

August 2016

# Crystal Clear

P S Y C H I C S

## PERIDOT

VOLCANIC MAGIC

## ON THE VIBE

with psychic Manda

## TAMING THE

# LION

how to love a leo

spirit in words

# PAOLO COELHO



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# On the Vibe Manda



## FROM THE **EDITOR**

August brings a more reflective side of Summer. Intuitive awareness increases as the sun moves through regal Leo and transitions into meticulous Virgo. It's truly a great moment for psychic exploration and spiritual growth.

We start with Manda, a natural psychic talent who uses an array of gifts to deliver clear, insightful readings—she even gets help from Twinkle, her psychic cat!

Our astrological profile for August centres on Paolo Coelho, a writer of global stature. You may know him as the author of the spiritual classic *The Alchemist*, but can we probe deeper into the life and spirituality of this wise novelist?

Peridot is the birthstone of August, and there is a whole lot more to this beautiful green gemstone than you may have realised. Our editorial team also takes a fresh look at Leo, the sign of the spotlight, and what to do if you find yourself in love.

Take a close look at your monthly horoscopes this month—you may find a surprising piece of guidance! We know you have a choice of psychic readings companies, and we thank you for making ours the most respected in the USA.

Love and Light,

Lauren X

## WHEN DID YOU FIRST DISCOVER YOUR PSYCHIC TALENTS?

*I have been very intuitive since an early age, and at the age of 6 I had my first experience of spirit. I saw a Florence Nightingale figure holding an old fashioned lamp and walking her dog. I went up to her to stroke the dog and they disappeared in front of me. Around that time I would go and see my grandfather, who was always in pain and had bandages on his legs. When I changed his bandages, my hands became tingly and hot, and his pain was taken away. I realized I was a vessel for healing, both hands on and remote.*

## WHAT ARE YOUR TALENTS?

*I have the gift of clairvoyance (clear vision), clairaudience (clear hearing), and clairsentience (clear sensing). Clients tell me I'm a very intuitive and accurate psychic. Through the gift of mediumship, I can often see and relay messages from loved ones and spirit guides that have passed away. I also pick up on how people are feeling on the earth plane, along with their aches and pains. I get psychic information from many different sources, both for myself and others.*

## WHAT PSYCHIC TOOLS DO YOU USE?

*Over the years I have acquired many tools of the trade. I was given my first tarot cards when I was 19, and I still use them 29 years later. These mythic cards help me a focus when giving a reading. I have also been blessed with my very psychic black cat, Twinkle, who is now 8 years old. She gives me signs while readings are taking place, both over the phone and face-to-face. Sometimes she knocks my tarot and angel cards onto the floor, or meows to agree with something that is relevant to the reading. I am positive she is a reincarnation of my first born I lost 15 years ago. I also use numerology. There are signs from the spirit world everywhere if you look.*

## CAN YOU TELL US ONE REMARKABLE STORY FROM A RECENT CLIENT?

*A certain gentleman had been looking for a house move/swap to be nearer his children, but for the past 18 months he had been let down and was close to giving up. Through the reading, his late sister gave him a message to trust and have faith that he was going to get different offers. She indicated that he would find a house, move in around his daughter's birthday, and be in residence just two weeks before his own birthday. He later came back to say that I had great gift of predicting situations that came true!*

## WHY DO YOU ENJOY WORKING FOR CRYSTAL CLEAR PSYCHICS?

*I was coming into my 50th birthday year. Twinkle, my black cat, was scratching and meowing at the Crystal Clear Psychics newsletter. I turned it over and saw that they were looking for readers. I am glad I listened to her! I love the ethos of the company, the receptionists became like family. The clients are fantastic, and I love how it feels to make a difference in people's lives and give them guidance and clarity along their life path. My readings and messages from spirit come in truth and unconditional love. All I ask is to keep an open mind. Nothing is written in stone, as we all have free will and choice.*

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# SPIRIT IN WORDS



**H**e'll be the first to tell you that listening to your heart is not always easy. As a young man, his stubborn insistence on becoming a writer—instead of following the traditional path laid out for him—landed the future scribe in a mental institution.

