

Welcome to the April 2018 edition of SAMS Monthly Timings from Three Members of the SAMS Executive Council Viola Goodwin, Mary Kern and Kate Rusko

Our goal is to provide an overview from a Shamanic Astrology (SA) perspective of what is happening in the April Sky and encourage you to go outside and have a look. All times are Pacific Daylight Time (PDT).

April Overview

As April begins the Moon is still full. **Mercury (12 Aries 33) and Jupiter (22 Scorpio 25) are retrograde.** Mercury is conjunct the Sun and invisible to Earth. In Shamanic Astrology (SA), this means that **Mercury is in the Underworld** in its synodic cycle. This Underworld concept is unique to Shamanic Astrology and you can learn more about it by participating in SAMS 2018 online course [Living Wisdom of the Inner Planets](http://shamanicastrology.org/living-wisdom-of-the-inner-planets-online-course/) (facilitated by Daniel Giamario and Cayelin Castell. Follow link below to see the **first video lesson FREE**.
<http://shamanicastrology.org/living-wisdom-of-the-inner-planets-online-course/>

Pluto reaches 21 Capricorn 17 and joins the Mercury and Jupiter retrograde party April 21.

Be sure to catch **Mars and Saturn as they continue to dance in the pre-dawn sky.** They've been within 1° of each other in Capricorn since March 31 and will depart from this close proximity on April 4. What can Mars learn from the limits and boundaries offered by Saturn during this time of such close proximity in the sign of Capricorn – the sign of Responsible Leadership to the Community and to the next Seven Generations? You can watch them separate as **Mars continues its speedier motion forward and Saturn goes retrograde on April 16.** Jupiter, retrograde in Scorpio, is farther west and also visible.

SAMS is also offering another live webinar journey through the Mars Synodic cycle. It's not too late to join Daniel Giamario and Erik Roth for the [Mars Journey through Sagittarius and the Scorpion](#). The next live class is April 26.

Meanwhile, **Venus (01 Taurus 20) as the Aries Wild Warrior Woman** engaged in the Inanna Journey continues her ascent, now through Taurus as **Evening Star Venus**, above the western horizon. It's not too late to deepen your engagement with this journey and its mythical implications. Everyone is welcome. You can find out more at [Venus Alchemy](#). Venus passes through the 2 Gate of the ascent on April 17 when she meets up with the Moon (21 Taurus 44) at 3:05 PM PDT.

Chiron Enters Aries April 17. Sun enters Taurus April 19. Venus enters Gemini April 24.



Shamanic Astrology Timings for April 1 - 10, 2018 by Viola Goodwin

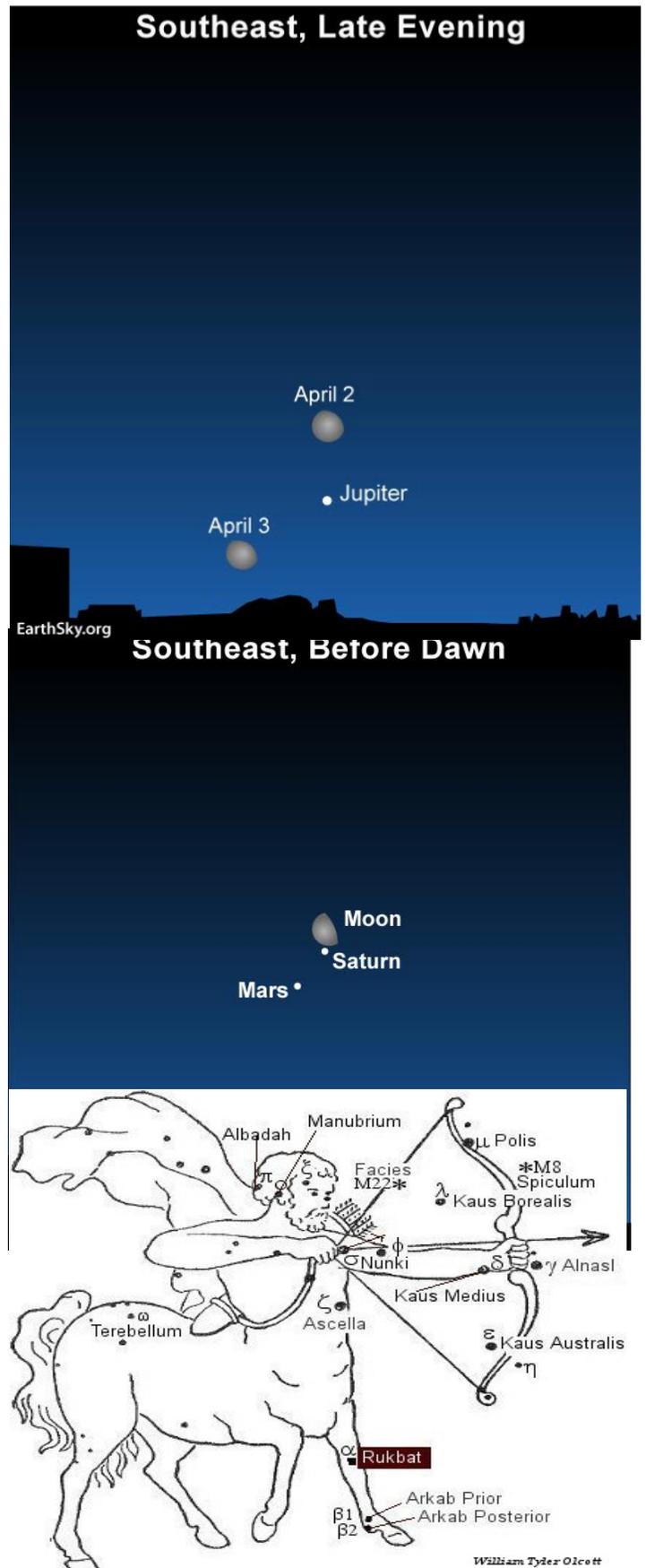
April 1, Sunday: The Moon is still full as April begins. This means the Moon and Sun are in opposition and the Sun's light illuminates the entire face of the Moon. Cayelin Castell suggests we use the cycle of the Moon to understand how planetary aspects work. Look at the Moon each day as it goes through its cycle to see if you can begin to predict where it will be the next day relative to the Sun.

