In 1996, “The Craft” was released in theaters and a new standard for movies about witchcraft was established. This was in part due to the technical advice of Pat Devin, an Elder and the first officer of the Southern California local council of C.O.G. (Covenant of the Goddess) established in California in 1975, an incorporated, religious, non-profit organization.

While much of the technically correct information in the movie was a fresh relief for many of us, Hollywood also had filled the movie with the normal amount of special effects. You know, the kind that have nothing whatsoever to do with “real magick.” In the past few years, large numbers of people after seeing “The Craft” turned towards Wicca with the impression that the movie was a real reflection of what they could learn. This misconception was further in-forced by a number of new Televison shows and more Hollywood movies. Never had a little bit of truth created so much confusion.

~ Parker Torrence

What is Wicca?

"Basically, Wicca is an evolving religion which originated from paganism, the oldest religion in the world. ... It’s an earth-oriented religion which has a consciousness towards ecology, not domination of the earth. We are part of everything that is going on around us. Humans have a responsibility for their actions and how they treat the earth, plants, animals, birds, fish and even rocks."

~ Pat Devin

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All rights reserved, all wrongs returned three fold.
Greetings, and welcome to the “Grimoire of Eclectic Magick,” and yes this is a book about real magick!

What is Magick, & why read this book?

“Magick is the Science and Art of causing Change to occur in conformity with Will.”

~ Aleister Crowley

Or in more modern terminology:

Magick is the methodology of attracting to one’s self, those events required for the achievement of a goal. Read this book if you want to know the truth about casting a circle, and crafting a spell. Read this book if you want to learn how to achieve your goals. Read, and discover the Joy of Magick!

What should you learn/know first?

This is just my opinion, but I believe that the single most important thing you can learn in regards to magick, is the Wiccan Rede and the Three Fold Law!

Bide the Wiccan Rede you must,
In perfect love, in perfect trust.
Eight words the Wiccan Law Fulfill:
"An it harm none, do as you will."
Lest in your own defense it be,
Ever mind the Rule of Three.
Follow this with mind and heart,
Merry meet, and merry part . . . .

The witches in the movie were not Wiccan, but there are many Wiccan elements in the rituals that they use. I am not Wiccan, but I draw from Wiccan sources for my rituals. You do not have to be Wiccan to practice magick, but you do need to understand that Wiccan or not, you are still governed by the Three Fold Law of Return.

“Whatever you send out comes back times three!”

“As ye sow, so shall ye reap.”

Call it what you like, use whatever words you wish, but understand all things move in a circle and you always get back what you put out. It might not be tomorrow, or next year, but somewhere down the road it will come back to you three fold. Both the good and the bad. Are you ready? This too is the Joy of Magick!
In the movie The Craft, the schoolgirls portrayed are not Wiccan. If you desire to become a Wiccan, contact a Gardnerian coven (or some other Tradition). Apply for admission, learn and follow to the letter the beliefs and teachings of that Tradition. If you desire to become a Ceremonial Magician, contact the OTO (or some other Order). Apply for admission, learn and follow to the letter the teachings of that Order.

“Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail.”

~Ralph Waldo Emerson

Now, if you are seeking a path that is not at one of these two extremes, there is hope. Like the witches in the movie, you can learn and practice an eclectic form of magick. You can do this in a group, or you can do this as a Solitaire.

Wicca is a child of Paganism, and only one of its’ many flavors. There are structured Traditions like Ásatrú or the many Druidic groups. Or there are just as many eclectic groups, that draw from both wicca, and non-wiccan sources. If you are very adventurous, you can create your own eclectic path, before you do that, please read the rest of this book. An old adage states, “you should not break the rules, until after you first know how to use them correctly.” This is even more true when it comes to the practice of magick!

Hollywood, television and the hard-copy entertainment industry like to spew forth the misinformed concept that there are Good and Evil forms of magick. In my opinion that is on the same level as saying every head of every country is a perfect person, and has never ever done (or even thought) anything moral or ethically wrong. If that was true about politicians, then we would have world peace, no human rights violations, unemployment and crime would be at zero.

The reality of magick is, it just exists. Like air or water. It takes on the form and color of the person using it. If your desire is to do harm, (society may call it evil,) and if you employ magick to do it, well remember the Three Fold Law! Most people practice magick that is a reflection of their personalities. If a person is self centered and self serving, magick will not change them. Personally I would not want them in any group I was working in.

