

Talisman

Talisman ... A Unique New-Age Shop

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<http://blog.ctnews.com/lenhard>

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February 5, 2015

Merry Greetings!

Quick Reminder: I don't open in bad weather so please call if it is snowing or icy. Thank you!.

I usually theme the narrative of this newsletter based on what I am seeing/hearing at the shop from people coming in, emailing or calling, as well as those sitting down with me for readings. So when I say something very broad-based like "things are generally calm" or "people are experiencing a great deal of loss" understand that I am speaking to the collective that is in front of me, personally. Of course, people often come to Talisman because there is a problem or issue they are grappling with so it follows that if you are sitting home and saying, "No, that is not what I am experiencing..." I sincerely hope that's a good thing for you!

Now, THAT being said – January was a clusterfk and February hasn't been much better, to date! I rarely talk or write about mercury retrograde (although I did in my blog: <http://blog.ctnews.com/lenhard/2015/01/21/what-the-heck-is-mercury-retrograde-part-1-of-2/> and there IS a part 2 go on the site to read it) because in general I see these retrogrades as useful – they slow us down, give us reason to double-check our work and ask ourselves what we really want before we move forward decisively. But THIS retrograde, in Aquarius? Ugh. It's been total chaos – and what else can we expect from a sign ruled by Uranus, planet of unpredictable change and upheaval?

So I am being asked, "Laura, YOU SAID that now that Saturn has moved from Scorpio into Sagittarius things would get easier, we would move forward ... what the hell?! I've done my

work, made changes, all was good for a while but I've just been boomeranged right back into a difficult situation". Well, remember in last month's newsletter I talked about attachments to people unwilling or unable to do the right thing, even though YOU were?

Okay – so let's talk about the ties that bind, shall we?

Binding spells and rituals are common practices in witchcraft traditions. Whether poppets or candles are used, the idea is that someone causing harm is bound and rendered helplessly unable to continue bad behavior. But the binding I am seeing is that caused by threads of attachment – to children, homes, jobs, exes (which if you share children are "biological ties") notoriously difficult to sever, yet crippling as a piano wire to the throat while one tries to move forward. It's through those ties we can literally be drained by the unscrupulous ... whether the one doing the draining is a mortgage company, employer, offspring, etc.

Here are some real-life Talisman examples:

A woman is asked to add notations to a personnel document by her employer so an employee out on leave can be terminated, TECHNICALLY legal but highly unethical, When she refuses – she is fired.

Parents who refuse to enable their over-18 "children" and expel them from their home (I am talking about addiction, utter disrespect, destruction, abject refusal to work or go to school, etc). Despite dysfunctional family dynamics or what I call the "dump and run" mindset ... when the bottom line is "you won't stop so GET OUT" entire families and friends turn against the long-suffering parent: "How COULD you do that to your own child?!"

I have sat with SCORES of people who left abusive or impossible marriages, only to have their teenage (or older) kids, and in some cases even their own parents, side with the abusive spouse - and estrange themselves from the abused person! The real kick in the head? Hearing "If it were really that bad, you wouldn't have stayed so long."

I am seeing people tied to attorneys who are dragging on cases of divorce, disability, unlawful firing, etc (ethics, anyone?); tied to careers where bonuses, raises or simple threats of job loss are dangled like carrots to prevent a vacation or a break from 50 or 60 hour+ workweeks; tied to doctors who have diagnosed physical manifestations as psychiatric when they cannot pull an easy answer from medical manuals (and good luck getting medical treatment or even being taken seriously after THAT); people tied to mortgages so far underwater they are financially drowning and finding out they won't be able to obtain a rental (or sometimes, a job) after their credit is

shredded if they walk away; or my personal favorite from a news headline – a woman tied to her rapist after having a baby, fighting to prevent visitation/custody by the rapist! <http://www.lifenews.com/2014/12/01/i-rejected-abortion-after-rape-then-the-rapist-sought-custody-of-my-child/> and if you google search this topic you will find lots of cases like this one.

Talk about “crucify the victim” huh?

This is different from the out-and-out manipulation of the masses, like lowering gas prices to encourage holiday travel or jack up the sales of gas-guzzling SUVs (please don't fall for this, those prices are already on the rise!); or how about those media campaigns by pharmaceutical companies promoting their “latest and greatest” cure-all (I'm not the only one laughing at the list of side effects – which seem so much worse than the actual problem in most cases, right?).

