



Black Serpent

Volume 4, issue 1

Autumn 2009



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From the Editor

Hail Leviathan & Eurynomous!



Eye opening spiritual revelation. That's what 2009 has meant for me. Autumn is always a wonderful time to reflect on the first half of the year and to figure out how we should proceed for the remainder.

This is our only issue for 2009. Admittedly we've been somewhat scarce lately. A large part of that being due to other projects, some of it due to lack of submissions to *Black Serpent*. However, after some restructuring and revamping, we have come up with a new plan that will hopefully bring *Black Serpent* to you more regularly and continue bringing you the interesting articles and information we're known for.

As of 2010, *Black Serpent* will be a paying magazine. See our writer's guidelines at The Forum or contact us via ofs.admin@gmail.com or blackserpentmagazine@gmail.com to have the guidelines sent to you via e-mail. These new guidelines explain our pay rates and what we're looking for. The fact that we're turning into a magazine that pays its contributors also means that the cost of print copies and downloads off of Lulu will increase in cost by \$2.00 per copy. You will still

be able to download the magazine for free via our website at www.ofs-demonolatry.org.

We hope that this change will keep *Black Serpent* running and available to all who want it for many years to come. This month you'll notice two new sections to the magazine. Letters from Readers and Ask Adrianna. Readers are invited to submit their reactions, input, and questions at any time.

Adrianna
Senior Editor & Publisher
Black Serpent Magazine



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Letters From Readers

HIGH PRAISE

Black Serpent is one of my favorite magazines. I like the unconventional and experimental slant to many of the articles about magic and working with demons. It's always a pleasure to see a new issue come out. Keep up the good work and I hope your magazine becomes more frequent! ~Gary M.

I recently came across *Black Serpent* when doing a search for information on qliphoth. The first article I read was the Summer 2006 *Symbolism of the Nine* by S. Connolly. I had no idea traditional Satanism or Demon worship could actually make sense like that before. Then I started reading the rest of the issues. Each issue takes me by surprise and none of them are the same. I like the diversity. I hope to see *Black Serpent* coming out more regularly. ~ P.D.

I keep copies of *Black Serpent* on my coffee table at home. I'm proud to display them and don't mind spending the money to have print copies that I can share with my family and those who come into my home. Not only is the writing well done, but I feel it gives my belief system some validity to know there is a quality publication out there devoted just to us. Thank you! ~ Ellen P.

WHERE'D IT GO?

What happened to *Per Contra Movie and Music Reviews*? Bring them back! ~ Allen

I liked the *In the News* section of your magazine that you use to have some time back. It was good to see what was going on in the world as it applies to those of alternative religious faiths. Please consider bringing the news back. ~ Jack

ARTICLES APPLY TO ALL GROUPS

M. Delaney's articles about group mechanics and running a group have helped me a great deal. Not with a Demonolatry group because there isn't one near me, but with several hobby groups I belong to. His advice is always sound and can be carried over into other areas of our lives where we have to deal with groups. ~ Melissa



If you have a response to an article or you have something to say about our magazine, send it to ofs.admin@gmail.com and put LETTERS SUBMISSION in the subject of your e-mail. All submissions are subject to being printed in *Black Serpent*.

Exploring the Elements

By Brad Morlan

Elemental Earth

The earth is what we stand upon, it's what gives us stability. Elemental Demons help us to ground and center. This is what this element does. Have you ever gone outside and laid down or sat on the ground and began to feel like you are heavy as a stone and ready to fall asleep or just plain sluggish? This is Elemental Earth. It is also associated with the 10th Sephira of the Tree of Life. It is where we begin our journey, and we will continue to move up with the other elements.

Also, it will be very helpful to do the following Elemental Balancing Rite By S. Connolly after each lesson.

Standard Elemental Balancing Rite

S. Connolly

Set up your alter as you normally would, invoke your elemental demonic circle, and sit comfortably in front of it. Some people prefer to do this ritual skyclad (naked) as opposed to robed.

First you must remove all of your elements from you. Do this by imagining you are holding a box. Into this box you put all of your elements, one at a time, and then throw the box from you. You may have to fill the box with each element more than once. Imagine Earth as soil and leaves. Imagine air as smoke. Fire and Water etc...

Once you have removed all your elements - and you will be able to tell because you will be exhausted-- you can begin replenishing that which you have freed yourself of. Imagine refilling the box with "fresh" elements. Only fill the box once with each element. Pull the box into you. When this is done correctly you will feel invigorated and energetic. Then you close the ritual as you normally would.

What properties does Elemental Earth represent? Strength, mass and stability. We need these in order to have a firm foundation in our spiritual and mundane lives. Without the stability and strength, our foundation will crack, and we will become unbalanced. This is the essence of elemental Earth. Of course, I am only giving you a very generic examination of the elements, it will be up to you to add to these explanations.

Colors are a good way to represent the elements in magick as well, for this element you want to use browns, blacks and deep greens. Soil, rocks, gemstones, salt are all good physical representations of this element as well.

Each element has its own temperature and feel to it. This element is as we say, dry and cool. This dryness and this coolness is what will allow us to get to know this element.

Earth falls in the Northern quarter.

Exercise #1

In this exercise, I would like you to go outside and sit or lay down on the ground, and close your eyes. Feel the coolness and dryness of the ground beneath you. Once you can feel that sensation, remember how that feels. Try and be as naked as possible with this exercise, as the closer you are to the earth, the more of the energy of the element you will feel. Just lay or sit there for a while, steady breathing in the coolness and dryness.

Exercise #2

Recall the feeling you felt with the first exercise, and this time go a little bit further. As you are becoming one with the element, try and melt into the earth, and be elemental Earth. This will take some practice, so, don't get discouraged if you don't succeed on the first try.

Exercise #3

Cast an Elemental Earth circle. How do we do this? It is no different than a total elemental circle, the only change is you would invoke only Earth at all 4 quarters. You can use one Demon or use 4 Elemental Earth demons, one for each quarter, and note your results.

Elemental Air

Elemental Air can be a tricky element for some people. This element has caused some to become very light headed, confused and even physically ill, like getting car sick. However, it is a very important element to get to know in our magical practices.

The qualities of Elemental Air are warm and moist. It's properties include Creativity, Mental Stability/Instability, Wisdom, Knowledge, Clarity, Focus and intuition (psychic development). Can also be confusion.

Colors associated with the element of Air are white and light yellows.

A great physical representation of Elemental Air is incense.

Air falls in the Eastern Quarter.

