



The Raven Lodge (#1)

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The Raven Lodge is a free monthly Newsletter, emailed to you on request includes: the latest **News**, developments, projects, etc; excerpts from **Work in Progress**; **Weird News** – unusual news from various sources round the world of quirky metaphysical interest;

Witch-Wise Advice Column - essentially continuing the work I did with the now sadly closed WitchCraft Magazine, answering questions about spellcraft, witchcraft, magick, healing, paranormal and related subjects. I will endeavour to answer as many questions as I can per month and some will not be answered directly, but covered in another way, such as through an article or a suggested link or book. I ask that you include a phone contact number and suburb if possible and whether you give permission for the question to be answered in the Newsletter (anonymously, of course). If it is a request for private consultation, I do charge a fee for my services, but a limited number of free sessions are available per month (see the Services section of the Church of the Ancient Mysteries website:
<http://www.AncientMysteriesNet.org/services.html>

Contact Networking –those seeking contact with groups or “fellow Solitaries” who wish to post their contact emails, a suburb location or P.O. Box is optional and I suggest using a pseudonym, or first name only to protect your privacy. [The C.A.M.](#) accepts no responsibility for any interactions and experiences between private individuals that result from such posting.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

I am quite excited about my new projects... and I'm sure that you will find something of interest, whatever your level of interest and commitment to the Nature Mystery Traditions.

I've just done a big update on my website material, especially expanding and clarifying the **Services** I am offering.

Exploring the topic of “Faery Seduction and Otherworld Companions”

Letter from Luinil in Issue 44 of Witchcraft Magazine (May-June 05) Luinil's original question and my answer:

OTHERWORLD COMPANION

I have an odd question I hope that you may be able to answer. I have an Otherworld companion, who I'm very attached to. He's been there for me when I needed him most; he's a great friend.

But I keep having this strange dream where he and I are dancing across the ocean, water underfoot, until we come to the end of this world and the door to the Otherworld. I follow him in and lie down on the woodland floor, and we make love passionately. I always wake up and I feel confused as to why this dream happens. I don't think this sort of relationship between two of different worlds is possible. I love my friend deeply but I don't know if I can love him in that way. What to do, what do I do?

Luinil

Perth, WA.

Our outer world relationships need to be as healthy, functional and conscious as we can make them – as opposed to unhealthy, dysfunctional and unconscious/co-dependent. With the added astral dimension of the Innerplanes/Otherworld, any relationships we develop there will need to be treated with even more caution. When there is a blurring of boundaries and the interaction is not clearly understood, or differently understood by the two parties, the business of having an Otherworld companion can be very disruptive to one's life and well-being. If there is no ill effect resulting from your lovemaking, then the only negativity appears to stem from the conflict in your own psyche between your obvious inner sexual desire for him (otherwise it would not be happening in your dreamstate) and the disapproval and disbelief of your conscious ego-mind, with its “story” that this kind of relationship is not possible. Anything is possible, once you decide that it is desired.

Further comments on Faery Seduction & Otherworld Companions:

How you relate to the different sentient beings you could encounter in this extraordinary multi-dimensional Cosmos/Nature/Creation, entirely depends on how much you have liberated yourself from your “received ideas” and cultural conditioning, the concepts and beliefs inherited from childhood, education and life experiences – or indeed how much these “scripts of consciousness” or “stories” still limit your understanding and experience of Nature's possibilities. The more I have experienced of the different frequencies of possible reality and the orders of consciousness that inhabit these realms or frequencies of existence, the more I am convinced of the limitless fluidity, or infinite shape-shifting quality of Spirit, the Oneness of consciousness that creates existence, otherwise known as “Light”.

“the idea that we are separate from anything at all “out there” is an illusion”

We and all other creatures, beings and things in the cosmos are temporary packages and forms for the Limitless Light to inhabit. Therefore, the more you expand your perceptions beyond identifying with the suit of clothes your divine Beingness happens to be wearing right now – that is, your Bodymind or Ego-Personality, the more you will realise that the idea that we are separate from anything at all “out

there” is an illusion – a useful hologram designed by the brain to keep us focussed on the business of physical survival. The Ego or “survival personality” is a powerful and useful vehicle for achieving what we came here to do, especially when we use it as a “shop front” for the equally powerful Magickal Personality, the result of progressive refinement and expansion of our consciousness, or “sense-perceptions”.

