

**Before you begin reading this, please know that I'm NOT a doctor! I cannot diagnosis or cure anything – the diagnostics we'll leave for those with the appropriate tools, and the cure we must leave to you!**

If you'd like to see pictures of any of the things we post, please check out the appropriate album in my pictures.

Today's Moon is in Libra, which is represented by the Scales, and the influence of the Libra Moon compels us to keep the emotional scales balanced. Before any scale becomes balanced, however, there is much tipping back and forth...first one side, then the other, and so it goes...back and forth, back and forth. It is that "*back and forth energy*" then, rather than a calm and idyllic balance, that one feels most predominantly during this Moon. Libra is an Air sign, and infamous for indecision; but this indecisiveness is not out of a lack of courage or a wishy-washy inability to act; this sign deliberates as a result of an almost obsessive need (or quest) for balance. So during this Moon you may have difficulty deciding how you feel. You may be a bit unfocused, with the easiest choices becoming the most difficult—whether to go out or stay in, what to wear, what to eat for dinner? You become more susceptible to distractions. You may walk out of your house without your keys, or forget who you are calling as they pick up the phone, dash upstairs after something important and not remember what it was.

And, while you are feeling that your own emotions should be in balance, you will also expect others to maintain a well-balanced environment as well. Inharmonious behavior will upset your sense of fairness, and force you to express your feelings (with tact, of course, because your charm will be working). The Libra Moon also exaggerates the need for companionship in both our personal and business relationships. This can manifest as insecurity. During this Moon it might be important to wait a few days before making decisions involving (but not limited to) new relationships, business partnerships, the future of an existing relationship, etc...so this means no running off to Vegas to be married, at least until the insecurity of this Moon passes. It will be difficult at best to have faith in yourself during the next day or so, because emotional insecurity is a byproduct of this Moon, along with feelings of inadequacy. And just when you thought it couldn't get any worse, it doesn't!—because *overall* this Moon is a pleasant one. You will feel romantic, you will be open to beauty, you will feel creative and artistic and able to express yourself in the most engaging and charming way possible for you. Your diplomacy will make it much easier to deal with people and sticky situations; so, if you have something like this you've been keeping on the back burner, now is the time to address it. When the Libra Moon is involved, harmony and peace are not distant goals, they are achievable results.

Emerald  
II – The High Priestess



Folk Names

Colors

Sources

Healing

Green Beryl

ranges from palest to darkest greens

Columbia, Brazil, Russia, Africa, Australia, North Carolina, Norway, Italy, Mexico

generates powerful subtle body healing, relaxes convulsive muscles in epileptics and asthmatics, helps alleviate bowel obstruc-

tions, heals colitis and diarrhea, improves dysentery symptoms, assists in the healing of chronic gastritis and indigestion, eliminates heartburn, slows vomiting, balances equilibrium, enhances immune system, relieves eye strain, helps repair heart ailments, lowers high blood pressure, heals ulcers and cancerous tumors, alleviates headache, reduces neuralgia, improves symptoms of influenza, aids in neurological diseases, aids heart, liver and immune systems, all healing work, helps strengthen the spine, alleviates problems associated with diabetes, enhances the immune system, considered an antidote for poisons or poisoned wounds, said to cure epilepsy when worn around the neck, relieves eyestrain, an effective laxative, cured dysentery, diminishes the secretion of bile, stimulates the appetite, promotes bodily health, believed to be a cure for haemoptysis and dysentery when worn over the liver, cures gastric troubles when laid on the stomach, transmutes illness, curative properties for the eyes

Chakras  
Psychological/Magical

Solar Plexus, Heart, Crown  
promotes love, draws money, increases mental powers and psychism, aids in protection, adds energy to exorcism rites; Emerald is a magical substitute for Aquamarine, Beryl, Green Tourmaline, Peridot; releases emotionally suppressed trauma, promotes soul/heart consciousness, strengthens the memory, increases understanding, promotes eloquence in speech, restores emotional balance, aids working closely with others, facilitates expression, enhances dreams and meditations, provides deep spiritual insights, aids with balance and harmony, can heal and cleanse the aura, can be a great aid to healers, balances the Chakras, rejects evil, promotes tranquility and love, encourages prosperity, aids in memory retention, promotes courage and faith, provides inspiration; helps one in need of balance, healing and infinite patience; helps the wearer gain physical, emotional and mental equilibrium, relaxes, meditative work, gives wisdom from the mental plane, motivates one to give love and wisdom to others, improves psychic abilities, raises consciousness, helps one attain balance, an enemy of all enchantments and conjurations, strengthens the memory, aids in eloquence, reveals the truth or falsity of a lover's oaths – although it is regarded as an enemy of sexual passion, antidote for demon possession, protects from the attack of venomous creatures, drives away evil spirits, restores emotional balance, aids working closely with others, facilitates expression, instills divine qualities through the power and beauty of the stone, symbolizes regeneration and life, new birth, revitalizes and beautifies the physical body, creativity, artistic abilities, soothing, sympathetic; gives peace and harmony to the body, heart, soul and spirit; aligns one with natural forces, energizing and restful, replenishing and calming, magnetizes and amplifies, focuses and directs; emits balance, healing and infinite patience to all needing attunement and inspiration, provides one with a serene inner lift, meditation, inspiration, healing, offers abundance and richness