Exercise #1

Find a nice comfortable and quiet place, either inside or outside. Be as free as you can from your clothing and you will want to sit on something that elevates you for this exercise. The feelings you should get from being elevated is being suspended in air. Once you have found something to sit or lay on that gives you this feeling, bring to mind your idea of what warm and moist feels like. This is where it might get a bit tricky for some. You are going to be doing what is known as Pore Breathing. Imagine being light, floating in the air. Imagine being air. Focus on your pores in your body, and see them with each inhale, also breathing. Every pore in your body is breathing in unison, taking in the air. This will eventually give you the sense that you are Air. This takes a lot of patience and practice to do. Don't give up!

Exercise #2

Get relaxed, and recall the feelings of "being air" like you did in the previous exercise. Do your pore breathing for a few minutes, to get the feel and energy of Air. This time instead of just breathing through your pores, actually try to blend your body in with the air becoming elemental air.

Exercise #3

Cast your elemental Air circle, just as you did for elemental Earth.

Elemental Water

Elemental Water is a wonderful element to get to know and incorporate into your practices. Water is soothing and calming, healing and comforting. What does water remind you of when you think of it, or swim in the ocean or in a pool? It always makes me feel safe. These are all things that deal with intense emotion.

The attributes of Elemental Water are all of those things above: Healing, Calming, Soothing, Comforting as well as Emotions – both positive and negative and Compassion. Flow is another great attribute of Elemental Water. Divination and Intuition also fall into this category. It makes sense that Intuition goes with the water element, because it is the feminine aspect of air, which also goes with divination and intuition.

The qualities of Elemental Water are cool and moist.

Colors associated with Elemental Water are blues, light grays and sea greens or light greens. Chalices, cups, seaweeds are great representations of this element.

Water falls in the Western quarter.

Exercise #1

This exercise will be sort of like the one for Elemental Air in that you will use pore breathing with water as well, however, instead of situating yourself up off the ground, you will be in a tub of water, or in a pool or body of water. Of course, this exercise should be done completely naked. When you are ready, relax as much as possible with whatever method you choose, and go to your place that you will connect with this element and get into the water.

Take a few deep breaths, feel your pores opening and closing with each inhalation and exhalation you take, and feel your body breathing in the water and feel the coolness and moistness. When you are ready, become totally submerged and do pore breathing under the water, allowing yourself to feel and in a sense, become one with the water that is surrounding you. Of course, holding your breath isn't really an option, neither is breathing under water. So, you can use a snorkel or get a long straw so you can totally submerge yourself.

Exercise #2

This exercise will be a bit different, in that you will recall the feelings you had when doing total body breathing or pore breathing under water, but, you won't be in the water. So, sit in a comfortable position, and recall the feeling you got when you were in the water, feel the cool and moistness that is the element. Note the reactions of your body.

Does it feel different in the water as opposed to being out of the water? Note the differences.

Exercise #3

Cast an Elemental Water Circle, the same way as the others. Recall the Element of Water within you as you do this, and note your reactions. As always, write down all your experiences, emotions, results.

Elemental Fire

Fire is a very energetic element. It produces results in a fast paced environment, and causes huge changes within it's reach. Other than the obvious destructive nature of this element, it also swings the complete opposite – after all, all the elements have positive and negative qualities to them.

Elemental Fire is associated with Cleansing, Purifying, Sexuality, Lust, Intense Love, Action, Intense Energy and Motivation just to name a few of the many characteristics of this element.

The qualities of Elemental Fire are dry and warm.

Colors associated with this element are reds, oranges, deep yellows and gold. Candles, bonfires, cutting devices – swords, daggers as well as lancets are great representations of this element. I mention lancets because of blood. Blood is very prevalent in the element of Fire, even though it contains all elements.

Elemental Fire falls in the Southern quarter.

Exercise #1

This exercise might be a bit uncomfortable if you are not careful and burn yourself. So, please be careful when connecting with this element, as it will get really hot!

For this exercise, you will need to be as naked as is possible and the best places for this would be in a DRY sauna (not a steam bath, that gets into an alchemical property that we aren't discussing here), by a fireplace, or a really hot desert. If these things aren't available, something that you can do is to take a candle, and very carefully, sit over it, getting as close to it as is possible without burning yourself. You want to be uncomfortably hot, but, not painfully so, enough to be sweating a great deal. When this is occurring, steady your breathing, you may want to use controlled breathing, feel the heated air flowing in and out of your lungs as you breath it in. Once again, start to use your pore breathing, and focus on the dryness and heat that you are slowly becoming. Feel the fire coursing through your body as you breath. Become the element. Imagine you are nothing but living fire.

*If you start to feel dizzy, nauseated or feel like you are going to pass out, then you really need to stop and get some fresh air and try again another time.

Exercise #2

There is going to be only 2 exercises with this one, it will give you a lot to learn and deal with. As usual, please write down everything you can with these exercises as well as any questions.

Cast an Elemental Fire circle in the methods you have been using for the other elements.

Just remember, these exercises may take a lot of time for some, and not a whole lot of time for others.

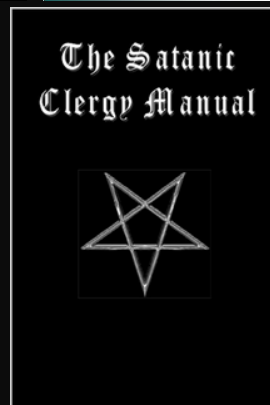
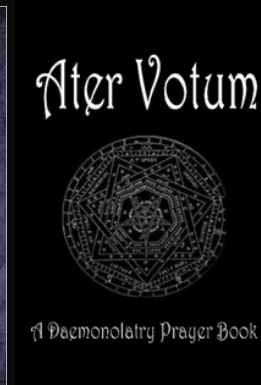
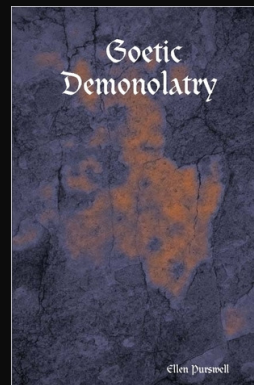
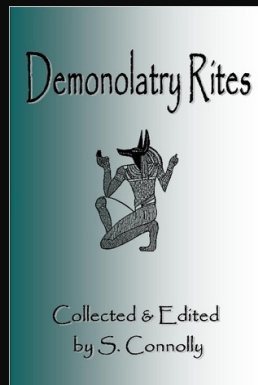
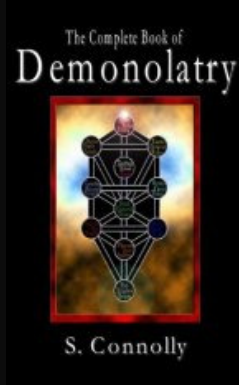
Now that you have created elemental circles with each element, and have experienced firsthand each element in it's rawest forms, cast a normal elemental circle, with each appropriate element in each quarter. Can you tell any difference now than before?



