

## Maiden, Mother, Crone



Aphrodite / Venus /  
High Priestess

*Greek Goddess of Love*

Passion of Maiden: Excitement, Innocence

Passion of Mother: Devotion, Passion

Passion of Crone: Psychic intuition, Refinement

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### Aphrodite

No Archetype exemplifies the stages of human life better than Aphrodite – youth (full of innocence & wonder), mature adult (a time of drive, passion & engagement), elder (basking in wisdom & reflection).

But that is not to say that these stages are confined to chronological age. There are some people who are sages at the age of 10 and others that remain young and full of innocence well into their 90's.

While Aphrodite is often mistakenly thought of as primarily inherent in the female gender – we know that Aphrodite resides in every male as well.

Studies show that all human beings are made up of six energetic components:

1. the tender feminine (the maiden)
2. the strong feminine (the mother)
3. the mature feminine (the crone)
4. the tender masculine (the prince)
5. the strong masculine (the warrior)
6. the mature masculine (the king)

Here's a case study that illustrates this understanding perfectly.

Mike came to us in desperation. He was a successful, middle aged businessman with a wife, a twelve year old son and a fourteen year old daughter.

By the time he came for help, Mike was filled with anxiety and fear of losing his family.

He reported that his son and daughter seemed to resent him no matter how much he did for them or how much money he gave them.

In despair Mike also confessed that his wife had completely withdrawn from him.

Mike could not understand it.



Hoping to prove himself worthy, Mike had been devoting more and more time making the business larger and more successful for them, but it seemed that the harder he worked, the more they withdrew.



By delving into Mike's past, we learned that at the age of sixteen Mike lost his father and had to step up as breadwinner. Suddenly, he became the head of the household and the wellbeing of his mother and two younger sisters rested squarely on his shoulders.

The running of their 3000 acre farm meant that hard work, long hours and huge responsibility became his life.

In the blink of an eye the innocence of youth and the chance to explore the wonders of the world was gone. His life became 'work to survive'.

In spite of his age, Mike successfully fulfilled the adult role that had been thrust upon him. He took his youthful passion and poured it into the farm, building an immensely successful operation.

When Mike finally sold the farm for a handsome profit he bought a farm supply business.

Soon Mike married and in subsequent years was blessed with a son and then a daughter. As his young family grew, Mike would encourage/pressure them to 'get serious about life'. As they got older, Mike found himself coercing them to come and work along side him in their farm supply business but could not understand why they resisted so strongly. Why were they so unwilling to make the sacrifice he perceived was needed to be responsible, dependable and successful.

As you can see, the essence of Mike's story is primarily one of loss.

The loss of the maiden – that glorious time of wonder, innocence and excitement. The opportunity to be young and simply carefree had been taken from him at a very tender age. Mike never had the chance to 'smell the roses', and now he just didn't know how.

The task at hand was clear. Mike desperately needed to re-write his story; and the new story needed to be one with some fun and excitement, joy and liberation in it.



Enter Aphrodite.

We prescribed a 10-Day Boot Camp with Aphrodite and Mike has never looked back. Upon completion of his ritual work with Aphrodite, Mike opted to sell the business rather than simply "cut back". He realized that the changes he needed to make were not just important, they were fundamental to his health and well being.

Now, two years later, semi-annual family vacations are non-negotiable and something that everyone in his family looks forward to. He has revitalized his marriage and deepened his relationship with both of his children.

Recently, when we checked in with him on the telephone, Mike reported that, *"I hardly recognize myself anymore – and I love it."*

By Shanon & Marv Harwood

Directors of [The Kimmapii School of Shamanism](#)

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