

Talisman

Talisman ...

A Unique New-Age Shop

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August 1, 2012

Merry Greetings & Blessed Lughnasadh!

Little Roy (age 8) had a friend over for dinner last night, and while seated at the kitchen table his friend noticed a jar of "Drawing Powder" I had blended earlier, in preparation of charging it under tonight's full moon. David asked Roy, "What's Drawing Powder?" and without missing a beat, Roy answered, "My mom has a new age shop ... they sell stuff like that there" to which David replied, "Oh" and kept on eating.

That short 'n sweet exchange got me thinking about magick and potions and oils, along with charged candles and enchanted spell bottles and all the stuff we do and sell at Talisman. We are finding ourselves creating and blending more and more in our own line of "Talisman's Own" products. And while I purchase many items from a wonderful Santero who lives locally, I was not pleased when a wholesale vendor sent me bags of mullein packaged as "graveyard dirt". So now that too is being collected locally (proper ritual and offerings observed, of course) by yours truly and being sold under the Talisman name.

So let's talk about the "stuff" at the shop – what we do, and how it's used – and how Free Will impacts the whole magickal shebang.

Well, first – as I've written in the past (both in the newsletters and my blog) I am a Hedgewitch (see the November 2011 archived newsletter on the website for more on this), which makes me a solitary who primarily practices "low" magick. Not low energy, mind you, but "low" as in close to the earth (using oils, herbs, stones and candles) and not participating in high ritualized or coven magick. In practice, it is probably closest to the spiritual healing work done by the indigenous peoples of the world (many similarities to the

Native American faith path). The idea of “ritual” is an interesting one – as many things we do quickly and without thought in our modern world used to be done with ritualized intent. The preparation of food, aspects of child care, how we dressed - even applying makeup was carefully done with thoughts of protection or other energetic intent. Did you know that the kohl which was used by men, women and even children in Egypt, India, Africa and the Middle East to outline their eyes was done as much to protect against malevolent intent (i.e. the “evil eye”) and guard against infection as it was to beautify?

Magick/Spellwork is driven by Will – the intent and desire to manipulate energy and outcomes. The time, energy and effort we put into getting a new job (say) can only be enhanced when we dress a candle with High John oil and burn it with the intent of becoming employed where we want and with the salary we need to earn. Love Spells can be wonderful, and just last week I sold a red penis candle to a woman (C’mon ... what did you think those were for? Heck, I’ve seen you looking!) along with some parchment to write out her intent to have a relationship which is going well transition onto the next level (intimacy) without stress or awkwardness. Of course, this is the difference between ordering online and talking with a practitioner face-to-face. Anyone who owns or works in a spiritually-based shop (especially if they do readings) ought to be able to determine basic intent upon meeting/speaking with a person. In terms of Free Will, I saw that she was of age and sincere, so I chose to say “yes” to helping in this manner ... and her partner will certainly be able to say “no” if he so chooses.

But it’s not always love and light. Life can present difficult or painful situations, and desperate times may call for desperate measures. The law may bind us (unwittingly perhaps) to an abusive partner, a roommate who is addicted and destructive but must remain through the process of eviction, a grown child who refuses to comply with the rules of the home and can but WON’T move out ... yes, in these cases we can energetically “push” things along in the interest of self-protection. I will not pretend that I have not worked on behalf of women in dire financial straits going through horrible custody battles (and I would do the same for a man under similar circumstances) where a child would be placed at risk. I do not usually lend my own energy to the magickal workings of others, preferring to carefully instruct and allowing them to manifest to fruition what will be – but in cases of legitimate abuse, I will get involved. The legal system has more than its share of corrupt judges, lawyers and even the police have been known to bully and obstruct rather than uphold justice ... and there are ways to expose perpetrators and/or weaken the speech of an overly-aggressive attorney unable or unwilling to listen to reason. Christian doctrine teaches its followers to turn the other cheek – witches do not struggle with this ideology, as even under the auspices of “Harm None” (for those who practice the

Threefold Law) there is still room for defensive, protective magick. Just because it is someone else's "Free Will" to attack (physically, mentally or emotionally) it doesn't mean we have to allow it. Or that we can't insist that it **STOP**.

