

April 2001 Celestial Timings

By Carolyn Brent

"The first step to better times is to Imagine them."
Chinese Fortune Cookie

Imagining is powerful medicine. This concept has been strongly in my awareness for several months now, growing stronger everyday. Confirmation about the importance of understanding the power of imagination and imaging is showing up from varied sources. Recently, I received the written words to John Lennon's song "Imagine", speaking to the power of Imagining as indicated by these lines:

"imagine all the people...living for today"
"imagine all the people...living life in peace"
"imagine all the people...sharing all the world..."

"You may say I'm a dreamer,
but I'm not the only one.
I hope someday you'll join us,
And the world will live as one."

Further supporting this message were these lines I read recently in the book [The Moon Under Her Feet](#) by Clysta Kinstler.

"Thoughts become real...Imagine your successful enterprise over and over, and it will come to pass. If you entertain your fears, you will bring them into being. Such is the Law."

Imagining Heaven on Earth! The more people who join together imagining the fulfillment of living Heaven on Earth, of living in a Golden Age of peace and plenty, the more quickly our imagining becomes manifest reality.

The Celestial Timings are intended to provide awareness and assistance for aligning with the cosmic energies that support our co-creative abilities. These Timings are also intended to provide inspiration as we remember our intimate relationship with the natural cycles and rhythms of Earth and Sky, and that we are co-creating an entire new 26,000 year cycle (See [Turning Of The Ages](#) Article). Indeed, there has never been a more potent timing for collectively joining together and consciously choosing through imagination and prayer to co-create a manifest reality of Heaven on Earth in a Golden Age of Peace and Plenty for all.

April Sky

[Sky and Telescope](#) has a weekly update on what is happening in the sky, plus a weekly email update is also available. Rather than attempt to duplicate their awesome work I encourage everyone with an interest in staying attuned to the sky to either get on their list or visit the [Sky and Telescope](#) site often.

(The following events are generally around Mountain Standard Time unless otherwise noted. Also all Timings mentioned are at least a three day window, with the influence occurring the day before and after the date given. In some cases the influence may be longer, which is usually noted.)

Week Of Apr 1-7 The Cancer [First Quarter Moon](#) is directly overhead the evening of April 1. This waxing half full Moon phase represents the balance between light and dark and is the most visible growth phase of the Moon. This is the best time of the Moon cycle to put our ideas and plans into action, and marks the phase in the Moon's cycle intended to bring our conscious awareness to the threshold of initiation that leads us into the zone of magnified power. Each night until April 7 the Moon waxes or increases in light appearing closer and closer to the Eastern Horizon at Sunset. By April 7 the Full Moon (in Libra) is rising in the East about the time the Sun (in Aries) is setting in the west depending on your eastern and western horizon lines.

Apr 1, Sunday. The [First Quarter Moon](#) in Cancer emphasizes the mysteries of responsible nurturing and calls us to notice how we respond consciously in caring for ourselves, each other, and our beloved Earth. Within the zone of magnified power of the first quarter moon responsibly acting in nurturing ways accelerates the fulfillment of these mysteries in our personal and collective experience.

Apr 2, Monday. The Moon moves into Leo this morning reminding us that the reality of our being is divine, nothing less. As the Moon passes through a sign it transmits the lineage of those archetypal mysteries available to us when we are open to receive them. Taking time now to celebrate our divine essence through responsibly discovering and demonstrating radical, radiant self-love, self-confidence and self-acceptance is an effective way to engage this timing.

Apr 3, Tuesday. Retrograde Venus in Aries is making her final preparations for rebirth into a new archetype of the feminine in a couple of days. April 5 Venus reaches 10 degrees elongation from the Sun theoretically becoming visible as a Morning star depending on your eastern horizon line. This symbolizes Venus crossing the initiatory threshold of heightened experience stepping fully into her new 584-day integration cycle through the Aries mysteries as the Goddess of Victorious Triumph, upholding the cosmic order of life. The Egyptian Goddess Sekhmet provides useful images helping us grasp these mysteries. For example, Sekhmet is actively committed to upholding and maintaining the law of Maat (sacred cosmic law). In some versions of Sekhmet's story she is the daughter of Ra, the feminine eye of the Sun, sent to Earth by Ra to restore balance and order among the people, through the principle of destruction and transformation. Sekhmet is derived from Sekhem, an ancient Egyptian word meaning "power". Thus, Sekhmet carries the power to transform through action. These images are clues about the upcoming Venus cycle worth tuning into now.

