

The Magickal Pen

Volume One

A Collection of Esoteric Writings

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Table of Contents

Introduction

Chapter One: Cornerstones of Magick

Creating Sacred Space

The Alchemical Elements

Spells and Incantations

The Tools of the Craft

Lunar Magick

Magick in Action

Chapter Two: Turning of the Wheel

What is the Wheel of the Year

Winter Solstice/Yule

Imbolc

Vernal Equinox/Ostara

Beltane

Summer Solstice/Litha

Lammas/Lughnasadh

Autumnal/Equinox Mabon

Samhain

Chapter Three: In Devotion

The Path of Devotion

The Great Work

What is the Sacred Vessel

Contemplation of Creation

All Rivers Flow Back to the One

Majesty of the Trees

Hecate's Call

Romance of Sun and Moon

Invitation to the Divine

The Sacred Fires of Brighid

In Service to the Divine

Chapter Four: Pathworkings

Pathworking or Guided Meditation?

How to Use These Pathworkings

The Healing Temple

The Horn of Plenty

The Book of Creative Mind

The Journey of the Shadow

INTRODUCTION

When I was a young child my creative expression was through the vehicle of movement and the music that inspired me to perform. When I became a young woman, I turned that creative flow into teaching, choreographing and performing. Each new role allowed me to magickally transcend my mundane existence and use my body as full expression of what my innermost feelings brought to the spotlight.

As a woman in my late twenties, I still moved and danced, but the focus of my creative efforts turned to that of caring for five children. As the children matured I turned my creative expression towards teaching and writing meaningful and powerful ritual.

As I entered my late forties the urge to write took hold and the inner judge that held me from that task slowly loosened its grip as I found my voice through the writing of poetry, pathworking, guided meditations and prose. It was from these creative fires that my first blog, *The Magickal Pen* was born.

Now, in my fifties writing is as natural to me as breathing and I am continually amazed at what inspired thought comes into place when I open my writing efforts and offer them as an act of service to the Gods and Goddesses I honor.

The format of this book is one that offers a sampling of poetry, pathworkings and some of my favorite articles that were written as expression of my magical experiences on this Path I have chosen.

Chapter One contains a sampling of writings reflecting the basic tools used in magickal practice. Rhythmic spells, the creation of Sacred Space, exploration of the alchemical elements are some of

the offerings. Each section concludes with a journal page entitled, *In Your Words* and a question/suggestion to muse upon.

Chapter Two explores the Great Wheel of the Witch's Solar year. Poetry and a deeper look at the inner workings of each Sabbat are the focus.

Chapter Three is a collection of poetry, invocation and writings offered in devotion to the Deity and the Divine that have blessed each action and endeavor I have undertaken.

Chapter Four is a collection of my favorite type of writing, the Pathworking. Explanation of how a pathworking differs from guided meditation, suggestions for getting the most from a pathworking and samplings that can be used for mundane and magick make this chapter useable in practical application.

Chapter One

Cornerstones of Magick

“The lessons begin and we hungrily consume all that we can. Sated and overfed we rest awaiting digestion and assimilation of what has been taken in. And, as sleep overtakes we dream the visions of those who have feasted on the Divine Fruits of the Gods.”

Spells and Incantations

I

Set forth these words
As the moon shines Full bright
The Crab holds the deep waters
Of intuition and lens of clear sight
That all who read may learn, explore
And grow
In the ways of spell working
And the seeds of desire they wish to grow.

Operative Magick

There is some debate over what the definition of Operative Magick is and the tag lines of Practical, High and Low Magick associated with its definition. Moreover, the term High and Low does not denote that level of effectiveness or potency, but rather the nature of the working and more specifically the energies and entities that are involved in the process.

High Magick is work done with the specific intent of achieving a spiritual, mystical goal. Ceremonial Magick, followers of the Order of the Golden Dawn and Qabalistic Magick all work with the formality and formularies of High Ritual. The work is done in a ritualistic manner; always with a circle of art being cast, the energies of the quarters called and a statement to those seen and unseen

regarding the intent. The work is formal, structured and well planned in accord with the desired results.

Operative (or Low) Magick includes Folk Magick, spell work and those workings that look more to effect the mundane world using the tools and energies of the mundane in concert with the spiritual to bring about a desired result. These are the practical workings that we do on a daily basis in accord with our life or community's needs. Those who were the pagans of agricultural society and lived in the lowlands worked from dusk to dawn, had little if any time or need for elaborate ceremonies; therefore the practice of operative magick was straightforward and to the point with little fanfare. Feathers, stones, herbs, flowers and other natural items were the ingredients used to work magick to ensure a good crops, fertility in marriage or protection from those who would do harm. These needs have transformed to some degree in modern society, but the underlying premise is still the same. That of improving or safeguarding those things we require.

Operative magick makes use of very simple and concrete tools, making use of what is available whether magickal or not and then employing the natural laws and principles of cause and effect to accomplish the working.

Spell work is perhaps the most commonly known form of operative magick. The overlays and enhancements of candles, crystals, herbs, astrology, colors, oils and a litany of by-products of the natural world support the working and engage the caster in a physical and energetic way.

A common time for operative magick to be employed is at one of the phases of the lunar cycle; the New, Full or Waning Moons. Most often operative magick is not included as part of a Sabbat celebration, but need may dictate otherwise and the celebration and

communion with the Deity(ies) of association are called to witness and aid with the working. The spell found at the beginning of this writing was written for the Full Moon in the astrological sign of Cancer and was part of a working of operative magick to reveal the deeper meanings of an article I had written to all who read it. Using the Moon's energies in the sign of Cancer was an additional bolster to the intent of the working as most people engage with written and creative offerings from an emotional heart centered space. Additionally, I used a sea blue candle for the working and drew from my own emotional and intuitive responses to craft a spell and symbolic working that would be successful.

