

FULL MOON OF MAY: WHAT IT MEANS

May 16, 2011

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For many, this is the most important Full Moon of the year, if there is such a thing. The Full Moon in May is when the Buddha reached enlightenment. This same May Full Moon is also the time the Buddha was born and died, so it is an important point in the yearly cycle. In my own life, significant insights (a couple of times) came around this time, so I always pay some respect.

Until recent times, in Tibet they did not have Saturday and Sunday off as we do. Instead they had certain Moon phase days which they advised everyone to set aside for 'observation'. By observation they meant taking the time to observe your own mindstream during that day. These were the holidays (holy days) observed by the Buddhists, at least in Tibet.

The exact time of the Full Moon is Tuesday May 17, 2011 at 7:10 AM EDT. The Full Moon time in the Buddhist community is usually a time for practice, for examining the mind, acknowledging mistakes or misjudgments, and making vows not to repeat them endlessly. Traditionally the Full Moon time was not a time to travel much or move around a lot but, as mentioned, one to observe.

As for the astrological flavor of this particular Full Moon, I have written about this in an earlier post, but I will summarize it here.

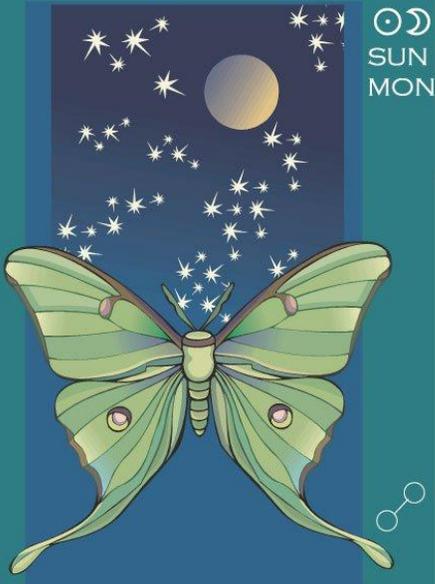
Of course many things are going on, but getting a shot in the arm, a boost when it comes to your career or vocation, literally: the path or 'way' you find your way through the thickets of life is what this is about. Also, an appreciation for or love of freedom and independence is strong now too. Putting this all together we might say "insight (and appreciation) into your personal life path or career" may be possible during this time if you can observe it. Also a sense of being alone or on your own, but not as a negative thing, which reminds me of a funny story.

I was intrigued by the work of M.C. Escher but I wanted to know more about his life and what he was like aside from his graphics. I read in his diaries or writings where he continually complained about being the "lonely genius", so sad and so not seen and appreciated, etc. You know the drill. Then toward the end of his writing, years later, he made the comment that although his is so alone it is "so refreshing!" I thought that was funny. So right now I am pointing to the possibility that this at this particular Full Moon the feeling of being alone can also be very invigorating and fresh.

Happy Full Moon of May!

Graphic card by Michael Erlewine

Full Experience



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