

# The Witch's Brew

## Vol. 3 Issue 4

*Celebrating Two Years This Issue  
with 51,000 in circulation*

**Intro to Egyptian Magic, Part 2**

**Lithuanian Folk Medicine**

**Fellowship of Isis**

**Moloch Musings**

**Rabbit Tobacco**

**Plus More,,,,**

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## October , November , December 2015

If there is an event we need to attend and potentially cover, please let us know. Each issue is made up of information from the pagan community and attempts to be totally non biased based on tradition. Every effort is made to make sure all traditions is represented, with emphasis on the word TRADITION...

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# THE WITCHES

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## Intro to Egyptian Magic (The Kemetic Tradition) Part 2

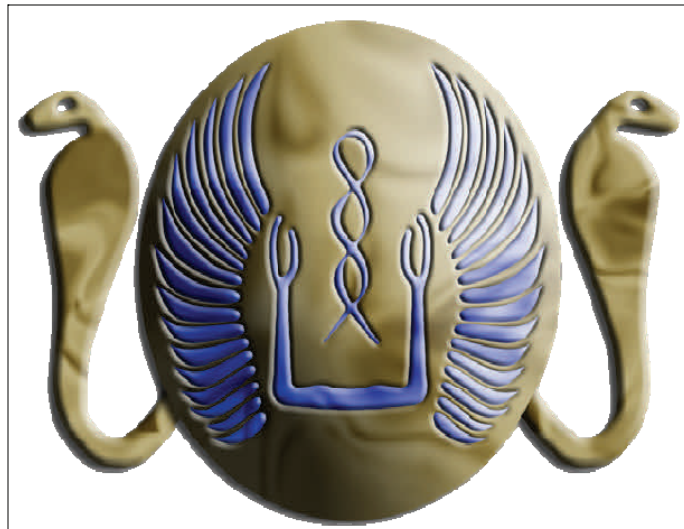
In Part One of this series on Egyptian Magic (The Kemetic Tradition) we discussed the parts of the soul and how the body/soul is seen by the ancient Egyptians.

In the Kemetic tradition it is believed the soul had three parts, the *ka*, the *ba*, and the *akh*. The *ka* and *ba* were spiritual entities that everyone possessed, but the *akh* was an entity reserved for only the select few that were deserving of *maat kheru*. “The living had a duty to help those who had gone before them, and to those who would come after, by building and maintaining tombs. Tombs were the interface between time and eternity.” This belief also included the preservation of the deceased body and name.

The Maat Kheru belonged to Maat. Maat, the goddess of Truth, Justice and Balance who took the form of an ostrich feather. The final trial of the deceased would be to have his heart weighed against the feather of Maat. If the person had led a good and decent life, his heart would be in balance and he would pass into the Afterlife. But if the weight of his heart did not balance with Maat, a God and monster called Ammit, The eater of souls consumed his heart / soul. The heart was identified as “the seat of intelligence and moral judgement, as well as of emotions. The term Maat Kheru is identified with the party at the end of a civil trial that would be declared innocent and true, or ‘true of voice’ or ‘justified’



We also discussed Heka (magic) in the last issue and how this concept had a place in both creation and the afterlife. Heka being Magic and all things natural and supernatural.



In this issue we will take an in-depth look into this concept and Deity. For to understand Egyptian Magic we must first understand creation, the concept of how things work, as well as the named forces.

The concept of creation was performed using or by Heka. Heka being associated with higher cosmic thought and being or the awakening of a higher self. In the creation Myth, self-engendered Atum created all things, but when we look further, we can see that Heka was also present. It is stated “To me belonged the Universe before You Gods had come into being. You have come afterwards because I am Heka” Coffin Texts – spell 261 (First Interm. Period to Middle Kingdom) and from The New Kingdom Book of the Dead, ‘I am one with Atum when he still floated alone in Nun, the waters of chaos, before any of His strength had gone into creating the cosmos. I am Atum at His most inexhaustible – the potency and potential of all that is to be. This is my magic protection and it’s older and greater than all the Gods together’

Thus when we think of the creation myth, Atum was not first but one of the first conscious beings or concepts. Heka – as the creational force and divine essence – existed prior to creation. We can look at Heka as the universal force of the Big Bang. The force or expression (magic) behind the emergence of the first god from the primordial waters and the creation of the others from this first created divine essence and also the force that sustained all Creation.

Heka seen as a deity wasn't a focus for private devotion, but the Magic of all things, working in hand with Ma'at, the cosmic order of all things.

Heka became translated as meaning 'magic', but it is a concept that is so much more, another translation for heka is 'Art of the Mouth', although a better meaning could be 'magical/meaningful speech'. Another word for magical powers was 'akhu', this is sometimes translated as meaning 'enchantments, sorcery or spells'. Although deities and stars could utilize the akhu power, it was particularly associated with the blessed dead.

This deity, Heka had no cult center and no major temples were built in his honor. However, there was dedicated priesthood to him and also shrines built for him all over Lower Egypt.

All the deities (Netjer), supernatural beings, and people of ancient Egypt had their own heka, it was an intrinsic part of their very nature, as much as their bodies and names. Just as the Netjer (Deities) had heka, so did the forces of chaos, such as the great serpent Apep (Apophis) who existed in the watery abyss called Nun and sometimes plagued all with his venom. Egyptian kings and the temple priests and priestesses automatically had heka. The more evolved or higher level a priest or priestess, the more Heka they possessed. The dead are also credited with a certain degree of heka. Tehuty (Thoth) is said to have the most heka of all the Netjer.

The true understanding of heka allowed the Priest/Magician to 'perform magic', the more heka you possessed, the greater the ability to do magic. Because written words had heka, owning books or scrolls and reading them gave you more heka. Hieroglyphs were known as the 'divine words' and the creation of writing was credited to Tehuty (Thoth).

There are several myths about the 42 secret books written by Thoth, which as supposed to outline laws, magic spells, astrology, cosmology, geography and medicine. It is these secret books that gave the people the secrets of the universe.



In this part we will look at the God of Magic, Thoth and his service and part in our magic and creation and others, thus we can see how magic works in all things, making us more prepared to use it for our own goals..

Thoth was the god of the moon, magic, knowledge, and writing. It was he who overcame the curse of Ra, allowing Nut to give birth to her five children, thus allowing the

rest of creation of mankind. It was he who helped Isis work the ritual to bring Osiris back from the dead, and who drove the magical poison of Set from her son, Horus with the power of his magic (Heka). It is Thoth who is credited as the great mind behind creation, although the concept of Heka is what moves him.

Thoth is one of the most complex Egyptian deities and a key element in understanding Egyptian magic. According to one belief it was Thoth who brought the idea of creation into existence by uttering (spoken word) the thoughts of the creator, Ptah (serving as God of Craftsmen and architects) then put those spoken words into effect.

The ancients considered Thoth to be the mind behind cosmic order, the architect of the universe. Thoth was the principal deity of the city of Hermopolis (the City of Hermes) or Khemnu (its ancient name). The temple of Hermopolis house's fragments of the cosmic egg that Thoth himself as the divine Ibis, hatched on the Island of creation, from the egg the first sun had risen.

Thoth's association with the creation also extends to the divine birth of the pharaohs themselves. Thoth lead Amun the king of gods to the bedchamber of the waiting queen.

**Cont. Page 4**



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## Egyptian magic Continued...

Thoth was not only associated with the creation of the physical world, as the originator of the written word in the form of hieroglyphs, he is also credited with the authorship of The Book of the Dead (The Book of Am Tuat).

The Book of the dead is a book of spells, prayers and rituals that would assist the dead on their journey to the afterlife. According to Egyptian understanding the deceased person would be judged by a panel of 42 assessors of the dead, which corresponded with the 42 administrative areas that Egypt was divided into. From this originates the legend of the 42 Books of Thoth.

Egyptian magical thinking spread throughout Europe. Thoth, god of wisdom and learning, was identified with the Greek Hermes Trismegistus. He was thought by the Hermetists to have originated the Hermetica, 42 books of magic. The Hebrew shunned it because it took emphasis off their one God theory, that also evolved from Egypt.

It was knowing the composition of the body in the physical and spiritual world and the deities by speaking with them through the spirit and acquiring knowledge about one's surroundings - above all the hidden parts of them - and gaining control over them that magic (heka) is performed. Gods, demons and the dead could be implored, cajoled or threatened by the most powerful. Their help could be enlisted to avert evil or achieve one's desires.



While its effectiveness of magic in the hands of mortal—common practitioners is often less than had been hoped for, magic attracted people because it made sense. Everything had a reason, often hidden to the ordinary person, but revealed to the knowledgeable.

Egyptian Magic explains the relationships between causes and effects using ideas people can relate to. Analogies and symbolisms are used, the sympathetic principle of like affecting like is invoked, associations, be they pure coincidence, are imbued with meaning, and historic occurrences became predictors for the future. There is prescribed ways for explaining why expected results had not materialized, all based on deity and spirit magnetism and will.

Magical knowledge and power emanated from the gods and was bestowed upon their servants, the kings and priests.

