

# 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>

**July 6, 2013**

Merry Greetings!

Last week, as I was carrying my youngest son's fish bowl (a huge 3 gallon antique globe) back to the kitchen table after cleaning it in the sink – and thinking to myself “gosh this glass feels very thin for a bowl this heavy” it literally broke apart in pieces in my hands. Shards of glass, water, gravel and my own blood covered the floor and when little Roy rushed in, I sent him out quickly so his feet wouldn't get cut on the glass. It took a few minutes to find the sole inhabitant of the bowl, a little Beta fish, who now lives in a smaller but sturdier bowl.

A couple days later, Roy and I were eating dinner together and he said to me, “Mom, do you know what I did when the fish bowl broke and you couldn't find my fish and told me to get out of the kitchen?” “What did you do, Roy?” “I went into my bedroom and I prayed to God that my fish would be okay ... and you know what (huge grin) HE WAS!”

Such is the simple faith and prayer of a child – ask, and receive.

Faith was a key theme all throughout June. Young adults coming in for readings, looking for answers but unable to articulate what they believed in, or even IF they believed in a Divine anything. Mothers, asking about money spells or prosperity/love candles – not for themselves, but for their adult children. When I asked why their offspring wouldn't just get their own candle, the answer was “well, they really don't believe in all this”. Okay – but what DO they believe in?

And the answer was – well, nothing really.

I don't know if it's impossible (because nothing ever really is) but I can say it is really, really hard to manifest or work magick or do any sort of "conjure" without Faith. Far beyond just thinking whether it will or will not work – to whom are you directing this intention? How do you honor them, how do you pray to them, what sort of offerings are appropriate? I'm not being nose-y or invasive – but I genuinely need to know HOW you pray and to whom before I can pull together the ingredients in order to "fix what ails you" (to quote my grandmother). At Talisman's Kali Shrine, a candle is kept burning at all times and I do pooja (prayer and offerings) twice a day. Small toys have been left there, by those who placed intentions for their children at The Mother's feet. Money offerings are collected and sent to Bridgeport's Shelter for Battered & Abused Women and Children ... most appropriate, as Kali is the patron goddess of women who have been raped and children who have been abused.

This may not be your Faith – but it is huge part of mine, and that is how I keep it.

Faith is what keeps us sane and whole, when Life has us by the throat and is shaking us senseless. For some, Talisman is (or was) a place of last resort – many walk in only after every other door has seemingly been shut to them and they have exhausted all other possibilities. And that's okay, really. I also know that some of you lost your belief in the religion of your childhood – but that doesn't mean you have to lose your Faith, too – or that you are necessarily absolved from the responsibility of giving your children spiritual direction of any sort.

On another note, but still on the subject of Faith: My dear friend Janice lost her mother this past May - and going through her papers, came across a letter her mother had written to the Creator – which in fact is a written testament to her Faith. I asked her to write a little introduction to the letter (below) which she so very graciously has allowed to be published in this newsletter. On behalf of myself and all of Talisman's patrons - Thank you, Janice. Yours truly, in Light & Love - Laura.

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The following is a “letter to the Creator”. It was written many years ago by my mother, Ramona Brown, who on May 7, 2013, passed away after a 10 year battle with Alzheimer’s disease. I was unaware of its existence until just two weeks before her death, and was stunned to discover it tucked between some other papers in her safe deposit box. It is a deeply personal reflection of her spirituality and faith, and an accurate portrait of what she believed and who she was at the very core. Just after her passing, I shared it with a close friend of ours, who said he felt one could call it “Ramona’s Creed”. Raised a cradle-Catholic, my mother had long ago outgrown the limitations of her religious upbringing, and building upon that foundation, had gone in search of her own unique spirituality.

