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Welcome! to the September 2007 issue of

THE RETURN

Newsletter for Aquarius Rising Astrological
Consulting

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VIRGO – the VIRGIN



August 23 – September 23, 2007

*Positive Archetypes for Virgo:

The... *Perfectionist; Analyst; Critic; Expert; Craftsperson/
Apprentice; Neophyte/Initiate; Disciple; Martyr/Saint; Mentor/
Role Model; Maestro/Adept*

*Negative Archetypes for Virgo:

The... *Drudge; Wage Slave; Complainer; Blamer; Nitpicker;
Fussbudget; Martyr/Victim; Censor; Devastating Critic;
“Guilty Sinner” Unworthy One*

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Virgo, Soul Sister/Brother

By Lark Bowerman

“Why doesn’t anyone ever try softer?”

-Lily Tomlin

WHY WOULD I BOTHER BEING ME?

I used to really hate thinking of myself as a Virgo. I was always reading and hearing about how I was supposed to make a fine nurse or librarian, neither of which interested me in the slightest. Also, I was supposed to be very picky and overly concerned about making sure about getting my prune juice in every morning. That’s all?! Oh yes, and I was supposed to be good at doing difficult, boring jobs that no one else wanted to do. With these traits, why would I bother being me, I wondered?

I was happy to learn from Linda Goodman’s Sun Signs that we Virgo’s had total passion in romance, all the while managing to be impeccably practical; but somehow my picture of myself as a Virgo wasn’t quite snapping into focus yet...

HOPE FOR VIRGO

Why would I want to read any more of this Astrological malarkey, I wondered, as a friend handed me a copy of Steven Forrest’s book, *The Inner Sky*, for my Birthday one year. I almost didn’t read it... but I’m glad it did because it gave me cause for hope — not just for myself as a Virgo, but for Astrology as an art and science worthy of respect. (As you can probably guess, I feel this is an excellent book worthy of any serious student of Astrology. If we’d had this brilliant book in high school we’d all be a lot smarter now — no kidding!)

At any rate, I began to understand that a lot of what’s been written about Virgo, and Astrology in general (fortunately this is beginning to change), is that it didn’t reflect on Virgo or on Astrology so much as it did on the human tendency to be, oh just a tad lazy... The common reaction when faced with personal growth

and change — “Like, who, me? Grow?” “I ordered a cheese burger! (Remember the Gary Larsen, Far Side joke?) Because really, when it comes down to it, that’s what Virgo is all about — accelerated personal growth. When you hear about Virgo being a perfectionist (and yes, perfectionists can be picky when they get off), what is it that Virgo is perfecting anyway??? Let’s get down to brass tacks. Virgo is perfecting herself.

SHE HAS CAUGHT SIGHT OF SOMETHING...

Where the sign of Virgo falls in a chart denotes a part of a person’s psyche that has become ripe for intensive growth. A sense of dissatisfaction about that part of themselves may hover like a sort of nagging doubt in the person. In fact, it can easily assume Titanic proportions in that person’s mind, tripping them into Virgo’s shadow side of self doubt and self punishment. (This is naturally then, meted out on everyone else around them.) Sentence: Twenty years boring labor as an utterly devoted Nanny or a pious librarian — if you’re even worthy!

But come on! Let’s bring out some mercy! Why all the self-doubt? Because Virgo wants to friggin’ CHANGE! As totally FAST as she possibly can! She has caught sight of something... so pure, so untouched and utterly lovely, so full of grace — a vision of what she could become — that she’s almost half mad to make it happen.

SO — THE PASSION — WHAT’S IT FOR?

So - the passion - what’s it for? Well, it’s the Soul asking to be allowed to blossom fully and completely into the world of physical manifestation — to light Virgo’s form, character and personality from within, making it the incandescent jewel she knows it’s meant to be.

But to be illuminated in this way, Virgo needs a flint stone to strike against in order to make it happen. She needs some form of service through which she can refine herself and prepare herself to offer her special gifts to the world. This isn’t so much about doing something for others as it is about doing something for herself. The service can be anything at all as long as it provides a medium for her growth. That means, it will have to provide some friction to her

attachment to ego, to some quality of character within her that she knows needs to change for the better.

IT'S BEEN SAID THAT IT'S IDEALISTS WHO CAUSE MOST OF THE SUFFERING IN THE WORLD.

