

March 1, 2017 - Merry Greetings!

Changes are on the way and the first is a new website www.talismanandcauldron.com. **MORE TO FOLLOW!**

If ever there was a time when the words "set your intentions with care" was to be fully demonstrated, this past New Moon (Feb. 26) was the time. In all of my almost-ten years of owning Talisman, I have never seen manifestations occur so quickly and so completely as I have over this past week. The stories are coming in fast and furious from many of our patrons. Same for me - I set my intention, being very clear of how I needed certain things to proceed. The next day, I received a call I have been waiting months for, and paperwork is in route. Doors rapidly opening for major changes that will affect several areas of my life. Just. Like. That.

Here is a link to the short blog I wrote on the subject: <http://blog.ctnews.com/lenhard/2017/02/25/new-moon-intentions/>

All this "manifestation talk" has me thinking about mindfulness of our thoughts and words. About seven years ago, a woman came in for a reading. She then proceeded to tell me a story that was just incredible. She had married a man who appeared wealthy (while they lived in a very large home, all the money was in fact held by his family). But more alarming was the cruel and sadistic emotional state he spiraled into almost immediately following the marriage. Over the course of mere days, he did things like leave broken glass intentionally on the kitchen floor so she would cut herself when she went to get a drink at night. While she was asleep, he put Nair (hair remover) in her hair so when she woke up she literally had big bald spots on her scalp. The next night she awoke to the sight of him holding a pin and about to poke her in the face! No rationale for what he was doing, she immediately fled the house

with her teenage daughter and moved into a tiny one bedroom apartment ("the mouse house" she called it affectionately) and proceeded to work three jobs to support the two of them.

Here is where the story gets interesting: One of those jobs was working as a cashier in a grocery store. And one day, an older gentleman posed a question as she was ringing up his purchase: "If someone guaranteed you would receive fifty dollars a week, deposited directly into your bank account, would it change your life in any way at all?" She immediately replied "Oh, god YES! Fifty dollars is what I earn working Sundays at TJ Maxx. That money is our gas and food for the week. If I had that money, I could quit and finally have one day off a week to spend with my daughter and maybe get some rest - it would actually change my life very much!" He then asked when her shift ended, so he could talk to her further without her getting into trouble. And when they did speak, he told her HIS story - that he had been blessed by being born into an incredibly wealthy family. Wonderful things had always been afforded to him, and of course later to his wife and kids too. However, his beloved wife had developed terminal cancer - and all his money could not save her. He then realized what money could and could not do. It can change a life, but cannot save one. He said, "It pleases me to do what I can to change other people's lives, rather than make a big donation to a charity I like doing it this way. I asked many people the same question I asked you - and most told me no, fifty dollars is nothing and would change nothing. You were the only one to show any enthusiasm! So yes, I DO want to give you this money, every week for the rest of your life".

And true to his word, he did. And he would occasionally, respectfully write to her, ask how she and her daughter were doing. A couple years later, he took it upon himself to pay for her daughter's college expenses as well. She ended the reading, her eyes shining, by saying "Laura, this man has been my Angel.

All because of the way I answered a simple question on a very busy day ... I could have refused to answer, or just been flippant with him like those other people ... and yes, this changed my life".

Hey, how many times have I said in readings "Doors open, doors close. Opportunities can be lost ...?"

Moreover - as I tell people all the time, if you don't like what you do or are not happy where you work, you HAVE to love where you live. Likewise, if you aren't happy where you live but are truly inspired by and love your daily work - there again, you can find balance. If you are miserable where you live, have no supports and hate what you do or where you do it - that is a living death, right there. All the sage in the world isn't going to fix that. Notice I didn't mention a partner. You know why? Because you will never find your happiness through another person. You will create love, acceptance, partnership ... but your happiness comes from within. If you aren't happy with yourself, no one can MAKE you happy.

"Oh, Laura - that's crazy talk! If I was with the right person of COURSE I would be happy!" No, no it isn't crazy talk. Consider this: Almost every one of us has had, at some point in time, someone who was just GREAT ... a nice person, perfectly acceptable on all counts, maybe even a dear friend ... and they were in love with you. And ... you just didn't feel the same way about them. Even if you WANTED to feel it, you just couldn't manufacture "it". You know why? **No one can make you feel anything.** EVER. We feel what we feel the way we feel it. Happiness is, truly, an inside job.

In the end, I really believe we are as happy as we allow ourselves to be. Or, dare to be.

I will end with one of my favorite quotes, Hebrews 13:2 ***“Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares”***.

