

LESSON 9: CORRESPONDENCES

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This document is provided for the personal use of participants in the Keeping Her Keys Read Along group.



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The Keys of Correspondences



The realms, epithets and symbols should be familiar by now, and you might recall that I briefly touched on the dominant energies of each of the three selves in an earlier chapter. I also discussed the varying energy in the lunar cycle. As we progress toward the lesson on spell crafting, I want you to start thinking about how things fit together. Everything we do in witchcraft is based on working with energy. We can add different epithets of Hekate, symbols and correspondences as ways of amplifying the power of the spell.

Preparing Objects for Use as Correspondences

It's important to prepare objects used as correspondences before involving them in a working. Basic preparation includes cleansing each object of any existing non-essential energies and consecrating it for magical purposes. We cleanse objects to release energies that aren't associated with the specific symbolic powers of the object. For example, if I am using a new crystal in a spell then I want to remove the energy of all the people who have handled it while it made its way to me while protecting its inherent magical properties. There are a variety of methods for cleansing objects, such as leaving them outside under the Full Moon, placing them in a jar of magical water or smoking them over incense. Salt is a powerful medium for releasing non-essential energies. Since you've already created your Salt Strophalos, you can place your objects on this to cleanse them. Most objects will be sufficiently cleansed after a few days, especially if you've put them in there during the Full Moon. When you place an object for cleansing, say something like, "You are cleansed of all that's past, free to release your magic at last." You'll need to check-in with the salt to determine when it is full of these unwanted energies and then change it. How long this takes really depends on how much non-essential energy that the correspondence objects you've cleansed in the strophalos have.

The second part of object preparation is to consecrate the item for magical use. You'll be able to tell that an object is ready to leave the salt by picking it up. It will feel clean, and you'll have a connection to it. When this happens, take the object, and pass it through the smoke from incense several times. I usually do this in multiples of three. You can recite something like this: "I hereby claim this object for my magical workings. May Hekate bless it and me. My intentions are true, my actions wise and my will is strong." Your object is ready for use as a correspondence.

Using Daily and Seasonal Correspondences

The seasons and the days discussed can be sources of energy used in spells and rituals as well. The days of the week more strongly associated with Hekate are based on historical documents, thus we are tapping into an established energetic connection when we seek her attention on Mondays, Wednesdays, or Fridays. We can further strengthen this source of energy by unpacking the meaning of these days both in standard interpretations and personal meaning. Since Wednesday is Mercury's Day, I may call upon him as well as Hekate when doing a working.

The seasons also have distinct energies that reflect Hekate's distinct aspects. We can use the energy of a season as a theme for the type of working we are going to do. For example, you might remember that I discussed the overarching energy of autumn as being that of decay. If we want to cast a spell using this correspondence, then we word it so that whatever our goal is utilizes decay.

Personal Change and Correspondences

Most spellwork has an inherent component of personal change. The process by which this personal change is accomplished consists of four steps: problem, intention, goal, and manifestation. We cast a spell and then get busy manifesting using our feelings, thoughts, and behaviors. In addition, most spells are problem focused. Once we identify the problem, we set the intention for the solution; within this intention is a clearly defined goal that will lead us to successful manifestation. In addition, we can see that the spell components have energies of their own that can be used with the correspondences including the lunar cycle, seasons, and colors.

With her three millennia of history, there is a lengthy list of items that we can choose for correspondences in our devotion and witchcraft involving Hekate. Correspondences include animals, plants, minerals and rocks and other things that share energetic properties.

Hekate's Companions

Other deities and entities can also be used as correspondences. I've already mentioned Mercury, who in the Greek pantheon was Hermes, who happens to be a frequent companion of Hekate's. There are many others including Demeter, Persephone, Artemis, Diana, and Zeus. Hekate is strongly associated with both angels and daemons. Of course, if you already have a relationship with another deity or have a spirit companion, then include them in your workings as you deem suitable.

Combining Correspondences

When we combine correspondences, we add oomph to our workings. Combining things that have common attributes with Hekate in general or those that are related to specific epithets can make for potent magic. We can also use correspondences in our devotional activities. Sometimes we pick correspondences for a certain spell or ritual, other times there are correspondences that we include on our altar. These objects can change based on our focus, the time of the year or lunar cycle and ways that we work with Hekate. I've developed a list of correspondences that can be used for all these things. I use it as a reference for when I'm planning a ritual or spell. Making your own list either in your Book of Shadows or as a spreadsheet (my method) will help you to understand all the connections better. Don't forget to add your own ones beyond the standards.

