

Lilith - Goddess of the Dark Moon



What we'll cover today...

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2. Lilith - Her Art
3. Lilith - Her Mythology
4. Lilith - Her Astrology
5. Lilith - Your Personal Exploration
6. Lilith - Her Soundtrack



The Three Lilith's

There are three Liliths in astrology that you can place in your chart. We have Black Moon Lilith, Asteroid Lilith and the lesser known Dark Moon Lilith.

1. Asteroid Lilith - 1181
2. Dark Moon Lilith
3. Black Moon Lilith



Lilith in your Chart

[Click here to watch](#) a tutorial on how to find the 3 Lilith's in your chart.

Your password is: 3LilithsChart

Asteroid Lilith - 1181	Dark Moon Lilith	Black Moon Lilith
Sign -	Sign -	Sign -
Degrees -	Degrees -	Degrees -
House Placement	House Placement	House Placement

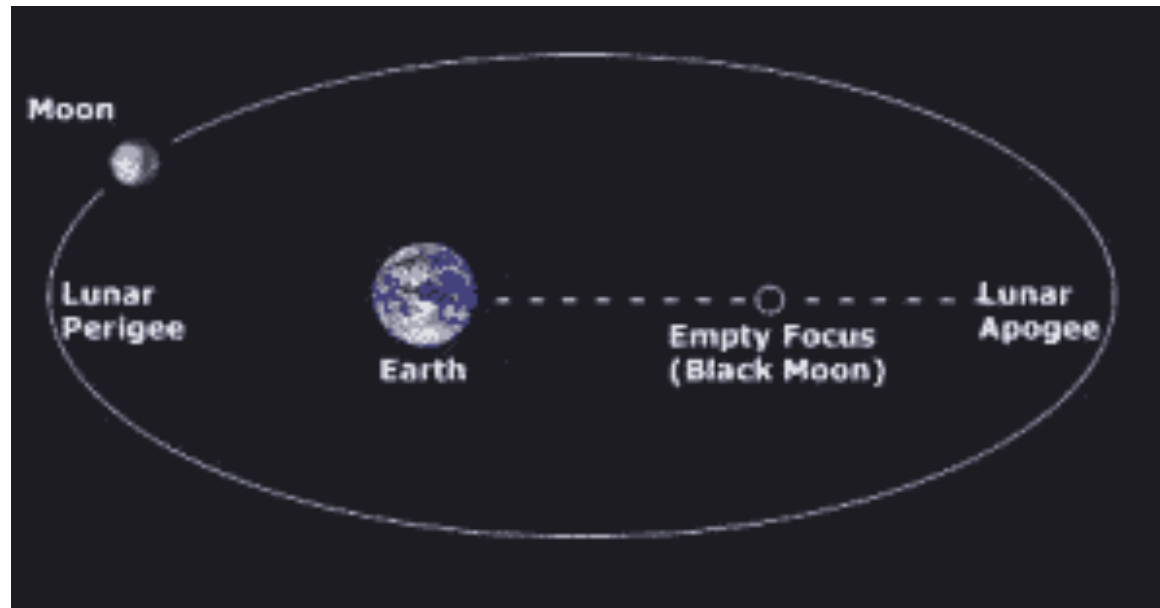
I. Asteroid Lilith

This Lilith is the only solid representation of Lilith and is located in the main asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter. Discovered in 1927, asteroid Lilith takes 4 years to orbit the Sun and has a diameter of 67km.



2. Dark Moon Lilith

Dark Moon Lilith is not a solid object, but a point of alignment. The dark Moon is the apogee of the Moons orbit, the point that is farthest from the earth. Just as there is a Lunar mean and true Node, so there is a Mean and True (osculating) Lilith.



3. Black Moon Lilith

This is the Lilith most in general use. This is not a solid object, it is a point of alignment. The Black Moon is the apogee of the Moons orbit, the point that is farthest from the earth. Just as there is a Lunar mean and true Node, so there is a Mean and True (osculating) Lilith.

It has a 9 year orbit. The mean version spends 9 months in each sign. The true version fluctuates wildly.