Brightest Blessings -

Laura

NEW-AGE FAIRES HELD EVERY SATURDAY

Faire time 12-6pm. [\(203\) 261-0047](tel:2032610047) for appointments

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

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

Note: Many of you have gotten to know Gwen, who has been reading at Talisman for many years. On Valentine's Day, she fell down the stairs in her home and fractured her spine and neck, She has undergone one surgery with more to follow. She remains hospitalized at this time, and I do not know when we will see her again at Talisman. Certainly please send your well wishes and healing energies - and this is a link to a fund that has been set up in her behalf: <https://www.youcaring.com/gwendolynlord-760714>

March 4

Pina - Angel Reader/Oracle (Mediumship)

Sherri - Tarot with Astrological Spread

March 11

EstaRa - Twinflame & New Paradigm Divine

Pina - Angel Reader/Oracle (Mediumship)

March 18

Andrea - Tarot/Mediumship

Andrew - Tarot/Runes

Pina - Angel Reader/Oracle (Mediumship)

Rachel - Tarot/Mediumship, Pet Intuitive (pets/photo)

Sherri - Tarot with Astrological Spread

Sunday March 19

Andrea - Tarot/Mediumship (1-5)

March 25

Patty - Crystal Ball, Psychometry, Mediumship

Rachel - Tarot/Mediumship, Pet Intuitive (pets/photo)

Sherri - Tarot with Astrological Spread

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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.

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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 35 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:

Laura: I do special, in-depth readings by appointment. My 60+ minute private sessions includes a chakra check up, a print out and review of your astrological natal chart, tarot and palm reading and more! (\$60). Call the shop for an appointment, as I schedule these when the shop is closed or after-hours. Private half hour tarot readings (\$30) also by appointment. Phone sessions are \$20 for a half hour - for those who do not live nearby. Yes, I do \$5 tarot/palm readings on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Sunday these are done in-between phone calls and waiting on patrons - you can't make an appointment, and I do get interrupted. Sometimes there is no one waiting, other times a dozen people are standing in line. They are five dollars because the shop is open and I am working! These mini-readings last about 10 minutes or so, and great if you have a quick question or have never experienced a reading before.

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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: 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.

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Refuge Recovery: A Buddhist Path to Recovery from Addiction. Cost: Donation. Meets Thursdays 6:30pm, at the Do Ngak Kunphen Ling Tibetan Buddhist Center for Universal Peace, 30 Putnam Park Rd., Redding, CT. Contact: ericperro@gmail.com.

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Our own China (who is always at the shop on Tuesdays and most Saturdays) also makes the sage water spray, Four Thieves products, soaps, salt baths and many of the oils. She is a gifted artist as well, please visit her at **One Handy Witch: The Art of China Mayhew**

[Facebook](#)

The Website

Online Store

Awaken The Power Therapy: Introduces Women’s Wellness & Empowerment Group. This group is a 8-10 session group that meets on Saturdays. The Group focuses on life issues: juggling work & family, substance abuse issues, early recovery from substance abuse & depression, parenting issues, parenting a "difficult" child or a child with a mental health diagnosis, relationship issues, low self-esteem, social isolation, reduction of sexual libido with depression and/or childbirth, assertive communication with a spouse & in the workplace. This group allows for a supportive & safe space to process, ventilate feelings & gain useful advice and support using art therapy, GODDESS Training, expressive therapy, spirituality principles, cognitive behavioral therapy techniques, dialectical behavioral therapy approaches, guided meditation and open discussions with other women. Each Group is \$25 per session. For clients with Medicare or Medicaid sessions will be free! CALL FOR DETAILS! Monique West, LCSW.

Email: Mwest@awakenthepower.org 58 River Street, Milford, CT 06460 [203-693-1050](tel:203-693-1050)

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 Hunter Healing Hands Contact [203-916-8381](tel:203-916-8381) to register for an event!

Astrology Corner

By Alethea Hunt, Astrologer

Harkening back to astro-advice proffered at end of last month, a reminder is due the opposition between Uranus in Aries & Jupiter in Libra climaxes on March 2nd! Within unions, unexpected opportunities can surface for one or both parties that may have each going their separate ways. The distance may be cross country or even intercontinental, or it could simply be philosophical – regardless, give/take space in relationships as it's likely to be beneficial for both in The Grand Scheme of Things. If you love something, set it free because it may return to you better than it left you. But if it continues to fly, let it soar and believe this is because there is something much better in store! Single folks should be aware of possible divisions between “let's be friends” and “let's turn this into something more” - tricky to navigate if both parties aren't on the same page. All of us may need to shift our partnering philosophy now regardless. To wit, while it's true that growth does come via partnership under Jupiter in Libra, too much togetherness can also take the excitement out of the equation, so having enough independence to also do things as individuals – especially socially – is important. This is also proactive, because annoyed friends can create big issues within partnerships! On the other hand, though, our crew should not be permitted to cause strife, discord, and upset within a good union, so balance will be key. This energy remains in play more or less until the Vernal Equinox, so be aware.