With the practice of magick, comes responsibility for ones own actions (more on this in the next section). Your first responsibility should be to find a path that is suited to your needs. Do you need the structure and discipline of a Coven or Order? Do you need to belong to something with a history and a set of (never changing) traditions? Or do you need the freedom that an eclectic solitaire path would provide?

I am a simple Pagan and I walk an eclectic solitaire path. I have, and do work with small groups from time to time, and I have had some formal training. My reasons for this path are simple, I spent twenty years of my life in the Navy at a time when there were very few Pagans in the military. It fit my needs.
Everyone at one time or another has wanted to twitch their nose, or blink their eyes, and have their house and children clean, and find a new wardrobe hanging in their closet. Maybe if you have a maid, a nanny and someone to do your shopping, and you’ve trained them to understand facial tic commands. Then, and only then will you get the results that you seek. When it comes to the reality of magick, you’ll get those results, faster the old fashioned way. I have yet to meet anyone who can balance and spin a pencil with their mind, walk on water (without it being frozen first) or fly through the air (without the use of an aircraft). These are the dreams of the young and the science of the Hollywood special effects artist. It is said that there are those in the Far East who have mastered some of these feats. They’ve spent their whole life in meditation to achieve this. So if you are ready to give up, fast food, cable television, the Internet, and indoor plumbing. Go book a flight to India, seek a guru, and we’ll see you in 80 years.

If, on the other hand, you are not yet willing to give up your standard of living, the reality of magick is that it can not alter or break the physical laws of nature. In fact, magick is just the employment of nature’s laws for the achievement of ones’ goals. These laws of magick are not the occult secrets that some would have you believe. Just go to any reputable Human Growth Seminar and see how many of these “occult secrets” are being openly employed by non-magick users. If you don’t have the time, then pick up a copy of “Think and Grow Rich” and you’ll find many of these secret teachings spelled out.

Before you begin the practice of magick, you should understand that, like life itself, there is a certain responsibility that you accept. You are responsible for each and every action, thought and deed. There is no devil, the music, and movies don’t have subliminal messages hidden in them, and regardless of how dysfunctional your childhood was, you, and only you are responsible for your own actions! If you like being a victim, if you need an escape goat to go through life with, then the last thing you need to do is learn magick. Magick is about responsibility, and respect. Responsibility for yourself, and respect for all living creatures. It is one Pagan view point that the Great Mother gave birth to all things, meaning that we are all part of each other, as well as every living creature and rock. Do you respect yourself? Do you respect the environment around you? If you don’t respect yourself, how do you expect to be responsible with the art of magick, and respect its’ use.

Never practice magick from the space of fear or anger. These emotions, both tend to sour the desired results. In group work, you are only as strong, as your weakest link. That is why fear is the last thing you need in any group or circle.
Pagans celebrate Eight Festivals, or Sabbats in the cycle of a year. While all eight of these times reflect agricultural aspects of the year, four are of a Celtic nature, while the other four are drawn from the Mediterranean area of Europe. Each full moon is also a holy day, and is called an Esbat.

Samhain • Celtic Fire festival • October 31
Yule • Winter Solstice • December 21
Imbolg • Celtic Fire festival • February 2
Ostara • Spring Equinox • March 22
Beltain • Celtic Fire festival • April 30
Litha • Summer Solstice • June 21
Lughnassadh • Celtic Fire festival • August 1
Mabon • Autumn Equinox • September 22

Samhain, the time of the year when the veil is the thinnest. In Celtic times, this was the end of the old year and the beginning of the new. This is the best time for the taking of Omens.

Yule, this is the Winter Solstice, the longest night of the year. Lighting of the Yule Log is symbolic of welcoming the sun.

Imbolg, also called Lady’s Day, is a time of renewal. In days past a common fire was lit, and all members of a community would take a brand from the fire home, to rekindle their own hearth fires. Today we call it Groundhog day.

Ostara, the Spring Equinox, a time when daylight and night are in balance. A time of blessing the seed, planting, and fertility.
Beltain, a hinge day when winter gives way to summer. Again the veil is thin between the worlds. Dance around a May Pole, celebrate the joy and ecstasy of life.