But what will magick NOT do? It cannot erase the effects of time, will not eradicate karmic debt, or undo a bad decision we willingly chose to make. Accountability is a huge part of practicing any form of magick/energy work (regardless of what spiritual path you are on). Wish all you want, but you must exercise self control, to take control over one's own actions and/or address the lack of. Novice practitioners may offer advice on this subject, however, some folks just can't get past the vision board set up in their homes as shrines. If the Universe opened doors that you chose not to walk through at that time (for whatever reason) ... then no number of readings, salt baths or Hoodoo potions are going to present the same options down the road. Sorry, but there is no going backwards.

Whatever you do, and however you choose to do it, before you set your intentions ask that they manifest in a manner which is for the Highest Good of all involved. No unwarranted harm will come to pass, when you invite the Divine to intercede in this manner. And if you are unable to allow that even someone you consider an enemy deserves Divine intervention towards a higher good you are unable to comprehend or foretell – well, then, I wish you well – and good luck with that.

Blessed Be!

NEW-AGE FESTS (bi-monthly)

Saturday, August 4

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

Readers (\$25/20 minutes - please, cash only):

Andrew Neblett, Tarot

Lattoria, Spiritual Healer

Patty, Crystal Ball Readings

Rachel, Tarot and Pet Psychic

Yvonne McGarvey, Tarot (se habla Espanol)

Tim Bshara, Aura/Chakra Photo & Report (\$40)

Saturday, August 18

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

Readers (\$25/20 minutes - please, cash only):

Gwen Gangi, Animal Communicator (pets or pictures welcome)

LeahJoy, Palmist

Melissa, Tarot

Nicole, Journeyboard & Cards

Patty, Crystal Ball Readings

Tammie, Chair Massage (\$1/minute)

Talisman's Regularly-Scheduled Readers

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

Mark Hoyt: Spirit Guided Tarot - Fridays 2-8pm. \$25/20 minutes. Foot Reflexology treatments available by appointment.

Lina: Sunday/weekday mornings - Intuitive Counseling by appointment (261-0047) \$50/45 minutes. Fluent in Italian, Spanish and English.

Kristy Ouellete: Sundays 1-5 (tarot)

Gwen: Saturday, August 25 (whole-life tarot)

Quick note from Laura: We do things a bit differently at Talisman. You pay 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, if you are not "feeling it" 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?) and 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 \$60 an hour, plus gas/mileage. Please make all scheduling arrangements through Laura at (203) 261-0047.

Healing massage/Reiki with Kim: Most of you have met Kim, my best friend and sister-in-law, as she has watched the shop from time to time. She has dressed candles, done house cleansings, and sat in on healing/reading sessions at Talisman as well. Kim takes her own special brand of healing massage/Reiki/journeywork/mediumship on the road, so to speak - "Have table/will travel!" - is a licensed aesthetician and available for at-home sessions for \$85/hour. Of course, I am biased ... but the feedback I have been getting is that she is providing a truly unique and wonderful experience. Call 261-0047 for more information.

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! (\$45). Call the shop for an appointment, as I schedule these when the shop is closed or after-hours. 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. As long as there are no other scheduled readers in the shop (they drive in from a distance and it's 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!

Workshops at Talisman

RSVP (203) 261-0047

Saturday, August 4: **The New World Order and Secret Societies** with Dr. Andrew Neblett, 6:30-8:30pm. \$25.

This class will introduce you to the so-called global conspiracy and its players. There is so much misinformation out there that it is nearly impossible to know what to believe. Learn how to separate fact from fiction. Be warned!!!! The truth is often more frightening than the lies. Bring an open mind and be ready to shed old, comfortable habits and thought patterns. We will look at the roles of government, big pharma, banks, oil companies, insurance, health care, military and other organizations and what they are really up to. The bigger question is: what can you do about it? This class will explore the answer to that question.

Sunday, August 5 **Usui Reiki I** taught by Cathy Kane, 10am-5pm. Cost \$125 (includes book). **RSVP with prepayment required.**

Reiki I gives you the ability to help yourself or others within a foot of you. Includes book, handouts and hands-on practice time as well as Reiki history, introduction to guided healing, healing and first degree attunements, meditations, aura reading/scanning, hand positions, how to give a Reiki treatment to self or others, and more. (Date and cost for Reiki II to follow). Reiki (also known as Usui Reiki) is an energyworking system originating in Japan, involves using a divine pool of energy to remind and support the body in using its own natural ability to heal itself. Reiki has other uses (such as manifestation), and has built-in safety measures that protect the practitioner from doing harm or depleting himself in the process. Angelic Reiki (originally channeled to Kathie Valentine) is an enrichment of the Reiki system and is offered at no additional charge as part of all Reiki classes Cathy teaches.