*“Utterance of all the gods, [to] Amon-Re: “This thy daughter [Hatshepsut], who liveth, we are satisfied with her in life and peace. She is now thy daughter of thy form, whom thou hast begotten, prepared. Thou hast given to her thy soul, thy [...], thy [bounty], the magic powers of the diadem..... (The coronation of Hatshepsut, 18th dynasty. Breasted Ancient Records of Egypt Part 2, § 220. “Come in the palace, and the excellent deeds of thy ka's that thou mayest assume thy royal dignity, glorious in thy magic, mighty in thy strength. (Thutmose I, summoning his daughter to be crowned, 18th dynasty Breasted Ancient Records of Egypt Part 2, § 235.*

Sometimes spells fell into the wrong hands. Anybody capable of reading could use them, and, at times, some did so with evil intentions. Thus it was and still is very important in screening the initiate.

Most Traditional Kemetic reconstructionalists are initiatory paths and taught by a priest or high priestess. A lineage within this tradition is very important and generally can be traced generations. It is a very difficult path to enter, but one of the most powerful and rewarding. For more on this traditional path

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# Moon Phases 2015

| New Moon                             | First Quarter                        | Full Moon                            | Last Quarter                        |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
|                                      |                                      | <u>5 January 2015</u><br>04:54:29    | <u>13 January 2015</u><br>09:47:44  |
| <u>20 January 2015</u><br>13:14:49   | <u>27 January 2015</u><br>04:49:30   | <u>3 February 2015</u><br>23:10:13   | <u>12 February 2015</u><br>03:51:11 |
| <u>18 February 2015</u><br>23:48:21  | <u>25 February 2015</u><br>17:15:09  | <u>5 March 2015</u><br>18:06:40      | <u>13 March 2015</u><br>17:49:13    |
| <u>20 March 2015</u><br>09:37:18     | <u>27 March 2015</u><br>07:43:48     | <u>4 April 2015</u><br>12:06:52      | <u>12 April 2015</u><br>03:45:38    |
| <u>18 April 2015</u><br>18:57:59     | <u>25 April 2015</u><br>23:56:25     | <u>4 May 2015</u><br>03:43:23        | <u>11 May 2015</u><br>10:37:18      |
| <u>18 May 2015</u><br>04:14:19       | <u>25 May 2015</u><br>17:20:10       | <u>2 June 2015</u><br>16:20:13       | <u>9 June 2015</u><br>15:42:54      |
| <u>16 June 2015</u><br>14:06:27      | <u>24 June 2015</u><br>11:03:47      | <u>2 July 2015</u><br>02:20:45       | <u>8 July 2015</u><br>20:25:01      |
| <u>16 July 2015</u><br>01:25:33      | <u>24 July 2015</u><br>04:05:11      | <u>31 July 2015</u><br>10:44:03      | <u>7 August 2015</u><br>02:03:50    |
| <u>14 August 2015</u><br>14:54:40    | <u>22 August 2015</u><br>19:32:16    | <u>29 August 2015</u><br>18:36:17    | <u>5 September 2015</u><br>09:55:19 |
| <u>13 September 2015</u><br>06:42:35 | <u>21 September 2015</u><br>09:00:18 | <u>28 September 2015</u><br>02:51:37 | <u>4 October 2015</u><br>21:07:15   |
| <u>13 October 2015</u><br>00:07:02   | <u>20 October 2015</u><br>20:32:30   | <u>27 October 2015</u><br>12:06:15   | <u>3 November 2015</u><br>12:24:59  |
| <u>11 November 2015</u><br>17:48:21  | <u>19 November 2015</u><br>06:28:33  | <u>25 November 2015</u><br>22:45:18  | <u>3 December 2015</u><br>07:41:35  |
| <u>11 December 2015</u><br>10:30:30  | <u>18 December 2015</u><br>15:15:27  | <u>25 December 2015</u><br>11:12:31  |                                     |



Traditional cultures linked what happened in the sky to circumstances on Earth. The king represented the land in Mesopotamian culture, the people viewed a lunar eclipse as an assault on their king. So in anticipation of an eclipse, they would install a surrogate king intended to bear the brunt of any attack.

The person declared to be king would be someone expendable. Though the substitute wasn't really in charge, he would be treated well during the eclipse period, while the actual king masqueraded as an ordinary citizen. Once the eclipse passed, the surrogate king generally disappeared, never to be seen or heard of again. Most suspect he was murdered and his body well disposed of to avoid any ill effects that might have lingered from the moon event.

## The Fellowship of Isis

by Linda Iles

### I. History

Olivia Robertson wrote "The Fellowship of Isis was founded on the exact occurrence of the Vernal Equinox, 1976."

In the years leading up to the founding of the Fellowship of Isis previous the three co-founders, Olivia Robertson, her brother Lawrence Durdin-Robertson and his wife Pamela had worked together in the "Huntington Castle Centre for Meditation and Study" which they founded in 1963. They received psychics, mystics, occultists and theologians, to host a series of salons and presentations at the castle. Their featured guests included Robert Graves, a cousin of the Durdin-Robertson family, Ross Nichols (Nuinn) who later founded the OBOD, Gerald Gough, Josephine and Mohun Lall.

As time passed the three FOI co-founders decided it was time to create a Goddess-based organization. Their aim was to spread the Religion of the Goddess throughout the world. Another founding premise was to create an organization, which promotes the ideals of Love, Truth, Beauty and Abundance. The Fellowship of Isis has as its Divine Patroness, Isis of Ten Thousand Names, Who is Mother of all beings. When the Fellowship of Isis was founded, It was the wish of FOI Co-Founder Lawrence Durdin-Robertson that the castle be referred to in FOI matters as Clonegal Castle. It is located in Enniscorthy, Ireland.



Clonegal Castle, photo by Olivia Robinson

Through recognition of Her Divine Spark in all creatures, the Fellowship reveres all forms of life. The Manifesto of the Fellowship sets out the specific aims. Once it was founded, the Fellowship of Isis has been a forerunner in the international awakening and renewal of the Goddess awareness.

Olivia often referred to the Fellowship of Isis as "The Rainbow Network". The FOI consists of a series of centers (Iseums, Lyceums, Groves, Pories) that have autonomy. Olivia wrote that neither she or her brother claimed to be head of the Fellowship of Isis, even though they were the Co-Founders. She wrote: "The Goddess Isis alone is Head of Her Fellowship. Within Her Organization ... all members will still have equal privileges. Membership will continue to be free. F.O.I. is not a Patriarchal Hierarchy, so no member can have spiritual authority over another. Iseums, Lyceums, Groves and Pories will remain on equal footing. Titles describe work undertaken, and are not a badge of authority over people or beliefs." (The Handbook of the Fellowship of Isis, 1995)

Although the Fellowship is dedicated to spreading the religion of all the Goddesses throughout this planet, the Gods are also venerated, which provides balance. The magical name ISIS. represents all Goddesses just as OSIRIS represents all Gods. The Fellowship of Isis is a multi-racial, multi-cultural and multi-religious organization. The Goddess is seen as the Divine Mother of all beings, as well as the embodiment of Wisdom, Beauty, Truth and Compassion. Hindus, Buddhists, Christians and Spiritualists have joined. From the many countries of Western Europe to Nigeria, from Japan, Bali, New Zealand and Australia, followers of the various esoteric traditions have become members, including practitioners of Wicca, Qabalah, Rosicrucianism, Celtic Mysteries and the Zen, Sufi and Tao paths.

The Fellowship of Isis provides a means of communion between the Goddess and each individual member, whether they work as solitaires or in of an FOI center, all are joined in the ever-expanding process of spiritual awareness. The membership includes over twenty thousand members in ninety-eight countries, who blend their personal beliefs and rites with those offered by the Fellowship of Isis.

### II. The First Rituals

#### The Temple of Dana, 1963 – 1995 (Old Abbey Ruins)

Ross Nichols, founder of the Order of Bards, Ovates and Druids (OBOD), initiated Lawrence, Pamela and Olivia during the 1960's at Clonegal Castle. In 1963, Olivia and Lawrence founded their own Druid grove, which they named the Grove of Eithne. They held druidic rituals in the ruins of the Old Abbey with Ross Nichols.

**Continued Page 19**

## **Lithuanian Folk Medicine by Rita Balkute, translated by Giedre Ambrozaitiene, edited by Prudence Priest**

Folk medicine is a part of Lithuanian traditional culture. It contains information not only about illnesses, but also methods of healing, how to avoid illness, protect health, heal wounds and patient care. Much attention is paid to pregnant women, birthing aids and newborn care.

Folk medicine contains much information about normal body changes, maturity, old age, pregnancy, body anatomy, physiology. Here we will find botanical, pharmacological and mineralogy information.

### **HEALTH, ILLNESS CONCEPT**

Investigators of ancient Baltic culture think that Lithuanians understood health to be the second part of the soul. However, in cases of shock and sudden agitation it could leave the body. The soul flies out while yawning or sneezing. Information suppliers also state that a healthy person can become ill when frightened and very agitated. Tradition remains when a person sneezes, one says 'to your health.' It is said that if the groom sneezes during the wedding ceremony and no one says 'to your health,' the devil will take away the groom's health. According to A. J. Greimas, when a person sneezes, his soul flies out from his lungs and the soul can be held back by reminiscing her name and essence. Health is synonymous to life.