Litha, the Summer Solstice, the shortest night of the year. Time to rejoice in the warmth of the sun, while the world is full of growing life.

Lughnassadh, the first of the harvest festivals. In Celtic tradition it is the day the young son challenges his father the King, for rulership. In the course of their battle, the father is wounded, this is symbolized by the following days growing cooler.

Mabon, the second harvest festival, the Fall Equinox. Once again daylight and night are in balance. Now is the time to celebrate the gifts of the Earth Mother.
Over the years, I have read a number of explanations as to why Pagans worship multiply deities. To be honest I have felt that most of these were more the various author trying to justify their personal beliefs. With that said, I will now attempt to answer the question as to why Pagans worship multiply deities.

To borrow from a popular movie series, everything that exists has within it the FORCE. There is only one FORCE, and it is within all things! Now this idea is nothing new, and before Star Wars it was more commonly known as the TAO.

The TAO is a beautiful concept, but has only one major flaw, it has no face. Humans, being the creatures that we are, like to have faces and personalities attached to our divine beings. Let me also state that Pagans do not really worship these Gods and Goddesses. What we do is “Honor the aspect of the divine that they reflect.” By employing a name of a God or Goddess our human psyche connects with the Archetype symbol that they represent for us. Common examples: Diana the Huntress for many brings to mind a maiden who is wild and free. Frigga the Mother is evoked often by both Pagans and non-pagans with the words “T.G.I.F.” As the “F” stands for Friday, and once upon a time that was Frigga Tag, or Frigga Day. We all have strong emotions about Friday. Hecate the crone brings to mind for many, an ancient woman sitting over a cauldron.

Just to be fair to the male aspect of the divine, there is Pan the goat footed God of male youth. The Oak King brings to mind the strength and warmth of summer. While the Holly King is symbolic of the joys of the winter season. “Deck the halls with boughs of Holly, tra-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-l
All cultures have within their belief systems the concept of the four corners of the world. The idea of guardians dwelling in Watch Towers, is not something from the far distant past. It is, more a creation of the medieval magician, coming to us from a time when the lords of the land dwelt and ruled from their castles. Even more perplexing, is that many Pagan and Wiccan systems name, and call upon the Hebrew Archangels as the Watchers who dwell within these Towers at the edge of the world.

The singer, song writer, Kate Bush, on her album The Red Shoes, has within the lyrics of the song Lily, incorporated the traditional words to summon the Archangels from their Watch Towers …

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{Gabriel before me} \\
\text{Raphael behind me} \\
\text{Michael on my right} \\
\text{Uriel on my left side}
\end{align*}
\]

---

In The Craft, part of the invocation of the Spirit Monon also calls upon the power of these guardians to aid in the ritual working.

The elements in magick are not the same elements that you find in Chemistry class, or your backyard, although they are symbolic of each other. It is this symbolic relationship that we employ in the art of magick. The qualities of the physical reflect the power of the occult.

\[\text{“As Above, So Below!”}\]

Earth is the foundation element. It is solid, dependable and stable. In magick its color is green or black, and it is used in spells for employment, money, fertility, and prosperity of any kind. The Celtic Goddess, Dana is associated with Earth. In the Tarot it is the suit of Pantacles, or Coins. It is also know as Assiah, the Material World.
Air is the intellectual element. It is clear and uncluttered. In magick its color is bright pale yellow, and it is employed in spells for visualization, inspiration, learning, and freedom. The Celtic God, Dağha is associated with Air. In the Tarot it is the suit of Swords (sometimes Wands). It is also known as Yetzirah, the Formative World.

Water is the creative element. It is emotional, fluid, and forever changing. In magick, its’ color is deep blue, and it is used in spells for friendship, fertility, creation, and emotional healing or purification. The Celtic Goddess, Cerridwen is associated with Water. In the Tarot it is the suit of Cups or Chalices. It is also known as Briah, the Creative World.

Fire is the element of change and passion. It is full of energy and is the essence of magick and life. Its’ color in magick, is red, and it is employed in spells of passion, energy, purification and healing. The Celtic God, Lugh is associated with Fire. In the Tarot it is the suit of Wands (sometimes Swords). It is also known as Atziluth, the Archetypal World.

The elements so far have been presented in what is known as the Hermetic, or Western Mystery Tradition. This is a system that has its’ roots in Egyptian, Hebrew and Greek teachings. It should be noted that this is not the only elemental system in the world.

