

New Moon December 5th 2010 A terrarium filled with carnivorous plants.

There is something very powerful in this year's concurrent Full Moon and Winter Solstice. The Full Moon energy is an opportunity to see where we are, an opportunity for self-reflection. The Winter Solstice, the longest night of the year, is an opportunity to surrender to the dark, to let what was be gone, to let what is coming, come. To me, the fact that these two celestial events happen together (along with a partial lunar eclipse!) suggests that the Universe wants us to be very self aware (Full Moon) of our deep surrender (Winter Solstice).

On one level, the Lunar Cycle is one of self-awareness. The interplay of Sun, Moon, and Earth energies... to think they complete a full-cycle every month is almost overwhelming – to realize every month is an opportunity to observe within ourselves a full cycle of birth, maturation, and death! From the New Moon time, the time between cycles, through the Fullness of the Moon to the next New Moon, we have evidence of the entire life-cycle.

I invite you here to meditate, with me, on the start of the cycle of life expressed by this New Moon as an opportunity to grow into the surrender needed to truly allow the New Year to grow by Divine guidance.

Aaahh, new beginnings. The fresh start.... There are so many examples in Nature – sprouting plants, baby animals, children. Each morning. There is in all of these a sense of renewal. Whatever is in the past is in the past, it is no more. Whatever is in the future is yet to be, it is without blemish, it is possible. For adult humans, in most cases the search for that renewed state is metaphysical. A lot of practical spirituality seems to have to do with realizing that state of newness, of nowness.

There are a lot of us out there seeking a sense of renewal through our practices.... We do yoga, we dance, we meditate – we consciously strive for a sense of NOW. We accept that we can't erase our debts (wow, there's a loaded word, "debts"!). We know that our bodies are aging. And we know (if we're very very lucky) that true happiness is our own creation, and that we all have, every minute, an opportunity to be "New", to "become as children" in the way Jesus meant. To become as innocent, as vulnerable, as hopeful, as a child.

First thing in the morning seems to be a time when that feeling, that newness, that awareness of potential seems to be especially strong. The night is somehow cleansing in itself... in sleep, no matter what we dream, we are all as innocent and vulnerable as a newborn. Maybe this is what is scary about "the dark." We have no control.

We are blessed to live here, on Earth. Each day our beautiful planet turns us away from the Sun, so that we can sleep. Each month, the Moon waxes and wanes, to remind us of the great cycle of life and death. Each year, we can be reborn through the longest night. Christ's birth during the time of the Winter Solstice is no accident, you know. "Become as children" he said. Wake up to presents.... But first, sleep, surrender.

Then the cycle runs and Santa is taken from us and for a long time we seek – I don't need to create a vision of this, you already know it. Until somehow we learn that what we really want is that feeling again, that sense of newness. We want to wake up to Presence.

I ask you now to believe with me that you going to somehow truly become new, not just metaphysically – that you will start your whole life anew. That you will wake up without debt of any kind, financial or moral. However, I am also going to ask you to wake up without a job. Without much of a house, if any. Let's really start fresh. I'm willing to allow you enough of your current world that you have enough food for the morning, and that you wake up warm and dry.

Other than that, though, you are going to have to figure it out, on your own. You are a spiritual being. How will you create yourself from scratch? There's not much comfort in that, no security. But there's nothing holding you back, either. I invite you to feel that sense of presence that is truly new. I invite you to allow yourself to love the unknown future.

The month of December is the time to think of just that sort of thing. No matter how 2010 treated you, it is wrapping up, and 2011 is about to begin. The nights are long now. We are being called to spend less time "doing" and more time renewing.

To me, the New Year begins on December 22.... The seed in the longest night feels its first pulse of life, its first pull towards the light of day. The night is long now – surrender to it. Let your Seed self rest. Dark is the intimate companion of Light. Let the Dark bring Light.

This year, the Winter Solstice, the longest night of the year, falls on a Full Moon. The Full Moon is itself the peak of a cycle – a cycle which begins with the New Moon on Sunday, December 5th. The New Moon of December, 2010, if you're in the Pacific Northwest, is at 9:35 AM.