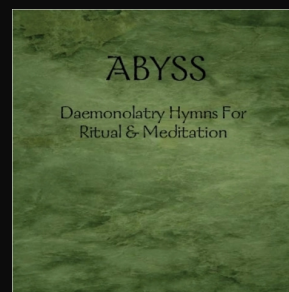
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Coming Soon: The Daemonolater's Guide to Daemonic Magick

Symbolism of the Pentagram

By S. Connolly

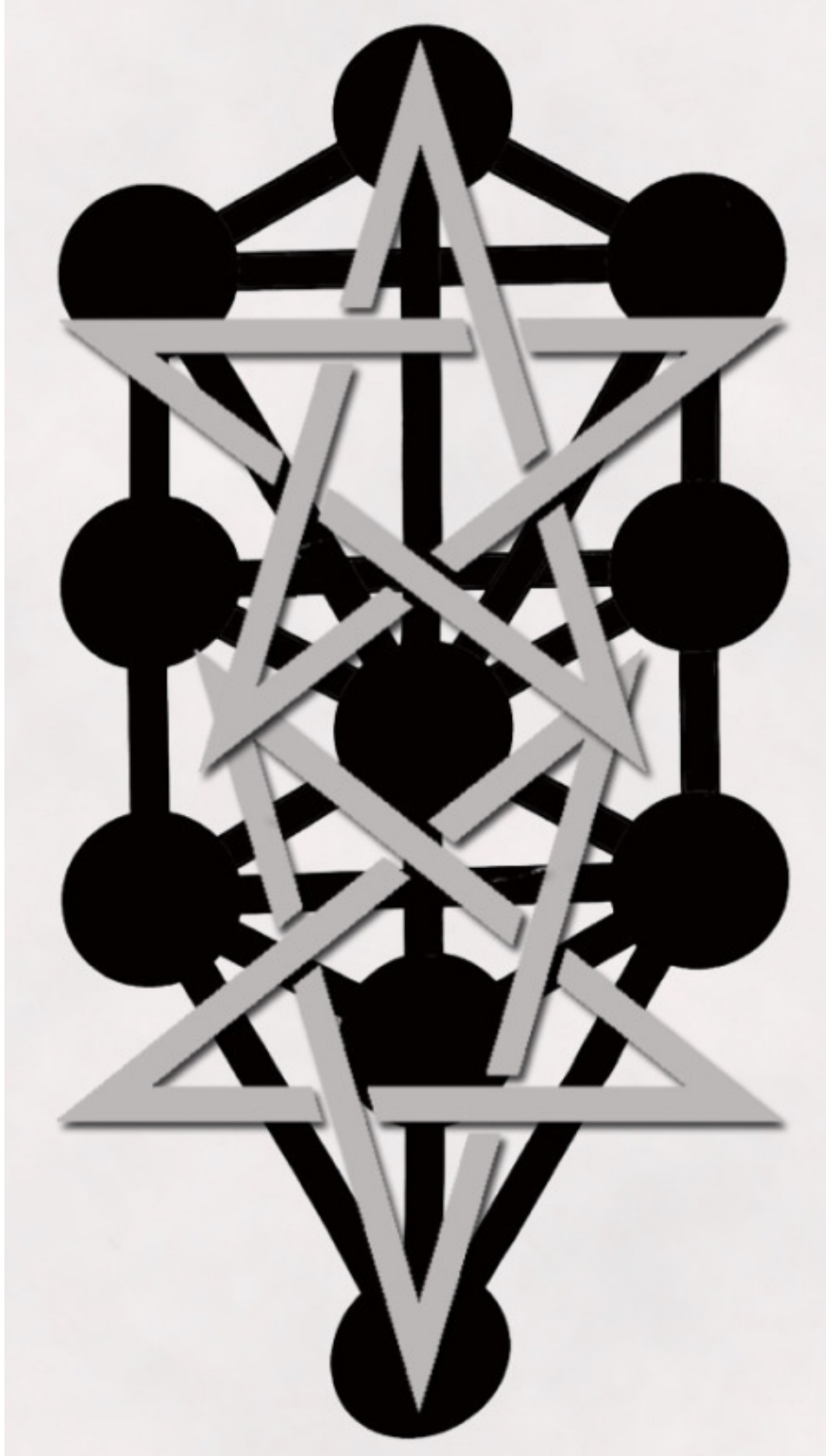


Numerous occultists use the pentagram symbolism without really thinking too deeply about it. They're told when they first start out (if they're Wiccan) that the right side up pentagram symbolizes the four elements, Akasha (the spirit) and if encircled, that circle binds these elements in the never-ending cycle of life, death, and rebirth.

Conversely, Satanists are told the inverse pentagram stands for man in control of the elements (and all that surrounds him if circled).

I propose both pentagrams work together as a model of the Tree of Life. The inverse pentagram represents the base of the tree (the physical aspects ascending to the mental), whereas the right-side up pentagram represents the top of the tree (the mental aspects ascending to the spiritual). Now I know a lot of folks take issue with the alleged "Western" models of anything. This includes the Tree of Life. For those of you where this is an issue, consider the CONCEPTS behind the Tree of Life Model and apply them in a way meaningful to you.

The diagram on the following page should help you visualize this concept. Consequently this is why I also believe that the magician of any ilk, and even Demonolaters, can wear the pentagram as a symbol of his/her faith.



Growing Up With Daemons

By Daniel Purswell



People often ask me what it was like growing up as a Demonolater. I always tell them it was really no different than how they grew up with their own religious beliefs. My family had holidays and celebrations just like any family that has a religion. We just didn't have to go to a church to hold them and our holidays celebrated the old gods and the ancient holidays rather than the Christian perversions of them.

My father, Grant Purswell, is a Demonolater. He has been since before I was born just like his father before him. I remember the first time I realized we were different from other families. I had spent the weekend with a friend and went to the Catholic church with them on Sunday morning. My first surprise was noticing how closely a Catholic mass resembles the structure of an ancient pagan rite. I admit to being spellbound and fascinated. I was also amazed at how many people were there. Later I told my friend how strange an experience it was. He looked at me quizzically and asked what I meant. Hadn't I been to church before? I told him no and that my family wasn't religious.

In my home we had a mother-in-law apartment behind the garage that my parents converted to a temple. Daily someone in the family would take offerings to the altar. My mother would switch out the wooden carved sigils and altar cloths and décor based on the season and the Demon being worshiped. Among my little sister's first words were 'Usifoog Rofa' which loosely translated to Lucifuge Rofocale. Around Halloween we'd excitedly put up the offering altars to the death Demons including carved pumpkins, dried gourds, straw, and other harvest-like decorations. In spring we'd pick tulips and other spring blooms for my mother's flower offerings.