I believe we are all called to do the very same thing, which is why I agreed to let Laura share something that is so private, so precious, and such a personal blessing to me, in her newsletter. Though each of our spiritual journeys is just as distinct and different as we are, ultimately we all seek a belief system that will provide a sense of peace and a faith which allows us to face our own personal challenges. Indeed, one could say we are all searching for our own “creed”. I hope that, in its profound simplicity, you will find something in my mother’s letter that speaks to you.

~ Janice Paik

Dear “Creator”

Thank you for giving me life, as you give life to all things. You are the fragrance in a flower, the light in every star, the song from a bird’s feathered throat. You are the air I breathe, the earth I walk upon, the warmth from the sun, the trees that whisper in the breeze, the wind in my sails, the blood that flows in my veins.

I have seen you in the eyes of children, on the wrinkled faces of the old ones. In the smiles of those who oft times receive only the simplest of pleasures. In the many animals created to fulfill a certain destiny. I have heard your voice in symphonies, in songs of sorrow and joyous melodies of praise. I have seen your shadow on the face of the moon and felt your handshake from strangers whose path crosses mine. I have tasted the living water from your well, enjoyed the food of your table, and I have often looked up to the sky and felt your presence.

I carry your spirit within me and it has made me strong and given me faith to see beyond the bends in the road and find peace in solitude and silence. I have heard your whispers in the wind and touched your soul with mine when I pray.

I am grateful, Creator of All, for the abundance in my life, for the prosperity in my heart. I give thanks for all I have seen and done, for all I've loved and cherished. Friends and loved ones die, but the time shared between two people – can never be taken away. I thank you for those friendships and loved ones you've given me. That is what lives and it lives forever. I pray that you keep my family together, that you heal their wounds as you have healed mine over the years.

When I leave them behind I want your spirit to stay with them, as your spirit has stayed with me all my life. When my time here is finished I will give myself to you, not in sorrow

but in gladness. I will give my spirit back to the source from which it came.

Your loving daughter,  
Ramona

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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)**

**July 13**

Gwen Lord, Tarot (past life recall)

Keith, Astrology (see below)

Mark Hoyt, Tarot (Mediumship)

Todd Pritz, Tarot

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.

**July 20**

Andrew Neblett, Tarot (plus book signing, see below)

Keith, Astrology

Mark Hoyt, Tarot (Mediumship)

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

Are you looking for a kick in the backside to get you moving? This new

book "Real Change For A Real Life" will do just that. Filled with short, concise advice, check lists, charts, uestionnaire, techniques and much more, you will be given a place to start changing your life even if you have no clue how. The authors have drawn upon their own personal experiences and have used these exact tools to change their lives for the better. Be warned, this book is not for those looking to be pampered or coddled. This book is about how to achieve instant change. Follow the instruction given and you will see the results that you want.

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Muscle Testing, both an art and science, is an extremely useful tool to use to evaluate energy levels, beliefs an states of a person's mind and body. My book "Valid Muscle Testing" will show you how to achieve accuracy and consistency with Muscle Testing. Written from years of experience, this book is aimed at all levels: from budding muscles testers to those who have used Applied Kinesiology and its offshoots for years. You will find clear, step by step instructions on how to muscle test, get accurate results, correct energetic issues, diet testing and much more. You will also learn how to maintain your energy for optimal wellness. If you want to learn accurate, valid muscle testing, then Psychosomatic Kinesiology is for you!

**July 27**

Gwen Lord, Tarot (Past Life Recall)

Keith, Astrology

Mark Hoyt, Tarot (Mediumship)

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

**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, as well as cost, can be emailed to you directly - just hit "reply" to this newsletter with a request.

**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.

**July 12 Tarot 101** taught by Laura Lenhard. 6-8pm. Cost \$10. This class is for the beginner/intermediate - it is offered two or three times a year, and has had wonderful reviews. We begin with an overview of the tarot, then practice throwing cards and reading for one another. Please bring a deck of tarot cards to class!