Careers Assisted

scientist, healer, athletes, chiropractor, lecturer, marriage counselor, massage therapist, bodyworker, optometrists, any aspect

Lore

of the literary field, anyone working with radioactive materials/areas, anyone working in close quarters, counselor, dancer, farmer, gardener, homemaker, singer, word processor, doctor, Healer, environmentalist, nurse

Drinking Emerald water for three to seven days to bring the properties of Emerald into one's life. Put an Emerald in a glass of water, let it stand overnight, remove the stone in the morning, then drink making an affirmation and giving thanks. It is the essence of the stone that is being drunk in which the essence works on the etheric body.

Teifashi – 1242, ADE – believed Emeralds were a cure for haemoptysis and dysentery if worn over the liver of the person affected. Perhaps the light reflected from many of these gems suggested the idea that they radiated a certain curative energy. It was also believed that a serpent could not look on an Emerald without losing its sight.

A certain cure for dysentery in the 1600's was to wear an Emerald suspended so that it touched the abdomen. Another Emerald was then placed in the mouth.

Emeralds were believed to foreshadow future events, but it isn't clear whether visions were actually seen in the stone, as they were in other scrying tools, or if the Emerald endowed its user with a supernatural foreknowledge of things to come.

In the 3<sup>rd</sup> Century, the precious stone mentioned by Theophrastus in his treatise on gems was an Emerald, the use of which was suggested to relieve eyestrain. So prevalent was this theory through time that gem engravers kept Emeralds on their worktables so as to be able to look at the stone from time to time to relieve eyestrain.

Emeralds were feared by magicians, who found all their arts of no avail if an Emerald were in their vicinity.

Light colored Emeralds were considered the best because they were reputed to be brought from the griffons.

Esoteric literature states that an Emerald was brought to earth by the Lords of Flame from the planet Venus. It is believed that anyone can wear Emerald without suffering ill effects. Although an Emerald is often combined with other stones in jewelry, it works best when combined with Diamond or worn alone. It is one of the few stones that can be deeply flawed and still retain its value in the eyes of gem lovers.

Wear an Emerald on the little finger or the ring finger, over the Heart Chakra or as a bracelet on the right arm. Do not wear an Emerald constantly; only when one feels the need to have it near. Emeralds should be worn alone or with a Diamond, which represents white light. If worn with other stones, its power is decreased or nullified.

A carved design on the surface of an Emerald sends out points of energy into a particular area of reference that differs according to the inscribed symbol. It will manifest the essence of the symbol on the ethers and emit its essences and contribution.

In 1604, Morales declared that the Emerald could foreshow future events, but it wasn't clear whether this information was seen in the stone or if the wearer became endowed with super-

natural fore-knowledge of an event. An enemy of ALL enchantments and conjurations, this stone was greatly prized by magicians. Emerald was believed to be sensitive to broken lovers' oaths, as King Bela of Hungary chastised his wife when his Emerald broke into pieces when he embraced her.

The emerald is especially commended for amulets to be suspended from the necks of children; it is believed to preserve them from epileptic convulsions and to prevent the falling sickness; but if the violence of the disease is such that it cannot be overcome by the stone, the stone breaks up. Bound to a woman's thigh, it is said to hasten parturition; hanging from the neck, it drives off vain fears and evil spirits. It strengthens the memory, restores the sight, reveals adultery and gives a knowledge of the future, produces eloquence and increases wealth. Besides the usual designation *marakata* which Garbe believes to be derived from the Greek, the Sanskrit has several distinguishing names for the emerald. One of these, *acmagarbhaja*, signifies "sprung from the rock", and well describes the emerald in its matrix. Another name is *garalari*, meaning enemy of poison, indicating the great repute enjoyed by this stone in India as an antidote for all animal, mineral and vegetable poisons. In Mexico, the emerald bore the name Quetzalitzli, "stone of the quetzal", because its color resembled the brilliant green of the plumes of the bird called in the Mexican tongue *quetzal*. These plumes were worn as insignia of royalty by the sovereigns of Mexico and Central America, and hence the emerald was regarded as an essentially regal gem, although its use was not confined to royalty. The tincture of emerald is recommended by the Arab physician Abenzoar as an internal remedy for the cure of dysentery, the dose prescribed being six grains. He also claims to have cured one of his patients suffering from this disease by making him wear an emerald. This illustrates the use of the stone in Moorish Spain in the early part of the 11<sup>th</sup> Century, the period of the highest development of Moorish civilization, for Abenzoar, or Abu Meruan, as he is sometimes called, was born in Seville about 1091ACE, and died in 1161 or 1162.