But he escaped—and he never let go of his heart's desire. Today, Paulo Coelho is one of the best selling authors of all time. He has more book sales to his credit than William Shakespeare, and more Twitter followers than J.K. Rowling. Readers flock to him not only for his clear and engaging style, but for the message of wisdom and spiritual transformation his stories bring. Surely there are spiritual forces at work in the life of this literary giant. By examining his astrological signature, can we gain deeper insight into how those forces work?

Paulo Coelho de Souza was born in Rio de Janeiro on 24th August, 1947. As a Virgo in the Chinese Year of the Pig, he came into the world with the ability to see minute details (Virgo) as well as the bigger picture (Pig). These qualities would be instrumental to his success as a novelist. This is, however, only one aspect of his unique combination of signs.

Born into a traditional Roman Catholic family, Coelho's parents famously thought he was mad when he stated his wish to become a writer. His father was a respected engineer, and his mother could not understand why her son would pursue a path of rebellion and uncertainty. But Paulo insisted, and was committed to a mental institution as a result. Before the age of 20, he had escaped three times.

Where did these instincts come from? Virgo is not usually a sign of rebellion. The Pig has an independent streak, but there must have been another element in play: Moon in Sagittarius. This aspect virtually ensured that Coelho would blaze his own trail in life—and that it would take him far from home. Fortunately, his Pig nature smoothed over the rough edges and gave him an admirable perspective. While the Pig likes to go its own way, it's also one of the more generous and compassionate signs of the Chinese

Zodiac. Coelho later defended his parents for locking him away, saying they were only doing what they thought was best in order to help him.

Coelho briefly attended law school to appease his family, but soon dropped out. Now in his early 20s, the Sagittarius moon kicked into high gear. He traveled widely across South America and Europe, tirelessly seeking to widen his perspective. On returning to Brasil, he worked as a lyricist for several prominent musicians, including Raul Seixas, whose music was commonly associated with magic and the occult. This partnership led people to associate Coelho himself with elements of spirituality that were not considered mainstream. He continued working as a lyricist, and all the basic elements of his life seemed to be in order.

Except one. He still wasn't following his original dream of publishing books. It wasn't until the age of 39, while walking the 500 km pilgrimage route known as the Way of St. James (in the north of Spain), that Coelho truly woke up and realized what his spirit wanted him to do. He cites this experience as an important awakening in his life. It led him to write *The Pilgrimage* the following year, and soon after that, *The Alchemist*. The latter was not an success at first. The original publishing house chose not to reprint the book after the initial run of only 900 copies. Coelho's persistent Pig nature was not dissuaded. He found a new publisher, and in 1994, after he had already written his next book, Harper Collins decided to publish *The Alchemist*.

The story is rich in detail, and the narrative is well-constructed—thanks in no small part to Coelho's Virgo sun—but the message is simple. You start out looking for riches, but if you're lucky, you end up discovering that the real treasure is within. The spiritual themes in *The Alchemist* are responsible, in no small part, for the major success that followed it. Fans were drawn to Coelho not only for the magic he was able to weave on the page, but for his warmth and generosity as a human being. The young rebel had finally found his own inner treasure, and sharing it with the world proved beneficial not only for him, but for millions around the world.

# Horoscopes



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## Aries

The most notable event this month will come on the 3rd, when Mars your ruler, moves back into the expansive sign of Sagittarius. Furthermore, the New Moon of the 2nd is emphasising Saturn in the same go-getting area. Creativity, learning, travel and new experiences are all highlighted, but you also need to grapple with all fundamental details.



## Cancer

You can find yourself with an added ability to communicate effectively with others this month. However, it is vital that you remain conscious of your true motivations between the 5th and the 17th, when Neptune's influence can be deceptive or it could be someone close who proves rather evasive. A surprise job offer could come up around the 18th, so be prepared.



## Taurus

Your ruler Venus moves into the most joyous part of your horoscope on the 6th, and is going to be broadly collaborating with Mercury, right through to the 29th. This gives you real encouragement to be more self-expressive, but particularly within the family. Your home can also become a hive of activity. Your physical vitality will though improve from the 23rd.