**July 19 Crystalline Consciousness Work** - Facilitated by Betty Sambula and Ronyah Ra. 6:30-8:30pm. \$25. This dynamic energetic work is an ordering, upgrading, restructuring and activation of our multidimensional DNA resulting in a transformed consciousness and highly beneficial changes in the mind, body and spirit. It is the state of the new paradigm where only love vibrates. At this time we are in an accelerated phase of growth on the planet Earth. Mother Earth is being bombarded by an unparalleled influx of Light. Humanity has an extraordinary opportunity to utilize these higher crystalline frequencies to transform our 3<sup>rd</sup> dimensional carbon-based bodies to 5<sup>th</sup> or higher dimensional crystalline light bodies. The CCW assists us in the Divine Alchemy of transformation by raising the frequency of our cellular structure and DNA to take advantage of the 5th dimensional crystalline solar light frequencies that are now flowing into the planet. These new energies assist in restructuring our dormant DNA strands that contain the blueprints/imprints of ourselves as divine and fully conscious beings.

**We consciously use grids of crystal skulls in our work, which are carved from sacred stones and crystals from Mother Earth.** The skull carving allows for conscious energetic beings to connect and consciously direct crystalline frequencies throughout space and time. These beings working through crystal skulls assist us in countless ways: they help us to merge with our Divine higher selves/higher aspects, give us energetic support when we offer service to Mother Earth, they gift us with crystalline healing allowing us to become crystal clear in our own

healing, they help us to open to our multi-dimensional aspects and benevolent connections/star families, and much more. By allowing the sound/energetic/subtle frequencies of the crystalline in all of its manifestations to flow through our bodies and all parts of us we help our bodies to retain more light and to also become more elastic/flexible with these ever changing times that we live in currently.

**Crystalline Consciousness Benefits:** Clearing of energy field; Clearing of chakras and energy centers; Grounding; DNA upgrades; Strengthening of Crystalline Light Body; Rising of our consciousness to higher levels; Reawakening to our Soul's purpose.

**What to Bring:** Water is a must with this work as it helps in the crystallization process; A blanket, as this work has been known to lower the temperature (after all it is crystalline).

**Bio:** Betty Sambula received her training as a Crystalline Consciousness Facilitator at the *Crystalline DNA Dynamics Light School* in Saratoga, CA under the tutelage of Aravel Garduno, founder of the Crystalline Consciousness Work and Crystalline DNA Dynamics Light School (<http://crystallineconsciousnesswork.com/>). She also received training as an energy healer under the guidance and instruction of Jacqueline Kos. Ronyah Ray, co-facilitator, was also trained as a CCW Facilitator at the Crystalline DNA Light School under the tutelage of Aravel Garduno in Saratoga, CA. **For more information on this fascinating healing with with the Crystal Skulls, contact Betty at [bettythedrummer@aol.com](mailto:bettythedrummer@aol.com).**

**Saturday, July 20<sup>th</sup> Chakra Posture Workshop** with Naima Provo.  
6:30-8:30pm. Cost \$30.

We harm our bodies enough with poor posture while standing, sitting, driving, exercising, sleeping, etc. The average head is around 12 lbs. for every inch your head is forward it adds 10 lbs. of weight and our skinny little necks have to hold our big heads up all day. It's a lot of work. We also don't realize when we are doing a task repeatedly how kinked up our bodies get. We have the ability to give ourselves scoliosis from a desk job! The mind, body, spirit connection is real. Your body is a

roadmap for what's going on mentally and spiritually... Energetically. There are many ways to address these issues. My Chakra Posture Workshop utilizes meditation, muscle conditioning, stretching, breathing, and information about how to improve the quality of your life (and all the Posture Police you will be making when you share the info) oh and did I mention that I'm always my ridiculous, humorous self no matter what I'm doing. Bring a yoga mat & water & an open mind.

**Friday, July 26 - Ancient Yogic Techniques for the Aquarian Age.**

5:30-7:30pm. 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.