In the Orient they have five elements. These being Metal, Wood, Water, Fire, and Earth. North of the ancient Roman Empire, the Teutonics used Frost, Fire, and Water. While the Celtic tribes called them Sky, Land, and Sea.

Above the realm of man and elements, there dwells the One which are Two. We call it the Force, or Tao, and we know it as the Yin & Yang, the archetypal male and female, our Lord & Lady. In its’ manifest form it is the Spirit Flame. Below the Spirit Flame, are the three sacred elements of the Sky, the Land, and the Sea.

The Sky, is the realm of the Sun, Moon and Stars. The home of the great ones that we call Gods and Goddesses. It is the unwritten future, and the realm of dreams.

The Land, is the realm of man. Here we dwell in the present, with the birds, and beasts of this world. This is also the home of the Sidhe (the Noble Ones). This is the realm of reality, and life.

The Sea, is the realm of Mother Chaos. The darkness of our spirit, the land of the dead. It is our past, and all things forgotten or left behind.

Around the Sky, Land & Sea, are the elements of the four corners of the world. These being known as Earth, Air, Water and Fire.
In the opening scenes of *The Craft*, a candle covered altar is displayed, complete with crystal ball, pentacle, and anointing oil.

Altars can be a chaotic collection of items, or an aesthetic expression of spirituality. An altar should reflect the personality of its’ user, or within a coven, order or group, the teachings of that Tradition.

Altars can take any form, from a ritual table, to the top of your bedroom dresser. It is the place for you to honor the Lord and Lady, and to work your magick.

Basic ritual tools are, the Chalice, the Athame (pronounced, ath-AH-may), the Pentacle, and the Wand.

Chalice … this tool, more then any other, represents the creative aspect of the Goddess. It is the symbol of the womb. In ritual, it is used for the sharing of wine, juice, or herbal potions. It can also be employed for scrying. It is associated with the element of water.

Athame … this tool represents the active principle of the God. Usually it is black handled, with a double-edged blade. In ritual, it is used to cast the circle, as well as to evoke or banish energies. It is associated with the element of air.

Pentacle … often made of wood, stone, ceramic, wax, glass, or metal, this tool represents the Goddess in a passive, supporting role. In ritual, it is used to support, protect, and contain the energies being used. It is associated with the element of earth.

Wand … the most personal of the basic tools. Traditionally made of wood, and a cubit in length (the distance from the elbow to the tip of the middle finger), it frequently has in its construction a drop of its’ owner blood. Modern wands are often fashioned of copper tubes, covered in leather or cloth, and tipped with crystals or semi-precious gem stones. This tool is viewed as having a male end for projection, and a female or receptive end. Much like the Athame, the Wand can be employed to cast a circle, but its’ true power lies at a higher level, when used to invoke, and dismiss spiritual entities. It is associated with the element of fire.

Miscellaneous Altar tools … These include candles, cords, censor/thurible/incense, bell, sword, staff, crystal ball, scrying stone, magick mirror, Tarot cards, Rune stones, oils, cauldron, mortar & pestle, bolline, and broom. To name a few.

Your Book of Shadows, or Grimoire, is one of the most important tools you will ever own. In *The Craft*, it was the place where the young witches wrote down their thoughts and spells.

 Called a Book of Shadows, because magick is not black or white. This is a journal, a collection of rituals, and a personal collection of spell recipes. Tradition, states that it must be hand written, with magical inks using a special consecrated pen of art. More often then not, the modern practitioner will have computer scans and printouts taped or glued within its pages. The truly techno-pagan might even have the whole thing stored on their computer’s hard drive. Regardless of what medium your Book of Shadows takes, it should be arranged (in a minimum of) three sections, and certain things should be included within its’ pages.

The first section should have some general information and personal notes. Among this information should be your magical, or craft name. This is a holdover from the days when free thinkers were persecuted, and the only name within your group, you might be known by would be this magical pseudonym. When you pick a name to use, it should be one that expresses your higher goals, and reflect the path you choose to follow. If you are walking a predominantly Celtic path, a name like Redwood Dream Catcher, would not be in harmony with your goals. Another item that should be in the first part of your Grimore, is your astrology chart. Some groups and covens require this information, and your Book of Shadows is an excellent place to keep it.
grimoire of eclectic magick

The second section of your Book of Shadows, should be filled with spell recipe information. These are the notes on correspondences, as well as some of the spells that you have used and found to work well for you.

