

Culstar - School of Witchcraft

Introduction

Dear Culstar School of Witchcraft students,

Before we begin, here are a few words of introduction so that you may become familiar with the basics, even if you have started on one of the higher modules of your **Witch's Apprenticeship**.

In case you have already read the introduction, you may jump to the next chapter.

Oh yes, by the way – there *always* has been, and *always* will be witches from both sexes. This means that when we speak here of witches, we mean all of you, whether you are male or female.

You have decided to model your life on that of a witch, or perhaps that of a wizard.

This is a big decision because it is *not* possible to be a **Hobby Adeptus** or a **Weekend Witch**. This is the *way* that all take, who resort to riding the esoteric wave, trying to grasp a bit of luck or insight.

As to be expected, this way leads to nowhere, nothing. How could it? Being torn between dozens of so called esoteric offers, like **European Reiki**, or **European Feng-Shui** that follow no particular aim, apart from filling the bank accounts of those who offer these services.

To be a witch it is important to follow this new way of life, to alter your attitude to life. It is by no means a leisure time activity.

It is without doubt not enough to be a witch if you concentrate practising on the outside, on the image, with a disregard or neglect to the theory, which unfortunately is often the case with many so called 'light esoteric' offers making the rounds these days.

To put things into **action** is absolutely **necessary!**
This also means **work** – work on **yourself!**

We in Europe live the way of the Witches or rather Druids.

Why not the way of a **Shaman** or **Yogi** you might ask?

Because we do not have access to the cultural and social ways and beliefs of these people in the way that they do throughout their lives. So we are not able to gain serious and above all deeply meaningful experiences maybe as a Siberian Shaman, native Indian or Hindu.

You can live another culture within your own house but as soon as you open the door you are an Englishman, American or what else because you and your body have arranged yourselves to your surroundings.

The same applies to you, if you live in another country.

Always work with the ways and means that your own culture can give you. The methods and results are mostly the same because we are all human, therefore as humans we generally have the same experiences and similar needs. Nevertheless, the way to the many "Results" often differs because varying "Processes of Realisation" will lead our way to them.

It has always been the way of the European Culture to integrate and accept at least parts of "Foreign Cultures" and their ways into our own community.

To understand this, take a look at the myriad of different languages in the European Union...

Wherever you live:

We live in the *here and now*, we need to experience the *process* in our own culture, to which we have all the access we shall ever need.

What is a Witch or a Druid?

The word witch comes from *Wicca* (pronounced wick-kah) an Old English word for a male witch. *Wicce* (pronounced wick-kay) is also an Old English word used for a female witch. From these words came the Middle English word *wicche* – which in Modern English then became the word meaning *witch*. In Germany the word for witch is *Hexe* - coming from the old German word "Hagazussa" which translated word for word into English means "Hedge-Sitter". This has a deep meaning, which is as follows:

The usual way (and still today) to protect ones property, for example your garden, from others



and or prying glances, is to erect a hedge around ones property.

People also imagined that the "other world" (the hereafter, the Akasha chronicles, the eternal hunting grounds...) was indeed protected in this way with a hedge to shield against the prying of the *unworthy*.

Not, however, for the witches – for they were able to sit *on* the hedges and could therefore carry knowledge to the *Other World* and vice versa.

So – it is possible through Witchcraft to obtain knowledge, knowledge that remains for others hidden.

The word *Druid* comes from the word "Dru-Idae" – which translated word for word, means "Oak Man".

The Oak was and is an extraordinarily holy tree because it connects the Earth to the realm of the Gods, and not even the lightning, that always tries to, can bring damage to this tree.

The actual meaning of the word *Druid* is - having direct access to the knowledge of the Gods and being indestructible.

What can you now expect?

As already mentioned it is not possible to lead the life of a *weekend witch*, and it is therefore extremely necessary that we model our whole life in one particular direction and shape ourselves accordingly. To bring this about requires you to consider some simple things in your life. Things you will not encounter in one block, but rather things that will be repeatedly scattered throughout your course texts.

It may occur to you in the beginning of your apprenticeship that some things will appear to be *general wise sayings* you have already heard, or so called *old wives' tales* that you deem unnecessary.

You should in any case follow these little snippets of advice, because the sense hidden therein will slowly become clear to you as the exercises begin to take effect – in other words – you reap what you sow.

Patience is a virtue that not too many people possess, and one which does not appear to be

very modern anymore. Nevertheless, it is absolutely necessary that you practice patience, for only when we are quite calm will we be able to unfold our full powers of perception, those that we absolutely need, then we will be able to carry out the art of witchcraft.

This higher state of perception, or awareness is actually that which differentiates a Witch or other inaugurated people (Shaman, Medicine Man) from others.

A thorough apprenticeship always begins with *seemingly* little clarity, obviousness or esoteric knowledge – and only a *few* exercises to reveal this esoteric knowledge.

Still, it is important, or rather necessary to carry out these exercises with awareness in order to be able to reach the overall aim. Apart from that, you should learn the exercises by heart and follow them as requested, so that you do not land unprepared on dangerous ground by accident.

It is rare phenomena that people dealing with, or working around unknown, possibly dangerous objects and places (chemical laboratories, nuclear power stations...) don't thoroughly protect themselves with every possible device created by man. While dabbling in spiritual or mystical things this view of thought seems to fly out the window – all care or logic is lost and people generally plunge unprotected into the *depths* without any preparation.

Luckily for everyone we have a "Threshold Guard" that holds us back that does not let us simply "dance on in" everywhere without allowance. We will come to talk about this "Threshold Guard" in more detail in the module dedicated to Magic.

Inauguration into a secret apprenticeship is a task that is to be approached very carefully. You will soon learn the reasons why during your apprenticeship.