Spirit is a Shape-shifter

In one of Carlos Castaneda’s books, Don Juan, the shamanic teacher casually remarked “Not everybody you see walking down the street is necessarily human”. Many years ago, before I really knew what it meant, that line sent a violent shiver of truth through me, and I was very uncomfortable with it. Having gone round the block a few times since then, this is no longer a scary concept, because now I recognise that we are not confined to our human physical form. We are many things on many levels (and times) simultaneously, and our consciousness participates in the whole of Nature, as the many orders of consciousness in Nature/Cosmos/Creation also participate in who we are... Think about that awhile; it puts a whole other spin on the idea of “possession”. My understanding and observation is that Spirit is fluid, possession is normal and different identities or “species of being” run through us like waves of Light-frequency – the “sound and light show” I like to call it.

What Species of Consciousness are you entertaining/hosting?

In magickal training, there is a deeper Watcher-consciousness that looks after the development of the magickal personality, a Greater Nature/Higher Self that brings discrimination about what “species of consciousness” is hosted by the Ego-vehicle at any one time. I’m going to unpack that understanding a little more in the next issue. A useful concept from the Jungian system of dream-analysis is to understand that “everything in the Dream is you”. If everything we experience, waking or sleeping, is the One Dreaming of Existence/Nature, and we also accept the sovereignty and individuality of other beings in this Dreaming, then we can also accept that they are simultaneously aspects of ourselves and independent beings in their own right.

What Kind of Encounter is it? Every detail is part of the communication...

The Faery/Inner Earth traditions of innerplanes or astral experience practised by Celtic seers usually report three kinds of interaction: those with faery beings, those with ancestral spirits, and those with humans dwelling in the faery realm. It is important to question and discern the motive, nature and function of those beings, guides or entities you encounter in the innerplanes. Trust your own intuition, and take everything about the experience into account, given that every detail of the being’s appearance and environment is part of the communication. For this reason, use as many of the clair-senses as possible. When in doubt, project a Pentagram, a Triskele or some other potent symbol at the being in question. If they absorb or wear the symbol, all is well; if they are not in harmony with your true well-being, they will recoil or vanish. If they shape-shift into a sequence of forms and do this in a repeating cycle, this is highly significant and will represent a process of Healing and Initiation.

Sex on the Innerplanes – Faery Seduction

It is quite likely that Luinil’s sexual interaction with her Otherworld Companion is an important mode of inter-communication of particular energies that are mutually needed for healing. Luinil has told me that she does not feel herself to be a

particularly sexual person in her outer-world life. Intercourse on the innerplanes however, is more likely to have an initiatory or transformative significance for both parties. The traditional lore about the Underworld/Inner Earth/Faery Realm is that it is a mirror-image of the physical world. The undoubtedly powerful seduction of Faery is a result of the mutual need of Faery and humankind to find a healing balance in each other. In the case of such an obviously beautiful and powerful experience as Luinil's, where trust and rapport are well established, I would advise her to become more proactive and forthright in communicating with her Companion, insistently asking that he explain the meaning and consequence of their union, and seeking to understand what gifts and powers they need from each other. Just as any relationship in the outer world will also benefit from openness and honesty, a robust and healthy innerplanes connection will withstand such questioning and clarification.

In one sense, a Faery Companion, especially an Otherworld lover, will embody an aspect of our own Being that we have "lost". Because of Nature's innate balance, we also will embody a balancing wholeness for the Companion.

It is interesting that Robert Kirk, in his "Secret Commonwealth" (1691), stresses that Faeries are a more active and subtle form of matter, but still physical. Their substance, which is like condensed vapour and easiest seen in twilight, is so sensitive that it can be shaped by thought and emotion. He implies that the good or evil nature of an Otherworld or faery contact is defined by the positive or negative inner condition of the contactee.

