

*West Midlands*  
**W E F C F**  
*Magazine*

*The Sisters of the Moon*

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Issue 4/April 2020



# West Midlands Witch

A Crows Feet Publication

## Featuring...

Full Moon in Libra

Features: Pagan Creators and Artists

Positive Energies in a Global Pandemic

Grimoire

Five Minute Fiction & Poetry

Tarot Talk

Welcome to the fourth issue of West Midlands Witch.

This month we have made space for artists and creators in our community that run small pagan businesses. I hope you enjoy meeting some of the creative and magical people who make such beautiful art!

Remember, if you have something you would like to share with us, contact us on Facebook (West Midlands Witch) or email [thecrowsfeet@outlook.com](mailto:thecrowsfeet@outlook.com)

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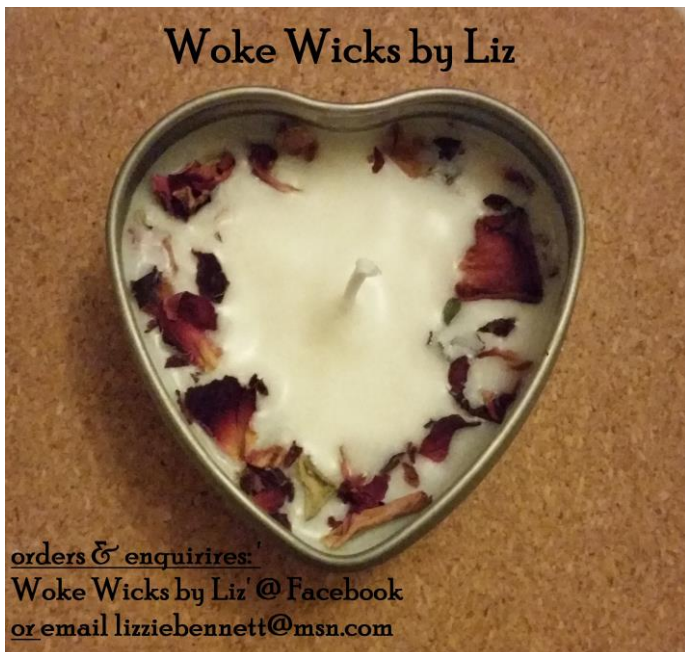
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## Meet the Maker: Miss Leanne Designs



Miss Leanne Designs is a Cruelty Free Skull and Bone Artist from Edinburgh, Scotland with a passion for bringing life to death. Creating unique one of a kind pieces, for your home, body and soul. Join us as we delve behind the scene's and get to know her and the secrets behind her art.

### **How did you come to work with skulls and bones?**

I've always had an infinity with natural history and wildlife, feeling more at peace when I am surrounded by nature. From a young age I was obsessed with dinosaurs, or more particularly their fossils and bones, to me there is so much beauty in seeing what came before us and what we are made of. The skeletal structure of every species is a work of art and I fell in love with learning and understanding more. Likewise, art has always been a part of my soul, and I was drawing and painting every day for as long as I can remember. It's who I am and how I express myself.



Around 11 years ago I broke my hand, requiring surgical pins to be implanted to reset the bones, unfortunately after a year of operations and a further six months of physiotherapy I was told I would never draw or paint again. Not one to be deterred I continued to practice every day but needed an outlet for my creativity, so I took up sculpting, followed by cake decorating but never fully felt satisfied. Throughout my life I have experienced unexplainable heartache and pain, it's complicated and I would rather not share too much but when I started Miss Leanne Designs I was completely broken.

and needed a way to heal. So, my love of the natural world and art married together into who I am and what you see today. I am aware some see death and fear it, or lack understanding for what I do, but for me, it's about honouring the animal, bringing love that they never experienced in life and raising awareness of our natural world. There is so much beauty around us and I am truly honoured that I get to experience that.





## **Where do you get your skulls and bones from?**

My animals come from natural deaths, mostly road kills, but I do support rescue centres and purchase more exotic animals from them, who unfortunately did not have the lives they deserved and did not survive. My art helps me to fundraise for rescues, in turn aiding them to continue to do amazing work with both pets and our wildlife.

Another invaluable source is the community of Taxidermists, Bone Artists, Entomologists and Vultures (collectors & sellers of dead

animals) whom I purchase from and trade with. For all of us the love of animals and nature is at the forefront of everything we do. We campaign for the welfare of animals and follow all legislations and laws when collecting and processing the dead. For us it is about the bigger picture, we need our wildlife, bone artistry, taxidermy, entomology and conservation. Raising awareness is paramount in making sure future generations can learn how to care for our natural world. I was recently awarded my Scottish Natural Heritage Licence for Endangered Species, which means I can collect and process animals on the protected species list, such as Dolphins, Porpoises and Seals for Education and Science purposes. My day job is in primary education and the children love learning about our wildlife. Getting up close and personal with bones and skulls is an emotionally bonding experience that teaches them the importance of looking after our earth and everything that lives here.

## **What process are involved? Is this an easy thing to do?**

Honestly if someone had told me a few years ago I would be doing this I never would have believed them. There is nothing easy about this work and the processes are extremely intense, requiring a lot of knowledge, skill and patience as well as the correct PPE and chemicals. It would take too long to explain everything but the most important tips I can give you are;

- never boil bones or skulls
- never use bleach
- and hand sanitizer is not a preservative.

All of these things will destroy and breakdown the animal over time which is a waste of a beautiful life. If you would like to learn more though I am happy to help, and I do run a private Facebook group "Miss Leanne Uncensored" where I will occasionally share videos of my process.





## How does your practice influence your work?



Personally, I believe Paganism is rooted in nature, we are never more alive than when we are connected to it and to all the creatures on this earth. The intrinsic values of life and death are forever present in everything we do and by honouring the dead and bringing them unconditional love in life, we complete the circle.

Introducing natural elements such as crystals, runes, symbols, leaves and flowers marries all the world's energy in powerful and important ways that can aid our practice. In short, my art reflects the natural world, my soul and my beliefs. Everything I undertake comes from a place of love and power.

## What's next for Miss Leanne Designs?

Truthfully, I don't know. I have so many plans, dreams and ambitions and you best believe I will go after each one with my heart and soul. I work hard every day, but I know the universe and the ancestors deliver what we need so I am just grateful for where I am already and hope that I continue to be blessed.

