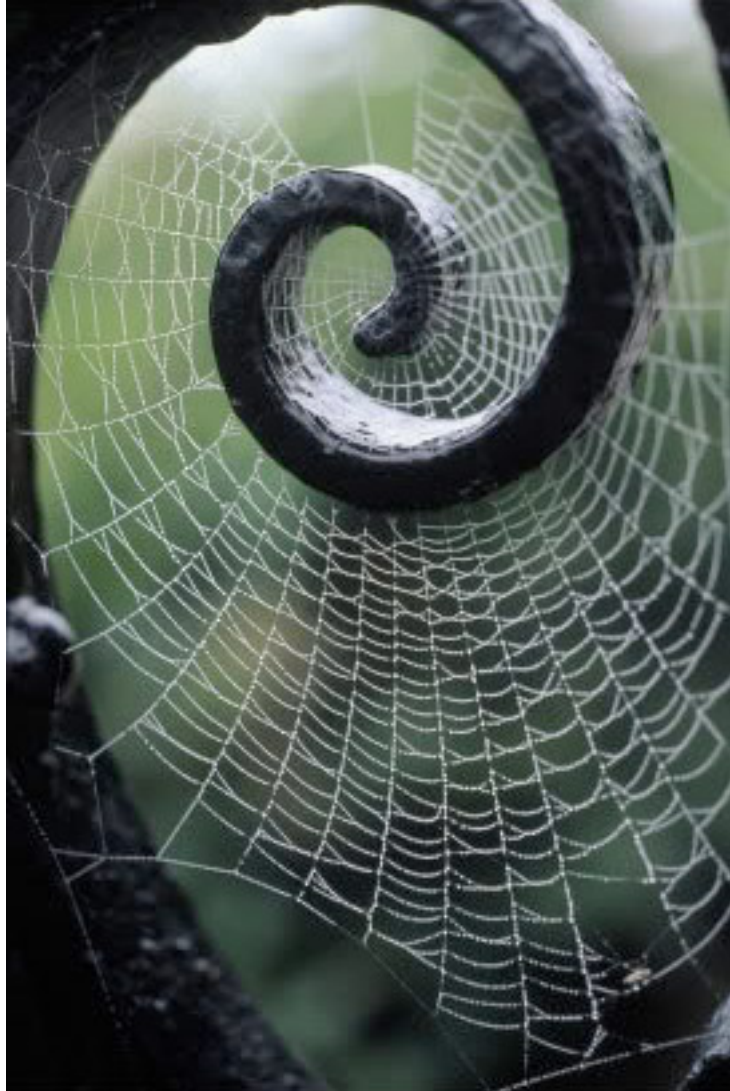


Full Moon in Sagittarius

Ritual written and led by Janine Donellan
(May 28, 2010)*



The Full Moon in Sagittarius is no ordinary full moon; it comes with a powerful energy. This moon is aligned with the seeking of "Truth" or our higher reality in life. The fire element is accented and can stimulate great activity as well as strike up the energy for new beginnings.

From the 28th of May, the asteroids Arachne and Tisiphone, deepest most natural talents and inner most anger at past concerns, unite in a conjunction. But they also form a trine with Mars in Leo. This aspect will be a powerful combination ambition wise and an opportunity to moderate one's ego so that one can realistically fulfil their destiny.

On this energetic night we will be connecting to the Spider Goddess, Arachne, and looking at the amazing webs we can weave in our life. We will be tapping into the deeper psyche and the intricate nature of our intuition to find the hidden elements or the missing keys in our web of life before acting out our intentions.

Arachne was a young woman from Lydia, who offended Athena. Her story helped serve as a warning to all to take care to not offend the gods. Arachne was gifted in the art of weaving. So remarkable were her works that observers often commented that she must have been trained by the very patron goddess of weaving, Athena herself. Arachne stated that she was disgusted at being placed in an inferior place to the goddess and proclaimed that Athena herself could not do better than her. Athena came to Arachne disguised as an old woman and warned her to be careful not to offend the gods, lest she incur their wrath. But Arachne told the old woman to save her breath. She welcomed a contest with Athena and, if she lost, would suffer whatever punishment the goddess deemed necessary.

The goddess accepted the challenge and revealed her true form. Arachne, created a tapestry showcasing scenes of Zeus' various infidelities. So exquisite was the mortal's work even Athena herself was forced to admit that Arachne's work was flawless.

Angered at Arachne's presumptuousness of her choice of subjects, Athena tore the tapestry to pieces and destroyed the loom. Then she touched Arachne's forehead, making sure that she felt full guilt for her actions. Arachne was ashamed, but the guilt was far too deep for her poor, mortal mind. Depressed, she hanged herself.

Athena took pity on Arachne. She most likely did not expect that Arachne would commit suicide. She brought her back to life, but not as a human. By sprinkling her with the juices of aconite, Athena transformed the woman into a spider, she and her descendants to forever hang from threads and to be great weavers.