Catherine Kane has been a teaching master of Reiki since 1996. She loves to teach, especially things like Reiki that have made her life and the lives of so many others better. In her classes, you'll get demonstration and practice, as well as theory, and she continues her availability post-class to answer questions. For more information, contact Cathy at we_are_foresight@yahoo.com or Laura at Talisman.

Saturday, August 25 **The Alchemical Tarot** by Rosemary Guiley, 10am-4pm, \$100 incl. deck and book

Learn a new perspective on the Tarot with one of the most powerful decks in modern usage, co-created by artist Robert Michael Place and Rosemary Ellen Guiley. *The Alchemical Tarot* opens subtle and profound insights with the symbolism of alchemy. The inspiration for the deck flowed out of dreams and visions experienced by Place and Guiley, and Place's contact with the spirit of A.E. Waite, the Golden Dawn occultist who co-created the Rider-Waite deck.

The day-long workshop covers: the basics of Tarot; introduction to alchemy; immersion in the symbolic language of alchemy through meditational exercises; practical applications for spiritual and visionary work; reading formats designed by Place and Guiley. Cost of the workshop includes the deck and booklet, a \$30 value. Guiley is also co-author with Place of *The Angels Tarot* and is author of *The Mystical Tarot*.

Saturday September 1: **Voodoo, Hoodoo and Rootworking** with Dr. Andrew Neblett,

6:30-8:30pm. \$25

This class will clear up the misunderstandings and mystery surrounding Voodoo, Hoodoo and Rootworking. Haitian Voodoo, the dominant religion of the country of Haiti is a religion pure and simply. It is a religion – as are Christianity, Judaism, Islam or Hinduism. Yet it is often treated not as a religion but as black magic, a superstition, even the cause of Haiti's misery. It will be compared to the the New Orleans version of Voodoo. Along with Voodoo(Vodoun), Santeria, Candomble and other derivatives will be discussed. Bring your questions! Here is your chance to see through all of the B.S. out there and get to the truth.

Saturday, September 8 **Unseen Warfare: Djinn, Shadow People and Extraterrestrials**
by Rosemary Ellen Guiley, 3-5pm, \$25

The ET abduction phenomenon is not what you think. For several decades, reports of kidnappings by “grays” have featured “grays” who take people away for sexual and genetic manipulation, perhaps for a hybridization program. Rosemary Ellen Guiley presents a ground-breaking new angle based on her in-depth research of Djinn, Shadow People and ETs. The evidence has been hiding in plain sight for decades. She is the author of *Guide to the Dark Side of the Paranormal*, co-author of *The Vengeful Djinn*.

Sunday, September 16 **Usui Reiki II** by Cathy Kane, Usui Reiki, Level II. 10am - 5pm,
Cost \$200.

You must have taken Level 1 Usui before this class, but students of other teachers are perfectly welcome. Reiki is an energyworking system that originated in Japan. It uses a divine pool of energy to support the body's natural ability to heal itself. Reiki has other uses (such as manifestation) as well as built-in safety measures that protect the practitioner from doing harm inadvertently or depleting himself in the process. Angelic Reiki (originally channeled to Kathie Valentine) is an enrichment of Usui, and is a part of all of Cathy's Reiki classes. This class includes 2nd degree attunement, 5 Reiki symbols (including one that works across distances and forward/backward in time), distance healing, Reiki goal empowerment and a lot more.

Catherine Kane has been a teaching Master of Reiki since 1996. She loves to teach, especially things like Reiki that has improved her own life and the lives of others so much. In her class, you'll get demonstration and practice, as well as theory, and she continues her availability post-class to answer questions. For more information, please contact Catherine Kane at we_are_foresight@yahoo.com

Saturday, September 22 **Mabon Celebration/Ritual** The Circle of the Sacred Well at Talisman (details to follow)

Saturday, September 29 **Ouija: Yes or No?** by Rosemary Ellen Guiley, 3-5pm, \$25
The Ouija talking board is the most controversial spirit communication device in popular use – and also the most feared. Is it really an automatic doorway to the demonic, or a harmless device that has gotten a bad rap? Rosemary Ellen Guiley has had extensive experience with the Ouija and has spent several years investigating its history, use, characteristics and phenomena. In 2007 she was selected by George Noory to participate in a live, on-air demonstration of the board on *Coast to Coast AM*, which generated intense reaction. She presents an objective and unvarnished account of the good, the bad and the shocking about talking boards. She is co-author of *Oujia Gone Wild!*

