

Sample excerpts from:

Moonstruck

A Lunar Workshop
for Brides
by April Elliott Kent



Prepared for:

Nicole Kidman

Born June 20, 1967

3:15 p.m.

Honolulu, HI

Calculations based on the Koch house system

**For the Gemini New Moon Cycle
From Saturday, May 27
to Monday, June 26 2006, AEST**

The Moon: Your Natural Day Planner

As the heavenly body that moves most quickly, the Moon has always acted as a sort of calendar and natural day planner. Farmers rely on her phases and her movement through each sign of the zodiac in planting and harvesting their crops. Sailors note her position and her effect on the tides. Astrologers connect the movements of the Moon to the most mundane, domestic, habitual patterns of daily life – the warp and woof of daily existence. The Moon, then, is your natural guide for living in rhythm with the forces of nature.

The Moon by Phase

The Moon moves through eight phases each month in her journey through the zodiac. This planner simplifies the Moon's journey by focusing on four of these phases: The New Moon, First Quarter Moon, Full Moon, and Last Quarter Moon. The energy of the **waxing Moon** (between the New and Full Moons, when the Moon is increasing in light) is one of **initiation, action, and forward motion**. This is the best half of the month for putting plans into action. During the **waning Moon** (between the Full and New Moons, when the Moon is decreasing in light), it is more natural to fulfill the intentions of the waxing Moon phases by carrying out those plans and examining their results.

The Sun and Moon in Aspect

The Sun and Moon, as the major lights of our solar system, represent the masculine and feminine principles in relationship. There are moments each month when the Sun and Moon – and, by extension, men and women – are more harmoniously disposed toward one another, and moments when they are in a more contentious frame of mind.

The Gemini New Moon Cycle



The New Moon is on

Saturday, May 27
at **3:26 p.m.**

The Sun and Moon are joined together at **5.48 Gemini** in your **8th house**.

Gemini is a **mutable air sign**. In astrology, Gemini symbolizes flexibility (mutable) and intellect (air). The pinwheel, whirling in the late spring breeze. The facility of a parrot, mimicking voices. A sheaf of papers blown off your desk by a fan.

This is a cycle in which to heed the words of astrologer Caroline Casey, who is fond of saying, “**Believe nothing, entertain possibilities.**” Gemini's job is to collect information, sensation, and experiences. This cycle, then, lends itself perfectly to the **curious, playful, inquisitive** elements of planning your wedding. Read magazines, go to bridal fairs, browse websites; collect ideas; take copious notes. Research pieces of text that you would like to include in your ceremony, such as liturgical or other readings. Make phone calls, ask questions, interview people; get in your car and drive around to look at venues for your ceremony or reception. Gemini likes to be in motion.

Mind you, both states are natural and essential; without the friction of conflicting opinions, little progress would ever be made in the world. But if we did nothing but fight, the human race would soon enough die out as well! The aspects each month between the Sun and the Moon symbolize the moments when you will need to confront your differences with your partner, and the moments when you will tend to be in accord.

The Moon by Sign

The Moon makes a complete tour of the Zodiac in about 28-29 days, spending about 2.5 days in each of the twelve signs. Each sign describes a particular quality of emotion and temperament, an innate to approach to getting things done and relating to others. Signs lend themselves naturally to particular types of activities; knowing what these activities are can give you an enormous advantage as you plan your activities for the month.

Void of course moon

Between the time when the Moon makes its last aspect in a sign and the time it enters the next sign, it is considered to be **void of course**. This period may last anywhere from a few seconds to a couple of days, depending on where the Sun and planets are in relation to the Moon. Traditional astrological wisdom holds that “nothing will come of the matter” that is begun with the Moon is void of course. Sometimes this is an undesirable outcome, but it can also work to your advantage. To find out when the Moon will be going void of course, consult an ephemeris or an astrological calendar.

Using the Void-of-Course Moon

The void-of-course Moon is considered the ideal time to set in motion anything that you want to keep going just as it is, or from which you don't want any further result. It is a good time to:

Don't worry about making too many decisions now; Gemini prefers to collect data, so that the decisions you make in the coming months will be better informed.

This is not a cycle for deep thought, philosophy, or belief. It's a cycle for new sights and ideas, delicious conversation, and entertaining possibilities.

Coming Alive During the New Moon

This New Moon falls in the **8th house** of your birth chart. In traditional astrology, the 8th house was known as the house of Other People's Money. A more modern interpretation reads it as the house of **Shared Resources and Intimacy**. Merging with another person in marriage is one of the most profoundly intimate relationships possible. It requires enormous trust, loyalty, and passion – and is more than a little intimidating, because we fear making ourselves so vulnerable to another person!

The new intimacy you're building with your partner may affect the people around you in some surprising ways during this cycle. The bridesmaid who is angry she wasn't asked to be maid of honor; the cousin who is too broke to travel across country to come to your wedding, but flush enough to buy a new car; the old boyfriend who suddenly can't stop calling, now that he knows you're getting married. Reviewing and making your peace with old attachments and loyalties is a part of this cycle, and part of moving ahead - without baggage - to your new life.