On April 8 is the last quarter – half of the side that faces us will be illuminated by the Sun in Aries. Visually, this demonstrates the planetary interaction of two planets squaring each other. **On April 15, the Sun and Moon are conjunct** and we experience a New or Dark Moon. Following the New Moon, **on April 22 is a First Quarter Moon** when we again see a visual example of two objects in the sky squaring each other. The Moon conjuncts Spica (24 Libra 05) in the early morning and enters Scorpio by 3:57 PM PDT.

April 2, Monday: From the mid-northern latitudes south, almost everyone will be able to see **Jupiter and the waning gibbous moon** in the southeastern sky before 9 PM local time, through the evening and into pre-dawn. **Mars and Saturn (08 Capricorn 57) are exactly conjunct today at 8:37 AM PDT.** You'll be able to see them before dawn. Capricorn is the Mystery School of the Responsible Leader, the Wise Elder.

In SA, when Saturn aspects a natal planet we say it adds Capricorn, and of course, this event is happening in the Sign of Capricorn. Perhaps we'll see a trend toward more responsible behavior among our leaders.

April 3, Tuesday: Mars and Saturn are both very bright at about magnitude +0.3. Both planets will continue to increase in brightness and it's a great time to notice the distinct differences in their color. **Mars is a reddish color, while Saturn is more of a pale yellow.**

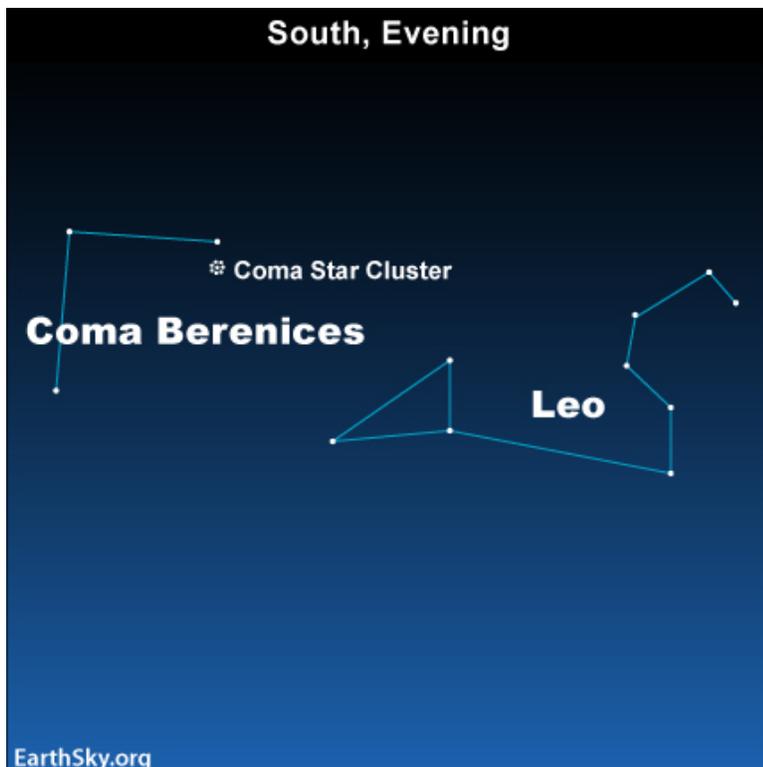


April 4 - 6, Wednesday - Friday: The Moon entered Sagittarius just before midnight on Tuesday, conjuncts Antares at 10 Sagittarius 01 on Wednesday at about 8 PM PDT, and is at 24 Sagittarius 29 by midnight on Thursday. By Friday morning at 11:02 AM PDT it enters Capricorn. That's 2 ½ days – the transit time for the Moon through a Sign.