Virgo is not too prone to laziness, in fact, quite the opposite. Not too prone to selfishness either; but it's been said that it's sometimes idealists who cause most of the suffering in the world. The idea is debatable of course, but it can't be ignored that goodness in the extreme can be as much of a problem as outright maliciousness, mainly because it's so hard to fault... those unnecessary extra (and unpaid) hours at the office to appease the boss; the health nut on an exercise or supplements binge; the too perfectly crafted (and too costly) art object; the absolutely technically flawless — and soulless — musical performance; the perfectly devoted partner in the failing relationship, trying too hard and three hard and beyond all reason to make it work, unable to accept that it's not their fault; the perfect meal that you wish could have been ready earlier so you could have made it to your appointment on time; maybe most exasperating of all, is the grim, over disciplined spiritual seeker -- these are all very tricky blind spots.

Are you beginning to get the picture that this is not the easiest life lesson to learn? Being a perfectionist can be touchy business to say the least and if you're not a Virgo, right about now, you're probably feeling a bit lucky...

HOW DOES VIRGO CUT AND POLISH HERSELF, AS DIAMOND-IN-THE-ROUGH, WITHOUT SHATTERING TO DUST?

You might be wondering, what is the secret to managing this laser-like beam of perception and purpose? How can you have X-ray vision without going wrong? How does Virgo cut and polish herself as diamond-in-the-rough without shattering to dust?

The secret is very simple: It has to do with figuring out that perfection is an illusion. Growth is an ongoing process; and growth is always preceded by chaos, i.e. not having it together, falling apart. "Getting there once and for all," is only one stage in the infinite

journey of the soul. Initiation is a deeply significant experience; but in the most immediate sense, every day and every minute of the day is a new initiation into the mystery of life. It boggles the mind... And recognizing that the mind is quite limited and easily “boggle-able” is an important part of the secret too — recognizing that flaws are actually the excuse for being here. When Virgo can get to the point of loving herself right along with the flaws, the journey can really begin!

Before enlightenment, chop wood and draw water.

After enlightenment, chop wood and draw water.

— Zen Buddhist saying

At the same time, maybe no one more than Virgo, can understand and use the mind as the powerful ally that it is. “Your wish is my command,” says the Genie; and when we remember in the Virgoan phase of experience what we learned in the phase of Leo the Monarch about claiming our dignity, and issue our command to the “Inner Servant,” we’ve begun to master the lesson of Virgo. Remembering what was learned in the Leo phase about not taking the ego too seriously; and the thing about life being a Play can be really helpful too. Lily Tomlin, one of my favorite Virgos, is so good at teaching us this. Did you ever see All of Me? Peter Sellers, another of my favorite Virgos, taught us so well too. Pink Panther — I just love him! And Inspector Clouseau, the quintessential flawed character. And there’s Virgo Cameron Diaz, and the flawed Princess Fiona of Shrek fame.

Of course we all have a bit of Virgo in us somewhere. The sign is somewhere in everyone’s chart; but if your Sun, or Moon or Ascendant signs are in Virgo, you know you’ve got a big dose of it in your makeup.

In the method of chart interpretation that I use, the **Sun** represents, our basic *sense of identity*. The **Moon** represents our *inner, emotional nature* and the **Ascendant**, or **Rising Sign** tells about our *personal style and how we interface with the world*. Sun, Moon and Ascendant are called the Primal Triad and form the basis of a good, solid interpretation of your personal chart. You can find out more about Evolutionary Astrology by checking out my website,

www.aquariusastrological.com or by contacting me at
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Now If you don't remember the Gary Larsen Far Side joke I mentioned, since I don't have permission to copy it, I'll describe it as best I can. It's a four-frame cartoon. (Gary Larsen, by the way, has a Virgo Moon.)

Frame 1: A glass filled halfway sits on a counter top. The caption reads, "Is the glass is half full."

Frame 2: Same drawing again. This time the caption reads, "The glass is half empty."

Frame 3: I don't remember the character in this one but the caption reads, "Half full, no half empty! No, half full... What was the question?"

Frame 4: An irate-looking "construction worker," belly hanging out over his belt, baseball cap on, has appeared in front on the counter with the half- empty/ filled glass. The caption reads, "Hey! I ordered a cheese burger!"



SOME WELL KNOWN VIRGO SUN SIGNS

Mother Theresa
Michael Jackson

Julio Iglesias
Sean Connery

(Virgo Sun and Moon)

Beyonce Knowles

Agatha Christie

Jean-Michel Jarre

Louis the 14th

Liz Greene

Peggy Gugenheim

Anne Bancroft

Charlie Bird Parker

Conway Twitty

Henry Ford



*Many of the astrological archetypes in this newsletter are drawn from the book, *The Inner Sky* by Steven Forrest or from *Skymates I*, by Jodie Forrest and Steven Forrest. These books come highly recommended by me as well as many others. They are also available from Amazon or from www.sevenpawspress.com.

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