Handfasting ~ Full Moon in Pisces

Ritual written* and led by Amethyst & Rayvensclaw (Friday 9 September 2011)



CASTING CIRCLE

By the power of the Dragons and the Ravens may this circle be blessed, cleansed and sanctified.

CALLING THE QUARTERS

EAST

Dragon Spirit of the East, Great Spirit of Water, we ask that you join us this night. May your compassion and generosity flow throughout this circle, help strengthen and bring peace to our hearts. Hail and Welcome.

NORTH

Dragon Spirit of the North, Great Spirit of Fire; we ask that you join us this night. May your courage and strength inspire this circle, so that we may be stimulated by these attributes. Hail and Welcome.

WEST

Raven Spirit of the West, Great Spirit of Earth, we ask that you join us this night. Help us to be wise in transforming ourselves and to bring creativity and fertility into this circle. Hail and Welcome.

SOUTH

Raven Spirit of the South, Great Spirit of Air; we ask that you join us this night. Help us fly high to bring us nearer to the Great Mystery and we ask that you guard, protect and inspire us on our journey. Hail and Welcome.

CALLING THE GOD & GODDESS

All read together:

GODDESS

O Goddess of both Moon and Star Who rules all planets near and far Who rules the Earth and all within Who sets the time our lives begin Who brings us happiness and mirth Who gives us value and self worth With every loving touch She gives Unto this plane on which we live Please descend now from above And touch this Circle with Your love And join us in this sacred rite O Goddess, bring your love and light So Mote It Be.

GOD

O God of Places Wild and Free Who sows the seed that we might be Who fertilizes all on Earth And brings us pleasure, joy and mirth Who is the Sun that shines above Who warms us with His light and love Who brings good health, prosperity And changes all as it should be Please descend now from above And touch this Circle with Your love And join us in this sacred rite O God, please send your love and light. So Mote It Be.

JANINE: Tonight we will unite a couple in the sacred Rite of Handfasting. This is the magickal joining of a man and a woman for a year and a day, or "as long as love shall last. Will the Handfasting couple step forward?

Jenny then anoints the couple to be handfasted.

JANINE: You are consecrated in the names of the God and the Goddess. It is said that you both wish handfasting before the Gods. Is this so? (It is.) Are there any impediments, legal or otherwise why you should not be joined on this night? (There are none.)

JANINE: In times past it was believed that the human soul shared characteristics with all things divine. It is this belief which assigned virtues to the cardinal directions; East, North, West and South. It is in this tradition that a blessing is offered in support of this ceremony.

The blue ribbon holder walks towards Rayvensclaw & Amethyst & place the ribbon over their joined hands then says:

EAST

Blessed be this union with the gifts of the East. The deep commitments of the lake The swift excitement of the river The refreshing cleansing of the rain The all encompassing passion of the sea.

The red ribbon holder walks towards Rayvensclaw & Amethyst & place the ribbon over their joined hands then says:

NORTH

Blessed be this union with the gifts of the North. Warmth of hearth and home The heat of the heart's passion The light created by both to illuminate the darkest of times.

The green ribbon holder walks towards Rayvensclaw & Amethyst & place the ribbon over their joined hands then says:

WEST

Blessed be this union with the gifts of the West Firm foundation on which to continued Fertility of the fields to enrich your lives A stable home to which you may always return.

The yellow ribbon holder walks towards Rayvensclaw & Amethyst & place the ribbon over their joined hands then says:

SOUTH

Blessed be this union with the gifts of the South.

Communication of the heart, mind, and body Fresh beginnings with the rising of each Moon.

The knowledge of the growth found in the sharing of silences.

JANINE ties the ribbons, then says: These ribbons symbolize the eternal coming together. This is the binding of the feminine powers of creation with the masculine powers of bringing to fruition.

JANINE: The God and the Goddess have taught us that Handfasting is to form an equal partnership, tied together by the tenuous bonds of emotion and love. It is the most fragile of relationships and yet the strongest. It is fragile because it requires exactly the right mix of freedom and interdependence, of caring and of sharing, of being together and of being alone. It is strong because it involves the unseen forces of something we call love, mutual devotion, concern for the happiness of the other, joy in



each other's company. There is no stronger force than this silent bond of love. Remember that this joining is only a symbol of what already exists in the silent places of your hearts. It is yours to define, yours to make real and yours to live.