April 7, Saturday: Today the **Moon conjuncts Rukbat (16 Capricorn 53)**, the knee of The Archer at 9:12 PM PDT. How is it possible that Rukbat is part of The Archer Constellation but its Sign location is 16 Capricorn 53 – near the middle of the Sign of Capricorn? If you're as mystified by this as I was before I started studying Shamanic Astrology, watch this video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q-svuwjprVc> Here's a hint: 2000 years ago they were the same!

April 8, Sunday: Facing south around 9 PM from east to west, the Constellations of **The Virgin Priestess, The Lion, and The Crab** take center stage as Spring takes hold in the Night Sky. Stars that stand out along the ecliptic are Spica (23 Libra 47) at the left hand of The Virgin Priestess and Regulus (29 Leo 47) beneath the sickle of the Lion's head. The **Moon enters Aquarius** at 11:50 PM.



April 9, Monday: The Virgin Priestess as depicted in *Urania's Mirror*, a set of constellation cards published in London, c.1825. This image is obtained for use here from [Wikipedia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Urania%27s_Mirror). Spica is the brightest star in this constellation. You can see Spica in the chaff of wheat in her left hand and very near the ecliptic in the Spring Night Sky.



April 10, Tuesday: Now is a good time to start watching **Mars because it is growing brighter and brighter between now and August** when it will appear to be brighter than Jupiter. During the first half of 2018, Earth will slowly catch up to Mars and Mars will appear to grow brighter as it does. By July 31st, Earth will be within 0.385 AU of Mars and Mars' visual magnitude will reach -2.8. (Note: 1 AU = 1 Astronomical Unit = the mean distance from the Sun to the Earth. 0.385 AU is about 35.8 million miles. This is a close encounter. (Courtesy of space.com.)

Shamanic Astrology Timings for April 11-20, 2018 by Mary Kern

April 11, Wednesday: The **Moon** moves into **Pisces** at 11:40 AM PDT. Pisces teaches about the importance of a compassionate heart. It feels the grief and suffering of humanity and responds with healing compassion. It merges humanity and the Divine.

The **Moon** (03 Pisces06) is conjunct **Fomalhaut** (04 Pisces 06), one of the **Four Royal Stars**.

The Four Royal Stars back in **3000 BCE** were considered royal by the Persians because they marked the cardinal points of the Equinoxes and Solstices and were thought of as the four horsemen of the Apocalypse. In star lore the four have also been called the **Archangel Stars** and **Watcher of the four directions of the compass**. They are all the brightest, most dominant star of their constellation.

According to star lore:

Fomalhaut marks the fish's Mouth in the constellation of The Fish. It represents the Archangel Gabriel and the Watcher of the South and marker of the Winter Solstice. **Aldebaran** marks the Eye in Constellation of The Bull. It represents Archangel Michael, the Watcher of the East and marker of the Vernal Equinox.

Antares marks the heart in the Constellation of The Scorpion and represents the Archangel Oriel or Ariel, the Watcher of the West and marker of the Autumn Equinox. **Regulus** marks the Heart in the constellation The Lion and represents the Archangel Rafael, the Watcher of North and marker of the Summer Solstice.

Mars in Capricorn (13 Capricorn 43) is **conjunct** the star **Ascella** (13 Capricorn 41) in the constellation of the Archer. According to *Starlight Elixirs & Cosmic Vibrational Healing*, this star brings in a deeper awareness of speaking correctly and an enhanced way of creating joy by speaking at the highest spiritual level. Meditation on Ascella may facilitate an emotional shift helping to release past-life trauma from misuse of speaking.

How can the Divine Masculine, represented by the planet Mars, be influenced or even healed by its dialog with Ascella as it moves through the seasonal sign of Capricorn?

Capricorn is currently evolving and becoming the archetype of wise elders here to make the world safe for future generations.

April 12, Thursday: The **Moon** (15 Pisces 20) is **conjunct Neptune** (15 Pisces 20) at 5:09Pm PDT magnifying Neptune's compassion and grace - helping to dream into a kinder and more heart-centered new world.

Mars in Capricorn (14 Capricorn 14) is **conjunct** the **Behenian Star, Sirius** (13 Capricorn 23). Sirius is the brightest star (a binary system of two stars) in the night sky. The name **Sirius** literally means "scorching" or "the scorcher" perhaps because it's annual helical rise at the Summer Solstice was seen to bring the hottest, driest days of suffering to Ancient Egypt.



These days are known as the “dog days” of summer referencing back to this “dog star” located in the dog’s neck in the constellation in Canis Major, Orion’s canine companion where Sirius is located.

- How will Sirius bring heat and transformation to any unhealed aspects of the Patriarchal version of Divine Masculine (represented by Mars) that create or has created suffering for humanity?
- How will this heat help Mars rewrite the new operating manual for Earth as Capricorn is already doing?

April 13, Friday: Mars (14 Capricorn 16) opposes the star Canopus (14 Cancer 16). Canopus, according to *Starlight Elixirs & Cosmic Vibrational Healing*, is the brightest star in the Southern Hemisphere. It radiates a powerful light of generosity that is said to encourage an exchange of loving acceptance and service between beings. In the past the Divine Masculine has been given too much responsibility and power and mistakenly misused it to harm others. This star’s elixir brings gentleness and power together to heal the misuse of power.