Lilith in Art

The Bird Woman - The Snake Woman

The literal meaning of Lilith's name is

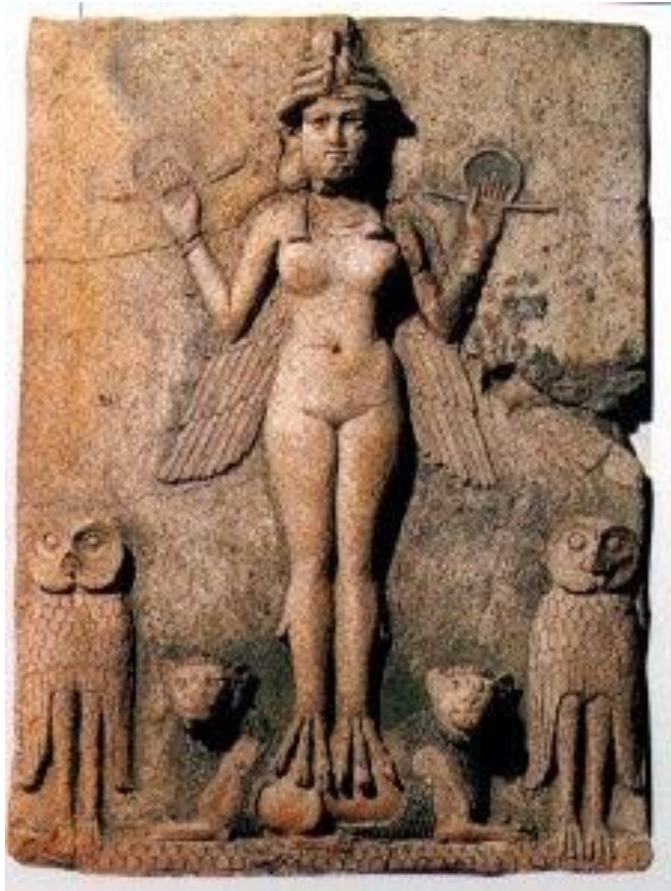
“screech”

Lilith in Art



**Earliest known representation of Lilith:
Terracotta - Sumerian Relief, 1950 B.C.**

Lilith in Art



This is a classic example of Lilith, shown with wings and wearing a multiple-horned mitre, both characteristic of Sumerian portraits of high divinity (much like a halo in Christian art). In her hands she carries farming tools/round wooden knives which are used for planting and sowing crops, but can also double as weapons in times of war.

Bird-feet is typical of most ancient Lilith sculptures and engravings. The lion and owl are sacred animals to Lilith because they are both creatures that feed and protect their young, and do so viciously and without fear. Thus Lilith is also a goddess of protection, in addition to agriculture/fertility.

Lilith in Art



This partially broken statue has been reassembled together by archeologists. It was found in Sumerian ruins, in what is now believed to be a small temple to Lilith.

The statue is unique because it is one of very few free-standing statues of Lilith, shown here with bird feet.

The statue is worn, but the features are still visible and she appears to stand in a protective and caring fashion.

Sistine Chapel Ceiling



Lilith in Art

The Judeo-Christian version of Lilith frequently compares Lilith with Satan and the snake. It demonises Lilith, taking away her bird feet and replacing it with a serpentine tail.



Lilith in the Modern Era

In modern years, Lilith has become an iconic symbol and is often depicted as a succubus, an earth goddess, a sex goddess and a feminist symbol.

During 1996 there was a sudden rush in Lilith art, coinciding with the women's music festival "Lilith Fair".

Lilith (1887) by John Collier



Taylor Swift

“
Swift is not the first snake woman.
Since the Old Testament, society has sought
to discredit and vilify women by associating them with the scaly and the
slithering.

It’s the oldest trope in the book – from Eve to
Medusa, the snake has always been a faithful
misogynist device, used to destroy female
reputation.

“

Source: The Guardian



Lilith - Her Mythology

As Goddess of the Dark Moon, Lilith carries the patriarchy's shadow projection of the defiant woman as seductress and child killer.

Lilith came to embody men's fear of the feminine as dark and evil.

We find accounts of Lilith throughout the lands of the ancient Near East, and she makes appearances in the Sumerian, Babylonian, Assyrian, Hebraic, and Arabic mythology.

Legends tell of her as the first wife of Adam in the Garden of Eden, the paramour of lascivious spirits in the Red Sea, as the bride of Samael the Devil, as the Queen of Sheba and Zermargrad, and the Consort of God himself in 15th Century Cabbalism.

Lilith in Mythology

During the last five millennia, Lilith, as an aspect of the Dark Goddess, has been cast out into the desolate wildness and banned from the boundaries of community.

Denied and rejected, Lilith was vilified as Torturous Serpent, Blood Sucker, Harlot, Impure Female, Alien Woman, Witch, Hag and Enchantress.

Over the ages, fragments of her history from the dark and unfathomable depths of her exile. But first of all, in the beginning of her time, Lilith's epithet was "the beautiful maiden".

