



*Seasonal Rituals*

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# Invite the Spirit of the Elements

Optional quarter call idea:

Turn to the East, and say:

“From the east comes the wind, Cool and clear.  
It brings new seeds to the garden  
Bees to the pollen  
And birds to the trees.”

Turn to face the South, and say:

“The sun rises high in the summer sky  
And lights our way even into the night  
Today the sun casts three rays  
The light of fire upon the land, the sea, and the heavens”

Turn to face West, saying:

“From the west, the mist rolls in  
Bringing rain and fog  
The life-giving water without which  
We would cease to be.”

Finally, turn to the North, and say:

“Beneath my feet is the Earth,  
Soil dark and fertile  
The womb in which life begins  
And will later die, then return anew.”

# Yule Ritual

## SIMPLE BEGINNER RITUAL

You'll need:

- Method of divination (Runes, candle, tarot cards, etc.)
- Sacred Yule plants such as holly, mistletoe, fir, pine, cedar, juniper, ivy, etc.
- 1-3 candles
- Method of cleansing such as smoke, sprinkle of water, or sound.

What to do:

- Cleanse your space and cast a circle if you choose. See the advanced ritual below for a suggestion on how to cast a circle.
- Decorate your working space with the sacred plants.
- Place your method of divination in the middle.
- Ground and center your energy with a meditation.
- Hold your hands over your divination tools and say:

"Guided by the holy light  
Let these/this (runes, candle, cards) bring insight  
On this the longest night  
Until the morning suns birthright."

- Perform your divination and note any messages that you receive. Save these notes to revisit on Midsummer/Summer Solstice.

You may combine the beginner and advanced rituals or use the parts of each that call to you.

# Yule Ritual

## ADVANCED RITUAL

You'll need:

- Yule Log or Pine cone of Wishes
- Small pieces of paper (to write on and attach to Yule Log if you use one)
- A fire or three candles
- Your preferred form of cleansing such as smoke, sprinkle of water, or sound.

### Ritual Work

Cleanse your space and all magickal items.

Cast a circle per your tradition or try this:

- Place the feather in the east and say: "Spirit of Air, I invite you into my circle and to aid my intention."
- Place the candle in the South and say: "Spirit of Fire, I invite you into my circle and to aid me in my intention."
- Place the shell in the West and say: "Spirit of Water, I invite you into my circle and to aid me in my intention."
- Place the rock in the North and say: "Spirit of Earth, I invite you into my circle and to aid me in my intention."
- Light the spirit candle.
- Ground and center your energy with a guided meditation. Then write well wishes on paper and tuck it into the Yule Log or Wishing Pine cone.
- Say aloud or to yourself:

"The Wheel has turned once more, and the earth has gone to sleep. The leaves are gone, the crops have returned to the ground. On this darkest of nights, we celebrate the light. Tomorrow, the sun will return, its journey continuing as it always does. Welcome back, warmth. Welcome back, light.

Welcome back, life."

- Light the Yule Log or candles and move deosil—clockwise, or sunwise—around your space.
- say:

"Shadows go away, darkness is no more, as the light of the sun comes back to us. Warm the earth. Warm the ground. Warm the sky. Warm our hearts.

Welcome back, sun."

- Release the circle in reverse order by starting in the North and thanking each element. Allow the fire or candles to burn as long as possible.

# *Inbolc: Brigid's Candle Divination*

## **SIMPLE SOLITARY BEGINNER RITUAL**

You'll need:

- 1 small taper candle such as a birthday candle (not a dripless kind)
- Thick paper such as cardstock or cardboard
- Marker or pen
- A plate or other heatproof item
- Cleansing method of your choice

### Ritual Work

- Cleanse yourself, your space, and all items.
- Cast a circle should you choose.
- Invite the elements/directions by starting in the east and saying:  
"Spirit of Air, powers of the East, I invite you to be with me today.  
Spirit of Fire, powers of the South, I invite you to be with me today.  
Spirit of Water, powers of the West, I invite you to be with me today.  
Spirit of Earth, powers of the North, I invite you to be with me today."
- Ground and center your energy with a meditation.
- Think of a question that you would like to know the answer to. A yes or no question is a good choice but any question so long as you can think of no more than 4 possible answer options.
- Use your pen to draw an X or cross-quarter on the paper and write one answer in each section. Good answers examples: Yes, no, something else, other.
- Place your candle in the center of the paper securing it with a few drops of wax.
- Call Brigid or another guide that you wish to work with by saying:  
Brigid, bright Goddess who is three within one  
Bright golden Goddess attend to me now  
I ask you to honor me with your presence today and  
show me the answer to the question that I seek."
- Say your question out loud and light the candle.
- Gaze into the flame as you concentrate on your question allowing the candle to burn all the way down or as much as possible. taking care not to let the paper catch fire.
- When you are done thank each direction/element in reverse order (starting in the North) and close the circle if you cast one.