Apr 4, Wednesday. Current Astronomy agrees that all the planets in our Solar System move around the Sun. The Sun acts as the center point or pivot point of a great cosmic time clock. Each planet's relationship or aspect with the Sun tells us what time it is in that planet's yearly cycle or relationship with the Sun. Today the Sun (15 Aries) and Retrograde Pluto (15 Sagittarius) are trining. Pluto is always retrograde when it trines the Sun either just having gone retrograde as in today's case or just about to go direct

(happening in July). Pluto went retrograde in March, so this trine represents an accelerating aspect, meaning that retrograde Pluto is now finally picking up speed having moved only about five minutes from its station point March 17. Notice what changes occur as Pluto picks up speed as it moves back across the same area of the sky it just crossed and prepares for its opposition to the Sun June 4th. Pluto calls us to look within at the shadow places we have forgotten or are afraid to engage, intending to free up the stuck energy, restoring our personal power to its natural divine state.

Apr 5, Thursday. Today marks the last of three trines between Jupiter (8 Gemini) and Neptune (8 Aquarius) that began last year. In 1996 Jupiter and Neptune joined together in Capricorn. These Jupiter trines to Neptune are the first trines since the Jupiter/Neptune conjunctions of 1996. This aspect represents an accelerated growth of whatever was seeded collectively and individually at that time. New information, rapid growth, new ideas, new visions and new possibilities are some of the ways this energy may manifest. Spending time imaging our heart's desire through meditation, music, art, dance, photography, prayer, ceremony, spiritual groups, travel and communing with nature, are all great ways to take advantage of the highly creative, innovative, and intuitive energies available for expansion at this time.

Retrograde Venus (6 Aries) rises as a Morning Star symbolizing her birth into the Aries Mysteries. (See April 3)

Apr 6, Friday. Mercury enters Aries today where it remains until April 21. Mercury is our fastest moving planet completing one orbit around the Sun in 88 days. This speed lends itself to our understanding of Mercury's link with the mind, how we think, perceive, reason, learn and communicate. Direct, decisive, assertive, courageous, and spontaneous action before reflection, are all tendencies of Mercury as it expresses through the Aries mysteries. Mercury in Aries is reminiscent of the old saying "S/he who hesitates is lost." However, it is also wise to exercise at least a few moments of forethought, balancing the Aries tendency to rush into decisions or actions that might lead to further challenges.

Week of Apr 7–15 This week features a Libra [Full Moon](#) symbolizing the fulfillment, or fruition, of the seeds planted at the New Moon or some earlier cycle. Each Full Moon reminds us of the seeds we may have coming to maturity, to their fullness, to fruition, to the place where the fruits or gifts are received. The Moon then begins to wane this week representing the dissemination or integration of these gifts. Once each year the Moon is Full in Libra illuminating the mysteries of conscious equal partnership, and how we can learn more about who we are, through our relationships with others.

Apr 7, Saturday. The Libra Full Moon (18 Libra) occurs once each year illuminating and bringing to greater awareness the mysteries of conscious equal partnership where we have an opportunity to learn more about who we are through intimate interaction with a partner. These teachings include recognizing when it is time to commit more deeply to a current relationship, or knowing when a relationship is complete and when to let go, or recognizing when it is not about defining the relationship in old cultural terms, but

finding new ways to harmoniously dance with one another and all of life.

Apr 8, Sunday. Mercury and retrograde Venus (4 Aries) meet in the pre-dawn sky and possibly both are visible just above the eastern horizon. The current cycle of Venus began on or about April 5 with the heliacal rise of Venus as a morning star. The ancient Sumerians honored and celebrated the Venus cycle closest to the vernal equinox that occurred every eight years. It was a time when they collectively re-enacted the journey of Inanna into the underworld. The Venus/Mercury conjunction symbolized Inanna's (Venus) meeting with Ninshubar (Mercury) where Inanna asks Ninshubar to promise to get help if Inanna does not return safely from the underworld by a pre-appointed time. This part of the story reminds us to communicate with our allies, guardians, and guides, asking for support and assistance in holding space for our safe return, before consciously undertaking any shamanic journey.