Sunday, November 4 and 11 **Wicca University**, The Circle of the Sacred Well - Introduction to the history and practice of Wicca

Join us for this two-day workshop that covers all aspects of the Wiccan religion. We will trace the cultural and religious traditions and individuals that have influenced the modern religion of Wicca, as well as other neoPagan religions. It explains many of the common terms associated with Wicca and provides an overview of the Wiccan belief system. It also discusses Wiccan concepts regarding the Divine and provides details about the Elements and the Elementals. There is an overview of the Wheel of the Year - Sabbats & Esbats included. The Wiccan ethical system and details of the concepts and methods involved in creating sacred space are also discussed, along with ritual construction and altar set-up. The class will conclude with an open discussion of the challenges of living the Wiccan religion in a modern world. Cost: \$ 125.00 for the whole course Includes all handout material, along with a binder with subject dividers in which to place the material. A great start to your Book of Shadows!

The Circle of The Sacred Well Presents: Open House Social Evening

Date: August 10th ~ Time: 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Location: The Undercroft at Talisman

Join us for this semi-monthly social and networking event, which is held on the second

Friday of even-numbered months. This is the place to learn more about the Circle and to socialize with area pagans and other like-minded individuals. Please come along any time within the above time window and visit for however much time you wish. Refreshments will be served.

Event: Wiccan/Pagan Study Group - Topic: Wicca 101

Date: August 21st ~ Time: 7:30 p.m.

Location: The Undercroft at Talisman

Join us for this monthly study group that covers various pagan and New Age topics. This month, there will be Wicca University 'taster' workshop. We will discuss the history of Wicca and witchcraft, as well as provide an overview of Wiccan practices and belief systems. This is a HUGE topic, so everything will be touched on briefly. For a really good foundational workshop on Wicca, we invite you to attend Wicca University, coming this fall.

Saturday, August 11: **Reiki Share at Talisman**, hosted by Jessica & Jim Hunter, from 12:00-2:00pm.

From 12-1pm, practitioners will share amongst themselves; then from 1-2pm we will give **free** 10 minute "sample sessions" to the public. So if you have never experienced Reiki before, this is a great opportunity to do so! Practitioners, please note the guidelines below. Let's gather together and share, give and receive Reiki! All Reiki levels and Lineages welcome to attend! There are no fees for these Reiki Shares ~ this is a great way to practice, receive and meet others without expense! Let's share the gift!

Reiki Share Guidelines: 1. If you are attending a Reiki Share to participate as a Practitioner, you must present a copy of your Reiki Certificate to participate. If you are planning on attending multiple shares, you will only need to provide it at your first share. This is out of respect and fairness for all Practitioners who are participating who have invested the dedication, discipline, and investment in their Reiki Training.

2. Any participants must be respectful and non-judgmental towards all participating members. As this is open to all levels and lineages, participants will be coming from different backgrounds and training. As Practitioners may use different techniques, I am encouraging participants to share and exchange these amongst themselves without judgment. If anything, participants can learn from each other and expand their practice of Reiki, and that is what is encouraged!

3. Above all, make friends, have fun, learn & grow! Any questions, please email Jessica at piscesenchantress@hotmail.com or call Talisman at (203) 261-0047 to RSVP.

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. Some of our past guests have been: Janet and Stewart Farrar, Gavin Bone, Margot Adler, Ted Andrews, Dr. Leo Louis Martello, Tzipora Klein, Laurie Cabot, Raven Grimassi, Donald Michael Kraig, Phyllis Curott, Lori Bruno, Jane Sibley and Ellen Evert Hopman.

CWPN presents Harvest Home Gathering: August 16, 2012 to August 19 at Camp Cedarcrest, 886 Mapledale Rd, Orange, CT

The CWPN is pleased to announce that this year's Harvest Gathering will be a 4-day indoor/outdoor event, promoting the celebration of knowledge, spirituality, enlightenment, family and fellowship. By virtue of its very name, we embrace the collective spirit of our kindred. As we come together at the time of the first harvest let us reap the efforts of what we have sown throughout the year. Registration will be open at 2:00 pm on Thursday, August 16, 2012. Our convocation will begin with a Welcoming Dinner from 6:00 to 7:30 pm in the Dining Hall. The Welcoming Dinner is open to everyone regardless of meal plan participation. The Welcoming Dinner is an opportunity for us to come together, share a meal and provide information about the event activities. Following the Welcoming Dinner there will be a Procession to the Amphitheater of Spiritually and then to our Commencement Ritual. Besides the many classes, workshops and rituals taking place we also have numerous vendors who will be situated throughout the campground selling their wares.