Friday the 13th is the first of two Friday the 13ths in 2018. The second one occurs in July.

Huffingtonpost.com tells us that prior to Patriarchal times both Fridays and 13s were held in the very highest regard. Both the day and the number were associated with the Great Goddesses, and therefore, esteemed as sacred.

The Hebrews held holy the number 13 to honor the Shekinah, the female aspect of God. Friday was the day observed to honor Her and Jews worldwide still begin the observance of the Sabbath at sunset on Friday evenings. Friday is also the Sabbath in the Islamic world. In Anglo-Saxon, Scandinavian, Icelandic, and Teutonic cultures the Divine Feminine was called Freya, Freia, Freyja, and Frig. Friday is Frig’s Day. In the Mediterranean She reigned as Venus. **In Latin, Friday is the Day of Venus.**

Superstition still shrouds the day in fear. In the Middle Ages, people would not marry or set out on a journey on a Friday. Early Christianity had superstitions associated with Fridays and the number 13. Jesus was said to have been crucified on a Friday. Judas Iscariot, the disciple who betrayed Jesus, is said to have been the 13th guest at the Last Supper. The word Friday comes from Frigga, an ancient Scandinavian fertility and love goddess whom early Christians called a witch — they called Friday the witches’ Sabbath.

More recently the slasher-movie franchise, Friday the 13th, has helped keep the mythical fear of Friday 13th, or **friggatriskaidekaphobia**, alive. Consider that 13 is the number of the One surrounded by Her 12 emanations or cosmic archetypes. Here are some cool facts from earthsky.org on Friday the 13th. Every calendar year has one to three “Friday the 13ths”. Most common is two occurrences with three occurrences the least common. Friday the 13th on July 13, 2018, comes exactly 13 weeks after the Friday the 13th on April 13, 2018 which comes 26 weeks (2x13) after the last one occurred in 2017. Any month starting on a Sunday will have a Friday the 13th.

April 14, Saturday: Mars (15 Capricorn17) is conjunct the Behenian Star Vega, (15 Capricorn 22) the principal star in the constellation Lyra. According to *Fixed Stars and Their Interpretations*, the Babylonians called Vega the star of the Queen of Life.



Starlight Elixirs & Cosmic Vibrational Healing tells us that Vega can help us understand that we are all interconnected or connected to a common source and it is from this source that all vibration, music, soul connection and bonding originate. This is a star of attunement helping the Divine Masculine *re-attune and remember* what the Divine Masculine already knows at a very deep level.

April 15, Sunday: The New Moon conjuncts the Sun at 26 Aries 02 at 6:57pmPDT.

A New Moon begins a time of increasing light, a time for new beginnings and a great time to set your intentions for your personal projects, growth, and business life. This is a time when we may feel more vitality and harmony. This New Moon begins a new time of action and is the seed point of the beginning lunar cycle in Aries, the archetype of action and the noble cause. You may need this extra spurt of determination today to complete your U.S. federal taxes due on April 17th.

*What new noble actions will be unveiled on the world stage at this time?
Stay tuned and notice what transpires.*

This **Moon** (28 Aries 01) conspires with another planetary energy for maximum affect as it conjuncts **Uranus** at 10:59pmPDT suggesting sudden change and the unexpected with perhaps an urge for freedom. (I am dreaming into, for some, this is discovering an unexpected tax return to inspire the freedom of vacation or adventure.)

Mercury stations direct at 2:21 AM PDT at 04 Aries 47. **What is a “station?”** When a planet stations retrograde it means that instead of progressing forward through the zodiac, from one sign to the next, it appears to move backwards. This is a visual illusion. When a planet is in the process of slowing down and turning forward it is said “to be stationary and turning direct,” or “stationing direct.” When it is turning backward it is said to “station retrograde.” Stations tend to reflect pivotal events or changes triggered in our attitudes and our lives.

The **Moon** (03 Aries 49) catches up to **Mercury** (04 Aries 49) at 3:23 AM PDT. **The Moon in Aries** energizes the Mysteries of the Sacred Warrior with a noble cause committed to a righteous, inspired action. **Mercury in Aries** represents the fiery intuitive mind that perceives, communicates, and imagines into this righteous, inspired action. Together these energies are focused, posed and charged to execute what is necessary to future a worthy cause.

What worthy noble cause is your mind inspiring you to take action to further?

Mars (15Cap 53) occults **Rukbat** (16 Capricorn 53) at 9:06 AM PDT. According to the Authors of *Starlight Elixirs*, Rukbat brings a deep awareness of God’s Grace and the way Karma can be shifted through deep love. The current 26-month synodic cycle of Mars is in the overtone or learning the curriculum of Sagittarius, the Seasonal Sign known for the spiritual quest. Dialoging with Rukbat provides Mars, (the stand-in for the Divine



Masculine), some important insight as this energy is assisted in its transformation from centuries of patriarchal dominance to a kinder, conscious equal partner to the Divine Feminine.

April 16, Monday: The **Moon** goes into **Taurus** at 1:51 AM PDT. Taurus is the deepest expression of the Earth element and knowing the splendor of being in a physical, sensing body.