For the magickal worker who maintains the belief that their path is one of 24/7 - 365 days a year and is part of the fibers of their own life's existence, operative magick is a daily routine. We cast spells as we cook. Carefully preparing and choosing the finest ingredients to produce pleasure and nourishment for ourselves and those we love cooking. Sitting and writing that special sentiment in a birthday card or sharing condolences intended to comfort are crafts of spell work. Prayers offered up for a loved one's health and the even the simple gesture of a hug and kiss accompanied by words of "have a good day" are spells cast. These and more are done transparently and largely unknowingly as we move through our daily routines.

The Oracle

Circle round thrice as the
Witch's pouch is held tight.

The cauldron is filled
With water and moonlight.

Gaze up towards Lady Moon
And call forth your desire.

The herbs in the bag throw
Into the heat of the fire.

Scry into water's reflection
Til the mist finally does clear.

Speak the incantation and
Seek visions of time that is near.

Lady Moon holds the answers
Insight and wisdom does flow.

What your heart has held deeply
Of hidden knowledge it now des know.

The Candle Spell

Gaze into that
Which holds the key
Reflecting back the
Gift of answer to me.

Wood and wax
Crystal and flame
The truth revealed
The heart's desire thusly named.

I cast this spell and
Naught shall reverse
My spell is for the power of
True Magick to fill this
Blessed Universe.

Candle Magick 101

Candle Magick makes use of the properties and energies of a candle, color, etc. to direct the focus of energy towards a desired outcome. It is for this reason that candles are used in High Magick and Ritual workings. They become the physical representation of God or Goddess, the transformative power that lights all others or the symbol of the inner fires of Will. Within our coven we routinely pour coven candles for each member annually. The wax used comes from the remainders of the previous year's candles and is melted down. All contribute an herb or oil to the mix and we pour energy and intent into the heated wax. A large candle is poured that will be used in ritual by all and then smaller individual candles are poured for each member to take home. This becomes a way to connect energetically with coven mates if the individual is unable to be physically present for working or meeting. This past year we were unable to schedule a time for this, but we still had plenty of candle left to carry us through and maintain the connection.

In doing spell work using a candle not only provides a point of focus, but also acts as a container for the energies gathered and worked upon. Allowing the candle to burn down completely releases the spell into the flow of universal law. Lighting the candle for several nights can build the effect and acts something like a slow simmer. Holding the heat and intensity, but carefully and slowly releasing the essence allowing all the flavors and nuances to mature. Candle magick is simple, easy and can be quite effective in its purpose. The beauty is that it can also be rather transparent to others, as many use candles as décor in their homes.

Candles are portable and relatively easy to make, if you are so inclined. If you choose to make your own candles, additional items can be integrated. I have crushed a small crystal and added its energy to the wax. Herbs and oils are readily available and can enhance the general properties and even the timing of pouring the

candle can bolster the intent. Aligning the pouring with New, Full or Waning moon energy customizes the effectiveness for specific types of workings for which the candle will be used.

Store bought candles can be similarly customized. Remove the wrapping and apply oil to the candle, anointing it with the properties of whatever oil you choose. Frankincense serves as durable purifier. And, Myrrh will stimulate the Higher Self and offer connection to spiritual realms. You can press finely crushed crystals into the base of the candle by heating the bottom slightly to soften the wax and then pressing in down into the crystalline substance, much like coating fish with breadcrumbs. Leaving the candle out under moonlight of any particular phase can attune it to those particular energies. And, placing the candle in a window or outside (depending on the heat temperature) under the sun's watchful eye can enliven the candle for use in solar, energy or fire workings. Scribing sigils, runes or other sacred markings on the candle and envisioning these symbols moving into the center of the candle can be used to sustain long-term workings. Each time the candle is relit envision the energy of the symbol emanating, much like an aura from within the candle.

Additionally, using a specifically colored candle can enhance the effectiveness of the spell. Some basic colors are listed below. If you cannot find a specifically colored candle, a makeshift way is to use a small round mirror (can find these at craft stores, and should be approx. 2-inches larger than the base diameter of the candle) and colored paper. Cut a circle just slightly larger than the candle base out of the colored paper that you have selected for the working. Place this on top of the mirror. Place a white candle on top of this. The reflective energies of the mirror will draw up the color from the paper into the candle's field of energy. And, when the candle is lit the flame will enhance the glow reflecting back into the mirror and creating a beautiful energetic circuit of light and energy.

White - Light and the reflection of all colors.

Red - Will, action and vitality.

Pink - Used for love of the heart.

Orange - Used for attraction, communication, and energy.

Yellow - Well-being, concentration, intuition, health, strength.

Green - Represents health and healing, money, changes and renewal, fertility.

Blue - Spiritual, healing, memory, calming and centering.

Indigo - Brow, third eye, psychic center. Psychic awareness.

Purple - Crown center, royal color, Deity, spiritual workings.

Brown - Stability, the earth, growth, potential.

Grey - Represents intuition.

Black - Contains and holds all colors, shields and filters.

These are just a few very simple and basic ideas to get you started in how to use candles for magick. Be creative. See the candle as not only an object of Fire's expression, but also containing the properties of Water (fluid wax when heated), Air (the aroma and oxygen accessed in keeping the candle light) and Earth, in its solid form. The element of Spirit is your intent infused and connected to the malleable form of wax, color, scent and more. And, the magick is in the ability to create Light in a small pocket of space that was not so brightly illumined just prior.

For a Sample of a Candle Magick Working that extended through the New, Full and Dark moon, read the post in Temple of the Cosmic Spheres that kicked off the dedication of the Temple of the Moon observations:

In Your Words:

Write a spell and candle working to enhance something positively in your life.