If you would like to keep up with my journey you can find me on social media;

[www.facebook.com/missleannedesigns](https://www.facebook.com/missleannedesigns)

[www.instagram.com/missleanne\\_designs](https://www.instagram.com/missleanne_designs)

I also do conventions and exhibitions throughout the UK and sell on my website (commission requests are welcome where available). You can sign up to my mailing list to learn about upcoming events, commission spaces and discount codes for my site;

[www.missleannedesigns.co.uk](http://www.missleannedesigns.co.uk)

Until then much love to you all, Miss Leanne x





# Super Full Moon in Libra

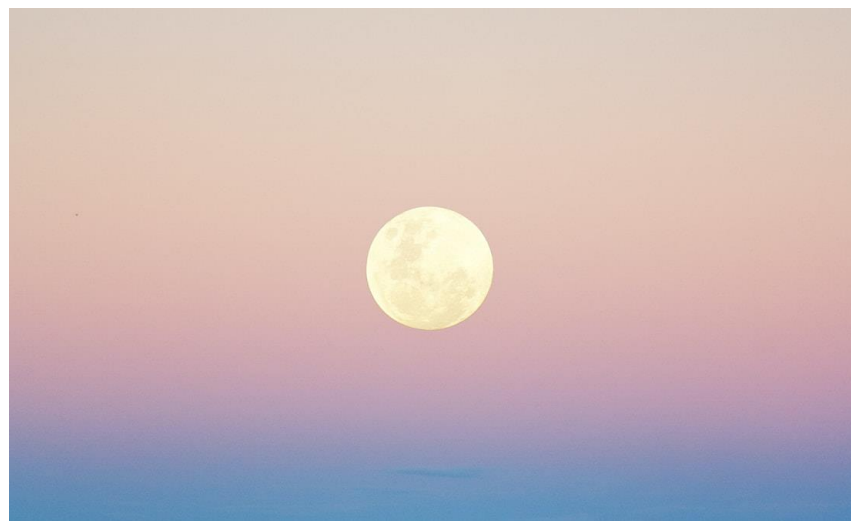
BY MICHELLE ROSE BOXLEY

FOR SISTERS OF THE MOON

Dear ones, we are heading into a powerful, super full moon in Libra this Wednesday. We have already had an intense few days over the weekend, with the Jupiter and Pluto conjunction on Saturday night, creating a powerful portal for change and the cleansing of certain Karmic patterns to do with oppression and fear. We find ourselves at the start of a new month and are officially welcoming in the season of Spring as we continue to see more and more signs of nature returning, green shoots and buds bursting forth signalling new beginnings and hope, days are lengthening and the sound of birdsong grows louder with each day. Yet, as per our previous blog, we continue to stay in lockdown as the Coronavirus continues to take hold of our planet. Now more than ever, is a time to come together as one, united by our experiences and hopes for a better future, and this is what this Full Moon is all about.

For this full moon we will have the sun in the fire sign of Aries and the moon in the air sign of Libra. If Aries is all about our relationship to self, then Libra is all about balancing this by looking at our relationships with others. It's about balancing our own needs with the needs of others, and learning to give and receive in equal measure. Libras are always seeking for balance and harmony and are the peacekeepers of the Zodiac.

This can sometimes be at personal cost as they often put their own needs and wishes at the



bottom of the list and can get into the habit of denying themselves pleasure. This full moon teaches us how to balance the fierce, independent and self assured energy of Aries with Libra's wish for peace and harmony with others. It's an opportunity for us to see how much of our energy is spent people pleasing - you may need some more Aries devil may care attitude, or if you spend too much energy

caught up in yourself - add in some of Libra's air qualities of connection, harmony and communication. Libra teaches us that we are all interconnected in a web of humanity, everything we do affects others and the actions of others also have an effect on us, this is being illuminated not just by the glow of the full moon but also by our current situation. Now more than ever we can see the impact that our actions have on the rest of the world, just by staying at home, we can protect people from getting sick and in some cases dying. Choosing to post positive things on social media might help someone take their first smile that day and feel a sense of comfort and relief whereby choosing to constantly post negativity might trigger someone to have an anxiety attack or to be living in a state of paranoia. Libra invites us to ask ourselves - how are my actions affecting others?



## Libra Self Care

Libra rules the lower back, hips, kidneys and bladder so be gentle on these parts of the body as the moon journeys through Libra. Drink plenty of water and lay off the caffeine. Using springtime herbs such as nettle and Dandelion can help to gently cleanse the kidneys but its important you drink plenty of water at the same time. A yoga practice to help release the lower back and hips will not only aid in any muscular tension in these areas but will also help to release old emotions that have been stored here - perfect for the full moon when emotions are heightened and brought to the surface. You could also work with crystals to support and balance the Sacral chakra such as Carnelian and red jasper as well as working with crystals to support the heart chakra such as rose quartz, emerald and green aventurine.



Tune into Libra's balancing and harmonizing energies with essential oils of Geranium - for balance, Bergamot - for harmony and Rose - for love. These are beautiful together and make a gorgeous bath recipe or body oil. Rose is often the symbol for both Venus and the Divine Feminine so why not treat yourself to a bunch of roses to decorate the home.

**Full moon blessings to you all dear sisters! Don't forget you can join us for our live Full Moon Circle via Zoom when you sign up to either our \$10 or \$20 a month Patreon tier. Full details: [www.patreon.com/sistersofthemoon](http://www.patreon.com/sistersofthemoon)**

This article was an excerpt from the Sisters of the Moon Blog - read the full thing here:

<https://sistersofthemoononline.weebly.com/blog/super-full-moon-in-libra-cultivating-inner-and-outer-harmony>



Sisters of the Moon is an online community, magazine, and so much more!

