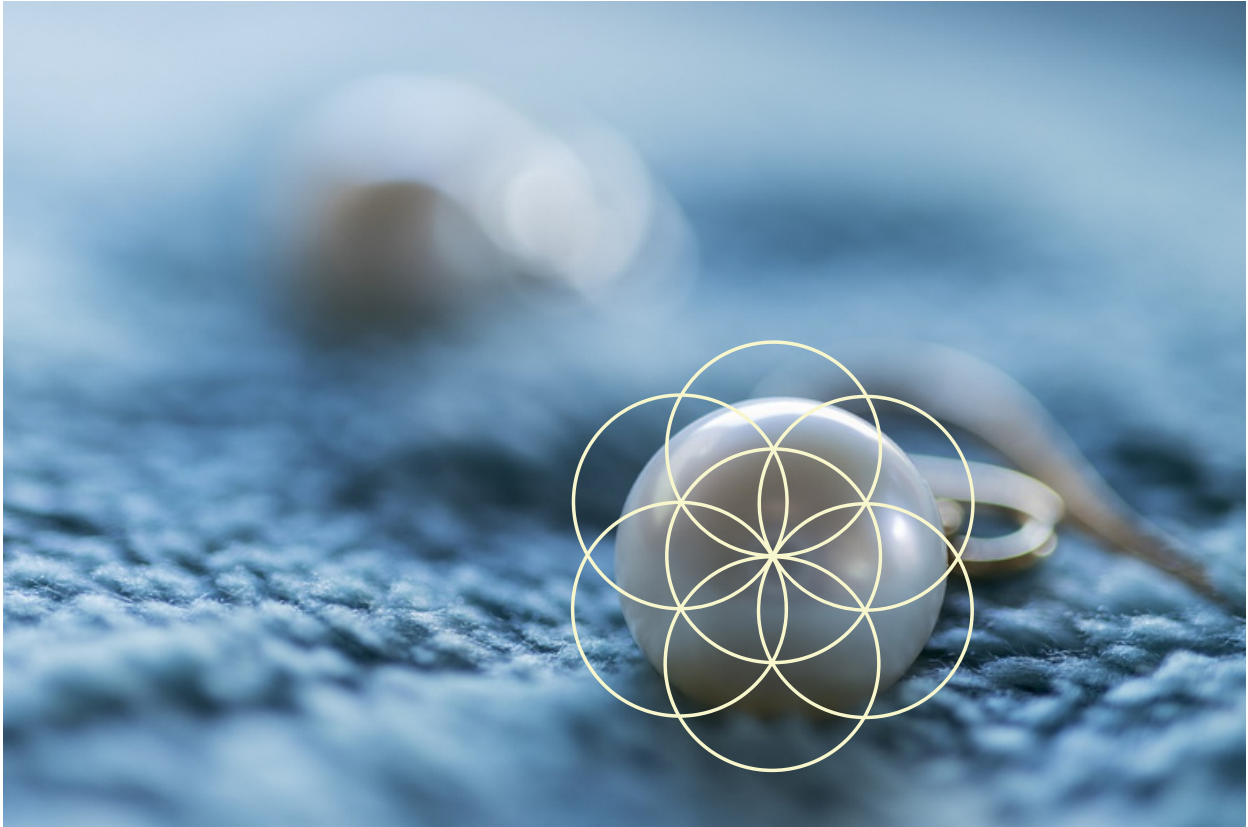


TREASURE



The Seed of Life
Module 3
Part 1

Stage 1 Excavate: Understanding Chiron - Astronomy & Mythology

Video Transcript - Opening

So far in TREASURE, you have been learning about, and connecting with, Divine consciousness through Sacred Geometry. This is the gift of your human incarnation - to stay rooted and grounded in your material being, whilst uplifted by your Divine nature. We now continue with this exploration in Stage 1 by considering another aspect of the cosmos - the wisdom in the stars.

There is so much poetry in the sky, so much celestial symbolism that we can draw on, to guide us in realising the enormous gifts we each hold inside. In the Seed of Life, you understood that there is an interconnectedness to all life, that we are part of an indivisible whole. As the maxim in the Emerald Tablet puts it, 'As above, so below.' And so we now turn our gaze upwards and connect with the cosmic intelligence of the stars to inform the excavation of our TREASURE.