Lilith is the most distorted and maligned of all the female archetypes.

Lilith in Mythology - Sumeria and Babylonia

Lilith first emerged in ancient Sumeria as a handmaiden to the great goddess Inanna. The threads of her story lead us through to the Hebraic mythology where she is the first wife of Adam and later the consort of God in the cabalistic traditions.

To the romantic poets of the nineteenth century, Lilith came to embody the image of woman as femme fatale - alluring, irresistible and deadly.

Now in the 21st Century, Lilith reasserts herself as the liberated feminine - exalting, ecstatic, sexuality, upholding integrity and refusing submission.



Inanna Statue Fertility Goddess from Mesopotamia

Lilith in Mythology - Sumeria and Babylonia

Lilith is preeminently an emanation of the great winged Bird Goddess. She is a wind spirit, and her earliest associations are with the Sumerian Goddess of the Grain, NinLil Lady of the Air, who birthed the moon in the darkness of the netherworld and bestowed the divine right to rule.

Lilith's recorded story begins with Inanna, granddaughter of NinLil, who was Queen of the Heaven in early Sumeria. The legend of the Inanna and Enki told of the sacred sexual customs that were one of Inanna's gifts to civilise the people of Erech.

Here the holy women of the temple were known as the *nu-gig*, the pure and spotless virgin priestesses. They took as their lovers as members of the community who came to the temple to worship the Goddess and to receive healing.

At this time Lilith's name is recorded as a young maiden, the "hand of Inanna", who gathers the men from the street and brings them to the temple at Erech for the holy rites.

Lilith in Mythology - Sumeria and Babylonia

Between 3000BC and 2500BC the ancient Sumerian culture began to interface with the coming of the patriarchy. As the patriarchy moved to overtake the reign of the Goddess, then first needed to sever the people from the Goddess's vast power, which was centred in her inner temple of sexual sacred love.

In order to accomplish this task the patriarchy rejected and suppressed the sexual rites of the Goddess religion. Like the denied shadow when projected, women's sexual power became demonised as a force of evil.

Over the centuries the young maid Lilith, who first approached men the men to take them to Inanna's holy temple, became in patriarchal culture the embodiment of everything that was evil and dangerous in the sexual realm.

Lilith in Mythology - Sumeria and Babylonia

By 2400BC, Lilith, Spirit of the Air, was distorted into a demon of the night who personified natural disasters such as storm and winds. She was images as a beautiful maiden who would not release her lovers or ever give them real satisfaction.

A Babylonian terracotta plaque from 2300BC depicts Lilith as a Bird Woman and Lady of the Beasts. She is beautiful, with a slender nude body, wings that fall behind her and powerfully clawed owl feet. Her head is adorned with a crown of multiple horns worn by all great deities, and she holds the ring and the rod symbols of power.

Surrounded by lions as her protectors, and owls depicting her nocturnal wisdom, she os the animal soul of the world, who is associated with every living creature.

Lilith in Mythology - Cast Out of Sumerian Mythology

Inanna saved a sacred Huluppu tree on the banks of the Euphrates which she planted in her holy garden. Inanna planned to use the wood for her throne and bed.

As the years passed the tree matured but it bore no branches or leaves for three reasons;

1. The snake who could not be charmed made its nest in the roots of the trees
2. The fierce Anzu bird birthed its young in the crown
3. In the middle, the dark maid Lilith built her home.

Inanna who loved to laugh, wept because the snake, the bird and Lilith would not leave her tree. Inanna turned to Gilgamesh for help; he slayed the serpent, his men cut down the tree and presented it to Inanna for her throne and bed. The Anzu bird flew to the mountains, and Lilith smashed her home and flew to the wild and uninhabited places.

Inanna rewarded Gilgamesh with a drum and a drumstick from the base and crown of the tree, which enabled him to talk to the gods and to descend into the netherworld.

Lilith in Mythology - Cast Out of Sumerian Mythology

From a feminist perspective, this tale raises several disturbing questions:

1. Why would Inanna weep at the presence of her handmaid Lilith in her tree?
2. Why did she wish for the symbols of the Bird and Snake Goddess to be gone from her life?
3. Why did she reward Gilgamesh for destroying the sacred serpent and banishing Lilith and the Anzu bird?

From the patriarchal perspective, Inanna must sacrifice her virginity, that is her new moon maiden nature as a goddess who is free and autonomous.