Lithuanian ancestors tried to explain what is illness, its causes. They knew how to avoid illnesses and how to foretell the possibility of illness. Folk medicine information discerns illnesses as malfunctioning of internal organs, contagious, hereditary and even due to influences of people and events.

Some illnesses were caused by water, earth, worms found in the body, from fleas, snakes, frogs or birds who had gotten into the body. It was believed that a person became ill after killing a snake. A snake can enter the body through the mouth while the person is asleep and make him ill. Fleas found on the body will make the person waste away. There is also a belief from ancient times that a person has a headache because his combed out and cut hair is thrown out and is collected by birds that build nests with that hair.

Cosmic and atmospheric occurrences were held as sources of illnesses. It was believed that man can become ill from moonlight and that solar and lunar eclipses are injurious to health due to fallout of dangerous mists. Man sleeping under the light of the moon would sleepwalk, climb over fences and even roofs. It was forbidden to awaken a sleepwalker, call to him, for when awakened he could fall and be killed. To keep moonlight out of children's rooms, a doll was placed in the window.

**Continued on Page 8**



**Dalia : Lithuanian Goddess of Fate**



Prudence Priest, Prudence is HPS (for over 40 years) of Amaranth Energies, CEO of Freya's Folk and the California Utlandr Alliance (since mid-80s), current board member of the American Vinland Association, Ambassadors of Romuva in the USA, Member of the European Congress of Ethnic Religions, Elder in Covenant of the Goddess and

The Ring of Troth, Soror Glynda in the OTO and translator of "Demonographia", member of the Rune Gild, to mention only a few, Involved in the Pagan Movements for near 50 years

The belief that wind brings illness remains throughout the country. A vortex can be responsible for very serious and varied illnesses, to people and animals as well. This wind causes dizziness and paralysis.

Skin problems come from other causes. It was thought that carbuncles were caused by dog scratches and herpes occurred when crossing fields where horses rolled. Pimples appear from spring water florescence, thus one avoided washing in it.

Ancient beliefs show that God was responsible for sending illnesses to earth. This was done so that people would not fear Death. Man is first visited by illness, and then he is taken by Death. Illness was given the image of a supernatural woman. Before the plague of Black Death, beings walking about resembled women, bareheaded with narrow eyes, dressed all in white.

They were seen near people's doors, breaking windows appeared in dreams calling people by their names. Those who answered their calls, died instantly.

Illnesses were visualized as driving around in wagons, chariots and troughs. Evil spirits turned into dogs, bats, and were causes of illness in people, frightening and stealing from them. They ambushed by hiding in trees, soil and water. Evil souls, who took up residence in man's body, were the cause of pneumonia, tuberculosis, heart problems, Black Death and cholera. By kissing people at night, they would make them ill.

The sources of most illnesses were varied, sorcery practices, giving and leaving bewitched foods, tying grain with bewitched knots. Different pains start when witches send shots into the body. Witches disturbed children's sleep, and also made them ill, frightening them and casting evil eyes. Evil eyes were also injurious to adult health. It was deleterious to step over a person, especially a child, for then he would not grow and would not be well.

### **DISTRIBUTION AND DETERMINATION OF ILLNESSES**

Folk doctors grouped illnesses according to age and sex of the sick, and also to the nature of the disease. Lithuanian folk medicine researchers offer the following groupings to traditional doctors:

Internal - pneumonia, nephritis, cancer, tuberculosis;  
Contagious - jaundice, diphtheria, dysentery, smallpox, typhus;

Children's - scarlet fever, measles;

Surgical - hernia, fractures, dislocations;

Psychic - hysteria, epilepsy;

Skin - warts, herpes.

There remains information about ear and eye illnesses as well as dental care and problems.

Information presenters do not differentiate various illnesses. They say

people have problems with the heart, nerves, fright, inflammations, and chills. People also produce medications to strengthen the heart, ease sharp pains, female illnesses, and for many others. Materials with medicinal

properties were used to lower fevers and sweat, increase gallbladder secretions, slow bleeding and diarrhea, stop coughing, quiet nerves, and increase appetite.

Lithuanians knew how to heal snake and mad dog bites. Lithuanian women were not indifferent to body beauty. Every woman knew about face and hair care, how to remove freckles, acne, whiten skin and heal skin redness. Folk medicine offers advice on how to tone skin and prevent wrinkles.

Not much information remains about diagnosing illnesses; however it is apparent that the ill person's state of body and health was much discussed, he was looked over, groped and sniffed about. Different illnesses were mentioned near the sick person, hoping that upon hearing the name of the illness he will flinch, thus the illness will be defined. Urine tests were also performed to help diagnose illness.

It was believed that if a woman dreams of a man caressing and kissing her, it means that she will be caressed by illness. Seeing two moons in a dream meant not only illness but also death. If one heard an owl hooting nearby, or a dog howling, both sounds forecast illness. Should a clucking hen be heard, cuckoo bird in a dry tree, a bird hitting a window, all these announce illness or death.

### **DOCTORS & HEALERS**

There are many folklore tales how God healed people. In Lithuanian folk traditions, healing was the duty and right of family elders. All healing information was handed down orally from generation

To generation. Members of the household or relatives most often took care of the ill person. Only when one's own people did not help then one turned for help from herbalists, charmers, and sorcerers. Broken bones were set by bone specialists. Birthing was helped by old women. Significant healing methods and charming were always kept secret and were used on carefully selected people, taking into account their moral and physical characteristics, and their ability. A portion of folk medicine information was known and accessible to many society members.

From ancient times, women treated ill people. Women were familiar with many herbs, and also knew how to cast lots. Men were charmers, they bled and more often healed dislocated, broken bones and also treated sick animals.

## CURES

A large part of Lithuanian folk medicine consists of information about healing methods. Folk medicine researchers think that Lithuanians knew more than 200 mineral, 500 animal materials, 150 lower and 2000 higher plant raw materials. Illnesses were treated with yeast, mushrooms, lichens, mosses and lycopodiums.

The most common method in folk medicine healing is using medicinal plants. This method has been in use for centuries. It is said that there is no plant that cannot be used medicinally, because God has

given healing properties, making a healer of each plant. Lithuanians had ancient names for most plants and knew which plants to use for particular healings, body work, and home hygiene. It was also well established which parts to use, when to pick, how to prepare, use, and in what quantities.

There were warnings that medicinal plants can cause poisonings. Herbal grasses were collected before noon, for they sleep in the afternoon and their medicinal activity is lower then. Buds were picked very early in spring, before they opened. Plants were collected into baskets, placed in single layers to dry in clean, dry, and airy attics. Roots were washed; thick ones were cut up to speed their drying. Dried herbs were placed into linen bags and hung in dry, well-ventilated places. Medicinal plants were collected according to their healing properties and used for teas and cordials. There is a famous magical three nines alcoholic herbal extract used in Lithuanian folk medicine. Ointments were made mixing finely crushed herbs and roots with unsalted animal fats and butter, honey, oils, and other materials.

Herbal remedies were drunk 2-3 times per day, on an empty stomach, at bedtime when all is quiet. Fresh herbs were placed directly on the painful spot. The patient was incensed with herbs and was bathed in herbal infusions. Illness had to be removed not only from the inside but also from the outside by washing away. Those suffering from head, joint or rheumatic pains slept on mattresses stuffed with healing herbs. Garlic and horses' shanks were worn around the neck to protect from contagious illnesses

Analogous plants were used because their color, shape, or odor reminded of the particular illness. Blueberries that reminded eye color, were used for blue eye problems. For jaundice, plants of yellow color were used, carrots, greater celandine, and dandelion. Beans resembling kidneys were used for kidney problems.



**BURTININKAS ( Lithuanian Witch ) making her potion to heal while familiar bless it. And ward away the spirits of death.**

**Continued Page 10**

For hemorrhages, yarrow was placed directly on the wound. A comfrey infusion was drunk for broken bones. Periwinkle was used to increase men's strength.

Animal source drugs, gall, milk, blood, urine, egg shells, ground insects, reptiles and mineral source drugs, stone, rust, salt, metals, chalk were used for healing. Honey and its by-products, bee resins, bee's milk,

pollen, and bee stings were widely applied. Another healing product was dried snake, soaked in alcohol. Liver ailments were soothed using animal gall, for lung ailments dog and badger fats were used. Milk from goats, sheep, and mares, and calf's liver were taken to strengthen asthenia. Often to treat certain illnesses, animal urine and dung were used. Others would use dried bees soaked in water. To heal from diphtheria a cooked toad was drunk. Sufferers from rheumatic pains either were washed in anthill water or were laid upon an anthill. Separate illnesses were treated with grease from rabbits, badgers and geese. Fresh and oxidized bacon was also used. If after a severe chill there was chest pain, a cloth soaked in salt water or cabbage leaves covered with butter were placed on the chest.

Clay, sand, mud, earth, and ashes were the mineral healing products.

Often areas that hurt were rubbed with stones, stone slivers, and with flint. For headaches the head was rubbed with iron. Open sores in the head were washed with alum or lead water. Silver and mercury protected from spell castings.

Water played an important role in Lithuanian folk medicine. Spring water, window dew, water from a hole in a stone, and charmed water were considered healers. Also getting soaked by the first rain in May, meant good growth for hair and for children.