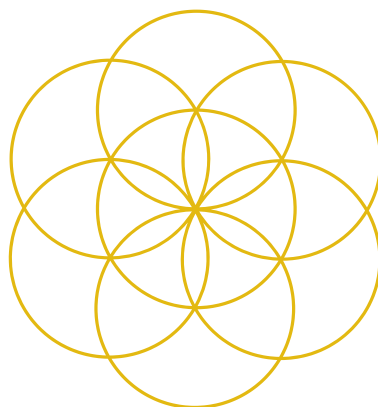
Much of the time, our gifts stay hidden because we don't recognise them as brilliant capabilities. In fact, expressing them when you were young may have caused you much pain in the past. And so, you may have buried them, covered them up under layers of dirt, hoping that they will no longer lead to grief so long as you tuck them away. You may have even kept it out of your conscious awareness, so you wouldn't risk activating them. But in doing so, you are also ignoring your power. Why do we do this, and how can you retrieve your gifts?

To understand this, we will take a journey to the Stars. You will learn about a particular archetype that we will work with, known as Chiron. You will also learn more about your Shadow, specifically, what Jung calls the Golden Shadow.

And you will experience a healing activation that's all about integrating these aspects of you - the gifts you've kept in the shadow -, so you can express and radiate your TREASURE more authentically.

There's a beautiful quote by Marianne Williamson that encapsulates this excavation work you're about to undertake:

"Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure. It is our light, not our darkness that most frightens us." It's time to shine a light on what's been holding you back from expressing your full radiance. So let's begin.



Video Transcript - Chironic Consciousness

After connecting with the cosmic consciousness inside the Seed of Life, you're now going to explore 'Chironic consciousness.' Chiron is a figure from Greek mythology, and you may be aware that many celestial objects in the sky are named after ancient mythological figures. For instance, the planet Venus represents the ancient Greek goddess, Aphrodite, the goddess of love, and Venus is her Roman name. In modern astrology, I say modern because Chiron was discovered in 1977, so fairly recently - and the sign you see here, which looks like a key, is its astrological symbol. Chiron carries qualities that can help you integrate your hidden gifts, so in excavating your TREASURE, he can serve as a wise, magical guide.

Now, in our Divine Feminine approach to accessing and connecting with higher states of consciousness, we will connect profoundly with the symbol of Chiron, and all the rich, layered, metaphorical meanings it contains. Just as with our study of Sacred Geometry, I will of course be providing you with an intellectual overview of Chiron. We will explore the astronomy, the mythology, as well as the astrology of Chiron. We will also touch on the exploration of the Chiron archetype in psychology, with a particular focus on Jungian analysis.

In my research and study, I would like to especially acknowledge the work of renowned astrologers Melanie Reinhart and Barbara Hand-Clow. They have done a lot to expand on the rich symbolism that Chiron has. Incidentally, they are both women, and

Melanie in particular, has often emphasised the need to go beyond a mere intellectual, left brain grasp of Chiron. She emphasises that it is the personal journey, the individual connection we each form with Chiron, that counts. The lived, embodied experience is what truly matters here.

Hence, I like the idea of tapping into Chironic consciousness; where, beyond the academic study of its astronomy, mythology, and astrology, it's also important to connect on a personal, emotional level. To do so, I will share my love for Chiron through story.

Storytelling is a feminine way of understanding, for it enables us to bring the magic of image and imagery into our imagination. Imagination is what helps to shift your consciousness, and in doing so, you get to change your reality. This is the right-brain approach that brings in metaphor and imagery. So I'd like to start off with a key question to ignite your imagination:

"What's the Story of Chiron in Your Life?"

As we delve into the story, myth, and symbolism of Chiron, I invite you to consider how the rich metaphors shared here apply to your life. Are there particular memories, experiences, conversations you've had, that resonate well with the life and journey of Chiron? As you learn about his trials and tribulations, what connections can you form about your own life, and that of your loved ones? This is where you connect the dots and seek out patterns, where you actively process and participate in the mythology of your life.

I highly encourage you to have markers, pens, paper with you, as you start to tease out associations and make connections. Again, this is a right brain approach to learning that will help you better absorb and integrate the multi-layers that Chironic consciousness has to offer you. Make a mind map, or doodle and draw. This is how Chiron gets to come alive in your world.

