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**THOUGHTS FOR THE MONTH**

It was my birthday last month.

For me, birthdays are always a time for reflection. I like to think about my new years intentions and see how things are unfolding, what adjustments I'd like to make to ensure that I am in alignment for manifesting those intentions and to see the correlation between what I'd intended and what is actually showing up.

Call it my self-accountability check -in.

Sometimes I make startling discoveries (I completely forgot what I said I was going to do this year!) and other times there isn't much to discover (it's pretty much how I'd envisioned it.)

But these extremes are unlikely these days. Usually I am not as blindsided to discover that I am way off course (thankfully I am usually pretty aware of what I've been manifesting) and rarely do I find that everything is as I'd envisioned it, because life happens.

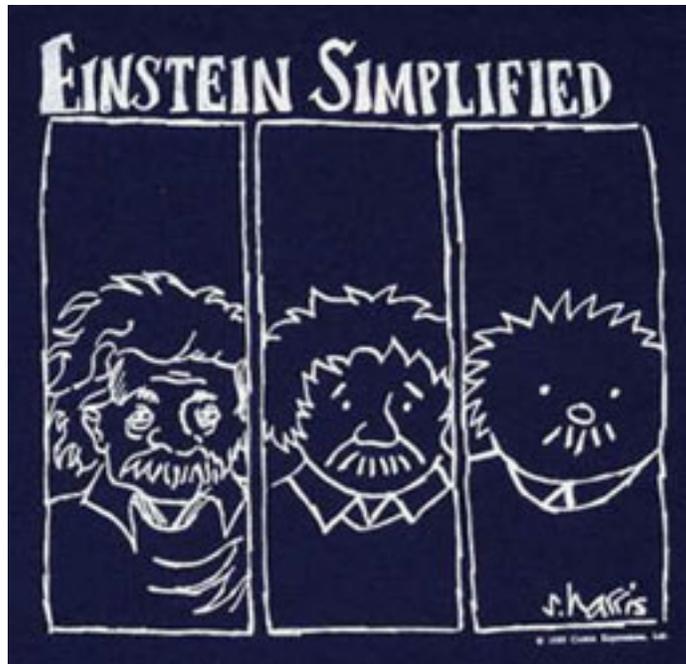
It reminds me of what my meditation teacher used as an analogy once. Meditation is like flying a plane. You know where you are taking off from and you know what the destination is, but all along the way is constant course correcting for unseen elements.

This is exactly what feng shui is like. There are elements that are within our control (placement of furniture, the colors we surround ourselves by, our clutter, what we buy, cleanliness, our intentions, etc) and then there are the aspects where LIFE SHOWS UP. We strive to find the balance between inner and outer, between seen and unseen, between control and grace. This is the essence of the yin yang, the balance that permeates our bodies, our space and our lives.

So this birthday I realized how many of my intentions were manifesting (and seemingly all at the same time.) I started to be excited and I also realized that I was overwhelmed. So many opportunities! Surely each one of these would require more time, more effort, more attention. How would I do it all?! My concept of how many things I could handle at the same time was being put to the test. It was a crisis and I needed some wisdom of how to handle all of this simultaneously.

I came across Albert Einstein's rules for work:

1. Out of clutter, find simplicity
2. From discord find harmony
3. In the middle of difficulty lies opportunity.



I think that these rules are a great approach for us to tackle our homes. Keep it simple, rebalance what is imbalanced and no matter how bad a situation looks there is always an opportunity lying within our drawers, and closets and bags and piles and shelves and storage units...an opportunity to transform all of our lead into gold.

And the same is true for my situation. In the midst of my "difficulty" is an opportunity.

The third of Einstein's rules for work is very similar to the John F Kennedy description of the Chinese character for Crisis:

**"When written in Chinese the word crisis is composed of two characters. One represents danger, and the other represents opportunity."**

-John F. Kennedy 04.12.1959

This is the chinese concept of "wei ji" or Danger/Opportunity. It means that every moment of imbalance or "crisis" presents an opportunity to evolve or transform a situation into something better.

So if the concept is that sometimes when our lives come to a crisis point, or opportunity point...I wanted to find the good in all of this. I believe that the universe is bringing me everything I have been asking for as long as it is for my highest good. I believe that I can always handle whatever is brought to me. And I believe that even though the answers are unknown to me at this moment, that the entire universe is conspiring to help me achieve my goals, wishes and dreams.

We/Ji (Crisis/Opportunity) sounds like the term "Wei Chi" as well.

