



MAY 2022

Hearthstone Rituals

*Hearthstone doesn't expect everyone to enter in
Perfect Love and Perfect Trust,
as you may not know many of the other attendees,
but to enter with a Willing Heart and an Open Mind,
and leave your differences at the door.*

Some traditions are more controversial than others, or may contain a component that confuses or disturbs someone attending an Open Full Moon ritual. It is one of the risks of exploring different traditions. Should anyone be uncomfortable with a ritual presented by Hearthstone, please discuss it with the Ritual Leaders or one of the Board members (Arynne, Vella Rose, Amy, Catherine, and Ziva) so that we may hopefully resolve and heal your concern.

Hearthstone is a safe and sober environment. Please respect your fellow participants by not attending ritual under the influence of drugs or alcohol.



OPEN FULL MOON RITUALS

*Join us in person at the Althea Center, 1400 Williams St, Denver
Doors open at 7pm, Announcements begin at 7:30 pm followed by ritual*

Hearthstone's May 13th, 2022 Ritual is in person! Join us!

GUIDELINES In the interest of maintaining good health for all, Hearthstone Board members will continue to wear masks at our public ritual and we encourage everyone to do the same. If you are sick or not feeling well, please stay home. If you are unvaccinated and want to attend, we ask that you wear a mask. Masks and hand sanitizer will be available. Thank you.

May 13th, 2022 Open Full Moon Ritual



Drawing Down the God

Join Oak Haven Coven May 13th for a springtime evening with the God.

The Circle will be created and closed in a traditional Wiccan manner. We will invite the God to join us, and will then allow participants to approach for oracle work. Please be aware that being in the Presence can be an intense experience.

If you are wearing a blade in ritual, remove it from its sheath and lay it before you as you kneel in front of the invoked High Priest. He may then take your hands or otherwise make physical contact with you – or maybe not. Follow his lead at that point, and ask a question or otherwise engage.

When finished, pick up and sheath your blade, then take a few steps backward so as not to turn your back on the Presence. Then return to your place in the circle.

Do not expect the High Priest to remember anything about your encounter.

Thanks and a Tip of the Hat!



Hearthstone would like to take this opportunity to thank our fellow Board member Amy Harper (NyteRoze) for presenting a meaningful spring ritual for our April gathering. She began by reminding us that we gathered for the full moon which goes by many names at this time of year, including the Pink Moon, although it is not actually pink. It is called the Pink Moon after a common spring flower – moss pink, also called creeping phlox or mountain phlox. After casting circle, Amy led us in a meditation to discover what we needed to release at this time. We were each directed to write down what we want to release on a piece of paper, and we then tore our papers into smaller and smaller pieces focusing on releasing whatever it was we wanted to be gone from our lives. After the releasing by tearing the paper to shreds, we were then directed to think about what we need to bring in to our lives and nourish during this time of growth. After the meditation, baskets were sent around to collect all of the bits and pieces of our paper from the releasing activity, Amy took these to be burnt under the actual full moon. We shared some “cakes”, and then released the circle.

Articles from our community members!



GUEST COLUMNS?

If you have something to say, and are willing to let Arynne edit it slightly, please feel free to submit your writing to ArynneD@aol.com Content will not be edited. We can usually make room for more voices. We appreciate our contributors!

Spiritual Leadership



The Audacht Morainn, the testament of a dying Druid to a new king, has at its beginning the words that encourage a messenger.

"Arise, set forth,
O my Neire accustomed to proclaiming.
The virtue of dutifulness makes you known,
Dutiful the journey you undertake,
Announce, increase truth."

It is the privilege of this messenger to carry wisdom, to help someone new in their job as ruler, to help someone whose decisions will affect others.

Similar, it is the privilege of the Druid to have gained through study and experience, through long life, the wisdom that can guide a sovereign.

We are a community of leaders. With three to five years of study and sufficient personal drive, anyone who wants to can have a circle, a coven, a kindred, or some similar group of their own.

And we are a part of a culture that overwhelmingly values, approves of, even idolizes leaders, or people we perceive as leaders.