Throughout my presentation of all the left-brain facts and data about Chiron, I will interweave questions to spark your creative flow. As you watch these video teachings, note down what calls out to you most strongly:

for example, which aspects about Chiron do you align with the most? What moves and touches you about his story? In what ways can you relate to his challenges and how he overcame them?

But first, I'd like to begin by sharing a few evocative and inspirational lines that encapsulate what Chironic consciousness offers us.

"Our wounds become the receptacle of wisdom, the hurtful grit in our oyster-like softness eventually becomes a pearl."

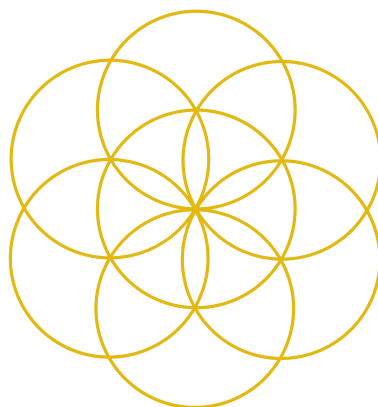
(Chiron and the Healing Journey, Melanie Reinhart)

"Your pain is the breaking of the shell that encloses your understanding." (Khalil Gibran)

"Much of your pain is self-chosen.
It is the bitter potion by which the physician within
you heals your sick self.
Therefore trust the physician, and drink his remedy
in silence and tranquillity:
For his hand, though heavy and hard,
is guided by the tender hand
of the Unseen." (Kahlil Gibran)

"in seeking for the meaning of your suffering you
seek for the meaning of your life. You are searching
for the greater pattern of your own life, which
indicates why the wounded healer is the archetype
of the Self... "
(*The Problem of the Puer Aeternus*, Marie-Louise von
Franz)

"Chiron is about the wounds that make us wise."
(Howard Sasportas)



Video Transcript - Understanding Chiron: Astronomy

Astronomical Facts

- First discovered 1977 by Charles Kowal
- About 200 km (125 miles) in diameter - comparable in size to the U.S. state of Massachusetts
- Has undergone several reclassifications: asteroid - comet - planetoid - minor planet
- Orbit is between Saturn & Uranus, period of approximately 50 years
- An unstable, eccentric orbit

Now, let's look at each of these factual data and the interpolations we can draw from them.

- First discovered 1977 by Charles Kowal:

If you agree with the idea of interconnectedness (that 'As above, so below'), then it will make sense that the discovery of new celestial bodies are connected to major shifts in the consciousness of Humanity.

There are many who believe that when collective consciousness is attuned, we start to discover planetary objects. When we are ready, they appear. When the student is ready, the teacher appears. The late 1970s were notable for the cultural emphasis on self-expression, personal fulfilment, and happiness. There was also a boom in psychology, alternative health, and healing fields.

There's a statement here from a book, *The Self-Organising Principle*, that sums up what the discovery of Chiron highlights in our collective consciousness:

"Not only have the external relationships in the human world changed since the 1960s toward an increasing awareness of being connected with the environment in space and time, but so have the internal relationships of man with himself. The keen occupation with the phenomenon of human consciousness per se, the rising interest in a "humanistic" (that is, a non-reductionist) psychology, the techniques of a "holistic" medicine partly imported from other cultures—for example, acupuncture—the interest in non-dualistic Far-Eastern philosophies and exercises such as meditation and yoga, all this is but another important aspect of the metafluctuation which touched a large part of mankind at the beginning of the last third of this century."

These are all themes relevant to Chiron, as we shall soon see. Next, the second piece of astronomical data we have about Chiron tells us that it is

- About 200 km (125 miles) in diameter, and that it
- Has undergone several reclassifications: from asteroid to comet, to planetoid, to minor planet

That's because when it was first discovered, there was no object that behaved like Chiron behaves. For instance, it has a coma, a cometary body but it is too big to be a comet, and its size makes it more like an asteroid. In other words, it defies neat, ready classification, and we will see a similarity when we consider its mythology later on.

Now, a few decades later, in the 1990s, when the Kuiper Belt was discovered, a sub-category of minor planets were identified and these were named centaurs, and so Chiron is no longer alone, it is now part of this group of minor planets.