To be continued...

Book Review: "The Historian" – I said it was very scholarly, and it had me well sucked in, so the review is coming, but I've run out of space and time. This first issue is a test run, and will not run quite so long in coming issues, so lap it up! My eyes were bigger than my belly with this Newsletter, so I'm saving the review for February!

I am also exploring the links between the Otherworld Companion topic and the many threads of the Vampire Mythos in my more heavy duty offering: "The Winged Circle Journal**", available by subscription ([see the "Newsletters & Journals" link on the Church of the Ancient Mysteries website](#)) **

WEIRD NEWS

2,300 year-old murders:

Two extraordinary Iron Age Irish Bog-Bodies – one the tallest ever found, the other sporting a Mohican hairstyle slicked up with expensive imported hair gel!

Archaeologists have unveiled two Iron Age 'bog bodies' which were found in the Republic of Ireland, an enormously significant find for European archaeology, as bog bodies are very rare. With only one bog body found in the last 50 years, human-remains experts had all but given up hope of finding any more, so finding two is quite astonishing. The first body dropped off a peat cutting machine in February 2003 in Clonycavan, near Dublin. The forearms, hands and lower abdomen are missing, believed to have been hacked off by the machine. Discovered in May that year by workmen clearing a drainage ditch through a peat bog, the second body was in Croghan, only 25 miles (40km) away. Old Croghan Man's head, lower limbs and body from the hips down were missing.

Observing the soft flesh, fingernails, red hair, teeth and eyeballs still intact, and no smell of rot, detectives initially thought that the corpses were freshly buried IRA victims. The state pathologist quickly confirmed that this was an archaeological case and both bodies were taken to the National Museum of Ireland in Dublin.

After an 18-month investigation by an international team of experts, it has been revealed that the men were killed around 2,300 years ago, probably the victims of a ritual sacrifice. Details of the finds are outlined in a BBC Timewatch documentary to be screened on BBC2 on Friday, January 20 at 9pm. The team of experts have been examining the bodies to learn how they lived and died. Carbon testing, for example, showed that Clonycavan man died between 392- 201 BCE and Old Croghan man from 362-175 BCE. One of these experts is Don Brothwell, the York University archaeologist who led the scientific investigation of Lindow Man, the bog body found in Cheshire (England) in 1984.

Thanks to the bacterial conditions of the peat bog, we have well-preserved body parts instead of skeletons, thus surviving miraculously from the Iron Age in near-perfect condition. Even fingerprints were clearly visible. Old Croghan Man, named after the ditch at Croghan Hill, Co Offaly, where he was discovered, was in his early to mid-20s and his arm span indicates that he would have stood 6 foot 6 inches high, the tallest Iron Age body discovered. He would have been a giant, while Clonycavan Man was no more than 5 foot 2 inches tall. Clonycavan Man was obviously a wealthy member of Irish society, as the hair gel was made from plant oil mixed with pine resin from south-western France or Spain. Under the strange punk hairstyle, (which apparently resisted the attack!) is a massive wound caused by the heavy cutting object that smashed open his skull. His skin dyed brown and his hair turned ginger by the peat, pores are visible around his nose and he has a wispy beard. He also has a squashed nose and wonky teeth, and there is a slash across his cheekbone.

The last bog body was found in 1984 at Lindow Moss in Cheshire - a 25-year-old man - had apparently suffered the death known to Celtic historians as the 'threefold death', which was done for ritual purposes. Naked, the man's head was flattened by three blows of an axe, his throat cut open from a thrice knotted sinew cord, and his blood quickly emptied through the precise cut to the jugular vein, and then placed face down into the bog. One might notice that the number 3 held magickal powers in

the eyes of the Celts, as well as bogs. From a number of observations, including his profound facial calm and no evidence of battle, archaeologists such as Ann Ross and Don Robins conclude that he was probably a Druid Prince who offered himself as willing sacrifice to the gods to win victory over the Romans, who at that time intended to exterminate the Druids. (Read "The Life and Death of a Druid Prince", the Story of Lindow Man, an Archaeological Sensation, by Anne Ross and Don Robins, New York: Summit Books, 1990)

Since 1984 archaeological science has developed greatly. The Dublin team knew to keep these recent finds in wet peat from the sites where they were found. From his distorted head, computers can digitally recreate Clonycavan Man's skull to show us how this Celt looked nearly 2,300 years ago. Analysis of his hair shows that his diet was rich in vegetables, suggesting he died in summer.