The Ba'al El (Belial) festival at the winter solstice (also referred to as Yule in our house) was celebrated from December 20 – January 2. I recall a great deal of eggnog and revelry with friends and our mother baked non-stop. We decorated the house with snowflakes and sigils and my father carved a Yule log, which we burnt as an offering in the fireplace. We never really put up a tree to my recollection (though I do

now with my own children). Instead, we put popcorn garland on the trees outside for the birds. We always got presents just like the secularists and Christians.

We were not allowed to attend the adults' religious ceremonies. Instead, our mother or father would take us out to the temple and perform a short ritual for us earlier in the day before the coven came, allowing us to participate. I remember that my brother and I always wanted to light the candles and my sisters would fight over who got to carry the incense. No one wanted the salt and water because it was boring. We were able to take a communion of the elements in our teen years. We were also allowed to make up our own minds about initiation as adults.

I experimented and dabbled in religions like Christianity, Judaism, and Islam because they were foreign and exotic. None of them ended up making sense to me, however, and I went back to Demonolatry time and time again. Not only because it did make sense to me, but because I have fond memories of it. One of my strongest childhood memories connecting me to my Demonolatry upbringing is the scent of sandalwood and frankincense. My mother's favorite blend. Every spring we'd clean the house top to bottom, open all the windows, and fumigate the entire house with that incense. Then my father would go around with oleum and anoint all the doors and windows. To this day I still perform that ritual every spring. I hope my own children grow up with their own fond memories of being raised Demonolators.



The demon Belial appearing with his entourage of four lesser demons before King Solomon. From Jacobus de Teramo's *Das Buch Belial*, printed at Augsburg, 1473



To Keep Silent:

Discretion in Groups in an Information Age

By M. Delaney



Back in medieval times, it's rumored that if a witch betrayed the coven, (s)he would be destroyed, often by magical means. While it's anyone's guess if such things are true or not, the story itself has a more important underlying point. Entrenched in Abrahamic culture, secrecy and loyalty when it comes to the metaphysical and the occult are important. There is a reason for this importance within the coven/sect and it has nothing to do with being dramatic or even paranoid. Firstly, not everything is meant for public consumption. This may include certain rituals or magics that, in the wrong hands or in the hands of someone too immature or inexperienced to properly and responsibly use, could be dangerous or used out of proper context. In other instances, sacred rituals are often kept between certain members of the clergy or adepthood for the fact that they are sacred. They would lose their deep held meaning if just anyone were allowed to have access. Finally, members of groups are often sworn to secrecy by blood pact to keep the identities of group members and goings on within the group secret for fear of persecution.

The problem is that nowadays we live in a society where everyone's life is an open book plastered on social networking websites for all to see. People love to name drop and enjoy sharing their group affiliations and alternative religious beliefs and practices with others. Some of the younger generation doesn't believe anything should be kept private, that all knowledge should be shared openly and willingly, and that nothing should be worked for. Secrecy, loyalty and discretion, all things that kept a group safe from outsiders and kept the deep held *meanings* to certain offices and rituals sacred, are now considered antiquated ideas.

We also live in a time where the only people anyone is loyal to is themselves. This is the *Me* generation and while the Self is an important part of the Demonic Divine, other people are important, too. Sure, not everyone is self-centered and egocentric, but

more and more in the past thirty years I've seen people's loyalties shift away from their groups and friends and more to themselves. I've watched good friends throw one another to the wolves to save their own skins. I've seen people outed as Demon Worshipers to their bosses and families during feuds between coven members. I've seen groups pushed further underground and develop more stringent entrance policies all because one person couldn't keep his or her mouth shut. Groups are shrinking, some are disappearing, and many people who still abide the old ways and who aren't in large groups are going further underground because they can't stand the drama of larger group social interaction.

I am writing this article to implore the younger generation to reconsider their feelings about secrecy and loyalty because I believe that we lose an important aspect of our spirituality when everything is open and no longer has *meaning*. When rituals are misused they become benign and meaningless. When people don't have to work for sacred knowledge, but simply Google it and read a Wikipedia entry, they miss out on the journey and the lessons they could learn from having to work for it. Therein lays the Real Knowledge. Many of us who did work for what we know tire of listening to arrogant twenty-somethings who read a book or two, or maybe a few internet sites and suddenly coin themselves experts only to tell us that we have no clue what we're talking about. When we choose to not be loyal to our group just because we had a falling out with a friend, or we need to nurture our own egos, we hurt everyone in that group who also worship the Demonic Divine, even when they weren't involved in the feud.

Now mind you I'm not talking about secrecy for the sake of drama or arrogance, or for the sake of keeping anything from anyone just because, and I'm not talking blind loyalty to any single person or group. I'm talking about secrecy *for the sake of keeping something sacred* or for the sake of *keeping members of a group safe*. I'm talking about loyalty for the sake of keeping groups in tact and whole and for friendship.

Internet occultists specifically can't seem to keep secrets and have no loyalty to those they so easily call "friend" online. This is a problem for groups who may have public websites for people to congregate on. What perplexes me is people have fallings out online when most of the time they've never met, and next thing you know, everyone is libeling one another all over the web. There is no loyalty or true friendship that exists between these people. Because many people don't really, in the physical world, know each other it's easy to be a raving asshole toward other people when they're just a screen name on a glowing box. So when it comes to the Internet, I propose secrecy in the sense of discretion becomes even more important.

In that I'm not saying you should sacrifice your personal morals or beliefs, or that you should agree with your friends all the time. I'm not saying you should support illegal activity. In cases where a group is doing something illegal or is doing something you morally object to or deeply disagree with, your best course of action is to leave the group and move on with your life. Chances are you shouldn't have gotten involved with such a group to begin with if you didn't agree with their basic foundational beliefs

or practices anyway. There are bad groups out there, but for the most part, most Demonolatry groups are full of normal people who simply want to worship with others and make friends, and perhaps even practice magic with others.

Yes, wherever there is a group there is bound to be drama, fallings out, arrogance, and even secrets spilled. It's human nature. On the Internet, as I said before, this kind of thing runs rampant. I just want to point out some questions you should ask yourself before you:

- Get angry that a ritual is not shared with you.
- Decide to talk crap about someone in your group you had a fight with (or your group) on your MySpace page or blog.
- Decide to vehemently rally against a group or person you dislike in the community.
- Decide to share with anyone a sacred ritual you were given in confidence.
- Drop names and discuss the community with anyone who asks.
- Stalk your ex-online friends on the Internet.

