

A Virgo Initiation

Look for the beginning (0°) of the Virgo (♍) point in your chart. On 8/23/06, this is the place that will be highlighted in your chart with the Sun's entrance into Virgo. It begins at 2:22 a.m. and is followed by the New Moon in Virgo (0°♍31') which occurs at 3:10 p.m. later that day. Begin to realize your Virgo strength in whatever area of your chart it falls.

At the time of the New Moon in Virgo, set your intentions for a new way to begin to experience life. Virgo energy is about understanding our health and wholeness. Do we get enough rest, exercise and eat properly? Do we pay attention to all the levels that are a part of our wholeness? The physical day-to-day nudges from our bodies, our emotions felt in our hearts, our spiritual longings and the balancing of our mental intelligence with body/heart intelligence.

Virgo's ruler is Mercury, which governs our thoughts and communication. This is an opportune time to initiate new ways of thinking in understanding our wholeness. To leave behind the shadow sides of Virgo which include self-criticism, pickiness, self-demanding, perfectionist traits and over-analyzing activities that keep you removed from the present moment.

To begin the Virgo cycle, I would like to invoke and have you align with the archetypal energy of The Priestess during the Solar and Lunar initiation into Virgo energies. Caroline Myss in Sacred Contracts describes The Priestesses, as women who took spiritual vows by making "commitments to divine authority. Ordination or similar rituals of initiations allow (the Priestess) to serve as a vehicle or spiritual channel of energy of others...Ordination also empowers the Priestess to convey to the public the power of sacred teachings, rituals, wisdom, morality, and ethics of each spiritual tradition. Because of these profound spiritual responsibilities, the ordained are expected to represent the teachings through spiritual example." Let us choose, as of today, to become the Priestesses and guardians of the Earth. We are the ordained.

Some modern astrologers consider Vesta, an asteroid, holding rulership over Virgo. Vesta was the Roman goddess. The vestal virgins dedicated to her temple guarded the fire so that it never burned out. In pre-Hellenic times, the virgins initiated men into the sacred mysteries. Hestia was her counterpart in Greek mythology and her duty was to maintain the flame in the hearth and home. Hestia's name means "the essence of the true nature of things." Vesta/Hestia were considered the "complete" goddesses. They were whole within themselves. Vesta represents the principle of dedicated work and encourages us to commit to a life-long path of keeping the sacred flame lit within the temple of our own bodies. Let us make a commitment to keep watch over our own fire so that we don't let ourselves burn out. Can we consider it our sacred duty to make sure we keep our own self supported so that we can serve the Earth during these times of change? Let us continue to integrate feminine energies to bring wholeness onto the Earth. Let us set intentions for balance. Be a stronger light and fully-conscious. Make a commitment to fulfill a Virgo's (Priestess) understanding of a desire to serve. Let us find new ways to balance our intuitiveness and other realm perceptions to complete our daily tasks. This is a time to review how we live. Please consider the following suggestions, if Virgo falls in your...

1st House ~ *Your personality and appearance, the health and vitality of your physical body, how others see you, your sense of identity, the breath of incarnation – fears and potential.*

It is your sacred duty to be fully committed to living here now.

Mother Teresa said "Holiness is not the luxury of a few. It is everyone's duty: yours and mine."

Make a re-commitment to living life. Re-dedicate yourself to serve all. Keep saying "yes" to life – it is your holy duty.

2nd House ~ *Your finances, sense of your self-esteem, your value system, possessions, your talents to make money, resources and body intelligence.*

"The modalities of awakened doing are acceptance, enjoyment and enthusiasm...make sure one of them operates whenever you are engaged in doing anything at all – from the most simple task to the most complex." A New Earth – Awakening to Your Life's Purpose by Eckhart Tolle

It is your sacred duty to love yourself as you are right now in your body. Accept, enjoy and be enthused about you! The values you espouse are total self-acceptance and unconditional love.

3rd House ~ *Your siblings, short trips, early environment of school and the neighborhood, early school teachers, communication, how you think, speak and write, logic, manual skills, vehicles.*

Link your heart and mind together.

*"It's strange what the mind can do when the heart is giving directions."
The History of Love by Nichole Krauss*

It is your sacred duty to monitor your thoughts. Your vocabulary shrinks by no longer using words like "should", "can't", "stupid", "what was I thinking?" and grows by using words like "honor", "intend", "choose", "sacred"...

4th House ~ *Your home and home life, the home you create, a parent, real estate, ending years of your life, early environment in the home, your personal foundation and sense of security, lineage or ancestry.*

It is your sacred duty to acknowledge from your ancestors the gifts they have bestowed upon you and choose to break familial patterns that do not support and express unconditional love. As a priestess recognizing your feelings is a way to honor yourself. Commit to finding your own sacred home space within, you are the keeper of this sanctuary. In the spirit of Hestia, extend hospitality to others and sanctuary to yourself.

"The ordinary arts we practice every day at home are of more importance to the soul than their simplicity might suggest." Thomas Moore

5th House ~ *Your love affairs and passions, romance, how you feel about sex, your children, sports, gambling, creative self-expression of who you are, your heart and*

willful expression, your willingness to take risks in your heart's pursuit, pleasure activities and fun.

It is your sacred duty to stay committed to discovering new ways of creating and expressing passion in your life. Your sacred heart holds the key! You are the guardian of what remains held there. Never underestimate the power of your will and determination.