The clues to headless Old Croghan Man's life lie in his nails. Their high levels of nitrogen indicate he had a protein-rich diet and probably died in the winter when vegetables were scarce and meat was the main source of food. The food remains in his stomach reveal that his last meal was wheat and buttermilk. Scars on his lungs show he had pleurisy.

This young man, probably in his early to mid 20s, had been horrifically tortured before death. His nipples had been cut and he had been stabbed in the ribs. A cut on his arm suggested he had tried to defend himself during the attack that ended his life. He was then beheaded and dismembered. His huge hands are creased with lines and clasped into fists. His fingernails are perfectly preserved and manicured - suggesting he was a man of high status, who had never known manual labour.

Old Croghan Man's remains were naked, apart from a plaited leather band around his left arm - something curator Isabella Mulhall describes as a "very significant find". Like Lindow Man, he is naked except for an armband of leather on his left arm. For a fascinating alternative perspective to the more romantic Ann Ross & Don Robin's interpretation, see <http://home.earthlink.net/~ekerilaz/lindow.html>

Paraphrasing Clare Raymond, Mirror.co.uk reporting from Dublin: 'If you find such intimate details of murdered men disturbing, spare a thought for Head of Conservation, Rolle Read, who had to drive the 60 miles from the burial site to the Museum with Old Croghan man in the back of his family car. "It spooked me for weeks afterwards," says Rolle. "I wasn't comfortable with it at all. I had flashbacks and nightmares. I imagined crashing and feeling his arms on my shoulders. "But as I've been working with these bodies I've become attached to them. They were murdered so I feel sorry for them. I go home and think, "What did they go through?" '

BBC TWO's Timewatch Producer John Hayes-Fisher says:

"What was extraordinary, though, was looking into the face of someone living in the British Isles 300 years before the birth of Christ, and to see his eyes, his ears, his hair and even his teeth filled me with a sense of wonder. What really shocked me while making the programme, though, was discovering the unnecessary violence with which some of these young men were killed. The Iron Age really was quite a brutal time." During "Timewatch: The Bog Bodies", the head of Clonycavan Man is digitally 'inflated' and a model cast is created that allows viewers to see his face as it would have been moments before he died.

"These are our ancestors and we should treat them with the greatest of respect," says archaeologist Ned Kelly, the museum's Keeper of Irish Antiquities. "They died in a particularly horrific and terrifying manner. "We owe it to them to ensure that their

terrible end isn't trivialised or sensationalised. They give us an insight into the dark side of human nature."

It was once thought that bog bodies were criminals, killed as punishment, but archaeologist Ned Kelly has an insight into late Bronze and early Iron Age Irish society that should help point the way to new archaeological discoveries. Noting that both bog bodies were discovered along ancient tribal boundaries, on further investigation he found that 40 body discoveries in Irish bogland were made along boundaries. He extended his search to include other late Bronze and early Iron Age material and horse bits turned up along with wooden yokes, weapons, cauldrons, personal ornaments, crowns and gold collars on tribal borders, all of which he considers to be items associated with kingship. "My belief is that the burials are offerings to the gods of fertility by kings, to ensure a successful reign," says Ned, "And that bodies are placed in the borders surrounding royal land or on tribal boundaries to ensure a good yield of corn and milk. If my theory is true, this is a huge breakthrough in Iron Age studies. That we can come face to face with somebody from more than 2,000 years ago is an extraordinary thing."

