



January Newsletter

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Important January Dates

(All times are CST)

January 1, 5:14 am - New Moon, New Year's Day

With Pluto joining this new Moon, our cosmic instructions tell us to give the great god Pluto the starring role. We often give Pluto (or the Greek Hades) a bad rap, making him the heavy who causes all of our troubles. Oh no, I've got a Pluto transit to my Sun! That's why things are so bad. We assign him all the dark, evil and twisted aspects of our own inner psyches, as well as, all of the trouble the world dishes out to us. But that's not who Pluto is.

It's hard being the Lord of the Underworld! At some point, every soul passes through his realm, carrying all those twisted desires. His is the force that contains and incubates them into new life. Without him, we'd be stuck on the surface of life, never experiencing the highs that are the other side of our lows. In our binary world, we need both experiences to be whole.

Things aren't bad because of Pluto. Pluto energizes evolution. It's our attitude which makes experiences bad or good. After all, Pluto is one of the Gods of change, more specifically the archetypal energy of death, initiation, rebirth and transformation. It's our cultural and personal beliefs about change being bad that makes Pluto the villain. Pluto is one of the Gods who helps us leave behind our patriarchal conditioning so we can become conscious agents of change. This is the initiation Planet Earth is going through right now; can human beings become conscious agents of evolution or will we self-destruct rather than change?

With all of this going on in the sphere of Capricorn's influence, the outcome of the initiation is that it's time for the human race to grow up, to grow in maturity and responsibility and stop acting like adolescents. In our patriarchal version of adolescence, our being (the feminine) is swept away by our emotions (and therefore not to be trusted) and our doing (the masculine) is all about aggression and competition to be on top of the heap.

The initiation we face personally and collectively is that we must become adults and learn to discipline our minds, understand and channel our feelings and dedicate ourselves to our spiritual purpose. We have to claim our spiritual inheritance and become co-creators of life. We've set it up so that if we fail this initiation, the Earth herself just might kill us all.

While women are still treated like second-class citizens, even in America, the Feminine Spirit is alive and calling to us in this initiatory time. This is good news, because all of us need a new feminine consciousness to create a new story about our world and our place in it. Women especially are discovering the power of our inner freedom and learning the language of Lady Wisdom. We are catalyzing a new way of being and therefore our doing is changing too. Now, men have to initiate a new relationship with their own inner feminine side, leaving behind the old patriarchal rules about men and feelings and mystery, so that their actions spring from the truth of their being.

Initiation, death, rebirth, transformation, these are the treasures that Pluto bestows upon those who enter his realm.

January 15, 10:52 pm - Full Moon

Cold Moon

The Cold Moon lights our way into the unknown. In many areas, the January nights are cold--almost brittle--and snow softens the barren landscape. Tonight, the Cold Moon serves as a beacon and we are drawn to her to lead us on our journey into the New Year.

If you can see her, gaze upon her as if looking at her for the first time. See the moonlight as it shines upon the snow and turns the frost on the windowpanes to glitter. Let the moonlight become your path into the future. Honor her by lighting a white or silver candle and place it near a window. As an offering, crumble white sage near your door to purify your threshold. Welcome her by opening your front door. Step outside and see yourself walking down a new path, but you are unafraid. Speak to her:

*As I speak these words on this winter night,
Guide me Cold Moon with your light.
Allow my path to remain clear,
As I travel through another year.*

~ James Kambos in Llewellyn's 2014 Witches' Datebook

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January 30, 3:39 pm - New Moon

The second new moon in a month is often called a Black Moon. Magick performed during this moon is thought to be especially powerful. As with any new moon, there are many ways to utilize this Dark Moon energy. Most Witches know that the waning phase of the Moon occurs between the Full and New Moon phases, and it's during this time that we do magick to remove harmful or unwanted influences. By tapping into the Moon's decreasing energy, we release and banish those things which do not serve our highest good. It is a time to magickally remove obstacles and anything that may be blocking us from achieving our goals. On a much deeper level, the Dark Moon represents those things about ourselves that we keep hidden in shadow. It is a time to focus on inner workings and personal transformation. Harmful thought patterns, personality traits, addictions, fears, anger issues and bad habits are all things that we can look within to analyze and seek to remove during the Dark Moon. It is usually recommended to cast these kinds of spells as close to the Dark/New Moon as possible, or during the Waning Moon phase.

Ritual to Overcome Addiction

You need:

paper and pen
green candle
cloth bag
hematite crystal
orange calcite
chrysoprase

Write addiction on the piece of paper and mark through it with a heavy thick line.
Inscribe the candle with your name and light it. Say:

"Healing Ancients, I ask of thee
Take this pain away from me.
Remove any trace of this addiction
And heal me of all related afflictions."