The last section of your Grimoire, is used for your rituals. On a personal note, I have found it advantages to write only upon one side of a page. This way, I can turn the book upside down, and write my rituals from the back (now the front) to the front (now the back), without fear of running out of room. It also makes it easier, for me, to find things.

The last tool you (might) need is a Robe. I say might for a number of reasons. The first of these is the fact that some Traditions practice Skyclad. The second reason, is that due to your environment, it might not be practical to use a robe. In the latter case, you should have something symbolic, like a ring, talisman or stole, to put on just for your magical workings.

the art of magick

Blessed Be & Welcome to the heart of The Craft ... "Grimoire of Eclectic Magick." Within this section, you will be exposed to both the Theory and the Practice of Magick. Basic exercises, ritual outlines, a table of correspondences, and a few simple spells are included to get you started. This information is not intended to replace formal training, or is it designed to be the last word on the subject. If nothing else, this is just my perspective.

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Theurgy is the mystical, and spiritual use of Magick. In The Craft, the four witches gather on the beach to summon the spirit of Monon. Which, is an example of magical theurgy in the form of an invocation. Invocation, or “invoking a spirit” is the act of calling a deity, into one’s self. Other forms of Theurgy, are meditation, the practice of the vision quest, various path workings, the Ritual of Calling Down the Moon, and works leading to the Knowledge and Conversation of your Holy Guardian Angel.

Thaumaturgy is the form of magick, most commonly portrayed in movies and on television. It is that body of works which deal with the achievement of physical or social goals. In The Craft, we saw examples of this in the healing spell, the love spell, the revenge spell, and the glamor spell. These are the types of magick normally employed, in an attempt, to influence events in one’s environment. An evocations would be an example of Thaumaturgy, as it is an attempt to summon forth an energy, outside of one’s self. There is nothing wrong with the application of magick for material goals, but you should always keep the Wiccan Rede and the Three Fold Law in mind, when you do.

Your ability to practice magick is as much an intuitive understanding of the theory, as it is the ability to read words from a book. Magick is governed by the Three Fold Law of Return. The magician, or witch should also temper their actions with the Wiccan Rede (or some other ethical philosophy). Pagans don’t worship multiple gods, so much as they do honor the Lord & Lady as aspects of the Divine (known by such names as the Spirit, the TAO, and everyone’s favorite, the FORCE). Magick can be practiced as a means of self advancement along a spiritual path (Theurgy). It can also be practiced for material goals (Thaumaturgy). Magick is not Good or Evil, Black or White, magick just IS! Like air, water or even gravity, it works the same no matter what is in the heart of the user.

Now for a little fresh information: Most Pagan belief systems are environmentally friendly, with the underlaying theme of living in harmony with others. If you are seeking power and the ability to control others by fear, you’re in the wrong place!
The Super-Consciousness is the magician’s link to the Divine. At this level of awareness, time & space are fluid, and for those who understand how to perceive them, there are no secrets.

The Sub-Conscious mind is where the true authority of the magician resides. This source of power is the force behind our magick.

To Know • Memory
To Dare • Emotions
To Will • Creativity
To Keep Silent

• Programs

“The creativity of the subconscious is unlimited.”
Thomas D. Willhite

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This page was assembled, in part based upon the fundamental teachings of Thomas D. Willhite.
Next to your Book of Shadows (or Grimoire), your Work Journal is one of your most important tools. This book can take many forms, but I have found that the 3-ring notebook binder works best. It is from this book, that you will transfer information into your Book of Shadows.

Each time you practice anything related to the learning of magick, cast a spell, preform a ritual, have a profound vision or dream, you should record it in your Journal. Some people have a separate notebook just for dreams.

Each entry should have the following basic information: Date, time (both start & stop), emotional state of mind, and location.

The journal entries should have the complete text of any spell or ritual you conduct. Impressions, and effects should also be recorded.

If diligently kept, this Journal is a great tool for self-understanding, as well as your companion, and guide in the study of magick!

Breathing, or Pranayama is generally accepted to be one of the most important disciplines that the aspiring Witch, or Magician needs to learn, and master.

- Sit in a place where you will not be disturbed. For a short time breath normally and clear your mind of all mundane thoughts.

