

Noelle The Vibeologist Presents

August 2020 Full Moon Astro Beat



August 3 2020

A Sidereal Astrology Guide from
a Kemetic Perspective for
Sekhmet Society Curated by
The Beauty Mage



Lion's Gate

August 3, 2020 marks a Full Moon, but that is not the only event happening in the sky! The general portion of this horoscope will go over the vibes of this particular lunation and some other relevant transits. We'll also cover the Lions Gate Portal and a bit of Kemetic history to put it all into context. The custom portion, available to order, includes information about not only the transit position of the Moon relative to your birth chart, but also the natal and transit placements of the Sun and Saturn. Please note: everything in this horoscope was calculated using the sidereal astrology system, and except when noted, using the local time for Phoenix, Arizona. Let's get into it!

State of the You-niverse: Dude, Where's My Planet?

- The Sun is at 17° Cancer and will move into Leo on August 15.
- The Moon is full at 17 degrees Capricorn. It will be in this sign until the morning of August 4.
- Mercury is at 3 degrees Cancer and will move into Leo on August 16.
- Venus is at 2 degrees Gemini and will move into Cancer on August 30.
- Mars is at 25 degrees Pisces and will move into Aries on August 14. Its retrograde period starts on September 9 and we are already in the pre-shadow of it.
- Jupiter is at 25 degrees Sagittarius and in a retrograde period that will last until the middle of September. It will be in Sagittarius until November 20 and then in Capricorn again from late November to early April.
- Saturn is at 3 degrees Capricorn and also in a retrograde period through the end of September. It will be in this sign until 2022.
- Uranus is at 16 degrees Aries and will be in this sign until 2025.
- Neptune is at 26 degrees Aquarius, where it has been since 2008 and will be in until 2022. It is currently in a retrograde period that started in late June and will end in November.
- Pluto is at 29 degrees Sagittarius, in a retrograde period that will last until October. It will go back to Capricorn on July 28 and will be in this sign until January 2040.
- Mercury is conjunct Vesta in Cancer from July 24 to August 9 and exact* on August 2.
- Neptune is conjunct the Part of Fortune in Aquarius on August 3. Oppositions (show me the other side!)
- The Cancer Sun is opposite the Capricorn Moon (it's a full moon!) from August 2 to August 4 and exact on August 3.
- Mercury in Cancer is opposite Saturn in Capricorn from July 28 to August 8 and exact on August 3.
- Saturn in Capricorn is opposite Vesta in Cancer from July 16 to August 25 and exact on August 5. Squares (Let's fight!)
- Cancer Sun is square Uranus Aries from July 25 to August 9 and exact on August 2.
- The Moon in Capricorn is square Uranus in Aries on August 2 and 3.
- Mars in Pisces squares Jupiter in Sagittarius from July 23 to August 20 and exact on August 4.
- Pallas in Sagittarius is square Juno in Virgo from July 19 to August 19 and exact on August 2. Sextiles (let the talent shine)
- Jupiter in Sagittarius is sextile Neptune in Aquarius from late May to late November this year and exact on July 27 and October 12.
- Uranus in Aries is sextile Ceres in Aquarius from late April to early September this year and exact on May 26 and August 3.

Okay so that's a lot of astro information! But these are the technical terms that inform the horoscope breakdown. We use symbols to derive meaning from the placements; the key is to dive deep with the symbols to get the most meaning. Let's break down some of the symbolism for the transits listed above.

First, there is the full moon, known astrologically as Sun opposite Moon. An opposition is the aspect made when planets are 180° from one another, in opposite signs on the zodiac. This placement highlights the differences between the planets, signs, and houses involved. For those riding the alignment wave, the experience is one of excited observation, usually. Those less conscious of planetary and intuitive forces often experience opposition transits as difficult and producing some kind of noticeable strife or even an incident. The light from the moon, a reflection of the sun's rays, is beaming down on you and activating all sorts of shit. What goes up must come down and all that shit coming up has to go somewhere!

This Full Moon features the signs Cancer and Capricorn, where the Sun and Moon are, respectively. They are both cardinal signs (taking action!) associated with angular houses (important life shit!), but Cancer is a water sign ruled by the Moon while Capricorn is an earth sign ruled by Saturn. Interestingly enough, they both have misunderstood symbols. The symbol for Cancer looks like the number '69' but is meant to represent the claws of its animal, the crab. In alchemy symbolism, the 'claws' are each made of a circle, which represents spirit, and a crescent, which represents the soul. The symbol for Capricorn looks like the letter N with a little loop-de-loop at the end. It is meant to represent the sea goat - a creature with a goat's top half and fishy back half. You think you know a Capricorn... but you don't know about that fishy back part! (Note: these are also the tropical Aquarians who are 'so weird.' Turns out, it's just the sea part of their goat).