JANINE: Amethyst, have you considered these matters and are you very clear regarding the expectations of the God and the Goddess? (I am.)

Then repeat after me: God and Goddess, in this place of power, I ask of you this: As I breathe your energy into my body, grant that I might see the divine in all. Grant me the hand of he whom I seek. Allow me to become his soul mate and to care for and comfort him. Allow me to accept with gratitude the love that he offers me.

JANINE: Rayvensclaw, have you considered the matters of which we have spoken, and are you clear regarding the expectations of the God and the Goddess? (I am.)

Then repeat after me: God and Goddess, in this place of power, I ask of you this: As I breathe your energy into my body, grant that I might see the divine in all. Grant me the hand of she whom I seek. Allow me to become her soul mate and to care for and comfort her. Allow me to accept with gratitude the love that she offers me.

JANINE: Amethyst, repeat after me: I, Amethyst, take thee Rayvensclaw to my heart and my spirit. It is my greatest hope that our journey together will not end in this lifetime, but that we shall be born again at the same time and in the same place and that we shall meet and know and remember and love again.

JANINE: Rayvensclaw, repeat after me: I, Rayvensclaw, take thee Amethyst to my heart and my spirit. It is my greatest hope that our journey together will not end in this lifetime, but that we shall be born again at the same time and in the same place and that we shall meet and know and remember and love again.

JANINE: As the sun warms the earth to bring forth life, so you two have created something new by the blending of your energies. And by so doing, you represent us all in the great scheme. As your love continues to grow, the magick will spread far and wide and all the land will be blessed.





AMETHYST & RAYVENSCLAW speak.

JANINE: In the names of the God and the Goddess, as is the tradition, we proclaim that your hands are fasted. So mote it be. You may kiss. (Remove ribbons)

JANINE: It is traditional for the handfasted couple to jump the besom. This represents the transition into a new life.



L to R ~ Wayne (West), Janine (celebrant), Gabriel (North), Rayvensclaw (groom), Amethyst (bride), Alan (South), Jenny (anointer), Maria (East).

CLOSING

All read together.

GODDESS

O Goddess of both Moon and Star Who rules all planets near and far Who rules the Earth and all within Who sets the time our lives begin Who brings us happiness and mirth Who gives us value and self worth With every loving touch You give Unto this plane on which we live We thank You for your presence here And hold you in our hearts so dear And with our love, You may go Or stay, If you should wish it so Hail and Farewell.

GOD

O God of Places Wild and Free Who sows the seed that we might be Who fertilizes all on Earth And brings us pleasure, joy and mirth Who is the Sun that shines above Who warms us with His light and love Who brings good health, prosperity And changes all as it should be We thank You for your presence here And hold you in our hearts so dear And with our love, You may go Or stay, If you wish it so Hail and Farewell.

SOUTH

Raven Spirit of the South, Great Spirit of Air; we thank you for joining us this night. Thank you for helping us to fly high and for guarding, protecting and inspiring us as we journey. Hail and Farewell.

WEST

Raven Spirit of the West, Great Spirit of Earth, we thank you for joining us this night. Thank you for the wisdom that will help in transforming ourselves and for bringing creativity and fertility into this circle. Hail and Farewell.

NORTH

Dragon Spirit of the North, Great Spirit of Fire; we thank you for joining us this night. Thank you for bringing courage and strength to inspire this circle, and for stimulating these attributes. Hail and Farwell.

EAST

Dragon Spirit of the East, Great Spirit of Water, we thank you for joining us this night. Thank you for bringing your compassion and generosity to this circle, and for strengthening and bringing peace to our hearts. Hail and Farewell.



May this circle be open but unbroken May the peace of the Goddess be ever in our hearts. Merry Meet and Merry Part And Merry Meet again.

* This ritual is a combination of the author's original ideas and information obtained from various books and/or internet sources.