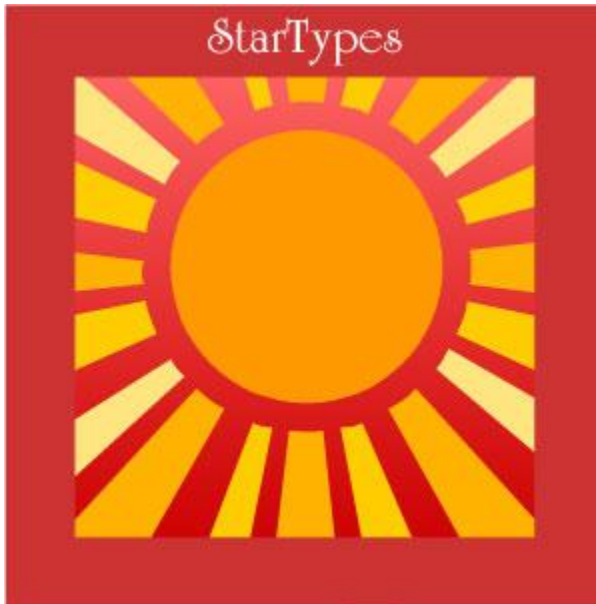
Let me try to wrap this up and bring us back to the main material in this book, the mystery of the Moon-Earth-Sun relationship.

That being said, we want to take a quick look at this Heart or Earth Center, this solar Self we each inherit and find shining deep within us. That same great shining center or Self that warms us by its presence and with which we absolutely identify, and have identified our entire lives is also what hides from us all that which is still within us, the inner nature of the mind.

If we want to explore the inner mysteries, those interior to and beyond the Earth/Sun/Self, then we would have to be able to see through that Sun center or Self. Otherwise, it's endless shining shields or blocks our view. And, as you can imagine, this is not

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small task. Just try it. Try looking at who your self is; look at who is reading this sentence. Not easy.



The Inner Self and Sun

And that is why great saints and souls meditate and work through the obscurations in their ego or self, and learn to know the true nature of their mind, a mind not filtered by or through the Self-Sun.

I have done my very best to point out to you this general nature. I cannot instruct you on this, because like many of you, I too am standing here staring into the Sun, and only beginning to work through it. I too am warmed and thrilled by this Sun, almost a complete captive. I have very little idea of how to work through this great obscuration. I am not sure I even want to, which would be the first step, of course. I can say this:

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Consider this great inner Self and Sun. As children, we could only look up into it and wait for that day when we could grow into it. As elders, we can but look back to it, still shining in our inner sky. Nothing has changed. As busy mid-life people, we are almost entirely caught up in the whole process to see anything clearly.

It is a great shining and yet it nowhere exists. It is before us; it is behind us. It is just about everywhere, but where we are, yet it is “us.” It is ours, our very self. It endlessly shines in the darkness of our mind, radiating life and light all ways – everywhere. It is always in our mind, yet it has no true existence. This is the mystery of the Sun.

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The Point of No Return

By Michael Erlewine

Feb 14, 2006 2-4 PM, Grand Sextile Helio

A Poem for My Daughter Michael Anne

The point of the “point of no return” is that:
When you have reached the point of no
return,

From which there is no return,
The point is to turn and return.

That is the turning point.

Every life has a turning point,
Whether it's in the echo of age,
Or in the very midst of life's prime.

As we reach our point of no return,
We pause,
Then we turn.

And, in turning, we begin to reflect.

In our reflection,
And rising into view,
Perhaps for the very first time,
The Sun.

Where before it was we who were seen,
And others seeing,
Now we are the mirror in which they see
themselves,
And we can see our self in them,

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What we once saw shining before us, as
youths,
That which we gladly embraced in our prime,
And what we now see etched in the mirror of
reflection,

Is our eternal Self, the Sun,
Ever burning in the darkness of our life.

That's it.

I understand this.

What I find harder to understand,
Yet still believe is:

We didn't know it then;
We don't know it now.

We never knew it.

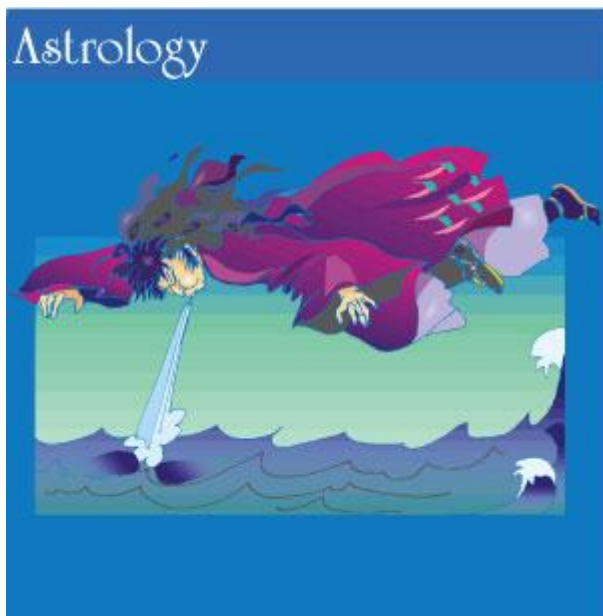
In truth,
It never was.

IT NEVER WAS;
It never will be.

It is not now,
And still, it is.

It still is:

This most brilliant illusion,
Shining in the mirror of the mind.



Part 2: The Esoteric Tradition

What follows is a series of sections on the esoteric or occult meaning of the Sun-Earth-Moon relationship. These concepts are difficult to grasp and hang onto with the mind, so you may want to skip over them. The whole concept of the occult speaks not to something secret or hidden, but to things that are so obvious, so much a part of who we are that we have no way to keep them in mind. The occult is what is most obvious to all and thus most easily ignored or overlooked, like the air we breathe or the life we live.

It is one thing to apply various astrological techniques to our natal chart in a search for interpretations, but quite another to reach for a still deeper understanding. What follows is a presentation of some of the more esoteric meanings of the Sun-Earth-Moon relationship.



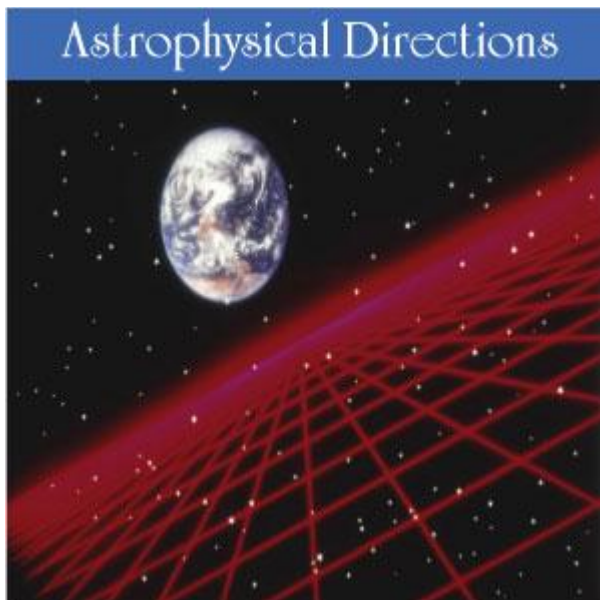
Separating from the Moon

At some point in life, each individual (Earth) draws his or herself out of and apart from their Moon, the undifferentiated mass from which we are each born and emerge. Think of it as what the adolescent goes through in the puberty years as each person begins to individualize and crystallize out of the group mind and self to which they belong and have grown up in. They individualize. This is the Moon giving birth to us, the concept of the Moon as our mother.

This contracting away from or distancing ourselves from our Moon (past) is a process akin to crystallization, the achievement of more definite form, an individual forming out of the great mass of their natal Moon. Before this can take place, there is the contracting to form itself (growing our the body) during our formative years as a child, and this contraction is continued further until the

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final impact at the Saturn return, when the finished form begins to come up against the friction of age (beyond Saturn's ring of protection) and gradually bursts into flames and, phoenix-like, we begin rise out of (and through) this our personal cinder.

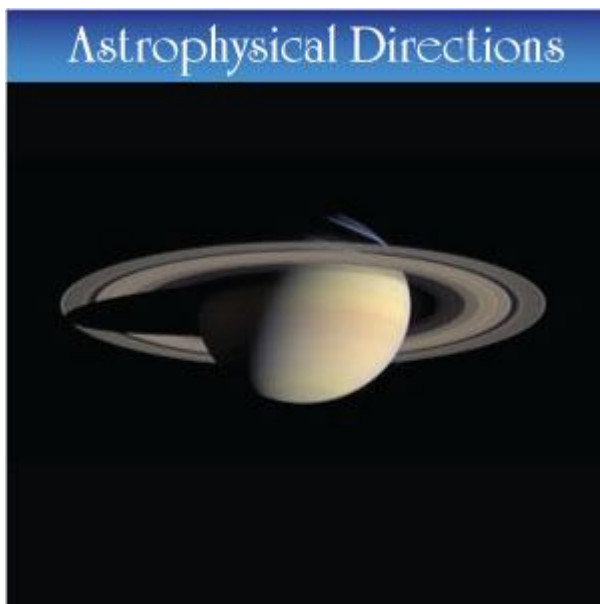


The Phoenix

Before our Saturn return, however, is the adolescent separating state that contracts out of the as yet undifferentiated mass forming a kernel or shell, our earth body at puberty. This individuated body then increases in density (grows) until its mass reaches infinity (prime of life) and then literally bursts into flames, consuming itself (phoenix-like) to continue on in a spiritual form. Of course this is one the esoteric or spiritual plane. After the initial fire, maybe here is where mars energy (youthful drive) keeps the soul alive until the mystic center catches full fire.

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In other words, the very process of life itself eventually burns away our physical form, the connecting tissues, freeing us to move from this point onward more freely through denser matter. We find ourselves suddenly much more subtle and, for the first time, within us we sense and find harder and denser objects – denser than we are. We have come outside and now enclose and include within ourselves that in which once we were included within. We embrace the world, rather than are held in the womb of Saturn's embrace. We are being spiritually born.



Individuation

In other words, perhaps due to the onward push of Martian forces, the path or course set by Jupiter for us, and the form or limits imposed on us by Saturn, we literally emerge and begin to form ourselves from the very chaotic mass of the Moon itself.

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Once fully formed (adult), our earth body and density increases until its mass is such that our very body (no longer growing) rubs and catches fire from the very FACT of its existence - friction.

Then, as we burn away some of our form, we find (perhaps for the first time) the experience that we can see others who have not yet caught fire, others who are building and wait in their cocoons for the time when they too will catch fire and burn the dross of matter off, to then fly or float away.



The Saturn Return

After the Saturn return, for the first time in our experience, we are more subtle than we are dense. Up to this point (our Saturn return), we have only worked or grown ever denser into matter, like a worm forming in our muscle tissues. But now, having reached the nadir or densest point (protruding most into existence as a fact), we (our physical body) begin to be subject to the laws of the physical world, friction, and the pain of existence, ever pushed onward by the relentless driving forces of the next generation waiting in line for their turn, whose very emergence pushes us outward.

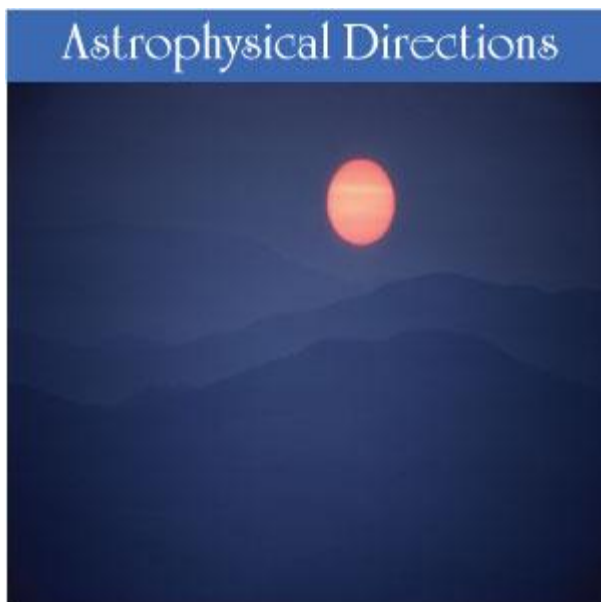
Once beyond the Saturn return, we gradually impact into existence until we literally burst into flames and are consumed, again and again, and always on deeper and deeper levels. In time we become ourselves a Sun

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shining in the dark field of the valley of the Moon, the very place from which we came.

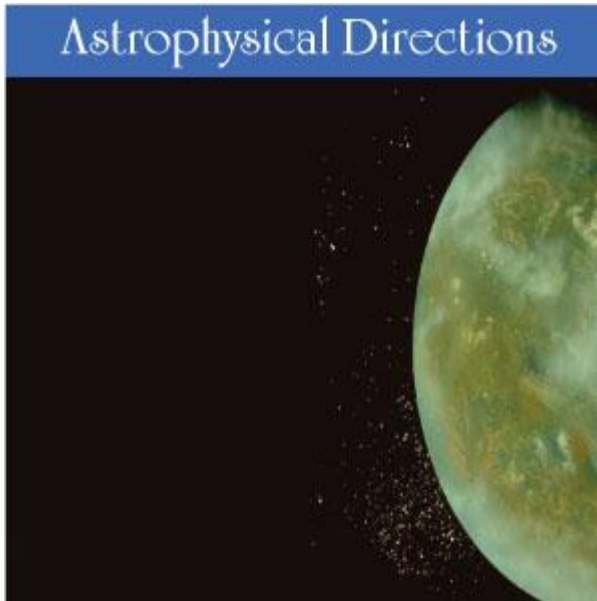
As we emerge through this burning, what is burned first is our physical vehicle or cocoon, releasing us to slip between the walls of time or Saturn, from this point every growing more free or subtle. With more room to see, we begin to find ourselves (to see that we are) surrounded by other less-advanced souls (younger, in that sense) who have not yet seen the flame and who wait working and building their own bodies within the womb of the world, until the sheer weight of their existence will draw them too into combustion and flame, to be consumed and to begin to enter the other side.

It is after our Saturn return and the burning of our attachments that we first begin to see and find real sight – insight, looking within. From the inside we have since our own youth come building our way into existence and now we find ourselves on the outside for the first time, suddenly beyond the pale of Saturn.



The Moon is Unborn

But often the fires of time do not burn evenly. Parts of our self are still attached and will need to be burned away in time. That is: in response to the idea of further conversion after the initial consummation, when the fire ebbs and light no longer serves to help the struggling soul into flight, there are in many cases still parts of our self that remain stuck within our cocoon. Like a young butterfly, we may have to struggle on to remove those last perfectly-made legs. For a long time we may not be functioning enough to have started a permanent flame within ourselves, yet we cannot return to the world or the dead Moon from whence we came. It would smother us now. Like the newborn baby, we are out and have to breathe on our own. It is here that the Moon, our mother, performs her midwifery.



The Conversion

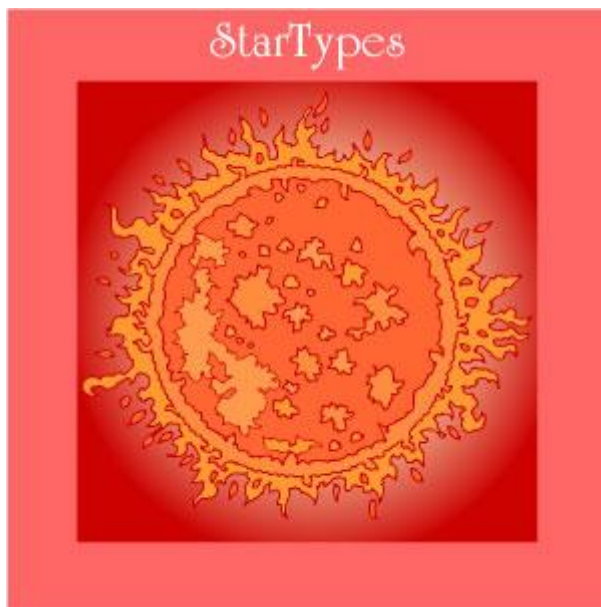
For some time after our birth, we remain dependent on the Moon for our energy and light. In a sense, we live for a time by conversion (conversation), by the sharing of our experience in consummation with a younger soul still awaiting his or her day and hour. It is by this conversion process that we become whole and free, that we complete our spiritual unfolding. We exchange our guidance and true orientation for energy and life to pursue our own extraction. This is called “deepening our enlightenment.”

That initial thrust or energy we may no longer have. This is a kind of limited purgatory, where we remove trace by trace that which holds us to our coffin, the past. This is accomplished by a process of exchange with those younger or more dense than ourselves. We share the light; they share the life.

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The younger soul uses the interaction with us as guidance for their own eventual emergence. This conversation or exchange is crucial for both sides. As we shine what light we have on their life, that very light hardens them off and they begin to grow and emerge as the light is shone on him. As they respond to the light, some small portion of their life energy is streamed or beamed at us, giving us an opportunity to pursue various avenues of thought, and to actually deepen our own enlightenment. They give us their attention. As we receive this attentive energy from our Moon, we can use it to piece together further the story of our freedom, ever working to extricate ourselves from the hold of our own past. In this way we can better see to further burn off our karma.

Beyond this purgatory state, when we have deepened our freedom, our enlightenment, one day our inner Sun takes hold afire and we begin to burn as a Sun ourselves in the sky. No longer is it necessary to live in the exchange with our younger brethren, but free and shining alone in the firmament from this point onward, we learn to free ourselves. We shine.

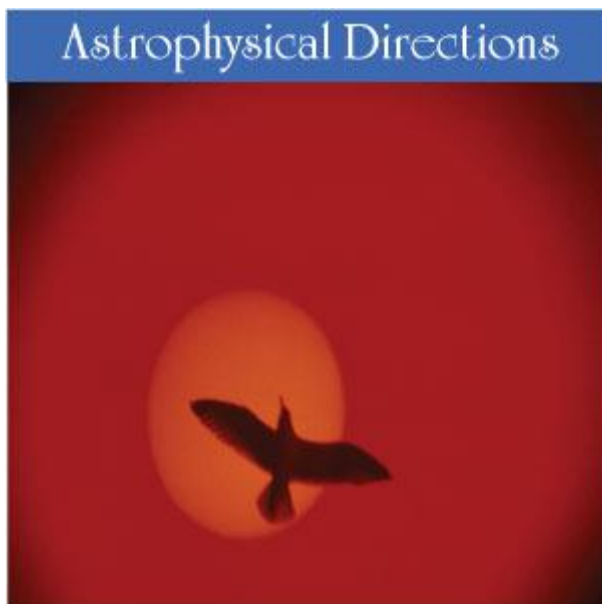


The Sun is Blinding

The Sun shines, blinding us, if we look straight at it, but we can all see by reflected light, by the light of the Moon. For starters, we can see the Moon, when sunlight is reflected on it.

Explanation: Partial insight, partial awakening, partial enlightenment happens all the time, and is the rule, rather than the exception. We start awake when a mentor points out something or we just naturally start to wake up in their presence; we wake up and begin to see life differently.

As we separate from our Moon, we are partly awake and partly still asleep, caught up in our bad habits or past – what-have-you? We do have a new confidence in our self and life, but that confidence waxes and wanes like the tides. Sometimes we are confident, and at other times we lose that confidence.



The Older and the Younger

We can't yet look directly into the Sun, but are more comfortable seeing by reflected light, by the light of the Moon. During this time (as mentioned earlier), we frequently learn by interchange with others. In fact, our lives are filled with glimpses and exchanges, all seemingly with some kind of message, often as simple as: do's and don'ts.

I do want to imitate that person or behavior; I don't want to follow that person or go in that direction. Often, in a sea of peers, like a school of fish with no direction, there is a constant struggle for direction. It is common to want to enlighten others, to be the teacher, the elder or more experienced soul, and have others learn from us. In fact, there often is a protracted struggle to climb up over others and to be admired or looked up to. It is assumed that it is better to be looked up to, than to look up

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yourself. Actually the reverse is true. Better to have a teacher we can look up to and receive light.

And in this sea of jealousy and pecking order, there are also real exchanges, where both parties benefit from the transaction. The younger person provides the energy and the stage, and the marginally elder uses the energy of the exchange to further expand his or her own understanding; the elder illuminates the subject for the younger one. The elder fleshes out or deepens their enlightenment, the younger sees farther into the darkness of the future by the illumination of the elder, for good or bad. We can direct ourselves in either case, by wanting to follow what we see or avoid it.



The Moon as Feelings

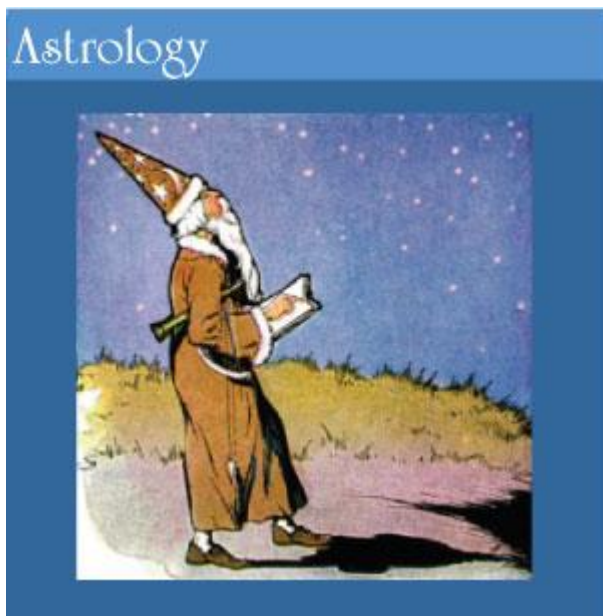
Feelings are the un-manifest (not-yet manifest) Will itself. They are the preview or first swirling or forming of what can become eventually a fact of the life.

As we all know, the Moon reflects the light of the Sun. The Moon here is seen as the reaction or giving of form in response to the Sun or "Will" impulse. The Sun draws forth form from the un-manifest, from the Moon itself. Feelings signal the stirring in the depths of life, and the coming generation of structures of consciousness, ego structures, lunar structures. We have to open up our feelings and bring them to light. They are an early-warning system of something coming or happening.

The body first must be open to feeling. We feel with a body, with any body. No evolution is possible until there

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is a body to evolve through, some way to experience or feel life itself. That means: use the body to live with.



One, Not Two

In a conversation with an occult scholar years ago, he likened enlightenment to having one foot still stuck in mushy quicksand and the other reaching out of this quicksand to step on solid land. My point to him was that that other foot (reaching out) stands alone with no place (no dry land) to come to rest, like we are taking a step outside ourselves and find that our one foot stuck is all the feeling we have and have to take a new perspective based only on this one stuck foot.

That is: we have been trying to get it unstuck and now we begin to savor or work with the stickiness and even to try to stick it further, but the ironic thing is that we find the momentum of our attempt to step out in fact pulls us on out and we watch it come out with a certain wry sense of humor. We rise floating above and around

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the earth. The momentum carries us farther than we would have liked to go.



Moon Definition

The Moon is the womb and mother of the earth. It is the lymphatic fluid, the watery flow, the sap within the plant, distributing cosmic forces to the embryo in its womb. She feeds earth, but she is also possessive; she can stifle and endlessly enwomb the child.

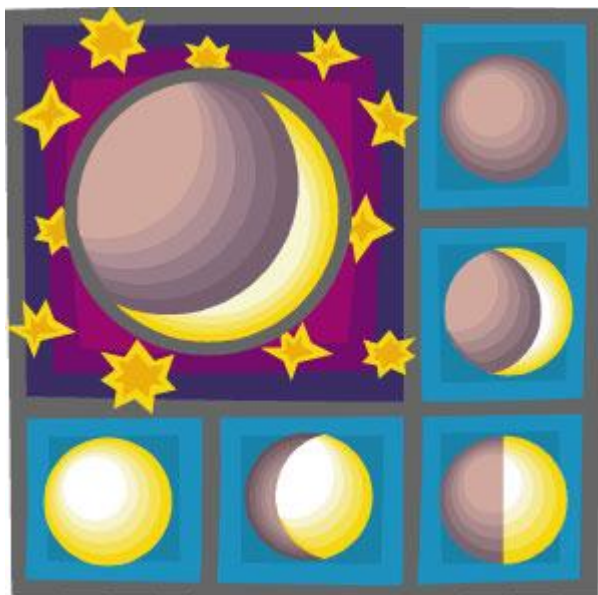
When within the earth's orbit, the Moon operates more in connection with the solar energy of the Sun (self). When with the Full Moon, the feelings are more extraverted or dominated by the objective mind. Outside the earth's orbit, the Moon follows the centrifugal pull of Mars, while inside she responds to the centripetal pull of Venus.

It has been said in the astrological literature that the Moon is that portion of the Sun which is enclosed by Saturn. I get what the author meant, but tend to myself think that it is the bodies and things the Moon produces

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that come under the rule and domain of Saturn. The moon covers all that is not yet manifest, the womb out of which things come, the world of feelings.

The Sun's light penetrates the Moon/Earth atmosphere and creates heat and warmth. The surrounding atmosphere of the earth was called by the ancient astrologer-astronomers the 'sub-lunar realm', the traditional idea here of indirect absorption of the light of the Sun by the Moon and the re-distribution of that light through the monthly lunar cycle.



Moon Phases

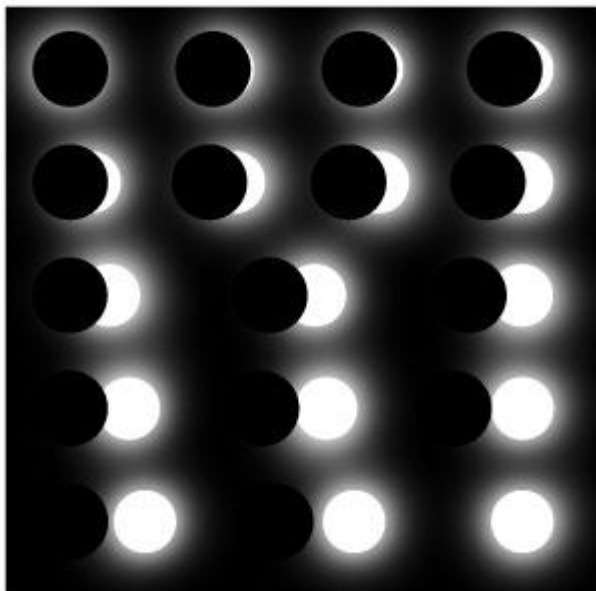
At the first quarter, the Moon passes over the border beyond the earth's orbit and toward the orbits of the outer planets, particularly Mars. Traditionally, the Moon shuttles between Mars (outside the orbit of the earth) and Venus (inside the orbit of the earth). Here we have the idea of outer and inner once more, and as the Moon passes first quarter, the idea that the Moon enters the

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realm of the outer or objective form and here more and more consciously the idea or impulse given at the New Moon is built upon and formed to a full objective state at the Full Moon.

Similarly, after the Full Moon, this completed objective experience is then taken apart, brick by brick, saving the experience learned through the forms, the lessons learned being pulled by the Venus forces toward the inside of the earth's orbit once again. The Venus side of the lunar orbit, which is connected to the word "venal," represents the appreciation or appraisal of what the Full Moon experience means and is worth. The meaning of the Full moon is thus seen by all and absorbed.

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New Moon – Solar Tone

The solar tone received at the conjunction of the New Moon can be likened to our meeting a great and wise man, such as a mentor or guide. There may not be possible a direct understanding or a retaining of the experience of this meaning, but the tone or substance of the meeting remains embedded in the mind.

The student, awash in the light of the teacher, bathes and experiences this wholeness that marks the master. And when the student leaves the presence of the master, while he or she may not have any vehicle to hold this spiritual state fast and present in his mind, they take away a deep and strong feeling, a feeling or stimulus upon which they will savor, work with, and build within themselves a way or mesh or net to catch and hold permanently this same experience. It is with (and

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from) deep feelings or stimuli like these that real ideas are gradually formed into actions and bear them on out finally as facts of our experience.

The Moon cycle is similar in that the New Moon experience is one of conjunction or closeness to the solar bath or tone, and from this feeling, tone, and impulse, we work assiduously toward the realization (working out) of this feeling as a definite objective state at the Full Moon, much like a potter forms clay.

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The Moon as Mother of the Earth:

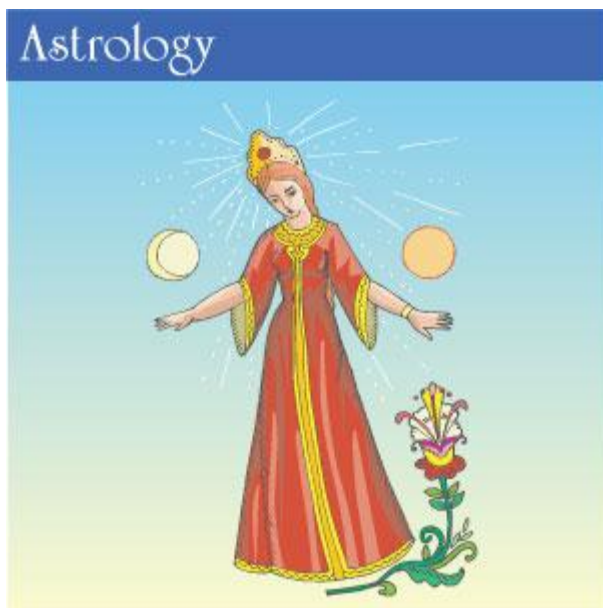
This concept refers to the endless mothering and circling about the earth of the Moon, traditionally described in the astrological literature as distributing the effects of the planets and the Sun's light to the earth.

Nutrition and support have been the keyword for the Moon. From this, we can understand the earth as being the father to the Moon in the sense here of the earth drawing itself apart, creating a distance between itself and its Moon, just as we might distance ourselves in personal relations with people of an earlier state of life. As we reach college age, many of us no longer hang out with our high-school crowd, and so on.

Separation and distance is a necessary fact in the life of the forming personality and individuality. We can no longer remain with those who will take a longer time to find out the same truths as we ourselves are discovering. They can't take the heat. Forced closeness

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would be suffocating to us and we would burn dry the moisture and life giving growth of the Moon child – those younger than us. This is the difference between pointing out something and therapy.



The Syzygy

A mentor points out the nature of the mind or an idea. The student is able to grasp the concept and to “get it” or not. If the student cannot get it, repeated doses, repeated pointing out may be required, and this is what has come to be called “therapy.” Pointing out and “getting it” is part of the natural charm of the mentor-student relationship. Therapy is a much more repetitive and arduous task, and usually takes time and money. We have to pay for therapy.

So the relation Moon-Earth-Sun strung (syzygy) out in a string is an important one. We on Earth are ourselves like a Moon of the Sun. We cannot live yet in that burning ball of fire, and if we were swept into the Sun,

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we would at once burn instantly to a cinder. In such a solar confrontation, there would be no “value” or time growing to this stage. It would be over in a moment, all coming at once. It is by slow initiation that the earth will eventually draw close to the Sun. At which time it is said that we will be prepared to enter this ball of fire.

It is the same with Earth and Moon. Our Moon must be kept at a distance, not just because the Moon might smother us, but also because our increased light and age we would easily burn the tender Moon flesh. This distance presents itself as a fact of life. For instance, if you have ever tried to convey to some younger one an idea or experience that they have not quickened to at that point (are not ready for), you will understand. If one lacks the faculty, one cannot perceive the phenomenon. Later, perhaps.

The Moon is the slow ever-spiraling cycle that gradually helps to build the permanent space vehicle for each of us. This is why the many chambered nautilus shell is connected with the Moon. The shell is said to be the power of water, that is, what is formed by this endless spiraling cycle of growth.

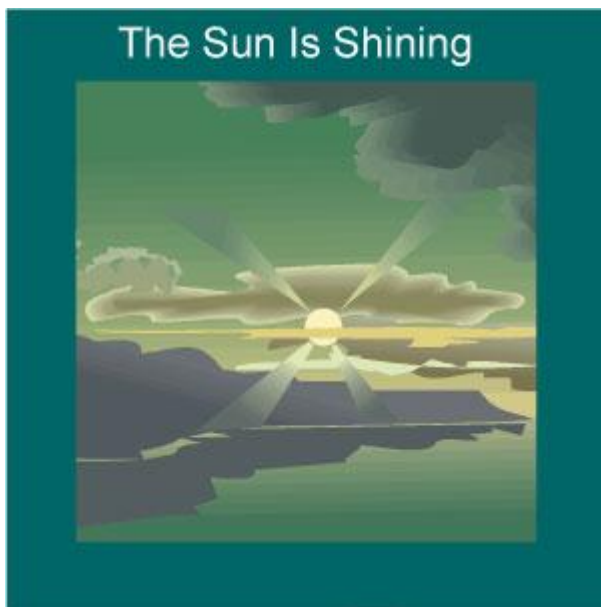


The Moon and Earth

This explains the otherwise difficult-to-understand occult tradition that the earth withdrew itself from the Moon at a certain stage in its growth, just as each of us has probably withdrawn ourselves from some group that may have been very important to us at an earlier point in our lives. We simply outgrew the aims of this group and felt stifled and bored in company that once may have provided us with our closest friends. We move on and away to find other worlds. We naturally separate ourselves from our Moon and this refers to any experience when we here on earth (objectively) experience some previous part of our experience. This occurs when we suddenly one day see some younger person going through something we ourselves have already passed through and for the first time we realize this experience as a whole. We can finally get our arms around it. We are not susceptible to it ourselves any longer.

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We see where the younger person is at and realize that we ourselves have been there, but now know that we are no longer living or alive to that kind of way of behaving. This is, in our personal life, an example of leaving or separating from our Moon. We are forever contracting away from the younger state we are/were, drawing away from a less dense state, and including within ourselves (within our experience) what once we were included within - taking on the 'terrible crystal' that poets write of. We envelope or cradle these younger people going through these same experiences and realize they are to us a Moon, and we to them now something of a Sun. They look up to us; we down at them, not a social hierarchy, but a hierarchy of age or perhaps experience.



The Sunshine

The Sun shines in the firmament, shedding its light in steady rays on all whom encounter it. It is an occult (and scientific!) maxim that the uninitiated cannot look into the Sun directly without blindness. Our Moon too, like ourselves, must undergo the steady slow growth to fullness. The Moon does not take the Sun straightaway and become a Sun itself to the same degree we are. The Moon cycle is mainly a night-time thing, a cycle of reflected light. We on Earth learn by the reflection of the Sun on the Moon. We can see ourselves better in the rear-view mirror than we can by looking directly at the Sun.

Meanwhile, our Moon learns and grows not by simple reflection from the brilliant Sun, but by first being exposed to the New Moon's solar tone, and slowly building in its own way a reflector represented by the Moon at Full, mirroring the light of the Sun and learning

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and growing more (ever) Sun-like itself. The Moon is all the materials out of which we came and which we have left behind, material that will have to be built into future forms. In a word: what we have left undone.

We up and leave our work undone, to pass to another phase, when the call comes. This takes some thinking on. Things are not all full phase like: we will finish up in a teleological fashion, phase by phase, every thing we start. That is not always possible. When change comes, it can come in the middle of any cycle.

Like the grim reaper, at a certain point, we must leave off what we are doing, finished or not, and move off to another task. That task we leave is taken up by those coming behind us, so nothing is lost. Nothing is really left undone. It is, instead, an endless doing, done and being re-done, but someone else may be doing it.



Energy Conversion

Let me re-phrase the above: Even with our most favorite thoughts, eventually we can run out of gas. We have thought it through and may not have necessarily reached any final clarity, much less a conclusion. Try as we might, we are done with that topic. We have thought on it as much as we can.

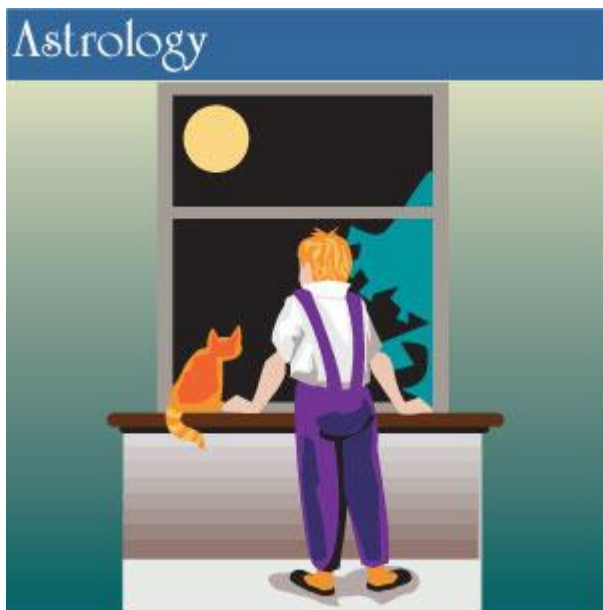
For a long time it was clear to me that, aside from the time of original creative thought on the various subjects in life, I could proceed only so far in meditating or in the extension of my point, after which I reached a point of no return, where I had thought what I had to think and no great further outpouring was then forthcoming – no more gas.

However, after this point it was possible for me to sometimes think in the presence of others, where I presented these same ideas and could further pursue them. This additional extension of an idea resulted from

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a release of energy from the listener through which I could pursue my train of thought further than before, rounding out and exploring various extensions of the original seminal thought. We can speak of this in terms of the relationship of the Sun to the Moon, as my offering the fruits of my experience (light!) in terms of guidance to the younger soul in exchange for the energy of their attention, energy and “interest” that I no longer had for this particular topic of thought.

For myself, I was done thinking about whatever the thought was. In my life, this subject was no longer a question and did not come up for me unless I tried to bring it up, which I usually did not. This does not mean I ever worked it out to the end or to any real understanding. I may just as easily have had to drop it and move on, leaving that topic unfinished – one of many left undone.



Deepening Our Enlightenment

You might (as a younger person) come to me and ask (or remind) me about this topic and, based on the sincerity and energy of your question (and your asking) I suddenly have a legitimate reason to re-view it. You provide the fuel or energy of inquiry to explore it, the attention. I can probably see it better than you, because either you have not been through it yet, are in the midst of going through it now and don't know what you are experiencing, or have gone through it, but were never aware of it. In any case, I may be able to shed some light on it for you AND at the same time explore and deepen that thought in my own experience. This is real exchange and the way many of us deepen our enlightenment or understanding of what otherwise would be forgotten or impossible-to-get-to topics.

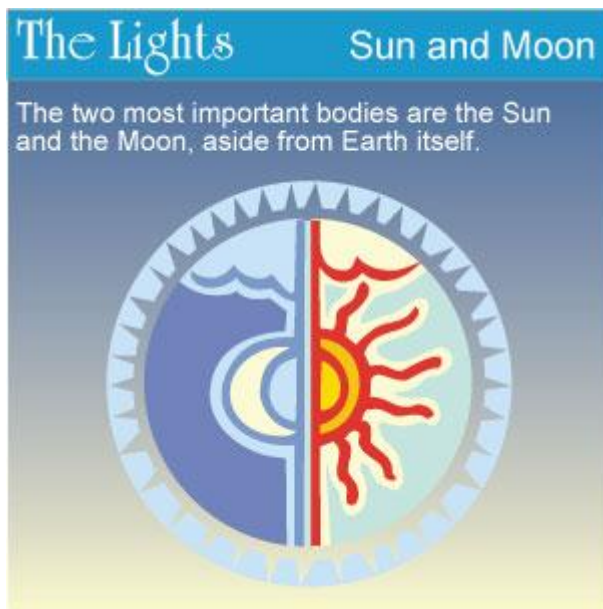
It seemed at that time that I had exhausted my own potential energy for that thought, that I had thought that

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thought, and it was no longer a new experience for me. In telling this story or thought to another, the dawning light on the student releases great energy from his experience of what I am pointing out, energy strong enough so that I could pursue ramifications of the thought that I could not do and did not have myself the power or interest at that point to do so. So there was a fair exchange.

This is one kind of mentoring, not the same as having a guru or life guide, but mentoring as a form of exchange. The older soul gets to deepen his enlightenment of the particular issue using the energy of the listening student, and the student gets guidance and an introduction to the subject, an experience of potential value to both sides.

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Mentoring

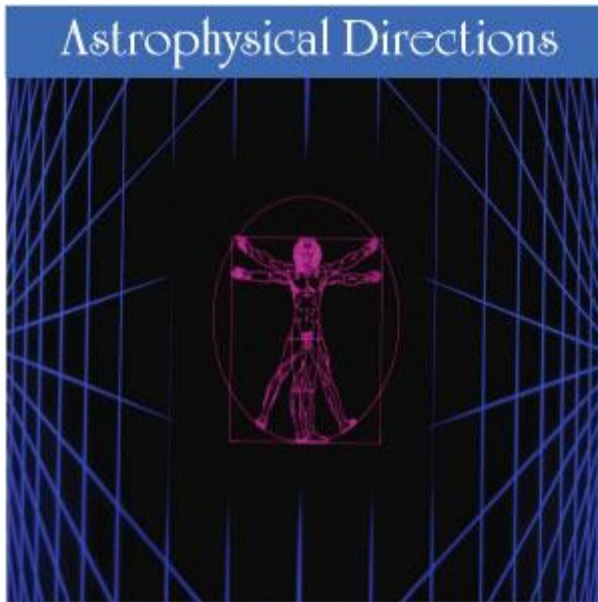
The older person provides light on the subject, and the younger person provides the energy or life to live once again these thoughts for the older person. We can speak almost of exhuming at that point the dead body of thought we had discarded and living again through the energy provided by/through the Moon or younger person. I was able by this method to deepen my own enlightenment considerably, while those thoughts and areas of life that I was still alive and new to continued in their steady advance.

This mentoring exchange also has the added advantage of helping the older person relive certain experience and figure out what originally happened to them, thus (as mentioned) deepening their understanding or enlightenment.

Another way of seeing this is by considering the idea that there is one common self and one self knowing,

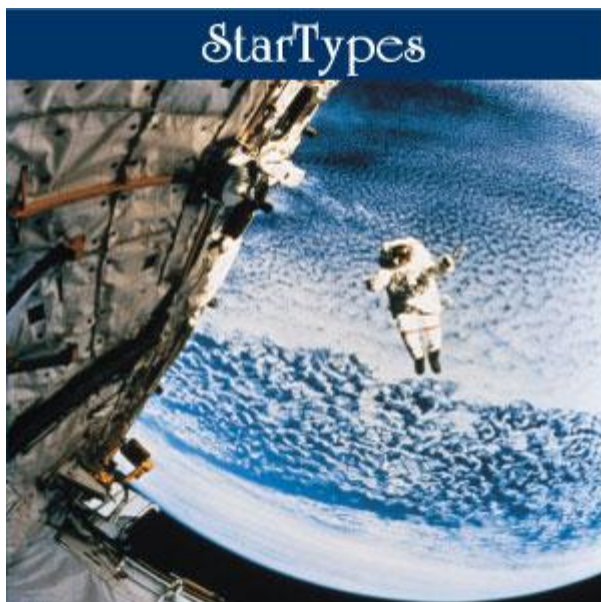
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and that all persons, young and old, share this common self, even in the shape and kind of dawning knowledge or contemporary ways of thought. Each of us has a given amount of energy to spend and how we spend it is indicated by the results we get. So, I spent my energy on my particular thoughts and remain bound to those thoughts when the energy is gone, while the thought or train of thought is carried on by the next generation, and this exchange of light for energy serves to update or keep me up to date on subjects for me that would otherwise be dead and gone. I am given in this way the latest news on the evolution or development of contemporary thought – literally. This is just another way of viewing this concept.



Vampirization

Of course, things are not always rosy in the mentoring-exchange department. If there is not some equitable exchange, it can be easy for the younger soul to fall into the sense that they are being vampire-ized in some form or another, the life force literally being sucked out of them by the older (and dryer) soul. Here is a poem I wrote when I was much younger that emphasizes this aspect:



Inner Ear

What will eager issue out,
And into us would enter,
So to stare, to stuff itself,
To eat itself the center,
Of what we wait to wither in on,
After it is all.

It eats us out.

It only is in every inward eaten,
The echo of an endless ache that arches
Hearts hard hearing,
And opens up each inner "enting,"
And enters it as out.

On the other hand, the older soul can feel humiliated when the younger soul feels taken advantage of. It is very common for younger souls to want to be very careful in what they take from anyone and just who they

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take guidance from. An older soul, even one with great knowledge, may have obvious personal faults that disqualify them in the mind of the younger one, to the point of their having nothing to do with them. Mentoring, in general, seems to be at a low point in modern society.



A Passing Phase

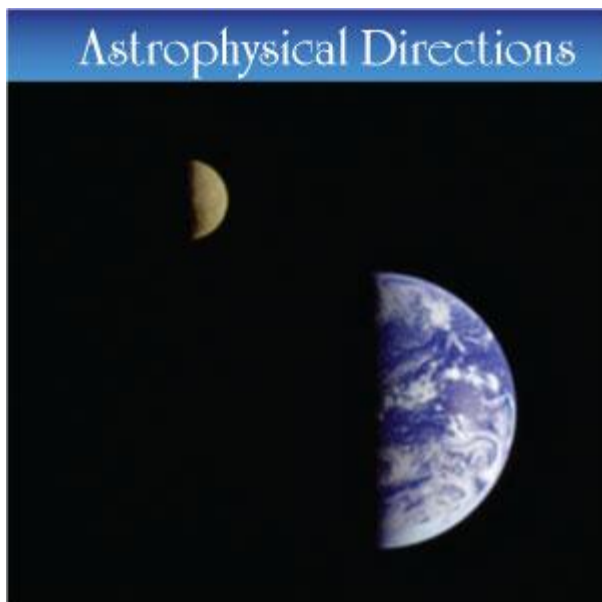
This whole experience of mentoring-exchange, the deepening of one's understanding and enlightenment through the exchange of information is usually only a passing phase, one during which we are kind of cleaning up the misunderstandings of our own past. This is the process of individuation, as each of us extracts ourselves from the matrix of our past, that is: as we grow up.

Sooner or later that extraction process is complete and we have established a more-or-less permanent distance from our Moon through individuation, through becoming an individual.

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At this point we no longer make use of the endless energy radiating from younger souls and no longer measure our own growth in terms of persons and personality. In our own way, we take on or assume the function of a Sun to our Moon, that is: before we were attached to exchanging our light for energy or attention from this person and that person. Now it is more our light shining and that energy just there. We can now work by ourselves and are not dependent on contact with our Moon. We are born free. No more placenta.

In some real sense, at this point our own Sun is shining and we have become something of a Sun ourselves now shining in the firmament. This transition can be compared to what went before it, which was a life lived to some degree at the expense of our Moon (as a mother) for some considerable time. And it is not that we still don't use this radiating youthful energy, but it seems it is not measured any longer by our personal contacts or exchanges, but just contact with our life. We have withdrawn still farther than before from the Moon.



Some Time in the Sphere of the Moon

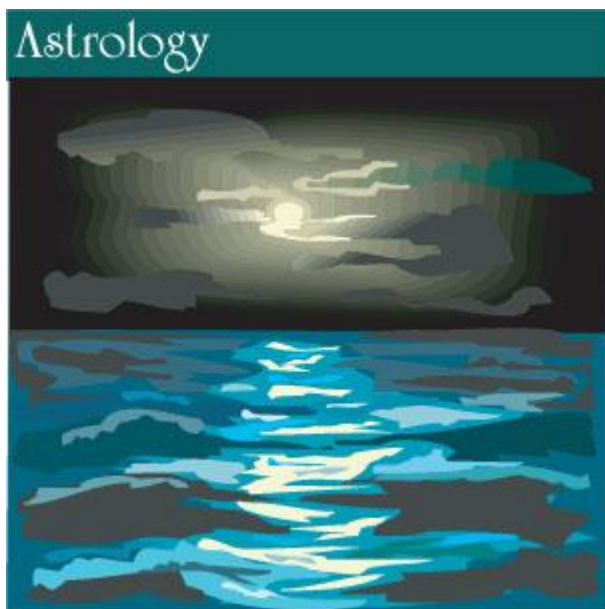
In summary: As pointed out above this relates to the tradition of each person when forming the sphere of their own Earth depending for some time on the sphere of the Moon and then slowly passing beyond that stage into a relationship more with the sphere of the Sun, rather than the Moon.

The Moon as Shadow

There are endless tales of the karma or shadow that follows the initiate, our past and how it affects us. This is the time in our lives (as mentioned earlier) during which we exchange over and over again this new light shining in us for energy and life from our Moon, a time in which we square our debts and slowly rise above the particular Moon or past from which we came and move beyond in some sense the general sphere of the Moon.

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We might picture the Moon as a vast sea of forming from which we are born or rise out of, and from which we gradually withdraw ourselves, individualizing our self, becoming a miniature Sun, and finally burning free of this mothering form-building, rise out like a space ship at last into outer space.



The Matrix of Womb

The Moon is seen as the matrix or womb in which all life is formed and from which forms gradually emerge from the Moon-Saturn phase to shine in outer space - a great glowing mass of stuff from which we are made, like the deep-space nebulae in which stars are born – birth fields.

Thus the Moon represents the realm of feeling and emotion from which we individuate and emerge into view, taking on determination, definite thoughts, actions. Feelings turn into facts. The Moon is this great matrix forming form, formless yet formative, that sea from

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which form forms from and out of which appears the each individual Earth. The earth is drawn off or draws out of this sea, out from this amorphous fluid and mass. From chaos comes creation. From the formless void the earth is precipitated and proceeds to crystallize to our final form. From the realm of the Moon the earth is formed.

Keep in mind that astronomically speaking, the Moon's strong gravitational pull on the earth is stronger than that of the sun. The Moon endlessly calls to us. The Moon is thus the great womb of consciousness from which all life emerges, the vast un-manifested "Will" felt as feelings or the urge to be.



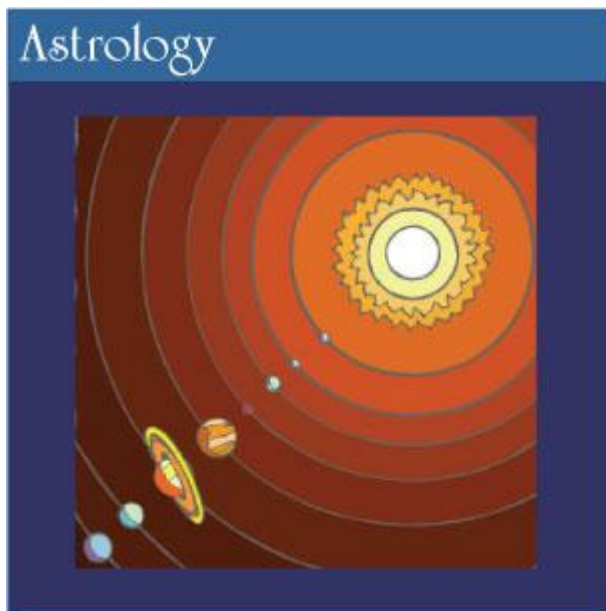
Feelings and Intuition

Most great life thoughts present themselves first as vague feelings or intuition. We sense them. It may be true that we objectify these thoughts at some particular point, yet I find more and more that this presentation is

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presaged by a long slow procession from the vaguest of feelings, growing ever stronger, and finally forming from out this great void or chaotic state into a clear thought moving us (showing us the way) into action and action, and making this thought matter or exist in our lives as a fact. This is why I stress opening our senses to feeling and intuition, learning to use the body we have to feel and conceive (midwifery) these thoughts out of nowhere. We learn to conceive.