# *Inbolc: Blessing of the Candles*

## **SIMPLE SOLITARY RITUAL**

### You'll need:

- A white cloth such as a scarf or sheet will work.
- Candles that you plan to use throughout the year and want to bless. They can be any color or have any purpose and can all be blessed together.
- 1 white candle that you will light
- Cleansing method of your choice
- This can be done any time but is great for the full or new moon.

### Ritual Work

Cleanse your space and all magickal items using the incense or herbs. Place the cloth over your altar/working space.

### Cast a circle per your tradition or try this:

- Light incense if you have not already.
- Place the incense in the east and say: "Spirit of Air, I invite you into my circle and to aid my intention."
- Place the candle in the South and say: "Spirit of Fire, I invite you into my circle and to aid me in my intention."
- Place the shell in the West and say: "Spirit of Water, I invite you into my circle and to aid me in my intention."
- Place the rock in the North and say: " Spirit of Earth, I invite you into my circle and to aid me in my intention."
- Light the white candle
- Ground and center with a meditation.
- Say:

"I come before you on this night to ask that your blessings be bestowed upon these tools of fire and light."

- Turn your gaze to the lit candle and spend a moment in gratitude for all the blessings of love and light that you have received.
- Extinguish the candle once you are done.
- Release the circle and directions/elements in reverse order starting in the north and making your way to the east by saying:

# Ostara Ritual

## SIMPLE SOLITARY BEGINNER RITUAL

You'll need:

- Your preferred altar set up
- Method of cleansing
- Two candles (preferable one light in color and one dark)
- Empty eggshells (hallow halves work. They will be used to plant seeds)
- Seeds and soil

### Ritual Work

- Perform this ritual on or near the Spring Equinox. It is best done at dawn but any time will work.
- Cleanse yourself, your space, and all items.
- Cast a circle should you choose.
- Invite the elements/directions by starting in the east and saying:  
"Spirit of Air, powers of the East, I invite you to be with me today.  
Spirit of Fire, powers of the South, I invite you to be with me today.  
Spirit of Water, powers of the West, I invite you to be with me today.  
Spirit or Earth, powers of the North, I invite you to be with me today."
- Ground and center your energy with a meditation.
- Light the two candles and try to remember the moment you noticed spring had started. if you noted it in your nature journal you may reference that. Was it a change of light or weather? Focus on that feeling. Now try to remember when you first notice that autumn had started (Mabon, the counterpart on the opposite side of the wheel) Again reference your nature journal if possible.
- Fill the eggshells up with soil and as you do chant:  
"Evening rises, spirit comes.  
Sun goes down when the day is done.  
Mother earth awakens me.  
With the heartbeat of the sea."
- Next plant a seed in the eggshell. As you do, think about something you want to birth or plant this season. When the seeds sprout and they are ready, you may plant the whole eggshell in your garden to compost.
- Release the elements in reverse order starting in the North.
- Close the circle if you have cast one.

# Ostara Ritual

## ADVANCED OR GROUP RITUAL

You'll need:

- Your preferred altar set up
- Method of cleansing
- Three candles: one yellow for the sun (God in Wiccan traditions), one green for the earth (Goddess in Wiccan traditions), and one white for Spirit
- A bowl of milk
- A small bowl of honey or sugar
- Wildflower seeds
- Colored eggs (at least one for each participant)
- Nest or basket to place the eggs into

### Ritual Work

- Perform this ritual on or near the Spring equinox. It is best done at dawn but any time will work.
- Cleanse yourself, your space, and all items. Set the eggs in the basket or nest on the altar.
- Cast a circle should you choose.
- Invite the elements/directions by casting the wildflower seeds as you face each direction, starting in the East. Say:

"Welcome powers of the East! Bright dawn of Spring, we invite you into our circle! Accept our gifts of seed and give us clarity today.