You can find them at

<https://www.facebook.com/sistersofthemooncommunity/>



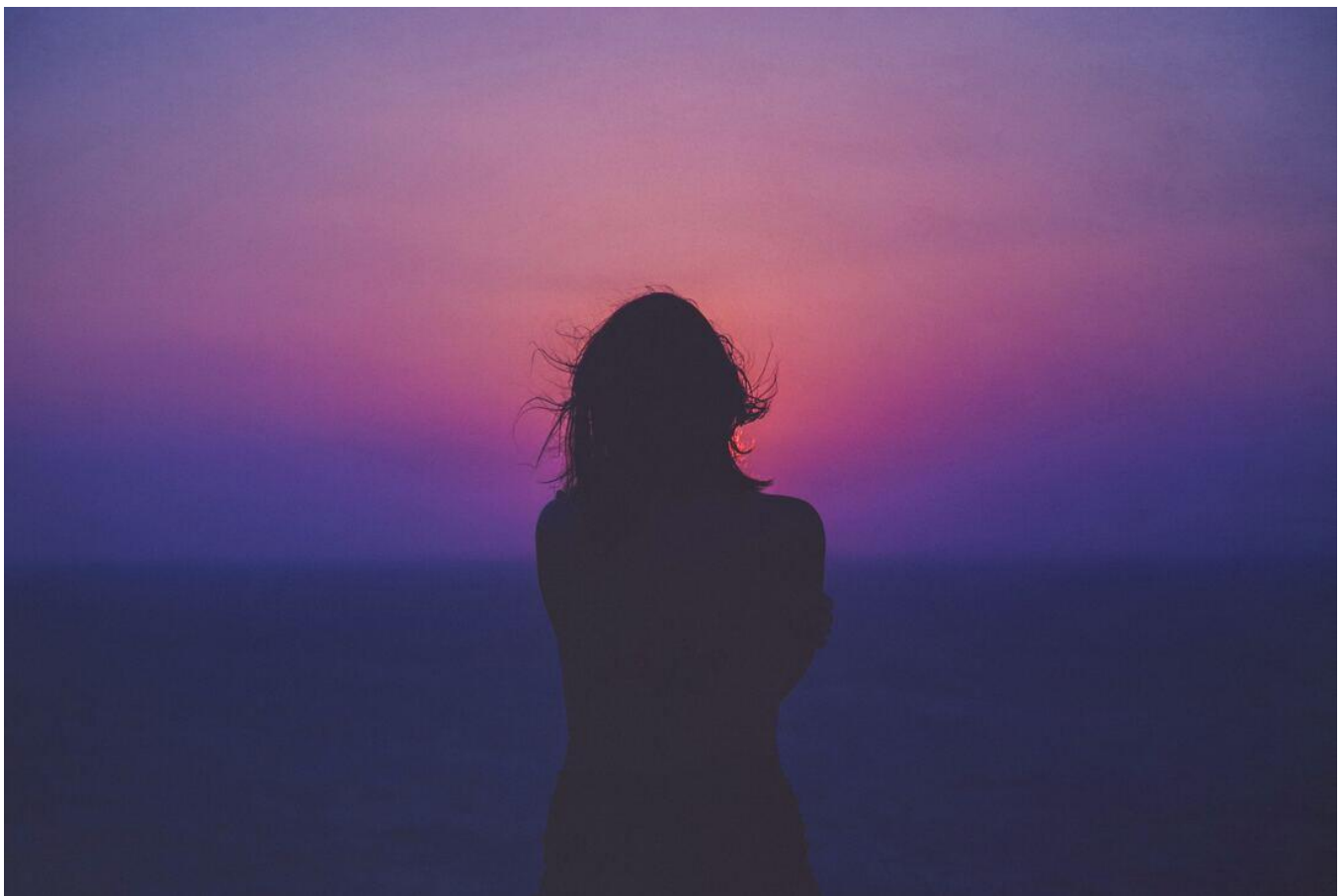
# Positive Energies in a Global Pandemic

BY FAIRY BEC

WWW.RUBEK.CO.UK

Please do not think that because I am writing this, I am any sort of Mary Poppins. I too am suffering a rollercoaster of emotions and at times struggling to keep control. It is because of this that I write this article.

As I sit here in week one out of a minimum of 12 (which follows two weeks previously of social distancing), I am facing isolation due to my severe asthma. I am, or rather was, self-employed. I have had zero income since 23rd March 2020 and have had the rug totally pulled out from under my business. I normally work from home and that brings a multitude of people into my house – something I cannot now do. In fact, it's something that I may not be able to return to for a long time, as people will probably have to look elsewhere while the world opens back up, all the while I am still 'incarcerated' in my home. This is not a pity party, this is me giving you context on what has motivated me to write this article in the hopes that others in the same position can be re-assured that they are not alone. I miss being able to physically connect with people, and I suspect that is the same for a lot of people right now.



But, I am a believer in energy, and I am also a believer in fate and it has been this enforced pause on my life that has made me ask – why is this happening? I feel I have been dealt two choices:-

1) Sit at home being angry, frustrated and allow my anxiety to take over while feeling totally out of control.

2) Use the tools within my home to help others and gain focus and control for myself.

I am trying my best to focus on option 2 and the following beliefs and ideas are what is helping me to do that:-

## Energy Concepts

One of the things I do is healing work. I am a Reiki practitioner and offer Reiki sessions. Reiki in a very simple nutshell is energy healing. I have studied to become attuned to energies and how to get them flowing the way they should for optimum health. You cannot just be a Reiki healer; it is a long and complicated process to get it right. Therefore, I have a skill that not everybody does and I shall focus on it to help others.

What is energy and how can we feel it?

Everyone is unique and every being has its own energy; indeed some may say that all we are is energy. The quickest way to connect with your energy is through your hands and your breath. I will give some examples in a minute.

Why is energy so important at the moment?

Aside from the need to keep going, stay healthy and have the energy to make changes to our life in order to survive, energy can have positive and negative associations and if that goes out of balance globally, I believe that we will all struggle as a human race.

So . . . when you feel anxious, angry or frustrated, you manifest negative energy. This negativity can become all-consuming and over shadow the positive energy.

Balance is, however, important. If we did not have positive and negative energy then batteries would not work. Let us imagine that everyone in the world is feeling more negative energy than usual, the world has therefore become imbalanced. We cannot change what other people think, however, we can change what we, ourselves think. It is important to accept and address the negative as without it, we cannot see that balance and appreciate the positive. We will never change everyone in the world to have purely positive energy as some people are innately selfish.

Methods to control your own energy input and output

### **The breath**

Anyone who has ever done yoga, you may already be well connected to the use of the breath.

Breathing is fuel for the body and therefore, energy. In yin yoga, we are encouraged to breathe into





our stretches sending the breath to the areas which hurt or we know need more help/healing.

If thoughts are energy then we need to control our input and output. A very simple breathing exercise is to inhale positive thoughts and exhale negative ones. In terms of balance – it is important that we address and accept the negative thoughts before sending them off. Sometimes, these thoughts still linger and that is fine.

Sit quietly and undisturbed for a few moments thinking about what is worrying you and equally, what you want to achieve for yourself. Breathe your positive intentions in for 4 counts and breathe the negative out for 4 counts. You can also pause for 4 counts each side if required. Make sure that you can visualise

the breath going up and releasing into the sky. You don't want to trap your breath in your room/home and you don't want to send your negativity at anyone else. As you breathe in, you can visualise energy coming into your body, fuelling your health and bringing about a more positive mentality.

### **Your hands**

Hold your hands out in front of you, turn your palms to the sky and try not to have any gaps between your fingers. It may help to imagine that you have a crystal ball in each hand. Look to your right hand and imagine strength – the Yang. Look to your left hand and imagine softness and yielding – the Yin. Turn your hands into each other to create a sphere shape. You could imagine holding a tennis ball between them. Now focus on that feeling between your hands. Many



people will feel tingling, warmth, heaviness or a magnetic feeling (attracting or repelling). This is your energy. You can do what you like with that energy. Here are some suggestions:-

- 1) Play with the energy – how far can you move your hands apart yet still feel it?
- 2) Look into the centre of your hands and visualise what you want to achieve now, in the future, out of life. Raise your hands up above your head keeping your focal point on your hands. As you do so, open the hands while remaining connected to the feeling of the energy. Throw your intention up into the air like a ball then catch it and bring it back towards your heart.
- 3) Expand the energetic feeling to create an imaginary bubble of golden light to seal you, your family, those you care about in a protective shield.
- 4) Bring your sealed hands to your forehead, close your eyes and visualise your future goals and dreams.