- When you are ready … Breath OUT for four heart beats, HOLD your breath for a two heart beats, breath IN for four heart beats, and HOLD your breath for two heart beats … repeat for about five minutes. (When holding your breath, DO NOT forcibly block the air flow. Just learn to NOT exhale or inhale!)

- Once you have mastered the 4-2-4-2 breathing pattern, expand your abilities with a 6-3-6-3 pattern.

- When you have mastered the 6-3-6-3 breathing pattern, begin increasing the length of time from five minutes, until you are able to preform this for 30 minutes, without any conscious thought about your breathing.

Record the results in your Work Journal.

Posture, or Asana is a principal ability when it comes to preforming Rituals. If your goal is the mastery of Ceremonial Magick, the following information will differ some from postures found in that discipline.

- Sitting … you can do this in a chair, you can do this on the ground, you can do this with your legs crossed, and you can do this in the Lotus position. However you wish to do it, the following should always be true: Your head needs to be up. Your spine needs to be straight. Your hands should be open, with the palms up.

- Wand … in this posture, you are standing erect with your arms relaxed at your sides.

- Tao … in this posture, you are standing erect with your arms extended out to your sides. (Sometimes known as the cross.)

- Goddess … in this posture, you are standing erect, your face tilted slightly up, and your arms upraised in welcome. This is the posture that the witches in The Craft used, when they invoked Monon at the beach.

- God … in this posture, you are standing erect with your arms crossed over your chest, with your hands upon your shoulders, right hand-left shoulder, left hand-right shoulder. (Sometimes known as the star.)

There are other postures, but if you can master these, you will have a formidably group of skills in your ritual tool box. To master any of the above listed postures, stand (or sit) in that posture while preforming your breathing practice.

Record the results in your Work Journal.
Visualization ... or Dharana, is the art of controlling your thoughts. This is a required skill in the art of Spell Casting!

Color ... In your sitting posture, establish your breathing pattern. Once you have stilled your thoughts, begin visualizing color as you breathe in and another as you breathe out. Complimentary colors work the best.

- **RED** : **CYAN**
- **GREEN** : **MAGENTA**
- **BLUE** : **YELLOW**
- **WHITE** : **BLACK**

The Tatwas ... these are: a black oval; a blue disk; a silver crescent; a yellow square; a red triangle.

Motion ... Start with simple objects, like a spinning wheel, a swinging pendulum, or a bouncing ball. Avoid using living objects!

Again, record the results in your Journal.

Meditation comes in three basic flavors ... passive, active, and chant.

Passive, is the form most people think about when they hear the word meditation. This is the art of sitting with your mind stilled. You begin by establishing your patterned breathing 4-2-4-2. Next you relax your body (see active meditation below), and then slowly silence all of the voices within your head until you can hear a kind of silence. At this point you begin to observe your body, and mind.

Passive meditation is used when you seek inner knowledge, when you do scrying, and when you channel a deity.

Record the results in your Work Journal.

Active meditation ... the use of meditation with a pre-established script, or goal. The relaxation practice (see script at side), path workings, and calling down the moon, are all forms of active meditation.

Always record your results in your Journal.

Chant ... in The Craft, when the witches were sitting in the park repeating Earth, Air, Fire, and Water, they were using what is known as a circle chant meditation to raise their power levels. Chants can vary from a one word personal mantra, to a formal group invocation.

Try this, on an overcast day, sit and chant for five minutes "Ra, Ra, Hail Ra!"

Record the results in your Journal.

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**Riding the Dragon**

...part one...

Relaxation

Start by taking three slow deep breaths, clear your mind, and begin your rhythmic breathing pattern 4-2-4-2.

- You are standing upon a beach ... the white sand beneath your feet is as fine, and soft as baby powder.
- Looking out to sea, you become aware that the waves are of prismatic light. As you watch, they change from Red to Orange, then to Yellow, then Green, on to Blue, Indigo, and finally Violet.
- Slowly the waves begin to flow higher up the beach. As they wash over your feet you feel the sensation of lightness flow through your toes.
- The next wave covers you to your waist, your legs seem to dissolve into the prismatic light.
- Now the waves have covered you to your chin, your arms and chest feel as light as air.
- You watch as the waves flow in, and cover your head. Slowly you feel yourself begin to float, after a moment you become aware that you are one with the sea of prismatic light ...
In order to practice Candle Magick, you must first select a new unused colored candle, based upon your desired goal. Then the candle needs to be anointed with oil. This is known as dressing the candle, and is done by rubbing oil onto the surface. You start at the center, and rub outwards. First you put on the shirt (anoint the upper half of the candle), then you put on the pants (anoint the lower half of the candle). Now the candle is ready for your spell.

