



THE MAGIC OF THE MOON

By Amber Patton



For as long as I can remember I have been drawn to the stars. Many summer nights I would sneak out my bedroom window and lay on the warm grass just to watch the moon transform overhead. I would try to stay awake for as long as possible, counting the flickering patterns that formed the Draco constellation and imagine how the universe would look if that great dragon spat fire into space. I used to whisper a story about the sun and moon, and how their transits seemed to play out a complicated love song as they danced across the sky.

I believe my childhood fascination with astronomy influenced my adult path as a witch. I never seemed to fit into organised religion and chose to explore the solitary path some rebellious teens go through. For many years, I chose to live in denial of my witch half, and instead honed my obsession with the occult, numerology and astrology under the bed covers at night. Between high school and college, I drifted between paths, downloading information from philosophy, mythology, and ancient theory trying to understand their influence on the mind and universe. But unfortunately, I forgot the simple joy of looking up at the moon.

Every witch is different in their practice and method, but I believe I speak for all when I say the moon is especially important in witchcraft. Magic is the balance between light and dark, represented by the protective and courageous nature of the sun, and the healing and mothering nature of the moon. She is not only the embodiment of the Triple Goddess aspect, but the moon's monthly transformation from Full to New and back again reflects in us all. My shamanic teacher once said, "If the moon can renew itself each month, then so can you." It is a phrase I only started to understand this past year.

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Nearing the end of 2016, I was introduced to the teachings of Vedic Astrology when I attended a transit discussion with Gary O'Toole in Galway. Though I had dabbled in both western astrology and numerology, nothing in my studies prepared me for just how in-depth and accurate Gary's predications were. In the beginning, I couldn't wrap my brain around the theory of it all, but the logic behind his calculations justified the impact the transits would have on my life personally and I was intrigued.

Twenty-five weeks and three courses later, I can say with certainty that I've barely stretched the surface of Vedic Astrology. And yet, I feel completely impacted by what I've learned thus far. Not only did I start to understand the vast mythology surrounding the same planets I grew up watching on those summer nights, but I gained a new level of appreciation for personality traits and values I once disliked about myself. In starting to understand how the transits could impact day-to-day life, I became more aware of how it would affect people's reactions and thought patterns. I began altering minor life choice and intentionally setting time aside for my own personal rest and rejuvenation.

This past summer I was thrilled to learn that Gary planned to teach a course dedicated to both the Indian and Greco-Roman mythology surrounding the twenty-seven lunar signs. What I learned during the nine weeks invigorated my passion for the moon and lunar magic. Now, armed with new, impactful knowledge I study the transits weekly in my own magical practice. My online presence on Black Cat Spirit Healing has grown into a mixture of Hedgewitchery, herbalism and lunar magic all influenced by the current planetary transits. I've enjoyed combining my version of witchcraft with Vedic astrology and have even started to incorporate it into my homemade spells and remedies for people.

My entire craft has transformed with the addition of Vedic Astrology and my studies have pushed me to celebrate aspects of myself while exposing destructive thought patterns that no longer serve my highest good. I am currently on a journey of self-discovery and feel my connection to spirit and the universe will continue to grow for the rest of my life.

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Amber Patton is an intuitive rune reader, crystal healing practitioner and intuitive energy healer. She is a student of Vedic astrology as well as herbalism. Her path as a hedgewitch is influenced by many ancient traditions around the world, and she crafts handmade spell and deluxe ritual candles influenced by Nordic and Icelandic sigil magic. Visit Amber's website and social media to learn more!

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