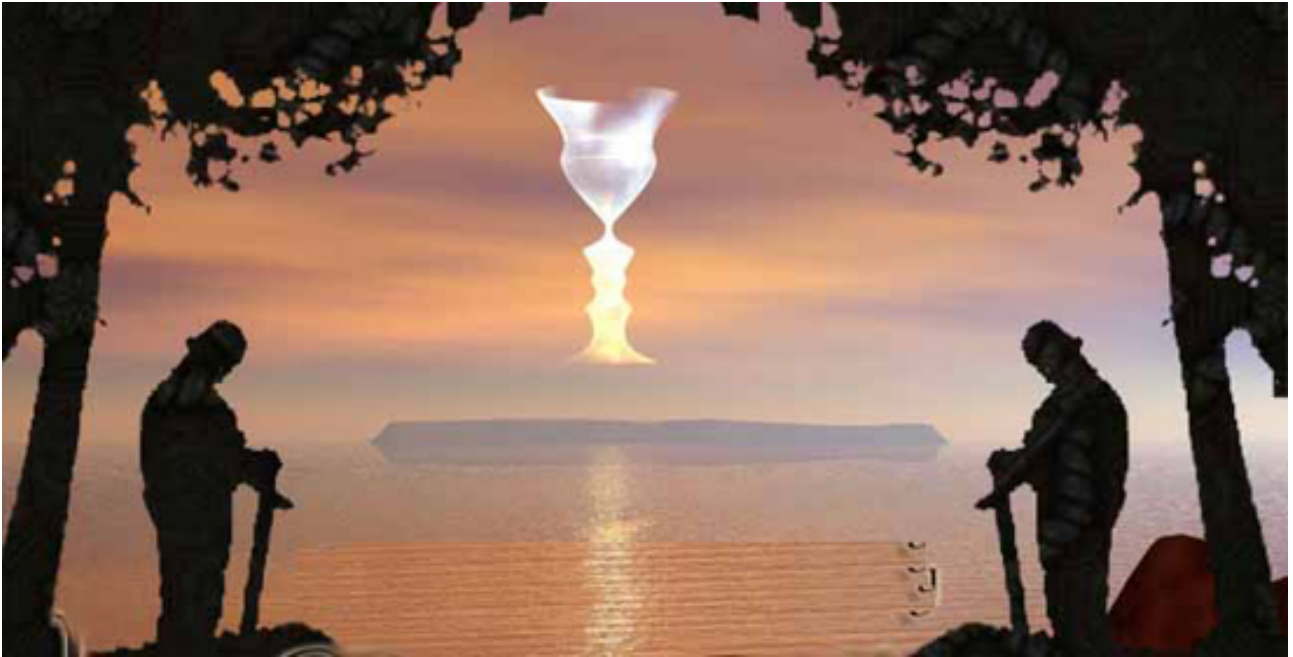


# Alban Arthan - The Light of Arthur

## Full Moon in Sagittarius

*Ritual written\* and led by Janine Donnellan  
(June 13, 2008)*



### Background Information...

Alban Arthan means the Light of Arthur. Some believe this means the Light of King Arthur Pendragon who is symbolically reborn as the Sun Child at the time of the Winter Solstice. Others see the Light belonging to the star constellation known as the Great Bear - Arthur, or Art, being Gaelic for Bear.

Alban Arthan, represents a time when we can open ourselves to the forces of inspiration and conception. All about us is darkness and on this night our guiding beacon is Arthur, rising forth from Avalon. In the stillness of night our intuition is heightened; thus the energies of the night make it a potent time to open ourselves to the fertilising power of the Great Source, so that we may give birth to our creativity.

This Full Moon in Sagittarius represents the union of the physical and the spiritual in the search for knowledge. Sagittarius wants to understand the totality of existence through "journeying" in all its forms. The bright fire of knowledge is at its apex on a Full Moon in Sagittarius.



## **The Ritual...**

Everyone walks in single file with beat of the drum entering the circle from the Southern Quarter.

