WAY OF THE MOON
How to Use the Lunar Mansions
with Donna Woodwell
Today we’ll explore...

- How the Moon moves
- Where the Lunar Mansions come from
- The role of the Moon in ancient cosmology
- The 28 Lunar Mansions & their meanings
- How to include the Mansions in your charts
How the Moon Moves
The Moon’s orbit around the earth in relation to the Sun creates the Moon’s phases.

This Synodic Cycle is 29.5 days long from new Moon to new Moon.
The Earth-Moon system travels around the Sun together; it takes less time for the Moon to return to the same star, than to start a new phase cycle.

This Sidereal Cycle is 27.3 days from a star to return to the same star.
Earth's Motion in a Synodic Month

SIDERAL & SYNODIC PERIODS OF THE MOON

2-1/6 Days Added to Sidereal Period Equals Synodic Period
Moon as **Timekeeper**
The Lunar Zodiac appeared in Central Asia at least 4,000 years ago.
Images from the Silk Road trade routes
Lunar Phase + Lunar Zodiac = Lunar Calendar
12th Century Chinese stone-carved planisphere with divisions for 28 Hsiu (Xiu). Early records of Hsiu c. 2000 BCE
In India, the Rig Vedas contain listings of the 27 (28) naksatras (c. 1700-1100 BCE).
The Babylonian MUL.APIN contains references to 17 constellations on the "Way of the Moon" (c. 10th Century BCE). May be fragments of a lunar zodiac.
Other Mansion Influences

- Indigenous Arabic Anwā'
- Persian Bundahišn
- Greco-Roman
  - Works & Days, Hesiod
  - Astro-Poetry Maximus of Tyre
- Coptic (via Athanasius Kircher)
28 Lunar Mansions incorporated into the Islamic/Arabic calendar, c. 9th Century, and aligned to the solar zodiac.
Lunar Mansions: Magic & Talismans

Time Shifting:
- Al Biruni, 11th century
- Abenragel, 11th century
- Picatrix, 11th century
- Cornelius Agrippa, 16th century
- Giordano Bruno, 16th century
28 Mansions of the Moon
To passionately pursue a course of action

Dos: Act boldly and independently, try something new, travel

Don’ts: Don’t begin a partnership or marriage, or other actions that require compromise
2-The OLIVE BRANCH

Al Butain
The Little Belly
12°51’22” Aires to 25°42’51” Aries

For diffusing anger and resolving conflicts

Dos: Act with honesty, humility and integrity. Use tact and persuasion, not force. Do be accountable with authorities and institutions. Pacify and ask forgiveness.

Don'ts: Don't be brash or boastful. Don't blame others or seek to avoid consequences.
3-The LADY

Al Thurayya
The Many Little Ones
25°42’51” Aries to 8°34’17” Taurus

To receive blessings, good fortune and support

Dos: Ask for favors and assistance. Pursue creative projects.

Don’ts: Don’t overindulge yourself. Don’t avoid travel by water.
4-The RIDER

Al Dabaran
The Follower
8°34’17” Taurus to 21°25’40” Taurus

For strength and tenacity in overcoming obstacles

Dos: Pursue your goals, especially in business. Dive in and get something accomplished. Travel.

Don'ts: Don’t surrender because something is too hard. Avoid partnerships with those more powerful than you.
5-The CROWN

AI Hak’ah
The White Spot
21°25’40” Taurus to 4°17’09” Gemini

For using creativity and intelligence

*Dos*: Make wishes and set intentions. Seek a job or a raise. Engage in intellectual pursuits. Travel.

*Don’ts*: Don’t follow the crowd or seek to convince someone else to do your work for you.
6-The LOVERS

Al Han’ah
The Mark
4°17’09” Gemini to 17°08’34” Gemini

For inspiring love


*Don’t*: Don’t seek a loan or make financial investments.
For generosity and abundance

*Do*: Pursue romance and friendships. Seek a raise or a job. Ask for, or give, assistance.

*Don't*: Don’t file a lawsuit. Don’t act out of envy or spite.
8-The EAGLE

Al Nathrah
The Gap
0° Cancer to 12°51’22” Cancer

To achieve victory

Dos: Play to win. Focus effort on worthy goals. Celebrate your victories. Travel.

Don’ts: Don’t run over others in your quest for glory. Don’t give in to peer pressure.
9-The EYE

Al Tarf
The Glance
12°51'22" Cancer to 25°42'51" Cancer

For separation and division


Don’ts: Don’t dwell on the past. Don’t travel or make unnecessary appointments.
10 - The LION

Al Jabhah
The Forehead
25°42'51" Cancer to 8°34'17" Leo

To dispel sadness and inspire courage

Dos: Be brave. Seek to improve your situation. Tackle tasks that require courage and strength. Take healing remedies.

Don'ts: Don’t hide under the bed. Don’t wait to be rescued.
Al Zubrah
The Mane
8°34’17” Leo to 21°25’40” Leo

For respect, prestige and charm

Dos: Build foundations. Make investments. Seek a raise or promotion. Schedule important meetings. Travel.