One way to understand the relationship between Cancer and Capricorn is to consider the 'Moon-Saturn dialectic' in which the planetary themes are opposite one another, but in a purposeful way that engenders growth. Carl Sagan lists some of the elements of this dialectic in his book *Planetary Forces, Alchemy, and Healing*. One example is how we experience relatively fleeting emotions through the Moon's quick transits but we get long-standing, stable, and durable experiences through Saturn's lengthy transits. Other examples: the Moon is associated with babies and children while Saturn is associated with the elderly; the Moon has messy vibes while Saturn is neat and clean; the Moon is about surrender and Saturn is about resistance.

The Full Moon is always an opposition transit, but with the luminaries in signs with a known dialectical relationship, this particular lunation features some lovely alignment and opportunities for growth through realization. The home and the public domain are being put up against one another. You can face some shit! It's like you've been trying to clean out the closet and now the light is on so you can see what needs to be done. This doesn't mean you want to do it, but at least you can see now. Astrologer Jason Fleming provides a wonderful set of questions to consider when looking at oppositions in the natal chart, and I think they apply here as well: 'If you feel like you're struggling with them, ask yourself what the universe is seeking to illuminate or bring into your awareness. Is there something that you refuse to accept? Are you receiving repeated and similar observations from those outside of you which merit consideration?' (Source). Take these questions with you as you consider the other celestial bodies that are in opposition to one another in these signs, and what that might mean for you.

Some placements to consider specifically are the Mercury/Vesta opposition to Saturn. Right now, Mercury and Vesta are conjunct in Cancer. Our thoughts and our inner motivation are fueling each other and in turn being fueled by our emotions and our subconscious (including our family issues). Being 'conjunct' means they are right on top of one another, which gives their themes some extra juice. In the meantime, we have Saturn in Capricorn, opposite both of those placements. Structure, boundaries and limitations are all being forced into the spotlight. It's like we're having a final exam in Serious Business on the same day we scheduled our monthly cry.

There are other ways we are seeing the Cancer and Capricorn energies up against each other. Consider the way this opposition plays out when we add the vibes of another cardinal sign: Aries. The energy of this Mars-ruled sign is coming to us through the violently funky outer planet, Uranus. Technically speaking, the Cancer Sun and the Capricorn Moon are both square Uranus in Aries. So we're going through it trying to figure out how to best show up for our families and our careers, for our emotions and our reputations, trying to be a source of support and also leave a legacy in society. And then here comes Uranus in Aries all mad like 'WHAT ABOUT ME?!' There is a more basic you, a primordial you, understood through the baby symbolism of Aries, that is also calling for your attention. So don't forget about that baby: its needs are relatively simple but often go unaddressed, leading to potential outbursts and so-called bad behavior.

These are just a few of explanations possible for the transits we are experiencing as a collective right now. Of course, each one of these planets may be making an aspect to celestial bodies in your natal chart, which accounts for our differentiated experience of astrological transits. The custom portion of the August Full Moon horoscope, available for order, provides the transit positions of the Sun, Moon, and Saturn, along with the major aspects made by these planets to your natal chart. This time around I also take a look at Sirius, the fixed star and reason to celebrate in August with the Kemetic New year described next.

Lions Gate Portal

Besides the Moon and her showdown with Daddy Saturn, we are ramping up for a moment of ancestral and astronomical celebration with the Lions Gate Portal. To better understand this phenomenon, we'll need to discuss the star Sirius. This will lead us to review the worldviews of some of the African peoples who tracked and worshipped this star a long time ago. A lot of the information in this horoscope comes from Dr. Edward Bruce Bynum's book *Dark Light Consciousness: Melanin, Serpent Power, and the Luminous Matrix of Reality* (pick it up if you want your mind blown).

First, what is the Lions Gate Portal? It is the period of time on Earth corresponding with what's called the 'heliacal rising' of the star Sirius. This is the astronomical term for when you can see a star in the sky for the first time after not being able to see it for a while. The 'heli-' part is in reference to the sun, helios, because the rising star can be seen close to the Sun. In ancient Egypt, the heliacal rising of the star Sirius was important and celebrated because it always preceded the flooding of the Nile, which was an abundance-generating natural phenomenon that fertilized the area. The Egyptians made their new year this date, which was in July back then but in August now (Source).