Sound Awen three times. AA--OO--WEN

### **South**

Oh Merlin, seer, prophet, guardian of the world, master of forest and magic

We seek your guidance and your wisdom on this winter night

We ask that you Guard & protect this circle

May peace reign strong in the south

May the light of Avalon shine within our soul

Hail & Welcome

### **East**

Guinevere whose soul held the heart of Camelot

You hold the beauty of the universe and the innermost secrets of the human heart.

We seek your love & understanding on this winter night

We ask that you Guard & protect this circle

May peace reign strong in the East

May the Light of Arthur's love shine within our soul

Hail & Welcome

### **North**

Oh Lancelot, bearer of courage, fearless warrior

We seek that burning light that is ready for the challenge on this winter night.

We ask that you guard and protect this circle

May peace reign strong in the North

May the Light of Arthur's sword shine within our soul.

Hail & Welcome

### **West**

Perceval you who completed the quest for the Holy Grail

We seek the holy vessel pure enough to contain the sacred within itself on this winter night.

We ask you to guard & protect his circle

May peace reign in the West

May the Light of the Grail shine within our soul.

Hail & Welcome

## **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.

## **Goddess**

Lady of the Lake, the waters that flow in your soul inspire the nobility which shapes our destiny.  
Lady of the Lake who sees beyond the veil allow us to experience your Mystery  
Let love flow like the moon that penetrates the deepest longing of our heart.  
Let us be as one tonight  
Hail and Welcome

## **God**

Arthur, King of Camelot, it is your kingdom which rules our dreams.  
You stand at the centre of the world where truth is honored, Justice prevails, and the Sacred is service to others.  
Arthur, we call upon your counsel and your power.  
Show us the Greater Light this night,  
Infuse our soul.  
May we be assembled as one body in this sacred place,  
Hail & Welcome

## **Intent**

The union of the physical and the spiritual in the search for truth & knowledge.

## **Meditation on Arthur**

You find yourself in a fog bank as you move through it you feel yourself going through a shift in time. You hear muffled in the distance war cries and a clash of swords. As the fog dissipates you find Merlin standing there leaning against his staff. "There you are, I was wondering if you were going to miss the event. Follow me". You trail behind Merlin who leads you up a pathway out onto a rock face overlooking a lake. In the centre of this lake there is a small island, a mist rises from the water and as it moves apart you can see the reflection of the moon leaving a silvery trail of rippled light. Watch intently Merlin says - you will see an end of an era and a beginning of another.

As you gaze upon the waters you notice a barge moving slowly towards the island. A man lays on a platform and three women hover over him attending to his needs. It is the fallen Arthur and the three women are Vivien, The lady of the Lake, Morgaine & Brigid. This is the last journey of the dying King who is moving from this world to the other world Avalon. As the barge moves closer to the island the clouds begin to cover the illumination of the moon. It feels as if the light of the world is slowly expiring. Vivienne looks up towards the rock face seeking Merlin and your eyes meet. You feel within her eyes her anguish, as she realizes that those of the Fey and the old religion are receding into the darkness. The light of Arthur and the dragon line have been vanquished. A lonely horn heralds Arthur's passing and the warrior's sword Excalibur lies now in the murky depths of the lake where it had first been forged.

The sadness of Arthur's passing encompasses you, tears well within your eyes. All is transient Merlin murmurs. Gone from this world but lives within another; nothing is truly lost only forgotten. Camelot was a time of great hope, of great battles and the search for the purity of spirit. Don't despair; it still lives within the hearts & souls of those who thirst for knowledge & truth.

Merlin takes you by the hand and you feel a rush of wind around you. Your arms are wide open and you realize you have morphed into a bird. Merlin has shape shifted into an owl and flies before you. You both fly high in the sky towards the other world, towards Avalon.

You both land on a branch of an apple tree near the spring well, a woman is kneeling staring into the water in quiet contemplation. Vivienne rises to greet you and you resume your normal persona. She bows her head to Merlin and then in silence she leads you to a procession of people; all moving around a stone circle. 12 stones are before you, a knight of the round table stands beside each stone. Arthur sits on a crystal throne in the centre a chalice in one hand & Excalibur in the other. A young maiden beckons you & Merlin to the centre of the circle and Merlin immediately takes his rightful place beside Arthur.