No. This shit is real ... and it is HARD. The term “cut your losses” is heartbreaking when you fear for an addicted child's life. And questions like - How do we protect someone from themselves? Are we prolonging the inevitable? - have to be answered. Or how about this one: When do YOU get to have a life? There can't be anything worse than being bullied by your own kid; and I don't know a single person married to an addict or abusive spouse who hasn't heard the comment “You SAID in front of GOD for better or for worse! Guess you didn't take your marriage vows seriously, huh?”

Personally, I'm not God but I don't think vows were meant to be a prison sentence. Or parenthood a LIFE sentence, for that matter.

I cannot and will not tell anyone what to do. Period. All I can say is that in my experience, no one who left a bad job or marriage willingly or not has actually starved to death or died frozen on the street. No one I know who finally gave their kid the boot (hey, think of it nicely, like the mother bird giving the baby bird a shove so they finally learn to fly) came back with a story of their kid dying as a result – but I do know of a number of suicides and overdoses by kids whose parents were very much involved in the day to day “helping” of their child. And I even know people who have legally emancipated themselves from their self-destructive underage kids (always girls, ironically enough). So many people who were going to just DIE if they were left alone to fend for themselves ... and um, yeah, somehow they are still living.

I recently heard a father describe his situation with his adult daughter, who from age 15 began getting into trouble – fast forward to age 32, back at home with two beloved grandchildren. And he finally realized he could not fix her, told her he was done paying for lawyers, insurance, credit card bills - only to be threatened with “you'll never see your grandchildren again”

Guess what? He decided he was okay with that. His wife wasn't, but he told her that was okay too – she could live with their daughter and he would go live elsewhere. The daughter has since moved out with her children ... alone. And yeah, they still see the grandkids (who can resist a free babysitter, right?)

Look, we all have our breaking point, the line in the dirt we just won't let anyone cross.

And all I am saying is that more and more people I see or hear from ... are finding theirs.

NEW-AGE FAIRES HELD EVERY SATURDAY

12:00pm-6:00pm - (203) 261-0047 for appointments

Readers (\$30/30 minutes - cash only)

Please call in advance for readers' schedules as they are subject to change

To see our Readers' background information, visit:

<http://www.talismanct.com/images/Readerslist14.pdf>

February 7

Andrew Neblett - Tarot and Runes

Mark - Tarot or Reflexology (Mediumship)

Pina - Angel Oracle (Mediumship)

Rachel – Tarot or Animal Communicator (pets welcome or can work from photo) (Mediumship)

February 14

Acyr Penna - Tarot (English, Spanish, Portuguese) 2-6pm

Gwen Lord - Whole Life Tarot (Past Life recall)

Mark - Tarot or Reflexology (Mediumship)

February 21

Gwen Lord - Whole Life Tarot (Past Life recall)

Mark - Tarot or Reflexology (Mediumship)

February 28

Gwen Lord - Whole Life Tarot (Past Life recall)

Mark - Tarot or Reflexology (Mediumship)

The designation of "mediumship" is NOT a guarantee that your loved one(s) will present themselves in the reading - it means the channel is open and a particular reader is skilled at recognizing and then relaying information when/if it comes through.

Talisman's Regularly-Scheduled Readers

(203) 261-0047 for appointments - Cash payment requested

Friday: Mark Hoyt: Spirit Guided Tarot - Foot Reflexology Treatments 2-8pm. \$30/30 minutes. .

We do things a bit differently at Talisman. You pay our readers AFTER the reading is finished, and if you are not happy you don't pay. NO READER can read EVERYONE successfully and everyone who works at Talisman is aware of this fact. Know that it is acceptable after the first 5 minutes of a reading to say something like, "I'm sorry, what you are saying just isn't resonating with me. I would like to stop the reading now, but thank you for your time". If you do not hear something amazing in the first five minutes, or if it just isn't right ... don't expect a reading to get better as it goes on. Readings go off track for a number of reasons - but the point is, you shouldn't pay if you are not happy. Please, just be courteous and respectful. Complaints are rare because every reader has had to pass the "ultimate interview" ... they must sit and read ME (and I've been reading over 25 years myself) and tell me something about my past/personal life, my children, home, or business that they could not possibly have heard or learned someplace else. But every reader has their unique gift and their own style, it is NOT one size fits all. Personally, I don't think anyone should get a reading more than once every 6-8 weeks and prefer you allow at least 3 months between readings ... you don't want to become a psychoholic, right? I WILL discourage you from this behavior! My goal is to see people leave an "intuitive counseling session" (because that is really what we do) feeling validated, uplifted and hopeful regardless of the situation or challenges they may be facing. That is the true measure of a "good" reading!

