



April Newsletter

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Important April Dates

(All times are CST)

March 30, 3:48 pm to April 23, 5:04 am - Mercury Retrograde

Mercury will go retrograde in the sign of Aries on March 30th and will be in that sign the entire period of its retrograde journey. If there was a zodiacal hot spot this would be it. As Mercury does its retrograde dance in Aries, it will be accompanied by Jupiter and Uranus and joined by Mars on the 2nd and Venus on the 21st. Even the Sun and Moon will join in at the New Moon on the 3rd. We can expect many Aries themes to be highlighted. Some of them might be: independence, hot-headedness, anger, individuality, identity and much more. Aries is a fire sign and means to burn up whatever is in the way of new growth. On the positive side think, 'crocus' on the negative side think, 'aggression.' The truth is that everything needs a push to get born. This is true for babies and democracies as well as fruits and vegetables of all sorts not to mention ideas. Aries is a sign that likes to go at life head first. The interesting thing about the New Moon is that it will be exactly opposite Saturn. This suggests that for every action there is a consequence. Mercury retrograde seriously seconds that concept. So think before you act but don't be overly passive. Change is inevitable just consider the consequences as best you can before you dive in.

Days on which to pay special attention to Aries themes are the 3rd because of the New Moon (consider the consequences of all intentions); 9th when Mercury conjuncts the Sun (be still and listen to your heart); 11th when Mercury conjuncts Jupiter (temper opinions with wisdom); 19th when Mercury conjuncts Mars (act impulsively now, pay later).

April 3, 9:32 am - New Moon

The New Moon on April 3, 2011 is at 13 degrees Aries and opposite Saturn. Saturn is on the fixed star Algorab in the Crow. This Moon is conjunct asteroid Vala, a Norse witch archetype with our own dark Lilith who is still being zooped up by Uranus, but now she is extra hot with Mars too (Lilith Revolution). That's powerful magic! Venus is sextile Pluto which adds a sweet black cherry glaze to the boiling crow pie.

We know Algorab is a trickster. One would imagine combined with Saturn, a malefic would bring out its most negative side - the scavenger and it's general vileness. This is the most likely outcome, as Saturn rules fear.

The Moon itself is on the fixed star Alpheratz which is the chained princess in Andromeda. Some extreme measures may be taken in relationships to chain up the errant wife or husband out of fear. The Lilith side is flexing its newly found strength and is not standing for further abuse any longer. But, Saturn on Algorab is totally petrified of the outcome. Therefore, this crow is backed into a corner and all it can do is think up some revolting and nasty plan in which to gain the upper hand on this apparent rebellion. This will be totally nasty, unexpected and shocking for the rebellious partner. They will then feel that they are totally chained by the scheme that the Saturn/Crow partner has dreamed up. Black magick and voodoo may get used.

People could be feeling cursed or under psychic attack. The princess in chains was rescued by Perseus who used Medusa's head (containing the Lilith star Algol) to turn Cetus, the whale to stone (Saturn), thus preventing her being eaten and setting her free. So that is exactly what we are seeing in this New Moon Chart. The Moon is the Andromeda, the chain is the opposition and Saturn is the rock. Mars/Uranus is Perseus, the hero holding Lilith as Medusa's head. Lilith can be castrating in this instance.

This Algorab/Saturn may use really low tactics. Poor Andromeda was sacrificed by her father King Cepheus. In mundane astrology this could be taking hostages. This is utter fear and desperation, resorting to cursing because there is nowhere else to go. However, there is hope. The Wheel of fortune is about taking the wheel and spinning it in your favor, believing that free will can override fate and not accepting you are cursed. This takes us back to Saturn again. Saturn is the law of karma and also a time lord. The wheel can look like the face of a clock and the astrological wheel

Saturn and Jupiter are the two gas giants and are both needed as balancers. In this chart, we can see they are almost in opposition. The compromise between the two would be something like enlightenment. If you think about it, either Saturn OR Jupiter could be freewill or fate.