Once you're ready, hold the candle upright between your palms. Begin your rhythmic breathing, visualize your goal, and allow the power of your desire to flow into the candle. Begin repeating a short statement of the desired goal you seek. Slowly shorten the statement down, until it is the minimum number of words required to express the concept. At the peak of your chanting, take a deep breath and slowly blow life into the candle. Place the candle into a holder on your altar (...continue chanting...) light a match, draw the power from above down to your candle, and light the wick. Place the burning match into a flame safe dish, and allow it to burn out by itself. Cup your hands around the candle’s flame, while you visualize, and state your goal fully one last time. Then say “This is my will, so mote it be!” Now depart the area, and allow the magick to work.

.binding spell

This type of spell works best when cast upon one's self. This is one way to help rid yourself of negative habits. Habits, fall into that Sub-Conscious group known as programs.

For this spell, you will need two small mirrors, a piece of new paper, a pen, and a length of colored ribbon (see the color chart).

First decide what habit it is you wish to change. Next, you must word your statement in only positive terms.

Example, you want to stop drinking soda. If you
The problem is that your Sub-Conscious mind does not understand the abstract concept of NOT, or any other negative term. So, how do we get around this obstacle? You must word your statement so that you achieve your desired goal in a positive manner.

"I will place into my body, only liquids that are healthy."

Once you are clear on the wording, you are ready to cast your binding spell. On the piece of paper, write on one side of the paper your spell. Then turn the paper over and write it again. Now place the paper between the two mirrors, with the reflective surfaces facing in. Take the ribbon, start chanting your spell statement. As you do this, visualize your goal and begin wrapping the ribbon around the mirrors. When you reach the end of the ribbon, repeat your spell one last time, and place the bound mirrors upon your altar.

It takes forty days to replace a habit. During this time, whenever you are tempted by your habit, recall the words of your spell.

So you want to cast a love spell. Well the first thing you need to know is the truth about love magick. You can not force anyone to love someone that they would not naturally be attracted to.

A love spell is on the same order as putting an advertisement in the newspaper saying, “Look at me, look at me!”

Needed, three cords (one pink, one white, and one violet), each 13 inches long.

Tie the three together, while focusing upon your desire for someone to come into your life. In each cord tie seven knots. As you tie each knot, allow your hearts desire to flow into the cord. Once you have tied seven knots in each of the cords, carry the spell object with you until a new love enters your life. Then, place the spell cords someplace safe, or returned them to nature.
The rituals that you write for yourself will always have the most power. What follows is a sample ritual designed to be a guide for your use.

After you have gathered the equipment you will need, and cleaned, or cleared the area you will be using, you need to prepare yourself. This most often is done by taking a ritual bath, donning your robe, or ritual clothing, and spending some quiet time in meditation. This will allow you to be calm, and centered before the ritual begins.

Cense the area with incense. Many people use sage. Sage should not be used if anyone who will be at the ritual is pregnant. Frankincense, can also be used, or you can sprinkle the area with a mixture of blessed salt-water.

Casting the circle, is done by tracing a circle in the air, above the ground with the Athame (or Wand), while walking deosil (clockwise) around the area. As you do, say, “I conjure thee, O-Circle of power, become a boundary between the world, and the sacred space within.” (In an outdoor circle, some might even use a sword to cut an actual circle into the ground.)

Calling the Quarters, is done while standing in the Goddess posture. The wording for this sample ritual, has been taken from the Invocation scene of The Craft.

Facing east say, “Hail to the guardians of the watchtowers of the east. Powers of air and invention. Hear us(me)!”

Facing south say, “Hail to the guardians of the watchtowers of the south. Powers of fire and feeling. Hear us(me)!”

Facing west say, “Hail to the guardians of the watchtowers of the west. Powers of water and intuition. Hear us(me)!”

Facing north say, “Hail to the guardians of the watchtowers of the north. Powers of mother and earth. Hear us(me)!”

