

What you have to give comes from within

This evening, the Sun and Moon form an exact waning square. This is the peak awareness cycle of the month of Cancer – the first month after the Solstice.

In traditional astrology, Cancer is associated with the 4th house – the midnight part of the chart, the darkest part of the chart - the bottom of the chart. An interesting thing to think about in contrast to Cancer's season, which is high summer. The traditional rulership of Cancer is given to the Moon, who represents the least "aware" and most subjective part of our psyches. When the Moon has you, it's pretty much external stimulus in, subjective unconscious response out. When you learn to work with the Moon in your birth chart, you can become attuned to the ways you react to this Earth experience of being alive in a body.

So, what is happening during Cancer is that the Sun is shining in to the Moon's realm. Your objective awareness is given to your subjective self. In thinking about astrological energies, I always find myself thinking in terms of "what is this preparing me for?" So, what is it that the sign of Cancer is preparing me for? When the Sun shines into the Moon's realm, how does what I find benefit me? Well, Leo comes next – the Sun's own sign in traditional astrology. So in the Solar cycle of self-awareness which is a year, we go into Moon country to get ready for Sun land. We are asked to find out what it means to have a Moon before we are asked to express our Sun. Before you shine your light out, you are asked to shine it in.

How is that going for you?

In the Lunar cycle of self-awareness which is the Moon's journey around the Earth, the Sun is the anchor, the center. The joining of the Sun and Moon in the sky (which is the New Moon) is the point of departure for the Moon's ride through the signs. Every New Moon we have a chance to commit to learning more about what it means to be ourselves. "What's it like to be me?" is the New Moon question. The waxing phases of the Moon are answering that question. They're meant to show you just how intense, weird, wild and uncharted your self-scape really is. The Half Moon waxing, which comes about a week after the New Moon, is a chance to experience the intensity of your self-scape unreservedly. If we're really honest and open, what we can say at that time is, "Wow! It's intense to be me!"

Towards the Full Moon, we start to wonder about other people – what's their ride like? The Full Moon time is when you can look up from your book and start to see what other people are about. "Wow! Other people are crazy too!" you say, without holding yourself back in any way from the intensity of others. Then, towards the Half Moon Waning, we start to wonder how we can help with all of this. How can we apply what we know of ourselves to the world-situation, to the intensity of the other-scape, to the situation we

have landed in, in a way that is helpful? The Half Moon Waning is when we ask, “What can I do to help?”

Playing with this journey is, I think, a delightful experience, and one I feel honored to offer to you.

The coming week, from now to the next New Moon (July 18th @ 9:24 PM) is a big one astrologically. Uranus goes retrograde in the 9th degree of Aries on Friday morning, then Mercury goes retrograde in the 13th degree of Leo on Saturday evening. Are you ready?

Although I have plenty to say about those events (feel free to ask), I think the most important thing I can say about them is this: pay attention to what you feel this week, especially on the 13th and 14th. All the guides are ever asking is that you want to learn what it means to be you; that you want to accept others in their struggle to know themselves; and that as you can, you offer what you have to help all of us in this journey.

This evening at 6:48 PM Pacific Time, the Half Waning Moon is in the 20th degree of Aries. The Pleiadian Symbol for this degree is, “*A young girl feeding diamonds to a flock of baby phoenixes.*”

Like you – innocent, nurturing, crucial. What hides this from you?

With love,