

Rauhnächte



13 Wishes for 13 Rough Nights



Back in 2018 I was sinking in to how wonderfully spooky the Season of Yule feels. During some research I found a number of articles detailing a tradition of both Germanic and Celtic origins. @markedbyawitch made a video about it which inspired me to document my own work and information about it in 2022. The tradition called Rauhnächte (Translated: Rough Nights) makes use of those very liminal days between the Winter Solstice and the beginning of January. The nights from the 25th of December until January 6th mark the longest of the year.

All you need is a piece of paper, a pen, flame and time to reflect.

Before the 25th take time to contemplate your wishes for the calendar year.

Rip the paper into 13 strips.

On each strip write your wishes down. In present tense "I am or I have etc"

Fold the wishes towards you, and keep in a jar or box, shaking the vessel so you don't know which wish you are burning.

On the night of the 25th, go outside, either on a balcony or in nature. Bring a candle or a lighter, some herbs for smoke cleansing and offerings to the land / spirits.

You can ask Spirits, Guardians and Guides to be with you as you send the wishes up.

Pick a wish and burn it, sending it off to the Universe to receive & grant.

Added divination: Take a card deck, either Oracle or Tarot, and pull a card after your wish is burned. The card you pull will be in correspondence to the energy of the month. So the first night, Dec 25th you'll pull a card for January's energy and so on.

Repeat for the following 11 nights until the 6th of January. You will be left with one wish / intention.

The 12 wishes you have burned, will be dealt with by the energy / spirits/ universe whoever or whatever you sent your wishes up to. The 13th, is yours to grant for yourself.

It's best to not keep too close an eye on the previous wishes, after all, you don't uncover a seed beneath the ground to check it's growth, this should be the same for your wishes / intentions.

Make sure your heart and spirit are open to receiving, keep an eye out for opportunities to make your 13th wish come to fruition. Showing appreciation, wonder and awe for the journey as it unfolds for you.

May the rough nights be warmed by your wishes.

Love,

 Amanda