She must also submit to the new solar gods and allow Gilgamesh to destroy the symbols of her power; the bird, the snake and the tree.

Her freedom, her agency and her home.

Lilith in Hebrew Mythology

Lilith appears as Adam's first wife in Hebrew mythology and then as God's consort in the Kabbalah tradition. In Judaism and Christianity, Lilith is rumoured to have been Adam's first wife, created not from his rib after he had already been formed, unlike Eve, but as an original, from the earth.

Originally he and she, Adam and Lilith, were created equal and together and set in the Garden of Eden to give things their names and bring the world into manifestation.

Lilith insisted upon full equality, which Adam refused.

Rather than compromise her truth and power, Lilith chose voluntary exile and was subsequently punished for it. The internalisation of the Lilith myth in women over thousands of years, resulted in women 'knowing their place' and being marginalised if they questioned the status quo.

It's important to note that Lilith had to leave her home, not Adam.

Lilith and Adam

“

With the coming of the patriarchy it became unacceptable
for women (and the female in each man)
to experience Lilith's original essence as a sexually vital
free spirit who was equal to man.

”

Demetra George

Interpreting Lilith in Astrology

"During my years of astrological practice, I have come to use the Dark Moon in all my chart analyses, as a complement to interpreting the Moon. It would never occur to me to neglect this influence.

The Dark Moon describes our relationship to the absolute,
to sacrifice as such, and shows how we let go.

In transit, the Dark Moon indicates some form of castration or frustration, frequently in the areas of desire, a powerlessness of the psyche, or a general inhibition.

On the other hand, it shows where we question ourselves, our lives, our jobs, and our beliefs.

I feel this is important, since it gives us the opportunity to "let go" of something.

The Dark Moon shows where we can let the Whole flow into our selves, without putting an "I" in the way, without putting up a wall in the form of ego. At the same time, it doesn't indicate passivity - on the contrary - it symbolizes the firm will to be open and trusting, to let the Greater World flow through one, relying entirely on the great laws of the universe, on that which we name God.

To prepare us for this opening, the Dark Moon creates a necessary void."

Joëlle de Gravelaine

Lilith in Astrology

The placement of Lilith in our chart indicates where our true power is, not the culturally assigned roles of 'feminine power'.

Lilith speaks to:

- Our authenticity
- Our integrity
- Our freedom
- Our truth
- Expression of our power

The shadow qualities of Lilith are:

- Rage
- Permanent exile
- Inability to resolve conflict
- Misuse of sexual power

The actualisation of Lilith's qualities in your life depend on the placement and prominence of Lilith in your chart.

Most often, given the cultures women are raised in, we have to work to bring forth these qualities into consciousness, otherwise they remain exiled in our lives. Unconscious and damage to oneself.

For many of women, Lilith presents a dilemma of how to be true to our integrity when the patriarchal value structure that permeates our society continues to deny this aspect of female nature.

Equally women who deny Lilith, and participate in upholding the patriarchal structure of oppression for male approval, will often carry threatening projections on women who embody their truth, freedom and independence.

“There comes a time in every woman’s life when she has to decide to change herself to fit the story or change the story itself.”

Laurie Penny



Lilith - Your Personal Exploration

1. What desires have I sacrificed for society's expectations of being the 'compliant woman'?
2. Is there any aspect of me that is exiled or imprisoned?
3. What personal practices can I undertake to reclaim these exiled aspects?
4. What desires have I not brought forth in your life yet?
5. What do I need to let go of to be fully free and to find a life that is mine?
6. In which areas of my life do I feel powerless?
7. How do I resolve conflict without exiling myself?

Lilith - Your Cultural Exploration

1. Do I police other women's sexuality, ambition or agency?
2. If yes, how do I police them?
3. In policing other women, what aspects of myself am I denying?

Lilith - Your Global Exploration

1. How do I participate in upholding the existing structures of oppression?

Structures of racism, sexism, inequality, sexism, racism, speciesism, homophobia, classism, economic injustice, colonialism and other forms of dominating hierarchies in which the subordination of one person or group to another is internalised and institutionalised?*

*Source - [Elisabeth Schüssler Fiorenza](#)

Lilith - Her Soundtrack

1. Taylor Swift - Look What You Made Me Do
2. Daya - Sit Still, Look Pretty
3. Bjork: Lilith
4. Wendy Rule: Lilith
5. Water is Wide - Lilith Fair
6. Suzanne Sundföör - Lilith
7. Fiona Apple - Criminal
8. Alabama Shakes - Don't Wanna Fight
9. SZA - The Weekend