A Venus retrograde kicks off in Aries on the 4th, asking us to slow down with any impulsiveness regarding love or money because there is strong potential for conflicts regarding either in the coming weeks. Remember that Venus does not function at her best in this sign to begin with – she tends to be hasty, motivated by self-interest, and even rather competitive (albeit through a smile), which can be a turn-off. Physical chemistry may become an issue in

relationships; either the lack thereof or regarding the clashes that can occur when there's lots of fireworks but little actual compatibility in a union.

While there is nothing in wrong with being in touch with our own wants in a partnership, we do best to temper this with consideration. It's not about putting our partner's desires ahead of our own, nor is it about a "me, me, me" attitude to the exclusion of what the other party may want; it's about putting the relationship itself – as an entity – first and determining what to do based on this mutual desire for union and wanting to it to be alive and viable. We can't make love a battlefield where the ego drives and we constantly war for supremacy and to have it our way. Venus retrograding in Aries can definitely bring up issues surrounding who wears the metaphorical "pants" in a relationship, and the subsequent detriment it is to both when it becomes more about control and "winning" than about Love.

Financially, do be very aware of money metaphorically burning a hole in your pocket and ask yourself "What's the rush?", as this Venus retro is all about impulse control regarding fiscal and relationship matters. There's great money motivation in the air this month thanks to a Venus/Mars mutual reception that begins on the 9th & lasts all month, but it's better used to *get* money than to spend! Finally, do take note of how this retrograde can reverse stereotypical gender roles; especially regarding who initiates contact in a union. Women may become more forward while men will tend to become more passive/receptive regarding their advances.

A Full Moon in Virgo on the 12th highlights physical & emotional health. Its opposition to Chiron & Mercury makes it a good time for tackling chronic but vague health issues in particular (especially if there's any chance they're hormonal or autoimmune -related), and for blending the clinical w/ the holistic. This lunation's square to Saturn in Sagittarius also cautions us about NOT overdoing it, or against becoming overly restrictive; especially re: something

that is actually good for us from a nutritional standpoint. Careful, then, not to cut something from your diet or from your nutritional supplements that could do more harm than good. While it's true that less tends to be more with Saturn, when this planet is found in Sagittarius sometimes we can go overboard on the self-limitation! It is, however, a good time to possibly consider a detox with Pluto lending a helping hand to this Moon. Just don't do anything **too** wacky or "fad" – Uranus forms an inconjunct to this Moon as well, meaning "alternative" is one thing; "crazy" another. There can be a fine line between experimentation vs. going off our rocker!

An Aries New Moon on March 27th puts pep in our step and may have us feeling ready to hustle; specifically re: love & money. We're probably pretty itchy for some action at this point, but try to redirect this energy instead to re-evaluate what you want in either sense and to attack any self-worth issues that may need to be confronted which present a conflict with obtaining your desires. Both the ruler of this lunation (Mars) and Venus are engaging in a mutually debilitated energy exchange most of the month, so regardless of how bad we may want to pull the trigger in March this really is not a time to initiate; particularly when it comes to things like new clothes, beauty treatments, or luxury expenditures. If you **have** to pick one of the two to go for now, financial actions are **slightly** more favored due Mars in Taurus' acquisitive nature, but again we would be better off using this vibe to **get money** and look at potential new revenue streams than burn through it!

The last item on the docket is a big one, and do take note because it's active ALL MONTH LONG! Another square between Jupiter in Libra and Pluto in Capricorn is a large energetic backdrop during March, even though it doesn't become exact until the 30th. This transit will tend to break down our dogma regarding relationships very slowly – this is only the second of 3 hits; the first was in November 2016 and there is yet another in August. This entire period

from end to end represents a good time to look at our relationship philosophy with an eye toward upgrading our consciousness surrounding any dysfunctional frameworks inherited from our parents, and even more broadly, our culture. I'm talking about especially pernicious beliefs such as loving outside of our race, religion, or background as well. On a more mundane level, this can signify the growth of a relationship but one that comes at the expense of social or parental approval. So for example, maybe think twice before introducing your Jewish boyfriend/girlfriend to your Catholic parents over Easter dinner, dig? There is an orthodox, conventional edge to this energy where pointedly slinging mud in the eye of tradition would not tend to go over well, so try addressing big relationship issues respectfully in private, where you can help others to better understand rather than flagrantly parading a relationship around and expecting it not to be a big debacle.

*** **A note to readers: If you would like to receive my FREE monthly newsletter via email which is packed full of information & astrological insights, click [HERE](#) or email Alethea@EmpoweredDestiny.com and 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 (@EmpwrDstny).**

Namaste, my friends -

***"The Divinity within me perceives and adores
the Divinity within you"***

**** Laura ****