- 1. Has the group or person done something illegal in which you could be held accessory to, like molested a child or physically* killed a person?** If yes, in instances like this, you need to take your concerns, with proper evidence, to your local police, then possibly go into hiding. If a group is doing something this terrible, chances are they would have no qualms hurting you if they found out you snitched. *I say physically because curses don't count. I've known groups who cursed people who died. You can tell the police that someone's heart attack or car accident was caused by a curse, but the likelihood anyone is going to believe you is minimal.
- 2. Is your problem a personality conflict with another member?** Instead of blabbing about the entire group and hurting everyone or trying to get other group members on your side by talking crap about the person you dislike, perhaps trying to resolve your issue directly with the offending member is a better solution. Only involve other group members if they truly can help to **resolve** the situation (they may not agree there is a situation), otherwise you are asking them to pick sides. If the situation cannot be resolved, ask yourself if you can be civil to this person at group meetings and rituals. If not, then you have to decide whether you should leave the group and move on. Most often you leaving is the best option. Otherwise you risk leaving calamity and a divided group (whose problem it wasn't to begin with) in the wake of the personal dispute between you and the other person. Oftentimes groups will remove persons who are disruptive and causing drama.
- 3. Is someone else in the group targeting you and trying to run you off?** You can try to wait it out and see if they get bored and find someone else to pick on. Oftentimes you'll find that those who try to run others off are usually bullies and will find someone else to target. Also be assured that these are the people

who will eventually be seen for what they are and the smart group leader will remove them the second they realize the person is systematically running people off. Many times bullies are difficult to spot because they mask their actions in good intentions by helping to run off truly problematic members (others who create drama or discord), often hold the confidence of someone higher up in the group, and wear a veneer of innocence, "I was only trying to help."

4. **Do you disagree with the group leader's methods of handling a situation or person? Or their stance on a particular issue?** Can you compromise? If the leader is unwilling to compromise, do you understand why? If the answer is no and this really bothers you and you take it personally, chances are it's time for you to leave the group. If you disagree with the leadership and direction of a group you'll never be happy in that group and you'll only become more resentful until you become a problem by talking crap about the group leader no matter how inadvertently with other group members. You'll be seen as the trouble maker and removed for causing calamity in the group.
5. **Is a ritual being kept from you for a good reason?** Not all rituals are meant to be shared with just anyone. Ask the ritual keeper honestly why you cannot have the ritual. There may be a very good reason. It may be a simple reason such as, "I need to dig it out of my notes" or, "I don't have that ritual in electronic form and I have no time to research it and type it up for you." Or it could be because you need to be working toward a certain goal or a specialty within the Adept hood or Priesthood in order to receive it. Before getting angry, consider consulting with your Patron or Matron and asking if they will give you a certain ritual. If given a certain ritual via ascension, make sure you ask before sharing it with anyone else. Perhaps it was only meant for you, or perhaps you've been marked as a ritual keeper, which means you determine who gets the ritual and who doesn't.
6. **Should you share a sacred ritual with anyone who asks?** Is it your place to share it? Do you hold the ritual sacred? Or are you just interested in someone else stroking your ego in order to get it? Does the person want it for a genuine reason? Are they just dabbling? Is the ritual safe for someone of their level? Do you know the person in person? Will the meaning of the ritual be cheapened or ignored by the person you are thinking of giving it to?
7. **Should you attempt to destroy via slander and libel (both things you can be sued for) an entire group because one member or all of them bruised your ego or hurt your feelings? (This also applies to individuals.)** What purpose would it serve? I've watched people waste their entire lives attempting to destroy others. They end up destroying themselves instead. You've heard that saying *the best revenge is living well*. Consider that. Instead of channeling all your energy into destroying a group or people/persons you don't like, why not channel that energy into starting your own group and surrounding yourself with people you do like? At the end of your life do you want to say, *I spent my entire life messing with other people to get my revenge?* Or do you want to be able to say, *I spent my entire life surrounded by friends and cultivating my own spiritual connection with the Demonic Divine?* If you really feel a need to get

back at people you feel have hurt you, curse them and move on. If they truly have done something wrong, the curse will hit them where it hurts. If not, at least you can let go of some of those feelings you have.

So consider these questions and possible resolutions before you resort to pasting your dirty laundry on the web for all to see, or before you drop a name. Chances are most people are going to make up their own minds about other people and their secrets anyway so your efforts will be moot. It's also likely most people are going to question your loyalty and approach you with caution if you openly talk crap about others. If you don't agree with a group or person, fine. Feel free to share your disagreement with those who ask about your experiences. I don't advise going out of your way to do it, though. Beware libel and slander because some people are willing to sue if they feel their name or group has been wrongly maligned by your mouth or words. All they have to prove is that you knowingly and willingly did it. Not whether or not what you said was true. That's an easy case to prove if you're posting things to the Internet. Perhaps this is where To Know, To Will, To Dare, and **To Keep Silent** comes in. ■



“Noir” By Laith from the OFS Forum

Ask Adrianna



Dear Adrianna, I recently did a ritual to Belphagore to help me find a better job. I think the ritual backfired because I was laid off and I haven't seen the new job manifest yet. What did I do wrong? What can I do to fix the situation? ~ Anna

Anna, Magick doesn't always manifest in the way we expect, and if we're not really specific about how we want something to happen, things tend to happen in their own way. Chances are you needed to lose the job you had in order to appreciate the new job you're going to get even more. Why? Only you and the Daemonic Divine know why. I wish you the best of luck in finding a new job and offer this bit of advice – construct a semi-permanent altar to Belphagore in your home. Daily – burn a green candle and offer your blood. Keep on the altar a list of all the things you want in a job including work environment and salary. Read this list once a day when you make your offering. Carry a piece of jade with you when you go to interviews or to fill out applications (leave it on the altar otherwise). Best of luck to you and keep me updated on how things go. ~ Adrianna

Dear Adrianna, I am going crazy trying to figure out who my patron is. I've done meditations, offerings, and worked with all the Demons that stand out to me and still nothing! I know it has to be Lucifer, Amaymon, or Lilith, I'm just not sure which. I've been on this search over a year now and am frustrated and on the verge of giving up! Help! ~ Anonymous

Anonymous, Patrons have this tendency to reveal themselves in their own time. I know it's frustrating because we all want to find our patrons right away and start working toward developing a relationship. Here's my advice. Stop trying so hard. Step back and give your search a rest. In the meantime, enjoy working with the different Demonic entities for the sake of working with them and learning what wisdom they have to impart to you. Nowhere is it written that you must have a patron by XXX date or exactly a year after you've begun practicing. Some people take years to discover their Patron. Others only need a few months. Eventually you will know which of the three is your patron (matron in the case of Lilith). So relax and take your time. ~Adrianna

Dear Adrianna, Since I don't have a group, I have a friend I practice magick with. Lately I am having a problem with my friend. He's started incorporating elements of different magickal systems into one ritual working and it bothers me. I feel that if we're doing a ritual in Enochian then we need to perform the calls and open the

watchtowers. If we're practicing Solomonic magick I expect we should do it by the book and only modify invocations to be more respectful, using a triangle for focus rather than containment. I don't want to lose my ritual partner because I enjoy practicing with him. I just want more order. ~ Dax