Chiron stations retrograde today at 29 degrees Sagittarius. Chiron remains retrograde until it stations direct on August 27 at 22 degrees Sagittarius. This begins a process of deepening the Chironic mysteries of healing the ancient wounds so they now become our gifts in part through the process of surrender, release, and transmutation leading towards the real possibility of resurrection and ascension.

Apr 9, Monday. Waning Moon entered Scorpio yesterday energizing the mysteries of alchemical transformation through conscious death and rebirth. Scorpio connects to our heart's passion and what needs to die, i.e. what beliefs, ideas, concepts, habits, and attitudes can we shed, release, or transform to support the fullest connection to passionate, alive, life force energy?

Mars is currently crossing through the constellation of Ophiuchus (the serpent holder) and aligned with the fixed star Ras Alhague marking the head of Ophiuchus. Ophiuchus, also thought to be the Greek healer Asclepius, carries the healing codes of resurrection and rebirth taught to him by a snake that revived its dead mate with a healing herb it carried in its mouth. Both Mars and Chiron pass this star three times this year, and Mars reaches opposition to the Sun near this degree June 13. Through intuitive action and willingness to surrender to a conscious death and rebirth process that Mars is currently activating, we have a remarkable opportunity, in this year of the snake, to shed, release and alchemically transform the destructive poisons of the past into the medicine that heals and restores life.

Apr 10, Tuesday. Waning Moon enters Sagittarius energizing the mysteries of the spiritual quest intended to expand self-understanding, knowledge, and the meaning of life. This quest includes discovering new ways of experiencing the realm of spirit. Although the Moon is in the sign of Sagittarius it is entering the constellation of the Scorpion and passing through the constellation known as Ophiuchus. This is an important area of the sky this year and noting where the Moon is over the next few days assists us in locating these stars and where we can tune in for greater understanding of the mysteries unfolding here. (See [Difference between Signs and Constellations](#))

Apr 11, Wednesday. The waning Sagittarius Moon appears near the bright red star Antares tonight, marking the heart of the Scorpion, or heart of the dragon/serpent, as seen by some cultures, illuminating images linked with the heart, life force, passion, serpents, dragons, the dragon priestesses of oracular fame, and the ley lines of earth and sky. Antares is a stargate accessing the transformative energies of the oracle designed to expand awareness and meaning in ways that support the fulfillment of the journey. The Moon is a transmitter, transmitting the lineage of these mysteries through the Sagittarian energies of the ever expanding quest for truth and meaning. These images are supported by the charge of the Delphic Oracle that says, "know thy self."

Apr 12, Thursday. Moon conjuncts Pluto, then Mars, then Chiron. This marks the ninth [Moon/Mars](#) conjunction (25 Sagittarius) since [Mars](#) rose as a morning star last August. Pluto (15 Sagittarius) intensifies the quest to include experiences of any shadowed parts of ourselves that are unacknowledged, forgotten, or denied. Our experience may reflect what needs to surface for purification and cleansing. We may find ourselves remembering deep-seated fears, forgotten grief, anger and rage that still needs recognition and release. As mentioned last month, this is an ongoing repeating theme throughout this year. The Shamanic gifts of Chiron and Pluto amplify the potential to transmute the poisons of these wounds, further empowering and enriching our personal journey. Releasing attachments to outcome is an important key to the success of this process.

Apr 13, Friday. Chiron stationed retrograde on April 8. The Moon joined Pluto, Mars, and Chiron yesterday illuminating our awareness these mysteries and reminding us of the importance of trust and surrender. Today the Moon crosses the intersection of the ecliptic (path the planets follow) and the Milky Way where the December Solstice is now aligned in the sky. This triple alignment heralds the [Turning of the Ages](#). Once each month the Moon passes by here illuminating the ancient and future mysteries available when we are open to receive them.