Sources

The correspondences I discuss in this lesson come from ancient sources whenever possible, but I've added contemporary ones and some of my own interpretations to incorporate contemporary areas of witchcraft.

Correspondences and Hekate's Three Roles

I've organized correspondences using Hekate's three overarching roles as Guardian, Guide and Gatekeeper. Correspondences of Hekate as Guardian include dogs, black obsidian, the waning moon, sage, and the color black. Hekate as Guide can be associated with horses, red jasper, bay laurel and the color red. Snakes, clear quartz, mugwort, and the color white are representative of Hekate as Gatekeeper.

Hekate's Animals

There are several animals associated with Hekate in the ancient sources, including bees, bulls, cows, dogs, dragons, goats, horses, lions, owls, pigs, polecats, and snakes. Although there are many animal companions of Hekate, the three key ones are dogs, horses, and snakes. There are examples of her as *Triformis*, having a dog, horse, and serpent head.³⁸ These are the three animals that we are working with as correspondences in this course. In the ancient texts she is described by some as possessing either one, two or all three of these animals in her physical form, while in other sources she is associated with them. Dogs, horses, and snakes are worked with in different ways. Hounds accompany Hekate as Guardian in the Under World, representing emotional energy and loyalty. Horses are her companion as our guardian in her role as Guide, bringing action and stability to our life's journey. Finally, Hekate's

Serpents are the potent facilitator of rebirth and knowledge as part of Hekate as the Key of the Upper World.

Working with Animal Energy

Working with animal energy is a potent type of magic. There are several ways that we can tap into animal energy: we can identify with an animal as a spirit guide, we can take on the energetic properties typical of an animal, they can serve as Hekate's messengers, we can use animal energies in spells, and we can evoke them during workings. I have summarized dogs, horses, and snakes as they fit into Modern Hekatean Witchcraft. I recommend learning more about them, so you can develop your own personal understanding of your connections to each of them.

Hekate's Hounds



Of these three, perhaps the dog is the best known of Hekate's animal companions. In her ancient cults, dogs were associated with her as companions, and they were offered to her as sacrifices. Her 'hell-hounds' guarded the gates to the Under World.³⁹ She is also viewed as having a canine form herself in some of the writings, either as a single dog or even as a triple-headed one. Black dogs were symbolic of Hekate in ancient times, like in this section from "Spell to the Waning Moon" in *The Greek Magical Papyri*: "Her fillet, key, wand, iron wheel, black dog." Hounds are of special importance in Her role as Guardian, when they offer protection from those who would harm us. Dog energy is particularly emotional as well, reinforcing the placement of this animal as a correspondence of Hekate as Guardian.

Dogs are often sent as a sign by Hekate to modern devotees. In addition, some devotees volunteer time at dog shelters as a devotional act of service, replacing the sacrifice of old with a modern approach. Personally, I've had a couple of experiences with black dogs appearing unexpectedly during rituals. Be on the lookout for one! If one shows up, be prepared to receive a message from Hekate.

There are other magical ways that we can access the Under World energy of Hekate's Hounds in addition to their role as spontaneous messengers. As our companion through our personal Under World, we can call upon them as protectors. We can utilize their terrifying energy when we need to summon our own inner ferocity. Although Hekate's Hounds are fearsome, they are also incredibly loyal and steadfast. If we need sustainable energy for a working, we can evoke these attributes as part of the correspondences used. Hekate's Hounds stand guard at the entrance to the realm of the Under World and to our own lower self. As you become familiar with them, you'll see they are your greatest

allies against your own fears. When you are afraid, you can turn to them for protection. Hekate shares the energy of the hounds with us abundantly.

There are numerous ways to connect with the energy of Hekate's Hounds. I have a coyote jaw that I use whenever I am working with dog energy. You may have your own dog – I don't right now, although I've had dogs my entire life – and you can connect to the mystical hounds of Hekate through your alignment with your pet. In addition, you can use your own dog's hair and nails to connect with Hekate's Hounds. If you don't have bones or an actual dog, then you can use dog images or statuary.