## Leo

Whatever you instigate on the back of the New Moon of the 2nd, provided you really apply yourself and overcome any confusion around joint finances, there is every chance that you can see some benefits flow through it, particularly between the 25th and 29th of August. You may also see a relationship in an entirely new light from the time of the Full Moon of the 18th.



## Gemini

Relationship matters are very strongly emphasised this month for you, especially once Saturn goes direct on the 13th and the Full Moon of the 18th, which points towards your essential need to be an individual within any collective or even close romantic tie. There may be some confusion at times, but I think by the 30th, life could take you in a surprise direction.



## Virgo

Your ruling planet Mercury remains in your sign all month. Also it's complemented by the silky vibes of Venus. This combination is going to boost your attraction power hugely. You can also find yourself making a very deep, even spiritual connection to someone new that could turn out to be long-lasting. But your vibrancy and energy will really power forwards from the 23rd.

# August

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## Libra

You can have an important discussion which can influence your long-term future around the New Moon of the 2nd. But relationships can prove to be more challenging as both Venus, your ruler and Mercury are opposed by the confusing energies of Neptune from the 5th, through to the 17th. Knowing where you stand is going to be vital to your peace of mind.



## Capricorn

Your ruler Saturn continues to tangle with the draining energies of Neptune. This began towards the end of May, and is going to continue until mid-October. This may continue to make you feel rather vulnerable, but equally it can help you to sort the wheat from the chaff around your deepest emotions. Someone truly insightful can prove to be a spirit guide this month.



## Scorpio

This month is likely to find you much more purposeful about your long-term future, and also about your ability to generate income. It's possible that you will find yourself collaborating with someone else, potentially in a business venture, or around some kind of creative enterprise. For this to really and truly work there has to be very clearly defined terms of reference.



## Aquarius

A relationship can be reborn or revitalised from the 2nd, and you can show your leadership abilities by having the confidence to be different on the 18th. You may also connect with someone at a very deep level, particularly from the 25th to the 29th. The arrival of Venus in Libra on the 30th could also signal dialogue with someone at a distance - even overseas.



## Sagittarius

With a very constructive New Moon on the 2nd, with links to Saturn in your sign and Mars storming back into Sagittarius on the 3rd, things can really start to rocket forwards for you this month. Your ability to get on well with all sorts of people can also be crucial to your career. The trick however, is not letting any home or personal issues sap your overall willpower.



## Pisces

Your relationship sector is particularly illuminated this month, and something really special can ensue, but particularly if you're interacting with someone who shares your values, and who you can truly and clearly relate with. Your professional aspirations are also much more positive, as long as you remain mindful of what the world expects, not how you'd like it to be.

# PERIDOT VOLCANIC MAGIC

**T**he vast majority of gemstones are formed deep in the earth's crust. In fact, there are only two earthly stones that are formed higher up, in the lava-filled mantle. One is diamond. The other is more common and easily obtainable—but when you look closely at its history and healing properties, it's no less regal.

Peridot is the shimmering green-yellow birthstone of August. Known as the "extreme gemstone" due to its formation in lava, this stone is brought to the earth's surface by geological events such as earthquakes and volcanic eruptions—hence its wide availability. But Peridot does not always come from earth. Variations of the stone have also arrived here in a rare type of meteorite known as pallasite, which was formed billions of years ago during the birth of the solar system. Space probes have also collected Peridot from space dust, and located it on the surface of the moon. This mystical substance seems to exist far beyond the boundaries of our planet, and possibly far beyond our solar system.

The vast majority of Peridot available in shops and healing sessions, however, is from earth—and therein lies its power. One of the strongest metaphysical properties of this stone, according to psychics and spiritual healers, is the principle of increase and abundance. Peridot springs from the hot, vital energies of the earth and is pushed to the surface in large quantities. In the same way, people can use Peridot to bring abundance into their lives—whether it's an abundance of love, money, business, or spiritual growth. Hence the name Peridot is said to spring from the Greek peridona, which means "giving of plenty."