The two bog bodies are now at the National Museum of Ireland in Dublin. So far they have been seen only by archaeologists and scientists, but they will go on public display at the Museum in May. Timewatch: The Bog Bodies is on BBC2 on Friday, January 20 at 9pm.

** News Sources are from: BBC News, Irish Times, Mirror.co.uk

*** For those interested in starting the Natural Magick & Divinity Training**

You have two options:

(1) Membership Fee of \$150 per year gives you workshop & services discounts, the Raven Oracle Newsletter, within the 12 months of membership, you get the first Module free, and each Module after that is \$50, and you order them in your own time (the training is self-paced). The Membership Fee is then due 12 months after you first sign on.

During that 12 months I am (within reason) on tap for questions and support regarding the student/member's magickal path, and I do a lot of fine-tuning and send additional supplementary material, designing remedial material in response to individual needs. This means that Student/Members get a very good deal for their \$150 per year. **(If you want to be a Member and not do the training, that is fine, however if you want to become a Student, Membership is required).**

(2) Available until 30th January, there is an Apprenticeship Divinity Training Concession for students registering with an **up-front full payment of \$650** (the full cost of the 21 module training is usually \$1050) which also includes one year's Membership and free attendance at the 2006 Samhain Conference (not including accommodation and catering).

If you know of anybody interested in joining the Training, receiving the free Newsletter or subscription Journal, or accessing any of my services, please forward them this information. NB: remember, there are always GIFT VOUCHERS available...

LINK EXCHANGE

I am adding more links to my **COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD** page, so if you would like to exchange links please send me your website URL or your email and contact details if you don't have one yet, and about **50 to 100 words description of what you do, products, services, events, courses, projects, etc.** I am assuming that you are Pagan-friendly even if not actively/overtly Pagan. I am especially interested in hearing from Pagan-friendly healing practitioners of any modality for the **Pagan Practitioner Referral Directory**. This is mainly a Southern Hemisphere-based directory, but I don't mind opening up a section for similar Directory-Keepers in other parts of the world.

Witch-Wise Advice (in the tradition of "Dear Zeena" - my column in Witchcraft Magazine from 99 to 2005)

Do you have any good spells for deflecting negative energy from people at work? I work with a woman who openly hates me and walks past my desk always directing negative comments at me. (The first thing she did when she arrived at work today was look at me - scrunch up her nose and mutter while walking away "what a dark dingy little office...") I know it's because she's depressed/insecure etc but I don't want to have to keep dealing with her. She's also very aggressive and I've seen her have huge stand-offs with other people here. Andrea, Sydney.

First of all, set yourself not to react emotionally to the woman's behaviour – keep yourself as neutral as possible, and try to keep your expression as benignly blank as you can. It is important to monitor your own bodymind reactions to this lady's behaviour, and deliberately refuse to participate in these spiky energies and thought-forms. If you feel yourself starting to "join in" and possibly flashing back to early childhood abuse or projecting someone from the past on this woman, you need to protect your personal energy-field. You can do this by closing your energy-circuits by crossing your ankles and crossing your wrists, or touching thumbs and forefingers together quietly in your lap. Do not engage direct eye-contact, but instead, try to engage only the left eye, or adopt a wide-angled, off-focus gaze, as though you are trying to see her aura. This is a good "jamming" technique when someone is trying to pump your energy in order to steal it. The anger-energy that she is "hosting" will be behaving almost autonomously, like a possessing creature (on the astral that is precisely what it is) to press the points in you that are vulnerable inroads into your energy.

Take slow deep breaths, relax any muscle tensions. Connect with the Universe of Water and breathe in the cooling, calming colours and energies of the Water element to balance and disperse the negative Fire energies of anger.

Whatever psychological pattern of anger she is carrying, and it sounds like she is a classic "rageaholic" - it is important not to take it on as something that has anything to do with you. She is addicted to anger-adrenaline, so it is unlikely that she "hates" you personally – she is obviously hypersensitive to criticism, holds severe self-judgement and being desperately uncomfortable with herself, she projects this outwards randomly in every direction. Ultimately, metaphysically, we are all connected, so there is always something to learn from the behaviour-patterns and "stories" that people are acting out in our sphere of influence. That is one level of looking at the situation.