These next couple of days, being aware of how we are responsibly administrating the domain of our personal and collective lives is useful, especially with the intent to get more organized and get things accomplished that serves not only the now, but the next seven or more generations.

Apr 14, Saturday. Sun (25 Aries) trines Mars (25 Sagittarius) heralding the slowing of Mars as it prepares to move into its retrograde phase May 11. A planet's relationship with the Sun gives us clues about where that planet is in its own personal cycle. The Sun is a time clock and Mars trines the Sun now slowing way down before beginning its retrograde phase, alerting us to the final integration process of the previous Mars mysteries in Scorpio that began when Mars opposed the Sun in late April, 1999. The Mars quest in Scorpio searches for a passionate, orgasmic connection with life force energy. Mars in Scorpio asks, *"What excites my passion?" "What really turns me on and feels alive in my life?" "How can I use my life force to create passionate, enlivening experiences?" "What are the fears that prevent me from living my passion?"* Scorpio is a master of manifestation and magic. The

Scorpio sorcerer connects to the source of life, to the source of life force energy, and is on track and aligned with the great mystery when feeling a passionate response. Fear may block the experience of passionate vital life force. When fear is present it is more challenging to connect with passion. Acknowledging and releasing any remaining fears, while integrating the strengths of the Scorpio mysteries, helps us actively express our true heart's passion while fulfilling our destiny.

Week of Apr 15-23 This week marks the [last quarter phase of the Moon](#) in Capricorn. In the Hero or Heroine's quest this Moon phase is the crossing of the return threshold back into the world they left, returning with the gifts and boons gained during the journey. This is the time of the final harvest, where the plant begins its death process, preparing the seeds for the next cycle. During this next week the Moon continues to wane. This symbolizes the completion phase of the integration process of the current journey. It also signals the time to begin looking at the new seeds to plant in the next cycle beginning with the next New Moon

Apr 15, Easter Sunday. Waning [Last Quarter Moon](#) (26 Capricorn) rises sometime after mid-night. The crisis or decision now may be about how to more effectively administrate the domain of our earthly life and how it effects the next seven generations. How do we contribute to the health and well being of your personal and collective environment? Are we guilty of consuming vast quantities of resources with little thought or regard about our actions? For example, how many of us leave the water running in the sink while wiping off a counter or brushing our teeth to avoid the inconvenience of turning on and off the tap? Thousands of gallons of our precious water are wasted every day from these simple acts. In what ways do we waste electricity by leaving lights or appliances on that aren't being used? With the current California energy crisis the message is clear that it is time to look at how we are individually consuming resources and in what ways can we become more aware and responsible. Waking up to the effective and efficient administration of these and all of Earth's resources is one step towards becoming more responsible global citizens.

Apr 16, Monday. Moon moved into Aquarius last night transmitting the mysteries of the cosmic revolutionary. This energy is committed to its own unique path of self-expression, questioning what is and not settling for limitations of the status quo. This is a good time to step back for a good look at the big picture, and make changes where needed.

Apr 17, Saturday. Moon conjuncts Uranus amplifying the Aquarian mysteries committed to change, innovation, and evolution. Unexpected and unpredictable events are likely. The intent is to consciously facilitate changes that support the fullest expression of our divine destiny. The old ways have value and purpose, and there are times when it is beneficial to notice how these ways are seeking evolution within and around us.

Apr 18, Wednesday. Moon moves into Pisces this morning transmitting the mysteries of universal love and the qualities of inspired dreaming that capture our imagination. The Piscean

mystical dreamers dream their reality into expression. Selflessly, Pisces finds their greatest joy in expressing dedicated compassionate service to all sentient life, while also seeking mystical union with the divine. The next couple of days are excellent for dreaming or imagining our most cherished dreams and feeling them as a manifest reality.

Apr 19, Thursday. The seasonal move of Sun into Taurus marks the phase of the year when we begin to see the fruits of accelerated rapid growth. Taurus explores beauty, intimacy and pleasure as its creative artistic expression. Taurus reminds us of the art of savoring and enjoying each moment and the importance of receiving all the abundant gifts life has to offer. Savoring life happens more easily when we consciously relax, slow down, breathe deeply, and recognize the boundless beauty of life. The Taurus mysteries also teach us to enjoy and receive physical love and pleasure in our bodies as a divine experience. This is the gift of sacred pleasure, of joy in living, and flourishing with all of life.

