

## Feb 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015 Welcomes The Year of the WOOD SHEEP!

By Gaela Morrison



**CREATIVITY + INNOVATION,  
KINDNESS + COMPASSION,  
SERVING THE COLLECTIVE,  
BEAUTY + IMAGINATION,  
COLLABORATION,  
RECEPTIVITY + GENTLENESS,  
DETERMINATION,  
CONFLICT RESOLUTION,  
ACTION MANIFESTS VISIONS,  
DEVOTION TO YOUR DREAMS  
PROSPERITY**

will be prevailing themes this year.

The second new moon after Winter Solstice always marks the beginning of the Lunar New Year in Chinese Cosmology. February 4<sup>th</sup> is based on the Solar calendar. Known as the Sheep, Goat, or Ram, it is considered the most feminine sign of the zodiac and corresponds in many ways to the sign of Cancer in western astrology. The 8th sign of the Chinese zodiac, 8 symbolizes prosperity and comfort. As we move into 2015, keep in mind that we are still strongly under the influence of the powerful Wood Horse. Sudden unexpected changes and impulsive behaviors could still bring intensity this winter. It is a transitional time where either breakthroughs or breakdowns can occur. There is certainly overlap in the yearly energies, as some of us have felt the Sheep influence meander in as early as late October 2014.

This year, **YIN WOOD supports the YIN EARTH** of Sheep. What does this mean? To hear a deeper understanding of how the alchemical forces of nature affect our human experience, see the end of this article.

The 2014 Horse tested us on many levels, centering more on our individual soul-searching and galloping at times breakneck speed down our personal paths. Not the slower moving and deliberate Sheep, a community minded animal herding in a group consciousness focused on serving the greater good. We are in an extraordinary time of transition and a huge leap in human consciousness, shifting to higher group awareness. The more kind and compassionate heart of the Sheep offers an opening for us to recognize how interconnected we really are, and cheers humanity on to choose peace over separation.

All this shifting, rearranging and adjusting is potentially stirring up some major confusing and chaotic energies out in the world as well as our inner lives. Use your spiritual practices or whatever you do to stay strong in your own center, solid in your purpose and platform. If you've done your homework of rooting out what you don't want to take with you into the future, of letting go of patterns and relationships that are no longer your deepest desires, your path to manifesting what you want will be more open and available. Now is the time to take action to clean out whatever needs clearing - whether it's letting go of negative mental and emotional patterns, doing a physical cleanse, jettisoning clutter, or a major space clearing of your environment.

**PERSONALITY OF WOOD SHEEP: Generosity, a strong and steady path toward goals, and keeping the peace** are key qualities of the Sheep nature. Known to be sympathetic, gentle, kind and compassionate, they can easily

forgive and be understanding, always considering what's in beneficial service to the good of all. There is an innocence and grace to Sheep, giving them an uncanny ability to attract helpful people and situations. This quality offers the opportunity to magnetize prosperity this year, and potentially from new sources. Being pacifists, they tend to make excellent listeners and are brilliant at problem solving.

An aspect to watch for in yourself and others is if this kindly sensitive sheep gets to be *too* passive, then it is prone to people pleasing and making unwise sacrifices for the sake of keeping peace. Resist any pressure to be persuaded to what others believe you should and should not do, and develop healthy boundaries. This can potentially regress to codependence and martyrdom. Not pretty. The caution is to not blindly follow the herd but to stay strong in your truth, trust your own judgment and listen to your own inner wisdom. Get more centered in your self so you'll be less thrown off balance by the demands and needs of others. Some other challenging traits to watch for are non-direct, roundabout ways of communicating, being overcome by emotions and emotional reactions, and a tendency to worry. A lot.

The Sheep has high moral principles and a capacity for rich inner life, inviting us to deepen on spiritual levels. Expect to see more people choosing to take the high road. Home is important to Sheep, as is a deep connection to spending time in nature, our true home.

**BEING CLEAR ABOUT YOUR VISION** of what you want to create this year, based on what truly inspires you is essential, as it has the potential to be greatly magnified. The Sheep strongly embodies the attractive principle, so restrain your thoughts to focus on a higher vibration. Be passionate about your dreams and follow your heart, not your head, which will get you to nowhere-ville. Choose love, not judgment, says the Sheep. Personal clarity is crucial in helping you connect with and attract others of like-mind. It's important to herd up with those on your same wavelength, people that inspire you rather than relationships that sap your energy. Sheep are known as the 'agents of change' and can accomplish much when with the right group and strongly focused.



**Teamwork, Cooperation and Collaboration** are the magic elements this year, and are likely to generate more success in all arenas - whether it's career, social change, or personal and romantic relationships. Have more social gatherings! The Wood element adds a more gregarious, good-humored aspect to the Sheep. With a softer heart, be open to creative ideas and new relationships coming in. For those of us so inclined, be receptive to the multidimensional and subtle worlds in the intelligence of nature - collaborating with these beings helps the evolution and healing of the planet as well as humanity. Trusting your Imagination is key in this.