There's an interesting parallel here to the story of how Chiron began as a misfit, an odd one out, but ended up finding his tribe. More on this when we look at the myth of Chiron.

But here, we can interpolate from its astronomical information that there is a sense of differentness to Chiron, and how it relates to the themes of independence, individuality, and trying to fit in.

Finally, we come to the facts about its orbit. You can see from the image here that the

- Orbit of Chiron, in red, is between Saturn (the green circle) & Uranus (the blue circle), and it takes roughly 50 years to go around the sun. You can see that Chiron's path crosses that of Saturn – it weaves inside and out –, and passes just inside that of Uranus, so it moves in between the 2. It also has
- An unstable, eccentric orbit due to planetary perturbations. Because it has numerous close encounters with Saturn and Jupiter, their gravity has an effect and causes chaotic motion in Chiron's movement.

So what can we infer here, from these literal facts?

Well, for one, its eccentric orbit points to the previous idea of Chiron being different, it stands out by marching to an irregular beat.

Another main thing to note is that we go beyond the edge of Saturn, the last of the visible planets. Visible in that they can be seen by the naked eye from planet Earth. Beyond Saturn, we have planets like Uranus and Neptune, which were discovered much later when technology became sufficiently advanced. So the symbolic reference here is that Chiron's orbit moves between Saturn, a visible planet, and Uranus, a non-visible planet, which makes Chiron a bridge or an intermediary between the visible and non-visible realms.

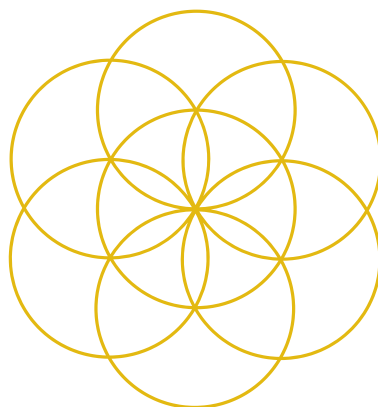
Coupled with the information that it kept getting reclassified, there is a strong resonance here with the theme of transformation - a transformation of our core identity, where we undergo a change from who we were taught to be to who we are becoming. It's a process that's often painful for the ego because it takes us to the edge, beyond the limits of what we see and know.

In Chironic consciousness, we are taken out of the familiar, out of our comfort zone, and enter the realm of the unseen.

Now that we've looked at the astronomical data and learnt more about its discovery and what that represents, let's now consider who it was named after by exploring the mythology of Chiron.

But before we do that, I invite you to take a pause and reflect on the synchronicity of Chiron's astronomy.

This is the first layer of information you are receiving, and you'll be connecting more dots as additional layers are given. So it's useful at this stage to have a think about all the meaningful inferences we have drawn thus far. Are you curious to find out more about what lies beyond our solar system? What other information can you potentially add?



Video Transcript - Understanding Chiron: Mythology

In ancient Greece, Chiron was a centaur known for his wisdom and healing abilities. Unlike other centaurs that were notorious for their unbridled lust and violence, he is distinct from them by virtue of his benevolence and intelligence. And not only is he hailed as the legendary teacher of healing and medicine, he is also revered as the "wisest and justest" of all the centaurs.

There are 3 parts of his story that carry rich symbolism for us, so let's dive into each part and examine them closely.

(i) Birth & Rejection by Mother

Chiron was the son of the Titan Cronus, also known as Saturn, and of Philyra, an Oceanid, a nymph. The story goes that Phylira adopted the form of a mare in order to escape from Cronus, but he in turn shapeshifted into a horse in order to pursue and mate with her. After impregnating her, she gave birth to a half-man, half-horse creature, a centaur who is also half immortal. When his mother saw him, she was disgusted and ashamed of what she had given birth to, and so she abandoned him. Thus, Chiron was essentially rejected at birth, and this can be considered the first wounding he faced in life.

Fortunately for him, although he was now effectively orphaned, Chiron was later found and adopted by the god Apollo. Now, Chiron was born with healing powers, he had innate gifts, and these were further nurtured by Apollo, who took him under his wing and taught him the art of music, medicine and prophecy.

Along with being skilled in philosophy and teaching, he also picked up martial skills from Apollo's twin sister, Artemis, who trained him in archery and hunting.