Hekate's Horses



Years ago, while I was giving a healing session to a person dying from cancer, I received this powerful vision of a gorgeous wild black horse. At the time I didn't know that Hekate was historically linked with the equine species. Since then, I have had a few other visions of horses, but it's always been associated with loss. From the ancient texts we learn that Hekate's horses were like my visions – they were part of Her Under World entourage. They were powerful magical symbols that were evoked as part of Hekate during rituals. In addition, some ancient incantations referred to Her as “horse faced.”

Although Hekate's horses were portrayed this way, they were also the domestic work animals that they were and remain. Horses are placed alongside Hekate as Guide. She rides astride the horse as she guides us

throughout our life's journey. Hekate's Horse is our reliable companion, capable of great speed, mighty in endurance and reliable. The energy of the horse is very much about action and representative of the mundane Middle World, further reinforcing this animal's position as a correspondence of the key of Guide. Call upon Hekate's Horse when you need swift magical results or when you feel alone. When working with Hekate's Horse we can use images, parts of the animal (that they are no longer in need of!) or horseshoes on our altars and in our workings.

Hekate's Serpents



While many of us are terrified of snakes, they are powerful symbols of creation and destruction. As such, they are mighty correspondences that we can summon for our magical workings. Hekate's association with serpents is ancient – there are several references connecting Her with them in ancient texts, most prolifically in *The Greek Magical Papyri*. A Roman plaque of a three-headed Hekate with a snake on either side is a popular image today. I've heard Her referred to as a snake goddess which seems highly appropriate since the serpent is like Hekate, a universal symbol of life and death, has countless meanings, and is both vilified and revered. Perhaps the snake is Her most potent animal symbol.

There are so many vivid images of Hekate with snakes in the ancient texts: having a crown of snakes, being girthed in them, and wearing them down Her back are three examples. Clearly, snakes are in Her favour. As we learn about Hekate's mysteries we realize that snakes are not to be feared but are powerful Upper World allies. They provide much wisdom and are a reminder that all things have the potential for danger. Perhaps more importantly, they show us that we can “shed our skin” and be born anew. Thus, the snake and the key are powerfully connected.

I see an unexpected snake visitor as a particularly good omen. My experience is that Hekate sends snakes as messengers when we are likely to be too self-involved to notice the less startling hounds or horses that she sends. Each time I've had a snake encounter, one has literally crossed my path. Once there was one in my driveway when I lived in a very urban area! Although our relationships with Hekate's animals are all special, to me, the snake is exceptional. Serpents remind me that there is duality in all things – from creation to destruction. Moreover, snakes are exceptionally clever animals. Their powerful intelligence is reflected in two ancient symbols – the caduceus and the ouroboros. The former is the well-known symbol of medicine, with two snakes wrapped around a central pole. This is an ancient talisman of healing and power, associated with Hekate's frequent companion, Hermes. The ouroboros is associated with Hekate both in ancient texts and objects, including several magical coins. These coins were used as a manifestation tool. I've made several of these coins for use in my own spells and to carry as talismans. The image of the snake eating her own tail teaches us that all life is circular. Through the infinity of the ouroboros we can connect with Hekate as the Key of the universe, infinite and eternal.

Hekate's Serpent is complex, as you can see from the various aspects that I've just written about. This is why I referred to snakes as her most potent animal. Snakes are associated with her in diverse ways, reflecting Hekate's multi-faceted nature. We are focusing on their Upper World energies of creation. Imagery appropriate for this approach to her serpent includes the ouroboros. I encourage you to read more about this symbol and study the ancient images to truly connect with this form of Hekate's Serpent. I made a golden serpent ouroboros out of polymer clay that I currently work with. In the past, I've used snake skins in workings. My favorite piece of jewelry is a three-coiled silver snake ring. Find your way through serpent energy to the images that you can connect with. As a symbol of the Upper World, call upon Hekate's Serpents when you seek enlightenment, need to release things, or for intellectual pursuits.