Before our Saturn return at thirty years of age, we lie asleep for the longest time, inert in the heart of the Moon's womb, and it is only slowly that we are stirred by light and time into awakening beyond this life. We form our body from out of this great mass and matrix. Each individual Earth separates itself and draws away from the Moon to exist midway between the Moon and the Sun. The Moon would smother and retard the earth development and the Sun would cause the development to be too quick to value or burn it up in a second. We neither want to have the flame die out entirely in the Moon or combust to cinder in the Sun. Proper distance is required.



Proper Distance

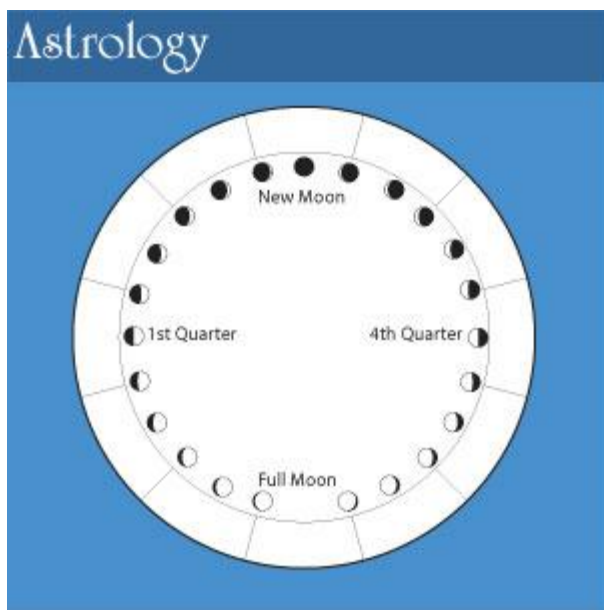
What is wanted for each of us is a slow development, a significant or meaningful life and this is why some point of balance is ever sought as we grow out of the Moon and move toward the Sun only to the degree that we can stand the heat.

This is why it is stressed repeatedly in the occult literature that the Moon for a person on Earth is a dead planet. The life on the Moon is a life the Earth person has experienced. We are dead to the experiences we have already had and alive to the new ones we are still having. When we see someone living experiences, being alive to things we have already gone through, we see our Moon. We are gazing at the Moon.

We could no longer live there. There is no further life for us there. We have been there, done that. We must remove and draw away from what we recognize as our past. We remove ourselves from our past or become

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mired in it. We are constantly drawing out from the Moon and toward the Sun. Yet for a long time, we have not the capacity to be independent from the mother Moon and we go through a long stage where we live literally on and through the Moon. It is in our Moon for a time that we find life and energy. We graduate slowly from this mother of ours into final independence. Thus it is that the Moon is simultaneously our parent and our child – one that is younger than we are.



The Placenta is Born

It is the Moon that is the placenta, bringing and distributing the light of the Sun by reflection through its endless monthly cycles, building and working us up to independence. Each month we grow more out of this great womb into existence and space. Like the plant, we grow steadily, as steady and certain as the tide of the Moon waxing and waning, building like the water builds a shell, like the crystal forms in sugar water,

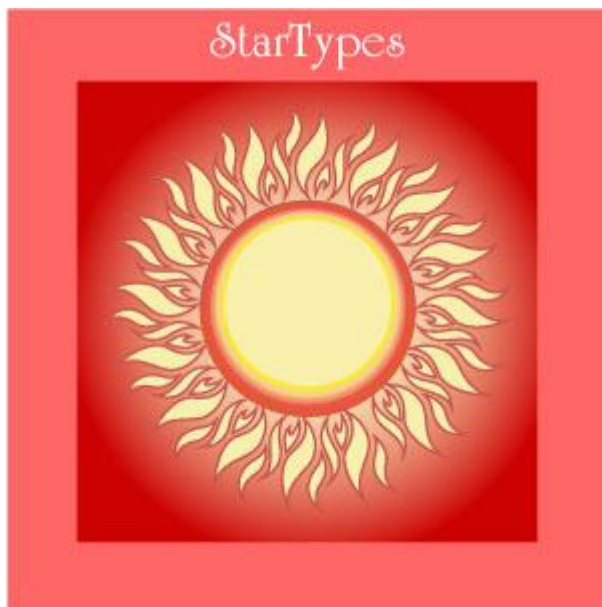
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differentiating out from the apparently formless and subtle realms, precipitating into an independent entity - being born alive.

Here is a process of endless creation and destruction, out of which is formed each particular thing, perfect in its existence and back into this chaos it eventually falls when its purpose has been served.

Ancient astrologer-astronomers called the surrounding regions of our solid globe, the thick clouds and atmosphere, the 'sub-lunar realms' and it was here that the light impulse traveling from the Sun through space struck and it was here that heat and moisture arose. It is the reaction of light to the earth's atmosphere that causes and makes possible heat. The light seeps through to the earth, distributed slowly and evenly by the cycle of the Moon.

The astrologer Max Heindel wrote "The Moon measures the soul's passage from the shores of eternity through the waters of the womb to the world of time." The Moon is the 'great deep', the primordial chaos. As astrologer Marc Edmund Jones puts it: "Therefore the feelings or emotions are the sustenance of all life activity since they distribute inwardly the strength of that Will which is at the root of the being."



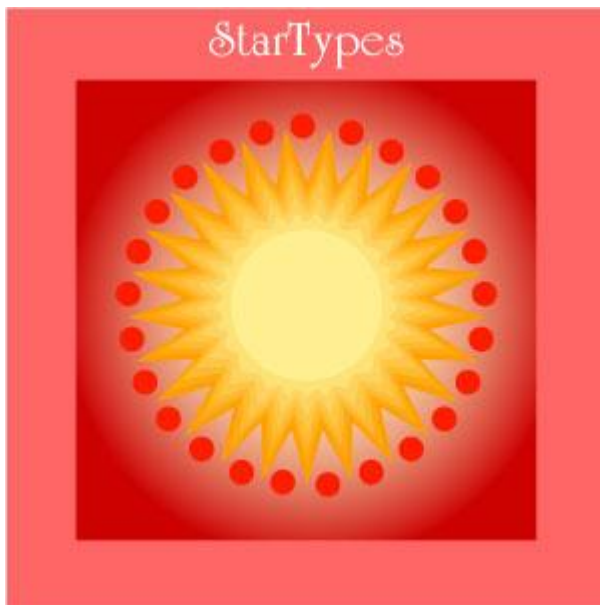
The Shining

All bodies reach the speed of light, the point when they cease to form and begin dying or deteriorating. For example, hormone levels continue to rise until something like the age of 26 and our muscles continue to grow for some years after that. We could agree that the human body is fully formed by our Saturn return at around 30 years of age (29.4 heliocentrically).

Every body and every thing has an existence curve or trajectory, after the peak of which it begins to decline and wears itself out of existence. At the peak of this curve, the body has reached its point of greatest density where it exists most perfectly, as much as it ever will. After this point, it begins to break up and release whatever energy was bound into making it during its formative stages. In other words, it begins to shine. Its mass reaches infinity, the point sometimes called the

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“Ring Pass-Not,” and it starts to come apart. It begins to shine.



The Aggregate of the Sun

The total aggregate of all things existing and shining is, in the terms of esoteric astrology, the Sun. The myriad of things done and formed through time, all of which are in one or another stage of breaking up is the great Sun shining in the night of time. Brilliant!

In the case of the human body, the whole process takes time and the shining takes time. The body stops forming, enters a period of sustaining itself, and then begins its gradual decline. The consciousness that accompanies these changes also changes. I have covered this in great detail in my book “The Astrology of the Heart: Astro-Shamanism.” The spiritual consciousness reflects the physical changes and the spiritual change from forming a body to the deterioration of the body is a powerful one, although one that is not

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often verbalized and of which there appears to be little public consciousness of.



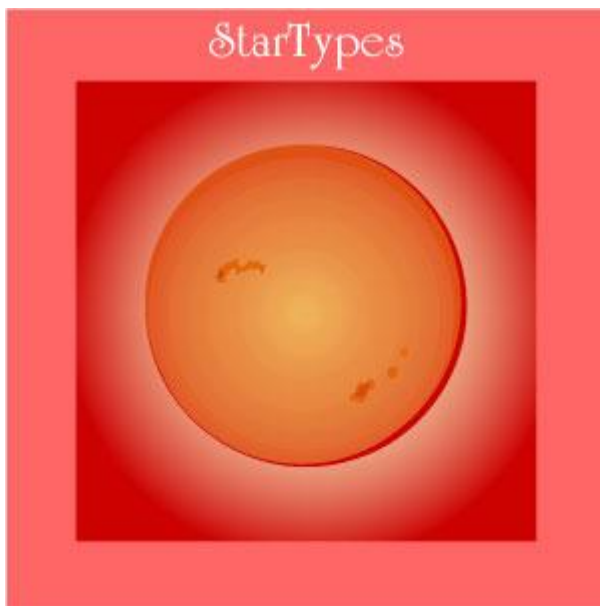
Awakening to the Sun

The spiritual consciousness is a process of awakening. In fact the dawning consciousness may be nothing more than the once-bound energy now being released to become active once again, like an aura surrounding the physical event, which is in decline. This is a real and an ongoing process and we can become aware of this process of the releasing of the bound energy. In general, anyone over 30 is going through these changes, whether or not they are aware of them.

Since we each go through this great change from the physical to the spiritual, it can be meaningful (add meaning) if we realize what is happening to us at the time or even later on. We can participate in the change in a conscious fashion. We can be aware of what is taking place.

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In general, the public mind is fixated on the death at the life-long end of the physical body, while the much more real death (this conversion) in the center of life is taking place. By the time we get to the end of the line, we have lost almost any way to feel or measure that death event. The great center of feeling in our lives is at the center or prime of life, and when we pass beyond that, we also lose the very body with which to feel with. It amounts almost to a form of anesthesia.



More than a Shell

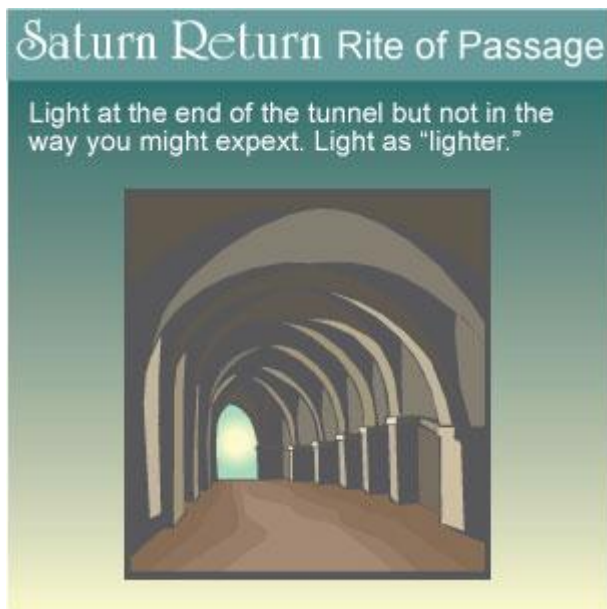
Our life and even our body is more than the just physical shell or husk. It is an ever-changing experience that removes as it goes along the very means to measure itself – how very polite. The result is that by the time we get to the ripe old age when we die, we don't have much feeling left anyway. We don't know what we are missing or losing.

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Another (and perhaps better) way to say this is that “feeling” is centralized in the prime of life (and not belonging to any person or to all persons), and is the very Sun itself shining in the firmament. Old age pushes our body farther and farther from that prime feeling. It tears the physical apart. However, our mind remains the same.

As an aside, each of us can (if we will look) figure out when it was that we died, that is: the point when we begin to emerge as a spiritual entity. For most, it is sometime in their twenties. Anyone over thirty has already gone beyond the physical.

If you talk with older people, you will find that inside their aging bodies they are still young. They inside never ages beyond a certain point, a point somewhere around thirty years of age. We are forever young in that regard.



The Day of Our Death

For myself, I have pinpointed the day and hour of this physical death, during my 25th year, the year of my spiritual birth, when it could be said I first found myself and saw the spiritual Sun shining in the mind. I don't want to belabor this here, but take time to find out how old you are. I am eternally 25 years old, at least in this lifetime.

There is an old saying that if you lack the faculty, you can't perceive the phenomenon. We lose the means to feel... incrementally. In a very real sense, we die by degrees, with the result that when we reach the death that everybody is so worried about, we are pretty much dead. Meanwhile, the death in the middle of life (that is perhaps more important) goes unnoticed, not spoken of, and for the most part ignored. It is relegated to a subject that is so esoteric that there is almost no hint of it. Or is

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it so obvious to all that it goes without saying? In that case, I choose to say it again, to point it out.



Beyond the Prime

In summary: things are existing. Every thing and every body has a prime or center of life or existence. It is the nature of things to form, to reach a point where the formative forces are exhausted, to endure or last in proportion to how well made the body is, and then to decline and break up. Our life depends upon and is based around things enduring long enough for us to act on and count of them – to depend on them. The stone foundation of a home is such a thing. We can count on those stones enduring long enough to build a house from them upon which to depend, and in which to live. It is no different with any thing - all things. Some last. Some don't. The combined aggregate of all things existing is what we call reality, this world we find ourselves in.

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Another important idea that is often ignored is that of the reference point for many of us as we grow to adulthood and away from it to old age. While there is no discussion of the prime or center of life as being sacred, there are all kinds of implicit recognition of this fact, for example: the whole cult of youth. Younger people are ever looking upward to those older than themselves, looking forward to being that age. There is a preoccupation when we are young with getting to the prime of life, to our majority. On the other hand, there is the fact that older people look back on their youth, back to when they were in their prime. A poem:

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Who You Are

If who you are is who you will be,
And who you will be will be who you were,

Then:

Who you are is not who you are or who you will be.

So, who are you?

My point here is that this prime of life is much more than just one stop on the long line of life. It is, in many ways, the very center of life itself and all paths to and from it are like rays of the Sun – they shine out from this center. The great fiery ball of energy, the Sun, is nothing more than what we call the prime of life, with its endless comings and goings. The prime of life shines like the Sun in the middle of our life, middle not as in the middle of a line of things, but middle of life as the Sun shines in

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the middle of the heavens – a vast sphere. Everything else is just that: everything else. The Sun is the center and point of it all. It is what we call the “Self.”



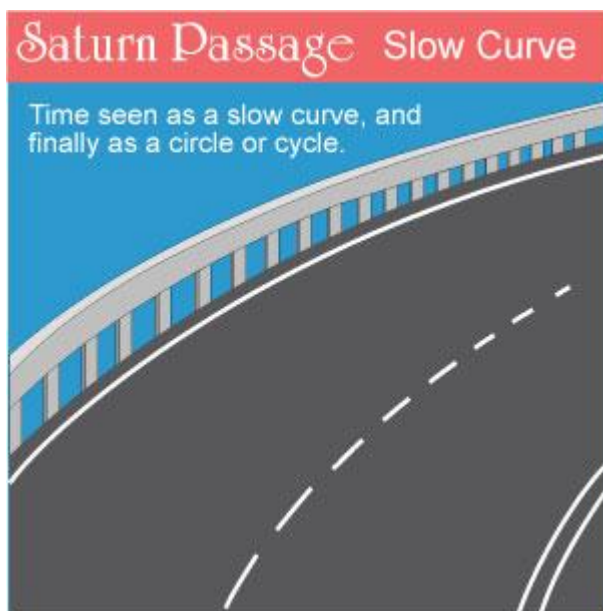
The End of Life

The really subtle point here is that, with our preoccupation on the physical end of life, this linear end of life (death of the physical body) is somewhat of a misconception, perhaps even a misdirection. We make the mistake of focusing on the physical end of life, the linear end of this body of ours, as the verge or edge of something, a point of articulation. And it is here that we mistakenly believe we are supposed to launch off toward heaven, hell, or purgatory – into the unknown. The reality may not be linear, may not be so simple. Straight lines all curve.

What if the real death is much more gradual, and located not at the end of life, but right in the middle or prime of life. And our dying or passing through this

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prime or middle of life signals a gradual removal of our sense of feeling young and a growing toward old age, but with our eyes always focused on the middle of life. In other words, we do an about face as we age, but always with our mind or eyes turned toward the sun or prime of life, in homage. Another way to say this might be that we are always and only that consciousness at life's prime and all, young and old, pay homage to that fact.



The Straighter the Line

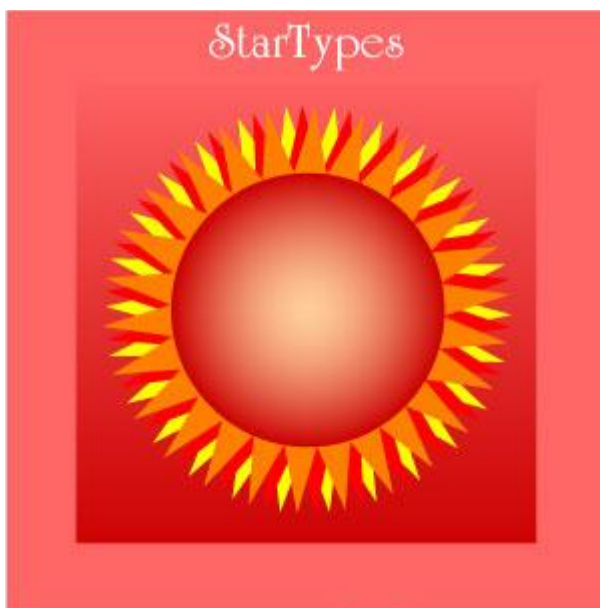
For many this amounts to a simple misdirection, a slight of hand. Everyone is staring at the time horizon for the end of life, while we walk or waltz right past the prime of life in its strength. We go right on to old age, with declining everything, without so much as a thought about what we are passing through or leaving.

Often, what is common and shared and goes without saying is our very self. There is almost no recognition

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that we (each of us) share a common self and essence. We pay philosophical lip service to this idea of a common essence or self, but what about the reality of it? If we in fact share a common essence and self, then what are the consequences of this fact? An answer could explain a lot.

If the common essence of this life creation and the radiance of it is something we all share and go through and that we each individually tune into, then we are all looking and referring to the same thing through whatever personal filter we may have. It is a common experience, so common that it goes without saying in public for the most part. In fact, it is so common that we cannot even find a way to refer to it. It is as obvious as the Sun shining in the sky, ubiquitous, shared by all.



The Eternal Self

In other words, the self is not something that depends only on our own personal experience or filter.

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Otherwise, how would a beginning, a child, or any number of persons with no means or any good experience have much to refer to? As it is, it takes a child some times to really develop a sense of the self. There is something beyond personal filters that we all refer and point to as our self. Why not say that it is to some degree the same general self for all of us?

We all refer to this common self as our own, which it is. In any case, we each have some sense of self and this common self, like a common language, must presuppose all kinds of things that we take for granted, that we assume.



It is An All Youth

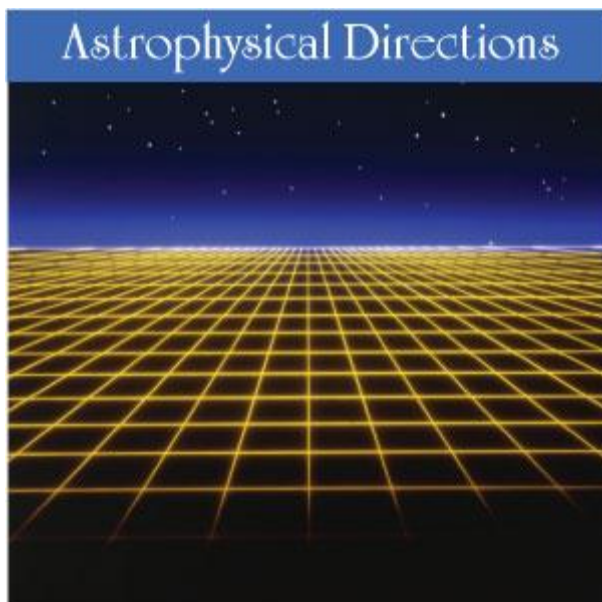
The child and adolescent all share the same self as they grow up. They grow into that self. They share in what it now is and they look forward to being more their self than they are today, to becoming their self. In fact we are encouraged to seek our self and to find our self. And old people keep telling us that they don't feel old inside, that they are the same ageless age no matter how old they grow. Something in there seems not to change. Perhaps this is even clearer in listening to old persons than from those younger, because they have somewhat less confusion about this issue.

My point here is that for all practical purposes we all seem to share a common center that may in fact, be ageless. In fact, the Self may be an endless generation of eternal prime of life that endlessly lives in time/space and to which all ages refer. As the poet Gerard Manley

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Hopkins wrote: "It is an all youth." As astrologers, this is the Sun.

When I look up the word generation in the dictionary it says: a generation is reckoned at 30 years. 30 years is one Saturn cycle, also about the prime peak for the physical body. The body of the Self is eternally 30 years of age.



The Sun is Shining

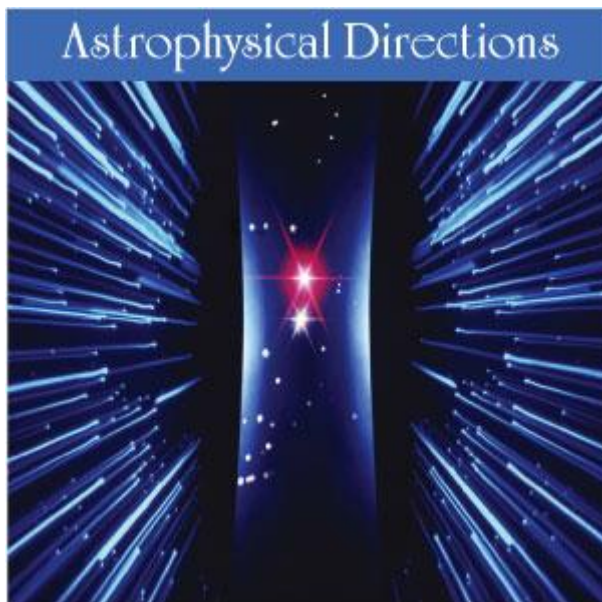
Two main factors, (1) The return of Saturn to its own place, taking 29 ½ years and (2) the positions it takes in the personal houses as it makes its 29 ½ year journey.

As Saturn rises above the descendant and the separation from the physical takes place, there is enough spiritual vision or practical vision to start working with the material of this earth. This is practical or spiritual insight, here and now. Incarnation is endless and constant, as is reincarnation.

Saturn rules time and the formation and reformation of the physical. Any body, human or otherwise, any thing endures the out-breaking shocks of time's relentless workings for only so long, after which it does not continue to last, but comes apart and undergoes reformation. The human body lasts perhaps several

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cycles of Saturn before death or reformation. We each are aware of that.



A Generation is 30 Years

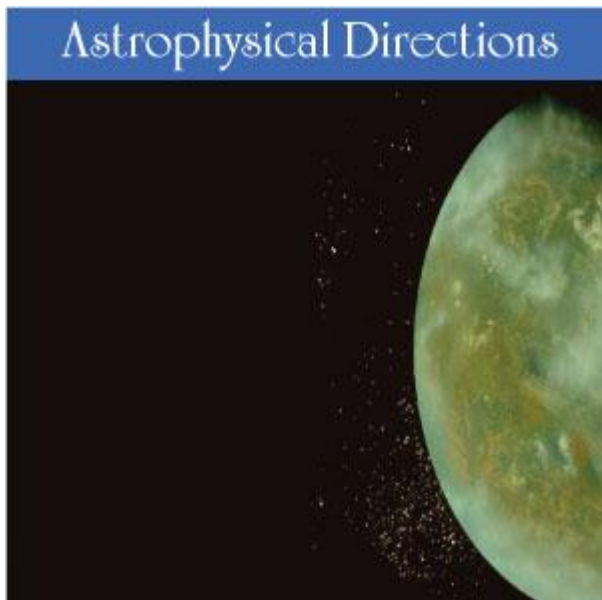
A generation has been said to be about thirty years. The Saturn cycles is about a 30-year cycle. Think of the human body as being exposed to continual generation or regeneration. Re-generations. Instead of thinking of a certain group as constituting a generation, think of generation as a constant process to which we each personally are exposed and which our physical body can stand for a limited time only, before breaking up. It first forms us and then the process husks us off.

One belongs to a generation (those of about the same age) a generation that does particular things during the formative period and we share those memories the rest of the life.

Saturn makes an orbit of the Sun or passes through 360 degrees of the signs in about thirty years. This is the

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cycle of Saturn and Saturn literally determines the physical end of our existence. Saturn is the shaper, the giver of form.



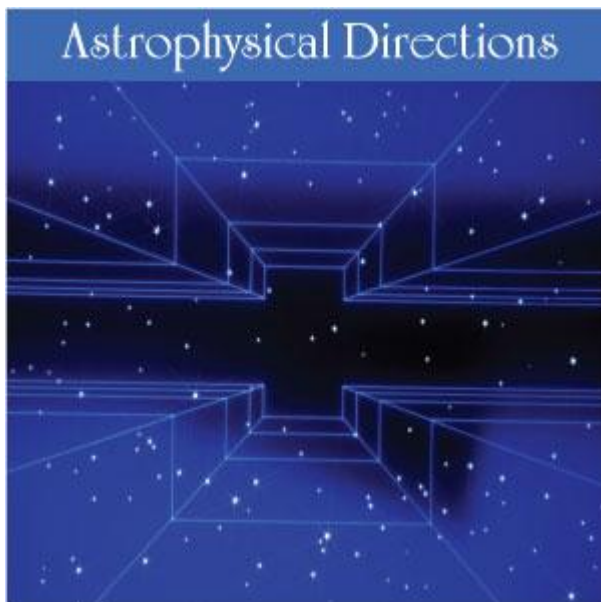
All the Difference in the World

What difference could Saturn's position in different horoscopes possibly make? The answer: All the difference in the world, there being no other difference. We each have a Saturn, but the zodiac degree and house position differ.

Whatever it means, Saturn makes a complete revolution in thirty years, covering every angle and, after 30 years of existence, we begin to cover territory that we have already covered since we entered this particular lifetime. We are initiated or have been round the course of physical existence (all 360 degrees) and begin to be worked off or pass off or away from the physical: transcend. Time wears us out of existence in the

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physical and back into essence, or whatever we might agree to call it.



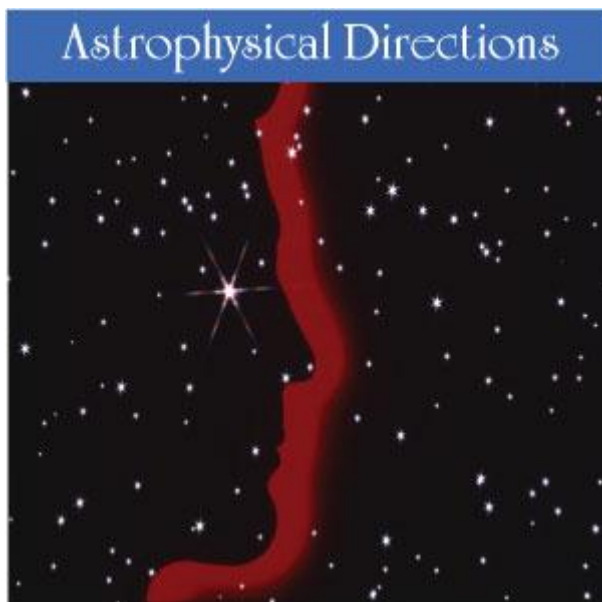
Witness to Life

After thirty, we each become witnesses to the process of incarnation or include within our own awareness all our younger years and all younger people living in the years we have now grown beyond. The generation of life, like the Sun itself, continually spews forth life that radiates from this blazing source of energy out until it encloses or surrounds that radiating center, much like the rays of the Sun surround the Sun itself. The older souls or bodies beyond Saturn or time (30 years) witness increasingly this drama or miracle of life. As the forces of time take their toll on the physical, we are gradually released from the physical.

The process of incarnation is seemingly endless and we go through continual change and reformation. Although an older soul is part of a certain generation and may

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have come up during one period or another to adulthood, the generation process is continuous and is not merely subject to age. It is eternal.



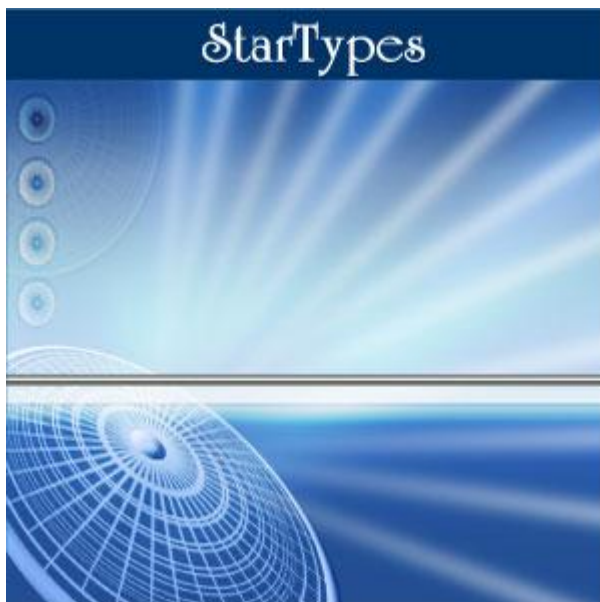
Times of Search and Return for All Ages.

What then is an initiate? An initiate is one who carries his consciousness through all phases of the process of life, one who comes full circle, one who comes across all ages and connects his or her generation- a living connection. With some of the outer planets (Neptune and Pluto) an initiate carries information that to some degree is passed from mouth to ear above or outside the process of the womb.

The physical process of generation is constant as is the process of destruction as well. All points or degrees in the circle of life are always present, although the form changes and different personalities, different persons exist at any given point at a given time. Those basic jobs or types (those degrees or stations around the circle) remain through a succession of individual persons, much like the beehive and job within a hive of bees remains exactly defined through an endless

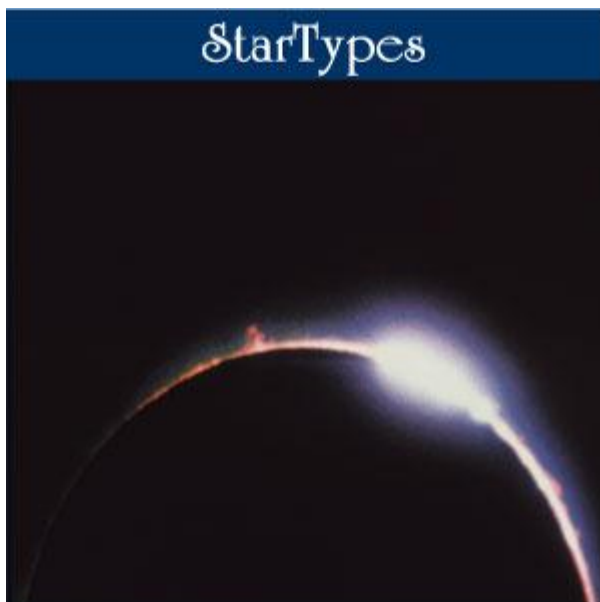
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succession of individual bees. The possibilities or positions (jobs) like the 360 degrees in a circle are more or less constant.



The Limits of Life

Life by definition has limitations and within this set of limits we may roam, subject to the pressures of age and orientation or opportunity. Our world, like the hive of bees, is dictated by the possible or the necessary. It is a limited physical world, with a limited number of positions or types of work or ways to be and, although the flux of changing times constantly changes everything, yet more or less every thing remains the same or coheres in basic form through it all from generation to generation. The basic outlines remain the same, the functions or possibilities remain the same or change very, very slowly, like the precession of the equinox points. The slowest movement describes vast cycles of change.



Circulation at the Limits

At the same time, there is a circulation of life through the limits much like the blood moves through the limits of the arteries and veins in our body. We pass from job to job, from station to station, and from perspective to perspective, forever. A given person may change his or her life function many times in a single lifetime and there is a precise movement toward that which we want or are not yet. In all this change, we tend to revolve or describe a cycle or circle. We tend to become that which we are not now or want. This tendency is endless in that it describes a circle or cycle, no point of which is a stopping or ending point and each point of which leads inevitably to the next point and so on, ad infinitum.

Through this process of physical change, there is a tendency to gradually wear ourselves out of existence and to ascend, rise, or transcend that physical existence, gradually recognizing more and more of what

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is happening, of what IS. There is equally a tendency to descend or involve or incarnate toward materialization -- the taking of form and living, that is: to form a new life or vehicle, to re-incarnate or more properly simply to incarnate -- incarnation. Rising and descending or falling like a great breathing, the organism which we are ever lives and ever dies, forever.



The Passage of Saturn

How is this represented astrologically and especially in the personal horoscope?

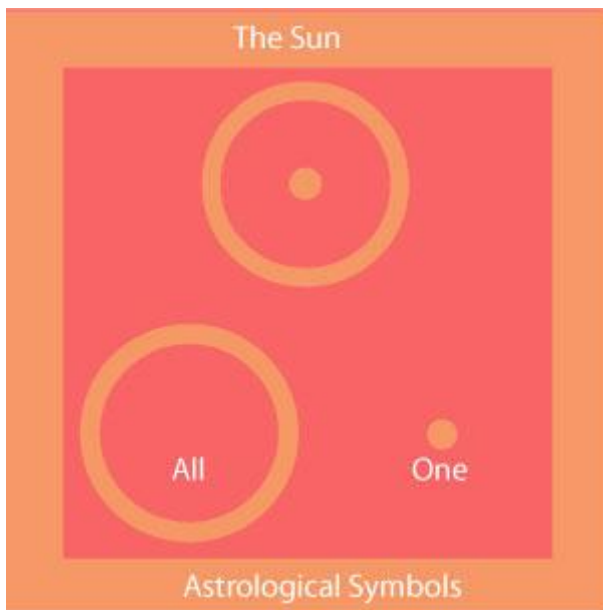
The physical process of generation and exhaustion can be measured clearly by the continuing cycles of Saturn in the life of each individual. The rising and falling is measured by the passage of Saturn through the houses of the personal horoscope, rising above the descendant in transit through the signs and falling below the ascendant and on around again. The thirty-year cycle of

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Saturn marks the transition from within the womb of time to being outside time, living in eternity.

Every cycle describes by its breathing or returning some portion of our life, and when we study astrology, we study the various kinds of chakras or way-stations of life, some of them more physical than others.

To think that by the exhaustion of the physical (death), we escape the physical in some permanent way is not, it would seem, so. The physical is an endless product of the continuing process of generation, ever being destroyed, ever being created anew. And the form of the physical is ever changing.



What Is Initiation?

What then is initiation? Perhaps it is as simple as getting used to this endless process in its "endless" quality - getting into it (intuit) – witnessing it. Since Saturn

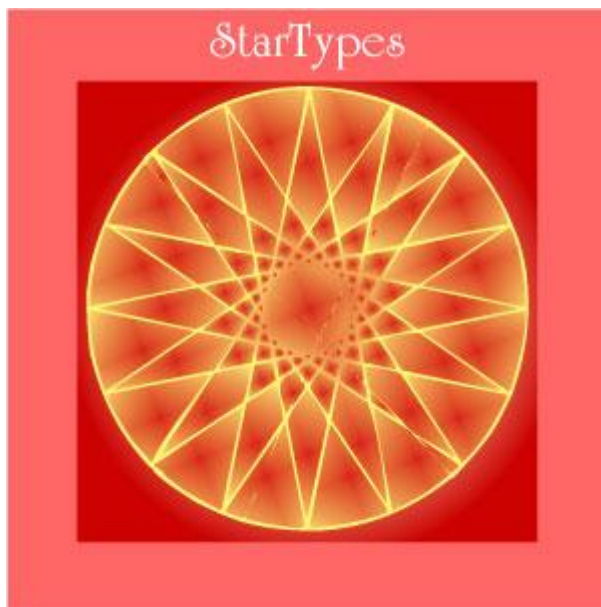
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measures the career of the physical, it can be a fascinating introduction to the study of astrology.

Saturn's transit, its continuing transit through the signs and houses, means different things to each of us personally and the same to all of us collectively. The entrance of Saturn into Cancer collectively is productive of the discovery on a mass scale of the various limitations of our corporate existence, yet personally and in the individual life, Cancer may fall in any part of our chart at any time in our lives. So for some, it is the plunge into fresh incarnation or activity, for others, the transcendence, etc. Someone with Cancer on the ascendant will have a very different experience than some other person with Cancer on the nadir or descendant. As Saturn moves firmly into Cancer, it will indicate and mark different parts of each of our horoscopes, particularly houses and relationships to our natal configurations.

At what point in our lives did we first experience the various types of experience consciously?

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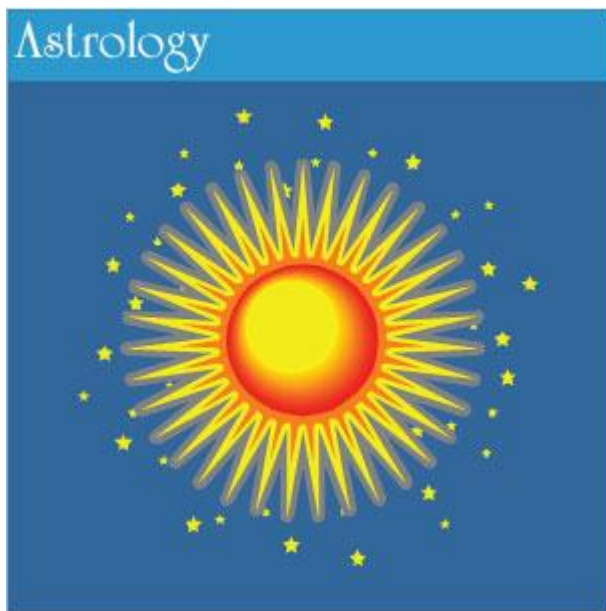


This Is It!

The idea that the spirit and those undergoing the most spiritual clarity are not by nature removed from the physical, but equally are walking around. The spirit is not something divorced from the physical or other worldly. Wherever we are, there is walking around those of an opposite and complementary nature to which we are attracted. If we are lost in the throes of physicality, there are those with nothing to do that we can share our troubles or give us strength. If we are blown away with time on our hands, there are those that will gravitate toward us with gravity and density galore, who will benefit from our lightness as we benefit from the experiencing of ourselves through them. We each have different things to offer at different times in our lives. Yet together, we make a whole, complete in having every part represented and accounted for.

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Modern astrophysics, black holes, etc. are just the most recent description of our inner life process, not a fact of any kind, but just another attempt to describe our experience.

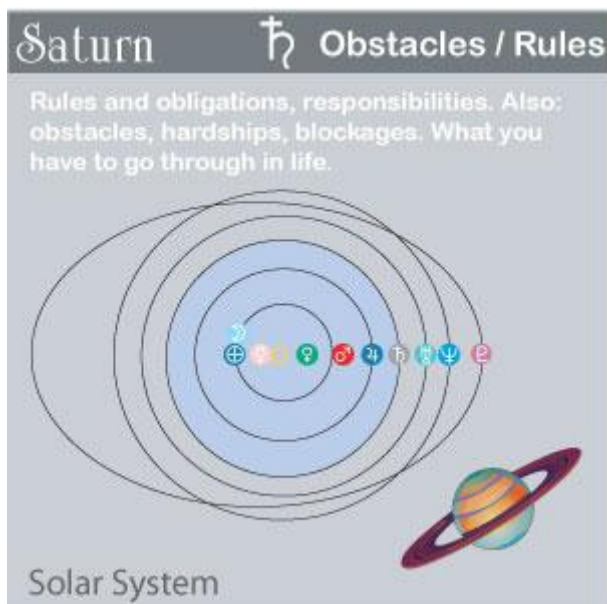


Eternity is Now

God is walking the streets of your town. We find ourselves in every day, if not now, later on. The first time through or around the wheel of life and death for one with no training is often a terrific experience. But life loses its terror in time. We fade out in endless repetition. We draw to us exactly what we need, that through which we will grow.

It is a continuous process, this not having a specific lifetime, but endlessly living. Each of us entering a personal lifetime begins the circuit or cycle of life, experiencing some part of the whole and proceeding until we have completed by age the entire cycle of whatever planets we want to consider.

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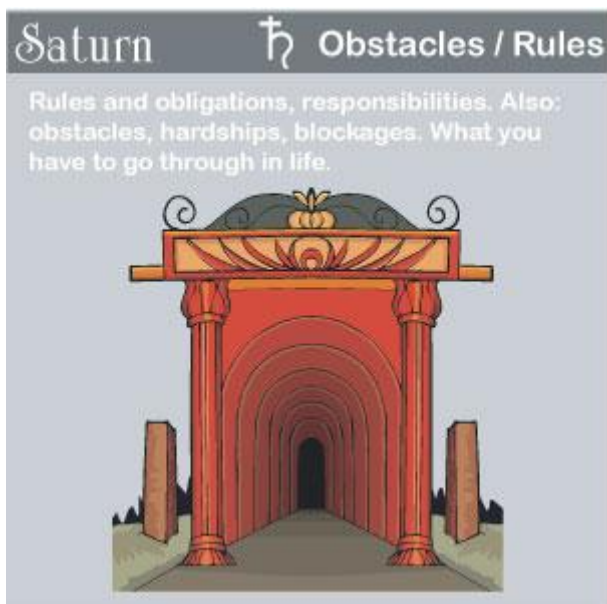


Saturn is the Physical

We are born in all the possible relations and positions and proceed to unravel or discover or experience the whole. From Saturn's position in the chart we proceed to move or transit through the chart in the direction of the signs and through our particular houses in the discovery of the whole cycle, the wholeness of our life. The whole is made up of all its various parts. We don't all, do not all begin at the same point, but each differently, yet we proceed to make a full cycle at the age of 29 ½ years, summing up our cycle at the point where we began, and going beyond that beginning into our second cycle or beyond Saturn, where we begin to respond to the outer planets.

Having completed a full turn, we are covering no new territory and can feel beyond that cycle into the next cycle, that of Uranus.

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Endless Combinations

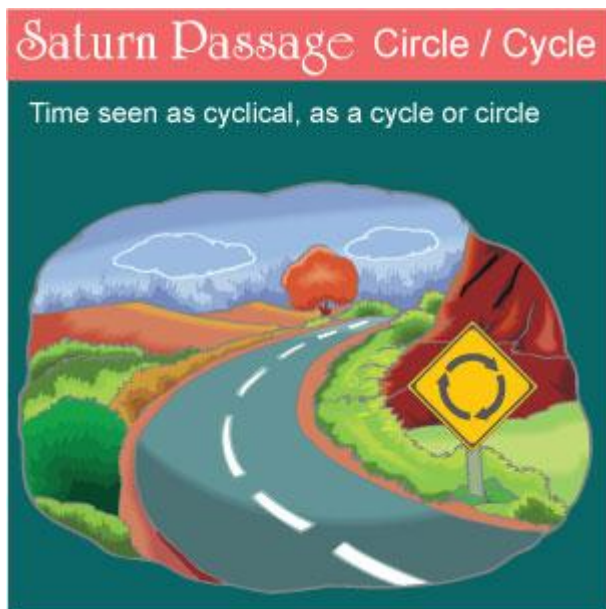
Saturn in a natal chart may be in any of the 360 degrees of the zodiac as well as in any of the 360 degrees of position by house. This amounts to about 130,000 different combinations - for all practical purposes, an almost infinite combination of possibilities. Yet, actually it is finite. When we are dealing with this large a number, we whittle that number down within our grasp by making some very general statements or grouping together more or less similar positions. For instance, Saturn on the ascendant or Saturn in the zodiac sign Cancer; these are very general statements themselves capable of almost infinite refinement. There does seem to be ample room for the different. We could say relatively infinite room. But what can we learn in general about the Saturn cycle and house positions?

You will find if you will care to investigate that Saturn moving by transit through the houses is one very

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accurate indicator of basic life change. Any indicator used consistently, such as the progressed Moon, etc., will give consistent and accurate results. It is not so important which indicator you choose to study as it is that you choose one and thoroughly use it until it becomes a means for you to feel change – an oracle. In this case, the transits of Saturn have provided me with a very valuable tool through which to measure basic life change.

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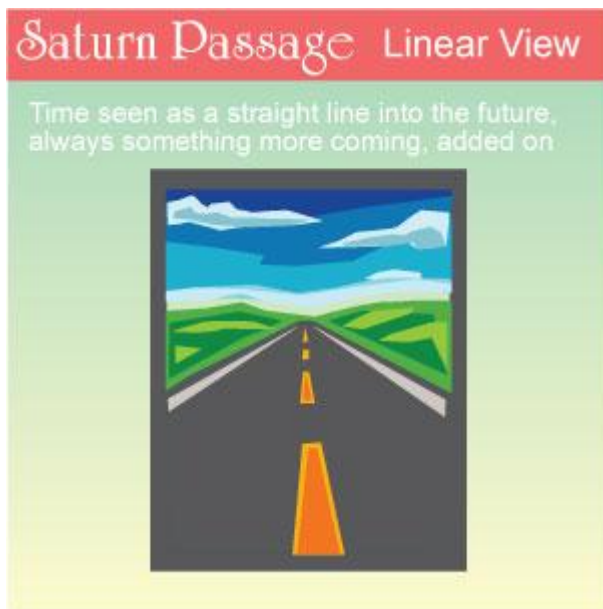


Saturn is Time

As Saturn moves by transit through the houses, down the nadir and riding up across the descendant, very real changes are certain, are observable.

Each planet or whatever you study will give you a feeling or measure of a particular chakra or part of the whole of life. I am using Saturn or Satan here because for me it has been the most obvious and material, most easily obvious of all of the planets. I might say unavoidable. Each planet describes by its orbit a certain area or a certain part of the process of life. The planets are stations like the seats on a carnival Ferris Wheel. Each seat is directly related to all the others on a wheel or cycle and the wheel itself is turning. Each seat turns or levels as the wheel itself turns or revolves.

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Saturn: Muladhara Chakra

Saturn relates to the muladhara or densest chakra, matter in its most dense form.

Overcoming Satan or Saturn has in almost all religions been the key to spiritual life. It is well worthwhile to learn all we can about this planet, not because we worship Saturn, but that we might better learn what overcoming Saturn is - what Saturn is, how and when to overcome it.

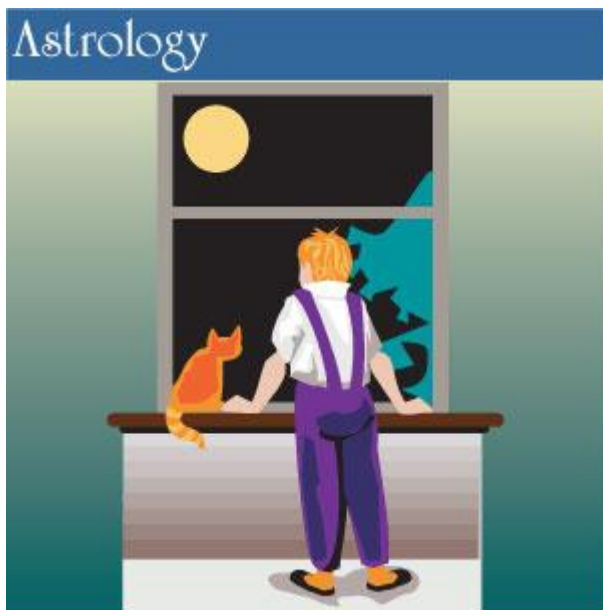
In some sense our past or other lives, our other incarnations, perhaps are living now. How often do we find ourselves dreaming of being a big star or something more than we are, dreaming of being any body else but the body you happen to be. It may sound fanciful, but this experience is anything but uncommon.

Being unwilling or unable to work with the body we have to do or work with and instead, dreaming, wishing or

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projecting ourselves into some body else or some future body that we imagine as a desirable body is common, not rare. Spending our life living in a future that is not now. What will we do? What might we be? What it would be like when and if?

Ignoring or rejecting the body of life, the body of experience, the body that we now have, that we now have to do and (instead) saving or hoping for a body or opportunity to bring all of this imagined life about. Waiting... takes forever.



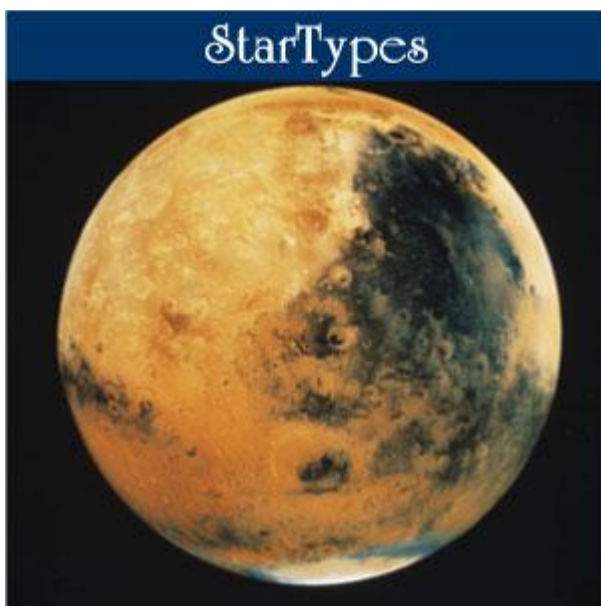
Putting Off Life

We tend to put off working with what we have now, waiting for the “right” opportunity, while the only opportunity we have is now here, if we will just feel around until we find the way in which it is. Better we use the passing time to learn to feel out the various possibilities surrounding us, for that is all that is surrounding us: what is surrounding. Riding our potential, hoping for some time or place to actualize what we are holding out for ends in our being glad to get into it at any time or place, and at any price. Don’t wait to begin means we are already begun. This is it and it will be whatever we make out of it.

What we are is ever changing. The personality of the times we live in changes each day and with it we change accordingly. Our personality is the product of the times and these times are ever changing. When we speak of our personality in our particular life, we speak

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of where we pick up (or peer through) the mask or persona of the times into which we were born or out of which we emerge. We will carry that mask or role for a while and die away from it. Yet the personality goes on regardless of the individuals who participate. We each enter into this life, grow to a prime of life or fullness, and pass away. We perhaps identify with the times in which our most formative growth took place or that time to which we tuned in the most or were the most in tune with as being our personal life or self.



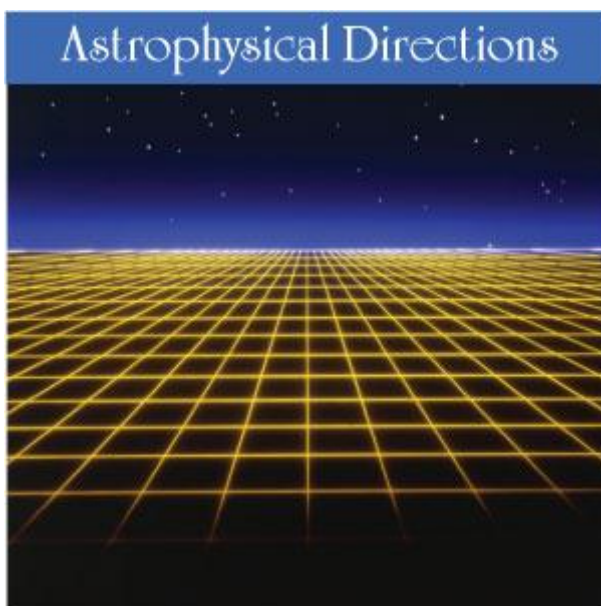
The White Noise of Age

As we get old, we fail to keep up with all the many changes that constantly occur. It is like white noise to us. We withdraw to a more and more general or eternal way of taking life or self. We lose interest. We rise up in our prime to wear what mask or persona, what personality is of the moment and we fall away from that as our interest and energy fails. Or we take on more

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eternal perspectives. We do what is necessary. We fulfill what must be fulfilled or we are not at all.