Don'ts: Don’t engage in petty disputes or rumor-mongering. Don’t fail to speak up for yourself.
12 - The DRAGON

Al Sarfrah
The Changer
21°25'40" Leo to 4°17'09" Virgo

For self-improvement through conflict

Dos: Take responsibility for your own actions. Be inspired by others to improve yourself.

Don'ts: Don’t disown your demons. Don’t give in to envy and jealousy.
For passionate and creative union


Don't: Don’t make long-term commitments. Don’t give up on what you desire.
To separate the wheat from the chaff

*Do*: End relationships or jobs that aren't fulfilling your needs. Move or relocate.

*Don't*: Don’t cling to situations for fear of change.
For trade and communication


*Don’t:* Avoid social engagements or forming partnerships. Don’t travel.
To gain wealth through negotiation


Don't: Don’t pursue romantic encounters. Don’t travel.
17 The MONKEY

Ikil al Jabhah
The Crown of the Forehead
25°42’51” Libra to 8°34’17” Scorpio

For protection from deceivers, loss and theft

*Do:* Act with caution. Be conservative, especially in financial matters.

*Don’t:* Don’t engage in risky behavior. Don’t allow fear to paralyze you.
To heal or prevent illness

*Do:* Start a healthy diet or exercise routine. Schedule medical appointments and procedures.

*Don’t:* Don’t ignore your health needs. Don’t indulge to excess.
19-The STINGER

Al Shaulah
The Sting
21°25’40” Scorpio to 4°17’09” Sagittarius

For discernment

*Do*: Take a stand on what’s important to you. Be assertive. Focus on win-win scenarios.

*Don’t*: Don’t worry about small things. Don’t be aggressive or overbearing.
20-The HUNTER

Al Na’am
The Ostriches
4°17’09” Sagittarius to 17°08’34” Sagittarius

For success in attaining your goals

_Do:_ Set intentions and strive to meet them. Seek answers to questions. Perform tasks that require concentration.

_Do n’t:_ Don’t be lazy. Don’t allow distractions to get in the way of action.
To end a situation

Do: Seek closure. End arrangements that are no longer working. Resign from a job. Divorce.

Don't: Don’t dwell on the past. Don’t start partnerships.
22-The WINGED MESSENGER

Al Sa'd al Dhabih
The Lucky One of the Slaughterers
0° Capricorn to 12°51'22" Capricorn

For freedom from constraints

Do: Seize the day. Act quickly when opportunity arises. Free yourself from a situation that stifles you.

Don’t: Don’t resist change. Don’t give in to your habits.
Al Sa'd al Bula
The Lucky One of the Swallowers
12°51'22" Capricorn to 25°42'51" Capricorn

To destroy what imprisons you

*Do*: Tear down barriers. Remove impediments to healing and growth.

*Don't*: Don’t arrange social gatherings.
24 The MOTHER

Al Sa'd al Su'ud
The Lucky One of the Lucky
25°42'51" Capricorn to 8°34'17" Aquarius

To nurture yourself and your projects

Do: Ask for support. Take care of yourself. Acknowledge your desires. Allow others to assist you.

Don't: Don’t expect someone to rescue you. Don’t ignore your needs.
Al Sa'd al Ahbiya
The Lucky One of Hidden Things
8°34'17" Aquarius to 21°25'40" Aquarius

For protection, patience and hope

*Do:* Have patience. Allow things to unfold when they are ready. Tap into a Source greater than yourself.

*Don’t:* Don’t force a situation. Don’t get frustrated if things don’t happen as planned.
26 - The MUSE

Al Fargh al Mukdin
The Fore-Spout
21°25′40′′ Aquarius to 4°17′09″ Pisces

To inspire love and beauty

Do: Create or be inspired by art or other forms of beauty. Romance. Social engagements.

Don't: Don’t travel. Don’t waste time on what is boring or uninspired. Don’t pursuit profit for profit's sake.
For the ebb and flow of fortune

Do: Go with the flow. Give and receive support. Have a sense of humor.

Don’t: Don’t attach to outcomes. Don’t form partnerships. Don’t make investments. Don’t loan money. Don’t travel.
To gather riches and resources


*Don’t:* Don’t ignore the gifts you've been given. Don’t refuse help when offered.
Using the Lunar Mansions
Electional Astrology:
Consider the Moon’s Mansion when choosing an auspicious time.
Horary Astrology:
Consider the Moon’s Mansion when interpreting a horary chart.

Where is Gizmo?
NATAL CHART

July 22, 2008
6:45:22 PM
Daylight Saving Time
Austin, Texas
30N16'01" 97W44'34"
Time Zone: 6 hours West
Tropical Whole Sign
Predictive Astrology:
Consider the Moon’s Mansion when forecasting with transits or progressions.
Natal Astrology:
Consider the Moon’s Mansion when delineating a chart.
For more on lunar mansions...

DonnaPhilosophica.com