Hold hematite to your forehead and say:
"Grant courage now and healing power
Strengthen my will hour by hour."

Place the hematite on the right side of the candle. Hold the chrysoprase to your forehead and say:

"Stone of joy and happiness
Put my urges now to rest."

Place it on the left side of the candle. Hold the calcite to your forehead and say:

"Amplifier of energies
Magnify their powers please."

Place calcite in front of the candle. Say:

"Powers of the Earth unite
Bind the powers of this addiction tight
So it will have no hold on me
As I will so mote it be!"

Hold the paper and say:

"Chains that bind me now break free
I am power, strength, and resiliency.
I have the courage to overcome
This (addiction).
Be gone from me! Do not return!
Your power over me I burn!"

Burn the paper. Watch it burn completely and meditate, visualize your addiction weakening, fading, and dying. Say:

"By flame of fire, I'm purified
Of your illusionary lies.
I'm free of you and all the strife
That you once cast upon my life.
I am healed now, I am free
As I will, so mote it be!"

January 30, 3:39 pm - Chinese New Year

Year of the Horse

The new Moon on January 30 begins the year of the Wood Horse. Chinese New Year is a spring festival that begins on the second new Moon after the Winter Solstice, with the Sun and Moon in Aquarius. This new Moon also starts the month of the Fire Tiger making energy very strong and lively as this Horse year begins, a clear departure from the slower energy of the previous Water Snake year 2013.

The Wood Horse year is a time of fast victories, unexpected adventure, and surprising romance. It is an excellent year for travel, and the more far away and off the beaten path, the better. Energy is high and production is rewarded. Decisive action, not procrastination, brings victory and you have to act quickly in a Horse year. If you are not 100% sure about a decision, don't do it. Events move so quickly in a Horse year that you don't want to gallop off in the wrong direction.

In Chinese astrology, a Horse year is considered a fortunate year that brings luck and good things. Magical Horse has supernatural powers, is heroic, strong, and can even fly! A white celestial cloud Horse is sacred to the Chinese Goddess Kwan Yin. Her white Horse flies through the heavens, bringing peace and blessings. Horse is a hero in China because important battles were won due to the power and strength of the Horse.

Horse's cycle is the seventh earthly branch in Chinese medicine and symbolizes June, the fifth lunar month. June is the time of Gemini, Horse's western counterpart. In the summer month of June there is powerful yang chi, and yin chi starts to settle. The sun is brightest and the plants are strong, having reached maturity. In Chinese medicine, Horse's earthly branch is the element Fire. Each of the 12 Chinese astrology signs have 2 hours; Horse hours are 11 am – 1 pm including the heat of high noon.

February 2 - Imbolc

Imbolc

Animals/Mythical Creatures - firebird, dragon, groundhog, deer, burrowing animals, ewes, robin, sheep, lamb, other creatures waking from hibernation

Gemstones - amethyst, garnet, onyx, turquoise

Incense/Oil - jasmine, rosemary, frankincense, cinnamon, neroli, musk, olive, sweet pea, basil, myrrh, and wisteria, apricot, carnation

Colors/Candles - brown, pink, red, orange, white, lavender, pale yellow, silver

Tools/Symbols/Decorations - white flowers, marigolds, plum blossoms, daffodils, Brigid wheel, Brigid's cross, candles, grain/seed for blessing, red candle in a cauldron full of earth, doll, Bride's Bed; the Bride, broom, milk, birchwood, snowflakes, snow in a crystal container, evergreens, homemade besom of dried broom, orange candle anointed in oil (see above) can be used to symbolize the renewing energy of the Sun's rebirth.

Goddesses - Virgin Goddess, Venus, Diana, Februa, Maiden, Child Goddess, Aradia, Athena, Inanna, Vesta, Gaia, Brigid, Selene (Greek), Branwen (Manx-Welsh)

Gods - young Sun Gods, Pan, Cupid/Eros (Greco-Roman), Dumuzi (Sumerian)

Essence - conception, initiation, insight, inspiration, creativity, mirth, renewal, dedication, breath of life, life-path, wise counsel, plan, prepare

Dynamics/Meaning - first stirring of Mother Earth, lambing, growth of the Sun God, the middle of winter

Purpose - honoring the Virgin Goddess, festival of the Maiden/Light

Rituals/Magick - cleansing; purification, renewal, creative inspiration, purification, initiation, candle work, house & temple blessings, welcoming Brigid, feast of milk & bread

Customs - lighting candles, seeking omens of Spring, storytelling, cleaning house, bonfires, indoor planting, stone collecting, candle kept burning dusk till dawn; hearth re-lighting

