

# Talisman

**Talisman ... A Unique New-Age Shop**

**150 Main Street**

**Monroe, CT 06468**

**(203) 261-0047**

[www.talismanct.com](http://www.talismanct.com)

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

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/Talisman-A-Unique-New-Age-Store>

**August 1, 2013**

**Merry Lammas Greetings!**

*A young girl was trudging along a mountain path, trying to reach her grandmother's house. It was bitter cold, and the wind cut like a knife. When she was within sight of her destination, she heard a rustle at her feet. Looking down, she saw a snake. Before she could move, the snake spoke to her.*

*He said, "I am about to die. It is too cold for me up here, and I am freezing. There is no food in these mountains, and I am starving. Please put me under your coat and take me with you."*

*"No," replied the girl. "I know your kind. You are a rattlesnake. If I pick you up, you will bite me, and your bite is poisonous."*

*"No, no," said the snake. "If you help me, you will be my best friend. I will treat you differently."*

*The little girl sat down on a rock for a moment to rest and think things over. She looked at the beautiful markings on the snake and had to admit that it was the most beautiful snake she had ever seen.*

***Suddenly, she said, "I believe you. I will save you. All living things deserve to be treated with kindness."***

***The little girl reached over, put the snake gently under her coat and proceeded toward her grandmother's house. Within a moment, she felt a sharp pain in her side. The snake had bitten her.***

***"How could you do this to me?" she cried. "You promised that you would not bite me, and I trusted you!"***

***"You knew what I was when you picked me up," hissed the snake as he slithered away.***

**X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X**

The theme(s) of death and betrayal ran through 75% of my readings this month - so it is thus the theme of my newsletter narrative. These have also played out as twin themes of my life -- so, sadly, I understand this pain quite well.

Many of you know that I lost my mother, grandfather and grandmother all within a year of each other and that I worked closely with Hospice in all three instances (in addition to having cared for my grandmother in my home). However, I have never lost a child ... this is my only true prayer, by the way, that I die before any of my children as I do not ever wish to experience that level of pain in my lifetime ... and for my friends and patrons who are grappling with the loss of children/young life - my prayers are with you all. Suicides, accidental and unforeseen deaths have shadowed the past nine months and seem to have peaked in July - there are no words, nothing to make it better. I only wish there were.

I think this permeating sadness made the bitterness of betrayal all the more harder to take; especially since so much of it took place within

families - in the home, where one should feel safest and most loved. Of course, the ones who truly hurt us deeply are the ones we love/trust the most. This past month I heard story after story from individuals who were not playing victim, but honestly trying to deal with having had someone turn on them viciously and without warning. Unprovoked attacks.

A snake is a snake is a snake ... and I am TIRED of the bad guys winning ... at work, at home ... sick of watching the squeaky wheels hog up all the oil. Do we have to be nice to people who we cannot walk away from, but will not STOP? And how do these people get into our lives, why do we let them get close ... in other words -- why do we pet the monsters? Because we are showing the world that WE are the better person? Because after all, we supposedly "knew what they were when we met them" right? Well, not really. Because I read people, you might wonder how people get under MY radar (and believe me, they do) it's because their thoughts mirror what they are feeling at the moment they are being read – a person can think and feel something one minute and something else altogether different a few minutes later. People think (and really BELIEVE) they want something/someone and pursue it ardently; until they secure it for themselves and promptly lose interest. Also, one's true character reveals itself under stress or pressure – also at those times when no one is looking and we can do whatever we want, but choose to do the right thing anyway.

One of my daughters is angry with a former "bestie" -- no longer wants to talk to her, as she caught her talking about her behind her back. She feels betrayed. I am torn - on one hand, youthful indiscretion does happen and I'd like my daughter to be the bigger/better person - on the other, I want to honor her right to walk away from someone who has hurt her. Forcing her to "turn the other cheek" - doesn't that send the message that no matter what someone does, you forgive ... and give them another chance? How many of us have been trapped in bad relationships/marriages because we did JUST THAT - over and over

and over again ???