Hekate's Colors

While there are other colors associated with Hekate, none are as central to Modern Hekatean Witchcraft as black, red, and white. Our Lady is also associated with gold and yellow. She is often described as golden or as wearing golden sandals. There is an ancient connection of her with saffron, giving us the association with this shade of yellow. We can use gold as the color to symbolize Hekate as the World Soul, blue in the form of sapphires and for her watery aspects. Green as the color of Her garden is another hue representing Hekate. You can also have a personal color that you associate with Her, for me it's the regal color of purple. The association of black, red, and white with Hekate dates to antiquity:

*The symbols of Hecate are wax of three colors,
white, black, and red combined, having a figure of
Hecate bearing a scourge, and torch, and sword, with
a serpent to be coiled round her.⁴⁰*

These three colors were generally seen back then as they are today: as the colors of witchcraft. Black is associated with Hekate as Guardian in her Under World role, while white reflects the Key of Hekate in the Upper World. The two colors come together not to make grey, but red in the Middle World where Hekate is Guide. This framework is based on the historical associations of these colors with the three realms. Black as the color of Hekate as Guardian reflects our emotions and lower self, while white is used to connect to our higher self and Hekate as the Key. Red, the color of the life force symbolized with blood, comes together in the Middle World land of action. I always have black, red, and white on my altars and in my workings. Beyond these three colors, there are many ways of incorporating a hue into your magic, as shown in the following list.

Signatures of Colors

Color	Uses (Signatures)
Black	Banishing; mediumship; protection (sending away); reversal
White	Psychic development; protection (attracting); purification
Red	Creativity; passion; romance; sexuality
Orange	Career; children; education; relationships
Yellow	Assertiveness; confidence; self-esteem
Pink	Compassion; happiness; kindness; love
Green	Attracting objects and possessions; abundance; finances; money; major purchases
Blue	Training; talking; teaching; thoughts; writing
Purple	Self-control; connection to the deities and other entities; integrity
Brown	Grounding; land and property
Silver	Use as a symbol of the unified self
Gold	Symbolizes the combination of all Hekate's aspects

Practice: The Witch's Wardrobe

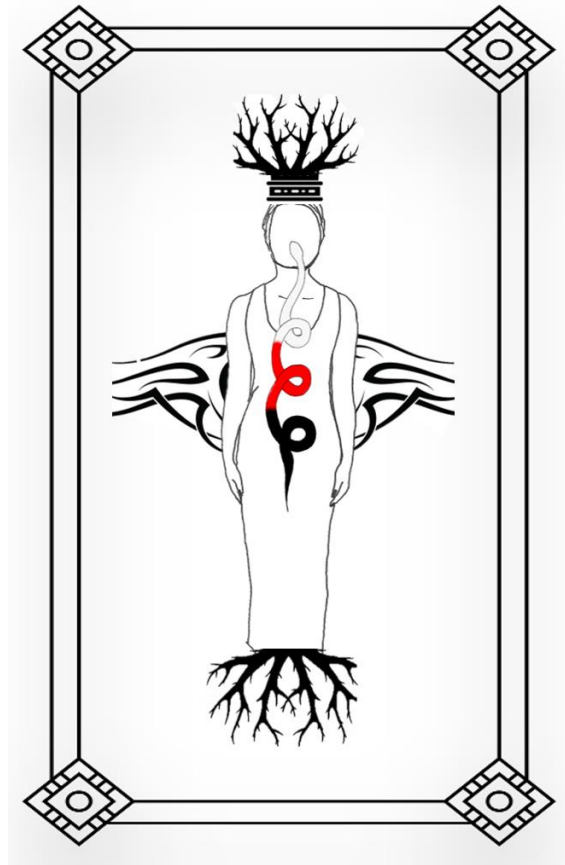
We can practice practical magic with the accessories and clothes that we wear using the list of color correspondences. You can wear blue to a job interview to enhance your skills at communicating what a fantastic employee you'll be, for example. I typically choose a scarf that represents the dominant energy that I'm embracing for the day ahead. You can also choose jewelry using metals and stones that correspond to your intention for the day. Try this out for a week and note your results in your journal. Ancient texts feature Hekate wearing gold sandals, so if you really want to tap into your inner goddess, you know what to wear.

Exercise: Adding Color to the Wheel of the Year

Now that you've learned the three main colors of Modern Hekatean Witchcraft and the energetic properties of several others, you can add to your Wheel of the Year as you feel led.