The personality which so fascinates all of us is an endless stream of consciousness flowing. We share the personality of the times into which we are born. We have the same virtues, the same faults. We describe them in the same way. In some very real respects, we are superficially (personally speaking) the product of our times.



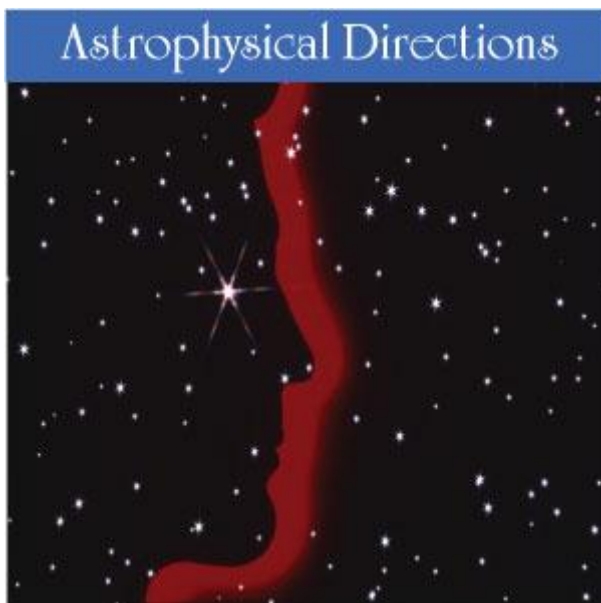
The Shape of Things to Come

Saturn is the shape of things to come, the shape of things coming, and the shape of things that are. Beyond the personal indications of the times are the more enduring archetypes or general possibilities of life itself - the various laws of nature or Saturn. We are the living end of spirit, and our personal points of contact or existence are those points to which we are connected or attached as indicated by sign and house and aspects,

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our natal Saturn - the shape of things to come or that through which passing we will fulfill the law.

Traditionally there has been the division of us into our personality and our individuality, an impossible distinction, but also valuable as a stepping stone. The individuality is that which does not change, which is change itself. The personality is the endless heap of the bodies of all the bees that represent the beehive through however many centuries or eternities. The individuality is the ongoing functioning laws of the hive that keep all the stations or jobs occupied. Our individuality is the spirit of the beehive.



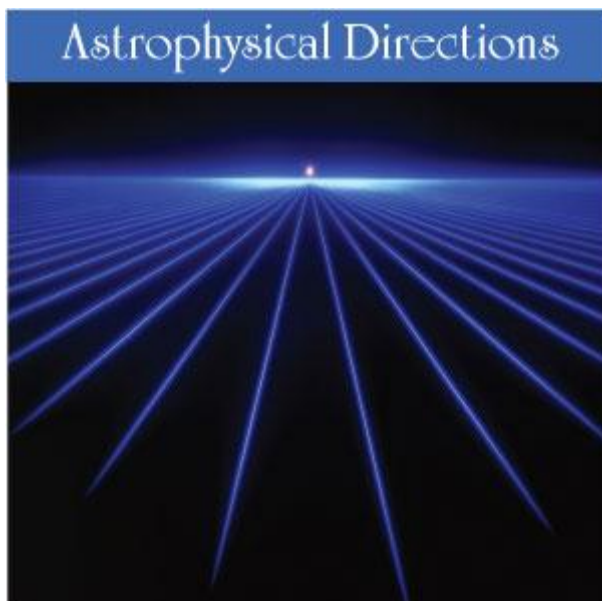
The Personality

The personality is the most and least important part of our life, the most because it is the particular apple we eat on this particular day and least because we could just as easily eat a pear or peach or nothing at all

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Impersonal points to what is beyond, to what is beyond happening superficially, and to what is general in life, what remains the same through any number of particular changes, to what are the general forms or shape of things throughout all times, to what is the basic function or what is the shape or form of the functioning, to what form the function produces. Form and function are one.

There is no reason to not believe that the human situation will not end up like the beehive, an entity that has had endless (seemingly) more generations during which to come up with a workable solution and has many females and few males. The male element, the last to be formed is the first to atrophy or dissolve, and I think that we live in the time of the beginning of the end of the male or material. Why do bees live? To make honey to store to live next year? What are they heading for? What is their purpose? Just to live and that's all



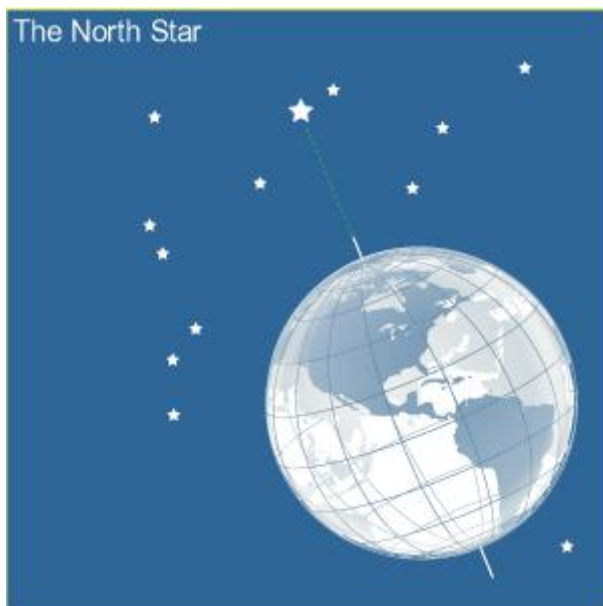
Ordering of Chaos

We work with the bubble of energy or unknown to precipitate all that is chaos into ordered past. Working with a new principle serves to precipitates what we now have. Fall out. What I have now will fall out in order as I work with a deeper or new thought. Everything will assume their position, take their place.

We use a new idea, new energy to get things done. The new idea boggles the mind and it rains facts. The new causes the old to be old. The new causes the old to pass away, and this happens simultaneously.

The thirty-year cycle of physical generation: Saturn. Generations: that which is generated, which has been generated. Generation = 33 years = Christ's death = ice melts. We are turned loose by thirty three years of age. We are beyond Saturn or: no one lives beyond 33. The life of Christ.

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The Single Generation

Oxford: A generation is usually computed at 30 years. There is only one generation. This is a constant generation or overflow. Generate. Generation.

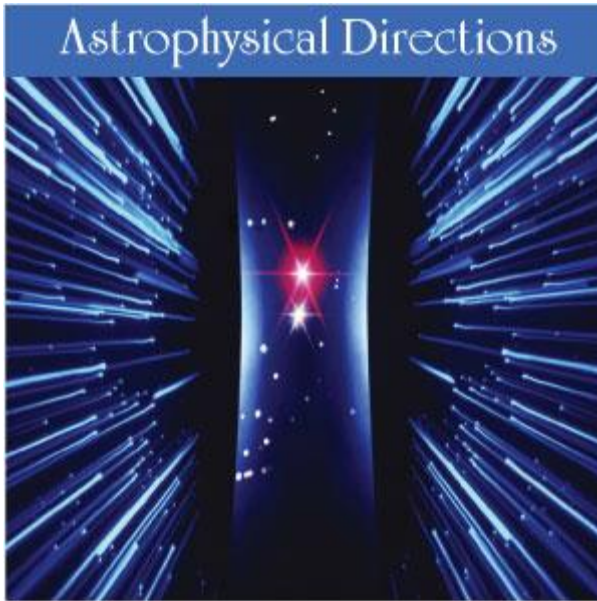
One lives again: regeneration. Endless regeneration. There is no one older than one generation. We are all of the same generation, for it still is. Regeneration = rebirth. The inside drives the external, produces the outer. We are only one generation old and after that we are regenerated, undergo regeneration or rebirth. Never trust anyone over 30 years of age, because there is no one over thirty years of age.

After 30 years of age, we grow young again or, rather, remain the same age. We are regenerated, reborn - rebirth. A new generation. We stop growing old and we grow or stay young, because we grow beyond Saturn. We overcome Saturn/Satan and rise above Saturn and become aware of how young we really are. 30 years is

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the limit of the cycle of Saturn. Thirty is Satan's limit, beyond which you cannot be reached. Beyond which you can be destroyed physically only, but Satan has no control over your spirit.

Generation is the outpouring of this world, the Sun shining in the firmament. There is only one continuous generation, the limits of which beyond we cannot pass without experiencing that act, that there is one and only one generation. And we are reborn in that knowledge of constant everlasting life. Everlasting generation, the end of old age and fear of death.



Everlasting Life

What will in words not wake,
Clear sleeps,
And clear, sleeps on.

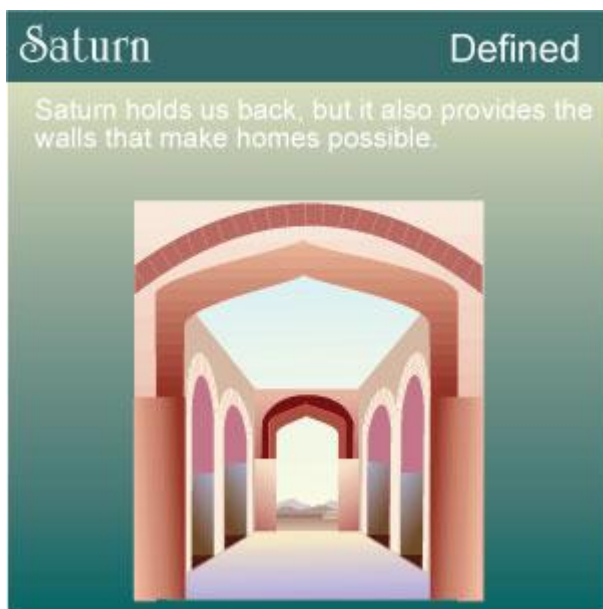
What wakes stands watch to see that sleep as sound.
What wakes will serve to set asleep,
Inset a sleep with standing words,
That wake, if ever, last.

And on that last, in overlay, our life.

Yes, to lay at the last a life that ever lives,
To ever last that "last" of life,
And in ever lasting life, everlasting,

We have a life that lives at last.

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A Limit of 30 Years

That limit is thirty years. Beyond which one cannot go without experiencing rebirth, regeneration, or the fact of continuous generation. And it is at this point that we awaken to new life... are reborn and take up life with a fearlessness and faith that is reassuring to all who know us. We each are awakened at thirty or are capable of being reborn or awakened. For truly there is no 'more' or as Christ said so clearly: "It is finished." It is one. It is complete. It is fulfilled. By his death, He fulfilled the law. Those who exist in darkness or age past thirty years do so unnecessarily.

There is no second or third generation. There is but one generation and there is no generation gap, only the failure to witness the fact of endless generation and to worship at the feet of the lord of this universe, whatever name you might call this lord. The generation gap is the arrogance of old persons. A parent cannot lay his blame

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on his children. The older generation failed to love and guide the younger ones, failed to inquire into the nature of life and truth.



The Generation Gap

The generation gap is a myth. The very concept is a lie that itself perpetuates the problem. There is no gap. One is not generated fully until thirty and until then we are not exposed to Saturn's law. One is born again at thirty. One leaves the womb.

Regeneration is simply generation or the recognition that there is but one generation and one generator. There is simply "generation." Regeneration or reincarnation is a half truth. Re-incarnation or regeneration is simply the realization that incarnation is endless. One is not re-incarnated, but merely assured that this incarnation is ongoing and endless. The continuous generation throws off every body in its endless living. It husks itself perpetually. The continuous

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generation, like the Sun shining, throws off its light in every direction and the end of generation throws generation into relief or outline. This is it. This is the other world. The other world is to witness the world. That is all.



Lie the Snake Shedding Its Skin

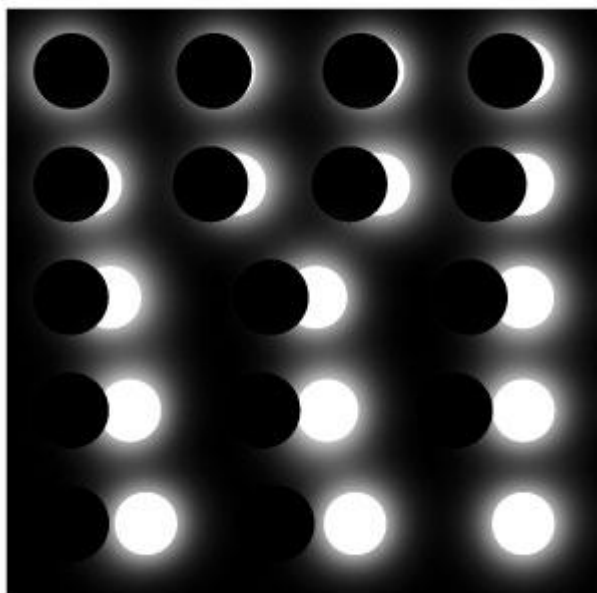
The newness husks off what came before, like the snake shedding its skin. Renewal. Rebirth is continually now happening, is continuously 'now' happening. Generation is not personal, but belongs to everyone, is in everybody, regardless of age. As we grow physically older, we grow spiritually younger or stay the same like a stuck record.

Never was there a time when you were not, never a time when you will not be. Regeneration is the affirmation of generation, the realization that generation is in fact continuous, ongoing, and you don't have to spend the rest of your life watching to see if you are

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slipping away. You can't watch your own death. You can't attend your own funeral, because you don't die in any lasting sense, but you can become a witness living your life. You die to that idea of life. You give way to new life and are reborn. You witness yourself young, living in any body you meet. Nothing is lost, but the shell worn out in time when your personal body is passed or put aside. Check it out for yourself.

It would be good to get over the fear of death before you die physically, so that you might know life. Beyond these words yawns a cavern into which you will drop your body, but not your mind.



Eastern Astrology: Lunation Cycle

The East seldom mentions the individual birth chart. Their primary interest is in the dynamics of the lunation cycle itself, which they divide and analyze in great detail in order to make use of the opportunities it offers for day-to-day decision-making. In other words, in the East the lunar cycle is used as a means to determine the kind of activity appropriate for each successive lunar day, and there are thirty of them. This amounts to a form of electional astrology.

In the West, electional astrology is thought of as a means to pick an appropriate time in the future for a particular ceremony or happening, like a wedding. Eastern astrology too uses electional astrology in this manner, but more often it uses electional astrology as a guide to day-to-day personal living and practice. Rather

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than concern itself with what lunar type a given phase of the Moon might produce (birth chart), oriental astrology asks what is the current lunar phase good for. What kind of action is auspicious (or not) today? In India and Tibet, it is the lunation cycle rather than the yearly sun or solar cycle that is the primary indicator used for planning activities and for personal guidance. In other words, in the East they live by and follow the cycle of the Moon on a day-to-day basis, just as we do the Sun here in the West.



The Lunar Birthday

A very clear illustration of this idea is the fact that, in most Eastern countries, birthdays are observed according to the particular day of the moon cycle (lunar phase angle) during which a person was born, rather according to the solar return (birthday) as here in the West. If we celebrate your birthday in Nepal, we celebrate that phase of the moon (the lunar day, solunar

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angle) you were born in. Moreover, due to the fact that lunar months do not fit nicely within the solar year, a birthday in the East for any given individual can be up to a month away (during some years) from the solar return -- our Western-style birthday.

This simple fact makes it clear how important the moon and the lunar cycle are in these countries. A study of the existing literature on the meaning and use of the moon in astrology (East and West) shows much similarity but also considerable difference.



The Cycle of the Sun and Moon

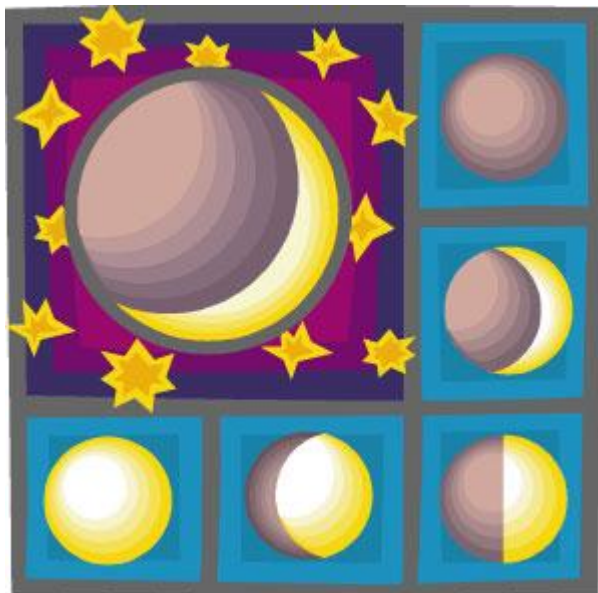
There is general agreement (East and West) about the nature of the lunation cycle, in that it somehow proceeds from some sort of seed time at the new moon to a fruition at the full, and so on. Tradition has it that we get an impulse, insight, or idea at the New Moon. During the two-weeks between the New Moon and the Full Moon (the waxing moon), this impulse or insight

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develops into something objective; we build it into something concrete. In other words, this seed impulse grows into something real and reaches fruition at the Full of the Moon. After the Full Moon, whatever we have built or manifest proceeds to break-up or dissolve, and we gather whatever experience or rewards we can from it. It breaks up during the waning two-weeks of the lunar cycle, from Full Moon to the next New Moon. Thus, the endless lunation cycle (like our lungs breathing) goes from a collapsed seed point (New Moon) to a full manifestation (Full Moon), and back again. This is the archetype of the cycle.

The lunar cycle endlessly expands and contracts, bearing forth and taking back -- creating and destroying. Given this fact and the tradition that has built up around it, those who study the lunar cycle seek to take advantage of this constant cycle and its very regular opportunities. In the West, this very practical knowledge has either been lost or never really accumulated. It is hard to tell. My guess is that it has never been studied here in as much detail as in the East.

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Lunar Gaps

Although measuring time and life by the moon is ancient, it is more than just some primitive sort of clock. The very sophisticated concept of lunar gaps springs from centuries of painstaking psychological observation by the lamas of Tibet, and the Hindu sages. They practice it today with the same vigor and intensity as they did a thousand years ago. Unlike many other traditions, where the line of successors (lineage) has been broken due to various events, the dharma tradition of Tibet remains pure and unbroken to this day.

Although much of the Tibetan dharma tradition requires dedication and intense practice, learning to use the moon's phases and the concept of lunar gaps is easy to get into. The theory is simple.

It involves the ongoing relationship between the Sun, the Moon and the Earth -- the monthly cycle of the phases of the Moon. We already know about the moon

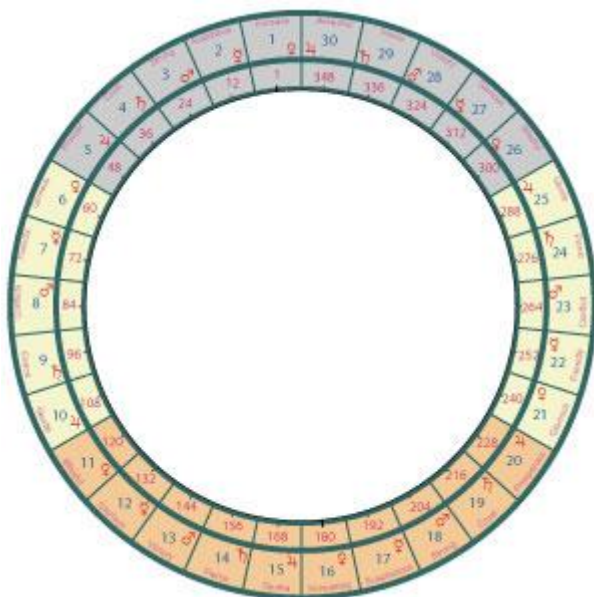
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cycle, and can even walk outside at night and see which lunar phase we are in.

This is not the place (and I am not the expert) to describe to you either the very complicated astronomical motions these three heavenly bodies produce, or the profound theories of what all of this motion means in a philosophical sense. What is quite accessible is the concept of "lunar gaps."

As we know, the moon cycle goes through its phases from new moon to full moon, back to new moon in a cycle of about one month, some 30 days. This is seen as an ongoing cycle of activity -- endless in extent. It goes on forever.

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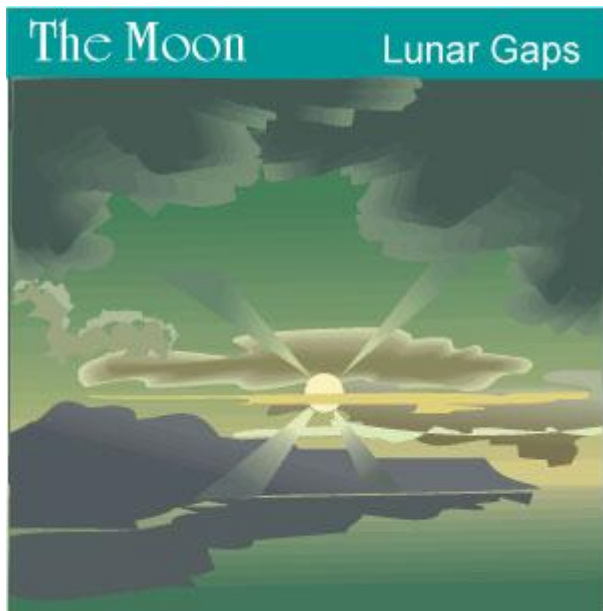
Thirty Lunar Days

However, although the moon cycle is unending, it does have distinct phases like the Full Moon, New Moon, quarters, and so on. In Tibet and India, the monthly lunar cycle is divided into 30 separate parts called lunar days. There are thirty lunar days starting from the new moon (start of 1st day), counting through the waxing half of the moon cycle to the Full Moon (end of the 15th day), and on around through the waning cycle, back to the new moon again.

What is interesting about how the lamas (and most Hindus too) view this 30 day cycle is that the 30 lunar days are not considered of equal importance. The monthly cycle has very definite points in it of increased importance -- lunar gaps. It is at these lunar gaps or openings that it is possible to get special insight into different areas of our own life. In fact, the Tibetans take full advantage of these lunar gaps to perform very

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specific practices. That is, certain of the lunar days have proven themselves to be auspicious for particular kinds of activities.



Moments of Clarity

In the East, they speak of mental obscurations that tend to cloud our minds, but that can sometimes clear up, just as the Sun comes out from behind the clouds. These moments of clarity are the gaps in the clouds.

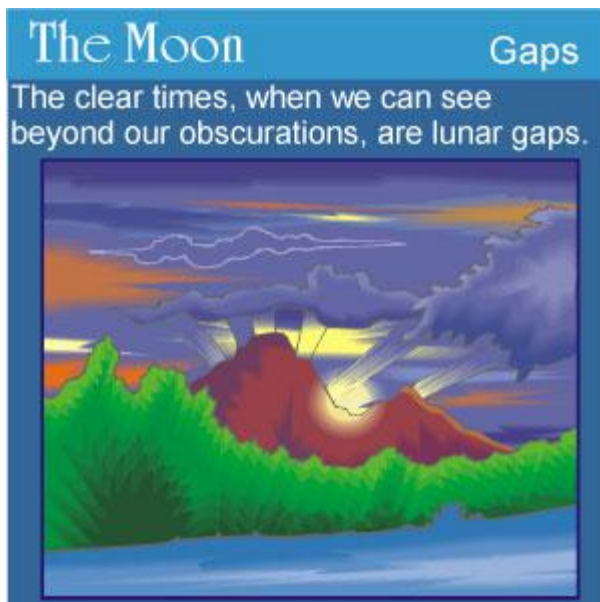
From a reading of the Eastern literature on this subject, one gets the sense that (in general) life (and our minds) are perceived as being filled with the noise of our own problems (obscurations), making clear insight often difficult. These obscurations can be many and their accumulation amounts to the sum total of our ignorance -- that which we ignore.

Therefore, in Eastern countries, these articulation points or windows in time/space (lunar gaps) are very much

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valued. In fact, the Eastern approach is to analyze the lunar cycle, in minute detail, in order to isolate these moments (gaps in time/space) where insight into our larger situation can be gained. Much of day-to-day practice in Eastern religions amounts to a scheduling of precise times for personal practice or activity built around the natural series of gaps that can be found in the continuous lunar cycle. In its own way, this is a very scientific approach. In the East, they have been astute observers of the mind for many centuries.

Here in the West, we are no stranger to clear days in our mind. We have those too! The only difference is that we tend to believe that these so-called clear days appear randomly -- every now and then. The more sophisticated (and ancient) psychological analysis of the East has found that these clear days are (for the most part) anything but random events. They have their own internal ordering, and oftentimes this ordering can be associated with the phases of the moon.



Summary: Lunar Gaps

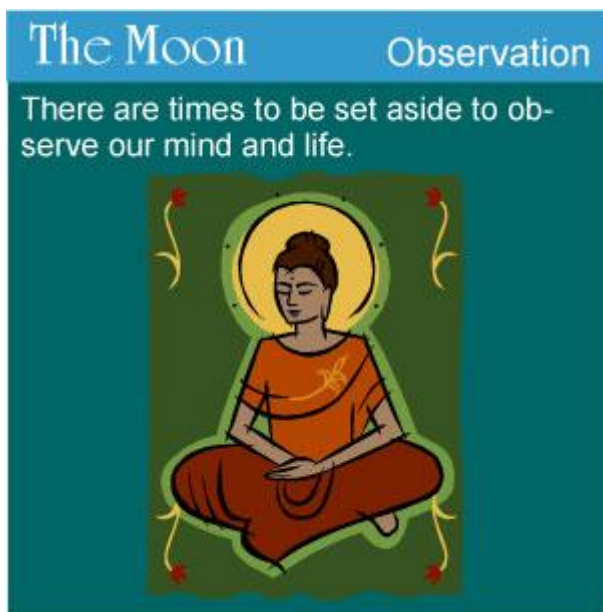
In summary, there are times each month when it is more auspicious or appropriate to perform or be involved in one kind (or another) of activity. There come gaps in the general obscuration or cloudiness of our mind when we can see through the clouds -- when penetrating insight is possible.

As noted, times when one can see without obscuration (see clearly) are very much valued in the Tibetan dharma tradition. These are viewed as real opportunities for insight and the subsequent development such insight generates. Knowing when and where to look for these insight gaps has been the subject of study and research in Tibet for centuries.

And this is not just academic research, reserved for the pundits. Everyone uses the lunar calendar on a regular basis. Lunar gaps are used to plan a wide variety of events in the Tibetan calendar, everything from finding a

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time to perform a simple healing ceremony to full scale empowerments.



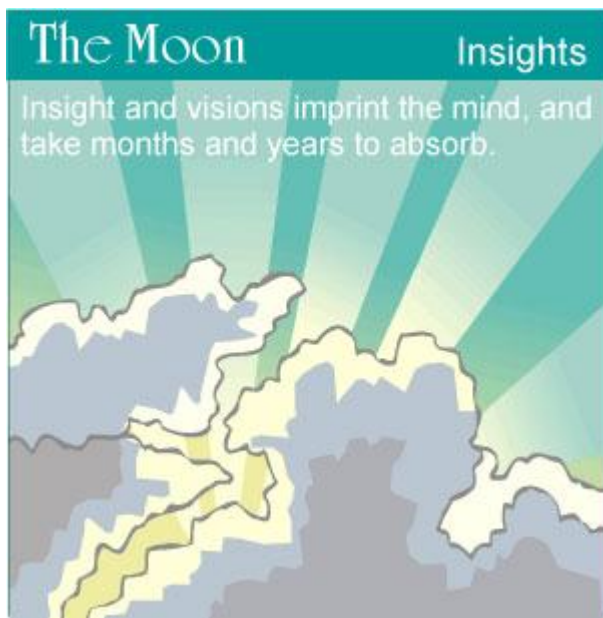
Observation Times

Aside from knowing when these lunar gaps can be experienced, the other major thing to know about this subject is what to do when the gaps occur. As you might imagine, there are a wide range of practices, depending on the particular lunar gap (phase) and the personal needs of the practitioner.

However, in general, these lunar gap times are set aside for special observation. Tibetans observe these days with great attention and care. In fact, in many Eastern countries, they don't have Saturday and Sunday off. Instead, new and full moon days are considered holy days (holidays), and normal routines are suspended at these times. These are days for observation.

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This word "observation" is worth mentioning, for this is what takes place at these times. In the West, we might use the word meditation. In Tibet there are many words that come under the general concept of meditation. The word "observe" is a lot closer to what happens during these lunar gaps. Observe the nature of the day. Observe your mind at that time. Be alert, present and set that time aside for just examining yourself, your mind, the time -- what-have-you? It is while being present -- observing these seed times -- that the so-called lunar gap can present itself. Many great dharma teachers have pointed out the existence of gaps in our life, moments when clarity and real insight is possible.



Lunar Opportunities

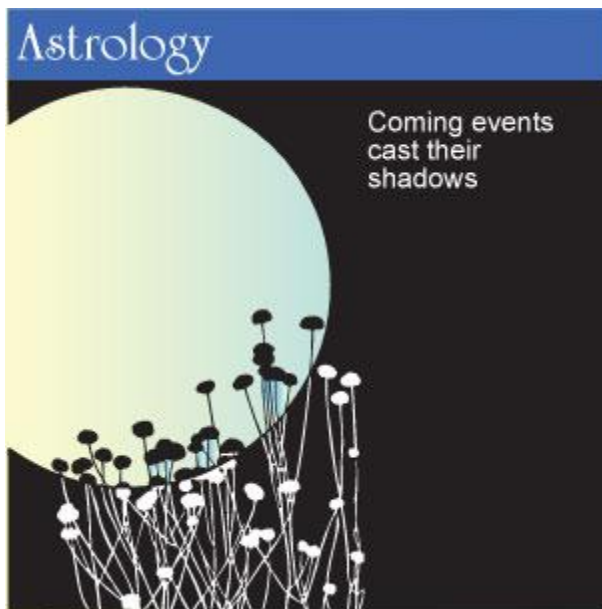
And lest we get too far a field sitting there waiting for a gap in time or space to occur, let me restate: The gap that appears is a gap in our particular set of obscurations, our own cloudiness. When such a gap

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takes place, there can be an intense insight into some aspect of our situation, the effects of which stay with us for a long time. One moment of real insight or vision can take weeks or months to examine in retrospect. Each time we bring it to mind, its richness is such that it continues to be a source of inspiration. This is what lunar gaps are all about.

At this point, it is hoped that you have some general idea of what lunar gaps are and how you might go about taking advantage of them.

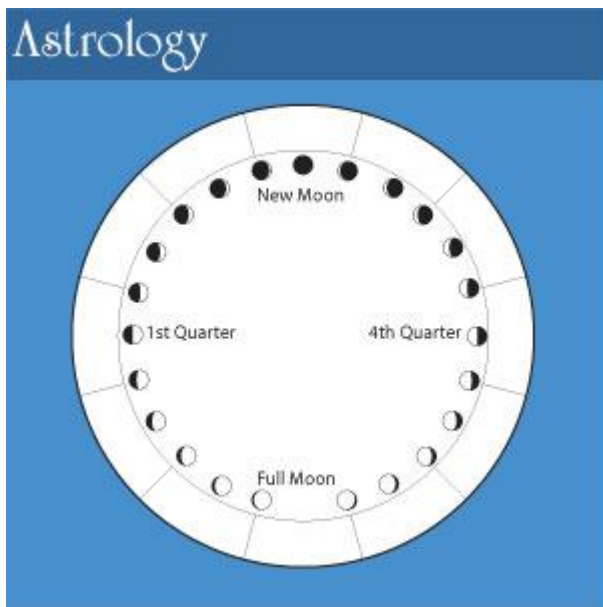
These lunar opportunities are sometimes referred to as gaps or openings in the otherwise continuous stream of our lives -- windows. They conceive of these gaps as articulation points, much like an elbow is where the arm is articulated. They are natural joints or gaps in time/space upon which time and space turn and through which it is sometimes possible to gain access to information about the larger, dynamic life process that already encapsulates us. We have more detailed lists available, as well as lists customized to your particular location, including sunrise, etc.



Taking Advantage of the Lunar Cycle

The phases of the moon have been observed for ages. The moon, from a Sanskrit term for measure, is the primary means by which the majority of the people in the world (even in this 21st century!) measure time and the events in their own lives. This article takes a look at what astrologers (and ordinary people) have come to understand about the lunation cycle -- the phases of the Moon. In particular, we will contrast methods of using the lunar cycle in the East and West.

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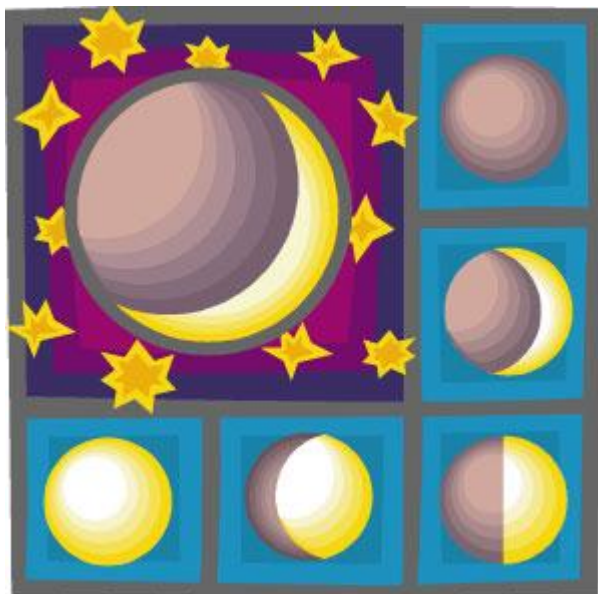


Lunation Cycle in Western Astrology

Eastern and Western astrology use the lunar cycle in the same and different ways. In the West, the lunar cycle is most often seen as a key to the personality and the birth chart. Although books like Rudhyar's "The Lunation Cycle," and many others, describe the cycle as a dynamic process that unfolds each month, the practical result of their focus is not so much with this day-to-day process as with individual snapshots (the various lunar types) taken from the overall process. And then there are also books along the lines of William Butler Yeats' "A Vision." This extremely involved intellectual study attempts to deal with concepts of anima and animus -- the endless process of psychological self-projection and its resolution. Although somewhat of a mental challenge, analogous to a tongue-twister in speech, the practical benefit to this kind of writing is questionable. In this article we will not deal with these highly intellectual approaches to the

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Moon. Instead, let's take a quick look at the how the Moon has been considered in Western astrology.



The Phases of the Moon

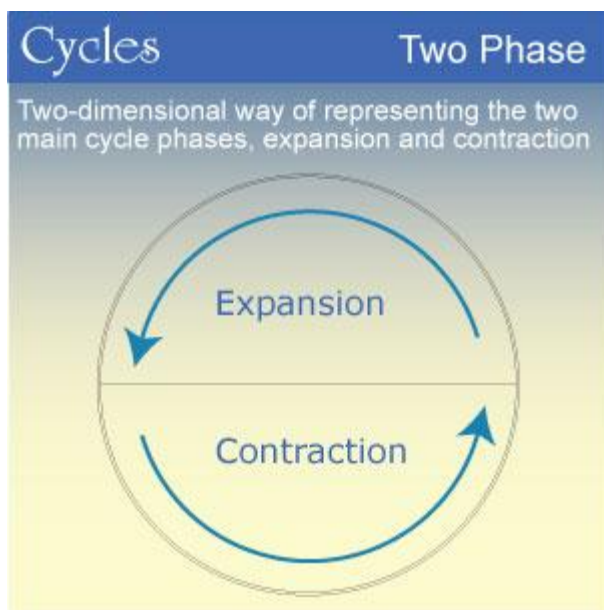
Here is a summary as any competent astrologer might present it to us:

The phases of the Moon are known to all. From the dark of the New Moon, the cycle builds through First Quarter and on to the brightness of the Full Moon (start of Third Quarter), after which the lunar light begins to diminish. After Full Moon, as the Moon's light starts to fail, comes the quarter moon phase, which rapidly darkens until we reach the New Moon. The lunar cycle is perhaps the easiest to grasp of all astrological cycles. It is longer than the cycle of a day and shorter than the cycle of a year -- both of which are hard to keep in mind.

As mentioned, the lunar cycle extends from the New Moon (Moon and Sun conjunct the same point in the

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zodiac) through the Full Moon (Moon and Sun on opposite sides of the Earth), and back to another New Moon. The New Moon point is considered a time of conception and beginning, the Full Moon a time of fruition and fullness - experiencing. It is often stated in the astrological literature that a seed idea, impulse, or insight present at the New Moon is externalized through the first two quarters (waxing moon) and reaches completion or fullness at the Full Moon. After the Full Moon, the implications or "meaning" of what was achieved through the externalization process of the waxing moon is seen, the lesson learned, and preparation takes place for a new and perhaps more perfect idea to form at the next New Moon.



Phase Cycles

Keep in mind that the cycle of the Moon resembles all cycles (the heartbeat, the breath, the day, the year, etc.); the cycle has a point of greatest inwardness or

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conception (New Moon, inhalation-point) and a point of greatest externalization or fullness (Full Moon, exhalation-point).

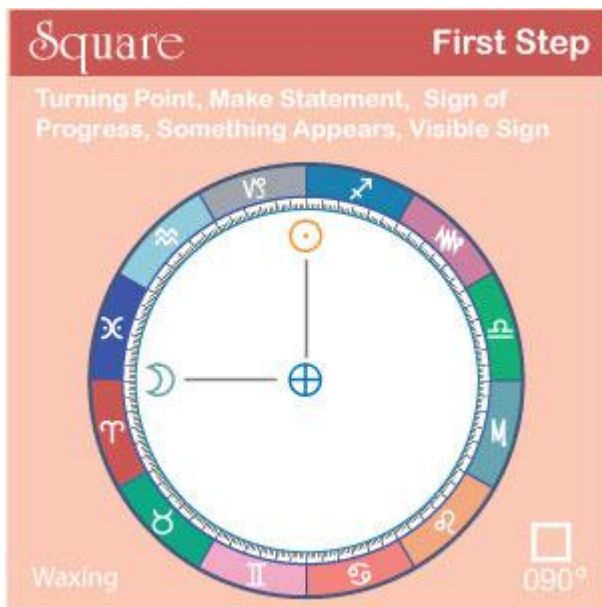
Projects begun at the New Moon are said to reach fulfillment at the Full Moon. The first two quarters (when the Moon is waxing and growing with light) represent a period during which to strive and build into reality a project that has been conceived, probably around the time of the New Moon. This is the time to project outward and to make real something we have visualized in our minds. We all have projects -- a new effort, a new job, a new start, a new anything.



New Moon

In the Western tradition, from the New Moon through the First Quarter is good for making this push from an insight outward, making our dreams into reality. The New Moon point is a time for vision and involves a new seed impulse, sometimes called the solar tone.

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Second Quarter

The Second Quarter (end of First Quarter) represents, according to the tradition established by Dane Rudhyar, a crisis in action, when we must carry our new impulse or idea beyond the planning stage and into the sphere of action. This is a time when the idea breaks into reality and is launched. The First Quarter is a time to get underway and to figure out how to make our dreams (ideas) come true.

The end of the First Quarter and beginning of the Second Quarter marks that point in the lunar cycle when we are able to bring across some portion of an insight or idea into reality. The Second Quarter through the Full Moon (beginning Third Quarter) represents the time when we achieve outward realization or actualization of what we saw or felt at the New Moon impulse. It is a time for physical work and externalization. It is during

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the Second Quarter that we put into our project the energy and material that give it substance and form.



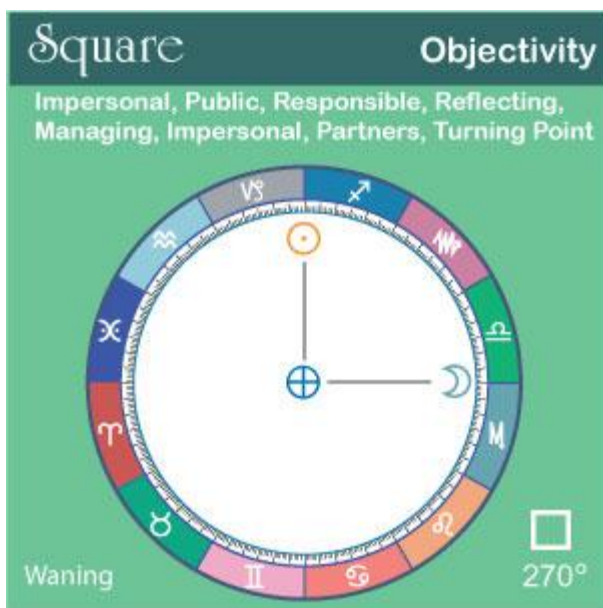
Full Moon

The Full Moon marks outward extension and completion of the project. For better or worse, this is it! If we have tuned into the insight available at the New Moon -- and if we have worked to that end -- the Full Moon can represent a time of fruition and completion. What we have dreamed or seen in the mind is now real and can be experienced in the flesh. If we have worked at cross purposes to the New Moon message, then the Full Moon might bring home that fact as well. We can reap the reward of our misguided effort. Above all, the Full Moon represents an experience -- a fullness, if you will.

The Third Quarter is a time during which we can appreciate, enjoy, and begin to reflect on the experience that peaked at the time of the Full Moon. This quarter is traditionally a time for growing awareness of what

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happened at the Full Moon, and learning and assimilation. The Full Moon impact and experience begins to pass, and we find ourselves having thoughts about that experience. If nothing more, we sense that the experience is over, and is passing. Reflection occurs. We begin to grasp and appreciate the Full Moon experience, for better or for worse. As the lunar light begins to diminish, we start drawing conclusions of one sort or another -- taking a lesson.



Fourth Quarter

The start of the Fourth Quarter is said to mark a crisis in consciousness. The experience of the Full Moon is over, and we are left to draw whatever conclusions we can from it. It is during the Fourth Quarter that we prune and weed out from our lives what we have seen to be of no value or use in this experience. It is a time for constructive elimination and release. It is often referred to as a 'seed time' and it is here we keep or take to

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heart the seed or kernel of the experience we had at the full of the moon. We are drawing to a close that experience and the entire cycle for that month. We are approaching another New Moon and the start of a new cycle and impulse.

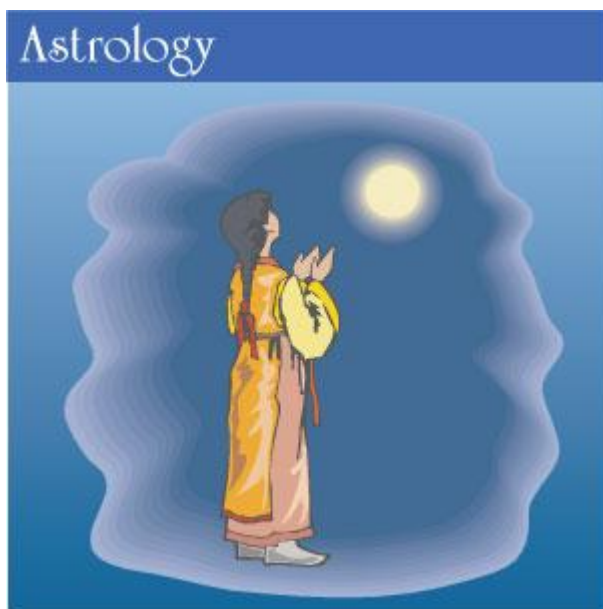
Since we are dealing with a cycle or circle, there is no real beginning or end. All circles or cycles are endless or eternal (eternally repeating). The lunar cycle (phases of the Moon) is something that we can learn to use. After we read about and become aware of the different parts of this cycle, we can begin to observe the cycle happening around us. The lunar cycle described above in theory is seldom experienced in such clarity in everyday life. Over time, we recognize parts of the cycle and learn to use them. We might find it hard to push or begin projects during the Fourth Quarter -- in particular the three days or so just before a New Moon. But this is a good time to finish up a project, or clean up loose odds and ends of business -- draw things to a close. We could find that get-togethers, parties, and social events seem to come off well around or just before the Full Moon. We learn to take advantage of the qualities and opportunities of each section of the moon cycle. And we don't have to wait to begin since we are already -- right now -- in that cycle. What we develop then is an awareness of the Moon cycle.

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Seed Impulse: Themes

An important concept to grasp is that the lunar cycle is experienced by all beings. The seed insight or impulse available at the New Moon is open to each of us. It is a global experience belonging to the entire planet. Although we may take it personally and in our own way, it is, above all, a common experience. Each passing month or lunar cycle modifies this experience and presents a new or slightly altered theme or impulse at New Moon for us to consider. Endless variations on a theme, this seed-thought or impulse somehow sets the tone for succeeding lunar cycles. The moments of new and full moon are considered as special. This is particularly true at the time of an eclipse.



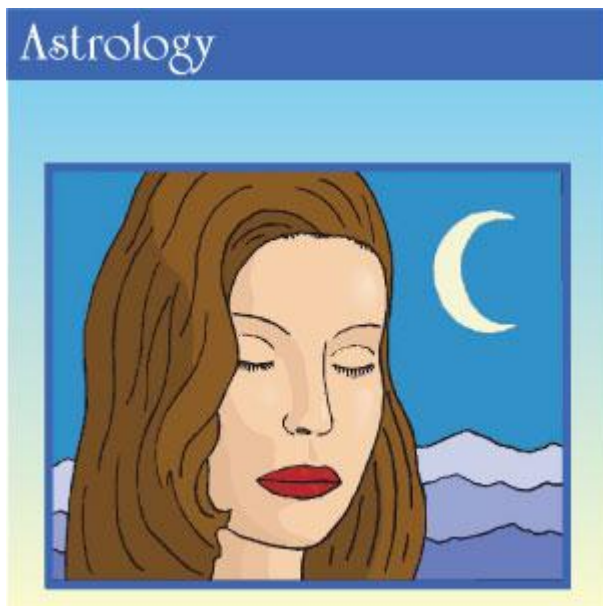
Eclipses

Eclipses are simply New or Full Moons with extraordinary alignment or focus. They have been considered for centuries to be astrological events of the first magnitude. If we consider New and Full Moons to be important, then eclipses represent the keys to the lunar cycle for any year.

We mentioned earlier about the New Moon containing an impulse or insight that grows to fruition at the Full Moon. Eclipses, then, provide moments when extraordinary insight or vision are available to us. It is possible for some of us, at least at certain times in our lives, to experience what has been called the "vision of the eclipse," and to remember or keep that vision in mind. There appears to be a theme or principal insight connected with major eclipses. Let me make clear just what we mean here by the word vision.

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"Vision" does not mean the fairytale dream picture we might conjure up -- but it is related. A vision is a moment of extreme clarity or understanding, when 'in a flash' we know or experience something in its entirety. We take it in. There are times in each of our lives when we have vision or see some intrinsic truth about our lives -- about life itself.



The Vision of the Eclipse

As mentioned above, there appears to be a common or communal vision that occurs around the time of major eclipses. While each of us interprets the insight or vision in a personal way, the theme or essence of the vision is a common experience. And it is possible to share that vision. Although we all experience it at once, only some of us are capable of remembering the experience in a conscious fashion. It seems that we are privileged to be consciously aware of the vision of an eclipse at special

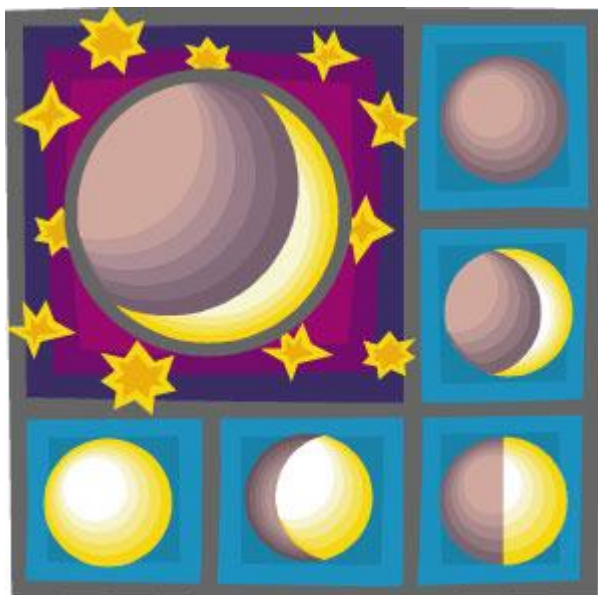
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or crucial moments in our lifetimes -- times when we are particularly aware.

The message or vision or any given eclipse will tend to dominate our deeper or subconscious minds for months surrounding that eclipse. It is a peculiarity of these eclipse moments that they can happen days or even weeks before or after the actual moment of an eclipse. That is: the eclipse theme pervades the time prior to and after the actual physical event. Sometimes eclipses happen in pairs, two weeks apart. These are particularly powerful, and the whole time between these events can be a kind of waking dream - a vision.

Learning to recognize a moment of vision and taking advantage of these enhanced moments of vision surrounding and eclipse can be important. If the point in the zodiac where an eclipse occurs is in high focus in your natal chart, then the particular eclipse may have special importance for you.

In general, eclipses of the Sun (New Moons) represent vision into the nature of our life (ideas about life), while eclipses of the Moon (Full Moons) represent a waking experience or sensational event -- living in our own dream.



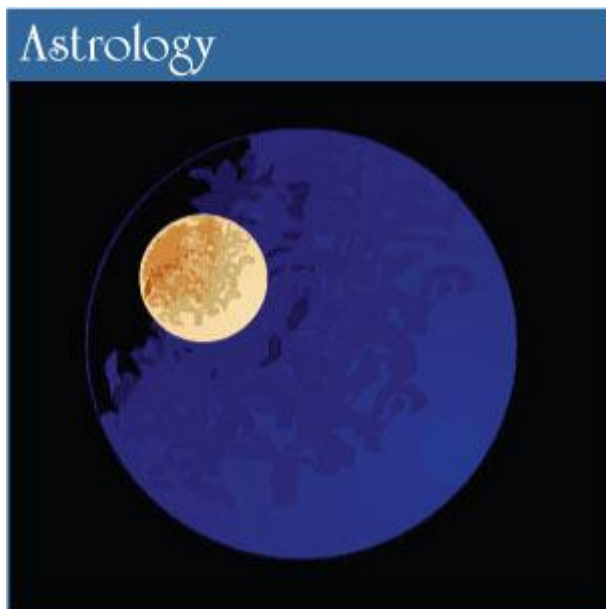
The Lunation Cycle: East and West

The lunar cycle and its gaps are available to everyone, all the time. If we don't observe these special times, it is because we have set no time aside to observe, to check it out for ourselves. In the East, most people are introduced to basic observation techniques or mind practice from an early age. It is unfortunate that mind practice is not much known of here in the West. I mean how many people do you know who practice observing or using their mind anyway? Most of us assume that the mind is perfectly usable just as we find it, and doesn't require any practice.

In the Tibet mind practice is not only acceptable, it is pretty much obligatory. This is true for countries like Tibet, Nepal, much of India, and even parts of China and Japan. Over there, the mind is considered by nature to be unruly and hard to manage. No one would think of trying to do much with it without considerable

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practice. Mind practice or mind preparation or training, as it is sometimes called, is standard fare in the orient.



