

Samhain Ritual

Full Moon in Scorpio

Ritual written and led by Amethyst & Rayvensclaw
(April 23, 2010)*



Casting the Circle...

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

East:

Greetings, great Dragon Guardians of the East with the powers of air. We call upon the roaring winds, the hurricanes, tornadoes and typhoons; we call upon the wind blown clouds, blue horizon and morning's light. Lend us your presence and your power; give us clarity, vision and swift thought. We ask that you witness this rite and guard this circle. Be with us now, Dragons of Air. Hail and Welcome.

North:

Greetings, great Dragon Guardians of the North with the powers of fire. We call upon the shooting flames, the burning embers and the gentle flicker of candlelight; we call upon the campfire glow and the forest fires, the bonfire's beacon burning so bright and the wild lightning strike. Lend us your presence and your power; give us inspiration, energy and love. We ask that you witness this rite and guard this circle. Be with us now, Dragons of Fire. Hail and Welcome.

West:

Greetings, great Dragon Guardians of the West with the powers of water. We call upon the Ocean, Mother of us all; we call upon the rain that falls from the skies, we call upon the rivers and seas, the dewdrops and the mists; we call upon the Green-hearted lake, rivers wide and the oceans tide. Lend us your presence and your power; give us intuition, wisdom, and empathy. We ask that you witness this rite and guard this circle. Be with us now, Dragons of Water. Hail and Welcome.

South:

Greetings, great Dragon Guardians of the South with the powers of earth. We call upon the granite boulders, the loam of farmer's fields, the gritty sand of beach shores; we call upon the molten lava beneath our feet and the pebble on a riverbank, we call upon hill and dale, old bones, fertile field, soil and stone. Lend us your presence and your power; give us protection, grounding and sense. We ask that you witness this rite and guard this circle. Be with us now, Dragons of Earth. Hail and Welcome.

Goddess:

I call upon She who unveils the mystery,
Ancient Crone, Hecate, who reigns as darkness falls upon the unlit sky
Queen of Heaven, Earth and the Underworld.
Hecate, this is your time, Eternal Goddess, Lady of the Night.
We have prepared this sacred Circle for you, O Wise One,
Come be with us now, let us feel your presence as we perform this Rite. Hail and Welcome.

God:

I call upon He who is the eternal riddle, Merlin!
He with the greatest questions, awaiting our answers!
Merlin, you who have the wisdom of the ancients and the laughter of now. Your time is past, present and future.
We have prepared this sacred Circle for you, O Wise One,
Come be with us now, let us feel your presence as we perform this Rite. Hail and Welcome.



Samhain Meditation

Relax, take some deep cleansing breaths ...breathe in ...breathe out ...breathe in ...breathe out. Feel yourself connecting to the Earth below. Feel the energy of the Earth climbing up your spine and breathe in ...breathe out. Feel yourself bathed in the energy of the Sun and wind ...breathe in ...and breathe out ...let go of the world around you ...be right here ...be right now. You float on the wind breathe in ...breathe out ...and as you float on the wind you come to another time and place.

Night is falling. Through the trees you can see the flicker of lights that are the fires of the village where your clan sits to feast, but you will not join them. You hear the wind sighing in the treetops you know that on this night the old year dies and the new year is born. And you, who are now old and weak you who are tired and full of pain you will pass with the old year into the darkness.

You travel down the narrow path through the forest. The way is dark and winding, but your feet know the path. Before you, you see an open meadow and you step from the trees into the grassy field. It is dark for there is no moon, but the stars cast light enough to see faintly across the field you can see the barrow which is the burial place of your ancestors. The door to the barrow stands open, lit by torches, and you approach it slowly. Slowly you enter, feeling the weight of the years upon your shoulders. The stones surround you, strong as the bones of the Earth. And ahead you see the chariot that will carry you into the underworld realm. With a deep sigh, you lie down upon the chariot. And here in the dark of the Earth, you prepare yourself to die.

