


YOU are a Woman unto Yourself

I am so excited to begin my first FEMININE ASTROLOGY article on the primordial Goddess, **Vesta**. I want to 'begin at the beginning' so I am choosing her. The primordial Goddesses (and there are several, more will come later...) are the original or first aspects of the



Great Mother's Creation.

Vesta's element is **FIRE**. You may have recognized her glyph  which is represented by a vessel with a flame, but her flame is not just any flame.....

Vesta's flame is the eternal, the sacred flame at the Center.

The Greeks portrayed her as center of the world, the omphalos or navel of the earth. In the communities of our earliest cities, the temple was seen as the center. The temple was the body of Vesta, her priestesses were her sacred Vestals.

The ancients honored Hearth and Home. This center of your home warmth protects and family. In Latin, *hearth* gathers the energy of hearth fire, she brings center. Whether or not woman, her being, is home. Her state of center for her family. wherever she is.



her as the center of means she is the where the fire and its nourishes the whole means focus. Vesta the family around the the focus back to you have a fireplace, a the heart of every mind and heart are the She creates a center

Of the many Goddesses, she is the only one who does not have an embodiment. Rather, Vesta is referred to as "The Faceless Goddess." She is the **FLAME** itself. She is removed from the dramas of everyday life. We could liken her to the maiden aunt, the one who had no children. Vesta stays out of the whirlwind of every day drama and trauma (wasn't she smart?). She is there for those who need a calm center. She is the one who can listen without judging or being taken out of her center. You can always go to her for advice and good counsel. She will listen, but never lecture you.


First and foremost she is the center of your SELF. You represent her when you hold your own center by keeping yourself whole and in balance. Vesta is a Woman Unto Herself - a Virgin Goddess. This does not necessarily mean a literal Virgin (although it might if for instance your Vesta is strong in your 12th house or in Pisces. Pisces or 12th house Vesta would be a very nun-like placement). 'Virgin' can also imply that she is a woman with her own personal boundaries. She can remain untouched in the midst of life's ups and downs. She can help you develop your own personal codes of conduct and discrimination regarding your sexuality.

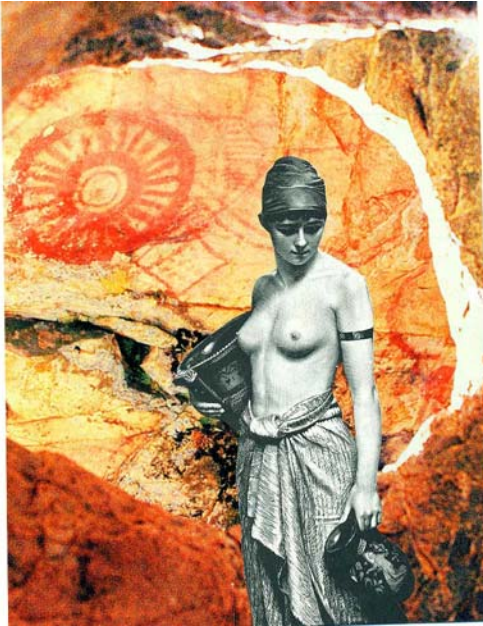
VESTA helps you make good personal boundaries that keep you vital and strong.

She stays centered in herself and is not taken out of that center by the needs of others. She is a woman who is whole and complete unto herself.



Nefertiti by Sharon Russell

 Gaia, our mother earth, has a center also. Her center is hot and fiery and contains a crystalline core surrounded by a molten core of fire. VESTA's color is **red**. If you want to enliven VESTA in your self, you may try placing a little red here or there to remind you that first and foremost **YOU ARE A WOMAN UNTO YOURSELF**. You have the freedom to make choices based on your rights as a woman. Take a moment as you are reading this article to center yourself, to feel the center at the core of your body, your hara, your power center as woman. **Your body is your temple.**



In this way you can experience yourself as Virgin and woman unto yourself.

That does not mean she does not care for others. If your Vesta is in Virgo or strong in the 6th house, you may be a devoted caregiver. Giving care to others may be at your center. There are many possibilities for Vesta's influence in your life and your chart will give you clues as to what these are.

In astrology Vesta represents the principle of your commitment, focus, and your intent or devotion to someone or something in your life. She describes an energy that defines how you will face your issues of devotion, commitment, sacrifice, and work.

Vesta is a centering energy.

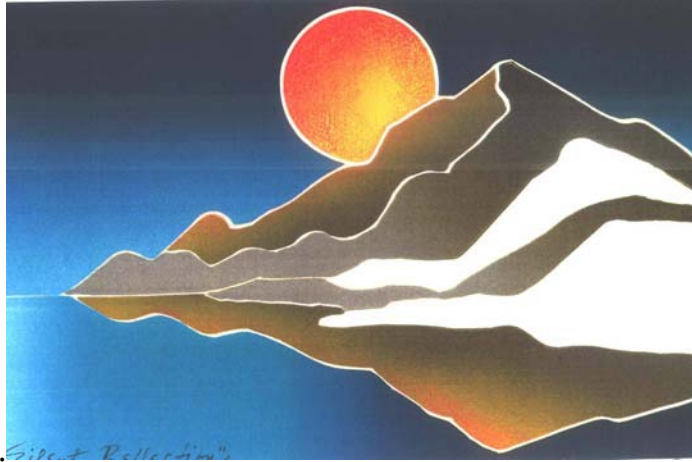
She faces these issues by allowing herself the space and time to tend to her own inner flame. It is helpful to look at the **SIGN** position of Vesta in order to **tell WHAT it is that can keep you in your center**. You can look for the **HOUSE** position of Vesta to give you an idea of **WHERE you can find a place for that centering**. When she is in her positive, light-giving energetic, she brings in to you a natural devotion to your work or to your relationships. Wherever she is located in your chart by house placement can help you understand how you might best stay centered or become centered when you are thrown out by fatigue, dramatic or dangerous events, or overwork. (and oh, my dears, women now-a-days are sooooo overworked! But... take a breath,.....THIS GODDESS CAN HELP YOU!)