Like many gemstones with healing and metaphysical powers, the history and lore behind Peridot can help us to understand its place in the world. Most versions of the story begin on St. John's

Island in Southern Egypt, where Peridot is found in abundance here. Ancient Egyptians were mining the stone as early as 1500 BC. They created chalices in honor of the goddess Isis, who represented the fertility and abundance of the Nile. Peridot was also worn by Egyptian priests as a talisman, and even possibly by Pharaohs themselves. While many believe that Cleopatra wore emeralds, historians have recently argued that the queen's favored green stones were actually Peridot. These deep historical and metaphysical connections have made Peridot the national gemstone of Egypt.

Egypt isn't the only fan of this magical green stone, however. It also has a long history in Europe, South America and many other parts of the world. Common properties attributed to Peridot include: Eloquence and charm, diplomacy, aligning heart and mind, softening rough edges, and protecting against violent dreams and/or spirits.

Peridot is also traditionally used to restore natural cycles and phases, both physical and emotional, in people who wear it. This is particularly interesting in light of recent scientific speculation that Peridot may have played an integral part in the formation of the moon.

Peridot's spiritual energies are unique due to its volcanic formation and rich mythological history. It seems the deeper you investigate this amazing gift from nature, the more incredible it gets.

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# TAMING THE LION

Leo isn't always the easiest sign to date—but the most worthwhile endeavours are seldom easy! Natives of this fire sign tend to have a striking physical presence, a love for attention and glamour, and a playful attitude. The dark side? Leos can be self-absorbed. They can be jealous. They can be fiery. But to them, it's all part of keeping things hot.



**F**irst, let's talk about appearances. Beauty is skin deep, but to a Leo, the surface does matter. The way you look, and the attention you put into grooming yourself, is a symbol of your inner confidence. When you notice the details, and compliment your Leo on their appearance, he or she will jump right in your lap. The lion loves to be adored, praised, touched. Natives often change or improve their appearance, from clothing and hairstyles to fragrances and jewelry. If you're not someone who normally observes these things, you might want to train yourself as soon as possible! The same goes for your own appearance. Keeping a Leo interested may mean stepping up your game in terms of dress and grooming.

So you're back from the shops and fresh from the salon. What next? As mentioned above, all of this appearance stuff isn't strictly superficial. To the lion, it's all about being confident and taking pride in who you are. When you're on a date with a Leo, there are times when he or she will take charge and make decisions—this is in Leo's nature. But they also want to see your confidence. Being indecisive or timid will not keep this sign interested for long. You might have to dance. You might even have to sing Karaoke. The important thing is that you believe in yourself and display confidence in your gifts. These qualities fascinate Leo to no end.

Since your Leo is so confident, nothing you can say will penetrate their hide, right? Wrong. While Leo loves being the center of attention, it often struggles with criticism. A snide comment can have consequences far beyond what you expected. These proud, majestic creatures don't take insults likely—so you may have to think more carefully about the words you choose. Eventually your Leo will

get upset, whether you like it or not. Whether you're in the wrong or not, actions speak louder than words. Let your Leo come back to you. When they do, give them the healing affection they need. They'll certainly make it worth your while.

In terms of what to do...romantic dinners for two are nice, but Leo gets restless when it's always just the two of you. Going out in groups is important to this highly social sign, so make sure to get things on the calendar. It's not like everything you do together needs to be glamorous—plays, art galleries and film premiers, for example—but these things should be in the mix.

When you're out and about with other people, give your Leo the attention he or she deserves. Always be courteous and introduce them formally to people you know. Give them a chance to shine. Show them you love being seen with them. This is how you gain VIP access to the warm, playful, and deeper aspects of this dynamic sign. Leave your lion out in the cold, however, and they'll be charming someone else before you know it.

Once you've truly earned the affections of this sign, he or she will be fiercely loyal. People who date and love Leos often comment about how wonderful it is to have someone in their corner, standing up for them. The protective qualities of Leo can sometimes accelerate into possessiveness, but remember—the lion is both proud and highly intelligent. As long as you approach your relationship issues with dignity and mutual respect, Leo will run to meet you half way. Like every sign of the zodiac, the lion has challenges and weaknesses. But its strengths and rewards—especially in the realm of intimacy and affection—are very special indeed.

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