I love working with mirrors as they can reveal the true nature of someone who is making your life miserable without fear of Karmic ties or "kickback". We sell a complete Mirror Spell kit at the shop, but all you need is a picture of the troublemaker, two small mirrors and some black cord. This spell just sends a troublemaker's negative energy and thoughts back to them, forcing them to look at themselves instead of you as the source of their problem(s). Every time they try to blame or attack you, their own shortcomings and issues are reflected back at them. Face the two mirrors toward each other with the picture in the middle (like a sandwich). Bind the mirrors closed with the cord, wrapping three times then knotting tightly. As you do so, see the person trying to place blame, gossip or cause trouble – and see it reversed and coming back in a way that makes THEM look bad. Remember that if they stop their behavior, nothing bad will happen to them – and on your part, you need to wish them well, and hope that by confronting their own problems they can in fact become a better person. By not wishing them ill, you release yourself from any karmic debt. As you wrap, envision the person bound and gagged – unable to cause you any more harm. You can keep the wrapped mirror in your freezer (added energy to "freeze" them out of your life) or in your underwear drawer, in the right corner underneath your personal items of clothing. When you pass the drawer or reach in to get something out, add energy to the spell by seeing them trying to explain why they did or said the harmful things they did – and no one believing them; if they continue then eventually they lose all credibility.

**You know you have achieved some sort of balance after learning when to either deal with the snake or walk away from the snake ... but do not allow yourself to become a snake through association.**

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**NEW-AGE FAIRES HELD EVERY SATURDAY**

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

**Readers (\$30/30 minutes - please, cash only)**

Readers' schedules change weekly: Please call in advance if you want a specific reader

**August 3**

Tim Bshara - Crystal & Gem Stone Sale! Wonderful selection to choose from!

Mark Hoyt, Tarot (Mediumship)

Todd Pritz, Tarot

Rachel, Tarot (Mediumship) and Pet Communicator (Pets welcome or photo)

Pina, Angel Oracle (Mediumship)

Keith, Astrology (see below)

Keith Horosko's quest is to provide understanding of how you manifest, consciously or unconsciously, in accordance with how you think and feel about your life. By using your astrological birth chart, he forges a path which utilizes your strengths and talents to live a life in harmony with who you are. In addition, Keith applies his ever-increasing knowledge of metaphysics (how we create our experience) as well as the Enneagram (nine types of beingness) to enhance your self-understanding. As an astrologer who has been featured numerous times on TV, Keith also has three degrees in Business, Art History and Design. Birth date, time and place required – also note which area of life you wish to focus on: He specializes in: Relationships, Money, Career, Health, Fulfillment and Relocation.

**August 10**

Gwen Lord, Tarot (Past Life Recall)

Mark Hoyt, Tarot (Mediumship)

Keith, Astrology

**August 17**

Todd Pritz, Tarot

Mark Hoyt, Tarot (Mediumship)

Keith, Astrology

**August 24**

Gwen Lord, Tarot (Past Life Recall)

Rachel, Tarot (Mediumship) and Pet Communicator (Pets welcome or photo)

Todd Pritz, Tarot

Mark Hoyt, Tarot (Mediumship)

Keith, Astrology

**August 31**

Mark Hoyt, Tarot (Mediumship)

Keith, Astrology

**Please note that 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 it comes through.**

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**Talisman's Regularly-Scheduled Readers**

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

Mark Hoyt: Spirit Guided Tarot - Fridays 2-8pm. \$30/30 minutes. Foot Reflexology treatments EVERY FRIDAY \$1/minute.

Nicole, Journeyboard and Cards - Sundays 12-4 \$30/30 minutes

Naima Provo, Intuitive readings, Spiritual Counseling, Reiki, and massage Therapy \$120/hr, \$230/2 hrs (saving \$10), \$340/3 hrs (saving \$20). Buy a package of 5 sessions and get one free saving \$120. Appointments Sunday, Monday & Tuesday.

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 \$60 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.