Exercise: Experiencing the Energy of Hekate's Colors

The Prayer to Hekate, The World Soul was written as part of a devotional project undertaken by The Covenant of Hekate. I was honored to write the prayer in conjunction with the beautiful painting entitled *Mediterranean Hekate*. The prayer has been translated into other languages which I think is very cool. The whole project was such a lovely experience. You can find the painting on my blog if you want to look at it while you recite. I've included this prayer here because of how the colors are used to connect with various aspects of ourselves and Hekate, providing you with an example of how we can link correspondences to epithets and personal attributes. It also demonstrates how we can use words as representations of correspondences rather than the actual objects. I think that words are the most powerful expression of magic, but then I'm a writer so I may have a biased opinion. However, words can link correspondences, intentions, personal attributes and Hekate's energy in a very potent way. I know this prayer has already found a place in many practitioners' Book of Shadows. I recommend that you include it in yours, too. By now you've got the skills to prepare for saying the prayer, so I won't go over the steps. Feel free to embellish the prayer, add physical representations of the correspondences and develop a ritual around it as you feel led.



Prayer to Hekate, Soul of the World

*Mighty Hekate, Soul of the World,
Let me see myself in Your reflection,
Awaken in me Your fire of creation,
Reveal in me faith, love, and truth.*

*Mighty Hekate, Soul of the World,
Within Your fiery rays, I am reborn,
The sacred spark of my soul rekindled,
Through Your flames I become as limitless as Your eternal light.*

*Mighty Hekate, Soul of the World,
Like Your serpent, I am an agent of creation.
Upon Your horse, I ride confidently through this life.
As the fierce hound, I am the protector.*

*Mighty Hekate, Soul of the World,
May You be woven into my very being.
Your colors of black, white, and red
Becoming my essential fire.*

*Mighty Hekate, Soul of the World,
Your black threads ensoul my emotions, turning them towards love.
While the white strands weave truth into my intellect,
And the red sews the strength of faith into all my actions.*

*Mighty Hekate, Soul of the World,
May Your weapons of power become mine.
Piercing the veil of hatred with Your fire-forged sword,
Your strength a burning shield protecting me from harm.*

*Hekate, Soul of the World,
May I use Your weapons as a light upon the world.
I gladly receive the key of Your infinite wisdom,
May I use it well.*

*Hail Hekate, Guardian.
Hail Hekate, Guide.
Hail Hekate, Gatekeeper.
Hail Hekate, Soul of the World.*

Hekate's Rocks and Minerals



We can use rocks and minerals in the Three Key Colors, especially when they also reflect the energetic properties associated with each of Hekate's Three Keys. While there are many different rocks and minerals that can fit into this structure, I am going to focus on clear/white quartz, red jasper, and black obsidian. In addition, Hekate in the ancient texts and contemporary writings has been associated with other stones, including pearl, iron, bronze, gold, silver, and moonstone. Working with rocks and minerals is like the techniques used for

the other correspondences. We can call upon their energetic properties to assist us when we are petitioning Hekate for her attention and to add to our magical workings. Magical stones should be prepared using the techniques of cleansing and consecrating discussed previously. For example, you can place new ones on a windowsill or outside for a lunar cycle to cleanse them of nonessential energies.

Once your clear/white quartz, red jasper and black obsidian are ready for use, you can place them on your salt strophalos and then pass them through incense (using a blend of our three Key Herbs) while asking Hekate to bless them. The association of Hekate with jasper and obsidian dates to the ancient use of magical coins. There are several examples of these coins made from these minerals. Place at least one of each of the three on your main altar, with extra on hand for specific workings. The easiest way to work with stones is by carrying them with you after infusing them with your intent. You can keep them in your bag, pockets, or even inside your bra (I do this often!). Infusing a stone with an intention can be accomplished by holding it in your hand during a working and concentrating on connecting your desire with the energetic properties of the rock. You can also, or in addition (that's what I usually do), pass it back and forth across the incense you are burning during a working. Like with bay laurel leaves, you can write your intention directly on the stone. This creates a magical coin like the ones from antiquity and is a powerful talisman.

Black Obsidian

There are other black stones suited for representing Hekate as Guardian in her Under World aspect, such as hematite and iron. I've chosen black obsidian since it was commonly used by the ancients in their magical coins featuring Hekate. The unique aspects of obsidian render it highly reflective of Under World energy because it is born out of the fire of the Under World since it is a volcanic stone. Obsidian offers a unique structure that is different than most other minerals. The structure of obsidian is rather unique for it resembles glass rather than a typical rock. This renders obsidian both incredibly durable and able to be rather easily broken into fragments. The ancients across many cultures used the fragments, which they would break off a large chunk of obsidian to fashion tools and weapons.