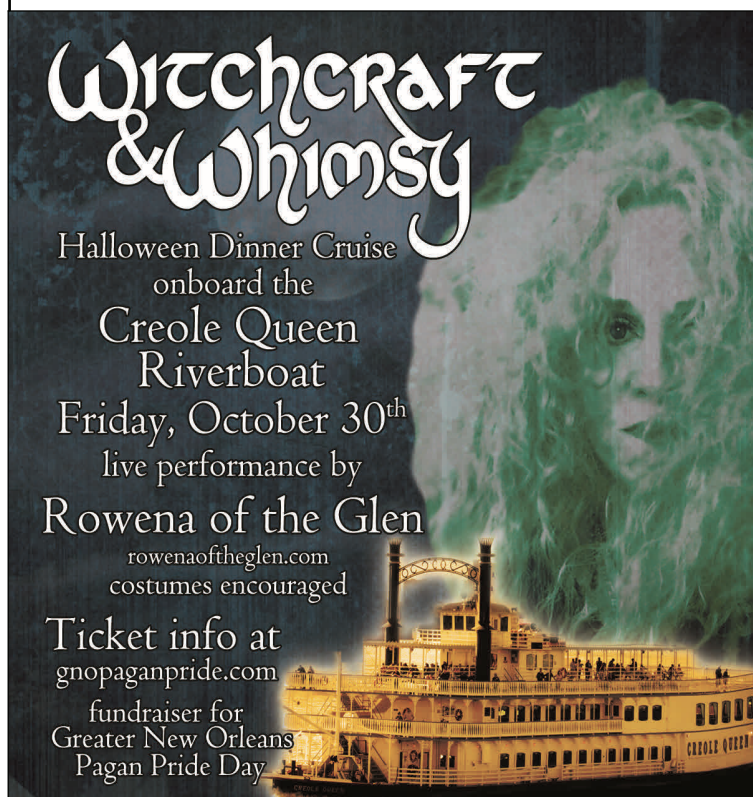
A very popular folk medicine healing place was the bathhouse [pirtis] where the seriously ill were steamed, bled, massaged, and whipped with brush wood or birch bark. Women also gave birth in bathhouses. Leeches and glass cups were placed on sore spots. Other healing methods were also used. When chilled, a hot brick was placed near the feet; feet were also soaked in salted and ashen hot water. When one ran a high fever, ice was placed near the head.

Fire also played an important role in many healings. Rickets were healed by the sun. A person with scabies was put in a hot oven. Holy candles had magic and healing powers.

Surgical and mechanical methods were applied for fractures, sprains, and carbuncles. Bleeding

would be done by placing leeches or slashing veins. Often several healing methods were used at the same time.

A separate healing group is made up of casting lots, charming, holy places, and plants with magical powers. Illness was chased out in many ways. It was considered as a being, inside or near the body. To remove it one brushed the body or wore smelly garlic to keep the illness away. If frightened by a dog, the fright can be removed by a dog's bark. A person with high fever was driven about in an empty wagon, so that the fever would be shaken out. Illness could be washed away by bathing at sunrise and sunset on Holy Thursday, Easter Sunday or St. John's Day. It was believed that illness can rot and burn; it can be vomited out. Illness was chased away to dry trees, to vacant houses and into bogs. Illness could also be sucked out. Often mothers sucked on ill eyes and spat three times, believing that there would be no more problems.



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fundraiser for  
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Unkempt nails and matted hair were not cut, because it was thought that cutting would cause headaches and blindness. However, nails were broken off with two stones, and hair was burned off with a hot iron.

In healing certain illnesses, the actual cure was effected by belief in opposite results. For example, when preparing medication to stop bleeding, the tree bark was scrapped from bottom to top. To heal constipation the tree was scrapped from top to bottom.

If the wrist was hurting, a piece of red yarn was knotted up to 81 knots, then tied around the wrist and remained on the wrist until it fell off. Sometimes fire and smoke were used to chase away illness. Taking magic birches and nettle stalks, illness was flogged. Healing was done using the dead body's bones, teeth, and fingers. Fingers from a dead body were rubbed on moles, warts, and herpes. It was believed that illness could be left behind at crossroads. From eating a snake, a person obtained the capacity to shed illness just like the snake sheds her skin. Snakes were also used to heal skin problems. It was said that after eating a snake, one's hair, nails, and skin fall off, but after awhile all grow back.

Special powers were given to the wedding sash, which was used to gird the person after a snake bite; also to a mother's wedding band, by placing it on warts, erysipelas, and various body moles; also to shirts worn during birthing, placenta, and the umbilical cord. The latter two were dried and sprinkled on wounds, swellings and, bleedings. In many places to turn away approaching illness was tried by frightening, duping, and deceiving it. It was believed that when there was danger of the Black Death or other plagues, linen fabric spun, warped, wound, and woven in one-day can protect people fr this horror. This linen piece would be laid on the road leading into the village.

Often illness was linked to correct causes. After being frightened by a man or a dog, both their hairs were smoked over the frightened person. It was believed that nerve problems were caused by black evil souls and because of this, healing was accomplished by using black objects, often with a black dog, cat, or black hen.

Magic numbers (3, 7, 9, and 27) were very important in healing illnesses. They had to assure that the illness would not recur and not return. To heal

herpes, the sore spot was encircled three times. Warts were treated with three peas. Those who stammered were tied up for three days in three rounds, containing 27 knots. To heal a terribly frightened person, seven grains were used.

Incantations or charmings, made up a separate active, magic group. A special magic power was given to the particular spoken word. Christianity influenced incantations and many Christian elements are used. Incantations were used to heal frights, erysipelas, snake bites, hemorrhages, joint problems, herpes, toothaches, hiccups, and other ailments.

Different incantations are bound by special rituals. They are practiced at sunrise or sunset, while staring at the sun, or at a full or new moon. Incantations are done over bread, flour, salt, honey, water, whisky, and wine. Special words are spoken while pouring candles or lead into water.

No breath should be taken while the incantation prayer is repeated, usually three or nine times. Paper cards or ears of grain are also used in incantations and such items are either eaten, tied to parts that are sore, water is drunk or used to wash. Scent is released towards the ill person or is blown three times towards him. If the incantation did not help, it was said that the blood of both the charmer and the person charmed did not match or that there was no illness in the person charmed. There is also no help when one does not believe in incantations.

Charmers do not take money for their incantations because this ability is a God's gift to them. They keep their prayers and incantation methods to themselves, so as not to lose their powers. However, the charmer was prepared to pass on his incantation methods on his deathbed, to the youngest or oldest family member.

The ritual places of the ancient religion were known to have healing powers. They were located on castle hills, in ancient settlements, village territories, or in very remote places. The main elements of ancient ritual sites were forests, water, hills and fire.

With the arrival of Christianity, roadside chapels were built on the ancient ritual sites. Tradition still exists to visit these sites and ask for good health. People pray near springs, offer money, and wash painful body parts in the water of the spring. They also pray near trees, hang holy relics on

It was believed that trees are living beings, like people. Huge oaks, lindens, and mountain ashes were worshiped because people believed in their healing powers. In Nibdiai there was a holy pine tree with a branch resembling a hand. Near Āiluva there was another pine tree, with a branch resembling a pipe, whose bark was used to heal various illnesses. Historical sources tell how ill people were put through a hole in a tree formed by two branches, with the belief of total healing. In Nibdiai there grew a notched pear tree, near which people came to heal. In Vāliuva sick children were brought to heal under a tree whose branches had grown into a circle.

Historical sources tell of an ancient oak tree, which grew in East Prussia in the 16th and 17th centuries. Lithuanians came from faraway to heal the physically handicapped, paralysis, bad eyes, hands, and feet. They would climb on ladders, push painful parts of the body into tree openings or they would push the entire body through the tree opening and would walk three times around the oak tree. Each ill person hung an offering on the tree branches.

Women offered their headdress or sashes, and men offered money. Trees with healing powers were found throughout Lithuania. It is noted in Lithuanian folk traditions relate that sterile or ill women tied beautifully embroidered aprons on special trees asking for children and health. Upon the arrival of Christianity, such aprons were tied on wayside crosses.

Trees had other magic powers and everyone was

aware of them. In Lithuania a tradition exists on Palm Sunday to flog each other with osier branches, saying “it is not I who is flogging you, the palm is flogging you, Easter is one week away, be healthy like a fish,” or they would say, “illness out, health in.” There was a tradition of shutting up illness in a tree. People suffering from epilepsy or from many warts, tied many knots on strings, went to the woods, drilled a hole in a large tree, stuffed the knotted string into the hole, and closed the hole with a cork and ran away, not looking back with the hope of getting well.

There were wax statues depicting an ill person or any other part of his body. These statues were sacrificed under trees or in holy places. Even though Catholic priests were against this ancient tradition, they were not able to erase it. They finally allowed these statues to be offered in churches to Jesus and Mary; later they were hung in churches near pictures of saints.

Now Lithuanian folk medicine is researched thoroughly. Since 1992, Lithuanian Folk Culture Center organizes expeditions, which collect, decipher, and systemize all folk medicine information and Elements of folklore are investigated.



