

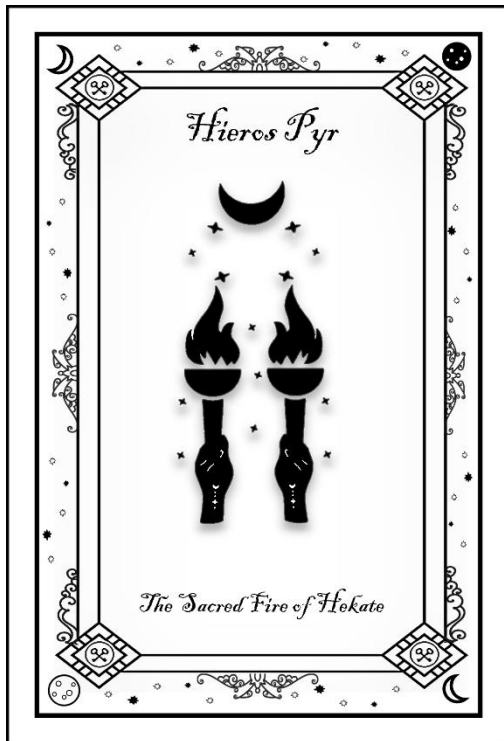


Excerpt from *Entering Hekate's Cauldron*. © 2025 Cyndi Brannen and Red Wheel Weiser.

Chapter 18

Rituals—Transcending through Intentional Experiences

Hekate's Fire Dancing Ritual



This is a kinetic ecstatic ritual; physical movement and spoken words combine to help you transcend and enter Hekate's Wheel of Fire. It would be excellent if you can do this beside a roaring bonfire, but it is equally powerful in front of a smoldering cauldron on the altar. This ritual was inspired by my own experiences of fire dancing. To add mystery and challenge to this experience, a blindfold can be worn if it is safe to do so.

Anointing with sacred ash is part of this ritual. Make your own from the remnants of the botanicals you burn in your cauldron. You can create

finer ash from these remnants by burning them again. Should you have access to a high heat source, such as a wood stove, there is a technique that renders beautiful ash. Put the burned remnants in a container that can withstand high temperatures and keep it in a strong fire for a minimum of a day.

You will also need to create a playlist of music suitable for ecstatic fire dancing. There are lots of choices online.

Conduct your usual ritual preparations before going into the ecstatic component. Then put on any music that will help you enter trance.

Start to gently sway back and forth. Continue to do so while reciting the invocation to maintain your connection to the Wheel of Fire. See it spinning from deep





within you; as you move your hips, you swirl it into motion, connecting you to the fire on your altar or at the bonfire. Open up your three selves, letting them dance through you into the altar, creating a dancing flame to welcome Hekate in your sacred space.

Recite:

*I call to you, Queen of the Hieros Pyr,
For you were born of the stars and darkness,
You are the spark,
Giving birth to your sacred flame.
Your fire reigns.
Your fire breathed life into the world,
Descending into your fiery cave at the core,
Fueling your eternal cauldron
Your flames fuel all that is.
From hence you walk the worlds,
Guiding your chosen.
Hail Hieros Pyr, Keeper of the Wheel of Fire,
May I walk in your Wheel of Fire.*

You'll perceive her Wheel of Fire as she deems best for you. Then proclaim:

*I enter your Hieros Pyr,
I walk your Wheel of Fire,
Dancing in the flames.
Let me drink your fire,
Fueling my power,
Let me carry your fire,
Burning all that which no longer serves,
Igniting what longs to be born.
Revealing to me your mysteries.
For your fire is without end or beginning,
The flame burns and gives birth,
The smoke spreads your power,
And I rise from the ashes.*

Anoint the epicenters of your three selves with the ashes.





Resume your dancing if you have stopped. Embrace the flames as you move.
Really let go and dance in Hekate's flames.

When you are ready, conclude the experience. Take your time disconnecting from the Wheel of Fire. You may have been given a symbolon of your unique fire. Stop dancing and steady your breath. End the experience with:

*All gratitude for permitting me to walk your Wheel of Fire.
I take my leave now,
Returning to my physical being.
I honor this flame that can never be dimmed.
I bless this smoke, sending forth the power of Her flame,
Hail to thee, Hekate, Hieros Pyr.
You are the Wheel of Fire.
The Star-Fire,
The Fire creating all life,
The guiding torch,
The source of our witch-fire,
And the fire of destruction.
I am your fire made flesh.
I carry your torch,
Lighting my way, guiding others, and governing the power of destruction.
Hail to thee.*

The firewalking trance can leave you depleted or invigorated. Excess of either is a sign that you need to pull yourself back to the middle world using a centering technique. You can also use a sensory grounding technique by connecting with a taste, smell, touch, sight, and sound.

After you disconnect from the Hieros Pyr, you may become very chilled; prevent this by wrapping up in a blanket as soon as the ritual is complete. Make sure you eat a carb-rich snack while processing your experience.





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