We know the Moon orbits the earth each month, shuttling between the earth and the Sun and between the Earth the outer planets, the nearest one which is Mars. It is useful to visualize how the Moon moves in relationship to being inside and outside the position of the earth in its own orbit. Think on these diagrams.

**Full Moon**

Here the Moon is on the outermost side of its orbit, aligned with the earth and the Sun. Notice that the direction and momentum of the Moon is the same as that of the earth. The earth is in the same degree of the zodiac as the Moon. — with [Shekem S-maa Kheru](mailto:Shekem@SmaaKheru.net).

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**Full Moon**

1) Moon Outside Earth’s Orbit
2) Sun/Earth/Moon Alignment
3) Moon/Earth Together
4) Moon/Earth Heading Same Direction
First Quarter Moon
1) Moon/Earth Equidistant the Sun
2) Moon in Wake of Earth
3) Moon Right Angles Earth
4) Moon Heading Outer Space

First Quarter
Here the Moon is balanced between the inside and the outer side of the earth’s orbit and moving toward the outward side at right angles to the motion of the earth itself. The Moon is behind in the zodiac to the position of the earth.

Last Quarter Moon
1) Moon Ahead of Earth in Space
2) Moon Right Angle to Earth
3) Moon Heading Toward Sun
4) Moon/Earth Equidistant From Sun

Last Quarter
Here the Moon is balanced between the inside and the outer side of the earth’s orbit and moving toward the inward side of the earth’s orbit, at 90 degrees to the orbit of the earth. Also note that the Moon is ahead of the earth in the zodiac at this point.
Above is a diagram of the moment of New Moon, when the Sun and Moon are aligned inside the earth’s orbit. Note that at the New Moon the Moon is heading in the exact opposite direction to that of the earth, after plunging toward the Sun in the 4th Quarter. The Earth and Moon are in the same degree of the zodiac.