Welcome powers of the South! Bright blaze of the sun at the sky's midpoint, we invite you into our circle! Accept our gifts of seed to bring us action today.

Welcome powers of the West! Beauty of the twilight, mystery of the setting sun, we invite you into our circle! Accept our gifts of seed and grant us love on this day.

Welcome powers of North! Strength of bone, power of muscle, we invite you into our circle! accept our offering of seed and grant us the grounding love of earth today."

- Ground and center your energy with a meditation.

# Ostara Ritual

## ADVANCED OR GROUP RITUAL

- Ritual Work Cont.
- Begin by taking a moment to focus on the air and light around you. See if you can smell the change in the seasons and see the change in light. Try to connect to the shift in energy as the Wheel of the Year has turned. Light the green candle and say:

"The Wheel of the Year turns once more,  
and Spring is at its peak.  
Light and dark are equal.  
As the soil begins to change,  
the earth awakes from her slumber.  
New life springs forth once more."

- Next, light the yellow candle and say:  
"The sun draws closer to us now,  
light and dark are equal.  
As the sky fills with light and warmth and  
the sun warms the land beneath our feet,  
may it give life to all in its path."
- Light the white candle while focusing on the divine blessings all around you and say:

"Spring has come! For this, we are grateful!  
The Divine gifts are present all around,  
in the cool fall of a rainstorm,  
in the tiny buds of a flower,  
in the down of a newborn lamb,  
in the fertile fields waiting to be planted,  
in the sky above us,  
and in the Earth below us.

We thank the earth for all it has to offer.

Welcome, life! Welcome, light! Welcome, Spring!"

- Next, mix the milk and honey together and pour it onto the ground around your altar space as an offering to the Earth or set it out as an offering later. When you do, say:

"I make this offering to the earth,  
In gratitude for the many blessings I have received,  
And for those that are still on their way."

# Ostara Ritual

## ADVANCED OR GROUP RITUAL CONT.

- Ritual Work Cont.
- Each participant now will take an egg from the basket on the altar and whisper to the egg something that they wish to plant or birth this season. The eggs should be taken home and eaten for good luck later.
- When you are done, thank/release the directions/elements in reverse order starting in the North.
- Close the circle if you have cast one.

# Beltane Ritual

## ADVANCED OR GROUP RITUAL

You'll need:

- Your preferred altar set up
- Method of cleansing
- A bowl of sweet wine or juice
- Fresh edible flowers and/or fruit
- Strips of fabric, ribbon, or paper
- Pens that will write on your strips
- A tree or bush in your yard or potted. A simple branch will do
- Candles, incense, and decorations that you like to set the atmosphere.

### Ritual Work

- Perform this ritual on or near May 1st. The nearest New or Full Moon is another good option.
- Cleanse yourself, your space, and all items.
- Cast a circle should you choose.
- Invite the elements/directions if you choose by facing each direction, starting in the East. Say:

"Welcome powers of the East! We invite you into our circle! Give us clarity today.

Welcome powers of the South! We invite you into our circle! Bring us action today.

Welcome powers of the West! We invite you into our circle! Grant us love on this day.

Welcome powers of North! We invite you into our circle! Bring us the grounding energy of earth today."

- Light candles if including them. Then ground and center your energy with a meditation.
- Next, place the flowers and/or fruit in the bowl of wine/juice and say:

"The earth has awakened and the Season of Growing is upon us!

Everywhere, the Great Mother is creating new life and inviting us all to truly live ours to the fullest.

This bowl symbolizes the sweet nectar of life. May it remind us that the journey is the destination."

- leave the bowl to absorb the flavors and energies of the flowers/fruit. Have each participant take 2 strips of ribbon and write a desire on one, and a statement of gratitude on the other.

# Beltane Ritual

## ADVANCED OR GROUP RITUAL CONT.

- Tie it on the May Bush, tree or branch. If you are decorating an outdoor tree, be sure to tie ribbons snug and remove them after they have been out for a day or two to keep birds and other wildlife safe. If you use paper, it should be fine to stay on the tree.
- As you tie the ribbons on the tree you may say:
- Use your finger, wand, or athame to trace a circle following the edge of the bowl and say:

"As the rhythm of the Earth flows, so too our lives will change from one season to the next. With the sun growing ever stronger as it reaches its peak, we know that it will soon wane after the harvest, and return again for the planting season."