In my own practice, we begin to teach independence and leadership early. We hold the understanding that, at any point, any of us could be away from our center, off on our own, living in another part of the country or the world. We want each person who has learned from us to take away something useful.

And recently I realized that I had something very useful to teach about leadership, something that had eluded me for many years.

Like so many others I saw the public face of leadership, the celebrity of leadership, the history written by the winning public relations teams. What I admired about people I perceived as leaders was the outward face of the experience. It looked like a role I could step into, and I was very good at stepping into roles.

Seeing so many "actors" as leaders gives the impression that one can act oneself into leadership. Just don't break character.

I have loved acting and I have been enjoyably good at it. There's nothing like the feeling of making a whole room full of people breathe with you, lean in with you, jump back at a gesture, laugh in spite of themselves. It's a rush. I believed that I could lead in the same way that I had been able to act.

It was frustrating to be terribly wrong about that.

Because the truth I uncovered in my bafflingly disappointing experiences in leadership is that leadership isn't a role. Leadership is an amplifier.

It's lovely when it amplifies something that I do well. It is horrifying when it amplifies the qualities I had hoped I could leave backstage. Moments of pettiness, jealousy, insecurity: those don't get left on the dressing room table. They blare out at unexpected moments like feedback from a microphone, disruptive, mood-breaking, and humiliatingly loud.

The truth about me in leadership is that it is me. All of me. And the best way for me to be the best leader I can be is to know exactly what it is that I would rather hide, stifle, or leave backstage. Because there are boundaries, but there is no backstage.

Those boundaries are important. I don't have to put my whole life on display to lead, but I cannot set boundaries around things I'm not admitting to myself.

I hope you walk in leadership if you want to, and if you don't want to lead, I still hope that you pick up the skills that would help you to do so if you are called upon. It's okay if you have faults. They don't have to hurt you in your leadership experience as long as you are able to face them and deal with them. It's when you hope to hide them, when you're not honest with yourself about those scary corners, that they can pick their own time to pop out and ruin your leadership moment.

Walking in leadership takes a lot of practice and a diverse set of skills. No two people will do it the same way, or by drawing from the same experiences.

This is my message today: find a process or system that helps you to deal with the issues that trouble you, because assuming the mantle of leadership will not diminish, hide, or erase those issues. At some point in time, when you least want it, it will amplify them. I hope that this message helps you to be successful.

Peace of the mountains to you,

Paulie Rainbow

founder: Druidry Centered Women's Circle

<https://dwc.earth>

[instagram.com/paulierainbow](https://www.instagram.com/paulierainbow)

[facebook.com/DruidryCenteredWomensCircle](https://www.facebook.com/DruidryCenteredWomensCircle)

twitter.com/paulierainbow

LESSONS OF A YOUNG BLACK MYSTIC

Broomhill Bran



Hello Readers,

For this Month's submission as Spring kicks into full gear, I'm sharing a free-form poem that was inspired the day before the rare astrological conjunction of Jupiter and Neptune in the sign of Pisces. (Which happens on a 166-year cycle). Originally this poem was an expression of my frustration to work Magick that involved seeds and flowers. Perhaps you could label it as a form of WildCraft, using plants in a form of Sympathetic Magick. Yet, for whatever reason, I ended up briefly reflecting on the loss of my brother in October of last year.

As someone who has been doing his own Shadow Work recently, I'll leave you all with this sentiment. It's easy to make assumptions and set standards for our lives but my personal experience has recently cautioned me and shown me it's important to take stock of the fact, "Life is not obligated to act or behave the way we humans tend to want it to." Sometimes you'll do yourself the biggest favor by accepting "what is" in the here and now, rather than get stuck in a nostalgic past or anxiously chase a desired future.

For those who identify as Pagans, it's easy to want to use magick as an escape. Yet often the strongest and simplest magick is everything we do to find and hold healthy beliefs in our daily lives. (The challenge being, Pagan beliefs are often marginalized and stigmatized by popular society. Making the journey as a whole is at times lonely and tumultuous.) Doubt and desire are common features of the human experience. All I want to point out is, occasionally slow down and ask yourself, "What do I believe?"