In summary, this Moon is a powerful time for making magick. It is also a time for us to learn how to protect ourselves from negativity and black magick. Curses only work through fear. Using the astrological wheel is one technique we can use to help us bend fate to our favor. But, cloaking ourselves in the crows black feathers and reflecting back to the evil doer will too. Whatever nasty schemes are put into force at this new moon, they will only ending up back firing. A karmic time of retribution. A beady eye for a beady eye.

April 17, 9:44 pm - Full Moon

The Troth-Plight Moon

The Libra Full Moon represents partnerships formalized by exchanged vows. In Old English, a "troth-plight" is a pledge (plight) of good faith and fidelity (troth) to a marital partner.

Oaths and vows are serious things. One's good name and personal honor are at stake. Some are private matters (a vow to overcome a bad habit); some are given to another person (a handfasting), while other oaths are given to a group (the Hippocratic Oath, the oath of office, initiation rites, etc.). Failure to fulfill an oath may lead to great personal consequences, while fulfillment of an oath can confer well-deserved recognition. Deep thought and soul searching should precede any formal commitment that involves a spoken vow.

This is an excellent Full Moon for initiations and elevations. Any required vows should be discussed with the person ahead of time. Perform the rite with solemnity and seriousness. Alternatively, members may repeat a previous vow or oath, or make a personal vow to achieve a new goal. For greater privacy, each member may write a vow as a petition and burn it during the ritual.

~Elizabeth Hazel in [Llewellyn's 2011 Witches' Datebook](#)

April 24 - Christian Easter

Easter Bunny (by Mary Brandolino)

In memory of all the bunnies we couldn't save.

I remember Easter Sunday
It was colorful and fun
The new life that I'd begun
In my new cage.

I was just a little thing
When they brought me from the store
And they put me on the floor
In my cage.

They would take me out to play
Love and pet me all the time
Then at day's end I would climb
In my cage.

But as days and weeks went by
I saw less of them it seemed
Of their loving touch I dreamed
In my cage.

In the night outside their house
I felt sad and so neglected
Often scared and unprotected
In my cage.

In the dry or rainy weather
Sometimes hotter sometimes colder
I just sat there growing older
In my cage.

The cat and dog raced by me
Playing with each other only
While I sat there feeling lonely
In my cage.

Upon the fresh green grass
Children skipped and laughed all day
I could only watch them play
From my cage.

They used to take me out
And let me scamper in the sun
I no longer get to run
In my cage.

Once a cute and cuddly bunny
Like a little ball of cotton
Now I'm grown up and forgotten
In my cage.

I don't know what went wrong
At the home I did inhabit
I just grew to be a rabbit
In my cage.

But they've brought me to the pound
I was once loved and enjoyed
Now I wait to be destroyed
In my cage.

May 1 – Beltane

Beltane

Animals/Mythical Creatures – the white cow, goats, giants, rabbits, honey bees, faeries, satyrs, pegasus

Gemstones – emerald, orange carnelian, sapphire, rose quartz, lazuli, sapphire, yellow agate, bloodstone

Incense/Oil – passion flower, frankincense, tuberose, vanilla, lilac, rose

Colors/Candles – red & white (symbolizing God and Goddess), dark green, dark yellow, rainbow spectrum, blue, pastels, all colors

Tools/Symbols/Decorations – maypole & ribbons, flower crowns, fires, bowers, fields, May baskets, white flowers and ribbons, daisy chain, flower chaplet, white wine in clear crystal glass, chalice, butter churn, blackthorn & hawthorn branches, seasonal fruit

Goddesses – May Queen, Flora, Maia, Flower Goddesses, Lady of the Greenwood, Divine Couples, and Goddesses of the Hunt, Aphrodite(Greek) Blodewedd (Welsh), Erzulie (Voodun), Baubo (Greek)Rhea (Cretean), Prithvi (Hindu)

Gods – May King, Jack in the Green, Horned God (European), Herne (Greek), Green Man, Bel (Celtic), Baal (Phoenician), Gods of the Hunt,