**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 (\$1 minute).

**Numerology Reports:** Many have been asking for books or information on Numerology. Numerology has been used for thousands of years to provide deep insights into one's personality, intimate relationships, and the important influences that affect one's daily life. Now, with the Numerology Report, you can examine your life in a unique way to take advantage of unexplored opportunities, confirm talents that in your heart you know are there, or simply to figure out where to go next. You'll see all the diverse parts of your personality and how they uniquely come together to make the person you are. Through this report, you'll be able to make the most of your life in a way that wasn't possible before. There are three different Numerology Reports available - each of these providing you even greater insights into your life as well as your *romantic* relationships. An explanation of all three reports can be emailed to you directly - just hit "reply" to this newsletter with a request. Cost per report: \$10 emailed; \$15 printed. Laura has her own numerology report as a sample, if you'd like to see it. :

**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!

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### Classes & Workshops at Talisman

RSVP at (203) 261-0047 or email [lenhard@comcast.net](mailto:lenhard@comcast.net)

Naima Provo presents **Chakra Bellydance** EVERY Monday from **6:30-8pm**. \$20/class, \$70/4 classes (saving \$10), \$135/8 classes (saving \$25). Bellydance Buddy Card allows you to bring a friend for free once. Everyone in attendance on May 6th gets one to bring a friend another time. Each time you buy a package of 8 classes you get a Bellydance Buddy Card. Wear dance shoes, sneakers, Qi Gong shoes, etc. bring a yoga mat or something to lay on. Hip scarf or any material to tie around your waist is optional. **RSVP Necessary!**

**Saturday, August 24: Workshop - Interacting with Spirit, presented by Medium Naima Provo, 7:00pm-9:00pm (\$30).** This workshop assumes you are already seeing/hearing/sensing spirit and want some direction. You will learn:

- \* The difference between a ghost and a spirit
- \* How to protect yourself
- \* Helping your children who are "seeing" \* How to process the interaction
- \* Stamping boundaries
- \* Communicating - what do they want? Are they for your highest good?
- \* Journaling, Crystals, Meditation and so much more!

**Friday, August 30 - Ancient Yogic Techniques for the Aquarian Age - This Session focus on Manifesting Abundance/Wealth. Time: 6-8pm.** Cost \$20 (If anyone would like to join & is unable to attend financially, please contact me so you don't miss out. - [JKopac@me.com](mailto:JKopac@me.com)). Come join Jot Nivas Singh for this Kundalini Yoga workshop as taught by Yogi Bhajan.

- \* Re-vitalize every cell in your body through the power of mantra &

breath

- \* Remove subconscious blockages obstructing your path
- \* You will learn purification techniques for your glandular system, how to build a powerful immune system to clean - rejuvenate yourself, and how to illuminate your aura, your energetic shield.

**Workshop Details:** Yoga is a remarkable science having been established thousands of years ago, before we had the technology available we do today. The ancient yogi's knew about the electromagnetic field around our body (among other things) which Russian scientists have proved in the past 5 years the aura not only exists but can be measured! We will be discussing and practicing methods of yogic science to help make everyday life easier, healthier & more effective. In the Piscean Age it was central and sacred to find and gain access to the right information... In the Aquarian Age, there are no secrets! Information is available. Real value will come from truth embodied in practical actions and internal caliber. It's now time to develop our own self sensory system.

Participants will also receive their own meditation to fit their personal needs. Each individual can discuss their needs in a private one on one basis. You will go home with plenty of print out's, enabling you to practice the techniques on your own as need be! You won't leave empty handed! You can expect to engage in various yogic postures / breaths, do a full kundalini yoga kriya, do a light meditation, and receive information giving you the tools to lock into a more positive frequency.

**What do I bring?**

Wear loose or exercise clothing. (white or light colored cotton preferred)

Bring a yoga mat, & or pillows to sit on.

A blanket if you want to cover yourself during deep relaxation.

White / light head covering recommended. (beanies, scarfs, turbans, bandana, etc)

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**THE CIRCLE OF THE SACRED WELL PRESENTS**

**Event: Open House Social Evening**

**Date: August 9th ~ 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: Crystals and Gemstones Workshop**

**Date: August 20th - 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. The Study Group is held on the third Tuesday of each month. This month, Elena will be hosting another of her popular 'Craft' workshops. For this Study Group, we have a special guest speaker, Elena, who will be facilitating a workshop on Crystals and Gemstones. This workshop will cover their magickal properties and uses. She will have lots of samples for everyone to touch and get to know. There will also be a hand's on portion of the workshop, where everyone will get to choose a stone of their own and then learn how to cleanse and consecrate it for magickal use. Suggested Donation \$5.