You stand before Arthur, he smiles at you. There comes a time when we must search for our inner most truth, now is such a time he says. Within this circle is someone that can aide you to find that truth. Go seek them out; they are ready to receive you. You turn and move towards the companions of Avalon. Seek out your truth and when it is time I will call you back.

The maiden beckons you back to Arthur. Come kneel before me, says Arthur, the maid brings the chalice to you and offers the contents. The maiden says - In this place and time each must face our self if we would drink from the Cup which overflows with the Light drawn from the Source of Life. You sip from the grail and you taste its nectar.

Arthur speaks. You shall be granted three wishes, one for a friend, one for the earth and one for your self. Don't waste them on foolishness. Arthur then raises Excalibur high above your head. You feel its energy & light penetrate your crown chakra. The energy rushes through your body, you feel it surge through your third eye, your throat chakra, your heart, you feel its vibrant energy in your solar plexus, your sacral chakra & then you base chakra. The energy then diffuses through out your body.

Vivienne steps forward and touches your head with the spring water. You have been given an attunement; tonight you have received the Light of Arthur. And now your quest begins. You have come to this place for a reason and now you will journey back to the place you came from. We bid you adieu. You bow to Arthur & Vivienne & the companions of Avalon. Merlin steps forward raises his staff around you and you are transported back to the rock face overlooking Avalon. Merlin bids you farewell, don't despair I am close at hand if you should need me. You turn and move through the fog bank. You notice a shift in the darkness and then a light appears and you find yourself back in this room. You see yourself sitting on the chair and you move back into your body. You feel your chest moving with each breath, you stretch your arms and you feel totally grounded and invigorated and you open your eyes.

## **Activity**

Take red & white cord & place 3 beads - tie knot and wear as a wrist band to remind you of your 3 wishes.

Red represents blood, the feminine, the physical plane. White represents semen, the male, the spiritual plane.

Each participant is anointed with water from the chalice. We all partake of the wine.

The Lord of Light is not separate from mankind nor is His blood separate from your own. In this place and time each must face our self if we would drink from the Cup which overflows with the

Light drawn from the Source of Life. Such a place exists within every heart and soul. Taste, drink, be satisfied. In this quest of life, there comes a moment when we are all joined as one.  
*Brother to sister, heart to heart, Yours in life and in death. So Mote it Be.*

We hold hands and sing:

*We are a circle, a living circle  
With no beginning and never ending.*

## **Closing**

### **Goddess**

Lady of the Lake, thank you for allowing us to experience your Mystery  
Let love flow like the moon that penetrates the deepest longing of our heart.  
Let us be as one  
Hail and Farewell

### **God**

Arthur, King of Camelot, thank you for showing us the Greater Light this night,  
May we be assembled as one body in this sacred place,  
Hail & Farewell

### **West**

Perceval you who completed the quest for the Holy Grail  
Thank you for guarding & protecting this circle  
May the Light of the Grail shine within our soul.  
Hail & Farewell

### **North**

Oh Lancelot, bearer of courage, fearless warrior  
Thank you for guarding & protecting this circle  
May the Light of Arthur's sword shine within our soul.  
Hail & Farewell

### **East**

Guinevere whose soul held the heart of Camelot  
Thank you for guarding & protecting this circle  
May the Light of Arthur's love shine within our soul  
Hail & Farewell

## South

Oh Merlin, seer, prophet, guardian of the world, master of forest and magic  
Thank you for guarding & protecting this circle  
May the light of Avalon shine within our soul  
Hail & Farewell

Sound Awen three times. AA--OO--WEN

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.

Photos by Janine Donnellan



Jenny, Simon, Janine, Samantha, Charlene, Jenni, Adriana.





Janine, Jenny, Simon, Sam, Charlene, Jenni, Adriana.



Jenny, Simon, Janine, Sam, Charlene, Jenni, Adelina.





Simon, Jenni, Sam, Charlene.



The Cauldron



Samantha



The photos below are by Jennie Jones, for her [Sydney Pagan Photo Project](#). She is really pleased with the results and likes the juxtaposition of our ritual and the community hall. It reinforces the idea that paganism is pretty much everywhere, which is what her project is partly about.

















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