Essence – compassion, youthful play, exuberance, sensuality, pleasure, action

Dynamics/Meaning – sacred marriage of the Lord and the Lady, arrival of the Tuatha de Dannan in Ireland

Purpose – fertility festival, celebrate 1st day of Celtic summer, 1st day of the light half of the year

Rituals/Magick – The Great Rite, love, romance & fertility magick, elf & faery power, offerings to elementals, crop blessings, relighting sacred fires, divination, building shrines, fire-calling, honoring house guardians, snake dancing, bathing faces in the morning dew of May to retain their youthful beauty

Customs – maypole erection, dancing around the maypole, bonfires, jumping fire, mating, picking flowers, making flower baskets, frolicking throughout the countryside, archery tournaments, sword dances, feasting, drinking and music, moving the herds to high pasture

Foods – dairy, honey, oats, red fruits, herbal salads, red/pink wine punch, large round oatmeal/barley cakes, sweets

Herbs – almond, angelica, damiana, hawthorn, hibiscus, saffron, ash tree, bluebells, cinquefoil, daisy, frankincense, hawthorn, ivy, lilac, marsh marigold, meadowsweet, primrose, roses, woodruff, yellow cowslip, yarrow

Element/Gender – air/male

Threshold – dawn

To learn more about this and other Sabbats, get our Sabbats eBook at

http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main_page=product_info&products_id=129

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Witch SuperCenter April Sale Items

10% off Entire Stock of Belly Dance Clothing -

http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main_page=index&cPath=30

Elephant Soapstone Incense Burner – Regular Price - \$7.50, Sale Price - \$6.50

Deluxe Wicca Starter Kit w/Love Spell – Regular Price - \$78.99, Sale Price - \$75.99

Magickal Correspondences eBook – Regular Price - \$4.99, Sale Price - \$3.99

Allergy Relief Herbal Tea – Regular Price - \$5.99, Sale Price - \$4.99

To see all of our sale items,

visit http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main_page=specials

Herb of the Month

White Willow Bark - Water/Moon, Gender - Feminine, Parts Used - Wood, bark, Magickal Properties - Divination, Healing, Protection and Moon Magick, Uses - The wood is often used in the making of magickal wands and tools. It is also considered a sacred WISHING tree, used when working with spirits and all healing wishes, wear a sprig when someone close to you passes, place on the altar for all moon magick wishes and for all divination

To learn more about this and other herbs, get our Magickal Herbs eBook at

http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main_page=product_info&cPath=9&products_id=120

Stone of the Month

Iolite - The energy of Iolite helps release discord from one's life and enables one to enjoy each moment. It can be used for the elimination of debts, to enhance precision within one's life, and to facilitate acceptance of responsibility.

Rune of the Month

 **Fehu** (F: Domestic cattle, wealth.) – Possessions won or earned, earned income, luck. Abundance, financial strength in the present or near future. Sign of hope and plenty, success and happiness. Social success. Energy, foresight, fertility, creation/destruction (becoming). Fehu Reversed or Merkstave: Loss of personal property, esteem, or something that you put in effort to keep. It indicates some sort of failure. Greed, burnout, atrophy, discord. Cowardice, stupidity, dullness, poverty, slavery, bondage.

To learn more about this and other runes, get our Rune Dice Book at http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main_page=product_info&cPath=9&products_id=124

Tarot Card of the Month

Strength - There are many stories that come to mind with this card: Daniel in the lion's den and the Aesop's fable of "The Sun and the Wind," where the Sun's warmth, as compared to the Wind's coldness, persuades a man to take off his coat. Also, tales of saintly maids who get brutish barbarians to kneel down in prayer. What we see in all these stories is the taming of the beast by way of inner strength and gentleness.

The Maiden represents higher feelings and that we can experience if we bring our wild passions to heel. And so, we willingly do so.