Just about 40 days ago, on March 7, Venus turned Retrograde. Tonight Venus (1 degree Aries) stations direct ending the preparation phase of Inanna's journey to the underworld. This is a decisive moment in the Venus cycle beginning her descent towards the first gate leading to the underworld.

Apr 20, Friday. Wasting no time Venus reaches the first gate into the underworld tonight. This first [Moon Venus](#) conjunction (1 Aries) symbolizes Inanna giving up her crown, described in one story as a thousand petaled crown representing her connection to spirit, to the divinity that she innately is. This is a journey we all make in some fashion at some time in our lives, and each time the journey is made, the journeyer is forever changed. Willingness to surrender and release eases the way.

Saturn moves into Gemini where it remains until 2003. These are the mysteries of the Heyokah, Coyote, Contrary, Shapeshifter, Magician. Gemini is the eternal youth, free from the rules, reminding us not to take ourselves so seriously, to have fun, to play, to creatively express who we are. Saturn is seemingly the opposite of Gemini, valuing the rules that sustain the structure and form of this reality. Gemini pushes Saturn to stretch the rules that support new growth and greater creative expression. When these two energies find ways to cooperate the creative results are magical.

Apr 21, Saturday. Mercury enters Taurus (where it remains until May 5) shifting the lens of our collective perception to a slower, more relaxed paced, although with Mercury's swift movement through the signs there is seldom anything slow or relaxed about Mercury. In Taurus, however, the intent is for our perceptions to slow down, savoring and integrating the eternal Now.

Apr 22, Sunday. Earth Day. The Moon in Aries today supports the theme of Earth Day through the question Aries asks about what we are committed to and what are we willing to stand for and even fight for while upholding and protecting the cosmic order of life? Archetypal Aries is the energy of the rugged individualist, the impetuous youth, the Warrior Amazon, courageous, and strong, committed to upholding what they believe is truth and justice.

Week of Apr 23 – Apr 29 This Taurus [New Moon](#) seed point calls us to savor and enjoy this beautiful garden of Earthly delight. New Moons are conception points or seeding points for clearly stating our intentions and/or prayers around our heart's desires allowing them an opportunity to find their highest and best manifestation without attachment to the outcome. As the crescent Moon increases in light, growing bigger each night, it symbolizes the growth of the seeds planted at the New Moon.

Apr 23, Monday The Taurus [New Moon](#) (4 Taurus) inspires us to seed our truest heart's desires for Heaven on Earth. Imagining "the garden" of abundance, of beauty, of sensual sacred pleasure, where our hearts sing with gratitude for the gifts of life, love and joy. These are some of the possible seeds worth energizing and nurturing in this New Moon. With Mercury joining this line up today the messenger is present to carry our messages, our seeds, to wherever they will find the most rapid fulfillment. And Mercury may also be bringing us a message intended to expand our experience of these mysteries.

Apr 24, Tuesday. Jupiter (12 Gemini) and retrograde Pluto (15 Sag) are closing in on their impending opposition to each other occurring May 6 (14 Gemini/Sag). The last Jupiter/Pluto opposition occurred about 13 years ago in late April, 1988 (Jupiter was 11 Taurus and Pluto was 11 Scorpio). Jupiter expands and Pluto empowers through the shamanic mysteries of death, transformation and rebirth. The intent of Jupiter and Pluto is to deepen and expand the experience of conscious death, surrender, transformation and rebirth designed to empower us with the fullest experience of our divine essence and destiny as a concrete manifest expression in this life. Our shadow issues (unacknowledged parts of ourselves) are bound to surface through events beyond our control if we refuse or resist this natural process of alchemical transformation.