Foods - dairy, spicy foods, raisins, pumpkin, sesame & sunflower seeds, poppyseed bread/cake, honey cake, pancakes, waffles, herbal tea

Herbs - angelica, basil, bay, benzoin, celandine, clover, heather, myrrh, all yellow flowers, willow

Element/Gender - earth/female

Threshold - midnight

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

http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main_page=product_info&cPath=9&products_id=129

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Witch SuperCenter January Sale Items

Abalone Shell - Regular Price \$10.99, Sale Price \$9.99
Magickal Herb Kit, 75 Herbs - Regular Price - \$54.99, Sale Price - \$49.99
Hand-crafted Pentacle Book of Shadows - Regular Price - \$34.99, Sale Price - \$29.99
Dream Interpretation eBook - Regular Price - \$4.99, Sale Price - \$3.99
End of Your Rope 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

Yarrow - Water/Venus, Gender - Feminine, Parts Used - Flowery Tops, Magickal Properties - Love, Clairvoyance and Banishment, Uses - Carried as a sachet or amulet it repels or rids negative influences; said to keep a newly married couple together; keeps any upsetting influences out of the relationship and keeps love alive. Yarrow aids in increasing courage and in any divinatory workings.

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

Rhodonite - Rhodonite is associated with the element of fire and is also associated to the zodiac sign Taurus. It's said if you dream of this stone that it symbolizes stress in your life. Wearing Rhodonite can help calm you and help aid with any confusion you may be feeling, even doubt. This stone can create a psychic barrier of sorts to help you calm down to rest eventually and keep you from having unwanted visitors.

Rhodonite helps us to express confidence and love on an everyday basis. It's actually considered to be balance gemstone, providing one with the balance his/her body or life needs in order to feel more at ease.

Where Chakras are concerned, this stone is effective on the second chakra also known as the Naval Chakra and the fourth chakra also known as the heart chakra.

In antiquity, rhodonite was given to travelers as a protective stone. It was said to warn them of imminent danger by causing the heartbeat to accelerate suddenly. It assists with using your skills to help others; helps with self-love & acceptance and self-healing.

Rhodonite is a stone of compassion, an emotional balancer that clears away emotional wounds and scars from the past, and nurtures love. It stimulates, clears and activates

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the heart. Rhodonite grounds energy, balances yin-yang, and aids in achieving one's highest potential. It heals emotional shock and panic. Rhodonite aids in cases of emotional self-destruction, codependency and abuse. It encourages unselfish self-love and forgiveness. It promotes remaining calm in dangerous or upsetting situations, builds confidence and alleviates confusion.

Rhodonite relieves insect bites and can reduce scarring. It aids bone growth and the hearing organs. Rhodonite stimulates fertility. It treats emphysema, auto-immune diseases and stomach ulcers. It also eases inflammation of joints and arthritis.

Rune of the Month

Uruz (U: Auroch, a wild ox.) - Physical strength and speed, untamed potential; A time of great energy and health; Freedom, energy, action, courage, strength, tenacity, understanding, wisdom; Sudden or unexpected changes (usually for the better); Sexual desire, masculine potency; The shaping of power and pattern, formulation of the self. Uruz Reversed or Merkstave: Weakness, obsession, misdirected force, domination by others. sickness, inconsistency, ignorance, lust, brutality, rashness, callousness, violence.

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

The High Priestess - The High Priestess is the guardian of hidden secrets. She keeps the divine knowledge secretly tucked away for the right time to reveal. Positively associated with intuitiveness, understanding, wisdom, mystery, psychic ability, and the divine feminine. Negatively associated with lack of motherliness, emotional insecurity, secretiveness, and hidden obstacles or opponents.

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

Planetary Influences

Sun – power magick, health, prosperity, exorcism

Moon – intuition, dreams, psychic ability, female fertility

Mars – courage, energy, breaking negativity, physical strength

Mercury – divination, communications, knowledge, wisdom

Jupiter – happiness, luck, wealth, healing, male fertility, legal matters

Venus – love, sexual matters, marriage, friendship

Saturn – psychic ability, meditation, defense, communicating with spirits

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

Purification Bath

In the privacy of your bathroom, or if possible, in a large "kiddie pool" in your backyard under a full moon, draw a purification bath. Burn a white candle, or if outside, make a circle of white candles around the bath. Burn incense such as lavender or myrrh and chant the following:

By the power of my ancestors,
By the power of my descendants,
I let go of old troubles,
I let go of old life.
I am purified from fear,
I am purified from sorrow,
I am purified from my own mistakes.
I am purified like snow.
Blessed be!

To receive more spells, get our Wicca 101 and Beyond: A Witch's Grimoire eBook at

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