## Caldera Pagan Music Festival Accomplishing What Has Never Been Done Before

Twenty Plus Major Pagan Bands In One Place, At One Time! This is the Woodstock of the Pagan Community. That's the official announcement. Let's talk now about what this means, not just to the Pagan community, but to the South East as a whole. Over the past thirty years we have seen huge growth in the Pagan music genre. Talent such as S.J. Tucker, Tuatha Dea, Rowena of the Glen, and Dragon Ritual Drummers are drawing in larger crowds, and are being touted for their influence on the overall music scene.

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**Many of the bands are headliners in their own right.**

**There will be 100 plus Vendors**

**The Talent will be providing many workshops**

While most of the talent has been performing individually, there has never been an opportunity to see them all in one place, at one time. We are proud to be part of this music festival. VIP passes and much more.

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About Right Time, Right Place Productions: Born of one man's vision, this production company was formed by bringing together a group of people who walk the Pagan path. Their interest in music, and in promoting this way of life, have made this festival possible.



# CALDERA FEST

## PAGAN MUSIC FESTIVAL



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### The Tangled Web of Wicca: Through the Eye of a Traditional Wiccan Witch

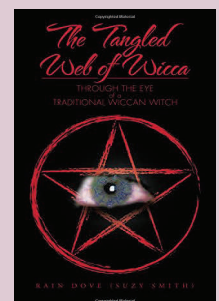
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# Moloch's Musings

www.molochsorcery.com

There comes a time in every sorcerer's life where your back is up against a wall and someone is dangerously pushing your buttons. You have to make a determination in your mind whether to let this transgression pass or to actually do something about it. Naturally the new age thing is to forgive and turn the other cheek however how often can you do such and walk around with bruised cheeks while people look at you thinking you're unable to defend and take care of yourself?

Mind you not all punishment must come at a high cost either. Sometimes all it takes is a prayer to the gods asking for Their intervention. No you're not expecting their hand to reach down from the heavens and literally smack your aggressor (no matter how good that sounds!) rather it is presumed the gods will step in, assess the situation, judge the aggressor and mete punishment as They see fit.

Then of course, you may be an individual of a particularly mean streak (like yours truly) who prefers to handle their own conflicts as they arise. I myself find this more satisfying and frankly these individuals give me a reason to test new cursing potions on. ;)

One nifty potion from the New Orleans sorcery tradition that is well worth while is Devil's Snuff Powder. This is a mild hexing formula that is used to keep people from nosing into your personal business by sprinkling it on your personal effects such as your papers, documents, letters and the like. It's formula is relatively easy to make:



Cinnamon = 1 T  
Red Sandalwood = 1 t  
Chili Powder = 1/4 t

Mix dry and stir well. This is best used as a powder but it can be used as an incense. Just be careful since the chili powder may irritate your eyes and sinuses. You can sprinkle this on your personal effects like your money, bank statements, wallet, bills, etc, wherever someone is getting downright NOSY and we all don't need that!

To amplify the potion's effectiveness, it helps to use a chant and this one I've concocted works quite effectively....

“Balor of the Formorians,  
Your horrid gaze was death,  
Lugh threw his mighty spear,  
And blinded you forever more!  
So to do I cast my spell,  
To blind the eyes of those who meddle in my life!”

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**Balor is the terrible leader of the Fomorians  
of Irish mythology . Still known as " the evil  
eye " ( Balor of the Evil Eye )**

Once you've sprinkled the Devil's Snuff powder on your personal effects, take a pinch of it and blow it to the four corners while saying the above charm and imagine it covering the eyes of those who would nose into your private affairs. See a fog where your life is concerned and those who are not invited in will not be able to penetrate the veil.



Take a purple candle dressed with any sort of power oil such as Commanding, Compelling, Bend Over or even just Power and then you will sprinkle a tiny pinch of the Devil's Snuff powder into the candle's flame - not enough to cause it to go out mind you but enough to just tease the flame a bit. This sends the spell out to the macrocosmic universe to

all points.

I've found this simple ritual to work quite well to keep nosey folks, primarily loved ones out of my personal business without causing them any sort of permanent harm. The formula is a balanced potion that you can use and adjust for the severity of your situation as you see fit.

It should go without saying however remember to wash your hands after using the Devil's Snuff powder since it is both a hexing formula and because of the chili powder - you wouldn't want to get any of it in your eyes by accidentally rubbing your fingers in your eyes. (Been there, done that.)

See you next issue.

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## Balor

Balor comes from the Irish Traditions. (modern spelling: Balar) He was king of the Fomorians, a group of supernatural beings. He is often described as a giant with a large eye in his forehead that casts destruction when opened. He has been interpreted as a god of drought and blight. Balor is said to be the son of Buarainech and husband of Cethlenn.

Balor hears a prophecy that he would be killed by his grandson. To avoid such a horrid fate, he locks his



The Fomorians, as depicted by John Duncan (1912)

only daughter, Ethniu, in a tower on Tory Island to keep her from being with a man and becoming pregnant. Balor steals a magical cow of abundance, the Glas Gaibhnenn, from Goibniu the smith. He takes it to his fortress on Tory Island. Cian, who was charged with guarding the cow for Goibniu, sets out to get it back. He is assisted by the druidess Biróg and the sea god Manannán. Cian enters the tower and finds Ethniu. They have sex, and she gives birth to three sons. Balor attempts to avert the prophecy by drowning the boys in the sea, but one is saved and is raised as a foster-son by Manannán. He grows up to become hero God King Lugh.

Lugh becomes king of the Tuatha Dé Danann. He leads the Tuath Dé in the second Battle of Mag Tuired against the Fomorians. Balor leads the Fomorians in this epic battle.

Ogma (brother of the Dagda, and half brother of Lugh) disarms Balor during this battle, but Balor kills Nuada (Celtic God of War) with his eye. Lugh then kills Balor by casting a sling, or a spear crafted by Goibniu, through his eye.

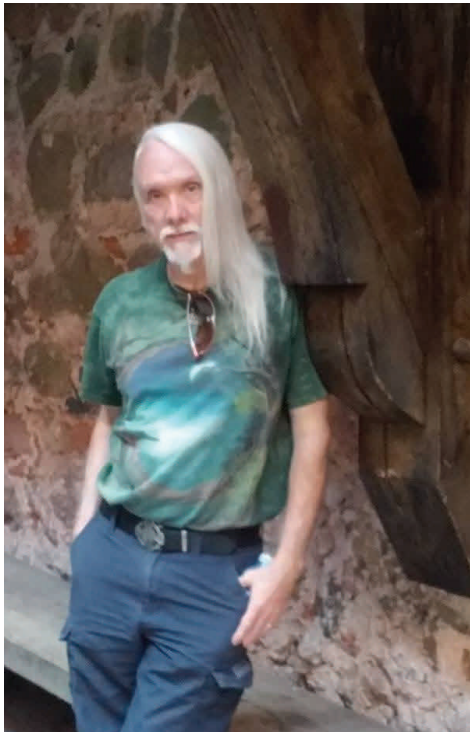
Balor's eye destroys the Fomorian army. Lugh then beheads Balor ending his reign of terror and establishing a new order if the Tuatha De Danann.

## Joe Funderburk, Our Beloved Ember

We have all been there, the tempo of a drum, a nice fire and the spirits soar, then all of a sudden the energy heightens as a new drummer begins calling the spirits. This would be Ember,, when he begins the energy explodes and the spirits dance with joy. Who is this man, an Engineer/Mixer/Producer/ Drummer and musical partner of the critically acclaimed Rowena of the Glen Priest, Ritual Drummer, Servant of the Goddess and Lover of music

Born and raised in Hattiesburg, MS - always loving nature and exploring things which caught his attention, he spent a great deal of time outdoors in the woods and forests of his home... His love of music eventually led him to the desire to help create the sounds of the recordings that he loved. After attending and graduating from Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro, TN with a B.S. in Recording Industry Management (with an audio emphasis), Joe began working in recording studios in Nashville - Music City! Being mentored by two of the finest engineers in that highly competitive town got him off to an excellent start in his chosen career. Coming 'up through the ranks', he was able to be a part of the creative processes of many of the greats of the recording industry - artists the likes of The Judds, Dolly Parton, Emmylou Harris, Rodney Crowell, Ray Charles, Merle Haggard and many more...

Later, as he began engineering on his own, he was in demand with such artists as Gary Stewart, Jerry Reed, Eddy Raven and more. Also, he was fortunate to be called to do 'Location Sound' on three different films - two with the beloved Jim Varney (Earnest P. Worrell) - "Dr Otto and the Riddle of the Gloom Beam" and "Earnest Goes To Camp" and then "The Last Days of Frank and Jesse James" starring Johnny Cash and Kris Kristofferson, which was released as an NBC TV movie. As a result of his work on that film, he was invited to work on a Robert Altman film shooting in Las Vegas! Alas, that film was never to come about...



But all this time, he was cultivating relationships with local rockers, where his musical heart truly lay, becoming an in-demand engineer of the independent rock scene in Nashville and farther afield - working with favorites such as Buzzkill, Spider Virus, The Beat Poets, Freedom of Expression (Reggae - with whom he toured for nearly a year), Tweezer (Atlanta, GA), Never (Louisville, KY), Paper Cameras (Portland, OR), Bucket Truck (Nova Scotia), Universal Life & Accident and Freak Magnet (both from Chicago) and again, so many more - helping to capture the power and nuance of their performances...