When Vesta is in her challenging aspects in your chart, she can bring fear of intimacy or denial of your needs for your essential woman self. She can both show the area of life where you are dedicated, committed, **and** the area where you may feel thwarted by repressed energy. In areas where you feel **blocked**, she can bring limitation until you develop the awareness to use her wonderful energy for the benefit of your individual life and self. From this consolidation of energy within you, you then become ready to be of service to others.

Remember, as a primordial Goddess, she came first. Her energy is essential for your life and for the keeping of balance of other aspects of yourself including how you love others. If the needs of Vesta are being neglected, some areas in your life will not be fruitful. Many years ago in "The Art of Loving" Eric Fromm said you must love your self first. So with Vesta, if you tend her first, your ability to communicate your love to others will be more wholesome and easy.

In an Astrological sense, Vesta helps us make the transition between **Leo♌** and **Virgo♍**. We need Leonean energy to instinctively give expression to our creative principle whether it be to birth a child, a piece of art, a book or any creative act. The evolving and growing life energy must go beyond itself and therefore wants to 'reproduce' in Leo. Leo puts her self 'out there' to be noticed. Vesta, however, must

'go inside' to keep her inner balance and focus.



Silent Reflection by Sharon Russell

She does this by taking time for

solitude

and transforming her life force energy (sexually and creatively) into a one-pointed focus on work, or to fulfill a commitment that requires her intent concentration for some time as she becomes a channel for service and healing.



VESTA'S than isolation despair or a all alone. Many of women's meditation set up an altar in which is a quiet, retreat. We may hour or a (sometimes, we and whenever I I have a hundred to go slooowly..... body,..... mind,..... and heart).



solitude is different which can bring on sense of having to do it us seek solitude at our retreats, or we go to a center. Perhaps we have our home or garden private place for us to go for 5 minutes, one hundred years. feel we *just must go* feel this way I pretend years and ask Time ...eveeeeerrrsoooo while I rest my weary

Vesta can help you to define your boundaries for Protection and Sanctuary.

Some of Vesta's symbols are locks, keys, or fences, and contracts or treaties, She IS the original Temple as center of the whole community which safeguarded every citizen's deeds, contracts and legal boundaries. She can help you make boundaries also.

Vesta has a very devotional or religious side to her. She can become solitary like a nun. She gives you a desire to retreat or possibly even take a personal vow to a particular religious order. Your need for space, privacy or time alone can be trusted to this **Fire Goddess**.

Take Vesta with you when you go on retreat - (and sometimes you may need to go "faster than a speeding bullet"... esp if your family's needs are pressing you to STAY for the same reason over and over again)- **so DO GO on retreat from time to time to honor this goddess within who is guardian of your Sacred Flame**. Use times of solitude to get in touch with your self. Get to know her better as you feel the quiet joy of solitude and reflection.

Vesta is in the center of YOU

She is the sacred **FLAME** of your center self - your core being. She can help you reach your goals by containing and giving a focus that allows you personal integration. She has the ability to self transform when you tend the flame of your Inner Self.

VESTA'S CURRENT ASTROLOGICAL PLACEMENT:

Vesta will be in the sign of LEO from Sept. 1 to Nov 17 2009. What a fabulous placement for this goddess of fire. Leo is a fire sign and rules the heart - YOUR HEART ♡. When Vesta is in the sign of Leo, she represents

your vital sexuality and creativity as a woman. During this time, you may find that you have increased pride in your work; a quality of bright sunshine may exude from you or from your work. Take some time while Vesta is in Leo for your personal creative self expression so that Vesta can have an opportunity to center you in this way. Do HEART BASED meditations and spread your love around but do it by staying centered yourself. Practice this. It might mean detaching WITH love, always love. Keep your heart open during this time but contained within - hold this tension of opposites. Write me a little note and let me know how you feel. How is your heart during this VESTA transit?

Where is Vesta in your astrology chart?

You can find out by contacting me dixiegladstone@yahoo.com - send me your birth date and I will locate your VESTA BY SIGN. This will help me get to know you a little better, and for you to get a glimpse of this wonderful centering Goddess in your life.

This offer of FREE Vesta by SIGN will be good until October 31st, 2009.

Love to you and your very dear and brave hearts, 

Dixie Gladstone

email me at: dixiegladstone@yahoo.com

Web site coming soon

P.S. In my chart, Vesta is in my 11th house of groups and friendships which is where I go when I want to center myself. She is in the sign of Capricorn so she wants a career and mastery over it. And now at this time in my life, it is my pleasure to give out what I can from my studies in feminine astrology.

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