Obsidian is a natural receptacle and conduit for use in magic. We can deposit unwanted energies into a hunk of it. As a conduit, we can work with obsidian's energies to both connect to the Under World and the earth, and to release ourselves from these connections. Work with obsidian when you are focusing on your lower self, for emotional healing and to help connect with Hekate as Guardian. If you are struggling with anxiety, depression, or fear, visualize your distress being accepted into obsidian. This stone will readily accept these emotions. Obsidian can be carried for protection. A final way to use obsidian is for grounding when you are feeling disconnected or at the beginning of a working. Holding the stone in your left hand (since it is of the Under World), envision its energy coursing through you connecting yourself to the earth beneath your feet. If you are feeling too chthonic ("of the earth"), use obsidian to lessen this connection. Use obsidian in connection with sage and Cups in the Tarot.

Red Jasper

Red jasper is the stone of the Middle World because of its properties of banishing, encouragement, and well-being. It is there to help us along our life's journey and can be worked with as a symbol of Hekate as Guide. To evoke the properties of red jasper, hold it between both hands at your heart center. As a banishing stone, you can write the thing that you need to be freed from on it, pass it through incense smoke and then bury it off your property. I have thrown banishing jasper into the ocean. As a stone of encouragement and well-being, it is unsurpassed. My oldest son went through a difficult adolescence. As part of helping him heal, I was directed to red jasper by my witchy mentor. After he began keeping it with him constantly, he started to improve. I should write that it was after he started to believe that he could heal, and that the jasper would help him. Belief is so powerful when working with correspondences. If our energy isn't aligned with the properties of any correspondence, its efficacy will be greatly diminished. If you need encouragement, hold the jasper at your heart center while repeating affirmations. Then wear it next to your skin. To enhance general well-being, wear it in the same way. You can place one by the entrance to your home for the benefit of all who live there and the physical structure.

Clear/White Quartz

I am using both clear and white quartz because the former usually must be purchased, but the latter can often be found in gravel and our natural environment. Where I live on the Atlantic coast of Nova Scotia, white quartz can easily be found on the shore. The energy of the two is the same. Quartz, unlike obsidian and red jasper, is not associated with Hekate in antiquity. Perhaps this is because it wasn't available. However, clear quartz is seen as the most useful mineral available for magical purposes by contemporary practitioners. Quartz is available in many different forms, with each type having distinct energetic properties. As such, it is important that you work with either the clear or the white form as a correspondence of Hekate as Gatekeeper.

I recommend purchasing a clear crystal point for placing on your main altar. You can use it as a wand to focus your energy during workings. This is one of the three ways that we will be working with quartz – to help us focus. In addition, we can use clear quartz to draw our energy up to our higher self and the astral realm of the Upper World. Consider purchasing a piece to use exclusively this way. Envision the quartz as a gateway to the realm of Hekate as Gatekeeper, where you can gain knowledge of her mysteries and she will share her wisdom with you. In workings, clear or white quartz can be used as an all-purpose correspondence that will boost the energies of the herbs, other stones, colors, etc. that you're using.

A final note about rocks and minerals is that I urge you to purchase them in as ethical a way as possible. Many of the mines where these treasures come from use harsh labor practices. This is why I try to find the stones in their natural settings. If you wish to do this, you can feel free to substitute white, red, and black rocks that you find in your surroundings. Otherwise, do your research and buy from reputable dealers.

Exercise: Correspondence Quest

Going on a quest to find a magical object – in this case correspondences – is a fun technique for determining which one is right for you. Sometimes objects spontaneously appear. The best personal story I have of this is the time that I was out for a run in an urban neighborhood when I practically tripped over a fist-sized chunk of black obsidian in the middle of the sidewalk. You’ve developed your observation skills to the point now that correspondences that you need to be working with may be spontaneously presenting themselves to you in a comparable manner. However, we can also go on a journey to find the right ones. This quest can be a metaphysical journey, an actual adventure or both. Our focus is on doing an actual quest, but I’ve added some ways to do a metaphysical version at the end of this section. I love going on an adventure quest to find new correspondences. I am my most alive when I am in wild places. Going in search of correspondences outdoors is a fantastic form of witchery! As with any magical undertaking, begin by setting an intention prior to embarking on your quest.

Writing the Correspondence Quest Intention

What is it you’d like to find?

- Will you be content with whatever is presented to you, or do you want something specific?

How will you be using this correspondence?

- Perhaps you’re hoping to find items for your altar or ingredients for a working. If you’re after a routine use sort of correspondence, that’s perfectly acceptable. Just make sure you include this in your intention.