The Great Goddess Talisman for Dissolving Anger & Rage

On a practical level, we can charge a Talisman with an energy pattern that generates a powerful field of anger-neutralising energy. Find a little bottle that you can (unobtrusively) leave out on your desk, or even, if it is small enough, wear it inconspicuously round your neck so it rests not far from your heart, suitably secured with leather thonging or good quality gold cord. The intent is that you are going to dissolve her angry energy with compassion, with loving-kindness, symbolised by water coloured with laundry-blue. (This is an old Mediterranean protection against negative spiritual/psychic energies, but substituting the old toxic copper sulphate colour). You will also need a small perfume bottle for your Anointing Oil.

On your Workbench/Altar of "kitchen witchery", light a special blue-green candle to represent the divine Light of the Goddess empowering the Spell. On a small piece of fine white paper (onion-skin stationery works well), draw a "winged heart" and inside it write the woman's initials or a symbol you receive intuitively that represents her finding her true individual power. Take a small attractive clear bottle that can be sealed tightly, and place the paper inside. Almost fill the bottle with a strong solution of laundry blue, adding in 3 drops each of the following essential oils: Rose Otto, Sandalwood and Myrtle. Also make up an Anointing Oil for yourself with the essential oil blend in a base of cold-pressed almond oil (add a capsule of Vitamin E oil as a preservative). Place the sealed bottle and the gold cord (optional), plus the Anointing Oil near the candle, which will be the "battery" for charging the Talisman with the power of the Great Goddess.

Take your time doing this, visualising the woman's angry energies dissolving into well-being, freeing her true heart-essence. Summoning strong images of divine female power, call on the Goddess to preside over this work, especially the Venusian manifestations of the Great Goddess, such as Inanna, Ishtar, Astarte, Aphrodite or Hathor - the divine feminine qualities of spiritual graciousness, largesse and generosity of spirit, tolerance and acceptance, well-being and peace. This all has to come through you, remember, so this Spellcraft also empowers you in this situation. Feel these energies flowing into your whole being, feeling them grounding down into your body, hold your hands over the charging-candle, Talisman-Bottle and Oil, feeling the power building and pouring out in ecstatic waves. When you feel it "turning inwards" clap out the candle, letting go of the spellcraft and releasing it into the Talisman and Oil, allowing any excess energy to go into the earth, with love and thanks to the Goddess and the Helping Spirits of the Healing Blue Water, the Candle, and the Rose, Sandalwood, Myrtle and Almond, the Unknown Helpers, and most of all, thank this woman for the gift of this Initiatory Healing Work, because we are, none of us, separate from anything in this great Oneness...

Conduct this Talisman-charging ritual over the three consecutive nights leading up to the Full Moon, working in the same time-period each night. Anoint your third eye, heart and solar plexus before going to work, and also use as a powerful healing perfume as needed. Blessed Be.

WEATHERWORKING

While I do enjoy lightning storms (they are good windows of power to work magick through) it has been frustrating, as I have to stop working on the computer. My "one-hit-wonder" surge protector has already taken its one surge, so now it is just a power board. I used to be cavalier about such things, but not taking any chances these days, I just turn off and unplug everything once the loud thunder and constant flashing starts up!

Magickally, any kind of storm is a very potent vehicle for "Blessing, Healing and Clearing" - for working changes, clearing obstruction, distortion, negativity or disease on any level. We've been having a few of late, which has been merciful relief for the disgusting humid heat. This is Nature's alchemical crucible for concentrating, burning up and converting the build up of toxins in Bodymind, House and Land.