5) Look into the centre of your hands and visualise a golden healing light of protection. Raise your hands up above your head keeping your focal point on your hands. Now throw your hands up above your head and stretch your fingers out, look up to the sky and imagine that you are throwing out hundreds and thousands of bubbles of golden energy. Those bubbles are for those who need more support at the moment.

The most contagious thing right now is not Covid-19 but energy! If you are worried, your family will worry and anyone they are speaking to will feed off that worry. However, if you are being positive then this too will be caught by other people.

I spent some time in the late 1990s talking to some Hari Krishna Monks in the street. Where I went to University, there were several that would just roam around outside Morrisons talking to people. One valuable conversation was the power of "Gouranga!" which simply means "Be Happy!" This is how the Hari Krishna greeted everyone and many of us at University also adopted this greeting which has a movement attached. You take one foot off the floor, point both index fingers to the sky at the same time as bobbing your head down and bending your supporting leg and bringing your raised knee up. You make eye contact with the person you are greeting, smile and shout "Gouranga!". Try it – it genuinely feels good!

When we are all back to mixing with each other, I hope that we can all think better about how we connect. I am not suggesting we shout "Gouranga!" at each other (although it is fun!). Maybe we can, as a Western Cultured society, hopefully use this experience to learn to smile and make eye contact a bit more. Maybe, when this isolation has passed on, enjoy the freedom and choice we will have again to connect positively with other human beings. You never know how someone might be feeling and how a smile can lift someone's day.

So, I encourage you not to choose option 1, but to start the new pandemic today! – Positivity is infectious - Be Happy!



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# South Birmingham Moot – Coronavirus style BY PORTLAND JONES

So, what do you do when your moot can't meet?!

We go virtual.

Wednesday mornings at 11am we have our virtual coffee morning. We settle ourselves down with tea or coffee, and an optional biscuit, and we chat on the FaceBook moot page for a while. The first week, we shared pictures of our fur babies. The planned half hour coffee break easily spread into an hour.

We send out a weekly newsletter with topics like store cupboard recipes, reading recommendations, crystal of the week. Sunday evenings at 8pm we light a candle and share pictures, or just confirm that our candle is alight, to show that there is someone out there who cares.

Members check in to ask how people are getting on; there have been offers to help with shopping for those who are struggling.

Does this help? I think so. We live in an age where many people come into contact with others all the time. Some we know well: family and

friends. Some we may be on nodding terms with: the local shopkeeper, the person queuing for the same bus every morning. Our colleagues at work. Parents on the school run. Fellow students. Neighbours. The receptionist at the doctors. All these people add to the richness of our lives.

We may not always appreciate them, or even realise how they impact our lives. There may be times when we actively wish they would all go away and give us some peace.

And now they have. Even those we do meet, for example essential workers, there are no longer the hugs and handshakes. This quickly turns from a bit of a break, to feeling isolated, lonely and scared, possibly leading to depression. No one needs to feel they are on their own. We have technology in a way we have never had before – so let's use it.

For South Birmingham Moot, our next planned venture is 'Pagan Couch Camp'. Our real camp is planned for July – we strongly suspect there may still be restrictions in place by then, so we are getting in first with a replacement 'coronavirus style' camp.





We will be asking members to set up their camp on Friday evening – somewhere comfortable where they can access their computer or mobile device, with some supplies such as drinks and snacks – and share photos.

Saturday will start off with a group blessing for the weekend, followed by a tai chi session on video, tarot demonstration, drumming, meditation and storytelling. As if that's not enough, we will be having a watch party concert with live(ish) music from a local band. To end the night there will be a late-night chat.



Sunday will start with 'share your breakfast', followed by tai chi to work it off. We have a quiz and scavenger hunt planned, followed by a craft session making amulets. We will end with a closing blessing, and time for people to stop and chat – a coffee and a natter.

Will all this work? We're not sure yet! But admins are working hard to get it all sorted, finding out about techie stuff that we've never done before. It's due to take place from 3rd April to 5th April. We will let you know in the next issue how it went.

A collage of various tattoos and a logo for Klaire Ader Tattooist. The logo features the name "KLAIRE ADER" in a stylized font above a diamond-shaped face, with "TATTOOIST" below it. The tattoos include a green cat, a skeleton, a large rose, a tree, a bee, a butterfly, a woman's face, and a hand. The background is black with green outlines around the tattoos and logo.

*Insta- Klaire\_Ader\_Tattoo*  
*FB- Klaire Ader Tattooist*  
*Klaireadertattoos@gmail.com*



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# Tarot Talk

BY ESME KNIGHT

## THE CHARIOT

The Chariot sweeps into your life and unsettles the dirt with big bold changes. When it finally skids to a halt what remains is barely recognisable. This card is all about journeys, the choices we make and the lessons we learn along the way. Which lessons, are all down to us and the choices we make when faced with events beyond our control. Things are happening and you can either cling on for dear life or find a safe place to hunker down until the whirlwind is over, there are no wrong answers here, we must just choose the best course of action for us.

At the core of this card is CHANGE. Whether that be the practical aspects of our day to day, our health and wellbeing, creative projects, bad habits, new romances or old flames, nothing is off the table. Along with change come the concepts of 'good luck' and 'bad luck', but consider this: luck/change is neutral. It's our perception of an event or outcome and any benefit which alter our idea of whether something was 'bad luck' or not. When The Chariot appears in the spread, it counsels that we look at the actions and choices that brought us here not the place itself, and be mindful of them as the journey continues.



In a literal sense, physical distance can also be represented by this card, as well as the travelling between places. Not all journeys are physical though, sometimes the change that occurs happens within while we must endure a cocoon like transformation. One thing is for sure, The Chariot demands action and that action is the process of change. It is irrelevant if we as individuals are active or still during that time as there is likely to be the same level of uncertainty. Purposeful action is always a better path than indecision leading to having to take the last resort.

This card is telling us to focus on the journey because the destination is, as yet, unknown.  
**Pay attention to the challenges, rise to them and fight to win!**

## SUIT OF WANDS

Wands, staves, sticks, clubs, torches... However you know them, the suit of wands is rooted in action and strongly connected to the element of fire (summer and the south) and taps into our primal needs of food, shelter and warmth, and our instinctual needs; creativity, passion and ambition.