Available by Appointment:

Talisman's readers are available for parties and events. You can pay by the hour or allow us to set up and have your guests/attendees pay individually. We do our best to be flexible and fairly priced. Our party rates are \$70 an hour, plus gas/mileage OR guests can pay if they choose to get readings at \$1/minute. Please make all scheduling arrangements through Laura at (203) 261-0047. We also book private parties at the shop, with readers of your choice. Just ask!

Reflexology Fridays with Mark: This ancient healing art uses hand/thumb pressure

corresponding to the body systems. The practice stimulates/relaxes stress signals resulting in relaxation (who DOESN'T love having their feet rubbed?), pain reduction, and rejuvenation of tired feet -- helping you stand tall in the world! Come in after a hard week of work and treat yourself in Mark's chair (\$30/30 minutes).

Laura: I do special, in-depth readings by appointment. My 45+ minute private sessions include a chakra check up, a print out and review of your astrological natal chart, tarot and palm reading, and more! (\$50). Call the shop for an appointment, as I schedule these when the shop is closed or after-hours. I am also doing private half hour sessions (\$30) before hours and on weekends. Yes, I still do **\$5 readings on Wednesday & Thursday** but these are done in-between phone calls and waiting on patrons - you can't make an appointment, and I do get interrupted. These mini-readings usually last about 10-15 minutes. As long as there are no other scheduled readers in the shop (they drive in from a distance and it's just not fair to them) I am always happy to peek at someone's palm or throw a few cards, so don't hesitate to ask!

Classes & Workshops at Talisman

RSVP at (203) 261-0047 or email lenhard@comcast.net

Saturday, February 28 - **Talisman After Dark** 7-9pm. \$10 Co-hosted by China & Laura. Over the past couple of years, Laura has been asked many times about creating a study group which would offer an opportunity to learn about magick and the metaphysical realm . So after much thought, we have created a format that will flow sort of like a talk show with full audience participation. Current events, a main topic, a demonstration of some sort and ending with question and answer time will create a well-rounded evening (we hope!). We are calling this "Talisman After Dark" because darker (meaning non-child friendly) topics that we don't normally discuss upstairs during working hours may be discussed or explored.

Session Three: Current events; a discussion on "Shrines versus Altars" and we will demonstrate types and methods of making offerings. As always, we end with a Q & A Session.

Saturday, March 14 - **Past Life Regression Session** led by Andrew Neblett. 6:30- 9:00pm \$25. (Limited: 30 attendees). These popular sessions are held quarterly - next will be in June. You will be introduced to various ways of attaining "State" and regression methods. Learn why energy is so important and how past lives affect our current energy. We will do a past life regression and open up the floor to share our experiences (on a voluntary basis - no pressure!). Dress comfortably. Bring folding lounge chair, your own cushion, pads, etc. The floor is HARD! Come, get relaxed, and enjoy! These sessions are very popular and fill up quickly. If you have ever wondered what it would feel like to "go under" this is a great, informal and fun (albeit emotional) way to find out. I have taken this class twice myself and will happily share my experiences with

anyone who wants to learn more - call Laura at Talisman (203) 261-0047. Andrew Neblett is a certified hypnotist (CT. REGISTERED HYPNOTIST, HYP.0000114), Natural Health Consultant, Energy Kinesiologist, TBM practitioner (Total Body Modification), instructor, Hypnosynergetics instructor, Intuitive Counselor, Herbalist, and a Process Coach. He also practices aromatherapy, reflexology, homeopathy, radiesthesia, E.F.T. and iridology. Learn more at <http://www.integrativenaturalwellness.com/about-us/>

THE CIRCLE OF THE SACRED WELL PRESENTS

Event: Circle Open House

Date: Tuesday ~ Feb. 17th ~ Time: 6:30 p.m.

Location: The Undercroft at Talisman

Comments: If you have questions about Wicca, paganism or the Circle of the Sacred Well, or just wish to hang out with like-minded individuals, please join us for the Circle Open House. The Open House is held during the hour before the Study Group each month. You can join us any time after 6:30 p.m. The Open House ends at 7:30 p.m., when the Study Group starts. Open House attendees are welcome to attend the Study Group, if they wish, but there is no obligation to stay for the Study Group. For those wishing to attend the Study Group only, feel free to join us in the Undercroft by 7:30 p.m.

Event: Wiccan/Pagan Study Group

Creation Myths

Date: Tuesday ~ Feb. 17th ~ Time: 7:30 p.m.

Location: The Undercroft at Talisman

Comments: Join us for this information workshop facilitated by popular speaker, Daniel. We will be discussing creation myths from around the world and comparing their similarities and differences.