Pre-registration is required to attend this event. This year we have a number of registration options; you can register for the entire 4-days, or Weekend (Saturday/Sunday), both with a number of options available for the meal plan and workshops. Please refer to our registration page for details and registration times at www.CWPN.org. The weekend will consist of over 40 classes, workshops and rituals with World Renowned Authors, drumming circles, fire circle, vendors and of course "The Crystal Ball" featuring live D.J. music. Speakers Janet Farrar and Gavin Bone are presenting the following:

Waking The Gods: A general talk by Janet and Gavin about their recent work and experiences in Deity Connection and Ecstatic Trance-Prophesy techniques. This talk includes: What was traditionally taught; the importance of divinity in Witchcraft; what and who are the Gods and Goddesses?; from Duotheism to Polytheism; connecting with divinity; our experiences around the world; Deity over Dogma; Deity and the Mysteries, and the progression towards Deity Centered Witchcraft.

'The Box'; An exploration of Id, Shadow and Ethics: This practical and demonstrative workshop was originally developed for Janet and Gavin's Italian Study group for teaching the nature of Id, Shadow and it's relationship with ethical magical practise. This is for people who want to seriously explore this in themselves and relies on the experience of the workshop to understand the psychology involved rather than talk. The co-operation and honesty of all those attending is therefore essential. How far would you go to get what you wanted if there was no legal or karmic comeback? An open mind is required.

The Journey of the Fool; Exploring the Mysteries using Tarot: This is a group participation workshop led by Janet Farrar, who has over 40 years' experience in the Tarot and Wicca. Often humorous and irreverent, this workshop explores the Mysteries using the Tarot to show how each of the cards is a stepping stone to enlightenment and self-understanding from The Fool through to The World.

With her late husband, Stewart Farrar, Janet has written some of the most influential books on modern witchcraft and paganism. These books include Eight Sabbats For Witches', The Witches' Way (one of the first books to suggest the southern hemisphere turn for festivals in Australia), The Witches' Goddess, The Witches God, Spells and How They Work. Janet has also had one book published jointly with Virginia Russel, The Magical History of the Horse, and with her current partner Gavin Bone, three books; The Pagan Path, The Healing Craft, The Dictionary of European Gods and Goddesses, and their latest work Progressive Witchcraft soon to be re-released as The Inner Mysteries.

Janet and Gavin tour regularly doing intensive workshops in the United States and Europe, as well as past tours in Australia, New Zealand and South Africa. They have study groups in the US and Italy. They believe strongly in the idea of Wicca being both progressive and dynamic in nature, while remaining a clergy of those dedicated to serving the Gods and Goddesses. Their major area of work at present, is teaching deity connection and Trance-Prophecy, and are responsible for creating The Alliance of Progressive Covens (APeCs) a network of like-minded covens with groups in the US and Europe.

A Healing Hand invites you to join us on September 15 for ***Exploring the Metaphysical Arts*** – a Psychic Fair and Workshop Event. Join us for a few workshops or buy a full day pass – the choice is yours! Full day passes, in addition to offering you the best discount, come with a \$20 voucher that can be spent with a vendor or reader in between workshops, at scheduled breaks, or at lunchtime. AND if you use coupon code **LL5** when pre-registering for workshops online, you will receive \$5 off any registration package.

8:00 AM – Methods of Divination with Laura Lenhard of Talisman (**note from me - 8 AM!!!**)

What the HELL was I thinking???)

9:30 AM – Intro to Tarot with Sally Russo

11:00 AM – Contacting Your Spirit Guide with Keri Uihlein of The Healing Loft

1:30 PM – Thought, Magick, and Quantum Physics with Andrew Neblett

3:00 PM – Intro to Feng Shui with Rachel of Raven's Whisper

5:00 PM – Playing with Psychic Symbols with Melanie Barnum

6:30 PM – Theories on Afterlife & Connecticut Hauntings with Jon Nowinski of SGRA

Please visit www.ahealinghand.net to learn more about the event and see detailed descriptions about the workshops, and to read about the psychic readers and vendors that will be at the event.