Dear Dax, Can you both come to a compromise? Some people are open to mixing magickal methods and systems – others are not. Clearly you are both of different opinions. Chances are if you tell him you want to keep it pure he might be put off by your unwillingness to experiment, whereas his disregard for magickal boundaries based on system is too chaotic for your liking. The only solution I see is compromise. For every mixed ritual you perform with him, ask that he performs a more ordered ritual with you. Or, see if he'll agree to keep the rituals within one system specifically when practicing with you. I'm sure if you share your concerns with him in a way that is not threatening or condemning he would be more than willing to work with you to where you both can continue enjoying the magickal working relationship you have, and still get what you want from your work. Also consider that most magicians are solitary. Groups are often for worship purposes as opposed to magick. To have a magickal partner with whom you work well is a rare treat. Guard that relationship if you can. ~ Adrianna

Dear Adrianna, My brother-in-law and sister were at my house for dinner the other night and he was lurking near my bookshelves and found some of my occult books. He pulled me aside after dinner to tell me he saw them and asked me to come to church with him and my sister or he'd have no choice but to tell other members of my family what he saw. This is blackmail, but I'm scared. I can't risk my family finding out I worship demons. They're really religious and I don't want to be alienated. ~ Jess

Dear Jess, Wow. That's a heavy situation. I suppose you don't have any dirt on him to hold over his head? I know, I know – that's not good advice. But seriously, I would tell him that if he tells, you'll tell them he tried to put the moves on you and threatened to tell them that nonsense to get you to give into him. Evil, yes. A solution, yes. Morally justified – probably not. Instead, perhaps you should just curse him. In the meantime, if you're not ready to come out (if you have too much to lose) get yourself a locking cabinet for your books and stow them away. Then, tell him to prove it and pretend like he's crazy. It's likely your family wouldn't believe him anyway. Also – don't leave him alone in your house and check your stuff to make sure nothing's missing. If he has evidence (pictures on a camera phone or one of your ritual implements) – chances are you're caught and you're going to have to come out and face whatever the consequences follow. Of course you could always give in and just go to church, but then he'll expect you to convert and so on. You see where this is going, right? I hope I've given you some ideas. Good luck! ~ Adrianna

Dear Adrianna, Someone online told me that Asmodeus is always a lust demon and I couldn't invoke him as a Demon of fire. That Demons had specific meanings in their hierarchies and there was no deviation. Clearly I disagree. I want to work with Asmodeus for creativity, I'm a painter. So who's right? Me or him? ~ Lynn

Lynn, Personally I side with you, but to each his own. This guy is clearly someone you don't really know except online. What he thinks shouldn't matter anyway. ~ Adrianna

Dear Adrianna, What is an appropriate after ritual feast? Would it be inappropriate for me to ask everyone to bring something, like a potluck? I'm a bachelor and don't cook and somehow I feel pizza or Chinese take out would ruin the atmosphere. ~ Dave

Dear Dave, that's up to the participants. Ask them what they want to eat. Maybe they will want pizza. I can't begin to tell you how many times my group has had pizza feasts post ritual. Sometimes I cook (or we all do. I've known groups who do potluck, too. So ask your group and see what they think. Maybe they do want sweet & sour chicken and egg rolls. There is no rule or specified etiquette as to what you can or cannot serve at a post ritual feast. ~Adrianna

Dear Adrianna, I have a friend who insists on telling me that demons are evil and recounts this story about how she was allegedly possessed when she was thirteen and had an exorcism at her mother's church. She uses this as a warning and is constantly trying to get me to leave my religion. I would just dump her as a friend, but aside from this annoying flaw, we get along really well and we've been friends since we were in middle school. It seems silly to throw away over seven years of friendship because she disagrees with my religion. Any advice? ~ Sara

Sara, Can you and she agree to disagree on the matter of religion? If yes, then my advice is to keep your religion away from her and don't discuss it with her. There are some subjects best left alone with certain people. However, it may come down to the choice – your friend or your beliefs. As people get older they often grow apart and their lives go in different directions. I know very few people who are still close friends with those they went to school with once they get into their thirties and forties. I'm not saying your friendship won't endure or that you can't get past this disagreement, just that the odds are against it. So if you can both keep religion out of the friendship great! That's probably the best way to go. ~ Adrianna



Ask Adrianna is an advice and question column answered by experienced Daemonolatrix, Adrianna of the OFS Forum. If you have a question for Adrianna please send it to ofs.admin@gmail.com and put ASK ADRIANNA SUBMISSION in the subject of your e-mail. All submissions are subject to being printed in *Black Serpent* at our discretion.

Sigil Sculptures

J. Carroll



Supplies needed:

- Polymer clay
- Wire
- Wooden base
- Glue
- Paint (Any type that will work with clay)

Tools needed:

- Pliers
- Drill
- Oven

- 1) Cut twice as much wire as you think you'll need to make the sigil that you want to make, then double the wire over. The length of doubled wire will determine the size of your sigil sculpture. It is easier to make a sculpture of a sigil that is one continuous line.
- 2) Bend the wire into the shape of the sigil you wish to create. Make sure to leave a tail, a few inches long, at the point where the sigil will touch the base. Depending on the type of wire, a pliers and safety gloves might have to be used.



- 3) Cover the wire with a very thin coat of polymer clay, but do not cover the tail that will be attached to the base. When applying the clay to the joints of the

sigil, ensure not to make them 'bulky' since it might deform the look of the sigil.



- 4) Bake the wire and clay in an oven according to the instructions of the polymer clay. It is easier to bake it on some aluminum foil.
- 5) When the clay has been cooked and cooled, cover with another thin coat of clay. This will be your final coat so make sure that you smooth out any imperfections and fingerprint marks. Using a tool specific for polymer clay or even the edge of a spoon or kitchen knife is useful at this stage. Then bake your sculpture again.



- 6) While the sculpture is cooling, drill a hole through your wooden base. On the bottom side of the base, carve 2 channels on either side of the hole. The tail on the sculpture will go through the hole and be bent into these channels later.



- 7) Feed the tail of the sigil sculpture through the hole, bending the two parts of the tail into the channels previously cut and then remove the excess with your

pliers. Glue the bottom of the sigil to the wooden base and glue the tail into the channels on the underneath side of the base.



8) Paint the sculpture.

Here are some examples of completed sculptures:



Enochian Physics:

The Concept of Dualities

By Sentinel

Enochian Physics and Magic rely heavily on the idea of dualities. A duality is any two fold force or expression consisting of two sides – usually what we know as opposites.