**Some of the topics to be discussed:**

- Breath Work
- Mantras
- Ishnaan - Hydrotherapy
- Diet
- Chakra System
- Effective Communication

*"Life is simple. Life is not complicated. Life is only one thing: Identify yourself." - Yogi Bhajan*

**What is Kundalini Yoga?** Kundalini Yoga is the science to unite the finite with Infinity, and it's the art to experience Infinity in the finite. In Kundalini Yoga we harness the mental, physical, and nervous energies of the body and put them under the domain of the will, which is the instrument of the soul. This technology precisely and consciously combines breath, mudra, eye-focus, mantra, body locks, and postures to balance the glandular system, strengthen the nervous system, expand lung capacity, and purify the blood. It brings balance to the body, mind, and soul.

**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)

Jot Nivas Singh is a 21 year old kundalini yogi residing in Shelton, CT. He currently is studying under 2 world renowned kundalini teachers,

Harijiwan & Tej. Having completed 150 of the 225 hours teacher training program, he will be one of the 2200 KRI certified teachers in July. Jot Nivas Singh is a name given which means the Lion of God, who dwells in a space that is filled with divine light.

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**THE CIRCLE OF THE SACRED WELL PRESENTS**

**Event: Wiccan/Pagan Study Group**

Date: Tuesday ~ July 16th ~ Time: 7:30 p.m.

Location: The Undercroft at Talisman

Join us for this monthly Study Group, which is held on the third Tuesday of each month. Suggested donatoin \$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>.

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.

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**Jessica & Jim Hunter of Hunter Healing Hands present: July 2013**

Events - Contact Jessica at [hunterhealinghands@hotmail.com](mailto:hunterhealinghands@hotmail.com) to RSVP your space for a Class, Workshop, or Drum Circle! Join us for our **Monthly Drum Circle July 5th**, or our next **Drum Circle at Touch of Sedona on July 27th**. Explore the vibration of numbers in **Intro to Numerology on July 11th**. Join us for a Crystal Workshop, **Explore Crystals: An In-Depth Introduction on July 20th**. Or join us for a **Reiki Share on July 18th**, or our next **Crystal Healing Drum Workshop on July 25th**. All event details can also be found on the website: [www.hunterhealinghands.com](http://www.hunterhealinghands.com). 215 Harbor Avenue, Bridgeport, CT 06605.

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### **Astrology Corner**

**By Alethea Hunt, Astrologer**

The astrological heat is definitely on this summer! Fortunately during most of July we'll have a Water Grand Trine in effect, helping us to allow things to flow in their natural directions. There's plenty of challenge ahead, but try and see this like tubing down a river - there will be moments where the emotional current picks up and takes us into some white-water rapids, but if we can manage to skillfully keep ourselves afloat, tread water, and keep flowing wherever that river takes us we are sure to hit calmer waters eventually. This said, let me touch on some of the trickier points of July so that you can anticipate the course ahead and perhaps steer clear of the rougher patches. The first item we have up for business at the outset of July is Venus in Leo jangling up against Neptune and Saturn – money and/or love + booze do not mix very well early in the month! The inconjunct to Neptune loosens our inhibitions & blurs our vision, while a square to Saturn suggests that if you're looking to "just have a good time" (say, with gambling or with a love interest) there's a layer of complication or entanglement that's not exactly consequence-free. This is going to clash with what the alcohol tells you "seemed fun at the time", and reality doesn't look so pretty when you wake up with a nasty hangover! It's unlikely that bedding someone for fun would turn out well, or if heading to the casino for a night of drinking and gambling seems like a good time, know in advance there could be a significant chance of loss at the poker table. Fortunately this influence only lasts a few days so once we get into July's second week we'll be in the clear!