East and West

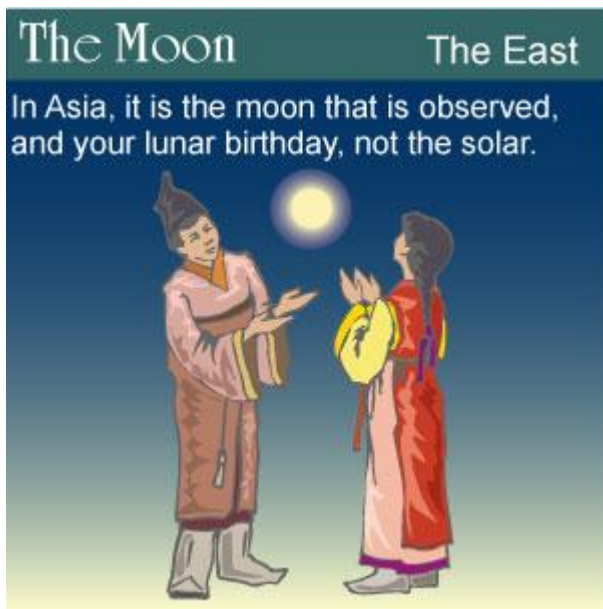
We might wonder why this style of mind practice has never caught on in North America. In part, this is due to our whole take on meditation and what we think that is. Meditation in the West has come to mean something almost like relaxation therapy, a way to relax and get away from it all -- to escape the worries of the world in the contemplation of some inner landscape.

Somewhere, perhaps early in this century, the word meditation lost any semblance to its Eastern counterpart and became what most understand as meditation today -- a way to relax and get rid of tension.

Of course this is nothing like the Tibetan concept of mind practice or mind preparation, which involves the intense use of the mind. It is unfortunate that this very

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active mind practice has also come under the general label of meditation here in the West.



Gaps in the Clouds

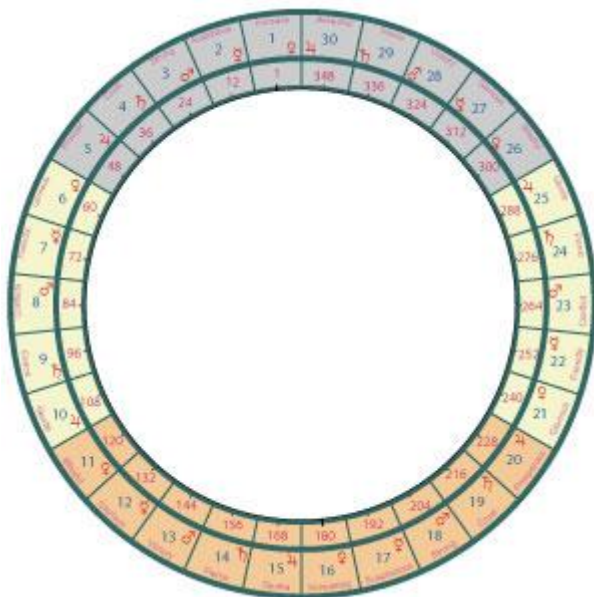
Having pointed this out, it may be helpful to clarify and describe what it is that the Tibetan Buddhists (and other groups too) do when they sit down on their cushions. In general, if you ask them what they are doing on their cushions, the answer will not that they are "practicing", or they are "sitting". Indeed, that is what takes place. They sit and observe.

There are many Tibetan words for the different kinds of mind practice that are possible, while in the West we have just the one word: meditation. What then is mind practice?

The most important difference between sitting practice (mind practice) and meditation as it is understood in this

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country, is that mind practice is anything but relaxing or passive. It is very active.



The Thirty Lunar Days

The actual technique is quite simple, taking only a few minutes to learn. And it is worth getting this instruction from someone authorized to give it. Most Buddhist and some Hindu groups offer this type of mind practice. When looking for training in mind practice, be sure to ask for a technique that emphasizes concentration on the present moment -- being present, and not some of the more dreamy relaxation techniques. What you need in order to use lunar gaps is to become very alert and observant. The technique is called Shamata training in Tibetan Buddhism and Zazen in Zen Buddhism. I would be happy to send a list of well-respected centers to anyone who writes me at Michael@erlewine.net. It is important that you receive instruction from someone

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trained in the technique, and get an authentic connection with a tradition.

Even the non-astrologer cannot help but notice the time of the Full Moon each month -- when the full disk of the Moon passes overhead around midnight. It is a fact that many have trouble sleeping when the Full Moon makes this overhead transit in the middle of the night. Often sleep will not come until the Moon finishes rising, transits overhead, and begins to set. This has been used by some as a way to determine whether a late-night party or a bout of TV watching will be a satisfying experience. In general, you can plan on building tension (and attention) while the Full Moon is rising and an easing of that state just after the Moon crests overhead. After the Moon crests and begins to set is a good time to bring activities to a close. Sleep often will come with ease at this point.

Learning to get in step with and to make use of the Moon cycle is part of astrological basic training. There has been general agreement among astrologers for thousands of years as to how the lunar cycle functions and the uses to which it can be put.

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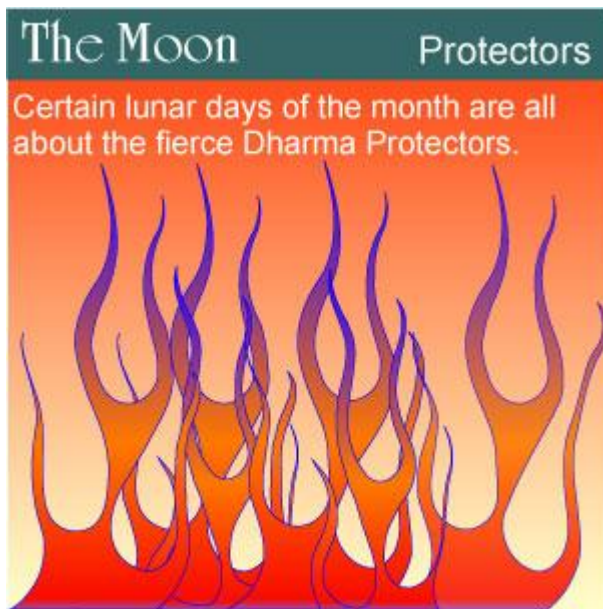
The Four Quarters

It seems that, although East and West agree on the importance of new and full moons, there is less congruence when it comes to the quarter moons. Here in the West, the lunar quarters are next in importance after the new and full moon times. However, in the East there are other days that are considered of greater importance, such as the 10th and 25th lunar days.

In both traditions, there is agreement that the 2 or 3 days preceding the moment of the new moon are difficult ones, which require special observation. In the West these days have been called the dark of the Moon, or devil's days, days when the darker forces have power. Both traditions affirm that we sort of survive these final days each month. Check it out for yourself. The three days before new moon can be a hard time. The East is in total agreement on this point, and the days prior to new moon are set aside for invoking the

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fierce dharma protectors, those energies that ward off harm and protect us during the worst of times.



Protector Days

In particular, the 29th day (the day before new moon) is called dharma protector day. It is a time given over to purification and preparation for the moment of new moon. Ritual fasting, confession of errors, and the like are common practices. In a similar vein, the days just prior to the full moon (the 13th and 14th) are also days of purification, days in which the various guardian and protector deities are again invoked, but in a somewhat more restrained way. For example, the 14th day is often given over to fire puja -- a ritual purification. In summary, during days prior to full and new moon, there is some attempt at purification, both physical and mental, in preparation for those auspicious events.

It is clear from the literature that the times of the new and full moon are considered of great importance.

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These days are set aside for special rituals and worship. As pointed out, full and new moon (full more than new) are times of collective worship and public confession. In many traditions, the monks and priests assemble for a day of special observance. In the East, the full moon celebration and the entire waxing lunar fortnight are oriented to the masculine element in consciousness, what are called the father-line deities. The new moon and the waning fortnight are given over to the mother-line deities and the feminine element. The full moon completes the masculine, or active, waxing phase of the cycle, and the new moon completes the feminine, waning phase of the month. To my knowledge, this kind of analysis does not exist in the West.

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Days of Observation

Aside from the new and full moon, the two most auspicious lunar days in the East are the 10th and the 25th. The 10th day (108° to 120°), called Daka Day, is considered auspicious for invoking the father-line deities -- the masculine. The 25th day (288° to 300°), called Dakini Day, is given over to the feminine principle and the mother line deities, in general. These two days, the 10th and the 25th, are formal feast days, days of observation when extra offerings are made and increased attention given to what is happening. There is some sense of celebration at these points in the month. In many respects, these two days even rival the new and full moon days in importance. The fact is that these four days (new, full, 10th, 25th) are the primary auspicious days as practiced in many Eastern rituals.

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Health and Healing

There are many other days of lesser importance, which might also interest Western astrologers. Health and healing are important in Eastern ritual, and the 8th and 23rd days of the lunar month are auspicious for this purpose. It is these days that straddle the first and last lunar quarters. The 8th day (84° to 96°) is often called Medicine Buddha Day. Again this occurs in the male, or father-line, half of the month. The 23rd day (264° to 276°), occurring in the feminine half of the month, is dedicated to Tara practice. Tara is the female deity connected to health, long life, and healing in general.

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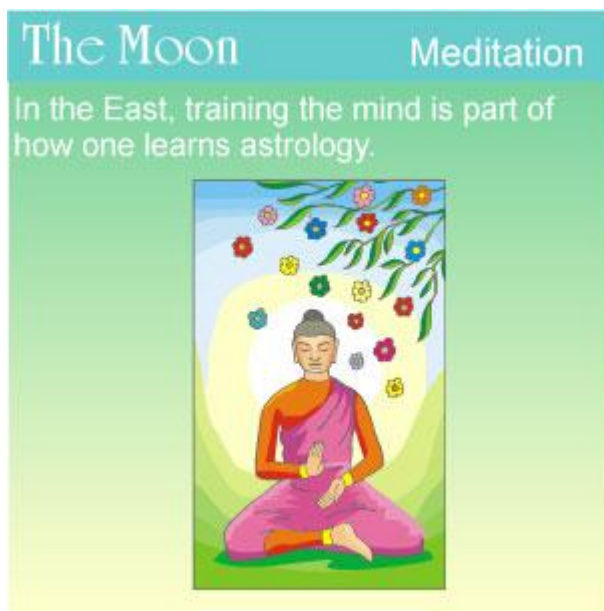
Purification Days

Earlier we mentioned the days given over to purification, most prominently the 13th and the 29th. In addition, on a lesser scale, the 9th and the 19th days are also noted as days when the protector deities should be invoked and kept in mind. These, too, are days of purification. And there are more, still finer subdivisions that are made. In this brief article, these major observance days are enough to give us the idea of how Eastern astrologers approach the lunar cycle. It should be kept in mind that, in the East, astrology is practiced by the general public. So it is not just astrologers who are using the lunar days; everyone observes these days.

Next, we might ask ourselves how this Eastern approach to the lunation cycle might be of value in the West? As mentioned earlier, a major fact is that the lunar cycle is perceived as having a variety of gaps, joints, or points of articulation that can be used. They

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can be seen as chinks in the armor of our particular obscurations. Many Western mystery traditions also observe the times of the full (and sometimes the new) moon. Full moon meditations are common. The quarter moons are given less attention, and few Western rituals exist (to my knowledge) for these events.



Insight Moments

It is an intuitive fact that moments of clarity and insight (gaps) do come in the course of living. We all benefit from this kind of insight. What Eastern astrology seems to suggest to us is that many of these gaps are not just random events that occur in our life, haphazardly. They are regular opportunities, joints in the nick of time, when insights are somehow more possible than at other times. Therefore, it is common practice to set aside some portion of these special days for observance, for meditation.

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It is unfortunate that the concept of meditation entertained by the public here in the West amounts to some kind of relaxation therapy -- a quiet time. This is very far from the truth of what is considered meditation in India, Japan, Tibet, and other Eastern countries. In fact, meditation is a form of observation. It is observation of what is, and of what is happening in one's mind and environment. When the Eastern mind meditates on special lunar days, it sets aside a time to observe with great care the nature of that particular day. Meditation as taught in Tibet and Japan is a technique that increases our abilities to observe. The meditator is not lost in deep inner space; that is our Western take on the concept of meditation. In the East, the meditator is right here, now, observing the mind and life. This is why it is said that these special days are days set aside for observation.

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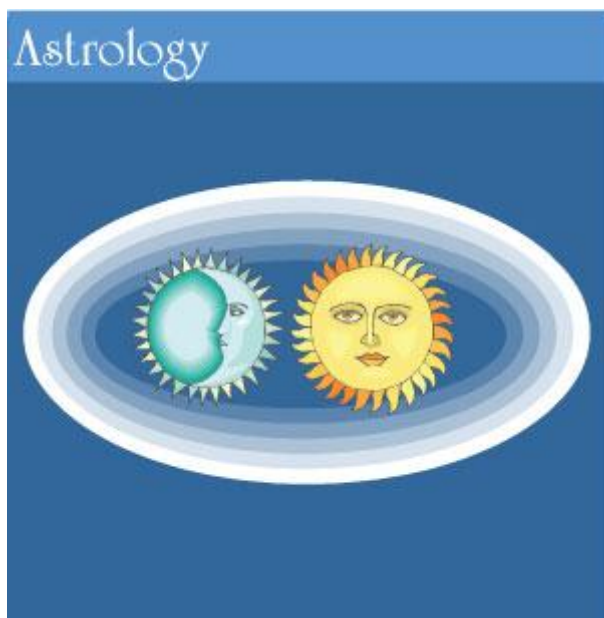
Open Channels

Here in the West, we are beginning to learn these techniques of observation. By setting aside a time on these special lunar days for observation, we can be open and aware to the possibilities of insight. This kind of awareness appears to be what is required to pick up on these natural events. If we have an insight at one of these time, we might be more willing to give it credence, knowing that it is happening on such-and-such a lunar day. And so on.

It is quite clear from the Eastern teachings that the moments of full and new moon are times when the various channels in the psychophysical body are somehow aligned. This is not to say the new or full moon days are days of peace and quiet. It is taught in the East that, although a new or full moon day may tend to be wild or hectic. Any patience or forbearance we can muster at that time will be much rewarded. In other

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words, there can be deep insights available to us at these times. According to these same teachings, an eclipse at the full or new moon is even more auspicious. In the teachings it is said that, during these very special events, both male and female energies (channels) are in simultaneous alignment -- the ultimate opportunity. The lunar cycle and its effects and opportunities have been analyzed in great detail in the Eastern teaching.



East and West

In summary, the major difference between Eastern and Western astrology as related to the lunation cycle is that in the East any lunar theory is put to the test. It exists as a guide to practice. In other words, they practice what they preach. Here in the West, it would appear that we are somewhat more theoretical. We read about and discuss ideas on the lunar cycle, but very few astrologers that I have met make use of the lunar-phase cycle as a guide to day-to-day practice. As a society, we

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don't even observe the full or new moon, much less the quarters or any of the other possible lunar days. It is true that most astrologers are aware of the zodiac sign the Moon is in, but here we are not examining that part of the tradition; we are looking at the cycle of the lunar phases. Or, here in the West we may know that it is new or full moon, but we do nothing out of the ordinary in response to that information. And, of course, the general public seldom even takes note of lunar events.

The Eastern approach to the lunar cycle is quite ancient and very detailed. East or West, I assume that both astrological traditions have been engaged in recording something rather than nothing all of these centuries. In other words, I assume that the existing lunar tradition, East and West, is a reflection of reality rather than something we have made up. After all, that is what astrology is all about and why we practice it.

Here we have concentrated on the synodic cycle of the sun, moon, and earth -- the lunation cycle. We have ignored the use by astrologers of the Moon in the signs and houses, something practiced both here and in the East.

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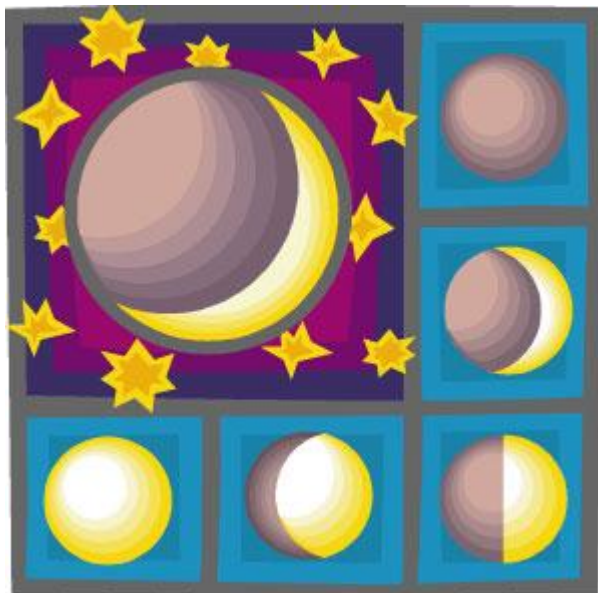
Summary

On a personal note, my study of the lunation cycle has led me from Western to Eastern texts in an attempt to obtain more practical information for day-to-day living. When I ran out of new texts to study, I sought out some of the living Eastern meditators who observe the lunar cycle on a regular basis. For example, we have had a wide variety of Eastern astrologers living and working at our center in recent years. In addition, one individual skilled in Sanskrit and Tibetan astrology spent almost two years here, translating various Buddhist texts on the subject.

From my experience with these sources, the primary piece of information that stays with me is that reading about or listening to someone with experience in this area is, by definition, preliminary. Both text and teachers (however fine they may be) can but point beyond themselves to the lunar cycle itself. Through any

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differences that exist, all sources seem united in this one maxim: go and see for yourself. Check it out. The purpose of the teachings is the experience itself that waits to be known. They are telling us: Observe these days. Call it meditation or observation (whatever), but observe with care and attention if these insight gaps are there.



The Lunation Cycle

In other sections, we have presented thoughts from both sides of the world, the East and the west, on lunar astrology. Is there any scientific evidence to back this up?

Scientific research into the lunation cycle over the last 15-20 years is fascinating from an astrologer's perspective. It was not very many years ago that science gave little or no credence to the possibility of a lunar effect on life here on earth. Today it is no longer a

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question of "is there an effect?" but rather one of "let me count the ways." In fact, the research at this point is so extensive that in this brief article we can only mention some of the high points in the existing literature.

It should go without saying, but I will repeat it here, that science still has little or nothing to say about psychological or personal events connected with lunar activity. Instead, it has discussed how the moon relates to such things as rainfall, weather, and atmosphere. More important to astrologers, and a step closer to the psychological, is the growing evidence for a hard connection between lunar activity and geomagnetic activity. It is this connection that we will detail here.



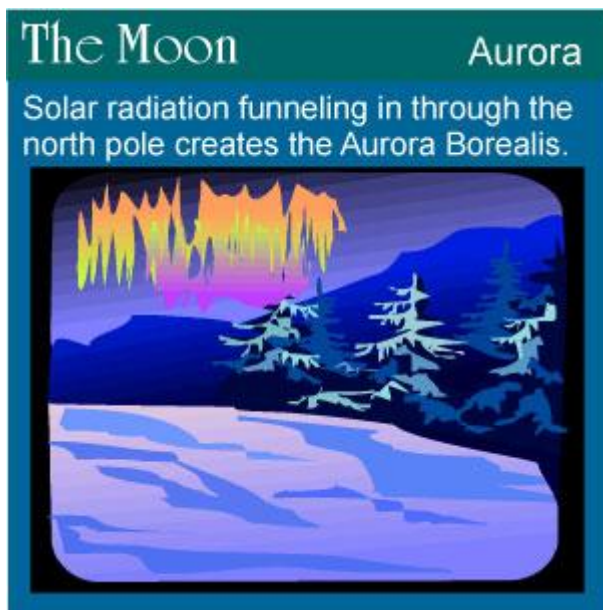
Earth's Aura

Geomagnetic activity coming from beyond the earth's aura or atmosphere has been linked to all kinds of mundane activities ranging from radio reception to the aurora borealis type displays and so on. The picture that

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emerges from modern research is one where each body (the earth, the sun, and perhaps even each of us) is surrounded by some sort of magnetic field. We radiate, and this radiation surrounds us and even keeps some things out -- our aura or mandala.

The earth's aura (or magnetosphere as it is called) keeps at bay enormous amounts of radiation coming from the sun and from the galaxy in which our solar system is a part. Very energetic particles can penetrate our magnetosphere and find their way through the atmosphere to the surface of the earth itself. For the most part, these particles funnel in from the north and south polar caps via field lines of high geomagnetic declination. During times of increased solar activity such as solar flares, or during the peak of the sunspot cycle (like this year), very much more solar radiation reaches the earth than at other times. The weaker cosmic radiation must wait for the years of sunspot minimum to reach their maximum penetration. Please examine the diagrams of the magnetosphere shown below as we examine some of the scientific evidence that relates to the lunation cycle -- lunar power.



Auroras

Although we have long studied oceanic tides, we know now that there are atmospheric tides as well that move in response to the position of the Moon. For example, auroras are caused by the excitation of atmospheric molecules by energetic charged particles penetrating the atmosphere along geomagnetic field lines. Although the mechanism of this phenomenon is still being examined, it is generally understood that auroras are associated with the arrival of solar corpuscular radiation in the magnetosphere, 1 to 3 days after a solar flare. These particles (depending on their intrinsic energy and the current density of the atmosphere) penetrate the atmosphere.

It has now been shown that these auroral peaks and valleys are modulated by the position of the Moon. This lunar auroral tidal effect in the upper atmosphere can be correlated with flood and ebb tides on earth, thus linking

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its rise and fall to the position of the Moon in its monthly cycle.



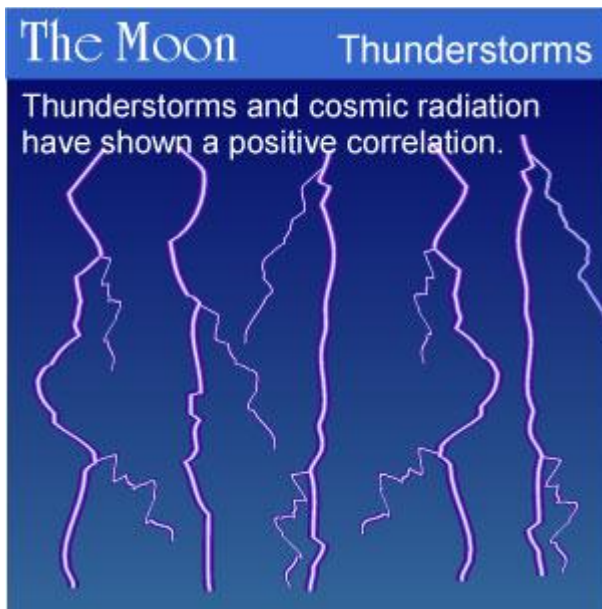
Rainfall

It has been well documented that rainfall is correlated with the Moon's position in its monthly cycle. According to many studies, rainfall maximizes midway through the 1st and Third Quarters of the lunar synodic month. In other words, about a half week after new and full moon rainfall reaches a peak. Correspondingly, a low point in rainfall occurs during the 2nd and Fourth Quarters with the lowest point of all occurring some three days before new or full moon.

In addition, it was found that increased rainfall at these two peak times in the month was greater at solar minimum than at solar maximum. The lunar cycle accounts for 65 percent of the variance during years of solar minimum, but only 14 percent during the year surrounding solar maximum. It has been suggested that

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cosmic radiation may be a factor, since this form of radiation penetrates more deeply into the solar system during years of low solar activity. During the years of high solar activity, a more powerful solar wind helps to keep out cosmic radiation.



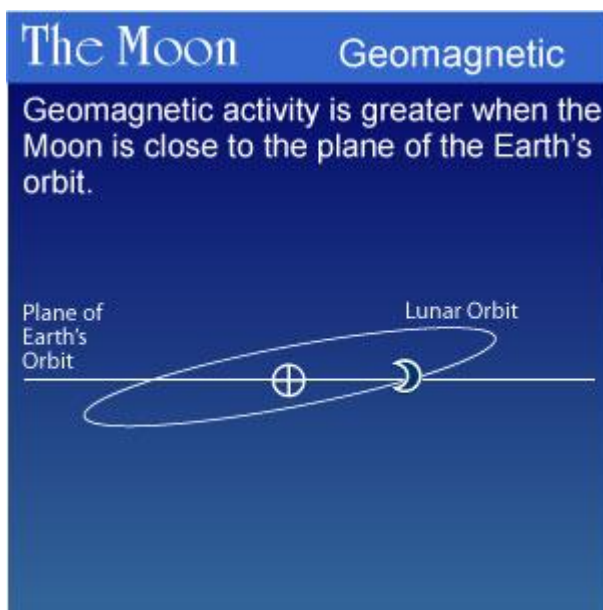
Thunderstorms and Cosmic Radiation

Thunderstorms and Cosmic Radiation. It has been shown that the maximum in thunderstorms coincides with the maximum in galactic cosmic radiation and vice versa, that minimum thunderstorm activity coincides with the minimum in galactic cosmic ray radiation. There have been many studies on the relationship of cosmic radiation to lunar activity. Cosmic radiation consists of energetic particles entering our solar system from beyond its aura, or magnetosphere. As mentioned, there is an inverse relationship between cosmic radiation and solar activity. In other words, the increased solar wind at sunspot maximum keeps cosmic

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radiation out of the solar system and away from the earth. During the years of sunspot minimum, cosmic radiation is strong enough to penetrate the solar aura and reach the earth's atmosphere.

Thunderstorms and the Moon -- It has been shown that the maximum in thunderstorms coincides with maximum geomagnetic activity. In addition, it has been shown that thunderstorm activity is modulated by lunar position. The greatest number of thunderstorms occur after either new or full moon. Thunderstorm frequency reaches a maximum two days after full moon and remains high for most of the third quarter.



The Moon and Geomagnetic Activity

The Kp-geomagnetic index varies with the lunar phases. When the Moon is less than 3 1/2 degrees from the plane of the ecliptic, geomagnetic activity reaches a minimum during the 2nd lunar quarter and a maximum during 3rd lunar quarter. Lunar modulation while near

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the ecliptic suggests that the Moon is influencing the solar corpuscular flux which, guided by the solar magnetic field, approaches the earth generally from close to the plane of the ecliptic. Some of these particles become trapped in the magnetosphere.

There is a thin, neutral-sheet region close to the ecliptic plane in the tail of the earth's magnetosphere that the Moon might be modulating when it is traveling near the plane of the ecliptic. The high density of field lines near the ecliptic would make this region particularly sensitive to a magnetic perturbation, which could modulate the flux of particles reaching our atmosphere. In short, there is evidence that the moon has a magnetohydrodynamic wake with an enhanced magnetic field, which, when in the magnetospheric tail, causes magnetic disturbances on the earth.



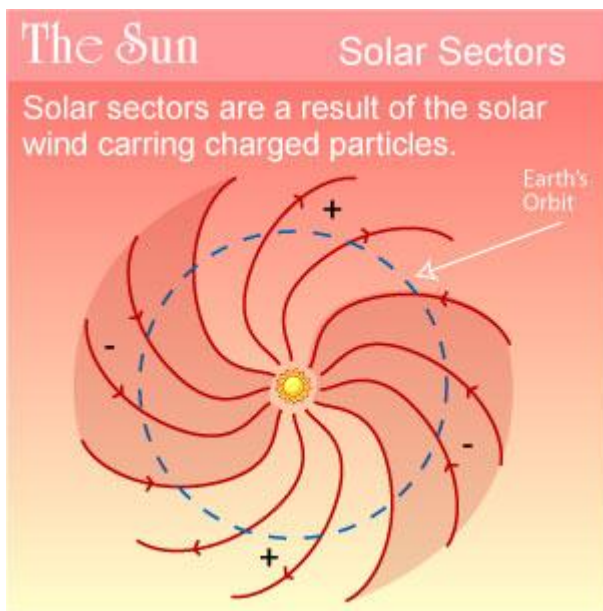
Polar Cap Absorption (PCA)

PCA happens when solar protons from solar flares enter the earth's upper atmosphere in high geomagnetic latitudes, often causing radio blackouts and increased auroral activity. These periods of severe ionospheric disturbance are often marked by Forbush decreases, when the counting rate of background galactic cosmic radiation has a sudden anomalous decrease which might take hours to days to recover to normal levels.

In effect, it is as if there were a magnetic screening of galactic cosmic radiation by the enhanced solar plasma. It has been noted, but unexplained, that PCA events and Forbush decreases seem to be ordered with the lunar synodic period (29.5 days). When this research was begun, it was expected that a 27.3-day period would be found, indicating a link with solar rotation. It was a surprise to scientists when, instead, results fingered the lunar synodic period (29.5 days).

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Therefore, it is possible that the moon somehow controls solar corpuscular radiation streaming toward the earth. The mechanism is still undetermined at this time.



Solar Sectors

Solar sectors and the geometry of the solar magnetic field represent important areas for research. The solar wind is a plasma of charged particles endlessly being ejected from the surface of the sun. These particles tend to concentrate in the plane of the ecliptic. All of the planets are within the aura or atmosphere of the sun, the solar wind. Each charged particle moves away from the sun in a straight line; however, since the sun itself is rotating, these particle streams get bent into a spiral of the type made famous by Archimedes. In addition, this plasma contains a frozen-in magnetic region constituting the sun's magnetic field that conforms to this spiral. This is the interplanetary magnetic field.

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Because of this spiral effect, at the distance of the earth the magnetic field is oriented about 45 degrees west of the earth-sun line, on the morning side of the earth. Both the slow (4 days) and fast (10 minutes to several hours), charged, solar particles approach the earth guided by the solar magnetic field. They come in from the western side of the sun (morning side of earth) at about a 45-degree angle to the earth, although this angle fluctuates from moment to moment, based on the changes in the solar plasma. The fact is that each of us are exposed to this general direction around 9 AM each morning. We are most shielded from this direction around 9 P.M. each night.



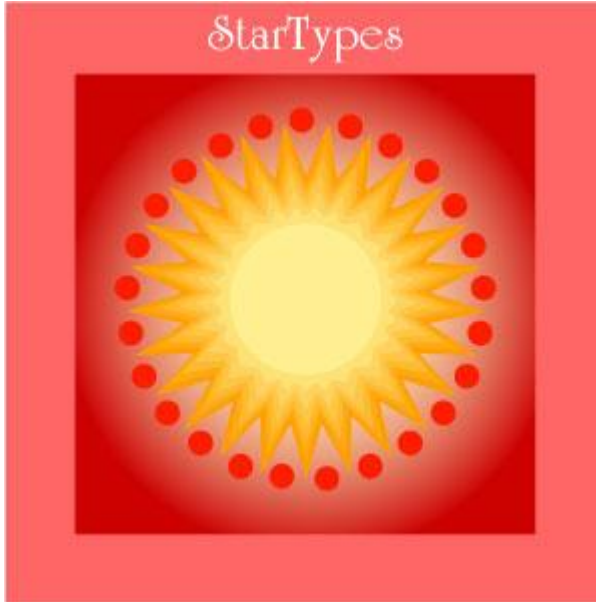
Solar Magnetic Field

The great rotating disk of the solar magnetic field itself is divided into four primary sectors, each with an alternating polarity. The magnetic field direction is either positive (away from the sun) or negative (toward the sun). These sectors are tied into definite regions on the surface of the sun, which are of corresponding magnetic signs. It has been suggested that this may be thought of as a rigid disk in the plane of the ecliptic with four quadrants connected to the sun and rotating with it in its 27-day rotation cycle -- the co-rotating sector structure.

It has been found that geomagnetic and cosmic ray activity, as well as the velocity and number density of the solar wind flux, vary as a function of position within the solar sectors; thus there is a weekly fluctuation in the Kp-geomagnetic index. Studies show a maximum in thunderstorm activity when the earth passes from a positive sector into a negative sector. These four great

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sectors like a great pinwheel rotate past the earth exposing our planet to alternating positive and negative solar phases.



Lunar Variations

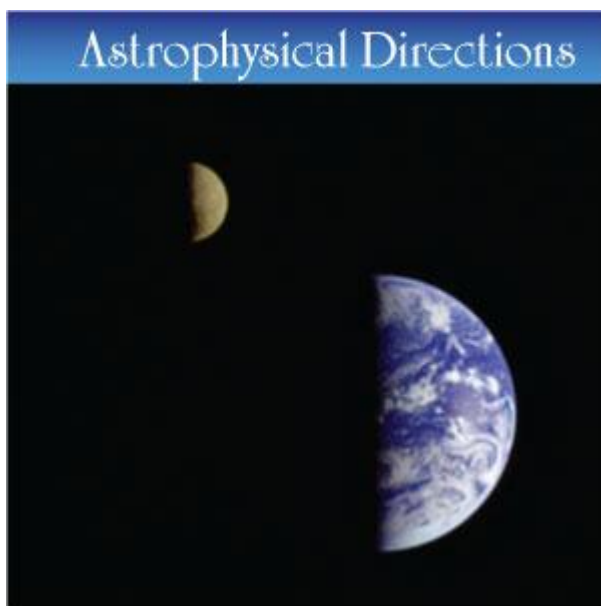
A study of the lunar position in relation to the Kp-geomagnetic index, PCA, and Forbush decreases shows that PCA and Forbush decreases reach a minimum during the middle of the 4th lunar quarter when the moon is near the 45° axis and thus between the earth and the spot where the charged particles arrive from the sun. A maximum for these values is reached when the moon is in the Second Quarter, unable to block the particle advance. It has been shown that the moon has an electrical charge of at least 100 V/m, which means that the moon has a positive electrical charge that can deflect solar protons.

There is also a minimum in the Kp-geomagnetic index during Second Quarters when PCA and Forbush

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decreases are at a maximum. It has been suggested that at Second Quarter the moon may least disturb the geomagnetic field, which is, at that time, most active.

There is a sharp rise in the Kp index just prior to full moon and continuing into third quarter. It has been suggested that this might be due to the magnetohydrodynamic wake of the moon interacting with the tail of the magnetosphere or modulating the flow of solar particles to the tail.



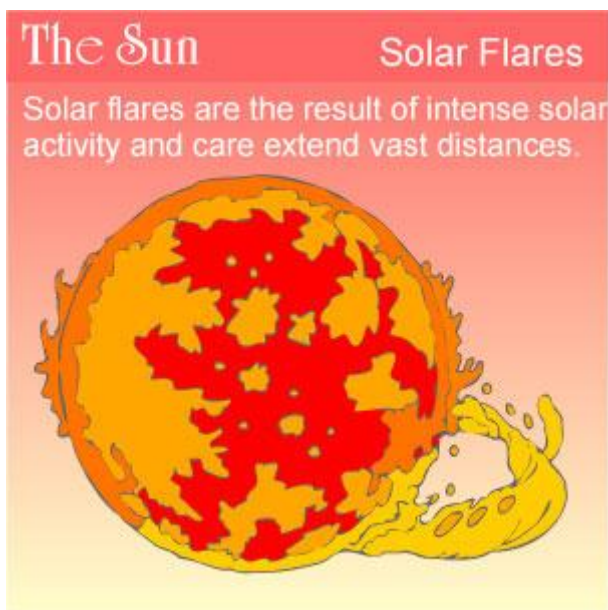
Father-line Deities

It is interesting to note that around that the Second Quarter, 10th/11th day are the maximum for PCP activity. This is when the father-line deities are observed in Eastern astrology. The 25th/26th days are when the Moon somehow block or inhibits the solar magnetic field. This is when the mother-line deities are celebrated in that tradition. Thus the time of greatest activity (male)

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has some scientific backup, and the same for least activity and greatest calm (female).

The western portion of the sun is strongly magnetically linked to the earth, while the eastern portion of the sun is not. This is due to the fact that solar corpuscular radiation approaches the earth from the west, guided by the solar magnetic field. As pointed out, these particles come in from the Western side of the sun at about a 45° angle to the morning side of earth. Statistical studies show that solar flares occurring on the eastern portion of the sun are much less frequently associated with geomagnetic storms than those occurring near the central or western portion.



Solar Flares

Flares occur during periods of solar activity, which typically last a few days. These regions of activity (near

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sunspots) travel from east to west across the face of the sun, with a sunspot taking about seven days to travel from the central meridian to the western limb. Thus active solar regions (generating particles capable of reaching the earth) move into and through the western section of the sun, which is magnetically linked to the earth. During this period, recurrent particle streams from an active sunspot region can reach the earth. Some periods when solar protons have bombarded the upper atmosphere have lasted over ten days.



Summary

This has been a very brief description of some of the geophysical research that has been performed in the last 20 years and that might be of interest to astrologers. It seems that all bodies have a field or aura around them. The earth and the sun radiate, and that radiation is swept along behind whatever trajectory the object travels. It is fascinating to see scientific evidence

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emerging that seems to conform with the astrological tradition.

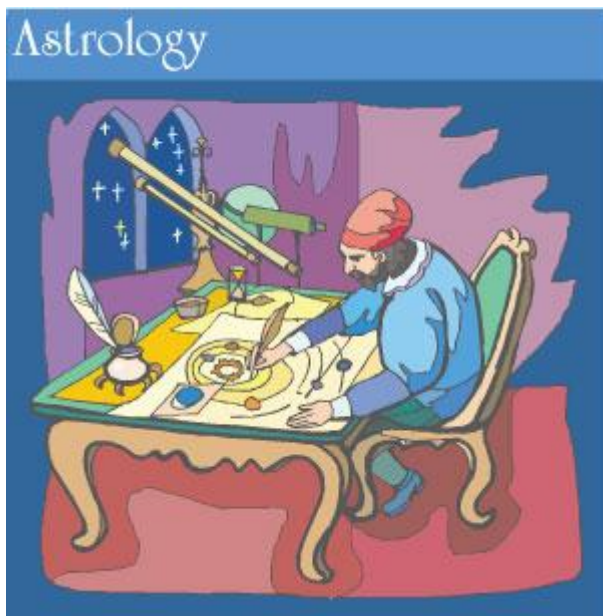
As pointed out in the another article on the lunation cycle, the 10th and 25th lunar days have been found (for ages) to be significant periods within the month, where some kind of change or transition takes place. It is interesting to note that, these points are more or less in line with the 45° vector along which solar corpuscular radiation reaches the earth.

The Moon in its monthly cycle appears to (somehow) modulate this stream of radiation when it reaches the area surrounding a solunar phase angle of some 315° . At this point the moon (perhaps due to its magnetic field) effectively blocks and cuts off some of the radiation stemming from the sun. At the opposite point in its orbit (around 135°), the Moon reaches a point of least blockage, where the most solar radiation can penetrate and reach the earth.

It is this point in the lunar Second Quarter, during which the greatest amount of radiation is available to the earth, that the Eastern astrologers have set aside as a time for the masculine (active) element. The fourth quarter, where the Moon effectively blocks the solar radiation, is the point when the feminine energies are most observed.

It is interesting that, on the surface at any rate, ancient tradition and modern science appear to have some general agreement.

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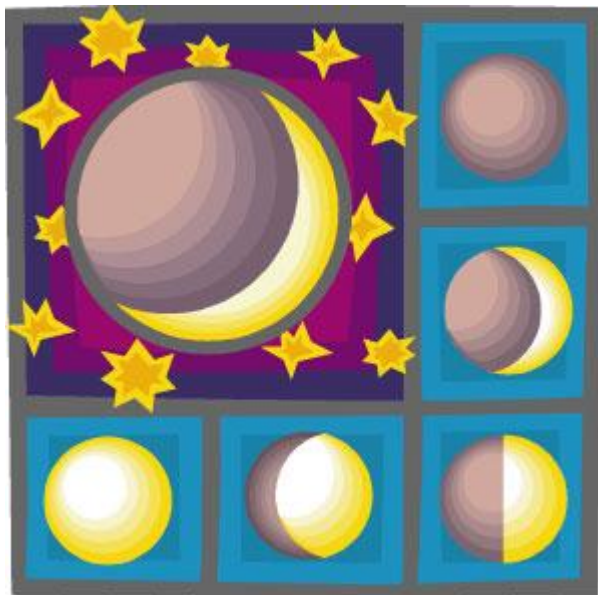
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Lunar Phenomena

Here are some very interesting facts about the moon and its relationship to the earth. A lot of this was programmed and released in a program called *Time Cycles* (written by myself) some years ago. No longer available, it is important that these concepts be made available again in terms of a computer program.

Technically oriented astrologers may want to consider the following and what it could mean. Here are the ideas:

The Pull of the Moon

The Moon's pull is strongest when it is nearest, and that happens when it is straight up or overhead (Moon up). This point is called the zenith. A second strong point occurs when the Moon is at the opposite point or

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beneath us at a point called the nadir (Moon down). The Moon is weakest in radial upward force when it is on either horizon, rising or setting. At these times the radial force is directed downwards toward the center of the Earth.



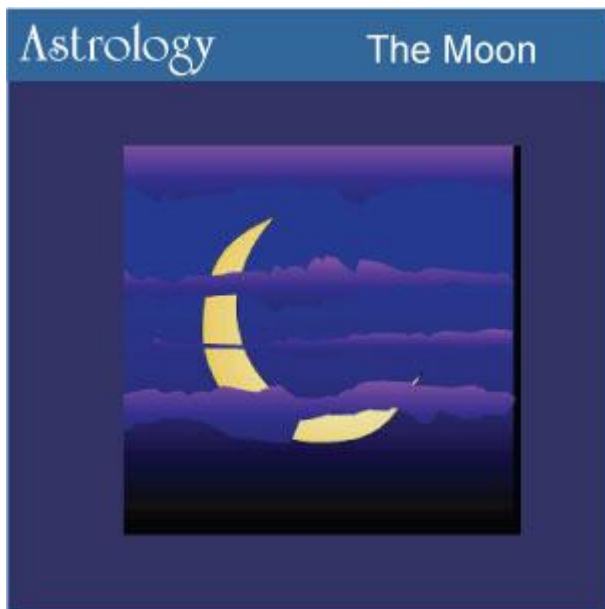
Moon Up / Moon Down

When the Moon is at the zenith, or overhead, gravitational force is at its strongest and it pulls us up, ever so slightly. When the Moon is at the nadir (on the other side of the Earth from us), a special form of centrifugal force, stronger than gravity, and pushes us out or away from the surface of the Earth. In other words, the effect of the Moon at zenith or nadir is to lift us up or away from the surface of the Earth, but for different reasons.

The two points during the day when the Moon is up or down are when the radial lunar force is at a maximum. However, sometimes the pull of Moon up is greater than

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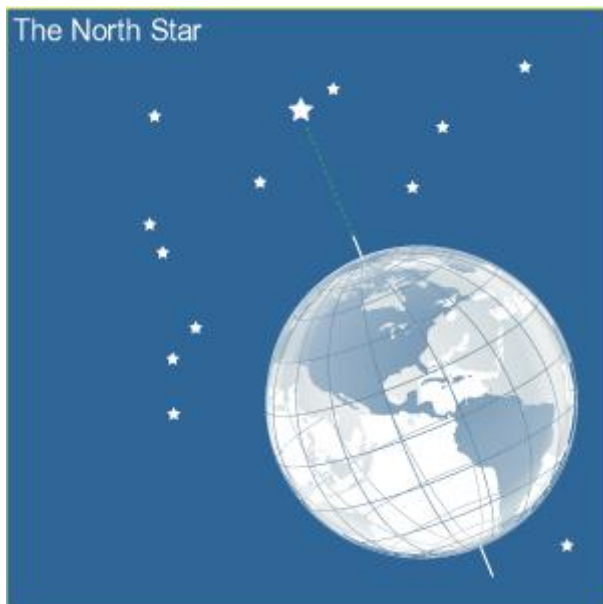
that for Moon down, and vice versa. This variation depends upon what is called the diurnal inequality, which varies during the course of a month. This diurnal inequality is responsible for the difference in the height of successive high tides and depends upon which part of the ecliptic the Moon is located.



The Moon in the Signs

When the Moon is in the equinoctial signs, Aries and Libra, the pull of Moon up is the same as that of Moon down for a given day. However, when the Moon is in the solstitial signs, Cancer and Capricorn, the pull is unequal. When the Moon is above the equator and in the sign Cancer, the pull at Moon up is always stronger than the pull at Moon down. When the Moon is below the equator and in the sign Capricorn, the pull at Moon down is always stronger than the pull at Moon up.

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Geographic Latitude

You geographic latitude will affect how unequal the Moon Up and down can be. If I am here in Big Rapids at almost 44 degrees of latitude North and the Moon has a declination of minus 28 degrees (which it can reach), then at Moon up, the angle between my zenith (Moon up) and the Moon is some 72 degrees. However, some 12 hours later, when the Moon is at my nadir (Moon down), the angle between my nadir's latitude (40 degrees South) and the declination of the Moon at - 28 degrees is only some 16 degrees. At this time, the Moon down pull will be much stronger than the Moon up pull.

Moon on the Horizon

The Moon is weakest, as mentioned, when it is on the horizon, either rising or setting, each day. However, this too varies during the month depending on the declination of the Moon. The closer the Moon comes to

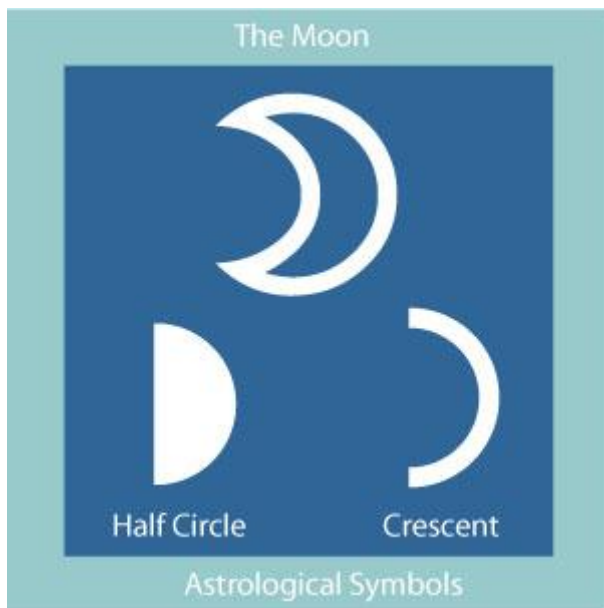
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your own geographic latitude, the stronger the effect. Therefore, if you are residing in a northern latitude, the Moon will be closer to you in the ecliptic sign Cancer and this will cause the Moon to be somewhat stronger at Moonrise and set.

Gravitational Force

Both the Sun and Moon exert a gravitational pull on the Earth. Although the Sun is much more massive, its greater distance results in the gravitational pull of the Moon being almost twice that of the Sun. In any case, we experience their combined effect rather than each singly. This effect varies with the monthly lunar cycle.

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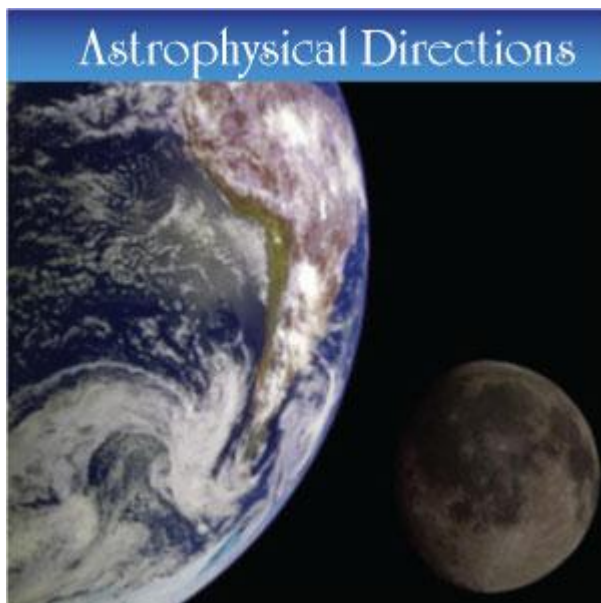
New and Full Moons

At New and Full Moons, the combined pull of the Sun and the Moon is greatest. This pull is weakest at the lunar quarters. Therefore, this pull waxes and wanes with the month. It is strongest at new moon, grows weaker at First Quarter, is strong again at the Full Moon and then weak at Fourth Quarter, and on around. At New and Full Moon, the Moon's tidal effect is, in effect, added to the solar effect and the resultant tractive force is increased in the ration 3:2 , the tide-generating force of the Sun being one half that of the Moon. During the First and Last Quarters, when the Moon and Sun are some 90 degrees apart, the resultant tractive force is roughly one half of the lunar force alone.

This combined solar/lunar force is subject to some variation (other than that already pointed out) due to the fact that the Moon can have latitude above or below the ecliptic. The Moon's orbit can reach some 5 degrees

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above or below the plane of the Earth's orbit, the ecliptic. Where the Moon crosses the ecliptic are what are called the ascending and descending nodes of the Moon. At these points (twice a month), the combined force of the Sun and Moon is greatest.



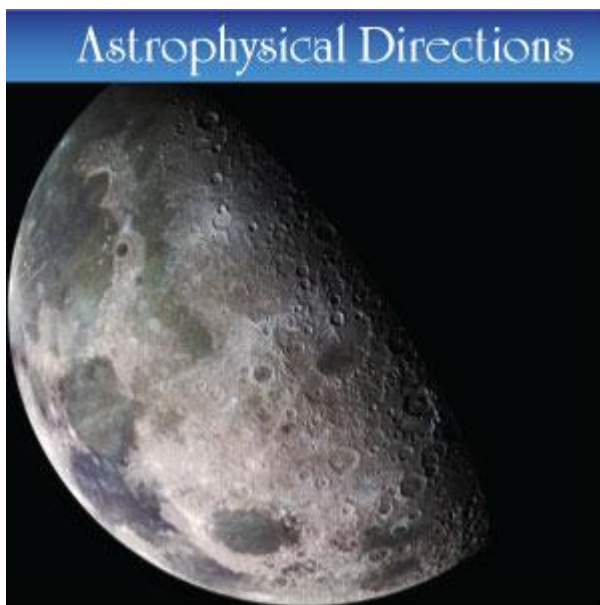
The Tidal Vector

So far we have discussed something of the effects of the Moon as it transits overhead, beneath our feet. Or on the horizon each day. Yet it is the combined vector force of the Sun and Moon that produces the strongest pull that we feel during any 24 hour period. Keeping track of this vector force is a little complicated, and that is where a computer really helps. It does it for us. In fact the program will keep track of the Sun, Moon singly or their combined vector. In any case, here are the various components that the program will calculate and graph:

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Radial component

This is the tidal component that lifts us away from the face of the Earth at zenith and nadir passage. You will note that there are two periods each day (zenith & nadir) when this component reaches a maximum value and that, depending on your geographic latitude, these are often unequal in magnitude. At the rising and setting points in the daily cycle, the effect is to push us down towards the center of the Earth. At all other points, aside from the above mentioned four, the effect is transverse or horizontal:



Horizontal component

In addition to the vertical or radial tidal components, there are horizontal or transverse forces that push and pull us across the surface of the Earth in various directions. The earth's rotation produces semidiurnal changes in the tide-generating forces both in direction

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and magnitude.