**Doing things on your own is not the name of the game** this year, so use your groups, make use of your community and co-create with beneficial alliances. Because this is a terrific time to begin a new project or business, partner up with your colleagues and affiliates for achieving so much more than you could accomplish by yourself. And have more fun doing it! Once you are clear and steady in your vision, taking big risks toward projects that are dear to your heart is likely to yield some valuable results, especially with team effort. Bighorn sheep only need a 2-inch space to get a foothold, a reminder that the openings for new beginnings may be small, but if acted upon in a timely manner they can be secured. Cultivate courage to remain in balance in unstable situation, and trust in your ability to land safely on your feet. This is not a year to play it safe, so be courageous and go beyond your fear and take the leap!

**CREATIVITY, INNOVATIONS, ART AND BEAUTY** are central themes this year. The sheep is a very refined and sensitive creature, appreciating beauty in all forms. Feed your soul by surrounding yourself with beauty... in your home, your environment - particularly in nature, and don't forget beautifying your self. It's a great year to truly shine in the arts. Immerse yourself in the arts and creative projects, and commit to expressing your imaginative and artistic gifts. Be creative, cut loose with your imagination, trust the intuitive impulses you are receiving and just go with it. It will help you to stay in the flow and expand the higher part of yourself. Trusting our intuition

connects us to the quantum field, where we can gain access to symbols, dreams and ancient knowledge from other dimensions. When you receive these intuitive messages and flashes, take inspired action immediately when it comes to you – trust; don't over think it or you may miss some great opportunities. The spiral of the rams horns are a symbol of tremendous creativity, stimulating imagination and inspired innovations, with the energy to act on it.

Because all the Mercury retrogrades in 2015 are in the air signs, we most surely will see some fabulous **innovations this year**. Interesting creative Ideas and inventions could go viral at lightning speed.



Appearing subtle, reserved and quiet, and not so obvious as the more direct Horse, Sheep can also be surprisingly intense. Sheep has an inner Ram hidden inside so best not to mess with them or take advantage of their kind and gentle nature. Because of their ability to attract what and who they need, they can have many mighty allies. The Ram has great strength and is capable of powerful action and achievement. In the extreme they can be aggressive, and will be motivated to charge headlong against all obstacles. Ram Horns signify wisdom as well as weapons. We will likely see more aggressive head cracking duels and conflict this year.

**Challenges:** locking horns, overly competitive, making too many sacrifices, stubbornness and resistance.

**For those who are interested in the Feng Shui chart**, the Thunder trigram in the center dominates the year. This indicates the issues at the center of attention will be conflict – hostility, lawsuits, arguments, tempers flaring, your basic prickly behavior. From a feng shui perspective, this argumentative aspect is the biggest challenge of the year. Be aware of anger energy and do not yield to temper tantrums.

**In Numerology**, 2015 is an 8-year, signifying manifesting, prosperity, and power. 8 balances the clashing of past with future, the positive forces and negative forces are unleashed. making for dramatic examples of both clashing. You will be called to live in your power and your power dynamics with others. 8 is an abundance year but you must express your true purpose, and if you decide to take the safe road, Spirit will redirect you!

**More information on WOOD and EARTH** - inspiring excerpts from Lorie Dechar's **5 Spirits**.

*"The 5 spirits are the divine animating and vitalizing forces of the psyche. Each spirit relates to a particular aspect of human awareness, a particular vibration or frequency of energy. It speaks about the behavior of phenomena such as inspiration, insight, imagination, mood, perceptions, intention, instinct and will."*

**The Spirit of WOOD: Spirit loves Beauty. Go with the flow.**

*"Through its wind nature, wood blows the light into our lives in the form of visions, foresight, direction, dreams and imagination. It brings a sense of clear direction and decision-making, a vision for our life, and the capacity for justice. Creativity and growth are brought by vision and imagination. Focus on the light of your true nature; dare to see yourself realistically; look at yourself clearly, see your gifts and talents that sometimes people do not recognize. Beauty is actually a healing element particularly related to nature. By weaving dreams and using active imagination, bring your visions into the physical plane. The emotion is anger. Identify and express feelings, increase passion for more zest, color and joy of life. Wood offers an ability to move forward with power and focus to achieve goals. With increased self-responsibility, take a stand for your beliefs."*

**The Spirit of EARTH: Manifesting the Rich Soil of our Purpose through Action**

*"Earth is about intention and purpose and the ability to plant ideas into action so that they can manifest. It portends a faithful, steadfast, purposeful creative force toward a goal with spirit of intention. The emotion is*

*sympathy or worry. With the capacity for clear thought, it allows us to apply our heart and spirit to the world of form. It is the power to stand behind our beliefs and persevere through committed action and stay steadily on our path. Empowered action in the world and devotion brings our dreams to fruition. Earth spirit allows us to bring our ideas and visions down from the skies so that they can be nurtured in the yin matrix of the Earth. This is what you stand for and this is what you will stand behind. Earth gives us the power to sing the music of our spirits until the vibrations of our heart songs have crystallized into material form. It enables us to impress our unique signature into the world as we manifest heaven through our actions on the earth."*

Sources: The handbook of Chinese Horoscopes by Theodora Lau, 5 Spirits by Lorie Dechar

Wishing you all many blessings for a magnificent year in all arenas!

Much Love,  
*Gaela*

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