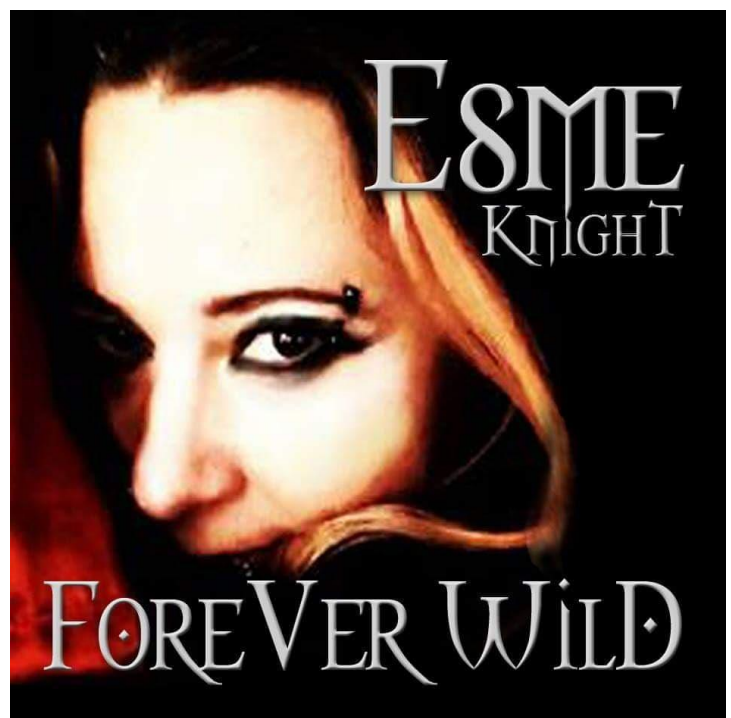
A spread heavy with wands may not always be positive though so watch out for barging ahead with tasks, indulging the ego, overworking, and burning out. Mostly however the Wands counsel productivity. From the simple meditative chores like washing the dishes or ten minutes of yoga, to the brain exploding bursts of creativity, to purposeful physical rest and mental self-care. All equally have their place.

Cherish freewill and celebrate your choices. Don't take risks, preparation has the best chance of an abundant outcome. Provide yourself with at least some structure or else chaos shall reign, then strive ahead. Failures help conquer fears, so persevere. Chart your progress and take stock of your achievements regularly and count your blessings where you find them. It's ok to change your mind.

Any action is better than inaction, making a conscious choice better than omitting even if that choice it to do nothing. **So whatever you do, do... Do it on Purpose!**



Esme Knight is a Yorkshire born musician, witch, fire performer, artist, writer and community leader living in Nottingham. Primarily a musician, Esme's original material is a mix of dark and sassy rock songs blended with modern gothic folk ballads. Following years of bands, collaborations and cover gigs she decided to focus on her original material and her debut solo album "Forever Wild" was released June 2018 to wide acclaim, containing tales of joy, sorrow, reflection, death and the wildness in all of us. Moving to Nottingham in 2008 from London where she was Retail Manger of the famous and gruesome London Dungeon, she began her work with the Pagan community and founded Pagan Pride UK, championing accurate representation for modern Pagans and hosting the UK's largest Pagan event attended by over 3500 people every year. Her community work earned her an International Women's Day award marking the centenary in 2011, and recently Pagan Pride UK's annual festival in Nottingham won the Pagan Federation's 'Best Large Outdoor Event 2018'. Esme Knight is a Dragon Shaman and a member of Clan Dolmen, regularly performing and speaking at their events, including their fire rituals, working with fire, drums and body movement to conjure the dragon within.





From unique incense blends to Travel Altars and baubles, Colette of Immortal Prayers aims to provide Healers, Shaman & the Pagan community with the little essentials needed for their spiritual work and also to inspire creativity in others.

Artesan and Crafter Colette is a hereditary Witch, Aromatherapist and Reiki Master Teacher with over 28yrs experience and a love for herbal / hedgerow medicine.

Colette started Immortal Prayers initially to create beautiful and unique incense blends for rituals and ceremonies, and then went on to create seasonal baubles and witchballs; she now makes many other tools and items for the pagan community, using feathers, beads, gemstones and other materials to create her designs.

"There is so much scope to play with, the possibilities for ideas are endless, especially when it come to creating something that's just a little bit different," states Colette. "I have a lot of fun doing what I love to do, designing from the heart and creating with a magical mindset.



I chose the name Immortal Prayers because Incense is my passion and incense is an intergral part of magic work as you are offering your prayers/intentions to the Gods. Creating unique blends takes time; you need to choose the right herbs, resins and roots for the blends' intention, but they all need to work in synergy together to create a pleasing aroma, which is why i choose quality, organic and wildcrafted ingredients. This allows me to experiment with the lesser known and more sacred resins and woods found throughout the world, which has given me a much deeper understanding of plants and trees, how they can help medicinally and ceremonially and a greater appreciation for how Mother Earth can provide natural tools for our work "

For a range of quality incense and pagan crafts check out Immortal Prayers crafts on Etsy: [www.etsy.com/shop/immortalprayers](http://www.etsy.com/shop/immortalprayers)



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Look forward to hearing from you soon

Warm regards

Colette





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& Poetry

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up a chair.





# Tiny Tales

BY RAVEN INKSPELL

## A Ritual of Fire

The silence of the Grove is indescribable. This, my woodland sanctuary, my sacred space, my nemeton, has matured so much in the past year since I discovered it, it has walked with me on my journey of growth and transformation, itself evolving, quietly, organically.

The air is warm and powerful, pertinent really given tonight's ritual, the anticipation is tangible. The magic of these woods still humbles me, deeply rooted in the old ways, woven into the web of the earth.

Gwythian, my Grove Guardian, calls me to the centre of the Grove and we start to fill the soitheach-teine with wood, incense, sage and herbs. In previous rituals I've always felt a little bit of a beginner (and in some respects I always will) but this feels different.

After the winnowing, I feel as if I've shed my skin, let go of who I was and the life that was clinging to me, another awakening, full of purpose and intent. Feet firmly in the soil, soul and spirit at one with nature, my physical and emotional being fused with that of the planet.

I draw my circle deosil, this time with my Athame, having felt drawn to this tool over my wand on this occasion. Arms raised to the sky I call forth the spirits of the cardinal points, my feminine energy strong. I'm aware of the responsibility I bear when I invoke Fire.

Heady smoke beings to rise from the soitheach-teine. Flames follow, Gwythian and I stand on opposing sides of the iron pot as I call out for the blessing of sacred fire, that it might awaken my inner vision and power.

I gaze into the flames and feel the energy within the Grove start to boil. I concentrate hard, knowing this is a test of my dedication, a test of my comprehension of the power I am using, I must hold this. The energy settles slightly, and the flames begin to dance and play, forming shapes, intertwining with one another, teasing each other – the spirit of the fire youthful.

I hold my gaze, waiting for any messages it may have for me, patient. The flames unite and as they do, my head starts to swim. I see the form of a dragon within the flames, standing before a barrow. I close my eyes and hear his voice, but I don't hear with my ears, I hear with my heart, the language not words, but something more ancient. My sense





of time is lost, everything feels infinite. I'm roused from that unknown place by the voice of Gwythian softly saying

"Raven, you must give thanks"

I look around and the flames have died down, the heady scent of purifying white sage hanging in the air of the Grove. I clamber to my feet, weary – I can feel that not only have I been given much, but that I have given much also – as is only right.

In the centre of the Grove I raise my arms and give thanks to the element of fire for the blessing the circle, blessing me and for the guidance and inspiration I have received.