Part of being Pagan is often seeking the power of self-sovereignty and self-permission. Knowing when it's okay to accept there is no right or wrong way to react to or live YOUR life. There's only how YOU react to life experiences and having the support and wisdom to determine if, for lack of a better word, you're headed in the right direction.

In memory of my brother, Derrick Cropp. A man lucky enough to fall in love twice in his long yet brief life. (May he watch and send his Love to me as one of my closest Ancestors)

"To Love Again"

By: Broomhill Bran

As my mind turns to Spring and Summer.

I can't help but notice.

There is a wound in my heart that makes working with Nature difficult.

I once had an African Violet that I kept on my bedroom windowsill.

Out of the five-plus years, I had it, there were probably only one or two of those years it bloomed.

Yes, I could have tried harder.
Try to coax it into blooming again.

But for me, the magick was in its persistence to grow at all.
(I was too ignorant or unmotivated to intervene to a degree.)

I know now what my intuition felt back then.

That one should only meddle so much with Nature.

I and the floral market that sold me the flower had already domesticated something wild.

What right would I have to force my Will upon something out of greed, pride, or fear?

How could I take the role of Mother Nature and attempt to be a "better" God?

Try as we might.
Humanity are just mere co-creators.

To the forces and energies of Life and Death, I am still but a mere child.

What once was a set of pink and purple African Violets, I bought from Home Depot.

Became a magickal brother and sister duo.

My Plant Allies.

There was a point where at least four distinct stalks were demanding the third transplant into a bigger pot.

No windowsill could handle this beast anymore.

The final pot was at least the size of my head.

The weight of a 5lb sack of potatoes if not more.

All this fuss for a small bush of leaves that sparkled in the sunlight, like a fresh coat of snow melting in the sun.

Hairy fleshy snow with leaves as dark as moss and a blotchy texture like skin full of hives.

Not a pleasant image but I found it a remarkable human feature for a plant.

I mean no offense or rudeness to the leaves that endured so many years, but it was the African Violet blooms I first fell in love with.

Those flowers are what I imagine the Fae would seem like to the mundane eye.

That same mystical sparkle can only be witnessed if you dare lean in and look closer.

Those small brilliant little petals one day dwarfed by the leaves that surrounded them.

The pink was an intimate shade that I dare not describe too keenly at the risk of seeming lewd.

The purple I suppose to my mind's eye was like a fallen flake of twilight sky.

Just luminous enough for the mundane eye to be more than just an inkwell of vast black darkness.

As I listen to April's lesson.

I remember the magick of my African Violets.

Their lessons of life, death, and energy.

The seasons may come and go without fail, but the lifeforce of existence in a plant or person is precious.

I still mourn my flower ally.

I cherish the time they spent with me. The time we grew together.

It's easy to get caught up in the bloom of life whether it's Spring or Summer.

Yet I've always carried a reverence for the Fall and Winter of things.

I probably held on longer than I should have in the end.

My disposal of the floral remains was not as poetic or dignified as I may have wished.

I didn't know then as I do now.

That I am an Empath and A Mystic Pagan.

That while it may seem odd to some.

The Love I carried for a flower was not that different from the love I have for my belated brother.

The time you spend together in life forms a bond that echoes on in death.

An irreplaceable bond.

Full of memories and shared energy.

It seems when it comes to death, I tend to distance myself from the moment itself.

I don't recall exactly when I knew my African Violet wasn't going to ever grow again.

As I witnessed it shrink and shrivel over time.

New flowers would come and go. Hydrangeas and White Frosted Ferns.

Like children of the next generation, while my African Violet faded into gentle old age.

I don't recall how my brother died exactly.

Only five to six months ago.

Part of me intentionally pushes away the words,

"sudden heart attack"

and

"he just felt funny, and couldn't catch his breath."

Instead, I hold onto an invisible knowing.

I hold onto whatever part of the dead that lives on in us through our shared time living together.

While I didn't mean to address my belated bother here, it felt appropriate in my heart.

I don't know if I'm ready to move on.

To Love deeply the flowers again.