As a sought after engineer, he was called to serve the burgeoning blues and original R&B revival that was taking place in Nashville - recording over 100 albums with producer/multi-instrumentalist Fred James alone. An album he did with The Amazing Rhythm Aces was ranked in the top of the All of this experience led him to be asked to co-produce the sophomore album with his friend Hank Williams III which then led to his being called to engineer (record and mix) the debut album for supergroup Tomahawk (Mike Patton, Duane Denison, John Stanier, Kevin Rutmanis) and then to mix an album for indie favorites The Silver Jews, as well as recording all of the live tracks for USSA (Duane Denison, Paul Barker, Gary Call, Johnny Rabb). These varied experiences have led to international requests for his talents in completing numerous recordings. Joe Funderburk began his journey into the Craft because of his experience in a 12-step recovery program...

When prompted to 'accept that there is a higher power - and that it is not you', he embraced the concept of god that he held as a wee lad - that of an all-powerful, all-knowing, all-loving and benevolent entity - neither male nor female - just love...

This recognition of the true nature of his spiritual heart found expression when he discovered the craft community in the form of Ravenfain - an eclectic pagan magical 'family'. It was from his first task in sacred space that he eventually took his craft name - after participating in a Spring Equinox ritual at The Nest, the High Priest - Lord Solitaire - asked for a volunteer to see to the safe extinguishing of the ritual fire. Joe said "I will!" He then sat in care of that fire until the last ember had gone dark... When he later took his first degree initiation (at Serpentstone's original Witchstock gathering), the name "Ember - Keeper of the Fire" became his musical soul.

After many years of serving the local and greater communities, and after founding HPs (Lady) Dawn Raven and Lord Solitaire passed on their mantels, Ember became High Priest of Ravenfain, serving with his High Priestess and sole mate Rowena of the Glen.

Ember has served the Old Gods as Priest, then High Priest, for 16 years and has been a ritual drummer for nearly 20.

He played in a Nashville based West African drum ensemble "The Love Drums", led by Ed Haggard, performing traditional African drum songs for five years with them and continues to bring his special energy to festival drums circles wherever he is invited.

As both music professional and part of the craft community, Ember has had the opportunity to help numerous pagan artists to bring their musical endeavors to life - the likes of Amergin (RIP), B. Willie Dryden (10 albums!), Jack Montgomery (2 projects - 1 with Water Sprite), Gaia and more. Of all of the music that he has ever been a part of, Ember says that two of his favorite and most beloved projects are the two albums he engineered and co-produced with his partner and handfast love of life, Rowena - "My Mother's Song" and "Book of Shadows". He says "Our goal was to create awesome mainstream rock music for the world that the pagan/craft community could also embrace... These are universal themes of love, pain, joy, loss, self-worth, devotion and redemption."

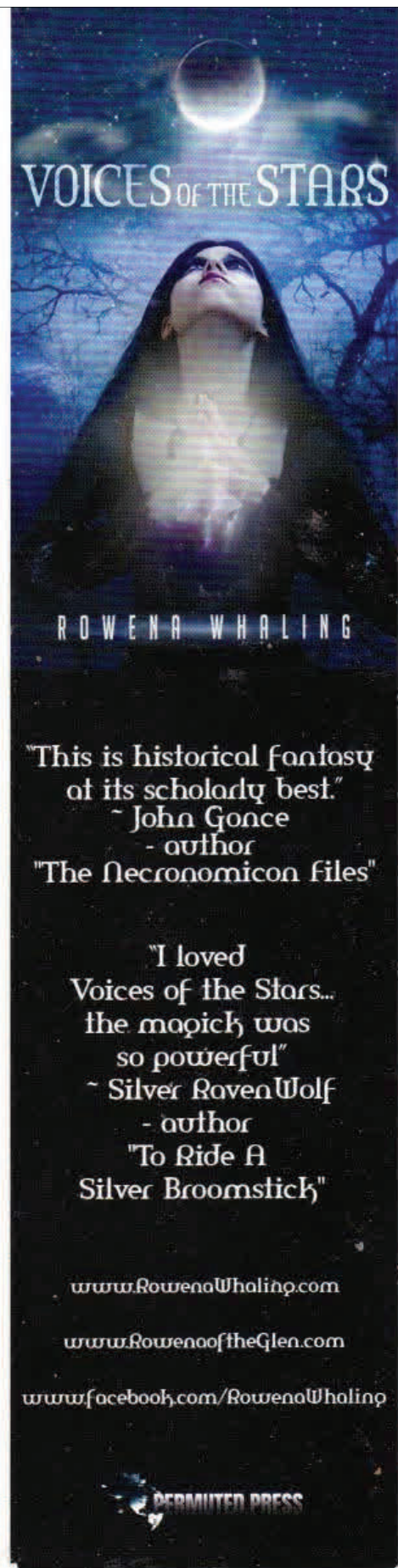
Ember and Rowena are now in pre-production for her upcoming CD "Into the Pink Darkness". Their band - Rowena of the Glen - currently perform at music festivals, spiritual gatherings, clubs and other venues around the US and soon (if current plans come to fruition) abroad.

Rowena (Rowena of the Glen) adds "The first I ever heard of Ember was a recommendation of him as 'A great engineer - fast and thorough - and the nicest guy you'll ever want to meet. He will understand your music!'



This is the sentiment of all who have had the honor to know Ember. He is an extraordinary man, with one of the purest light souls.

Check Joe out at [www.facebook.com/joe.funderburk.90](https://www.facebook.com/joe.funderburk.90)  
[www.facebook.com/thunderaudioproductions](https://www.facebook.com/thunderaudioproductions)  
 Contact him @ [Dragonstone13@earthlink.net](mailto:Dragonstone13@earthlink.net)



## Rabbit Tobacco

Rabbit Tobacco (also Life Everlasting) has a long history of use by early American settlers and several Indian Tribes. Rabbit tobacco (*Pseudognaphalium obtusifolium*) goes by many common names, including sweet everlasting, fragrant cudweed, Indian posey, and cat's foot. It is a common plant growing across the eastern United States, where it grows in fields, prairies and open woodlands. Although seldom seen in gardens, rabbit tobacco possesses many traits that lend it to ornamental horticulture uses, including its appearance, fragrance and ability to attract pollinating insects.

Unmistakable by its creamy appearance. It has long leaves, elliptical and silver green in colored. Plants grow up to one meter high. It has an unusual fragrance. Can be smoked for respiratory ailments or made into a relaxing tea. A common tobacco substitute used by children in rural areas. It is said to have a mild sedative effect.

In Cherokee medicine, it is believed that the tribes of animals created diseases to avenge the loss of their families and living spaces. The plants, being sympathetic to humans, decided to each furnish a cure for these diseases. It is believed that the spirit of the plant will tell a sick person which one to use to cure his illness.



Rabbit tobacco is used medicinally in several ways. Smoking the leaves is good for sinusitis, head colds, and congestion. In hot teas, it is used to treat sore throats, fevers, diarrhea, colds, flu, pneumonia, asthma, and coughs, as well as a mild nerve sedative, a diuretic, and an antispasmodic.

Native Americans and some farm children smoked it for its soothing effects. Some considered as a substitute for marijuana, which it is not. Rabbit Tobacco is one of the forgotten herbs and not used very much today and there has not been a lot of research conducted on them compared to other medicinal plants.

Medically, the primary healing chemicals found in Rabbit Tobacco are called "Tepenes" and have demonstrated an ability to positively affect cancer (cytotoxic) and viral infections (viricides) such as the common cold and influenza. There are also chemicals known as sterols and saponins which demonstrate healing effects upon the human body.

A spoonful of the dried leaves in an infusion of hot water reduces the length of any viral infection while, at the same time, soothing the irritating cough and expelling mucous built up in the lungs.

So its very plain to see, Rabbit Tobacco should become one of the herbs collected for your witch herbal closet. The native cultures of this continent employed the leaves and flowering top for a wide assortment of uses ranging from purging the system of toxins to purging the home and mind of evil spirits.

The medical research of this herb is also clear that it has useful medical properties.

## Fellowship of Isis Continued

It was at this time that they began calling the Old Abbey, "The Temple of Dana." Although Lawrence and Olivia founded their own grove in 1963, the founding of the Druid Clan of Dana of the Fellowship of Isis would not take place until 1992.

The Temple of Dana was the site of two ordinations of priestesses into the Fellowship of Isis in the summer of 1976. This double ordination ceremony for a Priestess of Dana and for a Priestess of Isis was the first ordination of FOI priesthood. Lawrence Durdin-Robertson officiated as Priest and Lady Olivia Robertson officiated as Hierophant.

### The Temple of Isis, 1970 – Present

Originally used as a chapel for the castle, the area which would become the Temple of Isis began its transformation into a series of shrines and a high altar dedicated to Isis in the early 1970's. Lawrence Durdin-Robertson wrote that in 1970 'religious conviction' led him to start his research and writing about the Goddess. By 1972 Lawrence had received Isian Priesthood. Both Lawrence and Olivia could claim right to the Isian Priesthood as descendants of Scota, the dark one, daughter of the Pharaoh Cincris, who came north from Egypt and gave her name to Scotland - *Scota's land*. Scota and her Scythian husband Nels, had a son, Gaelglas, who was founder of the Gaelic race.