However, looking at the Lions Gate as just a celebration of floods for farming kind of misses a bigger opportunity: the potential attainment of higher levels of consciousness, knowledge, and spirit travel through the stars. This is the belief of the people we refer to as the 'ancient Egyptians.' We really mean to call them our Kemetic ancestors: 'the indigenous African peoples who emerged from the early cattle cultures of the then-lush Sahara around Napta Playa and other astronomical observation cities... the ancestors, historically and spiritually, of humankind's first definitely known civilization...those indigenous Egyptian and Nubian peoples of Africa, who ... after an eon of darkness following to the Deluge [acknowledged by various mythologies and historians], slowly pulled humankind back to civilization and began to remember the primordial sciences of light and consciousness' (Bynum, p. 12-13). There's a lot to unpack there: they were into cows, built cities where they could see the stars, rebuilt after a flood, and carried the ancient knowledge of spirituality. It is important to note these historical points, since the Kemetic existence was prominent and comes with a set of philosophical and spiritual tenets that are still useful for their descendants.

In Ancient Egypt, the stars were not counted for prediction purposes as much as their placement was noted for spiritual opportunities (Houlding, p. 2). This is the aspect of Kemetic culture and science that I feel most called to as a descended astrologer. The pyramids of Giza were used in the daytime as institutions of learning (read about that in a older blog post by me!) And at night, these structures could have served as spiritual generators of sorts. Imagine laying in a specific spot in the pyramid at the exact moment the light from a specific star beams its brightest through the purposefully-carved ventilation shafts. Pretty, right?!

But it's about more than looks. It's about stimulating the human body with light in order to attain higher levels of consciousness and eventually, travel through the stars. The Kemetic worldview, when you ascribe to it, will have you seeing light as its own special thing, with its own special dimension: 'light is the medium of the sea of seen and unseen energy... not only a form of energy but it is also the vibration of a fifth dimension' (Bynum, p. 76). The theory is that 'we are luminous beings whose identity is nonlocal,' so when our physical form ceases on Earth, it is not the end of us; the ancestors are just 'in a different vibrational dimension of light' (p. 308: 85). It goes to reason then, that babies yet to be born are in the same dimension. These tenets of Kemetic spirituality help me make sense of a saying like 'we are our ancestors, returned.'

The eye is used to get the light to the pineal gland, which is the body part that allows you to perceive spirit. This gland has shown to be calcified, that is, blocked, in materialist societies, and interestingly enough, uncalcified in some African countries and in peoples of African descent (Bynum, p. 113-115). Regardless of its current level of calcification, there are various rituals and routines used to stimulate the pineal gland, including 'synchronized breathing, rhythmic incantation, various meditative disciplines, and the heart aorta vibration that is resonant at 7.8 Hz (the Schumann resonance)' (p. 114-115). Sounds like breathwork, rap, and binaural beats to me!

If, as Bynum states, 'the history of human consciousness and spiritually is a history of our fascination with light,' then it is easy to see the power and weight behind symbolism using a human eye (p. 110). We can then begin to see the eye as a scientific instrument for light tracking, especially starlight tracking. If you had a really expensive and fancy equipment that was not only cutting edge but also the best possible technology, would you use it for just anything? Or would you be intentional about it? These are things to consider when choosing what material we allow our eyes to consume.

Yes, the Kemetic peoples worshipped the Sun as their day star, but the dark of the night held a precious place in their philosophies and spirituality. Star-gazing is one of many rituals intended to activate the elements of light within the human body. That light and energy is described by some as parallel to the kundalini described by ancient Hindus, the serpent energy utilized in Vodoun, and the so-called Holy Ghost of the black church (Bynum, p. 263-264). The light is how we are all connected - to each other and to the celestial bodies. This is what people mean when they call you a 'star seed' - you come from light and will return to light. The Dogon of Mali, descended from the indigenous Egyptians, are the ones who prominently believe that we practice our light travel techniques so that when our physical form ceases, we are prepared to travel through the stars back home, to Sirius.

Now that we know the importance of the star Sirius, stars in general, and light, we can better understand the cause to celebrate the Lions Gate Portal. It is an opportunity to reconnect with your ancestors, as if everyone is back in town after a long trip. For people with their altars set up, be sure to pay special attention to opportunities for offerings and the possibility of knowledge exchange. In other words, serve them and they will teach you! This is the time of year to connect with the ancestral line beyond what we can conceive generationally.

All of this knowledge and philosophy is said to come from the Kemetic God Thoth, represented in Greek mythology as Hermes, and associated with the planet Mercury. The Kemetic texts that would verify this were burned when the Library of Alexandria was set on fire. Thus, the knowledge is hidden, or 'occult.' It's all yours, though, because it is in you. Using the app Time Nomad and its fixed stars add-on, I calculated the heliacal rising of the star Sirius over the Great Pyramid of Giza on August 10, 11, and 12. While you may not live in a place with a clear view to it, you can still make moves to let the light from the stars stimulate your pineal gland. Let that be an offering to the Kemetic ancestors, whether you claim them through blood or affinity.

