



You are a child of the universe

An address for the Full Moon Festival ● 20th April 2008 ● Rev Grace

This particular Full Moon is in the sign of Scorpio, which brings us the energies and opportunities, and compulsions, around renewing and transformation.

These 40 days after Easter, which we call the Mystical Interlude, can for some people be like that ... a time of quiet waiting on some levels that have to do with activity in the world. It's as if the earth has breathed in and some preparations go on at a deep, deep level, before we're thrust out to be active again, but with a new impetus and new understanding.

How long it seems already since we celebrated Christ's Resurrection on Easter Sunday, and yet it was only one Full Moon away. No time at all, and yet in some ways it seems like endless time.

I want to begin by sharing with you just a few words that have been with me constantly during these days since Easter. They come from Max Ehrmann's *Desiderata*, which I'm sure most of you are familiar with ...

*You are a child of the universe,
No less than the trees and the stars:
You have a right to be here.
And whether or not it is clear to you,
No doubt the universe is unfolding as it should.*

You are a child of the universe ...we don't belong just here on earth in these earthen vessels. We belong in cosmic realms as well. We are citizens of the whole cosmos, or as Mario used to say, spiritual beings in physical bodies.

Right now we are indeed in physical bodies on this earthand we have *a right to be here*.

And, no doubt, whatever the pains and struggles of our times on this earth ... *the universe is unfolding as it should*.

The Full Moon reminds us, however, not to think small, not to get caught in earthly material thinking. It reminds us not to forget who we are as citizens of the *whole* cosmos, not just humans in physical bodies developing our capacities to think, feel and will, dwelling here on earth.

Rev Trisha at the Pentecost Full Moon last year reminded us that the Centre's Full Moon service was created more than a quarter of a century ago so we could become more active participators in the universe's unfolding '*as it should*'.

She said it was brought about so we could align our soul forces so they become capable of sensing and bearing the cosmic forces of light, life and love that are reflected to us via the Full Moon. The service was introduced so we could become co-workers with the spiritual worlds in unifying the spiritual atmospheres of the Earth, Moon and Sun.

I guess you could say, so we can claim our role as active, participating, children of the universe and become conscious participators in the universe's unfolding.

I'm going to be a grandmother in August and I've been privileged to see various ultrasound images of the developing child so far at seven, 12 and 20 weeks. Truly amazing it's been to see with my own eyes evidence of the spiritual worlds at work as the body and all the organs that will house this particular soul have taken form and continue to grow and develop.

Here is a body being formed to a particular pattern that will ideally suit this unique soul if it is to make choices to live accordance with its blueprint for this life. While it agreed to the blueprint with Christ, the Lord of the universe, like us all, this little being will take in free will along with its first breath.

And here can be witnessed the work of all the spiritual beings that govern the constellations in our universe at work in the developing of limbs and organs, the blood system and the brain for a vessel that will house a soul and a consciousness and enable the child to connect with its individual spirit.

The spiritual being that rules the forces of Aries working on the head, Taurus the throat and so on down to Pisces and the development of the feet and its perfect tiny toes.

And here, too, there's a sense of the child's overshadowing guardian angel, holding the blueprint in safe keeping for the child while preparing to guide him or her through yet another phase of birth in his or her evolution. First into a physical body – and then through all the other births that take place during a human life – the birth of the etheric, astral and I Am bodies, the Intellectual, Feeling and Consciousness souls and ultimately the birth, at human death, back into spirit.

When the child takes its first independent breath outside the womb, the pattern of all these cosmic forces – the constellations and the planets – will be imprinted on it, body and soul. These it will have chosen as the most appropriate pattern for its unfolding life on earth, according to its blueprint.

As within, so without. The micro-cosmos that will be this little being, will reflect the macro-cosmos in the pattern that exists at the moment of that first independent breath.

Just as it does for each of us. That's the true nature of astrology ... as within, so without. As without, so within.

I remember once Mario talking to us about what he called the 'starry vault of Heaven' imprinted within the dome of our skulls. He painted this most amazing picture of our connection to the starry universe ... the Heavens are alive in us, imprinted on, reflected through, working in and through our brains.

For this child, this pattern is being prepared for now, and will be imprinted with the first breath of human life.

We are indeed, cosmic beings. We have the universe within us, yet, how often we forget it! And we are made in the image of God.

As the psalmist says in Psalm 8:

*When I look at thy heavens, the works of thy fingers,
the moon and the stars which thou hast established;
what is man that thou are mindful of him,
and the son of man that thou dost care for him?
Yet thou hast made him little less than God,
and dost crown him with glory and honour.
Thou hast given him dominion over the works of thy hands;
thou hast put all things under his feet,*

*all sheep and oxen,
and also the beasts of the field,
the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea,
whatever passes along the paths of the sea.*

The Full Moon reminds us, month after month, that we are beings of the cosmos.

Each month it provides us with the opportunity to renew our connections, to increase our perception and to take a step closer to breaking through the veil between Heaven and Earth.

The Full Moon calls on us to see beyond the mundane and to open our inner eyes to where the work of unification and reconciliation needs to be done. Within our being, between us and those we meet and between us and the heavens.

One particular image of this developing child has remained with me. It was taken from directly above the head – and there, clearly, already could be seen the two distinct hemispheres of the brain, separated by the corpus callosum.

Here reflected in embryo was the duality which still governs every facet of our physical world and much of our lives, whether we're conscious of it or not. Yet Christ overcame that duality on our behalf; it has already been overcome.

On contemplating this image of the brain, I realised that the work of evolution will see the barrier between those hemispheres being broken down. Then our brain, made whole, will be reflected in our world made whole and we'll be moving closer the unity of sun, moon and earth. As within, so without.

Just as a little aside – on Friday I talked to a man who, along with his wife, had undertaken some sort of electronic brain test which, over 10 seconds, measured the number of times linkages were made between the left and right sides of the brain - the left, of course, being so-called the hemisphere of logical thinking, and the right of creative inspiration – Cain and Abel.

He's a very creative and entrepreneurial thinker and his wife is a much more practical person, capable of considerable concentration over a long period of time. In the test, his brain flipped from left across to tap into the right side six times in 10 seconds, while for his wife it was only two. He thinks in terms of possibilities, she of practicalities. One day, unity will come about.

The moon is full tonight in Scorpio – at 0 degrees, and this really early placing means we'll go through the rare occurrence of having a second full moon in the same sign, Scorpio, in 28 days' time.

What does this mean the universe is reflecting to us for us to work on and with in the days to come?

Scorpio is about the essence of things – the depths of emotions, the essence of feeling, deep soul longing and, in this case, creativity. It's about power and venturing into the darkness of our own shadows, into the darkness that veils the ground of our being.

It's about eliminating what's old and past its time and renewing what still has life and potential. And it's about standing in integrity, regardless of the forces swirling around us.

It gives us a window of opportunity to tap into the subconscious deeps where the memories of our cosmic origins and purposes dwell – where we know with a living knowing that we are children of the universe.

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