Arachne the Spider became the totemic form of the Fate-spinner. The spider's web was likened to the Wheel of Fate and the spider to the Goddess as spinner, sitting at the centre of her wheel.

Fates - Moirae - There are three Fates. **Clotho**, the spinner, who spins the thread of life. **Lachesis**, the measurer, who chooses the lot in life one will have and measures off how long it is to be. **Atropos**, she who can not be turned, who at death with her shears cuts the tread of life. The Fates have the subtle but, awesome power of deciding a man's destiny. The Fates are the daughters of Necessity, who are clothed in white robes and have chaplets upon their heads, Lachesis and Clotho and Atropos, who accompany with their voices the harmony of the sirens - Lachesis singing of the past, Clotho of the present, Atropos of the future.



The altar

ARACHNE RITUAL

As everyone is entering the hall and walking the circle anti clockwise we sing "We all come from the Goddess":

CHANT:

WE ALL COME FROM THE GODDESS
AND TO HER WE SHALL RETURN
LIKE A DROP OF RAIN
FLOWING TO THE OCEAN

CASTING CIRCLE

A CIRCLE IS CAST AROUND ABOUT, SPIRIT STAY IN, WORLD STAY OUT;
A CIRCLE IS CAST AROUND ABOUT,
A WORLD WITHIN A WORLD WITHOUT; THE CIRCLE IS CAST AROUND AND AROUND,
IN SPIRIT AND POWER WE ARE NOW BOUND.

EAST - CLOTHO

CLOTHO - SISTER OF THE FATES
SPIN YOUR THREAD OF LIFE TONIGHT
GUIDE OUR DECISIONS IN CREATING THE WEB OF LIFE
HAIL & WELCOME

NORTH - ATHENA

GODDESS ATHENA, PATRON OF WEAVING
ASSIST IN REMOVING OUR ILLUSION SO WE CAN SEE THE TRUTH
HAIL & WELCOME

WEST - LACHESIS

LACHESIS - SISTER OF THE FATES
MEASURE YOUR THREAD OF LIFE TONIGHT
GUIDE OUR HANDS IN CREATING THE WEB OF LIFE
HAIL & WELCOME

SOUTH - ATROPOS

ATROPOS - SISTER OF THE FATES
DESTINY LAYS IN YOUR HANDS TONIGHT
HELP US SEE INTO THE FUTURE OF OUR CREATIVE POWER
HAIL & WELCOME

ARACHNE

LADY ARACHNE - WEAVER OF DESTINY
WE CALL YOU NOW FROM OUR HEARTS
WEAVER OF MAGICK, MOTHER OF CREATIVITY,
HELP US WEAVE OUR GLISTENING THREAD INTO SOMETHING OF GREAT PURPOSE.
BLESSED ARACHNE,
HAIL & WELCOME

MEDITATION

(The Three Fates move into the centre of the circle and start to weave their threads into the Web of Fate.)



Lachesis measuring the threads

All chant while the web is being made:

SPIELS OF THREAD, THREADS OF SPELLS
ALL WEAVED INTO THE WONDROUS WEB
ALL A PART OF THE FLOW AND EBB



Spinning the web





Once the web has been created, the web is then imbued with our intent for the earth. After the intent has been stated Atropos cuts the web. The strands that lay on the floor are gathered by the Sisters of the Fates and placed in the cauldron. People holding their thread can decide on what they want to bring into their life and then throw the thread in the cauldron. As the web is burning we sing we all come from the Goddess.

CHANT:

Earth my body
Water my blood
Air my breath
And fire my spirit



Atropos cutting the web



The Three Fates gathering up the last pieces of web



Burning the web

CLOSING

ARACHNE

LADY ARACHNE - WEAVER OF DESTINY
WEAVER OF MAGICK, MOTHER OF CREATIVITY,
WE THANK YOU FROM OUR HEARTS FOR YOUR GUIDANCE & INSIGHTS
HAIL & FAREWELL

SOUTH - ATROPOS

ATROPOS - SISTER OF THE FATES
THANK YOU FOR HELPING US SEE INTO THE FUTURE OF OUR CREATIVE POWER
HAIL & FAREWELL

WEST - LACHESIS

LACHESIS - SISTER OF THE FATES
THANK YOU FOR GUIDING OUR HANDS IN CREATING THE WEB OF LIFE
HAIL & FAREWELL

NORTH - ATHENA

GODDESS ATHENA, PATRON OF WEAVING
THANK YOU FOR ASSISTING IN REMOVING OUR ILLUSION SO WE CAN SEE THE
TRUTH
HAIL & FAREWELL

EAST - CLOTHO

CLOTHO - SISTER OF THE FATES
THANK YOU FOR GUIDING OUR DECISIONS IN CREATING THE WEB OF LIFE
HAIL & 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.



The Three Fates - Lachesis (Jenny), Clotho (Maria), Atropos (Bev)



The Three Fates and Athena (Renee)



Our visitor for the night - this very large and real huntsman spider was also officiating at this ritual and camped itself in the western quarter above our altar, not moving for the whole of the proceedings.

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