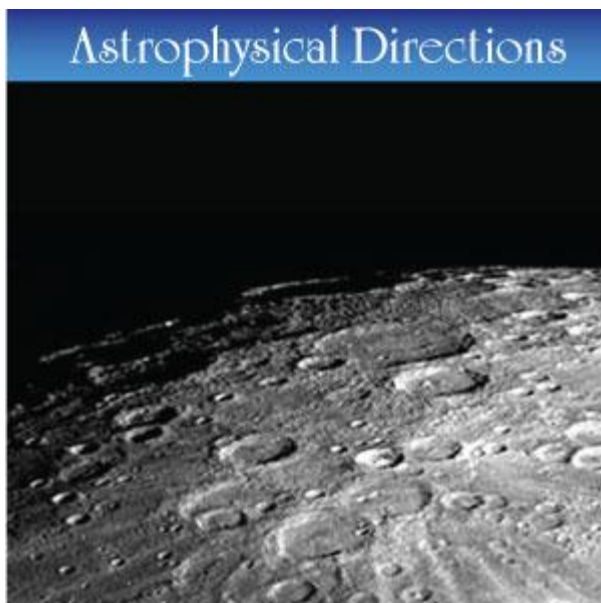
East/West horizontal component

These forces reach zero values at zenith, nadir, rising and setting times and become strongest at the intermediate times (45 degree points) between the above four events. These horizontal components vary depending upon the geographic latitude. In a 24 hour period, the effect of the horizontal component is as follows:

Starting from Moon up, the transverse pull grows stronger to the West, reaches maximum magnitude some 45 degrees (3 hours) after Moon up, and fades until we reach the point at which the Moon is setting at which time the horizontal force has again dropped to zero. After this we are pulled to the East, dropping off again at Moon down. At this point, a Westerly pull is again felt, diminishing to zero at Moonrise. After Moonrise, we experience an Easterly pull, reaching a peak some three hours before the Moon is at our zenith, and dropping to zero at the zenith point.

North/South horizontal component

These force also have a North South component that varies on a 24 hour basis. It is much like the East/West component, and functions as follows. There is no North/South component for places located along the equator. In other latitudes, the force vector describes an ellipse. At Moon up and Moon down, it is directed toward the South, while at Moonrise and Moonset it is directed toward the North. The North/South component is of the same order of magnitude as the East/West component.



The Declination Cycle

The monthly cycle (tropical month of 27.32 days) of lunar declination contributes to the overall tidal effects. The closer the Moon comes to being overhead, the more powerful are its effects. If we live in the northern hemisphere, then when the Moon rides high above the celestial equator, when it is in the sign Cancer, it will come closest to our own geographic latitude, and to being overhead. This effect can further be enhanced when the latitude of the Moon reaches its maximum value of some 5 degrees. Thus the total declination of the Moon can reach some 28 1/2 degrees above and below the ecliptic. This happens (North or South) once in about 18.6 years.

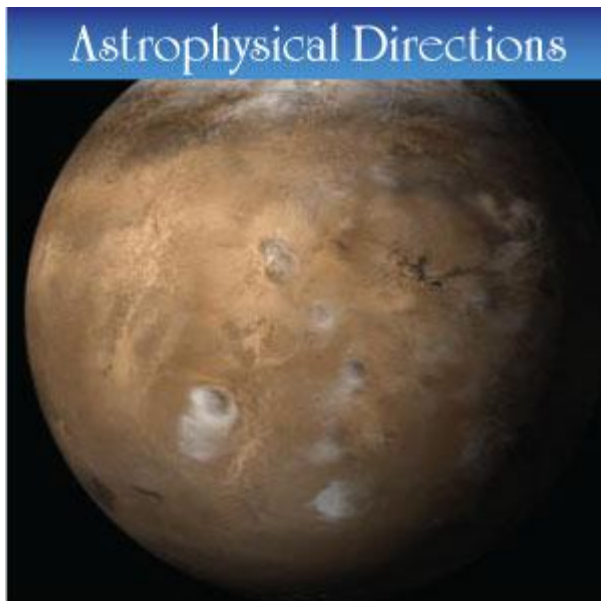
Perigee/Apogee

These are the points when the Moon, due to its non-circular orbit, is closest and furthest (respectively) to the

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Earth. The Moon moves at its greatest speed when it is at perigee and at its slowest when furthest from the Earth at apogee. The gravitational pull of the Moon is much stronger at perigee than at apogee.

The apogee/perigee points (the line of asides that connects them) are not fixed along the ecliptic, but move slowly forward along the ecliptic over a nine year period.



Lunar Speed

In addition, this line of apsides also fluctuates backwards and forwards in the ecliptic slightly with a period of 31.81 days. This is due to the eccentricity of the Moon's orbit, and this fluctuation is called evection. The resulting effect is the Moon speeds up and slows down at different rates in the four weeks from one perigee to the next.

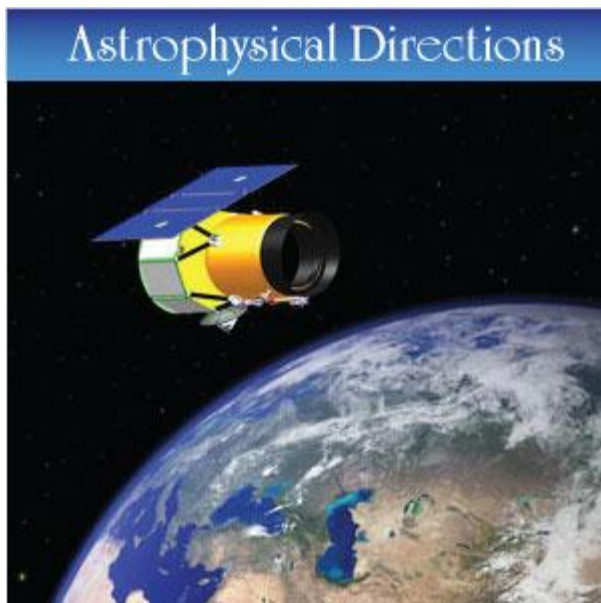
The Moon's speed is also affected by the lunar phases, since the Sun's pull on the Moon is different in the various lunar quadrants. The Moon moves faster from the Last Quarter to the New Moon, and slower from the New Moon to the First Quarter. It also speeds up from the First Quarter to the Full Moon, and slows down from the Full Moon to the Last Quarter.

The Nodal Cycle.

The greatest possible astronomical tide-generating force

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occurs when, at the same time, the Sun is at perigee, the Sun and Moon are at Full or New Moon and both the Sun and Moon have zero declination. This happens about once in 1600 years, 250 B.C., 1400 A.D, and it will happen around 3300 A.D.



Major Tide-related Phenomena

Semi-Diurnal (12 hr., 25 min.) Time between Moon up and Moon down caused by the rotation of the Earth.

Diurnal (24 hr., 50 min.), time between succeeding upper and lower transits of the Moon caused by rotation of the Earth and declination of Sun and Moon.

Interval between spring tides (14.76 days average), time from New Moon to Full Moon or vice versa caused by the phase relation between the Sun and Moon.

Lunar fortnightly (13.66 days), time for moon to change declination from zero to maximum and back to zero caused by the varying declination of the Moon.

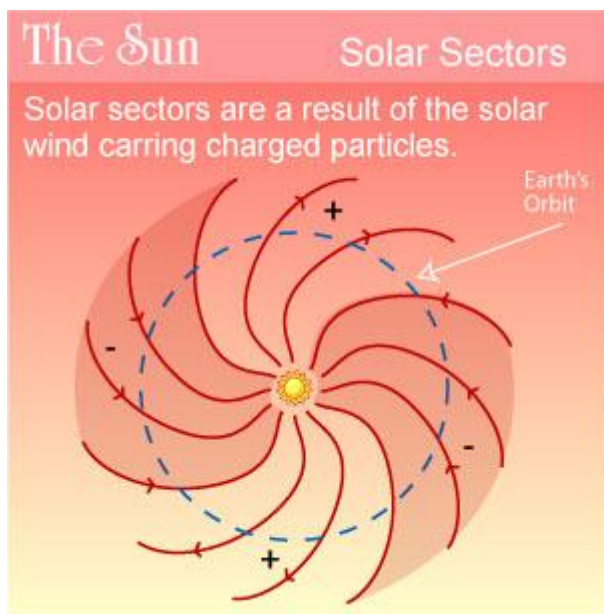
Anomalistic month (17.55 days), time for moon to go from perigee to perigee caused by the ellipticity of the Moon's orbit.

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Solar semi-annual (182.6 days), time for Sun to change declination from zero to maximum and back to zero caused by the varying declination of the Sun.

Anomalistic year (365.26 days), time for the Earth to go from perigee to perigee caused by the ellipticity of the Earth's orbit.

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Solar Wind

In recent year, the phenomenon of the solar wind has become of more interest to researchers. In brief, the Sun spews forth an endless stream of charged particles in all directions -- the solar wind. This solar wind blows far out into the solar system and beyond. The Earth's magnetic fields serve to shield us from direct contact with the solar wind's charged particles. The Earth's magnetic field is rounded toward the Sun, and stretches out in a long tail away from the Sun, just like a comet. The solar wind rushes around and past the Earth and on out into space. The Moon passes thru the different sections of the Earth's magnetic sphere in its monthly orbit. At New Moon it is always in the upstream portion of the magnetosphere, facing the Sun and downstream in the Earth's tail at Full Moon. At First Quarter, the Moon is to the dusk side of Earth and at Fourth Quarter, the Moon is in the dawn side of the

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magnetosphere.

The interrelationship of the solar wind and the Earth's magnetosphere is receiving considerable attention in recent years. It has been suggested that the passage of the Moon thru the Earth's magnetic shield may serve to trigger various weather and magnetic activity. The interrelationship of indicators like the geomagnetic index, solar flux and other measures of solar activity with the Moon is just now in the process of being researched and understood.

From First to Last Quarter, the Moon is traveling faster than the Earth, and from Last Quarter to First Quarter, slower.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights



The Sun: Details

The Sun is a variable star that is unlike any we know. It revolves east to west (in the direction of the signs of the Zodiac -- counterclockwise. The equator of the Sun is another fundamental reference plane to which we could refer all planetary motion. The inclination of the solar equator to the ecliptic is $7^{\circ}15'$ and the longitude of the ascending node to the ecliptic of 1950 is $75^{\circ}04'$. Some interesting data about our Sun:

Period of synodic rotation $26.75 + 5.7^2 \sin \varphi$ d.

Period of sidereal rotation ($\varphi = 17^{\circ}$) = 25.38 days

Corresponding synodic period = 27.275 days

Sun's angular velocity ($\varphi = 17^{\circ}$) = 2.865×10^{-6} rad s $^{-1}$

Sun's radius = 864934.6 miles

Sun's mass = $1.989(2) \times 10^{33}$ g

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Mean distance from Earth= 92.9558×10^6 miles

Mean equatorial horizontal parallax= 8.79418

The Sun Data

SS-99 North Pole of Sun

15°Pi03'58 +82°44'60

SS-100 South Pole of Sun

05°Vi20'26 -81°51'32

SS-101 Ascending North Node Sun Equator to
ecliptic

15°Ge03'60 + 0°00'00

SS-102 Descending South Node Sun Equator to ecliptic

14°Sa55'53 + 1°12'39

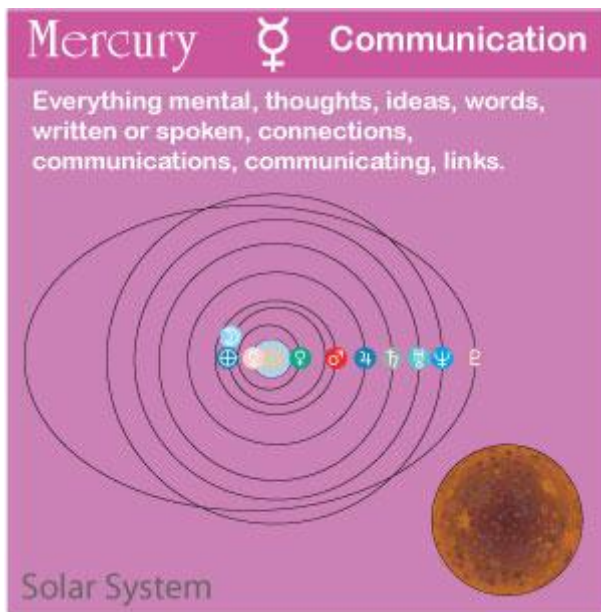
SS-103 Ascending North Node Sun Equator to equator

14°Ar45'45 - 6°18'22

SS-104 Descending South Node Sun Equator to
equator

14°Li45'45 + 6°18'22

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights



The Moon: Details

Here is some basic data about the Moon:

Mean distance from Earth= 384401 km

Extreme range 356400406700 km

Mean horizontal paralax 3422.60"

Eccentricity of orbit = 0.0549

Inclination of orbit to ecliptic = 5°08'43"

Sidereal period (fixed stars)= 27.321661 ep. days

Synodical month (New Moon to New Moon) =
29.5305882 ep. days

Anomalistic month perigee to perigee) = 27.5545505
days

Tropical month (equinox to equinox) = 27.321582 days

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights



Mother Moon: Details

Nodical month (node to node) = 27.212220 days

Period of Moon's node (nutations, retrograde) = 18.61 tropical years

Period of rotation of Moon's perigee (direct) = 8.85 years

Moon's sidereal mean daily motion = $13^{\circ}.176358$

Mean Transit interval = 24h 50.47m

Main periodic terms in the Moon's motion:

Principal elliptic term in longitude $22639'' \sin g$

Principal elliptic term in latitude $18461'' \sin u$

Evection = $4586'' \sin (2D-g)$

Variation = $2370'' \sin 2D$

Annual inequality = $-669'' \sin g'$

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Parallactic inequality = $-125'' \sin D$

Where g = Moon's mean anomaly,

g' = Sun's mean anomaly,

D = Moon's age,

u = distance of mean Moon from ascending node.

Inclination of lunar equator to ecliptic = $1^\circ 32.5'$

Inclination of lunar equator to orbit = $6^\circ 41'$

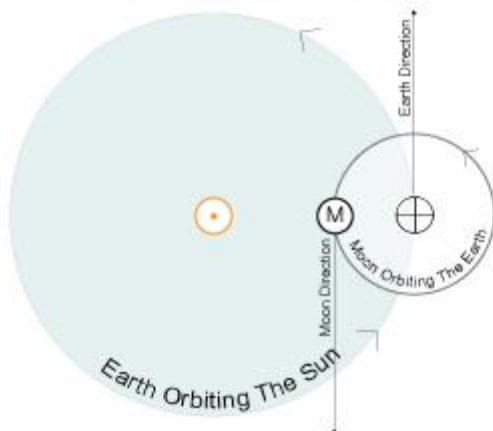
Mean Moon radius = 1738.2 km

Moon mass = $1/81.301$ mass of Earth

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

New Moon

- 1) Moon Closer to The Sun
- 2) Sun/Moon/Earth Alignment
- 3) Moon Heading Opposite Direction Earth
- 4) Moon Heading Into Earth's Wake/Past



Moon In and Moon Out

The New Moon

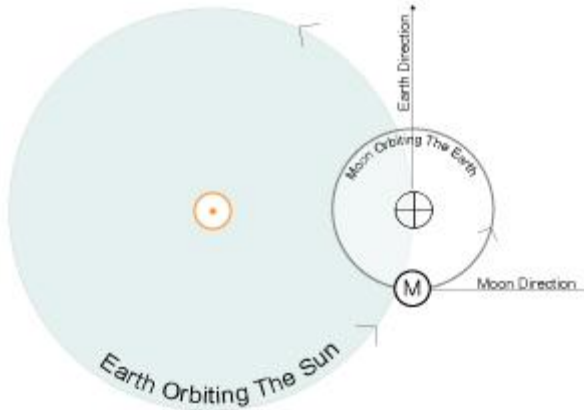
We know the Moon orbits the earth each month, shuttling between the earth and the Sun and between the Earth the outer planets, the nearest one which is Mars. It is useful to visualize how the Moon moves in relationship to being inside and outside the position of the earth in its own orbit. Think on these diagrams.

Above is a diagram of the moment of New Moon, when the Sun and Moon are aligned inside the earth's orbit. Note that at the New Moon the Moon is heading in the exact opposite direction to that of the earth, after plunging toward the Sun in the 4th Quarter. The Earth and Moon are in the same degree of the zodiac.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

First Quarter Moon

- 1) Moon/Earth Equidistant the Sun
- 2) Moon in Wake of Earth
- 3) Moon Right Angles Earth
- 4) Moon Heading Outer Space



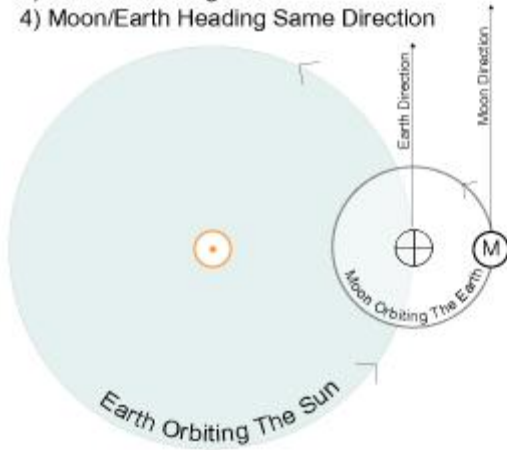
First Quarter

Here the Moon is balanced between the inside and the outer side of the earth's orbit and moving toward the outward side at right angles to the motion of the earth itself. The Moon is behind in the zodiac to the position of the earth.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Full Moon

- 1) Moon Outside Earth's Orbit
- 2) Sun/Earth/Moon Alignment
- 3) Moon/Earth Together
- 4) Moon/Earth Heading Same Direction



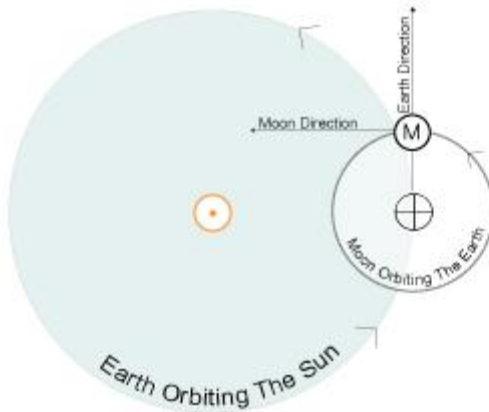
Full Moon

Here the Moon is on the outermost side of its orbit, aligned with the earth and the Sun. Notice that the direction and momentum of the Moon is the same as that of the earth. The earth is in the same degree of the zodiac as the Moon.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Last Quarter Moon

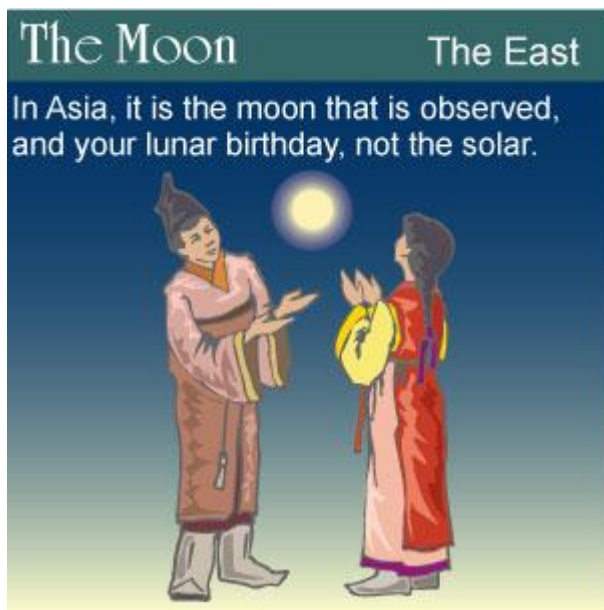
- 1) Moon Ahead of Earth in Space
- 2) Moon Right Angle to Earth
- 3) Moon Heading Toward Sun
- 4) Moon/Earth Equidistant From Sun



Last Quarter

Here the Moon is balanced between the inside and the outer side of the earth's orbit and moving toward the inward side of the earth's orbit, at 90 degrees to the orbit of the earth. Also note that the Moon is ahead of the earth in the zodiac at this point.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights



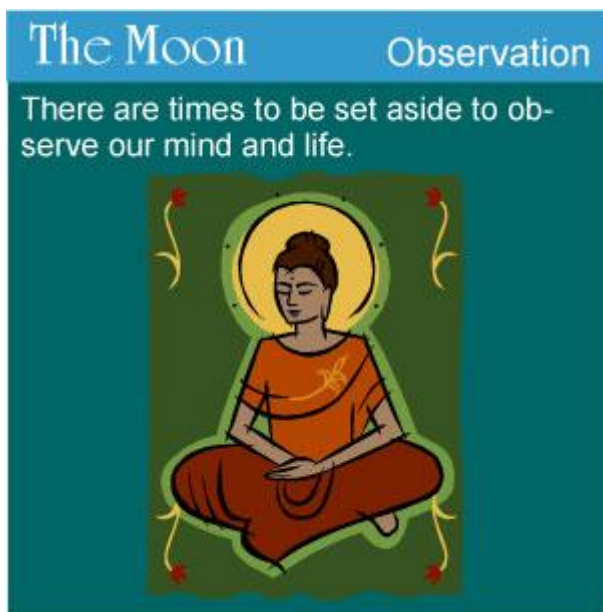
Mind Practice

The lunar cycle and its gaps are available to everyone, all the time. If we don't observe these special times, it is because we have set no time aside to observe, to check it out for ourselves. In the East, most people are introduced to basic observation techniques or mind practice from an early age. It is unfortunate that mind practice is not much known of here in the West. I mean how many people do you know who practice observing or using their mind anyway? Most of us assume that the mind is perfectly usable just as we find it, and doesn't require any practice.

In the Tibet mind practice is not only acceptable, it is pretty much obligatory. This is true for countries like Tibet, Nepal, much of India, and even parts of China and Japan. Over there, the mind is considered by nature to be unruly and hard to manage. No one would think of trying to do much with it without considerable

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

practice. Mind practice or mind preparation or training, as it is sometimes called, is standard fare in the orient.



Mind Practice

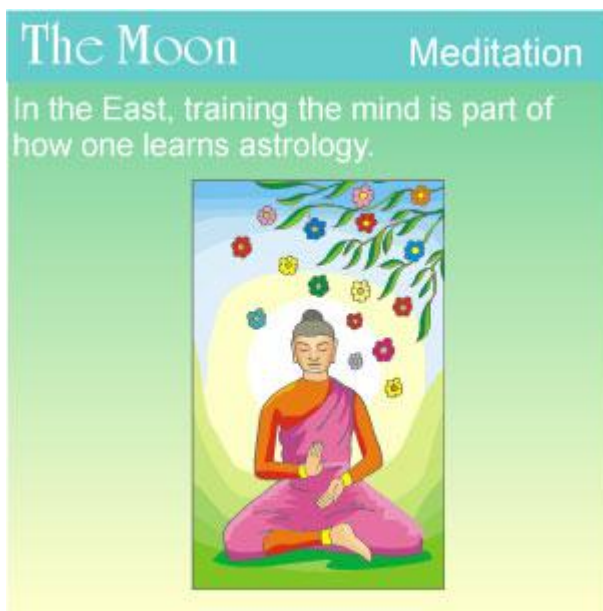
We might wonder why this style of mind practice has never caught on in North America. In part, this is due to our whole take on meditation and what we think that is. Meditation in the West has come to mean something almost like relaxation therapy, a way to relax and get away from it all -- to escape the worries of the world in the contemplation of some inner landscape.

Somewhere, perhaps early in this century, the word meditation lost any semblance to its Eastern counterpart and became what most understand as meditation today -- a way to relax and get rid of tension.

Of course this is nothing like the Tibetan concept of mind practice or mind preparation, which involves the intense use of the mind. It is unfortunate that this very

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

active mind practice has also come under the general label of meditation here in the West.



Sitting and Looking

Having pointed this out, it may be helpful to clarify and describe what it is that the Tibetan Buddhists (and other groups too) do when they sit down on their cushions. In general, if you ask them what they are doing on their cushions, the answer will not that they are "practicing", or they are "sitting". Indeed, that is what takes place. They sit and observe.

There are many Tibetan words for the different kinds of mind practice that are possible, while in the West we have just the one word: meditation. What then is mind practice?

The most important difference between sitting practice (mind practice) and meditation as it is understood in this

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

country, is that mind practice is anything but relaxing or passive. It is very active.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights



The Techniques

The actual technique is quite simple, taking only a few minutes to learn. And it is worth getting this instruction from someone authorized to give it. Most Buddhist and some Hindu groups offer this type of mind practice. When looking for training in mind practice, be sure to ask for a technique that emphasizes concentration on the present moment -- being present, and not some of the more dreamy relaxation techniques. What you need in order to use lunar gaps is to become very alert and observant. The technique is called Shamata training in Tibetan Buddhism and Zazen in Zen Buddhism. I would be happy to send a list of well-respected centers to anyone who writes me at 315 Marion Avenue, Big Rapids, MI 49307. It is important that you receive instruction from someone trained in the technique, and get an authentic connection with a tradition.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Even the non-astrologer cannot help but notice the time of the Full Moon each month -- when the full disk of the Moon passes overhead around midnight. It is a fact that many have trouble sleeping when the Full Moon makes this overhead transit in the middle of the night. Often sleep will not come until the Moon finishes rising, transits overhead, and begins to set. This has been used by some as a way to determine whether a late-night party or a bout of TV watching will be a satisfying experience. In general, you can plan on building tension (and attention) while the Full Moon is rising and an easing of that state just after the Moon crests overhead. After the Moon crests and begins to set is a good time to bring activities to a close. Sleep often will come with ease at this point.

Learning to get in step with and to make use of the Moon cycle is part of astrological basic training. There has been general agreement among astrologers for thousands of years as to how the lunar cycle functions and the uses to which it can be put.

The 144 Solunar Combinations

Throughout the history of astrology, perhaps the most important two bodies have been those of the Sun and the Moon, in particular their combination in a natal chart.

Included below are all 144 solunar combinations, complete with a brief interpretation of the combination and solunar phase angle, and Astro*Image card for the particular solunar phase under consideration.

In addition to this, following the 144 combinations are interpretations for the Sun and Moon in the twelve zodiac signs. Be sure to read both sections, your particular solunar combination and phase angle, and then you Sun and Moon interpretations.

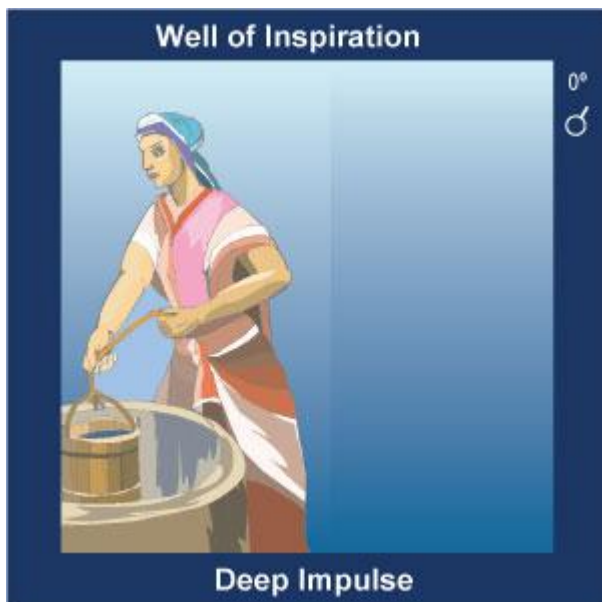
Note, the Sun and Moon interpretations are given for both the natal chart and the transit chart. A transit chart is for the current time.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Aries (Initiate / Action)

Moon in Aries (Initiate / Action)

You come across as an active, direct, look-you-in-the-eye, kind of person, perhaps even a little too aggressive. You are not afraid to jump in and take the lead.



0 to 30 Degrees (Envisioning / Ideas)

You should be able to sense a new beginning, with some fresh ideas burning brightly, lighting up this time with clarity and visions of what can be accomplished. You can see what needs to be done right now, and also farther on up the road. You may feel inspired.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Aries (Initiate / Action)

Moon in Taurus (Embody / Possess)

You come across to others as receptive, and are probably a good listener. You take things in, evaluate them, and build on that. A producer.



30 to 60 Degrees (Planning)

Putting new ideas to work is important here, using any and all the help you can get - very much community oriented. You want the new plans you are making to succeed and become manifest. However, this will not come about without and effort and there will be obstacles that will appear. Here is a chance to move beyond old habits (whatever may be obstructing your way)and actually push your plans forward toward action.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

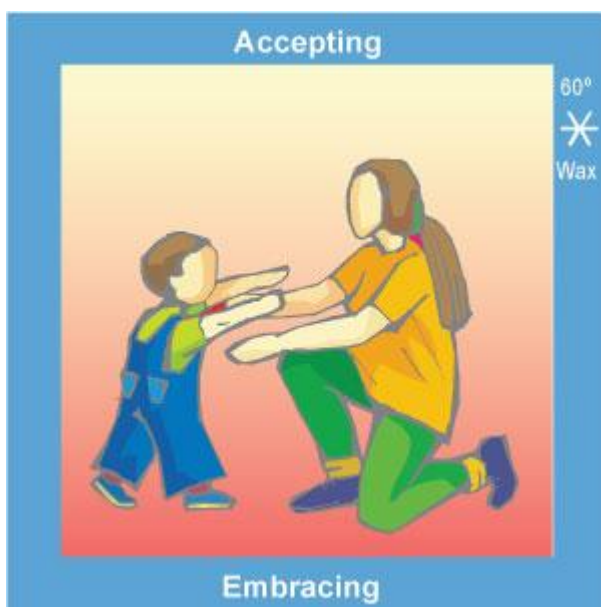
But this will require patience and effort. It may not be easy.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Aries (Initiate / Action)

Moon in Gemini (Communication)

You come across to others as, perhaps above all, a natural communicator, communicative in words and ideas, whether written or spoken.



60 to 90 Degrees (Sacrifice / Preparation)

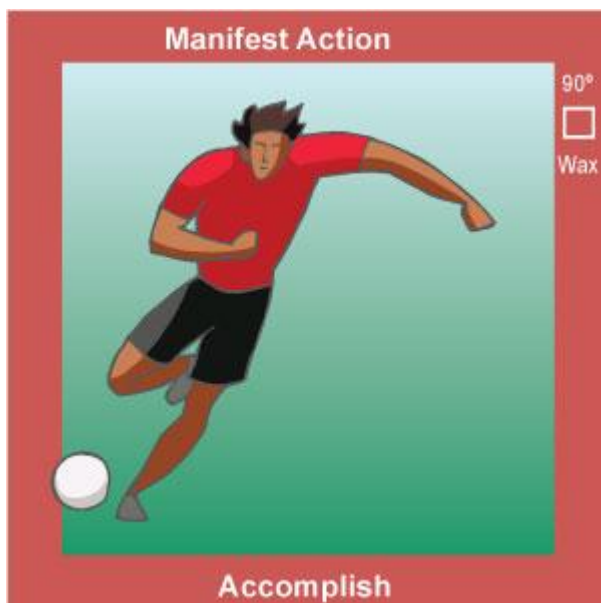
If you are looking for a time, when things free up a bit, and the going could be easier, this is it. Plan things out and get a better grip on the forces around you. For the sake of what you care for, better to let outmoded or unimportant things pass, and to look toward the goal. Keep your eye on the ball. This may require acceptance of "what is," a not perfect situation, in order to get your new plans launched.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Aries (Initiate / Action)

Moon in Cancer (Feel / Experience)

You appear to others as very much a home lover and a family man, foregoing any public or social stance, in favor of family closeness and togetherness.



90-120 Degrees (Sign Progress / Achievement)

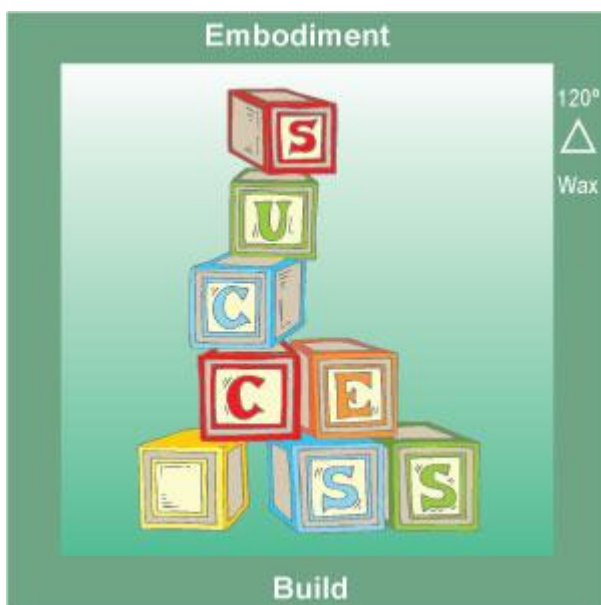
This is one of those critical points, where continued effort and action on your part can make the difference and bring about real change, producing something that can't be easily ignored. The result of your plans and ideas should have established a foothold here. No time for hesitating, just do it.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Aries (Initiate / Action)

Moon in Leo (Express / Awareness)

You appear others as very confident, even a little proud of yourself, and most of all, self expressive. Enthusiastic.



120-150 Degrees (Embody / Building)

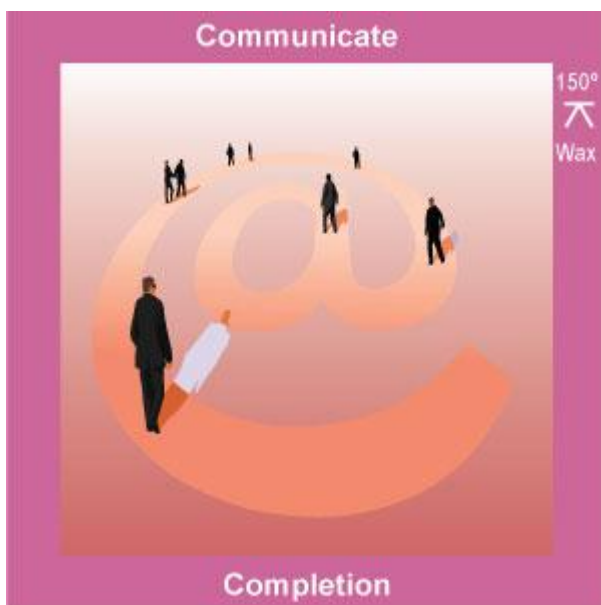
By this point, things should be not only started, but well on their way, a good time to take control, and point things where you want them to go. This is a point of least resistance and solid momentum, so making a solid effort will take you a long way. Also this is the time to embody your ideas, to build them physically into something solid.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Aries (Initiate / Action)

Moon in Virgo (Care / Conserving)

You come across as concerned, perhaps even compassionate, caring, and very detail oriented. Perhaps there is a touch of the mother hen there too.



150-180 Degrees (Connect / Communications)

Connect it up. Establish communications. Complete the detailed infrastructure. This is not so much a time to continue expanding, but rather one in which to do the finish work, and wrap the project up. Explore all the nooks and crannies, while you have the energy.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Aries (Initiate / Action)

Moon in Libra (Public / Partners)

You are very outgoing in your manner, with everything private kept private, and what appears as very much for public consumption. You are social.



180-210 Degrees (Experience It)

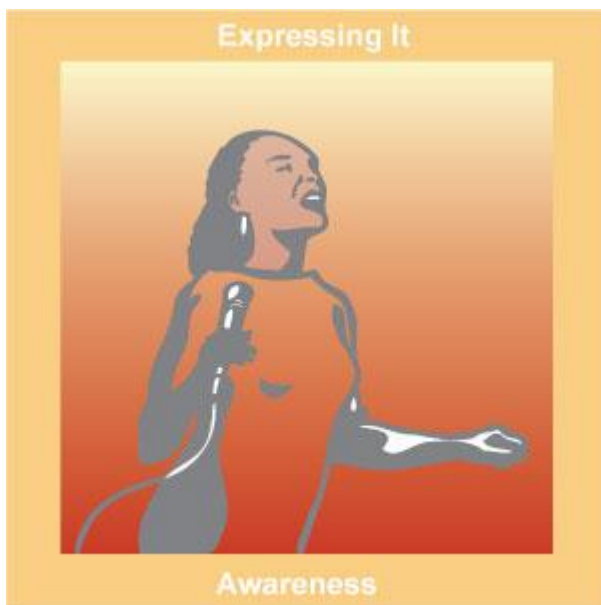
Stop the engines, because this is it! Don't push on farther, because you have accomplished what is possible for this round. From here, you coast and experience things for a while. This is the fullness you have worked for, such as it can be. Just let go and ride.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Aries (Initiate / Action)

Moon in Scorpio (Business / Critical)

You come across probably as quite intense, perhaps a bit preoccupied, and most definitely ready for business, whatever that may be. You appear critical or analytical.



210-240 Degrees (Express / Teach It)

You are in the thick of things, perhaps just starting to get a handle on what is going on around you, and this may be a sticking point. This is not the time for action, to do more, but rather a time to let things take their course. You should be able to get a better idea of what will come out of this, by just riding it out. And now is when you can own this event, and feel confidence and pride in what you have done.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Aries (Initiate / Action)

Moon in Sagittarius (Direct / Religion)

With you, what you see is what you get, and you appear just as you are, frank, honest, and perhaps at times even too direct.



240-270 Degrees (Conserve / Preserver)

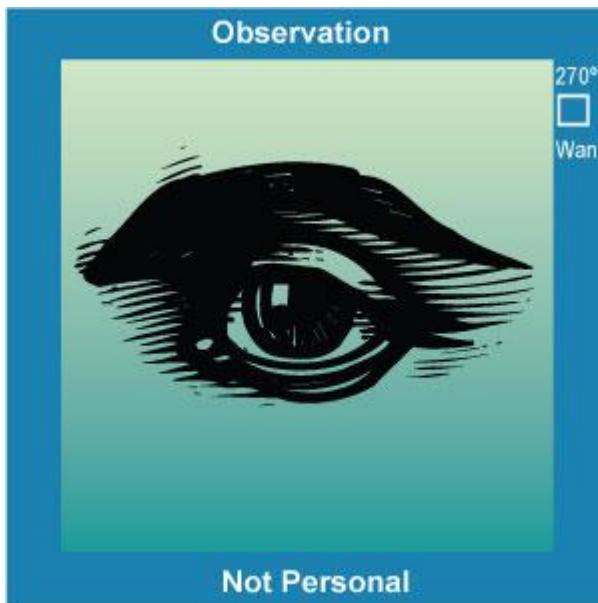
A time to take stock, step back, while you have plenty of energy and a growing understanding of your situation. Things are throttling down, so you may want to conserve your gains, and plug some of the leaks. Conservation.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Aries (Initiate / Action)

Moon in Capricorn (Manage / Practical)

You come across as very practical, capable, and very managerial. You communicate that you are in charge or at least willing and able to be.



270-300 Degrees (Public / Objective)

A major turning point, where you can just let go and find it easy to turn away from purely personal worries and memories, and take a more reflective and impersonal point of view. You could feel a growing sense of responsibility, and a willingness to just grow up.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Aries (Initiate / Action)

Moon in Aquarius (Community / Plans)

You come across as open and even communal, or at least very community oriented. Your willingness to be a team player is obvious.



300-330 Degrees (Critical / Business)

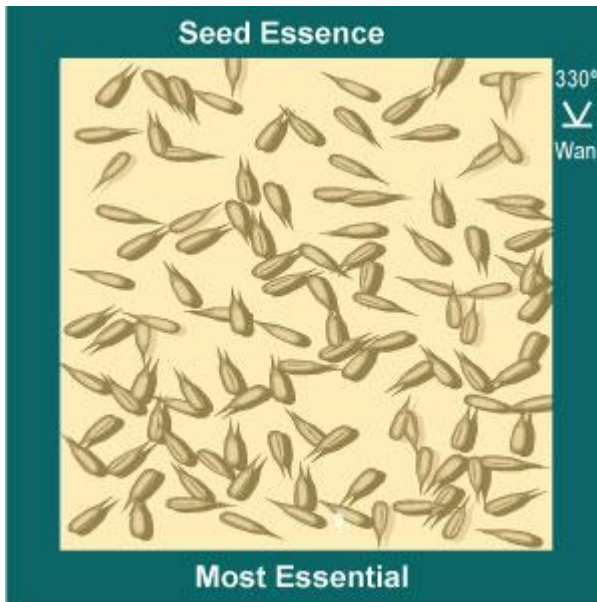
You should be able to not only see the problems at hand, but have the insight and energy to actually do something about them, separating the good parts and culling out the whatever is excessive and holding you back.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Aries (Initiate / Action)

Moon in Pisces (Acceptance / Psychology)

It is obvious at first meeting, that you are very understanding and accepting of others, perhaps even somewhat self-sacrificing. You have psychological skills, and enjoy working with others.



330-360 Degrees (Encapsulate / Essence)

At more inward time, ignoring the external world, and give attention to the things the really matter, and that will last.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Taurus (Embody / Possess)

Moon in Aries (Initiate / Action)

You are active, perhaps even aggressive, when it comes to productivity, looking after your own, and providing for your own support network.



330-360 Degrees (Encapsulate / Essence)

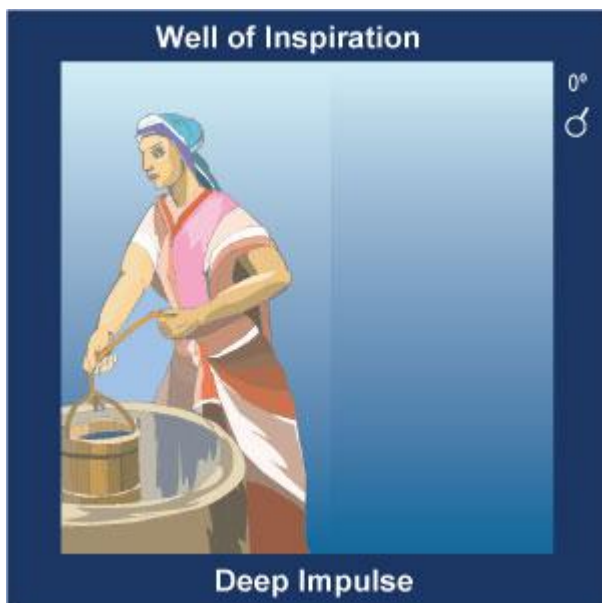
At more inward time, ignoring the external world, and give attention to the things the really matter, and that will last.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Taurus (Embody / Possess)

Moon in Taurus (Embody / Possess)

You are naturally very productive, fertile might be a better word, and you can draw on deep resources to create just the right support environment.



0 to 30 Degrees (Envisioning / Ideas)

You should be able to sense a new beginning, with some fresh ideas burning brightly, lighting up this time with clarity and visions of what can be accomplished. You can see what needs to be done right now, and also farther on up the road. You may feel inspired.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Taurus (Embody / Possess)

Moon in Gemini (Communication)

Communication and communicating, the mind in all its facets, is one area where you are naturally productive, and able to create a support environment where you can thrive.



30 to 60 Degrees (Planning)

Putting new ideas to work is important here, using any and all the help you can get - very much community oriented. You want the new plans you are making to succeed and become manifest. However, this will not come about without and effort and there will be obstacles that will appear. Here is a chance to move beyond old habits (whatever may be obstructing your way)and actually push your plans forward toward action.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

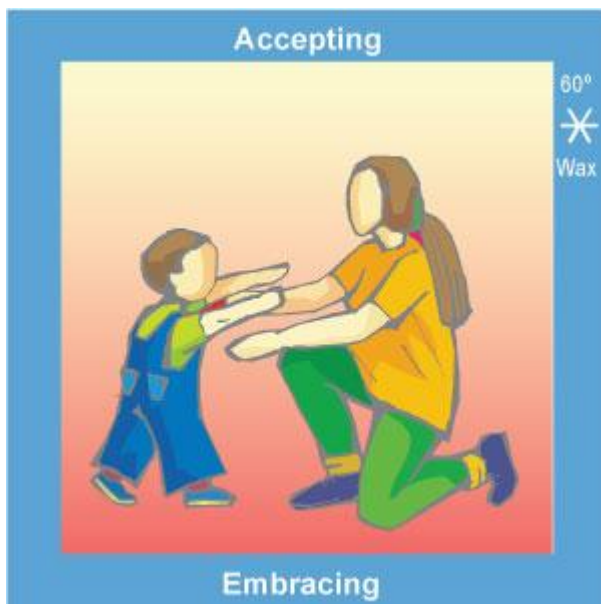
But this will require patience and effort. It may not be easy.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Taurus (Embody / Possess)

Moon in Cancer (Feel / Experience)

The most productive and fertile environment for you, one in which you can thrive and prosper, is as close as your own home and family. Productivity at home is indicated.



60 to 90 Degrees (Sacrifice / Preparation)

If you are looking for a time, when things free up a bit, and the going could be easier, this is it. Plan things out and get a better grip on the forces around you. For the sake of what you care for, better to let outmoded or unimportant things pass, and to look toward the goal. Keep your eye on the ball. This may require acceptance of "what is," a not perfect situation, in order to get your new plans launched.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Taurus (Embody / Possess)

Moon in Leo (Express / Awareness)

A creative environment, one with plenty of self-expression, is where you will prosper and thrive. You are productive, when you feel creative and are expressing yourself.



90-120 Degrees (Sign Progress / Achievement)

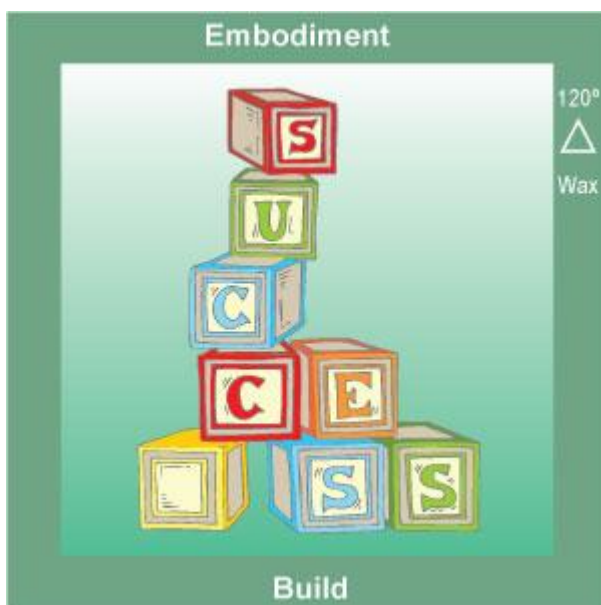
This is one of those critical points, where continued effort and action on your part can make the difference and bring about real change, producing something that can't be easily ignored. The result of your plans and ideas should have established a foothold here. No time for hesitating, just do it.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Taurus (Embody / Possess)

Moon in Virgo (Care / Conserving)

An environment of care and attention to detail is one where you will prosper and be most productive, one where healing, nurturing, and care are the keywords.



120-150 Degrees (Embody / Building)

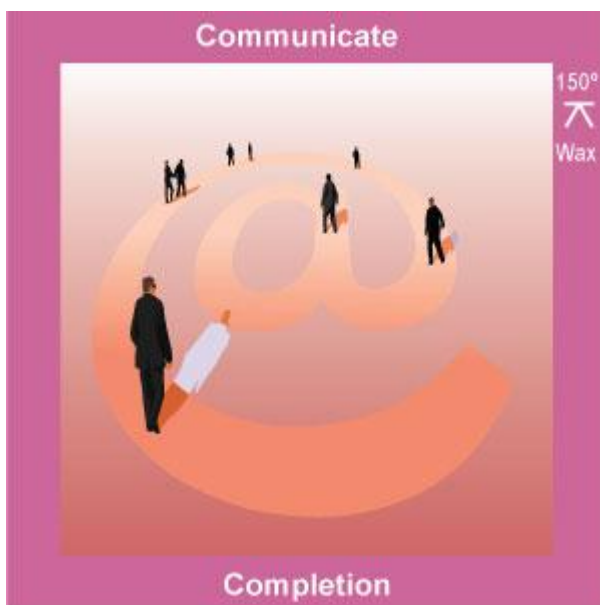
By this point, things should be not only started, but well on their way, a good time to take control, and point things where you want them to go. This is a point of least resistance and solid momentum, so making a solid effort will take you a long way. Also this is the time to embody your ideas, to build them physically into something solid.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Taurus (Embody / Possess)

Moon in Libra (Public / Partners)

A public life and mixing with society at large is an environment in which you can thrive and probably be most productive. A social being.



150-180 Degrees (Connect / Communications)

Connect it up. Establish communications. Complete the detailed infrastructure. This is not so much a time to continue expanding, but rather one in which to do the finish work, and wrap the project up. Explore all the nooks and crannies, while you have the energy.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Taurus (Embody / Possess)

Moon in Scorpio (Business / Critical)

Deep in the world of business, where many wither and die, is an environment where you can prosper and thrive, putting your analytical skills to work in real productivity.



180-210 Degrees (Experience It)

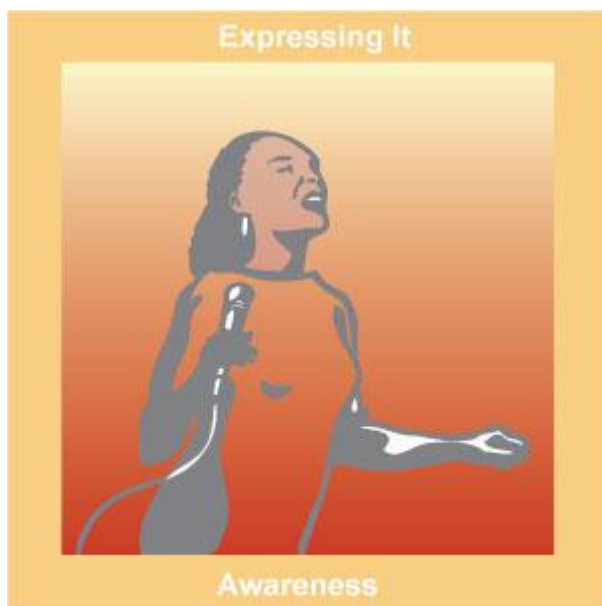
Stop the engines, because this is it! Don't push on farther, because you have accomplished what is possible for this round. From here, you coast and experience things for a while. This is the fullness you have worked for, such as it can be. Just let go and ride.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Taurus (Embody / Possess)

Moon in Sagittarius (Direct / Religion)

You perhaps only feel productive when you are engaged in the world of ideas (philosophy, etc.) or the spiritual (religion, mysticism, etc.). This is an environment where you shine and feel most at home.



210-240 Degrees (Express / Teach It)

You are in the thick of things, perhaps just starting to get a handle on what is going on around you, and this may be a sticking point. This is not the time for action, to do more, but rather a time to let things take their course. You should be able to get a better idea of what will come out of this, by just riding it out. And now is when you can own this event, and feel confidence and pride in what you have done.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Taurus (Embody / Possess)

Moon in Capricorn (Manage / Practical)

You feel most at home in the world of management and managing, and area as natural to you as a fish to water, and one where you can prosper and thrive.