*What is Wei Chi?*

Wei Chi, in Oriental medicine, is the defensive chi that circulates on the surface of the body and protects it from external factors. Chi is energy on the brink of becoming matter, and matter at the point of becoming energy. It is vital energy, the life force. This defensive Wei Chi energy protects the body from pathogens and from harmful environmental factors. It is what we might call the immune system.

**CRISIS**

The character 危 (wēi) is a large, bold, black Chinese character. It is composed of the radical 厃 (wēi) and the radical 卩 (jié). It represents danger or crisis.

A time of danger;

The character 机 (jī) is a large, bold, black Chinese character. It is composed of the radical 木 (mù) and the radical 几 (jī). It represents opportunity or machinery.

A time of opportunity;

Wei Chi is the final hexagram of the I Ching, the Book of Changes, and is titled "Before Completion." This hexagram indicates a time when the transition from disorder to order is not yet completed. The task is great and full of responsibility. It is nothing less than that of leading the world out of confusion back to order, but it is a task that promises success.

So here I am. Relying on wisdom from long ago. Taking each step into the unknown, moment by moment. I hear my mother words whispering on the wind: "there is more to be revealed."

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## RECENT HAPPENINGS

Happy Spring!  
So much has been happening!

### TV SHOWS

I was hired to appear as a guest on two television shows. The first show, Million Dollar Listing is on Bravo. I was brought in to perform a feng shui blessing on the office of Chad Rogers, who is one of the stars of the show. I worked alongside NY times bestselling author and my dear friend Regina Leeds and we reorganized the office and then I did a space clearing.

The episode will air later this year. See [www.bravotv.com](http://www.bravotv.com) for more details!

The second show is a brand new show called Platinum Babies on the WE network. The show is a companion show for Platinum Weddings which is already on the air.

I was brought in as a surprise for Victoria Recano (The Insider, Inside Edition), to bless her babies nursery. Designer Dana Norris asked me to bless the nursery after they had designed the bedroom to clear out any energies that may not be conducive to the babies' well being and to let go of any stress involved in the process of setting the nursery up.

The episode will air at the end of the year. See <http://www.wetv.com/> for more details!

### EVENTS

I was hired by the Hot Moms Club to do feng shui readings for Charlie Sheen and Brooke Muellers baby shower in March (they gave birth to healthy twin boys.)

The baby shower was hosted by Betsy Russell and Adrienne Maloof-Nassif and had Chocolate face painting, Nintendo Wii and bounce houses for kids, cigar rolling for the guys and feng shui readings for women (and couples.)

There were over 140 guests which included: Martin Sheen, Paris Hilton, Christine Taylor, Jon Cryer, Eric Dane, Jessica Capshaw, Marla Maples and Barry Bonds.

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## ARTICLES

Natural Health Magazine did an article called Revitalize Your Home which featured me alongside Feng Shui experts Jamie Barrett and Joey Yap:

[http://www.naturalhealthmag.com/feng\\_shui\\_redecorate\\_tips\\_home/green\\_living/188](http://www.naturalhealthmag.com/feng_shui_redecorate_tips_home/green_living/188)

I also had a writeup recently as a life coach on DigitalCity for AOL:

<http://www.digitalcity.com/2009/04/16/interview-ariel-joseph-towne-life-coach/>

Also there were a couple of great articles written about the Sheen baby shower:

<http://www.people.com/people/article/0,,20260635,00.html>

<http://www.pregnancymagazine.com/everyone-else/lets-hear-it-boys>

Here is a picture of me with Charlie's wife Brooke, who was lovely:



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## UPCOMING WORKSHOP

### **The. Best. Damn. Feng. Shui. Class. Period.**

*with Ariel Joseph Towne, the feng shui guy*

**Saturday, May 23rd, 2009: 2:30-5:00pm**

The Fierce Club, Soho, NYC

269 elizabeth st. just south of houston

[212.334.6900](tel:212.334.6900)

This class is for you, by you and about you. Ariel is going to do an interactive format Feng Shui class that allows you to get ALL your questions answered. You can ask ANYTHING you want. Get a raise or recession proof your finances. Spice up your dating life, call in "the one" or get preggers. Travel more! Travel less! Increase your energy, avoid energy vampires, break through your writers block or just breathe a little bit deeper. It's all up to you.

*THIS CLASS WILL BE CREATED AROUND YOUR QUESTIONS. GET CREATIVE.*

Please send in your questions by May 18th , so that they can be addressed in our workshop.

All of the questions will be reviewed. There will be prizes in class for the best questions.

The person who sends in the most unique will attend the workshop for free.\*

#### **What this workshop will cover:**

- How to become a deliberate creator of own reality through the practice of feng shui.
- How to make a feng shui map of your space to help transform your home right away.
- How to shift elements within your space/home to enhance precise areas of your life such as career and life path, love and relationship, wealth, wisdom and knowledge, family, fame and reputation, creativity and children, benefactors, health and vitality.