Gwythian and I join hands, reciting the Druid prayer for peace, acknowledging our ancestors and the spirits in attendance. With my Athame I unwind the circle widdershins, ready to return and process my dance with fire.

## RAVEN VISION

Two glacier blue eyes close as my body exhales, every bone and muscle melts comfortably, my third eye opens.

As I lay there, I scan my body from my toes upwards, feeling my form begin to shift, change, shed its human trappings and all that makes it recognisable to the unconnected, allowing my inner being her freedom.

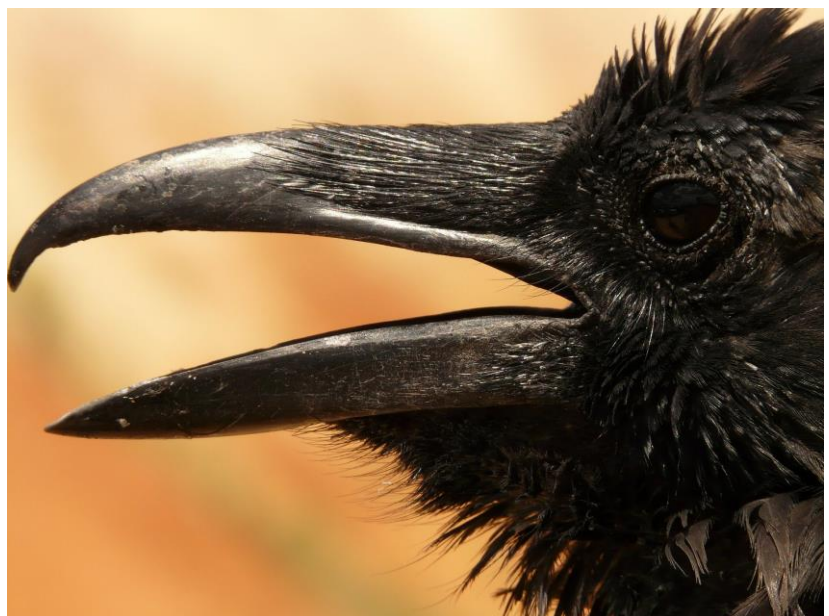
Slender, earth-bearing feet become inky black claws, a curved triad at the fore, a lone claw at the rear. I flex them, marvelling at their strength, their structure, seemingly appearing so delicate but all at once capable of swift entrapment, of capture.

Knobbly, human legs disappear to be replaced by lithe, avian legs, the colour of soot, supporting my ever-changing form. All that is flesh fades, runs like wet paint faced with a torrential downpour, dropping from view as the pitch dark of my corvid soul assumes her complete beauty.

I turn my head, midnight eyes surveying outstretched wings, feathers sleek, almost metallic in their hue, a rainbow disguised within the deepest black.

I Kraa to the setting sun, my raven soul calling out her freedom to nature, a cry so full of intent, full of my wild spirit. My heart lifts and I take flight.

Every nerve awakens, my sense perception so magnified, so very feeling that I could hear a butterfly think. I blink and scan



my horizon, reeling in its new-found vastness. The warm currents gently flutter and ruffle the tips of splayed out feathers, I feel them undulate.

My thoughts smile and I begin a broad turn, my inner radar guiding me to my own place of sanctuary, to the Grove.

I enter the Grove from the west, 13 Hazel trees, each one well-established, connected to the earth and thousands of years of ancestry by twisted, curious roots, roots that are nourishing the Hazels with food from the earth.

Within the Grove I resume my human, feminine form, cloaked in green. I weave in and around each tree watchtower, dancing joyfully, with no abandon, feeling the Awen flow through me, channelled through my always naked feet, coursing through my spirit like fire.

I know I am blessed by nature and I slow my dance, heading toward the womb of the Grove and to pay thanks and await the messages that may be given to me as I quiet my soul.

I kneel to the ground, pushing my fingers through the dewy, wet grass, scratching the surface to sink my fingers in to the warm soil and deepen my connection with the earth.

I hear their voices:

“Are you ready to honour the call of your ancestors?”

I nod, no need to say the words aloud because here and now, my heart, my soul and my spirit are open to them, they see my intent, feel my truth.

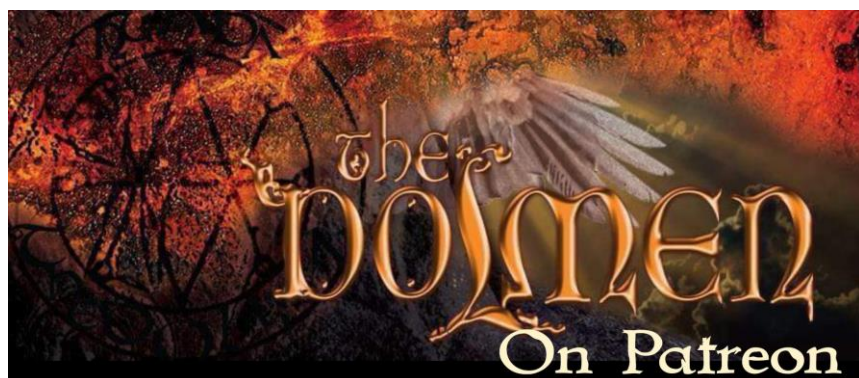
They ask:

“Are you ready to live your truth, to honour the earth, the sun, the moon, answer the call of the wild and protect all that we are, all that we live for?”

My soul answers, truly. The wind rustles through the Hazels, ending the deep silence, encircling my sanctuary with nature's music and affirming the support of the Druid spirit.

This marks the time for me to depart. I stand, arms raised, palms outwards to the sky – I say the prayer for peace aloud,

I pause, inhale deeply, feel my human form dissolve as I leave the Grove on raven wings.



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# Persephone's Initiation

The time is nigh,  
gather your flowers,  
brew your wine,  
summon your powers.