- The wine/juice can infuse as long as you like. Be sure to use it to toast to the sweetness of life and say: "A journey of a thousand miles begins with just one step."
- Release/thank the elements/quarters in reverse order starting the North and simply say:  
"Powers of the (direction), we thank you."
- Open the circle if you have cast one.

# Litha Fire Ritual

You'll need:

- A fire, candle, cauldron, and incense, etc. Something that you can light.
- An offering that you can cast into the fire such as herbs or plants like baby's breath which will crackle when lit.
- Method of divination if you choose

Cleanse your space per your tradition. Cast a circle if you choose and invite the elements if you like. Try this:

After spending a few minutes in meditation and grounding, notice your surroundings and make adjustments to the following incantation.

Say either to yourself or out loud:

"Today, to celebrate Midsummer, I honor the Earth itself. I am surrounded by tall trees. There is a clear sky above me and cool dirt beneath me, and I am connected to all three. I light this fire as the ancestors did so long ago."

At this point, start your fire. Say:

"The year has turned once more  
The light has grown for six long months until today.  
Today is Summer Solstice, a time for celebration.  
Tomorrow the light will begin to fade  
As the Wheel  
Turns on and ever on."

Build up the fire even more, so that you have a good strong blaze going. If you choose to sing and dance or chant to raise energy now is a good time.

If you are choosing to charge any items, now is a good time to set them in place.

# Litha Fire Ritual Cont.

Pull out your method of divination and spend as much time here as you need.

Now is the time to do any magical workings you have planned.

When you are done, cast your offering into the fire. Conclude the ritual by saying:

"Today I celebrate the life & love of the Earth and Sun.  
Blessed be."

Take a few moments to reflect upon what you have offered, and what the gifts of abundance mean to you. When you are ready, if you have cast a circle, dismantle it or dismiss the Elements at this time.

Allow your fire to go out on its own if possible, saving the ashes or a piece of wood for Winter Solstice.

# Lughnasadh Ritual

You'll need:

- A candle on your altar to represent the archetype of the Harvest Mother (or Father)
- Few stalks of wheat, some seeds, or other grain like rice, corn, or oatmeal.
- Un-sliced loaf of bread
- A goblet, chalice, or glass of Lammas Wool, wine, cider, or other drink.
- Journal and pen

## Ritual Work

- Cleanse your space per your tradition.
- Cast a circle if you choose and Invite the elements however you like. You can try this one:

Turn to the East, and say:

"I call upon the powers of Air,  
and welcome you to this circle.

May the winds of change bring wisdom and knowledge  
in this season of abundance and bounty."

Turn to face the South, and say:

"I call upon the powers of Fire,  
and welcome you to this circle.  
May the shining light of this season's moon  
illuminate the way through the coming winter."

Turn to face West, saying:

"I call upon the powers of Water,  
and welcome you to this circle.  
May the cool autumn rains wash away  
the last comforts of summer,  
and prepare me for the chill that is to come."

Finally, turn to the North, and say:

"I call upon the powers of Earth,  
and welcome you to this circle.  
May the fertile soil of the land bring  
prosperity, abundance, and the bounty of the land,  
in this time of harvest"

- Spend a few minutes in meditation and grounding. Make adjustments to the following incantation to fit your tradition:
- Holding the stalks of wheat, seeds, or grain in your hand, say:

"The Wheel of the Year has turned once more, and the harvest will soon be upon us.

We have food on our tables, and the soil is fertile.

Nature's bounty, the gift of the earth, gives us reasons to be thankful.

Mother of the Harvest, with your sickle and basket,  
bless me with abundance and plenty."

- Visualize your intention and charm it into the grain. Knowing that they symbolize the power of the earth, the coming winter, and the necessity of planning ahead.
- If you have a journal present, write down the answer to these questions: What do you need help planning right now? Are there sacrifices you should be making in the present that will be reaped in the future?

- Rub the stalks between your fingers so a few grains of wheat fall upon the altar, or scatter the grains on the ground as a gift to the earth. If you're inside, leave them on the altar for now—you can always take them outside later. This will symbolize the offering of the first harvest's grain.