What we therefore see is that although he was abandoned and rejected by his mother, he received nurturing from his foster parents. And coupled with the gifts he had been born with, he grew to be a refined, kind and wise character who then gave back by becoming a revered teacher and mentor. He was notable throughout Greek mythology for his youth-nurturing nature, and is famous for being teacher to many Greek heroes like Achilles, Jason, and Heracles. In the healing arts, he was also credited with the discovery of botany and pharmacy, the science of herbs and medicine.

His many achievements highlight how a sense of purpose and service can ennoble and enrich one's life, regardless of a person's beginning circumstances.

In this first wounding, the emotional pain of being an orphan is present. He is then wounded a second time and suffers intense physical agony.

(ii) Accidental Injury in his Thigh

The story goes that Chiron was accidentally pierced with an arrow belonging to Heracles that had been treated with the blood of the Hydra. The wound in his thigh is in the lower half of his body, which is also the animal part of him, and it represents the vulnerability of our bodily, human existence. Now, even though he was a wise healer and teacher,

Chiron was unable to heal himself. This meant that he had to live in constant agony because, as a descendant of Cronus, he could not die.

In this wounding, there is so much that is painful and tragic. For one, the injury was an accident, it was a mistake. Furthermore, it was his student, Heracles, who unintentionally wounded him. And then, there's the irony that, as great a healer as he was, Chiron was unable to heal himself. Worse, he was doomed and cursed to live an eternal life in terrible pain.

It's important to note that Chiron never gets to cure or heal this wound. So how does he resolve this pain, a pain that underlines the pathos of man, in a story that showcases human vulnerability - a vulnerability that makes us susceptible to injury through no fault of our own? Remember, myths are stories created to convey important and meaningful messages, so there's something here in this story that we are meant to pay attention to.

(iii) Intentional Sacrifice

It is this last piece of Chiron's story that has captivated human imagination. The story continues with Chiron witnessing Prometheus being punished. You may know Prometheus as the trickster Titan who stole fire from the gods and gave it to man. His theft enraged the god Zeus, who punished him by tying him to a rock where, each day, an eagle or a griffon, would peck out his liver. His liver would grow back, and the tortuous punishment would begin again.

Chiron saw Prometheus's pain, and willingly offered to take his place by giving up his immortality. Since he himself was already in such agony, he decided that he would sacrifice his life. His noble act moved Zeus, who took pity on him. The god of the sky took away his immortality, thus ending his suffering, and placed him among the stars in the sky to be honoured. The Greeks identified him as the constellation Centaurus, the ninth-largest constellation in the sky, and thus the story ends with Chiron becoming immortalised in the heavens.

The idea here is that redemption occurs through divine source - represented by Zeus. There needs to be acceptance that, however skilled you may be, there are wounds, Chironic wounds, that you cannot heal on your own. But you are not entirely helpless; the story of Chiron suggests that you get to participate in your healing by cultivating nobility of heart and inviting in divine grace.

The beauty of myth and story is that it leaves room for the imagination. We are left wondering, why did he not turn into an angry, rebellious son who resented his parents' abandonment? Why did he not take revenge on Heracles when he was so tragically wounded? And why did he care about Prometheus's continual torment, enough to offer up his life?

Let's also take a step back and put yourself in his shoes? How would you have reacted in similar circumstances? Have you, for instance, felt hurt and betrayed by something that your parents did, by how uncaringly they behaved? Were you ever caught in the line of fire and got injured as a result? And have you ever witnessed another being in pain, and felt

pity and compassion? What do you think Chiron's reasons are? Take a moment to fill in the blanks, and draw your own meaningful conclusions.

What you've just done here is establish a meaningful connection between your life experience and Chiron's story of noble service and sacrifice. The inspiration of Chiron lies in his symbolic representation of qualities like vulnerability, empathy, and wisdom - exalted qualities that we all possess. Like the great teacher and wise centaur, we can choose to seek higher lessons in our wounds. Instead of wallowing in bestial instincts like vengeful resentment, we can rise to virtuous feelings of compassion and noble service.

In fact, in contemplating these questions, a number of broader inquiries can be made into the very nature of human behaviour. What makes two people act in such different ways when faced with similar circumstances and choices? This is where we delve into the psychology, the study of human mind and behaviour.