Apr 25, Wednesday. Waxing Moon moves into Gemini and joins Saturn in the area of the sky still very near the Pleiades stargate. (Its worth checking out the western horizon tonight after Sunset to see this spectacular cosmic lineup.) Gemini is beyond rational, linear, logic, seeing the humor in life and creatively seeking fun ways to express it. Creativity is Gemini's essence. Gemini must communicate creativity in some way, learning more about itself in the process. Freedom is key. Gemini goes beyond the rules of humanity, going beyond even the rules of the physical world. This imagery is addressed in the Fool Tarot Card. The Fool is pictured, jumping empty handed into the void, but the fool knows he or she is no longer at the effect of the laws of gravity. With Gemini, expect the unexpected, as this is the domain of true freedom. As Saturn and the Moon meet in council while accessing the wisdom of the Pleiades, we can tune in for understanding in how these mysteries will find a new structure and form over the next couple of years.

April 26, Thursday. Moon conjuncts Jupiter (13 Gemini) with Pluto (14 Sagittarius) hovering in close opposition. The Moon amplifies and transmits the energies of the Pluto/Jupiter opposition bringing to light the places where there are abuses of power or where we have fear of our own personal power. This brings to

mind the words of Nelson Mandela at his Inaugural Speech in 1994, when he said, "Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure. It is our light not our darkness that most frightens us..." Bringing to light and embracing these fears, helps to transmute and transform them so we can truly express our radiant and shining divine essence adding to the glory of creation.

Apr 27, Friday. Moon moves into Cancer reminding us of the importance of living life in ways that nourish and support ourselves and all life. Archetypally, these energies are linked with the divine mother and divine father, who provide love, nurturing, caring, and safety for all their children. Now is a good time to reflect on the ways we nurture ourselves and our world. Are we acting responsibly with compassion towards ourselves, our children, our children's children and the next seven generations to follow?

Apr 28, Saturday. Sun (9 Taurus) reaches its first quarter square to Neptune (9 Aquarius) this year entering the zone of magnified power in relationship to the mysteries of imagination and dreaming within the field of all possibilities. If indeed the first step to a better life is imaging it, then this is a timing that amplifies what we are imaging.

Apr 29, Sunday. Sun and Juno conjunct at (10 Taurus). Juno is in Taurus from Apr 13 to Jun 3, dancing closely with Sun for at least a week before and week after today's date. Juno is the asteroid associated with the divine consort, relationship, and sacred marriage. In the center of ancient Rome, a temple was built to Juno Moneta, where money was minted. Moneta is the root word for money, and Juno represents the mysteries of our relationship with money, with life force, with currency, and what we value in ourselves and in life. The way our culture currently relates to money is out of balance, emphasizing a belief that we must compete for limited resources. This contributes to a wide spread feeling of lack, bringing up questions about our worthiness and where we fit into the artificial hierarchy these beliefs create.

The Sun/Juno conjunction in Taurus acts like a New Moon seed point for the Taurian mysteries of abundance, providing us with an opportunity to consciously imagine an economic paradigm based on the principles of equitable giving and receiving, including working cooperatively and sharing our resources with each other in ways that nourish and sustain all of life in loving abundance.

Week Of Apr 30 to May 7. The Leo [First Quarter Moon](#) is directly overhead the evening of April 30. This waxing half full Moon phase represents the balance between light and dark and is the most visible growth phase of the Moon. This is the best time of the Moon cycle to put our ideas and plans into action, and marks the phase in the Moon's cycle intended to bring our conscious awareness to the threshold of initiation that accelerates the growth process. Each night until May 7 the Moon waxes or increases in light appearing closer and closer to the Eastern Horizon at Sunset. By May 7 the Full Moon (in Scorpio) is rising in the East about the time the Sun (in Taurus) is setting in the west depending on your eastern and western horizon lines.

Apr 30, Monday. [First Quarter Moon](#) in Leo (10 Leo) energizes the archetypal energy of the King/Queen or Superstar. When Leo is in its strength and power this energy knows and remembers its radiant and shining divine essence shared by all life. Nelson Mandela spoke to this in his Inaugural Speech when he said "We are born to make manifest the Glory of God that is within us. It's not just in some of us; it's in everyone. And as we let our own Light shine, we unconsciously give other people permission to do the same. As we are liberated from our own fear, our presence automatically liberates others."

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