*"If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew
To serve your turn long after they are gone,
And so hold on when there is nothing in you
Except the Will which says to them: "Hold on!"
...Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it..." Rudyard Kipling's IF*

6th House ~ *Your work, your health, daily regimens, routines for diet and exercise, loving service for others, co-workers, employees, habits, wardrobe, pets, health-care providers, professional service people – those you consult re: diet, exercise; co-workers, pets.*

It is your sacred duty to filter out all in you, and around you, that does not speak of love.

*"Love and intimacy are the root of what makes us sick and what makes us well.
I am not aware of any other factor in medicine - not diet, not smoking, not exercise...
not drugs, not surgery-that has a greater impact on our quality of life, incidence of illness
and premature death." Dean Ornish, Love and Survival: The Scientific Basis for the Healing
Power of Intimacy.*

7th House ~ *All relationships especially marital, business and political partnerships, interactions with the public, perceived public enemies, legal affairs, unions and contracts, and how to maintain your balance while in relationship.*

"Look into the mirror of your relationships and use the reflection to change what needs to be changed within your own consciousness. It is important to resist the temptation to make other people change without first looking at what needs to be shifted within yourself. It can seem quite miraculous that as you change yourself, the reflection in the mirror of your relationships changes, too." - Relationship coaches Layne and Paul Cutright

It is your sacred duty to understand with the relationships that you are in, what aspects of the other are reflected within you.

8th House ~ *Transformational place for self-mastery with the ability to regenerate, psychic levels, partner's assets and how you feel about this resource, money given to you not through your own means of generating income, support received from other people, wills, financial advisors, taxes, debt, inheritances, insurance, secrets, sex, death, surgery, sleep, metaphysical realm.*

It is your sacred duty to master your own energy. All sense of control and power is put forth into yourself and not on another. You are in the alchemical process of facing your own fears and transcending them.

*"A priestess must learn not only to give, but to control, her power!" Priestess of Avalon –
Marion Zimmer Bradley & Diana Paxson*

9th House ~ *Religious and philosophical beliefs, laws – earth-made as well as universal, spiritual laws, distant travel, in-laws, super-conscious realms experienced through dreams or visions, educational plans, profound mental study, publishing, grand-children, intuition, teachers, higher courts and divorce, and foreign cultures.*

It is your sacred duty to hold no judgment towards any other person and stay committed to the universal law of harming no one. (including yourself!) Understand your knowledge and live by your wisdom.

"Knowledge is words, wisdom is silent. Knowledge is standing outside, understanding what is seen; wisdom is standing at the center, knowing what is not seen. No person can be whole without both dimensions of learning." Simple Truths: Clear & Simple Guidance on the Big Issues in Life by Kent Nerburn

10th House ~ *Your profession or career, social standing in the community, also indicates your ambition, status and reputation, business and social activities, government, authority, parent, employer, the influence you exert, your own sense of honor and integrity, and your responsibilities.*

THE SHERPAS ARE alert for ways in which to be of use, yet are never insistent, far less servile; since they are paid to perform a service, why not do it as well as possible? "Here, sir! I will wash the mud!" "I carry that, sir!" As George Schaller says, "When the going gets rough, they take care of you first." Yet their dignity is unassailable, for the service is rendered for its own sake—it is the task, not the employer that is served. As Buddhists, they know that the doing matters more than the attainment or reward, that to serve in this selfless way is to be free... The generous and open outlook of the sherpas, a kind of merry defenselessness, is by no means common..." Peter Matthiessen, The Snow Leopard

It is your sacred duty to use your gifts wisely. Follow only the truth you know for yourself. Your sacred duty is to embrace the wisdom of "merry defenselessness."

11th House ~ *Your goals and objectives, hopes and wishes, friends, acquaintances, social groups and alliances related to your career, circumstances in which you have no control over, step-children, foster children and adopted children, business income, and humanitarian causes.*

It is your sacred duty to maintain your individual expression and maintain your membership as a citizenship-of-the-world. Right now, Chiron, the Wounded Healer, is in Aquarius, which is the 11th house domain in the Flat Wheel. Chiron has been emphasizing the need to heal old wounds especially those felt from early childhood. If you have felt separate and alien from others around you, put that behind you now, we are running out of time and need your contribution.

A collective goal is noted by Nelson Mandela - "The time for healing of the wounds has come. The time to build is upon us. There is no easy road to freedom. We must therefore act together as a united people for reconciliation."

12th House Themes ~ *This house is the behind-the-scenes area - spiritual initiations, mysticism, and a finishing up place before another cycle begins, sorrows, hidden strengths and fears, the subconscious mind, karmic hangovers from the past, places of confinement i.e. jails, institutions, hospitals, your own place of self-undoing through feelings of limitation or lack, spiritual debts to be paid, research, clandestine affairs, secret enemies, and doctors.*

It is your sacred duty to break down any remaining walls that hold you in a box, in fear, in limitation. As a priestess, you are the visionary that holds the perfection in each of us. You hold the vision of oneness.

Since the 12th House is the Pisces realm and this is where Uranus is now transiting this “reminds us that the greatest freedom is derived from our dedication to the well-being of the whole. There is no greater freedom (at risk) than our imaginative ingenuity, our metaphor, the manner in which we envision the divine. And as we dedicate to full cultivation of our unique capabilities, we can feel, and we will see, come Fall, that there are a lot of us, sane and reverent beings, and that we are cultivating an irresistible invitational vision to participate in global redemption.” – Caroline Casey

This is the revolution of change going on now...we are going to change the story of who we are.

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