#### **Investment:**

\$35 in advance (by May 19th ), \$45 at the door

#### **Registration:**

Pre-registration is highly suggested to attend this workshop.

To register please visit: <http://www.thefierceclub.com/EVENTS.html>

*\*(If selected, on the day of the workshop we will refund your enrollment.)*

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## OFFERINGS

### **Warwick Group**

Architecture + Interiors + Construction + Landscape

<http://www.warwickgroup.net/>

Warwick Group, a division of TSD Corporation, is a Los Angeles based Architecture and Construction firm.

I have been collaborating with Mark and Kim Warwick for going on three years. We have worked together to sell properties that were "not selling", to design homes and office spaces together utilizing the principles of feng shui within the construction of the properties. You couldn't ask for a more professional, and talented team of designers. And their work is stunning and speaks for itself.

### **Beyond 02 Waterhouse**

<http://www.beyondo2water.com/>

Main Street, Santa Monica, California

After being recommended to try their alkaline water for months, I finally decided to give it a try. The water had a good taste, made me want to drink more of it for a few days and I feel better drinking it. Also---I sleep better and several symptoms I had been coping with since last fall have disappeared altogether. It supposedly hydrates six times faster than regular water. And when your system is Alkaline it helps the bodys immune system and fights off illness.

Go in and say hello to the owner/proprietier. Her name is LaJoy and when you meet her you'll find out why. :)

### **Terracycle**

Imagine a company that pays you to take your trash off your hands. It's a fascinating business (doesn't just have a neutral imprint on our planet, but actually has a negative imprint on our planet.) You have to check them out, it's a great success story and they have wonderful products!

<http://www.terracycle.net/story.htm>

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## **TESTIMONIALS**

"As a life coach, Ariel has an uncanny ability to bring a fresh perspective to any problem or issue presented to him. Without a trace of judgment, he gently turns you in a new direction ... one where freedom lies waiting. If you want to reach new heights in your career, relationship or life, you couldn't have a wiser or more spiritually grounded coach to help you succeed."

*-Regina Leeds, The Zen Organizer and NY Times bestselling author of "One Year To An Organized Life"*

"I came to Ariel with some skepticism. I'm was curious about feng shui, but not necessarily a "believer." In fact, I wasn't even sure I wanted to continue to live in my apartment, so why bother shui-ing it to begin with? Ariel quickly addressed my concerns and showed me that fueg shui could have some direct, tangible results in my every day quality of life, even if my apartment was only a transitional living situation. That made sense to me. And if all the mystical crap kicked in later, I thought, all the better.

"So in the session we talked about my goals and aspirations, and Ariel suggested some simple changes to my living situation based on these areas in my life that I wanted to improve. He was supportive and thoughtful and extremely present. The immediate result was that my apartment was a much more enjoyable place to live in, and I wasn't so anxious to move out of it. I was quite satisfied with the session and was really happy with my "feng shui" investment.

"Flash forward five moths later, I'm now moving into what very well may be my "dream" apartment. I can afford it and it is spacious and old and has great view of downtown and I love it. I can't believe I get to live here. My professional life has also lurched forward. I've started booking TV jobs that were previously out of reach and have just signed with a huge agency that is kicking my commercial career into gear. Strangely enough, these were two of the goals that Ariel and I talked about in our session. And now they've "manifested" themselves, which is weird and wonderful, and for which I am extraordinarily grateful. Thanks Ariel!"

*-Alex S. (Los Angeles)*

"Working with Ariel was a dream come true. He helped to transform not only my apartment, but my life. I constantly have people telling me what a great "vibe" my apartment has, and that the energy of my home is wonderful. Whenever I make plans with friends, inevitably we end up back at my place, because everyone simply prefers to spend time there. I can feel the energy as well, and I am aware that it has aided in the revival and improvement of all facets of my being. I am so grateful to Ariel for both his wisdom and caring in his life-coaching, and also for giving me the sublime gift of feng shui."

*-Sam R. (New York)*

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## **TRAVEL SCHEDULE**

Book time with The Feng Shui Guy!

May 15th

May 17th

May 20th-21st

May 22nd-23rd

May 25th

July 3rd

July 4th

July 6th

July 9th - July 13th

Northampton Massachussets

New York City

The Hamptons

New York City

Los Angeles

Miami, FL

Ft Lauderdale, FL

Palm Beach, FL

New York City

To book an appointment, please email:

[consult@thefengshuiguy.com](mailto:consult@thefengshuiguy.com)