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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:

<http://www.cwpn.org>.

### **CWPN's Harvest Gathering**

**August 15 – 18, 2013**

**Thursday through Sunday - Friday & Saturday Day Passes Available**

**Camp Cedarcrest - 886 Mapledale Road, Orange, Connecticut 06477**

Harvest Gathering is a unique and magical festival that balances a strong focus on spiritual-education with a fun, unplug and relax atmosphere. Choose from over thirty classes and workshops from world renowned speakers and authors. Dance and drum around our fire circle, attend evening rituals and peacefully walk along an illuminated labyrinth. Come celebrate our first Handfasting then sing and dance at the traditional Renaissance Feast with our famous wenches. Shop for magical goodies from our many vendors, get an insightful reading or ease your mind and body after a long day of classes with a message. Camp Cedarcrest offers a wonderful, close-knit community atmosphere that encourages a village-like setting. There are cabins and plenty of space for tenting. Look around to find some amazing spiritual spots for ritual, meditation and hidden natural treasures.

**Where else can you go away for 4 DAYS;**

- With a bunch of fun people
- Get fed good CATERED food
- Go to workshops and learn awesome witchy stuff
- End each day with a bonfire, drumming, dancing, and rituals
- Eat and Drink at a Renaissance FEAST with WENCHES???

**Cost is only \$295/person WITH a cabin!**

**You want to tent - it's only \$245/person!**

This includes FOOD! Bring your own and save more!

You can't get this kind of vacation anywhere!!! Woo!

Go register NOW: [www.cwpn.org/hg](http://www.cwpn.org/hg)

*\*\*\*Want to have more fun - bring a buddy or two! Forward this info and get your friends to come. Share a cabin together! YEY!\*\*\**

World Speakers and Authors for Harvest Gathering 2013:

Soror Alecto; BillieJo; Cori Burke; Adam Deion; Ellen Evert Hopman; Rev. Karen; Christopher Kimball; Patricia Lafayllve; James M. Stone; James Strain; Tinker; Rob Wandell; Courtney Weber

For more information: [www.cwpn.org/hg](http://www.cwpn.org/hg) • 203-942-

0667 / [CWPNHarvestGathering@yahoo.com](mailto:CWPNHarvestGathering@yahoo.com) / CWPNS-Harvest-Gathering

\*List may change due to unforeseen circumstances

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**Events: Finding Feathers Spiritual Center - 395 Commerce Drive, Fairfield (behind Tucker's Cafe) RSVP (203) 916-7887**

**Thursday Evening Satsang Meditation (every Thursday)**

Time: 7pm

Description: Satsang is a musical celebration of peace. Join Stellar Maya and Maitreya as they lead beautiful, healing satsangs. The group energy of these evenings is unlike anything else.

Cost: Donation

**Sunday Morning Satsang**

Date: Every Sunday Morning

Time: 9:30am

End the weekend with a peaceful morning full of music, meditation and healing. Leave with a sense of calm and joy as you begin a new week.

Cost: Donation

**Healing Clinic**

Dates: Sunday August 4th, August 11th and August 25th

Time: 12 noon

Join us after satsang for an Ignite Your Spirit healing clinic. IYS healing sessions will be conducted by therapists in training. All healings are supervised by IYS therapists.

Cost: Donation

**Fire Pujas**

Dates: August 6th – New Moon/August 20th – Full Moon

Time: 7pm

Description: Puja, amongst other things, is a beautiful opportunity to meditate, set a new resolution, offer a prayer for the world, a loved one, our own healing and to experience our innate divinity. Cost:

Donation

**Laya Yoga**

Date: August 14th with additional dates TBD

Time: 6-8pm

Description: Group Healings focus on the evolution of our consciousness, the activation of our energy field and solving practical life issues. Conducted in groups of approximately 12 people, each person receives feedback and blessings to activate their kundalini shakti (spiritual energy). Often these sessions are described as completely life changing! Sessions will be led by Stellar Maya and Matreiya. Laya Yoga involves the melting of frozen energy that is invisibly held within us and reflects outwardly as the life we have. In short, Laya Yoga is totally transformational and not to be missed!