Venus (20 Taurus 00) continues her ascent from the underworld in Taurus and **opposes Jupiter** at 11:59pm PDT. This provides the Divine Feminine (Venus) a boost of expanded enthusiasm for reclaiming her right to her physical body, the pleasure of owning and sensing with her body, and her grounding roots—all mark the balance and ascension of the first chakra, the first gate of her upward journey.

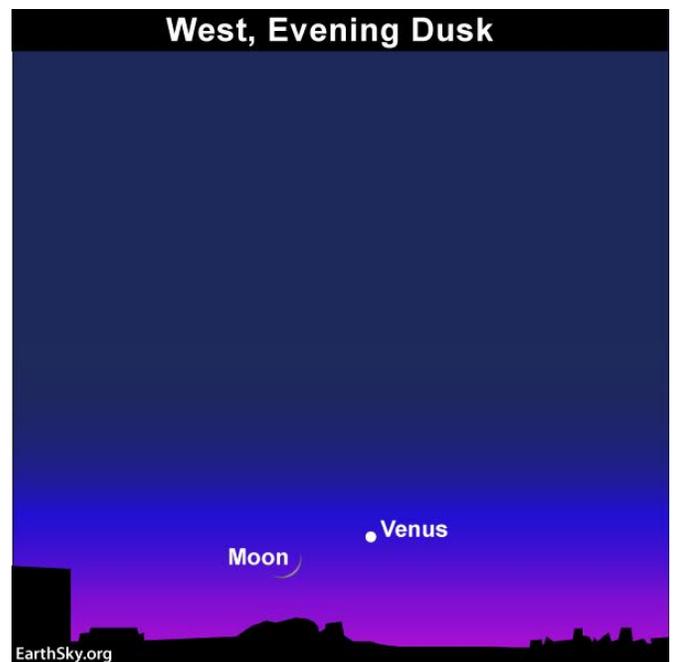
Mars continues its journey through The Archer and today is located 2.2 degrees south of Albadah, (Pi Sagitarii). This bright star is connected to Arabian star lore and is called the “City”, thought to be a reference to Mecca or Makkah, according to Jim Kaler, Professor Emeritus of Astronomy, University of Illinois cited at stars.astro.illinois.edu. For Islam this Saudi Arabian city is the holiest of all places; birth place of Muhammad, the final messenger of God. *What is its spiritual message to Mars?*

April 16 to June 4 is when Jupiter will appear its brightest! This is a good time to check it out in the night sky. You can compare its brightness with Mars as Mars increases in brightness and outshines Jupiter by August of this year.

April 17, Tuesday: The **Moon is conjunct Venus** (21 Taurus 44) at 3:05pm PDT, marking Venus’s ascent to the second gate, symbolic of the opportunities that arise to assist souls in clearing away any second chakra wounds so that this spiritual center of creativity and sexual pleasure can operate at a higher octave. To learn more about the celestial voyage of Venus as the Divine Feminine occulting monthly the crescent Moon to rebalance and elevate the chakra centers visit here: <http://venusalchemy.com/venus-alchemy-classes/aries-arise-evening-star-ser>

Saturn stations Retrograde (09 Capricorn 08R) at 6:47pm PDT and stays retrograde until September 6, 2018 when at 2 Capricorn 33 it **Stations Direct**. In 2018, Saturn travels forward to 9 degrees of Capricorn, then turns retrograde and travels backwards to 2 degrees, turns direct and travels forward through 9 degrees of Capricorn again and beyond. If you have any personal planets from 0 to 12 degrees of Capricorn, you are having a Saturn transit to that planet this year.

Because Saturn in Capricorn forms a challenging aspect to Libra, Aries and Cancer (square or opposition), if you have any planet between 0 and 12 degrees of any of those signs, that planet is in the crosshairs of Saturn’s transit and activating a personal Saturn initiation cycle. Those interested in learning more about the personal transits and the timeline of life will want to check into this informative on-line course: <http://shamanicastrology.org/shamanic-timeline-online-course-details-and-registration/>



The **Moon** (25 Taurus 25) catches up to the **Behenian Star, Algol** (26 Taurus 24). See more about Algol on April 20.

April 18, Wednesday: The Moon moves into **Gemini** at 5:02 AM PDT while the **Sun** in **Aries** is conjunct **Uranus** at 6:59 AM PDT. The Gemini Moon carries the energy of the trickster, the one who uses the logical mind to go beyond the human mind and into infinite mind. This is the energy of the networker, writer and journalist as well as the jokester.

The Sun in Aries with Uranus can shine the unexpected or novel upon this solar warrior Sun goddess.

*So, once again, stay tuned in to see what could transpire in the collective as the Sun with the help of Uranus completes her last day on her path through **Aries** for 2018!*

The **Moon** (09 Gemini 02) meets up with the **Royal Star, Aldebaran** (10 Gemini 02) at 8:14 pm PDT. (See April 11 above for more on the **Royal Stars**.)