I just felt like sharing this sentiment as soon many of us Pagans will be turning to the Goddess's children, the flowers.

Co-creating with them this Summer and Spring.

I watch flowers bloom.

I feel them around me in the yard and Nature's womb.

But I'm unsure if I'm ready,
to Love a flower again.

Upcoming Community Events

The Althea Center for Engaged Spirituality

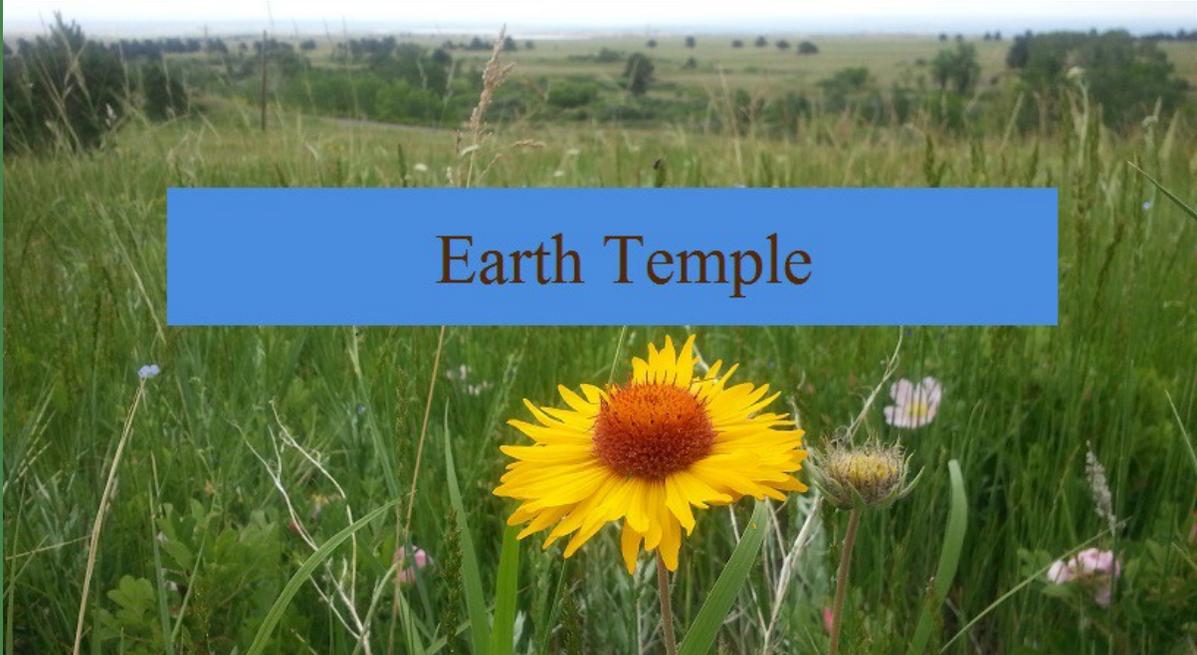


Hearthstone meets the Friday before or the Friday of the Full Moon. When we have in person rituals, we meet in the Historic Library at the Althea Center for Engaged Spirituality, 1400 Williams St., Denver, CO. There are two small parking lots: to the north (next to the building) and to the east of the building (across the alley), each with spaces for 20 cars.

Enter through the Main Door at the corner of Williams St. and 14th Ave. The door opens at 7:00 pm, and we lock the door at 7:30 pm to secure the building. There are no late admissions.

Hearthstone Community Church Website Link:

<http://hearthstone.fnorky.com/home/>



Earth Temple

Earth Temple is back to open rituals in person at Full Moon Books. For the time being, we'll also be streaming those rituals via Zoom, to help in the transition back to face-to-face. For all the most current information about Earth Temple and our New/Dark/Waning moon rituals, visit our Meetup Group: www.meetup.com/EarthTemple or our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/EarthTempleColorado>.