Community Events

The Connecticut Wiccan Pagan Network (CWPN) Inc. is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit educational and networking organization dedicated to meeting the needs of the greater Wiccan and Pagan community in Connecticut and surrounding areas. The goal is to help provide a forum for

Wiccans and Pagans to meet others of "like mind" and to come together and worship in a safe environment. Our hope has been to construct a sense of "community" in which we can all share with and learn from one another. Membership is open to all Wiccans, Pagans, and those with a serious interest in learning more about our religion. If you are under 18 years of age you may join with written parental consent. We reserve the right to refuse or terminate membership of anyone who we feel may be harmful to our organization or to the Wiccan/Pagan Community. Learn more at our website: <http://www.cwpn.org>. The CWPN hosts monthly networking meetings throughout the state, open Sabbat circles, coven and study group referral service, classes/work-shops, various social events and lectures with well-known members of the Pagan community.

My own daughter Daisy has weekly counseling and Seven Rays Healing sessions with Rev. Patricia Brooks. In addition I thoroughly enjoyed reading both her books (below) Messages from the Animals and Messages from the Golden Angels – two books which are part of her Divinely guided book series God is in the Little Things. Rev. Patricia is an interfaith interspiritual minister who honors all religious and spiritual practices performed for the Highest and Greatest Good. Additionally Rev. Patricia has her Bachelors of Science in Business Administration and her Masters of Teaching in Education. She previously worked in the corporate and educational world for many years. Rev. Patricia also proudly served as a sergeant in the U.S. Marine Corps.

Patricia shares the Divine messages of Oneness and standing in our truth as spiritual beings on her radio show Spiritual Lens <http://www.ctrnetwork.com/profile/spirituallens>. She is an animal totem intuitive, angel card reader, and healer with the Seven Rays. Patricia authors two spiritual blogs and is a contributing writer to Lightworkers World. Having profound spiritual experiences has dramatically changed Patricia Brooks' life and she has come to understand her Divine life purpose is to spread the message of Oneness. Patricia's books are her honest and emotionally raw retelling of her true spiritual experiences as she walks her spiritual path. You can order an autographed copy from Patricia at her website: <http://www.patriciabrooks.net> or in paperback or Kindle on www.amazon.com - also for sale at Angels & Company, Linda's Storytime in Monroe, and Talisman.

SEVEN RAYS HEALING: This is a Divine universal healing technique that is many eons old. It is a very powerful and highly diversified healing energy that heals all human conditions, even the soul's karmic baggage from past lives that must be cleared along with the associated physical manifestations.

The Seven Rays heals on all levels of existence simultaneously. Each Ray possesses a specific

color and force for healing different conditions. Guided and regulated by the Ascended Masters, each Ray has associated conditions that are worked on when that Ray is called in. It is healing energy that is channeled straight from God, through the Ascended Masters' healing temple, through the facilitator to you. It is a more intense connection to Cosmic Light that you have ever imagined. Those that are drawn to this work are the ancient healers of Atlantis, who have known this modality before. They are always pulled toward this work because of their own deep sense of recognition.

Healing sessions are conducted in Rev. Patricia's home in Monroe by appointment. The cost for a half hour Seven Rays healing session is \$35; One hour Seven Rays healing session with spiritual counseling is \$60.

Rev. Patricia Brooks is working on a new book and documentary project and she needs your help! Rev. Patricia's intent is to raise awareness of the **Consciousness of today's children** and explain how we can create an environment where they are not only accepted but understood and nurtured. Through telling their stories, we will make it **safe for everyone** to understand their Spiritual Truth and embrace their Highest Self. If you know a young person that is spiritually aware or has spiritual experiences and would like to be interviewed and share their story and abilities in order to help others, please email Rev. Patricia at patriciabrooks@godisinthelittlethings.com - or for more info please visit her website at <http://www.patriciabrooks.net/interview-requests.html>

Hunter Healing Hands: Located in Black Rock, Jessica and Jim Hunter's events include Reiki Share; monthly drum circle; classes and so much more! For details, cost, etc. please see <http://www.hunterhealinghands.com>. Contact 203-916-8381 to register for an event!