What Your Relationship Needs this Cycle

Simply: **variety**. A change of scenery. A variation on your

***New, Full, and Quarter Moons, with Sun/Moon aspects
and Moon's Void of Course Periods for your location...***

**Aspects between the Moon and Sun
during this phase:**

June 4 (9:06 a.m.)

Moon square Sun — The male and female principles are at odds. You may find yourselves in disagreement about things that can't be easily resolved. You need to learn to agree to disagree, and pick your arguments carefully. Besides, tension isn't all bad – it can even enhance the physical dimension of your relationship!

June 7 (2:55 a.m.)

Moon trine Sun — Collaboration and creative inspiration flow. After the tension of the Moon/Sun square, you have either resolved your differences or retired to your separate corners to fight another day. In any event, you and your partner are likely to agree on most everything today!

Void of Course Moon periods:

Monday June 5, 10:30 a.m. through
Monday June 5, 7:08 p.m.

Wednesday June 7, 10:15 p.m. through
Thursday June 8, 6:41 a.m.

Friday June 9, 8:10 p.m. through
Saturday June 10, 3:05 p.m.



First Quarter Moon

**at 13.13 Virgo
Sunday Jun. 4, 2006 9:06 a.m. AEST**

At the first quarter Moon, the impulses of the New Moon become visible to the world. It is one of the best times this month in which to **act**. If, at the New Moon, you collected ideas about places where you might hold your ceremony, people who might perform the ceremony... now is the time to act on those ideas, with phone calls, emails, and visits.

If you took action at the **New Moon**, you might find that, only a week later, you have new information that might lead you to **alter** those plans.

The **Virgo First Quarter Moon** is your moment to step up and insist on having things done properly. At the Gemini New Moon, you focused on gathering as much information and as many options as possible; Virgo wants to focus on the most useful information and the best option. There's nothing wrong with being discriminating – you can't have everything, so you might as well decide what you really want!

So while it's still important to keep an open mind, give some thought at this First Quarter moon to think about ways of editing, clarifying, and modifying your plans so that they are a more precise representation of who you and your partner are, and the values that you stand for.

The moon in the houses of your birth chart

The Moon enters your **11th house** on Saturday Jun. 3 at 7:03 p.m. – The Moon in your 11th house encourages group activities, interactions with friends, and long-term planning. This is a good time to attend bridal fairs, for activities with your bridal attendants, and to review your schedule and objectives for the coming months. You don't want to be confined right now, so try to keep your social calendar as unstructured as possible.

The Moon enters your **12th house** on Tuesday Jun. 6 at 8:12 a.m. – The Moon in your 12th house is an important time of the month to get plenty of rest and to refrain from pushing too hard. Your energy level is a bit low, and you are prone to illness if you don't take care of yourself. You need time to recharge your batteries, so that you'll have all the energy you need for the next 28 days!

The Moon enters your **1st house** on Thursday Jun. 8 at 6:55 p.m. – The Moon in your 1st house marks one of the most energetic periods of the whole month. You are bursting with vitality, if not necessarily clear direction! Whip out the lists you made while the Moon was in your 11th house, and begin working your way through each item.

The Moon enters your **2nd house** on Sunday Jun. 11 at 12:31 a.m. – While the Moon is in the 2nd house of your chart, you want to take it easy and enjoy yourself. You don't have the energy and drive to start new things, but you will happily carry out plans you initiated while the Moon was in your 1st house. Your senses are heightened, so this is a good time of the month to choose flowers, food, and music for your ceremony and reception.

The Moon by Sign for your location, with planning suggestions for each day of the New Moon Cycle!

Moon in Virgo

Saturday Jun. 3, 6:17 a.m. through Monday Jun. 5, 7:08 p.m.

Virgo is precise, detail-oriented, frugal, and practical, so these are your best days all month for proofreading, editing, and paring down. Virgo also excels at solving knotty problems, so this is the perfect time each month to attend to logistical details. While the Moon is in Virgo,

Things to Do for the wedding:

- Review and revise your budget.
- Proofread announcements, invitations, and newspaper notices.
- Have fittings and alterations for clothing.
- Estimate quantities of things you will need for the ceremony, reception, or gift registry.

Things to Do for yourself:

- Virgo has a deeply spiritual side. Prepare a ritual to help you focus on your New Moon intentions.
- Clean your house. Virgo's practical magic works best in quiet, orderly surroundings.
- Eat light, healthy meals with an emphasis on whole grains and vegetables. Drink plenty of water.
- Get plenty of sleep, rest, and quiet time. You are prone to extra stress right now.

Things to Do for your Partner.

- Handle practical details such as scheduling a time for him and his groomsmen to be fitted for formalwear.
- Help him catch up on his laundry.
- Resist Virgo's urge to criticize. Instead, let him know that you noticed and appreciated some small gesture that he made, such as a kindness to one of your friends, that he didn't think anyone noticed.

Pay Special Attention To...

Your pets. They are sensitive to changes in your mood and in their environment, and there are plenty of both in your life right now!

Notes:

And more!

- **Venus by sign**, with ingress dates for your location
- **Mercury retrograde** dates for your location, and how to use Mercury's retrograde times productively
- The characteristics of a **marriage that begins during this cycle!**

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