

A Very Generic and Experiential

Zodiac-Based Guide to Successfully Honoring Your Mom on Mother's Day

By Beth McDonald

Given the upcoming holiday, I thought it might be wise to give you all a little something that might bring a help little joy and harmony to you and your family over the course of the next week. Part of my motivation is that Mother's Day is such a crucial holiday. The relationships we have with our mothers are in many ways the most important of all. She is our first and therefore defining relationship. For the first nine months of our lives we know only her. What we learn from our biological mother informs every friendship, every partnership and every other familial bond. And then factor in the karma you each bring in, and you have the potential for something very rich and meaningful (though sometimes there is more work involved than in others).

And part of my motivation is the timing of this holiday. Mars, Lord of anger and aggression, is currently transiting Cancer, the sign of mothering, the home and the family. Needless to say, I have been seeing a lot of folks with family issues and disputes in the last three weeks or so. Given that, some folks may be experiencing difficulty in getting in the mood for Mother's Day. If you're one of them, I have just the thing for you. This guide will help you understand both the personal context that all this sits in for her, and give you some practical ideas that will help you to create a memorable moment together. Good luck, and if you get stuck, call me. We'll figure it out.

Aries: Driven by a short attention span and a love of action and activity, Aries likes and adventure. If your mom is an Aries, she likes to *go*. You need to pack her up and take her somewhere, preferably where there is some sort of action: a picnic at the park, a hike, sailing, a sporting event, an amusement park. A movie, a concert, or a play in the theatre will also work – just get her out of the house.

Taurus: Driven by a very sensuous desire for beauty and harmony, Taurus needs a full on multi-sensory experience. And lots of it. If your mom is a Taurus, you need to gather your chips and go all in here: wine, chocolates, flowers, candles, bubble bath, AND gift certificates for her favorite spa, salon and boutique. Think *lavish*.

Gemini: Driven by an insatiable hunger for knowledge and information, Gemini likes to have its *grey matter stimulated*, and to have a good time in the process. And that's about it. If your mom is a Gemini, your options are rather limited. Books and games are always good for them, especially something that a normal human would find really boring.

Cancer: Driven by an endless quest for safety and security (you can never have too much of either, ya know), Cancer just wants reassurance that the only things it loves – its *home* and its *family* – are intact and okay. In perpetuity. If your mom is a Cancer, she more than any other sign would appreciate a family reunion, or at least a very big extended family gathering at her house.

Leo: Driven by the eternal sunshine of a child's narcissistic mind (and heart), Leo needs to know that it truly is the geographic center of your universe. If your mom is a Leo, nothing short of an Ethel Merman production number will do to let her know she is truly worshipped and adored. With Leo, it doesn't matter so much what you do, it's how you do it. Whatever you do, do it *big*.

Virgo: Fueled by a guilt-driven need to atone for every sin that ever occurred in this and all other lifetimes anyone ever had, Virgo really shies away from lavish gifts or attention. If your mother is a Virgo, send her a nice *discreet* and *understated* greeting card and call her later. Anything else and she'll worry herself into a dither that you're spending too much money.

Libra: Ah, Libra. Driven by a sincere but often lopsided desire to make the world a more egalitarian and beautiful place, Libra is pretty much always on some sort of a noble and righteous crusade. If your mom is a Libra, get her something that tells her you *appreciate her quests and the intentions behind them*: something she can fix, or something she can use to fix something or someone else.

Scorpio: Driven by an obsessive compulsion to get to the bottom of things, Scorpio has no tolerance for the surface or the superficial. It is also the most likely to get what it wants. Given that, if your mom is a Scorpio you don't want to mess around. Get her something that she has always wanted, that she really likes (even if she has 10 or 12 already) or something that is *meaningful to her*.

Sagittarius: Driven solely by the pursuit of pleasure (even if it is simply the absence of pain), Sagittarius is the original *bon vivant*. If your mom is a Sagittarius, she absolutely needs to have a really, really good time. Take her out for the evening to her favorite places, with her favorite people and let her have her favorite meal and do her favorite things.

Capricorn: Driven by the relentless desire to acquire things of value, Capricorn is the master of all things material. If your mother is a Capricorn, you will definitely want to show up with some serious gifts, as groovy experiences alone usually don't cut it. Capricorn ladies love the *bling* (though individual tastes vary. Wildly.), so I'd start there.

Aquarius: Driven by the love of boldly going where the rest of us don't go, Aquarians march to the tune of a different drummer. A very different drummer. If your mom is an Aquarius, you have more liberty than others to simply follow her lead. Whatever weird freaky thing floats her boat, just get her more of it. Don't try to understand. Just be glad she loves you.

Pisces: Motivated only by a heart-wrenching drive for connectedness and union, Pisces wants more than anything to be part of a greater whole. A happy, functioning whole. If your mom is a Pisces, you will want to give her that experience. Material things are nowhere near as important to her as having her loved ones around her and on their best behavior, so you and the rest of the gang should plan on simply spending a pleasant day together with her. Which, by the way, is the best gift you could ever give her.