This card, however, isn't just about the Maiden's power. Like its ruling sign Leo, this card is also about the hot, roaring energy and enthusiasm of the Lion including passions like "lust" (which is the name it was given by Crowley in his Thoth deck). The lion's power may be frightening, but it is also desirable. Much can be achieved if such power is put to use. Some decks, in fact, label this card as "Power."

That energies can be brought under control and used is very close to the message of the Chariot, which might be why, in some decks, it is Justice that is card #8 instead of Strength. There is a difference, however, between Strength and the Chariot. The Chariot is a card about using your impulses to achieve a victory.

Strength is about combining two strengths to overcome weakness. The Maiden is weak of form, but her mastery of herself is powerful. The Lion is strong of form, but weak when it comes to mastering himself. The Maiden's commands overcome the Lion's weakness, and his form overcomes the Maiden's weakness. This is why the Maiden doesn't try to harness the lion to a chariot, nor does she run from it or try to kill it. She meets its eyes, touches it, and embraces it. This is a card about understanding our wild natures, accepting them, yet also gentling those passions so that they work for us rather than against us. Putting these two strengths together creates perseverance, personal honor, and courage.

To learn more about this and other Tarot Cards, get our Basic Tarot Card Reading eBook at http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main_page=product_info&cPath=9&products_id=107

Correspondence of the Month

Birds

Albatross – endurance, stamina, emotions

Blackbird – gatekeeper, omens, mysticism

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Bluebird – happiness, fulfillment
Canary – heightened sensitivity, healing
Chicken – fertility, sacrifice
Crane – longevity, Creation
Crow – connections, intelligence, watchfulness
Dove – love, Peace, Romance, Friendships
Duck – maternal, harmony, protective
Eagle – clarity
Falcon – guide, healing
Finch – new beginnings
Goose – infinity, story telling, fertility
Hawk – foresight, courage
Heron – self-determination, self-reliance
Hummingbird – serenity, joy, love
Kingfisher – peace, prosperity
Magpie – occult knowledge, willfulness
Owl – silent wisdom, clairvoyance, magickal
Peacock – clairvoyance, Warning, All seeing
Pelican – buoyant, self-sacrificing, calm
Pigeon – messages, love
Quail – courage, peace, tranquility
Raven – magick, shapeshifting, creation
Road Runner – mental speed and agility
Robin – new growth, territorial
Sparrow – awakening, triumph
Starling – imitation, intelligence, adaptability, groups
Stork – creation, new beginnings, faithfulness
Swallow – protection, warmth
Swan – purity, tranquility, meditation, true beauty
Turkey – connections, shared blessings, harvest
Vulture – purification, vigilance, new vision
Woodpecker – magick, prophecy

To learn more about this and other correspondences, get our Magickal Correspondences eBook at http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main_page=product_info&cPath=9&products_id=118

Spell of the Month

Maiden Healing Spell

Perform this at the new moon. Decorate the altar with fresh flowers, sprouts, spring water, and images of maiden goddesses. Light some white, pink, and blue candles and some incense of your choice. Prepare a ritual bath with lavender, saffron, and laurel. Say:

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"I am Maiden, beautiful,
Renewed, Refreshed, Reborn."

Let the water drain out, and imagine all the negative emotions and thoughts draining away from you. Sit at the altar and light the candles. Say:

"With this flame I ignite within me
The spirit of the maiden."

Now would be a good time to either meditate, or invoke a maiden goddess that you feel close to.

"I am whole unto myself
I am the bright maiden
Strong, invincible, free.
I am the dark maiden
Cloaked in veils and mystery.
I am the pulse of the sun
And the pull of the moon.
Flowing from one to the other
In perfect harmony.
Where I walk, no one can hinder me.
I am maiden, forever young and free."

Drink the blessed spring water. Say:

"Maiden Goddesses,
I drink of thy sweetness and strength
And am thus filled with thy spirit."

Eat some sprouts. Say:

"As this seed bursts with new life,
So am I filled with vitality."

To receive more spells, get our Wicca 101 and Beyond: A Witch's Grimoire eBook at
http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main_page=product_info&cPath=9&products_id=108