

Half Moon Waning December 2010 Nostalgia, It Ain't What It Used To Be

Nostalgia, it ain't what it used to be. This is one of my favorite jokes – maybe you have to have the Cancerian sentimentality to really get it. But in a way, it's a central theme in the writings on our times. As we transition from the age of Pisces to the Age of Aquarius, through 2012 and beyond, we are evolving through karma so much faster than we used to. Something has happened to the past – it's so far away.

In my life I am not aware of much slack between lessons, you know what I mean? There is so much change, so much adjusting to do. It seems like we're called on to always be doing our "work". Our relationships – to others, to money, to us – seem to demand so much change within, all the time.

One of the key points to all the "work" we're doing is to let go of attachments to the past. We want to live now, in a glorious now. We work very hard on this, on who we want to be now. It seems like all my friends and I are constantly in the thick of radical change. "Embrace the change," they say. And we try, oh lord we try. We love it, we cry over it, we struggle to meet it.

And there's an excitement to it – something wonderful is happening. I want to be here in these moments of creative wonder. Whenever I manage to achieve "newness," it's so amazing. And then it changes, and the work begins again.

I'm working on an idea that this sense of pressure is very strong for everyone, whether they know it or not, and that it could cause some regressive behaviors. For instance, I think there is a way for this theme – of pressurized evolution – to explain such things as the obesity epidemic. Growth and transformation are uncomfortable. You can either embrace change, as I suspect everyone reading this is trying to do, or you can fight it. And I suspect that fighting it, resisting the pull to evolve through our karmas, will create some resentment within our spirit, some pain, that can lead to addictive behaviors – overeating, overdrinking, overreacting.... Over-nostalgia?

I think a really starkly available example of what I'm talking about here is the prevalence of Vampirism in pop culture. Why would co-dependence be so cool? A quick tour through Pia Mellody's ideas might be in order – that's what Google is for, right?

And anyway, I doubt any of us needs to look at the big picture to see what I'm talking about. If you're like me, the days leading up to the Full Moon/Solstice/Eclipse festival were very intense – it was sort of like taking a finals test on all the "stuff" I'd been working on all year. I talked to a number of people who revisited parts of themselves they really wanted to be (and thought they were) done with. I sure did. How about you?

In the lunation cycle, the Full Moon is a time for self-reflection. And, this last Full Moon happened to be conjunct the south node. So, for awhile there, we were called on to "reflect on" (Full Moon) "where we are coming from" (south node) in our emotional bodies (Moon). And this had something to do with the longest night of the year. With "seeding" our intentions for the New Year... Happy New Year, by the way!

But of course I'm not stuck in the past – so let's move on from the Solstice stuff. Let's not just move on, let's make the most of it. In the lunation cycle, The Waning of the Moon represents the gathering and assimilation of the "fruit" – it's when we're able to see what we've learned and integrate it.

What I got out of the intensity of the Full Eclipse goes like this: Karma is Drama, Drama is Theater, and I have a Role to play. And here's the cool part – I get to Create Who I'm Playing. I'm not so sure we create our own realities – there are too many kids suffering for me to fully believe that. But what I know now is that I can create my Mythology, my play, story line, the themes, and who is in it.

Astrology really helps me understand the play - to create my characters so that they help my evolution. We're all questing for the holy grail of our north node in some way. The way I'm seeing it is that the planets are the

archetypes, the signs are their moods, the houses set the scenes... the more I know about this stuff, the better I'm able to direct the play.

This is how I do it – there's a part of me that would like to be a member of the audience, kind of a pouty kid forced to watch the play. Another part of me is more like Ru Paul or someone like that - cross-dressed, flamboyant, ironic. I have a Crusader, and a Seer – it's fairly easy to think of the Archetypes, but I'm really enjoying working on putting them into the play. In the Full Eclipse drama, I played such a bitch – Ru Paul would've been so jealous! You don't get to be a famous drag queen without having a bunch of "stuff" to work on, but at least you're making the most of it!

I'm inviting you to see your "stuff" as a chance to create something – what role do you want to play in your karmic drama? Whether you're working on personal or collective karma, there's probably a way to do something colorful with it.

There's another tool in our astrological director's kits, which are the degree symbols. Let me briefly explain... there are 360 degrees in the zodiac – each of the 12 signs spans 30 degrees of the circle described by the Earth's orbit of the Sun. Each of these degrees has its own feel, its own character – its own energy. The degree symbols – there are several sets – are these amazing psychic readings of each of the 360 degrees. They work like Tarot cards, but there are 360 of them.

The Sabian symbols are probably the best known "set" of symbols. An astrologer I like very much has done a lot of work with the Chandra symbols – they're the ones I use, but there are many more. Using them in my play gives me more of a sense of artistic license – they somehow loosen up or modernize the characters.

Okay, do you see where I'm going with this? More importantly, do I? Perhaps a little recap IS in order here: 1) evolution as a function of Karma is speeding up, and it's not easy. 2) The recent Full Eclipse was "dramatic." 3) We can create our roles in the drama. 4) Astrology helps you direct the play. And 5) there are degree symbols, and they are fun. Got it?

The secret in all of this is that there is this incredible design at work, and that no matter how you go about it you can't help but notice it. For instance, the way the degree symbols always fit the occasion, the moment, in however they're applied to however they're called.

As an example, look at what I'm writing. A little co-dependence here, a little drama there... pretty soon it turns into **"A group of old ladies gossiping excitedly."**

Which it turns out is the Chandra symbol for the degree of the Half Moon Waning this month, at 8:18 pm Pacific on Monday the 27th. In terms of the lunation cycle, the Half Moon Waning is when the Moon is at the crown in its relationship to the Sun. In other words, it is the point in the cycle during which we have access to the Meanings and the Truths of our Lessons.

So, in my play, my Ru Paul character has put her hair back in order and is headed to get together with the girls to talk it over. The Moon will be there, in her role as the goddess of feminine wisdom. Is there a way you can make the party?

On Moon Day, December 27th, let's get together with the Half Moon Waning in the seventh degree of Libra and be:

A group of old ladies gossiping excitedly.

We're "In on big news. Tapping the pulse of the times. You are almost not able to contain it, to deal with it all. Placed strategically to tune in to major developments collectively. A clearing house for immediate and enduring crosscurrents. Susceptible to personality distortions, particularly in interpersonal dynamics, you are not very discerning or disciplined in the shared field of energy and consciousness. An excess of vital spirits. Yet all of this is a false front, the way to throw everybody off. Inwardly keen and sharp and intricately knowledgeable. And most especially, able to track with what is meant to be and what is truly moving forward, to lend it a

helping hand and be completely involved with universal destiny calls, with their resonant reverberations throughout the world.”

Get in character, you know – old ladies are wise. The drama ain’t nothin’ new in this circle.

Besides darling, after all, nostalgia ain’t what it used to be.

May the Moon Live in You, Sugar!