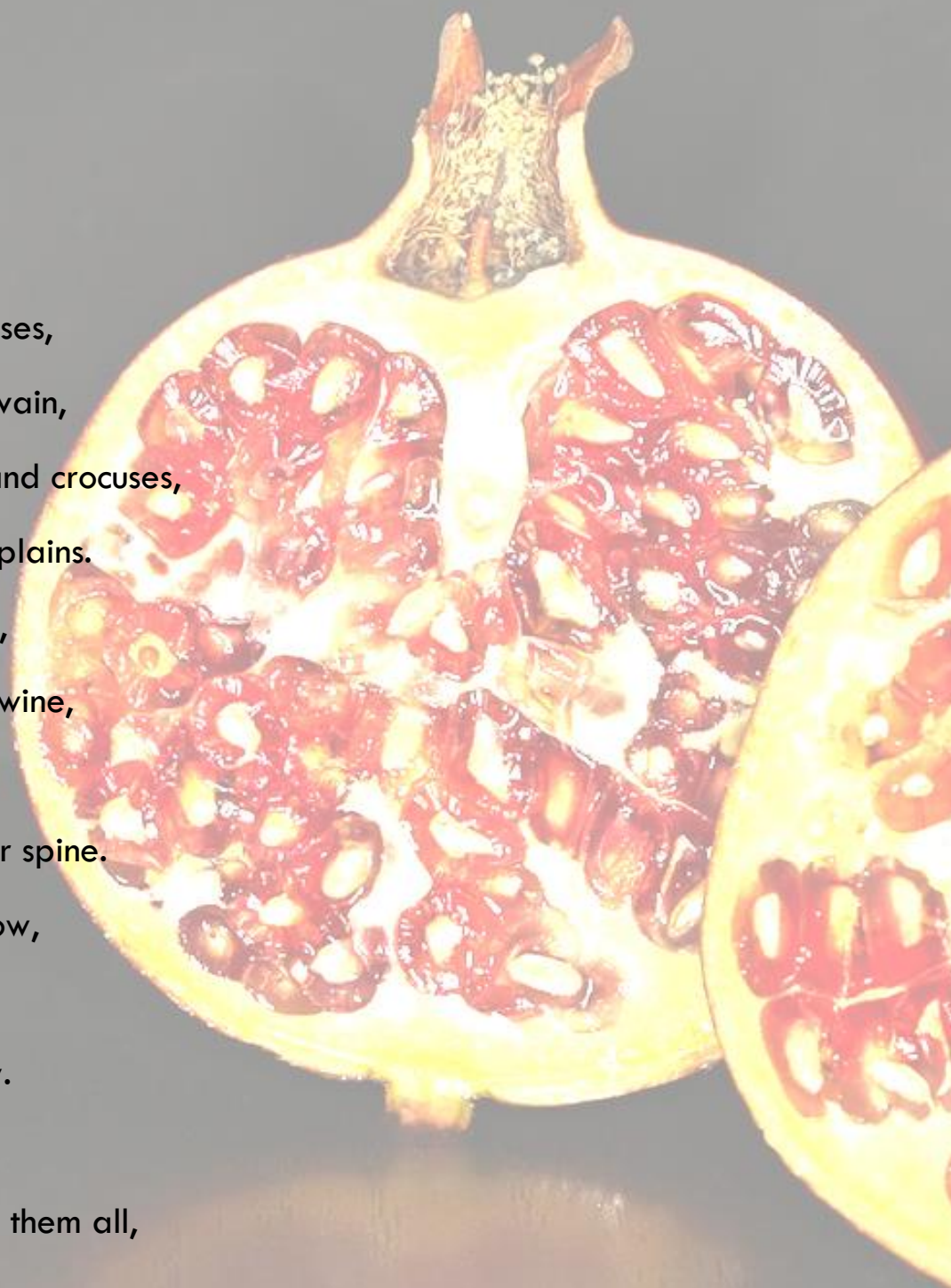
Henbane, violets and roses,  
hyacinths, irises and vervain,  
pomegranate, grapes and crocuses,  
gathered in the Nysian plains.

Poppy crowned maiden,  
drop the seeds into the wine,  
take a sip, fair maiden,  
feel its magic down your spine.

I see a blooming meadow,  
whispering nymphs  
under a weeping willow.

And a golden flower,  
intoxicating king among them all,  
it took my power,  
numbed my senses,  
all I hear it's its call.

Pull me up, fair maiden,  
pull me up whole,  
get drunk in my fragrance,  
stand still on this threshold.



The Underworld's doors are wide open,  
Aidoneus comes to claim your soul.  
His embrace awakens my senses,  
Do I feel pleasure or pain?  
my skin tears with his caresses,  
and swiftly we leave the Nysian plain.  
In the Elysian fields we wed,  
Mnemosyne's wine  
and Asphodel's bread.  
And in ecstasy we dance,  
until I awake from this trance.  
But to the Hades I shall return,  
in Aidoneus' arms to burn.  
A joyful death,  
a blissful rebirth,  
sinking down into the earth.

BY LAURA ALDOMA





# The Fear

BY M. WAITE

## The Fear

To sit beside the river flow  
Not to dwell but just to know  
That what is now is not forever  
As earth and soul entwine together

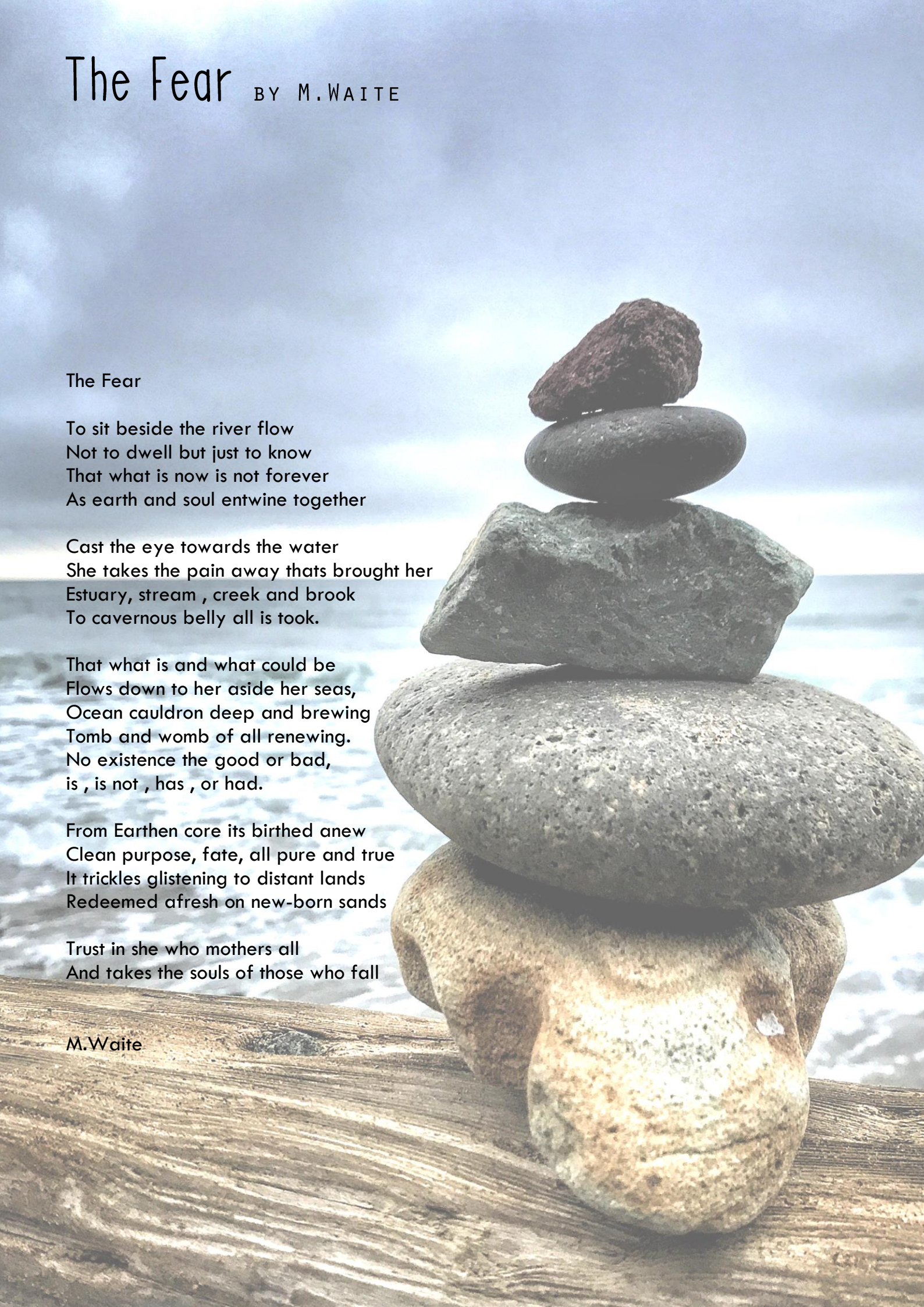
Cast the eye towards the water  
She takes the pain away that's brought her  
Estuary, stream, creek and brook  
To cavernous belly all is took.

