

Bumps in the Night!!!!

June 2013 Issue

Paranormal "U"

Power of the Moon

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The moon has played a significant and mystical role for humans since recorded time. The Moon and Sun are the largest objects in the sky so it's no wonder that humans have been amazed by them since the beginning of time. Many ancient cultures worshiped the moon and associated them with gods and goddesses. The Greek moon goddess was Artemis, the Roman moon goddess was Diana, the Mayan moon goddess was Khonsu, and the Aztec moon goddess was Coyolxauhqui. The list goes on and on for many other ancient cultures. The moon has power and has scientifically proven effects on the earth. The moon has phases as it rotates around the earth. The full moon is definitely the most popular phase. The full moon has been given many names depending on what month or year it appears. The full moon has been linked to paranormal activity and is associated with common folklore and myth. This article will help explain the many topics related to the moon.

Phases of the Moon



source: http://www.calculatorcat.com/moon_phases/moon_phases.phtml

The moon orbits around the earth and different parts of the moon become illuminated depending its angle between the earth and sun. The changing shape of the bright part of the moon that we see is called its phase. Some nights you may see a full moon, a crescent moon, a half moon, or no moon at all. The moon is illuminated because it reflects the light from the sun. The part of the moon facing the sun is lit up. The part of the moon facing away from the sun is dark. When the sun and moon are on opposite sides of the earth, the moon is full. When the moon is between the earth and the sun, the moon is dark (new moon). In between the full and new moon, the illuminated moon's surface appears to get larger (waxing) and then after the full moon, it appears to get smaller (waning). It takes about 29.5 days to cycle through all 8 phases. This is known as a lunar month. If you are having a hard time comprehending how the position of the sun, moon and earth relate to the phase of the moon you can click the following link for a very good graphic: <http://www.lunarland.com/phases-of-the-moon>.

Oceanic Tides

The moon is so powerful that it works to create tides in the earth's oceans. This is due to the gravitational pull of the moon. The moon has more than twice as much gravitational force on earth than the sun does. The ocean on the side of earth facing the moon gets pulled toward the moon more than does the center of the planet. This creates a high tide. Another high tide occurs on the other side of the earth because the center of

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Earth is being pulled toward the moon more than the ocean on the far side of the earth. This gravitational effect of the moon basically pulls the ocean away from earth. The moon's pull is constant and it's the rotation of the Earth that causes different areas to experience high and low tides.

Full Moon Names

The Farmers' Almanac began to publish full moon names in the 1930s. The full moons associated with each month were given names that were influenced by Native American Indian culture. The names have changed over the years but here is a list of the current full moon names from the Farmer's Almanac:

January: Wolf Moon	April: Pink Moon	July: Thunder Moon	October: Hunter's Moon
February: Snow Moon	May: Flower Moon	August: Sturgeon Moon	November: Beaver Moon
March: Worm Moon	June: Strawberry Moon	September: Harvest Moon	December: Cold Moon

You can learn more about full moon names and how they got their names by clicking on the following link:

<http://www.farmersalmanac.com/full-moon-names/>.

You may have also heard the term Blue Moon. The Blue Moon is actually not a Blue Moon at all. It is called a Blue Moon because it is a rare event. This gave rise to the phrase, "Once in a Blue Moon". Each calendar year contains roughly 11 days more than the number of days in 12 lunar cycles. The extra days add up so that every two or three years there is an extra full moon. This extra moon will fall in one of the four seasons. Therefore that season will have four full moons instead of the usual three. This extra moon is called a Blue Moon.

Common Folklore / Myths

Now for some folklore and myths related to the moon. This is by no means a complete list but some of the more popular folklores and myths you may have heard over the years. I categorize these as folklore and myths because none of them can be scientifically proven.

- Some theorize that blood responds to the gravitational pull of the moon. Therefore, some believe that surgery is unwise during a full moon because of the increased risk of bleeding.
- The body consists of 70% to 80% water. So just as the moon affect the tides, it creates a pull on the water within of our body, and we feel this as emotions. Therefore, during a full moon is it said that people who suffer mental imbalances are affected. This results in higher suicides rates, crime rates, and admittances to psychiatric hospitals during full moons.
- There are more births around a full moon than any other time of the month.
- Sleeping in moonlight was once said to be dangerous because it led to lunacy. The word lunacy is derived from the moon which means madness.
- It is thought that animals are more restless and unruly during a full moon.

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- Full moons are traditionally associated with temporary insomnia and seizures
- Werewolves come out during full moons. This story dates back to the ancient Greeks and alleges that a cursed human shape-shifts into a wolf during a full moon.

Paranormal Activity

The moon has always been associated with the paranormal. So when is the best time for paranormal investigations? The common belief is that a full moon is the most favorable time for paranormal investigations. Others believe the best time to experience paranormal activity is two or three days before or after the full moon and new moon. Why? No one can say for sure. One theory about investigating during a full moon is an increased gravitational pull on the earth from a full moon. This extra energy could cause an increase in paranormal activity. Paranormal investigators should always make note of the moon phase during a paranormal investigation. Over time, you can look back on data collected from paranormal investigations and take note if you have an increase in data collected during certain phases of the moon. You can determine the current phase of the moon by clicking this link: http://www.calculatorcat.com/moon_phases/phasesnow.php

References

Moon phases explained: http://www.moonconnection.com/moon_phases.phtml

Farmers Almanac full moon names: <http://www.farmersalmanac.com/full-moon-dates-and-times/>