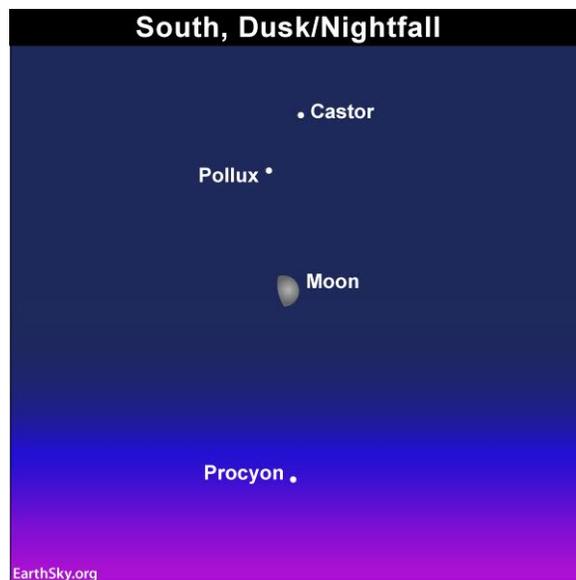
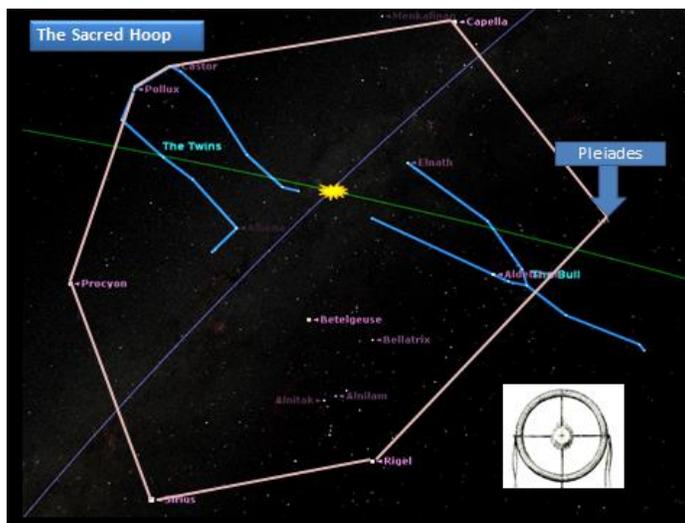
April 19, Thursday: The Sun moves into **Taurus** at 8:13 pm PDT. The sign of Taurus is the Great Bull of Heaven a symbol of the past era of the Matriarch when our Earth Mother was honored and nurtured by its people. This is the season of Beltane when the blossoms of Spring fill the air with beauty and fragrance—a time of peace, harmony and plenty. The new life and vibrancy of Aries transitions to Taurus to blossom and now pauses to take in the fragrant sensuality of what has been created.

The **Sun** (20 Gemini 11) is conjunct **Bellatrix** (21 Gemini 11) at 2:58pm PDT. **Bellatrix** is the star marking **Orion, the Hunter's** left shoulder. The giant red star, **Betelgeuse** marks **Orion's** right shoulder.

The Sacred Hoop surrounding the Moon is in full view on **April 19, 20, and 21**. *Be sure you go outside and check out the moon and Sacred Hoop or "Winter Circle" of stars.* This is a giant lasso of brilliant stars that fills our western sky at dusk and nightfall in the northern hemisphere. *Be sure you watch at dusk and nightfall since the Sacred Hoop stars will sink below the horizon by early evening.*

Since the Crescent Moon represents the human soul we may ponder what powerful energies are working to open and evolve the collective soul at this time? Tuning into the major stars and their meanings with the moon here gives clues to this.

The **Moon** (21 Gemini 06) is conjunct another Behenian star, **Capella** (22 Gemini 06) at 4:30pm PDT, the main star in the constellation Auriga, the Charioteer, one of the stars that creates the Sacred Hoop. Capella is seen to increase one's spiritual connection to one's soul strengthening the link between the soul and the physical form as explained in *Starlight Elixirs & Cosmic Vibrational Healing*.



Chiron (0 Aries 08) moves into Aries and will stay in Aries until it retrogrades back into Pisces in September 2018, re-entering Aries and transiting this sign from Feb 2019 until June 2026 when it then ingresses into Taurus. The Asteroid, Chiron, represents the Wounded Healer—the one who transmutes pain and suffering into an elixir to help others heal. It is the healer who unlocks what is most essential to reconcile and holistically heal the split or wound made when a soul is separated from oneness.



Traveling through Aries Chiron is healing the split of how one knows oneself. On the world stage this can be the rebalancing of self-confidence & personal power of the Divine Masculine and Divine Feminine. This is badly needed now for these two halves of the whole to work constructively together to bring in a New World.

Learn more about this important transition of **Chiron into Aries** in the informative teleclass on this significant ingress presented by the founders of the Shamanic Astrology Mystery School at this link <http://shamanicastrology.com/2018-teleclasses>.

Chiron conjuncts Deneb Kaitos (02 Aries 37) a beta star in the Tail of Cetus, the Whale constellation. According to *Starlight Elixirs & Cosmic Vibrational Healing* it represents the etheric body and especially the healing of the second chakra that is aided by this star. This is an area of subtle energy not yet well understood and explored on our planet that increases our awareness, healing, and understanding of self and supports enlightenment. When this star was conjunct Mars on May 5, 1945 World War II ended, according to author Ebertin-Hoffmann in *Fixed Stars & their Interpretation*.