240-270 Degrees (Conserve / Preserver)

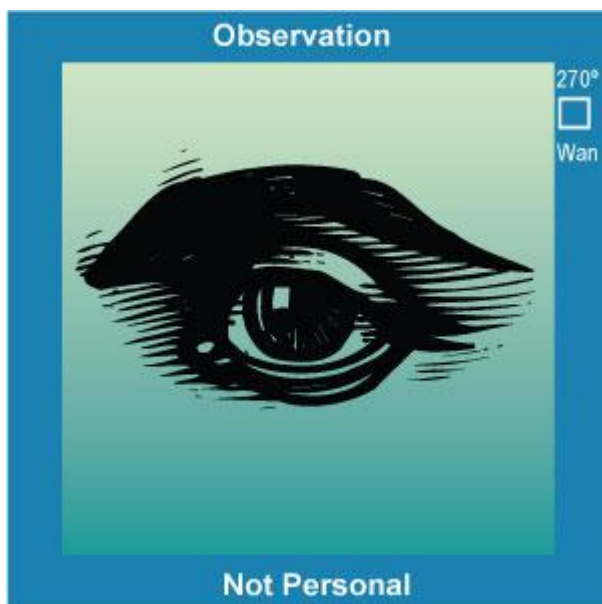
A time to take stock, step back, while you have plenty of energy and a growing understanding of your situation. Things are throttling down, so you may want to conserve your gains, and plug some of the leaks. Conservation.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Taurus (Embody / Possess)

Moon in Aquarius (Community / Plans)

You may feel most productive and worthwhile, when you are engaged in some community project or goal. The community itself is a world in which you most feel at home and one where you can thrive.



270-300 Degrees (Public / Objective)

A major turning point, where you can just let go and find it easy to turn away from purely personal worries and memories, and take a more reflective and impersonal point of view. You could feel a growing sense of responsibility, and a willingness to just grow up.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Taurus (Embody / Possess)

Moon in Pisces (Acceptance / Psychology)

You may only feel truly productive when you are working with and helping others, sharing your understanding, deep sense of acceptance, and personal self-sacrifice.



300-330 Degrees (Critical / Business)

You should be able to not only see the problems at hand, but have the insight and energy to actually do something about them, separating the good parts and culling out the whatever is excessive and holding you back.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Gemini (Communication)

Moon in Aries (Initiate / Action)

You are an active and direct communicator, probably not wasting much time on ambiance or nostalgia, but always getting right to the point.



300-330 Degrees (Critical / Business)

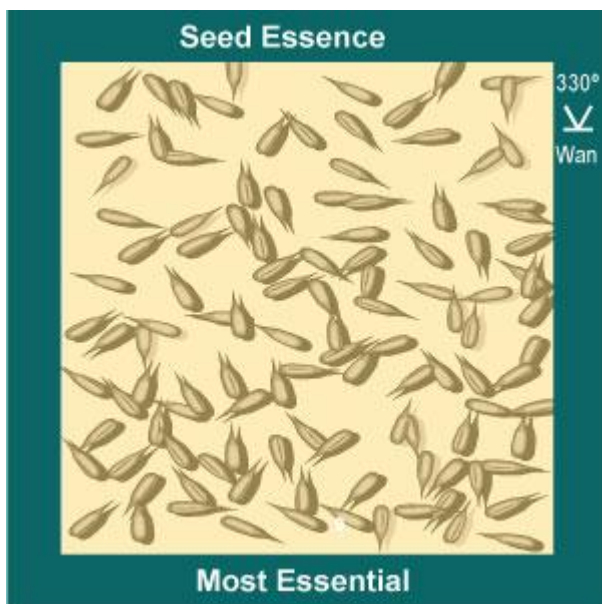
You should be able to not only see the problems at hand, but have the insight and energy to actually do something about them, separating the good parts and culling out the whatever is excessive and holding you back.#

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Gemini (Communication)

Moon in Taurus (Embody / Possess)

Communications and communicating are for you very productive, and usually an enriching experience. You grow friends and connections, like farmers grow wheat.



330-360 Degrees (Encapsulate / Essence)

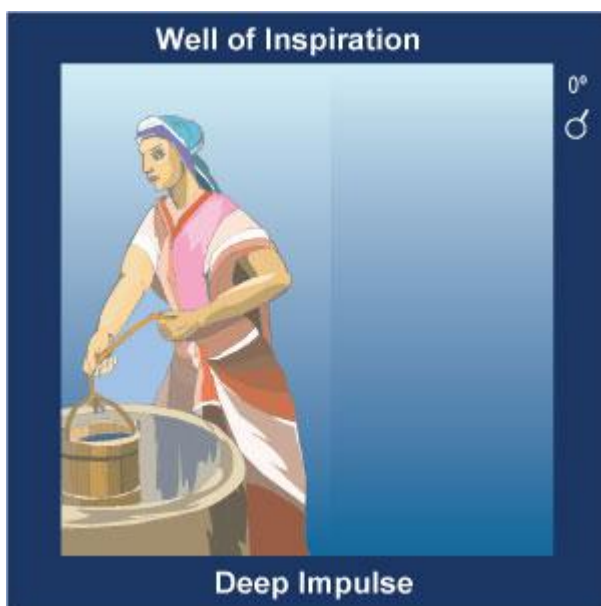
At more inward time, ignoring the external world, and give attention to the things the really matter, and that will last.#

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Gemini (Communication)

Moon in Gemini (Communication)

You are an ace when it comes to any and all means and manner of communications. You are the communicator, bar none, and probably are pretty good at any kind of investigative work, as well.



0 to 30 Degrees (Envisioning / Ideas)

You should be able to sense a new beginning, with some fresh ideas burning brightly, lighting up this time with clarity and visions of what can be accomplished. You can see what needs to be done right now, and also farther on up the road. You may feel inspired.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Gemini (Communication)

Moon in Cancer (Feel / Experience)

You are perhaps somewhat private, when it comes to communicating and communications, and may even reserve much of your talk and messaging for your own home and family. Your family is where you are most communicative.



30 to 60 Degrees (Planning)

Putting new ideas to work is important here, using any and all the help you can get - very much community oriented. You want the new plans you are making to succeed and become manifest. However, this will not come about without and effort and there will be obstacles that will appear. Here is a chance to move beyond old habits (whatever may be obstructing your

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

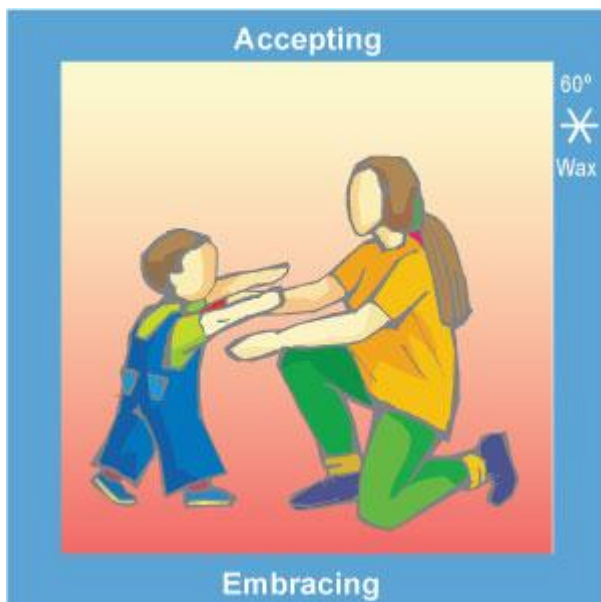
way)and actually push your plans forward toward action. But this will require patience and effort. It may not be easy.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Gemini (Communication)

Moon in Leo (Express / Awareness)

When it comes to communications and communicating, you are very creative in your forms of expression, and just naturally enthusiastic. You could communicate through the arts, by word, speaking - you name it.



60 to 90 Degrees (Sacrifice / Preparation)

If you are looking for a time, when things free up a bit, and the going could be easier, this is it. Plan things out and get a better grip on the forces around you. For the sake of what you care for, better to let outmoded or unimportant things pass, and to look toward the goal. Keep your eye on the ball. This may require acceptance of "what is," a not perfect situation, in order to get your new plans launched.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Gemini (Communication)

Moon in Virgo (Care / Conserving)

You may be very conservative (read careful) in your communications, and probably communicate not only with care, but also convey a sense of care and concern, as well.



90-120 Degrees (Sign Progress / Achievement)

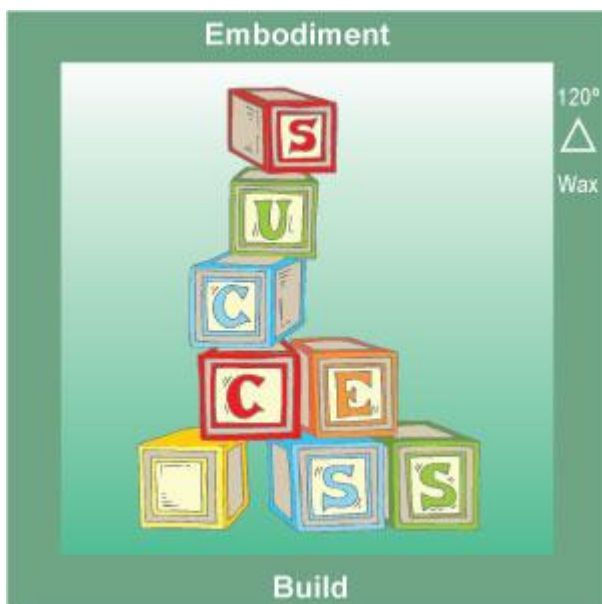
This is one of those critical points, where continued effort and action on your part can make the difference and bring about real change, producing something that can't be easily ignored. The result of your plans and ideas should have established a foothold here. No time for hesitating, just do it.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Gemini (Communication)

Moon in Libra (Public / Partners)

You may be very conservative (read careful) in your communications, and probably communicate not only with care, but also convey a sense of care and concern, as well.



120-150 Degrees (Embody / Building)

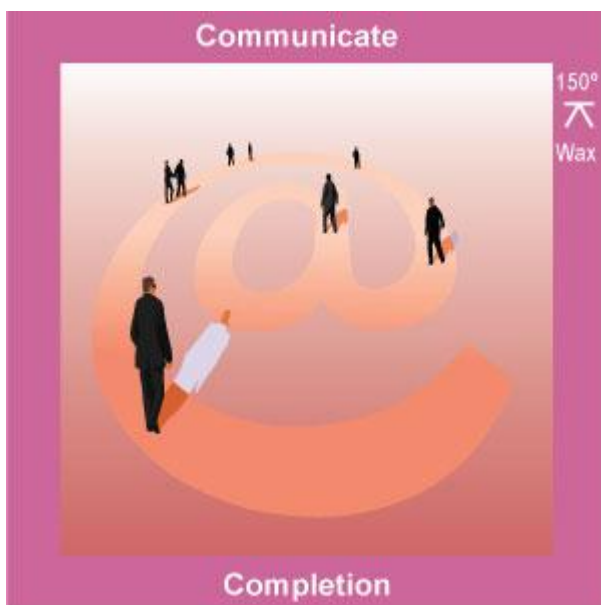
By this point, things should be not only started, but well on their way, a good time to take control, and point things where you want them to go. This is a point of least resistance and solid momentum, so making a solid effort will take you a long way. Also this is the time to embody your ideas, to build them physically into something solid.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Gemini (Communication)

Moon in Scorpio (Business / Critical)

When it comes to communications, you communicate, above all, pure business. No time for small talk, you get right down to it, the nitty-gritty, right off the bat.



150-180 Degrees (Connect / Communications)

Connect it up. Establish communications. Complete the detailed infrastructure. This is not so much a time to continue expanding, but rather one in which to do the finish work, and wrap the project up. Explore all the nooks and crannies, while you have the energy.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Gemini (Communication)

Moon in Sagittarius (Direct / Religion)

Your communications probably are very spiritual in nature, filled with philosophical or religious sentiments, and not idle chit-chat.



180-210 Degrees (Experience It)

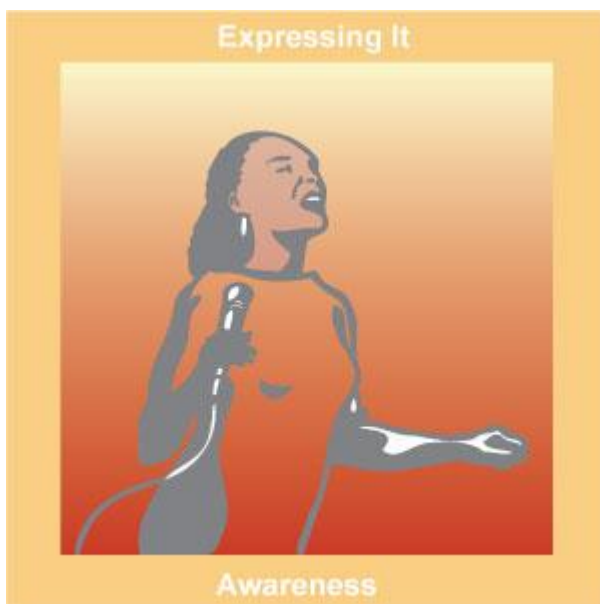
Stop the engines, because this is it! Don't push on farther, because you have accomplished what is possible for this round. From here, you coast and experience things for a while. This is the fullness you have worked for, such as it can be. Just let go and ride.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Gemini (Communication)

Moon in Capricorn (Manage / Practical)

You communicate, but in a very organized manner. It might better be said that you manage your communications, more like a switchboard, than participant.



210-240 Degrees (Express / Teach It)

You are in the thick of things, perhaps just starting to get a handle on what is going on around you, and this may be a sticking point. This is not the time for action, to do more, but rather a time to let things take their course. You should be able to get a better idea of what will come out of this, by just riding it out. And now is when you can own this event, and feel confidence and pride in what you have done.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Gemini (Communication)

Moon in Aquarius (Community / Plans)

You would prefer to communicate not one-to-one, but to the community at large, for that is audience you are most concerned with. Community communications.



240-270 Degrees (Conserve / Preserver)

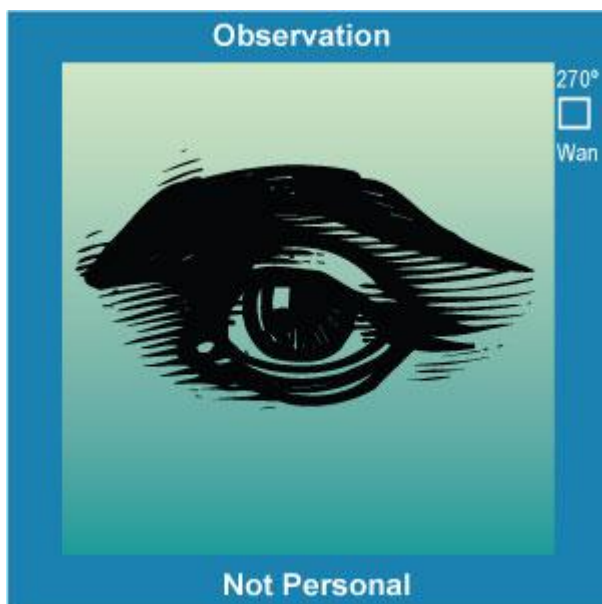
A time to take stock, step back, while you have plenty of energy and a growing understanding of your situation. Things are throttling down, so you may want to conserve your gains, and plug some of the leaks. Conservation.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Gemini (Communication)

Moon in Pisces (Acceptance / Psychology)

You share communications with others, and always with something more of a message than just to say hello. You communicate understanding, acceptance, and a sense of self-sacrifice.



270-300 Degrees (Public / Objective)

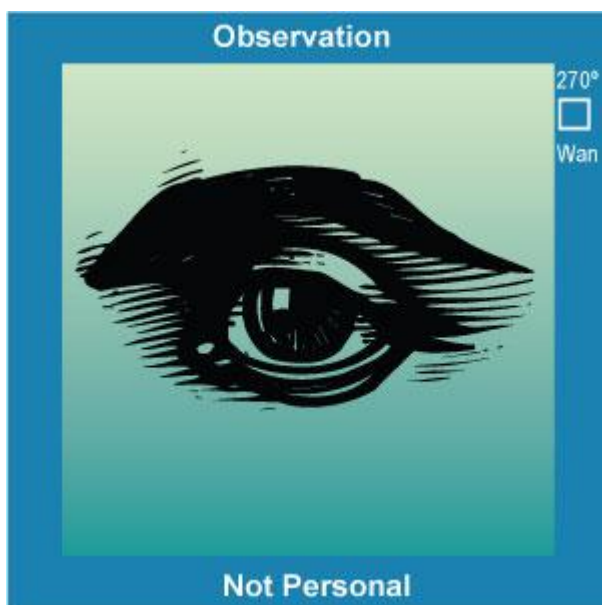
A major turning point, where you can just let go and find it easy to turn away from purely personal worries and memories, and take a more reflective and impersonal point of view. You could feel a growing sense of responsibility, and a willingness to just grow up.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Cancer (Feel / Experience)

Moon in Aries (Initiate / Action)

When it comes to security issues, in particular, involving your home and family, you are very active, perhaps we could even say aggressive.



270-300 Degrees (Public / Objective)

A major turning point, where you can just let go and find it easy to turn away from purely personal worries and memories, and take a more reflective and impersonal point of view. You could feel a growing sense of responsibility, and a willingness to just grow up.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Cancer (Feel / Experience)

Moon in Taurus (Embody / Possess)

You look to your home and family for support and nourishment, and find it. They are your security blanket.



300-330 Degrees (Critical / Business)

You should be able to not only see the problems at hand, but have the insight and energy to actually do something about them, separating the good parts and culling out the whatever is excessive and holding you back.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Cancer (Feel / Experience)

Moon in Gemini (Communication)

Your home and family is your primary source of communication, and you feel secure in exchanging and communicating with your loved ones.



330-360 Degrees (Encapsulate / Essence)

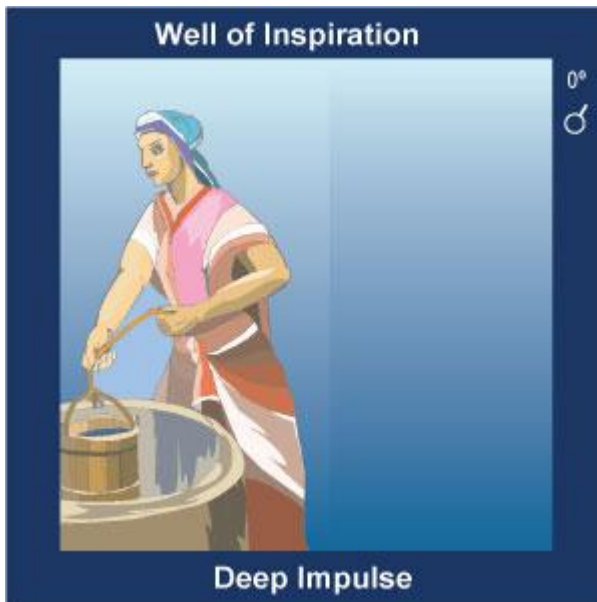
At more inward time, ignoring the external world, and give attention to the things the really matter, and that will last.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Cancer (Feel / Experience)

Moon in Cancer (Feel / Experience)

Your security is your home and family, and that is sacrosanct. They are the be all and end all.



0 to 30 Degrees (Envisioning / Ideas)

You should be able to sense a new beginning, with some fresh ideas burning brightly, lighting up this time with clarity and visions of what can be accomplished. You can see what needs to be done right now, and also farther on up the road. You may feel inspired.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Cancer (Feel / Experience)

Moon in Leo (Express / Awareness)

You look to your home and family for creative release, and it is through and with them that you best express yourself.



30 to 60 Degrees (Planning)

Putting new ideas to work is important here, using any and all the help you can get - very much community oriented. You want the new plans you are making to succeed and become manifest. However, this will not come about without and effort and there will be obstacles that will appear. Here is a chance to move beyond old habits (whatever may be obstructing your way)and actually push your plans forward toward action.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

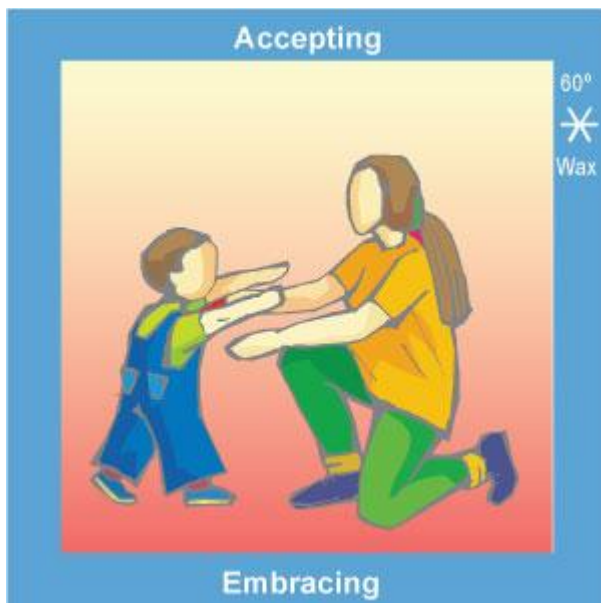
But this will require patience and effort. It may not be easy.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Cancer (Feel / Experience)

Moon in Virgo (Care / Conserving)

Like an old momma hen, you are the caretaker and care giver, when it comes to your own home and family.



60 to 90 Degrees (Sacrifice / Preparation)

If you are looking for a time, when things free up a bit, and the going could be easier, this is it. Plan things out and get a better grip on the forces around you. For the sake of what you care for, better to let outmoded or unimportant things pass, and to look toward the goal. Keep your eye on the ball. This may require acceptance of "what is," a not perfect situation, in order to get your new plans launched.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Cancer (Feel / Experience)

Moon in Libra (Public / Partners)

About as public as you get is with your own home and family. They are the society you seek.



90-120 Degrees (Sign Progress / Achievement)

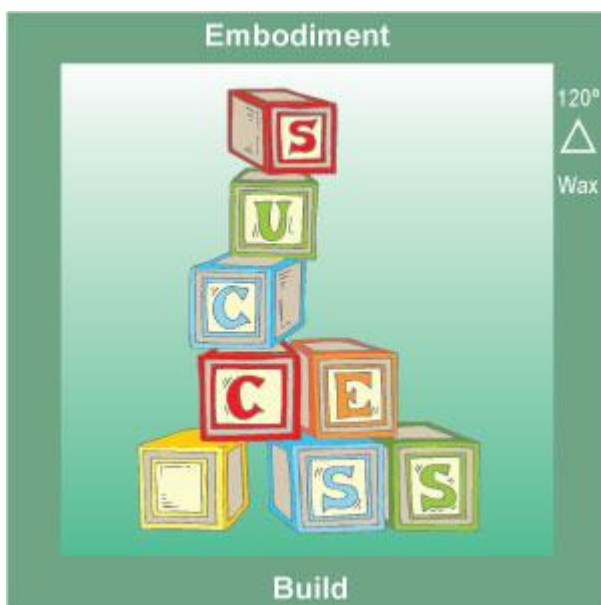
This is one of those critical points, where continued effort and action on your part can make the difference and bring about real change, producing something that can't be easily ignored. The result of your plans and ideas should have established a foothold here. No time for hesitating, just do it.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Cancer (Feel / Experience)

Moon in Scorpio (Business / Critical)

You definitely bring your business home, because that may well be the best place to have a business, at home, with them.



120-150 Degrees (Embody / Building)

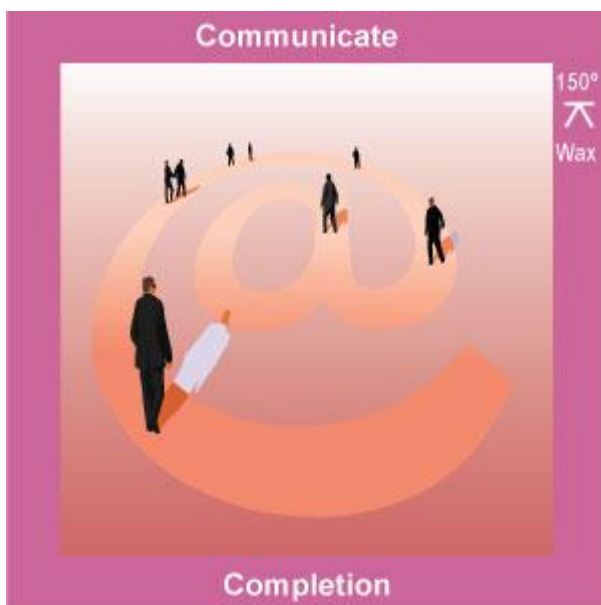
By this point, things should be not only started, but well on their way, a good time to take control, and point things where you want them to go. This is a point of least resistance and solid momentum, so making a solid effort will take you a long way. Also this is the time to embody your ideas, to build them physically into something solid.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Cancer (Feel / Experience)

Moon in Sagittarius (Direct / Religion)

Your home and family might just as well be your church, because your idea of what is spiritual and even religious, starts and ends there.



150-180 Degrees (Connect / Communications)

Connect it up. Establish communications. Complete the detailed infrastructure. This is not so much a time to continue expanding, but rather one in which to do the finish work, and wrap the project up. Explore all the nooks and crannies, while you have the energy.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Cancer (Feel / Experience)

Moon in Capricorn (Manage / Practical)

You feel secure with your own home and family, and probably are the general manager there, above all. You are a practical homemaker.



180-210 Degrees (Experience It)

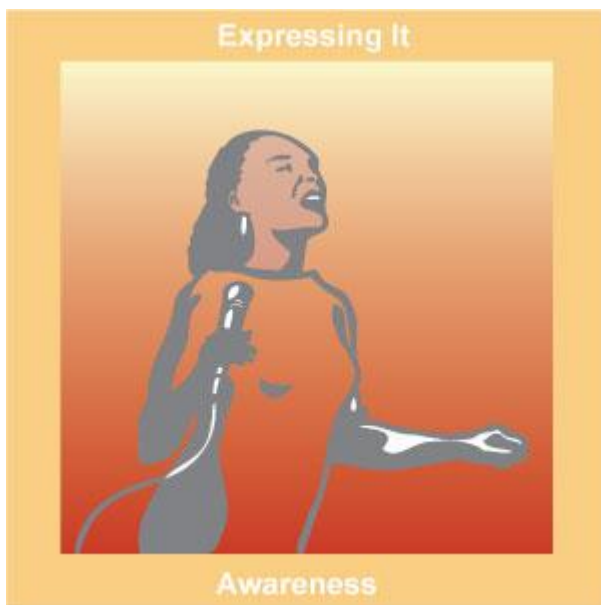
Stop the engines, because this is it! Don't push on farther, because you have accomplished what is possible for this round. From here, you coast and experience things for a while. This is the fullness you have worked for, such as it can be. Just let go and ride.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Cancer (Feel / Experience)

Moon in Aquarius (Community / Plans)

Your own home and family is your community or your whole community is your home and family, whichever comes first.



210-240 Degrees (Express / Teach It)

You are in the thick of things, perhaps just starting to get a handle on what is going on around you, and this may be a sticking point. This is not the time for action, to do more, but rather a time to let things take their course. You should be able to get a better idea of what will come out of this, by just riding it out. And now is when you can own this event, and feel confidence and pride in what you have done.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Cancer (Feel / Experience)

Moon in Pisces (Acceptance / Psychology)

Your own home and family is where you will learn understanding, acceptance, and self-sacrifice, and not elsewhere.



240-270 Degrees (Conserve / Preserver)

A time to take stock, step back, while you have plenty of energy and a growing understanding of your situation. Things are throttling down, so you may want to conserve your gains, and plug some of the leaks. Conservation.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Leo (Express / Awareness)

Moon in Aries (Initiate / Action)

When it comes to self expression and creativity, you are very direct, usually taking immediate action, rather than thinking things through. And often the first thought is the best thought. No secrets here; you wear your heart on your sleeve.



240-270 Degrees (Conserve / Preserver)

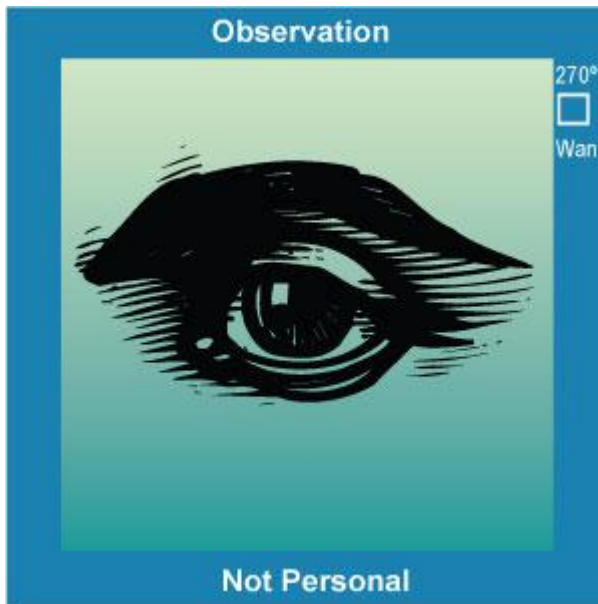
A time to take stock, step back, while you have plenty of energy and a growing understanding of your situation. Things are throttling down, so you may want to conserve your gains, and plug some of the leaks. Conservation.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Leo (Express / Awareness)

Moon in Taurus (Embody / Possess)

You express yourself, perhaps best, through your productivity, and probably feel most creative when building something, making things from ideas.



270-300 Degrees (Public / Objective)

A major turning point, where you can just let go and find it easy to turn away from purely personal worries and memories, and take a more reflective and impersonal point of view. You could feel a growing sense of responsibility, and a willingness to just grow up.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Leo (Express / Awareness)

Moon in Gemini (Communication)

You express yourself through your connections, in particular via communication and communicating of all kinds: email, phone, speech, writing - you name it. Communication is the way you are creative.



300-330 Degrees (Critical / Business)

You should be able to not only see the problems at hand, but have the insight and energy to actually do something about them, separating the good parts and culling out the whatever is excessive and holding you back.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Leo (Express / Awareness)

Moon in Cancer (Feel / Experience)

You are proud of and express yourself through your home and family, and this is where you feel most creative - surrounded by your loved ones and in the security of your own home.



330-360 Degrees (Encapsulate / Essence)

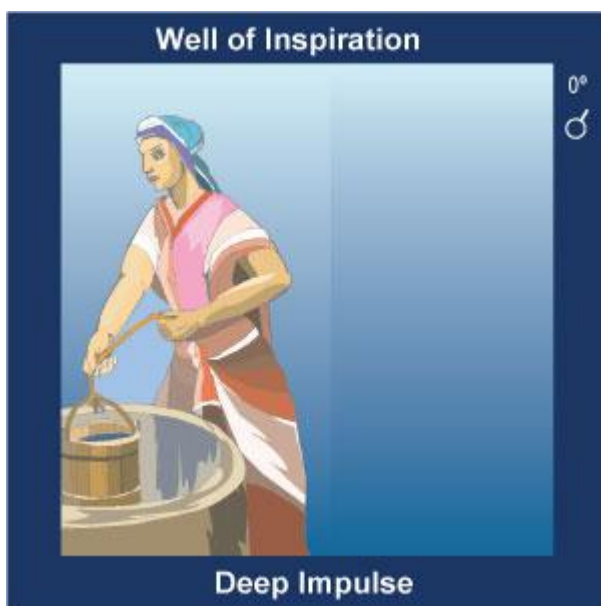
You should be able to not only see the problems at hand, but have the insight and energy to actually do something about them, separating the good parts and culling out the whatever is excessive and holding you back.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Leo (Express / Awareness)

Moon in Leo (Express / Awareness)

Creativity is a real passion with you, and you naturally find many ways to express yourself, whether in the arts, music, theater, sports or as a teacher or coach. Your enthusiasm is catching.



0 to 30 Degrees (Envisioning / Ideas)

You should be able to sense a new beginning, with some fresh ideas burning brightly, lighting up this time with clarity and visions of what can be accomplished. You can see what needs to be done right now, and also farther on up the road. You may feel inspired.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Leo (Express / Awareness)

Moon in Virgo (Care / Conserving)

Your major outlet for creativity and self-expression is through the care, and consideration you lavish on people and things, whatever project you currently are concerned with.



30 to 60 Degrees (Planning)

Putting new ideas to work is important here, using any and all the help you can get - very much community oriented. You want the new plans you are making to succeed and become manifest. However, this will not come about without and effort and there will be obstacles that will appear. Here is a chance to move beyond old habits (whatever may be obstructing your way)and actually push your plans forward toward action.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

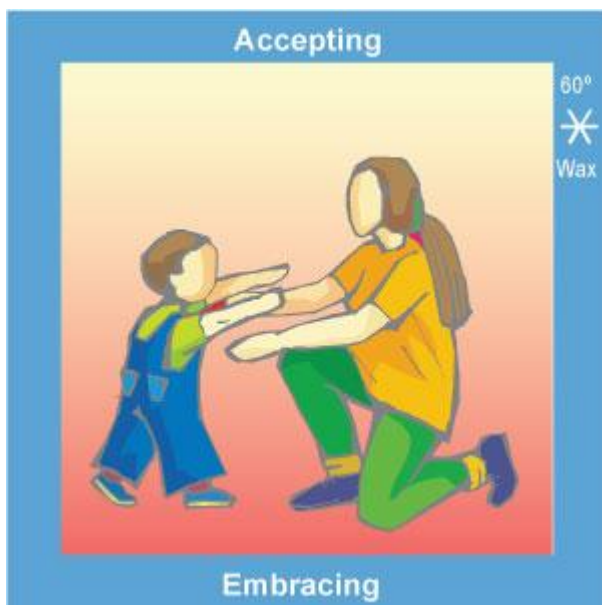
But this will require patience and effort. It may not be easy.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Leo (Express / Awareness)

Moon in Libra (Public / Partners)

Your ideas of self expression generally is acted out in public, in full view of society. That's the way you like and it satisfies that creative urge within yourself.



60 to 90 Degrees (Sacrifice / Preparation)

If you are looking for a time, when things free up a bit, and the going could be easier, this is it. Plan things out and get a better grip on the forces around you. For the sake of what you care for, better to let outmoded or unimportant things pass, and to look toward the goal. Keep your eye on the ball. This may require acceptance of "what is," a not perfect situation, in order to get your new plans launched.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Leo (Express / Awareness)

Moon in Scorpio (Business / Critical)

You tend to express yourself analytically, and probably related to some business decision or another, where you cut through red tape and get right down to the nitty-gritty. You feel creative when you are in business mode.



90-120 Degrees (Sign Progress / Achievement)

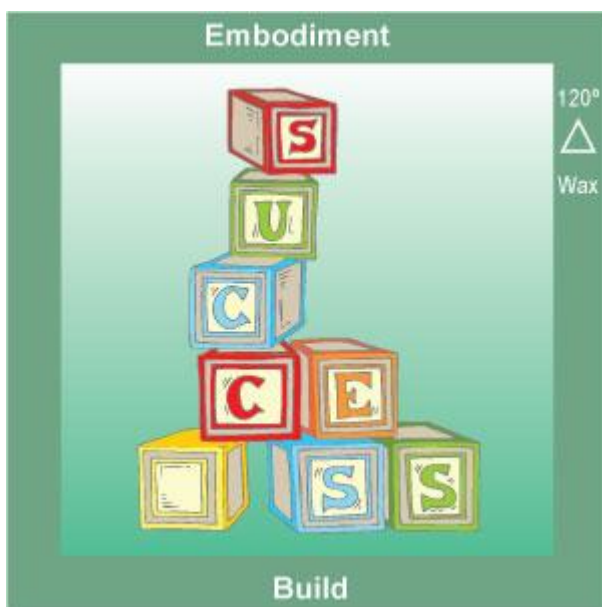
This is one of those critical points, where continued effort and action on your part can make the difference and bring about real change, producing something that can't be easily ignored. The result of your plans and ideas should have established a foothold here. No time for hesitating, just do it.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Leo (Express / Awareness)

Moon in Sagittarius (Direct / Religion)

Your idea of creative self expression is paring down philosophical and religious concepts to their core, to their seed ideas. You like your truth neat.



120-150 Degrees (Embody / Building)

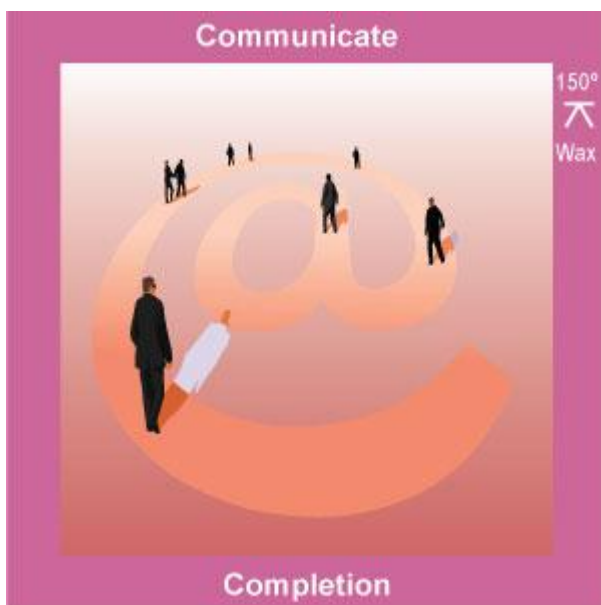
By this point, things should be not only started, but well on their way, a good time to take control, and point things where you want them to go. This is a point of least resistance and solid momentum, so making a solid effort will take you a long way. Also this is the time to embody your ideas, to build them physically into something solid.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Leo (Express / Awareness)

Moon in Capricorn (Manage / Practical)

You feel perhaps most creative and self-expressive, when you are in the midst of a situation that requires management, and you are doing the managing.



150-180 Degrees (Connect / Communications)

Connect it up. Establish communications. Complete the detailed infrastructure. This is not so much a time to continue expanding, but rather one in which to do the finish work, and wrap the project up. Explore all the nooks and crannies, while you have the energy.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Leo (Express / Awareness)

Moon in Aquarius (Community / Plans)

Your major outlet for self expression is usually the community around you or at least some community-related project. This brings out the creativity in you.



180-210 Degrees (Experience It)

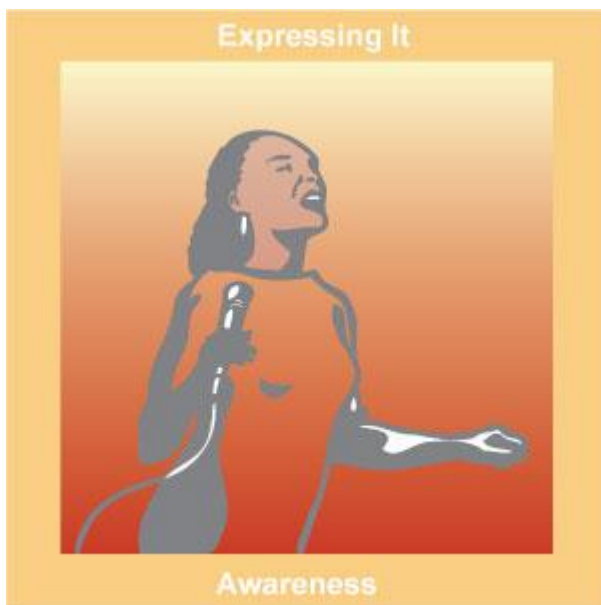
Stop the engines, because this is it! Don't push on farther, because you have accomplished what is possible for this round. From here, you coast and experience things for a while. This is the fullness you have worked for, such as it can be. Just let go and ride.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Leo (Express / Awareness)

Moon in Pisces (Acceptance / Psychology)

You idea of self-expression usually comes in the work you do with other people, and your creativity is usually walking around on two feet.



210-240 Degrees (Express / Teach It)

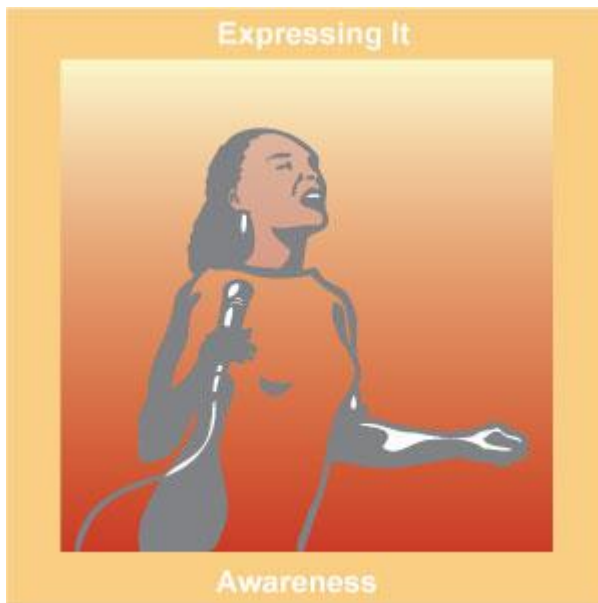
You are in the thick of things, perhaps just starting to get a handle on what is going on around you, and this may be a sticking point. This is not the time for action, to do more, but rather a time to let things take their course. You should be able to get a better idea of what will come out of this, by just riding it out. And now is when you can own this event, and feel confidence and pride in what you have done.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Virgo (Care / Conserving)

Moon in Aries (Initiate / Action)

Your idea of care and concern is usually quite direct, taking action now, rather than simply talking about it. You believe in active care.



210-240 Degrees (Express / Teach It)

You are in the thick of things, perhaps just starting to get a handle on what is going on around you, and this may be a sticking point. This is not the time for action, to do more, but rather a time to let things take their course. You should be able to get a better idea of what will come out of this, by just riding it out. And now is when you can own this event, and feel confidence and pride in what you have done.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Virgo (Care / Conserving)

Moon in Taurus (Embody / Possess)

You show your concern for something and that you really care by lending your support, whether financially or morally. You back up your promises with productive support.



240-270 Degrees (Conserve / Preserver)

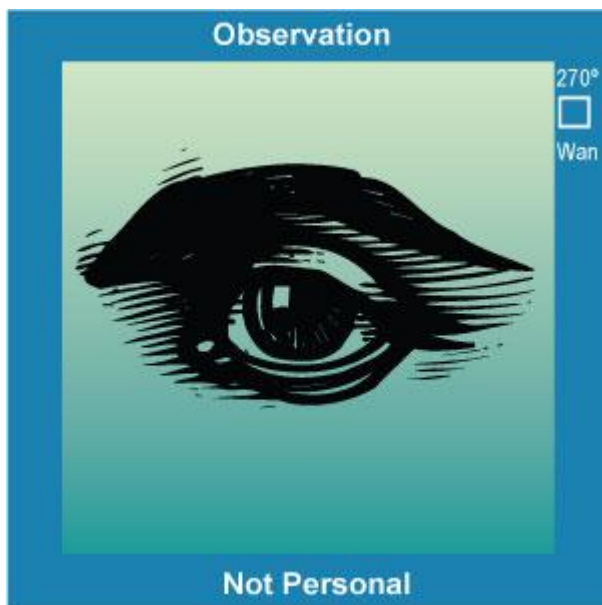
A time to take stock, step back, while you have plenty of energy and a growing understanding of your situation. Things are throttling down, so you may want to conserve your gains, and plug some of the leaks. Conservation.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Virgo (Care / Conserving)

Moon in Gemini (Communication)

You show that you care through contact, by establishing closer connections, and by keeping the channels of communication open and operating.



270-300 Degrees (Public / Objective)

A major turning point, where you can just let go and find it easy to turn away from purely personal worries and memories, and take a more reflective and impersonal point of view. You could feel a growing sense of responsibility, and a willingness to just grow up.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Virgo (Care / Conserving)

Moon in Cancer (Feel / Experience)

With you, the idea of care and care-taking starts at home, and you show your concern directly, with your family and friends.



300-330 Degrees (Critical / Business)

You should be able to not only see the problems at hand, but have the insight and energy to actually do something about them, separating the good parts and culling out the whatever is excessive and holding you back.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Virgo (Care / Conserving)

Moon in Leo (Express / Awareness)

You show that you care outwardly, and usually with great enthusiasm. You express your concern in very obvious and often creative ways.



330-360 Degrees (Encapsulate / Essence)

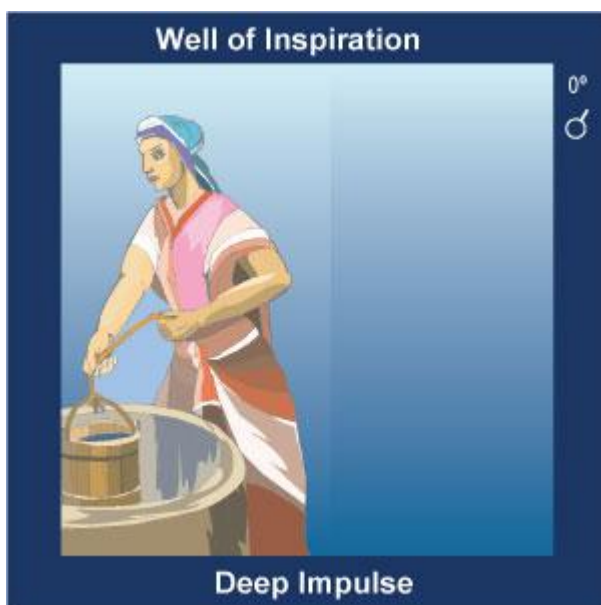
You should be able to not only see the problems at hand, but have the insight and energy to actually do something about them, separating the good parts and culling out the whatever is excessive and holding you back.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Virgo (Care / Conserving)

Moon in Virgo (Care / Conserving)

You always care, and your concern is obvious to all who come to know you. You try to save every one and every cause, and make the most you can out of each.



0 to 30 Degrees (Envisioning / Ideas)

You should be able to sense a new beginning, with some fresh ideas burning brightly, lighting up this time with clarity and visions of what can be accomplished. You can see what needs to be done right now, and also farther on up the road. You may feel inspired.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Virgo (Care / Conserving)

Moon in Libra (Public / Partners)

You show your concern and the fact that you care quite publicly and in ways society can see and understand.



30 to 60 Degrees (Planning)

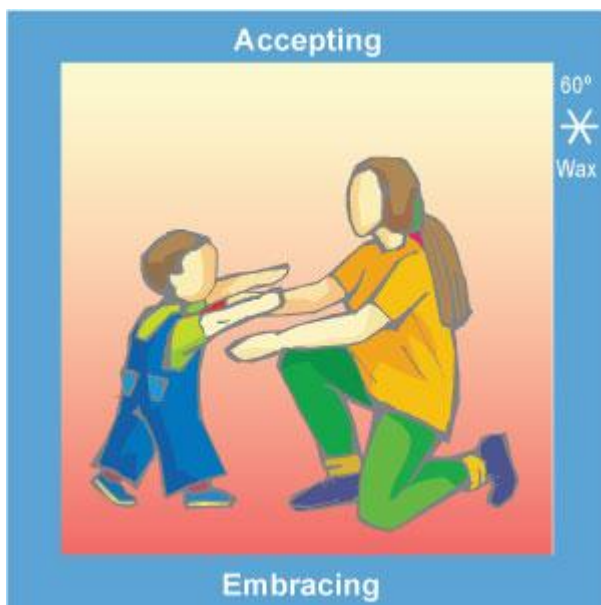
Putting new ideas to work is important here, using any and all the help you can get - very much community oriented. You want the new plans you are making to succeed and become manifest. However, this will not come about without an effort and there will be obstacles that will appear. Here is a chance to move beyond old habits (whatever may be obstructing your way) and actually push your plans forward toward action. But this will require patience and effort. It may not be easy.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Virgo (Care / Conserving)

Moon in Scorpio (Business / Critical)

Believe it or not your idea of caring and concern is to share your analysis of a situation, cutting through the chaff and getting right down to the kernel, every time.



60 to 90 Degrees (Sacrifice / Preparation)

If you are looking for a time, when things free up a bit, and the going could be easier, this is it. Plan things out and get a better grip on the forces around you. For the sake of what you care for, better to let outmoded or unimportant things pass, and to look toward the goal. Keep your eye on the ball. This may require acceptance of "what is," a not perfect situation, in order to get your new plans launched.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Virgo (Care / Conserving)

Moon in Sagittarius (Direct / Religion)

One thing you very much care for are spiritual ideas, whether philosophy or religion, and you show your concern for these subjects by how you value and protect them.



90-120 Degrees (Sign Progress / Achievement)

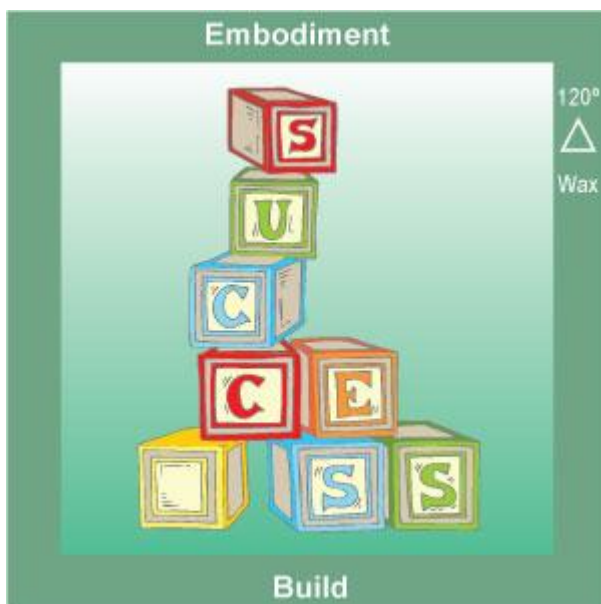
This is one of those critical points, where continued effort and action on your part can make the difference and bring about real change, producing something that can't be easily ignored. The result of your plans and ideas should have established a foothold here. No time for hesitating, just do it.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Virgo (Care / Conserving)

Moon in Capricorn (Manage / Practical)

The fact that you care and just how much you care is perhaps most visible when you are in charge of some project, large or small, and in the midst of managing the situation.



120-150 Degrees (Embody / Building)

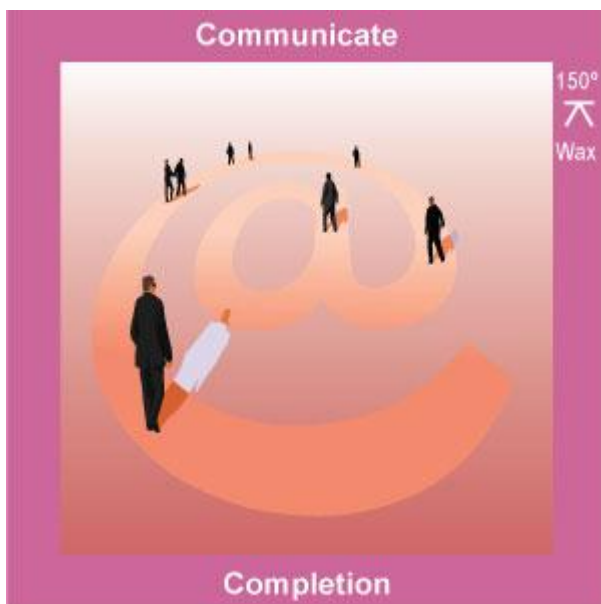
By this point, things should be not only started, but well on their way, a good time to take control, and point things where you want them to go. This is a point of least resistance and solid momentum, so making a solid effort will take you a long way. Also this is the time to embody your ideas, to build them physically into something solid.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Virgo (Care / Conserving)

Moon in Aquarius (Community / Plans)

You care deeply and show your concern for anything that has to do with people coming together, with community and communities - people working together for a common goal.



150-180 Degrees (Connect / Communications)

Connect it up. Establish communications. Complete the detailed infrastructure. This is not so much a time to continue expanding, but rather one in which to do the finish work, and wrap the project up. Explore all the nooks and crannies, while you have the energy.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Virgo (Care / Conserving)

Moon in Pisces (Acceptance / Psychology)

You obviously care for life on this earth and for creature on the planet, and you show your concern daily, in your understanding, your readiness to accept others just as you are, and your willingness to sacrifice yourself for what you believe in.