Dualities normally comprise of two different and distinct things. Big and Little are a good, although simplistic, example of a duality. We consider Big to be different to Little, whereas the truth is that Big and Little only exist in relation to each other. Big is only meaningful if it is compared to something small, and even then the ideas are totally subjective. A mouse is Little compared to an elephant, but Big when compared to a grain of sand. The concept of *up* is useless if we have no concept of its opposite *down*.

Enochian Physics uses the idea of duality to denote any force or expression that has two sides, either of which is useless or meaningless without the other. Look at a girl in the street on a nice summer's day, and the idea of beautiful and ugly may spring to mind. You may think that said girl is beautiful, but that is because you are only comparing her to previous girls/models etc in order that a judgment be made. If she were the only girl to ever have existed, then she would be neither beautiful nor ugly, as the comparison required to operate and sustain the duality would and could not exist, and hence the idea of beautiful and ugly would evaporate as never to have existed.

Children learn about such things as safe and unsafe, good and bad etc as they grow up. It is impossible to learn about one side of the duality without being aware and learning about the other side. It is the nature of dualities that one becomes aware of both sides simultaneously, and that we may eliminate one side of the duality only at the expense of the other. We can only hold on to onside of the duality by clinging, sometimes without even knowing it, to the other. This idea should be clearly and thoroughly understood as it forms a cornerstone of Enochian ethics.

We may say that:

- When one side of a duality is created, the other comes into existence automatically and simultaneously.
- When one side of a duality is eliminated, the other side automatically ceases to exist.
- Everything that exists, even existence itself, is one side of a duality.

Dualities form the philosophical foundations of many, if not all, religions. For example Buddhism teaches that existence and non-existence are two sides of a duality. One of the main teachings behind Buddhism is to tread a middle path, implying that one should live centrally, between the extreme end points of any dualities. In other words, do nothing to excess, and moderation in all things.

Duality leaves its stamp on all things in the universe, from subatomic structures to the cosmos. All physical things – that is existence in the physical plane express a dualistic nature. Physics is very quickly becoming aware of this fact. Many theories remain simply theories owing to dualistic natures. Take the existence of magnetic monopoles for example. On the other hand, Quantum Physics only exists because of the acceptance of duality. Subatomic particles only exist as one side of a pair.

Electron – Positron, matter – antimatter, energy – dark energy, and of course energy – matter, linked by $E=mc^2$. All dualistic pairs.

Next time, we will look at the I – Not I idea of existence and reality, before moving on to periodicity and cycles of the universe and existence. So, join me then for some more philosophical ramblings. ~ *Sentinel*



The Knight Death & The Devil By Albrecht Durer



Meat For The Beast

Listen closely readers, do you hear that?

Can you hear the faint ringing of the dinner bell?

Come And Get It!

Ah yes, more *Meat for the Beast!*

Today's main course is a kooky little website that I ran across this afternoon:

<http://www.StopAbductions.com>

Okay, when I saw the site this is the first thing that greeted me:



ALIEN ABDUCTEE FROM AUSTRIA WEARING A THOUGHT SCREEN HELMET SHE MADE FROM DIRECTIONS ON THIS WEB SITE.

"I have been abducted by aliens for years and found stopabductions.com by a happy coincidence.

THE THOUGHT SCREEN HELMET STOPS SPACE ALIENS FROM ABDUCTING HUMANS.

IT'S BEEN USED SUCCESSFULLY BY FORMER ABDUCTEES FOR NINE YEARS.



Yes, they're serious. Now, I have to admit that right off the bat I figured this was some type of satirical comedy website giving a little jab, a little poke of the elbow to those individuals who believe in Extraterrestrial life and that they (the alien's) can read thoughts by means of telepathy.

Remember this scene from ***Signs*** starring Mel Gibson?



Yup, I knew you would. Well folks, I was only correct on one of those counts.

Comical? Absolutely.
Satirical? Absolutely Not!

These people are *actually serious* about this, they aren't kidding around.

Go on! click on the link above and check it out for yourselves. If you have about \$30 dollars to ~~spend~~ waste it teaches how to make one of those nifty Thought Screen Helmets yourself with step-by-step instructions.

Let's get lucid for a moment shall we?

I am the last person who wants to step on the opinions and beliefs of others, and I truthfully mean that. It's just that listening to some Theoretical Physicist such as **Dr. Michio Kaku Ph.D** for example, talking about the possibility of Extraterrestrials and the type of technology that they must possess (if you believe they exist) for Intergalactic travel is very fascinating.

So, my point is this:

For argument's sake lets just assume for a moment that there is 100% concrete undeniable proof that Extraterrestrials *do* exist. And let's say that Dr. Kaku is correct in stating that the technology they possess is most likely thousands if not hundreds of thousands (some even think *millions*) of years more advanced than us Earthlings.

Alright, so what are the people on StopAbductions.com trying to tell us here?

That:

- Tape
- A hat
- Velostat
- A sheet of newspaper
- Grease Pencil

and some scissors will thwart ultra-advanced Alien technology?

It's going to baffle the beings hundreds of thousands if not millions of years more advanced than us???

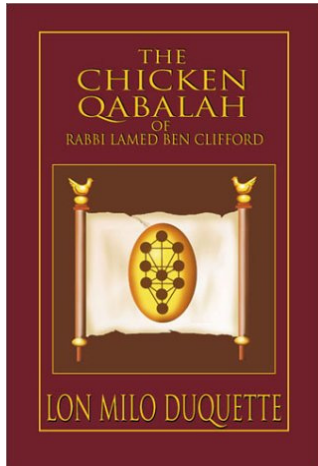
If \$30 dollars can stop a Type IV Civilization from doing anything it wishes, if some items that can be bought from most any Hardware store in America can fool and confuse beings that control the fundamental forces of the entire universe...then: **Abandon All Hope** ladies and gentlemen, we don't even have a prayer.

And I am,

Devil Man



REVIEWS



The Chicken Qabalah of Rabbi Lamed Ben Clifford: Dilettante's Guide to What You Do and Do Not Need to Know to Become a Qabalist by *Lon Milo DuQuette*

Qabalah used to be a subject that I wanted to learn more about. It was over shadowed by my fear of how stuffy, dry, and complex it was. I've skipped over many a book for the sole reason the Qabalah appeared in the title, and this would have been no different if it wasn't for DuQuettes reputation as a consummate entertainer. After reading his autobiography, *My Life with the Spirits*, I knew that I had to give the author a chance and read *The Chicken Qabalah*. I was glad I did!

DuQuette assumes the persona of Rabbi Ben Clifford for most of the writing, only appearing as himself to ground and give context to the chapters. As the Rabbi, he regales the reader with stories, an old script of a rejected documentary, transcripts from recorded lectures, questions and answers with a defunct magazine, and much more. Throughout out all this he actually managed to impart on the reader a deep understanding of Qabalah.