Books very quickly! Cost: \$100

**Transformational Power of Sound and Mantra**

Date: Saturday August 3rd

Time: 10am-4pm

Description: Maitreya will teach you how to use mantras to enhance the powers of your mind, open your heart, influence the environment around you, and deepen your spiritual practice. Cost: Suggested

Donation \$7

**Divine Mother Workshop – Diving into the Devi**

Date: Saturday August 10th

Time: 10am-4pm

Description: Join Maitreya and Stellar Maya today for an exploration of Divine Mother and to participate in a Powerful Meditation Practice connecting with Maha Devi (great shining goddess) through the repetition of her Sacred Mantra. Cost: Suggested Donation \$75

**Dimensions of Wealth 1**

Dates: Saturday August 17th and Sunday August 18th

Time: 9:30am-4pm

Description: This workshop is part of the Path of Ease and Grace. In this workshop you will learn to heal the relationship between spirituality and wealth and uncover what is really happening within you. Discover the energy of wealth and renovate your mental framework to enable greater flow, uncover the power in the unconscious and learn how to access it. You will learn meditations for wealth, your soul and how it creates or blocks abundance and peace through prosperity.

Cost: Suggested Donation \$150

**Puja: The Practice and the Essence**

Dates: Saturday August 24th

Time: 10am – 4pm

Description: Puja, amongst other things, is a beautiful opportunity to meditate, set a new resolution, offer a prayer for the world, a loved one, our own healing and to experience our innate divinity. Cost: Suggested Donation \$75

**Empowering Relationships 2**

Dates: Saturday August 31st and Sunday September 1st

Time: 9:30am-4pm

Description: Attaining peace in relationships by discovering your authenticity, letting go of the past, the energy of relationships and how to manage it, getting clear on what is yours and what is theirs, releasing emotional charges safely, meditations to transform self and relationship, discovering the spirit of relating and breathing new life into old relationships. Cost: Suggested Donation \$150

**Private Ignite Your Spirit Healings**

Cost: \$125

Private IYS healings are available by appointment only with Stellar Maya and Maitreya in July. Do not miss this opportunity to work

with these two incredibly powerful healers. Release old emotional blockages, receive help with anxiety, depression, addiction, physical ailments and much more.

### Astrology Corner

**By Alethea Hunt, Astrologer**

As August arrives we find ourselves at the height of summer and at the height of some high astrological seas as well! There's still a lot of water in the sky and the Pluto-Uranus square is stirring the pot once again, so if you're feeling a bit seasick by now you may want to focus your eyes at a fixed point on the horizon and double up on the Dramamine! As mentioned in last month's column, we have a dicey influence upon family matters for the better part of August with Mars and Jupiter traveling the sign of Cancer and clanging up against the aforementioned Pluto-Uranus square. This can be one of those "tempest in a teacup" deals with Mercury still lagging in relatively close contact to Mars, so try not to rock the boat too hard with family members and avoid getting into philosophical clashes over differing beliefs/viewpoints. The New Moon in Leo on the 6<sup>th</sup> can, however, bring us some welcome change with its contact to innovative Uranus livening and freshening things up. New Moons are always ideal times for setting intentions and to this end there are several very productive ways this Moon might be used. Leo is the sign of creativity and the nice thing about this influence is that it can help push us into exploring new mediums or angles of creative expression where we become more experimental. If you're an inspired, artistic type, the benefits of this are self-explanatory; however we might consider this concept of "**creative experimentation**" a little more broadly as well because there are other contexts to which we might apply this same premise.