That what is and what could be  
Flows down to her aside her seas,  
Ocean cauldron deep and brewing  
Tomb and womb of all renewing.  
No existence the good or bad,  
is, is not, has, or had.

From Earthen core its birthed anew  
Clean purpose, fate, all pure and true  
It trickles glistening to distant lands  
Redeemed afresh on new-born sands

Trust in she who mothers all  
And takes the souls of those who fall

M. Waite





# Grimoire

April 2020

## Thieves Oil BY BETH SHADOW~FAE

As the Legend goes, during the 15th century when Europe was infested with the Plague, four apothecaries became famous for robbing possessions from hundreds of infected corpses, but strangely NEVER caught the highly contagious, deadly plague themselves. People were shocked how they could touch the dead yet remain perfectly healthy. What was their secret? When they were eventually caught, the magistrate offered to spare their lives....in exchange for their secret formula. They had concocted an oil (commonly known as "Theives oil") that scientific evidence now proves to be antibacterial, killing 99.6% of airborne bacteria within 10 minutes of exposure, even killing of penicillin resistant pneumonia. The oil also has anti inflammatory, antimicrobial & anti cancer properties, promoting a strong immune system, cognitive & respiratory health. It can also be used for protection & Hex breaking spells.

To make this oil yourself, you simply combine:

35 drops clove essential oil

30 drops lemon essential oil

20 drops cinnamon essential oil

15 drops eucalyptus essential oil

10 drops rosemary essential oil

Mix in a base oil, such as olive or coconut, and keep in a glass bottle or jar away from direct sunlight.

**This oil is NOT to be internally consumed.**

It can be applied topically to your skin as an antibacterial hand sanitiser or a drop applied to the soles of your feet to boost your immunity, it's a great disinfectant for the home, and it's particularly lovely inhaled in an oil diffuser to purify the air.

**This oil is NOT suitable during pregnancy, and always do a patch test before using topically.**

**Disclaimer: I am not a doctor/medical, if you are unwell always consult a medical professional and use your common sense & good hygiene**

*Blessed be! ♥ Wild Gaia Child*





# Car Protection Mojo

Original Written for April Esbat - April 2nd 2007

Flower Moon, AKA Growing, Seed, Planter's, Awakening Moon

Written by Alicia (Witchmedow) 2/07

God: Hermes Goddess: Feronia

Included: Muslin pouch, Parchment paper

Herbs	Stones
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Aspen - Anti-theft</i></li><li>• <i>Caraway - Anti-theft/Protection</i></li><li>• <i>Cumin - Anti-theft</i></li><li>• <i>Garlic - Anti-theft</i> (you can use the no-odor oil capsules)</li><li>• <i>Juniper - Anti-theft</i></li><li>• <i>Amaranth - Invisibility/Protection</i></li><li>• <i>Chicory - Invisibility</i></li><li>• <i>Fern - Invisibility</i></li><li>• <i>Agrimony - Protection</i></li><li>• <i>Angelica - Protection</i></li><li>• <i>Balm of Gilead - Protection</i></li><li>• <i>Sage - Protection</i></li><li>• <i>Lavender - Protection</i></li><li>• <i>Cedar - Protection</i></li><li>• <i>Vervain - Protection</i></li><li>• <i>Mugwort - Protection</i></li><li>• <i>Boneset - Protection</i></li><li>• <i>Rosemary - Protection</i></li><li>• <i>Bay - Protection</i></li><li>• <i>Witch Hazel - Protection</i></li><li>• <i>Broom - Protection</i></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Zircon - Orange - Anti-theft/Travel</i></li><li>• <i>Zircon - Red - Protection from injury</i></li><li>• <i>Amethyst - Protection against thieves</i></li><li>• <i>Coral - Protection against thieves/accidents</i></li><li>• <i>Garnet - Protection against thieves</i></li><li>• <i>Lodestone - Protection/Hide from Authorities</i></li><li>• <i>Moonstone - Travel/Protection</i></li><li>• <i>Chalcedony - Travel/Protection</i></li><li>• <i>Bloodstone - Invisibility</i></li><li>• <i>Opal - Invisibility</i></li></ul>
	<p><i>Resins</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Dragon's Blood</i></li><li>• <i>Frankincense</i></li><li>• <i>Myrrh</i></li></ul>

On parchment paper written by your own hand:

Better fuel mileage, no repair,  
make sure there's no rust anywhere.  
Police cameras can't see if I drive too fast.  
Bless this mojo and make it last.  
No accidents, potholes or other things,  
to bend the metal or break the springs.  
Just keep me safe and my car, too.  
This is all I ask of you.  
If you will so mote it be.

If in group, Place left hand out to your side and turn left hand palm up and place mojo in left palm. Place right hand out to your side and place your hand palm down over your neighbours left palm holding the mojo between your hands. Envision the energy flowing through you into your mojo and that of your neighbour. Feel the energy from the entire group flowing through you charging the mojos. When everyone has done this recite spell x3.

If you are alone doing spellcraft place mojo in your left hand with your right over it. Envision energies from yourself and any potential passengers flowing through the mojo and recite spell x3.

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Hermes, a Greek God, was chosen because He was the protector of travellers. Quick acting and cunning, he was able to move swiftly between the world of man and the world of gods, acting as a messenger of the gods.

Feronia, a Roman Goddess, as chosen as she has only the positive or useful function of putting the forces of wild nature at the service of man. The Goddess of freedom and recreation her energies would assist in travel for pleasure and ensure the freedom to move about unhindered by troubles.

Do you have a favourite spell or ritual you would like to share? Email them to [thecrowsfeet@outlook.com](mailto:thecrowsfeet@outlook.com) and we will feature them in future issues!

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