180-210 Degrees (Experience It)

Stop the engines, because this is it! Don't push on farther, because you have accomplished what is possible for this round. From here, you coast and experience things for a while. This is the fullness you have worked for, such as it can be. Just let go and ride.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Libra (Public / Partners)

Moon in Aries (Initiate / Action)

Your key to the public, whether that be fame or success, will be the result of your own actions, putting yourself forward, staking out a position, and generally being aggressive - action.



180-210 Degrees (Experience It)

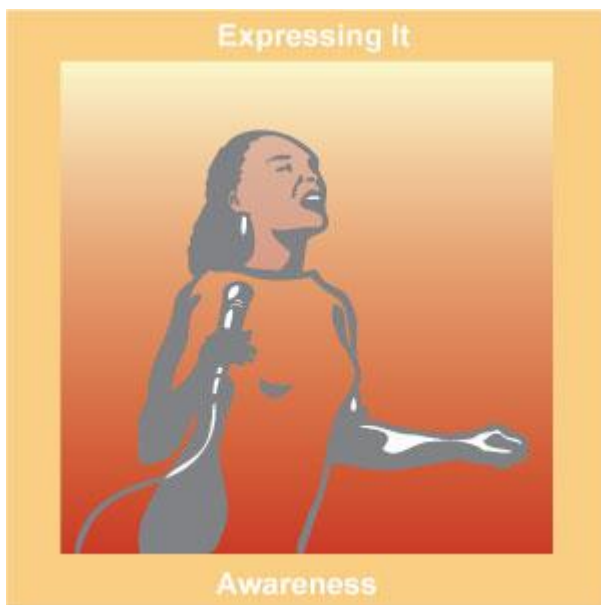
Stop the engines, because this is it! Don't push on farther, because you have accomplished what is possible for this round. From here, you coast and experience things for a while. This is the fullness you have worked for, such as it can be. Just let go and ride.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Libra (Public / Partners)

Moon in Taurus (Embody / Possess)

Public recognition will come to you by way of your productivity and general usefulness, and the willingness to provide support and resources of one kind or another.



210-240 Degrees (Express / Teach It)

You are in the thick of things, perhaps just starting to get a handle on what is going on around you, and this may be a sticking point. This is not the time for action, to do more, but rather a time to let things take their course. You should be able to get a better idea of what will come out of this, by just riding it out. And now is when you can own this event, and feel confidence and pride in what you have done.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Libra (Public / Partners)

Moon in Gemini (Communication)

The key to any kind of public recognition will come through communications, and your ability to communicate, whether that be through ideas, words, speaking - oral or written. You may be a successful writer.



240-270 Degrees (Conserve / Preserver)

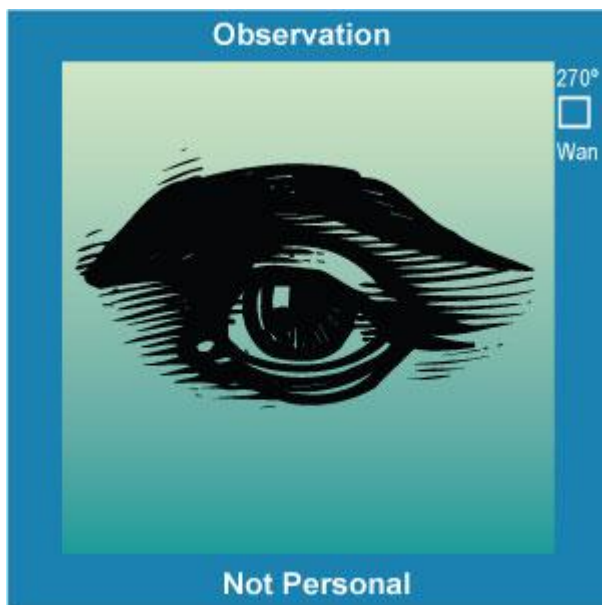
A time to take stock, step back, while you have plenty of energy and a growing understanding of your situation. Things are throttling down, so you may want to conserve your gains, and plug some of the leaks. Conservation.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Libra (Public / Partners)

Moon in Cancer (Feel / Experience)

Any public limelight or success will come to you through your home and family, either through your collective efforts or through one of your family members.



270-300 Degrees (Public / Objective)

A major turning point, where you can just let go and find it easy to turn away from purely personal worries and memories, and take a more reflective and impersonal point of view. You could feel a growing sense of responsibility, and a willingness to just grow up.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Libra (Public / Partners)

Moon in Leo (Express / Awareness)

You will get public attention and perhaps some fame by way of your own creative expression, and this could be through the arts, theater, music, sports, teaching, etc., whatever allows you to fully and freely express your creativity.



300-330 Degrees (Critical / Business)

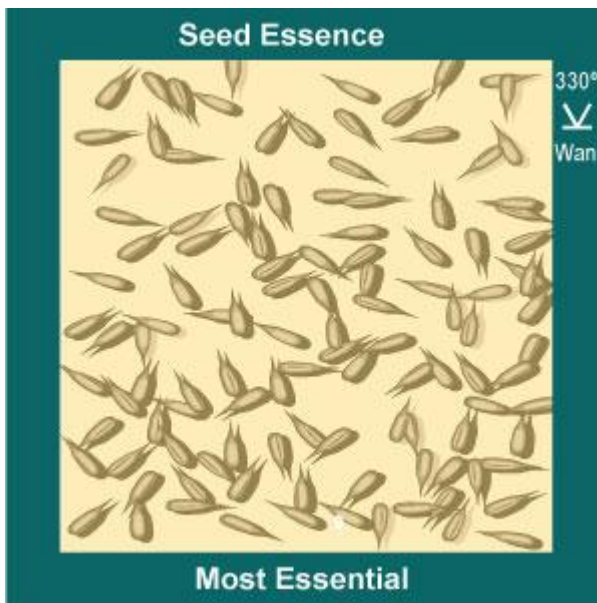
You should be able to not only see the problems at hand, but have the insight and energy to actually do something about them, separating the good parts and culling out the whatever is excessive and holding you back.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Libra (Public / Partners)

Moon in Virgo (Care / Conserving)

The public will recognize you and reward you with its attention by way of your curatorial abilities, your ability to care and attend to details in some care-related activity, whether in a health field or some activity requiring careful organization and tending.



330-360 Degrees (Encapsulate / Essence)

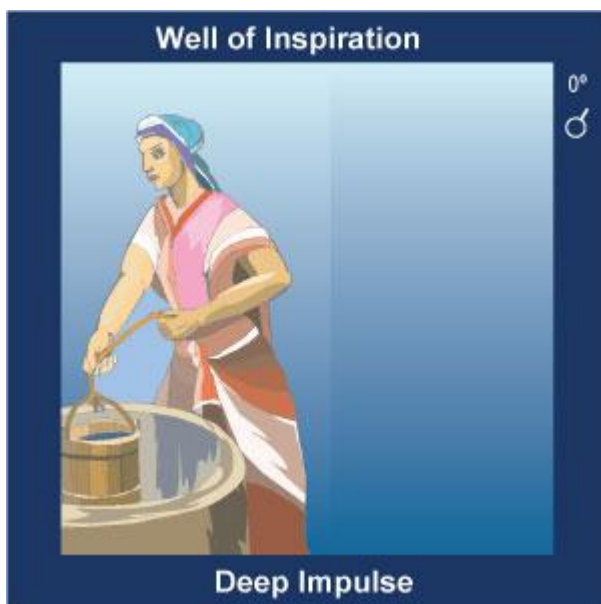
You should be able to not only see the problems at hand, but have the insight and energy to actually do something about them, separating the good parts and culling out the whatever is excessive and holding you back.#

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Libra (Public / Partners)

Moon in Libra (Public / Partners)

You may well be a prominent public figure, and society and the public at large is a natural area for you work in and shine. You are in the limelight.



0 to 30 Degrees (Envisioning / Ideas)

You should be able to sense a new beginning, with some fresh ideas burning brightly, lighting up this time with clarity and visions of what can be accomplished. You can see what needs to be done right now, and also farther on up the road. You may feel inspired.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Libra (Public / Partners)

Moon in Scorpio (Business / Critical)

You could receive public attention and probably some limelight through your business savvy and predilection for critical analysis - getting right down to the nitty-gritty.



30 to 60 Degrees (Planning)

Putting new ideas to work is important here, using any and all the help you can get - very much community oriented. You want the new plans you are making to succeed and become manifest. However, this will not come about without and effort and there will be obstacles that will appear. Here is a chance to move beyond old habits (whatever may be obstructing your way)and actually push your plans forward toward action.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

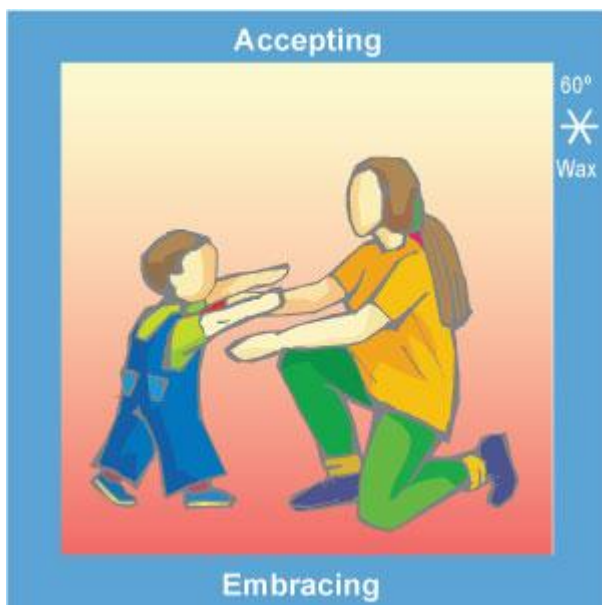
But this will require patience and effort. It may not be easy.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Libra (Public / Partners)

Moon in Sagittarius (Direct / Religion)

Your share of fame and public limelight may come from your interest in spiritual and philosophical ideas, and your abiding pursuit of these subjects.



60 to 90 Degrees (Sacrifice / Preparation)

If you are looking for a time, when things free up a bit, and the going could be easier, this is it. Plan things out and get a better grip on the forces around you. For the sake of what you care for, better to let outmoded or unimportant things pass, and to look toward the goal. Keep your eye on the ball. This may require acceptance of "what is," a not perfect situation, in order to get your new plans launched.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Libra (Public / Partners)

Moon in Capricorn (Manage / Practical)

You can shine, and perhaps even receive public recognition and your share of fame from your keen management abilities, your love of the practical, and being in charge of large, complex operations.



90-120 Degrees (Sign Progress / Achievement)

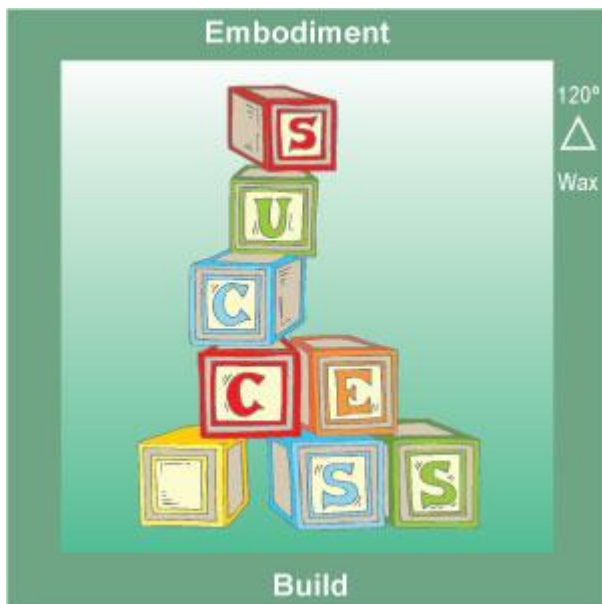
This is one of those critical points, where continued effort and action on your part can make the difference and bring about real change, producing something that can't be easily ignored. The result of your plans and ideas should have established a foothold here. No time for hesitating, just do it.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Libra (Public / Partners)

Moon in Aquarius (Community / Plans)

You may receive public acknowledgement for your community service - working in, with, and for the community. The life of the community is a key element in your makeup.



120-150 Degrees (Embody / Building)

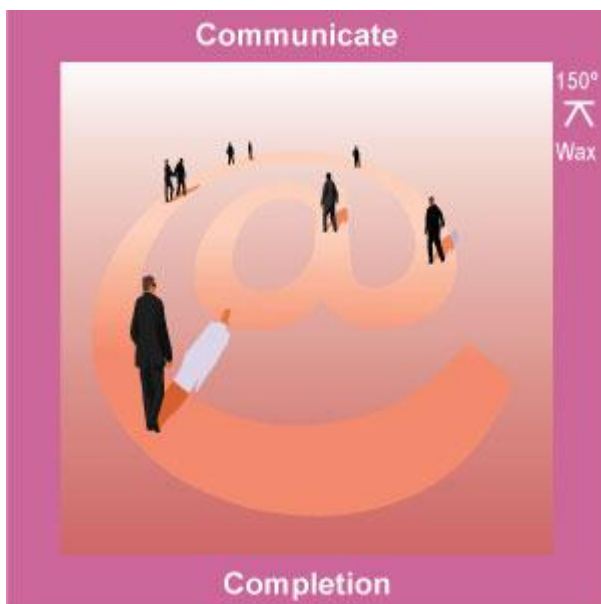
By this point, things should be not only started, but well on their way, a good time to take control, and point things where you want them to go. This is a point of least resistance and solid momentum, so making a solid effort will take you a long way. Also this is the time to embody your ideas, to build them physically into something solid.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Libra (Public / Partners)

Moon in Pisces (Acceptance / Psychology)

You may receive public recognition and your own share of fame for your kindness to others, your willingness to sacrifice yourself for what you believe in good, and your acceptance if difficult working conditions.



150-180 Degrees (Connect / Communications)

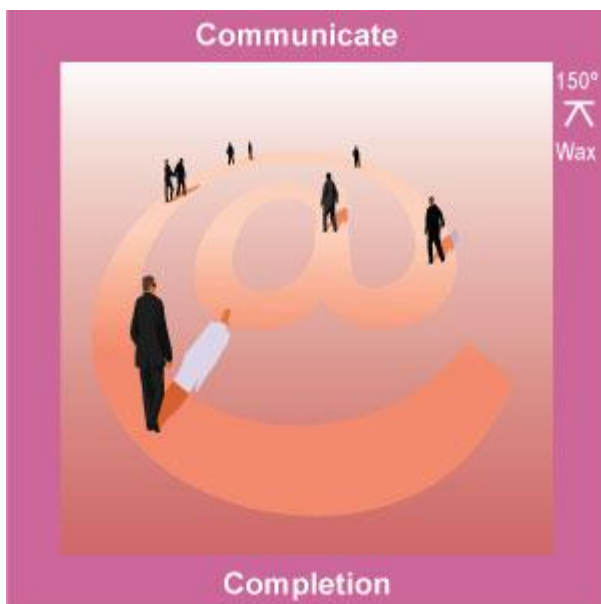
Connect it up. Establish communications. Complete the detailed infrastructure. This is not so much a time to continue expanding, but rather one in which to do the finish work, and wrap the project up. Explore all the nooks and crannies, while you have the energy.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Libra (Public / Partners)

Moon in Pisces (Acceptance / Psychology)

You may receive public recognition and your own share of fame for your kindness to others, your willingness to sacrifice yourself for what you believe in good, and your acceptance if difficult working conditions.



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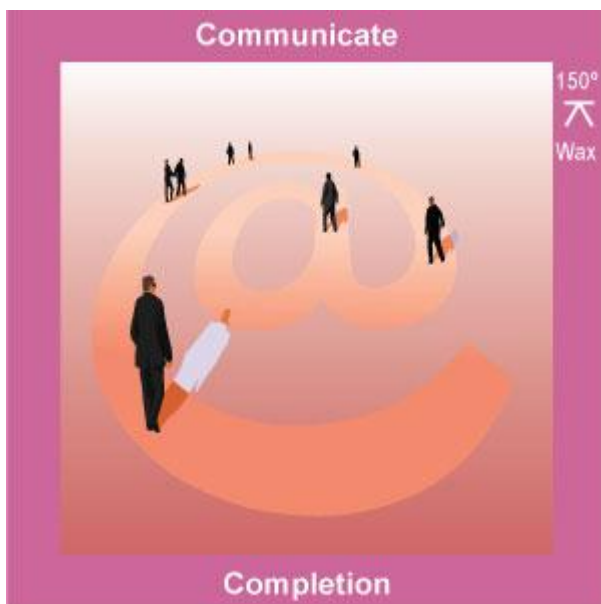
Connect it up. Establish communications. Complete the detailed infrastructure. This is not so much a time to continue expanding, but rather one in which to do the finish work, and wrap the project up. Explore all the nooks and crannies, while you have the energy.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Scorpio (Business / Critical)

Moon in Aries (Initiate / Action)

The key to a successful business strategy for you has to do with direct action on your part - simple aggressiveness. Staking out your territory, making yourself known, and taking positive steps is the key.



150-180 Degrees (Connect / Communications)

Connect it up. Establish communications. Complete the detailed infrastructure. This is not so much a time to continue expanding, but rather one in which to do the finish work, and wrap the project up. Explore all the nooks and crannies, while you have the energy.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Scorpio (Business / Critical)

Moon in Taurus (Embody / Possess)

The key to a successful business strategy for you has to do with your approach, which should be one of listening, one where you respond to what is presented to you, and build from that. Your productivity and ability to respond (responsibility) is the key.



180-210 Degrees (Experience It)

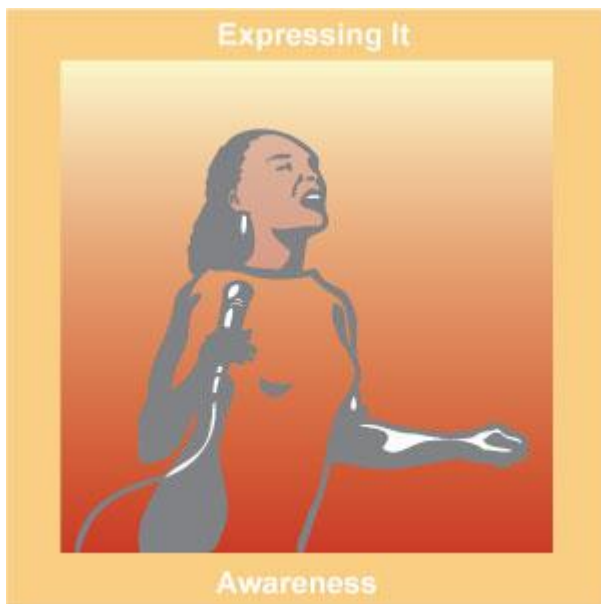
Stop the engines, because this is it! Don't push on farther, because you have accomplished what is possible for this round. From here, you coast and experience things for a while. This is the fullness you have worked for, such as it can be. Just let go and ride.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Scorpio (Business / Critical)

Moon in Gemini (Communication)

The key to a successful business strategy for you has to do with keeping the lines of communication open and operational. Communicating via ideas, words, and concepts is the key.



210-240 Degrees (Express / Teach It)

You are in the thick of things, perhaps just starting to get a handle on what is going on around you, and this may be a sticking point. This is not the time for action, to do more, but rather a time to let things take their course. You should be able to get a better idea of what will come out of this, by just riding it out. And now is when you can own this event, and feel confidence and pride in what you have done.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Scorpio (Business / Critical)

Moon in Cancer (Feel / Experience)

The key to a successful business strategy for you has to do with your home and family, which could suggest a business arising from the family or some member of the family, or having a home business - working at home.



240-270 Degrees (Conserve / Preserver)

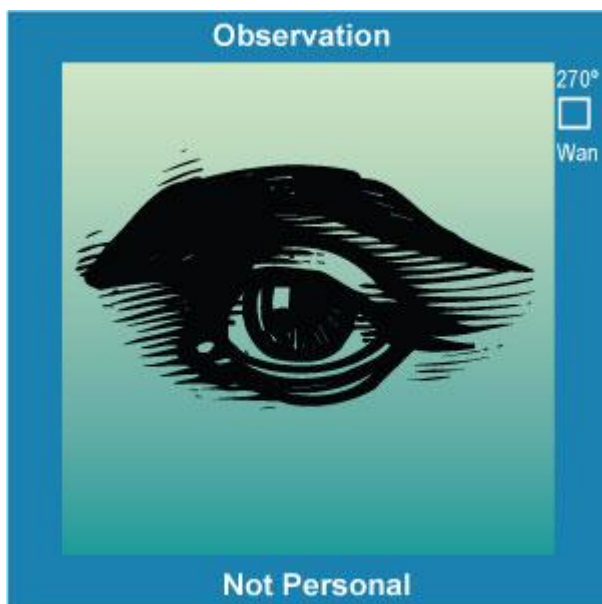
A time to take stock, step back, while you have plenty of energy and a growing understanding of your situation. Things are throttling down, so you may want to conserve your gains, and plug some of the leaks. Conservation.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Scorpio (Business / Critical)

Moon in Leo (Express / Awareness)

The key to a successful business strategy for you will depend on your own natural creativity and the ability to express it, so look for success in some field of creative express, whether that be the arts, sports, teaching - what-have-you?



270-300 Degrees (Public / Objective)

A major turning point, where you can just let go and find it easy to turn away from purely personal worries and memories, and take a more reflective and impersonal point of view. You could feel a growing sense of responsibility, and a willingness to just grow up.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Scorpio (Business / Critical)

Moon in Virgo (Care / Conserving)

The key to a successful business strategy for you will revolve around your natural sense of carefulness and attention to detail, what we can call your curatorial skills. Taking care and organizing things is the key.



300-330 Degrees (Critical / Business)

You should be able to not only see the problems at hand, but have the insight and energy to actually do something about them, separating the good parts and culling out the whatever is excessive and holding you back.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Scorpio (Business / Critical)

Moon in Libra (Public / Partners)

The key to a successful business strategy for you will probably have to do with the public, getting out in society where you can see and be seen. Public visibility may be the key.



330-360 Degrees (Encapsulate / Essence)

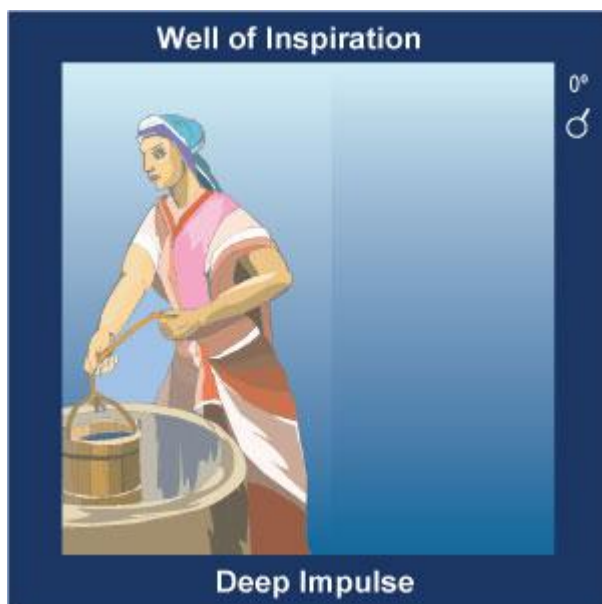
You should be able to not only see the problems at hand, but have the insight and energy to actually do something about them, separating the good parts and culling out the whatever is excessive and holding you back.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Scorpio (Business / Critical)

Moon in Scorpio (Business / Critical)

The key to a successful business strategy for you can be just about any business you come across, because when it comes to business savvy and skills, you are a natural.



0 to 30 Degrees (Envisioning / Ideas)

You should be able to sense a new beginning, with some fresh ideas burning brightly, lighting up this time with clarity and visions of what can be accomplished. You can see what needs to be done right now, and also farther on up the road. You may feel inspired.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Scorpio (Business / Critical)

Moon in Sagittarius (Direct / Religion)

The key to a successful business strategy for you may come from spiritual or inspirational themes, such as philosophy and/or religion. Your attention to truth and honesty may also be your key to success.



30 to 60 Degrees (Planning)

Putting new ideas to work is important here, using any and all the help you can get - very much community oriented. You want the new plans you are making to succeed and become manifest. However, this will not come about without and effort and there will be obstacles that will appear. Here is a chance to move beyond old habits (whatever may be obstructing your way) and actually push your plans forward toward action.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

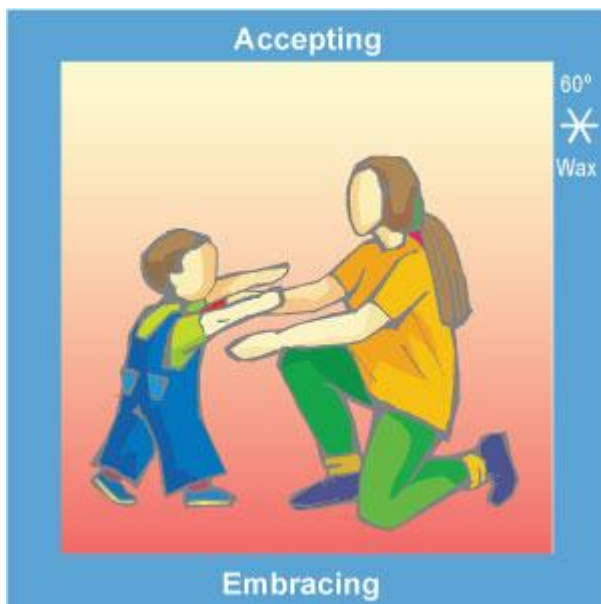
But this will require patience and effort. It may not be easy.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Scorpio (Business / Critical)

Moon in Capricorn (Manage / Practical)

The key to a successful business strategy depends on your management skills, and the skillful use of these skill. You naturally manage well, and this ability could be the key to your success.



60 to 90 Degrees (Sacrifice / Preparation)

If you are looking for a time, when things free up a bit, and the going could be easier, this is it. Plan things out and get a better grip on the forces around you. For the sake of what you care for, better to let outmoded or unimportant things pass, and to look toward the goal. Keep your eye on the ball. This may require acceptance of "what is," a not perfect situation, in order to get your new plans launched.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Scorpio (Business / Critical)

Moon in Aquarius (Community / Plans)

The key to a successful business strategy depends on your relationship to community and everything communal. You have natural skills, when it comes to working with, in, and for a community, and this can lead to real success.



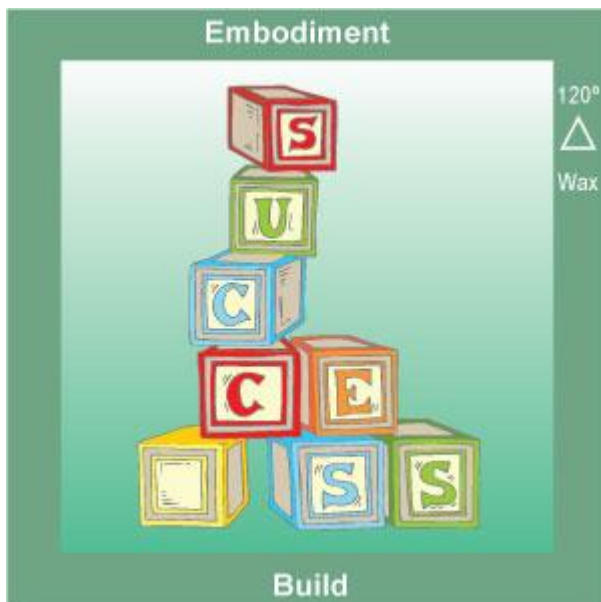
90-120 Degrees (Sign Progress / Achievement)

This is one of those critical points, where continued effort and action on your part can make the difference and bring about real change, producing something that can't be easily ignored. The result of your plans and ideas should have established a foothold here. No time for hesitating, just do it.

Sun in Scorpio (Business / Critical)

Moon in Pisces (Acceptance / Psychology)

The key to a successful business strategy for you depends on your being patient and accepting of bumps in the road, and your ability to sacrifice yourself for the goals you seek. Success through a bit of long-suffering.



120-150 Degrees (Embody / Building)

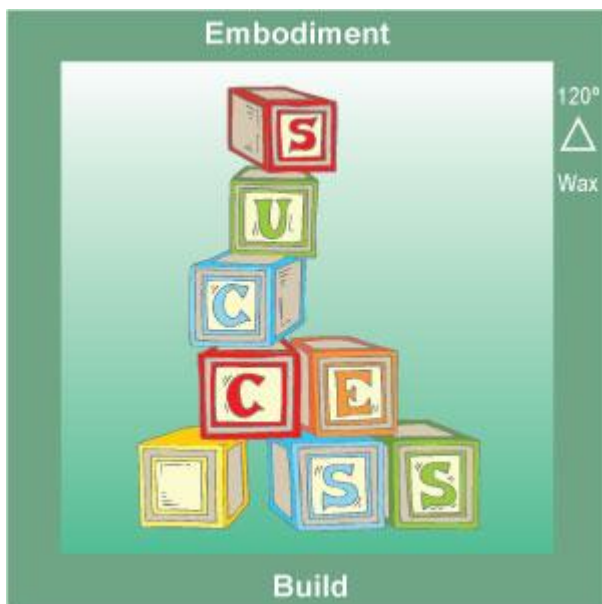
By this point, things should be not only started, but well on their way, a good time to take control, and point things where you want them to go. This is a point of least resistance and solid momentum, so making a solid effort will take you a long way. Also this is the time to embody your ideas, to build them physically into something solid.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Sagittarius (Direct / Religion)

Moon in Aries (Initiate / Action)

Your idea of religion and the spiritual life may be as close as the nearest forest and ski slope - something that involves activity on your part - getting out there. Not one to passively sit by, you find truth in action and plenty of it.



120-150 Degrees (Embody / Building)

By this point, things should be not only started, but well on their way, a good time to take control, and point things where you want them to go. This is a point of least resistance and solid momentum, so making a solid effort will take you a long way. Also this is the time to

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

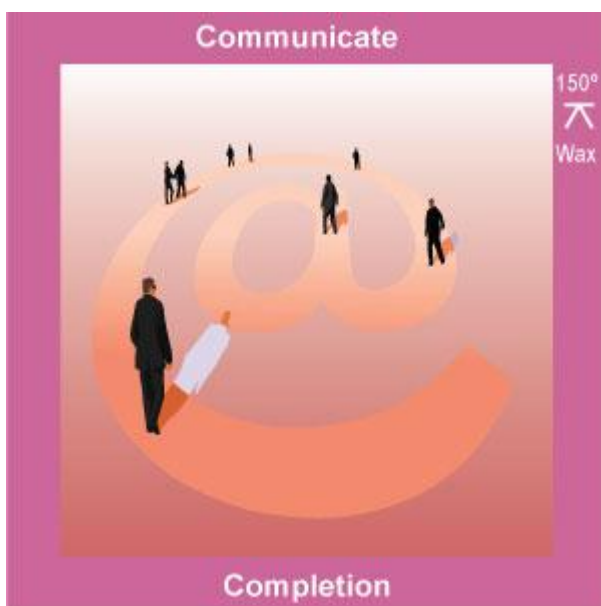
embody your ideas, to build them physically into something solid.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Sagittarius (Direct / Religion)

Moon in Taurus (Embody / Possess)

Your idea of religion and the spiritual life may come from the support and nourishment you bring to others or to whatever areas in you life call for assistance. You find peace through productivity, building things up, and being of use.



150-180 Degrees (Connect / Communications)

Connect it up. Establish communications. Complete the detailed infrastructure. This is not so much a time to continue expanding, but rather one in which to do the finish work, and wrap the project up. Explore all the nooks and crannies, while you have the energy.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Sagittarius (Direct / Religion)

Moon in Gemini (Communication)

Your idea of religion and the spiritual life may well come more from your sense of communication and staying in touch with those around you, rather than from church. You find communicating, whether spoken or written, to be a touchstone to truth.



180-210 Degrees (Experience It)

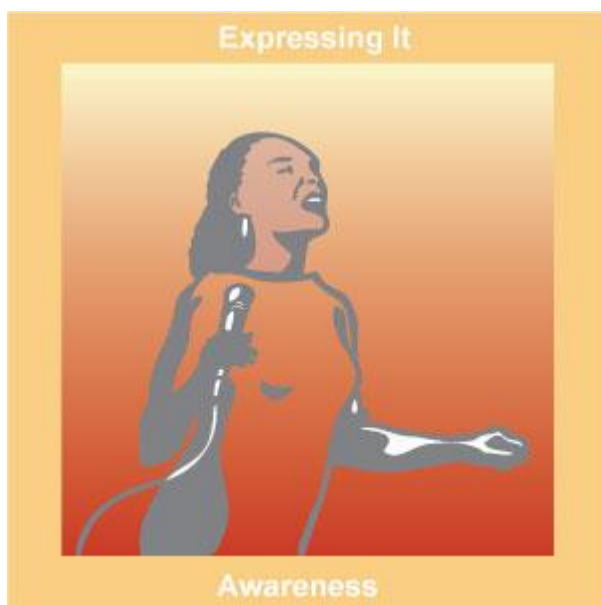
Stop the engines, because this is it! Don't push on farther, because you have accomplished what is possible for this round. From here, you coast and experience things for a while. This is the fullness you have worked for, such as it can be. Just let go and ride.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Sagittarius (Direct / Religion)

Moon in Cancer (Feel / Experience)

Your idea of religion and the spiritual life may well be the home and family you hold dear, and no church is as close to your heart and soul as your loved ones.



210-240 Degrees (Express / Teach It)

You are in the thick of things, perhaps just starting to get a handle on what is going on around you, and this may be a sticking point. This is not the time for action, to do more, but rather a time to let things take their course. You should be able to get a better idea of what will come out of this, by just riding it out. And now is when you can own this event, and feel confidence and pride in what you have done.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Sagittarius (Direct / Religion)

Moon in Leo (Express / Awareness)

Your idea of religion and the spiritual life may not so much be in church, but in your own creativity and in the many ways you express that creativity - the arts, music, writing, theater, etc. This is one place you find peace.



240-270 Degrees (Conserve / Preserver)

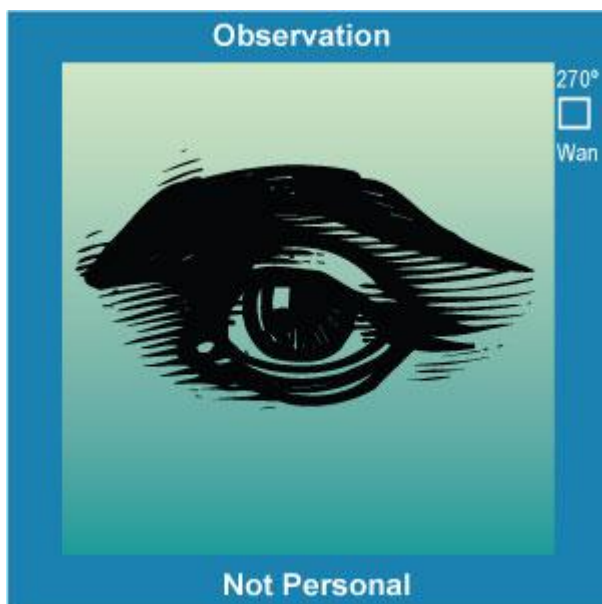
A time to take stock, step back, while you have plenty of energy and a growing understanding of your situation. Things are throttling down, so you may want to conserve your gains, and plug some of the leaks. Conservation.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Sagittarius (Direct / Religion)

Moon in Virgo (Care / Conserving)

Your idea of religion and the spiritual life may be found more in your daily routine and the details of life, rather than just in church. You find peace through caring for things and people, doing what you can to sustain and make the most of life's opportunities.



270-300 Degrees (Public / Objective)

A major turning point, where you can just let go and find it easy to turn away from purely personal worries and memories, and take a more reflective and impersonal point of view. You could feel a growing sense of responsibility, and a willingness to just grow up.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Sagittarius (Direct / Religion)

Moon in Libra (Public / Partners)

Your idea of religion and the spiritual life may be found more in public life, than just at Sunday service. Being out in society, active in the public eye, is a source of inspiration and even peace for you.



300-330 Degrees (Critical / Business)

You should be able to not only see the problems at hand, but have the insight and energy to actually do something about them, separating the good parts and culling out the whatever is excessive and holding you back.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Sagittarius (Direct / Religion)

Moon in Scorpio (Business / Critical)

Your idea of religion and the spiritual life may be found as much in the world of business around you as in going to church once a week. You find inspiration and even peace in the day-to-day transactions of doing business. You may also probe into the esoteric and occult.



330-360 Degrees (Encapsulate / Essence)

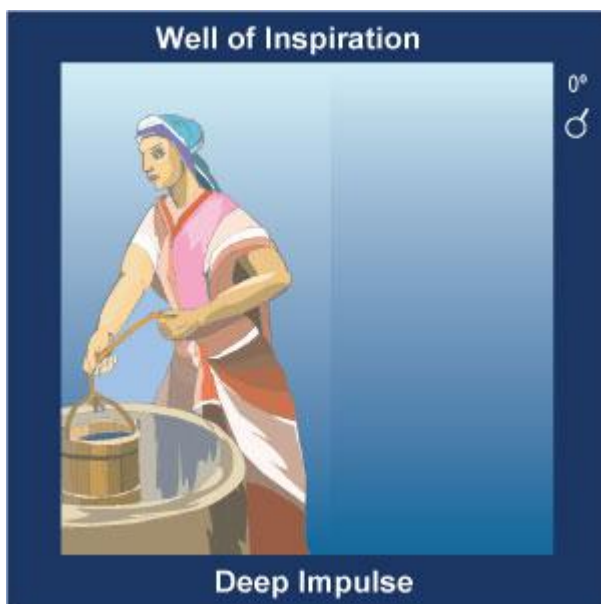
You should be able to not only see the problems at hand, but have the insight and energy to actually do something about them, separating the good parts and culling out the whatever is excessive and holding you back.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Sagittarius (Direct / Religion)

Moon in Sagittarius (Direct / Religion)

Your idea of religion and the spiritual life is probably pretty traditional and you take to philosophy and spiritual ideas like a duck to water. Religion, in whatever flavor you prefer, is natural to you.



0 to 30 Degrees (Envisioning / Ideas)

You should be able to sense a new beginning, with some fresh ideas burning brightly, lighting up this time with clarity and visions of what can be accomplished. You can see what needs to be done right now, and also farther on up the road. You may feel inspired.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Sagittarius (Direct / Religion)

Moon in Capricorn (Manage / Practical)

Your idea of religion and the spiritual life may not only be restricted to a church service. You find inspiration in the practical workings of everyday existence, and find peace in managing all the details that require your attention.



30 to 60 Degrees (Planning)

Putting new ideas to work is important here, using any and all the help you can get - very much community oriented. You want the new plans you are making to succeed and become manifest. However, this will not come about without and effort and there will be obstacles that will appear. Here is a chance to move beyond old habits (whatever may be obstructing your

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

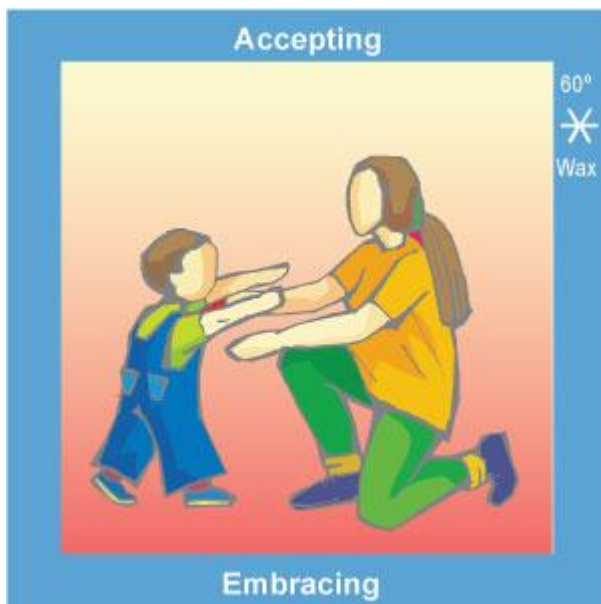
way) and actually push your plans forward toward action. But this will require patience and effort. It may not be easy.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Sagittarius (Direct / Religion)

Moon in Aquarius (Community / Plans)

Your idea of religion and the spiritual life may not so much be limited to Sunday school. You find inspiration, and true peace and joy in the community around you, and you also serve that community with reverence.



60 to 90 Degrees (Sacrifice / Preparation)

If you are looking for a time, when things free up a bit, and the going could be easier, this is it. Plan things out and get a better grip on the forces around you. For the sake of what you care for, better to let outmoded or unimportant things pass, and to look toward the goal. Keep your eye on the ball. This may require acceptance of "what is," a not perfect situation, in order to get your new plans launched.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Sagittarius (Direct / Religion)

Moon in Pisces (Acceptance / Psychology)

Your idea of religion and the spiritual life may not be limited to Sunday church. You are at church all the time, and you demonstrate this by the patience, long-suffering, and acceptance you show to your fellow man.



90-120 Degrees (Sign Progress / Achievement)

This is one of those critical points, where continued effort and action on your part can make the difference and bring about real change, producing something that can't be easily ignored. The result of your plans and ideas should have established a foothold here. No time for hesitating, just do it.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Capricorn (Manage / Practical)

Moon in Aries (Initiate / Action)

You have true insight and are at your most practical when you are involved in action, in motion, and in the process of asserting yourself. You dare.



90-120 Degrees (Sign Progress / Achievement)

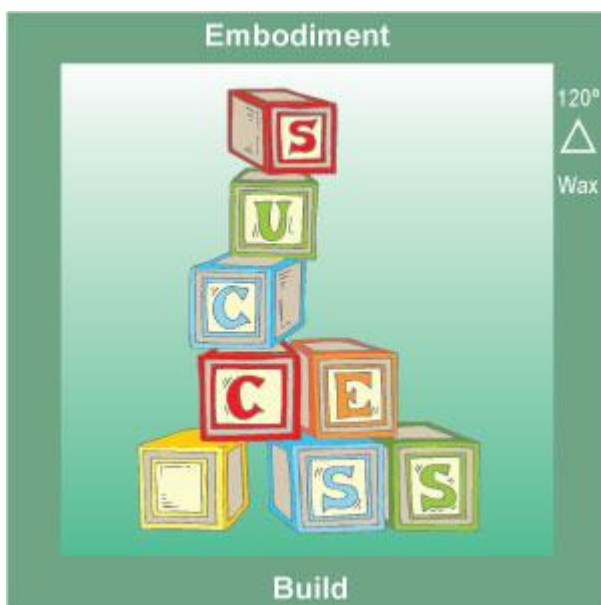
This is one of those critical points, where continued effort and action on your part can make the difference and bring about real change, producing something that can't be easily ignored. The result of your plans and ideas should have established a foothold here. No time for hesitating, just do it.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Capricorn (Manage / Practical)

Moon in Taurus (Embody / Possess)

You have true insight and are at your most practical when you feel useful, are busy and productive, and most of all: responsible. You have the ability to respond.



120-150 Degrees (Embody / Building)

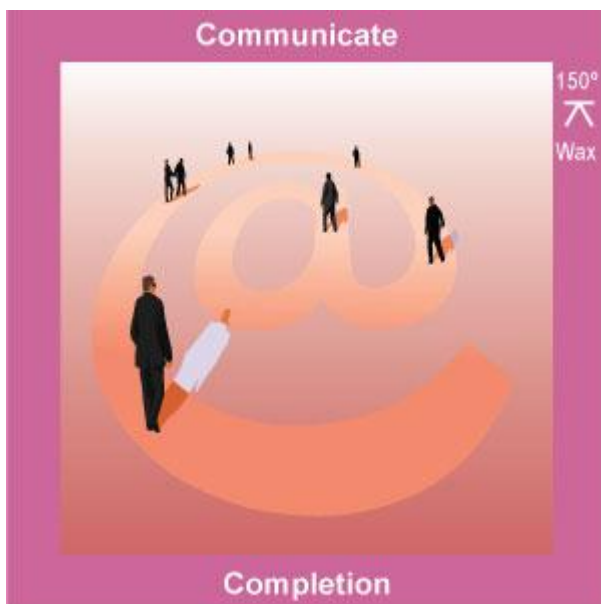
By this point, things should be not only started, but well on their way, a good time to take control, and point things where you want them to go. This is a point of least resistance and solid momentum, so making a solid effort will take you a long way. Also this is the time to embody your ideas, to build them physically into something solid.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Capricorn (Manage / Practical)

Moon in Gemini (Communication)

You have your truest insights and are probably at your most practical when you are making connections and involved in communicating with others - written or spoken.



150-180 Degrees (Connect / Communications)

Connect it up. Establish communications. Complete the detailed infrastructure. This is not so much a time to continue expanding, but rather one in which to do the finish work, and wrap the project up. Explore all the nooks and crannies, while you have the energy.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Capricorn (Manage / Practical)

Moon in Cancer (Feel / Experience)

You have your truest insights and are probably at your most practical when you are at home and with your family. You probably bring new meaning to the term "family management." You love it.



180-210 Degrees (Experience It)

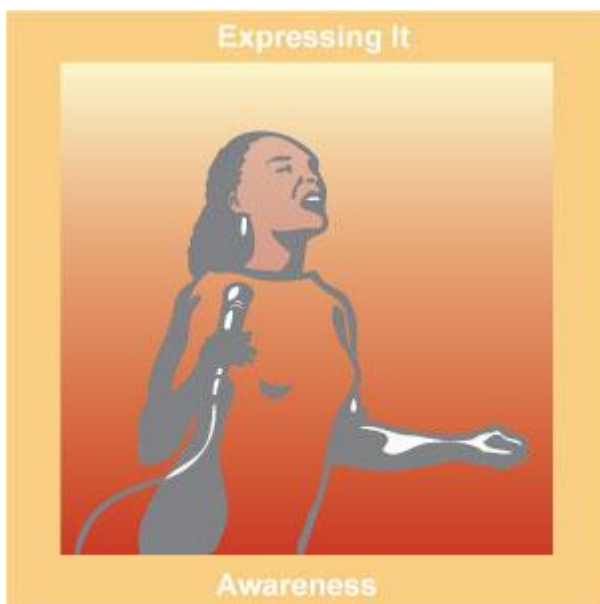
Stop the engines, because this is it! Don't push on farther, because you have accomplished what is possible for this round. From here, you coast and experience things for a while. This is the fullness you have worked for, such as it can be. Just let go and ride.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Capricorn (Manage / Practical)

Moon in Leo (Express / Awareness)

You have your truest insights and are probably at your most practical when you are involved in some form of creative expression. You naturally manage your own creativity, whether that be through the arts, music, sports, theater, teaching - what have you?



210-240 Degrees (Express / Teach It)

You are in the thick of things, perhaps just starting to get a handle on what is going on around you, and this may be a sticking point. This is not the time for action, to do more, but rather a time to let things take their course. You should be able to get a better idea of what will come out of this, by just riding it out. And now is when

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

you can own this event, and feel confidence and pride in what you have done.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Capricorn (Manage / Practical)

Moon in Virgo (Care / Conserving)

You have your truest insights and are probably at your most practical when you are managing the details of some project or another, in particular when it involves caring for and protecting some person or thing.



240-270 Degrees (Conserve / Preserver)

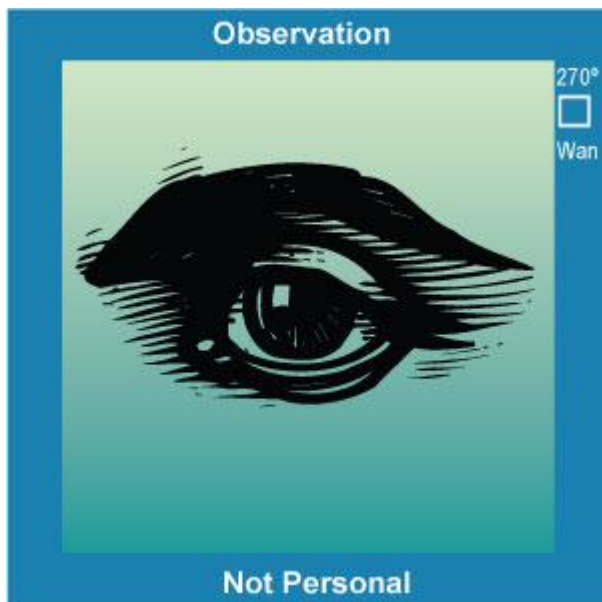
A time to take stock, step back, while you have plenty of energy and a growing understanding of your situation. Things are throttling down, so you may want to conserve your gains, and plug some of the leaks. Conservation.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Capricorn (Manage / Practical)

Moon in Libra (Public / Partners)

You have your truest insights and are probably at your most practical when you are involved with the public, preferably in some management position or another. You take to public life like a fish to water at these times.



270-300 Degrees (Public / Objective)

A major turning point, where you can just let go and find it easy to turn away from purely personal worries and memories, and take a more reflective and impersonal point of view. You could feel a growing sense of responsibility, and a willingness to just grow up.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Capricorn (Manage / Practical)

Moon in Scorpio (Business / Critical)

You have your truest insights and are probably at your most practical when embroiled in one aspect of the business world or another. You love it, and are a natural manager when it comes to business.



300-330 Degrees (Critical / Business)

You should be able to not only see the problems at hand, but have the insight and energy to actually do something about them, separating the good parts and culling out the whatever is excessive and holding you back.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Capricorn (Manage / Practical)

Moon in Sagittarius (Direct / Religion)

You have your truest insights and are probably at your most practical when contemplating some philosophical or spiritual topic - religious or otherwise. You love to manage and work with these subjects.



330-360 Degrees (Encapsulate / Essence)

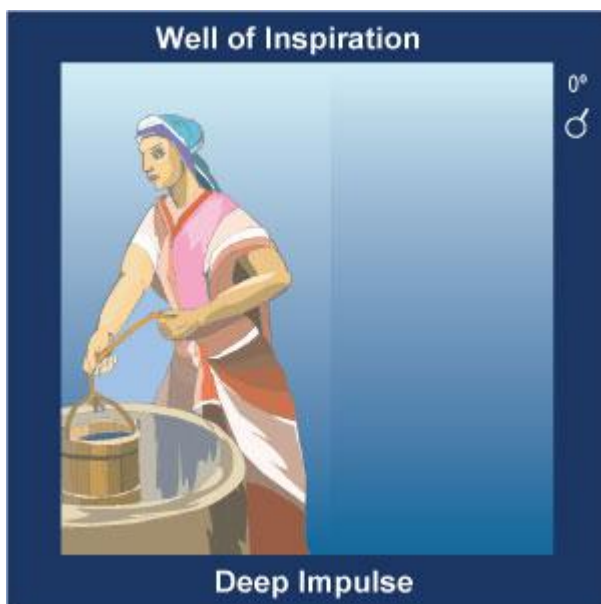
You should be able to not only see the problems at hand, but have the insight and energy to actually do something about them, separating the good parts and culling out the whatever is excessive and holding you back.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Capricorn (Manage / Practical)

Moon in Capricorn (Manage / Practical)

You have your truest insights and are probably at your most practical when involved in some management task, whether simple or complex. When it comes to managing things, you are a natural and have a real gift.