The New Moon is the cusp between death and birth, it's the seed phase of each month. The chart for this New Moon shows the Sun conjunct the Moon in Sagittarius in the eleventh house, the house of Global Citizenship. Capricorn is rising. Steady, precise, adamant. This is the real thing.

The Chandra symbols for this New Moon, for the birth-state of the cycle that leads to the Winter Solstice, are unsettling to read, at first. If you're not familiar with Chandra symbols, they are intuitive images of each of the 360 degrees of the zodiac. Like Tarot cards. Their uses are many, as are the interpretations. When I use them, I don't try to understand them. I feel them.

Let's take a look now at the Chandra Symbols for the main energies of this New Moon moment. They seem to me to show strongly the need to let the old ways go completely and at the same time be willing to embrace a very uncertain future.

The rising, or persona of this cycle is at:

CAPRICORN 13 A very old wrinkled brown paper sack.

"Use and misuse. Taking advantage of your own beast of burden endurance to get the most out of yourself you possibly can. Extracting productive results from all other factors and fixating upon these. Eventually you get what you put into it. And if there is a self-exploitative or a darkly-abusive side to your way of operating, it generates the karma of aging and death and blight. It becomes crucial to develop, against the grain, compassion and all the gentler feelings. Because if unchecked, the heavy-handed self-demand to make the world work better at all costs will decimate the inner self."

So we have to be careful, to walk the edge between creating the self we want and the world we want. This demands a humility, a way of allowing that comes without hooks or expectation of return.

The symbol for the Sun/Moon conjunction of this birth chart is at:

SAGITTARIUS 14 A terrarium filled with carnivorous plants.

"Deposited in the jungle, the pit, the open sewer; exposed mercilessly to the worst chaos, multiplicity, and darkness the world has to offer. Toughened, seasoned, tempered under duress. Forced to get it. Magnetizing the collective crises and subcurrents can give you a crash course in what has happened to the world and what must be done about it. You feel especially keenly pulled to participate in situations where anything goes and you must live by your wits or else. This is the fast, hard way to get a refresher course in the tortures and the plagues, in order to come up with solutions and alternatives of the most avid, incisive, and irresistible kind."

Waking up as a citizen of the world means leaving a lot behind. The newness, the freshness of each breath can only be tasted if you are willing to leave behind the security of "your" world. The truly newborn state of the Adult Human is that creative state without.... Imagine, again... you wake up without credit card debt or the debt of any past. But not because of anything you've done. It is because you are born. That's non-attachment!

So you also wake up without anything you had yesterday. Because we really are being asked to leave the old world behind. To evolve through the ending of the Age of Oil we have to allow the Earth to show us what she needs from us.

The newborn human. This is our chance. To be born in the eleventh house, the house of Aquarius, of the collective. Going somewhere on a one-way ticket. Ready to love whatever is there. "You feel especially keenly pulled to participate in situations where anything goes and you must live by your wits or else." You are a spiritual being. What will you do here?

I shared this symbol with an ancient Lemurian Dragon, to see what she would say. Her answer can't be improved. Here it is:

“Yeah, I like it! It's just such a great reminder of the appropriateness to "go for it"...! There's no proven way for "salvation" in the midst of the current world chaos - we all have to become pioneers for something new that can go for a solution...It reminds me of how brave and creative and adaptable the earth herself is and so many of her creatures, who all are going through some serious crisis right now... and silly dragon is "whining" about leaving her little "comfort nest"...! Stepping bravely into a new beginning despite the fear of uncertainty is a necessary and noble thing to do! I think a good thing to remember for people would be that we aren't just "victims" of harsh and difficult times - we need to praise and honor ourselves for being part of such crucial times, for working through so much, helping this very necessary shift to happen, in what ever way we do it and trust that we are perfectly capable of becoming the new solutions...! “

So I invite you, on Sunday, to be willing to be born in the eleventh house, to become a global citizen, ready to learn the meaning of the new age. Born to live by your wits, participating as a spiritual being in a world you are committed to allow to guide you.

The New Year is calling you to let go of the world you've created, to return to the seed state to which nothing is attached. This New Moon is calling you to let go of your notion of yourself.

For the next two weeks we have the opportunity to truly find non-attachment. To be willing to be born, we must be willing to die. Make a commitment, on Sunday, to let go.

May the Moon Live in You!