The Cancer New Moon on the 8th comes into close contact with a retrograde Mercury, suggesting that many will be getting back in touch with family or taking a short trip (car ride) with the fam for vay-k during the first weekend and into the second week of July. I will put out the caution that family may also push your buttons with the New Moon contacting both Uranus & Pluto, so be aware of and own your sensitivities so that you don't allow yourself to be triggered. Be aware of others', too – try and consider their feelings. In general, with this astrological influence in play you may be able (or feel some internal pressure) to have a conversation about emotions that have been buried – it's up to you whether you will become reactive or instead detach and recognize this as an opportunity for change. This can be a good time to alter the dialog you're having with family or about your feelings on an issue, so if the way it's been in the past hasn't been working for you, perhaps use the pressure of this influence to try & get a new start. The Uranus/Pluto square has the effect of forcing things to adapt if they are to survive, so if you find yourself in the midst of a communication breakdown things either need to change radically, or if this is impossible, perhaps we need to relinquish our attachment to the ties that bind and stop having emotional conversations that wind up getting us nowhere for the sake of having some peace.

The Full Moon in Aquarius on the 22nd creates a T-square with Saturn and it seems there's a lot of obstinacy/rigidity in the air around this date. Saturn is clamping down like a vice grip on the playfulness of the Leo Sun and the independence of the Aquarian Moon, impeding the capacity for meaningful connection between friends. People may be less inclined to let others be themselves and may not support others' creativity/originality – there may be a subtle attempt to undermine/control others in a group setting or to force conformity in some way. If you encounter this, dig in your heels and resist the pressure – you are secure enough in your self-worth and value yourself enough not to cave in to the clique or to the “Queen Bee” of the clique. The days around this Moon are also not the best for fun, lighthearted get-togethers with friends as work (or perhaps something going on below the surface that is not readily apparent) may interfere and put the kibosh on things. If you do make friendly overtures to someone and get the block, try not to be offended – it's possible they're saying “no”

because they're faced with something challenging and complicated right now and just don't have the energy. Conversely, if prior to this Moon there has been something preventing deeper connection between you and those in your social circle, now could be a good time to work out what it is that is inhibiting you & preventing things from going to the next level. Remaining in friendly "acquaintance" territory indefinitely, while safe, may not be very rewarding. Don't compromise your values or self-worth just to have a broader social circle, though – be true to yourself and like-minded individuals will be naturally drawn to this authenticity.

Do you recall what I said in [last month's newsletter](#) (click link and scroll to bottom to re-read) about later in the summer not being an ideal time for family functions? Here's why - Jupiter & Mars start to trigger the Uranus-Pluto square in late July and a head's up is due because this could signify philosophical clashes with family. Mercury retrograding into contact with these two before it turns direct again could really bring this out. Although Mercury will beat feet away from Mars & Jupiter fairly quickly, these two planets continue to NOT play nicely with Uranus and Pluto through the first half of August so if you have to do something family-related you best do it early this month. If you can't reschedule your event for this time, resolve NOT to let your temper blow up and keep subjects like religion and politics off the table for best results. Looking outside of the implications this has for family matters and speaking in a broader context, it's important to note that we are apt to PERSONALIZE things when we have Cancer planets involved as this is naturally a very sensitive sign. We're more inclined to perceive an attack under these kinds of astrological conditions (even if done in the context of humor), have feelings of anger blown up out-of-proportion, and can generally feel crabby to the nth degree. With Jupiter and Mars tangling with Uranus & Pluto there can be clashes between hard-core, old-school philosophies and progressive "radical" beliefs that flat-out just do not mix well. People may be forceful with their viewpoints, feelings, and opinions so it really isn't a great idea to try cramming anything down anyone's throat as they're almost sure to bristle. Poise, grace, and social politesse are the ways out of this mess with the void of these T-squares pointing into the sign of Libra, and if you ARE an early-to-mid degree Libra (or have planets there), know that your mad interpersonal skill may be called upon to mediate some sticky messes later in the

month. If you can help broker peace, though, why not do it?

**\*\* 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**