Are you ready to make a genuine shift in consciousness? The Avatar® Course is being taught in Stamford CT August 4-12.

Your own beliefs are actually the most powerful forces that influence your existence. They determine what you perceive. They influence your thoughts, your expectations and your actions. They shape your personality. Avatar helps you discover the uninspected, unconsciously-held beliefs that are causing your life to be as it is. The course equips you with the tools to deliberately restructure the beliefs that form the pattern of your life. The journey results in a connection with a deeper, more compassionate and aware state of self, and the ability to create an inspiring life. Call Licensed Avatar Master Ariela Sarai to

schedule a **Free Info Hour in-person or over the phone**. Call now so you can learn more about the course here now. This is the first time that the full Avatar course has ever been offered in CT!

www.powerofavatar.com 203-249-5203.

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Astrology Corner

By Alethea Hunt, Talisman's Resident Astrologer

BIG NEWS: For up-to-the-moment astro-snippets & advice, click [HERE](#) to follow me (@EmpwrDstny) on Twitter! Think of it as your way to check the energetic barometer for the day before you head out.

We begin August with a Full Moon happening on the 1st at 11:27pm – this Moon falls in wacky, intellectual, don't-give-a-damn Aquarius and this is a great day to let the freak flag fly proudly! Surprising things may come to light but the urge to be what we are and celebrate our uniqueness and individuality makes us special, not weird. So go ahead – feel free to tell people you're into astrology or something else they might consider "strange" because this Full Moon makes no apologies in boldly stating "I am what I am – like it or lump it"! Venus trine Saturn is also in effect, helping you discern who your supporters really are and showing that if the relationship is solid you've no need to worry. Venus in Gemini keeps the conversation pleasant and Saturn keeps things polite & respectful, so even if your interests or beliefs don't quite jibe with theirs everyone seems to be able to handle it with grace and put on a happy face.

At this time a weakened Mars also starts creeping up toward a powerful Saturn, helping to keep the lid on rudeness and motivating people to try and do the right thing and to get along. Mars, the Rude Dude barbarian that he can be, is tamed and made civilized in Libra where he is no longer purely self-motivated. He becomes motivated to consider others and acts accordingly in order to please, and this is doubly so as he comes into contact with Headmaster Saturn who enforces social rules and lets him know that he has a duty to mind his manners. If he doesn't there will certainly be consequences, so bear this tidbit in mind this month and try to behave appropriately.

Meanwhile, in other areas Mercury & Neptune get their wires crossed during the first half of August as Mercury slows to a crawl before turning direct - be careful that this doesn't make for a situation where you're saying something for dramatic effect or to get attention that isn't exactly true. On the 17th a New Moon arrives in playful Leo and this makes for a great "date night" – the sextiles it receives from Saturn & Mars in Libra show the potential for the formation of a serious partnership. Normally the Leo Moon is good for fun, but one

should just focus on having a good time and not so much on whether or not someone is “meet the parents” material. Not so this time! Mars in Libra denotes the motivation to partner while Saturn makes the mood less about playing games and more about getting real. The one thing you WILL need to be careful of, though, is to be sure everybody (yourself included) is representing themselves accurately. The opposition between this New Moon & Neptune this can result in dressing yourself up to play a role. Don’t worry about glamour, just be true to yourself and that will be magic enough - enchant someone with your natural confidence & charisma and there will be no need to put on airs.

The last item this month is a second Full Moon on the 31st. The Moon joins with Neptune in watery Pisces while opposing the Sun and Mercury – it’s a complex Moon as it also draws in Mars, Jupiter, & Pluto. This is a great Moon for taking intuitive insights and putting them to work in a practical way. Keep the radar up especially at work when dealing with bosses or co-workers because you may be called on to help in some way, though you may have to be cautious about the kind or amount of information you broadcast about the situation. Whatever you do, don’t spill the beans. This is also an ideal time to think about practicing something like yoga or meditation for stress relief – with the Sun in the health sign of Virgo contacting Pluto in Capricorn this can be a favorable time to overhaul your wellness routine.

**** A note to readers: If you would like to receive my FREE monthly newsletter via email which is packed full of information and astrological insights, simply click [HERE](#) or send an email to AHunt617@aol.com and I’ll be happy to add your name to my list of recipients!**

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

Laura Lenhard