Weatherworking with the Great Rite

(Published in WitchCraft Magazine, Dear Zeena as "Drought-breaker")

Leading up to any Weatherworking Rite, various forms of fasting can be employed to build up a head of concentrated power. Fasting is effective because it draws on the mental energy of being constantly reminded of the purpose of the fast. For a specified time you can fast from food, from speaking (except about the practical aspects of the Rite itself) from habits like radio-listening and T.V.-watching. Fasting from sex for an extended period of time is the most powerful, especially if you plan to use the Great Rite to "turbo-charge" the Weatherworking Rite, either in private immediately after the ritual, or orgiastically as a group, if appropriate. The orgy option requires the ability of the lead-ritualist to direct this power (which is awesome) into the goal without usurping any of it to bloat their ego, as so often happens in the modern context.

Weather forces constitute the fertility-power in its most primal form. To the practitioners of the Old Religion, the fertility of the Land and people were the same thing. One ancient method of magickal religion was that of a Great Rite between a chosen priestess of a sacred Sisterhood and a priest chosen from a sacred Brotherhood. At the appointed time, their respective magickal orders would channel all their power and concentration into the couple for the intended purpose, the entire Sisterhood identified with the Priestess, and the entire Brotherhood identified with the Priest. The result must have been atomic!

For those feeling wistful that such days are gone, if you have some ability to astrally travel the Innerplanes, you may be able to reach the place I call the "Ninth Sabbat", where you can participate in the eternal orgiastic revels atop the Midnight Sabbat Mountain. It is absolutely seething with the fertility of the natural world, an inexhaustible source of power. For those who seek the Great Rite workings of the Sacred Sisterhoods and Brotherhoods, the Ninth Sabbat also seems to be a meeting point for many orders of ancestral Witch-Clan initiates, the Innerplanes teachers of all who tread the Path.

Outline of a Weatherworking Rite

Cast your Circle in the usual way. To the accompaniment of rippling harp music, Water-Priest/esses bring large, half-filled water jugs and vases, one in each hand. Walking deosil, slowly and rhythmically, in a dreamy trance, they pour the water from one vessel to the other. This is an ancient Creation metaphor for the semen-waters of the Sky-God mingling with the womb-waters of the Ocean Goddess. In this way the Water is charged and magnetised with the desire to become Rain. It is the Water that reflects, invites and calls down the Life-Fire to descend on the thundering wings of stormy Air, to impregnate the Earth with Lightning and Rain.

The Fire Priest/esses are the Light-bearers. They walk the circle briskly widdershins (clockwise), holding torches, lanterns or candles high to shine the quickening light of the Universe – the Fire of Stars, Sun and Moon – into the magnetised Water as they

pass the Water Priest/esses going the opposite way. The light in the Cauldron at the Circle's centre represents the fertility of the Earth awakened.

Air Priest/esses, inside the dynamo of the two circles, are the chanters, using wordless sound, spontaneous words, raising energy through breathing together, or keeping up a round of the following:

Weatherworking Chants:

"Fire of Stars, Moon and Sun; Rivers of Ocean, water's birth; Winds of Air, weather is come; Veils of Rain on fields of Earth!"

"I call the blood and all it stains, To blacken the heavens in witchcraft's name, To raise the wind and bell the dame, And bring the rain, and bring the rain!"

Earth Priest/esses dance close around the Cauldron, rhythmically pulling the collective energy, dancing it down into the Earth and grounding it strongly. It is the Earth Priest/esses who will judge when the spellcraft energy has thickened, and it is they who will quicken and conclude the Rite by "calling the drop". This is where everyone should get sprinkled with the sacred water to simulate rain. A feast of food to welcome the coming rain is now in order. Alternately, everybody rushes home for the erotic feast:

Rain-Feast - The Great Rite

The Great Rite represents the union of the God and Goddess which creates the Universe. It is Sex Magick dedicated to the bringing of divine blessing into the world. Meditate on the moment of conception, the point where the divine enters time and space and pure potential becomes matter. Whether you are working the Great Rite solo or partnered, see and feel the impregnation and conception of rain, as the God and the Goddess co-join through you, in the passionate friction of lightning and thunder, erupting in the orgasmic flood of ecstasy, the lush wetness of the Earth Goddess joining with the torrential outpouring of the Sky God.

Enjoy the Rain-Feast! Blessed Be.