- Say:

"The power of the Harvest is within me.

As the seed falls to the earth and is reborn each year,

I too grow as the seasons change.

As the grain takes root in the fertile soil,

I too will find my roots and develop.

As the smallest seed blooms into a mighty stalk,

I too will bloom where I landed.

As the wheat is harvested and saved for winter,

I too will set aside that which I can use later."

- Tear off a piece of the bread. If you're performing this ritual as a group, have others do so or pass the bread out.
- Raise the bread to the sky and take a bite say: "May you never be hungry."
- Raise your chalice or glass to the sky and say: "May you never be thirsty"Then, take a drink.
- Take a moment to meditate on the cycle of rebirth and how it applies to your own life—physically, emotionally, spiritually.
- Thank any Goddesses, Gods, animals, or ancestors that you invited.
- When you are ready if you have cast a circle, close it, and/or dismiss the quarters at this time.

Try this:

Release the elements by standing in each direction in reverse order while saying:

North: "Spirit of Earth, thank you.

"West: "Spirit of Water, thank you.

"South: "Spirit of Fire, thank you.

"East: "Spirit of Air, thank you."

- Close the circle per your tradition or try this one:

Simply say:“

May the circle be open but unbroken

May the love of the Goddess be ever in our hearts

Merry meet and merry part

And merry meet again”

# Mabon Ritual

You'll need:

- A basket of apples (3-5)
- Two candles. One to represent dark and the other light. You can use different color candles, candle holders or simply place paper under each to mark which is light and which is dark.
- Apple cider, wine, grape juice or other drink in a chalice or cup
- Paper/pen
- Cake or bread for libation but another apple works too
- Optional: a vessel for burning like a pot or caudron

## Ritual Work

- Cleanse your space per your tradition. You may use the herbs or incense you've chosen and set up the altar.
- Cast a circle if you choose. First, cut two of the apples in half through the middle (not the top) to show the star or flower on the inside.
- Say:

"At autumn equinox, I name this place  
a sacred time and sacred space  
Within it now I give my thanks  
With all living things we walk in balance and grace."

- Place 1 half of the apple in each of the directions starting in the east. Say:

East: "Eastern breeze cool the storm  
South: Southern fires flicker then rest  
West: Water flows back to west  
North: North rests now quiet and calm."

# Ritual Work cont.

- Use the wand, athame or your finger to draw a circle from apple to apple starting the the east and moving to the south, west, north, and back to east.
- Light the intention candle if you've set one.
- Sit for grounding and centering. To ground yourself is to connect your energy from your heart center to the energy of the earth or your higher power. Centering is the process of finding the center of your energy flow and your spiritual essence. There are many meditations that are great for this, but focusing your energy is the simplest.
- Light the dark and light candles. Say:

"This is the equinox, time of the second harvest. We enjoy a wealth of good food and weather that is neither too hot nor too cold. Beauty surrounds us as autumn colors begin to blaze. We reap the beauty and bounty of this earth. We also reap the fruit of the seeds we have symbolically sewn in our lives this year. Tonight we take time to count our blessings and give thanks."

- Next, take 5 minutes to write down any areas that you may feel out of balance.
- Light the paper on fire (or set it in the cauldron to bury later) as you do this say:
  - "Thank you for the lessons you've taught
  - I now release you with gratitude and love
  - I am open and receiving all good things now."
  -
- Next, take a whole apple and hold it up to the sky and say:
- "This is the fruit of wisdom, knowledge, hard work, dedication, and life. This gift has been given to me so that I may share it with others. Thank you for this blessing!"

# Ritual Work cont.

- Cut the apple into pieces to share or take a bit out of the apple, then share the cakes or bread. Before biting the apple or cakes, say:

"May you never be hungry

May your harvest always be fruitful

and may you rest easy in winter knowing the light shall return"

- Grab the chalice or cup, hold it to the sky and say:

"May you never be thirsty

and may you always empty your cup

so that it may be filled again"

- Take a sip. Pass the chalice to share or offer additional cups to guests.
- If you are in a group, go around the circle and ask others to share what they are grateful for. If you are alone or if you prefer, write your blessings on strips of paper and save them in a jar or hang them on a gratitude tree.