The days around this Moon are a fabulous time to do something different and fun with your kids, your friends, or even a lover...something that - besides the point of helping to foster freedom of

self-expression - may actually move us beyond into to a richer level of satisfaction/interaction and out of any well-worn ruts with this lunation squaring the Moon's Nodes as well. If a creative new idea/inspiration comes at you now, try not to blow it off as "strange" – why not keep an open mind and an open heart and follow it to see where it leads? The other issue to keep in mind – with this being a fairly playful and light-hearted Moon – is that we should also strive and be willing enough to allow these new experiments take us somewhere deeper with that square to the Moon's Nodes. Depth and substance can be overlooked in favor of creating an interesting, entertaining little side show that keeps us equally stuck – remember the keynote is that we want to create a change of action through this experience. As long as the amusement/novelty factor doesn't remain the main attraction and we use this instead to be an entryway into these deeper feelings and experiences, we play our cards right.

If you have kids, this Moon is a good time to get them active in new social groups as they'll have fun and increase their self-confidence. If you're creatively inclined, perhaps finding a group of like-minded individuals to cavort with can help fuel ideas and inspiration for your hobby. If you want to go deeper and strengthen the friendships you already do have, this is a great time for living it up with fun, entertaining activities (can you say *par-tay*?!). If your sex life hasn't been as enjoyable as it once was and could benefit from some adventurous spark, get your freak on. In general it's also worth noting that friends and lovers do mix well at this juncture, so if you've ever wanted to explore a "friends w/ benefits" scenario this is not a bad time to try it out - you may actually find your feelings go deeper than you realized. As long as everyone doesn't glamorize/over-idealize the arrangement and keeps dealings above-board and open, the chances of confusion, disillusionment, or hurt are minimal. With Venus currently traversing Virgo - Queen of Practicality – there's much less danger of hurt due to any of this. Virgo speaks of "love-as-service" and as performing a useful function, so there's more of a focus on the utilitarian aspects of

partnering than on flowery romance.

Late in the month things start getting tricky again. Mars has tagged out of the Pluto-Uranus square but now Jupiter tags in with Venus in Libra also entering the picture, creating our first full-blown Cardinal Grand Cross of the summer. Consequently a terse equilibrium is liable to be very easily upset at this time and relationships may suffer fallout with feelings, family issues, and matters related to women/mothers all susceptible to being blown out of proportion. Treat the women in your life (mothers and partners, particularly) fairly and with consideration. They may be going through a hard time right now as the status quo degrades and a push for change creates a potentially volatile setup. Relationships will not be able to go on as they always have in a "same old story, same old song and dance" kind of way - something's gotta give and the way out of the impasse of a Cardinal Cross is through taking some kind of action. Don't be on the wrong side of this energy and find yourself standing in someone's way now – if you act like an obstacle to what someone feels they need, you can expect to be treated as such.

The Full Moon on the 20<sup>th</sup> in the late degrees of Aquarius is also rather cantankerous as the Moon and Neptune see-saw back and forth against the Sun and Mercury. Some may be inclined to talk about themselves and want to be the center of attention while pointing the finger at others in their social networks for this same behavior, completely oblivious. Generally there is an inclination to see blind spots in others, but not within ourselves so before you go talking confidently about how you don't have such-and-such an issue, you might want to soften your stance with a little compassion/empathy and realize "we've all been there at some point". On the plus side, it IS a great time to attend a concert, or for musicians to find a creative muse so it won't be all bad. It's just that there's a lot of self-centered dramatics going around due to peoples' dulled emotional self-awareness and this is where the trip-ups can happen. A final note for those who are dating around: this is an

influence to be wary of flashy, would-be Casanovas infiltrating your social group and pouring the BS on pretty thick in order to “tag and run”. If you’re out with your posse don’t be taken with someone who seems to have appeared out of thin air, no matter what kind of spell they’ve put your friends under. If your intuition tells you something is hinky, you know better than to let yourself (or them) be dazzled. Remember that sincerity comes from the heart – you can’t fake it and it’s far better for a prospective lover to come out and say they just want to have a good time than to play a fake role and misrepresent themselves.

**\*\* 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](mailto:AHunt617@aol.com) and I’ll be happy to add your name to my list of recipients!**

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

**Laura Lenhard**