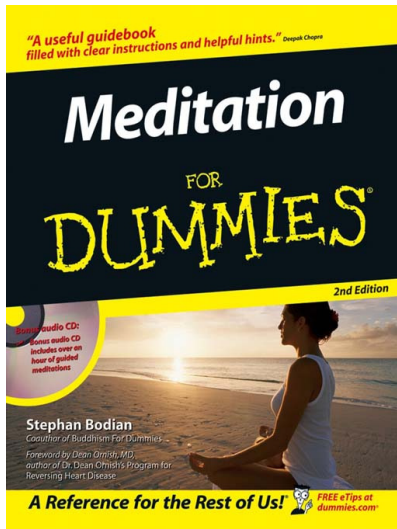
As a reader, I quickly gained confidence in the subject by being informed by the good Rabbi, than by reading the book, I was now a Chicken Qabalist and didn't have to worry about such things as Hebrew pronunciation, and the Bible. The only thing I worried about from that point onwards was holding on for the wild ride the ensued. DuQuette doesn't take time to coddle the reader but rather plunged right into Qabalah via a hilarious introduction to the Sepher Yetzirah, the Book of Creation. He keeps on entertaining and teaching until he reaches Gematria, Notariqon, and Temura; and covers the Hebrew Alphabet, The Tree of Life, The Four Qabalistic Worlds, and the relationship between the Tarot and Qabalah, on the way.

I found *Chicken Qabalah* to immensely entertaining and incredibly educational. It was my first real introduction to Qabalah and I felt that after reading it I had a grasp on the basics of Qabalah. The delivery, by the author, is so memorable that the lessons taught have remained with me via the stories that were told.

Highly Recommended



5 out of 5 possible Serpents!!!



Meditation for Dummies by Stephan Bodian

The 'for Dummies' series usually produces informative and concise books on their given subject, knowing this and also wanting to learn more about the fundamentals of meditation, I thought I'd give Meditation for Dummies a read. I was let down. This book was disappointing as I felt it said very little about meditation by using a lot of words.

Part 1 of the book, Getting Acquainted, spends too much time trying to convince the reader that they should meditate. Since the book is titled 'Meditation of Dummies' I thought it safe to say that anyone reading it already wanted to do just that. Unfortunately it took over 90 pages to reach Part 2, Getting Started, before I found any real practical information about actually meditating.

The core chapters of Part 2 contain most of the instruction in the entire book and are actually worth reading. Covering such topics as relaxing your body and mind, postures of meditation and how to prepare your body to sit for long periods of time, and where to sit and what to wear; chapters 6 through 8 were the most useful.

Meditation for Dummies lays out a non-denominational approach to meditating, which is a plus, but it felt almost too spiritual at times. While it does talk, at length, about the usefulness of meditation and the health benefits that go along with it, I felt that this book lacked a lot of practicality. I hoped for more.



2 out of 5 possible Serpents!!!

J. Carroll wrote both the reviews for this month's review section. If you have a review you'd like to see published in *Black Serpent*, please feel free to send it to: ofs.admin@gmail.com or blackserpentmagazine@gmail.com. Please put **REVIEWS SUBMISSION** in the subject header of your e-mail.

Thank you.

My God is Not Your God

BY MAC TADHG



'OH GOD' I WOULD MUTTER AND FEEL SUCH GUILT
FOR I DID NOT BELONG TO THAT ONES HERD.
ALL THE TIMES UTTERED, SUCH HABITS WERE BUILT,
SO MUCH ANGUISH FELT FOR SUCH AN ODD WORD.
'OH GOD, OH GOD' WHO AM I TALKING TO?
IS IT TO THEIR GOD OR IS IT TO MINE?
WHEN HAS THERE BEEN A DICTIONARY COUP?
WHEN DID THEY GET TO DEFINE THE DIVINE?
'OH GOD', 'OH SATAN' TO ME THEY'RE THE SAME.
IT'S MY GOD, NOT THEIR GOD TO WHOM I PRAY.
THEY STOLE THE WORDS MEANING AND SO THEY CLAIM
THAT ANY 'GOD' IS THEIR GOD, BUT I SAY 'NAY!'
WE ALL HAVE THE RIGHT, NO ONE OWNS THAT PHRASE
REJOICE AND GIVE THANKS 'OH GOD' I GIVE PRAISE!

Daemonic Puzzles

By Sentinel

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE PUZZLE

Take the word 'STATION' for example

If A=1, B=2, C=3 etc, then STATION would be 19 20 1 20 9 15 14

If I looped the letters to modulo 13, then I have the following

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

Now STATION would be coded as 6 7 1 7 9 2 1, which could also read as FGNGVBA (or any mixture of the letters)

For the Puzzle, I have arranged the letters of the alphabet modulo 7. Try and decode the grid, revealing the demons' names.

Word Search

G T H E L A C O F O R E G U F I C U L D V Z E A S D F T H H
 N H D C V E G A A B L U N F D V H R D S A V S H G S A Y U I
 N Z V E A D H N U G N F S L O B N H D S G P E A D S C S H B
 O Z C B V N A C F B H N J M R F D E H G I A A X D G M T R T
 M A S A Y O S D S A M I G I N A R N B U E R W E R T O O V B
 A Q D E F M B E I Y J A A E V H A H E I M U N G F R A L W E
 N U J L F I R F T U O E R A V F U Y L Z C N K I A E D A H Y
 X R F V G A E D R A G M O B U H M T E E D C G T F G V S R T
 R I B V G P R T I S A N I K A V D G T E R A S A L L O S N J
 O C V A T G F H G J S T Y H A S G B H U J A I K J E R F T U
 F C R F R E D X A S S T G H I A W E D V A D J Y H G N J U U
 E Z V H L B T Y G D A E Y T W R B A T H I N B E X I E A D Z
 L V B M I J A A G F V C O U J H M U R M U R A D F O N U H U
 A V F G H B N T E D C B A F B H S E J E M I C A C N M I K Z
 V V N F E L I G O S T F S R N J D D S E G N Y Y A D O M S A
 B E L I A L H N B S A B O R O O R O V E P A R P A Z U X G P

A Word Search Game

Can you find the following Demons hidden in the above ?

Lucifuge Rofocale
 Agares
 Barbatos
 Buer
 Botis
 Sallos
 Raum
 Asmoday

Amon
 Samigina
 Paimon
 Eligos
 Bathin
 Stolas
 Legion
 Belial

Bael
 Marbas
 Sitri
 Beleth
 Cimejes
 Orobas
 Pazuzu

Valefor
 Vassago
 Zephar
 Leraje
 Astaroth
 Vepar
 Murmur