Looking skyward say, “Aid us(me) in our magical workings … reason for the ritual…..”

Invocation of the Lord & Lady

Maiden bring thy flowers,
Mother bring thy child,
Grandmother bring thy wisdom,
Dana, Hail and Welcome …

Youth bring thy swiftness,
Father bring thy strength,
Grandfather bring thy guidance,
Cernunnos, Hail and Welcome …

Lord & Lady, enter this circle in Peace,
Make an altar of my body, and
Grant me Wisdom & Guidance
as I perform my rites.
Invoke the Lord & Lady. This is done by naming the deity then glorifying one or more of their attributes. Examples:
“Cernunnos, Great Horned One, brother of all creatures wild, and free, we(I) invite you into this circle!”
“Dana, Bright Lady, mother of rivers, and mantle of life upon the land, we(I) invite you into this circle!”

Stating the desired goal, say “We’re(I’m) gathered here this night to celebrate ... state the reason..., and to work such magick as we(I) require at this time.”

Raising the Cone of Power is done by dancing or chanting. It is at this time that you would celibate the season with ritual drama. This is also the place where you would do healing magick, charge new tools, and the like.

If you used invoking pentagrams to Call the Quarters, you should now use banishing pentagrams to Dismiss the Quarters.

Opening the circle. Start in the east and walk widdershins (counter-clockwise) around the circle, chanting ...

“May the circle be open, but unbroken. May the peace of the Goddess be ever in your heart. Merry meet, and merry part, and merry meet again!”

Suggested reading list
Amber K, Covencraft: Witchcraft for Three or More
Ian Corrigan, The Portal Book: Basic Teachings of Celtic Witchcraft
Aleister Crowley, Magick in Theory and Practice
Scott Cunningham, Earth Power (Natural Magick Book 1)
Earth, Air, Fire & Water (Natural Magick Book 2)
Melita Denning & Osborne Phillips, The Magical Philosophy Series:
Vol. 1, The Foundations of High Magick
Vol. 2, The Sword and the Serpent
Vol. 3, Mysteria Magica
Ed Fitch, A Grimoire of Shadows
Magical Rites from the Crystal Well
Donald Tyson, How to Make and Use a Magic Mirror
Are you a Natural Witch? The truth is, everyone has the ability within them. It is only a matter of choosing to learn how to use your gifts. This book was never designed to teach you that.

**blood, sex and ritual initiation**

There are enough dangers in just growing up in the world today. Your choice of religion should not add to them. In *The Craft*, the school girls were portrayed as misfits, and outcasts. Although many members of the various pagan belief systems might fit into those groups, there are just as many, if not more normal well-adjusted members. There are also a number of opportunists who tend to prey upon those who seek this path. Anyone can pick up a book on the occult, and toss a few buzzwords around. And if you sleep with them, they will more than gladly teach you secret powers. Can you say Bull Shit?

Sex is a sacred gift, granted to us by the gods. Sex should never be used as barter for knowledge. True knowledge, real knowledge is free. It is there for anyone who has the desire, and the eyes to see! If you are of legal age, and want to have sex with someone, that is your choice. No one, and no group have the right to make it for you! If you are not 100% certain that you are doing what is best for you, you have the freedom to find the door.

Some Traditions, still practice the Great Rite in the traditional form. There are just as many Traditions that do not have such requirements in their initiations. Find the Tradition that meets your needs, and encourages you to grow as an independent person! Magick is after all about freedom!

In *The Craft*, the initiation ritual the girls perform does not involve sex, but they do share a chalice of wine that has drops of their blood in it. At one point in time this may have been an acceptable practice. At this point in time, with the AIDS plague still running uncontrolled in the world, it’s not only unacceptable. It is downright deadly!

Magick is about responsibility. Be responsible, don’t take needless risks with your body, or your life!

We all find ourselves at crossroads as we go through life. For most of us, the teen years are the greatest crossroad we’ll ever face. Not only does the body go from that of a child, to that of an adult. We also go from having all of our decisions being made for us, to have the freedom to make our own choices. Following a pagan path, is just another one of those choices. It should be made from the heart, with the desire to truly live in harmony with the planet, and all others. Tolerance, not power is the true underlaying strength of the pagan path!

“Merry meet, and merry part, and merry meet again!”