Favorite

You, the blue-green Emerald, are insightful and universally oriented. You are always looking for the higher and lower, the left and the right, future and past, combined as one. You are a regal green crystal. You like to see far and wide. You stimulate all forms of creativity, even your own creative expressions and are a source of strength to the arts. Your complement is Opal. Because you analyze clearly, an Opal can help you act humanistically upon what you see.

Energy

Receptive/Feminine

Deity

Isis, Venus, Ceres, Vishnu

Divination

The High Priestess

Astrology

Leo, Capricorn, Cancer, Taurus, Libra, Scorpio

Planets

Venus, Sun, Saturn, Moon, Mercury

Elemental Correspondences

earth, fire vision, air touch, air

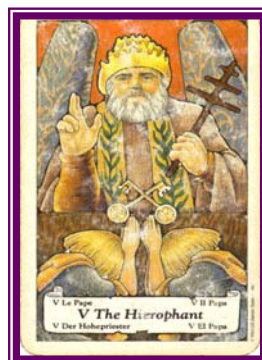
Lemon Balm  
(Melissa Officinalis)



Folk Names	Balm Mint, Bee Balm, Blue Balm, Cure-All, Dropsy Plant, Garden Balm, Balm, Melissa, Sweet Balm, Lemon Balsam, Sweet Melissa
Description	Lemon Balm is a perennial plant that is common in the Mediterranean area and the Near East, but is also naturalized in some places in the United States. Mostly it is cultivated as a culinary herb, but it grows wild in fields and gardens and along roadsides. The stem is upright, hairy, quadrangular, and branched and grows as high as 3'. The leaves are opposite, ovate, long-petioled, somewhat hairy, bluntly serrate, and acuminate. The bilabiate flowers grow in axillary clusters and may vary in color from pale yellow to rose colored or blue-white. The flowering time is July and August. When bruised, the whole plant smells like lemon.
History	Arabians used it as a magical herb to draw love. Pliny said its powers were so great that if it was attached to the sword that inflicted a wound, the blood would be immediately staunch.
Medicinal Parts	Herb
Medicinal Properties	Antispasmodic, asthma, bronchial catarrh (chronic), calmative, carminative, colic, cramps, diaphoretic, dizziness, dyspepsia, emmenagogue, febrifuge, female complaints, fevers (mild), flatulence, flu (mild), headache, hysteria, insect bites, insomnia, melancholy, menstruation (promotes), migraine, milk knots, nervous problems, sores, stimulant (mild), stomachic, toothache, tumors
Gender	Feminine/Yin
Planetary	Moon
Element	Water
Magical Aspects	Love, success, healing
Magical Uses	Soak the herb in wine for several hours, strain and share with a friend to influence love. Carry Lemon Balm to find love. Used in healing rituals, incenses and sachets. Spells to ensure success will be enhanced by using this herb. Attracts bee, so if your hives need new bees or want to keep the old bees around, rub some on the hives.

The Hierophant

(I'm working with the Hanson-Roberts deck. Please note – I've used this deck for many years and you may see worn areas on some of the cards from so much use.)



I was shuffling my cards and thinking of all of you. This card came out and here's the reading that I would give for this week...

We are faced with choices throughout our day – choices that affect who we are, where we are heading along our lifepath and how we will choose to nourish our spirits based on the choices we make. This week will be filled with choices that will affect not only our individual lifewalk, but also the lifewalk of those closest to us. sometimes, we forget that our choices affect more than just ourselves. This tendency can cause a huge backflow of energies into our lives, and leave us wondering what the heck happened. Among other things that will come up this week, we will be facing some unique perspectives that will force us to think “outside the box”. We have to face who we are, whom we are becoming and all of this is based on who we've been in our individual and collective pasts.

This will also be a time when we will face ourselves at every level and find the respect dwelling within for our self, our lifewalk and those involved in our lives. Some might call this ego, I call it self-respect and self-love. Without feeling these qualities within and for ourselves, it is VERY difficult to feel these character traits for anyone or anything else.

This card also speaks to me of bondage (sorry, boys and girls, I'm not speaking of the kind of bondage that Miranda finds exciting), but a self-imposed bondage that doesn't allow you to be yourself. Remove the bonds that hold you back from that exhilarating moment in your life where you actually see and feel who you are, were meant to be and who you are becoming.