Close the circle by walking in the opposite direction (N,W,S,E) with the wand absorbing the energy. Release the elements by standing in each direction in reverse order while saying:

North: "Spirit of Earth, thank you.

"West: "Spirit of Water, thank you.

"South: "Spirit of Fire, thank you.

"East: "Spirit of Air, thank you."

# Samhain Ritual

## SOLITARY OR GROUP ADVANCED RITUAL

You'll need:

- Pomegranate
- 4 candles for directions/elements (East: yellow, South: red, West: Blue, North: green) The candle holder can be the color if you do not have colored candles or place a colored paper under it and/or an item to represent each element such as a shell for water, feather for air, etc.
- Place setting (this is great to do after a silent supper, reserving a small portion of food or drink as an offering)
- 1 candle in the center of the altar as the spirit candle
- Any ancestor representations that you like such as a skull statue or bones, perfume, objects that they liked.
- Broom/besom You can find an altar broom DIY in the Naturally Modern Witchcrafting Box here.
- Corresponding minerals and/or herbs.
- Incense
- Candle for each participant.

What to do:

- Begin by cleansing your space. Use the broom to sweep east to west moving counterclockwise.
- Set up the altar per your tradition if you have a preference. Otherwise, set the spirit candle in the center with the place setting in the west.
- Cast a circle per your tradition or by using the method in the [See Beyond the Veil ritual](#) above.

Say: "I cast this circle, in this sacred place

We are now in a time between times

A space between space"

- Pass out the candles if others are joining.

# Samhain Ritual

Say:

"On this night of all nights, when the veil between the worlds is at its thinnest, we honor those who have gone on before: the beloved ancestors and friends. Ancestors are those who have shaped us and made us what we are.

Some are physical ancestors, family members now crossed over; others are spiritual ancestors, people to whom we are not related by blood but through love, who have shaped us through their example and actions—they have made us what we are, and we honor our spiritual tie to them.

Think now of your ancestors and loved ones: the people in spirit whom you wish to honor and with whom you wish to remain linked. They are here. They are always here, wherever we are—for in the Otherworld there is neither space nor time as we know it, and the spirits are not limited by either. Think of your particular ancestors. Imagine them here in this room, standing among us. See them clearly and hold them in your hearts as we proceed.

Beloved ancestors, we address you, Honored ones, beloved and holy ones, we know that you are always with us. Sometimes we can hear your voices, sometimes we cannot. But we know you are here. We call upon you, and ask you to be with us. On this night set aside for you, we honor and remember you especially. Dear ones, accept from us this offering, in token of our love and our respect"

- Next, light the spirit candle and make an offering by setting out some food and drink at the place setting.
- One by one approach the altar. Think of your ancestors/loved ones and light your candle in their honor, then place it in the receptacle and leave it to burn. Speak to them, address them with words or with your heart; they will know.

# Samhain Ritual

- Take the pomegranate, open it (you may wish to have this pre opened) take out and eat one seed, add it to the place setting as an offering, or plant it later for earth magic. Pass this around the circle so that anyone who wishes can take a seed.
- Say: ""Spirits! Beloved spirits! Loved ones who have gone before Parted from us, yet still with us, connect to us—forever more Though our soul lives many lifetimes—yet the bond of love endures For the veil could never dim the light of a soul as bright as yours Spirits! Beloved spirits! Loved ones who have gone before Parted from us, yet still with us, connected to us—forever more."
- Close the circle by moving in reverse order and snuffing the candles (Use a small cup if you do not have a candle snuffer. It is more respectful to the element of Fire) thanking each element for their presence.
- Snuff out the spirit candle.
- Leave the individual candles to burn out if possible and leave the offering plate out as long as possible, preferably overnight.

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Folk: \* From *Ecloga ex Papyris Magicis: Liber I, V, xxvi*  
Galen - *De succedaneis, Claudii Galeni Opera Omnia, v 19*  
Paulus Aegineta, *Corpus Medicorum Graecorum IX/2 vii*  
Dioscorides *De Materia Medica*

...and various other sources collect over 20 years. Some are printed, some are handwritten, while others are scribbled on a napkin. I've had many teachers over the years and many of my biggest inspirations came from simple conversations and gatherings rather than formal lessons or rituals. Because of this, I may not always have every source of information but if you recognize something, I would be happy to add it to the list.