ET Calendar for 2022

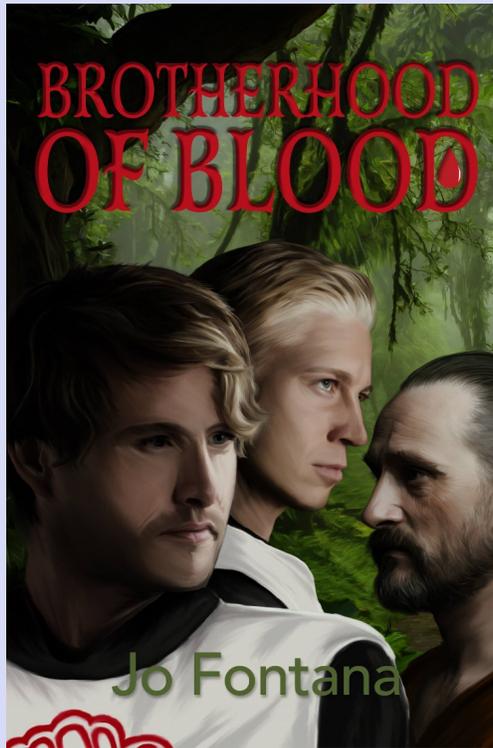
May 27
Jun 24
July 29
Aug 26
Sep 23
Oct 28
Nov 25
Dec 23

[Earth Temple Facebook Page](#)

Community Vendors and Artists

Brotherhood of Blood

A new book by Jo Fontana



Imagine a world where a blood sacrifice is required for the simplest cure. The mysterious Brotherhood has this power. Jericho Brightbrook came to the temple as a child after losing his parents and is the most promising acolyte the Brotherhood has ever encountered. So great is his power, the temple leader makes exceptions for him even when Jericho's actions don't align with the temple ideals.

Tired of the waste of human life, Jericho begins to experiment with alternative forms of healing. Disillusioned by the temple and the failure of his efforts, Jericho looks to break away. Once his deeds catch up with him, he is forced to flee into the land north of the mountains to evade his former master.

For more information visit www.jofontana.com

General Community Information



Low-Cost Pet Cat Spay/Neuter & Vaccines & Free Spay/Neuter & Vaccines for Feral Cats

[Spay/Neuter | Denver, CO | Dumb Friends League \(ddfl.org\)](http://ddfl.org)

The Dumb Friends League offers affordable spay/neuter services to all owned pet cats and feral/community cats. The details, locations, and qualifications are at their web site above. They are able to offer these services thanks to the generosity of donors. They recommend that tame, friendly cats without owners be taken to an animal shelter for adoption.

At this time DDFL is not able to provide spay/neuter services to dogs, for-profit breeders, or rescue groups.

It takes ALL of us to reduce the overpopulation problem and move toward a world where all pets are loved and cared for. Thank you!



Priestess Support, Services, and Potential Presenters
For Pagan or Wiccan clergy or for any other Hearthstone business, email us at
hearthstonecommunitychurch@gmail.com

If you would like to lead a future Open Full Moon, please contact Arynne at ArynneD@aol.com
At this point we have ritual leaders scheduled for all of 2022.
Thank you for volunteering your talents!

Donations --- in person or through Zelle!

Thank you for supporting the work and service of Hearthstone Community Church.

We meet our expenses through the generosity of our participants and supporters. We accept donations at our in-person rituals, or if you prefer, you may contribute through Zelle instead. Zelle is a direct funds transfer method offered by most banks. It is super easy to use online and no fees are charged or withheld. Hearthstone is registered in Zelle by our email address: hearthstonecommunitychurch@gmail.com

We suggest a donation of \$5-15. If you can't afford it, you are still welcome to participate. If you can afford more, we'll be delighted to accept it.

Hearthstone's primary expense is the rent for the room at the Althea Center. We appreciate any and all support from our community to help meet our obligations. Thank you!

[Hearthstone Community Church Website Link](#)



UPCOMING 2022 OPEN FULL MOON RITUALS

MAY 13
JUNE 10
JULY 8
AUGUST 5
SEPTEMBER 9
OCTOBER 7
NOVEMBER 4
DECEMBER 2

BLESSINGS from HEARTHSTONE COMMUNITY CHURCH!

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Newsletter**