There is truly an abundance of Celestial support and guidance available to our Planetary Gods and Goddess at this time.

April 20, Friday: Jupiter (20 Scorpio 27) at 3:21 AM PDT, is conjunct **Zubeneschamali (19 Scorpio 25)**, in the constellation of the **Scales**, assisting us in seeing our unconscious patterns, including past lifetime patterns, we may be repeating. Emotional scars and deep-rooted causes of anger may be revealed when they come from the unconscious into the conscious for our awareness and clearing explained in *Starlight Elixirs*.

Jupiter is expanding and activating this gift as it joins **Zubeneschamali**.

The **Moon (28 Gemini 00) at 4:05 AM PDT** meets up with **Betelgeuse (29 Gemini 00)** the Star marking the right shoulder of Orion in the The Hunter Constellation. At 6:01 AM PDT the **Moon** joins **Menkalinan (00 Cancer 09)**, Starlight Diagram from *Star Names by Richard Hinckley Allen, 1889*.

The **Moon** moves into **Cancer** at 7:26 AM PDT. Illuminating the nurturing energy that gives support to creating a new way to live together in community, co-operation and peace on this planet.

Venus (24 Taurus 53) is conjunct Capulus in the constellation of Perseus (24 Taurus 13). The constellation of Perseus lies between Cassiopeia and the Pleiades. This mythological Greek figure holds a sword above his head in his right hand. The sword **Capulus** as it was called by the Greeks is richly engraved on its handle, or

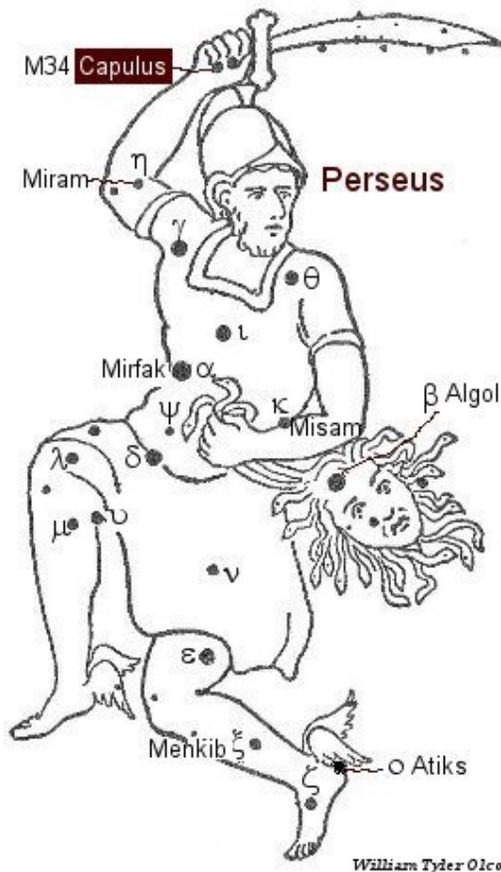
hilt. According to skyscript.co.uk, the Star cluster, **Capulus**, is said to relate to the emotional, spiritual or even physical blindness that needs to be healed.

What is the Divine Feminine blind to and how will she heal this? What is the blindness within ourselves that we need to acknowledge and open our eyes to?

At 3:18 AM PDT **Venus** (25 Taurus 24) greets **Algol** (26 Taurus 24). Once again, *Starlight Elixirs & Cosmic Vibrational Healing* help us feel into Algol meeting with Venus, the Divine Feminine stand-in. According to this source the blue-white **Behenian Star, Algol**, assists in attuning to deep within where silence and deep knowing can guide choices and illuminate awareness of aligned destiny and purpose. (Images from constellationofwords.com)

How can attuning to this silent presence of knowing aid the Divine Feminine as she ascends from the Underworld to reclaim all of her spiritual centers and reclaim her empowerment?

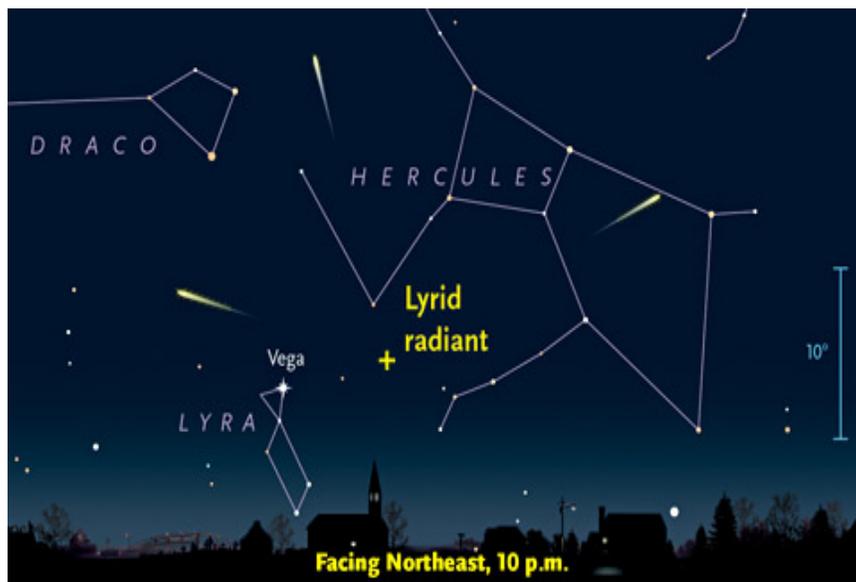
What is her new aligned destiny and purpose and how are you part of this?