And as you lie here, here in the depths of the Earth, they come to mourn you - those whom you have loved in this lifetime. Parents, friends, lovers, children, you see before you the familiar faces and you remember the good times, the warmth of a lover's kiss the touch of a child's hand, the pleasures of joy shared. You hold each memory before you like a bright jewel, taking one last pleasure in the thought. Then the memory tumbles to the floor to glitter like a diamond in the darkness.

And other memories come. Memories of a lifetime lived, memories which bring you joy: the brightness of a summer's day, the joy of a task well done, the raising of a family. Remember now all that you can of what has been precious to you.

And as you hold each memory in your hand, it glitters like a precious jewel, then tumbles to the floor.

Now the torches flicker and go out, and you lie in the darkness awaiting your death. And as you lie there, other memories come. Memories that are not so pleasant, memories you would like to forget.

You remember the times when you were not a friend; when you were unkind, when you betrayed a trust, when you were too busy to care, when a loved one hurt you. The memories bubble up from deep inside, welling from deep inside. And there is pain once more as the tears gather in your eyes. You cry out in anger and pain and your tears flow downward onto the floor.

And still the memories come; all of the failures of your life the opportunities lost, all that is now too late to set right. Each painful piece of your life comes forward now and forces you to look it in the face once more.

And the anger and pain flow with your tears; like a stream of darkness they flow downward and join the pool on the floor.

And at last all the memories are gone, no more joy no more pain, only the darkness of the barrow. Your heart slows and stops, your breath sighs outward one last time and Death claims you at last. You float in the darkness, and it is warm and safe and there is no more pain.

You float in the darkness without pain without grief without guilt. You have left all that behind, it cannot touch you now.

You float in the darkness, surrounded by the body of the Great Mother, safe in the darkness and you listen to the heartbeat of the Mother that surrounds you. And as you listen to the beating of her heart you feel your own heart beat in answer.

You breathe deeply and the air is clean and fresh. Slowly you open your eyes, and the interior of the barrow is bathed in sunlight. You sit up slowly, you look at your body and your body is whole and strong.

You look around you and the walls pulse with life. The floor seems covered with a carpet of jewels that sparkle in the light. These are your discarded memories. And a voice says to you, "choose wisely...take with you what you need", and so you choose which memories to take with you into the dawning and you know that only that which you choose will go with you, all else will be purified in the body of the Mother.

You step forth from the barrow into the sunlight and the barrow closes, burying all that was of the old life deep within the Earth where it will cause no further pain.

The meadow is bright with sunlight now, the sky an aching blue. The new year dawns. You cross the meadow and enter the woods. The path now runs straight and true. Ahead you can hear the voices of your kinfolk greeting the new day you hurry ahead to greet them, and they welcome you home and you know that you are safe and you know that you are loved.

You feel rested, and cleansed and relaxed. When you are ready, return to this world and open your eyes.

This meditation is an adaptation of a meditation found at:
http://www.tangledmoon.org/samhain_meditation.htm

Drumming:

...to celebrate the return of life and the heartbeat of the Mother.



Closing

Goddess:

Oh Hecate, Queen of Heaven, Earth and the Underworld. You who await us at the end of Life. We thank you for your blessings and for your guidance on this Samhain night. We bid thee hail and farewell.

God:

Oh Merlin, Oh mighty and mysterious one. You who are with us day and night, to watch over and enlighten us. We thank you for your blessings and for your guidance on this Samhain night. We bid thee hail and farewell.

South:

Hail to thee, Guardian Dragons of the South, the powers of earth. We thank you for joining our Samhain celebration tonight. As you depart to your mighty realms, we bid you Hail and Farewell.

West:

Hail to thee, Guardian Dragons of the West, the powers of water. We thank you for joining our Samhain celebration tonight. As you depart to your mighty realms, we bid you Hail and Farewell.

North:

Hail to thee, Guardian Dragons of the North, the powers of fire. We thank you for joining our Samhain celebration tonight. As you depart to your mighty realms, we bid you Hail and Farewell.

East:

Hail to thee, Guardian Dragons of the East, the powers of air. We thank you for joining our Samhain celebration tonight. As you depart to your mighty realms, we bid you 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*