Prior to the writing of Olivia's spiritual biography "*The Call of Isis*" which was published in 1975, a series of mystery dramas she had written were already being enacted within the precinct of the castle shrines. The roles in the rituals were performed by colleagues, friends and family members. These mystery dramas were based on the guided journeys Olivia had offered both in London and at the seminars held at the castle in previous years. In "*The Call of Isis*" Olivia already refers to the collective shrines as the Temple of Isis, and mentions the Temple of the Zodiac, a temple on the astral plane, which she would subsequently feature in visualizations within later FOI rituals.

The Ordination of two Priestesses within the Fellowship of Isis, Kathy Brown as Priestess of Dana,

and Marion Boland as Priestess of Isis was the first ceremony of ordination in the Fellowship of Isis priesthood conducted by Lawrence and Olivia as FOI co-founders. The ritual presented in the FOI Liturgy booklet is the same one used for these two ordination.

### The First Websites

The first FOI related website was created by Michael Artonn Starsheen, AU, who had a background in computer programming. He began programming his site in late 1994. The website was titled after his FOI centre "Lyceum of Isis of the Stars." It was primarily a teaching site for his lyceum. Starsheen built the site entirely from scratch, everything had to be coded by hand with html, because the website building programs that are generally available today did not exist then. Even the graphics on his site had to be created by hand - one pixel at a time. Caroline Wise, AU, and Steve Wilson, AU, both of London, UK, received authorization to create the First Official Central FOI Website in 1995. This site was designated as the "Homepage" for the Fellowship of Isis. The website was published to the internet in early 1996. Olivia also authorized several global websites to help continue on the FOI presence worldwide. A few of the first are listed below.

FOI Germany <http://www.isis-kolleg.de>

FOI Utah (Isis of Utah) <http://www.isisofutah.org/>

Circulo de Isis <http://circulodeisis.org/>

FOI Central <http://www.fellowshipofisiscentral.com>

Temple of Isis in Geyserville, California (A 501C3, offering legal status to the FOI priest/esshood) <http://isisoasis.org>

FOI Chicago <http://www.foichicago.com/>

By the late 1990's Olivia began putting structures and policies in place to safeguard the continuing of the Fellowship of Isis in the event of her passing. She began a process she called "decentralization". Eventually she created three unions to act as "custodians of the legacy of the Fellowship of Isis". They are the Archpriesthood Union, the Archdruid Union and Grand Commander Union. The Archpriesthood Union was joined by the Archdruid Union and the Grand Commander Union on October 9, 2009. Their purpose is to act as overall custodians of the legacy of the Fellowship of Isis.

**Continued Page 23**



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# Bloodstone

Bloodstones are a variety chalcedony, which is crypto crystalline quartz. This simply means that these crystals are too small that it cannot be distinguished from the naked eye. One can determine the crystallinity through the use of an electron microscope. Note that there are two forms of bloodstone – the plasma and heliotrope. Heliotrope is transparent and has red in it. Plasma is deep green, opaque with little or no red in it.

Bloodstone is also referred to as heliotrope in Greek which simply means sun turning. It was believed that the sun turns red when this stone is immersed in water. Bloodstone comes with dark green color with spots of red almost resembling droplets of blood.



**Aztec Bloodstone** is a 15th century artifact that exhibits the ability to control individuals whose blood comes in contact with the stone. Immediately between the eyes is a jade-like gemstone.

It based its name from the stone's appearance. Bloodstone is sometimes referred to as Blood Jasper in the stones market. It is not really jasper, but more of a dark green Chalcedony which includes a mixture of red to brown. It appears to be glassy to waxy with an inconsistent color as the green color is derived from chlorite particles, while the red spots are caused by iron oxide.

This gemstone is a traditional March birthstone along with aquamarine. It comes in many shapes and cuts with the common forms of cabochon, cushion cut, emerald cut, octagonal, oval and round.



Be careful when you buy bloodstones in the market these days. Many retailers now sell fake bloodstones. To distinguish a real bloodstone you will need to rub the stone on porcelain. If blood red scars appear, this is genuine. Otherwise, you could be opting for a fancy gemstone. Bloodstone is most common to Australia, Brazil, Czech Republic, China, Germany, India, Russia, Scotland, and the United States.

## Traditional Beliefs of Bloodstone

Bloodstones is one of the most versatile stones for the practitioner. In the picture to the left, the stone is used to lure virgins and humans to the sacrificial alter.

The stone is believed to be a magical stone in ancient times. Touching the stone simply stopped hemorrhages. Ancient warriors carried bloodstone amulets to stop the bleeding whenever they had wounds.

Babylonians and Egyptians used engraved bloodstone in their divination rituals and as amulets for protection against their enemies. . They employed the stone's abilities by increasing personal strength. The stones power was thought to create invisibility from their enemies attention..

Bloodstone is also known as the Mother Goddess stone associated with the Isis, Horus and the Black Madonna images.





14th century Flemish Madonna and Child stands in the Marian Chapel wearing bloodstone.

Christian mystics believed that bloodstone had special powers because they believed it was formed when drops of blood fell and stained jasper at the foot where Jesus was crucified. This is highly unlikely, because the place of the alleged crucifixion, Golgotha or Place of skulls contained no Jasper. According to text, it lay outside the gate and was a heap or garbage dump. Bloodstone was dubbed the “Martyr’s Stone” because of this lore and used in sculptures representing martyrdom and flagellation.

### Properties in Bloodstone

Bloodstone has great healing powers, these stones were pulverized and mixed with egg whites and honey. An innovation believed to heal tumors and stop bleeding. The Greeks and Romans used this stone to remove poison from venomous snake bites.

Bloodstone helps in the forecast through weather magic. Athletes who require added strength use this as a powerful charm. It clarifies vague thoughts and dispels perplexity providing several benefits.

Bloodstones are known as stones of courage. It improves physical strength, enhances self-esteem and self-appreciation, and calms anxiousness. It promotes love for family and enhances wealth .

Charms made with bloodstone fights evil and prevents jealousy. It boosts your spirit and adds longevity. It eases a broken heart and brings good fortune. Whenever the stone becomes blood red in color, this signals the wearer about any upcoming danger. Powder made with this stone is still used as an aphrodisiac in the traditional medicines of India.

Bloodstone enhances creativity and intuition. Bloodstone drives away the negative environmental energy, which helps in the overcoming of influences like electromagnetic or geo-pathic stress. It revitalizes and induces dreaming. It gives you courage and helps you avoid harmful situations.

Bloodstone promotes idealism and selflessness. This soothes and revitalizes the mind, enhances decision making, and eliminates confusion. Bloodstone minimizes aggressiveness, impatience and irritability.

Bloodstone is associated with the first chakra, the planet Mars, sometimes called The Stone of Aries, the element of fire and sometimes earth, depending on it’s use. Its zodiac signs are Aries, Pisces and Scorpio. It is highly sensitive to heat and should not be around high tem-



Raw Un-tumbled Bloodstone

peratures. As a mother earth stone, it can be cleansed and re-charged by burying in the earth.

Bloodstone provides physical aid in treating anemia, blood disorders and enhancing blood flow. It strengthens the immune system and detoxifies the system.

It can be useful in easing menstrual and menopausal symptoms. With continued wear and use it strengthens the heart, liver, kidneys, intestines, and bone marrow.

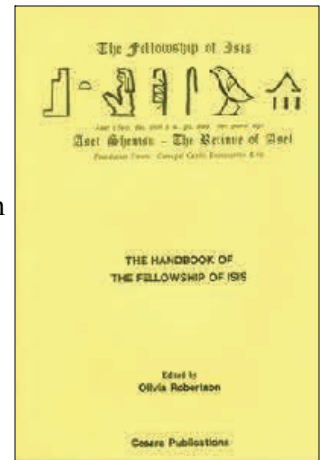
Bloodstone with yellow inclusions in the stone are generally referred to as Plasma Stones but still recognized by its Greek classical name Heliotrope, given to it by the manner in which it reflects the rays of the sun.

## Fellowship of Isis Continued

### II. Manner of Working : Attunement

A basic method of working within the Fellowship of Isis is attunement. Members were encouraged by Olivia to join in the FOI Daily Prayers, in the morning and evening. "The Fellowship of Isis provides Attunement Times at dawn and dusk, between 6:30 to 8:30 every morning and evening. As members live all around the world, someone may be attuned to the goddess at any hour. Therefore the member performing a ceremony alone - are never alone."

Telepathic Attunement is as effective as the physical Rite. Telepathy is the language of the New Aeon." (Handbook of the Fellowship of Isis, second edition, 1995)



Isis and Osiris" by Susan Seddon Boulet

### FOI Manifesto

The FOI Manifesto sets out the basic principles of the Fellowship of Isis. Each potential new member reads the Manifesto, and if they agree with the principles outlined within it, they are free to join the Fellowship of Isis. Olivia wrote that the Manifesto was never changed, and would never be changed. It was our assurance that the founding principles we all agreed to when joining the FOI would not be changed.