How would you like it to be presented to you?

- Often, I add to an intention designed to help me find a new correspondence something like, “bring my attention to that which I am sure to find” so the probability of missing the object is reduced.

Here’s an example: “*Mighty Hekate, Queen, I call upon you and your energies to reveal to me that which I seek while I am on my quest at _____ to help me with my _____ for use _____ on this day _____.*” You get the idea. The more specific, the better. When I created the witch jar that brought us our little cottage on the coast, everything on my list was included. However, I wrote “fireplace” but did not specify that it had to be in working condition. I have a beautiful fireplace, but no chimney!

Once your intention is set, record it in your Book of Shadows with the date, lunar phase, and astrological information. In general, this is a clever way to record all entries. Of course, it's important to consider all these variables before doing any working, but setting an intention is just the first part of a spell. The important thing is to now choose the optimal time for doing the working, in this case it is your correspondence quest. There are a few other factors to consider in planning your adventure.

Planning Your Correspondence Quest

Planetary and lunar considerations

- In general, you want to attract the object to you, so the waning moon phase is problematic. If you must do your quest during this period, transmute the energy by adding something like this to your intention, “by the power of the waning moon, all barriers will be removed.”
- It's an innovative idea to also consult with the dominant planetary energies for the day of your planned outing. I use a wall calendar that contains all this information. If the planets seem wonky on your chosen day, add a bit to your intention to transmute their energy.

Location

- The more remote, the better the location is for receiving an object. Although it's possible to have a correspondence come forward to you in a more urban environment, there's a lot of nonessential and unnatural energies swirling about.
- Revisit special places. I used to go to this large urban park a few times a week. I used to wander down the less traveled trails, searching for cool places for rituals. One day I found such a place. It even had a bench and a dining-room table sized rock. If you don't have a spot like this, maybe your first quest is to find it!
- Research the parks and nature reserves in your area if you don't have a location already selected. Get outside! The best witchery is always done in nature.

The Quest Begins

- Copy your intention from your Book of Shadows onto a piece of paper that you can carry with you. Don't forget a backpack and plastic bags to carry home your correspondence(s).
- When you arrive at the location, read the intention out loud.
- Pay attention to your surroundings. Notice the plants, any wildlife, and the built environment. A witch is an observer of all things because we know that signs are there waiting for us to discover them.

- The object will be something unusual, such as the hunk of black obsidian I found or an unexpected animal sighting. I've had so many of these! Land-locked ducks in the middle of a blizzard, snakes in my urban driveway and in the pool, a lone feather on the shore. If it's an animal sighting, then you won't have anything to carry home with you except the creature's energy.
- When you find your object, ask it if it is yours. The energy from it will be your answer.
- The object will not be something that is harmful to remove from a site.

After the Quest

- Cleanse the object only if it feels necessary.
- Sit with your object. Hold it in your hands, study it. Get to know each other.
- Research the standard applications of your object but use it how it feels right to you.
- Record the information about the object in your Book of Shadows, including the lunar phase and planetary considerations. You may want to develop your own correspondence database with this information in it.
- Continue to build your relationship with the object in the way that feels right to you. You can keep it on your altar, sleep with it beside you or carry it next to your skin.

Metaphysical Correspondence Quest

If it's not possible to go on an actual adventure, you can have your correspondence(s) revealed to you in the Other World using various techniques such as a journey, fire scrying or ask Hekate to send you a message:

- You can adapt the World Soul Journey so that it becomes a quest for your correspondence(s).
- Use the fire scrying technique with the intention of the flames revealing your object.
- Refer to the recommendations in the lesson on your relationship with Hekate for ways to contact her regarding your desired object.

Summary

Correspondences are things that we use to connect with Hekate and for use on their own or in combination with others for magical workings. Some common correspondences include animals, colors, and stones. There are several different animals associated with Hekate throughout history. The three most powerfully connected to her are dogs, horses, and snakes. Although there are many colors that can be associated with Hekate, black, red, and white are the three most important. The rocks and minerals that we work with can also be these colors if their energetic properties correspond to the appropriate aspects. Black obsidian is symbolic of the Under World and Hekate as Guardian, while clear or white quartz can connect us to the Upper World and Hekate as Gatekeeper. Finally, red jasper is a powerful ally for our Middle World journey. Going on a correspondence quest will be an adventure that brings magical objects to you.