0 to 30 Degrees (Envisioning / Ideas)

You should be able to sense a new beginning, with some fresh ideas burning brightly, lighting up this time with clarity and visions of what can be accomplished. You can see what needs to be done right now, and also farther on up the road. You may feel inspired.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Capricorn (Manage / Practical)

Moon in Aquarius (Community / Plans)

You have your truest insights and are probably at your most practical when involved in some community oriented task or project. At these times, you really come alive.



30 to 60 Degrees (Planning)

Putting new ideas to work is important here, using any and all the help you can get - very much community oriented. You want the new plans you are making to succeed and become manifest. However, this will not come about without and effort and there will be obstacles that will appear. Here is a chance to move beyond old habits (whatever may be obstructing your way)and actually push your plans forward toward action.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

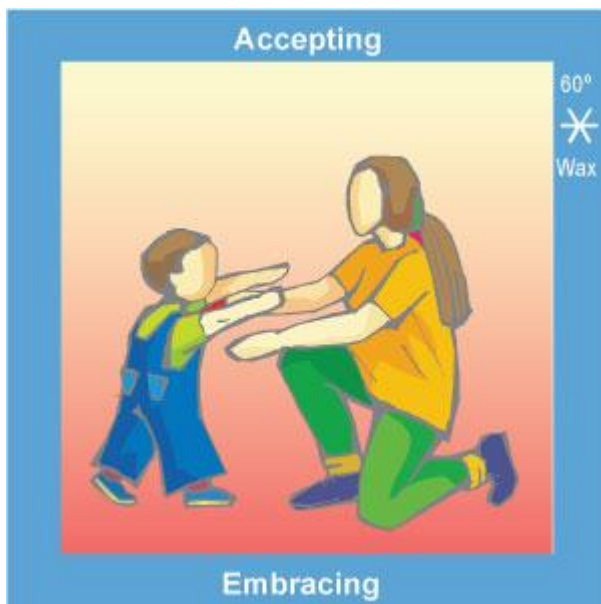
But this will require patience and effort. It may not be easy.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Capricorn (Manage / Practical)

Moon in Pisces (Acceptance / Psychology)

You have your truest insights and are probably at your most practical when involved in helping some person or worthy cause, giving of yourself, making sacrifices, and sharing your understanding.



60 to 90 Degrees (Sacrifice / Preparation)

If you are looking for a time, when things free up a bit, and the going could be easier, this is it. Plan things out and get a better grip on the forces around you. For the sake of what you care for, better to let outmoded or unimportant things pass, and to look toward the goal. Keep your eye on the ball. This may require acceptance of "what is," a not perfect situation, in order to get your new plans launched.

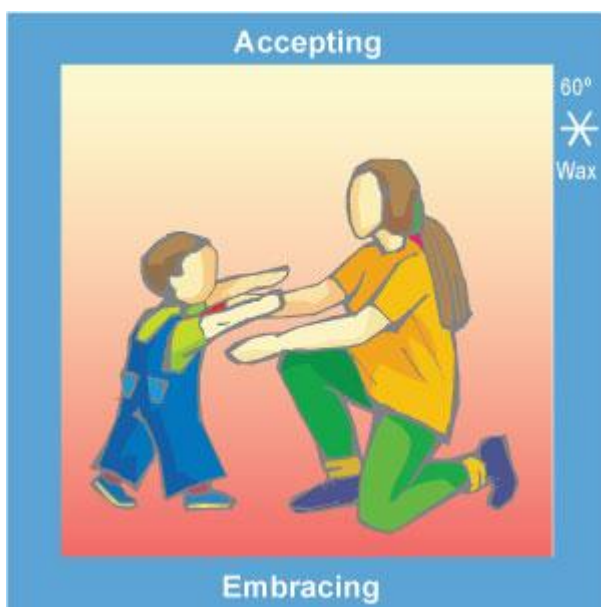
Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Aquarius (Community / Plans)

Moon in Aries (Initiate / Action)

You show your altruism and sense of community and by taking real action. You don't stand passively by, but tend to jump in aggressively and do something.



60 to 90 Degrees (Sacrifice / Preparation)

If you are looking for a time, when things free up a bit, and the going could be easier, this is it. Plan things out and get a better grip on the forces around you. For the sake of what you care for, better to let outmoded or unimportant things pass, and to look toward the goal. Keep your eye on the ball. This may require acceptance of "what is," a not perfect situation, in order to get your new plans launched.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Aquarius (Community / Plans)

Moon in Taurus (Embody / Possess)

You show your altruism and sense of community and by lending your support, by giving a hand, pitching in, and generally being productive.



90-120 Degrees (Sign Progress / Achievement)

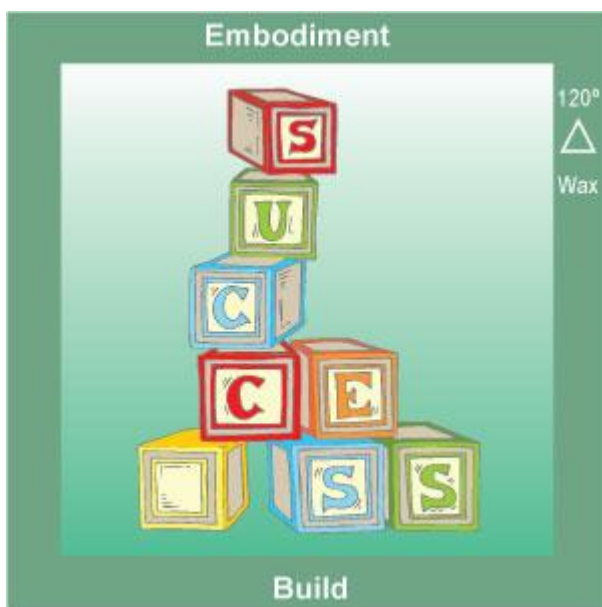
This is one of those critical points, where continued effort and action on your part can make the difference and bring about real change, producing something that can't be easily ignored. The result of your plans and ideas should have established a foothold here. No time for hesitating, just do it.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Aquarius (Community / Plans)

Moon in Gemini (Communication)

You show your altruism and sense of community by keeping the lines of communication open, by sharing information, and networking.



120-150 Degrees (Embody / Building)

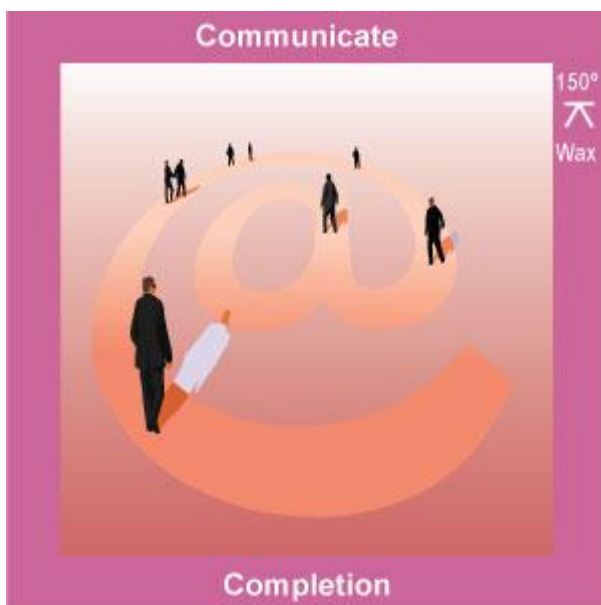
By this point, things should be not only started, but well on their way, a good time to take control, and point things where you want them to go. This is a point of least resistance and solid momentum, so making a solid effort will take you a long way. Also this is the time to embody your ideas, to build them physically into something solid.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Aquarius (Community / Plans)

Moon in Cancer (Feel / Experience)

You show your altruism and sense of community by extending your own very evident sense of home and family to the community at large. You make it one big home and family.



150-180 Degrees (Connect / Communications)

Connect it up. Establish communications. Complete the detailed infrastructure. This is not so much a time to continue expanding, but rather one in which to do the finish work, and wrap the project up. Explore all the nooks and crannies, while you have the energy.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Aquarius (Community / Plans)

Moon in Leo (Express / Awareness)

You show your altruism and sense of community by sharing your own creativity and helping to better express the community concerns, and in creative ways.



180-210 Degrees (Experience It)

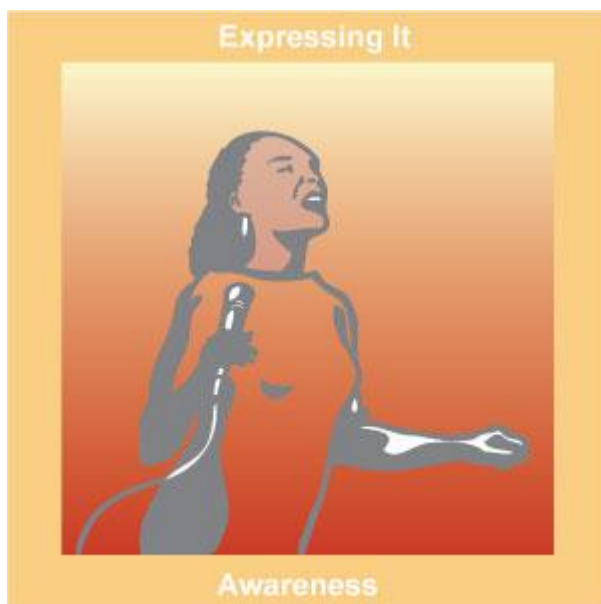
Stop the engines, because this is it! Don't push on farther, because you have accomplished what is possible for this round. From here, you coast and experience things for a while. This is the fullness you have worked for, such as it can be. Just let go and ride.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Aquarius (Community / Plans)

Moon in Virgo (Care / Conserving)

You show your altruism and sense of community by helping out in the care department, attending to details, and, like a mother hen, looking after just about everything - people and things.



210-240 Degrees (Express / Teach It)

You are in the thick of things, perhaps just starting to get a handle on what is going on around you, and this may be a sticking point. This is not the time for action, to do more, but rather a time to let things take their course. You should be able to get a better idea of what will come out of this, by just riding it out. And now is when you can own this event, and feel confidence and pride in what you have done.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Aquarius (Community / Plans)

Moon in Libra (Public / Partners)

You show your altruism and sense of community by assuming a public and prominent role in that community - a community leader.



240-270 Degrees (Conserve / Preserver)

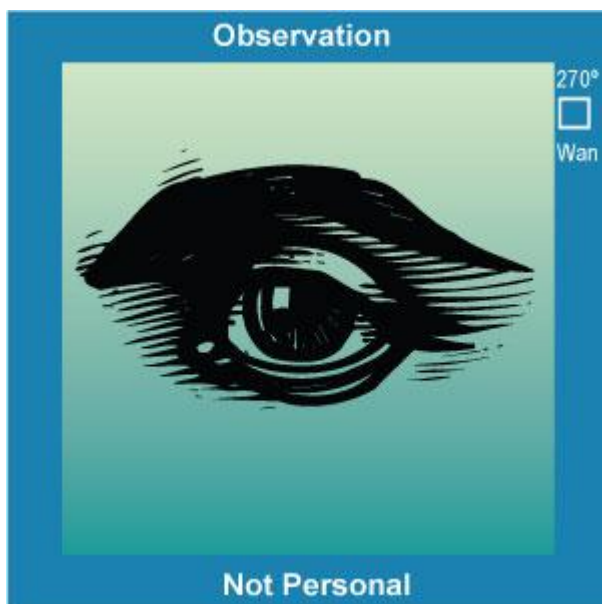
A time to take stock, step back, while you have plenty of energy and a growing understanding of your situation. Things are throttling down, so you may want to conserve your gains, and plug some of the leaks. Conservation.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Aquarius (Community / Plans)

Moon in Scorpio (Business / Critical)

You show your altruism and sense of community by getting into the real nuts and bolts of the business end of community affairs. You dig right in and sort out the wheat from the chaff.



270-300 Degrees (Public / Objective)

A major turning point, where you can just let go and find it easy to turn away from purely personal worries and memories, and take a more reflective and impersonal point of view. You could feel a growing sense of responsibility, and a willingness to just grow up.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Aquarius (Community / Plans)

Moon in Sagittarius (Direct / Religion)

You show your altruism and sense of community by bringing folks together and uniting them in the common spiritual goals they share, whether religious or philosophical.



300-330 Degrees (Critical / Business)

You should be able to not only see the problems at hand, but have the insight and energy to actually do something about them, separating the good parts and culling out the whatever is excessive and holding you back.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Aquarius (Community / Plans)

Moon in Capricorn (Manage / Practical)

You show your altruism and sense of community by taking over some of the management chores, which is a natural for you. You help in community management.



330-360 Degrees (Encapsulate / Essence)

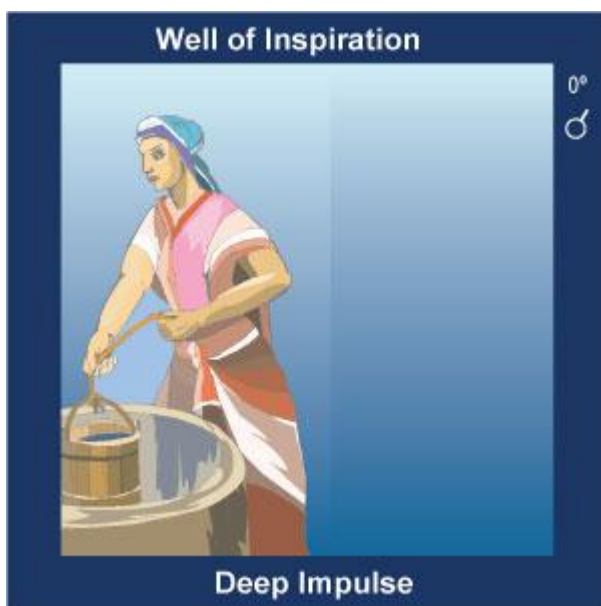
You should be able to not only see the problems at hand, but have the insight and energy to actually do something about them, separating the good parts and culling out the whatever is excessive and holding you back.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Aquarius (Community / Plans)

Moon in Aquarius (Community / Plans)

You show your altruism and sense of community by bringing to the community, new alternatives, alternatives that broaden and enrich the sense of what a community is all about.



0 to 30 Degrees (Envisioning / Ideas)

You should be able to sense a new beginning, with some fresh ideas burning brightly, lighting up this time with clarity and visions of what can be accomplished. You can see what needs to be done right now, and also farther on up the road. You may feel inspired.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Aquarius (Community / Plans)

Moon in Pisces (Acceptance / Psychology)

You show your altruism and sense of community by giving of yourself, tirelessly, demonstrating to others the value of patience, acceptance, and self-sacrifice.



30 to 60 Degrees (Planning)

Putting new ideas to work is important here, using any and all the help you can get - very much community oriented. You want the new plans you are making to succeed and become manifest. However, this will not come about without and effort and there will be obstacles that will appear. Here is a chance to move beyond old habits (whatever may be obstructing your way)and actually push your plans forward toward action.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

But this will require patience and effort. It may not be easy.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Pisces (Acceptance / Psychology)

Moon in Aries (Initiate / Action)

Your way of acceptance, of enduring what is hard to endure, involves doing something about it, taking action. You don't just stand there and take it, but jump right in and are counted. You act.



30 to 60 Degrees (Planning)

Putting new ideas to work is important here, using any and all the help you can get - very much community oriented. You want the new plans you are making to succeed and become manifest. However, this will not come about without and effort and there will be obstacles that will appear. Here is a chance to move beyond old habits (whatever may be obstructing your way)and actually push your plans forward toward action.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

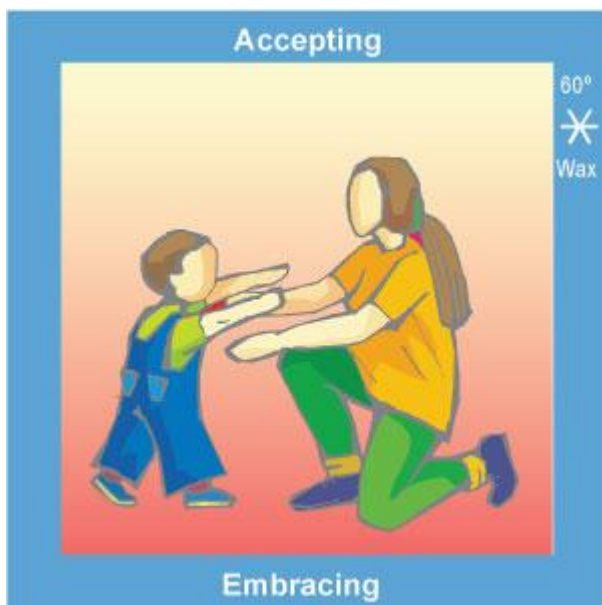
But this will require patience and effort. It may not be easy.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Pisces (Acceptance / Psychology)

Moon in Taurus (Embody / Possess)

Your way of acceptance, of enduring what is hard to endure in life, is by being productive - producing. You naturally respond to hard times by lending your support.



60 to 90 Degrees (Sacrifice / Preparation)

If you are looking for a time, when things free up a bit, and the going could be easier, this is it. Plan things out and get a better grip on the forces around you. For the sake of what you care for, better to let outmoded or unimportant things pass, and to look toward the goal. Keep your eye on the ball. This may require acceptance of "what is," a not perfect situation, in order to get your new plans launched.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Pisces (Acceptance / Psychology)

Moon in Gemini (Communication)

Your way of acceptance, of enduring what is hard to endure in life, is by sharing information with others. You like to stay in touch and communication of all kinds is how you bear up under pressure.



90-120 Degrees (Sign Progress / Achievement)

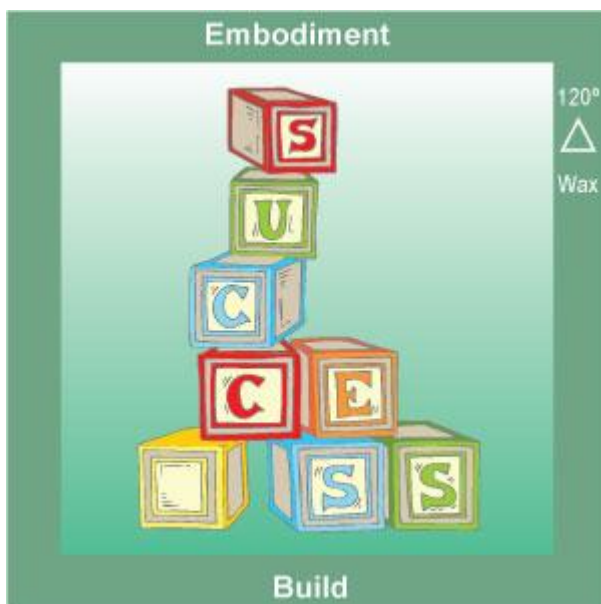
This is one of those critical points, where continued effort and action on your part can make the difference and bring about real change, producing something that can't be easily ignored. The result of your plans and ideas should have established a foothold here. No time for hesitating, just do it.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Pisces (Acceptance / Psychology)

Moon in Cancer (Feel / Experience)

Your way of acceptance, of enduring what is hard to endure in life, is to turn to your home and family, and embrace them. With your family by your side, you can put up with almost anything.



120-150 Degrees (Embody / Building)

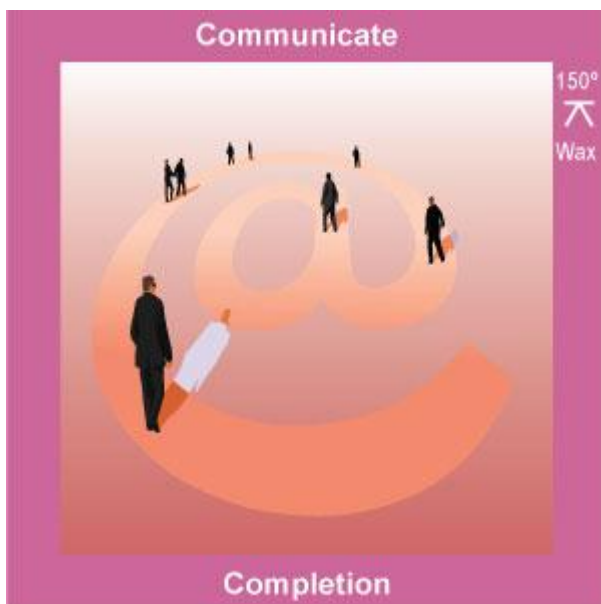
By this point, things should be not only started, but well on their way, a good time to take control, and point things where you want them to go. This is a point of least resistance and solid momentum, so making a solid effort will take you a long way. Also this is the time to embody your ideas, to build them physically into something solid.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Pisces (Acceptance / Psychology)

Moon in Leo (Express / Awareness)

Your way of acceptance, of enduring what is hard to endure in life, is through creativity. You stand up to life's tribulations by expressing yourself, getting it out there, where everyone can see it. Creative.



150-180 Degrees (Connect / Communications)

Connect it up. Establish communications. Complete the detailed infrastructure. This is not so much a time to continue expanding, but rather one in which to do the finish work, and wrap the project up. Explore all the nooks and crannies, while you have the energy.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Pisces (Acceptance / Psychology)

Moon in Virgo (Care / Conserving)

Your way of acceptance, of enduring what is hard to endure in life, is through compassion, love, and care. You respond to life's challenge by attending to the details, by being even more careful and considerate.



180-210 Degrees (Experience It)

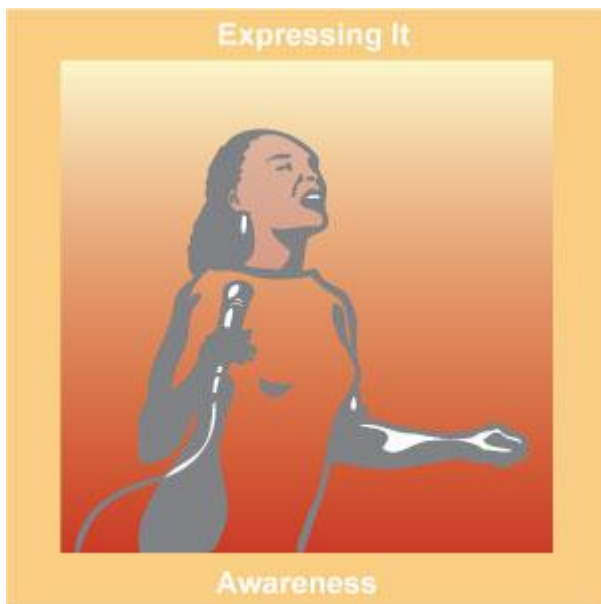
Stop the engines, because this is it! Don't push on farther, because you have accomplished what is possible for this round. From here, you coast and experience things for a while. This is the fullness you have worked for, such as it can be. Just let go and ride.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Pisces (Acceptance / Psychology)

Moon in Libra (Public / Partners)

Your way of acceptance, of enduring what is hard to endure in life, by taking a more objective view, and perhaps by assuming a more public and visible role in the community.



210-240 Degrees (Express / Teach It)

You are in the thick of things, perhaps just starting to get a handle on what is going on around you, and this may be a sticking point. This is not the time for action, to do more, but rather a time to let things take their course. You should be able to get a better idea of what will come out of this, by just riding it out. And now is when you can own this event, and feel confidence and pride in what you have done.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Pisces (Acceptance / Psychology)

Moon in Scorpio (Business / Critical)

Your way of acceptance, of enduring what is hard to endure in life, is by getting right in there, down to the nitty-gritty, and working through things. Pure business or busy-ness.



240-270 Degrees (Conserve / Preserver)

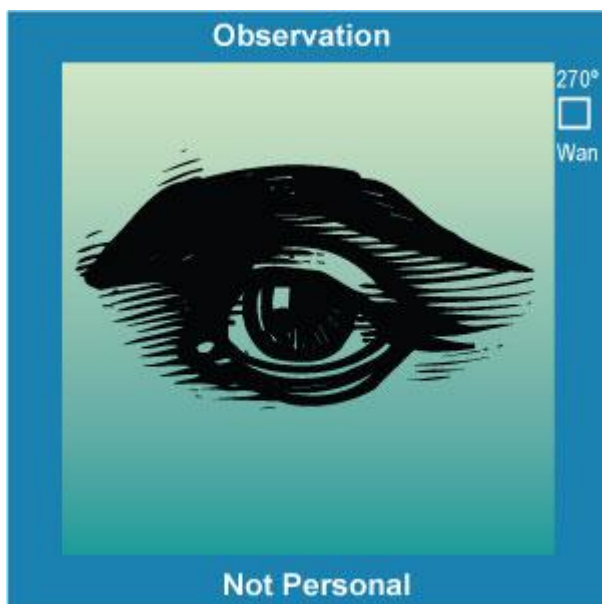
A time to take stock, step back, while you have plenty of energy and a growing understanding of your situation. Things are throttling down, so you may want to conserve your gains, and plug some of the leaks. Conservation.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Pisces (Acceptance / Psychology)

Moon in Sagittarius (Direct / Religion)

Your way of acceptance, of enduring what is hard to endure in life, is through the inspiration that comes from spiritual or philosophical insights, traditional or otherwise.



270-300 Degrees (Public / Objective)

A major turning point, where you can just let go and find it easy to turn away from purely personal worries and memories, and take a more reflective and impersonal point of view. You could feel a growing sense of responsibility, and a willingness to just grow up.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Pisces (Acceptance / Psychology)

Moon in Capricorn (Manage / Practical)

Your way of acceptance, of enduring what is hard to endure in life, is to take practical control of a situation and work with it. You can always manage. Management.



300-330 Degrees (Critical / Business)

You should be able to not only see the problems at hand, but have the insight and energy to actually do something about them, separating the good parts and culling out the whatever is excessive and holding you back.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Pisces (Acceptance / Psychology)

Moon in Aquarius (Community / Plans)

Your way of acceptance, of enduring what is hard to endure in life, involves community and sharing ideas and problems with the community around you. A sense of community.



330-360 Degrees (Encapsulate / Essence)

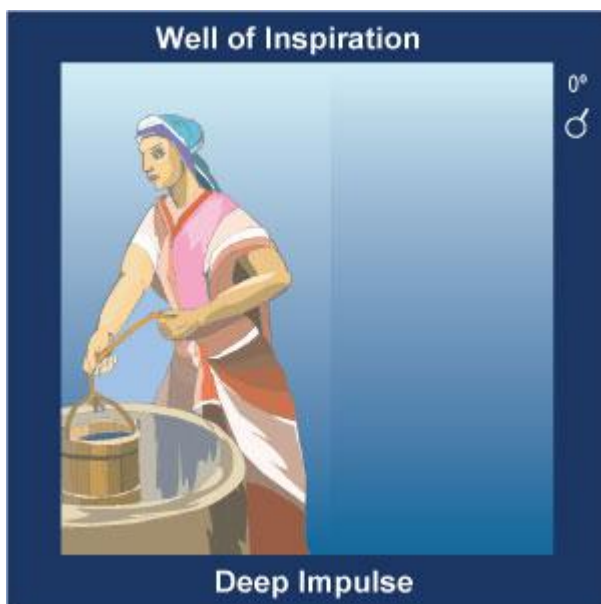
At more inward time, ignoring the external world, and give attention to the things the really matter, and that will last.

Mother Moon: The Astrology of the Lights

Sun in Pisces (Acceptance / Psychology)

Moon in Pisces (Acceptance / Psychology)

Your way of acceptance, of enduring what is hard to endure in life, involves understanding and accepting the situation, deeply, and making the necessary sacrifices to achieve the goals you have set out for yourself.



0 to 30 Degrees (Envisioning / Ideas)

You should be able to sense a new beginning, with some fresh ideas burning brightly, lighting up this time with clarity and visions of what can be accomplished. You can see what needs to be done right now, and also farther on up the road. You may feel inspired.

The Sun in the Zodiac



Sun in Aries (Natal)

A natural leader and initiator, aggressive and perhaps sometimes even a little too much in your face, but never afraid to act, and always the first to jump into any kind of action, no matter where it may lead. Could be an adventurer and pioneer, and always out front and very much visible to all.

Sun in Aries (Transit)

This is a time when you can be a natural leader and initiator, aggressive and perhaps sometimes even a little too much in your face, but not afraid to act, and right now always the first to jump into any kind of action, no matter where it may lead. During this time you could be

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an adventurer and pioneer, always out front and very much visible to all.



Sun in Taurus (Natal)

Naturally receptive, and probably a good listener too, able to catch any stray ideas or impulses and embody them - build them into something solid. You are, above all, a producer and developer, giving shape to concepts and plans, making them real. Fertile ground.

Sun in Taurus (Transit)

A time when you may be naturally receptive, and probably a good listener too, able to catch any stray ideas or impulses and embody them - build them into something solid. You are, right now, above all, a producer and developer, giving shape to concepts and plans, making them real. Fertile ground.

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Sun in Gemini (Natal)

Naturally curious, you are a born communicator and investigator, happily searching out leads, and pursuing all avenues of communications to the limit. Ideas, thoughts, and conversation - communication of all kinds - are what keep you motivated, and on track.

Sun in Gemini (Transit)

Naturally curious, this is a time when you can be a communicator and investigator, happily searching out leads, and pursuing all avenues of communications to the limit. Ideas, thoughts, and conversation - communication of all kinds - are what keep you motivated, and on track.

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Sun in Cancer (Natal)

Very direct when it comes to home and family, which are number one on your list. In fact, security in general is very important. You like to be on the inside looking out, knowing that you are safe and well protected. Too much public attention probably makes you nervous, and some shyness is just part of your nature.

Sun in Cancer (Transit)

Very direct just now, when it comes to home and family, which are number one on your list. In fact, security in general is very important during this time. You like to be on the inside looking out, knowing that you are safe and well protected. Too much public attention probably just now makes you nervous, and some shyness is just part of your nature.

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Sun in Leo (Natal)

You naturally like to express yourself, whether just what you are feeling that day or some more creative process, like theater, speaking, and the arts, in general. Your enthusiasm is catching, and you are proud of what you know and have become aware of. You enjoy telling what you know to others, and would probably make a good teacher.

Sun in Leo (Transit)

During this time, you may naturally like to express yourself, whether just what you are feeling today or some more creative process, like theater, speaking, and the arts, in general. Your enthusiasm is catching, and you are proud of what you know and have become aware of. You enjoy telling what you know to others.

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Sun in Virgo (Natal)

You are a natural conservative, not necessarily politically speaking, but in your approach to caring for everything around you, always trying to make the best of a situation and conserving resources. You are probably just a bit too cautious to throw caution to the wind, and just let it all hang out. You are generally compassionate, have a natural sense of impermanence and the preciousness of life, and gravitate to detail-oriented tasks.

Sun in Virgo (Transit)

You are more naturally conservative just now, not necessarily politically speaking, but in your approach to caring for everything around you, always trying to make the best of a situation and conserving resources. You are probably just a bit too cautious to throw caution to the wind, and just let it all hang out. During this time, you may be generally compassionate, have a natural

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sense of impermanence and the preciousness of life,
and gravitate to detail-oriented tasks.

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Sun in Libra (Natal)

Naturally polite and social, with your outward presentation carefully groomed for public scrutiny, you tend to prefer to leave personal matters in the closet and unspoken of. A certain air of objectivity and impartiality makes working or appearing in the public quite natural for you.

Sun in Libra (Transit)

Naturally polite and social, with your outward presentation carefully groomed for public scrutiny, you tend during this time to prefer to leave personal matters in the closet and unspoken of. A certain air of objectivity and impartiality makes working or appearing in the public quite natural for you just now.

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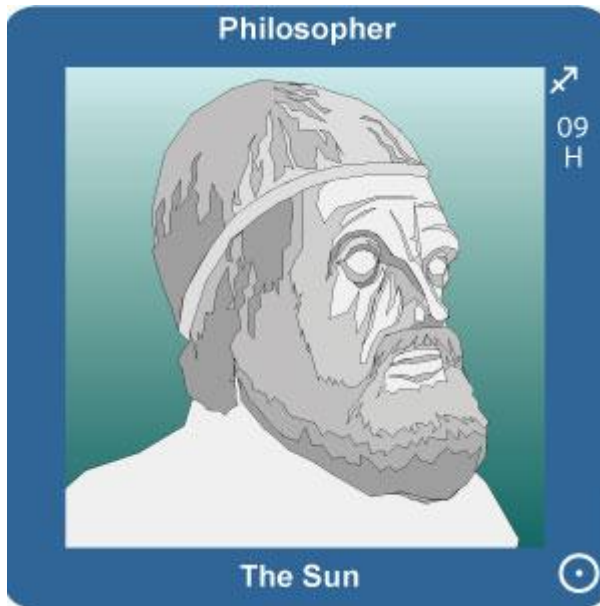
Sun in Scorpio (Natal)

Beyond polite appearances, you always manage to cut to the chase, and get right down to the nitty-gritty, where the beans are counted. Naturally a fierce critic, you can size up a situation, and know just what has value and what should be abandoned and stripped away. A natural businessman.

Sun in Scorpio (Transit)

You are beyond polite appearances just now, and may manage to cut to the chase, and get right down to the nitty-gritty, where the beans are counted. During this time, you are naturally a fierce critic. You can size up a situation, and know just what has value and what should be abandoned and stripped away. A natural businessman.

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Sun in Sagittarius (Natal)

Direct, at times almost to the point of rudeness, you value simple honesty and have little patience for embroidering on the truth. This penchant for frankness extends to questions of philosophy, religion, and spirituality in general, which are important elements in your life.

Sun in Sagittarius (Transit)

Direct, at this time almost to the point of rudeness, you value simple honesty and have little patience for embroidering on the truth. This penchant for frankness just now extends to questions of philosophy, religion, and spirituality in general, which are important elements in your life.

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Sun in Capricorn (Natal)

A natural born manager, you like to take control of things, and are happiest when you are behind the wheel, and in charge of a situation. You tend to have a clear vision of what is going on, easily grasp the big picture, and have all kinds of ideas that you would like to see implemented. Very practical.

Sun in Capricorn (Transit)

A may feel like a natural born manager just now, and like to take control of things, happiest when you are behind the wheel, and in charge of a situation. You tend at this time to have a clear vision of what is going on, easily grasp the big picture, and have all kinds of ideas that you would like to see implemented. Very practical.

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Sun in Aquarius (Natal)

You have many plans and ideas on how to improve life on this planet, and can't wait to see them implemented. Putting these plans into motion is more than you one person can possible handle, and you naturally reach out to the entire community for help. It will take everyone's help to make a difference, and this community orientation and selflessness on your part is clear to all.

Sun in Aquarius (Transit)

During this time, you have many plans and ideas on how to improve life on this planet, and can't wait to see them implemented. Putting these plans into motion is more than you, one person, can possible handle, and you naturally reach out to the entire community for help. You could feel that it will take everyone's help to make a

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difference, and this community orientation and selflessness on your part is clear to all.



Sun in Pisces (Natal)

Patience is something you have, plus the ability to make personal sacrifices if necessary for the sake of improving the general quality of life for everyone. You get the big picture and, because of this, are able to understand and to put up with all kinds of annoyances and petty problems that would drive others up the walls. You are probably a natural psychologist and a fine counselor.

Sun in Aries (Transit)

Patience is something you have just now, plus the ability to make personal sacrifices if necessary for the sake of improving the general quality of life for everyone. You get the big picture and, because of this, are able to understand at this time and to put up with all

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kinds of annoyances and petty problems that would drive others up the walls. Right now, you are probably a natural psychologist and a fine counselor.

The Moon in the Zodiac



Moon in Aries (Natal)

When it comes to support and nurturing, you may at times feel you have been given short shrift, because your support environment may be somewhat austere, perhaps even harsh at times. You are pretty much action oriented, not very nostalgic when it comes to the touchy-feely areas of life. You are a natural soldier.

Moon in Aries (Transit)

When it comes to support and nurturing, you may at this time feel you have been given short shrift, because your support environment may be somewhat austere, perhaps even harsh at times. You are pretty much action-oriented, not very nostalgic when it comes to the touchy-feely areas of life. Right now, you are a natural soldier.

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Moon in Taurus (Natal)

You are fortunate, perhaps even blessed, when it comes to having real support and a genuinely nurturing environment, whether that be family, good luck, wherewithal - whatever. You just naturally have the encouragement and resources for great productivity. Naturally fertile.

Moon in Taurus (Transit)

You are fortunate, perhaps even blessed, when it comes to having real support and a genuinely nurturing environment at this time, whether that be family, good luck, wherewithal - whatever. You just naturally now have the encouragement and resources for great productivity. Naturally fertile.

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Moon in Gemini (Natal)

Ideas, thoughts, writing, speaking, and the whole realm of communication, in general, is an area where you naturally can find and count on support, and a nurturing environment. Funds for education, support for the mind.

Moon in Gemini (Transit)

Ideas, thoughts, writing, speaking, and the whole realm of communication, in general, is an area just now where you naturally can find and count on support, and a nurturing environment. Funds for education, support for the mind may appear.

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Moon in Cancer (Natal)

One area in your life you can look to (and count on) for support is family and (probably) your home environment, in general. Everyone loves home and family, but in your case, this is an essential part, not only of who you are, but where you can look to for resources.

Moon in Cancer (Transit)

Right now, one area in your life you can look to (and count on) for support is family and (probably) your home environment, in general. Everyone loves home and family, but in your case at this time, this is an essential part, not only of who you are, but where you can look to for resources.

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Moon in Leo (Natal)

Many people look to creativity for release and self-expression, and the same is true for you now. However, you can (and should) also look to creative expression for sustenance, support, and perhaps livelihood. At this time, this could include teaching, writing, speaking - the arts.

Moon in Leo (Transit)

Many people look to creativity for release and self-expression, and the same is true for you. However, you can (and should) also look to creative expression for sustenance, support, and perhaps livelihood. This could include teaching, writing, speaking - the arts.

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Moon in Virgo (Natal)

Conserving, salvaging or making the most of any situation, getting into the details, and anything related to care and caring for others and things. This is not only natural to you, but also can be a source of support, and perhaps livelihood. This is an environment where you can flourish.

Moon in Virgo (Transit)

Conserving, salvaging or making the most of any situation just now, getting into the details, and anything related to care and caring for others and things is in order. This is not only natural to you now, but also can be a source of support, and perhaps livelihood. At this time, this is an environment where you can flourish.

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Moon in Libra (Natal)

Society, the community, whatever is not personal and private, but rather is open and public is an arena that is not only natural to you, but one where you can look to for support and nourishment. Public support.

Moon in Libra (Transit)

Society, the community, whatever is not personal and private, but rather is open and public, is an arena just now not only feels natural to you, but one where you can look to for support and nourishment. Public support.

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Moon in Scorpio (Natal)

You may naturally find support and sustenance in the world of business, wherever it is important to cut through the nostalgia and get right down to the actual nitty-gritty. This can be a source not only of interest, but of livelihood.

Moon in Scorpio (Transit)

You may naturally find support and sustenance just now in the world of business, wherever it is important to cut through the nostalgia and get right down to the actual nitty-gritty. This can be a source not only of interest, but of livelihood at this time.

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Moon in Sagittarius (Natal)

When it comes to sustenance, to matters of support and nurturing, you naturally tend toward spiritual ideas, whether in the form of philosophy or religion of one sort or another. This is more than just a passing interest, but an area of life where you are nourished and find support, and perhaps your livelihood.

Moon in Sagittarius (Transit)

When it comes to sustenance, to matters of support and nurturing, right now you naturally tend toward spiritual ideas, whether in the form of philosophy or religion of one sort or another. This can be more than just a passing interest, but an area of life where you are nourished and find support, and perhaps your livelihood.

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Moon in Capricorn (Natal)

You not only like to be in control and to manage a situation, but actually draw strength and support from this activity. In fact, the whole realm of the practical (business, management, directing, etc.) is one where you find nourishment and perhaps even your livelihood.

Moon in Capricorn (Transit)

During this time, you not only like to be in control and to manage a situation, but actually draw strength and support from this activity. In fact, the whole realm of the practical (business, management, directing, etc.) is one where you find nourishment and perhaps even your livelihood.

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Moon in Aquarius (Natal)

Where others find support and nourishment in home and family, you find it in society at large - the community. It is the community where you look for an environment where you can grow and prosper. Community involvement may be the source of your livelihood.

Moon in Aquarius (Transit)

Where others find support and nourishment in home and family, you may find it right now in society at large - the community. It is the community where you look for an environment where you can grow and prosper. Community involvement may be the source of your livelihood during this time.

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Moon in (Natal)

When it comes to patience and self-sacrifice, an area that most would just as soon avoid, you actually find inner support and nourishment. Psychology, counseling, and questions of acceptance (embracing what is), are natural for you, and you may find your livelihood in these areas.

Moon in (Transit)

When it comes to patience and self-sacrifice, an area that most would just as soon avoid, at this time you actually may find inner support and nourishment. Psychology, counseling, and questions of acceptance (embracing what is), are natural for you now, and you may find your livelihood in these areas.

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Author Michael Erlewine

Internationally known astrologer and author Noel Tyl (author of 34 books on astrology) has this to say about Michael Erlewine:

“Michael Erlewine is the giant influence

whose creativity is forever imprinted on all astrologers’ work since the beginning of the Computer era! He is the man who single-handedly applied computer technology to astrological measurement, research, and interpretation, and has been the formative and leading light of astrology’s modern growth. Erlewine humanized it all, adding perception and incisive practical analyses to modern, computerized astrology. Now, for a second generation of astrologers and their public, Erlewine’s genius continues with StarTypes ... and it’s simply amazing!”

A Brief Bio of Michael Erlewine

Michael Erlewine has studied and practiced astrology for over 40 years, as an author, teacher, lecturer, personal consultant, programmer, and conference producer.

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Erlewine was the first astrologer to program astrology, on microcomputers and make those programs available to his fellow astrologers. This was in 1977. He founded Matrix Astrology in 1978, and his company, along with Microsoft, are the two oldest software companies still on the Internet.

Michael, soon joined by his astrologer-brother Stephen Erlewine, went on to revolutionize astrology by producing, for the new microcomputers, the first written astrological reports, first research system, first high resolution chart wheels, geographic and star maps, and on and on.

Along the way Matrix produced programs that spoke astrology (audio), personal astrological videos, infomercials, and many other pioneering feats.

Michael Erlewine has received major awards from UAC (United Astrological Conferences), AFA (American Federation of Astrologers), and the PIA (Professional Astrologers Incorporated), and scores of on online awards.

Michael and Stephen Erlewine have published a yearly calendar for almost 30 years, since 1969. Michael Erlewine has produced and put on more than 36 conferences in the areas of astrology and Buddhism.

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Example Astro*Image Card

Aside from his current work as a consultant for NBC's iVillage and Astrology.com, Erlewine has personally designed over 6,000 tarot-like astrology cards, making authentic astrology available to people with little or no experience in the topic. These Astro*Image™ cards are available through a variety of small astrological programs and in eBooks. Some examples can be found at WWW.StarTypes.com, where there is also a link to his astrological software.

Personal Astrology Readings

Michael Erlewine has been doing personal astrology readings for almost forty years and enjoys sharing his knowledge with others. However, his busy schedule makes it difficult to honor all requests. However, feel free to email (Michael@Erlewine.net) him if you wish a personal chart reading. He will let you know if his current schedule will allow him to work with you.

The sections that follow will give you more details about Michael Erlewine and his very active center.



The Heart Center House

In 1972, Michael and Margaret Erlewine established the Heart Center, a center for community studies. Today, the Heart Center continues to be a center for astrological and spiritual work. Over the years, hundreds of invited guests have stayed at the Heart Center, some for just a night, others for many years. Astrologers, authors, musicians, Sanskrit scholars, swamis - you name it, the Heart Center has been a

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home for a wide group of individuals, all united by their interest in spiritual or cultural ideas.



Heart Center Library

Erlewine also founded and directs The Heart Center Astrological Library, the largest astrological library in the United States, and probably the world, that is open to researchers. Meticulously catalogued, the current library project is the scanning of the Table of Contents for all major books and periodicals on astrology.

The library does not have regular hours, so contact ahead of time if you wish to visit.

Michael@erlewine.net.

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The All-Music Guide / All-Movie Guide

Michael Erlewine's devotion to studying and playing the music of Black Americans, in particular blues, led to his traveling to small blues clubs of Chicago and hearing live, blues greats like Little Walter, Magic Sam, Big Walter Horton, and many others. He went on to interview many dozens of performers. Much of this interviewing took place at the Ann Arbor Blues Festivals, in 1969 and 1970, the first electric blues festivals of any size ever held in North America, and than later at the Ann Arbor Blues & Jazz Festivals.

With their extensive knowledge of the blues music, Erlewine and his brother Daniel were asked to play host to the score or so of professional blues musicians and their bands. They were in charge of serving them food and (of course) drink. Michael went on to interview most of the performers in these early festivals, with an audio recorder, and later on with video.

The interviewing led to more study and ultimately resulted in Michael founding and developing AMG,

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the All-Music Guide, today the largest single database of music reviews and documentation on the planet.

Erlewine started from a one-room office, and the reviewers and music aficionados of the time laughed at his attempt to cover all music. But he persisted, and the all-Music Guide appeared as a Gopher Site, before the World Wide Web even existed—a database of popular music for all music lovers.

Over the years AMG grew, and the All-Movie Guide and All Game Guide were born, and also flourished. Later, Erlewine would create ClassicPosters.com, devoted to the history and documentation of rock n' roll posters, some 35,000 of them.

These guides changed the way music was reviewed and rated. Previous to AMG, review guides like the "Rolling Stones Record Guide" were run by a few sophisticated reviewers, and the emphasis was on the expertise of the reviewer, and their point of view. Erlewine insisted on treating all artists equally, and not comparing artist to artist, what can be important, Michael points out, is to find the best music any artist has produced, not if the artist is better or worse than Jimmie Hendrix or Bob Dylan.

Erlewine sold AMG in 1996, at which time he had 150 fulltime employees, and 500 free-lance writers. He had edited and published any number of books and CD-ROMs on music and film. During the time he owned and ran AMG, there were no advertisements on the site and nothing for sale. As Erlewine writes, "All of us deserve to have access to our own popular culture. That is what AMG and ClassicPosters.com are all about." Today, AMG reviews can be found everywhere across the Internet. Erlewine's music

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collection is housed in an AMG warehouse, numbering almost 500,000 CDs.



Heart Center Meditation Room

Michael Erlewine has been active in Buddhism since the 1950s. Here are his own words:

“Back in the late 1950s, and early 1960, Buddhism was one of many ideas we stayed up late, smoked cigarettes, drank lots of coffee, and talked about, along with existentialism, poetry, and the like.

“It was not until I met the Tibetan lama, Chogyam Trungpa Rinpoche, in 1974 that I understood Buddhism as not just Philosophy, but also as path, a way to get through life. Having been raised Catholic, serving as an altar boy, learning church Latin, and all that, I had not been given any kind of a path, other than the path of faith. I hung onto that faith as long as I could, but it told me very little about how to live and work in this world.,

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“I had been trying to learn the basics of Tibetan Buddhism before I met Trungpa Rinpoche, but the spark that welded all of that together was missing. Trungpa provided that spark. I got to be his chauffer for a weekend, and to design a poster for his public talk.

“More important: only about an hour after we met, Trungpa took me into a small room for a couple of hours and taught me to meditate. I didn’t even understand what I was learning. All that I know was that I was learning about myself.

“After that meeting, I begin to understand a lot more of what I had read, but it was almost ten years later that I met my teacher, Khenpo Karthar, Rinpoche, the abbot of Karma Triyana Dharmachakra Monstery, in the mountains above Woodstock, NY. Meeting Rinpoche was life-changing.



Heart Center Symbol

“It was not long after that we started the Heart Center Meditation Center here in Big Rapids, which is still

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going today. My wife and I became more and more involved with the monastery in New York, and we ended up serving on several boards, and even as fundraisers for the monastery. We helped to raise the funds to build a 3-year retreat in upstate New York, one for men and one for women.

“We also established KTD Dharma Goods, a mail-order dharma goods business that helped practitioners find the meditation materials they might need. We published many sadhanas, the traditional Buddhist practice texts, plus other teachings, in print and on audio tape.

Years have gone by, and I am still working with Khenpo, Rinpoche and the sangha at the Woodstock monastery. Some years ago, Rinpoche surprised my wife and I by telling us we should go to Tibet and meet His Holiness the 17th Karmapa, and that we should go right away, that summer, and I hate to leave the house!

That trip, and a second trip that followed some years later, turned out to be pilgrimages that were also life changing. Our center in Big Rapids has a separate building as a shrine room and even a small Stupa; pictures are shown below.

I can never repay the kindness that Khenpo Rinpoche and the other rinpoches that I have taken teachings from have shown me.”

Music Career



Michael Erlewine's career in music started early on, when he dropped out of high school and hitchhiked to Venice West, in Santa Monica, California, in an attempt to catch a ride on the tail end of the Beatnik era. This was 1960, and he was a little late for that, but right on time for the folk music revival that was just beginning to bloom at that time. Like many other people his age, Erlewine traveled from college center to center across the nation: Ann Arbor, Berkeley, Cambridge, and Greenwich Village. There was a well-beaten track on which traveled the young folk musicians of the future.

Erlewine, who also played folk guitar, hitchhiked for a stint with a young Bob Dylan, and then more extensively with guitar virtuoso and instrumentalist Perry Lederman. Erlewine helped to put on Dylan's first concert in Ann Arbor. He hung out with people like Ramblin' Jack Elliot, Joan Baez, The New Lost City Ramblers, and the County Gentlemen.

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In 1965, the same year that the Grateful Dead were forming, Michael Erlewine, his brother Daniel, and a few others formed the first new-style band in the Midwest, the Prime Movers Blues Band. Iggy Pop was their drummer, and his stint in the band was how he got the name Iggy. This was the beginning of the hippie era. Michael was the band's lead singer, and played amplified Chicago-style blues harmonica. He still plays.

Erlewine was also the manager of the band, and personally designed and silkscreened the band's posters, one of which is shown below.

The Prime Movers became a seminal band throughout the Midwest, and even traveled as far as the West Coast, where the band spent 1967, the "summer of Love," playing at all of the famous clubs, for example, opening for Eric Clapton and Cream, at the Fillmore Auditorium.

As the 60s wound down, and bands began to break up, Erlewine was still studying the music of American Blacks, in particular blues. Because of their knowledge of blues and the players, Michael and his brother Dan were invited to help host the first major electric blues festival in the United States, the 1969 Ann Arbor Blues Festival. They got to wine and dine the performers, and generally look after them.

Michael interviewed (audio and video) most of the players at the first two Ann Arbor Blues Festivals, they included: Big Joe Turner, Luther Allison, Carey Bell, Bobby Bland, Clifton Chenier, James Cotton, Pee Wee Crayton, Arthur, Crudup, Jimmy Dawkins, Doctor Ross, Sleepy John Estes, Lowell Fulson, Buddy Guy, John Lee hooker, Howlin' wolf, J.B. Hutto, Albert King, B.B King, Freddie king, Sam Lay, Light-nin' Hopkins,

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Manse Lipscomb, Robert Lockwood, Magic Sam, Fred Mcdowell, Muddy Waters, Charlie Musslewhite, Louis Myers , Junior Parker, Brewer Phillips, Otis rush, Johnnie Shines, George Smith, Son House, Victoria Spivey, Hubert Sumlin, Sunnyland Slim, Roosevelt Sykes, Eddie Taylor, Hond Dog Taylor, Big mama Thornton, Eddie Vinson, Sippie Wallace, Junior Wells, Big Joe Williams, Robert Pete Williams, Johnny Young, and Mighty Joe Young.

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