### The FOI Liturgy

We have a wonderful series of rituals known as the FOI Liturgy. These Rites were inspired directly by Isis between 1976 and 1994, and contain the sacred teaching received and presented in close collaboration by the Co-Founders of the Fellowship of Isis, The Rt. Rev. Olivia Robertson and her brother Rt. Rev. Lawrence Durdin-Robertson who passed into Spirit World in 1994.

They contain elaborate descriptions of robes, altar and even participants. This can prove daunting to those who head smaller groups or work as solitaires. Olivia told us some years ago at the Nesu House: The purpose of these rituals is to strike a note on one level of being and so awaken the same note on other octaves of being through use of symbol and color. The elaborate description of colored robes, headdresses and other outer symbols at the beginning of each ritual puts these psychic keynotes into the creative imagination of the candidate to promote visualization of the energies being invoked.

It is not necessary to have robes or headdresses or any of the other physical items suggested. They are meant to be used for visualization. If you can physically bring together any of these items for use during the performance of this rite, then do so. It helps to focus ones attention during the rite. On June 1st June, 2013, Olivia sent the following message:

These Rites were inspired directly by Isis between 1976 and 1994, and contain the sacred teaching received and presented in close collaboration by the Co-Founders of the Fellowship of Isis, The Rt. Rev. Olivia Robertson and her brother Rt. Rev. Lawrence Durdin-Robertson who passed into Spirit World in 1994.

Fellowship of Isis Basic Rites are:

- |                  |                                |             |               |                  |
|------------------|--------------------------------|-------------|---------------|------------------|
| 1. Rebirth       | 2. Ordination                  | 3. Wedding  | 4. Alma Mater | 5. Flamma Vestae |
| 6. Porta Mystica | 7. Communion with Spirit World | 8. Funeral. | Dulce Domum   |                  |

Continued Page 23

## **Fellowship of Isis Continued**

Primary Initiation into the Druid Clan of Dana (Rite of Dana)

Primary Initiation into the Noble Order of Tara (Tara and Lugh: The Ordeal of the Danaan Treasures)

Produced from 1976 - 1994 by the FOI co-founders, in order of publication date:

1976 – The Isis Wedding Rite

1977 – Ordination of Priestesses and Priests

1977 – Rite of Rebirth

1979 – Dea, Rites and Mysteries of the Goddess

1983 – Urania, Ceremonial Magic of the Goddess

1986 – Sophia, Cosmic Consciousness of the Goddess

1988 – Panthea, Initiations and Festivals of the Goddess

1989 – Sybil, Oracles of the Goddess

1991 – Psyche, Magical Journeys of the Goddess

1991 – Gaea, Initiations of the Earth

1992 – The Rite of Dana. Druid Initiation

1994 – Melusina, Life Centres of the Goddess

1994 – Maya, Goddess Rites **for Solo Use**

## **Teaching and Coursework**

Olivia Robertson sent the following announcement, dated October 11, 2011 to reaffirm the autonomy of FOI centers:

“There are those who founded teaching centres within the Fellowship of Isis before coursework, guidelines and regulations were implemented. In those years between their founding and the production of guidelines, regulations and courses, these centres have brought through others, who have founded their own centres, and in turn, teach in the same format. The question arose - are they valid?

ALL training courses are valid. ALL centres have autonomy. Regulations and procedures are provided as guidelines, they are meant as suggestions. The ONLY basic requirements are teaching centres base their work on the F.O.I. Manifesto and the F.O.I. Liturgy. The Candidate using rites suggested in the coursework most helpful to his or her own chosen Path. The College of Isis being the exception, as guidelines were laid out upon the revival of the College as inspired by Isis.”

## **Art and Creativity**

The Fellowship believes that one way to make contact with Divinity was through the creative act. Olivia wrote:

“Creativity comes from the harmony of the psychic and earthly spheres. The Goddess needs our help, that She may bring Her era of happiness, wisdom and creativity to this earth. Each member who chooses to join the Fellowship dedicated to the Goddess may give a unique contribution.

Every talent is needed.” (Original Version of the FOI Manifesto, 1976)

“All the Arts strengthen Ritual and bring about purposeful changes. When ancient liturgies are recited and words of Power uttered, sound reverberates through the centuries, note calling to note. Words are uttered, even in translation, they reiterate those used in temples for thousands of years. In these Rites for the Fellowship of Isis, ancient invocations, hymns and dialogues are used from ancient liturgies from many religions. For the time has come when Iris, the rainbow messenger, is forming a pattern of beauty from many faiths. ... So in these Rites prayers and hymns are used from Karnak, Babylon, Africa, the Norselands, India, China, Japan, the Celtic countries. For all are relevant, and without one faith the planetary symphony is deficient.” (Introduction, "Dea, Rites and Mysteries of the Goddess" FOI liturgy book, written by Olivia Robertson, 1988)

In 2010 Olivia conducted a series of "unscripted rites" in the Temple of Isis at Clonegal Castle and later in London and in Glastonbury. Olivia sent the following message dated July 22, 2010 concerning the use of "unscripted rites" in the Fellowship of Isis. She used the same basic rite structure, but changed the deities invoked the myth represented in the rite, according to the region in which the ritual was enacted.

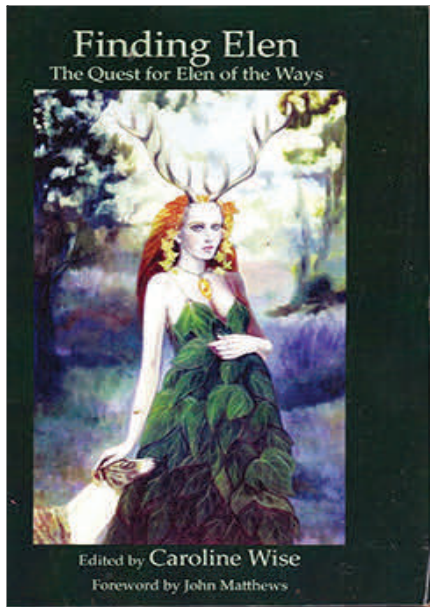
For the most of this year (2015), several FOI members have been working on the “Order of the Shining Helmet of Athena” for the Fellowship of Isis. Olivia had been corresponding with several of us about the order and had wanted it inaugurated at the Samhain 2013 seasonal festival at Clonegal Castle. Her plans did not come about because she became very ill and passed away on November 14, 2013.

Those of us with whom Olivia had shared her experiences, both in the latter part of her life and in her earlier work with the Goddess Athena, began searching through our records, comparing our letters from Olivia. We have constructed the Order of the Shining Helmet in a spirit of mutual cooperation, understanding and support. It has been a real demonstration of the kind of Fellowship Olivia had hoped would continue after she passed away.

This brings us up to the present day within the Fellowship of Isis. We look forward to a glorious future, with the Goddess Isis pointing the way. And there will be more to come!

## **Evoe Isis**





A very fascinating book, well written and researched. How can one find and document one of the most elusive Goddesses in mythos. A good resource book for any practitioner with many viewpoints from several authors pointing to the factual existence of this horned one. The horned Goddess existed in many cultures and in many aspects. From a spirit to protect the forest and beyond to the reindeer Goddess of other cultures. Carolyn has done a remarkable job drawing attention to this unknown and powerful deity.

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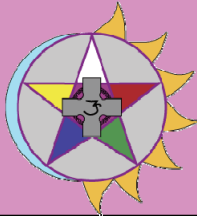
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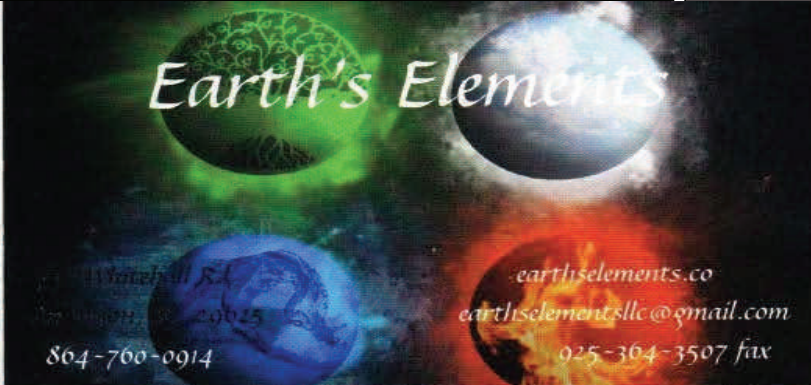



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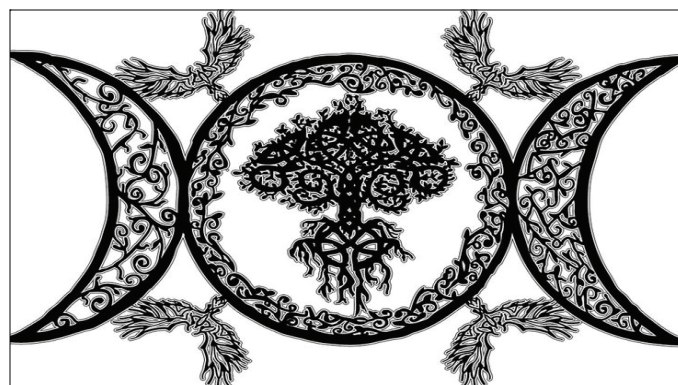
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