Finding Feathers – A Spiritual Center located at 395 Commerce Drive, Fairfield. (203) 916-7887 or email shaktidas@findingfeathersfairfield.com. Calendar: <http://findingfeathersfairfield.com/event-calendar/>

Astrology Corner

By Alethea Hunt, Astrologer

We begin February with a Leo Full Moon – at the focal point of a Boomerang formation, no less! – occurring on the 3rd. There are a few things that speak to me about this lunation, the first of which highlights feeding our creative sides and/or possibly enriching our level of emotional

fulfillment through a hobby or other recreational interest we find enjoyable. This Moon is about nurturing our Inner Child (*and perhaps even our physical children, if applicable*) through **play**, and through this process finding life-affirming things that nourish our joie-de-vivre. Chiron in Pisces' involvement with this lunation can also suggest looking compassionately at ways our Inner Child may have been wounded (*possibly at the hands of dysfunctional adults with Pluto in Capricorn's tie-in as well*) to get a beneficial and more all-encompassing perspective of the past and how this has shaped our views on "having a good time"; what is **IS**, what is **ISN'T**, and why we view it this way. Especially in scenarios where our Inner Child has been wounded, sometimes it can be easy to go overboard with "just having fun" by partying too much to overcompensate for the happy, fun childhood we didn't have; where addiction or escapist tendencies can become triggered in a self-harming manner or to where our reputation/professional persona may even be degraded in some way (*say, by failing to show up for work the next day*).

The opposition between this Moon & the Aquarius Sun could suggest a (*conscious or subconscious*) act of rebellion in some way - an awakening of our Inner Adolescent - and it also calls to mind our circle of friends and what role they may be playing in all of this. What we should be aiming for is expression of our individuality via some kind of creative medium that makes us feel good inside, or to be involved with a group that can help us beneficially channel our inner talents & creativity, **NOT** running with a crowd who parties too much and thus eggs us on to go overboard with certain recreational pursuits that might be, shall we say, decidedly less than "feel-good" when all is said and done. A good question to be asking ourselves now is: *Who are our playmates, and what are they bringing out in us?* This question applies to our physical children as well – this might be the time, for example to organize a playdate with groups of kids around a fun activity or hobby to nurture their creativity & increase confidence, or perhaps get our kid(s) involved in drama club or other recreational group activity that will help them express the unique talents that make them special and that will have the added bonus of hopefully occupy enough of their free time to where it keeps them out of the party scene!

Phew – that's a lot to say about one lunation! Moving on, we have Mercury resuming direct motion on the 11th, so if you're making Valentine's Day plans near this date I would just encourage a little extra care with planning to ensure communication wires aren't crossed. Taking a little extra time to spell things out – like where would you like to go and who is making the reservations – may be worthwhile and could help to alleviate potential problems. A mega-innovative Aquarius New Moon on the 18th can be quite the rut-buster since it takes place at the final degree of this sign just moments before the Moon & Sun plunge into Pisces. The tail-end of any sign is a culminating point where a planet's energies take on heightened emphasis for good **or** ill. In Aquarius - the progressive, inventive, rebel-with-a-cause sign – we may be seized

with a sudden urge to go against the grain or upset the status quo, but the square between this lunation and Saturn suggests that 1) we not throw caution *entirely* to the wind and do this responsibly, because consideration of consequences is a matter of necessity now 2) surprising breakthroughs can be had on the career front especially; however this may be in smaller increments or at a slower pace than we might like and in the meantime we may need to do a little self-censoring around certain “authority figures”. This is a very unrestrained, freedom-loving Moon, but Saturn’s involvement curbs this a bit & suggests pausing to examine our moral responsibilities in certain matters rather than just pulling the ripcord when we’re eager for liberation or a new beginning.

Elsewhere, things definitely get spicy with Venus rubbing up against Mars (exact on the 22nd)! This pairing ups the physical chemistry quotient within relationships; however this said Venus will be leaving the sign of her exaltation (Pisces) for the sign of her detriment (Aries), so being aware of our projections in relationships serves us well around this time. A union that starts out very physical now may not evolve into much else, unless we opt instead for a slower burn. While there’s certainly nothing wrong with this kind of scenario when we’re able to take things at face value and not rush into premature commitment, we should also know that chemistry does not necessarily equate to compatibility, either. But once in a while we may just need to sow some oats, and with Mars in the sign of his rulership, this just might be the case - sometimes physical relationships are practical if and when the lines are very clear to all involved. Financially, the same advice about checking our fantasies applies, with an additional recommendation that we also not allow our money to burn a hole in our pocket now. The impulsive influence of all this Martian energy upon Venus could have us making purchases in haste, so pausing and slowing it down a bit means we may be a bit smarter with our money.

***** A note to readers: If you would like to receive my FREE monthly newsletter via email which is packed full of information & astrological insights, simply click [HERE](#) or send an email to Alethea@EmpoweredDestiny.com & I’ll be happy to add your name to my list of recipients! You can also follow my nifty [astro-blog](#) or find me on Twitter ([@EmpwrDdstny](#)).**

**Namaste, my friends -
"The Divinity within me perceives and adores
the Divinity within you" Laura Lenhard**