Shamanic Astrology Timings for April 21-31, 2018 by Kate Rusko

April 21st, Saturday: The peak of the Lyrid meteor showers occurs around this time. This meteor shower can best be seen for the next few nights, especially after the waning Moon has set early on the 22nd and the 23rd. These meteor showers can sometimes produce fireballs, and are the debris of comet Thatcher that takes about 415 years to orbit the Sun. Nice that this falls on a weekend!

The “radiant” is the point from which they appear to originate. (skyandtelescope.com)



Mercury has started moving direct again beginning a new approximately 120 day overtone in the sign of Aries. Although it is not yet moving at its usual clip, Mercury is a planet that likes movement, as does Aries, the sign it is in. We should all feel inspired to take some bold steps and *commit*. To learn more about the synodic cycle of Mercury, considering joining the upcoming *Living Wisdom of the Inner Planets* on-line course: <http://shamanicastrology.org/living-wisdom-of-the-inner-planets-online-course/>

April 22, Sunday: The **First Quarter Moon** is in Leo as **Pluto turns retrograde** at 21 Capricorn 17 at 8:25 AM. In the Shamanic Astrology paradigm, the retrograde period of an outer planet such as Pluto as a *general influence* does not nearly carry the same weight as those of a personal planet such as Mars, Venus or Mercury. If you have a personal planet (Sun, Mars, Venus, or Mercury) however within the range of the retrograde, you are in a long-term underworld initiation cycle.

April 23, Monday: The Moon is with **Regulus**. Regulus is the heart of the lion in the Lion constellation and the only 1st magnitude star (magnitude has to do with apparent brightness) to sit squarely on the ecliptic. It is also one of the four Royal Stars of Persia. The four royal stars marked the cardinal points and were the signs of the zodiac in which the Sun was located on the shortest and longest days. These signs have shifted due to precession. For more about precession check out this video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q-svuwjprVc>

April 24, Tuesday: **Venus moves into Gemini**, the eternal youth. This Venus wants to be valued for her mental brilliance and seeks freedom from the rules. She is very creative and playful.

Venus will pass south of the **Pleiades**, a cluster of stars in the shoulder of the Bull. This constellation has long been associated with the giving of life. The Egyptians identified the Bull with Osiris, the god of the Nile.

April 25, Wednesday: What is the difference between the apogee and the perigee of the Moon? *Lunar perigee* is when the Moon is at its closest to the Earth. *Lunar apogee* is when the Moon is at its farthest point from the earth. The Moon was at perigee on April 20th and is now moving towards apogee until May 6th. To find out more:

<http://earthsky.org/tonight/moon-still-in-leo-on-April-25>

April 26, Thursday: **Mars and Retrograde Pluto are conjunct** at 21 Capricorn 17. Mars is about to wrap up its 26 month cycle in the overtone of Sagittarius next month. Mars is now in its “elder wisdom” phase, emphasized by its passage through Capricorn, the sign most associated with elder knowledge and its practical uses. Which latent shadows or fears will surface so that Mars can truly step into the depths of his power?



April 27, Friday: The Moon in Libra is near Spica, crossing the celestial equator, the Earth’s equator projected onto the sky. The ecliptic and the celestial equator cross in two spots: one in the constellation of Virgo and the other in the constellation of Pisces.

According to EarthSky.org when the Moon is passing through the constellation Virgo, as it currently is, we can expect it to cross the celestial equator going from north to south.

April 28, Saturday: **Mercury is at current maximum elongation** from the Sun (27



degrees). It is not a great time to view Mercury in the Northern latitudes, but it is a spectacular time to view Mercury in the morning sky in the Southern Hemisphere.

April 29, Sunday: Full Moon in Scorpio, the sign of shamanic death and rebirth. What shadows are illuminated? Where can we die to old notions of ourselves in order to be reborn more fully in our power? Keep in mind that Venus is on the ascent, and Mars is in the elder phase as well of his cycle.

April 30, Monday: Uranus is at 29 Aries 11. The New Moon on the 15th of May coincides the shift of Uranus into Taurus. It will retrograde back into Aries by August. Uranus has been in Aries for the past 8 years bringing sudden and brilliant insight and innovation into the sign of the “scared warrior defending the cosmic order” (Page 37 of *The Shamanic Astrology Handbook*).

Join Daniel Gamario and Cayelin Castell for a teleclass devoted to Uranus in Taurus in May
<http://shamanicastrology.com/teleclasses>